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A rendering of the proposed apartments along Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth Township. COURTESY OF POMEROY LIVING

Plymouth Twp. residents voice opposition to new development

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Fearing Ann Arbor Road would evolve into a clone of Canton Township's ultra-congested Ford Road, Plymouth Township residents turned out in droves at a township planning com-

mission meeting Oct. 20 to voice their opposition to a proposed 373-unit development near the site of the former Elks Lodge.

Prior to the meeting's public hearing, representatives of building firms Toll Brothers and Pomeroy Living unveiled a concept draft plan that showcased 270

for-lease apartment units, 103 for-purchase townhouses and a multi-purpose clubhouse on the sprawling property that sits just north of Ann Arbor Road (one-quarter mile west of Haggerty Road) and south of the Waverly Village subdivision.

See **DEVELOPMENT**, Page 6A

Farmington Hills voters to decide on public safety tax request

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Some key folks encouraging other Farmington Hills residents to approve a 10-year 1.7-mill public safety millage highlight some recent headlines to underscore the importance of a well-covered city.

A murder mystery was solved. An accused rapist was arrested. And the fire department staffed 216 runs in a 24-hour period, the most in department history, when severe winds felled branches, power lines, and entire trees in July.

"This will be the busiest year in fire department history," Chief Jon Unruh said. "We're finding that we're responding to more incidents in general in a 24-hour period than what we have in years past."

Since 2011, when the 1.7 mills were last approved, police runs have increased more than 20% to an average of 35,060 a year. Fire runs have jumped by about 35% to an average of 10,484 a year.

The city's police and fire chiefs said 41 police and dispatcher positions and eight fire positions are tied to the Nov. 2 ballot question that, if approved, would raise \$6.3 million for the city's public safety needs.

Approval of this millage request actually will require more money from homeowners since the city has been levying 1.6187 public safety mills due to a Headlee Amendment rollback, the 1990s-era tax law which reduces

See **TAX REQUEST**, Page 7A

Politicians feel pressure from social media mobs

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

In summer 2020, Livonia City Council President Kathleen McIntyre attended a large Black Lives Matter protest near city hall. She went home and made

a post on her Facebook account that she said expressed support for local police.

Then, as she describes it, "all hell broke loose." Critics argued she dismissed concerns raised by those protesting the then-recent death of George Floyd.

McIntyre saw protesters at every council meeting for months, people at restaurants giving her lingering stares while she ate lunch and people threatening to show up at her house.

See **SOCIAL MEDIA**, Page 6A

Trick-or-treat times, events, forecast in metro Detroit

Philip Allmen Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Get ready to think scary thoughts, satisfy your sweet tooth and fill a pillowcase with candy — Halloween is just around the corner!

Here are city- and township-recommended times to trick-or-treat, as well as a few public events in western Wayne and Oakland counties.

Hometown Life area communities not mentioned do not have set trick-or-treat hours.

Oakland County

Oakland County Parks will have a trick-or-treat event at the Oakland County Farmers Market, 2350 Pontiac Lake Road in Waterford, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 30.

The Salvation Army of Farmington Hills, 27500 Shiawassee, will host a trunk or treat 4-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 30. Food trucks will be on site with food for purchase, as well.

See **TRICK-OR-TREAT**, Page 4A

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Ten-digit dialing begins for 810 area code

Kayla Daugherty Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Residents who have a phone number with an 810 area code will have to update their contact lists as the Federal Communications Commission will now require a 10-digit phone call.

As of Oct. 24, users are required to enter the three-digit area code and the

seven-digit telephone number to complete the call, regardless of whether the area code is the same area code as their own, according to the FCC.

"When an area code transitions to ten-digit dialing, you will no longer be able to dial seven digits to make a local call," the agency wrote on their website.

"In 2020, the FCC established '988' as the new, nationwide three-digit

phone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. To help facilitate the creation of '988,' area codes that use '988' as a local exchange, or the first three digits of a seven-digit phone number, will need to use 10-digit dialing."

According to the FCC, there are 82 area codes in 35 states and one U.S. territory that use "988" as their local exchange and allow seven-digit dialing.

The Michigan area codes impacted are 616, 810, 906 and 989.

Local calls dialed with only seven digits may not connect, and a recording will inform the caller that the call cannot be completed as dialed, the FCC said on their website. The 810 area code covers parts of Livingston County including Brighton as well as the Flint, Grand Blanc, and Port Huron areas.

Couple who met at Subway in Livonia receives special gift

Sue Selasky Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Julie Bushart and Zack Williams got married Oct. 22. It was a wedding planned like many, with a ceremony at a church and a reception to follow — after a visit to a Livonia sandwich shop.

Before the reception, Bushart and Williams needed to make a special stop. They couldn't let their wedding day go by without stopping by the place they met: a Subway in Livonia. Ahead of the wedding, the couple reached out to the folks at Subway, telling the story of how and where they met. The bride and groom's story caught the company's attention. Subway contacted the couple to help them commemorate the day, Subway-style.

After the ceremony, the couple headed to the Subway, at 30979 Five Mile Road, where they first met. They hopped into a Subway-wrapped convertible for some photos before heading off to a reception. The newlyweds posed for pictures while in the convertible before heading to their reception. As a complimentary late-night snack at the reception, Subway delivered the couple's favorite Subway sandwiches: an Italian BMT and a ham and American cheese, along with Subway cookies. They'll serve approximately 200 guests, according to a Subway spokesperson.

It was Bushart's mom who first spotted Williams, according to the couple's wedding profile on theknot.com and a Subway news release.



Newlyweds Zack and Julie Williams share a sub sandwich as they pose for pictures in front of the Livonia Subway. The couple were married Oct. 22 and made a stop at the fast food restaurant where they first met.
PHOTOS BY KIRTHMON F. DOZIER/DFP

It was Dec. 8, 2017, and Bushart took the day off work to do some birthday shopping with her mom. They stopped at Subway (a favorite) for lunch.

"We walked in and standing in front of us was this goood looking guy ★★ mom starts nudging me uncontrollably as I try not to start giggling ★★," Bushart wrote. "My mom says to me, 'You're giving him your number!' Anybody who knows me, knows I'm WAY too shy for that. So I said, 'YOU go give him my number.'"

Bushart's mom chased Zack down in



The Williamses pose in front of the Livonia Subway where they met in 2017.

the parking lot to give him Julie's phone number.

"He called me a half hour later and the rest is history. Talk about the ultimate wing-MOM! Our first date was two

days later."

The couple couldn't be reached for comment because, well, you can imagine that they've been busy this week with the wedding and all.

Garden City police arrest four after Middlebelt Road gunfire, collision

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Four people were arrested after a road-rage incident involving gunfire turned into a three-vehicle crash in Garden City.

Local police said in a report they were dispatched to Middlebelt Road and Marquette Street at 2:43 p.m. Oct. 22 because of the collision.

They learned that an exchange of gunfire preceded the crash, occurring between two of the vehicles that had been traveling northbound on Middlebelt Road before they collided with the third unrelated vehicle.

Some fled the scene. Arriving police found no one injured from the gunfire, but two were injured from the crash.

Police put area schools on lockdown and were able to take the four suspects into custody.

No drama expected Election Day with Plymouth City Commission candidates

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Plymouth Mayor Pro-tem Nick Moroz will retain his seat on the city commission and be joined by fellow candidates Alanna Maguire, Jennifer Kehoe and Linda Filipczak, all of whom are running uncontested, barring a successful write-in campaign.

The three candidates appearing who secure the most votes on Nov. 2 will earn four-year terms while the fourth-place vote-getter will secure a two-year term. The commission is a non-partisan board, meaning candidates are not required to announce a political party affiliation.

Three current Plymouth City Commissioner members — Mayor Oliver Wolcott and commissioners Ed Krol and Marques Thomey — did not file for re-election ahead of the April 20 filing deadline.

Moroz, who has served as Plymouth's mayor pro-tem since 2019 following three years as a commissioner, is the assistant director of entrepreneurial practice at the Center for Entrepreneurship in the University of Michigan's College of Engineering.

As a seven-year member of the Plymouth Planning Commission, candidate Jennifer Kehoe is no stranger to making city-impacting decisions. Kehoe has two degrees from the University of Michigan.

Maguire has been the finance and business support supervisor for an international renewable engineering and environmental sustainability consulting firm for the past six years. She manages the administrative, financial and human resources matters for the firm's offices in Plymouth, Washington, D.C., and Mexico City.

Filipczak is a Plymouth Historic District commissioner. The 27-year Plymouth resident also works at Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute.

HometownLife sent questionnaires to each candidate. Filipczak did not return a response.

What's the thing you love most about Plymouth?

Moroz: The pride and care that our

whole community has for each other and for our outstanding city. Exemplified by the way the community has met the challenge of the pandemic, coming together to support our businesses and vaccinate not only the whole city but beyond our city, and our willingness to help others.

Kehoe: I love that Plymouth is such a positive community. It's this sense of community that keeps people here for years and throughout multiple generations of families.

Maguire: I love our downtown and its mix of family-friendly activities, fine dining and bars, and cool shops. Plymouth is a vibrant small community, and has been my home for all of my life.

What's the biggest change needed in Plymouth?

Kehoe: While not on the immediate horizon, our transportation needs will be changing over the next 20 years. We're already seeing the movement toward electric and autonomous vehicles and we as a city will need to be ready to meet these changes and address how they will impact pedestrians and bicyclists.

Maguire: I would like to see Plymouth focus more on environmental sustainability, and this will be a priority for me. This can be achieved in a number of ... ways. For example, I would like to see mixed-use recycling containers available around the downtown area to reduce the amount of recyclable materials thrown away in trash cans.

Moroz: To look to the future to consider how our city can continue to be the leading small downtown in Michigan. The way we enjoy our restaurants, our retailers, and move around our city, will need to adapt to a vision that leans into the best practices that we've experimented with during the pandemic.

How will you ensure city staff are treated equitably?

Maguire: I would work with our other commissioners and administration officials to review existing policies and



Filipczak



Kehoe



Maguire



Moroz

procedures and see what kinds of improvements may need to be made. I would also make myself available to staff to discuss any issues they may be having.

Moroz: Due to the tax structure of Michigan, which essentially prevents the city from effectively utilizing the increasing property values for our tax base, our city services have been staffed extremely leanly, yet we have still found a way to provide the best city services in the entire state. Our staff has been amazingly effective at building relationships.

Kehoe: I will work with my fellow commissioners, the city manager, and the administration to ensure that all policies and procedures within Plymouth are fair and equitable.

What do you think a commissioner member's most important job is? Why?

Moroz: I think that the most important job for a commissioner is to be a servant leader. This includes being a fantastic and effective communicator among all stakeholders: residents, staff, businesses, and visitors to Plymouth. Additionally, a commissioner's job should be to look to the future to understand what trends and opportunities.

Kehoe: I believe that our most important job is to take all stakeholders' voices into consideration in the decision-making process. While it's impossible to please everyone, we need to represent the people who elect us as we work towards a better ... Plymouth.

Maguire: A commissioner's most important job is working with the city administration to ensure the highest quality city services for our residents and businesses, while being fiscally responsible. We must be open to our residents' concerns and model the values that best reflect our city.

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Newsroom Contacts:

Phil Allmen, Content Strategist

Mobile: 248-396-3870

Email: pallmen@hometownlife.com

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Fans can catch Saturday's big clash on the big screen for free

Miriam Marini Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Emagine Entertainment is offering college football fans the chance to catch the biggest game of the season on the big screen — for free.

Saturday's game between the U-M Wolverines and the Michigan State Spartans will be broadcast live at five Emagine theaters across metro Detroit.

Tickets will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 11 a.m. Saturday, with auditoriums opening at 11:30 a.m. in time for kickoff at noon.

The five participating Emagine locations are: Royal Oak, Saline, Novi, Canton and Emagine Palladium in Birmingham.

To celebrate the big day, Emagine is offering special game-day specials:

- Four-piece chicken tenders and fries with a 16-ounce Bell's Two Hearted, \$18.
- Four-piece chicken tenders and fries with a 16-ounce Founders All Day IPA, \$18.
- Four-piece chicken tenders and fries with a 16-ounce Bud Light, \$17.50.

Emagine is following the CDC's COVID-19 guidance.

Westland police place John Glenn High on lockdown for gun scare

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A fight between students at John Glenn High School in Westland prompted a security lockdown on Oct. 21.

According to Westland police, the department's school resource officer was informed that one of the students was armed with a gun.

Police arrived at the school and placed the Marquette Street building on lockdown when they couldn't find the student.

Eventually, they found the student unarmed. A search of the school did not turn up any weapons.

The lockdown lifted later in the day, and evening activities were to continue as planned.

The police department and school district continues its weapons investigation.

"Today, out of an abundance of caution, John Glenn High School was placed on a lockdown while the Westland Police Department conducted an investigation," Superintendent John Dignan said in a statement. "All students and staff were, and are safe, and there was no immediate threat. The safety and security of our students and staff are our top priority, and we appreciate the Westland Police Department for their quick response."

Card skimmers found at gas stations in state

Emma Stein Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Government inspectors recently found card skimmers at gas stations across the state.

During a routine inspection, the weights and measures division of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural development found hidden skimmers inside gas pumps. Skimmers are not visible from outside the pump, making customers oblivious to what might be going on.

"These criminals continue to try and use gas pumps to commit theft and steal your personal information for fraudulent use. These inspections are just another way MDARD is protecting Michigan consumers at the pump," said Gary McDowell, MDARD director, in a news release. "Kudos to our weights and measures staff for their vigilance in protecting consumers pocketbooks and personal identification."

The skimmers were found at the following locations:

- Admiral, 3221 Division S., Wyoming
- Admiral, 5342 Westnedge, Portage
- Sunoco, 40200 Michigan Ave., Canton
- Admiral, 4315 Chicago Drive, Grandville
- Mobil, 1396 Ecorse Road, Ypsilanti
- Sunoco, 5843 S. Martin Luther King, Lansing
- Mobil, 1500 Haslett Rd, East Lansing
- FlexxMart, 496 Main St. Belleville

Card skimmers essentially make a copy of your information.

They read the magnetic strip on your credit or debit card, according to U.S. News.

The skimmers store your name, card number and expiration date, and the information is used the stolen



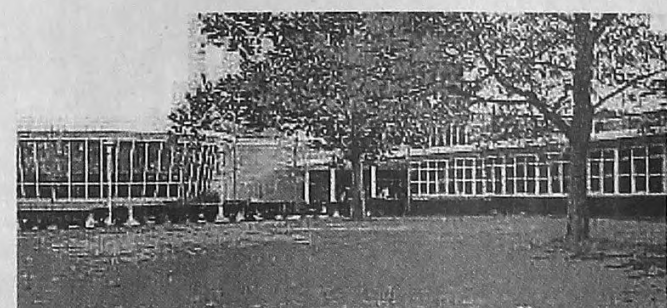
Mobil gas station in Madison Heights. GOOGLE MAPS

data to create counterfeit cards or make fraudulent purchases.

"Criminals who engage in this type of illegal activity exploit and manipulate the very technology that we depend on to conduct secure financial transactions in the retail marketplace," said Timothy Waters, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Michigan. "The FBI and its local, state, and federal law enforcement partners are committed to protecting consumers, businesses, and financial institutions from fraud schemes conducted by criminal enterprises likes this one."

Because card skimmers are hidden and blend in, it can be hard for gas station owners to prevent them and customers to protect themselves.

Gas station owners will add security tape, for example, to prevent card skimmers, but it can be broken or removed.



Westland John Glenn High School. FILE

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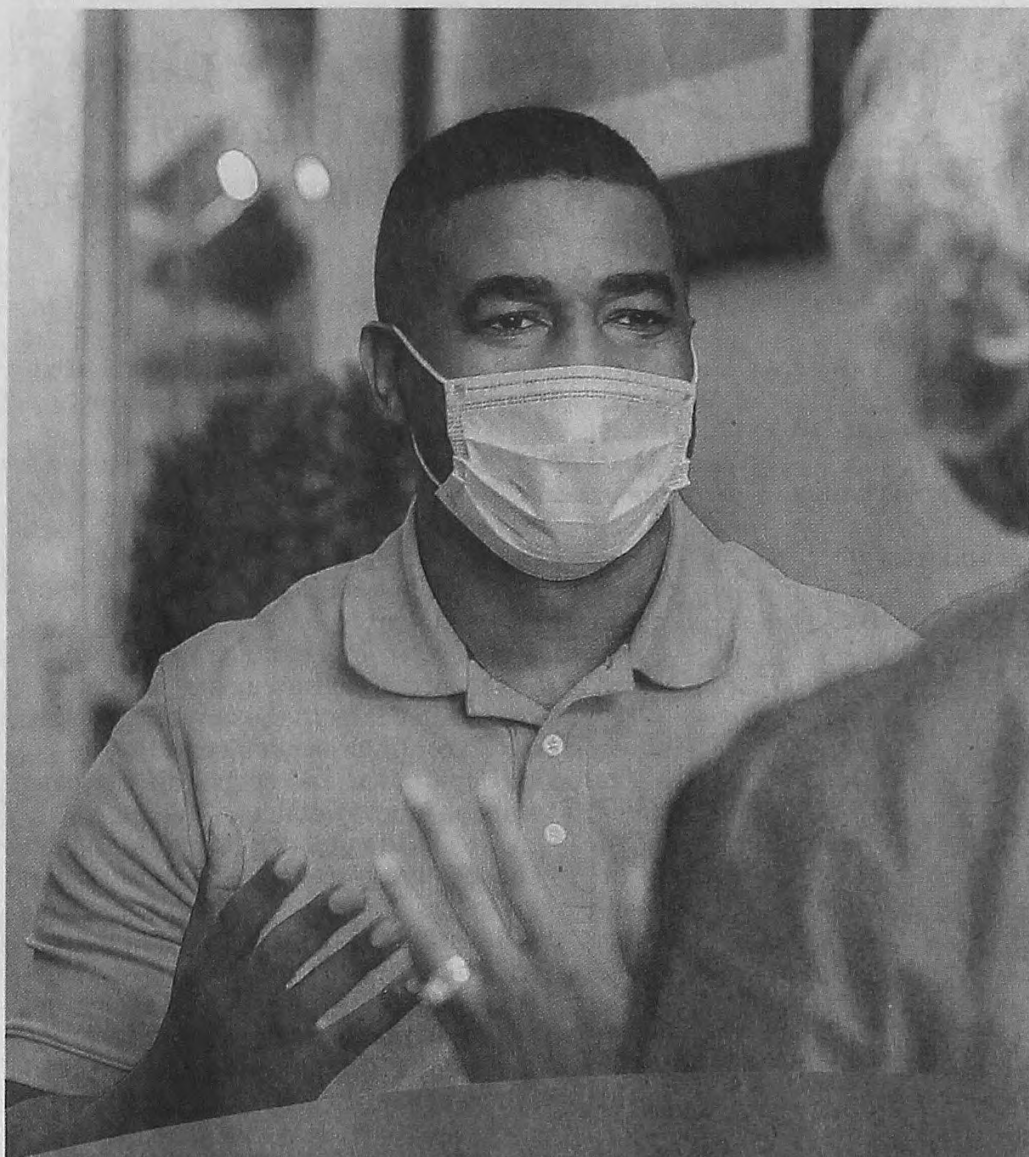
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A skeleton at the corner of West Main and Wing in Northville, part of the Skeletons Are Alive Halloween creations that dot downtown. The skeletons are created each year by the city's Begonia Brothers landscaping firm.
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Trick-or-treat

Continued from Page 1A

Birmingham will have special activities at its final farmers market of the season. The 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 31 market on N. Old Woodward will feature pumpkin decorating, hay bales, and trick-or-treating.

Farmington Hills has hayrides on Friday nights through Nov. 5 at Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road. Hayrides are \$5 each, free for those younger than 2. Rides leave every half hour from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Farmington will have downtown trick-or-treating 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 23 with participating businesses as part of the Grand Raven Festival.

Highland suggests trick-or-treat hours are 6-8 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 31.

Milford sets trick-or-treat hours 6-8 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 31. There is no downtown Boo Bash this year.

South Lyon has trick-or-treat hours running 6-8 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 31. In addition the Downtown South Lyon Trick or Treat will take place 6-8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 26. A pet parade is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Wayne County

Canton presents Revenge on Ridge, a Halloween event that the whole family can enjoy at Preservation Park, 500 N.

Ridge Road. Friday, Oct. 29. The 1-mile path suitable for ages 7 and older take participants to learn about Canton's ghostly past as they solve riddles and find clues. Preregister at www.cantonfun.org/register.

Livonia's Bennett Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, will host a Haunted Storywalk 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 30, with a family-friendly spooktacular outdoor trick-or-treat event. Visit the StoryWalk behind the library, read the story, and pick up a few (non-candy) treats along the way. Drop-in event. Kids are encouraged to attend in costume and bring a treat bag.

Northville will hold downtown trick-or-treating starting at 10 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 30, at the Town Square.

Following a ceremonial wave, participants will trick or treat at the downtown businesses and treat stations along the route until 11:30 a.m. Family-friendly event so costumes should not be too scary.

Downtown **Northville** is filled with more than 120 life-sized skeleton sculptures. Click here for more information on the Skeletons are Alive program.

Halloween weather forecast

Michigan weather can be (read: is always) unpredictable, but AccuWeather's 10-day forecast predicts a high of 61 degrees and a low of 42 degrees for Detroit on Oct. 31, with "a couple showers possible."



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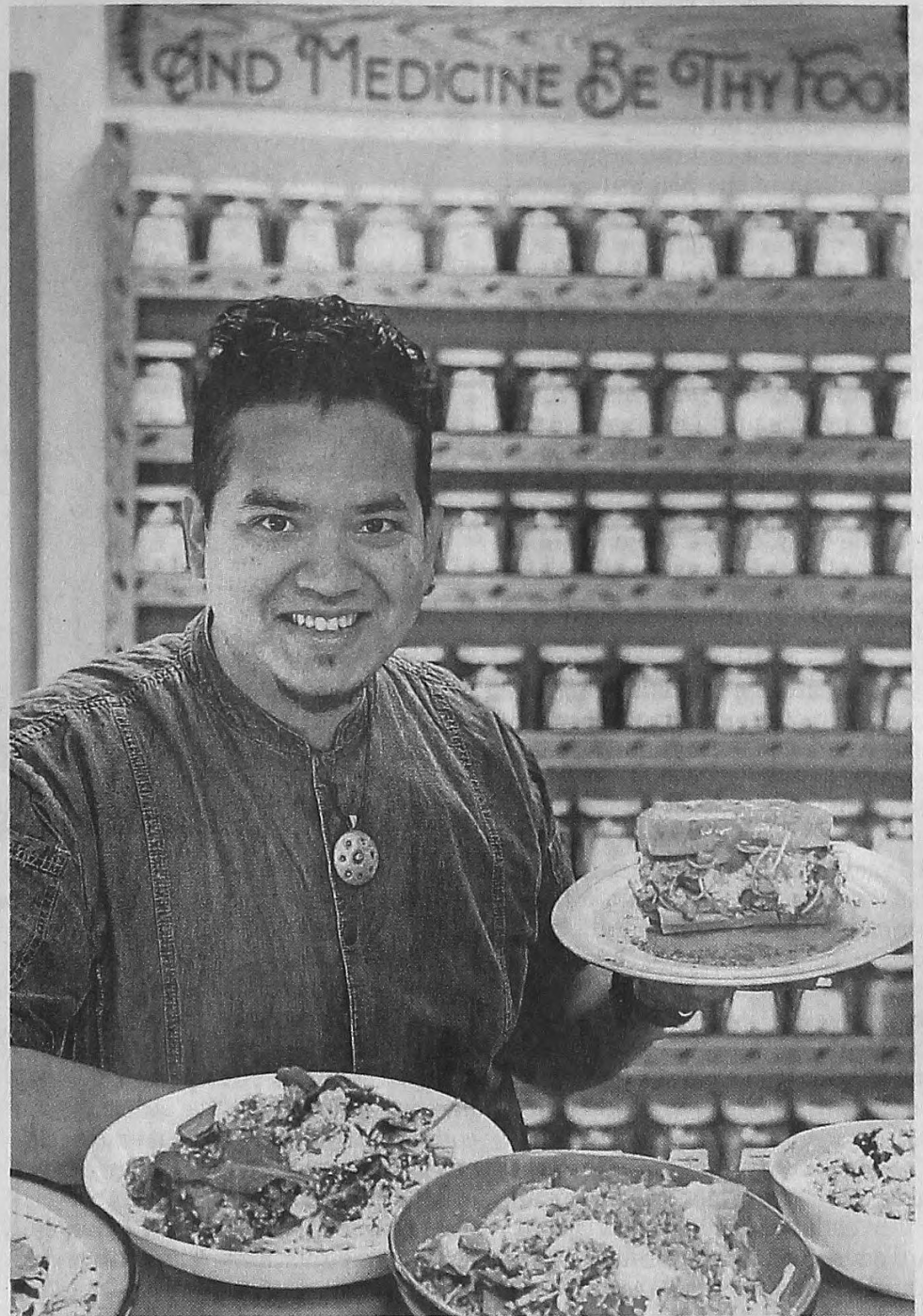
Aratham Gourmet To Go Expands with a new location.

After the amazing success of their plant-based food market in Troy, Aratham owners Gabriel and Tiffanie Vera are opening another location in Wayne County, MI. "Our desire has always been to support and nurture the community by providing high-quality, delicious, and flavorful plant-based food items at affordable prices. We are so happy we have been able to achieve this goal in Troy and are looking forward to providing more communities with the same quality of food and service."

Founded by husband and wife, Gabriel and Tiffanie Vera, Aratham is a labor of love in every sense of the word. Gabriel has an impressive culinary background working as an Executive Chef and Corporate Director at facilities like Andiamo, Joe Muer Seafood, the MGM Grand Hotel Casino, Hilton Hotels, Mission Point Resort and more. He is also a former gold medal Culinary Cup winner. Tiffanie Vera is a doula and holistic practitioner with food and beverage experience. Their combined expertise has led to the successful marriage of healthy, plant-based dishes that are both flavorful and affordable.

Tiffanie Vera states "We truly care about our customers, our community and the health of the planet. It's because of this love that we developed a menu that is gourmet in quality, plant-based and lower in price. Food can heal and fortify and we fully believe organic, gourmet cuisine and other natural products for the home and body should be affordable for all."

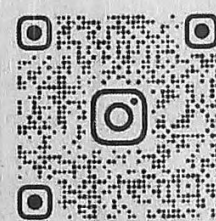
When asked why he thinks they have been so successful, Gabriel stated that Aratham is able to stand by their promise of being an organic, plant based company, without sacrificing flavor. "A crowd pleaser is our spaghetti Bolognese. People ask 'Are you sure there is no meat in this?' There isn't. We don't buy any processed meat - we make our own from oatmeal and seeds."



Aratham Gourmet To Go is a zero-waste business – from its composting to its biodegradable bags and containers. Every step of the organic, eco-friendly family business is designed for the betterment of its customers, the community and the planet. Gabriel notes "All our food scrapes go into compost or recycling. Our eco-friendly practices are a very important part of who we are."

Aratham provides everything from side dishes to entrees, juices to desserts, super-foods, individual meals, deli service, party trays, natural supplements, candles, soaps, and other unique, all natural items. Aratham is the source for anyone interested in a more plant-based, organic, holistic lifestyle.

Aratham in Westland is located at 37628 Ford Road and will open November 1st. Hours of operation are Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm.



ARATHAM_MEALS

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www.aratham.com

Social media

Continued from Page 1A

The entire elected Livonia council removed its home addresses from the city website in response to the brush back.

"It was really upsetting for the first few days because I wasn't used to that, but eventually I had to shake it off," McIntyre said. "Proving that you're not something is very hard to do."

Overall, the world is an angrier place because of the pandemic. Gallup's annual global emotions report found people were reporting higher levels of stress and sadness in 2020 than they had in 15 years. The Oakland County Sheriff's Office and Michigan State Police report an uptick in road rage incidents, too.

That anger is left to thrive online. David Dulio, chair of the political science department at Oakland University, said all the good things about social media can also be its downfall. He said both sides of the political aisle are equally guilty of using platforms like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to bend the truth when promoting their point of view.

"There's no question that social media allows for less than ideal dialogue," he said. "I don't think there's any doubt that when folks are using social media, they say things they wouldn't say if they were face-to-face with somebody. It leads to vitriol."

McIntyre and other elected officials in Livonia and Westland say the last five years have made their meetings and interactions with the public more partisan and more personal in ways they've never seen. They all blame a combination of social media and a lack of understanding of how local lawmaking works.

"The real change I've seen is a result of social media," Jim Godbout, a longtime Westland councilman, said. "There are a bunch of keyboard warriors out there who will say things, and none of it has to be true."

Politics, personal attacks can scare potential candidates away

It's not uncommon for public or council comments to last longer than an hour in Westland. Residents lob insults toward council members, council members hurl insults at each other or have people address social issues unrelated to city business.

It's something Godbout, who's been



Raucous meetings, like the Westland meeting pictured, have become more common. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

on council for over 20 years, finds wholly unproductive.

"One of the biggest things residents ask me is how I put up with it every meeting," he said. "We've had good council members in the past who decided not to run again because they're tired of it."

McIntyre and Susan Nash, Livonia's clerk, agree that an angrier public and emphasis on partisan leanings — the governing boards in both cities are non-partisan offices, meaning a candidate does not have to declare a political party

affiliation — discourage people who may otherwise want to serve, as demonstrated by a seven-candidate council pool this fall that, according to Nash, would normally be double the size.

Dulio agreed an angrier public can keep a city from accomplishing its tasks.

"It sidetracks things," Dulio said.

What critique is warranted, and what isn't

Criticism is part of any elected posi-

tion, and that's not lost on those elected officials.

"If you've done something wrong, you can own up to it and try to move past it," Godbout said. "Yeah, it's no fun sitting there listening to people get up and kick the s*** out of you for a half hour, but it goes with the territory. It's part of it."

Godbout says what isn't fair game is a personal attack or threat, both of which he's received during meetings.

See **SOCIAL MEDIA**, Page 7A

Development

Continued from Page 1A

In addition to density concerns, issues reiterated by the steady stream of speakers who stepped to the podium included the elimination of the approximately 34-acre green space that is spread out behind the now-vacated Elks lodge — one of the largest parcels of green space remaining in the township — and disruption of tranquility that neighbors currently experience in the subdivisions that border the property.

"If this development is allowed, Ann Arbor Road is going to turn into another Ford Road; there is no doubt in my mind," said Denise Robinson, who lives just south of Ann Arbor Road across the street from the planned development. "The units going in there would be packed in like sardines. That would be too many people for that space."

Robinson said it took her two minutes to turn right onto Ann Arbor Road while en route to Wednesday's meeting, "and that was at 6:50 p.m., not rush hour ... and that's without the hundreds of cars that would be added if the development is built."

"People like myself have spent their entire lives earning enough money to live in this town," she said. "Living across from a development like this is not why I saved up to live in Plymouth."

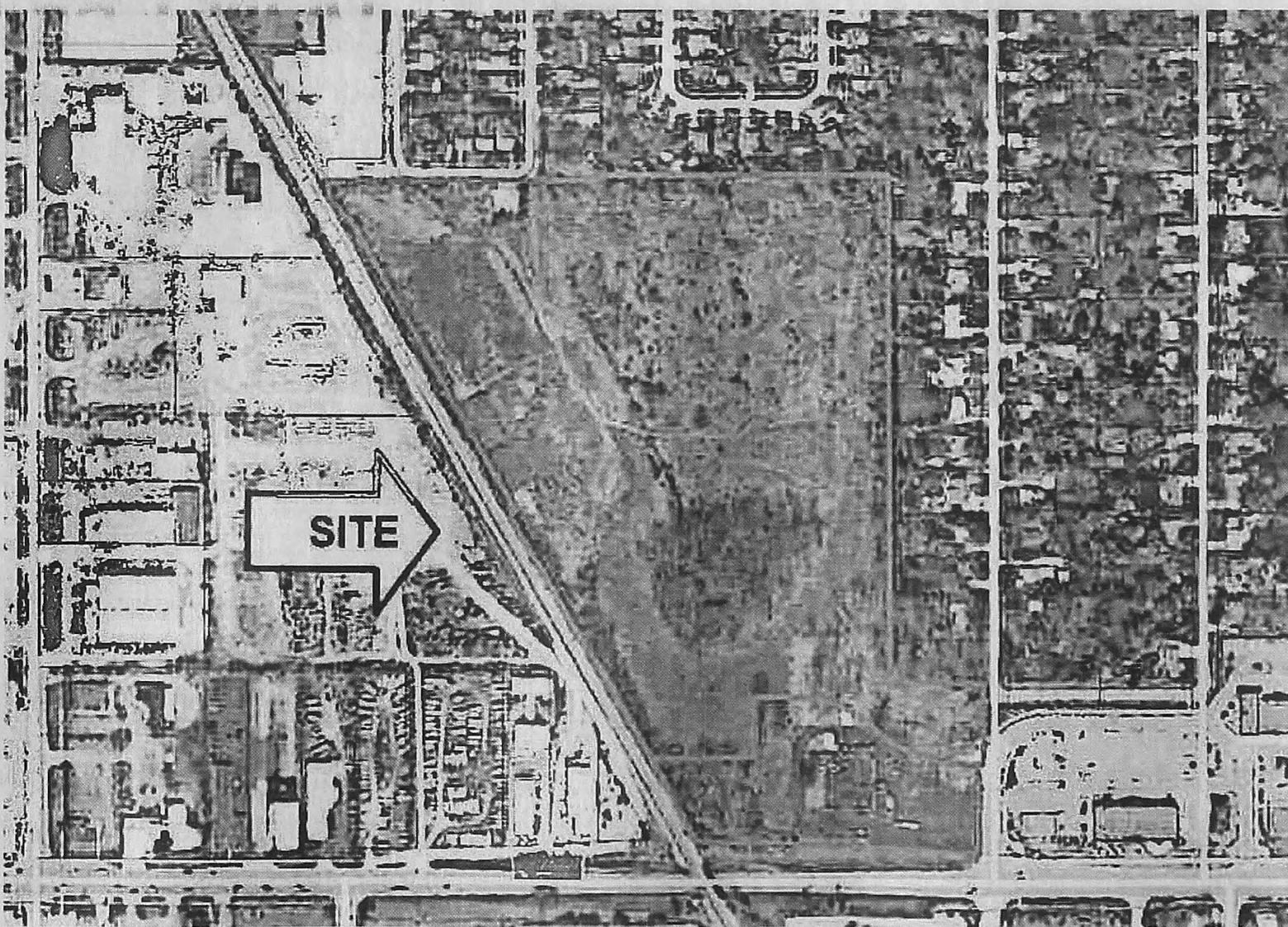
Robert Miller, who lives north of the targeted property, predicted the residential housing plan would result in the destruction of the vibrant variety of natural wildlife that resides in the green space.

"There are deer, foxes, owls and a few other things running around back there that would be displaced," Miller said. "They don't have a voice, so I'm speaking for them."

"The population of the project is astounding. It'd be like moving 400 people into your backyard and saying this is a good thing for the community. I don't think there's enough lipstick in town that could make this look like a good idea."

Alex Martin, president of Toll Brothers' Michigan operation, revealed that his company and representatives of Pomeroy Living met with residents who live near the planned development multiple times to hear their concerns.

"We don't operate our businesses in a



An aerial photo of where the proposed development would be built in Plymouth Township. Ann Arbor Road runs along the bottom of the image. COURTESY OF PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP

vacuum; we understand we have neighbors," Martin said. "We understand this is a collaborative process. Both companies have been in existence for decades, which wouldn't be the case if we simply operated on our own and didn't seek input from neighbors."

Pomeroy Living purchased all of the acreage except for the Elks property in 2015 (it purchased the Elks property in February 2021) with an eye on building senior-living housing, said Nick Peraino, the company's president.

"But there has been over-building in the senior-housing market the past four to five years and the industry is facing challenges with staffing, so we settled on residential housing because it is the highest and best use for a site like this," Peraino explained.

Martin said 56% of the development would be open space and that the builders want to save as many of the existing

heritage trees on the site as possible.

Martin said traffic studies conducted by engineers revealed the development would add approximately 200 cars to peak-period (5-8 p.m.) driving times on Ann Arbor Road, "not thousands."

Regarding density concerns, Martin said building exclusively single-family homes on the site would cut down on traffic, but it wouldn't be in anyone's best interests.

"Single-family homes in this area cost anywhere from \$700,000 to \$900,000," he said. "I don't believe that's what people are looking for. There is a major shortage of affordable housing in this area, especially housing with the unique characteristics our units would feature."

The monthly rent for the development's apartments would range from \$1,400 to \$2,200, Peraino said.

Township Planner Laura Haw point-

ed out that the concept draft calls for a fraction over 11 units per acre, far less than the 25 units per acre maximum an approved PUD allows.

One facet of the builders' initial plan is the emergency access point at the north end of the development leads to dirt roads — a reality the township's public safety officials found problematic. Supervisor Kurt Heise said he would like to see the developers pay for the paving of the roads in the adjoining subdivision, a benefit that he called a "win-win" for the builders and residents.

At the conclusion of the three-and-a-half-hour meeting, the planning commission voted unanimously to postpone a decision on the PUD for a maximum of 90 days so that the builders could take the feedback they received and return with a revised plan.

Contact reporter Ed Wright at ewright@hometownlife.com.

Social media

Continued from Page 6A

Others agree comments on their personal lives or something that brings their family into the mix aren't warranted. A personal attack is generally not allowed during a council meeting because of decorum rules, but they happen.

However, everyone admits the way they vote during meetings and how they treat constituents who do voice concerns are things subject to criticism.

"If you think nobody should talk to you about city stuff while you're out in public, then you need to find another line of work," McIntyre said.

"The fact is we deserve more scrutiny - I fully believe that," Westland Clerk Richard LeBlanc added. "But, we don't deserve everything that someone might throw as an accusation."

One Livonia council member, Rob Donovic, has taken a different approach. The councilman, 29, is the youngest council member Livonia has ever had and part of a generation more accustomed to social media.

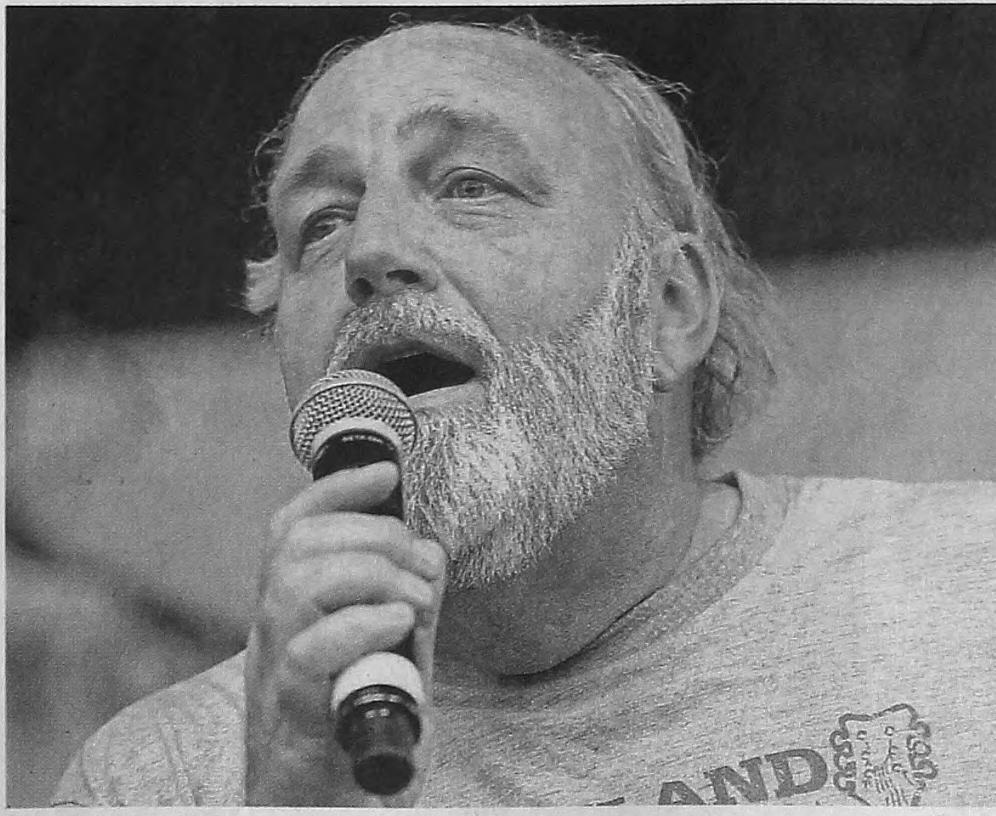
In response to critics, Donovic has blocked some commenters and responded to others, sometimes taking on the same tone, on his council member Facebook page.

"Oh look, it's another cop hater who disgraces the American flag and wants socialism," Donovic wrote in response to one commenter criticizing his support of former President Donald Trump.

Donovic said social media is something that's enabled him to better communicate with voters, but it's also a place he finds aggressive dialogue more prevalent.

"It can really allow you to have an open line of communication with folks," he said. "However, it's also a place people can attack you, people can say one-sided things and not share the whole story. I like social media, but with that comes the naysayers and people who will say mean things."

LeBlanc, Nash, McIntyre and Godbout all have stories of things they felt were out of bounds, but none have ever feared for their own safety. Livonia and Westland have, however, begun reading public comment rules of decorum - it bans personal attacks and slurs - in full during meetings in recent years in an attempt to encourage civility. Wayne re-



Westland Councilman Jim Godbout. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

cently passed changes to its public comment rules barring personal attacks - trying to tamp down on comments unrelated to city business.

Livonia school board President Colleen Burton stood alone in noting she's never felt public comment or critique has gotten out of hand during a meeting.

"Our community has always maintained order at our meetings, and I'm very appreciative of that," she said.

No clear way forward

Godbout and McIntyre both say they "consider the source" when an online user makes an unflattering assessment of city government. When McIntyre faced criticism for her views on policing, she said she viewed in-person critiques and social media posts in different lights.

"With social media, it's the anonymity," she said. "All you have to do is be able to type and you can throw nastiness around. It's a big problem. It's really easy to be critical of people when you don't have to own it... At least the people who came and spoke to me publicly were there owning it."

But, McIntyre and others see social media, namely Facebook, as a problem they'll have to keep dealing with as in-

formation and misinformation moves swiftly online.

Nash even had a group of residents file a near \$9,000 Freedom of Information Act request so they could look into how the city runs elections following November 2020 elections. Theories and false claims about the election results were widespread on local and national social media pages.

"I think social media has made being an elected person far more challenging than it ever has been in the past," LeBlanc said. "I've been elected a lot of times - I was elected before email existed. I think the anonymity of social media and, to some degree, email, has proven a challenge. People can say things, they can intimate they're going to do things."

They say the problem is people forget the person behind an email or social media exchange is also another human being.

"I think what gets lost in so many things is empathy," McIntyre said. "Try for a second to think about the person who's on the other end of a phone call or conversation."

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

Tax request

Continued from Page 1A

millage rates once annual growth on existing property was higher than the inflation rate in any given year.

The owner of a \$400,000 home (\$200,000 taxable value) would pay about \$340 a year in taxes if the request is approved.

"Our citizens, I think, recognize the good work that our police and fire department does. At the same time we're not taking it for granted," said Unruh, noting that approval will assure the department is working with good equipment. "(If it fails), it certainly would immediately affect our daily operations by a reduced staffing model which would increase response times."

Unruh and Police Chief Jeff King star in a city video about the millage. They also are reinforcing that Farmington Hills is often considered one of the safest communities in the state.

"We have received significant verbal approval from our community," King said. "I have heard more support for it than against it. Our job is to get the information out to the voters and let the voters decide."

The city's \$35.4 annual public safety budget could be considered dependent on its two 10-year public safety millages. The one initiated in 1995 generates 15% of the public safety budget; the one up for renewal generates 17% of the \$35.4 million.

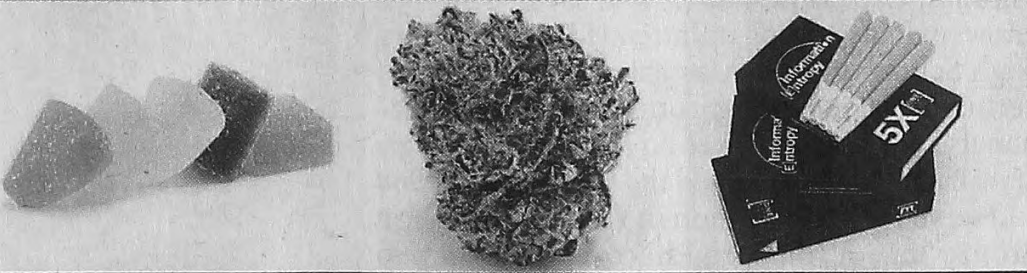
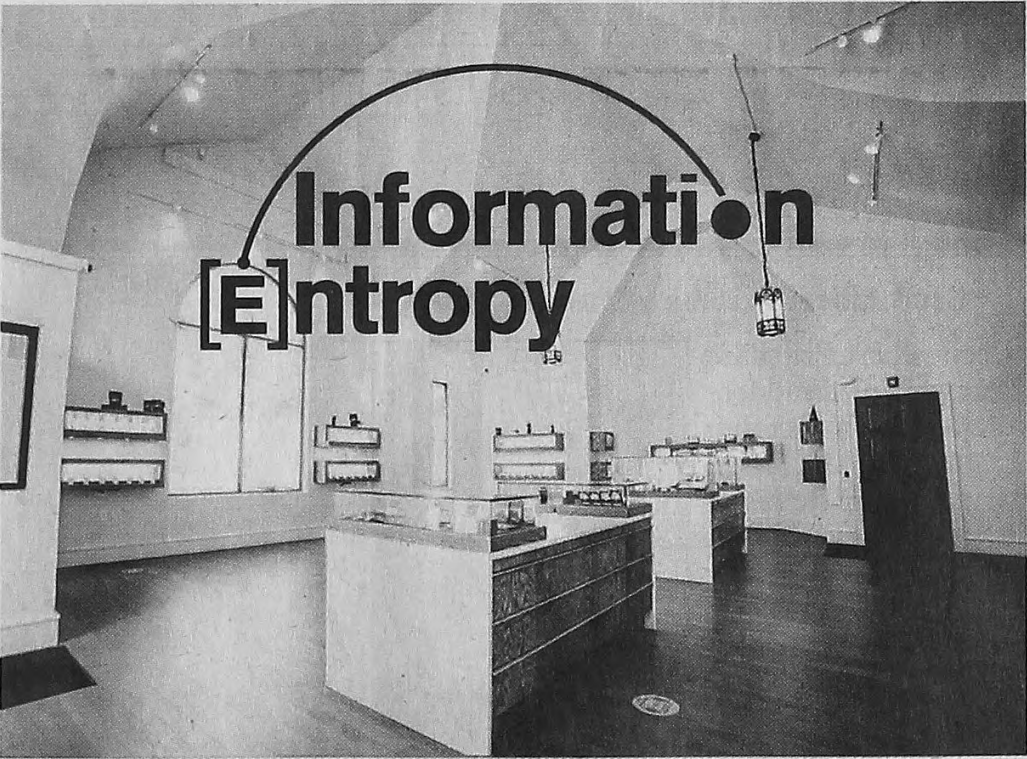
Members of the Committee for a Safe Farmington Hills have been promoting passage with direct mailings, ads, lawn signs and getting the word out.

Committee member Bill Smith, a city resident for at least 30 years, said he's "cautiously optimistic."

"Not passing this millage proposal would have the effect of defunding the police and the fire department, essentially," Smith said. "It would be restricting their budgetary needs and it would be reducing the number of police and firemen available to protect the citizens of Farmington Hills."

"We want to keep them at full strength. In this day and age that we live in, you never what's going to happen next."

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Westland's 'self-appointed mayor' Everett remembered for passion, activism, advocacy

Susan Vela HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Reasther Everett left Detroit during the 1950s to sink deep roots into Nankin Township's Annapolis Park neighborhood with her husband and children.

Near the corner of Middlebelt and Van Born roads, they were among other Black people rerouting their futures because of Detroit's racism and housing discrimination.

From the start, Everett invested in her community and its politics, establishing herself as a local activist and advocate for fair and equal treatment.

Everett - who called herself the "self-appointed mayor of Westland" because of the responsibilities she juggled - died Oct. 16. She was 86.

Her granddaughter, Shontell Everett, said the older woman started grousing this year about not feeling well. She spent about a week in St. Mary Mercy Livonia Hospital before she died surrounded by family.

"I always say she was the best thing that ever happened to me," said Everett, an assistant vice president for Comerica Bank. "She was more like a mother to me. She was very active in my life. Every accomplishment I've experienced, she was there. There was not any point in my life that she was not a part of."

"She was awesome. She was loving, caring, compassionate and every positive attribute that I have comes from her and is because of her."

According to the granddaughter, Reasther Everett's extracurricular activities included Southeast Westland Homeowners Association, Westland Democratic Club, and the NAACP.

She would become a director at the Southeast Westland Community Center, plus take an active role in politics, campaigning for the candidates she favored.

Councilwoman Tasha Green was told she needed to meet Everett years ago and then she finally did.

Green was able to assure Everett that she was already running for a council seat. They became like family to each other, socializing and strategizing together.

Considering her mentor a second grandmother, Green would learn that Everett had marched with Martin Luther King Jr. in Detroit and that her support was sought by local, state and federal candidates.

Everett would swear in Green as the first Black woman on City Council.

"She was extremely sharp. She didn't miss a beat," said Green, now running for mayor. "She was an extremely amazing woman, and she had a wonderful sense of humor. She would always tell me, 'Don't give up and don't give out.'"

"One person can make a really big difference for their community and Mrs. Everett was the epitome of



Reasther Everett, an advocate and activist, left, with Councilwoman Tasha Green, who is running for mayor. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

that. I plan to continue on with the things that we talked about and to make her proud."

Richard LeBlanc met Everett in the late 1980s. When he was sworn in as City Clerk in 2016, Everett had already been a precinct delegate for many years.

He found her to be "engaged, engaging, spunky, determined, passionate and many more descriptive terms."

"She's a good lady," LeBlanc vouched, emphasizing Everett's encouraging ways with people wanting to make Westland a better place. "We're going to miss her tremendously."

"There's some people in all communities that take charge, that take responsibility for their neighborhoods and makes sure that people have access to information. She was that person for a long, long time."

Chapel of the Chimes Funeral Home in Westland is handling Everett's funeral arrangements, which are pending.

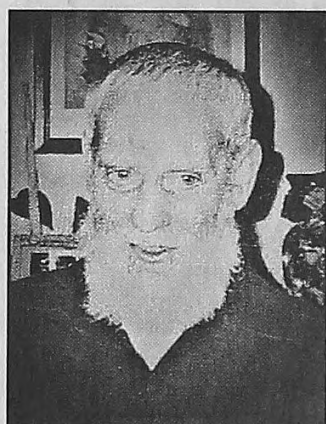
She is survived by her husband Arnell, six children, and nearly 20 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

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



Everett died Oct. 16 at age 86.

Obituaries



Robert Allen Kujawa

LIVONIA - Robert "Bob" Allen Kujawa, 73, of Livonia, passed away October 13, 2021. Beloved son of Mary and the late Joseph. Dearest brother of Thomas (Mary), Carol (the late Donald) Ferguson, Joan (the late Bruce) Stephens, William (the late Darlene), Christine (David) Slater, Joseph (Elizabeth), and Donna Kujawa. Adored uncle of many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews and the late Amy Ferguson. Bob was a longstanding active member of St. Joseph Shrine in Detroit. A memorial service is to be held in the future. Please visit www.TurowskiFuneralHome.com to share a memory of Bob, and / or check back for service details.



Glenn Powell

December 9, 1931- October 3, 2021

Predeceased by beloved wife Gladys Dagher Powell, son Robert Glenn Powell.

Survived by daughters Yvonne Powell Bayne and Julie Ann Powell, grandson Justin (Ginger) Powell, brother Delano (Christine) Powell, many nieces, nephews, as well as many grand-nieces and nephews.

Glenn was born in northern Alabama to the late Kermit and Maggie Powell. He graduated from Ryan, Alabama High School in 1952. He joined the United States Air Force and was eventually stationed at Selfridge Air Force Base in Mt. Clemens, Michigan, where he settled after his discharge.

He was employed for many years at Michigan Bell Telephone company. He was passionate about sports and became active in coaching and managing in the Mt. Clemens Little League program and as a player/ manager in the local Slo-Pitch league for a number of years.

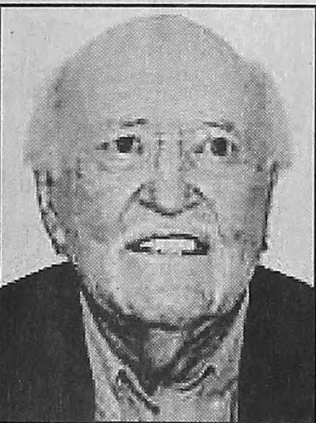
In 1973, Glenn left Michigan Bell to take his dream job with the United States Department of State, where he finally realized his ambition to travel the world as a telecommunications technician. He was able to travel to six continents, troubleshooting problems and designing communication systems for US embassies around the world.

While living in Paris, France, he met and married Gladys, the love of his life, also a Foreign Service employee.

They eventually were reassigned to positions Stateside and lived for many years in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

After retiring, the Powells decided to return to Michigan.

Glenn had an amazing capacity to spin delightful stories about his life experiences. He made friends wherever he went and leaves behind many who he educated, entertained and inspired.

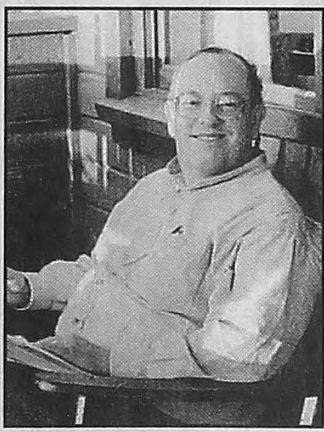


Cecil Albert Pritchard Thomas, Jr.

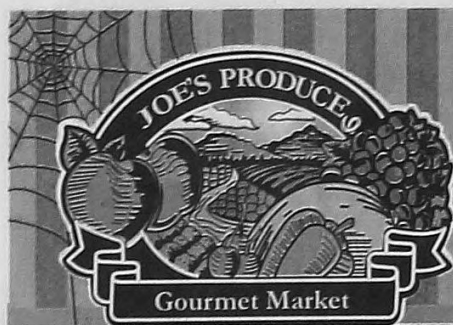
Cecil Albert Pritchard Thomas, Jr. died suddenly at home on October 11, 2021 in Mt. Dora, Florida, where he resided with his beloved wife Judith (Adair) Thomas, whom he married in 1968. Born in 1944 in Springfield, MA to Cecil and Marie (Schroeder) Thomas, Cap, as he was known while growing up, attended Williamsburg High School and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, graduating from American International College. He received an MBA from Georgia State University. He joined the U.S. Army in 1968 and served with distinction in Vietnam, earning a Bronze Star. A role with Philco-Ford led him to Lansdale, PA, and subsequently to Ford's headquarters in Dearborn, MI, where he prospered during a long career in purchasing, retiring as Manager, New Powertrain Programs, in 2003.

In his almost two decades of retirement, he enjoyed time with his family, including his wife Judi, and his cherished children--son Eric (Andrea) and daughter Amy (Chad Rupley) and grandchildren Lily Thomas and Annabel and Caleb Thomas-Rupley. Cecil and Judi travelled to the Upper Peninsula, Michigan, Hilton Head, and Western Massachusetts and beyond for vacations, and reveled in Disney cruises. Cecil devoted countless hours in service as a member of the Jehovah's Witnesses, where he was Congregation Secretary at his local Kingdom Hall. At the Lakes of Mt. Dora, where he lived for almost 20 years, he contributed his financial acumen, engineering skill, and management expertise to the Buildings and Grounds and Finance Committees and the Planned Development Team. Active to the last moment of his life, he died teaching a Zoom class to help others learn to be proficient in the pandemic-era "must have" competency.

Thomas also leaves a sister, Sarah Thomas (Peter Hirtle), a step-brother Ronald Packard, step-sister Constance Packard, and several cousins and nephews.



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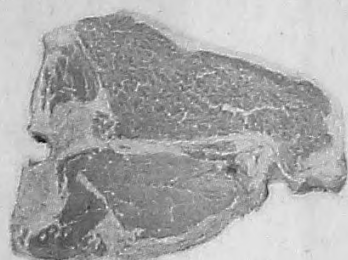
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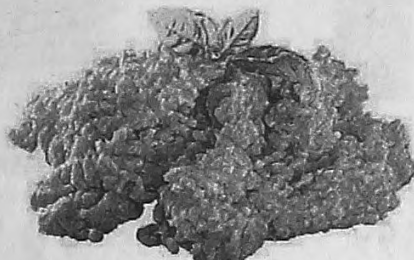
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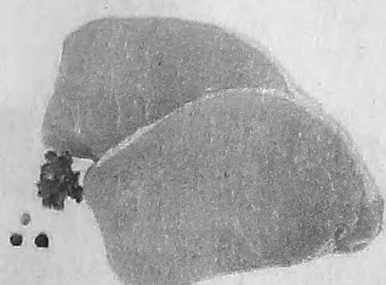
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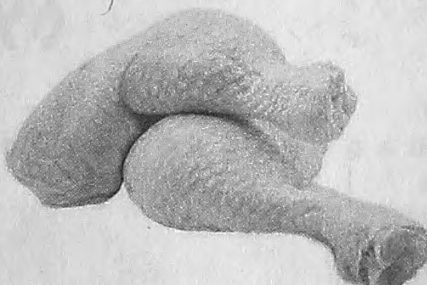
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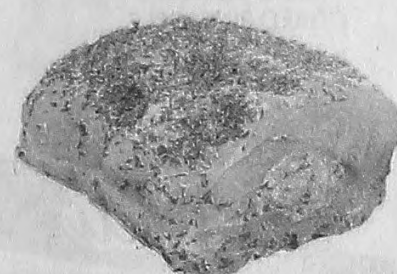
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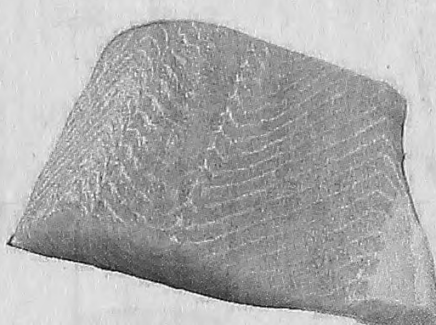
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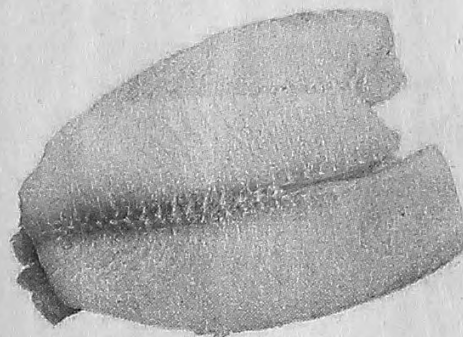


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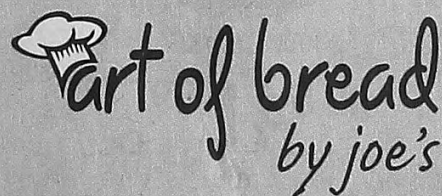
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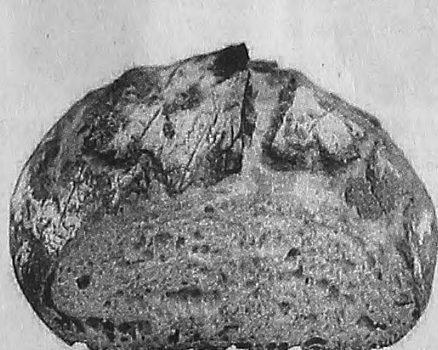
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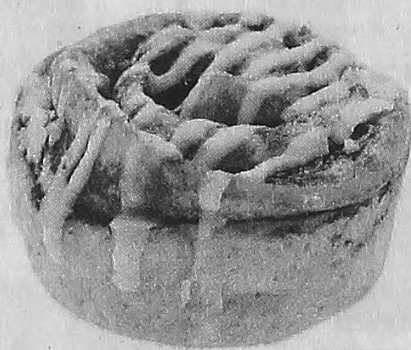
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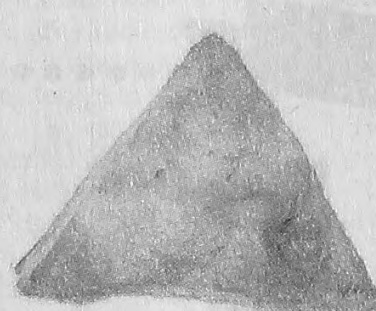
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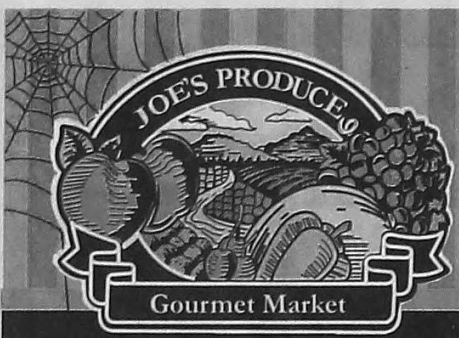
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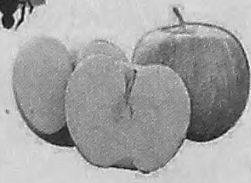


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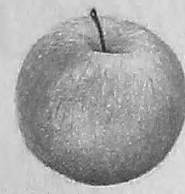
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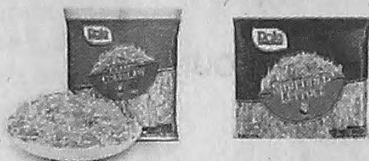
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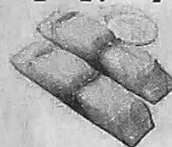
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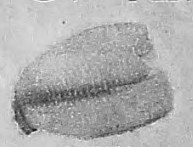
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SPORTS

Salem beats Canton 2-1 for district crown

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Anthony Deruvo pushed in a goal with seven minutes left in Thursday's Division 1 district championship. And then the senior sprinted toward Salem's student section. About 10 feet

away from the crowd, he jumped high and flew through the air like Michael Jordan. Before he landed at the fence, he gave them an energetic fist pump. The referee issued the midfielder a yellow card for an excessive celebration. But little did the stripes know that Salem's impromptu party on the sidelines

wouldn't even be its biggest of the night. The Rocks (14-5-2) stood tall on defense in the waning moments, and Deruvo's goal ultimately went down as the game-winner. They walked off their home field with a 2-1 victory over park rival Canton, winning their third-straight district cham-

ampionship. Immediately after the final whistle, Salem's student section sprinted to midfield and mobbed the Rocks. Some students quickly hoisted Deruvo on their shoulders, and the crowd began

See CROWN, Page 3B



Livonia Clarenceville High School's Daniel Moore, left, blocks a Flat Rock player in the Trojans' 29-6 win on Senior Night. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Clarenceville senior returns from injury

Helps Trojans defeat Flat Rock 29-6 on Senior Night

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Senior night can be a drag for some football players. There's always an extra 15- or 20-minute ceremony before kickoff. There's unnecessary fanfare and a lot of

standing around and waiting. Most players just want to get the game started so they can get rid of those pre-game butterflies. Not Livonia Clarenceville senior Sean-Brian Craig. On Friday, he took in every second of the Trojans' senior night before they

went on to beat Flat Rock 29-6 in their regular-season finale. The third-year starter has been their Mr. Everything. He runs and catches the ball as a slotback. He starts at cornerback. He's the punter, plus he returns kickoffs and punts. He was so great as a junior that the coaches in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference voted him the league MVP.

He was expected to have an even better senior year. And he couldn't have asked for a better start to it. He rushed for 300 yards alone during a 34-6 victory over Cranbrook in the season opener. However, just 2 minutes into Clarenceville's Week 2 win over Dundee,

See CLARENCEVILLE, Page 2B

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Our final regular-season top 10 HS football teams

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Here are the final Hometown Life rankings of the 2021 football season!

As we say farewell to the regular season and hello to the playoffs, sports reporter Brandon Folsom was sure to only include 10 of our coverage area's 15 post-season qualifiers in this week's poll.

Here's where everything stands entering Round 1:

1. South Lyon (9-0, 8-0 LVC; Last Week: No. 1)

The Lions closed out a perfect regular season and now find themselves in a winnable district to open the Division 2 playoffs. A victory over Swartz Creek in Round 1 could set up a rematch with Lakes Valley Conference foe Milford in Round 2. They have a chance to be alive for a long time in the postseason.

2. Detroit Catholic Central (7-2, 2-1 CHSL-Central; Last Week: No. 2)

The good news: After a forfeit win in Week 8, the Shamrocks returned to the field and closed out the regular season with a blowout win at Traverse City West, a playoff team.

The bad news: Their path to Ford Field looks tough. They face Bloomfield Hills in Round 1. They'll likely take on West Bloomfield in the district final. Then they'll likely face Adams or Clarkston in the regional. If they bring home a state title, they're definitely the best team in the area.

3. Bloomfield Hills (9-0, 8-0 OAA-Blue; Last week: No. 3)

It was sloppy at times, but the Black Hawks took care of business in their de facto Oakland Activities Association-Blue game against Troy last week. The confidence from completing a perfect regular season and winning just their second league title in school history should benefit them in the playoffs.

However, they must beat Catholic Central to win their first playoff game ever. They're 0-3 in the postseason since starting their program in 2013.

4. Livonia Churchill (7-2, 5-2 KLAA-East; Last Week: No. 5)

It was great to see the Chargers sort out their offensive issues in their Week 9 victory over Novi in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association crossover. Without quarterback Taj Williams, it looked scary for them in Week 8, but now they're back on track. Their offense should have no trouble scoring against Crestwood in Round 1 of the playoffs.

5. Brother Rice (6-3, 1-2 CHSL-Central; Last week: No. 8)

The Warriors took care of business last week against their neighbors in Detroit Country Day, which was expected because the Yellowjackets entered the matchup shorthanded. Now the real tests start in the D-3 playoffs.

However, they have a nice draw to open the postseason. A win over four-win Avondale sets up a rematch with Orchard Lake St. Mary's, which the Warriors beat in Catholic League play, and then they'll likely get Haslett or Mason in the regional. Only Detroit King or

Harper Woods stands in their way from getting to Ford Field.

6. Detroit Country Day (5-3; Last week: No. 4)

Assuming Kent State quarterback commit Brandon Mann returns to the lineup, the Yellowjackets should be favored in Round 1 at Redford Union. But that doesn't mean it's going to be a gimme-win for them. If they can get past the Panthers, they likely won't be slowed down until they face Chelsea in the regional. Chelsea is a favorite to win the state title.

7. Livonia Clarenceville (8-1; Last week: No. 6)

The Trojans' patch-worked regular-season schedule of playing bigger opponents paid off for them, and now they'll host Madison Heights Lamphere to open the playoffs. Even though the Rams won their Macomb Area Conference-Bronze, Clarenceville should have no trouble beating them. The Bronze is one of the worst divisions in metro Detroit. The real test for the Trojans comes in Round 2 when they take on either Country Day or Union.

8. Redford Union (8-1, 7-0 WWAC; Last week: 9)

MLive.com sports reporter Jared Purcell tweeted that Country Day is the favorite to win its district. Not so fast, my friend. Union ripped off eight straight wins after opening the year with a loss to state power Pewamo-Westphalia. The Panthers even got a shout-out from former Michigan quarterback Devin Gardner (an Inkster High School graduate) during the Bally Sports MHSAA Football Playoff Selection Show on Sunday.

9. Lutheran Westland (8-1, 4-0 MIAC; Last week: 10)

The Warriors are the smallest school in the Hometown Life footprint to qualify for the playoffs. After winning their first league title in their program's 36 years, their reward is getting paired with state power Monroe St. Mary's Catholic Central to open the postseason. The Falcons' lone loss was to a 9-0 Riverview team that has almost three times the enrollment as them. It's going to be a tough ask for Lutheran to upset St. Mary's CC in Round 1.

10. Canton (6-3, 5-2 KLAA-West; Last week: Unranked)

After fumbling their chance to get into the KLAA title game, the Chiefs exited the regular season with an impressive win over Dearborn, which was coming off an upset victory against rival Fordson. That gives Canton plenty of mojo entering the postseason. It takes on Saline, an undefeated squad that blew out every opponent it faced except for Hudsonville and Dexter, a pair of respectable programs.

Brandon covers high school football, basketball and recruiting in metro Detroit for HometownLife. Do you have a story idea? Email him at bfolsom@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter @brandonfolsomj.

Can Bloomfield Hills win? Four questions entering Round 1

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The playoffs are finally here!

Round 1 features 15 teams from the Hometown Life coverage area. That makes for 13 games of football action here in western Wayne and Oakland counties.

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom is here to preview the district openers with four hard-hitting questions.

Is the fourth time the charm for the Black Hawks?

Bloomfield Hills, which started its program in 2013, won its first league title in five seasons, and just its second championship ever, with a 21-10 victory over Troy last week.

The win also capped its second-ever undefeated regular season. However, the last time the Black Hawks went 9-0, they got crushed by West Bloomfield in their very first playoff game.

Since then, they are 0-3 in the playoffs. They have never made it past the district opener.

Is this the year they finally win a playoff game? It'll be an impressive feat if it is. They host Detroit Catholic Central 7 p.m. Friday.

The Shamrocks' (7-2) only two losses are to Chippewa Valley, which plays in one of the state's toughest leagues (Macomb Area Conference-Red), and Catholic League-Central rival Warren De La Salle, which is the favorite to repeat as the Division 2 state champions.

Although the Shamrocks are on the road, their 10 past state titles make them the favorites in Round 1.

Who do ya got in Division 4?

When the playoff prognostication site snooze2you.com first placed Detroit Country Day, Livonia Clarenceville and Redford Union in the same district bracket a few weeks ago, I got really excited.

As it turns out, their best guess is exactly how the Michigan High School Athletic Association drew up that district for D-4.

Detroit Country Day (5-3) visits Redford Union in Round 1, while Clarenceville hosts MAC-Silver champion Madison Heights Lamphere in the other match up. There's a chance there will be two teams we care about playing against each other for the district championship title in Round 2.

That brings up the question: Who do ya got?

MLive.com sports reported Jared Purcell projects Country Day to run away with the trophy. But I think Union has what it takes to keep up with the Yellowjackets and maybe even knock off the Trojans the following week.

Which underdog has the best chance to pull off a Round 1 upset?

Congrats to Canton, Novi, Lutheran Westland and South Lyon East for making the playoffs.

However, I'm sorry to report that you each face some of the toughest opponents in the state to kick off the postseason.

Canton (6-3) visits 9-0 Saline, which has punned every team it faced except for Hudsonville and Dex-



South Lyon East's Willie Johnson rushes during a non-conference game against Paw Paw on Sept. 25.

BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ter, a pair of name-brand teams it beat by less than a touchdown.

Novi (5-4) heads to 8-1 West Bloomfield, which has been a small manufacturing plant pumping out Big Ten football recruits left and right over the past half-decade.

East (3-6) goes to 7-2 Mason, which should be the biggest challenge state-champion favorites Chelsea faces en route to Ford Field.

Lutheran (8-1) heads down to 8-1 Monroe St. Mary's Catholic Central, a D-7 state powerhouse whose lone loss was to Riverview, a 9-0 D-3 team.

None of these are ideal match ups, but can at least one of them pull off an upset?

My best guess is Novi could. First-year coach Jim Sparks has led the Wildcats to their first winning season since 2016, and they're one week removed from almost beating Livonia Churchill. The Chargers are about as close to West Bloomfield's level as you can get.

We'll see if that Week 9 loss was just the tune-up Novi needed before playing against the Lakers.

Can the Lakes Valley Conference win two district titles?

Although we were robbed of a potential South Lyon-Lakeland rematch in the D-2 district final, we do have five Lakes Valley Conference teams in the playoffs.

South Lyon (9-0) hosts Swartz Creek (5-3), while Milford (7-2) welcomes East Lansing (6-3). The winner of each match up will face off in the district championship. Should the Lions and Mavericks both win, that guarantees the LVC at least one district title (although South Lyon appears to be the favorite to win it anyway).

In another district, Berkley (7-2) hosts Waterford Mott (5-4), while Lakeland (6-3) brings in Walled Lake Western (6-3). There's guaranteed to be at least one LVC team in the district championship game. And with the way the Eagles put away Milford last week, they should be the favorite to hoist some hardware in Round 2.

Unfortunately, both districts branch off to separate regionals, meaning South Lyon and Lakeland would have to meet in the state championship if they were to face each other, which is unlikely with De La Salle expected to repeat as the state champions.

Regardless, how cool would it be if the LVC won a pair of district titles?

Brandon Folsom covers high school football, basketball and recruiting in metro Detroit for HometownLife. Do you have a story idea? Email him at bfolsom@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter @brandonfolsomj.

Clarenceville

Continued from Page 1B

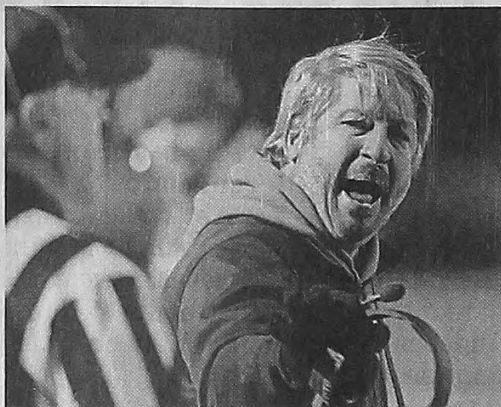
Craig suffered a right ankle injury. He left the game and watched the 47-13 win from the sidelines. Then he wound up at the doctor's office, where it was discovered he broke three bone ligaments.

"When I left the game, I was thinking to myself, 'Wow, did this really happen?' because I never get injured," Craig said. "I just thought it was something light. They diagnosed me with a boot, and then I thought, 'Wow, this is serious.' It kept going on for weeks after that. Football was getting farther and farther away. It was just a tough ride, especially with it being senior year."

Craig eventually had two "tight-rope" surgeries to repair his ankle. The doctors said there was a small chance he'd return around playoff time.

Coach Bob Meyer quickly turned Craig's tragedy into a motivating factor for the Trojans.

"A lot of kids needed to step up, and we had to come up with new punters



Clarenceville head coach Bob Meyer disputes with a sideline referee during the second half against Flat Rock.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

and new punt returners," the third-year coach said. "Our hope was after his surgery that we were going to get him back for the playoffs. So every week we wanted to win so that Sean had something to come back to. We wanted to be a playoff team for him, and we delivered for him. We wanted to do that for him because that's how much he's meant to the team."

Craig's younger brother, sophomore Eli Craig, took over his spot on defense, while junior Jordan Williams began to carry the load in the offensive backfield. Others stepped up to pick up Craig's production as well.

In Craig's absence, receiver Armonee Snorden scored seven touchdowns, quarterback Miles Ealy totaled 1,000 yards and 14 total touchdowns and Williams rushed for 1,200 yards and 18 touchdowns.

Williams had 150 yards and two scores against Flat Rock in Week 9 alone.

The Trojans went 6-1 without Craig. Their lone loss was to Division 2 Berkley, a school almost twice Livonia's size.

"I had to step up and do what I had to do to help out the team to win," Williams said. "Seeing him go down was tough, but I had to step up. We just knew we had to have something for him to come back to. We wanted to give him a chance to come back and play."

Craig finally returned in Week 9.

Meyer's goal was to ease him into the offense and give him just 15 snaps. Not 15 carries, but 15 opportunities to line up

in the backfield.

Craig's first carry went for an 11-yard gain. It felt good to be back in the lineup, he said.

"I got surgery three weeks after I got injured," Craig said. "At that point, I thought I was done. I thought I wasn't going to come back. But my family and my physical trainers helped me get back."

"It was an amazing senior night. It was a different feeling. I felt like I belonged there. I felt like I was supposed to be there. I had to shake off that rust and work on getting back into it. Senior Night. I'm just sitting there like, 'Wow, this is crazy. Five weeks ago, I never would have thought in a million years I'd be suiting up and ready to play.'"

"I was ready, and I was hungry."

The Trojans are excited to see Craig back in action.

"We eased him in, and he did great," Meyer said. "It was exciting for the team to have him back. Now we're excited about taking the chains off and letting him go. We're excited about having both him and Jordan as a dangerous pair together back there."

Crown

Continued from Page 1B

chanting, "Deruvo! Deruvo! Deruvo!"
 "It's exhilarating," he said while holding the championship trophy. "I've been on this team for four years, and these are the moments you dream of."

The first half was anything but a dream for the Rocks, who outshot Canton 6-5 but couldn't connect on a handful of scoring opportunities inside the penalty box.

Canton took a 1-0 lead into halftime after Christian Presley sailed a free kick into a scrum that saw teammate Michael Sadowski win possession and send a shot into the goal on the left side.

Salem trailed Canton 2-0 at halftime when the teams met on Aug. 31. But the Rocks fought back in the second half to force a 2-2 tie in that Kensington Lake Activities Association-West matchup.

Coach Kyle Karns gave Salem a similar pep talk during the intermission as he did back in August.

"We've been there before," Karns said. "We just told them to battle back and try to chip our way back into the game. Canton's a great team. We know we're always going to get a tough game every time that we play a park school."

Just under 18 minutes into the second half, Foster Garrett booted in a pass from Griffin Ellis to knot the score at 1.

About 15 minutes later, Deruvo came up with late-game heroics to snap the tie.

Canton halted a Salem possession, but its backline couldn't clear the ball successfully. Deruvo tackled the ball free, deked a defender and then won his one-on-one with the goalie by ripping a 10-yarder into the net on the right side.

"We never lost our hope," Deruvo said. "We've been working on this all year, and we've never lost our confidence. Going into halftime a goal down, Coach was just telling us to don't lose the hope and to keep it going."

"Our first game against Canton was just like this. We were down two at halftime, and we rallied back with two goals to tie it up. It was just like that. We just never gave up. Every goal is a team goal. And we just keep rolling."

Deruvo's play was gutsy because had he missed the tackle, Canton likely would've set up a breakaway attempt. But the senior believed in himself and



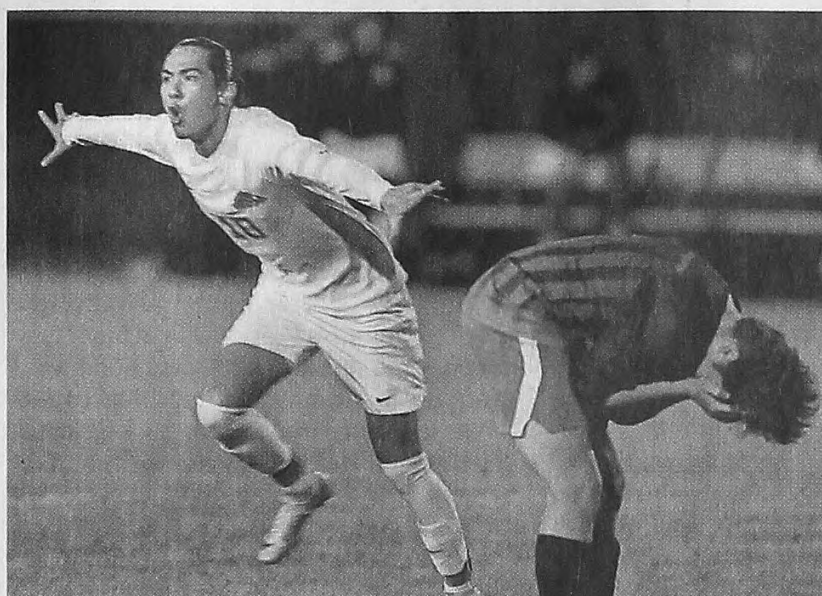
Salem's Griffin Ellis, left, collides with Canton's Gavin Nesbitt. Salem won, 2-1. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

knew the Rocks needed that type of play in crunch time.

"Canton's a dangerous team, and we didn't want to go to overtime with them," he said. "We just wanted to get it done as quickly as possible. I saw an opportunity to beat them behind the backline. I knew that was the time to get the goal and to take the lead."

The Chiefs (12-8-3) were without four key contributors because of injuries, but even while shorthanded they stepped up and kept it close. It was a 50-50 battle until the final few minutes.

They had an opportunity to take a 2-0 lead five minutes into the second half, but they missed on a set piece after Salem was issued the second of its three yellow cards.

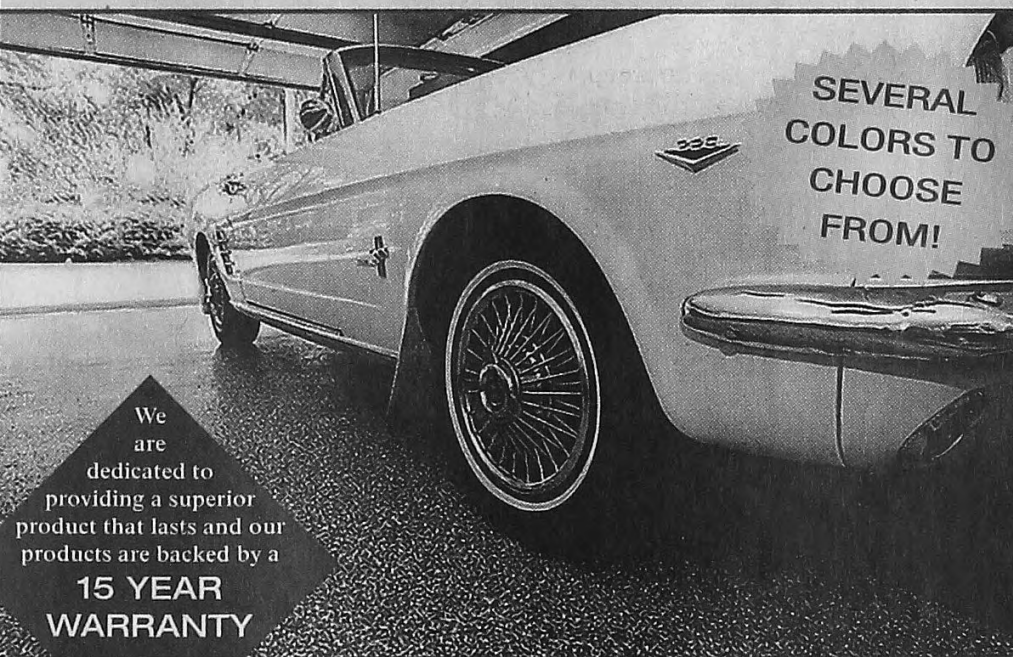


As a Canton player buries his head in his hands, Salem's Anthony Deruvo, left, celebrates his goal.

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Why 17 winning high school teams missed the playoffs

Mick McCabe Special to Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

First-year South Lyon East coach Jake Topp thought his college friend Brad Thomas had lost his mind last week when he received a text from Thomas saying:

"Hey, man, I think you're going to be in either way."

In? Exactly in what, Topp wanted to know.

Thomas, the head coach at Haslett, was referring to East's chances of making the state playoffs.

At the time, Topp's East team was 3-5 heading into its season finale against archrival South Lyon, which was 8-0 and ranked No. 3 in Division 2.

This is where we need to cue up former Indianapolis Colts coach Jim Mora's 2001 rant when asked about the Colts' chances to make the playoffs:

"Playoffs? Don't talk about playoffs! You kidding me? Playoffs? I just hope we can win a game!"

East lost its game to South Lyon, 34-6, to fall to 3-6 but there the Cougars were Sunday night preparing for a first-round playoff game at Mason with a possible second-round game against Haslett if both win this weekend.

It was quite an attitude adjustment from Friday night after the loss to South Lyon.

"Obviously losing a rivalry game and having it not be a close score, I don't think they were necessarily fired up for the playoff," Topp said. "Once it soaks in that we're going to have a chance to play another week and it will be a fresh start I think they will be excited."

In any season other than last year, when every team in the state made the playoffs, East never would have made the postseason with a 3-6 record.

In previous seasons a 6-3 record (or 5-3 for an eight-game schedule) would guarantee a team a spot in the playoffs.

Not anymore. This season the Michigan High School Athletic Association employed an enhanced playoff point system that rewards teams for playing better opponents, even if they lose those games.

For the first time since the inception of the state playoffs in 1975, teams with the top 32 playoff point averages, regardless of records, made the playoff



South Lyon East lost its game to South Lyon, 34-6, but will be preparing for a first-round playoff game at Mason. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

field in all divisions.

The MHSAA's message was clear: You can't manipulate your way into the state playoffs by scheduling the worst teams you can find to guarantee six wins.

That is why 22 teams with winning records will miss the tournament this week while 17 teams with losing records are still practicing.

"We knew that it would impact somewhere between a half dozen to a dozen schools at most and it was really the bubble teams," said MHSAA executive director Mark Uyl. "It was those teams that had been getting in at 6-3 and under the old system it excluded some of the 5-4s and 4-5s that arguably played in a tougher league, arguably played in a much tougher schedule."

The new system and the pairings may have come as a surprise to fans, but coaches and athletic directors had more than enough warning that they could have adjusted their nonconference schedules to adapt better to the new system.

"We shared not just the new plan, but the new math that went behind the plan," Uyl said. "Schools knew this was

coming for multiple years. Certainly they had control. I know a few of those 6-3s that I looked at this morning had at least three nonconference games that they could have gone out and scheduled."

Topp understood the new format, but he didn't think it would make much of a difference to a three-win team.

"I knew the point system would benefit us, being the smallest school within a conference," he said. "But there were other things I was way more worried about — the week-to-week, the game-to-game and not necessarily thinking long term in terms of the playoff points."

Flint Powers also qualified with a 3-6 record in Division 5 while a few teams with 6-3 records — Sault Ste. Marie, Napoleon and Oscoda — did not make the playoffs.

There were several 5-4 teams that did not make the playoffs but many 4-5 teams did qualify.

It all comes down to strength of schedule.

South Lyon is the only D-3 school in the Lakes Valley Conference. It only played one game against a school from a smaller division (D-4 Paw Paw). It

played one D-1 opponent and the other seven games were against D-2 teams, giving it the 30th best playoff point average in D-3.

Melvindale is a 5-4 school that did not make the D-3 playoff field. Playing in the smaller Western Wayne Athletic Conference, its schedule consisted of two D-2 opponents, two from D-3, three from D-4, one from D-5 and one from D-6 for the 36th best D-3 playoff point average.

Flint Powers was 20th in D-5 playoff point averages. Its schedule included three D-1 schools, four D-4 teams one from D-3 and one from D-5 — Flint Hamady, which had a 6-3 record but did not make the field. Powers defeated Hamady, 35-7.

Sault Ste. Marie was 6-3 but was only 40th in Division 4.

Its small playoff point average may have had as much to do with its location in the Upper Peninsula than anything else.

It played no D-4 opponents, but had three from D-5, three from D-6, two from D-7 and one from D-8.

Despite its 6-3 record, Oscoda was only 41st in Division 7. The Owls played just three D-7 schools while the other six opponents were D-8 programs.

This new playoff point system was perfect for a school like East, which has been trapped in a league with bigger schools.

"With the shakeout of the playoff points," Topp said, "there are some advantages I'm sure some of the coaches here over the year wished they would have been able to get in over the years."

Uyl said he expects the MHSAA's football committee will make a recommendation on whether to remain with the 256-team format or return to the all-in format, with an eight-game regular season, used a year ago.

The decision on which format to choose going forward should be made by the MHSAA's representative council at its March meeting.

The good aspect of these options is coaches and administrators have been able to see how each option worked over the last two seasons.

Mick McCabe is a former longtime columnist for the Detroit Free Press. Contact him at mick.mccabe1@gmail.com. Twitter: @mickmccabel.

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Hartland, Howell get another playoff rematch

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's that rare football game in which revenge will be a motivating factor for both teams.

For Howell, there's the fresh wound of losing 29-7 to Hartland on Oct. 1.

While the Eagles won that round of the M-59 rivalry, it doesn't completely ease the lingering pain of a soul-crushing 21-16 home playoff loss to the Highlanders last season.

The recent loss to Hartland hurt, but didn't prevent Howell from reaching the state playoffs. For the Eagles, there was a finality and sense of lost opportunity when they couldn't protect a lead in the final minute against Howell in the opening round of the playoffs last season.

Both teams will get a chance to exorcise some demons when they meet in the first round of the playoffs at 7 p.m. Friday at Hartland.

"Both teams will be playing this week to stay alive," Hartland coach Brian Savage said. "Being rivals, records are out the window. Whatever happened in the past, especially during the regular season, is probably a moot point."

"I would imagine the crowd, it's not like you're playing a team you don't know anything about and have no history with. For sure, it adds another element to the atmosphere, which makes it great."

Each team finished 7-2, but the Eagles earned home-field advantage with a slightly higher playoff points average. Hartland had 70.778 playoff points, ranking 15th in Division 1, while Howell was close behind with 69.333, ranking 17th.

Both teams play in the KLAA West, so they competed against six similar opponents. The difference was Hartland beat a 2-7 Westland John Glenn team in the Week 1 KLAA crossover, while Hartland beat a 4-5 Livonia Franklin squad. Each team lost Friday in crossover against high-caliber KLAA East opponents.

When the teams met in Week 6, Howell played without running back August Johanningsmeier and linebacker Noah Ramonaitis, two of the team's best players. They have played the past three weeks.

"We came out of last week healthy, so



Howell's Nolan Petru will go up against a Hartland defense that includes Michael Hawley (50) and Joey Bommarito (73) in a first-round playoff game Friday night. TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

that was really important for us," Howell coach Brian Lewis said. "We've got our guys in the right spots. Obviously, it's nice having August and Ramo back. We're looking forward to having those guys play against Hartland their senior year, because I know they missed playing against Hartland. It was kind of a sad deal for them that they weren't able to play against them."

This will be the third playoff meeting between Hartland and Howell, the first coming in 2008 when Hartland won 34-23 in the district championship game after losing the regular-season match-up.

The winner will face Holt (7-2) or fourth-ranked Grand Blanc (9-0) for the district championship. Top-ranked Rockford (9-0) is among the possible opponents in the third round.

The other Livingston County team to qualify for the playoffs is Pinckney (6-3), which will travel to Haslett (7-2) in a first-round Division 3 game. The winner will take on Mason (7-2) or South Lyon East (3-6) in the district final.

"Having the opportunity to be in the playoffs is fantastic," Pinckney coach Rod Beaton said. "It's just awesome for our kids, our community and our school. Any time you get in the playoffs,

it's a fun deal. We're excited about the matchup this year. We know those teams from the Capital Area Conference, they're always good football teams."

Two private school powers, Birmingham Brother Rice and Orchard Lake St. Mary's, are potential foes in the regional championship game.

The Pirates secured their ninth playoff appearance Friday with a 35-34 victory over Coldwater, but have yet to win a district championship. They reached the district finals in 2013 and 2016.

"We set a district championship as one of our goals this year," Beaton said.

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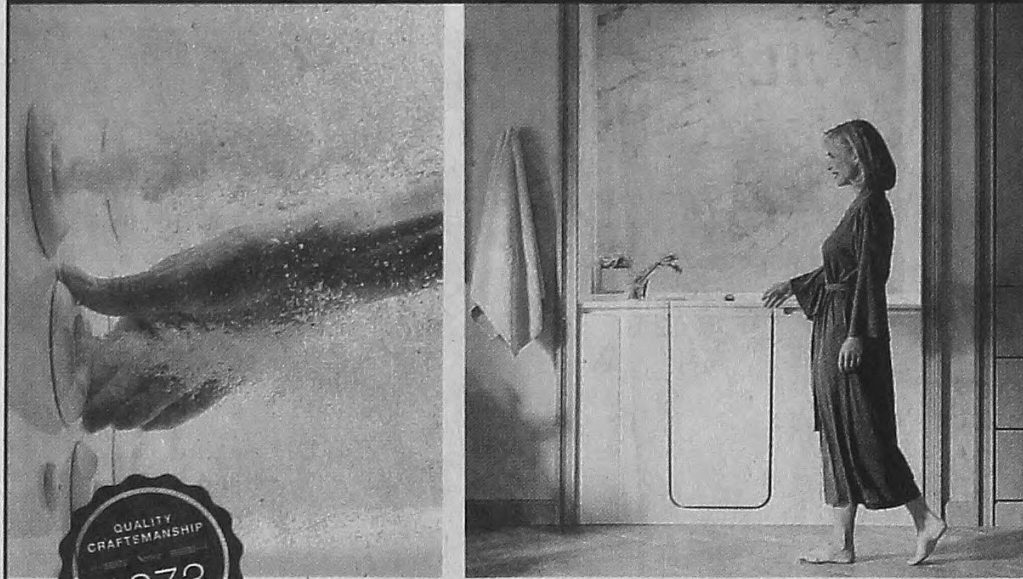
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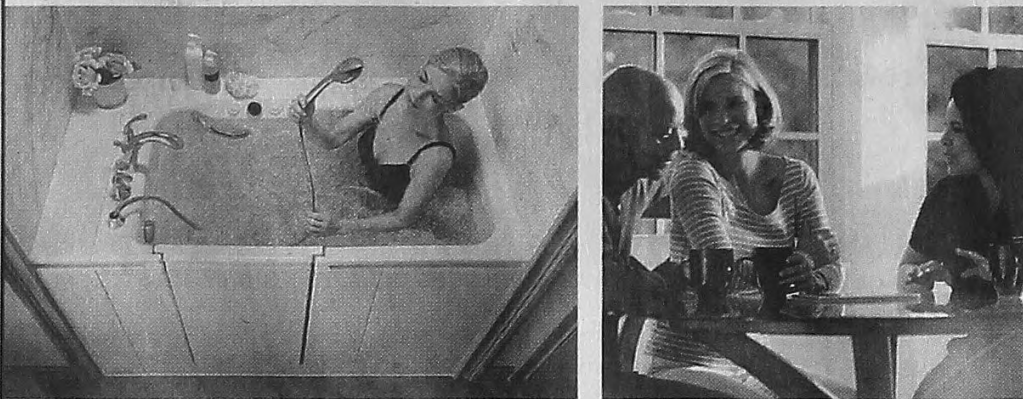
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4. Incorporating Functional Safety (ISO26262), Cybersecurity functions utilizing ASPICE process implementation for embedded systems software. Leading preparation & completion of quality audits incorporating ISO26262, Cybersecurity and ASPICE.
5. Completing project planning, scope break down & allocation, issue management & resolution with Agile principles, utilizing IBM RTC.
6. Leading change control board meetings with stakeholders in determining scope and work breakdown for software execution.
7. Leading development, integration, test and delivery of software compliant to AUTOSAR standards, utilizing CAN, CANFD, FlexRay and Ethernet.
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Software Engineer For Urban Science in Detroit, Michigan. Job duties include:

- Design, program, implement, test and document functionalities for software applications using C#, ASP.NET, WCF, ADO.NET, SS, JavaScript, HTML, XML, LINQ, Entity Framework, SQL Server, and N-Unit.
- Extract, analyze and optimize data by writing queries, joining data sources, optimizing stored procedures, develop, implement and identifying bottlenecks using Transact SQL, SSIS, SSRS and Profiler.
- Participate in application/solution design, code reviews and evaluation of the functionality.
- Coordinate with stakeholders to design, develop, implement and support complex business solutions using OOPs, N-Tier and MVC architecture.
- Create and prioritize tasks and create builds for continuous integration and deployments using TFS or MS Build.
- Create technical design and implementation logic documentation for software applications and provide training to external stakeholders and team members.
- Creating Stored Procedures, functions and performance tuning using SQL Server DB.
- Creating Mongo DB collections and backup using Mongo DB Dump and Restore.
- Guide and mentor developers in resolving problems and participate in estimates for software products.
- Perform full software development life cycle using Agile with Scrum Template enhancement, research, and proof of concepts.

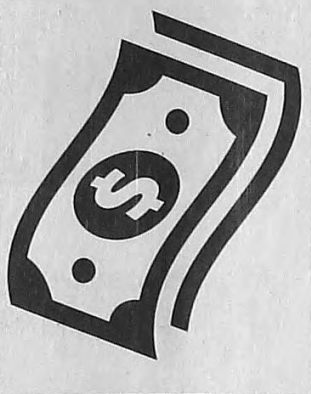
Position requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, IT, Computer Engineering or related field, or foreign equivalent education, and 2 years of experience in a software development, application or systems programming or related position is required. 2 years of experience is required in all of the following:

- Develop business software with .NET technologies including C#, ASP.NET, WCF, ADO.NET, CSS, JavaScript, HTML, XML, LINQ, Entity Framework, and using N-Unit for testing.
- Work with database management system including extraction, manipulation and optimization of data by writing queries, transforming data, generating reports and finding performance issues using Transact SQL, SSIS, SSRS and Profiler.
- Analyze and implement solutions using OOPs, N-Tier and MVC architectures.
- Using Application Life Cycle Management including maintaining code, tracking tasks, managing builds and automated deployments using Team Foundation Server (TFS) and MS Build.
- Software design and development using SQL Server DB and Mongo DB.
- Create technical design and implementation logic documentation for software applications and provide training to external stakeholders and team members.
- Estimate and implement projects following the software development process within budget and schedule.
- Full software life cycle development, using Agile with Scrum template.

Experience can be obtained concurrently.

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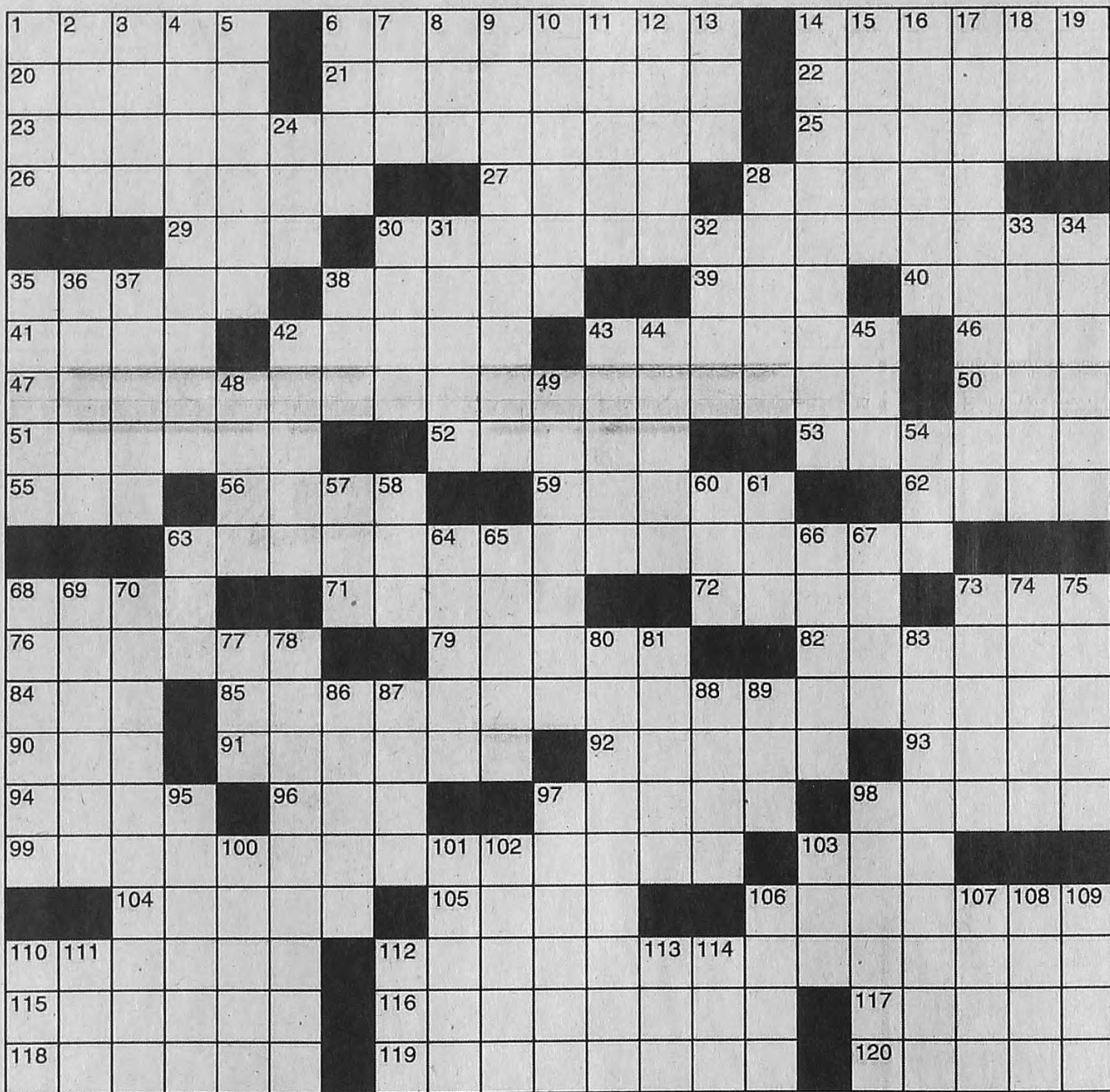
THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

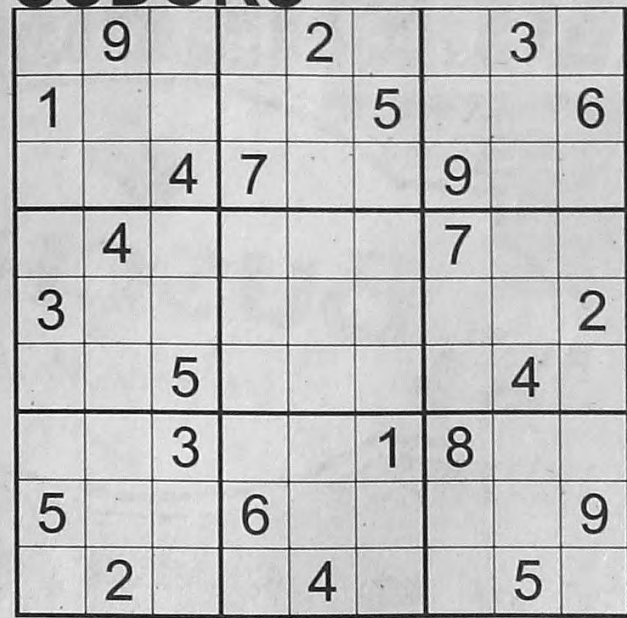
SCARE TACTICS

- | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|--------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 50 — 'n' cheese | 94 Actress Turner | 4 Torque transmitter in a motor | 33 Marlins' and Mets' div. | 75 Dickinson of "Rio Bravo" |
| 1 Mess up on | 51 Airing of ads on the tube | 96 Mined stuff | 5 "Star Wars" won seven of them | 34 Decides (to) | 77 Sporty English autos |
| 6 Dismiss, as an ill student | 52 Eyeliner flaw | 97 Female hip-hopper | 6 Weeps noisily | 35 Pick up on | 78 Supreme Court's Sonia |
| 14 Pause-causing marks | 53 Least plentiful | 98 Self-indulgent outing | 7 Musician Brian | 36 Blow up | 80 "Let's move!" |
| 20 Skunks' defenses | 55 Archaic verb suffix | 99 Comment upon finally getting a chance to sit down? | 8 S.Sgt. or M.Sgt. | 37 Big name in photocopiers | 81 Natives of Bangkok |
| 21 Quick size-up | 56 Warty hopper | 103 "The Raven" writer | 9 Tyranny | 38 Happy hour locale | 83 Many a video chat |
| 22 1998 Masters winner Mark | 59 Son of Cain | 104 Typical | 10 Pay-to-stay places | 42 Great devastation | 86 Hannah of "Roxanne" |
| 23 Giving an officer a leg up? | 62 Busy insects | 105 In perfect condition | 11 Sheep-related | 43 — of angels coming after me" ("Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" line) | 87 Design detail |
| 25 Defaced | 63 Two things a baby might be wearing in cold weather? | 106 Not mixing well with others | 12 High-IQ club | 44 Chocolate substitute | 88 Raison d'— |
| 26 Neighbors of Czechs | 68 — Cola | 110 Thirty tripled | 13 Minuscul bit of work | 45 Santa —, California | 89 — Paese (cheese type) |
| 27 Composes | 71 St. Teresa's birthplace | 112 Ruling house enjoying great prosperity? | 14 Jet engine part that includes the igniter | 48 Comics' Kett | 95 Thumbs-up |
| 28 "Li'l" fellow | 72 Chili bit | 115 Comparable with | 15 Muscat-er? | 49 Like Mutant Ninja Turtles | 97 Witticism |
| 29 Previous to | 73 Neighbor of Wash. | 116 Get robots to do | 16 Most trifling | 54 Actress Issa | 98 Part of ASAP |
| 30 Food favored by logicians? | 76 Leaves weaponless | 117 Kate's mate on 1980s TV | 17 Guys wearing wedding rings | 55 Actor Patel | 100 Mozart's "Così fan —" |
| 35 Belgrade citizens | 79 Finger or toe | 118 Part of BBB | 18 "My lips — sealed" | 56 Tijuana treats | 101 Love, to Gigi |
| 38 Impish kids | 82 MRI | 119 Rubs the wrong way | 19 In a blue state | 57 Alias letters | 102 Regional flora and fauna |
| 39 Extra NFL periods | 84 Winnipeg's province: Abbr. | 120 Bed boards | 24 Barely get, with "out" | 58 Corn holder | 103 — -Ops (CIA tactics) |
| 40 Spill a secret | 85 "I pray our reservation doesn't get canceled!"? | DOWN | 28 "Don't — surprised!" | 59 Garden tool | 106 Yemeni city |
| 41 Lake fed by the Huron | 90 News agcy. founded in 1958 | 1 Janitorial tools | 30 Londoner, e.g. | 60 Like some waves | 107 Dot in the sea, to Juanita |
| 42 Port-au-Prince's place | 91 Fastener for paper sheets | 2 Reversed sort | 31 Author Joyce Carol — | 61 Full of energy | 108 Tolling away |
| 43 2017-19 labor secretary Alexander | 92 Totally fills | 3 Unassisted | 32 Unskilled PC gamer, say | 62 Wild about | 109 Strong alkalis |
| 46 Poor grade | 93 Fabled snow humanoid | | | 63 Fluffy clouds | 110 Collar |
| 47 Monkey setting off big experimental blasts? | | | | 64 Comparable (with) | 111 Singer Turner |
| | | | | 65 Team of dogs on the force | 112 Grocery holder |
| | | | | 66 Less genial | 113 "Illmatic" rapper |
| | | | | 67 "Inferno" poet | 114 '60s Pontiac |



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

SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★★★

10/28

Here's How It Works:

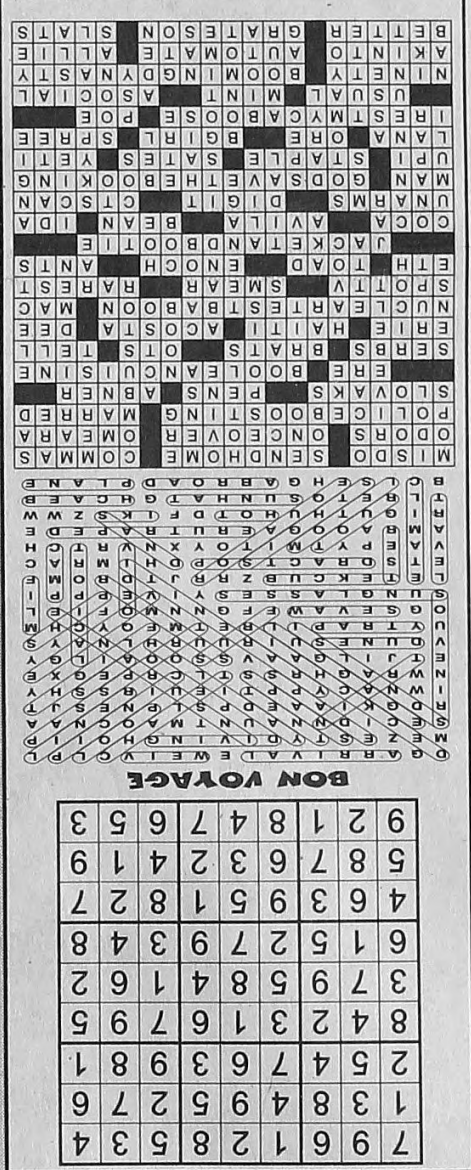
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues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

BON VOYAGE

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.



- ABROAD
- ARRIVAL
- BEACH
- BUCKET
- CAMP
- CHALET
- CLIMATE
- DECKCHAIR
- DEPARTURE
- DIVING
- DUNES
- EQUATOR
- FILM
- FLIGHT
- HOLIDAY
- HOT
- INSURANCE
- ISLANDS
- ITINERARY
- LINER
- LUGGAGE
- MOTEL
- PARTY
- PASSPORT
- PICNIC
- PLANE
- POOL
- POSTCARD
- REST
- SAND
- SEA
- SHIP
- SIGHTS
- SKI
- SNAPS
- SOUVENIRS
- SPADE
- SUMMER
- SUNGLASSES
- SUN HAT
- SURF
- TENT
- TOUR
- TRAIN
- TRAVEL
- TROPICAL
- VIDEO
- VIEW
- VOYAGE
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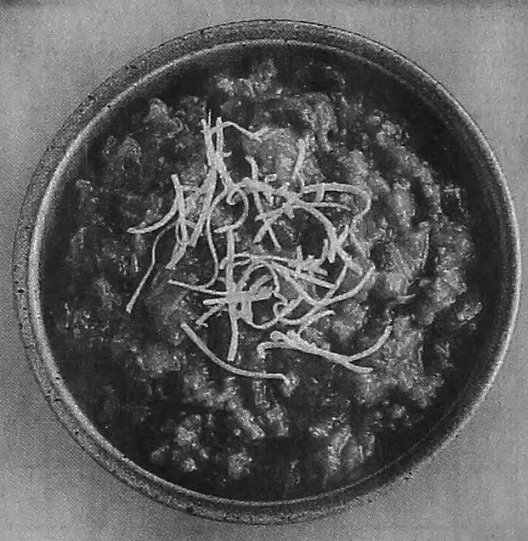
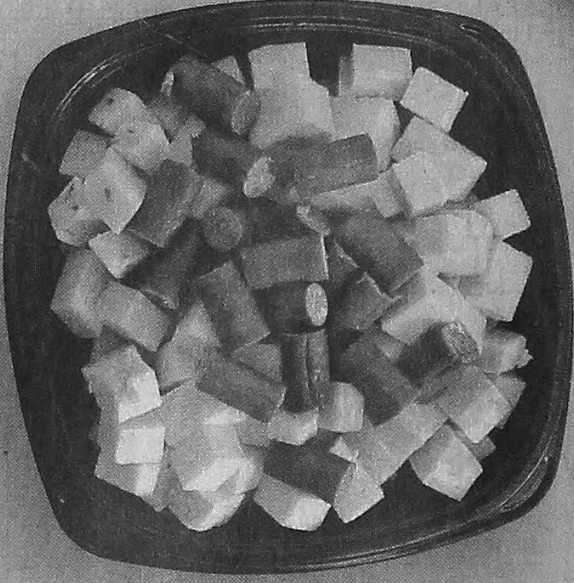
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