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Farmington Hills police chief vows to #FindDani amid ‘worst circumstances’

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Farmington Hills Police Chief Jeff King was a detective lieutenant in charge of a missing persons case when Richard and Ann Stislicki lost touch with their daughter Danielle, 28, who

was living in the Independence Green apartments.

There were searches for Danielle’s body, enough tips to fill three-ring binders, post-midnight calls with Oakland County prosecutors regarding warrants – and no trace of her.

King, now police chief, said the case

continues to torment him.

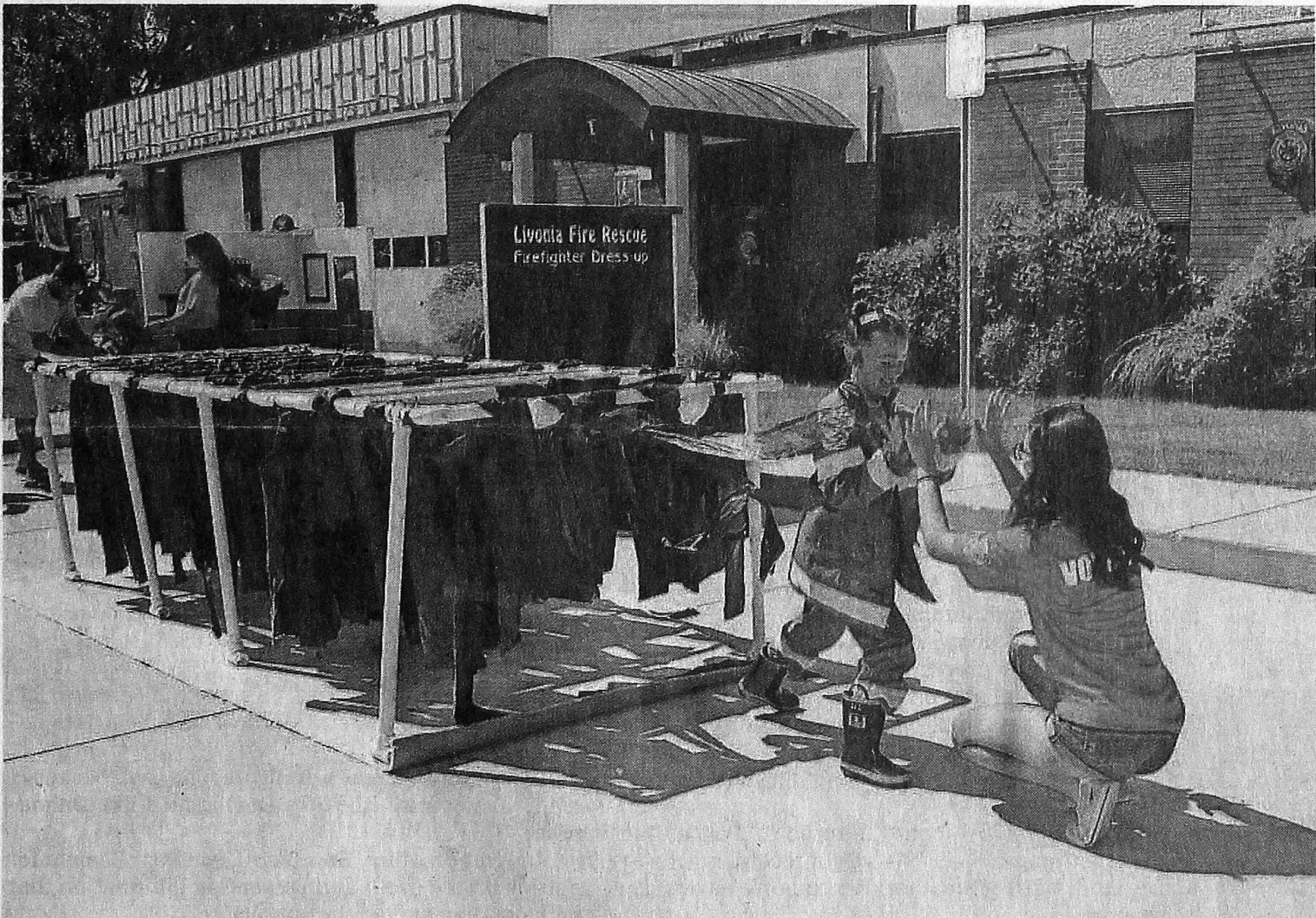
“I don’t know when, but we’re going to find her,” he said. “Not being able to get those answers for the Stislickis hurts. It does. It hurts all of us.

“Because they’re great people, we wish we would have met them under different circumstances. We really

would have liked that.

“Unfortunately, it’s the worst circumstances possible, and they’re always in our thoughts and prayers. We want to do what’s right for them. We want to get Dani back.”

See CHIEF, Page 2A



Kenleigh Davison, 8, receives congratulations at the end of an obstacle course as she learns fire safety. She was among hundreds of people who attended Livonia’s annual Passport to Safety event June 11. SUSAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Westland, Livonia connect with families to teach safety

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Safety was on the minds of Westland and Livonia youngsters June 11 as they attended events intended to keep them healthy and whole in the future.

Westland police officers welcomed young drivers to their department’s parking lot for some practice experiencing traffic stops.

Jonathan Turner, 17, received his permit in the fall and recently started driving by himself. He was taken aback

when he ruffled through the papers in his car’s glove box and couldn’t find his proof of insurance.

The mock traffic stop gave him a better idea of what questions police

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Distillery claims to be first in Livonia since 1850s

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The owners of Livonia’s newest spot to order a drink believe they’ve made a little history.

The owners of BBS Distilleries conducted some research and found they appear to be the first (legal) distillery making spirits in the western Wayne County community since the 1850s when the community banned liquor.

That’s given the three owners an additional point of pride as they open a new tasting room on the Livonia/Redford Township border.

“We’re the first distillery since then,” said Jason Mitchell, one of the owners. “Livonia didn’t even allow taverns for almost 100 years.”

Distillery is the name of the tasting room that opened in May at 27600 Schoolcraft. It has space to accommodate dozens of people willing to try some of the three co-owners’ unique creations.

The business started distilling in 2020 in Livonia, operating in the city’s industrial section off Merriman. After establishing themselves and creating packaged products, the trio began looking for a location for a tasting room, which led them to the strip mall on the east side of town.

BBS Distilleries offers a variety of

See DISTILLERY, Page 3A

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First responders in Novi, Westland plan youth academies

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Metro Detroit's first responders want you ... Yeah, you! There in the middle of your summer vacation from school.

Novi, Westland, and Canton and White Lake townships are hosting youth academies for those with professional aspirations.

Police and firefighters want to build students' leadership skills as they host classes that feature tours and fun exercises.

Novi Police Detective Julie Warren, who also serves as the department's school resource officer, said the city's youth academy for young teens had about 30 participants last year.

An essay and recommendation letter are needed, but those who do the work can expect to learn more about what first responders do.

June 27 is the deadline for this year's July 25-29 academy. The city has been hosting a summer youth academy for more than 10 years.

Westland Police Youth Academy: Eighth- through 12th-grade students can apply. June 24 is the deadline for this July 18-22 event, which will run 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every day. The application can be found by clicking [here](#).

Novi Police & Fire Youth Leadership Academy will run 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 25-29 for students 13 to 16 years of age during the time of the academy. The deadline to complete the application is June 27.

Canton: Application deadline has passed for this June 27-30 event.

White Lake Township: Application deadline has passed for this July 25-29 event.

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Hundreds of people attended Livonia's annual Passport to Safety event June 11.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Safety

Continued from Page 1A

might ask in a real-life situation. He saw a Facebook post about the event, talked to his family about the opportunity, and had his mom as company when he drove through the course.

"In life, you're eventually going to have probably one time at least that you get stopped or you're in an accident," said Turner, who graduated this year from John Glenn High School. "Everyone in my family agreed it would be a good idea, so I figured to come out on this beautiful Saturday and give it a try."

Tanganika Hopkins-O'bey has two new drivers in the family. She was with her daughter during the event.

"It's important for them to know what to do in the event that they get stopped by police," she said. "I don't want them to be scared. ... this is a part of life. You gotta make sure they're prepared and make sure they're ready."

Westland police hosted the first-ever event to promote traffic safety while giving young drivers some practical experience and remove some anxiety from their time on the road.

For young drivers who couldn't make it, Lt. Robert Wilkie offered some advice for interacting with police during traffic stops.

"Number One thing is do not panic," he said. "Just take a deep breath. Be reasonable. The officers – if (it's) a normal traffic stop situation – are not going to ask anything unreasonable or stressful. Just go along."

"If you have some kind of argument or some kind of contention about any kind of ticket you received, take it over court. That's the whole process."

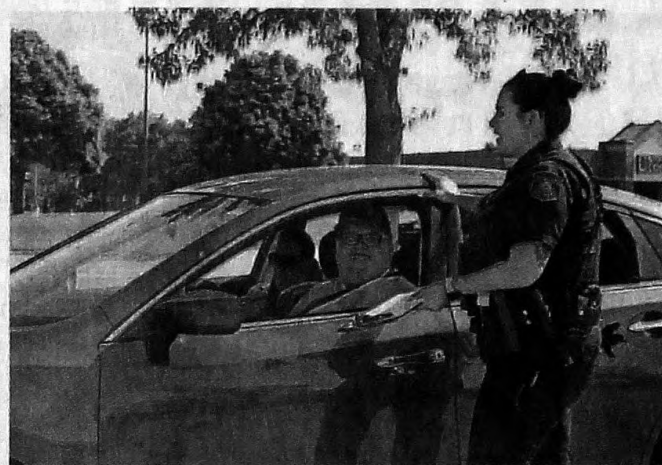
Also on Saturday, Livonia public safety officials brought back the popular Passport to Safety event after two pandemic summers.

Hundreds of people milled about the police and fire department properties along Farmington Road and moved from station to station, learning how to make 911 calls, stay safe in the water, survive a fire and more.

The event has been happening for more than 20 years.

"We're so happy about the turnout," Police Chief Thomas Goralski said. "We've got record crowds today (and) perfect weather. We couldn't have asked for more."

"We're just so pleased to be back here with all of our citizens in this great community," Fire Chief Robert Jennison said. "School's out, so safety is in."



Westland Police Officer Summer Chalfin instructs Jonathan Turner, 17, of Westland, during a mock traffic stop. Turner's mom, Pamela, rode with him.



Amol Aher, of Westland, watches Anita Barksdale of Trinity Health fit one of his sons for a bike helmet.

Kenleigh Davison, 8, put on some fire gear and followed orders to crawl and stay low through a dark obstacle course.

She'd like to become a firefighter one day, "because I really like Sparky (the Fire Dog). And I like Dalmatians."

Her grandmother, Kim Buatti, thanked Livonia for putting on the event and presenting information that both children and adults appreciate.

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

Chief

Continued from Page 1A

Danielle Stislicki has been officially declared dead despite her body never being found.

Prosecutors allege Floyd Galloway, a convicted sexual assaulter, killed Stislicki, whom he knew from working as a security guard in the same Southfield building as her.

Stislicki's coworkers have said they last saw the two drive away together on Dec. 2, 2016, when Galloway appeared to be dealing with car problems in the parking lot.

Galloway apparently sought an attorney's counsel soon after. A polygraph operator working for Galloway's attorney provided a tip to his professional and personal friend, then-Troy Police Chief Gary Meyer,

who then passed the information along to then-Farmington Hills Police Chief Chuck Nebus.

Farmington Hills officers found Stislicki's keys and Fitbit near the M-5 and Grand River Avenue intersection.

Video placed Galloway at the Tim Horton's near Stislicki's apartment and showed a cab dropping him off near her workplace the night she disappeared.

Both communities now have different chiefs, but Farmington Hills remains in the middle of a legal battle over the propriety of the tip because of its origin.

The polygraph operator remained anonymous until 2019, when Galloway – a person of interest from the start – finally was charged. Galloway already had spent two years in prison for pleading guilty to sexually assaulting a Hines Park runner a few months before Stislicki disappeared.

A hearing over the tip continues this month. Galloway's July trial is delayed until at least November.


In the interim, King's detectives keep returning from Oakland County Circuit Court, where Galloway claims he was the target of government malfeasance.


Detectives Ryan Molloy and Robert Gerak have testified that they did not know the source of the tip until after a 2019 court proceeding. Others from the department also have testified.

"Are there concerns? There's always concerns. Nothing is guaranteed," King said. "But I think we have a strong case. I am hopeful and optimistic that the judge will rule in our favor."

The Stislickis declined to comment June 13 after the second session of the evidentiary hearing over the tip. The next session is scheduled for June 24.

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

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Distillery

Continued from Page 1A

drinks. It carries its Leaky Still brand of moonshine, including popular choices Cinnamon and Heat, which is infused with capsaicin. More than a dozen moonshine varieties are listed on the company's website as available for sale.

"We don't just do vodka or whiskey," Mitchell said. "We do pretty much anything."

In addition to the wide array of liquors, they distill a "mock beer," a process using some hop extract and other ingredients typically found in beer. The drink with a low alcohol content has been a hit among customers.

"We just had to make some more this morning because we keep running out," co-owner Katie Nelson said. "It's apparently better than most beers."

Several dining options are also available, including pizza, wings, pulled pork sliders and other pub fare.

The space has a backwoods feel, with reclaimed wood used for decoration, as well as the signage inside and outside.

The business joins a growing craft alcohol industry that has sprouted in Livonia in the last several years.

SuperNatural Brewing and Spirits opened in 2017, and Schoolcraft College launched its brewing and distilling program two years earlier. Another brewery has received approval from the city to open along Seven Mile, though construction continues on that site with no word on an opening date.

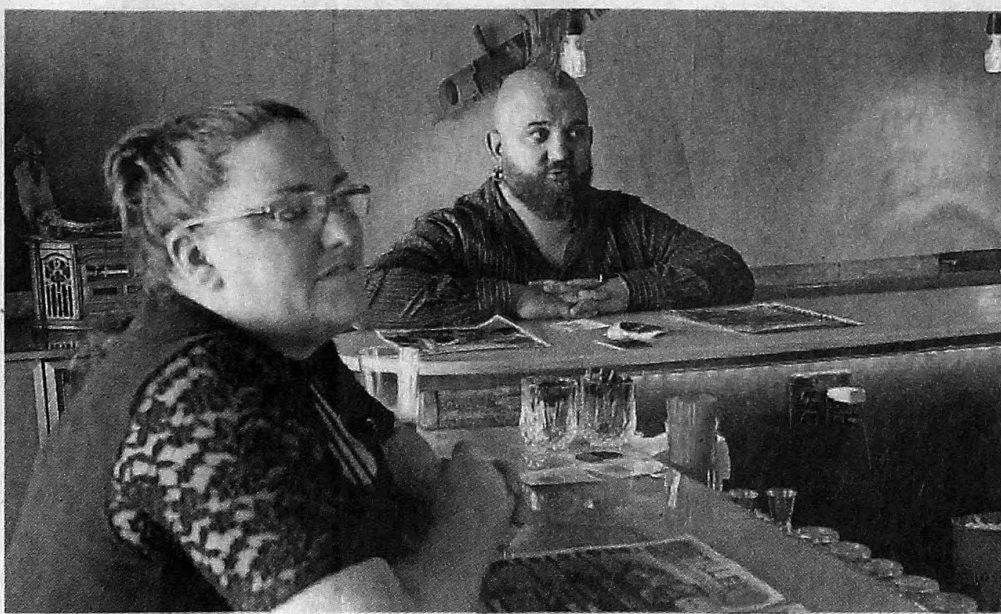
So far, business has been steadily growing, Mitchell said, even without much advertising.

Customers can sit down and have a drink, or buy a bottle to take home. BBS Distilleries also distributes to liquor stores across the state with their product in several dozen shops. Leaky Seal moonshine is packaged in mason jars.

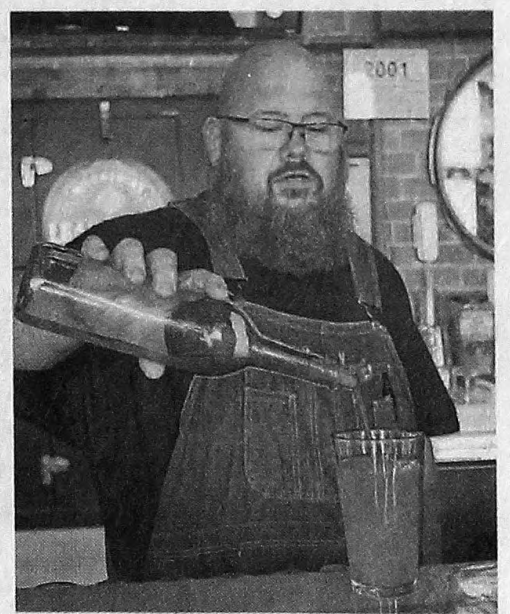
They hope to help bring some life to eastern Livonia, which has seen some new construction and shops popping up in recent years. Mitchell said the hope is the community supports their concept, allowing more growth.

"This is why Livonia wants us here," he said. "We've got plans to expand here, it's all depending on how things go."

More information can be found at bbsdistilleries.com.



Katie Nelson and Mike Nelson (no relation) are co-owners of Distillery tasting room in Livonia with Jason Mitchell. PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Mitchell pours a drink.



Distillery has space to accommodate dozens of people willing to try some of the three co-owners' unique creations.



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Canton Liberty Fest kicks off summer of fun

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

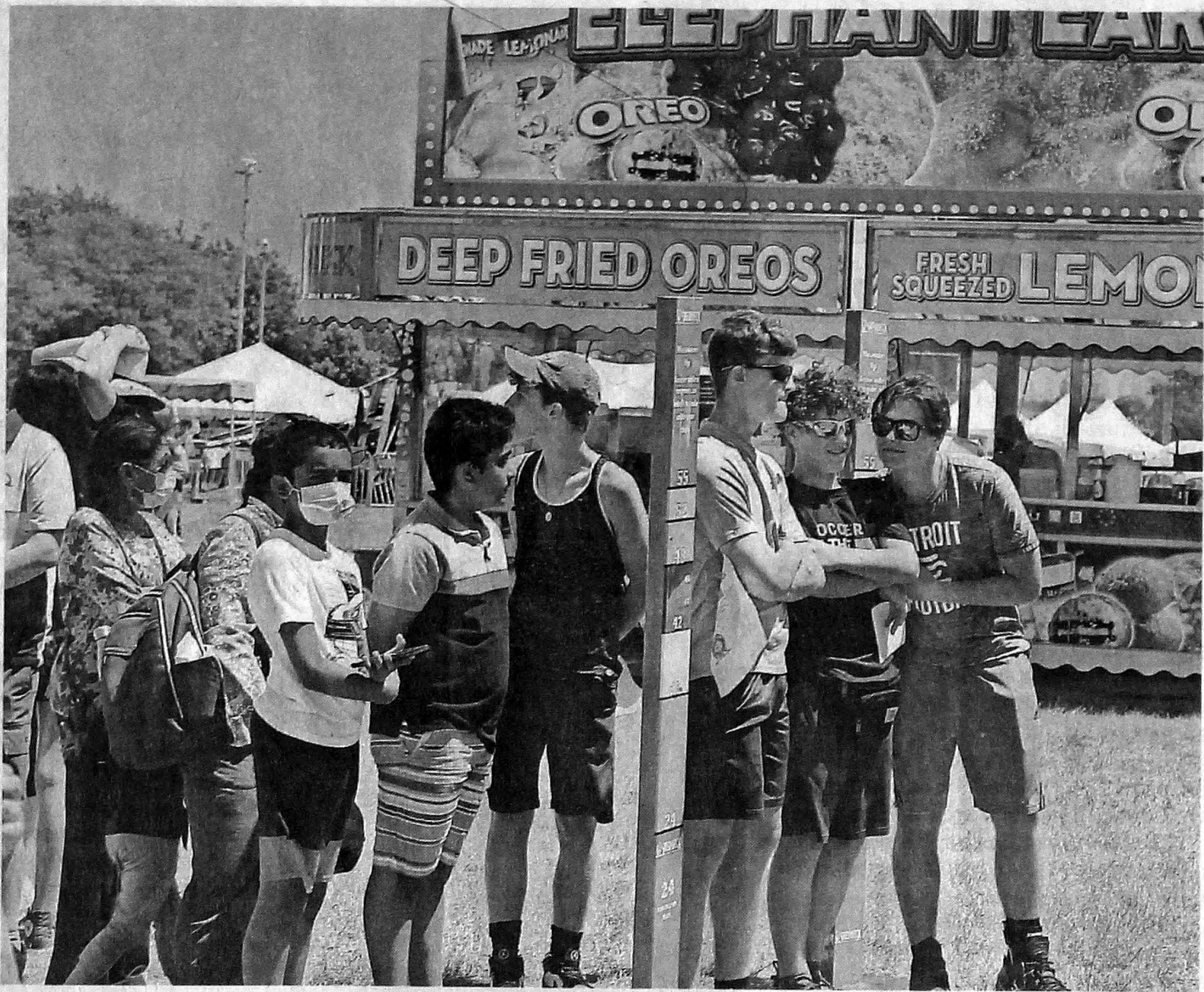
The sounds of screams and laughter could be heard at Canton Township's Heritage Park for the first time in three years this past weekend.

The annual Liberty Fest, canceled in 2020 and 2021 due to concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic, returned to the city park in full force. Rides, games and family fun of all kinds were back, including live performances.

Bennie Fogarsi was one of the first people waiting to buy tickets for rides before the festival opened, along with brothers Tom and Tyler Veresh.

Fogarsi said he always tries to make it to the annual event at the beginning of summer.

"Because friends are always here and the rides are always great," he said.



Young people wait in line to buy tickets for rides at Canton Liberty Fest in the early afternoon June 17 at Heritage Park in Canton Township. PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



People walk the festival grounds. Liberty Fest had been canceled for the past two years due to the coronavirus pandemic.



Festival-goers ride the giant slide.



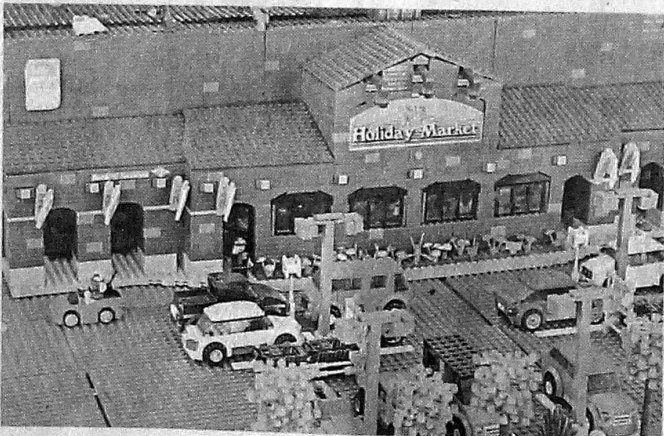
Riders get some air on one of the attractions.



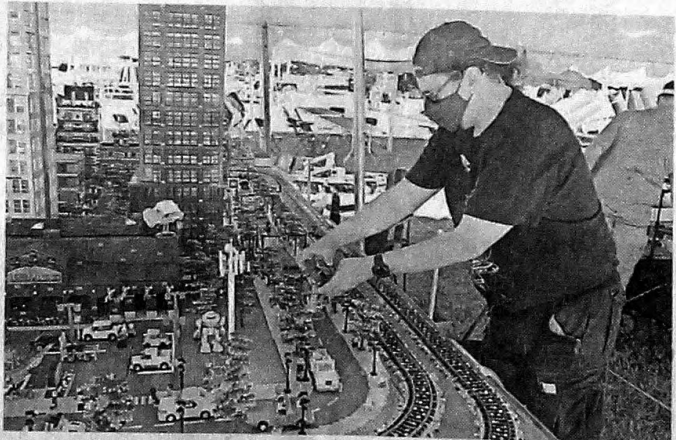
Riders prepare to take to the sky on the Cliff Hanger.



People enjoy the Orient Express ride.



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David Laswell adjusts the massive LEGO display.

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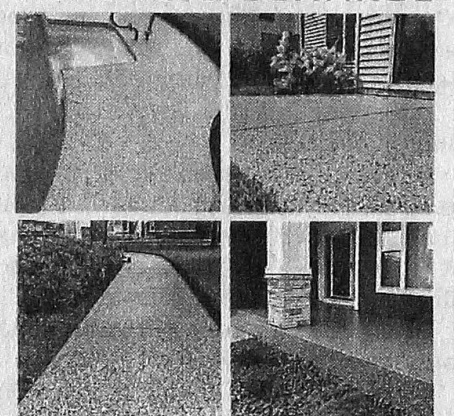
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Plymouth Twp. trustees deadlocked on decision about 7th board member

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Plymouth Township Board of Trustees currently has six members after the resignation of former treasurer Mark Clinton this spring.

After deliberating at its most recent meeting to select a new board member, the board could not come to a consensus on selecting a new trustee to replace Bob Doroshewitz, who was appointed treasurer earlier this spring and began in the role May 10. His appointment then left his trustee seat vacant.

Three Republican candidates each were favored by two board members at the June 14 meeting. They are: Gail Grieger, Dan Callahan and Jennifer Buckley. Each board member was asked for their top candidate twice, with the same result in both polls.

Nine people applied: six Republicans, one Democrat, one Libertarian and one independent. Support from four members of the board is needed to appoint someone to fill the remainder of the term, which runs through 2024.

Supervisor Kurt Heise said the board only had a limited amount of time to select someone.

"We have 45 days (to select a replacement)," he said.

If no action is taken in that time, the decision reverts to voters, who will decide who fills the remainder of the term through 2024 in an election after a special election is called by the Wayne County clerk, according to state law. The 45-day window closes June 24.

Clinton resigned in April after not attending several meetings since October 2021 due to an undisclosed health issue.

Because of redistricting, Heise, who

is a Republican, said he was unsure who from which committee would select candidates.

Plymouth Township will shift into the 6th Congressional District, now in the same district as Canton, Novi, parts of southern Wayne County and all of Washtenaw County. Previously as part of the 11th Congressional District, it was lumped in with Livonia, Milford, Farmington, Lyon Township and Troy.

"You're then asking a group of individuals who are precinct delegates from Livonia, Canton, to basically make your nominee," he said. "If you're comfortable with that, then OK, but I think as long as we have the opportunity to do it tonight, I think that's the route we should take."

The board voted 4-2 to postpone the decision until a future meeting.

Woman killed in three-vehicle collision on M-14 in Plymouth Twp.

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A 37-year-old woman was driving "at high speeds" when she fatally crashed into a vehicle and semitrailer on M-14 in Plymouth Township, according to Michigan State Police troopers.

The agency posted in a report on its Twitter account that the unnamed woman was not wearing a seat belt when her vehicle collided into a vehicle stopped or stopping for a construction zone with lane closures near Beck Road at 8:25 a.m. June 17.

She then "continued into the rear" of the semitrailer.

The other two drivers involved were not injured.

Farmington Players' one act festival returns with 8 comedies

Courtesy of Farmington Players

The Farmington Players are hosting a festival of one act plays by playwrights with Michigan connections. The event will feature 23 actors portraying 28 roles in eight plays over two hours.

The finalists were selected from over 70 entries in a blind submission process. Audiences will vote for their favorite. The winning playwright will receive a \$100 prize and the coveted People's Choice award.

The festival is June 24-26 at the Farmington Players Barn, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road. Tickets are available for purchase at farmingtonplayers.org or at the box office by calling 248-553-2955.

Barn veteran Tony Targan helped found the One Act Festival in 2019.

"The common denominator among all plays is relationships. ..." Targan said. "As we emerge from the pandemic, I think this theme speaks loudly to our basic human need to connect with other people."

Some plays have more realistic set-



Cast members of the one act play "I'm Fat." COURTESY OF THE FARMINGTON PLAYERS

tings and others have elements of sci-fi, fantasy or absurdist humor.

"Literary Virus" by Laura Bradshaw-Tucker involves a strange affliction that affects only writers.

"Beware the Ides of Mars" by Erin Osgood is a sci-fi comedy that takes place on a Martian space station.

In "I'm Fat" by J.R. Spaulding Jr., a

woman is literally confronted by her own fat, an anthropomorphic character that decides to move in with her.

"Small Talk" by David MacGregor involves a couple seeking counseling over the woman's inability to make casual conversation.

On the more serious side, "Ahavah" by David Lipschultz and Dana Hall is

about a Jewish man preparing to introduce his non-Jewish girlfriend to his family after his grandmother's funeral.

"It Goes Without Saying" by Maureen Paraventi involves a director trying to coax the best performance out of husband and wife actors at a community theater rehearsal.

Other shows include "Driveway Dating" by Jennifer Ward and Targan's "I'm Not Wearing Any Pants."

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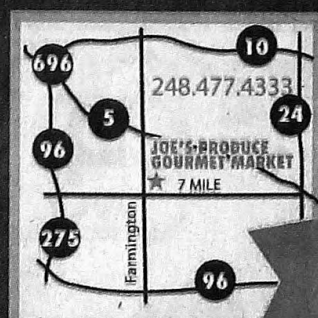
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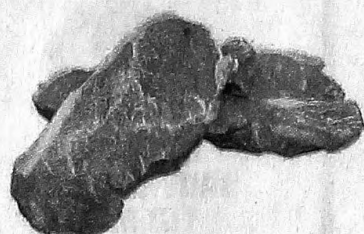
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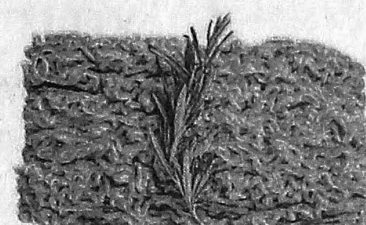
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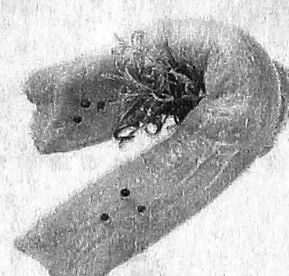
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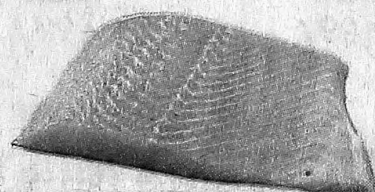


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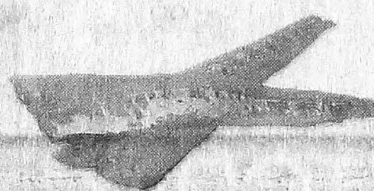


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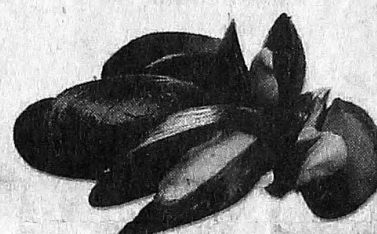
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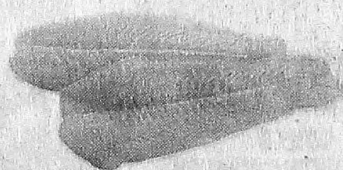
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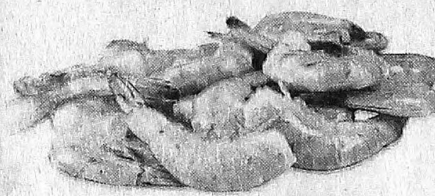
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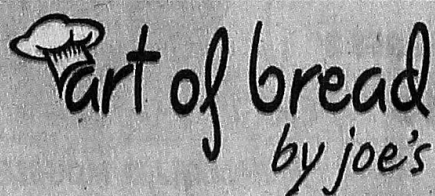
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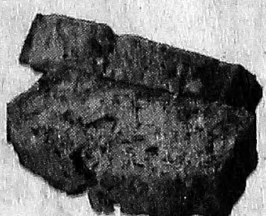


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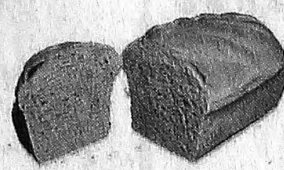


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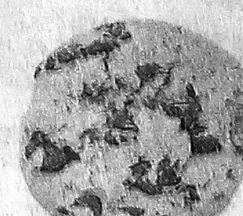
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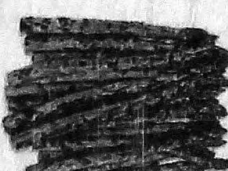
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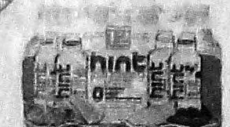
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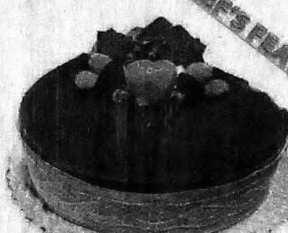
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SPORTS

Six locals part of MHSFCA all-star game

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The lineups for the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association's annual summer all-star game were announced this week.

Four players local to the Hometown

Life coverage area, as well as two coaches, will compete for the east team.

The East vs. West matchup is slated for 1 p.m. June 25 at Lawrence Tech University.

Here's who we're excited to watch once the game kicks off:

CB Josh Brown, Livonia Churchill

Vitals: Senior, 5-foot-10, 180 pounds.
Stats: Six pass breakups and two interceptions (one returned for a TD); Totaled over 1,000 all-purpose yards, including 411 yards and four TDs receiving and 322 yards and three TDs rushing;

Averaged 41 yards per kickoff return.

Accolades: Two-time All-Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East first team, two-time All-Region, two-time All-State, three-year starter and team captain.

See LOCALS, Page 2B

Mercy motivated by loss to Allen Park



Farmington Hills Mercy's Izzy Chaput snags a throw at second base during the Division 1 quarterfinal against Allen Park on June 14 at Wayne State University.
TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Ten-run rally from Jaguars decides quarterfinal

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Getting to the gym will be a hassle at times this coming winter.

There will be snowstorms.

The temperatures will drop below 10 degrees.

The roads won't be plowed well enough.

And there will be fun holiday get-togethers with the family.

Whatever excuses you can come up with, they'll be available for Farmington Hills Mercy's softball players to make.

But it's doubtful any of them will be

using them.

They'll all be at off-season throwing sessions. They'll all get in that valuable time hitting in the batting cage.

It's unlikely anything will get in their way from showing up.

Why?

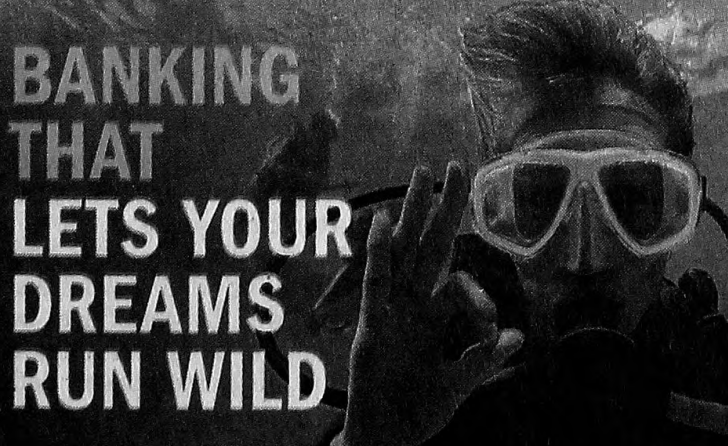
The number 10.

As it should, that number will haunt the Marlins for the next year or so. But it also should be a motivating factor for

their program to go from pretty good to elite, elite enough to win their first state championship since 2016.

"I hope," coach Corey Burras said. "You've got to decide if you hate to lose more than you like to win. So this is plenty of fuel for the fire. If they handle this the right way, this could be the fuel to make them better next-level players."

See MOTIVATED, Page 2B



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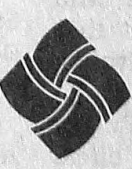
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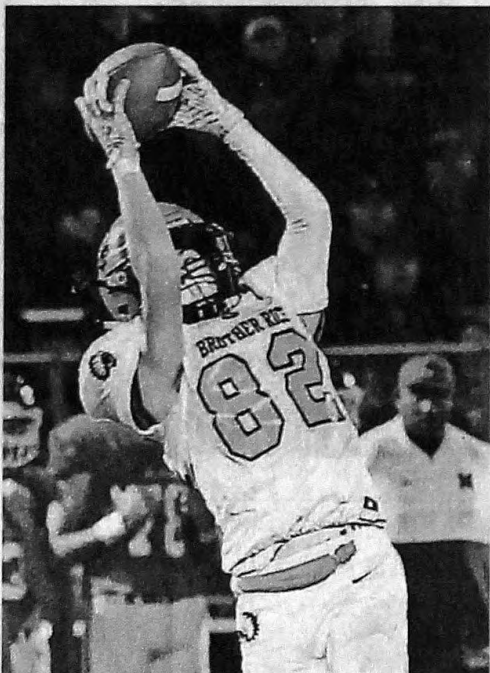
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Livonia Churchill's Josh Brown.
PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Livonia Franklin's Zac Olesuk picks up some yards.



Brother Rice's Cole Lacanaria.
TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Detroit Catholic Central's Sean Field, right, goes up against Bloomfield Hills.

Locals

Continued from Page 1B

College:Signed with Saginaw Valley State University.

QB Zac Olesuk, Livonia Franklin

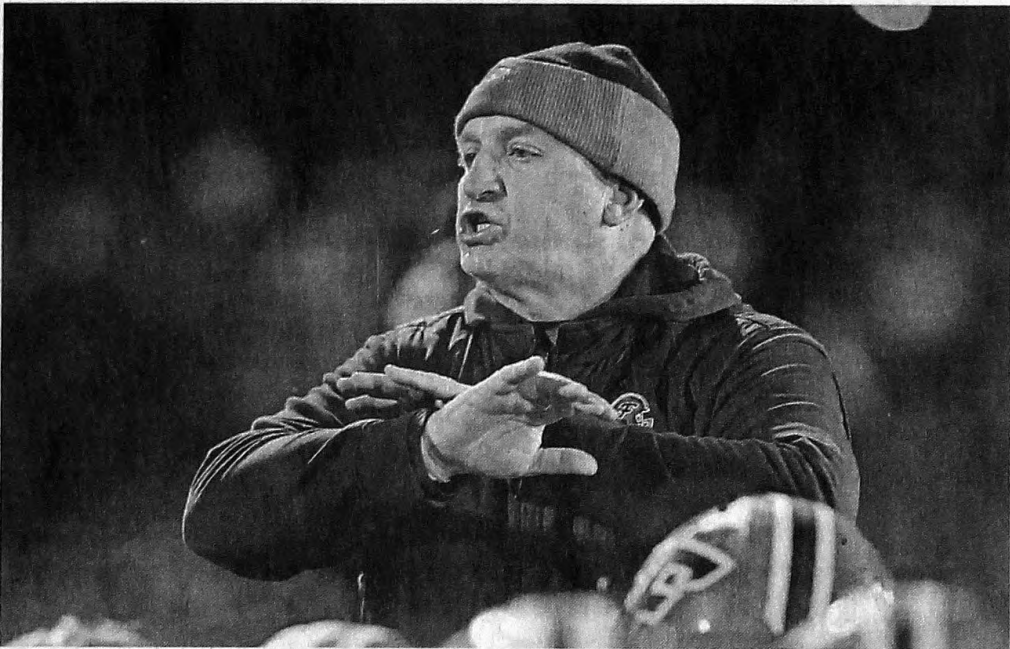
Vitals: Senior, 6-foot-1, 185 pounds.
Stats: 1,226 yards and 11 TDs passing; 686 yards and 15 TDs rushing.
Accolades: Two-time All-Kensington Lakes Activities Association, two-time team offensive MVP and team captain.
College: Signed with Alma College for both football and baseball.

WR Cole Lacanaria, Brother Rice

Vitals: Senior, 5-foot-7, 150 pounds.
Stats: N/A.
Accolades: Two-time All-Catholic League, all-state honorable mention and voted team's special teams player of the year.
College: Signed with Lawrence Tech University.

OLB Sean Field, Detroit Catholic Central

Vitals: Senior, 6-foot-1, 220 pounds.
Stats: Totaled 79 tackles (34 solo, 25



Franklin head coach Chris Kelbert addresses his team.

for loss), 24 QB pressures, six sacks, two pass breakups, two forced fumbles and one fumble recovery.
Accolades: Team captain, All-Catholic League, MHSFCA first-team all-state and Defensive MVP of Legacy All-Star Game after totaling three tackles, one sack and one pass breakup.
College: Uncommitted but holds offers from Hope College, Kalamazoo College, Lawrence Tech University, Oberlin College (Ohio), St. Norbert College (Wis-

consin) and Valparaiso (Indiana).

Assistant coach Chris Kelbert, Livonia Franklin

Vitals: Entering his 22nd season leading the Patriots as their head coach. This past season he guided them to an appearance in the Division 2 state semifinal, which includes district and regional championship victories. He also teaches for Livonia Public Schools.



Franklin teacher, track and field and football coach Aaron Moran, left, with Michael Mackiewicz.
COURTESY OF KRISTY MACIEWICZ

Assistant coach Aaron Moran, Livonia Franklin

Vitals: A triple-threat at Franklin as he has been an assistant on the football team since 2015, the head track and field coach since 2016 and a teacher at the high school since 2018. He previously coached track and football at Dearborn Heights Crestwood.
Follow Brandon Folsom on Twitter @folsombrandonj.

Motivated

Continued from Page 1B

And what's that number, 10, all about?

That's how many unanswered runs the Marlins gave up over a two-inning stretch during the Division 1 quarterfinal at Wayne State University.

It was a total meltdown. They saw their 3-1 lead over Allen Park absolutely erased with defensive mistakes in the fifth inning.

And more trouble defensively allowed the Jaguars to tack on another four runs in the next frame.

Before Mercy knew it, it was trailing by eight and its hopes of advancing to the state semifinal at Michigan State were absolutely crushed.

What should've been a close battle between the sixth-ranked Marlins and No. 2 Allen Park ended with the Jaguars exiting Gary L. Bryce Field with a convincing 11-3 victory.

"They put a number on us, and they just took the momentum," Burras said. "And we weren't able to bounce back."

So how did this happen? Villanova signee Kendall Spivey, Mercy's lone senior, drew a walk to load the bases in the fifth.

And then Charlie Lambert drew another walk to push in a run. And then Asia Barbato pushed in one more run without needing to put the ball in play either.

Just like that, the Marlins led 3-1 and were in a perfect position to play tough defense to close out a win.

Instead, Allen Park responded by loading the bases in the bottom of the inning.

And then a wild pitch by freshman star pitcher Kaitlyn Pallozzi allowed the Jaguars to knot the score at 3.

Madison Hool doubled to left-center to score two more for the Jaguars, who ultimately never looked back at that point. They exited the inning with six runs and a 7-3 lead.

Midway through the jam, Burras elected to replace Pallozzi in the circle with Barbato.

Allen Park's student section behind home plate was relentless, chanting, "Left. Left. Left, right, left," as Pallozzi marched off the field and into the dug-out.

And then Jaguars pitcher Morgan Si-



Farmington Hills Mercy's Kendall Spivey gets tagged out at home plate during the Division 1 quarterfinal against Allen Park on June 14 at Wayne State University. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Local scoreboard

Division 1

Allen Park 11, Farmington Hills Mercy 3
Mattawan 3, South Lyon 1

Division 2

Essexville Garber 8,
Detroit Country Day 0

zemoore iced the win.

First, she and her defense had a 1-2-3, boom-boom-boom inning, striking out Meg Kowalyk, getting Katie Kowalyk out at first and easily catching a fly by Izzy Chaput.

And, second, she proceeded to launch a two-run homer over the right-

field fence in the following inning to put any chances of a comeback out of reach for the Marlins, who couldn't handle those 10-straight runs scored by the Jaguars.

"They were a great hitting team," Burras said of Allen Park. "We were unable to make the adjustments, and they out-adjusted us. We knew they could hit. They put it together, and we just couldn't stop it."

Mercy's post-game talk wasn't too doom and gloom as it sometimes can be for the losing team after a tough post-season loss.

Part of that's because the Marlins graduate only Spivey and return 10 underclassmen, all of whom proved they can compete at the varsity level this spring. The other part is they know just how good they are.

There won't be too many off-days over the next year.

Pallozzi, who struck out five before being pulled, was quick to post her summer travel schedule on Twitter following the loss. She's getting back to work immediately. There are 14 other Marlins just as eager as her to return next spring and right the ship.

"One lost doesn't define our season," Burras said. "If we play Allen Park again, it'd be a completely different game. This game, although it is important, and it is in the quarterfinals, and I'm not minimizing this, doesn't define the Mercy program. It does not define what we've been building over the years. They beat us fair and square. Congratulations, Allen Park. But this game doesn't define us."

"We'll be back."

MICHIGAN DIVISION 1 FINAL: ALLEN PARK 5, MACOMB DAKOTA 0

Pitcher leads Allen Park softball to 1st title

Chandler Engelbrecht Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

EAST LANSING – Sporting flip-flops, a long sleeve shirt and Oakley sunglasses, Allen Park softball coach Michael Kish said he was far from surprised by his team's 5-0 victory over Macomb Dakota in Saturday's Division 1 championship game.

In actuality, Kish expected the win the second his Jaguars stepped on the field at Secchia Stadium.

"This is how it was supposed to be," Kish said. "These girls put so much time and so much energy into it, they've earned it. ... They were confident (and) collected, and I told them to just keep investing. Like I tell everybody, I ask so much of these girls. I want them to do more than they're comfortable with, that way it's easier for them out here. ... The more you invest, the bigger the return."

Allen Park's win comes one year after they fell short in the state final to South Lyon. Kish said that loss fueled the Jaguars (39-4-1) throughout the season, especially during postseason play. To make it back to the finals, Allen Park bested Garden City and Woodhaven in regional play, knocked off Farmington Hills Mercy in the quarterfinals and then edged Mattawan in the semifinals.

The Jaguars got on the board in the third on freshman Kiley Carr's RBI triple, scoring senior Madison Hool. Moments later, a throwing error by the Cougars brought Carr in and a sacrifice bunt by sophomore infielder Avery Garden allowed for another run, giving Allen Park a 3-0 lead.

The Jaguars' lead grew in the sixth inning thanks to a deep homer to right-center field by Madilyn Ramey (Michigan commit). In the seventh, Garden provided another sacrifice bunt to score Faith Peschke.

Morgan Sizemore went for seven innings, notching two strikeouts and allowing five hits for the win.

"Those girls allowed me to become a better coach and learn," Kish said of his senior leadership. "They took care of any mistakes I would make. They're so good, they're like erasers ... they allowed



Allen Park celebrates after its 5-0 win over Macomb Dakota in the Division 1 state final June 18 at Secchia Stadium on the Michigan State campus. PHOTOS BY KIRTHMON F. DOZIER/DETROIT FREE PRESS

me to push (the team) in a different direction.

"I've said this before, they make so many spectacular plays it's no longer exciting. It's like, 'OK, they're special. ... (But), it's not about the results. It's about the journey. They believed in it from Day 1. We built a family here."

Megan Nuechterlein pitched six innings, getting six strikeouts while allowing four hits and four runs for the Cougars (33-5). Dakota, making its first final since 2017, defeated Warren Reina and New Baltimore Anchor Bay in regionals, Walled Lake Northern in the quarterfinal and Hudsonville in the semifinal.

"(Our girls) never gave up," said Dakota coach Dan Vitale, now 60-14-1 in his three years with the team. "We weren't expected to get this far and we did. ... We plan on making a dynasty at Dakota from here on out. We got some great kids coming up, (and) next year we're gonna be on the other side of this."



Allen Park's Makayla Sitarski slides safely into second base ahead of the tag by Macomb Dakota's Brooklyn Plitz.

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COMMENTARY

OLSM stays perfect by thinnest of margins

Eaglets prevail 1-0 in state-record 44th victory

Mick McCabe Special to Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

EAST LANSING – Orchard Lake St. Mary's right fielder Nolan Schubart was leading off first base in the first inning when he saw Grosse Pointe North pitcher Brennan Hill swirl and attempt to pick him off.

Schubart dived back in to first, looked up and noticed the first baseman running after the ball. He jumped to his feet and took off.

"I listened to the first base coach and I knew I for sure had to go," he said. "When I was going around second, I was looking over at third and coach (Matt) Petry, and he was waving me and I trusted him and I just kept going."

Schubart stopped at third; a couple batters later, Ike Irish sent a grounder toward shortstop and Schubart, a Michigan signee, was on the run again.

"I knew with where the defense was at — they were all playing back," he said. "Anything on the ground I was going, unless it was hit right back at the pitcher."

Schubart scored easily for a quick 1-0 lead for the Eaglets. It would be the only run scored Saturday afternoon in the Michigan high school baseball Division 1 state championship game.

After scoring 410 runs in 43 games — and 55 in its first seven state tournament games — St. Mary's one run was enough to give the Eaglets a state record 44 victories this season.

Nobody saw that coming.

"With our offense, and especially in playoffs, we've been killing the ball, so for that to be the winning run was a little bit shocking," Schubart said. "But it also shows that teams, against us, can't make mistakes. And when they do, almost 90% of the time we capitalize it like that."

This was a much different game than anyone expected and North (23-8) had an opportunity to tie the game in the seventh inning when it had runners on first and third.

The North runner on first took off for

second and appeared to slip and stopped, hoping a throw from the catcher could lead to scoring the runner from third.

But Ryan McKay, who had just moved from second base to shortstop, cut off the throw and fired to Irish, starting the process of recording the out at third and squelching North's scoring opportunity.

"We did that four times in the tournament and it worked all four times," North coach Kevin Shubnell explained. "We figured we'd been gambling, and it's been a crazy spring for us anyway, so we figured what the heck, we'll try it again. We had two pretty heady runners there. ... They executed it perfectly."

It wasn't an accident that St. Mary's executed the play perfectly. The Eaglets were prepared.

"That's something that we practice quite a bit throughout the season, and it never comes into play," Petry said. "I tell the guys, 'Hey, we need to make sure what we're doing here because I promise you it's going to come into play.'"

It finally came into play in Game 44, and the Eaglets were even more prepared than usual.

"We saw Grosse Pointe North run that play yesterday, so we went over it after batting practice today," Petry said. "I got the middle infielders and all of our pitchers together, and we executed it flawlessly."

Both teams' pitchers were terrific. North's Hill is only a sophomore — all he did was limit the potent Eaglets offense to three hits and one walk while striking out nine in a game that would have many sophomores too scared to even take the mound.

"Three hours before, I was locked in," he said. "Before we left the hotel, I was sitting, just listening to music, getting that mindset that I had to pitch well for us to have a chance."

"The first inning I was locating it well, lost it a little bit in the middle innings, but came back and was still being competitive."

Competitive? He was sensational. And, once again, he is just a sophomore.



Orchard Lake St. Mary's Brock Porter bats against Grosse Pointe North in the Division 1 State finals June 18 in East Lansing. KIRTHMON F. DOZIER/DETROIT FREE PRESS

Hill (4-1) may have been something of a surprise starter for North, but Shubnell knew he was the right guy for the situation.

"We wanted to give them something different than what they expected us to throw," he said. "So we went with Brennan, thinking he would keep us in it. There aren't words to describe the performance he just put on against that team, that lineup."

"That team" is the team ranked the No. 1 team in the country, which could be intimidating all by itself.

"I mean, we're a public school from southeast Michigan," Hill said, "and we just went against the best team in the country, so it's obviously amazing how we were able to compete."

St. Mary's received an excellent start from Ciaran Caughey (10-0), who has signed with Kent State. He went 5½ scoreless innings, allowing only three hits with two walks and nine strikeouts.

See PERFECT, Page 5B

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Orchard Lake St. Mary's celebrates its 1-0 win over Grosse Pointe North in the Division 1 state final June 18. KIRTHMON F. DOZIER/DETROIT, FREE PRESS

Perfect

Continued from Page 4B

"I felt super-comfortable out there, everything was working," he said. "I was getting ahead in counts and I felt really good at the start of the game and going deep into it."

The way Hill pitched for North may have brought out the best in Caughey, as he needed to match Hill with shutout innings.

"Being in a duel like that in a 1-0 game, it kind of fuels you," Caughey said. "You realize you can't mess up, you

have to hit your spots, you have to be consistent. It really motivates me when it's a close game like that."

He was not pleased to be removed from the game, but didn't pout when he reached the dugout.

"I mean, a guy like me, I can pitch 20 innings without being fatigued," he said. "I'd be fatigued, but I could do it."

"Coming out of the game, I was kind of mad, but then I realized, 'Why be mad when we've got a state championship on the line?'"

The state championship was the third straight for the Eagles, who won D-2 titles in 2019 and last season before a jump in enrollment moved them up to

D-1 this season.

The seniors were an incredible 21-0 in state tournament games in their careers. The only thing keeping this senior class from winning four consecutive titles was COVID-19, which canceled the 2020 season.

Brock Porter, the Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, who could be a top pick in July's MLB draft as a pitcher, could only DH in the final after throwing a no-hitter in the semifinals.

It left him with a bit of a helpless feeling sitting in the dugout while the Eagles were in the field.

"I was a little bit nervous, but I had all of the confidence in the world in my

team," he said. "We had each other's backs. We wanted to win bad. We wanted 44-0."

The Eaglets got their 44-0, as well as a 66th straight victory over the last two seasons, something they didn't want to talk about this season until it was accomplished.

"We were trying not to let it affect us the whole season," Caughey said. "But now that we're here, we can look back and say: 'Wow, we really did that,' and really take it in."

"I know in 10, 20 years, I'm going to be telling everyone about it. Everyone will know I'm a national champion."

He may not wait that long.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2022 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, July 7, 2022 commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider:

1. Application 1641, 78-037-99-0003-007, 13401 Beck RD, R-1-E zoning district and is requesting a minimum lot area of 28,283' square feet whereas 48,560' square feet is required in R1E, *variance requested Fifteen Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-Seven (15,277) square foot reduction in lot size.*
2. Application 1642, 78-046-99-0003-707, 11570 Napier RD, R-1-H zoning district and is requesting one variance to install a sport court (30'x 60') with a side yard setback at twenty-one (21') feet whereas thirty-five (35') feet is required. Variance requested is Fourteen (14') Feet side yard setback.
3. Application 1643, 78-054-99-0001-000, 11525 McClumpha R-1-H zoning district and is requesting one variance to construct a detached garage with a mid-gable roof height of nineteen (19) feet whereas twelve (12') feet is required. Variance requested is seven (7') feet in mid-gable roof height.
4. Application 1644, 78-052-04-0008-000, 9030 Northampton, R-1-H zoning district and is requesting three variances to construct a 1,551' square foot detached garage in the front ¼ of the rear yard:
 1. The proposed garage is 17' feet in height measured mid-gable down, whereas the maximum allowed is 12' feet in height measured mid-gable down. *The variance requested is and additional five (5') feet in mid-gable roof height.*
 2. The proposed garage is in the front ¼ of the rear yard and must maintain the setbacks of the zoning district R-1-H, which requires a rear yard of 50' whereas the detached garage will be at 48' feet. *Variance requested is a reduction of two (2') feet of rear yard setback.*
 3. The proposed garage is in the front ¼ of the rear yard and must maintain the setbacks of the zoning district R-1-H, which requires a side yard of 10' feet whereas the detached garage will be at 5' feet. *Variance requested is a reduction of five (5') feet of side yard setback*

The meeting will be held at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Publish: June 23, 2022

LO-000878095 3x6

City of Plymouth Zoning Board of Appeals Notice Thursday, July 7, 2022 – 7:00 p.m. Located at City Hall

201 S. Main Street Plymouth, Michigan 48170
Website: www.plymouthmi.gov Phone: (734) 453-1234 ext. 232

A regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Thursday, July 7, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall to consider the following:

- Z 22-07 Non-Use Variance Request for 717 McKinley
Generator Location
Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential
Applicant: Julie Garity
- Z 22-08 Non-Use Variance Request for 647 Maple
Generator Location
Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential
Applicant: John Barsotti
- All interested persons are invited to attend.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:
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Plymouth, MI 48170, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 234

Publish: June 23, 2022

LO-0008780132 3x4.5

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Apricots	Eggs	Search
Assistance	Entree	Shop
Baked beans	Fish	Spaghetti
Basil	Menu	Special
Blins	Mousse	Spinach
Bread	Pet food	Steak
Chat	Pickles	Sugar
Cheese	Plums	Tier
Cinnamon	Pudding	Tomato sauce
Clutter	Queue	Total
Cocoa	Reductions	Vegetable
Copha	Rush	Yeast
Costly	Sale	

TODAY'S ANSWER

No toilet paper again!

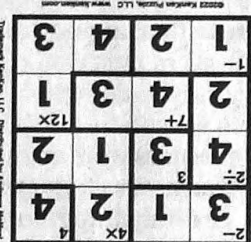
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T C C M U L U B E A I A N A R
T E O A E A D R L S R N K A P
U P C T U P D E T C A E G T I
L S S O E R I A H M D U P C C
C A P S T I N D O B S H O P K
T P A A I C G N E G S S C C L
A L G U E O E A G I T U H O E
H U H C R T N E F L Y R E P S
C M E E P S T E Y R E A E H N
G S T E A K R L I S A B S A I
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- Freebies: fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

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Insert numbers 1-9 in each box with every row, column and 3x3 box containing the digits just once. Difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest) RATING: BRONZE

TODAY'S ANSWER

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

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

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Telescope lens
- Water filter brand
- Genesis 7 transportation
- Home to many Goyas
- Control jointly
- Carried the day
- "Noble" beverage
- A way to vote
- Basic amino acid
- Excluding no one
- Early TV brand
- Suede feature
- Set aside
- "Noble" seafood
- Big customer for OPEC
- Big-eyed
- Appear indistinctly
- Harness part
- Insincere charm
- Gutter's place
- Party-tray department
- Where Jordan is
- Comprises
- "Noble" cereal
- Nativity scene figure
- Santa ___ winds
- Google Play download
- Mouse power, often
- "The Raven" woman
- Elf-sized
- "Noble" cocktail garnishes

DOWN

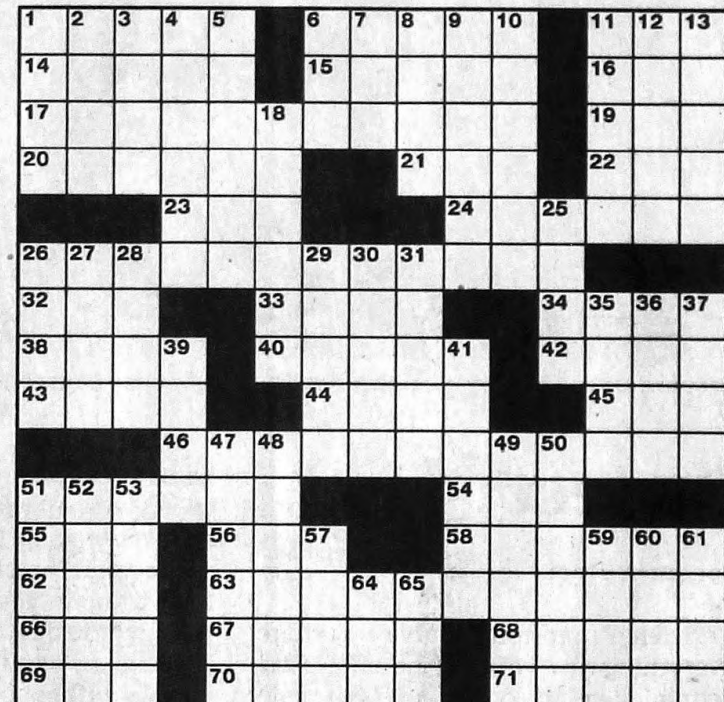
- Hesse automaker
- Wish devoutly
- Coal products
- Running in park
- After-dinner drink
- Prior to AD
- Writer Blount Jr.
- Minimal amount

ACROSS

- Score fraction
- Something comparable
- Bestow upon
- Early automaker from Sussex
- Work with dough
- Printer's proofs
- Spot on a lake
- Certain Syrian
- "Gotcha!"
- Thing in a tool belt pouch
- Exclamation of frustration
- Wonderful time
- Melodious
- Where our only royal palace is
- Common frame shape

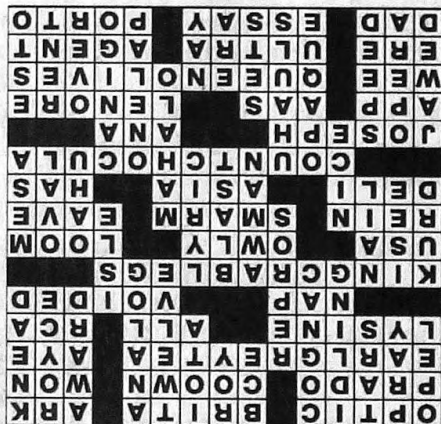
DOWN

- Flat land form
- "Great job!"
- Thanks, around
- Non-reflective
- Trucks for hire
- 2.5 miles, at Indy
- "Are we done here?"
- Had a chat
- "Grand" performance
- Radar reading
- Becomes fixed
- No longer happening
- Retailer's expense
- This, for Tomás
- Part of 6 Down
- A way to vote



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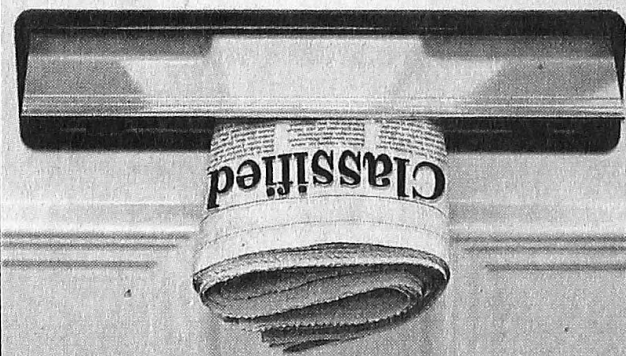
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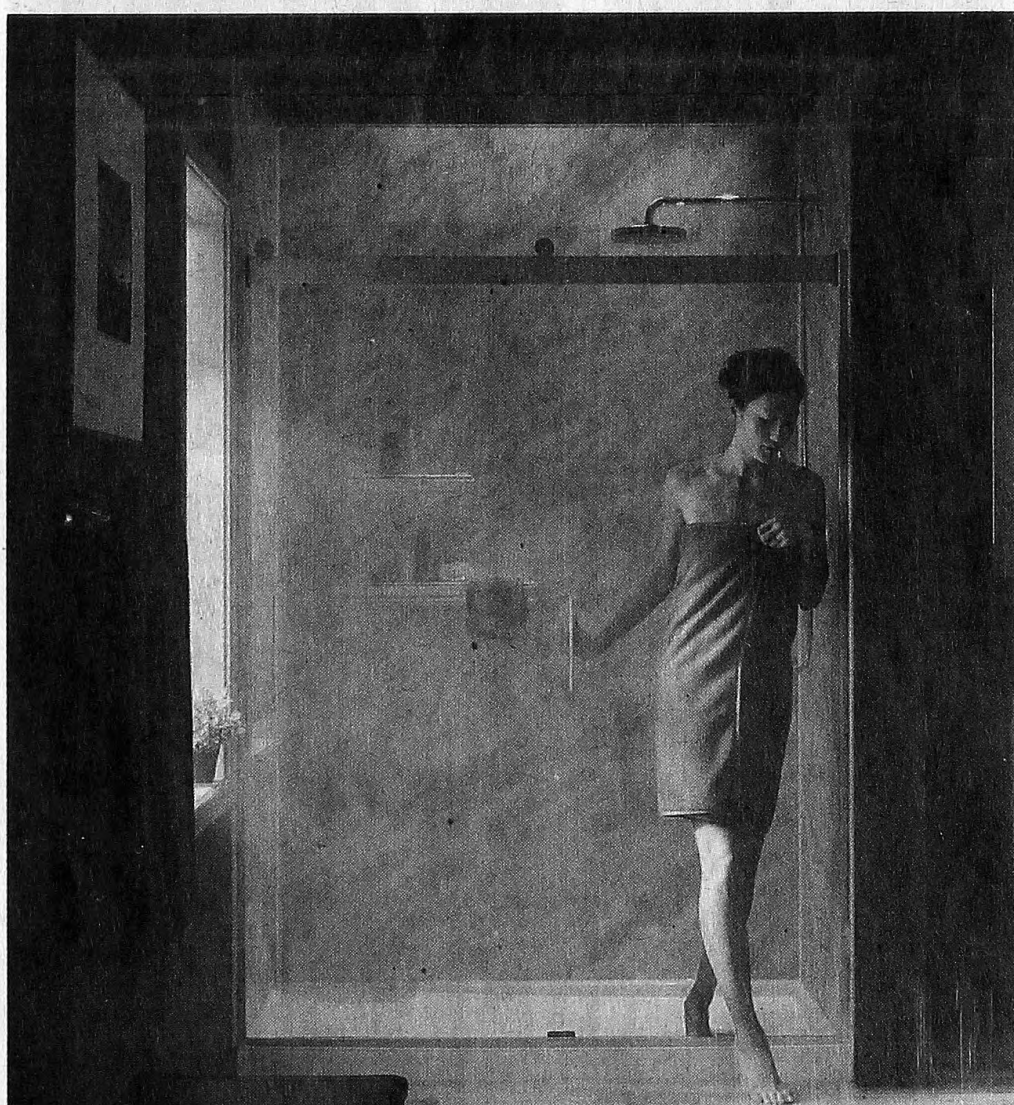
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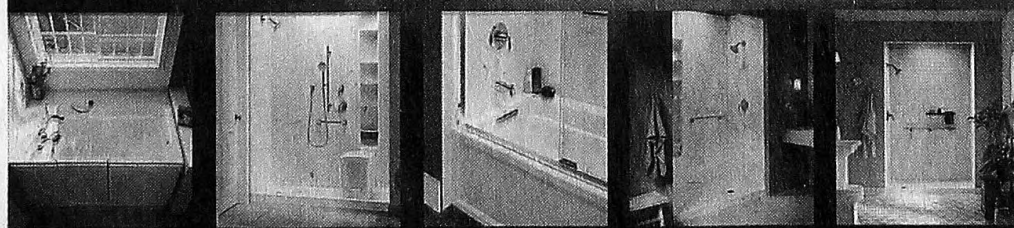
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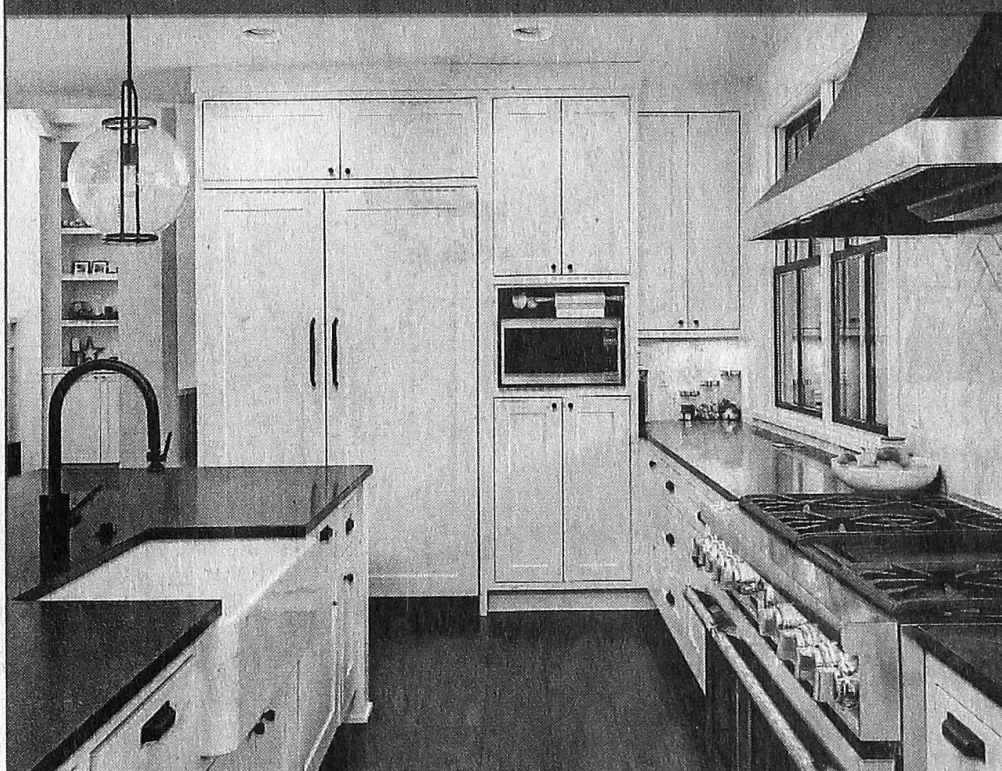
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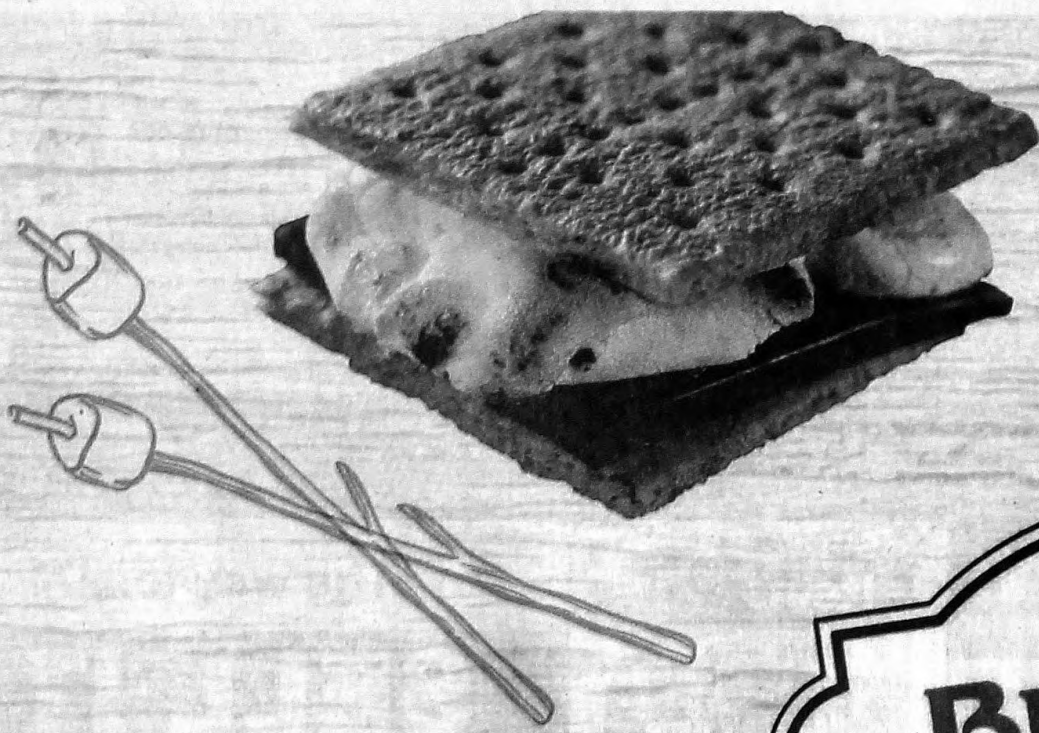
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We are CDC compliant in order to best protect you and your family!

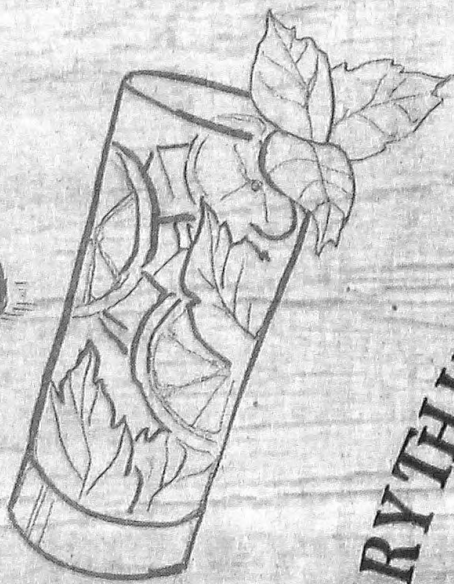
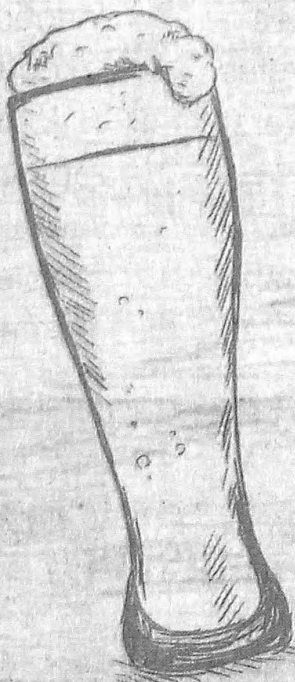
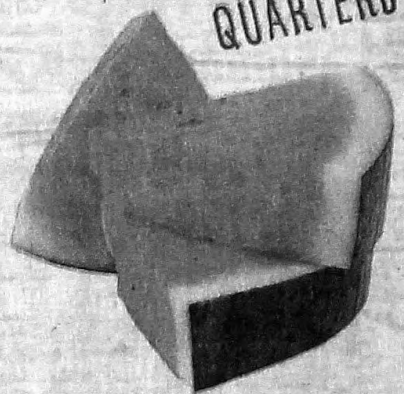
MI Lic # 2102222470

*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 6/30/22.



Happy 4TH of July

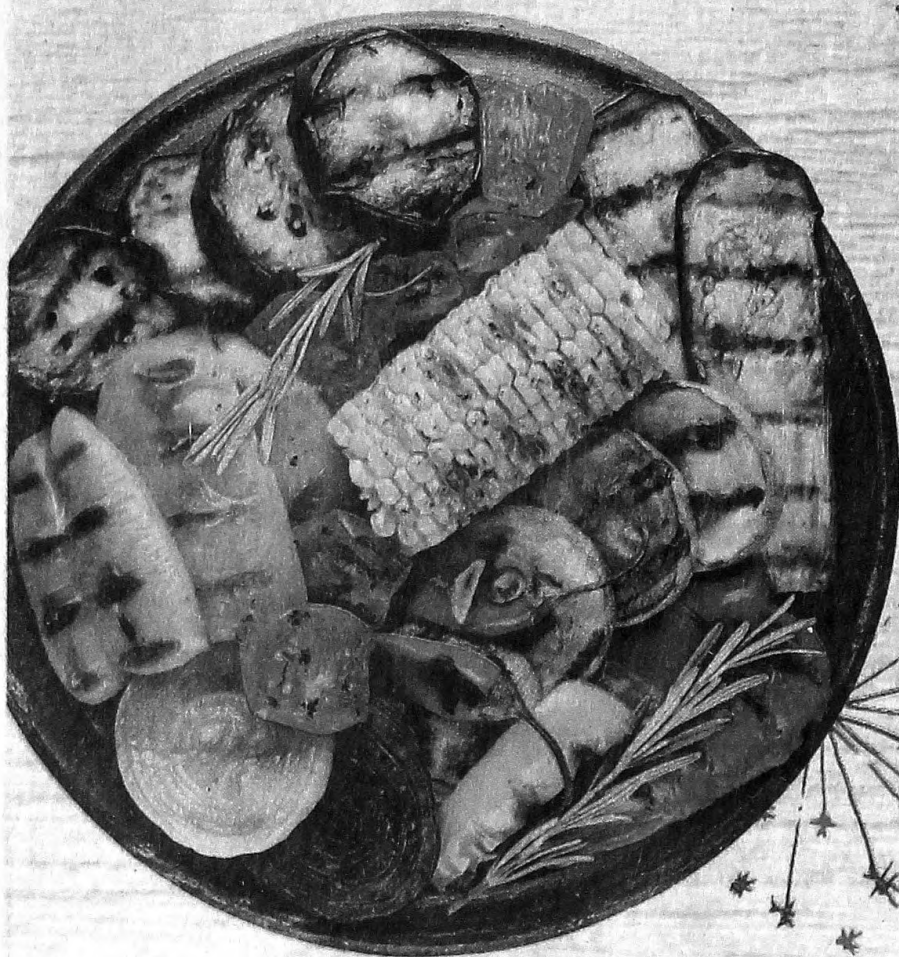
WATERMELON
QUARTERS 89¢ LB.



SEEDLESS GRAPES
\$1.99 LB.

S'MORES, DRINKS & EVERYTHING FOR GRILLING!

BONELESS TOP SIRLOIN STEAK \$5.99 LB.



BABY BACK RIBS
\$3.99 LB.

ANN ARBOR-MAIN ST. | ANN ARBOR-GREEN RD. | BRIGHTON | CANTON | CLINTON | DEXTER | FARMINGTON HILLS
LIVONIA | NOVI | PINCKNEY | PLYMOUTH/NORTHVILLE | ROCHESTER HILLS | SALINE | SOUTH LYON | TECUMSEH | WEST BLOOMFIELD