



## Plymouth football players reflect on magic of 2010

SPORTS, 1B

CANTON

# OBSERVER

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## Laurel Park Place owner files for bankruptcy

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The parent company for Laurel Park Place in Livonia filed for bankruptcy. Chattanooga-based CBL Properties filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection Monday in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas. In a news release on the company's

website, CBL Properties said it plans to use the bankruptcy filing as a way to restructure portions of its debt and implement plans to recapitalize the company. The filing hopes to eliminate about \$1.5 billion in the debt the company currently holds.

"After months of discussions and consideration of a number of alternatives, CBL's management and the Board

of Directors firmly believe that implementing the comprehensive restructuring as outlined in the RSA through a Chapter 11 voluntary bankruptcy filing will provide CBL with the best plan to emerge as a stronger and more stable company," said Stephen D. Lebovitz, chief executive officer of CBL, in the news release. "With an aggregate of approximately \$1.5 billion in unsecured

debt and preferred obligations eliminated and a significant increase to net cash flow, upon emergence, CBL will be in a better position to execute on our strategies and move forward as a stable and profitable business."

The mall, 37700 Six Mile, has several dozen shops and currently has two

See **BANKRUPTCY**, Page 2A

### ELECTION 2020



Voters cast their ballots inside the polling place at Webster Elementary in Livonia. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Communities see fresh faces winning local races

From Staff Reports Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Election Day 2020 has come and gone. Voters came out in huge numbers, both voting absentee and in person.

Results come from the Oakland County, Wayne County and local clerks offices. All results are unofficial until certified by their respective board of canvassers.

### Canton Township

In Canton, voters went blue all the way.

Township Trustee Ann Marie Graham-Hudak, a Democrat, appears to have unseated Canton's current supervisor, Pat Williams for the 4-year position.

Graham-Hudak won over 55% of the vote, with 30,455 of the votes counted going for her. Williams, on the other hand, received 24,234 of the votes counted.

Among the eight board of trustee hopefuls, four candidates won four-year terms. Newcomer Kate Borninski, a Democrat, led the way with 31,314 votes. The other three seats all went to Democrats, including incumbent Sommer Foster, who earned 30,631 votes; Tania Ganguly, who won 30,143 and incumbent Steven Sneiderman, who earned 30,069 votes.

The race's four Republican candidates fell short. Incumbent John Anthony left with 21,146 votes, Carly Sayre earned 20,538, Brian Williams received 20,147 and Devon Smith got 19,544.

Clerk Michael Siegrist and Treasurer Dian Slavens, both Democrats who ran unopposed, were also reelected.

See **FRESH FACES**, Page 2A

## Pandemic, community pride bring out young poll workers

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The 2020 Presidential Election is one many Americans won't soon forget. In more ways than one, 2020 will be a year for the history books.

For instance, Michiganders cast an unprecedented number of absentee ballots before Tuesday. In Livonia, more

than 40,000 residents voted before polls even opened.

But, precincts were still busy Tuesday morning. Election workers were on the scene to help people vote successfully, and among the usual volunteers were many first-time poll workers. During a pandemic that adversely affects the elderly, youth and community pride pushed some younger adults to do more

than cast a ballot.

"When the coronavirus hit, it became clear that the people who like to work these things are usually the more vulnerable populations and this was something we could do to kind of help out," Julia Schroeder, 30, said.

Schroeder, an actor and comedian,

See **POLL WORKERS**, Page 5A

## Farmington Hills city manager retires after 22 years

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Eventually, even the best of things must come to an end.

That's how Farmington Hills City Manager Dave Boyer feels about leaving the city, which he's worked for for 22 years. Since becoming city manager in

2015, Boyer said he's loved being part of group of people who so ardently serve their community.

"It's been, truly, a blessing to work here," he said. "You know, you hear about your second family and in this case it really is. The group, both on council and on our staff, has just been a blessing to have such great people to

work with."

Boyer, who worked his last day in the city Oct. 30, has worked in the metro Detroit area for the past 36 years in a variety of roles in Farmington Hills and Southfield. He planned to retire in the next several years, but the pandemic pushed that decision earlier.

"It really came down to my family

and making some decisions for my family as we've gone through the last seven, eight months of COVID," he said. "I have two boys still in high school."

Though initially he planned to retire, Boyer was offered a position as deputy administrator for Emmet County, a

See **MANAGER**, Page 2A



# County commissioner race results for Oakland County

David Veselenak [Hometownlife.com](http://Hometownlife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The county commission races joined many others on the ballot Tuesday. Here are the results for local districts in Oakland County.

Elected officials on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners and the Wayne County Commission each serve for two years.

## Oakland County

### District 13 (part of Farmington Hills, part of West Bloomfield Township, part of Bloomfield Township)

Marcia Gershenson, D-Bloomfield Hills, will continue representing this district on the board of commissioners. She defeated Republican challenger Max Rohbart of West Bloomfield 23,339-12,327.

### District 14 (Farmington, Southfield Township, Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Franklin, part of Farmington Hills)

Commissioner William Miller, D-Farmington, will remain in this south-central Oakland County seat after defeating Farmington Hills Republican Theresa Noseworthy. Miller received 22,018 votes while Noseworthy picked up 13,454 votes.

### District 21 (part of Farmington Hills, part of Southfield)

It was an overwhelming victory for Commissioner Janet Jackson, D-Southfield, who defeated Republican challenger Bill Smith of Farmington Hills. Jackson received 27,111 votes to Smith's 5,347 votes to continue to represent eastern Farmington Hills and western Southfield on the Board of Commissioners.

## Fresh faces

Continued from Page 1A

Siegrist received 38,436 votes and Sla-  
vens received 38,433.

### Plymouth Township

Led by incumbent Supervisor Kurt Heise's victory over Democratic challenger Mary Starr, Republicans ruled Election Day in Plymouth Township.

Heise picked up 10,911 votes (58.26%) to Starr's 7,806 to earn a second four-year term.

Republican trustee incumbents Charles J. Curmi and Bob Doroshewitz earned four more years on the board. They will be joined by Republican newcomers Audrey Monaghan and John C. Stewart.

Doroshewitz was the top trustee vote-getter with 10,020 (15.57%), followed by Curmi's 9,897 (15.37%). Monaghan collected 9,610 (14.93%) while Stewart earned the fourth trustee seat with 9,340 (14.51%).

Incumbent Clerk Jerry Vorva defeated Nancy Conzelman. Vorva tallied 10,841 votes (58.47%) to Conzelman's 7,687.

### Wayne

Mayor John Rhaesa will continue serving in the city's top post.

Rhaesa received 3,275 votes to challenger and fellow councilman Anthony Miller's 3,131 votes for the mayor's position in Wayne, according to unofficial results. He will serve in the position for four years instead of two, a change Wayne voters made earlier this year.

The rest of the city council was elected in uncontested races. Newcomer Alfred L. Brock will represent Ward 1 after receiving 4,423 votes, incumbent Kevin Dowd will continue representing Ward 2 after receiving 4,514 votes and incumbent Tom Porter will continue representing Ward 3 after receiving 4,586 votes. Each will serve a four-year term



John Wohlfert casts his ballot at Summit on the Park in Canton on Tuesday.  
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

representing those wards.

### Northville Township

In Northville Township, Republican Mark Abbo appears to have been elected the township's next supervisor. He received 11,285 votes and will serve a four-year term.

Current supervisor, Republican Robert Nix, ran as a write-in candidate after losing to Abbo in the primary. The township's unofficial election results show 2,649 votes going to unassigned write-in candidates, which would include Nix.

In the clerk's office race, Republican Roger Lundberg received 11,542 votes and looks poised to serve in the four-year position. Incumbent Marjorie Banner, also a Republican, ran as a write-in candidate. The township's unofficial results show 1,783 votes going to unassigned write-ins.

Republican Jason Rhines garnered 11,706 votes in the race for township treasurer, another four-year job. Incum-

bent Fred Shadko ran as a write-in. According to unofficial results, 1,225 votes went to unassigned write-in candidates.

Northville Township voters also chose four people to serve four-year terms on the township board of trustees. Republican Mindy Herrmann earned the most votes with 10,990. The other three seats will go to Republican Cynthia Jankowski, who earned 10,755 votes; Republican Scott Frush, who received 10,300 votes as an incumbent and incumbent Republican Chris Roosen, who finished with 9,945 votes. Democrats Tanya Lundberg and M. Aslam fell short with 9,301 and 8,655 votes, respectively.

### Bloomfield Township

Several Democratic newcomers are joining the Bloomfield Township Board, joining a few Republican incumbents that held on to their seats.

In the race for Bloomfield Township

Supervisor, Democrat Dani Walsh won the top spot with 15,054 votes over Republican Dan Devine with 14,623 votes. Walsh will replace long-time Republican Supervisor Leo Savoie, who lost to Devine in the August primary.

Democrat Martin Brook is the new township clerk, taking the seat with 14,769 votes over Republican Tom Smyly, who received 14,512 votes.

Republican Brian Kepes retained his seat as treasurer, uncontested in the general election and receiving 18,391 votes.

The Board of Trustees will get a new look in the township as Democrats Stephanie Fakh, 14,405 votes, and Valerie Sayles Murray, 14,124 votes, join Republican incumbents Michael Schostak, 14,560 votes, and Neal Barnett, 14,324 votes.

Missing the cut were Democrats Linda Ulrey, 13,828 votes and Mitsuaki Murashige, 12,351 votes, as well as Republicans Don Valente, 13,348 votes and Timothy Robert Meyer, 13,297 votes.

### Village of Milford

The Village of Milford decided to keep the current leadership on the village council with Jerry Aubry earning another 2-year term as Village Council President.

Aubry was challenged by village councilman Dave Pehrson. Aubry received 1,689 votes, or about 57% to 1,228 for Pehrson.

Three candidates ran for three Milford Village Council seats, meaning all three candidates won. Steven Burke tallied 1,622 votes. James Kovach garnered 1,676 votes. Kevin Ziegler received 1,658 votes.

### Beverly Hills

Tracy Keckskemeti, John Mooney and Ryan O'Gorman won four-year terms on the Village of Beverly Hills Council.

See FRESH FACES, Page 5A

## Bakruptcy

Continued from Page 1A

anchor tenants: Von Maur and Dunham's Sporting Goods, the latter of which opened last November in the space formerly occupied by Carson's.

Malls in general have struggled in recent years, an issue made more evident by the COVID-19 pandemic that forced shopping malls closed to guests in Michigan for more than two months earlier this spring. Laurel Park Place has several vacancies inside, including a restaurant opening where California Pizza Kitchen operated until earlier this summer when it closed for good.

CBL Properties also operates the Meridian Mall in Okemos. It operates more than 100 properties over 26 states.

Despite the filing, the company states it will be business-as-usual for their locations, and that customers and businesses should not see an interruption as a result of the filing.

"We expect this process to facilitate our financial restructuring, allowing CBL to emerge in a stronger financial position to continue to serve our communities for years to come," said Stacey Keating, a spokesperson for the company.

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The owners of Laurel Park Place in Livonia, CBL Properties, filed for Ch. 11 bankruptcy this month. Despite the filing, the company says the mall will continue to operate with no disruptions.  
DAVID VESELENAK/  
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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## Manager

Continued from Page 1A

county in northwestern Michigan that includes Petoskey and Mackinaw City, which he has accepted.

His colleagues in the city are happy to see Boyer enter a new professional chapter in life but are sad he is leaving.

"I was always impressed and remain so with your commitment to the community," Councilman Ken Massey said at the Oct. 26 meeting. "In everything you do, you approach it with professionalism."

During his time as manager, Boyer said his proudest accomplishments include \$30 million spent on local roads, Riley Skate Park, the splash pad and amphitheater at Heritage Park, the baseball fields at Founders Sports Park and the Farmington Hills Golf Club.

"I spent four years building the golf course, club house and the maintenance building and putting it all together," he said of the golf club. "That



Farmington Hills City Manager Dave Boyer retired Oct. 30.  
COURTESY OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

was one of my biggest challenges."

Another one of those proud accomplishments is The Hawk, a recreation and community center at the old Harrison High School building. Boyer won't be able to see the project to its finish, but he plans to visit next spring when the center is expected to open.

"The Hawk at Harrison was probably

going to be one of the big ones, right along with the golf course and getting that up in the community to have a great place for our community to use," he said. "It's going to be great, and I didn't want to see that building torn down."

In Boyer's absence, Assistant City Manager Gary Mekjian assumes the role on an interim basis. In the meantime, the city has started a search for a new manager, a process that should take about four months.

"You have always been a mentor to me, so it's kind of weird with you leaving Farmington Hills ... It's sad to see you leave Farmington Hills, because you have just been such a fantastic city manager," Councilwoman Samantha Steckloff said Oct. 26.

While Boyer is sad to leave, he said he feels like the city is in a good place to handle a transfer in leadership. Until a new manager is found, he expects the city will be in good hands.

"The community is blessed to have so many people dedicated to serving the residents," he said. "I am sad to leave, but excited about the next chapter in my life."

# Canton man charged in recent garage invasions

**Susan Vela** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

A 46-year-old Canton Township man was arraigned this week on two counts of first-degree home invasion and two counts of larceny in connection to some recent garage thefts.

Michael Philip Smith also faces charges of being a habitual offender, police said in a report. His bond was



Smith

set at \$125,000 and his next court date is scheduled for Nov. 6.

Police say security camera footage provided images of Smith and his getaway vehicle, which led to his arrest.

They were dispatched to the 50000 block of Hesperus Drive at 10 p.m. Friday because a homeowner noticed multiple items gone from an attached garage.

Within an hour, police received a second report from a neighbor also missing possessions in his garage.

Smith's Third Circuit court records show he's also facing stolen property and tampering charges from other alleged incidents.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at [svela@hometownlife.com](mailto:svela@hometownlife.com) or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.



Versona, a women's retailer selling clothing, accessories and more, opened its doors late last month. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# New women's retail shop opens at Westland mall

**David Veselenak** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Versona, a women's retailer selling clothing, accessories and more opened its doors late last month in a space on the south side of the Westland Shopping Center at 35000 Warren.

The shop marks one of the bigger retailers to recently locate in the mall, which has experienced plenty of stores close in recent years. Even with the challenges facing retail in the current economic climate, store manager Kyrra Faison said they've seen plenty of excited customers looking to try out something new of all ages.

"We have a different lane, I would say," she said. "We kind of cater to everybody's needs."

"Everybody can find a little something here."

The shop opened in the space formerly occupied by Charming Charlie, which closed all its stores nationwide last year. It has a separate entrance to the south parking lot near where Ulta Beauty formerly operated, which Faison said closed last month.

Dan Young, a district manager with the company, said coming to the Westland Shopping Center as opposed to another mall in the area allows them to attract a client base in that part of town. He said Versona is the only shop of its kind in the Westland area and hopes to bring in customers looking for fashionable clothing.

"We go into a center like Westland, you see who your true customer is," he said. "That's another big op-



Versona is located on Westland Mall's south side.

portunity for us and that works well."

Inside the 4,500-square-foot store is a variety of items, from shoes to tops to accessories such as purses and — what's become a standard in the world today at retailers — face masks. Faison said they kept some of the decor and the fixtures that were present when Charming Charlie was there, which work well to showcase merchandise.

The shop is the fourth Versona to open in Michigan: the company, based in North Carolina, has three other shops in the Great Lakes State. Two Versona stores opened earlier this summer in Grand Rapids and Portage, and another shop at Partridge Creek in Clinton

Township opened the same day as the Westland location. It's the first time this brand has ventured into Michigan, Faison said, though there are other sister stores nearby. One such business is Cato Fashions in Garden City.

"Versona has been rampant throughout the south, and now they're creeping to the north," she said. "We've had a handful of people who have been on vacation or shopped it when they were down south and they're like, 'Oh, I'm so excited you guys are here.'"

Faison said she came to the company earlier this year after working in other retail at malls, including at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi. She said the company came as a recommendation from a former coworker and after seeing the types of fashion Versona offered, she decided to apply and work for them.

"That's what's really exciting," she said. "Who doesn't want to shop?"

The opening at the mall at Wayne and Warren roads is something, Young said, that could provide some retail boost in the area. With plenty of other shops that have closed at the mall in recent years, Versona opening bucks a national trend that could lead to positive results in the future for the area.

"Hopefully it'll be a great partnership," he said.

The store is open noon to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday. To view merchandise, visit [shopversona.com](http://shopversona.com).

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

# Mom creates at-home classroom for son, classmates

**Shelby Tankersley** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

A lot of parents have come up with creative ways to navigate the waves of online learning during the pandemic. Jen Esch is one of those people.

When Wayne-Westland schools announced students would start the 2020-21 school year online, Esch got thinking. She didn't want her 6-year-old son, Brody, to have so much time away from peers.

So she contacted Kerri Krafft, her son's first-grade talented and gifted teacher at Walker-Winter Elementary, offering to host a learning pod for several other children. As long as online learning kept up, Esch decided to take a personal sabbatical from work and focus on Brody's education.

Now, Brody isn't doing school alone. His friends, fellow first-graders Anthony, Zariah and Braydon are with him as they all learn online. The district currently hopes to send elementary students back to classrooms Nov. 9.

"I had already committed to being home with my son and I wanted to share what I consider a gift with others who didn't have that luxury," Esch, a Canton

resident, said. "I knew having other people here would help my son with socialization, but I also wanted to extend an opportunity for others to benefit from this luxury that I have."

At "Ms. Jen's Learning Pod," the four six-year-olds each have their own learning space in Esch's basement, which she's converted part of into a classroom. The students go through their classes, and Esch oversees things like reading, recess and lunch.

Esch said structure is an important part of the day, but she also wants to provide the kids with a positive, safe learning environment.

"You work hard and you play hard," Esch said. "I grew up on a dairy farm, and we worked hard ... I certainly understand strong work ethic and focus and discipline, which I think is really encouraged in homeschool environments. You really need to give the learning everything you have, but also take time to release."

To ensure the kids and their families are physically safe as well, the four families agreed to forego any non-essential social activity for now. The families also work together to pick up schoolwork, lunches and watch over the kids as Esch needs.

"That's how important this is to me and all of these families," Esch said. "So, that's what we've done."

Though being with four six-year-olds all day can be a little tiring, Esch said it's a real joy to do what she does for now. The kids say they love being with a small group of friends all day, and Esch thinks the socialization benefits all of them.

"We're giving people something to be happy and excited about at a time when that's missing for a lot of people," she said. "That's awesome to me. I'll never forget taking this sabbatical period and making this a priority."

"There's not more I could do in life to feel like I'm a contributing member to society. If I'm introducing happiness and joy in others' lives, that is super fulfilling."

While Esch said she realizes her arrangement is not an option for every family, she encouraged able parents to do something similar.

"I'm lucky. I'm taking a break from work, and I don't know that everyone can," she said. "But if there are parents who have the opportunity to be home with their kids, maybe consider partnering with other kids in the community, even if it's just one."

# Incumbents fall short in 2 school board races

Susan Bromley and Ed Wright

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

School board members were elected in multiple districts in the Hometown Life area Nov. 3.

Here are the results of those races, unofficial until certified by the board of canvassers.

## Livonia Public Schools

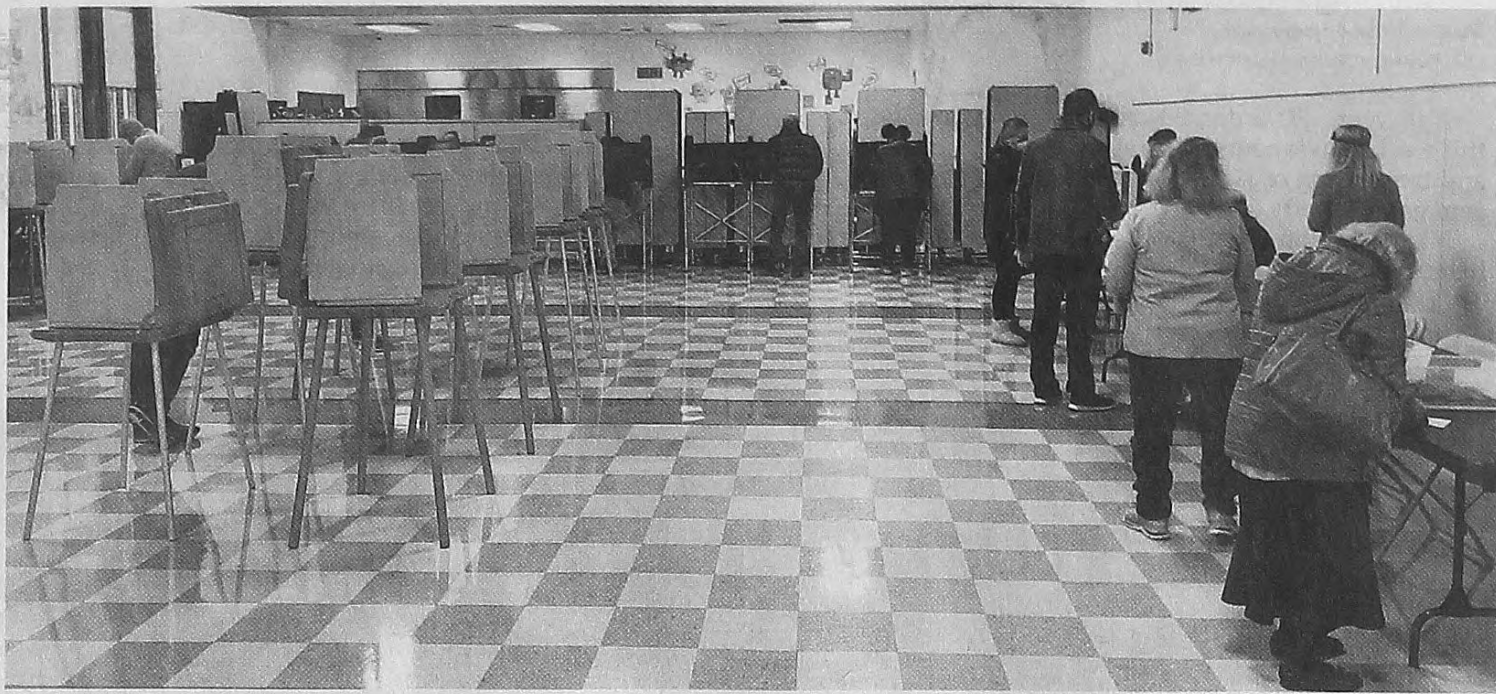
Voters welcomed newcomer Madeline Acosta to a 4-year term on the school board with 23,577 votes, while also reelecting Karen Bradford with 27,566 votes; Dan Centers with 23,257 votes, and Tammy Bonifield with 21,279 votes.

Missing the cut were incumbent Crystal Frank, 21,115 votes and Nichole Hoskins-Goudreau, 14,876.

## Farmington Public Schools

Cheryl Blau with 13,945 votes and Mable Fox with 13,352 votes will fill the two six-year term seats that were up for grabs.

Incumbent Richard Mukamal was ousted with 8,298 votes. Also missing the cut were Steven Goldberg, 11,862 votes; Janet Ravitz Meir, 6,355; David Ehrlich, 5,343; and Frank Raines, 4,132.



Voters cast ballots at Pierce Elementary in Birmingham on Tuesday. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

In the race for a two-year term on the board that ends Dec. 31, 2022, Claudia Heinrich came out on top with 14,930 votes.

Missing the cut were Donald Walker with 9,713 votes and Kevin Hammer with 9,288 votes.

## Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

First-time candidates Lauren Christenson and Shawn H. Wilson earned six-year terms on the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education after placing first and third, respectively, in Tuesday's 10-candidate race for three positions. In-

cumbent Patrick Kehoe earned the third seat by placing second.

Christenson garnered 14,368 votes (17.11%), Kehoe 12,804 (15.24%) and Wilson 11,631 (13.85%).

For the school board seat with a term ending Dec. 31, 2022, incumbent Anupam Chugh Sidhu collected 18,016 votes to defeat Sebastien Ostertag (14,066).

# Voters abolish wards in Wayne, pass millage in Plymouth Twp.

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

In addition to candidates, voters across the region decided on a myriad of proposals and millages across several communities Tuesday. Here are the results for proposals in the Hometown Life communities that are seemingly decided with 100% percent of the unofficial vote.

## Wayne ward system abolished

It appears a small margin of voters has decided to get rid of Wayne's ward

system and return the city to a single voting district.

Both Prop. 1 and Prop. 2 in the City of Wayne were approved by voters.

Prop. 1 abolish the ward system put into place in 2014 and have city council members elected at-large throughout the city. Currently, voters select candidates from one of each of the city's six wards, though all voters decide on every candidate.

Prop. 2, on the other hand, would have kept the ward system and change it to have only voters residing in a specific ward vote for the candidate from their ward.

Since both proposals were approved, the proposal with the most number of "yes" votes will take effect. That will be Prop. 1, which had 3,957 "yes" votes to 2,731 "no" votes. Prop. 2 received 3,935 "yes" votes and 2,801 "no" votes. With Prop. 1 receiving 22 more "yes" votes, the ward system will be phased out over the next few years.

Voters will vote for three candidates at-large in 2022 while the three candidates elected this year will continue to represent their wards. The city will then cast votes for at-large candidates during the city election in 2024 as a result of Tuesday's vote.

## Plymouth Township fire millage renewal

A millage for fire services has been renewed by voters in Plymouth Township for another 20 years.

Voters decided overwhelmingly to renew the millage, first levied in 1981 and renewed in 2001. The 0.9866-mill levy will fund fire services for the township. It was approved with 14,860 "yes" votes to 3,030 "no" votes. It's expected the millage, which will run through 2040, will generate roughly \$1.9 million in its first year.

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# Voters share thoughts about 'historic election'

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Voters had a lot to say as they cast their ballots in an election that was described as "historic," "crazy" and "the most important ever" on "Epiphany Tuesday."

Voting was obviously a priority for Ryan Weisberg, 41, who was first in line on Tuesday at Pierce Elementary, his precinct location in Birmingham.

Weisberg had arrived at 5:10 a.m. to get his spot, nearly two hours before the polls opened. It was his third presidential election in a row being "Voter #1."

"I view this election in the modern era as the most important one for my family's future," said Weisberg, a father of three and Quicken Loans mortgage banker.

He was voting for Joe Biden for president, which he said was not out of the ordinary as he consistently votes for Democrats, and social issues are most important to him.

"What I like about Biden is he is looking to unify the country and bring everyone together to heal our country," he said.

Directly across from Weisberg, waiting third in line at Pierce, was Greg Smith, 58, who represented the opposition.

Smith said he was voting for the incumbent, President Donald Trump, citing reasons including tax reform and deregulation policies, which he called his "two biggest issues."

The election didn't feel different to Smith, but he noted there "sure is a lot more exuberance. There are a lot of issues at hand that people are passionate about and engaged in."

He said he arrived at Pierce about 6:20 a.m. in order to make sure that when he fed his ballot into the tabulator machine that there were no errors.

On Monday, however, absentee voting was proving popular in communities such as Novi and South Lyon, with lines at the clerk's office as residents requested ballots and voted them before leaving the municipal building, or as already voted ballots were dropped off.

Tammi Porter, 52, was voting for the second time in her life, the first being four years ago when she voted for Hillary Clinton for president.

"I was never into politics, but because I dislike a certain candidate — Trump to be exact — I need to vote," she said. "Enough is enough. Get your butt out and vote."

Tami Lenoir, 60, visited the Novi Civic Center to cast an absentee ballot, too. She has never missed an election since she was 18, and this time she brought along her 4-year-old granddaughter, Caroline Jasinski.

She called this election one that "could be life-changing," although she wasn't sure if it would be better or worse.

While Lenoir usually votes Republican, with minor deviations on the ticket, she said she did not vote Republican at the top of the ticket this time and the pandemic is playing a role in the respiratory therapist's vote, "probably the biggest role."

Matt Goodman, 50, said he would be sticking with Trump despite some misgivings.

"He's very transparent," Goodman, a military veteran, said. "I may not like him or what he says, in fact, he can't keep his mouth shut, but he does what he says and I tend to agree with his policies. He's gotten us out of the Middle East."

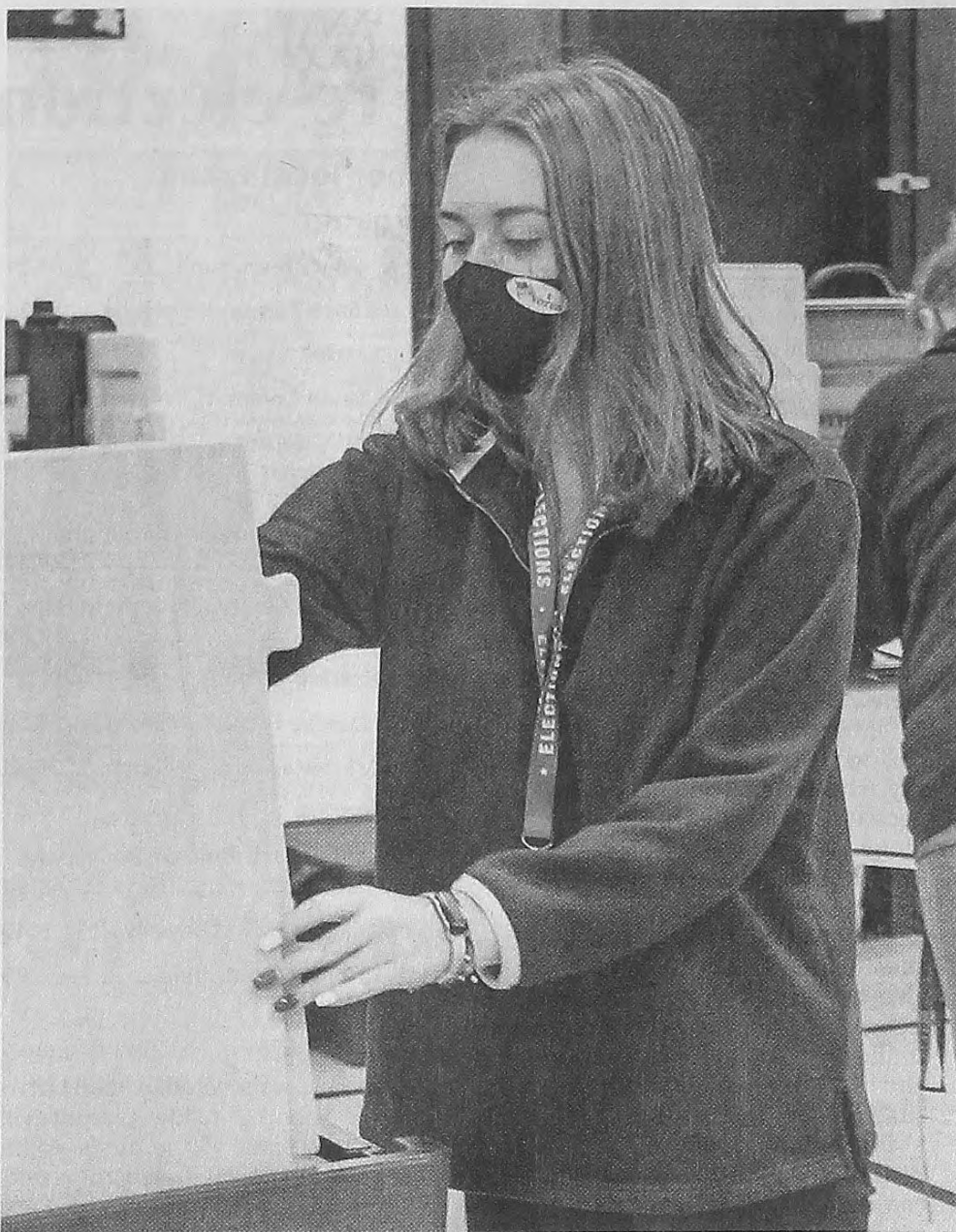
Biden also seemed to draw some lukewarm reactions.

Aja Johnson said she wasn't "particularly elated" with the Democratic choice, but her feelings against Trump were much stronger.

"Not that Biden won't be a great president, but Trump is repulsive with the way he degrades women and the things he says."

Lisa Kent, 27, said she was also voting to get Trump out of office and regretted not voting four years ago, assuming Hillary Clinton would win and "it wouldn't be possible to be in this situation."

Her vote on Tuesday at Pierce in Birmingham was "less a vote for Biden and more against Trump."



Julia Rintala cleans a voting booth at Webster Elementary in Livonia.

DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Poll workers

Continued from Page 1A

worked face-to-face with voters at Webster Elementary in Livonia on Election Day. She said the experience was a positive one and she enjoyed helping the community. Kenneth Bouman, a 26-year-old engineer working at the Coolidge Elementary precincts, had a similar experience.

Bouman said he got the push to be an election worker while watching "The Daily Show With Trevor Noah," which had a segment on how people can help others on Election Day. Bouman had the time to volunteer, and said he likes to think he's helping an elderly neighbor stay healthy.

"As a young person, I'm probably less susceptible to it than many," he said. "It's kind of nice to be helping. Maybe I could get sick, maybe not. But it's probably better that I get sick than somebody who's older."

For others, community pride and a desire to serve is what pushed them to sign up.

Gretchen Allen, 17, and Julia Rintala, 19, were both sanitizing voting stations in between use at Webster. They've grown up knowing Livonia Clerk Susan Nash, and wanted to pitch in so her Election Day, which is always full of hard work, is easier.

"Just to help her out, we wanted to volunteer for this," Rintala said.

Macey Wolf, a 22-year-old Eastern

Michigan University student who helped voters at Buchanan Elementary, thinks everyone should serve their community, whether it's during elections or not.

"I think that it's really important to participate in your community, especially with something like this," she said. "Also, I know that people are really concerned with the pandemic and their health. I work with the public on a day-to-day basis anyway, so I feel like I should step up and volunteer here so maybe someone who's not comfortable can stay home."

But no matter why they signed up to help, all said they enjoyed seeing their democracy at work first-hand.

"I feel a lot wiser because I am getting this opportunity," said Laura Hanino, a 24-year-old stay-home parent working at Coolidge. "I feel like I'm learning a lot about it. I haven't voted yet, so it's really interesting for me to see it this way."

Cassandra Shavmoch, a 26-year-old working at Riley Upper Elementary Tuesday, said it's an honor to help make America's democracy work.

"I feel really honored just to be able to help others cast their ballot and make sure everything goes smoothly and everything is counted correctly," she said. "I think it is a very big responsibility and duty of American citizens to, maybe not necessarily work the elections, but get involved somehow."

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

## Fresh faces

Continued from Page 2A

Kecskemeti was the top vote-earner with 3,216 (22.28), followed by Mooney (2,938) and O'Gorman (2,440). James Patrick Delaney (2,399 votes) was fourth. Phil Mueller picked up 1,946 votes and Shane Henry collected 1,454.

### Bingham Farms

Lisa Blackburn, Kurt L. Jones, Aaron Krabill and Spencer W. Doty earned four-year terms on the village's board of trustees.

Blackburn was the top vote-earner with 443 (31.8%), followed by Jones (394) and Krabill (308). The fourth candidate, Carl Grenadier picked up 276 votes. Jones is the lone newcomer.

Doty ran unopposed for a term that will end Nov. 21, 2022.

### Village of Franklin

Village of Franklin has a new council president. Councilman William Lamott won the 4-year elected position with 1,141 votes. Current president Pamela Jane Hansen ran as a write-in candidate. The total number of as-of-now unassigned write-in votes total 552, so even if all those votes are awarded to Hansen, it is not enough to pass Lamott. Three 4-year terms for Village of

Franklin trustee were available in the election. The top vote-getter was Katherine Erlich with 1,145 votes. She is joined by Mark Hanke (1,000 votes) and Michael Seltzer (946 votes) to win the three spots. Joshua Lawton and Fred Gallasch fell short in their council bids with 770 and 769 votes, respectively.

### Lyon Township

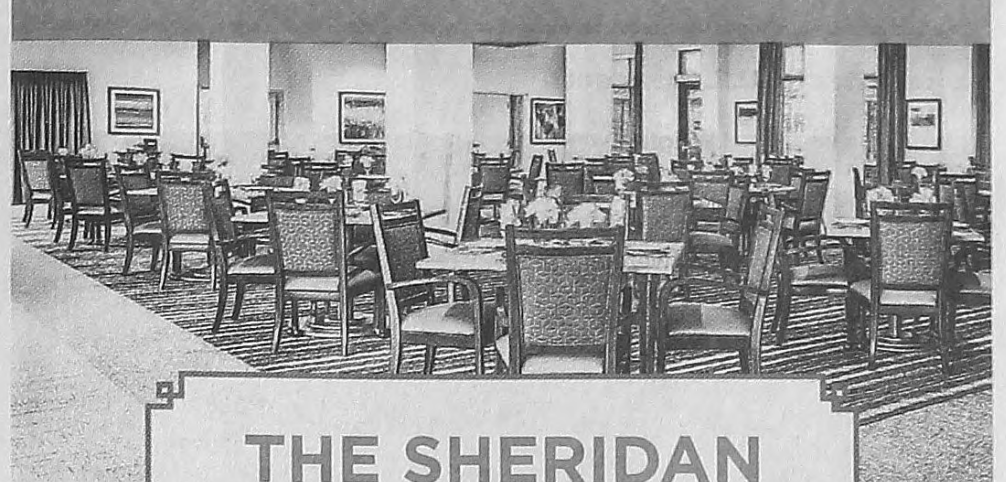
None of the Lyon Township races were contested in the general election. Supervisor John Dolan was reelected with 8,859 votes, Clerk Michele Cash was reelected with 8,911 votes and Treasurer Patricia Carcone was reelected with 8,835 votes.

On the board of trustees, newcomer Robert Swain, 7,594 votes, will join incumbents Lise Blades, 8,099 votes; Sean O'Neil, 7,997; and Kristofer Enlow, 7,776.

### Milford Township

Like Lyon, Milford Township races were also uncontested in the general election. Supervisor Don Green was reelected with 7,622 votes, Clerk Holly Brandt was reelected with 7,798 votes and Treasurer Cynthia Dagenhardt was reelected with 7,625 votes.

On the board of trustees, newcomer Toni Vulaj, 6,625 votes, joins incumbents Randal Busick, 6,594 votes; William Mazzara, 6,504 votes; and Dale Wiltse, 6,561 votes.



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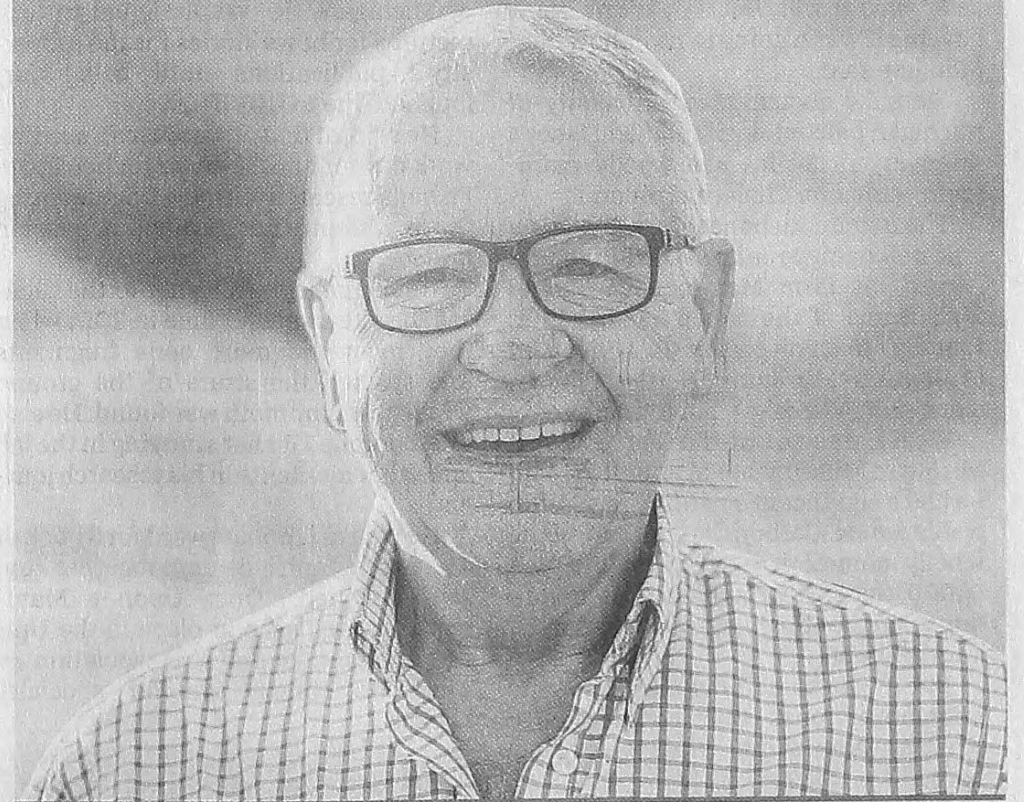
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Local votes for U.S. President

	Donald Trump	Joe Biden
Birmingham	6017	8731
Bloomfield Hills	1528	1561
Bloomfield Township	13431	17140
Canton Township	21506	35063
Commerce Township	15257	12119
Farmington	2176	3887
Farmington Hills	16889	32277
Garden City	N/A	N/A
Highland Township	7974	4523
Livonia	30624	31818
Lyon Township	7523	5612
Milford Township	6323	4939
Northville City	1906	2378
Northville Township	9555	11001
Novi	14623	20465
Novi Township	54	63
Plymouth City	2481	3763
Plymouth Township	9386	9943
Redford Township	N/A	N/A
South Lyon	3758	3532
Southfield Township	3963	6325
Walled Lake	2056	2006
Wayne	3385	4788
Westland	17479	26059
Wixom	3748	4308
White Lake	11657	7827

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STATE HOUSE RACES

Pohutsky wins re-election

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Democrat state Rep. Laurie Pohutsky was able to hold onto her state Capitol seat in a close race.

Unofficial results from the Livonia City Clerk show the incumbent candidate with 29,479 votes. Republican contender Martha Ptashnik, a Livonia Public Schools math teacher, received 29,221 votes.



Pohutsky

That's a difference of a mere 258 votes.

"It was a relief," said Pohutsky, who had expected a narrow margin. "We certainly weren't taking anything for granted or getting comfortable over the last two years."

While COVID-19 is an immediate issue for politicians, Pohutsky, 32, is also hoping to sponsor and support legislation that would curb human trafficking, protect the environment and make affordable healthcare accessible.

Ptashnik continued teaching Wednesday morning but shared these comments: "I am very proud of our campaign and humbled by all of the support we received. Throughout the campaign I met a lot of great people, built a lot of new friendships and I will continue to be a strong advocate for our Livonia students, seniors and public safety officers."

Pohutsky, 32, and Ptashnik, 53, have campaigned against each other with their different backgrounds apparent.

Pohutsky is now finishing her first term. She was a microbiologist before she took her pursuits to Lansing.

She has said she ran to continue the work started when she was elected in 2018. As a scientist, she has called for evidence-based policies.

Ptashnik is a lifelong Livonia resident who wanted to fight for seniors and safe and healthy schools. She also wanted to support the Livonia Police

Other local races

- 38th District**
- Dem Kelly Breen, Novi .....31,217
  - Rep Chase Turner, Northville .....29,263
- 16th District**
- Dem Kevin Coleman, Westland .28,224
  - Rep Emily Bauman, Westland.....16,937
- 40th District**
- Dem Mari Manoogian, Birmingham .....38,148
  - Rep Kendra Cleary, Bloomfield Hills .....27,890
- 44th District**
- Dem Denise Forrest, Milford .....24,065
  - Rep Matt Maddock, Milford .....35,414
- 35th District**
- Dem Kyra Harris Bolden, Southfield .....49,076
  - Rep Daniela Davis, Beverly Hills...9,407
  - Lib Tim Yow, Southfield.....693

Department. Ray Majkowski voted by mail but, on Tuesday, stood outside Clarenceville High School, one of the city's polling places, to support Democrat candidates, including Pohutsky.

"I met her a couple of times, and she seems to know her business," he said. "I haven't heard any negatives about her." Brenda Norberg didn't elaborate much on the 19th District race since she cast a straight Republican ticket.

She said President Donald Trump needs all the support possible if he's re-elected.

"I like the stance that he takes," Norberg said of the president "He's for this country. He's for the people of this country. When he says something, I trust him. "He needs more respect."

Votes are still being tabulated across metro Detroit. Those districts with 100% voting reported are included. All results are unofficial until certified.

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

How metro Detroit voted for president

Philip Allmen and Susan Bromley  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The U.S. presidential election is expected to have the largest U.S. voter turnout ever.

Voters had strong opinions on their choice for commander in chief.

MaryAnn Damman, for example, was wholeheartedly enthusiastic about her vote Tuesday.

"I hope Trump wins," Damman said. "He has done a good job and is trying to

help all the people. I like how he has been trying to get peace in the Middle East. All the other candidates have ignored the Black community. I feel he is a well-rounded president."

Others, like Tammi Porter, wanted to see a change in leadership.

"I was never into politics, but because I dislike a certain candidate - Trump to be exact - I need to vote," she said.

Above are the unofficial vote totals for Hometown Life-area communities in the presidential election.

Hartland man documented mammoth discovery

His find changed what we know about history of humans in Michigan

Jennifer Timar Livingston Daily  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Hartland Township photojournalist Daryl Marshke had a front row seat to a discovery that changed what we know about the history of human habitation in Michigan.

When he arrived at a Chelsea paleontology dig in the fall of 2015 to take photographs for the University of Michigan, "they had just started being able to uncover the skull. They kind of knew exactly what it was, but they didn't know how big it was a going to be or how old," Marshke said.

Marshke documented University of Michigan paleontologist Daniel Fisher's discovery of an ice age woolly mammoth buried on Chelsea farmland.

The mammoth bones were dug up on land belonging to James Bristle, who renamed his farm Mammoth Acres, in 2015. Some of the bones unearthed in that dig are on display at the University of Michigan Museum of Natural History, along with Marshke's photographs.

Fisher, director of the University of Michigan Museum of Paleontology, said he had a significant scientific revelation on his hands. Carbon dating showed the wholly mammoth dated back more than 15,000 years. It's the oldest mammoth dug up in the Great Lakes region that he knows about.

But it was something else about the mammoth bones that could change what we know about the region's history.

Bones were out of order, not where they should have been had the mammoth died a natural death and just keeled over.

Fisher said it was evidence that humans had killed it to eat it.

That would mean humans were in Michigan earlier than scientists knew. Scientists knew there were humans in Michigan at least 13,000 years ago. The excavation of the mammoth in Chelsea pushed it back more than 2,000 years.

"One of (Fisher's) theories was that

early man, what they would do, they would kill a mammoth, they would harvest the meat, take that meat and, during the winter months, put it on a lake or pond, put it on ice, put rocks on it and as the season melted the ice the rocks would weigh down the meat keeping it cool," Marshke said.

It could have been an early form of refrigeration.

In 2015, Marshke had just started a new job working as a photojournalist for Michigan Photography at the University of Michigan. He was assigned to take pictures for news stories for the university's publications until being furloughed due to COVID-19.

He said, at first, it was just an exciting work day for him. Then he got hooked to Fisher's research journey. Documenting the mammoth has become a passion project.

He returned with Fisher to the Chelsea dig site a second time in 2017, when they recovered more bone fragments and studied the strata of the ground where the mammoth was found. He also photographed Fisher studying in the lab and other moments in his research journey.

He won a national award for a book of the photographs he put together and self-published, "Once Upon a Mammoth," taking second place in the University Photographers' Association of America's competition for specialty books.

A sunny day and the smell of clay

The discovery of the mammoth came about because the farmer's field needed a new sump pump to manage water. An excavator unearthed bone fragments. Bristle contacted the university to tell them what he had found.

Marshke said his favorite moment of Fisher's dig was when they lifted the skull and tusks out of the ground.

"They took a backhoe...tied up ropes and different straps and carefully, over probably a half hour, began lifting the



Hartland photographer Daryl Marshke, shown Wednesday, holds one of the photos used in a book which won second place in an annual publication contest. GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

skull and tusks out of the ground..." Marshke said. "That was the highlight of the evening. It was something that's been in the ground for thousands of years before your eyes."

It smelled of clay. He also photographed people's reactions.

"It became a spectacle. People gathered. I capture the whole day, the vibe, and then followed progress for over a year, his research, the other dig..." he said. "I told my boss I want to continue following this story wherever it leads. I want to follow this from beginning to end. Where it ends up."

What did Fisher find?

"It's still a live process," Fisher said of his ongoing research on the mammoth.

He also does digs in Siberia, where early inhabitants of North America came from, crossing a land bridge to Alaska that disappeared as the ocean rose.

The skull, jaw and articulated vertebrae of the mammoth, which was an older male, are on display at the Museum of Natural History, though the museum is temporarily closed due to COVID. The display features 3D printed tusks, because Fisher is still examining the real ones.

Some of his research results are included in a chapter of a forthcoming book being published by the University of Tübingen Press in Germany, called "Human-elephant interactions from past to present."

"The reason (the mammoth) is notable is that earlier views of when humans got to this area would have placed them more at 13,000 years ago...It doesn't mean this is the earliest claim. There are other sites that could have (evidence of) a presence earlier," Fisher said.

"I don't think there is anything 15,000 years old in the Great Lakes region," he said. "There's a spectrum of views and evidence. ... It's debated by scientists and over time our views change."

# Obituaries

## Corrinne Niland

**PETOSKEY** - (Elsa) Corrinne Niland passed away peacefully at home in Petoskey, Michigan on October 27, 2020, surrounded by family. She was 85 years old.



Corrinne is predeceased by her husband of 64 years, James L. Niland, Jr. She is survived by her sons James L. Niland, III (Ronald Allen); Timothy W. (Jeannie) Niland; Scott H. Niland (Cecile Do); sister Sheila Turkall; and granddaughter Courtney Nicole Niland.

Corrinne was born on November 14, 1934 in Sandusky, Ohio to Howard and Elsa (Potts) Florian. Her family lived in Port Clinton, Ohio, where she graduated from Port Clinton High School in 1952. She attended Miami University of Ohio and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education in 1956.

She met her husband, James L. Niland, Jr. of Brooklyn, NY in 1954. They married in 1955 and moved to Garden City, MI where they were teachers in the public school system. Corrinne taught elementary school before stopping to devote her time to raising her children.

The family moved to Livonia, MI in 1967 where Corrinne started a successful career in real estate. Jim and Corrinne moved to Petoskey, MI in 1986 and she continued to work as a real estate agent before retiring in the mid-1990s.

Corrinne was an active person and had many interests, including travel, gardening, fashion, knitting, theater, bridge, and sports.

Corrinne loved her children and granddaughter and always encouraged them to pursue their dreams. She was very proud of all their accomplishments, and especially so of her granddaughter Courtney's Ph.D.

Corrinne will be cremated at Stone Funeral Home in Petoskey, MI (<https://www.stonefuneralhomeinc.com/>). A more complete obituary may be found there as well. A celebration of her life is planned for next Spring.

Condolences may be sent to the family in care of Tim Niland, 31509 West Chicago, Livonia, MI, 48150.



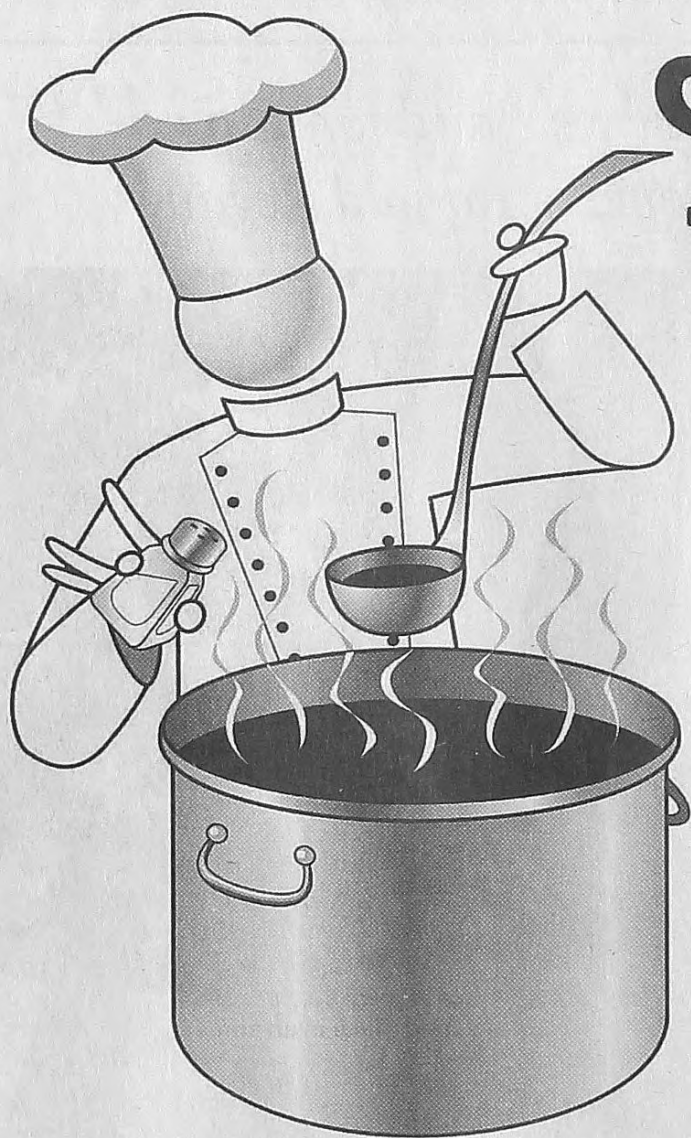
## Matthew Riga

Riga, Matthew. Age 39. October 31, 2020. Beloved husband of Kristin. Proud father of Jack and Riley. Loving son of Steven (Tracy Tener) and Debra. Dear brother of Elizabeth Riga (Gabriel Bedoya) and Joshua Riga. Uncle of Luke Bedoya, Elle Bedoya, Liv Bedoya, Gracelyn Riga, Scarlett Riga and Joshua Riga. Services were held. Memorial contributions appreciated to the LUNgevity Foundation, please visit [lungevity.org](http://lungevity.org). Share a memory at [SullivanFuneralDirectors.com](http://SullivanFuneralDirectors.com)



Perhaps they are not stars in the sky, but rather openings where our loved ones shine down to let us know they are happy.

-Inuit saying



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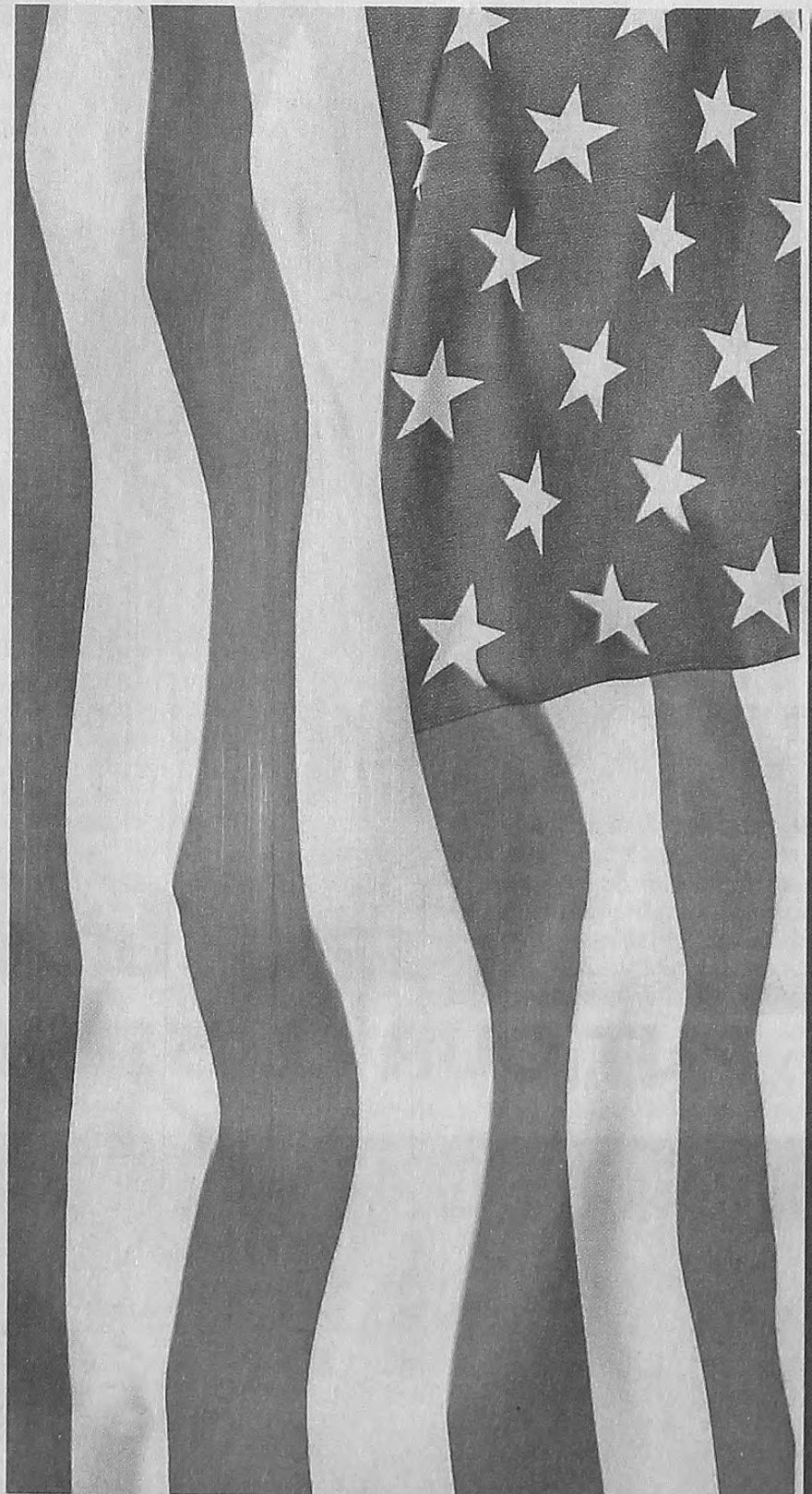
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# SPORTS

FOOTBALL TEN YEARS AGO



## PLYMOUTH'S ENCHANTED RUN

Players reflect on magic, triumphs, tragedy since

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Ten years after Plymouth High School's football team engineered an improbable run to the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Division 1 championship game, many members of that squad still refer to the month-long stretch in the fall of 2010 as the most magical time of their lives.

Following a solid 7-2 regular season, post-season expectations were modest for the Wildcats, who kick-started the playoffs with a 27-7 victory over 6-3 Saline.

The next week, the fuse to the magic bomb was lit.

Just 28 days after suffering a 36-0 thrashing to Canton (the Chiefs had outscored the Wildcats 125-24 during their previous three meetings), Plymouth somehow pulled off a 17-7 upset, propelling the seven-year-old program into a regional final game against No. 1-ranked Detroit Catholic Central.

See PLYMOUTH, Page 2B



Brennen Beyer, who would go on to play football for the University of Michigan and the Baltimore Ravens, rejoices following his game-winning touchdown reception against Rockford in a MHSAA Division 1 semifinal Nov. 19, 2010.

TOP: The Plymouth football team celebrates its 2010 regional championship win over Detroit Catholic Central.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY REBECCA MINCH

VOLLEYBALL DISTRICT PLAYOFFS

## Short-handed John Glenn falls to Ypsilanti Lincoln in first round

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Mike Dest knew he was coming into the first round of district play short-handed.

Coming off a season in which he led John Glenn volleyball to six wins in seven games against Kensington Lakes Activities Association East opponents, finishing in first place in the division, the Rockets head coach came into the first round without senior Jessica Florn.

Florn does everything for John Glenn. Dest describes her as one of the main offensive weapons at outside hitter and the team's top defender, used also as a setter.

"It was hard to replace her," Dest said.

Without Dorn and with libero Kennedy Parker playing with a twisted ankle, John Glenn suffered the District 18 first-round upset, falling Tuesday to Ypsilanti Lincoln in straight sets, 25-19, 25-19, 25-20.

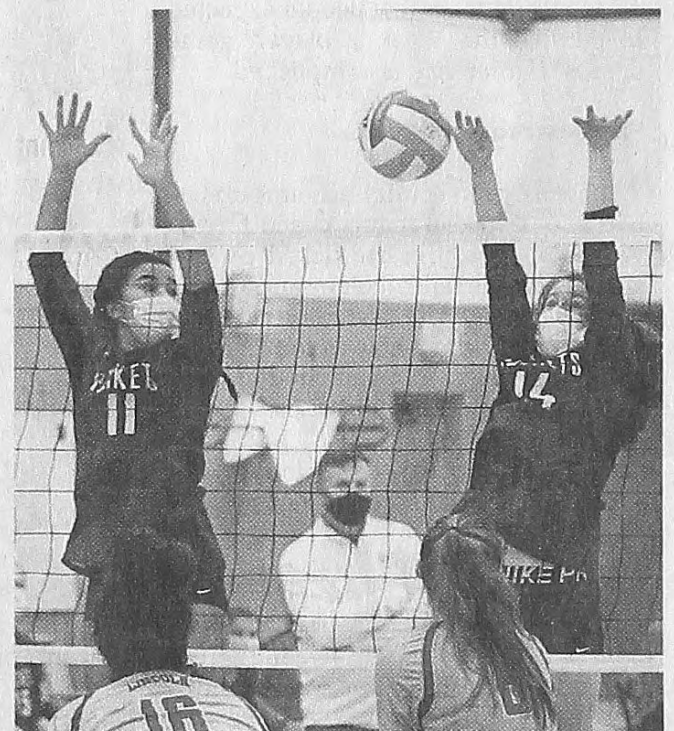
"We had kids that had to play out of position. That just hurt us," Dest said. "Once you lose your best all-around player, that puts us in a little bit of a spot. ... It just changed our whole rotation.

"No excuse. We still had the kids out on the floor. We just struggled today with new people in new positions."

The discomfort for John Glenn was highlighted from the start.

After amounting to a quick 2-1 lead in the first set, the Railsplitters went on a run, scoring 16 of the next 21

See JOHN GLENN, Page 3B



John Glenn's Kaia Tolu, left, and Madison Inman team up to try to stop a spike at the net Tuesday against Ypsilanti Lincoln. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

FOOTBALL DISTRICT PLAYOFFS

## Northville too much for Salem in 1st round

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The season that nearly wasn't is turning out pretty sweet for Northville's football team.

On Oct. 30, in its first playoff game since 2016, the host Mustangs raced past Salem, 37-14, to improve to 5-2 and earn a berth in this weekend's Division 1 district semifinal clash against Belleville, the No. 1-ranked team in the state.

The Michigan high school football season - like everything else in 2020 - was nearly pushed back to the spring of 2021 or canceled altogether until a last-ditch reprieve from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer allowed the game to return (with COVID-19 guidelines in place) on Sept. 18, three weeks after the originally scheduled opening day.

Most teams in Michigan played a six-week sched-

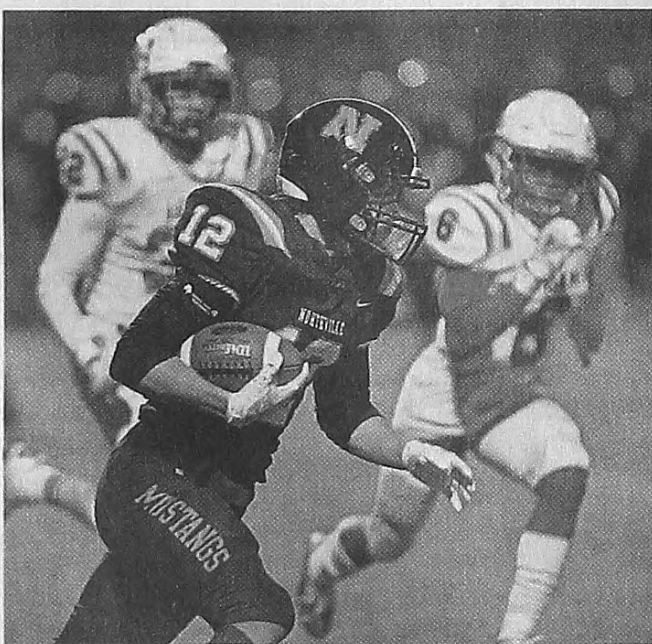
ule, and all teams with at least four games played qualified for the playoffs.

Cayden Saunders, who registered the first three-touchdown game of his career, sparked a balanced offense for the winners, who pounced on the Rocks early, 16-0, on a frigid night before Halloween.

"After what we went through earlier this year, not knowing if there'd be a season, it makes me appreciate every play, every practice, every game that much more," said Saunders, who finished with 71 yards rushing on 10 carries. "After the time off (due to the emergence of COVID-19), we came back ready to let loose. Our chemistry was great and we committed to each other."

Salem, whose season ended with a 1-6 mark, displayed long stretches of moxie, especially in the first

See NORTHVILLE, Page 3B



Northville's Parker Ladach heads upfield against Salem on Oct. 30. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Dont'e Fox, left, Faris Abraham, center, and Tyler Goble. Fox died by suicide on Jan. 6, 2017. PHOTO PROVIDED

## Plymouth

Continued from Page 1B

Fueled by three Kyle Brindza field goals – the final one a 30-yard game-winner with less than a minute to play – and an inspired defensive effort that left the host Shamrocks stymied, Plymouth escaped with a 9-7 triumph.

On, Nov. 19, the thousands of fans packed into Lansing's Archie Ross Stadium for the Wildcats' D1 semifinal game against No. 1 Rockford probably still claim they witnessed the most heart-pounding contest of their lives: a 20-17 Plymouth victory that was decided by the Wildcats' last-minute, length-of-the-field drive that was capped by a Shaun Austin-to-Brennen Beyer touchdown pass with just a few ticks left on the clock.

Plymouth's 21-13 setback to Lake Orion in the following week's championship game couldn't remove the luster off what the team few people expected to survive the Week 2 playoff game against Canton had accomplished.

### First-person accounts

Now a cybersecurity account executive and a special teams coach for the Wildcats, Kyle Brindza kicked professionally for the Detroit Lions and Tampa Bay Buccaneers after a sterling career at Notre Dame, where he was the Fighting Irish's starting place kicker in their 2013 National Championship Game loss to Alabama.

Yet that unforgettable journey in 2010 sits atop his mountain of athletic highlights.

"Players come up to me at practice now and ask me, 'Coach, why do you talk about playing for Plymouth (in 2010) more than you do playing in the NFL and for Notre Dame?'" Brindza said. "I tell them that experience was like nothing I've ever felt. Week by week, players on that team became a true brotherhood. It was special; something few people get to live through."

Shaun Austin, the Wildcats' starting quarterback that season and a recent graduate of the University of Detroit Mercy Law School, said: "I remember that month feeling more like a movie script than real life. It probably seems dramatic, but that season likely changed the rest of my life."

Starting wide receiver Jake Morris, now a sports-performance professional for Sterling's Team Speed in Denver, agreed with many other members of the team interviewed that the experience helped fuel his life's fire.

"I learned so many different things that season that definitely have set me up for success in my professional career and personal life as well," Morris said. "I don't know if I could pick out one particular memory that sticks out more than others, but making that playoff run to the state championship is a good place to start."

Tyler Goble, a junior linebacker on that team and currently an infantry officer in the U.S. Marine Corps stationed in Monterey, California, eloquently put the significance of that triumphant autumn in perspective.

"That string of games and the selflessness displayed by the team during that period is something I still reflect on and bring up often in my time leading Marines," said Goble, who played football at Navy after graduating from Plymouth in 2012.

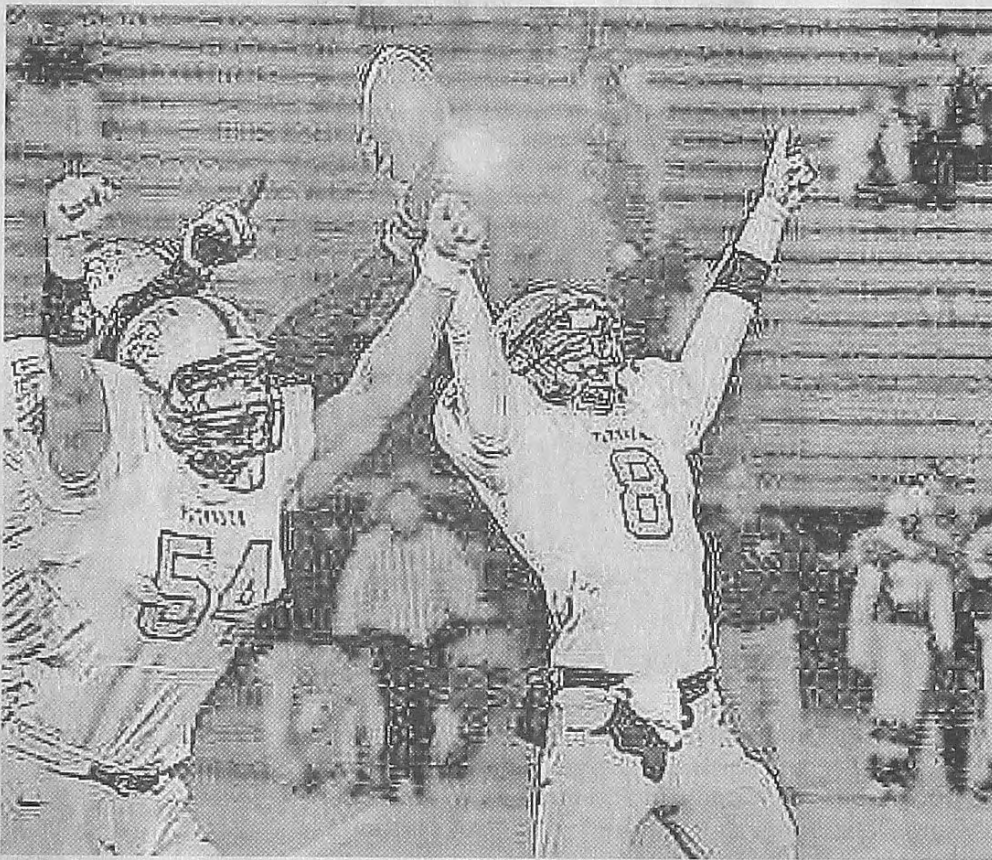
"I've been blessed to be a part of some extremely good and talented teams, but the thing that sticks out most to me about this group was how everyone sold out for the team, no one was in it for individual accolades. It was football in its purest form."

### Unspeakable tragedy

The 2010 Plymouth team's most profound loss came just over seven years after its final game, when two-way star Dont'e Fox died by suicide on Jan. 6, 2017.

Fox, who played college football for Grand Valley State University and Siena Heights University, left a legacy that has been branded on the souls of his friends and teammates.

Cody Ignagni, a starting offensive lineman for Plymouth in 2010 and currently a service writer for a power-sports dealership in Milwaukee, said Fox went out of his way to help make



Goble and Shaun Austin rejoice in the wake of Plymouth's playoff win over Canton. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE PHOTO



Goble (second row, second from left) with the Navy football team at the White House following a victory over Army. He's currently an infantry officer in the Marine Corps stationed in Monterey, Calif. PHOTO PROVIDED BY U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY

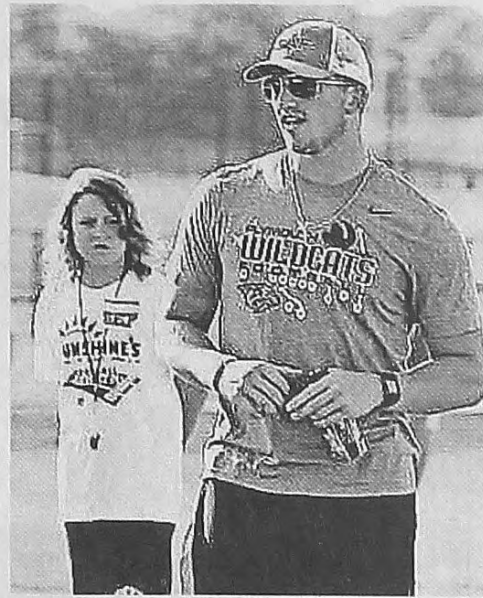
him a better player.

"Dont'e helped me through our early season by lining up against me (on his off plays) for scout defense because he wanted me to be as great as I possibly could, so I could block for him and make it even easier for him to make the plays he was always capable of making," Ignagni said. "I will always remember him telling me that he's gonna move me out of the way and get to my QB, and it made me mad as could be."

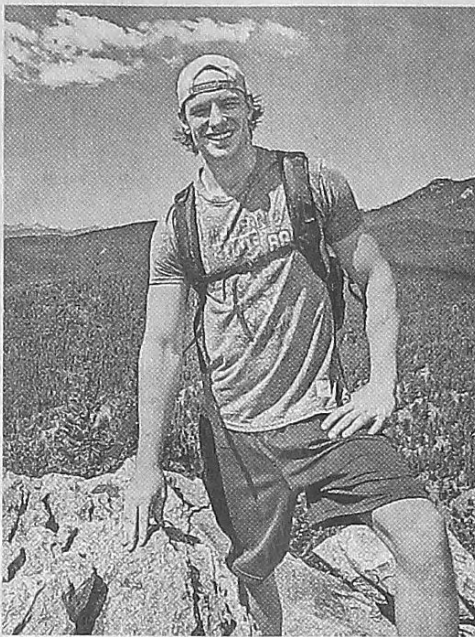
Ali Shahine, now a nurse practitioner in the cardiology department at Scripps Health in San Diego, said he'll remember Fox as long as he lives.



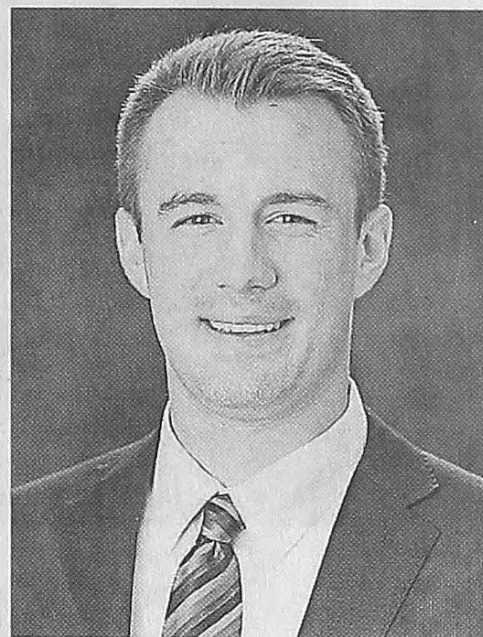
Ali Shahine works as work as a nurse practitioner at Scripps Health in San Diego. PHOTO PROVIDED BY ALI SHAHINE



Kyle Brindza teaches the mechanics of kicking in addition to his full-time job. PHOTO PROVIDED BY KYLE BRINDZA



Jake Morris, a clutch receiver then, said he still lives by the 2010 team's slogan. PHOTO PROVIDED BY JAKE MORRIS



Starting QB Shaun Austin recently graduated from law school. PROVIDED

filled with people that it was standing room only," Brindza remembered. "So many people loved Dont'e, which was reflected by the crowd that day.

"Dont'e was always the life of the party, always smiling. That's what made his death so hard to accept."

To keep Fox's memory alive, his mother, LaClara Harvey, created a safe havens program on several college campuses for students who are living with depression.

"Students will have access to a room where they will be able to relieve stress and talk to other that are battling the same feelings as they are," Harvey explained.

### Lessons learned

From the value of perseverance to the power of preparation, lessons learned from playing for the 2010 Plymouth football team have become priceless, the players agreed.

"The lessons I learned from the coaches ... and countless parents and volunteers helped build the foundation for me," Goble asserted. "Some people probably think 'That was just high school football', but I don't think that those people were fortunate enough to have had an experience like the 2010 team.

"To have a group of people that truly loved and cared for each other the way we did set the example for me about how to be a man and how to overcome adversity."

"High school football taught me about dedication and hard work," Shahine added. "Nothing comes easy in life. However, if you put hard work into any of your goals, those goals can be achieved."

Morris said he still lives by the 2010 team's slogan.

"It was G.O.G.," Morris said. "That meant, Do you want to be good, or do you want to be great? Good or great? That was the question of the season. Sure, we were good before, but we wanted to be great and that took another whole level of focus, energy, and attention to detail on a daily basis that we didn't have just one year prior.

"That taught me so much about the way that I train the athletes I work with today and how I live my life on a daily basis, outside of work."

### Everlasting bond

A decade's worth of separation hasn't deteriorated the Wildcats' brotherhood.

"I still have great friends from that team who I see and talk to often, and that season comes up in conversation from time to time," said Austin, who earned a varsity letter while playing for the University of Michigan football team during his post-Plymouth days.

Ignagni may have put it best. "Even though we grow apart, we will forever be connected," he said.

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

## BASEBALL

# Trammell thinks Hinch can 'fast forward' rebuild

New Tigers manager helped rush progress in Astros tenure

Evan Petzold

Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Alan Trammell doesn't want to talk about AJ Hinch as a member of the 2003 Tigers. That's because Hinch only played 27 games in Trammell's first year as a manager. And that was 17 years ago.

But now that Hinch is back in the organization, as the Tigers' new manager, Trammell, a Baseball Hall of Famer and a special assistant to general manager Al Avila, is a shoulder to lean on.

"The one thing that stands out is he's sharp," Trammell told the Free Press on Monday. "There's no question about it. The years of experience and being a winner, in my estimation, is why he's here."

Trammell is one of many keys being utilized to help lead the Tigers back to postseason contention. He is training top prospects Spencer Torkelson and Riley Greene, among others, to prepare them for the building phase Avila preached to Hinch before the hire was made Friday.

"We do have some guys," Trammell said. "They're not quite ready yet. But maybe next year, maybe they will (be ready). Maybe we can fast forward this (with Hinch). We're hoping that he can be the guy to help that direction and those guys develop a little bit quicker."

Trammell — who played for the Tigers from 1977 to 1996 and managed them from 2003 to 2005 — was included in the interview process for numerous candidates. The final decision came down to Avila and owner Christopher Ilitch, but Trammell listened in and asked questions with the organization's prospects in mind.

Hinch checked all the boxes, despite his role in the 2017 Astros cheating scandal. That year, the Astros won the World Series.



Alan Trammell, shown working with Spencer Torkelson in July, says the Detroit Tigers' efforts at rebuilding are similar to what the Houston Astros experienced. JUNFU HAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

## Preparing Hinch's crew

As a special assistant, Trammell spends most of his time developing prospects. Until recently, he was in Lakeland, Florida, for the instructional league with a 49-player roster. He also was influential in summer camp this July and at the alternate training site in Toledo in August and September.

"The development of our kids is going to hurt us, at least initially, probably more than some — I just want to make sure people understand that — because there were no minor leagues," Trammell said. "We're not the only ones. But there are also groups of teams further ahead at the major-league level."

The future of the franchise is anchored by four pitching prospects: right-handers Casey Mize, Matt Manning and Alex Faedo and left-hander Tarrick Skubal. Likewise, Torkelson, a third baseman, and Greene, an outfielder, are expected to take on primary roles during the Hinch era.

To make up for the minors getting canceled, Mize and Skubal were pulled up to the majors in August. Torkelson and Greene went to the alternate training site after summer camp and are now competing in instructional league games and intrasquad scrimmages.

"The two guys that really stand out are Riley and Tork," Trammell said. "Others have done well, but they have



Detroit Tigers manager AJ Hinch, center, holds up a Tigers jersey after being hired to replace Ron Gardenhire on Oct. 30. To his left is Tigers chairman and CEO Christopher Ilitch and to his right is general manager Al Avila. PHOTO PROVIDED BY ILITCH COMPANIES

been at the forefront of that. Like to just say, 'Hey, let's let them go,' but both of them haven't got enough (experience)."

Torkelson was the No. 1 pick this year, and while Greene, the No. 5 pick in 2019, put on a show in summer camp, he only has 57 games of minor league experience.

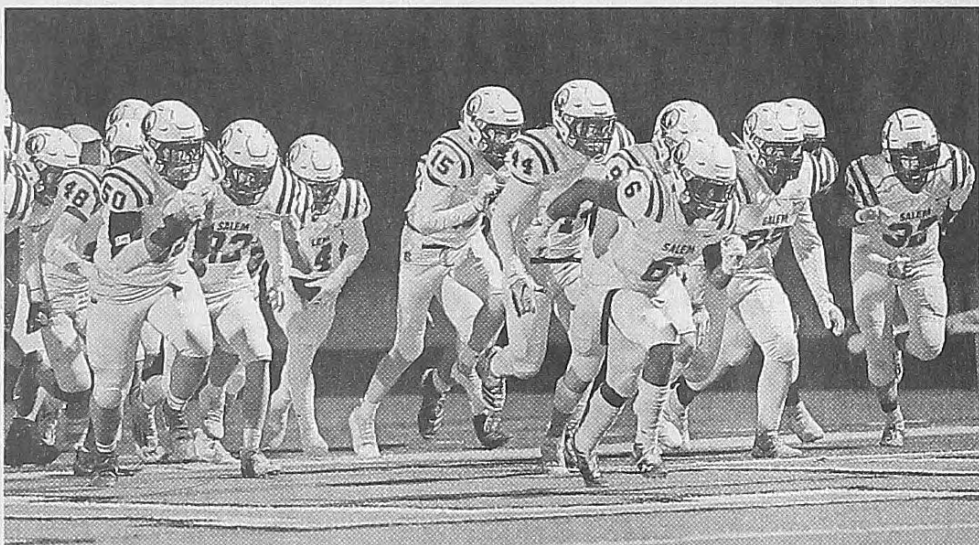
The Tigers are banking on Hinch to help Torkelson, Greene and the pitching prospects adjust to the major leagues. Ideally, that happens sooner than later. But it's Trammell's job, along with the player development staff, to teach the fundamentals needed to fill the roles that Jose Altuve, or Carlos Correa, or George Springer, or Alex Bregman held while making the Astros a perennial contender in five years under Hinch.

At the time of Hinch's arrival, they were still developing: Correa was 20, and Altuve and Springer were 25. One year later, Bregman joined them as a 22-year-old. And the next year, amid the sign-stealing plot, the Astros were champions.

"How close are we similarity wise? Eh, it's close. It's similar," Trammell said. "We're rebuilding, not starting from scratch like we were a few years ago. We've made some progress. He was a big part of that (in Houston), and their growth."

"Fast forward to us, we think that we have somebody that can kind of mold that group together."

Evan Petzold is a sports reporting intern at the Detroit Free Press. Contact him at [epetzold@freepress.com](mailto:epetzold@freepress.com) or follow him on Twitter at [@EvanPetzold](https://twitter.com/EvanPetzold).



Salem takes the field against Northville. The Rocks' season ended with a 1-6 record. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Northville

Continued from Page 1B

half when it cut its early deficit to 16-6 on a 9-yard touchdown scamper by Jeremiah Thomas with 1:35 remaining in the first half.

An inability to sustain momentum proved to be the Rocks' undoing, however, as Northville countered with a touchdown seconds before the intermission when Jack Holland and Angelo Rodriguez connected on a 22-yard scoring strike to up its lead to 23-6 (following Anna Kasapis' extra point).

"Our offense did a tremendous job of answering their touchdown with that two-minute offense drive," said Northville head coach Matt Ladach. "I was really happy for Angelo. He played on JV most of this season, so for him to be able to score a touchdown in a big situation for us was outstanding."

The Mustangs put the game out of reach with touchdowns on its first two second-half possessions: the first coming on a 6-yard run by Saunders followed by a 10-yard strike from Holland to Grady Zoroya, who went horizontal in the corner of the end zone to secure the winners' final TD.

Salem's final points came on a 13-yard TD from Ty Wagner, who churned into the end zone for the ensuing two-point conversion.

The Rocks' final touchdown drive was highlighted by a 28-yard pass play from quarterback Garrett Cygan to John Delaney and a 33-yard connection from Cygan to Thomas.

Holland went 15-for-21 for 204 yards while Cygan completed 5-of-11 passes for 88 yards.

Northville's defense was spearheaded by junior Kam Kuban, who recorded five solo tackles, four assists and three sacks in his first start of the season. Parker Ladach and Tyler Ross all played well for the Mustangs' defense.

Zoroya and Jack Bugar combined for nine receptions for the Mustangs, five of whom hauled in at least one pass.

Salem's defense was led by junior Gavin Bobby and senior Zach Rowland. Junior JaMarcus Rowland's interception was the game's lone turnover. Rock defensive back Nolan Chaput near-interception late in the second quarter had pick-six written all over it as the senior had nothing but green turf in front of him.

The Mustangs respect, but do not fear, unbeaten Belleville, which pummeled Plymouth, 47-3, on Oct. 30.

"Honestly, I think we have a good shot," Saunders said. "We can beat them. Our team is a different team than what it was early in the season. I think we can play with anybody right now."

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

## John Glenn

Continued from Page 1B

points, helped by key blocks from senior Leah Thomason, who also took a miscommunication set from John Glenn junior Kaia Tolu and spiked it down for a point.

Tolu tried to swing the energy back toward the Rockets, answering a spike made by Thomason with one of her own. John Glenn responded with a 10-3 run, cutting Lincoln's lead down to four. But the Railsplitters scored the final three points, book-ended with a kill from junior Paige Cunningham for the set victory.

Early in the second set, though, momentum seemingly shifted toward the Rockets.

Tolu found outside hitter Lauryn Hardy for the score to start the set, igniting a 4-1 run that ended with a Hardy kill on a return from Lincoln.

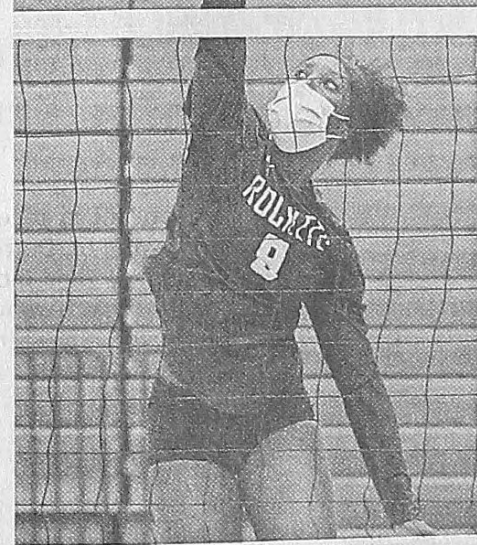
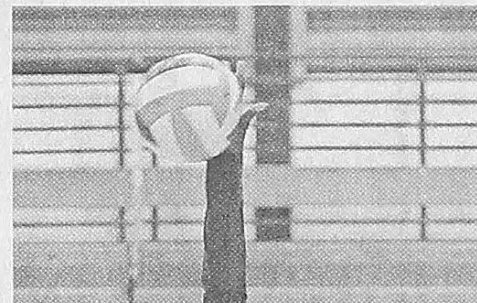
John Glenn held on, amounting to a five-point lead. But, starting with a set from junior Jady Jones and a kill by junior Gabrielle Gaston, Lincoln regained control. The Railsplitters, who finished tied for fourth place in the South Eastern Conference White division, scored 16 of the final 21 points to take home the six-point second set victory.

"Our number one battle has always been against ourselves," Lincoln head volleyball coach Cori Crocker said. "I think that we have been fighting all season against ourselves and we are finally starting to figure it out. Our competitive level, everything that we have been working towards all season is starting to peak at the perfect time."

That competitive level continued in the third and deciding set. Lincoln continued to take advantage of holes in the John Glenn defense between the front and the middle lines, flipping a 10-7 deficit to a 20-15 lead, secured with an ace by Thomason.

The Railsplitters secured three of the final five points to secure the sweep, ending a game in which Dest said the home team did not make a lot of mistakes.

"Our subs are young and just weren't ready," Dest said. "It happens though. We just didn't play a good game."



John Glenn's Lauryn Hardy goes above the net to spike the ball Tuesday. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

No matter the lineup, Tolu had one goal in mind heading into the first game of the postseason: let Florn see the floor again.

She wanted to extend the season for all the seniors, emphasizing the amount of work they put in on the court, especially those to the left and right of her as a setter.

But more importantly, Tolu wanted to extend the season so she could play with all her friends again. The junior setter said the Rockets gave every opportunity, but fell short.

"We definitely worked a lot this year and I'm proud of how hard they actually played," Tolu said. "They left it all out on the court."

"It's a bad outcome, but the spirit was there."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at [cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com) or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter at [@ColinGay17](https://twitter.com/ColinGay17). Send game results and stats to [Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com](mailto:Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com).

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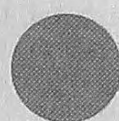
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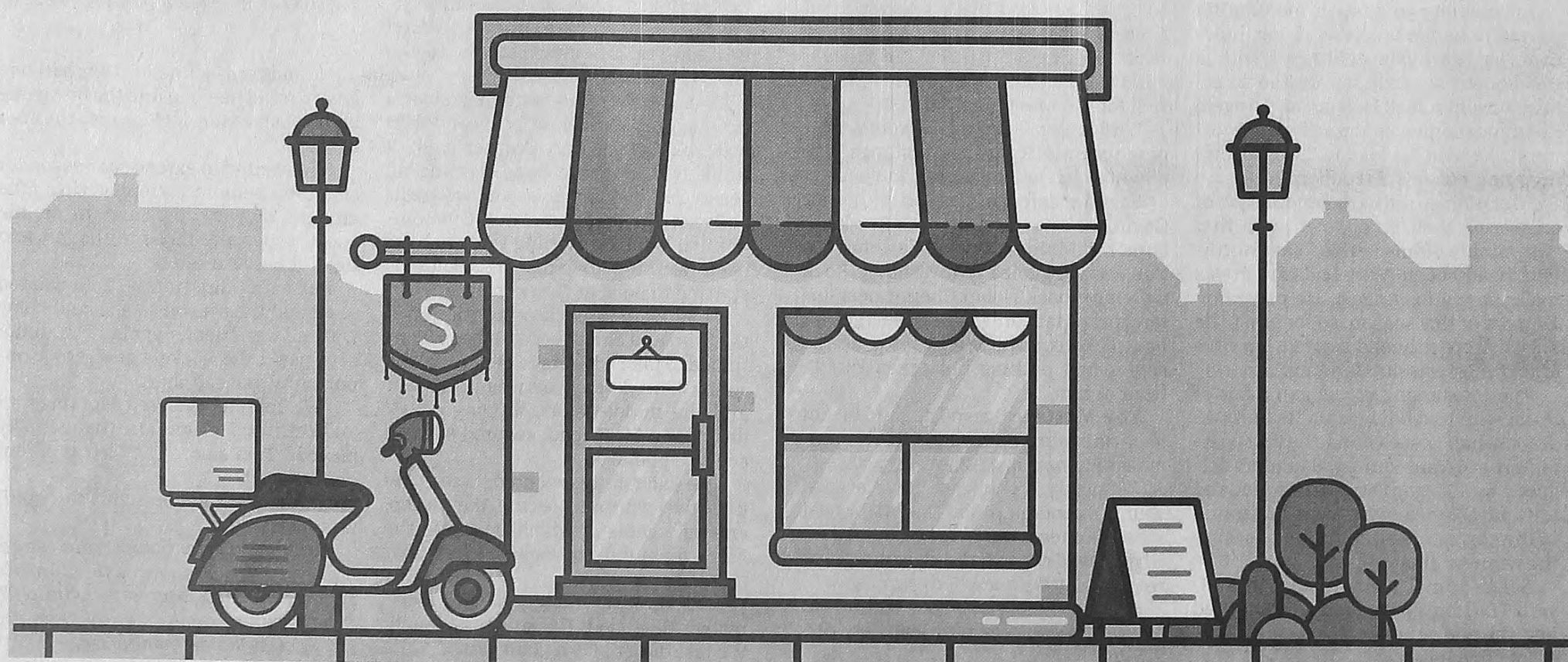
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# Great careers for veterans

By Kat Boogaard  
ZipRecruiter.com

**M**ilitary experience can lay a solid foundation for a career in your civilian life. With your teamwork, dedication and the ability to follow directions, you're a desirable candidate for many employers.

Here are some jobs that are best for veterans looking to transfer their military skills into a new career.

## 1. Security guard

Because so many veterans have been trained in everything from conflict resolution to self-defense, they're often a first choice for roles as security guards. Of course, many veterans also pursue careers in law enforcement. However, that route will require more formal training and education.

## 2. Emergency medical technician

From the fast-paced environment to the ability to help people, this sort of role checks many of the boxes that veterans — particularly those with combat medic training — might be looking to fill in a civilian career. A career as an EMT will require some additional certifications; the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians ([nremt.org/rwd/public](http://nremt.org/rwd/public)) is a good place to start, and be sure to check



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licensing requirements by state.

## 3. Computer support technician

For those who found an interest in cybersecurity and solving complex technical problems, a career as a computer support technician or an IT specialist might be a perfect fit. Veterans with solid experience could qualify for entry-level roles without any additional education or certifications.

## 4. Truck driver

As a military veteran, you're used to working long and often odd hours. You possess great mental stamina, and you have better situational awareness than the vast majority of people out

there. Whether you drive a semi across the country or work more normal hours driving and protecting an armored truck, a career in this field is an understandably popular choice among many veterans who choose to get their commercial driver's license.

## 5. Supply chain manager

Even those who may not have direct experience with logistics while in the military will still bring some knowledge to the table in regards to inventorying, managing, distributing and warehousing assets.

## 6. Project manager

You're organized, detail-oriented and know how to lead a team.

Those are all excellent qualities to have as a project manager. There are voluntary certifications to become a project manager, but many employers would be willing to consider your military history as solid enough background to get your start in this career.

## 7. Sales representative

As a military member, you need to know how to form relationships, establish trust, and provide necessary guidance and recommendations. While it might not be the first career path to come to mind, many veterans find a role in sales to be a natural segue from their experience in the military. Many entry-level positions likely won't involve any requirements beyond your military experience.

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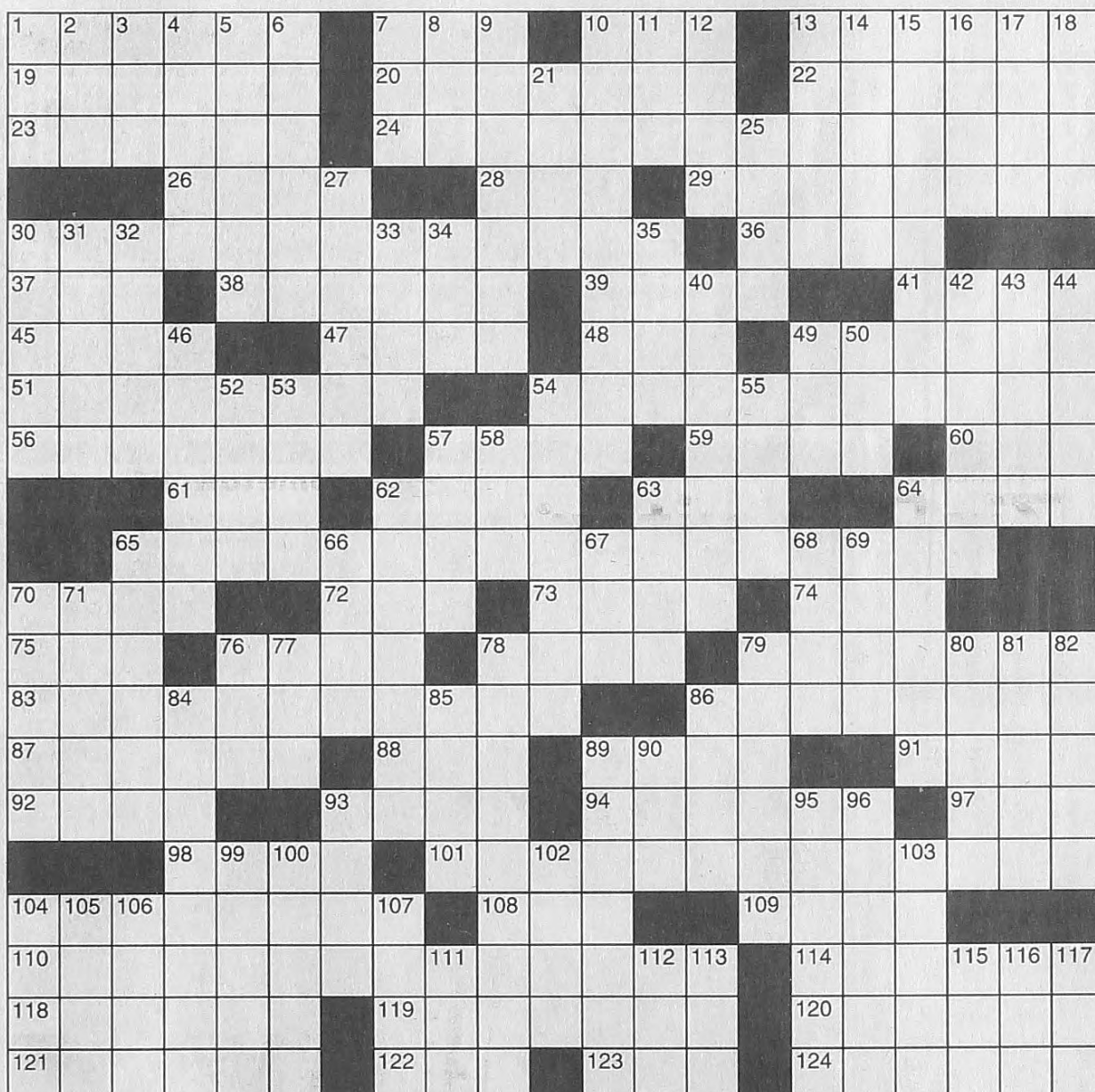
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65 Simply being declared?
70 Gradually stop nursing
72 Back rub response
73 Paper unit
74 TV camera movement
75 CIO partner
76 'Make — what you will'
78 Hobbyists' buys
79 When to call it a night
83 Deluge's waters subsiding?
86 Successfully mimics
87 Struck lightly
88 Chapel vow

DOWN

- 1 Triage pro
2 In the function of
3 Ball caller
4 Spanish island known for its nightlife
5 Country west of Colombia
6 Record one's arrival
7 Fez, for one
8 — Dhabi
9 Spill catchers
10 Berated
11 Kitty cat, e.g.
12 Hoo-has
13 Addis —, Ethiopia
14 Puts in a role
15 Golf ball brand
16 Tennis great Nastase
17 A/C opening
18 Uptight
21 Hotfooted it
25 Of no value
27 Last section
30 'Cosmos' host Carl
31 Veil fabric
32 Dead-on
33 Trait carrier
34 U-Haul unit
35 Adds lube to
40 Sugar in milk
42 Gave a ring
43 Leek relative
44 Yarns (for)
46 Nissan, once
49 Middle grade
50 Biblical beast
52 12-time papal name
53 Tending to the situation
54 Relatively small oinker, for short
55 Dryer debris
57 'Steve Jobs' star Rogen
58 Whole bunch
62 Really tidy type
63 Roe, e.g.
64 Pre-Easter
65 Shoddy car
66 Earth personified as a goddess
67 Rebel Turner
68 Mimics
69 Wee bits
70 Floats in the air
71 D sharp sound-alike
76 Lyric verse
77 'Skip ahead' abbr. on a music player
78 Result of education
79 Novelist Honoré de —
80 Tokyo-based truck maker
81 French artist Édouard
82 Letters with curves
84 Audition not closed to anyone
85 Brain product
86 Cabaret singer Edith
89 Jacuzzis and whirlpools
90 Feel poorly
93 —
95 Gabor who lived to be 99
96 Confidence
99 'Little Men' actor Jack
100 Loin cut
102 FDR's Scottie
103 Some hotels and old cars
104 Fed. food safety org.
105 Dele undoer
106 Really tired
107 Flows back
111 Its cap. is Vienna
112 Dove noise
113 Boxing stats
115 Malted quaff
116 Diver's goal
117 NYC hrs.



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

SUDOKU

Sudoku 9x9 grid with numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 in specific cells.

Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box.

ARCHITECTURE

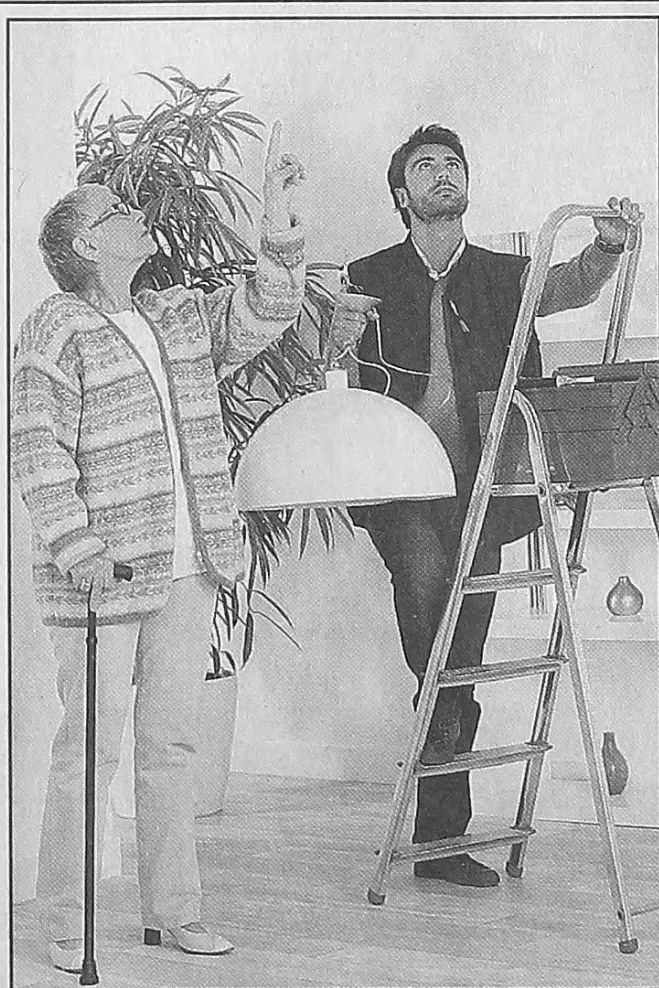
Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, even diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

Architecture word search grid containing hidden words.

- ARCHWAY
AREA
BALCONY
BEAM
BLUEPRINT
BRACING
CEILING
CHIMNEY
COLUMN
CONCRETE
CORNERSTONE
CORNICE
DADO
DOME
DOOR
DORMER
EAVES
FANLIGHT
FINIAL
FOUNDATIONS
FRAMEWORK
HALL
JAMB
JOIST
LINTEL
MASONRY
MORTAR
PARAPET
PASSAGEWAY
PLAN
PLASTER
PURLIN
PYLON
RAFTER
RAMP
ROOMS
SCOTIA
SILL
SITE
SKYLIGHT
STAIRS
STEP
STOREY
TIMBER
VENTILATION
WALL
WEATHERBOARD
WINDOW

ANSWER KEY

Answer key grid for the Architecture word search.



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

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