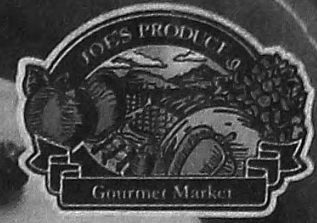




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CANTON

OBSERVER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2022 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

GARDEN CITY

Library gets new lease through June 2025

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Following some uncertainty surrounding its status operating at the Maplewood Community Center earlier this year, the Garden City Public Library now has a home for at least the next few years.

Garden City's city council recently approved a new

lease for the library to remain at the Maplewood building, 31735 Maplewood St., through June 2025.

"We're extremely happy that we know where we'll be for the next three, possibly four, years," Library Director James Lenze said. "That takes a lot of stress off the staff and there won't be any interruption in library services because we won't have to move."

The library will pay \$48,100 annually, up from the

\$31,500 it pays now, and it can expand its operations into the senior fitness room at Maplewood as Garden City moves its senior programming to the Radcliff Center. The city purchased the Radcliff building, formerly a Schoolcraft College asset, in February.

"We've changed the ceiling tiles, painted the walls

See **LIBRARY**, Page 2A



Madonna University film students and teachers watch a take of the student film, "2 Hearts, 2 Secrets."
PHOTOS BY SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Starbucks seeks new cafe in SE Farmington Hills shopping center

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Ordering Frappuccinos in southeast Farmington Hills may get much easier in the near future. It'll just take a decision from the city's Zoning Board of Appeals.

Plans for a stand-alone Starbucks have come before the city with the Seattle-based coffee giant looking to open a new store in the vacant buildings in the southeast corner of the West River shopping center at 30000 Grand River.

"We've already acquired those two properties. We did it at our own risk," said Nick Shango, the petitioner who owns that property. "We have a lease with Starbucks. If this gets approved, we can move forward."

The shop would include a drive-thru, which causes some issues getting the project approved. Due to the building's location near residential, a drive-thru is not allowed under city ordinance. A variance would be needed to add the drive-thru, something discussed at the city's planning commission meeting Aug. 18.

"So the use isn't permitted in this location. So this

See **STARBUCKS**, Page 2A

Madonna University's film tradition simulates Hollywood

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

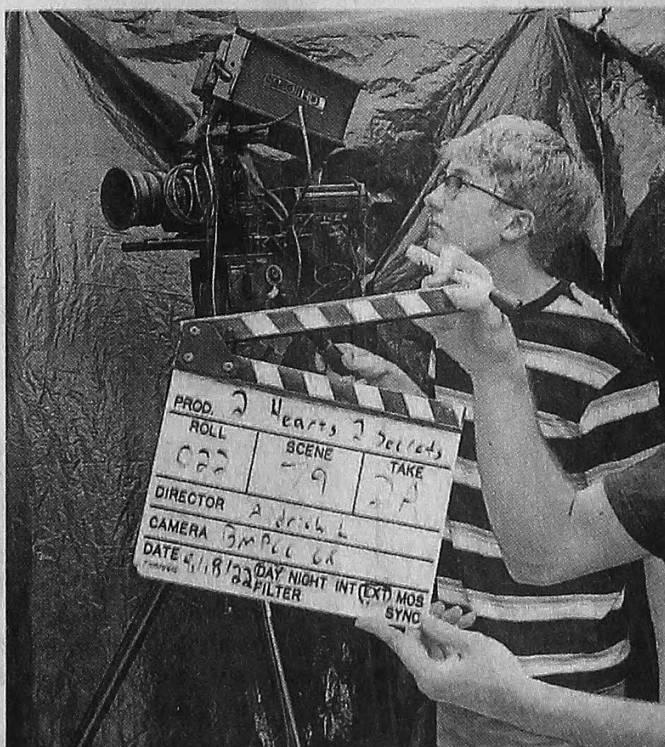
Chris Nickin remembers being a student at Madonna University and making a roughly hour-long film with a group of other students.

Now, he's helping current students do the same thing during their final semesters of college. But instead of a motley crew of three or four film students, the tradition today takes a small army of students and volunteers.

His students pitch ideas, write scripts, shoot scenes and get in the editing room to make a bona fide film during their senior capstone class. Nickin, an adjunct instructor at Madonna who's worked as an actor, director and producer, runs the class alongside three other teachers. The class simulates what working on a Hollywood set would be like, meaning the students work long days.

"I know 10 hours sounds like a lot, but it doesn't even feel like that because we're having so much fun," said Jeremiah Brown, a senior and one of the producers on this year's film. "Our teachers say making a

See **TRADITION**, Page 2A



Director of photography Mason Logerquist sets up a shot for the student film.

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Fundraiser benefits Canton Historical Society

Brew, Brats, & Bands festival set for Sept. 10

Courtesy of Canton Township

Preparations are underway for Canton's annual Brew, Brats, & Bands at the Barn fundraising event 6-9 p.m. Sept. 10 in Preservation Park, 500 N. Ridge Road. Proceeds from this event will support the Canton Historical Society.

"This event will always be affectionately known as B4 because it was

'Brews, Brats and Bands at the Barn' and it will remain so even without the physical barn," said Gregg King, Canton Historical Society member and fundraiser organizer. "Each September it is an honor to host this annual fall tradition at a park that preserves and celebrates historical buildings."

Admission includes seven drink tickets, each good for a four-ounce beer

tasting sample. Attendees will be able to choose from more than 75 different craft and specialty beers to sample in one location, including beers from local breweries such as Canton Brew Works, Bearded Lamb Brewing Company, Ypsi Alehouse and North Center Brewing Company. Brats with all the fixings will also be included with admission, as well as a keepsake beer tasting mug.

Musical entertainment will be provided throughout the evening by Standing Room Only, performing classic rock

hits, and All Directions, playing rhythm and blues standards.

Tickets are \$40 if purchased online before Sept. 9, and \$45 at the door (cash only). Get tickets online at events.beer-fests.com. Designated Driver tickets are also available for \$10. Additional beer tasting tickets are available for purchase; receive four additional tickets for \$5.

For more information on Brew, Brats, & Bands at the Barn, visit www.canton-historicalsociety.org.

Survey gauges Novi residents' interest in fiber network

Susan Bromley [Hometownlife.com](https://www.hometownlife.com)
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

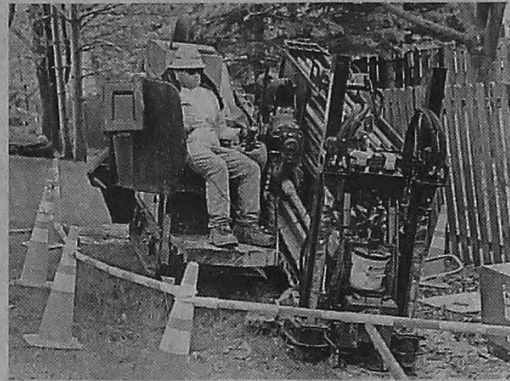
How's your internet speed these days? Are you satisfied with the price you pay and what you get in return?

Novi city officials are asking residents these questions in a broadband survey that takes only about five minutes if you've got a decent connection.

If not, all the more reason to participate as this feedback could spur pursuit of fiber connections in the city.

"We are hoping to get as much feedback as we can so we know what residents want and if they are satisfied with the current service," Humna Anjum, city project engineer and broadband committee member, said. "A lot of people are working from home, students are working from home, and we want to know if they have the speed they need."

The city council began exploring last year the possibility of bringing faster, more reliable internet service to residents. The quest began with a look at what other communities are doing, including Farmington and Farmington Hills, who partnered to create a fiber optic network and drive down internet and cable prices.



Novi is looking for feedback on an idea to install fiber optic infrastructure as a way to get faster internet access to all parts of the city. Pictured is a construction crew member installing a fiber optic network in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

SARAH KLOEPPING/USA TODAY NETWORK

Earlier this year, Novi contracted with Foresight Group, a national multi-discipline engineering company, to analyze current broadband services and provide potential solutions.

The survey, which started in May, is the most important information that will be gathered.

"The biggest benefit is hearing di-

rectly from residents. It's the best info you can get," Ashley Ball, Foresight broadband engineering program manager, said. "Are they satisfied, and if not, why not? Is it the price they are paying? Is it the speed?"

Ball notes that while some of the main roads in Novi have a fiber connection, many of the residential areas are served by "older legacy networks." The main provider in Novi is Charter/Spectrum, which does not offer fiber in the city. Comcast/Xfinity is also present in Novi, but likewise doesn't provide fiber. AT&T offers fiber availability only to a few neighborhoods in Novi.

The traditional copper wires used by these providers can result in very slow internet speeds, particularly as more people are working from home, as streaming services increase, as more homes turn to smart devices for appliances, for medical needs, for security systems and more.

"Fiber to homes will achieve making sure you don't experience slower internet speeds or a drastic reduction if multiple people in the home or your neighbors are using the internet at the same time," Ball said.

While some residents' needs might

be currently being met for today's needs, survey results so far are not showing that and more are needed.

As of Aug. 23, only 359 surveys had been completed. With about 26,500 households in Novi, Ball is hoping for at least 2,600 responses and a good cross-section of the city, with multiple areas represented.

A look at internet speed tests submitted by 173 survey participants showed a vast majority, 145, are underserved — meaning they have download speeds that are greater than 25 megabits per second and upload speeds topping 3 megabits per second, but less than 100Mbps/20Mbps. Another five participants were counted as unserved, with speeds less than 25/3.

Only 23 were counted as having adequate service, greater than 100Mbps/20Mbps, which Ball said is likely because they are in an area where fiber is available and have chosen to pay for the service.

The survey will help inform the city if there is enough demand in Novi to pursue fiber offerings from providers. The deadline to fill out the survey is Sept. 16.

To complete the survey now, visit novi.servicezones.net/Novi.

Starbucks

Continued from Page 1A

is not something you can approve. If you deny him tonight, he can appeal to the zoning board of appeals per the city attorney," said Joe Tangari, a consultant with Giffels Webster, the firm that works with planning in the city. "Then he can come back if he gets the use variance that would be required to allow the use in this location."

Denying the project is just what hap-

pened: the planning commission voted unanimously to deny the site plan as presented. Dubbed a procedural move, the denial allows Shango to take his case to the Zoning Board of Appeals to rule on granting a variance for the drive-thru. If that variance is granted, the project can then return to the planning commission for its review and recommendation.

If added, the coffee shop would continue growth at the center west of Middlebelt and between Grand River and Nine Mile. Several other businesses have located in the plaza in recent years,

including Big Lots, The Edge Fitness Club and Evolution Hair Company and Beauty Bar. In addition, the Riviera Cinema Powered by Emagine also expanded, adding more theaters to the multiplex.

Shango said they've tried to make as much progress as possible for the project, including completing a thorough traffic study and communicating with the residents who live on nearby Purdue. He said the efforts are being made to ensure a smooth transition to add the coffee shop as easily as possible to the shopping center.

"We've already begun sending letters out to the residents, the people who live on Purdue," Shango said. "I'm going to the residents, I know that's going to be a factor."

"I want everyone to understand what we're doing and what impact, any questions we have."

A Starbucks location exists in the West River plaza, located inside Target. So there's no drive-thru, and business hours are limited currently to 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com.

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Library

Continued from Page 1A

and new carpet is about to be installed into that," City Manager Doc Dougherty said of the senior fitness space. "So, that'll expand the library's footprint over there a little bit."

Lenze said the library is considering using the new square footage for programming or office space for staff. Either way, the extension will allow the library to better host events, he said.

"We're not 100% committed to this yet, but it will probably be a dedicated

programming room for our story times, youth programs and adult programs," Lenze said. "It will probably also be used for library board meetings."

The new lease comes amid a lawsuit between the two public entities. The city approached the library with a new lease option shortly after a Hometown Life story published in May discussing the library's future.

Garden City filed a lawsuit against the library in October over lease fees city officials claim the library hasn't paid for years. The library is countersuing, claiming the city has neglected its responsibilities as the library's fiscal agent.

Through a voter-approved millage, the library plans to have saved enough funding to build its own facility in 2029 at the former Burger School site, which the library owns.

Lenze said he's glad to not have to worry about finding a new temporary home for the library just yet. Ideally, he'd like to remain at Maplewood until the library is able to build its own facility.

"I think it works out best for the residents if we're able to continue operating here," Lenze said.

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

Tradition

Continued from Page 1A

film is like summer camp for adults, which is exactly how it feels."

This year, the class is mixing things

up a little. They're making a shorter film than usual, shooting most scenes on campus and featuring a romance between two women.

"It is super different, and I think it's a great thing to bring awareness to on campus," said Madison Vinitzki, a senior and producer. "We have LGBT clubs, but having this be the first friendly film feels good."

"It feels good that our class is the first to do it."

Nicken said a shorter format will optimize students' chances at being chosen for film festivals and awards. Madonna usually churns out a 90-minute or two-hour film, which is atypical when compared to other colleges.

Madonna usually isn't a set for the class — Nicken joked students are normally anxious to get off campus — but this year's film focuses on two college students. The short film, "2 Hearts, 2 Secrets" is a romance between a college softball player and a student radio DJ who both harbor secrets they're afraid will come to light. The production recently wrapped and will premiere in December.

"My character is very, very shy," said Ayres Went, a junior at Wayne State University playing one of the film's two leads. "I think it's less of a romance story, even though that is a major facet of it, but it's more of people coming to terms with who they are and who makes them who they are."

An average shooting day hosted 20-30 people who worked on the cast, crew and production teams.

Brown and Vinitzki, who are part of the eight-person capstone class, said the process simply couldn't happen without the friends and film fans who pitch in.

They might be in Livonia with a group of mostly armature filmmakers, but the students say it feels like working on a professional set.

"They are incredibly professional — I was surprised by that," Went said. "The involvement the teachers have also makes it a real teaching experience through and through, which is really cool to see."

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

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING BOARD OF TRUSTEES PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY

Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 7:30pm

Plymouth District Library Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed library budget for the fiscal year January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 prior to the regular board meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 7:30pm.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

A copy of the budget, including the proposed property tax millage rates, is available for public inspections on the library's website at plymouthlibrary.org. Documents are also available for public inspection during regular business hours at Plymouth District Library, 223 S Main St, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Persons with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services in order to participate in the meeting should notify Shauna Anderson, Library Director, at 734-453-0750 ext. 218 or sanderson@plymouthlibrary.org within a reasonable time in advance of the meeting.

Depot Day brings old-fashioned fun to South Lyon

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The 41st annual Depot Day will arrive at McHattie Park in South Lyon on Sept. 10, bringing old-fashioned fun to the historical village.

"Depot Day is a day for the community," South Lyon Area Historical Society President Linda Ross said. "It's a free event to come out and get acquainted with the society, see what we do and have to offer, to come tour our buildings and hear the history we have to share about South Lyon."

All the fun can be found 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 10, with the action taking place in and around the historical village buildings.

Bubble Man Ron Loyd is back by popular demand for two shows in the schoolhouse at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. The bubbleologist will blow your mind with what he does with soapy concoctions that result in bubbles within bubbles, extensive strings of bubbles, square bubbles and more.

Zeemo, who has attended Depot Day for several years with magic and comedy, returns with juggling and yo-yo tricks to astound 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., with a show on the gazebo at noon, as well as around the village.

For the second year in a row, an old-time band with about 20 members will perform at 2:30 p.m. at the gazebo, with music from around the turn of the 20th century, as well as from the 1930s and 40s, Ross said.

A butter making demonstration and classic vehicles will be on site as well as crafts and vendors, lawn games, a kids' treasure hunt, face painting, a bake sale, and hot dogs and hamburgers from the Kiwanis Club.

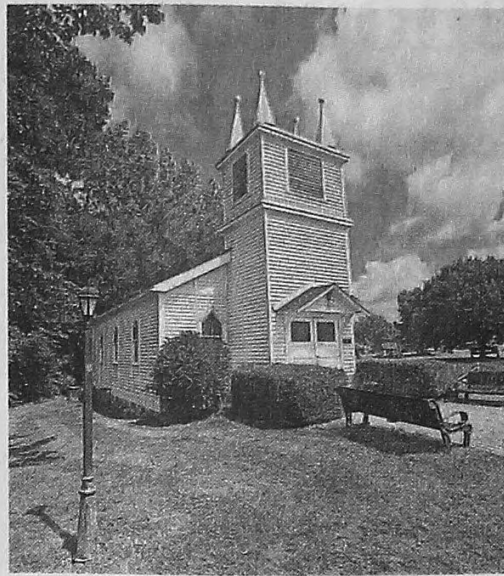
Visitors can check out a model railroad in the freight house, and a quilt show in the chapel. Storytime by the Salem-South Lyon District Library will take place in the schoolhouse.

The South Lyon Area Historical Society is hoping to add to their collection of historical buildings, too, with their first fundraiser to move a barn to the village.

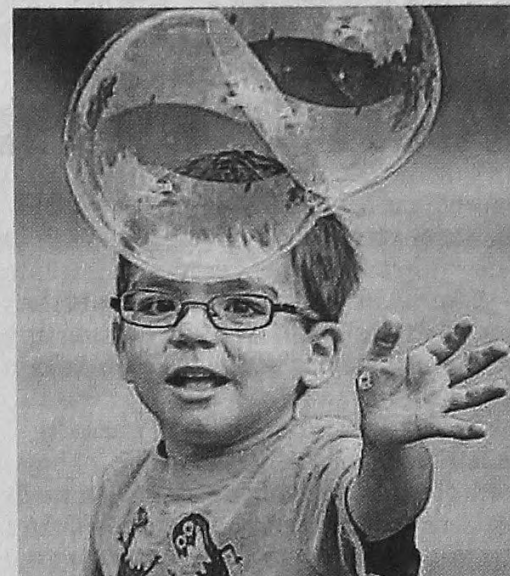
A silent auction will feature gift baskets made up of items donated by local businesses in the Witch's Hat Train Depot, with bids accepted 10 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Winners will be announced at 3:30 p.m.

"We think the barn is important to add to the village for historical preservation and to promote the history of South Lyon," Ross said. "We started as a farming and agriculture community."

sbromley@hometownlife.com



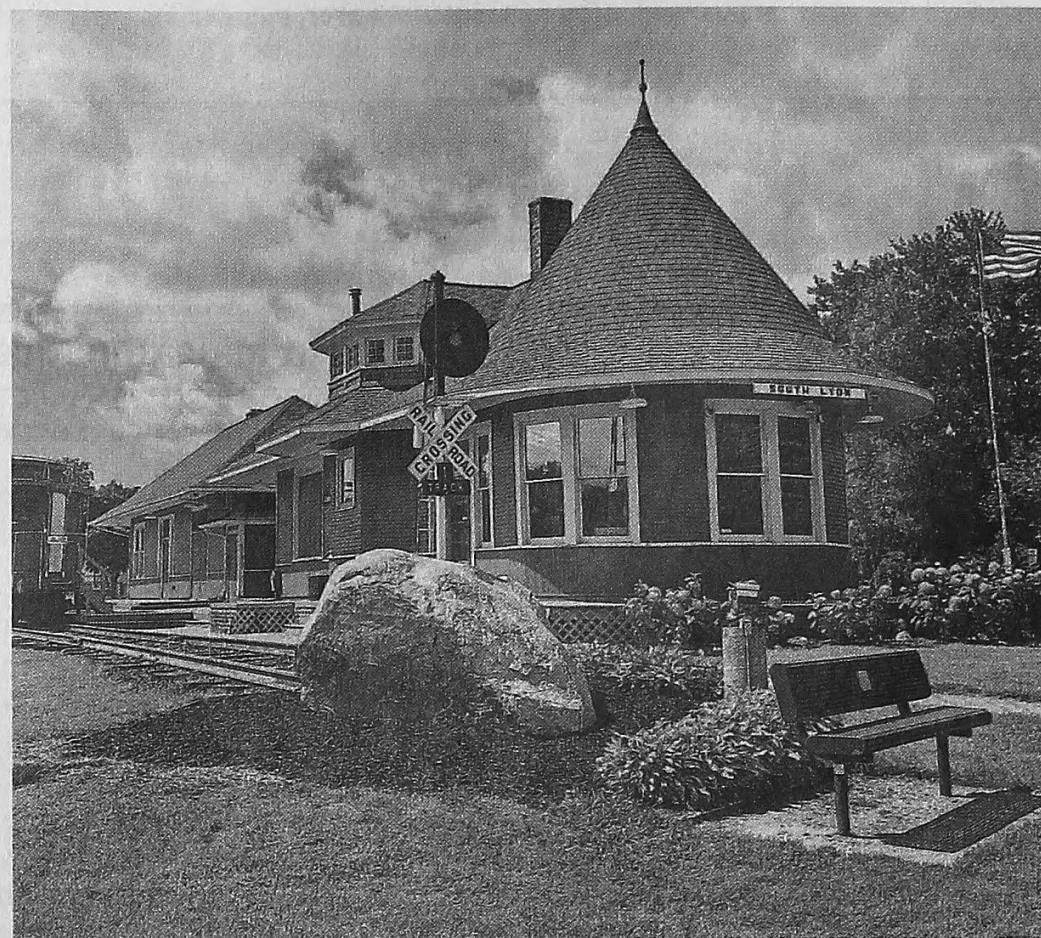
The Little Village Chapel, a mail order chapel from Sears, Roebuck & Co., was originally built on East Liberty Street in 1930. It was moved to the village at McHattie Park in 2000.



Bubble fun has been part of the annual Depot Day in the past. Bubble man Ron Loyd returns this year to entertain young and old. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE



A freight train car at Witch's Hat Depot in South Lyon's historical village.



The "Witch's Hat" Depot was built in 1909 after an 1871 Pere Marquette depot burned down. The depot served as a passenger station until 1955 and in 1976, the structure was moved to its current location in the historical village in South Lyon, where it serves as a museum. PHOTOS BY SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Canton woman starts nonprofit school for refugees in Pakistan

Sarah Raza Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Sommieh Flower still remembers the unexpected sight of children picking up trash on the side of the street in Pakistan.

"It was hot and dusty," Flower recalled from her visit 11 years ago. "They were dressed raggedly most of the time." Collecting discarded plastic to resell for a profit, it was clear the children were not in school.

She noticed them, but they noticed Flower, too; there weren't many foreigners in the area, and given that she was white, Flower stuck out like a sore thumb.

In 2011, Flower had moved from Canton to Pakistan with her husband. After

seeing the number of children on the streets and out of school, she decided to start a school for them.

Today, that school is named Sitara, translating to "star" in Urdu, and primarily serves low-income and refugee children. The organization, Sitara Institute, operates as a nonprofit out of Michigan and runs entirely on small donations.

Education makes up only 2% of Pakistan's budget, and the country has one of the lowest literacy rates in the world. Private schools are unaffordable for many families, and government-run schools can lack basics such as water and electricity. Without reliable schooling options, it's no surprise that almost

See **NONPROFIT**, Page 5A



Sommieh Flower in her home in Chatha Bakhtawar, Pakistan.
COURTESY OF KIRAN JAVED

Obituaries

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James "Jim" Marlyn Brown

BIRMINGHAM - James "Jim" Marlyn Brown, of Birmingham, passed away August 21, 2022 at age 92. He was born to his parents Joe Edward and Alta (nee Scurlock) Brown on March 17, 1930 in Bold Springs, Tennessee. When Jim was 21, he moved to the Detroit area and began his 32+ year career with BASF. He was also very involved with the Ferndale Free Methodist Church and led their senior adult group, OASIS. Jim further engaged with his community acting as the vice president of the Loners on Wheels RV club and square dancing with the Clawsonaires and Birmingham Quadrilles. First and foremost, Jim was a family man. He was devoted to his family, quietly generous, and a man of extraordinary character. Jim is survived by his wife of over 16 years, Anita Gala; children, Debbie Burkhart, Barbara Brown, and Patricia (Kevin) Elnicky; grandchildren, Madison Elnicky and Matthew Elnicky; and siblings, Lois Ethridge, Doris (Bill) Ethridge, Betty Silverstrand, and Ethel Ridings. He is preceded in death by his parents, Joe and Alta Brown; and siblings, Calvin Brown, Joe Brown, Billy Brown, and Sue Simpson. A memorial service for Jim will be held at 10:00 AM, with memorial visitation beginning at 9:30 AM, Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at the Ferndale Free Methodist Church, 1950 Woodward Heights, Ferndale, MI 48220; (248) 541-2224. In lieu of flowers, Jim's family requests memorial contributions to the Ferndale Free Methodist Church and/or St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital, Office of Development, 44405 Woodward Avenue, Pontiac, MI 48341. Full obituary can be found online at www.GramerFuneralHome.com.



Lawrence (Larry) Howard Fackler

LEWISTON - Lawrence (Larry) Howard Fackler, 60 years old, from Lewiston, Maine has been called home to be with the Lord on August 10, 2022 from natural causes of chronic medical conditions.

Born in Wayne County grew up in Garden City. He graduated from West High in 1979. He enlisted in the US Navy, served 4 years and was stationed on the USS Enterprise. He was a proud patriot and veteran.

He is the son of Morris and Eileen Fackler (deceased). Survived by former wife Diane Fackler, Step-father to Keara, Deana, Kelli Conner, wife Desiree and 10 grandchildren. "Papa" to Breanaa Brother to: Cheryl Dork, Elizabeth Fackler, and John Fackler.

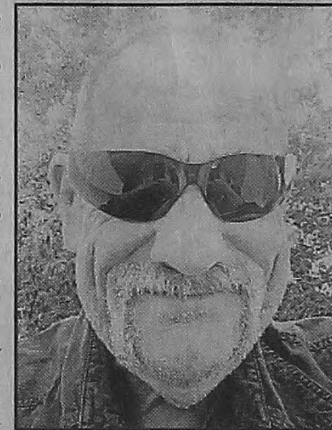
Uncle to: Shawn, Jason, Erica, Lynsey, Joey, Evan, Ryan and Johnny.

He worked as a maintenance man (ON-Time Maintenance) and did construction as well. His hobby in retirement was creating keepsakes from branches and wood he would find. He was never too tired to make a friend and share a smoke, especially with his best friends Mike and brother-in-law Jimmy. He loved hanging out with veterans and his family.

We are blessed to have had Larry in our lives and forever in our hearts. Rest In Peace our Brother, Step-Father, and Friend.

Honors Ceremony will be posted through Family First, Mid Maine cremation services to those who wish to attend.

Funeral home info - Lawry Brothers Funeral Home 107 Main Street - Fairfield, Maine 04937 Phone: 207-453-9107



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.

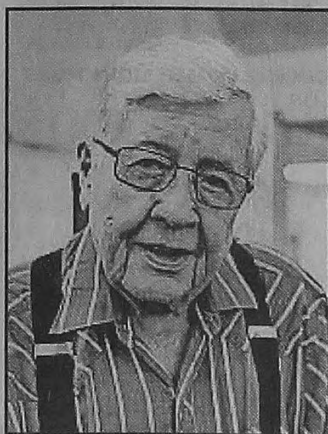
Friends may visit with the family from 3 - 4 p.m. on Wednesday, August 31, 2022, at Langeland Family Funeral Homes Burial and Cremation Services, 3926 S 9th St., Kalamazoo, MI 49009. In keeping with Dave's passion for beaches, casual (Hawaiian/island) attire is suggested. Following the visitation, a 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.

In Memory of

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.





Sommieh Flower stands with some of the children of Chatha Bakhtawar who attend the school named Sitara, Urdu for "star." PROVIDED BY KIRAN JAVED

Nonprofit

Continued from Page 4A

23 million children are out of school.

Flower was the principal at the Islamic private school Crescent Academy International in Canton, Michigan, when she married Tariq Ashraf Khan in 2010. She knew her husband planned to move back to Pakistan eventually, where he had lived previously. At the end of the school year, she resigned from her position and moved with him in the summer of that year as a test run, to see whether she would be able to adjust to life in Pakistan.

They moved to Chatha Bakhtawar, a small town situated just outside the country's capital of Islamabad. Initially, Flower amused herself with the usual tourist activities, visiting landmarks, and historic sites. But after the first month went by, she grew bored.

"I didn't know what to do with myself," she said. "So I thought, let me use this TEFL certificate for something," referring to the certification required to teach English as a second language.

As she walked up and down the blocks during the day, giving out copies of her curriculum vitae to private schools in hopes of securing a teaching job, she noticed many children on the side of the street.

To them, the sight of an American in the small town was curious.

Who's that lady?

"I was like a novelty," she said. They began to follow her around, and, over time, they warmed up to each other. She would give them spare change she had in her pocket or take them to the grocery store to buy them snacks.

One day, the kids followed her all the way back home. Like many foreigners, Flower only drank bottled water in Pakistan, and she had amassed a pile of plastic in her home. When the kids saw the bottles, "they were deliriously happy," immediately fighting over who would claim them.

They returned the next day for more recyclables, but Flower was now out of plastic, so she gave them food instead. They played around the house, creating games using whatever they had on

hand, like marbles or rocks. As Flower spent more time around the kids, they began to have basic conversations, asking each other's names.

As Thanksgiving drew near, she prepared to return to the United States to visit family. In the blog she was using to keep in touch with friends back home, she wrote about these kids, detailing their interactions and shenanigans.

'Why don't you start a school?'

"It sounds like you really love these children," a friend wrote back. "Why don't you start a school for them?"

A couple of days before she left, she had a dream where she saw nearly 100 kids in her home. They were sitting in the courtyard, some reading books, some playing. The sight of smiling and laughing children reminded her of a playground at recess.

When she woke up, she told her husband she wanted to start a school for the kids, a space where they could play and learn.

Flower went home over Thanksgiving and told her friends that she wanted to open a school. According to Sitara Trust board member Mona Dudeen, many families in the Canton and Ann Arbor community trusted her from her role at Crescent Academy. By the time Flower returned to Pakistan, she had gathered \$20,000 in donations to start the school.

"Anyone who hears about the situation just feels compelled to help," said Dudeen.

Khan had gotten some whiteboards and desks back in Pakistan, and they set them up in the extra room in their home. When the kids saw the whiteboards, their eyes grew wide. News of a school spread through word of mouth, and soon 20 eager children were coming over to her house regularly for class.

Flower faced a language gap because many of the children spoke Urdu or Pashtun. To bridge the language gap and help with the increasing number of students, Flower hired two teachers.

One of them was Rizwana Sami, who now serves as the school principal. Sami said she enjoyed teaching because she and her co-staff built positive relationships with the children.

"The children that receive some special attention from their parents are blessed," Sami said. "But these children are ignored by society because their

parents are poor and uneducated."

'These children can save their parents'

Literacy is especially important for families because "these children can save their parents," Dudeen said. They can read the bills, or the doctor's orders if their parents get sick.

The school now teaches students up to their college years, or the equivalent of 12th grade in the U.S. The majority of the children that Sitara serves are refugees, hailing from Afghanistan, Punjab, and Kashmir, and fleeing war or natural disaster.

Many of these children face barriers to entry for education: they don't have the proper paperwork for school or can't afford it. Even free public schools come with a cost, as families have to pay for books, uniforms and transportation. Such schools are riddled with other issues as well, such as weak curricula and teacher absence.

Sitara, on the other hand, operates on a sliding scale. For orphans and refugees, Sitara expects its families to provide only one necessity, such as shoes. For families who can afford to pay, Sitara's full school fees amount to 1,500 Pakistani rupees per month, the equivalent of 7 U.S. dollars, as opposed to the private schools in the area that charge 20,000 rupees per month.

Sitara continues to run almost entirely on private donations to Sitara Institute in Michigan, according to Mona Dudeen.

The school is ever-growing and developing to meet community needs. A Teachers' Institute provides professional development opportunities to Sitara teachers as well as teachers at other underfunded schools.

For girls, Sitara is one of few schools in the area. But when Flower noticed that some girls would stop attending after a certain age in order to take care of children at home, Sitara opened a Mother-Child Center to teach mother's life skills, with flexible formatting to accommodate working students.

After 11 years, Sitara serves over 300 students at two campuses. With amenities like computers, a library, and a science lab, Sitara is not only an affordable but a competitive option for many parents. But Sitara's priority remains: to provide an opportunity for education to the disadvantaged.

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How you can help endangered monarch butterfly

Tess Ware The Petoskey News-Review
USA TODAY NETWORK

Due to declining numbers, the migratory monarch butterfly was classified as an endangered species by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature last month.

While the iconic butterfly is recognized as at-risk in the United States, it is not currently listed as endangered and therefore does not qualify for the protections offered to endangered species.

While the monarch may not have federal protections, anyone with a patch of grass can offer food and shelter by planting milkweed, the only plant monarchs lay eggs on and the only food a monarch caterpillar will eat.

"The idea is keep your yard free from any insecticides and all of that or you're not saving them, they won't survive," said Jessica Vendetti, author of "The Adventures of Marigold Mountain: A Monarch's Story" and owner of Marigold Mountain Waystation in Gaylord.

"So if you have an area that you don't spray and it's organic, that would be the best thing to plant seeds. (It's) so easy, especially in Northern Michigan, to find seeds from the pods of the milkweed and you just spread them out. If you spread them out in the fall many of them will germinate in the spring."

In addition to milkweed, butterflies need nectar flowers once they have emerged from their chrysalis.

A large yard isn't necessary to create a butterfly sanctuary. Skylar MacNaughton has raised monarchs in his small yard in Boyne City for five years and is currently working on creating a nonprofit called Michigan butterfly habitats Inc. to pay for supplies and signs for butterfly sanctuaries.

MacNaughton has planted milkweed in downtown Boyne City and posted signs by the plants explaining what they are for. Other Northern Michigan towns have also done this as a way to add beauty to the area and offer sanctuary to monarchs.

"Monarchs are just as important as bees. But it's not just monarchs or bees, either, it's all our pollinators," MacNaughton said. "I built a nonprofit around monarchs, but this won't only help monarchs, it's helping everything.



A female monarch rests on a native swamp milkweed plant. PROVIDED BY SKYLAR MACNAUGHTON

The flowers that we're planting, they help the bees, they help the other butterflies. Without pollinators, we're not going to have food on our trees and humanity's not going to survive."

According to MacNaughton, less than 5 percent of monarchs survive from egg to butterfly due to pesticides or eggs and caterpillars being eaten by other creatures. "I say 5 percent to be nice, it's probably more like 2 or 3 percent. There's so many enemies they have when they're either an egg or a caterpillar. When they're butterflies they got free rein, but when they're an egg or caterpillar, they have a lot of enemies," MacNaughton said.

Development and pesticides are the biggest threat to pollinators, which is why a recent push has encouraged individuals and municipalities to plant milkweed and nectar flowers on corners and any small areas where plants can grow. Aside from adding beauty and providing food and habitat for young monarchs, these patches of nature can act as rain gardens in developed areas to reduce stormwater runoff and help filter water back into the groundwater supply.



Milkweed seeds erupt from their mature seed pod. This native plant is popular among pollinating insects, especially the monarch butterfly, making it a good candidate for pollinator gardens. PROVIDED

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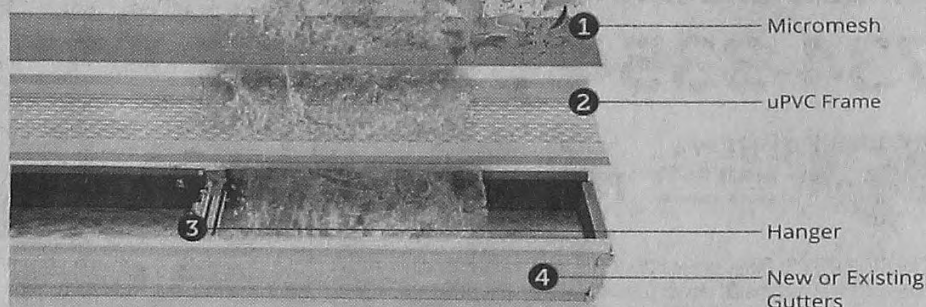
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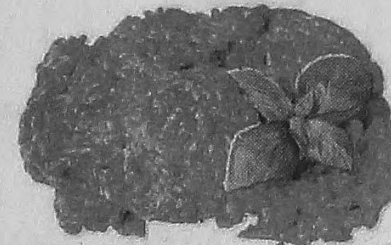
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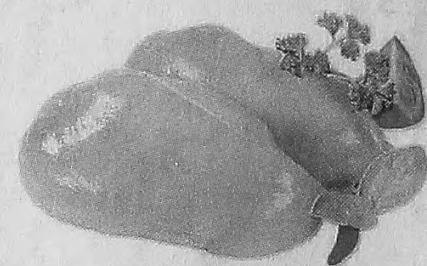
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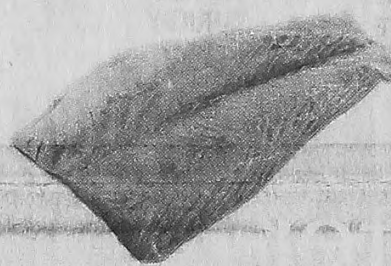


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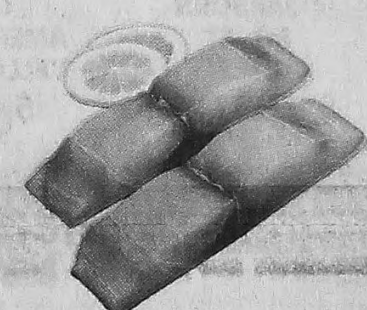
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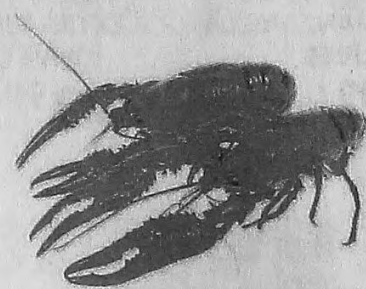
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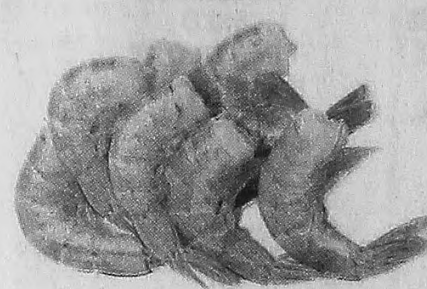
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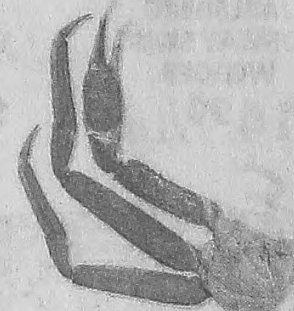
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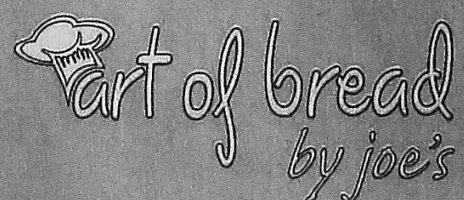
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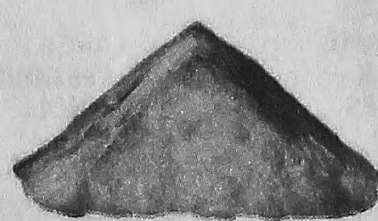


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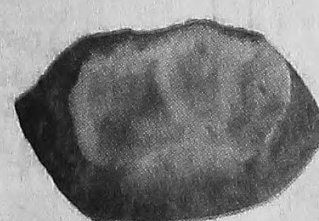


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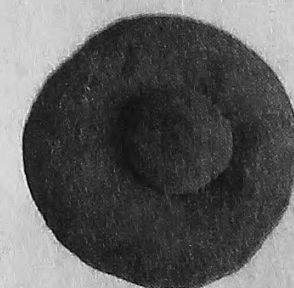
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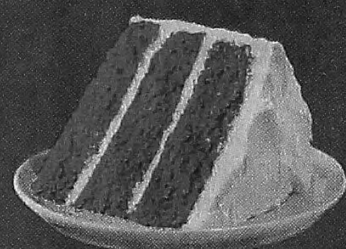
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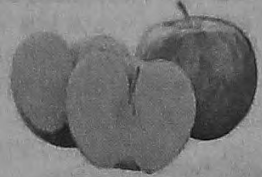
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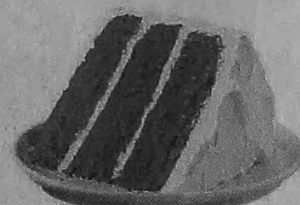
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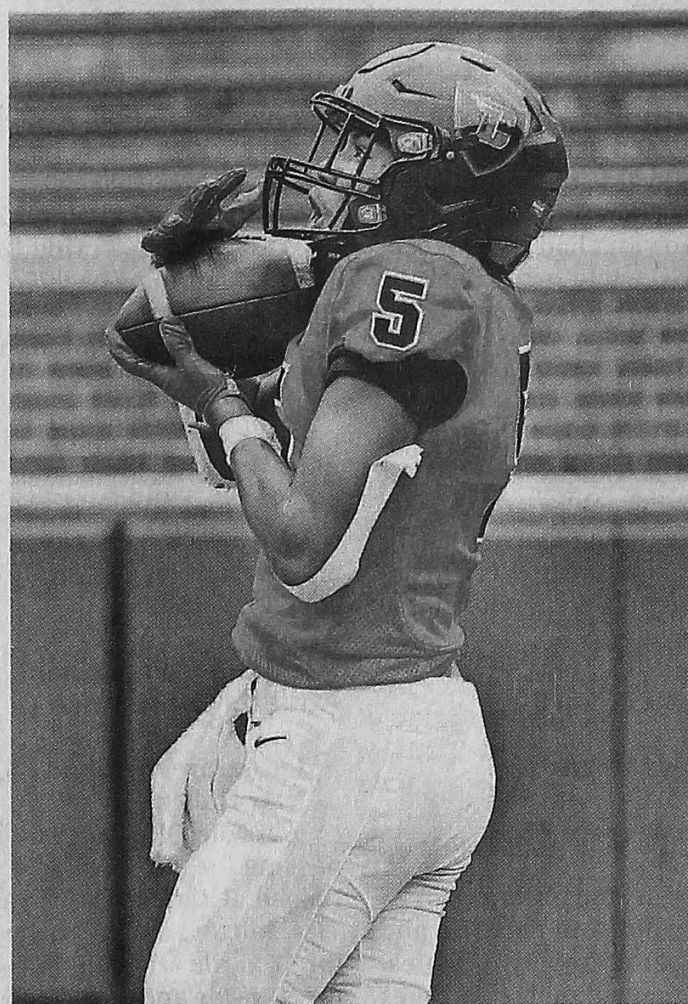


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SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



Above from left, Livonia Churchill's Jonathon Lytle-Montgomery rushes during the Battle at the Big House against Plymouth on Aug. 26 at Michigan Stadium; Jayden Allen catches a TD pass; Evan Snead rushes. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Meet the Chargers' new stars on offense

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The night before the Livonia Churchill football team played in the Battle at the Big House in Week 1, first-year quarterback Evan Snead received an unexpected phone call.

It was from former starter Taj Williams, the heart and soul of the Chargers a year ago. Williams guided them to a 6-0 start to open the 2021 season, which included them being the only team to beat Belleville, the eventual Division 1 state champions.

Unfortunately, the QB went down with a season-ending injury against Dearborn Fordson. And Churchill never truly recovered from losing him. The Chargers lost three of their final five games, including losing to rival Livonia Franklin in the district championship, as they struggled to find a replacement for him.

So to get a phone call from Williams, who is playing at Adrian College, that said everything Snead needed to know about becoming the leader of the Chargers' offense.

"He was telling me to go through my progressions, go through my reads," the junior said following Church-

ill's 32-14 victory against Plymouth at Michigan Stadium. "This program is amazing. It's really good. The fact that he's checking on me while he's already in college says the relationship with the players after high school is a strong bond."

Of course, Williams wants to see his former team continue its success.

Churchill returned only four starters from last year's squad. And it was a who's who of star players it graduated.

See **CHARGERS**, Page 2B

Top performers from Week 1

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Week 1 of the Michigan high school football season is in the books.

Let's take a look at the stat leaders around the Hometown Life coverage area.

Is your team missing stat leaders? Encourage your coaches to send stats to sports reporter Brandon Folsom at bfolsom@gannett.com.

Catholic League

Macomb Dakota 21, Brother Rice 7

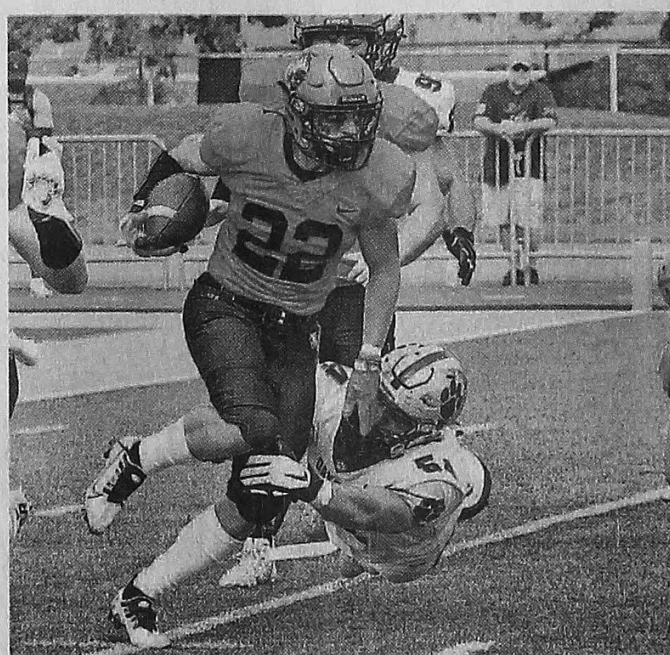
Warriors running back Cashton Papadelis scored a 21-yard TD while filling in for starter Nolan Ray, a Maryland commit, who was sidelined by injury.

Clinton Twp. Chippewa Valley 20,

Detroit Catholic Central 16

Shamrocks running back Evan Haeger rushed for a 65-yard TD, DJ Lee hauled in an 18-yard TD from QB Beau Jackson and Jake Matigian booted in a 40-yard

See **TOP**, Page 2B



Brother Rice's Cashton Papadelis rushes during the Xenith Prep Kickoff Classic against Macomb Dakota on Aug. 25 at Wayne State University.

BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Warriors fall to Cougars' stingy defense in opener

Tony Garcia Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

For a program of Macomb Dakota's caliber — 21 straight playoff appearances, including two state championships — season-long goals almost always trump the narrative of a single week.

That said, coach Greg Baur was straightforward about what Thursday's opener against Birmingham Brother Rice in the Xenith Prep Kickoff Classic meant to everybody on the Cougars' sideline.

"Oh, we absolutely want revenge," Baur said before the game, referencing the 2021 contest in which the Cougars lost to the Warriors by two scores. "Now that only goes so far, but it's absolutely something we talked about."

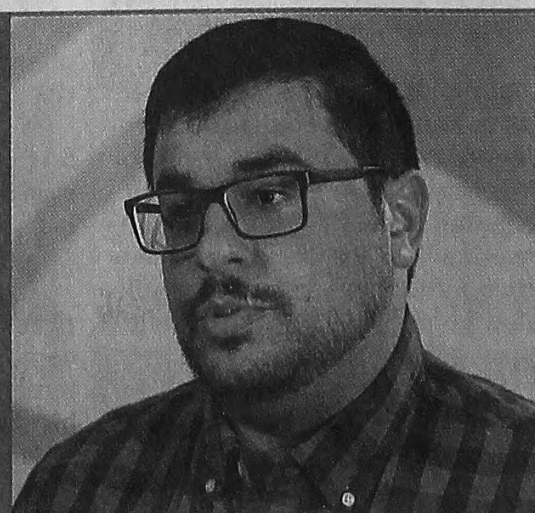
Early in the fourth quarter, Brother Rice cut Dakota's lead to one score, and Dakota needed a response.

See **WARRIORS**, Page 3B

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Top

Continued from Page 1B

field goal. Brayden Courser recovered a fumble on defense.

Livonia Clarenceville 54, Cranbrook 17

Trojans QB Miles Ealy was 3 of 4 passing for 86 yards and rushed 10 times for 148 yards and three TDs. Jordan Williams rushed 11 times for 113 yards and two TDs, while Baron Smith rushed for a score. Elijah Craig intercepted two passes and deflected another.

Cranes QB Preston Washer was 9 of 20 passing for 129 yards and two TDs, while Jacob Speller caught four passes for 88 yards and one score. John Kersh led the defense with eight tackles (two for loss) and Christos Tzoumakas buried a 34-yard field goal.

Independent

Detroit Country Day 29, Detroit Loyola 14

Kensington Lakes Activities Association

Livonia Churchill 32, Plymouth 14

Chargers QB Evan Snead was 8 of 13 passing for 188 yards and three TDs, while Jon Lytle-Montgomery rushed 22 times for 224 yards and two scores and Jayden Allen hauled in five receptions for 174 yards and one TD. Malachi Bratton and Jack Jones led the defense with eight tackles apiece.

Wildcats QB Sam Plencner was 9 of 18 passing for 74 yards and one interception, while Jaxon McCaig rushed 23 times for 205 yards and two TDs and Camden Short caught four receptions for 44 yards. Orlando Daniels paced the defense with nine tackles (eight solo, two for loss) and two sacks.

Northville 44, Wayne Memorial 0

Mustangs QB Luca Prior was 8 of 11 passing for 82 yards, two TDs and one interception. Caleb Moore rushed six times for 91 yards, including a 31-yard TD, while Blake Presley and Angelo Rodriguez added one rushing TD apiece and Nick Helner caught a 12-yard TD pass.

Zebras QB Demarus Bird was 7 of 19 passing for 80 yards and two interceptions, while Darnell Johnson rushed 15 times for 44 yards. Javion Gibson led the defense with six tackles, while Tony Newton had five and Dwayne Jones added four (one for loss).

Livonia Franklin 29, Canton 14

Patriots slot back Tyler Garrett rushed six times for 120 yards and one TD, while Cordell Mabins Jr. added 104 yards and two TDs on 17 carries. Jacob Goria led the defense with nine tackles (four solo, two for loss) and one sack.

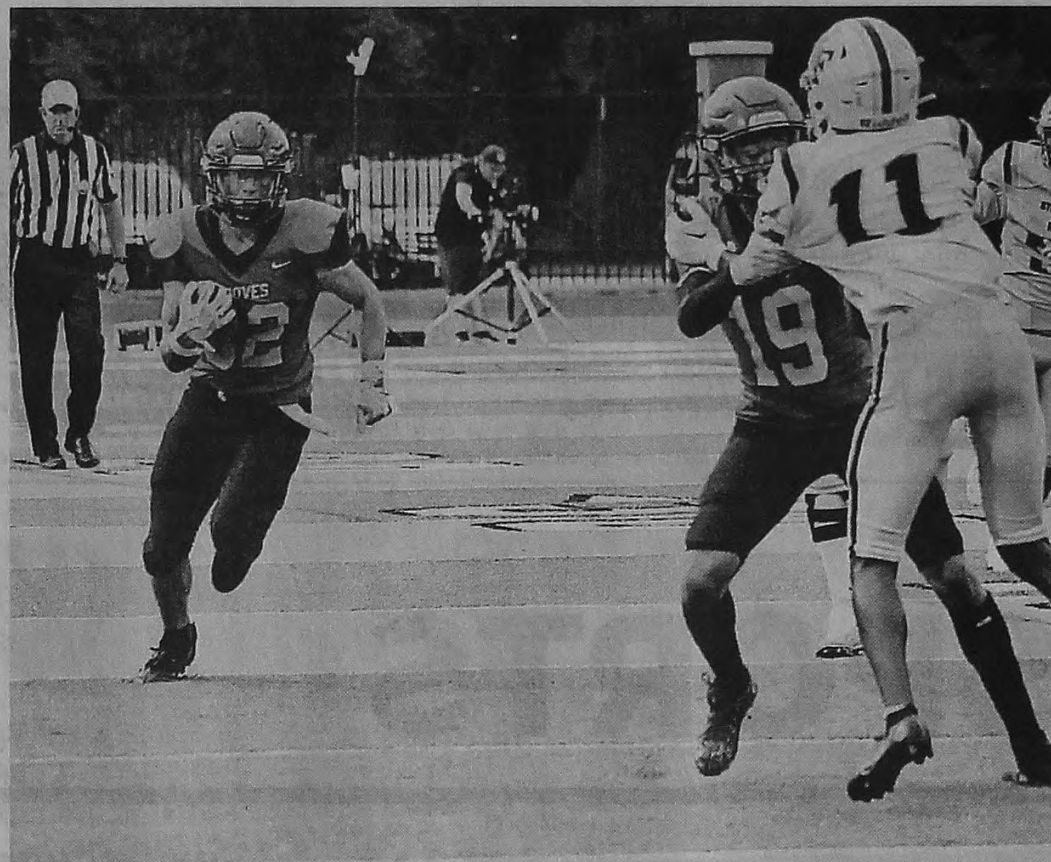
Chiefs running back Devon Pettus rushed 16 times for 116 yards and one TD, while Caleb Williams added 60 yards and a score and Josiah West totaled 58 yards.

Dearborn 42, Salem 9

Rocks QB Robert Ahlgren was 13 of 22 passing for 105 yards and one TD. Robert Jones rushed 28 times for 96 yards. Michael Patsy led the defense with eight tackles (three for loss), while Terrence Smith had an interception and Darrius Williams recovered a fumble.



Plymouth's Jaxon McCaig rushes during the Battle at the Big House against Livonia Churchill on Aug. 26 at Michigan Stadium. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Birmingham Groves' Mario Campoy-Lovasco rushes during a game against North Farmington on Aug. 25. RAYVON DELMONTA/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Howell 18, Livonia Stevenson 0

Spartans QB Zach Benaske was 10 of 23 passing for 91 yards and three interceptions. ArJon Thompson rushed five times for 65 yards and had three receptions for 22 yards, while James Jackson caught two passes for 20 yards.

Belleville 41, Novi 10

Wildcats receiver Boden Fernsler caught a 4-yard TD pass from QB Luke Aurilia. Martez Langford rushed eight times for 45 yards. Cole Shires led the defense with eight tackles and one interception, while Colin Masterson added seven tackles and Preston Phimister had one sack. Gavin Garcia booted in a 29-yard field goal.

Hartland 26, Westland John Glenn 8

Lakes Valley Conference

Walled Lake Western 47, South Lyon 26

Lions QB Braden Fracassi was 8 of 25 passing for 132 yards and two TDs and rushed for 60 yards and two scores, while Tommy Donovan rushed 13 times for 42 yards. Ben Radley led the defense with five tackles (two for loss).

South Lyon East 27, Walled Lake Northern 8

Cougars QB Nico Campo was 6 of 9 passing for 95 yards and one interception, while Daedricco Fizer rushed for 37 yards and two TDs. Jayden LaPerna (two sacks) and Jack Toth (one forced fumble) led the defense with six tackles apiece. Caleb Gash added 4.5 tackles, one interception, a blocked field goal and a blocked punt, and Jordan Newbell returned a block field goal for a TD and had an interception. Jakob Rojas recovered a blocked punt for a TD.

Milford 28, New Boston Huron 7

Mavericks QB Ryan Allen was 14 of 25 passing for 170 yards and one TD and also rushed 15 times for 56 yards and one TD. Danny Sternberg, Ethan Phipps and Max Cremeans each added TDs. Sternberg led the defense with 11 tackles and one sack, Wyatt Lesnew had 10 tackles (10 for loss) and Josh Parker, Ma-

son Bender and Luke Siterlet each had three tackles and one interception apiece.

White Lake Lakeland 20, Waterford Kettering 12

Eagles running back Trevor Tschudin rushed six times for 98 yards and one TD, while Michael Mahaney and Sean Latham each scored on the ground as well. Nolin Thompson (three sacks) and Caden Calhoun (one sack) led the defense with eight tackles apiece. Trey Rowley and Vince Partogian each recorded a sack, while Ryan Johnson had an interception and Brody Cutsinger recovered a fumble.

Michigan Independent Athletic Conference

Lutheran Westland 35, New Haven 6

Warriors QB Noah Etnyre was 5 of 6 passing for 102 yards and two TDs and rushed 11 times for 75 yards and two TDs. Micah Lavigne rushed eight times for 57 yards and caught two receptions for 68 yards and two TDs. Etnyre led the defense with nine tackles (three for loss, two sacks and one interception), while Nathan Klan had seven tackles and one sack and Ben Wright added four tackles.

Oakland Activities Association

Birmingham Groves 34, North Farmington 19

Falcons QB Caden Hardy was 8 of 14 passing for 111 yards and three TDs and also carried seven times for 22 yards. Mario Campoy-Lovasco carried 24 times for 262 yards and one TD, while Owen Higley caught three passes for 59 yards and one score. Elias Kendra led the defense with seven tackles and one sack, and Brandon Hall added four tackles.

Birmingham Seaholm 38, Bloomfield Hills 21

Maples QB Colton Kinnie scored two TDs, while Jack Hulgrave, Sean Emerson and Granden Kinnie each scored as well. Wesley Billings made a 43-yard



Lutheran Westland's Noah Etnyre passes against Advanced Tech in October at Lawrence Tech.

field goal.

Ypsilanti Lincoln 20, Farmington 14

Falcons QB Dominic Pesci threw for 120 yards and one TD, while Cameron Pettaway rushed for 152 yards and one TD and also had 67 yards and one TD receiving.

Western Wayne Athletic Conference

Redford Union 26, Pewamo-Westphalia 6

Panthers QB Cory Chavis was 9 of 14 passing for 194 yards and three TD passes. He threw two TDs to Jamel Belcher and another to Jeremiah Alston. Dequan Davis added a score on the ground.

Linden 21, Garden City 6

Owen McGraw raced 81 yards for the Cougars' lone TD. Brothers Nick and Ray Emond combined for 20 tackles and a fumble recovery, while Kaden Williams also contributed on defense.

North Branch 56, Redford Thurston 0

Twitter: @folsombrandonj

Chargers

Continued from Page 1B

While losing Williams was a big deal, the Chargers also graduated running back Boston Clegg Jr. (Adrian College), receiver Bailey Brooks (Concordia-Ann Arbor) and slot Joshua Brown (Saginaw Valley State University) just from their offensive skill positions alone.

Churchill didn't have any true brand names coming back at those spots. In fact, its most well-known stars returning were center Caleb LeBar, linebacker Malachi Bratton and defensive back Dylan Wilczynski.

The team entered this season with unknowns across the board. And guess what? It appears a few stars have been born.

"That's kind of been part of our program," coach Bill DeFillippo said. "When we lose good players, you want to make sure we have other guys coming in, and we want to make sure we can develop them really quick. We're just at the point right now where every year when our younger guys come up, they know the standards and they know the expectations. They just work hard. I'm proud of these guys. We put a young group on the field today, and a lot of guys stood out and made some great plays."

Snead was 5 of 10 passing for 195 yards and three touchdowns. His first is saying something considering his first varsity start was in a 115,109-seat college football stadium.

"I was prepared. I had to, obviously, prepare with my receiver and my O-line," said Snead, who was the starter on the JV last year. "It was tough, but I'm trying to learn the playbook. I think I'm getting pretty great at it, but (no), not really, I didn't expect to have such a big performance. I was a little nervous to begin with, but I always play better when I'm nervous."

The Chargers limited Snead's expectations and put him in positions to make easier plays. He wasn't expected to win the game with his arm.

"Sometimes when a kid makes his first start, you never really know what to expect," DeFillippo said. "We didn't try to put much on his plate early. We wanted him to settle in, especially with playing at the Big House in your first varsity start. That probably adds a little bit of anxiety. He had handled it, made some great throws and just missed on some others. I think he played very well today. He took good care of the football and didn't turn it over, so that's always a plus."

The QB didn't have to do it alone.

He got to hand off the ball to Jon Lytle-Montgomery, who filled in well for Clegg Jr., despite having an entirely different running style. Clegg Jr. was more of a power back, a lot like current second-stringer Messiah Amerson, while Lytle-Montgomery is a smaller guy with sprinter speed.

Lytle-Montgomery scored on runs of 68 and 5 yards. He finished with 20 attempts for a game-high 210 yards, edging Wildcats running back Jaxon

McCaig by 5 yards.

The senior said he's thriving on being relatively unknown right now. No one outside of Churchill's locker room expected him to perform as well as he did against Plymouth.

"I really like it. I just come out here, and nobody knows who I am," Lytle-Montgomery said. "So I just run the show. I think I played pretty well."

Clegg Jr. offered Lytle-Montgomery some advice before leaving for college. He told him to always follow his blockers, protect the ball and make smart cuts.

And that's exactly what Clegg Jr.'s replacement did.

"For a smaller back (6-foot, 180 pounds), there were inside runs where he moved the pile," DeFillippo said. "So a 2-, 3-yard gain became a 5- or 6-yard gain. He's got good speed. He's good in the open field and he just played well today."

Also helping Snead was receiver Jayden Allen, who isn't necessarily a new player, but he's definitely a star on the rise.

A year ago, he was one of Churchill's few two-way players. He lined up outside and also was a defensive back. But he was often overshadowed by the Chargers' seniors.

But it was hard for him to go unnoticed at the Big House. Not only did he come up with a touchdown-saving interception on defense but he also had a big day on offense.

He caught three passes for 118 yards, two of which went for TDs. His first was

a 70-yarder that gave the Chargers a 6-0 lead to open the game. And then he added a 34-yarder in the second quarter.

"I was just in the back last year," the senior said. "I started my first game two-way against Belleville. It was a hard, hard game, man. I was just playing with my team and knowing they had my back."

But how does it feel needing to be one of Churchill's stars one year later?

"I think with having all these guys step out (graduate), you just know we've got spots to fill," Allen added. "And we're going to be the underdogs in most of our games because all these people left. But we've just got to keep getting in the dirt and keep going."

So now we know who will be making the plays for Churchill. But it's not going to get any easier.

Plymouth was coming off a one-win season in 2021. And the Chargers still play in one of the toughest divisions in Michigan, as the Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East still features Belleville, Fordson, Dearborn and rivals Franklin and Livonia Stevenson.

Snead, Lytle-Montgomery and Allen had breakout games in the opener. Can they keep this going when the opponents get tougher?

"They'll do it. They'll do it one day at a time," DeFillippo said. "We talk about in practice: We've just got to get better. These guys work. They're very coachable and we've got to get better."

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

Warriors

Continued from Page 1B

That's when the offense turned to two of its best players, quarterback Ethan Hamby and wide receiver Owen Colpaert.

On the 13th play of the game's decisive drive, Hamby recognized a mismatch — he saw the safety come down to take away the curl — which left single coverage on Colpaert.

"He trusted me, he threw it up for me and I'm going to come up with it nine times out of 10," Colpaert said of his 26-yard touchdown catch. "Coach Baur brought us together and said, 'We need a touchdown,' so we came together, came through and celebrated on the sideline."

It was the final score of the game, as Dakota outlasted Brother Rice for a 21-7 win that could have been more lopsided.

Jake Kowalkowski's coming out party

Three plays was all it took for Dakota to set the tone.

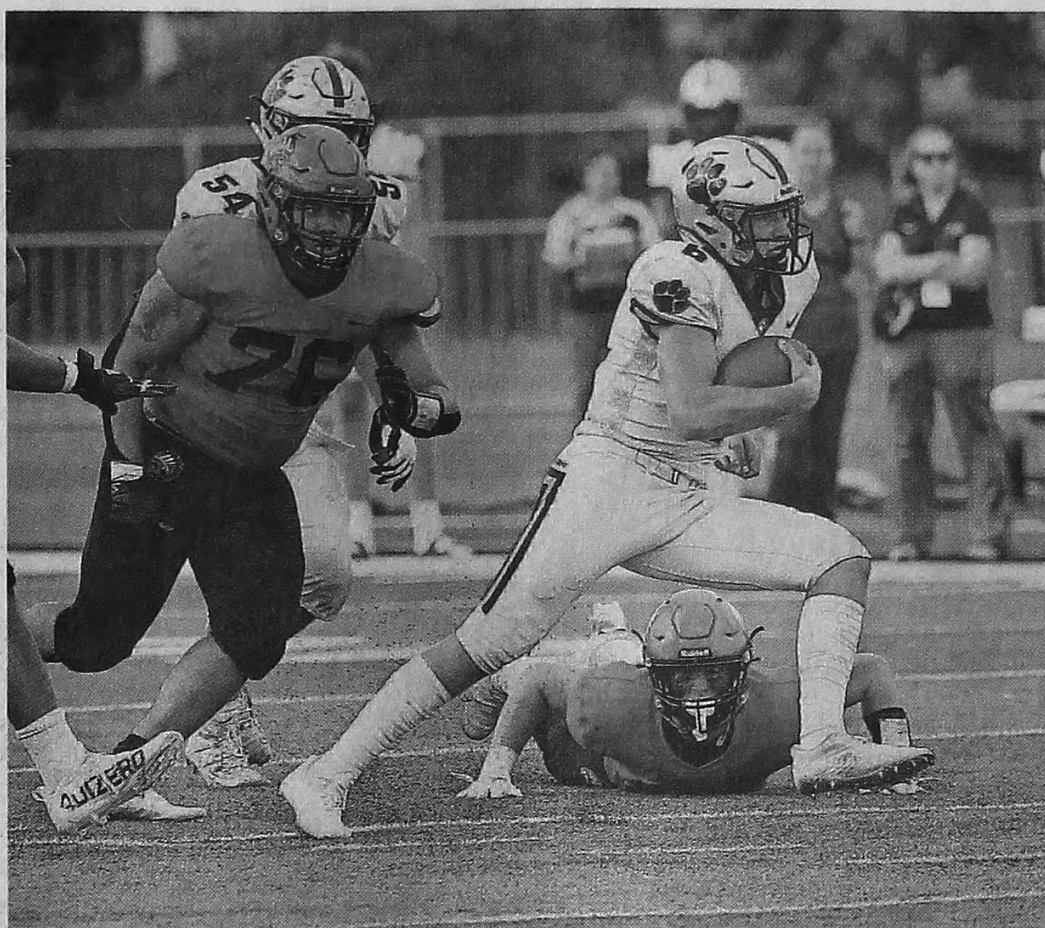
Rice gained 1 yard on the game's first play. On the next snap, Dakota junior defensive end Jake Kowalkowski sacked Rice's Blake Marrogy for a loss of 10. On third-and-19 on its own 11, Rice didn't run an offensive play, opting instead for a quick punt, which netted just 20 yards.

That set the tone, as Dakota's defense dominated from start to finish, led by Kowalkowski.

The Cougars allowed 45 yards in the first half including just eight rushing and forced as many turnovers (2) as they allowed first downs in the first half. Rice picked up just 90 yards in the second half.

Part of the reason for the Warriors' offensive struggles was the lack of running back Nolan Ray. The senior tore his meniscus in the first play of a scrimmage against Birmingham Seaholm earlier this month and is expected to miss the next four weeks.

"Nolan is a spectacular player, so you can't take anything away from him, but we have good running backs outside of him too," Rice coach Adam Korzeniewski said. "But they played really well in the run game, because we have a good O-line, but their defensive line and their scheme was really good today."



Macomb Dakota quarterback Ethan Hamby runs the ball against Birmingham Brother Rice during the first half of the Xenith Prep Kickoff Classic on Aug. 25.

KIRTHMON F. DOZIER/DETROIT FREE PRESS

The first turnover came on Rice's third possession. After the Warriors' first first down, Rice's Cashton Papadelis ran up the middle and was stripped, with the ball recovered by Kowalkowski.

"He ended up winning the job just last week over a senior," Baur said of Kowalkowski. "I've coached Jake since little league, and he's one of those kids who may not look the part, but he plays the part all the time. We think he's going to have a really bright future for us."

The next Rice drive didn't improve matters. The Warriors reached Dakota territory for the first time — thanks to an out-of-bounds kickoff and a face-mask penalty at the end of a run — but on the next play, senior linebacker Calvin Watson intercepted a pass on an out-route and ran it back 35 yards, deep into Rice territory.

"We need to take care of the ball better, I think we had three turnovers," Korzeniewski said. "I mean I loved our fight, but we lost the first half, it was a stalemate in the second and so we've got to start on time."

could've been more, but that's what we've got to learn from," Baur said. "We can't fumble on the goal line, can't shoot ourselves in the foot on drives, we've got to finish."

"But I like when they made their comeback, how we battled back, settled down and closed it out."

It wasn't until the fourth drive — after the Watson interception set the Cougars up on the Warriors' 25 — that Dakota found the end zone. That short drive needed just four plays, capped off by Hamby pounding it in from 2 yards out to go up 13-0.

Dakota had a chance to pull away late in the first half.

The Cougars, starting at their own 29, marched down to the Warriors' 20 late. With nine seconds left in the second quarter, Hamby lofted a pass to the end zone, but Rice sophomore Alex Grochowski high-pointed the ball and took it away.

"Our defense was on the field for a long time, but they played a hell of a game," Korzeniewski said. "They moved the ball on the ground some and had a few big passes, but we came up with a big interception, fumble recovery ... made plays."

Brother Rice's last gasp

After forcing Dakota's first punt of the game — an 18-yard shank — Rice finally got rolling late in the third quarter. After netting just 46 yards of offense in the first 40 minutes of the game, the Warriors put together a seven-play, 57-yard drive.

Marrogy found Henry Garrity for 17, then Skyler Simmons a few plays later for 12 to get into the red zone. Two plays into the fourth quarter, Papdelis had the run of the game, breaking one tackle and spinning out of another to scamper in for a 13-yard touchdown and cut the lead to 13-7.

Dakota answered with its second touchdown drive, marching 77 yards. Joe Cacevic and Watson rushed on 10 of the 13 plays, but the big blow came when Hamby found Colpaert on a 26-yard touchdown with 5:13 to play.

Blake Garbarino caught the 2-point conversion for the final margin.

"With our guys, you don't have to say much, that's just how we do things" Baur said. "We have 34 seniors, that leadership comes in and when things get hard, they know how to get it done."

Dakota can't pull away

Dakota's offense struggled to capitalize on strong field position early.

The Cougars, starting on the Rice 32, needed just four plays to set up first-and-goal on their opening drive. But after a 1-yard rush and consecutive incompletions, they settled for a 23-yard field goal from Dominic Celestini.

Dakota started at midfield on drive No. 2 when Hamby connected with Colpaert on a 37-yard pass on the first play to reach the 14. Three plays later, Watson fumbled on a third-and-1 carry from the 6, and Rice's Eryx Daugherty pounced on it.

The third time was not the charm for the Cougars

Dakota began on the Warriors' 37 and quickly reached the 11. However, Rice stuffed three consecutive rushes, forcing a 24-yard field goal to make it 6-0.

"That's the frustrating part, because I feel like we played well enough where it

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Northville junior overcomes COVID-19, wins Lamplighter

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Brendan Herger was nervous before competing in The Lamplighter Invitational at Ford Field in Livonia.

Not because of the competition he was facing or because it was the season opener.

Heck, Herger has competed in many, many other bigger races before. Like when he helped Northville's 3,200-meter relay team win a Division 1 state championship this past spring.

No, the junior was nervous because he was recently diagnosed with COVID-19.

Like two weeks ago.

He tested positive for the coronavirus five straight days before he could return to training.

He didn't know how well he'd fare given how many runs he had missed, and he couldn't train at full strength when he was allowed to return.

"As soon as I stopped (testing positive for COVID-19), I went back (to training) a little easier," Herger told Hometown Life. "I did some hard workouts closer to doing this (race), and I did a bunch of hill reps on Wednesday. I rested yesterday."

"My goal was to win, not (go) for time."

Well, Herger basically achieved both.

He crossed the finish line in 15 minutes, 53.7 seconds to win the meet.

What's more, his time was only 2.4 seconds away from the personal best he set a year ago. Which is saying something because not only was he still recovering from the coronavirus but he wasn't competing in a traditional race. His flight of The Lamplighter started at 11 p.m., about 12 hours later than most races get going. Plus, the course wasn't designed for speed. It was more a glow-in-the-dark experience than anything else.

"I was expecting less of myself," Herger admitted. "When I had COVID 2 weeks ago, my heart was in rough shape. But 2 weeks was enough to get it back, I guess. I couldn't have been happier (with my performance)."

Herger, who thrives on competing,

**"I'm not gonna lie:
I've probably never been
more nervous for a race. ...
But I like to race more for
competition than for time,
and it worked out.
And that's why I run.
That's why I love it."**

Brendan Herger

said his goal was to just stay ahead of New Baltimore Anchor Bay junior Thomas Westphal, who was the second-best rated runner there.

Westphal finished in 16:17.4 to take second place, but Herger is unsure when he pulled away from the pack. He didn't want looking behind him to negatively impact his focus.

"I ran hard, and I felt like I kept my pace really well," Herger said. "I'm not gonna lie: I've probably never been more nervous for a race because, with Thomas Westphal, it was unknown how well he would do. He had a crazy track season. But I like to race more for competition than for time, and it worked out."

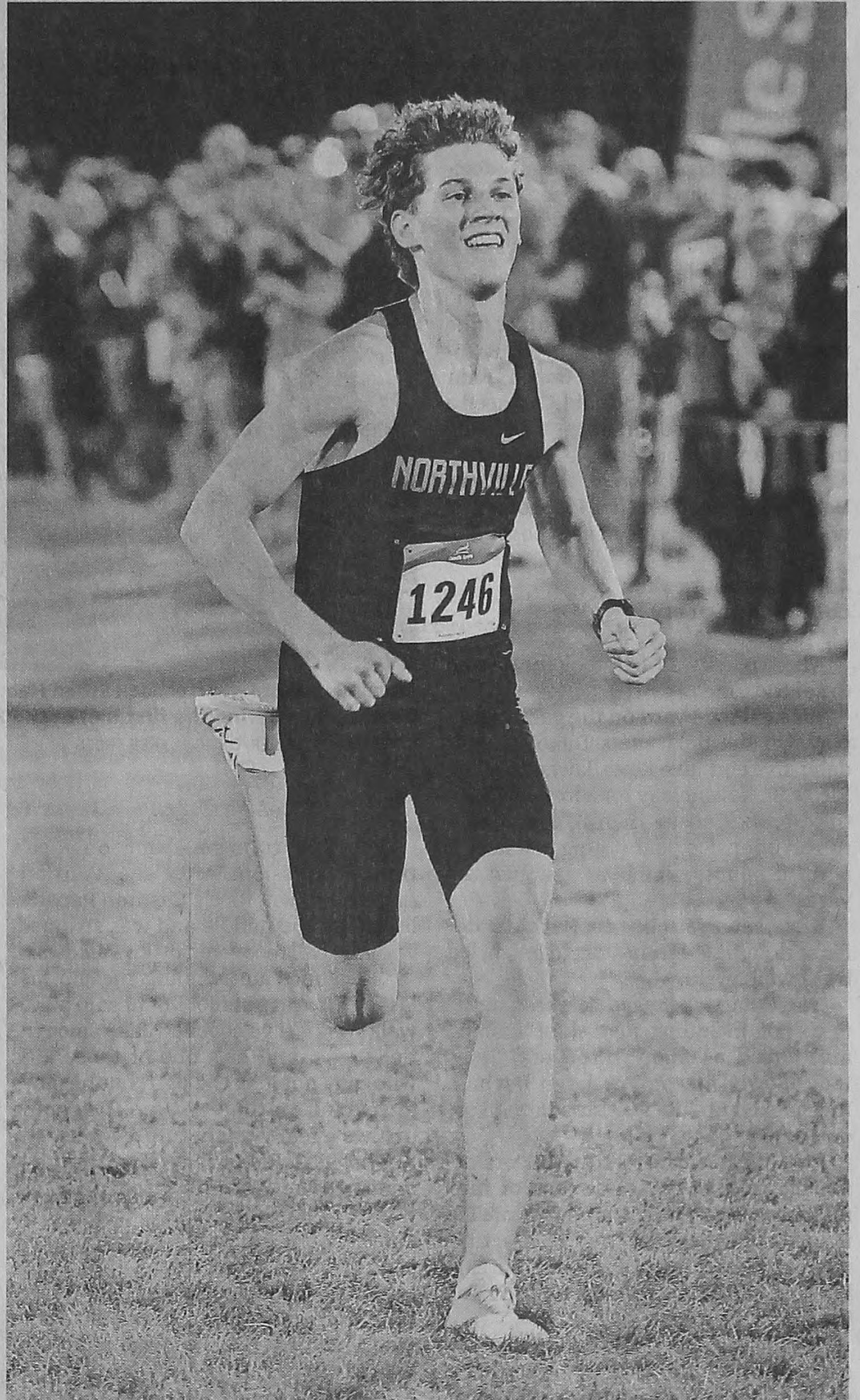
"And that's why I run. That's why I love it."

The Mustangs won the meet thanks to having five finish in the top 25. That included Brady Heron (16:32.2) in 10th, Ethan Powell (16:34.1) in 13th, Brock Malaikal (16:53.6) in 17th and Nicholas Yaquinto (17:10.9) in 25th.

Northville also won the JV meet following a 1-2-3-4 finish from Ishaan Kundapur (18:13.9), Luke Schwartz (18:17.4), Ritvik Ellendula (18:36.0) and Nick Barretto (18:37.0).

Ryan Stojov (18:59.5) rounded out the team's scoring in seventh place, while Austin Barber (19:03.1) and Maximilian Potrzeba (19:04.9) also placed in the top nine.

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



Northville's Brendan Herger won The Lamplighter Invitational on Aug. 19.
TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Sports

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THE **Observer & Eccentric** NEWSPAPERS

Senior Lions hungry to score in pursuit of league title

Brandon Folsom HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The South Lyons boys soccer team graduated Michigan State signee Josh Mason.

And that has coach Brian Elliott breathing a sigh of relief.

No, not because he just lost his all-state defender.

It's because it's allowing him to open up the playbook and get the most out of his current squad.

That was evident in a 4-0 victory over White Lake Lakeland.

"It makes my job very easy because you're not relying on one player and other teams will have a difficult time defending us because there's not one player you can man-mark and shut down and take out of the game," Elliott said. "We've got subs on the bench who can go in and perform just as good as a lot of starters. We've got a very diverse team."

The makeup of this squad? That includes 14 seniors and a handful of other multi-year varsity players. Some of these players have been teammates for the past 10 seasons, going back to the youth levels.

"We've got a very deep team this year, which is exciting," Elliott added. "We've got a lot of upperclassmen and 14 seniors. We have a ton of juniors as well. We're just deep. We don't have any crazy all-star studs that stand out. We had Josh Mason from last year, and he's playing at Michigan State. And before that, we had Jack Voight, who is playing in college (at Spring Arbor University)."

"We've had teams in the past where we've had one or two studs that are just these standout players. We don't necessarily have that this year, and, honestly, that makes it a lot more exciting from a coaching standpoint because of how deep we are. We've got a lot of talent but that talent is more spread out this year."

Against the Eagles, South Lyon (1-0-1) got goals from Seoajun Lee, Andrew Adragna, Drew Goike and Cameron Cavicchiolo, three of whom are seniors.

Adragna would've had two goals, but his first walk-in goal was ruled off-sides.

He, too, is excited about how the Lions' depth is creating multiple scoring opportunities for each forward.

"It's kind of nice because last year we



South Lyon's Jacob Hemker pushes the attack during a soccer match against White Lake Lakeland on Aug. 19.
TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

had a D-I soccer commit, and everyone was always on him, so we had to look for someone else," the senior said. "This year is nice because we have a lot more people we can look forward to. We have six offensive players we can look toward whenever we need to get a chance in."

"It's a lot nicer because we can have players on the field for a longer time and also we are much bigger than everyone

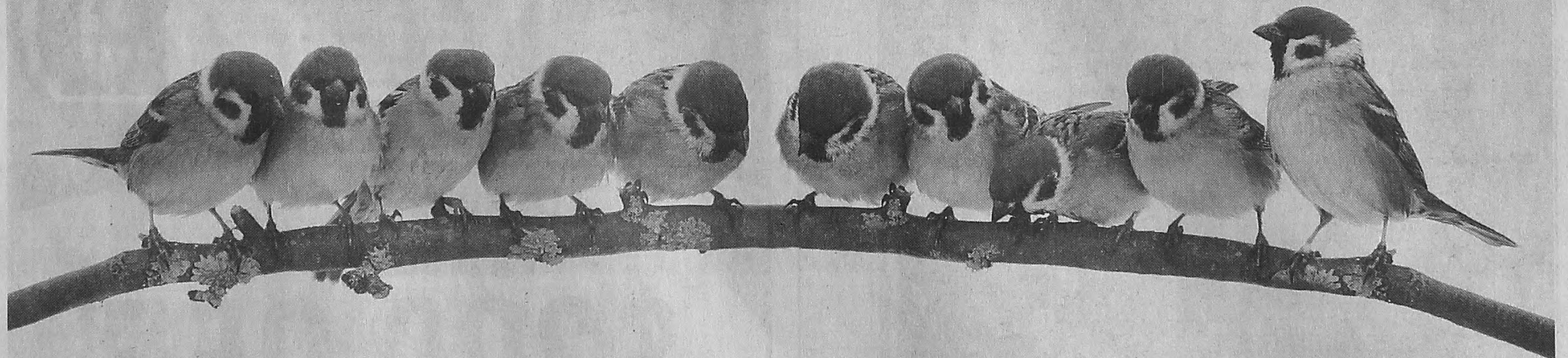
else (because of all the seniors), so we're able to body people and use our strength against a man. It gives us a lot more chances."

The Lions might be without Mason, who's about to begin his career at MSU, but they have a realistic chance to compete for a Lakes Valley Conference championship with how deep their roster is.

If they can get wins against the top opponents in the league, such as rival South Lyon East, who they tied 2-2 in the season opener, and Walled Lake Central, all that depth will have proved to be a boon by season's end.

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

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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 25 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. australianwordgames.com.au

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Bag | Flag | Nets | Sail |
| Balance | Goal | Oars | Shoulder |
| beam | Jack | Parka | pads |
| Barbell | Jumper | Pedometer | Skills |
| Boat | Karate | Pin | Sled |
| Canoe | Kettle | Puck | Stick |
| Club | weights | Quoits | Taekwondo |
| Compass | Line | Ramp | Target |
| Dart | Maps | Rifle | Trace |
| Discus | Mashie | Rods | Wood |
| Fins | Motorbike | Saddle | |

TODAY'S ANSWER

Specialist equipment needed

Sports gear

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

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Flamboyant stuff
- 11 Only four-time winner of each major
- 15 Florida's "Inland Sea"
- 16 Suburban Big Apple school
- 17 They're far from stars
- 18 Beltway Series team
- 19 Dumbledore's double agent
- 20 Connection for kids
- 22 Island whose official color is melemele
- 25 Start to go
- 26 San Francisco Bay, to geologists
- 27 Trivial Pursuit edition with an After the Beatles category
- 30 Bitter ender
- 32 They have a big black-beaked mascot
- 34 Conductors' concerns
- 36 Plus
- 38 Drive away
- 39 American nickname since 1876
- 42 House
- 43 Swank's spouse in *Amelia*
- 44 Grounds
- 45 Nine-decade actor, "the best there has ever been" per Olivier
- 47 "Sizzle Pork and Mmm" brand
- 49 Haggle for
- 50 US debut during WWI
- 51 Craven guy
- 53 Group with an Energy Studies Department
- 55 It's northwest of 15 Across
- 58 Ultra-macho man
- 62 Some things over the rainbow

- 63 Oral appliance
- 66 Rock group
- 67 Poetic inspiration for *Lolita*
- 68 "Attention!"
- 69 What mixers get a lot of

- 9 State without weight
- 10 Orange implement
- 11 Italian version of Louie
- 12 Reason for a detour
- 13 Royal middle name (her others were Josephe Jeanne)
- 14 Way out?
- 21 Waterworks
- 23 No longer standing tall
- 24 Via
- 27 Biannual celebrant with Taylor Swift as its ambassador for 2022
- 28 Very early fliers
- 29 Where India's national fruit comes from
- 31 Major messes
- 33 Spot checkers

- 35 Name on the cover of *How to Draw Superheroes*
- 37 One of the brothers in a *Time* cover (1932)
- 40 Celeb gossip source
- 41 Abrupt transition
- 46 Guy in the Coast Guard
- 48 Two-to-one deal
- 52 -cold
- 54 Many a seal
- 56 Misc.
- 57 She may be maternal
- 59 Like drones
- 60 Family nickname missing its three middle letters
- 61 Lyrics of love
- 64 Verb heard in *Home Tweet Home*
- 65 Film venue turning 50 this year

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
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66								67						
68								69						

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2022 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 9/3/22

KENKEN

- 1. Each row and column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 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.

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4	1	3	2
2	4	1	3
3	2	4	1
1	3	2	4
3	2	4	1

3	8x		
2-		3+	7+
2÷			
3-		1-	

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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: SILVER**

TODAY'S ANSWER

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

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6								9
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2	3		7		4			
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1	4		6	3			5	

TODAY'S ANSWER

R	S	E	R	K	E	R	S													
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B	I	T	L	A	R	S														
O	K	E	C	H	O	B	E													
R	A	Z	Z	A	T	A	Z													



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First Real Earnings Increase Since September

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Finally, after a series of depressing readings, we have got our first inflation report with signs of hope this morning. Prices increased 8.5% over the year, a sizable decline from last month's 9.1%, and 0.0% over the month, the smallest monthly increase since November 2020. The decline in overall inflation—and especially the slowdown in core inflation—are great news for workers, who will finally now be able to hang onto more of their pay gains.

There are still some reasons for concern—it's too soon to do a touch-down dance—but this month's report was a significant improvement over recent reports. Here are some key takeaways:

- **Falling gas prices are single-handedly bringing inflation down.** A decline in gas prices was all it took to bring the monthly inflation rate from 1.3% to 0.0%. Since gas prices are still falling, next month's print is likely to be even better. But gas prices are out of the Federal Reserve's control, and just as they have fallen

in recent weeks, they could conceivably rise again. Prices of groceries, rent, and electricity continue to rise.

- **Core inflation is easing.** We are finally seeing core inflation slowing down. Though the year-over-year print remained the same at 5.9%, the monthly rate declined noticeably to 0.3%, much lower than in recent months. Core inflation is far more predictive of future inflation. It is the less volatile number, and the compass that tells us where we

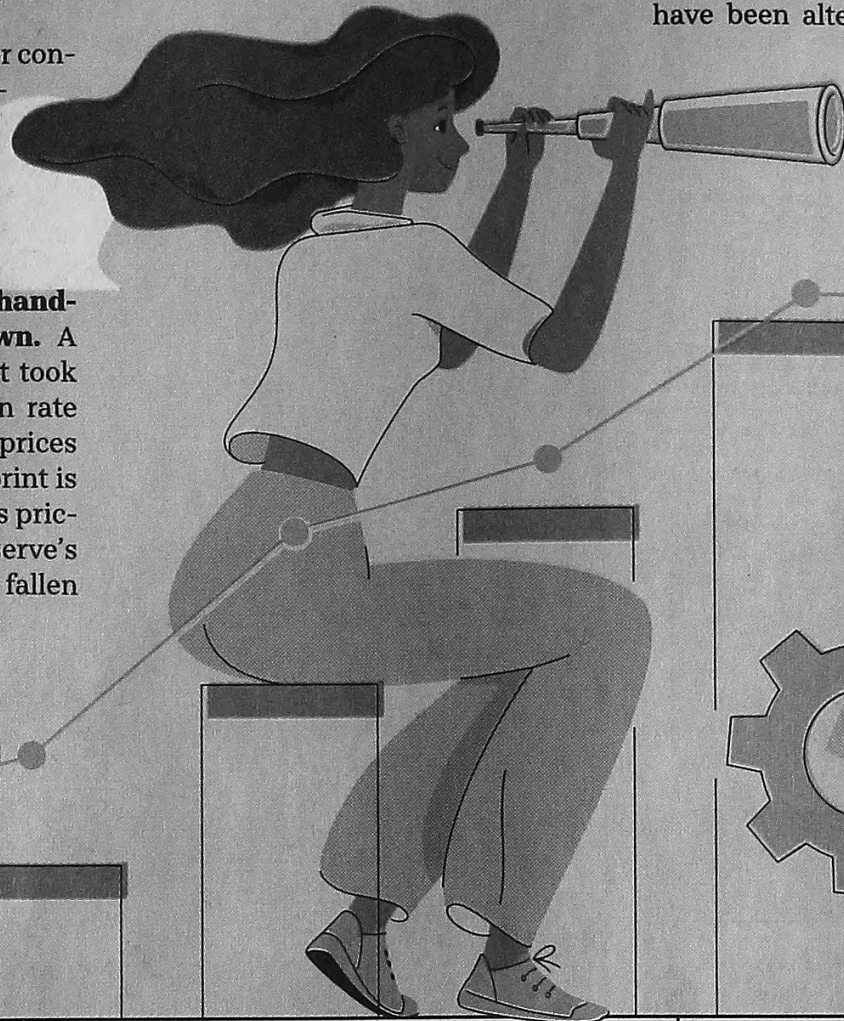
are headed. So it is great news that month-over-month core inflation is slowing down. That said, one should not put too much stock in a single month's data. We will need to see sustained declines in core inflation before we can declare "mission accomplished" in the war on inflation. That's why the Fed is likely to stay on its aggressive policy course until all leading price indicators are convincingly under control.

- **Price increases are cooling off for both goods and services.** There have been alternating price spikes in commodities and services as consumers shifted their consumption patterns back

and forth throughout the pandemic. But in July the price indices for both core commodities—commodities less energy and food—and core services—services less energy services—declined sharply after high readings 3 months in a row.

- **Inflation expectations are well anchored.** According to the New York Fed inflation expectations survey, both one- and three-year ahead inflation expectations declined sharply in July, to 6.2% and 3.2% from 6.8% and 3.6% in June, respectively. This is an especially promising development since inflation can turn into a self-fulfilling prophecy if consumers believe that price hikes are coming and act on that expectation.

- **Finally real earnings increased in July.** Real average hourly earnings for all employees increased 0.5 percent from June to July, the highest monthly increase since December 2020, and the first increase since September 2021. This result stems from an increase of 0.5 percent in average hourly earnings combined with no change in the CPI.



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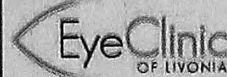
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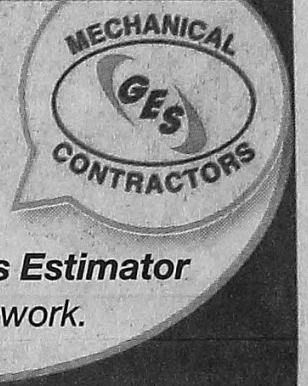
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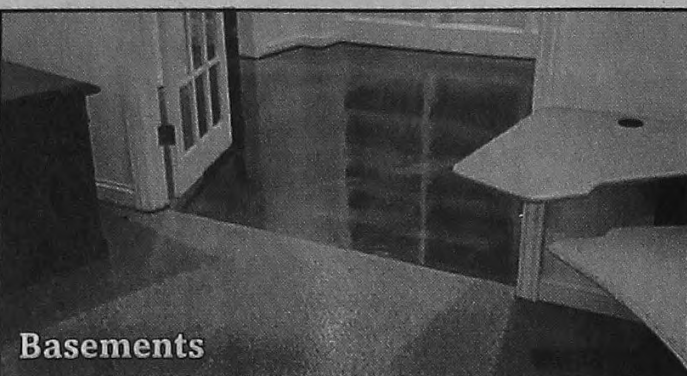


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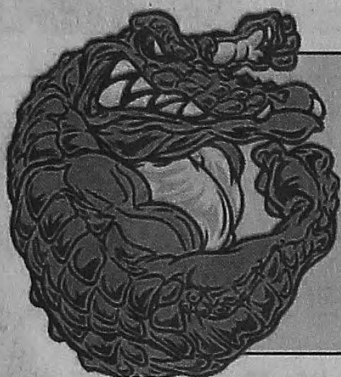
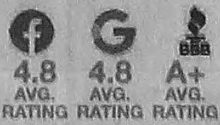


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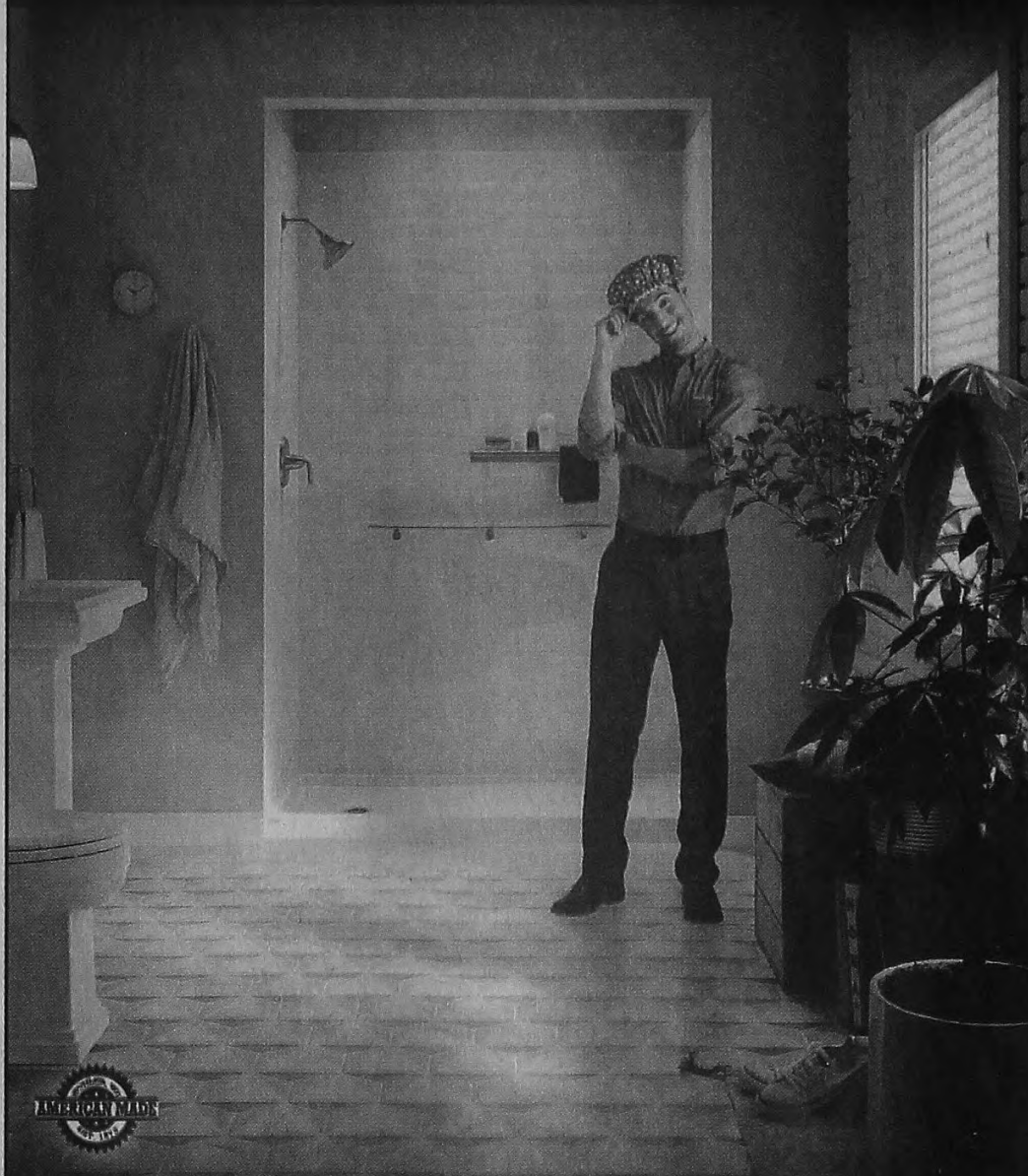


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