Charcuterie: 'Heart and soul' of cooking

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Faust Library staff votes for union

Board president: 'We're happy with choice they made'

LeAnne Rogers

Workers at Westland's Faust Library have voted over-whelmingly to unionize through the Service Employees International Union.

The vote was 27-5 in favor of forming a union bargaining unit. Not everyone completed the ballots regarding unionization, which were mailed to employees' homes, as 42 employees are now eligible to be included in the union. The SEIU, with nearly 2 million members, represents workers in a variety of occupations, including nurses, other hospital workers and government employees.

A previous unionizing effort through the American Feder

ation of State, County and Municipal Employees was unsuccessful.

As a new bargaining unit, the library workers will need to take preliminary steps such as electing officers and establishing a bargaining team to negotiate an initial collective bargaining agreement.

"All along we've been saying we had no issue with the library staff organizing. We're happy with the choice they made. Now we can go forward," Library Board President Mark Neal said. "There is some preliminary stuff that

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brewing and Distillation Technology faculty member Rich Weinkauf offers advice to team members David Veselenak, Phil Allmen, Dan Dean and Bill

BIG EVENT A TOAST TO HOME BREWING

David Veselenak

Get out those hops The annual Big Brew for National Homebrew Day returns Saturday to downtown Milford, with dozens expected to come out and brew hundreds of gallons of beer. The event is one of many local sites for the event, which is taking place across 48 states. The event had more than 12,000 participants nationwide in 2016.

Teams will gather beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday in the parking lot at River's Edge Brewing Co., 125 S. Main, Suite 400. There, teams will begin brewing beer that will be tasted June 28 and judged in several categories by judges from the Beer Judge Certification Pro gram, as well as a People's Choice award.

The event is free for those looking to come and chat with participants and there will be live music and food available from Barlowe's BBQ

Isaac Perry said the event

IF YOU GO

What: Big Brew for National Homebrew Day When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday Where: River's Edge Brewing Co., 125 S. Main St., Suite 400, Milford

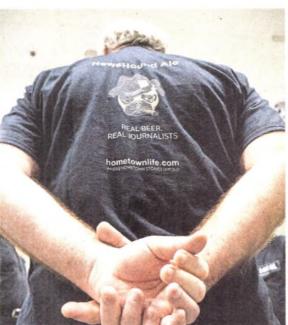
Get the Scoop on worts at Big Brew,

has grown substantially in recent years, beginning with only seven home brewers. This year, the event is expected to draw almost three times that

"I'm super-excited. I think we're going to be over 20 brew ," said Perry, a teacher at Lakeland High School in White Lake and contributor to the on top of that, we've got a food truck, we've got live music."

One team that will be a part of the event will be several members of the Observer & Eccentric's editorial depart-

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland neighborhoods to receive attention in 2017

LeAnne Rogers

As Westland closed out its 50th anniversary year, Mayor William Wild used his annual State of the City address to highlight accomplishments and look ahead to improvements planned for the coming year. He did note that some

things don't change.

'As I travel around the city and interact with residents on a daily basis, one thing that is always consistent is that the residents of Westland are just as proud, as passionate, about our city in 2017 as the first residents were back in 1966," Wild said.

18th District Court

First to receive praise from Wild was Westland's 18th District Court under judges Sandra Cicirelli and Mark McConnell. The court has implemented several innovations to reduce long lines in an effort to maintain high standards of customer service, he said. Most notably, were the creation of a new misdemeanor driving docket and offering online payment and ticket mediation through the court's

updated website.
"Kudos are also deserved by the multi-functioning probation staff and the expanded

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Westland Mayor William Wild at his 2017 State of the City address.



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ADDRESS

Continued from Page A1

Community Service program which helps the city maintain several city buildings and also helps by removing blight from area roadways," Wild said. "Thank you judges, and I don't believe that there is a better ran district court in the state. Keep up the great work."

Assessing

The city's Assessing Department completed the third year of its staterequired residential reinspection program and has now completed roughly 15,000 homes to

"While some property owners are now being assessed for non-permitted improvements, several others were pleasantly surprised to see their

assessments going down after removing garages decks and in-ground

pools," Wild said. Many Westland taxpayers got a pleasant surprise when they opened their assessment notices this year, he said. The city's residential property values increased an average 6 percent, 11 percent for commercial properties.

'While home values are quickly rising back to pre-recession prices, Westland taxpayers because of the protection of Proposition One, have only received inflationary tax increases during this recovery phase of the economy," Wild said. "This year's increase, if you did not sell your home or change your homestead status, was less than 1 percent."

The Assessing Department also processed and mailed out over 28,000

"As the City of Westland passes the 50-year marker, we thought it was time to give each of the city's neighborhoods what every 50-year-old needs: A makeover,"

WILLIAM WILD. Westland mayor

street lighting along with property assessments notices. While recently wrapping up its annual March Board of Review only 58 homeowners appealed their valuations

Wild also noted that Jennifer Nieman, who heads the Assessing Department, earlier this year achieved prestigious level 4 certification through the State of Michigan.

Taxes

While it seems that taxes are always going up, Wild said that the amount paid in city taxes on average is lower, despite an increase in re-cent years to fund Act 345 police and fire pen-

In 2007, Wild said city property taxes were at an all-time high, with the average residential bill

costing \$720. Today, the average tax bill for city millages is \$682, which is still 5 percent below what homeowners were paying in 2007.

Finances

Along with earning an unqualified financial audit, Wild said the city Finance Department also oversaw an increase in Westland's bond rating from Standard & Poor's from A to A+.
The Department has

successfully managed the back end of the recent water meter upgrade program and reports that over 90 per cent of the city's 27,000 meters have been changed out and the accounts have been reconciled

The proposed 2017-18 budget — a \$66 million balanced budget — adds

over \$500,000 to the city's rainy day fund, bringing the general fund surplus to \$6 million and paying extra toward the city's unfunded pension obligations

The proposed budget, which is available to view online on the city's website, also provides for much needed investments in neighborhoods, roads, parks and funds the purchase of new police and fire vehicles.

Technology

The city's Department of Information Technology, known as the the DoIT Team, is offering a new way to connect with the city with a new app available for smart de vices called Westland Click & Fix. It's powered by SeeClickFix and is available free of charge on Apple App and Google Play stores

Residents can report potholes, streetlight outages and blight.

Neighborhoods

"As the City of Westland passes the 50-year marker, we thought it was time to give each of the city's neighborhoods what every 50-year-old needs: A makeover," Wild

Department of Public Services Crews will have a comprehensive 50-point checklist for revitalizing each neighborhood. Items will range from street sweeping, tree trimming, replacing and straightening street signs, fixing streetlight outages, surveying road conditions for immediate or future repairs, jetting and cleaning sewers and catch basins, and replacing damaged trash or recycling bins and much more

"City crews will soon begin the process of going through each of the city's neighborhoods street by street and we will begin with the P.D. Graham Elementary School neighborhood and then begin to work across the city," Wild said, adding the city is encouraging residents to do their best to spruce up their homes.

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UNION

Continued from Page A1

has to take place. I don't know when we would begin negotiations." Library Director Shei-

la Collins is due back from a leave of absence on May 8. The leave was voluntary, Neal said, to allow the unionizing vote to take place without any concerns that she was trying to influence the

vote. "Sheila is totally supported by the library

board. She went on leave to reduce tension over the union vote, so employees didn't feel any was trying to swav them or watching over their shoulder," Neal said. "We felt it was ridiculous but we didn't want any discord — we wanted free voting."

The board had given Collins the choice about going on a leave, Neal said, and she had agreed that would be the way to handle the situation when the voting was taking

The unionization vote

came on the heels of five full-time librarians being laid off in March and replaced with part-time library associates. That move resulted in the library saving about \$175,000.

Westland Human Resources Director Cindy King was meeting Monday with library adminis trative assistant Sherri West, who has been han-dling the director's duties during Collins' leave of absence. Westland Mayor William Wild had called for the meeting between King and library administration following protests about the lavoffs.

"I expect they will discuss how things are going at the library and decide what needs to be done going forward. The library is in good shape. Our programs are all up. Some programs (canceled after the lavoffs) have not returned but others have been added," Neal said

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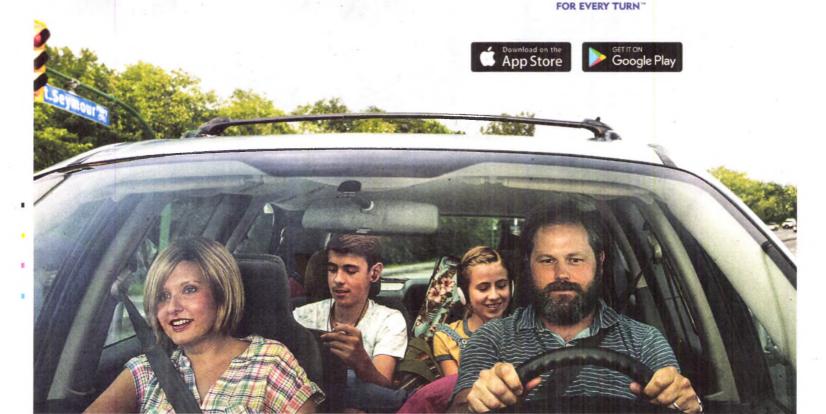
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Phil Allmen, Bill Emerick, Bill Bresler, David Veselenak, adviser Rich Weinkauf and Dan Dean.

Get the Scoop on worts at Big Brew

Dan Dean

Have you ever wondered how to chill a wort

or pitch yeast? We are not talking ugly growths or fantasy baseball, but beer brew-

The surge in craft breweries is a boon for beer lovers and it has also fueled a spike in home brewing. And this Saturday, home brewers take center stage as thousands participate in the worldwide celebration of National Homebrew Day.

If you have ever thought of making your own beer or just want to grow your understanding of all the choices available at your local beer store of brewpub, come oin us at River's Edge Brewing Co. in Milford.

A team from hometownlife.com (photographer Bill Bresler, consumer audience manager Phil Allmen, reporter David Veselenak and copy editor Bill Emerick) will be firing up a batch

of NewsHound Ale.
Don't know what NewsHound Ale is? Well neither do we. But we liked the name and the logo. We are hoping our "coach" (ringer) Jeff Rankert will come up with something really tasty. Rankert definitely knows his way around a glass carboy and fermenter, having brewed his first batch some 25 years ago. He is also a Beer Judge Certification Program (BJCP) national judge and American Homebrewers Association (AHA) governing

committee member. From pros to complete amateurs like us, Big Brew Day at River's Edge is a celebration of

the art of beer brewing. If you need more in-

centive than either brewing or simply walking around and talking beer with talented brewers (not us — we are talented, just not at beer brewing, yet), partici-pants will stop at 1 p.m. to take part in a nationwide toast, designed to happen at the same time across the country with other Big Brew events. If you can't make it to River's Edge at 1 p.m., look for our live feed on Facebook to join in the toast from wherever you are at that time

This just in: Rumor has it NewsHound Ale could be a cream ale, possibly with a hint of coffee flavoring. But the only way to get the Scoop is to come join us.

Dan Dean is not head brew master of anything, but leader of this ragtag group. Send him your thoughts at ddean@hometownlife.com.

BEER

Continued from Page A1

ment. Milford resident Jeff Rankert, a member of the American Ho-mebrewers Association, will serve as the O&E's

Rankert, an avid home brewer for several decades, said the hobby has seen some big growth in recent years, especially from those in the millen-

nial generation. "The state of home brewing went through explosive growth within the last four or five years," he said. "What

(the Big Brew event) does is it gives a venue where people who don't brew can come and view and observe.'

In addition to the brewing throughout the day, participants will stop at 1 p.m. to take part in a nationwide toast, designed to happen at the same time across the country with other Big

Brew events.
Brewers who are participating in Milford's event will receive items such as 2-row base malt and PB Toast specialty malt, donated by Pilot Malt House of Byron Center, as well as Cascade, Chinook and Tahoma hops provided by Top Hops Farms of Goodrich. A new part of the event this year is the addition of a "secret box" of ingredients that several professional brewers will be able to use in their brews that day. Representatives from breweries such as River's Edge, Draught Horse Brewery in New Hudson, Drafting Table Brewery in Wixom, Kick-stand Brewing Co. in Commerce Township and soon-to-open Hop Buds of Flint are expected to participate

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WESTLAND POLICE BRIEFS

Vehicle damaged

A resident in the 6600 levard came to the West-land police station April 23 to report damage to her vehicle.

She noticed a small hole in the passenger side brake light of the vehicle earlier that day She saw a pellet from a BB gun in the lens. She told police she parked in front of her residence in a parking space the day before and saw no dam-

Man jumps fence

Police were called April 20 to Panetta's Landscaping, 8500 Middlebelt, on the report of a man jumping a fence at the business.

Employees said they saw a man walking through the fenced vard and then running through the yard. An employee called police. They said it appeared the man was not carrying anything and nothing appeared missing. Police found part of a fence that had been damaged, though it

was believed it was old damage.

Cable tampered

A resident in the 32000 block of Montcalm called police April 19 to report possible tampering with her cable service.

She left for work earlier that day and the cable was working properly. When she got home, her service was not working. She went outside and found the exterior box damaged and the cable wires loose and hanging out of the box. She did not know who tampered with the box. She contacted her cable company to have someone make

Catalytic converter

taken

A resident in the 34000 block of Tonquish came to the police station April 19 to report the theft of a catalytic converter.

The resident parked and locked his vehicle in front of his home and later found in the morning that someone took the catalytic converter. His

neighbor reportedly saw two men running from the car carrying a car portedly got into a vehicle and drove away.

Candle stolen

A resident in the 37000 block of Joy came to the police station April 19 to report a package containing a candle had been taken from her doorstep

She said the package was set to be delivered by UPS, who told her they left the package on the doorstep. She said there was no package when she got home

Stolen license plate

Police were called April 19 to the 1400 block of Norris on the report of a stolen license plate.

The resident said the plate was taken April 17-18 from his vehicle, which was parked in his backyard. He came out April 18 and found his plate missing. It was entered as stolen.

Compiled from reports filed with the Westland Police Department.



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A4 (WL) MAY 4, 2017 FOOD&DRINK

Charcuterie: 'Heart and soul' of cooking

Joanne Maliszewski hometownlife.com

Charcuterie. You certainly won't find it on all restaurant menus. And you may have never ordered it as a charcute rie plate. But it's likely nothing boosts the craft of cooking

The dictionary has a simple definition: the salting, smoking and curing of meats — a craft developed long before refrigeration.

But nationally renowned and award-winning chef Brian Polcyn calls charcuterie the "heart and soul" of cooking.

"It is the deepest, most soulful (thing) in a kitchen," added the certified executive chef and instructor at Schoolcraft College. "It is the craft of pre-serving food."

To better understand, think of salami, prosciutto, ham, pate and sausage. "I use everything but the sink," he said. "We take the less-expensive and under-utilized meats and make char-

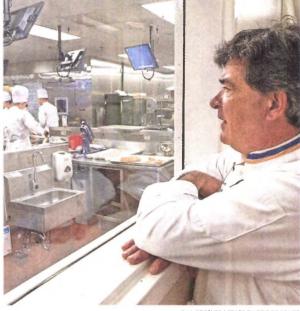
Last Friday, Polcyn stood watch as his charcuterie students completed their hands-on final exam. He pointed to one student and said he had told her he was taking home her creation for dinner. It was that good. "We respect food," he said. "We don't waste anything. We do whole animal butchery

Charcuterie is one of the rotations students participate in during Schoolcraft's culinary program. And by far, it is not the easiest. "This level of cooking is science," Polcyn said. "We teach critical thinking skills here. We don't teach recipes."

Charcuterie requires knowledge of the uses of bacteria to cure meat, so it does not have to be refrigerated. Time and temperature are paramount in preparing charcuterie. But salt is king. Salami, for example, requires low temperature cooking and needs to cure, losing all water in the meat. Salt does that job. "It is the powerful ingredient in the

kitchen," Polcyn said When you order charcuterie at a restaurant, you will receive a plate full of cured, salted meats, including cured sausages and salamis, cured poke and beef, as well as pate and, likely, cheeses. On aver age, a charcuterie board will cost about \$14 for two people It is usually served as an appe-

A master charcuterie chef, Polcyn said he never stops learning. "I always practice



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It's the last day of class and students work on their final assignment, watched by chef Brian Polcyn.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Jeffrey Adams prepared smoked bratwurst, shrimp pate and potato salad for the final exam in chef Brian Polcyn's class.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Kelsey Bylski slices her pork terrine.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Polcyn critiques Jeffrey Adams's smoked bratwurst, potato salad, salmon and shrimp pate.

always have to be evolving."

Evolving describes Polcyn, The father of five children with his wife Julie, Polcyn has owned six restaurants award-winning — including Pike Street and Chimayo in Pontiac; the Acadia in Auburn Hills; Five Lakes Grille in Milford, which he later turned into Cinco Lagos; and Forest Grill in Birmingham.

"The restaurant business is atile," Polcyn said, adding he sold them all. It's true: the

restaurant business is day and night seven days a week and then you start all over again

for the coming week. "It's like being a star athlete," Polcyn said, adding that the 20-year-old athlete has a tougher time when he becomes the 40-year-old athlete

His culinary resume in-cludes the now-closed Golden Mushroom and the Lark in West Bloomfield. Then came his restaurants, before he joined Schoolcraft College full

Whether you are a charcuterie lover or not, Polcyn's name is likely familiar. He was a focus in journalist Michael Ruhlman's "The Soul of a Chef. The Journey Toward Perfection" and co-authored, with Ruhlman, "charcuterie: The Craft of Salting, Smoking and Curing." The book was nominated for a James Beard Foundation Book Award in 2006

The James Beard Founda tion made Polcyn one of five

nominees for Best Chef in the Midwest in 2006, one of many accolades received in his career. Meanwhile, Polcyn has also launched a seminar series on charcuterie, which draws chefs worldwide.

Two well-known French chefs arrived in New York City for his class. "They wanted validation," he said.

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For self-taught Mary Spencer, it's about home cooking

Joanne Maliszewski

Mary Spencer doesn't call herself a chef. She is a selftaught cook and loves it so much she has spent the last couple of decades teaching

"I have been cooking for 35-plus years. I just love it. I was actually a legal secretary for 15 years," said Spencer, owner of Taste A Cook's Place in the Village Workshop in Northville.

The move to cooking and teaching began about 20 years ago, when Northville Parks and Recreation had her teach a cooking class as a fundraiser. "I realized then that is what I love to do," she said. "I wanted to be a full-time instructor.

That desire led her to a variety of stops along her cooking career. They included Kitchen Witch, Kitchen Glam-our and Scotty's Kitchen in Northville. For almost two years, Spencer also taught at Epiphany Kitchens. Finally, she decided to master her own

place — Taste: A Cook's Place. So far, so good. Still in the process of establishing a cafe within her new space at the Village Workshop, Spencer offers a plethora of classes, each with a theme. A recent Monday, Spencer's class bore the theme, Meatless Monday: Sheet Pan Suppers. The meal included sheet pan fried rice,

roasted corn, asparagus and spring onion salad with fresh mozzarella, portobello mushroom Parmesan with herbed summer squash — for starters

Wednesday's meal this week was Korean fare: kimchi pancakes, broccoli, mushroom and salad notato noodl

and beef bulgogi.
Ask Spencer what's instrumental to a good kitchen and she'll say no doubt it is knives. Spencer has a class devoted just to learning hands-on how to cut food, whether meat or vegetables.

Her students in each class gather around what will become the cafe. Students sit on the cafe stools surrounding the heart of the cafe, the kitchen, and learn through Spencer. She also has a television screen so students have a closer view of the cooking process.

"This makes me more accessible to people," said Spencer, who always dons an apron. "First and foremost, I am a home cook.

When the class of the day is complete, students dig in and finish the meal, which always consists of five to seven courses. "You get a lot of food," she said. "I try to give a history of the meal and where to get the ingredients. It is demonstration-style.

Spencer avoids packaged and processed foods and will shop daily. She believes that as packaged foods arrived on



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mary Spencer lights some brandy ablaze to go with some melting cheese during her April 27 dinner at Northville's Village Workshop. Spencer runs the instructional meals through her business Taste: A Cook's Place.

grocery shelves years ago, many people have abandoned or forgotten the art of cooking for a family.

She also teaches proper cooking and kitchen tech-niques for home cooking. "You don't need to go to culinary school to feed your family, she said.

Spencer covers the vast array of foods, whether it's meat, fish or vegetables and fruits, not to mention desserts. And she helps her students overcome their quirks - like those who hate vegetables or shellfish.

Her classes also cover all ethnicities and cultures in food and meals.

And she reminds students that "we eat with our eyes, ears and noses. The important thing is, how does it taste and how does it look?

Students also learn the basics of stocking a pantry. That would include spices, especially salt, and flour and sugar. Her repertoire also includes two basic knives — a paring and chef knife. "I teach how to hold a knife," she said. "It

Her classes include how to safely use a pressure cooker the newer models are safer and the stove and the need to start every meal with good, fresh ingredients, preferably organic without pesticides or fertilizers.

There's also instruction on how to use a Cuisinart to make dough and other items, such as pesto and cheese cake batter. Other techniques include how not to burn food. The trick is to get a pan hot and then add the oil and then the food.

'This is almost like having entertainment with your meal," Spencer said of her classes.

Her classes hold 13 students at the cafe counter, with plenty of other seating with high tables for folks to gather round. Older people, as well as kids, sign up for her classes. And she has repeat customers, such as a gentleman who has taken her classes for eight years. "He does not miss a class," she

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The Garden City Downtown Development Authority announces the following programs:

Lucky Squirrel

The flea market has two dates: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 13; and Saturday, Sept. 23, in downtown Garden City For a vendor application, visit bit.ly/2quzlhc

Great Bacon 5K Run/Walk

The event is returning for a second year and is set for Saturday, June 3 at the Garden City Parks and Recreation office, 200 Log Cabin Drive. The day begins at 9 a.m. with the Junior Bacon Run for kids 12 and younger. The 5K Run/Walk begins at 9:30 a.m.

The early bird price for the Great Bacon Run/ Walk will expire April 30. Sign up at http:// bit.ly/2psXuX4 or in person or by mailing to: Garden City Parks and Rec office, 200 Log Cabin Drive, Garden City Michigan, 48135. Hours are noon to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The following are registration fees: \$30 (through April 30); \$35 (May 1 through June 2); \$40 (June 3 through Race Day); Kids One-half Fun Run: \$10 (through June 2) or \$12 (June 3 through Race Day).

All 5K participants will receive a finisher medal, tech shirt and bacon. Awards will be given to the top three finishers in each 5K age

GARDEN CITY DDA CALENDAR

category, including overall. Junior Bacon runners will receive a T-shirt and a participation medal. Lunch will be available to the public with proceeds benefiting the Garden City Goodfellows.

For more information, visit facebook.com/ TheGreatBaconRun

The Great Pig Race

This Kiwanis charity event, set for Saturday, June 3, will include food, beer, 50/50, basket raffles, most popular pig, best dressed pig contest and more.

The Great Pig Race is a charitable raffle event. Participants enter the raffle by wagering on pig-shaped cutouts "racng" on a six-lane track. Pigs advance by a random toss of colored cubes. The first pig to advance to the finish line wins the heat. Everyone who bet on that pig collects their winnings based on the posted odds. Five heats of six pigs each, plus a winners' heat and a losers' heat, for a

total of seven heats. Each "pig" is sponsored and decorated by a local business, individual, or organization. For more information, visit facebook.com/great. pig.race.

Flea Circus adoption, wellness

The annual Garden City Flea Circus Pet Adoption & Wellness Event is set for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 10, at the Kroger parking lot, northeast corner of Ford and Middlebelt roads.

The Flea Circus is a pet adoption and well-ness event at which more than a dozen local pet rescue organizations will be on site with their beloved creatures, including rabbits and birds, looking for a new furever home

Also at the event will be: a veterinarian providing low-cost vaccines; local licensing (bring vaccination record); Sgt Rudy, Garden City's K9; training demonstrations, a patriotic-themed pet photo contest, grooming services, pet product sales, face painting, raffle baskets and baked goods.

For more information, visit bit.ly/2p5wryg



Don't miss Garden City's Flea Circus.

LIVONIA POLICE BRIEFS

Speaker stolen from Big Lots

Livonia police were called the afternoon of April 27 to Big Lots, 30000 Plymouth, on the report of a retail fraud.

A manager called police and said she was on her break when she saw the suspect's vehicle pull into a nearby parking space. The manager said they saw another suspect leave the store carrying a speaker and hurrying to the car. The manager went inside and

asked the cashier if the suspect purchased the speaker, which they said they had not. The manager told police they would try to access to security footage and provide that to them at a later date.

Identity theft reported

A resident in the 30400 block of Bonnydale came to the police station April to report an identity theft.

She said she received an email from

her employer, stating that someone had filed for unemployment benefits using her information. She said she did not know who had filed using her informa-

Retail fraud at Meijer

Police were dispatched April 26 to Meijer, 13000 Middlebelt, on the report of a retail fraud suspect in custody

Store employees said the suspect was seen going to the self-checkout area with many groceries in her cart. The employee said the suspect then did not scan several items before putting them on the belt, and was also seen carrying items over to the bagging area and not scanning them. She tried to leave without paying but was stopped. Police issued her a retail fraud citation and released her at the scene.

- Compiled from reports filed with the Livonia Police Department

Lucky Squirrel coming to Garden City

The Garden City Downtown Development Authority will host the Lucky Squirrel Flea Mar-ket Festival. This marks the fourth year of this

highly successful event. The Lucky Squirrel Festival will take place rain or shine at the Farmers Market area in the Kroger parking lot at the northeast corner of Ford Road and Middlebelt from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 13. However, in the case of tor-

rential rain, the event will be postponed the Lucky Squirrel until the next Saturday, May 30. For more information,

visit www.facebook.com/

downtowngardencity.
The Lucky Squirrel is one-day, outdoor, Etsylike venue that spans more than 10,000 square feet. Each year, since 2014, Downtown Garden City has been visited by a high volume of shoppers, crafters and treasure seekers who like to shop

an array of goods provided by local residents. With more than 100 registered vendors selling their goods, there will be a huge variety.
The DDA will have

outdoor yard art, homemade soaps, pet goods and fabulous yard sale finds, just to name a few The Garden City Library will be selling used books for a donation as little as 25 cents. There will also be a sprinkling of third party sales, such as Lula

BeiRock Wraps will have its delicious chicken shawarma sandwiches available and Villa Bakery will be selling its famous pizza breads Baked goods and Detroit Mini Donuts will also be

on-site. For more information about the Garden City Downtown Development Authority, visit www.downtown gardencity.com.

Passages View Online www.hometownii/e.com

How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 · fax 313-496-4968 · www.mideathnotices.com

Deadlines: Friday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

DELL



THOMAS ARTHUR, M.D., J.D., of Plymouth, Michigan passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by family, on April 13, 2017. The son of Everett and Dorothy Dell, Tom was born in June of 1932 and grew up in Royal Oak, Michigan. Tom was Valedictorian of the 1950 Royal Oak High School Royal Oak High School class. He married his high school sweetheart, Carole Ann Merrell, and they had four children. Tom completed his undergraduate degree at his undergraduate degree at the University of Michigan, followed by a degree in Medicine from Case Western Reserve Medical School in Cleveland, Ohio in 1958. He then entered the US Army and began serving his country as a military physician. Tom interned at Brooke General Hospital in San Antonio, Texas, served on staff at the US Army Hospital, Okinawa, 1962-1965, and was Chief of Medicine at US Army Hospital, Fort Sill, OK, from May 1965-Dec 1966. In 1967, Major Dell and his family returned to Ann Arbor, family returned to Ann Arbor, MI where he established his private practice in internal medicine. Tom was one of the first physicians to graduate in 1972, from the University of Michigan Law School with a Juris Doctor, practicing in both the medical and legal professions. In 1974, Tom married Bonnie Molnar who began working with him in the office for many years. Dr. Dell retired in July 2013, at the age of 81 with 46 years on staff at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. He is fondly remembered by the many whose lives he touched, for his caring and dedicated doctoring, counseling, and support. of Michigan Law School with and dedicated doctoring, counseling, and support. Tom is survived by his wife Bonnie; his sister Lynne (Jim) Skripka, brother Howard (Jen) Humphreys; his children and their spouses Diane (Carter) Clark, Ruth (Buck) Skinner, Linda (Alex) Prisajni, Thomas (Patty) Dell, Paul (Libby) Molnar, Dan (Anna) Molnar; his fourteen grandchildren, eight great- grandchildren, and his good friend Isiah (Lois) Harrison. Tom's life will be celebrated at the NorthRidge Church Chapel, 12401 Ridge

Church Chapel, 12401 Ridge Road, Plymouth, Michigan, on May 7th, 2017. Visitation will be at 6pm followed by a memorial service at 7pm. In lieu of flowers, the family would be grateful for any memorial contributions made to the Huron Valley Humane Society (3100 Cherry Hill Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48105), where Tom and Bonnie have been enthusiastic supporters with their time and gifts.

Church Chapel, 12401 Ridge

OBSERVER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

To submit calendar items email Joanne Maliszewski at jmaliszews@ hometownlife.com. Submission deadline for Thursday paper is the previous Friday. For the Sunday paper, submit items by the prior Wednesday.

Annual Spring Pottery Sale

The Village Potters Guild is holding its annual spring sale from 5-8 p.m. Thursday, May 4; and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Fri-day-Saturday, May 5-6. Guild members will be selling a beautiful selec tion of garden art works this year. In addition, functional and decorative pottery will also be available. Tableware, tiles, jewelry and a wide range of decorative and framed pieces will be sold.

The studio is at 326 Main St. in Plymouth behind the American Community building. For more information, visit www.villagepotters guild.org or call 734-207-

World Labyrinth Day

From noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 6, The Holy Cross Labyrinth Ministry will again sponsor an event to recognize World Labyrinth Day. Information will be facilitated with walks and refreshments. Plans also include the group to walk as one at 1:00" and lift up prayers for peace. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, is at 30650 Six Mile Road in Livonia. Call 734-427-1414 or visit holycrosslivonia.org.

Hearing Loss meeting

Dr. Candice Colby-Scott will present Common Ear Problems and Solutions. There is no cost and is open to all. The meeting is at 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 10, at the Westland Library Contact Tony at 734-664-3297 or email aferack@comcast.net

Auditions

Here's an opportunity for area actors. Student filmmakers are casting for more than 100 roles and parts in films to be shot throughout this summer. Most projects are short films destined for domestic and international film festivals. Great networking and experience for film actors. Auditions are noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 6, at the Motion Picture Institute, 2040 Crooks Road, Ste. B, Troy

Bring a headshot if you have one and/or acting resume. No previous experience required. Every actor will be given a cold read but will time for practice. All ages, sexes and races welcome. For more information, call 248-528-1760 or email info@mpifilm.com.

Noble hours

State Rep. Jeff Noble of Plymouth will host an open office hour from 9-10 a.m. Monday, May 8, at the Plymouth Township Office Multi-Func-tion Room, 9955 N. Haggerty Road. No appointment is necessary. Those unable to attend may contact Rep. Noble at 517-373-3816 or JeffNoble@house.mi.gov.

Coffee hours

Wayne County Commissioner Glenn S. Anderson will host coffee hours in Garden City and Westland with elected officials from the state of Michigan on Monday, May 8. Coffee Hour in Westland will be co-hosted with State Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood and State Reps. Robert Kosowski

and Jewell Jones from 9-10 a.m. at Mr. Mike's Grill, 1 6047 North Wayne Road

Coffee Hour in Garden City will be 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the Michigan room at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood St. Garden City Coffee Hour will be co-hosted with state Sen. David Knezek and State Rep. Jewell Jones

Historical society banquet

At 6 p.m. Thursday, May 18, the Livonia Historical Society will hold its annual banquet with a program on Detroit Base-ball presented by Jeremy Dimick of the Detroit Historical Society. Tickets are \$16 in advance. Call 734-464-9450 to order. Deadline is Monday, May 15. The Alexander Blue House at Greenmead, Livonia's Historical Park. Enter the parking lot off Newburgh Road just south of Eight Mile Road and in front of the house.

Art gallery shows off artists

Dickerson Art Gallery in collaboration with Three Cities Art Club will host a special exhibition of its 10 artists beginning later this month in Westland's Gallery at City Hall.

The exhibition runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through May 30 (plus weekends during special events) in the gallery, 36300 Warren Road. The public is invited to a free multi-media show and reception from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, May 5.

Sandburg Library

now open The Sandburg Library in Livonia is now open with the following hours: noon to 8 p.m. Monday

and Tuesday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday; and closed Friday through Sunday.

Noble Library will be closed beginning until May 8

3D Photography club meeting

The club meets at 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 10, at Livonia Civic Park Sénior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, just south of Five Mile

The meeting will feature a special presenta-tion of "DSS History in Candid 3D Pictures" by club VP Doug Kaller. After a refreshment' break, the final monthly club 3D image competition of the season will be

held. The meetings are free to attend, and visitors are always welcome. Stereo educational videos are available for members to borrow or rent. Contact www.Detroit3D.org, or call Dennis at 248-398-

Seth Meyers arrives for Forgotten **Harvest event**

Late-night show host Seth Meyers will head-line the 25th annual Comedy Night hosted by Forgotten Harvest on Sat-urday, June 17. Tickets may be purchased at Fox Theater's box office or at www.olympia entertainment.com. They range from \$25 to \$150. This event offers an opportunity for Forgotten Harvest and its supporters to celebrate their achievements in the community.

Contact Nicole Heins at 248-268-7521 or email nheins@ forgottenharvest.org for

ticket concerns or ques-See CALENDAR, Page A6





Report: Girl's genital mutilation injury worse than doctor claims

Tresa Baldas

Dr. Jumana Nagarwala has maintained she never engaged in any genital cutting.

But according to documents obtained by the Detroit Free Press, the injuries sustained by two Minnesota girls who prosecutors say had their genitals mutilated by Nagarwala at a Livonia clinic are much more severe than what the doctor has claimed.

The details emerged as Nagarwala and two others were indicted Wednesday on genital mutilation charges in U.S. District Court, where the trio are accused of targeting young girls for years to carry out what prosecutors have described as a bar baric and illegal ritual. In this case, prosecutors say, when Nagarwala and her cohorts were discov ered, they lied, deleted evidence and tried to hush others in their religious community to keep

their crime a secret.

Nagarwala, through
her lawyer, has admitted
that she did perform a
procedure on the genitalia of two Minnesota
girls, but that it didn't
involve cutting. Rather,
she claims, she scraped a
membrane from their
genitalia, wrapped it in
gauze and gave it to the
parents, who buried it as
part of a religious custom.

A doctor's findings, however, contradict that claim. A juvenile protection petition filed on behalf of the victims in Minnesota, along with federal court documents, cite scarring, a small



JERRY LEMENU | SPECIAL TO THE DETROIT FREE PRESS

Dr. Jumana Nagarwala (right), in a court sketch, and two others were indicted April 26 on genital mutilation charges in U.S. District Court.

tear, healing lacerations and what appears to be surgical removal of a portion of her genitalia.

Nagarwala's lawyer, Shannon Smith, has declined comment on the case, which is now headed to trial given that a grand jury handed up the indictment, which is required in federal court. The defendants had previously been charged in criminal complaints.

Named in the indictment are Nagarwala, a second doctor and that physician's wife, all of whom are accused of participating in the genital cuttings of the two 7-year-old girls who came to Michigan in February with their mothers, thinking it was for a special girls' weekend. Instead, prosecutors say, the girls had their genitalia mutilated by Nagarwala during after

hours at the clinic, but that she never billed for or documented the procedure.

Prosecutors say they believe there are many other victims. According to the seven-count indictment, the three defendants are part of a bigger conspiracy that ran from 2005 until this year, when a tip and a trail of electronic evidence led to their arrests.

The main defendant is Nagarwala, 44, of Northville, who is charged with conspiracy, genital mutilation, transporting minors with intent to engage in criminal sexual activity, lying to a federal agent and obstructing an official proceeding. If convicted, she could face up to life in prison on the transporting minors charge. According to the indict-

ment, Nagawala told federal agents that "she has never been present" for female genital mutilation — or FGM — on "any minor children" and that she has "no knowledge" of it ever being performed

performed.
"Nagarwala then and there well knew she had performed FGM procedures on numerous minor girls," the indictment states.

Prosecutors say Nagarwala pulled off this crime with the help of another doctor who let her use the Livonia clinic to carry out the procedure and helped coordinate the girls' trip to Michigan. That physician is Dr. Fakhruddin Attar, 53, who was charged with the same crimes as Nagarwala. His wife, Farida Attar, 50, also was indicted for her alleged role: Prosecutors say she

held the girls' hands during the procedure and instructed at least one member of her community to lie if anyone asked questions.

According to the indictment, all three are accused of trying to keep this practice a secret within their Indian-Muslim community.

"(They) instructed others not to speak about FGM procedures that had taken place," the 13-page document states.

All three defendants remain locked up. Nagarwala was denied bond. The Attars will argue for bond at a detention hearing Wednesday, though prosecutors will object and ask a judge to keep them jailed pending the outcome of their cases.

According to court documents, the Attars were arrested Friday morning at the Burhani Medical Clinic, where the procedures allegedly happened.

The Attars deny any wrongdoing. Their lawyers have said both are deeply religious, have clean records and were frightened following their arrests.

Nagarwala, who was arrested April 12, also has denied wrongdoing.

All three defendants are part of a small Indian-Muslim community known as the Dawoodi Bohra, which was at the center of an Australian genital-cutting prosecution that sent three people to prison in 2015.

In the wake of the case, an organization that oversees the Dawoodi Bohra community in Detroit has defended the group, stating:

"The Dawoodi Bohras

do not support the violation of any U.S. law, local, state or federal. We offer our assistance to the investigating authorities. Any violation of U.S. law is counter to instructions to our community members. It does not reflect the everyday lives of the Dawoodi Bohras in America. ... We take our religion seriously but our culture is modern and forwardlooking."

The girls' parents have not been charged. According to court documents, both girls have told FBI and state investigators that they had procedures performed on their genitalia, that it was painful and that they were both told to keep it a secret. One of the girls said the doctor made her cry and that she and her friend were both given cake after the procedure. One of the girls also said that she thought she was coming to Detroit for a "special" girls trip, but after arriving here learned that they had to go to the doctor because 'our tummies hurt."

Nagarwala, an emergency room doctor with the Henry Ford Health System, has been placed on leave. She is not accused of performing any genital mutilation at the hospital, but rather at Attar's clinic.

Minnesota authorities removed both girls from their homes, though one of them has been returned to her parents. The other girl's child protective custody case remains under seal. It is not known whether she has been returned to her parents yet.

CALENDAR

Continued from Page A5

tions.

Lighthouse Mission hosts yard sale

Lighthouse Home Mission pantry will have a vard sale from through May 6 at the mission, 34033 Palmer Road. Proceeds to be used to buy food for families and individuals in need. Volunteers needed for tear down from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. May 6. Donations of gently used items of any type will be accepted Donations may be dropped off from 9 a.m to 3 p.m. every day. To volunteer, call 734-334-3104. For more information, go to www.fgtonline.org/ lighthouse/.

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society performs

The Friends of the Livonia Library will present the Silver Strings Dulcimer Society in a concert at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 7, at the Robert and Janet Bennett Library in Livonia

Livonia.

On a hot afternoon in July 1983 this group met in a park in Wyandotte to review what they had learned together. This was the beginning of the Silver Strings Dulcimer Society. The group has now grown to over 100 members playing a variety of acoustic instruments such as the Hammered dulcimer, guitar, fiddle, autoharp, ukulele, and harmonica.

The official theme song is Westphalia Waltz. They perform for many

meetings, workshops and other related activities. A free reception will follow the program in the Michigan Room. For more information, call 734-466-2495

Firearms training for ladies

The Michigan 14th
District Republican Committee will host a Ladies
Night for firearm training and proficiency training from 6-8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 9, at Firing
Line Indoor Gun Range
and Gun Shop, 33000
Ford Road, Westland.
The event is a fundraiser,
but Firing Line is providing the training. The cost
is \$40. To register, go to
http://bit.ly/2quUBDv.

Credit score seminar

Catholic Vantage Financial will host a credit report workshop for the public on Wednesday, May 10. The workshop "Know Your Credit – Know Your Score" will be held from 6-8 p.m. at the credit union's Plymouth branch, 8817 Sheldon Road, at the northwest corner of Sheldon and Joy Roads.

During the workshop, attendees will learn about factors that can affect your credit report, how to get a free report and how to make a dispute.

Guests will also receive valuable tips and real strategies that work to help improve your credit score. New borrowers will also find out how to establish credit and earn a good rating. Attendees are welcome to bring their personal credit reports and scores to the workshop or request one from a mem-

ber service representative. To attend this free workshop, register online at www.mycvf.org/ credit-workshop/ or call 734-432-0212.

Widowed Friends

Join Widowed Friends, a peer support group for Widowed Men/Women hosting Men's Breakfast, 9 a.m. Steve's Family Restaurant (2nd and 4th Thursday of the Month) 15800 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. Contact Dick at 313-534-0399.

Join Widowed Friends, a peer support group for Widowed Men/Women hosting Ladies Breakfast, Connor's Restaurant, May 1 and May 15, June 5 and June 19, (first and third Monday of the Month) at Connor's on Haggerty and Five Mile. Call Carol to RSVP at 313-562-3080.

Big Used Book Sale

The Friends of the Livonia's Robert and Janet Bennett's book sale are sponsoring a three day Used Book Sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 19-20 and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, May 21. There will be hundreds of books such as fiction, nonfiction, religious, historical plus general books as well

There will be a designated room for collectibles as well as good prices on all the books. On May 21, a bag of books can be purchased for \$5. All proceeds go back into the libraries. The Robert and Janet Bennett's library is located at 32777 Five Mile

For more information you may call the library at 734-466-2495.





LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Conservative not **OK** with liberals

Anyone who has read the Observer for a while now knows that not only am I an effective letter writer but I am also a brutal counter-puncher. You really don't want to get into a verbal tiff with me - vou'll lose! The new audience of letter writers isn't going to kowtow me into silence, either.

I've taken on Livonia's best in the past and won. I once dared to criticize Jack Kirksey in 2008 and drew the fire of 12 published letters, plus an editorial from the paper. There probably are also hundreds of unpublished letters which are sent in attacking me. But I'm like the old Timex watch, I take a licking and keep on ticking!

To begin with, when someone becomes a doctor, he takes the Hippocratic Oath, but the liberal takes the hypocrite's oath! The liberal can say or do anything as nasty as he wants, but if a conservative fights back, he's branded a

horrible person.
I found it a bit amusing how recent letter writers hysterically upbraided me for calling out people by name in public, being mean and resorting to name-calling, and then like typical, hypocritical liberals, they then turned around and accused me of being everything in the book including a Nazi, a KKK member, even suggesting that I need a "shrink."

For your information, in 1988 I took a Marine's entrance exam intelligence test and scored on an IQ level of 200, so I don't think a "shrink' could teach me anything! A classic liberal ploy to preemptively disarm his critics is to make the claim of not being a liberal, before offering a withering, liberal broadside, but as Sun Tzu said in "The Art Of War," "the friend of my enemy is my enemy also!"

Liberals want to take over the country and drive it into the pit of hell with their doctrine of devils (see Leviticus 18:21-22 for reasons that God brings nations into judgment), and mean-while, they want conservatives and Christians to

YEAR

CASE#

sit dumbly on the sidelines without saying anything. Most of them are compliant dupes, which is why America finds itself in this predicament today where two men can now pretend "to play house" together. They have stood idly

by while public schools and colleges have brainwashed the young into socially accepting this moral abomination. The liberal media and the devil tells us that we should cluelessly accept demonic doctrines in the name of tolerance. Christ said he never knew such people (nominal professors) as his own. It's also disappointing that more Trump supporters aren't publicly defending him. Your cowardly silence gives aid and comfort to

the enemy.
Republicans are rightly upset because liberals are trying to nullify the great (legit) election win via blowback and organized mob rule protest. Democrats in Congress are being told by their constituents to block everything GOP.

Protesters greet Trump in Florida, and liberal colleges are deny ing the free speech of conservatives like Ann

Coulter It's liberals who are fostering this adversarial environment and people like myself don't have to be OK with it!

Leo Weber Livonia

Which schools did **Planned Parenthood** infiltrate?

Sen. Patrick Colbeck has posted repeatedly on his Facebook that Planned Parenthood infiltrates public schools with "salesmanship and marketing in order to build a demand for their services" including abortion. He posted they did this with students as young as 4. Originally, he stated this happened in Livonia Public Schools then changed that to Clarenceville Schools. After being challenged, he now he ignores the question when asked to provide names of schools where this went on. A Northville constituent contacted administrators at Northville Public Schools after seeing this on his Facebook page

and was told in writing, We do not have a collaboration or association with Planned Parenthood.

On April 17, at a Republican event at the Sports Den in Northville where Mr. Colbeck was campaigning for governor, he repeated a variation on these claims stat ing Planned Parenthood goes into a high school to recruit future clients. No rebuttal of Colbeck's unproven and disputed claims was heard from either Mathew Wilk, present Northville Public School board member, or Terry Godfroid-Marecki, Wayne County commissioner and past Livonia Public School board president. They were both in attendance at this

The constituents of these communities represented by these elected officials deserve and demand honesty from them

Vicki Cunningham

State-sanctioned murder

In Neil Gorsuch's very first Supreme Court decision, he voted to permit Arkansas to carry out the execution of Ledell Lee. Mr. Lee has been on death row for over 20 years. Arkansas has not executed a prisoner in 12 years but is rushing to execute eight before the patent on the drug used expires the end of April.

Unfortunately for Mr. Lee, Gorsuch's first decision was to carry out his execution on April 20. Mr. Lee, 51, was convicted of the murder of Debra Reese. Mr. Lee has consistently maintained his innocence and has begged for DNA testing

Arkansas refused. In SCOTUS Gorsuch's decision, he uphold statesanctioned murder. Gorsuch was conformed for SCOTUS only after Mitch McConnell purposely refused give Merrill Garrick a senate hearing and then manipulated Senate proce dures to improperly confirm Gorsuch.

Even as a tainted SCOTUS justice, Gorsuch voted to kill a man only hours after his vote. Gorsuch was raised Catholic and state-sanc tioned murder is not approved by the church.

VIN#

Gerald Maxey Farmington Hills

PUBLIC MEETING							
Publish: May, 05, 2017		Howard's Towing & Collis LLC 37374 Vanborn Rd. Wayne Michigan, 48184 May 9 2017 Auction: 1:30pm CASH ONLY	LO-00002119255 3±3				
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170001162	2003	JEEP	1J4GK48K03W514805				
170000691	2003	CHRYSLER	1C3EL75R74N411342				
170000433	2004	FORD	1FMDK02145GA51626				
160016319	2001	FORD	1FTYR10U21TA70195				
160016202	2001	CADILLAC	W06VR54R11R031774				
160015740	2000	LINCOLN	1LNHM87A5YY830082				
160015649	2005	FORD	1FAFP53295A178948				
160014323	1999	VOLKSWAGEN	WVWMD63B4XE004538				
160012940	1997	DODGE	1B4GP44R6VB277304				
160012864	2010	JEEP	1J4PN2GK7AW113097				
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MAKE

LIVONIA BOARD OF ETHICS WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2017 6:30 P.M.

> Livonia City Hall 4th Floor Conference Room 33000 Civic Center Drive Livonia, MI 48154

BOARD MEMBERS:

Richard W. McDowell, Chairperson Hon. James R. McCann, Vice-Chairperson Audrey E. Greenleaf, Secretary Jacob S. Ghannam Lora Weingarden

Telephone No. (734) 466-2520

THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED AND ARE REQUESTED TO ATTEND: City

THIS IS AN OPEN MEETING AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

In accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act as it pertains to access to Public Meetings, the City Clerk as the Clerk of the Council of the City of Livonia, upon adequate notice, will make reasonable accommodations for persons with special needs. Please call (734) 466-2230 if you need assistance

Mayor Board of Ethics Members (5) City Council (1) City Clerk (2) Livonia Observer

Publish: May 4, 2017

Be wary

Donors gave millions of dollars for Trump's inaugural events. Those happenings included a smaller parade, lacked numerous spectators and did not have elaborate, special programs when compared with that lavish occasion when Obama became president. One can assume the costs were minimal, also

We citizens have questions about the money. Where is the money? Who or what group is in charge of the unspent millions of dollars?

Is the Republican National Committee handling the dollars? Is someone in the White House in charge? Why wasn't the public

made aware? How is the fund being used? How will it be used? Where is transparency?

Perhaps these dona-tions will be used to support Republican candidates in all the states during the mid-term elections and in the election in 2020. I urge citizens to contact representatives and senators in Congress to demand answers to these questions. Since Citizens United, we know how money dictates outcomes in elections, in addition to other factors.

All persons in the U S must be active, wary, knowledgeable about civics, and vigilant in order to restore democracy

Hannah Provence Donigan

Need help

Michigan taxpayers, I need your help. Please email Senate Mike Ko-wall SenMKowall@ senate.michigan.gov and ask him to remove Section 234 in SB 135. Here's why. A work group of professionals deter-mined that a publicly managed behavioral

in the best interest of Michigan's most vulnerable citizens. Section 234 as written in SB 135 ignores that recommendation. This group of professionals, after a year's worth of intense work group activity including input from thou-sands of families and consumers across the state, found that, in communities across the state, Medicaid enrollees were unable to access behavioral health and developmental disability services that have been provided by the State's private health plans.

Private health plans have had many opportunities in the past 20 years, to demonstrate their ability to manage the behavioral health and developmental disability supports and services. They failed This was due to the fact that these for-profit health plans have few, if any, psychiatrists and psychotherapists who

will take new Medicaid patients. Long waiting times exist for Medicaid enrollees who are seeking psychotherapy or psychiatry. In some communities, there are no psychiatrists accepting Medicaid patients

Additionally, while the private health plans have managed, for these two decades, the physical healthcare for the state's Medicaid enrollees with mental health and substance use disorders. The state's data show that these persons have some of the highest physical healthcare costs and die earlier than the rest of the state's residents, even while their physical healthcare is managed by the private health plans.

This is not the track record of a group that can adequately manage the care of some of the most vulnerable members of our communities.

Colleen Crossey







DEAN MARTIN MAMA MIA RESTAURANT In Redford SAT. APRIL 29, AT 2PM

DINNER AND SHOW Tickets only \$35.00



BUDDY HOLLY & ELVIS **MARQUIS THEATRE** In NORTHVILLE

SAT MAY 6, at 7 PM Show only \$35.00





ROD STEWART & WILLIE NELSON

Knights of Columbus In Livonia

Sun. JUNE 11, at 6PM Dinner and Show only \$37.50



THE BEACH BOYS TRIBUTE FROM LAS VEGAS

Singing All of Their Hits Knights of Columbus in Livonia, SAT. SEPT 23, **5 PM DINNER SHOW**

Dinner & Show only \$37.50



Coming Tributes from Las Vegas: The Beach Boys, Rod Stewart & Willie Nelson, Bete Midler & Elton Jon, Elvis-Christmas show

www.startributesfromlasvegas.com

Box Office: 248 473 7777

Graduation is a time to offer congratulations

first want to take this opportunity to congratulate all who will be graduating high school and college over the next few months. Graduating is an accomplishment that we should never take for granted and we should all honor the dedication and discipline it takes to graduate. All the graduates ought to pat themselves on the back for a iob well done --- you deserve it. Of course, my one piece of advice for all graduates (particularly for high school graduates) is to continue your education. To be success ful in America, you must have a good education. For college graduates,



remember that your education does not stop just because you graduated. It is important that you continually update your skills — if you don't, you will be left behind.

Because of graduation, many people are scrambling as to what gift they should buy. For a high school graduate, I think one of the best gifts you can do is to help with their future education. Many families have established college education saving accounts and

Major

Credit Cards

Accepted

a contribution to that account would go a long way in helping with their future education. For families who have not established a college savings plan, they should look at the Michigan Education Savings Plan (www.misaves.com). The MESP is one of the best college education plans in the country. Not only are there low minimums to establish the account (\$25), in addition, the money can be used basically for any public or private institution in the country. As long as the money is used for a qualified education expense (the definition of qualified education expense is very broad), the money, which grows tax-deferred, can be with-drawn tax-free.

I recognize that a high school graduate is not going to be thrilled with a contribution to their education fund. After all. the majority of them would want a gift card. However, keep in mind that what they buy with your gift card will be forgotten about in two weeks. On the other hand, a gift of an education is something that will help them for the rest of their lives.

For the college graduate who is entering the workforce. I believe what makes an excellent gift is something that will teach them to have an

appreciation and understanding of money. A book, magazine or a subscription that teaches them about personal finance is an invaluable gift. Unfortunately, personal finance is not taught in the schools and so many college graduates are entering the real world without any knowledge about how to handle their finances. We all know that if you don't know how to handle your finances, you will have problems. Although it's not a very popular gift, something that will help them learn about finances is something you should consider.

Whether it's completing high school or col-

lege, it shows a sense of dedication and maturity. We should all honor these graduates on their achievements and wish them the best in their future. I once again want to congratulate all the graduates and their families. After all, the graduate had a team behind them and everyone on that team deserves a pat on the back for a job well done.

Congratulations and good luck!

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

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Human trafficking focus of symposium

Girls and boys who become victims of human trafficking are disturbingly young.

Girls, experts say, are typically ages 12-14; boys,

Even toddlers aren't off-limits and can become victims of relatives, babysitters or neighbors who engage in activities such as showing them naked on the Internet.

Those horrific details come from Carrie Wood, a pastor and founder of Pearls of Great Price Coalition, a group of Christian churches dedicated to fighting human trafficking in southeast Michigan and raising awareness of its devastating effects.
"This is underground

criminal work," Wood said. "It is everywhere. It



A symposium on human trafficking is coming to Canton.

is in our own backyards."

Pearls of Great Price Coalition draws people from Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, Northville, Ann Arbor and Detroit, among other communities. The group is hosting a symposium from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, May 12, at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church, 555 S. Lilley, in Canton.

The symposium is bringing together a human trafficking survivor, law enforcement, clergy and legal representatives, among numerous other speakers, amid hopes of raising awareness of human traffick-

ing.
"In every sense of the word, human trafficking is the modern-day version of slavery," Wood said. "It is a growing crime and heinous sin that violates the most fundamental rights of

women, children and men and it is not something that simply happens in the inner cities or somewhere else. Tragically, it takes place right here in many of our own commu-

It comes as Polaris, a global organization fighting human trafficking, just released a new re-port, "The Typology of Modern Slavery," detailing sex and labor traf-ficking into 25 distinct categories such as the trafficker profile, recruitment tactics and victim profiles ranging from escort services to bar employees.

"One of the primary challenges to ending modern slavery has been the lack of data to understand the problem," Bradley Myles, Polaris CEO, said, adding the new report "offers a new map to understand how human trafficking manifests throughout the

In Canton, organizers say the symposium is designed to give a realworld look at human trafficking in southeast Michigan and provide tools for how to spot the problem and address it.

"We really do feel that increased awareness, coupled with public involvement and support

community, can help make a difference," Wood said.

She said youngsters can easily become vic-tims if they have low self-esteem, run away from home or live with someone who is willing to prey on them.

"It could be somebody you trust who comes into the house — a relative, a neighbor, a babysitter or whatever," said Wood, a retired pastor who still serves as visiting pastor at First United Methodist Church in Plymouth.

Registration can be made through stopHT.eventbrite.com. The cost after April 17 is

For more information, contact Wood at stophtnow@yahoo.com

Residents also are encourage to help support the event's Adopt-a-Cop human trafficking training scholarship program by making a contribution on the event's registration page. Contributions will go toward supporting comprehensive human trafficking training for police in southeast Michigan.

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City of Livonia - 04/10/2017 1,822nd Regular Meeting Synopsis

Present: Brosnan, Jolly, White, Meakin, Kritzman, and McIntyre

Absent: Bahr. Items were received and filed.

#122-17 Approving minutes of the 1,821st Regular Meeting of the Council - March 27,

#123-17 Approving minutes of the 252nd Special Meeting of the Council - March 27, 2017. #124-17 Referring subject of local regulation of cellular telephone poles in rights-of-way to the Committee of the Whole

Referring subject of the future redevelopment of commercial properties to the Economic Development, Community Outreach and Strategic Planning Committee. #126-17 Referring the matter of hanging tarps on or above private fences to the

#127-17 Approving request to close Cranston Avenue between Elmira and Orangelawn, on Monday, May 29, 2017 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., for an annual Memorial Day block picnic

#128-17 Waiving Noise Ordinance for The Basilica of St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church 9th Annual Michigan Fun Fest, FURTHER, three (3) 4' x 4' signs to be placed on St. Mary's property.

Recology) for drop-off event at Ford Field April 28 and 29, 2017 and in Northville/ Northville Township in fall 2017 (date to be determined), as well as for 2018 and 2019. #130-17 Accepting low bids of Nagle Paving Company, Ajax Materials and Ace Paving; FURTHER, in the event the low bidders are unable to furnish the materials, accepting second lowest bids from Cadillac Asphalt, LLC and Ajax Materials, as alternates, for upplying the Road Maintenance Section with bituminous materials for the period May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018.

#131-17 Approving Petition 2016-06-02-14 submitted by Livonia Market II, L.L.C. in connection with a proposal to redevelop, including demolishing the existing building and parking areas, constructing a new 37,000 square foot fitness center (LA Fitness) and a 8,060 square foot freestanding multi-tenant retail building on the property located at 29659 Seven Mile Road, subject to conditions.

#132-17 Approving the proposed division of Tax Item No. 46-131-99-0009-000 into three (3) parcels, conditioned on Petitioner's dedicating the Southerly 60 feet of the three (3) parcels for Ann Arbor Trail right-of-way, and the construction of a sidewalk across the proposed

#133-17 Approving the proposed wage re-opener in the 2013-2017 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Livonia and the Livonia Police Officers Association (LPOA).

#134-17 Approving the proposed wage re-opener in the 2013-2017 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Livonia and the Livonia Police Officers Association (PSA UNIT), for the period December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2017.

#135-17 Directing that a closed Committee of the Whole Meeting be held for the purpose of discussing litigation and attorney/client privileged communications in connection with pending litigation with respect to <u>Deborah Mato v City of Livonia</u>, et al.

#136-17 Suspending the rules for procedure.

#137-17 Approving Petition 2017-01-08-02 submitted by Middlebelt Plaza L.P., requesting to remodel the exterior of the commercial strip center (Middlebelt Plaza) located at 18730-18790 Middlebelt Road, subject to conditions.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:37 p.m Full text of the official minutes is available in the Office of the City Clerk.

Susan M. Nash Livonia City Clerk

Published: May 4, 2017

SECTION B (WGRL) THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR TSMITH@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-926-2237

PREP TRACK

Changes on the fly for prep track meet

Observerland has new sponsor, larger field

Marty Budner

For the second straight year, the Observerland track and field meet has undergone a significant change.

Last year, officials restructured the annual event from a relays competition to a regional-style format. It had been

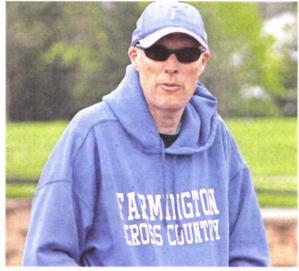
known as the Observerland Relays for the previous 45 seasons before changing to the Observerland Invitational in 2106. Last year also included female teams for the first

The 2017 meet — scheduled for Saturday, May 6, at Farmington High School - fea-

tures another name change.
It now will be known as the New Balance Invitational. While the Observer Newspapers will continue to sponsor

Balance, under the leadership of Playmakers, takes over as the lead sponsor. Playmakers, located in Lansing, owns the southeast Michigan New Bal-

The New Balance Invita-tional will feature coaches gifts, meet apparel, custom medals through eight places, Athlete of the Meet recognition in track and field events



Chip Bridges will bring his Farmington squad to the meet

KLAA BASEBALL



BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia Stevenson's Devin Dunn (10) is congratulated after homering Monday against Plymouth. At right is George Ferguson (2).

SPARTANS SURVIVE SEESAW RIDE

Stevenson dodges raindrops to grab 10-9 victory against Plymouth

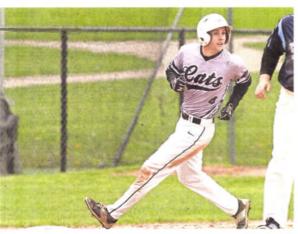
Tim Smith

Wild and crazy action on the baseball field Monday matched the strange weather at Plymouth High School

But on a day featuring wind-blown home runs, a midgame rainstorm and both teams losing the lead, Livonia Stevenson eked out a 10-9 KLAA baseball win over Ply-

The winning run, in the top of the seventh, came home on a nifty slide by Mark Pettersson — who charged home on Devin Dunn's chopper to shortstop and reached back to slap his hand on home plate ahead of Wildcats catcher Zach Beadle's attempted tag

"We wanted to do the fake



Reaching third base for Plymouth is Michael Wischer (4) during Monday's game against Livonia Stevenson.

steal, I said if he (Dunn) hits it hard, since we're doing the fake squeeze, then just keep going and he did and he made an unbelievable slide," Stevenson veteran head coach Rick Berryman said. "He (Petters

son) sold it with the slide Plymouth head coach Jason Crain gave credit to the hardhitting Spartans, but lamented some plays on defense that his

team didn't make. One of those was the play that broke the 9-9 tie.

"The go-ahead run, play at the plate, (shortstop) Nik (Patel) made a good play and just double-clutched," Crain said. "Maybe didn't have the ball quite right.

Crain acknowledged that

See BASEBALL, Page B2

PREP SOFTBALL

Bressler does it all for 'Cats

Stevenson can't get untracked against Plymouth pitcher, lose 11-1

Tim Smith

Apparently there isn't much that Jenny Bressler can't do for the Plymouth

varsity girls softball team. Proof of that was Monday's 11-1 five-inning win over Livo-nia Stevenson. Bressler went the distance (the game ended early due to the 10-run mercy rule), giving up just two hits. At the plate, Bressler was a menace to the Spartans with

four hits (including a double) in four times to the dish. She drove in three runs as Plymouth — ranked No. 3 in the state in Class A — improved to 10-2 overall. The Spartans (4-8) did get

off to a 1-0 lead in the top of the first. Leading off with a double was Abby Zwicker and

she scored on a wild pitch. But the Wildcats came right back and took a 2-1 lead that they never relinquished.

Of course, Bressler set the tone with her leadoff double to right-center and she scored on Jessica Tucci's single up the middle to tie the game.

Three batters later, a bloop to shallow right by Gina Bar-ber scored Tucci for the lead

run. "Stevenson got out to the

See SOFTBALL, Page B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Plymouth pitcher Jenny Bressler sizes up a Stevenson batter during Monday's 11-1 win.

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Prep grid meetings

» Plymouth's football pro-gram is holding its 2017 Meet the Coaches informational meeting for incoming ninthgraders from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, in the Plymouth High School cafeteria

The meeting is to give incoming freshmen and their parents a jump on what expectations for the upcoming season.

Also, a mandatory parent/ player meeting is set for 6-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 23,

also in the Plymouth cafeteria. The session is for players entering grades 10-12 in 2017-

"We will talk about player and parent expectations, as well as booster club information and responsibilities Plymouth football coach Mike Sawchuk said. He can be reached at michael.saw chuk@pccsk12.com for those with any questions about ei-

ther meeting.

» Canton's football program will have a mandatory meeting for the 2017 season

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Thursday, May 4 in the gymnasium (North Building).
Players new to the program

and their parents should meet in the gym at 6 p.m.; returning players and their parents should meet at 6:30 p.m. Canton Chiefs spirit wear will be available for purchase

Opening day set for May

The United Shore Professional Baseball League is scheduled to begin its second season of play May 11.

The Birmingham Beavers

face the hometown favorite Utica Unicorns in the 7:05 p.m. opener, which will be a rematch of last year's championship game. The Unicorns defeated the Beavers and enter the 2017 season as the

reigning USPBL champs. This season, the USPBL has added a fourth team to the mix — the Westside Wooly Mammoths. The Mammoths will join the USPBL's three charter teams - the Unicorns, the Beavers and the Eastside Diamond Hoppers.

The USPBL is the Detroit

area's first independent professional baseball league. The expanded USPBL schedule includes games every Thurs-day through Sunday at Jimmy John's Field in downtown Utica.

League tryouts were set for last weekend.

Experienced players ages 18-26 were scheduled to dem-onstrate their skills at Jimmy John's Field over a three-day period, April 27-29.

BASEBALL

Continued from Page B1

the rain that soaked the field in the middle innings might have contributed to Patel not getting a good grip on the ball before firing it to Beadle.

Dunn's infield chopper was one of several ways he contributed to the Stevenson win, which upped the Spartans record to 16-4 overall and 8-3 in the KLAA Central. In the second inning, he lofted a fly ball to left that carried over the outstretched arms of Plymouth left fielder Chase Every for a three-run homer, to make it 4-1

"It (homer) was more of a pop up, but the wind helped it, a lot actually," said Dunn, who went 2-for-4 with five RBIs. "I also had a bases loaded single, (it) went off the end of my bat and hurt my hand, but that helped a lot, too.

That gave us energy to come back in that game

Dunn was referring to a three-run rally to tie the game right after the Wildcats hung an eight spot on the scoreboard during a rain-soaked bottom of the fourth.

Raining runs

In the Plymouth fourth, against Spartans starting pitcher Branden Posky, with rain and wind wreaking havoc all over the diamond, Every walked and Logan Dziadzio singled.

Both scored on Brandan Lacorato's liner over the head of Spartans right fielder Chris Tanderys, slicing the deficit to

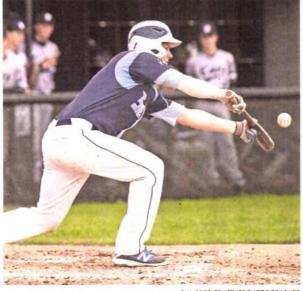
6-3.
Courtesy runner Kyle Aniol scored on a delayed double steal and, two batters later, Evan Good boomed a two-run double to center to knot the score at 6-all.

Berryman then took Posky out in favor of lefty George Ferguson, with the rain still falling

Michael Wischer walked and Every skied a fly ball to left for the game's second three-run homer — putting Plymouth up 9-6. A mob scene greeted Every as he trotted down the base path from third

"The wind's blowing out, the ball's carrying," said Berry-man, about the Plymouth surge. "I guess my only thing is the base umpire wants to call it (briefly stop the game), my pitcher had to pitch through that deluge and the home plate umpire wouldn't

"That was difficult. But tled back. They didn't com-plain, they battled back, tied it up and we scored the final



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bunting the ball for Livonia Stevenson is Mark Pettersson (17).

Answering fast

Stevenson didn't waste any time answering back, with a hit and a walk to open the top of the fifth against Plymouth

starting pitcher Josh Janovsky. With Parker Graham at the plate, Crain brought in Mitch Harber in relief and Harber got the first batter he saw with a strikeout before Dunn singled to make it 9-7

A hot shot smoked by Tanderys (2-for-5, two runs) resulted in another run scoring and a wild pitch by reliever Kai St. Germaine allowed Pettersson (2-for-2, two runs) to score the

equalizer. Ferguson, with a dry mound for a change, settled down in his final three innings, giving up just an infield single to Good (3-for-4) and earned the win thanks to the daring scamper home in the seventh by Pettersson.

"He came in and shut them down," Berryman said. "Once he got through the mucky mound situation, he got a dry

mound he threw very well.
"He kept them off balance, moved the ball around and did an excellent job. Plus he got a big hit late in the game, too."

Crain, whose team dropped to 10-6 overall and 8-2 in the league, tipped his cap to the Spartans but noted his team needs to play better when all is said and done.

"Obviously they put the bat on the ball pretty consistently the whole game, and good hits, powerful hits," Crain said. "We need to find a way to make plays early in the game. I think four mistakes that snowballed into a five-run inning or a three-run inning.

... We have to play cleaner.

We hit the ball, but it was in one inning. We have to be more consistent at the plate. We can't score eight in one inning and be done.

Patel went 2-for-4 with two runs for Plymouth, while Jacob MacBrien, Dziadzio and Lacorato each tallied a hit and a run scored

Danny Morris went 2-for-3 with an RBI for Stevenson, while Dan Bos collected three hits in four at-bats and scored

Other Stevenson contributors on offense included Parker Graham (1-for-4, RBI, run)

and Jacob Way (RBI).

SALEM 4, JOHN GLENN 2: In a KLAA contest Monday, Erich Payne pitched five in nings for the win while Danny Diaz homered.

CHARGERS WIN THREE: On Saturday, Livonia Churchill won a triple-header against Southfield (4-2), Dearborn Edsel Ford (5-3) and Lincoln Park (10-2).

In the win over Southfield, Tim Ohtake earned the win, giving up just two runs and one hit. Brendan Lowry, in his first varsity game, went 2-for-3, scored and drove in a run. Connor Burnette collected two hits and a run.

Drew Alsobrooks was the big gun for Churchill against Edsel Ford, going 2-for-3, scor ing a run and driving in one. Luke Jaroszewicz and Chris Sergison also had key hits and Noah Campbell started and earned the win (with Connor Burnette throwing two score less innings of relief.

Against Lincoln Park, Jarosing six strong innings.

tsmith@hometownlife.com Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page B1

lead and we answered back when Jenny Bressler got a double and then Tucci single to score her," Plymouth head coach Lauren Evans said. "It was nice we were able to answer back right away, and then take the lead on a single by Gina Barber.

Plymouth tacked on two runs in the second when Tucci (3-for-3) tripled to right

Meanwhile, the Spartans could not get much going against Bressler. After the first inning, the lone hit by Stevenson was a single in the fifth by Elisabet McCann, who pitched the game for the Spar-

"Our main thing is we knew we were going against Bressler, great pitcher," Stevenson head coach Kevin Hannigan said. "We did get some people on, we just couldn't get that hit to get the next run to get through

"But I'm proud of our pitcher, Elisabet McCann. She did well all the way up to the fifth inning. We just couldn't back her up. but you got to give credit to their team, their top four hitters were hitting line drives right to the fence there's no way to defend that."

Plymouth turned the game into a rout in the fourth with four more runs, including a two-run homer to right by Haley Gagnon.
The Wildcats added three

more in the fifth, to end the contest due to the mercy rule. Kiersten Metz and Sophia Dibbles hit successive doubles and Bressler hit a tworun single up the middle to score Dibbles and Angela Schmidt (who walked).

"Every game we're getting contributions from everyone in the lineup," said Evans, whose first-place team will square off against Canton on Friday in a key rivalry matchup. "We had 13 hits, on aver age we're getting eight to nine to 10 hits a game and that's

definitely huge for us."

SALEM 24, JOHN GLENN 2: On Monday in a game moved to Salem from Westland John Glenn due to poor field condi-tions, the Rocks were in complete control from the start.

Kristin Mihalic homered and had two singles, while Jordan Hazel also homered. Other big hitters for Salem included Grace Hokett (three singles), Caroline Miller, Morgan Overaitis and Audrey Whipple (two hits each).

was Sophia Smock while Rae Campbell singled for the 11-4

SALEM 11, CHELSEA 6: A



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Sending a pitch on its way Monday is Livonia Stevenson pitcher Elisabet McCann (34).

seven-run seventh inning Saturday lifted Salem to this non-conference softball win against Chelsea. Kristin Mihalic and Jordan Hazel each tallied a double and a single in the win.

Morgan Overaitis earned the pitching win for the Rocks, and also chipped in with two hits.

LIVONIA CLASSIC: Livonia Franklin went 2-1 at Saturday's Livonia Classic at Ro tary Park.

The Patriots lost 15-0 to Howell but bounced back with 12-5 and 13-8 wins over Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard and Berkley, respectively.

Brooke Garbarino went -for-11 with a double and two triples for Franklin. Other Patriots of note included Haley Bennett (6-for-10, two triples), Olivia Napier, Alanah Kirwan, Maddy Reynolds (each with four hits), Tara Trujillo and Emily Johnson (each with three hits).

Franklin pitchers Ashley Couch and Jordan Berger each earned a victory for the

PLYMOUTH 7, SALEM 0: On Friday, Whitney Holden went 2-for-3 and homered as the Wildcats blanked Salem, Haley Gagnon had two hits to Jenny Bressler.

MEET

Continued from Page B1

for both males and females, awards for event champions and teams from outside the traditional Observerland area. Trophies will be awarded to the top three teams.

In addition, Farmington High School, under a partnership formed by the coaches from Farmington and Plymouth Salem high schools plus officials from Playmakers, will be the meet's permanent site. It will be continued to be co-hosted by Salem, with all revenues split evenly between the schools.

"It's a nice situation for us," Farmington head coach Charles "Chip" Bridges said. 'The Observerland was great

for so many years with a lot of great memories, so we are continuing to have the Observ-

er sponsor some of the races. "Last year, we made the change (to a regional from a relays format) and it was positive. We got great positive feedback, for the most part And this year, the opportunity came about to partner with New Balance and the people at Playmakers. They have been very gracious and wonderful and helpful.

"Playmakers does a lot in the Lansing area as far as sponsoring events. They know what they're doing," he added. "They've been great and they are trying to increase their name through New Balance in this area. So this was a good fit

Wild card opportunities

The meet, which is slated to begin at 10 a.m. with field events competition, includes the traditional five field events and 12 running events. Prelims begin at 2 p.m. and finals at 4:30 p.m.

The field events include pole vault, long jump, high jump, discus and shot put. The running events will be the 100-, 200- and 400-meter dashes, the 800-, 1,600- and 3.200-meter distance races. the two hurdle events (110- and 300-meter for boys and 100 and 300 for girls) and the four relays (400, 800, 1,600 and 3,200)

The Observer-sponsored events will be the 100-meter dash, the 100-meter hurdles (girls) and 110-meter hurdles (boys) and the 1,600-meter run.

Each school will be allowed to enter two athletes per event and one team per relay. How-ever, each team will be given five wild card entries to individual events only.

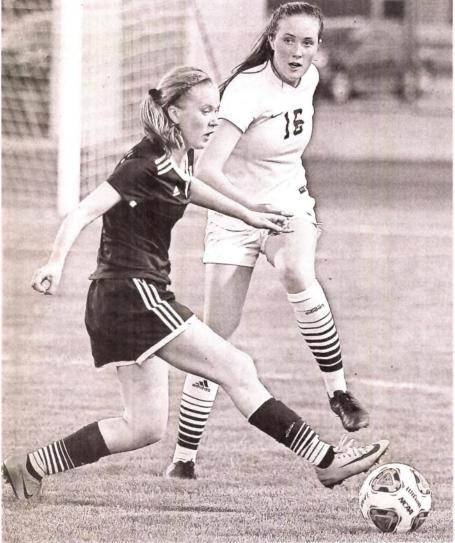
'It's a regional-style meet, although we've added some tweaks," Bridges said. "You can enter up to two people in any event and we can be very efficient where there won't be too many heats. But then, we also give each team five wild cards. They can use them any which way they want.

"Say a team has four really good milers, they can use two of their wild cards to run in the mile," he added. "And say another team has three really great throwers, they can use one more in the throwing events. That allows teams that are loaded in an area or two to still bring those kids and have them involved in the meet."

The participating teams are Auburn Hills Avondale, Berk-ley, Birmingham Groves, Bloomfield Hills Marian, Birmingham Brother Rice, Canton, Clarkston Everest Collegiate, Clinton Township Chippewa Valley, Hartland, Highland Milford, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin, Livonia Stevenson, Marine City Cardinal Mooney, Oxford, Plymouth, Dearborn Fordson, Detroit Catholic Central, Detroit Cody. Detroit U-D Jesuit. Farmington, Ferndale, Garden City, Grosse Pointe South, Plymouth Christian Academy, Pontiac Notre Dame Prep, Redford Thurston, Rochester, Salem, Southfield, Warren Cousino and Wayne Memorial.

Livonia Churchill won both the boys and girls crowns last

HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER



JOHN KEMSKI I EXPRESS PHOTO

Stevenson's Kayla Gacioch (left) controls the ball against Novi's Jacalyn Schubring. Gacioch had the game-winning goal during the April 27 win over Northville

Stevenson downs Northville in KLAA Central test

Brad Emons

Livonia Stevenson broke a seven-year drought Thursday night as the KLAA Central Division co-leaders posted a 1-0 girls soccer victory over

visiting Northville. The Spartans (8-0-1, 4-0-1) scored the game-winning goal with 21:33 left in the first half on Kayla Gacioch's laser-like shot just under the crossbar from 22 yards out.

"Kayla capped off a fantastic game with a class goal," said Stevenson coach Ken Shingledecker, whose team

outshot the Mustangs, 8-6. Freshman goalkeeper Mackenzie Fifer made four saves to notch her fifth shutout of the year for Stevenson, which outshot the Mustangs, 8-6.

"Crazy game tonight with the wind," Shingledecker said. 'I thought our back line of Alyssa Benvenuti, Yasmine Jaafar, Emma Werthman, Carson Vandike, and 'Mac in goal, were just about flawless." Goalie Carlie Castiglione

made four saves for Northville (4-5-2, 2-3), which had its fivegame unbeaten streak

snapped.
"Stevenson had the wind the first half and we had it the second half, but couldn't find the net," Northville coach Eric Brucker said

bemons@hometownlife.com Twitter: @BradEmons1

HIGH SCHOOL TRACK

Franklin tops Canton with all-around showing

Tim Smith

Livonia Franklin's varsity girls track and field team earned an 87-50 dual meet victory over visiting Canton on April 25.

The Patriots (2-1 in the KLAA South Division) had success in virtually all open events and relays against the Chiefs

Franklın individual wii were posted by Mikaela Hille (long jump, 15 feet, 3.5 inches) Alexis Browing (shot put, 30-9; discus, 96-5), Erin Seibert (mile run, 5:44.41; 800 run, 2:32.98) and Camryn Zurawski (two-mile run, 12:57.77).

Franklin garnered firsts in two of four relays.

Combining their efforts to

win the 800-meter relay with a time of 1:57.75 were Kelly Peyton, Alaina Herrera, Hannah Strasser and Emily Esker.

Franklin's quartet of Hille, Brooke Gietzen, Cierra Echebelem and Herrera won the 400 relay with a time of 52.18.

'Their hard work and dedication is starting to pay off and we are seeing a lot of girls hit marks they haven't seen all year," Patriots head coach an Wilson said. Hille hit a 15 foot in the long jump which I have been excited to see since regionals last year.

"Ava Morrison made her (debut) in the high jump today and had a great 4-3 jump. Payton Santi had a great 800 run today and it looks like she is

only getting stronger. "Today our girls did well in

each area around the track. We scored a lot of points in field events, sprints, distance, as well as our relays.

Warriors second

Lutheran Westland finished second out of three teams at a girls track and field tri-meet April 25 with 61 points.

Ann Arbor Greenhills won with 66 points while Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest talse points

Warriors with individual wins included Renee Farmer (high jump, 4-6), Amanda Mc-Kay (shot put, 30-9.5), Zoe Mitchell (pole vault, 7-0), Riley Day (mile run, 5:52; 800 run,

tsmith@hometownlife.com Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

Nineteen record aces at Glenhurst in 2016

After a big year for holes-in-one at Redford's Glenhurst Golf Club on Six Mile in Red- ${
m ford}$ — 19 ${
m golfers}$ recorded aces during 2016—the course's first couple aces of

2017 recently were scored. On April 5, 68-year-old Richard Dawson of Detroit aced the 101-yard 4th hole using a wedge. It was his third hole-in-one in 20 years of golfing.

Following up on April 17 was 65-year-old Charlie Gudger of Detroit. A golfing veteran of 30 years, he used a pitching wedge on the 119yard 4th hole to tally his sec-

round of 82. Here is the who's who of the 19 golfers who sank aces during 2016 at Glenhurst:

ond hole-in-one. He scored a

» DJ Archer, 78, from Livo-nia used a No. 3 Hybrid on the 132-yard 17th Hole on April 28 for his fifth hole-in-one in 65 years of golfing.

» Harvey Wayne, 56, from Redford used a pitching wedge on the 128-yard 4th hole. April 12 to recorded his second ace in 17 years of golf-

» Michael Alonzi, 25, from Livonia used a wedge on the 125-yard 13th Hole on May 11 for first ace in 17 years of

» Wendy Ranta, 66, from Redford used a 6-iron on the 101-yard 13th hole on May 21 to record her first ace in 40

years of golfing.

» Larry Jessen, 66, from

Newport used a 3-wood on the 165-yard 9th hole on May 22 for his first hole-in-one in 47 years of golfing.

» Jim Strange, 50, from Livonia used an 8-iron on the 119-yard 4th hole on May 30 for his first ace in 50 years of

golfing.

» Tom Hughes, 54, from Dearborn used an 8-iron on the 136-yard 13th hole on May 31 to record his first ace in 40

» **Doug Miller**, 58, from Garden City used a 9-iron on the 113-yard 13th hole on June 10 for his first ace in 20 years of golfing.

» James Bertling, 52, from Franklin used a 7-iron on the 171-yard 15th hole on June 15 to record his first ace in 35 years of golfing.

» David Bazner, 54, from Redford used 6-iron on the 158-yard 15th hole on July 4 for his first ace in 24 years of golfing.

» Gary Owen, 64, used a 4-wood on the 158-yard 15th hole on July 16 to record his

third ace in 45 years.

» Edward "Sonny" Johnson, 66, from Detroit used a 5-iron on the 173-yard 15th hole July 22 to score his first

ace in 15 years of golfing.

**Bob Foley, 50, from
Redford used a 9-iron on the
142-yard 17th hole on Aug. 28
to record his second ace in 35 to record his second ace in 35 years of golfing.

» Ron Gordon, 69, from Redford used a 6-iron on the 121-yard 13th hole on October 3 for his first ace.

» Pete Owens, 50, from Livonia used a 9-iron on the 120-yard 4th hole on Oct. 6 for his ninth hole-in-one in 50 years

» **Pete Russo**, 56, from Plymouth used a 9-iron on the 146-yard 17th hole on Oct. 8 to record his first ace in 43 years of golfing.

» **Jim Howland**, 60, from

Redford used a pitching wedge on the 111-yard 4th hole on Jan. 21 for his first ace in

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Redford Union sweeps two from Clarenceville

Redford Union continued its mastery Saturday over nearby rival baseball rival Livonia Clarenceville by sweeping a double-header against the host Trojans in a matchup of Western Wayne Athletic Association

opponents.
RU won the first game 9-0, as pitcher Tyler Collard tossed the shutout with three-hitter while improving to 4-0 as Clarenceville was blanked for the

first time this season.

The Panthers broke the game open by scoring five runs in the top of the seventh inning keyed by Jakob Bowles' two-run singles. Outfielders Brandon Pratt and Bobby Dixon each went 2-for-4 in the victory as the Panthers played errorless ball and took advantage of six Clarenceville errors. Losing pitcher Nick Bisaro held RU to one run through the first four innings before running

Nick Snage, Zack Richards and Demond Scrutions had the lone hits for Clarenceville.

"We have to find a way to get the monkey off our back" Clarenceville coach Craig Cotter said. "These guys are in our district and we have not beat them in five years.

RU also won the second

game, 13-0, scoring seven runs in the third inning led by Dixon's two-run single.

Winning pitcher Brendan Kerkhof (1-1) and Collard each added two-run singles.

"It was a great two wins against one of our rivals," RU coach Bob Miller said. "All the kids played with great enthusi-

In the fourth inning, Cotter cleared his bench in the six inning loss.
"We did not come ready to

play the second game," he said. 'We were flat. I wanted to give our reserves some playing time.

Junior Logan Calimazzo collected two hits in the setback as Clarenceville fell to 6-5 Bobby Jaber, Clarenceville's

starter, could not get out of the fourth inning giving up seven runs for his second loss of the season. Reliever Kam Macivel pitched three scoreless innings, but had to come out due to a sore arm.

"Bobby is having problems with his mechanics," Cotter said. "We have to figure some things out before we put him back on the mound.'

bemons@hometownlife.com

PREP BASEBALL

Red-hot Patriots beat Novi

Tim Smith

Livonia Franklin rode a seven-run fourth inning and strong pitching from Jon Montie to a 8-1 win over host Novi on April 24 in a KLAA crossover base

ball matchup.

Montie also came up big at the plate, with three hits in four at-bats including a triple. He also drove in three.

The Patriots (12-3) strung together doubles by Trey Gorman and Cal Fournier (2-for-4), Montie's triple and a single by Kolby Dewhirst during the

Monday's romp followed an April' 22 doubleheader vs. Dearborn Edsel Ford; the Patriots won both ends in comfortable fashion, 17-0 and 16-5.

Montie's grand slam was the key blow in the opener. He finished 3-for-3 and drove in six

Chipping in with a 3-for-4 day was Kyle Wollam with

other key offensive players including Johnny DiPonio (2for-4, two runs, two RBIs), Gorman (2-for-3), Collin Metzler (1-for-1, three runs, two RBIs) and Ryan Celmer (2-for-3, two

Driving in two runs was Harrison Merrill, while Ben Raisch scored two

Earning the win with five scoreless innings was Celmer. Franklin bats continued to boom in Game 2, with 19 hits and a nine-run sixth inning

sparking the lopsided win over the Thunderbirds.

Wollam registered four hits in five at bats and scored five times to jump-start the offense.

Also collecting three hits each were Celmer and Montie (who homered) while Richie Garcia, Nick Hoyer and Howie Whitaker each tallied two hits.

Metzler was the winning pitcher, giving up one earned run over five innings of work He gave up just four hits, did not walk a batter and fanned

Franklin split a doublehead-er on April 21, falling 1-0 before prevailing 10-0 to get the split.

In Game 2, Nick Hover pitched a six-inning shutout

while Patriot batters helping the cause included Fournier (2-for-4), Celmer (2-for-4) Raisch (2-for-2, three RBIs), and Wollam (2-for-5).

SALEM 4, CHURCHILL 3: On April 24, Salem built an early 4-0 lead and then hung against Livonia Churchill.

Rocks starting pitcher Erich Pavne went 5 1/3 innings and picked up the victory as he out-dueled the Chargers' Drew Alsobrooks (one earned run over five innings).

At the plate, Salem was led by Carlton Harper (2-for-3) and Danny Diaz, who each scored a run and drove in one.

Jake Osen went 2-for-3 and scored a run for Churchill.

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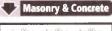


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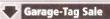
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FARMINGTON HILLS: Rummage & Bake Sale at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market, Fri., May 5, 9-5, Sat., May 6, 9-noon with \$3 & \$6 bag sale.

FLAT ROCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY Antiques/Flea Market Sun., May 7th Antiques/Flea Markel Sun., May 11h 7am-4pm.Free parking & admission. No pets allowed. Flat Rock Speedway,14041 S. Telegraph Rd. (734)782-5220 www.flatrackhistary.org

Livonia-Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 5 Mile. Preview sale: \$2 admis-Thurs, May 4th 6-8:30 pm, Fri. 5th 9:30am-3:00 pm Sat. May 6th im-Noon \$3:00 Bag Sale

LIVONIA - May 4-6, 9-4pm Mason St. 2 blks W. Middl & 2 Blocks N Schoolcraft. Lots a collectibles & many new items

SOUTH LYON - Garage Sale, 1213 Corral Lane, Fri: May 5th 9-3 pm., Sat: May 6th 9-4 pm. Couch, sleeper sofa, coffee tables, aueen bedroom set, dining table, area rus

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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS 46 Bite slightly 47 Q-V linkup 49 Designer Schiaparelli and others

1 Temporarily trendy things 5 Huge chasm 10 Nile serpents 14 Navajo nelighbors 19 "Oh, gotcha" 20 Flip (out) 21 Mets' old home 22 Blue color of the clear 9-Down 32 Eau de vie (rock band)
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59 "The gloves
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62 Like alfresco
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23 Eau de vie applied to a head injury to reduce swelling?
25 Having the same figure as Sheriff Wyatt?
27 Verb suffix in London
28 Vast age
29 Average golf scores
30 Kindhearted

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126 Reagan-era

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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 number will appear by using the numeric clues provided in the boxes. The more number you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

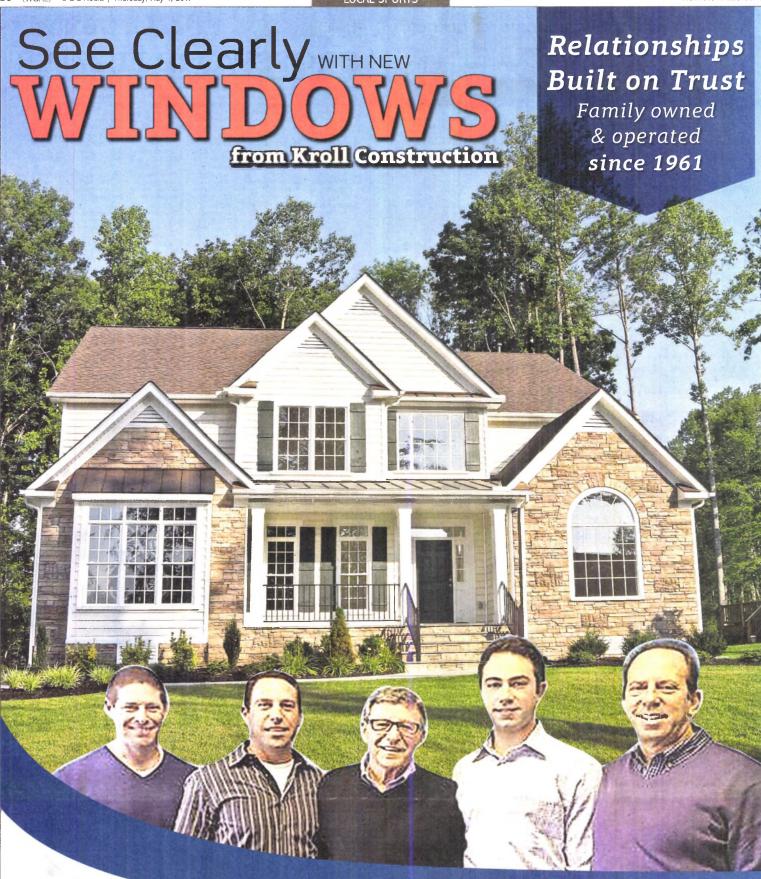
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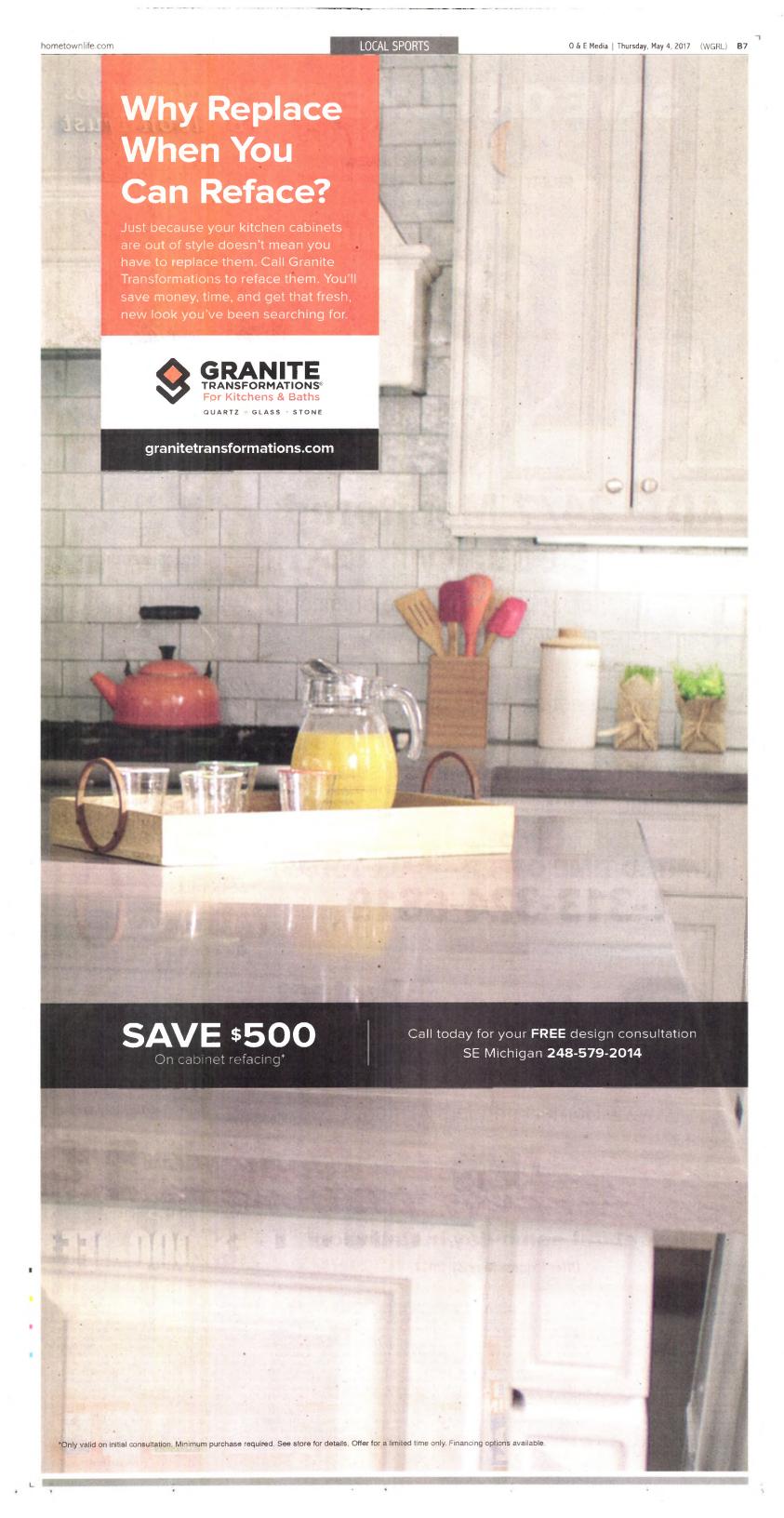












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