

CANTON OBSERVER

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FORD ROAD BOULEVARD

MDOT unveils new timeline for project

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Construction on Canton Township's safety-enhancing, headache-inducing Ford Road boulevard project won't start until 2024 at the earliest, Michigan Department of Transportation and design engineering officials revealed during a community forum held April 26 at the township's Summit on the Park multipurpose facility.

In December 2019, MDOT projected the design of the project would be com-

pleted in 2020 with construction starting in late-2021 or early 2022.

When asked if (and why) the project has been delayed by more than two years, Tetra Tech Inc. Project Manager Jayson Nault said "a schedule never was tied down". "We're still in the design process and trying to get input from the community," Nault said.

Following a 30-minute presentation by MDOT Project Manager Adam

See BOULEVARD, Page 5A



Westland council OKs expansion for Presbyterian Village homes

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Westland's Presbyterian Village, an independent senior living community and longtime community partner, has the OK to expand its living options.

City council recently approved a site plan for 35 attached ranch homes at 32001 Cherry Hill, between Presbyterian Village's existing structures and the Mack Mayfield golf course.

Council also approved plans to include a PACE, which stands for the



Servings of Mr. Miguel's fajitas and chimichanga are brought out from the kitchen. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Restaurant offering Mexican fare opens in southern Livonia

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Keen observers may recognize a new restaurant in Livonia has ties to one in another community. They just need to know another language to recognize it.

Opening in late March in the building that formerly held Richard's Family Res-

taurant, Mr. Miguel's Mexican Grille & Cantina is the third such restaurant opened by the Savich family in metro Detroit. The name pays homage to another family restaurant they formerly owned in Westland.

"I was born in a restaurant family. My family's owned restaurants my whole life," said Steve Savich, an owner. "The first restaurant I launched with my dad was in 2008 in Westland on Wayne Road between Ford and Warren and it was called Mr. Mike's Grill.

"That's where the name Mr. Miguel's comes from: it comes from Mr. Mike's."

See RESTAURANT, Page 6A

program of all-inclusive care for the elderly, facility east of the homes at an old TCF Bank building.

"As somebody who lives nearby, I think this is extremely exciting for that area," Council President Pro Tem Mike Londeau said.

Presbyterian Village provides independent and assisted living options for people aged 55 or older.

The existing community is on 23 acres and provides a variety of services like meals, travel and assisted living.

The new homes will, developers expect, open sometime next year and will be geared toward people who can live on their own.

The addition of the PACE building, which will help people with Medicare or Medicaid access things like medical care, drugs, home care and hospital visits, will be a valuable addition for the city's senior community. Presbyterian Village is partnering with Henry Ford Health to offer the service.

Presbyterian Village expects to open the PACE facility later this year.

See EXPANSION, Page 3A

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In sweet gesture, cops raise funds, awareness

Doughnut-eating contest embraces stereotype to benefit autism nonprofit

Elissa Welle Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

Seated at four long tables on the stage of the Allen Park Center for the Arts auditorium, police officers from 22 metro Detroit departments tried their hand - or stomach - at eating a dozen doughnuts in eight minutes on Sunday afternoon.

Called Cops & Pastries, the first ever competition was broken down into five rounds of four cops scarfing down eight plain and four elaborately glazed and sprinkled doughnuts from Sugarr Donuts in Woodhaven.

Sitting shoulder-to-shoulder, the officers, many in full uniform, tried different strategies. Some squished the doughnuts into a small ball, while others stacked two doughnuts on top of each other for a jaw-stretching bite.

Only one competitor successfully completed the mission: Jim Boylan of the Ann Arbor Police Department. The roughly 300-person crowd cheered as. he finished off his 12th doughnut two seconds shy of eight minutes.

Boylan's secret was standing head and shoulders above the competition, literally.

"I'm a large person so I have a large appetite, zero training at all," Boylan said, while holding the first-place trophy of a doughnut and coffee mug linked together by handcuffs. "I think I'm gonna retire on top with this. Somebody else can carry the torch after this."

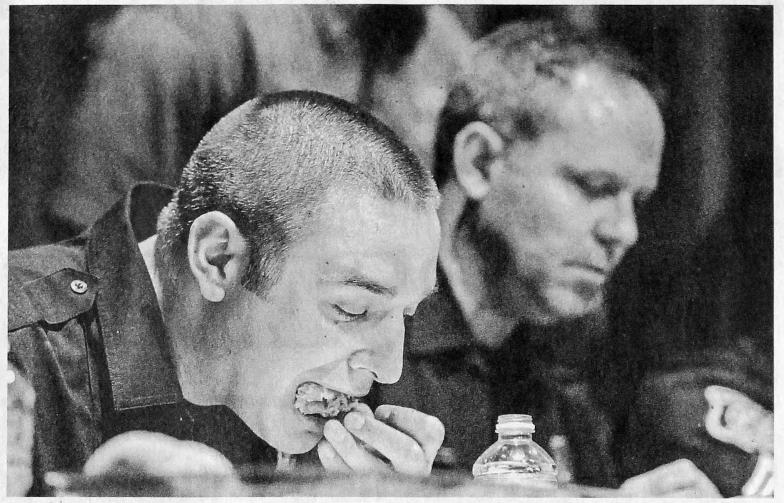
The only female officer to compete held her own. Margie Kelly of the Westland police department won her round with six and a half doughnuts. Similar to Boylan, she credits an insatiable appetite with her success, but added the sugary competition was not all sweet.

"Probably about the four- or fivedoughnut mark is when I started to get the shakes a little bit," Kelly said, laughing at the memory just minutes after the competition ended. "I just had to power through it."

Fortunately, all doughnuts that went down the hatch, stayed down.

While the event's premise played on the stereotype of doughnut-loving police officers, the purpose was more serious

Jim Thorburn, a detective with the Allen Park police department and Mimi's Mission board member, organized and emceed the event. Thorburn said the goal was threefold: to raise money for Mimi's Mission, a Downriver nonprofit supporting autistic individuals and their families, to increase awareness of autism during Autism Awareness Month - now called Autism Ac-



Officers race to eat as many doughnuts as they can in 8 minutes during Cops & Pastries, an event raising money for Mimi's Mission, a Downriver nonprofit supporting autistic individuals and their families. PHOTOS BY ANNIE BARKER/DETROIT FREE PRESS

"It's a beautiful thing, being a parent of a nonverbal autistic child, knowing that he's going to be safe in case of emergency."

Samantha Steffey, of Trenton, speaking of the training provided to police officers through Mimi's Mission

ceptance Month or World Autism Month - and to strengthen relationships with the community.

"We're glad that we were able to raise money for Autism Awareness Month, for Mimi's Mission to provide all the tools that they afford officers and all around metro Detroit."

Mimi's Mission partners with local police departments to train and equip officers on how to interact with autistic individuals. Officers receive a 911READY kit that includes a weighted blanket, noise-cancelling headphones, a fidget toy and a crunchy or chewy snack — all chosen to sooth autistic individuals in an emergency situation.

Danielle Lopuchowycz of Wyandotte said residents can also voluntarily provide information about their autistic family member through Mimi's Mission's 911READY system. First responders will be notified when arriving at the



Jim Boylan of the Ann Arbor Police Department was the lone competitor to successfully eat a dozen doughnuts in less than 8 minutes, a feat that earned him the first-place trophy.

come into your home for anything whether it's fire, EMS, police, for any situation - be alerted on who's in the household, if your child is autistic, whether they are nonverbal or has a certain fear of light," Lopuchowycz said.

Samantha Steffey, of Trenton, said she was so happy to see such a large crowd come to an event supporting autism awareness.

"It's really important for everyone and the police officers to see how to you know act with autistic people," Steffey said. "It's a beautiful thing, being a parent of a nonverbal autistic child, knowing that he's going to be safe in case of emergency." The atmosphere was jolly, with many "This helps any first responder that friends and family members cheering their for their officer or department. After the competition, the crowd thinned quickly, but some lingered in the parking lot to peer into the patrol and tactical cars on display from different departments. Children crawled along the benches in the back of a SWAT vehicle while a nearby police motorcycle revved its engine.

Dasumo Mitchell and James Vanderaa Jr. from River Rouge police department sported custom-made T-shirts with "Cops & Pastries" written above an image of the Homer Simpson cartoon. Mitchell masterminded the T-shirt idea and logo.

"In River Rouge, we had to represent and we went and got our own shirts made up," Mitchell said. "Homer is one of the best doughnut eaters, so I think it's fitting."

Mitchell said events like this help break down the negative connotations people may have of police officers.

"Sometimes we are not always shown in a good light in the media and whatever, and this is a good event to show that we are humans," Mitchell said.

Vanderaa chimed in, reiterating the goal of the event was to show the community how normal officers are.

"The reality is this is a really good bunch of men and women that just want to help out the community and be there for people," Vanderaa said. "That's what our job is all about."

address on how best to interact with the autistic individual.

Livonia PD sees success in crisis response clinician job

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

When Caitlin Witt got started last August as the Livonia Police Department's mobile crisis response clinician, only one other person in Michigan had a job like hers.

Lansing's police department brought a social worker on staff in 2019, and Livonia's crisis response job was the only

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similar role in the state when Livonia's council approved funding for it in March of last year.

Since then, others in the metro Detroit region have hired or are working toward their own crisis response workers or social workers - roles geared toward helping people with mental health needs. Some of those communities, like Westland, Northville and Canton, have asked Livonia for help.

"It's cool to have other departments coming to us for help and assistance in starting their programs," said Sgt. Stacy Hayne, Witt's direct supervisor. "It's great to get Caitlin out there and known so that the community knows she's here."

Witt's role includes response to mental health or domestic calls after officers have secured the scene, following up with people in need of mental health services, helping train officers in de-escalation techniques and answering questions. Witt, who grew up in Livonia, also assisted the city's school resource officers deal with school threats in the aftermath of the Nov. 30 shooting at Oxford High School.

"Caitlin has a ton of resources and connections to various mental health facilities that we didn't even know about," Hayne said.

Witt - who doesn't wear a uniform is likely far less intimidating to someone in crisis than a uniformed police officer would be.

"This gives us a more humanistic approach," Hayne said.

Though the city originally anticipated bringing on a social worker, that's not what Witt is. She's a certified counselor employed by Livonia-based Hegira Health and has worked in mental health



for a decade, including at Trinity Health St. Mary Mercy Livonia Hospital.

"I will never not work in mental health," she said. "I love it. I love helping people who are going through a crisis and getting them services."

Lt. William Tyree said Witt's role has helped cut down on repeated interactions between some residents and police and instead getting needed help or resources. In the last seven months, she's helped more than 110 people.

Witt shared an example of one woman with whom she formed a relationship and provide aid that most police officers likely wouldn't be able to.

"The department had been dealing with one specific individual on almost a daily basis, and she was kind of in denial that she had mental health issues," Witt said. "The department refers her to me now, and I was able to get her set up with services."

That frees up police officers to focus their efforts elsewhere, as well as provides the woman a more appropriate health care resource.

Witt also recalled being able to help one man bypass the lengthy wait list to get into Walter Reuther Hospital in Westland, which is operated by the State of Michigan for adults with severe mental health needs.

"You never know if Caitlin wasn't available what some things could potentially escalate into," said Jaime White, director of crisis services for Hegira Health.

Livonia officials talk sustainable efforts for city

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

Livonia City Council wants to take a look at sustainable environmental policies and ways to reduce the amount of loose trash hanging around neighborhoods.

Council requested the mayor's office take a look at the two topics during a recent meeting. Both moves came from discussions surrounding climate change and what the city can do to be a good steward of the environment.

"I think we're checking some boxes, but I think we could do a lot more.' Councilman Brandon McCullough said.

Cleaning trash from the roads

Resident Bob Klanseck, expressed concerns about the city looking like a "pig pen" after a windy day. Klanseck addressed council during public comment at a recent meeting and said many of his neighbors feel the same way he does. Several council members agreed loose trash is a problem in Livonia.

"I do a lot of walking and there's trash, which is really caused by the recycle bins being open and climate change with so many more windy days," he said.

Klanseck floated the idea of the city buying recycling bins with lids to prevent lightweight recyclables like paper and empty milk cartons from escaping.

Council unanimously approved a



motion asking Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan's office for more information and potential solutions to the issue.

Members also pitched some ideas of their own.

Councilman Scott Bahr suggested the city's volunteer service corps, which brings together community do-gooders, might be able to stage cleanup events. Vice President Laura Toy noted people sentenced through the court system to work programs in the city already do some trash cleanup.

Diving deeper into sustainable policies and practices

Council also received a report from Brosnan's office detailing the ways the city practices sustainability. Council requested the report in February 2020.

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The report details green efforts the city has already made like expanding non-motor transportation options and its yard waste collection program. It also notes sustainable efforts the Livonia Vision 21 plan calls for like ending fossil fuel use when possible and preserving open spaces.

McCullough said he'd like the city to dig deeper. Council passed a resolution asking the mayor's office to explore policies and practices the city could adopt with a 5-1 vote. Councilman Scott Morgan voted against it, and Councilwoman Kathleen McIntyre was absent.

"I do think the administrative response was just kind of the tip of the iceberg," McCullough said. "What I'm asking for is policy or an ordinance we can enact."

McCullough suggested requiring electric vehicle infrastructure for new private developments or significant redevelopments. He added the city could create incentives for businesses to adopt more sustainable building practices.

"Livonia is pretty much a built out community, but we can do our best to redevelop in a sustainable way and lower our carbon footprint," he said.

Resident Brent Sabo, an ardent tree advocate who's spoken at several council meetings, added the city should do more to preserve neighborhood trees.

Councilman Rob Donovic said he wouldn't be in favor of requiring something like a vehicle charging station if that option was eventually brought forward. Toy expressed a similar view, noting work already done by the city's Greenleaf Commission.

"I appreciate Mr. McCullough's words and sentiment on this," Donovic said. "I do support an encouragement of people using sustainable products and working in public and private partnerships to make sure we are good stewards of our environment. However, I am not OK with requiring private businesses to adopt policies.

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

Expansion

Continued from Page 1A

For some, PACE is a way to safely delay moving to a nursing home.

"We think it's going to be a real asset to the community and we're looking forward to having it to help serve the needs of older adults," said Kevin Petru, the director of real estate development for Presbyterian Villages of Michigan.

Council members agreed the addition of PACE services in Westland will benefit older residents. There's 15 other PACE facilities in Michigan, most of which are outside the metro Detroit region.

"What this does is allows elderly individuals living in their homes to have the opportunity to stay in their home," Councilwoman Andrea Rutkowski said. "I think that's going to be fantastic."

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

Westland's Presbyterian Village recently received approval from council to add 35 homes. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM







The lilacs are blooming just in time for the annual Lilac Festival on Mackinac Island, set for June 3-12. DETROIT FREE PRESS FILE PHOTOS

Seven quintessential Michigan festivals

Kiran Saini Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

Planning a family vacation?

Michigan has some unique spring and-summer festivals that feature fun for the whole family.

Consider taking a road trip to Holland's Tulip Time festival, or to northern Michigan where you can go mushroom hunting at the National Morel Mushroom Festival.

Here are the major festivals across the state that are well worth the drive (or ferry ride!):

Tulip Time, Holland

May 7-15, 2022

One of the most famous festivals in Michigan, Tulip Time celebrates Holland's Dutch heritage with an eight-day experience. There are more than six million tulips blooming throughout the city and area attractions.

Bringing thousands to Holland every year, Tulip Time has received accolades, including Best Flower Festival and America's Best Small Town Festival.





The National Morel Mushroom Festival in Boyne City runs May 12-15. GETTY



Asparagus Queen 2016 Mary Harris,

This year's Tulip Time will have two parades, live music and entertainment, a tulip immersion garden, a Dutch art exhibit and much more.

National Morel Mushroom Festival, Boyne City

May 12-15, 2022

May is Morel Month in Michigan. What better way to celebrate than attending the National Morel Mushroom Festival?

According to the website, the festival draws mushroom lovers from around the country. Boyne City's morels are found in nearby woods and clearing, where enthusiasts can go morel hunting.

The festival will feature an arts and crafts show, beer tent, carnival and the Taste of Morels, the festival's premier event, where local restaurants and chefs will participate in offering morelinfused entrees and can take home prizes.

Lilac Festival, Mackinac Island

June 3-12, 2022

The Mackinac Island Lilac Festival is the largest and most historic festival on the island, according to the event website.

In its 74th year, the 10-day festival celebrates lilacs and their history on the island. Events include the Lilac Queen coronation, walking tours, lilac planting seminars and a parade.

Stay at the Grand Hotel while lilacs are in bloom throughout the island. The hotel offers a history lecture with its resident historian during Lilac Festival weekend.

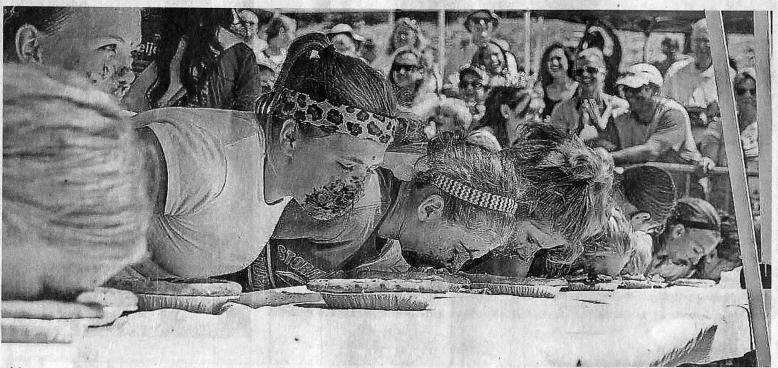
National Asparagus Festival, Oceana County

June 11, 2022

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Dedicated to all things asparagus, the National Asparagus Festival has been celebrating the green vegetable since 1974 as the longest-running asparagus festival in the country. The Tulip Time festival in Holland runs May 7-15. COURTESY OF TULIP TIME FESTIVAL, INC.

left, of Hart and runner-up Mandy Achterhof of Walkerville dance as the Scottville Clown Band plays during the National Asparagus Festival in Hart.



Kids eat blueberry pie at the 2015 Blueberry Festival in South Haven.

The festival features a 5k run, an arts and crafts fair that's one of the most popular craft shows in the area, and a Taste of Asparagus competition, where folks can create and submit their favorite asparagus recipes that will be judged.

Royalty is also celebrated at the National Asparagus Festival; every year, the festival hosts a pageant and crowns an Asparagus Queen, who then travels the state to promote the asparagus industry of Oceana County.

National Cherry Festival, Traverse City

July 2-9, 2022

Spanning 96 years, Traverse City's iconic National Cherry Festival draws more than half a million visitors. One of Michigan's most widelyknown festivals, it features 150 events and activities, including parades, cherry pie-eating contests and more. According to the website, the tradition of the Cherry Spit Contest continues — try beating the world record distance for spitting a cherry pit at 95 feet and 6.5 inches.

The National Cherry Festival is also known to attract big entertainers. This year's roster includes Nelly, Sheryl Crow, ZZ Top and Boyz II Men.

National Blueberry Festival, South Haven

Aug. 11-14, 2022

South Haven has been hosting the National Blueberry Festival since 1963 as one of the country's oldest continuously running fruit festivals, according to the website. Van Buren County is the nation's "most prolific" producer of highbush blueberries.

The festival features fun for the whole family; get messy at the festival's signature pie eating contest or check out cool creations at the Blueberry Festival Craft Fair.

Fudge Festival, Mackinac Island

Aug. 26-28, 2022

Ready to get your fudge on? Mackinac Island, the fudge capital of the world, celebrates its most famous treat with the annual Fudge Festival.

According to the website, activities including fudge-making demonstrations, fudge inspired food and cocktails, family games and more.

8

Boulevard

Continued from Page 1A

Penzenstadler, forum attendees were encouraged to visit a series of maps and diagrams that were manned by MDOT and Tetra Tech staff on the perimeter of a Summit on the Park banquet room.

Residents and business owners were asked to write down suggestions on the margins of a long shrunk-to-scale map of Ford Road that was stretched across three banquet tables.

"We're about half-way through the design and we have the concepts figured out," Petzenstadler said. "Our goal tonight is to seek feedback from you. This needs to be a partnership between all of us: the state, the county, the township and all of you who will be driving through the corridor. We want to make this a project we are all proud of and happy with at the end."

Petzenstadler said the objective of the boulevard is to reduce crashes and relieve congestion through the corridor. The boulevard will stretch from Interstate 275 to Sheldon Road and a short distance on Haggerty Road both north and south of Ford Road.

"Crashes on Ford Road far exceed the number of crashes on other roadways in the region," Petzenstadler said.

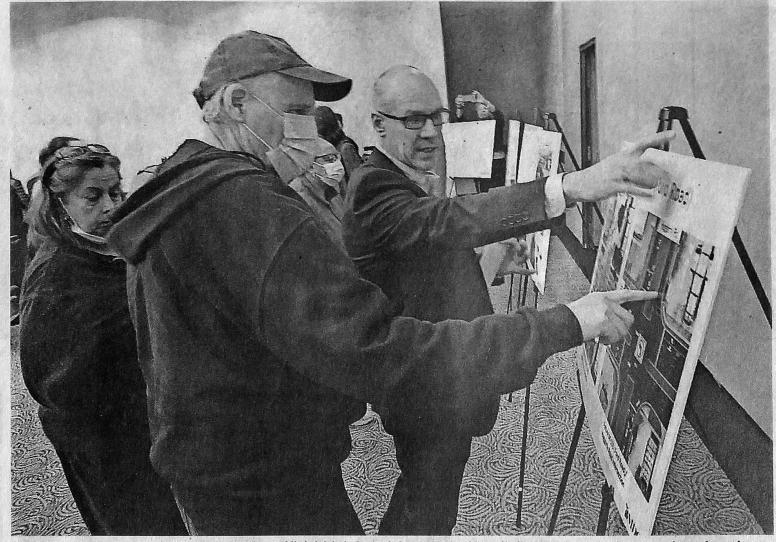
Petzenstadler said the elimination of direct left turns throughout the corridor should significantly enhance safety.

"A lot of the Ford Road crashes are courtesy crashes, when someone is trying to turn left into a business driveway," Penzenstadler said. "One lane of traffic may stop, but vehicles in the other lane may not see you, they're going fast and the car making the turn gets T-boned. The boulevard concept can help reduce this type of incident."

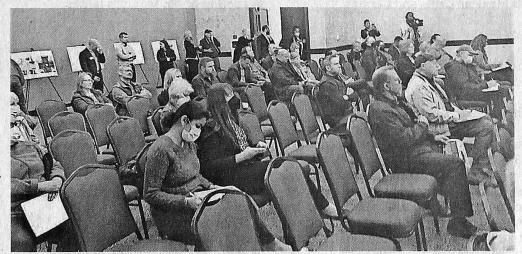
Nault said the two-year-long project will require patience from drivers.

"People are still trying to get used to the concept of a boulevard," Nault said. "People have a lot of questions like, for instance, how are large trucks going to get around. The primary objective is to increase safety and reduce some of the congestion.

"Overall, I think people see the benefits the boulevard will bring. Obviously, there's some pain with the construction, but I think they understand in the end it will be a long-term project the community will be proud of, it will be



A Michigan Department of Transportation official (right) explains how traffic will flow through an intersection when the Ford Road boulevard project in Canton is complete. PHOTOS BY ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



A large crowd attended the forum at the Summitt on the Park.

easier to get around and it will be a lot north- and south-bound Ford throughsafer."

Penzenstadler assured at least one lane of traffic will be open on both

out the construction process, which is expected to run through 2025.

The boulevard is projected to be 18

feet wide throughout most of the corridor. The Haggerty Road section will be 40-feet wide.

Widening Ford Road's footprint will require MDOT to purchase property from some businesses along the corridor. Penzenstadler said that process is ongoing.

Along with replacing the center turn lane with a boulevard, drainage infrastructure improvements will be completed, Penzenstadler said. Plans also call for the addition of a retention pond to be built north of Ford Road and east of Haggerty Road to alleviate flooding in the area.

MDOT designed a website specifically for the boulevard project at fordroadblvd.com where people can find updates.

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



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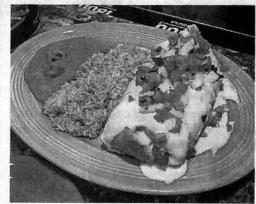


A cook prepares a fajita dish at Mr. Miguel's Mexican Grille and Cantina. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Mr. Miguel's at 39305 Plymouth Road in Livonia.



A serving of Mr. Miguel's fajitas.



A Mr. Miguel's beef chimichanga.

Restaurant

Continued from Page 1A

Mr. Miguel's, located at 39305 Plymouth near Eckles Road right on the Plymouth Township/Livonia border, serves up plenty of quintessential dishes such as fajitas, enchiladas, chimichangas and tacos as one of Livonia's newest restaurants. It started in 2015 with a restaurant in Warren and also has a location in Brownstown Township.

Savich, who formerly worked for Ford Motor Company, said they heard about the plans for the previous owners looking to retire. After negotiating, they took over the property in December and spent several months renovating the restaurant, transforming it into a place celebrating all things Mexican cuisine.

It was a feeling he had the first time he set foot in the building.

"When I walked in here, I kind of had this vision of what it could become," Savich said. "And that was it."

Customers haven't gravitated to one specific thing on the menu that's become an early favorite, Savich said, but he said the margarita has become a popular go-to drink for those looking to unwind.

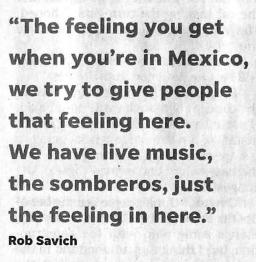
Accompanying the food Savich said is made from scratch is live music and happy hours several days each week. Given its hours, the restaurant attracts more families for dinnertime.

Rob Savich, Steve Savich's brother who also works at the restaurant, said several family members have traveled to Mexico several times. He said they've tried to capture a relaxing feeling for customers as if they're not in the Midwest but in Mexico.

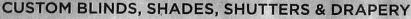
"The feeling you get when you're in Mexico, we try to give people that feeling here," said Rob Savich. "We have live music, the sombreros, just the feeling in here."

The restaurant is open 2-9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; noon to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and noon to 8 p.m. Sunday. More information, including a menu and special, can be found at mrmiguels.com.

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



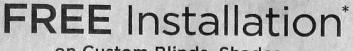




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USA TODAY SPORTS

SPORTS

HOMETOWN LIFE ALL-AREA BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

North Farmington's Ryan Hurst shoots against Davison during the Freedom Classic boys basketball showcase in January. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Results are in on readers'

New girls soccer coach at Marian understands tradition

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Barry Brodsky led Bloomfield Hills Marian to its ninth girls soccer state title last spring.

And then he promptly retired.

It was a job well done. Twenty seasons. Eleven trips to the state finals. Fourteen final-four appearances.

But he had an inkling for a while that he'd be calling it quits. Actually, he knew a few seasons ago that 2021 would likely be his final season roaming the sidelines for the Mustangs.

And with a program as prestigious as Marian, Brodsky didn't want to merely retire and ride off into the sunset. He wanted to make sure the transition into the next regime would go flawlessly.

He wanted to see the team continue winning, too.

So that meant Marian couldn't just call any coach off the street with prep school experience. Brodsky's replacement needed to understand the tradition at Marian. They needed to know about the valor of playing in the Catholic League. They needed to know how to inspire all-state soccer players to become future lawyers, dentists and doctors.

Brodsky's replacement couldn't just come from anywhere. Only a few people in Michigan have the right resume.

So that's why, five years ago, Brodsky called the guy who lives across the street.

Quite literally.

Reid Friedrichs lives just a throw-in pass from Marian's campus.

"One day, Barry called me out of the blue and wanted me to come and help out," Friedrichs told Hometown Life earlier this season. "He said he probably won't be coaching for too much longer. He wanted to talk about the transition that would occur. He want-

favorite high school players

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Last week, we released Hometown Life's first All-Area boys basketball team in seven seasons.

I told you who my favorite players were and even picked our Player of the Year (shoutout to North Farmington's Ryan Hurst). If you haven't checked it out yet, be sure to see how my team shook out. More than 100 players made the cut.

But why stop there?

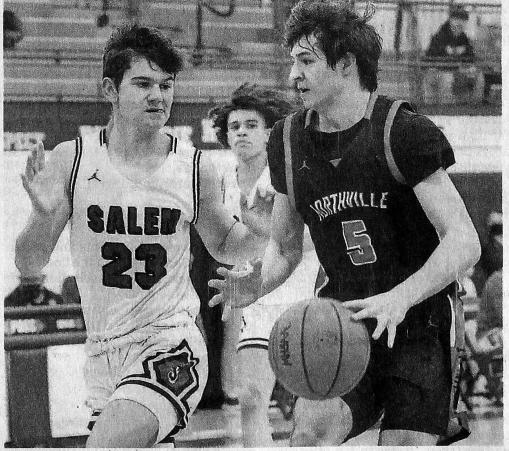
Over the last week, I had you, our faithful readers, vote for *YOUR* favorite players. Thousands of votes rolled in over the week.

After Saturday's voting deadline finally came, I couldn't wait to put together the results and see where our community thought each player belonged on the All-Area team.

So, for the first time in Hometown Life history, I'm proud to present our All-Area boys basketball team, which is 100% assembled by our readers.

Check to see where your favorite players landed:

See FAVORITES, Page 2B



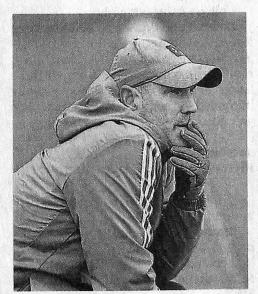
Northville's Matt Gorski, right, dribbles past Salem's Luke Dieffenbaugher during a game in January.

ed to talk about the draw of the job.

"He called me once or twice actually. It was set up to be a pretty good situation, and the school has always been super successful. Our relationship was great when we coached against one another, and it got even better coaching with him."

Friedrichs took the bait and became Brodsky's heir apparent.

See COACH, Page 3B



Marian High School girls soccer coach Reid Freidrichs monitors his team March 31 as they take on Mercy. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



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Favorites

Continued from Page 1B

Hometown Life's Player of the Year Ryan Hurst, North Farmington

Vitals: SF/SG, junior, 6-foot-3. Stats: Averaged 23 points, six rebounds and two assists.

Accolades: All-OAA-Red selection and named Hometown Life's Player of the Year.

College Interest: Holds an offer from Miami (Ohio) and is being recruited by Division I colleges.

Coach Todd Negoshian: "Showed up huge in big games."

First Team Christian Fontaine, **Lutheran Westland**

Vitals: SF/SG, sophomore, 6-foot-3. Stats: Totaled 337 points, 81 rebounds, 31 assists, 30 steals and 13 blocks.

Accolades: All-MIAC dream team and All-MIAC-Red first team. Scored seven 3-pointers against Lutheran Northwest.

College Interest: N/A.

Coach Dymetrius Ware: "Christian was a dedicated and hard worker from the start of the year, even coming in during September workouts. He is one of the most coachable kids on the court and was a positive teammate. Looking forward to helping Christian develop as he is only a sophomore!"

Dante Favor, Canton

Vitals: PF, junior, 6-foot-7, 190 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 9.8 points, 8.4 rebounds and 1.7 blocks. Shot 59% from the floor.

Accolades: All-KLAA first team. College Interest: N/A.

Coach Jimmy Reddy: "Dante had a tremendous junior year for us. He was excellent at both ends of the floor. On defense, he was a great rim protector and rebounder and on offense, he shot a high percentage in the paint and was also able to step out and shoot it a little bit."

Sam Barnhart, Northville

Vitals: C/PF, senior, 6-foot-5, 205 pounds.

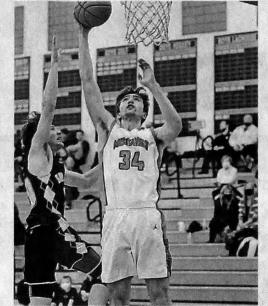
Stats: Averaged 7.5 points and six rebounds. Shot 60% inside the arc and 32% from the 3-point line.

Accolades: All-KLAA first team. College Interest: N/A.

Coach Todd Sander: "Sam played every minute of every game down the stretch for us, and he came up huge at the right time of the year. He routinely guarded the other teams' best bigs and controlled the glass. A knack for scoring timely shots."



Canton'ss Dante Favor. left, skies for a tip-off. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Northville's Sam Barnhart shoots against South Lyon. PHOTOS BY **BRANDON FOLSOM/ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM**



Plymouth Christian Academy's Jordan Scott shoots against Taylor Trillium Academy on March 14. TOM BEAUDOIN/ SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Milford's Samuel Lewis shoots against Hartland during a KLAA vs. LVC boys



Plymouth Christian's Chibi Anwunah battles Ypsilanti Arbor Prep's Deshawn King-Watson, left for a rebound.

growth for next season as a player and person."

Kareem Aburashed, **Detroit Country Day**

Vitals: C, senior, 6-foot-9, 210 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 17 points and 9.2 rebounds.

mendous workhorse for us all season. He averaged almost 15 points a night, despite always getting the attention of the opponent's best defenders. He had a knack for making big shots in big moments. He had a terrific career."

holiday tournament in December.

Northville's Carlos Adamson dribbles against South Lyon during the Mustangs'

Sam Lewis, Milford

Vitals: PF/SF, junior, 6-foot-5. Stats: Averaged 18.6 points, six rebounds and three assists. Shot 43% from the floor and 76% from the freethrow line. Made 49 3-pointers.

Coach Jimmy Reddy: "Cole did so much for our team, specifically on the offensive side of the ball. His ability to score inside and out made him incredibly tough to guard. His leadership for our team was unmatched and he is an outstanding student and role model. Unfortunately for him and our team, Cole tore his ACL in game No. 16 this year."

Carlos Adamson, Northville

Vitals: SG, sophomore, 6-foot, 150 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 14 points late in the season and three assists. Shot 35% from the 3-point line.

Accolades: All-KLAA honorable mention and named team's Most Improved Player.

College Interest: N/A.

Coach Todd Sander: "Carlos became a go-to guy for us down the stretch during our postseason run. We asked him to handle the ball, to score from all three levels and defend. His defense really improved throughout the season. He's going to be special."

Jordan Scott, **Plymouth Christian Academy**

Vitals: PG, junior, 6-foot-2, 170 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 24 points, 7.5 rebounds and 5.5 assists.

Accolades: All-MIAC first team, All-MIAC dream team and named MIAC MVP.

College Interest: Being recruited by Division I and II colleges.

Coach Matt Windle: "He had three triple-doubles for us this year which speaks to all he can do in a 32-minute game."

Second Team Matt Gorski, Northville

Vitals: SF, senior, 6-foot-2, 165 points.

Stats: Averaged 14 points and five rebounds. Shot 40% from the 3-point line and 70% from the free-throw line.

Accolades: All-KLAA first team, named team MVP and tabbed as one of BCAM's Outstanding Senior Student-Athletes.

College Interest: N/A. Coach Todd Sander: "Matt was a tre-

4

Accolades: All-LVC selection and named team MVP. Tied school record for most 3s in a game (seven) and finished third for most points scored in a single season (390) and fifth for most 3s in a single season (48).

College Interest: Being recruited by Division III and NAIA programs.

Coach David Gilbert: "Sam isn't just a scorer or shooter but someone who plays the game at a high level while playing team basketball the right way. Sam is one of those players who makes everyone else around him better."

Chibi Anwunah,

Plymouth Christian Academy

Vitals: C, senior, 6-foot-8, 235 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 9.4 points, 10.2 rebounds and 2.5 blocks.

Accolades: All-MIAC first team and All-MIAC dream team.

College Interest: Signed with Michigan for football.

Coach Matt Windle: "Chibi has had an incredible 4 years at PCA. His ability to protect the rim on defense allows for his teammates to take chances and pressure the ball. Chibi is a freak athlete and has taken strides in his offensive game. We greatly missed him during the playoffs (because of an injury). We are excited for Chibi's future in football at Michigan."

Cole Vickers, Canton

Vitals: SG/SF, senior, 6-foot-4, 175 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 18.1 points, 5.3 rebounds, 3.2 assists and 1.6 steals. Shot 47% from the floor, 40% from the 3point line and 81% from the free-throw line.

Accolades: All-KLAA first team and third-year player. Scored a career-best 30 points vs. Detroit Renaissance.

College Interest: Signed with Ferris State.

Jonathan Johnson, **Bloomfield Hills Roeper**

Vitals: PG, senior, 6-foot-1, 170 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 19 points, 9.1 rebounds and four assists.

Accolades: N/A.

College Interest: N/A.

Coach Ryan Zinser: "Jonathan was the leader of the offense as a point guard with his scoring and ability to make the game easier for his teammates and also the rim protector on the defensive end."

Third Team Kam Mayes, **Detroit Catholic Central**

Vitals: SF, senior, 6-foot-5, 190 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 13 points and seven rebounds. Shot 62% from the floor.

Accolades: All-CHSL selection and third-year varsity player.

College Interest: Uncommitted but receiving Division II and III interest.

Coach Brandon Sinawi: "Kam has really solidified himself as one of the best seniors around, especially as of late through our Catholic League tournament run and our postseason run. A tremendous athlete, he's someone who creates a mismatch for anyone that guards him. At 6-5, he can jump out of the gym and his ability to score has helped us win our region. He's been hurt the last two seasons, so this year has been extra special for Kam!"

Kelvin Amoako, Plymouth

Vitals: PF, junior, 6-foot-8, 225 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 10.2 points, 7.8 rebounds and 1.2 blocks. Shot 58% from the floor.

Accolades: All-KLAA first team. College Interest: N/A.

Coach Mike Soukup: "Kelvin became a player to contend with on both ends of the floor this year. When he was playing at his best our team performed at its best. I am excited to watch his

1

Accolades: N/A.

College Interest: Signed with Macomb Community College.

Coach Mark Bray: "Kareem worked so hard to develop into one of the best players in the state. As a mobile and active 6-foot-9 inside-out big man, very few teams had an answer for him this year. He impacted the game on both ends of the floor. We are so proud that he went from a player who was a defensive liability as a sophomore to an essential part of the reason our defense held opponents to 51.5 points per game while we averaged 63 points per game on offense."

Nate Pierson, **Plymouth Christian Academy**

Vitals: SG, junior, 5-foot-10, 155 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 20 points and shot 40% from the 3-point line.

Accolades: All-MIAC first team and All-MIAC dream team. Scored a schoolrecord 45 points in a single game.

College Interest: N/A.

Coach Matt Windle: "Nate is an elite shooter but cannot be put in just the shooter category. He does a great job beating defenders off the dribble and has a soft touch to finish around the rim. He can be a legit piece to some really good teams at the next level. He does a great job with on-ball and off-ball defense as well!"

Paul Davenport, Lutheran Westland

Vitals: PG, senior, 5-foot-6.

Stats: Totaled 342 points, 71 rebounds, 56 steals and 113 assists.

Accolades: All-MIAC dream team, All-MIAC-RED first team and league MVP. Also named MIAC MVP for football in the fall.

College Interest: N/A.

Coach Dymetrius Ware: "Paul Davenport is a workhorse. The most competitive kid at guard. Period. Paul stands out as being one of the most

See FAVORITES, Page 3B

Coach

Continued from Page 1B

The two spent four seasons together (counting the COVID-19 canceled spring) and they won a state title each season.

When Brodsky finally stepped down in 2021, it took no effort at all for athletic director Mike Watson to officially pass the baton to Friedrichs, who was glad he took up Brodsky on that offer to be an assistant a half-decade earlier.

"Barry let me do what I wanted to do when I got there and liked what I could add to the program, which was nice," Friedrichs added. "The draw to coach at the school was cool and alluring, in that respect. Plus, the location was close to my house. And, mainly, it was his talk about the school, the families and the girls here that sold me. The rest of the stuff you kind of find at a lot of other places.

"The way he spoke about the girls, that's what I found to be the biggest highlight. It was of the quality of the individual here. The family investment. The type of people really sold me, and that's why the transition has been so smooth after he felt the need to step away."

Friedrichs has an extensive coaching history with stops at Livonia Churchill, Vardar SC, Alma College, the Flint City Bucks and the Olympic Development Program.

But it was his time coaching at War-

ren DeLaSalle that brought him closer to Brodsky.

Friedrichs and Brodsky used to coach against one another when Brodsky was still spending his falls with Brother Rice, which he led to a state championship in 2009.

"We had respect for one another and were competitors in the Catholic League for a while," Friedrichs added. "And one time I had mentioned I lived across the street from Marian. So when I had left to coach club, he remembered that."

Friedrichs, a former Big Ten Player of the Year as a goalkeeper in the 1990s at Michigan State, has already helped add to the foundation at Marian that Brodsky established through the first two months of the season.

The undefeated Mustangs entered the week ranked No. 1 in Division 2 by the Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association.

Part of that has to do with the talent on the field. Marian returned three allstaters from a year ago.

That includes Elle Ervin, likely the best sophomore in Michigan. The forward was a first-team all-stater her first year and has already booted the Mustangs to a few big wins.

They also brought back senior Angelina Briggs, a second-team all-state defender, and senior Abigail Luchessi, a third-team all-state midfielder.

What's more, they've added to the roster Michigan State signee Isabella Agrusso, who spent most of her high school career playing competitively on the national travel circuits.



Somewhere in the mass of players is Marian HIgh's Angie Briggs, who scored on a corner kick against Mercy on March 31. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The Mustangs have only four seniors, but they have loads of future college players stepping into bigger roles on the team as sophomores and juniors.

It'll be Friedrichs' job to get the girls into the best position to win games, something he's already been able to do.

"Obviously, I shoulder a great responsibility to try and keep up the tradition here," Freidrichs said. "I embrace that and want to tackle it head on. I want to continue that tradition. "Talking to the girls, it doesn't feel much different around here, and that's kind of the idea in the first place. It's been a very seamless transition, for the most part."

And to think, maybe Friedrichs doesn't take over the program had he not bought his house near Marian. The Mustangs are fortunate he doesn't live across the street from Forest Hills Northern, Richland Gull Lake or Spring Lake.

Favorites

Continued from Page 2B

confident on the court. He may not make his first or second shot, but he will make his third, a trait you love to see in a kid. Paul could definitely play at the next level!"

Honorable Mention

SF - Ben Canty, Bloomfield Hills SF - Derrick (DJ) Lee, Bloomfield Hills

- SF Curtis Williams, Brother Rice
- SF Robert Grant, Garden City
- SF Jake Fannon, South Lyon East SF/PF - Tawayne Campbell Jr., Canton Prep
- SF/PF Xavier Thomas, Brother Rice PF - Cooper Craggs, Detroit Catholic Central
 - PF Lucas Young, Livonia Stevenson PF - Ashton Wheeler, Salem
- PF/C Aaron Rice, North Farmington PF/C - Carson Brodsky, Bloomfield Hills
- PF/C Keithan Gilmore, Brother Rice C - Lee Hardy, North Farmington SF/SG - Cole Vickers, Canton
- PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a proposal for **Athletic Trainer Services**. The Request for Proposal (RFP) is available on at PCCSK12.com, under departments and business office or by contacting Kenetra Tisby, Purchasing Coordinator, at <u>Kenetra.Tisby@pcck12.com</u>. Proposals will be accepted as specified in the Request for Proposals at PCCS - E.J McClendon Educational Center located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170 on/or before **Thursday**, **May 12 2022 at 10:00 am**. Bids shall be labeled: Bid document enclosed- "Athletic Trainer Bid". The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

- SG Noah Adamczyk, Bloomfield Hills
- SG Henry Garrity, Brother Rice SG - TJ Nadeau, Detroit Catholic Central
- SG Luke Ammori, Detroit Country Day
- SG Nick Sanders, Detroit Country Day
 - SG Te'John McGowan, Novi
- SG Adam Jagacki, South Lyon East SG/PG - Tyler Spratt, North Farmington
- PG Julian Manna, Bloomfield Hills PG - Johnathan Blackwell, Brother Rice
- PG Lake McIntosh, Canton
- PG Chase Lewless, Detroit Catholic Central
- PG Julian Scott, Detroit Country Day
- PG DYlan Stadler, Livonia Clarenceville
- PG Kenoly Jones, Livonia Stevenson
- PG Landon Williams, North Farmington
 - PG Danny Groechel, Novi
 - PG Jace Petree, Plymouth
 - PG Pryor Reynolds, Salem
- Follow Brandon Folsom on Twitter @folsombrandonj.

Public Budget Hearings will be held for the following Public School Academies:

Canton-49100 Ford Rd., Canton-734-453-9517-May 4, 6pm Canton Prep-46610 Cherry Hill Rd., Canton-734-404-6776-May 4, 6pm South Pointe-10550 Geddes Rd., Ypsilanti-734-484-0118-May 12, 5pm

Achieve-3250 Denton Rd. Canton-734-397-0960-May 12, 4:30pm

Plymouth Scholars-48484 N. Territorial Rd., Plymouth-734-459-6149-May 16, 6:30pm

Copies of the Budgets for the listed Public School Academies will be available on

Board of Education Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Doug Brooks

Publish: April 28 & May 1, 2022

PUBLIC NOTICE PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD

Regular Meeting May 17, 2022 7:30 P.M.

THE BOARD MEETING IS CURRENTLY BEING HELD IN HYBRID FORMAT; THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND IN-PERSON OR ELECTRONICALLY

Persons interested in attending electronically may access the Conference Call by dialing:1 651 372 8299 Or Zoom: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84949591404</u> Meeting ID: 849 4959 1404, Passcode: 99536543

> Please see agenda on website <u>www.plymouthlibrary.org</u> The agenda will be posted by May 14, 2022

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its Regular Meeting on May 17, 2022. The meeting will be offered in hybrid format.

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.

Publish: May 1, 2022

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LO-0000362072 3x2.5

Check us out at

HomeTownLife.com

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the transparency reporting page of the school's website.

Publish: May 1, 2022

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN PLANNING COMMISSION

PROPOSED ACTION:	Request for Approval of a Conditional Rezoning (Map Amendment)
DATE OF HEARING: TIME OF HEARING: PLACE OF HEARING:	Wednesday, May 18, 2022 7:00 P.M. Plymouth Township Hall Offices, 9955 N. Haggerty Road Plymouth, Michigan 48170

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Plymouth has received an application (PC #2437) to conditionally rezone Tax ID No. R-78-054-99-0015-000, and a portion of Tax ID No. R-78-054-99-0014-000, from the R-1-H, Single-Family Residential District to the R-1, Single-Family Residential District, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99. The subject application is for a conditional rezoning (map amendment) to the Township's adopted Zoning Map.

The subject site is located at the northwest corner of the McClumpha and Ann Arbor Road intersection and is proposed to be redeveloped with attached residential units. The portion of Tax ID No. R-78-054-99-0014-000 that contains an existing single-family residence (commonly known as 9639 McClumpha) is excluded from this project scope.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that persons interested may attend the public hearing and/ or send correspondence regarding the application to Plymouth Township Hall, attn.: Carol Martin. Pertinent information relative to the application is on file at the Plymouth Township Public Services Department (second floor counter) and may be viewed during regular business hours (8:00 AM - 4:30 PM).

Plymouth Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the public hearing upon one week's advance notice by writing or calling the Supervisor's Office, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170; (734) 354-3201.

Kendra Barberena, Secretary Planning Commission

Publish: May 1, 2022

LO-0000362074 3X5

LO-0000362101 3X2.

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Observer & Eccentric

MSU forward/center enters transfer portal

Chris Solari Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

Michigan State forward/center Julius Marble II has entered the NCAA transfer portal, the Free Press confirmed on Tuesday.

The junior is the first player from this year's team to look to transfer. Freshman guard Max Christie also has submitted his name for the NBA draft.

Marble, a 6-foot-9, 245-pound forward, averaged 6.4 points and 2.5 rebounds in 14.4 minutes a game this season. He shot 59.2% overall and made 76.6% at the free-throw line while committing 1.1 turnovers per game.

Though he finished with a plus-28 plus-minus rating, Marble struggled at times defensively and rebounding against the taller Big Ten post players while usually manning the center spot. MSU struggled to score on the block, but Marble also was the Spartans' most reliable option down low with a hook shot and at times showed more range with his jump shot.

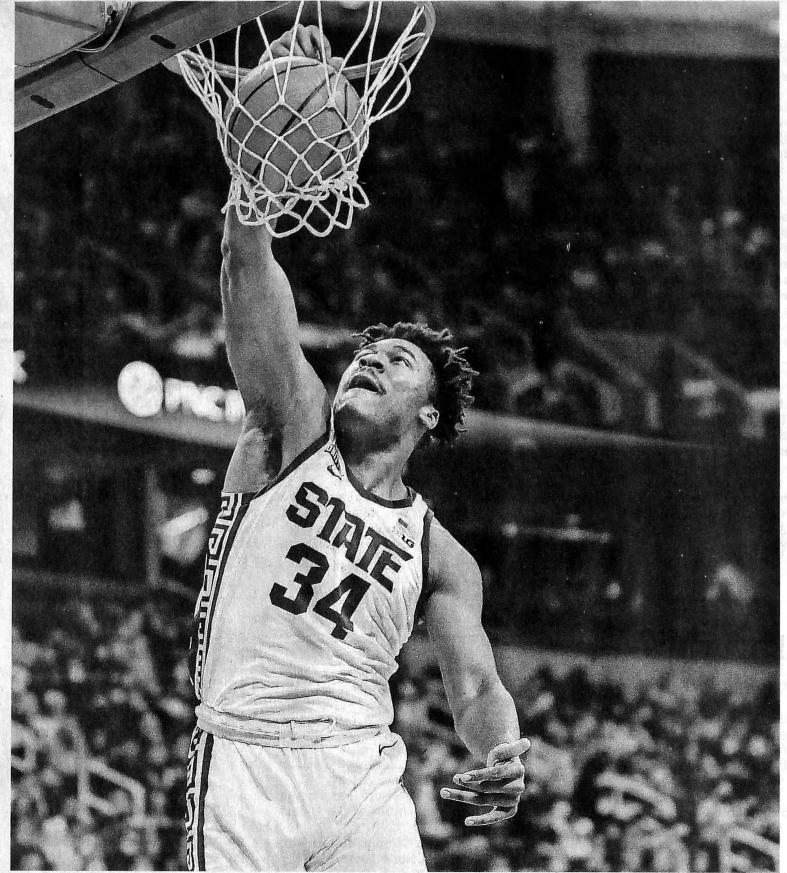
Marble, a Dallas native whose father Julius died in July 2020 before his son's second season at MSU, has two seasons of eligibility left with the COVID waiver.

The Spartans' low post presence already got thinned with Marcus Bingham Jr. opting to turn pro and not take advantage of his extra season of COVID eligibility. While Marble could withdraw from the portal and return to MSU, but a potential departure would leave MSU with only seldom-used junior Mady Sissoko and incoming freshman Jaxon Kohler as true centers.

However, junior Malik Hall did play some there as an undersized option at times, and coach Tom Izzo recently said in a radio interview with WVFN-AM (730) that Hall could be changing positions this season without specifying whether his 6-8, 225-pound captain would move to center or the wing for his senior season. Izzo also is waiting to hear if senior forward Joey Hauser will return for the 2022-23 season.

Hauser could use the COVID waiver and also has the potential for another season from when he enrolled early at Marquette halfway through the season and took a redshirt while recovering from a high school injury.

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Michigan State forward/center Julius Marble II dunks against Purdue at the Breslin Center in East Lansing in February. JUNFU HAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

ADORESTING AND DECEMBER MOOL



We provide news on multiple platforms connecting you to communities, people, and places.

Observer & Eccentric hometownlife.com

Hauser excited about return to MSU

Graham Couch Lansing State Journal USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

EAST LANSING – There's a bounce to Joey Hauser that I've never seen before. He's brimming with good energy, the sort of vibe that you'd hope for from a 22-year-old with a lot going for him. He seems like he's in a great place.

"I am," Hauser said Monday, five days after announcing he'd return to Michigan State for another season.

There are several reasons for Hauser's buoyant disposition. Some of it has to do with hoops ...

"I feel like next year is going to be a really good year. I feel good about where I'm at, like with my teammates, my coaches. I'm just really excited."

Some of it doesn't.

"I mean, this is my first normal spring at Michigan State," continued Hauser, who transferred from Marquette after his freshman season, in time for the pandemic-altered 2019-20 school year. "I'm finally getting to be a normal student."

Hauser wasn't planning on coming back to MSU for next season. He thought he might be done playing basketball. But he also didn't have another plan and about the middle of last season

"I kind of got out of that slump, finally," he said, "and I felt good about where I was at, and I was having a lot of fun doing it.

"The last month of the season, I started playing with the mentality, like, 'I don't really care what people think, or whatever, I'm just worried about what I'm doing. Just go out and have fun, you've got nothing to lose.'"

By the NCAA tournament, he was feeling good about his game and his shot. He wasn't sure whether he'd return.

"I remember thinking to myself (in March), 'This is a new season, teams get to kind of reinvent themselves going into the tournament, players get to make bigger names for themselves if they do something special," Hauser said.

"I just really wanted leave a mark, (have) at least something in my career that I could look back on and be like,

that was an awesome memory."

His 29 points in a one-point firstround win over Davidson will forever be that. It was made more special that he shared the court that night with his old roommate, Foster Loyer, with whom he'd spent countless days isolated a year earlier during the height of the pandemic.

"Then getting to play Duke and Coach K, and hopefully ending his career, I wanted to win that game really, really, really bad," Hauser said.

"I just wanted to make a deep tournament run and get to the Final Four, get to the second weekend and give ourselves a chance.

"When I finally got subbed out with 10 or 15 seconds left (and we weren't going to win), it hit me right there ... and also a little bit, 'Who knows what I'm going to do now.'"

After a conversation with MSU coach Tom Izzo and visits with his parents back home in Wisconsin and, in Boston, with his older brother (who plays for the Celtics), he knew he wanted to come back to East Lansing.

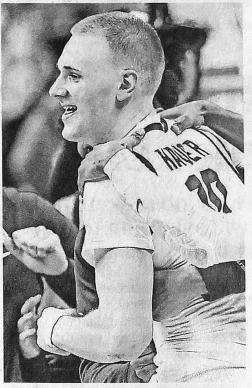
"My parents said, 'What's the plan here?'" said Hauser, who already has his communications degree from MSU and is halfway to a Master's in sport coaching, leadership and administration. "And I just said, 'I've just got to keep doing this. There's no way I can be done. I just got back to to being myself in terms of playing basketball and the love for it."

"He went through \$#!& and he survived it," Izzo said, referencing, in part, behavior from fans on social media. "And boy, it would be nice if he could flourish now and I think he can. I think it's a good move for him. For us, too. But I do think it's a good move for him."

Izzo has always believed in Hauser. "Sometimes more than I believed in myself," Hauser said. "He knows what me at my best could look like. I think I have a lot to offer."

Izzo told Hauser that he doesn't need to average 29 points per game, but there's no reason he can't put together that sort of performance more often.

Another factor in Hauser deciding to return was Izzo's response to Hauser and Malik Hall saying they wanted to



Joey Hauser is returning to Michigan State for another season. NICK KING/LANSING STATE JOURNAL

play together more regularly — at both forward spots — rather than so often it being one of them or the other on the court.

"I think with me and him on the court, it provides a lot of versatility and I think it's going to help us," Hauser said of his hopeful pairing with Hall. "We both move the ball really well. I think we're both pretty smart players, but to have us just kind of, when he's in, I'm out, when I'm in, he's out ... I think we deserve to be on the court together."

"They both have a feel for the game," Izzo said. "They both can pass it. Malik has improved his shooting so much. And Malik's gotten a little better with the ball, he can guard more people. And I think they enjoy each other. So I think they can be a dynamic twosome and really do some things for us and do them together."

The very real possibility that Max Christie isn't coming back adds to the opening on the wing.

The loss of Julius Marble last week to the transfer portal, which caught Haus-

er and just about everyone else by surprise, does not mean the plan is now to play Hauser for extended minutes at center.

"The 5 position is really not my position," Hauser said. "It wouldn't be my preference. If I have to, I'll do whatever."

"It's a little unknown what we're going to do with everything (at center)," Izzo said, not tipping his hand on options, including the potential of an incoming transfer. "I see Joey playing a lot like last year. He could play some (center), against smaller lineups."

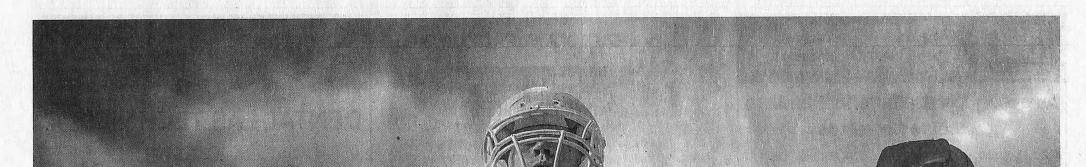
What Izzo is most excited about is feeling like he might have the person and player back that he watched work two years ago, while Hauser sat out after transferring from Marquette, back when transfers were ineligible for one season.

"Coach knows I really struggled with that COVID year," Hauser said of his first season on the court in 2020-21.

"The isolation for me, it was tough. I was really excited to make an impact right away. And then (COVID) happened. Everything was just uncertain about what we were going to do. That's enough to drive someone crazy. And once we found out what we had to do to play a season in terms of staying in our apartments, the testing every day, I mean, I really didn't even want to play. I didn't want to be confined to my apartment every day after practice. Have to only go here (to Breslin Center). It drove me crazy to sit (home) and not seeing my family after a game, not seeing fans in the stands, not even being able to go out to eat after a (game). It was really hard to deal with. And I didn't deal with it very well.

"I think (now) he feels like he can really just coach me the way that he envisioned it. How I envisioned it. He doesn't have to worry about whatever was going on with me.

"Me and him are just on the same page. And I'm really excited. I think my role on this team is going to expand. I want to be a leader for this team. I know I'm one of the older guys, and this is my fifth year of college basketball. I just really feel like I can have a large impact on this team and be one of our go-to guys."



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This is What Job Seeker Bargaining Power Looks Like

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More than half of employed job seekers think their current employer will ask them to stay and make a counteroffer if they resign

ZipRecruiter.com

Instead of asking workers to leave, employers are increasingly begging them to stay.

In December of 2021, for example, 3% of all payroll employees quit their jobs, while just 0.8% were laid off or discharged. That's a big change from the normal pre-Covid labor market, where 40% of all job separations were initiated by employers.

Record-low layoffs in recent months have coincided with record-high numbers of job openings and record-low numbers of unemployed job seekers per opening.

These unusually favorable labor market conditions have given job seekers and workers a boost in bargaining power-and their answers in a nationally representative monthly survey conducted by ZipRecruiter suggest they know it.

Consider the following survey findings:

- 54% of employed job seekers think their current employer will ask them to stay and make a counteroffer if they resign, up from 47% in February and 43% in January.
- 50% of job seekers who hope to find a new job in the next six months al-

ready have at least one other offer in . their back pockets, up from 42% in February and 42% in January.

JODS. POWERED BY ZipRecruiter*

- 17% of job seekers say they have ghosted an employer at some point during their current job search, up from 16% in February and 16% in January.
- Among hourly workers, the share earning less than \$15 per hour fell to 44% from 46% in February and 50% in January.
- Among hourly workers, the average reservation wage rose to \$21.13 in March from \$20.62 in January.
- 62% of job seekers either said they prefer or only want remote work (19% only want a remote job; 43% would prefer it but accept in-person work), much the same as in February.

In a market where so many job seekers have outside offers or are able to secure counter-offers from their existing employers, job seekers have substantial leverage and can make their demands known-whether for higher pay or for more remote work opportunities.

Businesses that delay in adjusting compensation or that insist on employees returning to the office five days a week may find it increasingly

a single click.

difficult to overcome powerful market forces in the opposite direction.

What is Job Seeker Bargaining Power?

The bargaining power of job seekers refers to the pressure that candidates can put on businesses to get them to provide higher wages and better working conditions. Job seeker bargaining power is strong when:

- There are few job seekers relative to job openings.
- · It is easy for workers to switch jobs.
- seekers • Job have alternative sources of income.
- Job seekers' skills are in high demand.

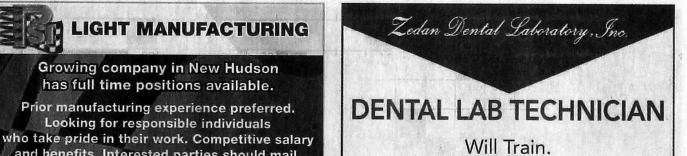
What are Reservation Wages?

to get hired, fast.

A worker's reservation wage is the minimum wage that the worker requires in order to participate in the labor market and accept a new job. Past research on pay expectations and reservation wages shows that:

- Job seekers are much more likely to accept job offers that are equal to or exceed their reservation wage than to accept jobs offering less.
- · An unemployed job seeker's reservation wage tends to fall slowly as their unemployment spell drags on.
- Job seekers reduce their reservation wages as they run out of savings and exhaust their assets.

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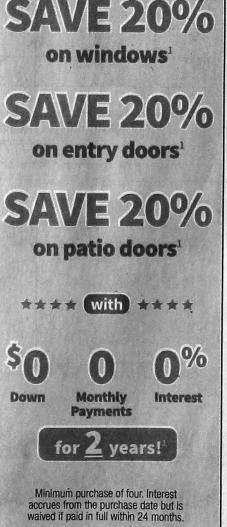
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