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Livonia police, firefighter pensions reinstated

Susan Vela HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

To recruit and retain quality police officers, Livonia City Council is reinstating defined benefit pensions and, for further enticement, offering more flexible 12-hour shifts.

Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan said those two new elements in the latest

three-year union contract means the city is willing to invest in the community as well as its police department, which is now down by 31 officers.

She explained that the city stepped away from pensions in the 1990s because of an economic downturn that brought income and revenue losses.

Creating a new pension program for Livonia's emergency responders was

one of Brosnan's top priorities when stepping into the elected mayor's role in 2020. Approved late last year, the new 2018-21 firefighters' contract revived pensions for a department that had been down by about 10 firefighters.

Brosnan said the fire department has turned the situation around, hiring enough new employees to reach full staffing this year.

"We're going to be able add a more diversified workforce," the mayor said of the potential from adding a pension as an employment benefit.

Council agreed to the city's new 2020-2023 bargaining agreement with the Livonia Police Officers Association at its Jan. 13 meeting.

See PENSIONS, Page 8A



Aaron Costick works on intricate details for the featured ice carving at the 2019 Plymouth Ice Festival. This year's festival, scaled down due to COVID-19-related safety concerns, is slated for Feb. 12-14. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

Scaled-down Plymouth Ice Festival planned for Feb. 12-14

Ed Wright HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Despite encountering daunting obstacles like global warming (2020) and a pandemic (2021), the Plymouth Ice Festival perseveres.

A permit request for a scaled-down 2021 event set for Feb. 12-14 was approved Monday, Jan. 18, by the Plymouth City Commission, with assurances from event organizer James Gietzen that the downsized event will enable social distancing.

Gietzen, the owner of JAG Entertainment, said the 2021 blueprint calls for the placement of 60-70 single-block ice

sculptures on sidewalks throughout Plymouth. Larger, multi-block sculptures will not be allowed in order to discourage large gatherings so that the city can meet COVID-19 protocols.

"We're excited that we're able to do something," Gietzen said. "I know from watching the Plymouth DDA meetings that there are downtown Plymouth businesses that are struggling because of the pandemic and they need something like this to generate some business."

"Visitors to downtown will be able to walk around and appreciate the ice

See FESTIVAL, Page 7A

Two Redford men charged with stealing mail and IDs

Susan Vela HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Two Redford Township men apparently left a sketchy enough footprint over the past year that federal prosecutors charged them with bank fraud and mail and identity theft.

Justin Lohman, 35, and Justin Cutschaw, 34, are accused of stealing mail from more than 200 victims across more than 30 different southeast Michigan communities that encompass a significant portion of Hometown Life's readership area.

Prosecutors said in a Thursday statement the duo targeted residents of Westland, Canton, Plymouth, Novi, Northville, Livonia, Bloomfield Hills, Farmington Hills, and Redford Township.

The men allegedly altered dollar amount and the "payee" line in checks

See CHARGED, Page 7A

Canton Meijer plans small renovation

David Veselenak HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Those who order prescriptions from Meijer in Canton will be in for some changes in the future.

The superstore located at 45001 Ford Road went before the township's planning commission Jan. 4 to seek approval on an expansion to the store that would rework the drive-up pharmacy area, as well as reduce the size of the garden center to make room for it.

The proposal, which was approved unanimously by the commission, would move the drive-thru pharmacy from the north side of the building to the west side of the building, eliminating the lineup of vehicles in the front of the store. Adding the pharmacy area to this part of the store will reduce part of the garden center, though representatives said the center would continue to

See MEIJER, Page 8A



Fire destroys SMART buses in Westland

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

An ongoing electrical issue apparently sparked a Monday morning fire that damaged six SMART buses stationed outside Nankin Transit in Westland.

Westland officials reported on Facebook that the fire department received several reports that multiple buses were on fire in the 32150 Dorsey St. parking area.

The buses apparently were plugged into a block heater because of the cold and an electrical issue most likely caused the flames, agreed city officials and Nankin Transit Director Jim Ridener.

Six of the seven SMART buses outside were damaged and five of those six

were entirely wrecked, said Kelly Eggers, Westland Fire Department's fire marshal.

He said the electrical issue may have begun a few weeks ago.

No one was injured. The building did not receive damage, and services have gone uninterrupted.

Nankin Transit was slated to receive three new buses before the flames happened and those arrived later Monday, Ridener said.

He said that the transit company was making about 300 trips for seniors and the disabled before the pandemic.

These days, the buses conduct about 120 to 150 daily trips throughout Wayne, Westland, Inkster, Garden City and Canton Township.

svela@hometownlife.com



A fire destroyed buses outside Nankin Transit in Westland on Jan. 18. COURTESY OF THE CITY OF WESTLAND

Westland woman dies in garage fire

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A woman died in a Westland garage fire Sunday night, Westland Fire Marshal Kelly Eggers said.

"It's an unfortunate event," he said, adding the cause of the fire was still undetermined.

According to Eggers, the woman's son was one of the first to call 911 at about 9:45 p.m. Sunday.

Firefighters arrived at the home in the 5900 block of Dowling Avenue, near Ford and Newburgh roads, to find 60-foot flames shooting from the garage, which had a partially-fuelled vehicle inside.

Still, damage to the home was minimal, amounting to about \$85,000, and no one else was hurt.

Eggers said the deceased woman's body was found after the flames were doused.

Wayne County names new sheriff

37-year veteran Washington accused of past harassment

Omar Abdel-Baqui and John Wisely

Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Wayne County has a new sheriff.

A panel of three county officials named Wayne County Deputy Chief of Jail and Courts Raphael Washington sheriff on Friday.

Washington, who has worked in law enforcement for about 37 years, replaces former Sheriff Benny Napoleon, who died in December of complications from COVID-19.

"I'm a person who cares about the people of Wayne County, cares about the men and women who work in the Wayne County Sheriff's Office, and I'm a person who cares about the inmate population and I demand that they be treated with respect and dignity," Washington said during his interview for the position on Thursday.

Washington started out in law enforcement in 1983 with the Wayne County Sheriff's Office and went on to work at the Detroit Police Department for 24 years, rising through the ranks before returning to the Sheriff's Office, he said.

The three-official panel — composed of Prosecutor Kym Worthy, Clerk Cathy Garrett and Chief Probate Judge Freddie Burton — interviewed over a dozen candidates who applied for sheriff via Zoom Thursday and Friday.

"There will never be anyone that replaces Sheriff Benny Napoleon, but I stand ready to support who will follow in his footsteps," Garrett said Friday.

Worthy and Garrett voted to confirm Washington, while Burton abstained.

"We had so many great candidates and that made a difficult decision more difficult. And it was emotional. Sheriff Washington has big shoes to fill and I am confident that he is up to the task," Worthy said. "The selection process was a lot of work in a short time, but the upside was that it showcased the amazing talent that is Wayne County and highlights the fact that extraordinary people want to live, play, and worship here."

Prior to the appointment, news reports surfaced that Washington was accused of sexual harassment in a 2017 lawsuit by female deputies who later received an \$85,000 settlement from the county.

The first woman to file alleged Washington summoned her to his office and told her to massage his neck, which was bothering him. She rubbed his neck briefly to avoid a confrontation, according to the suit.

The suit charged that in March 2016, the female deputy showed the message to a commander in the Sheriff's Office while an employee of Worthy's office was present.

Later when she asked to receive an assignment to a court position, Washington texted her back, "As soon as I get my massage."

Another Sheriff's Office official and Washington "punished, berated and publicly humiliated" the female deputy "during preparatory meetings in retaliation for her rejecting defendant Washington's advances and saving his text messages," the suit charged.

The suit also accuses Washington of slapping a female secretary on the buttocks, using sexually explicit language in texts with another female deputy and of having a "reputation of being a womanizing man whose preys upon subordinate female employees."

Washington declined to discuss the case earlier this week with the Free Press. Later, through a county spokesperson, Washington denied knowing

that the county was sued for his conduct.

"I don't think I need to address an accusation or whatever," Washington said. "There was nothing ever found. It was unfounded. I don't know why this stuff is even of interest to anybody who has sincere thoughts and things in their mind. It's just, this is politics."

County officials didn't question Washington about the allegations during his interview Thursday.

Washington must run for election in 2022. He assumes the sheriff position immediately.

Members of the panel had asked a court to give them more time to vet the candidates, but Wayne County Circuit Judge Timothy Kenny ruled last week that state law required the appointment to be made by Friday.

Worthy said Friday that the selection process in place is not the proper way to appoint someone to run an office as important as sheriff. She said she will seek for the statute to be changed.

"It is not a humane one, in my opinion, especially when it comes to deal with somebody that has died," Worthy said.

Before the panel appointed Washington, Undersheriff Daniel Pfannes, who applied to be sheriff, worked as acting sheriff. The list of applicants also included Assad Turfe, Wayne County Executive Warren Evans' chief of staff, and William Riley III, Inkster's police chief.

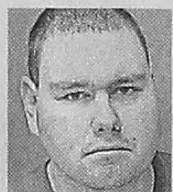
Wayne County Commission Chair Alisha Bell expressed her support for Washington Friday.

"I congratulate Sheriff Washington on his appointment and am pleased that the panel had so many well-qualified candidates to choose from in making its selection," Bell said in a statement. "I am confident Sheriff Washington will serve with honesty and integrity in upholding the office to the highest of standards, all the while having the best interests of Wayne County residents."

Canton father arraigned in child's death

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Canton Township father is accused of unintentionally shooting and killing his 8-year-old son last month.



Bennett

Nicholas Alexander Bennett, 33, was arraigned Friday on a charge of involuntary manslaughter in Plymouth's 35th District Court.

He will return to court later this month for a probable cause conference.

Wayne County prosecutors say the father was working on his rifle inside his Old Michigan Avenue home the afternoon of Dec. 15 when he fatally shot his son Jack, who was in the room.

The child died at a local hospital.

New warehouses planned for Ford plant site

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

One of the largest major empty commercial sites in western Oakland County is poised for some major redevelopment.

Plans to construct warehouse and industrial buildings at 104 acres of the former Ford Assembly Plant site off Wixom Road were reviewed Monday by the Wixom Planning Commission. The plans call for the construction of more than 1.5 million square feet of warehouse and industrial space built over several phases. The development would result in an investment of about \$120 million into the site, according to Kansas City, Missouri-based Flint Development, which is working on the project.

No tenants have been identified for use at the site, said Hunter Harris with Flint Development, but he said he expects it won't take long for the buildings to be occupied.

"We understand what needs to take place in order to have a Class A project here," he said. "We're making a major bet financially here that if we build this, they will come."

The development could result in about 750 new jobs in the first phase, he anticipated.

The planning commission unanimously recommended approval for both a preliminary site plan and rezoning request, as well as a special land use after a public hearing Jan. 11 during



Menards, At Home and Aldi are just a few of the many businesses at Wixom's Assembly Park, just south of the proposed project.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

a special meeting online. No members of the public speak.

The issues will now head to the city council for its review and decision. A final site plan with more detail of the structures, will eventually need to return to the planning commission for its final approval.

Flint Development hopes to receive the final approvals from the planning commission next month with construc-

tion beginning in spring. Harris said the plan is to have the first phase constructed and completed by the end of the year.

Additional buildings could come at a later time, but Harris said they want to gauge where the economy is at that point to determine if more demand for such buildings exists.

"We'd like to see how the market reacts to the first plan before committing to the second phase," Harris said. "We have some flexibility in that plan."

The new industrial center would be constructed north of the current retail development at the site, which includes businesses such as At Home and Menards.

The redevelopment comes more than a decade after the last vehicle rolled off the assembly line at the former plant. The assembly plant last manufactured a Ford vehicle in 2007 and the structures on the site were demolished beginning in 2012.

The impact such a development was not lost on commissioners, who peppered representatives for the project with questions regarding several issues during the two-hour meeting.

"This is probably the largest site plan that we will see in the City of Wixom maybe for the rest of the history of the City of Wixom and it's a major development," said Commissioner Ray Cousineau. "It may be considered by some to be a major deviation from what was originally thought this area could be developed."

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Livonia council approves homes at old school site

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It looks like the 11.8 acre field that once hosted Adams Elementary School in Livonia won't be empty much longer.

The land, which borders Harrison and Lyndon avenues on the city's east side, will likely become the home of 39 new single family houses. Livonia's city council approved the project, proposed by Windmill Homes and Sherr Development, at a meeting Wednesday.

"I'm very excited about this project,"

Councilman Jim Jolly said during council's Jan. 6 meeting. "I think it's one of the best projects we've had come before us in quite some time."

Developers hope to start construction on the community, which will be called Adams Park, this spring and begin preselling homes in February. The school district sold the property in June 2020, expecting it to become a residential area.

"Any of our houses will fit on any lot," said Stuart Michaelson, a partner with Adams Park Development. "So, we are

going to offer a range of plans that people can choose from, and they'll be able to pick the lot."

Michaelson said the homes will cost anywhere between \$300,000 to just over \$400,000. Buyers will be able to choose from larger upgrade homes to smaller ranch homes.

"Our experience when we've done these infill communities in Farmington Hills is you generally get younger couples with kids," he said. "However, we have a ranch plan and we may get some empty nester buyers who want a ranch."

Michaelson said the development team is "very excited" about the community and plans to include a pond and private park to go along with the homes. The land is already surrounded by residential and park land, so developers expect the new community to fit right in.

"We think there's a big market for single family homes in Livonia," Michaelson said. "It's got a good school system and it's a very well-liked community."

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com.

Another US Navy Blue Angel jet makes metro Detroit home

Retired from the line of duty, a U.S. Navy Blue Angel jet arrived at the Yankee Air Museum at the Willow Run Airport Jan. 13, where it will remain on display indefinitely.

The jet, an F/A-18C Hornet that traveled by road from Pensacola, Florida, is no stranger to metro Detroit as it was the lead aircraft for the Blue Angels during the 2017 Thunder Over Michigan Airshow.

The U.S. Navy Blue Angels are now flying F/A-18E Super Hornet jets, putting their F/A 18C jets to rest.

The Yankee Air Museum is the last museum to receive a legacy Hornet jet.

The jet will be reassembled and on display by the weekend.

The Yankee Air Museum is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$12 online and \$15 in person.



A retired U.S. Navy Blue Angel F/A-18C Hornet arrives at the Yankee Air Museum in Belleville on Wednesday.


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ALL FOR YOU

Oakland County ramps up vaccine efforts

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Novi may get a big shot in the arm when it comes to COVID-19 vaccine distribution.

The Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., could be the next destination for those seeking protection against the virus that has been identified in more than 56,000 Oakland County residents and has killed 1,489 of them in the past 10 months.

Communications Director Bill Mullan confirmed last week that the Oakland County Health Division is in talks with Suburban officials to use the event center's parking lot as a drive-thru location for administering vaccinations. He expected to reach an agreement soon.

There is one caveat: Before Suburban can be used for inoculations, the county needs to receive an adequate supply of COVID-19 vaccine doses from the state.

"Our health officer requested 5,000 doses this week, but we were sent the usual 1,950 doses," Mullan said. "If we had received 5,000 doses, it's possible we would have opened Suburban as early as this weekend."

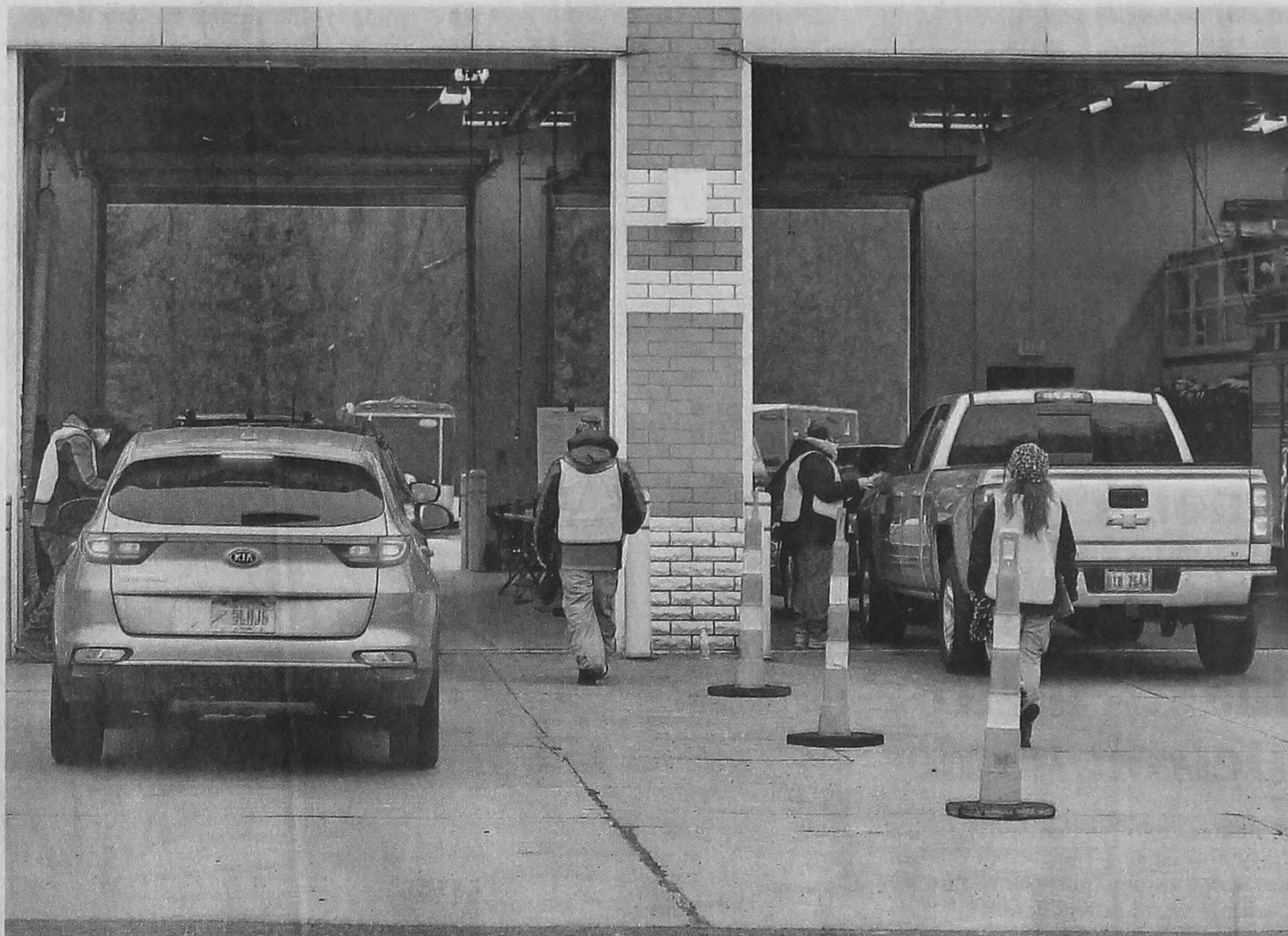
Five thousand doses were requested because the county thought that was a "reasonable request," Mullan continued, but the health division has the staff and capacity to administer 17,000 doses a week at the five drive-thru locations - mostly fire stations - it has opened across the county.

One of those is Novi Fire Station No. 4 at 49375 10 Mile, at which 280 individuals were vaccinated during a five-hour period Jan. 10, and at which Mullan expected nearly 500 more to be vaccinated by the end of the day Tuesday.

In addition to medical workers that are part of group 1A, health division staff are now also vaccinating individuals in group 1B, which includes teachers, police officers, and people 65 and older.

Vaccinations are by appointment only, but were booked up quickly last week. The state is short on supply as manufacturers of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines alike work to meet worldwide demand.

When the state receives vaccine doses from the federal government, they are distributed to county health depart-



Cars wait in line to be checked in for COVID-19 vaccinations at Novi Fire Station No. 4 on Ten Mile Road on Jan. 12.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ments, but also to hospitals and pharmacies that have contracts to administer vaccines at skilled nursing facilities.

Mullan emphasized that the Oakland County Health Division is administering shots as soon as the vaccines are received. However, if only 1,950 doses are shipped to the department per week, it may be until February before more appointments can be made as second doses of the vaccine must also be scheduled for those who have received the first, about 18 days later.

He said more than 200,000 individuals in Oakland County are 65 and older.

"We have the capacity and are ready to do more if we can get the supply," Mullan said. "Until we do, be patient

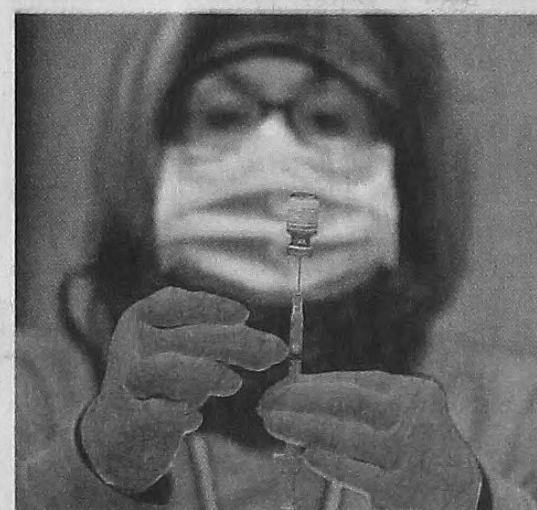
and know that we are requesting more and putting what limited supply we have into people's arms.

"It is not sitting here, we are administering as soon as we can."

Currently, county officials learn each Monday, about 24 hours before their weekly shipment, how many doses will be arriving.

Visit the newly-established Oakland County Vaccine Hub at www.oakland-countyvaccine.com to reserve a spot for when vaccines become available. Anyone unable to complete the form can call the county's upgraded health hot line at 800-848-5533.

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com.



Joan Curry prepares syringes with doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at Novi Fire Station No. 4 on Jan. 12.



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Salem coffee shop adds drive-up window

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Adding a drive-up window was never in the cards for the Flower Bar.

After opening the small building in Salem Township to sell coffee and gifts more than three years ago, everyone in the family-owned business never had conversations about adding a drive-thru.

Then COVID-19 arrived. Commuter traffic between Ann Arbor and South Lyon that would usually stop at the business at 5241 N. Territorial for a morning cup of coffee dissipated. After remaining closed for the first three months of the pandemic, the shop reopened last summer, but without that regular flow of customers.

Looking at ways to keep busy with customers coming to the shop, they decided the pandemic was reason enough to add a drive-up window.

"It was only COVID driven. We were absolutely not going to do that," said Laura Huey, one of the owners. "We really like people coming in and chatting with us and shopping. We have a lot of fun stuff in here."

The window opened Jan. 8 after the business built an extension to the front of the building. Vehicles looking to order a cup of coffee or baked good can pull up to the window from the driveway off of Pontiac Trail and place an order from



Flower Bar employee Cece Alcaraz hands a coffee to a customer waiting outside at the shop's drive-up window in Salem Township. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

their vehicle. A sign listing some of the more popular items is affixed to the building.

The setup is the best way to offer a

drive-up service. Crafting a traditional drive-thru like one would see at larger franchises just wasn't an option for the small, family-owned shop.

"We couldn't feasibly do it around the building," said Cece Alcaraz, Huey's daughter. "We weren't sure how to do this at first and make it look nice and implement it the way we wanted it."

The Flower Bar opened in 2017 after years of work went into the property. A former business run by a woman who used to live in the space and sell flowers in the Washtenaw County community, it's now a unique shop selling local flavor. In addition to coffee, baked goods and other treats, a wide range of art and other household items are for sale in shop.

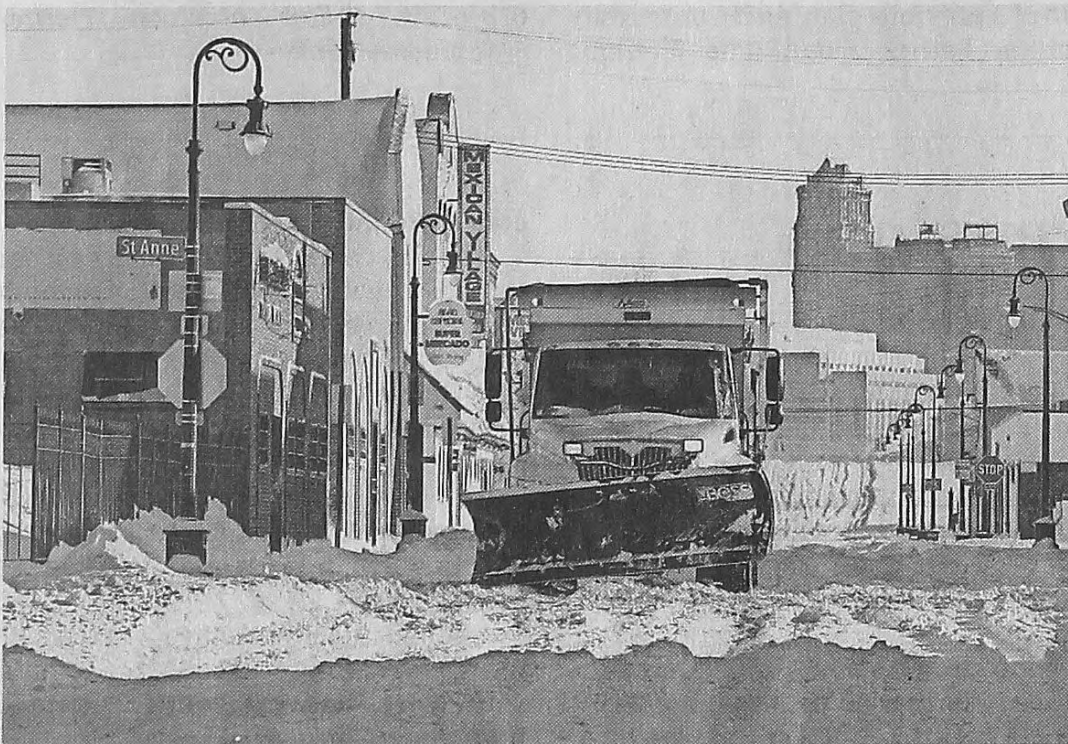
The drive-up window is perfect for those looking for food, but can be used for anything in the shop.

Alcaraz said regulars who know what's inside have pulled up since opening the window and purchased items — such as one customer last weekend who wanted a bird feeder — without entering the store.

"Then they get what they want and they don't have to come in," Huey said. "They wear their mask and we wear our mask."

The shop is open 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

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



Some MDOT snowplows are already named: Plowasaurus Rex, Sir Salts-A-Lot, Snowboni and Plowy McPlowface are among them. DETROIT FREE PRESS FILE

MDOT looking to scrape up names for its snowplows

Miriam Marini Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

With more than 250 snowplows statewide, the Michigan Department of Transportation has turned to the public for help naming them.

Some snowplows are already named, including these gems: Plowasaurus Rex, Sir Salts-A-Lot, Snowboni and Plowy McPlowface.

"I love many of the suggestions, and I can't wait to see more," MDOT Director Paul Ajegba said in a news release.

But more names are needed.

To see each snowplow's name, users can also activate an interactive snowplow tracker to find snowplows and check what the truck is doing and see road conditions.

"This idea really was driven by people who reached out to us and wanted to

know how they could name our plows like those in other places," Nick Schirripa, MDOT spokesman said. "There was so much positive energy and excitement generated so quickly for this idea, it was contagious."

Schools and community organizations are able to "adopt" a snowplow by submitting name suggestions as a group. This can provide an opportunity to learn more about winter driving, snowplowing and transportation safety, MDOT said.

Name suggestions can be submitted online. Suggestions must be G-rated and family friendly, and submissions that include famous, character or brand names cannot be used, per MDOT. Staff from each of MDOT's seven regions will be able to select their own plow names from the list.

Festival

Continued from Page 1A

sculptures, even if they're not quite as big as they're used to in normal years."

If approved, this year's event will come on the heels of the January 2020 festival that was cut short due to warmer-than-normal temperatures and rain.

Gietzen said the usual slate of events that highlight the ice festival weekend have been canceled, however, the Ply-

mouth DDA is orchestrating a list of social-distancing events.

Although downsized, the event is still attracting sponsors, Gietzen said.

"One company, Michigan First Credit Union, is sponsoring 24 ice carvings," he said.

The ice carvings will be available for viewing 24 hours a day and will remain standing after the event, weather permitting.

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

Charged

Continued from Page 1A

they stole from the mail. Then they would cash those checks or use them to purchase construction equipment and other goods that they later pawned.

They're also accused of opening credit cards in various victims' names.

Lohman is further accused of manufacturing fake IDs to bolster the fraud scheme and obtaining debit cards loaded with unemployment insurance benefits issued in the names of out-of-state persons.

"The U.S. mail is one of our most important public services and citizens need to be able to trust that sensitive financial information they send using the mail will arrive safely and securely," U.S. Attorney Matthew Schneider said. "Stealing mail from people's homes and using the information in that mail to commit identity theft is a very serious crime, and one that we will treat seriously every time."

Prosecutors filed their complaints against Lohman and Cutshaw on Jan. 12.

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

Obituaries

To place an ad, call 586-826-7171 or visit mideathnotices.com/place.php

Nicolina (Nicki) Maria-Palma Elliott

Nicolina (Nicki) Maria-Palma Elliott (nee Vitale) age 91, passed away on January 12, 2021. Dear wife of the late Ronald Elliott from Robbinsville North Carolina. Loving mother of Mary Catherine Thorsby (James), and dear grandmother to Mary Elizabeth Thorsby. Born on August 16, 1929, in Highland Park Michigan, she was the youngest of three children born to Cesidio Orando and Maria Palma (Salterelli). Dear sister to the late Jane Burke (Daniel) and the late John Vitale (Phyllis). She is survived by many nieces and nephews.

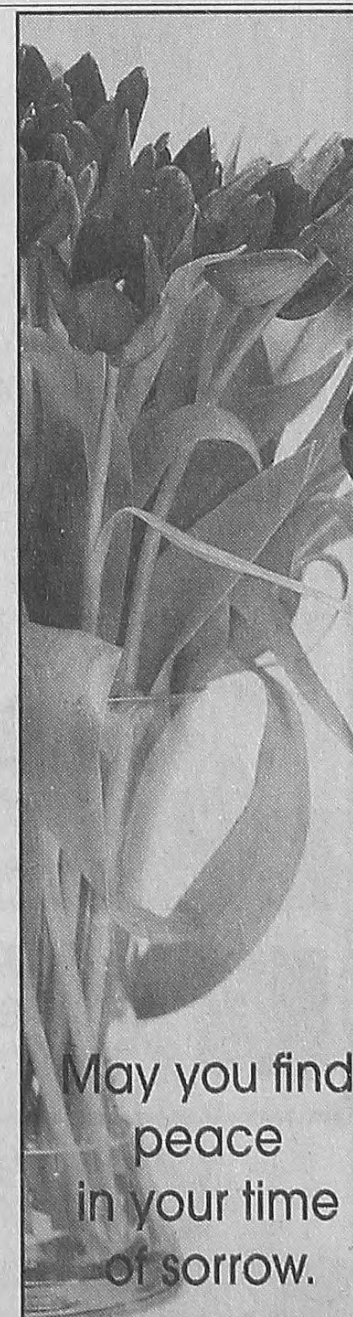


A funeral mass for Mrs. Elliott was celebrated Tuesday - January 19, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. at St. Aidan Catholic Church, Livonia, Michigan 48152. Final committal and entombment followed mass at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Capuchin Soup Kitchen, Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society, or Michigan Animal Rescue League.

Please share a memory of Nicki or condolences with her family at www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com.

Harry J Will Funeral Homes



May you find peace in your time of sorrow.

Farmington STEAM Academy informational session, lottery set

The Farmington STEAM Academy (FSA) will provide Farmington Public School District families the opportunity to apply for the 2021-2022 school year this February. The application window, informational session, and the lottery will all be held in February.

The Farmington STEAM Academy is a K-8 school. FSA is rooted in project-based learning which ignites students to become innovative thinkers and creatively solve real-world problems.

Interested families should attend the parent informational session at 7 p.m. Feb. 3 via Webex. Use the following to virtually attend the meeting: bit.ly/fsa-parentinfo.

The online lottery application window for FSA will open 9 a.m. Feb. 1, and will close 9 a.m. Feb. 8. Applications will be available on the FSA website at farmington.k12.mi.us/fsa beginning Feb. 1.

A lottery drawing will be held on Feb. 25, to fill open slots for the 2021-2022 school year.

Families who receive a lottery spot will be notified via the email listed by the applicant by March 19.

Results for applicants on the waitlist will be accessible March 19 via a link on the Farmington STEAM Academy website by using the eight-character pin created by the applicant when completing the application. Please keep a record of your number prior to submitting your application.

Due to the volume of applicants, families are asked not to phone or email FSA or FPS for the results. Please check the website via the link provided for the initial placement on the waitlist.

To learn more about FSA, visit farmington.k12.mi.us/fsa.

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Meijer

Continued from Page 1A

offer everything it currently does, though in fewer quantities.

Commissioner Dawn Zuber said from looking at the sketches of the proposed work that it still appeared that some vehicles could block the main driveway leading to the parking lot, depending on how busy the pharmacy is.

"I understand that people are still going to pull up in the front of the store and turn right into that little driveway there," she said. "It looks like there still isn't a whole lot of space for stacking cars, so they still will end up being out on the main driveway though, if I'm reading this plan correctly."

Steve Douglas, an architectural project manager representing Meijer, said the move will allow for several cars to queue without interrupting the normal flow of traffic into the store's parking lot. The changes will make it easier and safer for vehicles who utilize the drive-up window, as the current layout requires a sharp turn against the flow of traffic to enter into the pharmacy lane.

"Meijer's prototype requirement would have a minimum of five cars to be stacked behind the car that is engaged at the window itself," Douglas said. "This new arrangement on the side of the building keeps it face-to-face customer interaction, but then keeps the flow of cars and the stack on the right side of the regular traffic lane along the front of the building."

The approval of the changes by the planning commission is all that's needed, because the proposal is a modification of a previous plan, said Community Planner Patrick Sloan. The planning



The Meijer at 45001 Ford Road in Canton plans to expand its drive-through pharmacy to the store's west side in an upcoming renovation.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

commission has final say on the changes.

With the addition, the store will have less than the required number of parking spaces by township ordinance, but officials said the amount required by ordinance does not match the reality of what is truly needed.

The lot will have 795 parking spaces when ordinance calls for 826 spaces, though both township officials and Meijer representatives say the parking lot is rarely full enough to warrant needing those additional 31 spaces. Aerial photos taken over a six-year period at various times showed the parking lot nowhere near capacity.

"The parking levels are far less than the parking lot's capacity," Sloan said. "These pictures are taken on different days, different times of the day, so on days when it's Saturday, Sunday, expecting to be busy, it doesn't approach capacity."

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

Pensions

Continued from Page 1A

There was some discussion, but only Vice President Scott Bahr came close to being critical in comments. Fully-funded, employer-sponsored pensions involve employee contributions and the prospect that there will be enough assets to pay retirees in the foreseeable future.

Bahr said he's all for sweetening the total compensation package for officers if it means attracting and keeping qualified badged personnel. It's the dangers that he worries about.

"My reasons for struggling so much with the pension approach is I think it's too risky for the city and for the officers," said Bahr during the online Zoom meeting. "I think it's risky for the city because it commits our taxpayers to liabilities that will be the responsibility of future generations to meet."

"There's no such thing as a guaranteed investment. For the police in going back to a pension, we're now subjecting our first responders to the uncertainty of whether future administrations will responsibly invest that money."

Bahr conceded the contract, minus the pension issue "is a good contract" with innovative safeguards and solutions. In the end, he said the city should have a similar approach with police and firefighters.

Online budget details for the fiscal year that began Dec. 1 indicate as follows: "Expenditure increases are anticipated as a result of contractual wage increases and increases in pension and retiree healthcare contributions."

The approved budget shows city contributions for the closed defined benefit plan as \$500,000 in 2019, \$1.4 million in 2020 and \$1.9 million in 2021.

When the city nixed pensions for police and firefighters, they put in place defined contribution plans, or 401(a) plans. The online budget indicates that new police and fire contracts include a city contribution increase to 14% from 12% to those intact defined contribution plans.

The new defined benefit plan is optional for current police and fire union members and mandatory for new hires. The working budget assumes that all current police and fire employees will

convert to the new pension plan.

The increased general fund cost for the city's new 2021 contribution for both plans is projected to be \$885,000. The figures are based on preliminary numbers from early fall and could change as the budget year continues, city staffers said.

The new police contract also included raises of 2.5%, effective Dec. 1; 3%, effective Dec. 1, 2021; and 2%, effective Dec. 1, 2022.

Council members have said police were asking for a more flexible 12-hour shift week, and the contract granted that request on a "trial basis."

Patrol bureau officers, dispatchers, and police service aides will continue to work 80 hours over two weeks for a cost-neutral solution. That will mean six 12-hour shifts and one eight-hour shift during the two weeks. Non-patrol bureau officers will continue to work eight-hour days. The new schedule begins July 31.

If either party doesn't like the new shift schedule, they can push to revert to the current eight-hour work days after a year. Anthony Hall, police union president, has no such expectations since the if-clause is just standard contract language.

He said being 31 officers below full staffing levels meant difficulties arranging time off and working overtime because of the loss of manpower. There wasn't a reduction of services, just the police officers doing the additional work of unfilled positions.

Hall keeps hearing that pensions and 12-hour shifts are what both new and experienced officers want, and both sides were willing to work toward that end.

"Luckily with this contract, we were able to get both," said Hall, who noted union members ratified the contract 74-17. "It was nice having the support of the city. We both made out really well on this."

He added that several of Livonia's neighbors have pensions and 12-hour shifts.

"I definitely see an improvement," said Fire Department Deputy Chief John Unsworth, mentioning that recruiters are seeing more applications and applicants with proven abilities and experience because of the pensions.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com.

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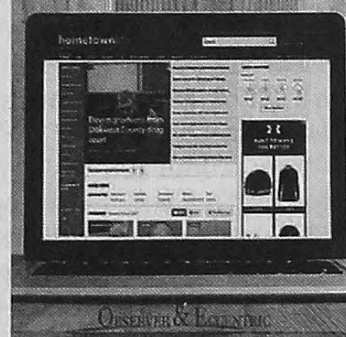
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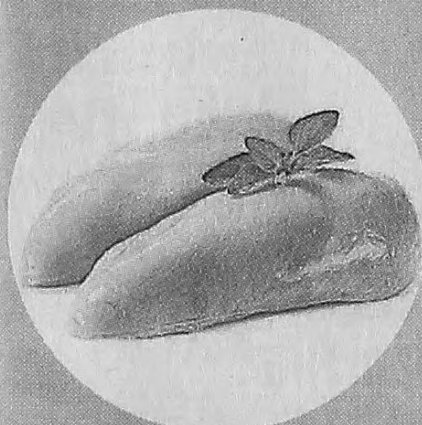
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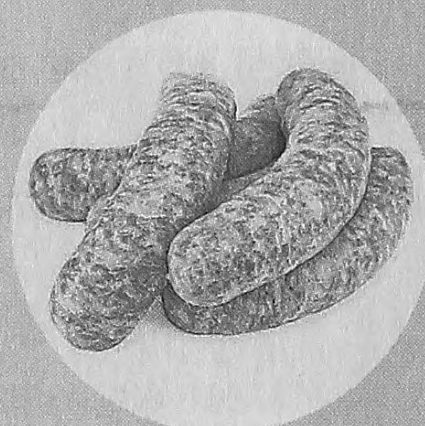
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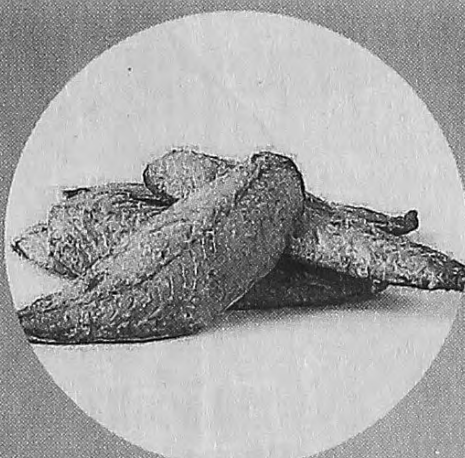


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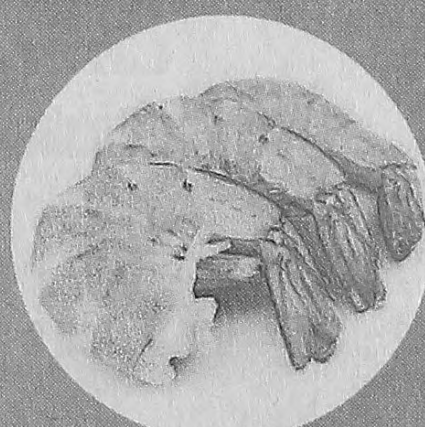


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SPORTS

MLB-sponsored Great Lakes baseball league comes to Milford

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

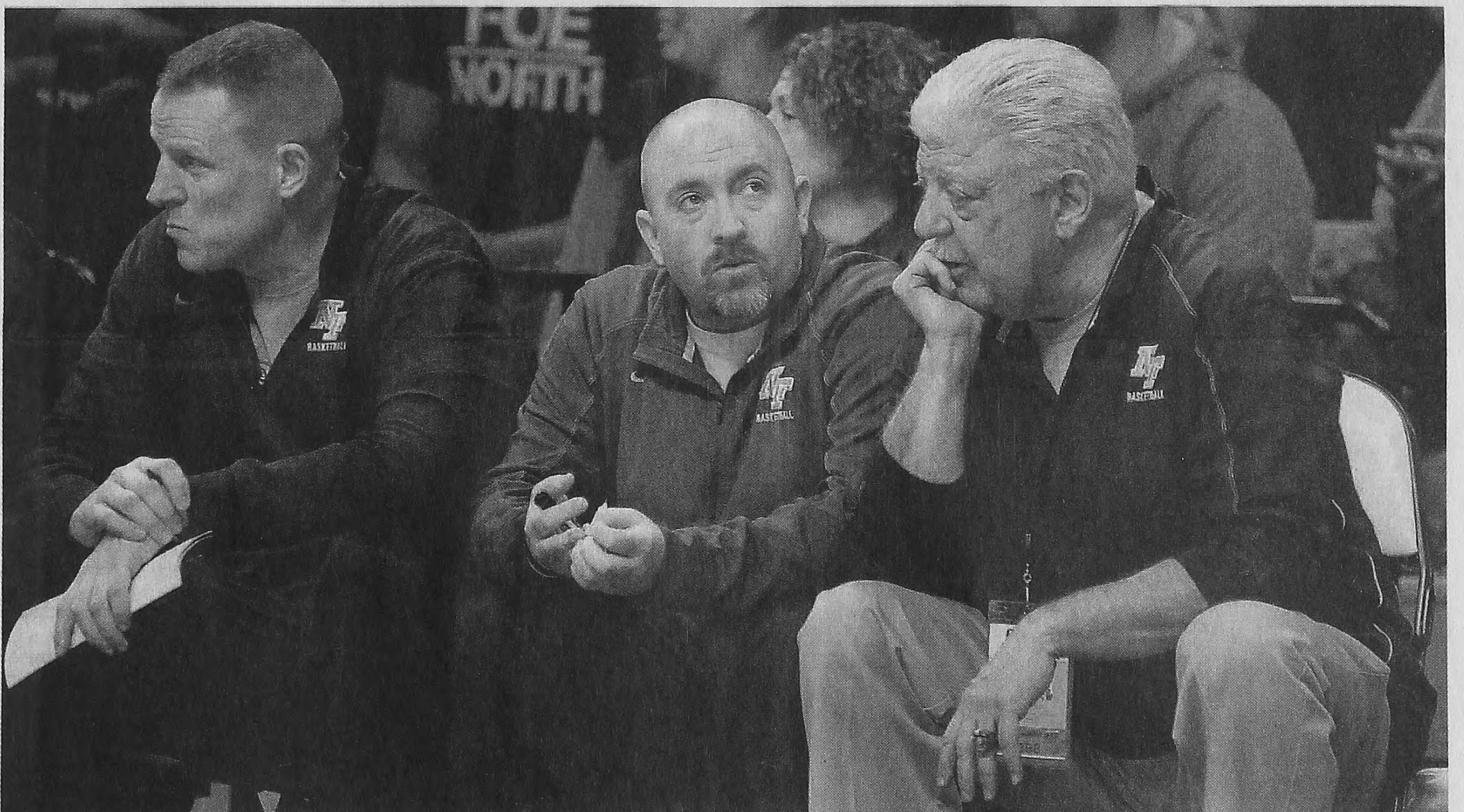
The Jet Box Baseball Club has a reputation. Built off the success of an adult baseball team started in 1969 that went on to win nine regional titles, 10 league titles and three National Amateur Baseball

Federation championships, Sterling Heights-based Jet Box prides itself on teaching and advancing the game, getting players to where they want to be: from the high school varsity locker room to a Division 1 roster. Tom Trammel knew something was still missing. His son Tyler is a left-handed pitcher

at the University of Findlay and after his first season was in search of a summer league to stay physically fresh. Many places he looked at were out of state and not easily accessible for the Michigan native. But Tom Trammel knew the talent in the metro Detroit area and made it his mission to give college-age baseball

players a place to play in the summer. The Jet Box Baseball Club combines its reputation with the reputation of the Great Lakes Summer Collegiate League, one of five summer baseball leagues sponsored by Major League Baseball. "When I call the college coaches and I

See BASEBALL, Page 3B



"The double standard right now is unfathomable," North Farmington basketball coach Todd Negoshian, center, said of the MHSAA's decision to postpone the season. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

Waiting game continues

Latest postponement of season from MHSAA leaves some winter sports cold

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Northville basketball team knew its season was postponed yet again when the players arrived at their afternoon outdoor conditioning session. Northville head coach Todd Sander addressed it briefly to the group as a

whole at the beginning of the session and then pulled his seniors aside to tell him what he knew: they could practice indoors, but socially distanced while wearing masks, and that its competition schedule was pushed back until at least Feb. 1. The group of seniors had been through this before, having their junior

season canceled March 12 before the Mustangs' were to face Canton in the district final. Now, Sander saw the continued mix of anger, disappointment and frustration among them. "How many times can you tell kids to stay positive?" Sander said. "We keep dangling these dates in front of them and then we get up to these dates, and

then it changes again. They're upset. They're disappointed. "They just want to play." While non-contact winter sports, such as girls gymnastics, bowling and boys swimming has the opportunity to start its season this month, basketball,

See WAITING, Page 2B

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High school basketball, hockey, wrestling halted with latest state order

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and state officials announced that some non-contact sports would be permitted in the latest order Jan. 13, but said that high school winter contact sports would have to wait to return to competition.

Basketball, competitive cheer, ice hockey and wrestling are considered "contact" sports and may begin non-contact practices Jan. 16, per the Michigan High School Athletic Association, with plans to begin the competition schedule Feb. 1.

With the competition schedule being pushed back, the MHSAA plans to adjust its tournament dates for these four sports, which will be announced later this week.

Girls gymnastics, bowling and swimming are considered "non-contact" sports, and could begin.

"We are glad to have three more sports join skiing in returning to full activity, but we understand the disappointment and frustration on the part of our athletes and coaches whose sports are not yet able to restart completely," MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said in a statement. "We will continue to



The Northville varsity basketball team stands for the national anthem before a game against Plymouth High. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

adjust schedules to provide all of our winter teams as substantial an experience this season as possible, as part of our greater plan this school year to play all three seasons to conclusion.

"We have shown with our remaining fall sports this month that our schools can participate safely, and we're confident teams will continue to take all the

appropriate precautions as we jump back into indoor Winter activities."

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services director Robert Gordon said that indoor athletes were allowed, but only with distancing and masking. Indoor practices may still happen, but competitions for contact sports, such as wrestling, basketball and hockey, are

not permitted.

"Caution has worked for us in Michigan, and we are staying with our cautious approach today," Gordon said in Wednesday's press conference.

The MHSAA said spring sport teams may be allowed to hold four-player practices and conditioning sessions Jan. 16, but with only non-contact activities.



Salem High School hockey players watch from the bench during a game against Livonia Stevenson. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

MHSAA adjusts winter sports schedules

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After the latest order by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services limiting winter "contact" sports to non-contact activities as of Saturday, but no competition, the Michigan High School Athletic Association released its adjusted dates for basketball, cheer, hockey and wrestling, pushing the finals for each sport into late March and early April.

Spring sports will continue with its original dates, with practices slated to begin March 15. The updated schedule does carry through school's spring breaks.

If permitted by the MDHHS, boys and girls basketball contact practices may begin Feb. 1, with first competitions scheduled for Feb. 4. Cheer and wrestling will begin practices Feb. 1, with competitions starting Feb. 8. Hockey's first practice and first competition date are both Feb. 1.

Michigan state officials announced Jan. 13 that non-professional "contact" sports would still be postponed through the latest order, slated to end Jan. 31.

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

Updated postseason schedule Boys basketball

Districts: March 23, 25, 27
Regionals: March 30, April 1
Quarterfinals: April 6
Semifinals: April 8
Finals: April 10

Girls basketball

Districts: March 22, 24, 26
Regionals: March 29, 31
Quarterfinals: April 5
Semifinals: April 7
Finals: April 9

Hockey

Regionals: March 15-20
Quarterfinals: March 23
Semifinals: March 25-26
Finals: March 27

Wrestling

Districts: March 15-20
Regionals: March 22-28
Team Finals: March 31
Individual Finals: April 2-3

Competitive cheer

Districts: March 15-20
Regionals: March 22-24
Finals: March 26-27

Waiting

Continued from Page 1B

hockey, cheerleading and wrestling teams will have to wait for a chance to compete.

According to the MHSAA, tournament dates will be pushed back to accommodate the later start. But that does not lessen the frustration.

"The double standard right now is unfathomable," North Farmington head boys basketball coach Todd Negoshian said. "Basketball has been a second-class citizen for years because of football and what they say the amount of money it brings in. Well, the MHSAA, everything right now is bad.

"You can't help but say that the way it looks from the outside looking in — this is just the way it is — they have taken care of football way more than they have ever even tried to get basketball going."

Livonia Stevenson head hockey coach David Mitchell was initially optimistic, like many coaches were. He saw the data released by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services saying 99.6% of rapid antigen COVID-19 tests taken by football, volleyball and swimming athletes came back negative.

"We were so thrilled that our student athletes in this fall sports... were taking it so seriously that we thought it would give us some optics to know that high

school student athletes can do this moving forward," Mitchell said.

Detroit Catholic Central head hockey coach Brandon Kaleniecki said he would be lying to say he was optimistic. The team advanced to the state semifinals last March before that season was canceled.

"When the news broke today, your heart sinks a little bit for those kids because if I'm excited as a grown man to get back to it, what about them?" he said. "That's got to be excruciating for these kids."

Despite the competitive schedule being pushed back at least another two weeks, teams will have an opportunity to get back onto the court, the mat or the rink, giving programs time to condition and get physically prepared for a possible season.

Livonia Franklin head boys basketball coach TJ Hurley said the postponement gives his team a chance to do what it wants to do schematically, allowing the coaching staff to teach offensive and defensive sets that they wouldn't have had time for initially with one week separating the first practice and game.

Plymouth girls basketball head coach Ryan Ballard said this was the "bright side" of what proved to be a disappointing day for his athletes: giving them a chance to develop rhythm in both shooting and ball handling.

"We have to focus on the positive of it and try and keep our kids mentally ready," Ballard said. "That's the biggest

thing for me: keep their heads in it where they are focused and want to continue to chase a championship."

Kaleniecki's message to his team with this is similar: while it wasn't what they wanted, it was a step closer to what they wanted.

"Look, this is a step," Kaleniecki said. "This isn't the step that we wanted to be at. We weren't able to take a whole step, but it's a step in the right direction."

However, with the starting and stopping, there is still a level of doubt. There is not the certainty of "we're going to have a season" anymore.

Negoshian said much of that is the MHSAA's fault with its inability to communicate through the process of COVID-19 and its effect on high school athletics.

"The way the MHSAA has handled this, to me, has just been by the seat of their pants in a dumpster fire," Negoshian said. "Like it's just continually pushing dates, publishing dates and getting people's hopes up. All that does is play with people's emotions.

"All you hear the MHSAA talk about was the mental health of people and kids. Dragging people along like that, that's not good for kids' health. It's not. It's sad, but we are going to make the best of it."

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

Novi wins five-set thriller in state quarterfinal

Colin Gay hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Trailing 10-7 in the fifth and final set of the Division 1 state quarterfinal. Novi volleyball head coach Kacy Byron called a timeout. She could sense the game was getting away from her team and in favor of the opponent: Ann Arbor Skyline.

In the huddle, she told her players to breathe and remember what got them here.

"I told them that we got here as a team from believing in each other, working hard and playing hard," Byron said. "Play our game, do what we know how to do and good things would come our way."

"And good things came our way."

Novi senior middle blocker Caleigh Robinson came out immediately and scored a point on a kill, which was quickly answered with a kill by Eagles outside hitter Ayla Dunbar.

Then the Wildcats woke up.

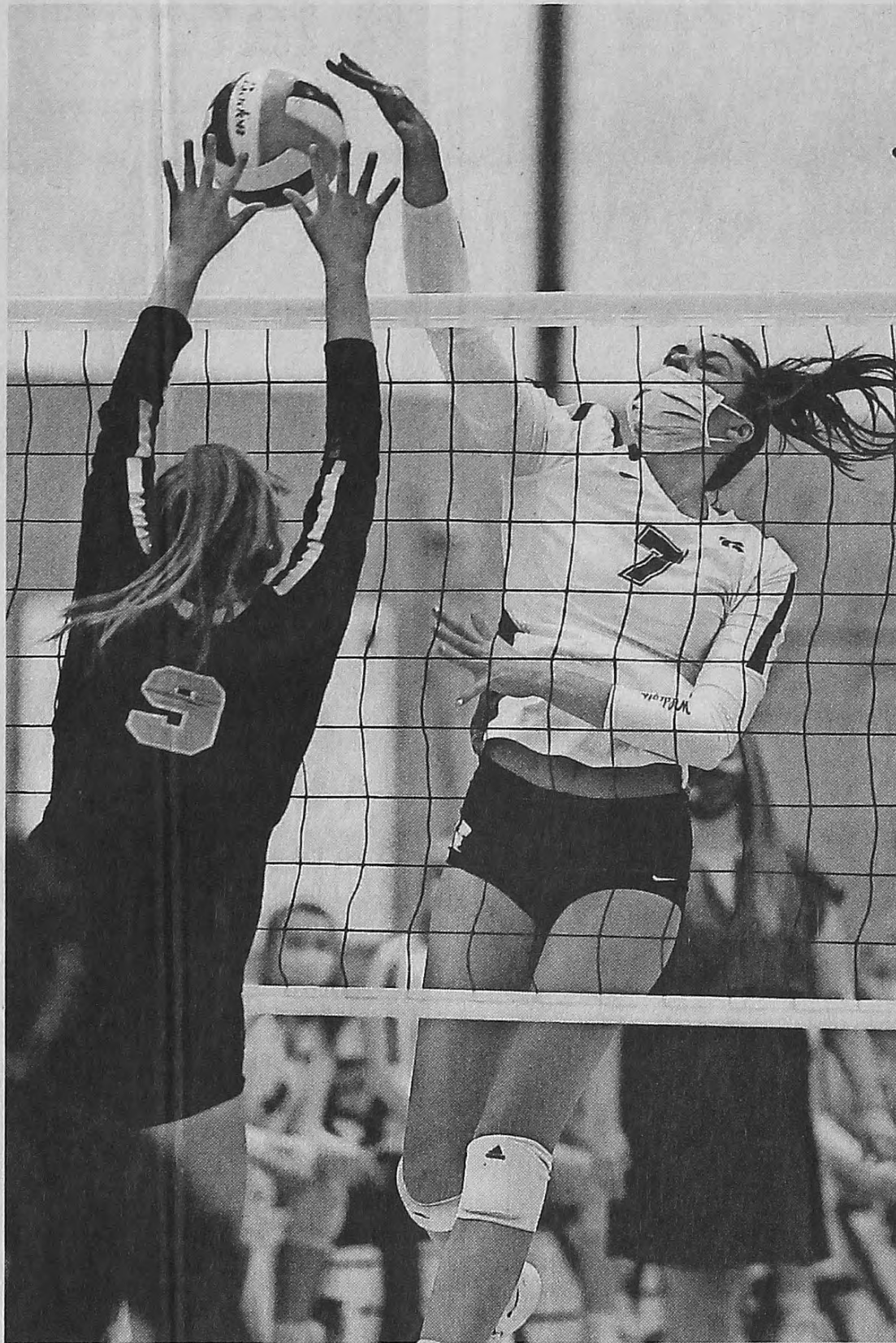
Trailing, 11-8, Robinson recorded a kill and a block, and Novi sophomore outside hitter Sarah Vellucci recorded two service aces to give the Wildcats a one-point fifth-set lead.

But the back-and-forth continued, with Skyline using its powerful outside hitter Harper Murray, who consistently tried to silence the Wildcat faithful in the Ypsilanti Lincoln gym late in the game, including the kill to give the Eagles a 17-16 lead.

However, Robinson and Vellucci stepped up, recording two kills to give Novi (29-4-1) the 18-17 advantage. Junior setter Rachel Karr put on the finishing touches, hitting a ball that grazed the left sideline to secure the 3-2 state-quarterfinal victory over Skyline (24-6) to secure a trip to Battle Creek.

With the five-set state quarterfinal win — 22-25, 29-27, 25-21, 18-25 and 19-17 — Novi was scheduled to face Lowell Friday in the Division 1 state semifinal game. (Due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, results from the semifinals and Saturday's state finals were not available in time for print. Go to hometownlife.com for the latest sports results.)

"I just can't believe it, it was so close," Vellucci said. "I honestly believed, at some point, it would be it, but we really



Novi's Caleigh Robinson, right, spikes the ball toward Skyline's Claire Davis.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

pulled together. It was the best feeling to win it that close.

"We've been waiting basically two months to finish this game. We were just like, 'We need to finish this here. This is

our game.'"

When the final point was called and the dog-pile in the middle of the volleyball court commenced, Byron was in shock. She blacked out. She knew the

chances were slim when Novi faced that one-point deficit in an elimination game.

To Byron, it was a game filled with ups and downs: She watched her team explode in the second set to a 15-6 lead, before allowing the Eagles to come back on a 21-10 run and nearly take over before securing the 29-27 second-set win. She watched her team struggle in the fourth set, putting together only one run of three points in a 25-18 set loss.

But for the head coach, Novi showed off its demeanor: not letting one big hit or big mistake deter the players from their goal.

"It just shows how immensely tough our girls are because we had some highs and we had some lows, but we never seemed rattled, we never seemed fazed," Byron said. "I think we kept doing what we need to do on our side of the net."

Throughout the 2020-21 season, Novi had built its success off its team chemistry. It's what gave them the ability to win 33-of-34 sets during Kensington Lakes Activities Association play. It's what gave them the ability to beat rival Northville in five sets in the first round of the playoffs.

However, it was something that was in question after two months out of the gym.

Returning to practices, Karr knew Novi only had a few days in the gym before its date with Skyline, so the focus was on tweaking the little things, the tendencies that the Eagles had — such as their inability to recognize short tips at the net, according to Byron.

To Karr, the one who sealed the victory for the Wildcats and ended up near the bottom of the pile in the celebration, it did not take long for Novi to get its chemistry back, something that showed up Tuesday night.

"This team, I don't know if I can put it into words," she said. "They are absolutely amazing. We all have really good chemistry. We work well together on and off the court. We have so much fun together."

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

Milford skiing off to fast start in 2020-21 season

The Milford boys ski team earned three victories in the three races it ran this week, beating Hartland, in a challenging match, West Bloomfield and Walled Lake Western.

The Mavericks beat the Eagles, 30.5-50.5, beat the Lakers, 25-55, and beat the Warriors, 20-76.

Co-captain Carson Chamberlain had a very impressive week, finishing fifth in the slalom and giant slalom. He was joined by Joe Antrim with a ninth and 15th-place finish. Rounding out the field was Jack Hannert at 11th and 45th, Max

Wilkerson, our other co-captain, finished 15th in the giant slalom and a sixth in the slalom, Peyton Chamberlain, who had a stellar first week, finished 16th and 19th, Spencer Blaz finished 30th and 25th and Ben Youngblood placed 31st and 26th.

The girls team has been spinning at a high rate of speed. Maddie Melody has placed first in each of her first five races, something head coach Mary Neighbors said he hopes he can keep up. She is being pressed by teammate Riley Watts, who finished third. While the team is

being anchored by Melody and Watts, Ellie DeYong, Makayla Woolhiser, Kiersten Tokarczyk, Emma Sayles and Bella Woolhiser have each played important supporting roles, according to the head coach.

Next week, the Mavericks will take on Orchard Lake St. Mary's and Lakeland. For the boys team, Neighbors said, this will be a great challenge and will have to bring their "A-game."

For the girls team, he said, it will be another opportunity for strive for perfection.



Milford ski team coach Marty Neighbor, right, talks to a team member on the slopes of Alpine Valley.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Baseball

Continued from Page 1B

mention the Great Lakes League, they know exactly what it is and the type of player we are looking for," Trammel, the team manager, said.

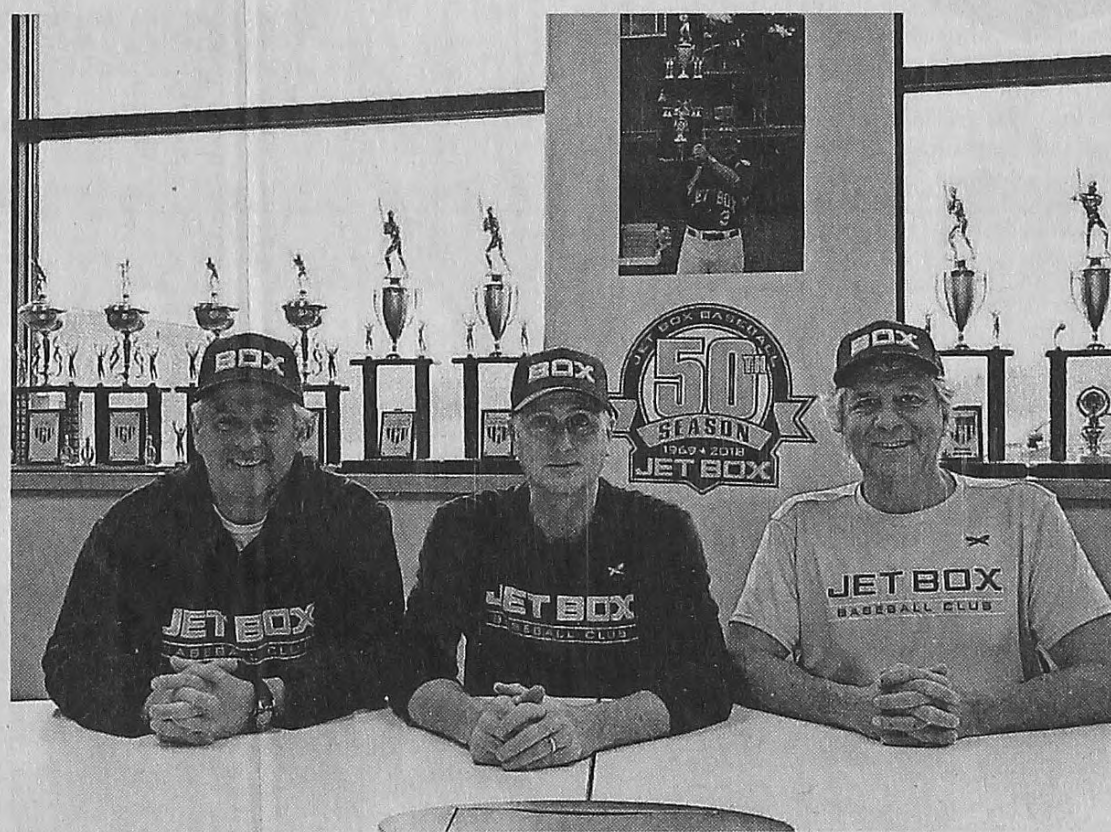
Jet Box was originally slated to join the league in summer 2022, giving Trammel and head coach Steve Herbst time to field a team, fundraise and find a permanent home baseball field. However, the Great Lakes league has put the club on a fast track to begin its first season this June and play the majority of its home games at Milford High School.

Holding the record for most career saves in Eastern Michigan baseball history, Herbst knows the importance of getting high-quality baseball reps in a controlled environment over the summer when players are away from school.

When Herbst began to build his roster, it did not take him long to find players who would fit the mold of Jet Box's first team.

"It was very easy to build that list and all of a sudden have 20, 25 kids in our immediate area that are all playing Division 1 baseball somewhere," Herbst said. "Not too many people realize how many kids that go to play baseball Division 1, Division 2 or just college baseball in general, so it's not very hard to fill that roster with local kids."

The Great Lakes Summer Collegiate League, consisting of 15 teams across Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, usually



Jet Box Baseball Club President Tom Dimambro, head coach Steve Herbst and general manager Tom Trammel will start a team in the Great Lakes Summer Collegiate League this year. COURTESY OF TOM TRAMMEL

catches the attention of first-or-second-year college baseball players from across the country, using college dorms or host families to house players in normal circumstances.

But COVID-19 has narrowed that scope prior to the start of Jet Box's first season, adding only two players from outside the state on its roster.

However, Jet Box has some talent joining the team in its first season, with

Division 1 baseball players such as Ball State right-handed sophomore pitcher Ryan Brown, Eastern Michigan sophomore catcher Ryan Lux and Miami (OH) sophomore shortstop/second baseman William Kopicki.

As a league that is directly associated with the MLB, many view it as a chance to be noticed and scouted years before they are eligible to be drafted.

"It's a very good opportunity for them

to start being seen and be on the radar screen," Herbst said. "They have to be 21 or in their junior year to be drafted by the MLB, so most of our players will be a year or two away from that. It's a great way to start getting exposure."

But the collegiate league team will not only play a major role in developing talent. It will play a role in helping younger players get to where these college players are.

Trammel said his goal for the Jet Box collegiate team is for its players to mentor younger high-school aged players in the club, teaching them despite having to navigate 42 games in 60 days.

"The younger guys want to know how to get there. They want to know what they did to get there," Trammel said. "Me, as an old guy, can tell them all they want. They want to hear it from a kid and it resonates better."

Trammel knows Jet Box has always been a staple for baseball in the midwest. Ahead of its first season in the Great Lakes Summer Collegiate League, with the talent already acquired, he feels that will remain the same for years to come.

"Steve and I go into every game expecting to win it no matter what the odds are," Trammel said. "Our goal is to go out there and compete like heck, in the end, make playoffs, do well in playoffs if not win the league."

"Will we get there? I don't know, but that's our goal."

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

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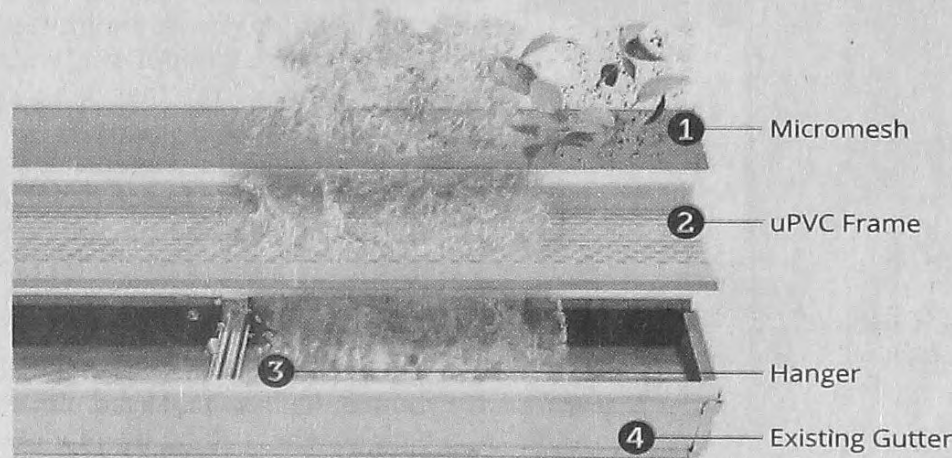
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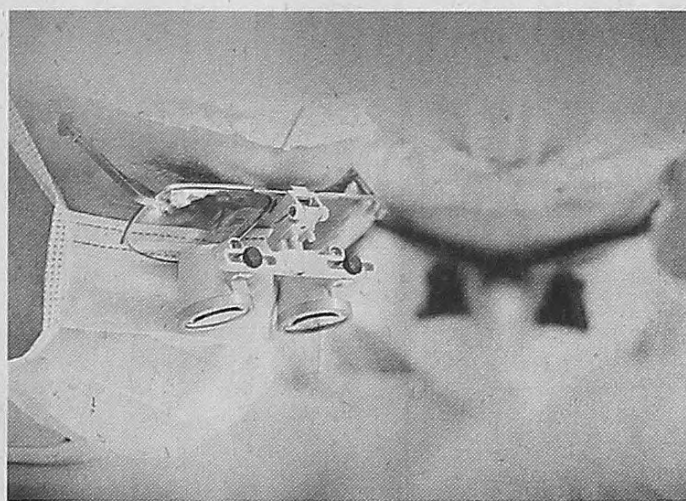
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America's best-selling sexual performance enhancer just got a lot better.

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

WHY SO MUCH EXCITEMENT?

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

They don't always work.

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

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

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

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

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

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

HOW IT WORKS

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

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

How bad is the problem?

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

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

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

MORE CLINICAL RESULTS

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

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

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

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

FREE BONUS TESTOSTERONE BOOSTER

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

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

HOW TO GET PRIMAL MAX

To secure free bottles of *Primal Max Black* and get the hot, new *Primal Max Red* formula, buyers should contact the Sears Health Hotline at 1-800-443-5454 within the next 48 hours. "It's not available in drug stores yet," says Dr. Sears. "The Hotline allows us to ship directly to the customer."

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

The Hotline will be open for the next 48 hours. After that, the phone number will be shut down to allow them to restock. Call 1-800-443-5454 to secure your limited supply of *Primal Max Red* and free bottles of *Primal Max Black*. You don't need a prescription, and those who call in the first 24 hours qualify for a significant discount. Use Promo Code NP0121PMAX194 when you call in. Lines are frequently busy, but all calls will be answered.

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Plymouth Canton Community Schools 2020 Bond SECTION 00 11 13 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for the Plymouth Canton Community Schools, 2020 Bond, **BP#EL-1 Additions and Remodeling**, consisting of:

Additions and remodeling at Eriksson, Field, Hulsing, and Dodson Elementary Schools will be received through Building Connected until **1:00 PM on Thursday, February 4th.**

- All proposals shall be submitted electronically through Building Connected: <https://app.b0ildingconnected.com/public/5ae227ade0d395000fd24541> (McCarthy and Smith Plan Room)
- For instructions on how to submit a bid please go to the following link: <https://bui.lidngconnected.zendesks.com/he/en-us/articles/360010222793-How-to-submit-yourbid-through-BuidngConnected>

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. 1:00 PM on Thursday, February 4th. Bid Opening will be publicly conducted via a Zoom meeting. Information regarding joining the Zoom meeting will be provided in Addendum #1 for all bidders interested in participating in the bid opening.

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

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 101: Earthwork/Site Utilities | 102: Asphalt Paving/ Site Concrete |
| 103: Selective Demolition | 104: Concrete Footings & Foundations |
| 105: Interior Concrete Flatwork | 106: Masonry |
| 107: Steel | 108: Carpentry / General Trades |
| 109: Roofing / Sheetmetal | 112: Caulking/ Insulation |
| 114: Aluminum Entrances / Storefront I | 115: Metal Stud I Drywall |
| Glass & Glazing | 117: Acoustical Treatments |
| 116: Hard Tile | 119: Terrazzo |
| 118: Carpet / Resilient Tile Flooring | 124: Wood Flooring |
| 120: Painting | 128: Prefabricated Casework |
| 125: Toilet Partitions | 131: Gymnasium Equipment |
| 130: Window Treatments | 140: Plumbing |
| 137: Food Service Equipment | 142: HVAC |
| 141: Fire Protection | 149: Fencing |
| 143: Electrical | |

Bidding documents prepared by **TMP Architecture Inc.** 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 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 2020 via Building Connected.

There will be a **Pre-Bid Meeting on Wednesday, January 20 at 4:30 p.m. at Eriksson Elementary School, located at 1275 N Haggerty 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.

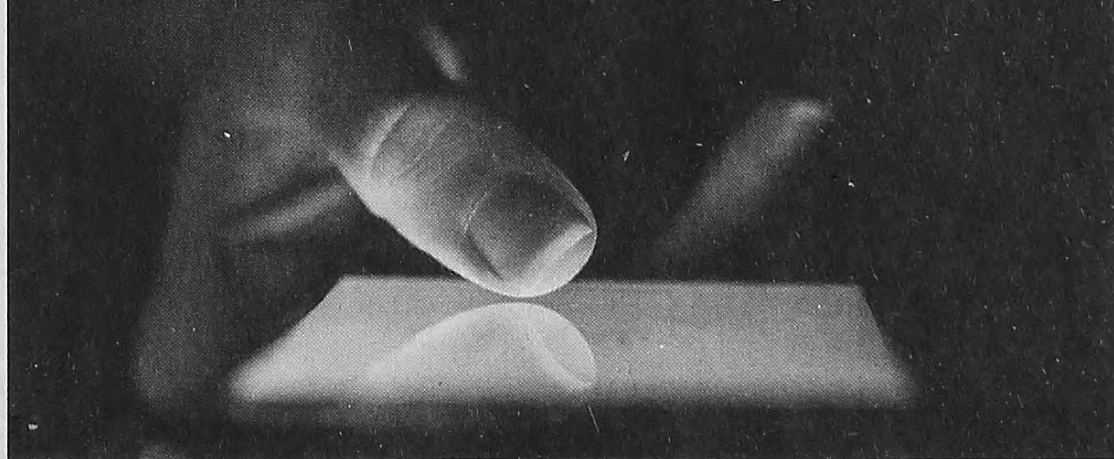
Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received, to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding, and to accept a bid other than the lowest bid.

Publish: January 14, 17, 21, 24, 28, 31, 2021

LC-0000358024 3x10

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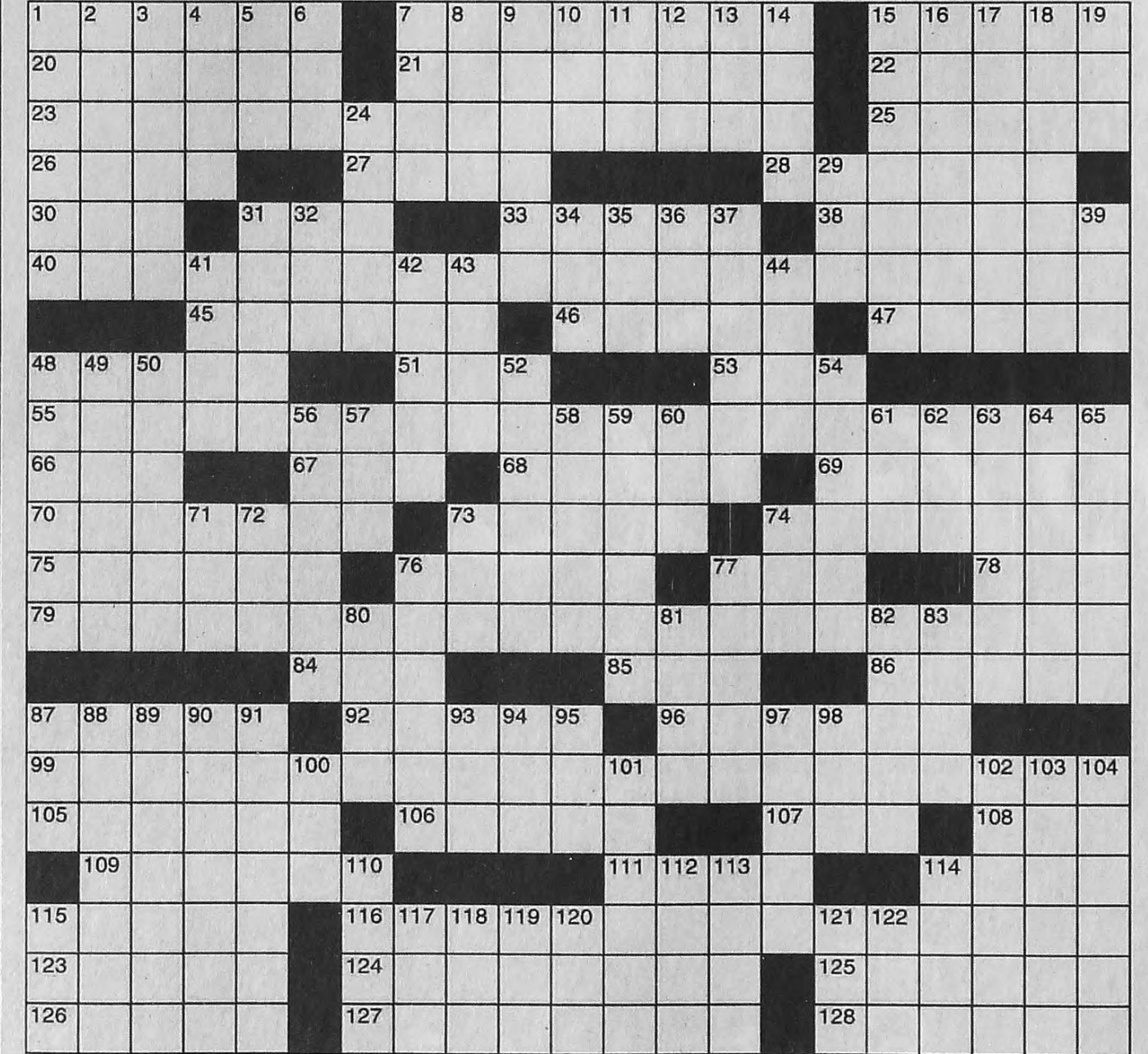
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- | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| ACROSS | 55 Riddle, part 3 | 116 Riddle's answer | 17 Virginia city | 59 Totally tires out | 91 Most pallid |
| 1 Placed on a roster | 66 Apple CEO Cook | 123 Whines, as a fretful child | 18 Asmara's country | 60 Jake Tapper's channel | 93 Ending for Motor |
| 7 Devoid of junk email | 67 Rower's need | 124 "Aim High" military branch | 19 Rx request | 61 Former Egypt-Syr. alliance | 94 Work of praise |
| 15 Zimbalist of "Wait Until Dark" | 68 Ducklike diving birds | 125 Not too hard to accomplish | 24 Plenty of, casually | 62 Old PC screen type | 95 One-named "Fear of Flying" singer |
| 20 See 53-Across | 69 Risk-taker's challenge | 126 Be too frugal | 29 Biceps' place | 63 "Fess up!" | 97 Part-human, part-horse deity |
| 21 Place for many piercings | 70 Endanger | 127 Tidy quality | 31 Kate Nelligan title role | 64 Golfer Mark who won the 1998 Masters | 98 "Evil Woman" rock gp. |
| 22 Demi of the screen | 73 Jimmy of the Daily Planet | 128 Carve in relief | 32 "I'm not impressed" | 65 Withstand | 100 Weeding tool |
| 23 Start of a riddle | 74 Rushes wildly | DOWN | 34 A criminal breaks it | 71 State tree of North Dakota | 101 Ablaze |
| 25 Hair twist | 75 Soprano Maria | 1 Not covering the ankles, as shoes | 35 "Do — say!" | 72 LL Cool J's music | 102 Big brand of gummy bears |
| 26 Ripped | 76 Three, to Gigi | 2 Device with Siri | 36 Carolina Panthers' gp. | 73 Bobby the Bruin | 103 Stands out |
| 27 Work site welfare org. | 77 — room (play place) | 3 More than mono | 37 Twisted individuals, informally | 74 Sewing edge | 104 Jumbled states |
| 28 Natural aptitude | 78 China's Chou En- — | 4 Fork prong | 39 Big boat in Genesis | 76 Start to cry | 110 Horse with a speckled coat |
| 30 Not divided | 79 Riddle, part 4 | 5 Former Brit. record giant | 41 Seniors' big night out | 77 Shroud of Turin, e.g. | 112 Huge birds of myth |
| 31 First-aid pro | 84 — number on | 6 The Cowboys, on scoreboards | 42 Arena staffer | 80 Movie prefix with Cop | 113 Gets old |
| 33 Kilt wearers' groups | 85 Florida Panthers' gp. | 7 — chef | 43 Burn partly source | 81 "No — traffic" | 114 Pursuer of Moby Dick |
| 38 Fish with a sucking disk | 86 Really vex | 8 Promote | 44 T-bone | 82 Country singer | 115 Hi-fi discs |
| 40 Riddle, part 2 | 87 Open courts | 9 Clip on, e.g. | 48 Increase in business activity, e.g. | 83 Brewery kiln | 117 Game score like 1-1 or 2-2 |
| 45 Discuss anew | 92 Cleaning tool | 10 Sea, in Paris | 49 Original | 87 Bristlelike grain appendage | 118 La-la lead-in |
| 46 Radio word after "Roger" | 96 Choir stands | 11 Pt. of TGIF | 50 Synagogue | 88 Unfreeze | 119 Frequently, in poetry |
| 47 Go furtively | 99 End of the riddle | 12 Old car inits. | 52 Roll about in mud | 89 Filled pasta envelopes | 120 — Jovi (rock group) |
| 48 "Oll!" author Sinclair | 105 Old cruise missile with a tribal name | 13 Water, in Paris | 54 Offer as evidence | 90 Rome resident, to a Paris resident | 121 Fruit beverage |
| 51 "Hee" or "yee" follower | 106 Work of praise | 14 Once, in old times | 56 Talked about, as a rumor | | 122 Toy dog breed, for short |
| 53 With 20-Across, midsize car from Korea | 107 It may get stubbed | 15 Symbolic logos | 57 Missy | | |
| | 108 Cleaving tool | 16 Work site overseer | 58 Soldier's denial | | |
| | 109 More cunning | | | | |
| | 111 Battle | | | | |
| | 114 Curve parts | | | | |
| | 115 Officer over a sarge | | | | |



#2,022 Average time of solution: 68 minutes

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

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/21

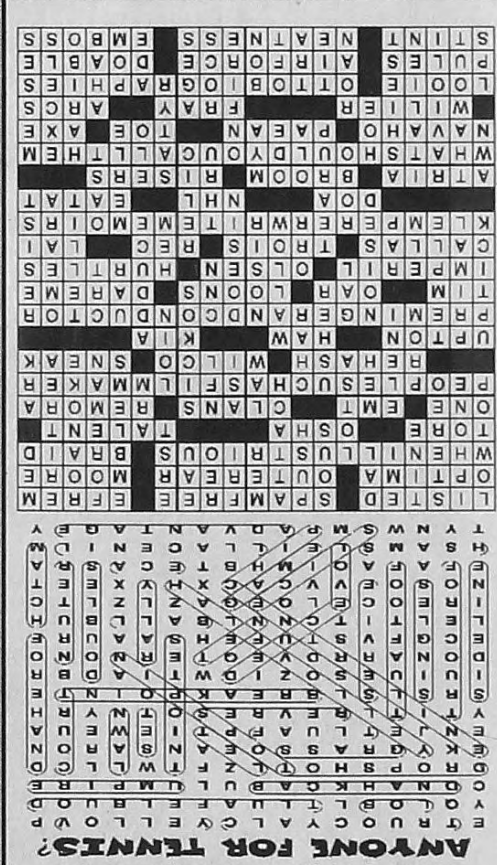
Here's How It Works:
 Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using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

ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

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.

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

- ACE
- ADVANTAGE
- BACKHAND
- BALL
- BREAK POINT
- CENTRE LINE
- CHIP
- CLAY COURT
- COURT
- DEUCE
- DOUBLE FAULT
- DOUBLES
- DROP SHOT
- FAULT
- FOOT FAULT
- FORECOURT
- FOREHAND
- GAME
- GRASS
- HALF-VOLLEY
- LAWN
- LET
- LINE CALL
- LOB
- LOVE
- MATCH
- NET
- RALLY
- RETURN
- SERVER
- SERVICE
- SET
- SET POINT
- SIDELINE
- SINGLES
- SLICE
- SMASH
- TOPSPIN
- UMPIRE
- VOLLEY



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

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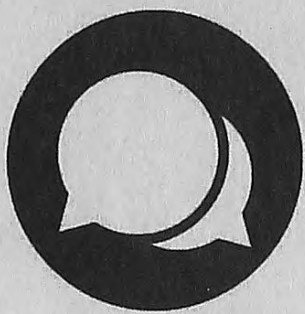
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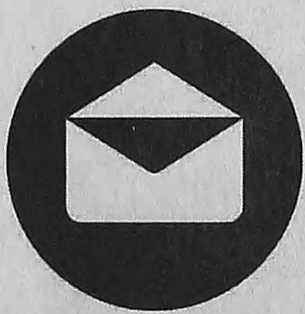
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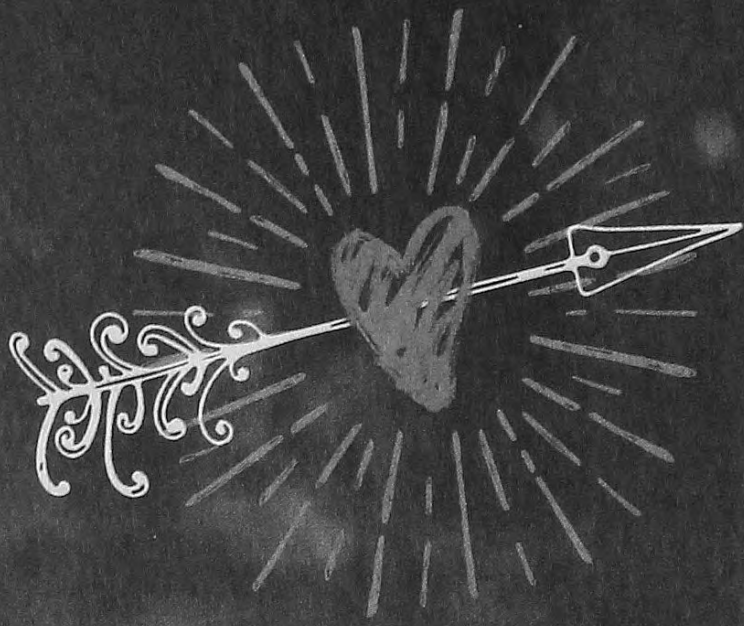
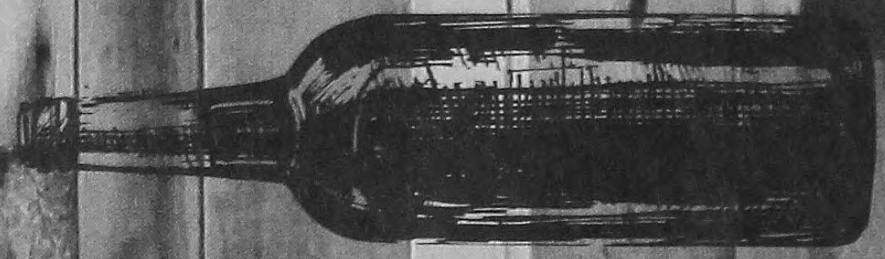


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