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Fire chief: Canton needs fourth station

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Canton Township's decades-long growth spurt has created a need for a fourth fire station, Director of Fire Services Christopher Stoecklein told the

township's board of trustees during an April 20 study session.

Just weeks after the unveiling of the township's newly-renovated Fire Station No. 2 on Warren Road, Stoecklein presented a detailed proposal he hopes will convince decision-makers that a

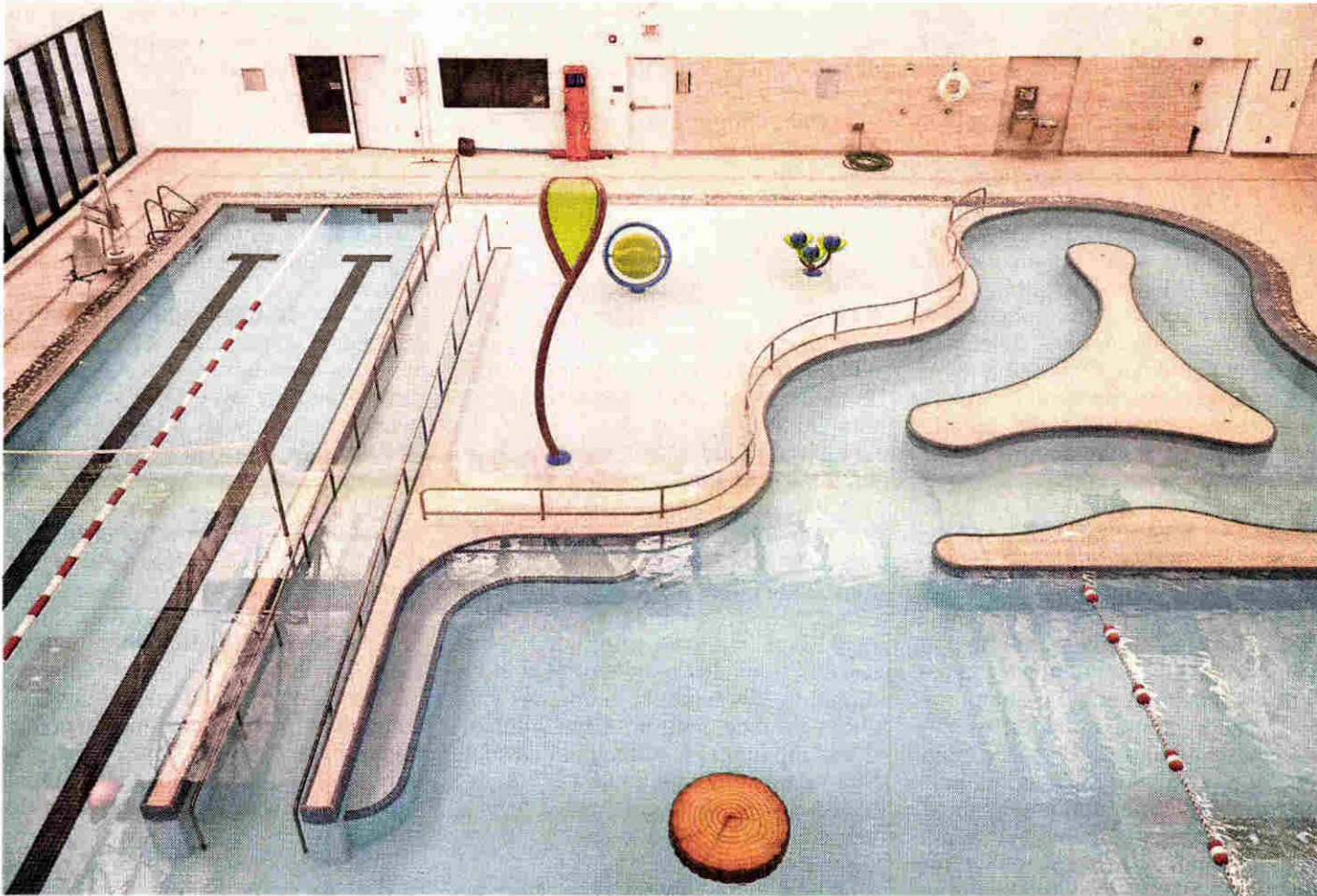
new station is necessary in the southeast corner of Canton.

In addition to the Warren Road station, the township has stations at 1100 S. Canton Center Road, next to township hall; and at 520 N. Denton Road, near the western edge of the township.

"Now that Station 2 is complete, the next step in our strategic plan for the township is to start moving forward and giving you the recommendations our data is driving us toward," Stoecklein

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SNEAK PEEK OF THE HAWK



The Hawk in Farmington Hills is just about ready to welcome the public. The three-story building will serve as a recreation, arts and community gathering center. Above is the pool at the community center, seen from its three-story water slide. At right, visitors check out the lower level lobby of The Hawk on April 20. Read more about the center on Page 4A.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Livonia dad needs new lungs because of COVID-19

Community shows its support with fundraiser

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Chuck Robertson has never missed one of his daughters' swim meets.

"All of us girls would look up to him in the stands and he'd give us a fist pump before a race," his oldest, Sophia Robertson, said. "We'd all give him a fist pump back. He's the best dad."



Robertson

Now, Chuck is in the intensive care unit at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia following complications as a result of contracting COVID-19.

He's been in the hospital for about 40 days, over half of which have been spent on a ventilator.

"It's a nightmare," Sophia said.

Chuck, 53, needs a double lung transplant and is awaiting an opening at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, where he can receive treatment from an extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, or ECMO, machine.

In the meantime, Sophia said she, her mother, Lisa, and her younger sisters, Allie and Faith, visit him daily at St. Mary Mercy.

The Livonia man has been a branch manager for RIS Insulation Supply for 12 years and has been ardently involved in his daughters' swimming pursuits at Stevenson High School. He's been president of Fairway Farms Swim Club and was the parent board's vice president for the Livonia Community Swim Club.

Faith, 15, is especially close to their father because of swimming.

"We call him her manager," Sophia said. "They're literally like two peas in a pod. They're inseparable."

More than \$42,000 had been raised as of Tuesday morning through a GoFundMe campaign, "Support the Robertson Family," set up by family friend. Because of Chuck's extensive medical needs, the campaign is aiming to raise \$100,000.

Sophia said her family has been

See DAD, Page 5A

Residents oppose Plymouth rezoning proposal

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Situated a stone's throw from a chapel owned by NorthRidge Church and a short walk from the megachurch, a 27-acre Plymouth Township property is the epicenter of discord between residents and a housing developer.

Owned by Northridge Church, the property is zoned R-1-E, which would allow up to 19 single-family lots — a housing density residents of nearby subdivisions can accept, based on an informal survey and comments delivered during a recent public hearing.

Leo Soave Development is asking the Plymouth Township planning commis-

sion to recommend the land be rezoned to R-1-H status, a change that could lead to 42 homes being built on the property.

A change.org petition by resident Mary Weidel states: "Preserve the Township, fight overdevelopment!"

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Whitmer: More COVID-19 shots means fewer restrictions for state

Dave Boucher and
Kristen Jordan Shamus
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer outlined a plan that ties specific vaccination levels to rolling back COVID-19 restrictions during a news media event Thursday morning.

The announcement mirrors the state's goal of vaccinating 70% of all Michiganders 16 and older, but comes as Michigan continues to grapple with the nation's worst pandemic outbreak.

"On our path to vaccinating 70% of Michiganders 16 and up, we can take steps to gradually get back to normal while keeping people safe," Whitmer said in a statement.

"If you haven't already, I encourage you to rise to the challenge and be a part of the solution so we can continue our economic recovery and have the summer we all crave."

Whitmer outlined four steps to gradually ease restrictions:

- Two weeks after 4.5 million Michiganders have received their first vaccine dose (55% of the eligible population), the state will lift requirements that employers mandate employees work remotely where feasible.

- Two weeks after 4.9 million Michiganders have received their first vaccine dose (60% of the eligible population), the state will increase indoor capacity for sporting events, conference centers, banquet halls and other similar facilities to 25%. The state will also increase capacity limits at gyms to 50%, and lift curfews on restaurants and bars.

- Two weeks after 5.3 million Michiganders have received their first vaccine dose (65% of the eligible population), the state will lift all indoor capacity restrictions and relax limits on social gatherings.

- Two weeks after 5.7 million Michiganders have received their first vaccine dose (70% of the eligible population), the state will rescind the health department's face mask and gathering order and stop issuing similar rules "unless unanticipated circumstances arise."

The entire plan revolves around people getting the first of two vaccination doses; two of three available vaccines require two injections. However, the total number of initial doses administered dropped more than 75% from April 14 to Monday.

"We always knew there was going to be a moment when the supply would eclipse demand, and that's where we are. We expected it to be coming ... around this time, so things are proceeding as we anticipated," Whitmer said.

"But it also, I think, reaffirms for all of us how important it is that every one of us does our part to educate our co-workers or family or friends or neighbors to help people go and access a vaccine, and for employers to ensure they are encouraging their workforce as well."

President Joe Biden has said he'd like the nation to be able to get back to normal by the July Fourth holiday, and Whitmer said that's a "very real possibility" in Michigan. But, she said, "it's dependent on us working together to get the majority of our population vaccinated — the vast majority."

Pandemic regulations remain a hot political issue in the state.

Legislative Republicans previously



Gov. Gretchen Whitmer speaks before receiving her second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine April 29 at the DeVos Convention Center in Grand Rapids.
ARPAN LOBO/HOLLAND SENTINEL

leveraged their control of billions in federal and state funding in an effort to force Whitmer and health leaders to roll back restrictions. In the past, House Appropriations Committee Chairman Thomas Albert, R-Lowell, said the governor could have a bigger say in how that money is distributed if she and her administration agree to essentially do away with COVID-19 orders.

"It took 400 days too long for the governor to be straightforward about how she will navigate this disease," said Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, R-Clarklake, in a statement.

The Michigan Republican Party also recently pounced on news that Whitmer, Elizabeth Hertel, head of the Department of Health and Human Services and another key administration official vacationed or visited loved ones out of state after recommending Michiganders avoid travel if at all possible.

After weeks of unmitigated growth in cases, hospitalizations and deaths, most COVID-19 trends are now headed in a safer direction.

"Data still indicates we have broad community spread," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, the state's chief medical executive.

Case rates are improving or remain stable in most Michigan counties, although Grand Traverse, Muskegon and Montmorency counties remain hot spots. The percentage of positive COVID-19 tests also is improving, dropping from a seven-day average high of 16.7% on April 9 to 12% on Monday.

Almost 700 fewer people were admitted to hospitals on Monday, down from the peak of 4,211 on April 19. Deaths appear to have stabilized, at a seven-day average of about 62 per day.

Yet Michigan's numbers remain worst in the nation with a seven-day average of 314 cases per 100,000 people — about three times higher than the national average per-capita seven-day average of 113.7 cases, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Whitmer and Hertel have resisted calls from national health experts — and some members of the Democratic Party

— to reinstate more pandemic regulations.

The governor and the former health department director, Robert Gordon, vehemently defended instituting new rules in the face of COVID-19 surges in the past.

Whitmer argues the availability of vaccines makes this surge different. She received her second dose of the Pfizer vaccine in a public event Thursday, part of her campaign to encourage everyone to get vaccinated.

But the state remains well short of its vaccination goal, and evidence indicates those trends are actually getting worse.

The state wants to vaccinate at least 70% of Michiganders who are 16 or older, with the hopes that hitting that threshold will foster herd immunity and greater overall protection. It also set a goal of administering 100,000 doses a day on average, in the hope of hitting the 70% mark as soon as May.

Khaldun said Michigan is likely to surpass 7 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines administered this week, noting that 36% of Michiganders 16 and older are now fully vaccinated, and almost half of the state's adult population has gotten at least one dose.

"I think the one thing that we've learned from this pandemic is that we are all in this together, no matter your age, your race, your ethnicity, your income, or what side of the political aisle that you are on," Khaldun said. "None of us is in a bubble. And what happens in one community or one age group impacts everyone."

While data shows Michiganders flocked to vaccination sites immediately after everyone became eligible on April 5, more recent trends warn of decreased demand. On April 1, the state's seven-day average was more than 96,000 first and second doses daily. By Monday, that had dropped by more than 22% to less than 75,000 doses a day.

Supply of vaccines now well exceeds demand in many parts of the state, and vaccine clinics have shifted from appointments to walk-up availability.

In the city of Detroit, Mayor Mike

Duggan announced Wednesday a new incentive to get residents their shots: a \$50 prepaid debit card. Starting Monday, anyone who pre-registers and drives a Detroit to get a vaccine will get the \$50 card as a reward through the city's Good Neighbor program.

The state implemented a slew of regulations in November in the face of a second pandemic surge. Those restrictions were largely removed in the coming weeks, culminating in an order on Jan. 22 to start allowing indoor dining at restaurants in a limited capacity.

The same day Gordon issued that order, he also tendered his resignation. Since his departure, the health department has largely eased pandemic rules and refused to implement more stringent measures in the face of the recent deadly surge.

Republicans in the Legislature have thanked Whitmer and the health department for not instituting new restrictions, but GOP party leaders have lambasted the administration's recent handling of the COVID-19 surge.

Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, R-Clarklake, House Speaker Jason Wentworth, R-Farwell, and others have said despite dangerous levels of community spread, it's time for the state to roll back all restrictions and trust residents to keep each other safe.

At the same time, legislative leaders want to know more about Gordon's departure from the health department. Although the GOP largely agrees with the actions taken by the department since he left, the fact that he received a \$155,000 separation agreement that initially included a confidentiality clause resulted in huge pushback.

Whitmer and Gordon eventually waived the clause, but neither has elaborated on why the former director resigned. After refusing to testify before the state House Oversight Committee, the group subpoenaed Gordon. He appeared before the committee Thursday morning.

Ted Goodman, a spokesman for the Michigan Republican Party, called Whitmer's news conference an effort to draw attention away from the Gordon hearing.

"Whitmer is attempting to distract Michiganders from questions surrounding her hush money payoff to her former health director who mysteriously resigned in the middle of a global pandemic," Goodman said in a statement.

But the Small Business Association of Michigan applauded the governor's plan.

"For months, small businesses have sought metrics for reopening our economy and the 'MI Vacc to Normal' plan does exactly that," Brian Calley, president of the association, said in statement.

"This pandemic has been extremely difficult for everyone, and now we know what's needed to help us return to more normal activities. Widespread vaccinations are the way out of this pandemic, and we urge Michiganders who have not gotten a vaccine yet to do so."

Hertel said "despite the divisions we've unfortunately witnessed over the past year" over pandemic restrictions in the state, most Michiganders share a common desire to reopen stadiums, concerts, workplaces, restaurants and to be able to have big, in-person celebrations again.

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New COVID-19 cases plummet in Michigan

Mike Stucka
USA TODAY NETWORK

Michigan reported far fewer coronavirus cases in the week ending Sunday, adding 28,375 new cases. That's down 25.5% from the previous week's tally of 38,100 new cases of the virus that causes COVID-19.

Michigan ranked first among the states where coronavirus was spreading the fastest on a per-person basis, a USA TODAY Network analysis of Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the latest week coronavirus cases in the United States decreased 15.4% from the week before, with 344,463 cases reported. With 3% of the country's population, Michigan had 8.24% of the country's cases in the last week.

Michigan added backlogged deaths throughout April, making week-to-week comparisons inaccurate. Across Michigan, cases fell in 73 counties, with the best declines in Wayne, Macomb and Oakland counties.

Wayne County reported 5,168 cases and 109 deaths in the latest week. A week earlier, it had reported 7,032 cases and 107 deaths. Throughout the pandemic the county has reported 155,417 cases and 4,649 deaths.

Oakland County reported 3,320 cases and 40 deaths in the latest week. A week earlier, it had reported 4,385 cases and 41 deaths. Throughout the pandemic the county has reported 111,429 cases and 2,210 deaths.

Michigan ranked 25th among states in share of people receiving at least one shot, with 43.2% of its residents at least partially vaccinated. The national rate is 44.3%, a USA TODAY analysis of CDC data shows. The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, which are the most used in the United States, require two doses administered a few weeks apart.

In the week ending Sunday, Michigan reported administering another 511,757 vaccine doses, including 194,631 first doses. In the previous week, the state administered 611,384 vaccine doses, in-

cluding 254,580 first doses. In all, Michigan reported it has administered 7,281,555 total doses.

Within Michigan, the worst weekly outbreaks on a per-person basis were in Huron, Gratiot and Muskegon counties. Adding the most new cases overall were Wayne County, with 5,168 cases; Oakland County, with 3,320 cases; and Macomb County, with 2,771. Weekly case counts rose in 10 counties from the previous week. The worst increases from the prior week's pace were in Gratiot, Midland and Baraga counties.

In Michigan, 484 people were reported dead of COVID-19 in the week ending Sunday. In the week before that, 475 people were reported dead.

A total of 940,175 people in Michigan have tested positive for the coronavirus since the pandemic began, and 18,893 people have died from the disease, Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the United States 32,421,641 people have tested positive and 577,045 people have died.

Annual high school rankings released

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

U.S. News & World Report released its annual rankings of 24,000 public high schools with Oakland County's International Academy again among the top 50 nationwide.

International Academy, a consortium which has about 1,500 students who reside in 13 Oakland County school districts, ranked third in Michigan and 43rd nationwide. Also ranking in the top 10 in Michigan were Novi High School at No. 7 and Northville High School at No. 10.

"Part of the reason we do well on rankings like this is that all of our students and families understand when they enroll in ninth grade that we are an all International Baccalaureate high school," Associate Principal Chris Smith said. "It's highly rigorous, the most challenging program a student in the United States can sign up for in high school. ..."

"It attracts students who are highly motivated for an academic program."

The International Academy is the second-largest International Baccalaureate diploma-granting school in the world, second only to a school in Singapore. The school typically grants IB diplomas to about 350 students per year, although its graduation rate is not listed in the rankings report due to being part of the consortium.

The ranking methodology used by U.S. News and World Report measures college readiness in seniors, particularly the proportion of students who both took and earned qualifying scores on advanced placement and International Baccalaureate exams; and also takes into account math and reading proficiency and performance from state tests; underserved student performance; college curriculum breadth; and graduation rates.

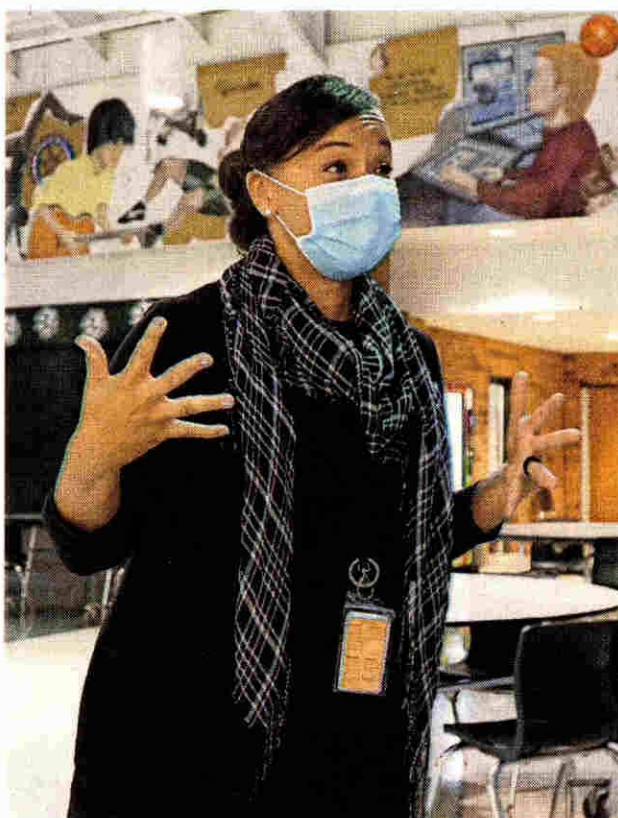
The International Academy has so many students apply each year that the school uses a lottery system to determine who will get in. Upon selection, students take a math diagnostics test and writing exam.

Novi High School Principal Nicole Carter is proud of the school's ranking of 7th in the state and 41th in the country, with a total score of 97.7 out of 100. The school consistently ranks high in the report.

She notes that it is especially remarkable because Novi is not a magnet school and accepts every student who resides in the district. Carter is not surprised by the ranking, but she gets choked up talking about it. She gives credit to students and district staff from high school all the way down to kindergarten, all working to help students excel.

"It gives me chills," she said. "It puts a spotlight on our extraordinary students and our competent creative teachers and support staff. It is inspirational."

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com or 517-281-2412.



Novi High School Principal Nicole Carter's school ranks seventh in Michigan, according to an annual list published by U.S. News & World Report.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Local high school rankings

International Academy, Bloomfield Hills (West and East campuses in White Lake and Troy were included in calculations); third in Michigan; 43rd nationwide; IB participation rate: 100%.

Novi High School: seventh in Michigan; 411th nationwide; AP participation rate: 67%.

Northville High School: 10th in Michigan; 466th nationwide; AP participation rate: 62%.

Ernest W. Seaholm High School, Birmingham: 14th in Michigan; 605th nationwide; AP participation rate: 69%.

Wylie E. Groves High School, Birmingham: 28th in Michigan; 910th nationwide; AP participation rate: 51%.

Canton High School: 29th in Michigan; 967th nationwide; AP participation rate: 47%.

Plymouth High School: 33rd in Michigan; 1,170th nationwide; AP participation: 47%.

Salem High School, Canton: 41st in Michigan; 1,346th nationwide; AP participation rate is 48%.

Bloomfield Hills High School: 44th in Michigan; #1,433rd nationwide; AP participation rate: 56%.

South Lyon High School: 48th in Michigan; 1,583rd nationwide; AP participation rate: 40%.

Canton Preparatory High School, 55th in Michigan; 1,691st nationwide; AP participation rate is 89%.

South Lyon East High School: 66th in Michigan; 1,851st nationwide; AP participation rate: 45%.

Stevenson High School, Livonia: 71st in Michigan; 2,197th nationwide; AP rate: 45%.

Farmington High School, 79th in Michigan; 2,377th nationwide; AP participation rate: 41%.

Churchill High School, Livonia: 82nd in Michigan; 2,453rd nationwide; AP participation rate: 32%.

Harrison High School, Farmington Hills, 94th in Michigan; 2,730th nationwide; IB participation rate: 25%.

North Farmington High School, Farmington Hills, 95th in Michigan; 2,757th nationwide; AP participation rate: 53%.

Lakeland High School, White Lake: 130th in Michigan; 3,560th nationwide; AP participation rate: 51%.

Milford High School: 161st in Michigan; 4,657th nationwide; AP participation rate: 43%.

Franklin High School, Livonia: 169th in Michigan; 4,943rd nationwide; AP participation rate: 32%.

Clarenceville High School: 382nd in Michigan; 11,041st nationwide; AP participation rate: 13%.

John Glenn and Wayne Memorial high schools, Westland: 468th-650th in Michigan; 13,394th-17,857th nationwide; AP participation rate: 19%.

- U.S. News & World Report

Farmington Hills facility to open in June

Shelby Tankersley HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The inside of the old Harrison High School building looks brand new.

About a month ahead of its opening, The Hawk in Farmington Hills is just about ready to welcome the public. The three-story building will serve as a recreation, arts and community gathering center.

According to Farmington Hills special services director Ellen Schnackel, the city is hoping to open The Hawk, near 12 Mile and Middlebelt, in early June.

Farmington Hills bought the former high school, which was built in the 1970s, in late 2018 after the school district decided to close the facility due to declining enrollment.

Since then, community input and a growing need for a large recreation center have fueled the development.

The city does not plan to close the Costick Activities Center on 11 Mile Road. Instead, that building's offerings will shift to focus on serving residents 50 and older.

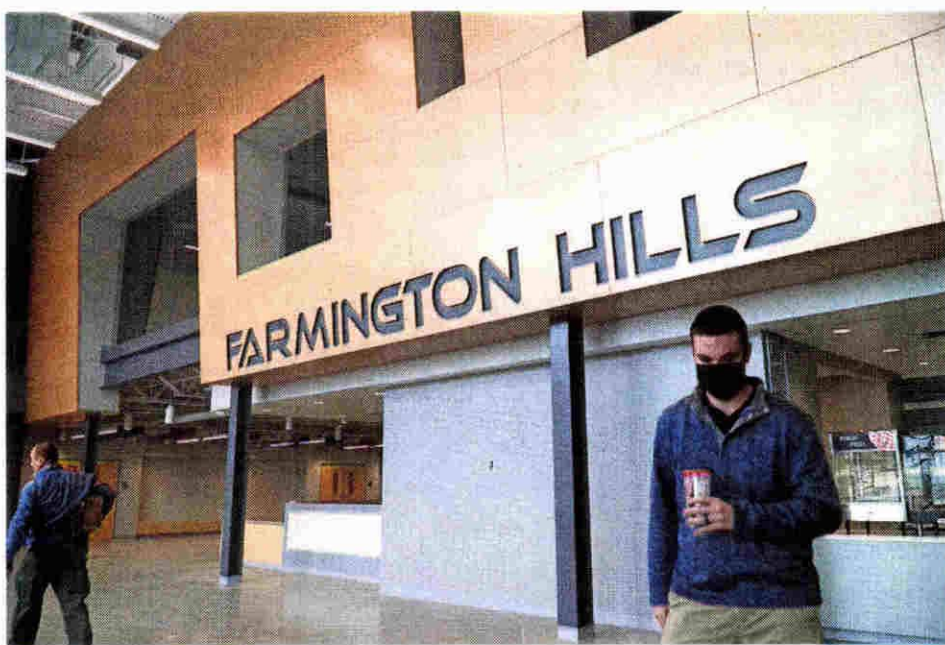
Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby_tankk.



Jimmy Vayis walks through a family locker room at The Hawk in Farmington Hills. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



The climbing wall and the water slide at The Hawk's pool facility.



The lower level of The Hawk includes a concession stand near its gym and pool.



The Hawk, or the Farmington Hills Community Center, at 29995 W. Twelve Mile.

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Residents

Continued from Page 1A

had been signed by 363 township residents as of May 2.

Residents voiced displeasure with the potential rezoning during an April public hearing, emphasizing to the planning commission that traffic on Ridge Road and surrounding streets is already congested due to the large crowds NorthRidge attracts.

"There is absolutely no reason for (rezoning the property) and no way it enhances the township to cram so many homes into an area like this," Weidel said during the hearing. "Residents of Plymouth Township believe the quality of life will be impacted by the increased traffic."

"The environment will be impacted negatively as well. A lot of trees will be taken out and replaced by concrete. Why should residents bear the negative impact of this rezoning because a developer wants to make money?"

Leo Soave Development representative John Pastor argued that the developer is being more than reasonable in asking for the rezoning.

"In theory, if the property is rezoned R-1-H, the developer could build up to 55 houses on the property," Pastor said. "We're asking for 42. Is that being greedy? If the developer was being greedy, he'd ask for the maximum."

The two conditions Soave offered were that the number of lots be limited to 42 and all lots adjacent to the Plymouth Commons subdivision will have similar widths to those of the existing subdivision.

The developer has also agreed to the



A developer wants Plymouth Township to rezone a 27-acre parcel of land owned by NorthRidge Church so he can build 42 homes on the property instead of the current limit of 19. ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

placement of a 35-foot-wide landscaped easement that would run along the south and west property lines of the proposed development.

When Commissioner Bob Doroshevit asked Pastor what number of lots would make the development economically feasible, Pastor said 42.

"That in and of itself is basically the equivalent of the applicant asking the township to help it be profitable," said Patrick Arella. "It is not the job of the planning commission and it is not the job of the trustees to make it profitable for the applicant. If it's not viable within the existing zoning, it doesn't mean the property should be rezoned to make it profitable."

Michael Warmbier, who stated dur-

ing the public hearing that he was a planning commissioner for 10 years in another township, agreed.

"It is not the job of the planning commissioners to cater to developers who want to change the rules," Warmbier said. "The planning commission's main goal should be to protect the safety, welfare and health of the community it serves."

"I can't speak to the health of the community, but I can tell you there is concern about welfare, and certainly safety, when you think about the number of vehicles and the density of traffic patterns (rezoning would create)."

Warmbier said traffic exiting NorthRidge Church after service routinely cuts through his Deer Creek subdivision

to avoid Ridge and get to Powell Road.

"Our homeowners association recently asked residents to vote on a special assessment of an additional \$400 per year to help pay for new road concrete," Warmbier said. "Is the developer willing to contribute to this?"

"Why should this property be rezoned because a developer decided he wants to try and fit a square peg into a round hole?"

Kevin O'Callaghan said the reason he moved his family from the city of Plymouth to Plymouth Township "was to avoid exactly what is going to happen if this rezoning plan is approved."

"This section of Ridge Road is already overpopulated and dangerous because of the traffic created by the church," O'Callaghan said. "And God forbid anything ever happens on M-14 or I-96 because then Ridge and Beck become small expressways."

"I don't see any net benefits of approving this rezoning request."

The planning commission voted unanimously to postpone the decision up to 120 days until the developer can present it with a traffic study and a parallel plan that would better satisfy the commissioners.

"The property is going to be developed eventually. I think we can all agree on that," Doroshevit said. "Hopefully, the developer can come back with a parallel plan that will be more pleasing to everyone involved."

In order for the the property to be rezoned, the planning commission would have to recommend the rezoning to the board of trustees, which would then have to approve the change.

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



A ladder truck, fire engine and two ambulances run out of Canton Fire Station No. 2. Director of Fire Services Christopher Stoecklein recently told the board of trustees that a fourth fire station is needed in the township.

SUSAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Station

Continued from Page 1A

told the trustees.

He shared a graphic that showed the number of calls for emergency assistance in the township has increased 42% annually since 2010.

Canton Township's population is about 94,000, according to U.S. Census data.

Based on data collected during the past several years, Stoecklein told the board the ideal location for a new station would be two parallel eight-acre parcels of township-owned land near the southwest corner of the intersection of Michigan Avenue and Lilley Road.

Stoecklein shared a map showing that almost 25% of his department's calls come from the southeastern quadrant of the township, which he said produces higher-than-acceptable response times due to the distance of the nearest station.

"One thing that makes this location ideal is that it is close to the Michigan Avenue and I-275 corridors, which are two of our busiest areas when it comes to heavy rescues, and it is on the section of Lilley Road that dead-ends into the landfill," Stoecklein said. "Since it's already township-owned property, it would give us the advantage of probably saving a lot of money, although some general transfer procedures would have to take place."

Building a new facility and adding the necessary personnel would equate to an approximate 0.6 millage increase, which would cost the owner of a \$300,000 home an additional \$90



The proposed fire station would sit at the southwest corner of Michigan and Lilley Road in Canton Township.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

each year, Canton Township Assistant Treasurer Bruce Malinczak said.

Malinczak said that same Canton homeowner paid about \$560 in fire-related taxes in 2019 and 2020.

Stoecklein said Canton can increase the taxes without a public vote using a special assessments district across the township. Malinczak said special assessment districts can increase fire and police-related millage rates up to 10-mill increases without being required to put the increase before a vote of residents.

Stoecklein said if the design for the new station duplicated the one used for the recent renovation of station No. 2, the township would save on architectural design costs.

The board of trustees agreed to discuss the proposal at a future board meeting.

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

Dad

Continued from Page 1A

blown away by the generosity of their friends, family and complete strangers.

"My little sister Faith is a freshman at Stevenson, and there's kids in her grade donating \$5, \$10," Sophia said. "That's just so amazing and it just brings tears to my eyes. They're so, so generous."

As they wait, the Robertsons are hoping for a miracle. The family is asking people to pray for an opening at Henry Ford, availability for an ECMO machine and a set of lungs for Chuck.

"We're praying that when science has no more answers, that's when a miracle can happen," Sophia said.

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

Obituaries

Esther Reid Friedrichs

May 16, 1921 - April 24, 2021 sought to live a joyful, active life of service, and family. Esther was born in Burlington, Vermont, to Joanna Dow (Croft) Reid and Edward H Reid. With younger sister Ruth, deceased just six weeks prior to Esther, they maintained a summer home there for the extended family.

Devoted to all things 'Livonia', an ardent supporter of civil and voting rights, and non-violence. Esther and husband Donald E Friedrichs (d. 2006) are survived by their six children and their families: Thomas (Kathy Solley) Atlanta, GA; David (Kathy McPhail) Ann Arbor, MI; Anne (Stephany Smith) Middlebury, VT; Mark (Julie Saulnier) Bethesda, MD; Sarah (Rob Collins) Lake Forest, IL; Linda (Craig Nelson) Nashville, TN. Their 15 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren are widely dispersed across the country.

Esther was an active civic volunteer as the children were raised, and as Don made his career in Livonia Public Schools, first as Principal of Livonia Bentley then Assistant Superintendent and finally Director of Community Education. Esther went on to teach senior swim and water aerobics at Schoolcraft College for 22 years, until age 83, as well as lead exercise at the Livonia Senior Center. By doing so she resumed teaching Physical Education (PE), her first job after college in 1942 (Univ of Wisconsin).

Esther earned the First Salute to Women as a founding member and President of the Livonia League of Women Voters, an active member of Livonia Rotary-Ann's, Livonia Town Hall, and a volunteer probation officer for the Livonia District Court. Esther served as a member of the Livonia City Planning Commission and was an active member of the American Field Service (AFS) chapter providing host homes to international students and establishing lasting relationships with many foreign students over the years. A devoted Book Group member for decades, as her role as a grandmother evolved, she said to her grandchildren: "I'll always be curious about what you're reading; and hope you'll share your thoughts on favorite books with me."

In later years, she and Don enjoyed traveling extensively, visiting over 35 countries. They were founding members at the Livonia "Y" and served on planning committees for the Livonia Rec Center and the Senior Center. Well into her 90's, she volunteered at the used bookstore in the lobby of the Civic Center Library. Annually, she helped lead the AAUW used book sale, even storing books awaiting sale piled high in the family garage. Always looking for 'the sunny side', Esther was a vibrant force of optimism. Age brought compromises as her life slowed and she developed an orthostatic tremor. She always remembered her grandchildren's and great grandchildren's birthdays and serving ice cream to every guest.

Gifts in memory of Esther can be sent to the Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington, 25301 Halsted Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48335; the League of Women's Voters, P.O. Box 51502, Livonia, MI 48151; or the Livonia Public Library, 32777 Five Mile Rd, Livonia, MI 48154.

Please share a memory of Esther at www.rgrrharris.com.



Livonia man caught after live streaming police chases

Susan Vela HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Livonia man is heading to court on a slew of misdemeanor and felony charges now that police arrested him after he apparently livestreamed himself leading a police chase.

"That's five police chases in one day," Cody Mahon, 30, boasted in a video posted by police on Facebook. "I'm not worried about the police."

Mahon was arraigned April 29 on felony fleeing and eluding charges. He's to

return to Livonia's 16th District Court on May when he'll have one hearing for a backlog of charges that include the felonies.

Livonia police said in a report they attempted to stop Mahon in his red Pontiac G6 on three occasions April 24, beginning at about 4:30 p.m.

Livonia police were able to identify Mahon that day because of his "multiple Facebook live stream pursuits."

They spotted a red Pontiac G6 with no license plate near Merriman Road and Schoolcraft.



Mahon

They attempted a traffic stop. The vehicle fled onto Interstate 96. Police eventually terminated the chase but then realized Mahon was streaming the encounters on Facebook.

With Mahon as an official suspect, they attempted to stop his vehicle again at 6 p.m. near I-96.

They received several 911 calls at about 11:30 p.m. regarding a reckless driver doing donuts at the Farmington

Road and Schoolcraft intersection, and he fled officers again by getting onto I-96.

Law enforcers saw him on foot near the Pontiac G6 in a Walmart parking lot in Van Buren Township. They arrested him without incident and impounded his vehicle, officials said.

Mahon apparently had also led Redford Township and Farmington Hills officers on police chases.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432. Twitter: @susanvela.

Farmington schools names finalists for superintendent

Shelby Tankersley HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Farmington Public Schools has narrowed its superintendent search to five candidates.

The district's board of education was scheduled to interview the five finalists Wednesday and Thursday.

The board will narrow the group from five after Thursday's interviews and conduct a second round of interviews May 11-13.

The school board has previously indicated it would like to install a new superintendent by summer.

Four of the finalists are outsiders to the district, and one is an internal candidate. Two are already working as superintendents, while the others all serve in assistant or deputy roles.

Community members are welcome to attend the remaining interviews virtually.

Details on how to log on to each interview will be posted on the district's website at farmington.k12.mi.us/Page/2080.

• 6 p.m. May 5: **Lawrence Rudolph**, assistant superintendent of high

schools for Detroit Public Schools Community District.

• 7 p.m. May 5: **Chris Delgado**, deputy superintendent for Walled Lake Schools.

• 8 p.m. May 5: **Kelly Coffin**, assistant superintendent for innovation and strategic initiatives for Farmington Public Schools.

• 6 p.m. May 6: **Stephen Bigelow**, superintendent for Bay City Public Schools.

• 7 p.m. May 6: **Amy Kruppe**, superintendent for Hazel Park School District.

The district has been without a full-time superintendent for months after Bob Herrera resigned the post in November 2020, claiming a school board member had been harassing him in his resignation letter.

Bobbie Goodrum, the district's assistant superintendent of diversity, equity and inclusion, has been serving as interim superintendent since January.

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

Redford Union school board selects new superintendent

Shelby Tankersley HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Redford Union school board wants Jasen Witt to be their new superintendent despite his apparent unpopularity among the teachers' union in the district.

Near 11:30 p.m. April 27, the board voted 4-3 to pursue contract negotiations with Witt.

Witt, who has been serving as superintendent on a temporary basis for about a year, was up against finalist Jeffrey Robinson with Detroit Public Schools for the job.

President Lisa Gubachy, Vice President Jeff Osowski, Treasurer Evelyn Pridmore and Trustee Sherri Caloia cast the four votes in Witt's favor.

Gubachy did not return an email requesting comment.

The decision comes about two weeks after the district teachers' union approved a "no confidence" motion against Witt by 93%.

In late 2020, three teachers also filed Equal Employment Opportunity Commission complaints to the state alleging Witt discriminated against



Witt

them because of their sex or age.

Teachers have argued Witt, a trained lawyer, does not have the background or training needed to run a school district.

Witt has been with Redford Union since October 2019, at which time he was hired as assistant superintendent of human resources.

Witt did not return a call requesting comment.

"It's unfortunate," said Steve Losey, the president of the educators' union. "Elections have consequences and the students, staff and community members will feel those consequences after four elected officials made their choice last night."

According to Losey, attendees wanting to participate in public comment were allowed in the building two at a time but could not watch the meeting live. The board limited capacity because of the pandemic.

"All of us that had concerns were basically told we had to stand outside," he said.

stankersle@hometownlife.com

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SPORTS



Jacob Topp has been on the sidelines as an assistant coach ever since he graduated from Grand Valley State in 2008, spending his last five seasons at Detroit Country Day. COURTESY OF JACOB TOPP

Topp brings 'the process' to South Lyon East football

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Jacob Topp has always been about "the process." It's something, he says, Iowa State head football coach Matt Campbell describes best: "Fall in love with the process (and) the process will love you back."

It was this same process that helped Topp and the rest of his Grand Valley State teammates set an NCAA Division 2 record with a 40-game win streak con-

tinuing 2005-07. It was this same process that helped Detroit Country Day — Topp was on head coach Dan MacLean's staff — win a 2020 Division 4 state title after state runner-up finishes in 2016 and 2019.



Topp

Topp knows his fair share about "the process," something that he plans to bring to South Lyon East as its next head football coach, replacing Joe Pesci, who

resigned from the post in March.

But Topp doesn't view South Lyon East as a project, as a team that needs an overhaul: having been to the play-offs in two of the past three seasons.

Instead, he plans to set the standard that was already there: a team that's smart, tough and physical, one that is engulfed in "the process."

"If you are a process-oriented person, the wins and losses will be what

See TOPP, Page 2B

Northville junior embraces track program

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Ty Schembri is naturally athletic. He found his way onto the Northville football and basketball teams, following in the footsteps of his grandfather who played football at the University of Michigan.

But that was not the sport he gravitated to most. To him, track came most naturally.

"I've always just kind of been a runner," Schembri said. "When I was younger, I was always one of the faster kids at the elementary school, middle school."

In eighth grade, Schembri broke the middle school record in the 400-meter, recording a time of just over 54 seconds. From that point, Schembri started taking running a bit more seriously, realizing he had a chance for more success.

"Coming into high school, I knew nothing about track," Schembri said. "I didn't know how to get faster. I was just naturally fast. The coaches, other guys I looked up to — upperclassmen — it completely changed the way I participate in track and the way I train."

Now as a junior at Northville, his goal is to break the 50-second mark, starting a path to earn a scholarship to a Division 1 college track program.

Early on in 2021, Schembri moved closer to his goal. In his first 400 of his junior career, he ran a personal best 51.58, winning the race at the Belleville Tiger Relays in early April.

Schembri remembers the Northville track team he joined back in 2019, watching runners like Nolan Knight and Brandon Liu in the 4x400-meter relay, seeing what they could do on the states stage.

Schembri knew he was next in line.

"I feel like those guys were pushing me and motivating me to get better," Schembri said. "I didn't really see it as I'm going to this program and I'm not going to get to do anything. I kind of figured I would compete with them for sure, but my time would come for sure. I'm patient. I waited, I sat back, and it (did come)."

Northville head track coach Tim Dalton knew Schembri was talented from the first moment he saw the eighth grader run. He continued to show that promise during his freshman season.

Even through the uncertainty of sitting out a spring season, Dalton

See JUNIOR, Page 2B

Salem ends Livonia Stevenson's win streak

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Coming off a scoreless tie against Canton, Salem girls soccer head coach Kyle Karns wanted to see more shots on target, more good looks at net.

Heading into Friday night's game against Livonia Stevenson, the wind at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's varsity field did not allow that to happen as much as Karns would have liked. But the wind favored the Rocks (7-0-2), keeping their undefeated streak alive

with a 3-1 win against the previously unbeaten Spartans (4-1-2).

Minutes into the first half, Salem senior defender Leah Courtney hit a deep free kick rising above the head of Stevenson goalkeeper Madison Curtis for the first goal of the game.

Courtney's goal was answered 10 minutes later with a bomb by senior mid Kiera Trumbull from the 25-yard line, giving Salem the two-goal lead early.

To Karns, those goals were a benefit

See SALEM, Page 2B



Livonia Stevenson teammates warm up together before a game April 6. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Fresh off quarantine, Brighton senior scores winning goal against Hartland

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

HARTLAND — It's one thing to miss a couple of weeks of soccer season for conventional reasons, such as an injury.

It's harder to swallow for a player who misses time simply for being around the wrong person in the time of COVID.

Despite being perfectly healthy, Brighton senior Elin Thagard was quarantined for two weeks, yet another casualty of contract tracing.

"It is the absolute worst thing to me, especially because this is all I work for," Thagard said. "It was really hard just trying to keep with it, but I got through it."

Thagard missed three games, but returned with three teammates who were also quarantined just in time to play in her favorite matchup of the season Friday against Hartland.

She showed no signs of rustiness, scoring the game's only goal with 2:37 left in the first half to give Brighton a 1-0 victory over Hartland.

"Coming back after not playing, it feels absolutely amazing," Thagard said.

Playing with the wind at its back in the first half, Brighton had several dangerous scoring chances, only to be thwarted by Hartland goalie Leila Al-Qallaf.

The play that produced the winning goal began with a goal kick into the wind by Al-Qallaf. Brighton midfielder Kennedy Cosgrove fielded the short kick and tapped the ball over to freshman midfielder Emily Kramer, who took a shot from the right side of the box. Al-Qallaf dove to her right to make the save, but the rebound came out to Thagard, who made no mistake after getting the ball under control.

"I just kind of touched it with my left foot wide and cut back in with my left foot," Thagard said.

Unsure of what to expect in Thagard's first game back, Brighton coach Ryan Carriere limited her playing time.



Brighton's Caleigh Hurley, left, and Kennedy Cosgrove, right, congratulate Elin Thagard on her first-half goal in a 1-0 victory at Hartland on April 30.

GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

"Not having a lot of time being on the training grounds, she's just playing off of energy," Carriere said. "We got her in and out in the first half, just to get a little rhythm. Her tenacity to follow the ball up there and find that goal, it's a game-

changer in an even match like this."

Hartland won the previous three meetings between the neighboring rivals, beginning with a 2-1 victory in a first-round district game in 2018 and continuing with a two-game sweep in 2019.

Thagard didn't experience those losses two years ago like four of her teammates, but she understands the importance of this rivalry.

"All these (Hartland) girls are on my club team," she said. "I'm really close with all of them. I really wanted to beat up on them. It makes you want to win even more. It pushes you a lot harder. I just have a lot more drive to win against them."

While Brighton (4-1-2) had four players gone for two weeks on quarantine, Hartland's entire team was sidelined for 10 days. The Eagles went 12 days between games, beating Plymouth 3-1 Thursday night before hosting Brighton the next day.

"We're still figuring some things out," Hartland coach Andrew Kartsounes said. "It also feels like we're in the early season, even though we played in the first game of the second round of the league."

"Now we're still three games behind at this point. We're going to have a lot of games and we're going to have to start putting some things together, which I think we can, to get back to where we were before we had the layoffs."

Hartland (6-2) had the wind at its back in the second half, but couldn't get the ball past Brighton goalie Sydney Schnurstein.

"Sydney has grown immensely over the past two years, especially with the aerial balls," Carriere said. "She seems to feel a really good comfort level. She's also judging the ball nicely at the bar. They barely missed over the bar a couple times."

"Sydney definitely knows where the ball is, she knows her angle. Superb job in the net to get the shutout."

Both teams are in the hunt for the KLAA West championship, along with Salem and Novi. Salem (5-0-2) is in first place with 17 points, Brighton (4-1-2) is second with 14, Novi (3-1-3) is third with 12 and Hartland (3-2) is fourth with nine.

Junior

Continued from Page 1B

watched Schembri continue his strength and development into his junior season, putting together good times throughout the spring.

The head coach said the development has to do with Schembri's work on both the football field in the fall and the basketball court in the winter.

"To me in running, half the puzzle is mental toughness," Dalton said. "I think all three sports — football, basketball and track — go hand in hand with that piece. He's got to lock in and he's practicing that mental component of the game with the football program, basketball and also with us."

To Schembri, his approach to track is different than his approach to the team sports of football and basketball. But

Athlete of the Week results

Schembri won Hometown Life's Athlete of the Week award for the week of April 19, earning 24,423 (44.36%) of the 55,054 total votes cast.

Livonia Franklin baseball player Zac Olesuk finished in second place with 20,034 votes (36.39%).

Lakeland baseball player Mason Brown finished in third, Seaholm soccer's Ava David finished in fourth and South Lyon East soccer sophomore Alyssa Melquist finished fifth.

some things stay the same: teammates driving him to be the best he can be, while coaches help him become the best runner he can.

"Not only do you want to be competitive with the people around you, but

you also want to be competitive with yourself," Schembri said.

As Schembri returns to the track as a junior, he said he has already talked to some Division 2 and NAIA schools. His goals now are to get his times down even more to help catch the attention of Division 1 programs.

When he transitions from junior to senior to college freshman, Schembri wants people to see that he gave everything he had; that he tried his best. But he still has goals in mind, a pressure similar to the one he experienced when he first joined Northville as a record-breaker.

Schembri feels that he performs better with that weight on his back.

"When they put the lights on me, it kind of helped me out, getting me to where I am right now," he said.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Twitter: @ColinGay17.



Northville junior sprinter Ty Schembri has aspirations to run at the Division 1 college level. COURTESY OF TY SCHEMBRI

Topp

Continued from Page 1B

they are going to be," Topp said. "Ultimately it's about going to work every day, doing the little things right, paying attention to detail, giving great effort, being a great teammate."

"When you put all those things together, then you are going to have success."

But the process is not all about development on and for the football field. It's about the relationships built off it, the reason why Topp has been around the game as long as he has.

When Topp started to think about getting into coaching, he said he wanted to use it as a vehicle to set an example of what team chemistry is supposed to look like: caring deeply for the players next to you and playing for one another.

"I'm going to care for them, I'm going to love them," Topp said. "I'm going to be a guy that tries to support them in every way and be a guy that builds a relationship with them because that's the foundation."

"Secondly, somebody that's going to bring a lot of energy and enthusiasm to the program. I'm going to work as hard as I can to make them as successful as they can be and hopefully the guys will feel that way from the first time I speak

to them."

Topp sees a lot of continuity between Detroit Country Day and South Lyon East in terms of scheme — highlighting the run game to showcase play-action passes on offense to a three-down quarters defense, blending what he learned from MacLean with the Yellow Jackets to what the Cougars have run recently.

But the process to Topp is not about what you run. It's about incremental progress, about focus through the good times and the bad.

The South Lyon East head coach remembers when Grand Valley State was in the midst of its record-breaking win streak. On the practice field, the streak didn't exist. It was not something the

players talked about. Martin was steadfast on having a group of a players that played to its potential.

This is what Topp plans to bring to the practice field at South Lyon East.

"Ultimately for (Martin), it was all about what we were doing in the moment: were we doing everything to the best of our ability in terms of effort, in terms of execution, attention to detail," Topp said. "He is very much a process-oriented guy and I feel like that trickled down to the rest of us."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Twitter: @ColinGay17. Send game results to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Salem

Continued from Page 1B

of the wind. To Stevenson head coach Ken Shingledecker, he watched his team get into a two-goal deficit with two strikes that he viewed as completely unsavable.

"Nothing you can really do about that," Shingledecker said.

Stevenson settled down in the second half, cutting its deficit in half with a score by Mikayla Waranauckas, while later watching as a strike careened off

the crossbar.

Salem forward Macayla Harris — one of 14 seniors on the roster — took a pass in transition, beating a Spartan defender one-on-one while stepping over the Stevenson goalkeeper, tapping it in for the Rocks' third goal of the day.

"She's got some good pace, good combination soccer," Karns said. "We were able to connect some passes, move the ball up the field and just a good quality finish from her. Very composed with the ability to bury that one."

While Karns viewed this game as one that helps his team prepare for the long run, he views it also as one of many. Sa-

lem's win against Stevenson capped off a stretch of six games in 10 days, while also looking ahead to its third straight week of three games.

"It's a tough stretch," Karns said. "A lot of it is trying to stay healthy and manage minutes. We have a lot of depth with the roster that we have."

For Shingledecker, he's happy all of his players are back in some capacity, losing five players in the first week and another five in the second week of play. Over the course of the past few games, he said his team has started to form, looking to the Spartans' 6-0 win against Dearborn as an example of what this

group can be.

Salem and Stevenson now have a good idea of where each of them stands near the halfway point in the season. With the conference championship game looming, Shingledecker knows this is a matchup that could happen again.

"I'm really hoping we can do this again in a couple of weeks in the championship game," Shingledecker said.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Northville girls win at Ashley/Brennan Relays

The Northville girls track and field team won its third straight invitational meet this season at the Waterford Mott Ashley/Brennan Relays.

The Mustangs topped the eight-team field with 49.5 points. Lake Orion was next with 30, and West Bloomfield finished third with 22.

Northville earned first-place finishes in four relays. The 4x1,600 team of Yasmine Mansi, Ella Christensen, Emily Gordon and Keira Courtney had the four fastest times of any competitor in the race. Christensen also took first place in the 3,200 run in a personal-best time of 11:43.01.

Delaney Hopkins led the Mustangs to first-place finishes in both the discus and shot put. Hopkins had the overall best throw in the discus with her personal-best 106-10 and also the shot put with her toss of 31-7.0. Natalie Kearney and Summer Mansi also threw the discus, and Kearney and Jenna Montemayor teamed up in the shot put.

In the distance medley relay, Yasmine Mansi, Avery Tolstyka, Gordon and Gina Couyoumjian had the best time on the day, finishing in 13:05.26.

Earlier, the Mustangs took down Hartland, 88-49, in a KLAA West division dual meet.

Alia Bournay won the 200-meter dash in 27.62, took second in long jump with a leap of 16-5.75 — her best ever — and was part of the winning 400-meter



The Northville Track and Field team competed at the Ashley-Brennan Relays. COURTESY OF TIM DALTON

relay with Elizabeth Grant, Mela Salah, and Angelique McCray.

Chyna Johnson led a Mustang sweep in the shot put. Johnson threw 37-11.25 which set a new stadium record. Hopkins (32-11.75) and Kearney (32-5.50) also scored.

In the high jump, Kaylee Chirgwin set a new personal-best with her winning jump of 5-4.0.

Gordon (2:27.31), Couyoumjian (2:28.27) and Christensen (2:28.46) swept the 800-meter run. Freshman Lily Connors won the 3,200 in a time of 12:25.57.

Northville boys finish second

Coming off an impressive win over Hartland, the Northville boys track and field team finished second at the Waterford Mott Ashley/Brennan Relays.

Lake Orion took the team title with 27 points, while West Bloomfield (24) was third, followed by Milford (23), and Novi (22.5).

The Mustangs earned two first-place finishes en route to their runner-up finish as a team.

Northville's shuttle hurdle relay ran away from the field with its first-place finish. The team of Ethan Krahe, Julian

Dong, Chris Martin and Steven Santosh crossed the finish line in 1:11.79.

Zach Helner, Matthew Krahe, and Andrew Xiong teamed up to collectively jump higher than the other teams at the meet.

In the 4x1,600 relay, Jacob Meek led the way for Northville's second-place finish in the event. Brady Heron, Krahe and Noah Eckenroth were also on the team.

Junior pole vaulter Jack Gattoni tied his career best vault, clearing the bar at 10 feet, good for second place. With Gavin Kamm and Ben Lane also vaulting, the Mustangs took third place in the vault relay.

Earlier, the Mustangs beat Hartland, 110-27, in a KLAA West dual meet.

Northville swept the 100-meter dash, with Ty Schembri breaking the tape in 11.35. Andrew Xiong (11.40) and Caleb Moore (11.49) also scored.

The Mustangs also earned a sweep in the 800-meter run. Brandon Latta lead the way in 2:00.03, a personal best, followed by Jake Bulat in 2:04.93 and Brock Malaikal in 2:05.30.

Northville also won all four relays.

In the field events, the boys swept both the high jump and discus. Helner and Krahe both jumped 5-8, and Arthur Zhao cleared 5-6 to score.

Andrew Burns (122-8) won the discus, followed by Ryan Reynolds (111-0) and Aidan Marentette (100-1).

Northville wrestling reflects on successful 2021 season

After several statewide delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Northville wrestling team had a successful season under second-year head coach Dylan McLeod, first-year assistant coach Mario Giglio and veteran volunteer coach Todd Gattoni.

The Mustangs recorded 197 match wins and a bonus-point percentage of 78%, finishing tied for third in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association. Northville had 16 returning wrestlers, eight newcomers and three new managers.

Seven of Northville's 14 wrestlers

that attended individual districts qualified for regionals including freshman Zephan Catalina.

Five Northville wrestlers — a program record — were state qualifiers including seniors Alex Laskowski and Sean Fawaz, juniors Jack Gattoni and Jonah Koilpillai and sophomore Joshua Drake, who placed fourth in the state at 103.

"We kept the faith and did whatever it took to be ready with socially distanced outdoor workouts in the fall, virtual workouts during the winter school closure, and safe wrestling practices in

February," McLeod said.

While proud of the many accomplishments on the mats, McLeod states his favorite victory of the season was having a "100% win rate" against COVID-19. Northville wrestlers and coaches maintained negative weekly Covid-19 test results and no lapse in the season due to quarantining.

Haydn Notario, Walker Mueller, Nathan Bumgardner, Josh Fulford, Jakob Shurtleff and Zayd Qazi will graduate from the program as seniors, along with managers Faith Roper, Nehmat Parmar and Abby McDaniel.



Jonah Koilpillai was one of five state qualifiers for Northville this season. COURTESY OF KIM KOILPILLAI



Jack Thallman led Northville to its first tournament win since 2013. COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER CRONIN

Northville golf wins KLAA preseason tournament

Northville used a strong team effort to win the KLAA preseason golf tournament at Kensington Metropark, posting a team score of 293 — one stroke better than baseline rival Novi at 294 — for the team's first tournament victory since 2013.

"It was a big win for the program. We were the No. 4 seed coming into the tournament, but the boys rose to the day's challenge and played their best golf of the season," Northville head coach Christopher Cronin said.

Northville was led by junior Jack Thallman, who was tri-medalist on the day, carding an even par round of 71. Thallman carded three birdies, three bogies and 12 pars on his round.

"Jack has been knocking on this door for a while now. He has looked great all spring, but in each of his previous tournaments, he has run into a rough hole or two, and his scores haven't reflected his play," Cronin said. "Today, he was able to manage the course and show that he's capable of playing with the top players in the state."

Northville's second scorer was sophomore Mason Sokoloski who finished with a 73 (plus-two) on the day, with four birdies: the most of any Mustang.

"Mason is the real deal. He struggled a bit at Oakland Hills on Monday, but today he is back to being the type of player

that people notice," Cronin said.

Northville's third scorer was senior Michael Gallagher, who fired a three over par 74 on the day. Gallagher has been a surprise addition to Cronin's team this season.

"Michael is new to the team, but I feel like we have worked together for four seasons," Cronin said. "I really admire his approach to the game. He is one of the smartest athletes with whom I have ever worked; he learns the course with every shot he takes."

Freshman Nick Tokarz was Northville's fourth scorer, carding a four over par 75. Tokarz posted an 83 on April 15th at a tournament on the Kensington course, but Cronin had a hunch his freshman could help the team in the KLAA preseason tournament.

"Nick's a young player, and as such, he is going to have some bumps in the road," Cronin said. "Water finds its level, and I knew Nick could put up a number at Kensington."

Not contributing to the team score but putting up quality scores were Griffin Blackman (76) and Greg Braun (78).

"Greg and Griffin didn't factor into the team score today, but they are critical pieces if we hope to find success this season," Cronin said.

Athletes earn LVC hockey all-conference honors

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

With the high school hockey season complete, postseason awards are still being announced.

The Lakes Valley Conference hockey season ended in February, with Lakeland — led by head coach Tim Ronayne — winning the conference title with a 9-1 record. South Lyon Unified finished in second at 7-3 and Milford finished in third at 6-2.

Here's a look at the LVC all-conference honorees from Hometown Life's three area hockey teams in the conference.

Lakeland

- Senior forward Cameron Slicker
- Sophomore forward Luke Weinberger
- Senior forward Nick Hrobsky
- Senior defender Matthew Zarembo
- Senior defender Owen Arnold
- Junior defender Kyle Baker (honorable mention)
- Sophomore goalkeeper Jason Slicker (honorable mention)

er (honorable mention)

South Lyon Unified

- Senior forward Brandon Heffernan
- Junior forward Ryan Savanyu
- Senior defender Michael Fossbinder
- Senior forward Mitchell Skamiera
- Senior defender JD Michaels (honorable mention)
- Senior defender Andrew Ineish (honorable mention)

Milford

- Junior forward Pierce Ashcroft
 - Sophomore forward Mack Musialowski
 - Senior defender Kazuma Bowring
 - Senior forward Austin Combs
 - Sophomore forward Jack Clickett (honorable mention)
 - Junior defender Adam Moule (honorable mention)
- Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



Lakeland's Luke Weinberger skates against Notre Dame prep March 1. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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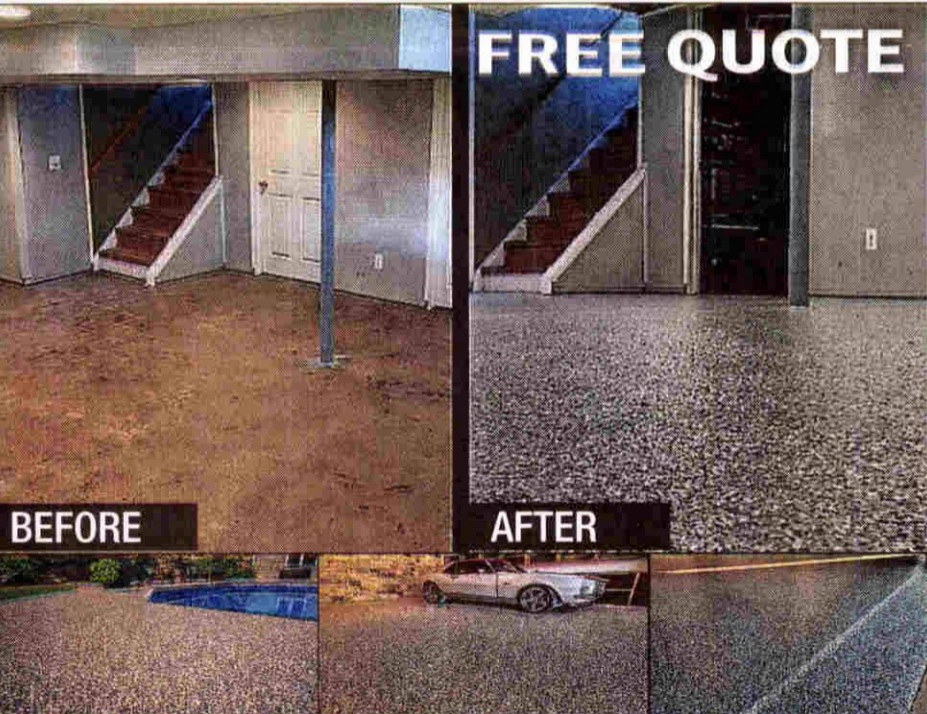


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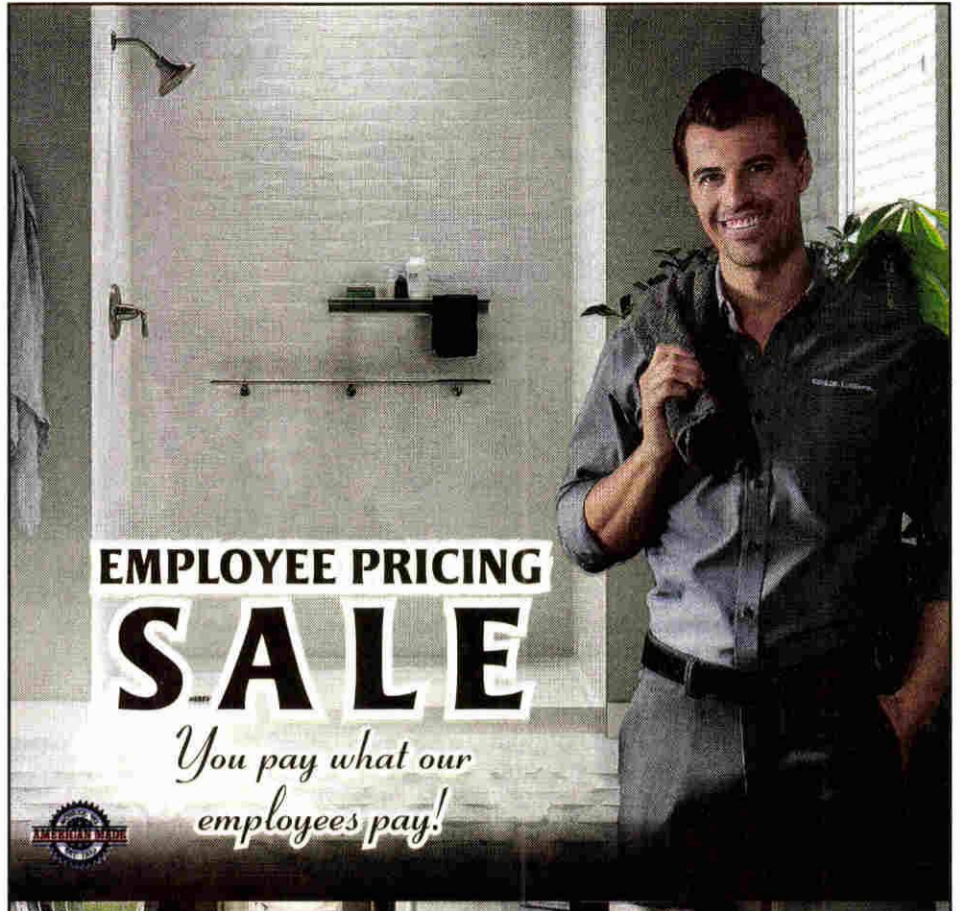
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LO-GC0614781-04

**CITY OF LIVONIA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 4 of Act 207 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1921, as amended, the City Zoning Act (MSA 5.2934; MCLA 125.584) as well as Article XXIII of Ordinance No. 543, as amended, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Livonia, the Council has determined that a Public Hearing will take place before the Council of the City of Livonia on **Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.**, via Zoom, with respect to the following item:

Petition 2021-03-01-01 submitted by Fadie Kadaf, pursuant to Section 23.01 of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance #543, as amended, requesting to rezone the property at 28200 Seven Mile Road, located on the north side of Seven Mile Road between Inkster Road and Brentwood Avenue in the Southeast ¼ of Section 1, from OS (Office Services) to R-7 (Multiple Family Residential).

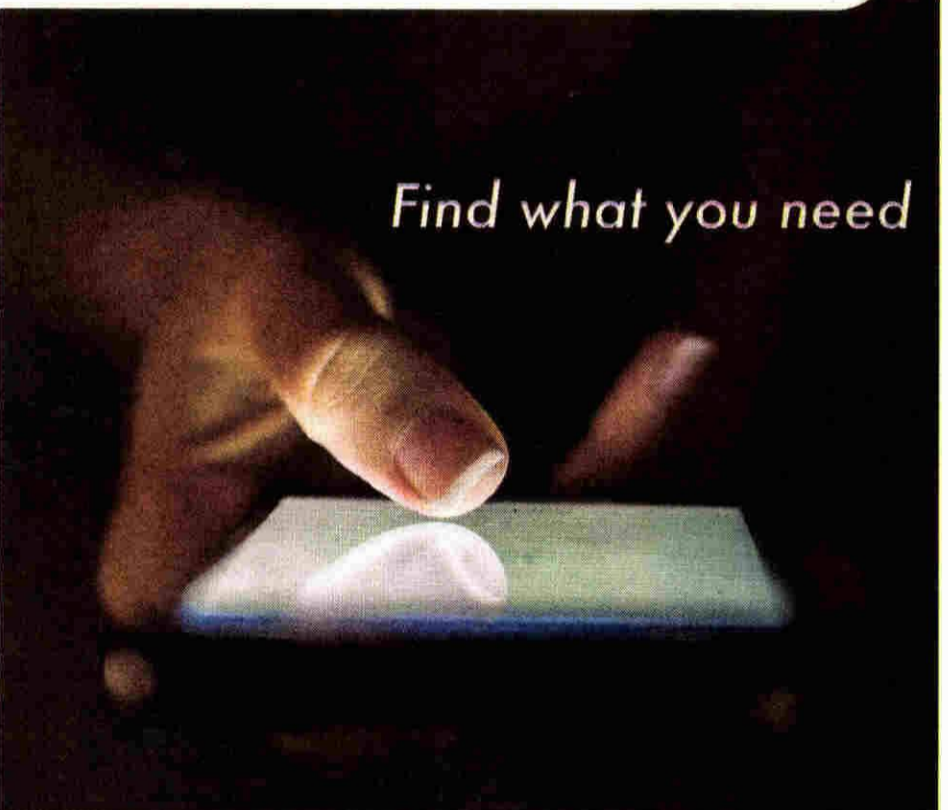
Due to COVID-19, Public Hearings will not be held in the City Hall Auditorium. Connect on Zoom: You may connect on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83699995434> or by phone at (312) 626-6799, ID: 836 9999 5434. To participate, use the 'Raise Hand' button on Zoom or press *9 on your phone to be called on

Publish: May 6, 2021

SUSAN M. NASH, CITY CLERK

LO-000158221 3/3

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I love working on new goals with my team and leading them toward achieving those goals.

Desmond is one of Gannett's emerging leaders and we invite you to become another! Gannett has over 250 locations nationwide with a variety of production and distribution roles that accommodate many of the transferable skill sets that you may already have.

Our most precious resource is our diverse workforce – people of all backgrounds, cultures and skills. That's why we've partnered with the Urban League and NAACP to help us identify strong candidates who are looking to grow into a leadership role within Gannett.

“I was extremely excited when I was promoted, but the promotion involved me having to transition from manufacturing to distribution. But good leaders know how to rise to a challenge! That's why I make it a point to continually learn, be open to new ideas, and help others succeed.”

Full-time and part-time positions are available.
Contact Sydney Vernon, Sr. Manager/Talent Acquisition @ 914-694-5335 or e-mail: svernon@gannett.com

For more, visit [Gannett.com](https://www.gannett.com)
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