



**I AM AN AMERICAN:  
ACTIVIST GETS PEOPLE TALKING**  
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# WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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SUNDAY 04.16.17 || HOMETOWNLIFE.COM || PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Library staff voting on unionization

Recently laid-off librarians file Unfair Labor Practice

**LeAnne Rogers**  
hometownlife.com

Staff at Westland's William P. Faust Library are currently voting on whether to unionize while Library Director Sheila Collins is on a leave of absence.

The unionization effort — not the first in the library's history — came in the wake of a reorganization that resulted in the lay-off of five librarians. Those librarians identified themselves as the organizing leaders and filed an Unfair Labor Practice alleging the lay-offs were related to union activity.

Library employees were mailed ballots to their homes and have until April 26 to cast their votes. The votes are

scheduled to be counted April 27. Library Board President Mark Neal said Collins was given a paid leave through May 7 to avoid any appearance of attempting to sway the vote at the request of Westland Mayor William Wild.

The ULP is pending at the Michigan Employment Relations Commission but Neal said there had been no word about employees unionizing until after the reorganization had been under discussion for several months.

"We passed the reorganization plan in January. In February, the supervisor of the affected employees (those laid off) was talked with and she must have communicated that," Neal said. "The first



Neal Wild

notice we had about the unionization was March 1. We posted a letter on the employee bulletin board March 2 that recognized their efforts. We just asked that it not interfere with serving patrons. Notice of the lay-offs was given March 3."

### Board has no problem with staff unionizing

A former member of the Westland Firefighters Union, Neal said that neither he nor other library board members have any problem with the staff unionizing — other city

workers are union members. The library staffing reorganization eliminated five librarians and hired part-time associates for a savings of about \$178,000 annually.

Wild had asked the library board to suspend Collins, but the board instead placed her on administrative leave. "I reached out to the director — she never told us about the reorganization. I wasn't happy with how she handled it," Wild said. "I wanted first and foremost to make sure the union vote would go through with no problem. I feel strongly about that."

The library board has 100-percent confidence in Collins as director, Neal said. "We have unwavering support for the director — the whole board feels that way," he said. "The politics is unfortunate. It puts

the mayor and council in a difficult position."

In an election year, Neal and Wild both acknowledged the lay-offs have become politicized. But both also agreed that most of the complaints about the lay-offs haven't been from Westland residents.

"Most of the heat has come from library professionals across the country. I'm not getting resident complaints," said Wild, who visited the library and met with staff after Collins went on her leave. "I talked at length with employees and patrons. The normal operations were running smoothly. The employees were understandably on edge. I said we would make sure there were no repercussions."

Recently, Neal said he pro-

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gardeners at the Gleaners Garden clear beds of winter ground cover to prepare for spring planting.

## GRAB THOSE RAKES

Westland garden at DTE Energy site preps for season

**David Veselenak**  
hometownlife.com

Along Cherry Hill Road in Westland lies a secret garden.

Well, it's not a secret by design, it's just very few people know about it. That is, except for several volunteers, who began preparing the garden for the spring planting earlier this week. Now, they're thinking more folks might learn about the garden designed to help feed the hungry.

"Nobody would know, unless they read the newspaper," said Janet Sowards, a Westland resident.

The organic garden, located at the DTE Energy Training and Development Center at 38155 Cherry Hill and going into its eighth year of operation, had been associated with Gleaners for many years, growing thousands of pounds of produce. Now that connection is no more, though the garden still plans on growing as much food as it can to donate to several worthy causes such as Open Door Food Ministry in Canton. DTE Energy allows the garden to be used on the property, Sowards said,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Diane Durham of Redford removes vetch from the raised bed. The vetch, planted in October, prevents winter soil erosion and adds nitrogen to the soil.

though the organizations aren't connected in any other way.

Monday was the first official work day for the garden, which saw about 10 volunteers begin removing some of the cover crop planted in the beds. They'll soon begin planting a plethora of vegetables, including lettuce, peppers, eggplant and beans, just to name a few.

"We produced last year almost 12,000 pounds of vegetables," said Jane Kasey, a Plymouth resident who has volunteered at the garden since 2011. "We're here all summer, we're here all fall."

### Always looking for volunteers

Sowards said she believes the Westland garden is the lone one still in operation around Metro Detroit on DTE Energy property, deals that were struck several years ago. Others were open, including one in Farmington Hills, though she said others faded as volunteer numbers dropped. The group in Westland decided they wanted to

## Woman out \$43,000 in iTunes scam

**David Veselenak**  
hometownlife.com

Police are warning residents to be vigilant after a Wayne woman was scammed out of thousands of dollars earlier this month.

Wayne police were called to an 81-year-old woman's home April 5 on the report of an impersonation scam. The victim told police she received a call in August from someone calling themselves Danny Archer. The suspect said he was from the U.S. Treasury Department and told her that she owed the department money. The suspect was not clear why the woman owed money but threatened to contact police and they would arrest her if she did not pay.

The woman said the suspect told her to buy iTunes gift cards and read the numbers on the back of the cards. The woman followed his instructions for several weeks and spent \$43,000 on iTunes cards, all read to him on the phone.

After two weeks, the woman became suspicious and asked the suspect why she needed to keep sending the gift cards. The man told her he would call back and explain the reasons, though he never did. When police tried to contact the phone number, they found it was disconnected.

The Internal Revenue Service has said in the past it will not accept payments from taxpayers on prepaid cards such as iTunes, Western Union, Green Dot or MoneyPak cards. Anyone receiving a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS or Treasury Department and requests payment via iTunes gift cards are encouraged to hang up on them and report them to the IRS.

"No legitimate United States Treasury or IRS official will demand that payments via Western Union, MoneyGram, bank wire transfers, or bank deposits be made into another person's account for any debt to the IRS or Treasury," the agency stated in a news release last year.

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PRICE: \$1.50

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Observer & Eccentric Newspapers PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

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Volume 52 • Number 96

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Send press releases, calendar items to LIV-OENewspip@hometownlife.com

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**Burglary of home reported**

A resident moving from a home in the 1600 block of Lillian came to the Westland police station April 7 to report a

burglary. The resident said someone kicked in the rear door of the home and took two ceiling fans and the water heater. He said he was away from the home for several

days when the incident took place.

**Tools, drone stolen from car**

A resident in the 600 block of Brandon came to the police station April 5 to report tools had been taken from a vehicle.

He said he parked the car the night before. The next morning, he came to the car and noticed someone had entered the car. Several tools, including a drone and a Dewalt combo kit, were taken. He said he forgot to lock the doors to the truck and no damage was reported.

**Windshield shattered**

A resident in the 1700 block of Arthur reported to police April 9 that someone damaged his

vehicle. The victim said he returned to his vehicle that morning and found the back window had been shattered. Police inspected the damage and could not locate any evidence or determine what caused it. No suspect information was available.

**Home broken into**

Police were dispatched the afternoon of April 9 to a home in the 7400 block of Randy Drive on the report of a break-in.

The victim said he was working on renovating the home, which is currently vacant. He said he arrived at the home that day and found pry marks on the rear sliding glass door to the home. Police say they

saw some pry marks on another door. The victim said several tools were missing, including a power grinder and two cordless drills.

**Water sprinkler system taken**

Police were called April 6 to the 30000 block of Nelson Circle on the report of a stolen water sprinkler system.

The victim said he heard noise on the side of his house that morning. He looked and found a suspect running away with the sprinkler control system in his hands. He saw the system had been cut from the side of his home. The resident said these types of thefts had happened in the neighborhood before. Police checked with other homes that appeared

to have their systems missing as well, though police could not get a hold of any neighbors.

**Vehicle damaged**

A resident came to the police station April 5 to report damage done to her vehicle while parked in the 36000 block of Canyon Drive.

She said she was at her parents house with her vehicle parked on the street. She said a child who lived in the neighborhood alerted her that her car was struck by a truck that later fled the scene. Police saw the car had a dent on the driver side quarter panel, along with some paint transfer.

— Compiled from reports filed with the Westland Police Department.

**hometownlife.com**

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Published Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Media

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**Subscription Rates**

Newsstand price: \$1.50 Sunday  
\$5.00 EZ pay per month  
\$32.50 six months  
\$65.00 per year  
\$45.50 six months mail delivery  
\$91.00 per year mail delivery

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**CITY OF GARDEN CITY**

**NOTICE OF FILING DEADLINE**

To all potential candidates for Mayor, City Council, and Library Board Director, who seek office with the City of Garden City at the November 7th, 2017 Election, the filing deadline for nominating petitions is:

**Tuesday, April 25, 2017  
before 4:00 p.m.**

Allyson M. Bettis  
City Clerk  
City of Garden City, Michigan

Publish: April 16, 2017

LD-0000317194 2x2

Wayne County Parks' April interpretive program lineup includes an Earth Day celebration and other family-friendly events at Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, in Westland. To register for programs, call 734-261-1990.

**Earth Day Extravaganza**

1-4 p.m. Saturday, April 22  
Celebrate all things Mother Earth. Live animal shows, music, crafts,

speakers, nutty nature re-enactors and educational demonstrations will all be part of the family fun. This is a free event and is open to everyone. No registration is required.

**Wildflowers of southeast Michigan**

1-2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 29

Not only are they beautiful but our native wildflowers have fascinating folk stories. Learn how wildflowers were used in the past for folk

medicine and other purposes.

Hear about the intriguing natural history of native wildflowers, such as how ants help to plant trillium in the forest. For ages 12 and older. Program cost is \$3 per person; add an additional \$1 for non-county residents. Pre-registration is required.

**Frog frenzy**

6-8 p.m. Saturday, April 29

Children learn about the many different kinds

of Michigan frogs, create an amphibian craft and take an adventure outside to the pond to catch and release native frogs. The program also includes the opportunity to visit the nearby Holliday Nature Preserve to enjoy the spring symphony of frogs.

For ages 6 and older. Program cost is \$6 per child and \$2 per adult; add an additional \$1 for non-county residents. Pre-registration is required.

**LIBRARY**

Continued from Page A1

vided the council with statistics showing that after the number of librarians was reduced, the library had 2,000 more patron visits in March than the prior

month. "We served just as many people with less staff and delivered as many services," Neal said. "We have about 20,000 users a month in the library. It's pretty amazing. We're guarding the taxpayers' money. We want to make sure they are not paying anymore

more money than they should."

Once the unionization vote is completed, Wild said he wants city Human Resources Director Cindy King to work with a library board member and then meet with the library staff.

"I didn't agree with the timing and communi-

cation on the ultimate goals. If they are going to save money and change positions, they could have offered the positions to the laid-off employees," Wild said.

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# Police: Traffic stop reveals credit card fraud

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com

A routine traffic stop initiated by Livonia police last week resulted in the arrest of a man accused of possessing the personal account information of 20 people.

James Slater, 21, of Detroit, was arrested last week and charged Monday with 20 counts of possessing a fraudulent financial transaction device and one charge of operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Slater was arrested Friday afternoon near Five Mile and Middlebelt after Livonia police pulled him over. Police said he was seen driving



Stacks of credit cards were recovered during a routine traffic stop in Livonia last week. Many were blank, though police say 20 had fraudulent information attached to them.

COURTESY OF THE LIVONIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

without a seat belt on, and they saw a cracked windshield and burnt-out light.

Police said Slater handed the officer a state identification card during the stop, telling them his license was suspended. He was asked to step out of the car and was arrested. After police went through his vehicle, they reportedly discov-

ered a backpack that had a credit card embossing machine, a label maker, a blade from scissors, a credit card encoder and several hundred plastic cards, including some that appeared to have some fraudulent info on them.

When police took the cards back to the station, they reportedly checked the strips on the more-

than 200 cards and discovered 20 cards had fraudulent information and names on them.

Slater is currently being held in Wayne County Jail on a \$500,000 cash or surety bond. He's due to return to court April 20 for a probable cause conference and April 27 for a preliminary examination. If convicted, Slater faces up to six years in prison, as he's been charged as a habitual offender.

Michigan Department of Corrections records show Slater is on probation from an unarmed robbery charge he pleaded to in Oakland County that took place in 2015. Records show Slater was sentenced to five years probation, which is scheduled to end in 2021.

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## LIVONIA POLICE BRIEFS



COURTESY OF THE LIVONIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police say a man drove his truck into this garage Wednesday night in Livonia. Alcohol is believed to be a factor, police said.

### Driver runs through garage

Livonia police say a man believed to be under the influence of alcohol drove through a garage in the 9800 block of Henry Ruff.

Police say the driver, a 56-year-old man from Livonia, was driving his Chevrolet Silverado on Wednesday evening near Henry Ruff and Robert when his vehicle went off the road and into a detached garage, causing damage. Police say they believe alcohol played a factor. No one was injured in the crash.

### Identity theft reported

A resident in the 34200 block of Coventry Drive came to the police station to file an identity theft report.

The resident said someone used his information to apply for unemployment benefits, even though he did not file for them. He said the unemployment office told him to file a police report after reporting it to them.

—Compiled from reports filed with the Livonia Police Department.

## LIVONIA POLICE BRIEFS

### Fleeing retail fraud suspect arrested, charged

A 60-year-old Detroit man was arrested and charged after Livonia police say he fled a home improvement store after committing retail fraud earlier this month.

Dwayne King was charged with second-degree retail fraud and fourth-degree fleeing and eluding stemming from an incident April 3 at Menards, 12701 Middlebelt. Police located the suspect's vehicle, after it was determined he was a suspect in a retail fraud, as it drove away from the hardware store and tried to pull it over. The vehicle then fled the parking lot at a high rate of speed, police said.

Police went back that day to the store and talked to an employee, who said the suspect

made a return of a leaf blower while at the store. When checking the security footage, the suspect appears to have not entered the store with the leaf blower. Footage reportedly showed the suspect selecting a leaf blower from the shelf and taking it to the return counter. After the return was complete, an employee tried to stop him before leaving, but he got into his vehicle and drove off, police said.

King

King is being held in the Wayne County Jail on a \$500,000 cash or surety bond.

### Items taken at YMCA

A patron of the Livonia Family YMCA, 14255 Stark, came to the police station Monday evening to report items had been taken from her locker.

She said she returned to her locker about 90 minutes after originally putting her items inside of it and found several things missing. She checked the lost and found, though she did not find any of her items. She said she could not remember if she had put a lock on the locker, as she was in a hurry to get to her workout class.

### Xbox controller taken

An employee at Target, 29451 Plymouth, came to the police station Monday evening to report a retail fraud.

The employee said they saw a suspect select an Xbox controller off of the shelf, remove it from its packaging and con-

ceal it in his pants. He was stopped by an employee before he left the store, and was detained at the store. The controller was recovered and a report was compiled before being brought to police.

### Package stolen from porch

A resident in the 9000 block of Fremont came to the police station Monday afternoon to report a package had been stolen from her residence.

She said she received a package in the mail containing a book last week. She said it appeared someone had taken it from her porch on that day. No suspect information was available.

—Compiled from reports filed with the Livonia Police Department.

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**DRG DIETZ PROPERTY GROUP**

# Men's ensemble to perform, former Lion to speak at Livonia Prayer Breakfast

Music is an important part of the Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast and Jerry Smith, long-time member of the prayer breakfast committee, intends to deliver on that tradition in a big way for the 43rd annual event.

Under Smith's direction, more than 35 men from western Wayne and Oakland counties will lift their voices in praise and thanksgiving 7-9 a.m. May 4 at Burton Manor. In addition, the Trinity Quartet from Trinity Evangelical Presbyterian Church will sing "The Star-Spangled Banner."

The men are ages 37-83 and more than 10 are former students of Smith, who was director of music at Bentley High School from 1959-85.

Smith, director of music ministries at First Presbyterian Church in Plymouth, will lead the ensemble in performing "Make a Joyful Song," "I Believe" and "A Few Good Men." Smith's wife Sharon will provide the piano accompaniment. His son Darrell and sons-in-law, Ron Moon and Scott Swan are ensemble members.

Participants agree that the ensemble turnout is a tribute to Smith, whose musical career has touched lives throughout the world. Ensemble members include Jeff Jones, president of the Bentley Choir



Father and son ensemble members are Scott Bahr and Phil Bahr, both of Livonia.



Music is a family affair for Jerry Smith who will direct the prayer breakfast ensemble. His wife Sharon Smith will accompany the group. Son Darrell Smith along with sons-in-law Ron Moon and Jeff Swan are members of the ensemble.

in 1972-73 and owner of Plymouth Nursery. Other former Bentley students are Thom Beauchamp, Dana Knochel, Curtis Burton, Chris Skotzke, Rich Travers, Ron Moon, Mike Cubalo, Darrell Smith, Dennis Barlow, Lawrence Zane and Leon Ott.

The Rev. Jim Stolt, pastor of Plymouth's Praise Baptist, will be featured in a solo in "I Believe."

Livonia Councilman

Scott Bahr and his father Phil are father-son tenors in the men's ensemble. Both are members of Apostolic Christian Church in Livonia.

A longtime Livonia resident, Smith was director of music at Bentley High School from 1959 until it closed in 1985. After that, he helped establish the CAPA (The Creative and Performing Arts) program for Livonia Public Schools before retiring in



Some of the more than 35 ensemble members rehearsed recently at First Presbyterian Church in Plymouth.

1988. As music director, Smith took students across the state, country and world to perform music. He was named teacher of the year by the Michigan School Vocal Association in 1979.

Smith received his bachelor and master degrees in music from the University of Michigan before returning to earn a doctorate in education. After a long career in public education, Smith went on to serve as music director at Ward Presbyterian Church and taught music at the former William Tyndall College in Farmington Hills.

Smith is excited about the music and pleased to see the "men speak of

their religious beliefs" through the music of the ensemble.

Jason Hanson, retired placekicker for the Detroit Lions, will deliver the keynote address "Faith and the NFL."

Hanson, 46, spent his 21-year career playing for the Detroit Lions. He holds the NFL record for the most games played with one team, as well as multiple kicking and scoring records.

He retired in 2013 and is the first player in NFL history to play 300-plus games with one team.

The Livonia Prayer Breakfast is a version of the National Prayer Breakfast held annually in Washington, D.C. Also on the breakfast program

are Old and New Testament scripture readings and other prayer opportunities that reflect the 2017 theme of "Press On Toward the Goal." Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$17 for students.

Ticket price includes a full breakfast and program. Tables of 10 are available. For tickets, contact Sally Butler at 248-476-9427. The Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable and religious organization.

For more information and a history of the prayer breakfast, go to livoniaprayerbreakfast.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/livoniacommunityprayerbreakfast.

## Doctor charged with performing female genital mutilation

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com

A doctor has been charged with conducting female genital mutilation on several of her children patients in Livonia, a charge that officials say is the first of its kind in the country.

Dr. Jumana Nagarwala, 44, of Northville is set to be arraigned today on federal charges of conducting female genital mutilation on patients at a medical office in Livonia. The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Eastern Michigan announced the charges Thursday morning.

Federal officials say Nagarwala performed the procedure on patients, ages 6-8, who had traveled interstate for the work to be done. It's believed to be the first charge under the federal female genital mutilation law.

"According to the complaint, despite her

oath to care for her patients, Dr. Nagarwala is alleged to have performed horrifying acts of brutality on the most vulnerable victims," Acting Assistant Attorney General Blanco said in a statement. "The Department of Justice is committed to stopping female genital mutilation in this country and will use the full power of the law to ensure that no girls suffer such physical and emotional abuse."

A profile listed on the Henry Ford Health System website lists a Dr. Jumana Nagarwala as a specialist in emergency medicine. It states she graduated from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in 1998 and completed a residency at Henry Ford Hospital in emergency medicine in 1999.

Federal law calls for a maximum sentence of five years in prison if convicted and 10 years if "substantial bodily injury results from violation" of

the law, according to the law's language.

Several agencies were acknowledged as assisting with the case, including the Livonia Police Department, and with support of the Criminal Division's Fraud Section, the U.S. Attorney's Office of the Eastern District of Michigan and the FBI's International Human Rights Unit, Criminal Investigative Division.

"The allegations detailed in today's criminal complaint are disturbing. The FBI, along with its law enforcement partners, are committed to doing whatever necessary to bring an end to this barbaric practice and to ensure no additional children fall victim to this procedure," Special Agent in Charge David Gelios said in a statement.

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## ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS

### Tapped for leadership forum

Alex Schreck, a junior at Plymouth Christian Academy, has been chosen to attend the National Youth Leadership Forum:



Schreck

Advanced Medicine and Health Care at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, June 18-27.

NYLF Advanced Medicine and Health Care seeks students with academic promise, leadership potential and an interest in the field of medicine. The forum is a career-immersion program offering students the opportunity to gain firsthand experience when making college and career decisions. The curriculum is specially designed to provide students with the critical thinking and leadership skills necessary for a successful transition to college and career.

It is designed to help attendees reach their goals of attending medical and achieving success in the medical or health care profession. The program provides

students career insights into the field of medicine through advanced interactive simulations, hands-on workshops and informative seminars.

### Alumni award

Matthew E. Craig, vice president for the Eastern Region of Meijer Inc., will be honored by the University of San Diego on April 22.



Craig

Craig, who earned his bachelor's degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering from USD in 2003 and also played on the university's Toro football team, will receive the Alumni Emerging Leader Award.

Craig began his retail career while he was a USD student. Since that time, he has had 18 years of experience in retail throughout the U.S. and China.

He later joined Meijer, the Grand Rapids-based retailer, and earned an MBA from Michigan State University. He had multiple roles before being promoted to eastern regional vice president in Detroit and received the Meijer Dynamic Leader-

ship Award for Operational Excellence in 2013.

### Selected

Alex Lamb of Plymouth was selected to be a member of the Media & Communications at Fort Lewis College's Environmental Center. Lamb's major is Philosophy.

Nearly 120 Alma College students participated in Alma College's 21st annual Kapp Honors Day program on April 6. This day provides a forum when traditional classes are canceled and students share their original research, creativity and talents with an audience of their peers.

In sessions spanning nearly eight hours, students perform in dance productions, give oral presentations of scholarly research and lead poster discussions. With a multitude of the student body participating, other students are encouraged to attend as many presentations as possible both to support their fellow students and to learn from them.

Alia Jones of Plymouth presented "The Efficacy of Flexibility in Relation to Functional Movement Screening of Collegiate Dancers." She is majoring in Athletic Training at Alma College.

## WAYNE SENIOR SERVICES CALENDAR

The city of Wayne offers a variety of senior programs. For more information or to register, call 734-721-7460 or email:nwoel@cityofwayne.com. Senior Services is at 4635 Howe Road, Wayne.

This trip is going through Canada, so your cost have proper ID.

The cost is \$186 per person, double occupancy. Contact the Wayne Senior Services for more information.

### Niagara Falls getaway

Join the Wayne Sometimes Travelers (for those 30 years and older) Monday, April 24-25 for this overnight trip. It includes a stop at the Floral Clock and Whirlpool, overnight accommodations at the Clifton Victoria Inn, an opportunity to visit Casino Niagara, a stop at Fallsview Casino and the Niagara Falls viewing area. For a small fee, Niagara Parks offers a shuttle to other attractions. Pick up a flyer for more info.

### AARP Smart Drivers Program

Refresh your driving skills and know the new rules of the road. Learn research-based driving strategies to help you stay safe behind the wheel and there are no tests to pass. Must pre-register by calling the Wayne Senior Services @ 734-721-7460. Leave a message if you reach voicemail. The cost for AARP members is \$15; all others \$20. The program is 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 31, and June 1.

## Talk show host Teresa Tomeo to speak at Ladywood

Ladywood High School is set to host syndicated Catholic talk show host, author of numerous books, and international speaker, Teresa Tomeo 4 p.m., Saturday, April 29, in the Mother Mary DeSales Activity Center at Ladywood High School, 14860 Newburgh Road in Livonia.

Doors will open at 3:00 pm. The topic of her discussion will be how to stay true to your authentic self in this digitally driven world, based on one of her most recent books, "Beyond Me, Myself & I."

This event is open to the public and is perfect

for everyone, especially parents, kids and grandparents. Tomeo will also be available for book signing afterward.

Tickets are on sale now for \$8 and can be purchased online at ladywood.org or at the door on the day of the event. For more information, call 734-744-6249.

## GARDEN

Continued from Page A1

keep up the planting, making this the first season they'll be growing on their own.

The volunteers will plant less this year, as the group is no longer affiliated with a 501(c)(3) organization and that will bring less volunteers than in previous years.

Regular volunteers will probably number at



Volunteer Janet Sowards of Westland talks about the Gleaners Garden project.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

about eight for the season, Sowards said, which is why the group isn't able to use the full third of an acre this year.

"That's why we reduced the size of the garden," she said.

Diane Durham got involved several years ago when she was looking for something to do. She's kept coming back ever since.

"I wanted to do something with my nephews, of course they only came out once and I kept com-

ing back," the Redford resident said.

The group responsible for the land plans on working most Monday mornings at the garden, but hope to add other times so others can join.

The group is always interested in allowing volunteer organizations into the garden to help tend to it, and even has a few Eagle Scout projects lined up to take place.

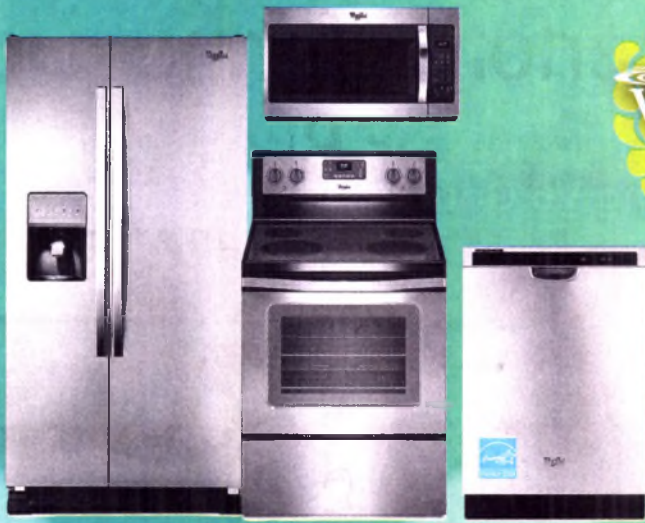
Those interested in channeling their inner green thumb are encour-

aged to come volunteer Monday mornings or can contact the garden, which has its own Facebook page and is listed as "DTE Energy Farm."

"We're going to have a couple of days where we'll take anybody," Casey said. "We don't care if they know nothing about gardening, there's always something to be done out here."

"It's fun, it's hard work, but it's rewarding."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com



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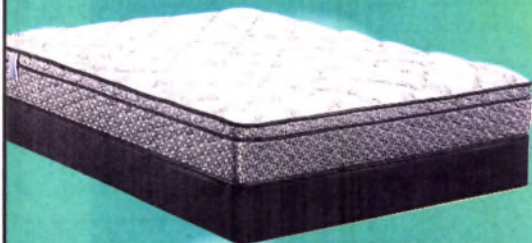


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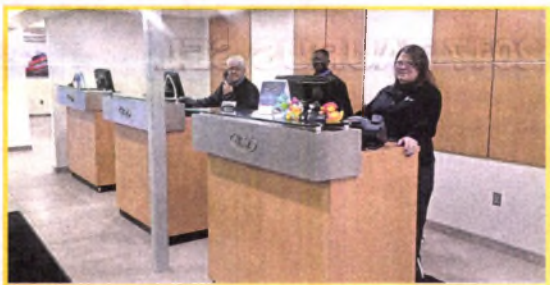
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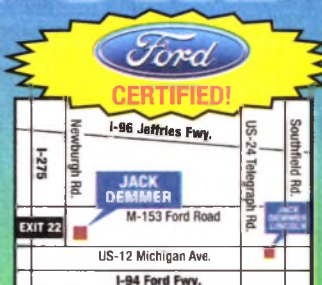
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# TO GET RESULTS, GET PEOPLE TALKING

Community activist sees how holding get-togethers forms and strengthens ties

LILLIA CALLUM-PENSO  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Each week, this series will introduce you to an exceptional American who unites, rather than divides, our communities. To read more about the American profiled here and more average Americans doing exceptional things, visit [onenation.usa-today.com](http://onenation.usa-today.com).

SPARTANBURG, S.C. - Marlanda Dekine is pretty sure the root of her formal activism was the day she had to tell a 6-year-old that he would never return home to his parents. Dekine had been a social worker for nearly five years, mostly doing forensic evaluations and therapy for children who had been victims of abuse. But the meeting that day brought her emotions to a head.

She sat across from the little boy and couldn't speak.

"He's 6," Dekine says, reflecting. "He's 6. I could have all the training in the world; there are no words for how you say that."

All Dekine could think to do was to write. And so as the little boy played beside her, she penned a poem.

"... Sometimes, my masters level degree cannot make sense out of what doesn't make sense," Dekine wrote. "These children, they are tried on like new shoes. If you don't like what you see, keep it moving..."

Today, Dekine is working to foster honest dialogue across racial, religious, gender identity, ethnic and socioeconomic differences. Her organization, Speaking Down Barriers, which she co-founded with Scott Neely in 2013, began as an artistic space that brought spoken-word poetry into local churches to open conversation about issues.

The group, partly funded by a grant from the South Carolina Endowment for Arts and Humanities, holds multiple monthly gatherings, from book discussions to larger events.

At Speaking Down Barriers' first community meeting, Dekine recalls watching a multimillionaire discuss class with a person who'd just been released from prison.



LAUREN PETRACCA/USA TODAY NETWORK

Marlanda Dekine is executive director of Speaking Down Barriers in Spartanburg, S.C.

"It's a way of building community on the ground," Dekine says.

The work is slow, Dekine admits, but she and her team have seen results. People who have met through SDB events have branched off to create things such as community gardens and artist groups.

"I think the essence of transformative community building is consciousness," she says. "I am not sure you can have effective community building without it."

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## Q&A WITH MARLANDA DEKINE

**What does it mean to you to be an American?**

It means, for me, living in a space that is still learning to love, and to even love who I am. And it means loving it enough back to expect more of it.

**What moment touched and motivated you to launch this effort?**

That was right after (the killing of black youth) Trayvon Martin. That was right in the midst of a time when those things were much more in our awareness, and us wanting there to be a space to pull it out. It all came back to this is something people don't like to talk about, but it's always coming up. It's not just Florida, Ferguson. If it's there, it's here.

I think we all had pieces and ideas for what we wanted this space to be, but the spark, I'd say, was the idea from Scott (Neely), what would it be like to do poetry in this space. Then it just took off from there.

**What gives you hope, or what concerns you?**

Children give me a lot of hope, and I think that's because a lot of the work that I've done is with survivors of child abuse. I think there is a way that the most terrible thing (happens) and you witness the most amazing resilience, and that's where hope comes in for me, our ability for resilience.

Concern? I think the deep fears that we carry about being our authentic selves, about doing authentic work. The way that we just put things off to the side when really we need to look at the full list. Let's look at ourselves and not run from ourselves, essentially. And I think my concern is most of us would rather run.

**What do you hope to accomplish through your efforts?**

I hope to clearly see myself. So what I mean is, while the goal is community building, I don't believe I myself build community. But I think the more I wrestle here (hands on heart), the more I live here deeply, the more that what I share with the world helps to transform the community.

So I hope for my own self a constant growth, no matter how hard. I never want to ask someone to do something I'm not willing to do myself.

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COLLEGE BASEBALL

## Crusaders look forward to playing at Comerica Park

Madonna will play Northwestern Ohio in a game April 19 in Detroit

Brad Emmons  
hometownlife.com

The Madonna University baseball team is more than happy to give up one home game this season to move from the friendly confines of Iltch Ballpark to Comerica Park.

And in what they hope becomes an

annual affair, the Crusaders will take on Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference leader University of Northwestern Ohio at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, at the home of the Detroit Tigers.

"What's really cool is the people at Comerica Park said they want this to be as much a home game for Madonna and they're really taking care of us," Madonna first-year coach Ted Falkner said. "It's going to be a great opportunity for our guys."

General admission tickets for the

game, which is open to the public, are \$10 for adults and \$5 for college and high students (16-and-under with I.D.) on a first-come, first-served basis where they'll be able to sit in sections 118-137. Tickets also will be available the day of the game at the box office located outside Gate A. Parking for the event will be available in lots 1 and 2 located in front of Gate A for \$6 per car.

See CRUSADERS, Page B4



MADONNA SPORTS INFORMATION  
Madonna University senior Taylor Grzelakowski is hitting .463 with eight homers and 46 RBIs.

USA HOCKEY

## Cole leaves for MSU gig

Coach had great success leading USA Hockey's National Team Development Program

Tim Smith  
hometownlife.com

For the second straight year, USA Hockey's National Team Development Program is losing a coach to the college ranks.

In 2016, Don Granato left the Plymouth-based NTDP to join brother Tony behind the bench at Wisconsin. On Tuesday, Danton Cole officially became head coach at Michigan State University.

The 50-year-old Cole, who played at MSU in the mid-1980s and went on to enjoy a six-year career in the National Hockey League, will take over from Tom Anastos, who resigned in March.

"I'm really honored to have the opportunity to represent Michigan State University and Spartan hockey," Cole said in an MSU press release. "This is a position to which I've always aspired. I wasn't sure the timing would ever work out, but I'm very fortunate."

"My mom and dad both went to Michigan State — I didn't grow up around MSU, I grew up at MSU. It has been an enormous part of my life."

But so was his exceptional seven-year career with USA Hockey's NTDP, a proving grounds for young players with similarly big aspirations.

"We've been fortunate to have someone with the experience level and passion for development that Danton brought to the NTDP each and every day over the course of the past seven seasons," said Scott Monaghan, the program's senior director of operations. "He has been a great teacher of the game to our players and a mentor to young coaches as well. We wish him nothing but the best at Michigan State."

Also saluting Cole was Jim Johannson, USA Hockey assistant executive director for hockey operations. "It's certainly a big loss for our program, but we're extremely happy for him."

See COLE, Page B2



RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY  
Danton Cole (left) is returning to Michigan State University, where he once played college hockey. This time, he will coach the Spartans, leaving USA Hockey's NTDP.

BOYS GOLF



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Livonia Stevenson's Craig Jakacki maintains focus on the golf ball as he attempts a chip shot Thursday at Whispering Willows.

## TEEING OFF

On blustery day at Whispering Willows, Stevenson, Churchill place fourth, fifth out of 12

Tim Smith  
hometownlife.com

Cool and damp conditions Thursday at Whispering Willows Golf Course in Livonia might have been a nuisance to golfers competing in the KLAA Kensington Conference preseason tournament.

But for co-medalist Jack Boczar and the first-place Plymouth Wildcats, such conditions merely are another obstacle to hurdle during what the team hopes will be another big season.

"It kind of gets you started," Plymouth varsity boys golf coach Dan Young said. "It's good to get off to a good start. Tough day weather-wise, so we had to grind it out."

Plymouth tallied 307 to collect 12

See GOLF, Page B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Getting a read on how to approach his next putt is Livonia Franklin's Brandon Tirador.

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COLLEGE BASEBALL

# Madonna upends MAC leader Central Michigan

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com

It turned out to be a pleasant ride back from Mount Pleasant on Wednesday as the Madonna University baseball team proved once again it can carry its own weight against an NCAA Division I opponent.

The NAIA Crusaders scored six runs over the final five innings to upend Mid-American Conference leader Central Michigan University, 6-4, at Theunissen Stadium.

The win snapped a seven-game win streak for the Chippewas (17-15), who lead the MAC's West Division with a 6-0 record. The Chippewas committed five errors in the loss, while MU has now won three straight and five of six to move to 22-12 on the year.

"Our guys just competed," MU first-year coach Ted Falkner said. "We actually got the call the day before

from (CMU coach) Steve (Jaska). He said, 'We have an open date and you have an open date, do you want to come up and play?' And I said, 'absolutely.'"

CMU led 2-0 after three innings, but the Crusaders answered with two runs on three hits, coupled with three Chippewa errors, in the fifth to even the game at 2-2.

Ryan Freemantle reached on a one-out infield single and moved to third on a stolen base and throwing error. A walk put Jerad Dokey on before Ryan Lambrecht singled to tie the game.

MU added two more in the top of the sixth on one hit and another error.

Freshman Frankie Lucska (Garden City) walked with one out and Freemantle reach on a fielder's choice, then moved to second on an error. Walks to Matt Deneau and Dokey loaded the bases for Lambrecht, who delivered again with a two-run single to center for a 4-2 advantage.

A walk and back-to-back singles for the home team cut the lead to one in the bottom of the inning, but Madonna wasn't done.

Lucska doubled with two outs in the seventh and scored on the fifth CMU error. Jared Hagan then drove in Dokey with a single.

In the bottom of the ninth, CMU loaded the bases and got a sacrifice fly from pinch-hitter Nick Stowkowski to cut the deficit to 6-4, but Cliff Landess got a fly out to end the game for his seventh save of the season.

"We had some guys shuffled around our lineup," Falkner said. "We did not have our regular lineup. Guys moved around but they all did their jobs and did everything we asked them."

Zack Schmidtke (2-2), who got credit for the victory, got the start and allowed two runs on four hits in three innings with two strikeouts. John Rodriguez pitched the next three innings,

allowing one run in the bottom of the sixth, while Layne Gusler came on to pitch two scoreless innings.

Lambrecht, the senior designated hitter from Lake Orion, drove in four runs, while Taylor Grzelakowski added two hits.

"Our pitchers filled the (strike) zone and all hit their pitch counts," Falkner said. "They did their jobs and we had no errors, which was also big. And offensively we had some big hits. Ryan Lambrecht had two huge hits for us."

Zach Kohn (0-4), who came on for CMU starter Jordan Grosjean in the fifth, suffered the loss.

Daniel Jipping (Plymouth Christian Academy) doubled twice, while David Cole and Alex Borglin also collected two hits apiece to pace CMU's 11-hit attack.

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## GOLF

Continued from Page B1

points in the tournament, which essentially is used as a gauge to determine where teams fit against each other in the conference.

The Wildcats edged second-place Northville (310), but then there was a drop off to Novi (third, 329), Livonia Stevenson (fourth, 335) and Livonia Churchill (fifth, 337).

Boczkar shot 3-over-par 73 and shared the top spot with Northville's Abhinav Alluri.

### Finding a way

"Jack can score even if he doesn't have a perfect swing going, because he can chip and putt," Young said. "He can figure his way around the course. And I would say (teammate Justin) Kapke is similar that way."

"Those guys have played this course a lot, know how to stay out of trouble and limit their losses and then get a birdie here or there on some of the holes that are reachable."

Kapke, also a senior, and Northville's Jimmy Dales both shot 75. Plymouth freshman Ian Smith showed his mettle with 76.

"I've been hyped up for the high school season for a couple months," said Boczkar, a 2016 all-stater. "And I'm excited to get out here and see what we can do this year. We didn't have the best scores today, but we still grinded it out."

"We just have to keep working hard and see where the rest of the season takes us."

Boczkar shrugged off the chilly weather and rain-soaked terrain. He added that although not being able to play consistently due to rainouts and spring break can be challenging, teams really have no choice.

"Everybody does it, so we got to manage somehow," Boczkar said. "As much as I would love to be in warm weather all the time, I think it makes us mentally tougher as a team and individuals when we have to put up with the weather and all the starts and stops."

Rounding out the Plymouth scorecard (the top four players scores were tallied) was senior Matt Decker (83). Not far behind were Timmy Baldwin (85) and Joe Fontana (87).

Northville's lineup, in addition to Alluri and Dales, included Aaron Youmans (79) and Drew Kearis (83).

Leading Novi with 77 was Mike Ulle, followed by Ryan Welch (81), Chris Fisher (85) and Derek DuBois (86).

### Not the best day

For the fourth-place Spartans, head coach Curt Hage almost called the day a team mulligan.

"I just think it was tough playing conditions and we've only had two or three days to practice to get ready," Hage said. "I think they are going to do well, but they just hit a rough spot."

"They're good players, they just got some work to do."

The bright spot for the Spartans was senior newcomer Craig Jakacki, who

*"I just think it was tough playing conditions and we've only had two or three days to practice to get ready. I think they are going to do well, but they just hit a rough spot. They're good players, they just got some work to do."*

**CURT HAGE**  
Stevenson coach

Hage said was the only player on the team to shoot his average with 84.

His younger brother, Connor, shot 81, while Trevor Lopus tallied 83 and Easton Schlatterbeck 87.

Churchill's best performer of the day was senior John Doyle, with 79. Also scoring for the Chargers were Logan Welch (85), Aaron Walton (86) and Max Proulx (87).

Veteran Canton head coach Tom Alles said his No. 1 player, senior Suhas Potluri, finished with 81 after a tough start.

"(Potluri) started his round with a seven on a par-3 and after that he righted the ship and played very well the remainder of the round," Alles said. "But we had a really rough start."

"Patrick McDougall, a junior, shot 84 and those were our two best players."

Dominic Dimaya and D.J. Jablonski registered respective scores of 88 and 89 for the Chiefs.

"It shows you who can play in sloppy weather and cold weather," Alles said. "And it just gives you an idea of how you're going to compare with the other teams in the conference."

Alles added that playing in less-than-ideal conditions is a good learning opportunity for young golfers.

"The ball doesn't go as far in this weather and you have to accommodate for that by using more club," Alles said. "A lot of times kids don't figure that out in time."

### Game plan

According to Salem head coach Ryan Nimmerruth, scores at the tourney "were a bit higher today than we would have liked. But these guys have potential."

"Three of my guys are getting their first tournament experience ever, so hopefully we can continue to improve throughout the year. The goal is to be playing your best golf at the end of the year."

For the Rocks, leading the way with 85 was Justin Pulce. Chipping in with 86 was Bryce Henderson, while Robbie Hermes (87) and Shawn Weldon (88) followed.

Several other golfers with solid performances included South Lyon East's A.J. Clark (79), Livonia Franklin freshman Brandon Tirador (82), South Lyon East's Jason Zobl (83) and South Lyon's Nate Campbell (84).

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Following through is Max Proulx of Livonia Churchill.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Delivering a putt across a wet green is Livonia Stevenson's Griffin Matick.

## COLE

Continued from Page B1

### Winning pedigree

Under Cole's leadership, NTDP teams have scored gold medals in 2012 and 2014 at the International Ice Hockey Federation Men's Under-18 World Championship, among numerous other team accomplishments. He coached the Under-17 team during 2016-17.

In the university's press release, MSU athletics director Mark Hollis said Cole has been a proven winner every step of the way, going back to his playing career.

"He's raised the Stanley Cup as a player, understands the obligations of running a Division I hockey program and he's plugged into the country's best young talent from his time with the USA Hockey National Team Development Program," Hollis said. "He has demonstrated the ability to develop young talent into great players."

"Most importantly, his comprehensive approach to developing men of character goes beyond on-ice instruction and into the classroom with a commitment to education, as evidenced



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Lansing Waverly grad Danton Cole played on the 1986 MSU national championship squad.

both by his work with the NTDP and his time as a student-athlete during which he captured the Big Ten Medal of Honor."

Cole, the seventh head coach in Spartans history, wants to help restore the program to its former glory days. "As a program, we want to compete



Cole

for Big Ten championships and be a part of the NCAA tournament," Cole said, "because as I experienced as a player, once you get in the tournament, you're on the doorstep of a national title."

"We're going to identify and recruit young men that want to be Spartans and share our vision of excellence on and off the ice."

Cole played in the NHL with Winnipeg, Tampa Bay, New Jersey, the New York Islanders and Chicago. He and his wife Debbie have three daughters — Ashton, Madeleine and Payton.

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## PREP SOFTBALL

# Pitchers spark Plymouth sweep of Churchill

Tim Smith  
Hometownlife.com

What's a team like Livonia Churchill to do?

After coming back from spring break, the Chargers varsity softball team faces high school powerhouses Northville and Plymouth right off the hop.

On Wednesday, Churchill had no answer for Plymouth junior pitcher Jenny Bressler in the first game of a KLA South Division twinbill. Bressler threw a five-inning perfect game, fanning 14 as the Wildcats won, 12-0.

The nightcap was somewhat better for coach Steve Gentilia's team. It only lost 5-3 as Plymouth freshman pitcher Angela Schmidt threw a complete game and won her first varsity contest in the circle.

"She's one of the best pitchers around in the state," Gentilia said about Bressler. "It's tough facing her, but we got to do a better job of attacking the zone and being aggressive with our at-bats."

Plymouth head coach Lauren Evans raved about both her starting pitchers, as the Wildcats improved to 3-0.

"Jenny Bressler threw a perfect game in five innings," Evans said. "She only had one ball put in play and it was snagged in the outfield by a great play by (junior) Jessica Tucci."

As for how Schmidt pitched, striking out the side in the first and finishing with 10 strikeouts, the coach smiled.

"It's awesome," Evans said. "We now have a pitching staff of three student-athletes and they're all gamers. I have Jenny Bressler, ace for us last year and confident on the mound, always ready to compete. Leader on and off the field.

"I have sophomore Kiersten Metz, who is going to see time on the mound.



Livonia Churchill's Brooke Hanson rounds the bases during Wednesday's second game against Plymouth.

TOM BEAUDOIN

She's consistent, she throws strikes and has a passion for the game, passion to pitch.

"And I have freshman Angela Schmidt, who just played in her first game and she showed us she's ready to compete."

### On the prowl

The Plymouth offense was clicking in the opener, with Bressler going 4-for-4 to pace a 15-hit attack.

Other multiple hits were collected by Tucci (2-for-4), Whitney Holden (3-for-4), Gina Barber (2-for-3) and catcher Haley Gagnon (2-for-3).

The second game was icing on the cake for Plymouth, with Schmidt's

pitching and solid defense along with some opportunistic offense leading the way.

"It was very fun," said Schmidt, who played travel ball for Novi Madness, about her Plymouth debut. "I loved being able to play with my new teammates on varsity."

She said facing older players didn't bother her, because her coach with the Madness "had us play against older teams, so it was very helpful."

Plymouth notched single runs in the first and second innings before the Chargers sliced the gap to 2-1 in the bottom of the second.

Kaitlyn Vinitzki dropped a single to center to score Brooke Hanson, who

also singled in the inning.

But the Wildcats came right back, scoring two runs in the third on RBI hits by Gagnon and Holden — the latter tripling to right-center.

Churchill tallied two runs in the home half of the third. Hanson doubled to center and Madison Christensen followed with an RBI single.

Once again, Plymouth answered. With two outs in the fourth, Barber roped a triple off the fence in left-center. Barber then scored on Gagnon's single.

### Airtight 'D'

The Chargers were held to singles by Maria Targosz and Jenna Kwiecinski the rest of the way, although several well-struck balls were turned into outs by Plymouth's infield defense.

In the sixth, Metz gloved a liner to open the inning and freshman first baseman Sophia Dibbles flagged down a hard-hit ball to take away another potential hit.

Freshman shortstop Alexis D'Alexander then short-hopped another bullet, off the bat of pinch hitter Ashley Bond, and threw to Metz for the force at second.

"Our team is very good at fielding and I trust them," Schmidt said.

Despite the Game 2 loss, Gentilia said he liked how his team "came back and were more aggressive. We put the ball in play and we started making some things happen."

"It was a better effort on our part and that's all we ask, is that every day we're getting better and doing the things we need to do to take care of ourselves," he added.

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## GIRLS SOCCER

# Cougars off to promising start on young season

Garden City team starting to mesh as formidable unit

Tim Smith  
Hometownlife.com

The sports "microwave" is working for Garden City varsity girls soccer coach Jeff Szytula.

Earlier in the week, Szytula said it might take some time for his Cougars squad to jell because of the convergence of some new players from various club teams.

"We have a lot of players from different clubs and we have some freshmen and sophomores in with six seniors," Szytula said. "So it's just a matter of everybody meshing. I think we have a very good team in terms of skill."

Szytula, two nights later, started to get the unified results he was looking for as Garden City rolled to a 7-0 victory over Taylor Truman to improve to 2-2-1 overall. Scoring three goals was Alex Sherlock, with two goals by Kaitlyn Bovensiep and single goals by Ashley Hahn and Claire Konopatzki.

Brooke Collins, Faith Staley, Eden Messner and Sherlock collected assists, while goalkeeper Tatum Spears earned the shutout.

"The girls played a great game," Szytula said. "The combination of passing and movement off of the ball helped us to keep possession and generate many scoring opportunities."

"Our defense and center midfield did a outstanding job of winning the ball and distributing the ball to our forwards and wingers."

Perhaps the lopsided win could propel the Cougars to a big season in the Western Wayne Athletic Conference, coming off a 2016 season when the team struggled somewhat.

Szytula might take more stock in how his team fared against strong teams such as Flat Rock (a 3-2 overtime win Tuesday on a goal by Collins) or North Farmington (a 2-2 tie the first week of April).



Garden City's Claire Konopatzki, shown during a 2016 game, is one of the Cougars' top returnees.

FILE PHOTO

"We take on a very tough non-conference schedule in hopes of preparing us for league play and districts," he said.

"We're real excited for the season. The girls are buying in and they work really hard."

"The girls played a great game."

JEFF SZYTULA  
Garden City coach

### Ready to lead

The Cougars have a stellar nucleus in senior forward Collins, senior midfielder-defender Skyler Clendening, senior defender Angie Dimopolos, junior defender Konopatzki and junior midfielder Sherlock — who happens to be the kicker on Garden City's football team.

"Obviously, we count on (Sherlock) to take some long-distance free kicks and she's a big-time player for us in the midfield," Szytula said. "She kind of holds it down. And she plays a very strong game, always brings her best."

Collins, an all-area player in 2016, already is producing the offense her coach expected she would. She scored two goals against Flat Rock.

"Brooke is probably our top goal scorer," he said. "We have a lot of high-quality players but we don't have anybody that's the best."

Fourth-year varsity player Clendening "brings good field awareness and has a great long throw-in. She can play any position on the field except goalie and is an excellent role model for the younger players."

As for Dimopolos, a fourth-year varsity player and co-captain (sharing leadership duties with Sherlock and Clendening), Szytula said she will be an on-field quarterback.

"She's done a real good job of directing everything, she's a very smart player," he said. "She's played club her whole life."

Another key contributor will be sophomore sweeper Alexis Horvath, who the coach added could fill in at midfield.

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## CRUSADERS

Continued from Page B1

"Scott (Kannel), our athletic director, knows the Ilitch family through his son's travel baseball," Falkner said. "He had been talking to them about the possibility of doing it and it got approved through the administration here at Madonna."

There will also be an alumni tailgate prior to the game 5-6:30 p.m. at Cheli's Chili Bar, located across the street from Comerica. There will be a donation of \$5, with all proceeds going toward the Madonna Fund for scholarships.

"We're trying to play Wayne State every year and make that kind of annual thing where we get Detroit area alumni to come," Falkner said. "This year, it's going to be a giant conference game because it's against Northwestern Ohio, who is in first place, 3½ games ahead of us."

### Team is raking

Falkner's team, heading into a Saturday home doubleheader again North-

western Ohio, is 22-12 overall and 14-5 in the WHAC. The Crusaders are coming off a huge 6-4 win Wednesday over NCAA Division I foe Central Michigan.

The 36-year-old Falkner, a 1998 Milford High grad who played at Concordia University, spent five years (2007-10 and 2013-14) as an assistant at MU under Greg Haeger. He took the Madonna job in early January after Haeger stepped down last December following 19 seasons.

Falkner spent the past two seasons as the head coach at Viterbo (Wis.) University, where he compiled a record of 27-61. He has a master's degree from Ashford (Iowa) University, where he was an assistant coach from 2011-12.

In Falkner's first season as head coach, Madonna is hitting a robust .311 as a team.

Senior outfielder Taylor Grzelakowski (Fraser) leads the way with a .463 average to go along with a team-best eight homers and 46 RBIs.

Jaren Hagen (Dearborn Heights/Henry Ford CC) and Jalen Thomas (Southfield Lathrup) are hitting .339 and .318, respectively, while freshman infielder Frankie Luccka (Garden City/Dearborn Divine Child) is also enjoy-



Falkner

ing a solid rookie year with a .324 batting mark.

"What we harp on and what I push my team about is on-base percentage," Falkner said. "It's something I first said to them when I first got hired. I told them, 'You're batting average will come with your on-base percentage.' And some guys have really stepped up and changed their approach. And I really think it's helped set the table for Taylor Grzelakowski and Jalen Thomas, getting guys on base with people in front of them. They've really bought into that."

Madonna has outscored its opponents, 268-183, over the first 34 games while compiling a 14-5 record in the WHAC.

"I firmly believe that's why we're hitting so well, because we're getting on base at a really good rate," Falkner said. "I've got guys getting on base at .410 or above. If we can set the table in the middle of the order, which we've been doing, then good things are happening for us, for sure."

### DeYunker stars

As a team, MU has a combined 5.10 earned-run average, with senior John Rodriguez (Sterling Heights/Indian Hills CC) posting the top record (6-3) and leading in innings pitched (57).

Senior left-hander Alex DeYunker (Livonia Franklin) is 4-0 with a 3.60 ERA, while junior right-hander Taylor Turner (Northville), is 3-2 in 49 innings.

Closer Cliff Landess (Carleton Airport), a junior, is 4-1 and owns a team-best 2.60 ERA with seven saves.

"With the pitching, I've acquired an older group and I've been blessed for that," Falkner said. "They've taken the challenge on. They've taken ownership in everything they do. They're competing and I don't feel they have pressure on them. I just feel like they're going out and doing what they do. We've still got a lot of work to do. I do have some depth and some guys have really stepped up."

For more information on the April 19 Comerica Park game, call 734-432-5602.

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## Try these careers and travel the world

BY SARAH SIPEK  
 CAREERBUILDER

**F**antasizing about exotic locations while staring at your cubicle wall isn't very productive. But if you can't trade in your suit and tie for a backpack and hiking boots and say sayonara to the workforce, fortunately, there's a happy medium.

Many career paths allow you to work remotely—thanks in large part to technology—while others require you to travel the globe to get the job done.

### Translator

If you have a knack for languages and adapt well to new environments, a career as a translator could be your ticket to traveling the world, says Zachary Painter, a career adviser and hiring manager at ResumeGenius.com.

You can choose to work through a travel agency where you'll lead tours for businesses and corporations, or seek out a more niche role with a boutique agency, says Painter. Either way you'll be working as a cultural liaison, leading groups through historic cities and sites.

"A friend of mine recently scored a gig translating Mandarin to English and German for a documentary about musicians being produced in



GETTY IMAGES

Taiwan," Painter says. "The possibilities are endless."

### Web developer

If you want to work remotely, tech companies are your best bet, says Kean Graham, CEO of MonetizeMore, an ad tech firm. Web developers in particular tend to do their best work from remote locations.

"Remote work has less interruptions," Graham says. "In a traditional office, there are too many meetings, noise and random interruptions that break a developer's concentration. In a remote atmosphere, many of these

distractions can be avoided."

Many companies have traditional offices but also use remote developers to supplement the workload. So grab your laptop and head to anywhere in the world with a Wi-Fi connection.

### Military

Joining the military is a great way to see the world—both on-and-off duty. Jessica van Dop DeJesus, a Marine Corps reserve officer, has been in the military for almost 20 years. During that time, she has visited 45 countries.

"Being stationed in places

such as Japan, South Korea and Germany allowed me to see plenty in those regions," says van Dop DeJesus. "I also worked as a civil servant at NATO in Brussels where I had plenty of time over the weekend to see Europe."

### Corporate event planner

Event planners don't just plan parties and weddings. Large-scale corporate events—including meetings and trade shows—require corporate event planners to meet with vendors across the country and then travel to the event location to help oversee everything from setup through breakdown.

"A career in the corporate meeting planner world is a great way for people to travel and see the world while working remotely," says Chivonne Hyppolite, an event execution expert with Abstract Elements Management Agency. "I have traveled to four continents planning and executing events."

### Digital marketing specialist

It helps to look for a job that isn't time-zone specific. Search engine optimization—or SEO—fits that bill. Digital marketers require SEO knowledge, along with a familiarity with analytics programs and social media trends, says

Painter.

While the role requires broad skills, the payoff is great. "These types of jobs typically offer lengthy contracts with commensurate pay, enabling one to work from home—or from their hammock in the Philippines—with relative ease," Painter says. "It just takes good time management and focus."

### Virtual assistant

Help organize a client's work and personal life without actually being in the room. As a virtual assistant, you do everything from cleaning a client's inbox to scheduling their appointments and purchasing holiday gifts for their friends. While it may seem impersonal, it grants you a great amount of flexibility in your schedule.

"Virtual assisting has given me the opportunity to travel both within the U.S. and now internationally," says Melissa Smith, founder of the virtual assistant staffing company The PVA. "I don't have to choose work over family or travel. Now I can do both."

*Sarah Sipek is a writer for the Advice & Resources section on CareerBuilder.com. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.*

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 Part-time career opportunities in dozens of in-demand fields. Aviation, engineering, healthcare, many other fields. Call America's Navy at 800-371-7456, Mon, Wed, Thurs, 9am-3pm. (MICH)

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<p><b>General</b></p> <p><b>CAREGIVER:</b> Need caring staff to provide community based training and activities during the day for gentlemen with disability. \$13.25/per hr. 734-478-9595</p> <p><b>DIRECT CARE:</b> "New wage" 10.50/hr. trained; must be 18 &amp; have a valid MI driver's license. CNA/MORC trained preferred. Full time and part time; many shifts; support adults living in their own homes; make a difference! 734-728-4201</p> <p><b>Landscaping Co looking for Landscape &amp; Lawn Care Laborers</b>          Applicants can email or call for an application.          Cut-N-Care          48090 West Road, Wixom, MI 48393          248.668.0070  <a href="mailto:cmcandrews@cutncare.com">cmcandrews@cutncare.com</a></p> <p><b>Professional</b></p> <p>Opening for degreed and exp'd applicants for President - Chief Executive Officer; position is located in Canton, MI; Send resume by mail &amp; include salary req's to:          John Hoikus, HR Director          Schuler Incorporated          7145 Commerce Blvd          Canton, MI 48187</p>	<p><b>Professional</b></p> <p><b>OUTREACH DIRECTOR</b>              Director for non-profit organization in Livingston/Western Oakland County with marketing, outreach, and management experience. Excellent wage and benefits. Please email resume to: <a href="mailto:employment246@gmail.com">employment246@gmail.com</a> EOE</p> <p><b>Transportation</b></p> <p>Starting at \$12.00 per hour. Apply online at <a href="#">www.734-482-1111</a>.              Proof of Current Driving Record.              9779 Ford rd Superior Twp, MI 48198</p>	<p>We can sell it in CLASSIFIED</p>
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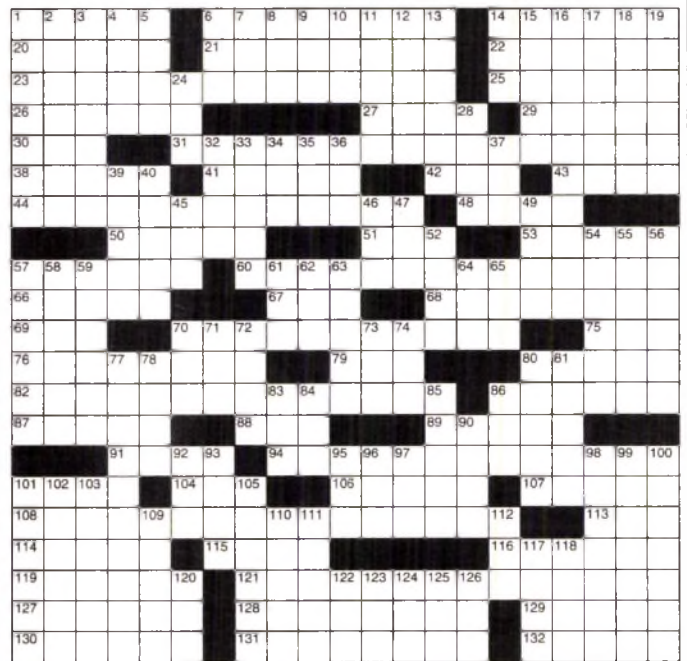
	NMLS#		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.
1st Choice Mortgage	138560	(734) 707-8877	3.75	0	3	0
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	164511	(800) 593-1912	3.75	0	3	0
AFI Financial	2431	(877) 234-0600	3.75	0	2.875	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.875	0	3	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	4.125	0	3.375	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	3.875	0	3.25	0
Lenderful.com	1326443	lenderful.com	3.875	0	3.125	0
Ross Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	4.25	0	3.25	0
Zeal Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	4.125	0.25	8.5	0

Above information available as of 4/14/17 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at [www.rmcreport.com](http://www.rmcreport.com).  
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# SUNDAY PUZZLE CORNER

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sinks in mud
  - 6 Baloney
  - 14 Place to exit
  - 20 As a whole
  - 21 Information collection
  - 22 Jumbo size at Starbucks
  - 23 College for chumps?
  - 25 Keep in custody
  - 26 "The plan was OK d"
  - 27 Race pace
  - 29 Clark of film
  - 30 Classic Olds
  - 31 Like a bathing fish?
  - 38 "... unless I'm wrong"
  - 41 "It's —ber" ("You can't lose")
  - 42 Musical knack
  - 43 "... ye be judged"
  - 44 Pudgy bodies?
  - 48 Slept drinks
  - 50 Pitcher Warren
  - 51 Mauna —
  - 53 City in Southern Iraq
  - 57 —-fair (tact)
  - 60 House with a leaky roof?
  - 66 Make revisions to
  - 67 Sea, to Jules
  - 68 Obscure collection
  - 69 Wine cask
  - 70 Fighter giving people the willies?
  - 75 Santa — Mountains
  - 76 Some raincoats
  - 79 Nickel source, e.g.
  - 80 Frequently
  - 82 Drink mishap in a Silicon Valley office?
  - 86 Gleaming New Mexico or Colorado county
  - 88 Pompom user's cry
  - 89 Steve of country rock
  - 91 Stork's kin
  - 94 Like a piano score full of black notes?
  - 101 Relaxing facilities
  - 104 "— Na Na" (TV o/die)
  - 106 Stoop (to)
  - 107 Pop singer Cassidy
  - 108 Record one's finest film scene?
  - 113 Org. backing arms
  - 114 Rival of Advil
  - 115 "How sweet —!"
  - 116 Start of a famous JFK quote
  - 119 Grieve for
  - 121 Result of a superhero's careless dressing?
  - 127 Card game akin to whist
  - 128 Peruse
  - 129 Hall's partner in pop listings
  - 130 Realty listing
  - 131 Lengthy journeys
  - 132 Extort (from)
- DOWN**
- 1 "Number two" golf club
  - 2 Gestating
  - 3 Ice-T number
  - 4 Philosopher
  - 5 Garden pest
  - 6 401
  - 7 Loo
  - 8 Consumed
  - 9 Hole statistic
  - 10 "Conan" channel
  - 11 Bonnie of song
  - 12 Houston baseball pro
  - 13 Mexican caclus
  - 14 LAX takeoff guess
  - 15 Kind of shorthand
  - 16 Marketing of goods in stores, usually
  - 17 Authorize
  - 18 Makes silent
  - 19 Most sound
  - 24 Tel. book listings
  - 28 "How's —?"
  - 32 Curse word
  - 33 Organized bodies; Abbr.
  - 34 "—leeze!" ("Spare me!")
  - 35 Time span
  - 36 Funds added to a bank acct.
  - 37 Afore
  - 39 Director
  - 40 Slightly warm
  - 45 Alpine river
  - 46 Giant
  - 48 Manning
  - 47 Junior, often
  - 49 Help in crime
  - 52 James with a 1958 Pulitzer
  - 54 Tiers
  - 55 "Oh, God!" director Carl
  - 56 Obscure
  - 57 Starts as a task
  - 58 Charm
  - 59 Grand Canal city
  - 61 Trauma-trained pro
  - 62 Long, thin fish
  - 63 Hosp. area
  - 64 Wichita-to-Houston dir.
  - 65 Bounce
  - 70 — Mir Bist Du Schon? (1938 hit)
  - 71 Brow's curve
  - 72 Romanov
  - 73 Shout, in Lille
  - 74 Family mem.
  - 77 Six-time U.S. Open winner
  - 78 Radio tuner
  - 80 Eyes
  - 81 Bone cover
  - 83 — Vegas
  - 84 "Quiet!"
  - 85 Janet of "Psycho"
  - 86 Pound noise
  - 90 Year, to Livy
  - 92 Equal Prefix
  - 93 Feng —
  - 95 Radio spots
  - 96 On Soc. Sec., say
  - 97 Greek letters
  - 98 Bitter-tasting chemical salt
  - 99 "Madagascar 3 — Most Wanted" (2012 sequel)
  - 100 "CSI" procedure
  - 101 More banal
  - 102 Kingly home
  - 103 Tarzan, e.g.
  - 105 Conductor
  - 106 Toscanini
  - 109 Gossipy type
  - 110 Two-legged creature
  - 112 Large playing marble
  - 117 Skiing base
  - 118 1980s Chrysler
  - 120 — Aviv
  - 122 Carders ask to see them
  - 123 Two, to Juan
  - 124 Eden exile
  - 125 Actress Susan
  - 126 Choice words?



For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702/4247 or [smcclellan@michigan.com](mailto:smcclellan@michigan.com). Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at [QuillDriverBooks.com](http://QuillDriverBooks.com)

## SUDOKU

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

Here's How It Works:  
 Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken 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 provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

## SOCCER STAR WORD SEARCH

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

### WORDS

- ADVANTAGE
- ASSIST
- BALL
- BICYCLE
- BOX
- CLEAR
- DEAD
- DEFENDER
- FIELD
- FOOTBALL
- GOALIE
- GOALMOUTH
- HALVES
- HAND
- HEADING
- KEEPER
- KICK
- KICKER
- OFFENSE
- OFFENSIVE
- OFFSIDE
- PASS
- PENALTY
- PERIOD
- PITCH
- PUNT
- REFEREE
- SCISSOR
- SCORED
- SHOULDER
- SIDELINES
- SOCCER
- TACKLE
- TECHNIQUE
- TOURNAMENT
- TRAJECTORY

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

**Crossword Answers**

**Word Search**

**CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE**

**Your community, delivered to your front door.**

- Farmington Observer
- Wayne-Westland Observer
- Garden City Observer
- Redford Observer
- Livonia Observer
- Canton Observer
- Plymouth Observer
- South Oakland Eccentric
- Birmingham Eccentric
- Northville Record
- South Lyon Herald
- Milford Times
- Novi News

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# Car Report

## BIG GUNS OF DETROIT LEAD THE PARADE OF POWERFUL NEW SHEET METAL AT NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW



By Dale Buss

America is an auto market with a split personality, between the inevitably self-driving and electric future and the present -- where low gasoline prices, fuel-efficient

internal-combustion engines, and big SUVs and trucks are still turning the heads of most actual U.S. vehicle buyers.

There's no better display of that schizophrenia right now than the New York International Auto Show, where at press days various automotive OEMs went to great lengths to show off their latest developments in the vehicle types du jour. Electric vehicles and self-driving innovations? They're getting their due, but they certainly haven't taken over yet.



The 2018 Audi RS Coupé

The show is "a shameless celebration of size and horsepower, more proof that the emissions-free vision touted by the industry for now is trumped by the current market realities of consumer demand, low interest rates and cheap gas," wrote Daniel Howes of the Detroit News.

In fact, the New York show seems to be emerging as the second-most important auto exhibition in North America each year, after Detroit's own North American International Auto Show in January. This year's

NAIAS also celebrated automotive testosterone.

The Detroit Three clearly led the parade of heavy, powerful sheet metal at NYIAS:

Fiat Chrysler displayed its 707-horsepower Trackhawk version of its Jeep Grand Cherokee SUV, as well as an 840-horsepower version of its Dodge Challenger muscle car, the SRT Demon. Top speed for the new Grand Cherokee: 180 mph.

The company also introduced two new option packages for its Ram pickup trucks: Ram 1500 Sublime Sport and Rebel Blue Streak. They "expand our offerings in factory-custom trucks and give dealers a more extensive color palette to excite customer who are looking for something unique," said Mike Manley, head of Ram brand.

Ford promoted an updated Ford Explorer, its mid-size SUV, and a longer if lighter version of its behemoth Lincoln Navigator SUV. The new Navigator will feature upgraded leather seats, plusher carpeting and running boards that pop out automatically, as well as a dial that selects from six

driving modes for varying weather conditions and terrain.

"It is the most spacious and luxurious Lincoln SUV yet, and will elevate family travel to what we call first class," Ford CEO Mark Fields said.

General Motors showed off a new version of its full-size Buick Enclave SUV even while it also gives props to the Chevrolet Bolt, its new fully electric hatchback that is meant to pre-empt gains in the mainstream-EV market by Tesla's upcoming Model 3.

Other auto brands made splashes in New York too:

Audi unveiled the GT4 version of its R8 LMS race car on the eve of the show, the newest addition to the Audi Sport customer-racing program. The VW-owned luxury brand also introduced its new Audi Sport brand, which it said represents "the best in track-tested performance available from the four rings." Over the next 2 years the brand plans to launch eight new Audi Sport models in the US market.

Genesis, the new luxury brand launched by Hyundai, used the show as a stage for its GV80 hydrogen

fuel-cell concept vehicle.

Jaguar Land Rover debuted its all-new Range Rover Velar in the middle of its biggest metropolitan market for Range Rover. Designed to fill the white space for a mid-size SUV in the Land Rover market, Velar already has experienced the highest website traffic within the first 30 days of launch of any Land Rover vehicle launch ever.

Mercedes-Benz announced plans to produce powerful new versions of its big GL sport-utility vehicle that can be supplied with as much as 500 horsepower, part of a presence at NYIAS that emphasized new utility vehicles and that some analysts called the strongest for any brand at the show.

Nissan unveiled a version of its Rogue crossover with special provisions for dogs, including built-in food and water dishes, custom removable dog bed, 360-degree dog wash shower and integrated dog-drying system. It was built by Dennis McCarthy, car coordinator for the Fast & Furious films.

Subaru, long known as the crunchy maker of all-wheel-drive vehicles and small SUVs, has expanded its footprint by showcasing the Ascent full-size SUV, a near-production concept vehicle that will feature three rows of seating for seven passengers when it rolls off its Indiana assembly line next year.

Toyota introduced its FT-4X Concept -- or "Future Toyota" Four-Wheel-Drive Crossover, which addresses the tendency by millennials to take "brief, unplanned casual adventures" rather than "multi-day, extreme, high-effort excursions."



The super-powerful Jeep Grand Cherokee Trackhawk

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**PUBLIC NOTICE  
MINUTES OF REDFORD  
TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS  
FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2017**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the approved minutes for meetings of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Redford for the months of February and March 2017 are posted at the following public places within the Township:

Community Center, 12121 Hemingway  
Fire Department, 15145 Beech Daly  
Library, 25320 Six Mile Road  
Department of Public Services, 12200 Beech Daly  
Police Department, 25833 Elsinore  
Town Hall, 15145 Beech Daly

Approved minutes may also be viewed online at: [www.redfordtwp.com](http://www.redfordtwp.com)

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, Clerk  
Charter Township of Redford

Published: April 16, 2017

**CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN  
DOVER PARK PROJECT**

Sealed bids will be received at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154 until **2:00 P.M., local time on Tuesday, May 9th, 2017** at which time the RFB's will be secured by the City Clerk. Each bid shall be recorded together with the name of the vendor. Bids shall be in accordance with the requirements of this notice in order to be deemed "responsive." Late bids will be returned unopened.

**A mandatory pre-bid meeting** will be held at the Jack E. Kirksey Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard St, Livonia, MI 48154 at **10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, April 25th, 2017. Bids will not be accepted from those firms who do not attend.**

Instructions and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at [www.mitn.info](http://www.mitn.info)

All Addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon. Faxed bids in response to this request will not be accepted.

All bids shall be sealed in envelopes, plainly marked with: **CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN DOVER PARK PROJECT, name of vendor** and shall be addressed to the **City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.**

No vendor may withdraw their bid within 120 calendar days after the date set for opening thereof.

The City of Livonia reserves the right to reject or accept any or all bids in whole or in part and waive any irregularities therein. Acceptance of any bid does not constitute a binding agreement until a written Contract is signed by both parties.

Edward Davis  
Superintendent, Parks & Rec  
Dennis K. Wright  
Mayor

Published: April 16, 2017

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**City of Livonia - 03/27/2017 Regular Meeting Synopsis**

**Present:** Meakin, Kritzman, Brosnan, Jolly, White, Bahr and McIntyre.  
**Absent:** None  
Items were received and filed.

#102-17 Approving minutes of the 1,820th Regular Meeting of Council on March 13, 2017.  
#103-17 Proclaiming Friday, April 28, 2017 as Arbor Day in the City of Livonia.  
#104-17 Approving salary and benefit adjustments for appointed Department Heads.  
#105-17 Adopting a resolution for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant (MNRTF) for the Rotary Park Universal Playground Project.  
#106-17 Referring the matter of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant (MNRTF) for the Rotary Park Universal Playground Project to the Administration for its report and recommendation regarding accessibility to other parks.  
#107-17 Adopting a resolution for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Recreation Passport Grant for the Botsford Pool Activity Feature Project.  
#108-17 Accepting the low bids for supplying the Public Service Division (Road Maintenance Section) with aggregate materials for the 2017 Calendar Year requirements.  
#109-17 Authorizing the purchase of two (2) 2018 Freightliner Single Axle Dump Trucks with plows and salt spreaders and the outfitting of said vehicles by Truck and Trailer Specialties, Inc., Howell, Michigan.  
#110-17 Authorizing the purchase of one (1) 2017 Ford Transit Cargo Van through the State of Michigan bid process to replace a vehicle used by the Fleet Maintenance Section, from budgeted funds.  
#111-17 Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk, for and on behalf of the City of Livonia, to execute an amendment to the Engineering Contract, between the City of Livonia and Spalding DeDecker Associates, Inc., to provide Design Engineering Services for the Stark Road Rehabilitation and Partial Reconstruction Project (Schoolcraft Road to Lyndon Road). (CR 365-16)  
#112-17 Authorizing and accepting the offer of Joe Rotondo Construction Corp., for completing all work required in connection with the 2017 Sidewalk Repair Program. (CR 147-16).  
#113-17 Authorizing and accepting the offer of Joe Rotondo Construction Corp., for completing all work required in connection with the 2017 Concrete Road Selective Slab Replacement Program. (CR 247-16)  
#114-17 Advising the Wayne County Department of Public Services (Permit Section) that the City of Livonia has approved the storm sewer site plans and that the City will accept jurisdiction and maintenance of the storm sewer located at 36475 Five Mile Road, for the St. Mary Hospital Improvements - Phase 3.  
#115-17 Advising the Wayne County Department of Public Services (Permit Section) that the City of Livonia has approved the storm sewer site plans and that the City will accept jurisdiction and maintenance of the storm sewer located at 36475 Five Mile Road, for the St. Mary Hospital Improvements - Phase 4.  
#116-17 Advising the Wayne County Department of Public Services (Permit Section) that the City of Livonia has approved the storm sewer site plans and that the City will accept jurisdiction and maintenance of the storm sewer located at 36475 Five Mile Road, for the St. Mary Hospital Improvements - Phase 5.  
#117-17 Approving a proposed agreement for Taser Axon body-worn cameras, in-car cameras and storage of those videos, for five (5) years, commencing March 30, 2017. (CR 57-17)

**First Reading, Second Reading and Roll Call Vote (7-0)** was given to an ordinance amending section 13 of the Zoning Map.  
**Second Reading and Roll Call Vote (7-0)** was given to an ordinance adding Chapter 110 (Greenleaf Commission on Sustainability) of Title 2 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended.  
#118-17 Referring Petition 2016-06-02-14, to redevelop and construct a new fitness center (LA Fitness) and freestanding multi-tenant retail building on the property located at 29659 Seven Mile Road, to the Committee of the Whole.  
#119-17 Denying Petition 2016-12-02-25 to operate a used auto dealership (State Auto Sales), located at 28121 Plymouth Road.  
#120-17 Accepting a Grant of Easement for a variable width public utility easement, in connection with the sidewalk constructed at 36475 Five Mile Road.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:02 p.m.**  
**Full text of the official minutes is available in the Office of the City Clerk.**

Susan M. Nash  
Livonia City Clerk

Published: April 16, 2017

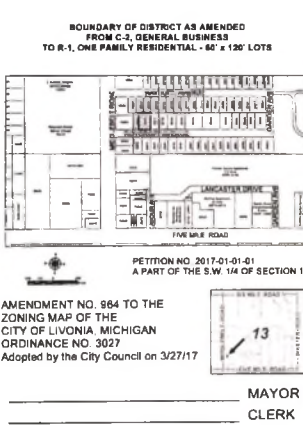
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13 OF THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA AND AMENDING ARTICLE III OF ORDINANCE NO. 543, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AND CITED AS "THE CITY OF LIVONIA ZONING ORDINANCE" BY ADDING SECTION 3.3948 THERETO.**

THE CITY OF LIVONIA ORDAINS:

Section 1. Pursuant to the report of the City Planning Commission, dated February 8, 2017, setting forth its resolution 02-12-2017 recommending approval of Petition 2017-01-01-01, having been considered by the Council, and the Council having conducted a public hearing on March 6, 2017, on said petition, and having concurred in the recommendation of the City Planning Commission, the Council hereby adopts said Petition 2017-01-01-01 to amend the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map of the City of Livonia and all proceedings heretofore conducted on said petition are hereby approved.

Section 2. Article III of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 543, as amended, is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

**Section 3.3948.** Petition 2017-01-01-01 submitted by D S Homes L.L.C. is hereby approved, and the zoning classification of the premises hereinafter described is hereby changed from C-2 to R-1:



Land situated in the City of Livonia, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, described as follows:

13DE25A2 THAT PART OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 13 DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT A POINT DISTANT NORTH 822.34 FEET AND EAST 244 FEET FROM THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 13 AND PROCEEDING THENCE NORTH 166.0 FEET THENCE EAST 94 FEET THENCE SOUTH 166.0 FEET THENCE WEST 94 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING EXCEPT THE SOUTH 30 FEET THEREOF 0.29 ACRE.

and the Southwest 1/4 of Section 13 of the Zoning Map is hereby amended to conform to the changes made in this section.

Section 4. The attached map designated "Amendment No. 964 to the Zoning Map of the City of Livonia" showing all of the amendments and changes made in the foregoing Section 2 of this ordinance is hereby approved, established and made a part hereof.

Section 5. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

Section 6. Should any portion of this ordinance be held invalid for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of any of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Section 7. This ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency ordinance necessary for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare and shall take effect immediately upon publication.

The above ordinance was passed at the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Livonia held Monday, March 27, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.

Susan M. Nash, City Clerk  
The foregoing ordinance was authenticated by me on this 28th day of March, 2017.  
Dennis K. Wright, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Donald L. Knapp, Jr., City Attorney  
Dated: March 28, 2017

Published: April 16, 2017

# Ford

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