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SPORTS, 1B

NORTHVILLE RECORD

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PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Plymouth City Commission rejects proposed changes to outdoor dining

Laura Colvin

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

PLYMOUTH — Restaurant owners won't be seeing any city-mandated changes to the outdoor dining scene in downtown Plymouth, at least for the time being.

At a crowded meeting in Caster Park, the Plymouth City Commission voted Aug. 7 to reject a proposal that included two significant increases for restaurants with patios: a hike in the fees paid for outdoor dining space and a lengthening of sidewalk clearance required between buildings and patios.

The debate began July 17 when the commission set out to combine and update the city's outdoor dining policies.

Initially, the proposal included raising rates from \$1.50 to \$15 per square foot of outdoor dining space, a 900% increase many restaurant owners said left them feeling blindsided. At the Aug. 7 meeting, Mayor Nick Moroz proposed instead a fee of \$2 per square foot, an increase of about 33 percent. The current rate of \$1.50 has been in place for more than a decade.

"Keep in mind that while our operating costs as a city and the value of our public property have undoubtedly increased over the last 10 years, the rate per square foot for patio dining has not increased," Moroz said.

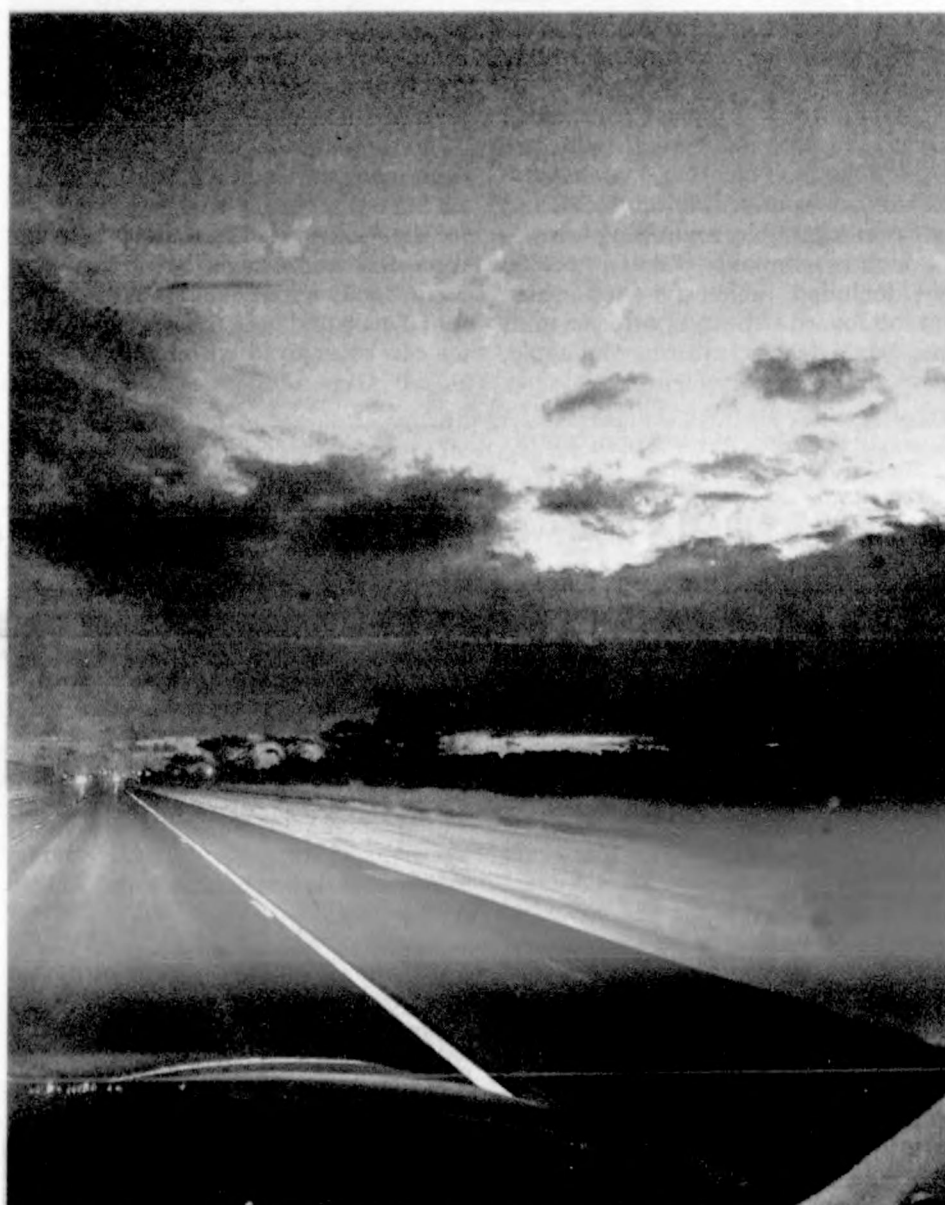
Moroz also said 6 feet of minimum sidewalk clearance on all streets would require restaurants with outdoor dining on public property to move patios away from the building to "reduce meandering." National standards for urban planning, he noted, recommend 8 to 10 feet of sidewalk clearance for optimal pedestrian walkability.

Moroz cast the sole vote in favor of adopting the new policy, saying he believed the commission, with help from the Downtown Development Authority, Chamber of Commerce and others had gathered enough information to make a decision.

Others had a different idea. While every commissioner expressed support for the restaurant owners and a desire to maintain the vibrancy of the city's downtown, some commissioners felt a square-footage increase to

See DINING, Page 7A

Northville couple on Maui fires: 'It really is as bad as the news says it is'



The glow of wildfires can be seen in the distance, as well as emergency vehicles on the highway ahead in this photo Patty Martin snapped in Maui on Aug. 9. The Northville resident and her husband, Ken, left the island just a day after their arrival. COURTESY OF PATTY MARTIN

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Wildfires weren't on Patty and Ken Martin's itinerary for their 30th anniversary trip.

But having seen the fallout of the disastrous blazes on both the Big Island and on Maui the past few days, the Northville residents want those in Michigan to know:

"It really is as bad as the news says it is," Patty said.

The Martins' dream Hawaii trip started well enough — they arrived on the Big Island a week ago, saw some friends, some rainbows, did some hiking and visited Volcano National Park. Patty noted there was a lot of wind from Hurricane Dora that was passing hundreds of miles south of the islands. However, other than warnings about using caution while pumping gas for their rental car to avoid risk of fire, there was no inkling of impending disaster until Tuesday.

That day, one day before they were scheduled to leave the Big Island and fly to Maui for a week, a fire off in the distance detoured them as they returned to their resort.

"Then the next morning, we thought, 'What's going on in Maui?'" Patty Martin said in an interview from across the country.

The couple called their Airbnb host, and was told the air quality was good. They now believe that was wishful thinking on the part of the host, who wasn't near Lahaina, where the wildfires were reported to have claimed 53 lives as of Thursday night.

See FIRES, Page 4A

113-year-old Livonia bakery announces plans to close

Shelby Tankersley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

LIVONIA — A local institution is planning to shut its doors for good.

Minnie Marie Bakers Inc., owner of Awrey's Bakery on 12301 Farmington Road, recently announced the company plans to close in September.

In its Aug. 1 press release, the company cited growing production costs

and a declining interest in sweets as the reason for closure.

Awrey's Bakery is 113 years old. It's known for sweets like cakes, cookies and coffee cake.

Minnie Marie Bakers purchased Awrey's in 2013 after the company fell on difficult financial times.

If another buyer doesn't save the day now, the bakery will close its doors for good.

A company spokesperson said cus-

tomers would likely be able to continue buying their favorite treats into October if the Livonia outlet has to stop production in September.

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

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Mike Skyring opens Men Bake Cookies, gourmet treat shop in New Hudson

Susan Bromley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NEW HUDSON — Mike Skyring and his wife Erin received a Kitchen-Aid mixer as a wedding gift a decade ago that sat in its unopened box until their daughter Abby asked for decorated sugar cookies for her fifth birthday.

That's when, three years ago, Skyring discovered he had a talent and his business, Men Bake Cookies, was born. Now, after outgrowing the kitchen in his South Lyon home, the 41-year-old is opening a store at 56849 Grand River Avenue.

"This was not my lifelong dream," a smiling Skyring said as he sat in his new shop, the former location of Novella's Pizza. "I did like making them, but then it really took off and I can't do it in my house any more, my wife wanted the kitchen counters back."

Skyring, a Navy veteran, has a full-time job working remotely as a research compliance auditor for the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor, but that hasn't kept his cookie business from booming.

While he started with elaborately decorated sugar cookies — and still custom makes them for special events — he switched to making gourmet cookies without icing, which he could finish batches in minutes instead of days. The cookies are oversized — 5 to 6 ounces — and they are also largely successful: a hit every week at the South Lyon Farmers Market with a loyal following.

"I wouldn't be here without my clients and customer base," Skyring said. "The support is amazing."

Skyring rotates cookie flavors monthly, but has six standard offerings

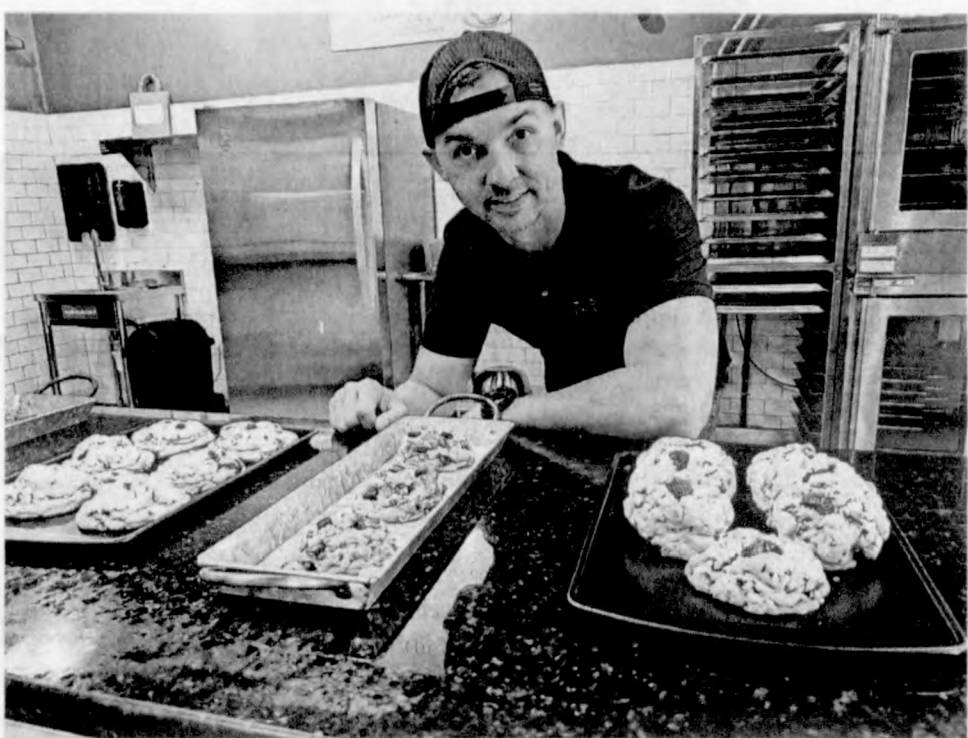


Men Bake Cookies will have a grand opening Aug. 20.

that will always be somewhere in the rotation, including a gourmet chocolate chip with semi-sweet and dark chocolate chips; lemon meringue, featuring homemade baked meringue pieces, lemon zest and white chocolate chips; chocolate chip cashew; pistachio toffee; M&M chocolate chip; and choco funfetti, with a taste similar to vanilla birthday cake.

This month, Men Bake Cookies also has Cookie Monster, which, with the help of blue food coloring, matches the color of the Sesame Street character and features Chips Ahoy and Oreo pieces.

Previous limited-edition cookies have included blueberry cheesecake, Almond Joy, strawberry shortcake, mint Oreo, Some Beach (featuring pineapple,



Mike Skyring, owner of Men Bake Cookies, with a selection of his gourmet treats at his new storefront, located at 56849 Grand River Ave. in New Hudson. PHOTOS BY SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

coconut and rum) and PB Big Boi.

Skyring said it doesn't take him long to develop recipes, just some trial and error. He is currently working on a banana bread recipe and is always looking for a fun, new cookie to make.

Five-ounce cookies are \$5 each, with 6-ouncers like Cookie Monster and the PB Big Boi going for \$6 apiece.

The cookies stay fresh for four to five days and freeze well, he added. Men Bake Cookies also has cinnamon rolls for \$4 each and both the rolls and cookies can be enjoyed with a cup of Free-

dom Hill coffee.

Skyring is planning a grand opening of Men Bake Cookies Aug. 20. The store will be open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursdays.

For now, catch Skyring and his cookies in person at the South Lyon Farmers Market on Saturdays or order online at menbakecookies.com.

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

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Growing charter school plans 2nd location in Plymouth Twp.

Laura Colvin
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

PLYMOUTH TWP — Just four years after opening, leaders at Ivywood Classical Academy say the school is growing and needs more space to accommodate students.

Opened in 2019, the charter school currently operates at 14356 Genoa Court and plans to break ground this fall on a second building on a 22-acre parcel at 12401 Ridge Road, between North Territorial and Powell roads.

Preliminary site plans and architectural drawings include a 57,000-square-foot school building with two wings separated by a large courtyard in the first of a two-phase plan.

Each wing will contain 10 classrooms, with a cafeteria, band room, gymnasium and locker rooms situated

on one end of the building and an art lab, science lab and administrative offices on the other end.

A second phase of the project currently includes two additional building wings at 31,000 square feet and 33,000 square feet.

"We've experienced significant growth both in adding both depth and breadth," said Tyler Horning, the school's founder and current board of directors president. "We started the school because there was interest in the community to have another educational outlet."

"We have lots of great schools and lots of great options in the community, but this resonates with a certain group of families. It was kind of an unmet need."

In its inaugural year, the school enrolled students in kindergarten through fifth grade and has added a new grade each year.

When school starts this fall, Horning said, the school will enroll 675 kindergarten through ninth-grade students in its location on Genoa Court, with another 300 on a waitlist for the future.

The new school on Ridge Road is expected to open in fall 2024 and will initially house students in grades 7 to 10, with a plan to add a junior and senior

class the following two years.

Horning said the school will initially operate both buildings but hopes eventually to bring all students under the same roof when the second phase of construction is complete.

The school does not offer busing and relies on parents to get students to and from school.

Horning said plans for the new school included a traffic study, which, he said, did not recommend any road improvements to accommodate any potential increase in traffic.

Horning declined to share the traffic study with Hometown Life. A FOIA request has been submitted to the school.

According to the school's website, the new building will be funded through multiple sources, including fundraising from a school gala, major gifts, foundations, and bond financing.

Under state law, a charter school is considered a public school and no approval is required by the city or township where they wish to locate. Plans for the new school building do not require the approval of Plymouth Township's planning commission or board of trustees.

The State of Michigan Bureau of Construction Codes provides oversight of such projects.

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 **SEPTEMBER 12th, 2023, at 7:00PM** in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider:

PZ23-0027 (Jonathan Jacob) 1619 West Lake Drive, East of West Park Drive, South of Pontiac Trail, Parcel 50-22-03-131-052. The applicant is requesting a variance from City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 5.1.2 to allow storage of one (1) recreational equipment or trailer under 6 ft. tall in the front yard of a residentially zoned property between June 1st and September 30th of each year. This property is zoned One Family Residential (R-4).

PZ23-0028 (Ronnie & Wafaa Jamil) 1927 West Lake Drive, East of West Park Drive, South of Pontiac Trail, Parcel 50-22-03-131-026. The applicant is requesting variances from City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.1.5 for a side yard setback of 2.25 ft. (10 ft. required, variance of 7.75 ft.); for an aggregate total of 4.5 ft. (25 ft. required, variance of 20.5 ft.); for an increase in lot coverage to 42.5% (25% maximum, variance of 17.5%) This variance would accommodate the building of a new home. This property is zoned One-Family Residential (R-4).

PZ23-0032 (Nowak & Fraus Engineers/Audi) 24295 Haggerty Road, West of Haggerty Road, North of Ten Mile, Parcel 50-22-24-476-030. The applicant is requesting a variance from City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.10.3.a to allow one overhead door to face a major thoroughfare (Ten Mile Road). This property is zoned General Business (B-3).

PZ23-0033 (Henry Kozlowski) 1635 West Lake Drive, East of West Park Drive, South of Pontiac Trail, Parcel 50-22-03-131-012. The applicant is requesting a variance from City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 5.1.2 to allow storage of one (1) recreational equipment or trailer under 6 ft. tall in the front yard of a residentially zoned property between June 1st and September 30th of each year. This property is zoned One Family Residential (R-4).

PZ23-0034 (Remodeling Star Inc) 1537 West Lake Drive, East of West Park Drive, South of Pontiac Trail, Parcel 50-22-03-131-006. The applicant is requesting variances from City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.1.5 for a front yard setback of 15 ft. (30 ft. required, variance of 15 ft.); for a side yard setback of 1 ft. (10 ft. required, variance of 9 ft.); for an aggregate total of 8 ft. (25 ft. required, variance of 17 ft.) This variance would accommodate the building of a second story addition on an existing home. This property is zoned One-Family Residential (R-4).

PZ23-0035 (814 Services LLC/Primrose Daycare and Swim School) 43455 Ten Mile Road, West of Novi Road, South of Ten Mile, Parcel 50-22-27-200-003. The applicant is requesting variances from City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 4.12.2.i.a to allow reduced outdoor recreation space for a daycare to 8,495 sq ft. (30,300 sq ft. area required based on the estimated number of children, variance of 21,505 sq ft.); and Section 4.12.2.ii.b to allow direct access to 10 Mile Road (vehicular access to and from a major arterial road is not allowed). This property is zoned Office Service (OS-1).

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY Counties of Wayne and Oakland, Michigan

ON THE ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE LIBRARY DISTRICT OF THE NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Northville District Library, County of Wayne, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Thursday, the 24th day of August, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Carlo Meeting Room of the Northville District Library, Northville, Michigan, to consider the approval and adoption of the operating budget of the Northville District Library for the fiscal year 2023-2024.

Copies of the proposed budget are on file with the Library Director at the Northville District Library, 212 West Cady Street, Northville, Michigan, for inspection during regular library hours. At the public hearing, all citizens, taxpayers and property owners of the Northville District Library District, comprised of the City of Northville and the Charter Township of Northville, shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the budget.

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 Trustees of the Northville District Library, Counties of Wayne and Oakland, Michigan.

THOMAS THOMPSON
SECRETARY
NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Any citizen requesting accommodation to attend this meeting, please contact Laura Mancini, Library Director, at 248-349-3020, Extension 206. To obtain this notice in alternate formats, please contact Laura Mancini, Library Director, at 248-349-3020, Extension 206.

Publish August 17, 2023

LO-0008791298 3x4.8

An 1884 church in New Hudson returns to worship after half century

Susan Bromley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NEW HUDSON — One of the oldest structures in New Hudson, built in 1884 as the Methodist Episcopal Church, has a complicated history, but now it's about to return to its roots as a place of worship.

During its nearly 140 years, the building was moved to make way for the widening of Grand River Avenue, housed a United Methodist congregation that vacated it for a new building, and subsequently was used as a karate studio, as well as by retailers selling furniture and comic books, among other things.

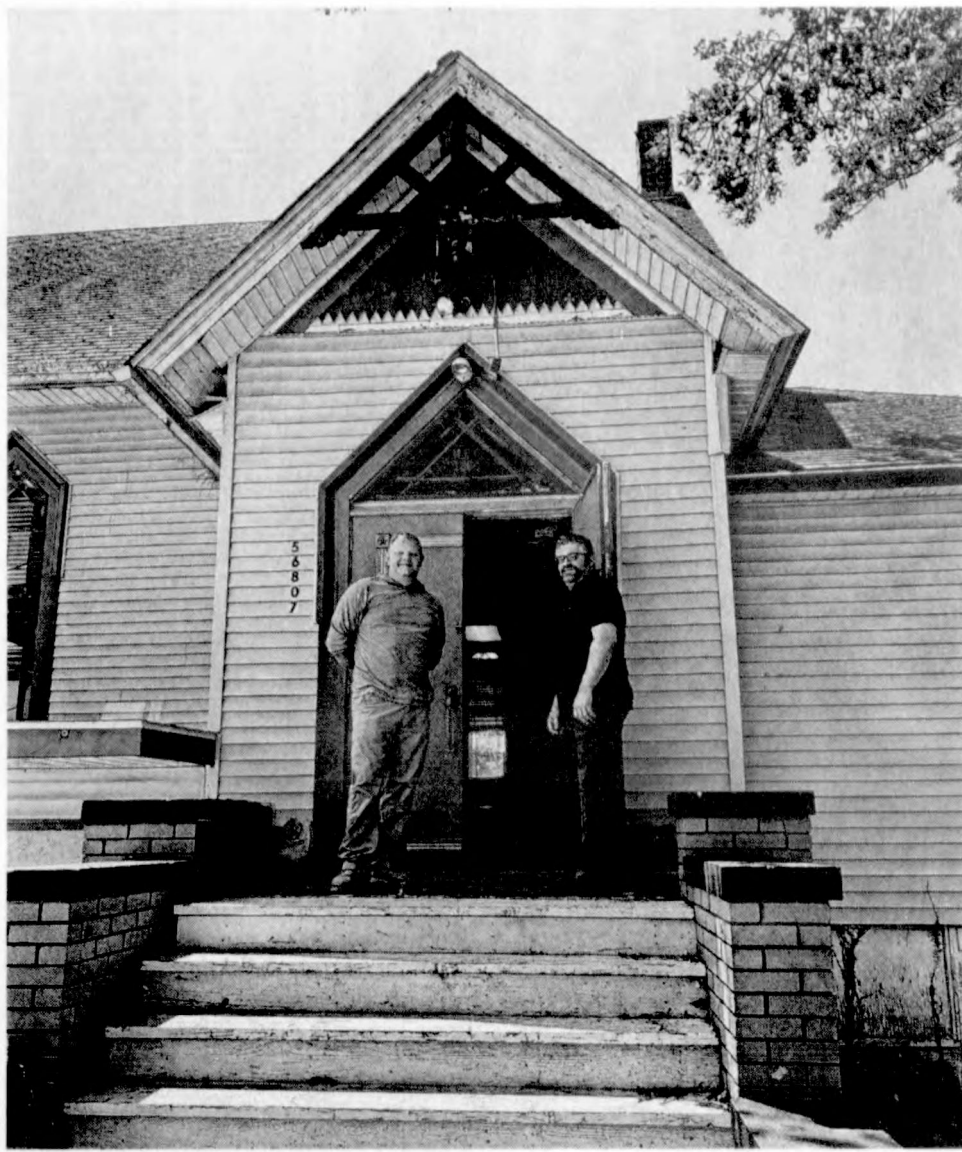
Now, after more than half a century of secular uses, the building at 56807 Grand River Ave. will return to its original use.

"We think it's cool that we get to reclaim the space as a church," said Nick Ford, a pastor for the Mission Church congregation, as he sat on a hardwood dais inside the building next to co-pastor Thomas Amos less than an hour after the two closed on the purchase of the building. "From our perspective, it's a really good thing to have it as church again."

Ford, who grew up in Milford, lived in Phoenix for 20 years. But last year, he, Amos, Clark Burau, who also pastors at the church, and two other families moved back to Michigan to "plant" a church in Lyon Township, an area they felt was under served.

When scouting the area for a location, Ford noted new churches often meet in theaters or schools, but the school district doesn't rent its buildings for Sundays and no theater was available. They struggled to find a suitable existing building to conduct services and, at one point, even inquired about using an airport hangar, but learned the Oakland/Southwest Airport bylaws require aviation use.

At the time, Jodea Bella Home, a furniture and home décor store, occupied



Thomas Amos and Nick Ford are pastors who are restoring this 1884 building in New Hudson to use as Mission Church. The structure has not been used as a church in more than 50 years. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

what always has been known as "the old church."

The Mission Church began by meeting at Burau's house in Milford Township, then at Club Empowerment, a cardio drumming studio at 56320 Grand River Ave. where they are still meeting. But the pastors turned their eyes to the

old church this spring when the owner of Jodea Bella Home announced the furniture store would relocate to South Lyon.

While Ford and Amos are excited to move into the church, it won't be quick or inexpensive: The building requires a number of repairs and upgrades.

Tom Ford, Nick's father, was already sealing the arched, colored glass windows on the day of closing, but there is much more to be done.

Congregants are looking to raise at least \$110,000 to restore the main floor of the building, which is estimated to be just under 2,000 square feet. Renovations will include remodeling and expanding restrooms, tearing out drop panel ceilings, upgrades for safety and ADA compliance; and aesthetics.

The basement, which was added when the church was moved away from the road around 1930, is a whole other issue Ford and Amos plan to address after the initial fundraising drive.

While Amos said the current state of the basement is "creepy," eventually it will be remodeled to become an educational space.

Ford also would like to apply to get the church listed on the National Register of Historic Places. If he is successful, the church will join other local landmarks on the list.

Amos and Ford hope to begin hosting services in the church by Christmas for their congregation of about 50.

Their intent is not to have a big congregation, Ford said, but to have one that fits the community and to plant more churches in under-served areas.

"We don't want to be about seating capacity, but about sending capacity — training other disciples to start other churches," he said. "We see this church as a great place to be a hub for that."

Amos envisions conducting worship services in the small space as it was done more than a century ago.

"The way church was done over 100 years ago, in 1884, is what this church was built for," he said. "Someone I never met designed this building to do what I am going to do. It's like using my Granddad's hammer, I still have to pound the nails."

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

Bheema's Indian Cuisine opens in New Hudson

Susan Bromley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NEW HUDSON — Vatsala Upadhyay and Lalita Kambhampati, foodies from Farmington Hills, were among the first to dine at Bheema's Indian Cuisine, which opened earlier this month.

The two were all smiles as they were served spicy Bheema's paneer and chilli chicken and took their first bites.

Their verdict? Delicious and worth the drive to the restaurant located at 30474 Milford Road in New Hudson.

Hema Koneru is one of five partners with ownership in Bheema's, all of whom have experience in Indian Cuisine, including at restaurants in Farmington Hills and Troy.

"We wanted to open our own restaurant and were looking around with South Lyon in mind," Koneru said. "There has been no Indian restaurant in Lyon Township for so long and it is growing. We wanted to be the first and that is how we decided to get in Lyon Township, South Lyon and New Hudson."

Koneru and his partners Naga Kancharla, Raja Yarlagadda, Anil Kanakamedala and Praveen Kumar Bahadursha pride themselves on offering authentic Indian dishes, and their menu is extensive. It features all the classic favorites, like butter chicken, chicken tikki masala, tandoori chicken, and several varieties of samosas and naan, but so much more.

Bheema's has a special focus on biryani, an Indian mixed rice dish made with spices, vegetables, and often, meat. A map of India in the restaurant pinpoints biryani from various regions.

The décor in the restaurant goes to great lengths to invoke a feel for India. Beyond the Indian imagery on the walls, Koneru said the furniture in the restaurant is imported from India. The restaurant seats 42 in the main dining room and another 40 in the adjacent party hall that's available for reservations.

Most importantly, all the spices used to create the distinct culinary experience are also imported directly from India.

"It is difficult running a restaurant, to



Samosas, papad and butter chicken are just a few of the dishes at Bheema's Indian Cuisine in New Hudson. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

keep the same taste," Koneru said. "We are all passionate in the food business. It's difficult, but at the same time, we are happy to do it."

Koneru, a native of Vijayawada in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, arrived in the United States in 2015 to earn his master's degree in business administration from Trine University in Angola, Ind. He decided to stay for both the culture and opportunities he found in America.

Now, he hopes Bheema's and the Indian food culture he and his partners bring will be welcomed, which he said it appears to be.

"A lot of people are happy we are in the community," Koneru said. "And we are so excited to be in Lyon Township. We are hoping we will be so busy."

Bheema's Indian Cuisine, 30474 Milford Road, is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 5:30-10 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 5:30-11 p.m. and Sundays from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 5:30-9:30 p.m. Closed Mondays.

Carry-out is available. Call 248-667-8223.

City of
Northville
Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS CITY OF NORTHVILLE

The City of Northville Board of Zoning Appeals will hold public hearings to receive public input on requests in regard to the City of Northville Zoning Ordinance to consider the following variances:

A. On premises zoned R-1B, First Density Residential District on property located at **761 Horton St., Northville, Michigan, 48167**, parcel number 48-22-34-457-010. The applicant is seeking three variances to construct a new garage:

1. The proposed garage exceeds the maximum permitted height. The variance needed is 2.25 feet from the maximum permitted height of 14 feet for accessory structures in Section 18.04.
2. The proposed garage exceeds the maximum occupied area in the required rear yard. An accessory building may occupy up to 25% of the required rear yard. The proposal occupies 29.4% of the required rear yard. The variance needed is 4.4% from the maximum permitted 25% occupancy in Section 18.04.
3. The existing garage is setback from the north (side) property line by 2.9-feet, and the north wall is located in the required side yard setback. The proposal extends the north garage wall to the east (toward the street) by 4-feet. Therefore, the proposal is expanding a non-conforming building. The needed variance is to expand a non-conforming building wall, located in the side yard setback, by 4-feet in Section 22.01.

B. On premises zoned R-1B, First Density Residential District on property located at **462-466 East St., Northville, Michigan, 48167**, parcel number 48-002-01-0576-000. The applicant is seeking an ordinance interpretation, and two variances to renovate an existing duplex building. A two-family residential use (duplex) is not a permitted use in the R-1B zoning district. Renovations will enclose a covered porch to expand one of the duplex units. The requests include the following:

1. The Board of Zoning Appeals interpret the ordinance to determine if, by enclosing a porch on a structure for future occupation as a non-conforming use, if this work constitutes the need for a "use" variance per Section 25.04.
2. If a use variance is needed, then the applicant is requesting that a use variance be granted to permit a two-family use in the R-1B zoning district per Section 25.04.
3. The rear of the building is constructed within the rear yard setback, creating a non-conforming building. The proposed building renovations will also add covered porches to the rear of the building, expanding this non-conformity. The needed variances are a rear-yard variance of 11-feet to construct the covered porches in the rear setback from Section 15.01, and to permit expansion of a non-conforming structure from Section 22.01.

C. On premises zoned R-1B, First Density Residential District on property located at **113 High St., Northville, Michigan, 48167**, parcel number 48-002-01-0498-000. The applicant is seeking three variances to construct a new garage:

1. The proposed garage doesn't meet the required side yard setback. The variance needed is 4 feet from the required side yard setback of 5 feet for accessory structures in Section 18.04.
2. The proposed garage doesn't meet the required rear yard setback. The variance needed is 3 feet from the required rear yard setback of 5 feet for accessory structures in Section 18.04.
3. The proposed garage doesn't meet the minimum distance required from the main building. The variance needed is 2.3-feet from the requirement of 10-feet distance in Section 18.04.

The public hearing will be held on September 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building - Council Chambers, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-449-9902. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comment on the variance requests.

The variance application is available for review at the City of Northville Building Department during normal business hours of 8 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, local prevailing time, or on the City website www.ci.northville.mi.us (Services, Building and Planning, Board of Zoning Appeals).

Written comments to the BZA pertaining to the proposed variance request must be submitted no later than 4:30 pm, September 1, 2023, to the City Clerk at the above address, or using the City Hall drop box, or emailed to msmith@ci.northville.mi.us.

RYAN MCKINDLES, CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS



Patty and Ken Martin on the Big Island of Hawaii celebrating their 30th anniversary Aug. 6. PHOTOS COURTESY OF PATTY MARTIN



The Martins on their first day on the Big Island of Hawaii at the Westin Hapuna Beach Resort about a week ago to celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary. Three days later, wildfires hit both the Big Island and their next destination, Maui. The couple has since left the island.

Fires

Continued from Page 1A

The Martins planned to stay in Kihei, 25 miles south of Lahaina.

"We probably shouldn't have come, but they made it sound like, 'People are still here,'" Patty said. "But as soon as you got to the airport you could tell the workers are stressed, and the smoke.... It was like a backyard bonfire you had stood in front of all night long - with smoke in your hair and clothes."

Ken and Patty knew immediately they had to leave, but flights were a challenge. The earliest they could get was Thursday morning, so the couple spent one night at their condo and had one memorable Maui meal at 3's Bar &

Grill, where Patty said she ate ginger-crusted Hawaiian swordfish. The food was amazing, she said, but what she may remember forever was the kindness and care of the restaurant employees even as the island burned and their future was uncertain.

"They want to talk about what they have lost and they lost a lot in COVID with 34% unemployment during the pandemic," Patty said. "Now with the fire, it may even be higher. The Hawaiian people are so generous and kind, and doing their job, but you can tell they really just want to go home. The big concern was that the harbor was burned down. That is where all the food comes in. The concern was how do you get food to the island when it is shut down?"

The Martins escaped Maui on Thursday morning, finding a beautiful refuge

in Kauai for the remainder of their Hawaiian anniversary trip, but Patty will never forget the worry she saw in the eyes of those who live and work on Maui. Her hope now is that mainlanders will also remember them by making a donation to one of the charities established for disaster assistance.

"Even when things are challenging, I personally learn from it," Patty said. "My role now is to make sure people know this is serious and there are ways for them to help."

To learn how you can help, visit mauinow.com/2023/08/09/in-person-or-online-how-you-can-support-maui-wildfire-relief.

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



Travelers at the Kahului Airport in Maui await flights off the island Aug. 10. The Martins were among those fleeing the island.

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

Active	Cost	Invoice	Pencils
Admin	Crowd	Items	Plins
Apron	Deal	Laptop	Printed
Biro	Desk	Late	Reply
Boss	Diary	Lift	Risk
Busy	Email	Loan	Sandwich
Buy	Envelopes	Log in	Scissors
Buzz	File	Marker	Shelves
Car	Glue	Mouse	Taxi
Chat	Human	Noisy	Traffic
Clerk	resources	Paid	Type
Copy	Index	Paper	Waiting

TODAY'S ANSWER

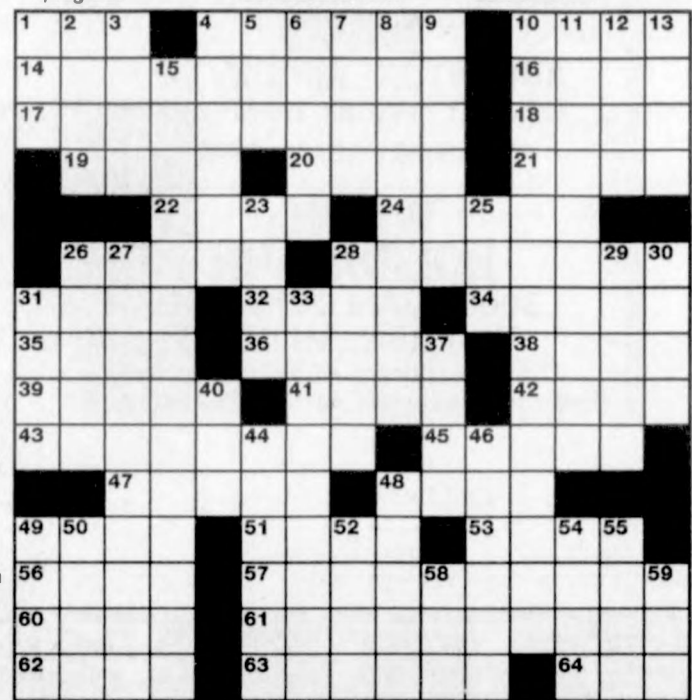
Lunchtime powerwalk

Office worker

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

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

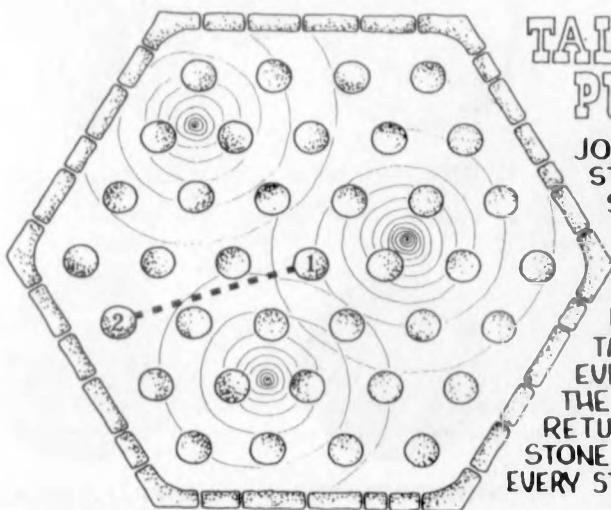
- ACROSS**
- 1 Large vessel
4 Port founded by Catherine the Great
10 First of all
14 Earnest appeal
16 Kin to Kristy
17 Spy fiction staple
18 US broadcast debut of '96
19 Performer with Missy at the 2015 Super Bowl
20 Inspiration for Wagner's operas
21 Goes flat?
22 Foster
24 Flowed to and fro
26 Seville "grilled"
28 Comic relief?
31 Banker webinar offerer
32 Word in two UN member names
34 Pecuniary pledge
35 Article opener
36 Fire marshal's measurement
38 Hong Kong Avenue of Stars honoree
39 Language once written in Cyrillic
41 Cry for
42 Hole
43 Kinds of kitties
45 Have an unpleasant effect
47 Contributed to
48 Frazzle
49 Charger designation
51 *Antes que* (most importantly)
53 Stand for
56 Preceder of bread or bottle
- DOWN**
- 1 What was seen on sets in the '70s
2 Disruptively
3 Sword-and-sandal cinema staple
4 Wasn't resistant
5 Agcy. with a Most Wanted list
6 Hungry or thirsty
7 Improved your progress
8 Military terrain-modeling tool
9 "Starry" precursor of the Apple 1
10 Active aspiration
11 "Why is everybody looking at me?"
12 Entry fee
13 Team once owned by Ross Perot Jr.
15 Vitamin-enriched cereals, for instance
23 Power for Microsoft's Surface Pen
25 34-wk. period
26 First Bond song
27 Oscar-winner
29 Antonym of "astride"
30 Afford for now
31 Crème brûlée cousin
33 May Day ritual
37 Slip (by)
40 talk
44 Venetian's ancient rival
46 Made considerable contact with
48 Spring, essentially
49 On
50 Affection is a ___ that must be cool'd: Shak.
52 Track and field opener
54 Beyond the horizon
55 ___ Bright (reflective sign brand)
58 Québec's ___ d'Orléans
59 Struck out



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2023 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS8AOL.COM

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PUZZLES & POSTERS



TALL JOHN PUZZLE

JOHN BEGINS AT STONE 1 AND STEPS EXACTLY 53" TO STONE 2. CAN YOU COMPLETE A PATTERN WHICH TAKES HIM TO EVERY STONE IN THE POND AND RETURNS HIM TO STONE 1? JOHN'S EVERY STEP MUST BE 53"

SUDOKU | CREATORS

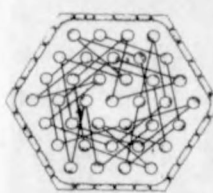
Insert numbers 1-9 in each box with every row, column and 3x3 box containing the digits just once. Difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest) **RATING: GOLD**

TODAY'S ANSWER

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

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

TODAY'S ANSWER



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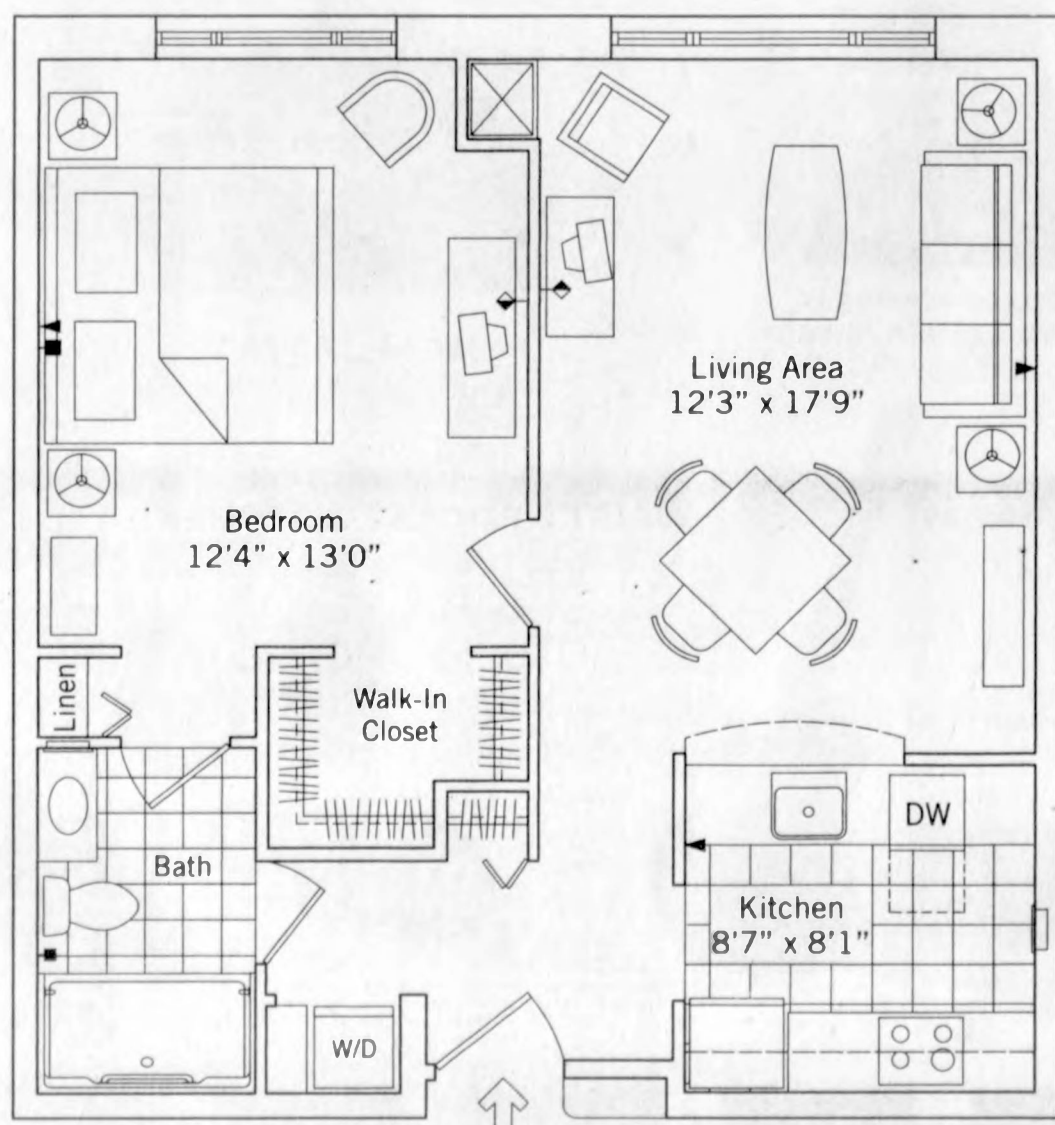
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The Plymouth City Commission met Monday, Aug. 7 in Caster Park. PHOTOS BY LAURA COLVIN

Dining

Continued from Page 1A

\$2 was insufficient and suggested raising the cost to \$2.50 or more.

"There is a value to that property," Mayor Pro Tem Suzy Deal said. "One segment of our community is using it for personal gain. Yes, we encourage outdoor dining, but we also have to be fair to the rest of the community. It's public property. It's all of our taxes paying for this property."

For many on the commission, sidewalk clearance was the bigger issue.

"While having a uniform standard is appealing, our streets are not uniformly laid out," said Commissioner Alanna Maguire, noting she felt more time and work was needed before a decision could be made. "Main Street does not look the same as South Forest, and South Forest differs greatly from Starkweather. Outdoor dining should be evaluated on a street-by-street basis to determine what makes the most sense."

Maguire also said she and other members of the commission were subjected to "vile, vitriolic and disgusting condemnations" since news about the proposed changes, which she did not support, became public two weeks ago.

"All of us (commissioners), even when we disagree with each other...are fundamentally good and honest people who dedicate a considerable amount of



Photo: From left, downtown Plymouth restaurant owners gather Wednesday, July 26 on Main Street: Sam Khashan of Sean O'Callaghans Public House; Ryan Yaquinto of Compari's, Sardine Room and Fiamma Grill; Billy Farwell of Penn Grill & Bar; Dean Rovinelli of Barrio Cocina Y Tequileria; John Corsi, Pizza e Vino and Barrio Cocina Y Tequileria; and Landon Garrett of Ironwood Grill and Park Place Gastro Pub.

our time and talents in pursuit of what we believe to be sound policies that best balance the sometimes competing interests of multiple parties in our city," she said, adding that commissioners receive \$20 pay per meeting. "Do we get it right 100% of the time? No. But our hearts are in the right place. None of us does this job for the power, the prestige certainly not the income. We all do this

job because we love the city of Plymouth."

Ryan Yaquinto, owner of Compari's on the Park, Sardine Room and Fiamma Grille, all on Main Street, said he was not in favor of any policy that would require him to move his patios away from the outside wall of the buildings, where they've been located since he opened in 2000.

"It is our restaurant group's strong opinion...that the clearance (should) remain on the outside of the patios, allowing us to remain against the building," he said. "This will allow for less pedestrian congestion from service traffic while also utilizing additional sidewalk space outside of the clearance. We've operated patios in this manner for 23 years."

Yaquinto was also opposed to framing the issue as a use of public property for private gain.

"I believe both the public and the city as a whole gain from this use," he said. "We help create vibrancy, we add value, we add jobs, while also giving back through numerous sponsorships and service club donations to support our beautiful community."

City Manager Paul Sincok explained that restaurant owners have asked for a consistent policy that would remain in effect for several years. Some patios, he said, are comprised of all public property, some are all private property and some are a combination of both.

In 2023, the city collected a combined \$10,929 from all restaurants with outdoor dining. That included \$2,950 in application fees and \$7,979 in square footage fees. The money goes to the city's general fund.

It wasn't clear when or if the city will again address changes to its outdoor dining policies. After Monday's meeting, Moroz said he would "gather feedback and see what people want to do."

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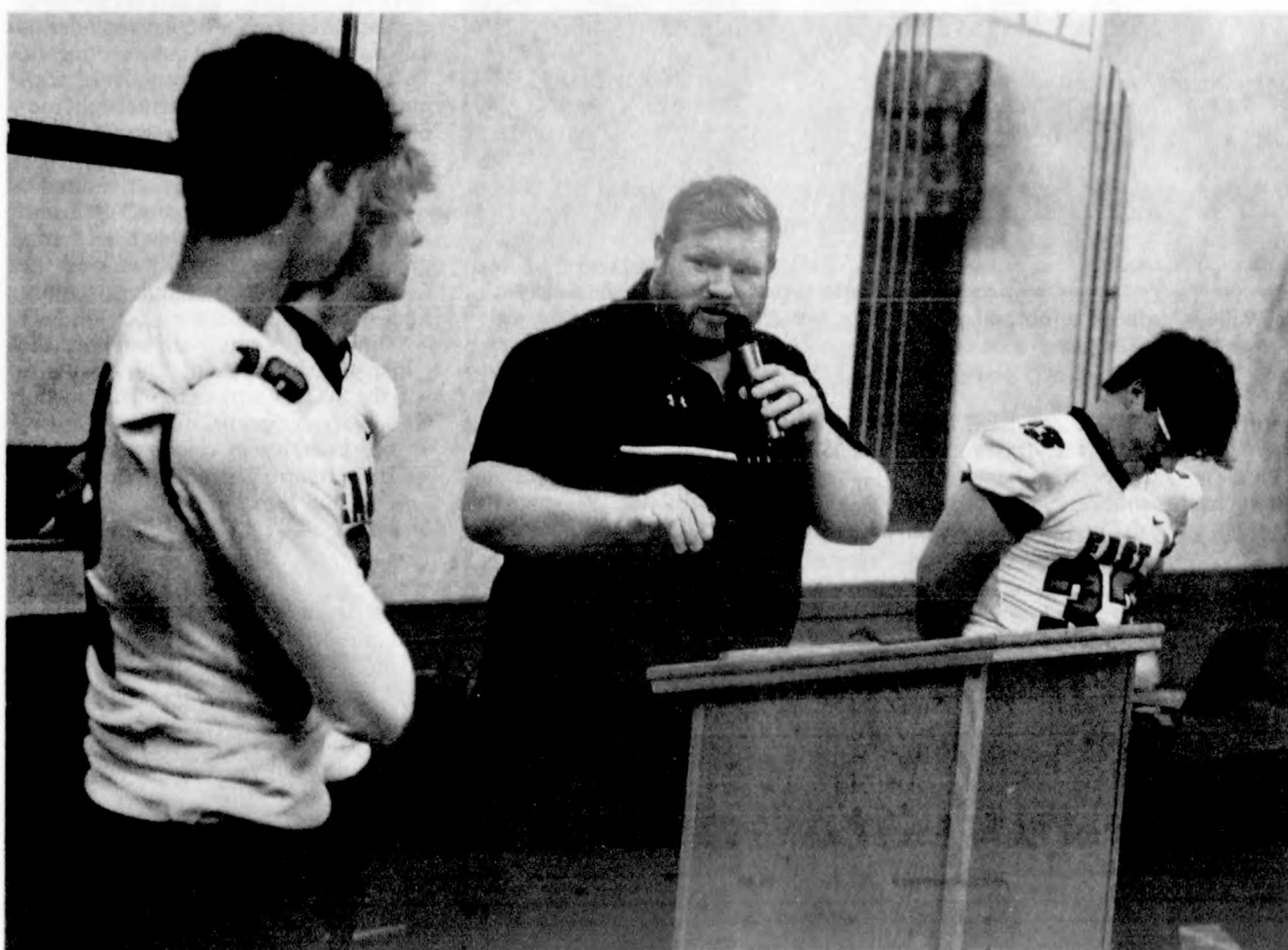
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SPORTS



South Lyon East coach Jacob Topp speaks during Lakes Valley Conference Football Media Day on Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2023, at Baker's of Milford Restaurant. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Will last year's experience help Giovannini lead South Lyon East?

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Losing a starting quarterback to injury is never a good thing.

Especially when it's a guy like Nico Campo, who was a consummate leader for the South Lyon East football team and would later sign with Michigan Tech.

But that's what happened to the Cougars a year ago. They had Walled Lake Western, the eventual Lakes Valley Conference champions, on upset alert in Week 4. Beating the Warriors would've been a statement win. Heck, it would've been program-defining considering East has been playing the sport since only 2008. Upsetting juggernauts in football just isn't something the Cougars have done on a consistent basis.

But then Campo went down with a devastating injury, one that would keep him away from the field until the very end of the regular season.

And in came the sophomore.

That's right. Backup Dominic Giovannini finished the game against Western and then held onto the job until Campo was finally healthy enough to play again just before the playoffs began.

Sure, the Cougars would've loved to have Campo out there. They actually had the best season in program history. They set school records for most wins



South Lyon East's Jack Toth celebrates a defensive stop during a Division 2 playoff football game Friday, Oct. 28, 2022.

(7) and points scored on offense (284) in a single season. Who knows how much better they would've been had QB1 been healthy all nine games?

But getting your future starter playing time? That's always a plus, too, and it's what should put East a step ahead of the competition when it kicks off the season Aug. 24, against White Lake. Lakeland during a Battle at the Big

House showcase game at Michigan Stadium.

"Anytime you can get varsity game snaps, it's going to benefit you tremendously moving forward," third-year coach Jacob Topp said of Giovannini during LVC Media Day in Milford. "You can't replace getting in a game, getting

See EAST, Page 2B

The Eagles should have an exciting offense again

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

When Drew Carlson was asked what it feels like to block for the play-makers on the White Lake Lakeland football team during last week's Lakes Valley Conference Media Day in Milford, the senior captain could only smile.

Yeah, the Eagles stumbled across the finish line a year ago. Had they won their final two games of the regular season, they probably would've qualified for the postseason for the sixth-straight fall.

But those wins didn't come. After upsetting South Lyon East on homecoming night in Week 7, they proceeded to lose to Gibraltar Carlson and in-district rival Milford the following two weeks and end the season with a 4-5 record.

That's the bad news.

The good news is several of its best players at the skill positions return. They have speed, size and grit, and that's spread out across the entire offense. You can't just stop one guy from moving the chains because that's going to free up another playmaker to

See EAGLES, Page 2B

New MHSAA rule changes coming this fall

Dylan Jespersen

The Petoskey News-Review

USA TODAY NETWORK

EAST LANSING — If the past few years have taught those in the world of sports anything, it's that change is inevitable.

From conference realignment, both at the high school and college level, to dealing with and playing through a pandemic, sports all around the world have gone through major changes since 2020. Michigan high school sports have not been immune to those changes.

It is 2023 now, and change is still happening. And, as prep sports are set to begin for the fall season, it is time to visit the changes coming to the Michigan High School Athletic Association this upcoming fall.

One of the biggest changes comes in the loosening of restrictions for teams looking to play teams outside of Michigan. Starting this year, MHSAA schools are free to schedule games

See CHANGES, Page 3B


OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
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East

Continued from Page 1B

that feel and getting those snaps. So, obviously, moving forward into this year and his senior year, it's going to benefit him tremendously because he's going to be able to draw on those experiences, draw on those reps he had, the game speed, all of those different situations he was place in."

Giovannini said he was shocked to learn that he'd be wrapping up the game against the Warriors, who held on for a 51-23 win after Campo's departure.

But it didn't take him long to get acclimated to being the Cougars' starter. Sure, Topp admitted that Giovannini had his ups and downs while getting his feet wet. But he looked like a competent QB by year's end.

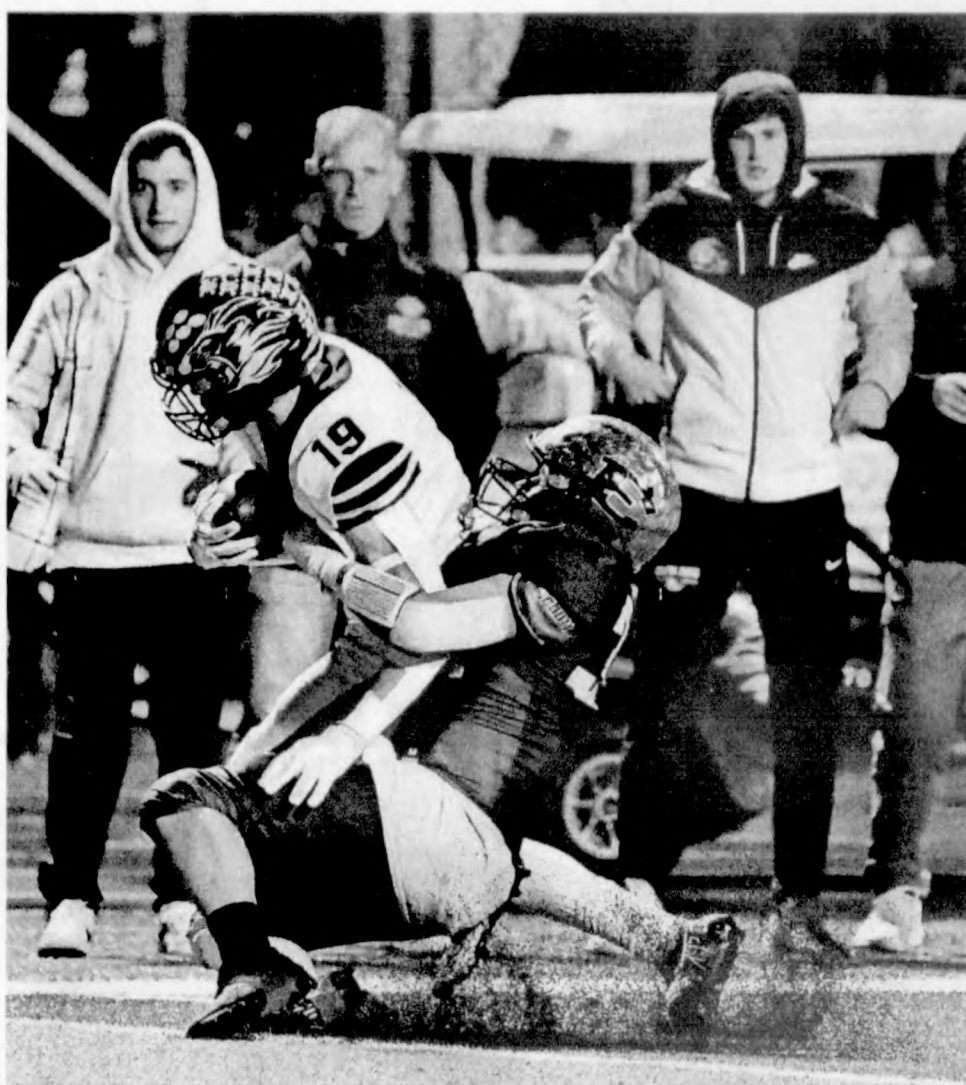
That experience is only going to pay dividends now that he's the full-time starter.

"I didn't think I was going to get into that game," the junior QB said about his debut against Western. "But I mentally just switched. My competitiveness, I just switched and I was ready to go in. ... And like Coach said, it was just meaningful to get varsity snaps for this year. Just that alone was big. I was ready (by the end of the season), and we're ready this year. We're ready to go."

The only problem? The Cougars graduated most of the playmakers Giovannini got the ball to.

That includes starting receivers Jordan Newbill and Drew Moyer, who were first- and third-team selections on Hometown Life's All-Area football team, as well as running back Daedricco Fizer, Mr. Do-Everything Caleb Gash and tight end Angelo Ljulduraj, among others.

However, the good news is Giovanni-



South Lyon East's Dante Degrazia tackles South Lyon's Ryan Jedrusik during a Lakes Valley Conference football game Friday, Oct. 21, 2022.

TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ni returns two All-LVC offensive linemen in Jordan Atkins and Tristan Porter. Plus, the Cougars bring back other studs such as linebackers Jack Toth and Dante DeGrazia, defensive backs Jakob

Rojas and Evan Muston and running back Peerless Schlusler.

Topp is also excited about receivers Chase Adams and Caleb Wagenschutz, running back AJ Morgan, linebacker

Carter Hamilton, defensive end Noah Black, lineman Will Shaeffer and senior Kellen LaPerna all coming back.

The cupboard isn't necessarily bare for East as it looks to improve on its tied-for-second-place finish with Waterford Mott in the 2022 LVC league race.

"We've definitely thought about it (how they're going to improve after having the best season in school history), but, at the end of the day, that's over," said DeGrazia, a senior who also plays fullback. "It's a new year, a new team, a new group. Yes, that was an accomplishment last year, but we've got our eyes set on this year, and we're just preparing as best as we can for the year to come."

That's not to say last year's 6-2 effort in the LVC doesn't have the Cougars walking into training camp with some swagger. They know they can compete for a league title. They proved it last year.

Mott and three-star Toledo QB commit Kalieb Osborne should be the favorite to win the LVC this fall, while Western should be competitive as it defends its title. But don't count out the Cougars.

"We knew we were capable of winning, and it was the right time, right moment for us last year," Muston said. "And we're hoping to do it again."

East could get it done. It returns a veteran QB and a stable of All-HTL and All-LVC players. It wouldn't be a surprise if it happens. And that's all the Cougars are focused on entering training camp.

"Obviously, everything is about the team," Giovannini said. "Our goal is to win the LVC championship. That's what we've got our eyes set on."

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

Eagles

Continued from Page 1B

score a touchdown. And that's exactly why linemen such as Carlson are sporting big smiles as Lakeland began training camp this week.

"It's so much fun," the 6-foot-3, 270-pound guard told Hometown Life. "You think we'd be worried about pass blocking, but we're more about running to go get the linebackers, and that makes it so much fun. It feels like you're always running to the linebackers or double-teaming someone into the linebackers. It's a good feeling because you know that when you spring someone (for a long run), you could help almost everyone else on the team."

So who are the studs we can expect to see have success on offense?

It starts under center with Sean Latham. While the senior is likely a better player on the baseball diamond than the gridiron (the catcher just helped the Eagles win their fifth-straight LVC championship in baseball this past spring), you can't discredit the dual-threat quarterback's abilities to make plays. Whether it's tucking it and running, rolling out and finding receivers like Kyler Shaw on crossing routes or just lowering his head and fighting for a few inches on fourth and short, Latham is the guy you want leading the offense.

Sharing the backfield with Latham is running back Trevor Tschudin, who is one of the fastest in the LVC. Despite battling a hamstring injury throughout the spring, he helped the Eagles' track and field team win a league title in the 800-meter relay, finish as the runner-up in the 400 relay and he took third individually in the 100-meter sprint. He's got speed for days, and he should be the perfect complement to Latham.

"Trevor is coming back, and he's going to be a dude for us again," said offensive coordinator Steven Nicles. "He was getting fed the ball 20, 22 times a game minimum last year. He's been working really hard. He's gained probably 15-20 pounds at least. It's just mass, but he's still moving fast, too."

Likely the X-factor in the backfield will be 6-foot, 230-pound Nolin Thompson, who was forced to play on the offensive line a year ago because of how short on linemen the Eagles were. He'll return to the backfield for his senior year and just in time. Thompson has been one of the most-recruited players in the LVC this offseason. He's already received Division I offers from Bucknell, Penn, Cornell and Dartmouth.

Plus, Thompson has one of the best legs in the state. He recently kicked a 56-yard field goal during a camp at Saginaw Valley State University.

Well-rounded players like him will be key for Lakeland to improve. He can play multiple positions, plus he's a leader. It'll be interesting to see how well he excels now that he'll be carrying the ball again.



White Lake Lakeland's Trevor Tschudin rushes against South Lyon East during a Lakes Valley Conference football game Friday, Oct. 7, 2022. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

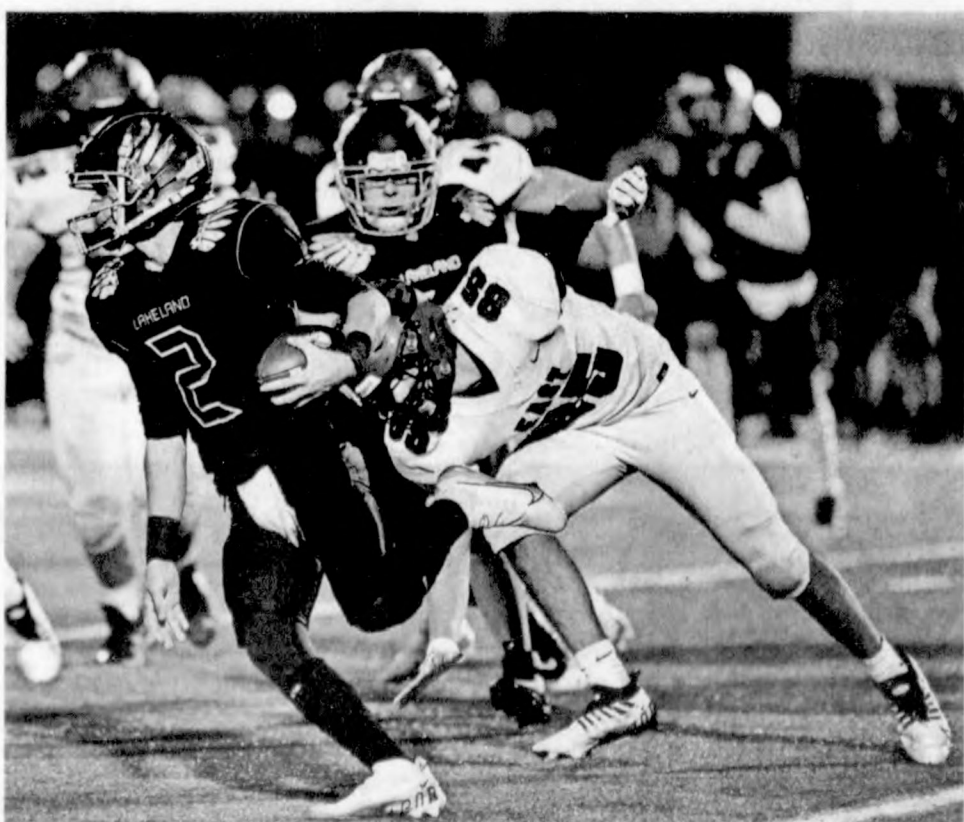
"He's got a boot, and colleges are looking at him for that," Nicles added. "But he was our outside linebacker for us last year and he played right tackle because we had nobody else. He had to. We're moving him back to the backfield this year, and that should be exciting."

Of course, none of the guys will find the end zone without a tough front five.

While Lakeland graduated one of the top linemen in the league in Caden Calhoun, the son of coach Jim Calhoun who's headed to Northwood University, the Eagles do have three solid returners in Carlson, Blake Zamenski and Vincent Partogian. Partogian, now a junior, actually started in Calhoun's place at center when a high ankle sprain kept Calhoun out of the lineup against Milford.

It's going to be the job of Carlson and Zamenski to whip the line into shape before the Eagles take on South Lyon East in a Battle at the Big House season-opening showcase game Aug. 24.

"It feels good to be a leader and someone they all look up to," Carlson said. "To finally be someone they look up to and go ask the questions to instead of being the one who's asking the questions, it's a good feeling."



White Lake Lakeland's Sean Latham rushes against South Lyon East during a Lakes Valley Conference football game Friday, Oct. 7, 2022.

Seaholm success hinges on handling doubt

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Twin brothers Granden and Colton Kinnie got quite the lesson about doubt last school year. And how they handle the doubt in 2023 will say everything you need to know about the Birmingham Seaholm football team.

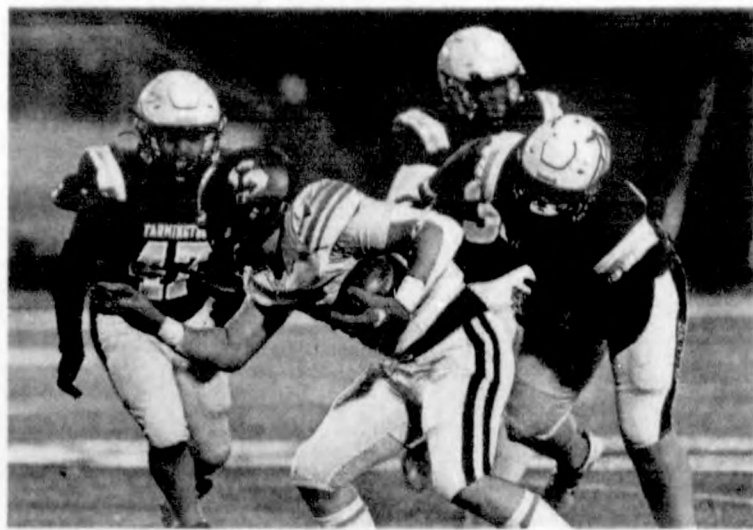
The Maples had one of the best starts of the 2022 season. They opened with a seven-game winning streak, and there was no doubt they were going to down Farmington to sew up a perfect 4-0 record in the Oakland Activities Association-Blue and win the division title in Week 8.

That was, of course, until the Falcons pulled out all the stops and absolutely dominated Seaholm in all three phases of the game.

It was a 39-21 beatdown. It was Farmington stealing the outright league championship from the Maples. Sharing the title was only the start of a tough ensuing four weeks.

They followed up that loss with a heartbreaking 14-7 defeat to rival Birmingham Groves in the regular-season finale thanks to Cayden Hardy tossing a 9-yard touchdown pass to Jack Wainer with about 30 seconds left.

Two weeks later, it was Groves doing it again, only this time the Falcons, the eventual Division 2 state semifinalists, took the 2-mile trip up north to man-



Birmingham Seaholm's Granden Kinnie rushes during an Oakland Activities Association-Blue football game Friday, Oct. 14, 2022, at Farmington. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

handle Seaholm on the Maples' home turf in the district final.

Just like that, one of the hottest teams in Michigan stumbled across the finish line with a 1-3 record in its final four games, bringing its season to an almost embarrassing close.

"It was just a beatdown, it was just a blood bath," said Granden Kinnie, who will be a senior fullback this fall, during Friday's OAA Media Day at Rochester High School.

As dire as all that sounds, the Kinnie boys and the Maples were on the other end of that doubt during the spring.

While no one doubted they would have success in football, everyone

doubted they'd beat fourth-ranked Brother Rice in the baseball district championship. Despite the Maples winning the OAA-White and putting together a 19-game winning streak, no one expected them to upset the Warriors 4-3 and advance to the regional tournament.

But they did it. They handled the doubt that time.

Now here we are again.

Training camp begins this week, and everyone is wondering which Seaholm will come out and play. The 7-0 start Maples or the 1-3 finishers?

"Last (football) season left people with some doubt about us," QB Colton

Kinnie said. "But this year we look to leave no doubt. I just want to have a great season and really connect with the younger guys. I need to pass the torch and make it easier on the next guys coming through the programs."

The Maples have the returners to finish the deal this time.

Aside from the Kinnie boys, back are running back Sean Emerson, slot Kyle Robbins and defensive back Jack Lewis, meaning five of their nine All-OAA selections will be suiting up once again.

The OAA-Blue appears to be wide open, too.

Farmington moves up to the OAA-White.

Oak Park, led by Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame coach Greg Carter, takes Farmington's place in the division, but the Knights are rebuilding after an 0-9 season.

North Farmington should pose the biggest threat to Seaholm's title chances, as the Raiders get back QB Ryan Shelby from injury.

Troy and Troy Athens are also in the division again.

"We just want to win the league outright this time," Granden Kinnie said. "We can't take any team for granted this year. We can't take them lightly."

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

Changes

Continued from Page 1B

against teams from anywhere in the United States as long as those competitions are played in Michigan, contiguous states Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Minnesota or Wisconsin, or Ontario.

In the past, teams were limited to 300 miles of travel for an out-of-state competition.

In practice, this means MHSAA teams can schedule any opponent from any state as long as they are members in good standing of their respective high

school athletic association and the contests themselves takes place in a bordering state.

Here are some sport-specific rule changes to look out for this fall:

Football

Penalties that occur behind the line of scrimmage will be marked from the previous line of scrimmage rather than the spot of the foul. According to the MHSAA, "This change was made to eliminate excessive penalties on the offense when an infraction took place well behind the line of scrimmage."

This means an accepted holding penalty on first-and-10 will always result in a first-and-20 for the offense, regardless

of where the penalty happens.

Soccer

Two rule changes will be introduced to soccer this fall:

- Officials now may stop the clock to check on an injured player without that player being required to leave the match – previously that player would have to sub out.

- Categories for fouls have been redefined: careless (which is a foul but does not receive a card), reckless (a foul with a yellow card) and excessive force (foul with a red card).

Volleyball

The changes to volleyball only change where coaches are allowed to be

and which coaches can or cannot stand. One change is a new coaching zone head coaches are allowed to stand in, now defined by the libero replacement zone extending beyond the end line and sideline extended.

The other change is during dead-ball situations, one assistant coach also may stand within the coaching zone to provide instruction; only one assistant coach can stand at a time, but the assistant coach who stands may change throughout the match.

Other rule changes as well as changes to postseason schedules and state finals qualifications can be found on the MHSAA's press release.

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How do you replace Owen McGraw? Garden City is doing it by committee

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Garden City football team landed seven players on Hometown Life's All-Area team in 2022, and five of them were senior starters at important positions.

And none of them will be tougher to replace than Owen McGraw, a two-star running back who totaled over 2,000 all-purpose yards as a senior before signing with Eastern Michigan University.

It's unlikely the Cougars, 6-4 a year ago, will replace McGraw's production on offense and special teams. That's why third-year coach Thomas Michalsen isn't placing that burden on any single player.

They're going to do it by committee. "We've got to try to replace Owen, one of the fastest kids we've had here in 20 years," Michalsen said during practice at the high school on Aug. 9. "(Our committee) is doing a nice job, and they know what is expected of them. But we've got to remember that they're not Owen, and they're going to do things their own way. But I'm pretty excited to see what they're going to do."

So who is this committee? Fortunately for Garden City, it's a crew of veteran players and leaders on the team.

Receiving the bulk of the touches out of the full-house backfield will be senior Jessey Chavez and junior Nic Emond, two of the Cougars' best players and leaders.

They're not taking their jobs lightly. "It's scary at times because of how big of a role he (McGraw) played and how many touches he got, how many yards he gained," said Emond, who was also an All-Area selection as a sophomore. "A lot of pressure, but it's nothing we can't handle. It feels good. As a team, we can all come together and fill that role."

Chavez, one of the more athletic players on the team, said he wouldn't be in a



Garden City coach Thomas Michalsen leads a drill during a football practice Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2023.
BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

position to start this fall if it wasn't for McGraw pushing him to become a better player over the years.

McGraw motivated Chavez to take the weight room seriously, plus McGraw was always inviting Chavez to participate in additional workouts on the weekends and in the offseason.

"There's a little bit of pressure on us just because of how much success he had on our team and the kind of player he was for us," Chavez said. "It's a big spot to fill for us. And it's an honor to try and do it, honestly. Playing with him, he was humble, a great guy and hardworking. He was always here at practice and working his best. He always pushed me

to be my best."

While other players are in the mix to join Chavez and Emond in the backfield, they'll also benefit from the team getting quarterback Jonathon Jefferson Jr. healthy again. Jefferson Jr., a consummate leader who has a smooth touch on the ball, has missed the bulk of the past two seasons for the Cougars.

Having him out there should take some pressure off the backfield as a whole. He'll help keep the defenses honest.

Now Garden City, which wants to secure a league title for the first time in two decades and win a playoff game for the first time since 2000, needs to put it

all together as it prepares for a competitive season in the Western Wayne Athletic Conference.

And they'll be doing it without McGraw.

"We definitely need more focus (in practice)," Emond said. "We need to be a lot more focused this year. We've got some tougher competition than we've had. We've lost most of our starters from last year. They were seniors, and they were big-time positions that we lost. We just need to fill those roles."

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

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KLAA West football: What to expect in 2023

Bill Khan

Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's pretty much conceded that Belleville, winner of the last two state Division 1 football championships, will win another KLAA East title.

The Tigers are, after all, 41-1 in regular-season play against KLAA teams and have one of the top quarterbacks in the nation in junior Bryce Underwood.

But determining which team will travel to Belleville for the KLAA championship isn't as cut-and-dried. The West Division appears to be a toss-up between at least four teams. Brighton is the coaches' preseason favorite.

Following is a look at the eight teams in the KLAA West:

Brighton

The bad news: Brighton doesn't have a single returning starter at receiver, linebacker or in the secondary.

The good news: The Bulldogs return senior quarterback Grant Hetherington who, although he hasn't been the starter the last two years, has three seasons of varsity experience.

Brighton typically gets ahead of the game when it has a strong senior class, making sure underclassmen get some playing time under the Friday night lights.

"We had a great senior class," Brighton coach Brian Lemons said. "They did a great job mentoring these underclassmen. We need to speed up the clock and let them mature as fast as possible and get them ready to go."

Canton

Everything is new at Canton, including the bitter taste of a losing record.

The Chiefs went 3-6 in 2022, their first losing season since 1999. Their run of 14 consecutive playoff appearances also ended.

Canton will have a completely new look under first-year coach Casey Bess, who is installing a spread offense at a program known for its full-house tight T-formation ground attack.

Canton's run game will still be tough to stop, with 6-foot-1, 230-pound Devon Pettus toting the rock. Defensive back/receiver Caleb Williams is a four-year starter with Power 5 offers.

"To have that down year last year definitely has motivated the kids," Bess said.

Hartland

Hartland begins the season with a new head coach for the first time since 2012, with former defensive coordinator



Novi's Caleb Walker threw for 1,655 yards and 18 touchdowns in 2022.

GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

Thomas Stevenson taking over.

Defense has been the Eagles' strong suit in recent years. That unit lost four first-team and two second-team all-county performers to graduation.

James Butzier returns at quarterback. Hartland faces a huge challenge replacing two-time 1,000-yard rusher Joey Mattord.

"I can personally say, and I've heard it a lot from the senior class, this has been by far the best offseason we've had our entire high school career," senior lineman Kaden Custodio said. "It feels different."

Howell

Junior Justin Jones enters the season as the starting quarterback after rotating last year with Levi Curtin. Curtin is moving to running back while also playing linebacker.

University of Michigan commit Bobby Kanka, a junior, will play defensive end and tight end.

This will be a typical Howell team that will try to out-physical opponents rather than win with finesse.

"We're starting to cook with the same

ingredients," fourth-year coach Brian Lewis said. "We're starting to do things the right way, do things at a championship level. Now, it's just going out there and putting it all together."

Northville

Northville is primed for a big season under former Brighton offensive coordinator Brent Luplow, returning six starters on offense and eight on defense.

The Mustangs went 8-3 last season, their most victories since 2015, and finished second to Brighton in the division.

Northville graduated quarterback Luca Prior, but senior Isaac Pace is ready to take over. Pace entered for an injured Prior during a 17-14 loss to Brighton last year, moving the Mustangs from their 14 to the Bulldogs' 12 before a game-tying field goal try was blocked.

"They're expecting to win, and we want to win," Luplow said. "That's something we've instilled since the start. We're going to be successful, and the senior class is going to be the class that gets over the hump and hopefully wins that first district championship in a handful of years."

Novi

Novi returns the top quarterback in the division in senior Caleb Walker, who was 128-for-229 passing for 1,655 yards, 18 touchdowns and only four interceptions last season.

The Wildcats return two of Walker's favorite weapons in Boden Fernsler (35 catches, 492 yards, eight touchdowns) and Andrew Kummer (28 catches, 423 yards, five touchdowns).



Running back Caleb Moore is part of a strong Northville senior class.

TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

It's been quite the transformation for Novi, which just two years earlier passed only 32 times for 298 yards and ran 264 times for 1,737.

"To be effective in football, you try to be the offense you hate to defend," Novi coach Jim Sparks said. "In my experience, the hardest ones to defend are when you don't know what they're going to do."

Plymouth

Plymouth is only 4-21 in the past three seasons after winning the division in 2019.

The Wildcats' hopes of getting back into contention are led by lineman Idrys Cotton, a Northwestern University commit.

Sam Plencner returns at quarterback after throwing for 320 yards and running for 276 last season. Jaxon McCaig was the leading rusher with 622 yards and five touchdowns on 100 carries.

"We were really young last year," Cotton said. "We have all our offense back, defense back, so we should be really good."

Salem

Salem has been the weak link in the West, going 5-38 the last five seasons and getting outscored 296-60 in seven division games last season.

An encouraging sign for the Rocks has been a significantly larger turnout that has allowed them to bring back a freshman team. Salem has 110 players in its football program, compared to only 68 last season.

"We have all three levels now," Salem quarterback Braydon Alexander said. "It will be a really big step for our program, just because we have more kids. It will be better for our program in the future."

Contact Bill Khan at wkhan@gannett.com. Follow him on Twitter @BillKhan.

Obituaries

Irene Christina Skimins

WILLIAMSBURG - Irene Christina Skimins passed peacefully, surrounded by her family's love on August 4, 2023. Irene was a strong woman of family and faith always putting others first. She was born on April 30, 1944 in Glasgow, Scotland to her loving parents John and Isa (Sarah Isabella) Wilson (Patterson).

She met her husband James through their local parish (North Kelvinside) and their almost 60 year love story began. Irene and Jim were connected from the beginning grounded in each other's journey in faith. They lived in the west end of Glasgow (Maryhill) and in Johnstone. In 1982, they immigrated to the United States first settling in Carlisle, PA, then over 20 years in Plymouth, MI, and finally enjoying retirement in Williamsburg, VA.

She was an active member of the charitable organization P.E.O since 1984. In her faith journey she loved working with young people and she became an ordained Deacon within the PC USA.

Irene loved traveling and after immigrating she and Jim led tours back to the United Kingdom where her attention to detail, and strong negotiating tactics helped many others enjoy a beautiful vacation. She and Jim also had many years traveling the globe together, particularly enjoying their time in Europe, Asia, New Zealand and Australia. She enjoyed Scottish country dancing and a wee "shoogle" from time to time. She made the best brown loaf and chips you'd ever taste. As years progressed you were always able to find her on her "big iPad" with a cup of tea by her side. Most of all time with her family was her fondest.

She is survived by her loving husband of 53 years James (Jim), her daughters Gillian Cross and Lesley Skimins, and her granddaughters Alyssa and Emma Cross.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be donated in Irene's name to the P.E.O. Star Scholarship <https://donations.peointernational.org/peo-donation-star>

The family will be holding a memorial service at First Presbyterian Church, Plymouth MI in September. A Memorial service was held in Williamsburg, VA on Monday, August 14, 2023. The service can be viewed online at www.bucktroutfuneralhome.net.



Community Worship

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www.hscrc.net
at the corner of Winans Lake & Mutch Rd.
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Fr. John Rocus, Pastor
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Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
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Sunday Mass 9 & 11AM
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NOVI

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church
41415 W Nine Mile Rd • Novi, MI 48375
248-349-0565
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Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 8:45am
Rev. Thomas Schroeder welcomenovi@aol.com
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NORTHVILLE

First United Methodist Church
(248) 349-1144
777 West 8 Mile Road
(8 Mile and Tenth Road)
Northville, Michigan
Worship Times: September - May 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Memorial Day - Labor Day 10:00 a.m.
Rev. Martha M. Wozniak, Lead Pastor
www.firstunitednorthville.org

SOUTH LYON

"the WAY" - a ministry of Hope Lutheran Church
Worship @Abbey Park
28413 Abbey Lane
New Hudson, MI
Sunday @10am, 248-563-7170
www.hope-lutheran-church.com
Rev. Thomas Scherger

WHITMORE LAKE

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH
10774 Nine Mile Road
Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582
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Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

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Religious Education 348-2556
Rev. Dennis Theroux, Pastor

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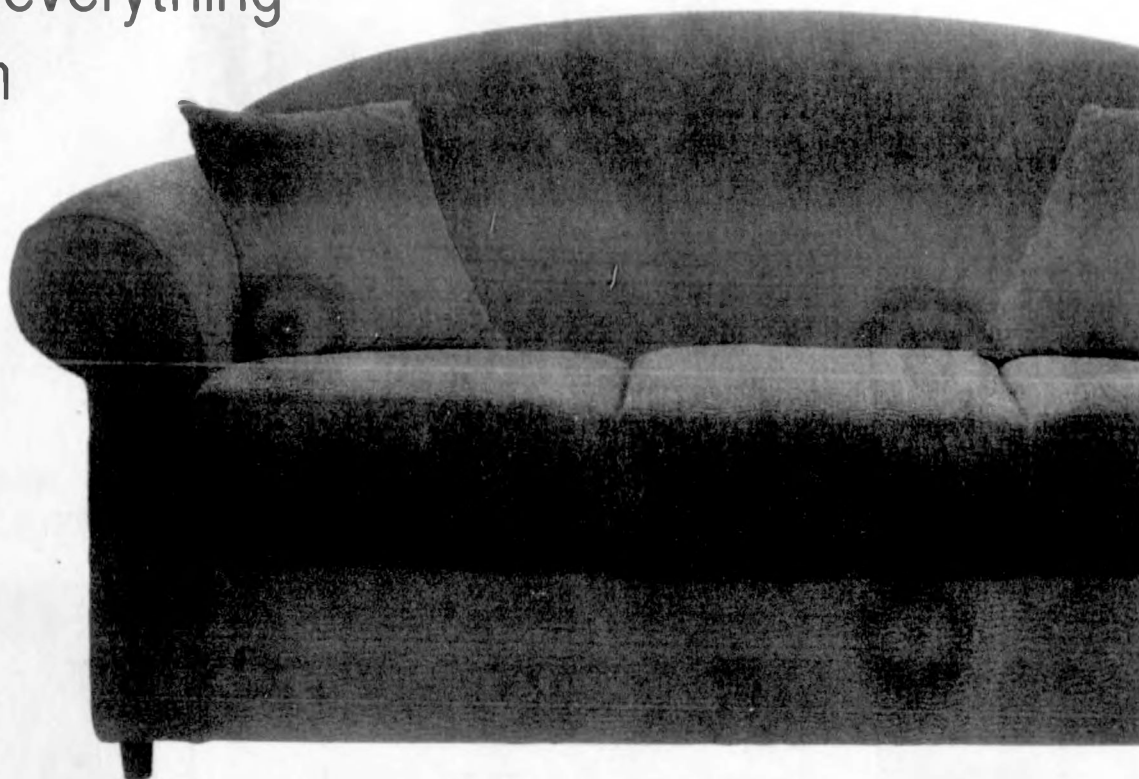
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What local restaurants can do to attract more customers

Metro Creative

No one had it easy during the COVID-19 pandemic, but few industries bore the brunt more harshly than the restaurant business. Research from the National Restaurant Association estimated that the industry lost \$120 billion in sales during the first three months of the pandemic, and those losses had doubled by the end of 2020.

Though life has largely returned to normal in 2023, the restaurant industry continues to face challenges it was not forced to confront prior to the pandemic. Roughly two million hospitality and leisure jobs remained open at the start of 2023, and restaurant owners are still having trouble hiring quality staff. Staffing issues inevitably lead to longer wait times for tables and food service, a reality that has compelled many people to dine out less often than they did prior to the pandemic. Staffing challenges are not the only variable keeping diners home, as inflation has led many consumers to conclude that dining out is a luxury they cannot afford at a time when the cost of living remains high.

Enticing more people to dine out is no small task for restaurant owners, but the following are a handful of strategies that can help restaurants fill up their dining rooms once again.



- Participate in community events. Some consumers may simply need to be reminded how delicious meals made by a professional chef or cook can be. Community festivals, parades and other special events present an ideal opportunity to reconnect with consumers who have not dined out in awhile. Rent booth space at a local festival and offer specials on food and drinks during community-oriented events like parades.

- Host events on traditionally slow nights. Even restaurants that have

experienced shrinking profits may not be struggling to fill seats on Friday and Saturday nights. Weeknights might be another story entirely. Mid-week events like trivia nights, gaming night, live music showcases, and/or food and wine tastings might compel people to dine out on nights when they're accustomed to cooking or ordering in.

- Offer takeout or delivery. It might not get people into the building, but restaurants can improve their bottom lines by offering the same takeout and delivery services that helped

them stay afloat in the early days of the pandemic. Data from Edison Trends indicates that food delivery transactions increased by 58 percent in the United States and 86 percent in Canada between April 2020 and April 2021. The convenience of delivery or takeout has not been forgotten by consumers, so restaurants can once again promote these services or expand and improve existing offerings in an effort to boost their bottom lines. If delivery has remained popular after the pandemic, hire an extra driver or two so customers can get their food more quickly.

- Establish a loyalty program. Loyalty programs reward repeat customers but also help to attract new ones. Existing customers appreciate that their repeated patronage may make them eligible for special benefits, and they're likely to inform friends and neighbors about the program. In an age when inflation is looming as large as it has been for more than a year, the idea that a business will reward repeat customers with something free of charge is an appealing prospect.

Restaurants have faced an uphill battle to generate revenue since the onset of the pandemic. Various strategies can help restaurant owners entice more people to dine out.

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