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SPORTS, 1B

# NORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2023 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Police seek tips in 2013 death of Westland firefighter

Shelby Tankersley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

WESTLAND — Brian Woehlke's former coworkers said his impact on the Westland Fire Department is "immeasurable."

The late firefighter who died in a 2013 arson fire loved his wife, his daughter, his job, sports, food and shenanigans. They say his enthusiasm for firefighting and his "big, dumb smile" were infectious.

"I've never met a person who didn't say he had the biggest smile," said Sgt. David Polite, who was Woehlke's partner. "We called it the 'Woehlke smile' because he was just a big goof. He was just so easy to get along with."

Woehlke died on May 8, 2013, at age 29 and less than a year on the job. Because he died in an arson fire, his death is considered a homicide. The crime remains unsolved.

Michigan State Police Lt. Mike Shaw said the case is still open and the agency is still actively seeking information. A National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health report from 2016 concluded staffing issues and below-industry standard equipment could have played roles in Woehlke's death.

Michigan State Police are still looking for information that could help solve the crime the led to Woehlke's death, which can be submitted by calling 855-MICH-TIP.

According to the federal safety agency, Woehlke became separated from his colleagues by a room divider he couldn't see because of the smoke and which kept him from exiting. He doubled back, but again ended up on the wrong side of the divider. According to an autopsy report, he died of smoke and soot inhalation.

The federal safety agency did not recommend any further actions in its 2016 report.

Woehlke has maintained a noticeable presence in the department. Anyone who walks into a Westland fire station is greeted with a uniform bearing his name.

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The Witch's Hat Brewing Co. in South Lyon participated in No Mow May this year and received a warning citation from the city. ERIN COTTONGIM

## Michigan brewery gets citation for participating in No Mow May

Nour Rahal

Detroit Free Press

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

While No Mow May has come to an end, a brewing company owned by a married couple in South Lyon is playing the long game — despite receiving a warning citation for their overgrown grass.

"Our livelihoods really depend on the bees. If there's no bees, there's no beer. If there's no bees, there's no food," said one of the founding owners of Witch's Hat Brewing Co., Ryan Cottongim. "That's what we do, we supply our community with beer, food and a gathering place."

Witch's Hat has been participating in No Mow May for the past two years, and

its owners want the entire city of South Lyon to be able to participate each year, too. Even though they have a "No Mow May" sign up, the warning citation was received on Wednesday, May 24, after a complaint was made to the city; the brewery has not been fined yet.

More: No Mow May 2023: What to

See CITATION, Page 2A

## Buddy's Pizza plans new location in Canton Twp.

Laura Colvin

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

CANTON TWP. — Buddy's Pizza plans to open a new carry-out restaurant later this year on the busy Ford Road stretch near Hobby Lobby and HomeGoods.

Buddy's spokesperson Galina Roehl said the store, Buddy's 23rd location in

Michigan, will feature the same menu items as other Buddy's carry-out locations: Signature Detroit-style pizza, cheese bread, Buddy's classic minestrone soup, chicken wings, meatballs and a variety of salads and pastas.

Buddy's Pizza opened in 1946 at the corner of Six Mile Road and Conant Street in Detroit. Before that, it was a speakeasy known as Buddy's Rendezvous. According to the company,

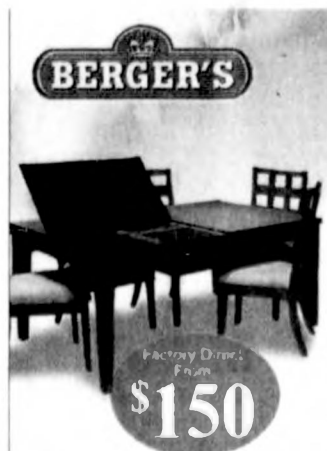
Gus Guerra created the first Detroit-style pizza for Buddy's using blue steel pans intended to hold nuts and bolts at local automotive plants — the first square-shaped pie in a world of round pizza.

The new store will be located at 42911 Ford Road, west of the Lilley Road intersection. A firm opening date has not been set, Roehl said.

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# Milford man bound over in alleged decade-old rape case at WMU

Susan Bromley  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

**KALAMAZOO** — A judge has found sufficient evidence to send the case against Caleb James Watson, the Milford man accused in a nearly decade-old rape at Western Michigan University, to Kalamazoo County Circuit Court for trial.

Watson, 29, is charged with four counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct and one count of assault with intent to commit criminal sexual conduct.

Kalamazoo County 8th District Court Judge Alisa Parker-LaGrone ordered the defendant bound over to circuit court after hearing testimony May 22 from the woman who alleges Watson assaulted her in her dorm room in November 2013. The forensic nurse who treated the victim at that time also testified, said Erin House, special assistant to Attorney General Dana Nessel.

"The hearing lasted a couple hours and the judge found probable cause to support the elements of the five felony charges against him," House said.

Watson's defense attorney, Justin R. Workman, has not responded to requests for comment.

The Michigan State Police Fugitive Team arrested Watson on April 25 in Livingston County after the conclusion of a lengthy investigation conducted through the Kalamazoo County Sexual Assault Kit Initiative, a grant-funded effort that is seeking justice in 225 cold-case sexual assaults. So far, the Kalamazoo SAKI Team's efforts have resulted in 14 convictions, 1 acquittal, and a dozen more cases, including Watson's, bound over for trial.

Watson has been released on \$100,000 cash bond. A pre-trial conference is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. June 12 in front of Kalamazoo County 9th Judicial Circuit Court Judge Paul Bridenstine.

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



Students walk past Sangren Hall on Western Michigan University's campus on a rainy day in late October, 2019. DAVID JESSE

## hometownlife.com

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Wayne-Westland firefighters fold a flag at Brian Woehlke's funeral in 2013. PROVIDED BY WESTLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Tips

Continued from Page 1A

Polite says it reminds the veterans of their friend, and it reminds the newcomers of the person they're expected to be.

"The real secret of this job is that, after experiencing so many bad things, it doesn't matter," Polite said. "You continue on. You just have to push on. That thing there — Brian had that before he even walked in the door."

### A goofball and caring firefighter

Polite and Woehlke joined a former joint fire department between Wayne and Westland around the same time and were stationed together at the headquarters in Westland. Polite recalls Woehlke, who had worked in emergency medicine before becoming a firefighter, always approached people with care. According to Polite, they became close quickly.

"We were up all day and up all night," Polite said. "Going on all those calls, it gives you time to talk, get close and share experiences."

Bryan Schwesing, another firefighter who worked alongside Woehlke, said Woehlke's youthfulness and positive outlook were refreshing.



Woehlke

"At that point, I had just been laid off from another department and took a job in Wayne," Schwesing said. "I was not sure if I was going to stay and was down in the dumps. Brian really picked me back up. He didn't tell me anything, it was just the way he did his job. He kind of turned my perspective around."

### Enduring impact

Polite said Woehlke's death prompted Westland to adopt a new communication model that reduces the chance of radio chaos during calls. Losing his friend made Polite more aware of his own mortality and created lasting bonds among the firefighters who survived that day.

True to the sense of family common among first responders, Polite said a firefighter was by Woehlke's side from the time his body was removed from the fire to the time he was laid to rest at the

St. Hedwig Cemetery and Mausoleum in Dearborn Heights. When the community gets together, Schwesing said people "still talk about Brian."

"It affects you, but the only thing you can do is keep plowing through," Polite said. "There's a cost to doing this job, and people don't see that."

Westland's firefighter charity funds a scholarship in Woehlke's name at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, which pays for one student every year to go through the college's fire program. One of the newest hires in Westland is a Brian Woehlke Scholarship recipient.

Polite says he wonders who Woehlke would have become if he were still alive. Would he be a captain? What calls would they have gone on together?

He'll never know. But Polite, Schwesing and the rest of the Westland Fire Department will do what they say Woehlke was always good at.

They'll push on.

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 or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby\_tankk.

## Citation

Continued from Page 1A

know about annual effort to save the bees

"Last year, we didn't get a citation," said Witch's Hat co-founding owner Erin Cottongim. "This is an environment where we feel like there's a lot of building, a lot of development, around us. We just thought that if we left this space in a city setting natural, then our pollinators would really be given a chance."

Currently, grass around the Witch's Hat Brewing Co. ranges from four to 20 inches tall. Perennial flowers planted in wooden barrel pots surround the brewery, as the married couple works on removing the grass, little by little, to create a full perennial landscape that attracts pollinators.

"We do have a lot of intentional flowers there. We also planted a whole bunch of geraniums" to naturally repel mosquitoes, hornets, and other pesky insects, Erin said. "We've attracted more bumblebees and carpenter bees."

The warning stated that the grass should be brought down below eight inches, following the city ordinance, otherwise the brewery will be fined, Ryan said. He and his wife were not given a time period in which they should trim their grass, or an estimate of what the fine would be, even after reaching out to the city, seeking further information.

Although they might still be fined, the couple plans on trimming the grass on June 1. While the reason these ordinances are in place is to prevent people from being negligent towards their lawns, the Cottongim family is being highly purposeful with theirs.

Changing the ordinance or updating it with new information would allow the city of South Lyon to participate in No Mow May "without the fear of a fine or citation," Erin said. "We have reached out to several council members, and they are very interested in bringing this to a council meeting and voting on it. We feel really excit-



The Witch's Hat Brewing Co. in South Lyon participated in No Mow May this year and received a warning citation from the city. ERIN COTTONGIM

ed that if we can make this change in this community, it's going to pave a path for the rest of the communities in Michigan to follow soon."

More: Slowed or stalled housing developments in Detroit hope to finish

### No Mow May misconceptions

As the annual movement grows, so do the concerns and misconceptions surrounding No Mow May. Just letting your grass grow, without the right weeds and flowers, does not provide any kind of food for pollinators.

"Bees and other pollinators need two main things from gardens. They need nectar and pollen," said David Lowenstein, an extension educator with Michigan State University Extension. "It's more about the correct kind of flowers. Just having weeds might include some good flowers, like white clover or violets, but a tall lawn that grows multiple inches isn't going to do as much for bees."

No Mow May can be a year-round effort. A list highlighting the best native plants to grow in the Great Lakes Region can be found here. Plant a variety of flowers that will bloom at different periods of the year.

"Native plants, which are adapted to local soils and climates, are usually the best sources of food and shelter for native pollinators," according to Xerces Society. "Most native plants can flourish in poor soils and require minimal irrigation."

You can also continue to mow your lawn less frequently. This will encourage more weeds like white clover to grow, strengthening your lawn with extra nutrients. Once you spot the weeds, raise the blade on your lawn mower about three or four inches to avoid getting rid of them.

"Mowing high is good throughout the whole season, not just in May," Lowenstein said.

When you go to mow your lawn again after participating in No Mow May, make sure you check your lawn for any small animals nesting in your grass — such as rabbits, rats, or mice.

"No Mow May is good from the perspective of raising awareness about pollinators and their importance in the garden and for our food, but there are better actions that could be taken than just not mowing your lawn for a month," Lowenstein said.

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# Man ordered to stand trial in beating death of elderly Canton resident

Laura Colvin  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

PLYMOUTH — A man characterized as homeless has been ordered to stand trial in connection with the beating death of a 69-year-old Canton Township resident who allowed the man to stay in his home.

Jeffrey Dwight Locke, 50, is charged with first degree premeditated murder in the May 2 death of Glen McLean, 69. If convicted, he faces life in prison without parole.

At a preliminary exam Thursday, June 1, in Plymouth's 35th District Court, Judge Mike Gerou ruled there was enough evidence to bind Locke over for a circuit court trial.

"This matter started off as a missing person investigation that culminated finding the missing person badly beaten, wrapped up in duct tape in the trunk of his own car," Gerou said following several hours of testimony. "There's certainly ample probable cause...to show that homicide in the first degree, premeditated, was committed."

"I think there's a strong case that (Locke) committed a brutal murder."

Locke's attorney, John McWilliams, said during the proceeding his client will remain under the presumption of innocence.

## A 'toxic' relationship

During the exam, Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Elizabeth Dornik said the autopsy report shows McLean suffered at least 13 blunt force trauma impacts to the head, neck, torso and other areas.

Eight witnesses took the stand during the exam, including McLean's neighbor, who said she often heard two men arguing at McLean's home, like she said she did the day he was reported missing.

Glen McLean's son, Derek McLean, reported his father missing after finding blood in his father's home when the elder McLean uncharacteristically failed



Jeffrey Locke, 50, leaves the courtroom Thursday, June 1, 2023 after he was ordered to stand trial in connection to the death of Canton Township resident Glen McLean. LAURA COLVIN/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

to respond to numerous phone calls.

Derek McLean said he knew his father had allowed Locke, who was homeless, to stay on and off in his home on River Woods Drive North and had allowed Locke to bring his animals — five or six cats and a dog — as well.

Derek McLean also said his father and Locke had bonded over their mutual interest in cars and that his father had paid McLean to work on one of his many cars.

But, he said, the relationship between the two men "got toxic" and his father told him on several occasions that Locke had assaulted him.

After his father stopped responding to phone calls, Derek McLean said he

became concerned and went to the home where he found a bloody scene in the garage. His father and his father's 2021 Ford Mustang were missing, he said.

On his way out of the courtroom after testifying, Derek McLean verbally attacked Locke and his attorney, who were seated at the defense table, before he was whisked away by a security officer. Gerou ordered Derek McLean held in contempt of court and imposed a \$250 fine for the outburst.

## Police testimony

Police from both Canton Township and Dearborn also took the stand. Sev-

eral testified about the scene at McLean's home.

"There was a lot of blood and a lot of objects with blood on them," Canton Township Police Officer Ioakim Argyris said.

Between the garage and a laundry room just off the garage, he said, there was "just blood everywhere," including a large pool of blood on the floor in the garage and a bloody roll of duct tape on top of the washing machine.

In an effort to locate the missing McLean, officers said they attempted to ping his phone, eventually learning the device was at a location in Dearborn. It was found in McLean's Mustang with Locke, parked at a Tim Hortons.

Dearborn Police Officer Steven Vert testified that Locke was in the driver's seat of the Mustang and had drug paraphernalia in his pockets. Vert said Locke told him he was on a "binge" and looking for narcotics. Vert also said Locke gave an inconsistent statements about McLean's whereabouts, claiming McLean was on a plane, then claiming he was McLean.

Canton Township Police Officer Darren Kossick testified that he arrived on the scene in Dearborn and noticed condensation in the rear window of the empty Mustang, giving cause to open the trunk where McLean's body was found.

Police also testified that Locke sent Glen McLean a text message on the day he went missing, indicating his plans to come to McLean's home.

Other evidence submitted during the exam included multiple photos, the medical examiner's report, lab report, diagram of injuries on the body and vehicle forensic information.

A brief online obituary identified McLean as a U.S. veteran.

Locke was bound over for a June 8 arraignment in circuit court and remanded to the county jail where he remains on \$500,000 bond.

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



O'Hare School of Irish Dancers from Plymouth performs at the 2016 Motor City Irish Fest. TOM BEAUDOIN

## What to know about the 2023 Motor City Irish Fest in Livonia

Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

LIVONIA — The Motor City Irish Fest is coming back to Greenmead Historical Park June 9-11.

One of the premier Irish-themed events in Southeast Michigan, the festival is a celebration of Irish heritage and features live music, including headline bands from Ireland and Boston.

"The MCIF is a family affair that celebrates Irish Heritage," said Kevin Murphy, co-chairman of the event, in a release. "We celebrate that heritage through music and stories that educate on Irish culture, both past and present."

This year's festival music headliners are Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones, from Ireland, and The Gobshites from Foxborough, Mass. Other regional and local bands make up the 20 acts that will perform in two music tents over the weekend.

The festival also features a cultural tent focused on Irish heritage that will offer presentations on Detroit's Irish-

American community, Irish theater, and the Beatles' movie "A Hard Day's Night," which features Paul McCartney's Irish grandfather.

For the kids, there is a children's area with a wide variety of activities that introduce the "wee ones" to Irish heritage. Activities include Irish-themed crafting, Irish dance lessons, a magic show, Irish whistle lessons, a reddest-hair contest, Irish football lessons and more.

No Irish festival would be complete without an opportunity to taste Irish whiskey.

There will be several tasting events throughout the weekend featuring five Irish whiskeys, including traditional brands and newer brands. There is one tasting on Friday and three on Saturday. A separate, \$45 ticket is required for the tastings. Tickets come with a complementary whiskey glass.

The event also features a Catholic Mass, shopping opportunities and plenty of Irish food to enjoy.

For more information and to order tickets, visit motorcityirishfest.com.

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# Scooter's Coffee welcomes first customers in new Plymouth location

Laura Colvin

Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

PLYMOUTH — Caffeine, anyone?

The new Scooter's Coffee opened Tuesday to a long stream of customers eager to check out the menu and grab some liquid energy.

Located at the northeast corner of Ann Arbor and Sheldon roads, the 1490 Ann Arbor Road drive-thru coffee shop offers a variety of espresso drinks, smoothies and breakfast foods.

"Our signature drink is called the caramelicious," said Scooter's Plymouth franchise owner Michael Endres. "It's a rich and velvety caramel latte topped with whipped cream and caramel drizzle. We also offer mochas, flavored lattes, matcha green teas and cold brew, which is one of our more popular drinks, especially with cold foam on top."

Scooter's also recently launched the Scoot! Energy Infusion, available in fruity flavors like prickly pear, raspberry, blue raspberry, and coconut.

Hungry? Plenty of food options are also available to go with your beverage.

"Our most popular sandwiches are our maple waffle and everything bagel sandwich," Endres said. "Both are really good."

Customers can also choose from the egg and cheddar biscuit, a bacon burrito and or spicy sausage burrito. Pastries, muffins, cookies, and cake bites in red velvet and birthday cake are also available.

Scooter's Coffee was founded in 1998 in Bellevue, Nebraska, and now has more than 600 locations in the United States. The new location in Plymouth is the first in Wayne County and only the eighth in Michigan. Endres also operates a Scooter's franchise in Brighton, which opened in June 2022.

Construction delays, he said, pushed the opening of the new Plymouth location a little longer than expected.

"People have definitely been waiting for us to open and the Plymouth community has been super welcoming,"



The crew at the new Scooter's Coffee location in Plymouth takes a quick pause for a photo during a busy opening day Tuesday, May 16. PHOTOS BY LAURA COLVIN/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Endres said. "We're excited to finally be at the finish line."

Fully staffed on opening day, Endres added that the store's focus is on friendliness and speed. The objective is to get customers through the line in two-and-a-half minutes or less.

"Obviously, as we're training, it might take a little longer. But we're pretty close and I'm proud of that. We've got a great team," he said.

Scooter's also puts a focus on "relationship coffee."

"We source only the top 10% of specialty coffee beans worldwide," Endres said. "We get our coffee directly from farmers, not large conglomerates. The goal is for those farmers to be able to reinvest in their families, in their communities and their farms so they benefit from the business just as much as we are."

Have a story idea? Contact reporter Laura Colvin at lcolvin@hometownlife.com or 248-221-8143.



Savannah Parent of Livonia starts a beverage for a customer.

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The newly-opened Dairy Queen, 33327 Plymouth Road, in Livonia.  
SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Dairy Queen fans can stop by one, maybe two new Livonia locations this summer

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

LIVONIA — Livonia is getting not just one new Dairy Queen serving Dilly Bars and Blizzards this summer, but probably two.

The ice cream chain that's a summer tradition for many Americans recently opened a restaurant at 33327 Plymouth Road, near the Farmington Road intersection.

It's likely another Dairy Queen will open for those living and cruising across town near Middlebelt and Six Mile roads.

City council is poised to approve plans for a Dairy Queen at 17200 Middlebelt Road, the site of a former Steak 'n Shake, at its June 5 meeting. The recently-opened Dairy Queen and the location in the works are both "Grill and Chill" restaurants, meaning they offer food like chicken tenders, fries and burgers alongside their frozen treats.

"I love Dairy Queen," Councilman Scott Morgan said at a Monday, May 22, council meeting. "We're pleased to have

you here in Livonia. I think that's great."

The Middlebelt building has been empty since Steak 'n Shake closed in 2019. Dairy Queen's renovation will include a large outdoor patio and a re-configured drive-thru lane.

"Honestly, this building has been an eyesore," Councilman Brandon McCullough said. "When the news started getting out that Dairy Queen was going to be hitting that, I've heard a lot of praise."

Dairy Queen opened its first shop in 1940 in Joliet, Illinois. Today, the chain has over 7,000 locations around the world.

If plans are approved June 5, the company expects to break ground this summer.

"Get this thing going," McCullough said. "Let's get some ice cream."

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Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at [stankersle@hometownlife.com](mailto:stankersle@hometownlife.com) or 248-305-0448.



Canton officials take part in a groundbreaking for summer projects at Heritage Park. Pictured from left are Joseph Hawver, Canton Deputy Supervisor; Michael Siegrist, Canton Township Clerk; Anne Marie Graham-Hudak, Canton Township Supervisor; Tania Ganguly, Canton Township Trustee; Sommer N. Foster, Canton Township Trustee; Kate Borninski, Canton Township Trustee; Dian Slavens, Canton Township Treasurer; and Jon LaFever, Canton Community Development Director. COURTESY CANTON TOWNSHIP

## Canton Township plans splash park, playground improvements at Heritage Park

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

CANTON TWP. — Fun new amenities and improvements are coming to the splash park, playground and other areas of Heritage Park this summer.

The first phase of improvements are already underway at the Heritage Park North Playground, where crews are adding universally accessible play equipment, including a four-person seesaw, swings, activity panels and soft-fall surfacing, according to a press release from the township. Construction is expected to be complete by mid-June, weather permitting.

At the park's Splash Playground, visitors can expect to see the addition of shade sails and hydration stations this year, thanks to input from the community.

"We are making these improvements to Heritage Park to ensure that this popular community destination is an even more inviting and safer place for the thousands of individuals who use it every year," Canton Supervisor Anne Marie Graham-Hudak said in the press release. "By investing in these renovations, we are meeting and ad-

ressing the needs of our ever-growing community, who have made Heritage Park the heart of our municipal complex."

The township also plans to replace the fishing pier and bridge and make restroom renovations in the north and south areas of the park. Several parking lots and paths located throughout the park will undergo asphalt and paving replacement, as well.

Heritage Park, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, includes 105 acres of green space. Visitors will find two playscapes, a splash pad, four pavilions, a gazebo, two ponds, walking paths, an amphitheater, baseball diamonds, soccer fields, a sand volleyball court, fishing area and more.

The summer projects are funded through several sources, including Community Development Block Grant funds, a Wayne County Parks Millage and Canton Township.

During construction, access to various parts of the park will be limited for safety reasons. Road closures, limited parking, and alternate routes are expected during the paving projects.

For more information about Heritage Park amenities or any Canton Park, visit [www.cantonfun.org](http://www.cantonfun.org) or call 734-394-5360.

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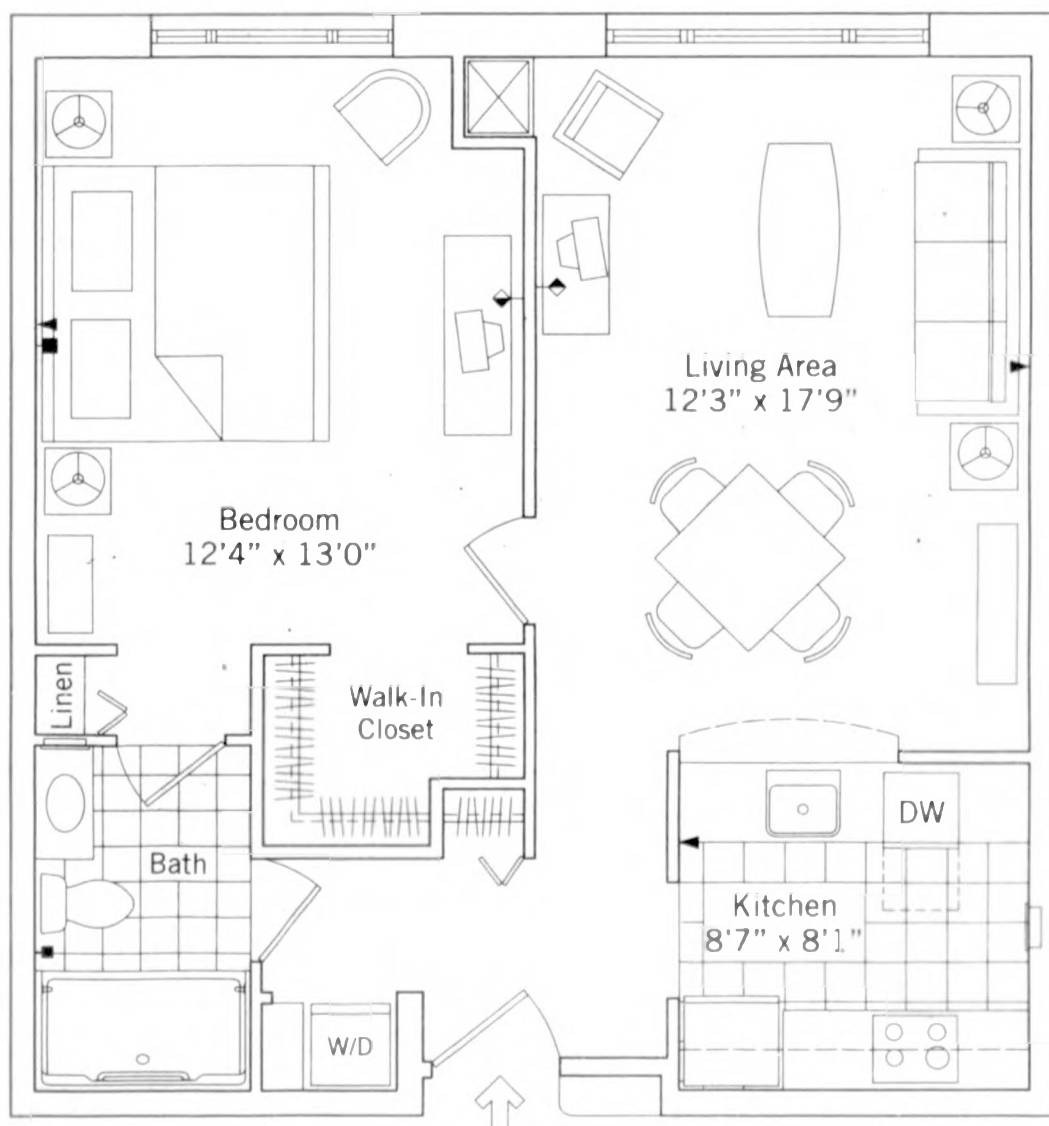
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### FIND THE WORDS

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

Annual	Enjoy	Liqueur	Pony
Arrive	Facial	List	Present
Aunt	Favours	Lollies	Prizes
Balloon	Flizz	Massage	Revel
Band	Flame	Mates	Rose
Bash	Food	Merry	Salad
Beer	Gifts	Musical	Songs
Blow	Hats	chairs	Treat
Cake	Host	Noisy	Uncle
Cups	Jumping	Overindulge	Wild
Dance	castle	Peanuts	Wish
Dips	Leis	Play	Yacht

### TODAY'S ANSWER

Another year older

### Birthday celebrations

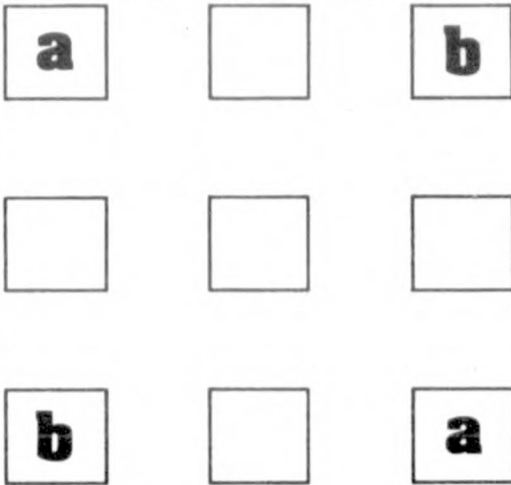
S R U O V A F A Z S G N O S S  
W N O P L A Y B T Z F O O D R  
O I U N C L E V E R I H M P I  
L Y S I O N E R L E A F A E A  
B O A H V G I F T S R S T A H  
N L L Y E T N E S E R P E N C  
O E A L R T N U A P I C S U L  
O R L E I S H D C O V A O T A  
L U L G N E O L G N E K R S C  
L E A A D Z S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

## PUZZLES & POSERS

### WALKIN' the PLANKS

USING ONLY THE SIX PLANKS SHOWN BELOW, HOW IS IT POSSIBLE FOR TWO PERSONS TO BUILD INDIVIDUAL BRIDGES FROM 'A' TO 'A' AND 'B' TO 'B' IN WHICH BOTH PERSONS WALK ON '3' PLANKS APIECE? VITAL INFO: EACH ISLAND IS '10' FEET SQUARE. THE HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL DISTANCE BETWEEN ISLANDS IS ALSO '10' FEET. THE

SIZES OF THE PAIRED PLANKS ARE  
'15' FEET  
'11' FEET  
'7' FEET.



### SUDOKU | CREATORS

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

### TODAY'S ANSWER

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

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

### NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

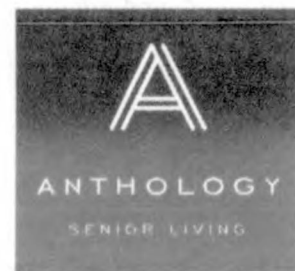
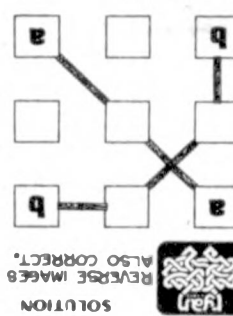
1 NINE (anagram of PUNISHMENT)  
7 Russia, before Peter the Great  
14 Engraver admired by Charles Lamb  
16 One-vowel North American capital  
17 Not seasonal  
18 Most nominated male singer at the 2020 Grammys  
19 Unionization of a sort  
21 Reaction to something pleasant or unpleasant  
22 Exciting, these days  
23 Realize  
27 Buttonholer  
30 Proceed with caution  
32 What clickers often augment  
33 Word on the Big Ten city list  
34 Runner  
35 Runway frequenters  
36 One you'd expect to hustle  
39 Their first home field was Tulane Stadium  
40 Muggers  
41 Runner who became a baron in 2000  
42 Future of Beauty Awards  
43 Fill in  
44 It's kept at arm's length  
45 Be upset, say  
46 Father  
47 Something to check at the door  
49 Competitors in the IPA market?

**DOWN**

1 Middle of five Shakespearean four-letter title words  
2 Father  
3 Orange derivative  
4 "Don't walk behind me, I lead"  
5 Tomatoey sister brand of V8  
6 Sabermetricians, for instance  
7 Showbiz coinage circa 1915  
8 Stretch  
9 Salutation  
10 Went off on  
11 Genentech's pre-merger ticker symbol  
12 Extended play, for short  
13 Tops  
15 Kate Middleton designation  
20 In other places  
24 The Apollo 17 crew took a full photo of it  
25 CS Lewis' "natural organ of truth"  
26 Kept in a space-saving way  
27 Slew  
28 Glorify gleamly  
29 They're not too swift  
31 Antonym of "hence"  
32 Hauteur  
34 They can't gambol in casinos  
35 Court crime  
37 Joint protector  
38 Ali wouldn't go there  
43 Drill users  
44 Base homes  
46 "Sea" creature  
48 Aurous  
50 European leader  
51 Future flukes  
52 Ore door  
53 2 (Russia's first moon crasher)  
54 Cheaters, casually  
55 Silicon Valley successor of Steve  
56 Have something of interest  
57 Humbug

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### TODAY'S ANSWER



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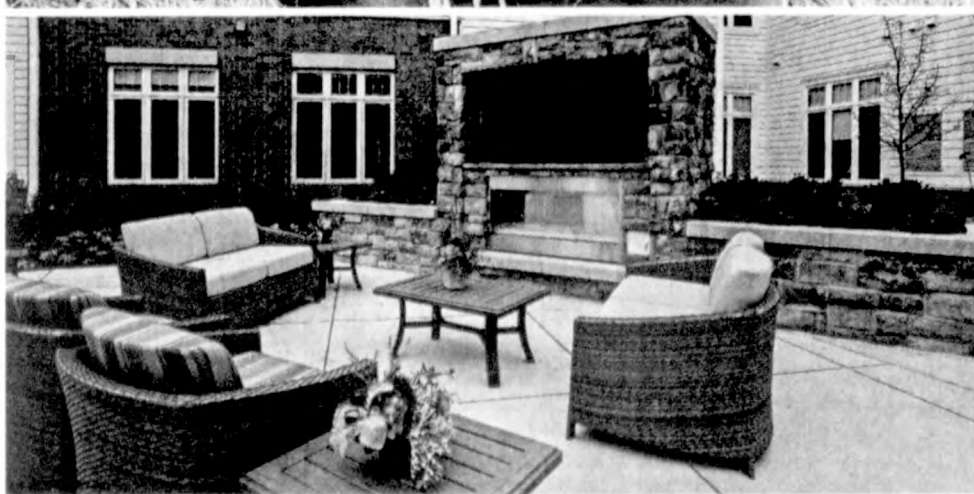
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# Livonia Spree's milestone 50th festival has new leader: 'I grew up riding the rides'

Shelby Tankersley  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

LIVONIA — Sam Caramagno knows how much people love Spree.

After all, he's been going to the popular festival his whole life.

"I think seeing the public enjoy it is great," he said. "You know, I grew up riding the rides as a kid and drinking the beer as an adult. But I just enjoy seeing people come out en masse and enjoy themselves."

Spree, set for June 20-25 at Ford Field, at the intersection of Farmington Road and Lyndon Street, is entering its 50th year.

Caramagno was recently elected chair of the Spree Committee, a volunteer group that runs the event, just in time for the milestone celebration. He'll be chair for two years, after which the committee will either reelect him or choose a new leader.

"There's a lot of experience on the board, you can't deny that," he said. "I wouldn't do it if it wasn't for a lot of help to make sure this thing goes on."

Caramagno is focused on making sure Spree happens for years to come. He said the festival, which is held every June to mark the city's birthday, costs "hundreds of thousands of dollars" to run.

Most of the impact of his leadership are things people won't notice — like making sure the many vendors at the event are secured early and creating resources for future committees.

But, they are vital to making sure the event people know and love stays that way.

The committee is also making a push for more volunteers and is counting on the Livonia Police Department's help to keep the festival safe. People interested in volunteering can sign up on Spree's website.

"Volunteers are harder to come by," Caramagno said. "We'll take all the volunteers we can get. We have places for setup, the pancake breakfast, pizza night, ticket sales and beer servers."



A trailer near Ford Field in Livonia serves as a year-round workplace for the Spree Committee.  
PHOTOS BY SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Sam Caramagno, chair of the Livonia Spree Committee, stands in front of Ford Field. The park is transformed into the beloved Spree every June.

"There's plenty of room for volunteers."

One change people will notice this year is more musical variety in the evening.

"We'll have a country music band on Friday night this year," Caramagno, a country music fan, said. "We haven't had that before."

He envisions some changes in the years to come, but the rides, food, music and events that people know and love seem here to stay.

"Spree will go on as it has for years," Caramagno said. "I envision tweaks in the future, but it's going to be the Spree you know."

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Caramagno is excited, as he always is, for the bumper cars, live music and a ride on the Ferris wheel.

He recommends everyone come out to see the 30-minute fireworks show scheduled for dusk Sunday, June 25.

"You should see the fireworks," he said. "It's an outstanding, outstanding show. That's the grand finale, and it is the bomb."

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

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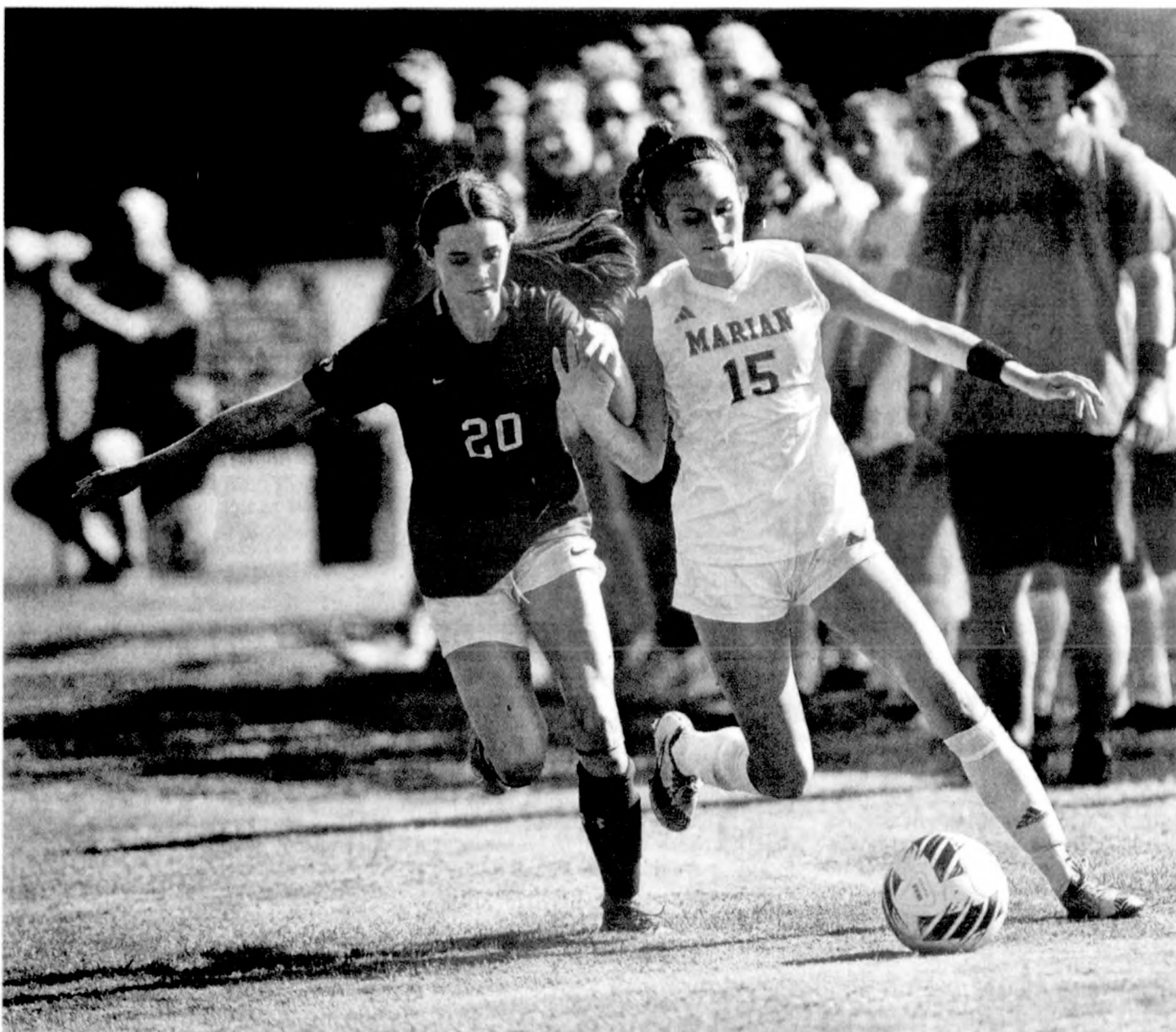
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## SPORTS

## GIRLS SOCCER



Bloomfield Hills Marian's Caroline Flynn gets around Cranbrook's Sydney Korth during the Division 2 girls soccer district championship Thursday, June 1, 2023. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Flynn inspires Mustangs to tough out win at Cranbrook in playoffs

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

One of Annmarie Flynn's greatest lessons to her daughter, Caroline, proved to be a boon for the No. 2 Bloomfield Hills Marian girls soccer team during Thursday's Division 2 district championship.

It was hot. Temperatures reached a high of 93 degrees throughout the match. And the sun just absolutely beat down on the players as they ran up and

down the pitch. So much so the referees stopped the game every 20 minutes to ensure everyone got a water break and could stay hydrated.

And Cranbrook just wouldn't go away. Rachael Claxton and Daelyn Short kept rallying the troops. The Cranes continuously pushed for goals. They made run after run toward Marian's net. It's what you'd expect from the back-to-back Catholic League Cardinal tournament champions.

So you wouldn't have blamed the Mustangs (15-1-2) for taking the

night off.

And, for about four minutes in the opening half, they did.

That was, of course, until Caroline Flynn, a senior captain, stepped up and put an end to it.

"From the get-go, from the moment the whistle started, she was yelling at her team to fire them up," second-year Marian coach Reid Friedrichs said. "She was screaming at them, 'Pick it up! Pick it up! Energy, now!' She leads

See **PLAYOFFS**, Page 2B

## How Birmingham Seaholm baseball became one of the state's best teams

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Birmingham Seaholm baseball coach John Toth Jr. isn't saying much these days.

Some of that has to do with how tough he coached his players over the past two seasons. A bulk of the roster are juniors, and many of them played on the varsity as freshmen and sophomores, and he rode them hard back then. This is definitely a program that has been battle-tested.

So the eighth-year coach has handed over the reins to his actual players.

"You'll see I don't talk before games. I don't talk after games," Toth Jr. said following Saturday's 3-1 victory over Walled Lake Central on senior day. "It's their team. They run it. We just coach them as necessary."

Ah, yes, the good ole reverse-megalomaniac strategy.

And how did that work for the Maples?

They carried a 26-4 record into the final week of the regular season and were ranked No. 9 in the most recent Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association poll.

They recently saw their 19-game winning streak end. But, yeah, they were on a 19-game winning streak.

It's certainly been a dream season.

"It's awesome, it's really great," said catcher Aiden Wolfson, a junior. "Last year, we struggled a lot more, but we're really finding our footing this year. If you look at the stats, everyone's numbers are up across the board. I think we have a lot more chemistry now, and we're all just playing with a lot more confidence when we roll into games. We just don't think about it too much. We just go out there, play our game and see what happens."

It's been a lot of work to get this far.

Four of the current starters were on Toth Jr.'s varsity as freshmen, which included twin brothers Colton and Granden Kinnie, Kyle Robbins and Nick Shenefelt.

He brought up four more of their classmates the following season. And

See **SEAHOLM**, Page 6B

## Livonia Franklin girls basketball hires P-CEP lifer to lead program

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Colleen Flaherty understands she's stepping outside of her comfort zone.

But, to be fair, she's used to doing that by now after all this time of coaching multiple sports per school year.

Livonia Franklin recently named the 35-year-old its girls basketball coach.

Flaherty, who was part of Plymouth's first-ever graduating class in 2006, has spent the past 11 years coaching at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

She's coached JV basketball and lacrosse, led the youth community bas-

ketball program and recently stepped in at the last minute to be the interim varsity volleyball coach.

Out of necessity, she wore many hats at P-CEP, and that helped keep its sports teams afloat. Now she's coaching off-campus for the first time in her career. While trying something new has her once again testing the boundaries of her comfort zone, it gives her a chance to single in on one program and one sport.

And what better place to do so than at Franklin? She's used to sharing facilities, gymnasiums and stadiums with other programs at Canton, Plymouth and Salem. Now she gets those things all to herself at Franklin.

"The sense of community and knowing that Franklin's administration will be giving me all of their support was a big thing and one of the top things on my pros and cons list about taking this job," Flaherty told Hometown Life last week. "One thing that stuck with me is that it's a nice, blue-collar community, and they grind. One of my mottos is, 'Work hard, play hard,' so we're going to put in a lot of time this summer so my team can get to know me and my system and really get to work. I wasn't expecting to be as welcomed coming into Franklin as an outsider, but so far the sense of community has been great."

Flaherty steps into a tough job. Not

only does she need to compete each season against rivals Livonia Stevenson and Livonia Churchill but she also has to battle against the likes of Wayne Memorial, a perennial powerhouse constantly sending players off to Division I colleges, and Belleville, which is predicted to be the next girls basketball dynasty in Michigan, in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East.

There aren't going to be too many easy nights on their schedule this coming winter.

But she's already embraced the challenge.

See **FRANKLIN**, Page 6B



Get More Sports

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# Magnan's heady play in goal keeps Mustangs ahead of Mercy in districts

Brandon Folsom  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Yeah, it was a tough spot to be in. But if Simran Magnan can shake off letting in the winning goal during a penalty kick shootout as a freshman playing in the Division 1 state championship, not much is going to faze the goalkeeper for the rest of her career.

That's right. Playoff time is here. The Northville girls soccer team controlled the attack and got a pair of lucky bounces to squirt past Farmington Hills Mercy goalie Ainsley Henderson during the opening half of its district semifinal on May 31.

But, of course, the Marlins made a game out of it.

Just 10 minutes into the second half, they drew a penalty kick that set up Luwam Abraha with a one-on-one against Magnan, the Mustangs' second-year starting goalie.

And guess what? The sophomore stopped the shot. A nice, efficient two-handed bat down with her gloves, and away the Mustangs went, ready to take the ball toward midfield.

Until the referee blew his whistle and said that a Northville player had crossed the boundary line while Abraha was attempting her PK. Essentially a routine lane violation on a free throw.

That meant Abraha got to line up once again and boom another ball toward Magnan. And this time? Magnan couldn't stop the shot that Abraha lashed toward the left post. It was just out of reach.

All of a sudden it was 2-1 and the Marlins had enough mojo to attempt to knot the score and keep their season alive.

And they probably could've tied it up. But Magnan quickly shook off that unfortunate event of not being able to make back-to-back saves on PKs and proceeded to play out of her mind.

Three minutes later, Magnan halted a breakaway from Mercy's Addison Cervenak. And moments after that, she karate chopped a ball out of the air that



Northville coach Jeannine Reddy goes through player introductions before the Division 1 girls soccer district semifinal Wednesday, May 31, 2023.  
BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

sailed into the penalty box off a corner kick.

And Magnan just kept playing steady after that until the Mustangs escaped with the 3-1 win. Juliana Bohlen, Lauren Yaquinto and Helena McLellan each scored goals.

They faced Livonia Stevenson in the district championship June 3 at Novi Meadows in a game that was after press time for this edition.

"It's tough, it's tough," second-year Northville coach Jeannine Reddy said. "But she's pretty tough. We had a conversation last week about the things we can control and the things we can't, and that was one of those moments that you can't control. You've just got to treat it like you're taking another PK."

"It was unfortunate, and I think it stinks that you save the first one and have to try to do it again. But she seemed to be in good spirits and continued to play a good game."

Magnan certainly did.

And she has been all season.

The Mustangs (15-0-4) haven't allowed a goal in 12 of the 19 games they've

played. That's a testament to how well Magnan has improved as a goalie since earning the starting job as a freshman a year ago.

Reddy threw her in goal one game, and Magnan never lost the job. They rode her heady play all the way to the state championship a year ago.

In fact, they hadn't lost a single game until No. 12 Bloomfield Hills upset them after Ava Badallo, Hometown Life's Player of the Year last spring, kicked the winning PK past Magnan to push the Black Hawks to their first-ever state title in any sport since the school opened a decade ago.

Imagine being in that position. You're a freshman starting in a state championship. And you let in the winning goal. How do you even bounce back from that?

"I was just so honored to be part of that, to be able to play in a state final," Magnan said. "Bouncing back from that, I just said, 'It's my freshman year. It can only get better from there.' So I just trained hard and really improved since then."

That's a great outlook to have, something even professional athletes struggle to find after they lose in championship games. But Magnan was right. It is only getting better from there.

The Mustangs repeated as Kensington Lakes Activities Association champions a week ago. They finished the regular season as the second-ranked team in Michigan. And they're one of the favorites to go all the way.

There's a chance Magnan's going to get her redemption. She certainly did during Wednesday night when only two seconds ticked off the scoreboard before she had to ready herself to attempt to stop yet another PK.

"That kind of stinks. But I was just going into the second one with the same mentality as the first one and just trying my best," said Magnan, who also plays for Michigan Rush. "During the game, you just want to forget about it, move on and focus on the next save. You can always reflect on it later because you always want to improve, but, in the moment, yeah, you've just got to stay in the game."

And that's something her teammates recognized she had done against Mercy. Immediately after the final whistle, Magnan was one of the first players her friends sprinted onto the field to celebrate with. First, she got a hug from Yaquinto. Then it was a high five from Ava Andrzejewski. And then another hug from Gianna Viola.

Reddy said that when she tabbed Magnan as her starting goalie a year ago, a lot of people looked at the longtime soccer coach as if she was crazy. And who could blame them? Who starts a freshman goalie in a state championship game anyway?

"There was something about the way she moved, and she was just super athletic," Reddy said. "I was like, 'You know what? I'm going to give her a chance.' I didn't care how old she was. And she's been pretty amazing since."

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

## Playoffs

Continued from Page 1B

the girls so well. She cares so deeply, and you can see it in her passion with how she played. She was physical. She was tough. And she even had an assist on the second goal, and she's just been awesome."

Flynn inspired the Mustangs to boot in a pair of goals, lock down on defense and beat Cranbrook 2-0 to repeat as district champions. They head to next week's regional semifinal at Dearborn Divine Child.

And that inspiration was felt on both sides. At one point in the second half, both Claxton and Short raced over to Cranbrook's sideline and told the Cranes' bench to get up off the grass and start cheering for the players on the field. They were tired of the Mustangs' bench being more rowdier than theirs.

Some of this had to do with Flynn's growth as a senior leader. Some of it had to do with this being her last hurrah as a soccer player. She's going to focus on her studies at Michigan State University in the fall. She isn't going to play in college.

"I felt like, being a senior, that's when people look up to you the most," Flynn said. "I think all five of our seniors have done a good job using our voices and seniority on the team. When I see someone put their head down or if our team as a whole gets frustrated, that's when I step in. When I see everyone's heads go down, that's kind of where I take my authority on the team to create positivity. I know the younger kids look up to the seniors so if they see one of the seniors with high energy trying to pick everyone else back up, I hope they'll do the same."

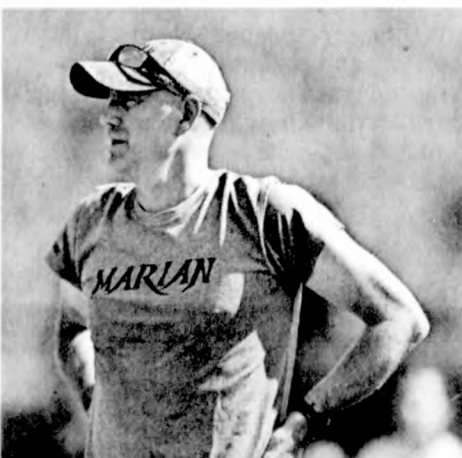
Lily Robinson put the Mustangs ahead by scoring inside the penalty box 12 minutes into the match, just a few moments after Flynn had her rallying cry.

And then six minutes into the second half, Flynn received a ball from the midfield that she dribbled down the far sideline and lashed toward the right post for Bella Musachio to tap in.

"I got a ball over the top, and we've been talking about there are different times in games where we are going to dribble through them or pass over them, and we've talked about knowing when the right time has been to do either or,"



Birmingham Marian celebrates winning the Division 2 girls soccer district championship Thursday, June 1, 2023.  
PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Bloomfield Hills coach Reid Friedrichs watches his team play in the Division 2 girls soccer district championship Thursday, June 1, 2023.

Flynn added. "Olivia Zahnow noticed it, played it over the top and I was trying to shoot it low because we know that was

our best chance. I was just kind of like, 'I'm going to hit the ball hard and aim for the far post.' I saw Bella was there so I knew it was either going to go into the back of the net or that Bella was going to be there to score that. I had trust in Bella to score that."

Kind of like the trust the Mustangs have in Flynn to lead the team in challenging moments.

And the district final was definitely one of those moments. Between the heat and seventh-ranked Cranbrook's hustle, it wasn't going to be an easy evening for Marian.

"This was the first game of the tournament where we knew we needed to really work for the win and put in all of our effort," Flynn said. "There was a chance that if we didn't come out and play as hard as we can, we could lose, be out (of the state playoffs) and it could be my last game. Because I'm not playing in college, it could've been the end of my soccer career, and I've been playing for-

ever. Having that in the back of my head has really helped me push through these last couple of games, and it's meant a lot."

The Mustangs have played in the past five D-2 state championships, winning four of them. Clearly, Flynn learned how to lead like that from one of the greats that have come before her in the program, right?

"Actually, I got that from my mom," said Flynn of Annmarie. "She wasn't a soccer player, but she always tells me to be the positive voice on the field. People will listen to you. You're a senior. She gives me advice to always have a positive mindset on our team."

Expect Flynn to continue having that positive mindset as they push to get back to the state final for the sixth-straight season.

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



# Barbour's PK pushes Spartans past Novi 1-0 in district semifinal

Rachel Pierson

Special to HometownLife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Jenna Barbour doesn't let the pressure get to her as she leads the Livonia Stevenson girls soccer team.

The Spartans were issued a penalty kick against Novi on May 31 in their Division 1 girls soccer district semifinal. And as any captain would, the senior midfielder turned what could have been fear into power and made the ball hit the back of the net.

Novi did not back down, they wanted to win just as much as Stevenson.

"We knew the game was going to go like this, it was going to be one moment and we ended up getting the penalty," Stevenson coach Ken Shingledecker said about her team's 1-0 win over the host Wildcats. "It was a lucky deal, but you have to tuck it away, and we did. I mean, defensively and in the goal, we were really good today. Our back line was as solid as it gets. Team defensively and through midfield, we left it out there."

With 14 wins overall, the Spartans knew they had what it takes to play for a district championship.

In the past week, the Spartans triumphed over South Lyon East in the district opener and was still riding Cloud 9 after defeating Novi.

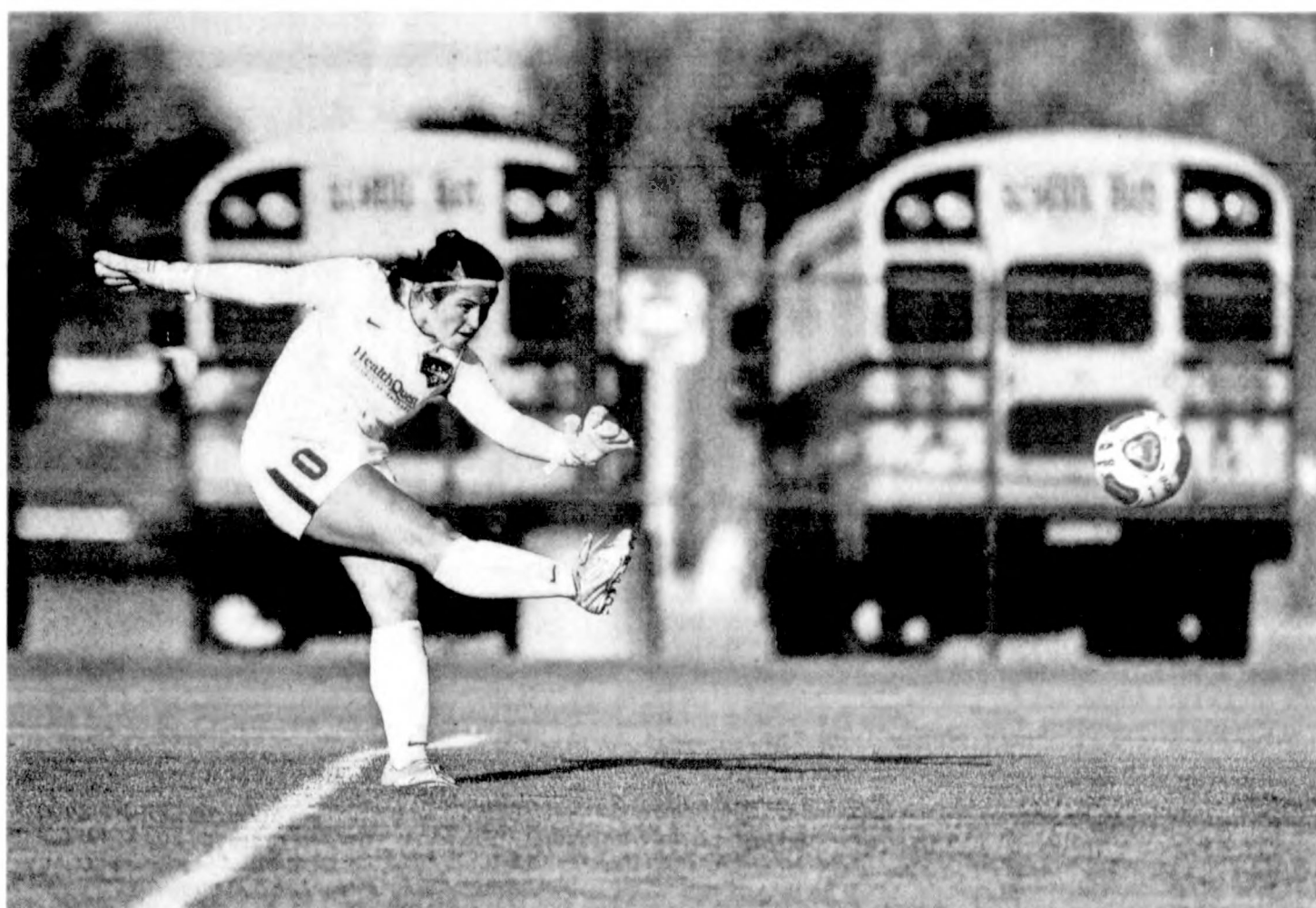
Stevenson is led by outstanding leadership from captains Marissa Grucz, Brianna Waranauckas and, of course, Barbour.

You can see the chemistry from the sidelines. These girls are not just teammates or friends, they are more like a family.

They all embraced each other with hugs and smiles as the final whistle sounded to complete the game.

But, it's worth noting, Barbour is not just your average soccer player, teammate or captain.

There were countless plays Wednesday when Barbour was able to connect the ball from one side of the pitch to the other in impressive fashion.



Livonia Stevenson's Chase Gregor punts during the Division 1 girls soccer district semifinal Wednesday, May 31, 2023, at Novi Meadows. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Being a midfielder, she can attack aggressively, pass quickly and defend like a wall.

So, it is no surprise that she was chosen to take the penalty kick.

"Jenna has 14 goals and 22 assists and has been a real feature for us," Shingledecker said. "We made a decision about a month ago and decided that if there are any more PKs this season that Jenna is taking them and no one argued about it."

How could you?

Barbour has been training for this moment.

"I was getting accustomed to having to take the PKs so I felt really calm, and I knew I was going to get it in," said Barbour, who also plays for the Michigan Hawks club team.

And her career is not going to end any time soon.

As she enters into her final moments of high school, she plans to attend Michigan State in the fall and be a part of the club soccer program.

Rachel Pierson is the summer sports department intern at Hometown Life. Follow her on Twitter at @rachelmperson.

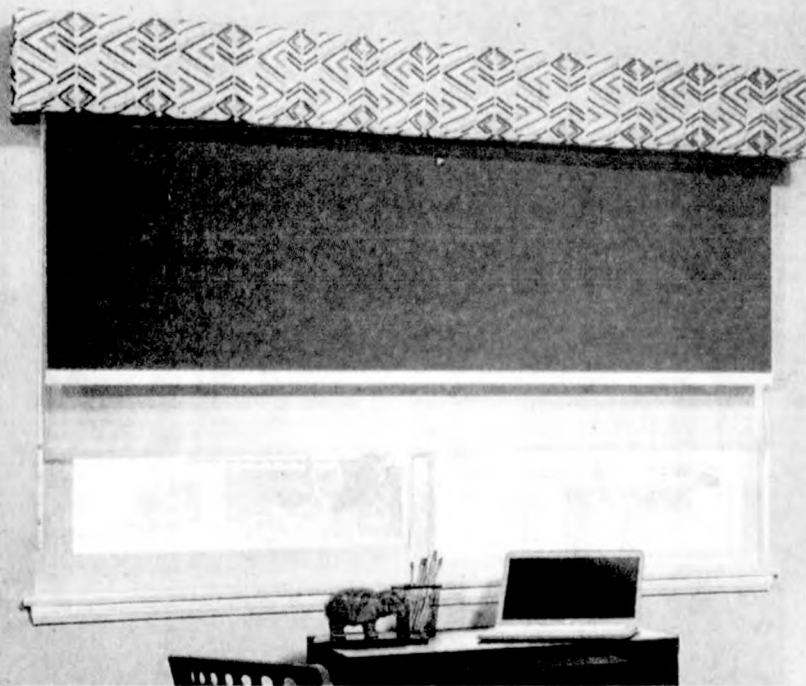


Livonia Stevenson coach Ken Shingledecker celebrates winning the Division 1 girls soccer district semifinal Wednesday, May 31, 2023, at Novi Meadows.



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# Brighton savors first boys lacrosse regional title since 2018

Bill Khan

Livingston Daily  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

**SOUTH LYON —** Of course they touched the trophy.

They touched it, hoisted it, waited in line to take photos with it.

Their coach even had to shoo them off the field at South Lyon East and toward the bus after a while, reminding players they could continue their celebration back in Brighton.

There are teams in Livingston County that go into full Stanley Cup superstition mode, refusing to touch any trophy until winning a state championship, as if doing so indicates they are content with winning a district or regional title.

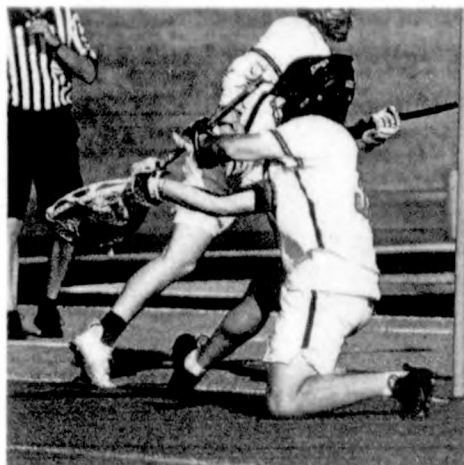
Brighton's hockey team has taken it a step further, not even accepting the state runner-up trophy the past two seasons, leaving Athletic Director John Thompson to take the hard-earned prize back to the school.

Brighton's boys lacrosse team, despite an influx of hockey players, was more than happy to embrace the spoils of victory after winning their first regional championship since 2018 on May 31 with an 8-6 victory over South Lyon.

The Bulldogs took the approach of the Florida Panthers, who celebrated with the Prince of Wales Trophy after winning the Eastern Conference, and not the Vegas Golden Knights, who wanted nothing to do with the Campbell Bowl after punching their ticket to the Stanley Cup Final.

"It was a little weird celebrating a regional," said junior defensive midfielder Charlie Burchfield, one of four varsity hockey players on the lacrosse team. "In hockey, we're kind of expected to win it. It was a cool experience. We haven't won one since (2018). All right, celebrate."

The regional championship was the third for the Bulldogs, who won back-to-back titles in 2017 and 2018. It came one year after losing two NCAA Division I players to graduation — John Aurandt



Brighton goalie Ridge Boehmer makes one of his 12 second-half saves during an 8-6 victory over South Lyon in a regional championship lacrosse game Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at South Lyon East.

(Harvard) and Carson Billig (Michigan).

And it could be just the beginning of a run of success for Brighton, which will return 24 players from a 32-man roster and 47 total players who were on one of the program's two varsity teams.

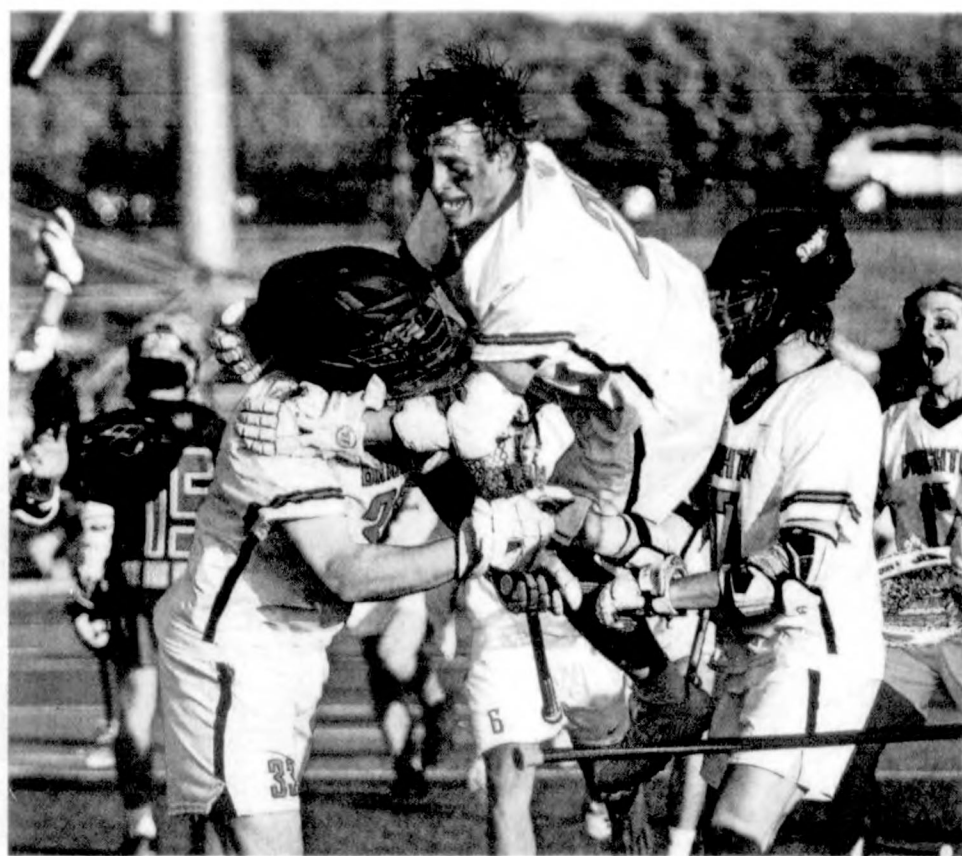
"We're a really young team," Brighton coach Jim Carl said. "We've had some really great teams come through here that didn't win a region, so this is a big deal for us. We've had some great senior leadership."

"I think the key here is there were two really good teams on the field, two great goalies. Both goalies were fantastic today."

Brighton senior Ridge Boehmer made 12 saves in the second half, allowing only three goals.

"I feel like I thrive whenever the pressure really gets high and you have to make that save in order to keep the team in it and win the game," he said.

While many of the Bulldogs return next season, this was Boehmer's final chance to win a regional championship after losing in the title game to Hartland in 2021 and Grand Ledge last season.



Brighton's Charlie Burchfield goes airborne while celebrating an 8-6 victory over South Lyon in a regional championship game Wednesday at South Lyon East.

PHOTOS BY BILL KHAN/LIVINGSTON DAILY

"I've been to it every year I've played on the varsity team," Boehmer said. "It just feels special this year that I bring it home as a senior."

Neither team led by more than two goals in a defensive battle that featured the goaltending of Boehmer and South Lyon junior Carter Peters.

South Lyon took its only lead when Anthony Aschi scored just 55 seconds into the game. Ryan Velarde and Joey Pipesh responded for Brighton, giving the Bulldogs a 2-1 lead after one quarter.

Quick-response goals were a theme in the second and third quarters. South Lyon's Nathan Radley scored seven seconds after a goal by Brighton's Lukas Aurandt and Riley Conlen answered for Brighton just 17 seconds later, putting the Bulldogs up 5-3 at halftime.

South Lyon cut the deficit to one goal three times in the second half, but couldn't get the equalizer. When Aidan Meyers of South Lyon made it 5-4 with 5:55 left in the third quarter, Conlen scored eight seconds later.

Ryan Bell of Brighton made it 7-5 with 8:13 left, South Lyon's Benjamin Gridley

cut the lead to 7-6 with 6:32 remaining and Conlen completed his hat trick with a big insurance goal with 3:05 on the clock.

It was the sixth straight season in which South Lyon reached the regional championship game, only to fall short. Three of the losses were to Detroit Catholic Central, two to Brighton and one to Northville.

"It's definitely not what we were hoping for," South Lyon coach Justin Boughton said. "Our big goal was to get out of regionals. This is the sixth year in a row making it to the regional final. Unfortunately, we still can't get over that hurdle. We're definitely making great strides. It was 8-6 today."

Brighton (16-4) was scheduled to face perennial power Birmingham Brother Rice (17-2) in the state Division 1 quarterfinals on June 2 in a game that was after press time for this edition.

"We're gonna give them our best and we're honored to be able to compete with the best in a state quarterfinal," Carl said. "It's a big deal for us."

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Seaholm

Continued from Page 1B

then he had guys such as Wolfson, who played on both the JV Gold and the varsity depending on game scenarios and workloads.

A year ago, it wasn't uncommon to see seven sophomores in the starting lineup or subbing in throughout games.

Those growing pains as youngsters are what has helped them become one of the hottest teams in Division I now. And the best part? Most of the team will be next year, too.

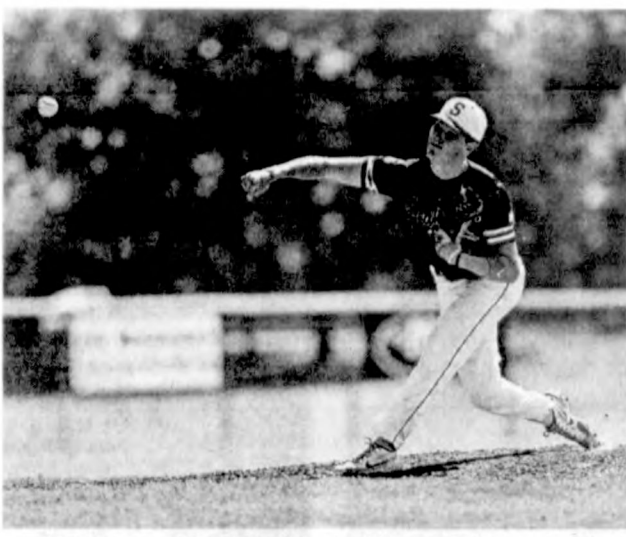
"They're all juniors now, and it took two years

of me being very hard on them," Toth Jr. said. "As soon as they were ready, you could see that we started playing hard. They play the right way, and then we just back off as coaches and let them go.

"When you get guys who like our juniors that you can throw out there, it makes it a lot easier."

And, sure, watching the likes of Shenefelt and Granden Kinnie belting home runs has been a boon for their offense. As has the occasional small-ball plays that help move guys around the bases and into scoring position.

But the backbone of this team has been Seaholm's pitching staff and defense.



Birmingham Seaholm's Kyle Robbins pitches during a baseball game Saturday, May 27, 2023.

PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The bullpen is stacked. On any given day, any of their arms can take the

Maples deep into a game and pass the baton to a closer with a comfortable

lead.

The Maples have played almost 200 innings and have walked fewer than 50 batters. They just don't put many opponents on the base paths.

Shenefelt, Robbins, Granden Kinnie, Kai McEachern and Eamonn Kernan, among a few others, are tough on the mound.

"This is what we've been waiting for," said Shenefelt, who pitched back-to-back no-hitters earlier this spring. "We've been young. It was great to get that experience at a young age so we could grow together. We've been a core of the team, even last year as sophomores. It's nice to finally

be at the top, be an upper-classman and be able to lead the team together because we've been through that whole thing (growing pains). It's just been awesome."

Other integral pieces to the squad have been infielders Grant Welch, Colton Kinnie, Bradley Babitch and Wolfson, outfielders Jack Lewis, Jack Hulgrave and Logan DeVos and base-running specialist Jack Kelly. But don't also forget Louie Sullivan, Jackson Langford and the others who contribute.

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

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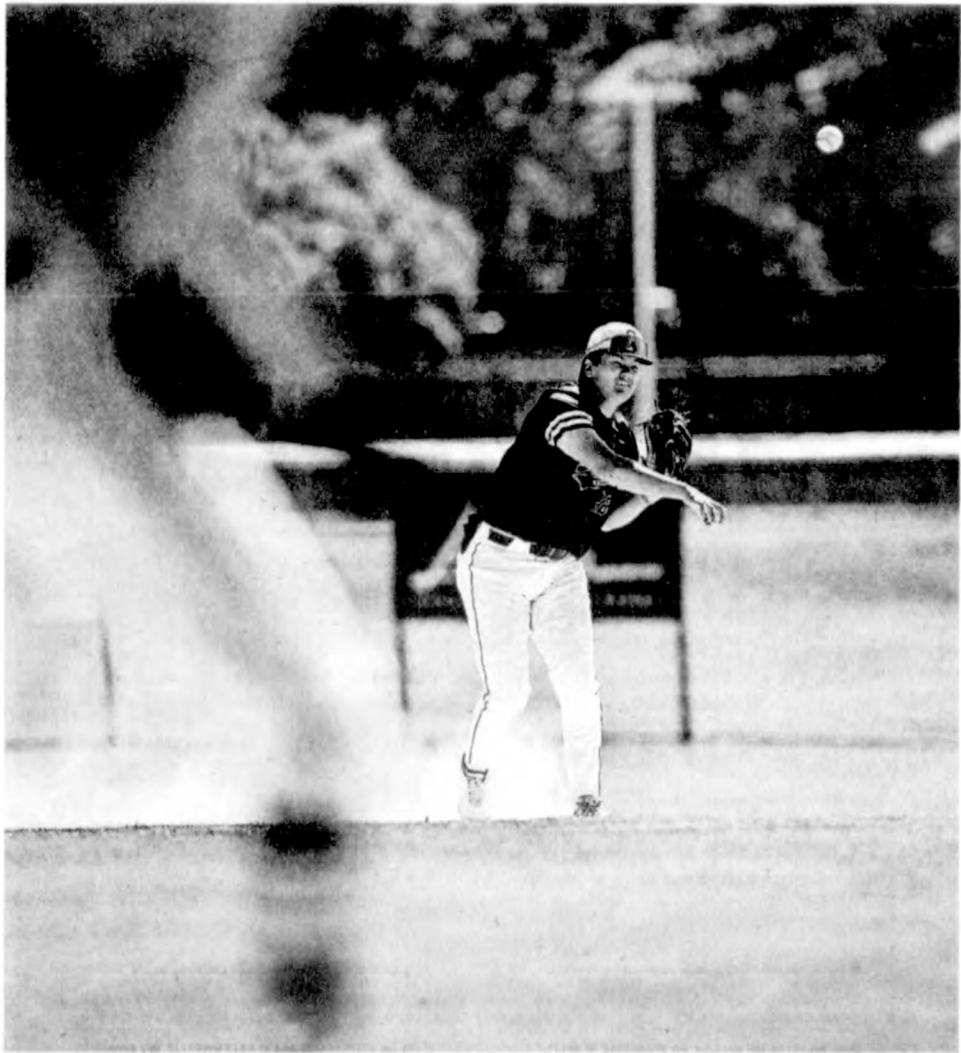
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Birmingham Seaholm's Granden Kinnie gets an out at first base during a baseball game Saturday, May 27, 2023.

Obituaries

Carol Margaret Foote

SAN ANTONIO - Carol Margaret Foote, 88, passed away on August 5, 2022 in her home in San Antonio, TX. She was born on December 15, 1933 in Detroit, MI. Carol grew up in Detroit and often visited family at her ancestral home in Milford, MI. During her lifetime, Carol lived in many different locations, but spent the most years in Pearl City, Hawaii and Coppell, Texas.

Graduating from The University of Michigan in 1955, Carol had a lifelong quest for knowledge and enjoyed discussions on many topics. Then, at the age of 80 years young, she returned to school earning an Associate's Degree in Music. Those fortunate enough to hear her play piano were delighted by the music. She taught English and Math for many years in public schools and was awarded Teacher of the Year in 1986 in Hawaii. Upon retiring, she volunteered to teach English as a Second Language to adults where she developed many rewarding relationships. She also taught Catechism for a number of years. Carol followed our Lord, Jesus Christ. She served Him by serving others.

Carol traveled the world. She lived in Germany and the Philippines while married to Colonel Gerald Gibbons, Sr. They traveled through Europe, Asia and Australia. She also traveled with family and friends through Russia, China, South America, and many other exciting destinations.

Carol is survived by her four children: Gerald Gibbons, Jr. (Christine), Greg Gibbons (Jenene), Gayle Johnson (Steve) and Glenda Kass as well as six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

There will be a small reception at 10am, Saturday, June 10, 2023, at St. Mary, Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church in Milford, MI followed by a funeral Mass at 11am. Her ashes will then be interred at the Foote family plot, Oak Grove Cemetery, Milford, MI.



Margaret Sandra-Morelli Sciberras

LIVONIA - Margaret "Margie" Sciberras (née Ritz) of Livonia, passed away peacefully at her home on Friday May 26, 2023 at the age of 60. Margie was born on October 22, 1962 to Frank and the late Mary Ritz.

Margie dedicated her life to helping others. Raising her daughter was the delight of her life, and she never let being a single mother limit her. She had a special love for animals and dedicated much of her life to rescuing and rehoming cats. Margie was the heart of the party and would often be found cooking for gatherings. She had an appreciation for great music - especially Billy Joel and Elton John.

Margie's legacy and beautiful life will forever be cherished by her daughter Alessandra (Nick) Crider, and her life partner Phil Sciberras. She is survived by her siblings Tina (Mel) Bevan, Mike (Danielle) Ritz, Patty (Jeff) Donatto, and Kenny Ritz. Beloved aunt of Chelsea (Jordan) Kirsch, Danielle Donatto, Andrew Donatto, Lauren Ritz, Frankie Ritz, Carmen Donatto, and Ben Ritz. Margie left behind a multitude of close friends, many of which she had kept for 30+ years.

Per Margie's last wishes, no funeral services will be held, and her remains have been donated to medical science. Margie's family will be hosting a celebration of her life in the coming month. The family can be reached directly for more information.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Humane Society of Huron Valley: <https://www.hshv.org>



Franklin

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"We are so excited to add Coach Flaherty to the Franklin family," first-year athletic director Dusty Hall said. "She's a coach's coach who is already embracing our 'Franklin M.A.D.E.' philosophy. She understands the importance of our kids being multi-sport, well-rounded student-athletes. I know for a fact she's excited to get to work this summer."

Flaherty replaces longtime coach John Santi, who stepped down from the girls basketball team to become an assistant with the boys.

This fall he'll be entering his 17th season at Franklin. That includes three years of him coaching boys basketball and another six with the girls program. Three of his teams were named academic all-state by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan. One of his best seasons was during 2021-22 when the girls went 13-8 overall, finished third in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East, won the Livonia City championship and had three players sign with college teams.

"His impact at Franklin was beyond wins and losses," Hall said. "He created an awesome culture for our girls in the basketball program."

While Flaherty doesn't necessarily have varsity basketball coaching experience, she's no stranger to leading others. When she ran the youth leagues for P-CEP, she was in charge of 70 coaches. That was all while juggling the teams she was coaching at the time.

"You can tell she's passionate," said Plymouth girls basketball coach Ryan Ballard, who had Flaherty on his staff for two seasons. "Watching her step up for Plymouth when it's been needed has been huge. For example, when lacrosse needed help, she was there to support that program. A great example of her character as a team-first person was what she did for volleyball last year. A week before the season started, she didn't know any of the players or parents but walked into a thankless position to make it a great experience for those kids (as their interim coach). It was impressive to watch her do that from afar. I know how much she cares about kids and how hard she works to provide a great example of what a great culture looks like. I'm sure that's first on her priority list when she gets to Franklin, is building positive relationships with kids and making them better people."

Coincidentally, the off-season kicks off next week. While Plymouth will be competing in its annual summer league, Flaherty plans to be coaching up Franklin's players in private and getting to know them better before scheduling a handful of scrimmages against nearby teams.





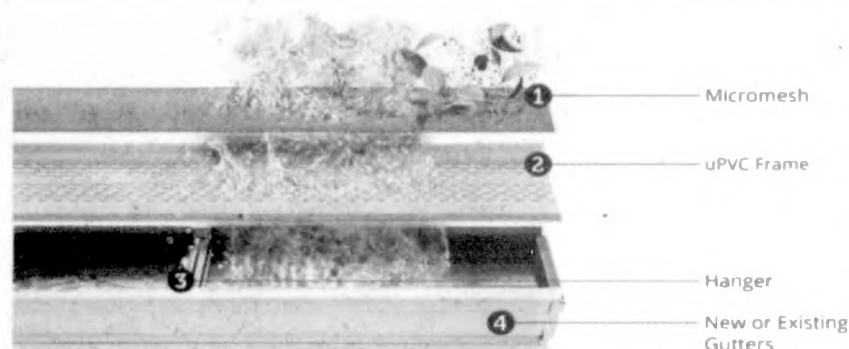
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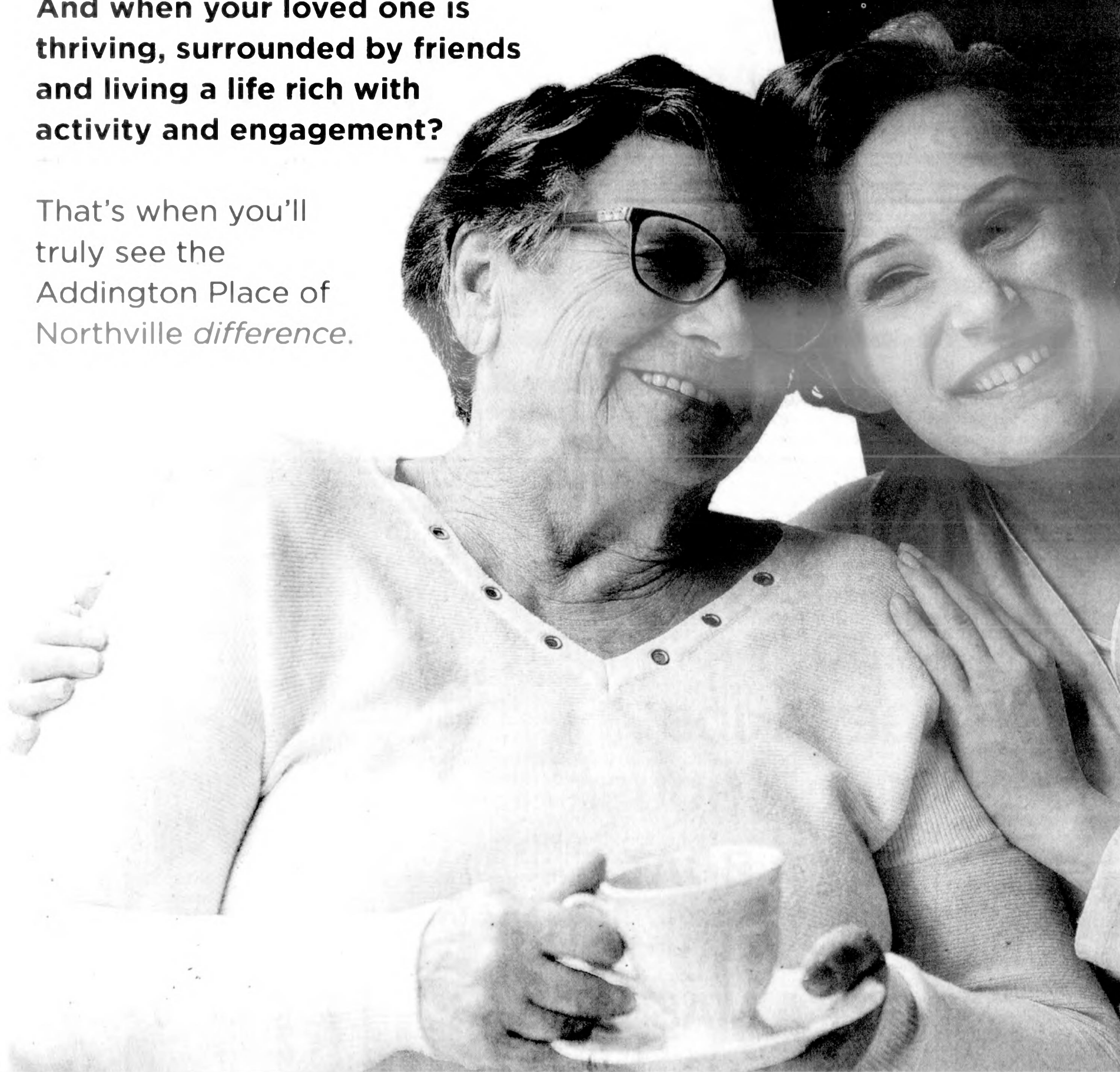
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