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SUNDAY, MAY 9, 2021 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Plymouth

Township

allowing

new park

prohibited pets in parks

Dogs will be allowed in a Plymouth Township park for the first time in recent memory, but with a catch that will

The township's board of trustees voted 5-2 (trustees Chuck Curmi and Mark Clinton cast dissenting votes) April 27 to deem a triangular section of property near the intersection of Ann Arbor Trail and Beck Road "Plymouth Township Golfview Neighborhood Park." The designation that will allow for state and federal grants to be dedicated to the area to upgrade landscaping and accessories, and potentially secure the green space from future de-

The name of the park is subject to change, township Supervisor Kurt

Ordinance formerly

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

disallow playing fetch.

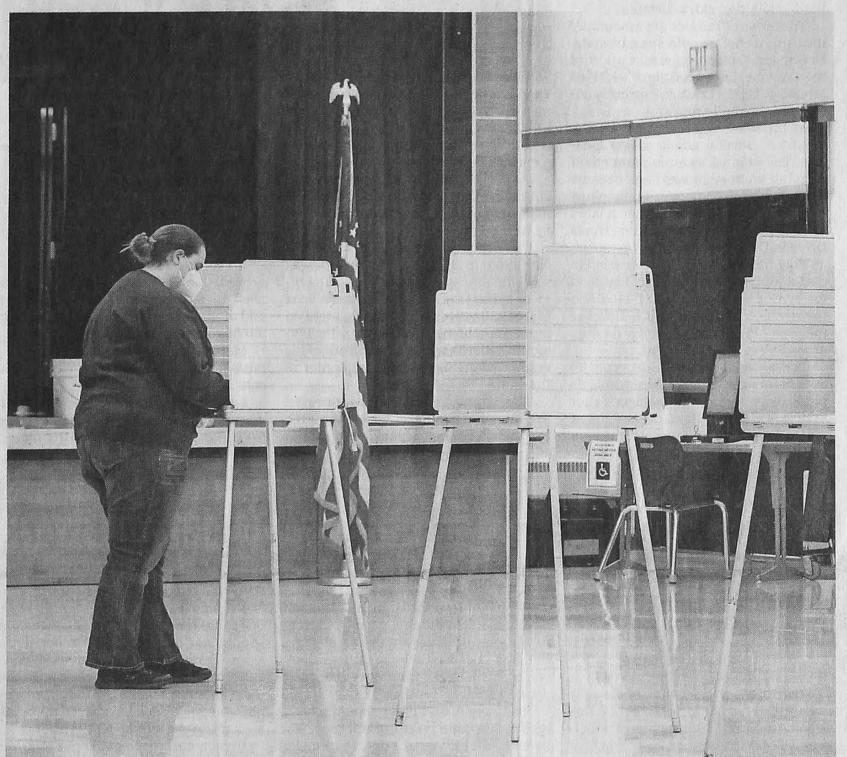
velopment.

Heise said.

See DOGS, Page 6A

dogs in

ELECTION DAY



Kayla Blauet casts her ballot at Frost Middle School on May 4 for the Livonia Public Schools bond proposal.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Voters say 'yes' to Livonia schools bond

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Voters in the Livonia Public Schools district passed a proposed \$186 million,

20-year bond Tuesday.

Livonia and Westland residents who live in the district overwhelmingly approved the bond, which the district plans to use to fund new programs and improve infrastructure.

According to Wayne County, about 71% of voters approved, with 12,346 casting "yes" votes and 4,997 saying

"no." All results are unofficial until certified by the county board of canvassers.

"I have three kids in the school system, so I'm excited to continue providing the funding they need to get whatever access to materials," Megan Holmes said after casting her vote at Frost Middle School. "My son is excited that they might get air conditioning."

Voters polled by Hometown Life on Election Day had one reason for their "yes" votes: the kids.

"For the schools? Absolutely," Kim Cox said after voting at Riley Upper Elementary School. "I wouldn't even care if the taxes went up, I would still vote yes. It's for the kids. It's so important."

Prior to Tuesday, about 13,000 Livonians had already cast absentee ballots. Others decided to fill out their ballot in person.

"I like to vote in person," Renee Reed said after voting at Riley Upper Elementary. "It makes me feel like I'm part of the process and I know my vote is counting."

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com.

Westland advocate focuses on domestic violence

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Because of an increase in domestic violence and family trouble calls, the Westland Police Department is embedding a victims advocate professionally trained to help.

Mayor Bill Wild and Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik announced the partnership with First Step, an outer Wayne County non-profit agency dedicated to providing comprehensive services for those impacted by domestic violence.

Jedrusik said officers find domestic violence cases some of the most dangerous and difficult.

"While these calls sometimes result with a person arrested and criminally charged, two-thirds of domestic violence cases are not prosecuted, often due to victims who are afraid of the process and the uncertainty of the

See ADVOCATE, Page 6A

Voters pass Redford Union, South Redford bonds

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Both school districts in Redford Township got good news from voters Tuesday.

Redford Union and South Redford schools both received approval on their proposed bond renewals, according to unofficial result reports from Wayne County. Both proposals do not increase residents' taxes.

All results are unofficial until certified by the county board of canvassers. In Redford Union, 1,253 voters said

"yes" and 683 said "no." The \$59.2 million bond will address building improvements and renovations. The district also plans to put money toward arts and career technical programs.

Voters in the South Redford district cast 1,682 approving votes and 575 declining votes. The district plans to put the \$79.9 million the bond generates toward "critical" infrastructure needs as well as modernizing technology.

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

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Volume 46 | No. 94
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Dairy Queen plans new location in Livonia

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Plans are in the works to bring a stand-alone Dairy Queen to the parking lot of the shopping center on the southeast corner of Plymouth and Farmington roads in Livonia.

The new DQ building, which would occupy about 2,660 square feet, would include a drive-thru and indoor and outdoor seating. The development of the restaurant is the next phase for the shopping center, which underwent a massive renovation several years ago and added a stand-alone Jimmy John's building on the eastern side of the parking lot.

"We're super excited to complete the project that we started a few years ago," said Josh Grenadier, a petitioner for the project, during a planning commission meeting April 27. "We think the restaurants will fit amazing in the site and fit in well with the overall corridor."

In addition to the DQ planned on the site, another, smaller, restaurant will also be built on the outlot, though there was no word yet on what that restaurant would be, said Mark Taormina, City of Livonia's planning and economic development director.

That new building, Taormina said, would attempt to match the rest of the shopping center's look, which also includes Larry's Foodland and Rite Aid.

"It really is intended to match the interior of the shopping center," he said. "It's the same color brick, the use of the furnished blocks and other features to make it consistent with other buildings at Shelden Park Village."

The planning commission voted on recommending approval to the plans during its virtual meeting April 27. The project now moves on to the city council for review and final determination.

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728.

Wayne County committee to review sale of Newburgh Mill

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The sale of one of Wayne County's historic mills appears to be moving forward after more than a year of de-

A contract surrounding the sale of the Newburgh Mill at 37401 Hines Drive in Livonia has arrived on the agenda for the Wayne County Commission's Public Services committee. The contract — the county would sell the mill at Hines Drive and Newburgh roads to developer Richard Cox — was on the committee's agenda for its April 20 meeting, but was delayed to a future meeting, said committee chair Commissioner Terry Marecki.

That delay was because of several questions from the committee surrounding language in the deal.

"Some of the commissioners wanted some more specifics into the contract," said Marecki, R-Livonia.

The terms of the sale are essentially the same as before with some caveats. One major factor is the relocation of the Wayne County Sheriff's Office Mounted Unit, which is currently located on the mill property.

In order to sell the property, the mounted division needs a new location. The original location planned off Farmington Road in Westland became unavailable, so the county now plans to move the stables and other related facilities to a new building along Hines Drive in Dearborn Heights.

That facility — which is expected to cost about \$405,000 and will be paid for by Cox — must be completed and the division relocated to it before the mill can officially transfer ownership, according to the agreement.

The agenda item was expected to appear on the county commission's public services committee agenda for May 4. Once the item moves out of committee, the county commission



The historic Newburgh Mill sits along Hines Drive in Livonia. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

will vote on the contract at a future meeting.

Wayne County went public in late 2018 regarding its desire to sell three old mills in Hines Park that were once used by Henry Ford.

One other, the Phoenix Mill at 14973 Northville in Plymouth Township, was sold first and is in the midst of being remodeled by Cox. A third mill, the Wilcox Mill at 230 Wilcox in Plymouth, is still in possession of Wayne County after Plymouth artist Tony Roko pulled out of his original plans to bring an art center to the space.

The county commission approved the sale of the mills in November 2019, but the closing never took place due to the COVID-19 pandemic. That left the two mills still in county control.

The redevelopment plans for the mills sparked plenty of heated discussion, with one group called Save Hines Park being created to lobby against the

If the sale of Newburgh Mill is approved, Marecki said Cox would still need to receive approval for rezoning and other elements from the city before moving forward with redevelopment.

Marecki was not sure when the committee would review the Wilcox Mill contract.

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

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Answers on estate planning, medical paperwork



Money Matters Rick Bloom Guest columnist

In April I hosted several Zoom webinars as part of National Financial Literacy Awareness Month, one of which was an open Q&A session. I thought I would answer a couple of the most common questions here.

I received many questions regarding estate planning and the type of paperwork required for non-married couples to be able to handle a medical emergency for each other. Just like for a married couple, unmarried couples should each have a medical durable power of attorney.

A medical durable power of attorney allows someone to take over your medical affairs if you are unable to do so. In addition, a medical durable power of attorney can also be used to give someone the right to make a life-ordeath decision for you, such as the withdrawal of life support.

As I highlighted during the session,

I cannot stress enough how important it passed, I will study the new law and is for all couples in committed relationships, whether married or not, to each have a medical durable power of attorney. Married couples should not assume that just because they are married they can act on behalf of the other - it doesn't work that way.

Everyone 18 and older should have a medical durable power of attorney. My belief is that if you are unable to make medical decisions yourself, someone should be authorized to operate on your behalf. If you do not have the proper power of attorney, and if something does happen, decisions will be made by judges, courts and lawyers.

We also received many questions regarding President Joe Biden's proposed tax increase and how to structure a portfolio given those proposals. My answer is, do nothing.

In general, I don't react to proposed tax laws. The reason is that they are only proposed, not the law itself. One thing I can tell you from my nearly 40 years in the industry is that there are significant differences between what is proposed and what eventually becomes law.

If and when new legislation is

then come up with a course of action.

I've said this many times and I'll say it one more time - you and I as investors should not let taxes dictate our decisions. Taxes are only one factor to consider, and they are not necessarily the most important factor. All too often people who make decisions based upon tax laws make the wrong decision.

Remember, your goal is not to lower your taxes; your goal is to have more money in your pocket. Lowering your taxes does not necessarily mean you will have more money in your pocket.

We all must continuously do things to stay current when it comes to our personal financial affairs. We cannot put them on autopilot and hope for the best; it doesn't work that way.

No matter the state of your finances today, I can assure you that you can improve your situation by taking an active role.

Good luck.

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



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Man pleads no contest in I-96 sandbagging

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The chatty Brighton man didn't speak much when pleading no contest to accusations that he pushed 40pound sandbags from an Interstate 96 overpass, shattering a businesswoman's windshield and permanently damaging her vision.

David Vincent-Charles Garcia, 41, spoke in a low voice when responding with a few words to Oakland Circuit Judge Victoria Valentine's questions.

"Yes, your honor," he replied when Valentine inquired about his understanding of the no-contest pleas he was entering for felony charges of throwing objects at cars causing serious impairment, assault with intent to do great bodily harm, malicious destruction of personal property and being a habitual offender.

Garcia, who apparently was drunk when he heaved the sandbags onto the highway, faces years in prison when he is sentenced June 15.

"My intention at the time of sentencing will be to ask the court to consider a county jail sentence followed by a lengthy period of probation so that Mr. Garcia can begin making payments on the substantial restitution figures arising from this matter," defense attorney Andrew Mikos said.

Valentine wanted to know why she should accept the no-contest pleas. Mikos gave two reasons.

"Mr. Garcia has little to no recollec-

tion of the incident," Mikos said. "Additionally, there is the matter of civil liability."

Prosecuting attorney Jessica Blanch gave a factual basis for the pleas: Garcia On the night of Oct. 4,

state troopers drove to eastbound I-96, near the Old Plank Road overpass in Lyon Township, because of a personalinjury crash.

At least one sandbag crashed through the windshield of Livonia resident and Plymouth art gallery owner Cindy Eckley. She told state troopers that she saw a man throw the sandbag.

Another person that night told law enforcers that he had just delivered a Brighton man named David Garcia to his home. He had picked Garcia up near Old Plank Road and Grand River Avenue. Garcia told the driver he dropped a sandbag off the overpass and hit a car after blowing a tire on the highway.

"When the witness asked Garcia why he dropped the sandbag, Garcia told him that he was drunk and just does not like people when he is drunk," Blanch said. "The witness advised that Garcia seemed calm and proud of what he had

To establish that he was a habitual offender, the prosecuting attorney confirmed with Garcia that he was convicted of felonious assault in Wayne County Circuit Court at least a decade ago.

Eckley tuned into the Zoom hearing. Afterward, she said she was still proc-



The 40-pound sandbag that landed on Cindy Eckley's front windshield hit so hard that it destroyed the vehicle's VIN, etched into its metal frame. Eckley has permanent vision damage from the sand and glass that went flying on impact. COURTESY CINDY ECKLEY

essing what happens now.

The permanent vision damage that she has from the sand and glass that blasted into her left eye is shaping who she is and how she runs her business.

She's glad Garcia dropped the insanity defense.

"It was a ridiculous stunt," she said. "He's been a habitual offender. I don't

think he has taken any of this seriously. I don't have a positive outlook on any dollar amount restitution from him. I would rather see him behind bars because he can't hurt anyone else."

Contact reporter Susan Vela a t svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susan-

Citizen-led group will review Canton police misconduct

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A new citizen-led subcommittee is being developed to examine Canton Township's police conduct and any allegations concerning use of force, false arrests and racial profiling, or bias-based policing.

The new Police Transparency and Guidance Subcommittee is a partnered endeavor backed by the township police department and the Canton Coalition zens." for Inclusive Communities. It will operate as a coalition subcommittee.

"This committee will help express a community-driven voice as it relates to police service," Police Chief Chad Baugh said in an announcement. "As we deploy some of the best police officers in our state, we are at the same time increasing our transparency and developing another mechanism to find solutions and build a stronger bond with our citi-

The subcommittee will have five members representing Canton's diversity. They will receive comprehensive, ongoing legal, labor and other training regarding the best "holistic" police practices and provide annual reports and possible recommendations to the police chief.

The township supervisor and trustees will review the reports and recommendations, and the chief will address

any programming needs to meet Canton's service expectations.

"We are proud to say that Canton is taking a proactive step in strengthening our police and community partnership,' Supervisor Anne Marie Graham-Hudak said. "The new committee will not replace any of the current policy processes we have in place, but instead increase transparency and commitment to our residents."

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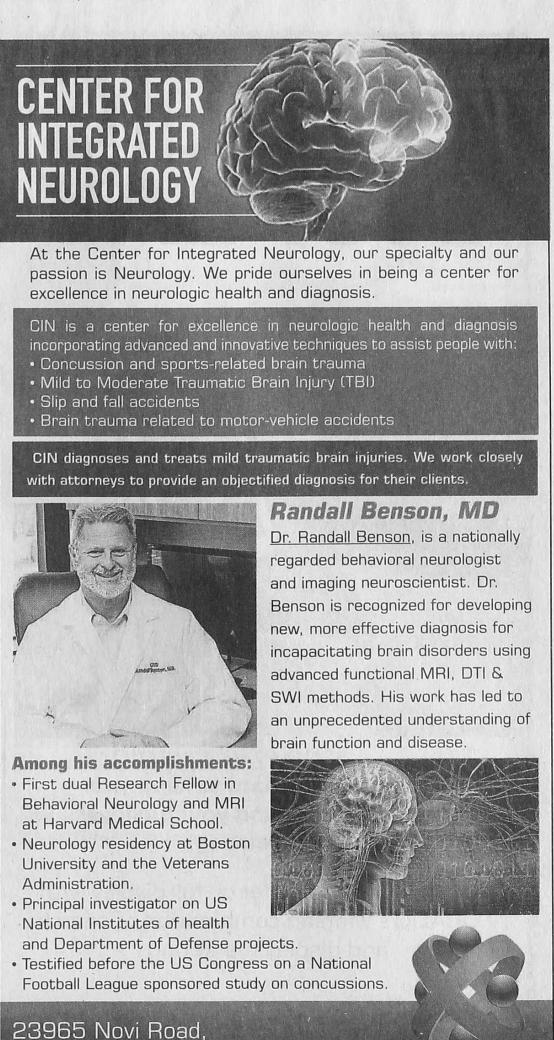
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Principal at North Farmington recognized

A surprised Joe Greene, principal of North Farmington High School, was named 2021 Principal of the Year by the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals and Michigan Association of Student Councils and Honor Societies.

The 2020-21 school year was a challenging year for educational leaders, making this nomination even more significant. The principals selected as finalists have gone above and beyond, making significant contributions to their school communities during the pandemic.

To qualify for this award, nominees must have served in a principal role for at least three years at a school serving grades 6-12. Additionally, nominees must demonstrate a sense of collaborative leadership, involvement in curriculum, instruction and assessment as well as personal positive involvement with district staff, students and families.

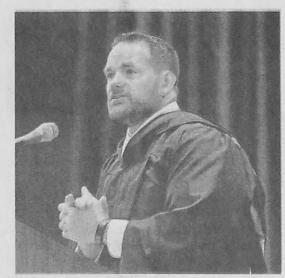
Greene was nominated for the honor by the NFHS Student Senate. When describing Greene's daily interactions with students and teachers, a representative from the NFHS Student Senate observed he actively encourages an open dialogue between students and faculty, while also listening to ideas and concerns to give everyone at NFHS the best experience possible.

The student also noted Greene is proactive, hardworking and "most importantly, he positively impacts those around him without expecting anything in return."

Wendy Marshick, NFHS teacher, student senate, and LINK crew advisor, concurred. In her nomination, she explained how Greene encourages district collaboration, diversity, equity and inclusion.

"Joe keeps our staff calm and helps us create meaningful connections with students and the community," Marshick said. "His leadership helps students feel safe, teachers feel valued, and parents feel at ease when dropping their children off at the front door."

Greene was recognized at the virtual 2021 Student Leadership State Confer-



North Farmington High School Principal Joe Greene is Principal of the Year. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

ence awards ceremony May 2.

"I am honored to be named the 2021 Michigan Principal of the Year, especially amongst such a caring and dedicated group of finalists," Greene said. "I am grateful to the members and staff of the

North Farmington Student Senate for nominating me, and I am ecstatic to know that our work together has had such a positive impact to motivate them to submit me for this award."

Being nominated for Principal of the Year is a significant honor, and the strength of this year's field speaks to the excellent caliber of leadership present in Michigan's schools. Greene will represent Michigan as the state's nominee for the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) Principal of the Year competition in September at the National Principals Institute in Washington, D.C.

Finalists will go through day-long interviews at the institute with the national winner announced at a surprise ceremony at the winner's school during National Principals Month.

"Joe is the epitome of a leader we hope to see in our schools," said Wendy Zdeb, MASSP executive director. "It is our honor and privilege to recognize him as Michigan's 2021 Principal of the Year."

Michigan School of Psychology opens mental health clinic

The Michigan School of Psychology achieved two major milestones with the completion of its new building and the official opening of the Michigan School Psychological Clinic.

The Diane S. Blau Building houses the clinic, a large lecture hall, a cozy student lounge, and additional office/ meeting room spaces.

"With the opening of our clinic, we're able to serve the community's most vulnerable population," MSP President Dr. Fran Brown said in a release. "What's unique about us is that we don't turn anyone away for lack of financial resources, while our students provide care to the community under the supervision of our excellent faculty of psychologists.'

The clinic has been serving patients since January 2020, but due to CO-VID-19-related precautions, most of the clinic's mental health services are conducted via telehealth.



The mental health clinic sits on MSP's campus in Farmington Hills. COURTESY OF MSP

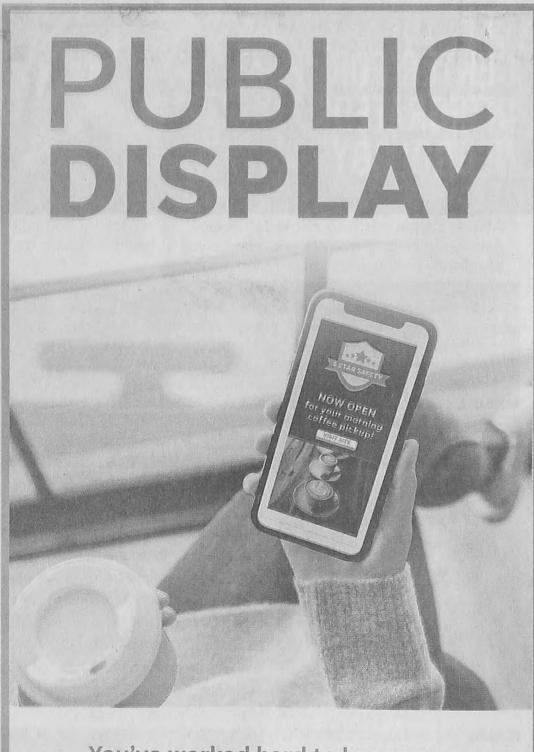
"We are so pleased that things are up rector Jim Maher, PhD. "Anyone interand running at our clinic," said Clinic Di- ested in receiving services can call

me directly at 248-919-0063 or email clinic@msp.edu."

The MSP clinic:

- Delivers competent, compassionate, mental health care to everyone who needs it.
- Provides mental health services to children, adolescents, adults, couples and groups.
- Serves clients from Oakland, Macomb, Wayne, and Washtenaw coun-
- Offers critical and affordable psychological testing for school-age chil-
- Conducts ABA treatment for people who have autism or other developmental disorders.

MSP is an independent, not-for-profit graduate school established in 1980 and located in Farmington Hills. MSP's mission is to educate psychologists today who will transform our world tomorrow.

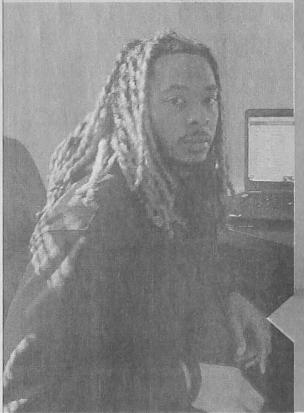


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⁶⁶I was extremely excited when I was promoted, but the promotion involved me having to transition from manufacturing to distribution. But good leaders know how to rise to a challenge! That's why I make it a point to continually learn, be open to new ideas, and help others succeed."

Full-time and part-time positions are available. Contact Sydney Vernon, Sr. Manager/Talent Acquisition @ 914-694-5335 or e-mail: svernon@gannett.com

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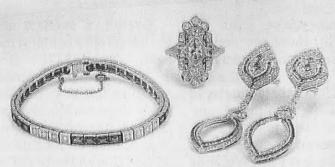


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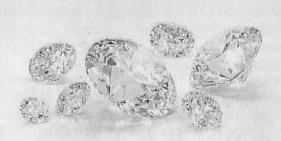
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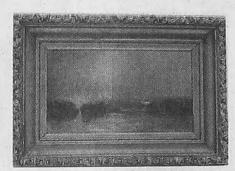
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Challenges remain for restaurants, hotels as COVID-19 recovery begins

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The hospitality industry in Michigan may not look the same after the CO-VID-19 pandemic ends, the president and CEO of the Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association recently told a group of Novi business people.

Justin Winslow spoke to a few dozen people during a City of Novi morning event April 22. Addressing the small group gathered at the food court at Twelve Oaks Mall — the first in-person talk he said he had done in more than a year — he discussed the state of the hospitality industry and the challenges it has now and will face in the future.

"The level of shuttered industry has been our reality for a long time and its impacts are felt acutely right now, and I think they're going to be something that we're going to feel as an industry as we're adapting to for a long time to come," he said.

He discussed the impact of shuttering dining rooms across the state last year, which totaled more than 150 days since March 16, 2020. Those closures, he said have resulted in sales being down 57% in Michigan compared to 26% nationally.

In February, the restaurant industry has seen the loss of more than 225,000 jobs since the pandemic began. He said more than 3,000 restaurants have closed their doors since the beginning of the pandemic.

"I think it's something that's been felt by everyone, and felt by every industry and is felt by this industry more," he said.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer — and later the state Department of Health and Human Services — closed indoor dining twice in reaction to COVID-19: once from March 16, 2020 to early June 2020 at the beginning of the pandemic, and again from Nov. 18, 2020 to Jan. 31, when infection rates increased significantly.

For restaurant owners like J.D. West and Marty Knollenberg, who own Sedona Taphouse restaurants in Novi and Troy, the challenge has been difficult on many fronts. Those include a lack of clarity from the state on several issues, as well as the challenge of bringing in more employees.



A small group listens as Justin Winslow, CEO of the Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association, speaks April 22 at the food court in Twelve Oaks Mall. PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The yo-yoing of closures in the last

year has made it tough for their employ-

ees, they said, especially if they have to

wait for unemployment checks due to

live week-to-week on their money," he

said. "They don't have a huge savings

"A lot of people in this industry, they

West said they are down between

20% to 30% of employees and have

found it difficult to find new workers. He

said he used to get plenty of applicants

before the pandemic through word-of-

mouth; now, they spend money adver-

what they can to help employees - in-

cluding helping with gift cards for pre-

sents at Christmas and assisting them

in securing a COVID-19 vaccine appoint-

ment — but he said he understands how

many of them feel with the uncertainty

around their jobs and whether they'll be

able to work without fear of being tem-

"Our employees are like our family,"

West and Knollenberg have done

issues at the state level.

tising open positions.

porarily laid off.

account."

he said. "Anytime you've ever got burned in your life, there are certain things you don't do anymore because of the past.

"That's where a lot of this industry is right now, they're untrusting of any clarity coming from the top."

Although restaurants have been a primary focus in the last year, Winslow said hotels have been hit just as hard, if not harder.

While many may not have closed their doors, occupancy rates plummeted as business travel essentially stopped over the last year.

"The percentage of employee loss has been as great or in some instances greater than it has on the restaurant side, and it has been slow to recover," he said. "Business travel, by and large, isn't happening right now."

Winslow shared information regarding federal grant funds in the pipeline, including funding stemming from the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan approved by the federal government earlier this year

Overall, a seismic shift is coming to hospitality employment, Winslow said.

Justin Winslow, CEO of the Michigan

Restaurant & Lodging Association, speaks during a City of Novi event

April 22 at Twelve Oaks Mall.

"There will be a recovery, but there is a realization that this industry is not likely to get back to the size that it was in terms of its workforce," he said. "The 10-year prediction for this industry is that 25% of this will not exist in 10 years from what it is right now."

City Manager Pete Auger said it was hard to believe the April 22 speaking engagement was the first Winslow had done in person since the pandemic began last year.

Seeing the impact of what has happened — and the promise of what can be done in the future — is something he believes the city is ready to tackle.

"In every challenge, there is an opportunity," he said. "And we in Novi look to take advantage of those opportunities."

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

Advocate

Continued from Page 1A

outcomes," Jedrusik said in statements announcing the partnership. "This is why it is so important for us to pursue a partnership with a trained and certified victims advocate."

Jedrusik said the pandemic has created some high-stress environments, leading to more eruptions of violence.

According to Westland police, officers responded to 1,174 domestic violence or family trouble calls in 2018. The number grew to 1,207 in 2019 and 1,337 in 2020, an increase of about 14% between 2018 and 2020.

Arrests and charges also jumped, moving from 216 in 2018 to 297 in 2019, and to 331 in 2020.

Alexis Reed will serve as the department's embedded advocate. As First Step's community response advocate, she has worked with domestic and sexual violence survivors for three years.

She has a master's degree in victimology and criminal justice, with a special interest in trauma response.

Reed will become part of domestic violence cases as soon as they are reported and remain involved as long as she's needed. She's also amenable to providing advice by phone and email regarding separation from violent situations.

Her assistance will include informing victims of their legal rights and the criminal legal process, accompanying them to court, planning their safety, assisting in personal protection orders and connecting victims with other First Step services and community resources.

"Unfortunately, we have seen a spike in these types of cases during the CO-VID-19 pandemic and this partnership will be a great asset," Wild said. "It is also our hope, through this formal collaboration, the Westland community will know that these crimes are being taken seriously and there is support for victims at every stage of the process at no cost."



From left to right, Westland Mayor Bill Wild, victims advocate Alexis Reed and Chief Jeff Jedrusik announced a new partnership in April with First Step, a non-profit organization working to help those impacted by domestic violence.

COURTESY OF THE CITY OF WESTLAND

Dogs

Continued from Page 1A

Immediately following the vote, an addendum was approved, 4-3 (Curmi, Clinton and trustee Bob Doroshowitz cast dissenting votes) that will allow leashed dogs to visit the new park with their owners.

A longstanding parks and playground ordinance has prohibited dogs from being brought to the township's parks, with violators subject to ejection and/or prosecution.

The addendum is part of a threemonth pilot program, Heise said, that can be altered, stopped or extended at any time until its Sept. 1 expiration date.

The rules of the addendum require that dogs must be on a leash no more than 10 feet in length at all times; dog waste must be retrieved and disposed of by the dog walker, who is responsible for the dog's conduct and behavior; and dogs must stay clear of other dogs and people unfamiliar to the dog.

"This is not cut in stone," Heise said.
"It is a test study."

While Golfview Park is a step toward the township's goal to increase walkability and connectivity within the township and city of Plymouth, it actually adds restrictions for dog owners, who prior to last week were allowed to unleash their dog on the property.

Curmi said he preferred leaving the property as a "free range" space where dog owners could bring their pets for a game of fetch.

"These restrictions — making dogs remain on a leash — are why I don't like this idea," said Curmi.

Clinton said the township is already understaffed in maintaining its existing parks, especially nearby Plymouth Township Park.

Clinton and Curmi both questioned how the leash and dog waste rules would be enforced.

Heise, who sparked the idea of mak-

ing the land a park, said he is confident the managers of neighboring Hilltop Golf Course will have no objections to continuing to mow the grass in the park like they have for the past several years.

Doroshewitz pointed out that when the triangular property was a free-range area, people were still taking their dogs into Plymouth Township Park.

"By designating it as a park and saying you can take dogs there ... I'm not against it, I just don't think it's going to solve the dog problem at Plymouth Township Park," Doroshewitz said.

Township parks foreman Brent McMullen, who said he backed the dog-related part of Golfview Park, said the number of dogs brought into Plymouth Township Park is minimal.

"Maybe once a week," McMullen said. "In the summertime, a little more maybe."

Curmi countered McMullen's point.
"How come a park foreman wrote an email saying, 'I hope that we do this be-

cause I can't enforce it now and it would

make it easier to allow dogs so I wouldn't have to harass people,' "Curmi said. "I got an email — we all got it — several weeks ago. So it must be more than once a week if it's creating that much hassle."

"Somebody from the park staff is going to have to go over there and occasionally pick up waste that's left behind," Doroshewitz said. "I'm not doing it."

A township resident who lives across the street from Golfview said during the citizens comments portion of the meeting that he regularly observes dog owners playing fetch with their pets.

"That will be restricted now with the new leash rule," Curmi said.

Other than dog-related items like receptacles and mutt mitts, the park will remain free of benches, statues and trails for now, Heise said.

In 2020, the township planted trees on the parcel and is upgrading pedestrian access to the site.

eawright@hometownlife.com

Obituaries

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Wallace Gordon Juntunen

LIVONIA - Wallace Gordon Juntunen, 86, a fifty-three year resident of Livonia, died suddenly from a cardiac arrest March 24, 2021. He was born in Calumet, MI August 4,1934 to Elmer and Bertha Juntunen and grew up in Detroit with his late, younger siblings, Melvin Juntunen and Jacqueline Boye



queline Boye.
Wally is survived by his loving wife of sixty-six years, Amy Romanza Brandenburg, their four children—Elizabeth Charest, Judith House, Alan Juntunen and Douglas Juntunen, six grandchildren, and six great grandchildren.

Wally graduated from Redford High School in Detroit at age sixteen and attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and Tulane University. His entire career was with Chrysler Management. He was a part of America's thrust to put a man on the moon and moved to New Orleans in 1961 to work on the NASA/Chrysler Saturn rockets. In later years, he traveled extensively as an international plant supervisor.

No one loved the game of golf more, and Wally is credited with several holes in one.

A huge source of inspiration and love for his family and friends, Wallace will be greatly missed and never forgotten.

Memorial service to be held at a later date.

Shirley A. Vickstrom

BUNNELL, FL - Shirley A. Vickstrom, a resident of Bunnell, Florida, passed from this life on April 25, 2021, at the age of 85. She was a former resident of Livonia, for 57 years. Proud member of the Livonia Garden Club, school census worker and chairman of the election poll workers. A true asset to society.



Shirley was the beloved wife of the late Melvin, and the loving mother of Kenneth (Dr. Karen Resseguie), Vicki (Dennis) Connon, Keith, Richard, Judith Bartlett, the late Kevin, and the late Bonnie McDermott. She was the cherished grandmother of Lawrence (Sarah), Dr Carrie McDermott (Mell) Goldman, David Vickstrom, Michael (Debra) Vickstrom, Jennifer Berman, Kenan (Michelle) Vickstrom, Melissa Bartlett, Christina Vickstrom, Keith Vickstrom Jr.

Shirley was the proud Great-Grandmother of Logan, Amber, Garth, James, Kenlee, Micah, Seven, Scy, Kegan, Zoie, Zyler, Rowan, Autumn, and "1 on the way".

To all that knew her, she was the happy go lucky beautiful Mom, Grandma, Aunt & friend, that could always brighten your day.

Known by many in the 3 beloved "TOPS" (Michigan, Florida) clubs, as the "sunshine girl".
Shirley was a true treasure! God's gift!

The family will receive visitors at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt Road (S. of Ann Arbor Tr.) on Thursday, May 6, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. A funeral service will be in the Griffin Chapel on Friday, May 7, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

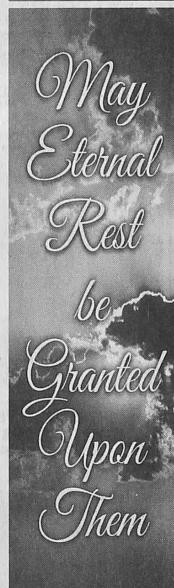
Her final resting place will be Cadillac Memorial Gardens in Westland.

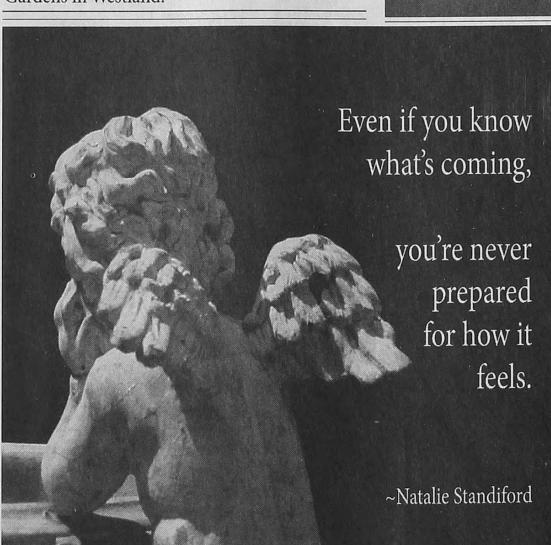


Shirley R. Leleszi

NORTHVILLE -

Shirley R. Leleszi, of Northville, formerly of Livonia, age 90, May 1, 2021. Loving mother of Julie (Patrick) Jones, Sheila (Christopher) Behler, Paul (Linda), Brenda (Bob) Kelly, Derwin (Liz) and the late Darrell. Grandmother of 5 and great grandmother of 6. Shirley is also survived by 2 step granddaughters and 5 step great grandchildren. Shirley worked for Chatham, Great Scott and Kroger grocery stores and Meadowbrook Country Club. She will be remembered as being very independent and kind hearted. She cherished the company of her dog Alvin whom she enjoyed walking for many years. Memorial Service will be held at a later date. Please share a memory of Shirley at www. rggrharris.com.





Richard A. Mastaw

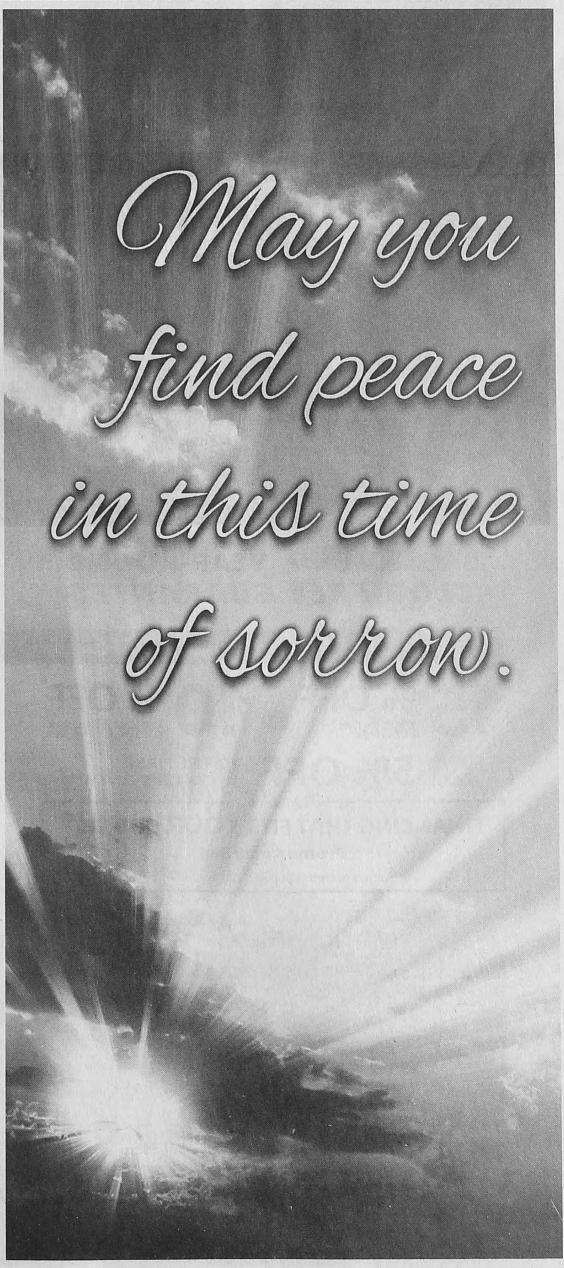
LIVONIA - Richard A. Mastaw, age 79, went to be with the Lord on April 29, 2020, at his home in Livonia, Michigan.

Richard was born on May 7, 1941 in Sault Ste. Marie, MI., the son of Alphonse and Agnes Mastaw. After serving his country in the U.S. Navy, he married Judith Barber, started his family, and went on to earn a bachelor's degree and Doctor of Jurisprudence degree. He was a successful attorney, serving in his Redford, MI law practice for over 35 years. He was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Indian Tribe and served as an appellate judge on the tribal court for four years. He was also an avid runner for many years, participating in marathons across the U.S. and had an extraordinary love of travel. More than anything else, Richard was a loving father, grandfather, brother, and friend.

Richard is survived by his daughters Mary Pat Lynch (Scott), Betsy Beil (Mike), his son Rick; grandsons Justin, Michael, and Mark; granddaughters Brianna, Katie, Paige, Hannah, Rhayelyn, and Celsey; great-granddaughter Adaline; great-grandsons Gavin and Gage; brothers Brian, Jerry, and Franklin; sisters Nancy and Elaine; and many nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his companion, Susan Bicknell, and her family. Richard was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Charles, John, Daniel, and William, and sisters Theresa, Geneva, Patricia, Mary Catherine, Carol, and Darlene.

A funeral mass will be held on May 17, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Loretto Catholic Church in Redford, MI. Richard will be buried on May 29, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at Maple Ridge cemetery, Sugar Island, MI. Following the interment, a funeral luncheon will be held at the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribe Cultural Center. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to Our Lady of Loretto Catholic Church or Right to Life of Michigan.







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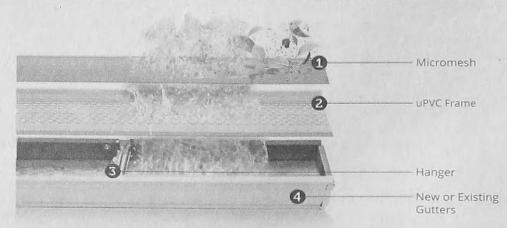
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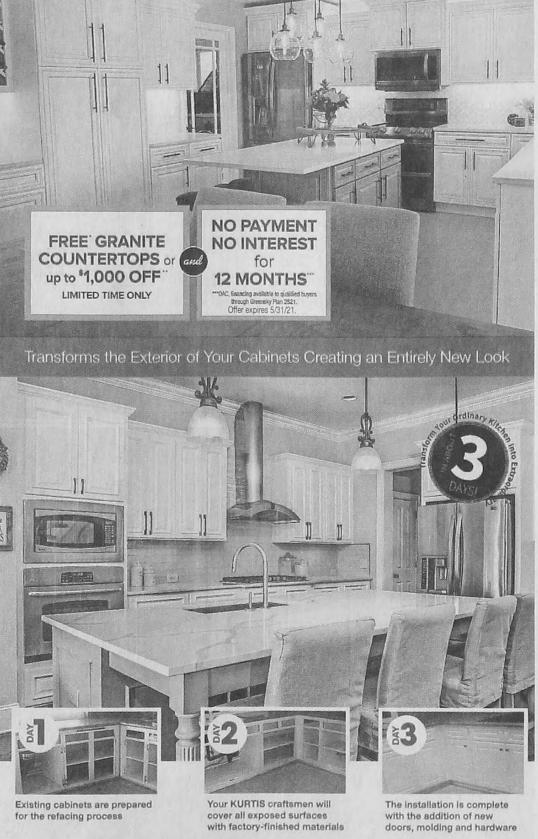
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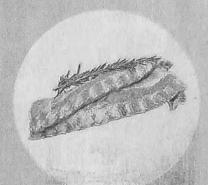
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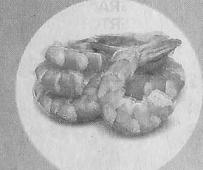
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SPORTS

Seaholm and Bloomfield Hills soccer grind out tie

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

As the clock winded down in the second half, Seaholm girls soccer head coach Manuel Rodrigues encouraged his players from the sideline, loud enough that the players from across the field could hear: "Finish Maples. Finish."

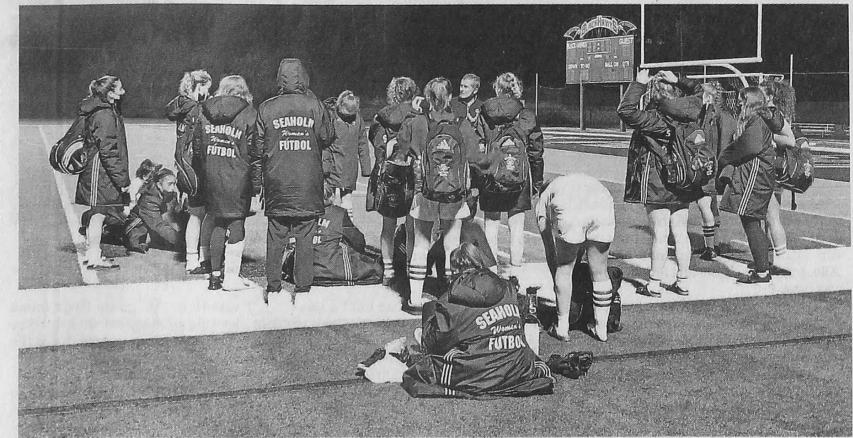
The Maples took control offensively, playing the style of soccer Rodrigues wants to see out of his players: a press offense, wearing down a defense until it bends, breaks and allows a score.

Despite the push late, Bloomfield Hills (1-1-1) bent, but never broke, as the Black Hawks tied the Maples (6-2-1), 0-0, at home.

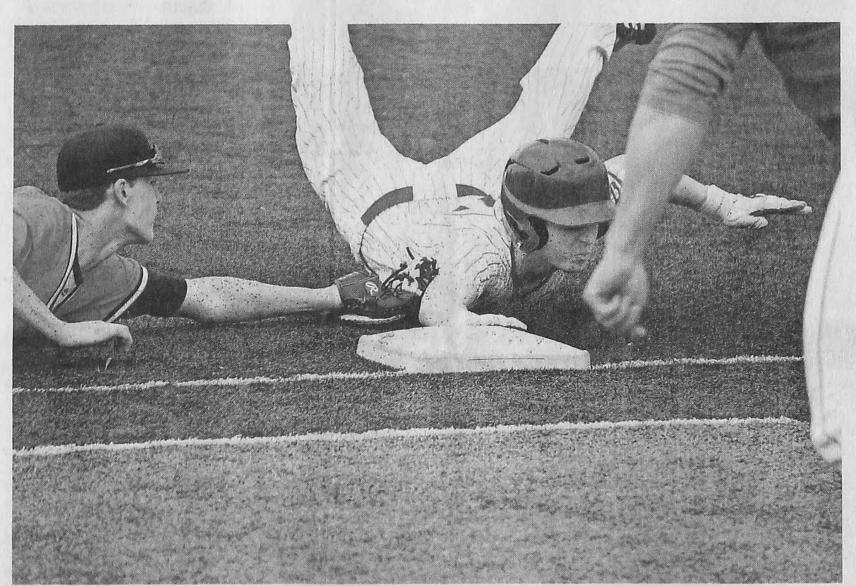
But the COVID-19 pandemic was evident from both benches in their midweek matchup.

For Seaholm, Rodrigues had only three bench players at his disposal: two freshmen and a sophomore. He could

See SOCCER, Page 2B



Seaholm players gather after their short-handed tie against Bloomfield Hills. COLIN GAY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Detroit Catholic Central's Nick Zappia, right, beats the tag by a Brother Rice first baseman after leaning toward second during the teams' April 28 game. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Senior leads Brother Rice to Catholic Central sweep

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Coming out of each of his starts in 2021, John Locker felt more and more confident. The Brother Rice senior's slider has been working, the two-seam fastball has found life on good spin. Locker trusts his pitches, daring opponents to hit it.

But more importantly, Locker returned to the basic love of the sport.

"Me just smiling, having fun, knowing I'm playing the game I love definitely helps," Locker said. "Not playing so tight, but playing loose and seeing what happens."

Confidence oozed out of Locker's right arm against rival Detroit Catholic Central (3-13), throwing a complete game, two-hit shutout in Brother Rice's (15-3-1) 1-0 win, one of two in the Warriors sweep of the Shamrocks: their first since 2018

Locker walked three batters and struck out 14 — including an immaculate fourth in which he struck out three batters on six pitches — taking a no-hitter into the sixth inning when Catholic Central sophomore Evan Haeger broke it with a single.

"That's the best he's pitched for me throughout his career," Brother Rice head coach Bob Riker said. "He was easy, effortless. He was pretty much ahead the whole time. He had a good breaking pitch, he was able to control the zone when he needed to."

The Brother Rice offense didn't need to do much for Locker in the first game. After a single by freshman Tyler Fox to start the third inning, sophomore Brayden Dowd brought the runner home on a blooper that fell in front of the right fielder to score the only run needed to win the game.

While senior Ian Dixon shined on the mound — allowing a run on five hits, walking one and striking out 12 while also recording an immaculate fourth inning — the Shamrocks were

See SWEEP, Page 3B

Lakeland offense scorches Canton

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Lakeland's baseball players gathered in front of the dugout after the top of the fourth inning. The Eagles' offensive approach was not working against Canton sophomore right-hander Zachary Demianenko, who had set down nine straight to begin his first-ever

varsity outing.

Their approach shifted: get the barrel on the ball earlier in counts. Expand the zone earlier in counts to put balls in play to take advantage of the young pitcher

Andrew Platt went up to the plate with that approach in mind. Seeing a fastball, the junior grooved Demianenko's pitch down the right-field line for a stand-up double.

While Platt later scored on an RBI groundout, it was Matthew Hanneman who opened the floodgates for the Eagles offense. The junior turned on a first-pitch strike and crushed it over the left-center field fence for a two-run home run, helping Lakeland (13-1) to a 12-2 mercy win against Canton (8-9-1)

"I think it sparked the offense even more," Hanneman, who drove in two runs and scored two runs for Lakeland, said. "Andrew started really well, and I just capped it off. We just kept on rolling after that."

In the fourth, fifth and sixth innings, Lakeland scored 12 runs on 10 hits — including three for extra bases — two walks and an error, using wild pitches to keep runners moving.

Of the 10 hits recorded, six came from the batter seeing three pitches or less in the batter's box.

"I thought we made some nice adjustments expanding our zone early,"

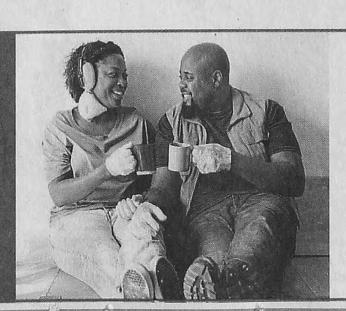
See OFFENSE, Page 3B

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Competition fuels Salem soccer senior Hyde

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Kennedy Hyde started playing soccer at 4 years old, gravitating toward the competition of the game.

"I love the feeling of working hard and winning for something," Hyde said. "I think that's the reason I have played so long is because competition keeps me going."

When she first joined Salem's soccer team, she immediately found something to play for.

As a freshman on the 2018 varsity team, Hyde remembers Salem being perceived as the underdog, as the inferior team on campus compared to Plymouth and Canton. As a senior, Hyde is helping change the narrative, starting the 2021 season undefeated.

2021, Hyde believes, is Salem's year. She said it started from the moment the Rocks returned to full strength in the third game of the year, earning their first win against Plymouth since May 19, 2014. But it wasn't the fact Salem won. It was how: 8-0.

"I think that proves a very big point, not just as a team, but... Salem soccer is here to win," Hyde said. "They are not here to be called underdogs anymore.

"I think teams have really turned their heads around (like) 'Salem is good this year. They are not messing around anymore."

Hyde is one of 14 seniors on Salem's roster in 2021, including five who have been with the Rocks since their freshman years.



Salem senior Kennedy Hyde has high hopes for the Rocks this season.
COURTESY OF KENNEDY HYDE

While each of them has built a relationship off the soccer field, it's the way they play together on the pitch that has defined what this team can do.

"You got the ball, you know where it's going to go next because you can rely on your teammates," Hyde said. "I feel like in the past groups, we all knew each other, we all loved each other, but this connection this year is crazy. We all know how we play with each other, we all know where the ball wants to be."

It was from this group Hyde found out her role on the soccer field. She knew she could beat people down the field, serving either as a primary facilitator or scorer as an outside back.

It's the style of soccer Hyde plans to play with Siena Heights, who she committed to in December 2019 after decommitting from Central Michigan.

"You don't go and choose a college because they are D1," Hyde said. "You have to make sure the college fits you as Athlete of the Week results

Hyde won the Hometown Life Athlete of the Week award the week of April 27, earning 8,213 (50.69%) of the 16,204 total votes cast.

Livonia Stevenson baseball player Aidan Arbogast finished in second with 5,094 votes (31.44%).

Brother Rice lacrosse player Luke Dudley and Lakeland baseball player Tate Farquhar finished in third and fourth place, respectively.

a player and that you can help the team with what you do. With Siena Heights, I connected with the coach so well, the team, the environment, and I am more than excited to be playing for them."

Salem to Siena Heights will be one filled with competition: working hard for a spot in the rotation and fighting for a position to play.

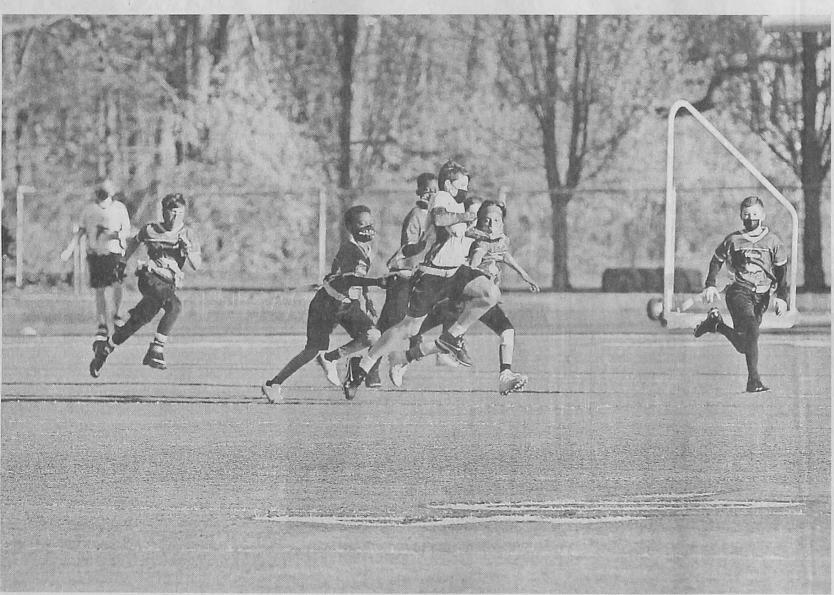
But competition is something Hyde

Hyde knows that the transition from

But competition is something Hyde has loved since she started playing soccer at age 4. And it's something she still has time to do in a Salem Rocks uniform.

"I think we can go very far as long as we keep playing like we are," Hyde said. "I think big things are ahead for Salem soccer and I am so excited to be a part of it"

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @Colin-Gay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



Wayne-Westland students play in the district's first middle school football game April 28. PHOTOS COURTESY OF JENNY JOHNSON

Wayne-Westland middle school teams play inaugural football game

Wayne-Westland Community Schools kicked off the first NFL Flag Football games of the season April 28. Teams from Adams, Franklin and Stevenson middle schools faced off against other teams from Wayne County.

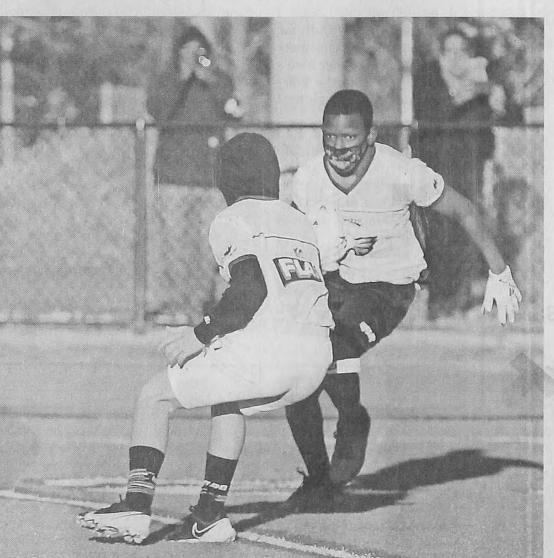
Games will be played Friday evenings through June 18 at either John Glenn or Wayne Memorial high schools.

Cheer on Adams, Franklin and Stevenson teams May 14 at at Wayne Memorial High School (football stadium) at 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Other games this season include:

- May 21 at John Glenn High School (football stadium)
- June 4 at Wayne Memorial High School (soccer field)
- June 11 at Wayne Memorial High School (soccer field)
- June 18 at Wayne Memorial High School Championship games (soccer field)

Wayne-Westland Community Schools is offering the NFL Flag Football program to middle school students for this spring.

This fall, it will be offered to elementary students in fourth and fifth grade and middle school students. In addition, the District will also have elementary cheerleading and basketball leagues next year. All programs are free to students in Wayne-Westland Community Schools.



This fall, the football program will be offered to students in fourth and fifth grade and middle school students. In addition, the district will have elementary cheerleading and basketball leagues next year.

Soccer

Continued from Page 1B

not play the traditional Seaholm style with those limited resources, something that a roster of 12 sophomores and two freshmen without its two captains has continued to learn and grow into.

But for a draw, Rodrigues was incredibly pleased, watching players like junior Simone Forte and sophomore Sadie Green take control of possession, giving teammates chances in transition.

"Playing against a good, well-coached team, we always want to win and we had opportunities to pop it in, especially at the end there," the Seaholm head coach said. "But our composure, this season we have played very well for one half and then kind of fall asleep. That's why I was so proud of them: for this game, we played a complete game with a short bench.

"I actually joked: 'Maybe we would have a short bench all the time."

Bloomfield Hills head coach Alan Zakaria is still learning a lot about his team.

After three practices to start the season, the Black Hawks halted and were sent into a two-week quarantine. The team returned for its first game April 22 without any time on the practice field, facing opponents who were already nearing midseason form.

In two weeks, Bloomfield Hills has played in three games and held only three practices.

"I think the girls are just learning on the fly," Zakaria said. "We haven't really had the chance to really train as much as we'd like, but we're hoping that we just grow and get better through watching games and playing in games, gaining experience that way until we get a hold on some practice

Facing Seaholm, Zakaria saw resiliency in his team's defense, something the Black Hawks had already shown with a shutout against Groves to start the season.

When Bloomfield Hills returned to the soccer field April 22, Zakaria's message was the same as it was at the beginning of tryouts: view this season as a blessing.

"We told them, 'Listen: just in life and in soccer, it's not what happens to you. It's how you respond," Zakaria said.

Through Seaholm's first nine games of the season, Rodrigues has seen the same thing from his players: a gratefulness to be able to just play, no matter the circumstance.

"What I get to see is how happy they are in practice, how happy they are together," Rodrigues said. "Lord knows they deserve it."

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

Sweep

Continued from Page 1B

unable to find any of its offense.

"Every pitcher we have seen is a college Division 1 level," Catholic Central head coach Ryan Rogowski said. "It's not getting easier, and I keep reminding these guys that it's like life: you are going to see one after another."

The offense came alive a bit in the third inning of the second game. Catholic Central scored two runs on two hits: an RBI double by sophomore Trae Cassidy and an RBI single by senior Josh Getz.

But when the Shamrocks scored two, the Warriors had already scored three, helped by a two-RBI single by freshman Tristan Crane.

"That lefty gave us trouble the first time that we had him," Riker said of Catholic Central starter Connor Apligian, who allowed five earned runs on three hits and three walks, while striking out seven. "We had some lefties in the lineup, so it makes it difficult sometimes, but he's not overpowering. They

made a mistake and opened the door a little bit for us and we took advantage for us."

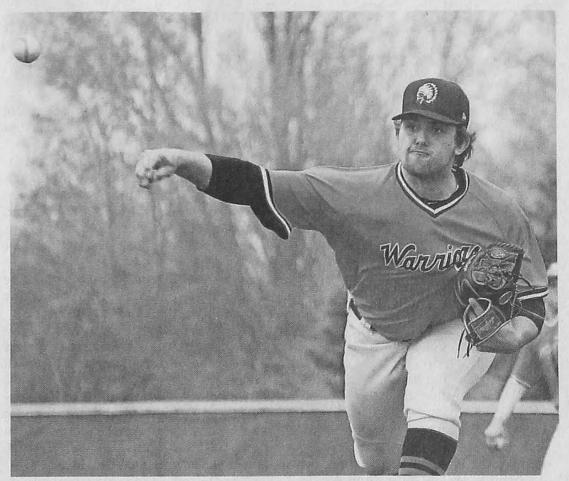
Brother Rice added two insurance runs in the top of the sixth, leaving with the 5-2 win as sophomore Alfredo Velazquez threw 3.2 shutout innings, allowing a hit, two walks and seven strikeouts out of the bullpen.

Brother Rice freshman Ryan Tyranski left the game prior to the start of the fifth inning after being struck in the mouth with a baseball bat. Riker said he did not know the status of the freshman's condition other than that he had lost a few teeth.

Rogowski was confident that Catholic Central can play at the level of Brother Rice. Watching the Shamrocks win three of their first 16 games, the head coach knows they have the talent to improve, already setting his sights on the Catholic League playoffs and their firstround playoff matchup with South Lyon

As for Brother Rice, Locker not only feels confident about his personal development, but in what he and his teammates can do together.

cgay@hometownlife.com



Brother Rice pitcher John Locker fires to home plate against Catholic Central. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Offense

Continued from Page 1B

Lakeland head coach Brad Farquhar said. "The pitches we were hunting the first time around in the order were hit in a very small spot and (we) expanded our zone and put the ball in play, and it made a difference."

While Demianenko struggled later in his outing, Canton head coach Mark Blomshield saw a sophomore who did exactly what he was told.

Working with Demianenko over the winter months, Blomshield preached command, throwing strikes consistently to hitters no matter what. Early in his first outing against Lakeland, that's exactly what the sophomore did, striking out two while inducing one ground out and three fly outs in the first three innings.

Blomshield said his starter became nervous as the game continued when runners came on, tiring when he hit 60-65 pitches.



The Lakeland offense woke up against Canton starting in the fourth inning, following in the footsteps of the 2019 offense. COURTESY OF BRAD FARQUHAR

But he saw all he could want from Demianenko.

"He had some good reports on JV, but... that was above expectations to say the least," Blomshield said. "Very rarely

do you see something like that, just commanding the strike zone."

But when Lakeland became comfortable, it feasted.

Starting with a single by Hanneman

to start the sixth, the Eagles brought all nine men to the plate, scoring six runs on five hits — including RBI singles by Jake Meehan and Platt — to lead to the mercy win.

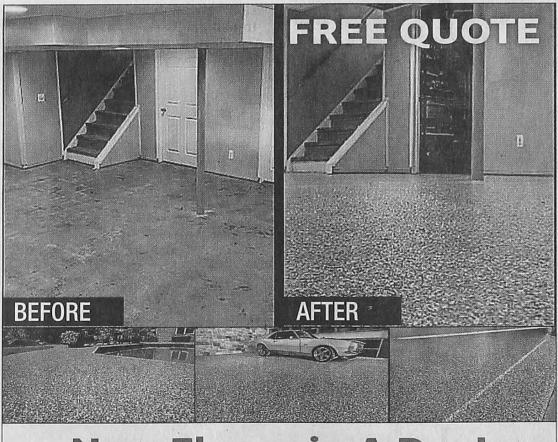
Platt finished the game with three hits, two RBI and three runs scored from the leadoff spot.

"Our whole lineup is solid," Hanneman said. "Everyone does their own job. One through nine, everyone has a job and they do it very well."

Even with the early-season success, winning 13-of-14 to start 2021 along with a perfect record in Lakes Valley Conference play, Lakeland still has work to be done, coming into the season with only three players with any varsity baseball experience.

"We have a lot of growing to do," Farquhar said. "We feel like we can be a very good ballclub. We just have to get a little bit better at the details."

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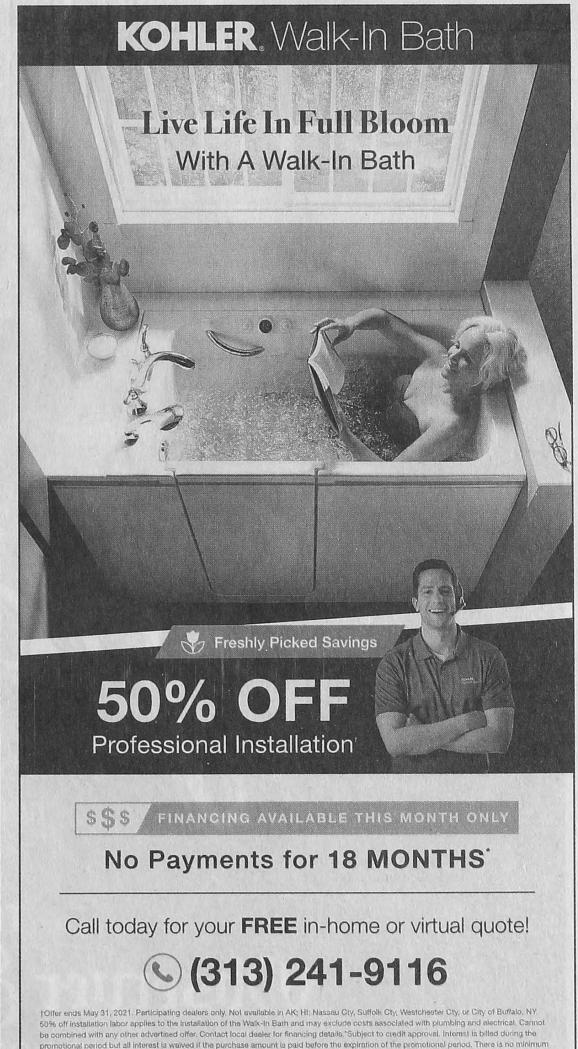


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Penske, Porsche to team up again for 2023 IMSA series

Kirkland Crawford Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

Two of the biggest names in motorsports are teaming up again.

Team Penske, led by longtime metro Detroit businessman and auto racing titan Roger Penske, and Porsche Motorsports announced Tuesday that the two groups plan to work together to place two cars in the new LMDh prototype class in 2023 that will run in the IMSA and FIA World Endurance Championship series.

With this collaboration, Porsche Penske Motorsport will have entries in events such as the Rolex 24 at Daytona and the 24 Hours of Le Mans.

"This is a proud day for our entire Penske organization," Roger Penske said in a released statement. "We have represented Porsche on the track or in our businesses for more than six decades.

"The heritage and success we have enjoyed together is unparalleled throughout our history. I can't wait to get started as we build a global racing program with Porsche that will compete for wins and championships well into the future."

Penske and Porsche have worked together before, dating back to their work together in the Can-Am series when George Follmer and Mark Donohue both took Porsche 917/10 cars to championships in 1982 and 1973, respectively, for Team Penske.

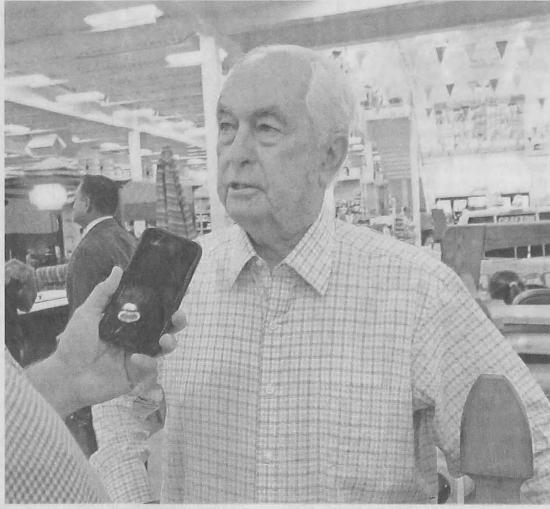
Porsche and Penske also won three consecutive IMSA championships (2006-08) in the Le Mans Prototype 2.

The man behind the return of the Detroit Grand Prix in 2007, Penske remains a major factor in IndyCar and NASCAR racing

He's also the owner of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, and the founder and chairman of Penske Corp., which has subsidiaries in auto sales, truck leasing and transportation logistics.

The Detroit Grand Prix returns to its spot on the IndyCar schedule soon after the Indianapolis 500, June 11-13.

The IMSA series is one of the other race circuits that compete during that weekend on Belle Isle.



Roger Penske speaks to reporters during the grand opening of the Menards mega store in Bloomfield Hills in 2019. Team Penske and Porsche Motorsports recently announced a partnership in the 2023 IMSA and FIA World Endurance Championship series. COURTESY OF MERRILL CAIN/TEAM PENSKE

Trainers would be mandatory abuse reporters under new law

Dave Boucher Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

A new Michigan Senate bill requires athletic trainers, physical therapists and assistants to physical therapists report known or suspected child abuse to appropriate authorities.

The move is part of a legislative package in response to the Larry Nassar sexual abuse and misconduct case that continues to plague Michigan State University and the gymnastics world.

Several of the athletes abused by Nassar say they reported the misconduct to adults who took no action.

But SB 415 — introduced by Sen. Betty Jean Alexander, D-Detroit, on Thursday — also comes after previous legisla-

tive efforts to enact essentially the same changes sputtered in the past.

Nassar pleaded guilty to seven counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct in 2017. In early 2018, he received a sentence of 40 years to 175 years in prison.

The Legislature did enact a litany of laws that year in response to the Nassar case, including measures that extended statutes of limitations for prosecutors to pursue charges and gave victims more time to sue abusers. The Legislature did not make athletic trainers or coaches mandatory reporters.

In June 2019, the Michigan House approved bipartisan measures that added athletic trainers to the list of reporters with near unanimous approval and sent

them to the Senate. But they never came up for a vote in the full Senate.

Abby Walls, a spokeswoman for Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, R-Clarklake, said the COVID-19 pandemic delayed Senate action on the measures. At least one measure sat in the Senate for about 18 months before lawmakers took action, voting to change the bill before advancing it.

This year, Walls noted the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee recently discussed five bills that would:

• Require the state to create and distribute age-appropriate information on sexual assaults and harassment for students in grades six through 12;

• Encourage public schools to train educators and other staff on how to re-

spond to sexual abuse and harassment;

 Make it a felony for someone to engage in sexual conduct or contact under the guise of offering medical treatment;

• Prohibit any examination that involved vaginal or anal penetration of a child unless this specific exam was in the scope of the licensed medical provider's practice, another assistant or licensed provider was in the room and the provider had parental consent.

Efforts in the past to include coaches as mandatory reporters have failed. Coaches are not included in the current Senate bill.

Anyone required under law to report abuse who fails to do so is guilty of a misdemeanor, could be jailed for up to 93 days and fined \$500.



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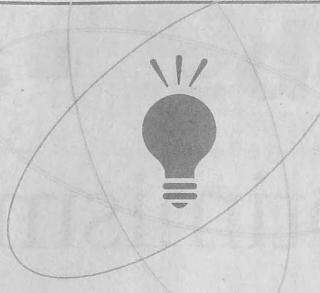


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Optimism for '21 grads

Julia Pollak ZipRecruiter.com

f you're a high school or college senior in the Class of 2021, chances are the pandemic upended your last two years of school. You struggled with the isolation of online learning, the disappointment of canceled proms and sports events, and the fear that graduating in a recession could jeopardize your career prospects for years.

But here are some reasons to be hopeful.

1. Hiring is accelerating

The Class of 2020 graduated into the deepest recession since the Great Depression. But the Class of 2021 is set to graduate into the most rapid economic recovery ever. The economy added 233,000 jobs in January, 468,000 in February and 916,000 in March, according to the March jobs report. Many economists predict that hiring could accelerate even further this summer as vaccinations become more widely accessible and more industries are able to reopen fully.

2. Employers are fiercely competing for workers

Most recessions are characterized by shrinking employer demand for workers. The COVID-19 pandemic has been different in that it



has also been a major shock to the availability of workers. Concerns about workplace safety, school closures and limited public transportation have kept millions of Americans from working, or even searching for work. And as a result, many businesses are now struggling to fill vacancies as demand for their goods and services recovers. The good news for entry-level job seekers is that employers are not adding new layers of requirements, the way they did during the Great Recession, and they are not cutting wages. If anything, they are relaxing requirements and offering greater flexibility to appeal to a wider talent pool.

3. Startups are surging

Americans are starting new businesses at an unprecedented rate. There are a range of factors behind the startup surge. One is that many highly talented people lost their jobs in 2020, which gave them some time to explore their passions and test their ideas. Others gained some time to devote to their side hustles thanks to the shift to remote work. And many who lost neither employment nor income still received stimulus checks that allowed them to invest in a sewing machine, office space, website or down payment on a truck. So this is an excellent time to join a startup, get in on the ground floor, learn a wide range of skills and roles, and take a chance.

4. There is a premium on tech-savvy workers

The pandemic has accelerated the digital transformation sie va of everything from shopping and ordering restaurant meals to exercising and going to school. Companies have been forced to adopt new technologies, create or improve their websites, expand their presence on social media and migrate ever more assets to the cloud. And that means employers need tech-savvy employees. For all its woes, a year of online instruction and class presentations may prove to be the best preparation for the new world of virtual job interviews and client presentations.

5. An early retirement wave could lead to more rapid promotions

In the Great Recession, many older workers saw the value of their homes and retirement savings plummet, which forced them to delay retirement and continue earning. During this recession, on the contrary, house prices have risen more than 10% and the stock market has hit new records. At the same time, COVID-19 has posed the greatest health risks for older workers. Amid less favorable working conditions and increased retirement wealth, 1.4 million Americans 55 and older have left the labor force since February 2020. In many companies, a vacuum at the top of the corporate ladder will give rise to more rapid promotions and more opportunities for younger workers.

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76

106

80

132

136

36

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!

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

CERUTCNUPFXMBSTUN ROAUTCTIKRIAPERY WFAYTHHLEATGWHE TNFSPOTSIUMHDE LDSARPEUKRGE ELFIUOPCNTEH COAMLHAJALYTT TCPRIYLDGRONBN OKCLCRASHBBI RWLDLRCIRIKAL SMNAOHNECEPSKROF IDHADTYBSKTR WELIIACSPROCKE PXNCWLVELODROM OQZAKEVLAVHOBELL RNTSELBACJUMUDDY GEARSERYTTBSEKOPS

BELL BICYCLE BIKE BMX BRAKE CABLES CHAIN CRASH DOWNHILL FAST **FORKS** FRAME GEARS HELMET HUB INDICATE LIGHT LISTEN LOCK MIRROR MUDDY NUTS OFF ROAD PEDAL PUMP PUNCTURE RACE RALLY REFLECTORS REPAIR KIT SPANNER SPOKES SPROCKETS STOP SUN **TANDEM** TRAIL TURN TYRES UPHILL VALVE VELODROME WATER BOTTLE WHEEL

WIND



ANSWER KEY



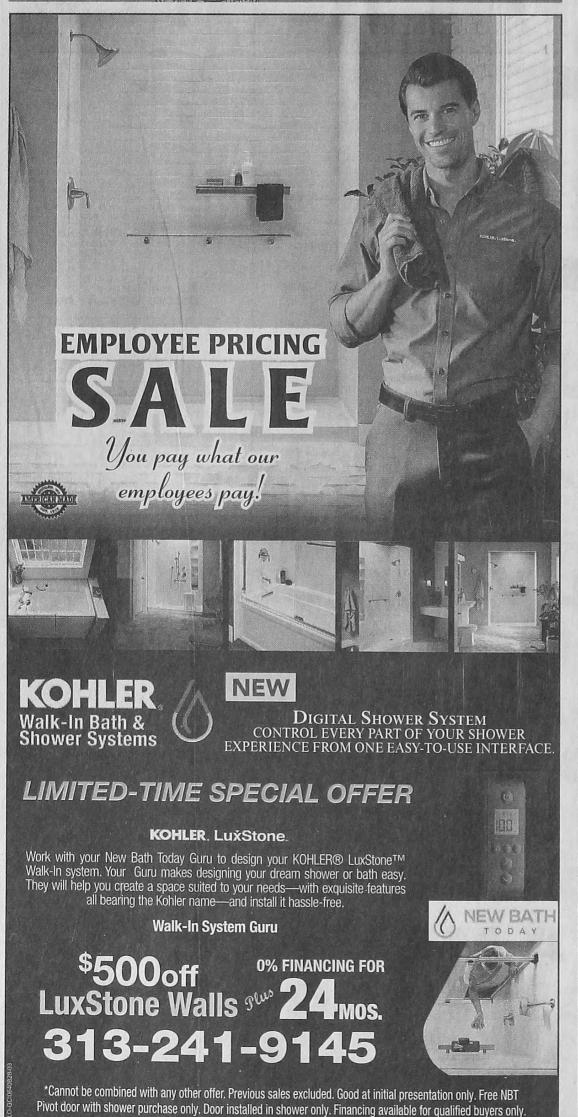
SELL YOUR CAR GETAJOB AHOUSE BUY A BOAT ENDATE BASURE GETAMASSAGE HIREAHAND

Check out the classified section everyday.





*Discount is applied to the regular price of select styles of Carpet, Hardwood, Vinyl Plank, and Laminate, basic installation, standard padding, and materials. Excludes upgrades, stairs, take-up of permanently affixed flooring, non-standard furniture moving, other miscellaneous charges, and prior purchases. Product may not be sold separately from installation. Residential installations only. Not available in all areas. Valid through 05/09/21. Subject to change. Details at EmpireToday.com. © 2021 Empire Today, LLC





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