



## Novi wins baseball semifinal with bunt in extra innings

SPORTS, 1B

# NORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2023 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM K1

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Investigation into fatal 2021 Lyon Twp. plane crash places blame on pilot

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NEW HUDSON — A plane crash that killed a Northville family of three and destroyed a Lyon Township home 2½ years ago was caused by pilot error, federal investigators said in a report.

The National Transportation Safety Board released on June 7 the final report from its investigation into the Jan. 2, 2021, crash that killed the Compo family, who were on the plane, and simultaneously destroyed the Mudzwova family's home on Dakota Drive.

The NTSB report said the crash was caused by David Compo's "failure to maintain proper airspeed and his exceedance of the airplane's critical angle of attack, which resulted in an aerodynamic stall."

Also playing a contributing role in the crash was Compo's lack of an instrument rating and low visibility at the time. The plane was found to have no mechanical issues before impact that would have affected its operation.

David Compo had logged 41.5 hours of flight time under simulated instrument conditions, 15.2 of those hours with an instructor. Additionally, he had logged 99.6 hours under actual instrument conditions, 4.8 hours of which were with an instructor, for a total of 141.1 instrument hours, the NTSB said.

Compo, 60, along with his wife, Michele, 55, and their 18-year-old son Dawson, a 2020 Detroit Catholic Central graduate and MSU student, were flying home Jan. 2, 2021, in a single-engine Piper Comanche aircraft after a visit to Georgia, with plans to land at the Oakland/Southwest Airport in New Hudson. The plane model can be configured to carry up to six people, but usually seats four.

See CRASH, Page 2A



Wreckage from a Jan. 2, 2021 plane crash into a Lyon Township home. JOHN BRADY

## How to annihilate your friends at cornhole



Tom Fulton, right, prepares to toss a bean bag during a game of cornhole. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Pros offer tips on how to bag some success

Shelby Tankersley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

LIVONIA — A BBQ in Michigan isn't complete without a friendly game of cornhole.

The beloved backyard game of many in the Midwest can also be played at a professional level through the American Cornhole Organization and the American Cornhole League. Clinton Bylo of Livonia has made the sport his living.

"It's an addicting sport for me," he said. "I could play it all day. That's the way it is with a lot of the competitive players."

Bylo started IMF Cornhole Bag Co. in 2007, just as the game was taking off as a serious sport. IMF's bags are approved for use at professional events, and the company sponsors a team that competes professionally. Bylo makes 13 different bag styles made for different strategies and playing conditions.

While competitive cornhole is more serious — Bylo said a professional tournament features more strategy and less chatter than a backyard game does, people are still there to have fun. Bylo and Tom Fulton, one of IMF's professional athletes, say they've made a lot of friends through the sport.

See CORNHOLE, Page 2A

## Dinosaurs could stalk campground by this fall

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NEW HUDSON — Dinosaurs are ready to rumble in for an extended stay at Sun Outdoors Kensington Valley RV Resort.

The Lyon Township Planning Commission put out the welcome mat for 26 animatronic dinosaurs to take over a quarter-mile educational trail at the former Haas Lake RV Park, 25800 Haas Road.

"I absolutely love this," Commissioner Patty Carcone

said. "I think it's very inventive."

During a June 12 meeting, the planning commission unanimously recommended the township board approve a special land use for the exhibit. If approved by the township board, construction on the nature trail would begin this summer, with completion expected this fall.

The board's next scheduled meeting is July 5, although it's not clear the proposal will be on that agenda.

See DINOSAURS, Page 2A

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Cornhole

Continued from Page 1A

“One of the things that I’ve always enjoyed about it are the people who are newer to the sport,” Fulton, a Wyandotte resident, said. “You’ll always see me helping out. I’ll teach anyone how to throw a flat bag, even if I’m playing against them. I’ve met a lot of good people that way.”

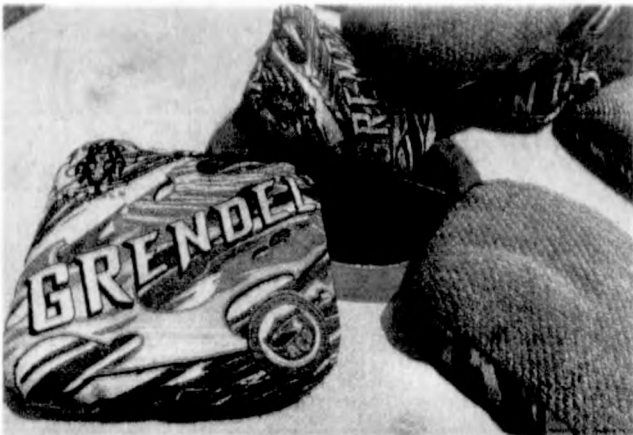
Pro tips to play cornhole

According to Fulton, cornhole is far more enjoyable when you actually know how to play.

“My first experience was about 37 years ago,” he said. “I threw all four of them onto the board, all four of them went flying off the back and I said, ‘Oh, I hate this game.’”

Fulton gave Hometown Life a quick lesson on how to pitch a bag well.

He teaches new players to throw their arm up and,



An IMF professional-grade cornhole bag. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

once they’re ready to throw, twist the wrist outward to create a flat, spinning bag. He also recommends people lean forward when they throw.

“Those three things right there will help your throw

every time,” he said.

Bylo recommends people stay as consistent as possible and develop a good “poker face” for when they’re not playing your best.

“Being consistent in your throw is a starter,” he said. “Every player has their own pitch and how they throw. You want to find something that’s comfortable for you and stick with it.”

Both men also, of course, remind people to have fun. Bylo said cornhole can be incredibly relaxing and has given him plenty of opportunities to spend time with friends. Even the great players appreciate a good game in the backyard.

“You get to hang out with great people,” Bylo said. “If I’m at a backyard event just throwing for fun, you’re hanging out with people and having a good time doing it.”

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.

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Newsroom Contacts:

Stephanie Angel, Executive Editor  
Office: 517-377-101

sangel@gannett.com

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Dinosaurs

Continued from Page 1A

The Dino Nature Trail that Sun Outdoors has proposed on the undeveloped southern section of the park’s 240-acre site will feature 26 “life-size” animated dinosaurs and a plaza, boardwalk, gazebos, climbing wall, restrooms and ticketing facilities.

Spencer Crabb, director of development for Atwell, told planning commissioners the overall nature of the trail would wrap around the wetlands feature on the property. However, the only disturbance to the wetlands would be foundational piers.

“We are bridging the gap between fun and entertainment and education,” Crabb said.

The exhibit would bring an additional amenity to the park, but would be accessible only for guests who are staying on site. Crabb said the exhibit would go un-

noticed by the public — in both sight and sound.

Eric Donaldson, of Donaldson Design, said the tallest dinosaur in the planned exhibit is a brachiosaurus, which reaches about 22 feet in height (about half of its actual height of 42 feet when the beasts were roaming North America 150 million years ago).

The animatronic dinosaurs, including triceratops, stegosaurus, velociraptors and the ever-popular T-Rex, each have their own sound system and only “roar” and move when guests approach.

Donaldson said the same directional speakers that are used at Disney World will be in use at Sun Outdoors and will only reach 15 to 20 decibels.

The exhibit will be accessible to the park guests from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Prices to stay at Sun Outdoors Kensington Valley start at \$46 per RV site per night.

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

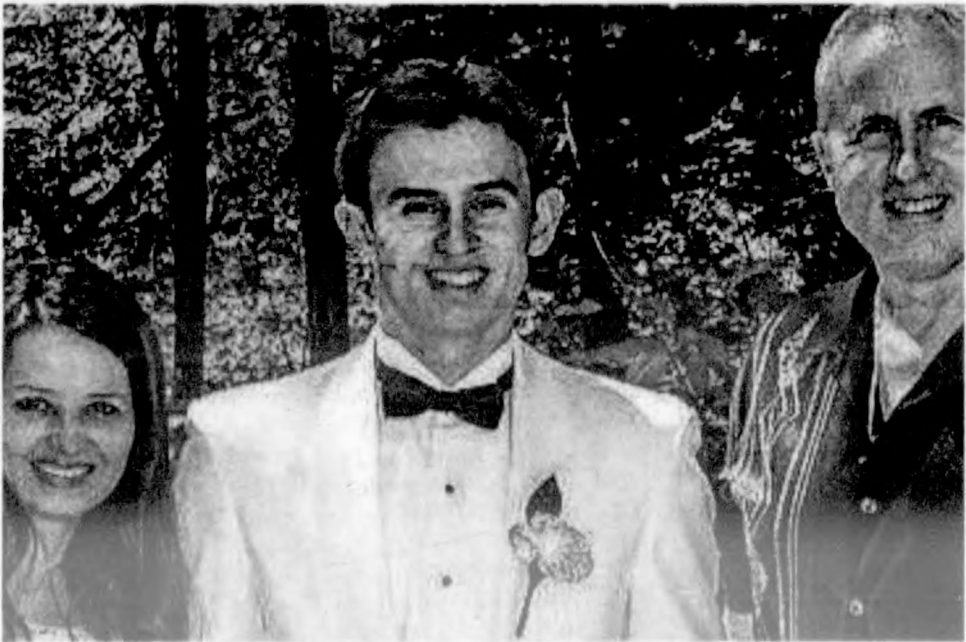
Crash

Continued from Page 1A

According to the report, at 2:52 p.m., David Compo advised Toledo air traffic control that he would switch to instrument flight rules, rather than visual flight rules, and a few minutes later was cleared to fly to Oakland/Southwest Airport at 7,000 feet.

At 3:13 p.m., Compo contacted Detroit air traffic control and was told there had been no icing reports in the last hour. Compo stated that if he missed the approach to Oakland/Southwest Airport, he would proceed to Oakland County International Airport.

He was cleared to descend to 3,000 feet and about 3:33 p.m. was given information from a pilot who landed at Willow Run Airport in Ypsilanti that the cloud base was about 300 feet. Compo responded that 300 feet “would not work for Y47 (Oakland/Southwest Airport).” According to the report, he was then asked



Michele, Dawson, and David Compo. COURTESY OF COMPO FAMILY

what his intentions were and Compo said he would “give (the approach) a shot.”

He was cleared for approach at 3:35 p.m., his last radio contact with the air traffic controller.

NTSB investigators reviewed video taken from a home security camera across the street from the crash site that captured the sequence of events. In the video, the sound of the aircraft’s engine can be heard about 3:39 p.m., but goes away and re-

turns louder about 1 minute later. The sound disappears and returns again, with the airplane in view on the video at 3:41 p.m., with left wing and nose low.

The wings then level and the nose of the plane raises just before the aircraft impacts the ground “in a flat attitude,” sliding across the ground and colliding with a house. The plane and house caught fire.

Inside the home were Pride and Danielle Mudz-

wova and their two daughters, Seraphina, 4, and Nyasha, 2. The family escaped uninjured, but their cat died. The Compo family perished. According to autopsy and toxicology reports, David Compo died of multiple blunt force trauma and there were no drugs of abuse in his system.

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

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1995	FORD	RANGER	1FTCR14A1SPA14986
2006	PONTIAC	G6	1G2ZG158264139035
2010	JEEP	COMPASS	1J4NF1PBAD06308
2009	FORD	ESCAPE	1FMCU03609KA29389
2000	MERCURY	GRD MARQUIS	2M1FM1WYX01445
2008	DODGE	AVENGER	1B3LC56K78N281997

Publish: June 22, 2023

LD-000879118 3x2.5

NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING  
ON PROPOSED 2023-2024 BUDGET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on June 27, 2023, at 5:30 o'clock p.m., at Old Village School, 405 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, the Board of Education of Northville Public Schools, Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, will hold a public hearing to consider the District's proposed 2023-2024 budget.

The Board may not adopt its proposed 2023-2024 budget until after a public hearing. A copy of the proposed 2023-2024 budget, including the proposed property tax millage rate, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at 405 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan.

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

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education.

Kimberly Campbell-Voytal, Secretary

Publish: June 22, 2023

LD-000879117 3x3

City of Novi  
Public Hearing Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on July 11th, 2023, at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider:

PZ23-0018 (James Wildman) 22635 Beckenham Court, West of Beck Road and North of Nine Mile Road, Parcel 50-22-29-476-016. The applicant is requesting variance from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.1.2 for a proposed exterior side yard setback of 19 feet (30 feet required, variance of 11 feet). This variance would accommodate the building of a home addition. This property is zoned One Family Residential (R-1).

PZ23-0020 (Constantine George Pappas / Armenian Cultural Center) 41100 Twelve Mile Road, East of Meadowbrook Road and North of Twelve Mile Road, Parcel # 50-22-12-351-053. The applicant is requesting the ZBA specify a height of 62.83 feet for a proposed monument structure, as permitted under Section 3.32.3 of the Zoning Ordinance. The structure has received Special Land Use approval from the Planning Commission and is located greater than 63 feet from all property lines. The applicant also requests a variance from Section 4.19.2.F for the proposed location of a dumpster in the side yard. This property is zoned Residential Acreage (RA).

PZ23-0021 (Brian Wilson) 24451 Christina Lane, East of Taft Road, North of Ten Mile, Parcel 50-22-22-378-008. The applicant is requesting a use variance from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 5.1.9 to allow parking of a commercial vehicle in a residentially zoned property. This property is zoned One Family Residential (R-4).

PZ23-0022 (Steven Erkins) 47770 Alpine Drive, West of Beck Road, South of Ten Mile, Parcel 50-22-29-227-042. The applicant is requesting variance from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.1.4 for a proposed rear yard setback of 19.24 feet (35 feet required, variance of 15.76 feet). This variance will accommodate the building of a new deck. This property is zoned One Family Residential (R-3).

PZ23-023 (Extra Space Self Storage) 21700 Novi Road, East of Novi Road and South of 9 Mile Road, Parcel 50-22-35-101-016. The applicant is requesting a variance from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 4.19.2.F for the proposed location of a dumpster in the interior side yard. This property is zoned Light Industrial (I-1).

Publish: June 22, 2023

LD-000879136 3x3



# Maxfield Training Center in Farmington could be demolished by end of year

Shelby Tankersley  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

FARMINGTON — It's possible the former Maxfield Training Center will be gone by the year's end.

Robertson Brothers Homes is poised to spend millions demolishing and redeveloping the former school property, 33000 Thomas Street, into 53 townhomes and a small park.

The Maxfield Training Center has been vacant since 2015, and Farmington has owned the building since 2020.

City council voted 4-1 to approve a purchase agreement with Robertson Brothers last month.

The development still needs final approval from council and the planning commission.

Mayor Pro Tem Joe LaRussa cast the lone dissenting vote on the purchase agreement. He told Hometown Life he voted "no" because developers have declined to create underground power lines and have asked for too many extensions. Council voted to move forward with Robertson Brothers after reviewing plans from four developers in 2021.

"It just feels like every time they're coming back, they're saying, 'We need three more, four more months,'" LaRussa said. "I've said at previous meetings I would not be open to more extensions."

Mayor Sara Bowman said the project would be "transformational" for the small city.

"It will have an immeasurable impact," Bowman said. "Any time you can bring residential opportunities to a downtown, the opportunities for growth and development and impact on the businesses are incredible. We are a

built-out city."

Bowman said she hopes to see demolition begin before snow falls this year, clearing the way for construction in the spring.

The townhomes, sandwiched between Shiawassee Park and downtown, would provide in-demand housing. Bowman and Kate Knight, president of Farmington's downtown development authority, expect the units to sell quickly.

"We have to continue to invest in the future of these historic downtowns," Knight said.

The development would also include a small park between Farmington Garage and First United Methodist Church. Knight said she thinks the walkway will provide opportunities for events and public art installations.

Bowman said council is working to see the project through while also addressing concerns from nearby residents. The mayor said she believes Robertson Brothers' success so far is due to the company's willingness to engage residents.

"We've all invested a significant amount of time in this project," she said. "We are all on the same page. We want to move forward successfully ... We're not going to make everybody happy. We're still hearing from residents. We are trying really hard to take their concerns into consideration."

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

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



Farmington Mayor Sara Bowman says a redevelopment of the Maxfield Training Center would be "transformational" for the city.



A rendering of the proposed townhomes at the former Maxfield Training Center site in downtown Farmington. COURTESY OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON

# Taylor man faces six felony charges, including homicide, in Westland shooting death

Susan Vela  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

WESTLAND — The man accused of fatally shooting the founder of the non-profit, Hand in Hand Yemen, earlier this month was arraigned Thursday on six felony charges, including first-degree murder.

Amir Patterson, 29, of Taylor, is scheduled for a June 15 probable conference and June 22 preliminary exam on the murder charge, as well as assault with intent to murder, first-degree home invasion, and three felony firearm counts.

Judge Mark McConnell denied bond during the arraignment in 18th District Court. Patterson remains an inmate at

the Wayne County Jail.

Westland police have released little information on Bushra Mawry's 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, police said previously.

Mawry, 36, of Dearborn Heights, who was a nurse, founded the Hand in Hand Yemen charity in 2020 to help those caught in the crossfire of war on the Arabian Peninsula.

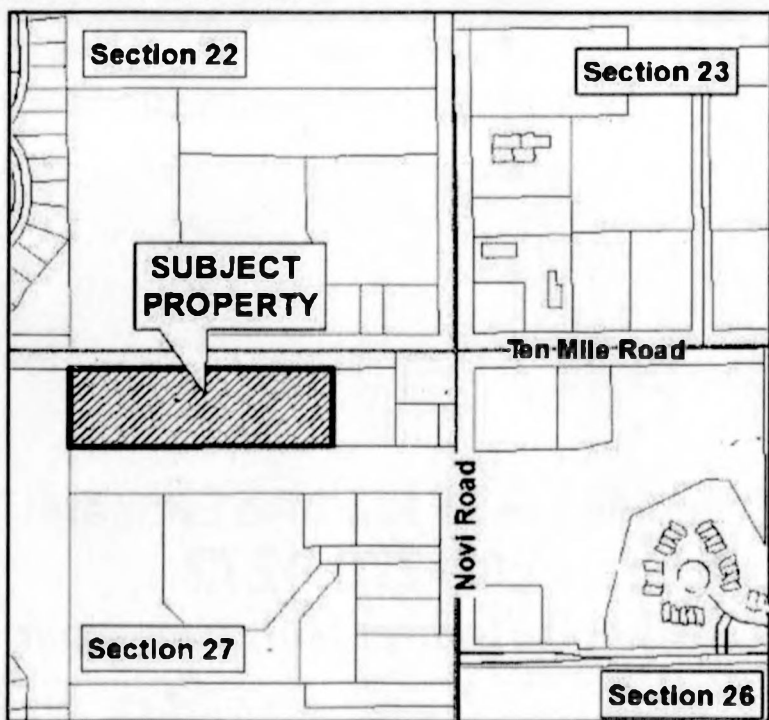
Her parents immigrated from Yemen about 50 years ago.

A sister will carry on Hand in Hand Yemen's work.

## CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.** in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **JSP22-53: PRIMROSE DAYCARE & SWIM SCHOOL FOR SPECIAL LAND USE, PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN, AND WOODLAND PERMIT APPROVAL.** The subject property, 43455 Ten Mile Road, totals approximately 5.59 acres and is located west of Novi Road and south of Ten Mile Road (Section 27). The subject property is zoned OS-1 (Office Service District). The applicant is proposing to demolish the existing building on the site in order to build an approximately 13,586 square foot daycare center and a 6,658 square foot swim school. Both proposed uses are special land uses in the OS-1 District.

Plans and more information are available for review at the Community Development Department in the Novi Civic Center.



Subject parcel IDs: 50-22-27-200-003

All interested persons are invited to attend this in-person meeting. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 4:00 P.M., **Wednesday, July 12, 2023.**

Published June 22, 2023  
Novi Planning Commission  
Michael Lynch, Secretary

Publish: June 22, 2023

LO-0008791125 3x7.5

## CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.** in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18.301 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, ORDINANCE 14-18.271, THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: HOW TO USE THIS ORDINANCE, PART 4, USE MATRIX; ARTICLE 2, DEFINITIONS, SECTION 2.2, DEFINITIONS; ARTICLE 3, ZONING DISTRICTS, IN THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS: SECTION 3.1 DISTRICTS ESTABLISHED, SECTION 3.1.15 EXO EXPOSITION OVERLAY DISTRICT, SECTION 3.1.18 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT, SECTION 3.6 NOTES TO DISTRICT STANDARDS, AND SECTION 3.27 TC AND TC-1 DISTRICT REQUIRED CONDITIONS; ARTICLE 4, USE STANDARDS, IN THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS: SECTION 4.12 GROUP DAY CARE HOMES, DAY CARE CENTERS, AND ADULT DAY CARE CENTERS, SECTION 4.18 BED AND BREAKFAST OPERATIONS, SECTION 4.19 ACCESSORY USES, SECTION 4.25 MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENTS, SECTION 4.27 RETAIL BUSINESS OR SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS, SECTION 4.31 VETERINARY HOSPITALS OR CLINICS, SECTION 4.35 MICROBREWERYIES AND BREWPUBS, SECTION 4.40 RESTAURANTS IN THE CHARACTER OF A FAST FOOD CARRYOUT, DRIVE-IN, FAST FOOD DRIVE-THROUGH, OR FAST-FOOD SIT DOWN, SECTION 4.44 INDUSTRIAL OFFICE SALES, SERVICE, AND INDUSTRIAL OFFICE RELATED USES, SECTION 4.45 SELECT I-1 AND EXPO DISTRICT USES, SECTION 4.47 MOTION PICTURE, TELEVISION, RADIO, AND PHOTOGRAPHIC PRODUCTION FACILITIES, SECTION 4.50 AUTOMOBILE SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT, SECTION 4.76 RETAIL SALE OF PRODUCTS OR SERVICES OCCURRING AS PART OF A SCHEDULED EXPOSITION FUNCTION, AND SECTION 4.77 I-1 USES IN THE EXPO DISTRICT; ARTICLE 5, SITE STANDARDS, IN THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS: SECTION 5.2 OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS, SECTION 5.4 OFF-STREET LOADING AND UNLOADING, SECTION 5.5 LANDSCAPE STANDARDS; SECTION 5.7 EXTERIOR LIGHTING, SECTION 5.14 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS, SECTION 5.15 EXTERIOR BUILDING WALL FAÇADE MATERIALS, AND SECTION 5.16 BICYCLE PARKING FACILITY REQUIREMENTS; AND ARTICLE 6, DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURES, SECTION 6.1 SITE PLAN REVIEW (ALL DISTRICTS); ALL BEING DONE IN ORDER TO FIX INCONSISTENCIES, CLARIFY ORDINANCE LANGUAGE, REMOVE THE EXPO ZONING DISTRICT AND ASSOCIATED SECTIONS, MODIFY REQUIREMENTS FOR MICROBREWERYIES AND BREWPUBS, UPDATE PHOTOMETRIC REQUIREMENTS, AND OTHER ITEMS AS DEEMED NECESSARY.**

Ordinance language is available for review at the Community Development Department in the Novi Civic Center.

All interested persons are invited to attend this in-person meeting. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 4:00 P.M., **Wednesday, July 12, 2023.**

Published on June 22, 2023  
Novi Planning Commission  
Michael Lynch, Secretary

Publish: June 22, 2023

LO-0008791137 3x7.5



# Birmingham man sues city, police officers alleging excessive force

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

BIRMINGHAM — A Birmingham man has sued the city and five police officers in federal court alleging that the officers used excessive force during a “wrongful” arrest that resulted in him suffering multiple injuries.

Brayton James Groth’s lawsuit, filed June 7 in U.S. District Court Eastern District of Michigan Southern Division, seeks more than \$75,000 in damages.

Groth claims officers Nicholas Hill, Scott McIntyre, Raemond Faes, Anthony Paredes and Nicholas Krumm caused injuries to his chest, back and face, “horrific bruising,” a possible head injury, post-traumatic stress, and pain, suffering, anxiety, mental anguish and emotional distress during an arrest for domestic violence in 2021.

In addition to the use of excessive

force by the officers, the lawsuit also alleges Groth’s Fourth Amendment rights were violated by an unlawful arrest and malicious prosecution; that the defendants failed to intervene to prevent violation of Groth’s Fourth and 14th Amendment rights; that the city failed to train and supervise the officers, showing deliberate indifference; that all defendants have shown gross negligence; and claims assault and battery by four of the officers.

Attorneys for Groth, Geoffrey Fieger and David Dworetzky, as well as for the city did not immediately return calls for comment.

The lawsuit stems from an incident on July 10, 2021, when Birmingham police officers responded to the home Groth shared with his wife at 1692 Bowers St. for “an alleged domestic violence that had supposedly taken place” between the couple.

When officers arrived, the suit states,

Groth was in the home while his wife was in a vehicle on the side of the road, parked several hundred feet away from the property.

Groth claims in his suit that his wife told an officer she had been grabbed by Groth and forced out of her home.

She also, the suit claims, told an officer she had never been abused by Groth in the past and “nothing has happened.”

According to the lawsuit, she told the officer she did not want anyone to go into the house, but ultimately “submitted” to the officer’s “show of authority” and gave him the house key.

Four officers used the key to open the back door, after knocking on a front screen door with no response, and allegedly never announced their presence as police.

Groth says in the lawsuit that he met the officers at the back door and verbally refused them entry, but the officers entered the home.

While Groth was backing away and objecting to their entry, he said officers pushed him backward, “slammed him into a counter, grabbed him, yelled at him to get on the ground, and then threw him to the ground in his kitchen.”

He alleges that “despite no resistance” officers punched and kicked him while he was on the ground and unnecessarily deployed their taser.

In May, Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Daniel O’Brien dismissed a felony charge of resisting and obstructing police against Groth.

Court records also show Groth is scheduled for a trial on a domestic violence charge at 8:30 a.m. Oct. 3 before O’Brien.

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

# Victor Cardenas is named new Novi city manager

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

NOVI — A nationwide search for Novi’s next city manager that lasted more than a half year ended right back at home.

Victor Cardenas, the longtime assistant city manager, recently was chosen to assume the top spot, pending contract negotiations, in a unanimous vote.

Mayor Bob Gatt made the announcement after what he called an “exhaustive” city manager search that began in November 2022 after the departure of Pete Auger, who stepped down after eight years.

“At the end of the trail — after 12 candidates were presented that were very good, qualified people — one person stood out as the person best qualified to run the city of Novi,” Gatt said. “It’s no secret he should have stood out, because he has been with us more than a decade, worked through the ups and

downs in the economy, and knows the people and the businesses, and his name is Victor Cardenas.”

Cardenas said he was honored to have the council’s confidence, and called the new post a natural step in his progression with the city.

“I’ve been here for 13 years and have built relationships with the stakeholders,” he said. “I’m glad the council went through the process and confirmed (hiring me as city manager) is the way to go.”

Council Member Laura Marie Casey said the council searched widely through the process in order to do its due diligence, but had the best candidate sitting next to them all along.

“We were fortunate to have Victor from the beginning,” she said. “I truly believe he is the right candidate to carry the city forward.”

Cardenas earned a bachelor’s degree

in political science from Grand Valley State University and a master’s in public affairs from Indiana University.

He joined the city as assistant city manager in October 2010. He previously held the same position in Oak Park for two years and was a village manager for Brooklyn in Jackson County for three years.

His accomplishments in Novi include making budget documents more accessible online; expansion and remodeling of some city buildings, including in the public works department and at Lake Shore Park; and his work on incentivizing businesses to relocate and/or expand in Novi.

Residents will continue to see improvements to roads under the city’s jurisdiction, including neighborhood streets, and resurfacing of Taft between 9 and 10 Mile roads, as well as Meadowbrook between 10 and 11 Mile roads.

Construction of another sort may be more exciting to residents and visitors to the city — a splash pad honoring the

late Fox 2 meteorologist Jessica Starr, is expected to be completed this year at Bosco Fields.

One of the challenges Cardenas said the city faces is staffing, with the pool of candidates smaller than it used to be. In particular, the city needs paid on-call firefighters, police officers, and it has positions open in the parks department.

Cardenas said he is blessed to work with the current staff, calling them collectively one of the best teams in all municipal government.

After the election in November, Cardenas will work with a new mayor and council, but he is grateful to current officials for entrusting him to be the city manager.

“My family and I love this community,” he said. “This is our home and I’m excited to continue to serve the community in this new capacity.”

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

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# Highline Spirits gets Plymouth's last liquor license

Laura Colvin  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

PLYMOUTH — The vacant storefront where an independent pharmacy operated for many years in downtown Plymouth is on the verge of a new and different life.

The Plymouth City Commission voted 4-2 at its June 5 meeting to approve the city's last available liquor license for a tasting room operated by Michigan-based Highline Spirits at 330 Main St. in the former Wiltse's Community Pharmacy.

Highline Spirits plans to create a craft cocktail lounge and tasting room where patrons can partake of the company's signature spirits before potentially buying a bottle to take home. The 1,800-square-foot venue would also be available for events and would feature classes on whiskey blending, cocktails and related topics, said Christi Lower, CEO of Highline Spirits.

## Food service added

The project has been in the works since last year but was put on hold when the city's Liquor License Review Committee recommended against approving the license because the initial plan didn't meet city requirements for food service in an establishment where liquor is served.

The criteria for food service was added to city ordinances after a previous establishment with no food caused significant stress on police and fire services, officials said.

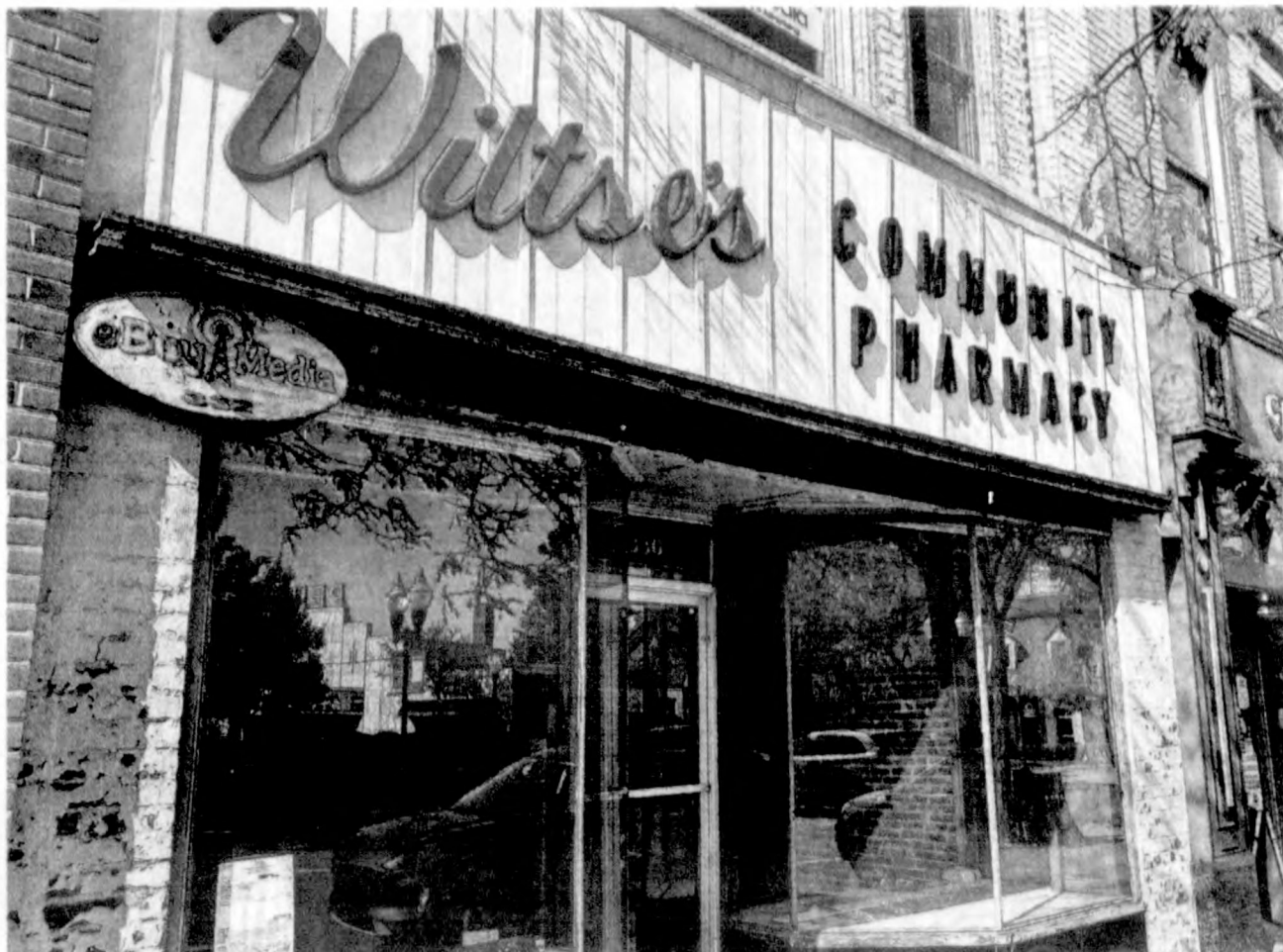
At the June 5 meeting, Lower said she has worked out a plan to have food available from professional caterers during all operating hours.

"In line with our brand mission, Highline will highlight minority-owned small businesses who provide licensed catering options to diversify Plymouth's restaurant offerings," Lower said, noting examples include caterers such as LaLa's Too, Firebird Foods and Zingerman's Catering.

Attorney Chris Gartman of Miller Canfield told the commission he has been working with Highline Spirits for the past six months to help secure state and federal approvals and provide industry perspective and regulatory information.

"Highline wants to bring a world-class product to Plymouth," Gartman said. "They have partnered with some of the finest distilleries in the world out of Kentucky to bring in very high-quality products to which there will be value-added processes done in Michigan and they will bottle that and have that available here."

The historic building is owned by Andy Winnie, who purchased the property after the pharmacy owners retired in 2021.



A new spirits tasting room will occupy the former Wiltse's Community Pharmacy in downtown Plymouth.  
DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Winnie said he's had numerous prospective tenants since he cleaned the brick, restored original hardwood floors and brought the space "back to some of its 1893 glory."

Although he had interest from tenants interested in using the building for office space or a potential coffee shop, Winnie said he liked the business plan presented by Lower.

"It's a really cool concept," he said. "There's no tasting rooms around...this will draw people to Plymouth. This is not just a local little bar, it is high end premium brands that I think elevates the town."

Winnie said he also liked the idea of giving local caterers the opportunity to "be on Main Street."

"This whole concept is brining unity in our community," he said.

## Split vote

The city's liquor management ordinance requires

that the LLRC and the city commission consider more than 20 criteria before approving a new license, including whether the facility will be a sit-down, full-service restaurant or other "bar only" type establishment.

Mayor Nick Moroz and commissioners Jennifer Kehoe, Kelly O'Donnell and Marques Thomey voted in favor of approving the license. Commissioner Alanna Maguire was absent.

Commissioners Linda Filipczak and Mayor Pro Tem Suzi Deal voted against approving the liquor license.

"I'm not in support of this," Deal said. "I don't feel that it is staying consistent with what we've asked other liquor serving establishments to do. I love the concept of it, I love the idea of it, but I feel that just brining in the catering isn't really enough to support what we're asking liquor serving establishments to do."

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

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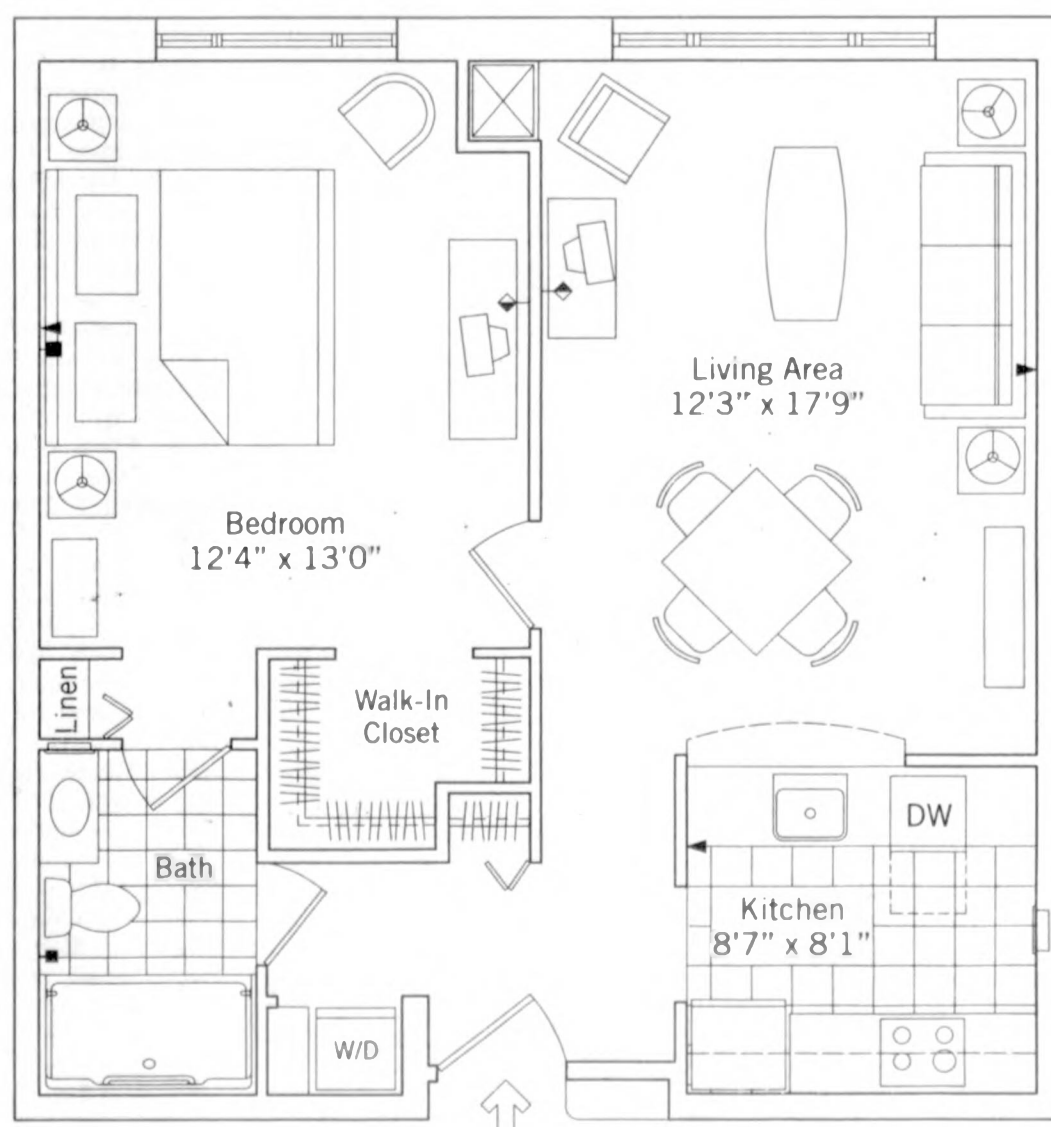
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## FIND THE WORDS

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

Alarm	Cent	Institution	Safe
Applied	Coin	Kits	Sale
ASIC	Costs	Loans	Security
Assets	Crown	Loss	Staff
Automatic	Debt	Meet	Stock
Teller	Duty	Money	exchange
Bank	Efficiency	Mortgage	Taxes
Bonds	Euro	Number	Thrifty
Buck	Fees	Pay	Usurer
Capital	Gain	Personal	Value
Card	Gold	Queue	
Cash	Home	Real	

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Rising interest rates

## The banking industry

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

## NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

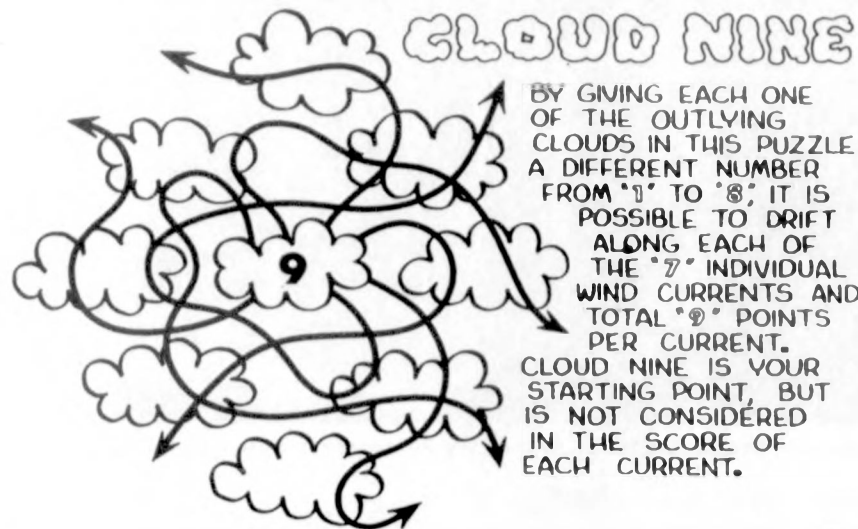
1 Not a big cut  
5 Finishes what's started  
10 Tap choices  
14 Player from 18 Down  
15 Not included  
16 Consolation  
17 "Please explain"  
19 *Antónimo de baja*  
20 It takes weeks to complete  
21 Use up  
22 Antecedent  
23 Beat  
25 Does as well as others  
27 Where Buzz got his Sc.D.  
28 Foul territory  
29 Hardly sugary  
31 Unknown  
33 Dollar store ancestors  
36 Its lexicon includes "banner" and "standard"  
37 What lateral thinking requires  
38 Word from the Latin for "maiden"  
39 NL team with the most WS wins  
40 Darn it  
43 Monarchic symbol  
44 *Toy Story* character with knobs and a screen  
47 *Stand and Deliver* setting  
49 Cans of Worcestershire  
51 Cut away, or out  
53 Deep thinking  
54 Till, old-style

**DOWN**

1 40 Project  
2 Shaded oneself  
3 Wishful speaking  
4 Tap choices  
5 *Toutes-jours* connector  
6 Chops, lops, or drops  
7 Place  
8 Rubbish  
9 Didn't play  
10 Strong source of support  
11 Anagram of OLYMPIAN  
12 "Curiously Strong" consumables  
13 Brain  
18 Tumultuous time remembered by many  
22 You and me, essentially  
24 Hardly typical  
26 Go 50 Down is central to  
30 What 22 Down is precedes the question  
33 Half a harmonious school  
34 Apiece, in scores  
35 Deal breakers  
36 Not done  
37 *Moana* songwriter  
38 They have currency  
40 Set spot  
41 They grow purple berries  
42 Catch by surprise  
45 Clobber  
46 River haunter  
48 Clobber  
50 For quite a while  
52 Gym display  
55 \_\_\_\_\_ wagon (vehicle that follows bike racers)  
56 Lowlife

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## PUZZLES &amp; POSERS



## SUDOKU | CREATORS

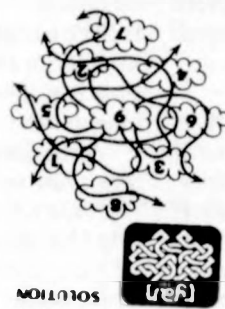
Insert numbers 1-9 in each box with every row, column and 3x3 box containing the digits just once. Difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest) **RATING: BRONZE**

## TODAY'S ANSWER

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

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

## TODAY'S ANSWER



A	S	O	D	I	S	O	H	G	O	N	A	S
V	A	I	W	V	C	V	S	N	E	D	E	D
T	E	O	W	R	E	S	O	I	N	E		
A	Q	U	I	S	P	I	R	S	T	O	V	A
A	T	I	S	V	E	H	C	E				
M	E	S	T	I	S	N	I	D	I	A		
S	E											
A	G	O	T	O	T	I	X					
S	N	E	I	D	N	V	A	I				
A	O	B	O	N		C	E	S	T	I		
I	W	V	E	E	D	E	S	T	I			
R	O	I	P	R	I	S	H	I	N	O		
A	T	I	S	E	E	S	T	I	N	O		
W	A	B	A									
I	A	S										

## Is it safe to be an out trans person in Michigan?

## Krystal Nurse

Lansing State Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

LANSING — A record number of anti-transgender bills in legislatures across the U.S. this year includes bills in Michigan that would make it a felony for medical professionals to provide puberty blockers and gender reassignment surgeries for anyone under 18.

Unlike Missouri and Florida, where legislation regulating medical treatment for the transgender community has been voted into law, Michigan is expected to be less receptive with a Legislature and governor's office controlled by Democrats.

The legislation has, however, further exposed the political rift between progressives and conservatives that is playing out in communities across the state. Trans man and activist Layne Ingram of Lansing said Michigan's bills are based on ignorance and fear. He said he feels safe as an out trans man in Michigan but acknowledges that the issue does raise safety concerns for some members of the trans community and creates personal challenges. He said it took him months to secure an appointment with a doctor who accepted his insurance to undergo gender reassignment surgery.

"I was at a bar in the U.P. last weekend and I said, 'Hey, can I get a Bud Light,' and they said 'We don't have that,'" Ingram said. "I've gotten a Bud Light here many times and they were like 'we don't have that anymore,' and I understood what they were trying to say."

He said the exchange let him know the bar wasn't safe for him if conversations about trans people or the larger LGBTQ+ community come up. In the past few months, conservatives have attacked Bud Light and its parent company, Anheuser-Busch, over partnering with trans influencer Dylan Mulvaney for branded social media posts.

Some people told the State Journal they generally find Michigan a welcoming place for the LGBTQ+ community, although less so for people of color in that community.

So how safe is Michigan?



Rep. Emily Dievendorf, D-Lansing, addresses fellow legislators on March 8, 2023, at the state Capitol in Lansing, before the Michigan House voted to expand the state's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to include protections for LGBTQ+ people.

MATTHEW DAE SMITH/LANSING STATE JOURNAL

## 'Children cannot consent'

Jamie Ashby is a trans woman who lived in Texas and Florida before moving back to Michigan recently. She's become an advocate for other trans people through her own work and representing Michigan at the Miss Trans USA pageant.

She firmly believes Michigan is a safe space to be because of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

"If something were to happen to me or were to happen to one of my trans brothers or sisters, I know that it would be dealt with accordingly," she said. "And I think that with how resilient she is and how visible she is in our communities, that people would think twice before trying to do something that would harm us."

Under Whitmer's administration, the state has made significant updates to better serve trans and genderfluid people. Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson changed the department's policy in November 2021 to allow for the "X" gender indicator on state IDs and driver's licenses. That same year, Attorney General Dana Nessel said a state law that required trans residents to undergo sex-reassignment surgery before changing their gender on legal documents is likely

unconstitutional.

The Michigan Supreme Court ruled in July 2022 that the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act bans discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Whitmer signed legislation in March further codifying LGBTQ+ rights within the law. It goes into effect 90 days after the 2023 legislative session ends.

Rep. Emily Dievendorf, D-Lansing, doesn't believe the state is safe enough. She's the state's only openly nonbinary lawmaker. She said she had to scale back her outreach efforts in the months after she was elected because of death threats.

"I've been bombarded by emails, by messages on social media, that allude to threats, that are threats that tell me I shouldn't exist," Dievendorf said. "I have one message that said my mother should have re-consumed me in the womb. Another one said they would seize on the chance to break my face."

There are 556 anti-trans bills that have been introduced in every state except Delaware in 2023, according to Trans Legislation Tracker, an open-source website that tracks anti-trans legislation. Some 80 of those bills have passed with 372 still active; 104 have failed. The website said 2023 has been a record year in anti-trans legislation, smashing 2022's record-breaking 174 bills.

Politicians introduced bills to block trans students from playing in sports, silence LGBTQ+ teachers and students, define "man" and "woman," and block gender-affirming care.

Some laws are being struck down in the courts. U.S. District Court Judge Robert Hinkle axed Florida's ban on care for transgender youth Tuesday, saying the ban would've caused "irreparable harm" to children if they don't receive hormonal blockers and boosters.

Michigan State House Rep. Brad Paquette, R-Niles, introduced Michigan's two bills on May 9. House Bill 4539 would make it a crime for medical professionals to provide puberty blockers and gender reassignment surgeries for anyone under 18. House Bill 4540 would classify such a crime as a felony, punishable by up to four years in prison.

Paquette disagreed with his legislation being characterized as an attack on

trans people and the larger LGBTQ+ community. He said "children cannot consent" to the medical treatments and his bills are to protect children.

He wants to have more conversations about the "side effects" of medically transitioning and said the science isn't settled.

"There are a large group of people talking about how they have many bone issues after this and so I'd be curious as to who those individuals are and then having very open and honest dialogue about it," he said.

"If anyone wants to look at the post-op photos of what the end results are of these individuals who are being misled to believe that they can be genuinely a participant of the opposite sex, that these cosmetic surgeries do not fix the deep down issues, especially when you're talking about young people in the (uncomfortable) phase of puberty," he said.

## 'It's not harming anyone'

The bills could directly affect East Lansing siblings Newt and Ellie Wheeler, and their medical team. Newt is 14 and trans, and he takes puberty blockers. Ellie is 20 and a trans woman; she takes testosterone blockers and estrogen.

"It's not harming anyone," Newt said. "People being in their own bodies and safety in their bodies isn't affecting anyone but that one person. It's to be comfortable."

Their mom, Karessa Wheeler, said lawmakers don't understand the trans community or how medical care is determined.

"This trend of denying medical care to children, their dad and I feel strongly for, that it's to keep them the healthiest mentally and physically," she said. "Our children are receiving age-appropriate care."

Ingram said gender-affirming care is necessary for trans youth. He said it would improve their mental and physical health and they wouldn't have an internal struggle with being in "the wrong body."

See SAFE, Page 7A



# Retired Novi Fire captain ordered to trial

On felony sex assault, home invasion charges

Laura Colvin  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

PLYMOUTH — A retired Novi Fire Department captain has been ordered to stand trial in connection with the alleged home invasion and sexual assault of a Canton Township neighbor in May.

Ramon Alvarez, 56, is charged with first-degree home invasion, second-degree criminal sexual conduct during a felony, and assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer. All three counts are felony charges.

At a preliminary exam Friday, June 9, in Plymouth's 35th District Court, Judge James Plakas ruled there was enough evidence to bind Alvarez over to circuit court.

**'He just lunged at me'**

A woman identified as the May 18 home invasion and sexual assault victim gave emotional testimony about the



Ramon Alvarez, 56, enters the courtroom on June 9.  
LAURA COLVIN/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

experience in her Canton Township home.

*Hometown Life* does not identify victims of sexual assault.

The woman said she was sitting in the living room of her home on Willard Drive when she saw Alvarez, her neighbor, walk by her front window, and then heard him in her garage.

When she opened the door to the garage, she said, Alvarez pushed his way into her home and used one hand to grab her shirt and her hair near her shoulder as he attempted to remove pieces of her

clothing.

"He just lunged at me," she said. "He started screaming... 'I love you,' and lunged at me."

"I started screaming to stop. I instantly knew something was not right and I just was screaming, 'get out, get out, get out.'"

The woman said she kicked, punched, bit and hit Alvarez with a stack of plastic plates as she tried to get him out of the house through the garage door in hopes that a neighbor would hear her screaming and come to help.

After a struggle, the woman said she managed to get Alvarez into the driveway where he continued his attempt to forcibly remove pieces of her clothing and touch her.

When a neighbor came to her aid, the woman said she was able to run into her home and lock the door.

At the defense table, Alvarez hung his head during the testimony.

**Out of character behavior**

Alvarez's attorney, Michael J. McCarthy, based most of his questioning on whether Alvarez's behavior was out of

character in the victim's experience.

The woman, who previously noted she'd known Alvarez 23 years, said the behavior was out of character and agreed his "I love you" declarations did not "make sense."

Canton Police Sgt. Matthew Roberson was the second and final witness to take the stand in Friday's exam, which lasted less than 30 minutes.

Roberson testified he knew Alvarez before the May 18 incident and that he tried to reason with him at the scene, but Alvarez did not comply and fought with both police and EMS.

McCarthy asked Roberson if he knew Alvarez suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder.

"I've heard that," Roberson said. He also said Alvarez's behavior was out of character, in his experience.

Outside the courtroom, McCarthy declined comment.

As of Friday evening, Alvarez remained jailed on \$300,000 bond.

His arraignment to circuit court was set for Friday, June 16.

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

## Safe

Continued from Page 6A

**What would make the state safer?**

People from Florida, Texas, Ohio and Kentucky have relocated to Michigan because of its trans-friendly legislation, Dievendorf said. She wants to make the state a sanctuary for someone to receive gender-affirming care, update Michigan's Ethnic Intimidation law to include gender identity and ban conversion therapy, among other things.

"I get letters from across the country asking how soon we're going to pass trans refuge legislation and whether they can find sanctuary here in Michigan when people are being persecuted, or when youth are in positions of not being accepted by their families out of state," she said.

Lilianna Reyes, executive director of Trans Sistas of Color Project in Highland Park, said more needs to be done to protect trans people of color.

"I feel safe sometimes but not as a person of color," she said. "I say that because people will feel safe in Royal Oak or Ferndale and they're white. I don't feel safe in certain spaces as a trans woman of color."

Reyes, who is Mexican and trans, said the state would be safer once organizations decentralize whiteness and have conversations about race and how it intersects with the LGBTQ+ community. She has fought for organizations to rethink how they serve trans people and to include those who are experiencing homelessness and to place trans people of color in positions of power to capture the whole community.

"Sometimes when you think about safety, you think about violence," Reyes said. "Many organizations are too far in

suburbs where people of color don't feel comfortable as they're being watched."

Drag performer Aaliyah Tealheart Paradisco is nonbinary and said they haven't felt unsafe in the cities in Michigan in which they've lived. But they worry about their trans friends.

"I'm also not an easy person to shake," they said. "I'm not saying safety is not an issue because I certainly know plenty of my trans brothers and sisters that are concerned to go about their daily lives."

Still today, Reyes said trans people of color are harmed or killed for their identity and there's not as much attention paid as is with white trans people.

Natasha Kieanna's body was found in a car on Detroit's west side in 2021. The trans woman had previously been reported missing. Detroit Police are still investigating her death. A trans woman also filed a lawsuit against the state Department of Corrections in 2021 alleging

she was forced to bunk with a convicted rapist and was later raped.

The Detroit Free Press reported in 2015 trans Detroiters and activists felt their lives were disposable after someone shot and killed Amber Monroe and a Wayne County Medical Examiner incorrectly identified Monroe by her former, male name.

Ingram said his focus is on empowering trans youth and helping them navigate through today's society in the midst of anti-trans legislation and rhetoric.

"This is Pride Month and while they're attacking us, thing is you can't take my joy," Ingram said. "You can't take who I am. And that's what I try to tell kids when I talk to them. You are you, you are special. You are unique, you are perfect and nobody can take that from you."

Contact reporter Krystal Nurse at 517-267-1344 or knurse@lsj.com.

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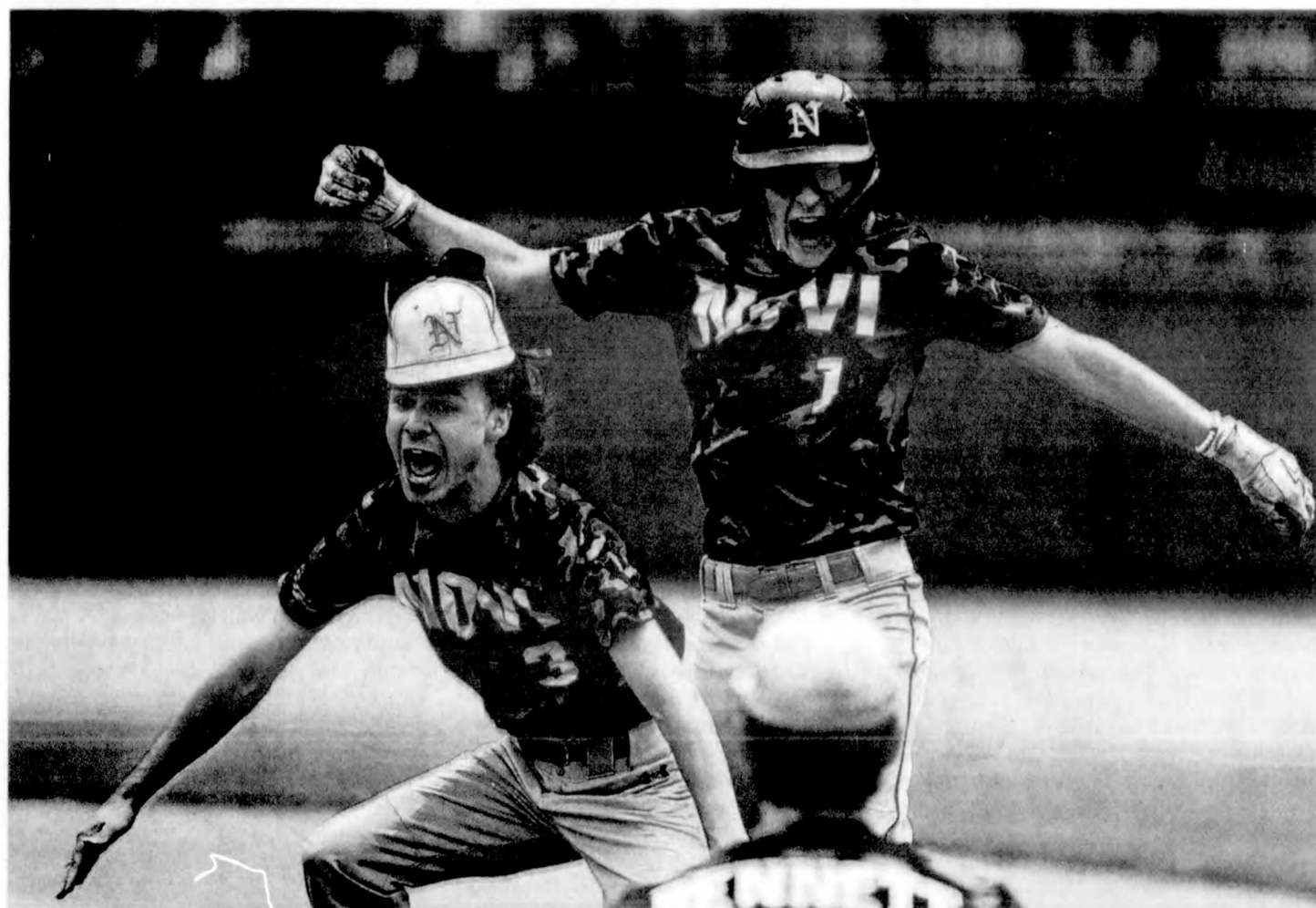
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## SPORTS

## HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL



Novi's Jaden Vondrasek, right, celebrates his score with teammate Alex Wilson during the seventh inning in the game against Mattawan on June 15, at McLane Stadium in East Lansing. PHOTOS BY NICK KING/LANSING STATE JOURNAL

## Wildcats win semi with bunt in extra innings

Novi's Caleb Walker timely placement fuels deciding 10th

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Caleb Walker wouldn't say it was the greatest bunt of his career.

And maybe that's true from a fundamentals standpoint. But it definitely was one of the most important bunts in Novi baseball history.

After the Wildcats (31-8) battled back from a one-run deficit and forced extra innings against Mattawan during the Division 1 semifinal June 15 at Michigan State University's McLane Stadium, the junior got his chance to complete the comeback.

Novi put two runners on base in the top of the 10th inning when Walker approached the batter's box. All he had to do was lay down a bunt to move Trevor Reed into scoring position. What should've been a routine play for him turned out to be the play of the game.

Walker popped his bunt toward the third-base line, essentially in no man's land, where no Mattawan player could easily field it. And then a wild throw was made toward third base, which was left unattended during the play. Reed rounded third, sprinted home and then crossed home plate for the go-ahead run.



Novi's Trevor Reed, right, celebrates with Alex Czapski after Reed scored on a Mattawan error during the tenth inning on the MSU campus.

Novi scored two more runs in the 10th, closer Uli Fernsler shut the door in the bottom of the frame and the Wildcats secured a berth into the state championship with a 4-1 victory.

Novi's game against Woodhaven in the June 17 Division 1 title game — which was played after press time for this edition — was the first appearance in the

state final since the Wildcats were the Class C runners-up in 1973.

"I was just trying to get it down and move the guys over," Walker said. "It was a fastball inside, and I was just trying to get it down any way that I could. It probably wasn't my greatest bunt,

See BASEBALL, Page 2B

## GIRLS SOCCER

## Two late goals hand Northville only loss

Mustangs' season ends in state semifinals

Nathaniel Bott

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

GRAND LEDGE — The No. 2-ranked Northville girls soccer team was coming off an emotional regional round, where first it battled back to force overtime and needed an equalizer in the extra session to eventually win in penalty kicks.

The Mustangs then beat a solid Grand Blanc squad for the regional title, setting up the opportunity on June 14 to play No. 4 Hudsonville for a chance to make it back to the state title game.

But there would be no late rally this time for Northville, as it fell 2-0 at Grand Ledge High School to suffer its only loss of an incredible season.

It was the second straight one-loss season for Northville, which lost its only game last spring in the state final to Bloomfield Hills, 2-1.

"It's such a talented and close-knit team, and talking to them before the game, half of them were in the same spot last year," second-year Northville coach Jeannine Reddy said. "We struggled to be organized and had to switch formations through the first half. We wanted to tell the girls to slow down and play our game. We kept the ball a little better. I knew it would come down to something like the ball bouncing around and being at the right spot."

Hudsonville had numerous chances in the first half, but Northville sophomore goalie Simran Magnan proved vital to keeping it scoreless, making a handful of terrific saves. The Mustangs turned up the pressure in the final 10 minutes of the half, but the sides remained square at halftime.

See SOCCER, Page 2B



Northville coach Jeannine Reddy, right, consoles Adalyn Saline after their loss to Hudsonville on June 14 at Grand Ledge High School.

AL GOLDIS/FOR THE LANSING STATE JOURNAL

## SCHOLASTIC REGATTA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

## This young boat became Northville rowing's first national champ

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

What's the best way to follow up a state championship in rowing?

By becoming the first boat in program history to medal at nationals, of course.

Northville won a handful of individual state titles during the Michigan State Rowing Championships on May 20 at Maple Beach in Milford.

And that included its women's 4 boat taking first place in the finals with a time of 5 minutes, 49.09 seconds. It finished almost 10 seconds faster than second-

place East Grand Rapids and 26 seconds faster than Rockford, the third-place team.

One weekend later, that same Mustangs foursome made it to the Scholastic Regatta Association of America national competition in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and they won a national cham-

pionship in the JV 4.

Their time of 5 minutes, 28.84 seconds narrowly edged runner-up Chattanooga Girls Preparatory (Tennessee) by 1.260 seconds.

"It's about getting the right people in

See ROWING, Page 2B





## Baseball

Continued from Page 1B

but it was the most important.”

Walker watched the ball plop into the grass and then lost sight of the play as he sprinted to first base.

But Reed kept his eyes trained on Mattawan’s infield the whole time.

“Yeah, I knew there was no one at the bag, so I was wondering why he was throwing it,” said Reed, a sophomore. “And then I just took off. It was awesome. It just felt like pure elation, ya know? It’s amazing.”

It took everything Novi had to even force extra innings let alone come up with the winning runs.

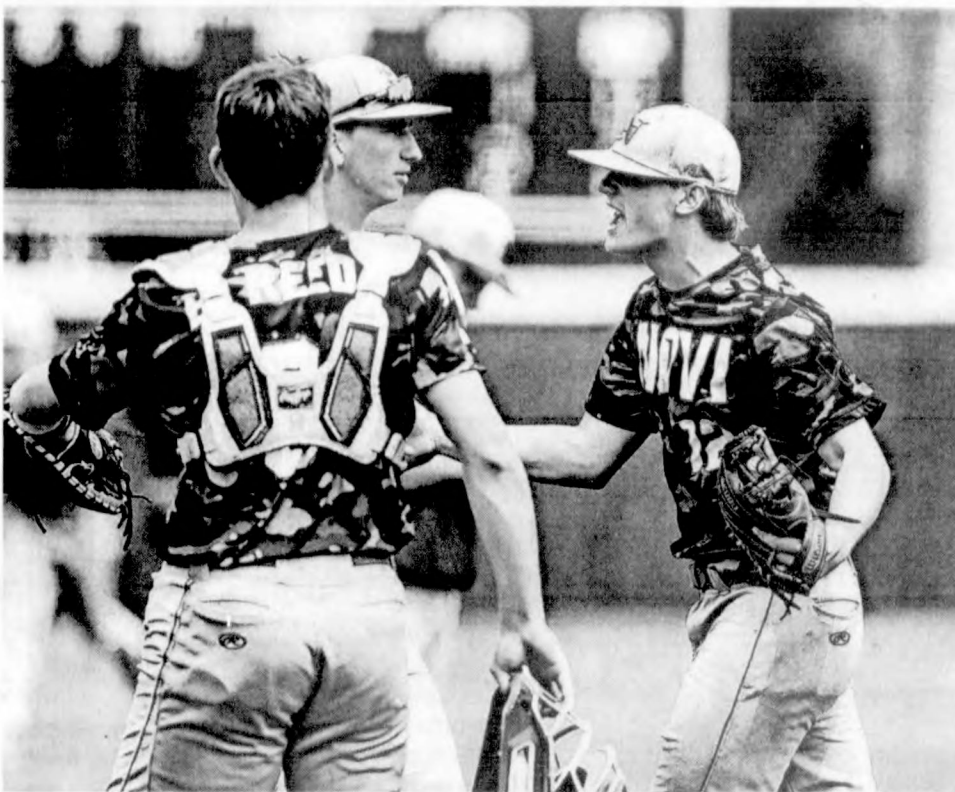
Ball State commit Brendan Garza smacked a line drive to center field that scored Connor Cole from second base and gave Mattawan a 1-0 lead in the opening inning.

And then Garza went to work on the mound. The junior tossed a gem. He went eight innings, gave up just two hits and three walks and struck out six.

“He’s got the nastiest stuff I’ve ever seen,” said Novi coach Rick Green, who’s in his 23rd season leading the team. “I knew he was going to be tough. I knew it’d be a one-run ballgame or whatever it was. He’s so tough, coming from the side like he does. We haven’t seen a pitcher like him all year. He was sensational.”

Novi finally got one past him in a do-or-die moment in the seventh.

The Wildcats had two on with two



Novi's pitcher Andrew Abler, right, celebrates after Mattawan's third during the second inning on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at McLane Stadium on the MSU campus in East Lansing. NICK KING/LANSING STATE JOURNAL

outs and recent Grand Valley State University commit Alex Czapski at the plate with a 2-2 count. Czapski survived a checked swing by the first base umpire and then ultimately belted an RBI single to center field that scored the tying run and kept Novi's season alive.

“I told him he’d get the game-winning hit,” Green said. “Here’s where sen-

iors come through.”

Czapski wasn’t the only senior Green delivered that message to.

Harvard signee Andrew Abler pitched a gem of his own. After giving up an early run, he wouldn’t allow Mattawan to take advantage of runners in scoring position again.

Twice Abler had Mattawan runners

at second and third. And twice Abler got out of the jam by tossing strikeouts.

Abler went seven innings before he reached the pitch count limit, but he struck out seven and gave up just five hits and two walks.

Fernsler pitched the final three innings, putting just one runner on base and striking out two batters.

Even when Abler was in a jam, Green didn’t waver about keeping the senior out there. He knew his ace would pull through.

“I said, ‘Hey, we’ve just got to get through. Get through it, man,’” Green said he told Abler during his fifth-inning jam. “This is where seniors come through.”

Novi wasn’t ranked in the final D-1 Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association poll entering the postseason, nor did many baseball fans give it much of a chance to get past No. 2 Northville in the regional opener.

They’ve since taken home a regional championship against Hartland, won the state quarterfinal against Battle Creek Lakeview, came back to edge Mattawan in the final four and earned themselves a chance for their first state championship in program history.

That’s quite the underdog story.

“I don’t even know if it’s an underdog story,” Reed said. “We’re stacked. We’ve been playing so well all season.”

And now they just need to play well for one final game.

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

## Soccer

Continued from Page 1B

The teams continued to trade chances deep into a tense second half. Then with just over seven minutes remaining, following another terrific stop from Magnan, a Hudsonville corner kick found the head of an Eagles player. The ball ricocheted off the post and numerous bodies before falling to Hudsonville forward Maislin Joldersma, who was able to bury it in the back of the net.

A turnover in the defensive half less than two minutes later sprung Hudsonville on an odd-man counter, and the Eagles found another goal with Kendall Aikens rifling home a shot off a terrific pass from Raeleigh Woodwyk.

Northville (18-1-4) tried to muster some desperation in the remaining few minutes but couldn’t break through. The Mustangs saw their season end one game short of their ultimate dream.

“(Hudsonville) is a great team, very fast and very organized, aggressive, but in the way you play soccer and the way they move the ball around,” Reddy said. “They were the best team we’ve played all year and wish them the best Saturday.”

Without Magnan’s excellent play, Northville would have been in a lot of trouble earlier in the game. But in the end, it took an unlucky bounce off the post for Hudsonville to find a breakthrough.

“It’s hard with that being the way they scored, but it was a great season and we have a lot to be proud about,” Magnan said.

Hudsonville (19-2-2) played in the Division 1 state final June 14 against Rochester Hills Stoney Creek (25-1-1) after press time for this edition.

Contact Nathaniel Bott at nbott@lsj.com and follow him on Twitter @Nathaniel\_Bott



Northville goalkeeper Simran Magnan deflects a Hudsonville shot over the crossbar, Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at Grand Ledge High School. AL GOLDIS | FOR THE LANSING STATE JOURNAL

## Rowing

Continued from Page 1B

the right boats,” Northville coach Nick Bickes said. “We’re looking to see who matches up and who rows well together.”

The seventh-year coach found that with junior Allison Phillips, sophomores Megan Gibbons and Maud Grobбен and freshman Megan Lauster.

“We got lucky in finding four girls who are young, ready and willing to work,” Bickes added. “They were a really young group that fed off of each other, and they did well. It was amazing that Megan Lauster, as a freshman, was able to fill that fourth and final seat in that boat. We were having trouble finding that person.”

Lauster isn’t the first freshman who has stepped up and filled an opening for Bickes over the years. Ryan Kretschmer actually did it a year ago, and he helped the men’s varsity 4 place fourth at nationals and the varsity 8 win a state championship.

Seeing Lauster have success wasn’t a surprise for Bickes. But she did have to put in the work.

“We really worked over the winter to get her fitness where it needed to be,” he said. “Earlier in the spring, we put a number of different people in that quad, but she just fit. She worked well. Her personality fit. She just had the raw talent to be in there. She was able to fit in with them with her while her rowing skills were still developing. She was just getting faster every week, getting better every single week. Her margin for growth was a big stepping stone for that boat.”

Yes, Bickes did well in tabbing Lauster as the missing piece of that boat. It helped the Mustangs make program history.

But the best part about that young quad?

“They will be back next year,” Bickes said.

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



Maud Grobбен, Megan Lauster, Megan Gibbons and Allison Phillips, members of the Northville rowing team, recently competed in the Scholastic Regatta Association of America national competition May 26-27 in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. COURTESY PHOTO



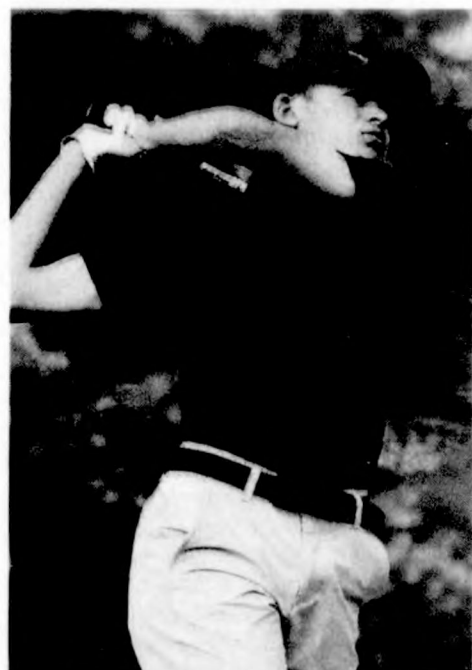
# Northville emerges from 3-way battle with first state boys golf title

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

ALLENDALE — After tying for first place through the opening round of the state Division 1 golf tournament, Northville wasn't going to change a thing before returning to The Meadows.

"We played well (Friday), so we did literally the same thing we did Thursday night," Northville coach Matt Lewicki said. "We ate at the same restaurant, we had the same routine, we did the same thing."

"We tried to keep it fun, tried to keep it light and enjoyable for the guys and make it as memorable of an experience for them as we can."



Northville's Ryan Gallagher tees off during the state Division 1 golf tournament.

The most memorable experience of all came Saturday afternoon when the final scores were posted and the Mustangs realized they had won the first boys golf state championship in school history. Players began the celebration by hugging one another, then rushed toward Lewicki for a group embrace.

Northville battled all day with Brighton and a late-charging Rochester Adams team to emerge victorious in a tight three-team duel.

Northville shot 300-305-605, Adams 309-298-607 and Brighton 300-309-609. KLAAs rivals Brighton and Northville were tied for first place heading into the final round.

"It's insane," Northville senior Mason Sokolowski said. "Everyone had my back. We played really good. It was a good first day. We were able to keep it together today. It's great to finally have the ring; we got the title. It's a tough year, we battled at every tournament, but we got the state title."

Northville's best finishes before Saturday were third-place showings in 1975 and 2008. The Mustangs were eighth in Division 1 last season, but used four players who competed in at least one round in that tournament.

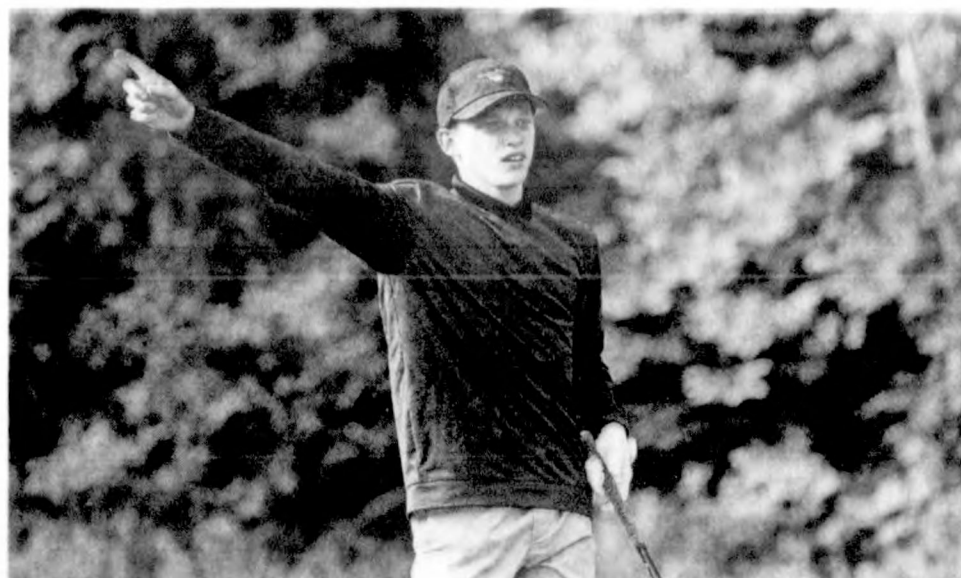
"We knew the state this year was really tough and there were a lot of strong teams, but we were returning some strong players," Lewicki said. "The guys played so well. It's a hard game, and they got it done."

Northville had four scores in the 70s in each of the two rounds.

Sokolowski was third individually with rounds of 70 and 74, while senior Greg Braun was 11th with scores of 74 and 74. Senior Thomas Forsythe shot 77 and 79, senior Ryan Gallagher shot 79 and 78, and junior Nick Tokarz shot 84 and 82.



Northville head coach Matt Lewicki (right) embraces assistant coach John Balagna after learning the Mustangs won the state Division 1 golf tournament June 10, at The Meadows in Allendale. PHOTOS BY BILL KHAN/LIVINGSTON DAILY



Northville's Mason Sokolowski points in the direction his tee shot carried on No. 1 during the state Division 1 golf tournament.

"It was a fun day all around," Lewicki said. "It was nice to be able to battle with the teams we've seen all year. I've just got to give it up for the boys, the way they played coming down the stretch, the way they've played all year. The way they played yesterday and today is just lights-out golf. I couldn't be more proud

of the team and couldn't be more proud of the guys."

Defending champion Detroit Catholic Central placed fourth with scores of 314 and 304.

Contact Bill Khan at [wkhan@gannett.com](mailto:wkhan@gannett.com). Follow him on Twitter @BillKhan.



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# KLAA all-conference girls soccer team

The Kensington Lakes Activities Association named its annual all-conference team for girls soccer Friday evening. Here are the players who made the cut:

## DEFENDERS

Megan Mihaly, senior, Belleville  
Olivia McCluskey, junior, Belleville  
Irene Kiilunen, junior, Brighton  
Sydney Bohn, junior, Canton  
Chloe Hendricks, junior, Canton  
Scarlett Nuechterlein, sophomore, Canton  
Riley Buck, senior, Livonia Churchill  
Cattie Riddle, senior, Livonia Churchill  
Celine Bazzi, senior, Dearborn  
Dahlia Jagber, freshman, Dearborn  
Aya Alawie, junior, Dearborn Fordson  
Kiera Hura, senior, Livonia Franklin  
Marin Nicholas, freshman, Livonia Franklin  
Izzy DePestel, sophomore, Hartland  
Sophia Pietila, sophomore, Hartland  
Tess Caitabiano, senior, Howell  
Alena Johnson, senior, Howell  
Caroline Meloche, junior, Northville  
Kailyn Morrison, junior, Northville  
Avery Peters, junior, Northville  
Grace Kwasniewicz, junior, Novi  
Faith Park, senior, Novi  
Haley Offerall, senior, Plymouth  
Olivia Ahlgren, senior, Salem  
Kaiyah Gromadzki, junior, Livonia Stevenson  
Sophia Nelson, junior, Livonia Stevenson  
Bri Waranauckas, senior, Livonia Stevenson  
Merisa Tilley, junior, Wayne Memorial

## MIDFIELDERS

Chloe Abney, sophomore, Belleville  
Molly Cote, senior, Belleville  
Rachel Riley, senior, Belleville  
Katie Carrico, sophomore, Brighton  
Jana Stanis, senior, Brighton  
Alexis Pickerel, junior, Canton  
Nora Schley, junior, Canton  
Alyssa Ventura, senior, Dearborn  
Olivia Karkaba, junior, Dearborn  
Sarina Farhat, sophomore, Dearborn  
Rokaya Ajami, junior, Dearborn Fordson  
Bushra Jomaa, senior, Dearborn Fordson  
Leah Kuhn, senior, Livonia Franklin  
Addie Frantti, sophomore, Hartland  
Emma Kastamo, junior, Hartland  
Katie Swirczek, junior, Hartland



Novi's Riley Boujoulian clears the ball during a Kensington Lakes Activities Association-West girls soccer match Thursday, April 6, 2023. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Maddie Peitila, junior, Howell  
Kate Gonzalez, junior, Northville  
Natalia Leavens, junior, Northville  
Grace Koski, senior, Northville  
Talie Burns, junior, Novi  
Anna Lindsay, junior, Novi  
Emerson Lukomski, senior, Salem  
Elyse Wiacek, senior, Salem  
Jenna Barbour, senior, Livonia Stevenson  
Marissa Grucz, senior, Livonia Stevenson  
Anna Oynoian, senior, Livonia Stevenson

## FORWARDS

Mackenzie Simpson, sophomore, Belleville  
Chelsea Powell, senior, Belleville  
Carli Ukraine, senior, Canton  
Sienna Mroue, freshman, Dearborn  
Emma Nichols, freshman, Livonia Franklin  
Alyse Daavettila, junior, Hartland  
Aubry Schoonover, senior, Westland  
John Glenn  
Megan Yanity, sophomore, Westland  
John Glenn  
Helena McLellan, junior, Northville  
Brynn Riley, senior, Plymouth  
Olivia Schuck, senior, Salem  
Kelsey Ware, junior, Livonia Stevenson

## GOALKEEPERS

Addison Tulik, sophomore, Belleville  
Brigette Chick, sophomore, Livonia Churchill  
Sarrinah Ajami, junior, Dearborn Fordson  
Madison Shirley, senior, Livonia Franklin  
Leila Al-Qallaf, senior, Hartland  
Paige Costello, senior, Howell  
Simran Magnan, sophomore, Northville  
Riley Boujoulian, freshman, Novi

## HONORABLE MENTION PLAYERS

Claire Davis, Belleville  
Kaylee Rupnow, Belleville  
Vanessa Slone, Belleville  
Caitlyn McKenzie, Brighton  
Olivia Sebestyen, Brighton  
Anna VanKannel, Brighton  
Tara Dunn, Canton  
Ava Murphy, Canton  
Carly Noe, Canton  
Gianna Whitney, Livonia Churchill  
Rebecca Rohmfield, Livonia Churchill  
Julie Griesse, Livonia Churchill  
Nadine Jawad, Dearborn  
Ava Habhab, Dearborn  
Mira Fayad, Dearborn  
Zina Cheikh, Dearborn Fordson  
Lena Dabaja, Dearborn Fordson  
Amira Ismail, Dearborn Fordson  
Belen Ibanez, Livonia Franklin

Breann Campbell, Livonia Franklin  
Mia Carroll, Livonia Franklin  
Josie Cheyne, Hartland  
Avery Gehres, Hartland  
Ellie Laier, Hartland  
Courtney Hewitt, Howell  
Riley Livermore, Howell  
Ashlee Sells, Howell  
Breanna Kennedy, Westland John Glenn  
Grace Neubecker, Westland John Glenn  
Rania Alshaikh, Westland John Glenn  
Reese Cassie, Northville  
Lauren Yaquinto, Northville  
Addie Saline, Northville  
Lindsay Dahlinger, Novi  
Michella Tortelli, Novi  
Cassidy King, Novi  
Isabella Blake, Plymouth  
Grace Cheetam, Plymouth  
Sydney Osgood, Plymouth  
Lauren Fowler, Salem  
Elaine Rama, Salem  
Cali Schwarzenberger, Salem  
Kylie Dean, Livonia Stevenson  
Kinsley Gromadzki, Livonia Stevenson  
Olivia Nelson, Livonia Stevenson  
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## Former Howell coach Olszewski hired at Milford

**Bill Khan**

Livingston Daily  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Tim Olszewski couldn't imagine a winter that didn't involve coaching basketball.

That's something he won't have to experience after being named the head girls basketball coach at Milford.

Olszewski wasn't on the market for long after resigning as head coach at Howell, where he coached for eight seasons. He takes over from Skip Stevenson, who led the Mavericks for one season.

"I was contacted by people at Milford the day it was out," he said. "The process started almost immediately. It just seemed to accelerate from there once I applied."

It will be the fourth varsity coaching job for Olszewski, a Howell graduate. He coached boys basketball at Howell and Fenton before taking over Howell's girls in 2015-16.

He had a 152-84 record in 11 seasons



Tim Olszewski has been hired as the girls basketball coach at Milford after eight seasons at Howell.

DAN ZEPPA/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

at Fenton, ending Clarkston's streak of 18 consecutive district championships in 2012. He went 129-43 at Howell, winning district championships in his first and final seasons.

"My departure from Howell was my decision, because of philosophies and

processes and how the program should go," Olszewski said. "It's just one of those things where I feel like my experience and my success because of the hard work kids put in is something we could never deviate from."

"It was unfortunate. I know Howell is going to be strong and good for years to come. I'm so happy for all those girls. I'm really excited to watch their success, but that's in the past now. For me, it's building this program and getting this program to a level we want it to be. There are no hard feelings on my part at all. Sometimes, it's time to move on."

Olszewski takes over a Milford team that tied for fifth place in the nine-team Lakes Valley Conference last season, going 11-12 overall. The Mavericks' final game was a 46-32 loss to Howell in the district semifinals. Milford has won one district championship in the past 21 seasons, that coming in 2015-16.

"I was fortunate enough to coach a couple of the Milford kids in AAU," Olszewski said. "I've known the coaches there for a while. ... I'm very fortunate

and I'm very excited about the opportunity."

Because of his late hire, Olszewski has been scrambling to get Milford's off-season program in place.

"I've reached out to my contacts I've gleaned over the years, made some tweaks to their summer schedule," he said. "We're already going to be attending the Michigan Shootout and some of the things we've done in the past at Howell. We're also going to get involved in some shootouts that we weren't registered for before. We'll do the LBI and Midland scrimmages like we used to do in November. We have adjusted the schedule and added to the schedule already."

District alignments seem to change every season, but there's a possibility Olszewski could run into Howell in the state tournament at some point.

"There is a chance," he said. "That would be a tough game for me."

Contact Bill Khan at [wkhan@gannett.com](mailto:wkhan@gannett.com). Follow him on Twitter @BillKhan.

## With a senior like Justice Tramble, Canton 'expects to win'

**Rachel Pierson**

Special to HometownLife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Canton girls basketball team finished sixth in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association-West last season.

But with a senior such as Justice Tramble returning, the Chiefs are hoping to compete with Park rival Salem for the division championship this coming school year.

Tramble was one of the bright spots for the rebuilding Chiefs (11-13, 5-9) a year ago, and she's only gotten better since March now that she's playing for the prestigious INation AAU program this summer.

"I am working on my guard skills, getting quicker and getting the small things right," the 6-foot forward told HometownLife following Wednesday's Summer League Shootout scrimmages at Novi. "Along with bringing more intensity on defense so it can separate me from everybody else."

Not that she had too much trouble getting separation off the dribble as a junior.

Her effort was good enough to earn her first-team honors on HometownLife's All-Area girls basketball team as well as offers from Detroit Mercy, South Carolina State and Madonna University.

That's a testament to her hard work.

"When she came in as a freshman, I could tell she was a gym rat and was a kid that really loved being in the gym," said fourth-year Canton coach Kayla Bridges, who was a college player herself for Wayne State almost a decade ago. "She loves the game and her inten-



Canton's Justice Tramble dribbles during the Division 1 girls basketball district championship Saturday, March 4, 2023. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

sity is contagious, and it gets her teammates involved."

Tramble really matured on the court as a junior. She can score at will, but she also puts a high priority on her defense.

"We stay in the gym a lot, and there has been a lot of unseen hours put in," Bridges added. "We put a lot into our off-season and she just lives in the gym. She has a great work ethic and wants to be great."

Tramble doesn't have to look far to see exactly what greatness looks like.

She goes to a high school that allows her to share classrooms with Plymouth-Canton Educational Park schools Plymouth and Salem, so that gives her a

chance to connect personally with some of her top competition.

And none were bigger last season than Madison Morson, HometownLife's Player of the Year and a surefire candidate for the Michigan Ms. Basketball honor this coming school year.

Morson holds a bevy of Division I offers and was a big reason why the Rocks made it all the way to the final four. En route to the Breslin Center, they beat Canton, 44-33, in the Division 1 district championship.

You'd think that proximity to Salem and Morson would create animosity, but Tramble believes it's a positive thing. Tramble and Morson used to play together at Discovery Middle School.

She said competing against the likes of Morson is one of the best ways to rise to the challenge of being a great player herself.

"There is no bad blood between us and Salem," Tramble said. "We just both really want to win. This year it is going to

be a good game. It is going to be a dogfight, and we will have to see who comes out on top."

It's playing in matchups like those ones that will hopefully help Tramble, who wants to study business or marketing in college, get to the next level.

"I went to Canton and I played there, and it got me to the next level," Bridges said. "Canton basketball did a lot for me as a whole. The standard that they set, the atmosphere of the community. ... And I had really strong coaches that taught me a lot. I really wanted to go back (and become the head coach of the Chiefs) and do the same thing for this group of girls."

Tramble has the opportunity to be a foundational player for Bridges, who wants to build a successful program and begin a long tradition of winning at Canton.

"It is baby steps, it is a process and the group was really responsive to the things I was bringing into the program," Bridges added. "I got them committed in the summer with summer workouts, which are super important for the season, along with building that camaraderie and the standard of the program, so they know what is expected of them."

Who knows? Salem came out of nowhere in coach Rod Wells' second season, surprised the basketball community and made program history.

Canton is capable of doing that, too. Especially with a determined head coach and an elite player such as Tramble.

"I expect to win," Bridges said. "I have high expectations, and I got a good senior group. I have had the seniors since they were freshmen, so they can read my mind at all times. They also know what is expected so it is starting to trickle down to the younger players."

Rachel Pierson is the summer sports department intern at HometownLife. Follow her on Twitter at @rachelmpier-son.

## Obituaries



**Mike C. Isenhardt**

**WESTLAND** - Mike C. Isenhardt, 60, passed away on May 16, 2023 in Westland, MI. Mike is survived by his beloved wife, Tammie Ann Isenhardt; daughters, Krista (Doug) Eggleston, Jacquelyn Isenhardt, Breanna (Freddie) Marrujo; brothers, Patrick Isenhardt and David Isenhardt; and grandchildren, James Eggleston, Madelyn Eggleston, Arthur Eggleston. He is preceded in death by Father, Jerry Dale Isenhardt, Mother, Eileen Mary Bell Isenhardt.

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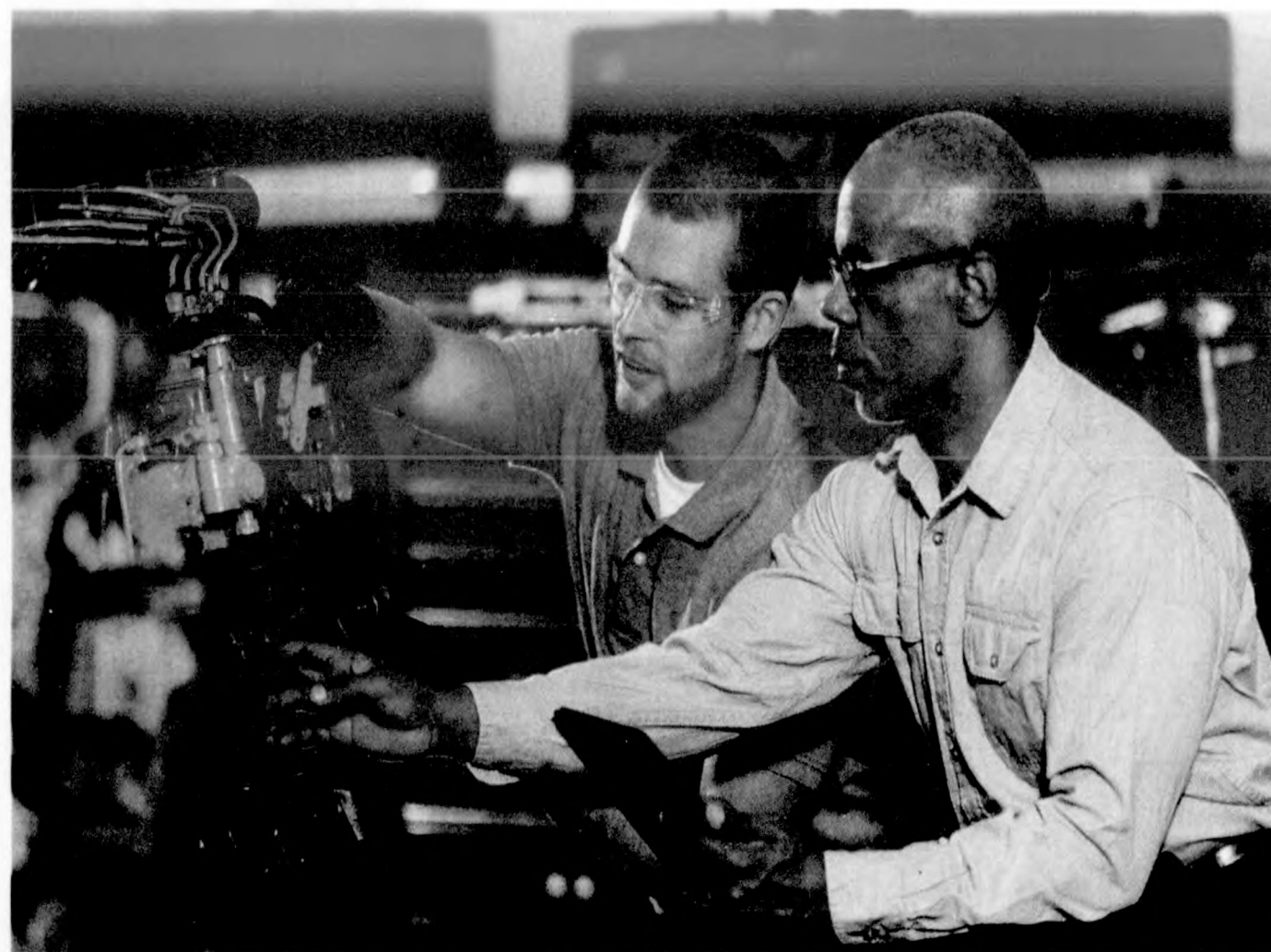
## The many benefits of vocational training

Earning a four-year degree is one path toward a rewarding career. However, that path is not the only one available to aspiring professionals. Enrolling in a vocational program can provide students with the skills necessary to engage in high-demand and well-paying jobs.

Vocational school, often referred to as "trade school," can be an advantageous route for many people who are looking for an alternative to college. In 2020, the National Center for Education Statistics said a four-year private college cost around \$50,300 for a student living on campus, while a four-year public college was roughly \$24,300 annually. A 2018 poll from The Learning House, a skills training and coursework company, found 35 percent of students said tuition and other fees were their primary concerns when choosing college programs. Trade schools can cost three times less than other schooling, making them more palatable to young people concerned about the high costs of college.

Career and Technical Education programs number around 1,200 in the United States alone. Many students begin vocational career tracks in high school, according to American Education Services. Here are some benefits to pursuing an education in the trades.

• **Lower cost:** According to NCES, trade schools cost significantly less than four-year institutions. Data from the U.S. Department of Education says programs may run between \$3,600 to \$16,000 per year. Most vocational



programs last two years, meaning that students graduate with far less debt than they might accrue when pursuing a four-year college program.

• **Individualized attention:** Many trade programs offer instruction in very intimate settings, with experienced practitioners serving as mentors and trainers. While each program is different, vocational training schools tend to have lower faculty-to-student ratios than traditional colleges.

• **Fewer admission requirements:** Trade schools may not have the same stringent application and admissions processes as colleges. Course prerequisites and grade point average requirements also may not dictate trade school admissions policies.

• **Direct, hands-on training:** Unlike a traditional college that marries general education courses with those specific to a major, trade school programs focus only on skills and training relevant

to each student's chosen career path.

• **Less time to complete schooling:** More direct lessons means that students can complete their certifications or degrees in shorter times and enter the workforce much more quickly than their counterparts at traditional colleges and universities.

Vocational training in trade schools is a viable option for students who want to spend less money and gain valuable skills they can utilize to earn a good living.


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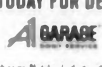
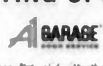
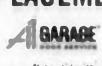
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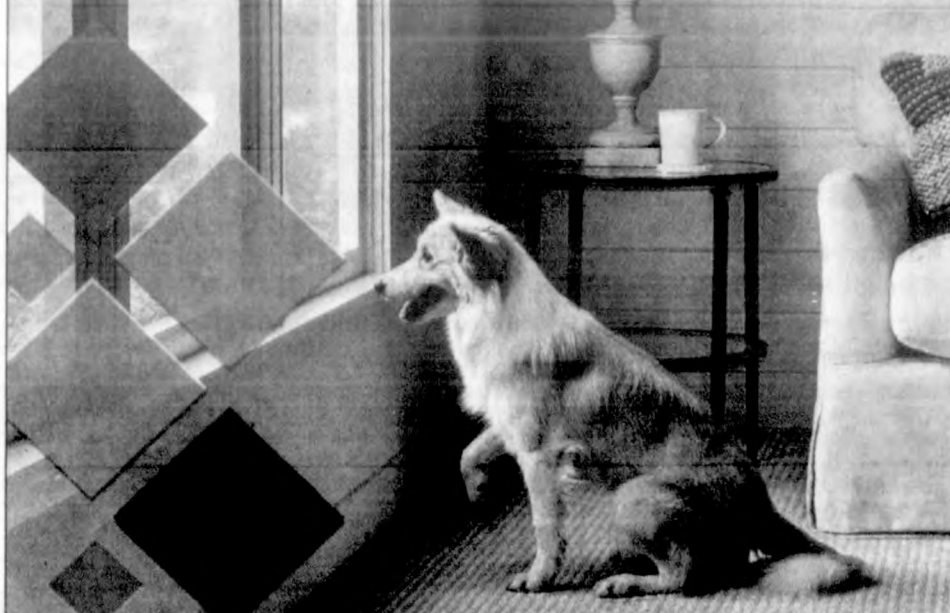
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