



NBA power rankings: Free agency and draft alter league hierarchy

SPORTS, 1B

The Holland Sentinel

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Inside the new Holland Charter Township Community Center is a full-size basketball court that easily converts into a volleyball court. PHOTOS BY ADAM VANDER KOOF/HOLLAND SENTINEL

WORTH THE WAIT

Holland Township Community Center set to open July 21

Austin Metz
Holland Sentinel | USA TODAY NETWORK

After 20 years of dreaming and a construction project that saw contractors literally raise the roof, the Holland Charter Township Community Center is complete. The building will open to the public July 21. Communities say the center, located on the back side of The Shops at Westshore in the former Younkers, will serve as a much needed hub for residents, with athletic and non-athletic uses. The \$15 million, nearly 75,000-square-foot space has a regulation-size court for basketball and volleyball, six indoor pickleball courts, a weightlifting and cardio area, multipurpose spaces, and an

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The new Holland Charter Township Community Center includes a track that wraps around basketball and pickleball courts.

\$836M Mead Johnson project will head to Zeeland City Council

Cassidey Kavathas
Holland Sentinel | USA TODAY NETWORK

ZEELAND — A modernization and expansion project totaling \$836 million from Mead Johnson has taken another step forward, after the Zeeland Planning Commission officially recommended approval for the rezoning of 633 and 605 E. Main Ave. on July 10. The successful vote forwards the request to Zeeland City Council. Mead Johnson seeks to rezone the properties from Residential R-2 and R-3 to Industrial I-2, the first of various properties required to execute

the plan. The vote by commissioners for 633 E. Main Ave. was unanimous July 10, matching a preliminary vote June 25. The vote for 605 E. Main Ave. — however — faced one opposing vote from Commissioner Glenn Kass, who also dissented during the preliminary vote. The plot at 605 contains eight townhomes and has been marked for future use as residential, while 633 contains one single-family home and has been marked for future use as industrial. Kass cited these

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CMH sounds alarm about impending privatization

Ottawa County official says mental health care in jeopardy

Cassidey Kavathas
Holland Sentinel | USA TODAY NETWORK

As the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services considers changes to how Pre-Paid Inpatient Health Plan contracts are awarded, local Community Mental Health organizations — including in Ottawa County — have grave concerns. MDHHS plans to issue a request for proposals for PIHP Plans this summer, with a service start state of October 2026. The department says the bidding process will bolster consumer choice and access to services while preserving the Community Mental Health providers many Medicaid beneficiaries use for behavioral health care. “The biggest thing (MDHHS) wants to do is change who manages the Medicaid benefit for behavioral health,” said Ottawa County CMH Executive Director Michael Brashears. “Right now, we (CMH) do that in partnership with these things called regional entities.” Brashears is staunchly advocating against the change. “Community Mental Health, as you know it, will cease to exist,” he told The Sentinel. “The whole tradition of care that’s been established since 1959 would come to an end.” According to the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan, the new procurement plan will privatize not only the state’s behavioral health care organizations, but the roles currently played by CMH groups. “The state wants to (switch to) like, Blue Cross Blue Shield or Priority Health, and the problem with that is CMH would cease to exist in terms of managing anything with the Medicaid population,” Brashears said. “Everything we do to ensure our folks get a full array of services would be somebody else’s job in the middle of the state, with 44 CMHs reporting to it.”

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The Ottawa County Community Mental Health building in Holland. SENTINEL FILE

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