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THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019 ■ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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## Rookie cop among 50 honored by police

**Susan Vela** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Nick Mencotti always wanted to be a police officer, and he did not neglect his duties when given the chance to shine in his first week as a Livonia patrol officer.

Along with his field training officer, he rushed to a home on the city's south end because a man was not breathing.

Mencotti immediately started per-

forming CPR. He continued compression and helped paramedics when they arrived. The man apparently had stayed in his apartment after he let loose a bug bomb.

The man did not survive, and his death would be followed by a few others Mencotti witnessed up close, personally and professionally, that first month.

Mencotti was humbled to stand April 2 in a packed Livonia Civic Center Library Auditorium for the police depart-

ment's Merit Award Ceremony.

He received a lifesaving award for performing CPR during that week in May. Mencotti was one of 50 area residents, law enforcers and firefighters recognized for their bravery and commitment to saving lives and solving crimes despite incredible risks.

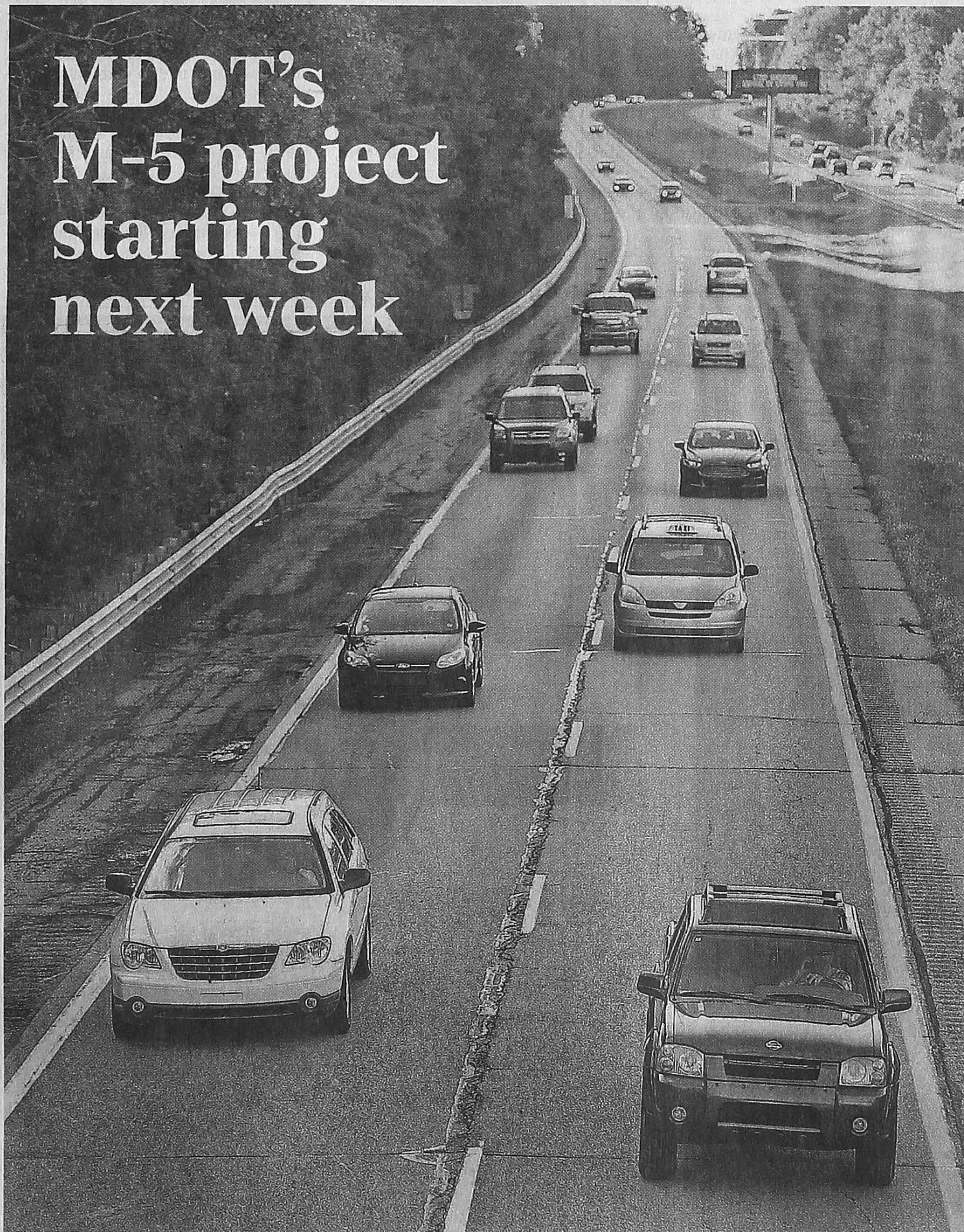
"It was a great honor," Mencotti said after the ceremony. "It was very hum-

See **POLICE**, Page 10A



**Livonia Police Officer Nick Mencotti** received a life-saving award for his actions during his first week on the job. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## MDOT's M-5 project starting next week



The Michigan Department of Transportation is preparing for an \$11.8 million rehabilitation project along M-5. Work will begin April 15 and last through late fall, according to a news release sent out by MDOT. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

**David Veselenak** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Get ready for construction season if you drive the M-5 freeway.

The Michigan Department of Transportation is preparing for an \$11.8 mil-

lion rehabilitation project along the freeway through Farmington and Farmington Hills, including the complete closure of the Grand River Bridge near Halsted Road.

Work will begin April 15 and last through late fall, according to a news

release sent out by MDOT. The work will take place along M-5 between Eight Mile and Interstate 275.

Some of the work taking place includes:

See **M-5 PROJECT**, Page 3A

## Residents vent, get answers on shoddy roads

**Ed Wright** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It didn't take an engineer to figure out that the end product of the intensive 2017 reconstruction of Canton Township's Canton Center Road deteriorated way too fast.

But an engineer's expertise was vital in explaining *why* the one-mile stretch of road north of Ford Road and south of Warren went from smooth sailing to a crater-infested obstacle course in just a few months.

The short and bitter answer, according to Wayne County Roads Department engineers Michael Van Antwerp and Ron Agacinski: ASR (Alkali-silica reaction), a materials-related distress that results in the premature deterioration of concrete structures, including bridges, dams and, yes, Canton Center Road.

"This concrete mix was accepted by MDOT about 10 years ago," Van Antwerp explained. "It was discovered before proper testing could be completed that certain chemical reactions within the concrete makes it porous. It's bad stuff."

"And it's a nationwide problem," added Agacinski. "Texas has hundreds of miles of roads that are in disrepair because of this problem."

The knowledge will help Wayne County and others like it across the country to not repeat the mistake.

### They know their stuff

The pair of veteran infrastructure experts were just two members of a committee that answered questions and provided information at a roads town hall meeting held April 4 in Canton Township.

Orchestrated by first-year Wayne County Commissioner Melissa Daub, the roads town hall attracted a large crowd to the Summit on the Park — and the attendees were much more hospitable than Daub's worst fears.

"When I told people I was going to host a town hall on roads, they told me I was crazy," quipped Daub, smiling. "I was half expecting people to bring pitch forks and torches. So, thank you for not doing that."

Most of the attendees chuckled at Daub's opening statement, but they did hurl some pretty sharp hot-button

See **ROADS**, Page 10A



# FedEx shooter faces aggravated assault charge, too

**Susan Vela** [Hometownlife.com](http://Hometownlife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Detroit man once facing 19 felony charges for allegedly trying to kill his wife outside a FedEx distribution center in Livonia may have an easier legal battle than anticipated in Third Circuit Court.

After recently listening to Azia Calloway testify against her estranged husband, Robert Easley-Calloway, 16th District Judge Kathleen McCann added a charge Thursday of aggravated stalking.

She dropped four other charges, meaning Easley-Calloway is expected to be arraigned on 16 charges when his Thursday arraignment happens in Third Circuit Court. Those charges include first-degree criminal sexual conduct, kidnapping and assault with the intent to murder.

Of the four dismissed charges, McCann dropped two alleging Easley-

Calloway tried to kill others beside his wife. But she couldn't ignore that Calloway testified during a March 27 proceeding to filing a personal protection order last August.

Calloway said on the stand that Easley-Calloway, then 26, flashed a knife before ordering her to drive to a hotel in Harper Woods. They had their young children with them.

The couple had been estranged for some months. Calloway testified that her husband was a gun user who made her feel threatened when he called and texted her while separated. She didn't want to cause a fight when she went to collect their children and her estranged husband ordered a trip to the hotel.

"This was a series of events that occurred not only in Livonia but in Belleville, in Detroit and (in) Harper Woods," McCann said in explaining her support of the aggravated stalking charge. "All of them were intended to either intimidate or harm Miss Calloway."

"If someone shows you a knife and you have your children...This is a case where I believe she was intimidated."

Defense attorney Larry Polk and prosecutor Mary Rubio declined to comment after the proceeding.

Polk had argued the 16th District



**Robert Easley-Calloway appears in 16th District Court on April 4, with his attorney Larry Polk.**

SUSAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Court did not have jurisdiction to deal with some of the charges.

He also argued that Calloway never told her estranged husband she didn't want to have sex with him at the hotel.

"I asked her specifically," Polk said to McCann. "She never said anything that would indicate 'No, I do not want to have sex with you.'"

Easley-Calloway is accused of shooting, injuring and kidnapping his wife shortly after 3 a.m. Nov. 26. She had arrived for a shift at the FedEx distribution center on Amrhein Road in Livonia.

The Calloways had spent the prior day at a hotel with their children.

Calloway had let her children stay with their father around Thanksgiving. Trouble arose, Calloway testified, when she went to pick up the children and Easley-Calloway flashed a knife.

They spent some of the following daylight hours together. Then the family visited Easley-Calloway's relatives and Calloway attempted to leave.

Easley-Calloway tried to prevent his wife from getting into her vehicle. She was able to arrive at her mother's. Her estranged husband continued to try to reach her and her mother on the phone.

Hours later, she tried to report for work at FedEx. A man opened the driver's side door of her vehicle and shoved a shotgun at her. Calloway fled, as did the male friends who traveled with her to FedEx. The man reloaded and fired again. He then forced her into the back and fled, authorities have said.

Michigan State Police shot and injured Easley-Calloway after a police chase on Interstate 96. He was arraigned while recovering at the hospital. His wife had been released after being treated for gunshot wounds to her back and left leg.

Contact Susan Vela at [svela@hometownlife.com](mailto:svela@hometownlife.com) or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.

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## Westland plans adds money for staff, recycling

**David Veselenak** [Hometownlife.com](http://Hometownlife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Westland property owners can expect to pay the same millage rate for the next year as a part of the proposed city budget.

Mayor William Wild presented his initial budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year to the city council during a study session Monday night at Westland City Hall. In it, he calls for the city's millage rate to remain essentially the same, going from 18.8798 mills to 18.8787 mills.

"What you have before you, council, is a \$68 million balanced budget," Wild said. "This budget adds over \$300,000 to the general fund balance."

An increase in the fund balance

comes as property values across the city continue to increase. The city saw property values increase by about 4.5%, leading to an increase in tax dollars from the purchasing of property and the increase in new housing that has been constructed, Wild said.

In addition to adding some new staff positions, the budget also calls for an additional \$200,000 for recycling services, an issue that has caused problems in Westland. The city's costs for sending recyclables to the recycling center skyrocketed earlier this year, causing the city to begin throwing items placed in recycling containers in with trash and send them to the landfill.

Wild said it's his hope some sort of decision can be made to keep the city's

recycling program alive.

"That's kind of up in the air right now, but we're hoping to have some sort of solution in the near future," Wild said. "I'll remind you that the rate that is proposed by the recycling center would cost us an additional \$310,000, so we've budgeted for \$200,000 and we're going to try to look for a way to negotiate that rate down or come up with an alternative."

The budget will examine the proposed budget and make the final approval on it before it takes effect later this year.

Contact David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com) or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

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# Livonia Community Foundation awarding grants

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

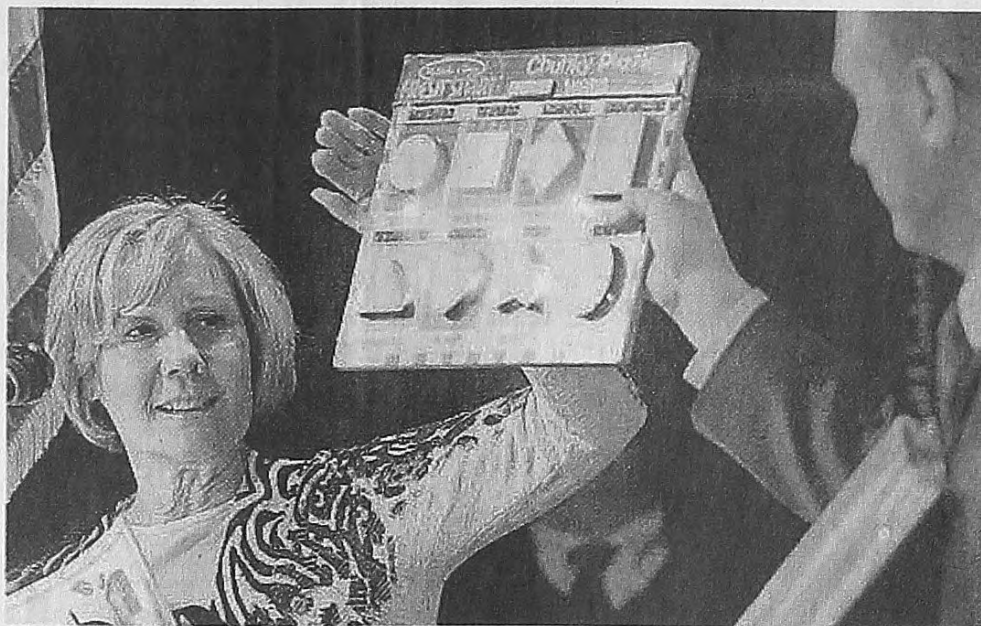
The Livonia Community Foundation will award a record \$46,600 in grants to 14 organizations at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 11, in Livonia's Robert and Janet Bennett Civic Center Library Auditorium.

"We are pleased to fund these community efforts," said Foundation President Brian Meakin.

Meakin said the foundation's investments have been doing better, the result of the renewed investment environment and a very effective asset manager. He said in 2012, the foundation's endowment reached just over \$1 million and it continues to grow from donations and good investment strategy — approaching \$1.4 million. Meakin is going on his tenth year as president.

The foundation is a permanent endowment, a trust fund, built by citizen and corporate donors to support Livonia's charitable, cultural, arts, historical, educational and recreational institutions. The foundation was chartered in 1995. Following its first full year, the endowment balance was \$32,000. In 1997, the first-year funds were available for grants, they awarded \$1,500.

"We are proud to provide this year's \$46,600 in grants. Thanks to the generous support from the community over the last 24 years, we have provided grants totaling \$489,385 to organizations serving the residents in Livonia," Meakin said.



Seedlings Braille Books For Children receives money to provide 45 Play and Learn Braille kits, used for early intervention in Livonia Public Schools Livonia Community Foundation event in this file photo. Karen Smith, of Seedlings, shows the kits, with help from Chamber President Dan West. FILE PHOTO

A committee, chaired again this year by Board member Mark Bublitz, reviewed grant applications to decide which ones most meet the Foundation's mission -- to promote and develop community resources, properties and civic treasures; promote, support and develop public interest in the arts and other local cultural undertakings; and to promote programs that contribute to the welfare of the community and the needs of its citizens.

The organizations approved for

grants this year are:

■ Angela Hospice – From My Heart program for families of terminally ill patients

■ Blessings in a Backpack – Weekend meals for students

■ Greenmead Restoration Trust – Re-leading Stained-Glass Windows at Newburg Church

■ Livonia Arts Commission – Special music program for children during Music from the Heart

■ Livonia Civic Chorus – Senior out-

reach and musical interlude programming

■ Livonia Community Theatre – Summer Musical Theatre Workshop

■ Livonia Family YMCA – Summer Camp Program • Livonia Goodfellows – No Child Without A Christmas

■ Livonia Kids and Families – Emerson Middle and Franklin High Schools Food Pantries • Livonia Symphony Orchestra – Concert Programming Support

■ NEW HOPE Center for Grief Support – Bereavement Aftercare Services

■ Seedlings Braille Books – Visually Impaired Program Support - LPS and Livonia Library

■ Starfish Family Services – Playscape equipment for Livonia facility

■ Visual Arts Association of Livonia – Arts education and speakers

The public is encouraged to attend the awards program at the Robert and Janet Bennett Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile. The program will feature entertainment from members of the Livonia Symphony Orchestra and will be followed by a reception with light refreshments in the Michigan Room.

Committee chair Mark Bublitz said, "This event gives the public a chance to learn about the Foundation and the organizations serving the community. We are excited about being able to help the organizations receiving the grants and showcasing the efforts of the Livonia Community Foundation."

To RSVP or for more information, call Charlie Mahoney at 248-474-0905.

## M-5 project

Continued from Page 1A

- Concrete repair and replacement;
- Pavement conditioning;
- Asphalt replacement, curb and gutter repair;
- Replacing half of the Drake Road bridge due to damage from high-load hits;
- Drainage structure repairs; and
- Sign replacement and adding a

westbound sidewalk to the Grand River Avenue bridge to meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards.

During the closure of the bridge, westbound Grand River traffic will be detoured to northbound Halsted Road, then westbound Hills Tech Drive to southbound Haggerty Road. Intermittent lane closures can be expected throughout the project.

Eastbound Grand River traffic will be detoured to southbound Halsted Road, then eastbound Nine Mile Road to northbound Farmington Road.

In addition to the bridge work, the freeway will see several complete closures between Middlebelt and Grand River this year for work. Eastbound M-5 will be closed during six weekends and westbound M-5 will be closed five weekends. Detours for those weekends, which have not yet been announced, will see westbound M-5 traffic detoured to westbound Eight Mile to northbound I-275. Eastbound M-5 traffic will detour to east I-696, then southbound Telegraph Road to Eight Mile.

Work is also expected to take place

along M-5 from Haggerty to 13 Mile in Novi as well.

Access to both residential and commercial areas will be maintained throughout the project. About 36,000 vehicles travel the freeway on a daily basis.

Much of the work was presented to the community at a public meeting last fall in the Farmington city offices.

Contact David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com) or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter: @davidveselenak.

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# Who's writing your laws?

Not the person you elected

Rob O'Dell and Nick Penzenstadler  
USA TODAY

Each year, state lawmakers across the U.S. introduce bills to represent their constituents. But in thousands of cases, the politicians didn't write those bills. Neither did their staffs or others close to them. Instead, the bills were nearly exact copies of wording written by political advocacy groups, think tanks or corporations.

A two-year investigation by USA TODAY, The Arizona Republic and the Center for Public Integrity reveals for the first time just how far this copycat legislation has gone in advancing those agendas.

Reporters across the country unearthed more than 2,000 different model bills from a variety of industry, conservative and liberal groups. The investigation then examined the real bills that had been introduced in all 50 states and Congress during an eight-year span.

Using a specialized computer algorithm, the investigative team found those models had been copied more than 10,000 times and introduced in all 50 states. Some 2,100 of them passed into law.

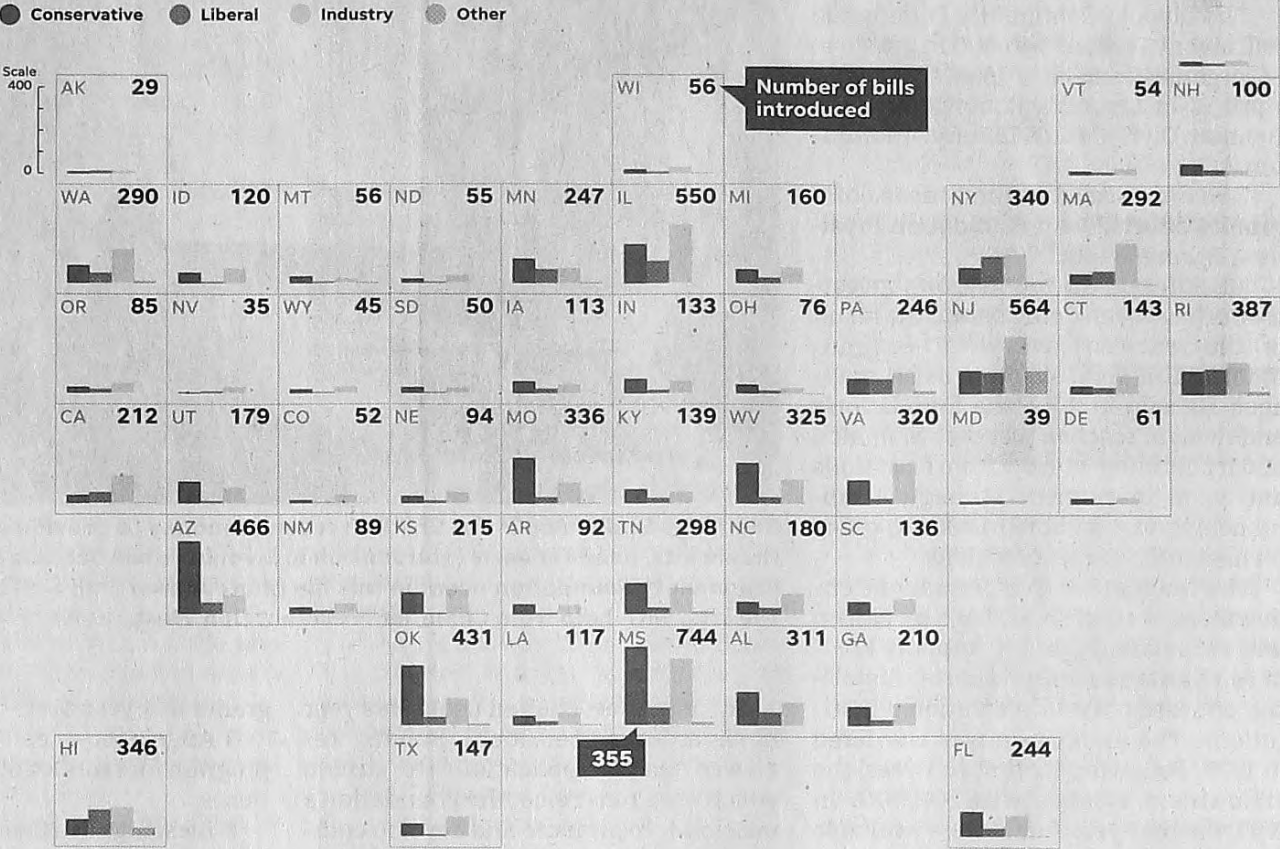
Because the investigation only compared legislation to known, publicly available models, the real extent of the system is probably far larger.

Model bills, which amount to wish lists for special interests, have become intertwined with the lawmaking process. In Mississippi, more than 700 copies of

## COPY, PASTE, LEGISLATE A USA TODAY NETWORK INVESTIGATION

### The states that copy the most

Every state legislature copies model legislation, but the types of special interests they copy from and how frequently vary nationwide. Here's how the model bills we found break down based on the stated political leaning or purpose of the group that wrote each bill.



SOURCE USA TODAY/Arizona Republic analysis of legislation from 2010 to 2018; LegiScan  
VERONICA BRAVO, MITCHELL THORSON/USA TODAY

**"You'd be hard-pressed to find a law where a legislator sits in a chamber until a light bulb goes off with a new policy."**

**Allison Anderman**  
Managing attorney at the pro-gun-control Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence

model bills were introduced from 2010 to 2018. In New Jersey, more than 500. In interviews with more than 50 sponsors of model legislation nationwide, half of the legislators said they knew they had sponsored model legislation. But 20 legislators said they didn't know the source of their bill or claimed they wrote at least part of the bill.

"This work proves what many people have suspected, which is just how much of the democratic process has been outsourced to special interests," said Lisa Graves, co-director of Documented, which probes cor-

porate manipulation of public policy. "It is both astonishing and disappointing to see how widespread ... it is. Good lord, it's an amazing thing to see."

Even those who promote model legislation acknowledge the process can be abused.

Charles Siler, a former external relations manager for the Goldwater Institute, which has pushed copycat bills nationwide, said it's a fast way to spread ideas because with little modification, lawmakers can adapt it to their state.

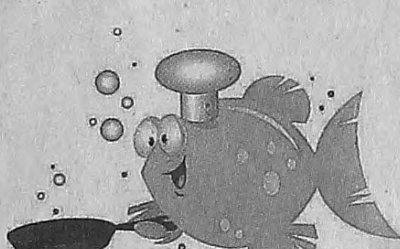
"It's not inherently bad, one way or the other," said Siler, who now works for a political action committee. "It depends on the idea and the people pushing it. Definitely people use model legislation to push bad ideas around."

The investigation, which required running the equivalent of 150 computers nonstop for months, found that a variety of ideas emerge from the copy-and-paste process:

**Models are drafted with deceptive titles and descriptions to disguise their true intent**

The "Asbestos Transparency Act" didn't help people  
See **MODEL BILLS**, Page 5A

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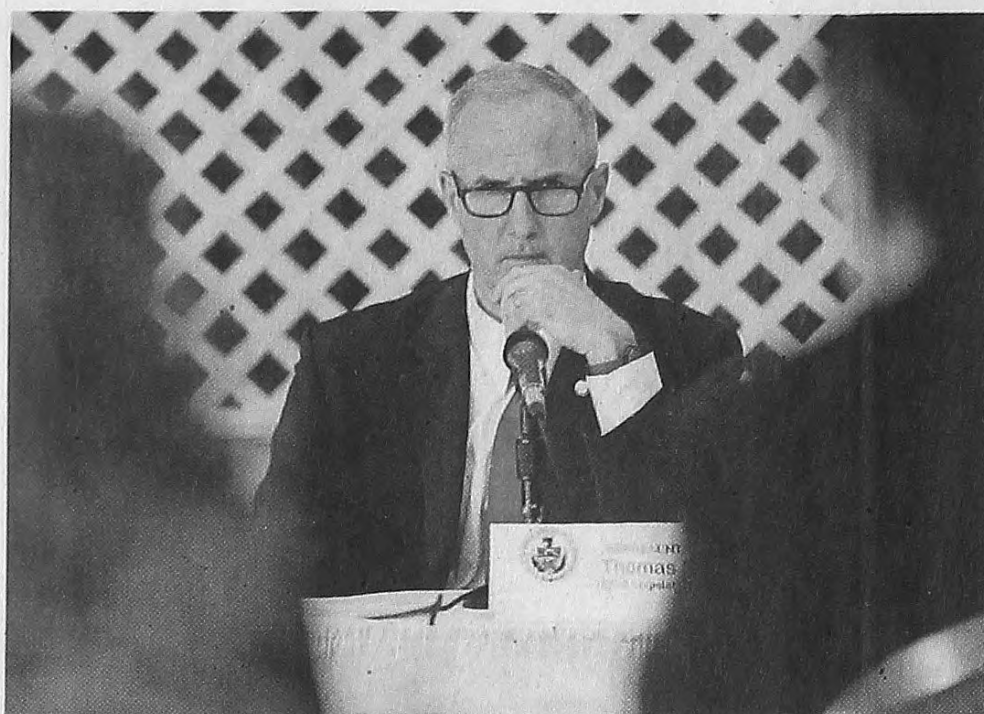
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Pennsylvania State Rep. Thomas Murt has sponsored more model legislation than any other state lawmaker in the nation, according to USA TODAY's database. MATT ROURKE, AP

## Model bills

Continued from Page 4A

exposed to asbestos. The model legislation was the work of corporations seeking to limit their exposure to billions of dollars in litigation associated with asbestos.

The investigation found the model, a product of the American Legislative Exchange Council, an industry-supported model bill factory, has been introduced in at least 17 states since 2012. It became law in 11 states.

Bill Meierling, chief marketing officer and executive vice president of ALEC, said supporters of the asbestos model believed it did create more transparency, "but it's up to each individual state to choose how they would name" the bill when they copy ALEC's model.

USA TODAY found more than 4,000 bills benefiting industry were introduced nationwide during the eight years it reviewed. More than 80 of those bills limit the public's ability to sue corporations, including limiting class-action lawsuits and a plaintiff's ability to offer expert testimony, and cap punitive damages for corporate wrongdoing.

Many of the bills USA TODAY found

to be copied from models written by special interests were couched in similarly unremarkable or technical language that obscured their impact. Bans on raising the local minimum wage were dubbed "uniform minimum wage" laws. Changes to civil court rules to shield companies from lawsuits were described as "congruity" or reforms to make laws consistent.

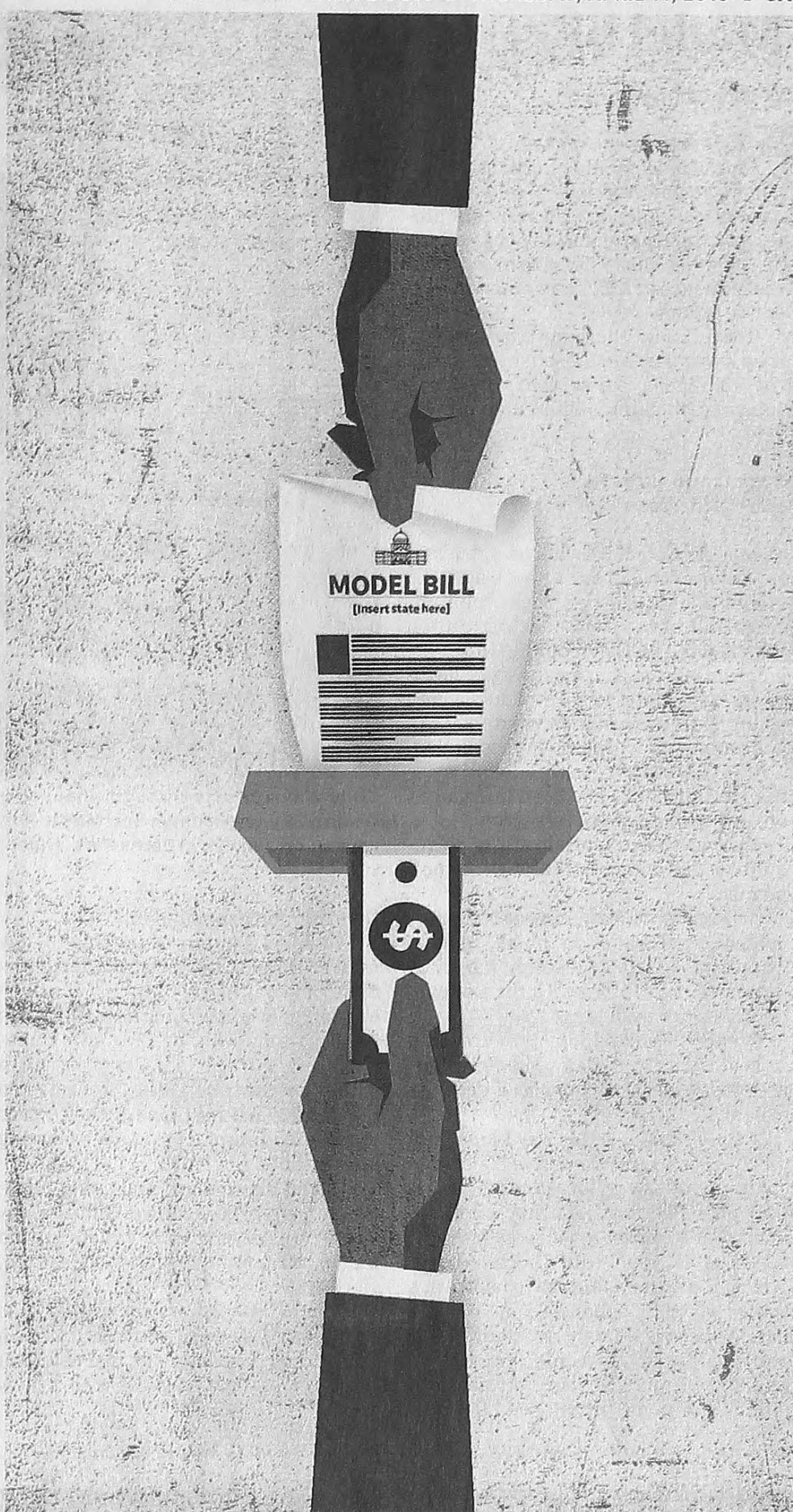
**Legislators get a shortcut to success while advancing special interests — sometimes unknowingly**

Pennsylvania Rep. Thomas Murt, whose biggest campaign donors include the Pennsylvania Republican Party and labor unions, said he was stunned to learn that he was listed as a sponsor on 72 bills substantially copied from model legislation from 2010 to late 2018.

The relationship between groups writing model legislation and the lawmakers introducing them is a marriage of convenience, experts said.

Special interests give lawmakers fully conceived bills they can put their names on and take credit for. And those special interests can become dependa-

See **MODEL BILLS**, Page 6A



ANDREA BRUNTY/USA TODAY NETWORK, AND GETTY IMAGES

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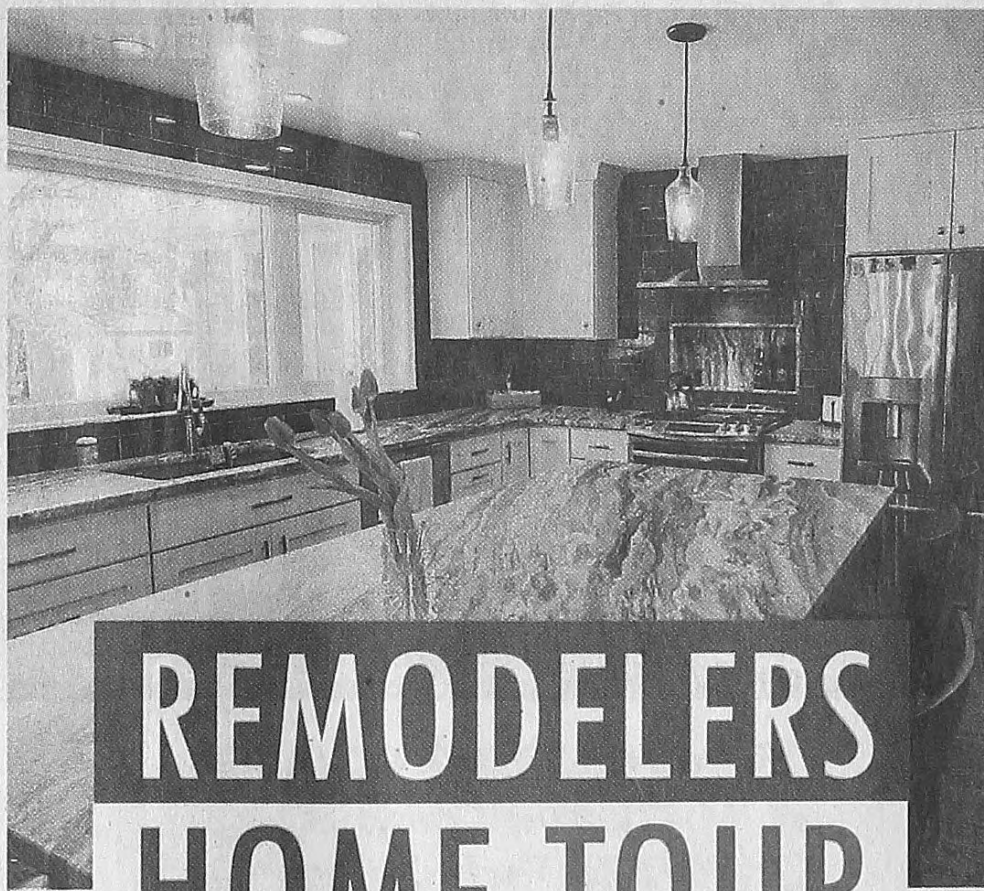
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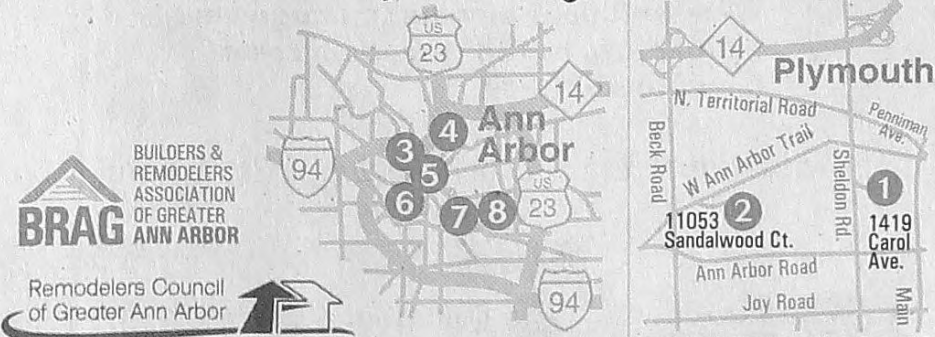
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Image Credit: Cowdin Design+Build, Chris Amos Photography (Project shown from the 2018 Tour)



# Model bills

Continued from Page 5A

ble donors to their campaigns.

This arrangement is particularly appealing to new lawmakers, said Alexander Hertel-Fernandez, an assistant professor of international and public affairs at Columbia University who has studied the influence of ALEC and other conservative groups.

They “know they are conservative, they know they are pro-business, but ... they don’t really know what it means to translate that into different bills,” he said.

## Some models actually overturn the will of voters

Model-bill factories have increasingly proposed what are known as “pre-emption” bills, which prevent counties, cities and towns from enacting certain laws favored by their constituents. Pre-emption bills, in effect, allow state legislators to dictate to city councils and county governing boards what they can and cannot do within their jurisdiction.

USA TODAY’s algorithm found more than 100 such bills had been introduced on an expanding array of topics.

Kansas stopped local efforts to require restaurants to list calories on their menus.

Arizona and New Hampshire prevented regulations on home rentals. Airbnb has lobbied against home-sharing restrictions, often with the Goldwater Institute’s assistance.

Others prevented local governments from raising the minimum wage, banning plastic grocery bags and destroying guns.

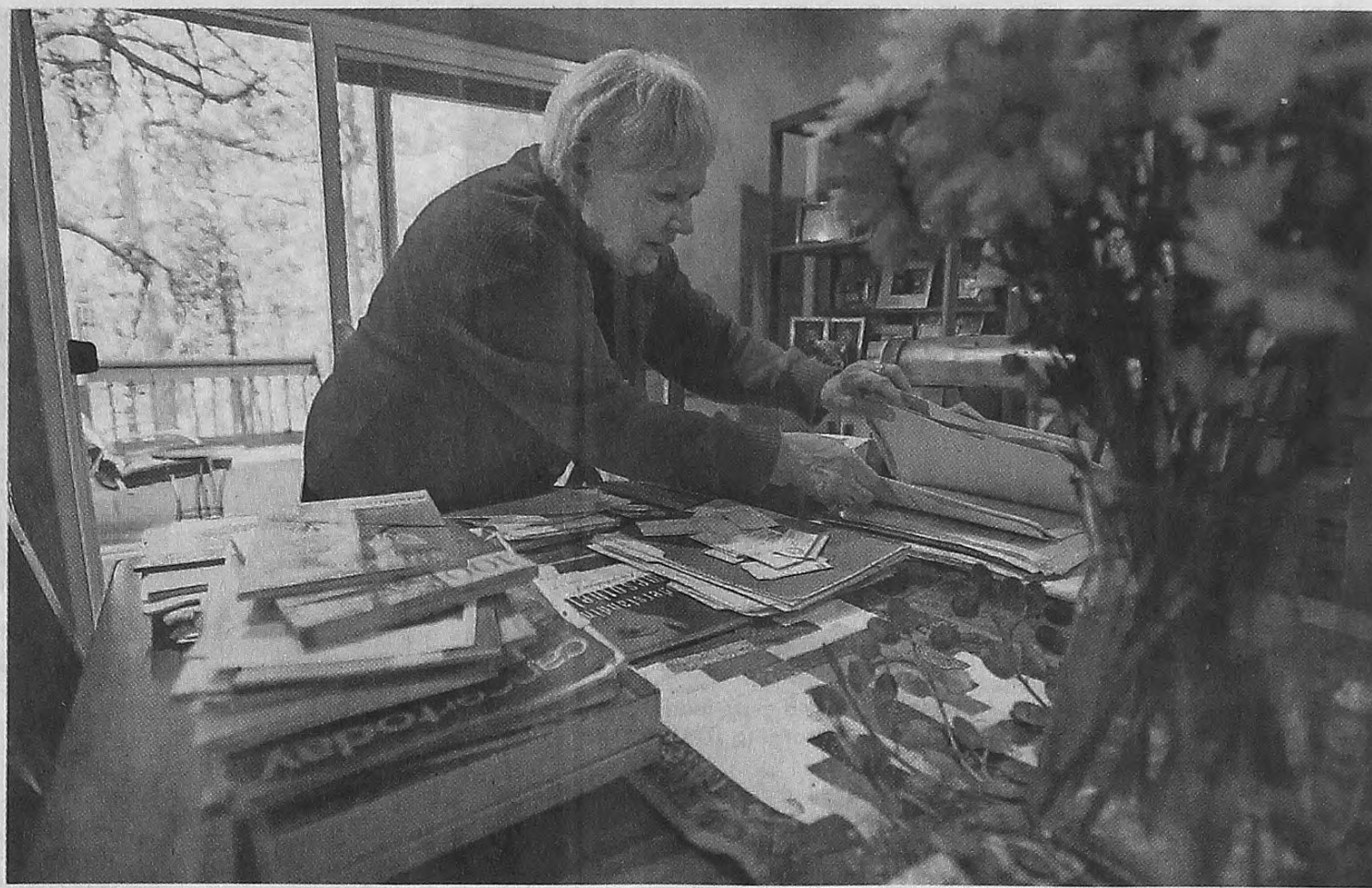
“There’s real ... hypocrisy in many of these so-called conservative legislators trying to rip away local control when they preached for years that a government that’s closest to you ... is most responsive to you,” said Dawn Penich-Thacker, who campaigned to overturn a school voucher expansion in Arizona. Voters overwhelmingly rejected the expansion. But in short order, five bills to modify Arizona’s school voucher program were soon introduced, three of

them aiming to expand it.

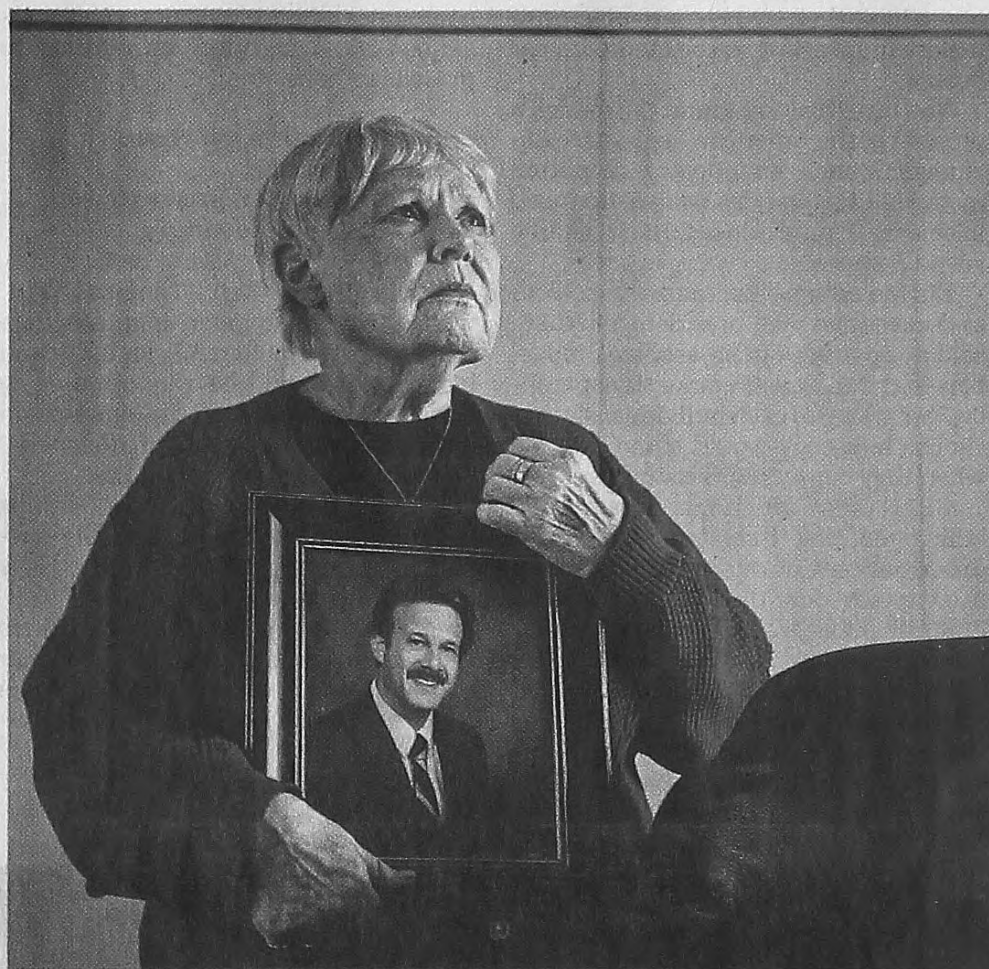
For special interests seeking to stay under the radar, model legislation offers distinct advantages. Copycat bills don’t appear on expense reports or campaign finance forms. They don’t require someone to register as a lobbyist or sign in at committee hearings. But once injected into the lawmaking process, they can go viral, spreading state to state, executing an agenda to the letter.

Allison Anderman, managing attorney at the pro-gun-control Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, said model bills are simply how the system works now.

“This is how all laws are written,” she said. “You’d be hard-pressed to find a law where a legislator sits in a chamber until a light bulb goes off with a new policy.”



Chris Winokur sifts through what she estimates to be a quarter of the paperwork from when her late husband, former Fort Collins City Councilman and Mayor Robert Winokur, was in treatment for mesothelioma, a rare and aggressive form of cancer, on Jan. 31, in Estes Park, Colo. TIMOTHY HURST, THE COLORADOAN



Chris Winokur’s husband, Bob, died of mesothelioma. She says a “model” bill has hindered efforts to hold anyone accountable for his asbestos exposure. TIMOTHY HURST/USA TODAY NETWORK

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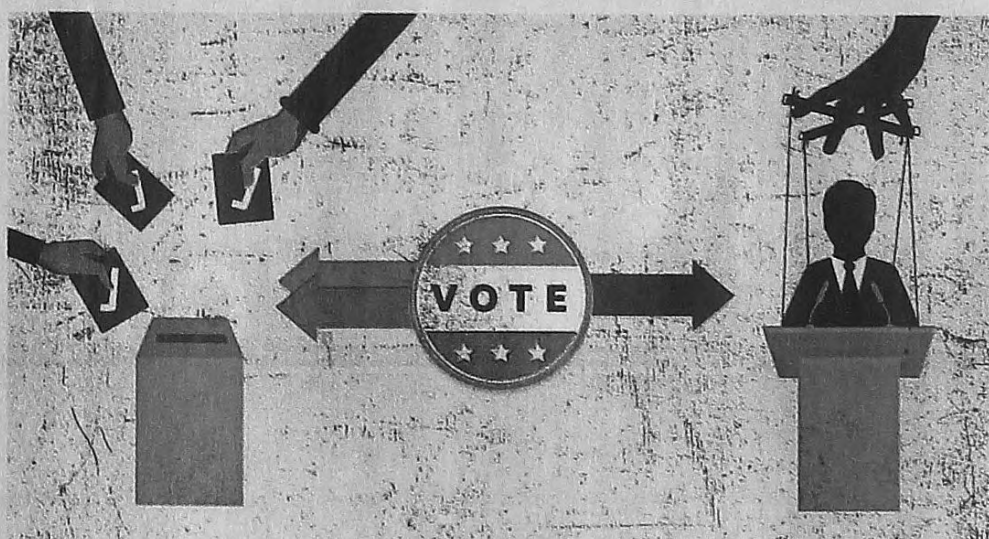
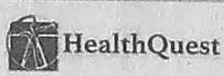
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# Jaguar Land Rover dealership moving to Novi

Susan Bromley [Hometownlife.com](http://Hometownlife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Jaguar Land Rover, on the prowl to expand its territory, will relocate from Farmington Hills to Novi, building an entirely new dealership.

The Novi City Council unanimously approved on April 1 applicant Erhard Motor Sales' preliminary site plan and special development option, which calls for construction of a 58,663-square-foot facility on 9.5 acres of vacant land on the southwest corner of Grand River Avenue and Meadowbrook Road.

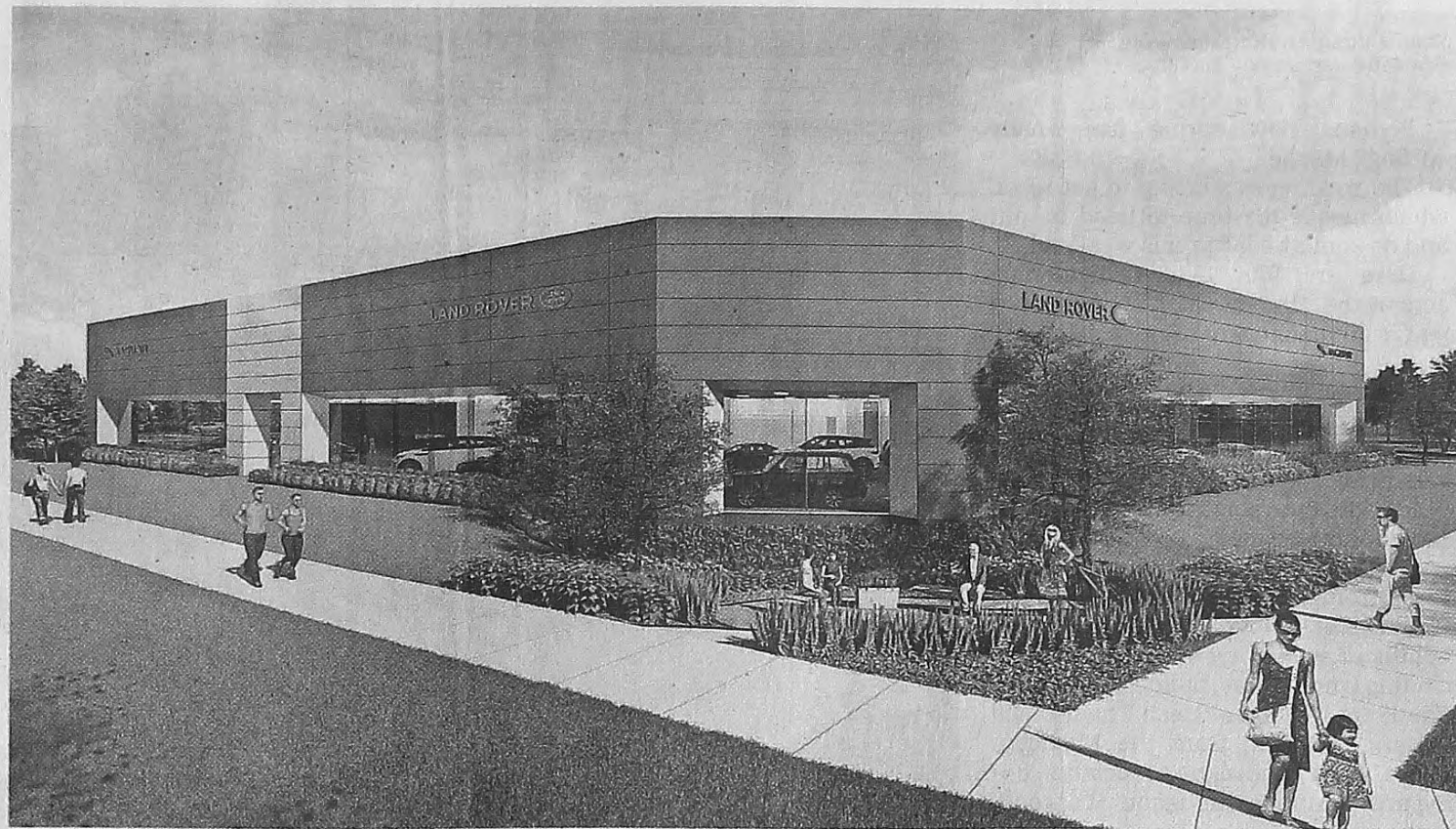
"That piece of property has been vacant forever," Mayor Bob Gatt said. "It is getting zero tax dollars, and all of a sudden a highly-acclaimed car dealership wants to locate there. It's a boon for the city in tax revenue and will bring prestige to the city, and kitty corner is largest selling Cadillac dealer in the entire country. It's good competition."

Ken Widerstedt, facilities manager for Erhard Motor Sales, said the company purchased the Jaguar franchise that was located in Novi at 10 Mile and Haggerty three years ago, agreeing to build a new facility for both the Jaguar and Land Rover brands. They began looking for a location along the Grand River corridor and found the Novi property, which they have been working on obtaining approval for all permits and plans for two years.

"It's a good neighborhood, good location, and part of what Novi calls the gateway east entry to the city," Widerstedt said. "It gives us more room to do everything."

He noted that the current Farmington Hills location, about 22,000 square feet on 2.5 acres, was only ever meant to hold Land Rovers. The new location, for which he hopes ground will be broken this fall, has a concept plan that proposes 287 parking spaces for vehicle inventory and 138 spots for employees and customers to park. The facility will triple the number of cars in the showroom, from the current 8 to 24, essential to Erhard Motor Sales' philosophy that people would always rather look at and purchase cars in the comfort of the showroom.

The company, which besides the Farmington Hills Jaguar Land Rover dealership, also owns a BMW dealership in



A rendering of the 58,000 square foot Jaguar Land Rover dealership planned for the corner of Grand River and Meadowbrook in Novi. SUBMITTED

that city, as well as a BMW dealership in Bloomfield Hills and two auto collision shops, is doing well in the luxury car business.

"Historically, high-end cars are recession proof," Widerstedt said. "Business is good. We don't expect to double sales. Sales will grow slowly year after year."

Jaguar, which is in the midst of redesigns and updates, has a popular electric vehicle line, Widerstedt said, but it is currently Land Rover sport utility vehicles that are their best seller. New models range in price from about \$50,000 to \$150,000 on the dealership's website.

Pre-owned is also a popular option and Widerstedt is looking forward to increasing that inventory with the move. Three more approvals are needed from the city, he said. Widerstedt hopes construction will begin this fall on the facility and be completed in December 2020.

Contact Susan Bromley at [sbromley@hometownlife.com](mailto:sbromley@hometownlife.com).



Jaguar and Land Rover of Farmington Hills' salesman Aric Wilson opens up the door of a 2019 Range Rover at the Grand River Ave. dealership. The auto sales center will soon move to a new location in Novi. JOHN HEIDER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



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# Four events worth checking out this weekend

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Perhaps now spring has finally sprung? Maybe?

The weather is starting to get nicer, which means it's time to head on out and do something fun this weekend.

Here are four events happening across the Hometown Life area once you're done with work Friday.

## Home and garden show in Novi

Looking to spruce up the old homestead this spring? Then the Suburban Collection Showplace will be your destination this weekend.

The Novi Home and Garden Show returns from Friday to Sunday to 46100 Grand River in Novi. Visitors can stop by booths of several types of vendors, including landscapers, builders and more. The Plant Michigan Green Theater will feature members from the Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association doing presentations throughout the weekend.

Tickets for the show are \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors and free for children 12 and under. Those who attend after 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday will pay just \$5 for admission. For more information, including a full list of events over the weekend, visit the show's website at novihomeshow.com.

## Bunny Brunch in Livonia

It's almost time for Easter and if you're planning on taking the kids to visit the Easter Bunny, this weekend is the perfect opportunity to do so.

The annual Bunny Brunch returns at 11 a.m. Saturday to the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington. The event will feature lunch, some crafts and a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Tickets are \$6 for Livonia residents and \$9 for non-residents and can be purchased at the Jack E. Kirksey Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard. For more information, call 734-466-2900.

## Egg hunt in Highland Township

If you can't wait until next weekend to hunt for eggs, than Highland Town-



The free family day at the Festival of the Arts takes place this Saturday at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills. COURTESY OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

ship is where you want to take the kids this Saturday.

The Huron Valley Egg Hunt takes place beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday at Duck Lake Pines Park, 999 Duck Lake Road. Goody bags will begin being distributed at 10 a.m. and the Easter Bunny will make an appearance at 10:15 a.m.

After that, children ages 2-10 will have the opportunity to snag some of the thousands of eggs up for grabs starting at 11 a.m.

After all the eggs have been found, face painting and more visits with the Easter Bunny will take place.

For more information, contact the Huron Valley Chamber of Commerce at 248-685-7129.

## Festival of the Arts

## in Farmington Hills

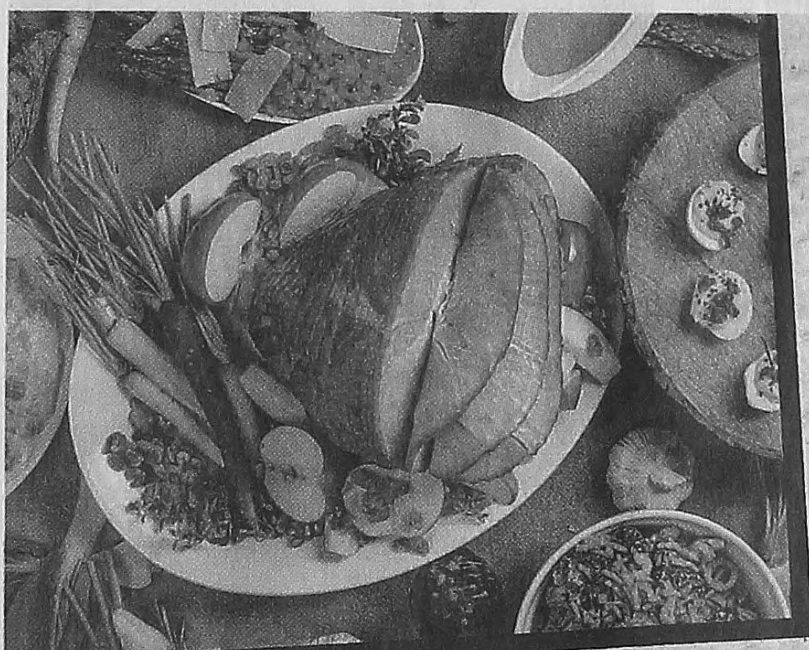
If you're looking for a little artistic inspiration this weekend, head to the Costick Center in Farmington Hills.

The free family day for the 2019 Festival of the Arts takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile. The event will feature art experiences such as pottery, artist demos and crafts the kids can make and take home. More than 500 pieces of artwork will be on sale for purchase and feature work done by members of the Farmington Art Foundation, Farmington Public Schools, the Farmington Area Art Commission Student Art Awards and more.

For more information on the event, call the city's cultural arts division at 248-473-1857.



The Novi Home & Garden Show returns this weekend to the Suburban Collection Showplace. COURTESY OF THE NOVI HOME & GARDEN SHOW



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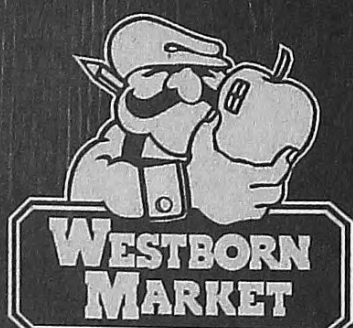
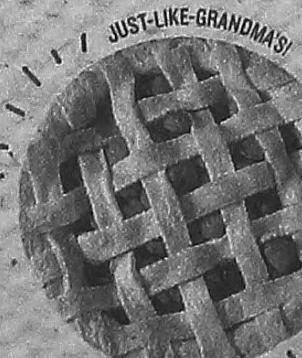
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# Novi plans ring road to help traffic

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Drivers hope a new road construction project approved this week will provide some long-sought traffic relief in Novi.

The city council unanimously approved a \$5 million expansion of Crescent Boulevard, aka the northwest quadrant Ring Road, during its April 1 meeting, awarding the \$4.7 million contract to Toebe Construction and engineering plans to AECOM in the amount of \$311,728.50.

"We have been talking about this for eight years," Assistant City Manager Victor Cardenas said. "You will be able to take the Ring Road around and bypass the Novi and Grand River intersection, which definitely can be a mess at rush hour."

A new traffic light will be planned for the Grand River and Ring Road area, he added.

Toebe Construction was the low bidder out of three companies seeking the contract for which the city advertised in February.

The project will feature a 1,050 foot long, four lane boulevard extension from where the current Crescent Boulevard meets Grand River to the intersection of the future Adell Center Drive, as well as construction of a 650-foot long industrial spur road to service the Comau Industrial Facility. That road would also improve access to the General Filters site.

Toebe will also replace deteriorated concrete west of Novi Road along Crescent Boulevard.



Novi is considering widening Crescent Boulevard, seen at left, as it exits Novi Town Center - as at rush hour it is bottled up by commuters coming up and down Novi Road. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Councilman Andrew Mutch said while he knew Ring Road was a priority, he was concerned about a "piecemeal approach" to road improvements in Novi, as well as the funding for the \$5 million project, which will come from a municipal street fund and the city's Corridor Improvement Authority, but for which no outside funding was received from grants.

"We are spending \$5 million on one project and depleting a special assessment fund that we've been hanging on to for a rainy day and all these other projects and have had no discussion about prioritizing," he said. "We aren't going to fix this overnight, there are problems all over the city, but we have to be smarter about spending these dollars and be

strategic. Traffic in the city is the number one complaint."

Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Staudt said that several years ago he had led the fight to save the special assessment and not spend it on Ring Road because it wasn't the appropriate time, but said that time has now come.

"The special assessment dollars were for a project of our choice," he said. "This has been waiting too long... It's time to move forward and get this done. Additional development will pour millions of dollars over the years into the road authority."

Cardenas said road construction will begin as soon as possible and is expected to be completed by November.

## Discussion focuses on opioid crisis

In its inaugural community outreach event, The Livonia Democratic Club will present an opioid forum 2-4 p.m. this Sunday, April 14, at Stevenson High School.

A panel of seven experts in various fields of the opioid crisis, will speak and take questions from the audience.

"This is not a political event," LDC President Kate Shishkovsky said. "The opioid crisis reaches into every notch of our society. It is duty of every single one of us to identify ways to combat and prevent opioid addiction."

The admission for the forum is free and open to the public. Doors will open at 1:30 p.m. at the Stevenson High School Performing Arts Auditorium, 33500 Six Mile Road in Livonia.

Mayor Dennis Wright will open the forum and introduce Moderator Dan West, president of Livonia Chamber of Commerce.

The panelists are: U.S. Rep. Haley Stevens, 11th District; Dr. Jennifer Taiaiol of Livonia Public Schools; The Honorable Mark Somers of 19th District Court, Dearborn; Jessica Hillen, behavioral social worker from St. Mary Mercy Hospital; Patrick Stropes, peer recovery mentor from Growth Works; Livonia Police Chief Curtis Caid; and Eric Goldstein, attorney from City of Livonia Law Department.

For more information, contact Kate Shishkovsky 734-748-6073

## Obituaries

To place an ad, call 586-826-7171 or visit [mideathnotices.com/place.php](http://mideathnotices.com/place.php)

### Lawrence "Larry" Albert Arnold

CANTON - Lawrence "Larry" Albert Arnold, age 80, passed away on April 2, 2019. He was born December 18, 1938. Beloved husband of Joyce for 59 years. Proud and loving father of Laura (Ed) Wright and Jeffrey (Kellie) Arnold, and loving and doting grandfather of Erik, Brandon, and Benjamin Wright, and Kyle, Jason, and Jacob Arnold. Son of the late Ruthanna Barth and Grady Albert Arnold. Larry was the oldest of eleven children. Larry is survived by brothers Ronald Bame, Roger (Jane) Bame, William (Penny) Barth, Christopher (Danee Lee) Barth, Kevin Barth, Kip (Stacy) Barth, and sisters Kathy Fields, Karen (Bruce) McElroy, and Pamela (Jerry) Lawrence, numerous cousins, nieces and nephews, and his very special Aunt, Sharlet Hill. He was also preceded in death by his sister Debra Barth. Larry graduated from Scott High School in Toledo in 1956, and later from the University of Toledo in 1962 with a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree, majoring in Marketing. He had a successful career in Sales Management with several major food companies, including Del Monte, Sunshine, and Sanders, before retiring from Best Foods at age 59. He had a lifelong interest in history and particularly in the American Civil War. He enjoyed researching history and traveling and touring various historical sites before his stroke in 2008. He was a past member of the Plymouth and Canton Historical Societies and the Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table. Active in junior athletic sports and an avid supporter of local high school sports, Larry was a coach for his daughter, Laura, and son, Jeff, for many years in the junior leagues, and once served as President of the Plymouth Canton Junior Basketball Association. In recent years, he had been an avid follower and proud grandfather of his grandsons' athletic activities and accomplishments. Larry enjoyed all types of music, particularly the Big Bands of the early 1940's. He always thought his greatest legacy was his children and grandchildren. Larry will be remembered as a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle and he will be greatly missed by his family and friends. Visitation for Larry will take place on Thursday from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at McCabe Funeral Home, 851 N. Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48187. Visitation will continue Friday at 10:00 a.m. until the time of the funeral service at 11:00 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial will follow the service and take place in Toledo Memorial Park at 6382 Monroe Street, Sylvania, OH 43560.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are appreciated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. [www.mccabefuneralhome.com](http://www.mccabefuneralhome.com)

**McCabe  
Funeral Home**



### Mary Knaff

HUDSON, OH - Mary Jayne (Rogers) Knaff, born July 12, 1923, passed away peacefully in Hudson, Ohio on April 3, 2019. She is survived by her daughter Janet Knaff Mabrey, son in law Bernie Mabrey, and grandchildren Caitlin Rogers Mabrey and John (Jack) Rodman Mabrey as well as many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband John (Jack) Aloys Knaff, her father Vincent Rogers, her mother Sarah Rogers and all 6 of her siblings.

Mary Jayne was a loving daughter, wife, sister, mother, grandmother, and aunt. Her favorite holiday was July fourth and she loved all things patriotic. She was known for entertaining and had friends in every generation all across the country.

She was a member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood and spent years giving her time and talents to her church and community. She loved gardening, genealogical research, snow skiing, boating, golfing, and traveling far and wide to visit friends and family. She was well loved and will be missed, but as she often referred to death, she's off to her "great reward".

The family will hold a memorial service on Friday, June 28th in Birmingham, Michigan at Saint James Episcopal Church, time of day to be announced. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America or the American Parkinson's Disease Association.

A special thank you to the staff and caregivers at Hudson Grande Senior Living facility in Hudson, Ohio and to Harbor Light Hospice for making these last several years and months a loving, caring atmosphere for Mary Jayne, her family, and friends. (REDMON FUNERAL HOME, STOW, OHIO, 330-688-6631)



**Rodger Lynn  
Williams**

CANTON - Rodger Lynn Williams of Canton, MI, passed away peacefully on April 3, 2019 at the age of 55. He was born on March 28, 1964 in Detroit, MI.

Rodger was a Pastor for 13 years at Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor. He was a fairly prominent member in the LGBT Community in Ann Arbor.

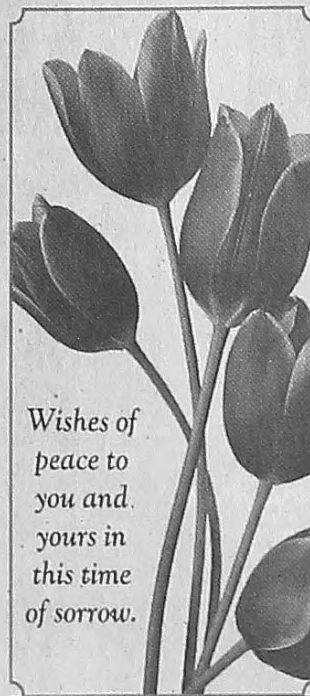
Rodger is survived by his father Oscar Williams, son Jeremy Williams and his siblings Ron Williams, Joyce Counterman, Oscar Williams Jr., and Martin Williams. He will be dearly missed by his former wife Heidi Sargis as well as many nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his late mother Dovie and brother the late Ray Williams.

Services were held through Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Livonia.

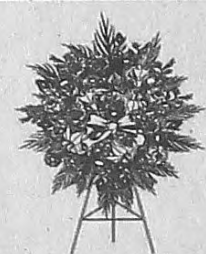
Harry J Will Funeral Homes

### Dorothy Trickey

SANTA FE, NM - Dorothy Chambers Trickey, 92 years, died on April 1, 2019, in Santa Fe, NM. She is survived by her children, Frederick (Birmingham, MI), Richard (Holland, Ohio), Dennis and wife Gaye (Lakewood, CO), Elizabeth and husband Richard Glassman (Santa Fe, NM), many grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Services will be held in Boca Raton, FL.



Wishes of  
peace to  
you and  
yours in  
this time  
of sorrow.



Paying tribute to  
the life of your  
loved one.





## Police

Continued from Page 1A

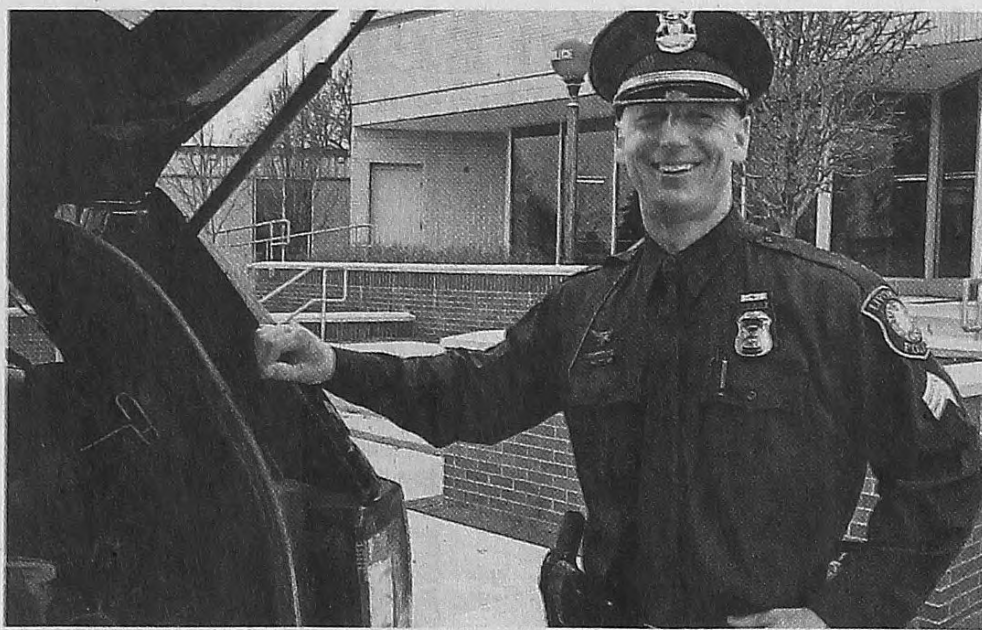
bling to see all the people that I work with — just to see how extraordinary they are. They kept moving forward in the face of danger.”

Audience members applauded the award winners who, like Mencotti, demonstrated life-saving skills.

Lori Clark and Erik Hughes helped save a man who suffered a massive heart attack near Randolph Elementary School in October. Clark called 9-1-1. Police coached her and Hughes through performing CPR on the man who survived and attended the April 2 ceremony.

Hughes said it meant everything to him to have his children in the audience and realize the benefits of helping others.

Audience members also revisited headline stories when organizers shared video and recordings from some of the big crime stories in recent years. Those included the 2017 capture of Justin Paul, the Westland man who pleaded guilty to killing his mother, and the Jan. 25, 2018, armed robbery and hostage-taking at the Citizens Bank



**Livonia Police Dept. Sgt. Scott Szczepanski received two commendation awards for his involvement in two significant occurrences – the capture of Justin Paul, a Westland man who has pleaded guilty to murdering his mother, and a hostage situation at a credit union.** JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

branch in Canton.

Sgt. Scott Szczepanski received awards for his involvement in both incidents.

“It’s very humbling being recognized for just doing what you’re supposed to

do,” he said. “It’s an honor to be recognized.”

Stacy Hayne is a veteran police officer who emceed the ceremony. She always enjoys watching the younger police officers being recognized. There’s a

certain something, Hayne said, that most people don’t understand about police work: “Every day is different and nothing is routine.”

Mencotti still has a few months before he hits his one-year anniversary as a Livonia police officer. He has always wanted to follow in the footsteps of his father, Tony Mencotti, who served 30 years with the Dearborn Police Department.

He’s already doubted himself and realized, in some situations, there was nothing else he could have done. He talks about the need to enjoy the small things because, just like that, his career could end.

He snaps his fingers.

“It can be taken away like that,” Mencotti said. “There’s going to be a lot of times that you’re going to mess up. You’ve just got to move forward and just keep your head up. You’ve got to focus on the next run. Something could happen to you or, worse, something could happen to your partner. You’ve got to let go of that.”

“This is what I want to do. This is definitely my calling.”

Contact Susan Vela at [svela@hometownlife.com](mailto:svela@hometownlife.com) or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.

## Roads

Continued from Page 1A

questions during the latter stages of the gathering’s 45-minute question-and-answer session.

Daub emphasized her desire to bring more transparency to government, which she did for at least two hours to an audience dominated by concerned residents who’ve been asked to dodge suspension-dismantling craters on many of the township’s well-traveled roads for the past several months.

And to the assembled expert committee’s credit, not one question was ducked or tabled.

“This is what we’re paid to do — take the heat,” said Wayne County Deputy Public Service Director Beverly Watts. “Hey, we drive the same roads you do. My car got busted just like some of yours. We’re not happy with the roads,

which is why we’re trying to do everything in our power to make them better.”

Daub asked everyone in attendance to fill out a question card prior to the meeting.

The topics that generated multiple queries were addressed first.

In addition to the short-lived concrete issue, several attendees wondered why second-rate pot-hole-patching material — commonly referred to as cold patch — is used on the county’s roads when there are more proven options available.

“The reason we’re not using the better, more-proven options is cost,” said Michael Gorman, Wayne County deputy director of roads. “The cost of the (more effective) material is three times what we’re paying for the cold patch we use, and we use 7,000 tons of cold patch. It’s just not cost-feasible given our budget.”

Attendees were educated on the process used to determine whether an intersection’s four-way-stop protocol

should be replaced by a standard green-yellow-red signaling system.

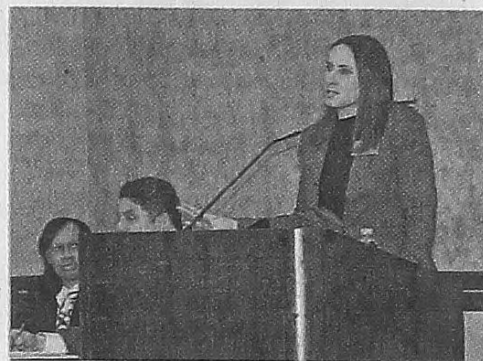
The key factors are the number of accidents at the intersection and the amount of congestion, Van Antwerp explained.

### Good news on the horizon

Long-awaited fixes coming to Canton include the replacement of the Lilley Road bridge (just north of Michigan Avenue) following a two-year closure, the paving of a heavily-used section of Ridge Road and the placement of a signal at the intersection of Michigan Avenue and Beck Road.

One of the factors that will be used to determine the order the township will fix the roads is a PASER rating — a 1-to-10 scale that grades every road in the township.

Residents can find out their street’s PASER rating by visiting the township’s website.



**Wayne County Commissioner Melissa Daub discussed the purpose of her town hall.** ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Daub concluded the town hall by inviting residents to contact her with any issues — roads-related, or not — and that she planned to organize more town halls in the near future.

Contact Ed Wright at [edwright@hometownlife.com](mailto:edwright@hometownlife.com) or 517-375-1113.

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All information contained herein was accurate at the time of publication. In order to maintain the high degree of quality and incorporate management with greater flexibility and economy, we reserve the right to make changes in price, specifications, materials, or to change or discontinue models without notice or obligation. Floor plan dimensions are approximate. © Alexander Properties & Associates 2003.





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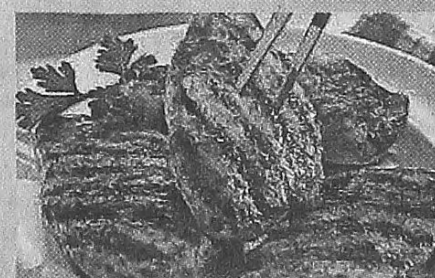
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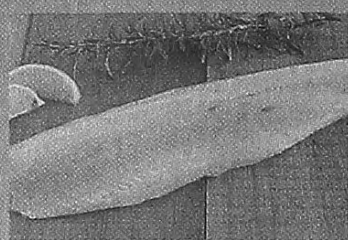


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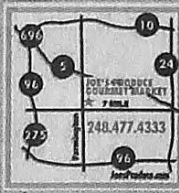
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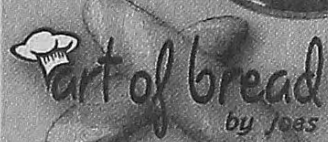
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## PREP BASEBALL



Catholic Central player Adam Falinski safely slides back to first base ahead of a tag by Brother Rice's Sterling Hallman. JOHN HEIDER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Detroit Catholic Central baseball sweeps Birmingham Brother Rice

Andrew Vaillencourt  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After a disastrous performance the previous weekend against Orchard Lake St. Mary's, the Detroit Catholic Central baseball team roared back with convincing wins over the state's preseason No. 1 team, Birmingham Brother Rice. Despite falling behind early in game one, the Shamrocks came back to mercy the Warriors, 12-2, in six innings. In game two, things were much closer, but went the Shamrocks way again by a score of 4-3. The doubleheader was

played at CC's new turf stadium at Shamrock Park. Catholic Central improves to 3-2-1, while Brother Rice falls to 2-4. "I'm glad we don't have to play them again for a month," Catholic Central coach Dan Michaels said. "I hope they forget about it but I know they won't. They're a great team and we're just happy to get out of here with two wins." The Shamrocks blew a late lead before being blown out twice by St. Mary's last weekend and this was exactly the type of rebound Michaels hoped for. "We had a devastating loss on Saturday and just got hammered in game

two," Michaels said. "For our team to bounce back and beat the best team in the state, I tip my hat to our players. I'm so proud of them." Here are takeaways from each game: **Shamrocks pound Warriors in game one** Catholic Central started slow, but finished strong. Brother Rice got the first two runs of the game, one each in the first and second innings, but could not muster anything else the rest of the contest. The Warriors managed just three hits

in the game and only two off Shamrocks starting pitcher Cooper Donlin. Donlin pitched five innings, struck out eight and walked seven hitters. "I have to give it to Cooper Donlin on the mound," Michaels said. "He struggled a little bit with his command but he fought through it. Way too many walks, but he fought through it. To keep that team to two runs in five innings, that's phenomenal." He admitted his control was not as great as he would have liked, but it was enough to get it done, especially with **See CENTRAL, Page 4B**

## CROSS COUNTRY AND TRACK

# Livonia Franklin runners sign to compete in college

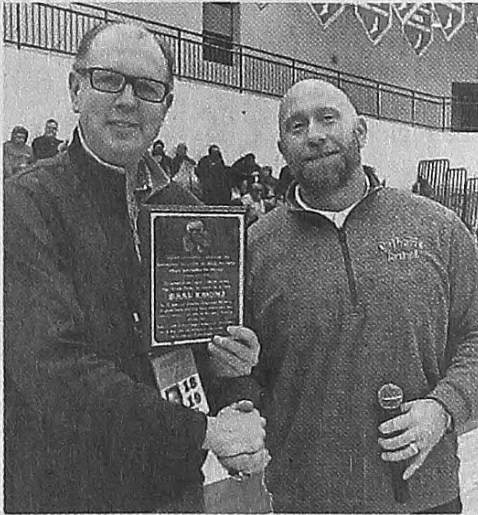
Andrew Vaillencourt  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

April is a busy month typically full of excitement for high school seniors, since by this time, most have decided which college they will attend in the fall. Athletes are no different, and three members of the Livonia Franklin cross country and track program have signed to run at the next level. Andrew Ulaszek will attend Lawrence Tech. He's been running at Franklin since he was a freshman. "He has become one of our top 800 runners and was one of our top three

cross country runners this past season," Franklin coach Pat Koelzer said. "His cross country personal record is under 17:00 and he is working toward a 2:00 800. Andrew is a 4.0 student who embraces a leadership role, especially when assisting newer, younger team members." Ulaszek had maintained interest in Lawrence Tech due to the school's academics, and meeting the coaches there sealed the deal. "Originally, I was looking at Lawrence Tech because I want to be a biomedical engineer and I had been recommended Lawrence Tech by my en- **See RUNNERS, Page 3B**

## END OF AN ERA

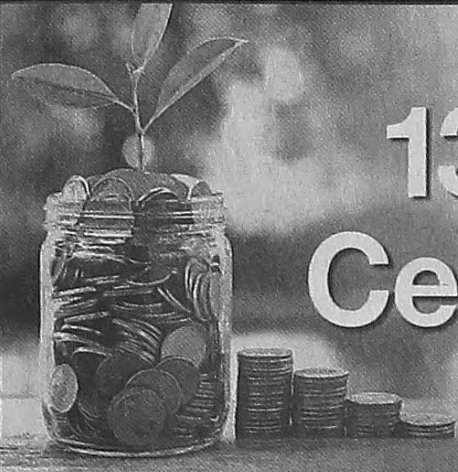
# Help celebrate longtime sports editor's retirement



Catholic Central's Director of Athletics Aaron Babicz, right, honors Hometownlife.com sports reporter Brad Emons with a plaque honoring his 35 years covering high school sports. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Philip Allmen  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN


Longevity in the workplace isn't too common nowadays. In an industry facing struggles for more than a decade, Brad Emon's run as a Hometown Life sports editor is all the more impressive. Emons was among the 11 Hometown Life staffers who accepted an early retirement offer from Gannett, the parent company of the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers. Emons retired Feb. 1 after 41 years with the company. Forty-one years! He's covered gold medal Olympians and future athletes in the four major professional sports leagues: **See EDITOR, Page 5B**



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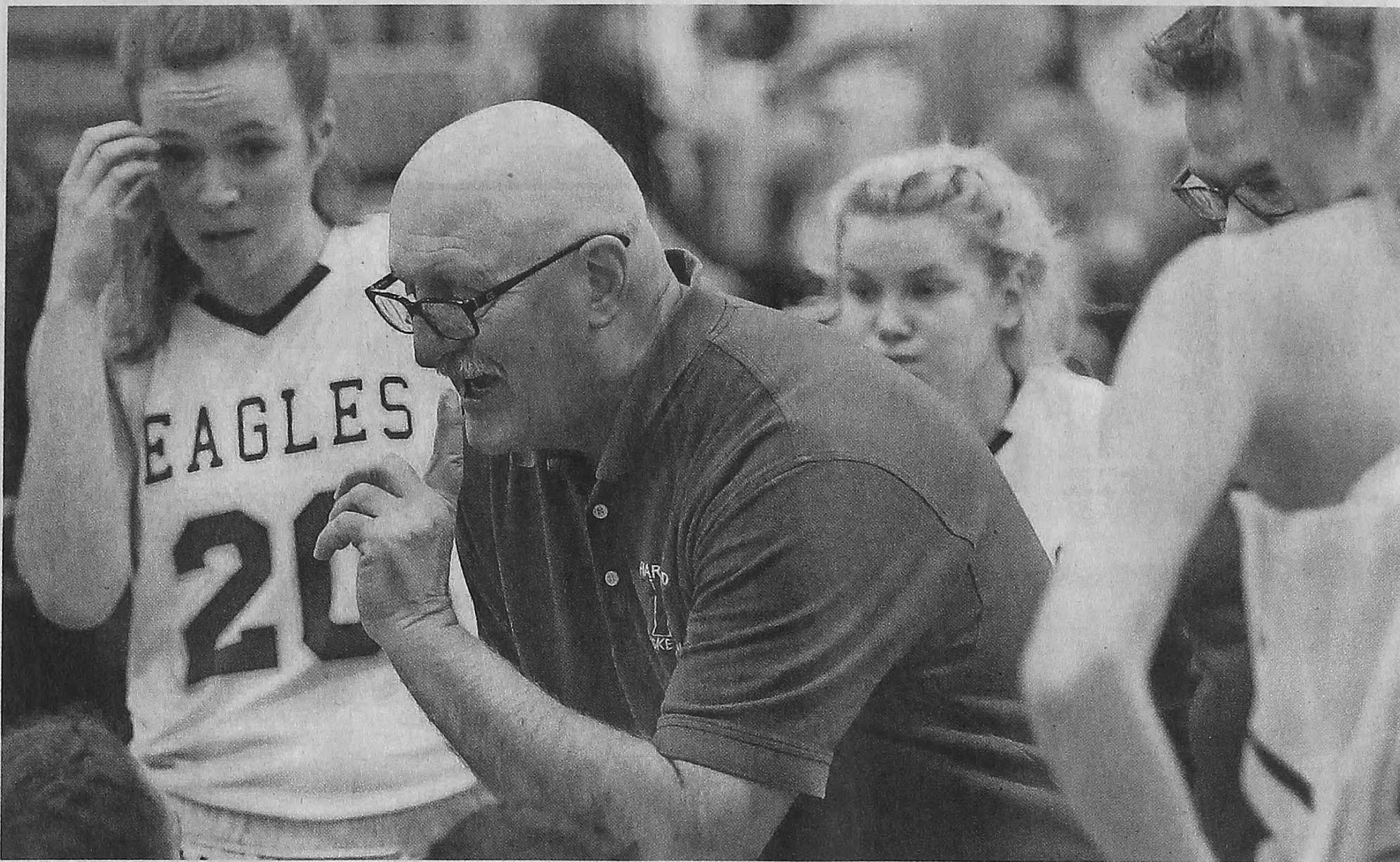
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## GIRLS PREP HOOPS



Don Palmer led Hartland (22-4) to the state quarterfinals and its third straight 20-win season. GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

# Hartland's Palmer named Division 1 girls basketball Coach of the Year

**Bill Khan**

Livingston Daily | USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Don Palmer is as old school as they get when it comes to basketball coaches.

The leader of the Hartland girls hoops program is not a fan of specialization, preferring his players compete in other sports rather than spend 12 months on the basketball court.

He said it's harder to create a group of selfless players, saying "that's not society anymore."

Palmer — and he's certainly not on an island here — bemoans the increasing problem of parental meddling that undermines what a coach is trying to accomplish.

But just when you expect Palmer to shake his fist and demand you get off his lawn, he shows the ability to change how he's coached basketball for years.

"I kind of went away from what I do," Palmer said. "I like that delay and methodical stuff. We went up and down and we just shot the ball."

Playing a more up-tempo game suited the talent on the Hartland roster this season. It helped the Eagles reach the state quarterfinals for the third time in five seasons, an accomplishment that earned Palmer the Associated Press Division 1 Coach of the Year award.

Using a nine-player rotation comprised of four freshmen, two sophomores and three juniors, Hartland went 22-4 for its third straight 20-win season. Three of the losses were to two teams that reached the final four and another was to a 20-win Brighton team.

Over a career that began in 1974 at Milford High School, Palmer has won a state-record 954 games coaching boys and girls basketball, 607 as a girls coach.

When he came to Hartland in 2009-10, the Eagles had only three district championships in the first 36 years of the Michigan High School Athletic Association tournament. In Palmer's 10 seasons, the Eagles have won eight districts and their only three regional championships.

"Coaches are subjected to undue praise and undue criticism," said Palmer, who is 188-51 at Hartland. "I'm not taking praise for all these wins, because if you don't have people like Whitney (Sollom) and Lexey Tobel, you don't win. Coaching gets harder every year. There's just a lot of factors that factor in. I enjoy it. I go year by year. I'll be 69 in August."

Jarvis Mitchell, who has coached Wayne Memorial to two straight state semifinals, joked after playing the Eagles that he wants Palmer to retire.

"Don is such a great coach," Mitchell said. "I don't care how many kids he has, he works with what he has and he gives you his best shot. Those kids are so disciplined. I absolutely hate playing against Hartland; I hate it. Because you don't know what to scout for. He's a chameleon. You're going to get something new. ... C'mon, man. Don, if you're listening, just retire. I don't want to play you no more."

While Hartland should be a factor on the state scene for at least three more seasons with its freshman core, the potential of winning his first state championship isn't what motivates Palmer to continue coaching.

"Everybody likes to win," he said. "Coaches don't play favorites, but I do believe they have favorites. There's always a kid who, for whatever reason, whether it's their personality or effort, pulls at your heart strings a little bit. You say to yourself you want to finish with this kid. ..."

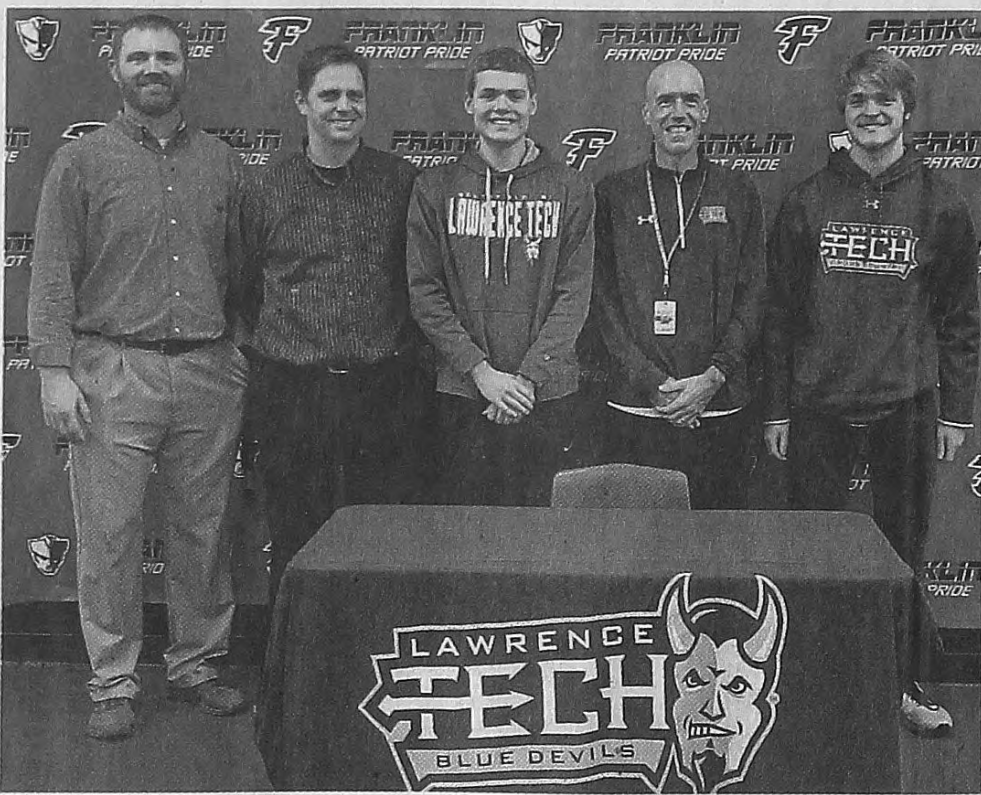
"You get to know them, help them be a better player and maybe be a better person, because you're a little bit older, a little bit wiser. I was in Las Vegas this past weekend at a player's wedding. It's an honor that they remember you and want you around for special times."



Don Palmer has coached Hartland to three girls basketball state quarterfinals in five years.

TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY





Franklin's Andrew Ulaszek will run cross country and track at Lawrence Tech next year. LAURA ULASZEK



Franklin's Erin Seibert will compete at Madonna next year. LIVONIA FRANKLIN ATHLETICS

## Runners

Continued from Page 1B

gineering teacher," Ulaszek said. "I started to check out Lawrence Tech along with some other schools, but I was already leaning towards Lawrence Tech because of the curriculum and everything else I had seen/heard about the university. When I went for a college visit, I met the cross coach, talked to him for a while and from then on I was set on Lawrence Tech. I'm excited to run in college because I know I will meet some great people, form some good relationships, stay in shape, and do something I love."

Erin Seibert has signed with Madonna University. She battled back from a bad ankle sprain to make her fourth appearance at the state meet.

"Erin is a special runner," Franklin girls cross country coach Dave Bjorklund said. "She is highly competitive and an extremely hard worker. In ninth grade she got to run on the team with senior All-Stater Natalie Douglas, and for the next three years she carried the cross country team on her shoulders."

She was our leader in workouts and in races, always ready to take on the best runners other teams put out there. She has certainly left her mark on the program at Franklin and will be missed next year."

Logan Evanchuk also will run at Madonna next year.

"I've been lucky enough to coach Logan since eighth grade cross country," Koelzer said. "He has made one of the biggest improvements on the team each year. He is one of the hardest workers and a great leader by example. Logan is a 4-year letter winner, a sub 17:00 cross country runner and a sub 4:50 miler who still has his eyes on a few more goals this season. His leadership and work ethic will be missed."

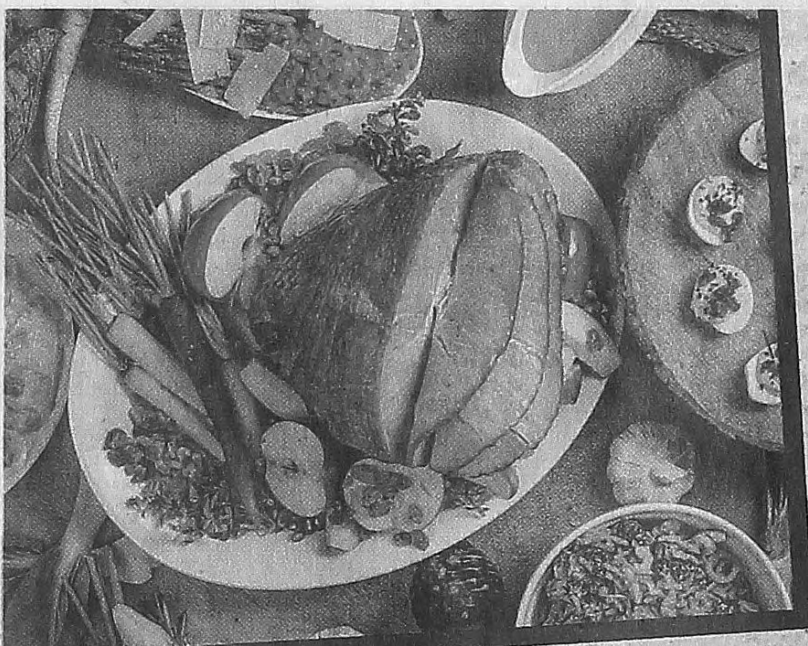
He said he chose Madonna because it's close to home, has a small campus and has a great criminal justice program.

"I am excited to run in college because mainly it's what I love to do," Evanchuk said. "I can't wait to meet new people and travel different places to run in big meets."

Reach Andrew Vaillencourt at [vaillenc@hometownlife.com](mailto:vaillenc@hometownlife.com), 810-923-0659 or on Twitter at @AndrewVcourt.



Franklin's Logan Evanchuk signed to run at Madonna next year. LIVONIA FRANKLIN ATHLETICS



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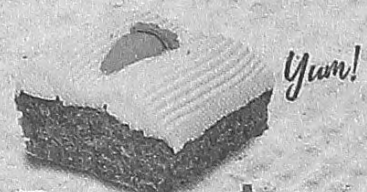


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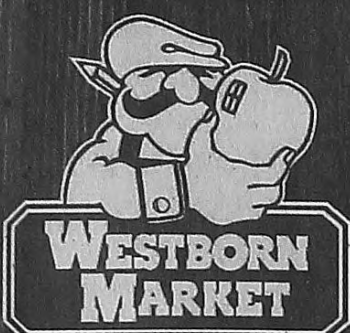
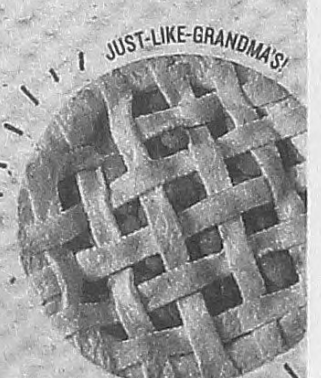
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As he slides and throws up a cloud of rubber pellets from the artificial turf - Brother Rice's Sterling Hallman is met at second base by Detroit Catholic Central's Regan Paulina - and a tag. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Central

Continued from Page 1B

the strikeouts piling up and his team pouring on runs behind him.

"It wasn't my best, but I thought it was exceptional, Brother Rice is a great team," Donlin said. "I just had to keep pushing through, adversity is good. I need to keep working on my mechanics every day and keep getting better."

After struggling at the plate through two innings, Catholic Central caught fire in the third, scoring six runs to take the lead. The Shamrocks added three more in the fourth, one more in the fifth and two more in the sixth inning to end the game with a mercy.

Senior Ryan Marra led the way for the

Shamrocks. He went 3-for-4 with two doubles and three RBIs. Senior Dante Merucci added two hits and two RBIs, junior Tyler Harris reached base four times with three singles and Donlin helped himself out with a big two-run triple.

"Those guys are going to carry us," Michaels said. "Confidence breeds confidence."

**Harris leads CC to sweep**

Both teams settled down after the blowout in game one.

Each team was able to take advantage of mistakes by the other team, but CC's pitching held on in the late innings to hold off a Brother Rice comeback.

Marra once again was an offensive force for CC, driving in a run on a double.

Senior Joe Hardenbergh and junior Reagan Paulina also each doubled.

Harris, who hit leadoff, was the team's most consistent player at the plate — reaching in all seven of his at-bats Wednesday (four times in game one and three times in game two). He collected an RBI on two hits in the nightcap.

"It was great, we've just been working on our two-strike approach and that's what I was trying to implement today," Harris said. "Rice is always good, so it feels great to get that first win in like seven tries."

Not only that, but Harris also started on the mound for Catholic Central in the second game. He pitched five innings, striking out three, walking three and allowing three runs before senior Thomas Sylvester came in for the save.

"Tyler pitched a hell of a game today," Michaels said. "He threw strikes. He's not overpowering, but he was getting all three of his pitches over. He was moving the ball in and out which he has to do. I'll take that any day of the week."

Sophomore John Locker led the way for Brother Rice, going 3-for-3 with a double and an RBI. Senior Sterling Hallmann added two hits and an RBI for the Warriors.

The rivalry in the last few seasons has certainly favored Brother Rice, but after the sweep, Catholic Central feels confident that it will stay more competitive going forward.

"We're coming back," Harris said. "We're going to get on top."

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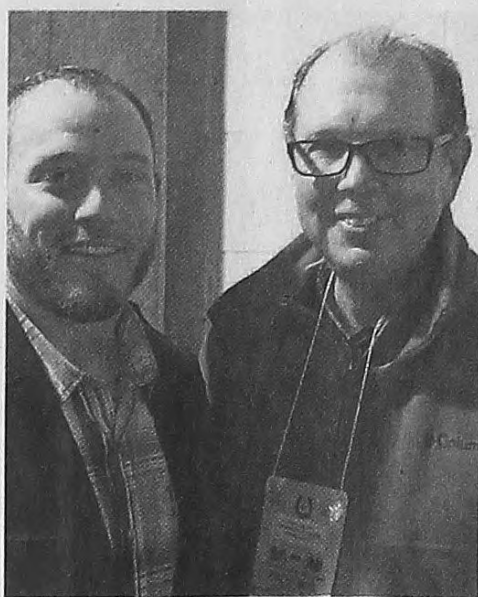
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**MIDWEST EXTERIORS**





Brad Emons (left) with former Clarenceville All-Stater, Penn State grad and NFL player Tim Shaw.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Editor

Continued from Page 1B

NHL, NFL, MLB and NBA.

Former managing editor Dan Dean (he accepted an early retirement offer this year, as well) realized that few journalists in the company were as widely known or made a bigger impact in community journalism than Emons.

As a way for those wanting to help celebrate his retire, reminisce on the good old day or just share a drink, Dean organized an informal get-together for 6:30-9:30 p.m. this Saturday at George Murphy's at the Creek, 36000 Seven Mile Road in Livonia.

"He covered high school sports in western Wayne County for more than 40 years for the Observer Newspapers and Hometown Life. Current and former coaches and A.D.s, parents, players and those that love sports journalism are encouraged to celebrate his retirement and reminisce with sports editor Brad Emons during this open-house style event at George Murphy's. Cash bar, food available, please no gifts."



Recently-retired O&E sports editor Brad Emons, right, is honored by the Livonia Chamber for its Livonia Legacy Award. Livonia Chamber of Commerce President Dan West stands at left. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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# CROSSWORD PUZZLER

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

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!

[illegible]

## ANSWER KEY

[illegible]

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

## WORDS

APPETIZERS  
 BABYSITTER  
 BILL  
 CHEERING  
 CITY  
 CLUB  
 DANCING  
 DATE  
 DESSERT  
 DINING  
 DOWNTOWN  
 DRINKS  
 ENJOYMENT  
 ENTERTAINMENT  
 EVENING  
 FAMILY  
 FESTIVE  
 FORMAL  
 FRIENDS  
 GAME  
 GROUP  
 HOSTESS  
 LAUGHING  
 MEAL  
 MUSICAL  
 PARTY  
 PLAY  
 POPCORN  
 RESTAURANT  
 SPORTS  
 STADIUM  
 TAXI  
 THEATER  
 TICKETS  
 TOURIST

44 Heap  
48 What the penner of "Tristram Shandy" spoke with?  
51 Toward the rudder  
54 Lures  
58 Paris-to-Berlin dir.  
59 Aviating guy  
60 "You Send Me" crooner preferred cruise destinations?  
63 Mr. or Dr.  
65 Seraglios  
66 "— Ben Adhem"  
67 A&E part  
68 Greedy gulle  
71 TV awards  
72 "Uncle Tom's Cabin" writer not at home?  
74 Pie serving  
76 Coloring stuff  
77 Litigious one  
78 Gillette's — razor  
79 Truthful  
80 Longtime SeaWorld whale  
82 "Two Treatises of Government" philosopher making a choice?

84 Not eternal  
87 Me, to Mimi  
89 Tranquil  
90 Long time  
91 Red fruit for  
an "L.A. Law  
attress"?  
94 Joins closely  
96 Smith and  
Jones film,  
for short  
97 WWW  
access inits.  
98 PC b-board  
admins  
102 Google Play  
purchases  
106 1998  
Angelina  
Jolie film  
108 Gmail  
alternative  
10 "Gladiator"  
Oscar  
winner's kin?  
14 "House"  
co-star's  
estimate?  
18 Get more  
profound  
19 Mil. VIP  
20 Queued  
21 Doctor's plan  
for the author  
of "Common  
Sense"?  
24 Secondary  
divinity, in  
Greek myth  
25 Break in, say  
26 Pooch  
checker

127 Teeny bit  
128 Firstborn  
129 Unpopular plants  
130 Quaint ending for 100-Down  
131 Black stone

**DOWN**

1 Bodily joints  
2 Spa sponge  
3 Infant sock  
4 Shaker Lee  
5 Loop of lace  
6 Smell  
7 Obtained  
8 Sci-fi zapper  
9 Long time  
10 Infant bed  
11 Smell  
12 French legislature  
13 Drivers' places  
14 Endangered  
15 A little off  
16 Declare  
17 Makeup of a frozen Arctic cap  
18 Early utopia  
24 Before, to Kipling  
25 Warsaw native.  
30 Involved with  
32 Water spigot  
33 Sea plea  
38 Salt Lake City team

39 "Taps" hour  
41 Devilish  
43 Forest home  
45 List units  
46 Luau favors  
47 Mushroom  
ends?  
49 Made a  
new outline  
of  
50 Miner's haul  
51 Pined  
52 Frothy  
53 Singer Mel  
55 Diamond  
official at  
home  
56 Fife player's  
drum  
57 Blizzard  
stuff  
61 Crucial  
62 Because of  
64 Suffix with  
absurd  
67 See 114-  
Down  
68 The press,  
TV, etc.  
69 Serving  
perfectly  
70 Pie serving  
72 Total  
73 Brow curves  
74 Established  
the tempo  
for  
75 Pen filler  
77 Product rep  
79 Mention  
80 Haloed Fr.  
woman

81 Cards dealt  
82 Tulip's kin  
83 Foot with fur  
84 "2001" studio  
85 Not a copy  
86 Sent a new invoice to  
88 Photo —  
92 Baseball's Matty  
93 Top-row PC key  
95 Actor Elliott  
99 Demands  
100 Verse creator  
101 Zig or zag  
103 Cooing bird  
104 Oodles  
105 Sentence structure  
107 Stop on —  
109 Cartoon skunk Pepé  
111 Duel swords  
112 Notable acts  
113 Bug in "A Bug's Life"  
114 With 67-Down, up and no longer sleepy  
115 Baseballer Slaughter  
116 Not crazy  
117 Location  
122 Toon Flanders  
123 "O Sole —"

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12		13	14	15	16	17	18
19					20				21						22					
23					24				25						26					
27					28						29				30					
31				32							33				34				35	
36								37				38	39		40		41		42	
				44	45	46	47				48				49			50		
51	52	53		54				55	56	57		58			59					
60				61							62			63	64					
65								66					67						68	69
71							72					73					74	75		
76							77					78				79				
				80	81					82					83					
84	85	86						87	88			89							90	
91							92					93				94			95	
96					97				98				99	100	101				102	103
	106			107		108		109			110					111	112	113		
114					115				116	117		118							119	
120								121				122							123	
124								125							126				127	
128								129							130				131	

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

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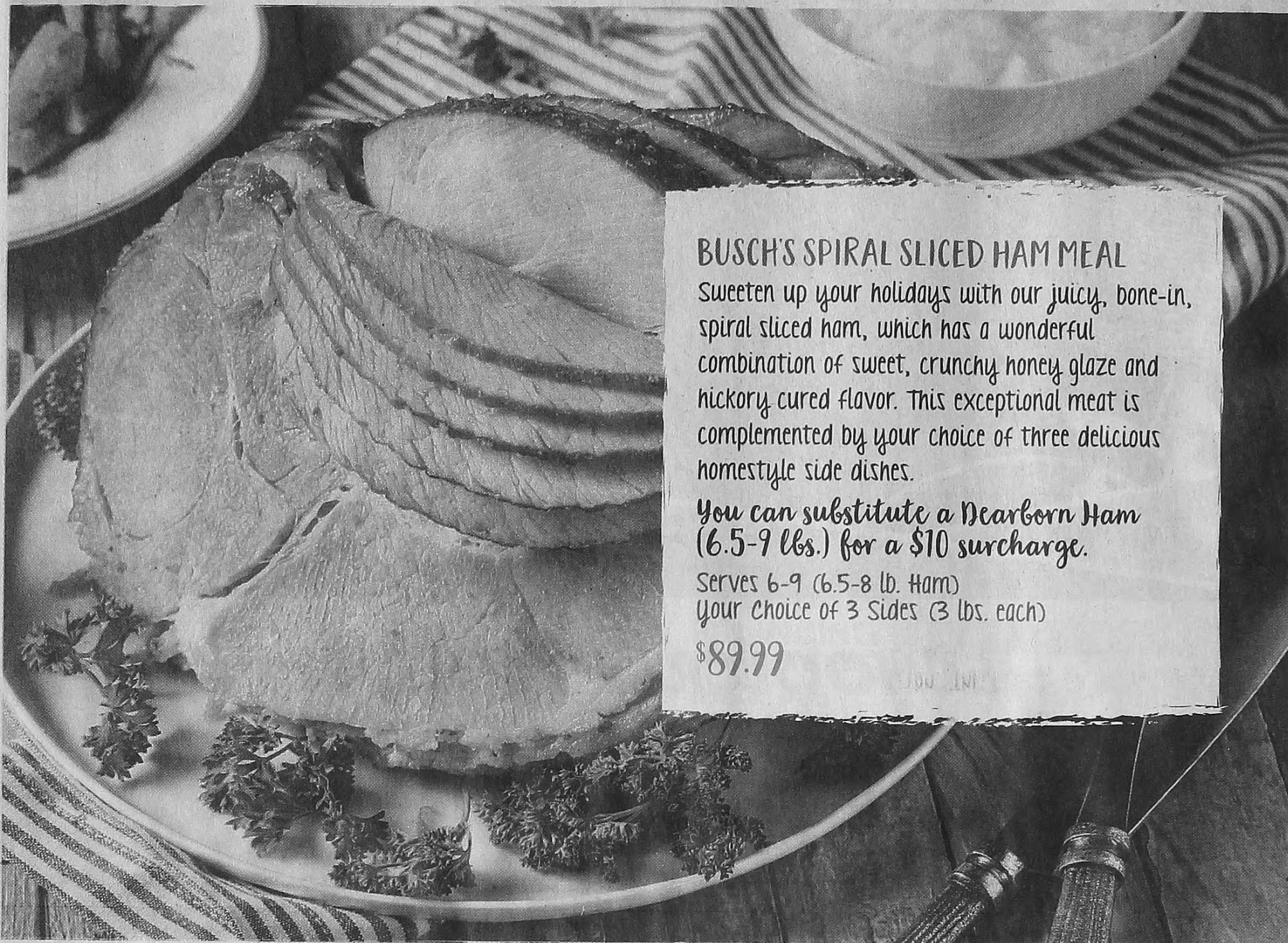
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