

Novi pitcher shuts the door on No. 3 Northville

SPORTS, 1B

ORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Northville Downs in Plymouth Township project close to final approval

Laura Colvin

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

PLYMOUTH TWP. - A new horseracing facility planned near the southwest corner of Five Mile and Ridge roads is one step closer to becoming a reality.

The Plymouth Township Planning Commission unanimously approved at a special meeting June 1 a motion to send the site development plan to the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees for a final nod

The board will review the final site plan and PUD contract, along with a community benefit agreement allowing public use of proposed soccer fields, pickleball courts and other amenities under specific guidelines.

Dubbed Northville Downs of Plymouth Township, the project is proposed on part of a 128-acre parcel near the southwest corner of Five Mile and Ridge roads. Plans include a half-mile oval harness racetrack, grandstand,

racing building, horse barn and more. Changes were made to building elevations since the May 3 meeting, when the planning commission sent the anplicant back to the drawing board to make changes after commissioners said the building looked too industrial.

Township Planner Laura Haw said revised plans showed the building's masonry component had been extended to the roofline along with the addition of windows and horizontal stone elements. Proposed signage was also added to the building.

Fire and emergency access issues, along with concerns over lighting, had also been corrected, Haw said.

Casino concerns

Throughout the approval process. residents have voiced concerns over the perceived potential for a future casino on the property.

A narrative provided by Northville Downs in January indicated an "anticipated future phase" of the project would include a 54,000-square-foot gaming facility, pending required legislative approval.

*ORIGIN MIXED ADC

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Mary Moore, 90, holds a 1950 photo of herself as a teenager on the Springfield Sallies in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

She made a lifetime of

Susan Bromley

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

WHITE LAKE — As a woman who played professional baseball, Mary Moore is in rare company.

The 90-year-old is one of fewer than 50 women still alive to tell of their

playing time in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, which was launched 80 years ago at the height of World War II.

"When I was in the league, I was just happy to be good enough to play, and travel and get paid. I was not thinking about what people would think in the future," Moore said. "That was the best time. Now we sit back and think, 'We're so lucky, so blessed to have been able to do that,' when that wasn't what girls back then were supposed to do."

AAGPBL Players association board member Carol Sheldon accompanies Moore on most of her speaking

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Nurse killed in Westland shooting was 'angel on Earth'

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

DEARBORN HEIGHTS - Family members say a woman shot to death in Westland last week had dedicated herself to helping those caught in the crossfire of war on the Arabian Penin-

Bushra Mawry, 36, was a nurse and founder of the nonprofit, Hand in

Hand Yemen. She lived her life selflessly, her siblings said, and her sudden death has devastated them, and many others here and abroad.

"She literally lived for others," her brother, Youness Mawry, said. "She was very much loved by many people. She was a vibrant, very kind, pure soul."

Westland Police have released little information on Bushra Mawry's

See NURSE, Page 7A



Bushra Mawry, 36, of Dearborn Heights, was a nurse and founder of the Hand in Hand Yemen charity. She was shot to death June 1 in Westland. COURTESY OF YASMEEN MAWRY

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Local lavender farm opening to public as 'agritourism destination'

Jennifer Eberbach

Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

WHITE OAK TWP. — A local couple is hoping to create an "agritourism destination" in White Oak Township.

Windy and Terry Mack will open their lavender farm at 2454 S. Kane Road to the public this summer.

They couple already owns Belle Lavande, a retail shop in Plymouth, and

grow lavender on the 40-acre farm. They have big plans, beginning with a grand opening June 24.

This season, they'll sell lavender and lavender-infused products out of a pole barn. Their shop in Plymouth sells bath and personal care products and bundles of lavender. The farm will also allow visitors to pick and cut their own bouquets.

"We encourage you to bring a picnic or a book and just enjoy the property," Windy said. The couple is gearing up to host classes, like a local watercolor artist, yoga and wreath-making. Professional photographers can book photoshoots with clients. They also plan to offer "date night" experiences, during which couples can bring their own drinks and refreshments, explore the property and

on Monday, May 15, the owners worked on establishing a new butterfly garden. Windy and Terry are also in

communications with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about restoring two acres of wetland that'd been tiled over by a previous farmer.

"It'll bring in a lot of birds," Windy said. "It's how we're giving back to the land for what we took."

Windy said profits from farm sales, the future event barn and other potential sources of revenue, including shortterm lodging, could allow them to plant on less of the land.

Chipotle now open on Michigan Avenue in Canton

Laura Colvin

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

CANTON TWP. — A new Chipotle Mexican Grill is now open in front of Walmart on Michigan Avenue.

The fast-casual restaurant, which opened May 31, features Chipotle's "Chipotlane," a drive-thru pickup lane that allows guests to pick up digital orders without leaving their cars, said Chipotle spokesperson Annie Gradin-

Patrons can choose from signature tacos, burritos, burrito bowls, salads and other offerings made as they watch.

On its website, Chipotle touts the company's commitment to "serving responsibly sourced, classically-cooked, real food with wholesome ingredients without artificial colors, flavors or preservatives."

The new Canton Chipotle Mexican Grill is located at 45555 Michigan Avenue, just west of the Belleville Road intersection. The restaurant is open every day from 10:45 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Chipotle also operates at 42404 Ford Road in Canton. Other nearby locations include Plymouth Township, Northville and Novi.

Jobs are available at the new restaurant, Gradinger said. Information is available at chipotle.com/careers

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



Dr. Zvi Levran of Farmington Hills during a court appearance in January. PHOTOS BY SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Doctor accused of nearly 30 sexual assault charges

Shelby Tankersley

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

FARMINGTON HILLS — A Farmington Hills doctor accused of sexually assaulting at least 14 boys and young men while volunteering through local schools and youth organizations used his position to build long-term relationships he could exploit, his victims have said during court hearings.

Dr. Zvi Levran, 66, faces charges in connection with reported sexual assaults that took place over years.

Levran, facing nearly 30 counts of sexual assault in 47th District Court in Farmington Hills and additional counts in the 48th District Court, volunteered in Farmington as a team doctor for the school district's hockey teams. He also volunteered with schools in Novi and Livonia.

The doctor pleaded not guilty earlier this year and bond was set at \$3 million cash or surety. He has not posted bond. Levran is set to appear in the 47th District Court for a hearing June 27.

Four of the fourteen accusers say they met Levran while students at a Farmington Public Schools high school. Multiple others said they attended events Levran hosted in Farmington and Farmington Hills for young men. According to accusers, it was commonplace for the doctor to be left alone with players and alumni during

Volunteer left alone with athletes on, off school grounds

Aside from attending games as team doctor, Levran hosted yoga sessions and ice skating events that were attended by teen boys and young men from the region. Accusers say Farmington High School, Novi High



Levran, left, during a court hearing April 11 in Farmington Hills.

School and Suburban Ice in Farmington Hills were among the common locations for events.

Novi's former hockey coach, who worked with Levran, did not respond to calls requesting comment.

One reported victim, who graduated from a Farmington high school, said it was common for ice skating events to take place without school staff present. The man also said Levran would shower with athletes after skating events.

According to Diane Bauman, director of school and community relations in Farmington, some volunteers, including mentors or tutors, are permitted to be alone with students. She also said the district can supervise or restrict school events, even if they happen off school property.

Though Levran was not a volunteer mentor, multiple accusers described him as such.

"I didn't play that much," one Farmington alumnus said during a hearing in April. "I could talk to him and he would listen to me."

Farmington Public Schools and Livonia Public Schools, where one reported victim attended, require background check for all volunteers. In Livonia, volunteers are not permitted to be alone with students.

"Volunteers who help out on field trips, classroom activities and school events are always in the company of LPS staff," Mike Reilly, Livonia's public safety administrator, said in an email. "We do not allow volunteers to have one-on-one, unsupervised access to our students."

What to do if someone you know has been abused

Multiple accusers say Levran's alleged abuse left them feeling confused and alone.

"You don't hear this happening to that many guys," a Farmington alumnus said. "I felt really alone."

Deborah Stone, Hegira Health's director of children's outpatient services, said sudden changes in behavior often indicate a minor had a traumatic experience. She recommended parents listen to their child and contact police.

"What we as parents tend to do is say, 'Tell me everything," Stone said. "In the actual moment, just listen and wait until their free speech ends. Don't drill them. Take cues from your child. If they're not crying, be brave. If they're crying, go there. Meet them where they're at."

Stone encouraged people who report sexual abuse to share everything they know so police can do their job well.

People with information about Levran are encouraged to call the Farmington Hills Police phone number set up for tips regarding the case, 248-871-2610.

"At the end of the day, we want to put these people behind bars," Stone said. "We want accountability. We want to protect our child and other children."

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

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Farmington considers pickleball courts at Shiawassee Park

Shelby Tankersley

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

FARMINGTON — Local pickleball players may soon find court time without leaving Farmington.

Officials are considering updates to two Shiawassee Park tennis courts that could accommodate the wildly popular

City council recently sent the administration back to the drawing board on a \$25,300 proposal to restripe the courts for both tennis and pickleball. But, at 44 inches, the tennis-friendly nets would be a foot too high for regulation pickleball.

Chuck Eudy, the city's public works superintendent, said there is still demand for tennis at Shiawassee, 32515 Shiawassee Road.

Yet council members said they want to see adjustable nets or do away with tennis courts and replace them with six pickleball courts.

"If we're going to do it, we either need to find a way to convert them or make them adjustable or usable if that's possible," Mayor Pro Tem Joe LaRussa said. "I'd at least like to consider the option."

Councilman Steven Schneemann had similar thoughts, saying he thinks there's a demand in the city for pickleball. Farmington residents currently need to leave Farmington to play.

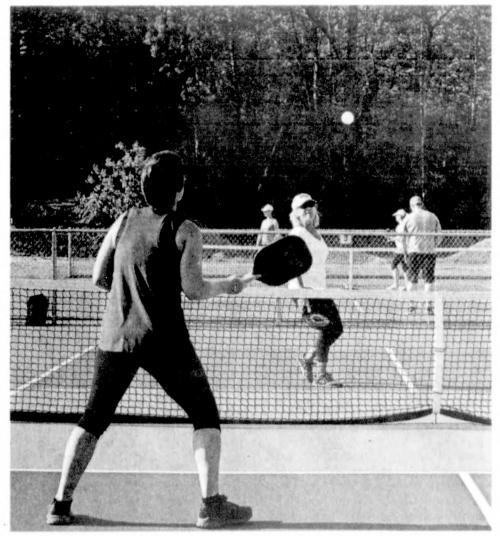
"My wife and I play tennis and pickleball," Schneemann said. "We normally end up (in Farmington Hills), and we find that many of the pickleball courts are occupied by Farmington residents."

Mayor Sara Bowman said turning the tennis courts into pickleball courts would likely be a more expensive project. Eudy estimated adding adjustable nets to his initial proposal would increase it by \$16,000.

"If we come back with a project that is, likely, quadrupled in price, it's likely not going to happen this season," Bowman. "I think we need to be prepared for that."

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Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com.



Farmington is considering adding pickleball facilities, like the ones in Bicentennial Park in Livonia, pictured here, to Shiawassee Park. SUSAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Project

Continued from Page 1A

But Northville Downs owner John Carlo said in a phone call that the concept has been scrapped and no longer exists in the plan.

"What we were doing was setting the site up so that in the event that favorable legislation was passed in the state, the size and scope of what we would need would fit on the property," Carlo said. "That was the intent, to say, 'Will this fit if the legislation changes?'

'We've been trying to change the legislation for 25 years," Carlo added, noting legislative changes are necessary before Northville Downs can implement practices used by the horseracing industry in surrounding states. "We're going to continue to fight for it, but there's no plans to build that 53,000-squarefeet building, zero, whatsoever at this

At the June 1 meeting, township attorney Kevin Bennett provided a summary of Michigan gambling laws, including the specific criteria under which a casino can operate.

"Both the Michigan Constitution and Initiated Law 1 of 1996 prohibit the operation of a casino in the Charter Township of Plymouth," Bennett summarized, noting the law applies throughout the state. "The only way a casino would be authorized in the Charter Township of Plymouth is if it were approved in a statewide general election by both a majority of the voters in the state and a majority of voters in the Township."

If an additional building is conceived for the project in the future, changes to the PUD agreement with Northville Downs would require the township and the applicant to start over at the beginning of the planning process, including a public hearing, Haw said.

Resident concerns

Like at each previous meeting, a stream of residents voiced various concerns about the project, including worry over road conditions in the area and the increase in traffic once the new facility opens.

Planning Commissioner Tim Boyd pointed out that a traffic study available on the township website indicates the facility will generate substantially less traffic than the eight buildings planned in the Ridge 5 industrial complex previously approved on the site. That plan was later abandoned by the developer.

"If you can believe (traffic study) numbers, and I'll leave it up to you if you believe them, it generates about a tenth of the traffic those eight businesses would have generated," Boyd said.

Residents spoke of other concerns, as well.

"More than the conditions of traffic, I wonder what we are doing to our community," said Shirley Peters. "The ambiance of our community is being tainted by bring this racetrack to our community...I'm very concerned about the type of gambling that will occur."

Plymouth Township resident Maryann Adams also took the podium and said she was not opposed to horseracing in general.

You need a place to continue your



A rendering shows the proposed racing building at the Northville Downs in Plymouth Township project.

COURTESY PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP

livelihood and I'm not here to oppose what you do," Adams said. "I am opposed to have this racetrack in my community. It is legitimate, but I don't want it in my community."

A representative from the nearby Oak Haven mobile home community submitted a letter outlining concerns that the project would negatively impact quality of life of residents and deter future residents.

Supervisor: 'A very thorough process'

The plan will now return to the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees, which could potentially grant final approval. At a Feb. 23 meeting, Trustee Chuck Curmi urged a 'no' vote on the project, which moved ahead with a 6-1 vote.

Township Supervisor Kurt Heise said the project will not be on the board's June 13 agenda, but it could be considered at the June 27 meeting. Although the planning commission has held two special meetings for the project, Heise said the township is not rushing the approval process.

"I think the desire is to have this as a standalone so we can be totally focused on that one issue, so we can really give it our, our due diligence in a special meeting setting," Heise said. "And, we want to make sure that the public has the ability to speak at these events, which of course they always do.

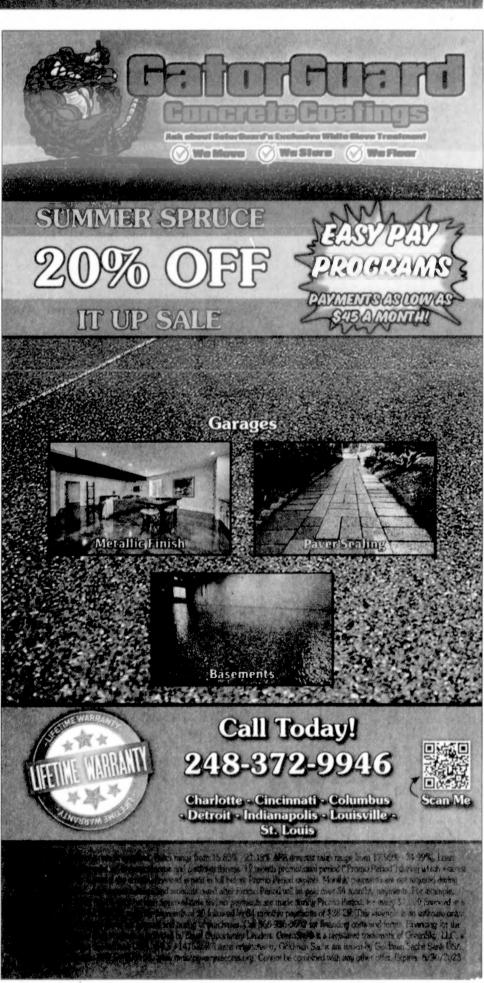
"This has been and continues to be a very thorough process," he added. "We are working very closely with the Northfield Downs development team, their engineer, their attorneys. They're being thoroughly vetted under our local ordinances

Heise also wanted to reiterate that there is no plan for a casino at the site.

"The most that they can ask for would be enhanced horse betting, with machines that would utilize this historical horse betting technology," he said. "It's something that's well known within the industry."

A video recording of the June 1 planning commission meeting is available

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



Canton grad celebrates 13 years of perfect attendance

Laura Colvin

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

CANTON TWP. — Looking back, Jue' Peoples remembers feeling proud when an award for perfect attendance landed in her hands at the end of fourth grade.

It wasn't the first time. She'd received the same award every year since her kindergarten year at Achieve Charter Academy in Canton. But it was the first time she understood that the accolade set her apart.

"I was one of very few people who actually got that award and I decided that I wanted to continue getting that award," she said.

And she did. On June 3, Jue', 18, graduated from Canton Preparatory High School with several honors and one rare distinction. From kindergarten through her senior year, she never missed a single day of school.

Perfect attendance

Jue' began her education at charter schools when her parents – Christopher Peoples, a FedEx driver, and Alexis Peoples, who works in finance – decided they liked what Achieve Charter Academy had to offer. They didn't want their quiet and reserved daughter to "get lost" in a large public school.

After attending every day of school from kindergarten through eighth grade, Jue' began her freshman year at Canton Prep in the fall of 2019.

Then, in March of 2020, the school was shut down as COVID-19 hit. When students were finally able to come back for face-to-face learning, Jue' was motivated to continue her perfect attendance.

"Originally, it was about the award, but after quarantine and being at home, it was just about going to school and being surrounded by people and not doing school on a computer," she said. "Hanging out with my friends and my school peers really drove me to keep going."

Over the next several years, she continued with Girl Scouts – an endeavor started in first grade – and was inducted into the National High Society. She played clarinet in the band, played varsity volleyball and ran varsity cross country and track. She also participated



Jue' Peoples graduated from Canton Preparatory High School on Saturday, June 3. COURTESY ALEXIS PEOPLES

in Yearbook and Key clubs, all without ever missing a day of school.

Jue's perfect attendance was confirmed by both Achieve Charter Academy and Canton Preparatory High School.

"Jue' is a fantastic student, a great scholar and a great athlete," said Tracey Andrews, Canton Prep's registrar. "I can't say enough great things about her. She's definitely a leader and wellrounded student. And she never missed a day of school."

"Jue' has an amazing work ethic," agreed Jennifer Schmotzer, Canton Prep's high school dean. "She's been a real go-getter to achieve what she wants, and it was a joy to to see her blossom over these last four years into the amazing young lady she has become."

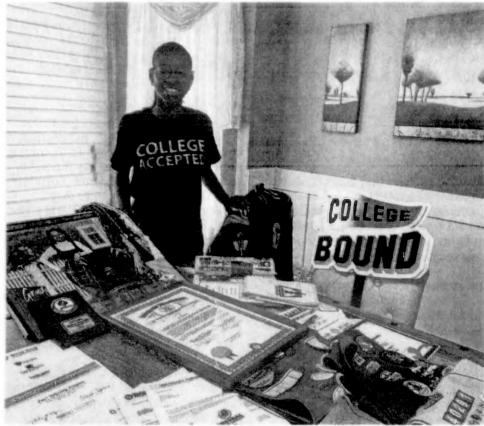
'I take my vitamins'

Jue' said a healthy immune system helped her maintain perfect attendance.

"I don't really get sick a lot," she said.
"I take my vitamins and make sure to wash my hands and wipe off my desk and all that."

Alexis Peoples said her daughter never went to school sick.

"She's never had an instance where she was not feeling well on a school day," she said, noting Jue' did come home feeling run down on an occasional Friday. "But usually it's just like a few hours



Peoples shows off a bounty of accolades earned during her four years at Canton Preparatory High School, including 13 years of perfect attendance.

LAURA COLVIN/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

or something, you know, just something kind of wonky."

It's a different story for Jue's younger brother, Jordan, who also attended Achieve Charter Academy, currently attends Canton Prep and seems more susceptible to getting sick.

"He is not getting any perfect attendance awards," Alexis Peoples said with a laugh. "He definitely has missed some school days because we do not send him when he's ill. Sometimes, even if it's too many classmates that are ill, we won't send him because we don't want him to get whatever's going around."

The family, she said, is proactive about avoiding illness, making a habit of washing hands, taking vitamins and even still wearing masks if they are going into a high-risk situation.

High expectations

Jue's drive for success exceeds her perfect attendance awards. In addition

to her high school diploma, she also earned an associate degree from Wayne County Community College District following her participation at Canton Prep in the state's Early Middle College program.

In the fall, she'll attend Eastern Michigan University on a full scholarship, where she plans to study dietetics and eventually become a nutritionist or a dietician.

Alexis Peoples said her parenting philosophy over the years has been to foster open dialogue and make clear to her children what's negotiable and what's not.

"I definitely think that both of the kids would say that I have very high expectations," she said, noting with a laugh that her husband is not as rigid in his approach. "Some folks would say we balance each other out really well."

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Our 2023 guide to enjoying summer in Livonia

Shelby Tankersley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

LIVONIA — Summer is my favorite time of year to be a reporter.

There are more things to see, events to photograph and people to meet. Over the four years I've been with Hometown Life, most of the summer stories I write center on Livonia — or, as I call it, L-Town.

L-Town, with it's "families first" ethos, is often a pretty wholesome place to spend time. If you're hanging out in Livonia this summer, here are some things you definitely don't want to miss.

Hike at Rotary Park

Rotary Park, at the corner of Six Mile Road and Hubbard Street, is one of my favorite places in the city. I go there to walk, work or eat my lunch all the time in the summer and fall.

Aside from the playground and sports facilities, Rotary has a large trail network. It's gorgeous and easy to spend hours walking on. You'll encounter fascinating trees that've grown around each other, a peaceful river and lots of doggos having the best walk ever.

Livonia takes pride in its parks. The city has 36 developed parks, including three outdoor pools. Other great parks in the city for all ages include Harry Tatigian Park, accessible off Curtis Road, and Bicentennial Park at 36000 Seven Mile Road.

One notable event this summer is Shakespeare in the Park during the last two weekends in July. Local actors will appear in "Henry V" at Stymelski Veterans Park, 14407 Stark Road.

Experience Greenmead Historical Park

If I had a nickel for every time someone told me Greenmead is a "hidden gem," you, dear reader, would be here and I would be on a yacht.

But, all jokes aside, Greenmead really is one of Livonia's most underrated offerings. The historical village at the corner of Eight Mile and Newburgh roads has something for everyone. It's a great place to show kids a slice of local histo-



Livonia Spree 2022 kicked off Tuesday, June 21 after two years away. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ry, rent space in a community garden, take a walk or enjoy one of the many events happening there.

Some of the highlight events happening this summer are the Motor City Irish Fest June 9-11, St. Andrew's Highland Games Aug. 5 and Touch a Truck on Aug. 26.

Grab a burger at Bates

Reporters are all about facts. And the fact is cheeseburgers taste better during

Bates Hamburgers, at the corner of Five Mile and Farmington roads, is a local institution. I had a councilwoman tell me once the little 64-year-old restaurant is the most iconic thing in the city.

The slider-style burgers are as good as everyone says they are and they're dirt cheap. You can get two burgers and fries for less than \$10. In this economy, that's what we call a deal.

Bates has a long history in Livonia and offers a slice of nostalgia. Whether you dine in or wait outside by the carryout window, it's a neat place to grab food.

Catch the fireworks at Spree

I've been interviewing people about Spree for five summers now. Just about everyone I talk to says the fireworks are the best part of the festival and the best show in the region. Sam Caramagno, the guy who runs the event, told me this last month:

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

This year's show is scheduled for dusk Sunday, June 25. The festival is happening June 20-25 at Ford Field, at the intersection of Farmington Road and Lyndon Street in Livonia.

Spree, like any other summer festival, also offers plenty of music, carnival rides, games and food. I photographed last year's event and had a blast seeing everyone's smiles. If you want a taste of Livonia this summer, don't miss Spree.

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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

Abut	Faith	Lane	Rely
Affable	Fence	Lawn	Rich
Ally	Gangs	Lend	Safe
Bike	Garden	Lost	Sister
Bins	Gift	Love	Smile
Birds	Hearty	Mates	Social
Bustle	Ideal	Mixes	Store
Cakes	Inns	Music	Talk
Cars	Join	Neighbourhood	Thick as
Cats	Kerb	News	thieves
Chat	Kids	Oblige	Together
Drinks	Kindly	Pets	Units
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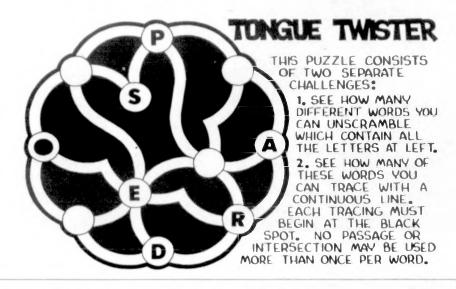
TODAY'S ANSWER

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Puzzles & Posers



SUDOKU | CREATORS

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TODAY'S ANSWER

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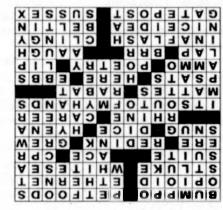
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60

Pro

Continued from Page 1A

engagements and said she is one of the association's "go-to girls."

"Mary is the only one left out of 65 players that came from Michigan," Sheldon said. "Countrywide, there are only about 47 or 48 players left who can speak about their experience.

"Besides keeping alive the history of their league, they remind us that women have played baseball professionally, that it's OK to be a female athlete and celebrate that you have an athletic ability," she added. "These women not only opened the doors of athletics, they opened the doors of corporations. That generation put things in motion and then they packed their ball gloves and their memories and put them in the attic."

In Moore's home, above her sofa, there is a canvas print of Moore in her skirted uniform, tagging out an opponent at second base in 1950. It was her first year as a member of the Springfield Sallies, a traveling exhibition team. Above the print is a sign that reads, "No Crying in Baseball," a Tom Hanks line from the movie, "A League of Their Own."

Moore lost some of her memorabilia about 20 years ago in a fire, but she still has binders filled with newspaper clippings with headlines about "girl baseballers" and "beauties," as well as cards and letters. She also has plenty of photos of herself, teammates, and famous athletes and actors she met after her baseball career ended.

Baseball beginnings with the boys

Moore, born in Detroit, grew up playing baseball with boys in Lincoln Park, even using a sickle and scythe to cut weeds down in the fields to make way for a baseball diamond. Her older brother didn't play, but he had a paper route and because she helped with it and made money, she purchased bats and balls. If the neighborhood boys wanted to play baseball, they had to get Moore, who didn't miss a chance to play out-

It helped, too, that Detroit Tiger Eddie Lake lived three blocks away and on his days off would hit balls to the kids out in the field. Moore credits him with



Springfield Sallies second basewoman Mary Moore tags out Gert Alderfer, a player on the Chicago Colleens, during a 1950 game in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

teaching her how to judge a high fly ball and to not run in too far.

Lake, she recalled, even took them to Tiger Stadium a few times in the late 1940s, where the kids got autographs from players, including Hank Greenberg and Hal Newhouser.

A League of Their Own

As a child, Moore was unaware of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, which Major League Baseball owners began in 1943 to help keep the sport in the public eye while most able-bodied men were fighting World War II.

Even the idea of being on an organized team was foreign to Moore, who said there were no sports teams for girls in high school at the time. Instead, girls were allowed to take one hour of gym their senior year, the extent of sports activities they were provided.

Moore learned about the chance to play for pay from her English teacher at Lincoln Park High School.

And after she graduated in January 1950, Moore went with other young women from the area to practice ball at the Kronk recreation gym in Detroit. One of those women, Helen Filarski, took Moore to a tryout in Indiana in 1950 at which there were about 100 girls and women vying for spots on two teams of 15 that would travel the country to play exhibition games against each other.

Moore credits her experience playing basketball and softball for Wyandotte Chemicals in helping her land a spot on the Springfield Sallies. After two weeks of training, Moore and her 14 teammates, as well as the 15 members of the Chicago Colleens, started traveling by bus. They played baseball in 21 states and Canada.

Those were thrilling times for a 17year-old when jobs were scarce, but she was getting paid \$46 per week on tour: \$25 in base pay with an additional \$21 in untaxable meal money.

"(It was) good pay for traveling and doing what you loved to do," she said.

She was seeing new places and meeting new people, including baseball heroes Joe DiMaggio, Phil Rizutto and Yogi Berra before playing a game in Yankee Stadium. While in New York, she also visited Radio City Music Hall and Coney

You could do things during day, shopping or a movie, as long as you were back by the time the bus was leaving to go to the ball field," Moore said. "It was very exciting, to be away from home and earn money and do what you were loving to do. You couldn't ask for anything more back then."

Her parents were supportive, happy their daughter had a job. Her father, a General Motors tool and die maker, and mother, a housewife, had gotten by OK during the hard times of the war, but "sure didn't have a whole lot."

They did have a lot to cheer for in 1950 as their daughter led the Springfield Sallies in every category, including games played, 77; hits, 75; total bases, 96; runs scored, 65; runs batted in, 48; and home runs, 3.

But she never reached those numbers again. Disaster was coming.

An off-season accident, comeback, and career-ending injury

After playing that season with the Sallies, Moore was drafted by the Battle Creek Belles in 1951. However, before the season began, she suffered an accident at her offseason job at a small auto parts factory. A punch press machine came down on her right hand, severing parts

See PRO, Page 7A

Pro

Continued from Page 6A

of two fingers and damaging two more.
"That kinda hampered me for the '51 season," Moore said. "I went to spring training and they wouldn't keep me because they didn't want to be liable."

The team called her in just before the end of the season because they were short on players due to injuries, but she struggled to throw the ball and couldn't hold on to the bat, "either because my fingers wouldn't bend, or weren't there."

Still, Sheldon noted, Moore persevered. She returned in 1952. Two weeks before the end of that season, she injured her ankle sliding into second base.

When the league reached out seeking her return in 1953, she declined.

"I didn't go back because I was so disappointed in myself," Moore said. "I also knew I would be keeping someone else from doing this."

Breaking from tradition

Moore found another job in the offseason. Had she known the league would fold in 1954, she said she might have played two more years.

Moore never married or had children and attributes this in part to being responsible for the care of her baby broth-



Mary Moore on a baseball card as a member of the Battle Creek Belles, for whom she played in the early 1950s as part of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League.

SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

er when she was just 13, due to their mother being very ill.

Several years later, Moore had a boyfriend who wanted a traditional wife and family, but she knew she wanted something different.

"That was what you were supposed to do and I decided it was too much work," Moore said. "He wanted to get married and he wanted me to stop playing ball and he wanted me to stop working and I wasn't having any of that."

Instead, she continued with the life she wanted, including a 35-year phone company career working for Ma Bell and of course, playing recreational sports, which besides baseball, included softball, golf and bowling.

Movie shines a spotlight on important era

Just a few years after Moore's 1989 retirement, director Penny Marshall began filming the movie, "A League of Their Own," a fictionalized account of the league.

Women who played in the real league were invited to a movie set in Illinois, and about 40 also went on to Cooperstown, New York, to film scenes at the Baseball Hall of Fame, where an exhibit is dedicated to the AAGPBL.

At the end of the movie, which was released in 1992, Moore can be seen in several shots, including when the women celebrate their induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame, as well as when the end credits are rolling and the real women of the league are playing a reunion game. In that scene, Moore slid into home and also was shown in a rundown play between second and third.

She is proud of the movie and de-

scribed its content as about 85% accurate, adding that it really brought attention to the league.

"You'd tell people you played baseball and they'd say, 'That's nice,'" Moore said of the time before "A League of Their Own" was released. "When the movie came out, they'd say, 'Why didn't you tell us?' I said, 'We did, but you weren't listening."

Moore attends yearly player reunions of the AAGPBL, at which fans line up for their autographs. She has regular speaking engagements.

"I am just so happy that it has come so far that girls nowadays have the chance to take part in whatever sports they want: baseball, basketball, soccer, and I think it's a beautiful thing," Moore said, noting there is room for improvement. "There are scholarships and things like that and if us playing ball back then helped pave the way, I think that's great."

Moore and her fellow AAGPBL players have certainly been an inspiration for Sheldon.

"Their bottom line message has been, 'Go ahead and dream big, you can make things happen,'" Sheldon said. "It's been the best living history class I've ever taken."

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

Nurse

Continued from Page 1A

shooting death, which occurred about 2 a.m. June 1 in the 37000 block of Scotsdale Circle. A 32-year-old Romulus man also was shot in the incident, but was listed in stable condition after the shooting.

Deputy Police Chief Robert Wilkie said Monday via email that he had no further information to share at this time

Mawry's family laid her to rest June 3 following a service at the mosque of the American Moslem Society.

"This girl was an angel on Earth," Adiba Mawry, Bushra's eldest sister, said. "I just want you to know what a beautiful spirit she was... I am numb and it was

not really settling in, until I saw them take her to the grave and saw her wrapped up. It's horrible and we want this person (who killed her) to go to prison for life."

Bushra Mawry's seven siblings are awaiting answers to what happened to their sister while trying to find comfort in the good works she did in her life. Her legacy includes her 12-year-old son, Azzam Albaqeri, as well as the Hand in Hand Yemen charity, which will carry on under Yasmeen Mawry, who was hand-picked by her older sister to help with the charity established in 2020.

Bushra Mawry's parents, Amina and Mohammed Mawry, immigrated to the U.S. from Yemen about 50 years ago, Yasmeen Mawry said. Their eight children, who also include Yousef, Najla, Anwar and Thikra, were born here, but have visited Yemen. The country has

been embroiled in civil war for the past eight years, according to the Council on Foreign Relations, leading to hunger, disease and attacks on civilians.

Bushra Mawry, a Dearborn High School graduate and nurse at Optalis Health and Rehabilitation in Dearborn Heights, had visited Yemen twice in the past five years and was horrified by what she saw: families living in mudand-straw homes, and children going hungry.

Yasmeen Mawry said her sister came home and began raising funds to provide tents and food to Yemenis. Shortly before she was murdered, Bushra Mawry had started a sustainability project to supply Yemenis with long-lasting sources of food, including goats and chickens for milk and eggs, as well as sewing machines so women could earn money.

Yasmeen Mawry said her sister had hoped to go to Yemen again next year during Ramadan.

"She had a huge heart for them," Yasmeen Mawry said. "She didn't care about fancy stuff, she was completely selfless."

Bushra Mawry was not only her sister Yasmeen's best friend, the busy single mother was like a daughter and sister to the elderly patients she cared for at Optalis Health and Rehabilitation of Dearborn Heights.

Yasmeen Mawry hopes to continue her sister's example of selflessness by leading Hand in Hand Yemen.

"Her dream was to help people and we want to continue that on and help people be better," she said. "We hope people could be just a little bit as selfless as she was."

she was.
sbromley@hometownlife.com





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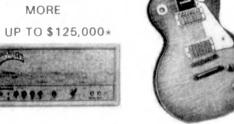
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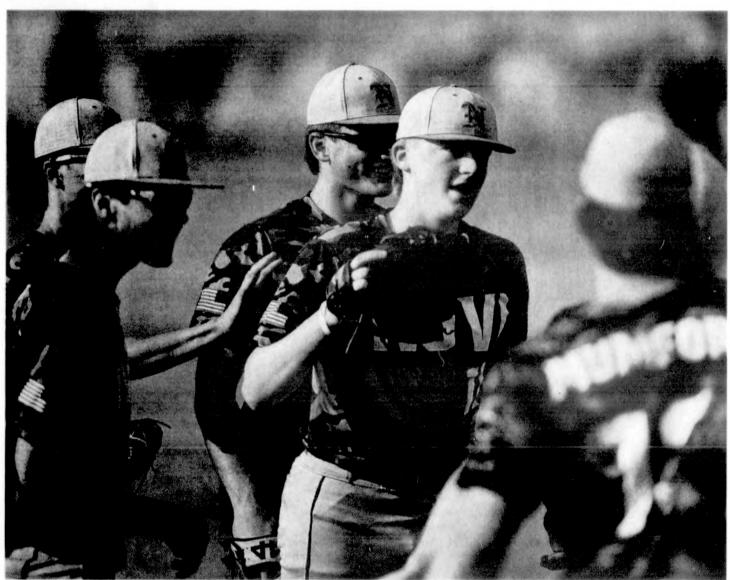
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SPORTS



Novi's Uli Fernsler celebrates a big inning during the Division 1 baseball regional semifinal Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at Northville. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Novi pitcher shuts the door on No. 3 Northville

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

How do you shut the door on the third-ranked baseball team in Division 1, one that has the top of its lineup coming up, which includes Mississippi State commit Dante' Nori?

You send out the 15-year-old pitcher to get the save, of course.

After Harvard signee Andrew Abler gave Novi four solid innings on the mound, the Wildcats brought in sopho-

more Uli Fernsler to close out the region-

al semifinal and protect its big lead.

And Fernsler did just that. He struck out three, gave up just two runs over three innings and ensured Novi would hold on to upset rival Northville 6-2 on June 7

That's an impressive feat considering how the Mustangs were previously ranked No. 1 by the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association and have one of the best Division I prospects in the state in Nori.

"He's a young kid, but he's going to be a Division I player, too," Novi coach Rick Green said of Fernsler. "I guarantee you

he'll be a Division I player. He's just the most calm, cool and collected 15-yearold I've ever seen."

Green knew Fernsler would throw first-pitch strikes. Plus, he knew senior catcher Brett Reed would be there to back him up and call the right pitches should Fernsler ever get in trouble.

But Fernsler didn't get in trouble. In fact, according to Green, the youngster threw just one bad pitch, one that Nori sailed to center field for a standup double, while facing 13 batters.

See BASEBALL, Page 3B

One who got away scores DCC's winner to oust Hartland in lacrosse semis

Bill Khan

Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

HOWELL — Nearly every kid who grows up playing lacrosse in Hartland dreams of playing for the Eagles once they reach high school.

But not every kid.

Sean Donahue attended Hartland schools from kindergarten through eighth grade, but learned the sport playing for the Shamrocks Lacrosse Club, a feeder system for Detroit Catholic Central.

"I knew watching these games as a kid, this is where I wanted to play, where I wanted to come to school," Donahue said. "It's just great to be out here."

It was even better for Donahue to be on the winning side of the seemingly annual Hartland-Catholic Central state Division 1 semifinal game.

Donahue, a senior attack, scored with 5:26 left in the game to give the Shamrocks a 10-9 victory over defending-champion Hartland on June 7 at Parker Middle School.

Hartland eliminated Catholic Central in the semifinals each of the past two seasons, winning 18-7 in 2021 and 8-7 last year on Mac Tognetti's goal with 2:57 remaining.

"I've gone to school with all those kids," Donahue said. "When they won the state championship last year and we were just one goal short from beating them, getting the opportunity to play them again we knew this was the year. This is the closest we've been out of all the years I've played here. It's amazing to finally get it done. I'm still friends with all the kids on the team."

Catholic Central scored the first three goals of the game and never trailed. Hartland fought back to tie the game three times, but couldn't produce a go-ahead goal.

Donahue scored the game-winner off a feed from Logan Yatooma. The final 5:26 seemed like an eternity for the Shamrocks trying to hold off an explosive Hartland offense.

See LACROSSE, Page 2B

Northville escapes Walled Lake Northern in regional semifinal

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Northville girls soccer team was already celebrating a goal by the time Brendan Herger caught up to the play.

Which is saying something. For perspective, Herger just ran the anchor leg for the Mustangs' 3,200-meter relay team during the June 3 track and field state finals. Not only did they win the state championship in the event but their time of 7 minutes, 35.32 seconds was a new state record and wound up being the fastest in the entire country.

And there was Herger, who volunteered to shag balls on the sideline for the Division I girls soccer regional semifinal on June 6, trailing about 10 yards behind Natalia Leavens and Helena McLellan before he could join the impromptu celebration.

Outrunning a state champion track star to score a goal? That's the kind of hustle No. 2 Northville showed time and time again throughout its 4-3 comeback victory over 14th-ranked Walled Lake Northern.

The Mustangs (18-0-4) advanced to defeat No. 13 Grand Blanc in their June 8 regional final. But they wouldn't have gotten there without an all-out effort from players such as Leavens, McLellan, Reese Cassie, Caroline Meloche, Simran Magnan and many, many others. They battled to force overtime. They fought to come back from a goal down in OT. And then they needed an incredible goal from their penalty kick specialist to earn the right to celebrate at midfield afterward.

"I thought the girls played one of the best games of soccer all season," said second-year Northville coach Jeannine Reddy, who led the Mustangs to the state final a year ago. "They moved the ball around. They defended. The offense was just amazing. All over, I'm just really proud of them. They just never gave up.

See SOCCER, Page 2B

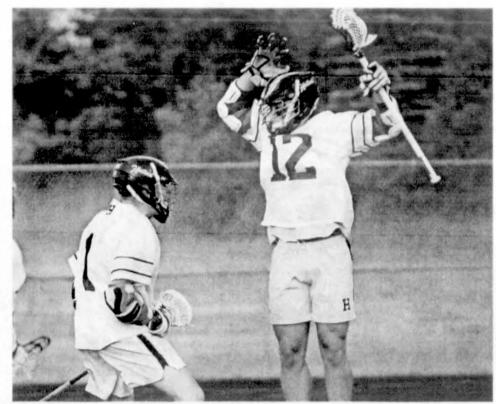


Northville celebrates a goal during the Division 1 girls soccer regional semifinal Tuesday, June 6, 2023. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM





Hartland's Joey Mattord drives toward the net during a state Division 1 lacrosse semifinal against Detroit Catholic Central Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at Parker Middle School. PHOTOS BY BILL KHAN/LIVINGSTON DAILY



Jacob Ross (12) and Gavin Preston (1) celebrate Preston's goal for Hartland.

Lacrosse

Continued from Page 1B

"It was Yatooma with the feed," said Donahue, who also scored the first goal of the game. "I saw the same thing earlier in the game. My guy slid, I was open on the crease and finished it. We closed it out. It was tough at times, but we pulled together. Coach has been talking about this game. We've been preparing all week. We've lost to them the last two years. It's great to finally get over that hump and on to the state championship on Saturday."

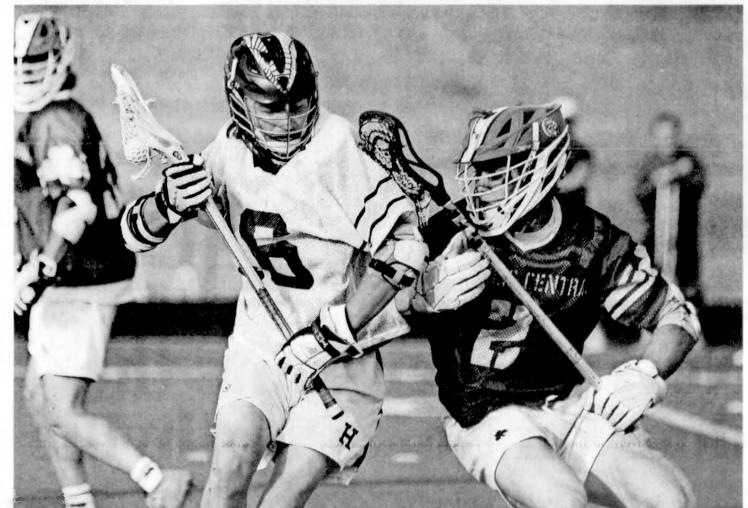
Senior Mason Payter led Hartland's comeback bid, scoring three goals.

The Eagles tied the game 7-7 on a goal by Dylan Ayotte with 4:38 left in the third quarter, 8-8 on a goal by Evan Busby off a faceoff win with 2:40 left in the third, and 9-9 on a goal by Jake Lewis with 11:02 remaining in the game.

That would be the last goal of the season for Hartland, which scored 88 goals in its first four postseason games.

'We made a lot of careless errors at times and it came around to bite us," Hartland coach Nick Levanti said. "By the time we found our groove, some of those errors were stuff we weren't able to overcome. Once you put yourself in a hole making mistakes and hurting yourself, it makes it harder to chase from behind. The guys did a great job battling back and minimizing those mistakes."

Catholic Central goalie Charles Graves made three saves in the final three minutes to preserve the Shamrocks' one-goal lead.



Hartland's Mason Payter, who scored three goals, handles the ball while defended by Detroit Catholic Central's Jack Davis.

14 seconds of the first and second quar-

Lachlan Moffatt scored five goals for the last six seasons between the teams championship in a game that was after

the Shamrocks, two coming in the final and the fourth that was decided by one deadline for this edition. Hartland's

It was the fifth semifinal meeting in Brother Rice on June 10 for the state

season ended at 20-3. Contact Bill Khan gannett.com. Follow him on Twitter

Soccer

Continued from Page 1B

Ever."

That became evident 2 minutes into the second half.

Leavens went on a breakaway down the near sideline, had a one-on-one with Northern's goalkeeper and couldn't come up with the score.

And that just didn't sit right with the

In fact, she ratcheted up her intensity even more.

About 12 minutes later, Lauren Yaquinto secured a possession near midfield and got a pass to Leavens, who took off on yet another breakaway, only this time she passed ahead to McLellan in a bang-bang effort that led to McLellan sneaking in the tying goal inside the left

It just happened so quickly. The sprinting. The passing. Beating Northville's fastest ball shagger in program history down to the other end of the pitch. And it ensured the match would be sent to overtime

"I messed up and had to own that,", Leavens said about her previous breakaway that got stopped. "I had to do something to repay my team. I had to get one back.

Leavens did more than repay her

team. Northern scored 3 minutes into OT after Izzy Krause pushed in a rebound in the penalty box.

The Mustangs needed to do something, anything, to get that goal back and, once again, keep its season alive.

There was Leavens again. With fewer than 3 minutes left, she sailed a ball into the box that Caroline Meloche headed in to tie it up at 3.

To penalty kicks the two teams went. 'Tal played amazing today," Reddy

Magnan stopped the first two PKs



Northville's Ana Murillo battles Walled Lake Northern's Brooklyn Zeleny for a ball during the Division 1 girls soccer regional semifinal Tuesday, June 6.

PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN/ SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

she faced. And then McLellan, Juliana Bohlen and Magnan took care of business with their kicks.

It all came down to Ana Murillo's PK. And, boy, weren't the Mustangs in luck. She happens to be their best.

"It's not really any thoughts," the senior said about what she was feeling before attempting the game-winner. "It's just more of a feeling of a belief in my-

Murillo's shoulders said she was going to kick toward the left post, which faked the goalie, but she actually aimed for the right post. And the shot tucked inside the net to help Northville advance.

"It feels just really great to contribute to the team, whether I'm on the bench or whether I'm on the field, we can all do things to help each other out," she said. "I'm glad I got the opportunity to help out my teammates even more. ... I'm very confident in my PK abilities. I practice, and that's all I need to do. I wasn't nervous. I was confident in my skills,



Northville's Natalia Leavens moves the ball.

and I went up there and did what I need to do."

But what makes her the best at PKs? "She just is," Reddy said. "She's very calm. Even in practice, it doesn't faze

Northville advanced to the state

semifinal to meet Hudsonville on June 14 in a game that was after press time for

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

Seaholm wins Division 2; Cranbrook repeats in D-3

Kirkland Crawford

Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

Birmingham Seaholm fended off challenges from several westside of Michigan schools to reclaim the Division 2 girls tennis state championship on June 3 in Midland.

Seaholm won its first state title in girls tennis since 2018 after last year's runner-up finish to Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern.

Northern and Forest Hills Central tied for second, each finishing with 27 points, five behind Seaholm. Portage Central was fourth with 19, St. Joseph and East Grand Rapids tied for fifth at 13.

Seaholm did its damage in doubles, claiming three of the four state titles. In No. 2 doubles, Katie Slazinski and Jenna Ting beat Forest Hills Northern's Ava Hamilton and Laren Jaklitsch, 6-3, 6-1. Sydney Fong and Jordyn Lusky won No. 3 doubles, beating Forest Hills Central's Maria Jacobs and Morgan McKenzie, 2 and 1 and Stella North and Lucy Jen won No. 4 doubles with a 6-0, 6-4 win over Forest Hills Central's Maggie Moog and Clare Knoester.

No. 2 singles Courtney Marcum beat Portage Central's Anna Dinsmore, 6-4, 2-6, 6-3, for Seaholm.

FH Central's Lily Ohlman beat Grosse Pointe North's Helaina Pietrowsky, 6-2, 7-6, to win No. 1 singles. Portage Central's Adelie Chen beat Seaholm's Jada Josifovski, 7-5, 6-4, in No. 3 and Northern's Harriet Oglivie took No. 4 singles with a 1 and 3 win over FH Central's Chloe Cox.

Division 3

In the June 2 state finals in Ann Arbor, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood edged out Birmingham Detroit Country Day, 33-31, to repeat as champions. Sienna Ilitch and Olivia Zhang, the top seeds in No. 3 and 4 singles, respectively, both reclaimed their individual state crowns, knocking off Country Day players Melanie Bandara and Helen Benjamin, respectively, in the final in the process.

Cranbrook's Grace Zhang and Sophia Kouza won No. 2 doubles, taking down Country Day's Aryasai Radhakrishnan and Brooke Lopez, 6-4,

Peja Liles, who had a different partner for their No. I doubles title last year, was paired with Marin Norlander and they won the state titles, beating Daryn Krause and Kayli Lala of Cranbrook, 7-5, 6-3. And Country Day's Josie Pachla and Jiya Gill defeated Cranbrook's Michelle Chen and Jessica Hall, 7-5, 0-6, 7-5.

Grand Rapids Christian's Brynn Uchman won the No. 1 singles in Division 3, topping Pontiac Notre Dame's Julia Gurne in the final, 6-1, 6-1, and helping Christian to a third-place team finish. Uchman's teammate, Natalie Poortenga, won No. 2 singles with a 6-3, 6-0 win over Cranbrook's Chiarra Martella. And Christian's Olivia Cook and Ava Jerke, the sixth seed in No. 3 doubles, won the state title by beating Cranbrook's Madeline Day and Sanvi Upadhyayala, 6-2, 6-3.

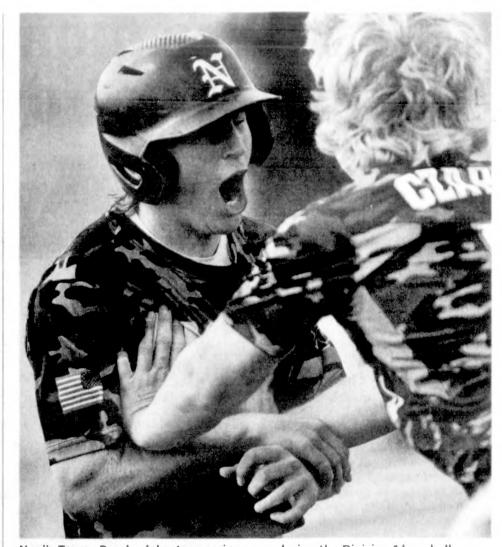
Division 1

On Saturday in Holland, Ann Arbor Pioneer won its third straight state title, scoring 32 points; Troy was second with 25 and Clarkson third with 18.

Carrying the load for Pioneer was Juliana Pullen, who won No. 3 singles with a 6-4, 6-0 win over Ann Arbor Skyline's Maddie Slade in the finals, and Sophia Liang, the No. 4 singles champ after a 6-1, 6-2 victory over Clarkston's Charlotte Partchenko.

Pioneer's No. 4 doubles team also won the state final; Noa Gluskin and Jessica Primus beat Novi's Natalie Restuccia, 4-6, 6-4, 6-1.

Troy won the other three doubles titles: No. 1 Grace Zhu and Nika Tananko toppled Bloomfield Hills' Natalie Raab and Colleen Pettengill, 2 and 2; No. 2 Varsha Penumalee and Vienna Thieu defeated Pioneer's Elanor Vogel and Casey Roe, 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 and No. 3 Hanna Lee and Michelle Baik bested Pioneer's Elita You and Arella He, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3



Novi's Trevor Reed celebrates scoring a run during the Division 1 baseball regional semifinal Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at Northville.

BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Baseball

Continued from Page 1B

That's tough for veterans such as Abler to do. But to do it as an under-classman in a regional opener?

"We've definitely had confidence in him all season," said Reed, whose bunt in the fifth inning kickstarted a threerun domino effect that put a comeback out of reach for Northville. "He's one of our best guys. It was good for him to step up to the occasion and shut them down."

Clemson commit Brendon Bennett smacked a two-run double that hit the right-field fence in the second inning that wound up as the winning runs. Trevor Reed also laid down a bunt that scored a run in the inning.

Alex Czapski put the win away with Novi's second two-run double of the evening in the fifth.

The Wildcats (28-8) relied on its defense — which turned a double play and even had a diving snag in the outfield — and Fernsler's pitching to do the rest.

"I was just really trying to hit spots, going pitch to pitch, ya know?" Fernsler said. "It felt awesome. I just hope we can keep it going."

Novi advanced to the June 10 regional championship against Hartland in a game that was played after press time for this edition.

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





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'One magic moment' helps Black Hawks beat Troy in district final

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Brooke Green has been no stranger to making big plays in big games.

But let's be bonest here: The Bloom-

But let's be honest here: The Bloom-field Hills girls soccer team doesn't win a state championship a year ago without such a deep and talented senior class. From Hometown Life Player of the Year Ava Badallo to Drew Martin, Esther Rosett, Alice Spiegel, Emma Merchant and everyone else who was part of the first team in school history in any sport to bring home a state title.

Whether it was winning playoff games a player down or in a penalty kick shootout or just upsetting highly-ranked opponents, one after another after another, the 2022 senior class truly put together a magical season. Almost each of them came up with big-moment plays during their campaign.

And five of them were on hand watching from the bench area during Thursday night's Division 1 district final.

College is out, their old team was on the pitch. And it was their turn to watch the Black Hawks' current seniors.

And Green, one of those five current seniors, did not disappoint.

Run after run in the attacking third, Bloomfield Hills just could not cash in on their scoring opportunities. Until Green finally found an opening up close and buried the winning goal near the right post with 14 minutes left.

It was a tough, hard-fought 1-0 victory. It's what you'd expect from two Oakland Activities Association-Red programs. Heck, Bloomfield Hills edged Troy 1-0 the first time the two teams met, in the regular season.

Now the Black Hawks head to next week's regional semifinal at Rochester.

"That was a huge moment for her," coach Alan Zakaria said of Green. "She's had many in her career. Outstanding player, an outstanding captain. To be able to make that happen is just wonderful to see and a moment of magic."

Scoring the game-winner was defi-



Bloomfield Hills celebrates winning the Division 1 girls soccer district championship Thursday, June 1, 2023, at Royal Oak.
BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

nitely well-earned.

The Colts' back line was tough. Tackles. Forced errors. Halted runs. You name it, and they came up with it in a timely fashion to ensure the Black Hawks couldn't net a goal early on.

Bloomfield Hills eventually wore them down in the second half. They didn't have many solid scoring chances at first, but Green's late in the second half was about as nice as they come. Especially considering her team didn't know if and when a goal like that would even come about.

"It was such a big sense of relief,"
Green said. "Because if it had not gone

in, we would've had to go into a shootout, and those are really intense, and any team can win those. So I'm glad we got it over with. We didn't have to go into overtime or anything."

With that much pressure on the forwards to score a goal, how do you even handle the weight of that moment?

"I was really nervous at first," Green continued. "I was like, 'I have to get this ball in. I don't know if I'll have another option or choice. I have to get this ball into the back of the net.' I kicked it and, luckily, it went in."

No shocker here: Green received some of the loudest cheers when she re-

ceived her district championship medal after the match. That included cheers from last year's graduates.

"To have them come back, the 'Fab 5' come back and join us, it just shows the culture, the family and the love that we have for this program," Zakaria said. "It was just a gritty win today. It was a hard OAA-Red game tonight.

"I think it just hinged on one goal, one magic moment, and that was the differ-

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



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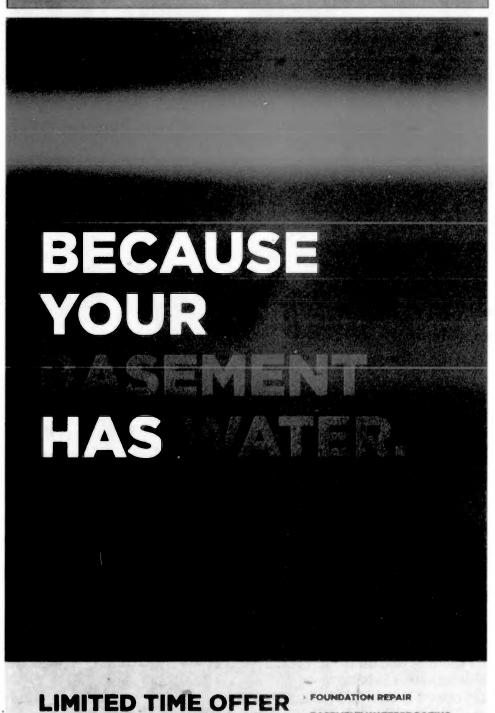
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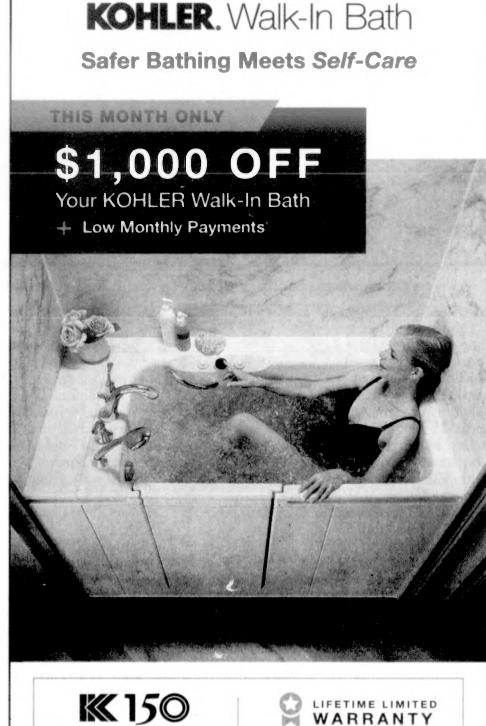
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Mercy's Milena Chevallier wins state title in high jump

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

This time it felt more rewarding.

Not to say that winning a state championship doesn't feel rewarding. Because it surely did when Farmington Hills Mercy junior Milena Chevallier won the indoor track and field state championship in the high jump last winter.

But doing so again during the outdoor season proved that all of her hard work had paid off. Plus, she was able to test her mettle against some of the best athletes in the state who play other sports such as basketball, hockey and gymnastics, among other things, during the winter and weren't on hand at the indoor state finals.

Yeah, Chevallier did it. She recorded a personal best of 5 feet, 11 inches to take first place in the high jump during the Division 1 girls track and field state championship Saturday at Rockford.

She bested Salem junior Madison Morson by just 1 inch, which is impressive enough. Not only was Morson the state runner-up in the event a year ago but the 5-foot-8 shooting guard was also one of the best basketball players last winter. Morson was named Hometown Life's Player of the Year after leading the Rocks to the state semifinal, and many are predicting her to be one of the few players nominated for next season's Ms. Basketball honor.

And that's what Chevallier appreciated about Saturday's victory. Morson didn't jump against her in the wintertime. She was too busy leading the Rocks to one of their best seasons in program history. Competing against Morson made it extra special for Chevallier.

"I know a lot of athletes were dual-sport athletes in the winter, but I do full-time club season in the winter," Chevallier, who competes with the Michigan Racers club program, told Hometown Life on Sunday night. "And, honestly, it did help to get a few months ahead of everyone else by doing indoor. But with Madi jumping 5-10, and I jumped 5-11, it was still really close. And I loved competing with her. A lot of time I'm jumping by myself, and it's just hard to get motivation when you're competing with yourself. I loved the competitive aspect of it."

Isn't that the truth?

Chevallier won the high jump in every meeting she competed in this past spring except for one runner-up effort during an invitational at nearby Farmington. That included her winning the Catholic League Bishop championship as well as Oakland County and D-1 regional championships.

She wasn't challenged too often.

But, to be honest, it hasn't always been easy for Mercy's star jumper.

Chevallier used to put most of her effort into running cross country. Distance races were her thing. Until she tried out the high jump as a sophomore and quickly fell in love with the event.

Hours and hours of practicing the high jump in Mercy's basement made her competitive throughout the indoor season. Her personal best entering the state championship was 5 feet, 8 inches. She walked out of there with a state title, but she jumped 2 inches shy of her PR and had hopes of improving before the spring

season started.

"At the time of indoor my coach and I were messing around with my steps and stuff, but the result was there," Chevallier said. "Honestly, indoor season, I think it was interesting because I only cleared 5-6 at indoor states, and I found it funny I won it. And I was still new to the whole sport. It's been a lot of training and trial and error.

"But it ended up working out."

Yes, Chevallier hopes to sign with a Division I college team before she graduates next school year. And, yes, she still plans on signing up for cross country despite spending the rest of her free time training for the high jump. Part of it is her coaches want her to stay in peak physical condition, and running will help her do that.

And the other part is Chevallier still has a lot of friends on the cross-country team.

But she still has plenty she wants to accomplish before she becomes a senior.

This summer she will be competing for the Racers again. She hopes to clear 6 feet, 2 inches by September.

And the top-tier competition she'll face along the way? Well, that's just extra motivation for her to get better.

"That's why I feel like I like the outdoor state meet more because it's just a lot more competitive," she added. "With the indoor season, athletes are doing other sports and you're not getting the best competition. To me, winning the outdoor was the real deal."

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



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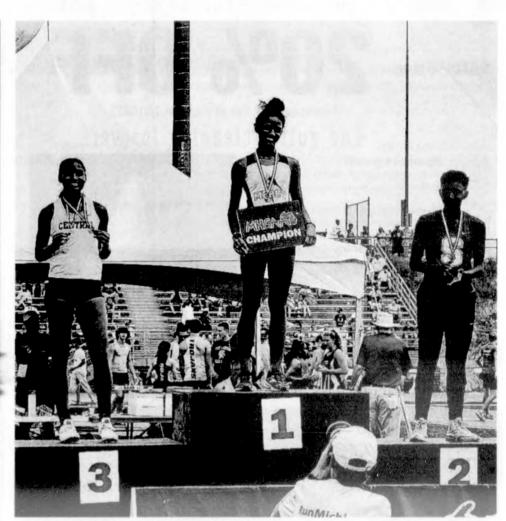
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Farmington Hills Mercy's Milena Chevallier, Salem's Madison Morson and Walled Lake Central's Kylei Anderson celebrate placing in the top three of the Division 1 girls track and field state championship in the high jump Saturday, June 3, 2023, at Rockford.

Obituaries

Thomas Jagus Lahiff

NORTHVILLE - Thomas Lahiff passed away on June 6 at age 68 after a courageous battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife, Diane, his four children Elizabeth, Alexander, Andrew (Kyla) and Bobby, and his grandson Cooper. He also leaves behind his father Tom, his sister Joanne, and a large and loving extended

large and loving extended family. He was preceded in death by his mother. Tom worked as an engineer at various General

Tom worked as an engineer at various General Motors locations for 39 years. He was known as a hard worker and team player who mentored younger engineers. His ability to understand and fix large machines was legendary, as was his work ethic.

He was an enthusiastic volunteer for many organizations including Crossroads of Michigan, Habitat for Humanity, and Rebuilding Together. He was an active member of First Presbyterian Church of Northville where he served as a Deacon, Elder, and on the Missions committee among many other roles.

Tom loved spending time with his family, volunteer work, biking, and HAM radio. He had a curious mind which was always seeking to answer the question 'Why?'. He was very strong, both in body and in character. He will be missed by all.

A memorial service was held at First Presbyterian Church of Northville on Wednesday. The family suggests that memorial contributions be sent to Crossroads of Michigan in lieu of flowers.

F. Rachel Heikkinen (Knuuttila)

NOVI - F. Rachel Heikkinen (Knuuttila) died June 6, 2023, in Novi at age 89

She was born February 15, 1934 in Oskar, Michigan to the late Jacob and Fannie (Finni) Knuuttila. She attended the Redridge School and graduated from Houghton High School. She was united in marriage to Douglas Carl Heikkinen on September 27, 1969 and they had 3 children: Julie, John, and Kristina. She was a member of the First Apostolic Lutheran Church.

Rachel worked for Chrysler until 1972 and then worked as South Lyon school crossing guard for 25 years. In her spare time, she loved to knit and crochet.

She is survived by her daughter Julie (Kevin) Waters of South Lyon; son John (Jackie) Heikkinen of Howell; son-in-law Jeffrey Rogers of South Lyon; grandchildren Rachel, Sandra, and Kara Lazzaro; Oliver, Max, Elsa, and Thomas Heikkinen; and Brandon and Marissa Rogers; brother Robert (Lois) Knuuttila, sister Regina (Dave) Juntti, and brother-in-law David Hillstrom. She was preceded in death by her husband Douglas Heikkinen on June 25, 2010, her daughter Kristina Rogers, sisters Ruth (John) Salo and Rose (David) Hillstrom, and brothers Raymond Knuuttila and Reynold (Jeanne) Knuuttila.

Funeral services were held Friday, June 9, 2023, 11:00am at First Apostolic Lutheran

Church, 2970
Oak Grove Road, Howell.
Interment at South Lyon Cemetery





Chevallier celebrates winning the Division 1 girls track and field state championship in the high jump. COURTESY PHOTOS

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BUILDING DEPARTMENT/OFFICE ASSISTANT

MILFORD TOWNSHIP

Milford Township is seeking a professional individual for the position of Building Department/Office Assistant. Prior office and customer service experience required; municipal experience preferred. This position reports to and works closely with the Bullding & Zoning Official and Township Supervisor.

Responsibilities and skills include but are not limited to excellent interpersonal and customer service abilities, strong written and oral communications.

- Good working knowledge of Microsoft Office programs.
- Self-motivated, problem solver, with ability take direction and work independently as directed in a small office setting
- Strong attention to detail, able to multi-task and work with accuracy and poise under
- · An interest in local government is preferred. The position is for 28 hours to start,
- becoming full-time, 37.5 hours, beginning January 1, 2024. Once full-time, the benefits package includes health care, pension and PTO.

Position notice and job description is available at www.milfordtwpmi.gov. Qualified applicants submit a cover letter of interest and resume to Holly Brandt, Clerk, Charter Township of Milford, hbrandt@milfordtwpmi.gov, 1100 Atlantic Street, Milford, Michigan, 48381. Must provide three written references upon request. Milford residency is not a requirement.

Accepting resumes until the position is filled.

How to pursue a career as an EMS pro

Emergency medical personnel are often first on the scene when someone experiences an accident or a medical emergency. EMS workers are generally trained and certified as certified first responders, emergency medical technicians and paramedics. However, the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians recognizes five different levels of emergency medical service worker. Though similar, the requirements governing each type of EMS worker vary.

All EMS workers provide life-saving services and help transport individuals to hospitals for additional treatment and care. Here is a deep look into the different EMS personnel and the training one might expect.

Certified first responder

A certified first responder is an integral member of an EMS team. These individuals provide basic medical care at the scene of emergencies, including basic first aid, stabilization of injuries, treating shock, and other tasks. First responders must be certified by the National Registry of Emergency Technicians, according to Learn.org. The American Red Cross offers first responder training courses. Certification requirements vary by state, and each state's EMS office can provide specific details.

Emergency Medical Technician

According to the UCLA Center for Prehospital Care, EMTs complete a course that is a minimum of 170 hours. One does not need to have previous medical experience to become an EMT, but eligibility requirements may vary from school to school and state to state. For example, to be EMT eligible in California, a person must be 18 years of age. In Pennsylvania, one must be 16 years of age and the training course is 240 hours and includes both classroom and practical lab scenarios. Like certified first responders, EMTs must pass the NREMT examination in order to obtain certification. EMTs can be EMT-B (basic) or one of two EMT-I (intermediate).

Paramedic

Paramedic students complete many more hours of training that may last between six and 12 months. Coursework builds on EMT education and blends additional medical training, including courses in anatomy, cardiology, medication, and physiology. Paramedics will take part in lectures, skills labs and a hospital internship, followed by an EMS field internship before passing the national certification exam. Upon passing, these individuals will receive the highest certification of pre-hospital care in the United States.

Becoming a paramedic in Canada involves completion of a one- to three-year college, hospital-based or other recognized paramedical or emergency medical technology program, according to Job Bank. Licencing by a regulatory body is required in all provinces.

EMS workers provide life-saving medical care and are often first on a scene when a medical emergency takes place. Working as part of an EMS team is a demanding but rewarding career.

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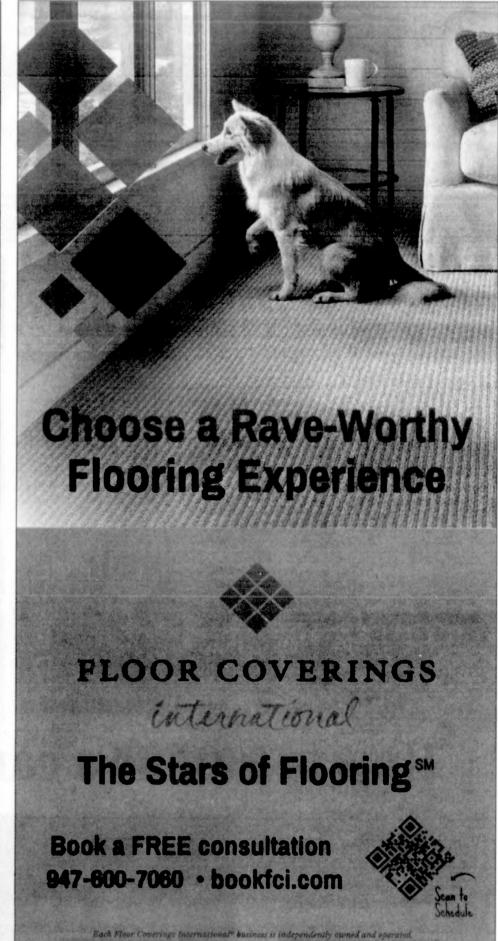


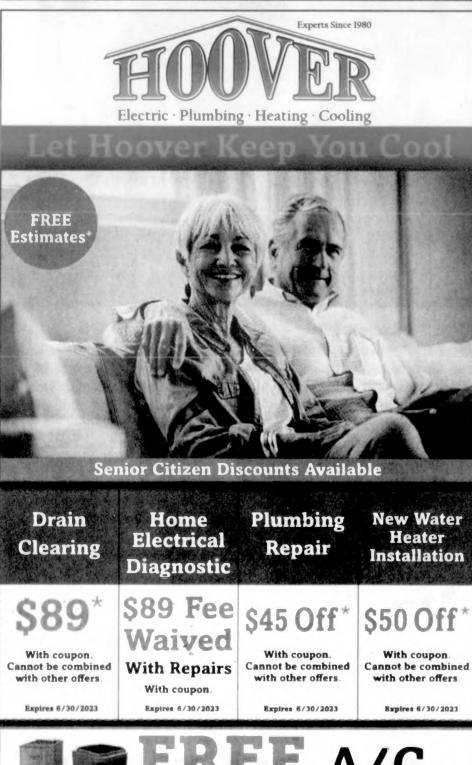
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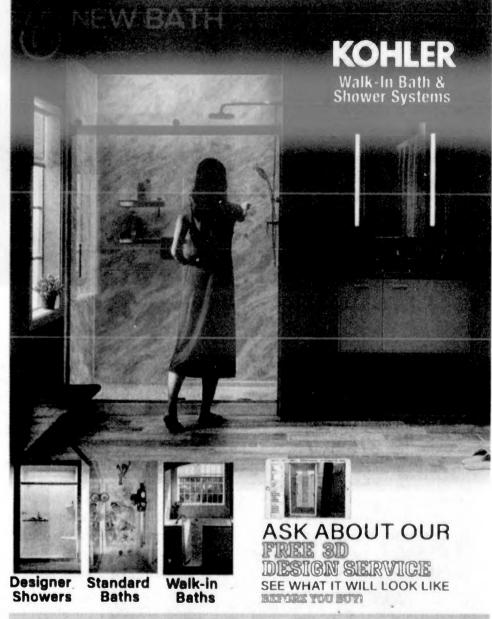


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