

# MHSAA to consider schedule changes for 2020-21 school year

SPORTS, 1B



#### SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2020 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

# **Redford bakery shifts to online-only sales**

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

For decades, it's been a tradition to wander into Ackroyd's Scottish Bakery and peruse the goodies in the display cases and on the shelves. Lined with pies both savory and sweet, the shop has had a following for over 70 years. Then the coronavirus pandemic hit, prompting the Redford Township bakery to reevaluate its future. Worried about what would happen without a storefront, the business continued its online sales, a growing component of the bakery. That's when they noticed something most businesses did not the last three months: they got busier. "We were very nervous at first, we weren't sure what was going to happen," said Joe Hakim, who operates the store. "About a week or two after that, we realized very quickly that people really wanted food that could be safely delivered to their homes. As March progressed into April, we were noticing a massive increase in business."

With those changes, the store's ownership made the decision to transition to an online-only business. Customers craving a Scottish meat pie or bridie now can place an order on the shop's website and have it shipped to their home or pick it up curbside bakery,

See BAKERY, Page 4A



## Effects of pandemic widespread on Canton's Ford Road

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

From Chuck E. Cheese to a popular "Cheers"-like neighborhood pub, businesses along a busy one-mile stretch of Canton's Ford Road have been staggered, if not closed for good, as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

While many neon "OPEN" signs are shining brightly, several establishments – from national firms to familyowned establishments – have yet to open since Gov. Gretchen Whitmer ordered them shut down in March.

And some have made their final

Visitors to Clements Circle Pool in Livonia, most wearing face masks, line up June 26 as the facility opens for the season. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Families flock back to community pools in Livonia

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Pools are still popular, even in a pandemic.

Ted Davis, Livonia's parks and recreation superintendent, said there's nothing quite like heading to the pool on a hot summer day. When the city reopened two of its three outdoor pools Friday, Davis was glad to give people a slice of normalcy.

"We're heading into a hot stretch and people are excited that there is something open," he said. "It's like a return to normalcy. People have been craving that."

The city's Clements Circle pool, 9999 Harrison, and Botsford pool, 19444 Lathers, are frequently used by families. The city's third pool, Shelden, will not open this summer because of repair needs.

Melissa Cragg, a mother of five, said it's nice to be able to get her kids out of the house again.

"We just became members of the Livonia rec center before all this started and one of the reasons was because we would get the pools in the summer," she



See POOLS, Page 4A

Jude Madson, 10, splashes down the slide into Clements Circle Pool on June 26.

buck along the bustling stretch of road that was an entrepreneur's dream location pre-pandemic.

The effect COVID-19 has had on Ford Road is a reflection of how the entire world is reeling. With a goal of social distancing to prevent the further spread of the coronavirus, reopening – or celebrating a grand opening – has been a bitter ordeal.

Some Ford Road businesses that have been hit the hardest:

#### **Mexican Fiesta II**

A mainstay in Canton for over two decades, the restaurant was open for carry-out and delivery for most of the spring, and it reopened briefly for dine-in service until an employee tested positive for COVID-19, forcing at least a two-week shutdown.

A post on the restaurant's Facebook page states: "Amigos, Your support during this time has been nothing short of amazing. We are overwhelmed by your love and generosity. Our incredible team has worked tirelessly to keep bringing a sense of normalcy through our food and service.

"We have received confirmation that one of our employees tested positive for COVID-19. For the safety and concern of our staff and guests, we will continue to be temporarily closed, allowing us time to reset, having all of our employees tested and professionally cleaning/sanitizing the restaurant."

#### **Rusty Nail Lounge**

A June 2 post on the self-proclaimed neighborhood pub's Facebook

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### **Detroit Institute of Arts** announces reopening dates, new precautions

#### Julie Hinds Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

The Detroit Institute of Arts announced it will open its doors July 10, after a four-month shutdown due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The guest list for the DIA's first weekend back, however, will be limited. The reopening dates of July 10-12 are reserved for museum members and those living in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties.

There will be new hours and extensive safety procedures aimed at protecting staff members and visitors from the virus. Until further notice, field trips, group tours and events inside the museum will not be available.

In a statement, DIA director Salvador Salort-Pons said, "While we are looking forward to re-opening our doors, especially for our tri-county visitors, the health and well-being of our visitors and staff is of the utmost importance."

Everyone will be required to wear a mask, except children younger than 3 years old. Plus, visitors and staffers will have their temperatures checked with a thermal imaging camera.

For now, two areas that serve food and beverages, the Kresge Court and Café DIA, will stay closed.

The new hours for the DIA will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and closed Monday and Tuesday.



Father Jim McNulty, left, pastor of St. Edith Church in Livonia, stands with Andrew Atala, Eagle Scout candidate, near the "welcoming Jesus" statue. COURTESY OF THE ATALA FAMILY

### **Statue shows Eagle Scout project efforts**

Father Jim McNulty, pastor of St. Edith Parish in Livonia, blessed the "welcoming Jesus" statue erected by Andrew Atala, a Life Scout with Troop 755 in Northville and resident of Livonia, during a May ceremony.

This project is Atala's Eagle project (one requirement to attain the Eagle Scout rank).

Andrew Atala, along with other Scouts, fundraised for, designed, ordered and installed the statue.

# **Plymouth floral shop closes**

#### **From Staff Reports** Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

Retiring during a pandemic wasn't the original plan for Lori Morrison. But knowing the future may be turbulent, she decided it's time for a change.

Her decision to step away means Ribar Floral Company, in business for decades at 728 S. Main in Plymouth, has closed its doors.

Couple the restrictions tied to the coronavirus pandemic with difficult economic conditions for small-town florists and Morrison said it's time to move on.

"The world is changed now," said Morrison, who lives in Canton. "Back in the day, you used to come to a florist because that's who sold flowers. That's not really the case now."

The shop has operated in the same space since it was opened by Pat Ribar in the early 1980s. Morrison and her mother, Marcia Sayles, purchased the shop in 2000.

She did some work at Cardwell Florist in Livonia as well as at Ribar Floral Company after high school and began helping out in the shop during holidays and other busy seasons, developing a close relationship with Ribar and her family. She worked outside of floral until Ribar called her to offer her the business.

"I remained friends with Pat Ribar all these years," she said.

Morrison spent years working through holidays such as Mother's Day and Christmas, getting to

know local customers and connecting with various organizations in the Plymouth-Canton area, including the Plymouth Historical Museum, the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and volunteering with Angela Hospice with flowers.

"We're always trying to do for others," she said.

Then the coronavirus pandemic hit Michigan, forcing her to close her doors temporarily.

"While we were closed, every day in the news was something different," she said. "I just said, 'I think that it's time.'

Ribar said she was sad to hear the shop would close, but understood why.

She said meeting Morrison was an important point in her professional life.

"It would've been a

monumental task (to stay open). She's a hard worker, always has been," Ribar said of Morrison. " .... We did a good thing when we met Lori."

While Morrison said she's looking forward to spending time with family and friends, she said she will miss the loyal customers who came in all the time looking for that personal touch in flowers. She said she hasn't ruled out helping out in other flower shops in the future; she said she's already had some people inquire if she wants to help during a busier season.

"I'm going to miss the customers," she said. "I'm certainly not going to miss the long hours or smelling like sap.

"I am going to miss the people I see every Christmas."

# **Man struck by Westland police** officer likely to sue, lawyer says

#### Susan Vela

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

A civil rights attorney representing a Detroit man with autism is threatening to sue over the use of force his client endured during a January arrest.

Jon Marko said a lawsuit is likely against the City of Westland, Westland Police Department and a police officer fired over the Jan. 16 incident involving baton strikes to the 23-year-old Black man's head area.

Police and court reports provided by the attorney indicate his client was an armed robbery suspect resisting arrest. Marko emphasized that his client also is a disabled man with the intellectual capacity ment in 2017, has not responded to messages seeking comment.

An officer had unsuccessfully tried to us a stun gun on the suspect when Landis helped arrest the man outside the Woodcrest Apartments, near the intersection of Joy and North Wayne roads.

"I observed the suspect ... aggressively fighting with officers, thrashing around and kicking officers while they were attempting to detain him," said Landis in the police report. "I exited the patrol vehicle and ran to assist officers.

"I was unable to observe (the suspect's) hands as they were concealed underneath him. (He) was refusing (an) officer's verbal commands to stop fighting and put his hands behind his

to or during the arrest. It was not until after he was taken into custody that they recognized something was not right."

Mayor William Wild is supportive.

"I fully support the chief's decision to fire Officer Landis," he wrote in an email.

He declined to comment about potential litigation.

Police investigators say the suspect entered the Arby's in the 8000 block of North Wayne Road at about 7:20 p.m. Jan. 16. He kept his hand in his pocket and implied that he had a gun before fleeing with less than \$200.

Arby's staff said he was a frequent customer who visited multiple times a week.

officers Responding

dant, a 32-year-old woman with a Woodcrest Drive address, who faces a charge of accessory after the fact to a felony.

Marko's documents indicated that she told police the two visited Arby's on North Wayne Road for some french fries Jan. 16. They then went to a nearby Domino's Pizza.

The alleged gunman told her he had to return to Arby's. She was walking toward her home when the Arby's door was flung open and she saw her friend run back to Domino's and then past her.

Police recovered \$100 from the woman's residence, and she told police the robbery suspect gave it to her after their fastfood outing.

She denied knowing

It was Andrew's goal to give back to his school and parish, and the "welcoming Jesus" statue that welcomes students and parishioners anytime they come to school or the church was a great opportunity to do SO.

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of an elementary-school student.

"What here is another troubling incident of police brutality in the community," Marko said. "He was hit in the face with a baton. He was hit so hard and so many times in the face, his eyeball literally came out of his skull."

Because of the use of force, Westland Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik ordered an internal investigation that led to the February firing of Officer Kristopher Landis. The chief said Landis used a collapsible baton to strike the suspect "on the head area."

The suspect isn't being named since he is considered a victim in the ongoing use-offorce investigation involving Landis. He also has not yet filed a lawsuit.

Landis, a former Farmington Hills police officer who joined Westland's police departback "Due to the implica-

happened tion of the firearm and not being able to secure his hands which were inside his jacket, I utilized department-issued my baton and administered two to three baton strikes to the back area of (the suspect). I was able to secure his hand and he was subsequently taken into custody and transported to St. Mary's Hospital by (the fire department) without further incident."

> Jedrusik said the department conducted an internal investigation because someone was injured due to use of force, which is a standard protocol. There were several officers on the scene, but only Landis' conduct was deemed unacceptable.

> Jedrusik would not comment on possible litigation. He offered this statement regarding the suspect's disabilities:

> "The officers on scene had no way of knowing that the subject had any mental disabilities prior

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its Regular Meeting on July 21, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. in the Friends Room on the main level of the Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170.

The District Library Board will provide auxiliary aids and services of materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon reasonable notice. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Carol Souchock, Director, Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170 at 734 453-0750 X 218.

Publish: July 5, 2020

saw the suspect running near the Woodcrest Apartments. He ignored the officers' commands to stop and kept running.

At one point, as more than one officer mentioned in the reports, he fell face first into some rocks. Another officer pointed his firearm toward the suspect.

Wayne County prosecutors are now reviewing evidence against Landis and the suspect.

"We received the paperwork from Westland on June 4, 2020," said Maria Miller, spokeswoman of the Wavne County Prosecutor's Office, in an email response. "In all police-involved cases we conduct our own independent investigation, and that is taking place now."

She said a competency evaluation has been ordered for the suspect, who faces felony charges of armed robbery and assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer.

He has a co-defen-

the man was going to rob Arby's and said she never tried to incite such behavior.

That contradicted what the robbery suspect told police.

"I was not able to interview (him) due to him not understanding his Mi-randa rights," said the warrant request bearing the names of Sgt. Jerry Farrar and Lt. Matthew Price. "(He) kept repeating she ... persuaded him to do it and he was sorry."

A licensed psychologist and forensics examiner documented her opinion in March that the armed robbery suspect is not competent to stand trial, according to a letter supplied by Marko on state Department of Health and Human Services letterhead stationery.

"While he was personable and polite, (he) presented in a child-like manner, often smiling and laughing during inappropriate times," the psychologist wrote. "He would become confused when asked questions."

He is diagnosed with autism and has received mental health treatment for at least a few years. He told the psychologist his mother remains his legal guardian. The psychologist documented that the mother considered her son moody but not aggressive.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.

NOTICE **CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN** 2020 SUMMER TAXES

Summer taxes are due July 1, 2020 and payable through August 10, 2020 without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CITY OF PLYMOUTH.

Payments can be made at City Hall during regular business hours, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's office. Cash, Checks and Credit Cards (a convenience fee applies) are accepted for payment during business hours. After hours, payments (checks only) can be placed in the DROP BOX located in the Church Street lobby of City Hall or use the DROP BOX located next to the book return behind the Library. Additional payment options are on the City website @ www.plymouthmi.gov.

> John Scanlon Finance Director/City Treasurer

Publish: June 28 & July 5, 2020

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### **Ford Road**

#### Continued from Page 1A

page explains why the normally jampacked business has remained closed since March.

"When we finally open our doors, we want to do it right. There are many things we need to put into motion to ensure the safety of our guests, employees, and community. In order to do this, there are a lot of pieces that must be in place for it to be done right. As we work diligently to contact our suppliers and assess the comfort level of our community and employees, we ask for your patience.

"We promise to update as soon as we know the date, so stay tuned and stay safe. Thanks again for your patience and continued support."

#### **Super Bowl Lanes**

The site of several professional and amateur events over the past two decades, the bowling establishment has yet to reopen since March. A large image at the top of the business's Facebook page states simply: "We look forward to seeing you soon."

#### **Chuck E. Cheese**

The longtime magnet for children's (and adults') fun filed for Chapter 11 protection to achieve a "restructuring that supports its re-opening and longerterm strategic plans," according to a statement released earlier this month.

The good news for Canton-area Chuck E. Cheese fans is that the company is going to continue to manufacture good times once the time is right to reopen.

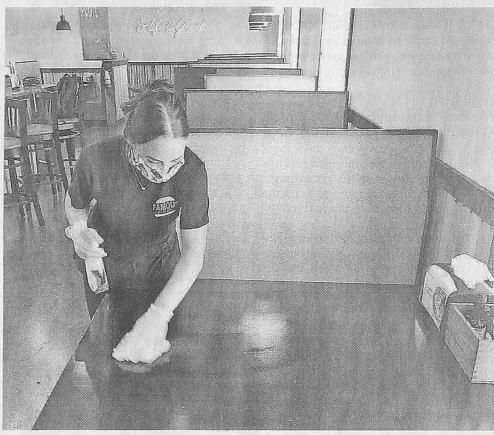
"We will not re-open our doors just because we can," a message on the Canton Facebook page revealed. "We are following the guidance of national health experts and local officials; our teams are working on new safety and sanitation procedures and when we do re-open, we will be confident that we are doing everything we can to provide the safest experience possible."

#### **Tropical Smoothie Cafe**

Located at the site of the former Pizza Hut, Tropical Smoothie Cafe's opening



National Coney Island on Ford Road laves no questions about its re-opening date. PHOTOS BY ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Famous Hamburger was one of many restaurants to allow indoor dining June 8.

has been delayed by the spread of CO-VID-19. While the facility appears ready to roll, there is no firm grand opening date listed on its Facebook page.

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#### **Planet Fitness**

Initially scheduled to open in April, the gym's much-anticipated Ford Road

grand opening has been stalled by Whitmer's executive order to keep gyms closed.

Construction on the new site that formerly housed the Canton Cinema is still a work in progress, judging by the sixfoot cyclone fencing that runs along the perimeter of what will be the parking lot.

Once gyms are permitted to re-open, members will be able to use the current Canton location at 463 N. Canton Center Road until the new facility is ready to allow guests.

"As a result of the appeals court ruling, the club will remain temporarily closed and all memberships will remain frozen," Planet Fitness's Facebook page states. "We will reopen as soon as permitted."

#### **National Coney Island**

There's good news and bad news regarding the restaurant located at 45250 Ford Road. The bad news is that the popular chain restaurant has yet to open since the initial March shutdown; the good news is that a message arranged in large letters across its front windows reveals an Aug. 3 re-opening is on the horizon.

Contact reporter Ed Wright at eawright@hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113.



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- ✓ Do You Have Ten Minutes: The form has only ten questions and takes about ten minutes to complete.
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- It's Safe & Private: Under current census laws, your responses are kept confidential and can only be used by the government to produce statistics.
- Dollars for Westland Services: A complete count is vital to our City, as Census numbers determine how more than \$675 billion federal dollars are spent.
- ✓ Don't be Left Out: If you do not respond to the online invitation, a paper form will be mailed with options to respond by filling out a form or by phone.
- We Will Find You: If you still do not respond, we will need to send a Census Bureau interviewer to your home to collect your answers in person.

\*The stakes for Westland are high in the 2020 Census. With billions of dollars in federal funding up for grabs I am committed to making sure every resident is counted." - Mayor William R. Wild

Westland's future is counting on you! www.cityofwestland.com/open-gov/westland-counts









### Bakery

#### Continued from Page 1A

located at 25566 Five Mile in Redford Township.

The shop originally opened in 1949 in Detroit by Al and Silas Ackroyd, current owner Megan Ackroyd's grandfather and great-uncle. It opened its Redford location in 1972. The bakery used to operate shops in Birmingham and Dearborn as well.

Making the transition, Hakim said, was something in the long-term plans for the bakery, not nearly this soon. With the increase in sales online, the eventual plan was to move to an onlineonly format a few years into the future. The coronavirus pandemic showed the shop it could make the transition much earlier than originally thought.

"Our plan for five years from now was to shift to e-commerce completely," he said. "But here were are three months into a pandemic and we're realizing we could do the shift now."

For those still looking to get their British food fix, most everything Ackroyd's sold when open as a storefront has moved online. In addition to the freshbaked items, grocery items imported from the United Kingdom are for sale, including Cadbury chocolate, clotted cream and Walkers crisps. It ships to all 50 states.

Hakim said only a handful of items had to be discontinued, including some breads, brownies and lemon tarts. Those items, he said, did not keep well during shipping.

Megan Ackroyd said while it's a little challenging to make the pivot to an on-



Ackroyd's Scottish Bakery employee Allison Reyes puts some of their Aberdeen Butteries into bags to prepare them for customers' pick-up or delivery orders. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

line store, doing so is in the best interest of keeping the bakery sustainable in the long run.

"It is a little bit sad of course. It's a chapter of our business that is ending," she said. "There's a lot more opportunity for us not to have to manage the dayto-day in retail."

Hakim said they've heard from plenty of customers expressing support for their work. While some are sad the storefront is closed, others reached out to express support that the products will continue to be available.

One longtime customer who didn't realize the shop had closed its retail operation is Dennis Russell. A former Canton resident who now lives in The Villages in Florida, he swung by one afternoon last week while in town to pick up some goodies. He didn't realize it had closed its storefront and took out his phone to place an order.

"My mom used to bring me here when we were kids because she was English and my dad was Scotch-Irish," he said. "We usually manage to get out here and pick some up and take them with us. It usually lasts us through Christmas time."

The shop is currently open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for curbside pickup. It is closed June 30-July 6 and will reopen July 7.

Those looking to order can do so by visiting ackroydsbakery.com.

While the storefront has closed, Megan Ackroyd said the current model is just the latest iteration of what the bakery will be. She said they expect to move out of the Redford location and are actively looking for a space where they can continue having customer events.

They hope to continue having special events, including popup shops, as well as continue their Burns Night celebrations in Ferndale every January.

Keeping those relationships with customers from across metro Detroit, Megan Ackroyd said, is still a crucial component.

"Our local customer base is incredibly important to us and is a huge priority for us," she said. "We are not trying to alienate everyone. Our focus is quite the opposite of that.

"We had to make a change that would keep our employees safe ... and ensure the longevity of our business."

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

### Pools

#### Continued from Page 1A

said. "So we're just happy we can be here."

The atmosphere at the pools is a little different this year as, per executive order, capacity was cut in half, allowing for 180 visitors to each pool at a time. Livonia also asks swimmers to reserve spots online, keep their hands away from their faces, wear a mask while on deck, maintain a six foot distance from others and practice good hygiene.

Cragg said the added precautions and cut capacity are part of what made her feel safe bringing her kids to the pool.

"My kids will play with each other, they don't really have to go find people to play with, so I don't have to worry about them going to play with other kids," she said. "If I had an only child, I probably wouldn't come here."



Davis said while the pools have been busy, the city hasn't gone over capacity so far and hopes to avoid that issue as Michigan heads into a hot stretch.

Livonia isn't the only city to open its splash pads and pools. Farmington Hills opened its splash pad at Heritage Park, Kensington Metropark in Milford reopened its splash pad and Westland's splash park at Central City Park is open as well.

"It's been crazy, so this is actually really good to get them out of the house," said Lena Suwan, a Livonia mom.

But even though playgrounds, pools and dog parks are open to the public again, indoor recreation facilities like the Kirksey Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard, in Livonia are still closed. Davis said the city is ready to open Kirksey "as soon as it's legal."

"We're ready to open whenever," he said. "If the executive order comes through today, we would open tomorrow. We're ready."

When Kirksey reopens, workout equipment will be spaced 10 feet apart, the fitness hub will expand into the former gymnastics area, a thermal camera will take everyone's temperature and a sneeze guard will protect employees. Like the pools, capacity will be reduced and everyone not working out will have to wear a mask.

Davis did note reopening Kirksey may not mean reopening its two indoor pools, but swimmers will still have the outdoor pools to enjoy.

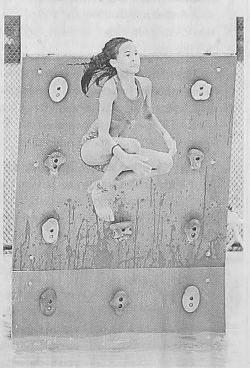
"They've taken measures like you (can) register online and you can't just come in," Suwan said. "There's only specific amounts of people at a given time. And I don't think the governor would have allowed us to open if it wasn't safe."

Livonia's outdoor pools are free to Kirksey members. Otherwise, the entrance free is \$4 or \$7 for children and seniors depending on residency and \$5 or \$9 for adults depending on residency.

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby\_tankk.

Terry White, 14, swims at Clements Circle Pool in Livonia June 26. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM





Clements Circle lifeguard Annika Sholander has worked at the pool for six years.

Tessa White, 10, leaps off a climbing board into the Clements Circle Pool.



Phallon Kersanty, 6, splashes around.



Tessa White pauses by the pool edge to share her excitement about its opening.

# Obituaries

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#### **Clarice Dona Fielder**

KALAMAZOO - Clarice Dona Fielder (Christie), 79, passed away on May 11, 2020 at Fountain View Assisted Living in Kalamazoo, MI. A Memorial Service will be held at 11am – 3pm on July 11, 2020 at Goudy Park Amphitheater, 3355 S. Wayne Rd, Wayne, MI 48184. She was born on



June 9, 1940, in Detroit, MI. Daughter of Clarence & Ruth Christie. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Robert Lee Fielder; brother-in-law Jack Roberts; and daughter-in-law Sue Lakatos. She is survived by her sister Dee (Jack) Roberts; four sons: Andrew (Sue) Lakatos of Florida, James (Mary Jo), Bryan, and David (Dawn) Lakatos all of Michigan; 7 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren. She also has 4 step-sons (Earl, Ronald, Donald, Robert Jr) & 5 step-daughters (Darlene, Regina, Diane, Clarissa, Kellie) with her husband, Robert. Condolences may be expressed to the family at joldersma-klein.com. Memorial contributions can be made to Fountain Clinic of Marshall, MI (www.fountainclinic.org). Clarice had a passion for family, and giving to those she came in contact with. She gave her life for her children and always loved when the grand & great-grandchildren would visit.

#### **Kelsey Rae Holmstrom**

NORTHVILLE - Age 29, of Northville, passed away suddenly on June 22, 2020. She was born on March 30, 1991 in Dearborn, Michigan; daughter of Robert P. Holmstrom and Paula A. Blair. Kelsey moved to Northville about a year ago from Livonia where she was a lifetime resident. She graduated from Livonia Stevenson High School, Class of 2009. Following high school, she continued her education at Schoolcraft College. Kelsey worked as a lockbox processor for an IT company before recently beginning a job as a receptionist at a physical therapy office. She was proud of her new job and it was a perfect fit for her wonderful personality.

A true gearhead, Kelsey loved everything about sports cars. She looked forward to the trips to see here dad where they would drive Lamborghinis and other fast cars on the track. Kelsey enjoyed watching movies, her favorite movie was The Fast and the Furious and she idolized Paul Walker. She also enjoyed listening to music and had a hidden talent of remembering song lyrics. Kelsey traveled all over the world with her family. When she went up north, she would hunt for and collect petoskey stones. Kelsey liked craft beer and was proud that she logged over 250 types of beer into the app Untappd. Playing cards and boardgames was another favored activity she shared with her family. Kelsey was a true Red Wings fan with, of course, Tomas Holmstrom being her favorite. Living in a divided house she decided to root for the University of Michigan alongside her stepdad. Kelsey was a gentle, beautiful soul without a mean bone in her body. She was very giving and an incredible gift giver. Kelsey is survived by her parents, Paula (Tom) Mulvihill and Robert "Bob" (Rose) Holmstrom; her grandparents, John and Ruth Holmstrom; and her siblings, Sean Mulvihill, Nicklas Holmstrom, Brian (Dulce) Mulvihill, Lynn (Haydon Christiansen) Mulvihill, Tim (Diane Johnson) Mulvihill, Joe (Kelsey) Hendrix, and Kristina (Todd) Mueller. Also loved by many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews. She was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents Thomas and Peggy Blair. A private family service and visitation were held at Casterline Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers the family would appreciate memorial contributions to The Living and Learning Enrichment Center, 801 Griswold, Northville, MI 48167. Due to the limitation of COVID-19 there is a maximum number of people allowed inside the funeral home. We are asking visitors to wear masks and practice social distancing. If you are experiencing signs of cold or flu symptoms, please refrain from attending. You may be asked to wait before entering, thank you for your patience and understanding.



Never Forgotten



Murray M. South

PLYMOUTH - June 27, 2020, age 94. Beloved husband of the late Helen. Loving father of Karen Levandowski, Robert (Marlene) South and Thomas (Elaine) South. Proud grandfather of Dustin (Andrea), Timothy (Leah), Daryl (Katie), Brendan (Jessica), Stephen (Tina), and Kristin and great grandfather of Claire, and Oliver. The family will gather with friends Saturday, July 11th 3 PM until the Saturday 6 PM Memorial Service at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 Ann Arbor Road W. (Between Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154-5010. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfh.com

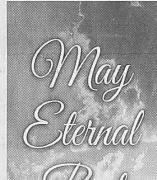
> VERMEULEN-SAJEWSKI FUNERAL CREMATION HOMES SERVICES

#### **Christopher Thomason**

Our beloved son Christopher Thomason went to heaven on March 27th 2020 at the young age of 34.

Chris obtained his Eagle Scout with Boy Scout Troop 1537 in Plymouth, graduated from Plymouth Salem High School in 2003 where he played Varsity Basketball and









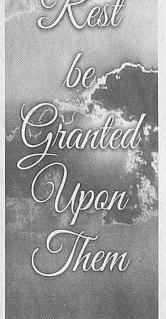
Track and went on to graduate from Michigan State University in 2008 with a degree in Material Science Engineering.

He was currently living and working in Starkville, Mississippi with Steel Dynamics Inc. as a Metallurgist.

Chris had a welcoming smile and those that knew him were aware of his kindness and love of life.

He is survived by his parents John and Brenda Thomason of The Villages, Florida and his half-sister Becky Thomason of Westland. Chris was predeceased by his half-sister Rachel Thomason.

Chris' remains will be buried along with other family members in Waverly, Tennessee.





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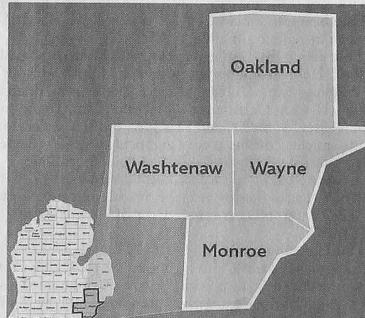
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# SPORTS

# **MHSAA pondering shift of some sports**

#### **Colin Gay**

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer is encouraging the Michigan High School Athletic Association to move any nonsocial-distanced sport to the spring due to the coronavirus pandemic, while individualized sports such as golf, track and field, and tennis may be played in the fall.

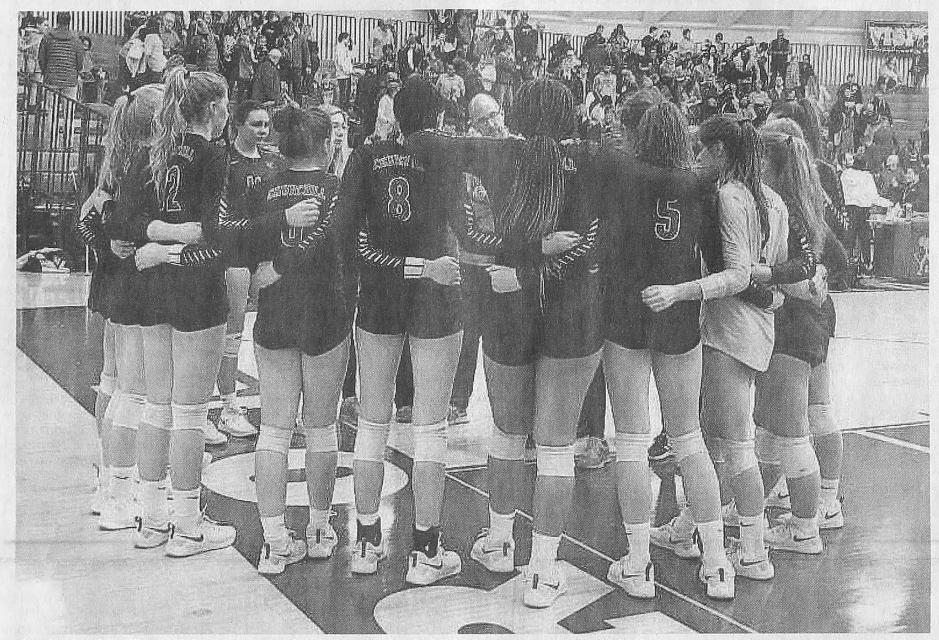
According to a spokesman from the MHSAA, this is something the association has discussed and is considering, but that it is still planning for an upcoming fall season with normal fall sports.

The MHSAA said it will be releasing

See MOVEMENT, Page 2B

**Regardless** of the schedule starting in the fall, three distinct seasons are sought.

### Churchill volleyball endures pandemic, ready to show off in 2020



Livonia Churchill will see if it has an opportunity to regroup after losing in the state quarterfinal in 2019. COLIN GAY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE PHOTO

# PREPARING **AMID THE** HESITANCY

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com | USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

eading into her second year as head coach for the Livonia Churchill volleyball team, Claire Urban seemed to already have a lot on her plate ahead of the 2020 season. After winning 15 of 16 possible sets to earn a regional title before being swept by Ann Arbor Skyline in the state quarterfinal, Churchill is forced to replace seven seniors, trying to find that same magic again with a new group. Normally, Urban would be beginning work with her high school team at the end of June, preparing for camps and leading open gyms. Instead, with the coronavirus pandemic shutting down the See CHURCHILL, Page 3B

## Darrin Silvester takes over as Plymouth hockey coach

#### **Andrew Vailliencourt**

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Hockey has always been a large part of Darrin Silvester's life.

This summer, his hockey journey will take him on a new path forward in the sport - as the new Plymouth Wildcats varsity head coach.

Silvester, who has been involved with PCEP hockey in some capacity for 17 of the past 21 years, takes over for veteran coach Gerry Vento, who stepped down after nine years to spend more time with his family.

"I've never coached varsity as a head coach," Silvester said. "That's something new. In the 17 of the 21 years I've been involved I've never been a varsity head coach. It's a chance to coach a bunch of guys and girls (there's a girl trying out this year who played on the prep team) that I've already coached before. They're a great bunch and a fantastic group. I think we're going to have a balanced team."

Silvester was an assistant coach for



decade, he's been in charge of the Plymouth

Prep hockey program, which has essentially served as Plymouth's JV team while the school hasn't had an official JV squad.

That means Silvester has coached or gotten to know in some capacity almost every player currently going through the Wildcats hockey program. In these uncertain times, he thinks it is valuable that he already has relationships with players.

This fall he will be in his 25th year of teaching at Salem.

"I bring an ability to work with people

See SILVESTER, Page 2B



# **Uncertainty grows for college football**



Dan Wolken Columnist USA TODAY

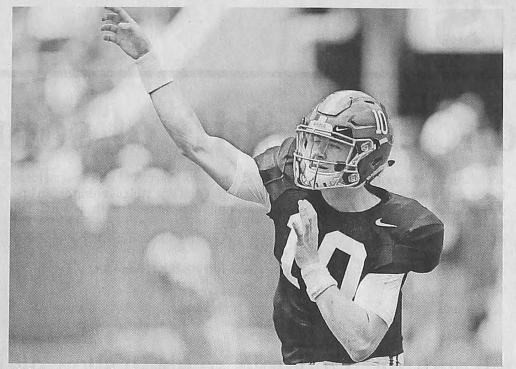
As the calendar turns to July, a month that is slated to bring the opening of college football preseason camps, social media feeds of coaches and administrators across the country have been filled with messages imploring fans to wear masks if they want the season to begin on time. But the campaign to mask up is more than just a public service announcement. Instead, it's a warning whose seriousness has started to dawn on weary athletics directors: If the current trajectory of the COVID-19 pandemic does not change in the next two weeks, playing the college football season as scheduled is in significant peril.

In conversations with more than a dozen administrators, coaches and others intimately involved with college sports, all of whom spoke with USA TO-DAY Sports on the condition of anonymity in order to provide their honest assessment, the level of uncertainty and alarm around the current situation has only grown in recent days.

Pervasive optimism that the college football season would start and finish on time has given way to nervousness as programs continue to see players with COVID-19 infections during voluntary workouts and multiple states have either slowed down or reversed some aspects of their re-opening plans due to spiking case numbers.

The idea of delaying college football to the spring, which was dismissed as a last resort a few months ago, is being revived in some corners as a legitimate option to buy time and give programs more tools to manage a situation that many administrators privately admit is unwieldy and uncertain. Meanwhile, some FBS conferences are actively engaged with banks on opening up lines of credit to guard against lost revenue, a key acknowledgment that schools fear a potential revenue wipeout this fall.

Ultimately, coaches and administrators still don't know exactly what the next month will hold and whether a program can start contact practice without



Alabama quarterback Mac Jones throws a pass during the Crimson Tide's 2019 spring game in Tuscaloosa, Ala. MARVIN GENTRY/USA TODAY SPORTS

being overwhelmed by infections which isn't a very good sign on July 1 given initial expectations that the pandemic would die down in the summer and that accurate point-of-care testing would be widespread enough by now to test regularly.

Instead neither of those things have happened, and an industry that spent all spring saying time was on its side suddenly finds itself up against the clock. As one Power Five athletics director mused, the next month might be the most crucial in the modern history of college sports.

The challenges in navigating the next few weeks, not to mention the months to come, are almost innumerable. And yet they'll be have to be navigated under a fractured landscape that does not lend itself to nimbleness or consistency.

As one athletics director in the Midwest pointed out, it wasn't until states within the SEC footprint started to open up in May that there was a strong push nationally to bring football players back to campus in June. It's unclear what that will now mean in the near and mediumterm future with the virus surging in SEC states like Florida, Texas, Mississippi, Alabama and South Carolina, but the delusion of a relatively smooth transition back to sports has now been obliterated.

Even if the numbers in those states were stable, the reality of how difficult it's going to be for programs to avoid constant disruptions has been laid bare by what happened at LSU, where at least 30 players have had to isolate due to either testing positive for COVID-19 or coming into contact with someone who tested positive at the local bars. A total of 37 Clemson players have tested positive. At Kansas State, workouts were shut down because of positive tests for players who are believed to have been infected at a party.

Administrators have seen those numbers and are already worried about whether their schools have planned for enough quarantine space once campuses are fully opened to regular students. They also realize that despite significant measures to sanitize and socially distance when players are in the athletics facilities, you can only do so much to monitor and control who athletes are coming into contact with most of the day. You can ask players to reduce their social lives and stay inside as much as possible, but everyone knows it's simply not real-

#### istic in a college setting.

Some schools are trying out a socalled pod system where smaller groupings of players (often based around where they live) are supposed to stay together when they're outside the building. Just as an example, each pod would only have one quarterback, one running back, etc., so that if there was an infection during the season it would reduce the chance of an entire position group being wiped out for weeks at a time. It sounds good in theory, but the likelihood of that arrangement holding together effectively for five months seems small.

Contrary to popular belief among CO-VID-19 deniers, this isn't about the death rate. Everyone recognizes that young, healthy athletes are highly unlikely to die if they contract the virus. But even if you can temporarily put aside the ever-present concern that a small number could have bad outcomes or the unknown long-term effects, the contagiousness of the virus and the issue of asymptomatic spread presents a practical problem of how you can coach, prepare and play without needing to isolate significant portions of your team.

One Power Five coach told me he wonders specifically about the hundreds of November and December games all over the country where major conference teams pay guarantees to mid- and lowmajors. An SEC or ACC school will be financially able to test their players multiple times a week, but will the school from the Atlantic Sun or WAC that needs the \$75,000 payday just to make its budget? That coach said there was "no way" he'd allow his team to be on the same floor as an opponent that wasn't testing its players.

It would be helpful in the middle of a pandemic if the NCAA was structured in a way to establish standards on issues like testing or scheduling, but so far it has only operated in the realm of recommendations and best practices. It has left the hard questions to the conferences, which should have tackled those issues first and built a comprehensive plan to quickly transition the football season to the spring if the virus hadn't been controlled by June. Instead, it got hung up on small ball issues like recruiting and how often players could be on Zoom calls with their coaches.



### Silvester

Continued from Page 1B

that are this age because I've been working with them every day for the last quarter century," Silvester said.

coming season and will play Salem once.

"That's one of the big highlights of high school hockey," Silvester said. "That's where the kids have a lot of fun. they enjoy playing in front of large groups of their friends. They enjoy competing against their friends on the

Canton High School graduate Donnie Trosper qualified for this week's Rocket Mortgage Classic in Detroit. PHOTO COURTESY OF DONNIE TROSPER

# **Canton golfer** qualifies for Rocket Mortgage Classic

#### **Ed Wright**

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Not long after he learned how to walk, 18-month-old Donnie Trosper was ripping drives with plastic golf clubs at Westland's Mickey's Golf Range, which his family has owned for the past 25 years.

When he was 5, the now 23-year-old was consistently firing well-struck iron shots onto Mickey's vast green acreage.

On Monday, Trosper qualified for this week's Rocket Mortgage Classic with a dramatic sudden-death victory at the Detroit Golf Club. Trosper was one of just two qualifiers out of 65 to advance to the PGA event that wraps today at the Detroit Golf Club.

The former Canton High School phenom is making his PGA debut after a brief stint on the Korn Ferry Tour, two years at Central Florida University and one year at Michigan State University.

"We won't be able to attend the tournament (due to COVID-19-related fan restrictions), but we'll definitely be watching on TV, hoping to catch a glimpse of him," said Don Trosper, Donnie's father. "We're incredibly proud of him, no matter how he plays this week."

Trosper qualified for the three-player playoff on Monday by firing a fourunder 68. He drained a 25-foot putt to advance with one other player to the second playoff hole. After matching pars with his playoff foe on the second hole, the former Chief parred the third sudden-death hole to secure a spot in this week's tournament.

'He looked really confident, determined," said Don Trosper, who watched a video of his son's playoff effort. "He's always played well in the heat, so he has that going for him this week.'

In addition to the on-course test, Trosper had to pass a COVID-19 screening before getting the thumbs-up to play in his first PGA event.

"That made us a little nervous, but thank goodness we got the good news that he passed," Don Trosper said.

Contact reporter Ed Wright at eawright@hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113.

He said his main focus as a coach has always been the same and will continue to be the case at Plymouth.

"First and foremost, I want every player to have an excellent experience. You only get to play the sport for so long," Silvester said. "My long term goals are almost always the same. Hockey for us has been about being a part of a family."

One thing Silvester will have at his disposal that Vento did not is an official JV team. Plymouth will have a team for the first time this year, meaning he can move players up and down throughout the year to balance playing time and opportunities.

In a normal year, Silvester said he wants to keep bringing in large crowds for games. He knows student-athletes thrive on the environment and wants to keep fan engagement high. He also plans to schedule more games against the other two park teams. He was able to schedule Canton twice for this up-

### Movement

Continued from Page 1B

more information on the path of the upcoming sports schedule in mid July, but has no official date. Whitmer said that she expects a decision to be made between July 20-25.

The MHSAA spokesman also said that regardless of the sports schedule starting in the fall of 2020, the association will be pushing for three distinct sports seasons.

The MHSAA also said that it is hoping not to have a conversation about moving football to the spring, but that if so, they are discussing plans regarding a possible back-to-back spring and fall football season in 2021.

In a 63-page report regarding the safety plan for students returning for K-12 instruction in the fall released by the state Tuesday, Whitmer defined

other teams. I've been around high school sports long enough to see the stuff that becomes the most memorable and exciting.'

Last season, the Wildcats struggled to a 10-14-1 finish, good for fourth place (out of six) in their division. That's an area Silvester hopes to improve upon in year one.

"We didn't have the best record the last couple years and it happens," Silvester said. "We're playing in a really competitive league and competitive division with a tough schedule. I'd like to see our record improve."

Any players interested in trying out or seeking more information about the hockey program are encouraged to send Silvester an email at darrin.silvester@pccsk12.com.

Contact reporter Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter at @AndrewVcourt. Send story ideas to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

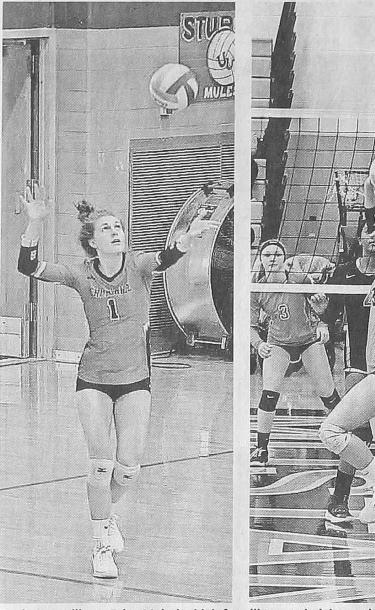
plans for athletics in Phase 4, 5 and 6 of the reopening plan.

In Phase 4, all large-scale indoor spectator events are suspended. Outdoor events are limited to 100 people, with maintained social distancing measures put in place. Also, indoor weight rooms and physical training that requires shared equipment is suspended.

In Phase 5, Whitmer strongly recommends outdoor sporting events are limited to 250 spectators, while indoor events are limited to 50 people. Indoor weight rooms and physical conditioning are permitted with social distancing enforced and disinfecting of all equipment.

In Phase 6, all safety protocols are no longer required.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@ hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter at @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



CH

Sophomore libero Erica Maladecki, left, will try and pick up where her sister Jessica left off last season; senior setter Maddie Johnson will be a key contributor. PHOTOS COURTESY OF ERICA MALADECKI (LEFT) AND MADDIE JOHNSON

### Churchill

#### Continued from Page 1B

club volleyball season for many on the Chargers roster, Churchill will have to find a way to develop that same chemistry and communication, despite not knowing the status of the upcoming fall season.

According to the Michigan High School Athletic Association, volleyball is listed as a "moderate risk" sport, and may be permitted to begin when the third step of the reopening process has started, which is initiated by each individual school district.

The MHSAA announced Tuesday it has been considering a shift in season for different sports, moving fall sports to the spring and spring sports to the fall. A spokesman said that no matter what, the goal is for three full seasons to be played.

Urban said she has been following the lead of Churchill athletic director Marc Hage, and there is no real answer at this point to the status of their sport.

to roll with the punches because I don't know very much," Urban said. "None of us do."

#### Preparing for the unknown

As the future remains unclear for the sport in the fall, Urban and the Churchill staff is doing their best to continue to get their players prepared for what could be

In the limited practices the Chargers have had, players have been on outdoor sand courts, giving them an opportunity to gain strength in their legs prior to the season starting, as well as communication work based on how difficult movement is compared to the courts they normally play on.

But Urban said the break has found its advantages. She said many of her players were healing from injuries and fatigue, and that she expects the team to come out in the fall healthy, stronger and anxious.

"They are just ready to go," Urban said. "They miss seeing each other, they miss the game. They don't care if it's in sand or grass, whatever. They just want to touch a ball and they want to get to playing."

# **Dupret returns to** overcome obstacles at North Farmington

#### **Colin Gay** Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Andre Dupret remembers his time on the North Farmington tennis team. It was home.

During the school day, Dupret described himself as shy, not having many friends within school. But when he took the court, he completely changed: He was confident. He was good.

He just wanted to get to the courts as quickly as possible.

"That bell would ring, and I would sprint; I would have all my stuff ready," Dupret said. "I just wanted to get there so I could play a couple of extra minutes."

For four years, tennis brought Dupret out of his shell at North Farmington. In the upcoming fall season, it will be his job to help Raiders tennis players get out of their shells as the newest head coach of the program.

In his junior and senior seasons with North Farmington, Dupret was the No.1 player in singles, holding a co-captain position his senior season and earning Scholar-Athlete honors from 2008-2010

Beginning his coaching career for the Franklin Athletic Club and University of Michigan-Dearborn in 2012, Dupret has previously held a coaching position at Birmingham Groves. He also serves as the head tennis coach for the North Farmington girls team.

But where Dupret sees making the most impact as a coach at his alma mater is the journey to get to that No. 1 spot.

#### **Overcoming obstacles**

Two weeks before his freshman year, Dupret had jaw surgery, and was forced to have a skin graft made from his thigh.

The surgery was nothing new for the incoming North Farmington freshman, as he said he grew up with many cosmetic surgeries on his jaw. But this one was different.

He was told by doctors that he would not fully recover from the surgery until three weeks after, encouraging him to not run until that point. However, Dupret knew that tennis tryouts were coming up. If he did not try out, he would not make any team, no matter the level.

He decided to tough it out.

"On the first day of tryouts, they had us run laps around the court, conditioning. I was like the last kid," Dupret said. "I was basically just hopping around because it was very painful. Even my parents regretted sending me out there, but I wanted to be there because I loved the team so much, and I wanted to play."

the talent, but that it was "tough timing."

This was the example that best describes Dupret: coming from behind, and coming out on top.

"I can tell you countless times in tennis matches where, playing No.1 singles, I would lose a set," Dupret said. "Most of the time, I would end up losing the first set and then come back and win. I always had resiliency."

The obstacles Dupret was able to go through as a student at North Farmington makes him feel he is able to relate with the players he is coaching. No mat-



Dupret

ter the situation, no matter what the individual player is doing through, he will be able to empathize and remember his experience with the Raiders.

Tennis not only taught Dupret confidence, it also taught him resiliency.

"If you have that love of the game, it's something that you can always fall back on, even if something bad happens," Dupret said.

#### **Taking the court**

In his first year as a head coach at North Farmington, Dupret has already faced obstacles.

Four days into his first season with the girls tennis team, the coronavirus postponed and eventually canceled the season. With the virus comes added pressure to the upcoming fall season with the boys team, focusing not only on making a strong first impression, but prioritizing player safety through the pandemic.

Dupret said he has been planning summer practices, including four-onones with the coaching staff, making sure the players are prepared for the fall.

Along with the coronavirus, Dupret said his focus has been reaching out to middle schools and youth leagues, recruiting kids to a program that did not have enough players for a junior varsity team last season.

Even though there was a big drop-off in participation at North Farmington a year ago, Dupret sees talent. He sees potential from a team that came within one game of states a season ago.

All it takes to get to the state tournament level is confidence.

"What I am looking to kind of see from these guys, to get out of them is to help them realize that goal that they didn't achieve last year, and that's getting to states," Dupret said.

"At Churchill, we're a family and it's just like any other family: we're going to get through it all, all the differences, together," Urban said. "I think it will make them stronger in the end and in the upcoming season. We are trying to work through it together as a group."

#### **Rolling with the punches**

Maddie Johnson had an idea of what she wanted the offseason to look like.

As an incoming senior, she wanted to take the spring and summer to train, physically and mentally, for the upcoming year with a new-look roster.

She thought starting early would help her better the team in the long run. It started during the club season, playing with two other Churchill seniors, developing a rapport on the court and beginning the process of trust and communication that is vital to longterm success.

With the coronavirus disrupting that schedule, Johnson's plans shifted, but she still worked.

"I really have been doing a lot of hit workouts at home, just trying to better myself so I can eventually help better the team," Johnson said.

Thinking about this upcoming season, every volleyball team in the KLAA and the entire state of Michigan is in the same boat: forced to change training regimens for a season that may be changed at any time.

"We are almost going into the season blind, but not really at the same time," senior attacker Olivia Clark said. "We have an idea of what the season is going to look like, the people, but not much to prepare for it."

In planning for the upcoming season, Urban is not looking too far ahead. She does not want to put more stress and anxiousness on the minds of her players.

Instead, the Churchill head coach is planning for the best-case scenario: scheduling tryouts in August, with the first game either later that month or in early September.

"As a coach, I'm just trying my best

As practices start to ramp up, junior setter Jordan Wosniak realizes the amount of work that will need to be done to develop the team to where it was at the start of next season.

She said it is especially important in her role as a setter, along with Johnson.

"Leading up to when we can get back into the gym, I believe that we all need to come together, as a team, and be open for encouraging words and also open for critiques," Wosniak said. "Nobody is perfect. Setters go off of flaws.... You want the hitter to tell you what you are doing wrong to make them more successful."

Much of the progress will have to do with the success of Clark and Johnson, along with Wosniak.

But to Urban, Erica Maladecki, a sophomore libero who played with her sister Jessica this past season, will be key.

"She's been in her sister's shadow for a little bit, but Jess has now graduated, and it's her time to shine, and she will," Urban said.

When asked what the team will look like if there is a season, Erica Maladecki said, like many of her teammates, that Churchill will be young and small yet extremely talented.

Coming off a season in which the Chargers were one game away from the final four, the overall message of the team heading into the season seems to be that the only thing stopping Churchill from returning to that spot would be COVID-19.

"I definitely think we are going to bring fire," Maladecki said. "We are one of the shorter teams, so teams are going to look down on us. They are going to be like, 'Oh, you're the underdogs.' But since we are the underdogs, we can come up. We can rise up, and it will motivate us."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@ hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter at @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Dupret made the junior varsity team his freshman season, playing doubles in the eighth position. But he expected a quick ascendance onto the varsity team, describing it as the fact he always had

Dupret seems to have a way to visualize that goal for his North Farmington boys tennis team. He once lived it, and strives to get there again.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@ hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter at @ColinGay17.



The Livonia Wild 14U-Hanson team won the FAAST June Bash Tournament. COURTESY OF MATT JONES

### Livonia Wild 14U team wins **June Bash Tournament**

**Andrew Vailliencourt** Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Livonia Wild 14U-Hanson fast pitch softball team took home a tournament title in June.

The Wild won the FAAST June Bash Tournament, which was held June 14.

Team members in the photo are, from left: back row, head coach Erik Hanson, Maddie Holman, Grace Holman, assis-

tant coach John Murphy, Meaghan Dick, Ava Champoux, Abby Datson, Lydia Makila, Erika Tucker and assistant coach Brandon Makila; front row, Payton Prover, Arrianna Jaeger, Paige Hammers, Jazmin Edwards and Joanne Murphy.

Contact reporter Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send story ideas to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

4B | SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2020 | O & E MEDIA (\*)

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It's like a day at the beach with the waves going in and out.

-Patrick L.

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# Wilcox Essay Contest Awards Pass the \$500,000 Mark

Wilcox House at Kellogg Park

The Wilcox Foundation's annual Essay Contest has provided over \$500,000 in awards to Plymouth area students. Participating high school seniors do historical research and write an essay about the history of Plymouth.

**Congratulations to the following 2020 Awardees:** 



Owen Oszust. Plymouth High School Michigan State

National Honors Society, 88.1 The Park staff member, Varsity Baseball, Link Crew, Varsity Swimming.



Amber Salloum. Father Gabriel Richard Michigan State

For the past 6 years, I have been competing in dance with Synergy Dance Academy.



Jason Zheng. Salem High School University of Michigan

I will major in computer science. I love playing tennis, reading books and watching movies.



Ethan Young, Canton High School Michigan Technological University

I will be studying Material Science and Aerospace Engineering.



Lily Tiplady. Plymouth High School Siena Heights University

I will be playing soccer in the fall I was in cross country, hockey, and soccer teams and made the All-State First Team for women's hockey.



Dominic Schoenle. Father Gabriel Richard University of St. Thomas

I played lacrosse and was a varsity captain this year. My other hobbies include golf, basketball and tennis.



Tess Starr. Salem High School Rhodes College

Major in Music and Psychology. I was the president of the Pcep Gender and Sexuality Alliance. I play the cello and write music.



Isabella Steckel. Plymouth High School University of Michigan

I will be in the School of Kinesiology and major in Movement Science. I am a Level 10 Junior Olympic gymnast at Splitz Gymnastics.



Rebecca Demers. Canton High School Adrian College

I played hockey for PCS Penguins. I will be studying or iminal justice and psychology and will be continuing hocky.



Luc Offer. Detroit Catholic Central Michigan State

I will major in Engineering. I was in Cross Country and Finance Club and I like sailing and skiing.



<u>Shelby Marocco</u>. Plymouth high school Michigan State

I will be studying Environmental Science and be a Pre-law major. Go Green!



Allison Barberena Plymouth High School Ohio State

I was a member of the radio station 88.1 The Park. I will be studying criminal justice and pre-law.

Savannah Nelson Canton High School Eastern Michigan

Majoring in nursing, studying anesthesia to become a CRNA. I was all conference captain for volley-ball and was president of Canton's Captains Club.



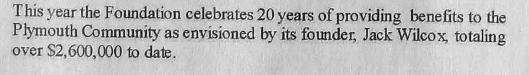
Josh Podzikowski Plymouth High School University of Michigan

I will be attending the University of Michigan, in the Sports Management program.



Rachel Mickey Plymouth High School Michigan State.

I will be majoring in Environmental Engineering with minors in Spanish and Environmental Studies / Sustainability.



Jack wanted to make Plymouth a better place and his Foundation has generously focused on Plymouth youth, making grants in excess of \$1,200,000.

- \$506,000 for awards for the Wilcox Essay Contest
- \$181,000 for a Middle School Learning Program
- \$ 34,000 in scholarships to Rotary's student recipients
- \$ 87,000 for various school programs and Educational Excellence Foundation programs
- \$ 45,000 for various other tuition scholarships for low income students to participate in several programs
- \$286,000 for numerous youth related programs through other organizations such as the YMCA, Salvation Army, the Kiwanis Club
- \$121,000 to the Plymouth Community Arts Council for the Music in the Park program and others

Next year the Foundation is planning to donate to the City of Plymouth a new \$1,000,000 Fountain for Kellogg Park in memory of the Wilcox family.

www.wilcoxfoundation.org

