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BATTLE CREEK

# ENQUIRER

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

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The Battle Creek VA Medical Center is receiving nearly \$14.5 million in federal funding. BECCA MAHON/BATTLE CREEK ENQUIRER

## Battle Creek VA gets \$14.5M for upgrades

**M. Alan Scott**

Special to Battle Creek Enquirer  
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Battle Creek VA Medical Center will soon receive nearly \$14.5 million in federal funding for a series of long-needed infrastructure upgrades.

The allocation is part of a broader effort by the Veterans Health Administration to modernize facilities nationwide.

The money is available through the agency's Non-Recurring Maintenance program, which supports large-scale, one-time improvement projects aimed at maintaining operations and enhancing patient care.

A representative from the VA said the funding will be used to upgrade HVAC systems, improve building safety, replace elevators across multiple buildings and install additional sump pumps

on the Battle Creek campus. The campus is managed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Battle Creek VA services more than 46,000 veterans annually, said Battle Creek VA Medical Center Chief, Communication & Community Engagement Coordinator Brian Pegouske. The Battle Creek Center also

See VA, Page 7A

## MI native makes 'Jeopardy!' top 10

**JC Reindl**

Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Metro Detroit native Jamie Ding has notched his 16th straight "Jeopardy!" win and reached the gameshow's top 10 list of contestants with the most wins.

A 2009 graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School who now lives in New Jersey, Ding earned \$34,401 on the show's Friday, April 3, episode, which brought his total earnings to \$462,401.

The win also placed him in a three-way tie for ninth place in Jeopardy! history for players with the most consecutive wins, according to The Jeopardy Fan database.

No. 1 on that list is Ken Jennings – now the host of the gameshow – who had 74 consecutive wins in 2004.

See 'JEOPARDY!', Page 3A

## Dozens gather in Detroit to protest war

**JC Reindl**

Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Dozens of people gathered in downtown Detroit on Easter Sunday to protest U.S. and Israeli attacks on Iran and Israeli's recent invasion into Lebanon.

More than 65 protesters stood outside Detroit's city hall on Sunday afternoon, April 5, hoisting anti-war banners

and signs to passing vehicles on Jefferson Avenue and chanting slogans critical of President Donald Trump and the Israeli government. Several also carried the flags of Palestine, Iran and Lebanon.

"No troops on the ground, no bombs in the area, U.S. out of everywhere," was one chant.

"Trump wants war, Trump wants oil, hands off Iranian soil," was another.

The protest was said to be organized

by the Detroit Anti-War Committee, with support from groups including Engineers Against Apartheid and the Freedom Road Socialist organization. There were no counter-protesters, and passing motorists occasionally honked their horns in apparent support.

One of the organizers, Jackson Robak, 26, of Detroit, said they had two

See PROTEST, Page 3A



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