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Livonia considers weather laws for pets

Officials also looking at leash restrictions

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Pet owners in Livonia, especially those with dogs, may soon have a few extra rules to follow.

City council is considering two ordinances: One would require animals be leashed at all times when off their own-

er's property and another would limit how long pets can stay outdoors in extreme cold or heat.

Both were brought to council's attention by residents concerned about the wellbeing of dogs and, in the leash law's case, those they come in contact with. Council will vote on both items at its April 26 meeting.

Weather restrictions

In late February, residents expressed concern about a homeowner who left three beagles outdoors for long periods of time when metro Detroit was experiencing a cold snap. Now, council is considering an ordinance amendment requiring owners to keep pets in a climate-controlled environment when the National Weather Service issues a weather warning, which could be on

anything from temperatures to severe storms.

"This will give our animal control another means of enforcement," Councilman Brandon McCullough said. "I am in avid support of this."

The change would also require pet owners to provide "adequate shelter", which the city defines as a structure with a slanted roof and insulation

See LAWS, Page 4A



Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780 and its property on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth Township has been sold to a developer.
PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Sale of Plymouth Elks lodge saddens members

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The first time Canton residents Marc and Julie Godman walked into the Plymouth Elks Lodge, they felt an immediate warmth.

"It was like walking into Cheers," said Marc Godman, who joined the Plymouth Elks lodge when Julie transferred her membership from one in Grand Blanc after relocating to metro Detroit. "Even though we were new and a couple of the younger people in the place, it felt like family."

"Every time we visited thereafter — for Friday fish fries, Thursday burger nights or just dropping in on random Fridays — we were treated like long-time members."

In February — not long after merging with the Ann Arbor Elks lodge in search of a lodge-saving adrenaline shot — the building and 4.22-acre property that has been the gathering place for local

Elks for decades was sold to a developer.

Members voted 52-0 to approve the sale, according to the lodge's website.

A press release distributed by Gerdum Realty and Investment announced that the property had been sold to a senior-living developer; however, Plymouth Township Supervisor Kurt Heise revealed on April 13, that a formal decision on the future use of the site had not been determined.

Hometown Life reached out to the lodge's exultant ruler, Charley Dawson, but had not received a reply.

"I know it's frustrating being a member of the Elks and not having a lodge to go to," Dawson said on a website post. "We're currently trying to find a location where we can meet temporarily until we can set up a new lodge."

Trustee Ken Hines said the lodge's search for a new home has been unsuccessful.

See ELKS, Page 5A

Farmington restaurant seeks to enclose patio area

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Outdoor dining at one of downtown Farmington's most prominent eateries could see a major change.

The city's planning commission recently reviewed and recommended for approval plans to enclose the outdoor patio at Los Tres Amigos, 33200 Grand River Ave. The plans call for a structure to enclose the current outdoor patio, which would also include glass windows that could slide open during warmer weather months.

"The owner came to me and wanted to enclose his patio to make it a year-round patio to dine," said Mark Fine-out, an Okemos-based architect working on the project. "At that point, we designed the structure to make it look like a patio that was enclosed."

See PATIO, Page 5A

Residents of Livonia strive to be the 'I' in 'Kind'

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Livonia's leaders are encouraging kindness wherever they go and promoting such benevolence on social media.

Visit Instagram or Facebook, type in "#BeKindLivonia" and anyone in the know will find familiar faces standing in front of banners. With the banner as the background, the person has chosen to be the "I" in "Kind."

Kindness-seekers can find Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan and Police Chief Curtis Caid doing the same with some thumbs-up cheer on the city's BeKindLivonia.org page.

They want others to stand before the banners that have cropped up in

See KIND, Page 5A



"It was like walking into Cheers," said Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780 member Marc Godman of his first time in the building. "Even though we were new ... it felt like family."



Livonian starts podcast on Oakland County Child Killer

Shelby Tankersley HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Eddie White, 24, wasn't alive when four children were kidnapped and killed in the late 1970s by a person or persons since dubbed the Oakland County Child Killer. He knows many people his age who aren't familiar with the case at all.

So White started a podcast, called "The Forever Children of Oakland County," to bring the infamous cold case to a new generation.

"It's really just to raise awareness," he said. "I think it's important as a young man who grew up in Livonia where Tim King's body was found — and I've lived in Rochester Hills — to start bringing this case to a new generation. I have a lot of friends my age who don't really know the story of the Oakland County Child Killer."

People can listen to "Forever Children" for free wherever they get podcasts, and new episodes go live every Wednesday. White plans to release at



Eddie White, Livonia native and true crime enthusiast, hosts the podcast. COURTESY OF EDDIE WHITE

least 13 episodes, all of which are run 20-45 minutes. Listeners who enjoy the show can support it on Anchor.

White, who is from Livonia, said he doesn't try to solve the case. Rather, he tries to immerse listeners in the time pe-

riod and showcase what it was like for the community.

"This is the '70s. This is still the era of letting your kids go and play, lose track of them and they'll come home when the lights turn on," White says in the first episode, titled "A Chilling Dawn."

White interviews independent experts like Nina Innsted, who hosted a podcast called "Don't Talk to Strangers" about the case, and J. Rueben Appelmann, who wrote "The Kill Jar." He also interviews his father, who was growing up in Livonia at the time. Because the investigation remains open, White said he was unable to speak with prosecutors or police.

White also gleaned information from Freedom of Information Act requests and newspaper archives, including those of the Redford Observer.

"I hope people really gain an appreciation for what people went through whether it was community members, law enforcement who were really trying to go after this or family members," he

said. "What I really try to do in this podcast is run you through what happened."

While White isn't a stranger to speaking to an audience — he has a YouTube channel called "Eddie's Tech Talk" — he did draw inspiration from popular true crime podcasts like "Serial."

White said he has his own theory about who the killer is, but he leaves the podcast open-ended for listeners to draw their own conclusions. In the second episode, he encourages the audience to put its "investigative hat on."

Most of all, White hopes an added awareness of the case will finally bring the victims and their families justice.

"These aren't characters in a story," he said. "This isn't numbers or names on a page. These are people who look like you, sound like you, live where you live. This is real stuff that happened to real people."

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby_tankk.

Learning financial literacy now can pay dividends later



Money Matters
Rick Bloom
Guest columnist

April is Financial Literacy Awareness Month. Government, non-profit organizations, and private businesses throughout the financial industry have teamed up and dedicated this month to helping Americans become more educated and informed about their financial needs.

In the past, during this month there were numerous live, in-person events dedicated to financial literacy. However, this year, unfortunately, because of COVID, these events have been moved online. I encourage you to take the opportunity to attend some of these free, on-line seminars.

If you have struggled with personal finances, there is no time like the pre-

sent to get your affairs in order. In addition, for those of you who have your financial house in order, it is important to stay current with the changing world of personal finance because, who couldn't use a refresher now and then.

Establishing a good investment portfolio is only one aspect of personal financial planning. To have your financial house in order, you need to consider a number of areas, including estate planning, taxes, risk management, debt management and investing. Each one of these topics is important and interlocks with the others. In other words, you could have a well-balanced and diversified portfolio, but if you don't have an estate plan and then there is a family emergency, all your planning may be for naught.

It is important that as adults we recognize that it is our responsibility to ourselves and those dependent on us to look at all the areas of personal finance to make sure those areas are covered.

Regardless of how much money you have; if you don't take care of the aforementioned areas, you and your family are at risk.

Although all the areas I mention are important, depending on your individual situation, some areas are more important than others. For example, someone with a substantial amount of personal debt, particularly credit card debt, needs to spend more time and energy on that area compared to someone who has no debt other than a mortgage. It is important to consider all the areas of personal finance, but you don't have to spend the same amount of time with each of these areas.

I, as well as other members of my firm, will be doing our part to help educate people by hosting webinars during Financial Literacy Awareness Month. These webinars are free and educational, and just as important; no one is going to try to sell you anything. You can find information on the events on our web-

site at www.bloomadvisors.com/seminars.

I recognize starting a financial literacy journey can be a daunting task. However, procrastinating will not make the problem go away. I can assure you the task is not as daunting as you may think. The hard part is taking the first step.

No matter where you are with your personal finances, you can do better. I like to think of personal finance as just another hobby. However, it has a benefit that most hobbies do not have. Most hobbies cost money. However, being involved with your personal finances will lead you to be more efficient and allow you to have more money in your pocket, exactly where it belongs. Take the next step and be proactive. You may actually enjoy it.

Good luck.
Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. Email your questions to Rick at rick@bloomadvisors.com.



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Canton man's sentence remains in sex abuse case against daughter

Susan Vela HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Caitlin Conklin knows her father could appeal his twice-inflicted sentence of 20-35 years, but she hopes he doesn't.

"I have a feeling it will happen. If he was smart, he wouldn't," said Conklin after an April 20 Zoom hearing, where retired Third Circuit Judge Ulysses Boykin temporarily returned to the bench to resentence her father because of a dispute over sentencing guidelines.

Boykin agreed that one of 20 measurements deserved zero points, dropping the minimum sentencing range from 126 months to 81 months — or 10-and-a-half years to about seven years — for Lawrence Conklin, 61, of Canton.

Then, the judge stuck to his original 2019 sentence by once again ignoring the recommended sentencing guidelines.

Boykin resentenced Conklin to 20-35 years for the four criminal sexual conduct charges — one of the first-degree variety and three second-degree CSC counts.

Conklin took responsibility by pleading guilty to the charges. He's been talking to his mother regularly, participating in a church group and working in a prison kitchen.

However, the judge said those activities do not rise to a level that makes him consider rehabilitation a possibility.

Boykin said he could not ignore the seriousness of the offenses and the father-daughter relationship that continues to threaten a woman's life because of the prison inmate's actions, beginning when his daughter was 13 and continuing until she graduated from Grand Valley State University.

There were additional factors, Boykin said, that had to be considered. "Certainly, the charge of criminal

sexual conduct is an extremely serious felony in this jurisdiction," Boykin said. "Normally, under most circumstances, a father is the protector of a daughter.

"I have no reason to doubt what she says are her feelings and what she has suffered. She would not have been in this position but for the actions of her father.

Sitting between her boyfriend and mother, Conklin had told the judge about the sexual abuse and how it continued even on family vacations. She calculated that her father sexually abused her 400 times in a decade.

"Judge, I beg of you to consider the defendant's abuse of power and continued manipulation with myself, my mother and his other children when you consider his resentencing," pleaded Conklin. "The safest place for him to be for everyone involved is right where he currently is."

Man admits to carelessly shooting son who died

Susan Vela HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Canton Township father pleaded guilty to carelessly discharging his weapon, causing the death of his 8-year-old son Jack in December.

An involuntary manslaughter charge for Nicholas Bennett, 33, was dismissed when the plea deal with the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office was accepted on April 16.

Bennett is scheduled for a May 18 sentencing. According to Michigan law, he could spend up to a few years in prison.

Prosecutors have said Bennett unintentionally killed his son at their Old Michigan Avenue home the afternoon of Dec. 15. The father had been working on his rifle, and his boy was in the room.

The child died at the hospital. Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com.

Laws

Continued from Page 1A

"specifically designed to protect an animal," when it is cold and shade when it is hot.

The majority of council and several callers to council meeting Monday, none of whom live in Livonia, voiced support for the amendment, but Council Vice President Scott Bahr and one resident said the changes go too far.

"If you have hunting breeds or sporting dogs ... my dogs always want to be outside," resident Mike Hayes said. "By not allowing the dogs to be outside, you could actually hinder the health of the dogs."

Leash law

Livonia already requires pets wear a leash at city parks, but an ordinance change would require pet owners to use a leash any time they are off their own

property and do not have the expressed consent of a property owner. Residents have long raised concerns about unleashed dogs near city school properties.

If the change is approved, Council President Kathleen McIntyre said enforcement will be key. McIntyre said her own dog has been bitten by another when on an outing.

"I really like the idea of a leash law, but it comes down to enforcement," she said. "The people who need leash laws are not going to follow the leash laws. These are so difficult to enforce."

A number of people, residents and nonresidents, called in support of the idea. Several council members noted Livonia is a suburban area and people should take that into consideration when buying a pet.

"When you get a dog you want to look at the size, what you need to feed the dog, what type of personality it has and all that," Councilwoman Laura Toy said.

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com.



A Livonia ordinance change could require dogs to always be leashed on walks. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE



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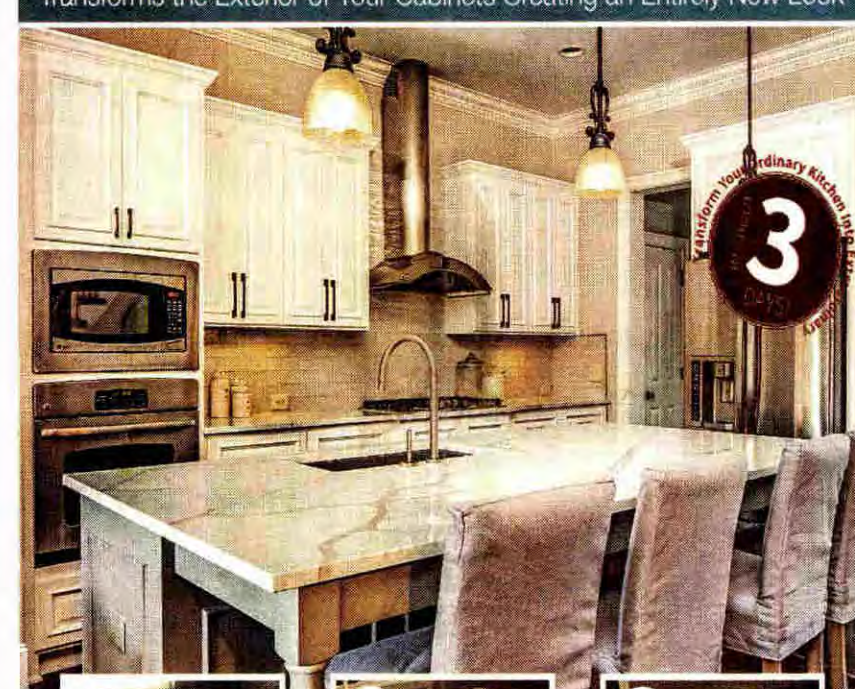
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Kind

Continued from Page 1A

various places, including parks, get their pictures taken, post them on social media with the hashtag #BeKindLivonia and then get to doing good deeds.

“Hopefully, we’ll have a city spread with kindness,” the Rev. Kellie Whitlock of Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church said. “I’m really excited about it. It’s just a good collective effort.”

For years, her church has partnered with the city and its fire and police departments to provide blessing bags to those committed to making Livonia a better place.

These thinking-about-you gifts were given to nursing home employees in 2017, St. Mary Mercy Livonia Hospital nurses and medical staff in 2018, and disabled veterans in 2019.

In 2020, despite the pandemic, the partnership managed to give blessing bags to nurses. The mayor made the request for headbands so nurses ears wouldn’t get chafed raw from elastic.

But the year of COVID-19 lockdowns, summer protests and absolute divisiveness prompted Whitlock’s desires to do something more.

She took inspiration from her daughter’s school, which had attempted its own “Be the ‘I in Kind” campaign. She talked to city leaders about attempting a similar project to build community on a citywide scale, and they took to the idea.



Debra Bonde, director of Seedlings Braille Books for Children on Farmington Road, has already posted her picture in front of a #BeKindLivonia banner.

SUBMITTED

ter’s school, which had attempted its own “Be the ‘I in Kind” campaign. She talked to city leaders about attempting a similar project to build community on a

citywide scale, and they took to the idea.

The Be Kind Livonia project officially launched in early April and comes with

banners to raise money for blessing bags that will be delivered to Livonia and Clarenceville school teachers during the holiday season.

“It has been such a wild year with COVID, with online and in person and the mix of both,” Whitlock said. “That would be a great way to honor them for doing all of that.”

The banners underscore the project participants, which also include the two school districts and the Livonia Chamber of Commerce. Whitlock said “the sky’s the limit” when it comes to being kind.

Brosnan said local leaders are working hard to encourage participation, and local residents are responding positively to the chance to be authentically and intentionally kind.

“This is who we are,” Brosnan said. “This is the core of Livonia.”

Debra Bonde, director of Seedlings Braille Books for Children on Farmington Road, has already posted her picture in front of a banner. She loves the campaign because of the obvious need to be kinder to one another.

“It’s really important that we all are kind to each other,” she said. “That’s pretty basic.”

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432. Twitter: @susanvela.

Patio

Continued from Page 1A

In addition to the patio being enclosed, other work is expected at the restaurant, including some remodeling of the bathrooms.

The review at the planning commission level came after the Downtown Development Authority Design Committee reviewed and recommended approval of the changes at its previous meeting April 8.

While the seating would be considered indoor seating, the proposed patio would have elements that would keep the ambience that the outdoor patio has. That also includes during the colder months when customers are less likely to dine outside.

“At the front, to keep the building looking like a patio and to engage with the outside and the community while the diners are there, we propose overhead doors that would open up,” Fineout said. “They’re large doors, 16 feet wide by 8 feet tall, and they would open up.”

“They’re also clear glass, so in the winter when diners are eating, they’ll be part of the streetscape.”

Commission Chairman Steven Majors asked if any thought had been given to keeping some sort of “true” outdoor



A rendering of the proposed enclosure of the patio at Los Tres Amigos in downtown Farmington.

COURTESY OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON

dining at the site, especially given the atmosphere in dining the last year with the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the addition of the downtown’s social district and general atmosphere being more outdoors-driven the last year, he wondered if there was an opportunity to keep some tables completely outdoors.

“The garage doors are great solutions, I think they add that kind of ‘cool’ factor (and) they bring the outdoors in and the indoors out and all those things you were talking about, Mr. Fineout,

when it comes to community engagement,” he said. “I’m not the business owner, I’m just trying to think about true outdoor seating, because we’ve all come to enjoy walking the town and seeing people. The garage doors might not always be open.”

Fineout said while there were no discussions around keeping tables just outside, having the glass doors open up, especially during the warmer months of the year, will continue to add that desired effect.

“We still think we can produce a

product that you’ll like, and with the glass being able to see through it in the winter ... we can’t be outside in the winter anyway,” Fineout said. “You’re almost getting the best of both worlds.”

Los Tres Amigos serves up Mexican fare, including fajitas, quesadillas, tacos and enchiladas. Based in the Lansing area, the restaurant has several other locations in Detroit’s western suburbs, including in Plymouth Township, Canton Township, Livonia and Northville.

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com.

Elks

Continued from Page 1A

“Our realtors have a search for any property in the vicinity of the old lodge just crossing the borders of Livonia, Canton, Westland and Northville,” Hines said on a building committee page. “Anytime new properties that fit our criteria pop up for sale, we get the listings and see how it could work for a potential new lodge building.”

“We have looked at a couple of these potential opportunities, but the taxes have been very high and most of the issue. Our mission is to find the right-

sized facility, with the amenities we need, along with the right-sized tax bill to provide the best possible option to survive for a very long time.”

Plymouth-Ann Arbor members have been encouraged to attend events at other area Elks lodges until a permanent home can be found.

The Godmans have attended a Dearborn-based lodge since the closing of the Plymouth lodge.

When a lodge closes, assets are held in trust, unless there is a local effort to revive the lodge, said Elks official Malcolm McPherson in an article published on Gannett’s northjersey.com website.

“What happens ... is any proceeds

they have — bank accounts, sale of real property, the liquor license — that money is held in trust for a period of five years, McPherson explained. “Just in case, if the lodge local wants to re-establish itself in the community or another town, then that money is held in trust for them.”

If locals wish to form a new lodge “within a reasonable time,” the assets can be transferred, said James Nicholson, a spokesman for the Grand Lodge. “If that isn’t done, those funds are ordered transferred to the major charity of the state Elks association.”

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was founded on Feb. 16, 1868, in New York. With a motto of, “Elks care,

Elks share,” the fraternal organization distributed an estimated \$3.5 billion to charitable, welfare, educational and veterans programs since its inception.

However, the rising average age of members (65) and declining membership ledgers have made survival a struggle for local lodges like the one based in Plymouth.

“The Elks lodge I was a member at in Grand Blanc had a golf course and a swimming pool, amenities that made it easier to maintain strong membership numbers and recruit new ones,” Julie Godman said.

“This place does so much for underprivileged youth, veterans groups, you name it,” Marc Godman said.



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Too familiar sorrow at Sikh house of worship

Sloane Terranella and Niraj Warikoo
 Detroit Free Press
 USA TODAY NETWORK

In the parking lot of Plymouth's Mata Tripta Ji Gurdwara Sahib, a familiar sense of sorrow cloaked community members as they prayed for the Indianapolis FedEx facility shooting victims.

It was a feeling gurdwara members felt before as they placed memorial candles in front of the building. The vigil was held at the same house of worship where hundreds gathered nine years ago for a vigil after a white supremacist fatally shot six Sikhs at a Sikh temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, in 2012.

On April 15, 19-year-old Brandon Scott Hole shot and killed eight people and wounded several others at a FedEx Ground Plainfield Operations Center, USA Today reports. Hole died by suicide, and four of the eight shooting victims belonged to the Sikh community.

During Sunday's vigil, Sona Sandhu, 41, of Northville, said when news first broke of the shooting, her first reaction was sadness. Her second thought, she said, centered on the need to improve cultural awareness.

"We all have to treat each other equally. This is America. This is a melting pot," she said. "We all should respect and value each other's religious beliefs, and each other's appearances. Sikhs, they have a different appearance than most other Americans, and I think people need to educate themselves, or maybe we as a Sikh faith have to come up and start educating people better."

Sandhu said she hopes there is more education regarding different values and cultures, but she also hopes for more gun laws.

Joining members of the gurdwara Sunday was FedEx worker Veronica Goldwater, 64, of Lincoln Park, who said she showed up to support the Sikh and FedEx communities.

"We all mourn. We are a FedEx family. When one is hurt, we are all still bleeding," she said. "We call it bleeding purple."

Goldwater said she found out about Thursday's shooting when she woke up for work and turned on the radio. She instantly heard the broadcast announcing eight people had been killed at a FedEx facility. However, she still needed to go to work that day.

"It was quiet, everybody was quiet. We still did our jobs," Goldwater said. "We were trying to figure out if it was an employee, if it was from someone outside or if it was ongoing. We did not know until the next day."

Goldwater said her heart goes out to everyone affected by the situation, and fear lingers in the back of



Members of the local Sikh community listen to speakers during a vigil at Plymouth's Gurudwara Sahib in honor of four members of the Sikh community who were killed at a FedEx Facility in Indianapolis. ANTRANIK TAVITIAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

her mind when she goes into work now.

"Everyone (victims) was there just making a living. It's hard when a lot of people are still at home and that we, FedEx, we're essential," Goldwater said.

The parents of state Rep. Ranjeev Puri, D-Canton, the first Sikh to serve in the Michigan Legislature, helped establish the Sikh temple in Oak Creek that was targeted in 2012. Two days before the FedEx shooting, Sikhs were celebrating Vaisakhi, an annual religious holiday. Puri took part in an online forum Tuesday to celebrate Vaisakhi with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, and other politicians.

And now, Puri and other Sikhs are mourning those killed at the FedEx facility in Indiana.

"I am exhausted, I am broken, I have no more tears left to shed," Puri wrote on Twitter on Friday. "It is seemingly everyday we are hearing of innocent lives lost to gun violence."

"My heart aches for all the victims of the shooting in Indianapolis — which include members of the Sikh community."

Members from other gurdwaras also came to support and honor the victims.

Birinderjit Singh, 40, of Canton, is part of the Singh Sabha of Michigan located in Canton. He said elected officials must act to prevent this kind of senseless violence.

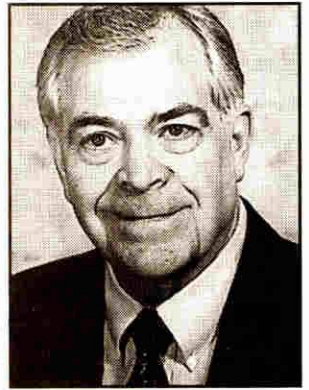
"Unfortunately, most of the victims (FedEx shooting) were Sikhs. As Sikhs because of the way we look, we are always misunderstood," Singh said. "We want all of these politicians to not always favor the lobbies, but also think about the citizens because we are the ones who pay the taxes."

Obituaries

To place an ad, call 586-826-7171 or visit mideathnotices.com/place.php

Jack M. Lewis

ADRIAN - Jack M. Lewis, 89 of Adrian passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by his loving family April 10, 2021.



Jack is survived by his wife of 67 years, Mildred; son Doug (Alexis) Lewis, daughters; Cindy Lewis, Karen (Craig) Catallo, his grandchildren; Tara Lewis, Derek Lewis, Jenna Lewis, David Crete and Brandon Crete. His sister Louanne Campbell and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Jack graduated from Vassar High School, went into the Navy then went on to Graduate from Central Michigan University where he met and married Millie. They moved to Detroit, eventually settling in Plymouth where Jack owned and operated the Marathon Gas station for several years. He then went on to be the Director of Red Bell Preschool for 25 years, Jack touched many lives and saw several generations attend the school.

Spending time with family, friends and fishing were some of Jack's favorite pastimes, especially at his cottage in Jerome Michigan on Lake Le Anne. After retirement, he and Millie settled in Adrian, making lifelong friends and kept close to all his family in Michigan.

Jack was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend to everyone.



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Obituaries

To place an ad, call 586-826-7171 or visit mideathnotices.com/place.php

Thomas Patrick Freydl II

WESTPORT, CT - Thomas Patrick Freydl II passed away peacefully at home in Westport CT on April 13, 2021. Tom was born in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan on May 13, 1969. Tom was the only son of Karen and Pat Freydl and a much-loved brother to Susie, father to Morgan and life-partner to Deborah. From an early age it was clear that Tom had the ability to light up and fill a room. He was funny and fun, caring and kind, sweet and cheeky. His early interests included soccer, downhill skiing, tennis, golf, rumble fumble and supporting the Mighty Maples. He was also responsible for causing a few sleepless nights for his mother and father. There are no words to express their love of and devotion to Tom.



Tom was educated at Western Michigan University and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communication which he put to exceptional use with various marketing and public relations roles. As one of his good friends said 'he was an anomaly in LA as he was always looking to see what he could do for you, not what he could get from you.' He carried this across the country to Westport, CT where those who loved him grew one hundredfold. He loved his tennis and particularly golf and was well-known and well-loved by all. For all those who knew him, his smile, warmth, compassion and kindness were infectious and his friendship exemplary. If you ever met him you were lucky, if you were ever close to him you were blessed.

Tom was exceptionally close to his sister Susie, who cherished his friendship. He was deeply loved by Joe and was the legendary "Uncle T" to Tommy, Paige and Chris who always counted on his words of support and encouragement. He was a devoted father and best friend to Morgan. The relationship between the two of them was a sight to see; full of love, respect and friendship. He was Deborah's rock. Their love and respect for and deep connection with each other was witnessed by their many US and global family and friends. Their three dogs wouldn't leave Tom's side when he returned home. Even during his extended hospital stay Tom made such an impact on the team. From making jokes, asking "how are you" to helping someone think through her opportunities. Pure class till the end.

If you would like to make a donation in Tom's honor, one of Tom's favorite causes was Catch a Lift <https://catchaliftfund.org/> A great cause supported by many of Tom's dear friends; a double give back of sorts. Very Tom.



Frank Kasper

Frank Kasper was born November 4, 1931 and passed away at the age of 89 on April 13, 2021. Beloved husband of Joyce for 62 wonderful years. Cherished father of Brian (Barbara) Kasper, Phil (Kelly) Kasper and Kevin Kasper. Proud grandpa to Ben Kasper, Katie (Corey) Redman and Emily Kasper. uncle to many nieces and nephews. Frank is preceded in death by his brother Bill Kasper.

Frank will be remembered for serving his country during the Korean War in the U.S Army, a long time art teacher in Detroit public Schools and a devoted husband, father and grandfather.

Services were handled through Harry J Will Funeral Home.

Harry J Will Funeral Homes

May you find comfort in family and friends

Richard E. Trapp

Richard E. Trapp - 12/31/31, died peacefully with his wife of 66 years at his side on April 13, 2021. Richard (Dick) was a graduate of St. John's Military Academy and Hillsdale College. He served in the army as a radio repairman, and later joined the George W. Trapp Company, a storm door & window manufacturer started in 1930 by his father, where his innovation and creativity drove a company that spanned three generations. An avid skier into his 80's Richard shared many an apres ski cold beer with friends and family at the bottom of ski areas all over the world. Richard took his family skiing in his motor home every other weekend to Shanty Creek and Sugar Loaf Mountain, where he was on the National Ski Patrol for many years. Richard and his wife Rosemary were world travelers and had many adventures including bungee jumping out of a hot air balloon, tandem skydiving, white water rafting, and flying a fighter jet. Dick Trapp was a regular participant in the Detroit Turkey Trot, Belle Isle 200 bike ride and took his children and grandchildren to the Detroit Thanksgiving Day Parade and Detroit Fireworks for most of his life. He was active in the community and served on the Board of the Livonia Family Y and Redford Kiwanis. Despite all the world travels and experiences, Dick's favorite moments were those spent at the family cottage, where for over 50 years the family has gathered to celebrate the Fourth of July. Dick appreciated a "rip-snorter" camp fire, a lake view, a cold beer, and good conversation with family, friends (and often friends of friends) about skiing, windsurfing, or anything having to do with chainsaws, tools, or uses for duct tape.



Dick is survived by his adoring wife Rosemary, children Darby (Eland) and Bob, Richard (Rusty) and SallyJo, Bill and Caroline, Andrew and Amy, and grandchildren Logan, LeeAnne, Lauren, Baxter, Michelle, Davis, Lucy, and Will.

Donations can be made in Dick's honor to the National Ski Patrol, at: <https://nspserver.org/donate/>

A Zoom service will be held on Saturday, April 17th at 4:00pm EST. Contact the family for details.

Mary Jane Lloyd Ivory

HILTON HEAD, SC - Mary Jane Lloyd Ivory from Hilton Head, SC and formerly Birmingham, Michigan, died peacefully in her sleep on April 10, 2021 at NHC Healthcare in Okatie, SC. She recently turned 100 and celebrated with a special birthday party given by the wonderful staff at NHC.



MJ was born in Detroit, Michigan on January 13, 1921 to Inez Faughnan and Benjamin K. Lloyd. She attended St. Mary's Grade School, graduated from Redford High School and later attended University of Detroit College. Her first job was at WXYZ radio as a receptionist where they discovered her sweet, childish radio voice and utilized her skills with voice overs for commercials. Soon after she met the love of her life Robert J. (Bob) Ivory. They married soon after he returned from playing football for the Army/Air Force during WWII. They raised their family in Detroit, later moving to Birmingham, Michigan. While raising her six children she also took care of her parents and aunt full time for many years. She also worked at Jacobson's Department Store in accounting for 15 years. When Bob passed away she decided to relocate to Hilton Head, a place they both loved and in 1991 MJ moved south and began the second chapter of her life.

MJ was generous, welcoming and always thoughtful of others. She loved to entertain family and friends and taught us all how to set a table with perfection. MJ was known for her rapier wit, country club ease and perfectly accessorized fashion and style even through her last days in NHC where everyone wanted to see her daily outfits. She loved football, golf and even NASCAR. She never stopped learning which surely was responsible for her longevity.

MJ is preceded in death by her husband Robert J. Ivory; her parents Inez and Benjamin K Lloyd; a son, Timothy C. Ivory; and an infant daughter Elizabeth Ann Ivory.

MJ is survived by her children Midge Edmond (Leo), Charleston, SC; Robert J. Ivory, Jr., Scottsdale, Arizona; Benjamin D. Ivory (Maureen) Wilmette, IL; Patrick T. Ivory, Traverse City, MI; and Brian L. Ivory, Hilton Head, who devoted all his time to giving her the best life. She leaves an amazing legacy for her 14 grandchildren and 34 great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers (because she hated them) please make donations to Holy Family Church or Volunteers in Medicine.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Keith Funeral Services on Hilton Head. She will be buried in Michigan beside her husband. Due to Covid restrictions a service will be planned in the future

Mary Louise Wilkes

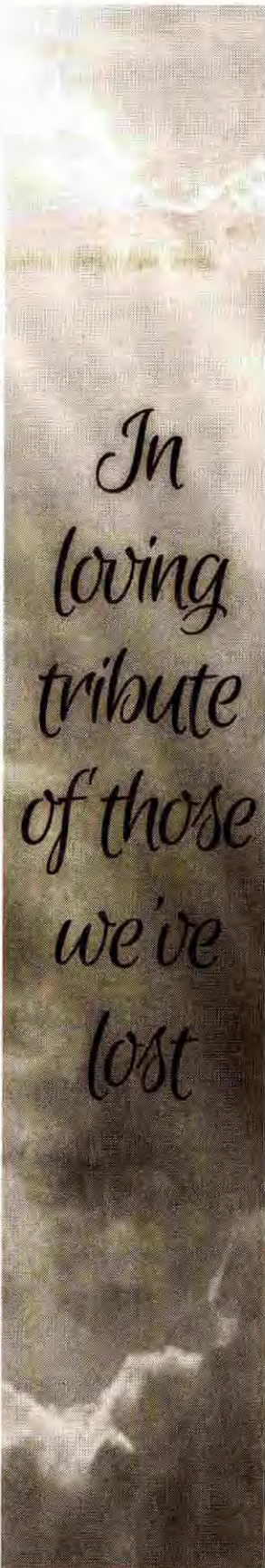
JACKSON - Mary Louise Wilkes, of Jackson, Michigan, passed away on Monday, April 19, 2021, at Countryside Care Center in Jackson. She was born May 3, 1923, in Logan, West Virginia, the daughter of Kenny and Susan (Blankenship) Browning.



She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Paul Wilkes and her 16 siblings. She is survived by one son, Roger (Carol) Wilkes of Jackson; two granddaughters, Kelly Wilkes of Westland and Kathy (Don) Dean of Napoleon; two great-grandchildren, Connor Dean and Madison Dean both of Napoleon; numerous nieces and nephews and many friends.

Mrs. Wilkes worked as a sales associate for Sears, in Livonia, Michigan, where she retired from after 21 years of service. Her passion in life was cooking, and particularly baking, which she enjoyed doing every day. She was a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother, who loved spending time with her family, especially her great-grandchildren, and she also enjoyed the companionship of her K-9 buddies, "Rocco" and "Layla".

A funeral service to honor the life of Mary Louise Wilkes, was held at the Hampton Funeral Home in Jackson, on Friday, April 23rd at 12:00 noon, with Pastor John Masters officiating. Interment followed in Cadillac Memorial Gardens West, in Westland, Michigan. The family received friends for visitation at the funeral home, on Friday, from 11:00 a.m. until the time of the service. Those who wish may make memorial contributions to the Cascades Humane Society. Please visit www.hamptonfuneralhomes.com to sign the guest book and please leave a condolence for the family.



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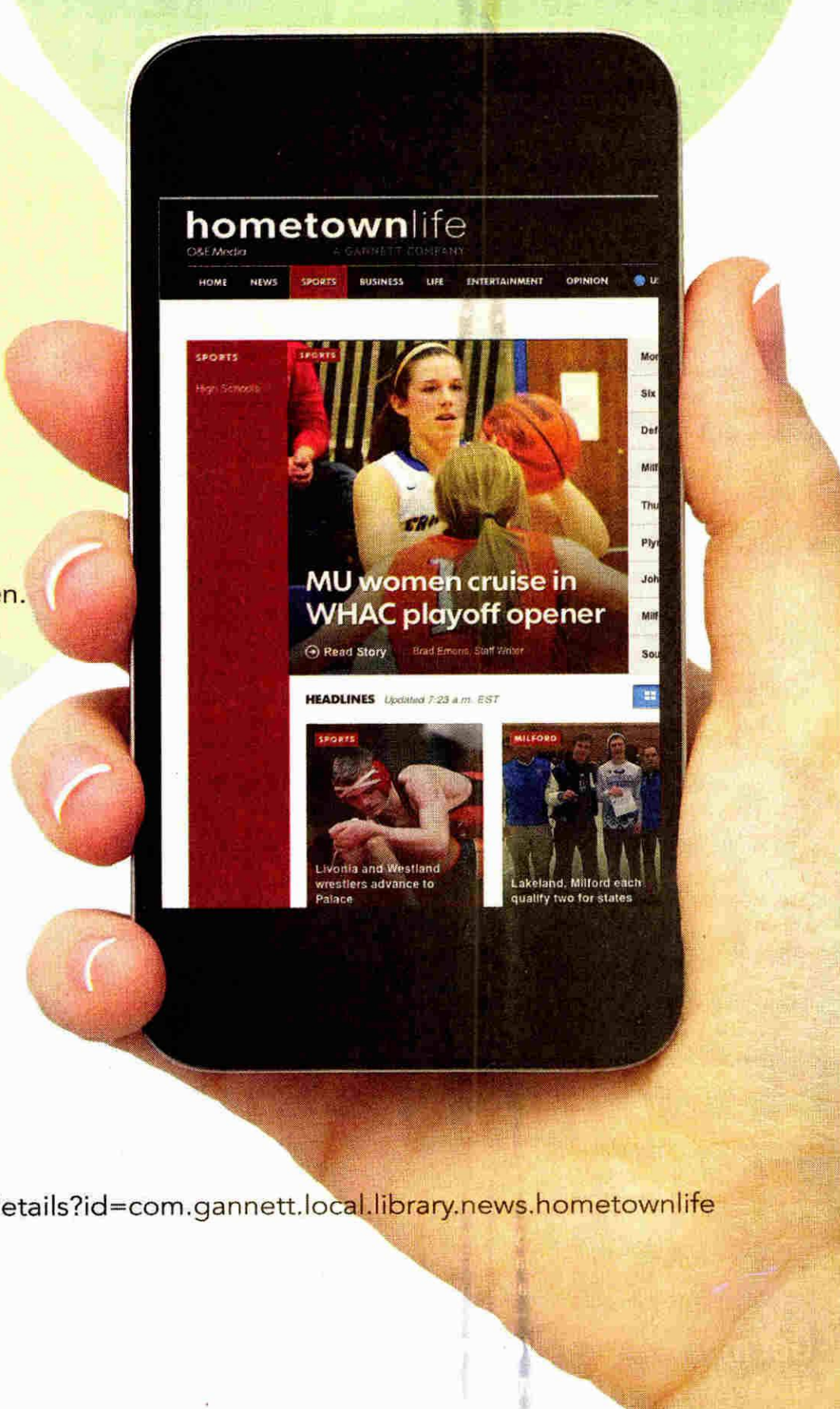
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SPORTS

Stevenson uses long-ball power to beat Salem

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Going into the fourth inning, Aidan Arbogast had a job to do. The assignment: to start a rally.

It was the final assignment given to Livonia Stevenson's senior first baseman as he made the walk from the on-deck circle to the plate, hearing from the left edge of the away dugout at Salem High School: "Start something, kid."

All it took was one pitch to fulfill the request. Salem starting pitcher Mark Szymanski threw Arbogast a hanging curveball, one that jammed him a bit, but one that he squared and lined over

the left-field fence for a solo home run.

Arbogast's fourth-inning long ball was his first of two against Salem Monday afternoon, as the Stevenson offense woke up and beat the Rocks, 5-1, on the road.

The Stevenson first baseman's second was more of a no-doubter.

Seeing another hanging curveball to start the sixth, Arbogast flicked his wrist that sent the ball far past the left-center fence — watching it sail at home plate before he began his trot — for his fourth home run of the season.

"It felt amazing," Arbogast said. "It's

See STEVENSON, Page 2B



Livonia Stevenson senior Aidan Arbogast prepares his stance prior to launching his first home run of the game against Salem. COLIN GAY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Northville track team member Delaney Hopkins throws a shotput 28'9" during the dual meet April 20 against Salem. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Salem upsets Northville in snow-filled dual meet

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Running in the cold rain and snow was nothing new for Gavin Ray.

The Salem senior runs outside year-round, getting all of his base mileage in whatever conditions he's forced to instead of on the treadmill.

Tuesday afternoon, Ray had to tap back into that mindset as Salem faced Northville for its second dual meet of the season, set in the middle of consis-

tent snow and 30-degree late April day.

Ray and the rest of the Salem boys track and field team came into the event as 20-point underdogs, not expecting to come close to the host Mustangs, even after a dominant win against Howell to begin the season.

But Salem adapted, taking the 75-62 victory against Northville for its second win of the season, winning nine of the 17 scored events, including two of the four relays.

Salem senior Talha Syed — who won

the 1,600-meter and the 3,200-meter, and finished second in the 800-meter behind Northville sophomore Brandon Latta, who came up behind him and passed Syed in the final stretch — said the conditions of the meet reminded him of a meet from his sophomore year against Novi in which he had to compete in 30-mph winds.

"I didn't really expect much time wise. I just toughed it out," Syed said.

See MEET, Page 2B

Video golf simulator now open in Canton

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Heading to play a virtual round of a golf at Canton Township's newest simulator is much like heading out to the real thing.

The only thing you won't need to do is yell "fore!"

One of the newest businesses to open along busy Ford Road, X-Golf Canton opened in mid-April and aims to help both newcomers and longtime experts improve their golf game. Seven bays allow for multiple parties to stop by and swing their clubs at the simulator at 44524 Ford Road in the shopping center on the northwest corner of Sheldon Road.

Whatever golfers want to know, the owners of the new business say their systems can tell them.

"We're talking about thousands of calculations per second," said Otis Kirkland, a South Lyon resident and one of the owners of the X-Golf location. "The sensors pick up all the markings on the ball, so this is how you get your metrics."

Similar to other simulations, Kirkland said the X-Golf technology is far superior than other simulators, providing as much detail about each shot. Sensors read how the ball is struck, providing that data to the golfer to help better improve their game.

The simulators serve as a perfect way to play a round when weather won't allow for it, said Gary Nelson, a Northville resident who stopped by to recently play a round.

A member of Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville Township, Nelson said X-Golf is the best golf simulator he's played.

"This is 10 times better than anything else you've ever seen," he said. "The times we've gone, we get our buddies together, we have some drinks and pizza and whatever and spend a few hours. It's a great way to spend an afternoon."

It's the most recent X-Golf to open in Michigan. Other locations can be found in Novi, Royal Oak, Ann Arbor and Woodhaven.

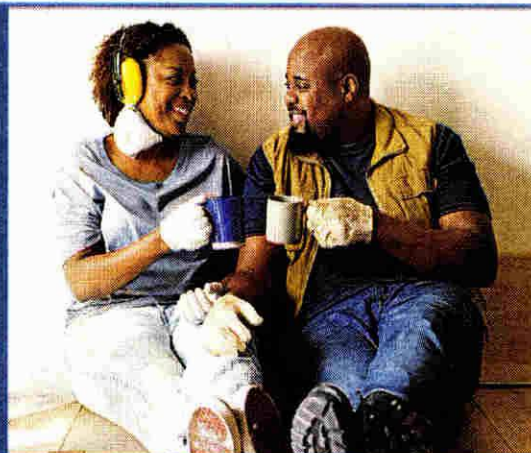
Kirkland said he and his partners looked around the state to find a best spot to open, and decided on staying in metro Detroit.

See GOLF, Page 2B

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MSU guard Loyer enters NCAA transfer portal

Kirkland Crawford Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Michigan State basketball lost yet another player to the transfer portal. The Free Press confirmed that junior guard Foster Loyer has entered the portal late Monday night. The 6-foot point guard from Clarkston averaged 4.2 points and 2.3 assists, shooting 29% from the field and 33% from the 3-point line in 19 games, including seven starts. Loyer represented the team's best overall point guard in terms of leading the team and providing some continuity on the floor, but struggled at times to create his own shot and defend his position. Still, Loyer displayed leadership skills, even after a shoulder injury required surgery and ended his junior season.



Michigan State guard Foster Loyer dribbles against Nebraska during the second half at Breslin Center in East Lansing in February.
JUNFU HAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

Loyer is now the fourth Spartan to enter the transfer portal since the end of the season, joining fellow Clarkston classmate Thomas Kithier (headed to Valparaiso), fellow junior guard Jack Hoiberg (Texas-Arlington) and sophomore guard Rocket Watts. Junior forward Aaron Henry has already declared for the NBA draft and intends to hire an agent. Senior Joshua Langford announced Monday he is retiring, though even if he did return, he would not have counted against MSU's 13 scholarships. MSU now has two open scholarships with point guard Tyson Walker transferring from Northeastern. The Spartans also have a three-guard freshman class coming in: 2021 Michigan Mr. Basketball Pierre Brooks II, five-star shooting guard Max Christie and four-star point guard Jaden Akins.

The 2018 Michigan Mr. Basketball never quite lived up to the lofty on-court expectations, but was voted a team captain before this past season and was the starting point guard to open the campaign.

Golf

Continued from Page 1B

"(We picked) the Detroit area because it has a lot of golfers and there's a lot of golf enthusiasts," Kirkland said. They located their current Canton space, which was formerly occupied by Tuesday Morning, and started several months of renovations. Having so many golf simulators states like Michigan makes sense, especially given the harsh weather for half the year, said Carolyn Raney, one of the co-owners of the location. "They don't want to have to deal with the weather," she said. "So it's definitely a plus if you can always count on good weather in here." Nelson said he's able to directly compare his performance on the simulator to some real-world experience: he's played a round at the real Pebble Beach Golf Links in California, so he was able to easily compare it to the simulated Pebble Beach round he played at X-Golf.

The verdict? The simulator's a bit easier. And cheaper. "I don't have the \$500 price tag to play a round of golf here," he joked. "It's super fun." In addition to playing simulated golf, guests can relax with a beer and appetizers from the bar. Several brews are on tap and the space serves up its own cocktails, including the Captain Hook, a drink made with Captain Morgan, Crown Royal and Dr Pepper. While the shop expects to see most of its business during colder months as golfer flock indoors, that doesn't mean the space will be empty in the summertime. They plan to bring in younger players to learn more about the game, offer lessons to those looking to learn, and begin leagues later this year. Those interested in learning more about the offerings, as well as to register for a tee time, can do so by visiting xgolf-canton.com. Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Twitter: @davidveselenak.



In addition to its seven golf simulators, Canton's new X-Golf facility features a full-service bar. Seated from left are owner Otis Kirkland and managers Jason and Carolyn Raney. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Meet

Continued from Page 1B

"It's a dual meet, so it's just going for competition, trying to beat the other team." "I think the less you think about it, the easier it gets to run because you are just focusing on the guy in front of you and not letting people catch up to you. Especially with the conditions, you kind of have to drop your expectations of times and splits and just go in and compete, which is what I did." But by the end of the meet, the Salem runners were excited in the middle of the field. The Rocks cheered their teammates on, showing an energy and a passion that Ray had not seen with the group in some time. Ray knows the potential of the group. He knows he is a part of a talented team. But now there's a culture, one that creates confidence for the group moving forward. "We kind of have thought that we can do great things," Ray said. "We're not going to stop until we can give it everything that we can." Salem senior Jaelin Burge (100-meter dash), sophomore Foster Garrett (200-meter dash), sophomore Robert Jones (long jump), senior Ryan Sheppard (pole vault), senior Parker Kopacko (shot put) also earned wins Tuesday afternoon. Northville took a win in the 4x800-meter relay, while junior Ethan Krahe



Salem long-jumper Charles Nelson competes in the dual meet April 20.
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

won the 110-meter hurdles. Northville senior Steven Santosh (300-meter hurdles), junior Ty Schembri (400-meter dash) and junior Brian McCallum (long jump) also earned individual wins for the Mustangs.

Northville girls team steps up

Northville's girls track and field team made its presence felt against Salem, earning a 83.5-53.5 victory against the Rocks, sweeping all four relays and wins in six individual events. Northville senior Yasmine Mansi led the Mustangs with a win in the 1600-meter, while freshman Abby Byers earned a first-place finish in the 100-meter hurdles with a personal record 19.76. Senior Angelique McCray (200-meter dash), junior Alia Bournay (long jump), senior Kaylee Chirgwin (high jump) and senior Chyna Johnson (shot put) each earned wins for Northville. Salem had its chance to shine, as five different athletes placed first in their five respective individual events: senior Hannah Phenny (100-meter dash), sophomore Alyne Lemieux — earning a personal record time of 18:51 in the 100-meter hurdles — sophomore Mackenzie Zapinski (400-meter dash), senior Olivia Millen (800-meter) and senior Reagan Justice (3200-meter). Despite the conditions of the race, Northville track and field coach Tim Dalton felt it was important for athletes on both teams to be able to race and compete. "There's no promise of a season and the next meet," he said. "We all felt the conditions were (OK) so that we could get the meet in, and I'm happy with how it went." Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com.

Stevenson

Continued from Page 1B

probably one of the best I've hit this year." Arbogast is one of 10 seniors on Stevenson's roster in 2020, and one of only a handful of returners from the 2019 team. Early in the season, he said his job is to teach the underclassmen lessons, to show them the way of varsity baseball so they can continue the trends and expectations set before them by head coach Rick Berryman. "Don't get down on each other, stay up," Arbogast listed as one of the main lessons he's been preaching to his younger teammates. "That's what's going to win us a bunch of games, and what has won us games already this

year is not getting down on each other." Stevenson right-handed pitcher Collin Hanrahan could have gotten down early. In his first two innings of work in his first start of the 2021 campaign, the senior could not find his groove, allowing five baserunners to reach on two hits, two walks and an error. But Hanrahan stranded each of those runners, taking 40 pitches, but getting out of those situations unscathed. "I was just staying calm, listening to Coach Berryman telling me to stay calm... bend and finish," Hanrahan said. "That's something I struggle with. Sometimes I tend to pop up and the ball tends to fly out. I was just trying to focus on my landing and my finish and my release today." The Stevenson senior allowed a solo home run by Salem senior Zacharias Sa-

linas to start the third inning, but settled back in quickly. Hanrahan allowed only one run on six hits and two walks in six innings of work, recording eight strikeouts. Berryman really didn't know what he was going to see out of Hanrahan in his first start of the season, noting that a player could look great in the bullpen and completely change course when he crosses the white lines. "I didn't know what to expect, and today, he proved a lot," Berryman said. "Nice game." Hanrahan broke open the game with his bat too. In the fifth, after senior Landon Macek got on base with a single, the senior starter launched a home run — what he described as a jam shot line drive to left field — to give the Spartans a 3-1 lead. Arbogast sealed the game in the sev-

enth. After allowing a base hit to start the inning, the senior forced a flyout to left field and two strikeouts looking — including a punch out of Dylan DeSantis in which Arbogast waved to him as he walked back to the home dugout. Early in the 2021 season, Stevenson is confident. Berryman said the gelling process has begun and that the players are buying into his philosophy and his style of play. As conference play continues, Arbogast will continue to teach those lessons, he says, both in the dugout and with how he plays the game. "Just keep the confidence up for the whole team," Arbogast said. "Based on what we did today hitting wise, we can keep building that up." Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Twitter: @ColinGay17.

Goal with 55.4 seconds left gives Brighton tie with soccer power Novi

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

BRIGHTON — “Hurry up! Hurry up! Hurry up! Hurry up!”

The urgency in the voice of coach Ryan Carriere could be felt across the snow-covered soccer field Tuesday night as his Brighton girls scrambled into position for what would likely be their final chance to break through and avoid a loss to Novi.

With the clock ticking down to the final minute of play, senior Hazel Wright struck a corner kick that was converted into a goal by senior Kennedy Cosgrove with 55.4 seconds remaining, allowing Brighton to earn a 1-1 tie with the Wildcats at Scranton Middle School.

Novi is a young team with only three players left who contributed to its second straight state Division 1 championship two years ago, but getting a point in the standings against the Wildcats was still a significant step for the Bulldogs.

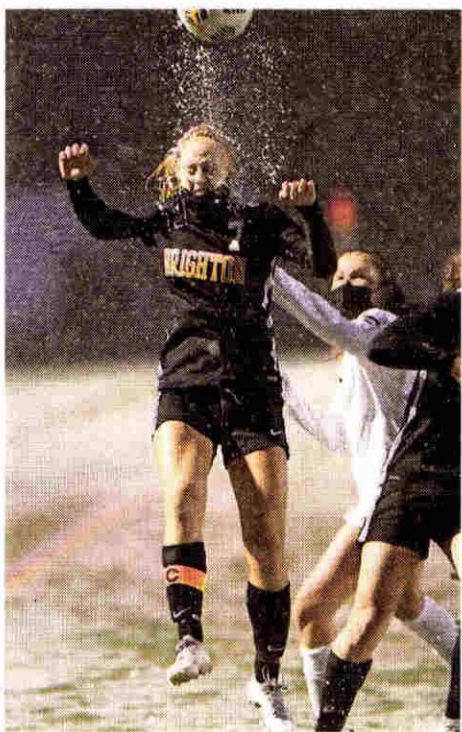
“It’s amazing,” Cosgrove said. “It’s been quite a few years since Brighton varsity won against Novi. So, it’s a good feeling to at least tie them. It’s always one of our biggest competitions. It’s always a scrappy game. Everyone’s always trying their hardest.”

Brighton lost three close games to Novi two years ago, including a 2-1 decision in the district championship game. The Bulldogs’ last victory over the Wildcats was a 2-1 triumph on May 8, 2018.

“I feel like Novi’s a terrific team,” Carriere said. “They have an awesome history. It was a battle tonight. I know both teams were battling with elements. So, just that they kept on pushing for the full 80 minutes is very impressive and team building.”

Brighton pushed the pace for most of the second half after Novi senior Avery Kasanic scored on a penalty kick with 35:36 left in the game.

The Bulldogs’ Kaya Wirth nearly scored when her long free kick with less than 14 minutes remaining slipped past goalie Abbey Pheiffer, but Novi defender Eva Burns cleared the ball just before it



A header by Brighton’s Abby Krause causes a shower of snow from the ball during an unseasonably wintry game against Novi on April 20.

PHOTOS BY GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

went across the goal line.

Brighton (2-0-2) had two other corner kicks shortly before cashing in for the tying goal. The rebound of a shot by Cosgrove was cleared out of bounds to set up the decisive corner kick.

Wright’s kick from the right corner sailed over the outstretched arms of Pheiffer. Cosgrove got position inside three defenders and directed the ball into the net off her body.

“It was the last couple of minutes,” Cosgrove said. “I knew something had to be done. Hazel put in the perfect ball and I just ran in and hit it with my stomach.”

It was the first varsity goal for Cosgrove, who saw limited varsity time as a sophomore before her junior year was wiped out by the cancellation of spring sports.



Brighton’s Kennedy Cosgrove, who scored the tying goal with 55.4 seconds left, moves past Novi’s Eva Burns to take a shot which led to the decisive corner kick.

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Langford 'at peace' not chasing pro hoops career

Chris Solari Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

There proved to be some irony in how Joshua Langford chose to announce the end of his pursuit of a lifelong NBA dream on Monday.

Moments after Michigan State's season-ending loss to UCLA in the NCAA tournament on March 18 in West Lafayette, Indiana, the fifth-year senior announced during the postgame news conference he had played his final game as a Spartan. A moderator ended the interview seconds later.

It left speculation to what Langford meant, just a few weeks after openly floating the possibility of returning for a sixth season this fall. Was he contemplating trying to play elsewhere? Could he change his mind? Or had the former five-star recruit and McDonald's All-American decided it was time to finally pursue a professional basketball future after his career got derailed by two left foot surgeries that cost him a year and a half of development as his career began to ascend?

Turned out, it was none of those things.

Perhaps it was with a wink and a nod to how everything ended — against UCLA, at Purdue's Mackey Arena — that Langford turned to the words of Bruins coaching deity and Boilermakers legend John Wooden to announce his retirement from competitive basketball.

"Things turn out best for the people who make the best of the way things turn out," Langford wrote Monday on Instagram beside his long post, in which the three-time MSU captain continued to show his own leadership voice.

Ultimately, he said later that afternoon, it took a lot of thought and a hard decision to realize it was simply time to move on.

"It definitely wasn't easy, just because of the simple fact that I've been playing the game of basketball since I've been 6 years old. And I'm 24 years old now," Lanford said. "So it definitely wasn't an easy decision. But I just think for me and where I see myself, this is the right time for me to pivot to just a different direction and just try to be excellent in a different field of life. ...

"I wasn't excited that we lost the



Michigan State's Joshua Langford scores against Michigan during the second half March 7 at the Breslin Center in East Lansing. NICK KING/LANSING STATE JOURNAL

(UCLA) game, but I did have peace. And the reason why I had peace is because I felt like I went out the way that I wanted to. I didn't necessarily let an injury dictate my career. I was able to persevere by God's grace and just keep going. And at the end of the day, I finished, I ran my race for this part of my journey. And I'm just excited for the next part of my race."

Exactly what that is, the native of Huntsville, Alabama, does not yet know. Langford graduated from MSU last year with a degree in advertising and a minor in religious studies. He anticipates graduating this summer with a master's degree as he finishes his graduate program in sports coaching and leadership.

"I have a few different things in my mind. But right now, at this point, I'm just trying to take it all in and just see where the wind blows me," he said. "Of course, I have a plan. But at the same time, you want to be open to just whatever could possibly happen. So that's just kind of where I'm at with it."

And his journey to and through MSU

proved far removed from many of his peers.

He nearly died after contracting bacterial meningitis as a 12-year-old, being told by doctors he quite possibly never would play basketball again. After he recovered, Langford blossomed into a top-20 recruit despite undergoing two hand surgeries and a knee surgery in high school. He would choose MSU, along with Miles Bridges, Nick Ward and Cassius Winston — Tom Izzo's highest-rated recruiting haul of his Hall of Fame career.

Langford played in every one of his first 83 games at MSU, starting all but eight of those. He was averaging 10.2 points and 2.8 rebounds for his career, including 15 points in 28.6 minutes a game at the outset of the 2018-19 season while shooting 40.3% from 3-point range and playing a pivotal defensive role.

Then Langford suffered a stress reaction in his left foot Dec. 29, 2018, against Northern Illinois. He had surgery on his navicular bone in February 2019 and

would miss MSU's next 57 games, including the entire 2019-20 season after a second surgery for a stress reaction in the same foot that halted his comeback attempt that fall.

Finally, Langford got healthy over the summer of 2020 and came back strong this winter. He averaged 28.1 minutes while playing all but one game during the Spartans' 15-13 season, showing flashes of his former self.

And then, he contracted COVID-19 in January, which helped trigger a 20-day shutdown for MSU. He admitted Monday that setback nearly became the one that broke his spirit, causing him to revisit the thoughts of ending his career.

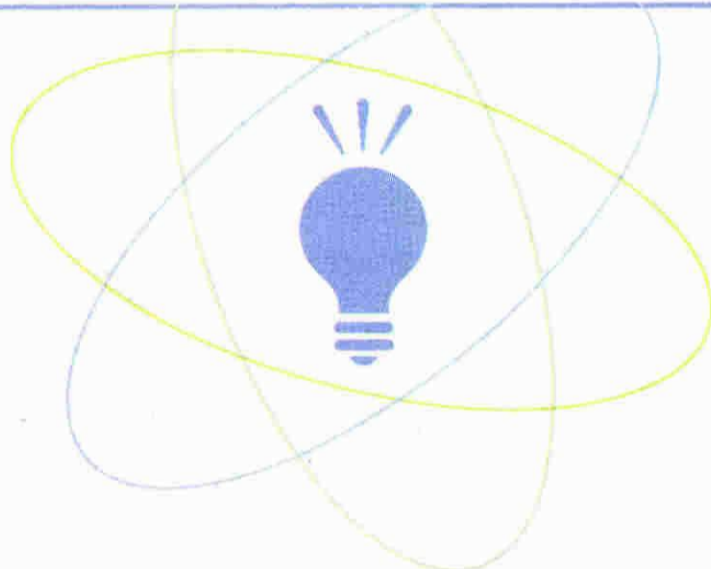
"I had thought about giving up 100 times," Langford recalled. "But my friend, Tum Tum, he talked about how the urge to quit doesn't necessarily mean you're a loser; the urge to quit actually solidifies that you are a winner. Quitters don't necessarily get the urge to quit, because all they do is quit. But winners get the urge to quit, because all they do is win. And when I say win, I'm not talking about achieving high level things, I'm saying just walking in a victorious mindset."

Langford returned and played 30-plus minutes in nine of their last 16 games, including eight of the final 10.

"He gave us so much. He bounced back and did so many things," Izzo said after the Spartans' loss to UCLA. "It was damn near incredible the effort he put forth to come back and play after nobody gave him a chance to ever play."

Langford finished his five-year MSU career with 1,109 points, tied for 43rd in MSU history with Al Ferrari (1952-55). But before his final farewell against UCLA with Wooden's statue looming outside, Langford said his goodbye to his MSU home court with a critical 3-pointer with 48.9 seconds left in the Spartans' 70-64 home upset of then-No. 2 Michigan that essentially kept Izzo's NCAA tournament streak alive.

"It was just so many different times that really helped me realize what was inside of me," Langford said. "What my father has always taught me was to always give all I got and never give up. ... And that's why I can look myself in the mirror now and just be like, 'You know what? I'm at peace because I finished.'"



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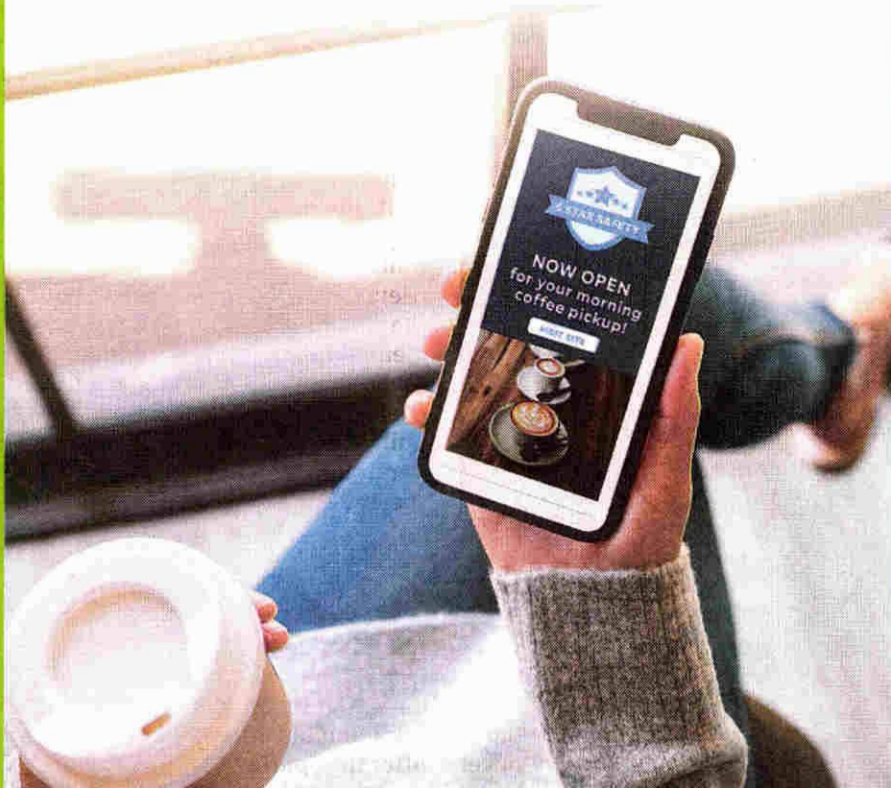
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Amanda Brizendine,
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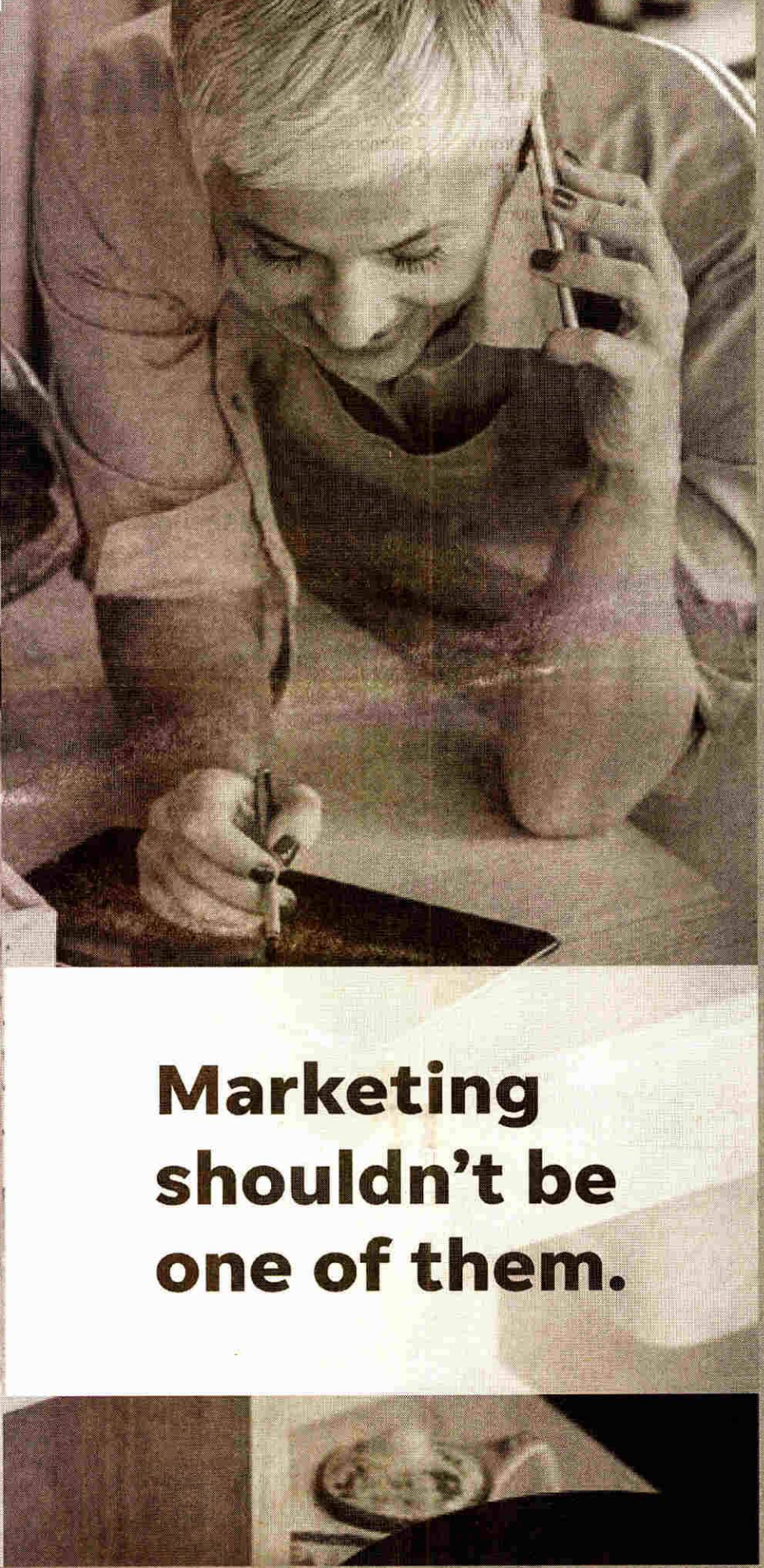
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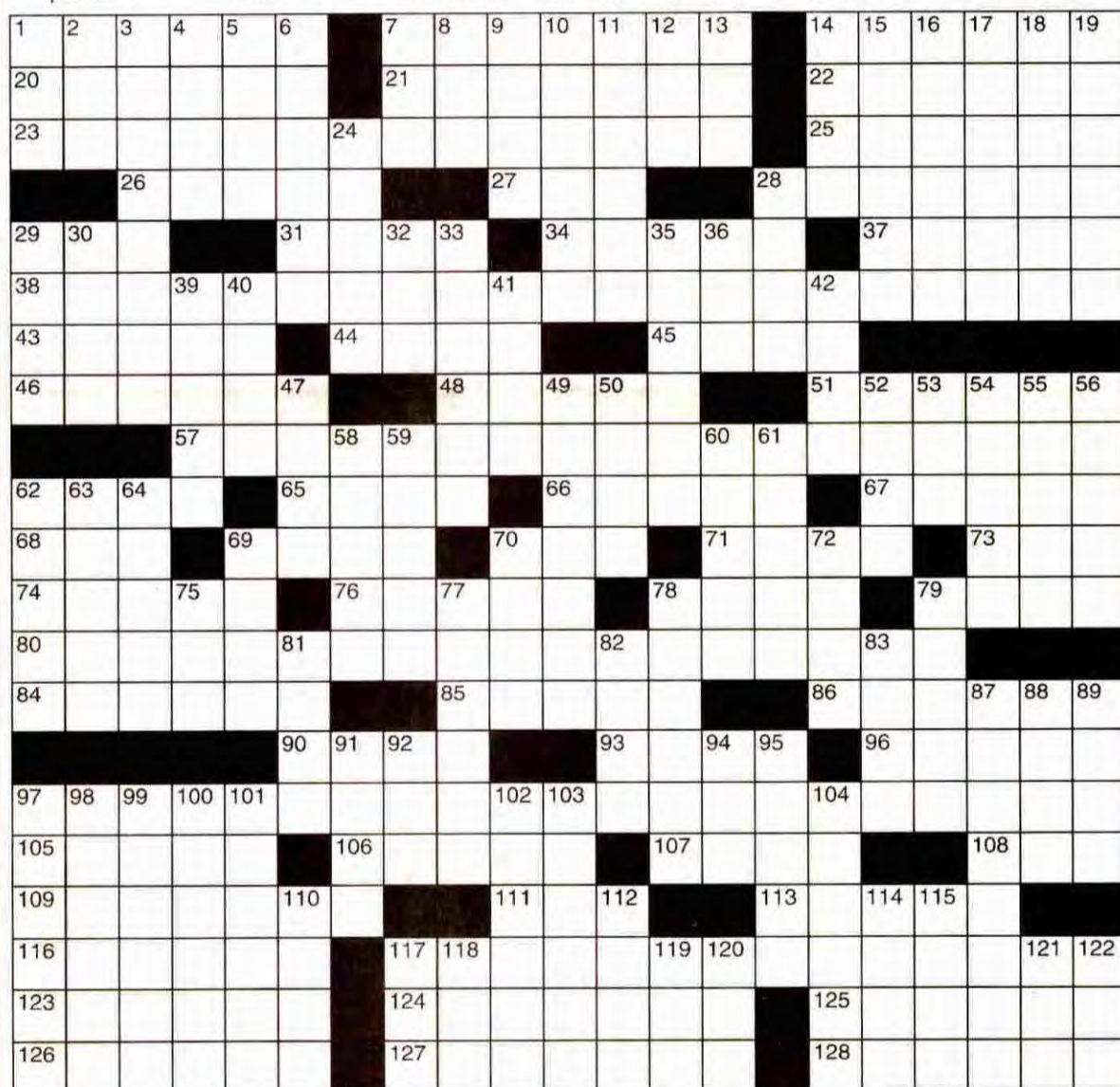
SUNDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

Super Crossword

WELL-PRESERVED

- ACROSS**
- 1 Tribal emblems
 - 7 Sobbing
 - 14 Hunt for food
 - 20 Of a big blood vessel
 - 21 Church part near the altar
 - 22 Mistreating type
 - 23 Start of a riddle
 - 25 Starts a PC session
 - 26 Copies a cat
 - 27 Pop singer Grande, to fans
 - 28 Doctrine in copyright law
 - 29 Buy that can be deleted
 - 31 With 110-Down, decisive trial
 - 34 Hawk's nest
 - 37 Goldman's partner
 - 38 Riddle, part 2
 - 43 Fig and fir
 - 44 Foster
 - 45 Miner's strike
 - 46 Unruffled
 - 48 Plotting group
 - 51 Pastry variety
 - 57 Riddle, part 3
 - 62 Pieces of gig gear
 - 65 Bridle part
 - 66 Of a central point
 - 67 Perform wonderfully
 - 68 Buck mate
 - 69 Apple's apple, e.g.
 - 70 Miss.-to-Minn. dir.
 - 71 Foyer floor protectors
 - 73 Linking word in Leipzig
 - 74 Befogged
 - 76 1960s radical Hoffman
 - 78 Huge hauler
 - 79 February 14 deity
 - 80 Riddle, part 4
 - 84 Weds on the fly
 - 85 University of — Dame
 - 86 Buddy from way back
 - 90 Group in a roundup
 - 93 Griffin who created "Jeopardy!"
 - 96 Debonair
 - 97 End of the riddle
 - 105 Helmsley with hotels
 - 106 Beau —
 - 107 Rebuke to Brutus
 - 108 "Hel-I-lp!"
 - 109 Divided into segments
 - 111 Cry of cheer
 - 113 Part of OTB
 - 116 Provoke
 - 117 Riddle's answer
 - 123 Fishing nets
 - 124 Vacillated
 - 125 Comic Boosler
 - 126 Most eccentric
 - 127 Cabbie's query
 - 128 More packed
 - 10 Bait
 - 11 More tender
 - 12 Mr. —! (old detective game)
 - 13 Foxy
 - 14 FDR's dog
 - 15 Wind section player
 - 16 Little kid
 - 17 "That being the case ..."
 - 18 Hostess in a kimono
 - 19 Borgnine of "Marty"
 - 24 Grouchy Muppet
 - 28 Familial fight
 - 29 Deeds
 - 30 Prune
 - 32 34th prez
 - 33 Priest's assistant
 - 35 Threw the dice
 - 36 Altar avowal
 - 39 Conducts
 - 40 In re
 - 41 "Damn it!"
 - 42 Relinquish
 - 47 The younger Saارينen
 - 49 Grammy winner Tony
 - 50 State frankly
 - 52 Grows older
 - 53 Shoot down
 - 54 Rack up
 - 55 Old-style office scribe
 - 56 Clings (to)
 - 58 "Just Shoot Me!" actor George
 - 59 Mourner of myth
 - 60 Personal identifiers
 - 61 Pin it on
 - 62 Wise truism
 - 63 Roadhouse
 - 64 Basil-based sauce
 - 69 Overdue
 - 70 Boy, in Bolivia
 - 72 DVR pioneer
 - 75 Sci-fi power
 - 77 Family on "Married ... With Children"
 - 78 Jacket part
 - 79 Finish
 - 81 Court king Arthur
 - 82 Cookbook writer Rombauer
 - 83 Snow queen in "Frozen"
 - 87 Openers of many locks
 - 88 Chevy debut of 2004
 - 89 Some watch displays, for short
 - 91 Leg up
 - 92 Pop's Carly — Jepsen
 - 94 Like a prof. emeritus
 - 95 Flashy Chevy, for short
 - 97 Texas city
 - 98 Got close to
 - 99 Doughnut-shaped figure
 - 100 Harmonious
 - 101 Hoists
 - 102 Took pains
 - 103 Physician, often
 - 104 Lay in concealment
 - 110 See 31-Across
 - 112 Roll call reply
 - 114 Proficient
 - 115 — Grape (Ocean Spray flavor)
 - 117 URL part
 - 118 "Take that!"
 - 119 Sweaty, say
 - 120 Old Tokyo
 - 121 Prop- or hex-ender
 - 122 The, in Vienna



For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com.

SUDOKU

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

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

SURF THE NET

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, even diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

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

- AUDIO
- AWARD
- BANNERS
- BROWSER
- BUG
- BUTTONS
- CHAT
- CURSOR
- DATA
- DELETE
- EMAIL
- FAVORITES
- FILE
- FORMAT
- FRAMES
- GAMES
- GRAPHICS
- HARD DRIVE
- HOME PAGE
- HOST
- HTML
- HTTP
- ICON
- JAVA
- JOYSTICK
- KEY
- KEYBOARD
- LINK
- MENU
- MODEM
- MOUSE
- PASTE
- RAM
- ROM
- SCRIPT
- SERVER
- SHIFT
- SOURCE CODE
- SPONSOR
- TEXT
- TOOLS
- UNDO
- UPLOAD
- VDU
- VIDEO
- VIRUS
- WINDOW
- WWW

ANSWER KEY

Answers:
 AWARD, BANNERS, BROWSER, BUG, BUTTONS, CHAT, CURSOR, DATA, DELETE, EMAIL, FAVORITES, FILE, FORMAT, FRAMES, GAMES, GRAPHICS, HARD DRIVE, HOME PAGE, HOST, HTML, HTTP, ICON, JAVA, JOYSTICK, KEY, KEYBOARD, LINK, MENU, MODEM, MOUSE, PASTE, RAM, ROM, SCRIPT, SERVER, SHIFT, SOURCE CODE, SPONSOR, TEXT, TOOLS, UNDO, UPLOAD, VDU, VIDEO, VIRUS, WINDOW, WWW

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



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- ADOPT A PET**
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- FIND A TREASURE**
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