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Wildlife sightings in suburbs on the rise

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Turkeys, coyotes and deer ... Oh my! The presence of wildlife in the far northwest suburbs of Detroit hasn't reached Jumanji levels yet, but social media posts suggest there are more wild

animal sightings than ever before in the ened by multiple wild turkeys. A potengrowing suburban communities like Plymouth, Canton or Northville.

And the encounters haven't always been pleasant for residents.

One retired couple taking a recent morning stroll near their Plymouth Township home reported being threat-

tially imminent attack was subdued by a passing motorist who stopped his car and helped distract the fowl creatures.

An early-October post on the Nextdoor app described how a Canton Township husband and wife - while watching TV — heard the unmistakable sounds of howling coyotes not far from their backyard. The following day, when they checked the vicinity the noises seemed to be echoing from, they found the bloody carcass of an eight-point buck.

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The Jack Wilcox Fountain in downtown Plymouth flowed with pride for the first time Oct. 16. ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Downtown Plymouth's new fountain flows for first time

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

An exclamation point was added to one of Michigan's most iconic downtown's Saturday morning when the switch was flipped for the first time on Plymouth's new state-of-the-art — yet still bursting with small-town charm centerpiece fountain.

As hundreds of people anxiously

fountain's stylish brick perimeter, a young artist officially flipped the switch, simultaneously igniting arches of glistening water and hearty applause from onlookers.

"I'm blown away by it," said 35-year Plymouth resident Lee Jasinski. "I've worked in construction most of my life and the quality and workmanship that's been put into this is second to none.

"When I saw some of the first designs gathered around the new Jack Wilcox for the fountain years ago, I wasn't

pleased; it looked like a spaceship. But I'm thankful they changed it. Downtown Plymouth has a Greenfield Village feel to it so it's important to preserve the past."

Minutes before the fountain gushed for the first time, Plymouth Mayor Oliver Wolcott thanked a variety of individuals - from the Wilcox Foundation which paid for the bulk of the

See FOUNTAIN, Page 4A

Livonia Greenmead plan looks to make park year-round attraction

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Livonia Councilman Jim Jolly likes that Greenmead Historical Park allows his children to see history with their

"I think what is particularly drawing for my kids is they like seeing these old buildings," he said. "They learn about history in school and it kind of seems like a faraway thing... But they can see a general store, a church and different buildings that were actually here in this community."

Jolly is chairing the steering committee to create a master plan for Greenmead, at the corner of Eight Mile and Newburgh roads, that will guide the site for several decades.

The park is currently open to the public for free and hosts a number of events — Night of Lights in December and the Motor City Irish Fest in the summer are two - held there. Greenmead has a variety of historical buildings previously used elsewhere in Livonia and surrounding cities and has a sledding hill and walking trail, as well.

"We want this to be a site that is utilized and a park that is valued by our residents as somewhere they can go 365 days a year," Jolly said. "It's exciting. We have this great asset in Livonia and it's been completely underutilized, underfunded, under-thoughtthrough."

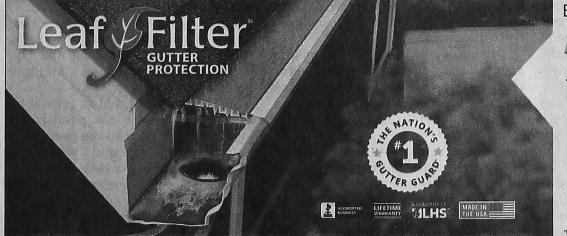
The Greenmead 356 Master Plan committee created a website, greenmead365.com, where people can learn

See PARK, Page 4A

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Haunted houses in and out of metro Detroit

Miriam Marini Detroit Free Press **USA TODAY NETWORK**

In case the world isn't scary enough and you want to kick it up a notch, Halloween is right around the corner. And with it comes spooky attractions galore across metro Detroit.

The creaky doors of many haunted houses local and not-so-local open this weekend, giving ample time to get in the Halloween spirit.

Especially given that most haunted houses stayed shuttered last season because of coronavirus concerns, we're itching for jump scares.

Here are some haunted houses to check out this season, if you're brave enough.

And remember, medical experts advise people to mask up in enclosed spaces. So please be cautious when getting the bejesus scared out of you.

Azra Chamber of Horrors Haunted House

Address: 31401 John R Road, Madison Heights

Ticket cost: \$35 general admission The attraction includes a multilevel maze of a haunted house with each section promising to be more terrifying

The Scream Machine

than the last.

Address: 23131 Ecorse Road, Taylor Ticket cost: \$25

The asylum-themed haunted attraction asks one question: "Do you dare

Eloise Asylum, a haunted house attraction in Westland, during an appearance on Sept. 23. Cooper, originally from Detroit, was in town for this event and to perform at the DTE **Energy Music** Theater. ERIC SEALS/ **DETROIT FREE PRESS**

cross the threshold of insanity and stare face to face with your deepest fears?" That about sums it up.

Circus Sinister by Wyandotte Jaycees

Address: 3131 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte

Ticket cost: \$15

The Jaycees are back with another annual haunted attraction. This year, it's featuring everyone's nightmare: deranged clowns.

Wiard's Orchards Night Terrors

Address: 5565 Merritt Road, Ypsi-

lanti

Ticket cost: \$52 for admission to five attractions on Saturdays, \$47 on Friday and Sunday, \$19 for single at-

The haunted park consists of five haunted attractions: An asylum, haunted barn, mineshaft, caged clowns and hayride.

Hush

Address: 37550 Cherry Hill Road, Westland

Ticket cost: \$28.99

The thrilling campus features three attractions: Hellmouth, a portal to the underworld; Ancient Evil, with haunted catacombs; and Rosecliff Hall, a haunted manor.

Eloise Asylum

Alice Cooper and his

Goddard, laugh as

he shows the knife he was going to use

to cut the ribbon on

the porch of the

wife, Sheryl

Address: 30712 Michigan Ave., Westland

Ticket cost: \$40

The infamous asylum is now a haunted attraction this year. The self-proclaimed "Disney of haunted attractions" utilizes advanced projection technology that transports visitors into the horror.

Attractions outside of metro **Detroit worth checking out**

- Slay Nights: 1800 N. Burkhart Road, Howell.
- Darksyde Acres: 11375 Rowe Road, Jonesville.
- Abandoned Acres Farm: 7737 Fruit Ridge Ave., Sparta.
- Rotten Manor: 13245 Dixie Hwy.,
- Holly. Slaughterhouse Adventure and
- Grand River Maze: 5781 Grand River, Fowlerville.

For families and kids

- Zoo Boo at the Detroit Zoo: 8450 W. 10 Mile Road, Royal Oak.
- The Wilson Barn Pumpkin Fest: 29350 W. Chicago, Livonia.
- Hallowe'en at Greenfield Village: 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn.
- Skeletons are Alive in Downtown
- Northville: 215 W. Main St., Northville.

Have a creepy Halloween, and happy haunting!

DTE Energy worker killed while repairing downed line in **Brighton Twp.**

Kayla Daugherty Livingston Daily USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A 41-year-old South Lyon man was killed on Sunday after being electrocuted while working on a downed wire in Brighton Township.

The man, a DTE Energy utility worker, was conducting repairs to a wire on the ground and suffered a fatal injury around 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Michigan State Police wrote in a Twitter post.

. "A field employee was working to restore power to customers in Brighton when he came into contact with an energized cable and sustained fatal injuries," the energy company said in a statement. "He, along with thousands of DTE employees, held a commitment to caring for our customers and communities, and we view him as a hero. We are reaching out to his family, and we ask for consideration and privacy at this time of profound sadness and grieving. We are sending our full love and support to his loved ones, and all those whose lives he touched."

Officials have not released the

man's name.

State troopers were assisted on scene by Livingston County EMS, the Brighton Area Fire Department, Howell Area Fire Department and Livingston County Sheriff's Office.

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Social Security cost-of-living increase and seniors



Money Matters Rick Bloom

Guest columnist

Social Security recipients next year will see their checks increase by 5.9 percent, which equates to \$92 per month for the average recipient. That compares to the cost-of-living adjustment for 2021 which was 1.3 percent, which raised the average check by nearly \$20 a month.

Starting next year, the typical retired worker will receive \$1,657 a month in Social Security benefits, while a typical couples' benefit will rise to \$2,753 a month. In addition, the Social Security Administration announced that for those who are working, the amount of income subject to Social Security taxes will increase to \$147,000 from \$142,800.

The full retirement age for people born in 1960 and later will increase to 67, and the amount that Social Security beneficiaries who are younger than their full retirement age can earn before their benefits are reduced has been increased to \$19,560.

For most people, the increase will be reduced somewhat by the projected increase in Medicare Part B premiums. Typically, a senior's Medicare Part B premium is deducted from their Social Security benefit. Currently, the average premium for Medicare Part B is \$148 a month. It's expected that premiums will increase by at least \$10 a month next year. In addition, seniors have seen their expenses soar over the last year.

The prices for gas, used cars, homeheating oil, eggs, beef, milk and homecare for the elderly have all increased significantly. Therefore, for most seniors, the increase will allow them to stay above water as opposed to being able to increase the quality of their life.

Because Social Security is so important, before anyone collects their benefits, they need to have a strategy. Even though someone may be eligible to collect Social Security at 62, that doesn't mean they should. If someone's full retirement age is 67 and they take their benefits at 62, it means that they will have a 30 percent reduction in benefits. I recommend that seniors delay tak-

ing Social Security until age 70. When you delay your benefits from your full retirement age, your benefits increase by 8 percent a year. I believe if you focus on your individ-

ual situation, you will make the right decision. I also believe that because so many Americans rely and depend upon Social Security, it will be with us for a long time.

Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is www.bloomadvisors.com. Email him your questions at rick@bloomadvisors.com.

Wildlife

Continued from Page 1A

Countless sightings of roaming deer and on-the-prowl coyotes have been captured by backyard security cameras - and throughout autumn 2020, several motorists near the intersection of Beck and Joy roads snapped photos of a rebellious wild turkey stopping traffic while standing directly under the light at the busy crossroads.

Nearby in Oakland County, Farmington Hills officials are urging a regional plan to address the increasing deer encounters among residents and motorists.

Is the rise in sightings due to westward residential development into once-rural landscapes pushing the creatures into human habitats, or is there another underlying reason at the heart of the movement?

Hannah Schauer, a communications and education coordinator for the Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Division, says it's probably a combination of factors.

"Some wildlife - coyotes, wild turkeys and deer included - are very adaptable to different habitat types," Schauer said. "They eat a wide variety of food sources and they can usually find what they need in a variety of habitats, including more residential environments."

Schauer explained wildlife that can be found in metro Detroit are not threats to humans; however, there are

"Wildlife are generally fearful of people, so they don't want any confrontations with humans," she said. "But we do see cases where animals become habituated, usually because

there is some food source involved.

"When they're habituated and they're used to being around people and people are feeding them, it can cause them to lose some of those wild instincts, and make them start associating people for food. These are cases when we see them exhibit unusual behavior."

Schauer confirmed that wild turkeys are known, in rare instances, to become aggressive toward humans, especially during mating season and when food is involved.

Wild turkeys are attracted to bird feeders, so as a preventative measure, it can be helpful to move bird feeders," she said. "Male turkeys tend to get defensive when fighting for a female or a food source. They've been known to see their reflection in a window or in a vehicle's hubcap and feel a need to fight with what they see."

Canton Township Supervisor Anne Marie Graham-Hudak said the township does its best to preserve open space and wooded areas when developers seek to build on rural land in the western portion of Canton. In the recently-released U.S. Census data, Canton was among the fastest-growing communities in Wayne County, passing the City of Livonia with nearly 100,000 residents as the third largest municipality in the county.

Regarding the increase in wildlife sightings in suburban areas, Graham-Hudak said she's read multiple articles that this occurrence has unfolded with regularity since the COVID-19 pandemic started.

"I've read several articles stating that when people were in their homes more and not driving around as much, animals came out more from the wooded areas," she said. "Now that people are out more and getting back to work, it's

creating more issues because the wildlife is still out there."

Data provided by the Canton Township Public Safety Department revealed that from Jan. 1, 2021, to Oct. 14, 2021, there had been 43 vehicular accidents involving animals in the township, although the type of animals involved in the incidents was not available.

Schauer said the pandemic has probably had some effect on animal sight-

"I suspect, with people being at home more during those periods of time, it is likely that they observed wildlife in the area that they may have not seen previously since they were not at home as much," Schauer said.

Plymouth Township Supervisor Kurt Heise said his office has experienced an uptick in the number of resident-generated calls reporting wildlife sightings.

'I think, to some extent, it's a result of a healthier ecosystem; I don't think animals are being drawn out by residential development," Heise said. "I think the environment is more protective of wildlife so animals can live healthier now than they could in the past in urban developments.

"I think it's also a sign that animals deer, for example - don't have any natural predators left."

Schauer said not all species of wildlife are as adaptable to suburban living as the animals that Canton and Plymouth township residents are seeing at an increased rate.

"Human development in general alters the landscape to the point where wildlife has to adapt to the changes or move elsewhere," she said. "When fragmented into small pockets, some species don't do well. These are the ones we often see on endangered lists."

Contact reporter Ed Wright at eawright@hometownlife.com.

Market extends schedule as growing season continues



There's nothing quite like the feel of fall than an evening walk through the neighborhoods of a small town. The crunch of leaves underfoot, the faint smell of woodsmoke, the glow cast from doll-size lamps in the windows of homes. Night clouds part now and then to reveal a blue-black sky that mirrors the deep waters of a glassy lake.

These are the times that favor thick sweaters and a good boot. These are the times when people come to market on Saturday mornings and ask: "So how many more weeks are left?"

The answer: three. It's an odd number, but a good one.

The answer was two before a meeting with city hall this week. We huddled with the powers that be, then broke and lined up for an extra week. Yes, the farmers market will extend through the first Saturday in November.

And why not? As I write this Oct. 18, flowers are still blooming and our farmers' fields are still booming with produce. So come to market.

This Saturday brings our first Senior Health & Wellness Day, sponsored by Beaumont Health. Medical staff and specialized nurses will share valuable insights and resources on injury prevention and falls, what senior services are available through Farmington Hills, and sepsis awareness. There will also be timely information on COVID-19 vaccine booster shots.

Also scheduled: the ever-popular guitarist Mark Reitenga, who plays from 10 a.m. to close.

This is the week to pick out pumpkins and take home freshly-pressed cider, a bag of crunchy apples and winter veggies for a good hearty stock for soups and stews: carrots, potatoes, parsnips, onions, leeks, mushrooms, garlic and parsley.

Oct. 30 brings the Haunted Market for trick-ortreating with costumed vendors and volunteers. Live entertainment features the scary-good Bob Monteleone. Our final kids POP! Club will offer Shoeboxes of Doom, with disguised contents meant to bring giggles.

And then comes Nov. 7, our extra market and your last chance to stock up on locally-grown produce for the long winter months. Our farmers are all in, as are many of our pantry and prepared food vendors and artisans.

OK, so you want to know the truth? People don't want to see the market close yet. It's been such a grand season. So we'll be back with our annual market for Greens, Gifts & Giving 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 27.

Our farmers will bring wreaths, greens, roping and centerpieces. There will be hot food and Petey's Do-



The Farmington Farmers Market will add an extra week to its regular season as Michigan farms, such as the Goetz Family Farm in Riga, enjoy an unusually long growing season thanks to mild fall temperatures.

COURTESY OF FARMINGTON FARMERS MARKET

nuts, too. Strolling carolers will fill the pavilion with holiday music on this Small Business Saturday for all to enjoy while shopping the downtown.

The script for Farmington's traditional Holly Days, hosted by the Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce, is still being written. But count on finding Santa, Mrs. Claus, a night-time parade and the traditional lighting of the town Christmas tree at the Warner Mansion.

Check www.farmingtonfarmersmarket.com and www.gfachamber.com around the first of November for more information.

This wonderful "Brigadoon" market would not be possible at all without the benevolent hearts of our sponsors and volunteers. Please take a moment to consider how large an undertaking it is to bring a popup village to the downtown every Saturday for six months. So, along with our volunteer army, we are grateful to Wright Beamer Attorneys, Oakland Community College, Fresh Thyme Farmington, the Farmington Garage, Farmington Insurance, the accountants at Montgomery, Wiethorn, Burke, Mackinder & Dye, the Annette Compo Home Team, Essential Family Chiropractic, Care by Design, Waug's Electric, LOC

Credit Union, the Calder Dairy, Tom Holzer Ford and Great Lakes ACE Hardware.

That's what it takes. We are grateful. And we are Farmington. So, until next time and as always, here's saying, "Thank you for a wonderful, magical season in downtown Farmington."

Walt Gajewski is the Farmington Farmers Market manager.









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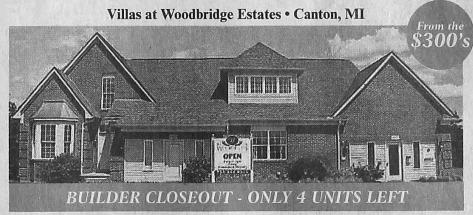
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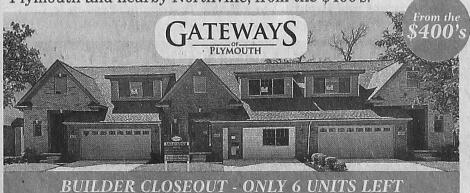
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MODELS LOCATED AT:

42468 Gateway Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170

WoodbridgeCommunities.com

Fountain

Continued from Page 1A

\$1.2 million price tag — to city electrical and landscape workers who made sure the smallest details of the centerpiece were pristine.

But Wolcott's most heartfelt thank you was directed at the city's residents, who helped steer the project in the right direction, he emphasized.

"So many residents came forward and offered opinions and thoughts on this project; the amount of feedback we received was amazing," Wolcott said. "This fountain is seven or eight years in the making and I'd venture to say that this project generated more thoughtful comments from residents than any other in the recent past."

Scott Dodge, a member of the Wilcox Foundation Board of Directors, explained how much the fountain's namesake, Jack Wilcox, would have appreciated Kellogg Park's new jewel.

"Jack wanted money from his foundation invested in projects that would create long-term beauty and value to Plymouth and he would, without a doubt, be proud of this fountain," Dodge said.

While expressing his appreciation to a number of individuals and groups, Dodge gave special thanks to four people - each of whom were presented a piece of glass decorated with the fountain's image - whom he said were instrumental in its completion: Wolcott, Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincock Shaw Construction General Manager Ted Barker and Chris Roy, a design leader representing Outside The Lines, the firm that designed the fountain.

Ted Mazaris, a superintendent for Shaw Construction who helped oversee daily construction of the fountain, said working on the fountain gave him incredible pride.

"It was really amazing to be a part of this," Mazaris said. "Two of the projects that have brought me the most pride in my career are here in Plymouth: the Miracle League facility and this fountain.

"To see everybody here and how happy they are, it's amazing. It's been a little bit of a wait, but well worth it, I think.'

The construction of a new fountain created pushback from some longtime Plymouth residents, who felt the former fountain was working just fine.

Not so, Mazaris countered.

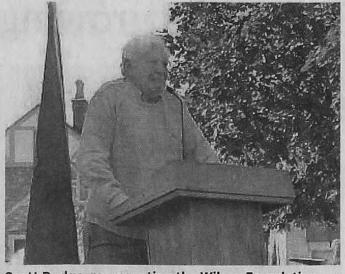
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"The old fountain (built in 1970) was basically one pump ... and so hard to maintain," Mazaris said. "This one — with new electrical systems, state-of-the-art pumps and filters — is built to last. It will be here a long time."

The new fountain is equipped with a timing device that will stop the flow of water at some point every night and restart it every morning. There are also builtin mechanics that will turn it off if wind speeds exceed a certain limit.

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



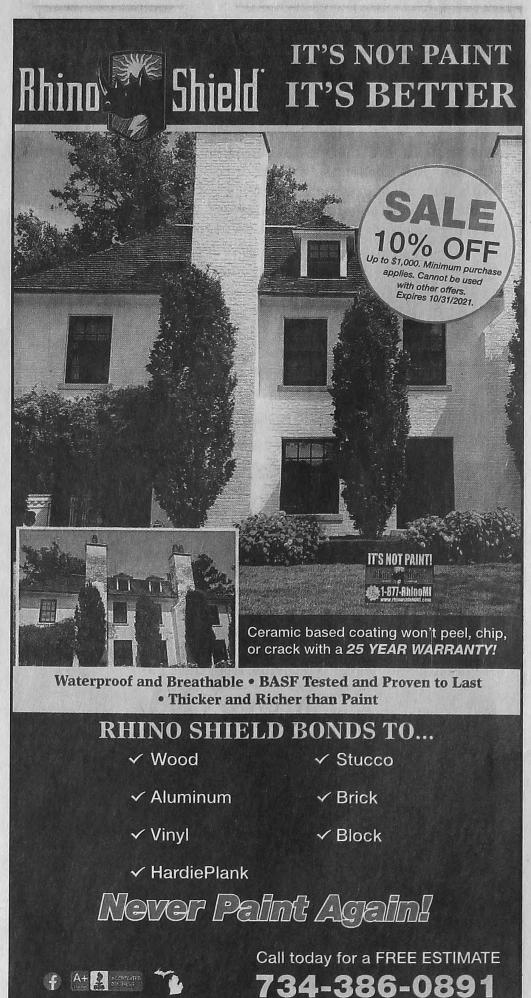
Scott Dodge, representing the Wilcox Foundation, talks about the Jack Wilcox's contributions to Plymouth during the opening ceremony for the new fountain. PHOTOS BY WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Mayor Oliver Wolcott applauded the work put in to make the new Jack Wilcox Fountain possible.



A group of young artists led the countdown to the official start of the new fountain's water system.



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Continued from Page 1A

more about the park, the planning process and share their own ideas for its future. The committee also plans to send another survey to residents to gather more feedback. "Public input does

have a lot of say into it because ultimately it's a democracy," said Dan West, CEO of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce. West said one of his

personal hopes for the site is for it to give families a community asset to enjoy. He lives near the park and visits it often.

"We believe this could be a prime regional attraction," he said. "Greenfield Village has their thing; we could have our Wayne and southern Oakland County."

Jolly and Ted Davis, the city's parks and recreation superintendent, said their biggest hope is to see the park well-used all year long. Another local leader, Councilman Brandon McCullough, has floated the idea of a live music venue at Greenmead.

"At one point the Hill House had a working farm on the property," Jolly said. "It would be great to have some degree of a petting zoo or farm animals to kind of bring back the feel of what that site was originally back in the day ...

"It would be great when we have these fall days instead of going out to a cider mill or apple orchard outside of Livonia,

thing here for western we could have some of those experiences here at Greenmead."

But, at this point, Jolly said the committee is "considering everything" and looking for the public's guidance.

One thing the committee knows needs to happen is a capital needs plan for the historical buildings at the park. While some are open to the public, others are not.

"Imagine if you owned a historic home," Davis said. "It's a great house built 100-plus years. You're going to have daily, weekly and monthly maintenance. We have a lot of that."

Davis hopes to give four of the structures new roofs next year and is looking forward to having a plan to improving all the buildings. The master plan should be completed in early 2022 and cost roughly \$80,000 to cre-

"Doing a needs assessment for each one of the buildings is a specific part of the plan," Jolly said. "We've had experts in all of these buildings as part of 365 to tell us what needs to be done and give us a roadmap to actually accomplishing that."

The city will look to get local cooperate partners to help fund building rehab projects. Davis said potentially charging a small per-car fee at the park for future upkeep isn't completely out of the question, either.

Between repairs and new additions, the master plan should, in Jolly's words, help Greenmead be "what it should have been from the beginning."

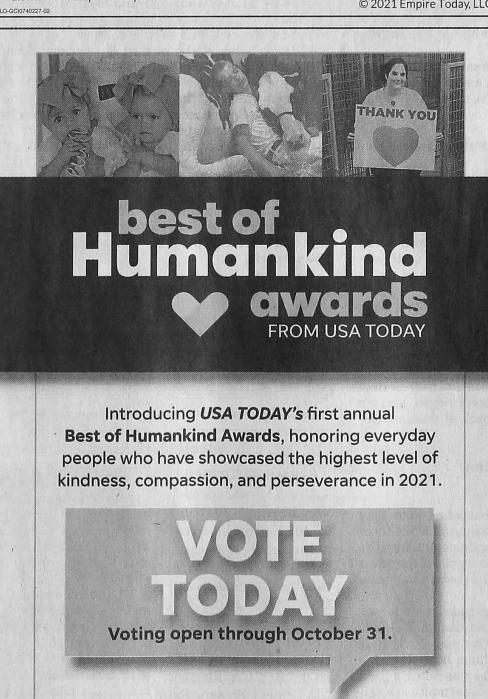
'This is distinct to our community," West said. "Not everybody has a historical village like this."



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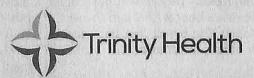


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Livonia seeks volunteers to help plant trees

From Staff Reports Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

ReLeaf Michigan, a statewide non-profit organization, in partnership with the City of Livonia and the Detroit Zoological Society is looking for volunteers to help plant 15 trees in Livonia 8:45 a.m. to noon, Oct. 23.

The planting is being done to increase tree cover at

the Livonia Civic Center.

Masks and social distancing are recommended. Volunteers are asked to wear closed-toe shoes, comfortable clothing and bring a shovel and work gloves if they have them. The group will meet in the parking lot at the Livonia Police Department, 15050 Farmington Road at 8:45 a.m. to sign-in, enjoy refreshments, and watch a planting demonstration with ReLeaf Michigan's tree experts.

Event occurs rain or shine. No planting experience is necessary. Join in for the morning and leave an environmental legacy that will add to the beauty of your community for generations. Families welcome.

Trees provide incredible benefits to the communities in which they are planted. Trees improve air and water quality, reduce stormwater runoff, improve mental wellness, reduce rates of childhood asthma, cool neighborhoods and enhance the commercial and economic vitality.

ReLeaf Michigan, a 33-year-old non-profit organization, partners with communities statewide to replenish community tree canopies through volunteer tree planting events. The Detroit Zoological Society is a strong steward of the environment and has recently partnered with ReLeaf Michigan to fund a total of four tree planting events in 2021.

For more information or to register, visit www.releafmichigan.org/RSVP.



Volunteers help plant trees at the Livonia Civic Center for Earth Day in 2017. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

Seven Michigan beers to try this fall

Brian Manzullo Detroit Free Press **USA TODAY NETWORK**

There's no question the COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging for the hundreds of independent craft breweries across Michigan.

But you've got to hand it to them: Many are still churning out big, bold, flavorful and innovative beers around the clock, and the range of tastes continues to widen the more they tinker with recipes and experiment with new adjuncts.

As a result, there is variety for everyone, from the light saison enthusiast to the barrel-aged stout connoisseur (such as myself)

And the access to quality craft beer has changed, too. While trips to the local taproom or beer store are still common for beerniks, it's no longer uncommon for folks to order online straight from their favorite brewery for drive-thru or curbside pickup, which became necessary for many breweries when indoor dining was shut down in Michigan.

Chances are, you will find something you like no matter where you go. But here are seven Michigan craft beers to try this fall; if you can't find them on store shelves or restaurant taps near you, you can try curbside pickup at the brewery, straight from the source.

Cinnamon Donut Stout

6.2% ABV, Blake's Brewing Co.

Perhaps the only thing better than ordering a craft beer straight from the source is getting it garnished with a cinnamon doughnut.

That's exactly what happens when you order a Cinnamon Donut Stout while visiting the tasting room at Blake's Orchard & Cider Mill in Armada. It's like a Michigan fall version of a Bloody Mary, except with cinnamon, sugary sweetness.

The stout itself, brewed with Blake's signature cinnamon doughnuts, is lighter for a stout but well balanced with roasty chocolate malts and hints of cinnamon, followed by a smooth, sweet finish. The experience is worth trying at least once.

Kölsch

4.8% ABV, Drafting Table Brewing Co.

Fall just screams German beer, doesn't it? You might be surprised to know a lot of Michigan breweries are jumping on the kölsch train, mainly because beer drinkers are becoming more calorie-conscious and trending toward lighter, lower-ABV options, but also because kölsches are delicious and refreshing, much like a well-made lager.

This fall, I lean toward Wixom-based Drafting Table's rendition of the kölsch. It's a classic rendition that stays true to the style: bright in color, light in body, soft bitterness, crisp and dry in the finish.

And you can find it in four-packs at Drafting Table's taproom in Wixom or on local beer shelves near you; the can label — featuring a drawing of old buildings in Cologne, Germany, where kölsches were invented - is a nice touch.

1-800-Wet-Hops NEIPA

6.3% ABV, Witch's Hat Brewing Co.

Most of the IPAs you drink are brewed using dried and pelletized hops, which stay good for a couple of years. But every fall, hop farms across America conduct their annual hop harvest, and some breweries use that opportunity to take freshly picked wet hop cones from these farms and brew a beer with them the same day (wet hops spoil fast). The result is a harvest ale that's typically super fresh, aromatic and bursting with flavor.

One such harvest ale is the 1-800-Wet-Hops, a wethopped ale from South Lyon-based Witch's Hat. It's a New England IPA brewed with wet Cashmere hops picked from Top Hops Farm up in Goodrich, and it's hazy, juicy, full of citrus and pineapple notes, and

slightly dank on the finish. If you get a four-pack, make sure you drink it fast; harvest ales stay fresh for only a few weeks.

Saison

5.1% ABV, Waypost Brewing Co.

When you're competing with hundreds of breweries on taps and store shelves - and thousands of beers in competitions statewide and nationwide — it stands to reason that you have to take the classic beer styles people love and find a way to make them your

Waypost Brewing Co., a small-farm brewery based in Fennville near Lake Michigan, does just that, and it sports no better example than its Saison, a refreshing yeast-forward Belgian wheat ale with stone fruit, citrus and pear notes, followed by white pepper and dry softness from the wheat.

It's the pepper that makes this saison distinct, and it turned out so good, it landed a gold medal at the 2021 Great American Beer Festival, the only Michigan beer to do so this year.

Flying Buffalo Screamin' Pumpkin Stout

12% ABV, Griffin Claw Brewing Co.

You may have heard of the Screamin' Pumpkin Ale from Birmingham-based Griffin Claw. You also may have heard of Flying Buffalo, Griffin Claw's annual series of barrel-aged stouts. Well, guess what? Those two worlds have collided, and the result is quite possibly the best barrel-aged stout available in metro Detroit this fall.

Barrel-aging a stout tends to unleash a symphony of flavors on a beer, but none of them overpowers the delightful pumpkin spice, cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice and ginger that make the original Screamin' Pumpkin a favorite.

The vanilla oak and bourbon heat are near-perfect compliments to this 12%-ABV powerhouse, and it's well worth purchasing a four-pack at Griffin Claw, while you still can.

Don't You Forget About Me IPA

7.2% ABV, Odd Side Ales

This is about the time of year when your IPAs should start getting a little stronger. And while there is no shortage of juicy, hazy New England IPAs to be had in this state, let's take you back to the West Coast, the classic IPA style that has been a mainstay for decades.

Odd Side Ales' Don't You Forget About Me - yes, named after the ending song of the iconic cult classic "The Breakfast Club" — is a West Coast IPA double dry-hopped with Sabro and Sultana hops, bringing about a burst of herbal, citrus and pine notes, a good balance of hoppy bitterness and sweet maltiness, followed by a clean, dry finish.

You can expect Don't You Forget About Me to hit store shelves starting this week.

Deez Nutz Brown Ale

5.2% ABV, Beards Brewery

Brown ales are synonymous with autumn, so I can't do a fall beer list without at least one. Unlike the other beers on this list, Deez Nutz from Petoskeybased Beards Brewery has been a seasonal staple for a few years, but it remains a consistently flavorful brown ale with roastiness, nuttiness and a decent body for a 5.2%-ABV ale.

Brown ale is one of those beer styles that doesn't lend itself to the same versatility as IPAs and barrelaged stouts, but it still pairs exceptionally well with autumn bonfires and changing fall leaves, so you owe it to yourself as a Michigander to at least pick up a four- or six-pack of a good one before the weather gets even colder. And Deez Nutz is one of the better ones out there that should be readily available.

Farmington Hills man sentenced for Livonia break-ins

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

An ex-convict faces 1-15 years in prison for multiple Buckingham Plaza burglaries in Livonia last

Norman Fuchs, 46, of Farmington Hills was sentenced Oct. 4 on several breaking and entering and habitual offender charges he pleaded guilty to.

Fuchs spent time in prison in the '90s after pleading guilty to armed robbery and weapons charges and has been incarcerated intermittently since then on other breaking and entering charges.

Livonia police say he was using a sledgehammer, pry bar and other tools to break into Buckingham Plaza businesses along Schoolcraft on Oct. 7, 2020.

They were dispatched to the plaza that night because of the break-ins and were able to stop Fuchs' vehicle on Interstate 96.

He had a pry bar and multiple checks from one of the plaza businesses.

Police then suspected Fuchs of targeting Cantoro Italian Market, UPS Store, IHOP and Mary's Grill, along with the Buckingham Plaza establishments.

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

Obituaries

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

Rosalie Hebeler

FARMINGTON HILLS Age 93, passed away Wednesday, October 6, 2021. Rosalie leaves behind the enormous legacy of the family she treasured more than anything else. Loving wife of Charles Hebeler (d). Proud mother of Carl (Lynn) Hebeler of Mari-



na del Rey, CA, Roseann (d) (Peter) Brown, Paul (Jennifer) Hebeler of Farmington Hills, MI, and Ann Marie (Scott) Rosa of Sharon, MA. Honored grandmother of Lindsay (Tom) McInerney, Lisa (Ryan) Steel, Gregory (Rachel) Brown, Douglas Brown, Melissa (Josh) Herwitt, Kristen (Molly) Rosa, and Richard Rosa. She loved meeting and holding her six great-grandchildren. Rosalie was predeceased by her parents Bridget Kane Boylan and Thomas Boylan and her siblings Tom, Larry, Peggy and Bill. Visitation Thursday, October 21, 3-7 pm, at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd. (btw. 9-10 Mile Rds, N of Grand River) Farmington. Funeral Mass Friday, October 22, 10 am (in state 9:30 am) at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, 23615 Power Rd., Farmington. heeney-sundquist.com





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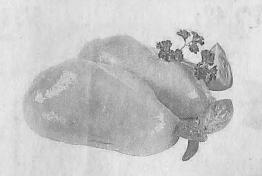


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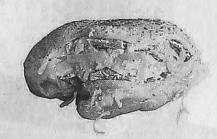


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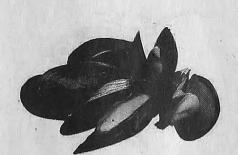
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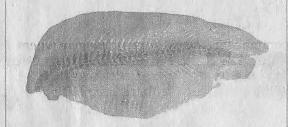
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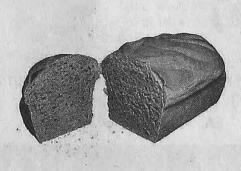


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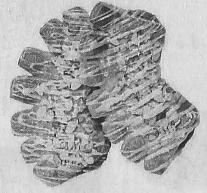
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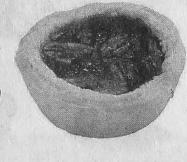
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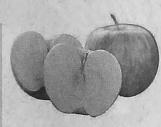
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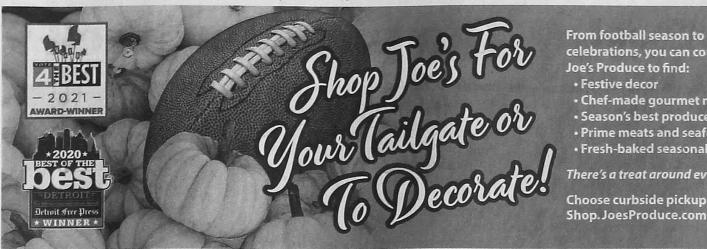
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SPORTS

Third-string quarterback leads South Lyon to share of LVC title



South Lyon's Coy Plummer passes against Waterford Mott on Oct. 15 at Mott. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Baseball star threw winning TD pass during 2-minute drill before halftime

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

They weren't easy conversations for South Lyon football coach Jeff Henson

at practice last week. The sixth-year coach got word from his administration that three of his players were in close contact with a student who tested positive for COVID-19. One by one, he was forced to tell them they must leave practice and head home for mandatory quarantine.

Among the trio was quarterback Braden Fracassi, a junior who was thrust into a starting role after star Dawson Skupin suffered a broken collarbone injury in a thrilling Week 5 win at Lakeland. Fracassi led the Lions to back-toback wins over Waterford Kettering and Walled Lake Northern, helping them contend for at least a share of the Lakes Valley Conference.

A Week 8 victory at Waterford Mott would give the Lions that conference title, and neither Skupin nor Fracassi

were available to play.

Henson tabbed Coy Plummer the starter merely three days before Friday's kickoff.

"I had to step up, play through practice and I came into the game knowing that mistakes would be made," the senior said. "I had to come in and have a short-term memory.

Fortunately for Henson, Plummer isn't your typical third-string QB. He's

See SOUTH LYON, Page 4B

FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

Stevenson upsets Churchill; Redford **Union wins** WWAC

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

With Taj Williams playing quarterback, Livonia Churchill has been one of the best teams in the state, regardless of division, all season long.

Both The D Zone and Mick McCabe had kept them atop their top-10 polls until the Chargers dropped last week's Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East game at Fordson.

And in the process of losing that game, they lost Williams on the final offensive series. While attempting to orchestrate a comeback, Williams broke his right ankle.

So it was expected that Churchill was going to struggle early on in Week 8 as it found its mojo without Williams leading the offense.

That mojo never came Friday at rival Stevenson.

The Spartans (4-4, 3-4) edged

Churchill (6-2, 5-2) 13-6 on homecoming night. What's more, the loss knocked the Chargers out of contention from sharing the East division with Belleville.

Ar'Jon Thompson, who rushed 16 times for 71 yards, scored the winning touchdown on a 7-yard quarterback keeper in the fourth quarter.

The sophomore also threw a TD pass to Patrick Coughlin to knot the score at 6 earlier in the second half.

Receiver Bailey Brooks caught a 20yard TD pass to put Churchill ahead 6-0 in the third quarter, but Coughlin was a nightmare for the Chargers all night. The senior cornerback came up with four interceptions, one pass

breakup and three tackles. "We dug ourselves into a hole in the second half, but the kids responded," Stevenson coach Randy Micallef said. "With Ar'Jon playing quarterback, we hit a couple of plays. He kept us alive with passes that were big chain-movers. It was give-and-take and backand-forth, and our defense played outstanding.

"Patrick had an incredible day. He willed us to victory. Every time they got the ball back, we got them in third and long, and he made the play or an interception to stop them."

The Spartans host Northville for

See ROUNDUP, Page 2B

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D'ANNA L. MEMBER SINCE 2010





Our top 10 high school football teams in Week 9

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The top 10 rankings haven't seen this much of a shake-up this season.

But with so many local programs losing in Week 8, we had no choice but to move teams up and down the poll.

Here's where Hometown Life sports reporter Brandon Folsom ranked the best teams in the area heading into Week 9:

1. South Lyon (8-0, 7-0 LVC; Last Week: No. 2)

The Lions secured the league title with a hard-fought effort in the second half of last week's victory at Warren Mott, playing well enough to even move to No. 1 in the Hometown Life rankings.

The only question is how long can they stay atop the poll with the uncertainty they have at quarterback? Starter Dawson Skupin (broken collarbone) was lost during their Week 5 contest against Lakeland. Backup Braden Fracassi won them a pair of games but sat out their Week 8 game because of CO-VID-19 concerns. Third-stringer Coy Plummer played valiantly in his spot start against the Corsairs. If they can stay healthy at that position, they should win a few games in the postseason.

2. Detroit Catholic Central (5-2, 2-1 CHSL-Central; Last Week: No. 3)

The Shamrocks were ready to host Newmarket Huron Heights (Ontario) on Saturday night, but the matchup was canceled at the last minute. With several area teams losing games, that allowed them to move up one spot in the poll, even without playing a single snap.

Their only losses are to Chippewa Valley, a Macomb Area Conference powerhouse, and Warren De La Salle, a likely contender to repeat as the Division 2 state championship. So they're worthy of the No. 2 spot.

3. Bloomfield Hills (8-0, 7-0 OAA-Blue; Last week: No. 6)

The Black Hawks keep winning, so they've earned every right to move into the top five of the poll.

Hometown Life is set to cover their Week 9 regular-season finale against undefeated Troy, which will go down as the de facto Blue division championship game. See you Friday night in Bloomfield Hills, football fans.

4. Detroit Country Day (5-2; Last week: No. 5)

The good news: The Yellowjackets returned from their bye week and got a convincing win against Detroit Loyola, one of the toughest Catholic League programs.

The bad news: Kent State commit Brandon Mann suffered what appeared to be a separated shoulder injury and his availability going forward is unknown. He'll likely miss Friday's matchup at Brother Rice, but he seemed confident he'd return for Round 1 of the postseason.

Country Day's offense has plenty of playmakers, but their X-factor is Mann, a 6-foot-4, 225-pound three-star QB.

5. Livonia Churchill (6-2, 5-2 KLAA-East; Last Week: No. 1)

The Chargers dropped their second-

straight game while they continue to play without injured QB Taj Williams (ankle). Against rival Stevenson, they struggled to move the ball or even score points, something they've had no trouble doing vs. the top teams in the state such as Belleville and Fordson.

They entered Week 8 in a three-way tie for first place in the East with Fordson and Belleville. With the Chargers and Tractors both getting upset, it was the Tigers who walked away with the outright championship.

6. Livonia Clarenceville (7-1; Last week: No. 8)

Yes, passionate readers, Hometown Life understands there is a fourth football team in Livonia outside of Churchill, Franklin and Stevenson. The Trojans continue to win games, and they continue to ascend the rankings. They should have no trouble taking care of Flat Rock in the regular-season finale, which should give them homefield advantage in the opening round of the D-4 playoffs.

7. Milford (7-1, 6-1 LVC; Last week: No. 10)

With Lakeland dropping a second league game, the Mavericks have a chance to secure sole possession of second place in the Lakes Valley Conference. And, what a coincidence, they visit the Eagles to wrap up the regular season. A little birdy told Hometown Life there's a chance recruiting outlet The D Zone will be making this Week 9 match up one of its games of the week.

What's more, Milford can win eight games in a single season for the first time since 2006.

8. Brother Rice (5-3, 1-2 CHSL-Central; Last week: No. 4)

The Warriors faced a tough D-2 opponent in Traverse City Central in Week 8, and they even had to make the long trip to northern Michigan for the 56-13 loss. So they didn't get punished too much for that loss in this week's rankings. They have a chance to move up again if they beat Country Day, their immediate neighbors to the south, on Friday night.

9. Redford Union (7-1, 7-0 WWAC; Last week: Unranked)

The Panthers' second-half effort against Melvindale ensured them the outright Western Wayne Athletic Conference championship, which was their first league title since coach Ian Iller was a senior at Union in 2004.

Their lone loss is to Pewamo-Westphalia, a state power that has made five state final appearances in the last decade alone. Union has earned every bit of its appearance in the rankings.

10. Lutheran Westland (7-1, 4-0 MIAC; Last week: Unranked)

Two weeks ago, the Warriors won their first league title in their 36 years of playing football. Their 40-0 victory over Advanced Tech ensured them an undefeated record in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

They won their sixth-straight game with a 29-6 victory at Burton Bendle in Week 8, and they have a chance to make that seven-straight with a victory over Star International this week. bfolsom@hometownlife.com

Our picks for Week 9

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Week 9 features some of the best matchups we've seen yet this season.

Hometown Life sports reporter Brandon Folsom is here to pick the five most-interesting games as we wrap up the regular season and prepare for the playoffs.

Folsom went 3-2 in Week 8 and is 10-5 picking games since joining Hometown Life this fall.

Troy (8-0, 7-0 OAA-Blue) at Bloomfield Hills (8-0, 7-0), 7 p.m. Friday

This is hands-down the game of the week in the Hometown Life coverage area. Not too often does the regular-season finale wind up as the de facto conference championship. What a way to prepare of the postseason.

The Black Hawks are the second-leading scoring team in the Blue with 239 points. Only Troy Athens (247) has scored more through eight weeks. Bloomfield Hills has almost double the number of points Troy (128) has amassed this season, so I imagine a higher-scoring offense gives the home team the edge in this game.

Folsom's pick: Bloomfield Hills 28, Troy 14.

Detroit Country Day (5-2) at Brother Rice (5-3, 1-2 CHSL-Central), 7 p.m. Friday

The Warriors are looking to get a bounce-back win after a 56-13 loss at Traverse City Central last week. They just might get it with the Yellowjackets likely entering the matchup without quarterback Brandon Mann, who suffered a shoulder injury during their Week 8 victory against Detroit Loyola. Mann, a three-star committed to Kent State, is an X-factor on Country Day's offense, and his loss should be felt.

Folsom's pick: Brother Rice 32, Country Day 27.

Milford (7-1, 6-1 LVC) at Lakeland (5-3, 5-2), 7 p.m. Friday

The Mavericks are on pace for their best season since 2006. Not only would a win over the Eagles give them



Stevenson's Noah Arbogast, left, tries to get past Churchill's Matt Landis.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

eight wins in a single season for the first time in 15 years, but it would also legitimize the effort they've been putting into restoring the program. They've had six one-win seasons in the past nine years alone

Folsom's pick: Milford 27, Lakeland 24.

South Lyon East (3-5, 3-4 LVC) at South Lyon (8-0, 7-0), 7 p.m. Friday

On paper, this didn't look like much of a matchup a few weeks ago, but now it should be pretty interesting. The Lions are coming off a close-call win against Mott with their third-stringer quarterback. The Cougars are just two weeks removed from beating Lakeland for the first time in program history. It wouldn't be too much of a surprise if East upset South Lyon this week.

Folsom's pick: South Lyon 35, South Lyon East 14.

Northville (2-6, 2-5 KLAA-West) at Stevenson (4-4, 3-4 KLAA-East), 7 p.m. Friday

As a player, it's usually a bummer when you have to face the same team twice in the regular season. But I doubt the Mustangs are feeling that way entering their Week 9 league crossover with Stevenson. The Spartans edged them 34-33 in overtime in the season opener. That loss definitely stung. Expect another shootout to bookend the season.

Folsom's pick: Stevenson 28, Northrille 24.

WEEK 8 HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD

Kensington Lakes Activities Association

Belleville defeated Livonia Franklin, 53-29 Livonia Stevenson defeated Livonia

Churchill, 13-6
Plymouth defeated Salem, 7-0
Novi defeated Northville, 31-17
Hartland defeated Canton, 21-0
Westland John Glenn defeated Wayne
Memorial, 22-14

Lakes Valley Conference

South Lyon defeated Waterford Mott, 28-6 Milford defeated South Lyon East,

31-7
Gibraltar Carlson defeated Lakelar

Gibraltar Carlson defeated Lakeland, 35-28

Catholic League

Traverse City Central defeated Brother Rice, 56-13

Gabriel Richard at Cranbrook, 1 p.m. Saturday

Newmarket Huron Heights at Detroit Catholic Central, 7 p.m. Saturday

Western Wayne Athletic Conference

Redford Union defeated Melvindale, 34-14 Romulus vs. Redford Thurston, inc.

Crestwood defeated Garden City, 27-14

Oakland Activities Association

Bloomfield Hills defeated Royal Oak, 38-7 Farmington defeated Avondale, 28-24 West Bloomfield defeated North Farmington, 30-16 Clarkston defeated Groves, 33-8 Lake Orion defeated Seaholm, 35-6

Michigan Independent Athletic Conference

Lutheran Westland defeated Burton Bendle, 29-6

Independent

Detroit Loyola at Detroit Country Day, 1 p.m Saturday Livonia Clarenceville defeated Tecumseh, 46-41

Roundup

Continued from Page 1B

their Week 9 KLAA crossover game. The two squads faced off in Week 1, and Stevenson edged the Mustangs with a 34-33 victory in overtime. Another win over Northville could help Stevenson sneak into the postseason at 5-4 overall.

Panthers win WWAC outright with stellar second half vs. Melvindale

It's been a long journey for Redford Union and, at times, a frustrating one.

Two years ago, rival Thurston stole the Western Wayne Athletic Conference title from the Panthers with a last-second touchdown, good enough for a 21-

Last year, Union was robbed of a chance to compete for the league when it opened the season with a COVID-19 forfeit to Crestwood, the eventual



Brian Watkins II raises his helmet in triumph after Stevenson beat Churchill 13-6, JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

champions.

The Panthers (7-1, 6-0) finally changed that narrative Friday against Melvindale.

They overcame a 14-14 halftime stale-

mate, played an inspired second half and held on to beat the Cardinals 34-14 and finish the WWAC schedule undefeated.

It was their first league championship since coach Ian Iller's team won one his senior year in 2004.

"You could tell the kids were really excited," he said. "We were down early. Past Redford Union teams would have given up or turned it into a dogfight. That team took over in the second half and didn't panic. They didn't get down on each other. We knew what we needed to do. And, hey, we found some leaders in the process."

The Panthers trailed 14-7 early, but Jeremiah Alston hauled in a 7-yard TD on a fade pass to knot the score heading into halftime.

"The first half just wasn't our half," Iller said. "Our staff didn't panic. We adjusted to adversity. At halftime, I told the coaches to stay back and let the players go into the locker room alone. It was one of those games where they

needed to grow up as a team and police each other. Yeah, us coaches can make adjustments, but at some point the players have got to hold each other accountable. We let the leaders take over. Then the coaches went in and made quick adjustments. We came out in the second half, marched it down the field and we got things going."

Dequan Davis scored the winning TD early in the third quarter.

"He made a real nice grown-man play," said Iller, whose Panthers host Lincoln Park on Friday. "He broke like five tackles and marched it in. He definitely did it on his own."

Also in WWAC action, Garden City (3-5, 3-4) lost to Crestwood, 27-14, despite QB Nathan Wasil rushing for a 1-yard TD and tossing a 21-yard score to Robert Grant.

Brandon Folsom covers high school football, basketball and recruiting in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Email him at bfolsom@hometownlife.com. Twitter: @brandonfolsomj.

Why so many QB injuries? Four questions in Week 9

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Can you believe it's already the final week of the regular season?

We've lost some key starters along the way (we'll touch on that later), but plenty of local teams have sewed up league titles the past few weeks. Plus, many teams in western Wayne and Oakland counties should be in the playoffs next week.

Let's take a look at four questions Hometown Life sports reporter Brandon Folsom has entering Week 9:

What's going on with all of the quarterback injuries?

Four teams we expected to make deep playoff runs are currently dealing with injuries at quarterback.

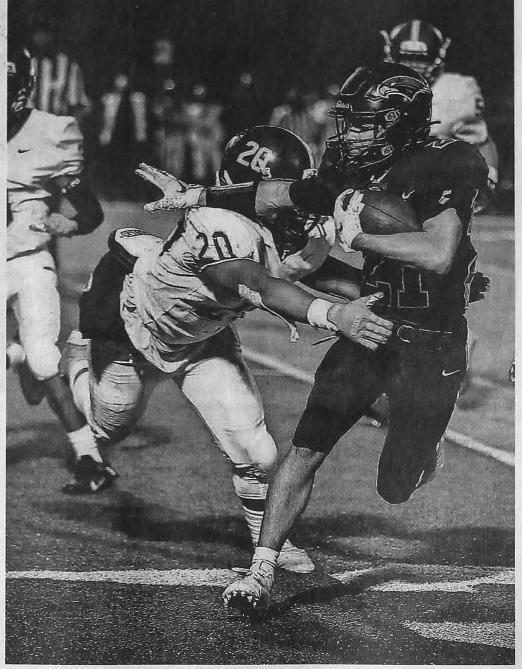
Brother Rice's Hunter Polonkey (collarbone) left the Prep Bowl against Detroit Catholic Central with an injury in Week 5. Mark Gojcaj has been filling in under center ever since.

South Lyon lost Dawson Skupin (collarbone) in a hard-fought win over Lakeland. His backup, Braden Fracassi, missed the Lions' Week 8 matchup at Mott because of COVID-19 concerns. It was third-stringer Coy Plummer who led the offense to victory, ensuring them their first Lakes Valley Conference title since 2018.

Livonia Churchill was putting together a dream season until QB Taj Williams (right ankle) left the game during the final drive of their loss Week 7 at Fordson. The loss of Williams was felt once more when the Chargers failed to put together scoring drives during their loss last week against rival Livonia Stevenson.

And then, on Saturday, Detroit Country Day's Brandon Mann (separated shoulder) left the game late in the first half after getting injured while corralling a fumble near the red zone. It was just mere days after the three-star QB had announced his commitment to Kent State.

If you're a team that's already secured a spot in the playoffs, consider pulling a Peyton Manning and have your QB sit for the final week of the regular season. You'll need them rested and healthy for Round 1.



Bloomfield Hills' Cole Rodriguez rushes against Ferndale on Oct. 8. SUSAN AADMS/SUSANADAMSPHOTO.COM

Will Bloomfield Hills complete the perfect regular season?

The Black Hawks (8-0, 7-0 Oakland Activities Association-Blue) have won just one league title since their program started playing football nine years ago.

They have a chance to win a second championship when they host undefeated Troy for a de facto Blue title game

Friday night.

A win would give Bloomfield Hills just its second undefeated regular-season finish ever.

The last time the Black Hawks won a league title, however, they lost to West Bloomfield 31-14 in the first round of the 2016 Division 1 playoffs. They're still searching for their first playoff victory in school history.

Can North Farmington snap its losing streak?

After a 3-0 start, which included impressive wins over Farmington and Groves, the Raiders (3-5, 1-4 OAA-White) have dropped five straight games. And it's hard to blame them for losing those games, too.

They've played a gauntlet of a schedule, falling to Oak Park, Rochester, Adams and Seaholm all by one touchdown or less. They almost pulled off the upset last week at West Bloomfield, even leading the Lakers, 16-15, in the fourth quarter. But they wound up falling, 30-16.

It doesn't get any easier in the regular-season finale, as they welcome Traverse City Central on Friday. The Trojans are fresh off beating Brother Rice 56-13 and are looking to get their second-straight win against a school from Oakland County.

With how tough the Raiders have played against the top teams in their league, an upset wouldn't be shocking this week. But do they have it in them to finally get another win?

Who ya got, Plymouth or Westland John Glenn?

One of the more interesting match ups in Week 9 is the Kensington Lakes Activities Association crossover between Plymouth and John Glenn.

While the game has no say in who wins the actual league championship (that'll be decided between Belleville and Hartland), it should be a great way for one of these teams to end their season, as one of them will exit 2021 with a two-game winning streak.

Both the Wildcats (1-8, 1-7 KLAA-West) and Rockets (1-8, 1-7 KLAA-East) finally picked up their first wins of the season last week. Plymouth beat rival Salem, 7-0, while John Glenn edged its neighbors to the south, Wayne Memorial, 22-14.

This match up should be pretty competitive and far from a toilet bowl. So, who are you rooting for?

Brandon Folsom covers high school football, basketball and recruiting in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Email him at bfolsom@hometownlife.com. Twitter: @brandonfolsomj.



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South Lyon

Continued from Page 1B

more of the Cardale Jones-type (the infamous third-stringer at Ohio State who was later drafted in the fourth round of the 2016 NFL draft). In fact, Plummer normally plays receiver. The ample number of stickers decorating his helmet says he's battle-tested.

Plus, he's committed to Wayne State for baseball as a pitcher-only. So he's got the arm to get the job done. He topped out around 90 mph for the Rochester Hills Motor City Hit Dogs baseball club this past summer.

After a shaky start to the first half, Plummer found his groove and led the Lions (8-0, 7-0) to a 28-6 victory over the Corsairs.

That's right, a third-stringer pushed the Lions to their first league title since 2018, something that wasn't possible without a mojo-inducing, game-winning drive to conclude the first half.

South Lyon had a disastrous start.

A punt.

Then four penalties that led to an eventual turnover on downs just 3 yards outside of the red zone.

And then an interception at the 26yard line.

And another punt.

But, somehow, the Lions' defense, which was playing with three backup linebackers thanks to a mix of COVID-19 issues and injuries, forced a punt near midfield with 1:58 left.

And then Plummer got to work.

The senior put together an 11-play, 76yard drive that spanned 1:56 and ended just two seconds before halftime. And it ended with Tommy Donovan catching a wide-open 6-yard TD pass. It was the first of three TDs for Donovan.

"We were pretty confident in Coy," said Donovan, who scored two rushing TDs in the second half. "Throughout practice, he was working his butt off. It was pretty saddening watching Dawson Skupin and Braden Fracassi go down. But we had full confidence in Coy, and Coy had full confidence in everybody around him. So that helped us win."

That drive, which saw Plummer go 5 of 9 for 66 yards, was the catalyst that inspired the Lions the put the hammer down in the second half.

"I was pretty nervous," said Plummer, who finished 9 of 22 for 93 yards, one TD



South Lyon's Tommy Donovan shakes off Waterford Mott's Eric Davis on Oct. 15. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

and one interception in the driving rain. "I've played in big baseball games, and that's my main sport, but I knew that nerves can't last forever. You've just got to push through them and go onto the next play.

"After the first drive, I kind of calmed down a little bit. The rain didn't help, but I can't make excuses. With that drive, we had our offensive coordinators talking to the men up top. They called a couple of good plays. We got some good looks, and we put the puzzle pieces together. But, for sure, it gave me the confidence I needed to get the offense back under control and secure the win."

South Lyon allowed Mott's Malique Eaton to punch in a 5-yard TD with 4:58 left in the third, but the extra point was missed.

The Lions didn't disappoint after that. Four players later, Donovan took a counter carry 38 yards for a score.

Shortly afterward, Colin Stewart pulled down an interception as time expired in the third quarter. Donovan made good on the turnover by racing 67 yards for a TD to make it 21-6 with 7:23 left.

The Corsairs made a comeback push, but it didn't turn into points. In fact, Collin Goins came up with a 29-yard picksix with 59 seconds left to seal the vic-

"This has always been a tough place for us to play, and that's a credit to Mott," Henson said. "They come out, and they're big and physical. We didn't match up really well with them up front, especially on the defensive side of the ball.

"What a great response before halftime. It totally turned the tide and really picked us up. We were counting on a lot of guys tonight who don't really start for us. It was a huge game for us tonight, and our key players stepped up. Quinn (Fracassi) is Quinn. He stepped up (and finished with 56 yards rushing). Tommy (149 yards rushing) is amazing when he's got his hands on the ball. In big games, your big players make big plays, and that's what they did tonight."

But how did the third-stringer do?

"I felt good about him. He's always been our No. 3," Henson added. "He's a Division II baseball player. He throws 90 mph, so he's got an arm. He can throw it.

It's just getting him comfortable out there and being in that situation. I thought he struggled a little bit there in the beginning. Really proud of how he handled himself, and it makes us feel good. We've got a legitimate backup now to Braden, who will be back playing next week. We're very fortunate."

Obviously, Skupin didn't get to review too much of Plummer's film. But the starter was proud of how the protege performed.

"I tried to get him as prepared as he could and help him as much as I could," said Skupin, who also did it all throughout the game with a sling around his shoulder, from handing out water bottles to helping with the offensive line's film review. "I just wanted him to succeed and, obviously, for the team to get the win. We always say to keep our windows small and to have a short-term memory, and you've just got to keep making plays and keep it simple.

"He struggled at times, but we got the win, so, obviously, he did what he had to do."

The Lions host crosstown rival South Lyon East in Week 9.

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By-Law Nos. 0164.1: Regular Meetings - Time, Place, and Notification

Regular meetings of the Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, except there will be only one meeting in July (July 13) and one meeting in December (December 7) beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the following location (except as agreed herein) unless otherwise directed by a majority vote of the members:

> E. J. McClendon Educational Center 454 South Harvey Street Plymouth, Michigan 48170

By-Law No. 0164.2 Special Meetings - Time, Place, and Notification

Special meetings of the Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, may be called by the President of the Board, or any two members thereof, by serving on the other members a written notice of the day, time, and place of such special meetings, or by a majority vote of the Board.

PUBLIC NOTICE of each meeting of the Board of Education shall be given by posting a copy of the NOTICE on the message board by the front entrance to the E. J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, at least eighteen (18) hours prior to the time of the meeting. The Executive Assistant to the Board of Education or other Central Office staff in his/her absence shall be appointed the designee for posting notice of meetings.

Publish: October 21, 2021

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

BID PACKAGE T2 AUDIOVISUAL SYSTEMS

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is requesting proposals for Audiovisual and Security Systems. Bid documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after October 13, 2021. To obtain documents go to:

Link to project: https://links.pccsk12.com/BMbidopps

Bid proposals will be received by Plymouth-Canton Community Schools through BuildingConnected.com by November 2, 2021 at 11:30 AM local time when they will be publicly opened. The District will not open, consider, or accept any bids received after the date and time specified.

The Bid Proposal must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized disclosure in compliance with MCL 380.127 disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the bidder, or any employee of the bidder, and any member of the Board of Education of the school district or the Superintendent of the school district. Bid proposals that do not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement will not be considered.

A virtual pre-bid meeting will be held on October 19, 2021 at 10:00 AM at https://links.pccsk12.com/BMprebidmtg

The meeting is not mandatory.

The Board of Education reserves the right to: reject any or all bid proposals, either in whole or in part; waive any informalities or irregularities in the bidding process; accept bid alternates; and to award a contract in any manner deemed by the Board of Education, in its sole discretion, to be in their best interests.

Publish: October 14 & 21 2021

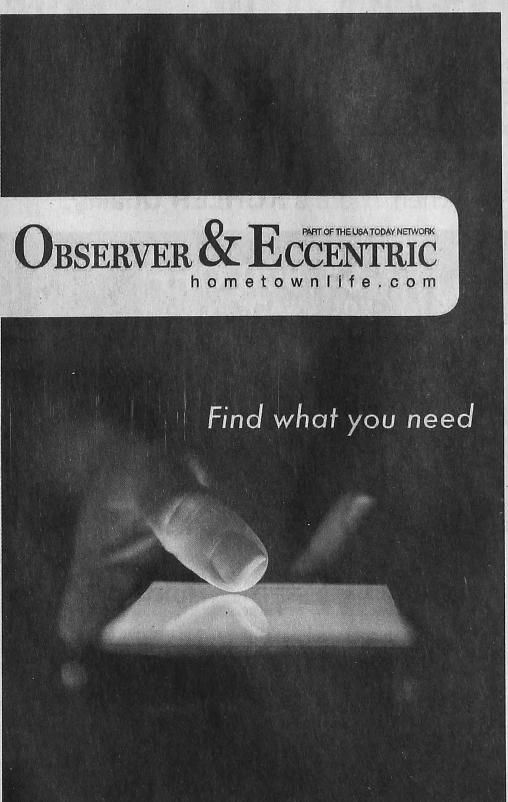
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY, NOVERMBER 4, 2021 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, November 4, 2021 commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider:

- Application 1637 & 1638, 78-007-01-0002-003, vacant property East of Ridge/North of M-14, TAR zoning district and is requesting several variances to install (2) billboards:
 - a. Variance requested, Section 25.8: variance to permit the technologically superior digital faces on each side of the billboard whereas signs not expressly permitted are prohibited. No signs are allowed which incorporate any manner of flashing or intermittent lights. Any sign which involves scrolling messages or visible moving parts
 - b. Variance requested, Sec. 25.9.1 (b) (c) (d) and (g): dimensional variances (size, type, sign area and height) to permit 2 pole billboard signs with a height of 70' feet, 14' x 48' feet width, 672' square feet of sign area, 2 sided with one being static and one side digital whereas the maximum height is 10' feet with 57' square feet of sign area at the 20' foot setback line. Pole signs are not allowed unless permitted by Planning Commission. The number of ground signs per parcel is 1 sign and it shall have a brick/masonry base.
 - c. Variance requested, Sec 25.9.6: to allow electronic changeable copy whereas electric changeable copy is prohibited, letter size shall not be larger than 4" inches and the base must be brick/masonry.
 - Variance requested, Sec 25.2.2 (b): to allow signs to be illuminated 24 hours a day 365 days a year whereas signs shall not be illuminated between the hours of 11 PM and 7 AM.

The meeting will be held at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Town Hall

Meeting Room. Publish: October 21, 2021



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To the person who adopted Tasha, then a one yr. old purebred black/tan German Shepherd from the humane society in Ann Arbor at the end of December 2020.

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I was misdiagnosed for asthma therefore leaving the underlying condition untreated. (I have since recovered).

This led me to believe along with the doctor I had allergies to Tasha and Eve. The Allergist/Immunologist who also misdiagnosed me said the doss were making my 'asthma' worse.

This is way I brought Tasha and Eve to the Humane Society. So excruciating painful! I later tested negative for asthma and properly treated. No words to describe knowing that giving up Tasha and Eve was preventable if I was diagnosed properly. This is traumatizing. Each provider followed the original doctors misdiagnosis. (Medical records available). I have been trying to find Tasha since then. I was planning when Tasha was 1 1/2 yrs. to have her spaved as well as her hernia repair and gastropexy (breed prone to bloot). Also to follow up on her spleen and blood work. Her two aunts had splenomegaly (had the spleen removed with treatment) and HYPERIHyrodism with treatment. The family who adopted Eve returned her to us and she offered for you to call her. I will give you her number. We kept the name the family gave Eve. We are forever thankful to them.

Eve. We are forever thankful to them.
We love Tasha and Eve very much.
We would love to have them reunited and playing together again.
My health is back to normal. If it was an issue I certainly would not have taken Eve back nor ask for Tasha. I never would have given Tasha and Eve up if I had providers who diagnosed me correctly.
Eve had her gastropexy, blood work and spleen exam. We have always taken excellent care of our animals and with vet care.
I hope you will consider my offer of \$12,000.00 for Tasha's return. We love Tasha and are heartbroken. Please share this. Thank you, Please respond to: findshepherds@gmail.com

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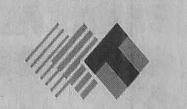


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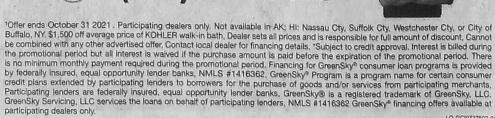
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For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at

(517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com.

Difficulty Level ★★★

Here's How It Works:

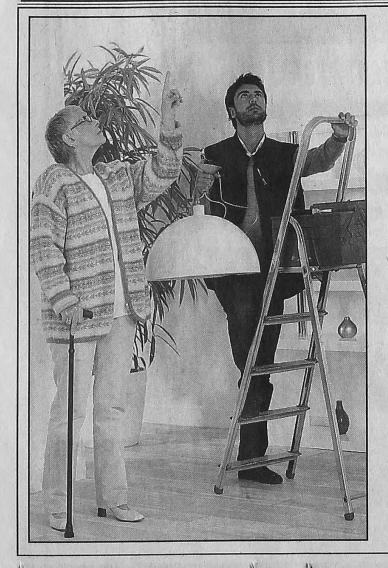
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues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

WHAT THE DICKENS?

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. YLLODBUZFUZSGGI IHJDFSSARGDONSP ESOCOPPERFI SOBSPECKSN TRSGKJCCUTTLEBP HAOWRELLEWDERG RSODDICKPITLODOT RIMDFTUSIASOMII KSEKALJCRCSDFLBU URNMRSERHNLCFAJENS IUOAOSCUIZRSNB GGGOF DBTFHVCGO E G NGAWOQATTRAAKT EAFRGPREERMRSLCG JAILASVKPQYLUE VREJGIEHEEPBEP YRELRBMHCNI

ARTFUL DODGER BARKIS BETSY BOB BUCKET BUZFUZ CALEB CARKER CHARLES COPPERFIELD DORA FAGIN FANG FIPS FLITE FOGG FOSS GAMP **JAGGERS** JOSH KROOK MAGWITCH MIGGS MOULD NICKLEBY NOGGS **OLIVER** OMER PECKSNIFF PEGGOTTY PINCH PIP PRIG PROSS SCROOGE SETH SIKES SNODGRASS TAPLEY THOMAS TOM TRADDLES TROTTER TWIST WELLER

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