



Memories of Lansing's first Black football coach

SPORTS, 1B

CANTON

OBSERVER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Two seek Canton Twp. supervisor position

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Incumbent Republican Pat Williams will square off against current trustee Ann Marie Graham-Hudak in the race for Canton Township supervisor on Nov. 3.

Williams, 59, is closing in on the end of his first term as supervisor following

two terms as a trustee. He has earned a material science degree from Schoolcraft College, a bachelor of science and masters of business administration degrees from Lawrence Technological University and has added ongoing educational training over the years.

Graham-Hudak is an engineer with a degree in electrical/electronic engineering from Boston University and a mas-

ters of business administration from LTU.

Following are the candidates' responses to a questionnaire distributed by Hometown Life:

Why are you running for office?

Graham-Hudak: Canton needs a forward-thinking, compassionate supervi-

sor that has been a voice for residents and has technical experience to bring jobs, technology & partnerships to serve Canton. As Trustee I implemented a strong ethics ordinance, obtained grants for recycling & improved infrastructure. I have the skillset and commitment to Move Canton Forward.

See **SUPERVISOR**, Page 3A



Special Agent Michael Ross, a Canton native, checks a compound access control area days after it had been burned during an attack on the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq. PHOTOS COURTESY OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S DIPLOMATIC SECURITY SERVICE

Canton native awarded for subduing embassy protesters

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

On Dec. 31, 2019, as an estimated 3,000 irate Iraqi protesters hurled flaming Molotov cocktails over the walls of the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq, and penetrated two of the massive compound's fortified entrances, Canton native Michael Ross and five of his fellow U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service agents remained calm amidst the chaos.

Enraged by the deaths of 24 Iraqis killed in retaliation for the murder of a United States military contractor, the

hell-bent protesters orchestrated a fiery, sustained attack that lasted approximately 14 hours.

The smell of burning machinery, sounds of relentless hatred and potential for an all-out disaster filled the air, Ross remembered.

"Let's just say it got pretty gnarly very quickly," said Ross, 37, whose efforts during the treacherous ordeal earned him and his colleagues prestigious uncommon valor awards from the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association.

See **AWARDED**, Page 6A



Ross is an agent with the U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service.

Infinity Homes gets green light to build in Wayne

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

For the first time in years, new homes are being built in Wayne.

Infinity Homes is planning 22 homes at the area formerly known as Kiwanis Park, taking up 33901 through 34199 John Street, not far from the intersection of Annapolis and Howe.

The Novi-based developer received approval to split the space into 22 lots at a city council meeting on Tuesday, October 6. Infinity Homes has developments in nearby communities like Livonia and Westland.

"This will actually be our first project in the City of Wayne," Rino Soave, the owner of Infinity Homes, said. "We do a fair amount of work right across the road in Romulus - we've probably built well over 350 homes in Romulus in the last seven or eight years."

Infinity Homes specializes in houses for first-time and upgrade buyers, and said the Kiwanis development will be affordable. The company does not yet have renderings or pricing for the homes, which will likely include one and two-story buildings with full basements.

"Our market interest is under \$300,000, that's what we're pretty waded into," Soave said. "So, this will pretty much fall right into that niche."

Soave said he expects the highway access and everything downtown Wayne has to offer will make the space attractive to potential residents, as well.

"It's kind of right in our wheelhouse," he said. "We're right on the I-275, I-94 corridor. We kind of seen Wayne as being one of those communities where a lot of people have grown up there and like to stay there. I'd compare it to Livonia or even a place like Westland."

Construction is expected to start in the first quarter of 2021.

Wayne City Council also approved Infinity Homes for an 18-month agreement to develop the space formerly known as Sue Winn park, Vandenberg School and Angelo Demario park. Soave said he does not have any hard plans for the space.

"It's a really big piece of land, so you could do some kind of combination between single-family and multi-family," he said.

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Trump supporters at Novi rally share insights

Susan Bromley HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

About 200 people attended a rally for Donald Trump at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi on Tuesday afternoon, with the president's son, Eric, headlining the event.

Eric Trump took to a ballroom podium at about 12:15 p.m., and spoke for about 20 minutes to the crowd. He began with remarks that taunted Joe Biden and the Democratic Party which he said wanted to abolish police, take faith away and keep churches and schools closed, and claimed that if President John F. Kennedy, a Democrat, was alive today, "he would 100% be on this team."

Eric Trump praised his father as wanting the greatest military in the world, bringing the lowest unemployment, decreasing drugs and illegal immigration and improving retirement accounts.

"We're gonna win this thing, we love the American flag, red white and blue, love the Pledge of Allegiance and national anthem, we're not kneeling for the national anthem," he said to cheers from the crowd. "We're going to restore faith in this country."

His remarks resonated with David Reid of New Hudson and his friend Jackie Whybra of Highland Township, who upon leaving the event called it fun, although Reid said there wasn't as many people as he expected, which he attributed possibly to it being moved from the original planned location at Huron Valley Guns in New Hudson.

"I liked the message and he hasn't changed the platform of lower taxes, improving employment and the economy, and assisting minorities out of poverty," Reid said.



Alman



Armbruster



Driggins



McAlister

Prior to Eric Trump's arrival, seven rally attendees shared some of the same sentiments when asked what brought them to the rally, while they offered some additional insights about themselves:



Mentag



Mills



Patient

Cara McAlister

Age: 62

Hometown: Bloomfield Township

Education: Bachelor's degree in business from Bowling Green

Profession: Inside sales rep for automotive parts

Sources for news: I watch and read everything on social media. Also, The Hill, Detroit News and Wall Street Journal.

Why are you here today? I'm here volunteering for the Trump campaign. I love all his accomplishments, deregulation of business, America First policies, standing up to China, school choice, criminal justice reform, work against human traffickers... I could go on.

What do you feel is the biggest issue facing the country?: National defense and standing up to China, access

to records and internet security.

What are your thoughts on the pandemic? I read both sides. I listen to different doctors, some are controversial. It was caused by China, released on purpose and the WHO (World Health Organization) failed the entire world by letting it come here. We need to be careful, but not afraid.

What has changed in four years? I voted for him four years ago, and we have access to more jobs and more favorable taxes for business. Taxes went down and my daughter benefitted from the child care credit.

Brandon Mills

Age: 49

Hometown: Hamburg Township

Education: High School graduate

Profession: Owner of Hamburg Pub

Sources for news:

Why are you here today?: I'm here to support our president, his family and what he's doing for hard-working men and women of this country, we're finally getting our due.

What do you feel is the biggest issue facing the country?: God. We need more God. The military an support of hard-working men and women. Forgotten people are not forgotten no more. The other big thing is abortion. I'm pro-life.

What are your thoughts on the pandemic?: The pandemic is a Chinese biological weapon as far as I'm concerned. It's an election year. China wants Biden. There is a virus, but the flu kills more people per year.

What has changed in four years?: We're a lot better off. The economy was booming until the bio weapon. We finally have a president we can trust.

Daralyn Armbruster

Age: Over 60

Hometown: Lyon Township

Education: High school graduate

Profession: Retired, formerly self-employed in wholesale sporting goods and a salon owner.

Sources for news: Mostly internet and radio. I listen to Mark Levin and frequently Breitbart and National Pulse.

Why are you here today?: I'm very supportive of our president. People have no clue what he's done for our country.

What do you feel is the biggest issue facing the country?: I have a problem with abortion. It used to be rare and now it's birth control. We're not told the truth in our news and I was raised to question. We are not in wars (under Trump) and it's huge to get out of conflicts.

What are your thoughts on the pandemic?: It's not a hoax, there is a new virus in town. But it has a 95% survival rate, which used to be an excellent prognosis. Not we're told, 'No, it's terrible.' We all felt we should flatten the curve, but you can't shut down business and

make us wear masks for something we might die from. Now you've made us broke.

What has changed in four years?: In four years, before the pandemic, my business was booming. The economy gave me hope before we lost our business in the pandemic. I was thankful Trump was bringing troops home.

Celeste Mentag

Age: 44

Hometown: Detroit

Education: High school graduate

Profession: Self-employed facilities manager for Brightmoor Cleaning

Sources for news: Candidate websites, I go to social media, I look at everything.

Why are you here today?: I'm here to support our president, represent Black voices and Black conservatives ready to serve the minority community and ready to serve neighbors and constituents.

What do you feel is the biggest issue facing the country?: There is a lot of talk in the media about economic disparities and the Democrats talk about that with no solutions. I think Trump's economic plan is good for the entire country.

What are your thoughts on the pandemic?: My condolences to anyone who has lost a loved one. If you're unhealthy or have symptoms, you need to wear a mask, but otherwise, it's a personal choice. It's an issue of liberty, a principle enshrined in our Constitution.

What has changed in four years?: In four years, what is better is he is putting in law and order, which was missing from last administration. I believe we have a constitutional president and I am glad to have that back.

Ryan Alman

Age: 28

Hometown: Fenton

Education: 2 years of college, studied business

Profession: Janitorial manager

Sources for news: Friends and family, and Trump, Pence. Definitely not the media. I try to trust who I can.

Why are you here today?: I'm here in support of the president and his family.

What do you feel is the biggest issue facing the country?: Rioting, violence and looting. The left doesn't seem to care. Trump went to Minnesota and the violence ended in an hour. Those are the big issues to me.

What are your thoughts on the pandemic?: The pandemic sucks, I'm not gonna lie. March and April it was all new, but we're in October. Biden want to lock us down and we'll all be out of jobs. You can't trust the numbers. It's from China. I'm ready to get back to normal.

What has changed in four years?: I voted for (Trump) four years ago. The economy and people's lives are better have been the number one thing. Peace around the world — we were in all these wars with others before.

Rose Patient

Age: 54

Hometown: Novi

Education: Master's degree in business administration from Walsh College; bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Michigan.

Profession: Nutritionist and health coach.

Sources for news: ABC and CBS; and Fox and One America News. The major networks are for Democrats and the others support Trump.

Why are you here today?: I want to support Trump, he has shown us through the previous four years that he

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Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Published Sunday and Thursday by
Observer & Eccentric Media

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Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.50

\$104 per 12 months home delivery

Home Delivery:

Customer Service: 866-887-2737

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

Sunday 7:30 a.m. to noon

Afterhours, leave voicemail

Email: custserv@hometownlife.com

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Plymouth Canton Community Schools Funding Source SECTION 00 11 13 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for the Plymouth Canton Community Schools, **Discovery MS Fire Alarm Replacement BP#21**, consisting of:

Discovery MS- Fire Alarm Replacement

will be received through Building Connected until **11:00 AM on, 10.30.20.**

1. All proposals shall be submitted electronically through Building Connected:

<https://app.buildingconnected.com/public/5ae227ade0d395000fd24541>

(McCarthy and Smith Plan Room)

2. For instructions on how to submit a bid please go to the following link:

<https://buildingconnected.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360010222793-How-to-submit-yourbid-through-BuildingConnected->

Bids submitted after this time and date will not be considered or accepted.

Faxed and/or E-mail proposals will not be accepted.

Sealed Bids will be publicly opened, read aloud and tabulated, beginning at approx. 11:00 AM on, 10.30.20 Bid Opening will be publicly conducted via a Zoom meeting.

Follow this link to access the Zoom Meeting for the Bid Opening-

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86367377622>

This Bid Package will consist of separate sealed bids for the following Bid Divisions:

143: Electrical

Bidding documents prepared by **TMP Architecture**, will be available for public inspection at the main office of the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335; the Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; and the Builder's Exchange, Lansing.

Bidding Documents will be available beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, October 30, 2020 via Building Connected.

There will be a **Pre-Bid Meeting on Thursday, October 15 at 1:00 p.m. at Discovery Middle School, located at 45083 Hanford Rd, Canton, MI 48187.** The purpose of the meeting will be to review the project bid documents & schedule, and to answer any questions bidders may have. Following the meeting, the bidders will have the opportunity to visit the project site. The pre-bid meeting is not a mandatory meeting however, bidders are strongly encouraged to attend. **A FACE MASK WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE WORN INSIDE OF THE BUILDING DURING THE PRE-BID MEETING.**

All bids **must** include the Familial Disclosure Affidavit (Section 004205), the Iran Linked Business Affidavit (Section 004210), and the Criminal Background Check Affidavit (Section 004220).

All Bids **must** be accompanied by a Bid Security, in either the form of a bid bond or certified bank check, in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the Bid, payable to Plymouth Canton Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the Bid is accepted, the School District is secured from loss or damage by reason of the withdrawal of the Bid or failure of the Bidder to enter a Contract for performance. Further, the Bidder will execute the Contract, provide the required insurance certificate(s) and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of Contract but prior to Work commencing.

If awarded a contract, the successful bidder may be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in the amount of 100% of the contract price.

Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received, to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding, and to accept a bid other than the lowest bid.



Eric Trump speaks to about 200 people during a rally in Novi on Tuesday.

DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Supporters enter the room for the Make America Great Again rally in Novi on Tuesday. PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Rally

Continued from Page 2A

follows through on promises. His policies are great for the economy.

What do you feel is the biggest issue facing the country?: The COVID shutdown has been abused by governors and really hurt the economy. It was originally intended to flatten the curve, but the goal post has been moved to destroying the virus.

What are your thoughts on the pandemic?: Wear the mask, there is evidence it helps. Social distance, but it shouldn't destroy the economy.

What has changed in four years?: Race relations are important and tearing us apart, but Trump has done a lot to improve employment in minority communities. I voted for him four years ago and until the pandemic, the economy blossomed.

Thomas Driggers

Age: 69

Hometown: Hazelhurst, Mississippi

Education: High school graduate

Profession: Retired pipefitter

Sources for news: Fox News, mainly.

Why are you here today?: I'm visiting my fiancée and I'm for the president, freedom, the Constitution and the military. I was raised in a military family.

What do you feel is the biggest issue facing the country?: Second Amendment rights, the economy and freedoms.

What are your thoughts on the pandemic?: The virus is real, but it's being used for political causes by the Democrats. I don't believe masks are effective. Hand sanitizing is useful with any disease.

What has changed in four years?: I voted for Trump four years ago. I don't know how much better off we are, but Congress is the biggest drawback to progress.

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A truck flies the American flag and a Trump 2020 flag outside the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

Supervisor

Continued from Page 1A

Williams: I am absolutely passionate about the Canton community and I want to ensure that it continues to thrive to be an amazing place to live, work and play for all.

What values or experience do you bring to the position?

Williams: My core values are my faith, Family, and continuing education and to do the work as required. As the Canton Supervisor these past 4 years I have proven my leadership ability. The Canton Supervisor position is a great place to assist those who may have need for assistance or simply helping folks make connections to others.

Graham-Hudak: As Trustee, I spearheaded a strong ethics ordinance, obtained grants for recycling to reduce waste going into the landfills and save you money. I worked to improve roads and was a bridge for constituents whenever they needed help. I held sessions to protect seniors against identity theft with Attorney General, Dana Nessel. I brought Senator Stabenow to the table as an ally, to stop unsafe track blocking in our community where she required the railroads attend the local meetings.

Why are you the better candidate for this leadership position on the township board?

Graham-Hudak: In a world around

uncertainty with global pandemic, I will continue to put our families and public health first. To me, Moving Canton forward means preserving our natural beauty, managing infrastructure and growth, while harnessing technology for tomorrow and continuing to deliver accountable government. For too long, Canton Township has looked to past for answers, I will drive Canton into the future

Williams: I have a proven track record as a leader in both the private and public sectors. I have a history of bringing diverse groups of individuals together to plan and create positive outcomes. My strengths are negotiating, perseverance, and ability to understand and resolve complex issues. As a Township Supervisor for the past four years, I am uniquely qualified and well-versed in the issues facing Canton.

What do you see as the most pressing issue facing the township? What will you do about it?

Williams: Continue to navigate our community through the ever evolving pandemic and subsequent C.D.C. guidelines and Governor's executive orders to ensure residents and employees can remain safe while still providing essential services as desired by our constituents. The demand for Government services and quality of life opportunities continue in Canton regardless of COVID 19.

Graham-Hudak: Canton needs lead-



Graham-Hudak



Williams

ership to put families first in meeting the COVID-19 challenges. Quality of life starts with protecting health, and it is also important to safeguard our economic well-being. As Michigan's 11th largest municipality we can become leaders in technology, sustainability, modern planning, and create quality infrastructure through public/private partnerships. I will continue to nurture public safety and community relationships, protect our environment and parks, advocate for seniors.

Recent deaths of citizens during police encounters are igniting protests and calls for reform across the country, primarily aimed at preventing discrimination against people of color. How important do you see this as an issue in Michigan? What, if anything, should be done to change policing and police accountability?

Graham-Hudak: Our community has been proactive and worked with our public safety departments since 2008. Frequent communication & education are vital in eliminating racial bias and building an inclusive community. PCCDI and the leadership team of the (ICO) partnered with faith groups & Michigan Roundtable to educate township & community stakeholders on cultural and racial competence. These conversations are important and must reach out to more organizations.

Williams: I am proud to say that the Canton Public Safety is truly a benchmark service provider. Canton is often asked by other Communities for support to improve the relationship within their communities. Canton Public Safety is a member of the Conference of Western where we share and seek out best practices. Also supported events with Jack and Jill Club (P.C.C.S.) and continue to work with local representatives from the N.A.A.C.P. for future initiatives.

Anything else to share?

Williams: For more information on the many years of my life in Canton Township that has been dedicated to true Community service go to <https://patforcanton.com/>.

Graham-Hudak: As Chair of the Plymouth-Canton Citizens for Diversity & Inclusion (PCCDI) in 2008, a priority was working as a community group with police & Michigan Roundtable. Canton's Hate Crimes group formed from PCCDI actions.

Our Interfaith Community Group (ICO) also works with public safety. Since 2016 we have created an opioid assistance & a juvenile diversion program with Growth Works. Our public safety members also participated in peaceful community protests. In reviewing diversion program & crime data we know we must continue to work together & facilitate communication & good will on all sides.

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

Wayne RESA enhancement millage up for renewal Nov. 3

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Keeping the Wayne Regional Educational Service Agencies enhancement millage is crucial to the budget for Monica Merritt.

The superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools said having those additional funds, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, are critical to keep students learning at a high level.

Merritt, along with several others, recently spoke to reporters regarding the Wayne RESA enhancement millage that voters will decide on Nov. 3. The proposal would renew the current 2 mills being levied on homes residing in districts within Wayne RESA. The enhancement was first approved by voters in 2016 and will expire at the end of 2021.

Randy Liepa, Wayne RESA superintendent, said the enhancement millage brings in roughly \$350 per student.

"Every penny of it gets divvied out to local school districts within 10 days as it's collected as property tax," said Liepa, the former superintendent of Livonia Public Schools. "It has been a game-changer for our local school districts."

Merritt said with Plymouth-Canton schools receiving the lowest foundation allowance possible from the state, the additional funding has helped reduce

class sizes, no small feat in a district with more than 17,000 students.

"With this enhancement millage, we were able to reduce class size in our district by one student, kindergarten through 12th grade," she said. "With us being such a large district, that cost us \$1.5 million annually."

"We would not have been able to do that without the enhancement millage."

The millage would support and be levied in households across several dozen school districts, including Livonia Public Schools, the Wayne-Westland Community School District, Northville Public Schools, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, the Redford Union School District, the South Redford School District and Garden City Public Schools.

If approved, the enhancement millage is estimated to bring in more than \$90 million in its first year. The renewal is a six-year renewal and would run through the end of 2027. The average taxpayer in Wayne County would continue to spend about \$96 a year, or \$8 a month, on the enhancement millage.

Liepa said plenty will be done to reach voters about the proposal, especially since it appears at the bottom of a lengthy ballot dominated by national races at the top. Mailings will go out to homes, as well a grassroots educational

efforts from local districts. Other traditional outreach methods, including signs, are also expected, Liepa said.

While the current millage does not expire until the end of 2021, restrictions stemming from Proposal A passed by voters in 1994 have brought the millage onto the crowded ballot this year, Liepa said. He said the way the proposal was written and passed by voters more than 25 years ago restricts how Wayne RESA can approach voters to ask for a millage such as the enhancement millage.

"The largest county in the state could only go every two years for this particular kind of proposal," he said. "We wanted to get it on the ballot early enough to where school boards wouldn't have to be planning for either not having this money and then knowing they'd have it 3-4 months into the school year."

Terry Dangerfield, superintendent of Lincoln Park Public Schools, said his Downriver district has seen improvements because of this enhancement millage, with additional security features and improvements for the career and technical programs for students.

He said the millage, if renewed, will continue to be an open book for those looking to see how the money is spent by area educators.

Ward system in Wayne up for referendum

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Major changes could come to Wayne's city council ward system after this year's election.

Two proposals are on the ballot for Wayne voters come Nov. 3 pertaining to the ward system of representation on the city council:

- Proposal 1 would abolish the ward system and return the six-square-mile city to a single voting district that would elect council members from anywhere in Wayne.

- Proposal 2 would strengthen the ward system, keeping it in place and allowing only the residents of that ward to vote for their council representative.

The current ward system, approved by voters in 2014, created the ward system for the city, which had more than 17,000 residents per the last census.

Unlike many ward systems where candidates living in a specific ward only vote for the candidate seeking office in that same ward, all voters can cast a ballot for every member of the council, but candidates running are required to be from a specific ward. The mayor's office is elected at-large every four years, a change made earlier this year by Wayne voters.

The city council placed the two measures on the ballot earlier this year. It comes after plenty of headache and confusion over how the system works since it was instituted.

"We've had numerous residents come to us and say they didn't like the wards," said Mayor John Rhaesa. "For a city our size, it just doesn't make a lot of sense."

Rhaesa, who is running for reelection to the mayor's post against Councilman Anthony Miller next month, said having the system in place now stifles the best candidates from coming forward in favor of candidates who live in different parts of the city. Not having those limits, he said, would allow for the best candidates to run instead of being limited.

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Livonia police report political sign thefts

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's election season and Livonia police continue to document the political sign thefts throughout their community.

Police recently shared at least four reports of such larcenies.

Dating back to late September, they included the following thefts:

- Three political signs - two for presidential candidate Joe Biden and

one for the reelection of state Rep. Laurie Pohutsky - taken on or about Oct. 4 from the 18700 block of Southampton Street.

- One President Donald Trump sign taken from the 14400 block of Merriman Road on or about Sept. 30.

- One sign supporting police and a Republican vote taken from the 17300 block of Francavilla Drive on or about Sept. 25.

- Four signs taken from the 17100 block of Laurel Drive on or about

Sept. 24.


The Laurel Drive resident told police he left his home around 12:30 p.m. to run some errands and returned about four hours later to find them gone.

Police were able to obtain security camera footage that showed a man removing the signs and apparently leaving in a white Toyota Prius from between 2004 and 2015.

The suspect is a bald man about 35 years of age and of medium build.


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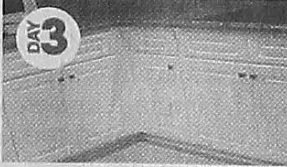
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DAY 3




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Lacny challenging Koleszar for 20th District seat

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Incumbent Democrat Matt Koleszar will be battling Republican John Lacny for the state representative seat for the 20th district. The two-year term pays \$71,685 annually.

Koleszar, 39, was first elected to his current position in 2019. He earned a bachelor of arts degrees in education from Saginaw Valley State University and a masters degree in english studies for teachers from Eastern Michigan University.

Lacny, 59, is a global supply chain and logistics executive/automotive and defense. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science, concentrating on Middle East and Soviet Affairs from Western Michigan University.

The district includes Northville, Plymouth, Plymouth and Northville townships and eastern Canton Township. Following are the candidates' responses to a questionnaire distributed by Hometown Life:

Why are you running for office?

Koleszar: I'm running for re-election for multiple reasons. Firstly, I'd like to continue fighting for Michigan's students and teachers and ensuring that they have a Representative who puts their needs above partisan politics. I also want to continue my work bringing the Arbor Hills landfill into compliance with state Air Quality standards. I would like to reintroduce my proposed legislation to enshrine protections for those with pre-existing conditions.

Lacny: As a global leader in logistics and the supply chain, I understand what needs to be done to bring medical equipment manufacturing jobs back from overseas. We need a representative in Lansing that will work to safely reopen our state and get our economy back on track.

Are you happy with the way things are going in Michigan?

Lacny: I love our great state; however, we can and must do better. During the COVID-19 pandemic we have had to sit back and watch our government put

our seniors in harm's way, our children struggle to get a quality education and many of our friends and neighbors lose their jobs. We need leaders that will put the health and safety of our seniors and children before partisan politics. As our next State Representative, I will fight to rebuild a safe and healthy Michigan.

Koleszar: I believe that Michigan is capable of so much more, especially when it comes to education. We need to invest in our public schools, the way we once did before we allowed the for-profit motive to seep its way into our school system.

What do you see as the most pressing issue facing your district? What will you do about it?

Koleszar: Our district is quite literally in the shadow of an environmental hazard. A neighboring landfill has wreaked havoc on residents of this district and by continuing to work cooperatively with state and local officials, we can hold the landfill operators accountable.

Lacny: There is no doubt that COVID-19 has been the most important issue of 2020. This pandemic has stalled our economy, shut down our schools, and saw our own government put our seniors in harm's way. We need our leaders in Lansing to set policies and pass legislation that will prohibit assisted living centers from treating COVID-19 positive patients, ensure that we provide a safe environment for our school children and rebuild a healthy economy.

Recent deaths of citizens during police encounters are igniting protests and calls for reform across the country, primarily aimed at preventing discrimination against people of color. How important do you see this as an issue in Michigan? What should be done to improve policing and police accountability throughout the state? Do you



Lacny



Koleszar

support any police reform efforts such as mandatory disclosure of misconduct records by police agencies or establishing law enforcement oversight boards?

Lacny: I do not support discrimination in any form. As a marine I fought with men and women of all races and creeds for the freedom of all Americans. As State Representative, I will always stand up and defend the men and women of law enforcement that work to keep us safe at home.

Koleszar: This is a very important issue in Michigan. Our state is becoming more rich in diversity every day. We need to make sure that those entrusted to protect us are doing just that. We need to invest in additional social workers, along with communication and cultural sensitivity training.

What is one issue currently not on the radar of the Legislature that you'd champion if elected?

Koleszar: Holding corporate polluters accountable is a must. We need to take better care of the environment in our state as shown by so many of our environmental problems (PFAs, lead in our water, cleanliness of the Great Lakes, air quality issues).

Lacny: Before the COVID-19 pandemic roads and our crumbling infrastructure were at the top of the priority list. Once this pandemic is behind us and our state is safe and healthy, we will have to address our crumbling infrastructure. There is no doubt that with greater efficiency, better engineering, and reduced overhead expenses, we can fix the roads.

Why are you a better candidate for this position than your opponent?

Lacny: As a marine I was honored to serve our country and defend our freedom. It is clear that we are lacking leadership in Lansing. We need leadership that will not put our most vulnerable,

seniors and children, in harm's way. However, that is exactly what our leaders in Lansing have done. Additionally, with my global supply chain and logistics experience I will work to bring medical manufacturing supply chain jobs home from overseas so that we never have to worry about running out of PPE again.

Koleszar: My background as an AP government and civics teacher, as well as my time in the legislature, provides a wealth of experience and understanding of state government that is hard to find. I have a proven track record of working in a bi-partisan fashion with all levels of government to secure funds for a badly needed spotlight, acquire additional special education money be included in the state budget, and testifying on behalf of my legislation that would ensure that the surviving children of a police officer or firefighter killed in the line of duty can go to college tuition-free.

Anything else to share?

Koleszar: In my time in office, my team and I have prided ourselves on accessibility and responsiveness. During the ongoing UIA crisis, my office has helped over 750 people attain their unemployment benefits. Additionally, I hosted weekly virtual coffee hours to ensure that citizens could have their voices heard. In times of crisis, it is imperative that constituents feel that they have someone they can reach out to for help. I have been proud to be that person and would be honored to serve another term for the residents of Plymouth, Northville, & Eastern Canton.

Lacny: I enlisted in the Marine Corps and entered Boot Camp at MCRD San Diego CA in September 1979 as an infantryman. Upon graduation in December 1979, I reported to Infantry Training School and trained as O361 Machine Gunner where I finished at the top of his class and was selected to go to Sea School in San Diego, CA. In April 1980, I graduated second in his class and was selected to serve aboard the Aircraft Carrier USS Nimitz CVN 68 as the Marine Security Detachment which was conducting operations in the Iranian Gulf.

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Eight seek four Canton Twp. trustee seats

Ed Wright HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Eight candidates will be vying for four, four-year trustee positions on the Canton Township Board of Trustees in the Nov. 3 general election.

Among the incumbents seeking re-election are Sommer Foster, Steven Sneiderman and John Anthony. Searching for their first term on the board are Kate Borninski, Tania Ganguly, Devon Smith, Brian Williams and Carly Sayre.

Borninski, a 53-year-old Democrat, is a Plymouth-Canton Community Schools trustee and educator with a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan. She attended graduate school at Eastern Michigan University.

Foster, a 43-year-old Democrat, is the executive director of Michigan Voices, a 501c3 nonprofit. She has a bachelor's degree in administration from the University of Michigan.

Sneiderman, a 55-year-old Democrat, is a global program manager for AT&T. He earned a bachelor's of administration degree from Harvard University and a master's of business administration from New York University.

Ganguly, a 48-year-old Democrat, is a finance manager. She earned a bachelor's degree in engineering from NIT India and a master's in business administration from the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business. He earned a juris doctorate law degree from the University of Baltimore.

Following are the candidates' responses to questionnaires distributed by Hometown Life. Sayre and Williams did not return responses.

Why are you running for office?

Anthony: To ensure that Canton Twp. continues to be the best community to live, work and play.

Borninski: I am running for Canton Township Trustee because I want to continue giving back to my community but since my kids have all graduated from P-CCS, it seems a logical time to make the switch from the school board to the township board of trustees.

Foster: Sixteen years ago, Canton became my home. I care deeply about this community, our neighbors and our future.

Ganguly: I have always believed that if you belong somewhere, you have to put in your own efforts to make your community a better place.

Sneiderman: In 15 years as a Trustee for both the township and the schools,

I'm proud to have improved Quality of Life for all residents, workers, students and employees.

What values or experience do you bring to the position?

Sneiderman: I have successfully led many organizations in our community (Plymouth Canton Schools, Canton Community Foundation, Canton Township, Cruiser Swim Team). Each of them was left in a better position than when I arrived. I am able to team to get things done. I see everyone as partners in creating solutions for the issues we face.

Ganguly: I am a mother, a corporate executive, president of my HOA, volunteer at my daughter's school and PORCH program, and a president of a local nonprofit. My diverse experiences as a mother, an engineer, a student at local university, a volunteer in the community and a community organizer helps me bring a collective perspective in serving my community of Canton, which I call my home for the last 16 years.

Foster: I'm an experienced leader. I was elected to the Library Board in 2012 and served as vice-chair. I was elected Trustee in 2016 and am on the Roads Advisory Committee. I have served as Co-chair Vote Yes for PCCS - 2013, on the PCCS Community-District Equity Leadership Team, PCCS Sex Ed Advisory Committee, Canton Response to Hate Crimes Coalition and Plymouth-Canton Beloved Community, Chair.

Borninski: I've served on the P-CCS Board of Education since 2015, holding the positions of Secretary, Vice President, and President as well as serving on subcommittees. For reference, the P-CCS budget is \$170 million and there are over 1000 employees. Every year I have served on school board, we have had balanced budgets, and also have grown a healthy fund balance.

Anthony: I have resided in Canton Twp. since 1973 and have been a Canton Twp. Trustee the past 12 years. My education, government experience and community involvement.

What do you see as the most pressing issue facing the township? What will you do about it?



Anthony



Borninski



Foster



Ganguly



Sneiderman

Recent deaths of citizens during police encounters are igniting protests and calls for reform across the country, primarily aimed at preventing discrimination against people of color. How important do you see this as an issue in Michigan? What, if anything, should be done to change policing and police accountability?

Sneiderman: Highly Important. We are creating a support system for those who feel discriminated against. Public Safety is eager to make changes necessary to provide support equally to people of any race, color or gender identity.

Ganguly: As the diversity in every community in Michigan increases, this is a very important issue. Implicit bias training in the police force on a periodic basis, recruiting a diverse police department and working on building relationship between the community and the public safety departments are some of the steps.

Foster: The relationship between police and the public is an important issue in Michigan. In Michigan and nationwide, Black and Latinx people are disproportionately impacted by policing, prosecution, and mass incarceration. We must hold public safety accountable to the community they serve. We should implement data collection and sharing best practices that are relevant and transparent. Implement an accountability commission, decriminalize poverty, increase use of diversionary programs (juvenile diversion program) and restorative practices (opioid recovery program).

Borninski: This is important not just in Michigan but nationwide. Canton police have done a great job of recognizing solutions that de-escalate difficult situations but more is needed. I watched the meeting where the board and Canton Police proactively went over data and statistics to look at patterns of discrimination. Recently the Michigan State Police created a Citizen's Advisory Council which would lead to better accountability and serve as a model for local police departments.

Anthony: We have the best police officers, fire fighters and command officers. Training is important.

We must ensure that all public safety personnel have the equipment and training they need to do their job safely and professionally. Transparency is the key.

Awarded

Continued from Page 1A

"More than anything, we read the situation well. Even though there were close to 3,000 protesters, if we'd have killed just one, it would have taken options away from our Ambassador, our Secretary of State and President Trump. We had to be judicious. We couldn't go all John Rambo on them.

"We all knew we couldn't kill anyone; but, at the same time, no one wants to take flaming gasoline to the face."

As scorching-hot chaos engulfed the embassy grounds, Ross discovered he was exactly where he was meant to be — calmly handling a challenge that had the potential to morph into a war-igniting fuse.

"What I'll remember most is how myself and the other agents continued to work through the attack," Ross said. "We kept communicating, kept coordinating ... without firing that shot that could have been the shot heard 'round the world.

"I mean, myself and the other agents who were there that day are just normal guys. It just so happens we were the ones who were called on to do what we'd been trained to do. Diplomatic security special agents are typically older — I was 34 when I joined (the DSS) — so our maturity level played an important role in the final outcome."

The award nomination detailed the agents' actions: "The DSS agents, understanding the gravity of the situation and global impact a lethal response would have, held fast and deployed less-than-lethal munitions to repel the intruders.... The DSS agents and [emergency response teams] were the last line of defense protecting the over 1,300 employees and staff that live and work on the compound."

According to the FLEOA award nomination, the protesters continued their barrage against the U.S. diplomatic post well into Jan. 1, 2020, during which they briefly breached one of the compound access control facilities, setting fire to

anything they could find while continuing to hurl rocks, Molotov cocktails, and other projectiles.

After driving protesters out of the embassy, the special agents began fortifying the gates, putting out fires, and bolstering physical and technical security. Throughout the day and into the evening, the team of DSS special agents, the embassy's local guard force, Marine Security Guards, and security technical experts deterred protesters that kept trying to gain access to the embassy.

Iraqi security forces ultimately pushed the protesters away from the embassy.

As the award nomination notes, "Without the sustained response of the DSS personnel and the contract support staff, there would...have been more property damage and possible casualties.... [T]heir actions prevented the escalation of violence."

In addition to Ross, the award recipients included Michael Yohey, of Fredericksburg, Virginia; John Huey of Atlanta, Georgia; Evan Tsurumi of New York; Thomas Kurtzweil of Jacksonville, North Carolina; and Ian MacKenzie, from St. Louis, Missouri.

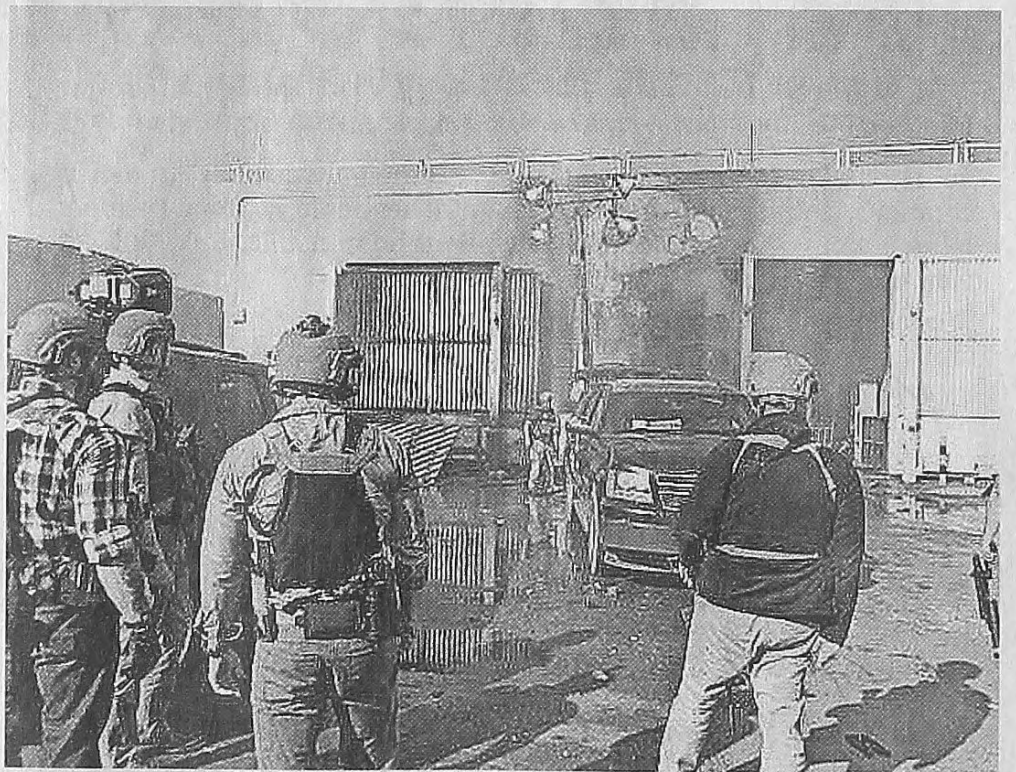
Ross lived in Canton's Canterbury Mews apartment complex for the first 17 years of his life. The son of parents who divorced when he was less than a year old, Ross attended Eriksson Elementary School, Lowell Middle School and Salem High School, but admitted he knew from a young age he wouldn't call Canton home forever.

Citing the need for an adventurous challenge, he dropped out of Salem at 17 and joined the Marines.

"I was one of those kids who had a lot of energy," Ross recalled. "Putting me in front of a chalkboard was a disservice to me. I was one of those young men who needed to work with their hands.

"I actually felt bad for my teachers — by the way, I had phenomenal teachers throughout my years in Canton — because there was nothing they could do to really inspire me."

After Ross dropped out of high school, he discovered he needed a high school diploma; a GED (general educa-



Emergency Response Team members survey the damage after violent protests. COURTESY OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S DIPLOMATIC SECURITY SERVICE

tion degree) would not suffice if he wanted to join the Marines.

"My recruiter told me about a place called Cambridge in Garden City," Ross recounted. "If I studied and passed a test there, I could get my diploma. My time at Cambridge was definitely eye-opening. There were 14-, 15-year-old girls who were pregnant or already had kids."

During Ross's short stay at Cambridge, terrorists struck the United States on Sept. 11, 2001.

"When I saw it on TV, I said, 'Let's go!'" he said. "I told my recruiter I was ready. He said, 'Get your degree first. Boot camp isn't going anywhere.'"

When he was 18, Ross was stationed in Okinawa, Japan.

"I knew from the start that I wanted to get out of Canton, see the world," he said. "When I arrived in Okinawa, I loved it. The architecture alone; it wasn't anything you see in metro Detroit."

Once Ross served his preliminary du-

ties in the Marines, he had three options: become a drill instructor, recruiter or embassy security guard.

He chose the latter, spending time guarding embassies in Tunisia and Cameroon, before returning to Hong Kong, where he currently serves.

"The Marines taught me quickly that the military is not a game," he said. "You may have to put a tourniquet on one of your friends that got shot. You may have to kill someone. I grew up fast."

Ross eventually earned bachelor's and master's degrees.

Although Ross and his Baghdad teammates are now scattered around the globe, they still keep in touch, he said.

"Looking back, we all realize how absolutely crazy the whole situation was," he said, "even more so than when we were living it. But it's over and we've moved on to our next adventure."

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

Obituaries

William Gregory "Greg" Barrick

WIXOM - William Gregory "Greg" Barrick of Wixom MI, formerly of Peoria, IL, passed away on October 9, 2020 at the age of 65 at his home surrounded by family and friends.



Greg was born on September 28, 1955 in Peoria, IL to William and Melba (Pollitt) Barrick.

He married his beloved wife Teresa (Cunningham) on November 4, 1978 in Atlanta, GA. They raised their family in Farmington Hills, MI where Greg loved coaching little league baseball for his son.

Greg is survived by his wife Teresa in Wixom, MI, daughter Jennifer (Nik) Fulbright and granddaughters Leah and Mallory Fulbright of Milford, MI, son Doug (Mia) Barrick of Chicago, IL, his father, William (Helen) Barrick of Peoria, IL, his sister, Debra (Eric) Uttenweiler of Roselle, IL, his uncle Bob Barrick of West Bloomfield, MI, cousins Trish Barrick and Ben Barrick, nieces, Rachel (Matt) Stoughton of Glen Ellyn, IL, and Morgan Barrick (Aaron) Iffrig of Scottsdale, AZ and nephew, Blake (Brittney) Barrick of Glendale, AZ.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Melba Gaul, and his brother, Brent Barrick.

Greg attended Peoria Public Schools, graduating from Richwoods High School in 1973. He then attended the University of Illinois, Champaign, graduating with a BA in Marketing in 1977. After college, Greg worked for Wilson Sporting Goods, adidas, and for the last 29 years for Barrick Enterprises, most recently serving as Vice President.

Greg was an avid sports fan and loved attending games. He enjoyed golf, boating on Lake St. Clair, and traveling. Above all, Greg valued his family and friends and bravely fought his cancer to be with them as long as possible.

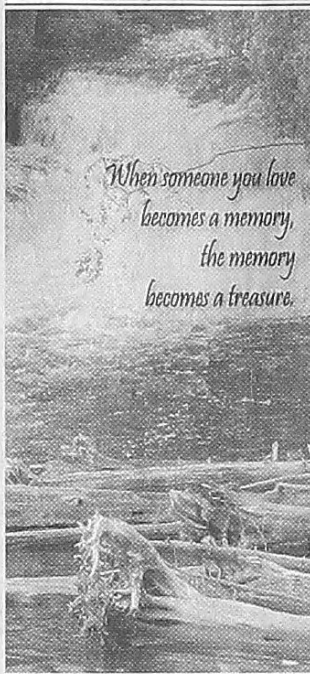
Cremation rites have been accorded and a private family gathering will take place at a later date. Online condolences can be made at www.nationalcremation.com.

Memorials in Greg's name can be made to Cure Glioblastoma (<https://www.cureglioblastoma.org/>) or a preferred cancer charity.



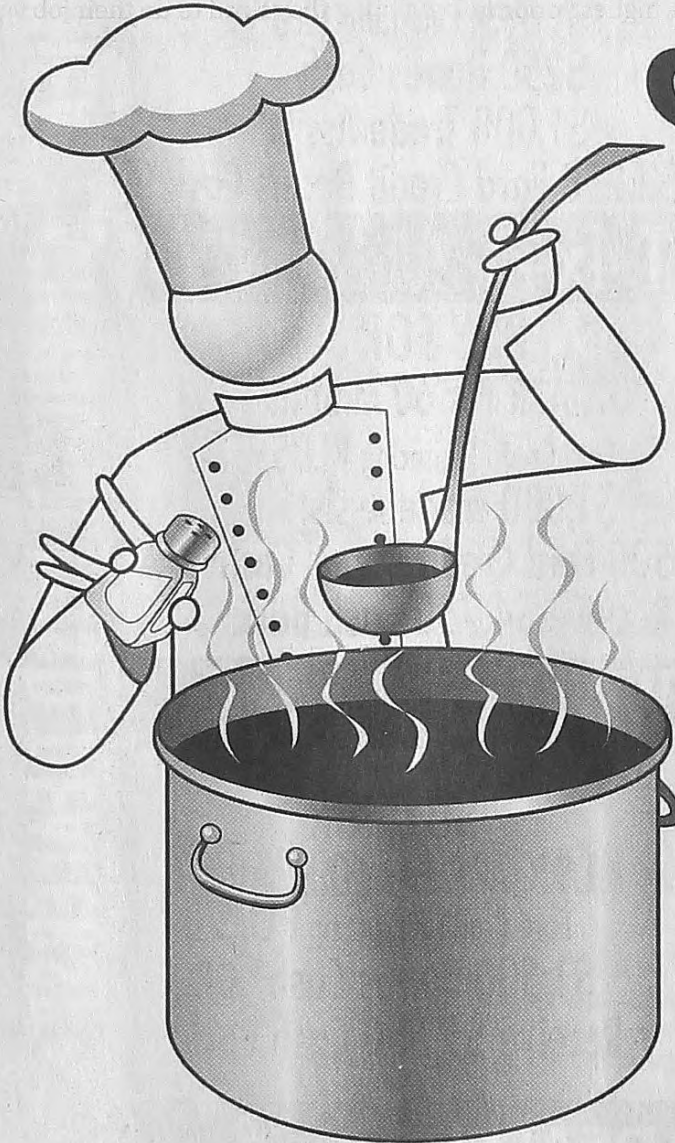
Bonnie Berg

CANTON, MICH. - Bonnie Jane (McEwen) Berg, age 92, died September 8, 2020 in Medford, OR. She was born May 17, 1928 in Highland Park, MI to William and Susan (Ford) McEwen. Owner of Bart's Rustic Lawn Furniture on Michigan Avenue between Beck and Denton roads. A Celebration of her life is being planned for Spring 2021 and will be announced in advance.



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Payments may vary; dealer determines price. Residency restrictions apply. Cash due at signing is after \$7,050 total cash back including \$3,500 Customer Cash (PGM #50542) + \$250 Select Inventory Customer Cash (PGM #50544) + \$300 AXZD-Plan Customer Cash (PGM #91690) + \$250 RCL Renewal (PGM #37818). 4) With Equipment Group 302A. Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet Lease. Payments may vary; dealer determines price. Residency restrictions apply. Cash due at signing is after \$4,050 total cash back including \$3,000 Customer Cash (PGM #50542) + \$500 Select Inventory Customer Cash (PGM #50544) + \$300 AXZD-Plan Customer Cash (PGM #91690) + \$250 RCL Renewal (PGM #37818). 5) With Equipment Group 302A. Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet Lease. Payments may vary; dealer determines price. Residency restrictions apply. Cash due at signing is after \$6,250 total cash back including \$1,000 Customer Cash (PGM #50542) + \$500 Select Inventory Customer Cash (PGM #50544) + \$300 AXZD-Plan Customer Cash (PGM #91690) + \$1,500 Bonus Cash (PGM #13834) + \$2,950 RCL Renewal (PGM #37818). All Vehicles must have arrived at dealer at least 61 days prior to the sale date. RCL Renewal available to returning RCL customers who come out of a Ford RCL contract. Customers who terminated their lease up to 90 days prior to or up to 180 days after the sale date of the new vehicle are also eligible. Take new retail delivery from an authorized Ford dealer's stock by 11/3/20. 6) Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit financing. 0% APR financing for 60 months at \$16.67 per month per \$1,000 financed regardless of down payment (PGM #21188). Not available on Plug-In Hybrid. 7) \$3,500 Customer Cash (PGM #13820) + \$500 Select Inventory Customer Cash (PGM #13832). Vehicle must have arrived at dealer at least 61 days prior to the sale date. Not available on Hybrid & Plug-In Hybrid. 8) \$2,000 Trade-In Assistance Bonus Cash (PGM #30632, #30640). Trade Assist available to customers who currently own or lease a 1995 or newer vehicle who trade-in or have a lease expiring from 30 days prior to through 90 days after new retail delivery. Customer must have owned or leased the trade-in vehicle for a minimum of 30 days prior to the sale date of the new vehicle. Not available on Escape S, Hybrid, & Plug-In Hybrid. 9) \$2,000 Customer Cash (PGM #13820) + \$750 Select Inventory Customer Cash (PGM #13832). 10) \$250 Bonus Cash (PGM #13826). 11) \$1,000 Trade-In Assistance Bonus Cash (PGM #30632). Trade Assist available to customers who currently own or lease a 1995 or newer vehicle who trade-in or have a lease expiring from 30 days prior to through 90 days after new retail delivery. Customer must have owned or leased the trade-in vehicle for a minimum of 30 days prior to the sale date of the new vehicle. Not available on Limited Hybrid. Residency restrictions apply. 12) \$2,250 Ford Credit Bonus Cash (PGM #13828) which requires Ford Credit financing. Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit financing. Trade Assist available to customers who currently own or lease a 1995 or newer vehicle who trade-in or have a lease expiring from 30 days prior to through 90 days after new retail delivery. Customer must have owned or leased the trade-in vehicle for a minimum of 30 days prior to the sale date of the new vehicle. Not available on Limited Hybrid. Residency restrictions apply. 13) \$1,000 Trade-In Assistance Bonus Cash (PGM #30632) + \$2,500 Ford Credit Bonus Cash (PGM #13828) which requires Ford Credit financing. Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit financing. Vehicle must have arrived at dealer at least 61 days prior to the sale date. Trade Assist available to customers who currently own or lease a 1995 or newer vehicle who trade-in or have a lease expiring from 30 days prior to through 90 days after new retail delivery. Customer must have owned or leased the trade-in vehicle for a minimum of 30 days prior to the sale date of the new vehicle. Not available on Limited Hybrid. Residency restrictions apply. 14) \$500 Customer Cash (PGM #13820) + \$750 Select Inventory Customer Cash (PGM #13832) + \$1,000 Trade-In Assistance Bonus Cash (PGM #30632) + \$2,500 Ford Credit Bonus Cash (PGM #13828) which requires Ford Credit financing. Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit financing. Vehicle must have arrived at dealer at least 61 days prior to the sale date. Trade Assist available to customers who currently own or lease a 1995 or newer vehicle who trade-in or have a lease expiring from 30 days prior to through 90 days after new retail delivery. Customer must have owned or leased the trade-in vehicle for a minimum of 30 days prior to the sale date of the new vehicle. Not available on Limited Hybrid. Residency restrictions apply. 15) \$1,500 Bonus Cash (PGM #13834). 16) \$1,500 Bonus Cash (PGM #13834). 17) \$3,250 F-Series Customer Cash (PGM #13822) + \$750 Select Inventory Customer Cash (PGM #13832) + \$1,500 Bonus Cash (PGM #13834). Vehicle must have arrived at dealer at least 61 days prior to the sale date. Not available on Raptor. For all offers, take new retail delivery from an authorized Ford dealer's stock by 11/3/20. Residency restrictions apply. See dealer for qualifications and complete details.

SPORTS

Lansing's first Black football coach has lived a remarkable life

Ed Wright
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

More than a fair share of digging, research and interviews has left little doubt in my mind that the first Black head high school football coach in Lansing's history was Billy Hawkins, my senior-year coach in 1979 at Lansing Hill High School.

And neither of us were aware of Hawkins' barrier-crashing feat until last month when I scoured old editions of the Lansing State Journal that dated

back to 1955 and interviewed people associated with Hill, Sexton, Everett and Eastern high schools, and a spokesperson for the Lansing School District.

When I contacted LSD Communications Director John McGraw in late August, he acknowledged, after discussing the matter with staff who were active in the district during the late 1970s that, yes, there is a strong possibility Hawkins is an overlooked Lansing pioneer, although McGraw added that the achievement "cannot be 100 percent confirmed."

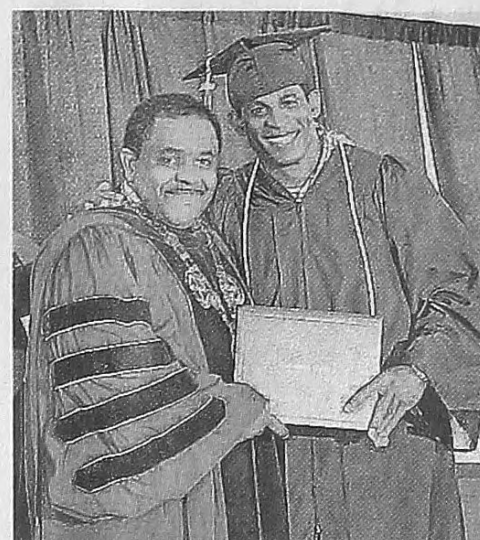
This much is certain: Hawkins, then

25, was hired to succeed Tony Reis as head coach of the Panthers.

"I did not know that until just now, when you told me," Hawkins said during a September phone interview about his beyond-the-shadow-of-a-doubt accomplishment.

Given the relative racial harmony that flowed through Lansing during the late 1970s - and the fact that Hill closed for good after the 1980-81 school year, just 10 years after it opened - the absence of any form of acknowledgment of

See **HAWKINS**, Page 2B



Billy C. Hawkins hands Deion Sanders a diploma during a recent Talladega College commencement ceremony. SUBMITTED PHOTO



The Canton boys tennis team won a district title this year after falling in the regional final last year. PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM KIMBALL



Canton's singles lineup - Naeem Saleem, Avneet Singh, Suriya Subbiah and Vishwaas Nayak - has carried the Chiefs to the state tournament. COLIN GAY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Canton's singles lineup takes team to state finals

Colin Gay
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Seniors Vishwaas Nayak and Naeem Saleem have changed the narrative for Canton's boys tennis team

When both were freshman in 2017, the Chiefs made their first state final in

school history. But no player earned a win, and the team went home empty-handed.

This fueled Nayak going into his sophomore season.

"This time we're looking to get points, we're looking to get points in states," Nayak said. "We're not looking to have the same deficit, we're not look-

ing to lose every single match again."

Nayak and doubles teammate Charvik Vaishnav succeeded, giving Canton its first points in a state meet in school history, beating a tandem from Port Huron Northern in the first round before being bounced out by a team from Ann

See **CHIEFS**, Page 3B

North Farmington boys tennis matches potential

Colin Gay
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Heading into his first season as the North Farmington boys tennis head coach, Andre Dupret knew the team had not made the state tournament since 2016. But he also knew the talent he was inheriting.

He saw a deep team with a cohesive determination to achieve something the Raiders have fallen just short of for the past two seasons.

Before the season started, Dupret en-

couraged his team with the Latin phrase "Ad Astra Per Aspera." Through hardship, the head coach believed North Farmington would "reach the stars."

After beating Flushing, 5-2, to win the district, North Farmington officially secured its return to the state tournament as an II seed.

"Everyone is like that on the team: Everyone works hard, they never give up," Dupret said. "That's how I kind of knew we were definitely a team that was one to look out for to get to states."

No one knows this better than No. 4 singles player Brian Lee.

Near the beginning of the season, the North Farmington junior lost to Flushing's Yusuf Allam in straight sets. In the district final, one thing separated the Raiders from its first state tournament appearance since 2016: Lee's rematch with Allam.

Lee is a three-year starter for the varsity North Farmington tennis team, but saw a change in the overall dynamic heading into 2020. With a new coaching staff and a roster filled with potential, he thought this could be the year the

See **RAIDERS**, Page 3B




North Farmington returns to the state tournament for the first time since 2016. PHOTO COURTESY OF JASON MILLER

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Livonia Stevenson soccer wins KLAA title

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Livonia Stevenson soccer added another trophy to its trophy case.

The Spartans soccer team defeated Salem, 2-1, Monday night to win the Kensington Lakes Activities Association title with goals from Gavin Mitter and Nick Lema.

Stevenson was undefeated in the 2020 regular season, finishing 14-0-1 and earning a No. 1 seed in the upcoming Michigan High School Athletic Association postseason tournament and a first-round bye.

To say the Spartans were dominant

would be an understatement.

Led by seniors Josh Tragge, Brendan Ware and Nick Lema, along with sophomore and leading goal-scorer Nico Bunda, Stevenson outscored opponents, 89-9, recording nine shutouts in 15 games.

In the program's history, Stevenson has won 11 state titles, but fell short in 2019, losing to Seaholm in the district semifinal. The Spartans will begin their 2020 postseason run against either Farmington or Royal Oak at 6 p.m. Oct. 20.

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



Livonia Stevenson takes home the KLAA title with a 2-1 win over Salem Monday. PHOTO COURTESY OF KEN SHINGLEDECKER

Hawkins

Continued from Page 1B

his achievement was nothing more than an innocent oversight, Hawkins hinted.

"I honestly don't recall any racial tension whatsoever in Lansing during that time," said Hawkins. "Everybody seemed to get along. Hill, like the other high schools in the city, was integrated, and Oldsmobile was going strong back then, so there were plenty of jobs for all of the city's residents, both Black and white. I did not witness any profound racism.

"In part because of Oldsmobile, a large percentage of Black people owned their own homes in Lansing, which was important. People were making good money. I know that for a fact because one of my relatives worked for Oldsmobile and he often reminded me that he was making more money than I was as a teacher."

Hawkins followed the comment with a good-natured chuckle.

Unless someone can find evidence to contradict my findings, I feel an official acknowledgment of Hawkins' feat – the placement of a public plaque explaining the milestone, at the very least – is warranted.

A remarkable life

Now Dr. Billy C. Hawkins, the man has lived a life usually reserved for movie scripts – both before his notable hiring and during the four decades since.

Since 2008, he has been the president of Talladega College, a private, historically Black college in Talladega, Alabama.

The author of two books, Hawkins has frequently testified before committees of the U.S. Congress in reference to education issues.

In addition to his degree from Ferris State, Hawkins secured a Master's in education administration from Central Michigan University; and a Ph.D. in education from Michigan State University. He also has completed post-doctorate studies at Harvard University.

Early resilience

The early chapters of Hawkins' rise to educational prominence were riddled with obstacles. During the bulk of his pre-college learning years in Kent, Ohio, he was labeled by his teachers as "educable mentally retarded" and directed into special education curriculum.

Educators' perception of the future leader changed, according to a profile on a Michigan State University alumni website, when he "mastered a complex set of football plays" when given a chance to play quarterback his sophomore year of high school.

Hawkins' gridiron prowess and impressive intellect led him to Ferris State University, where he earned a degree in education and starred as a quarterback on the football team.

Following one year as an administrator at Lansing's Riddle Elementary School, Hawkins was hired to teach history and social studies at Hill.

In September 1979, just months after securing the Panthers head football coaching job, the young educator faced a gut-wrenching crisis.

Lansing teachers were embroiled in a tense strike that summer. Although Hawkins served his obligations on the picket line, he decided to continue to coach the football team – a decision that roiled leaders of the teachers union.

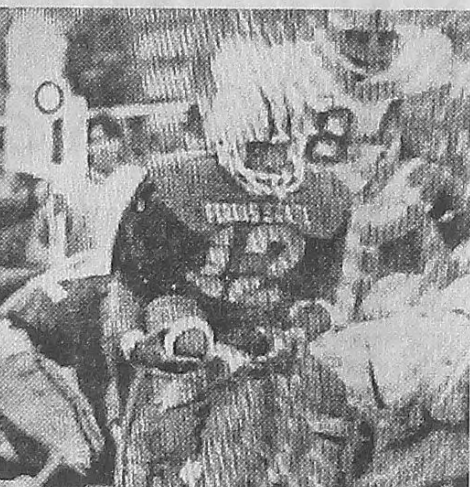
Just a few days prior to his coaching debut, Hawkins heard rumors that teachers planned to picket around the Panthers' practice field that afternoon in an effort to rattle the first-year head coach.

Undeterred, Hawkins discreetly moved the day's practice to Ingham Park, a patch of grassy, secluded land

DR. BILLY C. HAWKINS STUDENT ACTIVITY CENTER

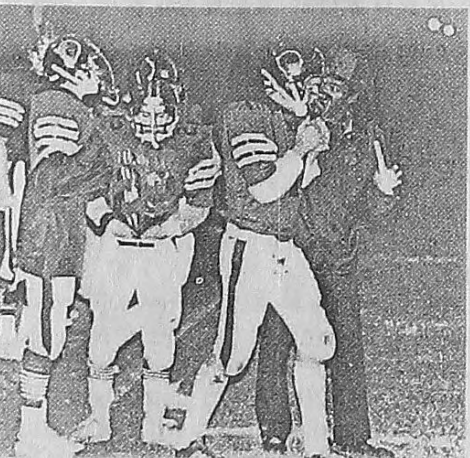


Talladega College President Billy C. Hawkins stands in front of the building named for him. PHOTO COURTESY OF TALLADEGA COLLEGE



Hawkins was an accomplished QB at Ferris State in the mid-1970s.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY



The author, Ed Wright, senior QB at Lansing Hill in 1979, gets the next play from Hawkins, the man firmly believed to be the first Black high school head football coach in Lansing's history.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LANSING HILL DIMENSIONS YEARBOOK

approximately 2 miles north of Hill High School.

Somehow, the picketing teachers found the Panthers.

"I still remember the union president confronting me," Hawkins recounted. "I told him it wasn't about me trying to break the union. For me, it was all about the students. I was focused on making sure they were going to get an opportu-

nity to play football that season."

While he didn't win any popularity contests with his union brethren, Hawkins' commitment to his team galvanized the respect he had already earned from the Panthers, over one-third of whom were Black.

"As young, impressionable Black men, we learned (from Hawkins) to focus on what we can control, level the playing field through our commitment to excellence and eliminate the 'noise' like the teachers strike," said Royce Wills, a senior member and one of 14 Black players on Hawkins' first team.

"I remember we were practicing at the park and annoyed at the picketing teachers. We wanted to run a pitch sweep in their direction. Coach Hawkins caught wind of it and calmly, but firmly, nipped that in the bud and made us focus on executing our game plan."

Race was rarely, if ever, an issue at Hill football practices, Wills added.

"Hawk" smacked my helmet, admonished me, encouraged and coached the heck out of me, like I'd expect any coach to do," he said. "Thinking back, I admire that he never let ... the pressure of being a Black coach in Lansing surface on the field or in the locker room."

"I think the only time we got close to the subject of race had more to do with his being a Black quarterback in college and the challenge that came with that. But again, he didn't dwell or make a huge issue of it. I do remember he would not let us use race as an excuse on the field."

As the team's season-opening starting quarterback that season, I vividly recall the Wednesday afternoon before our rivalry game against Lansing Everett when Coach Hawkins abruptly ended practice and sent us all home, citing our less-than-stellar effort.

He also suspended a couple difference-making players, reducing our chances of winning to microscopic proportions, while at the same time reinforcing his belief that everybody followed the same rules.

We returned the next day in full pads – practices on the eve of games were usually conducted in shorts, shirts and

helmets – and we displayed the high-octane veracity our first-year coach was seeking.

The next night, we shocked Everett, 14-13.

I also recall how Hawkins tirelessly helped several of his student athletes garner college scholarships, with at least four of his former Panthers extending their education and playing days at Ferris State.

"My experience at Hill High School and in Lansing, in general, helped make me the person I am today," Hawkins said. "I have a lot of fond memories of those days and I met a lot of influential people."

Decision time

When Hill closed abruptly following the 1980-81 school year, Hawkins reached a crossroads in his coaching career.

He considered accepting an assistant football coaching position at Howard University in Washington, D.C., until a conversation he had in 1979 with an assistant football coach with the University of Minnesota changed the course of his life.

"This assistant coach from the University of Minnesota visited our school to recruit one of our running backs," Hawkins remembered. "We started talking about coaching and he emphasized how head coaches in college had to pay their dues, work for years as lowly paid assistants, put in unbelievable hours. It was that conversation that helped me decide to shift away from coaching and pursue a career in higher education."

The assistant coach that delivered the advice to Hawkins: Tony Dungy, the Jackson, Michigan, native who would go on to coach the Super Bowl XLI champion Indianapolis Colts.

Hawkins transitioned smoothly from high school teacher and coach to higher education administrator. He worked in academic and leadership positions at Mississippi Valley State University; Saint Paul's College in Lawrenceville, Virginia; Ferris State in Big Rapids, Michigan; and Morrisville State College in Morrisville, New York.

Hawkins served as the president of Texas College in Tyler, Texas, from 2000 to 2007, before being named president at Talladega College.

The lifelong educator's tenure has been so impactful at Talladega – the campus, Hawkins proudly noted, where civil rights stalwart John Lewis first met the Rev. Martin Luther King – that on Aug. 14, the school named its newest academic building the Dr. Billy C. Hawkins Student Activity Center.

Along with impacting thousands of students throughout his 44-year career, the difference-maker has befriended and mentored several high-profile athletes, including Hall-of-Famers Deion Sanders, who recently earned a degree from Talladega; Darrell Green, who invited Hawkins to his Pro Football Hall of Fame induction ceremony in 2008; and Shaquille O'Neal.

Magical memory

During his lone year at Riddle Elementary School in 1975-76, Hawkins helped secure the sixth grade commencement speaker: a senior at Everett High School named Earvin "Magic" Johnson.

"Four or five years ago, I attended a fund-raising event for the Boys & Girls Club, and the keynote speaker was Magic," Hawkins shared. "Before the ceremony, he saw me, flashed that big Magic smile, and said, 'Coach!' We talked for quite a while. It had to be 40-some years (since they had first met in Lansing), so I was a little surprised he remembered me."

It's easy to remember the titans, coach.

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

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Kulka returns to turf, hits game-winner

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Conner Kulka knew a win or a loss could come down to him.

After the Warriors and Orchard Lake St. Mary's traded touchdowns in the first quarter, defenses reigned supreme for the remainder of their Oct. 3 contest. And when Brother Rice made a stop with five minutes left in the game, Kulka, a junior kicker, began to warm up.

This was not a situation Kulka expected to be in during the 2020 season. He had kicking experience in the past - starting for the Brother Rice junior-varsity football team as a sophomore, but quit the team to focus on swimming.

But when he heard that Brother Rice needed a kicker, after injuries plagued both options on the Warriors' roster, Kulka reached out and offered his services.

"When I heard that both kickers got injured, I emailed (Brother Rice head coach Adam Korzeniewski) and I was like, 'I have a little bit of past experience with this stuff. If you need me to come out, I can be there on Monday,'" Kulka said. "What do you need?"

"He was like, 'I'd love to have you.'"

In his first game on varsity against the Eaglets, hit an extra-point attempt after a 67-yard pass from Jake Coulter to Rocco Milia in the first quarter, Kulka cemented his position in Brother Rice lore, hitting a 36-yard field goal with six seconds left to give the Warriors the 10-7 win, the team's second of the season.

Kulka's game winner made him Hometown Life's athlete of the week for Oct. 5, accumulating 24,369 of the 51,821 total votes cast.

Heading onto the field in a tie game, Kulka said St. Mary's iced him multiple



Conner Kulka hit a 36-yard field goal with six seconds to play to secure Brother Rice's 10-7 win against Orchard Lake St. Mary's on Oct. 3.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CONNER KULKA

times, but when the Eaglets were out of timeouts, he knew it was time for the real try.

"I did my routine, focused up, heard the snap, kicked it, looked up," Kulka

said. "I was like, 'It doesn't look too good, but I think it's going to fall.' And it fell."

"Right when I saw the refs put up, 'It's good,' I was so happy. I was like, 'Wow,

this is amazing.' I was kind of nervous that I was going to let all the players, who put in so much work in that game, down. So making it was a big relief."

With the success on the football field, Kulka's schedule just got a bit busier.

The junior is also a member of the Brother Rice swim team, finishing in sixth place in the 50 freestyle at the Catholic League Championships in March.

Now, as he prepares for the winter season along with kicking for the Warriors, he said he goes to an afternoon swim practice for an hour and a half or so, and then leaves for football practice to kick for 30 to 45 minutes.

With the morning practices for swim, busyness was something Kulka was already used to. However, he said that one kick made him want to stay with Brother Rice football. He said it provided a rush that was indescribable.

Moving forward, Kulka has high expectations on the turf and in the pool.

"I definitely want to better myself as a kicker. Just get the rustiness off a bit more, to continue to practice that and get better at it," Kulka said. "Going into swim season, I just want to work hard. I want to have a big junior year."

While Kulka received 47.03% of the vote for Hometown Life's athlete of the week, Canton tennis player Suriya Subbiah finished in second with 20,040 votes (38.67%). Catholic Central soccer player Chad Ewing finished in third place with 6,479 votes (12.5%).

Churchill quarterback Gavin Brooks, and Northville golfers Bridget and Grace Boczar finished in fourth and fifth place, respectively.

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

Raiders

Continued from Page 1B

Raiders made it over the hump.

Lee just wanted to do his part: win his match.

The junior said he had a game plan in place, knowing how Allam would play against him and having that experience. But after losing the first set, Lee had to regroup.

"It's a new set, a new opportunity," Lee said he told himself. "I regrouped myself, said I could do it and I put the first set beside me and decided to play how I wanted to play."

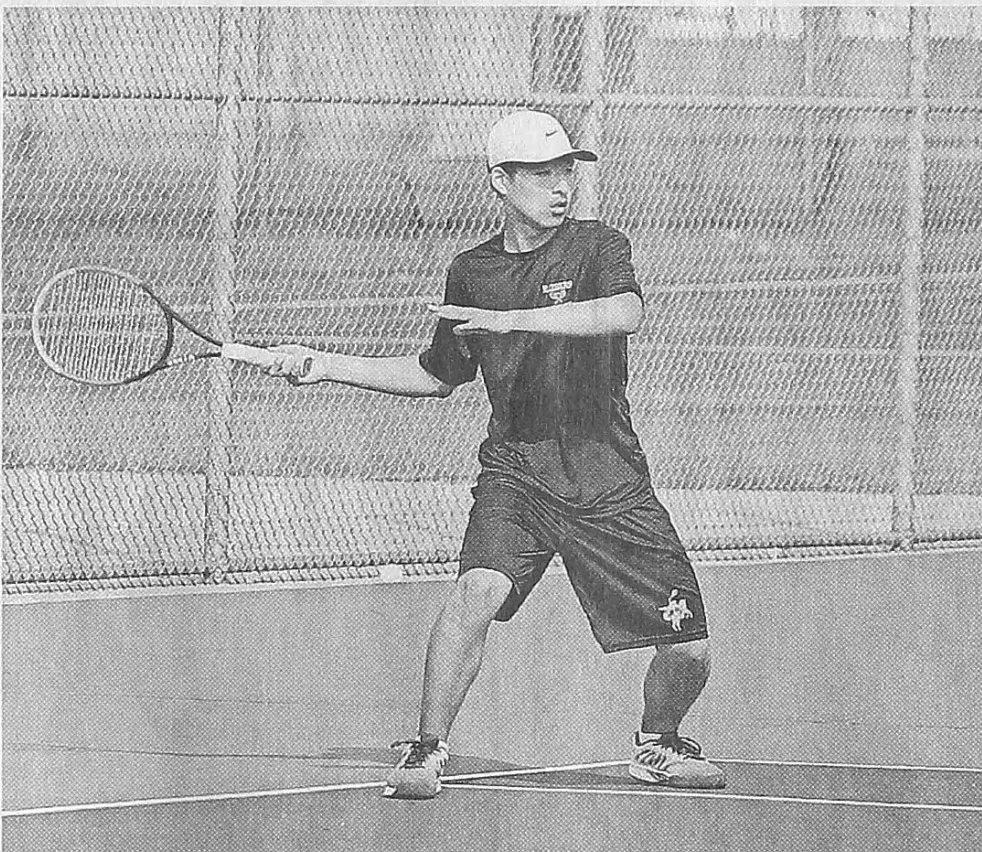
Lee won the next two sets, securing the Raiders' place in the state finals.

"All the players knew that if he had won it, they would go to states," Dupret said. "Everyone ran onto the court, gave him high fives. It cemented it for us. A three-year goal. A three-year journey achieved in that moment."

While Lee showed resiliency when it counted most, it was a trait that followed North Farmington throughout the 2020 season.

Dupret said that same drive came from Jacob Berg and Danny Brenner at the No. 3 doubles position: each coming up from five and six doubles, respectively, and shining.

The head coach said the drive came at No. 4 doubles, too, where Seth Brasch and Nikhil Desai came up from not playing in the lineup a season ago, worked their way through challenge matches and winning the penultimate game against Flushing to secure a state title.



Junior Brian Lee, at No. 4 singles, secured North Farmington's state tournament bid with a win against Flushing's Yusuf Allam. Lee lost to Allam in straight sets earlier this season. PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN LEE

At third singles, Logan Schuler, Dupret said, single-handedly represented the drive and determination the Raiders had, calling him "The Fighter," and recollecting a match in which he recovered from trailing 6-0, and 4-0 in the second set against Berkley, coming back and winning the second, clawing his way for a marathon of a third set, but just falling

short.

Simply put, North Farmington developed moxie in 2020, something that opponents saw and told Dupret, including the Rochester Adams coaching staff.

"This team has never looked like this before," Dupret was told. "We still lost to Rochester Adams, but the guy said, 'What you and the team have done this

year, this isn't the same team we played last year.'"

Reaching the stars

For the players on his roster, making the state tournament was a breakthrough. But with this, Dupret said the team's mentality will not change.

"I already sat down and talked with them and said, 'Look: there's going to be teams out there that go to states and are like, well, we achieved our goal,'" Dupret said. "If we just win a couple of games, the main thing is that we made it. Have fun."

"I'm not about to tell you that... This is where it begins."

Heading into the state competition, Lee comes in focused on the player in front of him, no matter what seed he is. Instead of focusing on the players' reputation, Lee said, just stay focused on the job at hand.

This was Dupret's message from the start of his tenure at North Farmington, going hand-in-hand with "Ad Astra Per Aspera."

But while goals are still achievable, Dupret, along with his assistant coaches Audra Bartholomew and Joe Ludwig, wants his team to know what they have already accomplished is incredible.

"They now have nothing to prove," Dupret said. "They have reached the stars and getting there is a testament and a culmination to everything."

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

Chiefs

Continued from Page 1B

Arbor Huron in the second.

Now in their final season with Canton, Saleem, the No. 1 singles player, and Nayak, the No. 4 singles player, have led the team to another chance in the state tournament after falling just short in 2019.

With the experience of the two seniors capping the ends and juniors Avneet Singh and Suriya Subbiah as the No. 2 and No. 3, respectively, singles lineup has changed Canton's path from last year, with the four combining to win 69 of 76 games this season.

And heading into the district final against West Bloomfield, Canton fed off its singles lineup's success.

"When we were going into the West Bloomfield match, the kids were talking about, 'We think we can take the singles

matches. We need one doubles match,'" acting head coach Vicki Wysocki, who replaces Tom Kimball, who is on medical leave from the team. "And we got it: our No. 2 doubles won."

Experience brings life to Canton

With three of four singles starters returning to the Canton lineup in 2020, Saleem said the group had the most match experience on the team, and that, mentally, and physically, it had a lot on its side.

With that, up and down the lineup, Canton found ways to win, even when it was close. To the Chiefs, this is best represented by Subbiah at the No. 3 position, who is undefeated through 19 matches.

"He beats teams you would not expect to beat," Wysocki said. "He plays a different style of tennis than most kids. He just hits everything back. He doesn't hit tons of winners and things like that,

but he just wears kids down."

Subbiah viewed this year as a fight, especially after coming up short in the regional finals in 2019.

"Everyone worked extremely hard, tried hard, kept strong mentally what they were doing in matches and played their hearts out," Subbiah said.

Singh, the No. 2 singles player, said he has learned a lot from the two seniors in the lineup: from skills on the court to the dedication needed to help other teammates succeed off it.

"I tell my players not to worry who they play, just to play their best," Singh said. "It doesn't matter if you are playing Novak Djokovic, who is the best player in the world. You can't go into a match thinking you are going to lose."

Saleem feels like he and Nayak set the precedent for Canton, not only for Subbiah and Singh, but for singles players in the future.

"It shows other schools that we are not to be taken lightly," Saleem said. "We

have a very strong core. That shows that a lot look over our school. They are like 'Canton, they are good, but are they a state-bound team?'

"We proved that, based on our singles, we were able to take them to the state finals once more."

Canton did more than that. In four years, coming into a Plymouth-Canton Educational Park that had been ruled by Plymouth boys tennis for the past 10 to 15 years, Canton won four straight Park Championships against the Wildcats and Salem.

Nayak feels like he will leave the Canton program better than when he arrived.

"Now that we are leaving, I know the other two singles will carry on the same thing, but I feel like we started this dynasty and we don't want this to end," Nayak said.

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

Plymouth golf bests Northville by 4 shots for regional title

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

One weekend ago, the Plymouth girls golf team watched Northville take home the Kensington Lakes Activities Association tournament win, recording a second-place finish six strokes behind.

But at the Michigan High School Athletic Association regional round, Plymouth became the team in front, winning the regional title and advancing to states, scoring 326 on Oct. 7.

The Wildcats finished four strokes in front of back-to-back defending state champion and co-KLAA leader Northville with junior Bridget Boczar finishing in first with a 72.

Plymouth junior Grace Boczar and freshman Brooke Morris finished in second place at 78, as the Wildcats took each of the top three individual spots in the regional.

While conditions were not exceptional for the golfers that afternoon, facing heavy winds at Lake Forest Golf Course in Ann Arbor, head coach Dan Young said his team did just enough to come out on top after playing two practice rounds at the course the day before and arriving early for warmups.

"It was hard, and we just kind of hung in there and did the best we could, and it ended up being good enough," Young said.

Junior Mara Bridgers and senior Abigail Boyer helped Plymouth to its first-place finishes with a 98 and 100, respectively.

Northville finished in second place, as junior Haesol Park shot a 79 for fourth place - tied with Ann Arbor Skyline's Adie Maki. Mustangs sophomore Samantha Coleman finishes sixth overall with an 80.



The Plymouth girls golf team played in the state meet Friday.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN YOUNG

Novi finished in fifth with a 409, with Salem in sixth place with 415.

Canton finished in last place with a 452.

Plymouth and Northville were to meet again Friday at Forest Hills East Golf Club at Michigan State University, which, like the past two meetings, Young expected to go either way.

"It's anybody's game next weekend for the state title because it's a one-day event. Just like last week: Northville beats us. This week, we beat Northville. It depends on the day, but we are going to be prepared," Young said. "That's going to be key. Then we are going to go play and see what happens."

"It just gives you confidence that you are going to be in... that you have a shot at it, which is fun, just makes it very fun to have that opportunity."

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

Shadow Creek a magical headliner

Steve DiMeglio
Golfweek
USA TODAY NETWORK

NORTH LAS VEGAS, Nev. - Justin Thomas won't soon forget his maiden voyage to the magical land of Shadow Creek Golf Course.

After walking through the unassuming clubhouse, he stepped into the locker room and was stunned to see the names gracing the storage units.

"I know that pretty much everybody who's anybody has been here," Thomas said. "Just going through and looking at the nameplates, it's pretty impressive and unbelievable just the names that are on some of those lockers."

Such as George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George Bush and Barack Obama. Michael Jordan, Wayne Gretzky, John Elway and Derek Jeter. As well as Sylvester Stallone and Matt Damon.

Tiger Woods also will never forget his first trip to Shadow Creek.

"The first time I played it, I met Elizabeth Taylor on the 17th tee. And that kind of stuck out because, well, you don't meet people like that when you are a kid," said Woods, who later learned he had just missed seeing the late King of Pop, Michael Jackson, who often sat near the 17th hole's waterfall down by the green.

From the day Shadow Creek opened in 1990, it has been cloaked in mystique and aura and shrouded in secrecy. From its eye-opening price tag - anywhere from \$45 million to \$60 million - to its location in the Mojave Desert 15 miles north of the Las Vegas Strip, to its esteemed clientele of high-rollers, captains of industry, sports icons and stars of the silver screen, Shadow Creek has been a bucket list dream. One you can play out in reality for \$750 a pop, plus the gratuity for the caddie.

The first time the course hit TV screens was in 2018 when Phil Mickelson took down Woods in a \$9 million winner-take-all event called The Match. Now the PGA Tour makes its debut this weekend in the CJ Cup at Shad-

ow Creek. The tournament was relocated from the enchanted Jeju Island in South Korea because of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

"Obviously Shadow Creek is a pretty unbelievable alternative," said Thomas, the defending champion who headlines a loaded field of 78 that also includes Jon Rahm, Rory McIlroy, Collin Morikawa, Rickie Fowler, Tommy Fleetwood and Jordan Spieth. "It's definitely not overly difficult, but if it's set up hard and it gets a little bit firm, then it's obviously going to play a little bit more challenging. It's a fun course, it's scenic and I'm sure the history and the stories are something that even the people who know it all might not even know it all. There's a lot of things that have gone down here and I've had a couple good times here and been able to make a couple of my own memories."

This transformed plot of hardened desert sprung from the fertile imagination of casino mogul Steve Wynn, who tapped the handiwork of renowned architect Tom Fazio to build a golf masterpiece.



"Steve told me he wanted to build a golf course as good as anything in the world. When I saw the land, I thought he was crazy," Fazio said. "But whatever I wanted to do, I did."


What he did was dig 50 feet into the chunk of the earth - about 3 million cubic yards of dirt was excavated. This allowed Fazio to carve out rolling hills and canyons. The massive mining also provided enough dirt to create a berm around the property to help keep the sun out of the players' eyes.

Some 20,000 of more than 200 varieties of trees were imported and form a lush forest throughout the property that casts shadows over emerald fairways and greens, waterfalls, creeks, ponds, brooks, lagoons and lakes. The woods are so thick, no hole can be seen from another.

After an expensive renovation in 2006 that sand-capped the course, lengthened it and expanded some greens for more pin placements, the par-72 layout can tip out at 7,560 yards.

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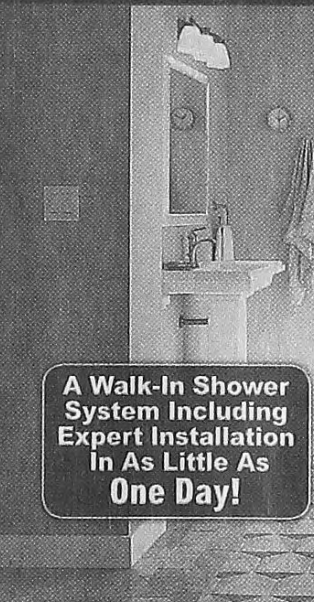
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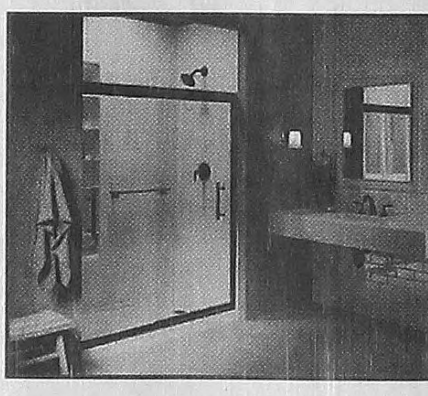
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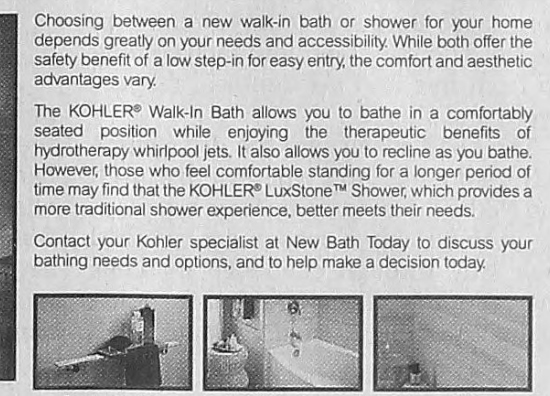




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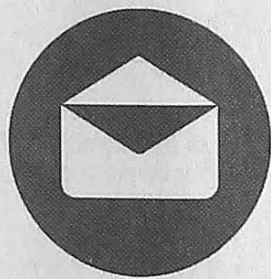
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Takeaways from Amazon Career Day

By ZipRecruiter.com

Amazon on Sept. 16 hosted a virtual Career Day to support job seekers. The event included one-on-one career coaching sessions, workshops and three hours of career-related programming designed to support job seekers of all experiences, backgrounds and industries — regardless of whether they're looking for a role at Amazon.

More than 300,000 people attended the event to get practical tips and inspiration from a lineup of speakers, including Amazon leaders and career development experts. ZipRecruiter CEO Ian Siegel was among this group — here are a few takeaways from his panel.

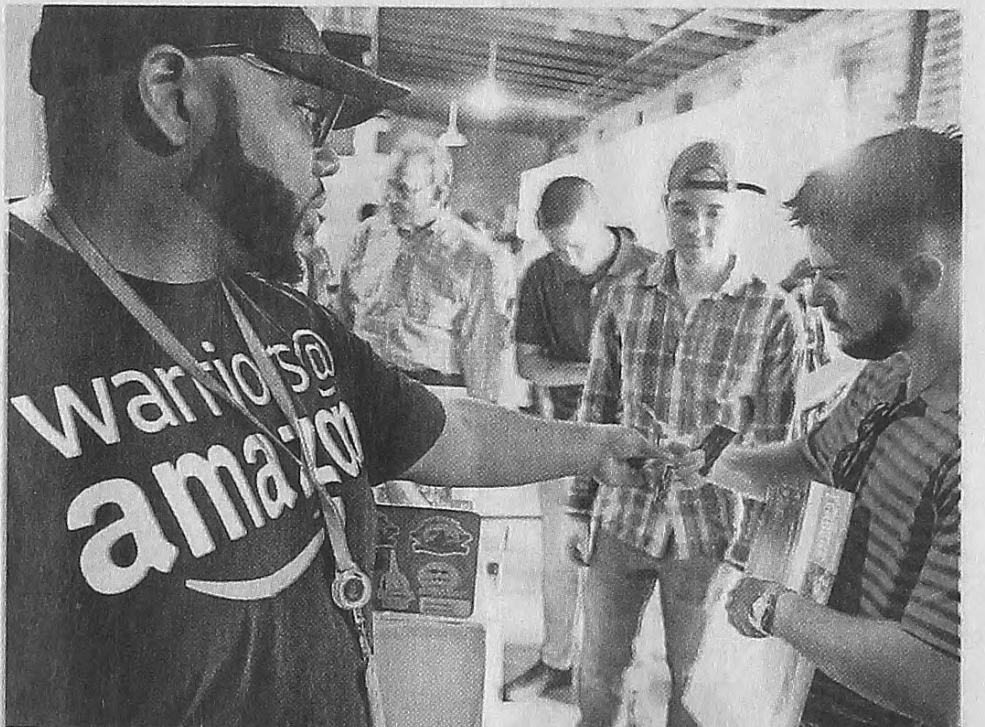
- 1. When it comes to your resume, simple is better**

According to Siegel, 75% of all resumes submitted by job seekers are filtered out by a robot before they even make it into the
- 2. Be honest about gaps**

Don't be afraid to be transparent with employers. Many people have gaps in their resume, especially now. If you were laid off or removed yourself from the workforce for personal or family reasons, keep a positive attitude in sharing your story and highlight what you have to offer. If you are asked about
- 3. New qualifications or certifications can help**

There are plenty of certifications and courses available that can help you quickly acquire a new skill that is in high demand, whether that's flying a drone or becoming proficient in a popular software tool.
- 4. The interview isn't all about you**

One of the biggest mistakes candidates make in an interview is focusing entirely on themselves. Employers are looking for a candidate who will be a great fit for their organization, so that means showing your passion and knowledge about their business as well as demonstrating why you are the perfect match. Start every interview off with the sentence, "I'm so excited to be here because ..." and then fill in the blank with something relevant to the organization. It requires doing your homework, but it will pay off in the long run.



Job seekers take part in Amazon's Career Day in Nashville, Tenn. in September 2019. This year, Amazon hosted a virtual version of the event, which attracted more than 300,000 participants. (FILE PHOTO BY LARRY MCCORMACK / THE TENNESSEAN VIA IMAGN CONTENT SERVICES, LLC)

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