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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2021 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Auditorium's renovation due partly to student's persistence

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A talented thespian, Dalton Barthold delivered a passionate plea at every single Plymouth-Canton Schools Board of Education meeting throughout the 2018-19 school year, his final one as a student in the district.

But he wasn't acting.

Barthold's heartfelt message to decision-makers: Theater-loving students deserved a better environment to practice their craft than what they were getting inside Salem High School's aging Gloria Logan Auditorium.

Now a junior at the University of Michigan, the Canton High School grad implored the board of education to give the auditorium some much-needed love, most notably a dedicated dressing room and an essential scene shop.

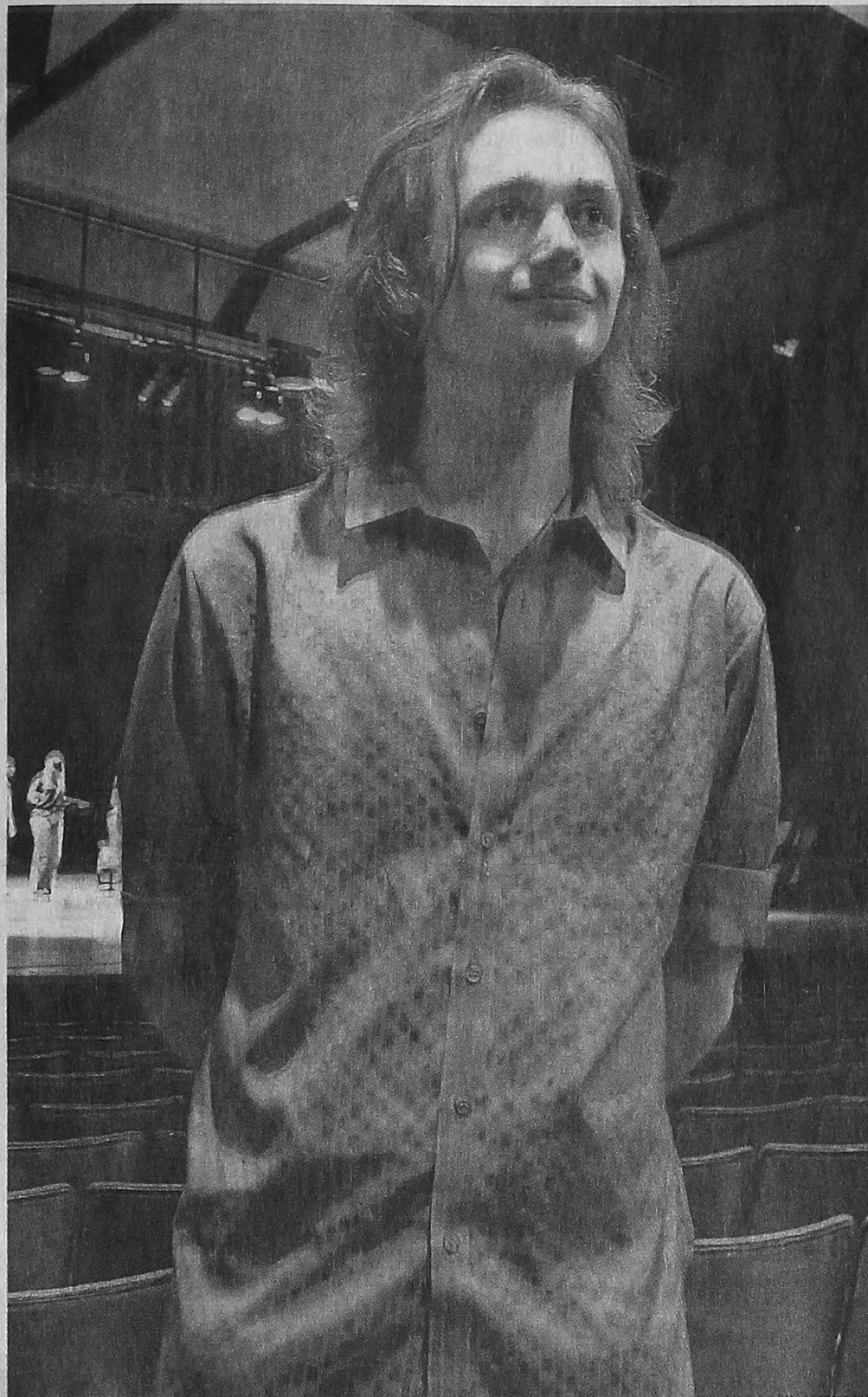
On Oct. 12, renderings and a construction timeline for additions and improvements to the auditorium were unveiled at the district's board meeting. The approximately \$4.7 million renovation — one of the most high-profile projects included in a successful 2020 bond package — may have happened without Barthold's determination, but maybe not.

"I wasn't trying to become legendary or anything like that," Barthold said of his regular attendance at board of education meetings. "I just wanted better conditions for the students who came after me."

"The auditorium was neglected for several years. The school board meetings gave me a platform to say things that teachers or staff probably couldn't say. I could tell it like it was without repercussions."

In addition to the replacement of all the 50-year-old auditorium's seats and major aesthetic improvements, a spacious dressing room and scene shop will be added to the north side of the school, behind the existing stage.

"It's one of those things where people can be aware of a need, but if they don't



Canton High School alum Dalton Barthold spoke at every school board meeting his senior year in an effort to convince decision-makers to make improvements to the Gloria Logan Auditorium. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

See AUDITORIUM, Page 2A

Farmington Hills reviews efforts made in diversity

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Farmington Hills is diverse, and many who live there see that as one of the community's greatest assets.

According to 2020 U.S. Census data, the city is roughly 39% non-white, near 22% of its residents were born outside the U.S., almost 40% of the community is under 18 or over 65 years of age and about 54% of residents have a college education.

The city would like its administrators and operations to start reflecting that.

"Farmington Hills is a very diverse community," said Darlene King, executive director of the Michigan Diversity Council and CEO of Life Journey. "It's diverse socioeconomically, in gender, racially, ethnically. But when you take a look at the city employees, it is not the same."

The city recently asked King to take a wholesale look at its strengths and weaknesses when it comes to handling diversity. Residents should start seeing changes in city operations as it relates to diversity as soon as next year.

The city plans to take King's advice and hire a diversity, equity and inclusion director, create a diversity council and hire more diverse staff. The city already tracks demographic data among staff and has recently made an effort to hire more Black cops.

"When you think about municipalities, the way that our communities are designed and the way families are more and more diverse, communities really need to be intentional about the work they're doing in order to be able to attract and retain their community base," she said.

King noted diversity goes further than race — it's also about encouraging a variety of ages, physical abilities,

See DIVERSITY, Page 6A

Catalytic converter thefts have almost doubled in Livonia

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sun streams into Plymouth Garage as Manager Dan Mauti stands under raised vehicles, pointing out catalytic converters that can sell for hundreds of dollars on the black market because of the precious metals they contain.

"On a V6, you'll either have two or three," Mauti said of the converters. "All the exhaust gases coming from the engine go through here first. This is like a filter for them. Inside here, there is a platinum base. That's why people are stealing them."

"The bigger the converter, the more money it is. They're going for the big

ones. They're going for the easy ones. They're going for the easy targets."

More bad news for car owners: Thieves wielding battery-operated hacksaws can remove catalytic converters containing precious palladium, rhodium and platinum in seconds.

And if you're a victim of such a theft, you'll know right away.

Those trying to drive their vehicles without their emission-control converters will notice the audible difference, with their vehicles emitting a sound similar to a gun firing repeatedly.

However, replacing the snatched part can cost anywhere from \$500 to \$4,000

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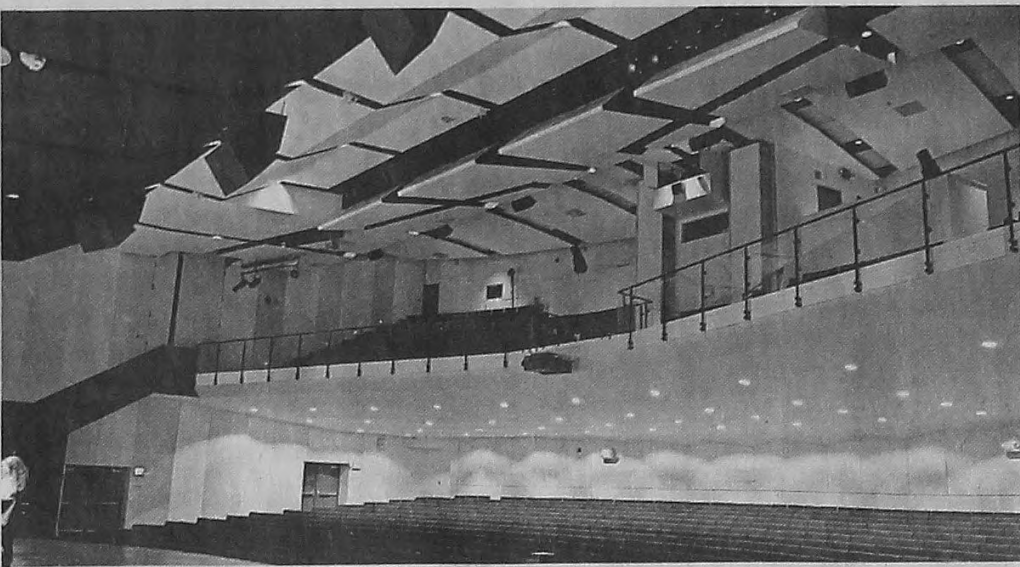
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Salem High School's Gloria Logan Auditorium. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Auditorium

Continued from Page 1A

hear it over and over again, they can get so busy with other aspects of running such a huge district like this, it can get pushed to the back of their minds,” Paul Bird, the auditorium’s manager for the past 25 years, said.

“But Dalton was there every two weeks, at every board meeting, reminding them that, ‘Hey, we’re still here.’ His effort had a huge impact on getting this done.”

Bartold’s style of communicating during his board of education presentations left a positive impact on board members.

“I admire his professionalism and tenacity,” said Plymouth-Canton Board of Education member Anupam Chugh Sidhu. “So mature for his age. I’ll always remember his kindness and ability to get people’s attention. He even engaged the board to come see the plays which was pure joy to watch.”

Barthold’s presence at board meetings made such an impression on district decision-makers that he was invited to one of the planning meetings hosted by the district’s architectural firms.

“That meant a lot,” he said. “They wanted my opinion on what I thought their priorities should be.”

Barthold said the absence of a dedicated dressing room for the auditorium forces students and actors to share a locker room with members of Salem’s swim-and-dive teams.

Bird, who said he advocated for auditorium improvements for 20 years, emphasized that a scene shop will allow students to continue using the stage while scene sets are being constructed.

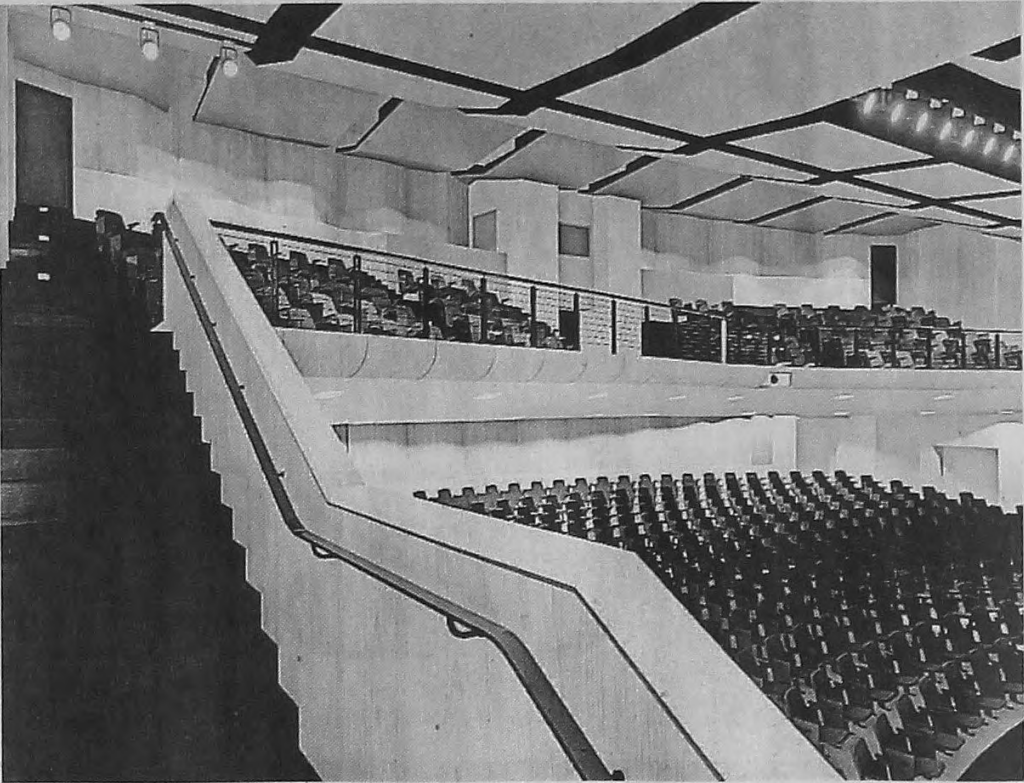
“Having a scene shop benefits everybody,” Bird said. “The way it is now, if a set is being built, the stage can’t be used. Adding a scene shop opens the facility up for a lot more use.”

Groundbreaking for the auditorium’s additions is expected to begin in November with interior work set to start in May 2022 so that classes and plays can carry on almost through the end of the school year.

The refurbished auditorium is slated to be ready for action once the 2022-23 school year starts.

“I’m definitely going to make it a point to be there for the grand opening,” Barthold said, smiling. “It’s long overdue.”

Contact reporter Ed Wright at ewwright@hometownlife.com.



A rendering of how the inside of the auditorium will look after renovations. IMAGES COURTESY OF TMP ARCHITECTURE



A rendering of the new entrance to the Gloria Logan Auditorium.

Novi man killed in crash near Kensington Road on I-96

Kayla Daugherty Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

A 52-year-old Novi man was killed Tuesday morning in a single-vehicle crash on westbound I-96 near Kensington Road, state police said.

Michigan State Police troopers from the Brighton Post were dispatched to a vehicle that had run off the road at 7:35 a.m., police said in a Twitter post.

Officials said the driver, William Rickerman, was pronounced dead on scene.

Rickerman is the third person to die in a car crash in Livingston County in the past week.

A Holly man was killed last week in a three-vehicle crash on U.S. 23; a Grand Blanc man was killed last Tuesday after striking a tree.

The cause of the traffic crash on Tuesday remains under investigation.

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Plymouth Garage manager Dan Mauti shows how thieves use powered hacksaws to cut off cars' catalytic converters. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Thefts

Continued from Page 1A

at Plymouth Garage. Special grates operating like a bike lock and protecting the catalytic converter can cost an additional \$300.

Still, thieves prowl.

Nationwide, there's been an uptick in catalytic converter thefts, and Livonia is one of the worst-hit in the Hometown Life region in metro Detroit.

Livonia police reported an uptick in catalytic converter thefts around the start of October. There were several thefts within a one-week period.

Their year-to-date data showed 66 catalytic converter thefts for 2021, compared to 37 for the same period of 2020.

Larcenies from autos, another popular night crime involving thieves opening or breaking into car doors for

raiding purposes, totaled 212 for 2021, compared to 127 for the same 2020 period.

Cathy Matta confirmed that waking up early Oct. 2 to find her catalytic converter stolen left her frightened.

She is considering more security cameras for her family's home off Five Mile, just over a mile away from the Livonia police station.

"It's scary," Matta said. "This is a big issue."

A resident living near West Chicago and Middlebelt Road said she feels upset and violated since her husband's catalytic converter was taken.

Around the start of October, catalytic converter thieves struck residential addresses like the Canterbury Park Apartments near Farmington and Seven Mile roads and business addresses along Schoolcraft and Plymouth and Middlebelt roads.

For the residential incident on Hathaway, security camera footage caught a

dark-colored sedan driving by slowly at about 3 a.m. It slowed down as it approached the victim's Cadillac and returned minutes later and stopped next to the vehicle. Shortly thereafter, there's the sound of a saw cutting metal.

"It takes these thieves only seconds to cut them off; their skill and speed with a cordless saw rivals that of any NASCAR pit crew," Livonia Police Lt. Charles Lister said.

While the thefts seem like random crimes of opportunity, Lister advises car owners to keep their vehicles inside their closed garages if possible. Otherwise, driveways and well-lit areas are good options.

Lister advised car owners in public parking lots should park near building entrances or near access roads where there is more pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

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

Livonia video game lounge opens

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Call Cecil Clark, Jr.'s, childhood pastimes the original Twitch.

Long before video games were streamed online, Clark said as a child he would go to his friends' houses and watch them play a myriad of games on a television.

"Growing up, I may not have been a gamer, but I was around a lot of my friends who were gamers," he said. "I used to watch them play the games for 12 hours at each others' houses."

Now, a business that started as a way to give people a way to play the video games they love outside their house has become one of Livonia's newest businesses.

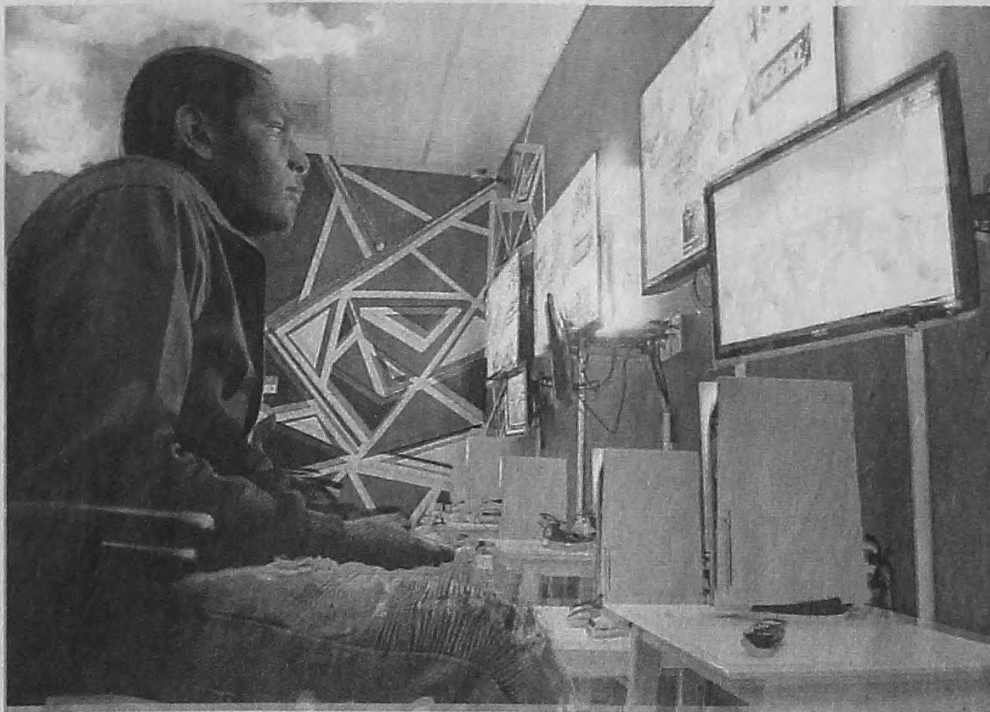
After seeing the impact on video gaming in households, he decided to launch a new kind of business for him: a video game lounge. His first location opened on Greenfield in Detroit several years ago, and earlier this year he brought the concept west to Livonia.

"It just escalated further and further," he said. "When I opened it up, it became a family place. Now it's not just for kids, it's for adults too."

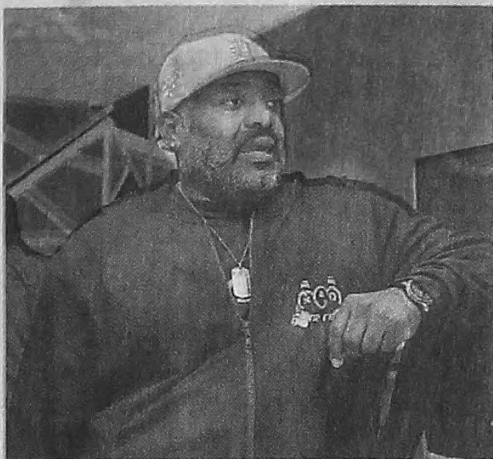
My Game Room, 29114 Five Mile, opened in the Brickshire Plaza shopping center just east of Middlebelt. It joins several other video game lounges in the area, a concept becoming more popular. While it opened earlier in the year, it recently celebrated its grand opening with the Livonia Chamber of Commerce.

The space is sectioned off in two parts: the lobby area with a few amusement-style games such as a basketball shoot and tables for events space; and the gaming lounge behind a curtain. There, visitors have their choice of playing either a PlayStation 5 or an Xbox Series X console, both of which are about a year old. Players each have a television mounted to the wall to play on with gaming chairs throughout the space.

Stations can be rented by the hour, and Clark recommends contacting the space ahead of time to reserve. Visitors can log on to play several games owned by the lounge, or they can log onto their own PlayStation or Xbox account to access their own gaming library at the lounge.



My Gaming Room employee Amarea Bradford checks out a video game on a PlayStation 5 at the new Livonia location. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM.



My Game Room owner Cecil Clark Jr. talks about his video gaming centers.

Clark said he hopes to add other platforms in the future, including computers, which are popular for gaming.

"A lot of gamers are turning toward PCs, so we are going to add those as well," he said.

He hopes to have gaming tournaments take place in the space some time in the future as well.

The space is also available for special events, Clark said. Since opening, he's used it for events such as birthday parties

and even baby showers.

It's a model that's gained a lot of traction, with plenty of visitors. It's gotten so big that Clark hopes to open more with the help of investors in other parts of the country, including in Chicago and Phoenix.

Locally, Clark said he also hopes to expand elsewhere in metro Detroit as well, including another nearby lounge: Clark said he's working on potentially opening another one inside the Laurel Park Place mall at Six Mile and Newburgh. He said he also hopes to head to the Meridian Mall in Okemos, which is owned by the same company as Laurel Park Place.

Clark said the response he's gotten from guests is increasingly positive. Especially with the extended restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, gathering at a place such as My Game Room has been just what many of his visitors needed.

"Especially since COVID, we haven't had that unity of coming together in a long time," he said. "So people are happy when they come in and play. They get excited, especially kids, because they get to play with other kids."

Farmington Hills' Buybuy BABY closing

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Another major retailer is closing on the north end of Farmington Hills.

Signage up at the buybuy BABY store at 30995 Orchard Lake Road indicates the shop is closing. The store — which sells supplies for young children and families, including clothing, car seats, toys, bedroom furniture and more — has signage both across the front door and throughout the store indicating it is closing.

Signs indicate much of the store's inventory is on sale, with discounts ranging from 5% to 40% off merchandise. Sales are final and no coupons are currently being accepted, according to the store's signage.

There's no word on when the store will close for good. A message seeking more information, including a closing date, was sent to buybuy BABY media relations but was not returned.

Located in the Hunter's Square shopping center, buybuy BABY is just the latest national retailer to close in the 14 Mile/Orchard Lake area. Best Buy on the east side of Orchard Lake shuttered its doors in 2019 and the Gap clothing store has also closed its doors. Next to buybuy BABY, the restaurant space that held California Pizza Kitchen — which closed last year — remains empty.

With the closure, it leaves new parents with one less store in the area that specializes in selling baby supplies. The buybuy BABY website indicates two other stores operate in metro Detroit: one on Ford Road in Canton and another on Hall Road in Utica.

Buybuy BABY is owned by Bed Bath & Beyond, a company that's opted to close several stores in recent years. Bed Bath & Beyond stores in communities such as Canton, Allen Park and Wyoming have closed in the last year to save on costs, especially with losses deriving from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com.

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Guardian faces voter fraud, forgery charges

Paul Egan Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

LANSING – A woman whose company handles legal guardianships faces multiple charges of forgery and voter fraud after allegedly attempting to obtain at least 14 absentee ballots — and possibly as many as 26 — for Michigan residents deemed incapacitated.

Nancy Juanita Williams, 55, of Detroit, is charged in five jurisdictions in Wayne and Oakland counties, Attorney General Dana Nessel and Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson said in a Monday news release.

Reached at her Oak Park office Monday, Williams denied the allegations and said she has no knowledge of the charges.

State election officials became concerned and contacted the Michigan State Police last October after several local election officials advised them about absentee ballot applications signed with an “X” and requesting that ballots be sent to Guardian & Associates, an Oak Park business, according to the news release.

Investigators determined Williams “developed and implemented a plan to obtain and control absentee ballots for legally incapacitated persons under her care by fraudulently submitting 26 absentee ballot applications to nine identified city and township clerks, seeking to have absentee ballots for those individuals mailed directly to her,” the release said.

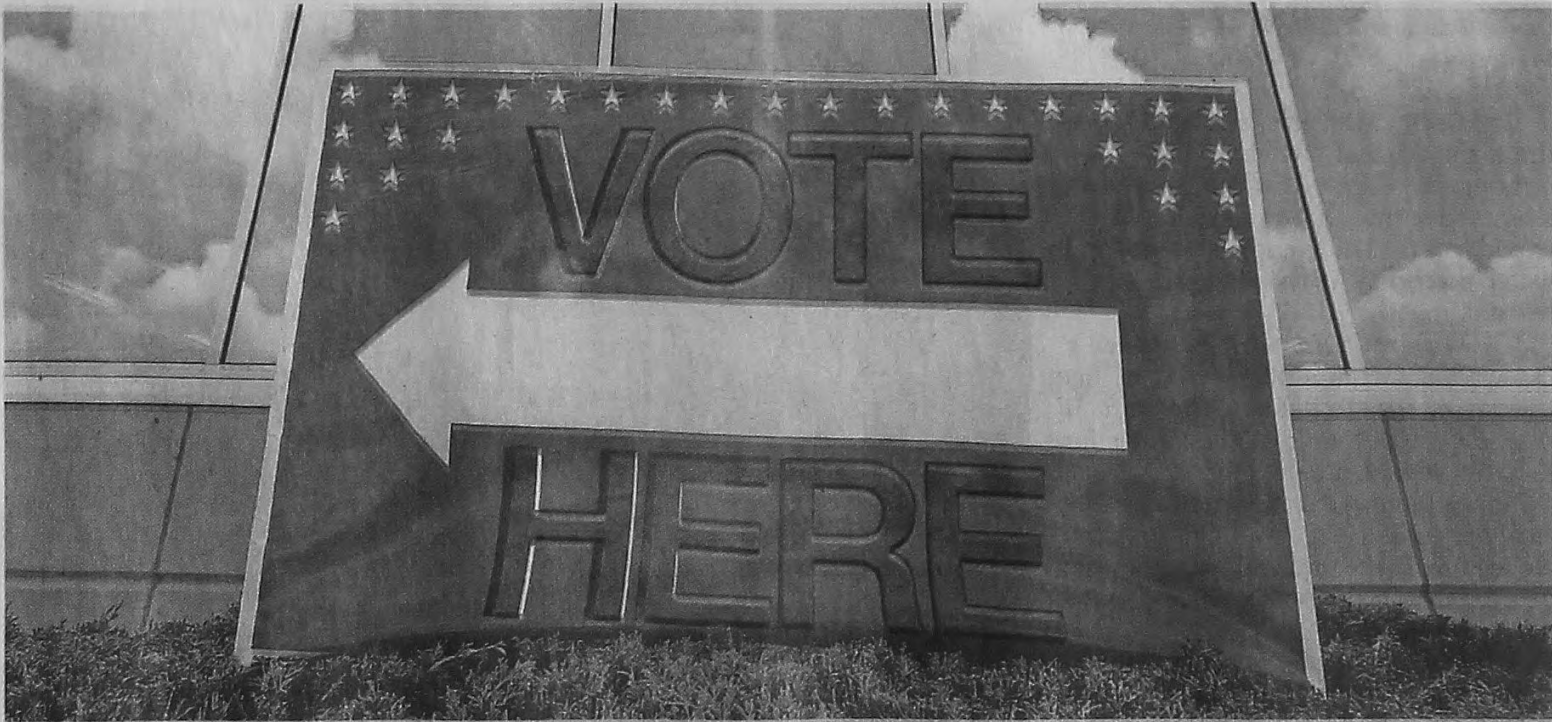
“She also submitted separate voter registration applications for each person — all without knowledge, consent or understanding of the person under her care.”

No fraudulent ballots were ever cast or counted, said Lynsey Mukomel, a spokeswoman for Nessel.

Charges Williams faces appear to involve 14 separate cases of alleged forgery involving absentee ballot applications.

They include:

- In 46th District Court in Southfield, six counts of election law forgery, six counts of forging a signature on an absentee ballot application, and six counts of making a false statement in an absentee ballot application. The forgery



Nancy J. Williams, 55, planned to obtain and control absentee ballots for legally incapacitated persons under her care by fraudulently submitting 26 absentee ballot applications to nine identified city and township clerks, according to a news release. JESSICA J. TREVINO/DETROIT FREE PRESS

charges are five-year felonies.

- In 28th District Court in Southgate, one count of forging a signature on an absentee ballot application, one count of election law forgery, and one count of making a false statement on an absentee ballot application.

- In 17th District Court in Redford Township, two counts of election law forgery, two counts of forging a signature on an absentee ballot application, and two counts of making false statements in absentee ballot applications.

- In 18th District Court in Westland, three counts of election law forgery, three counts of forging a signature on an absentee ballot application, and three counts of making a false statement on an absentee ballot application.

- In 29th District Court in the city of Wayne, two counts of election law forgery, two counts of forging a signature on an absentee ballot application, and two counts of making a false statement on an absentee ballot application.

Williams is to be arraigned in Redford Township on Nov. 2. Other arraignment dates were not immediately available.

Andrea Bradley, an Oak Park attorney representing Williams, said Williams

never forged anyone’s name and she looks forward to vigorously defending against the charges in court.

“Ms. Williams has never acted outside of her scope as a guardian and at all times has adhered to election laws,” Bradley said.

State corporate records show Williams is the president of Guardian & Associates Inc. in Oak Park.

“Our election system is secure,” and the charges “demonstrate that in the rare circumstances when fraud occurs, we catch it and hold the perpetrators accountable,” Benson said.

“These charges also send a clear message to those who promote deceitful claims about widespread fraud: the current protocols we have in place work to protect and ensure the integrity of our elections. It’s time to share that truth and stop spreading lies to the contrary.”

Nessel said the charges show the “scrutiny applications and ballots undergo throughout the election process, as well as the thorough investigative process that ensues when instances of attempted fraud are suspected.”

In another case detailed Monday, a Macomb County nursing home employ-

ee was accused of fraudulently attempting to obtain absentee ballots for residents of the home where she worked. In this case, the fraud was detected before any ballots were cast, Mukomel said.

Trenae Myesha Rainey, 28, is charged with three counts of election law forgery and three counts of forging signatures on absentee ballot applications.

The clerk in Center Line became suspicious after about two dozen absentee ballot applications were dropped off for processing and a crosscheck with information on file showed the signatures did not match, the news release said.

The applications came from Father Murray Nursing Home, where Rainey worked.

Investigators determined Rainey did not contact the residents, as she should have done, but instead filled out the applications and forged the residents’ signatures, the release said. She then turned the applications over to another employee who was instructed to deliver the applications to the clerk.

An arraignment date for Rainey is not yet set in 37th District Court. She could not be reached for comment.



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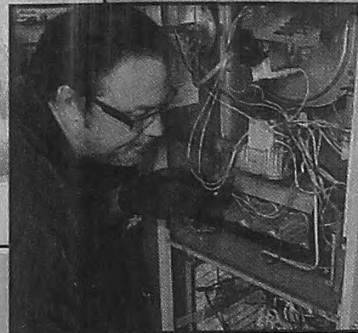
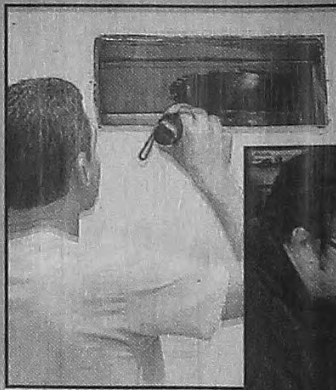
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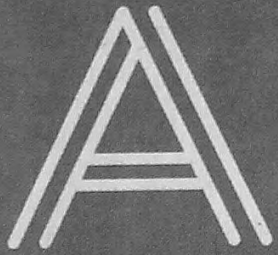


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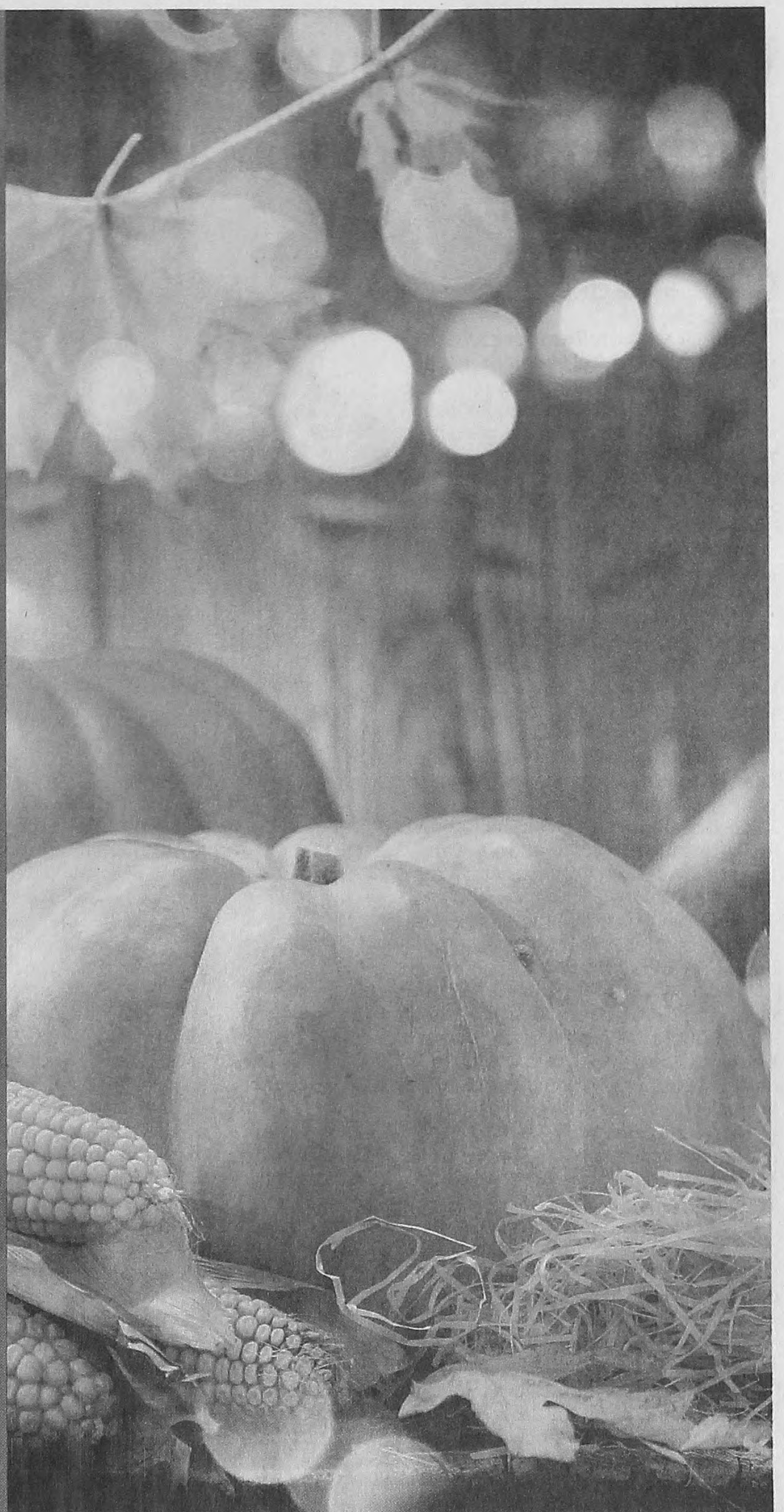
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Coronavirus rapid tests hard to find

High demand among factors limiting supply in metro Detroit

**Kristen Jordan Shamus,
Christina Hall and Bill Laitner**
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Your nose is stuffy. Your throat is scratchy. And you feel like you could be coming down with something.

If this were 2019, you might have shrugged it off as fall allergies or a simple cold, taken some over-the-counter decongestants and carried on. If you felt really lousy, you might have gone to the doctor for a flu test.

But in 2021, those symptoms could also mean you have COVID-19. The only way to know for sure is to get tested.

At-home rapid tests are in short supply at locally owned independent drug-stores, pharmacy chains and big-box stores across metro Detroit right now, where retailers say they can't keep them on shelves.

"We try to keep them in stock," said Sami Shimoon, pharmacist and owner of Collie Drugs in St. Clair Shores. "It's difficult to get them. The big-box stores are buying all the supply, and our warehouse, when they do get them, they don't get a lot."

On Friday, Oct. 15, his store had a few of the BinaxNOW rapid antigen tests behind the pharmacy counter.

Most of the nearly two dozen pharmacies the Free Press surveyed from Ann Arbor to Chesterfield Township, Detroit to Downriver didn't have any at-home, rapid antigen coronavirus tests in stock.

Large retailers like Walmart, Target, and Meijer had none Friday at stores in Belleville, Clinton Township, Taylor and Roseville.

Neither did Frank's Drugs in downtown Ypsilanti, nor Merriman Drugs in Livonia. There were empty shelves at a CVS in Chesterfield Township and a Rite Aid in Mount Clemens, too.

"They are very hard to get," said Vivienne Miller, a pharmacy tech at Ann Arbor Pharmacy, which is tucked into a busy shopping plaza on East Stadium Boulevard. "We tried to stock them, and we could only get two of them. That was it. ... We have tried everywhere."

The moment the store's lone pair of tests arrived several weeks ago, they were sold, she said.

"Our supplier said they could get some later this month," Miller said. "They said October, but it's October now."

A few stores, like the Collie Drugs and the Kroger pharmacy on Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods, had a couple of boxes.

Others, like the Rite Aid store on East Jefferson in Detroit, had a glut of tests on Friday — 28 boxes. The CVS on Cherry Hill in Canton had 17 BinaxNow tests on a shelf Friday afternoon, retailing for \$23.99 each. A yellow sign beside them said sales would be limited to four per person "to support as many customers as possible."

The supply pinch is driven by a few factors, retailers said.

High demand is among them.

In Michigan, coronavirus case rates have continued to edge upward in the last three months. As more people test positive for the virus, those who were exposed are more likely to also seek out testing. So are people with symptoms from allergies, colds and the flu, all of which tend to ramp up this time of year.

Students have returned to college campuses, many of which require weekly testing for those who haven't been fully vaccinated. There's more demand for tests among workers, too, whose employers may require them.

The supply was further tightened by a recent recall of the Ellume COVID-19 Home Test. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration reported Oct. 5 that a manufacturing issue led users of the Ellume test to get false positive results.

And if President Joe Biden's sweeping COVID-19 vaccine mandates take effect soon — requiring all workers at



Over-the-counter COVID-19 testing kits like these can be hard to find at metro Detroit stores. CASSANDRA NIST

businesses with 100 or more employees to take coronavirus vaccines or undergo weekly testing — it could further strain the already tight market for tests.

Feds say help is on the way

More over-the-counter rapid tests are coming, said Jeff Zients, White House coronavirus response coordinator, though it might not be for several more weeks.

The FDA approved a new at-home test earlier this month that could boost supply. It's called the Flowflex COVID-19 Home Test made by ACON Laboratories.

In addition, Zients said the federal government has invested billions in purchase commitments so companies that make rapid coronavirus tests can increase production. The aim is to quadruple the supply of at-home rapid tests, he said.

"That means we'll have available supply of 200 million rapid, at-home tests per month starting in December, with supply of tens of millions of additional tests coming on the market across the next few weeks," Zients said during a news conference earlier this month.

Walgreens spokesperson Megan Boyd said "overall we are able to meet demand" for rapid tests in the pharmacy chain's stores, but added that there are "intermittent delays in supply in some locations and (we) are working with ... our testing partners to meet patient demand."

At the Walgreens store in Riverview on Wednesday, there were empty shelves where rapid coronavirus tests used to be. There were no tests Friday at the store near Detroit's Harbortown Shopping Center on East Jefferson, either.

But dozens of BinaxNOW tests were available Friday at the Walgreens on Harper in St. Clair Shores.

For Walgreens customers who are able to find them in stock, "the incredible demand for at-home testing," Boyd said, has led the company to limit the sales of rapid at-home tests to four per customer "in an effort to help improve inventory while we continue to work diligently with our supplier partners."

CVS also is limiting sales of rapid antigen tests at its stores, telling the Free Press in a statement: "In order to

serve our customers' over-the-counter testing needs, and due to high demand, we've introduced product limits of (6) on cvs.com and (4) at CVS Pharmacy for the Abbott BinaxNOW and Quidel tests. We're continuing to work with our suppliers to meet customer demand.

"In addition, nearly 5,000 CVS Pharmacy stores across the country offer on-site testing with same day and future day appointments in most geographies. Patients can make an appointment at a test site nearest them at CVS.com or the CVS Pharmacy app."

Is a twindemic looming?

The home-testing supply crunch comes at a pivotal time: As the economy rebounds from pandemic malaise, the nation could be on the brink of what health officials say could be a harsh flu season.

"Last year, there were very few flu cases, largely because of masking and physical distancing and other prevention measures put in place for the COVID-19 pandemic," said Dr. Rochelle Walensky, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, during a news conference earlier this month.

"With modest flu virus activity since March of 2020, CDC's flu experts are concerned that reduced population-level immunity to the seasonal flu could place us at risk for a potentially severe flu season this year.

"The symptoms of flu can often be similar to those ... with COVID-19, which can lead to additional needs for flu and COVID testing, and isolation for either of the diseases, especially in schools."

Though very little flu activity has been detected in Michigan so far this fall, health leaders are concerned about whether the nation's health care system could manage a double-whammy of flu coupled with another COVID-19 surge in the months ahead.

Hospitals already are facing a staffing shortage, taxed by COVID-19 patients, along with people who put off treatment of chronic illnesses during the pandemic and are showing up in emergency departments more acutely ill.

"An increase in flu infections and flu severity could put an additional burden on our health care system and increased stress on our nation's health care work-

ers," Walensky said, urging people to get flu vaccines along with coronavirus vaccines to reduce the risk of a so-called twindemic.

Marisa Eisenberg, an associate professor in the University of Michigan's departments of epidemiology and complex systems, predicts the state is in for a doozy of a flu season.

That's because people are returning to pre-pandemic levels of activity. Many have shed their masks and other mitigation measures, "and so they feel more comfortable going out and doing stuff," she said.

"But, unfortunately, that means that flu can spread a lot more than it could when we were all sort of staying at home and really social distancing. So I do think that we may see the winter wave. The winter seasonality for flu might be coupled with a winter wave of COVID. We are on an increase now, and that could easily kind of merge into a holiday season wave.

"I think we're going to get hit with flu."

That, too, is likely to push up demand for coronavirus tests as people try to figure out which virus is causing their symptoms.

Seeking other testing options

When people can't find rapid tests on store shelves, they're often driven to seek them out at urgent care centers and other testing sites to fill the gap.

That can be a more costly option — especially for people without health insurance.

At Beaumont Health's 28 metro Detroit urgent care centers, people without insurance coverage will pay \$155 for a visit — which includes not only a coronavirus test, but a full checkup, said spokesperson Scott Hughes.

He estimated about 60% of the patients treated at Beaumont's urgent care centers are coming for coronavirus tests, and can get results from a molecular polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test within hours.

Even for people who are fully insured, there may now be some cost for coronavirus testing. The federal government requires insurance companies to fully cover testing for people who've been exposed to the virus and for those who are experiencing symptoms. But the insurers are not required to pay fully for routine testing for workplace or school protocols.

"Some insurance companies have pulled back and said, 'Well, we're gonna have to pass some of these costs on, you know?' Whether it's a copay or whether it's 50%, it varies by health insurer," Hughes said.

That's why Hughes recommends calling ahead to your insurance provider so you're aware of what it'll cost to have a coronavirus test at an urgent care center.

Another option is to seek out a free rapid antigen test available at pop-up sites operated by the state health department. Some upcoming clinics are planned at schools, restaurants and community health centers stretching from as far north as Suttons Bay to as far west as Three Rivers. Michiganders can go to tomichigan.gov/coronavirus to find a site or call the state's COVID-19 hotline at 888-535-6136.

The federal government also is working to increase access to free coronavirus tests by expanding the number of sites where that service is available, Zients said, including at local pharmacies. There are now several hundred locations in Michigan. You can find one nearby online at <https://findahealth-center.hrsa.gov>.

Even with more testing at pop-up clinics and drug stores, the demand for at-home antigen tests hasn't slowed, said Linda Herbert, a pharmacy tech at Merriman Drugs in Livonia.

Diversity

Continued from Page 1A

socioeconomic backgrounds and more. She said having a government that reflects the community will make for better interactions with the public and make the community more attractive to developers.

"Let's look at community policing — that's a huge hot topic right now," King said. "Police are there to be public servants and provide public safety. But, when the police department is a very

homogeneous group trying to service a very diverse community, there is a disconnect there.

"You have a lack of understanding, a lack of cultural competency and a lack of engagement because they are not having engagement on any other level than stopping someone from violating a law."

According to King, Farmington Hills is one of just a handful of communities to do this kind of project. Detroit, Sterling Heights, Oakland County and Kalamazoo have done similar projects or created diversity positions, but municipal governments remain one of the last in-

dustries to prioritize diversity work.

"Everybody benefits from diversity," said John Randle, the city's director of human relations. "I don't hope, I know we will be an example. I feel like we're moving in the right direction. We will be a representation of what can be done when you take the first step."

Randle said he's encouraged to see Mayor Vicki Barnett and City Manager Gary Mekjian have led the way on this effort. King noted if a city's mayor, council or manager doesn't support the work, it'll never happen.

"One of the things we really need to focus on, in addition to diversity, is in-

clusion," Randle said. "We have some challenges, like other organizations, with some leadership that can be a little more inclusive in their efforts."

Randle and King agree the work will take years and will be difficult, but they believe it'll turn Farmington Hills into a city of the future.

"We want to make sure everybody in this community is included and feels included," Randle said. "We want our residents to feel like this is a welcoming place."

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

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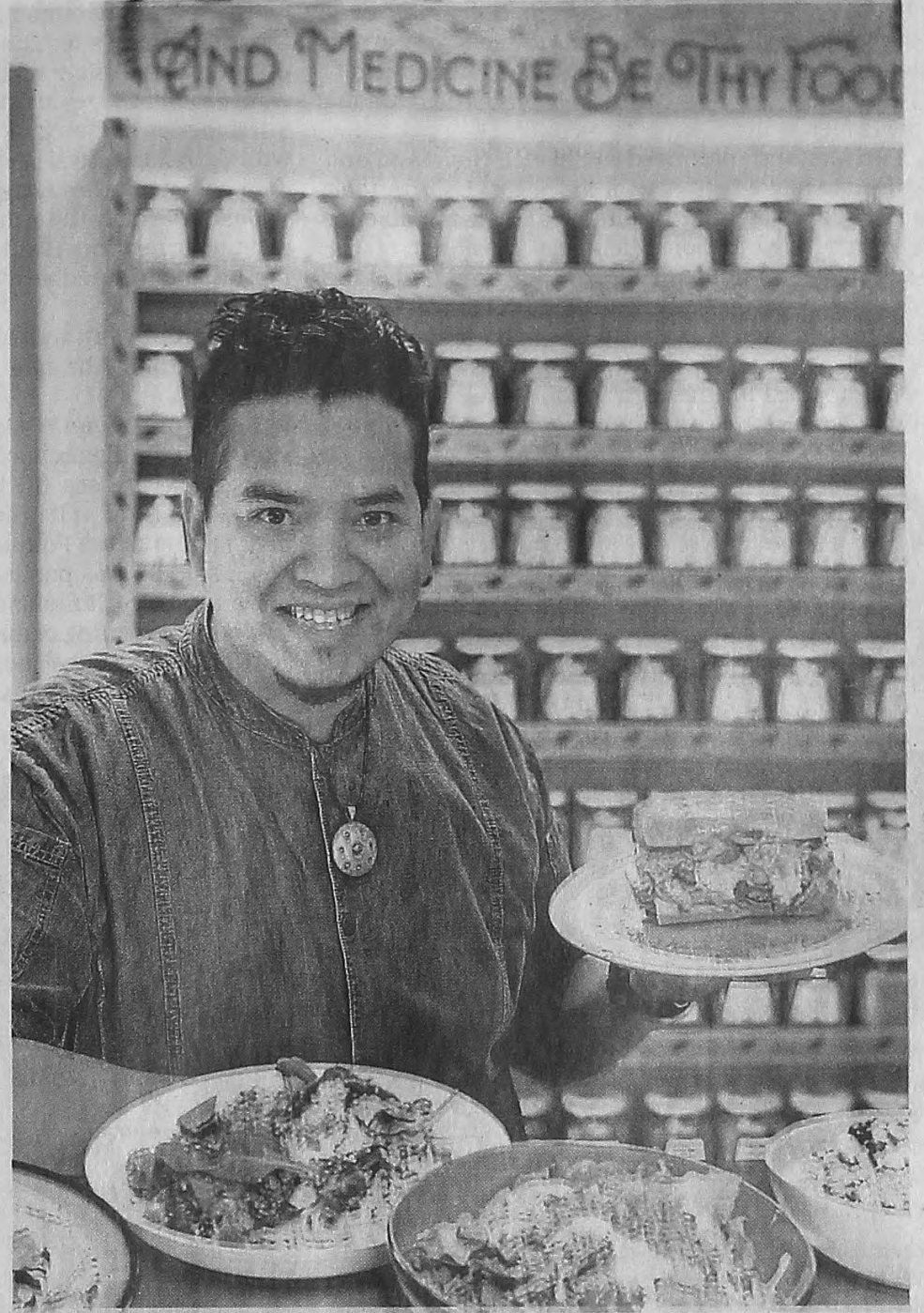
Aratham Gourmet To Go Expands with a new location.

After the amazing success of their plant-based food market in Troy, Aratham owners Gabriel and Tiffanie Vera are opening another location in Wayne County, MI. "Our desire has always been to support and nurture the community by providing high-quality, delicious, and flavorful plant-based food items at affordable prices. We are so happy we have been able to achieve this goal in Troy and are looking forward to providing more communities with the same quality of food and service."

Founded by husband and wife, Gabriel and Tiffanie Vera, Aratham is a labor of love in every sense of the word. Gabriel has an impressive culinary background working as an Executive Chef and Corporate Director at facilities like Andiamo, Joe Muer Seafood, the MGM Grand Hotel Casino, Hilton Hotels, Mission Point Resort and more. He is also a former gold medal Culinary Cup winner. Tiffanie Vera is a doula and holistic practitioner with food and beverage experience. Their combined expertise has led to the successful marriage of healthy, plant-based dishes that are both flavorful and affordable.

Tiffanie Vera states "We truly care about our customers, our community and the health of the planet. It's because of this love that we developed a menu that is gourmet in quality, plant-based and lower in price. Food can heal and fortify and we fully believe organic, gourmet cuisine and other natural products for the home and body should be affordable for all."

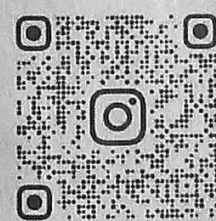
When asked why he thinks they have been so successful, Gabriel stated that Aratham is able to stand by their promise of being an organic, plant based company, without sacrificing flavor. "A crowd pleaser is our spaghetti Bolognese. People ask 'Are you sure there is no meat in this?' There isn't. We don't buy any processed meat - we make our own from oatmeal and seeds."



Aratham Gourmet To Go is a zero-waste business – from its composting to its biodegradable bags and containers. Every step of the organic, eco-friendly family business is designed for the betterment of its customers, the community and the planet. Gabriel notes "All our food scrapes go into compost or recycling. Our eco-friendly practices are a very important part of who we are."

Aratham provides everything from side dishes to entrees, juices to desserts, super-foods, individual meals, deli service, party trays, natural supplements, candles, soaps, and other unique, all natural items. Aratham is the source for anyone interested in a more plant-based, organic, holistic lifestyle.

Aratham in Westland is located at 37628 Ford Road and will open November 1st. Hours of operation are Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm.



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Neighbors decry proposed driveway at Catholic Central

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

A new proposed driveway out of Detroit Catholic Central High School would alleviate traffic issues before and after school but has neighbors upset and concerned it will ruin their neighborhood.

Many residents of the Berkshire Pointe neighborhood off Wixom Road south of Grand River stood up during the Novi Planning Commission meeting Oct. 6 to speak out against the proposed project, which would add a new access point to the high school.

Plenty of residents who live in the newly-built neighborhood spoke against the development at the meeting, worrying about issues such as privacy, traffic, water and its impact on their properties, among other issues.

"I understand their need to develop their land and the need to make their school the best school for their students, to make it as profitable and sustainable for the future," said Jason Michener, president of the Berkshire Pointe Homeowners Association. "But at the end of the day, everybody at Catholic Central gets to go home to their own houses and live in their own cities."

"We live there. We will always be there."

The proposal for the high school — relocated from Redford Township to its current home at 27225 Wixom

in Novi back in 2005 — would add a driveway to the north, heading through a now-vacant field and emptying onto 12 Mile south of Grand River.

After hearing concerns from the neighbors before the meeting, high school President Ed Turek said school officials wanted to delay moving forward with the project until they could have more conversations with the neighbors about how to best construct such a driveway.

"We want to be good neighbors so we would like to do that," he said.

The city's planning commission adhered to the request, voting unanimously to postpone a decision on the preliminary site plan and the environmental permits until the high school can find a solution that works for all the residents.

Michener said neighbors were scheduled to meet with Catholic Central leadership about the project Oct. 13 to help work through what could be done.

Jake Marmul, the school's director of admissions and public relations, said while he wasn't at that meeting, he said the feedback he heard was that it was productive.

"I heard it went well and hopefully they would say the same thing," he said. "We want to be good neighbors."

Resident DeJuan Woods told the planning commission while the high school has every right to develop its property as it sees fit, he did not understand why Catholic Central waited so long to reach out to the residents of Berkshire Pointe.

He said he was part of the group of residents that did meet with Catholic Central leadership the night before the planning commission meeting.

"That doesn't feel neighborly," he said. "We met with them yesterday at six o'clock. Over eight pages,

eight giant documents, they put before our president on their plans."

Those plans, Woods said, also included information on potential future development at the campus as well. None of those other plans, except for the new driveway, have gone before the city for review.

Marmul said the school is hopeful it will be able to bring a revised plan back to the planning commission by late November.

Planning commissioners saved much of their comments on the proposed development, since it was postponed. Commissioner John Avdoulos said he thought more conversations could only result in a more positive outcome.

"I think as good neighbors, I believe that Catholic Central should look at speaking with Berkshire neighbors and look at coming up with a resolution or some kind of plan that kind of addresses both the residents needs and what Catholic Central is proposing to do," he said. "I think there has to be some dialogue in order to come up with a solution."

Commissioner Gary Becker said he was planning to share more thoughts on the project at a later date due to the postponement, but pointed out many of the issues neighbors were upset over regarding the project were approved for the developers of the Berkshire Pointe neighborhood when it was going through its approval process with the city several years ago.

Using the same criteria for another project in that part of town, he said, doesn't feel completely out of character and fits with what's been done historically.

"Eight years ago, our city set a precedent of thoughtful accommodation concerning Berkshire Pointe," he said. "I'm not sure why we shouldn't apply that same level of thoughtful accommodation to the proposal in front of us."

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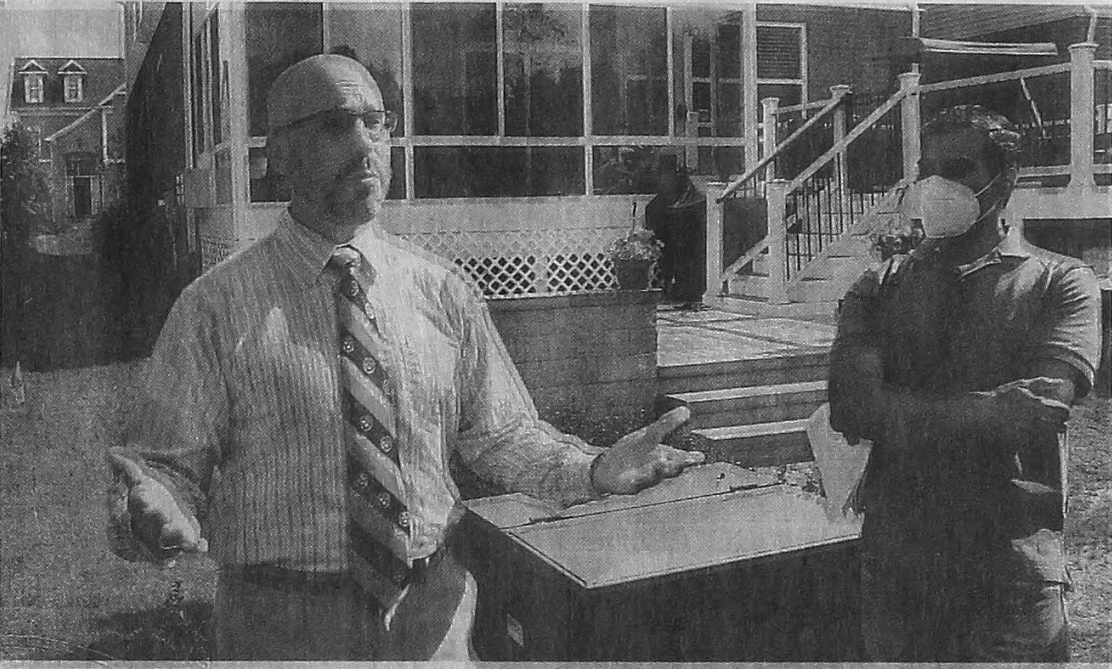
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Jason Michener, president of the Berkshire Pointe Homeowners Association, and neighborhood resident Sethu Kathiresan, talk about residents' issues with the proposed driveway for neighboring Detroit Catholic Central High School in Novi.

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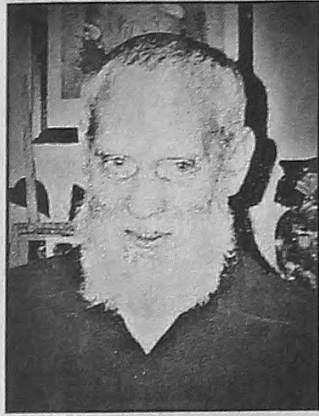
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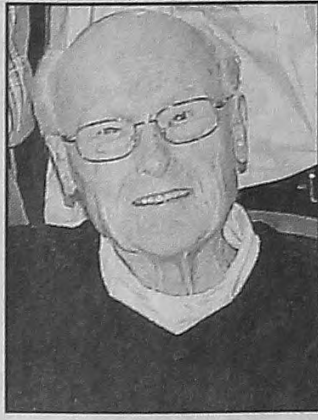


Robert Allen Kujawa

LIVONIA - Robert "Bob" Allen Kujawa, 73, of Livonia, passed away October 13, 2021. Beloved son of Mary and the late Joseph. Dearest brother of Thomas (Mary), Carol (the late Donald) Ferguson, Joan (the late Bruce) Stephens, William (the late Darlene), Christine (David) Slater, Joseph (Elizabeth), and Donna Kujawa. Adored uncle of many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews and the late Amy Ferguson. Bob was a longstanding active member of St. Joseph Shrine in Detroit. A memorial service is to be held in the future. Please visit www.TurowskiFuneralHome.com to share a memory of Bob, and / or check back for service details.



May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



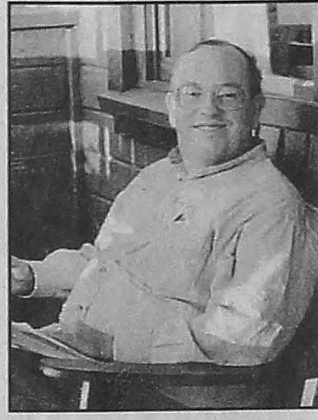
Albert Larson

LIVONIA - Albert Larson, Age 96 of Livonia went home to be with the Lord on October 18, 2021. Cherished husband of the late Mary Lou for 65 years. Beloved father of Jayne (Steve) Zeisler, Eric (MaraBeth), Christine, Allen (Linda), and the late Baby Boy Larson; loving grandfather of Matt, Tina, Jehan, Sean, and Kelly; and adored great-grandfather of Jackson, Olive, Corrina, Riley, Leo, Haley, Arlo, and Emelia. He is preceded in death by Phyllis, Thelma (Tini), and Phillip (PA). A special thank you to Tayjana. He will be missed by many loving family members and friends. A Funeral Mass will take place on Monday Oct. 25 Instate at 10am and Mass at 11am at St. Edith, 15089 Newburgh Rd. Livonia. Memorial Contributions can be to Scleroderma Foundation. Please visit the guestbook at fredwoodfuneralhome.com



Cecil Albert Pritchard Thomas, Jr.

Cecil Albert Pritchard Thomas, Jr. died suddenly at home on October 11, 2021 in Mt. Dora, Florida, where he resided with his beloved wife Judith (Adair) Thomas, whom he married in 1968. Born in 1944 in Springfield, MA to Cecil and Marie (Schroeder) Thomas, Cap, as he was



known while growing up, attended Williamsburg High School and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, graduating from American International College. He received an MBA from Georgia State University. He joined the U.S. Army in 1968 and served with distinction in Vietnam, earning a Bronze Star. A role with Philco-Ford led him to Lansdale, PA, and subsequently to Ford's headquarters in Dearborn, MI, where he prospered during a long career in purchasing, retiring as Manager, New Powertrain Programs, in 2003.

In his almost two decades of retirement, he enjoyed time with his family, including his wife Judi, and his cherished children--son Eric (Andrea) and daughter Amy (Chad Rupley) and grandchildren Lily Thomas and Annabel and Caleb Thomas-Rupley. Cecil and Judi travelled to the Upper Peninsula, Michigan, Hilton Head, and Western Massachusetts and beyond for vacations, and reveled in Disney cruises. Cecil devoted countless hours in service as a member of the Jehovah's Witnesses, where he was Congregation Secretary at his local Kingdom Hall. At the Lakes of Mt. Dora, where he lived for almost 20 years, he contributed his financial acumen, engineering skill, and management expertise to the Buildings and Grounds and Finance Committees and the Planned Development Team. Active to the last moment of his life, he died teaching a Zoom class to help others learn to be proficient in the pandemic-era "must have" competency.

Thomas also leaves a sister, Sarah Thomas (Peter Hirtle), a step-brother Ronald Packard, step-sister Constance Packard, and several cousins and nephews.

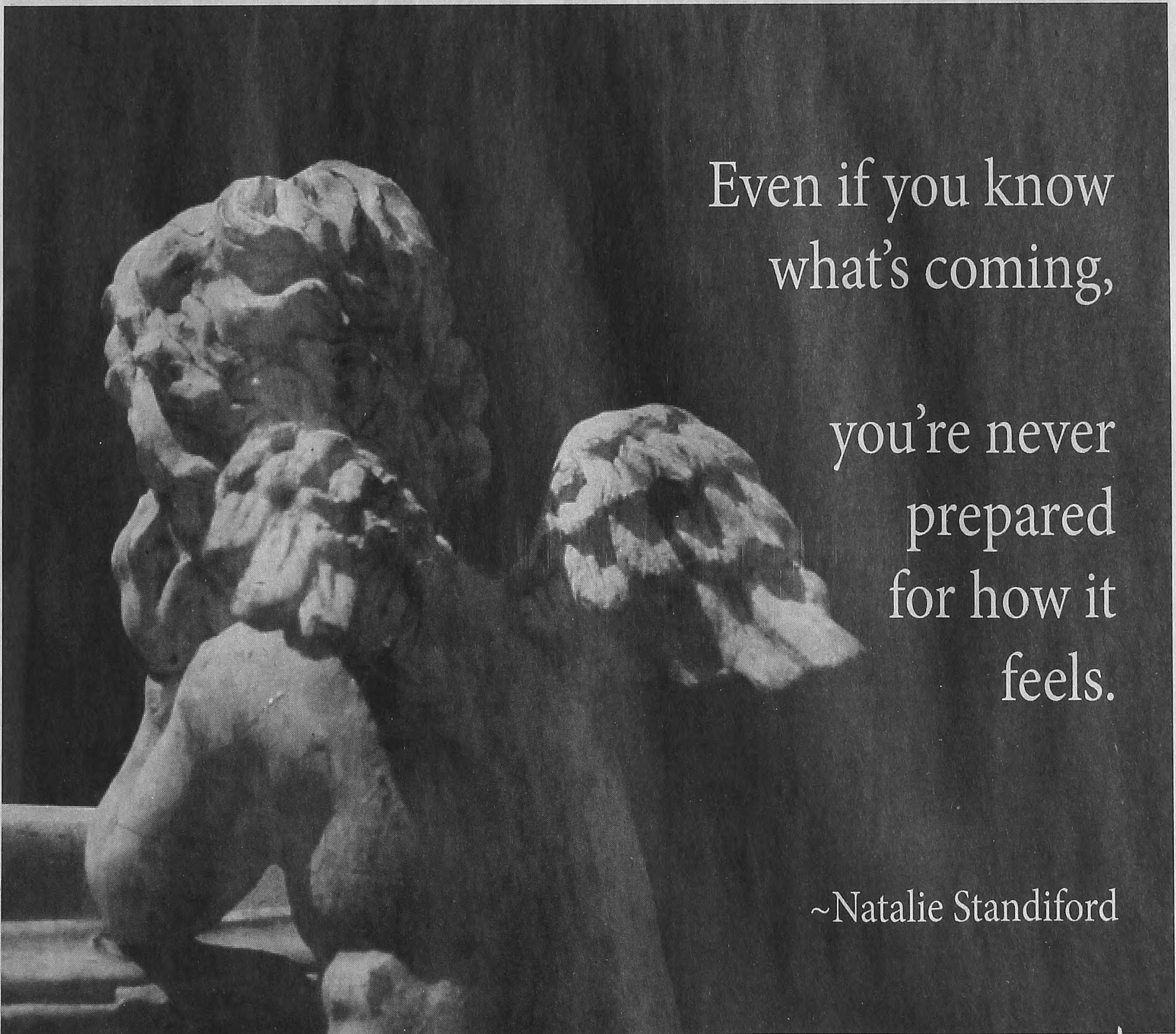


May you find peace in this time of sorrow.



Even if you know what's coming, you're never prepared for how it feels.

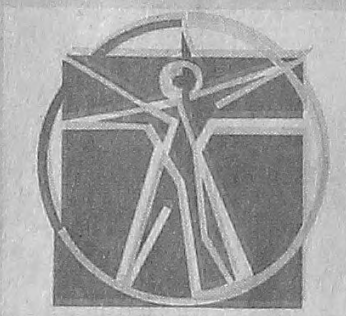
~Natalie Standiford



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SPORTS

Detroit Country Day football loses Brandon Mann in win over Loyola

The senior quarterback suffered a shoulder injury late in the first half of Saturday's game

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The week was about to end just as good as it started for Detroit Country Day senior Brandon Mann. On Oct. 11, the three-star quarterback verbally committed to Kent State, picking the Golden Flashes over other offers from Bowling Green, Northern Illinois and Findlay. And, on Oct. 16, the 6-foot-4, 225-pound dual-threat was in the process of leading the Yellowjackets (6-1) to a convincing victory over Detroit Loyola. Three of their first few drives ended in scores, which included Mann diving into

the end zone on a 1-yard plunge to make it a 19-0 score with 6:19 left in the half. Country Day's offense returned four minutes later and drove into the red zone. During a routine shotgun snap, however, Mann fumbled and attempted to corral the loose ball squirting around the field. Loyola wound up recovering it at the 16-yard line, while Mann, according to coach Dan MacLean, suffered a separated shoulder injury. Mann spent the second half roaming the sidelines in a gray hoodie while backup Hunter Riutta did his best to fill in behind center and help the Yellowjackets pull out the 27-14 victory. "Had a little bit of pressure on me and fell awkwardly but nothing too serious," said Mann, who said he's likely going to miss the Week 9 regular-season finale at Brother Rice. "I'm just being safe, and there's no need for me to push anything. With this win, we're secured to play in

See FOOTBALL, Page 3B



Detroit Country Day's Gabe Winowich rushes against Detroit Loyola on Oct. 16.



Ryan Corby of Novi finishes in first place for the full marathon during the 44th Annual Detroit Free Press Marathon in Detroit on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021. RYAN GARZA, DETROIT FREE PRESS

Novi runner is Detroit Free Press Marathon men's winner

Brandon Folsom
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Ryan Corby admits he had no idea what he was doing when he trained for

his first marathon. As a 16-year-old at Armada High School, he ran the distance events such as the 1,600 and 3,200 meters on the track and field team. He always wanted to try something longer, but the Tigers

didn't have a cross-country program back then. So the current Novi resident signed up for the Detroit Free Press Marathon and got to work training for his first 26.2-mile race.

"I trained for the marathon on the track, and I didn't know any different," Corby said. "I think I just always had the desire to do something much, much

See MARATHON, Page 2B

“After my car accident, Community Financial gave me a lower rate on my auto loan and a check for a new car in under 24 hours.”

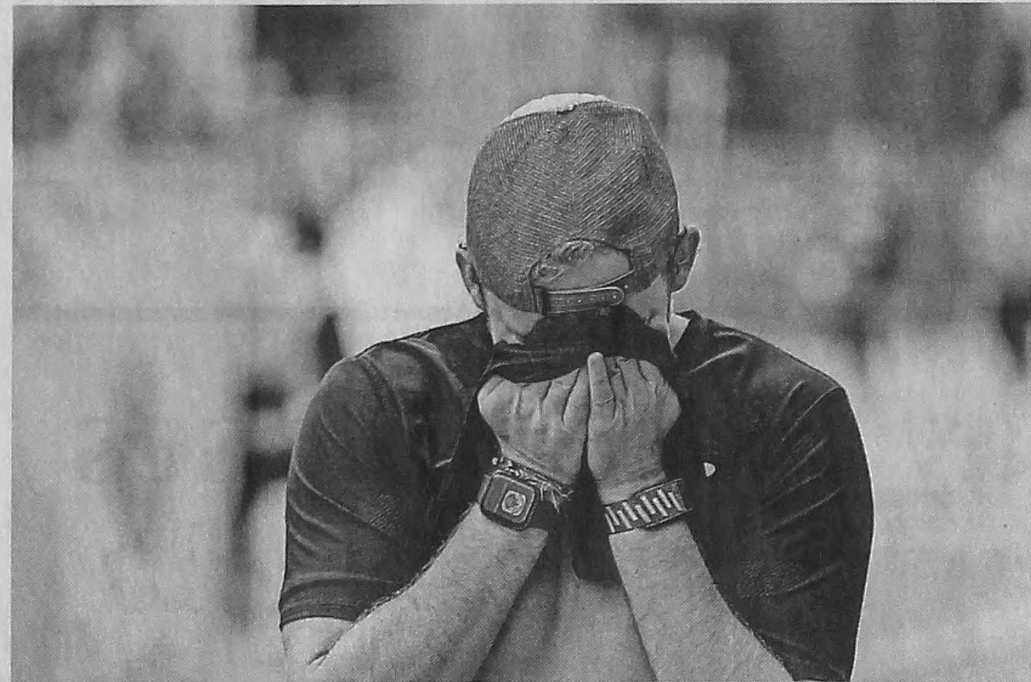
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Soros Ashley of Bloomfield Hills gets emotional after finishing his first full marathon during the 44th Annual Detroit Free Press Marathon in Detroit on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021. RYAN GARZA, DETROIT FREE PRESS



Julie Brinkmeier (center) of Westland is helped with her medal by MaShawn Robinson (right) of Romulus and Rachel Torres of Westland as the volunteers cheered on their church friend during the 44th Annual Detroit Free Press Marathon in Detroit on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021. RYAN GARZA, DETROIT FREE PRESS



Kiki Rodriguez of Northville shows off he half marathon medal after finishing her race during the 44th Annual Detroit Free Press Marathon in Detroit on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021. RYAN GARZA, DETROIT FREE PRESS



Carrie Bell (left) of Novi talks with her daughter Delaney Snook and sister Christine Johnson of Ferndale after finishing her race during the 44th Annual Detroit Free Press Marathon in Detroit on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021. RYAN GARZA, DETROIT FREE PRESS



Megan Talty (right) of Livonia and Monica Szmyd of Madison Heights hold each other after finishing the half marathon during the 44th Annual Detroit Free Press Marathon in Detroit on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021. RYAN GARZA, DETROIT FREE PRESS



Eddie Floyd II of Farmington Hills takes a selfie with his half marathon medal after completing his race during the 44th Annual Detroit Free Press Marathon in Detroit on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021. RYAN GARZA, DETROIT FREE PRESS

Marathon

Continued from Page 1B

longer than the mile or 2-mile. I wanted to see what it's like. That taught me what real pain was like. Compared to doing the mile or 2-mile, you build a lot of lactic acids. But doing a marathon, it's just getting comfortable being very uncomfortable. I just wanted a challenge. I wanted to be adventurous and try something different."

Corby, now 39, took a break from competitive races when he attended Michigan State, but he caught the running bug again in his late 20s.

Since then, he's turned running into his "side job."

He has competed in 10 marathons, from the Boston and Chicago Marathons to the Charlevoix and Bayshore marathons in Michigan. He prides himself in competing in 5Ks around the state.

In April, he entered Toledo's Glass City Marathon and won, crossing the finishing line in 2 hours and 21 seconds.

Sunday marked his first return to the Detroit marathon since he was in high school. It's clear he has come a long way.

Corby separated from the pack around the 13-mile mark and finished in 2:22:03 to become the first Michigan resident to win the Free Press Marathon since Alan Peterson of Bessemer in 2016.

Because of the pandemic, it marked only the third time the marathon didn't include Canada as part of its course, something that disappointed Corby.

"It's my 10th marathon, and I'm really happy that it was here in Detroit," he said. "When I did it when I was 16, (I ran through Canada), and I appreciated it. ...

"Once we split off, I realized I was alone from the halfway point on. It was a

little bit lonely, but you go through phases. There are all kinds of mental and physiological phases you go through. It was really tough. It's a marathon. There's a lot of uncertainty to it, but I'm blessed it turned out like this."

Corby competed along with several family members, including his sister-in-law Amy Corby, who finished second in the women's marathon (2:53:02). His wife, Ana, finished in 3:13:02.

Running has become a family affair on the weekends, as they like to train at Stoney Creek and Kensington, among other parks near Novi.

During the weekdays, though, Ryan wakes up about 4:30 a.m. and runs the city streets to get in his weekly 115 miles before getting his two kids ready for school and heading to his job as a design engineering manager in the automotive industry.

"Most of it's just out the front door," he said. "Whatever is the quickest and easiest. I've got to get back before daylight and before the kids are awake to help get them ready for school. ... This is just a side job. Not even a job. I have a wife and two kids. It's tough to fit it all in, but they support me really strongly."

Corby said he'll return to defend his title in 2022, especially since he didn't expect to win this one.

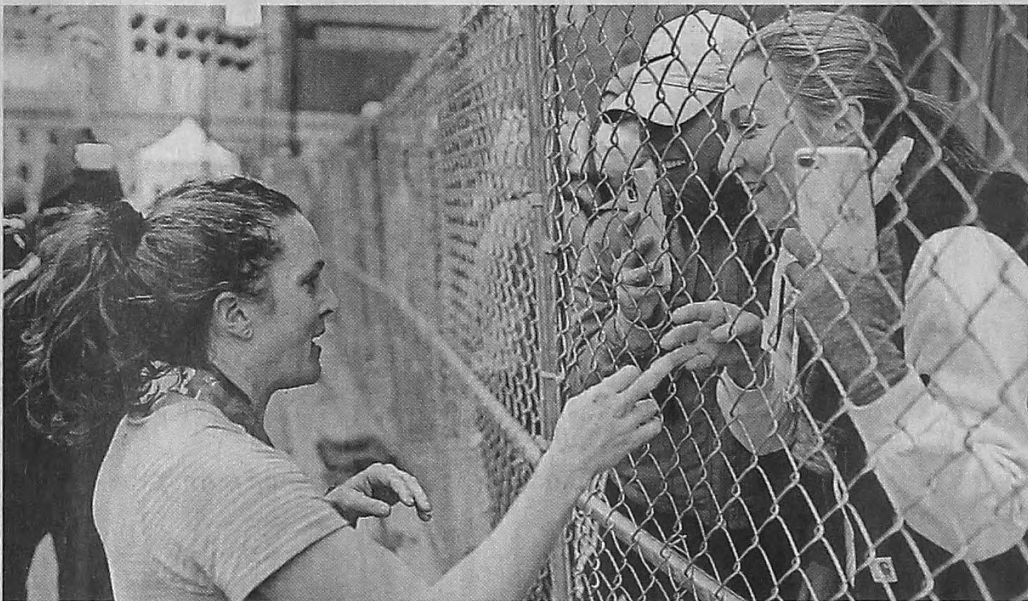
He's looking forward to finally running in Canada again.

"It's something that almost can't be described," he said of winning. "I feel blessed."

First American female winner since 2014

Becca Addison wanted to make her homecoming special.

So the former Michigan All-American cross-country and track and field runner



Becca Addison (left) of Somerville talks with college running mates Lindsey Turcotte (right) of Rochester and Alex Jasman of Saline after finishing in first place for women during full marathon during the 44th Annual Detroit Free Press Marathon in Detroit on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021. RYAN GARZA, DETROIT FREE PRESS



Trudy Adler, of Birmingham, gets a high five from race volunteer Eileen Dooley after she crosses the finish line to complete her marathon during the 44th Annual Detroit Free Press Marathon in Detroit on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021. The volunteers handing out medals were a welcomed sight for the runners who were in the last wave to come across the finish line. KELLY JORDAN, DETROIT FREE PRESS

See MARATHON, Page 4B

Marathon

Continued from Page 2B

ner went to the site of the Boston Marathon finish line last week to find inspiration.

She looked up and down Boylston Street and imagined thousands of spectators lining the sidewalks. She thought about all the women who broke the ribbon while crossing the bright-yellow finish line. She envisioned what it'd be like to become a marathon winner.

That brief trip to Copley Square paid off for the 30-year-old sports dietitian and assistant track coach at Harvard University during Sunday's 44th annual Detroit Free Press Marathon.

She outran a competitive field — even passing 2017 winner Valentyna Poltavska on Belle Isle near the 23-mile mark — to win the race with a time of 2 hours, 51 minutes and 8 seconds.

Addison is the first American woman to win the Detroit marathon since Courtney Brewis in 2014.

"I loved the course," said Addison, who grew up in Spring Lake. "I'm from Massachusetts, but my boyfriend is from Detroit, so I've run all the areas on the loops. So it's really cool to see the whole city like that. It made for a really fun course. At first, I was disappointed about not being able to run in Canada when I first heard about it. But then I saw the course, and I thought it looked really awesome."

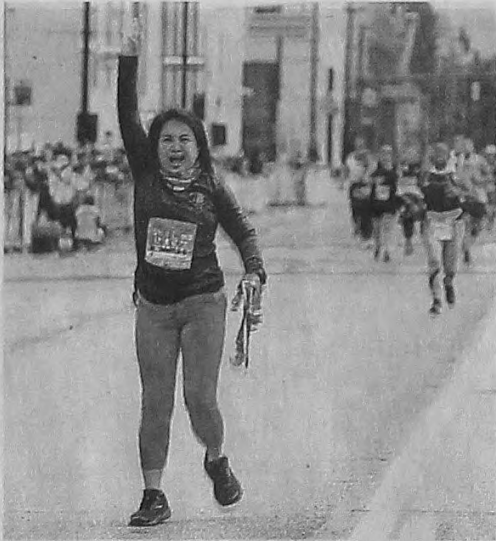
Staying on pace

It's tough to finish a marathon. It's tougher yet to run faster than a goal time.

It's tougher still to run the exact time you set out to run, and that's the job of the pace crew, who are charged with leading participants toward their goals. And they are pretty good at it.

Although it was Matthew Brown and Dusty Mitchell's first time as full marathon pacers, both were spot-on. Brown, 27, of Commerce Township, led the 3-hour pace group, and he finished in 2:59:50. Mitchell, 26, of Louisville, Kentucky, oversaw the 3:10 pace group. He crossed the line in 3:09:51.

"I gotta admit it's a bit of a trial-and-error thing," Brown said. "When you start out running the marathon, you



Maria Tolentino, of Canton, celebrates finishing the half marathon during the 44th Annual Detroit Free Press Marathon in Detroit on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021. KELLY JORDAN, DETROIT FREE PRESS

want to get warmed up, and we want to go out kind of easy and work into it. But then it's easy to get carried away sometimes in both directions, slow and fast. You've got to level it off.

"I do bounce back and forth with the people around me, making sure they are on pace, because it is relative to some degree."

Both Brown and Mitchell say being a pacer is rewarding.

"In the past it's always been this is my goal and this is what I want to do, so it was fun being out here with other people, trying to share that with them and trying to help them accomplish their goals," Mitchell said.

Like son, like father

When Rakesh Sheth saw how motivated his son Nikhil was to run his first Free Press Marathon, he had an epiphany: why not join him?

Nikhil, 17, had been training for months by going on long runs, both by himself or with his soccer teammates at North Farmington High School.

In contrast, Rakesh, 48, didn't sign up for the half-marathon until the day before the race while visiting the marathon's Health & Fitness Expo at the TCF Center.

"He signed up first, and then yesterday at the Expo I said, 'You know what? If he's going to run the marathon, I'm go-



Elijah Martinez, 3, of Livonia, leans through the fencing with a cowbell to cheer on his dad during the 44th Annual Detroit Free Press Marathon in Detroit on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021. KELLY JORDAN, DETROIT FREE PRESS

ing to run the half as well to support him," Rakesh said. "It was spur-of-the-moment. I did not train. I should have trained. I did it to support my son. If he's going to do it, I'm going to be there for him."

To Rakesh's credit, he knew what he was getting into, having completed the half and full marathons in past years. Both father and son did well in their shared experience; Rakesh finished in the half 2:51:02, Nikhil finished the full in 3:55:12.

"We ran together for the first couple miles, and then I told him to go because I was slowing him down," Rakesh said. "I told him 'Go ahead, I'm going to run at my pace.'"

"I started a little bit slow, but I sped up over time, so that was a little bit difficult but I'm glad I did it. The crowd really cheered me on and it was a great experience," said Nikhil, who crossed the finish line about 5 minutes under his goal time of 4 hours.

The Sheths were glad to be able to bond on the streets of Detroit.

"It's just a great event," Rakesh said. "I actually enjoy going through the city and the different parts. It's so very nice. Sometimes you see just a portion of the city, but if you're running 13 miles, you get to see a lot of the city that you normally wouldn't see if you were just driv-

ing around."

Crazy eights

In Chinese and other Asian cultures, the number eight is considered to be lucky.

For example, when the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, the Opening Ceremonies started at eight seconds past 8:08 on Aug. 8.

So Yan Lai Jiang knew she was in for a good experience when she picked up her runner's bib, which turned out to be No. 888.

"That is a lucky number," the Novi resident said. "I got injured in the summer during the middle of August. I thought maybe I couldn't do the marathons in Chicago and Detroit. But it's lucky. I recovered."

Sunday's race was her second marathon this year, after just having competed in the Chicago race a week ago. But Jiang appeared to be fully recovered, based on her time Sunday. Her time of 3:28:19 placed her second in the 50-54 women's age group.

"I got my PR today," she said. "I got my best time by 7 minutes."

Actually, we were hoping for eight. *Bill Laitner and Wright Wilson contributed.*



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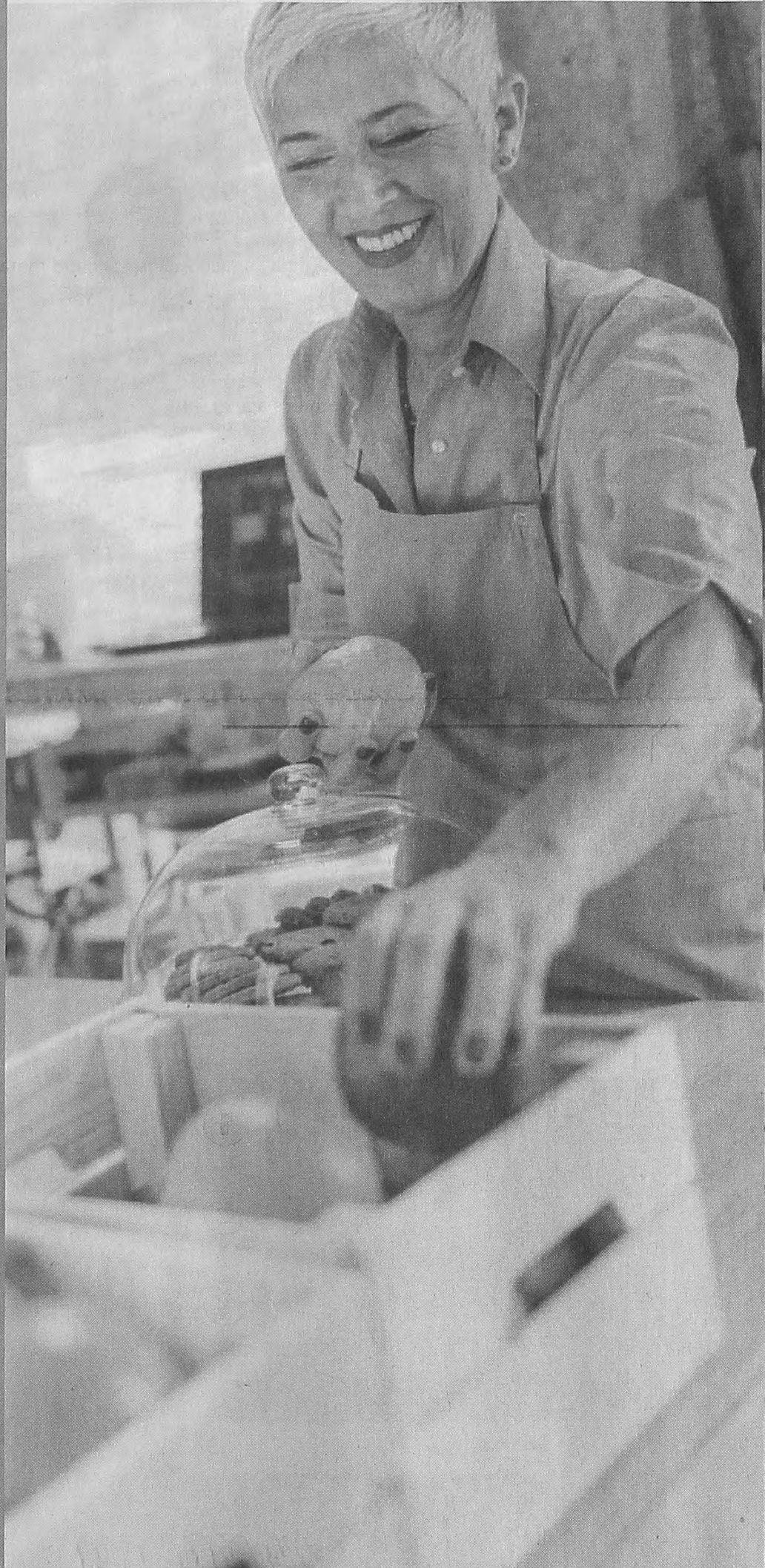
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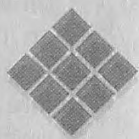
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How to Stall a Job Offer

What to Do When Your First Job Offer Isn't Your First Choice

By ZipRecruiter.com

You're in the process of interviewing for jobs at several different places. You haven't received an offer from your top choice, but you get one from another company. Should you jeopardize your chances of a sure thing for the uncertain possibility of working at your dream job? Well, if you handle it with finesse, there is usually a way to stall a job offer without damaging your reputation or the opportunity.

This is a nice problem to have...but it's still a problem. Your next move will depend on many different factors, such as how badly you need a job and how strong your chances are of receiving an offer from the other company. Here are some tips on how to delay your answer without burning any bridges.

Show Gratitude

Share your appreciation for the time and resources they have spent on you.

Make it clear that you're appreciative of the job offer. If it seems you're balking or lukewarm, they'll start to reconsider and feel less charitable about giving you extra time. Say something like, "I'm very excited about the offer, but need a little time to make an informed decision." Give them a specific date by which you'll respond (if you can, find out timing from the offer you're waiting on) but always be cognizant of their time restraints.

Figure Out What's Missing

Assess why you don't want this role and what might make it more desirable.

If this were your dream job, you'd have probably said, "yes" right away. Clearly, there are some things about the job that are missing. Identify those missing elements and determine if they're non-negotiable. Is it possible to add them to the current offer? Are they even realistic?

Think about whether there are unanswered questions that could help you decide. Consider all of the components that make up the job offer: salary, hours, job responsibilities, potential for career advancement, benefits. Don't forget the quality of life questions such as flexibility, workplace culture, commute times, etc. Getting clarification

tion on the details will not only make it easier to decide, it can also buy you some time.

Be Honest

Tell them you want to make sure you have a full sense of your options.

In a previous blog post on negotiating job offers, we pointed out that being in this position could actually be a benefit. The employer might ask your reasons for needing extra time. There's nothing that says you need to only consider one company at a time and it is a completely legitimate excuse to say that you are still meeting with other companies. But the way you deliver your answer can greatly influence the outcome.

Do not make it seem like the employer is your fall back choice, even if they are. Let them know that you're in the midst of a process that you need to see through and want to carefully examine and compare all offers before making a decision.

This doesn't necessarily mean that a company will give you all the time you need. Your responsibility is to try and expedite things by scheduling interviews as close together as possible and understanding the pros and cons of each company before you get an offer. If you're gracious and diplomatic, it might work in your favor by making you seem like a more desirable candidate.

Be Proactive

Sometimes you can use multiple offers to your advantage, especially when a little gentle, diplomatic pressure is required. If you really want to work for Company A, but Company B has already made an offer, you can use this to your advantage. Tell your top choice that Company B needs an answer from you, but you'd much prefer to work for them. Ask if there is anything you can do to help speed up the process. If they say no, it's possible that you weren't a legitimate contender to begin with.

Don't Lead Anyone On

Be upfront about your intentions and make room for other candidates.

Always be respectful of a company's time and consideration. Don't leave them on the hook if you really can't picture yourself working there. Unless you're in dire straits financially, your reason for accepting an offer should not be, "because nothing else better came along." When you do decide, always tell them verbally as well as in written form. Treat them with the same courtesy that you'd hope to receive from them.



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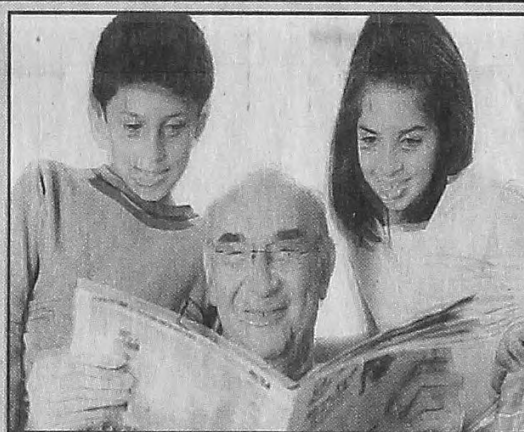
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Lost



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

I would like to offer you \$12,000.00 for returning Tasha to us. I will also cover her umbilical hernia repair if you had the surgery performed.

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 dogs were making my 'asthma' worse.

This is why 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 spayed as well as her hernia repair and gastropexy (breed prone to bloat). Also to follow up on her spleen and blood work. Her two aunts had splenomegaly (had the spleen removed with treatment) and HYPERTHYROIDISM 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.

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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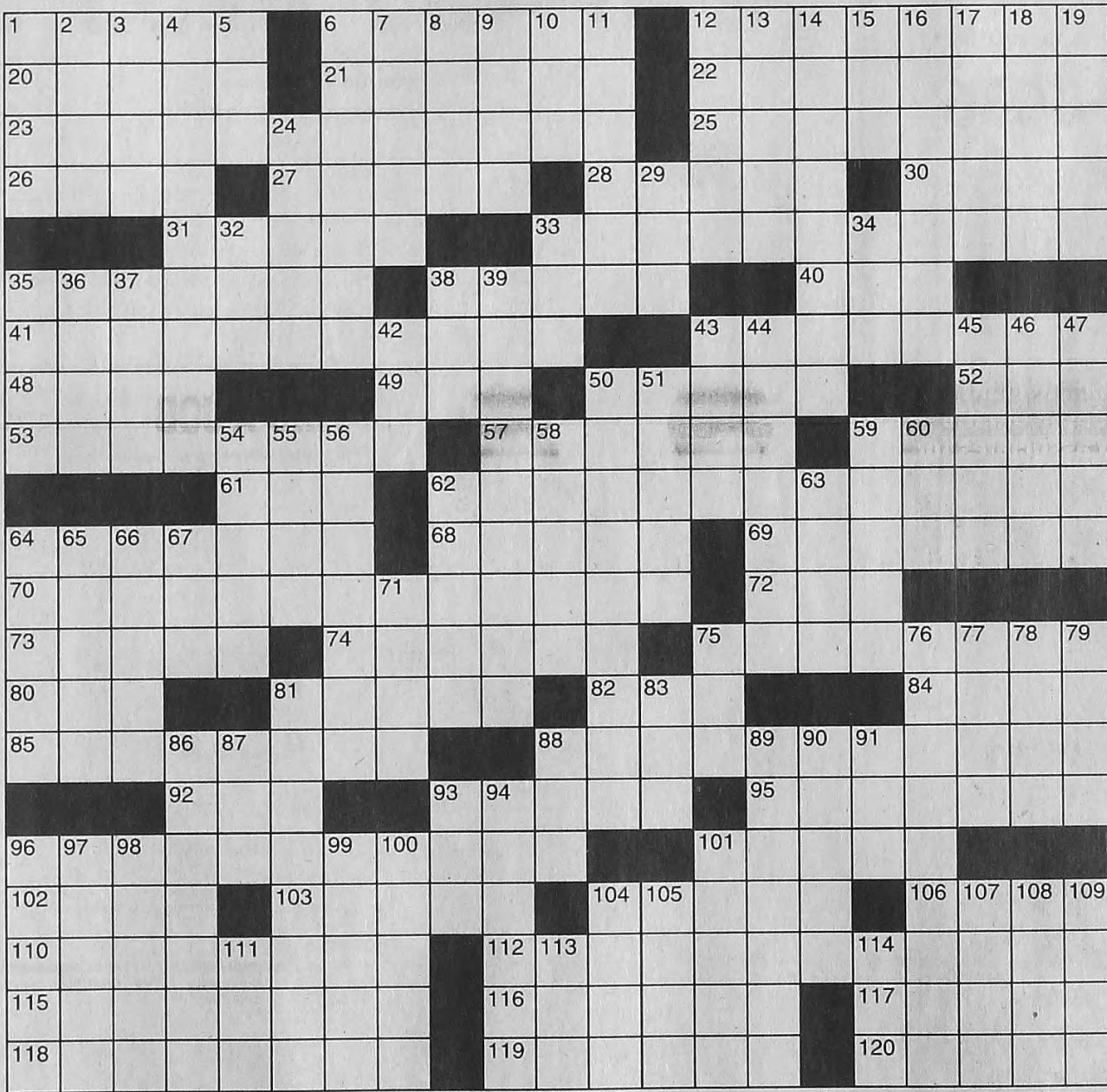
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GONE FISHING

ACROSS

- 1 Longtime movie theater chain
6 Sound signal booster, for short
12 Coiled like a corkscrew
20 As red as —
21 Accounting book
22 Oahu city
23 Possessions of a fish?
25 Catches in a trap
26 "Sax by the Fire" musician John
27 Donald's first ex
28 Flower girl, sometimes
30 Fender ding
31 Back street
33 Fish just beyond the visible light spectrum?
35 More flamboyant
38 Twisty turns
40 37-Down minus five
41 Puck-pushing fish?
43 With child
48 180 degrees from west, in Spanish
- 49 "Deathtrap" writer Levin
50 Made a dove's sound
52 Python kin
53 Hold to one's policy
57 Steak options
59 Burns around
61 No longer fashionable
62 Guy's retro 'do given by a fish?
64 Like a cook or a welder
68 Land amid water, in Italy
69 An inverse trig function
70 Fish going here and there?
72 Pasty luau food
73 Delivery path
74 Roaming sorts
75 Was a counselor to
80 Extra play periods, in brief
81 "Robin —" (old Irish ballad)
82 Simpson trial judge
Lance
84 Ashy-faced
85 Hot Chinese cuisine
- 88 Swallow a fish quickly?
92 Tummy muscles
93 Yoga posture
95 Country singer
Porter —
96 Fish skilled at mimicking sounds?
101 String ties
102 Woeful cry
103 Steer-roping contest
104 Milton of TV
106 Jai —
110 Reeling off
112 Fish alongside
Harry Truman's wife?
115 Detest
116 "Spectre" co-star Greg
117 Get hitched on the run
118 Became dim
119 Singer Vic
120 Detect
- 5 Big inits. in fuel additives
6 Short-billed shorebirds
7 Recompense
8 Adam and Eve's garden
9 Taj Mahal city
10 Convened
11 Hester in "The Scarlet Letter"
12 See-through
13 Northern Oklahoma's — City
14 Slid in
15 "Solo" director
Howard
16 Abu's master
17 Lorelei, e.g.
18 Kagan of the bench
19 Like used chalkboard erasers
24 Former Heat coach Pat
29 Possibilities
32 Repose
33 British verb ending
34 Work unit
35 Tom Jones' "— a Lady"
36 Quizmaster, e.g.
37 Prefix meaning "eight"
38 Corn unit
- 39 Info provider at the bottom of a PC window
42 Tool set, e.g.
43 Keats, e.g.
44 Form again
45 Simple calculators
46 Like wet blankets
47 Take a small bite of
50 Secret cooperation
51 — a time
54 "Death Be Not Proud" penner
55 Entreated
56 Extras after the main text
58 It flows through arteries
59 Permissible
60 Surg. centers
62 Heat's city
63 Middle name of Elvis
64 Frizzy dos
65 Collapse in frustration, in slang
66 Awaken
67 See 94-Down
71 Equine color
75 Sun. follower
76 Like human thumbs
77 Parade ruiner
- 78 Sommer of "Zeppelin"
79 Hart or hind
81 From Graz or Linz
83 Onetime JFK carrier
86 Queasy from riding, in a way
87 "Euphoria" airer
88 "Lah-di —!"
89 Like many highways
90 Rock's Van —
91 Vanity
93 Live
94 With
67-Down, eyed to evaluate
96 Peeled
97 Amazon Echo's personal assistant
98 Relay athlete
99 Italian bridge
100 Sided
101 "Heaven" singer
Adams
104 Fill-up point
105 Waffle brand
107 Writer Urís
108 Vipers
109 "Understood"
111 Luigi's three
113 Eggs, to Livy
114 — Plaines



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

SUDOKU

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

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!

BON VOYAGE

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.

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

ANSWER KEY

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

E	S	N	E	S	E	N	O	W	V	O	D	E	N	E	K	E	V	O
E	O	T	E	N	V	O	I	A	E	E	L	V	O	O	E	X	E	
S	E	E	B	O	N	Y	A	D	O	J	O	N	I	L	L	O	O	H
I	V	I	V	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
S	O	L	O	E	H	O	B	E	L	O	H	E	E	E	E	E	E	
H	E	N	O	O	V	A	N	S	V	A	S	S	E	S	S	E	S	
E	X	I	E	H	I	N	M	O	D	E	N	A	N	H	O	E	S	
E	T	A	V	E	E	O	L	I	E	I	V	I	D	E	E	S	I	O
E	E	H	O	L	N	E	W	S	D	V	W	O	N	E	L	N	O	H
I	O	D	E	N	O	B	V	A	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
E	N	I	S	O	B	A	V	T	O	S	I	D	E	N	O	H	A	V
T	O	O	R	I	V	H	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
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A	V	A	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
T	E	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
S	E	R	V	A	N	S	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
H	O	T	H	A	N	N	A	O	L	I	E	I	V	I	D	E	E	
S	E	R	V	A	N	S	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
L	L	L	O	N	O	H	E	R	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
L	O	E	W	S	E	S	P	R	E	A	M	P	S	P	I	R	A	L

SAINTS

BON VOYAGE

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

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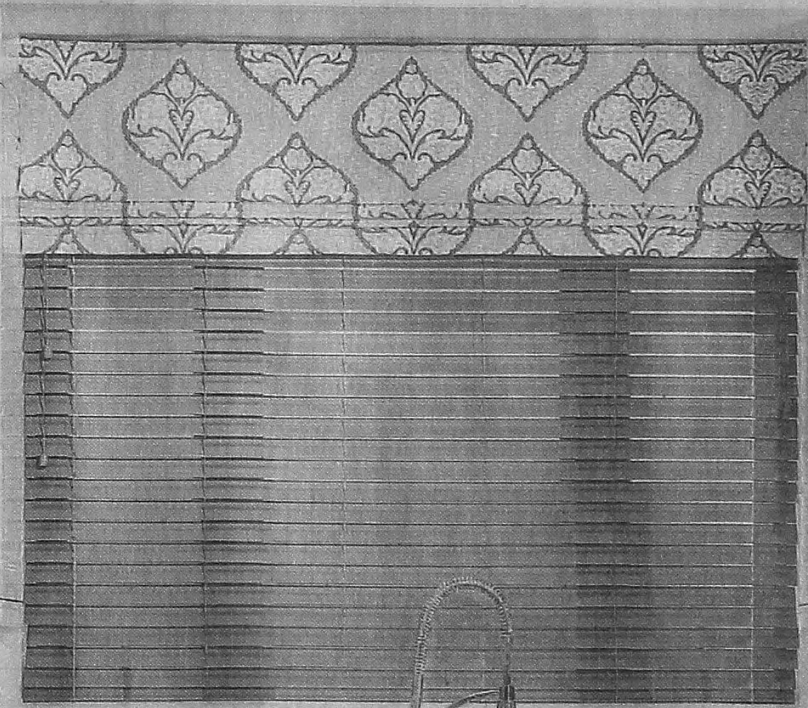
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