

BUSCH'S
Fresh Food Market

BUSY DAYS?
WE CAN HELP!

**CURBSIDE
PICKUP**

ORDER ONLINE @
BUSCHS.COM

SHOP ONLINE &
OUR ASSOCIATES
WILL PICK & PACK
WITH CARE!
DRIVE UP, WE LOAD
AND YOU GO!

CANTON

OBSERVER

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2022 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Madonna University president retires

Grandillo was institution's first lay president

Shelby Tankersley [Hometownlife.com](#)
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

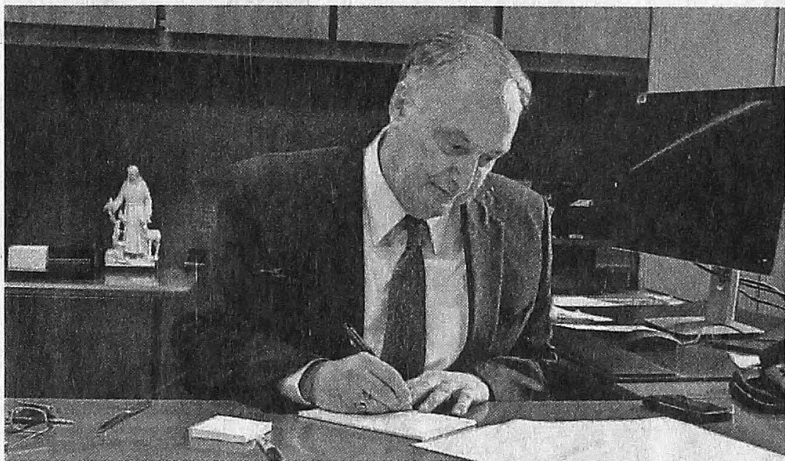
Michael Grandillo, Madonna University's first lay president, informed the college's board of trustees he'd be retiring effective immediately Feb. 21.

He cited "relatively minor" health concerns as the reason for his abrupt departure.

Grandillo's tenure included the creation of 11 athletic programs, construc-

tion of a welcome center, renovations to the school's performing arts and athletic center, construction of residence halls and the creation of 23 degree programs.

"Nancy and I are thankful to the Felician Sisters and the Board of Trustees for the opportunity to serve such a great university, with outstanding faculty and staff members," Grandillo said. "We are in the high calling to change people's



Madonna University President Michael Grandillo, the institution's first lay president, has retired. Grandillo cited health concerns as the reason for his decision.
SUBMITTED

See **PRESIDENT**, Page 7A



William D. Ford Career-Technical Center computer coding instructor Josh Rychlicki, right, works with students Brendan Winter, left, and Jaiden Ridgeway on Feb. 16. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Wayne-Westland career tech high school completes upgrade

Shelby Tankersley [Hometownlife.com](#)
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Most students walking the halls of the William D. Ford Career Technical Center in Westland have no idea what the building looked like before its recently completed renovation.

The school for 11th and 12th grade stu-

dents has been under construction since May 2020. The school offers 19 technical programs ranging from computer programming to culinary arts. After this latest renovation, students have a larger building and new equipment.

"The whole goal of this is that kids will be successful," Principal JaCinda Sumara said. "They're going to graduate

and they're not going to acquire \$80,000 in debt from college. This is one of the things that really makes Wayne-Westland special."

The project was part of Wayne-Westland Community Schools \$158 million bond, which voters approved

See **UPGRADE**, Page 6A

I-275 crash survivor looks for 'guardian angels' who helped family

Ed Wright [Hometownlife.com](#)
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Marisa O'Neill is certain she met her guardian angels this month.

Now she simply wants to give them a hug and say thank you for helping her and her three young children endure the most perilous moments of their lives.

Just after 4 p.m. Feb. 9, the Honda CRV O'Neill was driving — her three children, all 3-years-old or younger, were strapped in their car seats behind her — rolled over three times after she collided with another vehicle while navigating southbound Interstate 275 near the M-14 interchange.

She was told by law enforcement officers her car came in contact with a semitrailer during the ordeal and was pushed a short distance down the super-busy roadway — details that added to the horrific event.

Once the car finally came to a rest on its roof in the middle of the highway, the vehicle's airbags deployed and its windows shattered, the most wonderful sounds echoed from the backseat.

"I heard all three of my kids screaming, so I knew they were OK," O'Neill recounted, her voice cracking with emotion.

The family's situation was still dire.

See **SURVIVOR**, Page 7A

CONTACT US: Call 866-887-2737. **Press 1** for Classified, Death Notices; **2** Retail Advertising; **3** Billing, Subscription, Back Copies, Delivery Issues; **4** leave message for newsroom. Send press releases, calendar items to LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com

Volume 47 | No. 72
Home delivery pricing inside
©2022 **\$1.50**





THE NATION'S
#1
GUTTER GUARD

WE INSTALL YEAR-ROUND!

MADE IN THE USA

ACCREDITED BUSINESS

LIFETIME WARRANTY

**BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND
CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE**

PROTECT YOUR HOME 365 DAYS A YEAR

15% OFF & **10% OFF** & **5% OFF**

YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE
SENIORS & MILITARY!
TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS ONLY!

PLUS ADDITIONAL SAVINGS

FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!
www.Leaffilter.com/grop
Promo Code: 364



"Leaffilter was a great investment for our home."
-Bill & Jan M. ★★★★★



CALL US TODAY FOR
A FREE ESTIMATE

734-666-0904

*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.

*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. **Offer valid at time of estimate only
*The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America." CSLB# 1035795 DOPL #10783658-S501 License# 7656 License# 50145 License# 41354 License# 99338 License# 128344 License# 218294 WA UBI# 603 233 977 License# 2102212986 License# 2106212946 License# 2705132153A License# LEAFFNW822JZ License# WV056912 License# WC-29998-H17 Nassau HIC License# H01067000 Registration# 176447 Registration# HIC.0649905 Registration# C127229 Registration# C127230 Registration# 366920918 Registration# PC6475 Registration# IR731804 Registration# 13VH09953900 Registration# PA069383 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H License# 2705169445 License# 262000022 License# 262000403 License# 0086990 Registration# H-19114

LO-GC10797444-01



Members of the Detroit Ice Yacht Club get ready for some racing Jan 15 at Walled Lake in Oakland County. About 16 boaters came from across lower Michigan to train. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



A member of the Detroit Ice Yacht Club preps their boat on Walled Lake on Jan.15.



Bruce Williams, of Kalamazoo, rigs up his iceboat on Walled Lake.



Members of the Detroit Ice Yacht Club prepare to hit the frozen lake surface.

hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Published Sunday and Thursday by
Observer & Eccentric Media

Newsroom Contacts:

Phil Allmen, Content Strategist
Mobile: 248-396-3870
Email: pallmen@hometownlife.com
Follow us on Facebook: @OEHometown

Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.50
\$104 per 12 months home delivery

Home Delivery:

Customer Service: 866-887-2737
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday 7:30 a.m. to noon
Afterhours, leave voicemail
Email: cserv@dnps.com

Advertising Policy:

All advertising published in this newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department. We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our ad-takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an ad constitutes acceptance of the advertiser's order.

Iceboats take advantage of freezing temperatures

Philip Allmen Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Looking similar to a sailboat, these winter rides travel over the ice at high speeds. No motor, no keel, no inhibitions.

The art of ice boating is a tradition that has been around since the 1600s when old sailboats would be fitted with blades to help ship goods across the frozen canals of the Netherlands.

Now the sport is a largely recreational undertaking that draws a small, tight-knit group of enthusiasts on-to frozen water bodies each year when winds are gusting and bare ice turns lakes into a venue for what seems like an unlikely endeavor — winter sailing.

There are multiple ice yacht clubs across Michigan, including the Detroit Ice Yacht Club, West Michigan Ice Yacht Club and Gull Lake Ice Yacht Club. The Gull Lake Club has an 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 26 event Iceboats on the Bay in Richland, near Battle Creek.

There is Facebook group called Iceboating in Michigan and Ohio for those interested in the sport, featur-

ing posts ice conditions, upcoming events and places where people use boats.

Ice boating is said to have been introduced to North America in the late 18th century when a crude ice boat was taken onto the Hudson River in New York by Dutch settlers.

Among the more popular iceboats are the DN, the largest iceboat class. It's name comes from a 1937 Detroit News-sponsored design contest to come up with a design for an affordable, home buildable iceboat to provide winter entertainment during the depression.

An ice boat works similarly to a sailboat minus the comfort and leisurely speeds on a lake during summer months. The boat's sharp runners prevent the thin-wooded crafts from sliding sideways, acting as a keel by reducing drift and keeping the boat going in the intended direction.

To get an iceboat going you simply put one foot on the rear plank and start pushing as if you are a dog-sled musher. With a gust of wind, you are off for a ride whose speed and duration depends largely on what Mother Nature has to offer on any given day.

CITY OF PLYMOUTH

2022 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Plymouth Board of Review will be conducting the 2022 March Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission Conference Room, 201 S Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, March 8th Organizational meeting 12:00 pm

Wednesday, March 9th First meeting 3-9 pm

Thursday, March 10th Second meeting, 9-4 pm

Monday, March 21st Final meeting 9-12 pm
(For written appeals only. No appointments.)

Hearings are by appointments only. COMPLETED 2022 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY, and must be completed prior to your appointment.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. **Written petitions must be received by Monday, March 21, 2022 by 12:00 p.m. Postmarks are not accepted.**

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper.

All Board of Review Meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's Office at (734) 453-1234, ext 252.

Maureen Brodie
City Clerk

Publish: February 17, 24, & March 3, 2022

LO-0000361125 3x4.5

An iceboat gear sled sits on Walled Lake as Detroit Ice Yacht Club members get their boats rigged up.

PACZKI

are here!

Our Paczki sell fast ORDER EARLY

FAT TUESDAY MARCH 1st

All the latest local news at your fingertips.

Former Clarenceville teacher facing CSC charges

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Several young women and their attorney went to police about a month before they formally sued former Clarenceville, Farmington and Troy teacher Jason Debandt, alleging sexual abuse and harassment while they were his students.

A U.S. District Court judge has since dismissed the litigation, but Debandt still faces criminal charges in the circuit courts of both Wayne and Oakland counties.

Debandt, 43, of Berkley is being prosecuted on more than a dozen criminal sexual conduct charges in Wayne's Third Circuit Court in Detroit. A pretrial is scheduled for Feb. 23.

He is scheduled for an Oakland County trial in March on CSC and distributing obscene matter charges.

His attorney Steven Vitale did not respond to requests for comment, and the attorney who represented the women in their federal lawsuit said little.

"It is my understanding that the criminal cases are still ongoing in Oakland and Wayne counties, so I don't want to say anything that interferes with that ongoing process," Lisa Esser-Weidenfeller of the Sommers Schwartz firm said. "The civil cases were settled with all of the defendants and thereafter dismissed from both the federal and state court dockets."

Farmington Public Schools placed Debandt on paid administrative leave in August 2020 due to social media posts alleging he was guilty of inappropriate conduct during his years teaching choir and theater to Clarenceville students. He was then relatively new to the district and has since been entirely removed from Farmington's online staff directory.

Police reports indicate Esser-Weidenfeller and her clients reached out to police a month later, in September 2020, with the allegations. They filed their since-dismissed lawsuit in October of the same year.

The women's civil suit alleged the

teacher sexually assaulted, molested and harassed them while he was teaching choir and theater to Clarenceville and Troy students between the 2004-05 and 2018-19 school years.

They accused him of grooming them as vulnerable middle school students and then continuing with extra attention, privileges and favors during their high school years and preceding inappropriate sexual behavior.

Clarenceville Superintendent Paul Shepich declined to comment for this story.

One of the former students who sued Debandt only confirmed the federal court dismissal and the ongoing criminal cases.

Hometown Life filed Freedom of Information Act requests with Livonia and Berkley police agencies for more information about police investigations into the various allegations.

According to Livonia police reports, Esser-Weidenfeller contacted the agency and provided victim names that led to Zoom interviews.

Debandt was known for "obvious mood swings." A Clarenceville High School teacher told Livonia police that Debandt left the district during his 10th year, which he thought odd since the 11th year typically meant a substantial pay increase.

"(The teacher) also observed that a lot of Mr. Debandt's students seemed to be 'beaten down' by Mr. Debandt as he would often yell and berate them and offered no compliments," an officer said in a report about his interview with the teacher. "He also noticed that Mr. Debandt was constantly talking about how religious and almost righteous he was even when it didn't seem warranted in the conversation."

Berkley's police reports, also filed a month before the dismissed lawsuit, were lengthy but largely redacted. They do show that Esser-Weidenfeller contacted police and that USB flash drives were taken as evidence.

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

Judge dismisses Wayne police sergeant's suit on lost job

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A federal judge dismissed Wayne Police Sgt. Abraham Hughes' lawsuit against the City of Wayne, City Council and top city officials.

Hughes filed his lawsuit over the summer, claiming the city treated him wrongly in 2018 and 2019 when selecting Ryan Strong as the next police chief.

In his suit, Hughes requested more than \$75,000 in damages because of alleged negligence, interference, breach of contract and lack of proper training that he claimed cost him the leadership post.

However, U.S. District Judge Stephen Murphy III ordered the dismissal Feb. 11 for numerous reasons, including Hughes not having any real right to claim wrongdoing when he didn't get the chief's job.

Hughes' attorney John Peters offered

these comments by email.

"I have reviewed the court's opinion and order of February 11, 2022," he said. "Frankly, I was more shocked by what was not addressed in the opinion than what the opinion actually contained."

"We are disappointed that the court elected not to exercise jurisdiction over the state law claims, but we will be re-filing those in circuit court. We also intend to appeal the dismissal of the federal claims to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit."

Wayne Mayor John Rhaesa, City Manager Lisa Nocerini and Personnel Director Alyse Leslie were defendants in Hughes' suit and Murphy has said Hughes has a right to re-raise claims pertaining to state law against Nocerini, Leslie and the city.

Rhaesa said in a statement that "we always knew that once all of the facts of the case were presented, the city's position would be vindicated and the claims

made against city officials would be proven frivolous. The city has always maintained our position that the lawsuit was completely without factual or legal merit."

In his Feb. 11 dismissal, Murphy explained that the city charter clearly states the city manager appoints all administrative officers.

"Thus, both the police chief appointment and removal are discretionary acts, rather than contractual promises," Murphy opined.

While Hughes argued that he had rightfully earned the chief's position, "the language of the charter demonstrates that the position was not plaintiff's to earn, but the city manager's to appoint."

Hughes contended that Rhaesa's, Nocerini's and Leslie's "use of favoritism" deprived him of the job.

According to Murphy, "as the court already explained, a position that is to

be filled by discretionary means does not create any individual entitlement to it. The use of favoritism or self-serving criteria to promote another officer to police chief over plaintiff is therefore irrelevant."

"Put simply, plaintiff cannot show that he had a constitutionally protected property interest in the promotion to police chief," Murphy said. "Thus, the individual defendants are entitled to qualified immunity because there was no constitutional violation."

Mark Blackwell, a City Hall critic, also has a pending federal lawsuit against the city and officials. Both he and Hughes have mentioned each other in their court documents, alleging that Nocerini wrongfully accused Blackwell of stalking and tried to silence his criticism.

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

FREE EVENT!

BRING IN ALL YOUR
COLLECTIBLES FOR A
FREE EVALUATION

CANTON ROADSHOW BUYING EVENT

TUESDAY MARCH 1ST THRU SATURDAY MARCH 5TH

BRING ALL FORMS
OF GOLD OR SILVER

EXPERTS ON-SITE
Buying & Evaluating
Your Items

SHOW INFO

5 DAYS ONLY!!!

COVID COMPLIANT

1-ON-1 EVALUATIONS

WHEN:

MARCH 1ST THRU MARCH 5TH
TUESDAY - FRIDAY 10AM-6PM
SATURDAY 10AM-3PM

WHERE:

COMFORT SUITES
5730 N HAGGERTY RD
CANTON MI
Off HWY 275/Ford Rd
(Behind Bob Evans)

Comfort
SUITES



**STERLING FLATWARE,
TEA SETS & SILVER JEWELRY**
UP TO \$20,000*



CLOCKS
ATOMS, LECOUTRE, CHELSEA,
CARTIER, TIFFANY & MORE



METAL TOYS
TIN TOYS, OLD BANKS, CAP GUNS,
BB GUNS, LIONEL BUDDY, TONKA,
MARX TOYS



WAR MEMORABILIA
SWORDS, DAGGERS, KNIVES, HELMETS,
ANTIQUE FIREARMS, MEDALS, FLAGS & MORE
UP TO \$50,000*



COMICS



SPORTS MEMORABILIA



.999 FINE SILVER & GOLD



PAPER CURRENCY
PRE-1934



GRADED COINS & COMMEMORATIVES
UP TO \$150,000*



**MEN'S & WOMEN'S
CLASS RINGS**
UP TO \$500*



WRIST & POCKET WATCHES
ROLEX, PATEK PHILIPPE, BREITLING,
ELGIN, HAMILTON, LONGINES,
WALTHAM, OMEGA & MORE
(RUNNING or BROKEN*)



MORGAN DOLLAR
UP TO \$100,000*



ROOSEVELT DIME
1964 & OLDER



MERCURY DIME
UP TO \$3,400*



**FRANKLIN HALF
DOLLAR**
UP TO \$3,200*



**WALKING LIBERTY HALF
DOLLAR**
UP TO \$4,600*



**WASHINGTON
QUARTER**
1964 & OLDER UP TO \$600*



SILVER DOLLARS
UP TO \$7,500*



**KENNEDY HALF
DOLLAR**
PRE. 1970 UP TO \$400*



BARBER COINS
1964 & OLDER



LIBERTY NICKEL
UP TO \$4,500*



WHEAT PENNIES
UP TO \$3,500*



BUFFALO NICKEL
UP TO \$4,200*



GOLD COINS
UP TO \$300,000*



GOLD COINS U.S. & FOREIGN
UP TO \$300,000*

BRING IN YOUR

- Broken Gold Chains & Jewelry
- Gold Bracelets
- Gold Ring Settings
- Mens & Women Gold Rings
- Mismatched Earrings
- Sterling Silverware Pieces
- Class Rings
- Pendants & Dental Gold!

• MARTIN
• GIBSON
• FENDER
• GRETSCH
• SILVERTONE
• AND MANY OTHERS

UP TO \$125,000



WE ALSO PURCHASE

- Vintage Musical Instruments • Sterling Silver Tea Sets • Diamonds
- Platinum Jewelry • Antique Toys • Comic Books
- Vintage Advertisements • Dental Gold • Costume Jewelry
- Buying All Foreign Coins • Sports Memorabilia • Pocket Knives
- Coca-Cola Memorabilia • Candlestick Holders • Zippo Lighters & More

Home Appointments Available
LARGE COLLECTIONS ONLY!

FOR SHOW INFO OR DIRECTIONS CALL 419-203-3720

WWW.PREMIERGOLDSILVERANDCOIN.COM

HOSTED BY PREMIER GSC

*Values depend on rarity, condition and collector market

LIVONIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARDS

Madonna University, F&PA land business of year

From Staff Reports Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Madonna University grew its footprint while Financial and Portfolio Advisors continued its decades-long resume of community giving over the past year. Both companies were honored this month with Livonia Chamber of Commerce business awards.

Madonna University received the 2022 Outstanding Large Business of the Year Award. The Catholic university was established in Livonia 85 years ago.

Last year, the school completed construction of the Madonna University Welcome Center, which will also be the home of a new Felician Sisters heritage center. Madonna also repurposed the former Ladywood High School for an expansion of facilities for the school's athletics department, and share part of the building for a new facility for the Hope Network Center for Autism.

This is a continuation of the school's efforts to expand campus with construction of new residence halls, outdoor recreation spaces and the addition of a college football program.

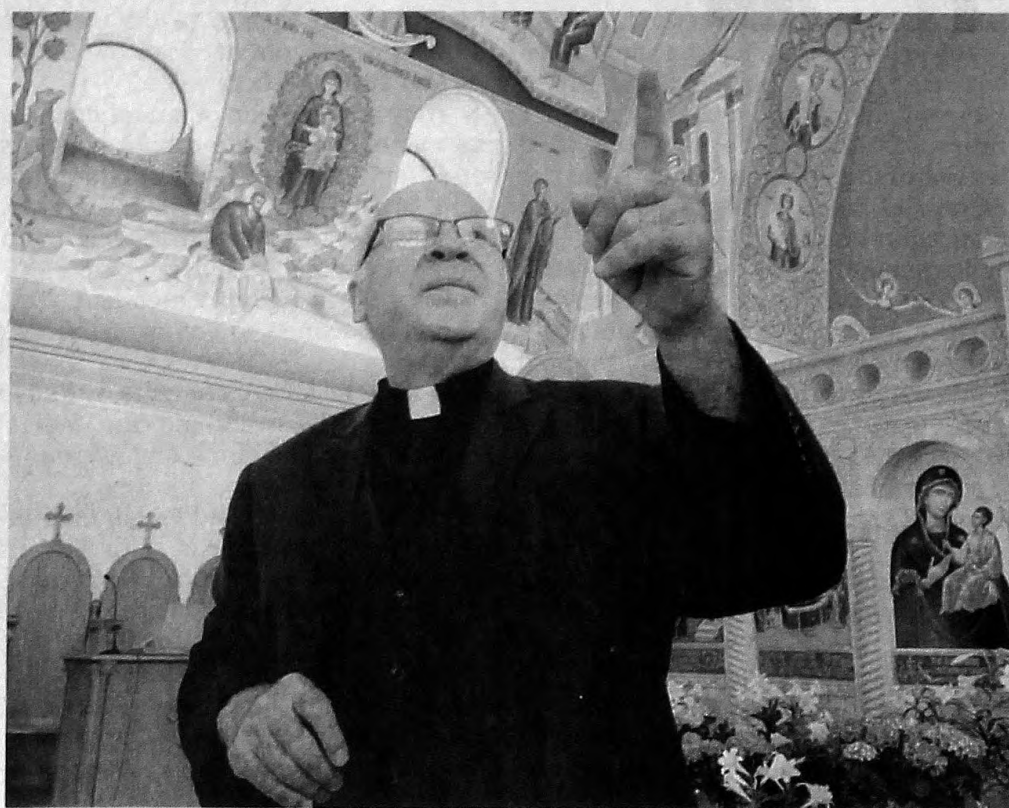
"Madonna University is proud to partner with the City of Livonia and its people," said Madonna President Michael Grandillo. "Our growth is Livonia's growth and we are honored to receive this distinguished award."

Small business award goes to community-minded business

Financial and Portfolio Advisors (F&PA), collected the 2022 Outstanding Small Business of the Year Award. The business was established in Livonia by Bob Hardies in 1989. Hardies invested in community causes and was generous to local groups that advanced his passion for the arts.

The Livonia Symphony Orchestra, Greenmead Historic Village, Livonia Civic Chorus, Wilson Barn and various other student and art groups were among the beneficiaries of F&PA contributions for three decades. Hardies died in August 2019, but his estate will continue to provide for community groups for years to come. The Hardies Family Trust recently announced \$300,000 in contributions to 14 local organizations.

"And more great things are going to



Father George Shalhoub of St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Basilica Church is this year's recipient of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce's Legacy Award.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

come in the future," said Dan MacIver, who took over the business after Hardies' passing.

Legacy award given to 50-year businessman

Fr. George Shalhoub is this year's recipient of the Livonia Legacy Award honoring individuals who accumulated a long-sustained record of exceptional work and service in our community throughout their careers.

This year marks his 50th anniversary on his journey to build this influential faith community. The Basilica of St. Mary on Merriman Road is the only basilica in the Antiochian Orthodox Basilica Archdiocese of North America, and it serves 5,000 families.

Aside from his direct ministry work, he taught classes at Madonna University and Antiochian House of Studies, he authored several books about the Orthodox faith, served on the state's Mental Health Advisory Board, supported a family of four children and nine grandchildren, and became a trusted adviser

to his church members and elected leaders in Livonia.

"When you have children, youth, and elderly around you in one place, you have a great way of sustaining their life," Fr. Shalhoub said. "This will be a light-house for many, many generations to come, long after I leave this Earth."

Two given enhancement award

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, which has been a fixture on Plymouth Road since 1931, received a 2022 Community Enhancement Award, which honors businesses that made a recent investment to develop a new enterprise, improve the appearance of a property or upgrade services that notably enrich the Livonia community.

The church raised \$4.1 million to expand its entrance and atrium, add a second crying room, renovate the altar, sound system and choir loft. The building was built in 1961 and had little work done before this project.

Sheldon Center on the southeast corner of Farmington and Plymouth roads

also collected a 2022 Community Enhancement Award. Anchored by Larry's Foodland, this shopping center was re-developed with new brick façade and the construction of three new outlet eateries which significantly changed the appearance of this busy Livonia intersection.

Greenleaf award goes to 70-year-old business

Storch Products, a 70-year-old global supplier of commercial magnetic products, responded to the pandemic by inventing a magnetic frame that holds standard sized air filters to easily install over air ceiling vents to significantly filter out microparticles that flow into offices and stores.

For this innovation, Storch will be honored with the Livonia Greenleaf Award, an honor selected by the Greenleaf Commission on Sustainability to recognize a Livonia business or organization that successfully balances environmental and economic strategies.

The AiroTrust was invented by Storch CEO Matt Carr, and manufactured at the company's Globe Street facility.

"When the pandemic lockdowns started, we were looking to establish a safe environment for people to return to work," said Carr. "We were looking to get people back to work and we felt this was a path to do that."

Inaugural DEI award being given out

Masco Corp. was the first recipient of the Livonia Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Changemaker award, a new award developed by the Livonia Human Relations Commission.

Masco, a worldwide producer of home improvement products, moved its headquarters to Livonia in 2017. Masco manufactures nearly a quarter of all inventory in Home Depot stores. Long known for its philanthropy, Masco increased its contributions to diversity and inclusion initiatives in recent years.

"At Masco, our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion is rooted in our values around the importance of

See BUSINESS, Page 7A

Save Our Youth founder honored with Livonia's First Citizen Award

From Staff Reports Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Diane Montes, founder of the Livonia Save Our Youth Coalition, comes from a service-oriented family who found ways to give back to the community. That mindset has led to her being recognized with the Livonia First Citizen Award this year.

Montes found her passion through the heartbreak of losing her 22-year-old son Brian to a drug overdose. She discovered him lying in his bed after taking a fatal mix of heroin and Fentanyl in June 2006.

As she processed the grief, she started a mission of making others aware of the dangers and support for those dealing with addiction. Her determination intensified to urgency as she learned there was little public awareness 15 years ago about the growing epidemic with opioids.

"It was a taboo subject to discuss at the time, but drug use was so prevalent in the suburbs," Montes said. "There was an urgent need to wake people up and do something."

This led to the formation of the Livonia Save Our Youth Coalition, a nonprofit organization connecting people to substance-abuse education, prevention and support and building a healthy community. With educational programs, financial support and key partnerships, Livonia Save Our Youth Coalition programming reached many families and young people over the past 15 years.

As the founder of this valuable community resource, Montes was selected as the 2022 recipient of the Livonia First Citizen Award, an annual honor given to a Livonia resident for extraordinary community service.

"Diane followed the light of her faith to learn everything she could about how such a tragedy could impact her family," said Karen Bonanno, the executive director of the Coalition since 2015. "The inspiration of Diane's insight continues to shine brightly though continued conversation and meaningful collabora-



Montes

tion, with the goal of preventing similar heartbreak in other families."

Montes credits her mother, Marge Slattery, with setting an example of serving others. As a nurse in 1985, she created a nonprofit, Domus Vita, which is Latin for "house of light."

The Livonia-based nonprofit provides long-term care and assistance for patients with special needs across metro Detroit.

"Everyone in our family worked for the company in some capacity, and we all followed her example," Montes said.

With Livonia Save Our Youth, Montes formed partnerships with St. Mary Mercy Hospital, local schools, local church groups, Livonia police, Livonia fire and city officials.

"Some were reluctant at first, but it is a testament to those involved that all these sectors got involved," she said.

Along with Bonanno's work, Montes also praises fellow original board members Jason Schwartz, Dr. Mark Menestrina, Jerry Kwas and Bob Douville for their work the entire time. Donations, grants, and an annual race generates the money for the Coalition's work each year.

The coalition has provided more awareness and resources in Livonia and Montes said she believes there is less stigma about discussing drug use, which is vital with the community's increased mental health and addiction concerns in the aftermath of the pandemic.

Montes and her Bentley High School sweetheart, Andy, have been married 43 years, had three children and seven grandchildren. Many of her community-minded relatives continue to live in Livonia. They play golf together each year to raise money for the Brian Montes Foundation, which provides scholarships for those in need of treatment programs and recovery group homes.

Livonia Chamber recognizes siblings for charitable acts

From Staff Reports Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Two local siblings are being recognized for their charitable efforts. Harish and Oviya Jaisankar got started with service years ago when they collected returnable cans and bottles to raise money for a school for deaf children in India.

At the time, 10-year-old Harish and six-year-old Oviya were proud they raised \$700 for the school. Then, they visited that school and met some of the children who benefited from their efforts during a trip to India. It was a powerful experience that stuck with the young duo.

For Harish, now a senior at Churchill High School, meeting the beneficiaries of the project inspired him to do more. His sister felt the same.

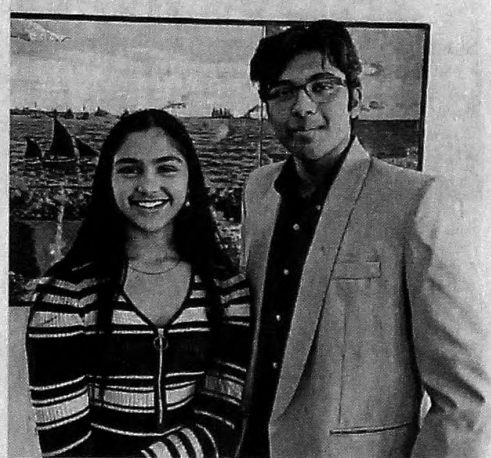
"I love helping others and then seeing how we helped them," said Oviya, an eighth-grader at Frost Middle School.

The brother-sister team are the 2022 recipients of the Livonia Outstanding Youth of the Year Award for years of fundraising for those in need, increasing public awareness of various causes, volunteering for food banks and community clean-ups and more. Their parents, Jaisankar and Priya, immigrated to Michigan from India.

When pandemic restrictions took place in spring 2020, the duo started raising money for another special needs school in India. They teamed up with 30 volunteers from the VT Seva Detroit Youth Board and with phone calls to family, friends and educators, the team raised \$7,000 for visually impaired children. With their growing network of supporters, they raised another \$10,000 for the same school in late 2021.

Around the same time, they recruited 10 friends and raised \$5,000 for St. Mary Mercy Hospital that was used to buy protective equipment for hospital staff.

Harish, 17, has a weighted 4.5 grade-



Oviya, left, and Harish Jaisankar.

COURTESY OF JAISANKAR KANNAN

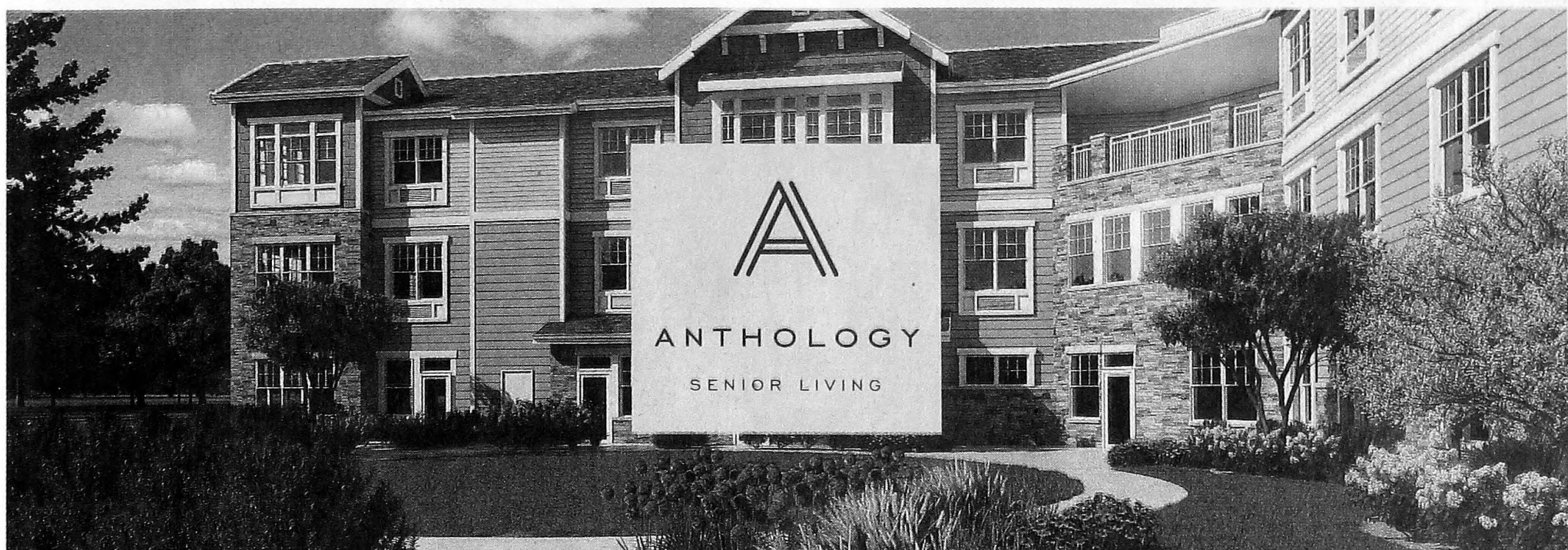
point average and plans to go to college to study biomedical engineering. He has been the president of the Churchill Rotary Interact Club for the past two years and grew the club from six to 40 students.

More people led to more impact locally as the group worked with the Livonia Goodfellows and Livonia AM Rotary Club for food drives. The Interact Club is in the midst of a one-year effort to raise \$5,000 to make care packages for victims of natural disasters.

"I love seeing the people we're helping, but I also love getting other people involved," he said. "It is always more fun and gratifying working with other people."

Oviya, 13, is a straight-A student and aspires to study aerospace engineering. She is active with the youth volunteer global nonprofit organization VT Seva, where she worked on food banks, road clean-ups, and supporting senior centers. She also makes videos and flyers to promote various public causes. For example, she made a video detailing do's and don'ts of recycling that played in loops at her school to promote Earth Day.

She also rallied 26 volunteers to collect 210 towels that were donated to the last Day Dog Rescue animal foster home and Michigan Humane Society.



Welcome Home

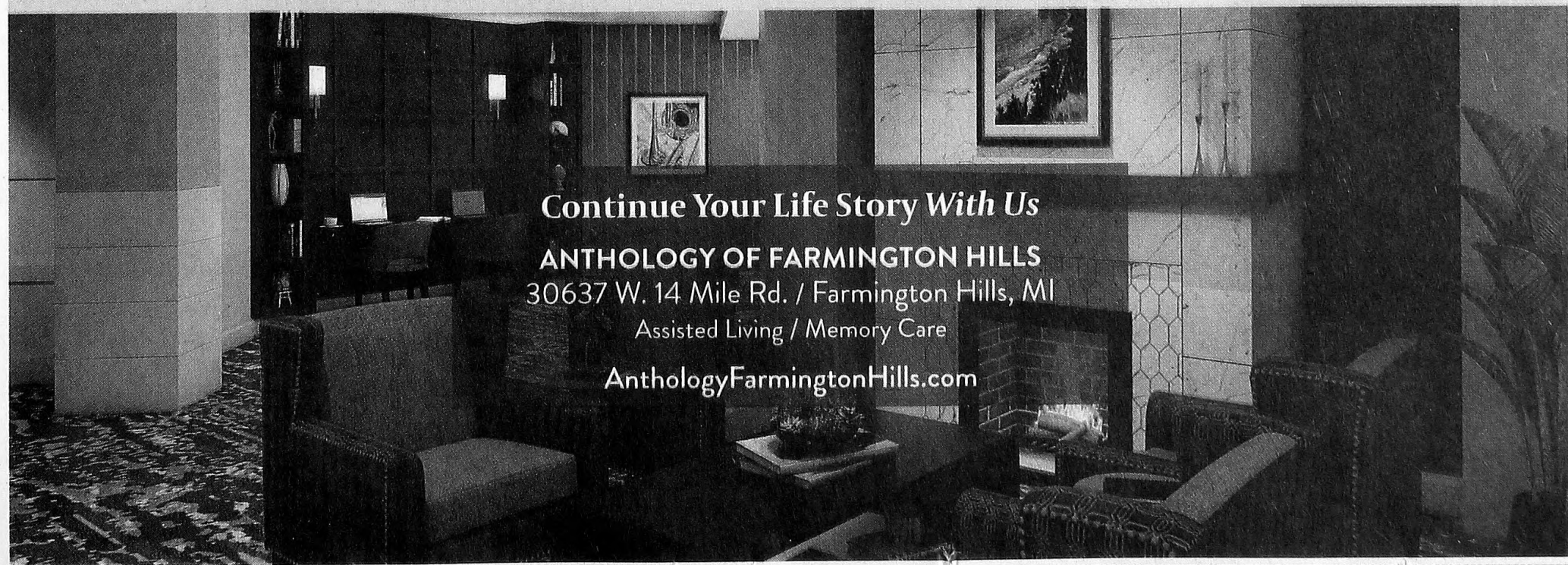
NOW OPEN

JOIN CHARTER CLUB
FOR SAVINGS & PERKS

Come tour the newest and most luxurious assisted living and memory care community in the area with exceptional accommodations, services and amenities supported by uncompromising care. Schedule a no-obligation personal tour today.

This will be a socially distanced event. Masks required.

RSVP FOR A PRIVATE TOUR
248-534-4686



Continue Your Life Story With Us

ANTHOLOGY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

30637 W. 14 Mile Rd. / Farmington Hills, MI

Assisted Living / Memory Care

AnthologyFarmingtonHills.com



The William D. Ford Career-Technical Center's firefighter program trains prospective recruits to join local departments. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Upgrade

Continued from Page 1A

in 2018. The district's other high schools, John Glenn and Wayne Memorial, are also seeing various updates from bond funding.

Some of the most noticeable changes at the Career Tech Center, 36455 Marquette, include the addition of a secure entryway and an expansion of the school's kitchens and restaurant.

Sumara said staff hope to reopen the student-run restaurant, Café Marquette, soon. The restaurant has previously been a popular lunch spot and a way for locals to support the school district.

"This program can take you places," said Chef Brittany Saville, an alumna of the program who now teaches culinary classes. "This is a great start."

Other updates to the Career Tech Center include the addition of a student lounge, exterior changes and increased lab space for health occupation students, targeted toward teens looking to enter the healthcare field. Upgrades also enable the school to add a cyber security program in the fall.

Students at the Career Tech Center — who come from within and outside the district — can earn credits that can go toward an college education or apprenticeship.

The school is also looking to cement a status as an early college, in which students could complete a fifth year of high school and leave with an associate's degree. That's 60 college credits a student could earn for free.

The school is suited to those looking to gain skills that will aid them after college or chase a job that doesn't require a college education. It also gives students hands-on ways to test out a career and change their minds if they want to.

"I came here because I've always wanted to be a professional photographer," said Nathan Perault, a senior in the school's digital media program. "After learning and developing myself into a photographer, I've learned that I'd actually like to be more into the fine arts side of things."

Staff say the unique education students get at the Career Tech Center can have a lasting impact on their adult lives. Some teachers are former students who wanted to give back to a program that helped them.

"I came back here because I wanted to give back to this space that made me who I am," said Mara Magyarosi-Laytner, a professional artist and photographer who now teaches at the school.

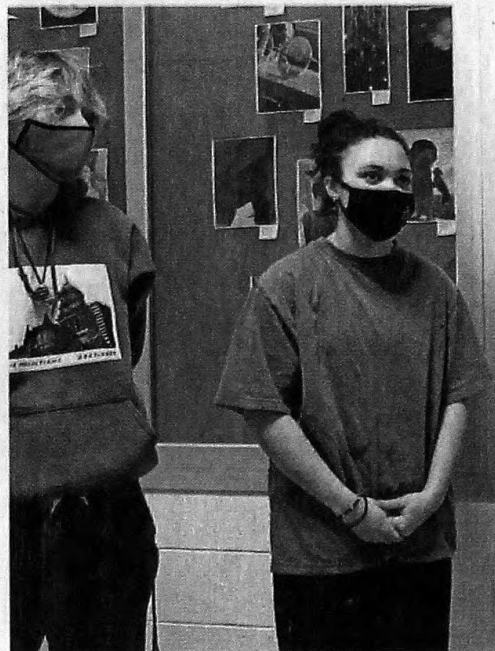
Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby_tankk.



Culinary arts student Kaitlyn McFadden preps some hummus and veggie sandwiches in the school's kitchen.



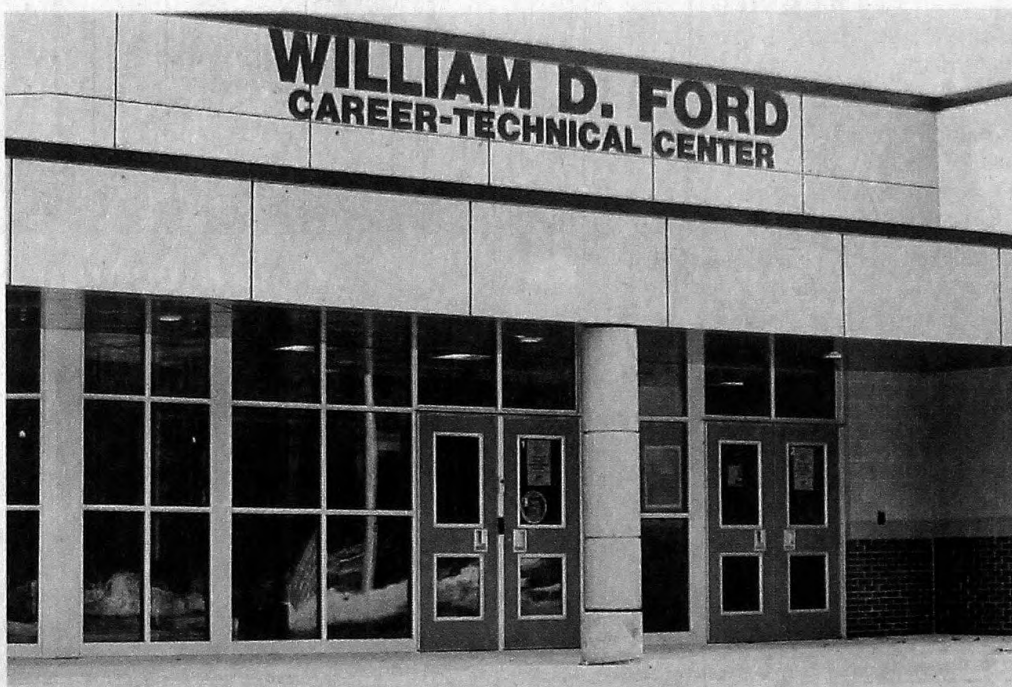
Medical arts students Akiyah Ash, left, and Taelor Moore learn how to wash a patient during a Feb. 16 class.



Students Nathan Perault and Nevaeh Hart talk about multi-media arts.



An automotive instruction student prepares a fender for painting Feb. 16.



The William D. Ford Career-Technical Center at 36455 Marquette in Westland.

Westland man pleads guilty to killing Novi teen in 2020

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

A Westland man admitted Monday to killing 17-year-old Robert Bigham during the summer of 2020.

Duan Markeith Jones, 20, pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and felony firearms charges instead of going through with a scheduled Feb. 14 bench trial.

His attorney Wright Blake confirmed that he and his client decided that guilty pleas were the smarter move considering the prosecutors' evidence.

"It's a very tragic situation," Blake said. "He's really remorseful (and) he accepts responsibility."

Online court records do not provide a sentencing date.

Jones is still contending with other 2020 cases involving assault and criminal sexual conduct charges.

Those other cases are now scheduled for a June review.

In the past, prosecutors have said guilty pleas could mean 25 to 40 years in prison, plus an additional two years.

Police say Bigham was killed while riding his bicycle. Police found him dead from gunshot wounds near Grand Traverse Street and Missaukee Court the night of June 7.

Police arrested three teens.

Jones was charged with murder

while the other two faced lesser charges.

Timothy Stevenson, 19, of Detroit pleaded guilty to larceny.

He said that Bigham was suffering from his wounds when he stepped outside of his home and took his cell phone, intending to give it to Bigham's mother.

He failed to appear for his sentencing, leading to a bench warrant.

The third individual does not appear in online court records in Westland's 18th District Court or the higher Third Circuit Court in Detroit.

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



Police say Robert Bigham was killed June 7, 2020 while riding his bicycle. COURTESY OF HUSBAND FAMILY FUNERAL HOME

Livonia driver in serious condition after crashing into home

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Livonia police are investigating a car's early Monday morning collision with an Iowa Street home, northwest of the intersection of Joy and Merriman roads.

A 27-year-old Livonia driver was the sole occupant of the vehicle that crashed into the home at the end of Arizona Street at about 3:30 a.m. Feb. 21.

Because of multiple injuries, he is listed in serious condition at an area hospital.

"The house did suffer significant damage," said Livonia Fire Battalion

Chief Matt Ream, agreeing with the police department's report. "The car was totally into the house."

The home's owners were inside when the car barreled through and survived uninjured.

The car was gone by late morning as one of the owners talked to those assessing the damage, which extended from the front to the back of the home. He declined to comment.

Livonia police continue to investigate the incident. No other information was available.

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



A 27-year-old Livonia driver was the sole occupant of the vehicle that crashed into a home at the end of Arizona Street on Feb. 21. The driver is listed in serious condition at a local hospital. SUSAN VELA/ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Masco Corporation was the first recipient of the Livonia Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Changemaker award. COURTESY OF LIVONIA CHAMBER



Madonna University received the 2022 Outstanding Large Business of the Year Award from the Livonia Chamber of Commerce. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Business

Continued from Page 4A

treating all people with respect," said Masco president and CEO Keith Allman. "We strive...to cultivate a sense of belonging for all our shareholders, employees, customers, suppliers and community partners."

The company allocated \$1 million to fund nonprofit organizations across the

country committed to breaking down barriers, offered numerous forums and learning experiences to enhance belongingness within its workforce, and ensured inclusive talent practices to mitigate potential biases during hiring and decision-making processes.

Ambassador of the year goes to active Chamber member

The Livonia Chamber recognized Permella Harris, business develop-

ment director for the SMS Group of Companies, as its Ambassador of the Year as a leading volunteer and advocate for the 950-member nonpartisan, nonprofit trade organization that has served Livonia since 1950.

SMS Group of Companies is a staffing and human resources agency. Harris previously owned and operated the Metro Cheer Training Center for 25 years, which was based in Livonia when she sold the business to a former student in 2019.

She has been a chamber ambassador for several years because she loves opportunities to help others while building direct links to the community. In 2021, she was the most active supporting events, grand openings, and referring members for the chamber.

"I love meeting people and learning from them," Harris said. "It gives us a chance to shine a light on our new businesses with the grand openings and a chance to celebrate with each other."

Survivor

Continued from Page 1A

Admittedly in shock from the series of events that had just unfolded, O'Neill exited the car, carefully walked to the backseat door and unbuckled her infant daughter.

"When I looked back, I saw two men walking toward me, one wearing what appeared to be an orange construction vest," she said. "One of the men held my daughter while I unbuckled my other two kids. All three are 3 (years old) or younger, so you can only imagine the situation."

"Once I got all the kids out of the car, the man handed me my daughter while the other man put my two other kids in his car so they could stay warm until police arrived."

O'Neill believes a third man called 9-1-1.

"I was still kind of in a haze when the police and paramedics got there," O'Neill said. "I felt a kind of disbelief that all this was happening. I remember sitting in the back of the ambulance with my kids and asking the officers if the men who helped us were still there. I wanted to say thank you and give them a hug."

Much to O'Neill's dismay, the good Samaritans — who provided perfect strangers with priceless comfort during a chaotic crisis — left the scene without



Marisa O'Neill is searching for two men who came to her aid after a rollover crash on I-275 but left the scene before she could thank them. From left are O'Neill's children Benjamin, 1, Matthew, 2 months, and Isabella, 3. JOHN HEIDER/ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

telling emergency workers their names.

Law enforcement personnel were amazed O'Neill and her children did not sustain any injuries, given the mangled remains of the CRV and that it rolled over three times in close-to-rush-hour traffic.

A resident of Farmington Hills, O'Neill wants to meet the men who were her family's saviors on that gray February day.

"I don't know if they were together or driving separate," she said. "With all my

heart I feel they were my family's guardian angels that day. You hear about so much negative stuff these days.

"To have people do something so amazing like this, well, I just want to give them a hug and say thank you."

If you know the individuals who assisted the O'Neill family Feb. 9, contact reporter Ed Wright at ewright@hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113. To help O'Neill connect with the trio she considers heroes.

President

Continued from Page 1A

lives through the power of education. I think we did that."

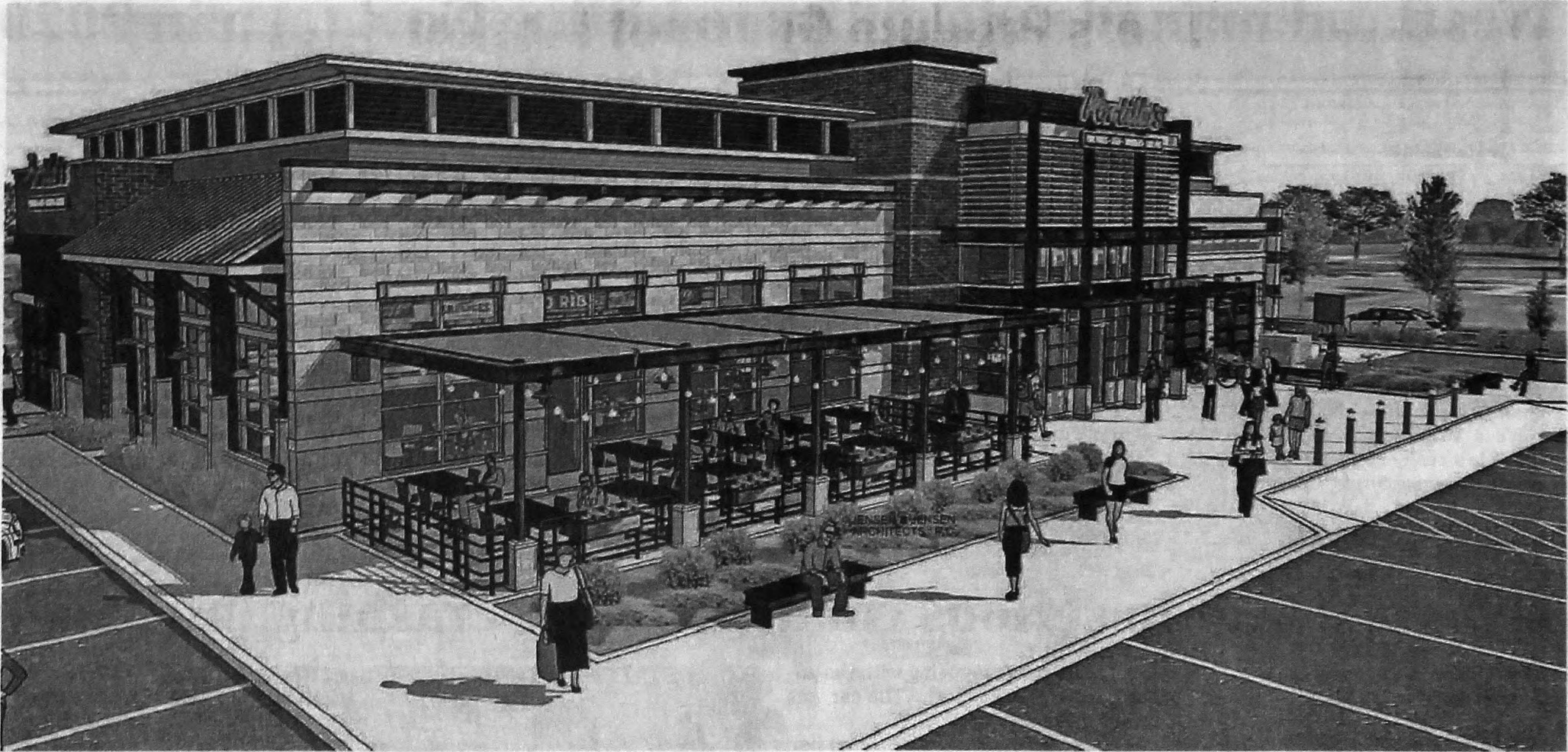
Per the school's succession plan, Madonna Chief Operating Officer Ian Day will take over as interim president. Day started working at the university in 2020 and is a lifelong Catholic.

"The Board of Trustees looks forward to continuing its relationship with Ian Day in his new role as acting president," Board of Trustees Chair David Boyd said. "We are confident that he and his executive team will build on the University's nearly 85 years of success."

A spokesperson for the university said Grandillo's retirement is unrelated to the university's inquiry into two of its volleyball coaching staff — Head Coach Jerry Abraham and Assistant Coach Brian McClain.

Abraham, who also serves as head coach to Madonna's softball program, and McClain have been suspended from campus and on paid leave since October 2021 after students alleged "inappropriate behavior." An investigation into the two men's conduct is ongoing.

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



A rendering of the proposed Portillo's along Middlebelt Road in Livonia. City council recently approved the submitted plan. COURTESY OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA

Livonia council approves Portillo's plan

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

A taste of Chicago appears it officially will come to Livonia.

The Livonia City Council reviewed the plans for the proposed Portillo's restaurant planned for a new outlet at the Millennium Park shopping center south of Interstate 96.

Located at 13000 Middlebelt, the new restaurant would consist of 7,900 square feet of space and serve up Italian beef sandwiches, hot dogs and chocolate cake shakes.

The council discussed the proposed project at its Feb. 16 study meeting at Livonia City Hall, where it recommended approval for the plans submitted.

"I am excited about Portillo's," Councilman Rob Donovic said. "It's because the city of Livonia does a great job and our residents love to eat. And so do I."

Once open, it would mark the second Portillo's to open in metro Detroit: the first location opened in 2021 in Sterling Heights. It's a restaurant that has a big following, especially for those who have spent time in the Windy City.

It was first sent to the city's planning commission earlier this year, which gave a recommendation of approval to the city council. Some issues were changed from that planning commission meeting, including the shortening of some parking lot lights from 30 feet to 20 feet. A traffic study also led to some changes, including additional signage and striping along the parking lot, as well as the addition of a "no turning left" sign from the southern driveway onto Middlebelt, said Mark Taormina, the city's planning and economic development director.

The council moved the agenda item with approving resolutions to its next

regular meeting, with no real opposition present. The measure is expected to be approved.

Portillo's hopes to break ground this spring with an expected opening date of later this year, said Amanda Schwerin of Texas-based HD Design Group who was one of the petitioners.

Councilman Scott Bahr said the arrival of the restaurant continues Livonia's run of bringing trendy national chains to the city.

"I understand Portillo's is a draw and I have to say it's like we're getting a trifecta of big draw of fast food restaurants with Chick-fil-A and then Shake Shack and now Portillo's," he said. "There's residents that have been clamoring for Portillo's for years."

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

"I understand Portillo's is a draw and I have to say it's like we're getting a trifecta of big draw of fast food restaurants with Chick-fil-A and then Shake Shack and now Portillo's. There's residents that have been clamoring for Portillo's for years."

Scott Bahr Livonia City Council member



"Luxury Condominium Living At Its Finest!"

Canton, MI- Enchanting 3 bedroom luxury condominiums with first floor owners suite and two car garages from 1,670 to 2,000 square feet, contemporary design, custom gourmet kitchens, spacious great rooms and scenic landscaping.



WOODBRIDGE *From the \$300's*

BUILDER CLOSEOUT - ONLY 3 UNITS LEFT

OPEN 12-6 PM
Friday Thru Tuesday

FURNISHED MODEL LOCATED AT:
48638 Eastbridge
Canton, MI 48188

For Information
734-844-8300

Plymouth, MI- Elegant 3 or 4 bedroom luxury condominiums with lofts and two car garages from 2,270 to 2,430 square feet, gourmet kitchens with granite counters, quality features, and fireplaces, centrally located minutes from downtown Plymouth and nearby Northville, from the \$400's.




GATEWAYS *From the \$400's*

BUILDER CLOSEOUT - ONLY 5 UNITS LEFT

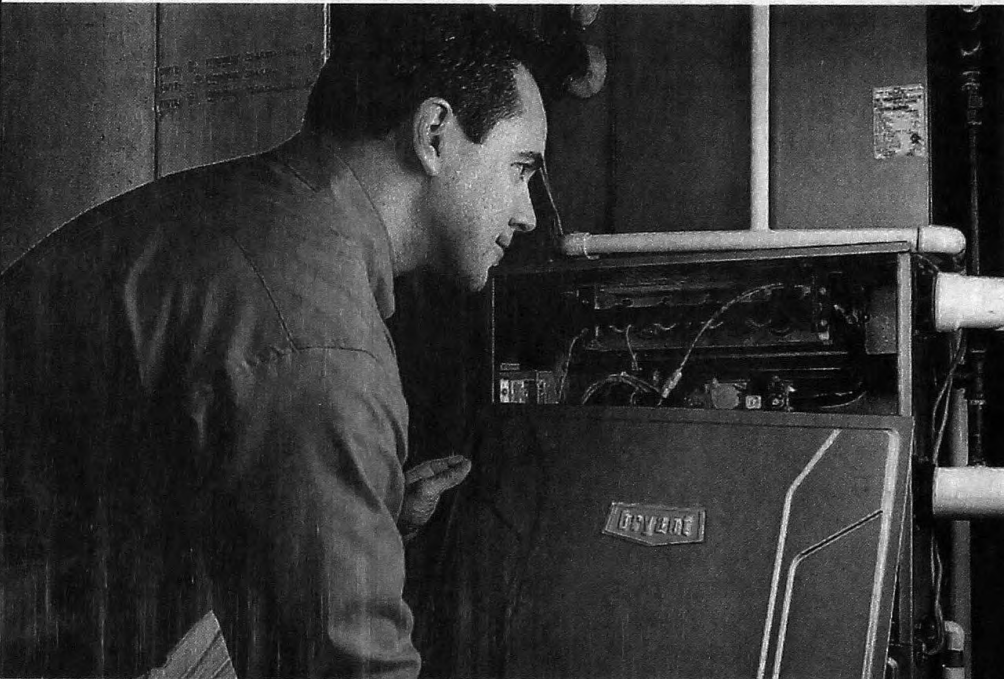
SPRING 2022 DELIVERY

WoodbridgeCommunities.com

Experts Since 1980



Electric · Plumbing · Heating · Cooling



- Flat Rate Pricing
- FREE Safety Inspection on Every Service Call
- Service Call Charge Waived with Work Performed
- Same Day Service
- All Our Technicians are Licensed and Background Checked
- 100% Satisfaction Guaranteed

“

“Hoover Electric has always given us prompt, courteous service. We have been blessed to be a customer for many years. Gary and his team always get to the issue quickly and complete the job in a timely manner. Wouldn't call anyone else!”

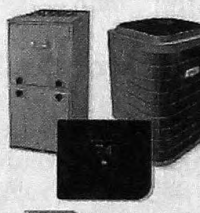
”

Google

In-Season Furnace Safety Check

\$59

With Coupon, Expires 2/28/2022



18 Months No Interest on New Furnace & AC System

**Restrictions apply*

248-372-9929

*Select Systems Apply, with approved credit. See Hoover for details.



Joe's Produce Gourmet Market

33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia, MI 48152 • 248.477.4333

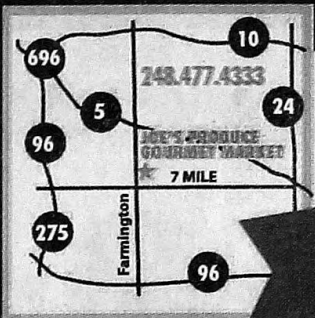
STORE HOURS: MON - SAT 9-8, SUN 9-7 • Sales Valid Feb 23 - Mar 1, 2022

While Supplies Last • Prices subject to change.



Sales Valid Feb 23 - Mar 1, 2022
MORE SELECTIONS ON OTHER SIDE >>>>

We reserve the right to limit quantities, correct print errors and make reasonable substitutions. Images displayed are for presentation purposes only - actual items may differ.



JoesProduce.com

Shop

MON. - SAT.

9 AM - 8 PM

SUN.

9 AM - 7 PM

Enjoy

Contactless

Curbside

Pickup and

Home Delivery!

Visit

Shop.Joesproduce.com

to Place Your

Order Today!

*Wine
Cellar*

YELLOW TAIL

750 ML

ALL VARIETALS

2/\$10

KENDALL JACKSON

CHARDONNAY,

PINOT NOIR, OR

ROSE

\$10.99 EA.

LA MARCA

PROSECCO

\$12.99 EA.

MEZZACORONA

750 ML

ALL VARIETALS

\$6.99 EA.



Joe's Gourmet
CATERING & EVENTS
Your Key to
Effortless Entertaining

We Cater to You!

Weddings, showers,
brunch, graduations,
cocktail parties,
picnics or meetings.

Visit us at:

JoesGourmetCatering.com

Call Laura at:

248.477.4333

Meat

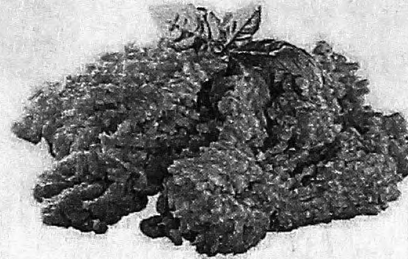
Joe's Meat & Seafood

Largest Fresh Meat & Seafood Counter in the Area!
Butcher-cut and hand ground premium meats. Fresh flown-in fish and seafood daily.



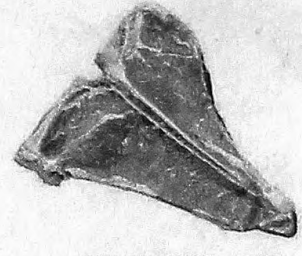
USDA PREMIUM CHOICE
ANGUS PORTERHOUSE

\$12.99/LB.



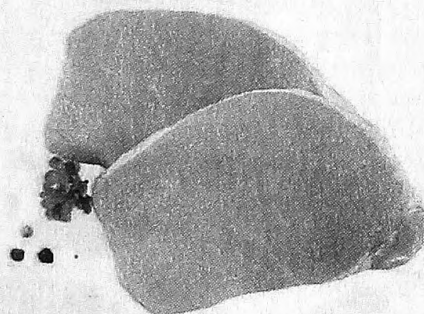
USDA PREMIUM
CHOICE ANGUS
GROUND BEEF FROM CHUCK

\$5.99/LB.



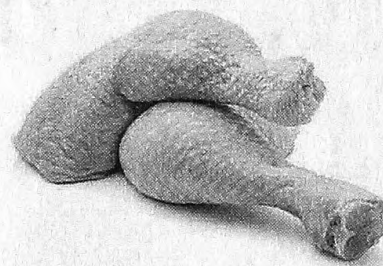
USDA PREMIUM
CHOICE ANGUS
T-BONE STEAKS

\$12.89/LB.



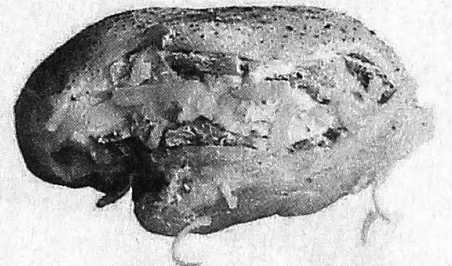
FRESH ALL NATURAL
BONELESS PORK
CHOPS

\$3.89/LB.



PREMIUM FRESH
ALL NATURAL CHICKEN
LEG QUARTERS

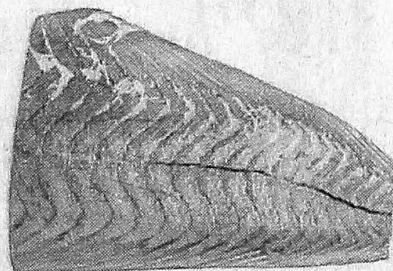
99¢/LB.



ENTREES TO GO:
PREPARED STUFFED CHICKEN
BREASTS MUENSTER BACON,
CORDON BLEU, OR BACON
CHEDDAR

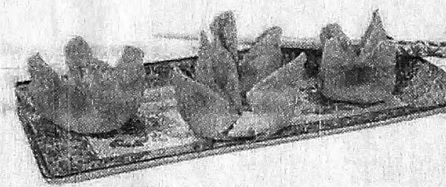
\$5.99/LB.

Seafood



SUPREME
POLLOCK FILLETS

\$4.99 EA.



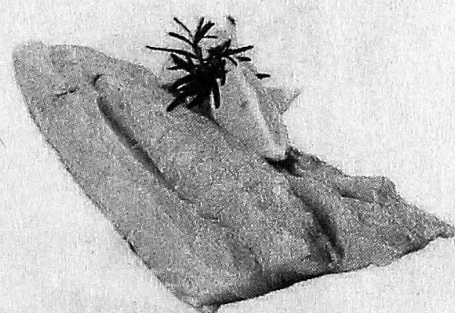
CRAB RANGOONS

\$4.99 EA.



CENSEA EZ PEEL
SHRIMP 31/40 CT

\$6.99 EA.



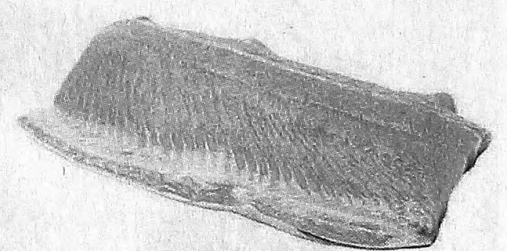
GROUPE FILLETS

\$16.99/LB.



CENSEA COOKED SHRIMP
31/40 CT

\$8.99 EA.



WILD CAUGHT
SOCKEYE SALMON
FILLETS

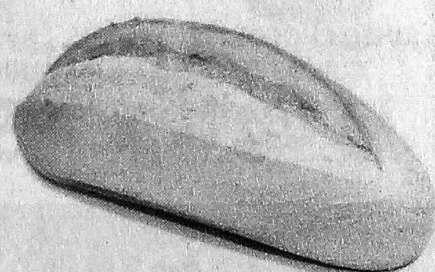
\$18.99/LB.

*Art of bread
by joe's*

STONE HEARTH BAKED DAILY

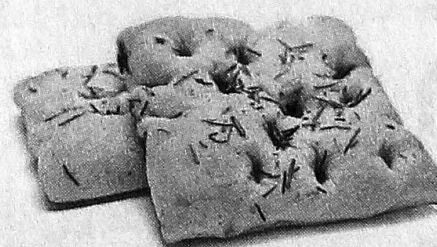
248-477-4311

Hours: 9 am - 6 pm, Closed Monday



ITALIAN

\$5.49 EA.



HERB AND OIL
FOCACCIA

\$5.49 EA.



CHOCOLATE
CHIP COOKIES

\$1.79 EA.



ENJOY CONTACTLESS CURBSIDE PICKUP AND HOME DELIVERY!

Visit Shop.Joesproduce.com to place your order today!

Sales Valid Feb 23 - Mar 1, 2022 • While Supplies Last • Prices subject to change • MORE SELECTIONS ON OTHER SIDE >>>>



Joe's Produce Gourmet Market

33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia, MI 48152 • 248.477.4333

STORE HOURS: MON - SAT 9-8, SUN 9-7 • Sales Valid Feb 23 - Mar 1, 2022

While Supplies Last • Prices subject to change.

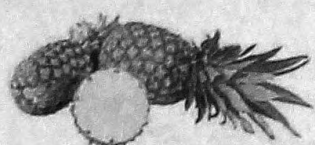


Sales Valid Feb 23 - Mar 1, 2022
MORE SELECTIONS ON OTHER SIDE >>>>

We reserve the right to limit quantities, correct print errors and make reasonable substitutions. Images displayed are for presentation purposes only - actual items may differ.

Produce

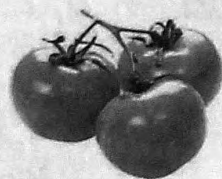
Our produce is hand-selected and continuously rotated, so you get the freshest and finest produce available throughout the year!



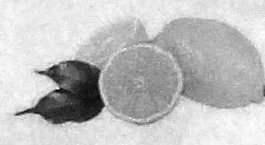
DOLE
GOLDEN RIPE
WHOLE PINEAPPLE
\$2.99 EA.



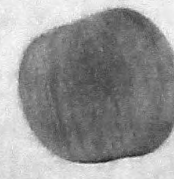
CALIFORNIA
BRUSSELS SPROUTS
\$1.99/LB.



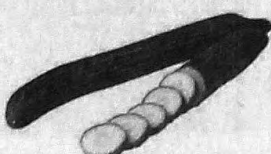
VINE TOMATOES
\$1.89/LB.



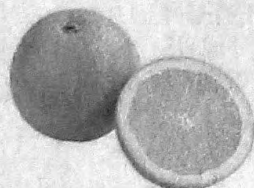
ORGANIC
LEMONS
99¢ EA.



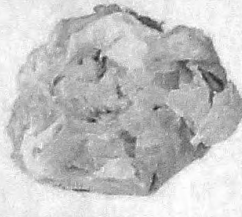
ORGANIC FUJI
APPLES
\$1.99/LB.



SEEDLESS CUCUMBERS
\$1.49/LB.



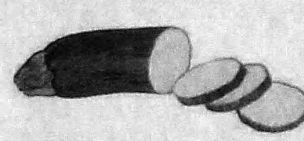
CALIFORNIA NAVEL
ORANGES
\$1.49/LB.



CALIFORNIA
HEAD LETTUCE
\$1.49 EA.



ORGANIC GRAPE
TOMATOES
1 PINT
\$2.99/LB.



ORGANIC ZUCCHINI
SQUASH
\$1.49/LB.

Deli



DEARBORN
SMOKED TURKEY
\$6.99/LB.



HOFFMAN'S
SUPER SHARP CHEDDAR
\$5.99/LB.



DEARBORN
HOMESTYLE CHICKEN
\$6.49/LB.



KOWALSKI
REGULAR BOLOGNA
\$5.49/LB.



DEARBORN
ROAST BEEF
\$8.49/LB.



KOWALSKI
KIELBASA LOAF
\$6.49/LB.

Fine Cheeses



BELTON FARM
PORT WINE DERBY
\$10.99/LB.



EPIROS
SMOKED GREEK CHEESE
OR GOAT CHEESE
\$2.99 EA.



ALOUETTE VARIETIES:
CRANBERRY APPLE SPICE
OR CHEESECAKE
\$2.39 EA.

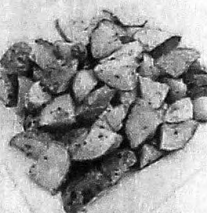
Everyday Gourmet



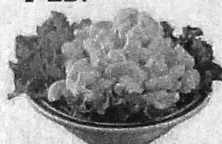
MEATLOAF
\$11.99/LB.



TURKEY TETRAZZINI
\$8.49/LB.



ROASTED RED SKIN
POTATOES
\$6.99/LB.

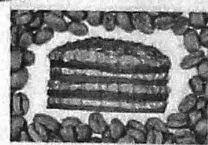


JOE'S MACARONI
SALAD
\$4.49/LB.



ZUCCHINI PANCAKES
\$3.49 EA.

Café



COFFEE FLAVOR OF
THE WEEK
BOURBON PECAN TORTE
\$6.99/LB.



AUNT GLORIA'S
BISCOTTI
\$1.99 EA.



FEEL
WELLNESS BARS
ALL VARIETIES
\$3.99 EA.

Meat & Seafood



USDA PREMIUM
CHOICE ANGUS
PORTERHOUSE
\$12.99/LB.



USDA PREMIUM
CHOICE ANGUS
GROUND BEEF
FROM CHUCK
\$5.99/LB.



FRESH ALL NATURAL
BONELESS PORK
CHOPS
\$3.89/LB.



WILD CAUGHT
SOCKEYE SALMON
FILLETS
\$18.99/LB.



GROUPE
FILLETS
\$16.99/LB.



SUPREME
POLLOCK FILLETS
\$4.99 EA.

Grocery



DELALLO STUFFED MANZANILLA
OLIVES 5.75 OZ JAR
\$1.99 EA.



KITCHEN READY
BROTHS
2/\$3



CORTO 100% EVOO
3 L BOTTLE
\$34.99 EA.



HERO FRUIT NECTAR
BEVERAGES
\$2.99 EA.



BRAGG APPLE CIDER
VINEGAR 32 OZ JAR
\$5.99 EA.

Pastry



WILDBERRY TORTE



JUMBO CHOCOLATE
CUPCAKES
\$3.49 EA.



TWO-BITE
VANILLA SCONES
\$5.99 EA.

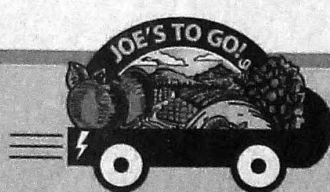


JUMBO RED VELVET
CUPCAKES
\$3.49 EA.



Please VOTE FOR
JOE'S PRODUCE

NOMINATED FOR:
LOCAL GROCERY, LOCAL PRODUCE, LOCAL MEAT/DELI, BAKERY, AND CATERER.



ENJOY CONTACTLESS CURBSIDE PICKUP AND HOME DELIVERY!
Visit Shop.Joesproduce.com to place your order today!

Sales Valid Feb 23 - Mar 1, 2022 • While Supplies Last • Prices subject to change • MORE SELECTIONS ON OTHER SIDE >>>>

★2021★
BEST OF THE
best
DETROIT
The Official Community Choice Awards
Detroit Free Press

Please
VOTE FOR
JOE'S PRODUCE

FREEP.COM/CONTESTS/

NOMINATED FOR:
LOCAL GROCERY, LOCAL PRODUCE, LOCAL MEAT/DELI, BAKERY, AND CATERER.

JOE'S PRODUCE
75
Gourmet Market

33152 W. Seven Mile Rd.
Livonia, MI 48152
Check out Joe's
specials on the back page.

SPORTS

Gymnasts, cheer team win conference meets

Livonia Red, South Lyon East prepare for postseason

Brandon Folsom [Hometownlife.com](#)
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The Livonia Red gymnastics team is entering the postseason with plenty worth celebrating.

The co-op squad between Livonia Churchill and Livonia Franklin recently wrapped up a perfect regular season and then followed it by winning the Kensington Lakes Activities Association championship.

On Feb. 7, Red posted a score of 145.50, just .70 away from breaking the school record, to beat crosstown rival Livonia Stevenson (137.875) on a super-

hero-themed senior night.

The victory gave them a 12-0 record to conclude the regular season as they celebrated seniors Mya O'Connor, Abby Lueck, Lauren Pline and Avery Boyk.

That weekend, they one-upped their effort by besting the field to capture a KLAA championship.

Up next for Red is the Division 1 regional March 5 at Salem where it'll face KLAA rivals Canton, Stevenson, Northville, Novi, Plymouth and the host Rocks, among four other teams making the trip to the area for the meet.

See MEETS, Page 2B



Livonia Red's Mya O'Connor (left), Abby Lueck, Lauren Pline, and Avery Boyk had a super senior season. COURTESY OF SHELBY DEVRIENDT PHOTOGRAPHY



Detroit Catholic Central's Josh Ross places a pretend crown atop Cooper Craggs' head after the Shamrocks beat Brother Rice on Feb. 19 in the CHSL tournament quarterfinal at Bloomfield Hills Marian. Catholic Central won by two points, 66-64. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Shamrocks win CHSL tourney opener

Brandon Folsom [Hometownlife.com](#)
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

A handful of media members swarmed Cooper Craggs as Detroit Catholic Central boys basketball coach Brandon Sinawi walked up and smacked his senior forward square on the chest.

"It's a new season," Sinawi said. "We're locked in and ready to go. It's playoff mode."

The fourth-year coach wore quite the smile.

He looked much better than he did following the Shamrocks' overtime loss to Brother Rice a week ago.

They had all but locked up a victory

over their rivals to the east until they fumbled away the lead late and ultimately lost the game at the foul line during the extra frame. Sinawi was fuming mad afterward. His cheeks were fiery red. That locker room door didn't stand a chance when he viciously slammed it shut on his way home for the night.

And then they followed that with a

loss to regular-season Catholic League-Central champs Detroit U-D Jesuit three days later, extending their losing streak to five straight and finishing with a 2-6 record in their division.

That's right. The same Shamrocks that entered the CHSL season ranked in

See OPENER, Page 2B

BANKING THAT
GIVES YOU
3% APY* PREMIER
CHECKING

Breathe easy with
zero monthly fees and
no minimum balance
requirements.

Visit [CFCU.ORG/EarnMore](#) or call
(877) 937-2328 to find out more.

COMMUNITY
FINANCIAL
right here right for you

*Earn 3.00% Annual Percentage Yield (APY) when monthly requirements are met. Rates as of 1/30/20, subject to change. Federally insured by NCUA.

Opener

Continued from Page 1B

the top 10 of everyone's polls ended up dead last in their league.

"We've had a rough go these last five games, and we've lost some close ones," Sinawi said. "We've played hard and just didn't get the wins at the end of it.

"When adversity strikes, it's never how do you act. It's how you respond. And our guys responded today."

To the surprise of no one in Bloomfield Hills Marian's gymnasium, CC and Rice played another instant classic with both teams trading leads, bruises and bragging rights.

CC won the first game in January. Rice pulled off the comeback in overtime a week ago. And the CHSL tournament quarterfinal went back and forth until the final buzzer.

Quite literally. Rice three-star guard Johnathan Blackwell missed the back end of two free throws in the bonus with 9 seconds left that would've put the Warriors ahead by two.

CC forward Kam Mayes corralled the rebound and dribbled up the floor to both set up the offense and prepare for what would likely be a final prayer. The senior got to the top of the key, turned to his left and handed off the ball to Craggs, who instantly grabbed a full head of steam and pounded the rock through the lane.

Craggs started falling as he went up for a potential game-winning layup about 4 feet from the rim, barely getting his shot over the extended defending arms of 6-foot-5 four-star Curtis Williams with 1.6 seconds remaining.

The ball lipped into the basket, and then it almost rolled out back near Craggs. And then it dropped in. Finally.

Craggs quickly sat upright, slammed the palms of his hands on the floor in celebration and was then greeted with cheers by teammates TJ Nadeau, Kevin Wendt and Mayes, who each helped him to his feet.

The Oakland University signee then toed the line for the ensuing and-one opportunity, which he buried as well.

CC 66, Rice 64. No overtime was needed this time. "We didn't really have a play drawn up," said Craggs, who totaled 10 points. "We were just trying to get someone to the basket. I saw Kam dribbling, so I took the handoff, went straight downhill and just put up a good shot. I wanted to put pressure on the refs to make a call, and that's what I got." Wait, what? You're playing against one of the best teams in the state, and you didn't even have a set play for the winning shot? "No, no. Listen, we don't need to draw up a play every time," Sinawi said. "We've got some guys who can make plays. So we trust our players. We talked about it on the bench when they (Rice)



Brother Rice's Johnathan Blackwell shoots Feb. 19 during the CHSL tournament quarterfinal against Detroit Catholic Central at Bloomfield Hills Marian. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"We've had a rough go these last five games, and we've lost some close ones. ... When adversity strikes, it's never how do you act. It's how you respond. And our guys responded today."

Brandon Sinawi
Catholic Central boys basketball coach

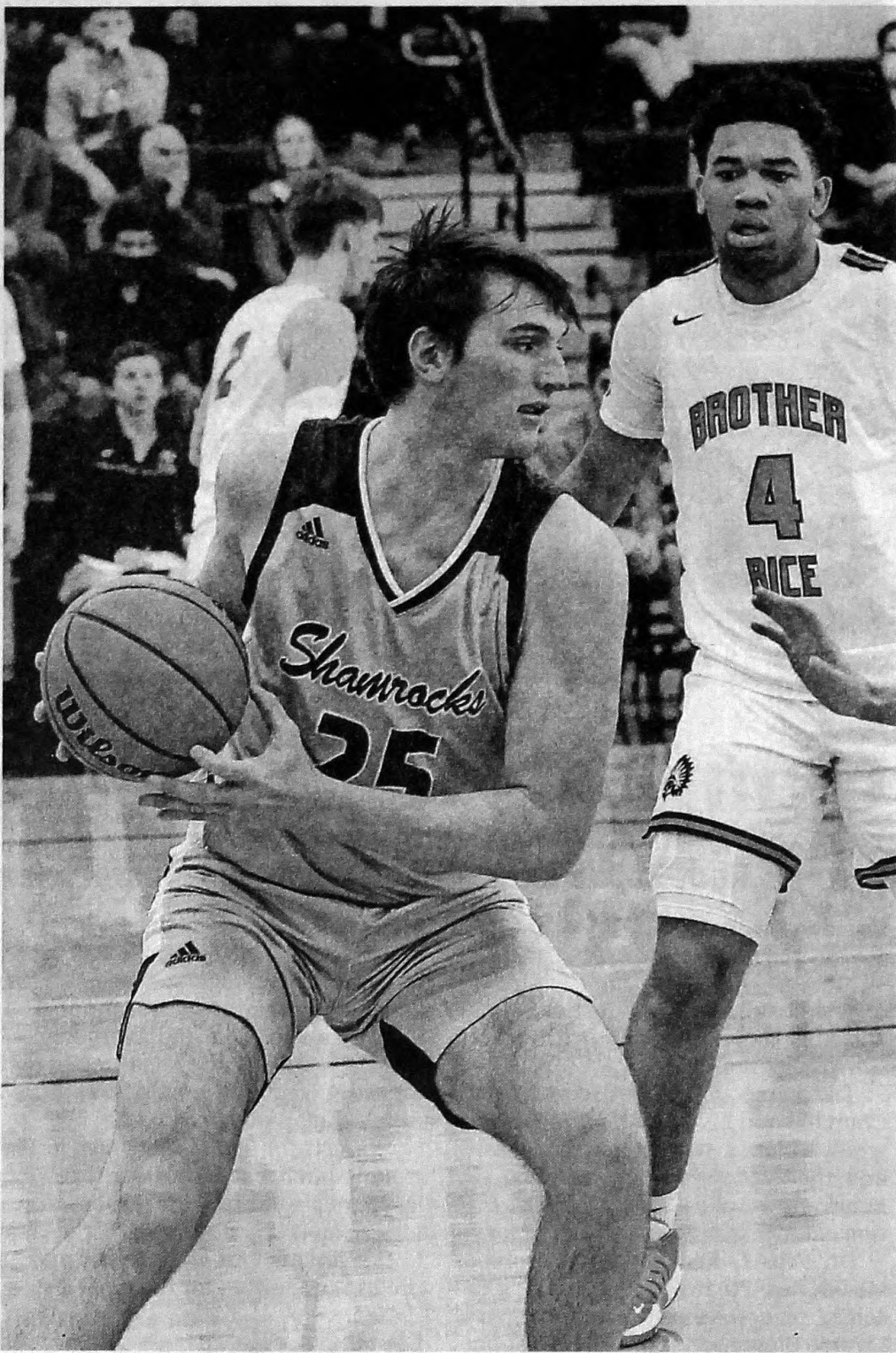
were getting ready to shoot the free throws about what we wanted to do. The consensus was that we wanted to go out there and play. Especially if he (Blackwell) missed it. He missed that one, and we just knew that we were going to make a play to the hoop.

"We love our guys, and we trust them. We knew that they were going to come out and give us a chance. God bless it. It went in."

Rice launched a full-court Hail Mary that obviously didn't go in before the final horn.

CC's bench quickly tackled Craggs, and the Shamrocks started an impromptu celebration in front of their student section. Teammate Josh Ross even paid tribute to Craggs by placing an invisible crown on his head.

"Probably not, no. Definitely not," said Craggs, when asked if he's ever made a bigger shot than that buzzer-beater to win it all. "That was a big shot.



Detroit Catholic Central's Cooper Craggs rebounds.

It feels good.

"This was a rubber match for us, and we felt like we should've had them both times. All week we were locked in at practice just knowing that we were going to get them this time, and we did.

"We know we shouldn't have finished last. We started playing bad in the middle of the season. Our team knows we're a good team, and we're here to show everybody that we can play."

What a turn of events for the Shamrocks, who'll face Warren DeLaSalle in the tournament semifinal at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Eastern Michigan University.

A win over the Pilots, who they split with during the regular season, advances them to Saturday's championship, which is also at EMU.

CC is on the verge of going from the basement to the penthouse in its own league. It's just two victories away from righting its wrongs during Central play

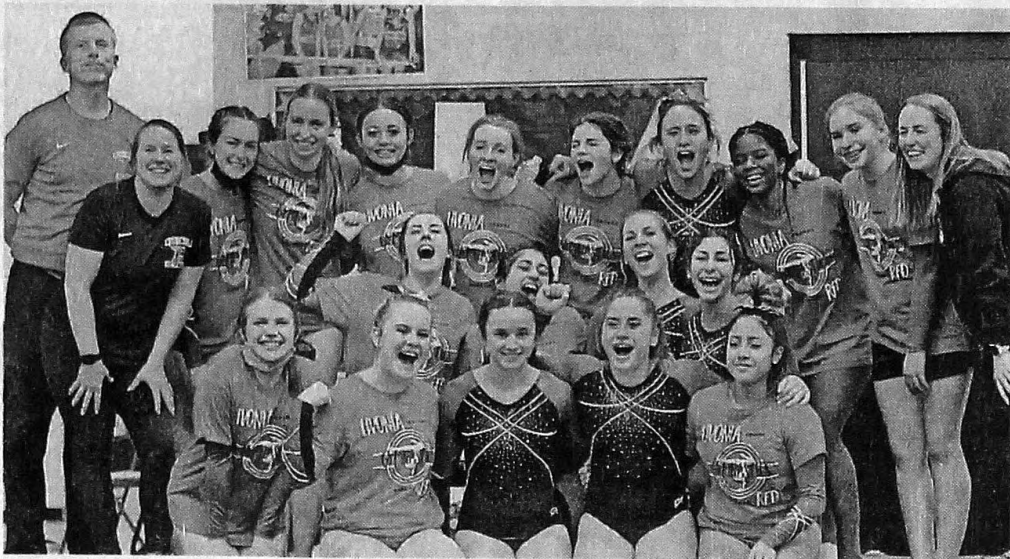
over the past two months.

From last place to a potential tournament championship. That's just how wild playing in the CHSL has been this winter.

"This is a new season for us," Sinawi said. "We've forgotten what's taken place. We were dead last, but we don't care. We've played two tough games against Rice. We've beaten DeLaSalle already. And we have the opportunity to go against U of D or (Orchard Lake St.) Mary's on the other side, and we'll see what happens.

"We wanted the heart. We wanted the fight. The guys showed a lot of grit. ... For a kid like Coop to make the play, he'll never lose that memory. He'll always have that game-winning shot against Rice."

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsom-brandonj.



The Livonia Red gymnastics team recently wrapped up an undefeated regular season and won a Kensington Lakes Activities Association championship. COURTESY OF SHELBY DEVRIENDT PHOTOGRAPHY



The South Lyon East competitive cheer team recently won the Lakes Valley Conference championship meet. COURTESY

Meets

Continued from Page 1B

Should Red make it out of its regional, it'll compete in the state finals March 11-12 at White Lake Lakeland.

"I think we started this season strong, and we finished the regular season with the best score I have had in my 11 years of coaching," Red coach Mandy Brown said in a statement. "This is just a fun and great group of girls to coach."

Over the past two years, Red has posted a 23-0-1 record.

Its roster includes eight from Churchill and nine from Franklin.

The Chargers include Boyk, Reva Bhate, Alexis Guldner, Elly Liebau, Lueck, Jaime Picciano, Pline and Sadie Yessler.

The Patriots include Nour Asfour, Chloe Bogedain, Mya Bolin, Izzy Brumm, Paige Dummer, Egypt Gee,

O'Connor, Emiliya Ramazanova and Morgan Ruffing.

Up-and-coming South Lyon East surprise field at LVC championship

A big effort at the Lakes Valley Conference competitive cheer championship has South Lyon East excited entering the postseason.

The Cougars won the LVC meet on Feb. 5, which was enough to help them finish in second place in the final league standings behind only Milford.

The Mavericks won both regular-season meets and placed third in the LVC championship to take home the outright league title.

East got progressively better throughout the season, placing third in the first LVC meet, second in the next one and walking away with first place in the finale.

The Cougars scored 756.38 in the championship, followed by South Lyon

with 749.44 and Milford with 728.96.

"These athletes are so dedicated and hard working," East coach Julia Tilt said in a statement. "I've been telling them for the last couple years it takes time to build a program and hard work will start to pay off. Today their hard work paid off! (Feeling) proud is an understatement!"

This is East's best league finish during Tilt's three seasons leading the program. It's gone from fifth in the league, to fourth and now second.

Should the Cougars qualify for the regional, it'll compete on Feb. 26 at Hartland. The state finals are slated for March 4 at the Delta Plex in Grand Rapids.

"SLE has never been a top contender until this year," Tilt added. "SLE is a D-2 school in a league with mostly D-1 schools. They had an amazing day, and it paid off. This very young and talented team is up and rising."

This year's squad includes freshmen

Jocelyn Anderson, Sophia Clark, Audrey Jones, Lucy Kligman, Morgan Lear, Ava Matteucci and Alli Tilt; sophomores Olivia Allen, Sydney Crenshaw, Jacey Czajkowski, Trinity Taylor, Avery Stimmel and Natalie Tilt; juniors Cassie Ryan, Melia Paras, Emily Seybert and Hannah Westlund; and seniors Caroline Taylor, Riley Welton, Josie Larsen and Sydnie Pergament.

"These athletes are so dedicated, hard-working and talented," Tilt added. "They have been putting in the work since July with summer camp and sideline season.

"They have two days of tumbling and three practices a week (and are) determined to gain respect this year. Today proved they can do whatever they set their mind on! This team has big goals this year."

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsom-brandonj.

Stevenson senior signs with Saginaw Valley

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Morgan Bogacki once suffered an almost-career-ending knee injury. Now the Livonia Stevenson senior is on her way to Saginaw Valley State University to join the women's soccer program.

Bogacki was one of many around the area to sign a letter of intent to play a college sport over the past two weeks. "Playing college soccer has always been a dream of mine since I was a little girl," Bogacki wrote in a statement. "Having this opportunity has become one of my greatest accomplishments. "Freshman year, I made the Stevenson High School varsity soccer team and my team won the district title that same year. This year, I was named captain of the varsity team and have been captain

of my club team for the past four years. A major challenge I was faced with was overcoming a torn ACL. "The perseverance and drive to recover shaped the person and the player I am today."

Bogacki and the Spartans return to the pitch for practice on March 14. Teams around Michigan can start playing games on March 23.

She was an All-KLAA first-team defender as a junior, helping Stevenson win the East. However, the Spartans lost to Salem 3-0 in the league championship game.

She's spent six seasons with the Michigan Hawks Soccer Club travel team.

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsom-brandonj.



Livonia Stevenson senior Mogan Bogacki recently signed with the Saginaw Valley State University women's soccer team. COURTESY

Former Carlson coach takes over Plymouth baseball

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

New Plymouth athletic director Cha-ka Johnson didn't want to miss with his first coaching hire. Nor did he want to miss out. That's why he both followed his intuition and listened to those he trusts in the sports community while picking the Wildcats' next varsity baseball coach.

Johnson recently awarded the job to Jake Pacholski, 26, an up-and-comer with an already-impressive resume. "I told him, 'You're setting the precedent for me, man. You've got to come in and get the ship right,'" Johnson said. "... A good friend of mine told me that he's a winner. Whatever he's touched, they've been successful in. They called me and were like, 'If you don't bring this guy in, you're making a mistake. You're missing the train.'"

In high school, Pacholski helped Dearborn Divine Child win districts and regionals as well as make an appearance in the 2012 state semifinal. He went on to play at both Jackson Community Col-

lege and Rochester University. He jumped into coaching immediately after graduating with a degree in business administration.

He became a recruiting coordinator in 2017 at Michigan-Dearborn. He then was a volunteer assistant from 2018 to 2021 at Wayne State. He helped the Warriors tie the school record for most wins in a single season (35) in 2019.

He left the college ranks to become the head coach last school year at Gibraltar Carlson, where he led the Marauders to a 21-win season.

He wasn't expecting to leave the Downriver area so soon, but he couldn't pass up the opportunity at Plymouth. "I consider Plymouth, when it comes to advancing in your career, a top-five program at the high school level," Pacholski said.

Pacholski has also led the historic Lincoln Park Rails Baseball Club Organization for the past seven summers. His 18-U team alone has sent around 130 kids to play in college.

His travel work is what helped him catch on with college teams.

Pacholski

"He's got a lot of things going for him," WSU coach Ryan Kelley said. "He showed a lot of promise for us at Wayne State, especially coaching-wise. One detail that separates him from the rest was how he related to the student-athletes. They gravitated toward him. He had a good player-coach relationship with them. When he left our program to continue his coaching path, the team we had then was proud of him and his future but was sad to see him go. They spoke highly of him in exit meetings."

Pacholski wore many hats with the Warriors, which helped him learn different aspects of coaching a program vs. just teaching players how to excel in the batter's box.

"One thing that was important about him is he was a volunteer coach, so he wasn't in a paid position, which showed he was strongly committed to being here," Kelley added. "He had to want to be here, and he showed a passion for being part of the program."

Johnson is hoping Pacholski brings the same dedication to leading the Wildcats, who won a Division 1 district championship in 2021 and return 12 seniors. He wants to see the program return to what it was under former coach Jason Crain, who won a program-record 128 games in six years at Plymouth before becoming the coach at Alma College in 2020.

Johnson spoke with Crain about Pacholski before finalizing the hire. "Jake got a lot of personal recommendations," Johnson said. "We interviewed several candidates. I felt like he didn't have the most experience, but he had what we needed to relate to kids in 2022. He's already come through."

Pacholski has liked what he's seen out of the Wildcats during volunteer four-player workouts. "Looking at the roster, we'll pitch fairly well and play good defense," he said.

The Wildcats' coaching staff will also include Matt Penn, Aaron Scheffer, Benn Baker and Collin Goslin.



3DAYBLINDS®
YOU'LL LOVE THE TREATMENT

CUSTOM BLINDS, SHADES, SHUTTERS & DRAPERY



FREE Installation*
on Custom Blinds, Shades,
Drapery and Decorative Hardware

CALL TO SCHEDULE
FREE in-home design consultation
with no obligation!
(313) 466-6126



WE DESIGN, WE MEASURE, WE INSTALL, YOU RELAX!®

*Offer valid on residential base installation of 3 Day Blinds brand products only, excluding shutters and special orders. Minimum purchase of \$750 required, excluding sales tax, shipping and handling. Not valid with any other offer or discount. Offer Code CEPC. Expires 12/31/22. State Contractor and Home Improvement Licenses: Arizona 321056, California 1005986, Connecticut HIC.0644950, New Jersey 13VH09390200, Oregon 209181, Pennsylvania PA107656, Tennessee 10020, Washington 3DAYBDB842KS. County Licenses: Nassau County, NY H01073101, Rockland County, NY H-12401-34-00-00, Licensed through Great Windows Services, LLC, Virginia 2705172678, West Virginia WV061238, Various City Licenses Available Upon Request. © 2022 3 Day Blinds LLC.



EMPIRE TODAY®
CARPET & FLOORING

We Make Getting Beautiful New Floors Easy



75% OFF*

Product only. Select styles.

Save Big on Carpet, Hardwood,
Vinyl, and Laminate!

Schedule a FREE In-Home Estimate!
Call **888-330-0582**
or visit **EmpireToday.com/newspaper.**

*Discount is applied to the regular price of select styles of carpet, hardwood, vinyl, and laminate when you pay for installation, padding and materials. Excludes stairs, miscellaneous charges, and prior purchases. Product may not be sold separately from installation. Residential installations only. Not available in all areas. Valid through 02/27/22. Subject to change. Details at EmpireToday.com. Sales (except CA and MA) and installation are provided by independent contractors. Licensure at EmpireToday.com. CSLB 1047108 © 2022 Empire Today, LLC

Our top 5 girls basketball teams: Week 5

Brandon Folsom [Hometownlife.com](https://www.hometownlife.com)
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The girls basketball regular season has just two weeks left before the district tournaments start.

That means a bunch of teams in Hometown Life's Week 5 poll have either won or are on the verge of winning a league title.

Let's see who made it in this week's rankings:

Note: These records are based on results from before Feb. 14.

1. Redford Westfield Prep (16-1) (Last week: No. 1)

The Warriors have the week off, which is good news for the rest of the state. They've been beating on bigger and stronger schools all season long. They close out the regular season with matchups against Grosse Pointe North and Saline, two more Division 1 opponents, next week. Expect more from their speedy guards and hard-nosed defense. They've won eight straight since their three-point loss to Ypsilanti Arbor Prep. That winning streak should be in the double digits when the playoffs start.

2. Farmington Hills Mercy (13-2, 9-1 CHSL-Central) (Last week: No. 2)

What a senior sendoff for the Marlins. They celebrated the careers of captains Sarah Cunningham and Sophie Dugas as well as manager Bianca Marcon on senior night. Then they also captured the Catholic League-Central championship by beating Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard, 46-32. At the beginning of the season, with how tough Mercy's schedule looked, it seemed like it'd be a battle to even be in contention for the league title. But the Marlins won it convincingly by knocking off the top teams in its league down the stretch, winning seven straight after falling to Dearborn Divine Child on Jan. 11. Now they're hoping to win the CHSL tournament.



Farmington Hills Mercy's Sarah Cunningham looks to pass Jan. 7 against Bloomfield Hills Marian.
BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

3. Wayne Memorial (15-1, 12-0 KLAA-East) (Last week: No. 3)

With Livonia Franklin losing to Belleville last week, that ensured the Zebras their sixth-straight Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East title. They'll represent the division during the two KLAA crossover games against the West next week, a pair of games they're likely to win. Detroit Free Press writer Mick McCabe ranked Wayne No. 10 in his Super 10 poll on Sunday, which means the Zebras are the 10th best team in the state, regardless of division. It's easy to see why. They've won 15-straight since dropping the opener to Arbor Prep, McCabe's No. 9 team in the Super 10.

4. South Lyon East (14-2, 12-0 LVC) (Last week: No. 4)

The Cougars must win just two of their final four games to repeat as league champions. And that shouldn't be too much to ask. They've already beaten each of their last four opponents by at least 23 points or more. With the district tournament only two weeks away, expect East to coast to a Lakes Valley Conference championship and enter the postseason with plenty of confidence.

5. Plymouth Christian Academy (14-3, 7-0 MIAC) (Last Week: No. 5)

It was a challenging and emotional week for the Eagles, who picked up wins against Southfield Christian and Auburn Hills Oakland Christian to remain undefeated in their league. That included celebrating 1,000-career point scorer

Anna Fernandez on senior night and playing in front of a packed crowd on homecoming. Two of their next three games will be tough. They head to Adrian Lenawee Christian, a state power that recently sent Bree Salenbien to Gonzaga, and Wixom St. Catherine, which has won 11-straight.

In the hunt (in no particular order): Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills Marian, Birmingham Seaholm, Birmingham Detroit Country Day, Garden City, Livonia Clarenceville, Livonia Franklin, Milford, Northville, Redford Thurston, South Lyon, Wixom St. Catherine, White Lake Lakeland.

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsom-brandonj.

GatorGuard Concrete Coatings
Free Estimates

Liquid Art Metallic Finish

Annual Basement Coatings Sale

LIFETIME WARRANTY

Garages

Sealing

Basements

Lowest Prices of the Year on all Interior Coatings

25% off*
Entire Job

Why Choose GatorGuard?

With GatorGuard's proprietary coating technology you will save yourself hours of continued cleaning and money by not choosing a secondary product that will fail and have to be re-coated time after time. Our coatings are non-porous, making it easier to clean (when you have to), resistant to cracks and stains, and increase light within your space.

1 We Move
Let us take care of the back-breaking work of moving your contents! Sit back and relax knowing we have you covered.

2 We Store
We place your contents in an onsite locked storage unit so you can rest assured your things are dry and safe.

3 We Floor
Watch the transformation as we liven up your space with our lifetime warranted coating system called GatorGuard! Then we return and safely place your items where we found them.

Indiana · Michigan · Kentucky · Ohio

Call Today!
248-372-9926

Cannot be combined with any other offer.
Ask Estimator for details. Expires 2/28/2022

CABINET REFACING & REFINISHING IN AS LITTLE AS 3 DAYS!

FREE* GRANITE COUNTERTOPS or **up to \$1,000 OFF****
LIMITED TIME ONLY

NO PAYMENT NO INTEREST for 12 MONTHS***
*Offer financing available to qualified buyers through Openly/2021/2022.

Transforms the Exterior of Your Cabinets Creating an Entirely New Look

HOME SOLUTIONS
by **KURTIS**

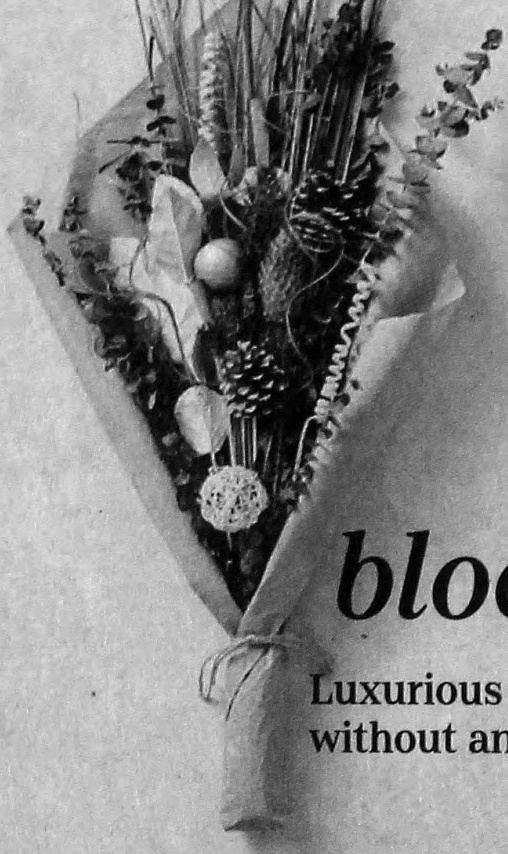
FREE CONSULTATIONS! CALL TODAY
248-450-6253

MI Lic # 2102222470
12500 Merriman Rd., Livonia, MI 48150

CDC We are CDC compliant in order to best protect you and your family!

*With the purchase of cabinet refacing. **New projects only. Cannot be combined with additional offers or discounts. Offer includes materials and labor costs. Minimum 100 sq. ft. or refacing purchase required. Does not include demolition, cut-outs or upgrade. Group 1 3CM Granite with Group A details only. Offer expires 2/28/2022

Eye-catching

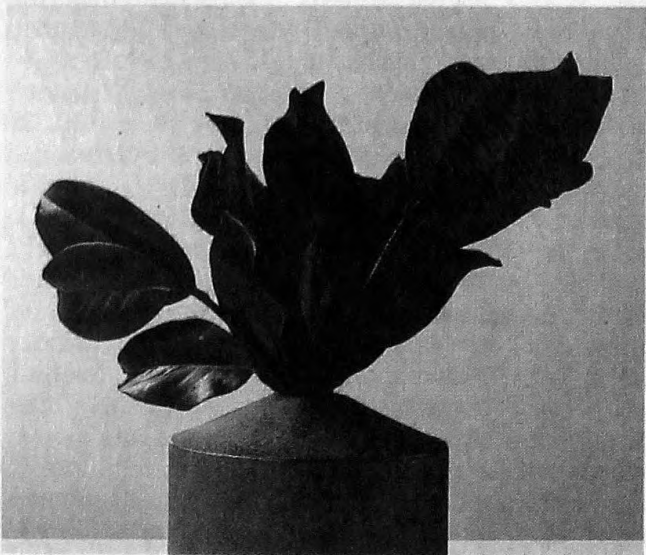


blooms
Luxurious bouquets
without any labor

The Winter Forest Holiday Bouquet offers eucalyptus, pinecones, cinnamon sticks, salal and more. \$44.95 at Williams Sonoma. USA TODAY NETWORK PHOTOS

USA TODAY NETWORK

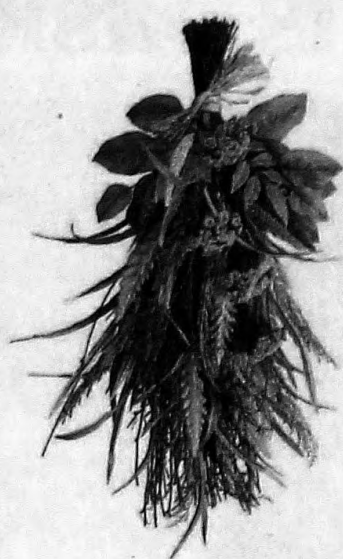
Long-lasting and lush, these dried floral bouquets feature eye-catching blooms – without the work.



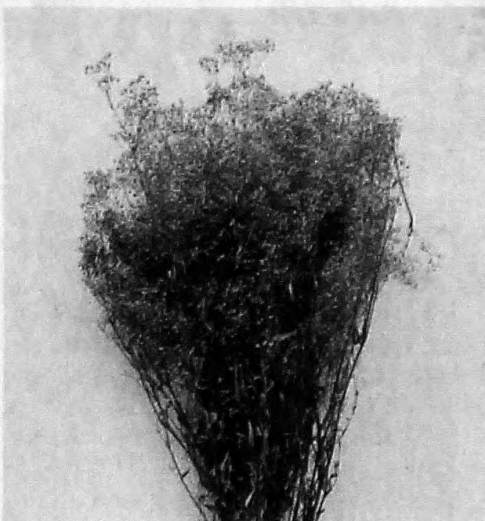
Perfect alone or with a larger arrangement, these preserved magnolia stems shine with glossy green. \$14.95 for a set of three at cb2.com.



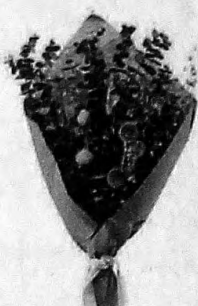
With gold pampas and white loofahs, the Four Seasons bouquet looks great any time of year. \$79 at bouqs.com.



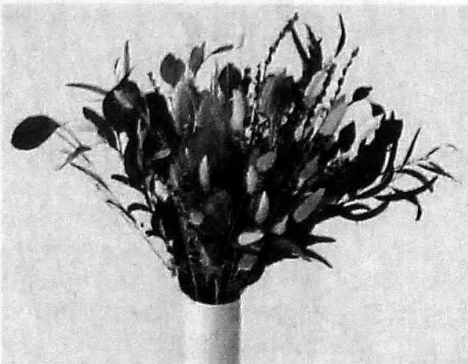
Lush with faux lemon and eucalyptus leaves, this mixed leaf and wheat swag can be hung or displayed as a centerpiece. \$99 at Ballard Designs.



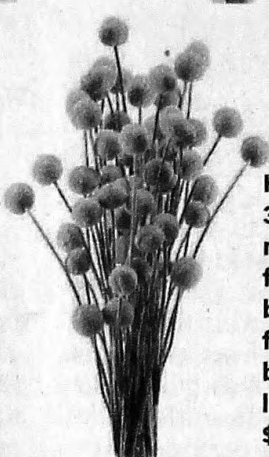
Get 15 to 20 stems with the preserved mauve brown Stardust Gyp Bundle. \$34 at afloral.com.



This safflower thistle bouquet, measuring 20 inches long, features pops of yellow and blue. \$49 at West Elm.

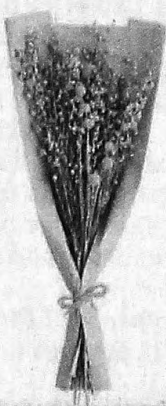


With vibrant colors, the Juneau bouquet makes a statement on tables and countertops. Vase included. \$95 at urbanstems.com.



Huaesin's 30-piece natural dried flowers bouquet featuring Billy balls is full and lively. \$14.99-\$16.58 at amazon.com.

This dried flowers and flax bunch features natural dried craspedia, larkspur and flax stems. \$19.99 at World Market.



The natural tones of dried pepper grass, measuring 18 inches long, fit with any style. \$24 at bloomist.com.

BUY
NOW
PAY
LATER

NEW BATH
TODAY
50% OFF
PROFESSIONAL
INSTALLATION

Walk-In Bath & Shower Systems
Pay Nothing Until 2023

ASK ABOUT OUR
FREE
3D
DESIGN
SERVICE

Call
Now

313-241-9145

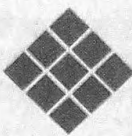
* Cannot be combined with any other offer. Previous sales excluded. Good at initial presentation only. Financing available from GreenSky LLC for qualified buyer only who purchase with plan 2521. 50% Installation of NBT supplied products only.

LO-GCH14197-01

\$250 OFF*

Our Customers are the HEART of our Success!

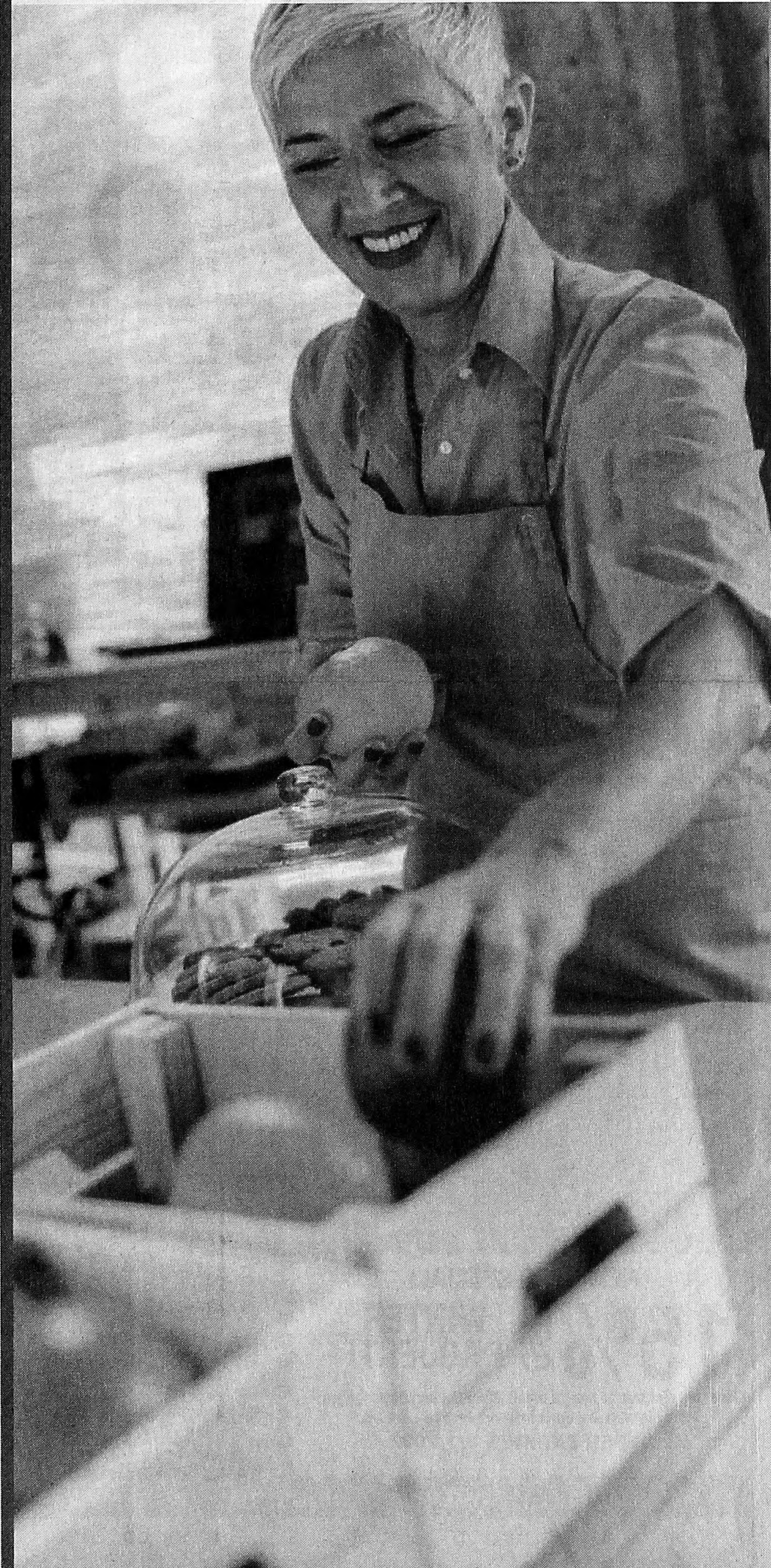
Floor Coverings International® has the **best customer service rating** in the flooring industry and strives to build trust from our first interaction with you. Our Design Associates work with you to ensure you have all the facts about the product you choose and the details for your flooring installation. We have over 350,000 happy customers (and counting)! **We LOVE Our Customers!**



FLOOR COVERINGS
international®

Book a Free Consultation!
947-600-7060 • bookfci.com

*Exclusions may apply. Each Franchise is a Locally Owned and Independently Operated



**Some business
decisions are
based on
your gut.**



**Marketing
shouldn't be
one of them.**

Smart local marketing
that gets results.

LOCALiQ

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Learn more at localiq.com/sayhello

Classifieds

To advertise, visit:
classifieds.hometownlife.com

■ Classifieds Phone: **800.926.8237**
■ Classifieds Email: **dfpclass@dnps.com**
■ Public Notices/Legals Email: **oelegals@hometownlife.com**



All classified ads are subject to the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from our Advertising Dept. All ads are subject to approval before publication. The Observer & Eccentric reserves the right to edit, refuse, reject, classify or cancel any ad at any time. Errors must be reported in the first day of publication. The Observer & Eccentric shall not be liable for any loss or expense that results from an error in or omission of an advertisement. No refunds for early cancellation of order.

Adopt Me

Pets

find a new friend...

Domestic Pets

Lab/mix puppies. 734-255-6034

Careers

Jobs

new beginnings...

Engineering & IT

Robert Bosch Automotive Steering LLC seeks a SW Eng in Plymouth, MI. REQS: Bach dgr or frn eq in Comp Science, Comp Eng, Electronic Eng or Electrical Eng +3 yrs wrk exp in embedded SW development w/in the auto industry. Apply online at <https://www.bosch.us/careers/>, search Software Engineer / REF139050B

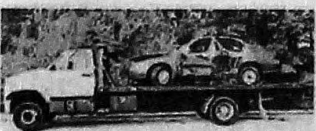
Robert Bosch LLC seeks a Sr Systems Engineer in Farmington Hills, MI. REQS: Bach dgr or frn eq in SW Eng, Mechanical Eng, Electrical Eng, Electronic Eng, or Comp Eng +5 yrs of prof wrk exp in the use & devel of embedded SW for engine mgmt systems. Apply online at <https://www.bosch.us/careers/>, search Senior Systems Engineer / REF139054V

Transportation

Wheels

best deal for you...

Autos Wanted



Advanced H&W- \$\$ for salvage/scrap autos Free towing 7days 734-223-5581

Find your
new job
HERE!



Mac Valves Inc., leading manufacturer of pneumatic valves is seeking associates for

Assembly Lines | Material Handlers Machine Operators

Mac Valves Inc. offer a competitive benefit package including 401K, Medical, Dental as well as short term and long term profit sharing.

Please apply in person at
30569 Beck Road, Wixom, MI 48393.

LO-GC0571980-01

OFFICE MANAGER POSITION AND SHIPPING & RECEIVING MANAGER POSITION

Full or Part-Time.
Great Benefits.
Will train for both positions.

Please send resumes to
jzedan@zedandentalab.com
Fax: **248-626-1948**
or Call: **248-626-3144**



Mac Valves Inc., leading manufacturer of pneumatic valves is seeking associates for

Assembly Lines | Material Handlers Machine Operators

Mac Valves Inc. offer a competitive benefit package including 401K, Medical, Dental as well as short term and long term profit sharing.

Please apply in person at
30569 Beck Road, Wixom, MI 48393.

LO-GC0571980-01

The customer's
journey is complex.

Marketing to them
doesn't have to be.

**We
simplify
local
marketing.**

LOCALiQ

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

localiq.com

**ALL AMERICAN
GUTTER PROTECTION**

The best
solution for
**CLOG
FREE
GUTTERS**

BOOK NOW

FREE ESTIMATES

248-657-7136

SPRING SAVINGS

20% OFF

End gutter cleaning forever!



Satisfaction Guaranteed.
No payment required until the job is finished and you're completely satisfied.



Lifetime Performance Guarantee.
We guarantee that our products will keep your gutters free of leaves and clogs for the rest of the life of your home.



Competitive Pricing & Discounts.
20% off all jobs.



Ask us about our senior citizen & military discounts.



Call Today for your FREE estimate!

Limited Time Offer, cannot be combined with any other offer. Call for details.

FORMULATED TO WITHSTAND HARSH MICHIGAN WINTERS!

Professionally installed concrete coating solutions for your home or business.

We Can Transform Your Basement & Garage Floors This Winter In ONE DAY!

BEFORE

AFTER



IMMEDIATE
AVAILABILITY!!
CALL TODAY
FOR FREE
ESTIMATES!

NEW YEAR SPECIAL!

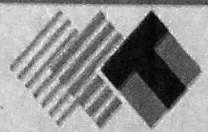
15% OFF WINTER PROJECT!

Must present this at time of order. Minimum purchase applies.
Not valid with any other offer or previous contract.
OFFER EXPIRES 3/1/2022.

15 YEAR WARRANTY

RESIDENTIAL // COMMERCIAL // INDUSTRIAL // WAREHOUSE

4X STRONGER
than epoxy!!!



**TRUTECH
CONCRETE COATINGS**

- Easy to keep clean
- 100% antibacterial & antimicrobial
- Will not chip or peel
- Formulated for Michigan winters
- Slip resistant
- Endless color options
- 15 year warranty



CALL NOW TO START YOUR PROJECT AS EARLY AS NEXT WEEK!

734-236-9222

Proudly serving Southeast Michigan
Only Authorized dealer of Penntek Industrial
Coatings in Southeast Michigan

Find us on Facebook

LO-GC0812134-02

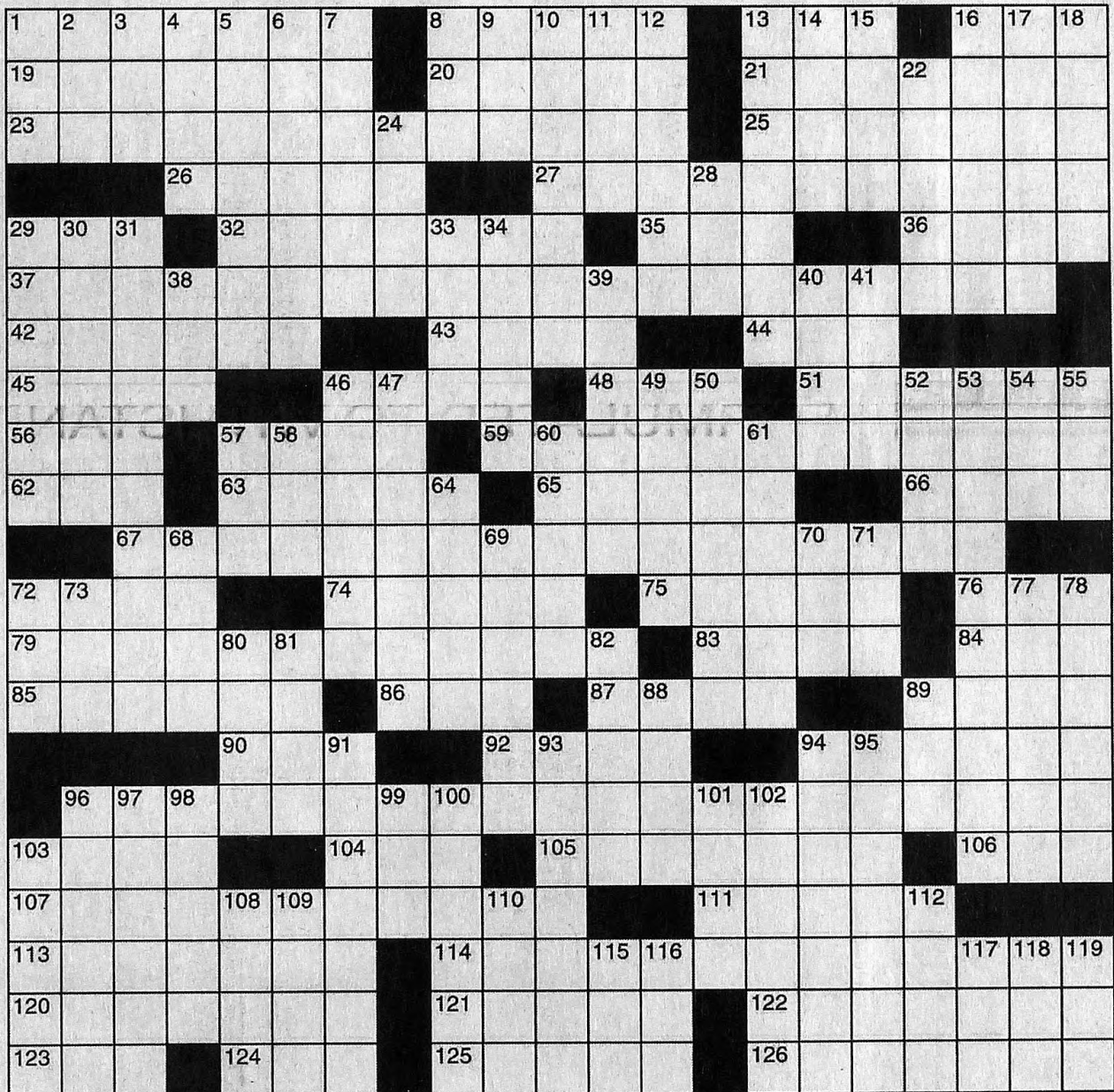
THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

MONEY-CHANGING

- ACROSS**
1 Combination spear and battle-ax
8 Provo native
13 Dawn deity
16 Some fast autos
19 Virtual merchant
20 Strong cordage fiber
21 Performs a charade of
23 Thai money used to buy a Jacuzzi?
25 Height when upright
26 Protest at which people lie on the ground
27 Bright red Indian money?
29 "Madam" counterpart
32 "The Dance" painter Henri
35 Biceps locale
36 Powerful auto engine
37 "You missed your chance for folding over that Korean money?"
42 Already-included tips, e.g.
- DOWN**
1 Use an ax on readouts
2 One "A" of NCAA: Abbr.
3 Chou En-wei
4 Nest dweller
5 "If I Can't Have You" singer
6 Says again
7 Rive — (Paris' Right Bank)
8 E-address
9 Bistro bill
10 Unpaid player
11 Classic cracker brand
12 Tennis-playing guy
13 Kodak founder
14 Prefix with -genarian
15 Pentagon
16 Reach as high as
17 Large, deep serving dish
18 Painter Jan
22 R-X fillers
24 Attending to the matter
28 Certain Wall St. trader
29 Said
30 Antiseptic element
31 Bucking bovines
- ACROSS**
43 Lima locale
44 "Rapa —" (1994 film)
45 Like even scores
46 Feel sore
48 Refusals
51 She sang "Constant Craving"
56 Rocker Brian
57 Facts, in brief
59 Gobble up Iraqi money?
62 Gal entering society
63 Jazz's Chick
65 Chaise place
66 Cognizant of
67 School where students learn about Swedish money?
72 Norway's capital
74 — facias (certain writ)
75 Used skillfully
76 "— favor, señor"
79 Forms Ghanaian money into a cylinder shape?
83 Brain tests, for short
84 Suffix with meth-
85 Venture out on one's own
- DOWN**
86 — Leppard
87 Some PC readouts
89 Kicked out of the game, for short
90 Radio spots
92 Bruins' sch.
94 Major shock
96 Query after someone is told they look like Iranian money?
103 German auto
104 Tampa Bay NFLer
105 Over browned bread
106 Houston-to-Madison dir.
107 Whack some Mexican money?
111 Rapper — Rhymes
113 More intoxicating
114 Refuse to contribute
120 Getty of TV
121 French river
122 Asmara's nation
123 Gobbled up
124 Airport agcy.
125 Played (with)
126 Label on a bargain item
- DOWN**
33 Jr., last year
34 Spirited horse
38 Eye coverer
39 Takeoff strip
40 Often-pickled veggie
41 Pirate "Captain"
46 From scratch
47 Compelled
49 In the lead
50 Squelched
52 Cat that roars
53 "The Piano" Oscar winner
54 Cable TV's — Geo
55 Miracle- —
57 Here, in Lyon
58 Election mo.
60 Elected (to)
61 Virginia Tech team name
64 Cold — (frigid)
68 Court plea, for short
69 Very angry
70 Rule, in brief
71 More than loads up (on)
72 Assoc.
73 Great Lakes' — Canals
77 Like a single-guy band
78 Traditional Irish brew
80 Make laugh uproariously
81 Hoopla
- DOWN**
82 "You Be —" (1986 hit for Run-D.M.C.)
88 Jargon
89 Women's patriotic gp.
91 Secondary field of study
93 George who played Danny Ocean
94 Mosaic tile
95 Long rodent feature
96 Most suitable
97 Assess again
98 Skip over in speech
99 Chalice, e.g.
100 Nailed the test
101 Desert of Mongolia
102 Some purple shades
103 Milo of films
108 Piper's wear
109 Twisty fish
110 Average Johnson
115 Uno plus due
116 H.S. proficiency test
117 Gallery work
118 Teachers' gp.
119 Ham-marskjöld once of the U.N.



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

SUDOKU

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

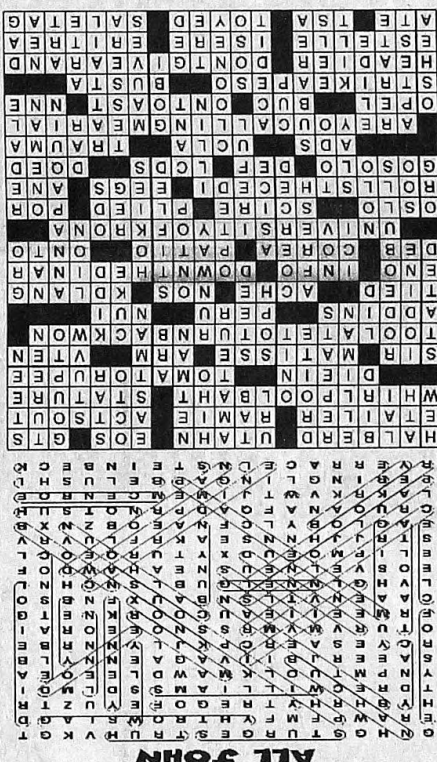
Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using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

ALL JOHN

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.

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

BARRY
BELUSHI
BERRY
BETJEMAN
BROWN
BUCHAN
BUNYAN
CALHOUN
CANDY
CARPENTER
CARRADINE
CLEESE
CONSTABLE
CREASEY
DE LOREAN
DENVER
DONNE
F.KENNEDY
FOGERTY
FORSYTHE
GALSWORTHY
GLENN
GRISHAM
HURT
HUSTON
IRVING
KNOX
LE CARRE
LEE HOOKER
LENNON
LOGIE BAIRD
MAJOR
McENROE
MELLENBAMP
MILLS
PAUL JONES
PHILIP SOUSA
RINGLING
STEINBECK
STURGES
TRAVOLTA
WAYNE
WESLEY
WILLIAMS



NUMERIC

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

More ways to reach us.

We now have multiple channels that you can use to update your account information, report delivery issues, temporarily stop your paper, activate your digital account or address any questions and concerns you may have.

WE OFFER:



Virtual Hold

Leave your information and a description of the issue and the next available representative will call you back rather than waiting on hold.



Email

This option gives you the opportunity to leave more details and have a record of the correspondence.



Live Chat

Converse directly online with a representative.

Visit our online help portal to access FAQs, subscription services, member benefits and more.

help.hometownlife.com

SELL YOUR

car
tickets
antiques
motorcycle
computer
boat
sports
equipment
instrument
jewelry
furniture

FIND YOUR

dream job
next pet
collectible
boat
great guitar
camera
dining room
sports tickets
garage sale
new home

Check out the classified ads everyday.



BUSCH'S PACZKI

Hand-made fresh daily!

Our Paczki sell fast. ORDER EARLY.

{ **\$1.49** **\$3.99** **\$6.99** }

each 3 pack 6 pack

FATTUESDAY is MARCH 1ST



buschs.com

CHERRY | CUSTARD | CREAM CHEESE | RASPBERRY
WHITE CREAM FILLED | APPLE | LEMON | BLUEBERRY | PRUNE