

We ranked all 28 local high school football teams

SPORTS, 1B

CANTON **OBSERVER**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2022 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



Josh Meier, director of school safety and security for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, brought his own Labrador Retriever to school Aug. 9. The district's new firearms detection dog is the same breed. LAURA COLVIN/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PCCS to unleash friendly firearms-detection dog

Laura Colvin Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

If everything goes according to plan, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools will welcome its first fourlegged staff member early this fall, one of the first of its kind in a Michigan school district.

School Safety and Security Director Joshua Meier said Plymouth-Canton is finalizing a pilot program to introduce a fulltime firearms detection dog and handler to the district roster.

A specific dog has yet to be identified, but Meier is working with K9 Academy Training Facility in Taylor to obtain a Labrador retriever fully trained in detection of ammunition, explosives and related components.

On a typical day, the dog and its handler will make the rounds at the western Wayne County school district's high school campus, which includes three buildings - Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools - and a total of about 6,200 students.

See DOG, Page 2A



EdK9's Biggie, with handler Brandi Gutierrez, at Oak Park Preparatory Academy. Plymouth-Canton plans to add its own ammunition-detecting and support dog to the district's high school campus. PROVIDED BY EDK9

Westland planning commission approves 3rd marijuana business

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The quest for Westland to become a major destination in the marijuana industry took another step this

A third marijuana business, this one planned on the north side of Cherry Hill west of Newburgh, recently received recommendation from the city's planning commission for a special land use and site plan.

The business, which would be a collocated facility that contains retail space for medicinal and recreational marijuana, would be near the Hush Haunted Attraction and The Legendary Axe bar.

"We have been working on this project for a while, we're excited to pump a number of millions of dollars into this project and I think we're going to bring a first class looking building to the front of that project," said Paul Weisberger, one of the petitioners with LJA Holdings. "We're going to be employing in the neighborhood of 60 to 100 employees, depending on how busy we get early on."

See BUSINESS, Page 4A

Phoenix Theatres seeks to serve alcoholic drinks at Livonia venue

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Cory Jacobson wants his guests to kick back and enjoy a cold one when watching the latest Marvel

The owner of Farmington-based Phoenix Theatres has asked the city of Livonia allow the theater at 17310 N. Laurel Park Dr., to operate with a Class C liquor license, which would allow them to serve alcohol to guests seeing a movie.

"We are someone that wants to offer amenities for customers and right now, if you look at all the other major motion picture theaters in the market, everyone is selling liquor except us," he said. "I don't know how many customers we lose because of that, but it's a nice amenity to have."

Jacobson said they would offer drinks at all times from the concession stand when movies are playing

During the Aug. 9 planning commission at which the matter was discussed, one area resident asked for the decision to be delayed, citing concern over the number of places that serve alcohol in that area of

With films starting in the morning, that resident expressed concern over guests having too much to drink at all hours of the day.

Unlike a bar, Jacobson said customers are most likely to purchase one drink before heading into a theater for a show. Once the lights dim and the guest enjoys the drink, they don't typically return for an-

"There's very, very few repeat customers for alcohol in a movie theater," he said. "I think that's one really nice reason this is a nice amenity."

Jacobson said they have not had any issues at any of their other theaters that serve alcohol.

Jacobson said booze is sold at the State Wayne in downtown Wayne, as well as the company's theater in Grand Rapids that opened earlier this year. Alcohol is also sold at Phoenix Theatres locations in both Massachusetts and Iowa.

Jacobson said they also hope to add alcohol sales in the future to the company's theater in Monroe as

The Livonia Planning Commission unanimously approved the liquor license, which now goes to the city council for consideration.

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



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Volume 48 | No. 19 Home delivery pricing inside



After conquering country music dreams, Cochran comes home to play South Lyon

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Anita Cochran's dream growing up in South Lyon was to one day sing at the Grand Ole Opry.

That dream became a reality long ago—with the country music star delighting in multiple appearances on country music's biggest stage in Nashville.

But after traveling all over the world, Cochran still has one more place she wants to play: her hometown.

"I have never performed a show in South Lyon, ever," she said. "How have I never played a show in my hometown?"

That will change this month when Anita Cochran performs 7-8:30 p.m., Aug. 26 at McHattie Park in a grand finale to South Lyon's 2022 summer concert series.

"This is a big deal for South Lyon," City Manager Paul Zelenak said. "She is a hometown girl... We expect hundreds of people for this concert."

It will mark an extraordinary Cochran comeback after conquering cancer and a COVID pandemic touring interruption after a career that took off more than 30 years ago.

Cochran, 55, was born to Matthew and Sarah Cockerham, musicians in the Lakeland Gospel Singers group who named their daughter after country singer Anita Carter.

At just 4-years-old, she learned how to play "Amazing Grace" and "Folsom Prison Blues" on rhythm guitar and later added bass guitar, banjo, mandolin, piano and drums to her instrument skill set. She also added her voice to the family chorus, and the school choir, fondly remembering South Lyon teachers Mrs. Lyons and Mr. McPhale.

The entire time she was growing up, Cochran dreamed of playing the Grand Ole Opry. She graduated in 1985 from South Lyon High School and attended Oakland Community College, taking recording and broadcasting classes to learn how to make records.

From there, she put in her dues, landing a job at Pearl Sound in Canton working with artists including Bob Seger, Anita Baker, and Stevie Wonder.

Her big break came when Wendy Moten, who recently finished second on "The Voice," needed a background singer on a record she was recording. Her manager asked for a demo of Cochran's music and the president of Warner Brothers invited her to Nashville in the mid-90s, where she has made her home ever since.

Cochran has released four records since making her Grand Ole Opry debut on May 17, 1997, one of the most important days of her life.

She recalls standing in the circle on that stage singing, "I could love a man like that" and also, "Daddy can



Anita Cochran plays the Grand Ole Opry, a childhood dream she has accomplished multiple times. On Aug. 26, she comes to South Lyon to play for her hometown crowd. COURTESY OF ANITA COCHRAN

you see me?"

Her daddy did see her, and since then, so have thousands more, not only on Nashville's biggest stage, the only one she ever gets nervous on, but stages all over the world. Her biggest hit came in 1998, a duet with Steve Wariner, "What if I said," which reached #1 across all radio stations for two weeks in a row. Cochran wrote the song.

Four more of her songs can also be heard in the movie "The Dukes of Hazzard: Hazzard in Hollywood," in which she also scored a role as Anita Blackwell, the girlfriend of Luke Duke, played by actor Tom Wopat.

"I played a struggling country artist, imagine that," laughs Cochran. "The music business is always a struggle, but I was very blessed and shocked at how fast I got a record deal. Staying in the business full-time for 25 years... I am so blessed to continue a career that long, making a living and not getting a real job."

In recent years though, she has had to overcome some unexpected, extreme challenges—not only being out of work for an extended period thanks to the pandemic, but overcoming cancer.

In 2017, Cochran was diagnosed with aggressive breast cancer, which took her off the road for nearly two years as she endured surgeries and chemotherapy that sickened her so much it nearly killed her will to live.

The experience inspired Cochran to write the song, "Fight Like a Girl," which came to her as she was on a tractor mowing a pasture. The song also brought her back into the spotlight, with an invitation to perform on "Good Morning America," as well as during the half-time show of an NFL Thursday Night Football game.

Her cancer fight also inspired her to launch a charity, "The Love Anchors Fund," which assists breast cancer patients.

Cochran is now approaching five years in remission and back to touring all over the country, wherever she is called to go, and could not be more excited to heed the call to come home and is hoping the Aug. 26 performance at McHattie Park is "a big ol' giant party."

"After I've what been through, I'm thankful for every day I have," Cochran said. "I've been very blessed and fortunate."

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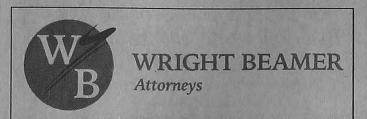
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Dog

Continued from Page 1A

"The dog will be dual-trained," said Meier, who served 23 years as Canton Township's director of public safety before taking a job with the school district in 2020. "While the dog's primary task will be to detect firearms and explosives, it will also serve as emotional support animal ... even if someone is just having a bad day and needs a hug."

The dog will also be available for deployment to the district's middle and elementary schools. If things go well, Meier hopes eventually to add several more dogs to the team.

Gun scare, lockdown motivate plan

The idea to bring in a firearms detection dog came on the heels of an hours-long lockdown at the Plymouth-Canton high school campus last fall. In the wake of the deadly Oxford High School shooting on Nov. 30, Plymouth-Canton saw numerous copycat threats, Meier said. District officials and police went on high alert when a student reported seeing a gun in the waistband of another student on the high school campus Dec. 9. All three buildings were locked down for hours before police allowed students to finally go

Although a firearm was never found on school property, the incident prompted Meier to propose a plan to bring a dog to the district as some parents clamored for metal detectors.

"We heard the message from our parents loud and clear that they want safe schools," Meier said. "But you can't just put a metal detector at a door and expect it to work; you have to have staffing and you have to look at how many entrances and exits we have, how many students coming in and out of the buildings all day."

The district's high school campus is unique, he said, in that students transition between all three buildings for classes.

"We don't want schools to feel like a prison," he added. "But we want them to be safe."



Oakland County district currently uses firearms dog

In Oakland County, Avondale School District also uses a firearms detection dog. While Plymouth-Canton plans to own its dog and directly employ the handler, Avondale contracts with Rochester Hills-based Elite Detection K9 for the service.

"It's been quite successful," said Avondale Superintendent James Schwarz, noting the dog goes through a daily routine and is well-loved at the high school.

Avondale's dog also doubles as a social emotional support for students.

Part of a larger school security plan

As a search for just the right dog for Plymouth-Canton continues, Meier said he was hopeful the dog would be in place around the time school begins Sept. 6. He was also careful to point out that a firearms detection dog would not be a one-size-fits-all solution to school safety and security, but part of a comprehensive plan

Currently, the district has a school resource officer from the Canton Police Department in each building, security cameras, crash-rated barrier gates in the high school campus, lockdown systems, a security operations center and other resources designed to keep the buildings safe.

"It's a work in progress," Meier said. "I feel strongly about the measures we have in place, but we always have to challenge ourselves to find ways to improve our safety and security measures."

Community support

District Superintendent Monica Merritt said the school safety and security team has a long-range plan to continue to improvement and was "incredibly grateful" to have the support of local service clubs, businesses, and other organizations in the commitment to school safety.

"We would particularly like to thank the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth for a lead gift in this effort, the purchase of a Labrador retriever that has been specifically trained in weapons and ammunition detection while also serving the district as a comfort dog for our students," Merritt said in an email statement.

Cost for the trained dog obtained through K9 Academy Training Facility is \$12,000. The district will incur ongoing costs for handler salary and care of the dog.

Dale Yagiela, past president of the Plymouth Rotary Club, said his organization and other local civic groups held two community forums, along with district leaders and local law enforcement, following last year's lockdown at the high schools. The groups are committed to ongoing support of school safety, whether it means financial or other support.

"We're waiting to hear from (the school district) about what the needs are needs and how we can respond over the next few years," he said.



Pageant host Priya Kaur Mann takes a selfie with the winners and contestants of the India Michigan Pageants at the Meridian in Farmington Hills on July 17.

PHOTOS BY AKASH PAMARTHY, DETROIT FREE PRESS

India Michigan Pageants crown winners for 2022

Akash Pamarthy Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

Mira Bedi, of Bloomfield Hills, remembers being wrapped in her father's arms with eyes wide open when she was young watching the television screen as Indian women walked down the runway in beautiful gowns.

Bedi was describing watching pageants with her father.

"I would say growing up, I never missed (them)," Bedi said about watching the pageants. "My dad and I, especially the two of us, would be glued to the TV, eating our popcorn and watching the whole show."

A new generation of Indian kids from Michigan got to witness similar pageantry July 17, only in person, at the India Michigan Pageants' 2022 competition at The Meridian event venue in Farmington Hills.

"Now it's about empowering women," said Bedi who is a co-organizer of the India Michigan Pageants with her sister-in-law Rupali Bedi, who lives in Northville and owns the Chrysalis Couture clothing store in Bloomfield Hills.

"It's not just about the beauties of external," Mira Bedi said in an interview July 12. "It's also about the internal beauty."

The pageants came back to Michigan in 2021 after a few years' absence. They give women of Indian heritage a platform to showcase their culture, ethnicity and Indian roots.

"It's been (Mira Bedi's) dream for years to bring back the pageant," Rupali Bedi said. "'Why is Michigan not out there? We got to do it, she kept asking me." Previously, the last pageant in Michigan was in 2007.

The pair organized the return of India Michigan Pageants in 2021 but had to livestream it because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

They received enormous support from the Indian community in the U.S., they said, and came back this year with a live audience cheering for contestants vying for Miss India Michigan, Miss Teen India Michigan and Mrs. India Michigan crowns. The latter two titles were introduced for the first time last



Tejaswi Koneru, participating in the teen category, performs an Indian classical dance in the talent round.



Miss Teen India Michigan 2021 Navya Paingol, 19, crowns Samaya Beri, 15, after Beri was announced as Miss Teen India Michigan 2022.



Harshit Trivedi and Meena Trivedi kiss their daughter, Puja Trivedi, 24, center, after she won the Miss India Michigan 2022 title at the India Michigan Pageants.

year to encourage and empower teen girls and married women to participate.

The contestants competed in a talent round by painting, dancing and singing Indian songs, each representing their language and culture. The competition also had an Indian attire round and an evening gown round. Finalists also answered one final question from judges in the question-and-answer round.

"Having people in person, seeing their reactions, seeing them involved, and showing how amazing talent that we have here (is). It is a gratification," Rupali Bedi said.



Jayashree Neelakanta Rao has her makeup done backstage.





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Should I take my 401(k) with me when I leave employment?



Money Matters
Rick Bloom
Guest columnist

Dear Rick:

I am in my early 50s and starting a new job. What should I do with my old 401(k)? I'm not sure if I should leave it there or transfer it to my new company. My new company plan offers a variety of funds, including target date funds. What do you think of target date funds; are they a good alternative?

Thank you, Charles **Dear Charles**:

Generally, when someone leaves an employer, I think it's a good idea to take their 401(k) with them. I generally encourage investors to directly transfer their 401(k) into an IRA. By moving the funds into an IRA, you are in total control of your money, and not limited in your investment options.

If you transfer the money to your new employer or leave it with your old employer, your investment options are limited to what the employer offers and subject to changes the employer may If you transfer the money to your new employer or leave it with your old employer, your investment options are limited to what the employer offers and subject to changes the employer may make.

make. I believe that IRAs provide more flexibility and the option to invest based upon your individual situation.

Of course, in transferring your money into an IRA, you want to make sure that you invest the money in commission-free and low-cost investments.

Unfortunately, there are many financial salespeople who sell products such as annuities and other high-cost, high-commission products that should be avoided. Remember, high cost equals low returns.

Therefore, if you transfer the money into low-cost funds, then it generally makes sense to move the money from

the old 401(k) plan into an IRA.

Target date funds can certainly be a good option for many investors. A target date fund invests in a diversified portfolio of stocks and bonds.

The allocation within stocks or bonds is based upon the retirement target date of the fund. For example, a target date fund for 2050 will have a higher allocation toward stocks than a 2025 target date fund.

Typically, target date funds are geared for investors who want to put their money on autopilot. The theory of the target date funds is that as you get closer to retirement, which generally is your target date, the portfolio becomes more conservative.

In other words, the allocations shift to more fixed income investments and less equities.

On the whole, I don't have a major issue with target date funds. Particularly, for a young investor who does not have much investing experience, target date funds are a good option. However, as the investment gets closer to the target date, the fund typically has less growth investments.

The problem with this is that I believe in retirement you need to continue to

have a rising income. Considering that retirement can last 20-30 years, it's important to have a growth element in retiree portfolios. That is why sometimes in recommending a target date fund, I am not using retirement as the target date, but rather, a later date so there is more growth in the portfolio.

Target date funds have become popular, and they are a good alternative for many investors. However, they are not for everyone. The closer you are to needing your money in retirement, the more attention you must pay to your portfolio. It is important for your portfolio in retirement to produce the income that you need, but at the same time have a growth element.

I've always said that although we live in the greatest country in the history of the world, there's nothing worse in this country than being old and poor. To prevent this from happening, it is important that your portfolio always contain a growth element.

Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is www.bloomadvisors.com. If you would like him to respond to your questions, email rick@bloomadvisors.com.

Business

Continued from Page 1A

The building would include retail, grow and processing operations on site. To comply, the development has several conditions the city administration wanted to see as a part of the recommended approval, including adhering to the city's tree ordinance, submitting an odor control plan and more.

Another issue brought up by Commissioner Deanna Adams-Stachow was the location of the handicap spaces on the proposed plan. The designated spaces on the plan were farther away from the door, and given that the facility will offer medicinal marijuana, she said those spaces could better serve customers if moved closer.

"I would like to proposed that that handicap area ... be moved to the front



of the building, where it would be to the closest entrance where the customers would be coming in so that they would have a short accessibility to your front door," she said.

Land along **Cherry Hill in** Westland is slated to become the home of a new marijuana business. The building would include retail, grow and processing operations on site. DAVID VESELENAK/ HOMETOWNLIFE. сом

With the unanimous recommendation from the planning commission, the item now goes to the city council for its final decision on the matter.

The marijuana business is just the

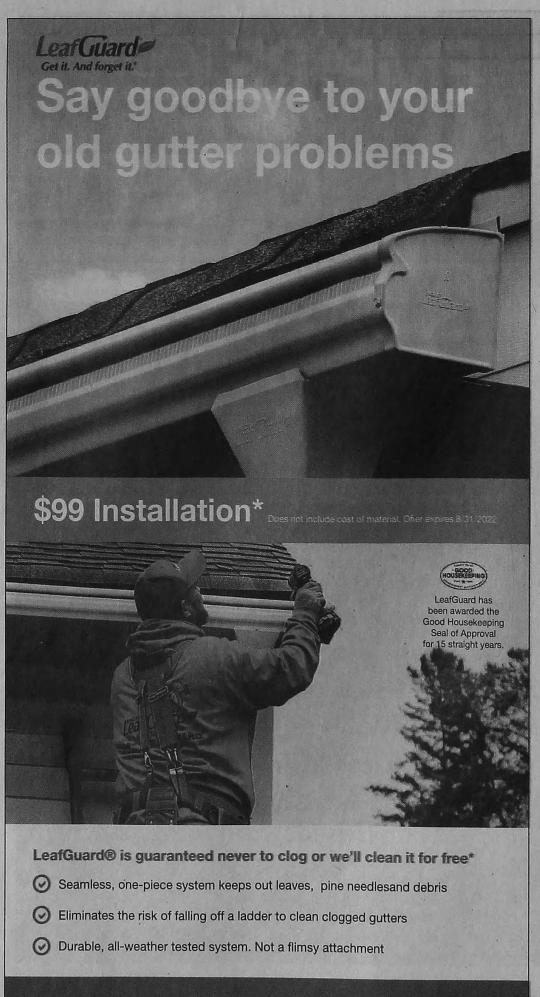
latest one to appear before the city's planning commission for work. The city originally OK'd an ordinance several years ago allowing a specific number of marijuana businesses, including one across the street from this location on the south side of Cherry Hill and another near Joy and Inkster.

That close proximity made some commissioners question whether two businesses so close to each other would affect business. Weisberger said he did not believe it would, as they have a good relationship with the other company.

He said, if anything, it will give customers better options and promote healthy competition.

"I think it will be a good experience from people looking for quality cannabis within the Westland greater area," he said.

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



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AFTER

Invasive spotted lanternfly appears in Oakland County

Liliana Webb Detroit Free Press **USA TODAY NETWORK**

Michigan's first spotted lanternfly was detected on Wednesday in Oakland County.

The invasive bug could bring destruction to grapevines and trees.

"Although not unexpected, this is certainly tough news to share due to its potential to negatively impact Michigan's grape industry," said Gary Mc-Dowell, director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture confirmed the finding on Thursday.

The insect is an invasive species from eastern Asia. It was first found in the United States in Pennsylvania in 2014.

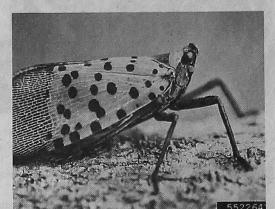
They feed on a wide range of plants, including the tree of heaven, grapes, black walnut trees, river birch trees, willow trees, sumac trees, and red maple

Spotted lanternflies produce a sticky liquid while feeding that gathers on the ground or nearby vegetation. This liquid forms a sooty mold, discoloring or killing plants.

"The research community is still learning about the spotted lanternfly, and its potential for impacting our natural resources as well as treatments to eliminate this pest," said Joanne Foreman, Michigan Department of Natural Resources invasive species communications coordinator.

"It also could have an effect on important timber species statewide. What the long-term impact might be is unknown.'

For additional information, visit the state of Michigan's website at bit.ly/ 3pfI7iW.



The spotted lanternfly. PROVIDED BY LAWRENCE BARRINGER

Obituaries

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

Rosell Gocharian

LIVONIA - Passed away on August 14, 2022 at the age of 101.

Rosell was the beloved wife of the late Harry, loving mother of Douglas (Clarice) Brown, Theresa Bak, Lowell Gocharian. Proud grandmother of Molly Brown (Bruce Jarrett), Melanie (James) Piana; great-grandmother of Kaleb Packer. She was the dear sister of Elmer (Mary Nell) Whalen. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at Griffinfuneralhome.com







Marie Gulian

Mrs. Marie Gulian passed away at the age of 72 on May 23, 2022 due to heart complications in Boynton Beach, FL.

Beloved wife to the late Stewart Gulian.

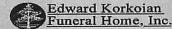
Stepmother to Stacy & Gregg, Grandma to Lauren and Sister to Paul and Bill Farmer.

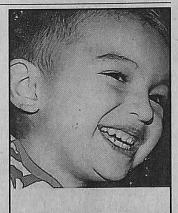
She was a Beautiful person who spread joy and Happiness wherever she went.

Respected member of the Southfield, MI and Boynton Beach FL. communities.

Please make Memorial Donations to Michigan Humane https:// www.michiganhu-

mane.org. To send a loving message, please go to Marie's obituary at www. ekfh.net.

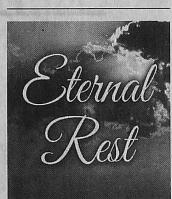




Kevin Robert Polzin Jr.

Kevin Robert Polzin Ir. passed away August 11, 2022, born in Ann Arbor to Kevin R. Polzin and Claudia Perez on December 31, 2017.

Visitation was 12-8 PM with a 6 PM service on Wednesday August 17, 2022. Pastor Bob Lafferty Officiating at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr, Belleville, MI 48111 (734)-697-4500. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions can be made to the family to defray funeral expenses.





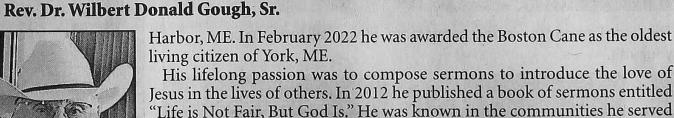
YORK HARBOR - The Rev. Dr. Wilbert Donald Gough, 104, of York Harbor, ME, went to be with his Lord peacefully on Saturday, August 13, 2022, from the result of his body just wearing out, which he worked hard to preserve over his lifetime.

Born in Davidson, OK on June 13, 1918, in a small house near a cotton gin, the son of the late Samuel Emery and Edna Mae Gough was raised in Dallas and Graham, TX, graduating from Graham High School as the valedictorian in the class of 1935. While enrolled in Draughon Business College of Wichita

Falls, TX, he worked at Morrisons Department store as an accountant and office manager until the event at Pearl Harbor. Feeling lead to serve his country, he enlisted in the Navy in 1941 and was assigned as a Commissary man to the Philadelphia Naval Yard. It was in Philadelphia attending church that he met, fell in love with, and married Florence Isabel Arthur, in 1943, and decided to commit his life to serving God.

Honorably discharged from the Navy, he began the pursuit of acquiring a B.A. in Theology by taking courses at Philadelphia Bible College, Temple his wife Susan of New Castle, NH; his daughter, Diane Elizabeth Fowler and University and Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, while working for Tastykake and serving as a Pastor for Manatawna Baptist Church. Between 1946 and 1950, he was awarded a BA in Theology from Temple and a BA in Theology and a Master of Divinity from Eastern. He became Pastor of the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church in 1948. In 1953, he left Philadelphia to become the Pastor of Gilbert Memorial Baptist Church in Mount Clemens, MI. Over the next 12 years, he led that church to renaming itself as the First Baptist Church and building a new church and custodian house that continues to serve that community. While there, he completed his Doctor of Theology degree in 1959 from Burton Theological Seminary of Colorado Springs, CO. In 1973, he was awarded the Master of Divinity degree from Temple University and the Doctor of Divinity degree from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary for his service to churches in Waterloo, IA and Clarksburg, WV.

Pastor Gough moved back to Michigan as the senior minister of Grand River Baptist Church in Livonia and served until 1983, when he retired to Plymouth, MI. However, God led him to come out of retirement to continue serving churches in MI (West Highland Baptist), NH (Hampton Baptist may be sent to Eastern University 1300 Eagle Road St. Davids, PA 19087 or and Trinity in Seabrook), and ME (Kittery Point Baptist and First Chriswith his wife to a retirement community, he continued his service to God Funeral Home. by leading Bible study groups in York Village and at Sentry Hill Inn in York

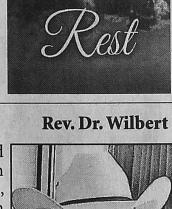


'Life is Not Fair, But God Is." He was known in the communities he served as "the guy who is always passing out sermons." When not in public, he enjoyed doing the activities of accounting and reading stock analysts reports of companies in which to invest. Earnings from investments allowed him to practice philanthropy and the art of giving to support non-profit initiatives to provide funding for serving others for the good. But foremost to Wilbert was his family and what he could do to help them. He had a strong thirst for "news" about what was going on in the life of a family member, as well as friends and acquaintances. Always, it seemed, wanting to know how he could help. A spiritual and kindhearted man, his pleasure was worshipping in church and sharing the good news of the Bible. He often reflected on his life and cherished memories, always grateful to God for the blessing He bestowed on him.

Surviving family members include his son, Wilbert Donald Gough, Jr. and her husband Phil of Midlothian, VA; grandsons Brandon (Corona, CA), Matthew (New Castle, NH), and Jeremy (Brooklyn, NY) Gough; granddaughters Erin Murray (Kenilworth, IL), and Stephanie Smith (Henrico, VA); great-grandsons Adam Gough, Oliver Gough, and Leo Gough, Grant Smith, Hudson Smith, and Braden Smith; great-granddaughters Charlotte Gough, Olivia Leonard, and Julia Leonard; sisters Sammye King (Richland Hills, TX) and Loretta Harris (Abilene, TX); many cousins, nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Wilbert was predeceased by his wife Florence Isabel (Arthur) Gough, his sister Ruth Williams, his brother Charles Gough,

and his granddaughter Amy Leonard. Visiting hours will be from 5 - 7 PM on Friday, August 19th at the J S Pelkey & Son Funeral Home, 125 Old Post Road, Kittery, Maine, 03904. A Funeral Service will be held at First Parish Church, 180 York St, York, Maine, 03909, on August 20th at 11 am. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited. Burial will be at Forest Hills Cemetery, 25 Byberry Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA, 19006. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations https://www.eastern.edu/giving (The Rev. Dr. Wilbert D Gough Memorial tian Congregational). While living in NH, he served as a Staff Associate for Fund). To leave online condolences please visit www.jspelkeyfuneralhome. The American Baptist Churches of Vermont and New Hampshire. Moving com. Care for the Gough family has been entrusted to the JS Pelkey & Son





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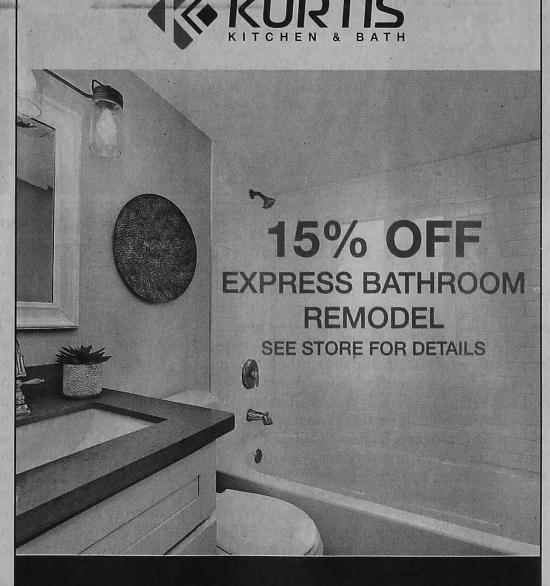
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SPORTS

Ranking all 28 local HS football teams

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom is here to rank all 28 of the football teams local to the Hometown Life coverage area ahead of Week 1, which kicks off on

Where did your favorite team land in the rankings? Find out below:

28. Wayne Memorial (2021 record: 0-9, 0-7 KLAA-East)

Coach Mike Ryan is in the second year of the Zebras' rebuild. An emphasis of his is retaining athletes who are native to Wayne. He's trying his best to keep them from transferring to nearby schools. That might not result in wins this season, but it should down the road.

27. Redford Thurston (2021 record: 1-8, 1-6 WWAC)

Coach Bob Snell has retired after 34 seasons, so the Eagles are going through a coaching change. That's one challenge new coach Antwain White, a Thurston graduate, must deal with as his program searches for its first multi-win season since 2019.

See ALL TEAMS, Page 2B



Our top 11 RBs in the Hometown Life area

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom takes a look at who he thinks are the 11 best running backs in the Hometown Life coverage area entering the 2022 season (all stats are from 2021):

Nolan Ray, Brother Rice

Vitals: 6-foot, 195 pounds, senior; rushed for 1,097 yards and 14 TDs.

Why: The Maryland commit should be one of the best running backs in metro Detroit because he can get it done on the ground, plus he makes plays in the receiving game.

Expect him to compete for firstteam all-state honors and maybe make an appearance on the Mr. Football watch list.

Evan Haeger, **Detroit Catholic Central**

Vitals: 6-foot-1, 200 pounds, senior. Why: The Shamrocks' Twitter page put him front and center on their schedule release post, and it makes sense.

The Alabama baseball commit runs just as hard as he can crush a ball in the batter's box.

See TOP 11, Page 3B

Our 18 favorite local HS football players on defense

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom takes a look at who he thinks are the top 18 defensive players in the Hometown Life coverage area entering the 2022 football season (all stats are from 2021):

Kyle Robbins, Birmingham Seaholm

Vitals: 6-foot-2, 185 pounds, junior; totaled 49 tackles, six pass breakups and two interceptions.

Why: The Maples allowed 309 points a year ago, which is the most they've ever given up in a single season dating back to 1950. Yet this strong safety still kept offenses honest when throwing the ball to his side of the field. Expect his team to give up fewer points with him overseeing the secondary.

Ahmad Taylor, Bloomfield Hills

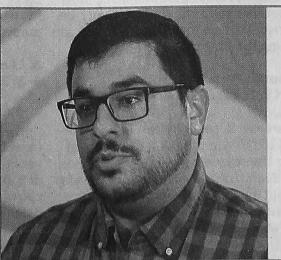
Vitals: 6-foot-3, 206 pounds, senior. Why: The defensive end was an integral part of the Black Hawks winning the OAA-Blue a year ago, and he'll be just as valuable as they step up into the White division. On the field, no pocket was safe when he was rushing around the end. Expect plenty of more QB hurries from this underrated defensive star.

See DEFENSE, Page 4B

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Novi's Niko Krall, left, and Cam Bloom tackle Brighton's Matt McKeown. GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

Bloomfield Hills' CJ Jackson rushes against Troy last season. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Detroit Catholic Central's Evan Haeger picks up some yards last season. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

All teams

Continued from Page 1B

26. Salem (2021 record: 1-8, 0-7 KLAA-West)

With a rusher like Robert Jones returning, on paper, the Rocks should be good. But playing in one of the state's toughest leagues will make it an uphill battle for Brendan Murphy, who wants to establish a winning foundation in his first season as coach.

25. Cranbrook (2021 record: 3-6, 1-3 CHSL-Intersection 1)

Linebacker John Kersch and Christos Tzoumakas, one of the best kickers in the country, are returning, which should be a boon for the Cranes, who played, pound for pound, one of the toughest schedules around a year ago. That included upsetting 8-win Madison Heights Bishop Foley. Can they navigate yet another challenging schedule in 2022?

24. Garden City (2021 record: 3-6, 3-4 WWAC)

It'll be tough competing with Redford Union for the league title, but the Cougars should be one of the better teams in the WWAC. A second- or third-place finish isn't out of reach, especially with them returning slotback Owen McGraw, who totaled 1,443 all-purpose yards and 11 TDs as a junior.

23. Westland John Glenn (2021 record: 2-7, 1-6 KLAA-East)

The Rockets' rebuild won't take as long as some might have anticipated. First-year coach Jason Mensing, who left state power Ottawa Lake Whiteford to take over John Glenn, is one of the top coaches in Michigan, plus they return Damon Powers, one of the best linebackers in the KLAA. A solid foundation has already been laid.

22. Plymouth (2021 record: 1-8, 1-6 KLAA-West)

Coach Greg Souldourian has vowed the Wildcats will look tougher, especially when it comes to finishing games on a high note. They must replace Kalamazoo College signee Connor Sherman at QB, but they definitely have the pieces in place to win more than just one game. Expect them to be competitive and maybe even pull off a handful of upsets.

21. Birmingham Groves (2021 record: 2-7, 2-3 OAA-White)

A lack of scoring is what hurt the Falcons a year ago, as they were held to just one score or fewer in five of their seven losses. And points won't be any easier to come by this fall. They're in the OAA-White once again, only the division has gotten tougher with the likes of Harper Woods and Bloomfield Hills joining the division. They must find a way to score more than the 118 points they produced in 2021, which was their lowest singleseason point total since 2007.

20. Canton (2021 record: 7-4, 5-2 KLAA-West)

The Chiefs return only two starters — Caleb Williams and Josiah West across the board. That's not good news as they prepare to play in one of the most challenging leagues in Michigan. However, this is Canton we're talking about. If any team can reload over one off-season and remain competitive, it's the Chiefs. Expect them to climb up Hometown Life's rankings relatively quickly.

19. Lutheran Westland (2021 record: 8-2, 5-0 MIAC)

The defending MIAC champions might have lost league MVP Paul Davenport, but the Warriors do return starting

QB Noah Etnyre, plus they have another favorable league schedule. It wouldn't be surprising to see them repeat as league champions, capturing just their second conference title since the program started in 1986.

18. Livonia Clarenceville (2021 record: 9-2)

The Trojans graduated one of its most important leaders in Sean-Brian Craig. But until a defense can figure out how to stop running back Jordan Williams, there's no reason Clarenceville can't put together another big season. Going 8-1 in the regular season again might be too much to ask, but this is definitely a playoff team.

17. White Lake Lakeland (2021 record: 6-4, 6-2 LVC)

Some of it was the injuries piling up, and then the schedule got challenging. But the Eagles fell apart down the stretch a year ago, losing four of its final six games. Now they must replace Michigan State baseball signee Tate Farquhar at QB. How they react to a hohum finish in 2021 will say a lot about this team, which wants to make the playoffs for a sixth-straight season.

16. South Lyon East (2021 record: 3-7, 3-5 LVC)

The Cougars have only won four games or more in a single season four times since the program was started in 2007. With coach Jake Topp entering his second season, this squad has the makeup to win at least four or five games. Especially with how many talented players are returning, including QB Nico Campo. A year ago, they upset White Lake Lakeland for the first time ever. Who are they upsetting this fall?

15. Birmingham Seaholm (2021 record: 1-9, 1-5 OAA-White)

Three years ago, the Maples scored 459 points and sprinted to a state semifinal appearance. They've scored just 317 points in the past two seasons combined. Their scoring should increase now that they're dropping down from the OAA-White to the Blue Division, which has a wide-open field. Expect QB Colton Kinnie to get Seaholm's offense back on track and maybe even contend for a division title.

14. Northville (2021 record: 3-6, 2-5 KLAA-West)

It's hard to fault the Mustangs for winning only three games total in four of the past five seasons. They play in a challenging league and are facing some of the best teams in Michigan each week. But QB Luca Prior is back to lead the team, and they should be improved. With games against Wayne, Plymouth and Salem, they should have no trouble winning three games. It's what they do in the other six that will say a lot about

13. Farmington (2021 record: 4-5, 4-4 OAA-Blue)

The Falcons' 2021 schedule was front-loaded. They played all the top teams in their league early on, and then they finished the season winning fourstraight against easier opponents. Now that coach Jason Albrecht is in his second season, Farmington should be more competitive right off the bat. Don't be surprised if they even make a run at winning the Blue title.

12. North Farmington (2021 record: 3-6, 1-4 OAA-White)

It's easy to see why the Raiders are projected to win the OAA-Blue, according to the league's pre-season coaches poll. Yeah, they lost six games a year ago, but four were by one score or fewer. And they were playing in the White division, which was loaded a year ago with Oak Park, Rochester and Rochester Adams. The wins should improve now that 5. Novi (2021 record: they're in a lower division.

KLAA Football Media Day on Aug. 12.

11. Redford Union (2021 record: 8-2, 7-0 WWAC)

The Panthers won their first league title since 2004 a year ago. Judging by how many talented starters they're returning, there's no reason they shouldn't repeat as WWAC champions. But they're not solely playing for a league title. They've got to take the next step as a program and win a district championship.

10. Detroit Country Day (2021 record: 7-4)

The Yellowjackets must replace QB Brandon Mann, who has walked on at Michigan. He was a true leader both on and off the field. Fortunately, they return four-star athlete Gabe Winowich, who should be one of the top rushers in metro Detroit. Winowich already holds offers from Maryland and Rutgers.

9. Milford (2021 record: 7-3, 6-2 LVC)

The Mavericks are coming off their best season since 2006. However, they let go of coach Garfrey Smith and replaced him with his top assistant, Andrew Micovich. They should be just as good with the likes of fullback Danny Sternberg, running back Ryan Allen and linebacker Wyatt Lesnew returning, but they are going through a coaching change. If they can get through that easy enough, they'll be competitive in the LVC.

8. Livonia Franklin (2021 record: 7-6, 3-4 KLAA-East)

The Patriots must replace 14 starters from their state semifinal squad, including Alma College signee Zac Olesuk at QB. However, the guys they return are nothing to scoff at. Running back Cordell Mabins Jr. and lineman Owen Hawley should make them one of the top rushing teams in the entire KLAA, regardless of division.

7. Livonia Churchill (2021 record: 8-3, 5-2, KLAA-East)

Attrition might have hit the Chargers the hardest, as they must replace a whole slew of current college football players from last year's team, including QB Taj Williams, running back Boston Clegg Jr., receiver Bailey Brooks and defensive back Josh Brown, among many, many more three-year starters.

6. Livonia Stevenson (2021 record: 4-5, 3-4 KLAA-East)

The Spartans are dealing with attrition as well, however, they likely return two of the best players out of all the Livonia schools in lineman Charlie Davidek and athlete ArJon Thompson, who can play QB, running back, receiver and defensive back. They should have the edge in the Livonia City Championship this fall.

5-5, 4-3 KLAA-West)

Livonia Stevenson coach Randy Micallef (left) speaks with the media during

With the seniors the Wildcats return, which includes QB Luke Aurilia, running back Cole Shires, lineman Preston Phimister, safety/receiver Colin Masterson and linebacker Niko Krall, they have a legitimate chance to win the KLAA-West, as they should compete with the likes of Hartland, Howell and Brighton. We'll learn a lot about them when they face defending state champion Belleville in the season opener at Wayne State University.

4. Bloomfield Hills (2021 record: 9-1, 8-0 OAA-Blue)

The defending OAA-Blue champions got bumped up to the White division, and it'll be challenging for the Black Hawks to compete with the likes of Harper Woods, Oak Park and Southfield A&T. But if anyone can carry them to a win in a challenging division, it's definitely QB CJ Jackson, who is one of the top dual-threats in the league.

3. South Lyon (2021 record: 12-1, 8-0 LVC)

The Lions won the LVC, put together a 9-0 regular season and advanced all the way to the state semifinal with a backup QB a year ago. And now that backup, Braden Fracassi, gets the chance to prove just how good he is as the full-time starter. Standing in their way of repeating last year's success will be Walled Lake Western, one of the top teams in Michigan. If they can get by the Warriors unscathed, they'll likely win out to finish the regular season.

2. Detroit Catholic Central (2021 record: 8-3, 2-1 CHSL-Central)

There's no denying how much the Shamrocks lost to graduation, especially with QB Declan Byle walking on at Michigan and receiver Owen Semp headed to Valparaiso University. But the core group of guys returning, which includes running back Evan Haeger and linebacker Brayden Courser, should make them competitive in the CHSL-Central, which was won by state champion Warren De La Salle a year ago.

1. Brother Rice (2021 record: 8-4, 1-2 CHSL-Central)

The Warriors had a tough season a year ago, though they won a district championship. They lost QB Hunter Polonkey to a collarbone injury, struggled in the CHSL-Central and lost a heartbreaker to Mason in the regional final. But they return a cast of studs, including several future college football players such as three-star running back Nolan Ray, who is committed to Maryland. Can Brother Rice keep up with De La Salle, who many are picking to repeat as state champs? It just might be able to. And if it can, it's definitely deserving of Hometown Life's No. 1 ranking.

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Twitter: @folsombrandonj.

Top 11

Continued from Page 1B

Jordan Williams, Livonia Clarenceville

Vitals: 6-foot, 170 pounds, senior; rushed for 1,486 yards and 19 TDs.

Why: The Trojans don't go 9-2 a year ago without their workhorse running back. Williams has sprinter speed and the strength to carry would-be tacklers into the end zone. He should be one of the leading rushers in metro Detroit.

Cordell Mabins, Livonia Franklin

Vitals: 5-foot-11, 195 pounds, senior; rushed for 1,146 yards and 10 TDs and also caught 23 catches for 335 yards and two TDs.

Why: When Mabins sees a hole, he makes one cut, and he's gone. And the holes were always there for him, as most defenses had to also respect the passing game from former Franklin QB Zac Olesuk. The yardage might be harder to come by this fall, but he's still one of the best running backs in the KLAA.

Owen McGraw, Garden City

Vitals: 5-foot-8, 165 pounds, senior; totaled 1,443 yards all-purpose yards and 11 TDs.

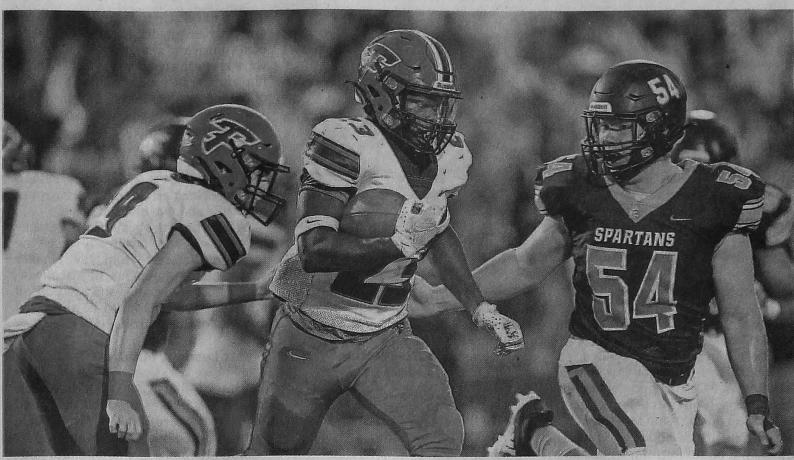
Why: McGraw isn't your typical full-house running back. He's incredibly valuable in the passing game as well. He complements QB Nathan Wasil well, and the duo should help the Cougars pull off an upset or two.

Danny Sternberg, Milford

Vitals: 5-foot-10, 190 pounds, senior. Why: Allen is the classic football player. He's a smashmouth runner, plus he's a hard-nosed tackler at the line-backer spot. As one of Milford's team captains, expect him to be a leader on and off the field. And don't be surprised if you see him in the end zone a few times.

Rayshon Mathews, North Farmington

Vitals: 6-foot, 200 pounds, senior. Why: Mathews might be a better linebacker than rusher, but his skills as



Franklin's Cordel Mabins rushes against Stevenson during a game last season. DAVE DONOHER/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Brother Rice's Nolan Ray rushes against Chicago Christ the King Jesuit at Wisner Stadium in Pontiac.

BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

a pass catcher out of the backfield make the Raiders' offense incredibly dynamic. He can split out wide, run routes out of the backfield and even take screens for long runs.

Cole Shires, Novi

Vitals: 6-foot, 195 pounds, senior; rushed for 459 yards and nine TDs.

Why: Entering his third year on the varsity, Shires was the perfect comple-



South Lyon's Tommy Donovan rushes during a game last season at Mott.

TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ment to QB Luke Aurilia in second-year coach Jim Sparks' fun-and-gun offense. He has great vision and can cut on a dime when needed. Expect him to have an even better year as a senior.

Jeremiah Alston, Redford Union

Vitals: 6-foot-1, 185 pounds, senior. Why: Although this Central Michigan University commit can play multiple positions, he's one of the Panthers' better rushers. Which is saying something because they're absolutely loaded in the backfield with the likes of Dawaune Strickland and Dequan Davis also running the ball.

Robert Jones, Salem

Vitals: 6-foot-1, 215 pounds, senior; rushed for 653 yards and five TDs.

Why: This Mack truck makes the oldest play in the playbook, the fullback dive, look amazing on a highlight reel. He has the strength to mow over would-be tacklers, plus he can turn on the jets when he gets into the open field.

Tommy Donovan, South Lyon

Vitals: 5-foot-11, 175 pounds, senior; rushed for 895 yards and 16 TDs and also caught 23 passes for 415 yards and five TDs.

Why: After helping the Lions win the LVC and make it all the way to the state semifinal in 2021, the recruiting trail has been heating up. And it's easy to see why. He should be his team's best player and will compete with Walled Lake Western's Darius Taylor for the league's rushing title.



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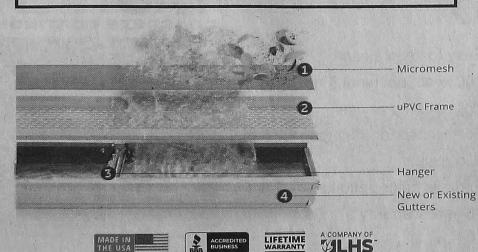
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Cada año, las escuelas comunitarias de Wayne-Westland y el Centro de carreras técnicas William D. Ford ofrecen programas de carreras técnicas a los distritos de escuelas secundarias de Wayne-Westland, Melvindale, South Redford, Redford Union, Crestwood, Dearborn Heights # 7, Van Buren , Plymouth-Canton, Northville y escuelas privadas del área. Estos programas están diseñados para preparar a los estudiantes de secundaria para una amplia gama de servicios de empleo y capacitación y se ofrecen bajo la guía de maestros certificados, consejeros y coordinadores de educación cooperativa. Para obtener más información, llame al (734) 419-2100 o visite nuestro sitio web: wwcsd.net/ford

sitio web: wwcsd.net/ford Carrera Técnica Programas de High School Secundaria Estudiantes 2022-2023

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Artes culinarias

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Tecnología de soldadura

El Centro de Carreras Técnicas William D. Ford ofrece 20 programas de Educación Técnica y de Carreras aprobados por el estado junto con los requisitos de matemáticas para la graduación de la escuela secundaria. La admisión al centro Career-Tech se basa en la progresión del estudiante en su plan de estudios de graduación de la escuela secundaria, así como en el interés del estudiante, el estado de los grados II y I2 y la recomendación del consejero. Todas las oportunidades de educación profesional y técnica se ofrecerán independientemente de la raza, el color, el origen nacional, el sexo o la discapacidad. La falta de habilidades en el idioma inglés no será una barrera para la admisión y participación en programas educativos técnicos y profesionales.

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Defense

Continued from Page 1B

Caleb Williams, Canton

Vitals: 6-foot, 170 pounds, junior.
Why: Only a junior, yet this defensive back is going to be a three-year starter, and he already holds Division I offers from Pittsburgh and Tennessee. If he doesn't become the best player in the Hometown Life coverage area this season, expect him to be the best by his senior year.

John Kersh, Cranbrook

Vitals: 6-foot-2, 215 pounds, senior; totaled 47 tackles, 21/2 sacks, three interceptions and two pass breakups.

Why: There's no doubt this middle linebacker is the heart and soul of the Cranes. Not only on their defense but off the field and during team meetings and film sessions. It's no shock he's receiving plenty of recruiting interest heading into the fall.

Brayden Courser, Detroit Catholic Central

Vitals: 6-foot-1, 230 pounds, senior.
Why: One of the hardest-hitting line-backers in the Catholic League, Courser should be one of the top players on the Shamrocks this year. This two-star recruit is receiving plenty of interest from colleges, ranging from lower-level Division I schools to the most elite D-II programs.

Gavin Miller, Farmington

Vitals: 6-foot-4, 295 pounds, senior. Why: Miller might be a better offensive lineman, but there's no questioning how tough he is on the defensive line. And the offers have been stacking up, from the NAIA and Division II levels to even D-I Dayton.

Kaden Williams, Garden City

Vitals: 5-foot-8, 180 pounds, senior; led program in tackles and sacks.

Why: This linebacker has a knack for chasing down a play before an opponent can turn it into a big gainer. The Cougars should be competitive in the WWAC, and Williams should help them win



Garden City's Cameron Domke, left, and Kaden Williams team up to bring down Romulus' Paris Patterson. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

more than the three games they won a year ago.

Malachi Bratton, Livonia Churchill

Vitals: 6-foot-1, 175 pounds, senior.
Why: The outside linebacker might have been one of the most underrated defenders in the KLAA a year ago, mostly because a cast of future college football players surrounded him. Expect him to be just as dominant of a runstopper and blitzer as the Chargers retool their defensive core with seven new starters.

Dontez Robinson, Livonia Clarenceville

Vitals: 5-foot-11, 155 pounds, senior; totaled 39 tackles (five for loss), two interceptions and one sack.

Why: The Trojans won eight regularseason games and advanced to the district championship a year ago. A lot of that had to do with a powerful offense led by running back Jordan Williams. But defenders such as Robinson, a strong safety, also played a big part in their success, as they gave up only one score or fewer in five of their 10 games.

Dominic Simpson, Livonia Franklin

Vitals: 5-foot-10, 170 pounds, senior; totaled 74 tackles (two for loss) and had 440 yards in special teams returns.

Why: The strong safety is the Patriots' Troy Polamalu. He's not afraid to come down and stop the run, plus he always keeps the receivers in front of both him and the sticks. Expect him to be one of the top tacklers in the KLAA.

Charlie Davidek, Livonia Stevenson

Vitals: 6-foot-3, 275 pounds, senior; totaled 42 tackles, three sacks, two pass breakups and two blocked kicks.

Why: One of the best defensive tackles in the KLAA is already receiving recruiting interest from the smaller schools in the state. Plus, he's been visiting Division I schools such as Central Michigan. Expect him to be the heart and soul of the Spartans' defense.

Wyatt Lesnew, Milford

Vitals: 5-foot-11, 230 pounds, junior; totaled 126 tackles (five for loss), two sacks, two forced fumbles, two fumble recoveries and one interception.

Why: He looks like an all-state middle linebacker, and he's entering just his junior year. A year ago, the Mavericks won seven games, the most they've won since 2006, and he was a big part of that. Expect them to have more success with Lesnew leading the defense.

Niko Krall, Novi

Vitals: 5-foot-9, 202 pounds, senior; totaled 108 tackles (8 1/2 for loss), three sacks, two forced fumbles, five fumble recoveries and two pass breakups.

Why: Assuming this middle line-backer stays injury free, he'll become the all-time leading tackler in program history. A year ago, the Wildcats gave up just 184 points, the second lowest total in the KLAA-West, and Krall had a lot to do with that.

Evan Cosgrove, Plymouth

Vitals: 5-foot-11, 195 pounds, senior; totaled 35 tackles (four for loss), one sack, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery.

Why: Coach Greg Souldourian wants his team to be tenacious after winning only one game a year ago. Expect this strong safety to bring that tenacity on defense and also expect the Wildcats to turn things around as they enter 2022 with more confidence.

Jaden Mitchell, Redford Union

Vitals: 6-foot-4, 360 pounds, senior; totaled 65 tackles (50 solo and 25 for loss).

Why: Three-star outside linebacker Jeremiah Alston is probably the best defender for the Panthers, but what's not to like about an almost 400-pound nose guard such as Mitchell? Union didn't allow a single running back to rush for 100 yards a year ago. With Mitchell in the middle, it's easy to see why.

Simeon Mardossion, South Lyon

Vitals: 6-foot-1, 210 pounds, senior; totaled 54 tackles (nine for loss), three sacks and two forced fumbles.

Why: One of the top returners on the Lions' defense, this inside linebacker plays sideline to sideline, which was good enough for All-LVC honors a year ago. South Lyon hasn't given up more than 223 points in each of the last four seasons. Expect that trend to continue with Mardossion chasing down ball carriers.

Damon Powers, Westland John Glenn

Vitals: 6-foot, 205, senior; totaled 112 tackles (16 for loss), two interceptions (one returned for a TD) 11/2 sacks and one forced fumble.

Why: Despite the Rockets winning only two games a year ago, this line-backer proved to be one of the best in the KLAA. Powers is a missile when it comes to reading the option and blowing up plays. He should be one of the leading tacklers in metro Detroit.

Caden Calhoun, White Lake Lakeland

Vitals: 6-foot-2, 260 pounds, senior; totaled 21 tackles (three for loss) and four sacks.

Why: This defensive end was All-LVC a year ago, despite missing four games because of both an ankle injury and a stress fracture in his other leg. He should bounce back to lead the Eagles' defense, especially with how much effort he puts into the weight room.

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsombrandonj.



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FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated at right. Find the listed words in the grid. They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once. Ring each word as you find it and when you have you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 19 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

	. o. oguines.co	iii.au		
Ability	Club	Hazard	Marc	Return
Anger	Condor	Head	Leishman	Score
Ball	Devlin	Heel	Motion	Stance
Bogey	Driver	Help	Nine	Tee
Buggy	Drop	Hole	Out of	Trap
Bunker	Easy	Hook	bounds	Webb
Bye	Enthusiastic	Норе	Pars	Wood
Caddie	Fade	Iron	Path	Yips
Cart	Flag	Kemp	Pins	
Chip	Green	Loft	Play	
Choke	Grip	Lost	Putt	

TODAY'S ANSWER

Hitting into the rough

HNIREKNUBMOTION ADAEHEIDDACHOKE BFHMDEVLINLTTSI NAAHNTSOLULNEY LWEDZSCYGHBINGY EEAIKEMPTGNE FSRPRELOHUE TSGLDLUBO HNRANGERSCTBATB COANPHAIEYRLEES RPCAPALSTPACWC ERSIAFLUHMPO DRINTEEREVIRDOR OOHIKOOHGPUGNRE

On the green

1-		2 :	
3×		2 :	36×
	8+		

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KENKEN

RHCNOUTOFBOUNDS

Each row and column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 though 6 (challenging) without repeating.

2. The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.

3. Freebies: fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

L	3	ヤ	7
3	7	7	I
†	7	L	3
7	T[3	Þ

SUDOKU | CREATORS

Insert numbers 1-9 in each box with every row, column and 3x3 box containing the digits just once. Difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest) RATING: GOLD

TODAY'S ANSWER

8	L	6	7	7	3	9	ς	I
7	t	ς	I	9	6	8	3	L
9	I	3	L	8	ς	6	7	7
I	6	8	ς	7	L	3	Þ	9
L	ς	9	3	I	Þ	7	6	8
3	7	7	9	6	8	L	I	ς
Þ	8	L	6	ς	7	Ī	9	3
6	3	I	Þ	L	9	ς	8	7
ς	9	7	8	3	I	Þ	L	6

9			1		8	2		
	8						4	9
		1		5				4
5	1	7			6			
	9			1			5	
		第4 11 2 1	7	7		8	9	1
4				8		3		
7			2				4	
		6	3		2			8

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NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 He's sarcastically blessed in Fiddler on the Roof
- 5 Play along with 14 Was awesome 15 1955-1991
- conflict
- 16 Good-luck pigment at Middle East weddings
- 17 Tavern entertainment
- **18** On
- 20 Hacker's goal What Beethoven
- called a piano 25 Envelope
- abreviatura 26 Bit of year-end debris
- 27 Apparel sold at kryptek.com
- 30 Live 31 Name for
- America's second-largest estuary 32 Outburst
- 36 Trusty groups? 38 It might get you
- down 39 Emirati
- neighbor
- 41 Great deal **42** Categorize carelessly
- 43 Designate 46 Mannered
- women and men 49 What -goer can
- mean 51 Pianist's pinky-thumb pairs
- 52 New members 56 What jelly beans
- are made with 57 A Coty company

- 58 Pose on a mat 59 Typical Saturday matinee cartoon
- 60 Illumination since the '60s (!)

DOWN

- 1 Something lowered or passed
- 2 Where Francis Ford Coppola grows his grapes 22 Stop sign
- 3 Former name of a Southeast Asian land
- 4 Abrupt stop at a red light 5 Shakespearean
- character with "sharp teeth"
- 6 Cell's heart 7 Part of a crane
- 8 Pianist's
- pinky-thumb pair
- 32 Alternative to "lck!"
- 9 "Très appréciée!" 33 Fabrication

- 10 Sales incentive
- 11 Superior at many schools 12 Longest-running

school

current CBS drama 13 Calls for 14 Erstwhile royalty,

23 Fat transporter,

24 Attention-getting

31 Superior at many

for short

rendering

Missy

29 Colo Spgs

schools

28 Nickname like

- 43 Polo team, for up and down 19 NJ liberal arts
 - instance 44 "Birthplace of

34 Chameleon's

37 Electrolyte, to

25 Across

42 Article length

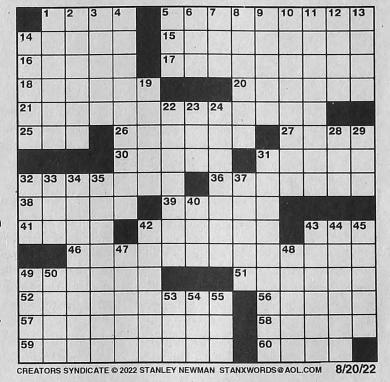
chemists

40 Term like

35 Teller

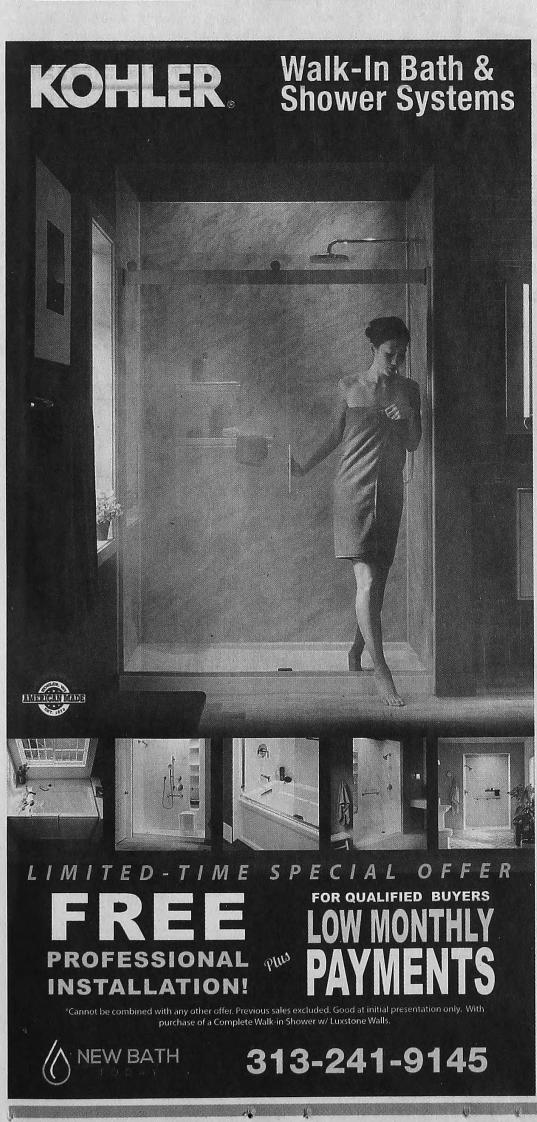
coloring, e.g.

- Democracy"
- 45 Mainly?
- 47 Chenin Blanc
- center 48 Not free
- 49 Micro-squared 50 What may follow
- 'Time is of the essence" training program 53 "We'll taunt you
 - you all turn blue": Spamalot
 - 54 Not following
 - 55 Rangefinder alternative



TODAY'S **ANSWER**

I E D S ONEBEELEB CONERGIRE ANASA PUREE S 3 T A I T I N I SHININ M O R T A 9 POLITESOCIETY M I 9 M U J 9 A 3 H I N A M O B B B O I B FLAREUPCARTELS DWELLPUGET SRAMEEDLESCAMO HAMMERKLAVIER V C C E 2 2 Q A A O B A SHONE SPACERACE HENNA PUBLEIVIA Y N A 9 M O D D A AAST





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Candidate and Job Seeker Confidence

ZipRecruiter.com

Candidate ghosting-that is, the practice of candidates cutting off communications with a potential employer at any stage in the recruiting process-peaked in May, according to self-reported behavior in the ZipRecruiter monthly Job Seeker Confidence survey. Job seekers were emboldened in a bustling job market full of opportunities.

Now, as job optimism about the future labor market outlook wanes, the share of job seekers who say they have ghosted a potential employer is rapidly falling. The survey provides insight into who ghosts employers, when, and why.

Here are five highlights from our findings:

1. Ghosting is more prevalent when job seeker optimism is high.

Job seekers' expectations regarding the future availability of jobs is the key factor driving ghosting. When candidates think there will be many more fish in the sea, they take less care to preserve their relationships with each potential employer. In July, as the share of job seekers who believe there will be fewer jobs available 6 months from now rose by 5.4 percentage points, the share of job seekers who said they had ghosted an employer in their most recent search fell by 3.4 percentage points.

2. Ghosting is more common among first-time job seekers.

31% of first-time job seekers say they have ghosted an employer during their current search, whereas only 12% of experienced professionals say so. First-timers seem to have fewer qualms about burning bridges with potential employers. They may not yet appreciate the long-term value of preserving professional relationships and expanding their networks.

3. More aggressive job seekers are more likely to ghost potential employers.

- · There are stark differences between candidates who ghost and those who don't.
- Ghosters apply to more jobs.
- · Ghosters have more

job interviews. Ghosters are emboldened by having more offers.

In other words, ghosting may largely be the result of busy job seekers struggling to juggle multiple job offers and interview opportunities at once.

4. People who have themselves been ghosted by employers are more likely to ghost employers.

47% of ghosters say they themselves have been ghosted by a potential employer, vs. only 31% of non-ghosters.

5. Ghosting happens in both blueand white-collar jobs, and across all industries.

The common perception that ghosting is more common among hourly workers with little education is false. 34% of ghosters say they are pursuing salaried jobs, vs. only 25% of nonghosters.

> There are four things that businesses can do to minimize the number of candidates ghosting them:

1. Recruit proactively.

Online job posting platforms give employers the opportunity to reach out to qualified candidates to apply for job openings.

2. Create a clear communication channel with candidates, keep them posted with their job application status and make the hiring process more transparent and predictable.

Candidates are more likely to ghost an employer if they do not hear back from the employer. 15% of job seekers complain about hiring timelines not being clear. Making the hiring steps predictable helps to keep the candidates engaged throughout the process.

3. Make the hiring process fast and

Longer-than-expected hiring processes can be anxiety-inducing for candidates. Hiring managers should streamline hiring processes and limit the number of interview rounds. Given that 47% of job seekers surveyed by ZipRecruiter say they have already secured at least one job offer, the longer an employer takes to make a decision, the more likely they are to lose the candidate to another employer.

4. Personalize your hiring process and build professional talent acquisition teams.

When your talent acquisition team members are friendly and upbeat, they foster a positive candidate experience and increase candidate engagement.

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