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Pass Go in Livonia-themed board game

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Have you ever wanted to own Merri-Bowl Lanes? How about Archie's Restaurant? You now can, at least in board game format.

Cincinnati-based board game maker Late for the Sky produced a board game in the style of the classic Monopoly game that celebrates Livonia.

Dubbed "Livonia Opoly," the board resembles the classic property game but replaces Atlantic City icons with

Livonia ones.

The game, which retails for just under \$20 at Walmart, 29555 Plymouth Road, is just one of many cities that the company has made games for over the past six years.

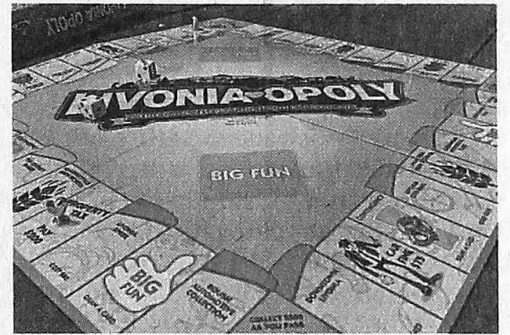
Making game boards that are more relatable to certain communities has become a popular gift item.

"Everyone has played this style of gameplay at least once in their lifetime," Michael Schulte, a marketing manager for Late for the Sky, said. "We saw such a great demand for that.

"It seems the more localized we get, the more popular it gets."

The game rules are essential the same as traditional Monopoly: using a token, go around the board and purchase properties. Collect an entire set and build "city blocks" (houses) before upgrading them to a "Key to the City" (hotel) to charge more rent to opposing players that land on the space. The goal of the game is to bankrupt all the other players.

See GAME, Page 5A



The board of Livonia Opoly, complete with local landmarks as the properties. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Westland City Council approves apartments, condo units

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

An old church in Westland will soon be the site of apartments and condominiums.

Westland's council recently approved a site plan submitted by Snow Realty that sought to create 30 apartments and 34 condos at the 6-acre parcel on the southwest corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Merriman Road in the building.

Snow Realty, based in Dearborn, plans to build the development in two phases. The first will retrofit the vacant church into 30 apartments, which will include the addition of a second floor to the building. After that, the developer plans to construct 34 condos in a U-shape around the apartment building.

The finished project should also include some greenspace and a gazebo. Fadiy Salameh, the developer, said he decided to leave the church standing because tearing it down would put a good structure to waste.

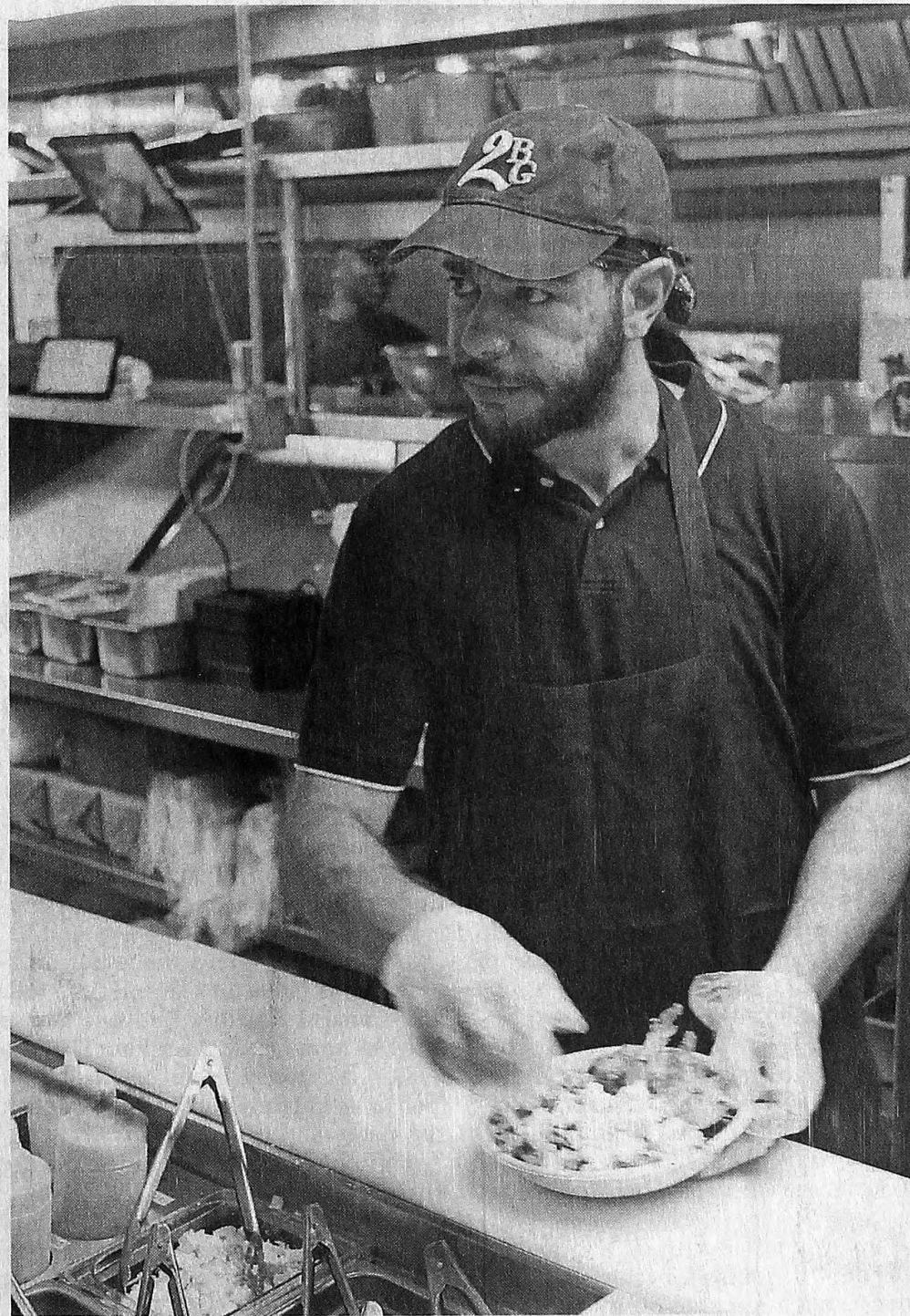
"The bones are already there, and it would cost us a lot more money to tear it down," Salameh said. "The bones are there and they're strong. We're going to make it really nice."

Salameh said he's waiting for material costs to stabilize before diving into the build. Once he gets started, he expects the project to take a few years.

Describing the project as a "dream," Salameh said he looks forward to getting started.

See COUNCIL, Page 5A

New Westland eatery serves up fast-casual Middle Eastern food



2Booli 2Go employee Maad Fathi creates a bowl at the Westland restaurant.

DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Ansara family brought its signature family recipes to Westland.

Known for its restaurant ownership group that operates franchises like Red Robin and Twin Peaks, the Farmington Hills-based Ansara Restaurant Group launched its newest concept in western Wayne County: 2Booli 2Go, a fast-casual take on their 2Booli full-service restaurant.

Located at 6308 N. Wayne Road in the former Don Miguel Mexican restaurant, 2Booli 2Go focuses more on a grab-and-go menu than its sister sit-down restaurant in Farmington Hills, which opened about 15 years ago.

"Our family comes from a region of Lebanon that's famous for cooking," Lew Ansara, one of the family members involved in the business, said. "That's how it started, then it evolved to this."

Offering bowls and wraps, the restaurant allows customers to customize their dish with a smattering of ingredients, including cucumbers, pickles, tomatoes, baba ghanouj, hummus and chicken shawarma, to name a few. Each dish is made individually, allowing for a wide range of flavor options, similar to other fast-casual concepts such as Qdoba or Chipotle.

"We took a few of the signature items at the full service restaurant and put them in here, and we decided we wanted to set up ... where you start at the beginning of the line, you run down the line and in a matter of a couple of minutes you've got your meal prepared the way you want it," said Victor Ansara, president and chief executive officer of Ansara Restaurant Group. "You basically make it the way you want to make it."

In addition to going in the restaurant

See FOOD, Page 4A

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Nurses turn to short-term travel contracts

Rachel Greco Lansing State Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

For Hailey Mays, travel nursing is an opportunity to see different places.

For Katrina Brook, the job is helping to pay off debt and provide financial stability to her family.

And for Sydne Everts, it's covering out-of-pocket costs for continued education to become a nurse practitioner.

All three local nurses said they had intended to turn to travel nursing eventually. Then COVID-19 arrived in Michigan, and the stress placed on health care workers pushed them to make the move sooner.

They weren't alone, said Rose Fulton, senior vice president of recruitment for Travel Nurse Across America, an Arkansas-based agency representing 4,500 traveling nurses across the country.

Travel nursing — an industry that supplies health care workers to short-staffed hospitals across the country — has been in practice for over 40 years. But the pandemic “exploded the industry,” growing it by at least 50%, Fulton said.

“I think the biggest reason was that we just had such excruciating needs,” Fulton said. “Hospitals needed not five nurses, they needed hundreds, so when you're talking about that kind of volume and that kind of need, there was an intensity around it.”

Last June at Sparrow Health System, during the height of pandemic-driven staffing shortages, there were “about 280 travelers,” said John Foren, Sparrow media relations director. “Not just nurses, in every area of the health system.”

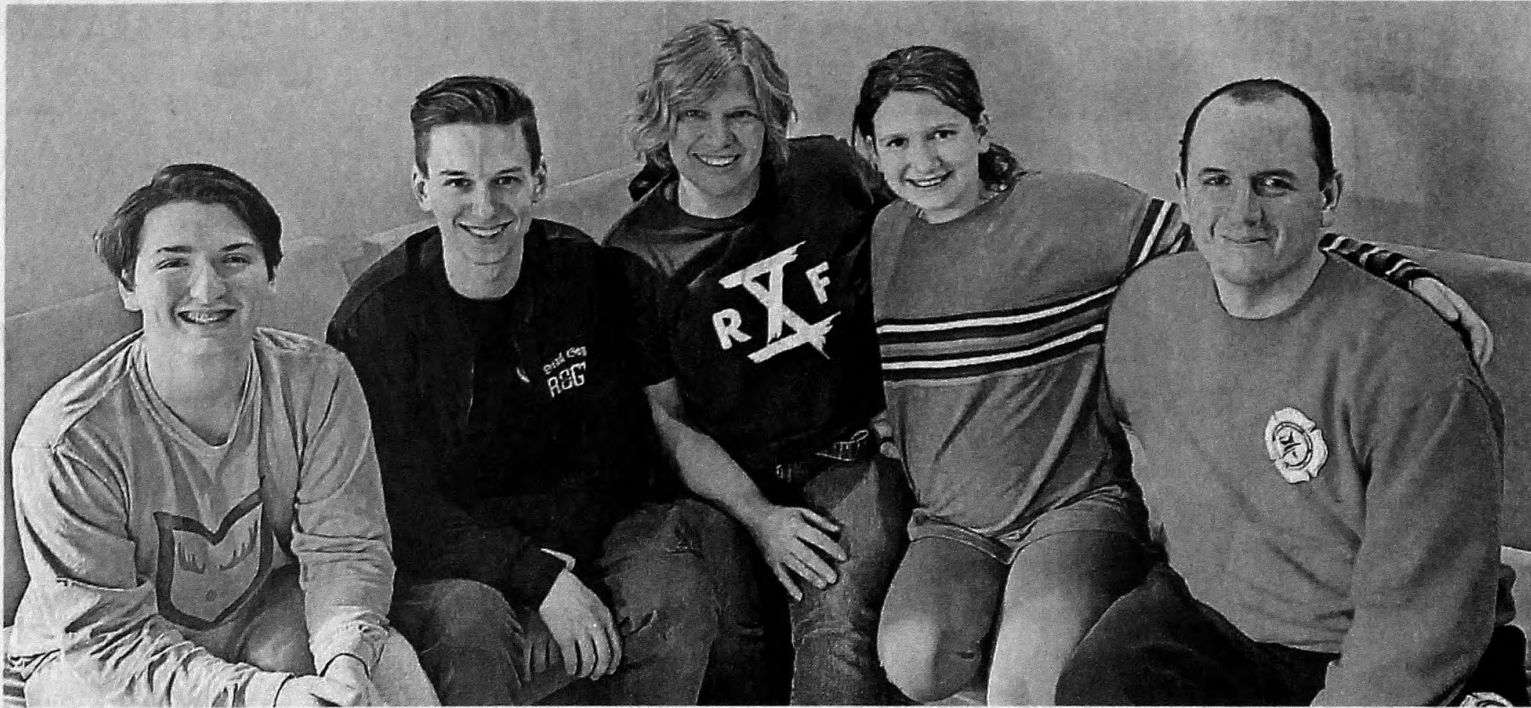
For many local nurses, leaving full-time jobs in exchange for stints at far-away hospitals was a solution to the burnout they grappled with during the pandemic.

Travel nursing pays significantly better and comes with more freedom, some nurses said. That often makes up for the impermanence that comes with each assignment, the continual adjustment to new work environments, and the occasional bout of homesickness.

“I'm in control,” said Brook, 43, who lives in Holt and worked for 20 years at Sparrow Hospital. “I can choose where I go, I can choose when I work, where I work, and that felt amazing.”

From pandemic burnout to a travel career

Before the pandemic, Brook and her husband, Jeff, agreed that travel nursing would be the perfect career for her



Katrina Brook, center, with her children, from left, Sawyer, E.J., and Sierra, and her husband Jeff at their home in Holt. Brook went into travel nursing after two decades as a full-time nurse at Sparrow Hospital. PROVIDED BY KATRINA BROOK



“I didn't expect to be financially stable at 24 years old,” travel nurse Sydne Everts, a Dansville native, said outside McLaren Hospital, where she works in the emergency room. “Last week, I was able to pay \$1,000 toward my student loans.”

MATTHEW DAE SMITH/LANSING STATE JOURNAL

after their four children graduated high school.

Quentin, 18, her oldest son, is attending Grand Valley State University. But E.J., 16, Sawyer, 14, and Sierra, 10, are at home.

Still, in July of last year, Brook, a labor and delivery nurse who had planned to retire at Sparrow, decided to continue there only on a per-diem basis and pivot to travel nursing full time.

“I was overwhelmed with COVID and everything,” Brook said. “...I think that we were all anxious about the unknowns. The policies were changing so frequently, our patient population was getting sicker and we were always short-staffed.”

Brook took on more overtime, but got burned out and exhausted, she said.

At the same time, some of her colleagues took time off, either because they had COVID-19 or their family lacked child care, Brook said.

Mays, a 25-year-old from Dansville, described similar struggles at McLaren Greater Lansing, where she worked until last fall. Workloads were heavy and nurses had to take mandatory overtime, she said.

“Staff turnover rates were high because nurses were getting burned out quickly over the pandemic,” Mays said. “I started to realize that my work-life balance was poor, so I transitioned into travel nursing seeking equilibrium...”

Meanwhile, the pandemic introduced 24-year-old Everts, also from Dansville, to travel nursing. An emergency room nurse at Ascension Providence Hospital in Southfield until February, she worked with several travel nurses there who urged her to consider it.

“Put yourself out there and just be confident in yourself, because you're a good enough nurse to do it,” they told her.

Travel nursing offers a kind of free-

dom Everts can't get working full-time at one hospital, she said.

“Just not being tied down anywhere and having the ability to change your atmosphere every couple of months if you wanted to, that was the most attractive to me,” she said.

Better pay and freedom major incentives for travel nurses

The number of full-time nurses who switched to travel jobs jumped during the pandemic. But at times, demand still outpaced supply, Fulton said.

At Travel Nurse Across America, the number of available jobs was sometimes six or seven times the average.

“It was unbelievable how many jobs there were and you just couldn't get there,” Fulton said. “There was no finding enough nurses.”

That demand drove up pay for travel nurses.

“We've had the same financial advisor for 20 years,” Brook said. “The last time I left it with him five years ago, he was like, ‘Get out of debt and then come see me. Anything we invest isn't going to equal the interest on your debt.’ This past year I went and told him ‘Oh, hey, by the way, I've tripled my salary. Can we talk about this? That was quite a moment.’”

Without any bonus money or overtime, Brook made \$40 an hour as a full-time nurse at Sparrow. Her base rate as a travel nurse is \$107 an hour. There's additional money provided to pay for food and lodging during travel stints, she said.

The money has helped Brook and her family pay off debt and enroll her husband in Lansing Community College's fire academy program.

“It has changed our trajectory for sure,” Brook said.

Everts is currently working as a travel nurse at McLaren Greater Lansing and staying with family in Dansville. In her first travel contract, the pay is “almost three times better” than it was working full-time at a hospital, she said.

The pay bump is nice, but more important to Everts is the freedom to switch hospitals, which helps her focus on patients and not get bogged down in workplace policies.

“I don't want to be tied down in politics of a job,” Everts said. “I just want to go up, do my job, focus on my patients and go home.”

Adjusting to isolation, new hospitals

Travel nursing has offered Mays the kind of lifestyle she always wanted.

“I've come from a very small town,” she said. “People always told me, ‘You're never gonna leave here,’ and I proved them wrong.”

Mays is still working through her first



Dansville resident Hailey Mays, 25, stands outside MultiCare Good Samaritan Hospital in Puyallup, Washington. Mays worked at McLaren Greater Lansing before becoming travel nurse. PROVIDED BY HAILEY MAYS

13-week contract as a travel nurse at MultiCare Good Samaritan Hospital in Puyallup, Washington. She's already extended her stay there for eight additional weeks. When she isn't working, she spends time exploring the area.

Since last July, Brook has worked at two hospitals, first in Oregon and now in Maine at a 54-bed facility.

Adjusting to a new work environment with each stint is a challenge, Brook said. Travel nurses sometimes get just one shift of orientation.

“Sparrow has their stuff together,” Brook said. “They have good policies. They have good procedures, they keep up to date, and some of these hospitals that we travel to do not always have best practices initially.”

Then there's the isolation.

“I will admit, I'm like nine months in and I'm homesick,” Brook said. “I want to come home, I want to work at Sparrow. I want to be with my friends and family, but I still have these financial goals.”

Brook talks with her husband and children every day, but says she's missing out on day-to-day moments with them. She's still required to work once a month at Sparrow and tries to visit home twice a month.

“When I'm on assignment, I work and I sleep and I work and I sleep,” she said.

Their children have adjusted to a new normal, Jeff Brook said.

“They talk to her every day when they can so it doesn't seem too bad,” he said. “Every once in a while the youngest one misses her.”

Travel nurses still part of 'staffing model'

“Before the pandemic, we had very few travel nurses compared to our current needs,” said Jeanne Bishop, Sparrow Hospital's director of nursing, in an email.

But today, there are “about 80 agency nurses helping support all inpatient units across the hospital,” Bishop said.

Dave Jones, marketing manager for McLaren Health Care, declined to provide the number of travel nurses at McLaren Greater Lansing because “usage fluctuates based on need,” he said in an email.

“While we, like the vast majority of other health care facilities, have seen our usage of travel nurses increase since the start of the pandemic, we have the utmost confidence in our staff and their prioritization of patient care and treatment, regardless of employment classification,” said McLaren Chief Nursing Officer Deborah Leblanc in an email.

Mays said the number of travel nurses is still high where she's working in Washington.

“I think the whole unit that I worked on last night was all travel nurses,” she said earlier this month.

PUBLIC NOTICE PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD

Regular Meeting
April 19, 2022
7:30 P.M.

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Interested persons may access the Conference Call by dialing: 1 651 372 8299
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Please see agenda on website www.plymouthlibrary.org
The agenda will be posted by April 15, 2022

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its Regular Meeting on April 19, 2022. The meeting will be offered electronically.

The District Library Board will provide auxiliary aids and services of materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon reasonable notice. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Shauna Anderson, Director, Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI at 734 453-0750 x 218.



The Livonia Town Hall speaker series typically draws large crowds to hear the presentations. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

Farmington High presents 'Seussical' April 28-30

Courtesy of Farmington Public Schools

Farmington High School is putting on "Seussical," a musical based on stories from Dr. Seuss.

"Seussical," by the team of Stephen Flaherty, Lynn Ahern and Eric Idle, is a family-friendly show.

The narrator, the Cat in the Hat, tells the story of Horton the Elephant who discovers a speck of dust that contains the Whos, including Jojo, a Who child sent off to military school for thinking too many "thinks."

Horton faces a double challenge: not only must he protect the Whos from a world of naysayers and dangers but he must guard an abandoned egg left in his care by Mayzie La Bird. Although Horton faces ridicule, danger, kidnapping and a trial, the intrepid Gertrude McFuzz never loses faith in him while gaining respect for herself along the way. Ultimately, the powers of friendship, loyalty, family and community are challenged.

Leading the way on stage are Caitlin Dougherty as the Cat in the Hat, Zachary Olivier as Horton the Elephant, Sierra Jade Matthews as Jojo, Gwen Richards as Gertrude McFuzz, Shreya Mishra as Mayzie LaBird, Emmett Noonan as General Genghis Khan Schmitz, Layla Bouguettaya as Sour Kangaroo, Skylar Yarbrough as Mrs. Mayor of Whoville, Destiny Wallag and Merrick Partridge as Wickershams, and Orla Smith with Vrisa Odedra and Crystal Gonzalez as Bird Girls.

The musical is directed by Dean and Sue Cobb, Lucy Koviak, Angel Gippert, Ted McDonald, Kathy Seremet and Troy Daeson. Henry Bartman and Iris MacDougall are the stage managers.

Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. April 28-30 and 2 p.m. April 30.

Reserved seating tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students and senior adults. Tickets will be available through the FHS box office at 248-888-6274 starting April 18 and at the door.

Livonia Town Hall returns after 2-year break

From Staff Reports Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Livonia Town Hall is proud to announce the 2022-23 lecture series. The upcoming season will have four dynamic and engaging speakers.

We will open the season on Oct. 19 with historian Richard Bell. On Nov. 16, the audience will be delighted by fashion historian and author, Gioia Diliberto. After a brief winter hiatus our third program will be March 15, 2023 where we will welcome back a Livonia Town Hall favorite, Elliot Engle.

New this year is an April program that will conclude the season. On April 19, 2023 we will be entertained by art critic Tina Rivers Ryan.

This year season tickets cost \$160 for regular seating and \$185 for patron seating. Individual tickets may be purchased at \$55 per program. The programs begin at 10:30 a.m., lunch will be served after the lecture and it will be followed by a short question and answer session.

You can learn more at Livoniatownhall.org or by calling 734-601-1413. To ensure that you sit at the same table as your friends, all checks and information must be submitted together at one time.

Richard Bell: 'Untold Stories of the American Revolution'

Professor of History at the University of Maryland, Richard Bell is recognized as one of the leading authorities on the American Revolution.

He will explain how the birth of the nation goes beyond the lives of Washington, Franklin and Jefferson. In his presentation he will tell the stories of the unknowns; a slave who ran off to join the war, a widow who became a Native American leader and others who helped shape our nation during its founding moments.

Gioia Diliberto: 'Coco at the Ritz'

Gioia Diliberto is the author of several critically acclaimed books about women's lives and the fashion history. She has meticulously researched her topics to bring rich historical moments to life.

Her entertaining style will show how art and fashion affect our world. "Coco at the Ritz" provides a lively, informative talk incorporating dozens of gorgeous pictures that explain how Coco Chanel became the most iconic name in fashion.

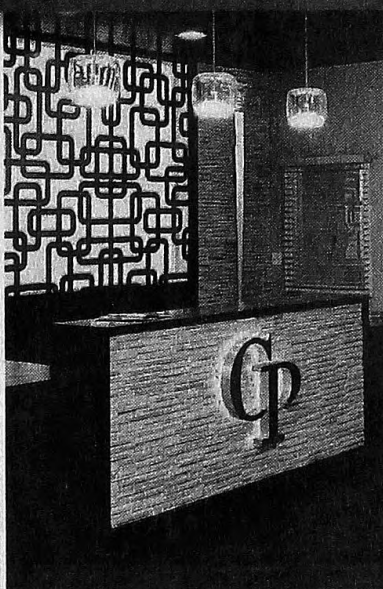
Elliot Engle

Elliot Engle will be back with another entertaining lecture. He earned his Ph.D. at UCLA, taught at Duke University, as well as the University of North Carolina. He is an author of ten books, writer of numerous magazine articles and a playwright. Now he continues to teach outside the classroom by giving dynamic historical lectures throughout the world.

Tina Rivers Ryan: 'Four Paintings Every Art Lover Should See'

An art historian by training, Tina Rivers Ryan is Assistant Curator of contemporary art at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, New York. As a public speaker and scholar, she has delivered lectures ranging from Michelangelo to Warhol. In her lecture she will explore the idea that paintings can be used as a meaningful form of communication. The paintings will come from different periods, genres and nations. Each painting has played a role in Western culture. You will gain an understanding of the history and significance of each painting and its continued relevance in our lives.

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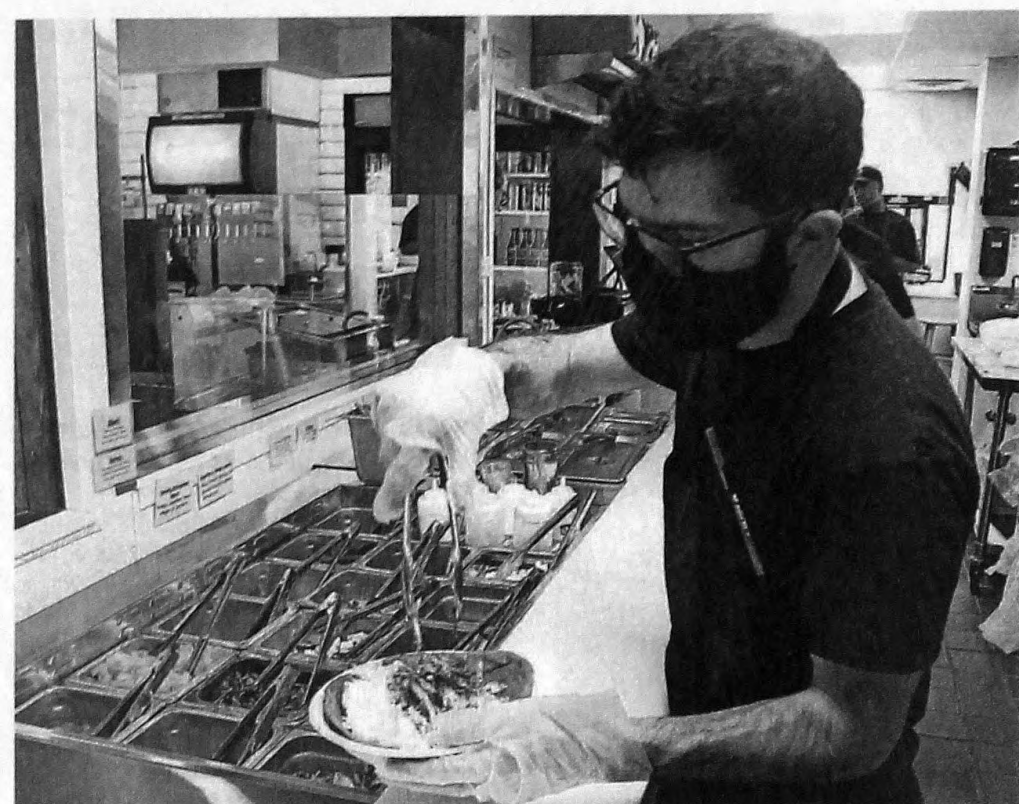
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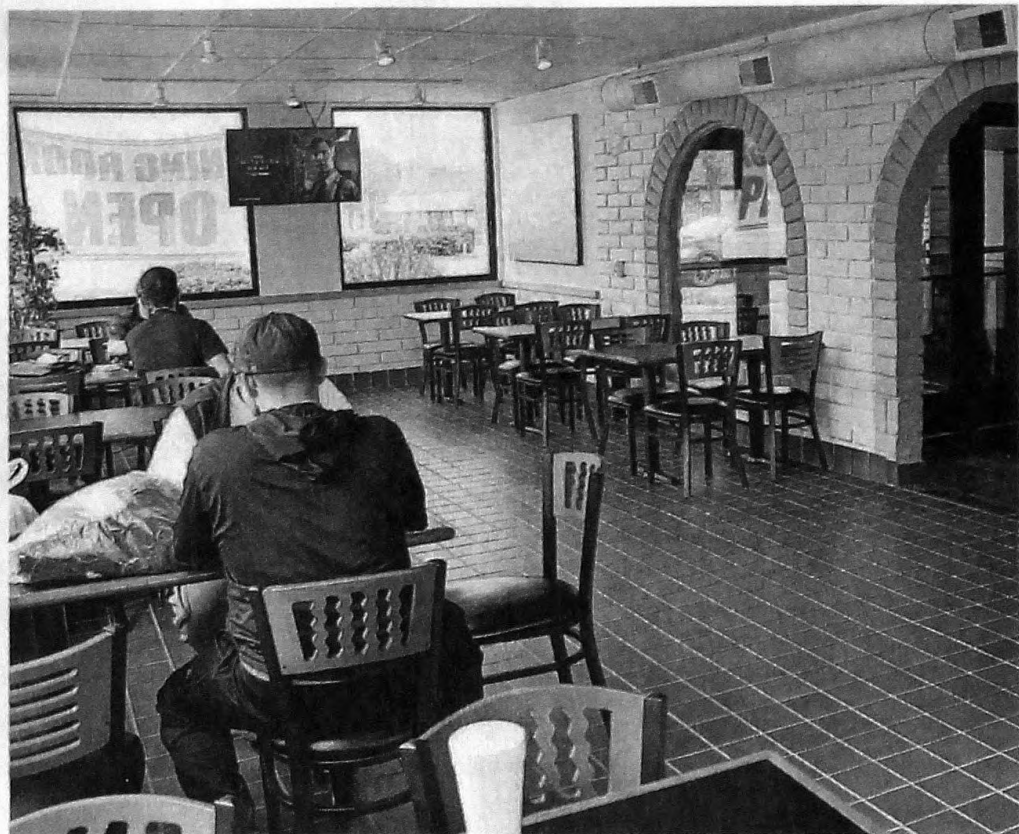
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2Booli 2Go general manager Andrew Ansara loads up a za'ater bowl at the Westland restaurant. PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



The interior dining room of 2Booli 2Go along Wayne Road.

Food

Continued from Page 1A

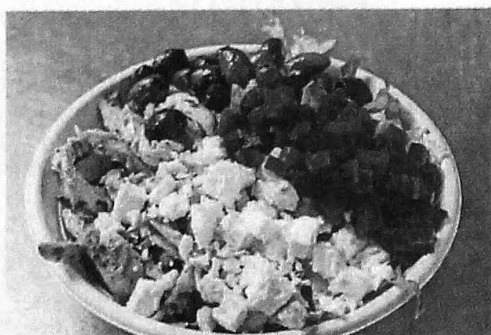
to create a dish, 2Booli 2Go also has a drive-thru. The restaurant partners with DoorDash for delivery, as well, a service that gets plenty of use.

It's just the latest restaurant for the family-owned group, which has operated eateries in Michigan for more than 60 years. After moving to the United States from Lebanon, cousins Lew and Victor Ansara said their fathers first opened a Big Boy back in 1961 in Garden City. Now, they operate many restaurants across southeast Michigan and northwest Ohio.

The restaurant's opening in late February brings a dining option back to the property, which has been vacant for some time. Victor Ansara said their idea was to use the Westland restaurant almost like a test space to see if the new concept was a viable option to roll out in other parts of metro Detroit.

More information, including a full menu, can be found at 2booli2go.com.

The restaurant is under the management of Andrew Ansara III, the nephew of the owners. The dishes are recipes



A bowl made with beets, feta cheese, olives and chicken.

he's grown up with since he was a child, and he said he was excited to lead a new family venture.

He doesn't have a specific favorite combination, he said; it's all about what he's in the mood for in the moment. But he said he believes the community will embrace the food as the word gets out of their arrival.

"There's not a thing I serve here that I don't eat for my own enjoyment," he said. "We're the best-kept secret in Westland. But not for long."

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



2Booli 2Go opened in late February.

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Game

Continued from Page 1A

The Livonia game launched March 21 at the Walmart store. Schulte said it will remain for sale so long as there's demand for it: he said the company still makes games for some cities three years after they first launch.

In addition to Livonia, he said the company has also recently released similar games for Petoskey and Alpena in northern Michigan.

Longtime Livonians will recognize many of the property names, including Schoolcraft College, Madonna University, the Kirksey Recreation Center and Rotary Park, to name a few.

Each of the city's four high schools

occupy one of the "railroad" properties, and the police and fire departments are the game's "utility" properties.

Even the game's versions of "Community Chest" and "Chance" cards have some local flavor on them, including one that states the player has eaten too many chili dogs from Daly's Drive-in or the player has come in first in the Livonia Spree pie eating contest.

Schulte said the company does not typically consult with anyone local when it comes to the property names when creating a game for a new community; he said online research is done to encourage finding more recognizable places that are more community-based rather than just typical businesses.

"We go through various ways of research. Most of it is online," he said. "We

try to go with points of interest rather than business."

Monique Wiley, general manager of the Town Peddler antique mall, said she received texts from people telling her the shop on Plymouth Road was included in the game.

She said it was an honor to be seen as an icon of Livonia, especially for a business that's been around for nearly 30 years.

"I was like, 'Wow, that's really, really cute,'" she said. "Whoever did it it was a great idea."

"Just very, very unique and very interesting that they got some of the icons of Livonia on there."

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



The historic park at Eight Mile and Newburgh has its own space on the board. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Council

Continued from Page 1A

It'll be his company's largest project to date.

"This is our first development of this size," he said. "This is my dream."

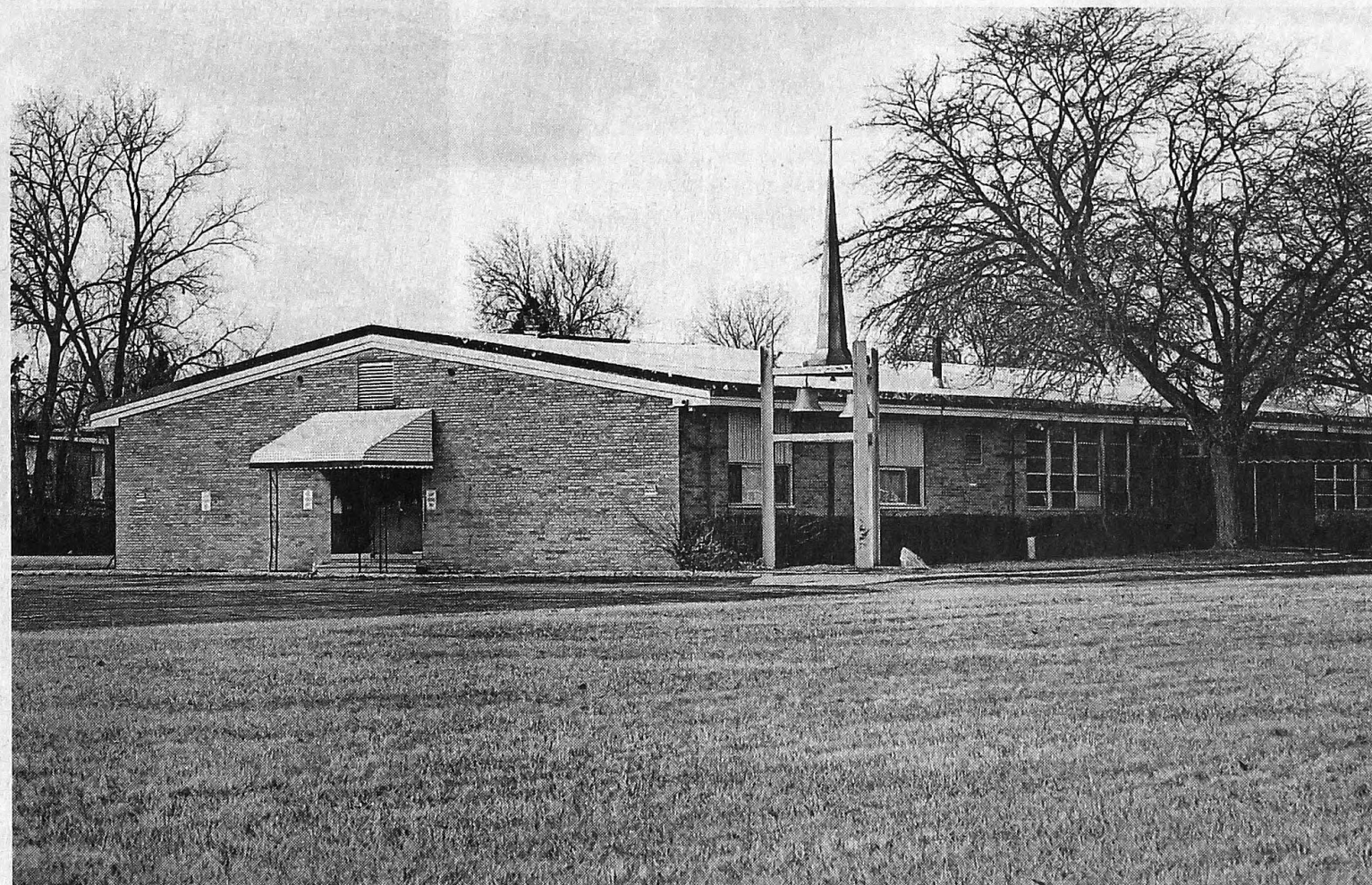
Council unanimously supported the plans, but Councilwoman Andrea Rutkowski expressed some concern about additional traffic the development may cause when partnered with Cooper Upper Elementary and homes to the west along Ann Arbor Trail. The city recently removed a traffic light on the road that Rutkowski said residents expressed concern to her about.

The development's only entrance and exit will be onto Ann Arbor Trail.

"I love the development," she said. "I think it's beautiful and am looking forward to it. I'm just worried about the traffic."

Mohammed Ayoub, the city's planning director, said 64 developments shouldn't add noticeably more traffic. The traffic light was removed because officials deemed it unnecessary.

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



The former church property at 31463 Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Obituaries

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Mollie Galate

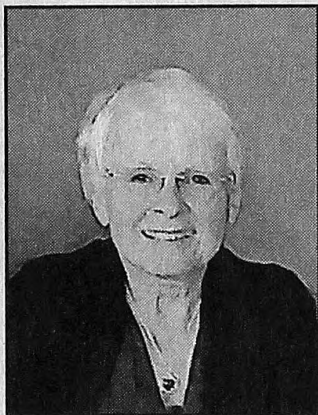
Mollie Galate, 72 of Redford Mi

Cherished wife, loving mother, beloved daughter, fun-loving sister, and fierce friend. Mollie's arduous battle with pancreatic cancer ended on March 14, 2022. Mollie loved and nurtured animals of all kinds, she enjoyed hunting for just the right rock on the shores of Lake Superior and she spent every spare drop of time outdoors. Mollie always had a bag packed for her next grand adventure. Between trips, as they were trips and not vacations ("you can sleep at home"), she enjoyed lazy afternoons with her friends coloring intricate mandalas and countless hours of talking politics. Mollie loved getting lost in a good book and passed on her passion for reading by working as a full-time volunteer librarian at Roosevelt Elementary School, where she granted children access to books they may not have had access to otherwise. Mollie was also a volunteer turned employee at Seedlings Braille Books for Children where she learned to transcribe written words into braille and where she impacted the lives of countless braille readers and workers turned friends for over 25 years. Mollie quenched her thirst for history with other American Civil War enthusiasts in the Michigan Military Round Table for many adventure-filled years- she served as secretary and helped plan the trips to a plethora of battlefields across the United States.

Mollie is survived by her husband of 51 years Sam Galate, her daughter Courtney Galate and her son-in-law Adam Ostrowski. She is survived by her sisters Adele (Charles) Roney and Jeanine Courtney (Don) Clark. Mollie is predeceased by her parents Donald and Betty Courtney. Mollie also leaves behind countless friends whom she considered family. Mollie is and will forever be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Please join us for Mollie's Mingle on Sunday, March 27 from 2-6pm at Harry J Wills Funeral Home in Livonia, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Seedlings Braille Books for Children or Pound Pals Downriver.



Gerald Stuewer (Jerry) Matz

BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Gerald Stuewer Matz (Jerry) born on Christmas Day 1930, died quietly at his home on February 18, 2022, shortly after a cancer recurrence. Jerry was proud of many things, including living his entire life within a few miles of Detroit, where he was born. A regular during warmer months at the Eastern Market in Detroit and in later years at the Pontiac Farmers Market, Jerry often said that he expressed his love through his cooking for family and friends. He hosted his last Thanksgiving dinner in 2021 complete with turkey and oyster stuffing and pecan tarts. He cultivated a crop of tomatoes and an herb garden every year, canned quantities of dill pickles and peaches, and baked sourdough bread long before it became a thing during the pandemic. He was a voracious reader, of both library books and the New York Times, until the end. Jerry excelled at his many hobbies, including woodworking, fishing on the Maple River in Michigan, bird hunting with his many dogs, and completing the NYT crossword daily. As a lifelong liberal

Democrat who worked on the campaigns of McGovern and Stevenson he would happily debate politics with all who dared.

Jerry worked most of his career at Campbell Ewald, on advertising campaigns related to the automobile industry, most proudly the Chevrolet account (including the memorable "Baseball, Hot Dogs, Apple Pie and Chevrolet" campaign). Many of his beloved lifelong friends he met through his work in advertising.

He loved art, and especially in his later years was always up for a walk through the grounds at Cranbrook. Jerry always focused on his family. He was the son of Helen Stuewer of Howard City Michigan and Carl Matz of Detroit. He was predeceased by his 2 brothers, Dick and Tom. Jerry married Carol Elizabeth Beebe on April 22, 1961, and together raised 3 children, Gretchen Matz Livingston (David) of Evanston, Illinois, and Jenny Matz Sykes (Tom) of Flossmoor, Illinois and Bob Matz (Jennifer) of Clawson, Michigan.

Jerry and his family lost Carol far too young. Jerry, Carol and family were long-time residents of Birmingham Michigan. In his later years, Jerry shared his home in Bloomfield Hills with his long-time companion, Corky Simpson, who died in 2020. In addition to Gretchen, Jenny, and Bob, Jerry was very proud of his 5 grandchildren, Nathan and Clara Livingston, and Emily, Avery and Eliza Sykes. He was also a proud Uncle to many.

A private memorial will be held. Contributions can be made in his honor to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.



May you find peace
in this time of sorrow.

Plush toy returned to child after adventure

Emma Stein Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Austin was accidentally lost by his family at Detroit Metro Airport in early March. He was sitting near the water fountain in the middle of the McNamara Terminal March 4 when Commerce Township resident Mary Joyce found him.

Austin, a stuffed animal, was left behind in the often stressful craze of airport travel. Through the power of social media, Joyce was able to return the beloved toy cow to its rightful owner, a baby named Rae from Ohio.

"I have seven kids and my two sons are both autistic, and they are very, very attached to their plushies," said Joyce, 51. "I know what would happen in my life if either of them lost their stuffed animals, so I picked him up."

She went to a nearby gate where airport personnel made a lost and found announcement over the loudspeaker, but no one came to claim Austin. Joyce walked around the airport with him, hoping someone would see the cow, until her flight to New York.

Although she had no success at the airport, she was determined not to give up, and Austin became her travel companion. The pilot on her flight thought it was funny and took a picture with the stuffed cow, which led to Joyce creating an Instagram account for Austin.

And then everything exploded. The DTW Facebook account posted about it, hoping to find its real owner, in a post that now has more than 12,000 shares.

Six days after Austin was left behind, Rae's mom saw it and commented on the post.

"I saw someone said, 'This is mine; this is my daughter's favorite toy, and we were devastated,'" said Joyce, who contacted the commenter right away.

"The mother texted me immediately and texted me pictures of her daughter with the cow. There had been a few people who had said, 'Oh, this is mine,' but I kind of knew they were fibbing. I don't know how I knew it, but I just knew. I was very positive that this was this cow's family."

And so Joyce packed up Austin and sent him back to his family.



Austin the toy cow posing with a pilot at Detroit Metro Airport.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY MARY JOYCE

A lot of strangers wouldn't pick up a random stuffed animal from an airport and spend days trying to find its owner. Joyce said she never second-guessed her goal.

If the family had packed the toy cow while trying to travel light, it must have meant a lot to the child, she said.

"I kind of know if a parent brings an animal like that to an airport, there's a reason for it," Joyce said. "And if the kid loses it, it can be a crisis."

Joyce had no idea that her mission to reunite a kid with a stuffed animal would be so popular, but she's so happy that it did.

"I was shocked," she said. "I'm just glad it worked. I'm glad we got it home, and I'm glad the baby was happy to get back because, like I said, I know what it's like."

Rae's family sent Joyce a brand new stuffed cow, so she can keep up the Instagram account.

"It's the exact same cow, it has arrived at my house and he will now be my traveling companion."



Austin the toy cow in a plane seat.

"There had been a few people who had said, 'Oh, this is mine,' but I kind of knew they were fibbing. I don't know how I knew it, but I just knew. I was very positive that this was this cow's family."

Mary Joyce

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SPORTS

Country Day girls basketball coach leaving

Jerica Williams sent team to two final fours

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

In just two seasons, Jerica Williams led the Detroit Country Day girls basketball team to back-to-back trips to the Division 2 state semifinal at Michigan State.

Now it's time for her to return home. And, no, we're not talking about the

Breslin Center, where she continues to take her teams.

Williams told Hometown Life that she has stepped down at Country Day. She'll be returning to California to take over the Windward School's varsity program in Los Angeles.

Windward School made Williams'

See **COACH**, Page 2B



Detroit County Day girls basketball head coach Jerica Williams is stepping down to take over a varsity program in Los Angeles. ERIC SEALS/DETROIT FREE PRESS

Michigan Panthers return



Former USFL Michigan Panthers Jeff Wiska, left, USFL Denver Gold player Dave Smilom, Novo Bojovic, and his wife Lynda (who was a Panther cheerleader) meet up on Northville High's football field March 12. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

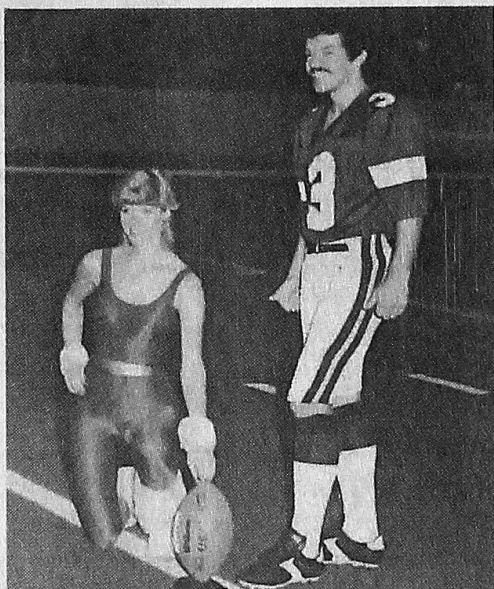
USFL alumni relive pro football memories

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

On a recent snowy afternoon in Northville, nearly four decades since they defied a United States Football League rule that discouraged players and cheerleaders from mingling, Novo and Lynda Bojovic shared memories of their Michigan Panthers days, the wedding bands secured on their ring fingers signifying 38 years of marriage.

A freshly-graduated defensive back at Eastern Michigan University and rising corporate star at IBM, Dave Smilo followed his dream of playing

See **MEMORIES**, Page 3B



Above, Lynda Bojovic holds the ball for future husband Novo Bojovic in the summer of 1983. At right, Novo and Lynda recreate the photo. COURTESY OF NOVO BOJOVIC; JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



MHSAA changing postseason classification numbers for 2023-24

Geoff Kimmerly
MHSAA.com

Classifications for Michigan High School Athletic Association elections and postseason tournaments for the 2022-23 school year have been announced, with enrollment breaks for postseason tournaments posted to each sport's page on the MHSAA Website.

Classifications for the upcoming school year are based on a second-semester count date, which for MHSAA purposes was Feb. 9. The enrollment figure submitted for athletic classification purposes may be different from the count submitted for school aid purposes, as it does not include students ineligible for athletic competition because they reached their 19th birthday prior to September 1 of the current school year and will not include alternative education students if none are allowed athletic eligibility by the local school district.

All sports tournaments are conducted with schools assigned to equal or nearly equal divisions, with lines dependent on how many schools participate in those respective sports.

For 2022-23, there are 750 tournament-qualified member schools. Schools recently were notified of their classification, and sport-by-sport divisions were posted to the MHSAA Website today (March 28). MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said schools may not subsequently lower their enrollment figure. However, if revised enrollment figures are higher and indicate that a school should be playing in a higher division, that school would be moved up.

Traditional classes (A, B, C, D) - formerly used to establish tournament

See **NUMBERS**, Page 2B

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Coach

Continued from Page 1B

hiring publicly known March 20.

"After 2 years of serving as the head coach of the DCDS girls basketball program, I have made the tough decision to return home to southern California where I will serve as the girls basketball program head coach at Windward School," wrote Williams, who played college basketball at both UCLA and San Diego State, in an email to Hometown Life. "Prior to my hiring just 2 years ago at Detroit Country Day, I understood the role of head coach for this program is among the most aspired positions not just in the state of Michigan but all of girls high school basketball across the country.

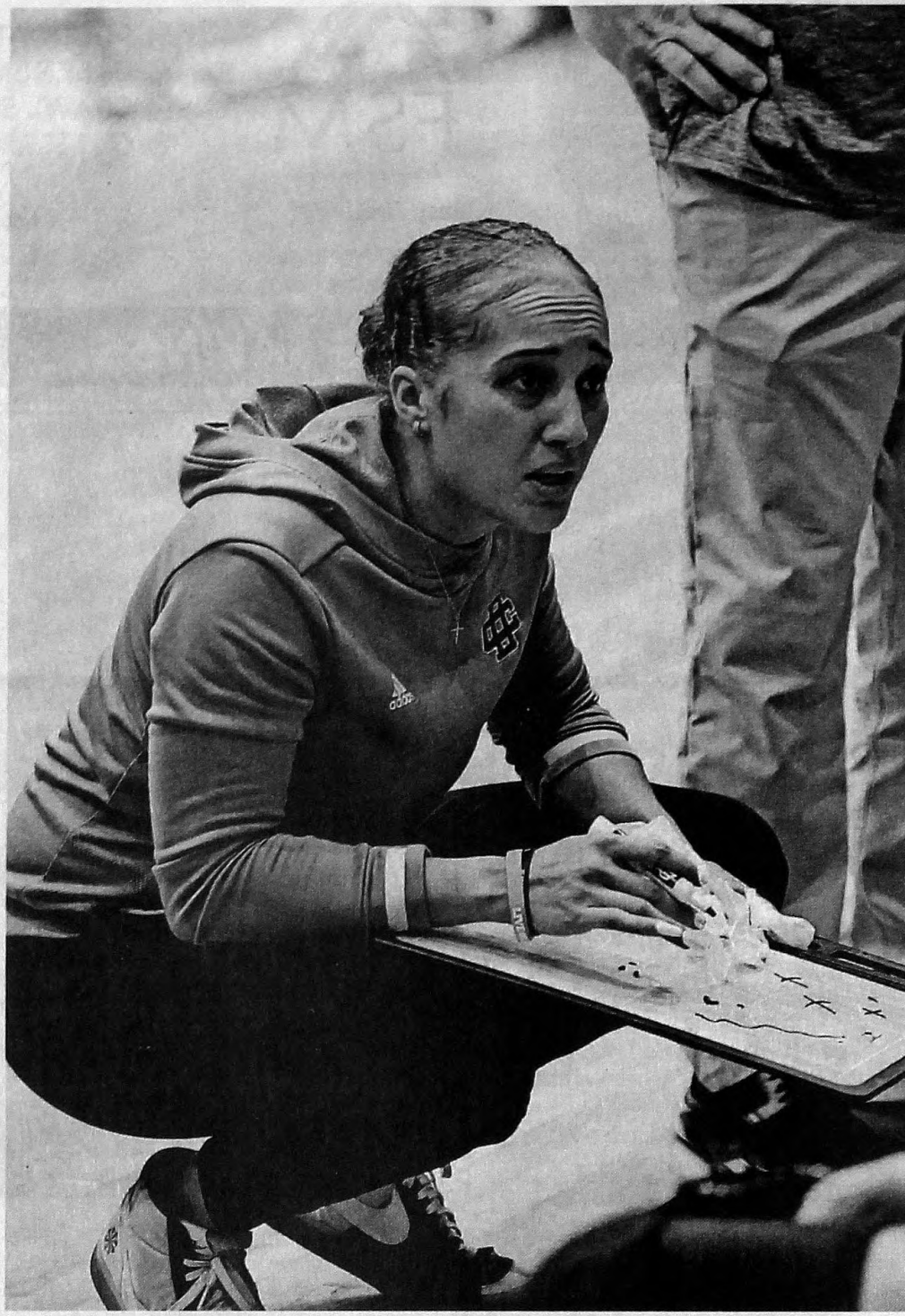
"In what would be my first head coaching position, I took a leap of faith moving across the country where I knew no one but my son. We packed up our car and headed east. I held tight to the basketball knowledge I had acquired from so many of my previous coaches and a vision for the future of DCDS girls basketball. While I felt equipped and ready to lead this program, I knew there was so much more to learn. My only hope was that I would enter into a community that would welcome me, trust me and buy into my vision for the future of the girls basketball program."

Williams certainly got the buy-in from her players and the surrounding community.

She inherited a Yellowjackets team that had won just two games a year following the 2019 retirement of legendary coach Frank Orlando, who won 13 state titles at Country Day and is still to do this day the all-time winningest coach in Michigan High School Athletic Association history with a career record of 797-126.

What's more, there were no future Division I college basketball players on the roster when she took over. In fact, the team's best players were almost entirely underclassmen. This past year, she led the Yellowjackets to a 13-8 record despite not having a single senior or a player with traditional power-forward or center height.

In two seasons, she amassed a record of 28-11, won two pairs of district and regional championships and sent the Yellowjackets to MSU for the final four



Detroit Country Day girls basketball coach Jerica Williams talks to her players in a timeout break during the Division 2 state quarterfinal against Marysville on March 15 at Detroit Mercy's Calihan Hall. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

twice. She was named the Coach of the Year by both the Associated Press and the Detroit Free press after her first season.

This past weekend, Country Day fell to Grand Rapids West Catholic in the state semifinal, just one game away from making it to the state championship.

The best part about her departure is

she has them set up to make a third-straight trip to the Breslin with the number of talented juniors and sophomores they're expected to return. Among them are guards Emma Arico and Aysia Yokeley, small forward Jaidyn Elam and forward Ari'Yana Wiggins.

That's not a bad job for a Californian walking into an unfamiliar situation without any previous head coaching ex-

perience.

"On Day 1, I met a group of wide-eyed freshmen, a couple of sophomores and one senior, who would eventually grow to become back-to-back final four finalists," Williams wrote. "From the beginning, we never talked about the end. We focused on building a foundation together, brick by brick, and focused on the process. We would get to know each other, learn how to fight through adversity as a team, grow to genuinely love each other, and we became a family.

"My only goal, whether it be at DCDS or anywhere else, is to leave an impact. I coach because I want to be the woman that I needed when I was their age. Not a mother, not a sister, but a positive role model who can assist in providing another safe space for them to strive to be the best versions of themselves. I hope all of my players know the sincere love I have for each of them, a love that far exceeds the basketball court. They have all left an impact on me, transforming who I am as a coach, teacher, mother and woman."

Windward School was excited about bringing back Williams to Los Angeles.

"I am thrilled to welcome Jerica Williams to the Windward Community," Windward School athletic director Tyrone Powell wrote in a release to the Los Angeles Times. "Jerica has a passion for coaching, and equally important, she has a passion for mentoring young people to be the best version of themselves possible. Our girls basketball scholar-athletes share the excitement of welcoming Jerica as they expressed their support shortly after spending time with her. She will take over a program filled with scholar-athletes who want to be coached, are passionate about their roles, believe in each other and have demonstrated their grit and resilience."

Windward School battled COVID-19-related problems this past season while it also went through a mid-season coaching change. However, it managed to win a CIF-State Southern Division 1 regional championship.

Now Williams will look to turn that regional title into at least a final-four appearance next season at her new job.

While she will likely never send another team back to MSU, she'll always have a place in Michigan she once called home, the place where her head coaching career started, right there on 13 Mile and Lahser roads.

Twitter: @folsombrandonj.

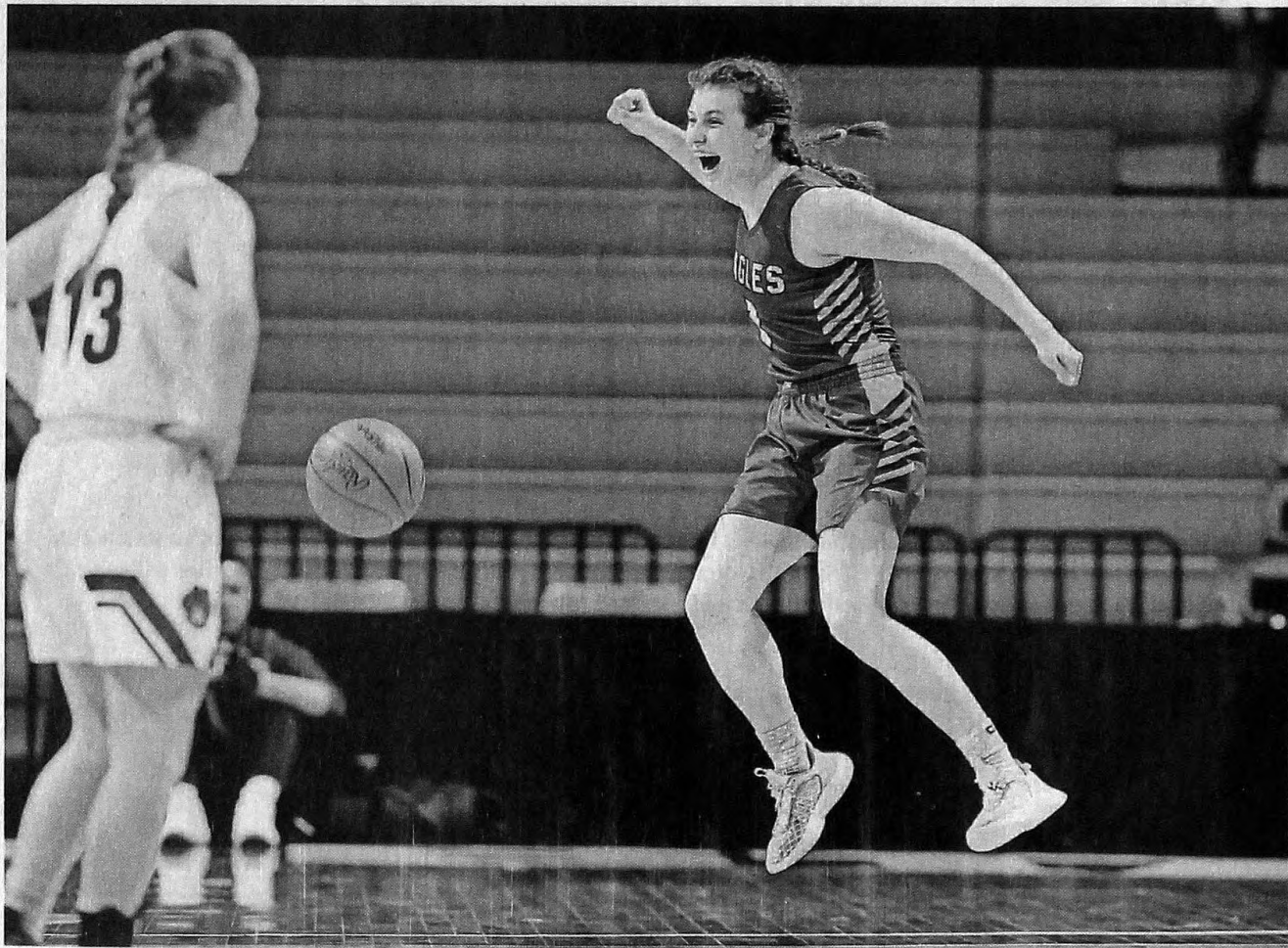
Numbers

Continued from Page 1B

classifications – are used only for MHSAA elections. To determine traditional classifications, after all counts are submitted, tournament-qualified member schools are ranked according to enrollment and then split as closely into quarters as possible. For 2022-23, there are 187 member schools in Class A and Class C and 188 member schools in Class B and Class D.

Effective with the 2022-23 school year, schools with 814 or more students are in Class A. The enrollment limits for Class B are 388-813, Class C is 183-387, and schools with enrollments of 182 and fewer are Class D. The break between Classes A and B decreased 21 students from 2021-22, the break between Classes B and C decreased 11 students, and the break between Classes C and D is six students fewer than for the 2021-22 school year.

The new classification breaks will see 32 schools move up in Class for 2022-23 while 24 schools will move down.



Plymouth Christian Academy's Anna Fernandez celebrates as time expires against Lenewee Christian on March 17 in East Lansing. The school is moving from Class D to Class C in the MHSAA's new postseason classification numbers for 2023-24.

AL GOLDIS/FOR THE LANSING STATE JOURNAL

New MHSAA classifications

Moving up from Class B to Class A

- Battle Creek Harper Creek
- Cadillac
- Detroit Henry Ford
- New Boston Huron
- Owosso
- Plainwell
- Sault Ste. Marie
- Sparta
- Spring Lake

Moving down from Class A to Class B

- Dearborn Divine Child
- Detroit East English
- Detroit Martin Luther King
- Fowlerville
- Garden City**
- Marysville
- Pinckney

Moving up from Class C to Class B

- Adrian Madison
- Blissfield
- Brooklyn Columbia Central
- Buchanan
- Canton Prep**
- Clinton Township Clintondale
- Dearborn Heights Star International
- Detroit Voyageur College Prep
- Elk Rapids
- Grayling
- Hart
- Quincy
- Sanford Meridian

Moving down from Class B to Class C

- Benzie Central
- Coloma
- Comstock
- Detroit Communication Media Arts
- Ecorse

- Jonesville
- Michigan Center
- Otisville Lakeville Memorial
- Shelby
- Watervliet

Moving up from Class D to Class C

- Bellevue
- Plymouth Christian Academy**
- Eau Claire
- Fowler
- Indian River Inland Lakes
- Ironwood
- Jackson Prep
- Muskegon Heights Academy
- New Buffalo
- Ubly

Moving down from Class C to Class D

- Adrian Lenawee Christian
- Breckenridge

- Detroit Benjamin Carson Science & Medicine
- Grand Traverse Academy
- Lawrence
- Rogers City
- Warren Michigan Math & Science

New postseason-eligible tournament schools in 2022-23

- Escanaba Holy Name Catholic
- Farmington Hills Huda School**
- Center Line Prep
- Battle Creek Academy

Enrollment breaks by classes – 2022-23

- Class A: 814 and above (187 schools)
 - Class B: 388 – 813 (188)
 - Class C: 183 – 387 (187)
 - Class D: 182 and below (188)
- Schools in bold are local to the Hometown Life area.

Memories

Continued from Page 1B

professional football in fall 1982 to a USFL tryout camp at Chicago's Soldier Field. The tryout attracted more than 800 fellow dreamers and a handful of league executives, coaches and scouts who were looking for a needle (i.e. pro football-caliber talent) in a haystack.

Smilo, it turned out, was the needle. And Livonia resident Tama Smith beat the odds by making the Michigan Panthers' inaugural cheerleading squad in 1983, setting the stage for some unforgettable — and at least one laugh-out-loud — experiences.

The original USFL — a reboot of which is returning in April following a 37-year hiatus — lasted just three seasons (1983-85), but manufactured good football, fond memories and a commodity Northville resident Jeff Wiska didn't find in his stints with two other professional football leagues (the National Football League and Arena Football League).

"More than any other professional league I played in, the USFL was flat out fun," said Wiska, who sandwiched two stints with the NFL's New York Giants around his two-year career with the Michigan Panthers and one season with the Oakland Invaders. "It was a fun time, a fun league, and we had a great following.

"The USFL was about the sport of football and the game of football, not so much about the business of football like the NFL."

Michigan Panthers kicker, cheerleader meeting was 'destiny'

In spring 1983, Columbiaville resident Genny Stier was watching an episode of "Kelly & Company" when she found out that the soon-to-debut USFL's Michigan franchise was holding open tryouts for cheerleaders at the Pontiac Silverdome. Stier shared the news with her daughter Lynda, a former cheerleader and gymnast who was a student at Macomb Community College.

"I still remember getting out of my car in the Silverdome parking lot thinking, 'Should I even be here?'" Lynda (Stier) Bojovic recounted, smiling. "I found out about the tryouts two days before and I hadn't been working out a lot."

Stier's doubts were quickly vanquished as she survived three rigorous rounds of tryouts that whittled the number of prospects from over 600 to the final 36.

Novo Bojovic, a four-year starting kicker at Central Michigan University (1979-82), was selected by Michigan in the third round of the USFL's territorial draft. He was a key player in the Panthers' ascension to the league's first championship game set for July 17, 1983, in Denver, Colorado (the Panthers defeated the Philadelphia Stars, 24-22), leading the team with 103 points scored.

"A few days before we left for Denver, there was a pep rally at Hart Plaza in downtown Detroit," Bojovic recalled. "I was one of the players — Anthony Carter, Bobby Hebert and David Greenwood were a few of the others, if I recall correctly — who was going to be escorted to the stage by two cheerleaders. When I looked over to see which two cheerleaders were going to be my escorts, I wasn't too impressed."

Bojovic laughed heartily at the memory.

"When I looked back, I saw (Lynda's) beautiful eyes and approached her to see if she would be my escort," he continued. "She said, 'Oh, I'd love to!' Lynda was on my right side and to this day I don't remember who was on my left side."

Ignoring the USFL's player/cheerleader no-mingling mandate, the couple started dating and quickly fell in love — a development that did not go unnoticed by Panthers executives.

"I was working for Cadillac at the (1984) Detroit Autoshow and a member of the Panthers public relations staff approached me and informed me I wouldn't be able to try out again because of my relationship with Novo," Lynda Bojovic said. "Honestly, I wasn't going to try out again anyway."

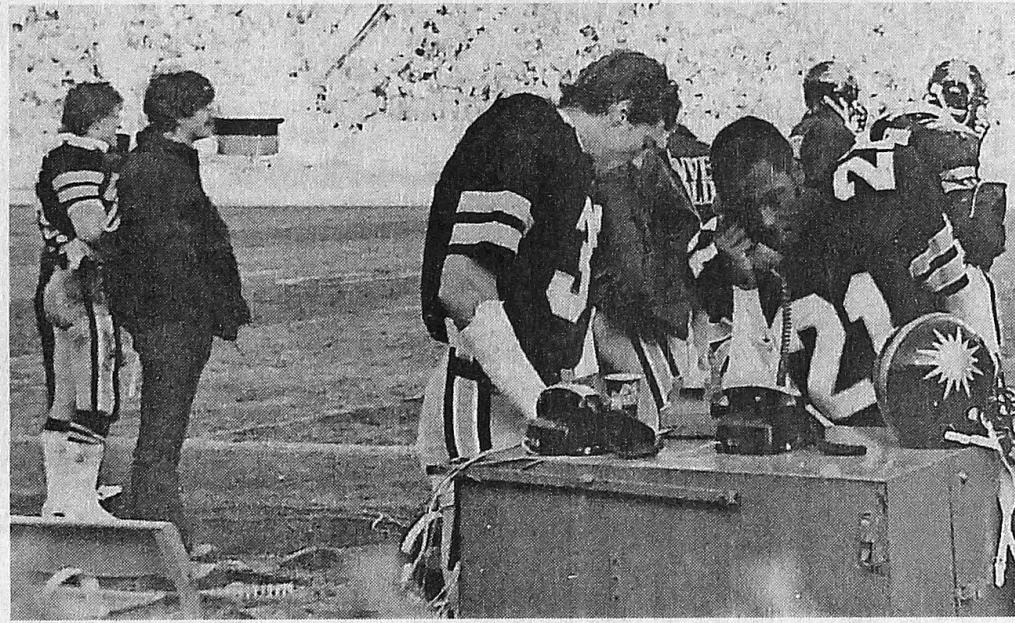
Due in part to their families' contrasting cultures and backgrounds — Novo was born and raised in Podgorica, Montenegro, Lynda in rural Lapeer County — the couple decided to elope, setting March 5, 1984, as their wedding date.

"A couple weeks before our wedding, Novo was being interviewed by a Detroit Free Press reporter and he told the reporter about our plans," Lynda Bojovic said. "So, my dad's reading the Free Press one day and that's how my parents found out about our upcoming wedding."

Thirty-eight years later, the Bojovics have two grown children, three grandchildren and an everlasting gratitude for the USFL.



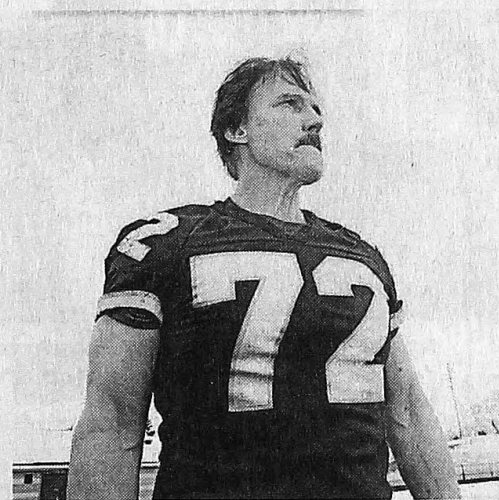
Michigan Panther kicker Novo Bojovic jokes around with fellow USFL alumni Dave Smilo, left and Jeff Wiska as he tells the story about how he tried to take on Herschel Walker after one of his kick-offs. According to Bojovic he thought he had a bead on Walker, but the 6'1" running back knocked him about 10 feet backward. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Dave Smilo (center) stands on the Denver Gold sidelines with teammate David Dumars (21), the brother of Detroit Pistons great Joe Dumars. At far left is longtime Utah head coach Kyle Whittingham. COURTESY OF DAVE SMILO



Livonia resident Tama Smith (far left) was a Michigan Panthers cheerleader for two of the franchise's three years in the mid-1980s. COURTESY OF TAMA SMITH



Forty years after starting in the USFL as a guard for the Michigan Panthers, Jeff Wiska can still fit into his jersey.



Former USFL Michigan Panther place kicker Novo Bojovic stands on the field of Northville High's football stadium.

"A few months before (Panthers) coach (Jim) Stanley passed away (Jan. 12, 2012), I visited him because I knew he was very ill," Novo Bojovic said. "I thanked him because he was the one who gave me my first opportunity to play professional football and, ultimately, led to me meeting my wife, having a family. I'll be forever thankful for the Michigan Panthers."

"It was destiny," Lynda added, as Novo planted a playful kiss on her cheek.

From IBM engineer to USFL starter

Although a free agent tryout with the Miami Dolphins in summer 1982 didn't lead to a training camp invitation, Smilo retained an agent: Dr. David Ping, who still represents NFL players from his office in Saline.

Just 24 years old, Smilo was entrenched as a much-admired systems engineer at IBM's Detroit headquarters, but his desire to play professional football was stronger than ever.

"Dr. Ping told me about a USFL tryout camp in Chicago, so I road-tripped it down there with a couple of former teammates," remembered Smilo, a resident of Plymouth. "There must have been 800 guys there — everyone from homeless guys running 40-yard dashes in their street shoes to a lot of really good athletes."

"I was in the best shape of my life, so I go in there and run a 4.5 40 and had a standing vertical jump of 36 inches. A couple of the coaches who were looking on were like, 'Huh?' I don't think they were expecting those kind of numbers

out of me."

The orchestrators of the tryout asked 20 defensive backs (including Smilo), 30 wide receivers and five or six quarterbacks to stay after the initial camp to display their specific football skills, Smilo said.

Smilo excelled during the skills-specific drills, igniting an impromptu meeting with Deke Pollard, a coach for the Denver Gold.

"Deke told me the Chicago Blitz were going to offer me a contract, but they had a stacked defensive backfield with all former NFL guys, so they wouldn't even give me a chance to get to training camp," Smilo said. "He said the Denver Gold would give me a legitimate chance to make the roster, but first I had to get released by the Michigan Panthers who owned my territorial rights."

Following Pollard's advice, Smilo attended the Panthers' tryout and strategically ran a modest 4.9 40, ensuring his release.

Smilo made the Gold's 1983 roster and excelled in eight games, mostly as a special-teams player, before being traded to the Birmingham Stallions, for whom he earned a starting spot late in the season.

"Following the 1983 season, the Stallions didn't protect me, but I was selected by the Houston Gamblers in the 1984 expansion draft," Smilo explained. "Unfortunately, I was one of the last three players cut by the Gamblers. Getting released hurt a great deal because I loved playing football, but the experience I had in the USFL was absolutely priceless."

Reason to cheer for this Michigan Panther

With just one year of cheerleading experience on her resume, Tama Smith outlasted close to 600 other hopefuls during the Michigan Panthers' inaugural season tryouts.

"I was a dancer since I was 3 years old, so that obviously helped," revealed the Livonia resident, whose lone pre-Panthers cheerleading gig was in 1982 with the American Soccer League's Detroit Express.

Smith said the cheerleaders practiced three or four times a week and their weekly game checks were \$30.

"We actually made more — I believe about \$100 — for promotional events we attended with some of the players," said Smith, who manages Livonia-based live cover band Power Play. "Obviously, we weren't in it for the money. The games were exciting. There were big crowds, and the team was really good."

One of Smith's fondest Panthers memories was the lone regular-season road game the cheerleaders were allowed to attend in Chicago.

On the eve of the Blitz-Panthers game, Smith and four of her teammates rented a car and explored the Windy City's nightlife.

"I remember us walking down Rush Street and men were buying us champagne," she said. "Before we knew it, it was getting late. I volunteered to drive us back to the hotel, but we got lost. There wasn't GPS or MapQuest in 1983."

Smith remembers pulling into the hotel parking lot the morning of the game as the rest of the cheerleading squad was loading onto the bus that would take them to Soldier Field.

"We performed that day with zero sleep," Smith said, chuckling, "but the Panthers won, so we did our job."

Before departing an interview on the fringes of the Northville High School football field, the USFL alums were asked if it seemed like 40 years since the league kicked off.

They all smiled and shook their heads in unison.

"Seems like just yesterday," Bojovic said, flashing a million-dollar grin. "I feel like I could still go out there and do it!"

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Jobs Are Plentiful Across the Nation 10 States Hit Highest Job Openings Rates in Their History

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There are 11.3 million job openings nationwide, and the U.S. labor market is tighter than ever, according to the Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey report released last week. Yesterday's state-level report provides greater insight into exactly where those job openings are concentrated and where businesses are facing the steepest hiring challenges.

For the first time on record, job openings exceed the number of unemployed people in every state. California, with 0.96 unemployed people per opening, has the "slackest" labor market nationwide. Historically, there have been 2.4 unemployed people per opening nationwide, so the California job market is still unusually tight.

1. Maine and New Hampshire have the highest concentration of job opportunities across the nation.

In January, with an 8.8% job openings rate, Maine and New Hampshire were punching above their weight when it came to generating opportunity. They recorded the

highest job openings rates in the nation—2.8% percentage points higher than the national average of 7.0%.

Jobs are plentiful across the nation. Including Maine and New Hampshire, ten states hit their highest rate of job openings in their history: Connecticut (6.7%), Delaware (7.9%), Illinois (7.6%), Minnesota (8.1%), Nebraska (7.8%), New Mexico (7.7%), Pennsylvania (8.3%), and Tennessee (7.6%).

The need for drivers, teachers, and retail workers is particularly acute in those states, and

continues to rise.

2. Nebraska and Utah have the tightest job markets in the country.

Businesses in Nebraska and Utah are facing the toughest odds when it comes to finding candidates. There are currently 3.6 job openings per unemployed person in Nebraska and 3.5 in Utah, making it especially challenging for companies to fill vacancies.

Labor force participation is slowly recovering, but many people remain reluctant to reenter the workforce

to concern about workplace health and safety and childcare challenges, among other factors.

3. Despite hiring challenges, employment levels have fully recovered in 19 states.

Utah's labor market recovery is well ahead of the curve. 4% more people are employed in the state now than before the pandemic. It is among 19 states which have recovered all jobs lost at the start of the pandemic.

New York and Vermont are lagging behind due to a slow recovery in the leisure and hospitality industry. However, downtown businesses in both states are likely to see business pick up as workers return to offices.

On the other hand, labor force participation is down in almost every state. Two years into the pandemic, there are only four states (Delaware, Alaska, Oregon, and Wisconsin) where labor force participation has recovered. The talent shortage will only deepen unless the labor force participation recovery picks up soon.



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Engineering & IT

American Axle & Manufacturing has openings for Senior Software Engineers at the company's facility in Detroit, Michigan.

Job duties include:

1. Responsible for design, development and testing of software components including flashable bootloaders
2. Develop and configure AUTOSAR components
3. Develop low level embedded software drivers including complex device drivers
4. Debug software issues using Lauterbach debuggers
5. Create detailed designs to link the software implementation to the requirements
6. Develop software code in C to implement the software design
7. Conduct unit and integration tests to validate the software implementation
8. Utilize CAN and UDS protocols to develop, test, and diagnose the embedded software
9. Develop software to an ISO 26262 ASIL C/D level
10. Support issue analysis and corrective action definitions
11. Develop software in an ASPICE compliant process.

Position requires: Bachelor's Degree in Electronic Engineering, or related engineering field, or foreign equivalent education, and 3 years of experience working in the automotive software development field. 3 years experience is required in each of the following:

1. Working with C programming
2. Working with AUTOSAR components and configuration tools
3. Developing low level embedded software drivers
4. Implementing and integrating complex device drivers
5. Working with vehicle communication CAN and UDS protocols
6. Developing flashable boot loaders.
7. Working with Lauterbach debugging tools
8. Developing in an ASPICE environment
9. Working with ISO26262 ASIL C/D level

Experience may be obtained concurrently.

Applicants should apply online at AAM.com and reference job ID# JREQ 195008.

Sr. Test Eng. (Farmington Hills, MI): Design and plan validation & quality plans to develop and validate brake pad & corner designs. Req: Master's in Mech. or Materials Eng./related Eng'g field + 2 yrs exp. No more than 20% local + intl + domestic travel. Mail CV to: KB Autosys America Inc., 27150 Hills Tech Ct, Farmington Hills, MI 48331.

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ACROSS
 1 Hero-worship
 8 Not — (fair to middling)
 13 Gave a prize to
 20 Big name in cassette tapes, once
 21 Bad booze
 22 "Wouldn't It Be —" ("My Fair Lady" song)
 23 Start of a riddle
 26 Came after that
 27 Violin master
 28 Library no-no
 29 Aflame
 32 "Every day — new day"
 33 ETs' craft
 34 Brief tussle
 36 Riddle, part 2
 44 Not wholly
 45 "Cool" moola amount
 46 Bottom
 47 Pro-school gp.
 48 "Hi, Don Ho!"
 49 Tease in fun info: Abbr.
 52 Smear all over
 55 Riddle, part 3

57 — bah (big wheel: Var.)
 58 Reach as far as
 59 "On the Beach" novelist
 60 Jimmy Dorsey hit
 62 More furtive
 63 "Uncle Moses" novelist
 66 Riddle, part 4
 69 Gen — (millennials)
 70 Rental for relocation
 72 Flip out
 73 Feudal toilers
 75 Novelty
 77 Miniver's title
 78 Riddle, part 5
 82 Moon of Neptune
 83 Be the victor
 84 Sci-fi sage
 85 Lasso part
 86 Suffix with east
 87 "Oh, really?"
 89 Country singer Tillis
 90 Charge to run a promo
 91 End of the riddle
 97 Firebug's crime

98 Possible reply to "Are you sure?"
 99 "That's the guy!"
 100 Calendar spans: Abbr.
 101 Tehran native
 104 Candle parts
 106 Dominion
 109 Riddle's answer
 115 Barbuda's partner island
 116 — two (a few)
 117 Books filled with maps
 118 Most sharp
 119 Spacek of "3 Women"
 120 Pedicure target

DOWN
 1 Pal, to Pierre
 2 Dict. lookup
 3 Thurman of "Kill Bill"
 4 Ear feature
 5 Make — for it (take off)
 6 Tautness
 7 Alibi, e.g.
 8 Like many horse hooves
 9 Reaction to a punch
 10 Optimistic
 11 Leopardlike animal
 12 — McAn (big name in footwear)
 13 Format of AP Radio Network
 14 "Alas!"
 15 Lemmon/Wilder comedy
 16 Take hold again, as a plant
 17 Three, in Munich
 18 Yale alumni
 19 Bit of force
 24 Try, as a case
 25 Turkish VIPs of old
 29 Wash gently against, as the shore
 30 Novelist
 31 Dice toss
 33 Infantry division
 35 1990s fitness fad
 37 Tom Cruise's role in "Mission: Impossible"
 38 Get — start (not begin on time)
 39 "Sure, put me down for it"
 40 Not in the country
 41 Neck and neck, scorewise
 42 Fix at the vet's
 43 Eva, Magda and Zsa Zsa
 49 Objects
 50 Middle name of Emerson
 51 Rhino's pair
 53 Canon camera series
 54 Under oath legally
 56 Roman 106
 57 Odists, e.g.
 58 Swiss canton or its capital
 60 Reject rudely
 61 Lay new turf on
 63 Her niece is Dorothy Gale
 64 Shepherd once of "The View"
 65 Sounding like a crow
 67 Bad blood
 68 Prefix with cuspid
 71 Zodiac feline
 74 Italian handbag brand
 76 Pouty states
 78 Shed feathers
 79 Composer Carmichael
 80 On the move
 81 Many minors
 83 Hot dog, informally
 84 Rural assent to a woman
 88 Feline in competitions
 89 Ailment with red spots
 90 Confess about
 92 Submit, as homework
 93 Emergency room sorting
 94 Waikiki wear
 95 "Alas!"
 96 Bites lightly
 101 "Out of Africa" writer
 102 Bit of Viking writing
 103 Poker post
 105 Corp. money handlers
 106 "Climb — Mountain"
 107 Make mad
 108 Israeli statesman
 110 Frat letters
 111 Calendar spans: Abbr.
 112 Onetime foe of the USSR
 113 Waikiki wear
 114 Immigrants' class, in brief

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
							21					22							
						24						25							
	26							27						28					
29	30	31			32			33				34		35					
36			37	38				39				40					41	42	43
44							45					46						47	
48					49	50					51			52	53	54			
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63	64	65			66			67					68				69		
70				71		72						73						74	
75					76			77				78					79	80	81
82						83					84						85		
86					87	88					89						90		
91			92	93						94			95	96					
					97						98			99				100	
101	102	103				104						106					107	108	
109						110						111					112	113	114
115										116							117		
118										119							120		

SUDOKU

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

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!

APING ABOUT

Can you find all the words containing APE? 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.

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

ANSWER KEY

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

APERCU
 APERITIF
 APEX
 BUDAPEST
 CANAPÉ
 CAPER
 CHAPEAU
 CHAPEL
 CHAPERONE
 CHEAPEN
 CRAPES
 DRAPED
 DRAPERY
 ESCAPEE
 GAPE
 GRAPE
 HEAPED
 JAPE
 LAPEL
 LEAPED
 NAPE
 NOTEPAPER
 PAPERBACK
 PARAPET
 REAPER
 RICE-PAPER
 SCAPEGOAT
 SCRAPE
 SEASCAPE
 SHAPELY
 SOAPED
 TAPERED
 TAPES
 TAPEWORM
 TRAPEZE
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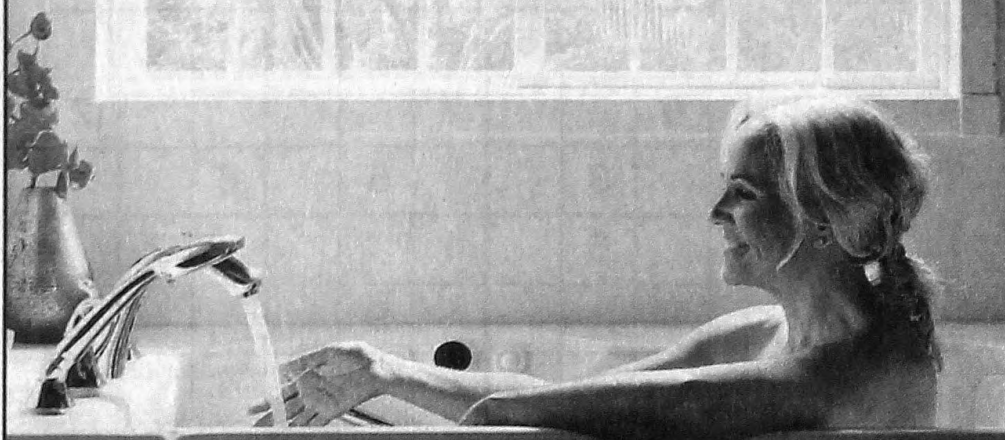
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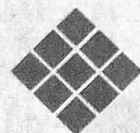
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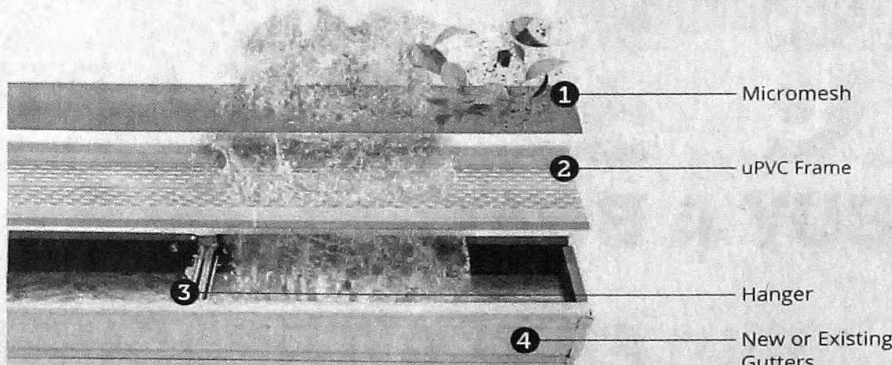
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