



COOKING WITH SOY FOOD, B12

Budget proposes closing Wayne Community Center

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A balanced budget for the 2015-16 fiscal year that includes closing the Wayne Community Center has been submitted to the city council.

Council members accepted budget but requested alternate proposals, including one keeping the community center open. The proposed budget, with \$14.7 million in revenues, will be discussed at two study sessions at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 7, and Tuesday, May 12.

The city went into the budget process with a projected \$2-3 million deficit for the upcoming fiscal year which begins July 1. The largest im-

pact on city revenues has been a more than 40 percent drop in property values since 2009. Property taxes are the city's main revenue source.

With the community center's ice arena and aquatic center already closed, shutting the building would reduce the parks and recreation budget by \$300,000 in operational costs. The budget includes minimum utilities for maintaining parks and ball fields and the closed community center.

'Biggest thing in budget'

Opened in 1974, the community center was built at a cost of \$1.9 million. The aquatic center was built in 1996 at a

cost of \$2.6 million. The annual bond debt service is nearly \$644,000.

"The biggest thing in the budget is closing the community center and with that the budget is \$1.6 million short," said City Manager David Murphy.

The city has been financially surviving using various reserve funds but only the Other Postemployment Employee Benefit Trust remains. Those funds can only be used to cover retiree health care and would be used to pay the expected \$1.9 million tab in 2015-16. That would nearly exhaust the fund but relieve



SUBMITTED

The ice rink and aquatic center are already closed, and the proposed 2015-16 budget is recommending the Wayne Community Center be shut down completely.

See BUDGET, Page A2



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The 2015 Life in Go! spring expo was held inside Schoolcraft's VisTaTech Center.

HUNDREDS STOP BY O&E'S SPRING EXPO

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Spotting new ideas at Monday's Spring Expo is just what Plymouth Township resident Kathie Gornick was looking to do.

Gornick was especially interested in one company's bathtub designed to

allow someone in a wheelchair to access the tub. A ballroom dancing instructor, Gornick said there are several people she knows who might be interested in an idea like that.

"I come every year," Gornick said. "I want to see anything that's new."

Gornick was one of hundreds of people who attended the 12th annual

Observer & Eccentric Spring Expo Monday at Schoolcraft College's VisTaTech Center in Livonia. Dozens of booths and several speakers offered advice in many areas, including new technology in pain relief, financial advice for retirement planning, Alzheimers and

See EXPO, Page A2

Sawed-off shotgun results in charges

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A Wayne man is facing weapons charges after police, checking on his welfare, found he had a sawed-off shotgun and ammunition.

An employee at Transitional Health Services, 34330 Van Born, called police about 7:45 p.m. April 18 after becoming concerned about a man in a field north of the business. The man had been last seen walking east on Glover.

The employee said after calling police that she had walked over to the field and found a gun. Once officers arrived, she took them to a sawed-off shotgun that was unloaded in the field.

An officer walked on Glover and reported seeing a man matching the description provided by the caller walking towards him.

The man told the officer the sawed-off shotgun belonged to him. He said the gun, given to him by his brother, had a damaged barrel and he sawed it off to make it functional.

Feeling unwell, the man said he had set the shotgun down in the field, walked to a nearby home and sat on the porch. Now that he was feeling better, the man said he was returning to the retrieve the gun. Officers reported confiscating the gun and four 12-gauge shotgun shells.

See SHOTGUN, Page A2

Westland City Council approves new businesses, expansions

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A site plan allowing construction of additional seating at a Westland restaurant were among expanding or new business plans receiving approval by the Westland City Council.

Texas Roadhouse, located on Ford west of Central City Parkway, received approval to construct a 840-square foot

addition on the southwest corner of the building. The addition will be built into an existing landscaped area.

Located in the city's Downtown Development Authority District, the restaurant is zoned as a Planned Unit Development.



Thompson

opment. "I'm glad to bring this forward. It will provide more revenue in the DDA District," said Westland Planning/Building Director Bruce Thompson. "The additional space will fit seamlessly on the building."

Council approved a special land use for Mad Professor Customs and Hot Rods, to be located at 5747 Executive Dr. The business will be located in

a 5,000-square foot unit that is part of a 20,000-square foot multi-tenant industrial building.

The business does work including hot rod restoration, parts fabrication and sheet metal fabrication. Asked about possible outside storage, business owner Christopher Chytry said his work wasn't the type that would be left outside.

A special land use was

also approved for a proposed body art studio to be located at 1939 N. Wayne Road, south of Ford.

"This is another new business. It will fill the last vacant spot in the Westland Town Center," said Thompson. "It's a compatible use (with nearby businesses). It is also located in the DDA."

See NEW, Page A2



PRICE: \$1

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
hometownlife.com MEDIA
A GANNETT COMPANY

© The Observer & Eccentric
Volume 50 • Number 99

INDEX

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|---------------|----|
| Business..... | A11 | Homes..... | B7 | Services..... | B7 |
| Crossword Puzzle..... | B8 | Jobs..... | B7 | Sports..... | B1 |
| Entertainment..... | B11 | Obituaries..... | B10 | Wheels..... | B9 |
| Food..... | B12 | Opinion..... | A12 | | |

Home Delivery: (866) 887-2737 | Return Address: 29725 Hudson Dr., Novi MI 48377

Now Open in Livonia!

Anniversary Celebration
Win an iPad mini!

Visit our Livonia office at **34000 W. 7 Mile Road** now through April 30 to enter.

No purchase necessary, so stop in today!

COMMUNITY FINANCIAL
right here right for you
www.cfu.org
(877) 937-2328

Must be 18 years of age to qualify. One entry per person. One winner will be chosen from entries received. Winner will be notified via phone. Odds of winning depend upon number of entries received. Community Financial board members, team members and immediate family are not eligible. No cash value. iPad mini™ is a registered trademark of Apple. Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Lender. ©2015 Community Financial

NEW

Continued from Page A1

Owner Scott Kneeshaw had operated his business for five years at Northland Center and was forced to relocate when the mall in Southfield closed recently.

» Council approved a land division to split a 2.27-acre parcel adding land to Foundry Products Inc., 6000 N. Hix. The parcel being divided is to the west or rear of the business.

Owner William Brown said that the vacant land wasn't being utilized. The foundry business has a lot of trucks coming in on a daily basis, he said, so

acquiring the land enables him to acquire needed room.

"With Texas Roadhouse and the other businesses approved, we are seeing growth and more of it," said Council President James Godbout. "We are very fortunate. Other cities are not seeing the redevelopment and new businesses that we are seeing."

Godbout noted the hard work by Thompson and Economic Development Director Lori Fodale on retaining and attracting businesses.

irogers@hometownlife.com
734-883-9039
Twitter: @LRogersObserver

EXPO

Continued from Page A1

dementia caring, as well as many other topics.

One of those booths was for the Visual Arts Association of Livonia. Monday was the group's first Spring Expo, said Livonia resident Dorothy Amberger. She said several people showed interest in possibly starting a hobby like painting.

Given that many people at the expo were retired, Amberger said there was no better audience to attract to a class at their facility at Five Mile and Newburgh.

"These are people who have time who might want to start ... an art hobby," she said. "We're happy if we get one or two students."

In addition to newcomers to the event, several people, including members of the Farmington Hills chapter of the



Erin Hill-Brody (right) of Managed Rehabilitation Consultants hands out literature for her business at the spring expo.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Red Hat Society, are a common appearance each year.

Shirley Ziemba of Farmington Hills said many of the members do lunch and head over to the Spring Expo. While

an annual attendee, she said she planned on heading to booths and lectures to learn more about a popular topic — food.

"I like the stuff that explains about food. Healthy eating, that sort

of thing," she said. "The ladies love it."

First-time attendees Phyllis Clancy of Commerce Township and Livonia resident Mary Wiebe came and walked out with a bag full of goodies collected from the vendors.

"It's basically what I thought it would be," Wiebe said.

She said while some of the information available was not as relevant to her, she said she could see how many of the topics, including the pain management information, could be helpful.

The event attracted attendees from more than a half-hour away. One of those people was Tom Mazur, who drove from Warren to attend.

He said there was nothing specific that caught his eye, but he was happy to walk out with more information on a variety of subjects.

"There's a lot of things going on here," he said.

CORRECTION

A headline in Sunday's *Observer* should have read the Livonia Symphony Orchestra will present its final concert of the season at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 2, at Clarenceville High School, Livonia.

SHOTGUN

Continued from Page A1

The employee told police that she was outside smoking when she saw the man sitting next to a large tree in the field. She said he ap-

peared to be intoxicated. When she checked on him a second time, she said he was crawling around the field on his hands and knees apparently looking for something.

Concerned for his well-being, the employee said she called police.

When the man left the field, she said she walked over to see if she could find what he had been looking for and saw the shotgun.

Matthew Gunnarsson, whose age wasn't released, was arraigned April 20 in Wayne 29th District Court on weap-

ons charges — having a short-barreled shotgun and felony firearm. A not guilty plea was entered. Bond was set at \$1,000.

irogers@hometownlife.com
734-883-9039
Twitter: @LRogersObserver

BUDGET

Continued from Page A1

the city's \$1.6 million general fund shortfall.

"We're balancing the budget with OPEB money, it's really running out. This is the last year we can do this," said Murphy. "I don't consider it a balanced budget."

The problem is the city's structural deficit. The financial shortfall is projected to continue moving forward as revenues fail to meet expenditures.

Part of cost-cutting in

the budget includes eliminating currently vacant positions, including two police officers.

"There is no 'fat' left in the budget to be trimmed away," said Murphy.

Alternate budget

Councilman Albert Damitio proposed closing city hall and the engineering services building, which houses the Department of Public Works, and relocating those operations into the community center.

"We need to develop an alternate budget for options so we don't have to close the community center," said Damitio, adding there would be

cost-savings by consolidating services into the community center.

"I don't throw out the idea lightly. I think we can balance the budget and not close the community center," he said.

For the three municipal budgets, Councilman John Rhaesa said he had been looking for a budget with expenditures below revenues. Mayor James Hawley agreed.

"I would love to keep the community center open but do you keep the community center open and lay off cops?" said Hawley. "The community center is very expensive to operate, more than city hall. There is a cost to relocate to the commu-

nity center."

The council needs to start looking at balanced budget that doesn't count on voters approving new funding or using reserve funds, Hawley said.

The proposed budget does not include any revenue from a proposal before voters on May 5 — a 3-mill proposal to create a 345 police and fire retirement fund which would generate over \$1 million or state Proposal 1, the roads proposal which is expected to provide an additional \$160,000 in state shared revenue.

irogers@hometownlife.com
734-883-9039
Twitter: @LRogersObserver

WESTLAND OBSERVER
A GANNETT COMPANY
Published Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Media

Community Office:
29725 Hudson Drive • Novi, MI 48377 • 866-887-2737
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
hometownlife.com

Editor: Sue Mason
734-674-2332
Email: smmason@hometownlife.com

Sports: Ed Wright
Email: ewright@hometownlife.com

Subscription Rates:
Newsstand price: \$1.00 (Sun. & Thurs.)
\$8.00 EZ pay per month
\$49.00 six months
\$98.00 per year
\$77.00 six months mail delivery
\$154.00 per year mail delivery

Home Delivery:
Customer Service: 866-887-2737
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
After hours, leave voicemail
Email: custserv@hometownlife.com

To Advertise:
Classified Advertising & Obituaries: 800-579-7355
Legal Notice Advertising: 586-826-7082
Fax: 313-496-4968 Email: oads@hometownlife.com
Print and Digital Advertising:
Devin O'Brien, 313-378-6273
Email: deobrien@hometownlife.com

Advertising Policy:
All advertising published in this newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department. We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our ad-takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an ad constitutes acceptance of the advertiser's order.

HANDCRAFTED SAS COMFORT SHOES
Made in the USA!

TRUNK SHOW SALE
1 Day Only At Each Location!

Our entire line of SAS shoes & sandals will be presented by our factory representative Michael Hennessy, from 10 am to 4 pm.

- Wed. May 6th in Sterling Heights
- Thurs. May 7th in Garden City
- Fri. May 8th in Novi

\$10 OFF
Buy 1 Pair, Get \$10 Off

\$15 OFF
Buy 2 Pair, Get \$15 OFF Each Pair of Shoes

Before you set foot in a pair of SAS comfort shoes, let our sales representative show you the kind of old-fashioned craftsmanship that goes into our shoes. Then see the complete line of shoes for men and women in sizes narrow-X wide widths.

HERSHEY'S SHOES
29522 Ford Road • Garden City
Just West of Middlebelt
734.422.1771

HERSHEY'S TOO
47750 Grand River • Novi
At Beck Road
West Market Square
248.347.7838

HERSHEY'S FEET FIRST
2003 14 Mile Road • Sterling Heights
East of Dequindre
586.977.7460

ELDER LAW
serving the area for over 30 years

Accettura & Hurwitz

Canton Office: 44245 Ford Road Suite 101 Canton, MI 48187
Farmington Hills Office: 34705 W. 12 Mile Road Suite 103 Farmington Hills, MI 48331
Royal Oak Office: 306 S. Washington Ave. Suite 215 Royal Oak, MI 48067

248.848.9409 | www.elderlawmi.com

P. Mark Accettura, Esq.

- Estate Planning
- Medicaid
- VA Benefits
- Probate
- Family Conflict

You're invited ...

2015 "Senior" PROM

MAY 8, 2015 FROM 6-8 P.M.
SANCTUARY AT VILLA MARIE
15131 Newburgh (Located behind St. Edith Church)
Livonia, MI 48154

Dress to impress at our "Senior" Prom. Like the dance halls of the past, bring a date or fly solo and meet new friends. Dance to the DJ's music and make memories in our photo booth.

Sanctuary at Villa Marie
A Trinity Senior Living Community
Every Life is Sacred

To RSVP for this free event, please call (734) 464-9494 ext. 2 by May 6.
www.SanctuaryatVillaMarie.org

Thousands attend service remembering victims of Armenian genocide

More than 2,000 people remembered the 1.5 million Armenians killed by the Ottoman government 100 years ago during a worship service Friday in Livonia.

Leaders of Metro Detroit's four Armenian churches and those from other faiths united for a special ecumenical service at the Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of St. Mary on Martyrs Day, the day that annually honors the victims of the first mass ethnic cleansing of the 20th Century.

The principal homilist was Allen Vigneron, Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit.

An outdoor digital art display on the church's buildings and bell tower projected images of iconic Armenian churches and religious symbols telling the story of the genocide and the Armenian nation's rich religious influence.

The four Armenian churches involved were



TOM BEAUDOIN
Allen Vigneron, Archbishop of Detroit, delivers a homily during the Mass held at the St. Basilica of St. Mary in Livonia.

MORE ONLINE
View a gallery of the service at www.hometownlife.com

St. John Armenian Apostolic Church in Southfield, St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church in Dearborn, St. Vartan Armenian Catholic Church in Detroit and Armenian Congregational Church in Southfield.



TOM BEAUDOIN
Members of the four area Armenian churches hold candles that represent the 12 major provinces in Turkish-occupied Armenia where the genocide took place in 1915.



TOM BEAUDOIN
Clergy from different faiths from around metro Detroit attend the service commemorating the Armenian genocide that took place in 1915.




TOM BEAUDOIN
The Basilica of St. Mary in Livonia had 2,000-plus people in attendance this past Friday for the commemoration of the Armenian genocide.



TOM BEAUDOIN
"Illuminated Images" of Armenian churches lit the front of the Basilica of St. Mary Friday evening in Livonia.



ST. MARY MERCY LIVONIA
SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM



Age Gracefully: It's Time to Prepare
Saturday, June 6
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
St. Mary Mercy Hospital
South Entrance

Healthy Aging Conference

Seniors, families and caregivers are invited to join us for a day of seminars, health screenings and exhibitors. Lunch is included.

All activities are free of charge.

8 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Health Screenings

- "Ask the Doctor"
- "Ask the Nurse Practitioner"
- Balance Screening

- Skin cancer screening
- Memory screening
- Nutrition screening
- Wellness Center tour

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Speakers

10 - 10:45 a.m.
Preparing Now, Preventing Injury
Learn to prepare your home to prevent injury
Speakers: **Maurice Cox, RN, CCE-MT-P/IC, Injury Prevention Specialist**; and **Michelle Moccia, DNP, ANP-BC, CCRN, Program Director, Senior ER**

11 - 11:45 a.m.
Being Legally and Financially Prepared
Learn to prepare your legal and financial affairs
Speaker: **Alisa Kwang, Attorney, Law Offices of Alisa Kwang, PLLC**

12 - 12:30 p.m.
Eating for a Healthy Colon
Food demonstration. Box lunch provided.
Speaker: **Allison Spitzley, CDM**

12:45 - 1:30 p.m.
Preparing a Healthy Mind
Learn to prepare your mind for aging
Speaker: **Mary Jane Favot, MSN, GNP-BC, Gerontology Nurse Practitioner**

8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Health Exhibitors

- Joint health
- Stroke education
- Heart health
- Colon health

- Exercise programs for seniors
- Physical rehabilitation
- Home health care
- Estate planning

St. Mary Mercy Hospital
36475 Five Mile Road
Livonia, MI 48154
Please use the South Entrance

[stmarymercy.org](http://www.stmarymercy.org)

SHOP THE SALE!

APRIL 26 - MAY 3, 2015 • LAUREL PARK PLACE, LIVONIA

Bookstock.

USED BOOK AND MEDIA SALE

SUPPORTING THE NEED TO READ

ADMISSION FREE

Hours: Sundays: 11am - 6pm, Monday-Saturday: 10am - 9pm

SPECIAL EVENTS

BOOKBUSTER SALE
AND SPORTS DRAWING

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

3 - 9pm

BUY 3, GET 4th FREE*


(*least expensive item)

Spend \$25.00 or more and receive a free gift,
AND be entered in a special drawing.


BOOKS AND
MEDIA

1/2 PRICE

SUNDAY, MAY 3



HONORARY CHAIRPERSON
Rochelle Riley
Detroit Free Press Columnist












HONORARY CHAIRPERSON
Neal Rubin
Detroit News Columnist




BOOKSTOCK 2015 PRESENTING SPONSOR:

GARDNER-WHITE

ADDITIONAL 2015 SPONSORS

A community service project. Proceeds benefit education and literacy programs.

www.bookstock.info • 248-645-7840 ext. 365

facebook.com/BookstockMI

@BookstockMI

Tweet with us using #BookstockMI

WESTLAND COP CALLS

Fraud

» A Westland woman told police April 26 that she had been contacted by her bank about six unusual transactions using her debit card. The transactions, totaling nearly \$450, were made at a gas station in Canada during the early morning hours. She said she had the card in her possession and hadn't given the number to anyone.

» Another Westland woman

told police April 23 that she had been contacted by her credit union that she owed \$368 for an AT&T account. She said she had never opened an AT&T account.

Larceny from a vehicle

A resident in the 6600 block of Caribou told police April 26 that someone had stolen a digital camera and an Apple digital storage/playback device from her vehicle while it was parked on the street overnight. The

vehicle was undamaged and it was unclear if it had been left locked.

Vandalism

On April 26, a resident in the 32000 block of Harvard told police that someone had smashed the rear driver's side window of his vehicle while it was parked on the street. He said the vehicle had been parked overnight and a friend had noticed the smashed window.

Larceny from a vehicle

» A resident of the Skygate Apartments, 6501 Yale, told police April 22 that overnight someone had broken the rear window of her vehicle and stolen the factory navigation radio.

» On April 26, a resident of the Riverbend Apartments, 30947 Warren Road, told police that overnight someone had sawed the exhaust pipe on his 2002 Pontiac Grand Am to steal

the catalytic converter.

Hit and run

A Trenton woman told police that she was attending a function at Beaver Creek, 1609 N. Wayne Road, April 19. When she left, she said she noticed a vehicle had struck the left front end of her 2014 Ford Focus, damaging it.

By LeAnne Rogers

Officers arrest man trying to enter cars

A Detroit man was arrested on larceny charges early April 27 after two Westland Police officers spotted him trying to get inside locked vehicles.

The officers reported being on patrol about 2:20 a.m. in the 31000 block of Co-wan when they observed a suspicious person in a parking lot. The man went up to a parked vehicle and attempted to open the door, but the officers noted, but it appeared he was unable to open the door because it was locked.

Officers reported watching as the man began walking toward a second vehicle in the parking lot. The officers then approached the man, eventually identified as Christopher Phillips, 21, of Detroit.

Phillips was arraigned at the Westland 18th District Court on larceny charges and a not guilty plea was entered. Bond was set at \$5,000/10 percent. A pretrial hearing was set for Tuesday, May 7, also in 18th District Court.

—By LeAnne Rogers



Phillips

Larceny

» A catalytic converter was reported stolen from a car in the 31000 block of Rush Avenue April 28.

The owner called police after a neighbor told him that someone had just stolen something from the bottom of his car which was parked in the driveway of his fiancée's home.

The neighbor told police he heard his dog barking and went outside to check. He said he heard a sawing noise and went in front of his home and saw a newer silver car, possibly an Audi fleeing north on Moeller to Warren Road. The neighbor was unable to get a license plate number.

Police checked the car and found a smeared hand and palm print on the driver's window and driver's side front fender. They were dusted for prints with negative results.

Police also reported that 2007 silver Audi had been re-

ported stolen earlier in the day from the 30000 block of Birchwood in Westland might be the vehicle involved in the theft.

» A resident in the 6500 block of Gilman reported the catalytic converter stolen from his car while it was parked in the street between 1 p.m. April 25 and 11 a.m. April 26. The man said he had not heard anything unusual during the night.

Suspended License

A 40-year-old Westland man was cited for driving with a suspended license after he was stopped on Middlebelt south of Warren Road April 27.

Police had observed the man cross the center line dividing through lanes on Warren Road and the yellow line on Middlebelt. The man initially told police it had happened because he was nervous. He later told police it had happened because he was answering his phone.

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

He also told police he was on his way to Garden City Hospital because he was experiencing complications from sickle cell anemia. However, he refused to have a Garden City fire rescue take him there.

Shoplifting

A man made off with an unknown amount of merchandise from the Dollar General store, 5736 Middlebelt, April 26.

A clerk told police the man had been in the store for about five minutes and when he was leaving she saw that his pants were full of merchandise. The clerk yelled at man, but he ran out of the store and jumped into the front seat of a Ford Crown Victoria.

A surveillance video showed the man leaving the store with merchandise stuffed in his pants and down his left leg.

Stolen license plate

A resident reported that the license plate had been stolen from a car parked in the 30000 block of Dawson between noon April 24 and 3 p.m. April 25. The man told police the plate had been on the car when he washed it while parked in the driveway on April 24.

Attempted theft

The owner of Down Home Construction reported damaged to a Ford stake truck between 6 p.m. April 23 and 8 a.m. April 24 while parked on the 32000 block of Manor.

The owner told police that he found the ignition damaged and removed from the steering column when he got into the vehicle, which had been locked. He also told police that four vehicles have been stolen in the area within the last six months.

By Sue Mason

WAYNE COP CALLS

Stolen vehicle

A Farmington Hills woman told police April 24 that she stopped at the Village Bar, 35234 W. Michigan Ave., about 8:30 p.m. to have dinner. About two hours later, she said she went to leave and found that someone had stolen her 2012

Chevrolet Equinox.

She said she was current with the payments and had the only set of keys. The vehicle was valued at \$15,000.

Larceny from a vehicle

On April 21, a Wayne man told police he spent the night at his girlfriend's home in the

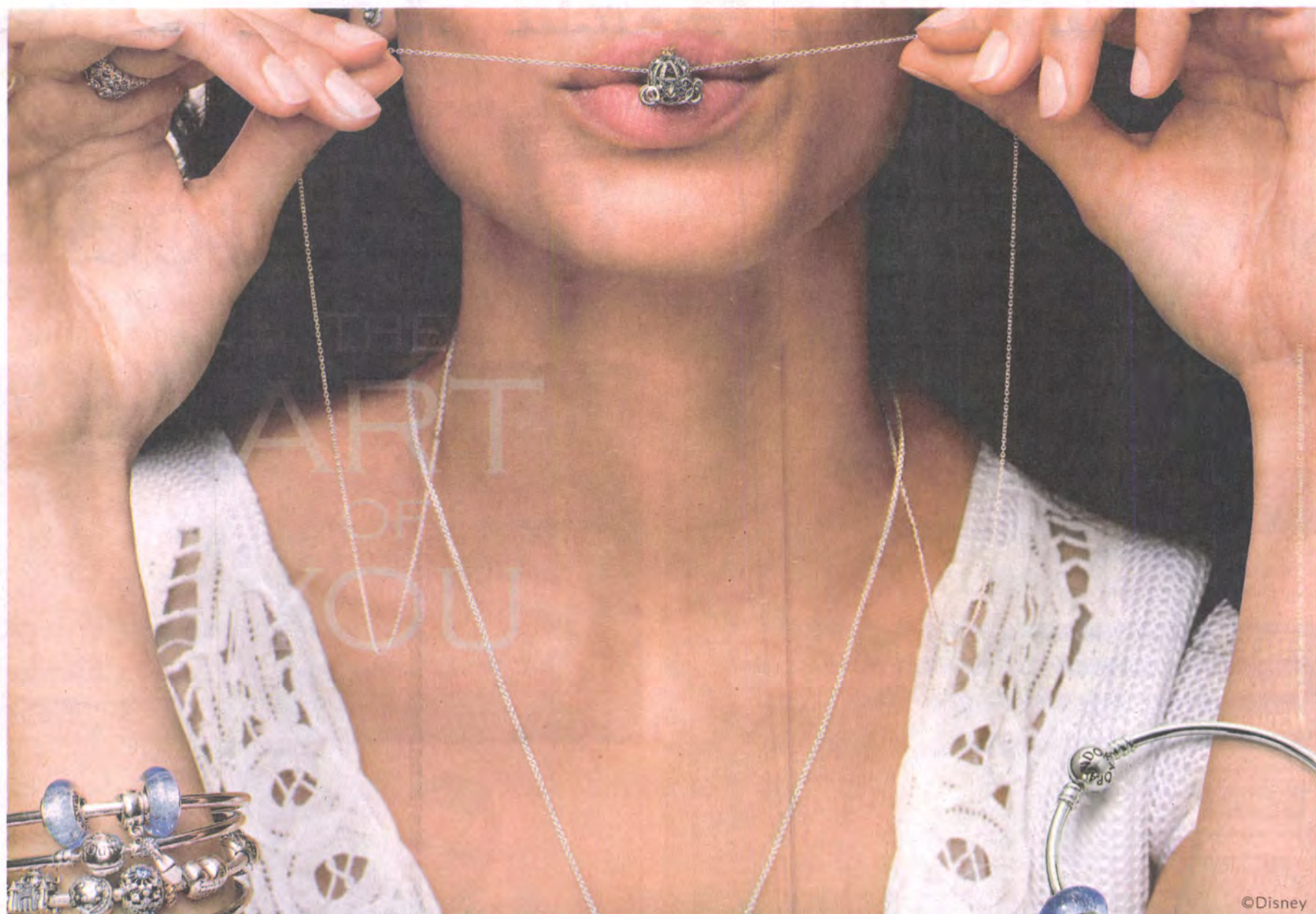
34000 block of Winslow when someone entered his unlocked car parked on the street. He said a complete set of Callaway golf clubs valued at \$1,400 were missing.

Larceny

A resident in the 5000 block of Treadwell told police April

18 that his truck had been broken in to overnight. He also said several cars had been ransacked and some scrap rims were stolen.

By LeAnne Rogers



YOUR DREAMS AREN'T JUST DREAMS

THEY'RE WISHES MADE REAL. A FLIGHT OF FANCY ALL YOUR OWN.
BECAUSE SOME DAYS JUST DESERVE A CROWN.
SHARE THE #ARTOFTYOU AND EXPLORE AT PANDORA.NET

SHOWN: THE CINDERELLA COLLECTION IN .925 STERLING SILVER, MURANO GLASS AND PAVE.

Disney

PANDORA

AVAILABLE AT

Golden Gifts

333000 W. SIX MILE RD. • LIVONIA, MI 48152
734.525.4555
VISIT THE PANDORA SHOP INSIDE OUR STORE

Bookstock used book, media sale continues through Sunday

Bookstock, the area's biggest used book and media sale, continues through Sunday at Livonia's Laurel Park Place mall.

Bookstock, which benefits literacy and education projects in metropolitan Detroit, features more than 100,000 donated used books, DVDs, CDs, books on tape, magazines and records for sale at rock-bottom prices.

On Bookbuster Sports Night from 3-9 p.m. Thursday, April 30, buy three books and get the fourth book (the least expensive item) free.

Spend \$25 or more and get a free copy of *Century of Champions* by Nick Costanika and the *Detroit Free Press* sports staff and also be entered in a special drawing for one of three prizes: four tickets to a Tigers home game, a shoe signed by Pistons center Andre Drummond and a special gift package – including a lesson from Bowling Hall of Famer Aleta Sill and instructional books by three-time champ Michelle Mullen.

On Sunday, May 3, all

remaining books and media will be sold for half price.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Bookstock has generated more than \$1 million for literacy and education projects throughout Oakland County and Detroit. Bookstock established the Bookstock Scholar Awards, in partnership with Wallside Windows and Gardner-White Furniture, given to outstanding students at Wayne State University's School of Library Science and Information Technology. The Bookstock Fund, launched in 2012, provided 19 micro grants to Detroit Public School teachers for education and literacy projects.

Bookstock is brought to the community by the Jewish Community Relations Council and a consortium of communal nonprofit organizations. For more information, call 248-645-7840, ext. 365, or go to bookstock.info.

Laurel Park Place is on Six Mile, east of I-275.



Bookstock volunteer Jennifer Mindell arranges stock on the tables.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Walter and Barbara Gross, of Plymouth, browsing through hundreds of Bookstock's cookbooks.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

Mother's Day BRUNCH

Entrees served 12-4, Breakfast Bar served 12-2
Salad Bar, Amazing Sweets Table

| | |
|--|---|
| Entrees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carved Roast Beef • Roast Turkey • Breaded Pork Cutlet • Baked Fish • Chicken Piccata • Penne Pasta w/marinara • Whipped Potatoes w/gravy • Baked Sweet Yams • Mixed Vegetables | Breakfast Bar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrambled eggs • Sausage links • Bacon • Pancakes • Hash Browns • Assorted Danish • Orange and Cranberry Juice |
|--|---|

Hellenic Cultural Center
Advanced Reservations Required 734-525-3550
Adults \$18, Kids (3-10) \$10, Kids (Under 3) Free
36375 Joy Rd., Westland

Two CHS students score perfect 36 on the ACT

Two Livonia Churchill High School students scored a perfect composite score of 36 on the ACT test. Zachary Obsniuk and James Jahns are both juniors in the Math, Science and Computers program at Churchill.

On average, less than one-tenth of 1 percent of students who take the ACT earn the top score.



Jahns

Obsniuk

Each test is scored on a scale of 1-36 and a student's composite score is the average of the four test scores.

In a letter recognizing this exceptional achievement, ACT CEO Jon Whitmore said, "While test scores are just one of the many criteria that most colleges consider when making admission

decisions, your exceptional ACT composite score should prove helpful as you pursue your education and career goals."

Zachary Obsniuk is the son of Glenn and Kathleen Obsniuk; James Jahns is the son of Christine and Jason Rhines.

The ACT consists of tests in English, mathematics, reading and science.

THE MONTH YOU'VE BEEN WAITING ON IS HERE!

WITH THE POWERWASH SYSTEM, ONLY A MAYTAG WASHER ROLLS UP ITS SLEEVES TO GIVE YOU THE BEST CLEANING IN THE INDUSTRY*

MAY IS MAYTAG MONTH

LOAD YOUR WORST, MAYTAG WILL GIVE IT THE BEST.

FREE Accessories up to \$120 Value with the purchase of any Prestige or Prestige Pro Napoleon Grill see store for details

FREE Accessories up to \$190 Value with the purchase of any Marriage 2 or Lex Napoleon Grill see store for details

Stainless Steel Kitchen Suite \$2599

25 cu. ft. Side-by-Side Refrigerator with Gallon-Size Door Bin MSF2504M0M

2.0 cu. ft. Over-the-Range Microwave with Sensor Cooking MMV4205DS

6.2 cu. ft. Freestanding Electric Range with EvenAir™ Convection MER8700DS

Stainless Steel Tub Dishwasher with PowerBlast™ Cycle MDB4949SDM

REBATES

RECEIVE UP TO A \$750 Mastercard Prepaid® Card by mail with purchase of select Whirlpool Brand Appliances. Valid May 13-25, 2015

RECEIVE UP TO A \$1000 Mastercard Prepaid® Card by mail with purchase of select Maytag Brand Appliances. Valid May 1-31, 2015

RECEIVE UP TO A \$1500 KitchenAid Mastercard Prepaid® Card by mail with purchase of select KitchenAid Brand Appliances Valid May 1 - June 30, 2015

PLUS UP TO \$150 Delivery Installations Allowance via MasterCard Prepaid Card by mail on eligible KitchenAid models. Valid by May 31, 2015

Fund Raiser for the American Association of University Women of Northville/Novi

Light Strolling Dinner • Live Auction • Silent Auction • Grilling Tips • Kitchen Aide Mixer Demo • Appliance Doctor and more!

\$25 until May 1st, thereafter, \$ 30 for tickets call Bill & Rod's. Proceeds go to AAUW-NN scholarships

Bill & Rod's

APPLIANCES & MATTRESSES

Honest and Dependable Since 1963

SALES • SERVICE • PARTS

734-425-5040

Visit us on Facebook
Sign up to receive notification of upcoming events!
Quality Factory Trained Technicians

www.billandrodsappliance.com

15870 Middlebelt Road
North of Five Mile • Livonia



3-DAY SALE!

Thursday, April 30 through Saturday, May 2, 2015

15% OFF 6 BOTTLES OF WINE

When you mix & match 6 bottles,
750 ml or larger, with Card.



Snapple
Select Varieties,
6 pk, 16 fl oz Bts

3⁹⁹
With Card



Better Made
Potato Chips
Select Varieties,
10-11 oz

2\$4
for

With Card



Aunt Millie's
Buns
Select Varieties,
8 ct

2\$3
for

With Card



Red Baron
Pizza
10.29-23.45 oz or Singles,
2 ct; Select Varieties

2⁸⁸
With Card



Kroger
Orange Juice
Select Varieties,
Half Gallon

2\$3
for

With Card

Prices and items are effective at your local Kroger store Thursday, Apr 30 thru Saturday, May 2, 2015.

Making his case: Colbeck sees alternative to May 5 road proposal

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

With a vote just days away, state Sen. Patrick Colbeck held a transportation forum Monday at Northville Township Hall to let voters know that there are other options in getting road repair funded without putting an extra tax burden.

The forum was an opportunity for residents to meet with Colbeck, R-Canton, and road construction industry leaders to get an inside view on the current state of Michigan's roads, options for funding road repairs including the May 5 Ballot Proposal 15-1 and ways to improve the longevity of our roads.

He was joined by John Wyke, president, Joba Construction Co.; Dan DeGraaf, executive director, Michigan Concrete Association; and Anil Sanne, director, Everlast Concrete Technologies.

The panel was balanced a bit with DeGraaf stating he thinks the proposal is in the state's best interest to get the roads fixed now while the others, including Wyke and Colbeck, expressed their concerns with the proposal. Sanne spoke about new concrete mixes lasting longer than what has been traditionally used in

Michigan. Colbeck believes that as the Proos Plan; prioritizing the spending of both short- and long-term. existing funds and making changes; reducing state government expenses in other areas; and all of the

"I think we can do better," he said of the May 5 proposal. He said there are a

of parts of the proposal. The Bolger Plan would that take away from the ensure 100 percent of the main mission, fixing the taxes raised at the gas roads. He said there are 83 separate line items that have to be implemented in the budget in general fund budgets order to make this function with projected increases

ing proposal happen. except for K-12 education. Reducing expenses

"It's not straightforward," Colbeck said. would be just that and have government looking

In a nutshell, Proposal 1 would increase the state sales tax to 7 percent from 6 percent, taking the sales tax off fuel Colbeck said that the sales and increase fuel state has the opportunity taxes. This is expected to put \$947 million toward fixing our roads in

Alternatives to measure

There were at least 50 people on hand, and many of them liked what Colbeck had to say and were generally not in favor of the proposal.

Gary Timco, of Plymouth Township, was one supporter. He thought the forum was really good and informative.

"I think he has the right ideas," Timco said.

The alternatives include the Bolger Plan, as passed by the state



Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, spoke at a public forum at Northville Township Hall on April 27 about the alternatives he sees for road funding.

St. Damian claims Chess Club trophy in school rivalry



The Chess Club rivalry between St. Edith School in Livonia and St. Damian School in Westland continues; this year the tournament was held at St. Damian on April 23. Twelve students from St. Edith and 13 students from St. Damian competed this year for the trophy. The results came in favor of St. Damian, 8-6. Next year, the tournament will be hosted at St. Edith.

Vintage arrives in Oakland County!

Car Show & More!

Come Rescue a Piece of American History!

May 2-3 Oct. 3-4

Michigan's Largest Antique & Vtage Market

Shabby Chic & Industrial • Architectural vage • Primitives
Uniques • Vintage Jewelry • Reclaim • Art Deco

New Display Featuring Vintage Weing ideas!!

Sat. 8am-6pm Sun. 9am-4pm • Free Apisals 11am-2pm

Springfield Oaks County Park 12451 Andersonville, Davisburg, MI 48350

989-687-9001 MiAnqueFestival.com

THE BEST PLACE FOR MOTHER'S DAY SHOPPING & DINING?

NOVI TOWN CENTER
Where the possibilities are endless!

WITH SO MANY GREAT STORES, NOVI TOWN CENTER HAS THE PERFECT MOTHER'S DAY GIFT FOR THE MOM(S) IN YOUR LIFE.

Choose fashion accessories from Charming Charlie, shoes from Shoe Carnival, a gift certificate from Ulta Beauty or Pure Barre. Get a new fit from maurices, Lane Bryant or TJ Maxx. Visit Hobby Lobby to make Mom personalized gift.

Take Mom for a special treat at Athenian Coney Island, Tosacco's, Yogurt City or Big Salad!

MOTHER'S DAY SHOPPING IS EXTRA SWEET!

Select Novi Town Center stores will be giving away a sweet gift from Chocolates by Renee with any purchase of \$25 or more*.

Look for the poster in the window for a something extra Mother's Day gift.

Happy Mother's Day from Novi Town Center

FREE GIFT with \$25 purchase

*Whiplurples last.

Novi Town Center
43259 CRESCENT ULEVARD, NOVI, MI
(248) 347.3830 • IVITOWNCENTER.COM

JONBOY Landscaping

24542 Five Mile Road, Redford, MI

313.937.9893

www.jonboylandscaping.com

| | |
|--|---|
| \$100 OFF ANY LANDSCAPE/PAVER/ SPRINKLER PROJECT OF \$1200 OR MORE *Call for details. Free estimates. | 10% OFF LAWN MAINTENANCE CONTRACT *Call for details. Free estimates. |
| BULK MULCH \$65 A YARD INSTALLED. INCLUDES DELIVERY *Call for details. Free estimates. | \$55 SPRINKLER TURN ON'S *Call for details. Free estimates. |
| \$45 SPRING CLEANUP STARTING AT *Call for details. Free estimates. | \$40 THATCH OR AERATION STARTING AT *Call for details. Free estimates. |

COUPONS EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2015

UNILOCK RAIN-BIRD Hunter NELSON

The journey home: Restored Sabre jet returns to Yankee Air Museum

MIAT students refurbish Cold War-era aircraft

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

Imagine driving down a road, minding your own business, when a large-as-life U.S. Air Force plane joins traffic.

"When people saw the plane, they just stopped. Some took photos and video," said Bob Catalano, who works in the collections department of the Yankee Air Museum at Willow Run Airport.

The journey for the F-86L began last Tuesday morning at the MIAT College of Technology, 2955 S. Haggerty, in Canton. The college, with its large warehouse-like facility, has been home to the vintage 1950-1960s long-range interceptor for more than the past six months.

At least 180 students, who are studying aviation technology, rolled up their sleeves and breathed new life into the F-86L, which had been housed at the Yankee Air Museum for some time.

"They were assigned specific tasks. They did the research on how to repair the plane," MIAT instructor Craig Vassell said.

The students were required to follow Federal Aviation Administration and structural repair guidelines for the single-seat military jet, which in its belly once carried a set of 20 missiles that would be fired simultaneously. "When it came in, it was pretty damaged," Vassell said.

Panels on the plane were caved in, for example, and students had

to repair or build new metal panels for the jet's skin, which on military aircraft is double-thick. Most of the work was on the exterior.

"One group drew engineering drawings, while another followed them," Vassell said.

MIAT instructor Neal Perkins supervised students on the jet's electrical components, including navigational lights on the wingtips.

As the F-86L was pulled out of the former La-Z-Boy factory, it was missing one important component — an engine. But according to rules and regulations under which the museum operates, the F-86L won't be allowed to fly, so an engine isn't necessary for display.

"I hope they will be careful with it," Perkins said as he watched the F-86L gently pulled out of the warehouse by an old airport tractor that was once used at Detroit Metro Airport.

The F-86L made it to the Yankee Air Museum in procession. The route and the rules of the journey were established by the Wayne County Weighmaster. "He comes in with a route and when and how we are doing this," Catalano said.

The plane made its way down the MIAT driveway and turned left on to Haggerty. It then crossed Michigan Avenue and headed down Tyler to the museum. It took about 1½ hours for the plane to make it safely to the museum.

The next step for the F-86L is a paint job, which will be completed at the museum. "It won't be painted with the original configuration," Catalano said. "We found



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Pulled by a vintage tractor once used to pull planes at Detroit Metro Airport, the F-86L slowed traffic and drew interest from passersby.



Yankee Air Museum curator Julie Osborne keeps close watch on clearance as the F-86L eases down the MIAT driveway.



Ralph Koehler attaches the hook that the tractor will use to tow the airplane.

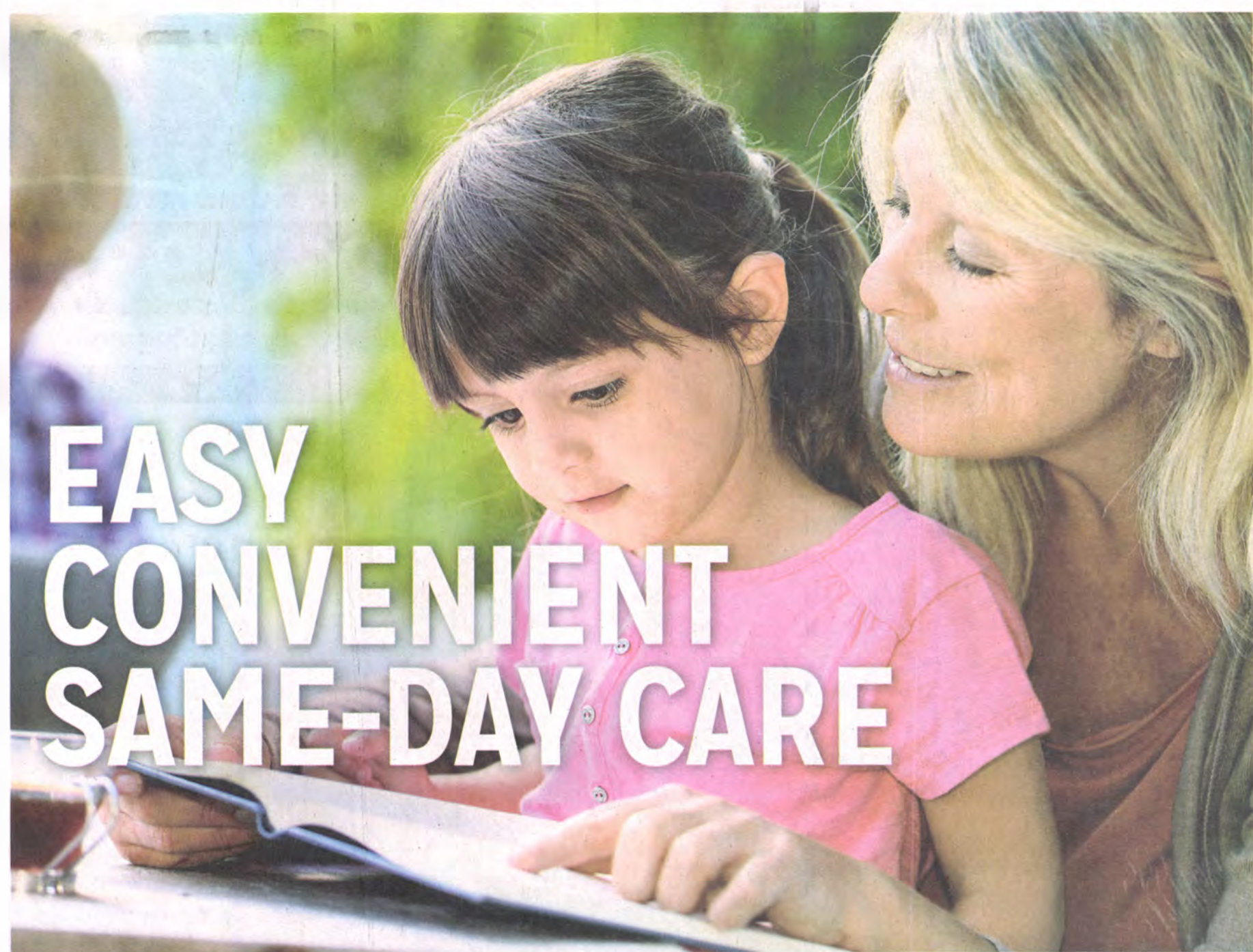
colors online."

Because of the F-86L's association with the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics — NASA's predecessor — it will be placed in a new section of the Yankee Air Museum dedicated to the space program.

Meanwhile, MIAT students are rolling up their sleeves on yet another Yankee Air Museum project — refurbishing a T-33 Shooting Star, a Lockheed jet trainer aircraft. It has already been delivered to the MIAT facility.

"We are able to give our students hands-on practical experience," said Kevin Burchett, MIAT president and CEO. "This will be part of the legacy of their lives."

jmaliszews@hometownlife.com
248-396-6620



**EASY
CONVENIENT
SAME-DAY CARE**

CALL, CLICK OR COME IN.

Discover all the convenient ways you can connect with the Henry Ford primary care team. You won't find more ways to see a doctor when you need one.

- Early and late appointments.
- The ability to message your doctor online.
- Same-day care.
- Help when you need it.



Call 1-800-HENRYFORD (436-7936) or visit henryford.com/sameday

Arbor Day: Growing goodness at Garfield and the world

A special Arbor Day celebration took root Friday afternoon at Livonia's Garfield Elementary School, where students showed off their tree-themed artwork, sang songs, planted three new trees and even staged a parade to celebrate the beauty, unity, diversity and goodness of trees.

Joined by members of the City of Livonia Tree Committee, Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey and Livonia Public Schools administrators and other city leaders, the students first held a festive assembly before they paraded outdoors, around the school, and past the three new trees on the school grounds.

Principal Bill Green said trees are much like



LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey addresses the students. At right is Garfield Elementary Principal Bill Green.

people, in that they bring unity, represent diversity with all of the different types and they grow strong roots. Each student at Gar-

field received a tree to take home to plant. The Tree Committee also gave all LPS fourth grade students a sapling to plant.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Garfield Elementary School students helped out in the planting of four trees outside their Livonia school on April 24. From left are: Jayden Ghostohk, Damon Watson, Landon Kozlowski, and Logan Hicks.

Serving Western Wayne & Oakland Counties

Annual Exams Vaccinations
Laboratory Tests Deworming
Health Certificates

Reasons Cats Love Housecalls:

- No scary car rides
- No fighting to get in the carrier
- No sights smells or sounds of dogs in waiting rooms
- Minimal stress during examination
- Accessible vet care for owners with mobility/transportation difficulty
- Flexible appointment times including evenings and weekends

Providing care exclusively for cats at competitive prices.



Veterinary CatCalls
Feline wellness in your home
734.431.4060
www.veterinarycatcalls.com

dealing with
DEPRESSION?

University Physician Group

we can HELP



Anyone can feel down at times, but don't let depression go unrecognized. If you're noticing a lack of energy or problems with sleep or appetite, our specialists can provide innovative treatment plans.

Call 734-464-4220

Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine Services
16836 Newburgh Road • Livonia, MI 48154

upgdocs.org/psychiatry



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students like Garfield second-grader Nevavh Haitwick, center, paraded around the school on April 24 with spring flowers and signs welcoming spring for their Arbor Day celebration.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

GIVE INSPIRATION WITH THE FULL OF HEART GIFT SET*
*Starting April 9, while supplies last - purchase PANDORA's "full of heart" gift set for \$125. See store for details.



THE ART OF YOU

THIS ISN'T JUST A MOTHER'S DAY GIFT

IT'S A MOMENT FORGED IN GOLD. A THOUSAND LATE NIGHTS STRUNG ON A SILVER CHAIN AN INSIDE JOKE TWINKLING BACK AT HER. AND WHO KNOWS WHAT IT'LL BE TOMORROW. SHARE THE #ARTOFOU AND EXPLORE AT PANDORA.NET

PANDORA®

AVAILABLE AT
333000 W. SIX MILE RD. • LIVONIA, MI 48152
734 525 4555
VISIT THE PANDORA SHOP INSIDE OUR STORE

Golden Gifts

Westland brother-sister team take on the market with hot dog cart

By Linda Sparkman
Correspondent

The brightly colored hot dog stand of Heavenly Hot Dogs and Catering has become a familiar sight around Westland in recent years. It will be back this season, but new faces are serving up the goods.

"A year ago, I never would've thought, 'I'm going to own a hot dog cart and I'm going to run it with my sister and I'm going to do all these events,'" Tommy Ruark said. He and his sister Heather hadn't been looking for a business, but when the opportunity came up, they jumped on it. Both are longtime Westland residents who work part-time at Kmart and are studying business at Schoolcraft College. Tommy is a 20-year-old, full-time student getting ready to finish his associate's degree. Heather is a 26-year-old mother of two, working part time on her business degree.

The brother-sister team purchased the hot



LINDA SPARKMAN

Tommy Ruark and his sister Heather are the new owners of the popular Heavenly Hot Dogs and Catering cart that's a fixture at the Westland Farmers Market

dog stand last September from Rich and Betsy Mazurkiewicz, who owned the business for the past eight years.

Late last summer, the Ruarks' father got into a discussion poolside with Rich Mazurkiewicz, who mentioned he and his wife would like to sell their business. Although neither Tommy nor

Heather had ever owned a business – or even seen the hot dog cart before – it wasn't long until the transaction was completed.

Now the stand is available for hire for parties, graduations, farmers markets, community events, festivals, picnics and luncheons. They cater hot dogs with all

CATCH THE CART

Heavenly Hot Dogs and Catering can be found:
» 2-7 p.m. each Wednesday, June 3 through Oct. 14, at the Lathrup Village Farmers Market, 27400 Southfield Road.
» 3-7 p.m. each Thursday, May 7 through Oct. 8, at the Westland Farmers Market, 1901 N. Carlson. 734-326-7222.

the trimmings, including chili and sauerkraut. They also have pop and chips available, plus nachos can be specially requested.

"We can do other meats, like brats and other types," Tommy said. "It just depends on the venue and what the customers decide."

Helping out

Mazurkiewicz helped Tommy a lot with his crash introduction into the business.

"He still does," Tommy said. "He took me to a luncheon he catered to show me the ropes and I can still call and ask him a question and he's just ready to help me out.

When we started the Westland (Farmers) Market, he said he'd come and help me out if I wasn't comfortable yet.

"Our first and still favorite venue is the Westland Farmers Market," he added. "The other vendors have been great to us. They really welcomed us. Market masters Brookellen Swope and Mary Vellar-dita are really helpful,

too. We have a lot of con-

nections through them."

Other places the pair is scheduled to service include several graduation parties, other city's farmers markets and Canton's Liberty Fest.

To become a qualified food vendor, Tommy studied for and got a food safety certification.

"I am licensed vendor," he said. "There's a lot to know about safe handling of food. For instance, anything food-related has to be six inches off the ground at any time."

In preparation for opening this spring, Tommy painted the cart and touched up small spots.

"It's all ready for inspection by the health department later this month," he said.

"I was surprised how expensive it is to start a business," Heather said about her experience so far. "Not only the business itself, you've got to pay for license, insurance, inventory and other expenses."

Expenses aren't the only hurdle, as things don't always go smoothly for the brother-sister team.

"One time we were doing the Farmington winter market," Tommy said. "I forgot the chili and I couldn't get the flame to stay lit. It finally worked out, but we couldn't have chili dogs."

"Now we have a check-list of stuff to bring," Heather said.

"And I'm really big about keeping extra things in the car," Tommy added.

Family affair

The business has become a real family affair, including help from their sister Holly and their father.

"They both pitch in, that's why we're able to do two different markets at the same time," Tommy said.

"We love it," he said of the experience so far. "I always, always loved hot dogs as a kid. We would go anywhere for dinner and my mom would ask me what I would want and I'd always say, 'hot dogs.'"

"He probably dreams of hot dogs at night," Heather said. "Even on a cruise we went on when he was little, he'd always want hot dogs for dinner."

There's plenty of sibling humor, like the family picnic that was interrupted by customers who saw the cart and stopped to buy hot dogs. "We're always laughing," Heather said.

"The cart brings us together," Tommy said. "We just have fun. My friends come up and support me, too. It's really nice to know we have people who can help."

Tommy and Heather are focused on growing their business and having some fun with their family while they finish their education. Future plans include a website, a second cart and securing an accounting degree.

"I never thought I'd be doing this," Tommy said. "But when you put your mind to anything, you can do it."

Do your homework before donating to any charity

Over the last few days, most of us have seen pictures and video of the destruction in Nepal. It seems that we go from one natural disaster or man-made catastrophe to another.

The pictures are horrifying and they certainly pull at our heartstrings. That being said, whenever there is a disaster, charitable organizations and relief groups spring into action to help those in need.

What also happens is that lowlifes who look at taking advantage of the public's good nature also spring into action. We are already starting to see scams and frauds develop around the earthquake in Nepal.

Many of these charities have names that look legitimate as they try to mimic well-known charities. They may solicit you in a number of different ways, by phone, mailing or email. Unfortunately, just by looking at their material, you have no idea that they're not legitimate.

Their materials are professionally done and their websites look legit. These scam artists are good at what they do. Because of this, you have to be extremely cautious about giving to charities, particularly as a result of



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

natural or man-made disasters.

When it comes to investing, you need to set rules for yourself; the same applies to charitable giving. It is only by following some rules that you can make sure that your money goes to the cause that you want, not some scam artist. In addition, you want to make sure your money doesn't go to a legitimate charity that spends too much of its money fundraising and on administrative costs.

Before giving to any charity, it is important to check it out. Because of the Internet, it has gotten easier to determine whether a charity is legitimate and if it's spending money wisely. Some websites that you can look at to review a charity are www.charitynavigator.com, www.guidestar.com and www.wisegivingalliance.com, operated by the Better Business Bureau.

We all receive pitches from charities. I have established a few personal rules.

When it comes to

emails, I assume that any email I receive seeking a charitable contribution, unless it's from an organization that I've previously worked with, is bogus. I don't click on any links, as the hackers use these links to infect computers with a virus. If you receive an email and you are interested in that particular charity, type in the charity's web address yourself.

I also never give through phone solicitation. At a minimum, if I'm interested, I ask for information. After all, why give that person on the other end of the phone a credit card or bank information? It doesn't make sense.

We give to charities because it makes us feel good. We want to help those in need and make this world a better place. However, none of this can happen if the money we direct to a charity is not used appropriately.

Before you give, do your homework so your money can go to a just cause.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like him to respond to your questions, email rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

Planet Fitness takes walk for Make-A-Wish

Planet Fitness, the health club franchise known for its Judgment Free Zone, has announced its support of Make-A-Wish Michigan's 17th annual Walk for Wishes at the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak on Saturday, May 2.

Walk for Wishes is hosted by Make-A-Wish Michigan, a statewide nonprofit that grants the wishes of Michigan children with life-threatening medical conditions. More than 3,000 supporters are expected to attend Walk for Wishes.

Planet Fitness is sponsoring the wishes of wish children Katlyn of St. Clair and Alyssa of Canton and will participate in a check presentation during the event. Katlyn, 15, is the recipient of a heart transplant. She loves cheerleading and shopping, and wanted to go to California. Her wish was granted with a

recent trip to the West Coast where she enjoyed the beach. Alyssa, 14, and was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Her wish for a bedroom makeover came true when Make-A-Wish Michigan redesigned it with her love for purple and sparkles.

Planet Fitness clubs, including its Westland location, are also encouraging members to join their Walk for Wishes teams. Members can register as an individual or with their family, friends and workout pals at www.planetwishes.com. In addition to the initial donation of \$25,000, the Planet Fitness Metro Detroit team has set a goal to raise another \$25,000 to help Make-A-Wish Michigan.

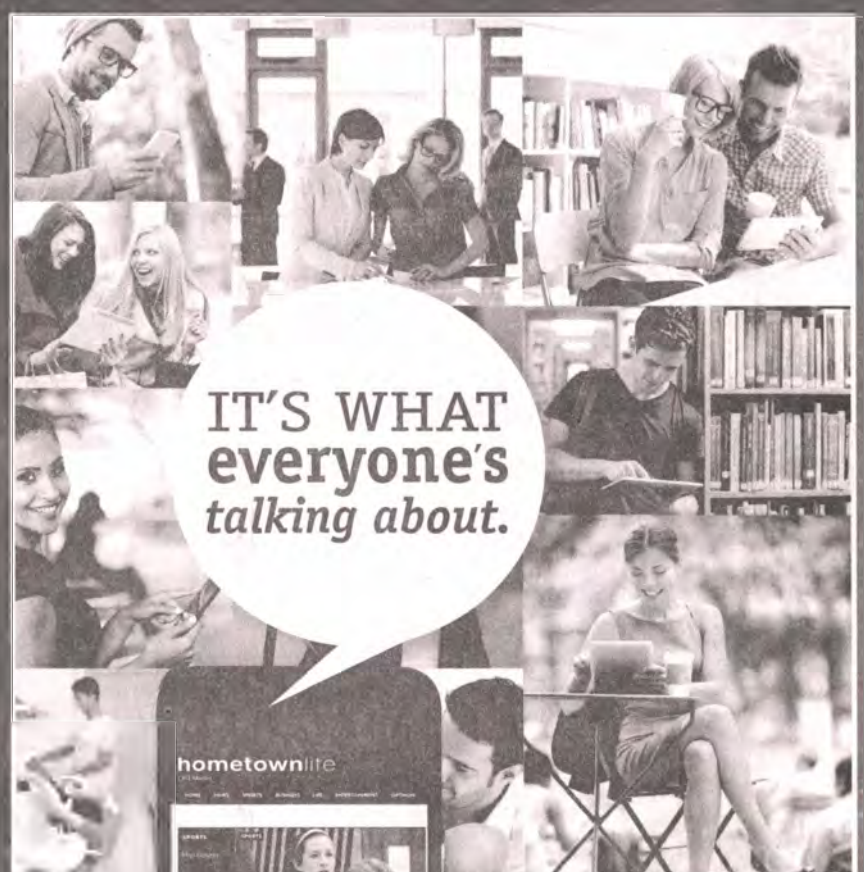
"We are excited to celebrate Planet Fitness' support of Make-A-Wish Michigan and to honor Katlyn and Alyssa," said Planet Fitness franchisee

Chris Klebba. "These two girls are amazing examples of the difference Make-A-Wish is able to make in families' lives, and we are honored to meet them both and hear their courageous stories."

"Events like Walk For Wishes help Make-A-Wish Michigan raise critical funds to grant the heartfelt wishes of Michigan kids and provide hope, strength and joy in the midst of their medical battles," Make-A-Wish Michigan President and CEO Karen Davis said. "Make-A-Wish Michigan is truly grateful for the tremendous support of Planet Fitness to help us grant wishes for more children like Alyssa and Katlyn."

Registration for Walk for Wishes is free, and there's still time to register. Visit walkforwishesmi.org for more information.

DOWNLOAD Our NEW FREE APP hometownlife.com It's fast and easy!



IT'S WHAT everyone's talking about.

Available on the App Store

Using an iPhone From your iPhone search for or click on the Apple APP Store icon. Type the keyword "hometownlife" to search for the APP. When prompted click install to experience the new hometownlife.com

ANDROID APP ON Google play

Using an ANDROID PHONE From your smart phone search for or click on the Google Play icon. Type the keyword "hometownlife" to search for the APP. When prompted click install to experience the new hometownlife.com

OUR VIEWS

Time to vote; proposal needs your support

Next week Michigan voters will be asked if they support a request to increase the state sales tax. Locally, Wayne residents will decide if they support a proposal to create a 345 police and fire retirement fund.

If you're registered to vote, we hope you make sure to take some time to vote. Granted, if you're reading this newspaper, research indicates you're more likely to head to the polls, if you haven't already made your choice via absentee ballot.

So perhaps your task should be to encourage others to vote May 5.

The requests are an important issue, one that will hit you in the wallet. The city proposal, if approved, will be noticed when it's time to pay property taxes. The state sales tax increase will have an impact more regularly. Daily, if you're out and about all the time. Every time you buy toilet paper, a pair of jeans or garden shovel, the total cost will be a bit more.

This is the second time Wayne has asked residents to approve a 345 police and retirement fund. The city is seeking approval of a five-year 3-mill tax levy that would generate more than \$1 million.

Wayne currently is in the throes of a financial crisis. Coupled with cuts in state funding, Wayne has lost more than \$5 million in property tax revenue annually since the real estate market tanked in 2008. It has been limping along using reserved funds to prop up the budget. That well is running dry and hard decisions need to be made to erase the budget deficit.

Established under state law, a 345 millage would separately fund the police and fire pensions, costs currently paid from the city general fund. By taking the legacy costs out of the general fund, money would be available to help maintain city services and reduce the deficit.

This is the second time the city has asked voters to establish a 345 retirement fund. In 2013 the request as well as a 7-mill tax levy was soundly rejected by residents. Voters were skeptical of the request, since council offered no plan B - what would happen if the proposals failed. That plan B is what is happening now - the closing of the ice rink and aquatic center and a proposal to close the community center completely in the upcoming budget year.

There appears to be a disconnect between residents and the council and there are those who would rather see the city file for bankruptcy or have the state appoint an emergency manager to solve the city's problems. They would rather shirk the responsibility for righting their ship and letting someone who knows nothing about the community and its residents make the decision.

On Tuesday, voters need to decide what's important to them. The city's fate is in their hands and we believe, the tax request deserves a **YES** vote.

The sales tax increase is part of a series of bills that would raise money for road repairs, schools and local government, among other things. And while the process was a bit convoluted to get there, the bottom line is Michigan's roads need improvement, and that is what the best idea legislators could agree upon. Opponents claim there's plenty of money available in Lansing and a new tax isn't needed. To that we point to the many legislators who campaigned on such a platform. But session after session, we still haven't seen anyone point to this hidden stash of money for much-needed projects.

Tax increases stink, for sure. But the improvements we'll see through this ballot measures make it worth it.

Polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday; however, registered voters can still request an absentee ballot. The city clerks' offices in Wayne, Westland and Garden City will be open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday to process requests.



OBSERVER

A GANNETT COMPANY

Sue Mason,
Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
Executive Editor

Grace Perry,
Director of
Advertising

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Not good stewards of money

We have all heard about knowing politicians are lying by when we see their lips move. The politicians in Wayne are moving their lips.

Their solution to get out of our debt crisis is to keep spending and then raise taxes because they never have enough. We approved a tax increase for the rec center but it is slowly closing in increments. We approved more taxes to maintain our public safety departments, but they cut staffing levels anyway. We approved money for roads. After the administration repaved their streets, they told us the millage was not generating enough money for any more roads. Although no one was in favor of paying for streetlights, the council imposed taxes on us anyway through a special assessment.

Half of the city employees were let go but that did not balance the budget either. We now pay full-time wages and give benefits to the city hall employees who seem to be giving us part-time service. They claim they have "cut to the bone" and are down to vital services but let's look at that.

The IT department costs us \$160,000 but the cable TV channel is still running notices about raking leaves and winterizing fire hydrants. It took two years to pull the 2012 Weed Control notice from the city's web page. This year they declared it a double leap-year and gave us reduced animal license fees until February 30. Council boasts they would rather err on the side of giving too much info vs. not enough.

Does a city in a wage freeze and hiring freeze need a Personnel Director?

Our Community Development Director is supposed to attract new business and retain old business. I can name over 20 businesses that have closed and/or moved out in the last decade. Yet we still pay \$60,000 annually for this position.

Don't forget, the state wants to raise the sale tax on the premise of fixing roads, the schools are always asking for more funding, water rates are going up 11 percent, gas prices are inching higher and it sounds like the county is worse off than we

were previously told.

If the city worked to improve our home values, they would generate more revenue from property taxes which we cannot vote against. Stop people from parking cars all over their lawns. Stop trashing the city with illegal signs everywhere, making our town look like an urban ghetto. Go after the tax cheats who illegally get principal residence exemptions or don't pay for permits and inspections. The scofflaws who disobey traffic signals and speed should be paying for our traffic cops. Stop buying properties and tearing down buildings, leaving the land off the tax rolls for years. By the time they are sold again, any profit is eaten up by lost tax revenue and maintenance assessments. Stop the frivolous spending on things that can wait for better times.

They want you to believe they are working hard on our finances but their labor is stalling to make cuts to services we are not getting. They have shown that they are not good stewards of our money. Don't give them more.

Howard Aldrich
Wayne

Too little of Prop 1 would fund roads

Via the various television and radio ads, we hear about how Proposal 1 is all about fixing our roads. As is the case with most things political, this isn't exactly true.

The projected \$1.95 billion this proposal would raise doesn't come from just the increase of our state sales tax from 6 percent to 7 percent (making it the second highest in the country), but it also comes from raising our fuel tax from 19 cents per gallon to 41.7 cents per gallon. While the proposal does remove the sales tax from the purchase of gasoline and diesel fuel, the consumer will see a net increase of roughly 10 to 13 cents per gallon at today's prices. Also, yearly vehicle registration fees will be increased.

But the real problem with Proposal 1 is how this projected increase in tax revenue will be spent. More than 30 percent of the additional tax money raised will not go to fixing our roads: \$116 million will go to fund mass transit, \$200 million will go to

the School Aid Fund, which provides incentives and scholarships to attendees of communities colleges and technical schools; \$40 million will go to the public school's "At Risk" program; \$24.8 million will go to the Recreation Improvement Fund; \$111 million will be shifted to various local city governments; and \$173 million will go into the state's general fund. Also, the Earned Income Tax Credit will be increased to 20 percent from its current 6 percent, which will result in an estimated loss of \$261 million to the state's treasury.

James A. Kidd
Livonia

Another tax

I am a student at Schoolcraft College in Livonia and am writing regarding the upcoming special election May 5 to raise the sales tax one cent for the state of Michigan.

As a student and a person who is living on a fixed income through Social Security, I feel that it is another tax that would add to my expenses each year. If it is only going to the deplorable roads that we have in Michigan, I am sure that some people would vote for it, but I am not sure that it is just for the roads.

Betty Dills
Livonia

Burden for middle class

I am grateful to the League of Women Voters for sponsoring the overview of the May 5 ballot proposal. I left the event with more knowledge of the proposal, feeling a little less confused and with a decision on my vote. I will not be voting for Proposal 1.

Proposal 1 clearly has some positive features. My decision is grounded in the fact that it will cost us, the taxpayers, more money at a time when the state median wage is low. At one time, Michigan's median wage was ranked fourth in the country. Today we are 24th. Michigan has lost many jobs to other states and other countries.

Proposal 1 would increase our sales tax, auto registration fees and gasoline fees right off the top. This places a financial burden on the middle-class resident who is already stretching their budget.

Rosemary Doyle
Livonia

GUEST COLUMN

Why the state's Proposal 1 will fail on May 5

No one would like to see more funding for Michigan's infrastructure, school systems and support for local governments than I. In saying that, I have to look at what experience and ongoing history have taught me in concluding that the state's Prop 1 will fail on May 5. These points are well-reasoned, based on my experience working with the Michigan Legislature and as a citizen activist over the past 40 years in our great state. These points are:

1. All politics are local. While the overall state of Michigan's road infrastructure is deplorable and in great need of repair, the fact remains, in the words of the late U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Tip O'Neill, "All politics are local." While citizens in a given city or township will be more willing to impose a millage proposal for repair of roads (like we did in Livonia), they are less inclined to vote for an overall tax increase for roadways outside of their immediate jurisdiction. Sure, many have to travel from area to area, but it depends on the state of the roads on the routes they travel. Demographics also play into this equation. If they work locally, they will support local roads.

2. The changed voter demographics. More and more of our communities and actual voters are older citizens and are generally opposed to any tax increase that will drastically impact their fixed income status. Just look at the Headlee Amendment that was approved by an aging voter citizenry. That proposal, too, dealt with property taxes and the school funding issue. Millennials too will vote, if they vote, against Proposition 1 because they simply do not have any discretionary income for increased taxes.

3. The legislative process



itself. When it comes to "No taxation without representation is tyranny," the Michigan citizenry looks to the Legislature itself to honestly debate taxation issues and to allow for input from their constituents regarding whatever taxation is being proposed. This did not happen with Proposal 1. The Legislature, because it was such a political hot potato or for whatever reasons, has thrown it back into the laps of the voters. Voters do not want to represent themselves regarding tax increase issues. The subject taxes need to be explored and discussed by citizens with their elected representatives in advance. This did not happen. It was thrust on the voters by a reluctant legislature.

4. As a local election official for many years, I have observed that the major demographic that turns out for special elections is older citizens. They are motivated because they have the time to vote, and if an issue really affects their fixed-income pocketbooks, they will turn out at the polls. This will be the case on May 5 for Proposition 1.

5. Voters will not be forced to a "take-it" or "leave it." There are always other choices to consider to address the issue. There are other alternatives, such as a combination of precious tax dollars and private funds from a true public-private partnership of the users of our roadway system. Already there is a national movement of the big companies that use our highways to put some "money in the game." And, if Proposition 1 is rejected by the voters, the Legislature and the

governor will be forced to look at such alternatives.

6. I mean this respectfully: All of the organizations that would like to see Proposition 1 pass, the school boards, local governments, and road builders are pouring tons of precious dollars into the campaign for a "yes" on Proposal 1. I would expect them to do so for their constituent groups. As I said, my heart is with them. But the flaw that I see is that while such organizations are passing resolutions calling for a yes vote, there has been very little follow up with special communications to their members and constituents to urge them to get out to the polls to vote yes. At this point, it would be a futile exercise as the election is just around the corner.

7. The thousands of dollars of funds spent by those who would like the proposal to pass could have been more strategically used to have the lawmakers do the job they were elected to do. If Prop 1 fails, what then, more funds from finite sources to get the job done?

In closing, I hope that the voters will do the right thing in voting their wallets. But, in my book, Proposition 1 will be singularly rejected by the voters. Then it's back to all of the Plan B, Plan C, Plan D ideas. Remember, there is always a "third way" to address the problem if we all get together to think outside the box.

Joe Neussendorfer of Livonia is an affiliate member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), a 39-year member of the Engineering Society of Detroit (ESD) and a lifetime member of the Detroit Economic Club. His email address is: jneussendorfer@mindspring.com.

County closes Hines Drive for Saturday in Park beginning May 2

Did you know the No. 1 concern of cyclists, skaters, runners and walkers is motor vehicle traffic?

Wayne County Parks has the solution. On May 2, its popular Saturday in the Park program returns for 2015. Visitors will have the opportunity to do their favorite activities in a vehicle-free environment on a six-mile stretch of Hines Drive.

Each Saturday from 9

a.m. to 3:30 p.m., people will be able to walk, run, skate or cycle safely on Hines Drive which will be closed to vehicular traffic from Ann Arbor Trail in Westland to Outer Drive in Dearborn.

"Providing recreational activities in a safe environment is a priority of Wayne County Parks," said Wayne County Executive Warren Evans. "Saturday in the Park is a great way for families to

enjoy biking, running and walking without road traffic."

Parking is available at the Helms Haven Area of Hines Park at Hines Drive, west of Outer Drive, and the Nankin Mills Picnic Area at Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail.

For more information, call Wayne County Parks at 734-261-1990 or visit www.parks.waynecounty.com.



WAYNE COUNTY PARKS

Cyclists will get to ride Hines Drive with the resumption of Saturday in the Park on May 2.

They're free!



DAVID MALHALAB MNS PHOTO / M NEWS SERVICE

Lauren Montgomery, auction hostess, holds a Green Lantern #1 DC Comics, his first appearance in his own series. While that comic book sold for \$575 during the monthly coin and comic book auctions at Back to the Past Comics, people can get one of 50 special free comic books Saturday, May 2, as part of Free Comic Book Day. BTTP, located at 12670 Inkster Road, Redford, and A to Z Comics, 32647 Ford, Garden City, is among comic book stores throughout the country that will be giving away free comic books to everyone who visit their stores. There also will be other special activities.

Stretch! Yoga Day at Mercy Center offers 16 classes

Yoga enthusiasts can indulge their passion Saturday, May 2, during training sessions at the Mercy Center in Farmington Hills.

The nonprofit Yoga Association of Greater Detroit is sponsoring the all-day event. Sixteen different yoga teachers, including four former presidents of the Yoga Association, will offer 75-minute sessions. This is the 32nd year for the spring yoga day.

Local residents who are instructors include Lynda Herman of Garden City, Juli Jeffrey of Livonia, Doris Sheikh of Farmington Hills, Veronica Zador and Stephen George of West Bloomfield and Yvette Cobb of Birmingham.

The first four sessions (9:45-11 a.m.) include Kundalini Mind Kriya, your first yoga class, Mantra and Meditation, and healing sounds.

The second sessions (11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) include "let's stretch," Kundalini yoga, yoga alignment and yoga communication.

The first afternoon sessions (1:45-3 p.m.) include chair yoga, Yin Yang, pranayama (breathing and chanting) and deep breathe lessons. The final sessions

(3:15-4:30 p.m.) include Tadasana or reflections on the mountain, Vinyasa flow, fun yoga tricks (all levels) and restorative yoga.

For registration information and a fuller

explanation of all 16 classes, visit the YAGD website at www.yagd.org. There is a small fee for the classes. Bring your own lunch or eat at nearby restaurants. The association will provide coffee

and tea in the morning.

The Mercy Center, located next to the Costick Center, is at 28650 11 Mile, Farmington Hills.

SPRING INTO ACTION!

SMALL FRUITS
reg. \$29.99

BUY 1 GET 1 HALF OFF

Blueberry, raspberry, blackberry, grape



WAVE PETUNIAS
10" Hanging Basket
Reg. \$24.99
\$16.99



BUMPER CROP

Organic Soil Builder
2 cu ft bag Reg. \$16.99
3 or more
\$13.99 each

Mix and Match with Gardener's Gold Organic Soil.



POTTERY EMPORIUM

30% OFF
Over 30 colors, countless styles!



Fruit Tree Class May 2, 1pm

734-453-5500

www.plymouthnursery.net
Mon-Fri 8-8 Sat 8-6 • Sun 9-5
Offers Expire 5/6/15

PLYMOUTH NURSERY
HOME & GARDEN SHOWPLACE

9900 Ann Arbor Rd W
7 Miles West of I-275 • 1 1/2 Miles South of M-14
Corner of Godfredson Rd.

we buy
gold
top prices
paid



Golden Gifts
Jewelers

PROUDLY SERVING LIVONIA SINCE 1986

A Licensed Buyer

33300 West Six Mile Road • Livonia
At the Corner of Six Mile & Farmington

734.525.4555

Mon.-Wed. & Fri. 10-6; Thurs. 10-8 Sat. 10-5

RELIEVING PAIN RESTORING LIVES

Rehabilitation Physicians, PC provides patients with comprehensive care to relieve pain, recover from injury and regain function from disabilities.



Rehabilitation Physicians, PC

Relieving Pain and Restoring Lives

Contact us for more information

248-893-3200

Livonia
Farmington Hills
Novi

RehabilitationPhysicians.com



Mother's Day is Just Around the Corner!

Joe's has an amazing selection of spring candy and beautiful, ready made Mother's Day baskets made for every budget! Stop in today!

HOURS: Monday - Saturday 9am-8pm; Sunday 9am-6pm
33152 W. SEVEN MILE RD • LIVONIA, MI
Prices valid from 4-30-15 thru 5-6-15 while Supplies Last.

JOE'S PRODUCE 248.477.4333
JOE'S MEAT & SEAFOOD 248.477.4323

ORGANIC PRODUCE SPECIALS

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Blackberries \$2⁹⁹ ea | Kiwi 2/\$1 |
| Bartlett Pears 99¢ lb | Mangos 2/\$3 |

PRODUCE

| | | | | | |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Driscoll's Ripe & Sweet Raspberries 2/\$5 | Driscoll's Sweet & Juicy Blackberries 2/\$4 | Canadian Tomatoes on the Vine 99¢ lb | Florida Sweet Corn 10/\$4 | California Romaine Hearts 2/\$5 | Haas Avocados 59¢ ea |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|

Joe's Meat & Seafood

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Dearborn Dinner Franks \$3⁹⁹ lb | Joe's Ready to Grill Marinated Chicken Kabobs Italian, Herb & Garlic, Mesquite or Teriyaki \$5⁹⁹ Save lb \$1.00 | USDA Premium Choice Angus Ground Beef from Chuck \$3⁹⁹ Save lb 50¢ | Joe's Ready to Grill Burgers Bacon Cheddar, Jalapeño Cheddar or Bleu Cheese \$5⁴⁹ Save lb \$1.00 | Fresh Atlantic Salmon Fillets \$6⁹⁹ Save lb \$3.00 | Ready to Grill Cedar Plank Salmon \$6⁹⁹ ea | Fresh North American Lake Trout \$6⁹⁹ Save lb \$1.00 |
| All Natural Fresh Chicken Leg Quarters 69¢ lb | Premium Fresh - All Natural Baby Back Ribs \$3⁹⁹ Save lb \$1.00 | Breakfast Sale Bulk Sausage, Breakfast Links, Boar's Head Smoked or Applewood Bacon \$3⁹⁹ Save lb \$1.00 | Fresh Wild Caught Swordfish Steaks \$17⁹⁹ Save ea \$2.00 | Fresh Wild Caught Yellowfin Tuna \$17⁹⁹ Save ea \$5.00 | Bone-in Chicken Breast \$1⁵⁹ lb | Pork Tenderloins \$2⁹⁹ Save lb \$2.00 |
| | Bone-in Center Cut Pork Chops \$2⁶⁹ Save lb \$1.00 | | | | | |

DELI

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| Boar's Head Honey Maple Ham \$7⁹⁹ lb Boar's Head Save \$4.00 | Boar's Head Colby Jack or Colby Cheese \$5⁹⁹ lb Boar's Head Save \$4.00 | Dietz & Watson Buffalo Wing Cheddar \$7⁴⁹ lb Save \$2.50 | Kowalski Beer Salami \$5⁹⁹ lb Save \$1.50 | Dearborn Brown Sugar Ham \$4⁹⁹ lb Save \$3.00 |
| Boar's Head Ovengold Turkey \$7⁹⁹ lb Boar's Head Save \$3.00 | Stella Aged Asiago Cheese \$8⁹⁹ lb Save \$3.00 | Sahlen's Oven Roasted Turkey \$6⁹⁹ lb Save \$3.00 | Eckrich Bologna Regular & Garlic \$3⁹⁹ lb Save \$2.00 | Dearborn Low Sodium Turkey \$6⁹⁹ lb Save \$2.00 |
| Boar's Head Everroast Chicken \$7⁹⁹ lb Boar's Head Save \$3.00 | Dietz & Watson Applewood Smoked Ham \$8⁴⁹ lb Save \$2.50 | Tillamook Extra Sharp Cheddar \$8⁹⁹ lb Tillamook Save \$2.00 | Burnett Dairy Cheeses All Varieties \$4⁹⁹ ea | Jennie-O Chicken Breast \$6⁹⁹ lb Save \$2.00 |

GROCERY

| |
|---|
| Dairy Fresh Butters Salted & Unsalted 2/\$7 1lb |
| Albies Beef & Chicken Frozen Pasties 2/\$5 |
| Belladuro 100% Extra Virgin Olive Oil \$8⁹⁹ 1 Liter |
| Chuck & Dave's Chips & Salsas 2/\$5 |
| La Baleine Sea Salts Fine & Course 2/\$7 26oz |

PASTRY

| | |
|--|--|
| 3" WHITE & CHOCOLATE MOUSSE CAKE \$4⁹⁹ | CHOCOLATE RASPBERRY DELIGHT \$17⁹⁹ 8" \$27⁹⁹ 8" |
| J SKINNER ROUND DANISHES \$4⁹⁹ All Varieties | JOE'S FRESH BAKED 10" STRAWBERRY RHUBARB PIE \$11⁹⁹ |
| TWO BITE LEMON TARTS \$3⁹⁹ pkg | |

CAFE

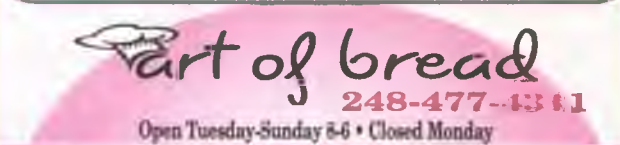
| |
|---|
| Joe's Fresh Roasted Coffee Flavor of the Week: Almond Amaretto \$8⁹⁹ lb Save \$1.00 |
| Orange Fork Chefs Salted Caramel Pretzel Brownies \$2⁴⁹ |
| Detroit Tigers R/S Peanuts \$1⁹⁹ 12oz bag |
| Sanders Dark Chocolate Clusters \$5⁹⁹ 6oz bag Cherry & Granola |

GIFT BASKETS
Any Size, Any Occasion, Any Day
We can make it! Call us or come in today!

Everyday GOURMET

| |
|---|
| Summer Broccoli Salad \$4⁹⁹ lb Save \$1.00 |
| Chicken Caesar Pasta Salad \$5⁹⁹ lb Save \$1.00 |
| Pecan or Sesame Chicken \$8⁹⁹ lb Save \$1.00 |
| Spinach w/ Roasted Garlic \$3⁹⁹ lb Save \$1.00 |

JOE'S GOURMET CATERING & EVENTS
Summer dates are filling up fast! Call today to book your Graduation Party, Wedding, Showers and Employee Picnics! We can customize any event to fit your needs and budget. Call our event planner today!
Visit up as www.joesgourmetcatering.com or call Laura @ 248 477 4999 x226



| | |
|--|--|
| DELI RYE BREAD \$2⁹⁹ | CINNAMON RAISIN BREAD \$4⁹⁹ |
| HOMEMADE GRANOLA 2/\$4 | COFFEE CAKE BY THE SLICE \$2⁹⁹ |

WINE CELLAR

| |
|--|
| Lindeman's Wines \$4⁹⁹ 750ML btl |
| Sterling Vintners Collection \$8⁹⁹ 750ML btl |
| Eppa Sangria Red & White \$9⁹⁹ btl |
| Josh Wines \$12⁹⁹ btl |
| Dogfish Head 60Min IPA \$8⁹⁹ 6 pack |
| Shorts Huma Lupa Licious IPA \$8⁹⁹ 6 pack |

Chef's Feature
Pork Chops with Tamarind & Strawberry Glaze

HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS

Stevenson netters earn another crown

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson's girls tennis team delivered an exciting encore performance to last week's Livonia City Tournament championship when it piled up 22 points to win Saturday's eight-team P-CEP Invitational.

The Spartans were fueled by championships in four doubles flights – first, third, fourth and fifth – which accounted for 12 of their points.

Salem nipped Plymouth, 18-17, for runner-up honors, while Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard took fourth with 14 points.

Also competing were Dearborn (12), Franklin and Canton (nine points each), and Temperance Bedford (seven).

The Rocks captured first-place points in the first three singles flights to stay close to the Spartans.

Winning flight champion-

Spartans follow up Livonia City title with P-CEP championship

ships for the Spartans were the No. 1 doubles duo of Arryn Dochenetz and Sam Digiovanni, the No. 3 team of Lauren Larson and Sarah Morse, the No. 4 tandem of Caitlin McCamant and Claressa Smith, and the No. 5 pairing of Allison Malkowski and Alyssa Ayash.

All four Stevenson singles players – Sam Cyrus, Jill Weiland, Danielle Marzec and Molly Cormier – were triumphant in two of their three matches.

The Spartans' No. 2 doubles team of Maddie Chimento and Natalie Hay also went 2-1.

Franklin's top performers were No. 1 singles player Kendall Payne, who went 2-1, and the No. 4 doubles team of Grace Mathews and Emma

Fogle, who dropped just one of its three contests.

Salem's Chelsea Yu captured the No. 1 singles title by blanking Gabriel Richard's Colleen O'Leary, 6-0, 6-0, in the final.

Stevenson doubles up Salem

The Spartans defeated Salem, 6-3, in a KLAA Central Division match on Monday.

Winners for Stevenson were Cormier, and the duos of Digiovanni-Dochenetz, Chimento-Hay, Larson-Morse, Smith-McCamant and Ayash-Malkowski.

Patriots upend Churchill

Franklin won four of the five doubles matches to double-up Churchill, 6-3, last week.

Chargers freshman Kaitlyn Rogosch defeated Payne, 6-2, 6-1, at No. 1 singles while Churchill's Triveni Arvikar swept Chelsea McWilliams at No. 2. Franklin evened the singles count at 2-2 thanks to victories by No. 3 Carla Yanez, who up-ended Madison White, 6-4, 6-1; and No. 4 Yasmeen Freeman, who defeated Kayla Gruich, 6-0, 6-4.

Churchill's lone doubles point came from the No. 1 duo of Maggie Trinka and Lexi Fata, who defeated Kaity Swenson and Ashlee Mahoney, 6-4, 7-5.

Franklin's doubles winners were the No. 2 team of K-Jana Malone and Snigda Thyagaraj; the No. 3 pairing of Janki Patel and Sophia Bastas; the No. 4 team of Grace Mathews and Emma Fogle; and the No. 5 team of Haley Griffin and Esthlea Ochoa.

ewright@hometownlife.com

Tim Shaw football camp

Tim Shaw's annual Dream it! Do it! football camp will be held Friday, June 15, from 5:30-9:30 p.m. at the Clarenceville football field, located on the east side of Middlebelt Rd. between Seven and Eight Mile roads.

Shaw is a former Clarenceville football star who had outstanding careers at Penn State University and in the NFL.

The camp is free for all kids entering fourth through 12th grades.

Registration begins at the field at 4:45 p.m. on June 12. Participants can pre-register at timshaw-football.com.

The non-contact camp offers football-specific and speed skills that will be taught according to position and grade level.

Instructed by current and former NFL and college players as well as local coaches, athletes will be inspired to reach their goals in a positive environment. A sports trainer will be on site during the camp.

The first 150 registrants accepted will get a T-Shirt.

For more information, send an e-mail to johnshawfamily@gmail.com.

GCYAA football registration

Registration is still open and roster spots are still available for Garden City Youth Athletic Association flag and tackle football teams.

Visit gcyaafootball.com for registration forms and age requirements. Questions can be e-mailed to gcyaafootball@hotmail.com.

Walk-in registration will be held 6-8 p.m. May 20 in the Garden City High School gymnasium. Physicians from Infinity Primary Care will be conducting physicals for a discounted rate of \$10 during this two-hour block.

Practice kicks off July 29.

Blazers stop Saddlelites

Jaclyn Mullen and Jillian Jacobs each scored three goals Monday leading host Livonia Ladywood to a 12-8 girls lacrosse victory over visiting Warren Regina.

The Blazers, who improved to 5-3 overall and 5-0 in Division 2 of the Catholic League, also got goals from Dani Dwyer (2), Nicole Reece, Shannon Mulcahy, Kristen Karwan and Sydney Pilut.

Libby Matias and Olivia Beasley each tallied three goals for the Saddlelites (1-5, 0-3 Division 2).

Ladywood junior goalie Aliya Grandison made nine saves.

"We didn't start out very strong in the first half and did not take good shots," said Ladywood coach Kris Sanders, whose team led 6-4 at halftime. "We regrouped and began winning ground balls allowing us to spend more time on attack where we began scoring goals, slowly chipping away at the goal differential to move ahead. The team came together and gave everything they had to pull out the win."

Reporting results

Local high school athletic coaches are encouraged to report results of their team's contests to Observer sports editor Ed Wright, who can be reached at 734-578-2767 or ewright@hometownlife.com.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Churchill, Franklin split make-up twinbill

Patriots win opener, 6-5; Chargers roll in nightcap, 11-1

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The final moments of the first game of Tuesday afternoon's rivalry softball double-header featuring Livonia neighbors Franklin and Churchill could not have been more tense.

The same cannot be said of the second game.

When the dust had cleared and sun had set on the make-up twinbill, the teams split the pair with the Patriots surviving to take the opener, 6-5, before the Chargers seized control early in the nightcap, winning 11-1.

Trailing 6-5 in the opener, Churchill put its first two batters on base in the sixth and lead-off hitter on in the seventh, but couldn't finish against Franklin senior pitcher Alaina Defrain, who was aided by some air-tight defensive play by her teammates.

In the sixth, Elyse Baumgardner led off with a bunt single for Churchill before Victoria Lupher walked. Defrain then got the next two hitters – Erin Carpenter and Rachel Mattison – to hit into fielder's choice plays before she struck out Melanie Richardson swinging.

Churchill's Regan Peyton reached on an error to lead off the seventh. After the next batter hit into a fielder's choice, Defrain notched a strike out, but Lauren St. Pierre laced a two-out single to put the tying run on second.

See SOFTBALL, Page B4



ED WRIGHT

Churchill's Lauren St. Pierre squares up a pitch Tuesday against Franklin.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL



ED WRIGHT

Stevenson's Jack Ferguson threw a complete-game two-hitter against Canton Monday afternoon.

JACK OF DIAMONDS

Stevenson senior pitcher Ferguson 2-hits Canton

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

For a baseball team like Livonia Stevenson, which has grown accustomed to seventh innings saturated with drama, Monday's final frame against visiting Canton was about as boring as watching artificial turf grow.

And the Spartans can thank senior starting pitcher Jack Ferguson for that.

The hard-throwing lefty limited the Chiefs to just two hits – a second-inning double by Nick Durocher and a sixth-inning single from Cody Zidzik – to lead Stevenson to a 5-2 victory in a KLAA cross-over clash.

Working with a rare three-run lead in the seventh, Ferguson issued a lead-off walk to Edward Zajdel before retiring the next three Chiefs with a strike out and two ground outs.

Ferguson, who will extend his baseball career at Saginaw Valley State University beginning next season, struck out seven and walked four.

"It's always special to throw a complete game," said Ferguson, who helped his team improve to 10-5 overall and 5-2 in the Kensington Conference. "I threw a couple last year, but it still feels good. I felt strong at the end. I threw 106 pitches my last game [Thursday] and I was at 91 coming into the seventh today, so my pitch count was good."

Ferguson said he doesn't necessarily have a batter-by-batter strategy heading into games.

"Once I get through the first round of hitters, then I'll kind of have a game plan as far as how to go at them, but not until the second



ED WRIGHT

Livonia Stevenson's Mark Petterson beats a tag attempt by Canton infielder Justin Dolney during Monday's KLAA baseball game.

or third time through the order," he said.

All but a handful of the Spartans' past several games were either decided with seventh-inning walk-offs or suspended in the latter stages with the game tied.

"We're still a young team, but it's a very positive group who are buying into what we're telling them," said Stevenson head coach Rick Berryman. "They never give up and they're very coachable."

See STEVENSON, Page B2

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Huron Valley derails Southfield Christian

Clarenceville upends Redford Thurston

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Huron Valley Lutheran senior Julie St. John was a two-way force during Tuesday's 14-0 victory over Southfield Christian.

On the mound, St. John yielded just two hits while striking out 11. At the plate, she went 3-for-4 with a triple and three RBI.

The Hawks set the tone early with five first-inning runs against losing pitcher Emma Paryaski.

In addition to St. John, Bethany Schaffer (4-for-4, RBI) and Jessie Strauch (2-for-3, home run, three RBI) had productive days for the winners.

"Julie pitched well tonight, and really kept their hitters off balance," said HVL head coach Eric Ruth. "I was very happy with how we hit as a team tonight. We need to keep making solid contact with the ball."

HVL improved to 5-4 overall and 3-1 in the conference.

Chargers 2-1 at own tourney

Livonia Churchill came within a two-run, seventh-inning rally by Holt of going 3-0 at Saturday's Churchill Invitational at Rotary Park.

The Chargers defeated Chelsea, 10-2, behind the robust hitting of Madison Christensen, who went 2-for-4 with a home run and six RBI. Victoria Lupher went 4-for-4 while Melanie Richardson was tough on the mound, limiting Chelsea to five hits while striking out eight.

Churchill defeated Farmington, 9-0, as Christensen tossed a five-hitter, striking out seven. The offensive stars for the Chargers were Regan Peyton (3-for-3, two runs), Richardson (3-for-4, two runs), Colleen McGowan (2-for-2, two RBI) and Elyse Baumgardner, who went 2-for-3 with three RBI.

The Rams spoiled Churchill's perfect day with a pair of runs in the top of the seventh. Richardson was stellar on the mound, scattering eight hits and a walk while fanning five in seven frames. Only three of the four runs

she yielded were earned. Christensen went 3-for-3 with an RBI at the dish.

Trojans nudged Thurston

Clarenceville led from start to finish Monday in its softball game with Redford Thurston, but the 10-8 victory was not certain until the last out was made.

Senior pitcher Emily Schwartz went the distance to lead the host Trojans to their second victory in six games.

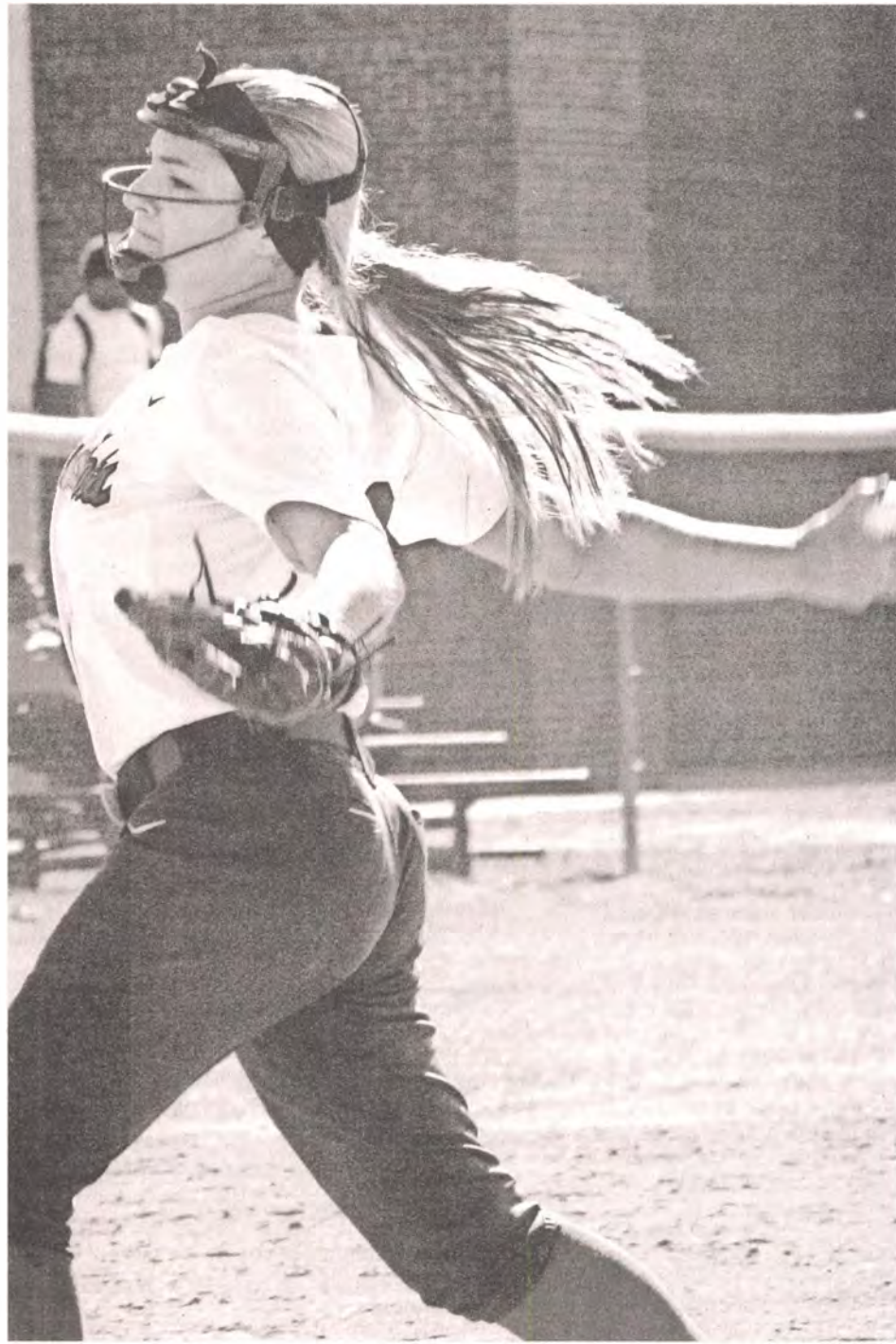
She limited the Eagles to five hits, struck out 15 and walked three. Schwartz managed to overcome five errors by the Clarenceville defense.

"Emily carried us and was determined to win," coach Joe DeCaire said. "Our offense stranded a number of base runners (nine), and our defense has to improve if we are going to be successful."

The offense was led by senior Mia Sampson, who had two hits, including a triple, was hit by a pitch, scored two runs and drove in two runs.

Kylee Hammond, Nicole Scott and Allison Szostak had two hits apiece, too. Scott had three RBI, Hammond two and Szostak one. Szostak also scored two runs and Hammond one.

Thurston third baseman Ivory Mamo was 3-for-3 with two triples, a single and a walk. She scored two runs.



Franklin senior pitcher Alaina DeFrain delivers a pitch Tuesday afternoon at Churchill.

ED WRIGHT

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page B1

Alyssa Mazur then hit a sharp ground ball to freshman shortstop Ashley Kent who calmly secured the ball and fired a strike to first to end the game.

The Chargers erupted for eight runs in the bottom of the first of the second game and never looked back.

Peyton produced two hits and four RBI, St. Pierre's box-score line included four twos - at-bats, runs, hits and RBI - while Lupher went 3-for-3 with a trio of

ribbies. Madison Christensen was stellar in the circle for the Chargers, scattering six hits and yielding no earned runs over the five-inning contest.

Franklin's lone run came in the first when Brooke Garbarino knocked in Kent.

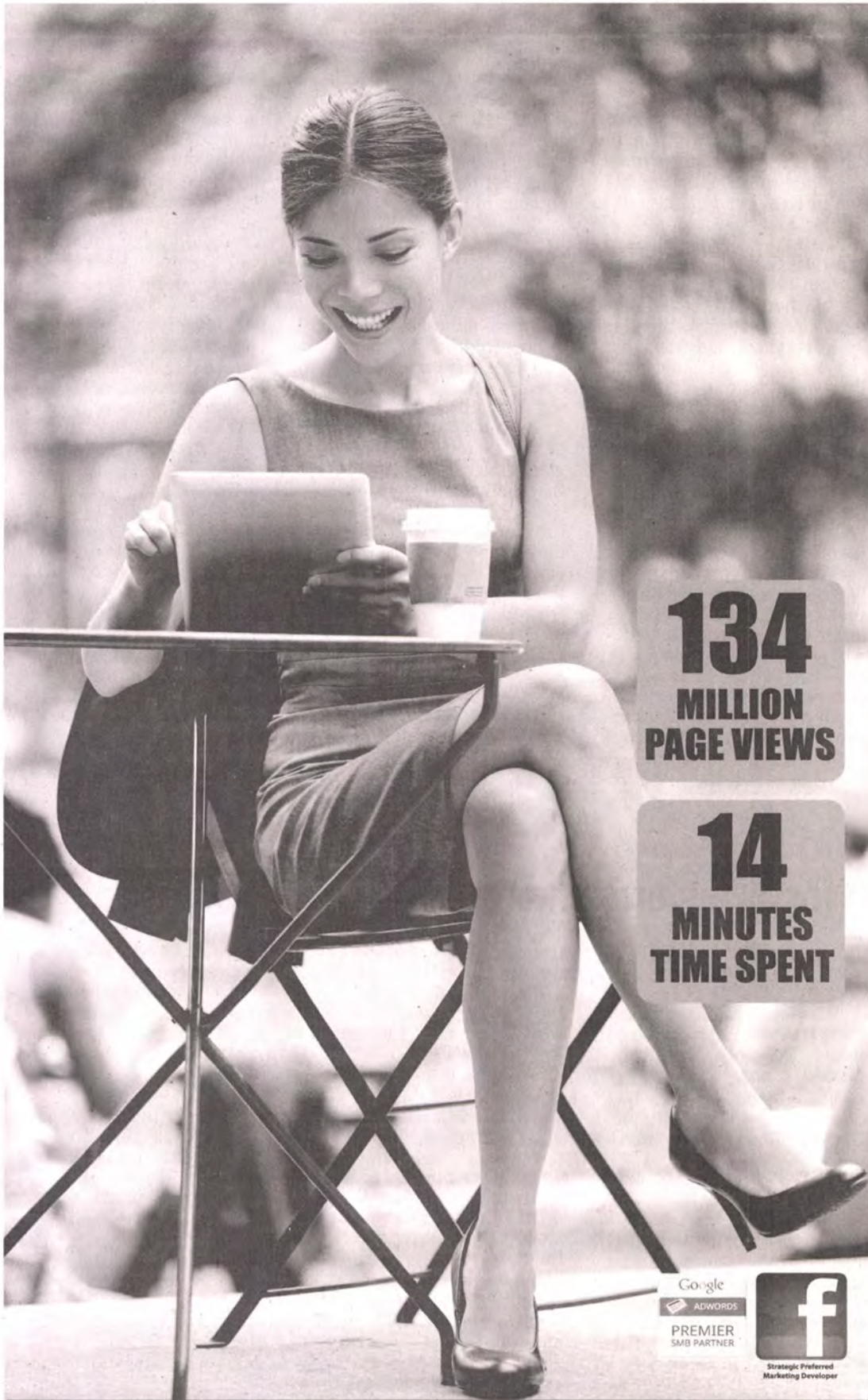
ewright@hometownlife.com

ABSTRACT WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2015-08 April 21, 2015

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wayne Activity & Banquet Center, 35000 Sims Ave. MEMBERS PRESENT Hawley, Monit, Damitio, Rowe, Rhaesa, Miller. MEMBERS ABSENT: James. The Council recessed to a Closed Session at 7:02 p.m.; the City Council reconvened at 7:51 p.m.; Adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: April 30, 2015



134
MILLION
PAGE VIEWS

14
MINUTES
TIME SPENT



Michigan's Largest Media & Marketing Company

We combine the largest news and information audience in the state with the top multi-platform marketing experts to provide you with a single partner with one purpose, to help your business grow.

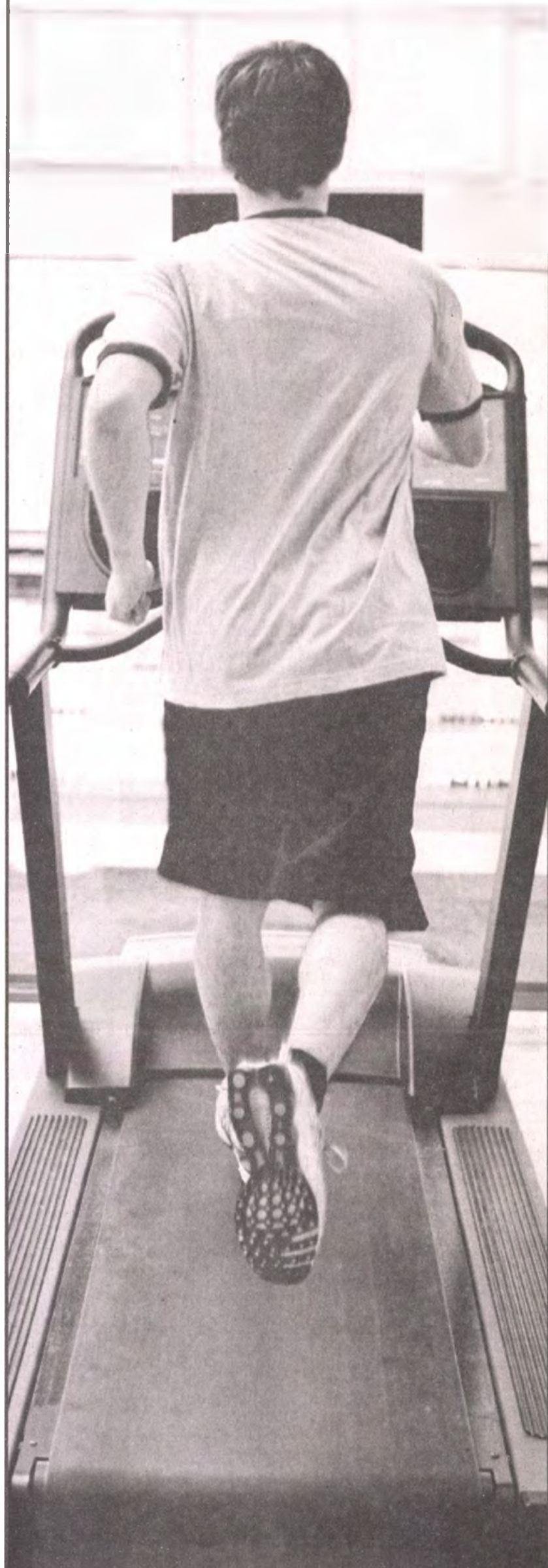
Michigan's Most Engaged People spend more time on our sites and visit more often than any other news/information site in Michigan.



A GANNETT COMPANY

Call us at 248-408-9501 or email jhayden@michigan.com for a FREE website audit. We are your one partner with one purpose, to help your business grow.

Helping YOU reach your GOAL



Whether you want to get fit or get organized—save money doing it with an O&E Media classified ad!

Our classifieds **WORKOUT!**

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
hometownlife.com
A GANNETT COMPANY

800-579-7355

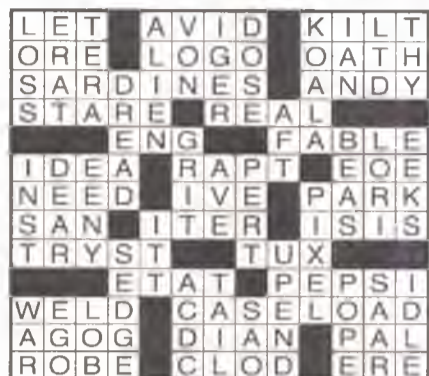
Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

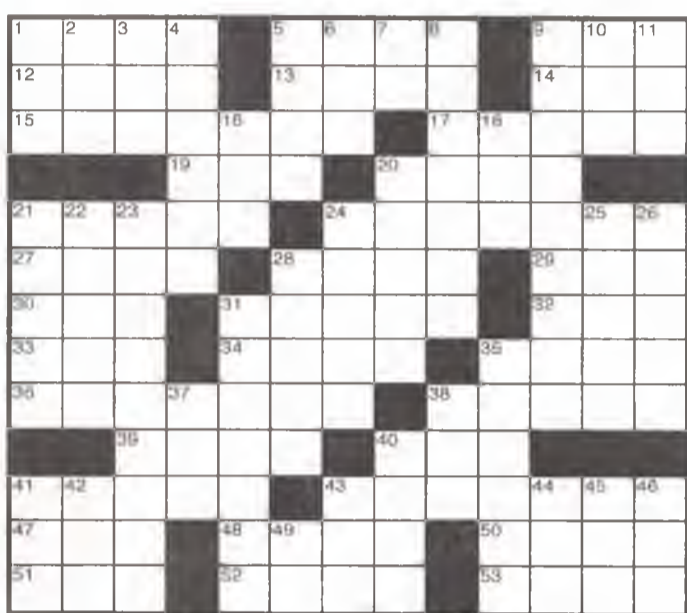
CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- Burn slightly
 - Meat substitute
 - No longer in office
 - Equal to the task
 - Pull down
 - FDR had three
 - Pricey tree
 - Sweater style (hyph.)
 - Charged particle
 - Be alarmed about
 - Stomach
 - No-iron (hyph.)
 - Sand formation
 - Vaccine type
 - Weep over
 - Colony member
 - Keeps from sinking
 - Fay's role in "King Kong"
- DOWN**
- Btu kin
 - Cable network
 - Linen vestment
 - Dwell
- ACROSS**
- Here, in Le Havre
 - Lodging places
 - "Hot Lips" Houlihan
 - Gothic —
 - Merv's hostess, once
 - Campaign staffer
 - Word to end a card game
 - Dame
 - Ivy shoot
 - Malt beverage
 - Very funny person
 - Rev the engine
 - Sleeping place
 - Begins the next crop
 - Khan
- DOWN**
- New driver, maybe
 - Galley mover
 - Neighbor of Sp
 - Shows for the first time
 - In the hole
 - Mdse. bars
 - Chiding sound
 - Sock filler
 - Forty winks
 - Comes unraveled
 - Oil-well capper
 - Red —
 - Con game
 - Hinted at
 - Male honeybee
 - Minor quarrel (hyph.)
 - Busybody
 - Cup fraction
 - Notebooks
 - Actress — Bullock
 - Oxygen source
 - French wine
 - Realizes
 - Take into custody
 - Corrida cry
 - AAA job
 - Type of doll
 - Fritz, to himself
 - Grassy field
 - A moon of Jupiter

Answer to Previous Puzzle



9-13-12 © 2012 UFS, Dist. by Univ. Uclif for UFS



Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

ROAD TRIP WORD SEARCH

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

WORDS

- ATTRACTIONS
- AUTOMOTIVE
- BRIDGE
- CAR
- CROSS-COUNTRY
- CRUISE
- DESTINATION
- DIRECTION
- DISTANCE
- DRIVING
- ENGINE
- FAMILY
- FUEL
- GAS
- HIGHWAY
- HOURS
- LANE
- LIMIT
- MAP
- MILEAGE
- PACKING
- PRECIPITATION
- RECREATION
- REST STOP
- SCENIC
- SEAT
- SPEED
- STEERING
- STOP
- TOLLS
- TOURIST
- TRAFFIC
- TRAVEL
- TRIP
- TUNEUP
- VACATION

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

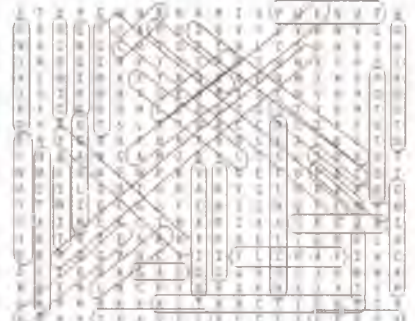
CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Word Search





SWAP SOY FOODS

FOR MEAT, DAIRY INGREDIENTS IN RECIPES

As families look for easy-to-prepare and affordable sources of protein, soy foods are increasingly in the spotlight. The nutrition profile and versatility of this plant-based protein makes it an attractive mealtime solution, but how to cook and prepare soy foods may have the average home cook stumped.

These days, soy foods can be found throughout the supermarket, with protein-enriched bars, cereals and snacks becoming top sellers, followed closely by traditional soy foods such as tofu and soy milk. But a 2013 study by Edelman Berland shows that when it comes to cooking with soy foods, people are hesitant about the unknown.

"There's plenty of ongoing research that illustrates the wide variety of nutrition benefits of eating more soy, but many people are intimidated by not knowing how to prepare soy foods," said Barbara Ruhs, a registered dietitian and retail expert. "Most soy foods don't have very strong flavors, which is why they're the perfect addition to most recipes and meals. My best advice is to just experiment and enjoy."

It's actually quite easy to incorporate tasty soy-based foods and beverages into your family's meals and snacks. Soy foods can be incorporated into everything from on-the-go snacks to comfort food, adding protein and cutting cho-

lesterol for heart-health benefits in your favorite foods.

For example, tofu is so versatile you can use it instead of ricotta in lasagna or the cream in your pumpkin soup. These tips for cooking with soy foods will help get you started:

» Use firm or extra-firm tofu for baking, grilling, sauteing and frying. For an even firmer, more meat-like texture, use a tofu press to squeeze out the moisture and allow the tofu to absorb marinade.

» When re-hydrated, textured vegetable protein (TVP), also known as textured soy protein, resembles cooked ground meat. Similarly, pre-cooked soy crumbles are perfect for chili, spaghetti sauce and tacos, and contain no saturated fat or cholesterol.

» Edamame, or young soybeans, are a fun, protein-rich snack to eat out of the shell when steamed, and can also be used instead of other beans in your favorite recipes.

» For sustained energy on-the-go, foods with soy protein such as protein bars, cereal, and shakes keep you feeling full longer.

Find more tips at www.soyfoods.org and [facebook.com/SoyfoodsAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/SoyfoodsAssociation).

Courtesy of Family Features



TORTILLA BAKE

Servings: 12

2 medium onions, chopped
1 green bell pepper, chopped
½ cup mild salsa
2 cans (15.5 ounces each) chili beans (do not drain)
1 can (8 ounces) tomato sauce
1 cup textured vegetable protein (TVP), dry (or soy-based "crumbles")
1 cup corn kernels
½ cup water
1 can (2.25 ounces) sliced black olives, drained
1 tablespoon chili powder
18 (6-inch) corn tortillas
1 cup shredded Mexican-style or cheddar cheese
Optional garnishes: sliced tomatoes, olives and avocado

Preheat oven to 350°F. Coat 9-by-13-inch baking dish with cooking spray.

Combine onions, pepper, salsa, chili beans, tomato sauce, TVP, corn, water, olives and chili powder in large saucepan and bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer 10 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Spread about one quarter of chili mixture on bottom of prepared baking dish. Top with six tortillas, overlapping or cutting to fit as necessary. Top with another quarter of chili mixture and a third of cheese. Repeat for two more layers each of tortillas, chili mixture and cheese.

Cover with aluminum foil and bake for 30 minutes. Garnish with tomatoes, olives and avocado, if desired.

Nutrition information per serving:
240 calories; 12g protein; 36g carbohydrate; 8g dietary fiber; 6g fat; 494mg sodium



SPICY CORN MUFFINS

Recipe from Silk
Makes 12 muffin

¾ cup yellow cornmeal
1 ¼ cup unbleached all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon cumin
1 cup Silk Original or Unsweetened Soymilk
1 egg
¼ cup canola oil
1 tablespoon honey
1 (7 ounce) can chipotle chilies in adobo sauce, drained
1 cup canned corn kernels, drained

Preheat oven to 400°F. Spray or grease a 12-cup muffin pan. Whisk together cornmeal, flour, baking powder, salt, and cumin in a large bowl. In a separate bowl, whisk together soymilk, egg, oil, and honey.

Pour egg mixture over cornmeal mixture and stir until ingredients are moistened. Do not overmix. Remove chilies from can and chop. Gently stir chilies and corn into batter.

Spoon into prepared pan and bake for 15-18 minutes until golden brown.

Nutrition per muffin: 152 calories, 3.5g protein, 14.5g carbohydrate, 2g dietary fiber, 6g fat (0.5g saturated fat), 15.5mg cholesterol, 300mg sodium (calculated using unsweetened soymilk)



TABBOULEH WITH EDAMAME & FETA

Recipe by Sunrich Naturals
Makes 6, 1 1/4-cup servings

2 ½ cups water
1 ¼ cups bulgur
¼ cup lemon juice
¼ cup prepared pesto
2 cups Sunrich Naturals Shelled Edamame
2 cups cherry tomatoes, halved
½ cup feta cheese, crumbled
½ cup green onions, thinly sliced
2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped
¼ teaspoon black pepper

In a medium saucepan, bring the water to a boil; add uncooked bulgur. Return to a boil, reduce heat, cover, and simmer about 15 minutes or until most of the liquid is absorbed. Remove from heat and transfer to a large bowl.

In a small bowl, whisk together lemon juice and pesto. Add to bulgur along with edamame, cherry tomatoes, feta cheese, green onions, parsley, and pepper. Toss to combine. Garnish with parsley springs.

Nutrition per serving: 279 calories, 13.5g protein, 32.5g carbohydrates, 8.5g fiber, 11.5g fat, 243mg sodium



SOY-SILKEN DARK CHOCOLATE PUDDING

Recipe from United Soybean Board
Makes 6, ½-cup servings

1 package (12.3 ounces) silken tofu, drained
2/3 cup dark unsweetened cocoa powder
1 cup powdered sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
Whipped topping (optional)

Place tofu, cocoa powder, powdered sugar, and vanilla in food processor. Puree for one minute, scraping down sides as needed, or until very smooth. Divide equally into six dishes and top with whipped topping before serving, if desired.

Tempting variations:

» Raspberry Chocolate Soy Pudding – Layer pudding with fresh raspberries and whipped topping.

» Mexican-Style Chocolate Soy Pudding – Stir in a pinch of ground cinnamon and cayenne pepper to taste, layer with whipped topping and top with chocolate shavings.

» Caramel Banana Chocolate Soy Pudding – Layer pudding with banana slices and whipped topping; drizzle with caramel sauce.

Nutrition per serving: 160 calories, 6g protein, 31g carbohydrate, 2g dietary fiber, 2.5g fat (0g sat fat), 0mg cholesterol, 20mg sodium