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Brittany Guajardo and Evan Antich toast their flight of brews on Jan. 7 at Super Natural Brewing and Spirits in Livonia. The pair were inside one of the brew pub's three outdoor, heated shanties diners. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Farmington selects finalists to develop former school site

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

And then there were two. Farmington council members narrowed their search for a developer to build housing on the old Maxfield property in downtown Farmington down to two finalists at a meeting Tuesday. The two finalists, Robertson Homes and River Caddis Development, will provide additional details to the city over the next 30 days on their plans to redevelop the property.

Council narrowed the two choices down from four applicants.

"I think it's worth 30 more days to get some additional information, again, to make sure we're getting all the amenities we're looking for and find out exactly what they're willing to put forth," Mayor Sara Bowman said.

Robertson Homes, based in Bloomfield Hills, is proposing 59 townhomes that would include two bedrooms and a single car garage. Robertson has developed similar communities in Auburn Hills, Ferndale and Novi.

River Caddis, based in East Lansing, is proposing 124 apartment units. River Caddis has built apartment complexes in Traverse City and Lansing.

Council voted 3-2 to move forward with two developers. Members David DeLind and Maria Taylor, who both voted against the decision, both said they were in support of the project but would rather move forward with one developer instead of two.

"I think, at this stage, I would like to move forward with one," Taylor said. "I think I've heard a lot of community voices for the Robertson proposal and that concept. I really haven't heard a lot of support at all for the others."

The majority, however, felt moving forward "knowing we have exhausted all of our paths to information" in regard to the project.

The city bought the three-acre Maxfield property, 33000 Thomas St., in May 2020 for \$690,000. In the past, developers have proposed apartments and condos at the site, but no project has been successful since Farmington Public Schools put the building on the market in 2015.

Restaurants get creative to attract outdoor diners in winter

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Creativity knows no bounds for Ernie Pacsai and the other owners of Super-Natural Brewing and Spirits.

After the state Department of Health and Human Services extended its "Pause to Save Lives" order that shuttered indoor dining at places like restaurants in November, the ownership of the Livonia brewery at 36685 Plymouth Road began putting their engineering brains to work.

So they built several "beer shanties" designed to house single households inside a shielded hut with some heaters for those looking to try some of their unique brews. Unlike previous experiences with getting approvals from city government, Pacsai said Livonia's expedited process allowed for a very quick turnaround to allow them to open.

"Normally you have to submit plans. It takes months," Pacsai said. "We went from finalizing the plans to having this built — once again, all by us — in 10 days."

The brewery is just one of many restaurants across the region inviting diners to come back and eat with them onsite, just outdoors for now. With indoor dining banned, restaurants and communities looked at ways to still bring guests to their businesses and keep the kitchens operating.

Makeshift outdoor dining modules have dotted the landscape across the area, with restaurants clamoring for diners to come spend an evening —

See RESTAURANTS, Page 6A

Canton ceremony honors COVID-19 victims

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

On a patch of property normally reserved for summertime movie nights and feel-good concerts, Canton Township held a somber memorial ceremony just before dusk Tuesday in remembrance of local residents who have suc-

cumbed to COVID-19.

As a collection of bundled-up, socially-distanced onlookers watched under overcast skies, elected officials and representatives from Canton's major religious faiths delivered comforting speeches and prayers from a podium set up beneath an outdoor amphitheater in Heritage Park.

At the time of the ceremony, 92 Canton residents had died from the effects of COVID-19. Each of their lives was represented by a row of 92 white flags that whipped in the strong wind at the base of the stage.

"We started planning the ceremony

See CEREMONY, Page 3A

Livonia man spent 3 months in hospital fighting COVID-19

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Kim Millard has sung with the Michigan Opera Theatre for years.

Now, his breathing is noticeably labored when he has a conversation.

"Singing has been a big part of my life, so this is kind of an area of frustra-

tion," Millard admitted. "But, I put things in perspective as we go, considering five weeks ago I couldn't even stand up or get out of bed."

On Oct. 15, 2020, Millard was admitted to St. Mary Mercy Hospital with COVID-19. Between treatment and rehab, the 59-year-old Livonia man remained in hospital care for nearly three months

until getting discharged Jan. 6, even though he's been negative for COVID-19 since mid-November. He also stayed at medical facilities in Pontiac and Garden City.

"I had been getting worse symptoms for a couple of days, and I finally went into an urgent care," he said. "My pastor from Oakland Hills Community Church

took me up to an urgent care. They took one look at me and then got me in an isolation room, then rushed me to the emergency room."

At the time, Millard's blood oxygen level was 70%. According to the Mayo Clinic, an average blood oxygen level is

See COVID-19, Page 3A



Metro Detroit nurse delivers moving 'Amazing Grace'

Elisha Anderson Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

A metro Detroit nurse whose moving rendition of "Amazing Grace" spread widely on social media early in the COVID-19 pandemic sang the hymn for the country Tuesday night.

Lori Key, 29, performed at a nationwide COVID-19 memorial in Washington D.C. before President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris. The memorial was part of the inauguration events.

Key, a registered nurse who works at St. Mary Mercy hospital in Livonia, said working as a COVID-19 nurse was heart-breaking.

"When I'm at work, I sing," she said during the memorial. "It gives me strength during difficult times, and I believe it helps heal."

TV broadcast her performance live and it was also streamed online. The event honored the 400,000 lives lost to the coronavirus across the country.

"To heal, we must remember. It's hard sometimes to remember, but that's how we heal," Biden said.

On Monday, Key announced on Facebook she would be singing at the event.

"I am lost for words right now," she wrote. "Can't believe I'm here. What an adventure and dream. All glory to God!"

Before her performance Tuesday, she

"Can't believe I'm here. What an adventure and dream. All glory to God!"

Lori Key

wrote a text message to a Free Press reporter.

"From this performance I want people to rise above the pandemic and unite as a nation because we're all in this together," Key said.

People across the country heard Key's voice last year when a video of her singing "Amazing Grace" to co-workers treating COVID-19 patients was posted online. It quickly spread widely on social media.

Key comes from a musical family and grew up singing in church. She thanked her supporters in a Facebook message.

"Thank you everyone for all the love, shares, encouraging comments and support," she wrote Tuesday. "Pray for me while I'm up there! People who are close to me and know me, (know) I have bad nerves lol. God be with me."

The Presidential Inaugural Committee hosted the COVID-19 memorial. It included a lighting around the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool.

Cities were invited to ring church bells or illuminate buildings at 5:30 p.m. in a moment of unity and remembrance.



Lori Key said working as a COVID-19 nurse was heartbreaking, "When I'm at work, I sing. It gives me strength during difficult times, and I believe it helps heal." JUNFU HAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

Westland mayor files for reelection, seeking fourth term

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

This year will be an important one for the future Westland's city government.

In November, voters will choose a mayor and fill four council seats. Though local elections typically aren't as popular as the ones that reach a national stage, local officials are the ones who determine water rates, property taxes and trash fees that affect the vast majority of residents.

Here's what Westland residents can expect to see on ballots this year:

Mayor's race

The city's current mayor, Bill Wild, already filed to run for reelection. Wild, who was first elected the mayor's office in 2007 and had a lengthy tenure on city

council before that, is the only candidate to file for election so far, according to the clerk's office. Wild, seeking a fourth term, is the city's longest serving mayor.

"I spent some time over the holidays reflecting on my time as mayor, reflecting on the challenges of the job and after talking to my family and realizing I still love serving Westland I proudly filed for re-election last week," he said in an email. "At this point, I don't know who my competition will be, but my campaign team is fired up, well financed and have garnered a lot of early support from residents, unions and elected officials. We will run a very aggressive campaign."

Any potential candidates for mayor have until 4 p.m. April 20 to file with the city clerk's office. Once elected, the mayor makes \$121,574 annually.

Four open council seats, two tax requests

On city council, the seats currently held by Council President Jim Hart as well as members Jim Godbout, Tasha Green and Peter Herzberg will all open for election. Westland does not have term limits for local officials, so all four members are eligible to run.

So far, Hart is the only person to file with the clerk's office for council. Any candidates will have until 4 p.m. April 20 to file with the city.

"I think I have been a stable and balanced member of the council and I'm honored to

have been chosen as the council president earlier this year," Hart said in an email. "In the remainder of my term and into the next if successful, I'm going to be focused on continuing to push for

long-term financial stability to the city and be a champion of outdoor recreation opportunities."

Once a new board is seated each cycle, members choose a council president and president pro tem from among themselves. Annually, the president makes \$18,247, the president pro tem makes \$17,802 and the other council members are paid \$17,368.

Voters could also see a tax request from the Westland Public Library, and some residents could vote on a request from the Livonia Public Schools district, which includes some of Westland.

Both entities have millages they could choose to ask voters to renew this year, the votes for which could appear on ballots as early as May. However, neither the library nor the district have made a decision to ask for a renewal.

stankersle@hometownlife.com

What to expect in Farmington, Farmington Hills elections

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Many Americans pay attention to the big elections like the 2020 Presidential Election.

But it's the local elections, like the ones for council and mayor many communities will face this year, that determine things like how much people see on their water bills or whether the school district gets to levy a millage.

Farmington and Farmington Hills both have elections in 2021.

Here's some things voters will see on ballots this year:

Farmington Hills

In Farmington Hills, the mayor's office will go up for grabs.

Vicki Barnett, who is in her first term in the position, could run for a second term.

However, nobody has filed to run for the mayor's office yet, according to the city clerk's office.

When someone is elected mayor this fall, he or she will serve a two-year term and make \$875.08 monthly.

On council, the seats currently held by Valerie Knol and Michael Bridges, as well as a seat left vacant by state Rep. Samantha Steckloff (D-Farmington Hills), are up for grabs.

The council is in the process of appointing someone to replace Steckloff on the governing board until the November election. Knol and Bridges could both run again, but at least one seat will go to a newcomer. Nobody has filed as of Monday.

Once elected, council members serve four-year terms and make \$583.36 monthly. Unless a primary is necessary, all local officials are elected in November.

All candidates have until 4 p.m. July 20 to file for election, which can be done with the city clerk's office. Anyone who files will have until 4 p.m. July 23 to withdraw.

Right now, the clerk's office is not expecting any local initiatives, like proposals or millages, to be on Farmington Hills' 2021 ballots.

Farmington

In Farmington, voters will elect three people to council and will likely only need to vote in November. The seats held by Maria Taylor, Steve Schnee-

mann and David DeLind will all go up for grabs. All three members are eligible to run for election. According to the city clerk's office, nobody has filed to run yet, and the city isn't expecting any local proposals.

The top two vote-getters in the fall will serve four-year terms, and the third place finisher will serve for two years. In Farmington, council members and the mayor make \$3,000 annually.

Once the new council starts meeting in 2022, trustees will select a mayor from among themselves and that person will serve a two-year term in that position. The city's current mayor is Sara Bowman.

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

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Livonia will elect four council members in 2021

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Decisions, decisions.

Though 2021 is an off year for state and federal elections, cities like Livonia will still hold elections for local offices and tax requests.

In Livonia, voters will choose four council members and may vote on a tax request from Livonia Public Schools in 2021.

City council race

The council seats held by Jim Jolly, Laura Toy, Cathy White and Rob Donovan are all up for grabs. White is the only council member who cannot run this election cycle due to term limits, but Jolly, Donovan and Toy could all seek reelection.

As of Tuesday, Jolly is the only person to file for the council race.

"I am running because I am proud of what we have accomplished together

and I know we have great momentum to do great things to make Livonia even better," Jolly said in an email. "I'm excited to build a connected and walkable community, realize the Livonia 21 master plan, and create a master plan for Greenmead Historical Park."

If nine or more people file as candidates for council, the city will hold a primary election in August to cut the total number of candidates down to eight.

The top four vote-getters in the November election will win those four seats.

Anyone who wants to run must register with the clerk's office by April 20.

In Livonia, the person who earns the most votes in a cycle becomes council president, and the second place finisher becomes vice president. Both candidates will earn four-year seats, as well. The third place finisher will serve a four-year term, and the fourth place candidate will receive a two-year term.

Right now, the council president earns \$19,362 annually and all other

members make \$18,055 annually. However, the Livonia Local Officers Compensation Commission will meet in late 2021 to determine compensation for elected officials, including council members, for 2022 and 2023. Traditionally, the commission gives officials a small pay raise.

Livonia Public Schools request

The Livonia Public Schools district could ask voters to renew a bond in 2021. Bonds are generally used to pay for short-term projects, like building renovations or school bus purchases.

If the school district decides to put the request on ballots, voters could decide the issue as early as May.

However, the district's board of education has not yet decided whether to ask voters for a renewal.

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

Free tuition plans no replacement for college savings plan



Money Matters
Rick Bloom
Guest columnist

Dear Rick:

My husband and I just had our very first grandchild. A few months ago, we started researching different 529 plans.

We are hesitant to open a 529 Plan with all the discussions regarding free tuition. It doesn't make sense to save for college if tuition is going to be free. Does it still make sense to save in a 529 Plan? If not, what would you recommend?

Thank you, Paula

Dear Paula:

Congratulations on your new grandchild. I can tell you are going to be a wonderful grandma.

One thing I have learned in my 65-plus years is that what politicians talk about and what actually becomes the law are two different things. Just because politicians are talking about it does not make it a reality.

Over the last few years there have been numerous politicians who have proposed free college education. In making these proposals most of what is discussed is only free tuition. However, anyone with a child in college will tell you there are other substantial costs as well.

Remember that you can use money within a 529 Plan for more than just tuition. You can use these funds for room and board, fees, and technology.

I've seen one proposal that limits free tuition to just community colleges. Therefore, even if a free-tuition program were enacted, what form the program would take is anyone's guess.

Given the number of unknowns, my advice is to continue to invest for your grandchild's college educations.

Remember, not all 529 plans are the same. Even here in Michigan there are different ways to invest in the Michigan Education Savings Plan. I've always been a believer in commission-free and low-cost investing. Unfortunately, not

all 529 plans meet that requirement. Therefore, it is important that you check costs and fees.

If you buy the Michigan Education Savings Plan directly through the state, it is very low-cost. If you buy it from brokers, you will pay significant fees. My belief is the money you would pay in fees looks much better in your pocket and therefore, when you invest in a 529 Plan, make sure you use a low-cost option.

Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is bloomadvisors.com. If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, email Rick at rick@bloomadvisors.com.

COVID-19

Continued from Page 1A

somewhere between 95% and 100%. After performing a CAT scan, doctors found pneumonia in every lobe of his lungs.

Doctors gave Millard a tracheostomy, which creates an opening in the neck so a windpipe can give air to the lungs, that stayed in place for eight weeks. Millard also spent five weeks on a ventilator. Because of the intense care and long period of unconsciousness, he still has trouble speaking and walking.

"It just hit me like a ton of bricks," he said.

But, Millard is improving. He still avoids things like stairs and receives medical care from a nurse that visits him at home, but said it helps to think of how far he's come.

"It's a mix of struggle and perspective and gratitude for being here and getting a second chance," Millard said. "You know, I am a Christian believer and be-

lieve God has a purpose for me moving forward."

His life is full of frustrations, like being unable to walk his dogs or work, right now. But as a born-again Christian, he said his faith and Bible passages like Romans 8:28, which says God works for the good of those who follow Him, give him perspective.

"You know, God works all things together according to His purpose," Millard said. "I have to stand on that."

As a former skeptic of how serious COVID-19 can really be, he encouraged others to remember the virus can be serious for some.

"A lot of people have minimized it, and I was one of those people," Millard said. "It just hits everybody different. I know some people come out with a scratchy cough and whatever, but I just call on people to prayerfully consider everybody's experience in this. My perspective obviously has changed."

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



Kim Millard was only recently able to return home after a lengthy stay in the hospital with severe COVID-19 symptoms. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Ceremony

Continued from Page 1A

a couple weeks ago in conjunction with similar ceremonies that were taking place in communities like ours around the globe and in Washington, D.C., at the exact same time," said township Supervisor Anne Marie Graham-Hudak. "We wanted residents to have an opportunity to mourn the lives lost as a community."

Bright lights from a recently-erected COVID-19 testing station in a Heritage Park parking lot approximately one-quarter mile away provided a surreal backdrop to the ceremony.

Beginning at 5:15 p.m., the Canton Police and Fire Department Honor Guard escorted the American flag to the top of the hill that faces the amphitheater. Canton resident Devyn Mitchell then broke the silence with a stirring rendition of the National Anthem.

Township religious leaders delivered invocations and prayers, including Geneva Presbyterian Church Pastor Bryan Smith, Tahini Peracha (Muslim Community of the Western Suburbs), TejKiran Singh (Singh Sabha of Michigan, Sikh community) and Chandru Acharya, president of South-Asian American Voices of Impact, who represented the Hindu community.

"This is a significant moment in our history as we safely gather to honor all of the people who we have lost to the coronavirus, especially our Canton neighbors," Graham-Hudak said. "These people were mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, sons, daughters, cousins and neighbors."

The religious leaders offered assurances to those in attendance that higher powers will help guide them through these difficult times "when hearts are broken and spirits are crushed".

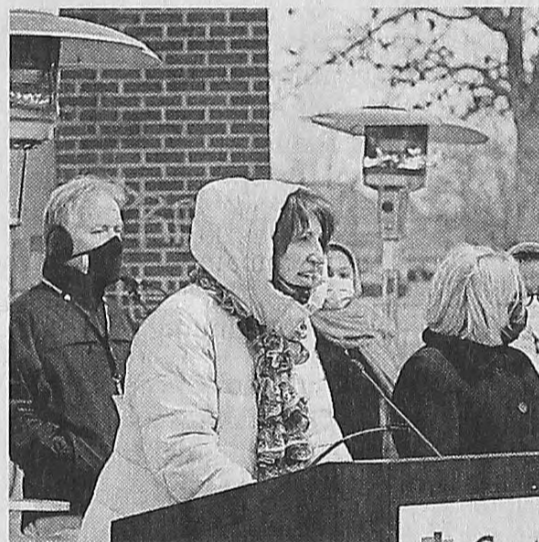
State Reps. Matt Koleszar and Ranjeev Puri, and Wayne County Commissioner Melissa Daub also offered comforting words at the gathering.

Local officials in attendance included Dian Slavens, Michael Siegrist, Sommer Foster, Steven Sneiderman, Kate Borninski and Tanya Ganguly.

The brief but powerful ceremony was capped by the tolling of a bell for 90 seconds in memory of those Canton residents lost to the coronavirus.

While COVID-19 is still raging, the Wayne County Health Department recently issued encouraging statistics that showed the percentage of beds in hospital intensive care units occupied by coronavirus patients had dropped from 90 to 70 percent.

"While I'm proud of the way Canton Township residents have responded to the pandemic by wearing masks and so-



Canton Township Supervisor Anne Marie Graham-Hudak begins the ceremony in memory of COVID-19 victims Jan. 19 at Heritage Park. PHOTOS JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Socially-distanced attendees in protective face masks listen to the invocation.



The Canton Fire and Police Honor Guard march at the start of a memorial for those who have died due to COVID-19.

cial-distancing, we can't let our guard down until a large percentage of the globe is vaccinated," Graham-Hudak said.

The Heritage Park COVID-19 site began testing for the virus on Tuesday. Graham-Hudak said plans call for the site to eventually deliver vaccinations to residents as well.

As of Tuesday, Michigan now has a

total of 540,115 confirmed cases and 13,865 deaths since March.

The state has shipped 1,089,225 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and has administered 512,906 doses as of Monday — 47% of those shipped.

Michigan had a positivity rate of 7.48% Monday, reporting that 1,411 of 18,853 diagnostic test results returned were positive.

The state has a fatality rate of 2.6% among known cases, according to data from the state health department.

Michigan now reports 47,333 probable COVID-19 cases and 870 probable deaths. The probable cases combined with the confirmed cases make up a cumulative total of 587,448 cases and 14,735 deaths.

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The Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills on Orchard Lake Road. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Holocaust center announces new exhibit

The Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus in Farmington Hills is hosting "How Healers Became Killers, Nazi Medical Professionals," to commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day on Wednesday, Jan. 27. The program also is the opening event of the new featured exhibit, *Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race*, slated to run until July 11, 2021.

"We are proud to host this thought-provoking exhibit and opening program which scrutinizes the role medical professionals had in the Holocaust," Holocaust Memorial Center CEO Rabbi Eli Mayerfeld said. "The most important lesson we teach is that history is made through a series of choices and that every choice has a consequence."

"By teaching the lessons of the Holocaust, our fervent hope is that each of us will be upstanders, not bystanders, when we witness wrongful actions."

On Jan. 27 at 7 p.m., *How Healers Became Killers, Nazi Medical Professionals* will address the integral role medical professionals played in the planning and implementation of Nazi racial policy. The online program features Patricia Heberer-Rice, senior historian from the United States Holocaust Memorial

Museum (USHMM), who will discuss how medical professionals enforced policies of compulsory sterilization, as well as the "Euthanasia" program. Through these legalized programs, the Nazis murdered 650,000 people and set an important precedent for the Holocaust.

Herberer-Rice serves as a specialist on medical crimes and eugenics policies in Nazi Germany. She also vets a wide range of USHMM content for historical accuracy.

Registration for this Zoom webinar is available at holocaustcenter.org/events/upcoming-events. This program is co-sponsored by Voice Vision.

The Holocaust Memorial Center is also hosting "Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race" until July 11.

Produced by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the traveling exhibit *Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race* examines how the Nazi leadership, in collaboration with individuals in professions traditionally charged with healing and the public good, used science to help legitimize persecution, murder, and ultimately, genocide.

Through reproductions of photographs and documents, films, and sur-

vivor testimony, the exhibit traces how the persecution of groups deemed biologically inferior led to the near annihilation of European Jewry. It also challenges viewers to reflect on the present-day interest in genetic manipulation that promotes the possibility of human perfection.

According to exhibition curator Susan Bachrach, "Deadly Medicine explores the Holocaust's roots in then-contemporary scientific and pseudo-scientific thought. At the same time, it touches on complex ethical issues we face today, such as how societies acquire and use scientific knowledge and how they balance the rights of the individual with the needs of the larger community."

Eugenics theory sprang from turn-of-the-20th-century scientific beliefs asserting that Charles Darwin's theories of "survival of the fittest" could be applied to humans. Supporters, spanning the globe and political spectrum, believed that through careful controls on marriage and reproduction, a nation's genetic health could be improved.

The Nazi regime was founded on the conviction that "inferior" races, including the so-called Jewish race, and individuals had to be eliminated from Ger-

man society so that the fittest "Aryans" could thrive. The Nazi state fully committed itself to implementing a uniquely racist and antisemitic variation of eugenics to "scientifically" build what it considered to be a "superior race."

By the end of World War II, six million Jews had been murdered. Millions of others also became victims of persecution and murder through Nazi "racial hygiene" programs designed to cleanse Germany of "biological threats" to the nation's "health," including "foreign-blooded" Roma and Sinti (Gypsies), persons diagnosed as "hereditarily ill," and homosexuals. In German-occupied territories, Poles and others belonging to ethnic groups deemed "inferior" were also murdered.

This exhibition is made possible through the support of The David Berg Foundation, The Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation, The Lester Robbins and Sheila Johnson Robbins Traveling and Temporary Exhibitions Fund established in 1990, and The Dorot Foundation.

The exhibit is open Sunday through Friday and free with museum admission or membership. For additional information, visit holocaustcenter.org or call 248-553-2400.

Couple alleges housing discrimination

Ken Palmer Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

An interracial couple is suing two Livingston County real estate agents who they say conspired to block them from buying a home on Zukey Lake in September.

Verdell and Julie Franklin, of Maumee, Ohio, filed a housing discrimination suit last week in U.S. District Court, alleging Richard Beaudin and Mary Kay Ikens prevented the married couple from making an offer on a home because Verdell Franklin is Black.

RE/MAX Platinum and KW Realty Livingston also were named as defendants.

Beaudin said Tuesday he was not the Franklins' real estate agent and never had any contact with them.

"I wouldn't know who the people were," he said. "... I had the house listed; that's all I did."

The company he works for, KW Realty Livingston, echoed Beaudin's comments. Attempts to reach Ikens and RE/MAX Platinum were unsuccessful.

Verdell Franklin is chief financial officer at the Toledo Fire Department, while Julie Franklin is a registered nurse anesthetist at Toledo Hospital, according to a news release from the Pitt McGehee Palmer Bonanni & Rivers law firm. Julie Franklin is white and was born and raised in Ireland, the firm said.

The Ohio couple said they have regularly visited friends who live on the lake in Hamburg Township over the past decade and decided to buy a second home there.

Julie Franklin contacted KW Realty Livingston about a listing for a house on Zukey Drive in early September and was contacted by Ikens, who scheduled a showing for later that day, according to the lawsuit.

During the showing, Ikens "demonstrated no interest in the Franklins as



Verdell and Julie Franklin. COURTESY

potential buyers" and didn't ask about their level of interest or their financial qualifications, the suit said.

"Toward the end of the showing, the Franklins informed Ikens that they wished to put an offer on the house immediately," it said. "Ikens reacted in an awkward way and instead of immediately following through ... she informed the Franklins and their friends that she had to show her friend a home nearby."

Ikens later told the couple she had spoken with Beaudin and said that unless they were prepared to make a cash-only offer of at least \$350,000 and accept the property "as-is," their offer would not be considered, according to the suit.

The couple was prepared to make an offer, but not an all-cash offer for that amount, the suit says. They made a starting offer of \$300,000 and noted they were prepared to pay more.

In late October, the property was listed as sold for \$300,000, and property records show it was bought by a white man who obtained a \$225,000 mortgage, according to the suit.

The Franklins filed a complaint with

the nonprofit Fair Housing Center of Southeast and Mid-Michigan, which helped in the initial investigation, the law firm said.

Hamburg Township is overwhelmingly white, and there are no current Black homeowners on Zukey Lake, attorney Robin Wagner said in the news release.

"It appears that there has never been an African American homeowner in the Zukey Lake neighborhood," Wagner said. "It also appears that the defendants in this case would prefer that it stay that way."

The Franklins allege the two real estate agents conspired to discriminate against them by imposing "onerous conditions on the sale."

They are seeking unspecified damages for emotional distress, as well as punitive damages and costs. They also want the court to order the defendants to undergo training about civil rights laws involving real estate.

Ikens could not be reached on Tuesday morning at telephone numbers listed for her online. An attorney for the RE/MAX Platinum office did not immediately return a telephone message left for him.

In a written statement, Beaudin said he represented the sellers and never received an offer from the Franklins via their agent. The sellers were presented with any offers received, he said.

"I'm a Realtor," he said. "We live by the code of ethics. Discrimination has no place in real estate, especially here in Livingston County."

Erin McKenzie, team leader at KW Realty Livingston, said the property sale cited by the Franklins ended with a \$350,000 offer that was later reduced to \$300,000 after an inspection. Company agents never met the Franklins and never received a purchase offer from them, she said.

Experts say lack of snow, mild temps not 'abnormal'

Slone Terranella Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

When Michiganders think of January, the idea of snow-covered yards and ice-caked roads comes to mind. However, this year's winter has been mild and light in snowfall.

A meteorologist from the National Weather Service, Sara Schultz, said although snowfall is 5 inches below the normal conditions during this time of year, it's not "abnormal."

Schultz said there are many reasons for this year's winter like the La Niña.

According to the National Weather Service, La Niña, which means "little girl" in Spanish, refers to the periodic cooling of ocean surface temperatures in the central and east-central equatorial Pacific.

Meteorologists predicted that La Niña would bring extra precipitation, possibly in the form of snow, in the Great Lakes Region. However, Michigan's forecast from earlier in the year called for normal to above-normal temperatures, affecting snowfall.

Another possible reason for this year's lack of snow is storm tracks, Schultz said.

"There are also the factors of storm tracks, too. So where the storms are lining up and a lot of times they've been just to the south of us," Schultz said.

Overall, Schultz said the lack of snowfall isn't out of the ordinary, and there's a group of reasons why this year's winter is mild. But she did say if snowfall was 10 inches below the normal rate, then that would be considered abnormal.

Obituaries

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



**Margaret Hall
MacMillan
Alegnani**

FARMINGTON HILLS - Margaret (Peggy) Hall MacMillan Alegnani, formerly of Farmington Hills, passed away on January 7th, 2021 at the age of 95. Peggy attended Cass Tech High School and was married to William (Bill) Alegnani in 1943. After Bill's death in 1998, Peggy moved to Boise, Idaho. In 2017, after being diagnosed with Dementia, Peggy moved into Assisted Living in Las Vegas. Beloved mother & grandmother, she is survived by: Judy (deceased 2012), Deborah Trent, Steven Alegnani and wife Diane, Pamela Alegnani, Cheryl Hawthorne and husband David. Peggy had 5 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family. Condolences to the family may be sent through the Neptune Society at <https://obituaries.neptunesociety.com/obituaries/las-vegas-nv/margaret-alegnani-9989148>.

Judith Ann Whitfield

Our community and world sadly lost a bright light on Saturday, January 16, 2021 when Judith (Judy) Ann Whitfield passed away at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. She was born on May 13, 1933 and the light of her life burned brightly and broadly in so many ways. She was a loyal wife. She met and married the love of her life Charles Whitfield in high school. They would be married for over 70 years and serve together in their life's most cherished work at Grace Baptist Church in Birmingham for over 60 of those years. Side by side and inseparable defined each day. In the words of her soul-mate Charles, she was "perfect in every way." She was a loving mother and grandmother. She served and sacrificed selflessly day in and day out. She modeled Biblical grit, gratitude, and giving that was unsurpassed. She left a perfect pathway forward for her family in every way. She was a leader. Graduating from Pontiac Central High School she went on to get her undergraduate degree from Midwestern Baptist College and graduate degree in Education from Eastern Michigan University. She would say her highest degree was earned by spending time every day in devotion through Scripture reading and prayer. Education transformed into powerful engagement in the local community and worldwide. A few of her leadership legacies are as follows: Along with her husband Charles she founded the Grace Baptist Church of Birmingham and served alongside him for over 60 years. She led the choir and music ministry at Grace Baptist for 25 years. She hosted and led a weekly woman's Bible Study both for Grace Baptist women and in addition a Community woman's Bible Study for 30 years. For 25 years she poured her life into young elementary children teaching at Emmanuel Christian School in Pontiac and Inter-City Christian School in Allen Park, Michigan. She founded a phone prayer ministry that spanned the city, county, country, and literally continents. With one phone call she could ignite prayer and support chain that resulted in radical love being lived out, restoration of hopes and dreams, and recovery spiritually and physically for thousands of people she knew or never knew. She wrote devotionals and spoke to thousands of woman at countless leadership and church ministry conferences across the country. She was a mentor for hundreds of woman and men formally and informally. Every day was dedicated to inspiring, influencing, and initiating love in action to any and all who crossed her path. Those she served would say she left a perfect legacy pathway in every way. She is survived by her husband of 70 years Reverend Charles John Whitfield, children Susan and Daniel and their spouses Marty and Heidi, grand-children Marty John, Amie, Brooke, Chelsea, and J.D., great grandchildren Sawyer, Scarlett, Meriska, Zander, Chelsea, McKenna, and Phillip, Savannah, Corinna, Kayla, Ezekiel, and Joel. She is survived by thousands of spiritual children who will impact and influence hundreds of thousands for good and for God for time and eternity. She was indeed "perfect in every way." Services were held at Grace Baptist Church, 280 E. Lincoln St., Birmingham, MI 48009. Memorial donations to the church. A.J. Desmond & Sons, (248) 549-0500.

Sign tribute wall at AJDesmond.com



Garfield "Gar" Bruce Whitney

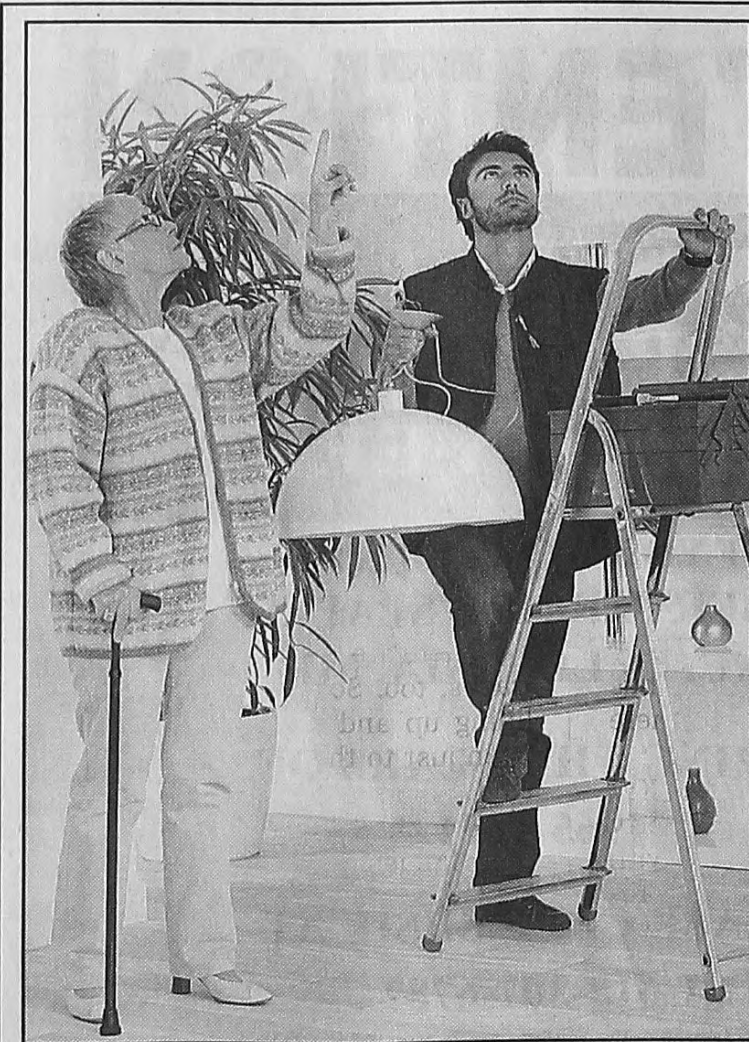
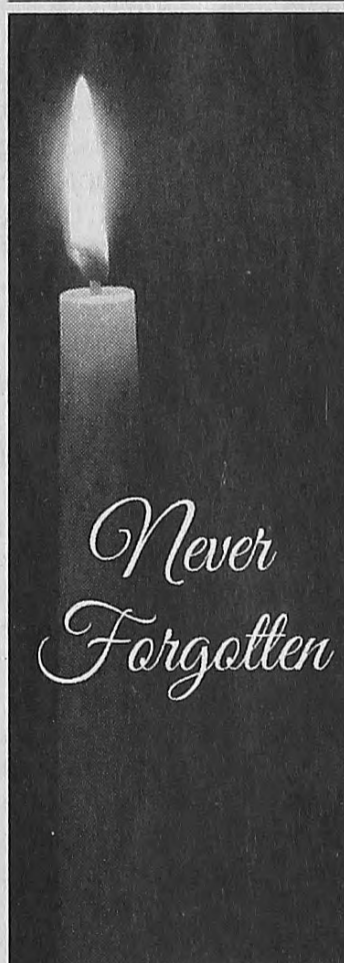
TECUMSEH - Garfield "Gar" Bruce Whitney, age 87, of Tecumseh died Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at The Oasis at Adrian Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center. He was born September 8, 1933 in Detroit, the son of Clifford Raymond and Beulah Fay (Miller) Whitney. On May 16, 1980 in Dearborn, he married June Eve Koziol and they shared over 40 years together.

Gar proudly served his country in the U.S. Army. He worked as a Certified Construction Specifier, and was a member of the Certified Specification Society and the American Institute of Architects. He worked in Detroit, Minneapolis, Coral Gables and Indianapolis. Gar was a member of the First Mennonite Church in Indianapolis. He enjoyed photography, oil painting, drawing, model airplanes, home remodeling and was an avid reader.

Besides his wife, June, he is survived by daughter, Leslie Joy (Larry Rosenstock) Whitney-Rosenstock; son, Matthew Craig Whitney both of Farmington Hills; sister, Sandra Johnson of Westland; two grandchildren, Benjamin and Declan Rosenstock; and one niece Lori (James) Gomez. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother-in-law Robert Johnson, a niece Jill and two feline buddies, Chester and Wily.

Cremation has taken place and a private family service will be held. Inurnment will be in Parkview Memorial Cemetery in Livonia. Memorial contributions may be made to the Tecumseh District Library, Lenawee County Humane Society or the charity of your choice. Arrangements are under the care of the Tecumseh Chapel of Handler Funeral Homes. Online condolences may be offered to the family at www.handlerfuneralhomes.com

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Restaurants

Continued from Page 1A

and their money — at their place. Canopies, tarps and even particleboard barriers have been erected to help shield diners from the wind, rain and snow while they enjoy meals outside.

For many restaurants, creating such environments is crucial to their economic survival in a year plagued by a pandemic. The coronavirus that causes COVID-19 was first officially detected in March in Michigan, which triggered a declaration of emergency from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and has infected more than half a million people and been responsible in the deaths of nearly 14,000 across the state.

Restaurant dining rooms were ordered closed March 16 and remained that way for nearly three months as officials looked to help stop the spread of the disease. Restaurant dining rooms were ordered closed once again in November as cases and positivity rates skyrocketed, and have remained shuttered since, though there's hope the state Department of Health and Human Services, which issued the order, will lift that prohibition Feb. 1.

But carved out in the state's recent closure of dining rooms are some caveats, including the allowance of dining outdoors, even as temperatures dip below freezing. That's led to some creative measures from restaurateurs.

A popular outdoor dining shelter that's grown in visibility in recent years are the plastic "igloos," domes that can accommodate several diners inside. They began popping up at restaurants before the COVID-19 pandemic, but have almost become essential for many restaurants still looking to serve food.

Whole Hearted Winery, 56808 Grand River in New Hudson, offers a pair of the plastic domes for patrons to come, unwind and split a bottle of wine. The domes can sit several people, though state regulations require all guests sitting inside such a bubble must come from the same household.

Grabbing them earlier on in the season was the best move they said, co-owner Dan Weiland said, because as the months got colder, it got tougher to find them.

"We're lucky we got one, because now you can't find them," Weiland said.

Reservations fill up fast

Those same domes can be found plenty of other places, but they probably aren't as decked out as some at a pair of sister restaurants in Northville and Bloomfield Township.

Deadwood Bar and Grill and The Moose Preserve Bar and Grill both sport decorated winter domes for a higher-end dining experience this winter.

Bryan Coudret, a co-partner at the Moose Preserve at 43034 Woodward Ave., in Bloomfield Township, said the domes occupy the restaurant's deck and have two themes: "Northern Lights" and "Husky Hideaway."

Making the experience for guests, Coudret said, is just one way they've tried to stay in people's minds as they couldn't dine out indoors this winter, especially around the holidays.

The recipe has proven successful: every weekend slot throughout January and February in one of the Moose Preserve's igloos is full and just some weekday slots are available. Those looking to sign up to use the space can do so on the classic American style restaurant's website.

"They're definitely a lot of work get-



Tables and chairs await visitors to Riley Park in Farmington and its social district, The Syndicate.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Farmington has established a number of portable gas-fired warming stations throughout downtown.

ting them together," he said. "This is some people's only time to get out is when they eat at a restaurant."

Offering some onsite dining isn't just a benefit for those looking for a night out on a town, but also for the workers at the restaurants. Pacsai said the new huts at the Livonia brewery, which are rented for \$10/hour in addition to the cost of food and beer, has been so successful that the brewery has been able to bring back two employees from furlough.

He said there was a lot of discussion over whether or not to charge additionally for renting the spaces, but with all the work and money put into the experience, they thought the community would buy into the idea.

And they have: SuperNatural Brewing has seen booking after booking of one of the three huts since they opened, enabling more people to be able to return to work.

"We're hoping people will support us in this way," Pacsai said.

Thinking outside the box

Dealing with the closures from the state to help stop the spread of COVID-19 have created unique opportunities for business and government to figure out ways to keep the restaurant scene going.

Michigan weather can make outdoor dining a challenge for a majority of the year. But plenty are willing to endure the cold for a night on the town, and several communities have embraced the idea and transformed their entire downtown as a result.

Laws approved by the state last year expanded outdoor options for communities, including the creation of "social districts," parts of a municipality that allow for strolling a designated area with alcoholic beverages purchased at participating businesses.

Such districts exist in two area communities: Northville opened "The Twist" several months ago and has been wildly successful, bringing in shelters and serving up food from area restaurants. Now Farmington has joined in on the fun, opening "The Syndicate" social district this past New Year's Eve.

The new social district along Grand River Avenue and Farmington roads has grown as more people become aware of it, said Kate Knight, the executive director of the Farmington Downtown Development Authority. The word from the participating businesses is the district is a hit.

"Their customers are very curious to see how this works," Knight said. "They're interested, they want to check it out."

She said one restaurant participating, Sidecar Slider Bar, reported sales doubling on the second weekend of the social district and quadruple of what was made in weekends back in December.

Indeed having such a district has brought some life to the Oakland County downtown in a traditionally slow time after the holidays. Visitors are heading downtown to eat, drink shop

and even ice skate at Riley Park. The district is allowed for the next several years under state law.

In Milford, the Downtown Development Authority secured a grant for numerous igloos and greenhouses for Milford restaurants to expand their abilities to serve guests outdoors.

In addition to those districts and efforts, some restaurants are opting for a more long-lasting approach. The Corner Social, 101 S. Lafayette in the heart of downtown South Lyon, opted to install a new, permanent awning on its patio to provide shelter for guests.

Mike Carano, one of the owners, said they began looking at options last year when it became clear COVID-19 was here to stay for a while. They reached out to a contractor in the fall about putting in a covering over their outdoor seating area and had it installed earlier this month.

Before the permanent awning went up, a temporary tent covering occupied the then-smaller patio to help accommodate guests looking to enjoy a night out at the restaurant, which pivoted its concept from just a coffee shop in late 2019 and added alcohol and other food items to the menu.

Not only will the space, complete with heaters, allow for guests to enjoy the business, but will help in efforts to beautify and make downtown South Lyon more attractive, a direction the southwest Oakland County community has taken seriously for several years.

"We decided it's a centerpiece. We want it to look nice," he said. "We want people to drive through the town and see something nice."

Going with a more permanent option, which costs tens of thousands, was an investment Carano felt was necessary: he said he expects the trend of patrons being hesitant to dine inside will most likely linger for several years.

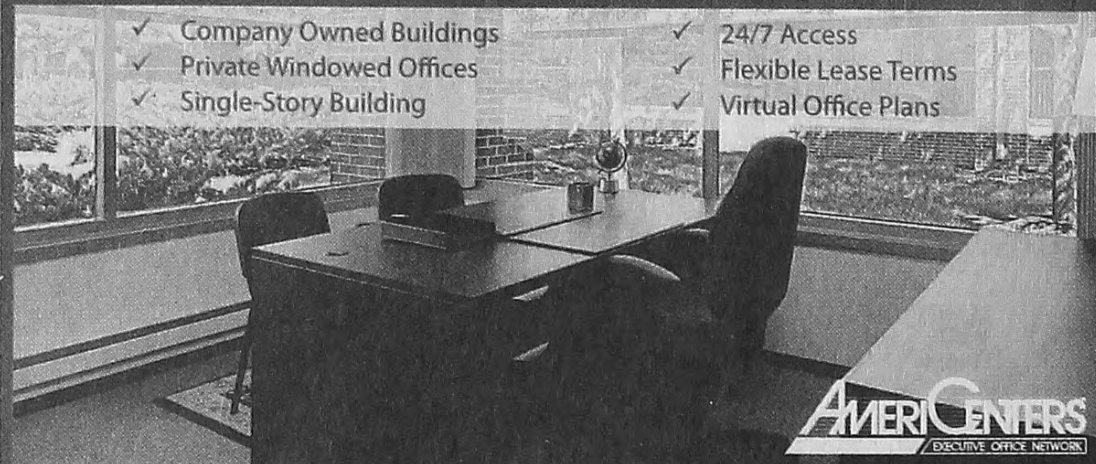
"I think it's going to be a new thing," he said. "I think it's going to be a thing people are going to enjoy doing."

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com.

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Sakura Novi plan renewed

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Sakura Novi development, originally conceived as an "Asian village," has been reincarnated.

For the sixth time.

The Novi City Council approved a rezoning of the property on the north side of Grand River, east of Town Center Drive and south of 11 Mile Road, as well as a sixth amendment to the purchase of the city-owned parcel by Robert B. Aikens & Associates, LLC and Robertson Brothers Homes.

Both motions, which passed in 5-2 votes, have conditions attached. Council members Justin Fischer and Laura Marie Casey voted no.

"In an extremely difficult time, the developer wants to invest \$60 million," Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Staudt said during the council's Jan. 11 meeting. "These (developments) will be few and far between going forward. I would like to see the original incarnation of the development, but things have changed dramatically in last 10 months and I'm pleased this is still going forward."

Fischer said he wasn't on the council three years ago when he heard about the project, but was ecstatic at the time for a development that was originally envisioned as a more commercial project with entertainment, restaurants and retail, with One World Market the centerpiece tenant.

He is far less so now and didn't support a development in which the latest changes include an additional 14 multi-family residential units and an unclear timeline for return on investment for the city. He noted the city was selling the

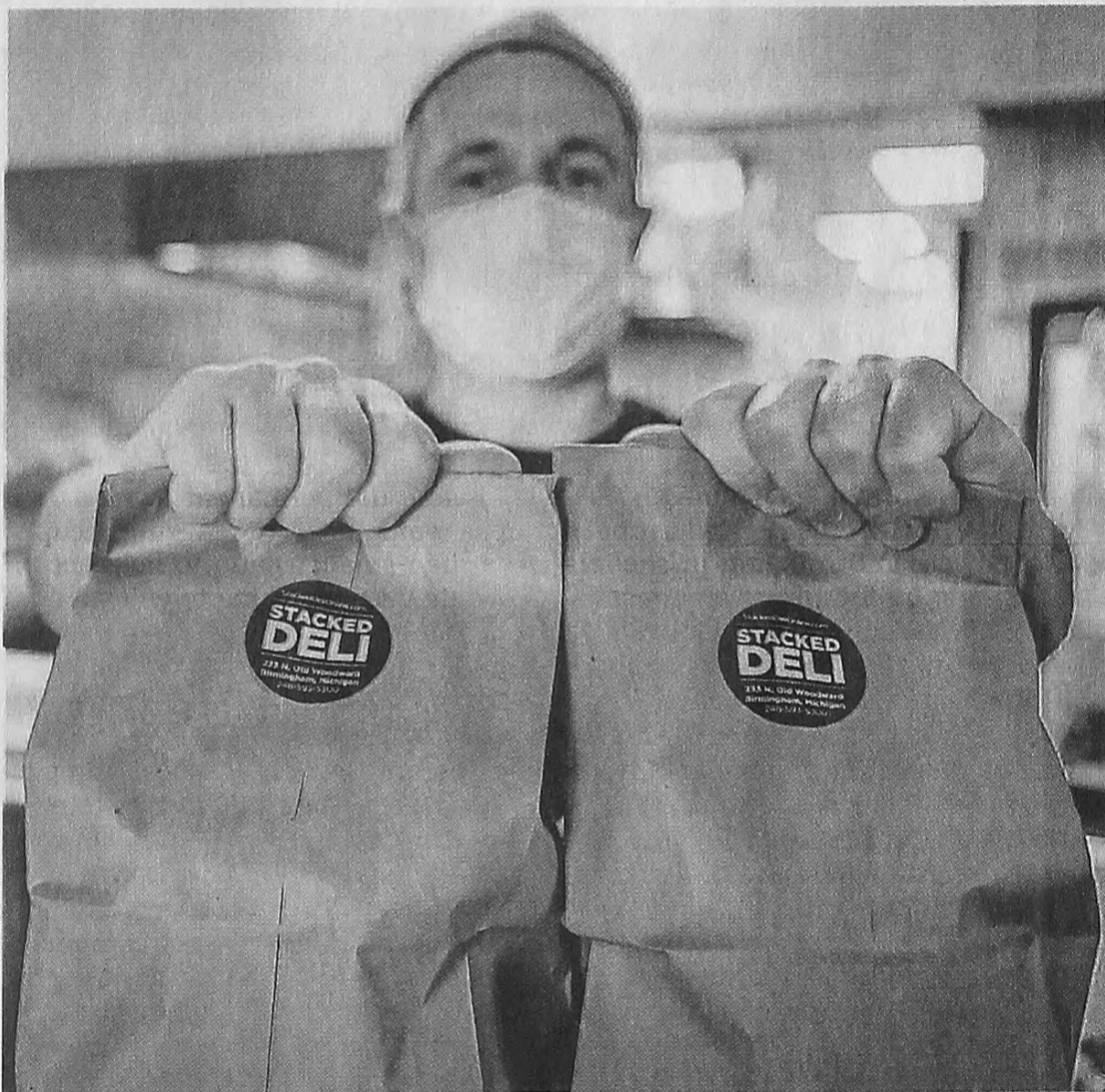
property for \$3 million, five years after purchasing it for \$2.8 million, "not even a return of 1 percent" and money that could have been spent on road improvements, parks, and police and fire services. He also questioned the tax abatements of at least a 50 percent reduction for several years, the developer will receive.

"Each amendment is a detriment to the original vision and plan," Fischer said. "I may be ok with (the low initial return investment) if I thought the taxes would be a benefit to Novi, but we're not even going to receive the full revenue from this property for 10 to 15 years."

He added that while he believed retention of One World Market was important, additional apartments with reduced commercial was a disservice and diminishment of the project. Fischer suggested the developer either return with a development closer to the original commercial vision or that the city hold on to the property and wait for a development of higher caliber.

Council member Andrew Mutch said the tax abatement structure was not clear and requested that city staff spell out the various components of it so the council would know when the development would generate taxes for the city. But he said the additional proposed apartments in the conceptual plan did not bother him.

"Cleanup of the pond and the amenities around the pond is what keeps me interested in this," he said. "If the PRO (planned rezoning overlay) comes back and it's an apartment complex attached to a shopping center, I will walk away. That doesn't meet my vision of the plan."



Stacked Deli, 233 N. Old Woodward, is one of several eateries participating in Birmingham Restaurant Week, which kicks off Monday. COURTESY OF CHRIS COOK

Birmingham Restaurant Week kicks off Monday

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Birmingham Restaurant Week is bound to look a little different this year.

With indoor dining prohibited by the state until at least Feb. 1, the annual celebration of the culinary arts in Birmingham will combine eating outside in winter temperatures and at diners' own tables at home.

The annual event kicks off Monday and lasts two weeks, ending Feb. 7. During the two-week run, hungry guests of many Birmingham restaurants can enjoy specials for both dining at the restaurant and to take home.

In addition to specials offered by area restaurants, the Birmingham Shopping District will offer promotional "Birmingham Bucks" to those who spend money at restaurants involved. Patrons can earn \$25 in promotional gift certificates for every \$50 spent at a restaurant participating in Restaurant Week.

"We have such a wonderful variety of restaurants in Birmingham, from the traditional steakhouse to those offering international cuisines in a range of price points — there truly is something for everyone. Many are offering unique options including four-course and family-style menus, DIY appetizer and meal kits perfect for creating a delicious and exciting experience at home, cocktails and wine to-go and more. On top of that,

the Shopping District is excited to offer the popular Birmingham Bucks promotion as a great incentive to try something new," said Erika Bassett, public relations specialist for the Birmingham Shopping District, in a news release. "While you are downtown, be sure to stop and admire the festive atmosphere with nearly a million lights on display throughout the district."

The ban on indoor dining in Michigan lasts until Feb. 1, though there have been indications it could end then after first being put into place back in mid-November. With that ban in place intended to help slow the spread of COVID-19 across the state, restaurants have gotten creative to continue offering dining at their locations, including plenty of outdoor options with coverings and heaters.

Those heading to downtown Birmingham will have an additional benefit this year: parking in the city's structures remains free through the end of March, a decision made by the city commission last year.

A full list of restaurants participating, including those that offer onsite dining, can be found by visiting the Birmingham Shopping District's website at allinbirmingham.com.

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

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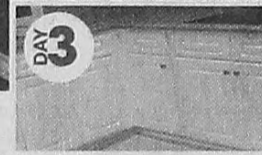
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SPORTS

Marian volleyball wins Division 1 state title for late AD

Colin Gay
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Heading into the Division 1 state final against Lowell, Marian volleyball made sure that David Feldman was not forgotten.

The former Mustangs athletic director died Jan. 14, one day before the volleyball team traveled to Battle Creek to play in its first of two possible games for a state title. As players warmed up, many had the phrase, "Play for Feld-

man," or some variant sharpied on their shoes. The sparse crowd held up a white sign with green lettering that simply said, "Play for Dave."

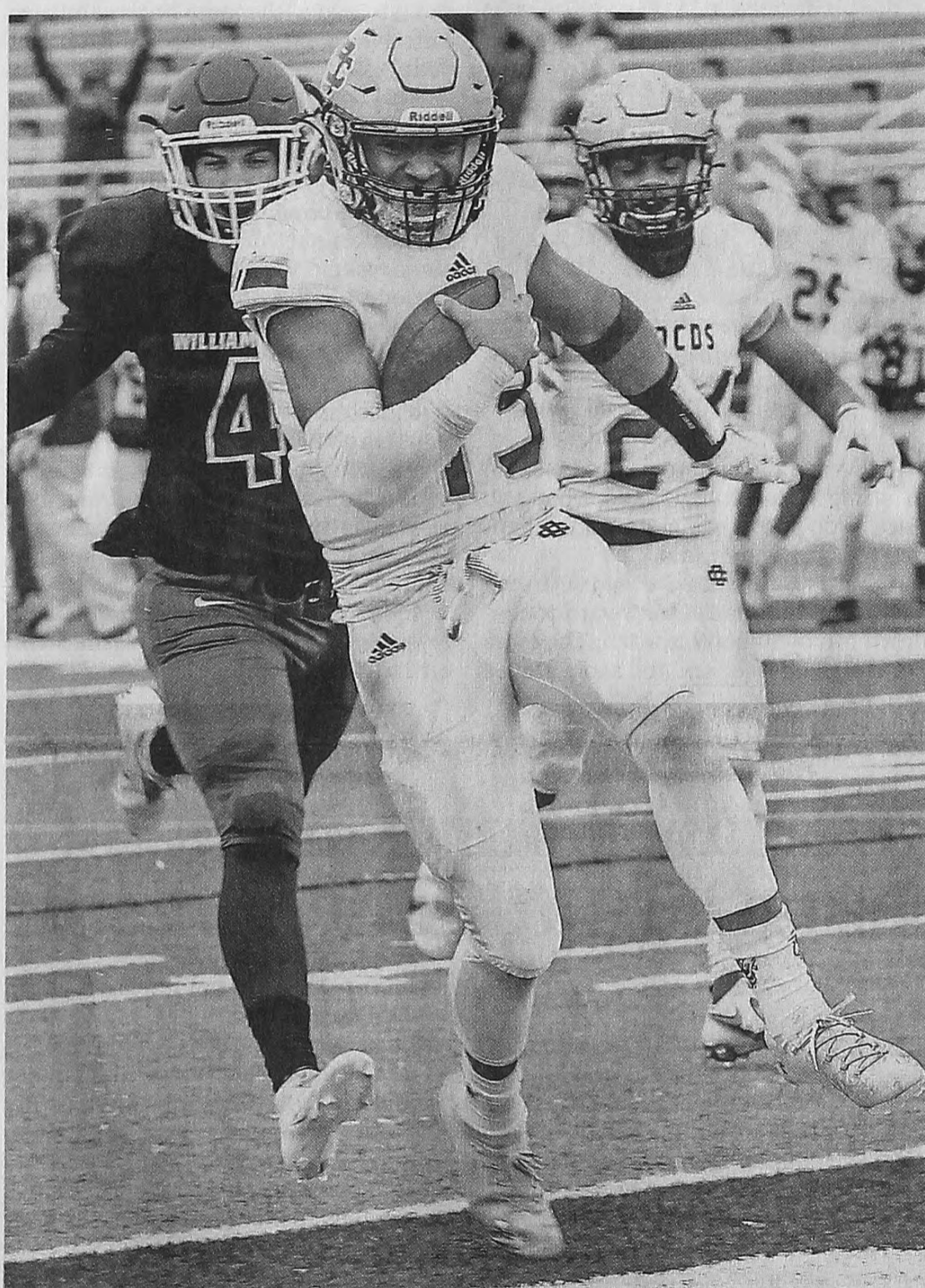
But Marian volleyball head coach Mayssa Cook also added one seat to its bench for the state final: for David Feldman's daughter, Jacqui.

Ahead of the final match, Marian was calm, confident that they would be able to pull out the victory for Jacqui Feldman. For David Feldman.

See **TITLE**, Page 2B



Marian celebrates its first Division 1 volleyball state title since 2010 after defeating Lowell, 3-0, on Jan. 16. COLIN GAY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Detroit Country Day quarterback Brandon Mann scampers into the end zone untouched for 21 yards on fourth down in the fourth quarter against Williamston Jan. 16. Detroit Country Day won, 12-0. ROBERT KILLIPS/LANSING STATE JOURNAL

Country Day perseveres in Div. 4 semifinal

Mann, MacLean deliver vs. Williamston

Phil Friend
Lansing State Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

OKEMOS - Williamston had a plan going into the Division 4 state semifinals on Jan. 16 against fourth-ranked Detroit Country Day: lengthy offensive possessions, stifling defense, swing field position with punts and make a play or two to win the game at the end.

It was a strategy that former Michigan State football coach Mark Dantonio would certainly approve.

And it almost worked. The Hornets put themselves in position multiple times to pull off the upset. But Country Day persevered, and Brandon Mann's 21-yard touchdown run with 2:16 to go gave the Yellowjackets the two-score lead necessary to advance to next week's state finals with a 12-0 victory at Okemos High School.

"We knew it all along it was going to be a play or two that's going to make the difference," said Williamston coach Steve Kersten. "Our kids gave everything they had. I loved the defense, we fought until the end.

Country Day (8-2) moved on to play Cadillac for the state title on Friday,

ONLINE
Find results of Friday's Division 4 state title game at Hometownlife.com.

which beat Edwardsburg, 28-26. Find results of that game at Hometownlife.com and in next week's print edition.

The Yellowjackets have been motivated all season by what happened in the state finals last year, when they were beaten, 44-0, by Grand Rapids Catholic Central.

"Just that heartbreak of what we felt last year as a team, we knew we didn't want to ever feel that again, so we've been determined to get back and win this championship," Mann said.

Williamston (9-2) had two possessions in the final quarter to either tie or win the game.

The Hornets got the ball near midfield with 9:17 to go and reached the Country Day 35-yard line, before two runs for negative yards and an incompletion forced a punt.

Four minutes later, the Hornets got the ball on their own 48-yard line - with Williamston's defense and punts

See **YELLOWJACKETS**, Page 2B

Area girls swim teams find success, closure at MHSAA state meet

Colin Gay
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

As Northville girls swim neared the culmination of its season, head coach Brian McNeff soon found he would not be able to see it in person.

One week before the state meet, McNeff's son tested positive for COVID-19, forcing him away from his team for its final races of the year. Instead of being poolside, McNeff texted and Face-

Timed his team, watching a livestream from his home.

"I think I was probably a little bit more nervous because I wasn't there and more anxious about it," McNeff said. "I was yelling just as loud as I normally would at home.

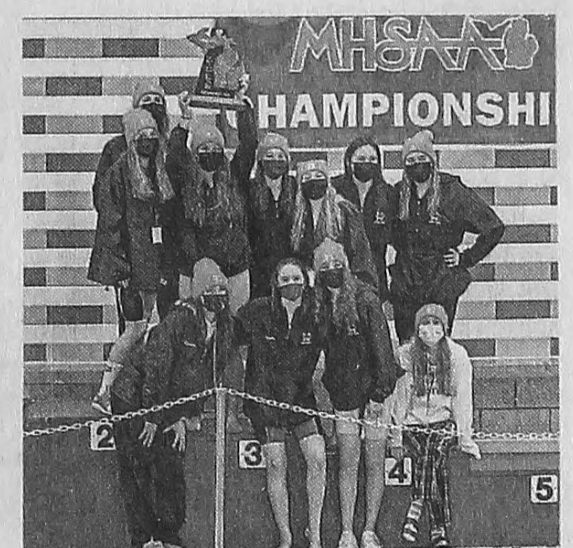
"These girls were so mentally strong. I don't think it mattered to them. I think they were ready to go. It would have been nice to be there, but I don't think it affected their swimming at all."

The Mustangs finished third at the

2020-21 Michigan High School Athletic Association girls swim and dive state meet, scoring 164 points - 20 points behind second-place finisher Mercy and first-place finisher Ann Arbor Pioneer - with All-State finishes in five different events, including a second-place finish in the 400-free relay.

But for teams across the state, this meet seemed to be just as much about closure of what had been an uncertain

See **SWIMMING**, Page 3B



Northville placed third in the Division 1 state meet. TIM ARRICK/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Country Day aims to rewrite history in final

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After Detroit Country Day's Division 4 state final loss to Grand Rapids Catholic Central in 2019, head coach Dan MacLean said before he left Ford Field as the Cougars celebrated their latest drubbing.

But he was also hopeful.

"Country Day will come back," MacLean said before he left Ford Field as the Cougars celebrated their latest drubbing.

Since Detroit Country Day's last state title in 1999, the team has made the state final five times, but has lost each time by an average of 21.8 points. In those games, the Yellowjackets offense has scored a combined 41 points, 20 of which came against Holland Christian in 2008.

After a 2020 season filled with uncertainty and change, Detroit Country Day (8-2) returned to Ford Field Friday for

another chance to add to its trophy case in the Division 4 state final against Cadillac (8-2).

Unlike in 2019, the Yellowjackets come into the game knowing what it's like to lose.

After winning its first three games played, not including the forfeit loss to Armada due to COVID-19, Detroit Country Day fell short against Division 3 and area foe Brother Rice, 23-13, the team's first loss in the regular season since Sept. 21, 2018.

In that game, the Yellowjackets offense recorded six yards of offense scoring on two field goals and a 45-yard interception return by sophomore linebacker Graham Doman.

Since then, the Yellowjackets have stepped up in a big way.

Led by senior defensive linemen Caleb Tiernan and Will Leggon, along with senior defensive backs Danny MacLean and Jacob Yarberry, the Detroit Country Day defense has allowed 36 total points

in its past five playoff games, including shutouts in the regional final and the state semifinal.

Offensively, led by quarterback Branden Mann, running back Kaelen Cooper and running back Gabe Winowich, Detroit Country Day has recorded more than 135 yards rushing in each of its past five games, scoring at least two rushing touchdowns in each playoff contest.

In three of the five playoff wins, Yellowjackets backs have averaged more than five yards per carry.

Cadillac's path to the Division 4 state final – its first appearance in school history – was a bit more strenuous.

After their first-round bye and a forfeit win in the district semifinal, the Vikings have won each of their past three games by an average of 8.7 points, including one-possession wins against Forest Hills Eastern in the regional final and against Edwardsburg in the state semifinal.

In each of its past two playoff wins,

Cadillac has found it difficult to stop the run, allowing six rushing touchdowns and 575 yards rushing, with opponents averaging 7.2 yards per rush.

Offensively, the Vikings are averaging 28.8 points per game, a total they have exceeded twice this season: a 51-point performance against Gaylord in the final game of the regular season and a 34-point game against Sault Ste. Marie in the district final.

In playoff games, Cadillac has a record of 15-12 since 2000, while Detroit Country Day has won 42 of 57 since 2000.

Detroit Country Day was scheduled to take on Cadillac in the Division 4 state final at Ford Field Friday, after press time. Find results at Hometownlife.com and next week's print edition.

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

Yellowjackets

Continued from Page 1B

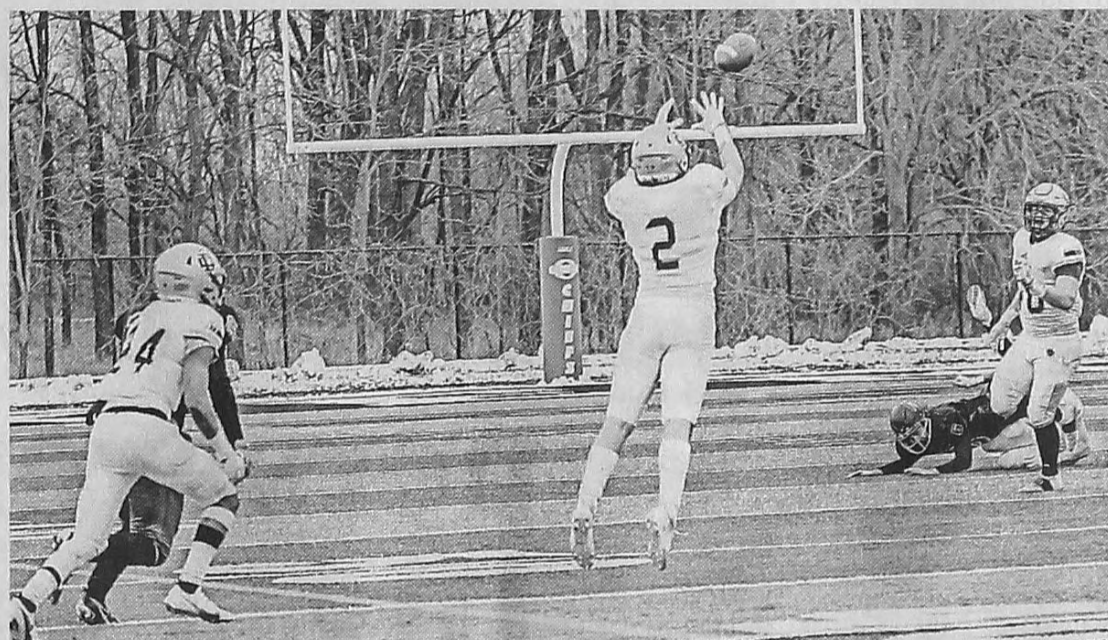
pinning the Yellowjackets deep once again – but Luke Mahaney was picked off by Danny MacLean with 5:17 to go.

"It's definitely tough right now. It's a game, as we look back on it, we had our chances," Kersten said.

On the ensuing possession, MacLean made arguably the play of the game. He caught a 26-yard pass from Mann on a third-down play to keep the drive alive. That allowed Country Day to ice the game a few plays later when, on fourth-and-4 from the 21-yard line, the Yellowjackets dialed up a QB keeper and Mann scored to make it 12-0.

"I just had to trust in my (offensive) line, let them do their job up front and trust it was going to work," Mann said. "I have a lot of trust in my coaches, they're going to put me in the best position to succeed."

Williamston's defense was up to the task throughout the game. Country Day entered averaging more than 40 points per game and was held to 12 points and 244 yards of offense.



Detroit Country Day linebacker Billy Abdallah intercepts a Williamston pass during the Division 4 state semifinal game. ROBERT KILLIPS/LANSING STATE JOURNAL

But the Yellowjackets' defense also rose to the occasion. It held Williamston running back Sullivan Sparks – who was averaging 145 rushing yards per game during the postseason – to 61 yards on 15 carries. They also picked off Mahaney three times, all in the second half, and held Williamston to 138 yards of offense.

"We tried to get yardage and we had to string it together. That's what you have to do in football and it didn't happen today," Kersten said.

Country Day took a 6-0 lead with 9:44 left in the first half on a 5-yard touchdown run by Gabe Winowich. The extra point was missed, and the score stayed

that way until Mann's score late in the game.

Williamston never entered the red zone against Country Day's defense.

"It was a dogfight out there," said Country Day coach Dan MacLean. "They had enough to get it done. I'm proud of them to make (the state finals) and give ourselves a little redemption from last year."

"We were a little sluggish in the first half offensively, but if you don't give up any points, you win the game. And we did that time and time again."

Despite coming up one game short of the state finals for the second time in three years, the fact that football got played at all this season means the year was a success. The season was paused in November due to COVID-19 and then teams didn't come back to play nearly two months later.

"There's nothing better than to watch young men fight together for a noble cause," Kersten said. "Everything they gave to us through the craziest season of all, getting us to the semifinals, was incredible."

Email digital sports reporter Phil Friend at pfriend@lsj.com. Follow him on Twitter at @Phil_Friend.

Title

Continued from Page 1B

Up 24-19 in the final set, the deciding set after winning the first two, Cook looked at junior outside hitter Ava Brizard, one of five juniors on the team, and the Mustangs' main offensive attack, and indicated the next point was hers.

Brizard responded, taking the set from sophomore libero Lauren Heming, and spiking the ball down: securing Marian's first state title since winning back-to-back championships in 2009 and 2010, sweeping Lowell, 25-17, 25-20, 25-19.

The junior outside hitter secured 29 of Marian's 51 kills against the Red Arrows, hitting 48.1% of her tries.

"We call her our finisher, our closer – she has a lot of nicknames on this team," Cook said of Brizard.

"It's nice because she's probably hitting close to .500 on the season, so at the end of the day, the odds are that one out of every two balls are going to be a kill. Let's just play those odds."

In the three-set sweep, Marian trailed Lowell only seven total plays – all of which came in a second set in which no team could put together a run of more than three points.

In the final set, the Mustangs, using Brizard and sophomore setter Ava Sara – who recorded 39 of the team's 47 assists – scored eight of the final 10 points to secure the victory.

To Cook, this was the style of play that she hoped the five-to-six-week pause in Marian's season would not stop.

Beating 2019 Division 1 state champion and Catholic High School League rival Mercy in the regional final, Cook saw a team that was gelling, a team that was connected, no matter whether they had a senior on the roster or not.

Despite being young, Battle Creek was seen as achievable, even before the season started.

"We felt that this was something that was accomplishable for us," junior middle blocker Sarah Sylvester said. "So we just worked every day in practice, with this kind of at the back of our minds, even if it was a big match ahead, I think this was something we were



The Marian High volleyball team gets ready to practice Jan. 14 as it prepared for the state semifinals.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

building up to this whole season."

Youth drove Cook, using every slight made against them, every comment by an opposing player – like, "You're just so young" – to fuel the Mustangs, with the head coach bringing those comments into the practice gym for each player to hear.

"The kind of competitor I am, that really upset me," Cook said. "I know how I responded as a player, and I brought those comments back to practice, saying, 'This is what that person said.'"

This was something David Feldman was competitive about as well.

"He was just as competitive as we were this whole season," Brizard said. "He loved volleyball so much, and we knew that. It added just more fuel to our fire to win this state championship – as if we didn't have enough already – to win it for him and win it for (Jacqui)."

When the medals were all passed out to each of the players, Cook walked toward the championship trophy with Jacqui Feldman at her side. After a quick picture, the Marian head coach handed the trophy to David Feldman's daughter and got out of the way.

The Marian team mobbed her, celebrating with her, something each member of the roster and the coaching staff knew David was doing, too.

"We know he's definitely smiling and jumping around in heaven cheering us on," Brizard said.

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

Marian mourns death of longtime athletic director

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Prior to the 2018 fall season, Mayssa Cook only saw Marian athletic director David Feldman from a distance while she was head coach at Father Gabriel Richard or as one of the coaches at Michigan Elite Volleyball Academy, where his daughter played.

Every encounter with him, she said, was always pleasant. He was very supportive, making sure whatever team entered Marian's gym was comfortable.

When Cook reached out to apply for the Mustangs volleyball head coaching position, she said he was so excited. And for the past three seasons, Cook saw Feldman in a different light.

"He had a way of making your sport feel like it was the most important sport to him at the school, even though I knew he treated basketball and soccer and golf, I know he treated every sport the same," Cook said. "When he talked to me about volleyball or the kids, you felt it was all about you."

Marian announced Jan. 15 that Feldman, the longtime athletic director, died the day before.

"With great sadness, Marian mourns the passing of Mr. David Feldman," Marian released in a statement. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the Feldman family at this difficult time. The Marian Community shares their grief at the loss of a beloved husband, father, friend, and athletic director."

When she heard the news of Feldman's death, Cook thought back to those moments shared with him, the fact that he knew every player's name and genuinely cared about what happened to each of them on and off the court.

"He would call me after tournaments and ask about almost every player individually: 'How did she do? How did she do? Did she get it?'" Cook reminisced. "We had a freshman on the team this year that was pretty much brand new to volleyball. He would always say, 'Did (Mckenzie) Swanson get to play?' I was

like, 'Yes Dave, she got to play.'

"He cared that much about their feelings and the success of Marian."

Cook said she will always remember Feldman's calmness and composure, his ability to make her laugh even through the most difficult moments and his ability to make her feel things were going to be OK no matter the situation.

"I think that's how he made a lot of people feel," Cook said. "It's his heart. I think everyone around him knew he loved them."

"He loved Marian. He loved building strong women and he was there for all of us."

Feldman's death came one day before the start of a big weekend for Marian athletics, specifically for the volleyball team. The Mustangs traveled to Battle Creek and won its first state title since winning back-to-back championships in 2009 and 2010.

On Jan. 14, Cook received a phone call from Feldman's daughter, relaying the news about his death. But the Marian head coach received another message as well.

"You know, my dad, all year has been talking about how this is your year," Cook said she was told. "Please let the girls know that all he would talk about is this is volleyball's year. They have earned it. They have deserved it. This is their time."

Cook's message to her coaching staff and to her team is that they are going to be strong and honor him this weekend.

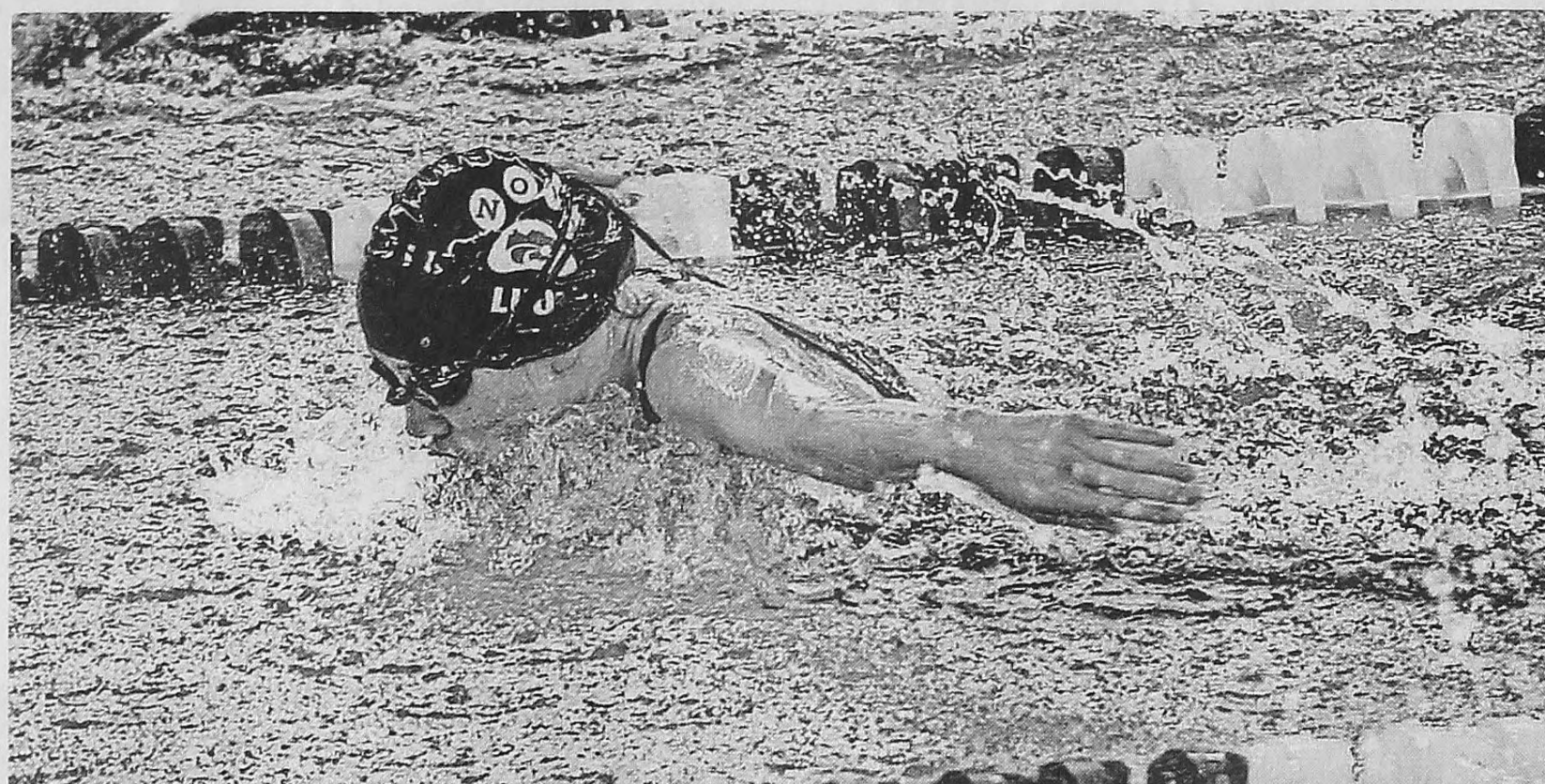
To her, it's exactly what Feldman would have wanted.

"At the end of the day, regardless of the outcome, I believe that we are going to honor him with the best of our ability and we will continue to in the years to come," Cook said.

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



Feldman



Novi's Michelle Luo earned All-State honors in the 200-yard relay. TIM ARRICK/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Swimming

Continued from Page 1B

season than just about swimming fast and earning times.

Plymouth head coach Emily Weiner, whose junior swimmer Brady Kendall finished first in both the 100-fly and the 50-free, said a lot of the conversations she had with her team in the two weeks leading up to the meet was about mindset; getting themselves in a place where they believed they could swim the times they did before the season was paused.

"No matter what, after the race, they were all excited, they were proud of themselves, proud of their teammates and kept a positive attitude all the way through, and I think that's what allowed them to have that success," Weiner said.

To McNeff, who saw his team drop times throughout Saturday's events, Northville's performance showed it was ready to compete no matter how much training the team had coming in.

Novi's Kenneth Stark, whose team finished seventh with 133 points, said he just wanted to see his girls meet the times they swam right before the pause.

"If we could get there or maybe even a little bit past there, we were going to be fine," Stark said. "There wasn't really a tone of real high expectations, more of like, 'You are going to go out and do your best.' We got a chance to close out the season and finish."

Matt Zavislak, Salem swim's head coach, saw his team perform way better than he thought they would. The Rocks placed 11th, points from 10th-place finisher Ann Arbor Huron, while freshman Clarie Hammill earned All-State honors in the 100-fly and 100-yard backstroke, along with a fifth-place finish in the 200-free relay and the 400-free relay.

He said, heading into next year he urged his team to take advantage of the possibility of a normal season, but remembering what Salem did when it was not normal.

"What we were able to do this year: we had a strong season from start to finish," Zavislak said. "If we're able to do the things that we did through a COVID-wrecked year, the expectations are going to be higher for a year that's normal."

Cranbrook takes home D3 title

Heading into the Division 3 state meet, Cranbrook Kingswood head swim coach Paul Ellis was a nervous wreck.

"Prior to the start of the meet, my heart, just standing there for the national anthem and everything, was like at 140 beats per minute, just running, just constant," he said.

However, he said, the girls were confident, loose and relaxed when they practiced at Cranbrook prior to the start of the meet. He saw they knew what they had to do. They were ready to go.

When the meet began at Lake Orion Saturday, Ellis' nerves were calmed instantly. In the 200-yard medley relay – senior Justine Murdock, senior Serena Hao, senior Hale Oal and senior Allison O'Donnell – three of the four swimmer swam their best times in that relay, winning the race by nearly a second.

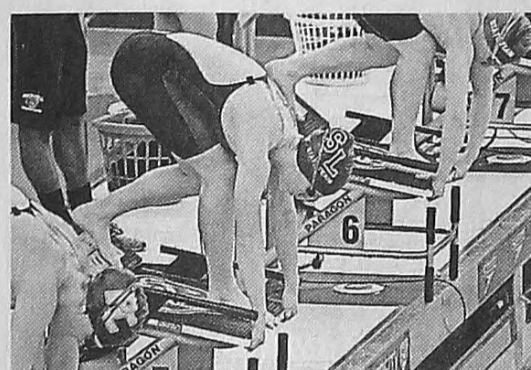
At that point, the dominos had fallen into place for the Cranes.

"I was like, 'All right, we are going to have a good day,'" Ellis said.

Cranbrook Kingswood dominated the Division 3 state meet, earning first-place honors – its second in the past four years – scoring 379 points, ahead of second-place Marian.

The Cranes won seven of 12 total events, including two individual first-place finishes by senior Gwen Woodbury in the 200-free and the 100-free, two individual first-place finishes for Murdock in the 200-yard IM and the 100-back, and first-place finishes in the 200-free relay and the 400-free relay.

Ellis said his team's dominance, specifically from its seniors, started with the first pause in November, taking initiative for what they wanted to accomplish in their final meet with the team.



South Lyon swimmer Sierra Newton earned state cuts in the 50 and 100 freestyle. PROVIDED BY SIERRA NEWTON

"I did my best, but really it was their leadership that kept everyone motivated and moving forward," Ellis said. "They were the ones that were holding each other accountable, they were the ones that were putting in the work during that month of absolute uncertainty because they knew that there was a chance they would not get to swim and not have a state meet."

"They knew it was a possibility, but, anyways, they said, 'We have come this far. Let's go a little further ...' They wanted to end their senior year on a high note."

All-State honorees

DIVISION 1

200-yard medley relay

Northville – fourth place, 1:46.65; senior Malayna Mancinelli, junior Emily Lowman, sophomore Emily Roden, junior Laurel Wasiniak

Livonia Stevenson – sixth place, 1:48.03; freshman Faith Robertson, sophomore McKenzie Siroky, senior Ashley Gulau, freshman Allie Allen

200-yard freestyle

Northville sophomore Emily Roden – third place, 1:52.67

Northville junior Laurel Wasiniak – fourth place, 1:53.15

Bloomfield Hills sophomore Brooke Thompson – sixth place, 1:53.84

Novi junior Jimin Son – eighth place, 1:54.59

Northville sophomore Julia Tuinman – eighth place, 1:54.59

50-yard freestyle

Plymouth junior Brady Kendall – first place, 22.98, Hudsonville High School pool record

Livonia Stevenson sophomore McKenzie Siroky – fourth place, 23.70

Novi junior Kotoko Blair – fifth place, 23.80

Novi senior Julia Katulski – eighth place, 24.37

100-yard fly

Plymouth junior Brady Kendall – first place, 54.35, Hudsonville High School pool record

Salem freshman Claire Hammill – second place, 55.71

Northville sophomore Emily Roden – fourth place, 56.67

100-yard freestyle

Novi junior Kotoko Blair – second place, 51.60

Northville junior Laurel Wasiniak – sixth place, 51.97

Bloomfield Hills sophomore Brooke Thompson – eighth place, 52.55

500-yard freestyle

Novi junior Jimin Son – eighth place, 5:07.58

200-yard freestyle relay

Novi – second place, 1:37.38; junior Kotoko Blair, sophomore Michelle Luo, junior Jimin Son, senior Julia Katulski

Salem – fifth place, 1:38.15; senior Sabine Branford, junior Maya McClain, junior Nicole Fretiag, freshman Claire Hammill

100-yard backstroke

Salem freshman Claire Hammill – eighth place, 58.00

100-yard breaststroke

Livonia Stevenson sophomore McKenzie Siroky – first place, 1:01.45, Hudsonville High School pool record

400-yard freestyle relay

Northville – second place, 3:31.28; sophomore Emily Roden, freshman Ocean Taylor, sophomore Julia Tuinman, junior Laurel Wasiniak

Novi – fifth place, 3:33.36; junior Kotoko Blair, senior Ella Ducato, junior Jimin Son, senior Julia Katulski

Salem – eighth place, 3:35.50; senior Sabine Branford, junior Maya McClain, junior Nicole Fretiag, freshman Claire Hammill

DIVISION 2

200-yard medley relay

Seaholm – second place, 1:45.88; junior Eliza Dixon, junior Katherine Stanley, junior Lauren Louwers, junior Isabella Vaughan

Farmington – sixth place, 1:49.89; freshman Emme D'Errico, senior Kristen Fleming, senior Madeline Greaves, freshman Mackenzie Bushey

200-yard freestyle

Seaholm sophomore Samantha Clifford – third place, 1:52.76

Milford senior Ella Glaspie – eighth place, 1:55.67

200-yard IM

Farmington senior Madeline Greaves – second place, 2:03.74

Groves junior Karen Auston – fifth place, 2:08.48

Seaholm junior Katherine Stanley – third place, 2:07.27

Seaholm senior Megan Clifford – sixth place, 2:08.98

Seaholm freshman Kelley Hassett – eighth place, 2:10.34

50-yard freestyle

Milford senior Rylie Kennedy – second place, 24.21

Seaholm junior Eliza Dixon – third place, 24.42

Seaholm junior Carly Burry – fifth place, 24.80

South Lyon sophomore Sierra Newton – sixth place, 24.99

100-yard butterfly

Seaholm senior Megan Clifford – third place, 57.01

Farmington freshman Emme D'Errico – eighth place, 59.56

100-yard freestyle

Seaholm sophomore Samantha Clifford – second place, 51.82

Groves junior Madison Helmick – fifth place, 53.08

Seaholm junior Lauren Louwers – seventh place, 54.07

South Lyon sophomore Sierra Newton – eighth place, 54.27

500-yard freestyle

Groves junior Karen Austin – second place, 4:58.35

Seaholm freshman Kelley Hassett – seventh place, 5:11.48

200-yard freestyle relay

Seaholm – first place, 1:36.15; junior Eliza Dixon, sophomore Samantha Clifford, junior Carly Burry, senior Megan Clifford

Groves – sixth place, 1:40.32; senior Hannah Deighan, sophomore Mayah Goel, junior Marie Morris, junior Karen Austin

Milford – eighth place, 1:40.53; senior Rylie Kennedy, sophomore Mallory Armstrong, senior Riley Coe-sens, senior Ella Glaspie

100-yard breaststroke

Farmington senior Madeline Greaves – second place, 1:04.03

Seaholm junior Katherine Stanley – third place, 1:04.36

Seaholm junior Lauren Louwers – fourth place, 1:05.13

Farmington freshman Mackenzie Bushey – seventh place, 1:06.31

400-yard freestyle relay

Seaholm – first place, 3:31.84; sophomore Samantha Clifford, junior Katherine Stanley, junior Lauren Louwers, senior Megan Clifford

Farmington – sixth place, 3:37.23; freshman Emme D'Errico, sophomore Ava Martin, freshman Mackenzie Bushey, senior Madeline Greaves

Groves – seventh place, 3:38.00; sophomore Mayah Goel, junior Madison Helmick, senior Hannah Deighan, junior Karen Austin

DIVISION 3

200-yard medley relay

Cranbrook Kingswood – first place, 1:46.45; senior Justine Murdock, senior Serena Hao, senior Hale Oal, senior Allison O'Donnell

Marian – fourth place, 1:52.46; freshman Lilly Low, sophomore Rachel Bello, sophomore Vivana Kindseth, freshman Lena McKenney

200-yard freestyle

Cranbrook Kingswood senior Gwen Woodbury – first place, 1:49.31

Marian junior Palton VanDyke – seventh place, 1:58.13

Marian junior Lilly Masters – eighth place, 2:00.10

200-yard IM

Cranbrook Kingswood senior Justine Murdock – first place, 2:05.25

Cranbrook Kingswood freshman Julijana Jelic – fourth place, 2:10.98

Cranbrook Kingswood senior Serena Hao – fifth place, 2:11.55

50-yard freestyle

Marian junior Julia Waechter – third place, 24.12

Cranbrook Kingswood senior Charlotte Trunsky – fourth place, 24.16

100-yard butterfly

Cranbrook Kingswood senior Hale Oak – second place, 58.12

100-yard freestyle

Cranbrook Kingswood senior Gwen Woodbury – first place, 50.29

Marian junior Julia Waechter – fourth place, 52.76

500-yard freestyle

Marian junior Palton VanDyke – third place, 5:18.89

Cranbrook Kingswood senior Charlotte Trunsky – fourth place, 5:19.43

Cranbrook Kingswood senior Allison O'Donnell – eighth place, 5:26.82

200-yard freestyle relay

Cranbrook Kingswood – first place, 1:35.98; senior Charlotte DeSantos, senior Hale Oal, senior Charlotte Trunsky, senior Gwen Woodbury

Marian – fourth place, 1:40.21; junior Lilly Masters, freshman Lena McKenney, junior Julia Waechter, junior Palton VanDyke

Detroit Country Day – seventh place, 1:41.67; junior Lily Higgins, freshman Marin Norlander, senior Kenny Tian, junior Ainsley Shilling

100-yard backstroke

Cranbrook Kingswood senior Justine Murdock – first place, 55.04

Cranbrook Kingswood freshman Julijana Jelic – sixth place, 59.76

100-yard breaststroke

Cranbrook Kingswood senior Serena Hao – fourth place, 1:07.29

Marian junior Rachel Bello – sixth place, 1:08.08

Detroit Country Day senior Jenny Tian – seventh place, 1:09.05

Cranbrook Kingswood senior Hale Oal – eighth place, 1:09.26

400-yard freestyle relay

Cranbrook Kingswood – first place, 3:30.83; senior Charlotte DeSantos, senior Charlotte Trunsky, senior Justine Murdock, senior Gwen Woodbury

Marian – second place, 3:38.62; junior Lilly Masters, junior Palton VanDyke, junior Julia Waechter, sophomore Vuvana Kindseth

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

Legal sports betting arrives in Michigan

Casinos, online partners launched Friday

JC Reindl

Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Michigan regulators gave the green light for online gambling and online sports betting to start Friday.

The Michigan Gaming Control Board announced Tuesday that it approved the first nine casinos and their online platform partners to launch at that time, with additional approvals expected in coming days.

The Legislature and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer legalized internet gambling and sports betting in December 2019, and regulators spent all of last year devising rules and ways to monitor and license the new platforms.

The minimum age for online gambling and sports betting is 21. Those taking part in sports betting do not need to be Michigan residents, but must be situated within the state's borders when placing bets via smartphone app or computer. Those from Ohio, where online sports betting isn't legal, could therefore use Michigan's new betting apps if they do so in Michigan.

The nine platforms and their associated operators are:

- FanDuel, for MotorCity Casino
- BetMGM/Roar Digital, for MGM Grand Detroit
- Penn Sports Interactive/ Barstool Sportsbook, for Greektown Casino
- DraftKings, for the Bay Mills Indian Community
- William Hill, for the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians
- TwinSpires, for the Hannahville Indian Community
- Golden Nugget Online Gaming, for the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
- Rush Street, for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
- Wynn, for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Richard Kalm, executive director of the gaming control board, said the days between Tuesday's authorization and Friday's launch gave the online platforms time to do testing and make adjustments. Some platforms, such as FanDuel, DraftKings and BetMGM, have been advertising for weeks and allowing users to sign up, but not place bets.

"Online gaming and sports betting will provide the casinos with new ways to engage with customers while the state and local communities will benefit from taxes and payments on wagering revenue," Kalm said in a statement.

FanDuel's Chief Marketing Officer Mike Raffensperger said that about 90% of the company's users in markets where sports betting is already allowed use FanDuel through its mobile app.

Raffensperger said legalized online sports betting is a good because it brings the activity into the light of day and prevents people from getting outright cheated.

"Frankly speaking, (sports betting) is a marketplace that existed prior to us launching legally," he said. "It just happened in (the) black market and the gray market with offshore accounts where maybe you'll get your money out, maybe you won't."

In-person sports betting began in Michigan last March but quickly went dark when the Detroit casinos closed amid the initial surge of the COVID-19 pandemic. The sports betting lounges reopened in the summer, closed again Nov. 18 and have remained open at reduced capacity since Dec. 22.

The tax rate and the tribal payment rate for internet sports betting is 8.4%.

The tax and payment rates paid by the casinos for general internet gambling – not including sports – will range from about 20% to 28%, based on adjusted gross receipts.

Raffensperger said he believes that online sports betting will not result in the closure of the still-new sports-betting lounges in Detroit's casinos.

"There's nothing like the experience of a sports book – watching a great game on giant TVs and being there with your friends," he said. "COVID has made that difficult ... but it's a wonderful, fun experience."

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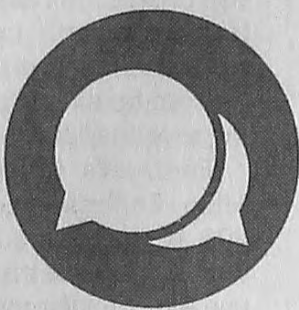
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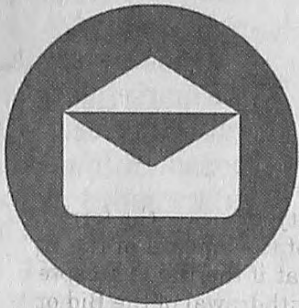
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734 354-3232
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Notice is hereby given that on January 29, 2021, at 10AM Mayflower Towing, 1179 Starkweather, Plymouth, MI 48170, a public auction of the following:

Year	Make/Model	VIN
2003	GMC ENVOY	1GKET16S436113094
2009	CHEVY MALIBU	1G1ZH57B694161911
2003	HONDA ODYSSEY	5FNRL18933B054471
2008	HONDA CIVIC	2HGFA16578H322630
2006	FORD ESCAPE	1FMYU93186KA05083
2003	HARLEY DAVIDSON	1HD1CGP193K433827

Publish: January 24, 2021

LO-000358093 2x2.5

**City of Plymouth
Zoning Board of Appeals Notice
Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.
Online ZOOM**

201 S. Main Street Plymouth, Michigan 48170
Website: www.plymouthmi.gov Phone: (734) 453-1234 ext. 232

A regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. online via Zoom to consider the following:

Z21-03 Non-Use Variance Request for 696 Forest
Front yard setback along Linden
Zoned: R-1, Single-Family Residential
Applicant: Renee Plant

Z21-04 Non-Use Variance Request for 925 Fairground
Front Yard Setback
Zoned: R-1, Single-Family Residential
Applicant: Paul Albanese

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator
201 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 234

Publish: January 24, 2021

LO-000358092 3x4.5

**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.zendes.k.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

LO-000358024 3x10

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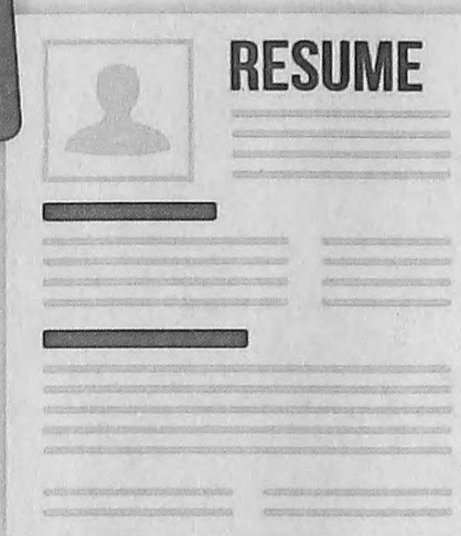
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New year, new resume



By **Kat Boogaard**
ZipRecruiter.com

If you're like most people, you hear the word "resume" and let out an exhausted groan. I totally get it — resumes can be a pain. Condensing all of your skills and professional experience into a document that's incredibly scannable and easy to read — without 0.2 margins and size 6 font? Well, let's just say it's a challenge.

However, the key is to not get overwhelmed by your document. How? Well, try getting everything out on paper, and then work on polishing it up. That's much easier than trying to make each line perfect right from the start.

Are you already to the polishing step? Great — the hardest part is over. So, here are four quick things you can do to improve your resume right now.

1. Remove irrelevant information

Since you spent your time essentially dumping all of your information onto those pages, it's time to weed through and get rid of all of that stuff that truly doesn't matter. Ideally, you'd like your resume to be one page — meaning you don't have extra

real estate to waste on pointless and irrelevant information.

Your high school extracurricular activities? Get rid of them. That line about your GPA? Delete it. That classic phrase that goes something like, "References available upon request"? Hit the backspace key. Most hiring managers assume that you'll have references to offer if you're asked — so there's no point in wasting page space on that filler line.

You want every single line of your resume to be powerful. So, get rid of anything that doesn't make you seem like an impressive and qualified candidate. Your resume doesn't need to detail your entire life story — it just needs to showcase your professional highlights.

2. Check for quantifiable achievements

It's all too easy to fill your resume with all sorts of buzzwords that hold very little meaning. And, I won't even deny that those keywords are important.

However, you don't want your resume to be all fluff and no substance. This is why it's important to include several quantifiable achievements. So, comb back through your document and look for places where you can add some hard facts and statistics.

the most important skills they're searching for. Then, take a look at your own resume. Make sure that those keywords are included in your own document. And, those skills? If they're things you actually possess, then you need to make sure that they're adequately emphasized in your document. Highlight them in our "key skills" section, and move any related bulletpoints toward the top of each job description so that they're spotted first.

These changes seem small — and, in reality, they are! But, they can have a big impact on where your resume ends up in the pile.

4. Do the "skim test"

When you spend so much time agonizing over your resume, you'd love to think that hiring managers spend hours admiring each and every bullet point and sentence. However, that's not the case. In fact, the average hiring manager spends just six seconds scanning your resume before deciding which pile you should be put in.

Needless to say, you need to make sure your resume is not only incredibly easy to read — but easy to skim. Ensure that your name and contact information are in big, bold letters at the top of the document. Next, scan through to confirm that your eyes easily catch on your past employers and job titles. Finally, continue scanning your document to make sure that you can easily spot your education and special skills sections.

These are important portions that nearly every hiring manager will glance for. And, if they aren't easy to spot within those six seconds? Well, you're bound to head straight to the wastebasket.

Instead of saying something soft and vague like, "Worked as a core member of the sales team," you'll want to state something more powerful like, "Grew sales by 25% in the first quarter." Including those numbers makes the statement much more impactful by proving you not only know how to talk the talk — you can also walk the walk.

3. Tailor it

I hate to sound like a total wet blanket, but it's imperative that you tailor your resume for every single position that you apply for. Yes, I know it's a total pain to adjust a document that you've already spent so much time on. But, if you're aiming to seem like the most qualified candidate for the position, then you need to make sure that your resume highlights exactly what the hiring manager is seeking.

This process doesn't need to be anything overly complicated. Start by taking a look at the description of the specific job you're applying for and pull out keywords and

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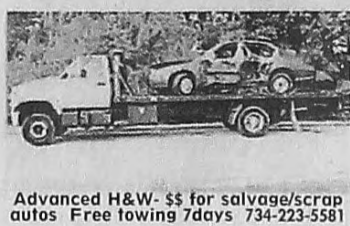
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Super Crossword

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ACROSS

- 1 Much of the Western Hemisphere, with "the"
- 9 Accuse of misconduct in office
- 16 Aloe —
- 20 Base for some dressings
- 21 Tiny sand bit
- 22 Kiln, for one
- 23 Group of shorthand pros throwing dice?
- 25 "— all been there"
- 26 Remember
- 27 Fork out
- 28 Russian news agency
- 30 Lip
- 31 Monet works
- 32 Besides that
- 34 Take a hammer to one's Mexican coin?
- 38 — Cola
- 40 Part of LED
- 41 '60s protest
- 42 Study every method of seizing defaulters' property?

DOWN

- 47 Small knapsack
- 49 — Island (immigrants' gateway, once)
- 50 Pull back (in)
- 51 Liveliness
- 52 Andrew Lloyd —
- 54 Command to list a team's players?
- 61 "Last Stand" general
- 63 Watergate senator Sam
- 64 In want
- 65 \$\$\$ source
- 66 Particular style of rounded roof?
- 71 Rail support
- 72 Crackly
- 75 Implied
- 76 Sticky — (tough spot)
- 79 Jazz instrument that tightens your face when you play it?
- 84 C.S. Lewis' land
- 86 Tropical kin of a raccoon
- 87 Rumble (up)

DOWN

- 1 "Ad — per aspera"
- 2 HBO host
- 3 Pick by ballot
- 4 — avis
- 5 Shrine figure
- 6 Amass
- 7 Feel malaise
- 8 Missteps
- 9 Rapper —
- 10 Wife's title
- 11 Butter slice
- 12 Suffix with benz-
- 13 Mommy or Daddy's sis
- 14 Loose coat
- 15 Novelist
- 16 Promise
- 17 Actor Sloane
- 18 Drop in again
- 19 Flowerlike sea polyp
- 24 Scot's denial
- 29 Vidal of hair care
- 33 Bert who played a lion
- 34 Drink a bit of
- 35 Besides that
- 36 Ave. crossers
- 37 Trudeau of Canada
- 38 Baby beds
- 39 Beginning
- 40 Lairs

- 42 Ayres of "Holiday"
- 43 Prefix with acoustics
- 44 74-Down in egg whites
- 45 Poetic "always"
- 46 — de Janeiro
- 47 Small, silver fish
- 48 Sheepskin boot brand
- 51 X minus two
- 53 Like blood
- 55 Choppers
- 56 Go wrong
- 57 Campers, for short
- 58 Warming in hostilities
- 59 Particular issue
- 60 Bagel variety
- 62 Go in circles
- 65 Perform
- 67 Long skirt
- 68 "Green" prefix
- 69 CEO or prez
- 70 Diary author
- 73 Part of ESL
- 74 Product of amino acids
- 77 Freightage
- 78 Word before Kat or Glue
- 80 Coll. entry exam

- 81 Baseball's Vizquel
- 82 Preceders of xis
- 83 Preceder of tee
- 85 Year, in 46-Down
- 88 Brothers, e.g.
- 90 Donating
- 91 Jennifer of "Friends"
- 92 Redgrave of "Atonement"
- 93 Cpl., for one
- 94 Resistance unit
- 95 — wee Herman
- 96 More wacky
- 98 GM security system
- 101 Cosmic bursts
- 102 Party invitee
- 103 To and —
- 104 "No kidding!"
- 105 Smarts
- 106 Carpet nails
- 107 Paper printer
- 110 Cold treats
- 112 Inactive
- 113 Musician
- 115 Hedge shrub
- 117 "... boy — girl?"
- 118 Umpire's cry
- 119 Winter worry
- 120 DJJ division

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

SUDOKU

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

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!

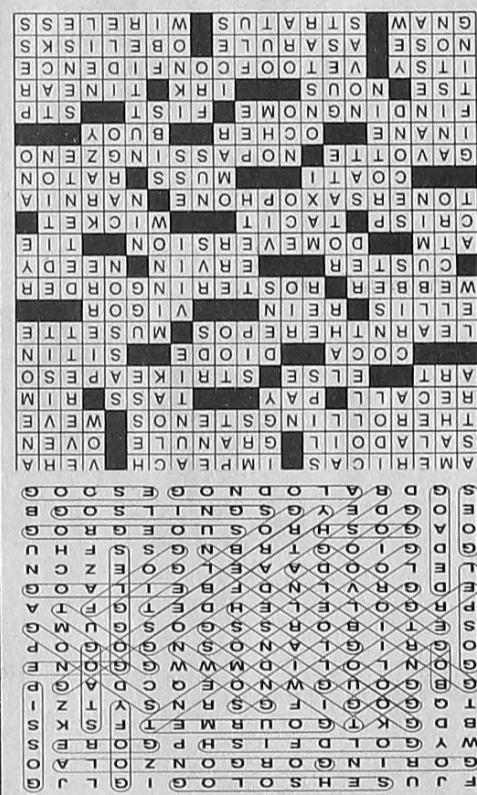
ALL GO

Can you find all the words beginning with GO? 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.

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

ANSWER KEY

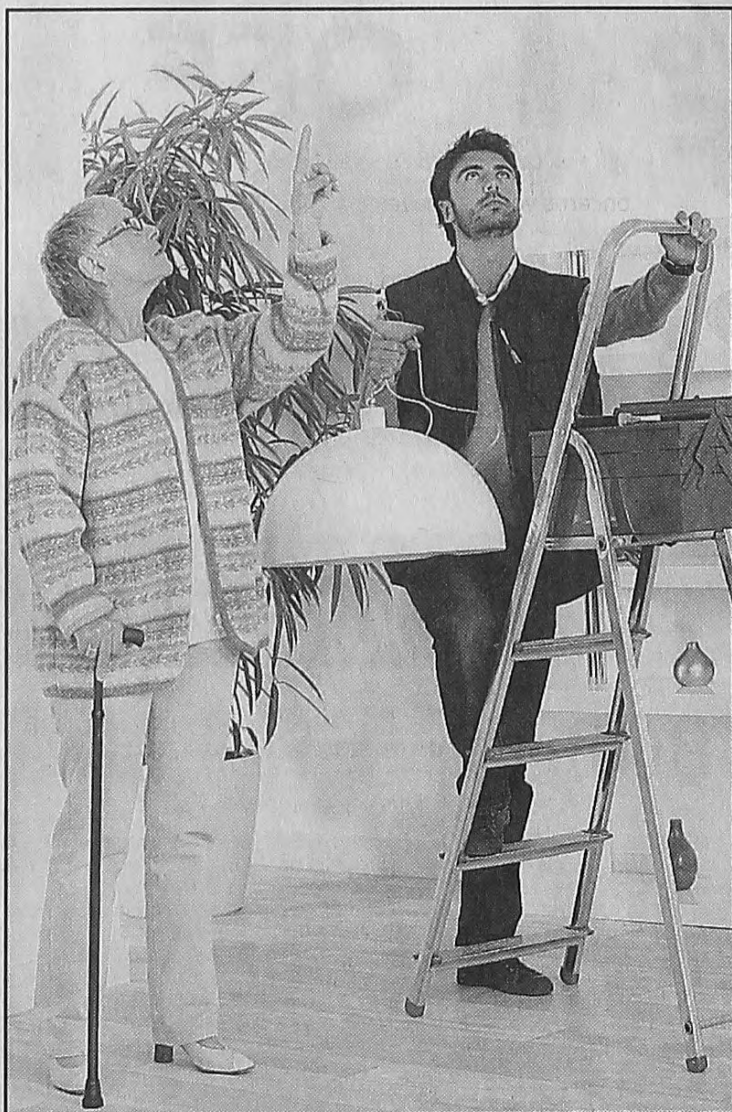
- GOADED
- GOALIE
- GOATS
- GOB
- GOBLET
- GOBLINS
- GODFATHER
- GODWIT
- GOES
- GOGGLES
- GOITRE
- GOLDEN
- GOLDFISH
- GOLF
- GOLOSSES
- GONDOLA
- GONE
- GONG
- GOO
- GOODNESS
- GOODS
- GOOFY
- GOOSE
- GOOSEBERRY
- GORE
- GORGE
- GORGEOUS
- GORGONZOLA
- GORILLA
- GORING
- GOSH
- GOSLINGS
- GOSPEL
- GOSSIP
- GOT
- GOULASH
- GOURMET
- GOUT
- GOVERNMENT
- GOWN



ALL GO

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

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



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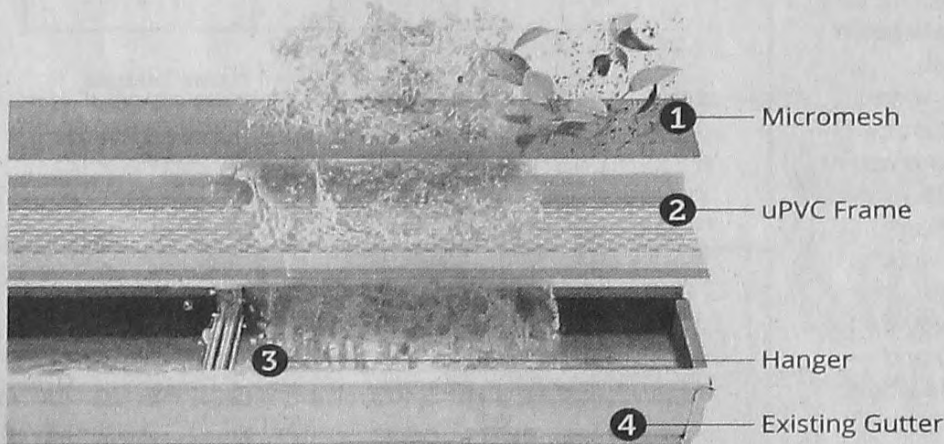
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