

CANTON

# OBSERVER

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 2019 ■ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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## Livonia council questions Dunham's signage

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Dunham's Sporting Goods definitely is coming to Laurel Park Place later this year. What is unclear right now is what customers will see on the exterior of the Livonia mall when looking for it.

Several city council members expressed concern at the council's study meeting Aug. 12 over the proposed design for the sign of the store on the north end of the mall at 37700 Six Mile. The proposed design would paint around the east entryway, as well as add the red "Dunham's Sporting Goods" sign seen

at other stores over metal paneling.

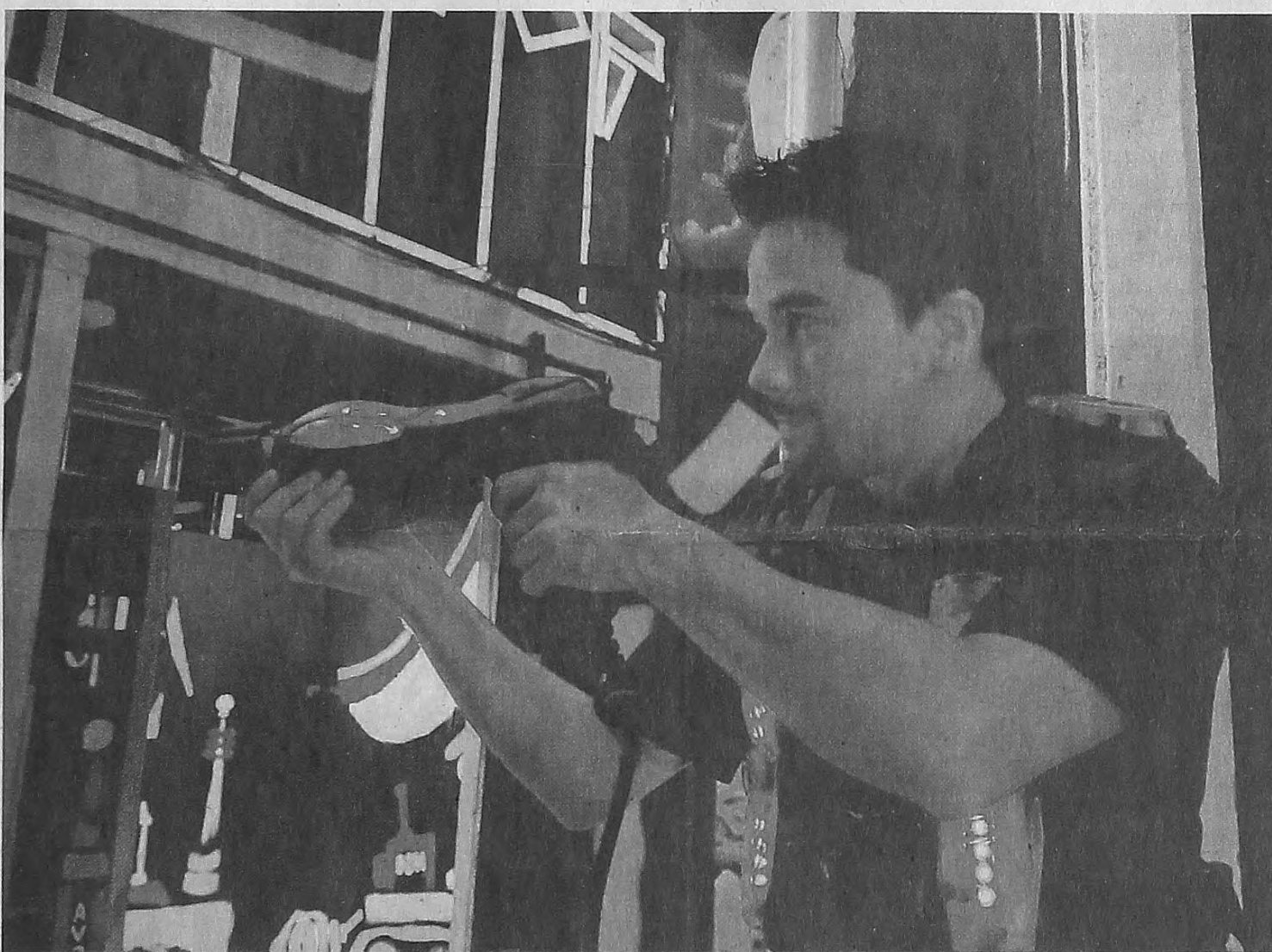
"I just think that what's being presented is not enough," said Councilman Brandon Kritzman. "It's not enough to really and truly make it look like an investment is being made in the space."

"I'm struggling with the design on this one."

Michael Lee, an architect working the project, said the proposed changes are to further identify the storefront away from the old department store appearance on the outside.

"What we are trying to do is change

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Lit by banks of neon and LED lights, Jake Chasse aims his laser tag gun during a match inside Canton's Zap Zone.  
PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Zap Zone looking to smash 2 world records

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Zap Zone celebrates 25th anniversary by trying to break two world records. Jake Chasse is accustomed to spending a lot of time in a laser tag vest.

The Romulus resident plays in several tournaments and has competed at high levels. But all of that is peanuts to what he and 15 others will attempt beginning Thursday night: play laser tag for 26 hours straight in order to set a new Guinness world record.

"This will be by far the hardest thing I've ever attempted, laser tag-wise," said Chasse, who works at Zap Zone in Canton. "It's going to be more mental than physical, I think."

Chasse and other competitors will don the gear Thursday night at the Canton Zap Zone, 41953 Ford Road, and attempt to topple the previous Guinness world record for longest marathon of



Chasse and other competitors will attempt to topple the previous Guinness world record for longest marathon of laser tag, held by Q-Zar Codevilla in Italy. Participants there set the record in 2017 by playing for 25 hours straight.

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## P-C band marching under new leadership

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Following a months-long stretch of changing-of-the-guard transition, the nationally-renowned Plymouth-Canton Marching Band appears to be back in formation with the recent hiring of new director Mike Wells.

Wells' official hiring in July came several weeks after the contract of popular percussion head James Sparling was terminated by Wells' predecessor, Jonathan Thomann.

Thomann resigned his post in May. Sparling's surprise termination by Thomann, who had the authority to hire and fire associate directors under guidelines that have since been changed by the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, enraged a large contingent of Sparling's former students and their parents, who showed up en masse at a spring P-CCS board of education meeting.

Wells was one of 30 applicants interviewed by a hiring committee that included, among others, Plymouth High School Assistant Principal Luke Swanson, booster president Melanie Draper and band chaperone Sarah Rutman.

Among the applicants was Marc Whitlock, a popular candidate of the P-C Marching Band community. Whitlock, who currently directs the music program at Discovery Middle School, directed the P-C Marching Band from 2003-2007.

The program's associate director under Thomann, Wells will help make the leadership transition smooth, noted Swanson.

"Mike is someone who has a lot of knowledge of music, he's student-centered and he cares about the kids," Swanson said. "His familiarity with our program is a huge plus, too."

Wells, a graduate of Salem High School, will be taking over the reins of a program that has won Michigan Competing Bands Association's state championship 27 times since its formation in 1972, according to the program's website.

"As an alum of the program, this is really a dream come true for me," said Wells, who has earned a degree in euphonium performance from Western Michigan University and a post-

See BAND, Page 4A



# Suspect charged in Livonia carjacking bound over

**Susan Vela** [HometownLife.com](http://HometownLife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

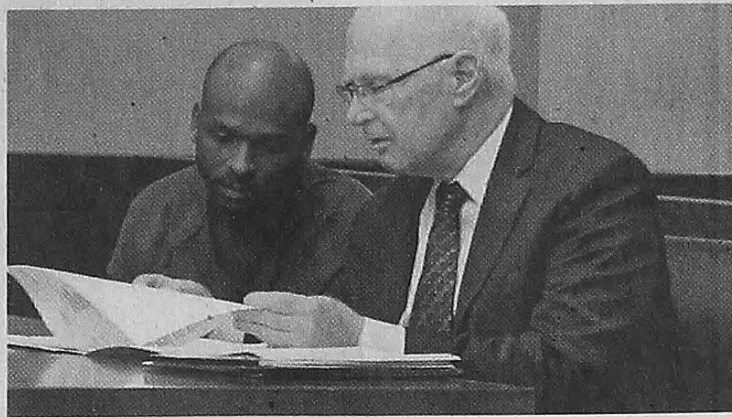
It was another blistering day in metro Detroit when Lawrence Narkun returned to his GMC Terrain after some grocery shopping at his local Kroger store.

With the groceries loaded, he sat behind the steering wheel to scratch at some lottery tickets.

All four windows were down because of the day's heat. Narkun's motor was running, and the air-conditioning was blasting when, around 5 p.m. July 30, a stranger appeared, brandished a gun and entered Narkun's vehicle.

"My car was stolen at gunpoint," Narkun said. "I just can't believe it was happening honestly. He pulled the magazine out and said, 'Just so you know, it's loaded.'"

Kevin Hall, 32, of Detroit, is the accused carjacker whose case was bound over to Third Circuit Court, concluding



**Kevin Hall, 32, of Detroit, left, consults with his attorney, Evan Callanan Jr., at an Aug. 15 hearing in Livonia's 16th District Court. Hall is accused in a carjacking July 30 outside a Kroger in Livonia.**  
SUSAN VELA/  
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

an evidence hearing Aug. 15 in Livonia's 16th District Court.

Judge Kathleen McCann dismissed four weapons possession charges, meaning Hall is contending with 10 felonies including carjacking and the possibility of life in prison.

Narkun testified he gave a \$20 bill and lottery tickets to the carjacker be-

fore the criminal drove away from the Kroger on Five Mile Road in Livonia.

He was too scared to take a good look at the carjacker's face but he was able to describe what the man was wearing that day - a new Detroit Tigers hat, black shirt and black shorts.

Police were called. After a vehicular and foot chase, Redford and Livonia po-

lice were able to arrest an obviously exhausted Hall near where Narkun's vehicle crashed.

Livonia Police Detective Ryan Hayne was one of the police officers who looked for evidence after Narkun's GMC Terrain crashed into a fence pole at the Western Golf & Country Club property.

He found the ball cap the accused carjacker was wearing. He testified that he also found a black handgun.

Detective Jenna Marx interviewed Hall after the arrest.

"He said that he was apologetic about what happened to the man," Marx testified. "He said that he did it for financial aid and he never intended things happening the way that they did."

Defense attorney Evan Callanan Jr. clarified that Hall's comments were not an admission of guilt.

"He didn't admit to you that he pulled a gun and pointed it at this guy, did he?" Callanan asked.

"No," Marx answered.

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Observer & Eccentric Newspapers  
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Published Sunday and Thursday by  
Observer & Eccentric Media

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### Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.50

\$104 per 12 months home delivery

### Home Delivery:

Customer Service: 866-887-2737

Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday 7:30 a.m. to noon

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## Dunham's

Continued from Page 1A

the facade to make this look like a sporting goods store as opposed to a department store," he said. "We're going to take one entry, and the other two will remain until that area is leased out."

The planning commission reviewed the proposal earlier this summer, recommending approval.

### Occupying part of the space

Dunham's was announced officially earlier this spring as the retailer that would occupy part of the northern anchor store space in the mall by its owner, CBL Properties, though maps posted on the company's website indicated even earlier on that Dunham's would be coming. The store, expected to fill about 1/3 of the space previously occupied by Carson's, is planned to open sometime in November.

Carson's left the space last summer after its parent company filed for bank-



**The former Carson's at Laurel Park Place will become a Dunham's Sporting Goods.** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

ruptcy. The closure left just one anchor department store at Laurel Park Place, Von Maur.

Kritzman said he knows challenges face malls looking to fill anchor tenant space with creative ideas, but had a hard time envisioning how the space would look with just a portion of it occupied.

"This is weird, to be blunt," he said about the carved-out interior. "This is a

strange configuration of what we've always seen as a single-entity sort of space and that is what we're used to."

Jeff Allen, director of development with CBL Properties told the council there were no immediate prospects to fill the remaining 2/3 of the space.

"They're exploring multiple uses in the leftover space," he said.

Council Vice President Jim Jolly said the proposed signage didn't seem to fit with the rest of the image the mall portrays.

"The last thing I would ever want for Livonia or Laurel Park is for the development of this site to look haphazard," he said. "It just doesn't look right. It can't look like a momentary transaction."

The issue will be voted on at the council's Aug. 26 regular meeting, where the council will decide to approve, deny or send the issue to the committee of the whole for further discussion.

Contact David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com) or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @david-veselenak.

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# Zap Zone

Continued from Page 1A

playing laser tag, a distinction currently held by Q-Zar Codevilla in Codevilla, Pavia, Italy back in 2017. Participants there played 25 hours straight.

The attempt at the record, Chasse said, is just one component of Zap Zone marking its 25th anniversary in business. First opened in Canton back in 1994, the fun center — which has glow golf, bumper cars and video games, to name a few activities — has grown to nine locations across the state.

The idea of setting a world record had been kicked around for a few years, but when the discussion came on how to celebrate the company's milestone anniversary, it just seemed like the right thing to do, Chasse said.

The company got in touch with Guinness World Records, which required plenty to set the record, including adding more cameras, find non-affiliated volunteers to make sure the games are running and more.

Because the record was already set, there's more needed for it, Chasse said.

"There's actually quite a bit involved, especially if you want to break an existing record, because the rules and regulations are set already," he said.

Players, who will come from all over the state, will take to the arena at 5 p.m. Thursday and begin playing with all the elements of laser tag, from the smoke machines to the heart-pounding music. They are allowed a five-minute break for every hour, and can bank it if they want to push forward.

"It depends on how we're feeling," Chasse said. "We might need a five-minute break for bathroom runs and stuff after an hour, or we might look at each other and go, 'Let's play for two or three hours and have a 15-minute break.'"

Dana Hermann, Zap Zone's director of operations, said there's been plenty done to prep for the record attempt. He's excited about how it's brought the company closer together.

"Every day is a new adventure, a new challenge. I love that these guys are get-



Dana Hermann, Zap Zone's director of operations, said he's excited about how planning the world record attempt has brought the company closer together.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ting the opportunity to break this record," Hermann said. "It's awesome to see all the stores come together."

And while the record is being attempted by two teams of eight players, the public is going to have their chance

to get involved with it. A third team made up of the public will be joining in at regular intervals to play a regular match and be escorted out before another group of public members joins in.

"They can go in and play with us for 10 minutes at a time," Chasse said. "They get to go in and play with us and experience us going for the world record."

"I always wanted that to be a factor."

### Not one record attempt, but two

If avid laser tag players are bummed they won't be part of a Guinness world record Thursday, they've got another opportunity Sunday in Farmington.

Zap Zone will attempt to set a new record never been done before Sunday at their fun center at 31506 Grand River and hopes the public will get in on the fun. That record is for the longest "winner stays on" tournament of laser tag, which was suggested to them by the folks at Guinness World Records when they approached them about setting the record.

That event will kick off Sunday at the fun center and run all day. Two teams will enter and the winning team will stay in the arena and compete until they lose and are replaced. The first 1,000 people at each site will receive a lanyard to mark their participation in the record attempt.

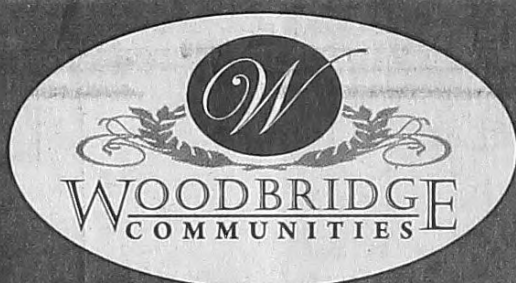
In addition, the business will offer free laser tag to customers from noon to 10 p.m. that day at all of its fun centers across Michigan, which are located in Taylor, Waterford, Ann Arbor, Brighton, Battle Creek, Lansing and Sterling Heights.

Other entertainment, including face-painters, circus performers and an ice cream truck will be on hand at the fun center to help celebrate the anniversary.

"We wanted to do something to give back to the communities that have supported us throughout the years," Hermann said. "We couldn't think of a better way to celebrate the 25th anniversary than to open them in for a big party and free laser tag."

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# Wayne man cleared of murder, child abuse charges

Susan Vela [HometownLife.com](http://HometownLife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Marc Minter, a 32-year-old Wayne man, has been cleared of charges that he killed his 2-year-old son, Christian.

After approximately five hours of deliberations, a jury trial concluded Aug. 15 with not-guilty verdicts on a felony murder count and two counts of first-degree child abuse.



Minter

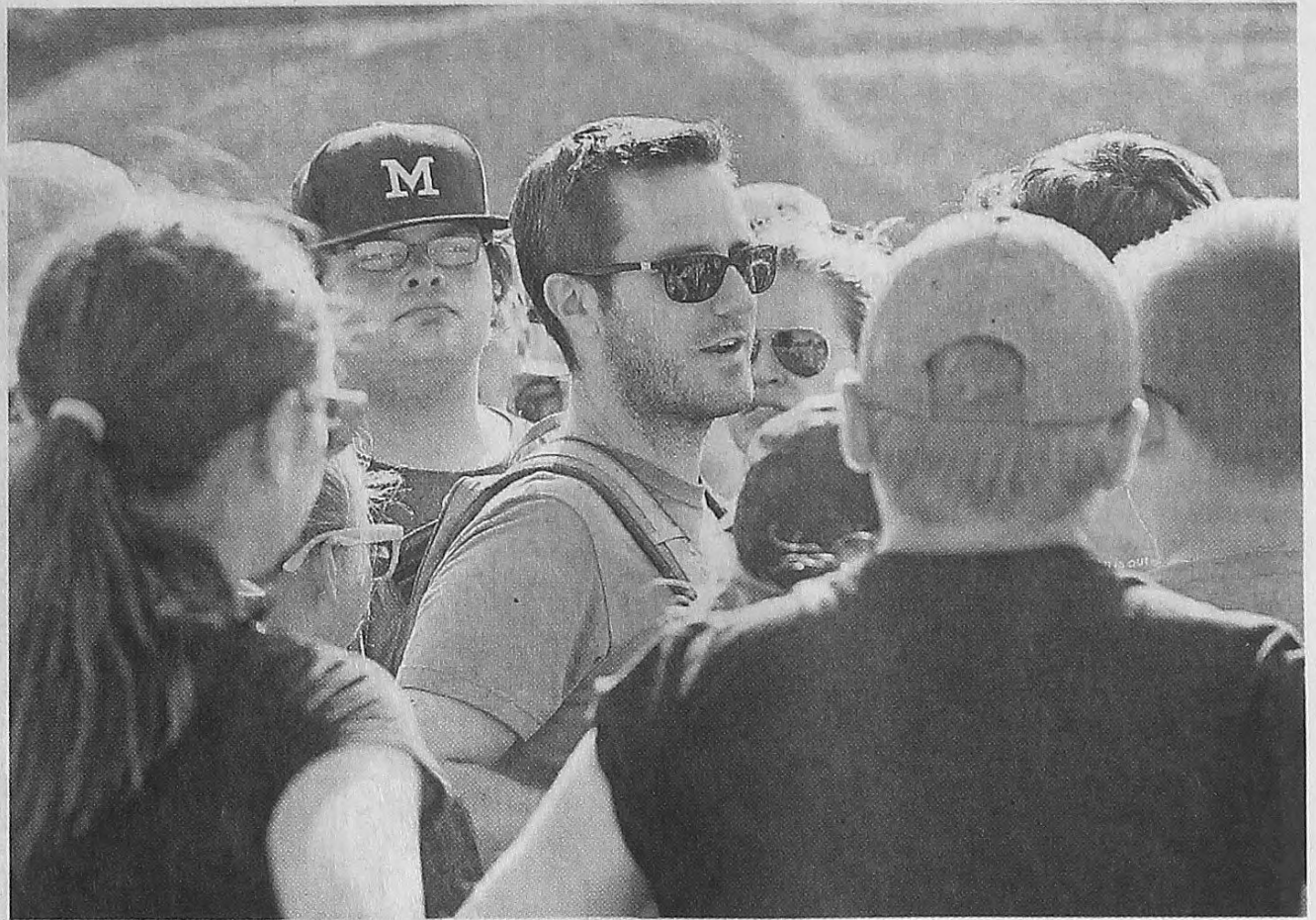
"I do think it was the right verdict," defense attorney Wendy Barnwell said. "This was a medical case, not a criminal case."

Minter's case went to trial earlier this year but was declared a mistrial because of a hung jury.

"This was a difficult case that needed to be charged," said Maria Miller, spokeswoman for the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office. "We alleged that the defendant committed child abuse that resulted in the death of the child. ... While we are disappointed by the jury's verdict, we ... accept their decision in the case."

Christian Minter died Oct. 19, 2016, after first responders were dispatched to his father's Williams Street residence because the child was not breathing.

Representing the Wayne County Medical Examiner, Dr. Leigh Hlavaty testified the child seemed to have received a back injury two weeks before his death. She has further testified that kind of injury typically involves another person.



Plymouth-Canton marching band director Mike Wells, center, talks to the band members during an Aug. 2 practice. "The students have been great, the staff has been awesome. We're chugging right along," he said. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Band

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baccalaureate teaching certificate in music from Westfield State University in Westfield, Mass.

"I look forward to building on the incredible success the program has experienced in the past," he said.

Wells said he has been humbled by the positive feedback he has received.

"Not long after word got out that I was hired, a lot of people reached out to me, congratulating me on my new position," Wells said. "I am thankful that the district is giving me this opportunity. I think the (selection committee) did its due diligence and I look forward to nothing but positive things going forward."

Wells said the process of hiring a new band director has not stalled the program's preparation for the upcoming season.

"Not at all," he said. "The students have been great, the staff has been awesome. We're chugging right along. We're right on schedule."

Wells said the school district is set to hire two as-



The P-CCS marching band practices Aug. 2.

sociate directors — one to fill his former post and another to take the controls of a recently-created position.

"One will be in charge of the woodwinds while the other will oversee the percussion section along with other general responsibilities," he said.

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# Scam victim buys more than \$20K in gift cards

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Livonia man purchased more than \$20,000 in Target gift cards and then explained to police the purchase was supposed to free him from at least one scam artist.

The 56-year-old man visited police headquarters July 25 to tell his version of the hoax.

Police said in their report the man had received a call from an unknown person stating he was the victim of identity theft.

The caller informed the Livonia resident a crime spree suspect had used his personal information, including his social security number, and a federal war-

rant had been issued for the Livonia resident.

The Livonia resident was told he could clear his name and resolve potential issues regarding his social security number if he paid the caller in Target gift cards.

They agreed to connect on July 25, when the caller was supposed to confirm that the Livonia resident was good to use his name and social security number again.

The Livonia resident visited police headquarters after the caller told him he would need to send more money to clear his name with the U.S. Social Security Administration.

If you have any information, call Livonia Police at 734-466-2470.

# Livonia police: Arrested man flashed gun in traffic

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Police allege a Detroit man flashed a gun during a traffic altercation in Livonia, leading to his arrest and four felony charges.

A 9-1-1 caller alerted police on Aug. 7 to someone who pointed a handgun at him during a traffic altercation near Schoolcraft and Farmington Road.

He described a vehicle and driver to police, according to a police report on Facebook.



McQueen

Officers arrested Lance McQueen, 38, after they located him near Plymouth and Middlebelt roads.

They conducted a traffic stop and found a loaded 9 mm handgun in McQueen's possession.

McQueen has been arraigned on two counts each of felonious assault and felony firearms. He remains in a Wayne County jail with bond set at \$2,000, according to online records.

# RING surveillance captures video of suspected car thief

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A 60-year-old Livonia resident well known by police recently was arrested because of his alleged ties to a string of attempted car break-ins.

He has been arraigned on a misdemeanor charge of attempted larceny and is scheduled to appear in court for a Sept. 4 pre-trial conference.

A RING Neighborhood Watch alert went out the morning of Aug. 16. A RING community member posted video of a man rummaging through the bed of a pickup truck parked in a driveway at around 2:40 a.m.

The video showed the culprit riding away on a bicycle.



A Livonia resident captured video of this man rummaging through a truck early Aug. 16.

COURTESY OF LIVONIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police arrested the man at about 10:30 a.m. when they saw him bicycling through the neighborhood.

# Wayne police searching for bank robber who fled on foot

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Wayne police were searching the evening of Aug. 14 for a man they say stole an undisclosed amount of money from a Chase Bank location in the 35000 block of West Michigan Avenue.

They say the man - described as a white male with reddish-colored hair - committed the unarmed robbery shortly

after 5 p.m. and fled on foot.

According to their report, a K9 team could not track him. Police are reviewing the bank's surveillance video.

Also, on Aug. 14, Michigan State Police arrested a man in the area on an unrelated warrant.

Police have not said whether the two incidents are related.

If you have any information, call Wayne police at 734-721-1598.

# Woman admits to larceny, attempted larceny of vehicles

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A 26-year-old metro Detroit woman allegedly known for breaking into vehicles and stealing change and other items from inside was caught recently by Livonia police.

The Westland woman pleaded guilty to misdemeanor charges of larceny and attempted larceny. A probation period has been set for 12 months.

According to Livonia police reports, officers were dispatched to Jahn Street the night of Aug. 9 because a woman was seen rummaging through a resident's vehicle before driving away in her own black vehicle.

They had been dispatched earlier to Doris Street because a woman with a

similar description and vehicle had been rifling through a vehicle there.

An officer recognized the rummager's vehicle from patrolling the America's Best Value Inn that day. Its owner was known for driver's license problems.

The officer arrested the woman when he saw her. She had a large amount of loose change in her pockets.

Items found in her car included coins, cellphones, computers, and wallets with credit and debit cards issued to other people.

Police said she had probation orders in her name, and that she had been arrested for allegedly stealing from and tampering with other metro Detroit vehicles in the past.

Contact Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432.

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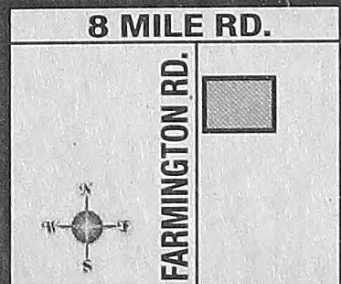
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# Westland council member wants districting for city council seats

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Westland Councilwoman Tasha Green wants the city's seven city council seats to be split over seven districts. She thinks the move would increase representation for residents who live in areas of town that, right now, don't have a voice on city council from their neighborhood.

"One of the primary reasons that I wanted to move forward with this is that when I ran for office, I vowed and promised to stand up for the interests of the community and I think that a change to our election system, which is over 50 years old (is needed)," Green said.

The council member said she got the idea from speaking with residents and thinks the move would increase representation and make it easier for people to run for office.

Green pointed to the nearby communities of Ann Arbor, Inkster, Detroit and Wayne, which all have a district system for city council seats.

Right now, Green said elected officials heavily represent one part of Westland.

"The mayor and four members of our city council all live on the north side of the city," she said. "So we are the 10th largest city in the state and we have seven city council members, four of which are located on the north side of town, all of which are an average distance of each other of 1.5 miles.

"When you think about equal representation in a city as large as Westland, we have four of the seven members living (within) less than two miles of each other."

She says to level the playing field, Green wants to put a ballot initiative on the November 2020 ballot allowing residents to vote for or against district-based seats.

To get there, Green will be collecting signatures of support. Though the city clerk hasn't given her an exact number yet, Green anticipates needing 3,000 to 4,000 signatures.



Westland City Councilwoman Tasha Green is trying to get a districting proposal for city council members on the ballot for the 2020 election. Green said she got the idea from speaking with residents. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

If the initiative passed, Green doesn't think there would be a need for a special election to immediately add districts to all city council seats.

She's optimistic so far, saying 72 per-

cent of residents she's polled said they're in favor of the initiative.

"We've done a couple of polls and the overall consensus, or the feedback, from the community has been bipartisan

support from both Republicans and Democrats," Green said. "Of course, with any change, there will be people who do not support it which is understandable."

Green added that she hasn't yet received vocal support from any city officials, but thinks residents will be in favor of the move.

"I think it'll impact future elections in a positive way," she said.

The biggest benefit Green thinks districts would have is increased representation from all parts of the city.

"When you are riding by a pothole, for example, you're riding by the same pothole that your neighbor is riding by. So you would have more of an interest to make sure that pothole is secure than someone who is living halfway across town with awesome streets."

Westland is a big city, and Green thinks having people from all over town would make sure someone has an eye on every issue.

"This would allow residents to specifically elect someone from their neighborhood or their end of town who knows their needs as it relates to streets, building issues, housing issues, even plumbing issues," she said. "Being able to elect someone from your neighborhood to be the voice for the needs of your community is one of the benefits the measure would bring."

Not only that, but Green hopes the change, if accepted by voters, would make it easier and more affordable to campaign for a city council seat.

"It's easier to reach 13,000 doors rather than 85,000," she said.

It would change the way things are run in Westland, but Green thinks it would put more influence into residents' hands.

"This is going to take power from the politicians, including myself, and it will give it to the community," she said.

Residents who want to learn more can connect with Green on Facebook at her Councilwoman Tasha Green page, through email at tgreen@cityofwestland.com or by phone at 734-828-7010.

## Filing gaffe knocks Hills incumbent off Nov. ballot

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A one-word gaffe made by Farmington Hills Councilwoman Theresa Rich back in April has disqualified the incumbent from appearing on the November ballot.

Rich was informed Tuesday evening by Farmington Hills Clerk Pam Smith that she was disqualified from the November ballot because she listed "City" as her office sought instead of "City Council." The office of the Oakland County Clerk caught the error and left the matter up to Smith to decide.

Rich is currently running for her second term on city council.

"I intend to continue the campaign," Rich said. "I'm still evaluating the option of filing a lawsuit and if I don't do that or if that does not prevail, I fully intend to continue as a write-in at this time."

Smith sent a letter to Rich on Aug. 13 stating that after consulting with Farmington Hills' attorney and Michigan's elections bureau, Rich would be removed from the ballot. In giving her reasons for the decision, Smith said in the letter one of her concerns was setting a precedent of allowing missing information in the city's democratic process.

As for the error, Rich said she takes responsibility.

"I made a clerical error that was not caught and corrected in three and a half months from the time I turned it in," she said. "If you've seen my Facebook post, you know that I take full responsibility for turning it in."

In her affidavit filed to Oakland County on April 17, Rich lists "Farmington Hills - Council" as the "office sought" at the top of the form. The gaffe comes later in the form. Rich posted the affidavit to Facebook on Tuesday and highlighted the error.

Rich said, with the guidance of her attorney, she is considering filing a lawsuit with the Oakland County Circuit Court with the hopes of overturning the decision. But, she plans to continue her reelection campaign.

She understands that, if she ulti-



Rich

mately runs as a write-in candidate, the voting process will be more difficult for people.

"I fully believe that this will be an uphill climb to be reelected as a write-in because not only

will people need to put something that seems like my name on the line, but they will also need to fill in the little oval next to it," Rich said. "Both of those steps would need to occur."

According to the Michigan Bureau of Elections, votes for write-in candidates can include variations and misspellings.

Rich said she plans to keep people informed as she continues meeting constituents. Her goals for a second term would be improvements to safety, transparency and infrastructure.

"I have done a significant amount in my first term of office that benefits the community and there is still a lot that I have to offer and would like to give to the community," Rich said.

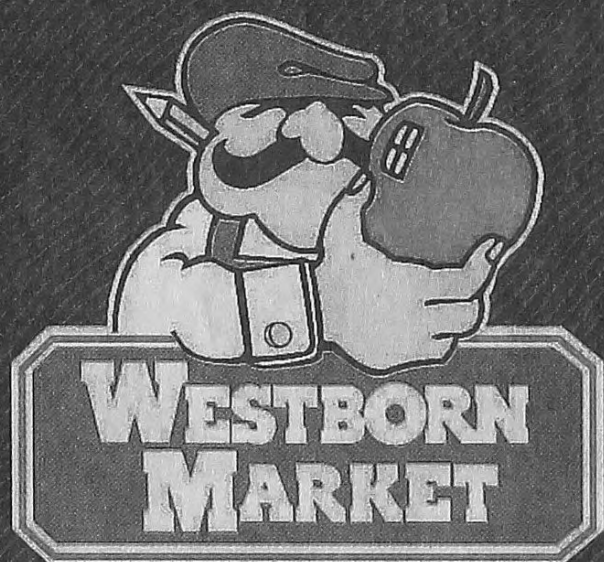
In any case, Rich said she's thankful for the support she's gotten so far.

"I am very grateful for the incredible outpouring I am receiving from the community," she said. "The Facebook messages, the phone calls, the texts have been, in a way, overwhelming but also validating that people believe that I have been doing good in our community."

In the November election, Vicki Barnett and Richard Lerner have filed to run for mayor. Barnett is a former Farmington Hills mayor and state representative, and Lerner currently serves on the city council. The winner will serve a two-year term.

For the three open city council seats, Jackie Boleware, T. R. Carr, Danette Duron-Willner, Kenneth D. Massey and Mary Newlin will all be listed on the ballot. Massey is currently the city's mayor. The three elected parties will serve four-year terms.

Contact Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. follow her on twitter at @shelby\_tank.



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# Biggby plans more BCubed coffee shops

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's not uncommon to see Biggby Coffee shops in a strip mall. Soon, you'll be able to find one in the middle of a parking lot at stores like Meijer and Walmart.

The coffee company, based in East Lansing, has begun pushing a new model entitled BCubed, a modular coffee shop designed for drive-through and walk-up traffic. Several have opened across Michigan in communities such as Battle Creek, Saugatuck and Alpena, where the concept was launched.

The first such concept in metro Detroit is planned for Wixom, in front of the Meijer at 49900 Grand River Ave. It'll be the first of its kind in the region, said Lisa Oak, the chief development officer for Biggby Coffee.

"The franchise owner actually owns the building," she said. "This is all self-contained and ready-to-go."

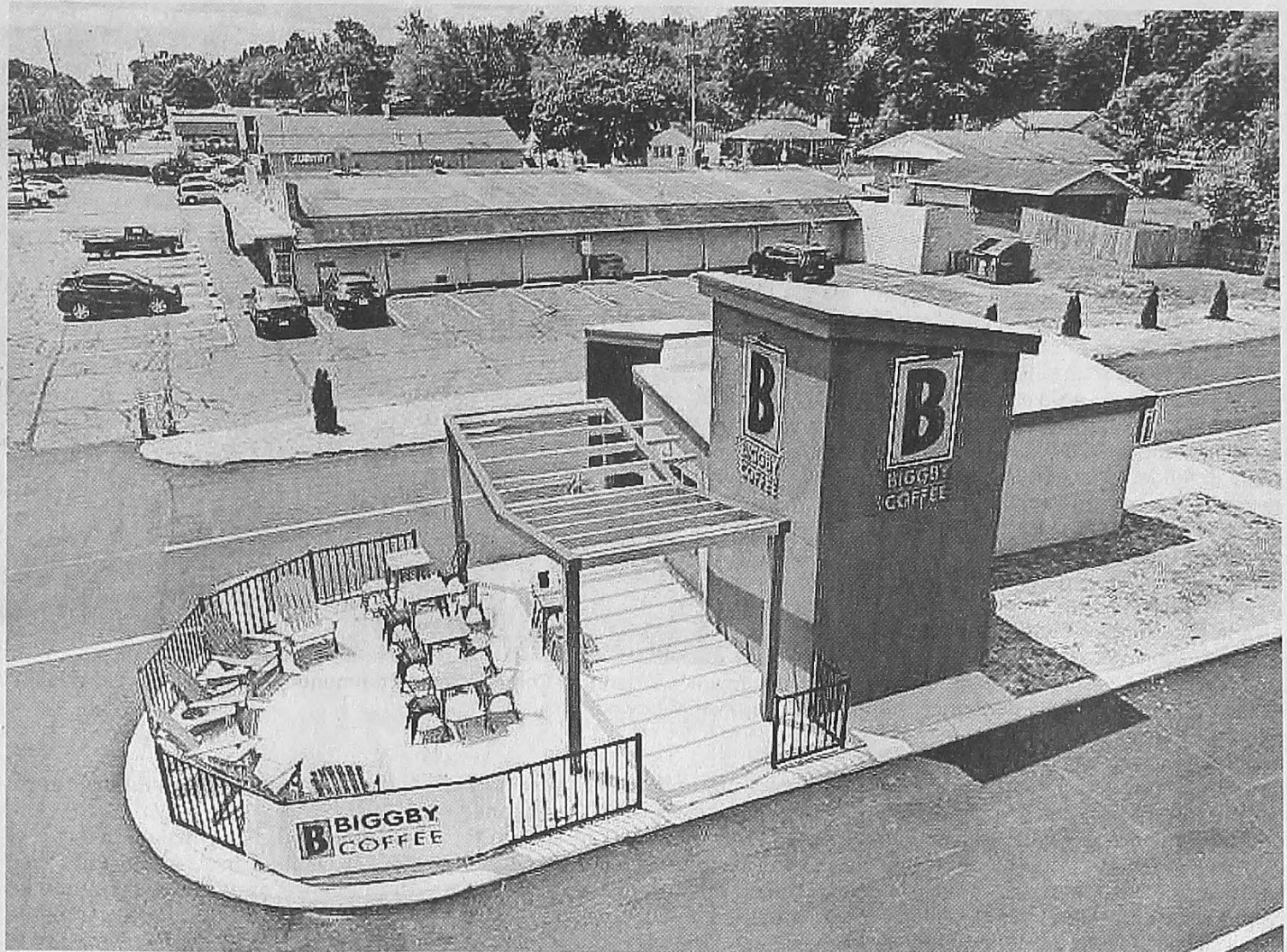
The concept was showcased Aug. 7 during the annual franchise meeting held at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

The concept, originally pitched by Alpena resident Jeff Konczak, brings together 349 square feet of building that can be installed within hours. The structures are manufactured in Alpena at his warehouse and are shipped to their location. They can connect to water, sewer and electrical lines and can operate as a full-service Biggby Coffee shop on any piece of land the franchisee has access to. More are planned elsewhere across the state coming in 2020, including Swartz Creek and Birch Run.

"I hope to come out with 20-plus buildings done in the spring," Konczak said. "I see BCubed as another arrow in Biggby's corner."

## 'There's nothing like it here in the Midwest'

It was an idea that raised the eyebrows of Biggby owners Michael McFall and Bob Fish when they first heard it. McFall said they saw such a McDonald's built from shipping containers during a



A drone image shows an aerial view of the BCubed modular coffee shop in Battle Creek, part of East Lansing-based Biggby Coffee. Others, including one in Wixom near Meijer, have been planned for the future. COURTESY OF BCUBED ENTERPRISES

trip to Indonesia, and wanted to find a way to bring that feel to their own shops. Once they heard it pitched by Konczak, they knew it would be a major step for the coffee company as it looks to grow its brand.

"We looked at each other and went, 'Oh my God, there it is,'" said McFall, a Milford native.

Fish said he hopes the concept makes it big across the region, including in Detroit's western suburbs. He anticipates it will bring in customers that may not

be as familiar with their products.

"You may not know what Biggby Coffee is, but all you want to do is pull into that drive-through and go to it," he said. "This thing goes up, and this thing's like a lighthouse."

"There's nothing really like it here in the Midwest."

Having such buildings is just one more option the coffee company wants to give its franchise owners, who operate all the stores across the nation. Having the BCubed model, Oak said, gives

those owners more flexibility if they're looking to locate in a specific market or if they want to relocate if sales aren't meeting their expectations in that space.

"I don't want to take anything off the table. We are still going to be looking at those strip centers with an end-cap drive-through, free-standing buildings depending on the market," she said. "This is another iteration, which is very exciting again."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com

## New delivery restaurant opens

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Kevin Brady and Tori Holmes showed up earlier this summer to the former Dolly's Pizza to pick up point-of-sale equipment they owned after the shop closed.

They left with a lease and a brand-new restaurant concept.

The engaged couple from Ann Arbor decided they could give it a go as restaurant owners and took over the space.

"One thing led to another and we were discussing with the landlord," Brady said. "We struck a deal and moved forward pretty quick. Within 30 days, we opened our doors."

The result? Newburgh Station, located at 37581 Five Mile in the New 5 Plaza shopping center. The takeout and delivery restaurant opened earlier this month, serving up plenty of traditional favorites like pizza, sandwiches and appetizers.

The idea had been discussed among the two before, and they both looked at the opportunity in Livonia as the best option.

"We were well-suited to do it," he said. "It had been a kind of thought for a while to open a restaurant so it wasn't fresh in my mind or anything."

The couple kicked around concepts for the name of the restaurant, but decided to infuse some history and local ties: the name comes from the train station that used to be along the road, which currently rests at Greenmead Historical Village. An image of that train station is posted right near the cash register of the business.

Newburgh's name comes from the old Newburgh village that once existed near Newburgh Road and Ann Arbor Trail back in the 1800s.

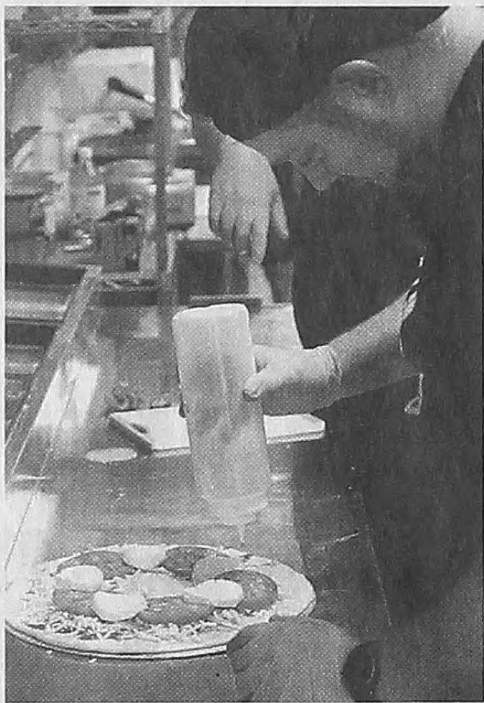
"This is Livonia's store," he said. "I wanted to make it specific for it."

### Menu changes coming

The menu currently features pizza, wings and sandwiches, and they're hoping to add some new flavors to the menu no other restaurant in the region has. They're talking dishes like jambalaya and crawfish etouffee, a Cajun dish consisting of shellfish over rice.

"It's a good, creamy, hearty dish that that's absolutely delicious," he said. "They're things you can't get at 9 p.m. in Livonia typically."

It's an idea they got after seeing simi-



Kevin Brady adds some olive oil to the top of a margherita pizza at Newburgh Station. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

lar businesses in southern California, where the two lived until this past winter, Brady said.

Their current menu will remain and they hope to expand the menu later this fall.

A full menu of items, as well as online ordering, can be found at newburghstation.com. Delivery is available within a few miles and includes parts of Livonia, Farmington Hills, Northville, Plymouth and Westland.

The space was mostly ready for their concept, though some work had to happen, including remodeling the front of the store to rearranging the food preparation area.

"We moved around some of the tables and the prep area," Holmes said. "We really divided and conquered."

Despite opening just recently, the couple is excited at the response they've received from the community. They've seen many delivery orders coming from the nearby Castle Gardens neighborhood, and have plenty of customers coming in multiple times a week to pick up lunch.

"It's been pretty cool, honestly, to see people are agreeing with the direction," Brady said. "Already, people are responding quickly."

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Twitter: @davidveselenak.

## Obituaries

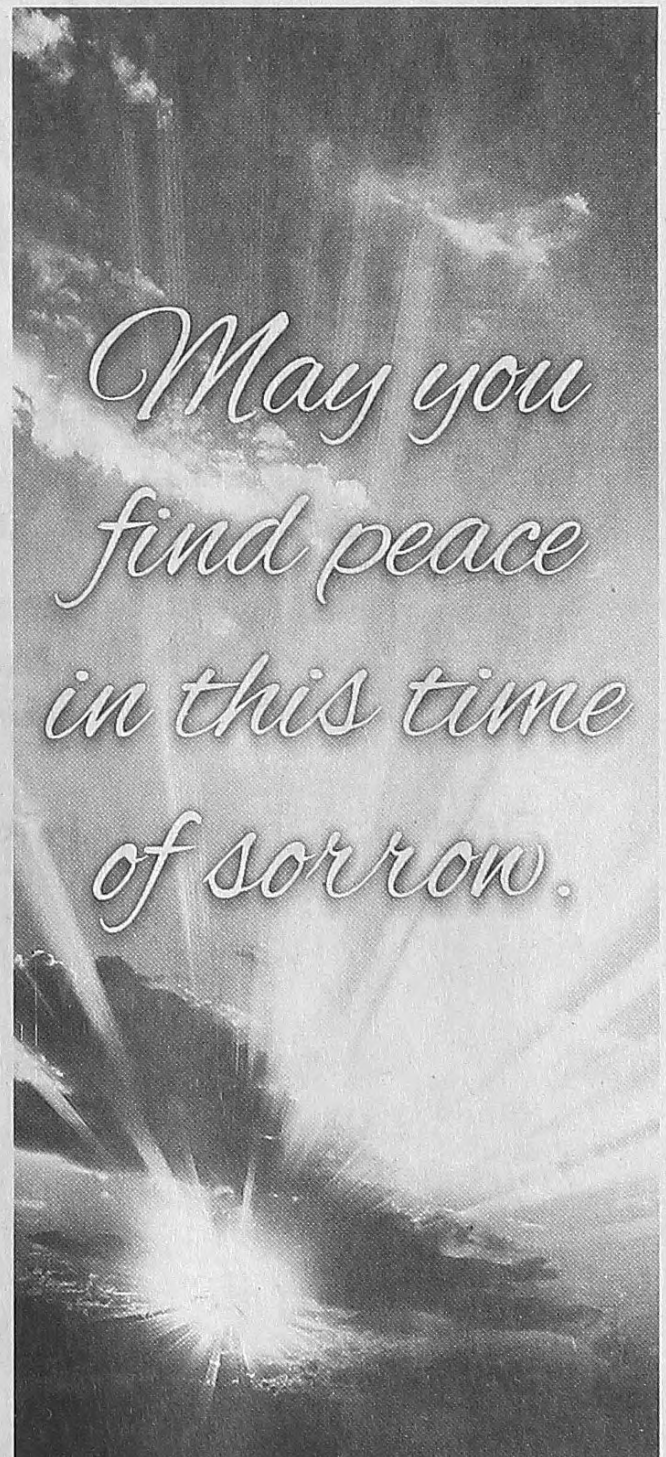
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Vada J. Starr

RHODE ISLAND FORMERLY OF PLYMOUTH, MI - Passed away on August 14, 2019 at age 97. Beloved wife of the late Dr. Donald D. Starr. Dear mother of Donald M. (Cheryl), Phillip R. (Pamela), Jennifer J. (Jonathan) Riley, and the late Marion Dee Starr-Sullivan. Proud grandmother of Beth, Jonathan, Zachary, Timothy, Katelyn and Megan. Preceded in death by her 4 siblings. She taught for many years in the Plymouth-Canton school system. Please visit [vermeulenfh.com](http://vermeulenfh.com) for visitation and funeral info or to share a memory.

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# Erwin Orchards development denied

Susan Bromley [HometownLife.com](http://HometownLife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

To the applause of a standing-room-only crowd, the Lyon Township Planning Commission voted 6-1 on Aug. 12 to recommend denial of a preliminary plan to redevelop Erwin Orchards.

Vice-Chair Carl Towne made the motion, citing in particular the high density of housing, roughly 270% over what is permitted, and also its inclusion of retail that doesn't fit the master plan.

Planning Secretary Stephan Hoffman was the lone "no" vote.

Howard Fingerroot, who represented applicant Cider Mill Village of Lyon, LLC, defended himself following the nearly three-hour meeting in which he faced significant backlash from both residents and commissioners.

"While they looked at me as the bad guy, I really wanted to do good things — fix the road network and preserve the orchard," Fingerroot said.

Even before residents lined up to speak at the podium and denounce the plan, the planning commissioners were giving a glimpse of how the night might go.

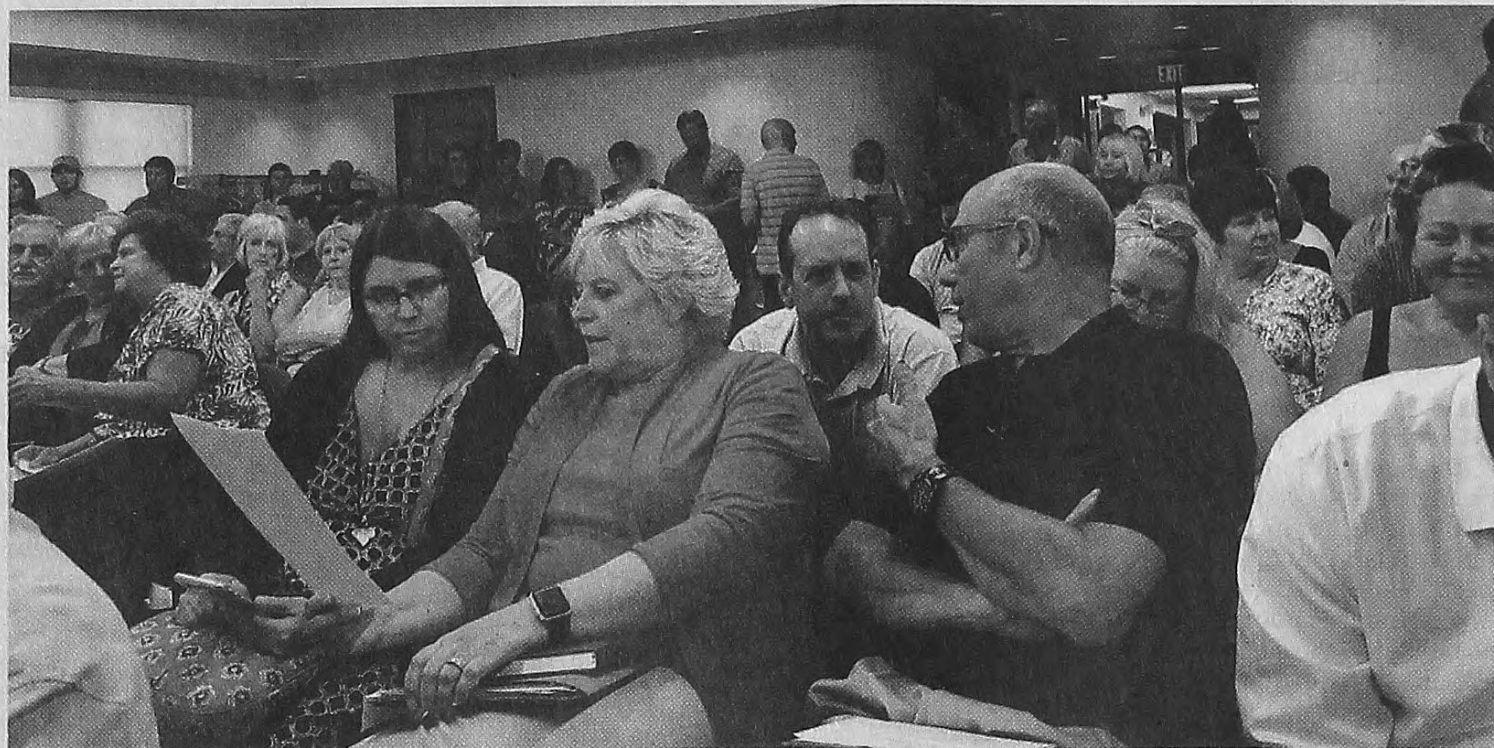
"Why do you bring such a crappy plan to us?" Commissioner Patricia Carcone, who is also liaison to the township board, asked Fingerroot.

She gave him credit for previously doing "a lot of good developments" in the township, but questioned the plan with 490 housing units, reduced by about 90 from a conceptual review turned down earlier this year for high density. She criticized it as still too much (181 units would be permissible) and noted the adjusted plan was missing critical details.

"The township board gave a strong recommendation to you that said you might want to go back to conceptual review and you didn't listen," she said. "Now, we have pages and pages and pages of things that aren't complete. Unacceptable."

"Just unacceptable."

Carcone's remarks had been prefaced by concerns from Township Planner Brian Keeseey and Township Engineer Leslie Zawada who cited issues with density, as well as water and sewer



The Lyon Township Planning Commission recommended denial of the Cider Mill Village development for Erwin Orchards.

SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

infrastructure, and a lack of information in parking, lot sizes, fiscal impact analysis, and environmental preservation.

The revised plan for the 264 acres eliminated apartments and the proposed municipal buildings but kept 3.4 acres of retail, a recreation center that occupies another 3.4 acres, and a village center on 6.1 acres.

It also calls for retaining 12 acres of the apple orchard and keeping 23.5 acres of land as a preservation area.

Fingerroot disagreed that it was a poor plan and said while it was "not a perfect package" the high density was required in order to make the money needed to provide the township with the benefits of realigning Kent Lake Road — the cost of which would be in the millions — and preserving a portion of the apple orchard.

He called up Bill Erwin to speak at the meeting, and the orchard owner told those in attendance he wants to retire and thought they would "be happy" when they learned who the family friends were that he had found to take over the 12 acres of apple orchard.

## 'I don't know how we will proceed'

Peter and Paul Blake, owners of Blake's Orchard in Armada, addressed the audience, announcing their interest to align their business and be part of the plan for the redevelopment for Erwin Orchards.

Their plan would keep the cider and doughnuts, but also offer a tasting room and wedding venue, something Peter Blake said is necessary for a year-round business instead of just seasonal.

But after the deluge of comments that followed in the public's chance to speak, in which the plan was called "ridiculous," "ludicrous" and was roundly criticized for the strain it would put on existing infrastructure, negating any potential road benefits from increased traffic unless roads were increased to four lanes, all plans seemed uncertain.

Residents had suggested the Blakes buy the Erwin Orchards property and leave the entire parcel agricultural.

"Everything's a possibility," Peter Blake acknowledged carefully after the

meeting when asked whether he was interested in buying the property and keeping it entirely as an orchard. "I think that conversation is up to the Erwins. A farm doesn't present the financial opportunity that a development could. We are a progressive family business."

Carcone said the ball is in Fingerroot's court. If he does not make a request to put the preliminary review for the Cider Mill Village development on the next township board of trustees agenda, it will not be on there. If he does, the recommendation from the planning commission is that the township board deny the plan.

Fingerroot said after the meeting it is too early to say what is next.

"We're so far apart I'm not sure what we can do," he said. "I would hate to abandon this. It would be tremendously disappointing if the cider mill had to close. ..."

"I don't know how we will proceed."

Contact Susan Bromley at [sbromley@hometownlife.com](mailto:sbromley@hometownlife.com). Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.

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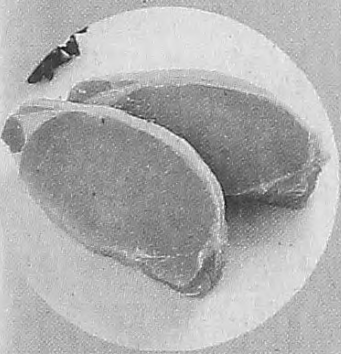
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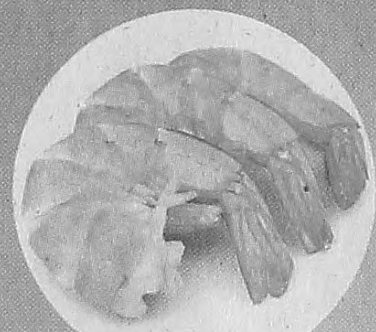


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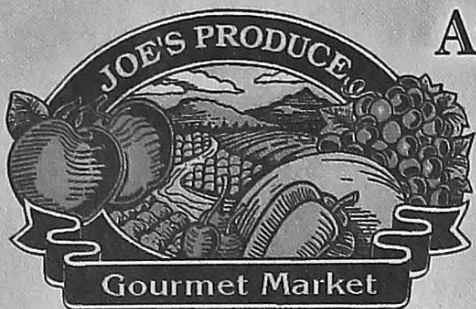
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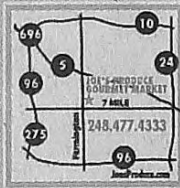
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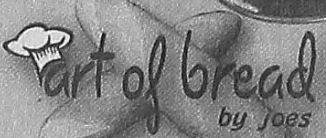
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# Sports

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## Franklin's starting QB ready to win

Andrew Vaillencourt  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Livonia Franklin senior quarterback Jake Kelbert doesn't want his sophomore season to be the only year he reaches the state championship game. If all goes according to plan, the Patriots will be back at Ford Field this November with a shot to win it all.

Kelbert, who is entering his third season as the team's starting quarterback, has a contagious swagger about him. He's steadily improved each of his years on varsity and has taken the program to new heights. He's also the coach's son — although not during football season, he joked.

Franklin will be a contender in the KLAA East, a division loaded with play-off teams, including division one pow-

erhouse Belleville, which won the conference last year. The Patriots finished the season 7-5 in 2018 with a loss in the regional final to Birmingham Groves. Expectation are even higher for this year.

"What's going to separate our team from the rest is that we will not back down from anyone," Kelbert said. "We will come out every Friday night and punch you in the mouth. We're not going

to talk all this hoo-rah on Twitter and be more like a flashy team. We play south-side Livonia football, we'll come and smash you in the mouth."

As a junior, he threw for 1,950 yards, 28 touchdowns and four interceptions. He also ran for 860 yards and nine scores. He loses some of his wide receiver talent, but he figures to put up big

See WIN, Page 2B

## South Lyon motivated to repeat undefeated season

Andrew Vaillencourt  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Last season, the South Lyon football team accomplished something that hadn't been done since before any of the current players were born — go undefeated in the regular season.

However, the joy that came with a Lakes Valley Conference title and that perfect 9-0 record was quickly lost when the Lions were defeated in the second round of the division two play-offs by conference foe Walled Lake Western — a team South Lyon had already beaten during the regular season.

Now, South Lyon enters this season not only loaded with returning talent from last year, including 15 starters, but an extra surge of motivation to repeat their special regular season and finish the job in the playoffs.

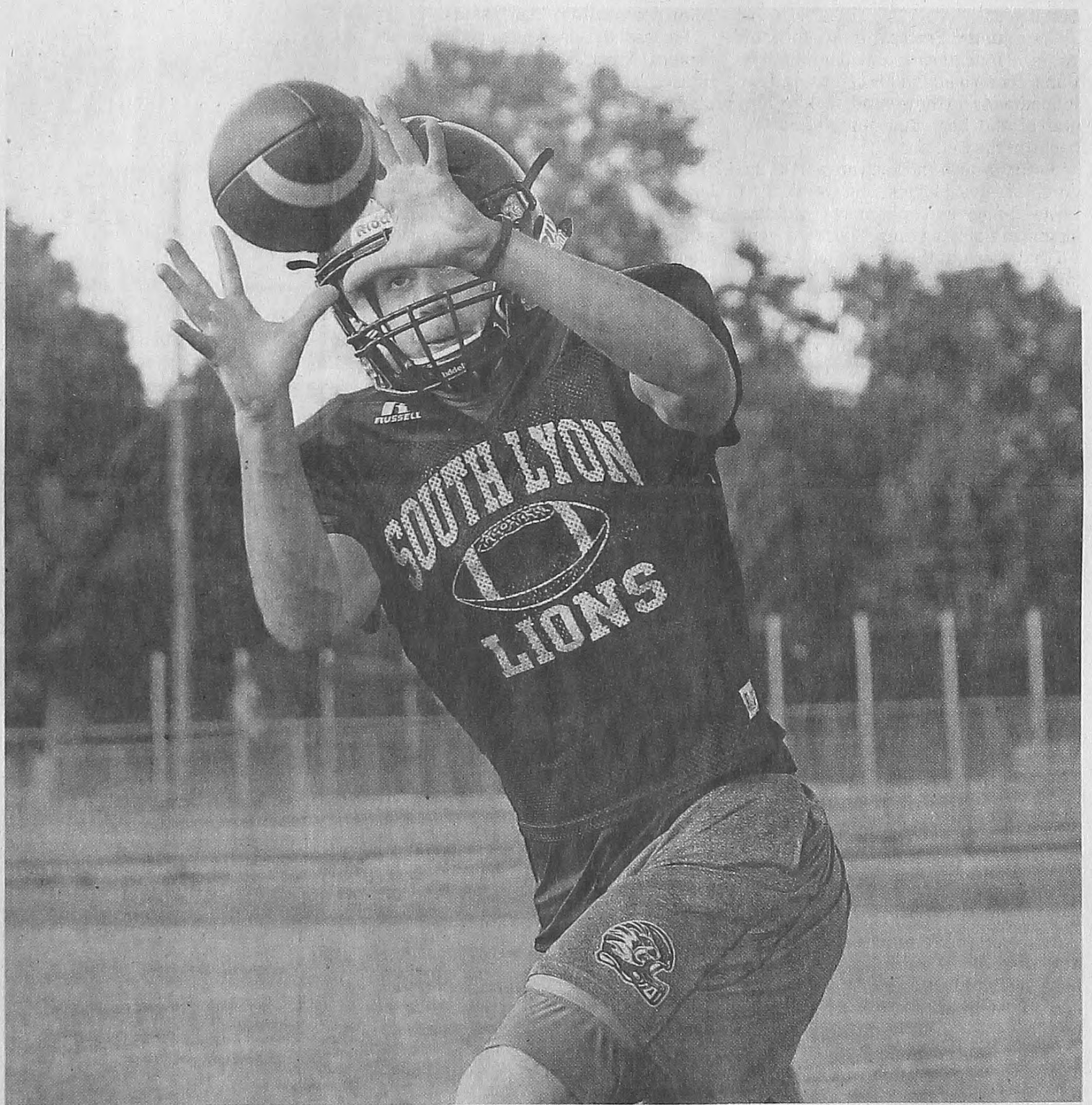
In order for the team to accomplish its goals, it will count on senior quarterback Connor Fracassi, who is a three-year starter at the position, to lead the way.

"I think there's the possibility that we'll be even better this year," Fracassi said. "Right now we're not focused on last year or anything like that, we're focused on week one. We're not looking ahead to anything else just like we did last year."

The Lions may not be looking ahead, but that doesn't mean their rematch against Walled Lake Western isn't in the back of their minds.

"It's circled on the schedule for sure," senior wide receiver Brendon Lach said. "That week will be the most intense week we've ever had or ever will have. It's going to be a brawl. I think we have the right mindset that we can go out and win, but everyone has to be on the same page. It's got to be complete focus that week."

Lach and Fracassi will be a force to reckon with through the air this fall.



South Lyon High football receiver Brendon Lach brings in a pass from QB Connor Fracassi during an Aug. 15 practice.  
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

See UNDEFEATED, Page 2B

## Kocur Foundation to hold annual softball series

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Joe Kocur Foundation for Children will hold its 11th annual Celebrity Softball Series Saturday, Aug. 24, at Duck Lake Pines Park in Highland.

The series will consist of three soft-

ball games featuring alumni of the Detroit Red Wings, such as former goaltender Chris Osgood and right wing Kirk Maltby, and local Detroit celebrities, like former Detroit Lions quarterback Eric Hipple and actor Jeff Daniels.

Kocur, who played for the Red Wings for nine seasons as a right wing, began

his foundation in 2009. Its main priority is to assist local charities that focus on children and local families in the metro Detroit area.

The proceeds from the softball series will benefit organizations like Huron Valley Special Olympics, Wings of Mercy East Michigan, FAR Therapeutic Arts

and Recreation and the Play Like Jackson Foundation.

Tickets for the softball series are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the gate. Gates for the event open at 11 a.m. on Aug. 24, with games beginning at 12:15 p.m., 2:15 p.m. and 4:15 p.m.

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South Lyon football players use a Tackle Wheel to work on their running take-downs during an Aug. 15 practice. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Undefeated

Continued from Page 1B

They connected for seven touchdowns last season and are poised for an even better year.

As a junior, Fracassi threw for 1,318 yards, 18 touchdowns and four interceptions. He also added 280 yards and six touchdowns on the ground, making him one of the best dual-threat quarterbacks in the LVC.

Both Fracassi and Lach are part of the group of eight players who were called up to varsity as sophomores and saw significant playing time. The team went 1-8 that year, but the experience paid off last year with the 10-1 finish.

Going through seasons on the opposite end of the spectrum has helped prepare this group for anything and give them an appreciation for the work it took to get to the top. It's also made them hungrier than ever to go deeper into the postseason.

"We can totally go further, we have a lot of returning starters, seniors, we've been through the experience," Lach said. "We experienced going 1-8 our sophomore year, we flipped it around to go 9-0 the next year and we want to do that again. That's all we want, to come out to two Lakes Valley Conference championships. That'd be an accomplishment like no other."

While Fracassi is still considering college offers, Lach is committed to

Michigan Tech where he will study biomedical engineering. He says he and his quarterback have great chemistry and have known each other since middle school.

"He has a lot of trust in me, he knows he can throw it up and that I'm going to come down with it," Lach said.

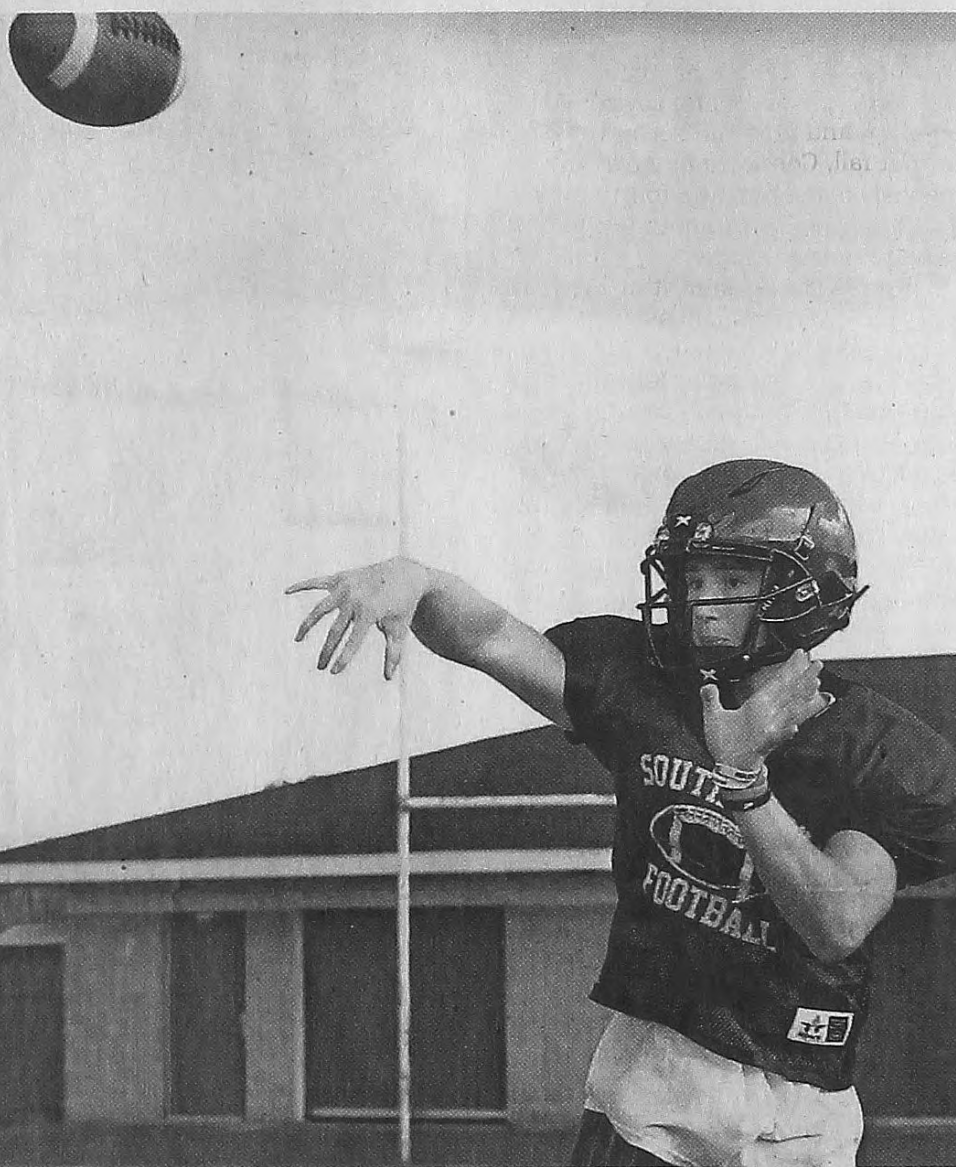
Fracassi is also one of the team's leaders, which is something he prides himself on. He compared his style of play to Seattle's Russell Wilson.

"When you're with Connor Fracassi in the huddle, he is the man," Lach said. "He knows what he's doing, he's always listening to the coach. He has the right mindset to go down the field and win the game. He's always trying to pump people up, it's why I love C-Frac and other people love him too."

Fracassi said he feels great going into his senior season and has the same mentality as last year, saying he's just playing the game he loves with his boys.

Lakeland will join Western as the two biggest threats to take down South Lyon from atop the standings. The Lions will be ready.

"It's always going to be a battle," Fracassi said. "We always have some great games with Western, no matter what year it is. ... The score may not have shown it, but it was really close that entire (playoff) game. It's always going to be a grind. We're throwing everything we got at them, it's two heavyweights going at it. It adds more fuel to the fire, obviously we're not happy with how last season ended."



South Lyon's Connor Fracassi tosses a pass during a practice Aug. 15.

## Win

Continued from Page 1B

numbers once again.

His strong performance on the field is a product of the work he does off the field, making him one of the smartest and most prepared players in the league.

"Before every game I spend hours and hours preparing for every single opponent," Kelbert said. "Doesn't matter if they're 0-for going into our game or undefeated, I will watch hours and hours of film on top of doing homework, on top of everything outside of football. I still make time."

"I know when those lights come on Friday nights, I will be the most prepared player on the field and lead my team to victory."

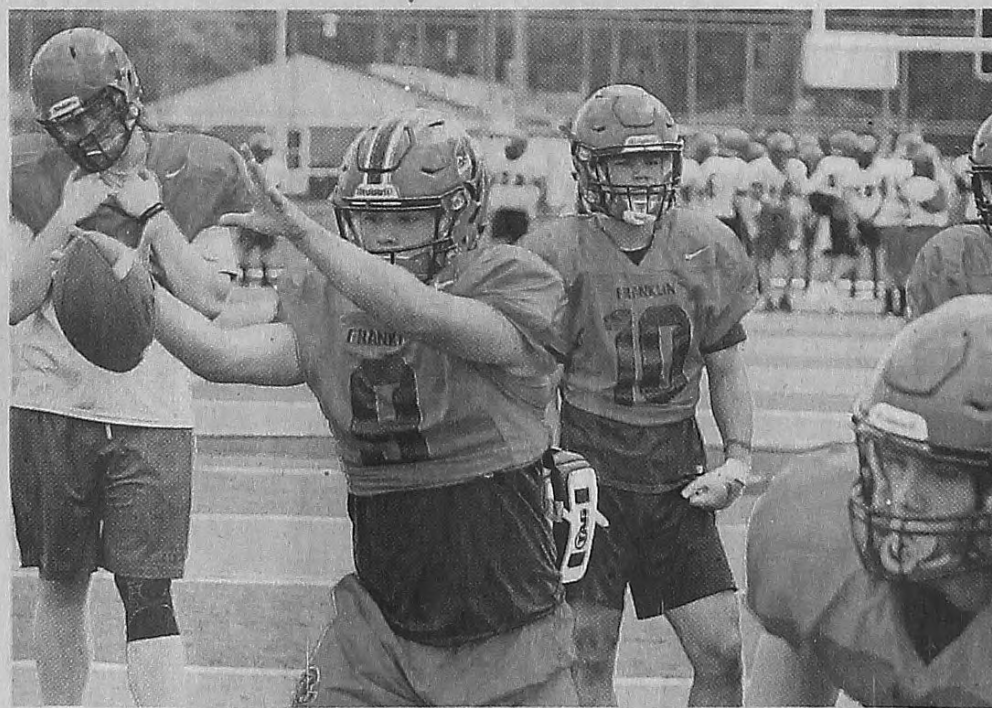
Having that type of player at quarterback makes life easier for everyone on the team, especially his dad, who is in his 18th year as Franklin's coach.

"Any time you have a returning quarterback, it's a big benefit for the offense," coach Chris Kelbert said. "Having one that's been a three-year starter makes it even better, he's seen a lot of games, played in a lot of games. He has a real understanding of the offense, so as a coach it makes it a whole lot easier to get us in the right position."

"His football IQ is what sets him apart."

That sentiment was echoed by senior slot wide receiver and running back James Carpenter, who has played with Kelbert since they were in the fourth grade.

"He knows everything that's going on," Carpenter said. "He can pick apart a defense so easily. He knows where to put everything and is really quick. He's a really smart quarterback."



Franklin QB Jake Kelbert takes a snap during practice. As a junior, he threw for 1,950 yards, 28 touchdowns and four interceptions. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Playing for his dad has certainly been a memorable experience. Having a player and coach that are family members as part of the same team doesn't always work out well, but it's been fantastic for Franklin.

"It's definitely a different experience to say the least, but it most definitely has benefited me more than anything," Kelbert said. "It made me become more coach-able and gave me thicker skin. I wouldn't change it for anything in the world."

Kelbert, who is 5-foot-10 and left-handed, says he feels much more confident staying in the pocket now compared to his first season. He used to scramble at the first sign of danger, but now he'll stay in and take a hit when he needs to.

"I consider myself more of like a Rus-

sell Wilson," Kelbert said. "I'm not exactly the tallest so I can't always stay in the pocket and look over my linemen, I have to find my own pockets and use my feet to get away from defenders and extend plays."

Also a pitcher on the baseball team, Kelbert is known for having some zip on his passes. So much so, that he dislocated a receiver's thumb last year with a pass.

For Franklin to have a successful year, Kelbert knows he'll need to perform well — and not just on the field. A team leader, he said he know everyone else is going to be looking at him. If he's down, his teammates will be too. He has to remain level-headed no matter the score or situation.

"He's definitely our strongest leader and he does a great job of making sure

everyone knows what to do," Carpenter said. "He's not some big tough guy who's going to yell at you if you ask him what to do, he's going to teach and help you and the team."

"He's great at getting everyone hyped. Friday night lights, there's nothing like it, and Jake'd huddle presence depends on the situation, but he knows when to flip the switch."

Both Carpenter and Kelbert acknowledged that this year's Franklin squad is talented, but it will be their work ethic that sets them apart and allows them to have a deep playoff run.

Kelbert said he believes this year's team has that "it" factor similar to the 2017 team that reached the state final.

"The reason we fell short last year was because we didn't have the team chemistry, we had to battle through so much adversity that was self-inflicted," Kelbert said. "We weren't together as a team and this year our main goal is to stop that. We're bringing our team back closer together. Our bond is so close that we think we have the talent to go all the way. Talent cannot beat hard work, hard work remains undefeated and always will remain undefeated. If we put in the work, we have the talent needed, if we put in the hard work, we can go all the way."

To add to the excitement of football season, Kelbert is entertaining multiple offers to play college football. He currently has offers from Dayton, Northwood, Siena Heights and Lawrence Tech, however, his attention is on Franklin and leading his team back to the playoffs.

"It's always been a dream of mine to play college football, but I'm focused on this season rather than focusing on the recruitment process," Kelbert said. "The recruiting process will happen, I can't avoid it, but the best thing I can do is help my team."

# WLW star hopeful for appeal

Mick McCabe Special to Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Practice was nearing completion when Abdur-Rahmaan Yaseen received a challenge.

Someone at Walled Lake Western wanted to try to cover the wide receiver who has committed to Northwestern.

The challenge came from Western coach Alex Grignon.

Grignon doesn't want to talk about how effectively he did or did not defend Yaseen, and the coach is fortunate no video tape evidence is available to show why Yaseen is one of the best receivers in the state and Grignon is ... a coach.

The pity is that may be the only competition Yaseen sees this year.

Yaseen has been ruled ineligible by the Michigan High School Athletic Association, which says that according to his academic transcript he has exhausted his eligibility because he is in his fifth year as a high school student.

"I'm definitely not giving up hope," Yaseen said. "I can't say too much because I can't control it. It's not really my fault. It's a mistake on parents and administrators."

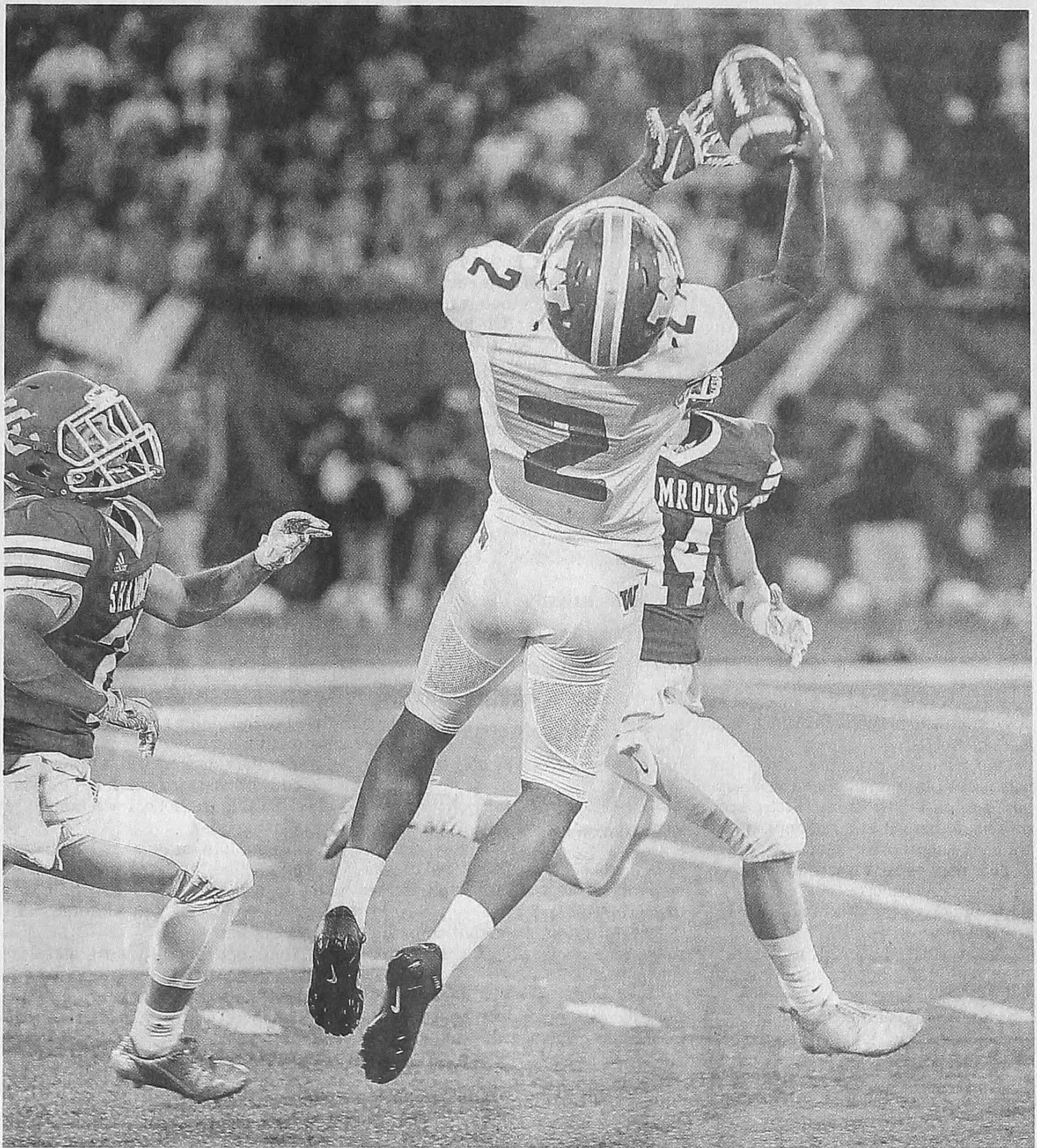
This is a complex case, and it goes back to 2010 when he was enrolled in the Michigan Connections Academy, an online school.

Before that, Yaseen had been home-schooled for three years, covering kindergarten and first and second grades. But that fall, Connections Academy erroneously listed him as a fourth grader, effectively double-promoting him, bypassing the third grade.

Nothing was made of it at the time and it never became an issue until recently.

It was a problem in the 2015-16 school year when Connections Academy listed all of Yaseen's classes as ninth-grade classes, which, unbeknownst to his family, technically made him a high school student. He would not have been considered a ninth grader had over half of his classes been at the eighth-grade level.

"We considered him in the eighth grade," said his father, Khalid Yaseen,



"I'm definitely not giving up hope," Walled Lake Western wide receiver Abdur-Rahmaan Yaseen said of his eligibility battle. "I can't say too much because I can't control it. It's not really my fault." JUNFU HAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

See YASEEN, Page 4B

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# Jaguars win big at Youth National Championships

Colin Gay [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Michigan Jaguars Soccer Club found success in its latest trip to the U.S. Youth Soccer National Championships from July 22-28. The club had four teams participate in the tournament in Overland Park, Kansas, two of which finished as National Finalists.

Both the 2006 U13 Girls Green team and the 2006 U13 Boys Green team finished as National Finalists in the tournament, losing in the national final against Albion SC (CA) and Pipeline SC respectively.

Led by head coach Dan Trosper, the 2002 U17 Boys Green team finished as National Semifinalists, tying twice and earning a 7-2 win against OK Energy (OK) before losing to the eventual national champion Solar (SC) in the semifinal.

After qualifying through the National

League/Midwest Regional Championships, the 2001 U18 Girls Green team finished in third place in its group, winning one of three games played in the tournament.

As a club, the Michigan Jaguars had 11 players earn individual awards. Amalia Villarreal was awarded the Golden Ball as the best U13 Girls player in the tournament.

Maya Etienne (U18 Girls), Jack Voight (U17 Boys), Eduardo Villagomez (U17 Boys), Gael Medrano (U13 Boys), Travis Zeleji (U13 Boys), Emily Kolodin (U13 Girls) and Villarreal were each named to the Best XI team for their respective age group. Issac Shriner (U17 Boys), Medrano and Villarreal each finished as the top goal scorers for their respective age group in the tournament.

Contact Colin Gay at 248-330-6710 or [cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com). Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17.



Four teams in the Michigan Jaguars Soccer Club, based in Novi, celebrate after participating in the U.S. Youth Soccer National Championships in Overland Park, Kansas. COURTESY OF THE MICHIGAN JAGUARS SOCCER CLUB

## Yaseen

Continued from Page 3B

who played football at Michigan and Stanford.

The following year, Yaseen enrolled at Western and his parents listed him as a freshman.

"We wanted to make the adjustment because it put him where he was supposed to have been in the first place," said his father. "It was the appropriate grade, the appropriate age."

The year before, Yaseen suffered two injuries playing sports.

He broke an arm and had a closed head injury.

The head injury caused him to struggle academically, dotting his transcript with "Cs." When he got to Western, he repeated several of the classes.

"He fell behind in the online classes, but the good thing about that is you can work at your own pace so we kind of helped him a lot to get him back up," said his father. "He didn't flunk, but he didn't do well enough. I don't believe he was prepared enough to go forward in those classes."

**"It's definitely heartbreaking. But right now I'm focused on improving my skills, getting better and being out here with the guys and helping them for their first game."**

**Abdur-Rahmaan Yaseen**

Walled Lake officials noticed the discrepancy in his transcript and notified the MHSAA.

The MHSAA's executive committee ruled Yaseen ineligible for the coming school year.

"We had to make that decision with the executive committee based on the information submitted," said MHSAA executive director Mark Uyl. "The transcript information from both the academy as well as Walled Lake that the executive committee had, under the rules, it couldn't have made another decision at the time."

No other decision could be made, Uyl

said, because this case could have ramifications well beyond Yaseen.

"For us to have waived the rule, based on everything that we had," he said, "that would now set the precedent for kids to have five years of eligibility."

The fact that Yaseen was not eligible to compete in athletics when he was enrolled in the online school has no bearing on this case.

After the ruling, Yaseen's father contacted Northwestern coach Pat Fitzgerald, who said the school will honor the scholarship offer.

"I called him and he had just gotten out of practice," his father said. "He said he was disappointed for him and it was heartbreaking, but he was 100% supportive of him."

"That's one thing as we're grateful for that, but we definitely want to be out here with his teammates his last year. He's out here now with them, but Friday nights ..."

Friday nights will be difficult for him to handle if he is standing on the sidelines.

It will be difficult for Grignon, too, and not just because he is losing his best player.

"It's frustrating because he's a kid

who didn't do anything wrong," Grignon said. "It wasn't his fault at all. He didn't make any decisions. He was here for three years, played for three years."

"You're talking about a role model, a hard worker, no ego, humble; he's all of that."

The family could appeal the decision to representative council, but it doesn't meet again until December. Uyl said they can appeal to the executive committee again if it has additional information not presented at the original appeal.

"What we've communicated is that if a mistake was made, we need that information to come forward," Uyl said. "I think everybody agrees here that the year the mistake was made was in the time with the Connections Academy and that's the record that we just need corrected and updated."

Until then Yaseen will continue to attend Western practices and prepare himself for when he can play again ... hopefully this fall.

"It's definitely heartbreaking," he said. "But right now I'm focused on improving my skills, getting better and being out here with the guys and helping them for their first game."

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**CITY OF PLYMOUTH  
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2019 - 7:00 P.M.  
CITY HALL COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

201 S. Main Street Plymouth, Michigan 48170  
Website: www.plymouthmi.gov Phone: (734) 453-1234 ext. 232

A regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Thursday, September 5, 2019, at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following:

Z19-11 Non-Use Variance Request for 1341 Palmer  
Rear Yard Setback  
Zoned: R-1, Single-Family Residential District  
Applicant: Phil Lywood

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator  
201 S. Main Street  
Plymouth, MI 48170, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 234

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**Novena**  
 PRAYER TO HOLY SPIRIT Holy Spirit, You who solves all problems, who lights all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gives me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances of my life You are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank You for all things and to confirm once again that I never want to be separated from You, even in spite of all material illusion. I wish to be with You in eternal glory. Thank You for Your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer for three consecutive days, the favor requested will be granted even if it may appear difficult. This prayer must be published immediately after the favor is granted without mentioning the favor, only your initials should appear at the publication. Publication promised. D.M.S.

**Real Estate**  
**Homes**  
 starting fresh...  
**Home for Sale - In State**

**Open House**  
 Plymouth, Ranch Condo, Open House, Sunday, August 25th, Noon-4pm. Wedgewood Village, 44751 Erin Dr. 2BR, 2 Full BA, gas fireplace, garage, updated kitchen & bath, hardwood floors, whole house Generac, full basement, brand new furnace. \$189,900. 248-613-0927

**Real Estate**  
**Rentals**  
 great place to live...  
**Homes-Rent**  
 Canton, beautiful 2400 sq ft, 4BR, 2.5 BA, 2 car gar, bsmt, patio, new flrs, new windows, \$1900/mo, 248-943-0928  
**Rentals to Share**  
 West Bloomfield, lakefront, bachelor shoring home, has large furnished room for prime US citizen, working, gent. 248-363-3914.

**Real Estate**  
**Homes**  
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**Transportation**  
**Wheels**  
 best deal for you...  
**Cars**

**Cars**  
 18 FOCUS SEL 30K MILES \$14300 P23492 North Bros. 734-928-2108  
 16 FOCUS SE 27K MILES \$12400 P23456 North Bros. 734-928-2108  
 16 FOCUS ST 27K MILES \$20500 P23502 Ford Deal 734-928-2108  
 17 FUSION SE 20K MILES \$17900 P23515 Ford Deal 734-928-2108  
 16 FUSION SE 26K MILES \$15400 P23473 North Bros. 734-928-2108  
 16 FUSION SE 40K MILES \$14100 P23468 North Bros. 734-928-2108  
 16 FUSION SE 50K MILES \$13800 P23507 Ford Deal 734-928-2108

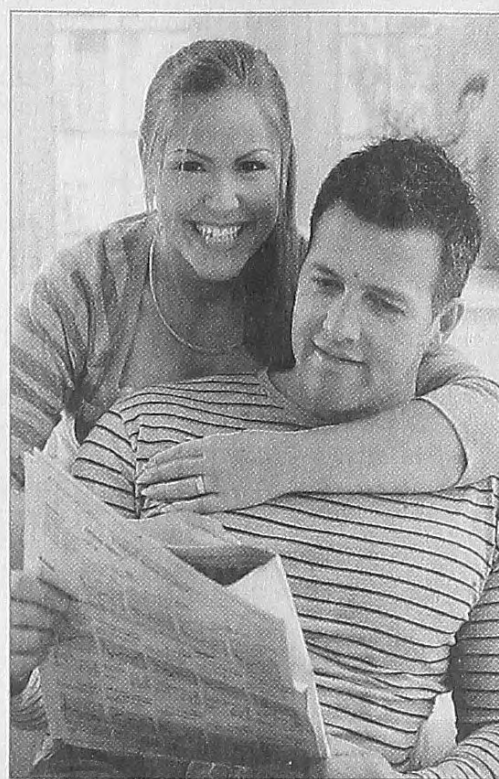
**SUVs**  
 16 EDGE SEL AWD 32K MILES \$23000 P23503 Ford Deal 734-928-2108  
 16 EDGE SPORT 36K MILES \$27000 P23416 North Bros. 734-928-2108  
 17 ESCAPE TIT. 13K MILES \$22000 19T3114A North Bros. 734-928-2108  
 17 ESCAPE TIT. 27K MILES \$19700 19T9177A Ford Deal 734-928-2108

**Trucks**  
 17 F150 XLT 21K MILES \$32700 P23516 Ford Deal 734-928-2108

**Real Estate**  
**Homes**  
 starting fresh...  
**Home for Sale - In State**

**Real Estate**  
**Homes**  
 starting fresh...  
**Home for Sale - In State**

## SELL IT BUY IT FIND IT



- |              |             |              |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| cars         | sports      | collectibles |
| garage sales | equipment   | jobs         |
| tickets      | pets        | appliances   |
| antiques     | instruments | yard sales   |
| motorcycles  | jewelry     | tablets      |
| computers    | furniture   | cameras      |
| boats        | auctions    | coins        |

Place your classified ad today.

- SELL YOUR CAR
- ADOPT A PET
- GET A JOB
- ← FIND A HOUSE
- BUY A BOAT
- FIND A T REASURE
- GET A MASSAGE
- HIRE A HANDYMAN

Check out the classified section everyday.

# THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

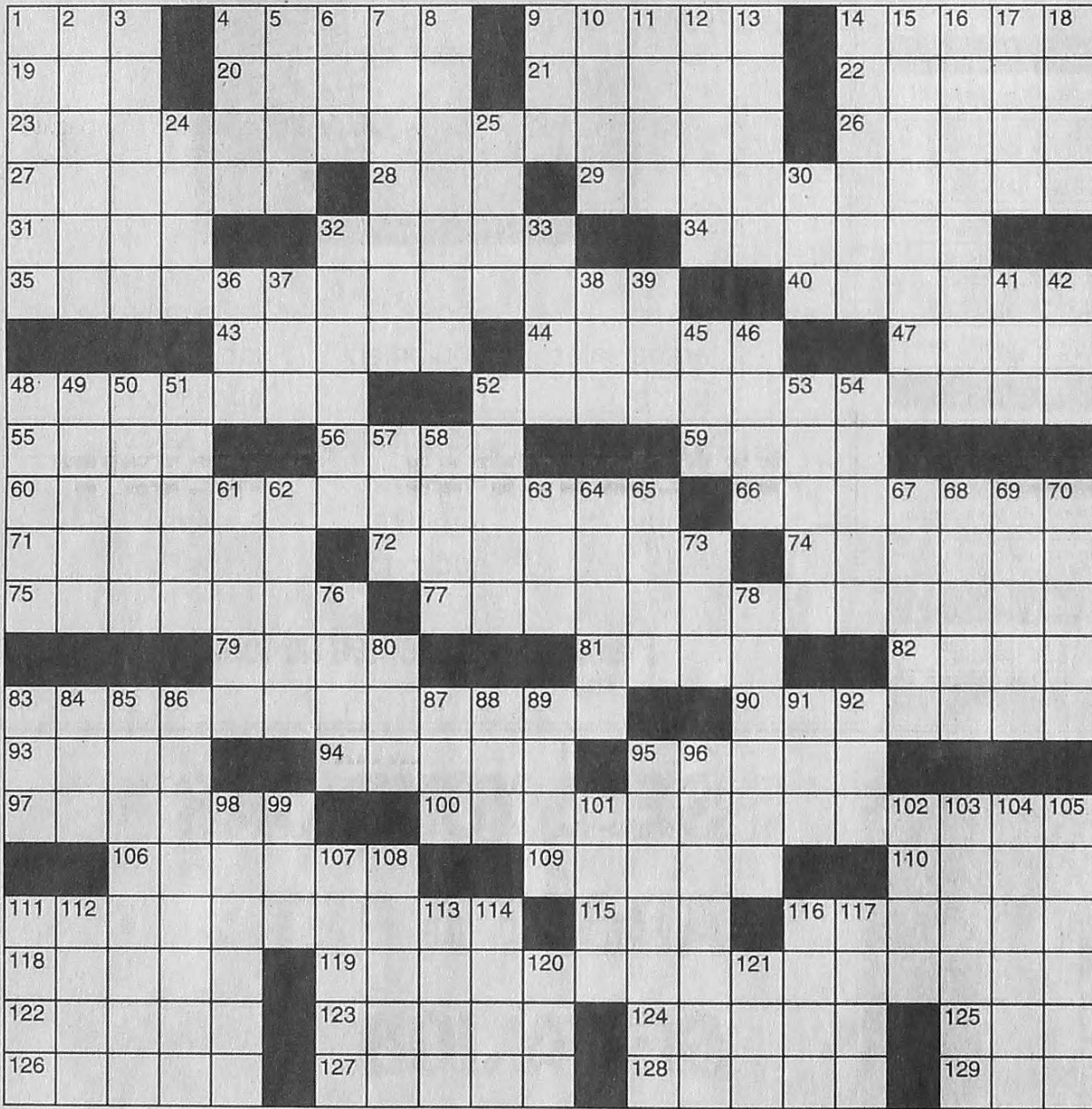
## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

### ACROSS

- 1 Puck surface
- 4 Transparent
- 9 Nick of "Weeds"
- 14 Urged (on)
- 19 Source of bean curd
- 20 Figure skater: Sonja
- 21 Luau "hello"
- 22 Thousand: Prefix
- 23 Soft leather sewn over fabric tears?
- 26 Poker entry fee
- 27 Elevate
- 28 USMC rank
- 29 Tabby that's a national government's mascot?
- 31 Peace: Nobelist
- 32 Sounded like a cow
- 34 Antarctic penguin
- 35 Enticingly beautiful mugs?
- 40 Braininess
- 43 How distant stars shine
- 44 White-rayed flower
- 47 Trevor of "The Daily Show"
- 48 Port on the Gulf of Mexico
- 52 Poet Doolittle who did all of her writing in her boudoir?
- 55 Caspian Sea feeder
- 56 "Don't leave!"
- 59 Easily spread cheese
- 60 Put decorations on your phone, then dial someone's number?
- 66 Ticked by
- 71 Warrant
- 72 Wearing a fancy crown
- 74 Verdi opera
- 75 Maker of Galaxy phones
- 77 Crustacean that's most active just before sunup?
- 79 "Exile" New Age artist
- 81 Falco with four Emmys
- 82 Notion, in Nantes
- 83 Black hole sucking in everything around it?

### DOWN

- 1 Emanates
- 2 Duo
- 3 Lashes' base
- 4 See 87-Down
- 5 Shoved off
- 6 Rocker Brian of respect
- 7 Use a fan on
- 8 Steinbeck novella, with "The"
- 9 "Platoon" war zone, in brief
- 10 Snowman in "Frozen"
- 11 Box in an opera house
- 12 Silents star: Bara
- 13 Mollified
- 14 Mummify
- 15 Former New York City mayor Rudy
- 16 Antifreeze compound
- 17 Kazan of filmdom
- 18 By — of (owing to)
- 24 God, to Henri
- 25 Baldwin of "Still Alice"
- 30 Apt., e.g.
- 32 Brunch quaff
- 33 "My man!"
- 36 Roman 401
- 37 Quirky habit
- 38 Brake part
- 39 Male title of respect
- 41 Smidgen
- 42 "— Na Na"
- 45 Bawl
- 46 Days of old
- 48 Lipstick units
- 49 Action venue
- 50 Female title of respect
- 51 Ancient Roman lower class
- 52 Via automobile
- 53 Director: Forman
- 54 Moor shrub
- 57 It blasts
- 58 Take — (swim or bathe)
- 61 Given a hint
- 62 Singer: Loggins
- 63 "Rules — rules"
- 64 Worker filling a cargo hold, say
- 65 Spearhead
- 67 Great risk
- 68 Begin to fail
- 69 Bugs bugger Fudd
- 70 Ninnies
- 73 Imbiber's hwy. offense
- 76 P.E. places
- 78 Most recent
- 80 "Makes sense now"
- 83 Chitchat
- 84 Map no.
- 85 Editing
- 86 Adoption of a cause
- 87 With 4-Down, cooking reality series
- 88 Uno tripled
- 89 Prefix with spore
- 91 Dadaist Jean
- 92 Prefix with thermal
- 95 Toni Braxton's "— My Heart"
- 96 Swizzle stick
- 98 Totally cover
- 99 Speck
- 101 Yank who wore #13
- 102 Wine stopper
- 103 Genuflects
- 104 Overplays it
- 105 Actress: O'Shea
- 107 "— the best of times ..."
- 108 Boxer Ali
- 111 — vu
- 112 University in North Carolina
- 113 Agts.' cuts with "out"
- 116 Narcissistic
- 117 "Makes sense now"
- 120 Suffix with cook or mock
- 121 "My man!"



For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or [smcclellan@michigan.com](mailto:smcclellan@michigan.com). Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at [QuillDriverBooks.com](http://QuillDriverBooks.com)

## SUDOKU

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

### Here's How It Works:

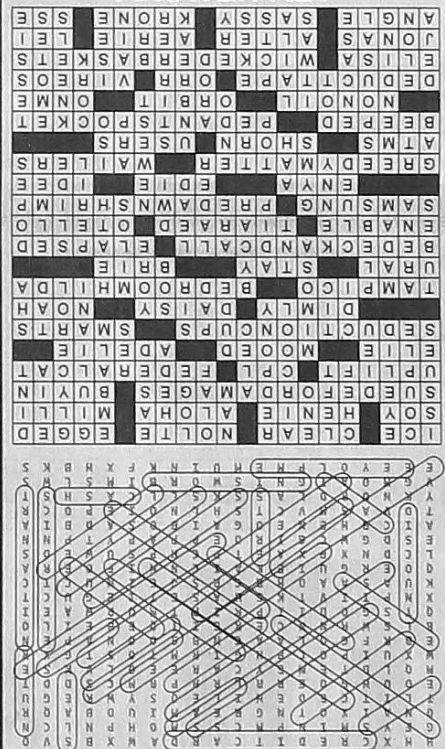
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

## SHOPPING DAY WORD SEARCH



### ANSWER KEY

- ADVERTISEMENT
- AISLE
- BAGS
- BROWSING
- BUDGET
- CART
- CASH
- CLOTHING
- COMPARISON
- COUPONS
- CREDIT CARD
- DEALS
- DISCOUNT
- ELECTRONICS
- EMPLOYEE EXCHANGE
- EXPERIENCE
- FITTING
- GROCERIES
- MALL
- MEMBERSHIP
- MERCHANDISE
- PACKAGES
- PARKING
- PRICE
- PURCHASES
- QUEUE
- RETAIL
- RETURN SALE
- SHIPPING
- STOCK
- STORE
- TOOLS
- TRANSACTION



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

### Careers

## Jobs

new beginnings...

### Engineering & IT

**Electrical Engineer for Northville, MI**  
An automotive supplier to design & develop electrical, electromechanical and electronic systems hardware, software and components to meet customer requirements; define system & component-level operating requirements and control schemes; prepare technical & test specifications; design control circuits; PCB layouts, control software & control algorithms; prototype & test circuits; resolve electrical, instrumentation, system diagnostic & control issues on hardware; support production & testing. Requires Bachelor's in Electrical, Electronics or Mechanical Engineering or closely-related field & 2 yrs experience using AutoCAD software; designing electrical, electromechanical and/or electronics systems; defining specifications & requirements for electrical, electromechanical and/or electronics systems; and creating & maintaining FMEA and design validation plans. Mail resumes to Kollin Mathews, Gentherm Incorporated, 21680 Hoggerty Rd, Northville, MI 48167.

**Mechanical Engineer (Livonia, MI):** Design & model industrial machinery parts & assemblies of tools utilizing 2D detail drawings & 3D CAD software; Perform material selections, consider heat treatment requirements & purchasing parts like pneumatic cylinders, clamps, bearings, balancers, etc. as req'd; Collaborate w/Manager to implement customized mechanical designs of Tools & Fixtures; Review specs & other data to develop mechanical layouts; Analyze engineering designs for implementation into new/existing systems; Prep drawings for production using GD & T standards; Plan work-flow, Attend meetings; conduct statistical studies, Line-up controls engineering; Identify & implement new manufacturing technologies or processes. Req: a Mstr's deg in Mechanical Engineering. Mail resumes to HR, Oxbow Machine Products Inc., 12743 Merriman Rd., Livonia, MI 48150

# BE A HERO

**Dean**  
TRANSPORTATION

## NOW HIRING AND TRAINING SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

Immediate positions available in Walled Lake, Dearborn and Eastpointe. \$15.20 - \$18.25 per hour to start, depending on location. Full benefits package and flexible scheduling available. No prior professional driving experience required - **PAID CDL TRAINING PROVIDED!** Excellent driving history is required. Must pass background check, physical exam and drug screening.

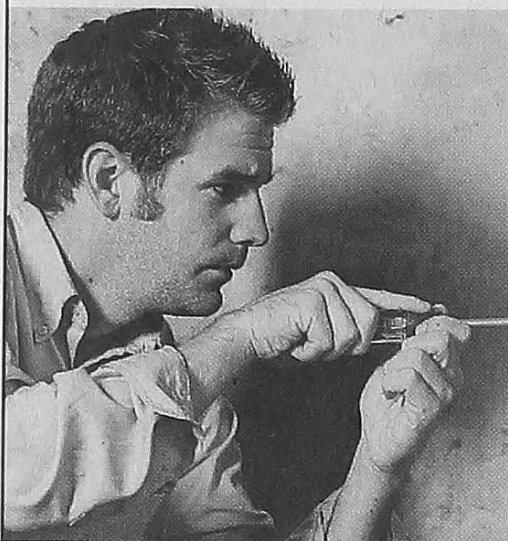
**Apply at [www.deantrans.com/jobs](http://www.deantrans.com/jobs) or in person Mon-Fri at one of the following Dean locations:**  
46740 West Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake 48390  
25081 Trowbridge St, Dearborn 48124  
17116 E. Ten Mile Rd, Eastpointe 48021

## the Henry Ford

**The Henry Ford, located in Dearborn, has a FULL-TIME CARPENTER opportunity!** Minimum seven years experience as journeyman carpenter with residential/commercial background. Knowledge of wood and steel construction, drywall, flooring, ceilings, windows, and doors, general woodworking and maintenance, ability to read blueprints. Requires HS diploma/equivalent. Work on the campus of The Henry Ford and experience a great variety of duties in a wonderful setting. Daytime shift/weekdays.

Please apply online:  
[www.thehenryford.org/jobpostings](http://www.thehenryford.org/jobpostings)

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- Flat Rate Pricing
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A/C Efficiency  
Inspection

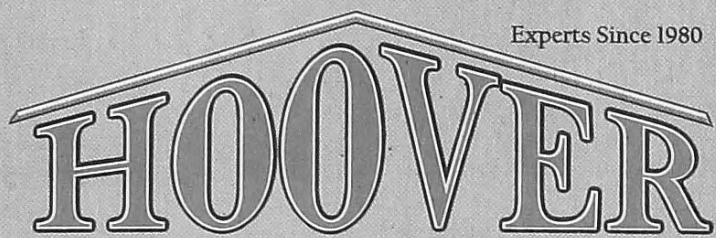
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with Coupon.  
Expires 8/31/19

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**\$1000 OFF**

a New A/C Unit

Coupon must be presented & discounted at the point of sales transaction. All sales are final & no other offers can be combined. Rebates, credits & financing vary by model. Expires 8/31/19



Electric · Plumbing · Heating · Cooling

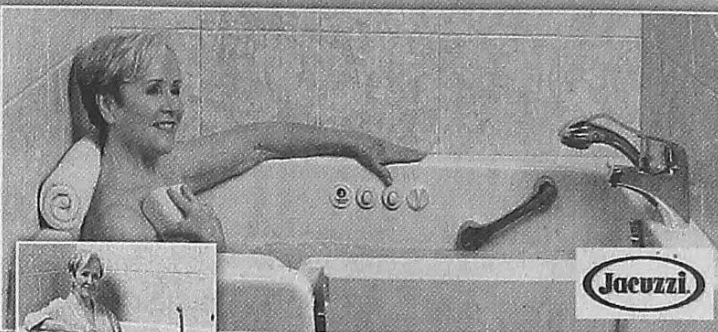
**248-973-1226**

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**30 YEARS**



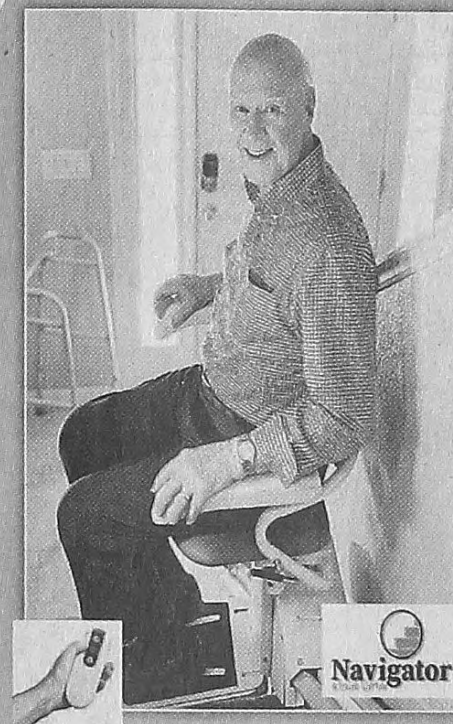
## WALK IN TUBS

SAVE 1500<sup>00</sup> OR 36 MONTHLY PAYMENTS  
No Interest No Payments for the first 5 months (with approved credit)

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## HEALTH ALERT

Hearing loss can lead to

- Cognitive Decline
- Depression
- Balance Issues
- Dementia

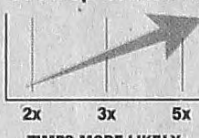
### COGNITIVE DECLINE

Adults with untreated hearing loss experience a 30-40% faster decline in cognitive abilities compared to peers with aided hearing



### DEMENTIA

Adults with untreated hearing loss are more likely to develop dementia.



2x 3x 5x  
TIMES MORE LIKELY

### DEPRESSION

Those with untreated hearing loss have higher incidence of feelings of isolation and depression.



### BALANCE

People with mild hearing loss are more likely to have a history of falling. Every additional 10 decibels of hearing loss increases the chances of falling by 1.4 times the original risk.

### LIFESPAN

Studies show older adults with untreated impaired hearing have a shorter lifespan than peers.



### TINNITUS

**90%**  
of people with tinnitus have hearing loss.

**\$850 OFF**

AN AMAZE TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM  
(INCLUDES A FREE RECHARGABLE BATTERY STATION)\*

EXPIRES AUGUST 31<sup>ST</sup>!

If you suspect you have hearing loss,  
ignoring or neglecting it can make it worse.

Beltone is offering  
**FREE HEARING SCREENINGS** until August 31<sup>st</sup>!

Livonia • Plymouth  
**248-907-0884**

\*Rechargeable battery station only compatible with Amaze 63 technology systems. \$850 off a set of hearing aids, \$425 off of one. Cannot combine with other discounts, offer not valid on previous purchases. Beltone 2019



# What's in your LUNCH?

Save on all your favorites from healthy and fresh to salty and sweet! Look for LOCAL snacks too.

**\$5 OFF**  
 PLU 52257  
 YOUR \$25 PURCHASE

IT'S EASY TO SIGN UP FOR MYWAY & SAVE

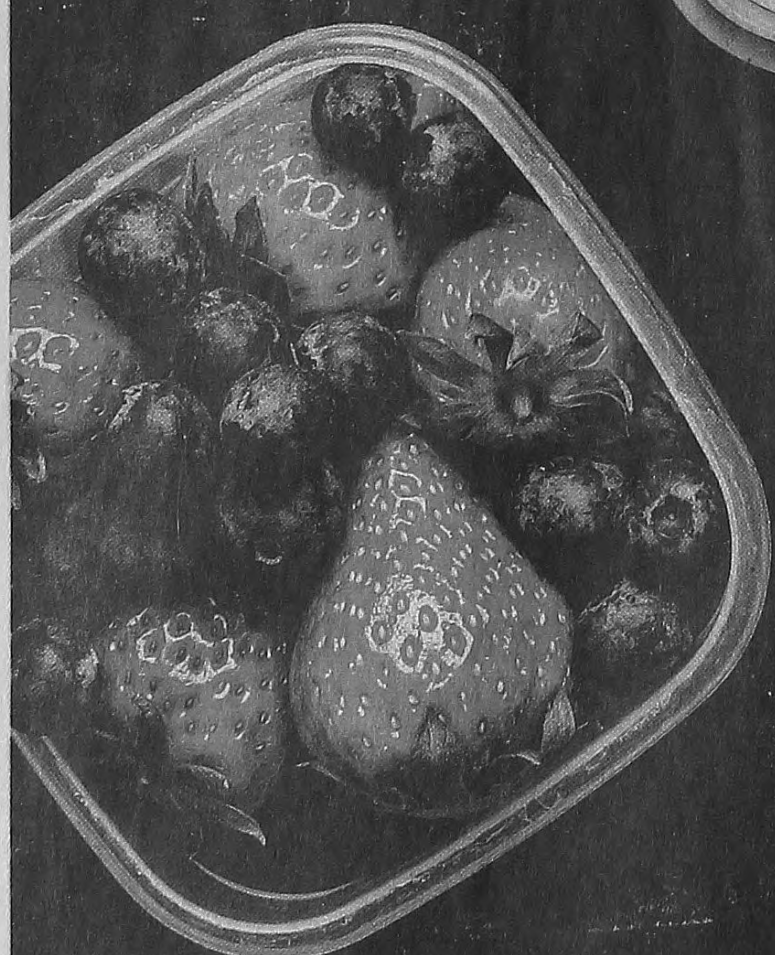
VALID 8/22-9/8/19

**BUSCH'S**

COUPON HAS NO CASH VALUE. NOT VALID WITH OTHER OFFERS. EXCLUDES ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, LOTTERY & GIFT CARD PRODUCTS. MUST BE A MYWAY MEMBER TO REDEEM.



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 DEXTER | FARMINGTON HILLS | LIVONIA | NOVI | PINCKNEY | PLYMOUTH/NORTHVILLE  
 ROCHESTER HILLS | SALINE | SOUTH LYON | TECUMSEH | WEST BLOOMFIELD