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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2022 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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A huge crowd jammed the street around the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth on Oct. 27 in hopes of convincing Paramount Pictures to allow a showing of "It's a Wonderful Life," as tradition dictates, this holiday season.

Laura Colvin/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Crowd jams street to save tradition at Penn Theatre

Laura Colvin

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Life imitated art last week when the whole town seemingly turned out in support of a tradition at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth, much the same way the whole town turned out to

support George Bailey in the 1946 classic film, "It's a Wonderful Life."

And just like in the movie, there's a happy ending. Less than one whole day after the rally, Paramount Pictures has granted permission for the theater to screen the film.

Friends of the Penn Executive Director Ellen Elliot said the news rendered

her speechless. But only for a moment.

"It just goes to show what a community can do when it comes together," Elliot said, noting the crowd also included people from Livonia, Northville, Canton and beyond. "You come together, you speak in one respectful

See TRADITION, Page 4A

Amazon opens new delivery station in Canton Twp.

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The opening of a new Amazon delivery station marks another step in the development future of Canton Township.

The new building, spanning more than 180,000 square feet along Michigan Avenue between Beck and Denton roads, employs hundreds sorting through packages and prepping them to head out to the doorsteps of customers. Township supervisor Anne Marie Graham-Hudak said the new facility will keep pushing the township into the future.

"We want to start being very intentional about what goes here," she said. "We're looking at how we take that theme forward and make this a technology corridor so we keep jobs here and bring more jobs."

The new delivery center opened Oct. 26 at 49000 Michigan Ave., sending out its first batch of packages early in the morning. Those packages will head out to a variety of communities, including right in Canton or southwest to Ann Arbor, said James Kingsley, a senior regional manager with the company.

The center serves as the company's "last mile" in delivering packages from the e-commerce giant. Shifts begin at 1:20 a.m. in the building, with sorters going through packages for several hours to get them grouped for the next step.

Two sides of the building are then used for a delivery driver queue, and

See AMAZON, Page 4A

Get tactical at new laser tag attraction in Westland

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Tim Steckle and Nelson Eng have fond memories of going to the Westland Shopping Center when they were younger.

The Livonia Franklin High School alumni and close friends remember the mall bustling with people. With traffic down and malls not being the destinations they once were, the two began thinking of ways to launch a business in the shopping center at Wayne and Warren roads.

"I used to go to this mall all the time. I saw the malls kind of going away; it started to eat at me," he said. "I remember, as a kid, when you came into a mall, you would see everybody here. Everybody was out."

Falling back on their love of laser tag, the two began developing plans for a

new attraction. That attraction aims to give visitors an experience typically only found in a video game.

The business is Battlefield CQB.

This isn't your father's laser tag: Gone are the colorful neon paintings and

See LASER TAG, Page 5A

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Experts: Flu season could be bad in Michigan

Kristen Jordan Shamus

Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

This year's flu season is expected to be a doozy as the state and nation head into the first winter in two years without masks, social distancing and other COVID-19 mitigation measures, which slowed the spread of coronavirus along with influenza in 2020 and 2021.

Already, parts of the U.S. are seeing big increases in flu activity, with high levels of transmission reported in New York state, Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, Texas and the District of Columbia, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"With the COVID precautions — people wearing masks and socially distancing and not traveling as much — we basically had no flu at all" in the first two years of the pandemic, said Dr. Thomas Veverka, president of the Michigan State Medical Society and a trauma and general surgeon at MyMichigan Health in Midland.

"Part of our resistance to flu is natural immunity from getting exposed to flu. For the last two years, we have not had any exposure to flu, so we haven't had a chance to build up any natural immunity. That may make us more susceptible to the flu in this coming year."

Warning flare from Down Under

Scientists often look to the Southern Hemisphere, which has its flu season during our summer months, for indications of what might be headed our way for the winter.

Australia reported its worst flu season in five years in 2022, with 308 flu-related deaths. The bulk of infections were caused by influenza A.

"There's an indication that we're headed for the same kind of experience," Veverka said.

Although Michigan isn't yet seeing the high level of flu activity affecting some parts of the country, the virus already is having an impact on the state's hospitals, said Dr. John Dery, an emergency medicine physician at MyMichigan Health Gratiot who also serves on the board of the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians.

In a single 24-hour period last week, Dery said he personally saw three cases of flu — two were identified as influenza A strains; the third was flu B.

"The emergency departments are overrun right now," Dery said, noting that it's not just because of people with the flu. There also has been a swell of children with respiratory syncytial virus, better known as RSV, along with people who have COVID-19 and those who need care for other illnesses.

After more than two years of the pandemic, "now everybody and his brother is coming back," Dery said. "Everybody is having all their surgeries that were put off for a year or two. Everybody has to have testing. So our ERs are overwhelmed with the volume of patients. We're grossly understaffed on a nationwide level with nursing and ancillary staff, and then we have a lot of people that are coming in for nasal swab testing."

State's top doc: 'Have a plan' for flu, COVID-19 this year

Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, the state's chief medical executive, said that Michiganders ought to prepare now for what's likely to be a difficult respiratory virus season.

"Have a plan," she said. "No. 1, we want the public to make sure that they are vaccinated and boosted. So find out: Are you eligible for one of the new COVID bivalent boosters? Have you had a flu shot this year?"



Although Michigan isn't yet seeing the high level of flu activity affecting some parts of the U.S., the virus is impacting the state's hospitals, officials say. MANDI WRIGHT/DETROIT FREE PRESS

"No. 2, make sure that you've got a supply of well-fitting masks at home. If you are unwell, you should stay home, but if you can't avoid being around other people and you are symptomatic, wearing a mask is one really good way to protect those around you."

She also recommended stocking up on rapid, at-home coronavirus tests.

"Keeping a supply of over-the-counter COVID-19 tests at home can also allow you to at least rule out one of those viruses so you can see if you have COVID-19," Bagdasarian said. "But I do want to preface that by saying if you test negative for COVID, that doesn't mean you can just go about your day. We really don't want people who are ill and who are symptomatic to go out into public spaces."

How to know whether you've got influenza or COVID-19

It's very difficult to tell the difference between COVID-19 symptoms and flu symptoms without testing, Dery said.

"They present the same: cough, congestion, upper respiratory tract symptoms, minor fevers and chills," he said. "We're not going to know ... if it's COVID or it's flu. ... You have to be tested."

If your at-home rapid coronavirus test is negative, Dery said it doesn't necessarily mean you don't have COVID-19. It could be that you didn't get a good enough sample on the swab to trigger a positive result. It could also be that you tested before there was high enough viral load in your nose to be detected on the test. You also might be infected with a strain of the virus that isn't as easy for your rapid test to identify, he said.

Dery suggests making an appointment at a local pharmacy for a coronavirus PCR test, which is more likely to be accurate, along with a flu test. Other places to seek testing include an urgent care center or through your primary care physician.

"Going to the ER is not the best bet ... to get those tests," Dery said. That's because going to the hospital for COVID-19 and flu testing jams up crowded waiting rooms and keeps people who truly need emergency care from getting treatment as quickly.

Why you should seek testing

Getting tested is especially important if you are at

high risk for severe disease from COVID or the flu so doctors can treat you with antiviral medications or monoclonal antibody therapy that can keep you from needing hospital care.

"We have really effective therapeutics for COVID-19," Bagdasarian said. "We've got medications like Paxlovid and remdesivir, and we also have medications like Tamiflu for influenza."

"So talking to your doctor to find out if you are a candidate for one of those medications if you do get sick ahead of time is one way to make things a little bit smoother this respiratory season."

"We have to really think about this holistically. We want to keep people out of the hospital. We want to keep people from spreading disease and from having schools closed down because of outbreaks. The best way to do that is just to take all of these precautions for viral respiratory season in general."

State goal: Administer 4 million flu shots

The state's goal is to immunize 4 million Michiganders against the flu this year, Veverka said. State data shows that nearly 1 million had been vaccinated against the virus as of Oct. 8, which is the most recent date for which data was available.

This year's flu quadrivalent vaccine appears to be well-matched for the dominant strain circulating now in the U.S., the H3N2 form of influenza A. The vaccine is recommended for people ages 6 months and older. The CDC urges people ages 65 and older to ask for the high-dose version.

"Last year, there were 3.3 million vaccinated and the goal is to get 4 million this year," Veverka said. "Hopefully, that will be the number that could keep the influenza surge down. But unfortunately, a survey of U.S. adults ... (suggests) we're at some risk for not meeting those numbers."

Veverka said he's concerned that anti-vaccine sentiment that bubbled up around COVID-19 will affect people's willingness to take flu vaccines, too. "There's this vaccine hesitancy that now is leading to the resurgence of other preventable infections and diseases," he said. "And, unfortunately, that could affect us with influenza coming up as well."

Getting vaccinated now will help protection through the holiday season, which is when the spread of the virus typically ramps up.

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Nursing school opens in Bingham Farms

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Hondros College of Nursing has opened a campus this fall in one of the office buildings near 13 Mile and Telegraph roads in Bingham Farms.

Its location was strategic, said Greg Guzmán, the school's executive director of the campuses in Bingham Farms and Maumee, Ohio.

"The location of Bingham Farms is central to our decision," he said. "We're located close to the Detroit market, the Southfield market, the Farmington Hills market. Within that area, take a look at the need of who is in search of LPNs (licensed practical nurses)."

Opening with an enrollment of about 30 students, the campus only offers a practical nursing diploma, a program that takes about 12 months to complete. Once that program is complete, the diploma holder can work as a practical nurse, assisting patients with basic care and monitoring their vital signs, among other duties.

From there, students can earn other degrees, including an associate degree in nursing, eventually working toward becoming a registered nurse.

The 27,000-square-foot suite Hondros operates out of in Bingham Farms has several classrooms and labs. Having a school in metro Detroit is a perfect fit, Guzmán said, especially with several Michigan-based students making the drive regularly to the Hondros campus in Toledo. The school also operates six campuses in Ohio and one in Indiana.

"By landing here in the Bingham Farms village area, we can service the north and west and the east, while leaving the option for the south market to whichever is closer," he said.

The college has partnerships with several medical providers, including Promedica, Trilogy Health Services and Ciena Healthcare.

Guzmán said the typical profile of a Hondros student is late 20s or early 30s, with many having decided on nursing as a second career.

He said the program helps get students going in a program when they may get waitlisted at other institutions of higher learning.

"We've also found that a lot of these students are landlocked in the public institutions because they can't get off the waiting list," Guzmán said. "While they're doing that, they're spending money on classes they don't need."

One of those students who recently enrolled was Nyrell Redman of Detroit. She said she currently works in dialysis, and Hondros was able to fit around her work schedule. She said she originally looked at enrolling in the program in northwest Ohio, but decided against it given the amount of travel she would need to do.

With the new school opening just up the road from her, she decided to give it a shot.

"I would definitely recommend it. If nursing is something that you do see yourself doing and with them being flexible around your schedule, especially if you're here in Michigan," Redman said. "Because a lot of those in Michigan are going to Ohio just to go to this school specifically. Now that it's here, it's like, 'Why not?'"

The Bingham Farms campus currently only offers the practical nurse diploma program, meaning students looking to further their education need to enroll at another school to continue. Guzmán said he's hopeful the Michigan campus could offer an associate degree program in the future.

Approximate cost for the program in Michigan is \$23,000 in total, Guzmán said, with financial aid available. The school enrolled a small class to begin, but plans to add more students throughout the year. It's possible, Guzmán said, the campus could have as many as 500 students enrolled at one time.

"We'll grow, but we wanted to start responsibly," Guzmán said. "I expect that next class (beginning in January) to be twice, if not three times the size."

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

Ghost hunters visit 'haunted' Redford Theatre

Eric Seals
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

"I want to believe."
Fictional FBI agent Fox Mulder made that phrase popular in the 1990s on the TV show "The X-Files" as he and partner (and skeptic) Dana Scully explored the paranormal. It's exactly what members of the Motor City Ghost Hunters LLC say they feel when investigating and exploring haunted places around metro Detroit.

The all-volunteer 23-member team uses a variety of instruments to find spirits during several weekends of searching, with September through November being their busiest time. The group has been around for 16 years.

"Yes, there are Mulders out there but there's also Scullys out there, too," said Rene Watkins, 54, of Brownstown Township, a member of the Motor City Ghost Hunters LLC. "And for the Scullys, it's the fear of the unknown."

"People out there want to believe but they're afraid to voice it because 'it can't possibly be true,'" said Watkins, on the possibility of ghosts or spirits existing. "It has to do with closed-mindedness. It's scary, it's the unknown so people are automatically afraid to tap into it."

On a Friday night in early October, the ghost hunters visited the haunted Redford Theatre and did what they call an "adult walk." Guests paid \$35 to spend three hours exploring various rooms where spirits have reportedly been found in the past, from the women's bathroom to the balcony and the small dressing room upstairs.

"We're about educating people and having people not be afraid," said Watkins. "Most of the time people hear a bump in the night or they hear the door slam and they're like, 'Oh there's a demon or a bad spirit in the house.' That's not usually the case — it's usually a family member trying to communicate with them or just to say, 'Hey I'm here.'"

Using a variety of equipment from a K2 meter, which can pick up a spirit's energy, to a G3 that throws a red grid on the wall to detect a spirit walking, Dawn Schmelzer, 54, of Warren, and Starr Camara, 40, of Lansing, listened as the ghost hunters communicated with a few



Motor City Ghost Hunters member Colleen Miller, 51 of Oxford, uses the GhostTube app on her iPhone to detect a spirit in a seat near her at the Redford Theatre in Redford on Oct. 7. PHOTOS BY ERIC SEALS/DETROIT FREE PRESS

spirits while they both kept their ears open for sounds and their eyes darting back and forth on the lookout.

One app they all used on their smartphones, called GhostTube, would detect a spirit nearby with a green stick figure as the outline. Sometimes the figure could be seen on the stage of the theater while other times it was detected down a hallway or sitting in a chair nearby.

While it was a fun and scary evening during the search and the experience of it all, the real beneficiary of the night was the theater itself.

All money made from ticket sales of these walks goes right back to the facilities that are toured. The Motor City Ghost Hunters group doesn't keep any of the money.

"I guess the best thing I can say is when you actually experience it yourself and you see it with your own eyes and you feel or hear it, it changes your mind," said Watkins.

To learn more about the Motor City Ghost Hunters and their future adult walks or whether an investigation for ghosts is something you need, go to motorcityghosthunters.com.



(L to R) Dawn Schmelzer, 54, of Warren, shows her shaking hands from nervousness and laughs with Toni O'Brien, 66, of Canton, a member of the Motor City Ghost Hunters, after using dousing rods to communicate with a spirit.

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Tradition

Continued from Page 1A

voice, and that's powerful. We have preserved our tradition."

"It's a Wonderful Life" will show at the Penn Theatre Dec. 1-4. Show times are available on the theater's website.

Momentum for last Thursday's gathering in front of the theater on Penniman Avenue began only 24 hours earlier when Elliott put out the word: Paramount Pictures had granted exclusive licensing for "It's a Wonderful Life" to Fathom Events for the holiday season. A nationwide moratorium is in place, and no other theaters can show the film.

Elliott couldn't believe it. The film is an important family tradition at the Penn each year.

Then she learned Paramount had granted exceptions to the moratorium at theaters elsewhere.

"It didn't sit right with me," she said. "If you're going to give exceptions to them, we want the same consideration, because this film means so much to our community. It's not just about a film coming to the Penn, it's about the whole experience of the film itself, what it represents to our community and the tradition we have fostered over the years."

"It's not like seeing it on TV at home. When you see it on the big screen with a group of people ... and you walk out and the trees are lit in Kellogg Park and you see the beautiful landscape of our small town, it just sets the holidays for you."

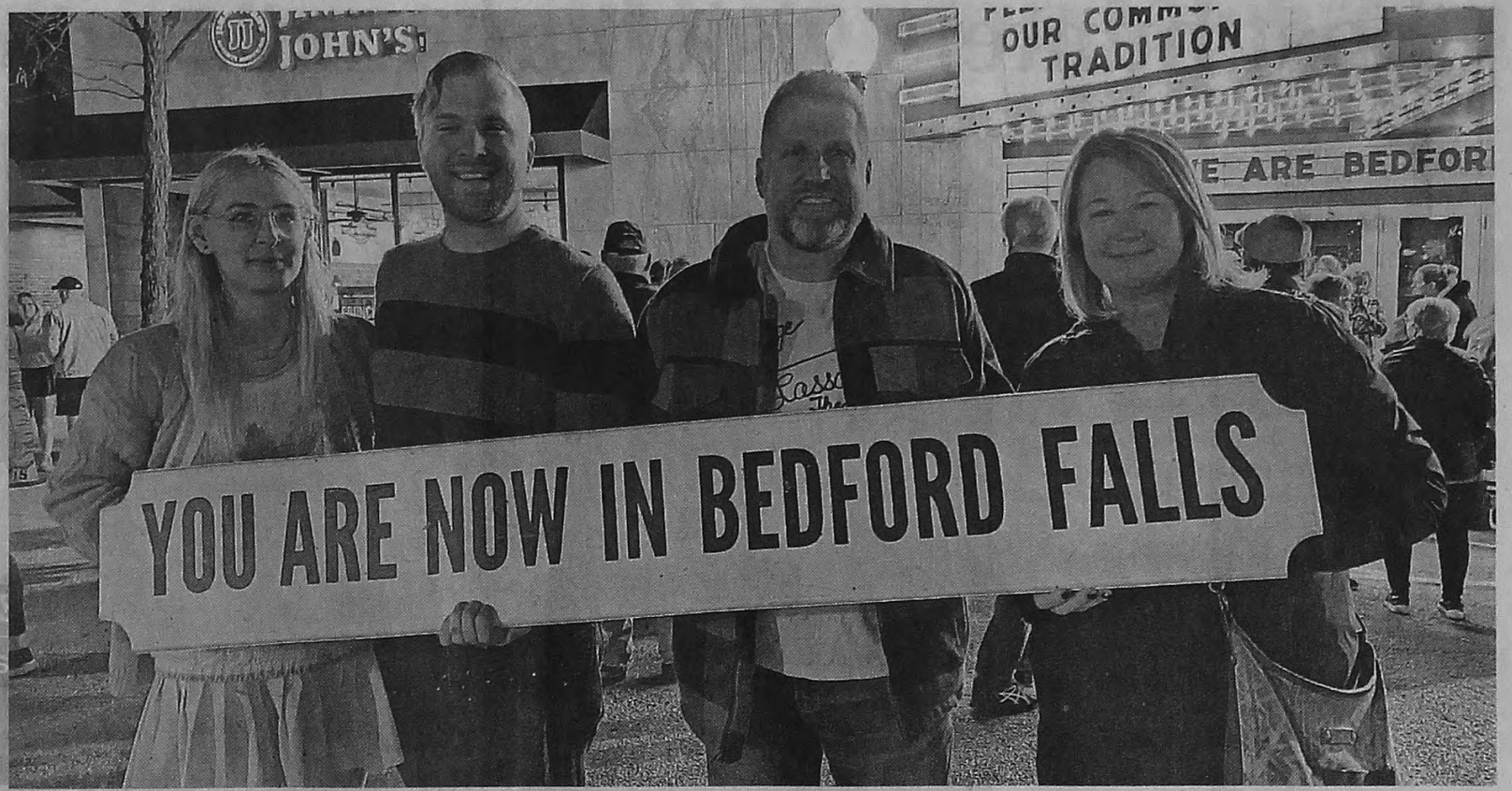
The beloved 1946 classic stars Jimmy Stewart as downtrodden businessman who contemplates jumping off a bridge on Christmas Eve until his guardian angel shows him what life would be like in his town - Bedford Falls - if he had never been born.

"That film has been really important to represent who our community is and how we persevere," said Elliott, noting that when the historic Penn Theatre nearly met its demise with a wrecking ball in 2003, the Friends of the Penn group used lines from the movie to motivate and inspire people to help save the community landmark.

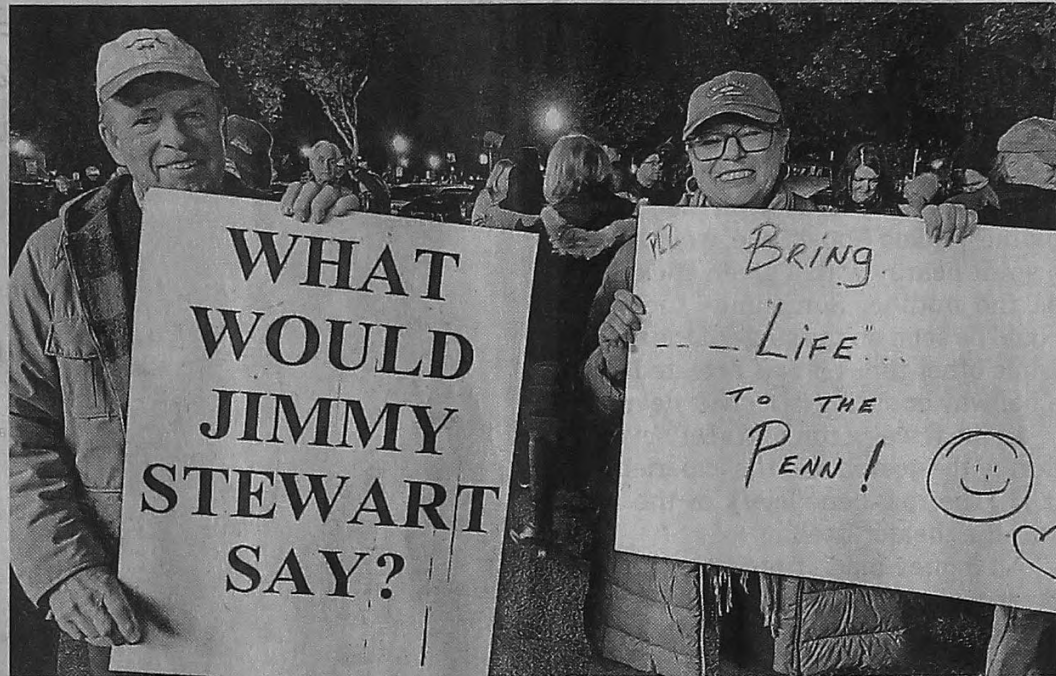
With the exception of 2020, the movie has been shown every year at the theater since, and has become an important holiday tradition for many who live in and around Plymouth. So when Elliott learned Paramount was granting exceptions to the moratorium, she knew it was time to act.

On Oct. 27, answering the calls that went out on social media, hundreds jammed the street in front of the Penn in support of bringing the movie to the Penn Theatre this Christmas.

Jeff Fedewa, a lifelong Plymouth resident, came to the rally remembering all



From left, Kay Reisinger, Alex Mikonczyk, Mickey Mikonczyk and Kim Mikonczyk show off a sign they use every year as part of the family's Christmas decorations. Seeing "It's a Wonderful Life" at the Penn Theatre is part of the family tradition.



Dale and Marcy Becker are regular volunteers at the Penn Theatre who came out to support the effort to make sure "It's a Wonderful Life" shows at the theater this year, as always. PHOTOS BY LAURA COLVIN/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

the years he came to see "It's a Wonderful Life," at the Penn with his mother, who is gone now.

"It was her favorite movie," he said, adding with a grin that he once appeared in a stage production of the film as Bert the Cop. "I have a deep love for this tradition and I'm so touched that so many other people feel as strongly as I do."

Kim Mikonczyk of Livonia and her family also come to downtown Plymouth every year at Christmastime to eat, to shop and to see "It's a Wonderful Life" at the Penn. They came bearing

one of her favorite Christmas decorations: a hand-painted sign, a gift from her brother, retrieved early from the attic for the occasion. On it are the words, "You are now in Bedford Falls."

"It's our favorite movie and coming to see it here is our favorite Christmas tradition," she said.

Her husband, Mickey Mikonczyk, agreed.

"This is kind of what the movie is all about, people coming together," he said.

During the 30-minute gathering, the crowd cheered, broke out in spontaneous chants of "Save 'A Wonderful Life,'

save 'A Wonderful Life,' and "We are Bedford Falls." A few people cried.

Charlene Falardeau of Canton said she has multiple copies of the movie at home, but comes to the Penn every year to see it on the big screen.

"It's fun to feel the camaraderie with people who love the movie just as much as I do," she said. "It has a good small-town feel and good family values."

Dale and Marcy Becker are regular volunteers at the Penn who also came out to support the effort. They moved back to Plymouth a few years ago after living out of state for decades.

"There are very few towns where you see this kind of community spirit," Marcy Becker said. "When someone needs something, the whole town turns out."

"We're hoping this message with a lot of people in front of the building will show them who we are," Elliott said before the exception was granted. "These are the people who come and see this movie at this theater every year. Not AMC, not at Emagine, but at the Penn Theatre. It should send a strong message. We're hoping it does."

The theater was built in 1941 and went through a series of ownership changes over the years. It closed in 2003, and was saved only by volunteer efforts. It's been operating as a non-profit since 2006, with almost \$1 million in improvements since then, all through donated funds.

"The community came together and said, 'We don't want to lose this, it's important to us. It's a part of who we are,'" Elliott said.

lcolvin@hometownlife.com

Obituaries

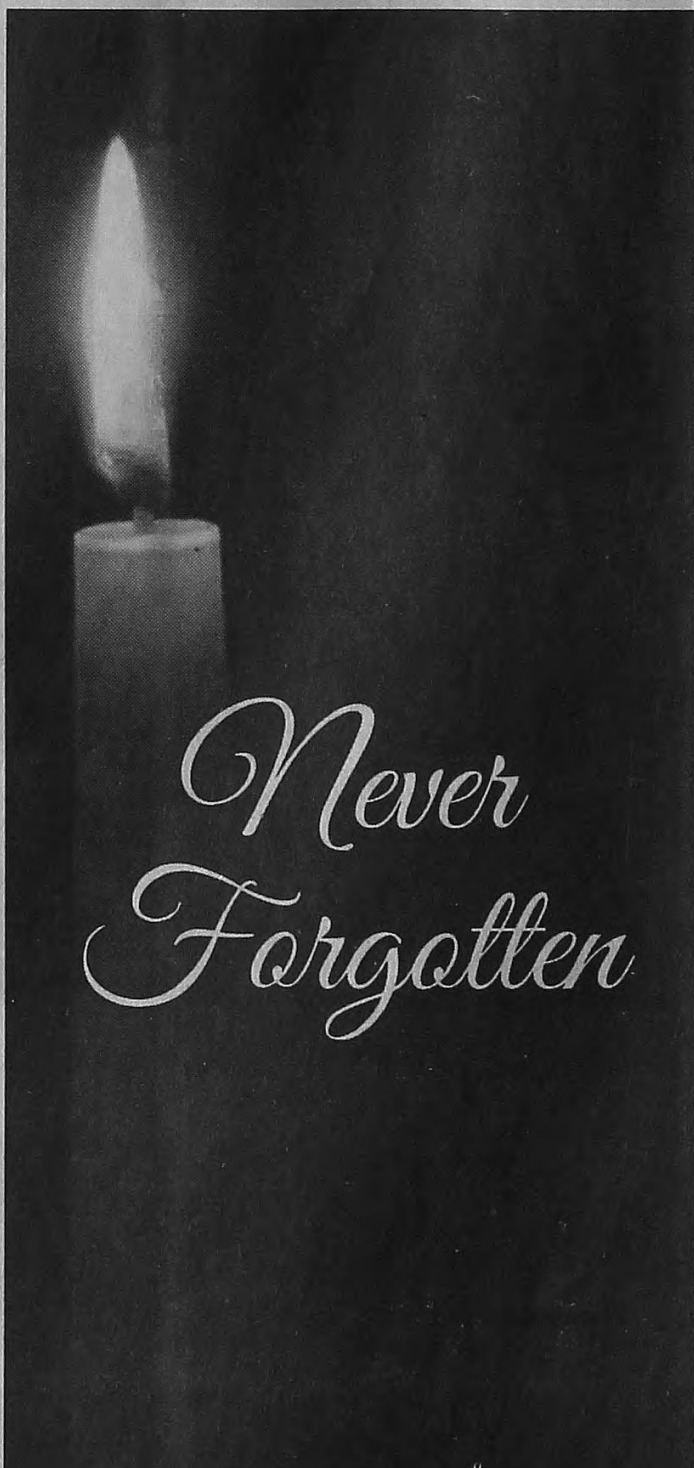
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Glenda C. Richards

LIVONIA - Passed away on October 27, 2022 at the age of 87. Glenda was the beloved wife of the late Gordon and the dear sister of Larry S. Cox. She was the loving mother of Gordon, Geri (Ken) Trefilek, John, Jim (Mary Jane), Craig (Michelle) and Jeannie Richards Willett. Glenda was the cherished grandmother of 16 and great grandmother of 14. Her family will be holding a memorial service at a later date. Share a 'Memorial Tribute' with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com

GRIFFIN
L.J. GRIFFIN FUNERAL HOME, INC.



Inside the new Amazon delivery station on Michigan Avenue in Canton Township. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Amazon

Continued from Page 1A

trucks are typically dispatched between 10 a.m. and noon each day, Kingsley said. A smaller afternoon shift works with same-day shipping orders placed by nearby customers.

The company says hundreds of people work in the delivery center, though they did not offer a specific figure.

In Canton, packages are then loaded onto trucks overseen by third-party delivery services that contract with Amazon.

The center sits on a formerly empty lot near the border with Van Buren Township.

The plans were first reviewed by the city's planning commission back in February 2021, though Amazon's name was kept out of those discussions. An image of the company's logo appeared in documents during a later meeting, all but confirming the Seattle-based business would soon have a presence in Canton.

It joins several other Amazon facilities in the area: a sorting center in Ply-

mouth Township and another facility in Lyon Township.

The new Canton facility is the company's 11th delivery station to open in the state. A fulfillment center - which houses the items sold by the company - opened in Livonia about five years ago.

"Amazon continues to invest in this state over the last decade," Kingsley said. "It's spent about \$5.5 billion into the state of Michigan."

Wayne County Executive Warren Evans, a self-described "Amazon Prime addict," said he was happy to see another site open in Wayne County after others in Livonia and Romulus. He said the work the company has put into the county is showing dividends.

"Amazon has a bigger and bigger footprint in Wayne County. And it's noticeable and it's helping with the jobs created," he said. "All of the sites that I've seen have been exceptionally well-built, great team of workers, which is really important, and as we go, we need those workers and we need those jobs."

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



Nelson Eng and Tim Steckle put on tactical gear to play in their newest laser tag venture, Battlefield CQB. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Laser tag

Continued from Page 1A

walls, swapped with a realistic-looking weapon and playing surface. The guns are heavier and reminiscent of a submachine gun, and the play area has plenty of turns and corners, similar to maps found in first-person shooter video games.

Open in the space formerly held by Ulta on the south end of the mall, Battlefield CQB allows up to 20 players to play a variety of games. Options include team deathmatch, elimination and one of the more popular options, safe cracker, where one set of players must find a safe and take the gold from it while the other team attempts to stop them.

The game area is just under 10,000 square feet and is designed to be easily navigated.

"All the rooms are set up for CQB (close quarter combat), so they're all feeding in at different angles and different variations," Speckle said. "We wanted the feel of being in a building and having to go from room to room."

Players can reserve time as a group online, or just

come to meet up with others to play. Once they arrive, they swipe their card, adding their information to the system and showing their level. Speckle said the system is connected to a network, meaning players at other sites that use the same system can take their information and use it at other sites as well, and vice versa.

"This is all part of a ranked system, so you can go play here, level up, you could then go to Rochester (Hills to MI-Combat, another similar location) and your scores will transfer over," Speckle said. "Much like Call of Duty, you move up in the ranks."

In addition to small groups, there's space for parties and groups looking to use the space.

Speckle and Eng said they've even had security companies reach out asking to use the space as a type of training facility. The two hope to reach out to local police departments to see if they're interested in also using the space for training.

Battlefield CQB is open Wednesday through Sunday and requires players to be 13 or older.

More information, including on how to book a time to play, can be found at battlefieldcqb.net.

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

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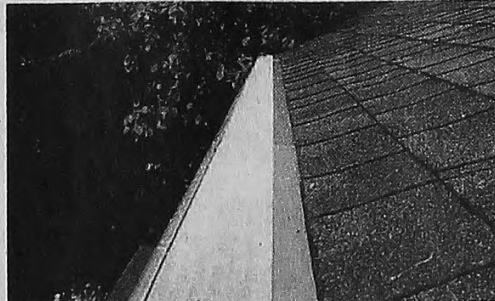
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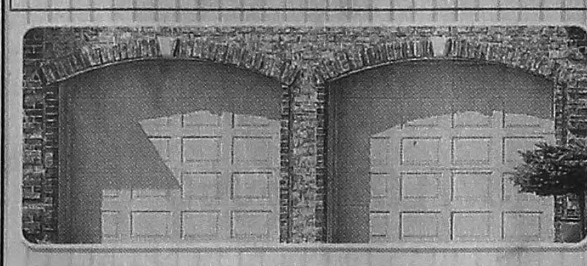
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SPORTS

Northville, Milford cross country win regional championship titles

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom tells the four best stories from this past weekend's cross-country regional meets.

Disheartened Herger leads Mustangs to regional crown

Brendan Herger was disappointed with his time.

Which is wild, considering COVID-19 set him back about 4 weeks of training entering this fall. No one would have

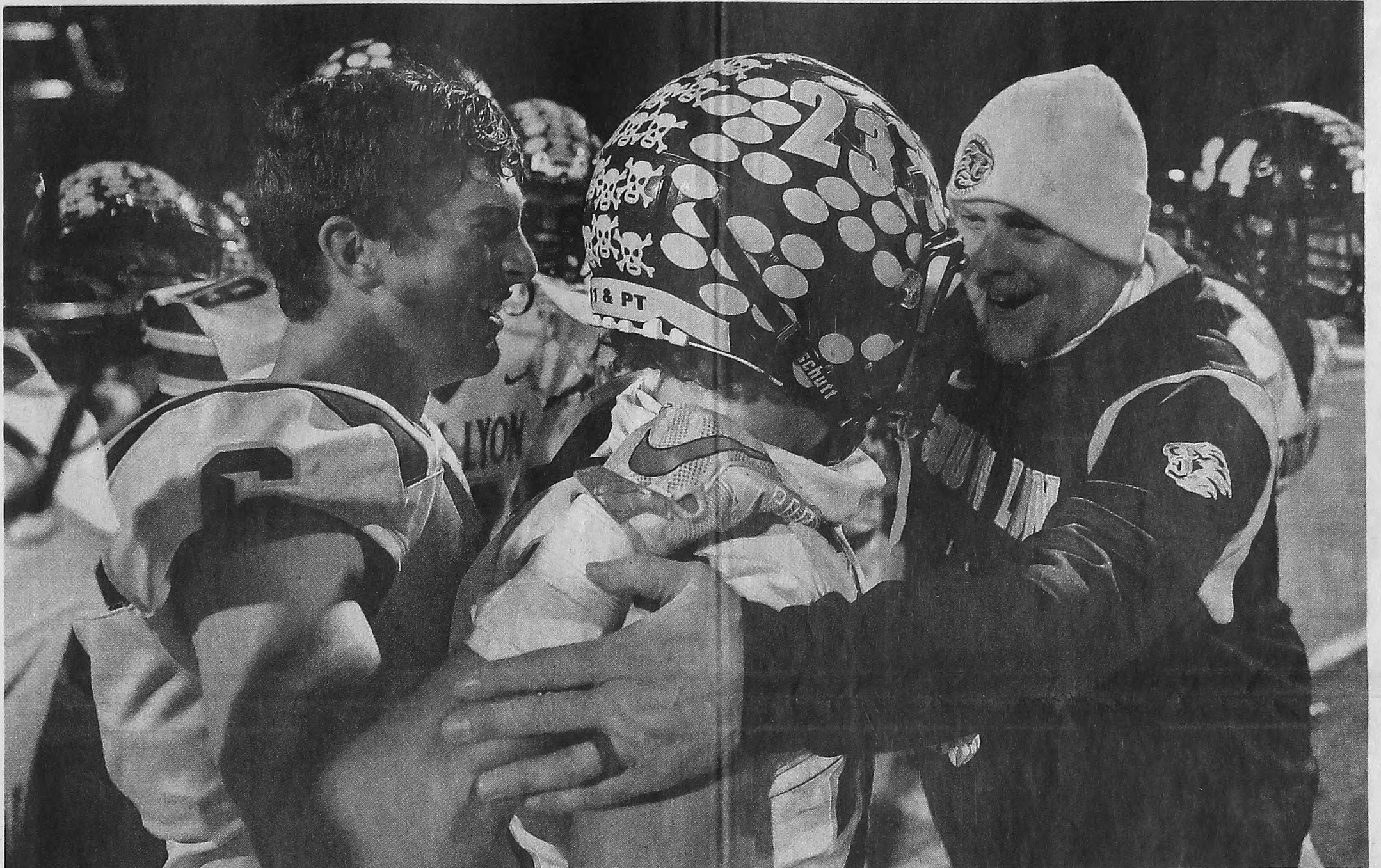
blamed him for being a step slower at this point of the season.

Yet he persevered.

The Northville junior crossed the finish line of Saturday's Division 1 regional championship at Willow Metropark in 15 minutes, 23.90 seconds to become the individual champion.

What's more, his time not only helped the Mustangs win the team championship but it was also almost 12 seconds faster than last year's regional champion Sean Byrnes of Plymouth (15:35.30).

See **TITLES**, Page 2B



South Lyon coach Jeff Henson hugs Alex Stoyanovich after they won a Division 2 football playoff game Oct. 28. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

South Lyon fights back after difficult week

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The 20-yard field goal went through the uprights, and Alex Stoyanovich celebrated with as many guitar windmills as he could perform before a mob of teammates swarmed him with hugs.

South Lyon coach Jeff Henson parted the sea of blue and yellow helmets, pulled the senior in for a hug and started enthusiastically tapping the 4½-star kicker on his left arm.

"I told you you'd make a play tonight!" the seventh-year coach shouted. "I told you!"

The smiles.
The euphoria.
And, honestly, the relief.

That walk-off moment in overtime gave the Lions (7-3) a 30-27 victory over rival South Lyon East (7-3) in Friday's Division 2 district opener.

But, more importantly, it ended what will likely go down as the worst week in program history.

It all started seven days earlier.

The Cougars upset South Lyon, 27-21, in the regular season finale, making it just the second time in 16 tries they had ever beaten the Lions. Plus the victory gave them the most wins (7) in a single season since they started playing the sport in 2008.

And better yet, it gave them more playoff points than the Lions. A rematch in the district tournament was imminent. The two programs were too close to each other geographically for it not to happen. So when the playoff draw came out the following Sunday, it wasn't sur-

prising that South Lyon would have to play at East for a second-straight week.

And that was just the tip of the iceberg for South Lyon, which stumbled into the postseason on a two-game losing streak.

On Monday, 22 players came down with the flu.

On Tuesday, a threatening message that said, "Gonna shoot the school up today," was found scrawled on a bathroom wall at the high school, which

See **SOUTH LYON**, Page 2B

Our picks for Round 2 of high school football playoffs

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom picks the winners from the biggest Round 1 playoff matchups this week. He went 11-1 picking games last week and is 47-14 on the season.

Detroit Catholic Central (7-2) at Northville (8-2)

The Mustangs have never beaten CC. And all three of their meetings with the Shamrocks have been season-ending losses in the playoffs. That streak could end this week, especially if Northville's defense frustrates CC's two young quar-

terbacks, Beau Jackson and Skyler Hunter. But Mustangs QB Luca Prior will also have to drum up some points against CC linebacker Brayden Courser, one of the top defensive players in metro Detroit. Unfortunately, the two teams are playing for a regional matchup against defending state champion Belleville.

Folsom's pick: Detroit Catholic Central 28, Northville 17.

South Lyon (7-3) at Dexter (10-0)

The Lions made the plays they needed to make late in the game to escape

See **ROUND 2**, Page 4B

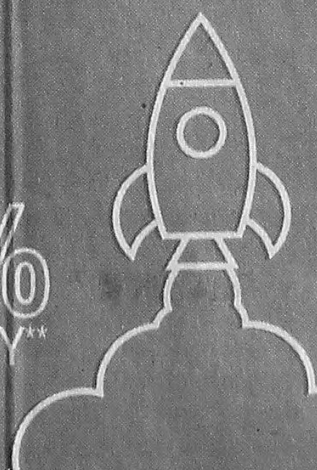
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Titles

Continued from Page 1B

"I think I'm 100% right now, but I'm going to try to not look back," said Heger, who enters this week's state championship as the sixth-seeded runner. "This is the end of the season, the end game. And I think we're the toughest team out here. Plymouth is going to test us (at states), and it was really close today. It was close. Really close. When it comes to Nov. 6, I think we've got them all day.

"But no regrets, nothing held back. I think our team has some strength that it hasn't shown yet."

Northville beat Plymouth for first place by 16 points, though Wildcats senior Alex Bobak (15:42.10) took third individually to make things interesting before the final results were tabulated.

Helping the Mustangs were senior Brady Heron (15:45.30) in fourth place, sophomore Ethan Powell (15:50.90) in sixth and Brock Malaikal (15:57.90) in seventh to give Northville four top-10 finishers.

Seniors Brandon Latta (16:24.70) and David Whitaker (16:33.30) and junior Nicholas Yaquinto (16:39.8) ensured all Mustangs finished in the top 25.

Heger said he separated from Brynes with about 1,100 meters to go.

"On the second lap, up the hill, I started putting some distance on Sean," he said. "I never really looked back. And it



Northville's Ella Christensen accepts the championship trophy following the Division 1 cross country regional Oct. 29 at Willow Metropark.

BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

was so loud (from the crowd noise) that I could never hear his footsteps, but he held on really well. And I love the competition he gave me. That's the name of the game. That's the whole sport. It's also really tough running alone, and I've had a lot of practice with that. And I think I did that today."

Don't worry, Heger.

You won't be alone when you head to Michigan International Speedway. About five or six other runners will be trying to best you for the state title.

"I'm not going to lie," the junior added. "I expected a little more out of myself, time-wise. But, I don't know, I hope we win states as a team. I want that ring. That's what I'm here for."

Christensen overcomes injury, leads Mustangs to regional title

As Ella Christensen grabbed the D-1 regional championship trophy during Saturday's post-meet ceremony, her giant smile said everything we needed to know.

Redemption.

The Northville junior couldn't have had a brighter outlook for this fall.

She was going to lead her team to states. She was going to win competitive meets. She was going to be one of the top runners in Michigan.

And as soon as the season kicked off, plantar fasciitis began to bother her.

"It gradually got worse," she said. "I finally took a little bit of time off for it to heal. I was going every other day running, not running and cross-training. I sat out a couple of our dual meets, but I ran most of our invitationals."

Finally, as the regional meet approached, her pain subsided. And her optimism grew.

She became the individual champion at Willow Metropark with a time of 18 minutes, 35.60 seconds, while teammate Cassie Garcia (18:54.20) was the runner-up to ensure the Mustangs the team title as well.

"Yeah, it's been a rough season," Christensen said. "I'm finally getting back into it, so it feels good."

Christensen had a considerable run of ho-hum performances while battling

See TITLES, Page 3B

South Lyon

Continued from Page 1B

resulted in a campus-wide lockdown and the Lions scrambling to even get the opportunity to hold practice.

And Wednesday and Thursday, 14 players were still gone because of illnesses, including their top-two running backs Tommy Donovan and Wyatt Douglass.

How do you prepare to beat your rival in the playoffs in that kind of environment?

"It was something I'd never experienced before," Henson said. "On Monday, we couldn't even practice. Tuesday, we had that threat. We had to go to some open lot somewhere. They wouldn't even let us get our equipment. We had to go to an open lot and practice in the dark. Yesterday (Thursday) was the first time we had close to a full practice all week."

The Lions, mercifully, made it to game day. And they were about as focused during pre-game warmups as you could be, despite just enduring seven days of hell.

And then more hell came South Lyon's way.

East scored 17 unanswered points and grabbed an 11-point lead late in the third quarter, which included quarterback Braden Fracassi throwing a pair of ill-timed interceptions that kept the Lions from playing keep-up with the Cougars.

Some of the Cougars' points had to do with how poorly Stoyanovich was playing at defensive back.

Early in the game, he caught a pass from Fracassi over the middle but was banged up pretty badly while being tackled. A trainer was needed to help him get up.

The senior bounced back from his injury, but he couldn't keep up defensively. He was a step slower, and East had no trouble throwing the ball downfield to the likes of Jordan Newbill, Drew Moyer and Caleb Gash when it was Stoyanovich defending the routes.

Finally, though, fortune changed for the Lions.

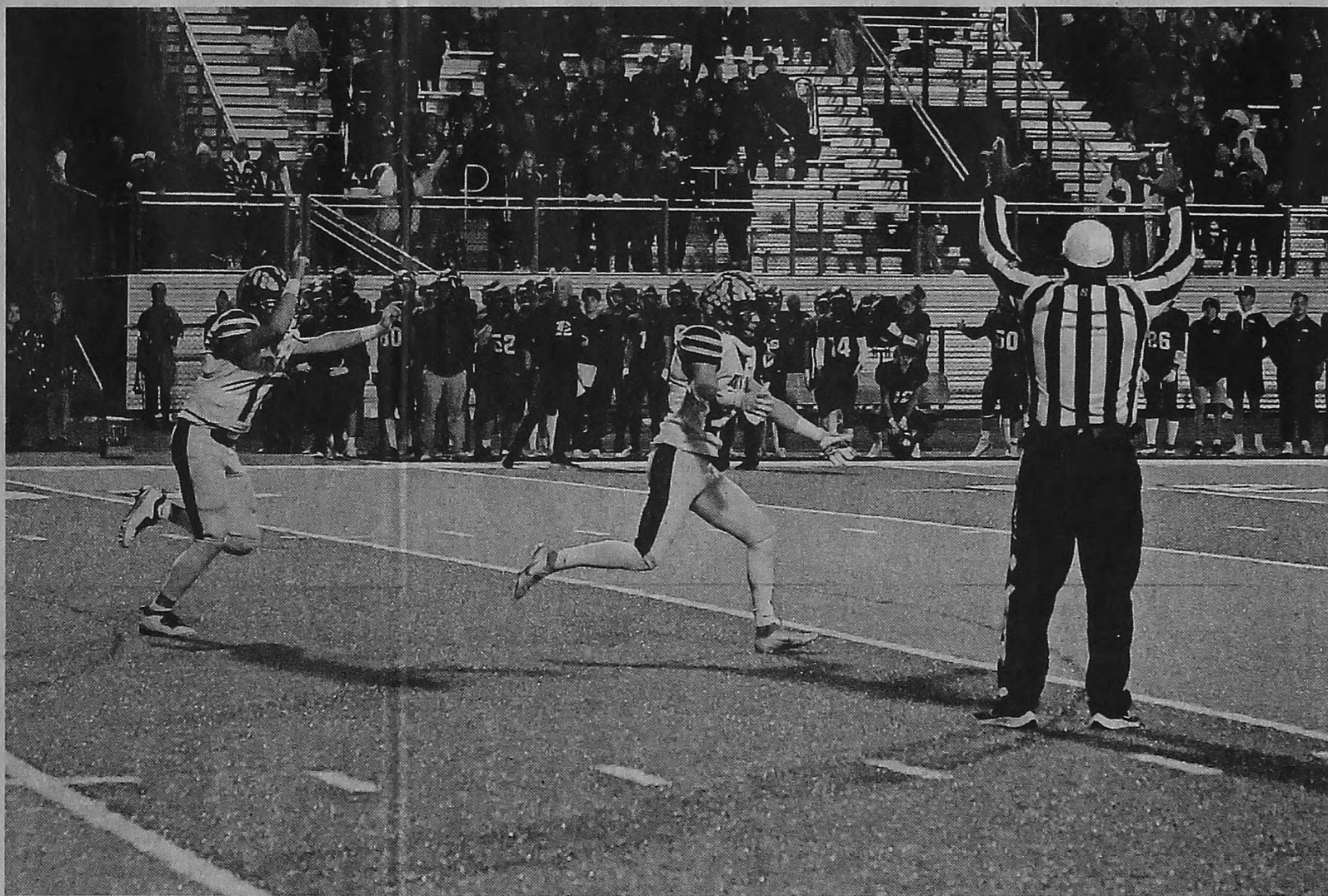
Donovan scooted in for a 14-yard score to trim that deficit. And then Luke Weaver blocked an East punt that set up Donovan for another 1-yard score and the ensuing two-point conversion to put the Lions ahead 20-17 with just 3:43 remaining.

"Not many people get second chances," said Fracassi, who tossed a pass to Donovan near the pylon for that two-point conversion. "We were lucky enough on Selection Sunday to get a second chance to take our city back. We struggled in the first half, but we really came back in the second half."

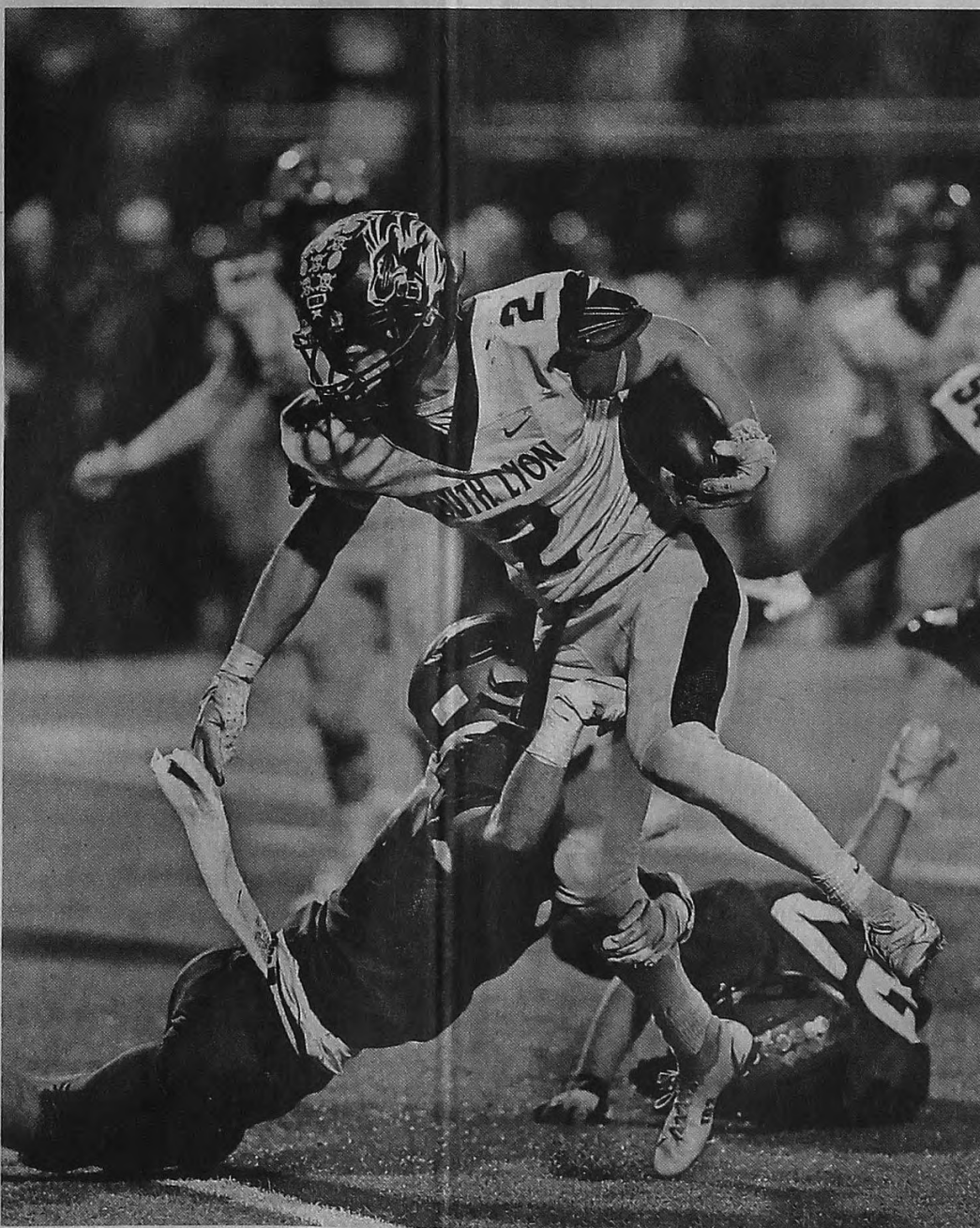
East kicker Owen Stuckey nailed a 27-yard field goal, his second of the game, to knot the score and force overtime.

The two teams traded scores in the opening period, with Fracassi scoring his second rushing TD of the evening on a 4-yard keeper and East running back Daedricco Fizer punching in a 3-yard response on an off-tackle play.

The Cougars went out for the next possession, but QB Dominic Giovannini wound up tossing an interception to



South Lyon's Alex Stoyanovich celebrates kicking the winning field goal against South Lyon East during a Division 2 playoff game on Oct. 28. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



South Lyon's Tommy Donovan rushes the ball against South Lyon East.

Nicholas Stoyanovich, Alex's younger brother.

That play set up Alex for the walk-off 20-yarder on fourth and 3 during the second OT period. And that made gave

both the Lions and Alex some sweet, sweet redemption, and ended what was just a terrible seven days.

"I'm very excited right now, very happy for our team with the way we fought

back," said Alex, the nephew of former NFL All-Pro kicker Pete Stoyanovich. "It kind of got in my head with the broken coverages. But I knew it couldn't get the best of me. I had to stay in the game still. And I knew once the field goal came up, it was just like (kicking camps in) the summer: Just put it through the uprights. It just feels amazing, knowing that I train all summer to do this. To come out here and hit the game-winning field goal to send us to districts, that's just awesome."

The Lions head to Dexter for the district championship.

They'll be the underdogs, especially with the Dreadnaughts being 10-0 and relying on the rushing attack of four-star Michigan commit Cole Cabana to move the chains.

Regardless of whatever happens in Round 2, it won't take away from how South Lyon responded to an awful week with a gutsy win against East.

"I'm just proud of our kids," Henson said. "It's been a rough 3 weeks for us. I'm really proud of how they fought back at the end and really proved what kind of fortitude they had."

"I couldn't have been more proud of Alex because he struggled a little bit tonight. He ended up making the kick to win the game, so I'm really proud of him."

And why did Henson have a hunch it would be Alex who'd make a play like that?

"Just because of the struggles he had in the first half," the coach said. "He had some struggles on both sides of the ball. I know Alex is a great player. And I just trust him. Sometimes you've just got to get the kids to believe in themselves a little bit more."

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

Titles

Continued from Page 2B

her injury. Like just five top-five efforts in nine outings entering the regional race. But she recorded back-to-back runner-up efforts during the River Rat Open and the Kensington Lakes Activities Association championships to close out the regular season.

She rebounded from her injury well. And she was ready for the regional, which goes down as her only victory of the 2022 season, despite being one of the state's best runners.

"It feels really good," Christensen said. "It's been kind of a rough season, mentally, just having to deal with that. Finally, coming back, it feels really good. It's definitely taken a little bit of its toll, but I'm definitely getting back and coming back strong, so it's good."

Helping the Mustangs were sophomore Rosie Gregory (19:55.30) in 12th place, MollyKate Coates (20:01.90) in 14th, senior Anna Gdowski (20:12.10) in 18th and freshman Sammi Gale (20:35.40) in 23rd.

The Mavericks 3-peat as regional champs, but it was a 'battle'

Milford's boys weren't going to let the math determine its fate.

Not with what was on the line. It came down to tiebreaker criteria for the Mavericks to edge rival White Lake Lakeland for the Lakes Valley Conference championship.

And with Eagles senior Jared Platt and junior Pierce Grzymkowski entering Friday's D-1 regional meet as the first and third seeds, respectively, Milford knew it was going to be in for another battle.

And a battle is what the Mavericks gave the field. All seven of their runners finished in the top 35.

Not only did that give them their third-straight regional title but it marked the 50th time they qualified for the state finals in program history.

"Coming off the LVC, we won off a tiebreaker, so we knew we had to live up to what we just did by running off that level," said senior Quaid Schimetz, Milford's top finisher with a time of 16 minutes, 47.9 seconds, which was good enough for ninth place individually. "And I guess we did. We showed up and



Milford celebrates winning the Division 1 cross country regional Oct. 28 at Kensington Metropark. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

did what we were supposed to do."

Freshman teammate Kyle O'Rourke was right behind him, finishing in 16:49.9 to take 10th, while sophomore Carrannanto took 14th (17:02.3), senior Thomas Kennedy finished 25th (17:36.3) and freshman Bastien Beaubien placed 31st (17:53.5). Juniors Brayden Mullins (17:59.8) and Aidan Malik (18:00.6) added insurance with a 34-35 finish.

Milford edged Detroit Catholic Central by five points, and Lakeland placed third.

Berkley senior Matthew Short upset the field by winning the individual regional title with a time of 16 minutes, 31.6 seconds, while Platt (16:41.6) and Grzymkowski (16:44.3) settled for fifth- and sixth-place finishes.

Schimetz and his crew weren't in that top pack, but they were in that second group.

And the Mavericks pushed themselves.

And that's all that mattered.

"I just kind of thought in my head that this is the last time I'm ever going to race at my own home course," Schimetz said about Kensington Metropark. "I just wanted to make the most of it. Not just the finish but throughout the entire race. I just battled through everything that was bugging me, whether it was my mental state or my legs starting to fatigue.

"I just started to work my way through it. I got to the finishing stretch, and I just kind of thought this is the last time I'm going to do it, so I might as well do it."

Baracco blazing her own trail for the Falcons

Don't ask Molly Baracco about her older brother.

Unless you want to see a major eye roll from the Farmington sophomore.

Who's her brother?

Peter Baracco, one of the greatest runners in school history.

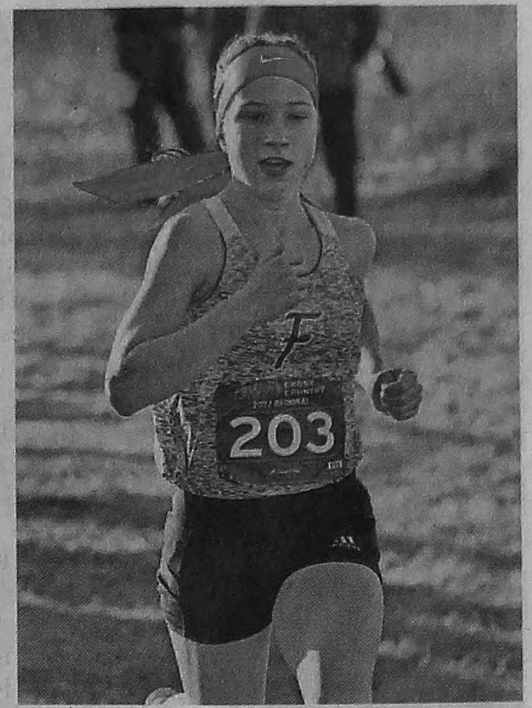
In his final two seasons with the cross-country team, he won back-to-back regional titles and took fourth twice at the state championship. And then he signed with Michigan before graduating last school year.

Molly doesn't want to be compared to Peter, even though she just did something he never did.

She was the individual regional champion during Friday's D-1 race at Kensington Metropark.

Peter didn't win his first regional until he was a junior. Take that, brother.

Molly entered the meet as the top seed, almost an entire 10 seconds faster than the next competitor. And she absolutely blew away the competition in Milford. She crossed the finish line in 18



Farmington's Molly Baracco competes during the Division 1 cross country regional Oct. 28.

minutes, 54.2 seconds, which was almost 30 seconds faster than second-place finisher Alisia Olteanu from Walled Lake Western (19:22.8).

"I love him, but I don't always want to be viewed as Peter's little sister," Molly said. "But I've tried to keep up with my brother. I used him (as motivation) because I want to do better than him."

Ah, just a nice sibling rivalry. Molly's father, Tony, ran at the University of New Mexico and then became a cross-country coach himself. That included a stint as Oakland Community College's coach.

Molly never hesitated about joining the family business. She started running competitively in the sixth grade, and she's been pushing herself to be better than Peter ever since.

Her goal is to finish in the top 15 at states next week. She's shooting for a top-10 finish next year and, hopefully, before she graduates in 2 years, an individual state championship, something Peter came just short of achieving.

Plus, she wants to run in college. Go Blue?

"Peter goes to Michigan so I don't know if I'm going there just because he goes there," Molly said. "But we'll see."

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

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Technology Department
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Plymouth, MI 48170
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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

RFPs: USF FORM 470/FY2023:

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools will accept bids for services and equipment for FY2023 of the Universal Services Fund (USF) E-rate Program. Specifications are available on the USAC EPC website and District website <https://www.pccsk12.com/about-pccs/departments/finance-and-operations/bids>.

All questions regarding the Basic Maintenance Self Provisioned Fiber Cable RFP and Provisioned Fiber and Fiber Service RFPs should be directed to Mark Salzer at techrfp@pccsk12.com. Sealed bids for all RFPs will be received at the E.J. McClendon Center until 1 PM on Monday, December 5, 2022 local time when they will be publicly opened.

The Board of Education reserves the right to: reject any or all bid proposals, either in whole or in part; waive any informalities or irregularities in the bidding process; accept bid alternates; and to award a contract in any manner deemed by the Board of Education, in its sole discretion, to be in their best interests.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
Anupam Chugh Sidhu, Secretary

Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Federal Law

It is the policy of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, height, weight, disability, religion or marital status in any of its programs, activities or employment.

Publish: October 27 & November 3, 2022

LO-0008790003 3x4.5

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH COUNTY OF WAYNE, STATE OF MICHIGAN PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE BROWNFIELD PLAN OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR 1000 GENERAL DRIVE AND 41700 ANN ARBOR ROAD

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Plymouth, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, the 15th day of November, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., Eastern Time in the Township Hall located at 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan, to consider the adoption of a resolution approving the Brownfield Plan for the Charter Township of Plymouth Brownfield Redevelopment Authority pursuant to Act 381 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1996, as amended.

The property to which the proposed Brownfield Plan applies is the property located at 1000 General Drive and 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

The proposed Brownfield Plan would allow the Charter Township of Plymouth Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to capture tax increment revenues to be used to reimburse for eligible costs and eligible activities incurred to prepare the brownfield property for redevelopment and to fund the Local Brownfield Revolving Fund. Eligible costs may include environmental and/or site preparation costs and administrative costs. The property description, maps, and the proposed Brownfield Plan are on file at the office of the Township Clerk for inspection during regular business hours.

At the public hearing, all interested persons desiring to address the Township Board shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the Brownfield Plan for the Charter Township of Plymouth Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. All aspects of the Brownfield Plan will be open for discussion at the public hearing.

FURTHER INFORMATION may be obtained from the Township Clerk.

This notice is given by order of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Plymouth, Michigan.

Jerry Vorva, J.D.
Township Clerk

Publish: November 3, 2022

LO-0008790054 3x5

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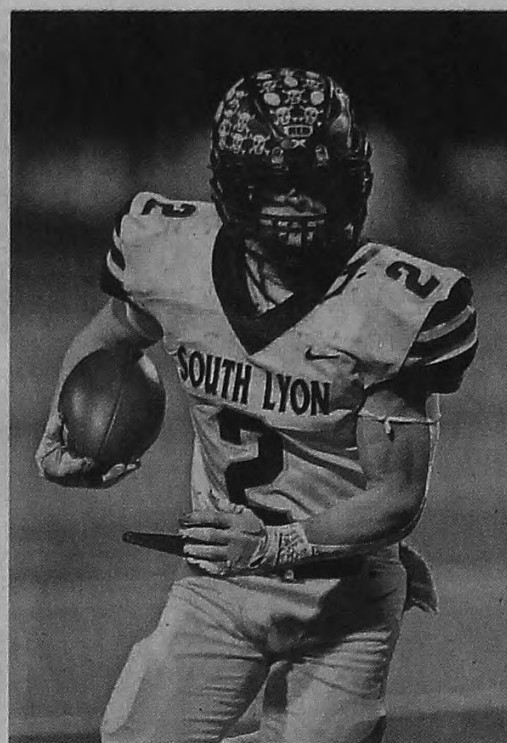
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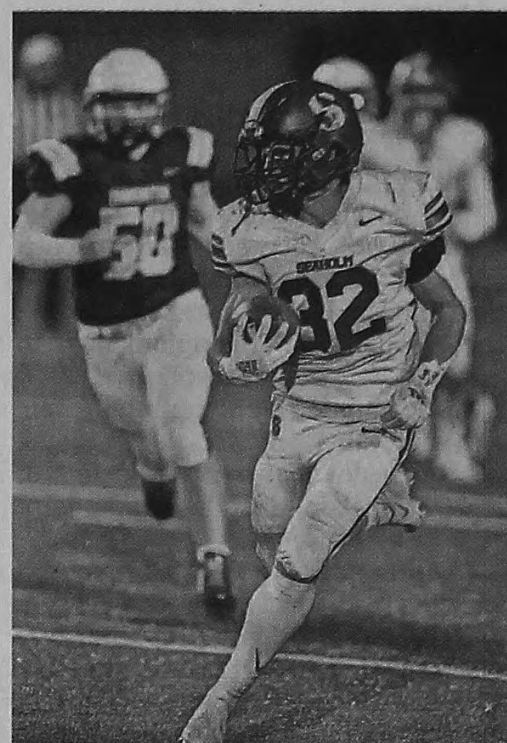
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Livonia Franklin's Jon Jasonowski rushes the ball Oct. 21. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



South Lyon's Tommy Donovan rushes the ball Oct. 28.



Birmingham Seaholm's Sean Emerson rushes the ball Oct. 14.

Round 2

Continued from Page 1B

rival South Lyon East with a Round 1 victory. But they must play a perfect 48 minutes of football in all three phases to beat Dexter, one of the favorites to win the Division 2 state championship. And priority No. 1? Stop four-star Michigan commit Cole Cabana from running for five or six touchdowns.

Folsom's pick: Dexter 35, South Lyon 14.

Temperance Bedford (8-2) at Livonia Franklin (9-1)

The Patriots should be the favorite to win this matchup, which is the fifth playoff meeting between these two programs since 2016 (Livonia Franklin leads the all-time series, 3-1). But not so fast! The Mules had no trouble keeping Farmington out of the end zone in Round 1, and the Falcons have a very similar team to Franklin. Both offenses like to get their best playmakers in space. Tyler Garrett is a lot like Keichean Wilson. Dominic Simpson is a lot like Owen Matteson. Cordell Mabins Jr. is a lot like Cam Pettaway. If Temperance Bedford can slow down Farmington's stars, it might not be that easy of a night



Detroit Country Day's Gabe Winowich rushes the ball Oct. 1.

for the Patriots.

Folsom's pick: Livonia Franklin 35, Temperance Bedford 24.

Birmingham Groves (7-3) at Birmingham Seaholm (8-2)

Both rivals took care of business in Round 1 of the playoffs, so we all got what we wanted. It's time for a rematch of Week 9's tight-score slugfest. Only this time it's the Maples hosting the

matchup. And that home-field advantage should make a considerable difference when the Falcons take the 2-mile jaunt up Cranbrook Road. If I know QB Colton Kinnie and his boys well enough, they've likely been seething to get back at their rivals. Expect a more locked-in Birmingham Seaholm squad this time around.

Folsom's pick: Birmingham Seaholm 22, Birmingham Groves 21.

Livonia Clarenceville (6-4) at Dearborn Divine Child (8-2)

There's no doubt about it: The Trojans had the biggest win of Round 1 around the Hometown Life region. To upset 9-0 Redford Union, it takes an incredible effort. And that's what Jordan Williams and his teammates put forth. Livonia Clarenceville grabbed a big lead early and almost fumbled the win entirely. But they had enough left to get past the Panthers in overtime. What a win. With Garden City almost upsetting Dearborn Divine Child last week, expect the Trojans to get past the Falcons to win their first district title since 2013.

Folsom's pick: Livonia Clarenceville 29, Dearborn Divine Child 27.

Bonus picks Brother Rice (4-5) at Walled Lake Western (9-1)

Folsom's pick: Walled Lake Western 45, Brother Rice 20.

Pontiac Notre Dame Prep (7-3) at Detroit Country Day (6-3)

Folsom's pick: Detroit Country Day 28, Pontiac Notre Dame Prep 14.

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

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FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated at right. Find the listed words in the grid. They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once. Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 13 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| Avoca | Eucalypts | Ocean | Snug |
| Bird watching | Farmhand | Ouse | Stanley |
| Boats | Fauna | Paper | Surf |
| Boyer | Fish | Parks | Swell |
| Canoe | Friendly | Peak | The Nut |
| Cascade | Gorges | Penguin | Togari |
| Climb | Heat | Rainforest | Trek |
| Cluan | Heka | Reefs | Uxbridge |
| Conifers | MONA | Remote | Walks |
| Cool | Nala | Rocks | Wild |
| Dams | Neika | Ross | Wine |
| Derby | Nile | Safe | |
| Devil | Oaks | Seals | |

TODAY'S ANSWER

History on show

Van Diemen's Land

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

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Saucer shapes
 - 6 India's Capital Territory
 - 11 Fall (over)
 - 14 ___-proof (easy to operate)
 - 15 Really liked
 - 16 Basis of some vaccines
 - 17 Chill essential
 - 19 Proxy, briefly
 - 20 Irish version of Edmond
 - 21 How some sweatshirts are made
 - 23 Trade alliance abbr.
 - 25 Highly efficient
 - 28 Approaching
 - 29 Empty talk
 - 30 It may get into a jam
 - 33 Self-evident
 - 35 Rainbowlike
 - 36 It connects to the femur
 - 39 Felonious faking
 - 43 Any authoritative volume
 - 45 Actress Zellweger
 - 46 What Ebert thought was Fellini's finest film
 - 51 Trade name abbr.
 - 52 Awards acronym
 - 53 Umpteen
 - 54 Soup thickener
 - 55 Topped with tiny rocks
 - 58 Pro fight site
 - 60 Largest MO airport
 - 61 Accessory for '80s joggers
 - 66 Gloater's shout
 - 67 Frat letter
- DOWN**
- 1 Cartoonist Browne
 - 2 Oscar role for Forest
 - 3 Skillfully evade
 - 4 Middle name of detective fiction
 - 5 Arise (from)
 - 6 Actor Coleman
 - 7 Bastille Day season
 - 8 Field for a flock
 - 9 "What was that?"
 - 10 ___facto
 - 11 Medium of exchange?
 - 12 Out of neutral, as a car
 - 13 Towel gently
 - 18 "Seize the day" text
 - 22 Agitated
 - 23 Shoe support
 - 24 Operatic showcases
 - 26 Loose-oose link
 - 27 Foam ball brand
 - 30 Oven setting
 - 31 Sgt. maj., for example
 - 32 Often-quoted catcher
 - 34 "Who's on First?" straight man
 - 37 Comcast network
 - 38 K-6
 - 40 Late-stage play
 - 41 Musical McEntire
 - 42 Four quarters
 - 44 NASA excursion
 - 46 Instructive example
 - 47 First name of detective fiction
 - 48 Smidge of sour cream
 - 49 Sort of
 - 50 Model Banks
 - 54 Pharaohs' crosses
 - 56 Ever since, for short
 - 57 Capital on the Persian Gulf
 - 59 Frozen queen
 - 62 Simpsons neighbor
 - 63 Letters on payslips
 - 64 Simpsons grandpa
 - 65 DC ballplayer

5+		1-	
2÷	2	4+	
	3x		4
3		2÷	

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.

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

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

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

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15						16		
17					18						19		
		20					21		22				
23	24				25	26	27			28			
29					30				31	32			
33			34				35						
36					37	38		39			40	41	42
					43			44		45			
46	47	48						49	50			51	
52						53					54		
55					56	57		58		59			
60					61	62	63					64	65
66					67					68			
69					70						71		

TODAY'S ANSWER

D	E	S	S	A	D	D	A	V	A	P			
B	E	R	A	T	H	E	T	A		O	H	O	
M	A	N	A	N	A	N	A	N	A	N	A	N	
M	A	N	A	N	A	N	A	N	A	N	A	N	
A	R	E	N	A									
A	G	A	R										
L	A	D	O	L	C	E	L	I	T	A	D	B	A
B	I	B	L	E									
H	I	P	O	N	E	F	O	R	G	E	R	A	
C	L	E	A	R	C	E	D						
R	O	T	B	O	S	E	N	E	R	R			
A	S	S	N	L	E	A	N						
E	A	M	O	N									
K	I	D	N	E	A	N	A	N	A	N	A	N	
I	D	I	O	T	A	T	E	P	R	N	A		
D	E	L	I	T	I	P							

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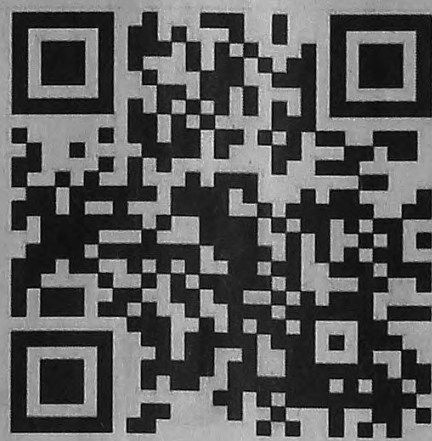
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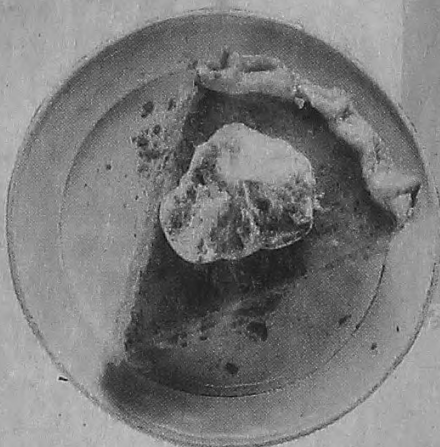


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