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A large tree limb fallen along Osmus Street north of Seven Mile in Livonia on Tuesday, a day after storms hit the region that caused plenty of power outages and damage. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Storm knocks out power for over 264,000 DTE customers

Staff report

Residents were picking up debris Tuesday morning after a stormfront rolled through metro Detroit late afternoon Monday.

An estimated 215,000 DTE electricity customers were without power Monday evening following the heavy rain, wind and hail in the region. That number ballooned to about 264,000 customers late morning Tuesday. Find DTE's outage map online at outage.dteenergy.com/map, which shows a list of current power outages, how many customers it affects and an estimated time until restoration.

A 14-year-old Monroe girl died after being electrocuted by a downed power line and a Toledo woman died after a tree fell on her.

"It's definitely one of the more significant weather events of the year," said Trent Frey, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service office in White Lake, who early Tuesday was putting together a report on the storms. "There was pretty widespread damage as those storms came through."

Most of the destruction came from high winds, he said.

See **STORM**, Page 3A

Livonia man to cycle 800 miles to aid children who have cancer

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

People who know Jim Crowley know that he really is motivated by the goodness in his heart.

Crowley, a Livonia resident, spent years mowing lawns and shoveling snow free of charge for neighbors who were unable to do it themselves. His latest passion project is the Great Cycle Challenge USA, an annual effort to raise money for children battling cancer.

The challenge asks riders to set and work toward a goal of biked miles throughout September, encouraging their networks to donate money along the way. People ride anywhere from 25 miles to 1,000 miles.

Crowley isn't going for the easy goal. He plans to ride 800 miles.

"If it's not sweat and tears, it's not a challenge. Think of what the kids go through every day," he said. "It'll be a challenge, there's no question about that. Eight hundred miles in a month is a lot. But you know what? It might be the greatest thing I do in my life."



Jim Crowley, a Livonia resident, plans to ride a total 800 miles on his bicycle throughout September to benefit children who have cancer. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

See **CYCLE**, Page 3A

More money, bad timing lead to road work snarls

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's been the summer of detours for some metro Detroit communities.

And road work season isn't over yet. Drivers can expect some closures and delays to continue through at least part of November.

According to road officials at the county and state level, the heavy road work drivers are experiencing in Livonia and Farmington Hills are the result of timing and, in some cases, more funding.

"Funding is a huge, huge aspect," said Andrew Kandrevas, public services director for Wayne County. "We can try to time things, we can try to plan and ultimately the goal is to have everything shovel ready. But it depends on a funding source opening up."

More funding means more work for state roads, freeways

Steve Minton, a cost scheduling engineer for the Michigan Department of Transportation, said MDOT's budget has seen a major expansion because of federal and state funds. Road funding packages from former Gov. Rick Snyder, current Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and federal pandemic relief funds have made more work possible this year.

Minton said that influx of cash isn't a long-term solution, but it will impact MDOT's Metro Detroit bureau through 2026.

"We're letting out just about a billion dollars for state roads and trunk lines this year," Minton said. "That's a number that even I sometimes can't wrap my head around because it's about five to six times our normal road and bridge program here in Metro."

The major reconstructions on Interstate 275 and Interstate 96 are actually the result of more funding.

See **SNARLS**, Page 3A

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Michigan State Fair returns to Novi

Staff report

The Michigan State Fair is back, and organizers are saying this reimagined Michigan tradition will be bigger and better than ever before.

From the midway to the circus, organizers said there is plenty of fun on tap, as well as a few new highlights.

Gone are the racing pigs, getting replaced with The Pork Chop Revue, which features an awesome display of some of the smartest swine in the country. Guests will see a performance including stunts, tricks, and even singing.

Also new is Cool Zoo, an educational wildlife exhibit, which features in-depth experiences with exotic animals. Michigan State Fair attendees will get the chance to meet some of Cool Zoo's animal ambassadors including Roo the kangaroo, Swamp the alligator, Jake from "Snake Farm," an 8-foot boa constrictor, Ringo the lemur, parrots, turtles and more.

Fair organizers said parking is offered first come first served, now with no charge. In addition, the midway is ex-

panded with additional rides, attractions and food options.

The Shrine Circus, which benefits the Shriners Hospitals for Children, will be performing under the largest circus tent in the world once again and this year the tent will be air conditioned.

For visitors, all minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian after 6 p.m.

The entertainment pavilion will have live music, food, beer and more.

The fair runs Thursday-Monday with hours 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sept. 1-2; 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sept. 3-4; and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sept. 5.

Admission is \$10, which does not include the carnival or circus.

An ultimate admission includes unlimited carnival rides and circus performances for \$42.

Circus and carnival tickets can also be purchased inside.

The Michigan State Fair is held at Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River, in Novi.

Visit www.michiganstatefairllc.com for more information.



Crowds hit the midway at a previous Michigan State Fair at Novi's Suburban Collection Showplace. The fair, on Grand River Avenue east of Beck Road, will continue through Labor Day on Monday and runs until 10 p.m. except Monday, when things will begin to close up around 7 p.m. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

Absentee ballot applications available for Nov. 8 election

Arpan Lobo Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Registered voters in Michigan can now apply to vote absentee in the upcoming November election.

Voters can apply online at the Michigan Voter Information Center at michigan.gov/vote, or print out the application and return it by mail, email or in person at their local city or township clerk's office. Information on local clerk office locations can also be found on the MVIC.

"Every successful election we have held in Michigan over the last three years, voters have made it clear they want options for how and when to cast their ballot by choosing to do so absentee in record numbers," Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson said in a news release. "No matter what secure method they choose — whether voting by mail, local drop box or at their clerk's office — Michiganders can be confident their vote will be counted and their voice will be heard."

Information for voters who need assistance to vote absentee can also be found on the MVIC.

Absentee ballots will be mailed out Sept. 29, per Benson's office. Starting Sept. 29, voters can also go to their local clerk's office and vote an absentee ballot in person.

More than 1 million Michigan voters voted absentee in the August primary.

Eligible voters can register to vote up to and on Election Day, Nov. 8.

For those still looking to register to vote, voter registration applications can be submitted online with a valid Michigan ID, at a Michigan Secretary of State's Office branch, at your local township or city clerk's office, at a state agency that provides public services or by mail if the application is postmarked at least 15 days before the election.

hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Published Sunday and Thursday by
Observer & Eccentric Media

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Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.50
\$104 per 12 months home delivery

Home Delivery:

Customer Service: 866-887-2737
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday 7:30 a.m. to noon
Afterhours, leave voicemail
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Livonia gas station set for renovation

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A longtime Livonia gas station is about to see some major improvements.

The Sunoco at 27417 Five Mile on the southwest corner of Inkster is set for a massive overhaul, including a brand-new look and expansion for the convenience store. The station — around since the 1950s and last receiving a renovation in the early 1970s — will drop its auto repair bays, instead expanding the retail shop inside. It will also feature a new, modern look.

"The plan is to remove the existing auto service center and convert the space for general retail purposes," said Mark Taormina, Livonia's director of planning and economic development. "This would enlarge the convenience store operations."

The renovation would be made up of several materials and would last a long time, said Nasser Choucair of Dearborn-based NC Design, who is working on the project.

"This material, it would last a long time with no maintenance," he said. "The inside, it's really going to be a more modern look."

The project was presented before the city's planning commission during its regular meeting Aug. 23, where the commission reviewed the plans and recommended approval.

With the recommended approval,



A screenshot of a rendering displayed at the Aug. 23 Livonia planning commission meeting that shows what the gas station at the southwest corner of Five Mile and Inkster would look like after construction.

COURTESY OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA

the plans go to the city council for its review and final determination. Choucair said he would begin work on the project as soon as the city could issue him permits.

Planning commissioner Peter Ventura said he was impressed by the plans and looked forward to their completion.

"This is quite a freshening of that building and it looks great," he said. "It'll make a big addition to the corner."

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



The Sunoco station as it looks now. It was last renovated in the early 1970s.

DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Inkster woman charged after crash in Farmington Hills that killed toddler

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Oakland County Prosecutor's office charged a 29-year-old woman from Inkster with child endangerment and the operation of a vehicle while intoxicated that led to a death after a fatal car crash happened in Farmington Hills on Aug. 27.

If convicted on both counts, she could face up to 16 years in prison, according to Farmington Hills officials.

Forty-Seventh District Court Magistrate Michael Sawicky arraigned the woman Monday afternoon with a

\$500,000 bond. If released on bond, she'll be required to wear an alcohol sensing tether and will be subject to random testing, among other requirements.

The crash took place around 2:30 a.m. Aug. 27 at the intersection of Eight Mile and Inkster roads when police said she stuck another vehicle. It led to the death of a 3-year-old passenger.

Farmington Hills police said they believe alcohol was a factor in the crash.

"This is an extremely tragic, yet avoidable incident," Farmington Hills Police Chief Jeff King said. "This should serve as a stark reminder of the impor-

tance of utilizing restraint devices and the dangers of operating a vehicle while impaired."

Police said the Inkster woman had six children in her vehicle, and the child who died was not in a car seat or using a safety restraint.

Both drivers and the other children involved sustained minor injuries. The surviving children have been released into the custody of a grandparent.

The woman was scheduled for a court appearance Sept. 7.

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

Police seek help in search for Commerce Township teen girl missing since Aug. 18

Philip Allmen Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Oakland County sheriff's detectives said a week after a 15-year-old Commerce Township girl went missing that they have few tips on her whereabouts.

Laken Elezabeth Lewis has not been seen by her family since she left the Stratford Villa mobile home park to go for a walk about 6:15 p.m. Aug. 18, police said in a release.



Lewis

The girl's mother told detectives the girl planned to be back about two hours after she left, but never returned, telling them the girl would ask permission before being late and would keep in contact if she were late.

The girl's father lives in Grand Haven and told detectives he had not had contact with his daughter in several weeks.

The teen is 5-foot-7 and weighs 110

pounds, last seen wearing a light blue zip-up jacket, shorts or multicolored pants and white Nike Air Force 1 sneakers, officials said.

The family told detectives they have not had any contact with her through social media.

Detectives said they have received few tips as to her whereabouts.

Anyone with information is asked to call the sheriff's office at 248-858-4950.

Philip Allmen is the editor of Hometown Life.

Grants to create a place for everyone

\$500K to improve access at Huron-Clinton Metroparks

Patricia Alvord Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Huron-Clinton Metroparks received \$500,000 total from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund grants for renovation projects at Hudson Mills, Dexter-Huron and Indian Springs metroparks to continue their mission to make parks accessible for everyone.

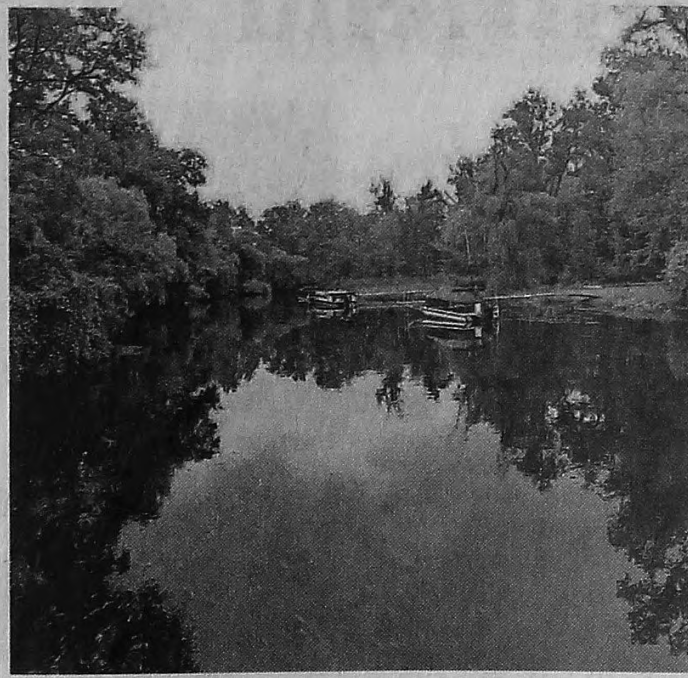
"We have done some other accessible launches in other parks already and what we did was lump these three projects together because they are all along the Huron river," Huron-Clinton Metroparks Spokeswoman Hilary Simmet said.

One complementary project that is not included in this \$500,000 in grant funding is a project to improve accessibility at the Kensington Metropark west boat launch. According to Simmet, there is currently work being done to install a new floating canoe/kayak launch, among other things, and it's expected to be completed by the end of the year. Other parks included in creating accessible kayak launches are Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair Metroparks.

The Huron-Clinton Metroparks has 13 parks, including, Delhi, Dexter-Huron, Hudson Mills, Huron Meadows, Indian Springs, Kensington, Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair, Lower Huron, Oakwoods, Stony Creek, Willow and Wolcott Mill Metroparks.

The National Huron River Water Trail encompasses 104 miles of water traveling through those 13 parks. The grant funds are supposed to provide launch site renovation and remove invasive species along the water trail.

Hudson Mills Metropark received \$226,400 for the redevelopment of the rapids view area, which started in March. This includes a new upper parking lot, desig-



The Huron River is part of the National Huron River Water Trail, which includes 13 parks under the Huron-Clinton Metroparks umbrella.

GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

nated trailer parking spaces and a turnaround drop off for paddlers. There were launch renovations including accessibility features, picnic area and river overlook renovations.

Simmet said it was interesting to put a launch in that area because it's right after some rapids, so they had to get creative with an accessible launch.

"We have the transfer station — they can use to get into their kayak and the steps are intended to help an individual transfer off a wheelchair and into a kayak," Simmet said. "Users can scoot down the steps until they're closer to the height of their kayak and then they use the bar overhead to lift themselves into their boat."

She said the project is almost complete with just a few finishing touches, but the area is open and available for use.

Additionally, the Dexter-Huron Metropark received \$192,800 for the renovation of the launch site and picnic area.

The project is slated to begin in 2023 and will include a parking lot expansion for designated trailer parking and increased accessible spaces, new compacted gravel loading and unloading area, launch renovations with a new floating launch, and playground improvements. The metroparks will match funds for both projects.

"It'll be similar to what we've done at Hudson Mills rapids view area, but the launch will be different. We're looking to have a floating launch," Simmet said.

Additionally, a \$100,000 Planet Award grant will be provided from the Consumers Energy Foundation to help with invasive species removal, tree plantings, native prairie/meadow plugs and seed plantings at the river's headwaters.

The headwaters are located in Indian Springs Metropark, a heavily forested wetland called the Huron Swamp, according to a press release from Simmet. The restoration is expected to improve habitats impacted by loss of ash and oak trees and the expansion of invasive species to replace them.

Simmet said there will be days at the end of September where people can come out and volunteer to collect native seeds.

"Seeds that are right there at Indian Springs and then we'll use those. There's a process for grinding them and getting them all ready to use," she said.

She added, in November, with the help of local girl scout troops, the seeds collected will become seed balls and will be thrown in specific areas with the natural resources department.

"We'll be replanting actual native plants that we need in the park versus the invasive species that are there," Simmet said.

Cycle

Continued from Page 1A

Crowley aims to bike 30 miles a day — 10 in the morning, 10 in the afternoon and 10 at night — which would put him at 900 miles and surpass his goal if he's able to do it every day in September. He hopes to raise at least \$2,500, but expects he'll raise far more than that. He hopes to keep riding and raising awareness well past September until snow starts to fall.

"My destinations will be cancer research centers," Crowley said. "I want to interview some of the doctors and learn about the disease."

His inspiration for entering the challenge is the Polard family of Harrison Township. Their 3-year-old, Elowyn, is battling an inoperable brain tumor.

People can donate to Crowley's efforts by visiting his Great Cycle Challenge website page. At press time, he'd raised about \$640. Crowley also has a GoFundMe that's raised under \$100 so far.

Aside from being seen cycling around town, Crowley hopes to gain support from local influencers and businesses.

"If it's not sweat and tears, it's not a challenge. Think of what the kids go through every day. It'll be a challenge, there's no question about that. Eight hundred miles in a month is a lot. But you know what? It might be the greatest thing I do in my life."

Jim Crowley

Crowley said his only motivation for participating in the challenge is to help somebody else. He's never met little Elowyn, and he said he won't mind if he never does. It's the deed, not the recognition, that matters to him.

"I like to help people. It feels good."
Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby_tankk.

Storm

Continued from Page 1A

A boil water notice is in effect in Commerce Township, Walled Lake and Novi. The Great Lakes Water Authority station temporarily lost power and the system lost pressure, which can lead to potential bacterial contamination.

For those with power outages and without a generator or other backup power supply, food storage can be an issue.

The first rule to remember is "when in doubt, throw it out." Never, ever taste food to determine whether it's OK. If your power was out just a few hours and you didn't open the refrigerator or freezer, chances are the food is OK.

A refrigerator should keep food cold for six hours, and a half-full freezer 24 hours (48 hours if the freezer is full) if you don't open the doors, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service.

The USDA's Meat and Poultry hotline, 888-674-6854, is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays.

Snarls

Continued from Page 1A

"Both of those projects weren't scheduled for a complete rebuild," Minton said. "They were going to a rehabilitation where we mill off some pavement, do some patches and put on two layers of asphalt. While those are fine and work in most cases, both I-96 and I-275 needed a longer term fix."

Timing of available funding, major city projects create delays on county roads

Oakland County wanted to start the major reconstruction of Orchard Lake Road between 13 and 14 Mile roads in 2019. But right-of-way acquisition delayed the project to this year right next to a major project on 14 Mile Road undertaken by Farmington Hills.

"This is a project we've had on the books for well over a decade," said Craig Bryson with the Road Commission for Oakland County. "We've been trying to get it going for a number of years now. We ran into some huge obstacles with the right-of-way acquisition process. One of the shopping centers was giving us a huge fight."

Bryson and Kandrevas said their counties aren't managing more projects than normal this year, but a roads funding plan Snyder passed in 2015 has made more work possible. That higher volume of work will likely continue for a few more construction seasons.

"We're finally, now, starting to see the full amount of that additional money," Bryson said. "That money is having a big impact on us, but that's been the case for the last five years."

Counties can also apply for federal grants to help pay for major projects. But, grant funding from the federal government normally comes with a ticking clock.

"When there are federal dollars involved, as there are with this case, those road funds typically come with a relatively narrow window of opportunity," Bryson said. "So, if we're fortunate enough to get the dollars, we have to act."

Some communities, like Livonia, may see what feels like a lot of work simply because it's taking place in busy, congested areas. Some of the city's major roads like Merriman, Joy, Farmington and Schoolcraft have undergone one or more Wayne County projects this year.



Westbound I-96 near Novi is part of a reconstruction effort by MDOT. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

Kandrevas said Livonia has some unique work this year because two bridges — one on Middlebelt Road and one on Merriman Road — needed replacing.

"Wayne County has made an effort in the last three or four years to go and do major rehabilitations on our bridges and to do replacements when needed," he said. "Both of these are replacements that have been on the list for a couple of years. ... It's the age of the roads in Livonia and the heavy usage — Livonia roads are major, major roads."

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



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After drowning tragedy, Novi family honors son, girlfriend with scholarship

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Kory Ernster, a 2018 Novi High School graduate, flew under the radar as a student.

After his heartbreaking death, a memorial scholarship in his name will ensure he is long remembered by not only those who loved him, but by Novi seniors with Michigan State University dreams.

"He was positive energy, largely just a normal kid that tried to be ... helpful to others and happy," Stephen Ernster, a Novi Meadows robotics teacher, said of his son. "This scholarship gets his name out there as a proud graduate and proud MSU student as well."

Kory Ernster, 22 and a recent MSU graduate, and his girlfriend Emily MacDonald, 19, drowned Aug. 8 after being caught in a Lake Michigan current near South Haven.

The couple, who met online five years ago and had fallen in love, were on the last day of vacation with Ernster's family before he returned to his first post-college engineering position in Wisconsin and she returned to MSU, where she was studying to be a veterinarian.

Stephen Ernster shared a letter of gratitude Emily MacDonald wrote about Kory in the past year in which she said her boyfriend was the one person for whom she was most grateful in her life.

She described him as one of the kindest and most genuine people she had ever met, generous, incredibly smart and funny, always making her laugh.

"Since the day I met Kory, he has always been there for me, through some of the lowest and hardest points in my life, no matter what he was going through in his own life he would always push that aside to comfort me," Emily wrote. "He has turned my world upside down, taught me so much, and stood by my every decision and I honestly do not know where I would be without him."

Kory Ernster's own life started with a challenge.

Mom Stephanie Ernster had a high-risk pregnancy with Kory and his identi-

"(Kory Ernster) was positive energy, largely just a normal kid that tried to be ... helpful to others and happy."

Stephen Ernster Novi Meadows robotics teacher, talking about his son

cal twin Kyle, and the brothers were born six weeks premature, each weighing only 4 pounds, 4 ounces.

Stephen said although his sons were small, they had a big rivalry and were always doing things together, including playing soccer. Their sister Abigail came along five years later and also competed with her twin brothers for their attention.

As a child, Kory loved dinosaurs and nurturing reptiles and other creatures. Although he was allergic to cats, he and Emily had adopted a cat named Spoon.

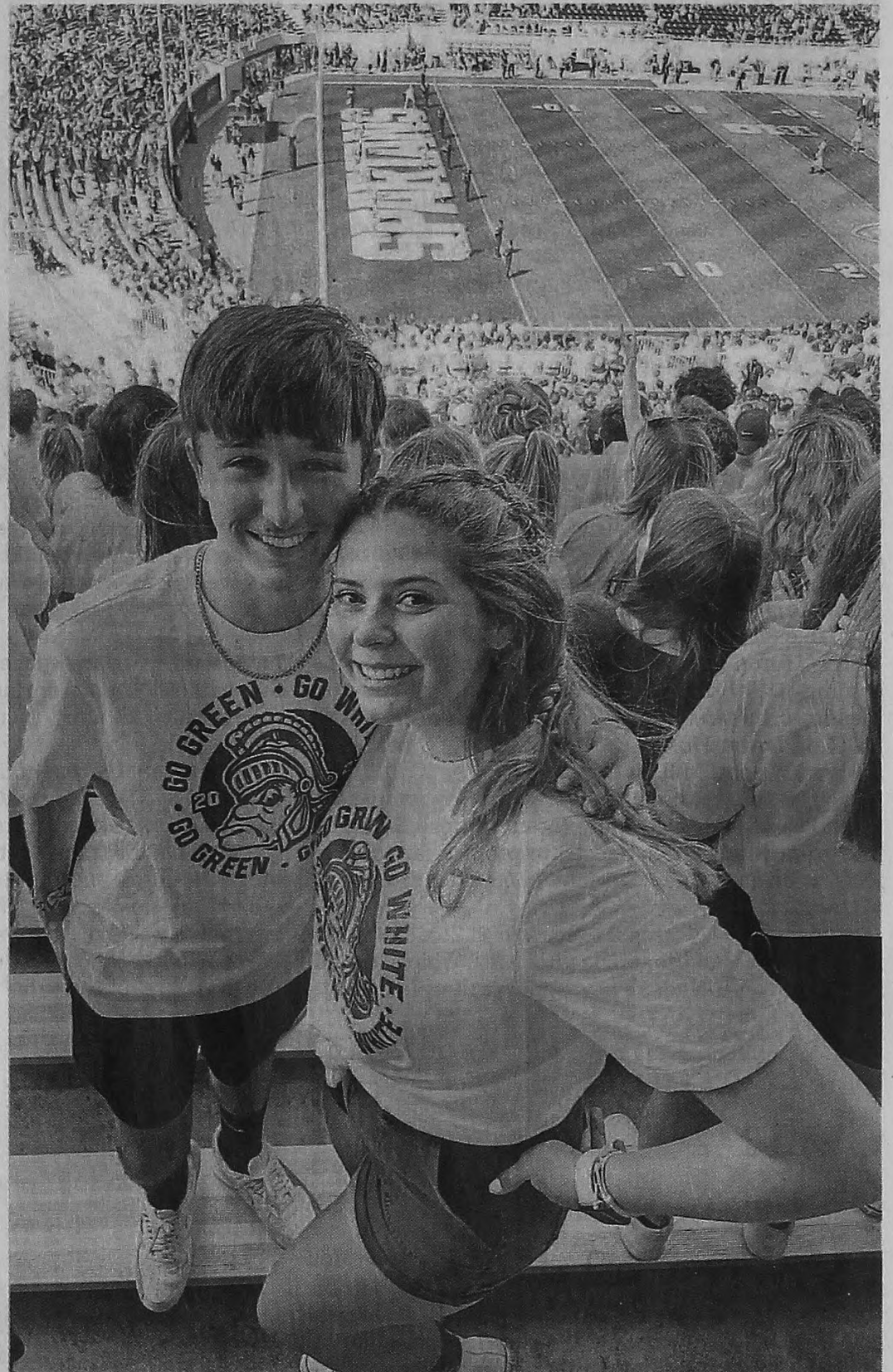
Kory was full of energy and had a very outgoing personality, Stephen Ernster said, very fun-loving and "not afraid to have friends laugh at him, as long as people were laughing."

During services for both Kory and Emily a week after their deaths, tears would be intermingled with memories of happy times. But Stephen Ernster is hoping that the Kory Ernster Memorial Scholarship will help bring smiles again.

Donations to the scholarship will be used to give two \$1,000 awards each year. One of the awards will be given to a Novi High School senior who is planning to major in engineering at Michigan State University like Kory; while the other will go to an NHS senior who is enrolling at Michigan State to study veterinary science, like Emily.

For more information or to make a donation to the Kory Ernster Memorial Scholarship, send an email to Stephen.ernster@novik12.org.

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com or 517-281-2412. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.



Kory Ernster and Emily MacDonald at a Spartans football game. The couple, who both attended Michigan State University, drowned Aug. 8 in Lake Michigan. PROVIDED BY STEPHEN ERNSTER



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Wayne County, Oakland County COVID-19 cases and deaths tracker

Mike Stucka
USA TODAY NETWORK

Michigan reported far fewer coronavirus cases in the week ending Sunday, adding 19,414 new cases. That's down 16.2% from the previous week's tally of 23,165 new cases of the virus that causes COVID-19.

Michigan ranked 18th among the states where coronavirus was spreading the fastest on a per-person basis, a USA TODAY Network analysis of Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the latest week coronavirus cases in the United States increased 10.8% from the week before, with 654,873 cases reported. With 3% of the country's population, Michigan had 2.96% of the country's cases in the last week. Across the country, 16 states had more cases in the latest week than they did in the week before.

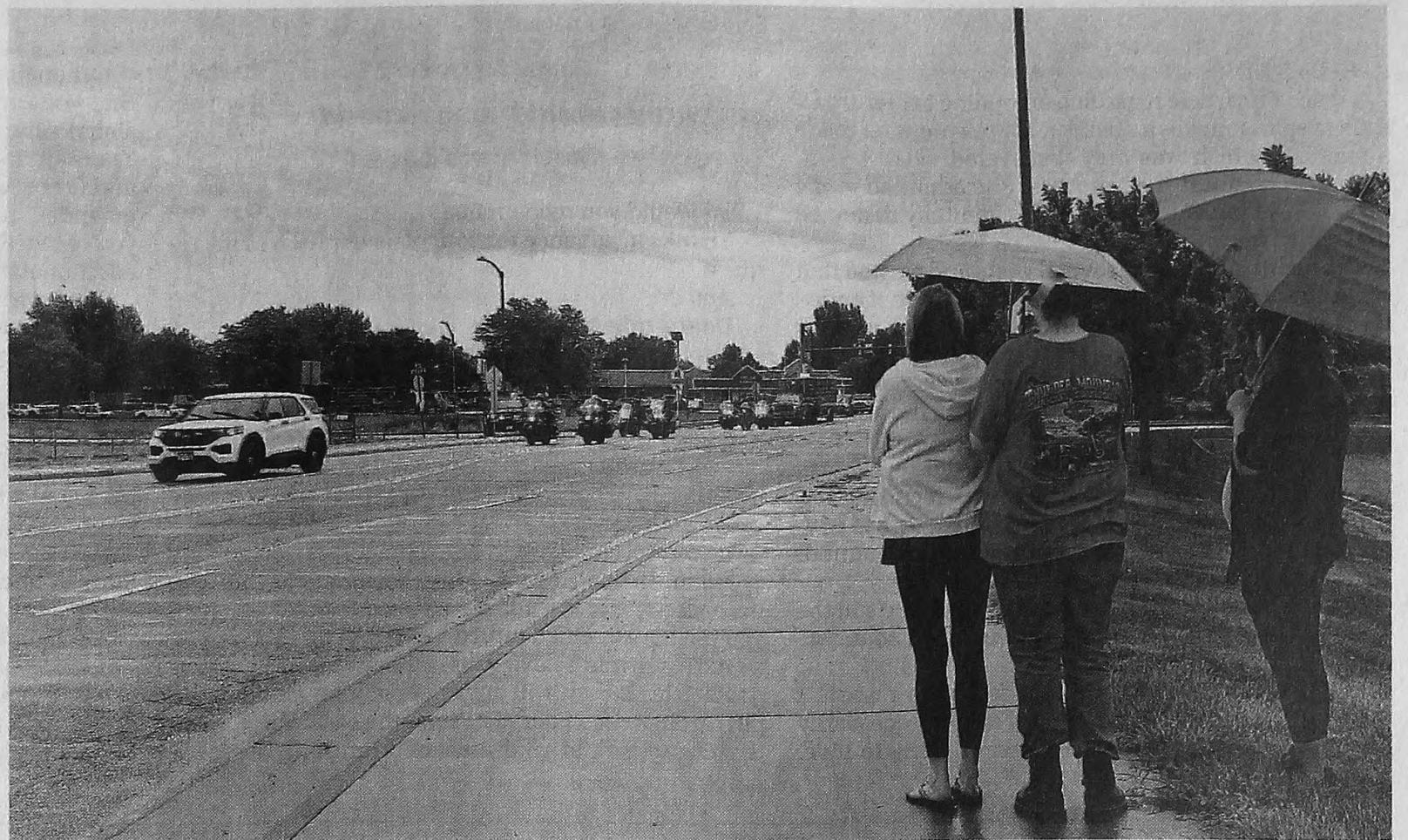
Wayne County reported 4,035 cases and 24 deaths in the latest week. A week earlier, it had reported 4,907 cases and 19 deaths. Throughout the pandemic it has reported 471,459 cases and 8,291 deaths.

Oakland County reported 2,492 cases and 18 deaths in the latest week. A week earlier, it had reported 2,989 cases and 12 deaths. Throughout the pandemic it has reported 342,108 cases and 4,061 deaths.

● Across Michigan, cases fell in 59 counties, with the best declines in Wayne County, with 4,035 cases from 4,907 a week earlier; in Oakland County, with 2,492 cases from 2,989; and in Macomb County, with 1,941 cases from 2,262.

● Within Michigan, the worst weekly outbreaks on a per-person basis were in Iron County with 642 cases per 100,000 per week; Dickinson County with 313; and Huron County with 303. The Centers for Disease Control says high levels of community transmission begin at 100 cases per 100,000 per week.

Adding the most new cases overall were Wayne County, with 4,035 cases; Oakland County, with 2,492 cases; and Macomb County, with 1,941. Weekly



Dawn Powell (left) watches a convoy of police cars and motorcycles pull into the Windsor Police in Colorado on Aug. 15 as part of the Ride to Remember. The ride stopped in Windsor to honor fallen police officer Ty Powell, Dawn's husband, who died from COVID-19 on Oct. 13, 2021. PROVIDED BY SADY SWANSON

case counts rose in 22 counties from the previous week. The worst increases from the prior week's pace were in Iron, Chippewa and Hillsdale counties.

In Michigan, 135 people were reported dead of COVID-19 in the week ending Sunday. In the week before that, 103 people were reported dead.

A total of 2,751,201 people in Michigan have tested positive for the coronavirus since the pandemic began, and 37,909 people have died from the disease, Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the United States 94,190,979 people have tested positive and 1,043,840 people have died.

Note: In the Johns Hopkins University coronavirus data, cases and deaths

for the Michigan Department of Corrections and the Federal Correctional Institution separately from Michigan counties.

Michigan's COVID-19 hospital admissions staying flat

USA TODAY analyzed federal hospital data as of Sunday, Aug. 28. Likely COVID patients admitted in the state:

- Last week: 1,322
- The week before that: 1,331
- Four weeks ago: 1,196

Likely COVID patients admitted in the nation:

- Last week: 66,008
- The week before that: 66,216

● Four weeks ago: 72,118

Hospitals in 20 states reported more COVID-19 patients than a week earlier, while hospitals in 21 states had more COVID-19 patients in intensive-care beds. Hospitals in 25 states admitted more COVID-19 patients in the latest week than a week prior, the USA TODAY analysis of U.S. Health and Human Services data shows.

The USA TODAY Network is publishing localized versions of this story on its news sites across the country, generated with data from Johns Hopkins University and the Centers for Disease Control. If you have questions about the data or the story, contact Mike Stucka at mstucka@gannett.com.



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When is it worth filing an amended tax return?



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

Hello Rick:

I read your article regarding amending tax returns if a tax preparer makes a mistake. My tax preparer made a mistake, which was only discovered when I went through a business loan process. She admitted to the mistake and indicated that she accidentally deducted my rent twice.

I've been using her for several years and trusted that she'd figure it out, so I signed the amendment. It ended up costing me several thousand dollars. Two months later, after I paid the taxes, I was looking at the return more closely and noticed the amendment was not right either, and I believe I never owed those thousands of dollars.

It appears that although she deducted rent twice, she failed to deduct the line items of recurring expenses which is equal to one year of rent, so once I deducted that, it came out to about the same amount of business profit as the first return.

I've been contacting her repeatedly and she's in the process of retiring and selling her business, so unfortunately, she's not responsive.

I was thinking of amending the return myself. I don't know if it's even possible. I'm not necessarily afraid to be audited, because I have nothing to hide.

My philosophy is an amended return should be filed if the amount of money involved is material. I wouldn't file an amended return to get \$25 back, but I certainly would file an amended return to receive thousands back.

What would you recommend?

Thanks in advance for your consideration to my request.

Amber

Dear Amber:

I definitely think that you should file an amended return. The fact that you can recoup thousands of dollars in taxes is worth the time and energy to file an amended return. In that regard, yes, you can file the return yourself; however, amended returns are a little different than the traditional tax return and that may cause an issue.

If you feel confident in doing the return yourself, no problem. In that regard, I may recommend that you purchase one of the software programs that can help you file the amended return.

With regards to filing an amended return, many people think they will automatically be audited and put through the ringer; that's not the case. Yes, the IRS is going to look at your amended return; however, it

doesn't mean that you will automatically be audited or anything of that nature.

My philosophy is an amended return should be filed if the amount of money involved is material. I wouldn't file an amended return to get \$25 back, but I certainly would file an amended return to receive thousands back.

When filing an amended return, the general rule is that you can file within three years (including extensions) after the date you filed your original return. There are some exceptions to the rule, but they are few and far between. I should add that you should file an amended return not only because you think that you're owed money, but also, because you could owe additional money to the IRS.

I believe it is better to correct a mistake on your own by filing an amended return, as opposed to waiting for the IRS to contact you. They will eventually contact you, and that means it may end up costing you more in interest and penalties than if you had filed an amended return.

One last note – you should also check your State of Michigan return, because you may need to amend that return as well. Remember, the business income you reported on your federal return flowed through to the State of Michigan; therefore, you may find you're also entitled to a State of Michigan tax refund.

Good luck!

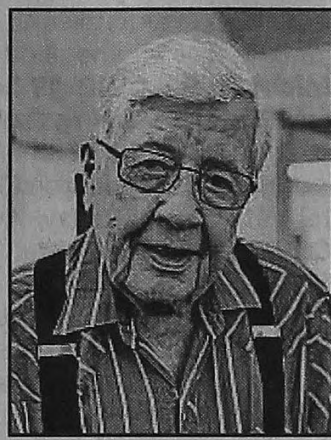
Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is bloomadvisors.com. If you would like him to respond to your questions, email rick@bloomadvisors.com.

Obituaries

William "Bill" Allen Kohn Sr.

William ("Bill") Allen Kohn Sr, age 91, who went to be with Jesus on August 6, 2022, was born to Waldemar and Fern (Lapp) Kohn on April 11, 1931, in Watertown, Wisconsin. He was raised in nearby Hustisford, population 537, where he was the valedictorian of the Hustisford High School Class of 1948 and played on the basketball and baseball teams. Bill graduated from Valparaiso University in 1952 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. While at Valpo, he met the love of his life, Margaret Steelman and they married on August 30, 1952. He received his draft notice three days before the wedding and, 19 days after the wedding, he found himself in the Army. His time in the Army included being stationed at Thule Air Base in Greenland for 16 months.

Upon Bill's return home, the young couple lived on the east side of Detroit, where he worked for Rockwell Automotive for one year before going to Ford Motor Company in 1956. They eventually moved to Westland and then Livonia, Michigan, where they raised their three children. While at Ford, Bill worked in the automotive safety group. Ford sent him to California to help in the development of modern crash test dummies and to work with Carroll Shelby on some projects. In 1967, he went to work for American Safety, which was purchased several times, and became Faurecia at his retirement. Throughout his career, he pioneered designs and improvements in automotive safety, including seatbelts, padded dashboards, head restraints, child safety seats, and early prototypes of airbags, that have saved millions of lives. He was a lifetime member of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE). In retirement he and Margaret moved to New Hudson, Michigan.



Bill and Margaret were early members of Faith Lutheran Church in Livonia, where he served on the Board of Trustees and various other committees. Bill and Margaret welcomed visitors into their home from all over the world, including an immigrant couple from post-War Germany, a lay minister from Papua New Guinea, Japanese and Mexican exchange students, and many others.

Bill helped those in need regardless of their background and he taught these same values to his children. While in summer school at Valpo in 1950, Bill saw a man walking along a rural highway one weekend and was concerned he would not make it to town before dark. Bill offered him a ride and learned he was George Etudor, a Valpo student from Nigeria. George explained he had to leave town to get a meal since the school cafeteria was closed on weekends in the summer and Valparaiso's restaurants were "white only" due to heavy KKK influence. For the remainder of the summer, Bill drove George to a truck stop in the next county to eat on the weekends.

Bill is survived by his wife Margaret, children William Jr. (Diane), Philip (Lisa), and Diane; his grandchildren Ryanne Tomford (Eric), Heidi O'Neill (Peter), P.J. (Madison), and Jacob (Hannah); and his great-grandchildren Benjamin, Bella, Harwell, and Harper. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Robert, and his grandson Eric.

A Memorial service will be held at Hope Lutheran Church at 39200 West Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48331 on September 10, 2022. Visitation will be at 10am and the service at 11am, with a lunch to follow in the fellowship hall. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Wounded Warrior Project or Doctors without Borders in Bill's memory.

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David John Lucchetti

KALAMAZOO - David John Lucchetti, 64, of Kalamazoo, passed away on August 22, 2022.

Dave was born in Pontiac, MI, on May 21, 1958, to Robert and Janice (Tibor) Lucchetti. For 27 years, Dave worked as a kitchen manager at LaRue's Family Restaurant where he gave his all. He loyally rooted for the Detroit Lions and Detroit Tigers and was a huge Trop Rock fan. We know Dave was most relaxed when at the beach or near water. We will remember Dave most for his quick wit that betrayed the depth of his intelligence and for his love of family. Despite the bumps along the road, Dave was on a path to strengthening the bonds with those he held first in his heart – his children and grandchildren.

Dave is survived by his mother, Janice; two sons, Nicholas (Mallory) Lucchetti and Anthony Lucchetti; brother, John Lucchetti and two sisters, Mary Catherine (Steve) Giroux and Anne (John) Geary; two grandchildren, Maggie Lucchetti and Milo Lucchetti; several nieces and nephews; his dear friend, Yvonne Branch; and his former wife and mother of Nicholas and Anthony, Diane Lucchetti.

He was preceded in death by his father, Robert Joseph Lucchetti.

Friends may visit with the family from 3 – 4 p.m. on Wednesday, August 31, 2022, at Langeland Family Funeral Homes Burial and Cremation Services, 3926 S 9th St., Kalamazoo, MI 49009. In keeping with Dave's passion for beaches, casual (Hawaiian/island) attire is suggested. Following the visitation, a funeral service will take place at 4 p.m. in the funeral chapel. Rev. James Dyke will officiate the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial may be given to the family to establish an education fund for his grandchildren. Please visit <https://www.langelands.com> to view the online obituary, sign the guest book, and leave messages for the family.



Perhaps they are not stars in the sky,
but rather openings where our loved ones
shine down to let us know they are happy.

~Inuit saying



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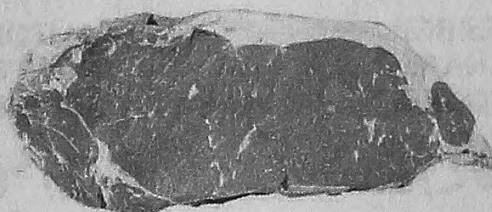
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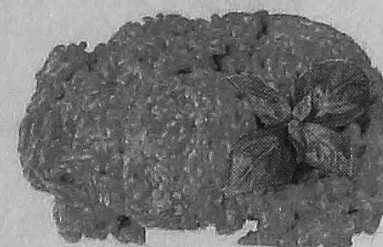
Meat



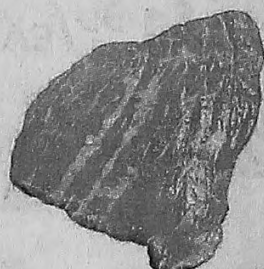
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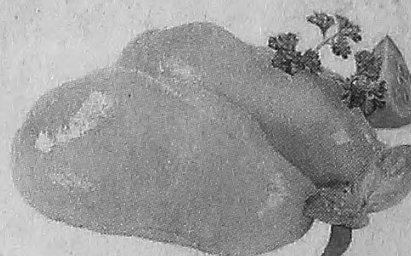
USDA PREMIUM CHOICE ANGUS NY STRIP STEAKS
\$12.99/LB.



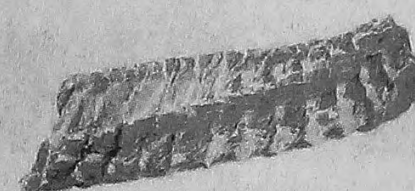
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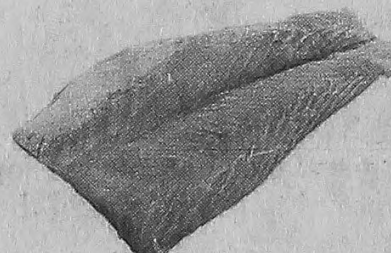


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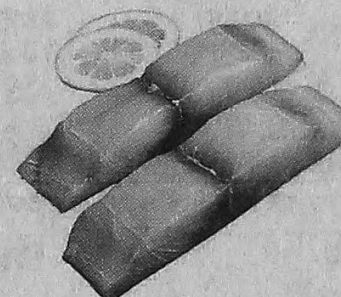
Seafood



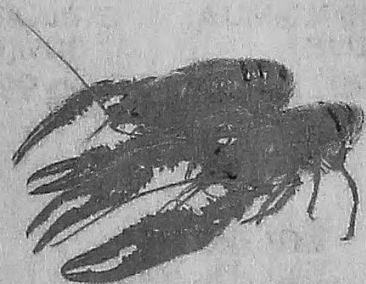
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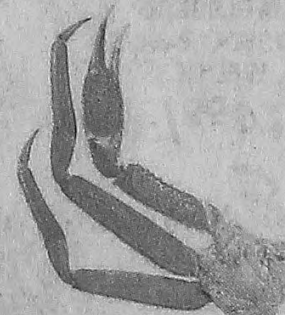
MAHI MAHI FILLETS
\$11.99/LB.



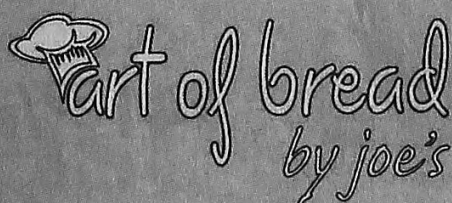
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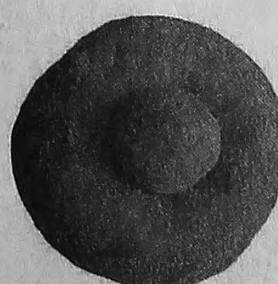
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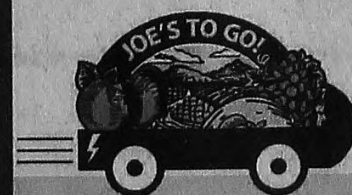
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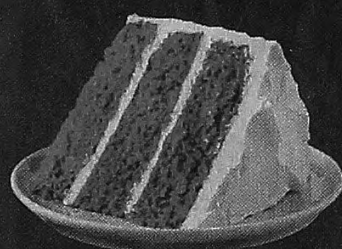
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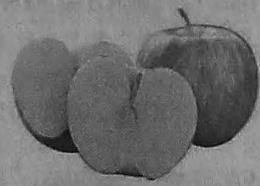
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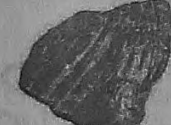


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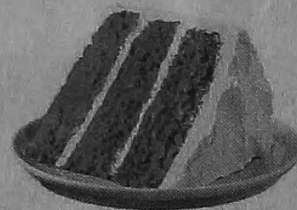


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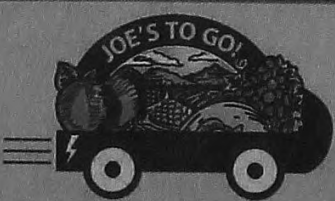
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SPORTS

BOYS SOCCER

Shamrocks sweep Balconi tournament

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

When the Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association releases its first set of rankings in September, Northville, Canton, Clarkston and Salem should each be making an appearance somewhere in the top 15.

And Detroit Catholic Central beat all four of those teams during the first week of the season.

Sure, adding striker Kyle Pierson, a former Michigan Wolves club player, to the team has something to do with it. The senior has seven goals through four games.

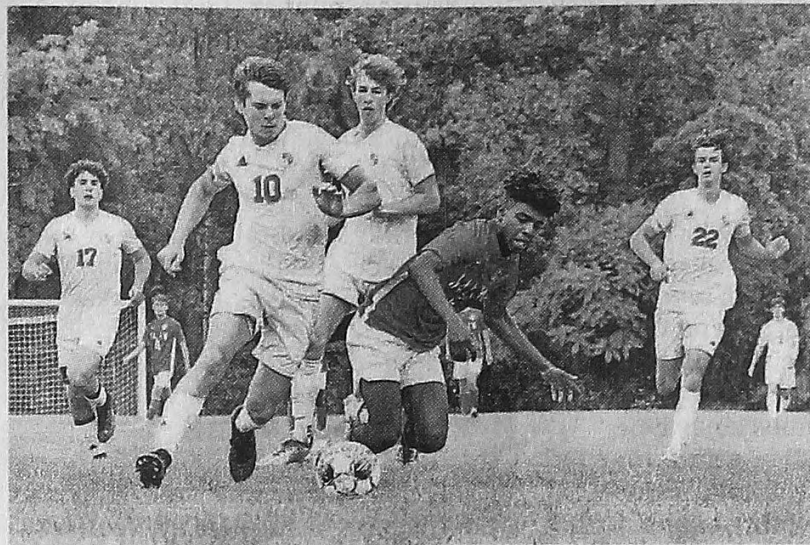
But the most jarring statistic of them all? The Shamrocks haven't given up a single goal yet.

Let's recap this. Northville made a state semifinal appearance a year ago. Clarkston lost to Northville in the regional championship. Salem advanced to the regional final. And Canton lost to Salem in the district final.

So, yes, Pierson's impact has been tremendous. And his post-goal celebrations are always hilarious.

But the Shamrocks are beating some of the best teams in Michigan with their defense.

See **TOURNAMENT**, Page 3B



Detroit Catholic Central's Drew Pierson (left) stops Salem's Foster Garrett from scoring during the Gary Balconi boys soccer tournament championship Aug. 20. **BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM**

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



Novi's Martez Langford rushes during the Xenith Prep Kickoff Classic against Belleville on Aug. 26 at Wayne State University. Novi will take on Hartland on Thursday. **BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM**

Five must-see games for Week 2

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom breaks down the five biggest matchups taking place throughout Week 2 of the MHSAA football season.

All games kick off at 7 p.m.

Milford (1-0) at South Lyon (0-1, 0-1 LVC), Thursday, Sept. 1

This one is simple. The Mavericks are still in the running for the Lakes Valley Conference championship, and the Lions are likely playing spoilers for the rest of the season.

South Lyon, last year's league champions, lost to Walled Lake Western in the season opener. The Warriors are not only the favorite to win out and capture the LVC title but are predicated to make a deep run in the state playoffs.

If Milford can upset South Lyon on the road, it'll be one step closer to being

undefeated when it faces Western in Week 5.

As for the Lions, right now, it's battling for second place with, likely, Waterford Mott, which is, once again, led by three-star QB Kalieb Osborne.

See **MUST-SEE**, Page 2B

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Our Week 2 rankings

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After ranking all 28 high school football teams in the Hometown Life coverage area before the season, sports reporter Brandon Folsom has returned with his first top-10 rankings of the fall.

10. Redford Union (1-0; Last week: No. 11)

The Panthers couldn't have asked for a better start to the season. They went on the road and knocked off Pewamo-Westphalia, winners of two of the past three Division 7 state championships. What's more, the win avenged the 27-point bludgeoning the Pirates put on them a year ago.

Up next for Redford Union is a trip to Dearborn Crestwood, which will be a pivotal matchup that determines the Western Wayne Athletic Conference champion. Last fall, these two squads played just a one-score game. But it was the Panthers who got the win. And they went on to win their first league title since 2004.

9. Detroit Country Day (1-0; Last week: No. 10)

Not only did the Yellowjackets beat Catholic League powerhouse Detroit Loyola for the third time in four seasons but they also did so playing on Titan Field. That's right, their Week 1 matchup was the first football game played on Detroit Mercy's campus since 1964.

Detroit Country Day gets a tougher test this week, as it'll take on Parma Western, a D-3 squad that has made the playoffs in six of the past seven seasons. Western plays in the always-competitive Interstate Eight Athletic Conference.

8. Novi (0-1; Last week: No. 5)

There's no shame in losing to the defending D-1 state champions. And that's just what happened to the Wildcats in their rough matchup against Belleville in the Xenith Prep Kickoff Classic.

The Tigers were chock full of future Division I college football players, including Bryce Underwood, the No. 1-ranked 2025 QB in the country, according to 247Sports.

Week 2's matchup is against Hartland, which won the Kensington Lakes Activities Association-West a year ago. If the Wildcats want to take the next step as a program, they need to upset a strong divisional opponent such as the Eagles.

7. Livonia Franklin (1-0; Last week: No. 8)

The Patriots' ground attack looked impressive in their Week 1 win over Canton. But that's not too surprising. Cordell Mabins Jr. is one of the top running backs in metro Detroit, and Tyler Garrett has now proved just how explosive he can be in coach Chris Kelbert's backfield.

But Livonia Franklin didn't need to pass to beat the Chiefs. So new starting QB JD Bates is still somewhat of an unknown as he fills in for former starter Zac Olesuk, who is now playing football and baseball at Alma College. In fact, Bates only attempted a handful of passes.

Bates' arm won't be needed in the Patriots' KLAA-East opener against Wayne Memorial. But there might be a few opportunities for him to showcase it against the Zebras.

6. Milford (1-0; Last week: No. 9)

The Mavericks' defense entered the fall as one of the toughest in the Hometown Life coverage area. Led by linebackers Wyatt Lesnew and Danny Sternberg, Milford almost pitched a shutout in the season opener at New Boston Huron.

Now that defense will get put to an even bigger test when the Mavericks visit South Lyon for their Lakes Valley Conference opener. Lions running back Tommy Donovan is as slippery as they come, plus QB Braden Fracassi has returned after guiding South Lyon to a state semifinal appearance in 2021.

If Milford's defense can be as advertised, this should be a close battle between LVC rivals.

5. South Lyon (0-1; Last week: No. 3)

The Lions just didn't have enough offensive firepower to keep up with Walled Lake Western in Week 1.

But that's OK. The Warriors are poised to make a deep playoff run with

their talented core of seniors, which includes Minnesota three-star commits Drew Viotto and Darius Taylor.

How South Lyon picks itself up for a tough matchup against the up-and-coming Mavericks will say everything we need to know about the Lions.

4. Brother Rice (0-1; Last week: No. 1)

Maryland commit Nolan Ray was a scratch before the Xenith Prep Kickoff Classic even started, so the Warriors were without their best player. So it's hard to fault them for losing by two scores to Macomb Dakota, one of the top teams in the Macomb Area Conference.

Cashton Papadelis played well in spurts while filling in for Ray, a three-star recruit, at runningback. Papadelis even scored on a 21-yard rush. Other than that, Brother Rice struggled on offense.

And it was head-scratching to see the Warriors punt on third down during the very first drive. Sure, catching the Cougars off guard like that could've helped flip the field position, but the pooch punt backfired. The play didn't seem like it inspired much trust in the offense to move the chains.

Hopefully, for Brother Rice, it can bounce back and find some offensive rhythm when it visits East Kentwood this week.

3. Birmingham Groves (1-0; Last week: No. 21)

There's no question the Falcons were the biggest surprise of Week 1.

They were abysmal on offense a year ago. They scored just 118 points and were held to one score or fewer in five of their nine games.

That all changed in their walloping of North Farmington last week. QB Caden Hardy threw for three TDs, and running back Mario Compoy-Lovasco rushed for 262 yards and a score.

If Birmingham Groves, which has a hard test in Week 2 at Oxford, can keep this going, it might have a chance of making the playoffs.

2. Detroit Catholic Central (0-1; Last week: No. 2)

No doubt about it: The Shamrocks had the most heartbreaking loss of Week 1. They carried a 10-point lead into halftime and then couldn't muster a single point in the second half. That allowed Clinton Twp. Chippewa Valley to storm back and earn a four-point comeback victory.

But perhaps that's not all too bad. The Big Reds are four years removed from winning a state championship, and they play in the always-competitive MAC-Red. What's more, Detroit Catholic Central was breaking in new QB Beau Jackson and a slew of new starters.

The Shamrocks performed well for a half. If they can find a way to play a complete game, they should be a better team than most media members predicted before the season. However, they have a tough trip to Davison in Week 2.

1. Livonia Churchill (1-0; Last week: No. 7)

No one had more question marks entering this fall than Livonia Churchill. It had holes to fill at every skill position. Off to college were QB Taj Williams, running back Boston Clegg Jr. and receivers Bailey Brooks and Joshua Brown.

That's why no one outside of the Chargers' locker room expected them to look as great as they did in their victory over Plymouth in the Battle at the Big House.

Evan Snead threaded every important pass he needed to at QB. Jonathan Lytle-Montgomery brought incredible speed to the running back position, while Messiah Amerson was used as a spell back who ran hard between the tackles. Jayden Allen had a breakout game as Churchill's top two-way player. Not only did he catch touchdowns at receiver, but he also snagged a crucial interception at defensive back.

The Chargers aren't likely to win the KLAA-East with top-ranked Belleville in the division. But they sure did have the best performance of Week 1 in the Hometown Life coverage area.

Out of the top-10 rankings: Livonia Stevenson (0-1), Bloomfield Hills (0-1). **Also being considered:** Birmingham Seaholm (1-0), Northville (1-0), Livonia Clarenceville (1-0), South Lyon East (1-0, 1-0 LVC), White Lake Lakeland (1-0, 1-0 LVC).

Four questions for Week 2

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom asks the important questions entering Week 2 of the Michigan high school football season.

Can the Shamrocks find the finishing touch?

Detroit Catholic Central coach Dan Anderson didn't give too long of a post-game speech after Week 1's 20-16 loss to Clinton Twp. Chippewa Valley.

"We've got to play for all four quarters," he told them.

Thanks to a 65-yard rushing touchdown by Evan Haeger, a 40-yard field goal from Jake Matigian and an 18-yard TD reception by DJ Lee from QB Beau Jackson, the Shamrocks carried a 16-6 lead into halftime.

On the way out of the locker room, Big Reds coach Scott Merchant looked about as low as he could be.

And then the momentum shifted. Kameron Lloyd busted off a 57-yard run. It would've been a 58-yard TD. But as he was about to cross the goal line, Chippewa Valley's Kaelin Shaw stripped the ball and forced a touchback as the ball rolled out the back of the end zone.

Shortly afterward, Big Reds running back Darren Hawkins punched in a 1-yard TD. And fewer than 2 minutes later, DeShaun Lanier caught an almost 30-yard TD reception from Andrew Schuster to complete the comeback.

The Shamrocks' offense was held scoreless for the entire second half. Merchant spent the post-game slapping most of his players on the chest for showing tremendous fight.

So Anderson was right: CC must learn how to play a complete game.

"We've got to learn from it, definitely," Anderson said. "I thought we played well at times. We just didn't play a good second half. And I think, as a young team ... a lot of these guys didn't have a lot of playing time last year, so they're learning."

Can the Wildcats actually play a full 48 minutes?

Plymouth (0-1) gave up two early touchdowns, and it took a while to get its offense going during its 32-14 loss to Livonia Churchill (1-0) in Week 1's Battle at the Big House.

And to make matters worse, it was held scoreless in the second half.

Must-see

Continued from Page 1B

Northville (1-0) at Plymouth (0-1), Thursday, Sept. 1

How the Wildcats respond this week will say everything about how well they'll finish the fall.

They looked tough against Livonia Churchill during the Battle at the Big House, especially with Jaxon McCaig rushing behind that strong offensive line. But too many defensive breakdowns cost them the win.

Don't expect guys like linebacker Evan Cosgrove and defensive lineman Orlando Daniels to sulk at practice this week. They should have the Wildcats ready to battle Northville, which is coming off its pre-determined tune-up Week 1 victory at Wayne Memorial.

Churchill QB Evan Snead had himself a day against the Wildcats, throwing for 188 yards and three TDs at Michigan Stadium. Can Northville QB Luca Prior duplicate that? Or can Plymouth sort out its defensive woes in only one week?

Hartland (1-0) at Novi (0-1), Thursday, Sept. 1

Don't let the 41-10 loss to Belleville fool you. Novi is going to be good.

The Tigers are the No. 1 ranked team in the state by many outlets, plus they're coming off a state championship run in 2021. What's more, they have the No. 1-ranked 2025 QB in the country in Bryce Underwood, who threw for 237 yards, tossed a pair of TDs and scored another on the ground in the Xenith Prep Kickoff Classic matchup against the Wildcats last week.

Novi showed plenty of bright spots and had moments they can build off of. Colin Masterson, Preston Phimister and Niko Krall flew around to the ball on defense. Running back Martez Langford looks poised for a successful

But for about a 10-minute stretch of the first half, the Wildcats looked great on both sides of the ball. The defense was making stops, new QB Sam Plencner was setting up the offense for success and running back Jaxon McCaig, who rushed for a pair of TDs, totaled most of his team-best 205 yards.

That was just the effort coach Greg Souldourian was expecting from the Wildcats. They just didn't play with that kind of tenacity in all four quarters.

The Wildcats host Northville (1-0) in Week 2. Expect Souldourian to emphasize finishing the game strong.

Are the Patriots poised to win the Livonia City Championship?

Churchill probably had the biggest win of Week 1 by dominating Plymouth in the country's largest college stadium. And the Chargers answered a lot of questions many had about them before the season started. It looks like they'll be competitive each week.

But let's not overlook the statement win Livonia Franklin had in Week 1. The Patriots (1-0) downed a rebuilding Canton squad, 29-14, relying on their ground attack with running backs Cordell Mabins Jr. and Tyler Garrett to get it done.

They graduated several key starters from a year ago, including former QB Zac Olesuk. But Franklin still looks like the talented team it was when it got hot at the end of last season and fought its way to a state semifinal appearance.

So that brings up a great question: Can Franklin beat both Churchill and Livonia Stevenson to win the Livonia City Championship? They have a good shot at getting it done.

How will the Wildcats respond to adversity?

The Wildcats (0-1) should write an angry letter to the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's schedule maker.

They faced defending state champion and last year's league champion, Belleville, in Week 1, and now they get Hartland, last year's KLAA-West champion, in Week 2.

So, yeah, a matchup with the Eagles isn't ideal coming off a 41-10 loss to the top-ranked Tigers. But how the Wildcats respond to such a crushing loss will say a lot about this team.

The Wildcats can win the KLAA-West. They can play in the KLAA title game. And they can make the playoffs.

But it'll all start with a bounce-back performance against the Eagles.

season, despite sharing the backfield with Cole Shires, who is an equally as hard runner. QB Luke Aurilia battled in a tough environment.

If Novi can escape Hartland with a victory, it should be well on its way to competing for the KLAA-West title and a likely rematch against Belleville in Week 9.

Waterford Kettering (0-1) at South Lyon East (1-0), Thursday, Sept. 1

The Cougars have a chance to open a season 2-0 for only the second time since the program was established in 2008.

Why? The Captains won just a game a year ago and only two games the year before that. They haven't had more than four wins in a season since 2014.

South Lyon East rode its special teams to a victory over Walled Lake Northern in Week 1 (shoutout to defensive back Caleb Gash for blocking both a field goal and a punt). So its offense wasn't required to be explosive. Expect big performances from QB Nico Campo and running back Daedricco Fizer.

Redford Union (1-0) at Dearborn Heights Crestwood (0-1), Friday, Sept. 2

This should've been the Western Wayne Athletic Conference season finale for both teams.

A year ago, these two squads played a one-score game. The Panthers took the win and wound up going undefeated in the WWAC to win their first league title since 2004.

Now they're back with a roster chock full of future college football athletes, including Central Michigan University commit Jeremiah Alston, QB Cory Chavis and running back Daquan Davis.

This matchup shouldn't be as close as last year's, but the Chargers are definitely the biggest roadblock on the Panthers' schedule, especially with Union coming off a road win at Pewamo-Westphalia, a team that has won two of the last three state titles in Division 7.

Tournament

Continued from Page 1B

Coach Gene Pulice couldn't say enough about his back line and goalkeeper Jack Rogers after CC beat Salem, 2-0, to win the Gary Balconi boys soccer tournament at Canton.

"Our defense is well organized," Pulice said. "Everybody knows their role in the formation, so I don't know, at this point, if there is better defense out there. We haven't given up any goals, so I couldn't be anymore happier with them. ...

"What makes us special is we're all superstars. We don't have one superstar. We play as a team. We already have the synergy. We have the energy as the 'we.' I think we're all in it for the 'we' this year, and none of us are here for the 'me.' That's what makes a difference."

CC's back line is a strong rotation of six seniors, which includes captains Frank Swanson and Drew Pierson, Kyle's twin brother. The others are Ian Arroyo, Aaron Rybicki, Lucas Quick and Ryan Taylor.

"I don't think we'll be letting up too many goals this year, or at least I hope so," Drew said. "I don't want to jinx it or anything. I just think we've got a solid back line. I wouldn't take any other center back over me. I don't think our team would either, and I wouldn't take any other goalie at the moment. I wouldn't ask for any better center-back partners. Right back, left back partners. I'm not surprised (we haven't given up a goal) because going into this we had a really solid back line. Forwards get a lot of credit, but, obviously, everyone knows we haven't let up a goal yet this season."

Take that championship against the Rocks, for example.

One of the best offensive players in metro Detroit is Salem's Foster Garrett, and the forward couldn't get anywhere near Rogers or the net without being (legally) mauled by Drew and his cohorts in the back.

And any shot opportunities the Rocks got off, Rogers was right there to put two hands on them.

Rogers admitted he hasn't made too many tough saves, despite CC shutting out Northville 2-0, Canton 3-0, Clarkston 4-0 and Salem 2-0, but Drew said his goalie has bailed out the Shamrocks on a few defensive breakdowns.



Detroit Catholic Central's Jack Rogers goes up for a save during the Gary Balconi tournament championship Aug. 20. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

But that synergy, as well as their unselfishness, is why CC is pitching a clean sheet through four games.

"I do have to give a lot of credit to them," said Rogers, who was actually a forward a year ago, even finishing second on the team in goals scored. "They do make the saves a little easier. Nothing is really close up yet. It's really just routine saves I've been making."

Added Drew: "At the moment, I don't think there is a goalie who has played better than him all season. He's made a ton of saves. It's not that Jack's not getting any shots. He's made a ton of good

saves against Canton, and he made a couple against Salem today."

Rogers said his chemistry with the back line isn't solely from practices and games. He's also really close friends with each of them, including Drew, who's already made a case to be an all-state defender.

"Drew and I work really well together," Rogers added. "We've been on the team the past two years together. We've got a lot of classes together. We talk regularly. Our chemistry is pretty tight, so we just work together a lot, and it transfers onto the field. I couldn't have asked

for a better team."

Kyle scored both goals against Salem in the Balconi championship.

The first score came off a penalty kick, as he was horse-collar tackled during a breakaway.

His other goal came on a breakaway attempt late in the match.

With the way the Shamrocks are playing, it wouldn't be a shock if they're ranked No. 1 by the MHSSCA in its Week 1 poll.

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



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Howell defense outscores Livonia Stevenson

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

LIVONIA — For the second straight year, Howell walked off the football field following its season opener without allowing a point.

The Highlanders' defense outscored Livonia Stevenson's offense in an 18-0 victory Thursday night.

Logan Porter returned an interception 70 yards for a touchdown in the third quarter for the first touchdown of the game. Nolan Cuellar opened the scoring with a field goal in the second quarter.

Howell also shut out Westland John Glenn in last year's opener, 38-0. The last time the Highlanders opened consecutive seasons with shutouts was in 2004 and 2005, both coming against Lapeer West.

"It was a good job by our defensive coaches this week enlisting a plan where the kids felt comfortable with what was coming at them," Howell coach Brian Lewis said. "Our kids were able to play fast, because of their positioning and they knew what Stevenson wanted to do. We were able to eliminate those things. We got a lot of heads to the ball."

Senior Dru Taylor, making his first varsity start at quarterback, completed the scoring with a touchdown run early in the fourth quarter.

"He battled through some adversity," Lewis said. "Any time you go into a first game as quarterback on varsity, the game's moving pretty fast. He did a good job hanging in there."

"He got hit a few times and kept getting back up. Obviously, in the second half he was able to punch in that run for us."



Howell's Cole Quattlander carries the ball during an 18-0 victory over Livonia Stevenson on Thursday.

TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The Highlanders played the game with Pinckney transfer Bobby Kanka in their lineup. His eligibility was in question, according to an article in the Detroit Free Press, but the Michigan High School Athletic Association ruled him eligible after it was determined the family's former home in Pinckney was up for sale.

"He's eligible," MHSAA executive director Mark Uyl told the Livingston Daily Thursday night. "What we had were questions that we've really been working with the school on over the last week or so regarding the former residence. Whenever a student is eligible right away under what we call Exception 1, that's a full and completely family

move.

"Two boxes have to be checked. You have to be lock, stock and barrel in the new district and there's some requirements of the former residence. It really was the former residence where questions got solved over the past week."

Howell will travel to Canton on Thursday.



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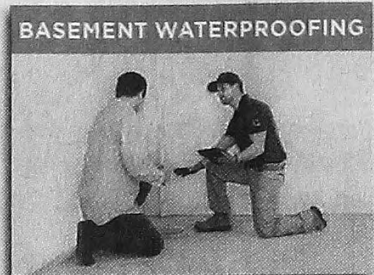
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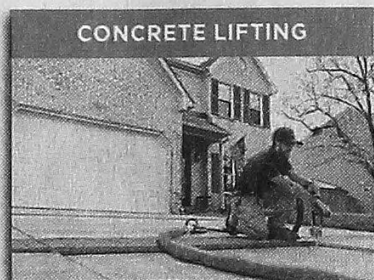
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FIND THE WORDS

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 completed the puzzle, there will be 22 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

- | | | | |
|----------|--------|----------|---------|
| Action | Egypt | Kokoda | Safe |
| Alarm | Enemy | Lost | Senior |
| Anzacs | Fear | Marine | Ships |
| Arrows | Fight | Memorial | Staff |
| Base | Gamble | Mess | Tents |
| Bomb | Greece | Military | Train |
| Campaign | Grit | Officer | Uniform |
| Club | Guns | Orders | Western |
| Courage | Hero | Patrol | front |
| Crime | Ills | Ports | |
| Deadly | Iraq | Pride | |
| Depot | Jets | Ranks | |

TODAY'S ANSWER

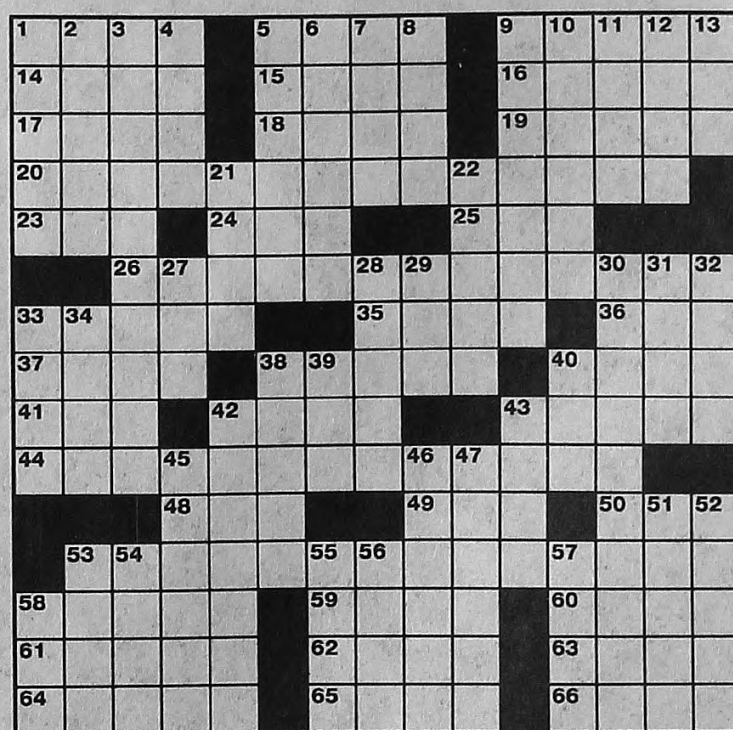
At the going down of the sun

We will remember them

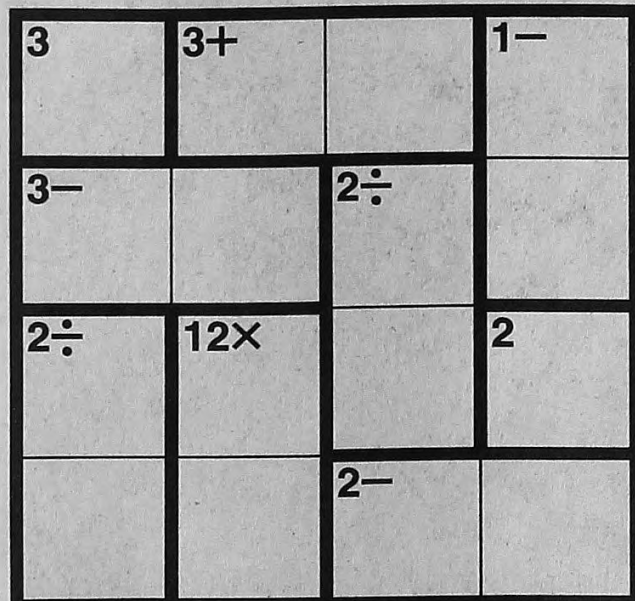
T A S T E J I Y U N I F O R M
O F F I C E R M F T T H R E W
P R G F G O A E F P R I D E E
E I E N G U Q N A I B M E S S
D A D H S T N E T N G A R O T
R N I A R T W S S N Z H S O E
E K O K O D A P K E F A T E R
L T M I L L S I N G N E C H N
B E I E T S O H A Y G C O S F
M D L M M C U S R P I E U E R
A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

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Skipper, for short
 - 5 "I got it"
 - 9 Made a harsh cry
 - 14 Pooch in the comics
 - 15 Land on the Caspian
 - 16 Second of two
 - 17 Just chill
 - 18 Mischief-maker's look
 - 19 Exasperates
 - 20 Do an indoor chore
 - 23 "Frosty" brand prefix
 - 24 Heightens
 - 25 Seed protector
 - 26 Do an indoor chore
 - 33 Slavic language mark
 - 35 Present company excepted?
 - 36 Important span
 - 37 "I came from ___ just to say 'Bonsoir!': Lafayette in *Hamilton*
 - 38 Old Testament adoptee
 - 40 Pack (away)
 - 41 Corsica article
 - 42 Film about Santa
 - 43 Game played with horses
 - 44 Do an indoor chore
 - 48 Trend-setting prefix
 - 49 Autocrat's word
 - 50 Sooner sch.
 - 53 Do an indoor chore
 - 58 Extremely ardent
 - 59 Artist's array
 - 60 Instrument for Apollo
- DOWN**
- 1 Arrangements over your head
 - 2 Bonus
 - 3 Sleep on it
 - 4 Requisite
 - 5 Bleach, as compared to lemon juice
 - 6 Put the brakes on
 - 7 Greet enthusiastically
 - 8 Santa ___ (Alamo attacker)
 - 9 What some margarine is made from
 - 10 Unharmonious
 - 11 Droning sound
 - 12 Hard to hold
 - 13 JAMA subscribers
 - 21 Mastodon relic
 - 22 Some 1 Down
 - 27 Starter like atm-
 - 28 Impulsivity
 - 29 Female with 46 Down
 - 30 "Verb" does and "noun" does
 - 31 He shot Apollo with a golden arrow
 - 32 Timbersports tools
 - 33 Dutch painter Frans
 - 34 Vague quantity
 - 38 Glider's lack
 - 39 "Amazing!"
 - 40 HBO rival
 - 42 One ignoring limits
 - 43 Monk's hood
 - 45 Try to catch
 - 46 Downy growth
 - 47 Confessional material
 - 51 Guitar attachment
 - 52 App clientele
 - 53 Subside
 - 54 Vague intensity
 - 55 Grand, for short
 - 56 Generous portion
 - 57 Vague intensity
 - 58 Lightning catcher

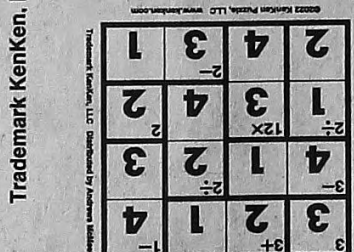


CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2022 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 9/1/22



KENKEN

- Each row and column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
- 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.
- Freebies: fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.



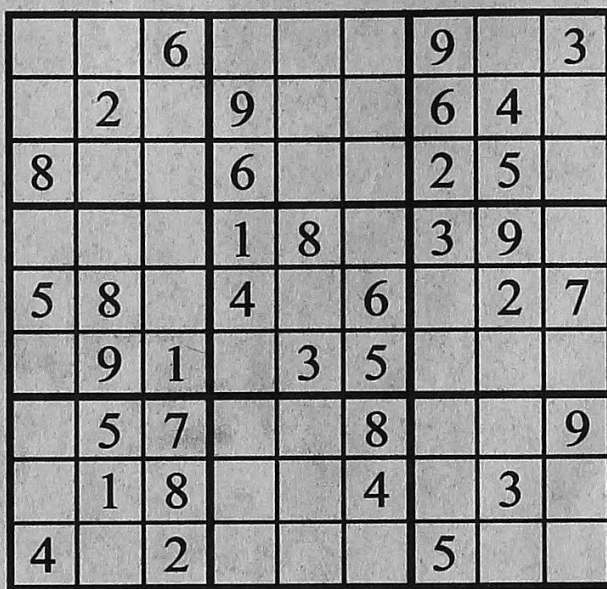
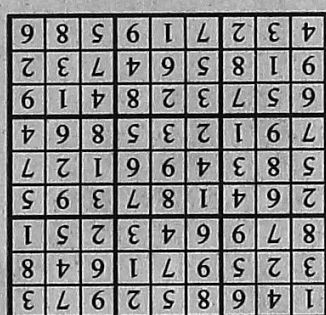
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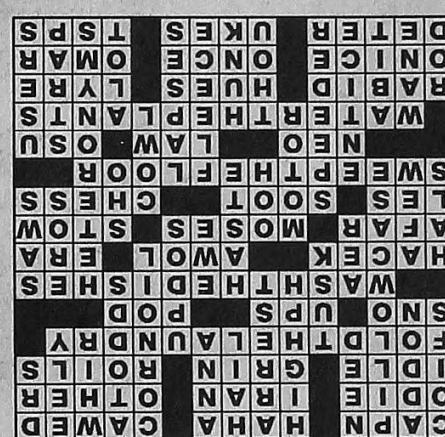
SUDOKU | CREATORS

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: BRONZE**

TODAY'S ANSWER



TODAY'S ANSWER



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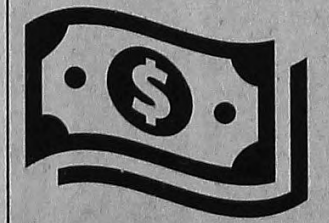
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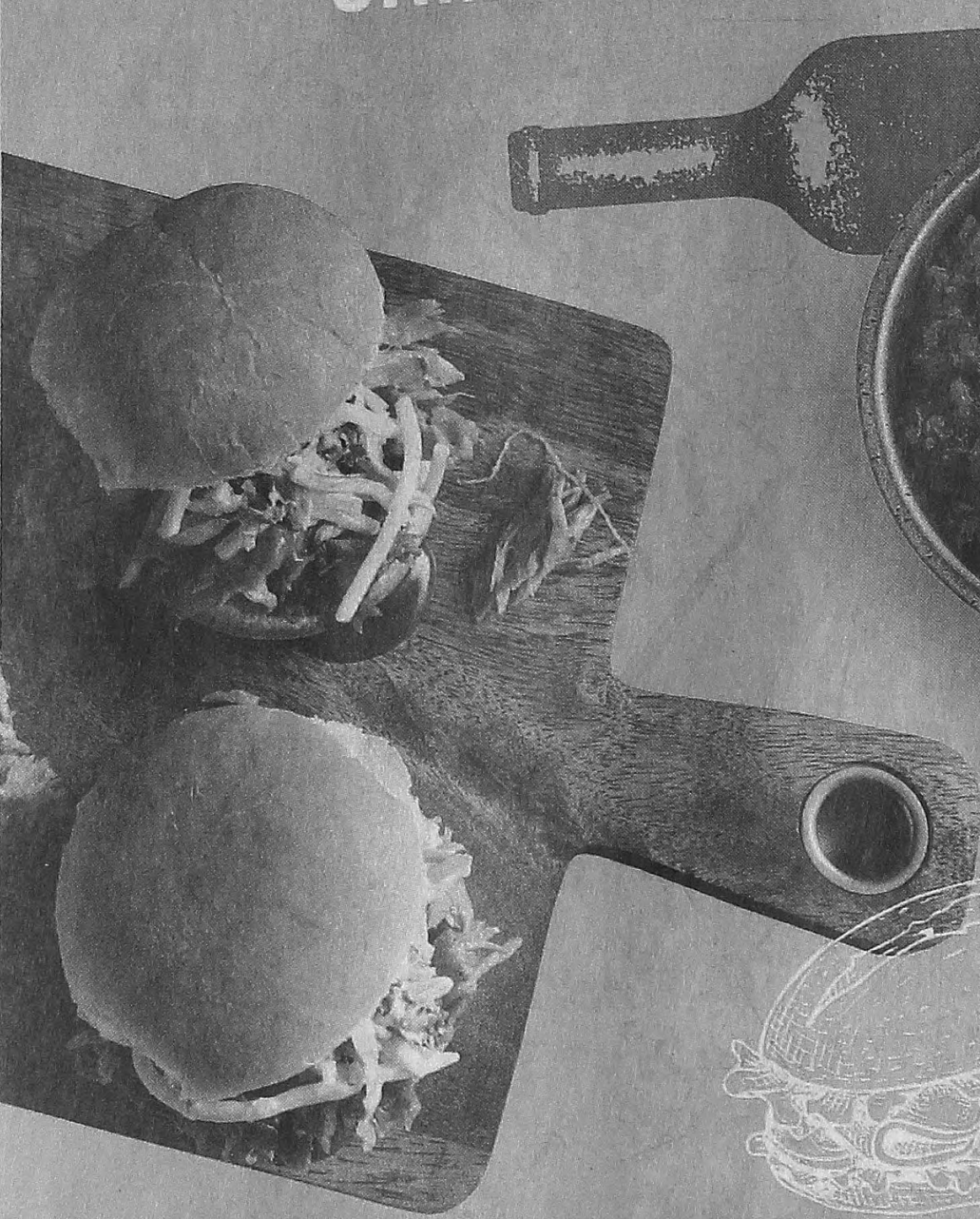
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