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CANTON

# OBSERVER

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2020 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Livonia teachers return to empty classrooms

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

"Something just like giving a high five in the hallway I will never take for granted again."

On the first day of school, John Farkas usually splits his eighth-grade science students into groups and gives them a chance to get to know each other.

On Tuesday, Farkas sat alone in his classroom at Holmes Middle School in Livonia while students joined him virtually.

"That's the one thing they always say when I ask them about what they liked about the first week: 'We liked that you let us work in groups the first day,'" Farkas said. "I was trying to figure out a way I could do that, but I just couldn't."

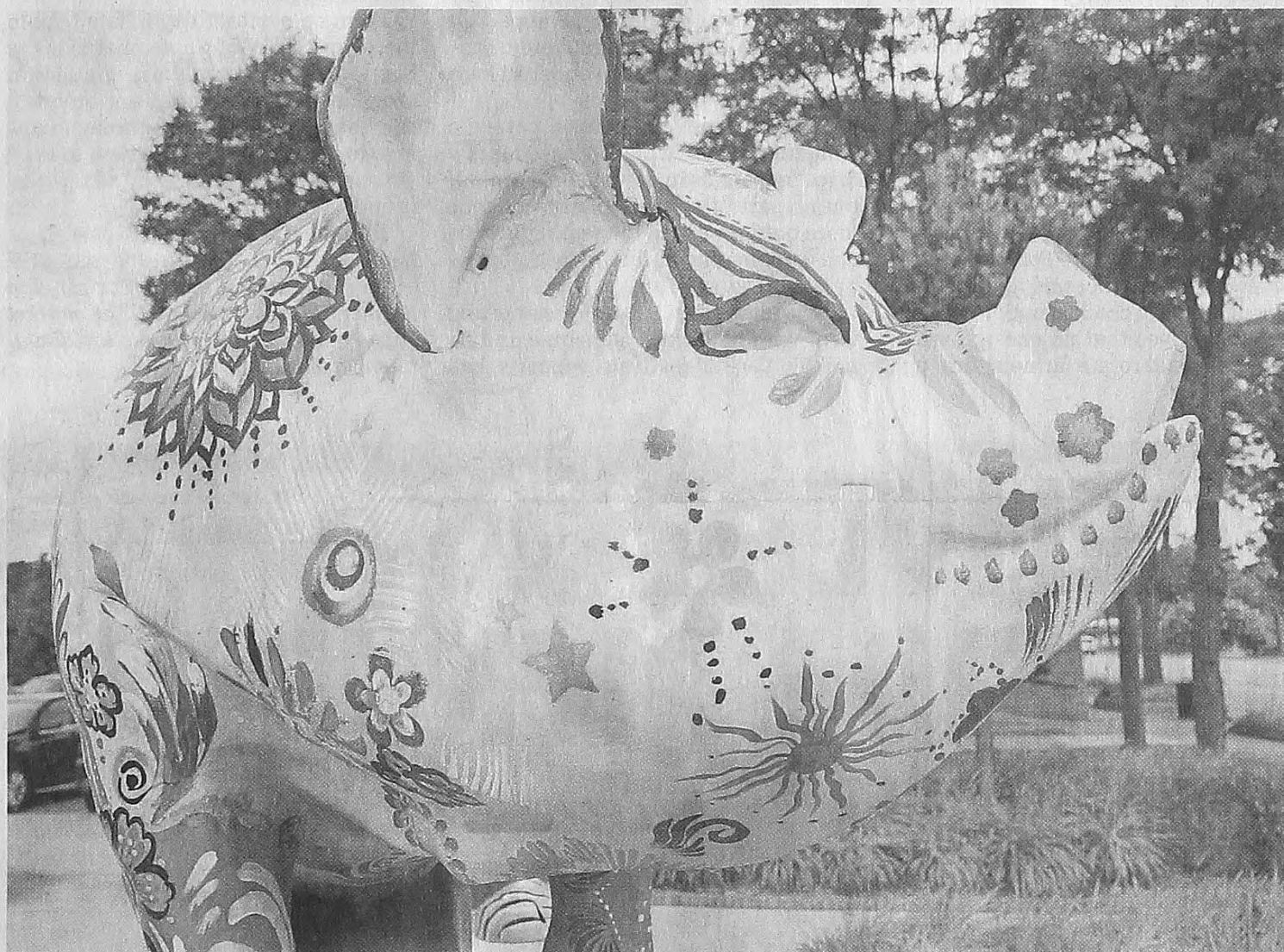
On the first day of school, teachers in the Livonia Public Schools district returned to their classrooms. The educators will present their lessons to students from their regular classrooms throughout September.

When October arrives, school officials hope students will come back to classrooms and hallways. Farkas is happy to be back to work, but he said it's not

the same.

"It feels a little empty in the sense that the best part of starting out that first day of school is seeing the kids' faces," he said. "It's like, I miss the interaction part where I get to see their faces and just kind of introduce myself and see their reactions."

See **TEACHERS**, Page 8A



Garden City's famous pig sculpture at the northwest corner of Ford and Middlebelt roads recently got a makeover.  
PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Garden City's Willy the Pig sculpture gets a makeover

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

"People have started referring to Willy as a girl. A lot of people don't know she always has been."

After nine years of being bright red, Willy the Pig in downtown Garden City has a new, flowery, look.

The pig, whose nickname stems from classic children's book "Charlotte's Web" by E.B. White, sits in the middle of downtown and is generally beloved.

The city's Downtown Development Authority, which owns the sculpture, commissioned local artists Peggy Hernandez and Adelle Fant to redesign the statue.

"It's bolted to the ground, so we did it right here," Fant said. "We brought up a tent and painted."

The two artists joked that they



Theresa Manuel, left, artist Peggy Hernandez, artist Adelle Fant, and Downtown Development Authority Director Kim Dold worked on the project.

See **PIG**, Page 4A

## Loves Furniture in Canton first to open in metro Detroit

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Touting an easy and personalized shopping experience, Loves Furniture & Mattresses officially opened its Canton Township location Wednesday - its first metro-Detroit opening - in the same 70,000-square-foot Ford Road building that housed Art Van Furniture five months earlier.

Comparing the event to a phoenix rising from the ashes may be over-dramatic, but not for the 45 employees who were hired to work at the Canton store; nor for the township itself, which will benefit financially from the relatively quick transition from empty building to new business.

"The first thing that comes to mind for me is that this large space won't be empty," said Canton Township Supervisor Pat Williams. "When Art Van left, I was confident this space would be filled rather quickly, but I had no idea it would be by a furniture retailer."

"There was some talk that this might be converted into a food court. To have Loves come in like it did, it's a perfect fit."

As masked, socially-distanced visitors maneuvered through the totally restocked space, checking out sectionals, mattresses and a variety of accessories, Loves CEO Matt Damiani talked about what makes his company distinct from its competitors.

"Customers will be greeted at the door by a concierge and they will be asked whether they want to browse by themselves or be guided by one of our staff," Damiani said. "They're not going to be hounded from the minute they walk in the store to the minute they leave. You just don't see that these days."

"And we're proud to have big-name, high-quality brands to offer and in stock. Whether it's someone looking to furnish their first apartment, or someone with a large home, looking for pieces to add to their living space for life events, we're here for them. Our goal is to offer customers a stress-free shopping experience, both online and in the stores."

Loves needs to build an instant trust with potential customers, Damiani said, especially in light of the

See **LOVES**, Page 4A



# Farmers market grows as season continues



**Walt Gajewski**  
Guest columnist

Just like the cobbler's kids whose shoes have holes, this farmers market manager rarely gets to shop the farm tables like everyone else. And let me tell you: It's downright depressing to consider the prospect of going home empty-handed when I'm surrounded by beautiful corn and tomatoes and fruits and beans and zucchini and ... sigh.

However, thanks to the structure of this year's market, and to the incredible job our seasoned volunteers do in managing things, I'm getting more opportunities to shop this season.

So this past Saturday, Mary and I were standing in line waiting our turn at a busy farm table – a really busy farm table.

"Let's scoot over to this other stand, there's no wait," I told her.

And so we did, and we found more than no waiting. We found long beans and purple potatoes and other new things to try.

This is exactly what we've grown into this season. Having 15 or so farmers spread out over 40,000 square feet of open air assures you can pretty much find what you want, when you want it.

Early on in this pandemic, I was afraid our wonderful market would be reduced to an open-air grocery store.

Nope. Every stand you go to is staffed with workers who serve only you with produce grown so close to Farmington that its nutritional value and taste barely drop a lick. That's something grocery stores just can't match.

And that explains why our attendance has been scaling up and off the charts. Last Saturday we counted in 4,488 visitors. And to think there was a time earlier in the season where I thought I might have to tell our farmers to stay home.

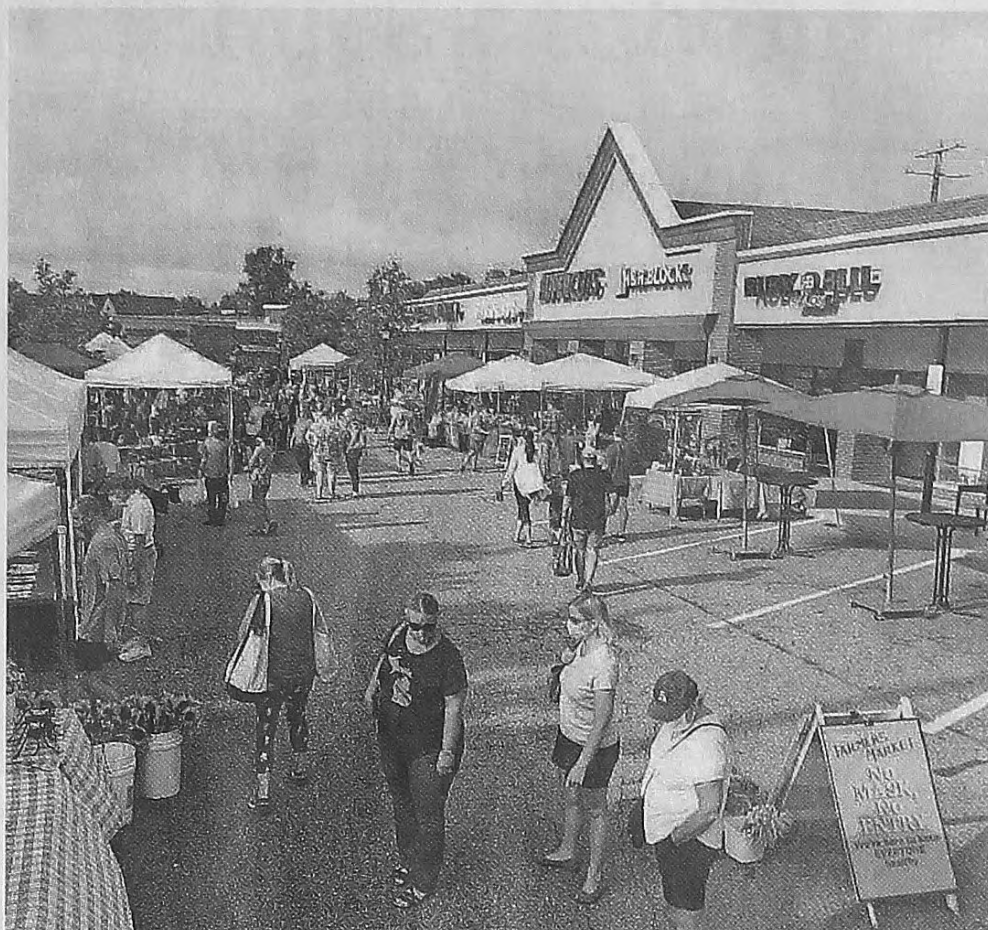
## Silver lining in a pandemic

Coming into this season before the pandemic hit, my plan was to add new farmers, which is a very big deal for farmers markets. It's more space to rent, more internal competition to take on, more customers to handle. But we were in the right place at the right time to try it.

Then the pandemic hit, and we opened May 16 to 556 customers, 85% below last year's weekly average. Of course it was outside factors that caused such shrinkage: "risk mitigating" directives due to the coronavirus as well as restrictions limiting our physical space.

But the bottom line was clear to me: We were looking at financial disaster. Now we had too many farmers and not nearly enough shoppers.

On the second market day, May 23, I brought together all our farmers, new and old, for a meeting. For lack of customers, state restrictions and distancing guidelines, I chalked out life-changing alternatives that no one wanted to hear. We could rotate farmers, furlough



Shoppers wander Market Street to check out the farmers market's fresh goods. COURTESY OF FARMINGTON FARMERS MARKET

farmers or lay out a strategy for growing less produce.

The farmers were reluctant. This is their livelihood, and a rogue frost already had wiped out a lot of early-season planting. They pleaded for more time. I relented. The strain and the pain evident on the faces all around me were too much to consider. We agreed to allow some time in the vague hope that "somehow things might get better..."

And then something wonderful happened.

In early June, city council passed a resolution that would close Market Street next to us in downtown Farmington as part of a larger plan to provide more outdoor space for seating, dining and walking. Instantly the market grew by 10,000 square feet.

Saturday after Saturday came and went with blue skies, sunshine and no rain. For lack of festivals, concerts, ball

games, fairs and parades, people became accustomed to, "If it's Saturday, it must be market day."

The farmers' fields recovered, bringing abundance. Amid the turmoil wrought from divisive choices that seem to pervade a national election year, one thing rang true: Good food unites all people.

From an overcast day in late May to the crisp clarity of September skies, a band of farmers held its ground in downtown Farmington. I am proud to ring the market bell on Saturday mornings to the lyric of, "We're here to keep you healthy with real food, from real farms."

Until next time, then, and as always, here's saying, "See you at the market..."

Walt Gajewski is the Farmington Farmers Market manager. The market runs 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays in downtown Farmington.

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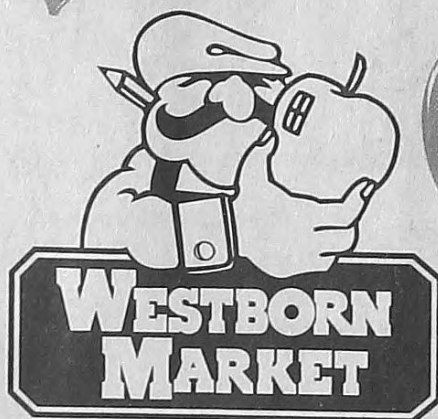
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# AG: Senior living facilities tried to impose a \$900 'COVID-19 fee'

Ken Palmer Lansing State Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Under pressure from state officials, a Livingston County company that operates senior living facilities in Plymouth, Brighton and other Michigan communities is backing away from a plan to charge residents a "supplemental COVID-19 fee."

The Michigan Attorney General's Office this week threatened to take action against CSIG Holding Co. LLC and its facility management company, Senior Village Management LLC, saying the fee is legally unjustifiable and might violate consumer protection laws.

The group operates facilities in Brighton, Grand Ledge, Plymouth, Oxford, White Lake, Rockford, Chesterfield, Saline, Midland and Petoskey, the AG's office said.

The AG's office said it sent cease-and-desist letters to 11 senior facilities

operated by CSIG or Senior Living Portage LLC, which is part of the CSIG Holding family but has a different registered agent with an East Lansing address.

"We are not going to be charging the COVID fees at our communities," Irina Olgart, of Senior Village Management LLC, said Aug. 28.

Any residents who paid the fee will receive a credit for that amount, she said.

The operators were given 10 days to respond or face a formal investigation, the AG's office said. They could avoid formal action by signing an agreement, canceling the fee and refunding it to anyone who paid it, officials said.

"This pandemic has caused financial strain for many people and businesses in Michigan, but that does not provide companies with the right to impose unauthorized costs on their customers and clients - especially those in our senior

communities and others who are already living on a fixed income," Nessel said in a news release.

Nessel said 37 complaints were filed on behalf of residents at Independence Village of Brighton, and one was filed by a resident at StoryPoint Portage, saying they had been charged a \$900 "supplemental COVID-19 fee."

A company official told the AG the one-time fee was being charged to partially offset cost increases involving the COVID-19 response, Nessel said. The official said residents who complained about the fee were told they did not have to pay it.

The AG's office said it does not know how many residents paid the fee. Olgart said she did not have that information.

Nessel said the fee violates lease agreements and might also constitute an unfair practice under the state Consumer Protection Act.

## Kirksey Recreation Center reveals reopening plan

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's official: Livonia's Kirksey Recreation Center was set to reopen at 5 a.m. Wednesday.

The recreation facility, closed for nearly six months because of the coronavirus pandemic, initially opened on a members-only basis at 25% capacity. All visitors, with the exception of those swimming, are asked to wear a mask at all times.

"You're going to see greatly reduced capacity across the board," said Ted Davis, Livonia's parks superintendent. "In our gyms, in our fit hub, in the former gymnastics space which we expanded the fit hub into, the track and even our pool capacity is going to be down significantly."

Members will undergo a temperature check upon entering and will be asked to sign out when they leave. All exercise equipment will sit 10 feet apart. Members who use both the lap and leisure pools will still be asked to reserve time.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced Sept. 3 gyms and indoor pools can reopen. Davis said he was not surprised and had heard an announcement was coming in the week leading up to the decision.

When outdoor pools reopened in June, Davis had said Kirksey was ready to go "as soon as it's legal." Now that members can return to the facility, Davis said he and his staff are trying to make it as safe as possible.

"We ask that people bear with us during this time," he said. "We're going to be functioning under strict facility capacities, which potentially could mean people are going to have to wait to get in. We don't know what the response is going to be like. So, we ask everyone be a little patient."

Reach the center at 734-466-2900. Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at [stankersle@hometownlife.com](mailto:stankersle@hometownlife.com) or 248-305-0448.

## Pandemic may squash Novi development

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A once-promising Asian-themed development is teetering on the edge of a pandemic cliff.

Scott Aikens, developer of the Sakura Novi project, painted a picture of doom and gloom for restaurants and retail as he requested a six-month extension on a purchase agreement for the Grand River property.

The council expressed its frustration with changes to the development, years in the making, as its focus on restaurants and retail has evolved into a focus on ever-increasing high-density housing. The development plans still call for One World Market as its anchor store.

"I understand we have a pandemic on our hands, but we haven't made progress and there is an evolution of plans that is not loyal to the original vision," Councilman Justin Fischer said.

"We are in a black swan pandemic and the restaurant industry is doomed," Aikens said, projecting that 80% of independent restaurants and 20% of chain restaurants could go under.

He continued the dire forecast, saying the Village of Rochester Hills was down millions of dollars, and that restaurants including Claddagh's Irish Pub and Bravo's on Haggerty in Livonia were "going dark." He also wondered how many stores were going bankrupt in Twelve Oaks Mall.

The city currently owns the property north of Grand River and east of Town Center Drive where the Sakura Novi project is proposed. Purchasing the property, Aikens said, is a risk his business partners and family did not want him to take. He said the extension, as well as more residential housing, would be a "life preserver for the project."

During its meeting Aug. 31, the council offered a 30-day extension so Aikens

could work with city staff in the hopes of not having to start over.

Councilman Andrew Mutch said the council recognized that the pandemic "really had an impact" on developments and market demand, but he couldn't support the significant changes to the Sakura Novi development nor a six-month extension.

"I am comfortable doing, at most, a 30-day extension to hash out issues and see if we can continue the path we've been on, or stop this project and start fresh," he said.

Mayor Bob Gatt told Aikens that the council felt his pain, which came through "loud and clear," but he took exception to Novi being in trouble.

"We have shown that Novi is an exceptional municipality," Gatt said.

The council ultimately approved a 30-day extension on the purchase agreement with a 6-1 vote; Fischer voted no.



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The Loves Furniture store sits at 41661 Ford Road in Canton. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Loves

Continued from Page 1A

distrust created within the industry when Art Van abruptly closed, leaving a trail of disgruntled purchasers.

"We're a new company that is focused on building new relationships with customers," he said. "Trust is a part of everything we do. There are no gimmicks with us, and we will not use some of the questionable marketing tactics that our competitors practice."

Opening a business was not easy, Damiani admitted, but Loves has proven it's not impossible.

"Obstacles we faced during COVID range from not being able to meet in person all the time to dealing with supply-chain problems," he said. "The great news is that there have been a lot of positives that have come from this."

"For instance, we've heard from the suppliers who are so grateful we're ordering product while other companies are pulling back. We have product in all our stores while a lot of other stores do not."

Damiani highlighted special features in the store, including Love Treasures, a set up where customers can find accessories that "make a house a home"; and the Loves For Less area, a space that includes "great quality accessories that, depending on your budget, people can find a range of items that can help fill out a room."

By the time the Loves stores across the country are fully operational, the company's labor force will exceed 1,000 employees, Damiani said.

"It gives us great pride to know that, during a time when retail is shuttering shops, we're providing employment opportunities. There is no greater honor than that," he said.

Damiani said his team was able to make Wednesday's event possible with just 100 days, give or take a few, to pull everything together.

"To our employees, I would say, 'Take this all in and enjoy,'" Damiani said. "To our competitors, I'd say, 'Take notes.' Look what we've done in a few months."



Loves Furniture CEO Matt Damiani addresses the crowd at the store's grand opening in Canton on Sept. 2.

**"We're a new company that is focused on building new relationships with customers. Trust is a part of everything we do. There are no gimmicks with us, and we will not use some of the questionable marketing tactics that our competitors practice."**

**Matt Damiani** CEO, Loves Furniture & Mattresses

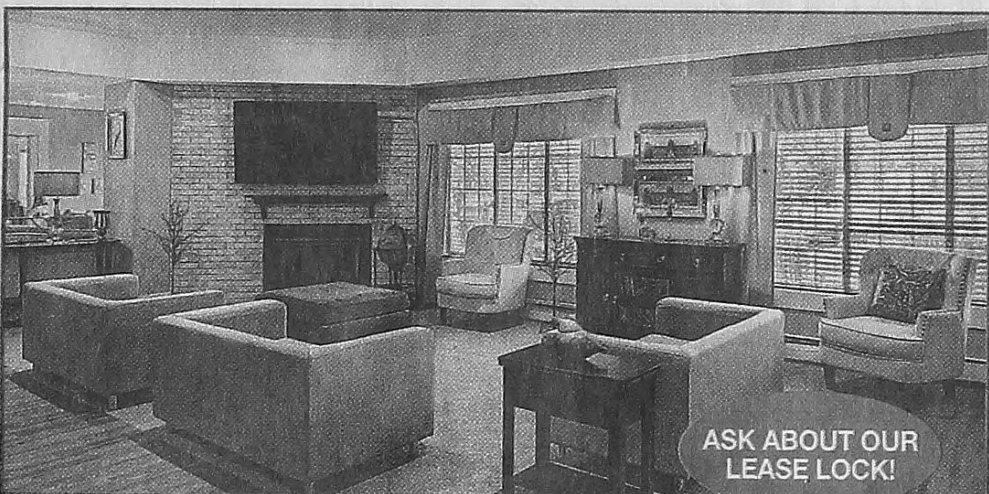
Imagine what we'll be able to do in a year, five years."

In addition to Canton, Loves plans to open stores in Livonia and Westland, among other sites across the state.

Contact reporter Ed Wright at [ewright@hometownlife.com](mailto:ewright@hometownlife.com) or 517-375-1113.



Tami Damiani checks out the store's second floor.



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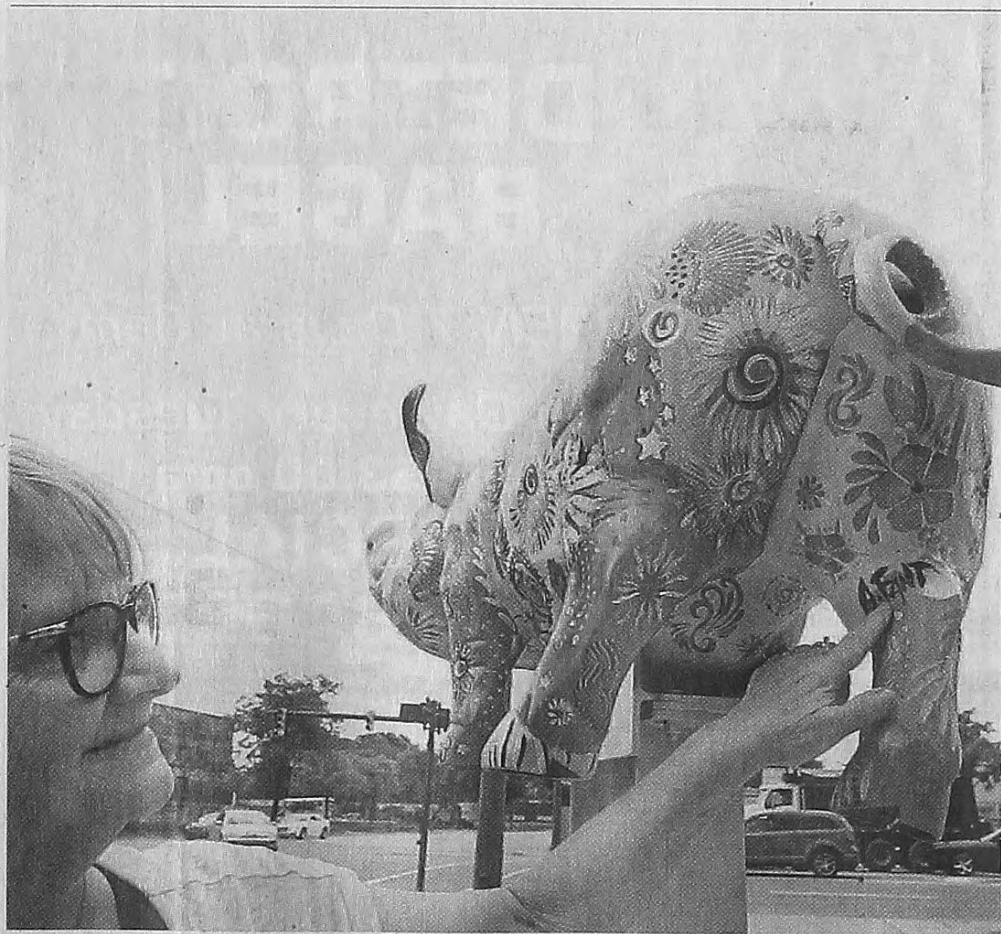
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Adelle Fant shows where she signed her name near the pig's right ham section. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Pig

Continued from Page 1A

braved the elements to paint the pig. Some bees nesting in the statue apparently weren't too happy about the redesign.

"I got stung once, but that's OK," Hernandez said.

Kim Dold, the city's DDA director, said she's only heard positive feedback about the change. She said residents enjoy dressing Willy up and some even have look-alikes at their homes or businesses. Dold hopes redesigns will become part of the fascination the art installation draws.

"Aside from the fact

that she needed to be painted, part of it was like, 'Let's get people talking about Willy again,'" Dold said. "I would like to see her get repainted possibly once a year to keep that renewed interest. That's the idea."

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at [stankersley@hometownlife.com](mailto:stankersley@hometownlife.com) or 248-305-0448.



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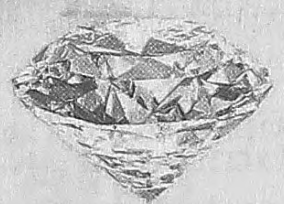
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It's the latest breakthrough for nitric oxide - the molecule that makes E.D. woes fade and restores virility when it counts the most.

Nitric oxide won the Nobel Prize in 1998. It's why "the little blue pill" works. More than 200,000 studies confirm it's the key to superior sexual performance.

And this new discovery increases nitric oxide availability resulting in even quicker, stronger and longer-lasting performance.

One double-blind, placebo-controlled study (the "gold-standard" of research) involved a group of 70-year-old men.

They didn't exercise. They didn't eat healthy. And researchers reported their "nitric oxide availability was almost totally compromised," resulting in blood flow less than HALF of a man in peak sexual health.

But only five minutes after the first dose their blood flow increased 275%, back to levels of a perfectly healthy 31-year-old man! "It's amazing," remarks nitric oxide expert Dr. Al Sears. "That's like giving 70-year-old men the sexual power of 30-year-olds."

### WHY SO MUCH EXCITEMENT?

Despite the billions men spend annually on older nitric oxide therapies, there's one well-known problem with them.

They don't always work.

A very distinguished and awarded doctor practicing at a prestigious Massachusetts hospital who has studied Nitric Oxide for over 43 years states a "deficiency of bioactive nitric oxide... leads to impaired endothelium-dependent vasorelaxation."

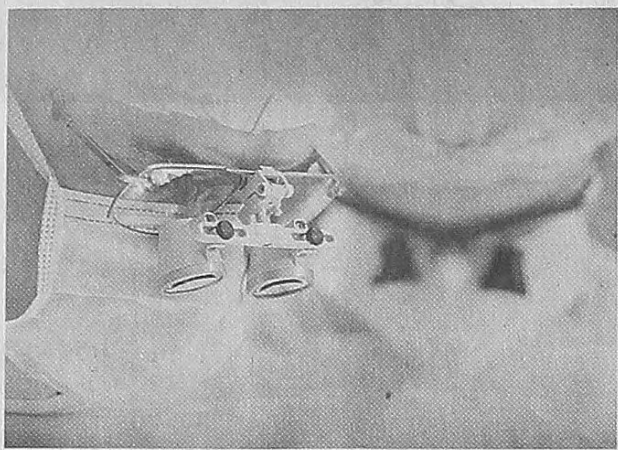
In plain English, these older products may increase levels of nitric oxide. But that's only half the battle. If it's not bioactively available then your body can't absorb it to produce an erection.

Experts simply call it the nitric oxide "glitch." And until now, there's never been a solution.

### NEXT GENERATION NITRIC OXIDE FORMULA FLYING OFF SHELVES

Upon further research, America's No. 1 men's health expert Dr. Al Sears discovered certain nutrients fix this "glitch" resulting in 275% better blood flow.

He's combined those nutrients with proven nitric oxide boosters in a new formula called *Primal Max Red*. In clinical trials, 5,000 mg is required for satisfying



A new discovery that increases nitric oxide availability was recently proven in a clinical trial to boost blood flow 275%

sexual performance. *Primal Max Red* contains a bigger, 9,000 mg per serving dose. It's become so popular, he's having trouble keeping it in stock.

Dr. Sears is the author of more than 500 scientific papers. Thousands of people listened to him speak at the recent Palm Beach Health & Wellness Festival featuring Dr. Oz, NFL Hall of Fame quarterback Joe Namath recently visited his clinic, the **Sears Institute for Anti-Aging Medicine**.

*Primal Max Red* has only been available for a few months - but everyone who takes it reports a big difference. "I have the energy to have sex three times in one day, WOW! That has not happened in years. Oh, by the way I am 62," says Jonathan K. from Birmingham, AL.

### HOW IT WORKS

Loss of erection power starts with your blood vessels. Specifically, the inside layer called the endothelium where nitric oxide is made.

The problem is various factors THICKEN your blood vessels as you age. This blocks availability causing the nitric oxide "glitch." The result is difficulty in getting and sustaining a healthy erection.

How bad is the problem?

Researcher shows the typical 40-year-old man absorbs 50% less nitric oxide. At 50, that drops to 25%. And once you pass 60 just a measly 15% gets through.

To make matters worse, nitric oxide levels start declining in your 30's. And by 70, nitric oxide production is down an alarming 75%.

*Primal Max Red* is the first formula to tackle both problems. Combining powerful nitric oxide boosters and a proven delivery mechanism that defeats the nitric oxide "glitch" resulting in 275% better blood flow. There's not enough space here to fully explain how it works, so Dr. Sears will send anyone who orders *Primal Max Red* a free special report that explains everything.

### MORE CLINICAL RESULTS

Nutrients in *Primal Max Red* have logged impressive results.

In a *Journal of Applied Physiology* study, one resulted in a 30 times MORE nitric oxide. And these increased levels lasted up to 12 hours.

"I measured my nitric oxide levels, you can buy a test kit from Amazon," reports 48-year-old Jeff O. "Monday night I showed depleted."

Then he used ingredients in *Primal Max Red* and, "The results were off the charts. I first woke around 3 a.m. on Tuesday very excited. My nitric oxide levels measured at the top end of the range."

### FREE BONUS TESTOSTERONE BOOSTER

Every order also gets Dr. Sears testosterone boosting formula *Primal Max Black* for free.

"If you want passionate 'rip your clothes off' sex you had in your younger days, you need nitric oxide to get your erection going. And testosterone for energy and drive," says Dr. Sears. "You get both with *Primal Max Red* and *Primal Max Black*."

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To secure free bottles of *Primal Max Black* and get the hot, new *Primal Max Red* formula, buyers should contact the Sears Health Hotline at 1-800-759-7193 within the next 48 hours. "It's not available in drug stores yet," says Dr. Sears. "The Hotline allows us to ship directly to the customer."

Dr. Sears feels so strongly about *Primal Max*, all orders are backed by a 100% money-back guarantee. "Just send me back the bottle and any unused product within 90 days from purchase date, and I'll send you all your money back," he says.

The Hotline will be open for the next 48 hours. After that, the phone number will be shut down to allow them to restock. Call 1-800-759-7193 to secure your limited supply of *Primal Max Red* and free bottles of *Primal Max Black*. You don't need a prescription, and those who call in the first 24 hours qualify for a significant discount. Use Promo Code NP0820PMA721 when you call in. Lines are frequently busy, but all calls will be answered.

## Investing during coronavirus pandemic still makes sense



### Money Matters

Rick Bloom  
Guest columnist

It is hard to believe that we have been dealing with the coronavirus pandemic for the last six months. Although the crisis caused by the coronavirus started out as a healthcare crisis, it has grown into a financial crisis that has affected just about everyone in America and around the world.

For investors, it was painful to watch as the markets fell at a record pace. At the time, my advice was to stay the course. Not because I knew what direction the virus would take, but because my experience had taught me that crashes and market downturns are common and that for investors, the worst time to make a decision is when they are gripped with fear.

That being said, I am happy to report that as I write this column, the Dow Jones Industrial Average, the S&P 500 and the NASDAQ are all in positive territory year to date.

It's not that I want a pat on the back for telling investors to stay the course, but I think we can learn some lessons about investing. The first lesson for all of us to recognize is how resilient our markets truly are.

Throughout the history of the stock market, it seems we go from one crisis to another. Whether it was Black Monday in 1987, the dot-com bubble in 2000, or even the financial crisis in 2008, we have seen our fair share of crises. However, in every crisis, we hear news commentators preaching that this is the "big downturn" and that markets will never recover. I am pleased to say that they have been consistently wrong.

The lesson to learn is: Don't listen to the media commentators or social media influencers. Your portfolio and your investments are too important to let fear enter into the decision-making process. Just as adults know not to make serious decisions when angry or emotional, investors shouldn't make decisions when they're fearful.

Another lesson investors should learn is to never sell when they do not want to. Just think if you had to sell some of your investments back in March when the Dow was in the 18,000s. You would have taken a significant hit.

### The lesson to learn is:

**Don't listen to the media commentators or social media influencers. Your portfolio and your investments are too important to let fear enter into the decision-making process.**

The reason people are forced to sell is because they need the money. However, in the majority of those situations, if the individual had an emergency fund of money, they would not have been forced to sell at the wrong time. That is why I want to reiterate the importance of maintaining an emergency fund.

My general recommendation for most people is at least three to six months of living expenses. This money should not be invested in the stock market; rather, it should be invested either in CDs or bank accounts. The return on the investment is not what's important, but rather, the accessibility. If the person who was forced to sell back in March could have waited, they could have seen a 50 percent return on their money in a six-month period. That is why it is so critical that we all maintain an emergency fund of money.

Unfortunately, I do not believe we are out of this crisis and I still believe the markets are volatile.

However, with the recent upturn, investors are provided with an opportunity to look again at their portfolios and make sure their portfolios match their goals, objectives and risk tolerance levels.

As a financial advisor with over 30 years of experience, I can assure you that investors with portfolios that match their goals, objectives and risk tolerance levels are more successful in the long run. Remember, when it comes to your portfolio, you're running a marathon, not a 100-yard dash.

Good luck!

*Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please email Rick at [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).*

## Will documents related to condo association expire after 40 years?



### Robert Meisner

Guest columnist

**Q:** I've heard that there may be some issue with community associations' recorded governing documents expiring next March if they are over 40 years old, is that right?

**A:** At the end of 2018, our Michigan government experienced a "lame duck" session because many of the representatives and senators, as well as the governor, would not return to office the following year. During these times, there tends to be a flurry of legislative activity as certain individuals may no longer be concerned about being held accountable for their votes.

Unfortunately, the 2018 lame duck session included Public Act 572, which represents a threat to Michigan community associations. While not entirely clear, the legislation could be interpreted in such a way as to allow sellers of property in community associations with governing documents recorded over 40 years ago to remove their property from the association by omitting complete reference to recorded governing documents in the grant deed.

However, the association could guard against that by recording a claim of interest before the 40 years expire, thereby preserving the applicability of the governing documents to all units/homes. And the bill allowed for an extra period of time until March 29, 2021, for claims of interest to be recorded. However, there will be many associations unaware of this situation, and they may be in for a rude awakening if no further legislative action is taken.

### Michigan associations

**operating with recorded documents that are close to 40 years old or more should consult with their legal counsel to ensure that appropriate action is taken.**

HB 5260 has been introduced in the legislature, which is a good start toward fixing this problem. It would clarify that "This act must not be applied to ... bar the enforcement of any provision contained in or referred to in a recorded master deed for a condominium and its recorded amendments."

Obviously, this should be expanded to address homeowners associations and their recorded declarations of restrictions.

Since there is no guarantee that HB 5260 or an amended version will be signed into law (as of this writing, it has not yet been given a hearing by a House committee), Michigan associations operating with recorded documents that are close to 40 years old or more should consult with their legal counsel to ensure that appropriate action is taken.

*Robert M. Meisner, Esq. is the principal attorney of The Meisner Law Group, based in Bingham Farms, which provides legal representation for condominiums, homeowner associations, individual co-owners and developers. His book, "Condo Living 2: The Authoritative Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium" is available at [www.momentumbooks.com](http://www.momentumbooks.com).*

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# Lyon woman cuts tether to escape assault sentencing

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

Almost everyone involved was on Zoom on Sept. 2 except for Jessica Kropiewnicki, a Lyon Township woman who was supposed to be sentenced on an assault charge.

On the eve of her big day in a virtual Oakland County circuit courtroom, Kropiewnicki apparently cut her tether and ran away from her grandparents' home.

Prosecuting attorney Kelly Collins said Kropiewnicki seems to have escaped at about 6:15 p.m. Law enforcement officers and their K-9 teams have not been able to find her.

"She knew of today's date and her obligation to be here," Collins told Judge James Alexander.

The judge granted Collins' wish for a bench warrant for bond and tether violations and no bond if Kropiewnicki is captured.

In May 2019, Oakland County depu-

ties arrested Kropiewnicki, 24, and Christopher Simons, 28, of Fowlerville, on charges of assault with intent to murder.

Kropiewnicki allegedly persuaded a Northville man with romantic interests to take a walk with her. She led him to a remote wooded area in Lyon Township.

Simons apparently was waiting with a bat and severely beat the Northville man, then 30. The victim's cell phone was taken but he managed to break into a nearby home.

The owner returned home and found blood throughout the home's interior. Deputies were called.

The Northville man testified against Kropiewnicki and Simons during a July 2019 preliminary examination.

Kropiewnicki pleaded no contest in February to assault with intent to murder and was released on a \$25,000



Kropiewnicki

bond with tether and curfew conditions. Pleading no contest is not an admission of guilt, but it is treated as such for sentencing purposes.

She has been living with her grandparents, who contacted authorities after Kropiewnicki's tether was cut.

Her attorney, Doug Oliver, said over Zoom that he has chatted with the grandparents and they are worried.

"From a practical standpoint, I have no explanation for my client's choice," he said.

Oliver added he hoped Kropiewnicki would spend the last months learning to behave differently, taking responsibility for her past decisions and changing the course of her life.

"Unfortunately, that was just wishful thinking," Oliver said.

Authorities have warned the Northville man and his family that Kropiewnicki escaped her tether.

Simons, 30, remains at the Oakland County Jail where he is awaiting trial.

# Two face felony charges after Ford Fusion stolen in Livonia

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

Two men are facing two felony charges apiece because they stole a red Ford Fusion from the 18000 block of Glengarry Drive last month, according to Livonia police.

Dominic Dontae Flynn, 35, and Ronald Marcel Humphrey, 53, have been arraigned in Livonia's 16th District Court on charges of receiving and concealing stolen property, that being a motor vehicle, and unlawful driving away in a motor vehicle.

Police said they suspect the men stole the vehicle Aug. 21.

Flynn's girlfriend apparently picked him up in a black Buick Regal, which police flagged for a traffic stop. They arrested Flynn, and his girlfriend is scheduled to be arraigned for driving that night with a suspended license.

Humphrey was arrested after police spotted him in the stolen vehicle.

# Teachers

Continued from Page 1A

"A school is a place where kids are supposed to be."

Farkas said his favorite part of the job is the students. He enjoys "seeing their smiles and seeing them have fun" as they go throughout the day.

As Farkas sat in his empty classroom and spoke with students virtually, he extracted some laughs and smiles but said the energy would usually be far higher.

"You would have seen group work," he said. "You would have seen them bonding as a class already. It's kind of hard."

But, Farkas will call the parents of those students who do talk and thank them, with the hope of encouraging kids to speak up during class.

He also plans to meet with every student in a one-on-one setting this semester to get to know them better.

Between the virtual classes and technical difficulties, Farkas hopes and expects to see the students in person sometime this school year.

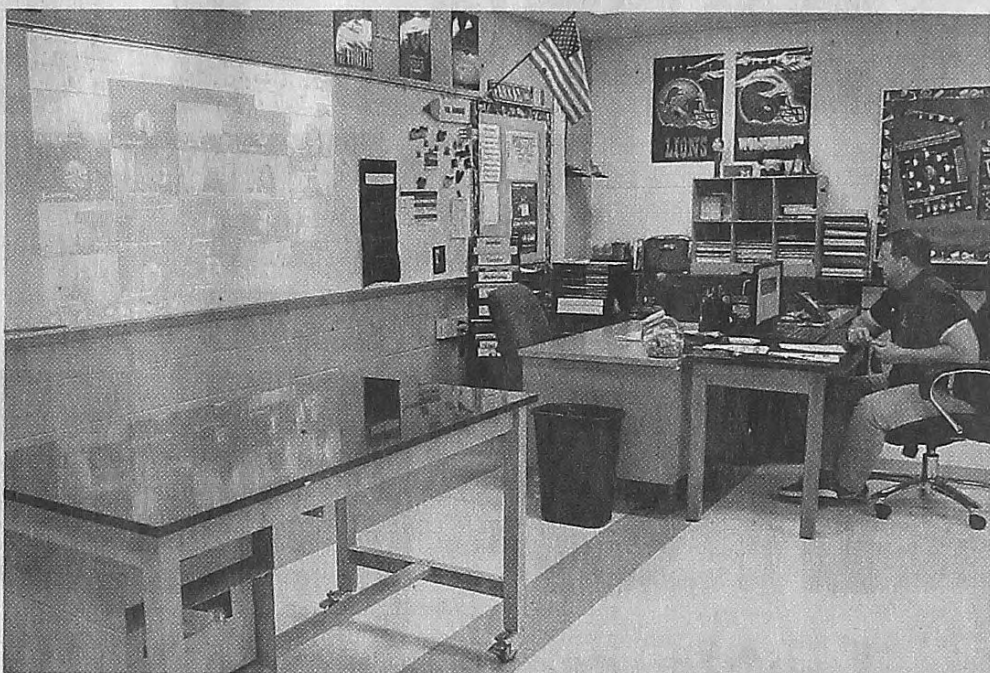
"They're going to be so happy to be back and I'm going to be so happy they're back that I just think everybody's motivation and everybody's excitement is going to be there," he said.

Until that time comes, Farkas will continue to find joy in his work through his students.

Even during the coronavirus pandemic, the kids are what it's all about.

"Just even seeing the kids today and seeing their faces. That's what doing it," he said.

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



John Farkas taught lessons virtually from his empty classroom at Holmes Middle School on Tuesday, the first day of school. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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A Novi Community Schools bus pulls up to Novi High School's Taft Road entrance at 7 a.m. Sept. 8 – the first day back to in-person learning since March.  
PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Eerie, emotional school year starts in Novi

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

Thunderstorms ushered in the first day of school Tuesday, but it didn't appear to dampen spirits at Novi High School.

Samantha Burrell, a sophomore and member of student council, spent the start of her day passing out maps to incoming freshmen to assist in finding their classrooms.

School looks a lot different than a year ago when Burrell was a freshman, but she was excited to return to the building for the first time since March when schools across the state went to virtual learning due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"I wanted to do in-person (learning). I

struggled with virtual," Burrell said of her choice to do the hybrid learning plan that Novi offers rather than enrolling in the virtual academy. "Though it will be different, I'm excited for all of us."

The biggest difference, she said, was the splitting of the student body into two groups. Students with last names beginning with letters A to M attend in-person as one cohort two days a week while letters M to Z are another cohort attending on the other two days. Students in the hybrid plan learn virtually the other three days.

Principal Nicole Carter, along with other staff and administrators, put in 14- and 15-hour days leading up to the first day in preparation for this unprecedented school year.

As it finally arrived, she felt ready and

was waiting to greet students, but was unprepared for the wave of emotions.

"When I set eyes on the first two students, it was emotional for me," she said, adding that despite their face masks, she could see the excitement in the kids, too. "You can see the glint and glimmer in their eyes."

Still, the relative emptiness of the building is a little unsettling. As Carter said, "It's a little eerie."

She expected 440 students in the high school on day 1, and 500-520 others the second day. Additionally, a large number of students chose to enroll in the virtual academy. In a normal year, there would be 2,000 students in the building, but things are not normal.

However, some kids' feelings about school are unchanged.

Junior Anna Fonda was glad to be back in school, but also not glad, and her reasons had nothing to do with the coronavirus pandemic.

"I don't like school," she said. "Starting today, I will be stressed for nine months."

But in-person learning is better than virtual learning, particularly because she is a procrastinator, she said, and she has missed the social aspect of school.

Sophomore Pulkit Chaudhary said he felt pretty good on the first day and has high hopes for the year ahead.

"There are a lot less people, so hope-

fully everyone respects the guidelines so the pandemic can pass over," he said. "I'm excited to be back to school and teachers ..."

"I focus better in person than at home where I get distracted."

Junior Anjani Koneru was also nervous and excited.

"I don't know what's to come," she said, and explained that part of the anticipation, for good or ill, was knowing she has multiple advanced placement classes.

George Elengikal, a sophomore, said the start of the year, like much that had gone before, felt "confusing."

"We're not used to this, it will be very different," he said. "Usually, you just have to figure out where your classes are."

Now, two days a week, he can sleep in, but when he is learning at home, not having anyone there to monitor him may be a problem, he said.

He said he doesn't like virtual learning "at all."

"I'm excited to see my teachers and friends," he said. "It's awkward to know how to interact, but after the first two weeks, it will come back. We'll figure it out."

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at [sbromley@hometownlife.com](mailto:sbromley@hometownlife.com) or 517-281-2412. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.

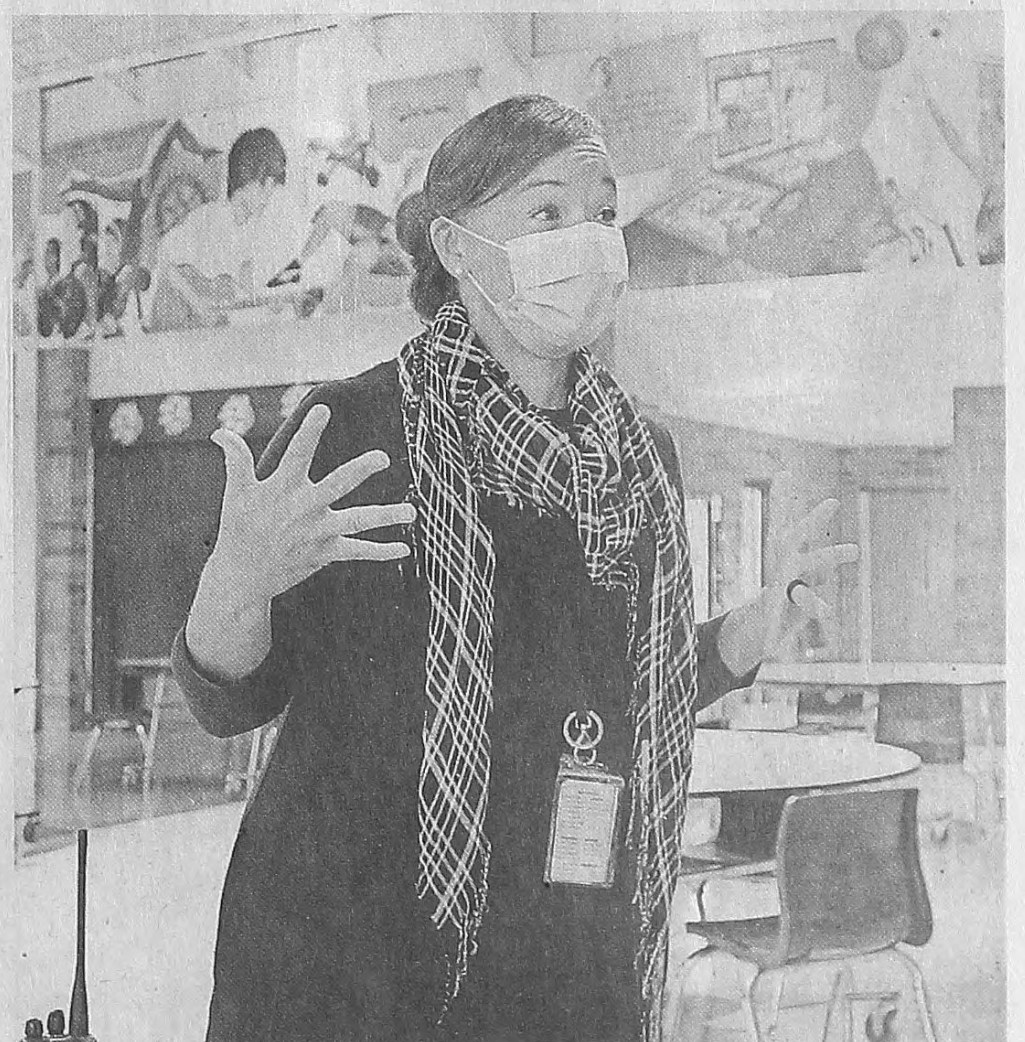
## Obituaries

### Barbara Elizabeth Dilland

08/04/1943-08/31/2020

Barb was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, to parents Virginia and William Kinderman.

As a young girl the family moved to Hopewell, Virginia. She attended James Madison University for undergrad and then received her Master's at the University of Virginia. She met John in Virginia and they were married December 20, 1970; they would have celebrated their Golden Anniversary this December. Barb and John had three sons and in 2010 she earned her favorite title of Beebe with the birth of their first grandchild. She is survived by John; Erik and Katy of Chicago, IL; Steven and Samantha, Alexandra (6) and Andrea (2) of Roseville, CA; and David and Angela, Jack (9), Chase (8) and Max (4) of Ponte Vedra, FL; her brother Bart and wife Bobbi Kinderman of Rockton, PA; many nieces, nephews, wonderful cousins and "Cathy/Kate" an especially treasured niece who Barb loved as much as a daughter. Barb was positive, loving and friendly. She continually showed interest in friends' lives and always had time to listen, talk and tell a story. Barb loved to smile and laugh, as her many friends will surely remember. She was an involved member of St. John Lutheran Church where she loved singing in the choir. Music was instrumental in her life; she was a member of the Detroit Lutheran Singers, Farmington Musicale, and the Del Webb chorus in Ponte Vedra, FL. She was a librarian, spending many years within the Children's Department of the Farmington Public Library where she developed enduring friendships. Barb loved flowers and gardening. She adored her Westgate neighborhood friendships of 45+ years. Barb loved traveling with John and dear friends. Most of all she cherished being Beebe to their grandkids and spending time with family. A private family service was held at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, we encourage gifts to Forgotten Harvest or 'Farmington Branch Library Children's Department' A memorial service and remembrance to celebrate her life will be held when we are all able to gather with song, and hug our friends, family, and everyone whose life she brightened. She was the light and love that guided us through life and our hearts are heavy; hug your families tight and remember to always smile and laugh. [thayer-rock.com](http://thayer-rock.com)



Novi High School Principal Nicole Carter talks about reopening school buildings.



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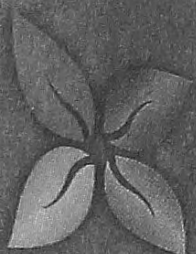
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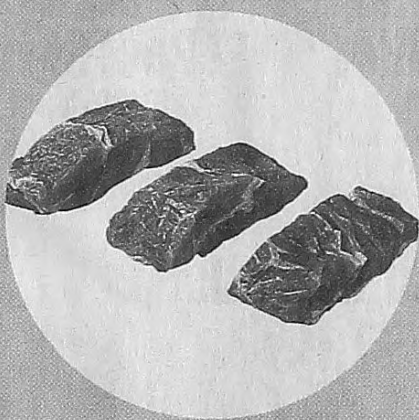
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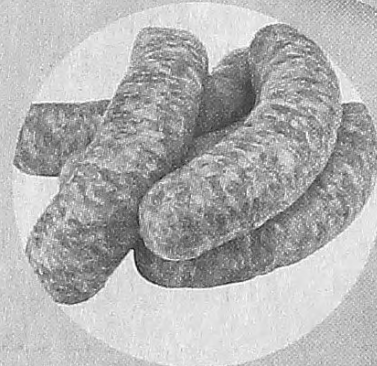
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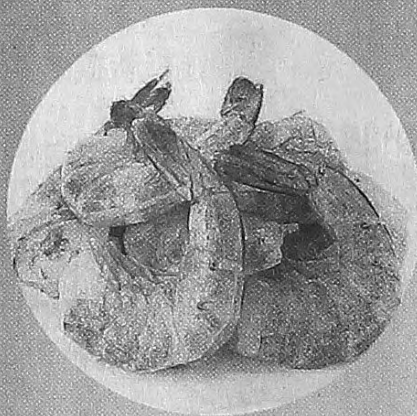
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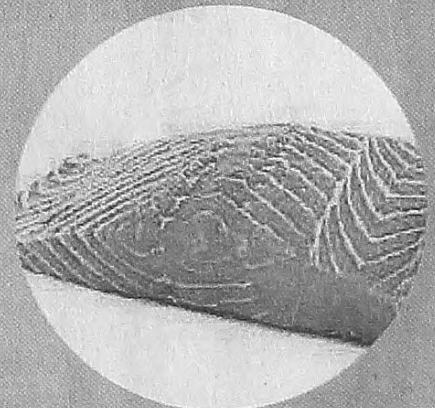
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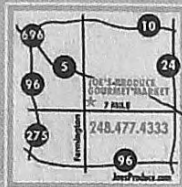
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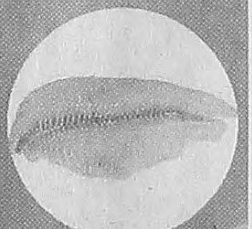
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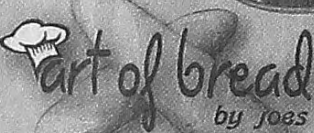
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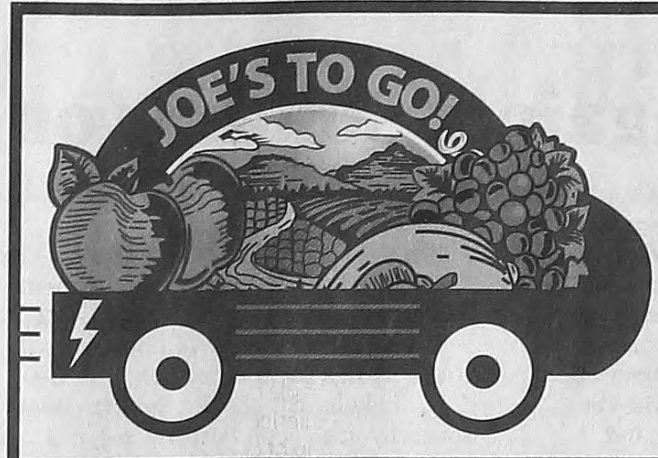
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# SPORTS

## Teams react to surprise return of fall sports

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

Livonia Stevenson head boys soccer coach Ken Shingledecker had the most doubts about the fall season at 1:30 p.m. Sept. 3.

He said after Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's announcement Sept. 2, saying guidance for organized team sports

across the state will be made "very soon," he did not feel a fall season would happen. He expected more of an answer sooner.

However, as 4 p.m. hit the next day, Shingledecker's mood changed swiftly.

"I really did have my doubts," Shingledecker said. "The most: today. So it's kind of funny that today is the day where it all turns around."

The Michigan High School Athletic Association announced Sept. 3 that all fall sports, including football, boys soccer, volleyball, and girls swim and dive, have been reinstated for the 2020 fall season.

### Football returns

When the football season was initially

postponed, Seaholm head football coach Jim DeWald had to break the news to his team on the football field.

When the MHSAA announced it was back on, Seaholm was in the middle of a weight-lifting session.

"They were so excited that the energy in that weight session was unreal,"

See REACT, Page 2B

### CROSS COUNTRY



The Northville and Plymouth high school varsity cross country teams take off on their Sept. 2 meet at Cass Benton Park. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Northville shines in unusual opener

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

Before the first race of his senior season, Plymouth senior cross country runner Patrick Byrnes addressed his team in the middle of a six-foot apart circle.

"This very well could be our first and last meet," he said, encouraging the young Wildcats team to give everything they had in its first race of the season against Northville.

Byrnes, the No. 1 returning runner in the state, shined in his senior debut, finishing first with a 16:14.6.

However, Northville took over the rest of the meet, placing second through 13th, and taking the first dual meet of the season against Plymouth, 20-43, at Cass Benton Park.

Northville head coach Tim Dalton was most impressed by nine of his runners finishing the race in under 18 minutes, setting the tone for what he ex-

pects to be a competitive season for the Mustangs.

"We talked about how everyone can run the first mile in a race," Dalton said. "It's how you run that second and third mile, so I thought our group moved up, was very conservative in that first mile and did a good job on the back half of the race."

Senior Nathan Hayes was the Mustangs' fastest runner, finishing in 17:15.7. Of the next 10 finishers for the Mus-

tangs, seven were underclassmen, including Brandon Latta and Brady Heron, two sophomores who placed third and fourth, respectively.

Junior Peyton McCaslin and senior Zachary Helner rounded out the scoring for the Mustangs.

After Byrnes, three of Plymouth's scorers were underclassmen: sophomore Alex Bobak in 14th, sophomore

See OPENER, Page 2B

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## TENNIS

## Lakeland avenges first loss with win against South Lyon

Colin Gay [HometownLife.com](http://HometownLife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Coming off of its first loss of the season to Walled Lake Central, the only team it lost to in the Lakes Valley Conference in 2019, Lakeland boys tennis came out against South Lyon with an opportunity to get back to its winning ways.

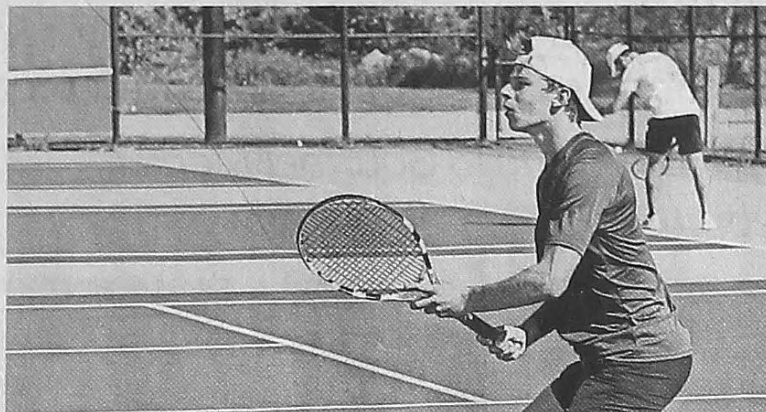
The Eagles succeeded against the Lions, winning seven-of-nine flights to earn their third victory of the season. Lakeland won three of its four singles matches, while taking four of five doubles matches.

A season after losing the team's No. 1 singles player and the No. 1 doubles tandem, Lakeland head coach Chris Carlson said the Eagles remain strong early on in the 2020 season.

"I wasn't sure if we would be able to fill in those spots and be as strong as last year," Carlson said. "What I have found after this week is I think we were able to do that."

"We're right where we were last year." However, at the No. 1 spot, South Lyon prevailed.

Lions junior Owen McCarthy defeated Lakeland's Adam Pluszczyk in



Lakeland's Will Dungan and Caiden Carlson (pictured) beat South Lyon's Michael Wesner and David Vess, 6-2, 6-2.

JOHN HEIDER/  
HOMETOWN  
LIFE.COM

## Final results

## Singles:

1. South Lyon's Owen McCarthy beats Lakeland's Adam Pluszczyk, 6-3, 6-2
2. Lakeland's Noah Weinberger beats South Lyon's Evan Petrovich, 6-0, 6-0
3. Lakeland's Zack Swartz beats South Lyon's Jacob Perrone, 6-1, 6-2
4. Lakeland's Elijah Parsons beats South Lyon's Josh Tucker, 6-1, 6-0

## Doubles:

1. Lakeland's Will Dungan and Caiden Carlson beat South Lyon's Michael Wesner and David Vess, 6-2, 6-2
2. Lakeland's Hector Benitez and Alec Zerna beat South Lyon's Alexander Petrovich and Steven Garrett, 6-1, 6-2
3. Lakeland's Daniel Stebbins and Bryan Artrip beat South Lyon's Tom Cavanaugh and Evan Steele, 6-0, 6-3
4. South Lyon's Parker Frye and Quinn McCarty beat Shreyas Talluri and Ajay Bikki, 6-1, 7-6 (6)
5. Lakeland's Logan Hayes and his partner beat South Lyon's Charles Swanson and Reid Covert, 6-0, 6-3

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

straight sets, after falling to Pluszczyk in straight sets a season ago.

"What Owen was able to do in a year to improve his game and get ready for a top-level match like that, gives us a lot of strength, not just in terms of that flight, but also what that communicates to the other guys in terms of the type of effort that it takes to have that improvement," South Lyon head tennis coach Jeff Prueter said.

Lakeland dominated the rest of the singles matches, allowing South Lyon to score only four points in three straight-set wins.

In doubles, the Eagles' tandem of Will Dungan and Caiden Carlson earned the straight-set victory at No. 1 against South Lyon's Michael Wesner and David Vess.

Moving forward, Carlson said Lakeland is on the path it was a season ago, but it has to take a next step forward, focusing on the LVC Tournament, the regional and the state tournaments.

"I think we stayed pretty consistent," Carlson said. "We're looking to challenge at the top of the LVC and try to win the conference tournament again."

## Opener

Continued from Page 1B

Sean Byrnes in 15th — Patrick's younger brother — and freshman Anirudh Krishnan in 16th.

"We're a pretty young team, and I think, the way our training is, we will be there more towards the end," Plymouth head coach Jonathan Mikosz said. "But I think, with all of the changes to their first meet, was too much to overcome."

"What we ran today was definitely not a reflection of how we have been training and how we have been doing."

Byrnes, coming into the season with expectations looming — finishing last year as the No. 5 runner in the state, behind No. 1-finishing and Plymouth graduate Carter Solomon — just wants to make the most of his time with the Wildcats, no matter what it looks like.

"Our whole team is putting out the effort this season just because we don't know when the season will end, if it will end," Byrnes said. "We are treating every meet, every practice as if it's our last because it very well could be."

## Making adjustments

As Northville runners finished their first race of the season, their feedback to Dalton remained consistent: It was silent. It was weird.

Because of the coronavirus, cross country meets have changed dramatically, from cutting down the size of meets — axing invitationals and quad meets — to not allowing fans to cheer runners on at checkpoints throughout the race.

For Hayes, a Northville senior who has run at Cass Benton before, he remembers specific points in the race where he normally gets a shot of adren-

**Because of the coronavirus, cross country meets have changed dramatically, from cutting down the size of meets to not allowing fans to cheer runners on at checkpoints.**

aline, including the one-mile mark.

That did not happen, and he felt it showed in his and other runners' times.

"I think it slowed us down a little bit," Hayes said. "The last 200 meters when everyone is cheering you on, it definitely helps you, a little finishing kick at the end."

Mikosz said a small dual meet is completely different from invitational and bigger races usually on the schedule. He said some runners are better in these smaller meets, but some feed off the energy of competitors, those running next to them.

"Especially for the younger guys, it's tough. In a race like today, it can be really spread out," Mikosz said. "There are a lot of guys that were potentially running by themselves — not having anyone to run with. Or you have a race like Wayne County or Holly, you have a ton of guys to run with and push them."

"Yeah, I think it's a big curve." However, after the race, Dalton was focused more on the fact his runners got the opportunity to race, got the opportunity to show what they could do against an opponent.

It was his message to them before the race started.

"I just wanted the kids to compete," Dalton said. "We've checked that box. We're here, we have the opportunity."



Northville's Nathan Hayes was the first finisher in the school's Sept. 2 meet.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## React

Continued from Page 1B

DeWald said. "It was off the charts."

After Whitmer's executive order 176 lifted restrictions on high school football, games are scheduled to begin Sept. 18. Teams will play six regular-season contests starting with their original Week 4 opponent, with every team making the postseason tournament.

Teams in the postseason will advance in the tournament as normal with the II-player finals being held Dec. 4 and 5.

Spectators will be limited to two per participant

Livonia Franklin head football coach Chris Kelbert said his team has reverted back to strength training and conditioning since the season was postponed to the spring Aug. 14.

Kelbert was shocked by the news that came today, reversing the initial decision made by the MHSAA.

"I didn't expect this would come at all," Kelbert said.

North Farmington head football coach Jon Herstein is cautiously optimistic by the MHSAA's announcement.

"It's a little anxious, excited, those types of things," Herstein said. "Obviously, there's a lot of things that can still happen between now and then, so we

have to do our part to still continue to be able to play and to practice.

"I think overall, we are excited to get back out there."

While Novi head football coach Jeff Burnside was excited by the announcement, his mind immediately went to season preparation.

He said he's worried about his players physically heading into the 2020 season, saying they have practically "been away" for the past two weeks.

With two weeks until the season opener, Burnside said the practice schedule will have to be ramped up.

"Unless we go into the weekend a little bit, which we very well may, if you just do the days, you are talking about eight days before the first game. Full hitting," Burnside said. "Seven (days) for J.V. and freshman. That's a tall ask."

Prior to the initial postponement of the season to the spring, teams were permitted to practice in helmets, not allowing contact until the week of Aug. 24.

Herstein said it's a different animal for teams once they start blocking live opponents, people who are going to push back.

With this, Burnside views the first game on the schedule as the "first scrimmage."

"The first game is really the scrimmage, and, unfortunately, they are not going to have us behind them directing

things on the fly," Burnside said.

"The game is probably going to look a little rougher... more mistakes, penalties, mental mistakes because the kids, they haven't had a full summer like we typically have had."

Kelbert, echoing the message of Franklin athletic director Ron Hammye, said all teams are going to be in the same boat.

"Will the kids be ready? I don't know, but it's going to be the same for every team across the state of Michigan," Kelbert said. "It is what it is. We want to have a quality football season, and this may be our best opportunity."

## Questions remain

Shingledecker already knows it's going to be a tight fit for boys soccer teams across the region.

Without guidance from the state or the MHSAA, programs have been forced to reschedule games for later in the season. The Stevenson head coach said the Spartans are tasked with 18 games in a month-and-a-half.

However, that's not what he is thinking about.

"It's going to be a little bit more difficult type season, but I'm going to tell you: I don't think anyone cares," Shingledecker said. "We're going to fight through it and everybody's very super excited that this is going to happen."

Girls swim and dive, and volleyball teams are permitted to start their seasons Sept. 9, while boys soccer teams are permitted to start games immediately.

"Just about every coach has called me already," Churchill athletic director Marc Hage said. "They are exuberant."

Hage mentioned the Churchill volleyball team, how those players have been working on a makeshift field since the start of summer workouts on dry land.

While the Chargers will return to their gym floor for the first time since March next week, volleyball head coach Claire Urban said it should not take much time for players to become acclimated to the difference between the field they had been practicing on.

"We're just going to be playing very simple volleyball at first. We're not going to force, not run a crazy offense just yet. We're going to keep it simple and clean and do what we know how to do."

While questions for balancing facilities, to scheduling, to practicing have not been answered, Hammye is just excited for the opportunity that fall sports will provide some level of normalcy.

"I think, again, we go with what people feel and what we are being told is that we can do this stuff safely," Hammye said.

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

# TAKING HER SHOT

## Brighton-trained fighter gets chance at women's MMA world championship

Bill Khan Livingston Daily  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

BRIGHTON — Alesha Zappitella is a nerd.

No worries. It's safe to call her that without needing to duck for cover.

She freely admits it.

Among Zappitella's escapes from the brutal profession she has chosen is playing Magic: The Gathering, a collectible strategy card game in which players summon creatures, cast spells and activate abilities with the goal of reducing their opponent's life total to zero.

"She's a quirky person, that's how I would describe her," said James Gray, her mixed martial arts coach at Scorpion Fighting System in Brighton. "She's not afraid to do her own thing. When she went to fight in Japan, she dyed her hair pink and purple. She's one of those people who is not afraid to be who she is. She follows her own intuition without thinking about how the world will look at her or judge her."

It was while embracing her inner geek during a game with some friends that Zappitella received a life-changing call.

"I got a call from my coach, James Gray, and he's like, 'This is going to be the coolest day of your life,'" she said. "I'm like, 'Oh, what's going on?' He's like, 'You've got a title shot.'"

"Honestly, it was surreal. It didn't feel like it was actually happening until about a day or two later it hit me. I just started crying because I realized, 'Wow, my dreams are coming true. They're coming into fruition right in front of me.'"

When Zappitella isn't playing games, meditating, reading, painting or working with special-needs children, she trains to become one of the top women's MMA fighters in the world.

The Pinckney resident who grew up in Ohio will get the opportunity to achieve her goals Sept. 17 when she fights Ashley Cummins of California for the vacant Invicta Fighting Championship atomweight world championship

in Kansas City, Kansas.

The fight headlines a six-bout card that will be available on UFC Fight Pass. Invicta FC is an all-women's MMA fight series.

Zappitella has a 7-2 professional record, earning her title shot by winning a split decision over Lindsey VanZandt on July 2.

"The atomweight title had just become vacant," she said. "Rumor was that if I won my next fight, I got a title shot, but I wasn't sure how soon that would be or even if it was for certain, but I guess it was."

The 4-foot-11, 105-pound Zappitella will have the opportunity to realize a dream that formed the moment she met Gray at her first amateur fight five years ago in Southgate.

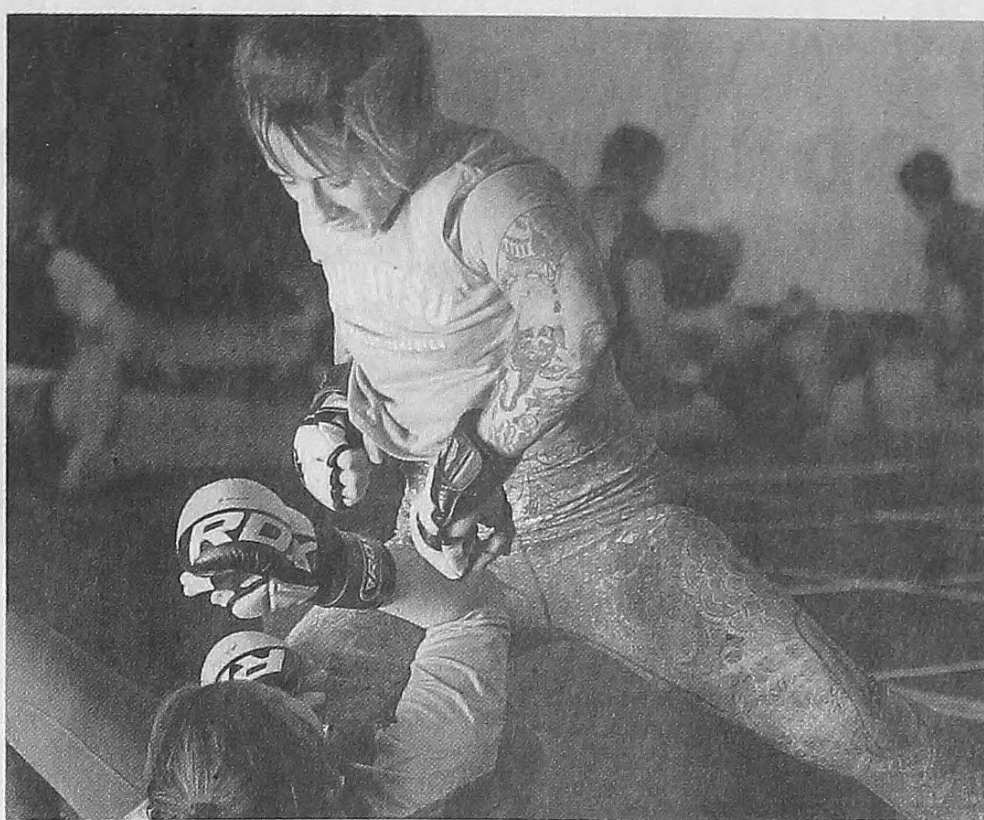
"He came up to me and told me if I kept on and I got on the right track that I could be a world champion one day," she said.

"When somebody tells me something like that, especially when I'm branching out and I'm doing something I've never done before, it is very motivational. I didn't know who James Gray was. I didn't know much about mixed martial arts. All I knew was that if I put my mind to it that I could do this, because that's what I did with wrestling. I wasn't supposed to be wrestling, but I became one of the best."

Gray remembers seeing a raw, young fighter with tons of potential.

"She didn't have a lot of training outside of her wrestling background," Gray said. "She fought with so much heart and so much tenacity. There's a certain aura or energy you look for in people. Some people have 'it' or a fire in them; it was a rare thing. She was 20 years old, which is extremely young. You see this really fired-up, motivated, ready-to-take-on-the-world type of woman with a wrestling background. If she can channel that energy, that's what it takes to be a world champion."

Zappitella, 25, began wrestling while tagging along at her brother's practices when she was 5 years old. She was the



Alesha Zappitella spars with Arden Eschtruth at Team SFS in Genoa Township.  
GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

only girl on the Conneaut High School wrestling team in Ohio and placed sixth in the 2016 U.S. Olympic Trials.

She came to Michigan on a college wrestling scholarship, but "I figured out college wasn't for me. School didn't fit me. I always watched fighting on TV, so I thought I'd give it a go. The first practice I went to, I was absolutely hooked. I stayed here ever since just to train."

Zappitella began fighting at the amateur level in January 2015 and had her first pro fight in October 2016. She won her first five pro fights, lost the next two by decision, then won the next two by decision to earn a shot at the championship.

"I think I have quite the advantage that I've been wrestling for 20 years," she said. "Wrestling is the most in-depth martial art and it's the hardest to learn, especially once you're an adult. Wrestling really helps with body control and also confidence. Wrestling goes well with jiu jitsu. If you know how to wrestle, you can probably pick up jiu jitsu really well. Striking was a bit harder for me to pick up, but it's been five years now and I'm very confident in my striking."

Zappitella was working with elemen-

tary school special-needs students when the coronavirus shut down schools in March.

She suddenly had more time available to train, which she does four or five times a day, six days a week. Much of that training took place at home until Gray reopened his gym May 4 in defiance of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's stay-at-home order.

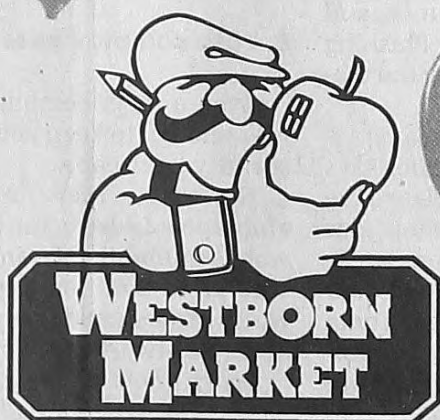
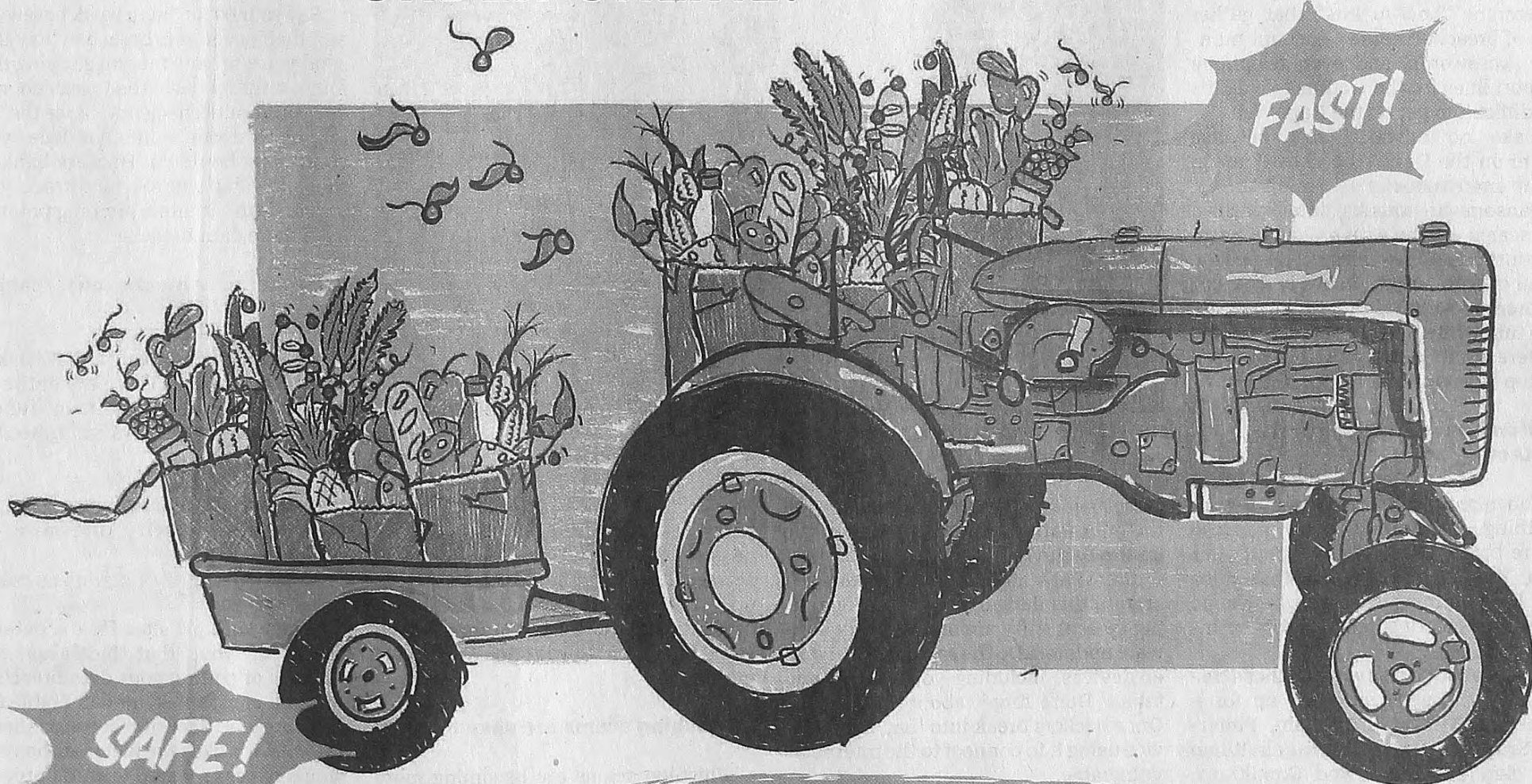
"I thought it was such a wonderful opportunity for me, because I was still being paid and I was still able to train," she said. "Gyms got shut down, but that didn't stop me. I was still training on my own. I was dead set that I was going to turn 2020 into my year."

"When I didn't have access to a gym, it was a little bit difficult, but I made it work. I have a strength and conditioning coach I can message and say, 'Hey, what should I be doing?' And I also have pads and stuff at my house and I have friends who could come over and we'd run pads in the yard or I'd go for a run in the neighborhood."

Zappitella expects a highly motivated opponent when she steps into the cage in Kansas City. Cummins is 33 years old with a 7-5 record, competing in her first amateur fight 10 years ago.

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## ASK HUMAN RESOURCES

# Job hunting in a furlough has risks

Some employers don't need reason to let you go



**Johnny C. Taylor**  
Columnist  
USA TODAY

Johnny C. Taylor Jr., a human resources expert, is tackling your questions as part of a series for USA TODAY. Taylor is president and CEO of the Society for Human Resource Management, the world's largest HR professional society.

The questions are submitted by readers, and Taylor's answers below have been edited for length and clarity.

**Question:** After months on furlough, my employer finally contacted me about a "potential" return date. However, some of my colleagues have been laid off and I'm worried I could be next. Can my current job fire me if they find out I've started the job search "just in case"? – Anonymous

**Johnny C. Taylor Jr.:** I'm happy to hear your employer has contacted you about a potential return to work date. As I write this, about 80% of small businesses report being in the process of reopening.

But the recovery's start doesn't mean all the challenges and uncertainty have evaporated. Exploring potential new job opportunities makes sense.

However, the important phrase to know here is "at-will employment." This means that unless there's a strict agreement or contract in place, employers can let employees go with, or without, reason. This might seem severe, but recognize it's a two-way street: You, too, can end your employment at any time, for any reason.

I imagine many – if not most – employers understand an employee on furlough for months may be backed into a



Many small businesses are beginning to reopen. RIDOFRAZ VIA GETTY IMAGES

corner. They might have no choice but to look for another job. In fact, in order to be eligible for unemployment benefits, most states require an individual to continue seeking employment and to accept suitable work.

If your employer contacted you about a potential return-to-work date, that's a good sign.

I encourage you to listen to what they have to say, and take that into consideration as you decide what should be done.

I hope you get back to work soon.

**Question:** I recently found out my PTO is not rolling over into 2021. Can my company do this? – Anonymous

**Johnny C. Taylor Jr.:** Thank you for asking this question. It's hard to believe, but the end of the year will be here before we know it and many employees

will be thinking about taking paid time off (PTO).

Short answer: It depends. Some companies have "use it or lose it" policies, where employees must use their earned PTO before the end of the year. Others have policies allowing a certain amount of PTO to roll over into the next year. Ultimately, however, PTO policies are up to an employer.

That said, these policies can largely depend on state law. You don't mention where you work, but there are a few states (California, Montana, Nebraska, Illinois and Massachusetts) that don't allow employers to have "use it or lose it" policies. These states require an employer to give employees time to use their PTO before losing it from year to year.

If you're concerned about not being able to use all of your time before the

end of the year, have a conversation with your manager or HR. They might be able to help you come up with a plan to use your PTO in the coming months, so that you don't lose it. You could also ask about cash-out options if you're unable to take that time off.

But here's what I want you to take away from this: When you do take time off, don't feel bad about it. Sure, you and many others are working from home – and working hard at that. But I've seldom met a manager who thinks taking a vacation every now and then isn't important, if not necessary. It helps employees unwind and recharge, and it helps employers build a stronger workplace culture and boosts performance.

Bottom line: Yes, your employer can choose to not roll over your PTO, but it's up to you to take the time you've earned.

I hope you can enjoy some time off.

# Don't believe these cybersecurity myths

Software alone can't keep your data safe



**Tech Talk**  
Kim Komando

On the Dark Web, you can purchase cybercrime "how-to kits" that gather lists of breached names, account numbers, passwords, and even telephone support lines for the victims to call. It's not difficult to get on the Dark Web.

Make no mistake. Just because you're on the Dark Web doesn't mean you're anonymous.

Ransomware attacks, data breaches, and scams – along with a steady stream of extortion and phishing emails – have taken over the internet. We hear about cybercrime so often that it can quickly turn into white noise. That's a mistake.

Here are 10 security myths you need to stop believing about your data:

## 1. I don't have anything worth protecting

You might think your data isn't worth anything. You might think because you're broke, no one cares about your data. You might also think that since you have nothing to hide, there's no point in protecting your identity or information.

Think about it this way: All those free social media apps you sign up for – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Snapchat – aren't free at all. When you sign the Terms and Conditions, you're signing away your right to privacy, which lets the apps build a detailed demographic profile of you.

The companies sell this information to marketers; that means your information is making these companies millions of dollars. So why wouldn't hackers want to cash in on that?

## 2. I use security software, so I'm fine

Many people think that security software will act as an invincible shield between their data and hackers. A group of Russian hackers breached servers of



Keep software up to date. GETTY IMAGES

three major antivirus providers. Now, all the information they stole is up for sale on the Dark Web.

So, what's an excellent way to work around this danger? Keep your operating system software and security software updated. Do the same for your other devices, including your phone and tablet. Don't forget about your router. Once hackers break into that, every device using it to connect to the internet is vulnerable.

## 3. With all these data breaches, I have nothing left to protect

Want to see if your data has already been breached? One website, haveibeenpwned.com, has been tracking data breaches for years and put a handy search tool online. You simply enter your email address and get a yes or no answer.

Let's say you're on the list. You may feel hopeless, and like there's no point in protecting your data since it's already been overtaken.

That's not true. There are different

types of data breaches that can have different impacts. For example, say your password and username to your bank account have been breached. Don't give up – inaction empowers the hackers to pry for even more information, which could lead them to your Social Security number.

## 4. Phishing scams are easy to spot

Phishing scams are becoming more sophisticated as hackers infiltrate companies, CEO's personal accounts, and even government agencies. Phishing scams have skyrocketed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Realistic-looking extortion scams are making the rounds. The scammer says unless you pay up, they will release the video of you that they took using your webcam when you visited a porn site.

Don't buy it. The scammer got your email address and password from a data breach. If you are still using the combination of both, it's best to change your password at the very least.

Sometimes, they use familiar faces

against you.

## 5. My friends on social media won't hurt me

The great thing about social media is that it connects you with your friends and relatives. Unfortunately, the web of connectivity can be an opening for spiders to turn friends into gateways for data breaches.

Say your friend has a weak password, and their account is breached. Say they send you a private message saying they found a funny new video or a cool new site you should check out. Since the link is coming from a familiar face, your guard may be down. Hackers bank on those lowered guards to corrupt your web and turn it into a jumping point for even more data breaches.

## 6. Hackers are mysterious, scary figures

It's important to realize that hackers aren't lone wolves. There are entire organizations – some government-funded – that work together to infiltrate data and rake in millions.

## 7. I only go to mainstream sites, so I don't need security software

You need security software no matter where you go.

When multiple sites have a detailed profile of you, that increases your chances of getting your data breached, since all companies are vulnerable to a data breach. Security software keeps you safe. It's like two-factor authentication: a necessary step towards protecting your privacy.

## 8. I use complex passwords

Even a long, complicated password isn't enough to keep you safe in today's security landscape.

Nowadays, there are speedy programs people use to run billions of password combinations – and it only takes a second to run these potential passwords. You should use password managers and two-factor authentication.

Learn about all the latest technology on the Kim Komando Show or visit [komando.com](http://komando.com).



September 10, 2020

## SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

homes

## Save During the Toll Brothers National Sales Event “Love Everything About Home”

Exceptional Incentives and Financing Options Available for a Limited Time

Toll Brothers, the nation's leading builder of luxury homes, is set to kick off its National Sales Event “Love Everything About Home” on Saturday, September 12. The event will run through Sunday, October 11 in participating communities throughout the country.

Toll Brothers builds homes in some of the most sought-after locations in the country and offers a wide selection of floor plans and hundreds of design options so interested buyers can find a new home that's truly personalized to their life and style. During the National Sales Event, buyers can explore a variety of home types—including move-in ready homes, homes nearing completion, and homes ready to be built—and take advantage of limited-time savings to make their dream home a reality at the best possible value.

Limited-time incentives vary among communities and will comprise a package of savings created specifically for this event, so buyers should contact their community of interest and speak with a sales consultant to learn more. To take advantage of these attractive packages, interested buyers must make a deposit between September 12 and October 11, 2020.

For home buyers who would like to learn more about financing their purchase at today's low rates, representatives from TBI Mortgage Company, will be available to offer free mortgage guidance. TBI Mortgage has an excellent selection of mortgage programs with interest rates—including both fixed-rate and adjustable-rate mortgages—that are near an all-time low.

Toll Brothers, an award-winning FORTUNE 500 company founded in 1967, embraces an unwavering commitment to quality and customer service. Toll Brothers is currently operating in 24 states nationwide and is a publicly owned company listed

on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: TOL).

For six years in a row, Toll Brothers has been ranked the #1 Home Builder Worldwide on the FORTUNE Magazine “World's Most Admired Companies®” list.\* Toll Brothers also has been honored as national Builder of the Year by Builder magazine, and was twice named national Builder of the Year by Professional Builder magazine.

Toll Brothers builds an array of luxury residential single-family detached, attached home, master planned resort-style golf, and urban low-, mid-, and high-rise communities, principally on land it develops and improves. The Company acquires and develops rental apartment and commercial properties through Toll Brothers Apartment Living, Toll Brothers Campus Living, and the affiliated Toll Brothers Realty Trust, and develops urban low-, mid-, and high-rise for-sale condominiums through Toll Brothers City Living. The Company operates its own architectural, engineering, mortgage, title, land development and land sale, golf course development and management, and landscape subsidiaries. Toll Brothers also operates its own security company, TBI Smart Home Solutions, which also provides homeowners with home automation and technology options. The Company also operates its own lumber distribution, house component assembly, and manufacturing operations. Through its Gibraltar Real Estate Capital joint venture, the Company provides builders and developers with land banking, non-recourse debt and equity capital.

The Toll Brothers' National Sales Event “Love Everything About Home” is offered at the following Metro-Detroit communities:

New in West Bloomfield

Toll Brothers newest community



Learn about limited-time savings during this event that you can use to personalize your dream home.

Reserve at West Bloomfield is now open and selling fast. This must-see community features spacious Ranch-style homes with an easy, low-maintenance lifestyle and resort-style amenities. All in a convenient location just steps to the West Bloomfield Trail and the beauty of the West Bloomfield Nature Preserve. Tour our gorgeous Berks ranch model home and our new Waltham two-story model home today. Priced from the mid-\$400,000s. Call (248) 654-8555 or visit [ReserveatWestBloomfield.com](http://ReserveatWestBloomfield.com) for more information.

**Resort-class Amenities in Canton**  
Westridge Estates is the only new community in Canton offering resort-style amenities, including a clubhouse with fitness room, gathering room, kitchenette, locker rooms, pools, sand volleyball court, children's play park and walking paths. Westridge Estates is located just south of

Ford Road, west of Ridge Road, and home prices start in the mid-\$500,000s. For more information, visit [WestridgeofCanton.com](http://WestridgeofCanton.com) or call (734) 844-0279.

**Selling Fast in Canton**

Hamlet Pointe and Hamlet Meadows are located within the existing community of The Hamlet offering an exceptional location close to Plymouth-Canton schools, the Ford Road Shopping District, expressways, parks and the quaint Cherry Hill Village.

At Hamlet Meadows, pricing starts in the upper \$300,000s. Two-story home designs range from 2,411 sq. ft. to more than 2,842 sq. ft. Brand new, open-concept designs are now available. Hamlet Pointe features large home sites and side-entry garages. Homes are priced from the upper \$400,000s. Three stunning model homes are now available to tour and quick move in homes are available. For details, visit [The-Hamlet.com](http://The-Hamlet.com) or

call (734) 398-5939.

**Luxurious Living in Northville**

Final opportunities are now available at two amazing single-family communities in Northville. Toll Brothers at Montcaret is located on the south side of Seven Mile Road, 1/4 miles west of Beck Road just minutes from the historic downtown. Toll Brothers at Dunhill Park is on the corner of Beck Road and 8 Mile Road across from Maybury State Park. Both prestigious communities offer a range of home designs with an exceptional list of features on grand oversized home sites. Prices start from the upper \$700,000s. Call (248) 924-2601 or visit [TollBrothersAtMontcaret.com](http://TollBrothersAtMontcaret.com) or [LiveAtDunhillPark.com](http://LiveAtDunhillPark.com) for details.

**Popular Villas in Ann Arbor**

North Oaks of Ann Arbor is the region's premier resort-class community situated in a stunning 109-acre setting. Two

collections of homes are available. Townhomes from the upper \$300,000s and Villas from the mid-\$500,000s.

The Villas range from 2,041 to 2,631+ square feet and offer first- or second-floor master suites, island kitchens, open layouts, loft space, and more. The Townhomes just released new exterior styles and range from 1,861 to 1,890+ sq. ft. and include a 2-car garage, a lower level with the option to finish and options to add a loft or rooftop deck.

A clubhouse with a fitness center, yoga room, billiards, great room with fireplace, verandas overlooking the lap and wading pools, locker rooms and a play park is now open. North Oaks is located minutes from the University of Michigan's north campus, the VA Hospital, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, and downtown Ann Arbor. Children attend acclaimed Ann Arbor Schools with the elementary and middle schools just 3 minutes away. For details, call (734) 224-6686 or visit [North-Oaks.com](http://North-Oaks.com).

**Single-Family Homes from upper \$300,000s in Ann Arbor**

Trailwoods of Ann Arbor, a new community of single-family homes tucked into a gorgeous setting with Ann Arbor schools and low Scio Twp taxes is now available. Two collections of homes offer all new open-concept designs with an impressive list of included features. The Village Collection is priced from the upper \$300,000s and The Parkside Collection is priced from the upper \$400,000s. Two gorgeous models are available to tour and quick move-in homes are available. For more information, visit [TrailwoodsOfAnnArbor.com](http://TrailwoodsOfAnnArbor.com) or call (734) 995-5503.

For Community Information, visit [TollSalesEvent.com/DETNews](http://TollSalesEvent.com/DETNews).

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## Toll Brothers NATIONAL sales event

Sep 12-Oct 11, 2020

Limited-Time Incentives\*



Love Everything About Home  
Mortgage Rates at an All-Time Low

Toll Brothers offers new luxury home communities in Canton.

Start Here to Get More  
[TollSalesEvent.com/Canton](http://TollSalesEvent.com/Canton)

### WESTRIDGE ESTATES OF CANTON

**Tour Today!**

**Newly Redesigned Interior  
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Expansive home sites with clubhouse, fitness, pools, and play park in the Plymouth-Canton School District  
From the mid-\$500s | (734) 844-0279

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**Three Gorgeous Decorated Model  
Homes to Tour Community  
Clubhouse, Sport Courts,  
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Single-family homes in the  
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walking trails to Independence Park

### Hamlet Meadows

Executive homes with open layouts  
and an outstanding list of included  
features at a great value.  
From the upper \$300s  
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### Hamlet Pointe

Estate homes on larger home sites  
with side-entry garages, two-story  
family rooms, luxurious master  
suites, and much more.  
From the upper \$400s  
(734) 398-5939

\*Offer, if any, is valid for new buyers who deposit on a new home at a participating community in Michigan between 9/12/20 and 10/11/20, sign an agreement of sale by 10/31/20, and close on the home. Not valid on existing deposits or homes under contract. Offers, incentives, and seller contributions, if any, vary by community and are subject to certain terms, conditions, and restrictions, including but not limited to the availability of home sites. Offers may not be valid on quick delivery homes where selections have already been made. Toll Brothers reserves the right to change or withdraw any offer at any time. Not valid with any other offer. See sales representative for details. Prices subject to change without notice. Photos are images only and should not be relied upon to confirm applicable features. This is not an offering where prohibited by law. 09/20 278977



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**CANTON CHARTER ACADEMY**  
**49100 FORD RD, CANTON, MI 48187-5415**  
**734-453-9517 PHONE • 734-453-9551 FAX**  
**OPEN ENROLLMENT NOTICE**

Open enrollment for the 2021-2022 academic school year ends on 2/26/2021 at 5 p.m. Applications are available for grades K - 8 and can be obtained at the school, at [www.NHAschools.com](http://www.NHAschools.com) or by calling 866-NHA-ENROLL. Should the number of applications received during open enrollment exceed available seats, a random-selection drawing will be necessary. The drawing, if needed, will be held on 3/9/2021 at 4:30 p.m. in the school gym. Applications received after open enrollment will be accepted on a first-come, first serve basis for remaining open seats. Waiting lists will be formed accordingly.

**NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS**

Canton Charter Academy admits students of any race, color, and nationality or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of intellectual or athletic abilities, measures of achievement or aptitude, disability, status as a handicapped person, homeless status, English proficiency, religion, creed, race, sex, color, or national origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies and athletic or other school-administered programs.

Publish: September 10, 2020 LO-000037006 3x3.5

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| equipment    | tablets      |
| pets         | cameras      |



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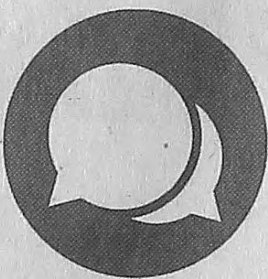
We now have multiple channels that you can use to update your account information, report delivery issues, temporarily stop your paper, activate your digital account or address any questions and concerns you may have.

## WE OFFER:



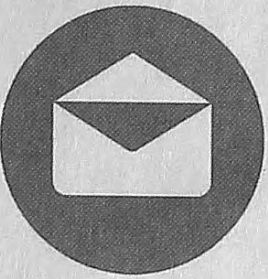
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[help.hometownlife.com](http://help.hometownlife.com)

A black and white photograph of two young women walking and shopping. They are both smiling and looking down at their shopping bags. The woman on the left has long blonde hair and is wearing a light-colored button-down shirt and dark pants. The woman on the right has long dark hair and is wearing a dark-colored top and jeans. They are carrying several paper shopping bags. The background is a blurred outdoor setting, possibly a shopping mall or a street.

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 Growing company in New Hudson has full time positions available. Prior manufacturing experience preferred. Looking for responsible individuals who take pride in their work. Competitive salary and benefits. Interested parties should mail, email or fax their resumes to the address below to fill out.

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 Fax #1-248-486-3379  
 Email - dave@psisprings.com

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# The Classifieds

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# THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

### ACROSS

- 1 First scale syllables
- 7 Gripping tool
- 11 Arid expanse in Mongolia
- 15 Move like a grasshopper
- 19 "Not Afraid" rapper
- 20 Affirmation of self-ability
- 21 De-wrinkle
- 22 Giant fair
- 23 Stocks and shares [1st]
- 25 Stand-up comedian Richard
- 26 Super serves
- 27 Low digit
- 28 Play starter
- 29 American robin's close relative [5th]
- 31 Figure on a kid's toy battleground [10th]
- 35 Revolutionary War mercenaries
- 36 Wed. follows it
- 37 Yellow-disked flower
- 39 'Zine
- 40 Canon camera line
- 43 Rapping noise
- 47 She sang "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue" [15th]
- 51 Online selling
- 52 Driver's license, SSN, etc.
- 55 Determined to accomplish
- 56 Living space
- 57 1988-91 war drama series [20th]
- 60 Earth's heater
- 61 Bluegrass fiddler Alison
- 62 Longtime ISP option
- 63 Laundry receptacle
- 65 &&&&
- 66 "Hey, over here ..."
- 68 Tree of eastern North America [25th]
- 72 Lid fastener
- 76 Infamous Idi
- 78 Very small minority
- 80 Mineral spring
- 81 Taxi driver
- 84 Angry
- 87 Small, pungent pickling vegetable [30th]
- 89 Player's top effort, informally
- 90 Literary leaf
- 92 Part of IPA
- 93 Slow a car down
- 94 Dorothy's magical shoes [40th]
- 97 Filleted
- 99 Cough up
- 100 Low digit
- 101 Rapscaillon
- 104 PC key abbr.
- 105 Daughter of JFK
- 109 Half-million-selling album [50th]
- 114 Mae West play [60th]
- 116 "Dies —" (hymn)
- 117 Dog coater
- 118 "Eso Beso" singer Paul
- 119 Revered sort associated with the starts of 10 answers in this puzzle
- 124 Salt Lake City NCAA team

### DOWN

- 1 Bus station
- 2 Neighbor of a Yemeni
- 3 Get mature
- 4 Ending for propyl
- 5 Sea, to Henri
- 6 "— big boy now"
- 7 Glutinous
- 8 Cold drink, informally
- 9 Like biting writing
- 10 U.S. Navy off.
- 11 Toy for a boy, traditionally
- 12 Longtime cookies
- 13 Bail provider
- 14 Part of IPO
- 15 Find out
- 16 "How rude!"
- 17 Gorillas, e.g.
- 18 Opulent
- 24 Tearful
- 29 "As a matter of fact, I do!"
- 30 Hollow-eyed
- 32 Sully
- 33 Ban
- 34 Grazing area
- 38 Near-grads: Abbr.
- 41 Part of 122-Down
- 42 Beholds
- 43 Quick review
- 44 Eldest Musketeer
- 45 Kite features
- 46 Has a link (with)
- 48 Actor Erwin
- 49 Whole lot
- 50 Disconcert
- 53 Author Roald
- 54 1976-81 skit series
- 58 Sink bowl
- 59 Color shade
- 61 Get down to propose
- 64 "It's freezing!"
- 65 Filmmaker Hitchcock
- 67 Singer Wynette
- 69 See 70-Down
- 70 With 69-Down, tourist's printed guide
- 71 Ring, as bells
- 73 Nepali, e.g.
- 74 Said words
- 75 Sectioned, as a window
- 77 Conductor
- 79 Teeter
- 81 Be a kvetch
- 82 Juan's water
- 83 Sweetums
- 84 Swabby's tool
- 85 High mount
- 86 Semi fuel
- 88 College org. for sailors-to-be
- 90 Occasion for unrestricted amusement
- 91 Tolkien terror
- 95 More silly
- 96 Eastern Michigan city
- 98 Corn serving
- 102 "Top o' the — to ya!"
- 103 Prairies, e.g.
- 106 Accrue
- 107 "Victory is yours"
- 108 Brother on "Frasier"
- 110 Actor Patel of "Lion"
- 111 No longer a minor
- 112 Countryish
- 113 In a deadpan manner
- 114 Smear on, as paint
- 115 Crazy about
- 120 Past
- 121 PC key abbr.
- 122 Speed Wagon maker
- 123 Golfer Snead

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18					
19						20				21				22								
23						24				25				26								
27						28				29				30								
31			32	33	34					35												
			36							37				38			39	40	41	42		
43	44	45				46				47				48	49				50			
51						52	53	54		55									56			
57						58				59				60					61			
62						63				64				65								
66			67		68					69	70	71			72	73	74	75				
			76	77						78					79			80				
81	82	83								84	85	86		87					88			
89										90				91	92				93			
94						95				96				97	98							
99						100				101				102	103				104			
			105	106						107	108			109					110	111	112	113
114	115									116										117		
118						119				120					121	122	123					
124						125				126					127							
128						129				130					131							

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

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

9/10

### 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!

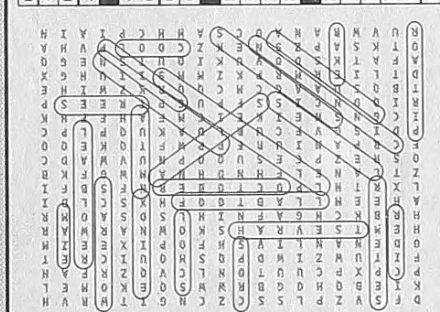
## AUTUMN WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

## WORDS

- APPLES
- AUTUMN
- CIDER
- CINNAMON
- COOL
- CRISP
- CROPS
- EQUINOX
- FOOTBALL
- GOURDS
- HARVEST
- LEAF BLOWER
- LEAVES
- MAZE
- OCTOBER
- PUMPKIN
- RAKE
- ROAD TRIP
- SCARECROW
- SCARVES
- SCHOOL
- SEPTEMBER
- SQUIRREL
- TREES



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

## NOTICE TO PUZZLE READERS:

BEGINNING IN OCTOBER, WE WILL BE CHANGING TO A NEW WORD SEARCH PUZZLE. WE ARE CURRENTLY TESTING NEW OPTIONS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE MOST SEAMLESS TRANSITION POSSIBLE. WE APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED READERSHIP AND SUPPORT OF OUR WEEKLY PUZZLES!

# Having A Garage Sale?

Let your community know by advertising in your local newspaper.

Don't wait, call today!





# Savor SUMMER

ONE FREE BUSCH'S BBQ SAUCE



WHEN YOU SPEND \$25 \* PLU 52433

VALID THROUGH 9/20/2020 AT YOUR LOCAL BUSCH'S FRESH FOOD MARKET  
THIS OFFER HAS NO CASH VALUE AND IS NOT VALID WITH OTHER OFFERS. EXCLUDES ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, LOTTERY, BOTTLE DEPOSITS AND GIFT CARD PRODUCTS. YOU MUST PRESENT THIS COUPON AT CHECKOUT AND BE A MYWAY MEMBER TO REDEEM.

LOCAL  
PRODUCE  
*is in stores now*

BUSCHS.COM



ANN ARBOR-MAIN ST. | ANN ARBOR-PLYMOUTH RD. | BRIGHTON | CANTON | CLINTON | DEXTER | FARMINGTON HILLS  
LIVONIA | NOVI | PINCKNEY | PLYMOUTH/NORTHVILLE | ROCHESTER HILLS | SALINE | SOUTH LYON | TECUMSEH | WEST BLOOMFIELD