# CANTON BSERWER

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PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Schoolcraft closing beloved daycare center

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Great childcare is tough to find, but the families at the Schoolcraft College Children's Center say they've found it. And now they're losing it.

Schoolcraft President Glenn Cerny sent families a letter in early June in-

forming them of the closure. The center, located on the college's main campus, may stay open through Aug. 27, contingent on client and staffing levels.

"Today is a difficult day as we are announcing the closing of the Children's Center. ... We recognize that this closure is extremely disruptive for your family, but we wanted to let you know as soon as we could to allow you the maximum time to explore options for your next step," Cerny stated in the letter.

Families described feeling blindsided and experiencing confusion over why the center, which first opened in the 1970s, needed to close at all.

"They love kids and they get kids," said Lauren Giroux, who has taken all

three of her children to the center. "I think you're hard-pressed to find that."

All employees, including the center's director, will lose their jobs and receive a severance package.

Schoolcraft employees who use the childcare center declined to comment

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Kayden Bryce, right, who is from Livonia, and Kristy Swanson in "Just Another Dream." COURTESY OF BLUE BIRD PRODUCTIONS

# Livonia teen hopes to make career of acting

Kayden Bryce inspired after landing first lead film role

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

For Kayden Bryce, pursuing a career as an actor doesn't feel like a pipe dream

The Livonia resident and recent high school grad is celebrating the release of "Just Another Dream," a film that marks her first starring role.

She stars alongside Kristy Swanson, known for portraying Buffy in the 1992 film "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," and Dean Cain, known for Superman in the "Lois & Clark" television show.

Bryce said she learned a lot working with veteran actors and playing a lead.

"It was so scary. Usually I go in knowing all of my lines, but when you're the lead that's really hard," she said. "I was just waiting every night to get the call sheet for the next day, and then I would just memorize those scenes for that day. That was different for me."

Bryce portrays a character named Anna in "Just Another Dream." The 14year-old discovers some of her dreams end up becoming real-life events.

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"Usually I go in knowing all of my lines, but when you're the lead that's really hard. I was just waiting every night to get the call sheet for the next day, and then I would just memorize those scenes for that day. That was different for me."

**Kayden Bryce** 

## Farmington Founders Festival is back July 15-17

**Courtesy of Greater Farmington Founders Festival** 

The annual Greater Farmington Founders Festival returns July 15-17 for its 57th year and is moving everything back to downtown Farmington. The festival has a soft open for the beer tent starting 5 p.m. Thursday.

Some traditional events will return, including the parade along Grand River Avenue, beer tent with live music, Farmington Fido Fest and Touch A Truck while adding several new features, including a kids sand sculpting event and magic and juggling shows.

## **Beer tent**

One of the most popular is the Farmington Founders Festival Beer Tent, and it's moving back to downtown Farmington at Grand River and Farmington roads. It's going to be a dance party with live bands all day and into the night. There will be a variety of beer, Tito's Handmade Vodka, Makers Mark, hard ciders, seltzers and Faygo.

There is a \$5 cover charge starting at 6 p.m. and you must be 21 or older with valid ID to enter. Cash only for bar and cover.

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## **Former** Westland candidate appeals removal from ballot

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

William Asper hasn't given up on his campaign to be Westland's mayor

The one-time candidate is appeal-

ing a decision made by City Clerk Richard LeBlancto remove him from August primary ballots. LeBlanc made the decision in early June after concerns regarding the candidate's residency arose. It appears Asper's primary residence is actually in Canton.



Asper

The city's election commission, comprised of LeBlanc, Mayor Bill Wild and Council President Jim Hart, approved a ballot excluding Asper at a meeting June 2.

During the meeting, LeBlanc said he was first made aware of the residency issue when Asper's voter registration was returned to the city. According to LeBlanc, Asper registered to vote in Westland the same day he filed to run for mayor. At that time, his paperwork and driver's license reflected a Westland address.

Water records later confirmed Asper's listed address hasn't had water turned on since June 2020 and hasn't held a certificate of occupancy since

"His voter registration card was mailed to that stated address of record. ... On April 15, 2021, our office received from the Westland Post Office the returned voter card," LeBlanc said. "On that card, it was handwritten and stamped 'vacant.' In other words, nobody lives at that address."

The Michigan Secretary of State is expected to decide Asper's status as a qualified Westland voter later this month. Representatives from the Secretary of State's office did not respond to a request for comment.

In his appeal submitted to the city June 28, Asper confirms he was not living in Westland when he filed to run

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## Farmington residents recover from severe storm winds

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

Branches, power lines, full trees and other debris quite literally litter the streets of Farmington after severe winds hit the city last Wednesday.

But, true to the kind of city Farmington is, friends and neighbors came together the next morning to start cleanup and repairs.

Katie Hartsock, who lives on Cass Street, said she's thankful her friends came to help clear a tree that fell on her home. Though the felled tree still sits in her yard, her roof is all patched up.

"Thank God we have great neighbors and friends," she said. "They all came over this morning and got it away from the house. We're very grateful to have such a great community around us, because we didn't know where to start."

DTE Energy reported over 116,000 customers lost power during the storms, which had 60 mph wind gusts locals described as feeling similar to a hurricane.

Residents were thankful flooding did not seep into their homes and was short-lived on Farmington's roads.

Tracy and Scott Carter had three trees on their property on Power Street fall down — one on their garage and another narrowly missing their daughter's vehicle. Their friends, Farmington Mayor Sara Bowman and John Bowman came by to help cut up what had fallen so it could be put by the road for pickup.

"I put our dogs in the cage and stayed in the dining room because I was concerned the trees in the front yard were going to fall on the house," Tracy Carter said. "I called my husband pretty shaken."

The city reported Thursday afternoon it had received no injury reports, and the public safety department responded to more than 90 calls after the storm came through, mostly for downed power lines.

Residents are encouraged to cut debris into pieces 4 feet or smaller and bring them to the curb to get picked up.



Jeff DeGrasse, right, and a neighbor examine the debris in DeGrasse's yard on Cass Street after severe winds last week. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## **Daycare**

Continued from Page 1A

on the record for fear of losing their jobs or, in the case of center employees, losing their severance pay.

Previously, the center generally employed 35 people, provided learning opportunities for 105 students from Schoolcraft and Wayne State University and served 80 children.

Parents spoke out at board of trustee meetings. Many felt they were met with indifference from board members.

"Every member of that board sat

there with an apathetic look on their face like we were wasting their time," said Megan Rutkowski, who has a child at the center. "There was zero caring."

Joan Gebhardt, who chairs the board of trustees, explained the center was originally opened to provide childcare for students.

Though some staff use the center, it is not used by students any more. The center's handbook, however, states its purpose is for student learning rather than childcare.

Gebhardt said the daycare center has been losing money for years.

"It was costing us money," she said.
"... We had to look at if it was meeting our

core goals at the college and we had to admit that, no, it was not."

The college plans to create a scholarship fund for students in need of childcare.

Gebhardt said the college explored getting a sponsor to fund the center, but was unsuccessful. Families say they were never approached about paying higher tuition but would have been willing to do so.

"This may be losing money. I don't doubt that," said Andrew Papa, who has two children at the center. "But we were simply told, 'We're losing money and we're closing.' We would have happily paid more in tuition."

Papa, an assistant professor at Detroit Mercy University, and others feel the closure is less about Schoolcraft achieving its mission statement and more about using the building for a more lucrative purpose.

"I have never had to worry, and I think that's so rare," said Emily Mageski, Papa's wife. "Every family should have that experience. That's why I think it's so short-sighted to close the center. It should be about more than a bottom line."

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

## Acting

Continued from Page 1A

"They're not good dreams. They're more like nightmares," Bryce said.

When one of her dreams predicts a serious accident, Anna races to keep it from happening.

"It's just this big adventure that she has to take with her friend to rescue her family," Bryce said.

The film premiered June 10 at the Michigan Theater in Ann Arbor.

Bryce said the attention that comes with having a leading role was bizarre.

"It was so weird to be signing all these posters for people," she said. "I didn't know how to react to it. People were excited for me to sign their poster with the other actors, and that was strange for me.

"But it also made me proud. We worked so hard on that movie. It was cool that people wanted to remember it."

Bryce got her start at the Motor City Youth Theatre in Livonia. Since her days there, she's scored 36 film credits. She plans to move to California in the fall to pursue acting full time.

"I'm going to miss her so much. Being the 'momager' to a young actor, we spend so much time together because I have to take her to all of her auditions," Melinda Bryce said. "It's going to be weird to have her gone, but I'm really excited for her. I think she's the kind of person that makes her dreams happen."

## **Festival**

Continued from Page 1A

Hours are 5-11 p.m. Thursday and noon to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

The performance schedule is:

• 5 p.m. Thursday: Andy Patalan (modern/classic rock)

modern/classic rock)

• 8 p.m. Thursday: Local Heroes

(dance party rock)

Noon Friday: Just 2 Guitars (clas-

sie rock)

• 3:30 p.m. Friday: Cheyenne Goff

(pop/classic alternative)5 p.m. Friday: Cody Broggs Band(country)

(country)8 p.m. Friday: Fifty Amp Fuse (rock 'n' roll/dance)

Noon Saturday: Farmington
School of Rock
3:30 p.m. Saturday: Whiskey for

• 3:30 p.m. Saturday: Whiskey for Random (rock/country)

• 8:20 p.m. Saturday: Square Pegz ('80s dance party)

A variety of food trucks will offer up

everything from tacos, to delicious

barbecue from Ideal Bite Community

Kitchen, Different Twist Pretzel.

Shelly's Hotdogs, Main Squeeze Lem-

onade and Howdy Doodle's Ice Cream.

crafters market on Farmington Road

during festival hours.

**Crafters Market** 

Located next to the beer tent and

Creative and talented crafters will

Here, visitors will find that perfect

Hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday

display unique handcrafted creations.

one-of-a-kind art, handcrafted jewel-

ry, handmade consumables or some-

thing whimsical for the garden.

**Food Court** 

## Family Fun Zone

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

There will be inflatables, a mechanical bull, Disco Dome, Cliff Hanger slide, Touch a Truck, Wipeout and more. Unlimited ride wristbands can be purchased on site for \$15.

Kids spin around with arms up on a

carnival ride at the Founders Fest.

Kids can also have their faces painted by Face Flair or have their photo taken with the Wonder Woman (stilt walker) 5-7 p.m. Saturday.

Families can enjoy the Eugene Clark Magic Show and Clark Lewis Juggling Show throughout the weekend.

#### LOC Credit Union & Brookdale Senior Living 5K Color Run

This 5K fun run, starting 9 a.m. Saturday, will give participants the opportunity to run or walk through Shiawassee Park and Downtown Farmington along the parade route.

Medals will be presented to agegroup winners.

Four color stations throughout the race route add a special experience.

The race will be chip-timed by the

Michigan Running Foundation.

## **Founders Festival Parade**

This year's parade theme is Heroes

vs. Villains and will take place on Grand River Avenue between Powers and Farmington roads.

The parade starts 10 a.m. Saturday.
We are excited to honor one of Farmington's own heroes, Holly Bartman, as the grand marshal.

During the coronavirus pandemic, Bartman changed her business course from memory quilts to sewing face masks for hospital workers, first responders, city employees, Farmington Farmers Market volunteers and public safety workers.

Over the course of the year, she made over 50,000 masks.

You'll also see other heroes like the Honor Guard and Farmington and Farmington Hills Public Safety in the parade.

## Farmington Fido Fest

One of the festival's most popular attractions is moving downtown at Riley Park.

Farmington Fido Fest will include popular attractions from the Ultimate Air Dogs and Disc Dogs of Michigan Frisbee Show.

Dogs and their owners can check out the newest doggy products or participate in one of the many contests throughout the weekend.

Fido Fest is happening 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Guests can also meet TikTok star K9 Shiloh and his handler, Dave. The team is certified in explosive detection, building search, area search, civil agitation, criminal apprehension, and hospital patrol.

In addition to their security duties, Dave and Shiloh also visit with patients at Beaumont of Farmington Hills, families, and staff to help brighten their day with a little bit of "K9 therapy."

Shiloh will be in the Farmington Founders Festival Parade and then will be at Farmington Fido Fest in Riley Park until 6 p.m. Saturday. Dogs are also welcomed in the beer tent noon to 6 p.m.

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## Newsroom Contacts:

Phil Allmen, Content Strategist
Mobile: 248-396-3870
Email: pallmen@hometownlife.com
Follow us on Faceboook: @OEHometown

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## Appeal

and Saturday.

Continued from Page 1A

for mayor. He claims he was fixing up a home on Allegan Court, which he has owned since 2018, to live in. Asper works as a landlord and owns multiple homes in the city.

"I had been repairing the property and did not require the water," Asper wrote. "I never requested for the water to be shut off at the property."

LeBlanc's office has no legal obligation to respond to Asper's affidavit. Though the former candidate has not contacted an attorney yet, he plans to take the matter to court.

"I don't see a way that this doesn't end up in court," he said.

Residents registered to vote absentee have already received their August ballots. But Asper said he is not interested in running a write-in campaign.

"I'm already all in. There's no way I'm backing out," he said. "I can't back down and I'm not going to back down."

In his appeal, Asper said he wanted the city to invalidate any returned absentee ballots, as well as issue new ballots that include his name.

Four candidates remain in the city's mayoral race: Daniel Beier, Councilwoman Tasha Green, Edward Pruett and Wild.

Voters will narrow the race to two candidates Aug. 3.

The top two vote-getters will face one another in the November general election with the winner serving a four-year term.

The mayor position is nonpartisan and draws a \$121,574 annual salary.

Also on the August ballot are 13 candidates seeking four available city council seats. Eight candidates will advance to the November general election.

The Westland Public Library is making a tax request in August, as well.

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley

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## Market makes way for Founders Festival



Walt Gajewski

I am on vacation. My first week off with a Saturday in it in 11 years. So here I am, up in Bellaire at the Shanty Creek resort. Nearby is Torch Lake; Charlevoix is about 30 miles north. Don't you love living in a state where all you have to say is "Up North" and everyone just nods their approval? We get it.

So the storm came through, and no one knew how it would impact the market with so many out of power. I live a few blocks from the pavilion and was without power as well. But beautiful weather last Saturday and a will to get back to normal saw upwards of 4,000 people come to market. DTE Energy joined in with pallets of free water, ice, even free flashlights.

In market news, peaches are now available, which means the market is shifting into overdrive.

Green beans, yellow beans, golden beets, peppers, new potatoes, zucchini, cucumbers, summer squash, garlic, scallions, mixed greens, lettuce, snap peas – and raspberries, blueberries, blackberries, cherries. Produce is coming to market in great abundance.

Still to come and best of all are summer sweet corn and field tomatoes.

#### Market this week and beyond

An important announcement is that the market is relocating to Farmington High School this week to make way for the return of the Founders Festival to downtown Farmington. What with Grand River closed Saturday morning for a color run and parade, and Farmington Road closed for the crafters market, what's a farmers market to do? Find open access.

Shiawassee Street is open and accessible, and that's why we chose Farmington High. The market will set up on the east side of the school near the tennis courts and visible to Shiawassee. The parking is wide open, too. All our farmers are coming, along with select vendors such as Mugs Coffee & Grub. Can't have a farmers market without a good cup of coffee, right?

And in the spirit of festiveness, we will feature the acoustic guitar expression of market veteran Mark Reitenga. We open at 9 a.m.

For more information, including a complete list of vendors, visit www.farmingtonfarmersmarket.com.

#### Coming up ...

Saturday, July 24, brings the return of POP! – the Power of Produce. This nationally-acclaimed program at markets all across the country teaches kids ages 4 to 12 where food comes in a way that is fun, informative



The display at Beaverland Farms' stand shows the wide array of produce the market's farmers offer. COURTESY OF FARMINGTON FARMERS MARKET

for parents and educational for the whole family.

Like so many other programs, POP! sat out last year due to the coronavirus pandemic. But it returns this summer with certain adjustments to make sure it's safe for our unvaccinated age group.

You'll find a larger POP! layout in Riley Park and programs designed to meet safety standards but still offer fun things to do as you learn about healthy food and earn a \$3 voucher to shop the market.

Then we'll kick off August with the return of the annual Farmington Farmers Market Elks Corn Roast on Aug. 7 as we celebrate National Farmers Market Week.

All in all, the market is getting bigger as our farmers weigh in with the growing bounty from their fields.

We are at the threshold of peak season – a magical time of year for an abundance of nutritious, delicious food.

I am always awestruck by the sheer beauty of our farm tables that display all of nature's colors brought to our community by the nurturing hands of our Michigan farmers, growers, producers and foragers.

As early American playwright William Saroyan said simply, "In the time of your life, live."

I have never felt more alive than when I'm at my community farmers market.

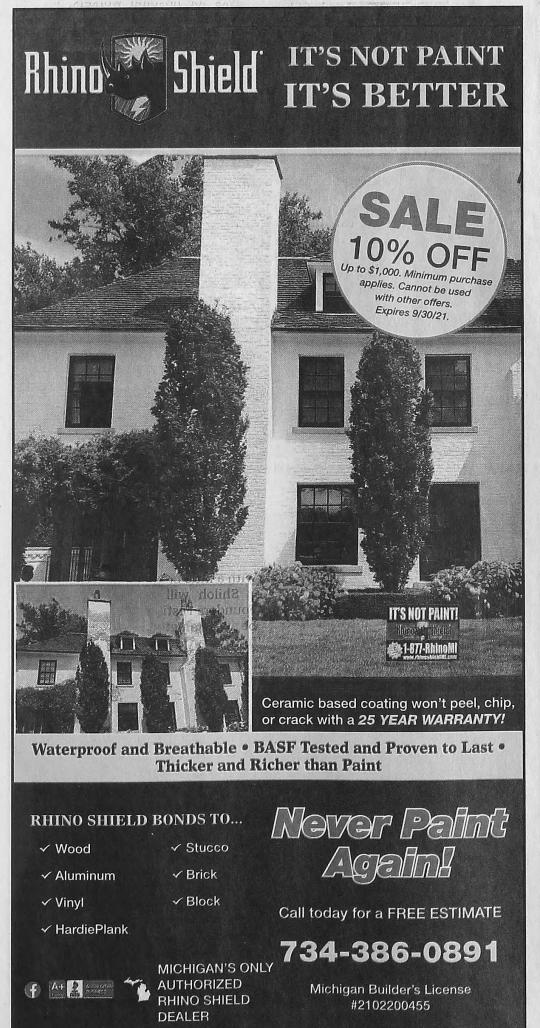
Until next time, then and as always, here's saying,

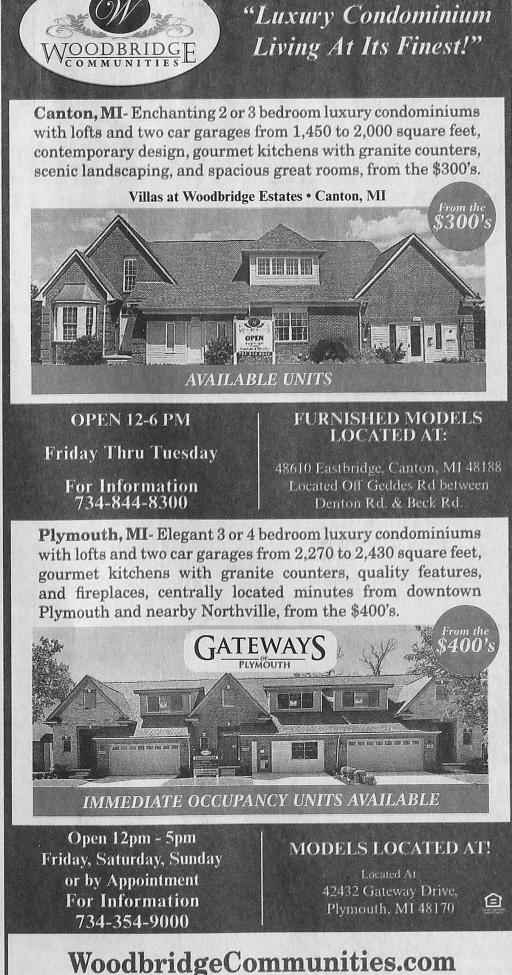
"See you at the market!"

Walt Gaiguski is the Farmington Farmers Market

Walt Gajewski is the Farmington Farmers Market manager.







## PLYMOUTH ART IN THE PARK RETURNS



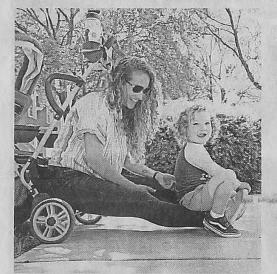
Presley Wooten, 3, adds some of her own style to a collaborative painting for kids during Art in The Park at Kellogg Park in Plymouth on July 9. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Visitors check out the arts, crafts and foods along West Ann Arbor Trail.



Crowds walk along Penniman during the first Art in The Park held in two years.



Sawyer Bagnell, 3, plays in the shade with his mom, Hannah.



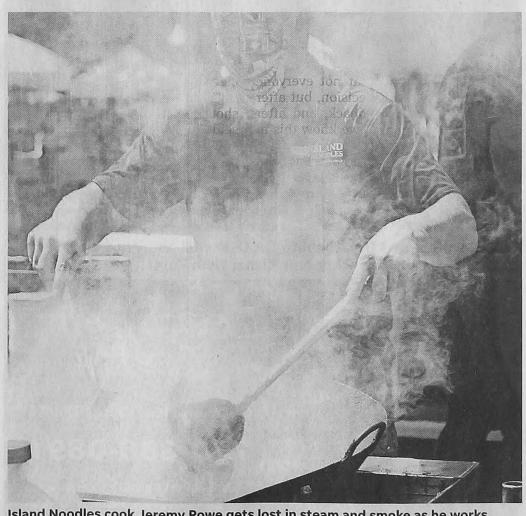
**Woodworker David Lewis of Kalamazoo** checks out his reflection in a wood-framed mirror he created.



Kyla Doak, right, from Canton's DMR Art Studios, works on chalking in a dragon illustration on North Main Street.



Visitors explore at Art in The Park.



Island Noodles cook Jeremy Rowe gets lost in steam and smoke as he works.

## Long B-4, jackpot draws crowd in Westland

## Line for \$22,000 bingo event forms at 6 a.m.

**Kyle Davidson** Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

Stakes — and hopes and dreams — were rising all day July 7 at the Wayne Ford Civic League as the organization's progressive bingo jackpot topped \$22,000.

Players lined up around the Westland banquet hall for a chance to win \$22,475 along with 50% of that night's progressive jackpot bingo card sales.

Melissa June, chairperson and vice president of the civic league, said lines have been forming near-daily since June 18. She said it's common for people to line up when the jackpot is this high.

The highest jackpots are usually under \$15,000, June said. It's been three to four years since the jackpot has gotten this high, she added.

Bingo player Joan Hayes said she and her 72-year-old twin sister, Joyce Cooper, got in line at 9 a.m. for the 5:30 p.m. game. The sisters have played bingo at the Wayne Ford for 17 years and come out almost every night.

"We come here regardless if it's a big jackpot or if it's not a big jackpot. We're always here," Cooper said.

"If you don't get here early to hold a spot, you in trouble. You're not going to get in here," Hayes said.

Hayes said there were about 15 people in line when she arrived, and that some of them lined up as early as 6 a.m.

On a normal night, there's no line, Hayes said. On those nights, she and her sister will get dinner and chat in the car until doors open at 4:30 p.m.

While the hall can fit 700 people, the league's president capped its sessions at 140 to keep crowding down, June said.

When the line hits capacity, June said, they can let players in and start the game early. Staff has been arriving around 3:30 p.m., when they normally arrive at 4:30 or 5, she said.

Progressive jackpot bingo sheets are \$2 each, and players can purchase up to 10, June said.

Virlastene Blumenberg, 68, said she's a regular weekend player, but she



Virlastene Blumenberg, right, of Westland, watches as numbers are called while playing bingo at the Wayne Ford Civic League in Westland on July 7. The league was offering a more than \$22,000 bingo jackpot as only 140 people were let in. PHOTOS BY RYAN GARZA/DETROIT FREE PRESS



People line up in hopes of being one of 140 people allowed in to play bingo.

came out that day because of the jackpot. As the jackpot climbed, she said, it's been harder to get a seat.

"Waiting outside is for the birds, but hopefully (the jackpot) will go and we can get back to normal," she said.

"We've got people from everywhere; they call them chasers. ... They go on the internet and find out who has the high progressives. I just happened to get caught up in this," she said.

In order to win the jackpot, players needed to cover their card within 57 number calls. If nobody wins within those calls, the entire jackpot will carry over to the next session and there will be a consolation prize of \$100.

While regular bingo games are restricted to payouts of \$1,100 per game and \$3,500 per occasion, the limits do not apply to progressive jackpot games, according to the Michigan Lottery Charitable Gaming Division. Outside of the progressive jackpot, June said the civic league pays out \$3,315 a session.

The Wayne Ford Civic League hosts eight sessions a week, according to the schedule on the organization's Facebook page. There are 14 games in each session, including the progressive jackpot game.

There are more than 400 charities licensed to host bingo in Michigan, said Ronald K. Wells, inspection supervisor at the lottery's charitable gaming division, in an email to the Free Press.

At Wayne Ford, luck finally struck around 8:30 p.m. Wednesday for one lucky lady.

Carol Brown, a 70-year-old Wayne Ford regular, hit bingo on the 57th number called. She said she plans to use the \$23,354 jackpot to work on her house or travel, and will be giving some to her niece and sister-in-law.

# Trinity Health to require COVID vaccines for staff

**Kristen Jordan Shamus** Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

Trinity Health announced that it will require all of its 117,000 employees in 22 states along with its contractors and others conducting business in its hospitals and other facilities to get the CO-VID-19 vaccine.

That includes about 24,000 Trinity Health Michigan employees at five St. Joseph Mercy Health System hospitals, three Mercy Health hospitals, and two medical groups — IHA and Mercy Health Physician Partners.

"As a faith-based health care system, we have pledged to protect the most vulnerable, those that have a high risk of developing severe health complications if they were to contract this deadly virus," said Rob Casalou, president and CEO of Trinity Health's Michigan and southeast regions, in a statement. "We are grateful to all colleagues working inside our hospitals, and specifically those navigating the front lines.

"We understand that not everyone will agree with this decision, but after listening to their feedback, and after careful consideration, we know this to be the right decision."

A series of rolling deadlines has been established for those who have yet to get vaccinated, though most sites will require staff to submit proof of vaccination by Sept. 21.

Exemptions will be available for religious or health reasons and must be formally requested, documented and approved.

Nearly 75 percent of Trinity Health employees have already gotten at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine so far. Employees who do not meet criteria for exemption and fail to show proof of vaccination will be fired.

The health system also announced that if federal health authorities recommend a COVID-19 vaccine booster in the future, workers will need to submit proof showing that they got the booster dose as well

Trinity Health joins a cadre of other infection and they help save lives."

health systems nationally that have mandated vaccines for employees.

Henry Ford Health System made a similar announcement in late June, becoming the first known hospital system in Michigan to require all 33,000 of its employees, as well as students, volunteers and contractors, to get vaccinated by no later than Sept. 10.

SEIU Healthcare Michigan, which represents 1,800 union health care workers at Mercy Hospital, opposes the mandate.

In a statement, union President Andrea Acevedo said Trinity Health is imposing a "blanket, one-size-fitsall vaccination policy. ...

"The unilateral implementation of this policy is a direct violation of worker rights. Trinity has a duty to bargain any changes such as these in their policies."

Acevedo said the union supports a voluntary, pro-vaccination policy that respects the autonomy of health care workers.

"The decision to get vaccinated should be their choice alone," she

The Michigan Nurses Association, the largest nurses' union in Michigan with 13,000 members — though none at Trinity Health or Henry Ford Health — said that it also opposes system-wide vaccine mandates.

"These questions are best decided democratically by health care workers themselves and need to be subject to collective bargaining," the union said in a statement.

Dr. Rosalie Tocco-Bradley, chief clinical officer of Trinity Health Michigan, said in a statement that the vaccines are a way for employees to keep their colleagues, patients and communities safe from the virus.

"There is widespread acceptance of the vaccines and their effectiveness within the medical community," she said in a statement. "The science is clear — vaccines protect against infection and they help save lives."

## **Obituaries**

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

## **Retha Gravel**

Retha Maryanne Gravel (ne Bergman) 97 years old, passed away, Sunday, June 6, 2021 at the Elmcroft Assisted Living Facility, Brownstown Township. Formerly resided in Farmington Hills, Roseville, Sterling Heights and Detroit.

Retha was born March 28, 1924 to Henry & Mar-

garet Bergman (ne Brenner) in Pigeon. When Retha was 2 years old, the family moved to Sebewaing, Michigan. Retha left at age 16 for work in Detroit, which included being a "Rosie the Riveter" during WWII working at the Packard plant. After the war, she met her husband, Philip. They were married in 1947. Retha spent her life raising her family and working at the Radio Cab Company. Retha and Phil loved camping, which took them to Mexico, Alaska and throughout the 50 states. Also important to her was her volunteer work at Truth Lutheran Church, Faith Lutheran Church and Prince of Peace Lutheran, where she loved singing in the choir, teaching Sunday school and volunteering where needed. After retirement, Retha and Phil were snowbirds traveling to Weslaco, Texas, where they both volunteered their time in the elementary school helping kids learn to read and write.

Retha is survived by her children, Philip (Christine & Kristopher), Dennis (Cathy, Christina, Diana & Steven), Janis (Ralph, Jeff, Melissa & Christopher) and Wendy (Rick, Rachel & Jordan) and many great grand-children, nieces and nephews.

Retha is preceded in death by her husband Philip, and all of her siblings, Bertha, Erich, Margaretha, Reinhold, Hilbert, Leona, Walter, Henry, Raymond, Frederick and Theodore.

Memorial donations are welcome to either her church, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (Farmington Hills, MI), or the family church of Immanuel Lutheran Church (Sebewaing, MI) or the Dementia Society of America.



Chamra and Corie Fauer

In loving memory of Chamra and Corie Fauer.

Sisters who loved each other and their mother dearly. They meant the world to their mother. The girls enjoyed bowling, dance, music and swimming. Chamra and Corie were actively involved in their church and loved their church family. They made this world a better place. A Celebration of Life will be held in their memory on Friday, July 16, 2021 at 12 Noon Grace Baptist Church 280 E Lincoln St Birmingham MI



LIVONIA

## The Teacher's Store closes after 48 years

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

It was sad news for Southfield resident Shay Foster when she heard The Teacher's Store in Livonia was closing its doors for good.

So the teacher decided to make one last trip July 8 to stock up on the supplies she'll need in the fall.

"I did jump on the opportunity," said Foster, who teaches preschool. "Because I was going to come a few weeks back and I'm like, 'I really need posters.' But then I'm like, 'Oh my gosh, they're closing, I'm definitely going now.'"

Foster is one of many educators and parents who have flocked to the shop at 169II Middlebelt in recent days after hearing it would close. The store, which has operated in Livonia for 48 years, specialized in providing learning and classroom materials.

Karen Montgomery, a manager at the store who's been there 23 years, said the concept first launched in Lansing, with Livonia its first retail shop. She said The Teacher's Store, a family-owned business, formerly operated shops in Sterling Heights, Grand Rapids and Chicago for many years. Livonia was a milestone store for the company when it first opened, she said.

"This was the first retail (store)," Montgomery said. "The community's been great, too."

Foster said she's shopped for supplies elsewhere, including a store along Greenfield. But she said that store has also closed, leaving The Teacher's Store as one of the main shops for supplies.

"This is the only place that (I know about)," she said.

She joined many others this past week, waiting in long lines to purchase some of the remaining items. Parking has been at a premium in the lot since word came the store was closing.

After decades of being in the business, Montgomery said she will miss spending time at the store.

spending time at the store.

"It's hard not to after that long," she

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



The Teacher's Store on Middlebelt in Livonia closed after 48 years in business. PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Manager Karen Montgomery checks out a customer.



Customers waited in long lines July 8 to stock up on educational supplies.



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Voters in Farmington and Farmington Hills will head to the polls this November. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

# Farmington-area elections' filing deadline approaching

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

Candidates hoping to jump on ballots in Farmington and Farmington Hills this year are running out of time.

People in both cities have until 4 p.m. Tuesday, July 20, to file for elected office, and will have until July 23 to withdraw. Each city has three council seats up for grabs, and Farmington Hills residents will also elect a mayor.

Voters will head to the polls in November to choose their local representatives

Here's who has tossed their hat in the races so far:

## **Farmington Hills**

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According to Oakland County's unofficial candidate list, nobody has filed to run for Farmington Hills mayor yet. Vicki Barnett, the city's current mayor, is eligible to run for a second term.

Once elected, the mayor serves a two-year, nonpartisan term and makes

\$875.08 monthly.

As for council, Michael Bridges, Randy Bruce and Valerie Knol have all filed to run so far. Knol and Bridges are incumbents, and Bruce is a former councilman. Like mayor, council member is a

nonpartisan office.
Once elected, council members serve

four-year terms and make \$583.36 monthly.

The mayor generally serves in a council president role, and council appoints a mayor pro tem from among themselves once a new board is seated.

## Farmington

Five residents are in the Farmington council race so far according to Oakland County reports: Johnna Balk, David De-Lind, Geof Perrot, Maria Taylor and Cathi Waun.

Taylor is an incumbent, and DeLind was appointed to council last year. Steve Schneemann, a current councilman, has a position up for election, but he hasn't filed to run as of July 8.

Council positions are nonpartisan.

Of the three open positions, the top two vote-getters will serve for four years, and the third person will serve for two. In Farmington, council members and the mayor make \$3,000 annually.

Once a new council is seated in 2022, the council will appoint a mayor and

mayor pro tem from among themselves. Sara Bowman and Joe LaRussa currently hold those positions, respectful-

ly.
Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley
at stankersle@hometownlife.com or
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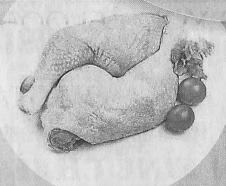
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## SPORTS

# GOING FOR GOLD



John Kusku has been on the U.S. Goalball team since 2014, participating in his first Paralympic Games in 2016. LIMA 2019

## Commerce Twp. man to play goalball in Paralympic Games

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A bloody nose was all it took for John Kusku to fall in love with the sport of goalball.

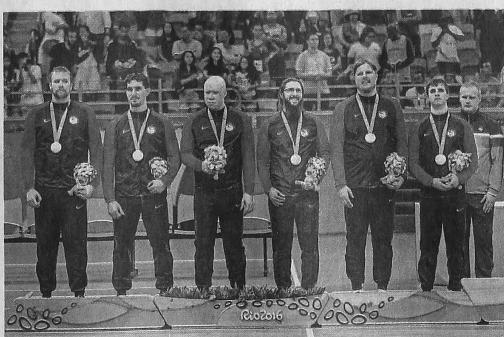
He was at a sports camp at Western Michigan University, put on by the Michigan Blind Athletics Association. The 13-year-old went down to the court, donning the eyeshades and faced athletes who were bigger and stronger than him. Kusku remembers the sound of the ball thrown down the sideline and the feeling as it smashed him in his nose after diving to block the shot.

Diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa at age 5, leaving him without peripheral vision and very limited sight, Kusku had never been able to go as hard as he could at a sport. In goalball, he found something that he could put everything into.

Played on a court with a goal extending to each end, three players have to defend a goal with masks over their eyes as one team attempts to throw a bells-filled ball into the goal past them.

It's a sport originally invented after World War II for veterans who had lost sight. And when Kusku first found it, it was a sport he never wanted to stop playing.

See GOALBALL, Page 2B



The U.S. men's goalball team won silver at the Rio Paralympics Games in 2016. The team included several players from Michigan. WHEELCHAIR SPORTS FEDERATION

"You can throw the ball as hard as you can and no other sport at that time in my life could I do that. I couldn't find a way to throw a ball hard because I would miss what I was throwing at and hurt somebody."

John Kusku

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

## Canton's **Kroon gave** girls soccer new life in postseason

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Morgan Kroon first started playing soccer because of her older brother

He's her role model. She always wanted to do what he was doing, following him out to the backyard to kick the soccer ball for hours after picking up the game herself at age 4.

While Zackary Kroon went on to play soccer at Concordia University, Morgan made a name for herself at Canton. As a senior, she helped lead the Chiefs to their first district title since 2018 and to the regional final, despite finishing the regular season, 5-5-5.

Before going into districts, Kroon remembers talking with her teammates, each of them emphasizing the message of meaning behind each game ahead, igniting a level of focus and motivation the senior defender hadn't seen at times earlier in the season.

"We really didn't play like we wanted to win," Kroon said. "I think we struggled with that a little bit, so for us to know that something was on the line and because we all enjoyed playing with each other so much, it really put some more realization to it."

Canton girls soccer's bread and butter was its defense, recording nine shutouts - holding opponents scoreless in five of its last seven games of the 2021 season - and allowing an average of 0.75 goals per game.

Defense was something Kroon was not used to heading into high school, playing forward for her teams from age 4 to eighth grade. But entering ninth grade, she made the switch from forward to outside back for both her club and high school teams, playing defense up until her senior season.

But during the 2021 season, Canton needed some offense to add to its defense. Canton head coach Jeannine Reddy moved Kroon, who had not played forward since eighth grade, to outside midfield for the last few games, trying to ignite a spark.

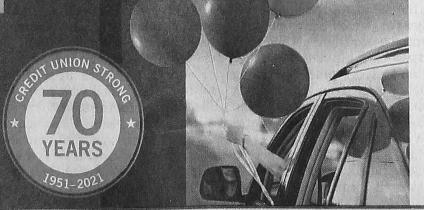
For Kroon, it was an easy transition, having tried to defend outside midfielders for years prior to the switch.

"Because I defend midfielders all day long, I know what to do to try and get around them or whatever because I know what to expect," Kroon said. "My coach says all the time, 'As a defender,

See ATHLETE, Page 2B

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# Hartland grad selected as Female Athlete of the Year at Northern Michigan University

**Bill Khan** Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

When she quit focusing on offense, scoring became much easier for Hartland graduate Caroline Halonen as a junior soccer player at Northern Michigan University.

Her II goals ranked second nationally in NCAA Division II, earning her Offensive Player of the Year in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference in May before being recently chosen as Northern's Female Athlete of the Year.

Halonen was selected from among 166 athletes in nine varsity sports.

"It's always an honor to win an award like that, just with how many great athletes there are at the school and on the team, even," Halonen said. "It was actually really an honor. I didn't think about it too much. I was kind of surprised."

Halonen made an immediate impact as a freshman at Northern in 2018, scoring a team-high nine goals to go with six assists in 17 games. Her totals dropped to two goals and five assists in 18 games in 2019.

"For some reason, after freshman season, I felt pressure going into sophomore year," Halonen said. "Sophomore year, I tried to focus so much on putting the ball in the net. This year, I was able to produce more."

Her offense increased dramatically as a junior, despite playing a defensive role in the midfield.

"I wasn't focused on scoring as much," Halonen said. "When I did get a chance to go forward, I was more composed. Since this season was in the spring, I was able to work all year with my coaches on finishing. I felt more con-



Caroline Halonen of Hartland was selected as the 2020-21 Female Athlete of the Year at Northern Michigan University. CORY GENOVESE/PHOTOYOOP

fident in front of the net because of that."

Halonen scored goals in nine of the Wildcats' 12 games, leading them to an 8-3-1 record. It was Northern's first winning season since 2011. The Wildcats were 9-24-2 Halonen's first two seasons.

"Obviously, winning in sports is way more fun," she said. "It was a ton of fun. We had a bunch of alumni reaching out to us, congratulating us. It feels good to do that for the program. It's going to help the program in the long run with better recruits coming in. It was really special to be part of the team that can turn things around."

Several of the new recruits for Northern will come from Livingston County, which has been fertile recruiting ground for the Wildcats. This season's team had five Hartland graduates and three

Brighton grads.

Justina L'Esperance and Maria Storm from Hartland's state championship team are heading to Northern Michigan in the fall, while senior-to-be Hannah Kastamo has already committed to the Wildcats.

"It kind of brings a piece of home, too, which is kind of cool," Halonen said. "We played with these girls, we've known these girls for a long time. Obviously, team chemistry plays a pivotal role on a good team."

Halonen's II goals ranked second nationally only to the 17 scored by Ashley Merrill of Dallas Baptist University. Only four players in Division II scored in double figures. Halonen's total of 23 points ranked fourth in the nation.

"She was definitely the heart of that midfield in terms of just leading it, not only offensively, but on the defensive side, too," Northern coach Jon Sandoval said. "She was an individual who played both sides of the ball. She was a box-to-box midfielder. The dedication that she showed, not only on the field, but also as a leader, was extraordinary to watch. She grew as a person over the last year tenfold. Just being able to watch that was rewarding as a coach.

"When I think about Caroline, I think about a player who is going to be leaving Northern ... and being one of the best players to ever wear the jersey. I think she has the potential to go to the next level and she has a lot of intangibles that make her very special and makes it very easy to coach her."

As a senior at Hartland, Halonen was a second-team all-state selection and the county Player of the Year in 2018. She led the county with 17 goals.

## Athlete

Continued from Page 1B

it's the scariest thing because you don't really know where they are going to go. So you really just have to wait and see what they are going to do.'

"I took that as an advantage and kind of messed with them a little bit."

After the team had 10 games in the regular season in which it scored one goal or less – each turning into a draw or a loss – Canton's offense resurged in the playoffs, outscoring opponents, 17-1, through its first four wins before a 2-0 shutout loss to Ann Arbor Skyline in the regional final.

Kroon played a major role in that offensive success, hitting two of Canton's three goals against Belleville to advance to the regional final.

Canton's late stride surprised Kroon, but she knew it made everything more special: enjoying her time with her teammates for a longer period than expected.

Looking ahead to the future of Canton, Kroon feels the bond between her teammates will allow them to have continued success, no matter the talent on the field.

"They will always keep this season in the back of their pocket and just keep that with them that you don't have to have a great to make it and go far in districts," Kroon said. "It's all about each other. My coach says this all the time, 'It's all about the chemistry of you guys. That wins games."

## Athlete of the Week poll results

Canton's Morgan Kroon won Hometown Life's Athlete of the Week award for the week of June 15, earning 5,155 (77.06%) of the 6,690 total votes cast.

Marian soccer freshman Elle Ervin finished in second and Brother Rice senior lacrosse player Luke Dudley finished third, while Brother Rice baseball's Alfredo Velazquez and Mercy softball's Grace Nieto finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

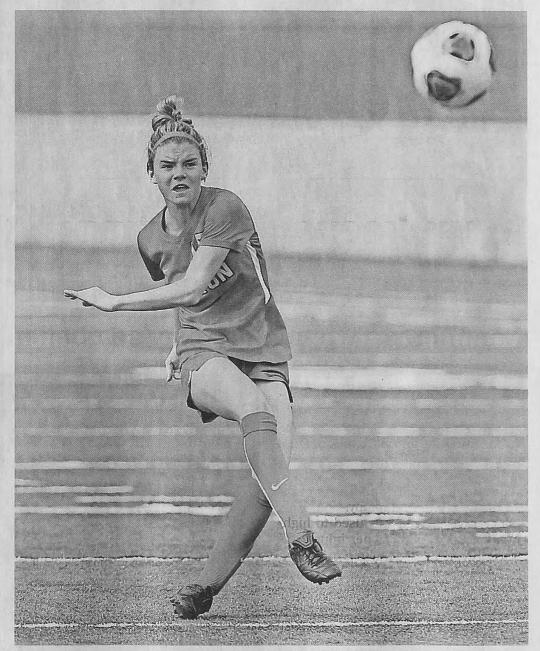
One thing hasn't changed for Kroon: she's continuing to follow in her brother's footsteps.

After Zackary played defense at Concordia, Morgan will play defense at Madonna. Even though she knows the Crusaders women's soccer team wants her there as a defender, Kroon will do whatever the team needs from her, even if it's switching back to defense.

The Canton graduate is now preparing for the fall, going through a guided workout plan to make sure she is ready to go when two-a-days start in August.

"I'm very, very nervous because it's so new," Kroon said. "I'm definitely someone who doesn't like change, but I'm beyond excited to play at that next level. It's such a dream for me because I've always wanted to do it."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @Colin-Gay17.



Canton's Morgan Kroon is the athlete of the week. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Goalball

Continued from Page 1B

"You can throw the ball as hard as you can and no other sport at that time in my life could I do that," Kusku said. "I couldn't find a way to throw a ball hard because I would miss what I was throwing at and hurt somebody."

Twenty-three years later, Kusku's all landed him a spot with Team USA, which is preparing to compete in the 2021 Paralympic Games in Tokyo in late July.

The Warren native and Commerce Township resident made the Team USA Paralympic team after landing a bronze medal in the 2014 World Championships, competing with the 2016 Olympic team in Rio and bringing home silver after falling to rival Lithuania, 14-8, in the gold-medal match.

Even though Kusku had donned the red, white and blue before the 2016 Paralympic Games, Kusku felt a different level of connection, saying there weren't words to describe what he was feeling

while walking the track during the opening ceremonies.

But even more important to him, Kusku saw an atmosphere surrounding goalball in Rio he had never experienced before: trading 20 people in the stands for 5,000-10,000 spectators.

"I think I left the court every single game in emotional tears because it was just so loud and incredible," Kusku said.

Knowing what to expect in the next iteration of the Games, Kusku's focus turned to his own power and strength in the time off ahead of Tokyo, trying to enhance his scoring ability from just being able to strategically place or throw a ball into an opponent's goal.

While the COVID-19 pandemic set the Paralympic Games back one year, Kusku continued to train, setting up a cleared space in his basement for throwing and diving practices, along with weights and strength training equipment to keep the mechanics of the game in check until he was able to compete again with his teammates.

When Kusku returned to the court in March 2021, it did take awhile for him to adjust back to the game itself.

"I did allow more goals than normal at first just because there's all these little things that you think in the back of your mind, they are little reminders to yourself before every play," Kusku said. "A lot of those, you have to shake the rust off of those to let it come back.

"After a couple of hours of playing, a lot of that gets shaken off and it's just muscle memory and continuing to

Fighting was something Kusku had to do just to get a spot back on Team USA.

The U.S. Paralympic Goalball team had 10 athletes fighting for six spots, a competition, Kusku said, where he was near the back of the line. He said the coaches told him he was "10th out of 10" to make the roster for 2021, but he clawed his way back, helped by a successful performance in a Lithuanian tournament, which was viewed as the "last tryout" for the team.

But once Team USA named the teams, Kusku said the coaches have been throwing confidence at the players from every which way, helping them train and bringing themselves to a physIn 2021, Kusku, who also teaches math and physics at Oakland Technical College in Wixom, feels that Team USA has the same amount of defensive talent it had in Rio, but that the group has got more firepower offensively, allowing him to feel more confident that success is coming back to the United States when the Games are complete.

ical peak prior to the start of the Games.

Unlike 2016, Kusku is confident heading into the 2021 Paralympic Games.

"I think we walked into Rio wondering are the skills they we have good enough. We knew our game plan was good enough going into Rio, we didn't know if our skill was good enough," he said. "I think the feelings going into this tournament is our skills are good enough, our game plan is good enough. We are ready for this tournament. We are going to have success. Let's just make sure it's the top of the podium success."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @Colin-Gay17.

## Tullar basking in glow of championship

**Bill Khan** Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Cam Tullar of Brighton had words of affirmation he repeated to himself whenever he took the mound this season

His mantra: "I belong here."

"Here" would be Mississippi State University, the best college baseball team in the nation in 2021.

In his first season with the Bulldogs, Tullar helped them win their first College World Series in a three-game final series with Southeastern Conference rival Vanderbilt June 30 in Omaha, Neb.

Joining such a stacked squad after parts of two seasons in junior college could be intimidating, but the opportunity to be involved in big moments against elite competition is why Tullar came to Mississippi State in the first place.

"With me, it's just positive self-talk that I belong here, I can do what the other guys do, I can get outs, I can help the team win," he said. "Just positive self-talk that you know you can do it. I made it this far; I want to see it through."

Tullar made two appearances out of the bullpen during the Bulldogs' sevengame run to the championship.

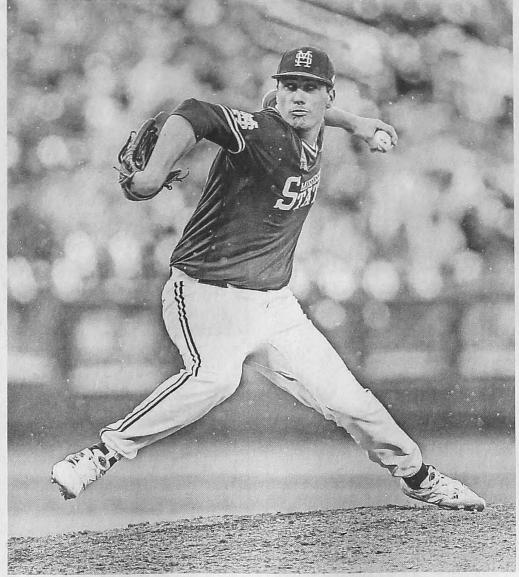
He pitched two-thirds of an inning in a 6-5 victory over Virginia on June 22 in the second game of the College World Series, retiring both batters he faced.

He faced two batters in an 8-5 loss to Texas on June 25, allowing one hit, one walk and one run.

When the final out was recorded in a 9-0 victory over the defending national champs, Tullar celebrated Mississippi State's first national championship in any sport in a dogpile on the infield.

"It was chilling, because you beat a really good Vanderbilt team in the College World Series after the first game didn't go our way," Tullar said. "We had our backs against the wall all year. Getting the final out in Game 3 was just goose bumps. You dreamed of this as a kid growing up, going to the College World Series and hopefully winning it. When it was happening, it was goose bumps and an unreal feeling that you made it."

Tullar has been basking in the glow of winning a championship for the past



Cam Tullar of Brighton made two appearances in the College World Series for Mississippi State, which won the national championship.

AUSTIN PERRYMAN/MISSISSIPPI STATE ATHLETICS

week while tying up loose ends in Mississippi before heading home for the rest of the summer.

"It's still been unreal, just to be part of the team that won the College World Series," he said. "It's just sinking in a lot, more just kicking in. We came out on top."

Tullar made 23 relief appearances this season, pitching 19 innings. He had 25 strikeouts, 11 walks and a 6.86 earned run average

Over a stretch of nine appearances early in the season, Tullar allowed only one hit and didn't surrender a run in 6% innings.

"I knew it was going to be a leap from junior college ball to playing the best baseball in all the nation," Tullar said. "I knew it was a jump; I knew I could do it. I believed in myself, believed in what I can do to get outs. That's what the coaches saw in me. I thought my year went pretty well. It was a good adjustment seeing how the first year went and being excited for next year to develop even more.

"I was a lefty specialist. I would come in and get lefty outs. Here and there I would face righties, but I was the guy to face lefties in a jam."

After pitching Brighton to a district

championship as a senior in 2018, Tullar pitched one full season and an abbreviated 2020 campaign with Wabash Valley College in Illinois for coach Rob Fournier, who has had 85 players drafted or signed by Major League Baseball teams since 1997.

As a freshman at Wabash Valley, he was in the top 25 in the nation in victories (9), ERA (2.02) and strikeouts (104).

He won all five of his starts as a sophomore before the season was shut down because of COVID-19 restrictions. Because the season was canceled, Tullar has two seasons of eligibility remaining at Mississippi State.

"They really pushed me to my limits, putting me right on the spot, basically trusting me with doing what I was able to do the years before I got there," Tullar said. "It was really a special thing being part of the team.

"I knew going in Coach Fournier and his coaching staff had a really good history in JUCO ball. I wanted to be part of that process where I'm competing against the best in JUCO. A lot of guys don't go D1. JUCO also has really talented players who can play at that level. The development process is a lot different. It was a really great grind with a lot of special guys competing to win, but also to move up."

Fournier tipped off Mississippi State coach Chris Lemonis about Tullar after the 2019 season. Tullar transferred after the COVID-shortened 2020 campaign.

"I was really big on trusting the process and where it felt like home to me, where I felt the most comfortable," Tullar said. "Getting introduced, walking on campus and seeing how much the community supports the team, how much we give back to them, I fell in love with it right away. This is a great university, a great baseball team and great community that supports the team."

Did he expect to contend for a College World Series championship?

"Oh, yeah, of course," he said. "Mississippi State baseball has been one of the top in the nation these last couple years. I knew this team can do it. The SEC has the best programs in the nation. Mississippi State is a good team. We knew we had a good chance to win it, especially with the returners coming back from COVID."

## Mom keeps daily running streak for over 1,000 days

Kayla Daugherty Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

For Adrian Fear, running is a daily activity – and has been for the past 1,088 days

Every day she runs at least a mile, whether on her treadmill indoors or outside on the dirt roads near her Milford home.

The current running streak started after Fear, who had broken her ankle on a training run in early 2018, was told she was "free to go run" after weeks of recovery and physical therapy.

As a runner who was used to highmileage weeks prior to her injury, she had to figure out what "free to go run" now meant for her.

"I had a really hard time wrapping my mind around this concept of 'free to go run," Fear, 38, said. "What does that mean? I can go back to where I left off, where I was ready to go run a 50k or I've got to go start all over."

Fear said she started her run streak with a goal to run at least one mile a day for 30 days as a way to test her ankle strength.

From there, it just kept going, she

said.

Fear, who works as a lactation consultant, said that she has considered quitting several times.

The advice she gives her clients about breastfeeding keeps her motivated

"We don't quit at our worst," she said.
"You gotta give it a couple days and then
I will give you a quit."

After pushing through the rough days, the will to continue the running streak wins out.

## Running through labor

Fear is a mother of five children: Corbin, Davin, Ebe, Phoenix and Gavi.

She and her husband Brad Fear, have opted for homebirths for all their children, a decision that helped her maintain her streak the day her daughter Gavi, now 14 months, was born.

Fear incorporated running her mile in her delivery day plan, similar to other mothers planning a massage or certain

music for their big day.
She found a homebirth midwife who



Adrian Fear with her daughter, Gavi, now 14 months old, after continuing her daily running streak. COURTESY OF ADRIAN FEAR

supported her running endeavors.

"She totally understood the mentality of 'I'm going to run the entire pregnancy and then I am going to give birth to a baby and then I am going to get up and finish my run streak," Fear said.

And that's what she did. Her daughter was born the morning of April 15, 2020, and before the day was through Fear was on her treadmill finishing her daily mile.

## No end in sight

After giving birth to Gavi, Fear reached out to McKirdy Trained running coach Dan Montgomery in preparation for a return to in-person races.

"Whether it's being a mother, the demands of work or the weather, she finds a way to get it done every single day," Montgomery said.

He said he is inspired by Fear's moti-

vation and she reminds him of the importance of being committed.

Right now Fear doesn't have a race planned, but she hopes to complete another ultra-marathon before the end of

other ultra-marathon before the end of the year.

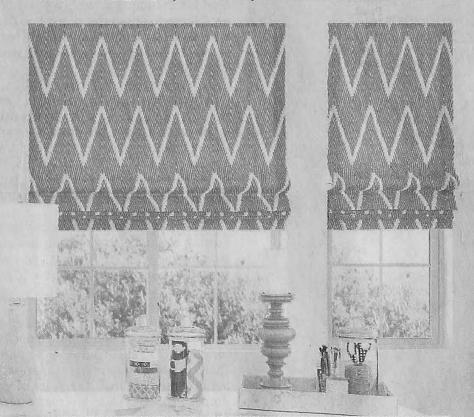
As for when the run streak will come

to an end? Fear said she doesn't plan on stopping any time soon. "I don't know, I kinda like it," she said.

"It's who I am and what I do"



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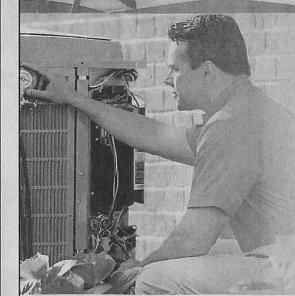
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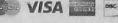
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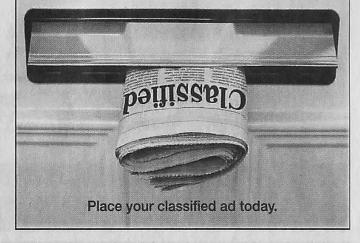
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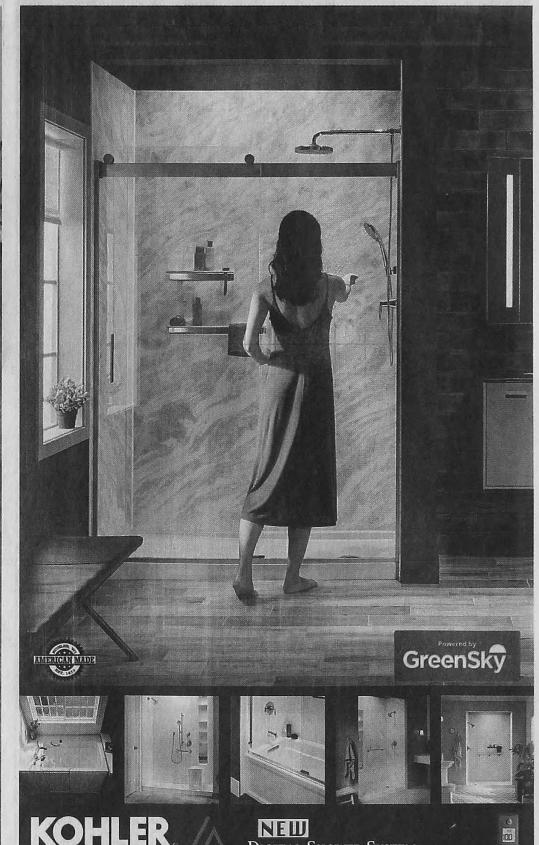
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For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com.

126

127

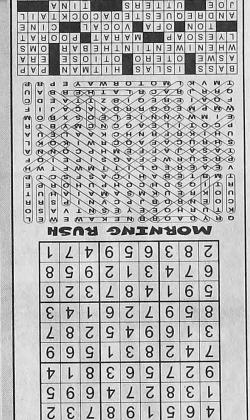
## SUDOKU 4 8 6 9 4 3 5 6 2 9 5 7/15

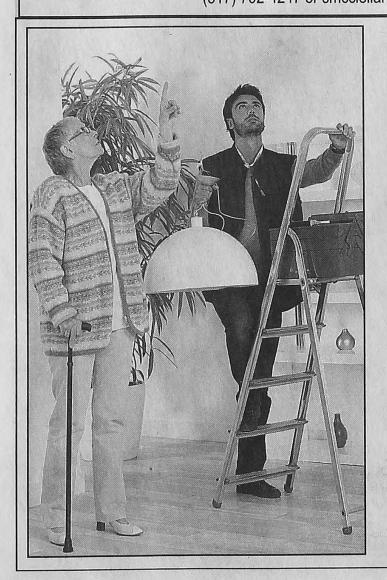
Difficulty Level ★★★

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!

#### MORNING RUSH Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, even QRYDAORBNEKAWEWE TURHOEEYESNT NRDBJPCVN REUKMSAMA DHCOHP EBAHICASF EREGLITTM URWF FAGS FEMHPCO SAJAF AOCRW HRUCAF RNHCKA ILEAGCNCMY MWYNNIELEOSX MPMEGGRRDAACA OAIEREQIBZTTA RRJRACRLATHERB TMVKLMOTORWAYEP

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