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Teachers win classroom makeovers

Insurance company presents three \$300 checks

Meemic Insurance chose three Wayne-Westland Community Schools teachers as Classroom Makeover winners. The Toler-Stemen Agency presented each of them with a \$300 check on May 3.

Each of the teachers submitted an essay on how they would use the funds to improve their classrooms.

Maureen VanHulle, a Schweitzer Elementary School teacher, wrote, "I have 27 active students in my class. Each is in need of a whole lot of love, attention, and guidance. Each one comes to me for new knowledge every day, and it is my passion to instill the love or learning in each growing mind. "If I were to get this grant, I

would use the money in two ways. The first way would be to purchase alternative seating and fidget gadgets for my students.

"The next would be to buy some discovery center items. As a new kindergarten teacher, my classroom does not include all of the items necessary to enhance the educational experience of my students."

See MAKEOVERS, Page A2



SUBMITTED
Wayne-Westland teacher Elizabeth Clark was chosen by Meemic Insurance as a "Classroom Makeover" winner.



Livonia Olive Garden general manager Danielle Cleary stops by to chat with customers, including Patricia Johnson and Barbara Bovia, right, during their April 27 lunch at the restaurant on Middlebelt north of I-96. Cleary has worked her way up to a management spot since she began as a hostess at age 16.

Former hostess now manages popular Italian restaurant

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com

When she started working as a hostess at a Red Lobster at age 16, Danielle Cleary didn't envision a restaurant career. She wanted to be a school teacher.

Seventeen years later, Cleary is still with restaurants — and a teacher of sorts as well — as the general man-

ager of the Olive Garden in Livonia.

The Canton Township resident, who has also run Olive Garden locations in Ann Arbor and Novi, oversees a management team of three people and a staff of more than 100 at the popular location on Middlebelt just north of Schoolcraft Road.

Cleary found that first job at the Red Lobster in Water-

ford suited her: It was close to home (she grew up in Pontiac), put her people skills to use (she was an usher at her church) and was familiar to her, as she had frequented it with her family.

Her company, Darden Restaurants, found something, too. Three years later, while employed at the Olive Garden in Auburn Hills, Cleary began climbing the com-

pany ladder, working as a hostess, server and trainer, and then moving into management.

"We are always looking to develop people," Cleary said recently at her restaurant. "You're able to be recognized for what you do."

She became a trainer who helped open new Olive Gar-

See MANAGER, Page A2

Genital cutting probe targets doctors' daughters

Tresa Baldas
Detroit Free Press

The federal government's investigation into female genital mutilation has gripped a small Indian Muslim community in fear as many of the group's young girls have been interrogated and medically checked for genital cutting in recent weeks.

They include the daughters of the accused Livonia doctors at the center of the historic case.

Multiple sources familiar with the case told the *Detroit Free Press* that in the wake of allegations that a local doctor cut the genitals of two Minnesota girls, the federal government and Child Protective Services have targeted several families in the Dawoodi Bohra community, which has long viewed female circumcision as a religious tradition. They say several young Bohra girls have been pulled out of class without their parents' knowledge, questioned by CPS about genital mutilation and eventually subjected to medical exams to check for cutting.

Sources say among the girls who have undergone such exams is the 11-year-old daughter of Dr. Jumana Nagarwala, who is charged with cutting the genitals of two Minnesota girls at a Livonia clinic in February; and the 8-year-old daughter of Dr. Fakhruddin Attar, who is charged with letting Nagarwala use his clinic to carry out the procedures.

Several Bohra families whose daughters were ordered to undergo these medical exams have retained their own attorneys but are afraid to talk, according to the lawyers.

Defense lawyers, meanwhile, are questioning the government's tactics in a case that they say is wreaking havoc on an otherwise quiet, dis-

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MAKEOVERS

Continued from Page A1

Elizabeth Clark, a Stevenson Middle School teacher, wrote, "I would like to use the classroom makeover grant to purchase a class set of the book, Harriet Tubman: Conductor on the Underground Railroad, by Ann Petry. This would enhance my students' educational experience because there is an excerpt in our literature series, but to be able to enjoy the entire book would give them a much broader picture of what she did in history. This is also cross-curricular

because students in history learn about the Civil War and Underground Railroad."

Paul Chisholm, a Tinkham Educational Center teacher, wrote, "This grant will allow approximately 90 alternative education high school students an opportunity to produce a significant, permanent, autobiographical piece of ceramic art. Funds from this grant will purchase 250 lbs. ceramic clay, glazes and mosaic supplies. Students will make connections between art and a variety of core curriculum subjects such as history, science, and social studies."

MANAGER

Continued from Page A1

den locations, traveling to the new spots to join a team that guided new hires for their first few weeks. She opened restaurants in Mt. Juliet, Tenn., and Sioux City, Iowa, as well as closer to home in Brighton.

Management also sent her to Italy for a week, in 2007, to absorb the culture and experience the cuisine there.

"It was really an exposure to the Italian culture and what we attempt to replicate in our restaurants," she said. "It was bringing our passion to life."

That Italian culture, she said, was warm, generous and welcoming, and she was always among people who made her feel a part of things, a part of the family.

Clearly also had management training locally and at the Olive Garden support center in Orlando, where Darden is based. (The Red Lobster brand was spun off from Darden several years ago.)

The Livonia Olive Garden staff is typically



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Danielle Cleary is the general manager of the Livonia Olive Garden restaurant on Middlebelt near Schoolcraft Road.

at work by 8 a.m., to start food preparation and make sure the restaurant is ready to open. The doors open at 11 a.m. for lunch.

(The food? Cleary's partial to Olive Garden's shrimp scampi and gives high marks to the lasagna and the linguine di mare.)

Cleary, who lives with a boyfriend and three children, said her compa-

ny is respectful of personal and family time and that long hours, common in the restaurant business, and emergency phone calls while she's off duty aren't an issue.

"When we're at home we're at home. When we're at work we're at work," she said.

Still, she's passionate about her job, she said, and does what's needed to make sure diners are

taken care of.

"I think you have to be passionate to work in the restaurant industry," Cleary said.

"We love what we do," said Karl Shaw, an Olive Garden director of operations in Michigan.

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Beautification project benefits seniors

As part of the Community Choice Foundation's Scholarship Program, 20 high school seniors and their families from across Michigan led a cleanup and beautification project April 29, clearing brush, laying sod and planting flowers on behalf of The Senior Alliance in Wayne.

Each student will be awarded a \$5,000 scholarship — \$100,000 total — for pledging to attend college in Michigan and

committing to giving back to the state by building their careers here.

By becoming a Community Choice scholar, the students pledge to use their time, talent and education to improve Michigan's future, as well as participate in networking and volunteer opportunities. The beautification event was just the first of many activities that will showcase the scholars' commitment to giving back.



A.J. Carter from Royal Oak High School and Kelsey Postler from Canton High School plant flowers at the senior center. Both students plan to attend the University of Michigan next fall.

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PROBE

Continued from Page A1

cret community.

"They are terrified that if they don't cooperate, the state is going to come and take their children. And the fathers are terrified too," said attorney Margaret Raben, who is representing two families whose daughters underwent medical exams for genital cutting last month.

Especially alarming, Raben said, was that the families were interrogated days before the doctor was even charged. Raben said she was contacted by two Bohra families in April, about two days before criminal charges were formally announced against Nagarwala. She said parents told her that their daughters had been pulled out of their classes and questioned at school about genital mutilation. The mothers were then called to the school and questioned, she said, and authorities eventually went to their homes and "ambushed" the parents.

"They literally had no idea the context of this," Raben said, noting her clients' two girls were examined on April 11 and 13. Nagarwala was arrested on April 12.

"There is a steady stream of these investigations," Raben said. "Everybody is anxious."

"My clients are not sophisticated people," Raben said. "They are not familiar with the ways of the court system and frankly, they are terrified ... What they're telling these parents is that they want all of these little girls examined by a particular physician that they've already chosen."

According to Raben, the exams are being performed at Children's Hospital by a doctor who does a lot of child sexual abuse investigations. She said many in the Bohra community are cooperating with authorities and she described her clients as "good, loving people."

"My parents firmly deny that anything was ever done in a ritual way to their 7-year-olds," Raben said.

The U.S. Attorneys Office declined comment. So did the FBI and the lawyers for Nagarwala and Attar, both of whom are locked up pending trial.

In a lengthy hearing Wednesday, Attar's lawyer, Mary Chartier, argued for bond, saying the government is "over-reaching" and wrongfully accusing her client of engaging in female genital mutilation. She argued that her client did not take part in any actual cutting procedures, and that the case is really about a less-harmful procedure that is part of a deeply held and long-standing religious tradition.

"It is his deeply held religious belief that what was happening at the clinic was not FGM," Chartier said, stressing it was a "religious based" tradition that is only performed by women. "Dr. Attar has every reason to fight this out."

Chartier also stressed: "There is not one piece of evidence that Dr. Attar ever touched a child."

Attar is charged alongside his wife, Farida Attar, who is accused of holding the girls' hands during the genital cutting procedures and then trying to cover up what happened. She was ordered locked up as well, despite her lawyer

"My clients are not sophisticated people. They are not familiar with the ways of the court system and frankly, they are terrified ... What they're telling these parents is that they want all of these little girls examined by a particular physician that they've already chosen."

MARGARET RABEN, attorney

Matt Newburg's assertion that "this is a religious practice."

U.S. Magistrate Elizabeth Stafford rejected the religious argument altogether, saying bond would be decided on the allegations, not religion.

"It is important to me ... to take religion out of it and focus on the allegations that young girls' genitals were mutilated and that the defendants played a role," said Stafford, noting the defense claim that the procedure isn't as harmful as the government claims isn't "persuasive."

"I think it's common knowledge that the cutting of the genitalia of a 7-year-old child would be painful," Stafford said. "I find this to be a serious crime."

Chartier also suggested her client was being persecuted for being Muslim. Specifically, she challenged the government's characterization of phone calls that Dr. Attar had with a Muslim religious leader. The government has claimed that Attar helped organize the Minnesota girls' visits to Michigan and that his 50 phone calls to that Muslim man — who had a Minnesota number — were part of that planning. But Chartier said her client was only talking to the man because he was helping him memorize the Quran.

"I highly doubt that if

ing as early as 2005. And they went to great lengths to cover up what they did, she said.

"Dr. Attar told people in the community to say, 'We didn't do this. Deny it. Say it's a medical exam and nothing else,'" Woodward said. "There is no question that these defendants knew that this was illegal and they did it anyway."

The judge noted that while the surveillance photos were grainy, the text messages and other evidence in the case were strong enough to warrant detaining the defendants.

Nagarwala, an emergency room doctor with the Henry Ford Health System, has been fired. She is not accused of performing any genital mutilation at the hospital, but rather at a clinic in Livonia owned by Attar.

All three defendants are part of a small, Indian-Muslim community known as the Dawoodi Bohra, which was at the center of an Australian genital cutting prosecution that sent three people to prison in 2015. Nagarwala has maintained that she did not engage in any actual cutting but rather removed only a membrane from the girl's genitalia and gave it to the parents for burial as part of a religious custom.

According to the court documents, Attar, an internist, has admitted to authorities that Nagarwala used his clinic after hours to treat children ages 6-9 for problems with their genitals, including genital rashes, but that she only saw the patients "when the clinic is closed on Friday evenings or Saturdays." She never billed for the procedures nor documented them, the complaint said,

noting multiple other young girls have told authorities that Nagarwala also performed genital mutilation on them.

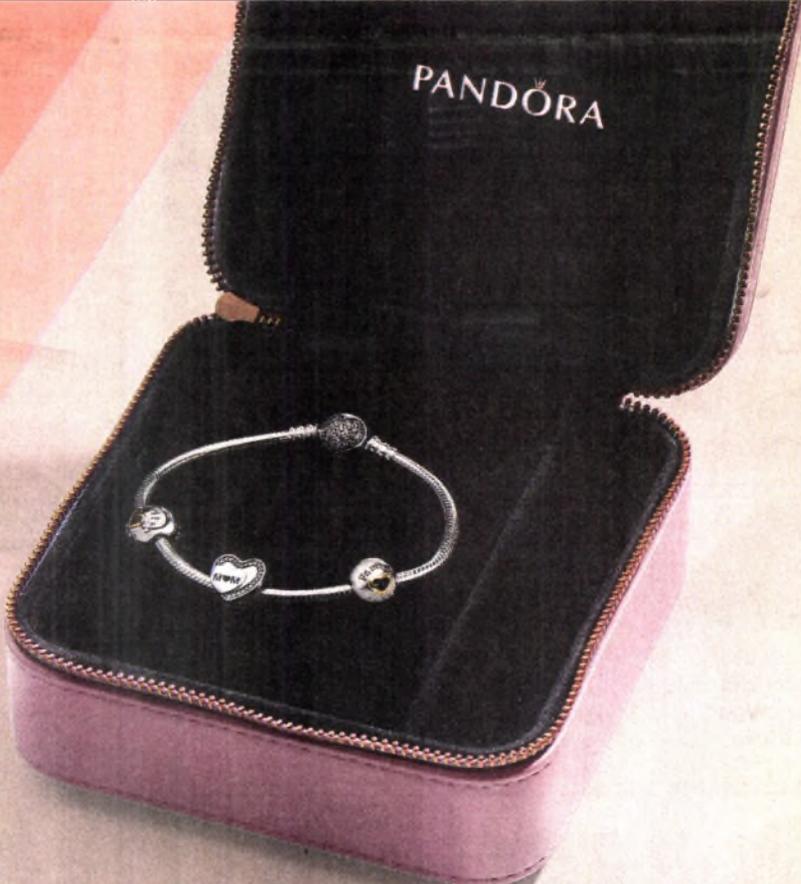
The Dawoodi Bohra community in Detroit has said that it is cooperating with authorities and that it does not "support the violation of any U.S. law, local, state or federal ... Any violation of U.S. law is counter to instructions to our community members. It does not reflect the everyday lives of the Dawoodi Bohras in America."

According to court records, the federal government's investigation has relied on cell phone records, surveillance video and medical evidence to bring charges against three individuals who were all placed at the alleged scene of the crime. The case involves two Minnesota girls whose mothers brought them to Michigan in February for what the girls thought was a special girls weekend. Instead, prosecutors allege, they ended up at the Livonia clinic on Feb. 3, where they underwent genital mutilation procedures.

A follow-up exam by a Minnesota doctor revealed that the girls' genitalia had been altered or removed, the government has argued.

Authorities said they also intercepted phone calls in which Attar's wife is heard telling one Michigan member of the religious community not to cooperate if investigators inquire about the procedures. She allegedly told that parent to "completely deny" allegations of genital mutilation and "to say that nothing happened."

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LIVONIA POLICE BRIEFS

Wheels taken from vehicle

Livonia police were called the morning of April 30 to the 37600 block of Summers on the report of a vehicle that had been taken and its wheels missing.

When police arrived, they checked the area the car was last seen. They saw broken glass on the ground. After checking the area, police found the vehicle parked in the 14100 block of Stonehouse nearby, with all four tires missing. The car was resting on landscaping bricks and had a window smashed. The owner checked the vehicle and discovered nothing was missing.

Retail fraud reported

An employee of Marshalls, 13200 Middlebelt, came to the police station May 1 to report a retail fraud.

The employee said the suspect was seen walking into the store and selected shoes and clothing off of the rack rapidly. The suspect then allegedly placed items in a cart and went to the front of

the store, trying to leave without paying. An employee stopped them, but the suspect reportedly then refused to come back in the store with them and left. Several items were recovered, including earrings, a necklace, shirts and yoga pants.

More on hometownlife.com:

Shirts taken from store

An employee at TJ Maxx, 30965 Five Mile, came to the police station the afternoon of April 28 to report a retail fraud.

The employee was notified via email that there had been an apparent theft of shirts on April 18. After reviewing footage, the employee saw two suspects allegedly select a dozen polo shirts and walk out without paying. The employee reportedly said the suspects were familiar, as they were believed to have committed other retail fraud at the store previously.

— Compiled from reports filed with the Livonia Police Department.

WESTLAND POLICE BRIEFS

Counterfeit \$100 passed at Burger King

Police were called April 24 to Burger King, 120 S. Merriman, on the report of a counterfeit bill that had been passed through the restaurant's drive thru.

An employee called police and told them the suspect and a passenger had left the area. Police checked around and did not locate them. An employee said the suspect pulled up in an older model vehicle in the drive thru and passed along a \$100 bill, which was pulled from the passenger's purse. The employee went to check the bill to make sure it was legitimate, and when they discovered it was fake, they returned to the drive thru window. The suspect had then left the drive thru and was not in the area. Police took the counterfeit bill and tagged it as evidence.

Catalytic converter taken from vehicle

Police were dispatched April 26 to the 7400 block of Wildwood on the report of the theft of a catalytic converter.

The victim told police he parked his vehicle in front of his residence the day before. When he came out to the car the next day, he said he started it and it sounded like the muffler had been removed. After investigating further, the victim said the catalytic converter had been taken.

Vehicle broken into

A resident in the 7500 block of Terri Drive came to the police station April 25 on the report of a larceny from auto.

After parking his vehicle in his driveway the night before, he came out to the car that morning and found someone had gone through his vehicle, leaving loose change and paperwork all over. The only thing

the victim said was missing was a leather jacket. He said the car may have been left unlocked; there were no signs of forced entry.

Fence vandalized

Police were called April 24 to a home in the 35000 block of Schley on the report of vandalism to a resident's fence.

The resident said someone overnight had spray-painted her wooden privacy fence. Police saw what appeared to be a face spray-painted on the fence in blue paint. Police checked the area and saw another fence had been vandalized in the 35000 block of Manila. The next day, the resident called police and informed them that more vandalism had taken place at the home including on her vehicle, mailbox and nearby stop sign.

— Compiled from reports filed with the Westland Police Department.

Grant enables Kennedy students to tackle innovation

These days, being an educator doesn't just mean keeping up with coursework and homework. It means helping transform students into the innovators of tomorrow.

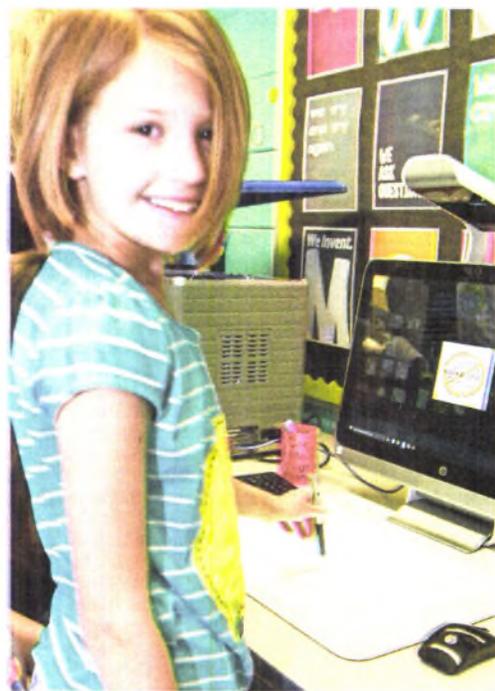
Alisha Bashawaty, a technology teacher in elementary schools in Novi and now Kennedy Elementary in Livonia for six years, is always looking for ways to improve the student learning experience. A visually impaired third-grade student named Kyden made her realize that a 3-D printer could add another dimension to her students' knowledge of the world around them.

When Kyden, who can only slightly see color in one eye, handed Bashawaty a picture book and pleaded, "Can you explain this picture because the other kids are laughing and I just don't understand what they think is funny," Bashawaty knew that she had to pursue this kind of teaching. "I initially wanted to be able to give visually impaired students the opportunity to 'feel' the picture with their hands."

But then she realized all her students could benefit. That's where the Livonia Education Foundation and DFCU Financial stepped in. The foundation, through donors like DFCU, makes grant monies available for just such unique classroom purchases.

"No way would this school have been able to provide this 3-D printer and HP Sprout computers without this support," Bashawaty said. "The kids are so excited."

DFCU Vice President Theresa Aquino and Foundation Executive Director Diane Policelli recently visited Kennedy's fourth-



A student at Kennedy Elementary in Livonia shows off the new Sprout system.

graders to see them at work on the new computers. These creative students make their imaginations a reality with this technology that was installed in April.

The glow of many large screens illuminate the small faces as they watch their creations come alive. The children learn dimensions of shapes and sizes — from a Hogwarts castle to a home with plants and shrubs to a huge egg with chicken legs — and that helps with geometry, design theory, problem solving and collaboration.

Four girls from the class then take the visitors to the Maker Faire room where the 3-D printer is housed. Avery, Charlotte, Helena and Sadie explain how the computer takes an image from the screen (like a dinosaur head) and sends it to the 3-D printer,

which works by "printing" objects. But instead of using ink, it uses more substantive materials: plastics, metal, rubber, and the like. It scans an object — or takes an existing scan of an object — and slices it into layers it can then convert into a physical object.

"With technology like this, kids don't even know they're learning," Bashawaty said. "This will help us create STEM projects like building three-dimensional bridges and buildings. It also give the visually impaired students access to manipulatives to enhance their experience. Next year we'll try a new unit that teaches coding."

Alisha, a self-described book nerd, doesn't just support advanced technology applications. Good old-fashioned reading is also her priority at the school. The entire student body is clad in pajamas on this particular day as a reward for a reading contest. The students read 181,000 minutes in the month of March. "We try to come up with fun, unique ways to encourage the students in all areas," Bashawaty said.

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'RETIRED' CEO TURNS TO EDUCATION

'The most rewarding thing I've done': Dick Munro, a youth teacher and mentor

ANNIKA HAMMERSCHLAG
USA TODAY NETWORK

Each week, this series will introduce you to an exceptional American who unites, rather than divides, our communities. To read more about the American profiled here and more average Americans doing exceptional things, visit onenation.usatoday.com.

NAPLES, Florida - When asked about the three Purple Hearts he earned while serving in the Korean War, Dick Munro responds like he does to any question about his accomplishments: with absurd modesty.

"It doesn't mean I'm a hero — it means I didn't duck," he laughed.

Munro, 86, is the former chairman and CEO of Time Inc., which later became Time Warner, and a current education activist in Naples, Florida.

He began his career at Time Inc. as a trainee and retired 40 years later as top dog.

"I just went to work every day. It just happened," he said.

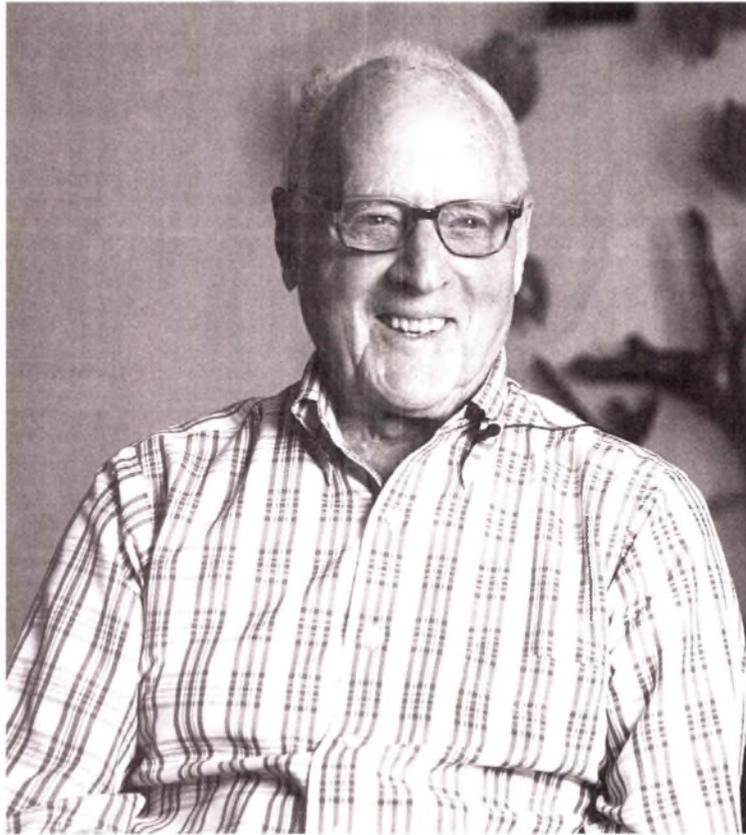
After Munro "retired" from Time Inc., he took to sitting on corporate boards — 20 of them, he counts. They include prestigious companies, foundations and universities such as Genentech, IBM and Columbia. And that 25-year stint as director of the United Negro College Fund.

When Munro moved to Naples, a resort town known for its white-sand beaches and exclusive golf courses, he had no intention of relapsing into his philanthropic addictions. But then he peeked behind the luxury condos and five-star restaurants.

"I had no idea that just a stone's throw away there were people hanging on by their fingernails," Munro said.

Thirty miles northeast of Naples lies Immokalee, home to a community of Latino farmworkers. Many live in trailers. Others cram into one-bedroom bungalows with their entire family.

"It was mind-boggling, seeing how these poor people lived. There's an underbelly to this county that most people don't know about," he said.



KATIE KLANN/NAPLES DAILY NEWS

Dick Munro didn't have to look far from his Naples home to find his passion. He works with Champions for Learning, which pairs kids with retirees who help them study and get jobs.

Dick Munro

Location: Naples, Florida

Age: 86

Profession: Retired chairman and CEO of Time Inc.; education activist

Mission: Empower children to reach their full potential.

Q&A WITH DICK MUNRO

What does it mean to you to be an American?

It means that I was fortunate to be born in a country the world envies. A country whose democratic principles have had an enormous positive impact on the world almost since its founding. We have set an example of civility, generosity, diplomacy and when required, power. With all that comes the responsibility of leadership. And we should cherish that responsibility.

Yet, despite all of our enormous resources, we are becoming a nation divided, angry and lacking the civility we once knew. Issues of income in equality, racism and the treatment of immigrants are disturbing. But, I am an optimist. There will always be more good guys than bad guys.

What moment touched and motivated you to launch this effort?

My first exposure to poverty occurred years ago when I was involved with Save The Children. I visited Indian Reservations in the West, the Mississippi Delta and parts of Appalachia. It was an eye-opener, to say the least. I never realized parts of the USA were similar to third-world countries. Here in Naples, my first visit to Immokalee was equally shocking. This is a remarkable community of good, hard-working farmworkers, many of whom live in severe poverty.

What gives you hope or what concerns you?

Public schools give me hope. The privilege to be exposed to students, teachers and administrators gives me hope. I wish more citizens could have the opportunity to visit classrooms to observe the learning process in action, to observe the professionalism and passion the great majority of teachers bring to their classrooms every day.

What do you hope to accomplish through your efforts?

There will never be enough volunteers. Naples is made up of extremely generous and civic-minded people, but there is still a whole bunch of them who don't become involved. This is unfortunate for both them and our community. Seniors have lots of skills to contribute. Many simply have not been exposed to the challenges we face. You really do get more out of volunteering than you put in.

ONE NATION

NOMINATE AN AMERICAN

Who are your American heroes? Share stories and nominees at onenation.usatoday.com or via email to onenation@usa.today.com or post a video submission to Twitter, Facebook or Instagram (no longer than 2 minutes, please) with the hashtags #IAmAnAmerican #WeAreOneNation.

2017 Opening Day is Thurs. May 11, 3 - 7 pm!

There'll be lots of excitement at the Marketplace... We'll be raffling off an **ALEX AND ANI®** bracelet for Mom (or yourself!) donated by **Precision Jewelers...**

...Ken's Country Produce will have lots of Spring flowers for sale just in time for Mother's Day.

Most Food Assistance Programs Accepted

We'll have new vendors and your favorites from past years as well.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY!

Westland Farmers & Artisans Market is made possible by the Westland Downtown Development Authority & City of Westland. Managed by the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

FREE Market Tote Bag courtesy of North Bros Ford while supplies last!

Westland Farmers & Artisans Marketplace
1901 N. Carlson, Westland MI 48185
www.westlandfarmersmarket.com • Email: westlandchamber@yahoo.com

HOLIDAY RETIREMENT

Add a spring to your step at Holiday!

Call 734-666-0309 today to schedule a personal visit and complimentary meal!

Ashford Court
Independent Retirement Living
37501 Joy Road, Westland, MI 48185
734-666-0309 | ashfordcourtwestland.com

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Healthy Kick-Off

May 20, 2017 | Noon - 3 p.m.

St. Joseph Mercy Canton
1600 S. Canton Center Road, Canton

ST. JOSEPH MERCY CANTON
SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

- Arctic Edge Street Hockey
- Digital Fingerprinting
- Family Exercise Mini Sessions
- Free Bike Helmets and Fittings Supply limited to first 200 kids
- Health Exploration Station
- Healthy Eating Zone with IHA Primary Care Physicians
- Health Screenings: Skin Cancer, Blood Pressure and More
- Meet Players from AFC Ann Arbor, Semi Pro Soccer Team
- Rock Climbing Wall
- Teddy Bear Clinic

All activities are free

Meet Lila Lazarus
St. Joe's Health Reporter

Giveaways include Tiger and AFC Ann Arbor tickets and more

stjoeshealth.org/healthy-kick-off

Cass Elementary community to reunite — and say goodbye

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com

They'll be celebrating 50 years of learning — and community, friendship, even family — at Cass Elementary School in Livonia.

Cass, a K-4 school on the north side, is marking its golden anniversary with a reunion and open house beginning at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 10, at the school. Live music, refreshments, an art fair, children's activities, the opening of a time capsule and more are planned.

"Just a lot of celebration of good memories," said Jen Wilson, an elementary support teacher at Cass who is involved in planning the reunion.

But it'll be a bitter-sweet event: Cass, which opened in 1967, is closing at the end of the school



Cass Elementary School students arrive for the first day of school in September 2012. The school community is planning a 50th anniversary reunion, and Cass is set to close at the end of this school year.

year as Livonia Public Schools officials address declining enrollment

across the district and look for ways to save money.

"This is the most amazing community," said Wilson, who has

worked at Cass for 16 years. "Caring, supportive parents. They're just so outgoing and active. That's what I'm going to miss the most."

"It's unfortunate, because the memories for me are so strong," said Kristin Wilson, who attended Cass as a young girl and whose son Evan is a first-grader there. "I wish he could've had the same memories I had."

Students at Cass will be sent to other district schools. "We're ready to start the next chapter," said Kristin Wilson, who is not related to Jen Wilson.

Jen Wilson, the teacher, said reunion planners are focusing on the positives of the school's history rather than its closing. Graduates of the school and former teachers are expected to attend.

"People are connected

and passionate about the Cass community," she said.

Kristin Wilson said her time at Cass was marked by quality teachers who helped her build a good educational foundation and by a caring, family-friendly environment.

"Nothing but fond memories. It was a great place to start my education," she said.

Wednesday's reunion will include the opening of a time capsule that was reportedly buried 25 years ago.

Jen Wilson said she wasn't sure exactly when the capsule was buried, but she's heard they'll need a videocassette player when it's opened. "We'll find out when we open it," she said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
734-678-8432
Twitter: @mattjachman

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION: FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2017 12 NOON SPARKS AUTO AND TOWING 34043 FORD ROAD WESTLAND MI 48185

2005	Chevrolet	2G1WH52K459276010
2008	Dodge	1B3LC56R28N656532
2000	Ford	1FAPP55U0YG100526
2004	Volvo	YV1RS61T642339881
2005	BMW	WBANB33505CN65263
2005	Chevrolet	2G1WF55E959249185
1999	Ford	3FAKP1137XR221176
1997	Ford	1FTDX1763VKA70424
1997	Plymouth	1P4GP45R5VB482514
2005	Dodge	2D4FV48T15H514799
1999	Chevrolet	1G1NE52M1X6258709
2011	Ford	3FADP4EJ5BM153971
1999	Ford	1FAPP5356XG258157

Publish: May, 07, 2017

LO-0000319598 2x4

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING

In the matter of Ava Jolie Savaeau
FILE NO.: 17-104459-NC

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

Take Notice: A hearing will be held on May 30, 2017 at 9 a.m. at 2 Woodward Ave., Room 1501 before Judge Lisa M. Neilson for the following purpose:

Name Change

Date: 05/07/2017

Jessica Lamb
Petitioner
9910 Seltzer
Livonia, MI 48150
734-770-7676

Publish: 05/07/17 LO-0000319421 1x4

Mitsubishi donates vehicle to Livonia Career Technical Center

Mitsubishi Electric Automotive America Inc. recently donated a Mitsubishi Endeavor, a cross-utility vehicle built by Mitsubishi Motors, to the Livonia Career Technical Center (LCTC). The LCTC is a high school program in Livonia that provides automotive repair curriculum to junior and senior students.

The vehicle was previously used to demonstrate various Mitsubishi Electric technologies to customers, including engine components, starters, alternators, exhaust gas recirculation valves, radios and more.

The Endeavor was presented by Clint McDermott, research and development manager, Mitsubishi Electric Automotive America Inc. and accepted by Greg Osofsky, automotive technical instructor, LCTC.



Clint McDermott, research and development manager, Mitsubishi Electric Automotive America, presents and Greg Osofsky, automotive technical instructor, with a Mitsubishi Endeavor cross-utility vehicle that will be used for educational purposes.

The LCTC will immediately place the crossover SUV into service as a "test vehicle" to teach students about automotive fuse maintenance and technology.

"On behalf of the students and staff at the Livonia Career Tech Center I would like to thank Mitsubishi Electric for the donation of

the vehicle to the Automotive Technology Program," Osofsky said. "It has caused a lot of excitement and the students are very eager to begin working on it."

LCTC currently offers automotive programs that focus on disassembly, inspection, diagnostic testing, repair and reassembly.

SECTION 00100 Advertisement to Bid

1. **South Redford Schools** (the "Owner") requests Bid Proposals from qualified bidders for concrete work at all of its seven buildings. Bid Proposals will be received:

1.1. By delivery or mail by **12 PM local time on Monday, June 5, 2017**. The Owner is not liable for any delivery or postal delays. Bid Proposals received after the Due Date will not be opened, accepted or considered.

1.2. To the attention of: South Redford Schools
Jean Lacey
26141 Schoolcraft Rd
Redford MI 48239

2. Proposals must be sealed with Bidder's name on the outside of the envelope and designated as follows:

Sealed Proposal
South Redford Schools
Bid Package 1
Bid Category: _____
Contractor Name, Address, Phone Number

3. Proposals shall be based on the requirements set forth in the Bidding Documents:

Concrete Work

4. Accepted Bidders will be required, as a condition precedent to award of Contract, to furnish, satisfactory Performance Bond and Payment Bond and Certificates of Insurance as required in the Project Manual.

5. Unless otherwise specifically set forth, this Project is subject to state sales and/or use taxes and Bidder is required to include such taxes in its Bid Proposal.

6. Bid Proposals received on or before the Due Date will be publicly opened and read aloud at **12 PM local time on Monday, June 5, 2017** by an authorized representative of South Redford School District at the Administration Building, 26141 Schoolcraft Rd Redford MI 48239 (room to be determined), evaluated by district representatives. **The Owner shall not open, consider, or accept a Bid Proposal that is received after the Due Date for Bid Proposal submission in this Advertisement for Bids.**

7. Bidding Documents will be available for distribution via digital transmittal only after Monday, May 8, 2017. For digital copy, contact jean.lacey@southredford.org

8. There will be pre-bid meeting for this project on May 22, 2017 at 1:00 PM. Also, anyone interested in viewing the sites should contact Jean Lacey to schedule an appropriate meeting time. Contractors are encouraged to examine the site prior to submission of bids.

9. **There is no deposit fee required to obtain plans and specifications.** Electronic copy and printed copy of complete bidding documents can be obtained from Jean Lacey as listed above

10. The Owner reserve the right to request qualification forms or additional information from any Bidder before issuing Bidding Documents, receiving Bid Proposals or awarding the Agreement.

11. Bid Proposals shall be on forms furnished by the owner.

12. The successful Bidder(s) will be required to enter into an agreement with South Redford School District.

13. All Bid Proposals shall be accompanied by the sworn statement included in Section 00410 of the Project Manual, in accordance with MCL 380.1267, disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner(s) or any employee of the Bidder and any member of the school board or the superintendent of the school district. Bid Proposals that do not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement shall not be accepted.

14. South Redford School District, reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bid Proposals in whole or in part in accordance with all applicable laws. It is the intent of the School District to award the Agreement to the Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder in accordance with the Bidding Documents. South Redford School District shall have the right to waive any informality or irregularity in any Bid Proposal received and to accept Bid Proposals which, in its judgment, are in its own best interest. South Redford School District shall have the right to accept Alternates in any order or combination and to determine the low Bidder on the basis of the sum of the Base Bid, Voluntary Alternates, and Alternates accepted.

SOUTH REDFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jean Lacey
Business Services Manager

Publish: May 7, 2017

LO-0000319581 3x9.5

SECTION 00100 Advertisement to Bid

1. **South Redford Schools** (the "Owner") requests Bid Proposals from qualified bidders for tennis court resurfacing and replacement at all of its high school. Bid Proposals will be received:

1.1. By delivery or mail by **12 PM local time on Monday, June 5, 2017**. The Owner is not liable for any delivery or postal delays. Bid Proposals received after the Due Date will not be opened, accepted or considered.

1.2. To the attention of: South Redford Schools
Jean Lacey
26141 Schoolcraft Rd
Redford MI 48239

2. Proposals must be sealed with Bidder's name on the outside of the envelope and designated as follows:

Sealed Proposal
South Redford Schools
Bid Package 2
Bid Category: _____
Contractor Name, Address, Phone Number

3. Proposals shall be based on the requirements set forth in the Bidding Documents:

Tennis court repair/resurface

4. Accepted Bidders will be required, as a condition precedent to award of Contract, to furnish, satisfactory Performance Bond and Payment Bond and Certificates of Insurance as required in the Project Manual.

5. Unless otherwise specifically set forth, this Project is subject to state sales and/or use taxes and Bidder is required to include such taxes in its Bid Proposal.

6. Bid Proposals received on or before the Due Date will be publicly opened and read aloud at **12 PM local time on Monday, June 5, 2017** by an authorized representative of South Redford School District at the Administration Building, 26141 Schoolcraft Rd Redford MI 48239 (room to be determined), evaluated by district representatives. **The Owner shall not open, consider, or accept a Bid Proposal that is received after the Due Date for Bid Proposal submission in this Advertisement for Bids.**

7. Bidding Documents will be available for distribution via digital transmittal only after Monday, May 8, 2017. For digital copy, contact jean.lacey@southredford.org

8. There will be pre-bid meeting for this project on May 22, 2017 at 9:00 AM. Also, anyone interested in viewing the sites should contact Jean Lacey to schedule an appropriate meeting time. Contractors are encouraged to examine the site prior to submission of bids.

9. **There is no deposit fee required to obtain plans and specifications.** Electronic copy and printed copy of complete bidding documents can be obtained from Jean Lacey as listed above

10. The Owner reserves the right to request qualification forms or additional information from any Bidder before issuing Bidding Documents, receiving Bid Proposals or awarding the Agreement.

11. Bid Proposals shall be on forms furnished by the owner.

12. The successful Bidder(s) will be required to enter into an agreement with South Redford School District.

13. All Bid Proposals shall be accompanied by the sworn statement included in Section 00410 of the Project Manual, in accordance with MCL 380.1267, disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner(s) or any employee of the Bidder and any member of the school board or the superintendent of the school district. Bid Proposals that do not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement shall not be accepted.

14. South Redford School District, reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bid Proposals in whole or in part in accordance with all applicable laws. It is the intent of the School District to award the Agreement to the Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder in accordance with the Bidding Documents. South Redford School District shall have the right to waive any informality or irregularity in any Bid Proposal received and to accept Bid Proposals which, in its judgment, are in its own best interest. South Redford School District shall have the right to accept Alternates in any order or combination and to determine the low Bidder on the basis of the sum of the Base Bid, Voluntary Alternates, and Alternates accepted.

SOUTH REDFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jean Lacey
Business Services Manager

Publish: May 7, 2017

LO-0000319585 3x8.5

Book reveals horrors local soldiers faced in Civil War

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

They came to a soldier recruiting effort in what is now downtown Plymouth, eager to fight against slavery and not realizing the horrors they would face on Civil War battlegrounds.

Author Gary Rembisz points toward Kellogg Park, the site where area soldiers lined up to volunteer to enlist in the 24th Michigan Infantry. Some lied about their age, claiming they were 18 even though they were younger. One man was 70, but didn't look it.

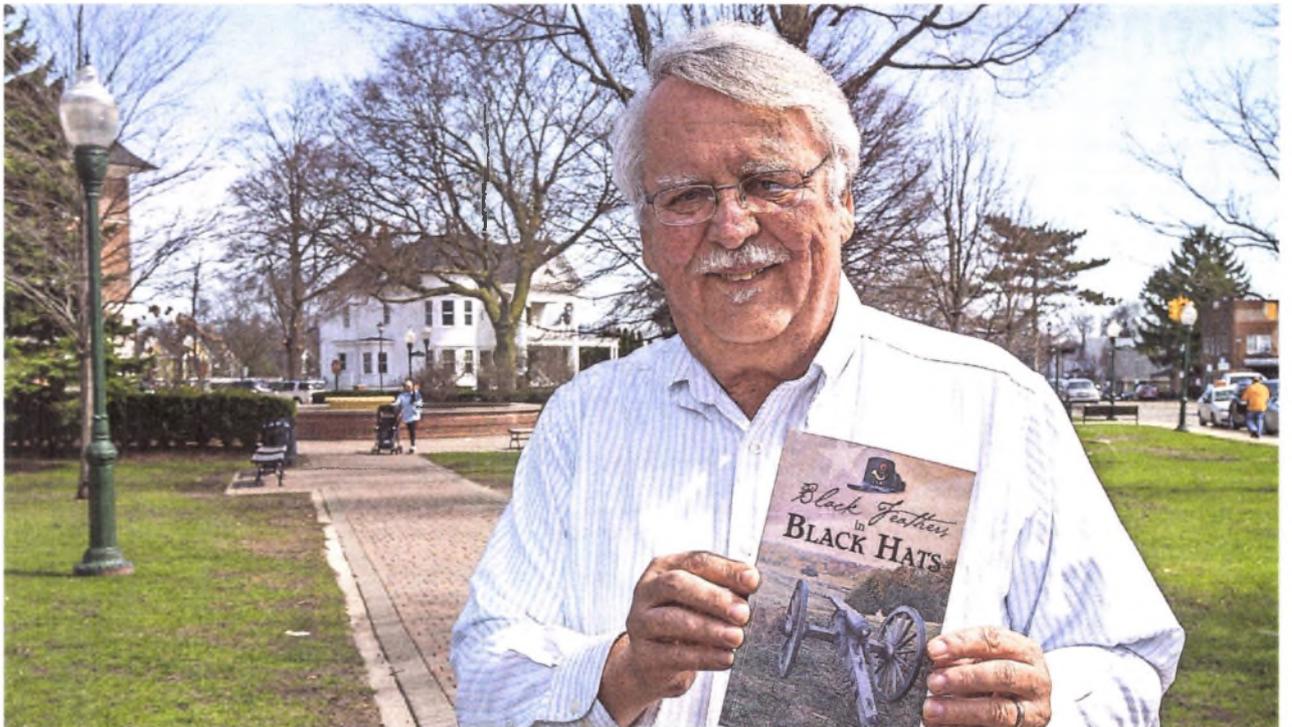
They just wanted to serve. "They were ready to kill rebels," Rembisz said. "They were hot to get at it."

As Plymouth celebrates its 150th year as a city, Rembisz remembers a slice of history that dates back further to 1862, the year 1,037 soldiers joined the 24th Michigan Infantry, attended boot camp in Detroit and headed south to help change a nation's history.

Rembisz, a Plymouth Township resident, has penned a book, "Black Feathers in Black Hats," that tells the story of what this brave group of men faced. The title refers to attire worn by the elite Iron Brigade, which the 24th regiment joined after the brigade lost nearly half of its soldiers during the Battle of Antietam.

Led by Col. Henry Morrow, the 24th Michigan Infantry was initially shunned by the Iron Brigade, but earned respect in its first real test, the Battle of Fredericksburg. Rembisz reveals the horror as men of the 24th witnessed scenes such as a soldier's head being blown off and another losing his arm.

It catapulted them into manhood, the author said, but it couldn't prepare them for the war's biggest clash in 1863, the Battle of Gettysburg, where 80 percent of the regiment either died, was wounded or came up missing.



Gary Rembisz is author of "Black Feathers in Black Hats," a story of the Union Army's 24th Michigan Infantry. He is photographed in Plymouth's Kellogg Park, where men were recruited to fight in the Civil War.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The 315-page book also tells the story of Nelson Pooler of Canton, who was captured by Confederate soldiers during the Battle of the Wilderness and sent to a prisoner of war camp in Andersonville, Ga.

"That was a death camp," Rembisz said, but Pooler managed to escape.

Rembisz, a retiree who earned his master's degree in history at Eastern Michigan University at age 64, said he wrote his book because he wanted to preserve this important part of local history. He also is a docent at the Plymouth Historical Museum, where he is on the board of directors, and he has toured Civil War battlegrounds.

"The focus of my book is really what it was like for the Union soldiers in the Civil War," he said, with a strong emphasis on local soldiers.

He describes it as a history book disguised as a novel.

There are brutal sto-

ries and some that are more touching, such as the 24th Michigan Infantry being part of the honor guard at President Lincoln's funeral. His book also reveals song lyrics and trivia from the era.

The soldiers faced difficulties other than combat. Some died from pneumonia, measles and other illnesses. Every day brought a challenge, whether on the battlefield or not.

For most Civil War soldiers, disease claimed lives more often than actual combat did, Rembisz said. The opposite was true for the 24th Michigan Infantry, which had higher losses on the battlefield.

Of the regiment's original 1,037 soldiers, only about 200 were able to march when they returned home to a welcoming crowd. Some others came back maimed.

Among some of the soldiers mentioned in the book:

» Able Peck of Nan-

kin, now Westland, was the Color Guard sergeant carrying the flag and the first man from the 24th regiment killed at Gettysburg. His picture is in the Gettysburg Museum and Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Ill.

» Andrew Lanning of Nankin escaped with Nelson Pooler from Andersonville, but was killed when a boat he was on capsized during a storm going to Washington.

» O.B. Curtis of Wayne was wounded at Fredericksburg and had his arm amputated. He became the regimental historian and was a professor at the University of Michigan.

» Detroit's Mark Flannigan, a sheriff and lieutenant colonel in the 24th, had his left leg amputated at Gettysburg. He became active in politics and charities in Detroit.

» Detroit's Capt. Albert Edwards led 26 men

of the 24th to safety on the first day at Gettysburg. He later became a lieutenant colonel.

» James Rowland of Romulus, who was the 70-year-old man who lied about his age to join the 24th, died from disease in the war. He had claimed he was 43 when he enlisted.

» John Ryder of the 24th and his brother Alfred of the 1st Michigan Calvary, both of Plymouth, were both killed at Gettysburg.

Their stories could have been forgotten. They represent soldiers united by one cause, fighting an enemy. They died, they were wounded. Some came home. Some didn't. Because of Rembisz, however, their memories are kept alive.

The book is available at the Plymouth District Library and the Livonia Public Library, civic center branch. Anyone interested in a copy of the book may contact Rembisz at

garyrembisz@gmail.com or by calling 734-207-5225.

dclcm@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @CantonObserver
734-972-0919

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF WAYNE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate FILE NO. 2017-826349-DE
Estate of Rick E. Gabara
Date of Birth: 01/21/1957
TO ALL CREDITORS: *
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Rick E. Gabara, died 10/12/2016.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Michelle Gabara and Kristy Bartlett, Co-Personal Representatives, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 2 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
04/21/2017 Date
Michelle Gabara and Kristy Bartlett, Co-Personal Representatives
Personal representative name (type or print)
M. 6490 M. 65 South Lachine MI 48753 989-590-7185 Address
K. 12419 M. 222 Lot 2 Martin MI 48070 989-340-0055 Address
City, State, Zip, Telephone no.
Chelsea M. Wallace, THE WALLACE FIRM, PC
Attorney Name (type or Print)
P76484 Bar no.
312 W. Chisholm Street Address
Alpena, MI 49707 (989) 262-9062 City, State, Zip, Telephone no.
Publish May 7, 2017 LG-000031865 144

PROPOSED ORDINANCE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD
At the Regular Meeting on May 9, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., the Redford Township Board of Trustees will have the 2nd reading and adoption of proposed Ordinance No. 345.
ORDINANCE NO. 345
AN ORDINANCE TO RECOGNIZE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RETIREE HEALTHCARE COMMISSION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND DUTIES OF THIS COMMISSION.
The ordinance can be viewed in its entirety either online at www.redfordtp.com on the home page under "Services/Ordinances Online" or at the Township Clerk's Office, 15145 Beech Daly, Redford, MI, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
GARTH J. CHRISTIE, CLERK
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD
Publish: May 7, 2017
LG-000031860 323

CITY OF LIVONIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
In accordance with the provisions of Section 19.08 of Ordinance No. 543, as amended, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Livonia, and having received an appeal from a determination made on April 11, 2017 by the Planning Commission in its resolution #06-69-2016, the Council has determined that a Public Hearing will take place before the City Council of the City of Livonia on **Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.** in the auditorium at City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, with respect to the following item:
Appeal of the denial of the Planning Commission regarding Petition 2017-03-02-05 submitted by 7-Eleven, Inc. and Fazal & Khurram Corporation, requesting waiver use approval to utilize an SDM liquor license (sale of packaged beer and wine) in connection with the operations of a convenience store (7-Eleven) and gas station (Mobil) located on the southeast corner of Eight Mile and Middlebelt Roads (29321 Eight Mile) in the Northwest ¼ of Section 1.
SUSAN M. NASH, CITY CLERK
Publish: May 7, 2017
LG-000031868 323.2

CITY OF LIVONIA PUBLIC NOTICE AGENDA
Zoning Board of Appeals
May 23, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.
Livonia City Hall - Gallery (5th Floor)
33000 Civic Center Drive
Livonia, MI
(734) 466 2259
APPEAL CASE NO. 2017-02-09 (Tabled on April 11, 2017): Diversified Fuels Properties, 20755 West Road, Woodhaven, MI 48183, seeking to raze an existing fuel/retail facility and construct a new facility with the same use upon property located on the north side of Schoolcraft (33430) between Farmington and Stamford, resulting in deficient building setback abutting Schoolcraft Road and number of parking spaces.
APPEAL CASE NO. 2017-03-17 (Tabled on March 28, 2017): Robert Tomanovich, west side of Purlingbrook (20301) between Pembroke and Eight Mile, seeking to maintain an addition to a detached garage, erected without a permit, which results in excess detached garage area. The existing shed will be removed.
APPEAL CASE NO. 2017-03-18 (Tabled on March 28, 2017): Nicholas Presutti, south side of Clarita (36695) between Margareta and Dardanella, seeking to construct a detached garage while maintaining an attached garage, resulting in excess number of garages and garage area.
APPEAL CASE NO. 2017-04-21: Livonia Storage Units, LLC, 417 North Maple, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, seeking to erect a ground sign on commercial property located on the south side of Eight Mile (28153) between Angling and Grand River, resulting in deficient sign setback.
APPEAL CASE NO. 2017-05-26: Scott Shippe, west side of Woodring (18907) between Clarita and Seven Mile, seeking to erect a six (6) foot tall vinyl privacy fence upon a corner lot, resulting in the fence being excess in height on the corner side yard and the fence being placed up to the front of the house. Privacy fences must not extend beyond the rear of the home toward the front of the lot.
APPEAL CASE NO. 2017-05-30: John and Linda Maracle, east side of Wayne (9916) between Pinetree and south end, seeking to replace the existing privacy fence on the east property line and install a six (6) foot tall privacy fence without obtaining the neighbor approval.
Public Comments may be sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals Office at 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154 - all comments must include name, address and signature.
Published: Sunday, May 7, 2017 Livonia Observer
LG-0000319481 323.5

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Providing Responsible and Caring Service
Full Service Veterinary Hospital
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OPEN 7 DAYS • 734.728.6000
Dr. Avtar Madahar D.V.M.
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(Just E. of Wayne Road)
Westland, MI 48186
Treating All Exotic and Pocket Animals
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M-F 8-9 & SAT-SUN 9-5
FREE! OFFICE VISIT/COMPLETE PHYSICAL EXAM
Not valid with any other offers. With coupon. Offer Expires 5/31/17.
FREE! HEARTWORM TEST with purchase of 12 Month Heartworm & Flea Preventative
Not valid with any other offers. With coupon. Offer Expires 5/31/17.
\$87 VACCINE PACKAGE-Dogs
Wellness Exam • Distemper/Parvo Combo
Lepto • Bordetella • Fecal Test
Rabies (1 Year)
Not valid with any other offers. With coupon. Offer Expires 5/31/17.
\$47 VACCINE PACKAGE Puppies & Kittens
Wellness Exam • Fecal Test
Distemper Combo • Deworming
Not valid with any other offers. With coupon. Offer Expires 5/31/17.
SPAY • NEUTER • DENTAL • SPECIAL OFFERS
BOARDING & GROOMING • REASONABLE RATES

Nice spring day at Kensington Metropark

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Paul Hathaway checks out Kent Lake with his dog Cayman during an April 24 visit to Kensington Metropark. The Plymouth resident stops by the Milford-area park often, fishing its waters via kayak throughout the year.



OBSERVER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Send calendar items to LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com. Submission deadline for Thursday paper is the previous Friday. For the Sunday paper, submit items by the prior Wednesday.

Noble hours

State Rep. Jeff Noble of Plymouth will host an open office hour from 9-10 a.m. Monday, May 8, at the Plymouth Township Office Multi-Function Room, 9955 N. Haggerty Road. No appointment is necessary. Those unable to attend may contact Rep. Noble at 517-373-3816 or JeffNoble@house.mi.gov

Coffee hours

Wayne County Commissioner Glenn S. Anderson will host coffee hours in Garden City and Westland with elected officials from the state of Michigan on Monday, May 8. Coffee Hour in Westland will be co-hosted with State Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood and State Reps. Robert Kosowski and Jewell Jones from 9-10 a.m. at Mr. Mike's Grill, 6047 N. Wayne Road.

Coffee Hour in Garden City will be 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the Michigan room at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood St. Garden City Coffee Hour will be co-hosted with state Sen. David Knezek and State Rep. Jewell Jones.

Art gallery shows off artists

Dickerson Art Gallery in collaboration with Three Cities Art Club will host a special exhibition of its 10 artists beginning later this month in Westland's Gallery at City Hall.

The exhibition runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through May 30 (plus weekends during special events) in the gallery, 36300 Warren Road. The public is invited to a free multimedia show and reception 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Friday, May 5.

Sandburg Library now open

The Sandburg Library in Livonia is now open with the following hours: noon to 8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday; and closed Friday through Sunday.

Noble Library will be closed beginning until May 8.

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society performs

The Friends of the Livonia Library will present the Silver Strings Dulcimer Society in a concert at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 7, at the Robert and Janet Bennett Library in Livonia. On a hot afternoon in July 1983 this group met in a park in Wyandotte to review what they had learned together. This was the beginning of the Silver Strings Dulcimer Society. The group has now grown to over 100 members playing a variety of acoustic instruments such as the Hammered dulcimer, guitar, fiddle, autoharp, ukulele, and harmonica.

The official theme song is Westphalia Waltz. They perform for many meetings, workshops and other related activities. The of the organization is to play the hammered dulcimer with other instruments for their enjoyment. A free reception will follow the program in the Michigan Room. For more information, call 734-466-2495.

Firearms training for ladies

The Michigan 14th District Republican Committee will host a Ladies Night for firearm training and proficiency training 6-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, at Firing Line Indoor Gun Range and Gun Shop, 33000 Ford Road, Westland. The event is a fundraiser, but Firing Line is providing the training.

The cost is \$40. To register, go to <http://bit.ly/2quUBDv>.

3D Photography club meeting

The club meets at 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 10, at Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, just south of Five Mile.

The meeting will feature a special presentation of "DSS History in Candid 3D Pictures" by club VP Doug Kaller. After a refreshment break, we'll conclude with our final monthly club 3D image competition of the season.

Meetings are free to attend and visitors are always welcome. Stereo cameras, 3D movies and educational videos are available for members to borrow or rent. Contact www.Detroit3D.org, or call Dennis at 248-398-3591.

Hearing Loss meeting

Dr. Candice Colby-Scott will present Common Ear Problems and Solutions. There is no cost and it is open to all. The meeting is at 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 10, at the Westland Library. Contact Tony at 734-664-3297 or aferrack@comcast.net

Credit score seminar

Catholic Vantage Financial will host a credit report workshop for the public on Wednesday, May 10. The workshop "Know Your Credit - Know Your Score" will be held from 6-8 p.m. at the credit union's Plymouth branch, 8817 Sheldon Road, at the northwest corner of Sheldon and Joy Roads.

During the workshop, attendees will learn about factors that can affect your credit report, how to get a free report and how to make a dispute. Guests will also receive valuable tips and real strategies that work to help improve your credit score. New bor-

rowers will also find out how to establish credit and earn a good rating. Attendees are welcome to bring their personal credit reports and scores to the workshop or request one from a member service representative. To attend this free workshop, register at mycvf.org/credit-workshop or call 734-432-0212.

Romanian music festival

The American Romanian Music Festival String Quartet returns to the Straight Farmhouse for Musical Exhibit III. An early evening of delightful quartet music.

The concert will be at 5 p.m. Saturday, May 13. The tickets are \$30 per person and include a wine and cheese afterglow. Tickets are available at the Straight Farmhouse home of the Garden City Historical Museum, 6221 Merriman Road, Wednesday and Saturday from noon to 3 p.m. or call 734-838-0650.

Touch-A-Truck

The public is invited to the Touch-a-Truck charity event, presented by the Livonia AM Rotary Interact Club from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at Rotary Park in Livonia.

Touch-A-Truck, which is a free hands-on family event that provides a unique opportunity for children and adults alike to explore vehicles of all types, including public service, emergency, utility, construction, landscaping, transportation, delivery, and just plain awesome — all in one place.

Guests can hear sirens, watch the tractor bucket move, learn how they operate all up close and hands on. Children can touch their favorite vehicles, get behind the wheel and meet the people who help to build, protect and serve our community. Refreshments such as ice cream, pop and chips will be for sale.

Donations are being

accepted to benefit the Livonia Police and Fire Departments, Livonia Public Schools, Foundation, and the Wayne County Animal Shelter.

Historical society banquet

At 6 p.m. Thursday, May 18, the Livonia Historical Society will hold its annual banquet with a program on "Detroit Baseball" presented by Jeremy Dimick of the Detroit Historical Society. Tickets are \$16 in advance. Call 734-464-9450 to order. Deadline is Monday, May 15.

The event will be held at the Alexander Blue House at Greenmead, Livonia's Historical Park. Enter the parking lot off Newburgh Road, just South of Eight Mile Road, and in front of the house.

Forever Families 5K

On Saturday, May 20, Forever Families will host its third annual 5K Fun Run/Walk for Foster Care Awareness at Nankin Mills Park in Westland. Festivities begin at 9 a.m. 5K Fun Run/Walk start at 10 a.m. Event also features a Kids Fun Run for children 10 and under, as well as a post-race celebration and picnic. Supporters of all ages, foster/adoptive families and health enthusiasts are invited to hit the pavement, get moving and raise awareness and funds for children in need of a loving, nurturing home.

To register for the Forever Families 5K Fun Run/Walk for Foster Care Awareness or for more event info, visit runsignup.com or contact Sunny Kerschenheiter at skerschenheiter@forever-families.org or 734-762-0909. To learn more about Forever Families' quest to give children in need a forever home, visit forever-families.org.

St. Colette car show

Customs to Classics, everything you see at the Dream Cruise standing

still just for you. St. Colette is the place to Kick-Off Summer in a Cool Ride. The Dooley Knights are hosting this Charitable Event 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. June 3 on the Church grounds. The lot will open at 8 a.m. for registration (\$15 per participant) and go till 10:30 a.m. There will be food/beverages, music, raffles and a great time for all. St. Colette Church is located at 17600 Newburgh Road, just north of Six Mile Road in Livonia.

For more information, visit dooleyknights5492.com or email bobdebrais@hotmail.com.

Seth Meyers arrives

Late-night show host Seth Meyers will headline the 25th Annual Comedy Night hosted by Forgotten Harvest on Saturday, June 17.

Tickets may be purchased at Fox Theater's box office or at www.olympiaentertainment.com. They range from \$25 to \$150. This event offers an opportunity for Forgotten Harvest and their supporters to celebrate their achievements in the community. Contact Nicole Heins at 248-268-7521 or email nheins@forgottenharvest.org for ticket concerns or questions.

Widowed Friends

Join Widowed Friends, a peer support group for Widowed Men/Women hosting Men's Breakfast, 9 a.m. Steve's Family Restaurant (second and fourth Thursday of the month) 15800 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. Contact Dick at 313-534-0399.

Join Widowed Friends, a peer support group for Widowed Men/Women hosting Ladies Breakfast, Connor's Restaurant, May 1 and May 15 June 5 and 19, (first and third Monday of the month) at Connor's on Haggerty and Five Mile. Call Carol to RSVP at 313-562-3080.

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Church lassos the faithful and Colbert jokes

Sharon Dargay
hometownlife.com

When Mark Bernabei and his family heard about Cowboy Church at Miracle Ranch in Milford, they were ready to saddle up and pray.

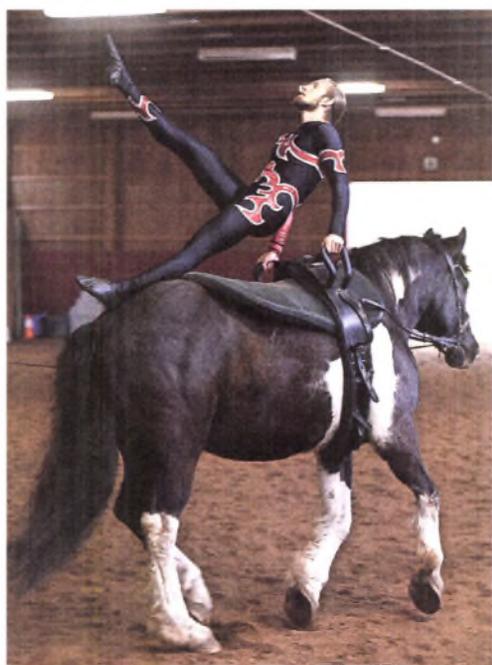
The Clinton Township man, his wife and three daughters all take riding lessons at the ranch. They also attend church regularly in Sterling Heights, but they were intrigued by the idea of a Christian event that promised equestrian demonstrations and a free chuck wagon dinner in addition to prayer and spiritual lessons.

"This is our first Cowboy Church," said Bernabei, as he ate pizza, pasta and salad after attending the hour-long celebration on Saturday, April 29. "It was awesome."

The family arrived early to stake out front-row seats in what would become a packed viewing area set up just outside the riding ring in the ranch barn. Bernabei's daughter, Sophia, 9, was close enough to touch a pony that stuck its nose through the metal barrier in search of a treat. All three daughters left the event with a free toy, and the family ate dinner together with other attendees in the ranch classroom afterward.

"More churches should be like this," Bernabei said. "You've got music. You've got horses. You've got acrobats, a story, a message and they've got free food."

That combination of horse and faith activities drew some ribbing from late-night talk show host Stephen Colbert during a sketch on his CBS network show last week.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Steven Patterson presents some maneuvers while astride a cantering Percheron.

Quoting from a *Milford Times* story that previewed the event, Colbert said the gathering would include a scripture lesson from a cowboy perspective, then he added a punchline that "instead of wine, Jesus turns water into sarsaparilla."

Cowboy Church organizers, Dominic Francese, an ordained minister, and ranch owners, Karen Rach-St. Clair, who also runs the Miracle Ranch Riding Academy, and her husband, Don "Cowboy Don" St. Clair, took the joking in stride.

"It was good. It could have been way worse," Francese said. "This must be a God thing because he could have mocked the whole thing.

He did not do that. He had some good lines." "That's what he does. It was a funny take. We found amusement in it," Rach-St. Clair said.

Her husband said the segment was good exposure for Cowboy Church. "He used the line that a religion had started in a barn," St. Clair noted.

Faith experience

The couple and Francese have offered Cowboy Church on a seasonal basis since 2015. The event draws horse owners, horse lovers, church goers and those with little to no church experience.

"There are so many people out there that want a spiritual experi-

ence because they are spiritual people, but they've had a negative church experience," Rach-St. Clair said. "It's providing an outlet for that, for people who have had a negative experience in church but still want to pursue God.

"This was something we could do for the community."

Cowboy Church also offers simple lessons in kindness. Miracle Ranch uses "natural horsemanship" in training and caring for its charges. Horses may to enter and leave the barn day or night. Rach-St. Clair and Cowboy Don establish themselves as leaders, "but not in an overly dominant way," Rach-St. Clair noted.

"It's letting the horse be a horse. They are loved and appreciated. We communicate in ways horses understand," she said.

Horse vaulting

For riders Rachel Harris, 11, of Commerce Township, Jenna Crantas, 16, of Highland Township, and Steven Patterson, 34, of Ypsilanti, Cowboy Church was a chance to demonstrate their vaulting skills on horseback in the ring. Individually, and then in pairs, they posed in gymnastic-style stances, balancing atop Ranger, the horse used for vaulting at the ranch.

Rachel slid into a split on the back of the horse while he trotted around the ring. Patterson and Jenna looked similar to pairs figure skaters as they posed together on Ranger's back.

"I loved it the first time I tried it," said Jenna, who has vaulted for three years.

The next Cowboy Church is set for 5 p.m. Saturday, June 10, at Miracle Ranch, 3380 Morrow Lane, For more

information, visit cowboychurchonline.com

sdargay@hometownlife.com

Passages

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Boucher



Rudrick E., M.D. age 79, died in Cleveland, Ohio, on Tuesday, April 25, 2017, from complications of leukemia. He is survived by his wife Mary Ellen (nee Keyes), three children, Ed (Laura), Michelle Riddell (Steve), and Denise Van Pelt (Josh), ten grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Family will receive friends Friday, May 12th 5-8 p.m. at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile) 248-549-0500. Funeral Mass Saturday 11 a.m. at St. Hugo of the Hills Stone Chapel, 2215 Opdyke Rd., Bloomfield Hills. In lieu of flowers, family graciously suggests memorial tributes to the Cleveland Clinic or the Antrim Conservation Districts. View obituary and share memories at AJDesmond.com

BRINKS



DAVID EDWARD passed away at his home April 8, 2017, at age 79. He was born March 28, 1938 in South Haven, Michigan to Jacob and Evelyn Brinks. He grew up in Plymouth, Michigan, where he worked on the Brinks family farm and roadside market on Ann Arbor Road. He was a long time member of 4H, where he was a 7 time Grand Champion in Dairy Cattle. After graduating from Plymouth High School, where his friends would remember him as "Boomer", he attended one year at Michigan State University, continuing to be a lifelong Spartan Fan. David married his high school sweetheart, Marilyn Beth Outman on April 23, 1960. They celebrated more than 53 years together. Marilyn preceded him in death December 12, 2013. They moved to Flint, Michigan where Dave sold cars, before he got a job in Quality Control at Buick until he retired. After retiring, he helped run Marilyn's porcelain business. They enjoyed traveling, classic car shows and gardening. David took great pride in his beautiful flower-filled back yard, which hosted the family gatherings over the years. He was an avid golfer for many years, and enjoyed elk hunting trips to Duntun Colorado with family and friends. He taught his kids to play golf and coached their Little League baseball teams. Surviving are children: Daniel & Connie, Christopher & Renee, and Sheryl & husband Dan Wood. He also leaves his grandchildren: Candace, Emily, Taralyn, Jacob, Eric, Kristen, Joshua, Hannah, Heather, Sarah, and Nathan. His loving great grandchildren: Kylie, Gony, Sarah, Aaliyah, Harper, Charlotte, Benjamin, Max and Jaynie; Brother Don and Josie Brinks, and sister Sue and Larry Shade. He is preceded in death by brothers: Ken Brinks, and James Brinks. Dave and Marilyn's house was filled with love and laughter. He will be greatly missed by all.

de Stigter

Priscilla Age 94, passed away April 29, 2017. Beloved wife of Cornelius for 64 years. Loving mother of Helen Geglio (Michael), Alice de Stigter (Louis Mitchell), Beth Jorgensen (Scott). Cherished grandmother of 8 and great-grandmother of 1. Priscilla graduated from Knox College in 1944, she was active in the Livonia AAUW, National Association of Teachers of Singing and a member of Salem United Church of Christ. Memorial contributions may be made to the Salem United Church of Christ Memorial Fund.

FINLEY JR.



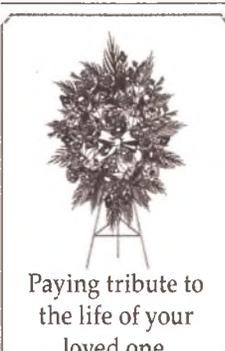
DR. JOHN "JACK" H. age 88 passed into eternal life on April 27, 2017. Beloved husband of Genevieve for 59 years. Loving father of, Michael Finley (Michelle Miller), Mary (Gary) Straffon, Maureen (Paul) Kaplan, Bridgit (Brian) Hermann, Molly Finley (Paul Riccio) and Colleen Finley (Bill Bertolet). Cherished grandfather of RJ and Casey Finley, Megan Straffon, Lauren and Craig Kaplan, John and James Hermann and Nicholas Riccio. Services have been held. Charitable donations may be offered to: The Ted Lindsay Foundation, Midwestern University (Glendale, Arizona and Oakbrook, Illinois) or the Western University of Health Sciences (Pomona, California). Obituary and condolences at

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Snyder III



Benjamin McClellan Benjamin McClellan Snyder III, the only son of Dorothy Palmer and Benjamin McClellan Snyder Jr., passed away on April 29, 2017 at the age of 96. Born in Philadelphia, Ben lived in his early years between his grandparents in St. Petersburg, Florida and his father in Pennsylvania. As a boy, he attended Camp Cedar Pines in the "Little Grand Canyon" of Pennsylvania where he ultimately purchased a 100 acre farm, his most treasured place on earth. Ben attended the University of North Carolina, graduating with a degree in English, Phi Beta Kappa and becoming a lifetime Tarheels' fan. In 1943, he enlisted in the Air Force and was trained as a bombardier where he flew 41 missions in the Pacific. In 1947, Ben obtained a master's in history from Harvard University. A year later, he accepted a history teaching position at Cranbrook School in Michigan where he worked until his retirement in 1990. During his tenure he served in a number of capacities: history teacher, track coach, Assistant Head, and Director of Special and Summer programs. However, his greatest legacy is the Horizons Upward Bound program he founded at Cranbrook in 1965 to give low income youth from inner city Detroit an opportunity to realize the advantages of higher education. HUB has served over 2000 boys and girls from Greater Detroit for 50 years. A lifelong educator, Ben led a current events discussion group for residents of Ocean View until his final days. Ben is survived by his caring wife Margot, son Ben and his wife, Sarah, daughter Abby and her husband John Bennett, daughter, Amy, and four grandchildren, Abby, David, Donald, and Caroline. In lieu of flowers gifts in his memory can be made to Horizons Upward Bound. To share a memory or condolence, please visit www.coastalcremationservices.com



Paying tribute to the life of your loved one.

Roth IRA a perfect way to help grandchildren

Q: I have three grandchildren who I would like to help out financially. They're all in their early 20s, single and they all have decent jobs. They make between \$30,000 and \$50,000 a year. I want to help them save money for their retirement. The question is what, is the best way of going? I want to give them about \$5,000 apiece every year. All three of my grandchildren have no idea how to handle money and I'm afraid that if I just give them the money, it will be gone relatively quickly. Therefore, I am looking for something that will sort of lock them in. Do you have any suggestions?

A: I think it is great that you want to help your grandchildren with their retirement. Even though I am sure they would prefer to have the money today, I can almost guarantee you they'll be very appreciative of your decision down the road, because they will have a nest egg that will help them in retirement. I think an excellent vehicle to use for your grandchildren would be a Roth IRA.

Considering the ages of your grandchildren, they are eligible to invest \$5,500 yearly in a Roth IRA. The beauty of the Roth is that the money grows tax-free. Down the road, when your grandchildren withdraw the money in retirement, they will not have to pay any taxes. Just think how much that money will be worth at the time they need it for retirement. I cannot think of a better investment for a grandchild than investing in a Roth IRA.

There is another opportunity that you should take advantage of that may be as valuable, if not



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

more so, than the money you are contributing. I believe you should also take this opportunity to try to teach the grandchildren about the importance of investing and how investments work. The sooner they learn about investing and its benefits, the better it will be for them. Maybe getting them involved in where and how the money is invested can be a good start.

It is more important than ever that, when people enter the real world and have to be accountable, they know the basics of investing. They don't have to be Warren Buffet, but at the

same time, we want them to avoid Bernie Madoff. It would be nice if by the time someone graduated from high school or even college they had an understanding of investing; the reality is, they don't. For whatever reason, investing and personal finance are sadly neglected. If you don't teach your child or grandchild about personal finance, more likely than not, they won't acquire those skills, putting their financial future in jeopardy. Obviously, life would be difficult if you couldn't read. Trust me, life is also difficult if you don't know how to take care of your finances.

For those parents or grandparents who want to help their adult children in a way other than retirement, some other good options for money

would be to pay down outstanding debt such as a student loan or charge card debt. Typically, I would say charge card debt first because it is non-tax deductible and usually the interest rate is substantially higher than other types of debt.

One last note — if you want to encourage your adult children to invest, think of a matching program where you'll provide some sort of match if they invest their own money. I know you shouldn't have to provide a match to encourage your adult children to invest, but it is what it is. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like him to respond to your questions, email rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

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Grieving mother devotes life to saving kids

Most people will never understand or experience pain like Lisa Pardington feels every day. Her son wasn't sick. He was healthy. He was strong. He was 20 years old.

She wonders if a simple test could have saved his life.

"Max was a loving, free spirit and a deep thinker. He lived each day to the fullest, always pursuing his next adventure," Pardington said.

Pardington, who lives in Canton, has every right to be angry. No one would blame her if she didn't want to talk about Max. No one wants to know what it feels like to bury a child. No one would question her if she shut out the world.

But Pardington chose a different, more diffi-



Lisa Pardington (from left), with Beaumont cardiologist Dr. George Hanzel and Max's dad John Pardington, has dedicated her life to helping save the lives of other children since losing her son Max at age 20.

cult path. She tells Max's story to anyone who will listen. Her family created LiveLikeMax, a foundation to raise money for a program that didn't exist before Max died. A program that might have saved his life.

"The Beaumont Children's Student Heart Check helps me channel my grief in a positive

way. I get to talk about Max and share my life experience," she said.

The Pardington family has raised nearly \$350,000 for the program. With those funds, Beaumont purchases new equipment for heart screenings and AEDs for schools.

In addition to raising money, the Pardington

family also attends many of the screenings.

"It's a bittersweet feeling when I go to a Student Heart Check. It forces me to re-live Max's final hours, but I am grateful to have the opportunity to help other families and save lives," Pardington said.

Since the program's inception in May 2007, Beaumont has screened 14,989 Michigan high school students. Of those students, doctors told 185 students to stop sports and follow up with a cardiologist due to heart abnormalities. Seven were diagnosed with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, or HCM.

HCM is the most common cause of death among U.S. athletes. Nearly 4,000 of those deaths are young people, like Max. But his family

refuses to let him become a statistic.

By volunteering at screenings and supporting the program through fundraising events, Pardington has formed friendships with people she would have never met.

"You can choose the path of least resistance or you can choose to be a positive force for others. We were not aware of heart checks for high school students, and we paid the ultimate price," she said. "Our involvement in the program gives meaning and purpose to our lives."

Student Heart Check program manager Jennifer Shea added, "Many parents don't realize their child could be at risk for a life-threatening heart condition. Having parents like Lisa involved

in our program demonstrates why these screenings are so important."

Pardington will never stop grieving for her son. She will never stop missing Max. She will never stop asking herself, "What if?" And she will never stop trying to prevent other mothers from planning a funeral for their child.

"Volunteering is a way to transform the sadness, anger, frustration, loneliness into something positive. Volunteering is rewarding, heart-lifting and energizing," she said.

On May 13, the Pardington family will volunteer at a Student Heart Check screening at Greenhills School, 850 Greenhills Drive, in Ann Arbor.

Register at www.beaumont.org/student-heart-check.

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Balint relishes double duty at Madonna

Stevenson senior to run for Crusader men's cross country, track and field programs

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

The next mile marker for Livonia Stevenson senior runner Jack Balint is just down the road at Madonna University. Balint, 18, recently signed his national letter of intent to compete on the Crusaders men's track and field and cross country teams.

"It's a really cool opportunity to be able to sign and run at the next level," said Balint, talking about his college opportunity during the April 22 Livonia

Franklin Patriot Relays. "They're making a really good program over there at Madonna and I'm just happy to be a part of it."

Balint, whose parents are Tom and Maggie Balint of Livonia, said the fact that Madonna isn't too far away from home was a consideration. He also was considering signing at Ferris State University.

But a key factor in his ultimate decision was already having friends with the

See BALINT, Page B2



LIVONIA STEVENSON ATHLETICS
Livonia Stevenson senior Jack Balint (right) proudly holds up his Madonna University uniform after signing to join the Crusaders track and cross country programs. At left is MU coach Patrick Daugherty.

Tim Shaw camp

The eighth annual Tim Shaw Football Camp will be from 5-9 p.m. Saturday, June 3 at the Livonia Clarenceville High School.

The camp is free for students in grades 3-11 with four hours of coaching and competition hosted by former NFL linebacker and special teams ace Tim Shaw, a Clarenceville grad who played football at Penn State.

The camp is limited to the first 200 registrants. To sign up, visit facebook.com/timshawfootballcamp.

Hole in one club

David Bruni, of Plymouth aced the 143-yard No. 6 hole at Idyl Wild in Livonia on April 26. He used a 9-iron to sink the hole-in-one, the first in his 25 years of golfing.

Golf outing

The 24th annual Ladywood High School golf outing will be Tuesday, June 20 at Livonia's Fox Creek Golf Course.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. followed by a shotgun start at 10 a.m. for the four-person scramble format. Lunch will be provided at the turn followed by a sit-down dinner and cash bar.

The cost is \$440 per foursome, or \$110 per single golfer. Dinner only is \$35.

For more information, email Trish Murray at trishmurray1219@gmail.com.

Youth football

Registration is underway for the Michigan Panthers, a new youth football team for freshman through varsity levels (ages 8-13) for the fall season of 2017 in the Western Suburban Junior Football League.

The Panthers will also offer cheer. The season will run from late July through November with home games played in Canton.

To register, visit michiganpanthersyfc.com.

Hoop camp

The Novi Lady Wildcats Basketball Camp for grades 2-9 will be from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday, June 19-23 at the Novi High School Performance Gym and Fieldhouse.

All participants will receive a T-shirt and outdoor basketball.

To register, visit the Novi Community School District website and click on the "Novi Wildcats" tab followed by the "2017 Camps" tab.

For more information, email Novi varsity girls basketball coach Bill Kelp at bkelp@novischools.net.

Optimist golf

The 2017 Optimist International Junior Golf Championship will conduct a local qualifier at the Royal Oak Golf Club.

The annual tournament, sponsored jointly by the Royal Oak and Birmingham Optimist clubs, is scheduled for Saturday, May 20. Tee times begin at 9 a.m. and junior golfers ages 10-18 years are eligible to play.

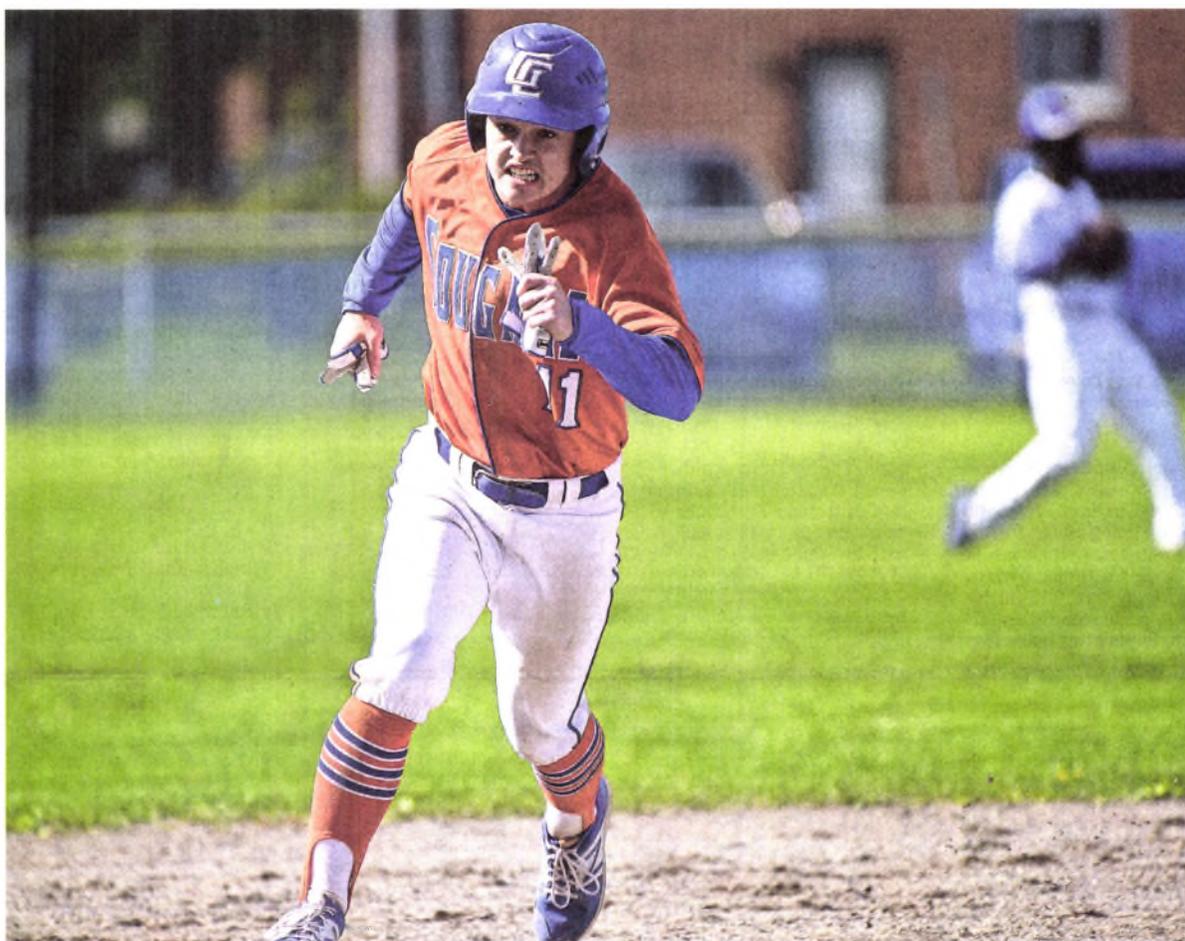
The low boys and girls qualifiers in each of the seven age groups will be sponsored to the district event.

The registration fee is \$45 for 18 holes (walking, no carts) and \$30 for nine holes (10-11 boys and 10-12 girls divisions).

Registration forms are available at the Royal Oak Golf Club (248-554-0019) or Royal Oak Golf Center driving range (248-549-4653).

Contact event chair Mike Ripinski at 248-789-2735 or email at mripinski@yahoo.com.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL



TOM BEAUDOIN

Digging around the bases Wednesday is Garden City's Avery Emerson (11).

ALL ABOUT THE BASICS



TOM BEAUDOIN

Redford Union junior pitcher Tyler Collard (1) blanked Garden City until the fifth inning on Wednesday.

Garden City makes most of Redford Union errors in 4-0 WWAC victory

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Wednesday afternoon's Western Wayne Athletic Conference varsity baseball contest between Garden City and host Redford Union boiled down to which team took care of the basics.

That edge went to the Cougars, who played a good fundamental game in a 4-0 victory over the error-plagued Panthers.

Garden City (7-9 overall, 3-1 in the WWAC) broke a scoreless tie in the top of the fifth with a three-run frame that was helped by two of the eight errors committed by RU (8-4, 1-2).

"We've always preached there's only two ways to win and that's pitching and defense," Panthers head coach Bob Miller said. "I thought our pitching was good enough today and we made at least eight errors, and you just can't overcome that."

Garden City head coach Matt Penn said the victory demonstrated that his players must be listening to him.

"I keep telling them, you play good defense, pay attention and don't make any

See BASEBALL, Page B2

PREP GIRLS SOCCER

Spartans, Rocks battle to scoreless deadlock

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Earlier in the week, Livonia Stevenson varsity girls soccer coach Ken Shingledecker found out senior captain Megan Verant definitely would miss the rest of the season with a torn ACL.

"We know we're going to be for the rest of the season without her," Shingledecker said. "And I think we're starting to come together."

So on Thursday, the Spartans continued to deal with adversity — although of a different kind — battling rain and whipping winds during a home game against their nearest competitor in the

KLAA Central Division, the Salem Rocks.

Both teams played a hard and spirited match, finishing in a 0-0 tie.

"It was really, really tough," said one of Stevenson's go-to players, junior defender/forward Kennedy Thurlow. "The harsh winds and rain made it really tough because the ball kept skipping on the ground."

"... But I think our team did a really good job tonight, we came together, we knew it was going to be a tough game and we persevered."

Stevenson (11-0-3 overall and 5-0-2 in



Thurlow

the KLAA Central) came within inches of getting the win that would have pretty much sealed up the division title.

With about 10 minutes remaining, freshman forward Abby Werthman served a corner kick into the box and the ball bounced behind Salem goalkeeper Skylar Brant, who found herself out of position.

The carom went to Stevenson sophomore midfielder, who wheeled and — with a wide-open cage in front of her — got under the ball and lifted it over the crossbar.

"Those scrums in there off corners,

See SOCCER, Page B2

PREP GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD ROUNDUP

Salem bests Spartans

Blustery weather Tuesday didn't slow down Salem's varsity girls track and field team, as the Rocks rolled to a 103-34 win over Livonia Stevenson.

Salem posted several events with runners in the top three spots, including the 200 dash (Madeline Kernahan, first; Ayanda Brydie, third), 400 dash (Haven Essien, first; Madison Grieb, third); 800 run (Hannah Jeffress, first; Erin McCann, second), mile run (Shea Wilson, Hallie Younglas and Jessica Hughes took the top three spots) and two-mile run (Madison Grant, Gabby Mancini and Anna Kubinski finished 1-2-3.).

The Rocks kept the pressure going in the 100-meter hurdles, with Essien and McKayla Ward finishing first and second, respectively. They took the 2-3 spots in the 300

hurdles.

Salem won in throwing events, with Lyniah Wilson (shot put) and Alex Johnson (99-10 in discus) doing the job.

Other individual wins were scored by Cloe Longeway (pole vault, 8-6) and Ward (long jump, 16-3 and high jump, 4-10).

Salem's 400-meter relay team of Brydie, Maddie Kernahan, Lauren Ogarek and Alex Szegi captured the top spot while the 800-relay unit of Brydie, Kernahan, Ogarek and Mari Westley also won.

Other standouts included Annika Schmitt (second in the high jump, 4-8), Kate Mockaitis (third in the high jump, 4-6) and Marisa Rowland (second in the pole vault, 8-0).

Patriots win big

Livonia Franklin's varsity girls track and field team

dominated KLAA South Division rival Westland John Glenn on Tuesday, earning a 93.5-43.5 victory.

"The Lady Patriots struggled a bit today with the weather and the level of competition," Franklin coach Megan Wilson said. "Wayne Memorial has some extremely talented kids and they made a great showing."

Individual wins for the Patriots were posted by Ava Morrison (high jump, 4-2), Jessica Huddleston (long jump, 13-5), Erin Seibert (mile run, 5:33.52; 800 run, 2:31.49) and Mikaela Hille (400 dash, 64.9).

Franklin's Kelly Peyton, Alaina Herrera, Hannah Strasser and Emily Esker won the 800 relay with a time of 1:58.27. The Patriots' quartet of Hille, Brooke Gietzen, Ciera Echebelem and Herrera

won the 400 relay.

Also victorious for the Patriots was the 1600 relay, with a time of 4:36.52.

Ladywood triumphs

Ally Hill captured three individual events Wednesday leading host Livonia Ladywood (1-3, 0-3) to a its first girls track and field dual meet win of the season with a 77-51 victory over Wixom St. Catherine of Siena.

Hill won the long jump (15 feet, 2 inches), while also sweeping the 100- and 200-meter dashes in 13.85 and 27.73, respectively, while Kelly Solak added firsts in the shot put (31-8.5) and discus (85-6).

Other individual winners included Maddie Bastin (300 hurdles, 51.16) and Meghan Sullivan (400, 1:09.09).

The 400 and 800 relay

teams of Maria Chacon, Catherine Harrington, Lexie and Mattie Vlademar won in 58.95 and 2:03.28, respectively. The 1,600 relay team of Sullivan, Bastin, Jill Ahmad and Chacon was also victorious (4:41.08).

Ladywood second-place finishers included Rachel Rykwald, shot put (25-11) and discus (73-11); Bastin, 100 hurdles (18.18); Sarah Fracala, 100 (14.21); Molly Riordan, 800 (2:53.14); and Sam Horn, 3,200 (14:10.32).

The Blazers also received thirds from Carly Fraker, shot put (23-11.25) and discus (72-11); Ellie Kindseth, high jump (3-11); Caroline McLaurin, long jump (12-3.75); Abby Danger, 100 (15.42); Ahmad, 300 hurdles (57.11); Dana Santilli, 800 (3:04.19); and Horn, 1,600 (6:35.95).

GIRLS SOCCER

Rocks, Mustangs go down to the wire

Tim Smith

hometownlife.com

Tuesday's varsity girls soccer clash between KLAA Central Division rivals Salem and Northville featured blood and sweat — but no tears — as the teams left it all out on the field in a 1-1 tie.

Along the way, two Mustangs were bloodied or bruised, while Salem senior goalie Skylar Brant had to leave the game for five minutes in the first half after taking a foot to the face while diving to smother a ball.

Although Salem head coach Kyle Karns said junior goalie Anna Lundh played well during her brief stint for the Rocks, there was no way Brant wasn't going to come back for the final 42 minutes of the contest, which was played at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park on a cold, windy evening.

"She's a gamer. She'll get back in there as quickly as



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Salem's Katie Coleman (right), looks to dribble around Northville's Jenna Lauderback during Tuesday's game.

possible," said Karns, whose team improved to 5-2-3 overall and 4-0-2 in the KLAA Central.

Also going all-out for the Mustangs was junior goalkeeper Charlie Castiglione, who seemingly was 10-15 yards out of her goal crease all night scrambling after bouncing

balls. The best stop at either end of the pitch was Castiglione's with about 20 seconds remaining in the first half, with the game tied 1-1.

GARDEN CITY 8, CLARENCEVILLE 0: Goalie Allison Lay made 14 saves in a losing cause as Livonia Clarenceville (1-6, 1-4) fell Wednesday to the host Cougars in WWAC match.

STEVENSON 2, SOUTH LYON 1: Livonia

improved to 11-0-2 overall and 5-0-1 in the KLAA Central Division on Tuesday.

The Spartans, ranked No. 7 in Division 1, outshot the Lions, 16-4, but needed to survive the one-goal victory.

Scoring both goals for Stevenson was Audrey Kopitz, who now has 17 for the season. Kennedy Thurlow and Maria Bayouk both had one assist.

LUTHERAN WESTLAND 4, ROEPER 0: Lutheran Westland improved to 1-2 with Monday's Michigan Independent Athletic Conference victory.

Starting the scoring for the Warriors was freshman Emilie Fremder, from senior Becca Gembarski (who also scored a goal).

Also scoring was freshman Faith McLeod as the Warriors built a 3-0 lead at halftime.

Posting the shutout with a five-save performance was freshman goalkeeper Hannah Brown.

GARDEN CITY 6, FORDSON 0: Ashley Hahn set the tone for the Cougars with her goal just three minutes into Monday's Western Wayne Athletic Conference matchup.

Brooke Collins blasted home a penalty kick late in the first half and goalie Amanda Noel posted the shutout.

Garden City (5-5-1 overall) went on from there, scoring all six goals in the first half.

"I was very impressed with the poise of our midfield in controlling possession of the ball and distributing to our forwards," Garden City coach Jeff Szypula said. "We are in a must-win situation every conference game."

On a down note, captain Alex Sherlock will miss the rest of the season due to an injury suffered against Belleville.

REDFORD UNION 5, THURSTON 2: The one-two scoring punch of Cassidy Sandelin and Maggie Osowski combined for all five goals Monday as Redford Union (3-4, 2-1) turned back winless Redford Thurston in a Western Wayne Athletic Conference match.



TOM BEAUDOIN
Watching the flight of the baseball after it left his bat Wednesday is Garden City's Shane Stine (17). At right for RU is senior catcher Jackson Allison.

Redford Union didn't make plays, I thought we hit the ball well and made our plays."

Yet Panthers senior shortstop Jacob Gagnon, who tallied two hits in the game and sports a .330-plus average, lamented the miscues his team made that essentially cost RU the game.

"We just need to subtract the errors," Gagnon said. "Our pitching is good and our hitting's good too. It's just the errors."

Gagnon, who Miller said is drawing looks from college teams, singled to open the bottom of the third, with the game still 0-0. The next batter, Brandon Pratt, bunted for a single to give the Panthers a chance to strike first.

That's where the threat ended as McHugh got Jackson

Allison and Collard out before picking off a RU base-runner.

"First couple guys on, we tried to sacrifice bunt them over and we weren't successful with that," Miller said. "But I do agree, if we would have gotten a base hit there the guys would have got their confidence."

Bottom line

Miller, however, tipped his cap to McHugh — who pitched five scoreless innings before being replaced by Spehar for the final two — and the Cougars.

"Garden City's a really good team," Miller said. "I like their team, they have a really good pitcher (Collin McHugh), so I'm taking nothing away from them. But we just didn't catch the ball today, that's the

bottom line."

Penn also gave props to McHugh, who is battling back from arm soreness earlier this season.

"I know he had a double-header where he came out and said his arm was hurting him," Penn said. "So we've been taking it easy on him. So today was his challenge, I told him you need to keep your pitches under 14-15 per inning."

"And he did a very good job with that. I pulled him out to save his arm."

STEVENSON 3, S. LYON EAST 2: Behind the combined pitching of starter and winner Josh Marquardt (four innings, one run) and Bovy Cavin (two scoreless innings for the save), Livonia Stevenson eked out a KLAA Central Division baseball win in Game 1 of Wednesday's twinbill.

Chris Tanderly went 1-for-3 and drove in two runs for the Spartans (17-4 overall, 9-3 in the KLAA Central).

Helping the Stevenson cause were Cavin (1-for-3, RBI) and Devin Dunn (1-for-3, run).

STEVENSON 7, S. LYON EAST 3: Wednesday's nightcap also went to Livonia Stevenson, with Tanderly (2-for-2, two runs), Brandon Pasky (2-for-3, run) and Jacob Way (1-for-2, RBI) keying a seven-hit attack.

Jason Cantrell went three innings in relief and posted the win for the Spartans (18-4, 10-3). He gave up one run and three hits.

CLARENCEVILLE 17, ROBICHAUD 1: Nick Schiffman went 3-for-5 with two RBIs Wednesday as Livonia Clarenceville (7-5, 4-0 WWAC Red Division) in a five-inning rule-rule victory at Dearborn Heights Crestwood.

Matt Drain added two hits and scored four runs, while Logan Calimazzo, the winning pitcher, notched his first victory of the season with a two-hitter over five innings. He also helped his own cause collecting two hits.

The Trojans scored three times in the first, three in the second and five more in the fourth before putting it away with six in the top of the fifth inning. Chase Carter, Max Woodcock, Austin Portwood and Brad Trout also contributed hits as the Trojans out-hit the Bulldogs, 11-2.

"We got a chance to play a lot of reserves," Clarenceville coach Craig Cotter said. "They took advantage of their opportunity."

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BALINT

Continued from Page B1

Crusaders — including some from KLAA rival teams that he had gotten to know during his two-sport high school career.

"I have a lot of friends that attend there," Balint said. "I got a couple teammates that ran there and talked to me about how they like it so much."

"... Andrew Baumbach, Tony Floyd, people like that, all the Livonia guys. Tdsony Floyd went to Franklin but I ran against him a lot so we became friends. It's pretty cool going from competitive rivals to teammates is going to be a cool thing, I think."

Another plus, he continued, was getting to know Crusaders coach Patrick Daugherty, who immediately made him feel comfortable about ultimately choosing Madonna.

"Coach Daugherty seemed like a really good guy when I first met him," Balint said. "Which is kind of the reason I wanted to (go) there."

Balint added that Daugherty might be giving him different assignments than he's used to.

"He's talking to me about running the steeple chase, which is something I've never run before, but I'm excited to," Balint said. "Also the mile, the 800, stuff like that."

Although Balint, who intends to pursue a business degree, is happy to look forward he doesn't mind giving props to those at Stevenson who helped him grow as a student-athlete, with Spartans cross country coach Chris Inch topping the list.

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TOM BEAUDOIN
Competing during a 2016 boys track and field meet is Livonia Stevenson's Jack Balint.

SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

it's all difficult, it just went over," Shingledecker said. "Good location, she was in the proper spot. She's just got to put it away."

The Rocks (5-2-4 overall, 4-0-3 in the division) also had an opportunity off a corner kick with mere seconds re-

maining.

But Stevenson freshman goalie Mackenzie Fifer was able to bat away the bid taken by Salem junior defender Gabriella Mazzuca.

"She's just a freshman," said Shingledecker, about Fifer. "She's done very well for us."

Mazzuca nearly put the Rocks on the scoreboard midway through the second half, again off a corner kick. Her

rising shot hooked off the crossbar and bounced out of harm's way.

"This is what KLAA games are supposed to look like," Shingledecker said. "No one left disappointed (after) seeing a good soccer game tonight."

Concurring was Karns, who said that the weather conditions added another wrinkle to the KLAA Central matchup. The Rocks also faced tough

weather in Tuesday's 1-1 tie with Northville.

"I think both teams had chances back and forth," Karns said. "They had a nice chance there at the end that went over the bar."

"In a game like this, with conditions like this, you just hope you can find one. In a night like this, one's going to be enough."

Although Karns and the Rocks would have loved to

have knocked off the division leaders, he insisted there's plenty of time left.

"We're one point behind them, there's still a lot (of season) left," Karns said. "Northville's taking care of (third-place) Novi tonight, so that's in our favor. But there's a lot of games left to be played."

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PREP GIRLS TENNIS

Encore victory for Garden City over RU

Bria White's win is Panthers' bright spot

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

For the second time this season Garden City owns bragging rights over Redford Union in girls tennis.

The Cougars duplicated their 6-2 Western Wayne Athletic Conference Red Division win on April 11 with another 6-2 triumph on a sunny, but breezy afternoon April 27 on RU's home courts.

In the feature match at No. 1 singles, RU junior co-captain Bria White avenged a previous setback by ousting Cougars junior Haleigh Maszatics in a three-set battle of ground strokes, 6-2, 3-6, 6-0.

White has stepped into the No. 1 singles spot for the graduated Abby Walters, who lost just one WWAC match in four years and claimed the conference title in 2016. She now serves as an assistant coach under her mother Alice.

"I'm really enjoying coaching," Abby Walters said. "It's another side of the sport and I can certainly relate to the girls and share the competitive experience with them."

The Panthers' other win came at No. 4 singles when junior co-captain Haley Hebner downed Savanna Davis in straight sets, 6-1, 6-1.

Garden City captured the other two singles matches with Marissa Repasky (No. 2) defeating RU's Abby Bishop, 6-1, 6-0, while Samantha Major (No. 3) downed twin sister Sarah Bishop, 6-0, 6-1.

"Garden City fields a strong team and the competition is great experience for our players," Alice Walters said. "Our singles lineup is filled with returning players adjusting to a move from doubles to singles play. I've been impressed with



RU's Haley Hebner hits a ground stroke in her No. 4 singles match victory vs. Garden City.

the team's dedication to learning new skills and the solidarity of sportsmanship by the ladies."

At No. 1 doubles, Garden City's Nicole Maiden, a junior, and Alisha Saile, a sophomore, defeated RU juniors Amy Sitar-ski and Anna Vincent, 6-4, 7-6 (7-2 tiebreaker).

The Cougars also captured the other three doubles flights

with the Panthers defaulting at No. 4.

At No. 2, GC's Bailee Noll and Makenzie McMillin downed RU's Sarina Anderson and Isis James, 6-4, 6-4, while Joana Verala-Luna and Natalie Warwick topped the Panthers' Kaitlyn Mizille and Sydney Brown, 6-0, 6-2. The Cougars' No. 4 team of Marlee Troger and Jasine Wells won by default.

Meanwhile, RU improved to 4-2-2 overall on Friday with a 5-3 non-conference win against Hazel Park as Abby Bishop won at No. 2 singles, 6-0, 6-0, while Hebner moved up to No. 3 singles for a 6-2, 6-2 win.

The Panthers swept three of four doubles flights while defaulting at No. 3. The highlight was a 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (8-6) back-to-back tiebreaker win by Brown



SUBMITTED PHOTO

RU's Bria White (right) won a three-set match at No. 1 singles over Garden City's Haleigh Maszatics.

and Elizabeth Cashion at No. 4.

The Panthers, who stand 3-2-1 in the WWAC Red Division, have five division matches and one non-conference match remaining heading into the MHSAA Division 3 regional beginning at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, May 18 at Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook.

The WWAC tournament will be held Tuesday, May 23 at three different sites including Dearborn Heights Crestwood, Dearborn High and Dearborn Edsel Ford.

RU stops Cougars

Redford Union (5-2-2, 4-2-1) won six of eight flights on Tuesday in a 6-2 WWAC victory over visiting Dearborn Heights Annapolis.

The Panthers captured No. 1, 2 and 4 singles losing only at No. 3 when the Cougars' Marie Aroh won in a three-set super-breaker against Ann Bishop, 4-6, 6-4, 10-7.

RU also won at No. 1, 2 and 4 doubles with the only setback coming at No. 3 when Brittany Peraino and Claudia Duggan lost in a three-set super-breaker, 6-1, 3-6, 10-6.

BOYS GOLF ROUNDUP

Stevenson wins Livonia City golf meet

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Livonia Stevenson's varsity boys golf team won Thursday's Livonia City Meet held at Fox Creek, winning 11 out of 12 points to best Livonia Churchill and Livonia Franklin.

Eight players per team were divided up into four groups of two players, each playing a different format. Those included scramble, medal play, best ball and alternate shot.

Churchill and Franklin finished with eight and five points, respectively.

"They won three out of four formats and came in second in the alternate shot format, one stroke behind Churchill," Stevenson head coach Mark Hay said.

The Chargers' Logan Welch and Adam Sinclair finished with a 38 in the alternate shot contest, edging Stevenson's Craig Jakacki and Evan Kuczmariski.

In the scramble, the Spartans' tandem of Jacob Anderson and Alex Pohl registered a 34 score, defeating the Chargers' Peyton Elkins and Davis Coughlin (36) and Patriots' Jacob Kenward and Devin Visnau (36).

It was a three-team battle for the best ball victory, but Stevenson held on to first as Connor Jakacki and Griffin Matic combined for a 34 — enough to top Franklin's Brandon Tirador and Eric Liberati, second with a 38. In third, with 39 strokes, were Churchill's Aaron Walton and Max Proulx.

Medal play also went to the Spartans. Trevor Lopus and Schlatterbeck finished with an 82 score, with John Doyle and Chase Fallu of Churchill right behind with an 88. In third were Franklin's Trevor Vanvie and Graham Opie (96).

After the tourney, the Spartans had their photo taken behind the Nick Collins Memorial Bench at Fox Creek. Collins was a former Spartans golfer who died suddenly from meningitis just one year after graduating from Stevenson.



SUBMITTED

Livonia Stevenson's varsity boys golf team celebrates after winning the annual city meet.

RU golfers fall

Cameron Johnson took medalist honors with a 38 on Wednesday leading Belleville (5-1) to a WWAC victory over host Redford Union at Glenhurst G.C.

Senior Evan Albright paced the Panthers (4-2, 3-2) with a 39 followed by senior Ben Hawn (42), senior Jesse Suiter (44) and sophomore Jon Havier (57).

Canton prevails

Canton's boys golf team defeated Westland John Glenn 193-210 at par-35 Fox Hills.

Sparking the Chiefs (3-0) were: medalist Quinn Yun, 43; Josh Bauldry, 48; freshman Alex Heyde, 50; Charles Visger and Jonham Chen, each 52 scores; and Ben Samoy, 53.

The 0-3 Rockets were led by Matt Wilkins and Ben Damion, who registered a 50 and 51, respectively. Giuseppe Crachio-la shot a 53.

Rocks nipped

Salem dropped a 167-172 match to South Lyon at Fox Hills despite senior Matt Schaumburger's 40 score.

Other finishers for Salem (1-2) were Shawn Weldon (43), Robbie Hermes (44), Justin Polce (45), Bryce Henderson (46) and Josh German (46).

Match medalist was Zach

VanBoren of the Lions, with a 36.

Brother Rice invite

The Rocks came in 15th at Monday's Brother Rice Invitational, at par-71 Orchard Lake Country Club.

Novi Detroit Catholic Central won the invite with a team score of 295.

For Salem, Jack McCarthy shot a season best 76 to finish 11th overall.

Plymouth tied for fifth place at the Rice invite. Justin Kapke (75) and Timmy Baldwin (79) had strong showings. Other Wildcat finishers were Josh Wein (82), Ian Smith (84) and Nick Andrews (91).

Panthers victorious

Under wet and windy conditions Monday, the host Redford Union boys golf team earned a 188-235 Western Wayne Athletic Conference victory over Dearborn Fordson in a dual match at Glenhurst G.C.

Evan Albright and Ben Hawn paced the victorious Panthers (4-1, 3-1) with nine-hole rounds of 40 and 42, respectively, while senior Jesse Suiter added a 51. Sophomores Gasper Havier and James Schroeder each contributed a 55.

Fordson's Ali Muhammed took medalist honors with a 38.

BASEBALL, SOFTBALL

Bats boom all over the KLAA

Tim Smith
Hometownlife.com

Plymouth bounced back from Monday's tough loss to Livonia Stevenson with a sweep of Wayne Memorial on Wednesday.

The Wildcats started off the doubleheader with an 11-0 win in five innings, behind the shutout pitching of Dylan Brown.

Collecting two hits in three trips each were Zach Beadle and Evan Good.

Game 2 was a 9-2 victory, paced by Chase Every's 3-for-4 day. Every homered and drove in five runs for Plymouth.

Combining their efforts on the mound were Jeremy Fuchs, Dylan DiStefano and Mitch Harber, who were solid throughout the KLAA South Division baseball matchup.

For the Zebras, Kyle Swindlehurst and Gio Ramirez had one hit each in the opener while Justin Johnson and Malik Lewis chipped in with run-scoring doubles in the second game. Scoring both Wayne runs was Devin Puckett, who also tallied a hit.

SWEEP FOR SALEM: The Rocks took both ends of Wednesday's doubleheader against Novi, with outstanding pitching performances turned in by Matt Brooks and Jake Seipenko.

In Game 1, Brooks threw a complete game and struck out 10 Novi batters. Seipenko fanned 13 in the nightcap.

Girls softball

ROCKS SPLIT PAIR: On Tuesday, Salem lost a suspended game from April 19 to Livonia Stevenson but bounced back in the second game.

The Spartans won 16-2 in the opener, but Salem featured two doubles from Morgan Overaitis, a double and single from Caroline Miller and Jordan Hazel and two singles from Morgan Reno.

Salem won 10-3 in the second game, behind the pitching of Rae Campbell.

Overaitis (three hits), Hazel (three hits) and Hailey DeChalk (two hits) led the Salem charge. Also singling were Kristin Mihalic, Miller, Grace Hokett and Makayleigh Silverman.

CHIEFS WIN 7-5: Izzy Dawson went 3-for-4 and drove in three runs as Canton defeated South Lyon East, 7-5.

Also coming up big was Hannah Zajdel (3-for-3), who doubled in three runs in the fifth to tie the game at 4-4.

Olivia Grant (2-for-3) had a key two-run single in the sixth.

Going four innings for the win was Avery Kilgore.

PATRIOTS TAKE TWO: Livonia Franklin rolled to 22-2 and 21-0 wins over Westland John Glenn in Wednesday's KLAA South Division softball doubleheader. The Patriots improved to 6-8 overall and 4-7 in the division.

On the day, Brooke Garbarino had four hits (including three doubles) and six RBIs while Sarah Iler (four hits, four RBIs) and Haley Bennet (three hits, two doubles) also made their presence felt at the plate.

Jordan Berger and Ashley Couch were the starters and winners for Game 1 and Game 2, respectively. Couch threw a 1-hit shutout.

LADYWOOD 10-11, MARIAN 0-1: On Tuesday, host Livonia Ladywood (2-7, 2-4) earned its first two victories of the season sweeping Birmingham Marian in a Catholic League Central Division twin-bill.

CeCe Werner had three hits and three RBI, while Allee Schellenberger added three hits and one RBI as the Blazers took the opener, 10-0.

Jamie Gietl also collected two hits and knocked in three runs, while winning pitcher Liz Kemp threw a one-hitter to go along with six strikeouts.

In Game 2, Lauren Holdsworth collected three hits and three RBI, while Sarah Cerve-nan added three hits and two RBI.

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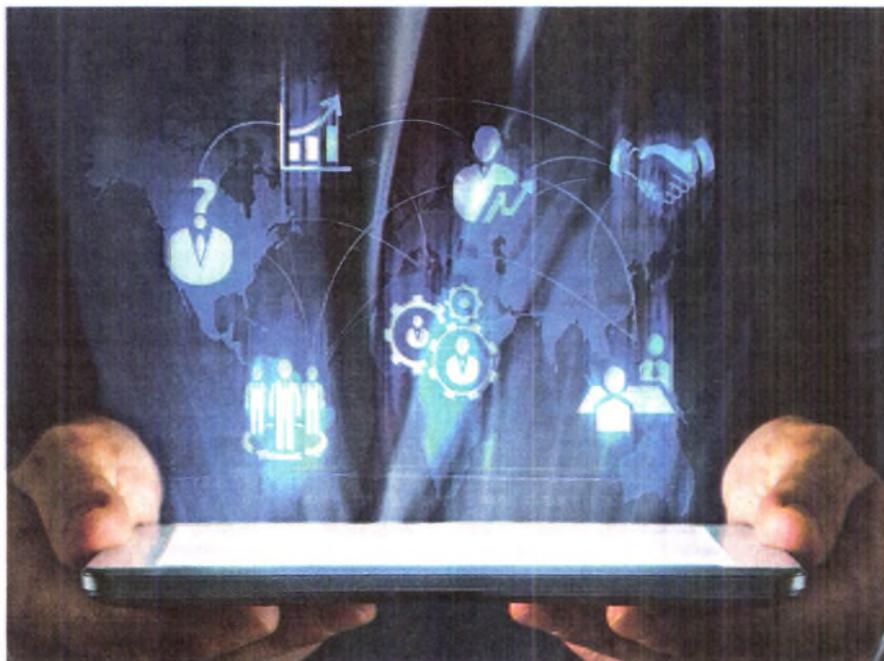
4 reasons why you should join a talent network

BY DEANNA HARTLEY
CAREERBUILDER

If you want to work for a company but can't find open positions, or have been rejected for a position at your dream company, it doesn't mean you're out of luck. You may be the right candidate for the company you're applying to, but not the best fit for any open positions right now. That means the right fit for you is still out there — and you can get closer to it by joining a talent network.

Talent networks are automated platforms where job seekers can enter their information into a company's database with the goal of being notified of new job opportunities. It's beneficial for the company because it allows employers to create a talent pipeline, and there are many ways job hunters can benefit from talent networks as well. Here are a few:

1. It will give you a chance to understand the company better. Companies today are increasingly leaning toward building and nurturing relationships with job seekers over time versus just looking to fill positions that may be open right now. Subscribing to a talent network opens the door to enabling employers to engage



GETTY IMAGES

with you — and other candidates who have opted in to a talent network — more so than they would with other job seekers who don't opt in. It will give you an opportunity to get to know the company, its culture and the expectations that are set for employees. And you can leverage this additional insight when applying for future positions at the company.

2. It will save you time. One pet peeve many job seekers complain about is

that they're forced to re-enter or resubmit the same information over and over again. With a talent network, you won't need to re-enter your information because it already lives in the database.

Also, since you will be alerted to new relevant opportunities that will open up down the road, you won't have to keep checking back in.

3. It will keep you top of mind for employers. Even if your dream employer or employers don't have any

job openings at the moment, you don't need to feel like you have to sit on the sidelines and wait. You can take a proactive step that could get you closer to landing that dream job when it becomes available. You'll have a better chance of remaining on a company's radar if you're in their pipeline.

"It can't hurt if it's a company you've always wanted to work at," says Christy Hopkins, a human resources consultant and writer at Fit Small Business who also maintains

an HR consulting and recruiting firm with small business clients. "If there are no open roles we are looking for that fit you, you can still submit your résumé to the general database. This is useful for us in that when a client comes to us for an urgent need — we can search our database and see if anyone fits their criteria by setting parameters around keywords and locations."

4. The talent network can do some of the work for you. We get it — you're a motivated job seeker and you want to get out there and do the hard work of finding the right job. But don't be afraid to get a little help from your friends — and in this case, a company's talent network can be your best friend.

Some companies will go so far as to send you personalized alerts with jobs that best match your experience and interests. You will be able to make the most of tailored job recommendations and customized messages coming directly from the company itself.

Deanna Hartley is a writer for the Advice & Resources section on CareerBuilder.com. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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Car Report

THE NEW CHEVROLET EQUINOX ELEVATES THE BRAND IN CRUCIAL SEGMENT AS MARKETING CAMPAIGN KICKS OFF



By Dale Buss

The Equinox utility vehicle is Chevrolet's highest-selling retail nameplate once again this year behind the monster results of the Silverado pickup series. So it's been crucial for the General Motors-owned mainstream brand to get it right when it comes to launching the greatly improved 2018 version.

So far, so good: Sales of Equinox have defied the overall industry slowdown so far this year, registering more than 83,000 units through April, or nearly 4 percent higher than a year ago. It has continued to edge out the hot Cruz compact sedan as Chevy's No. 2-selling model.

"It delivers on a variety of things, everything that compact SUV shoppers

demand: design, capability, technology and safety," Paul Edwards, vice president of Chevrolet marketing in the US, told me about the new Equinox. "It needs to perform well in all those different categories."

And now the marketing kicks in behind the latest version of a vehicle that has sold more than two million units. Appropriately, one ad to promote the new Equinox. "Everybody Everywhere," shows off the tremendous versatility of the new version, in all of the settings in which consumers make various demands on their vehicles.

In another new TV ad that extends Chevy's two-year-old "Real People, Not Actors" theme, the vehicles and the advertising "moderator" venture far outside of the warehouse-like space where Chevrolet has been showing actual customers -- not actors -- participating in what they think are focus groups.

The brand has put Equinox in a



hotel valet scene. The valet brings a stylish new Equinox in front of the hotel. Because the rightful driver is late in getting there, the valet takes the liberty of inviting all kinds of passers-by to steal a spell in the vehicle that has rolled up and impressed them.

Naturally, of course, the people in this ad love the 2018 Equinox, with its interesting new "S" curve exterior design cue along the vehicle's shoulder, its "down-and-away" instrument panel and big new touchscreen.

I talked with Edwards about Equinox, "Real People" and marketing Chevy:

Q: Why do you think "Real People" has been effective for so long? And how much longer can you find actual individuals who will be "surprised" to find out how good Chevy and your products and features are?

Edwards: The effectiveness has gradually increased over the last 25

months. We've kept it fresh. We're always trying to find a fresh new way to engage consumers within the work itself and to extend it across everything that Chevrolet has to say in the marketplace: brand, retail, and across all our different segments.

It does the quality job equally as well as to launch a nameplate like Equinox. We're seeing our highest breakthrough measures and our highest impact on opinion measures of all time because there's a familiarity with it in the marketplace.

But today's perceptions still lag reality. As much impact as we've made, there's still a long way to go. There are a lot more people to bring to the brand.

Q: Even as good as the new Equinox may be, and your advertising, how do you find something truly "new" to say in SUVs these days, given how every brand keeps flooding into the

segment with new models and features?

Edwards: That's the No. 1 segment and there's a lot of very healthy competitors. We do it in two different ways. One is the total package of Equinox. In "Everybody Everywhere," we wow people with the total package.

In another one we compare ourselves to the gold standards in the segment, Toyota and Honda. Those owners are blown away. A lot of people in the [buying] cycle are familiar with our competitive brands and are used to that level of technology, refinement and design, and when they get in a Chevrolet they're blown away by how we beat those competitors hands-down.

Q: With US sales slowing and consumers largely rejecting sedans and flocking to utility vehicles, is it a pretty daunting environment these days for Chevrolet as a mainstream brand -- and one that has a lot of sedan models out there?

Edwards: Well, over the last two years we've gained nearly a full point of retail market share, and sales of 120,000 incremental units. We went from 10.3 percent in 2015 to 11.2 in 2016. Another measure we look at is "excellent" opinions for the brand, and we've had a 30-percent increase in that from the baseline before we started the "Real People" campaign. And in our conquest business, it's grown about 20 percent -- our share of the conquest opportunity each month.



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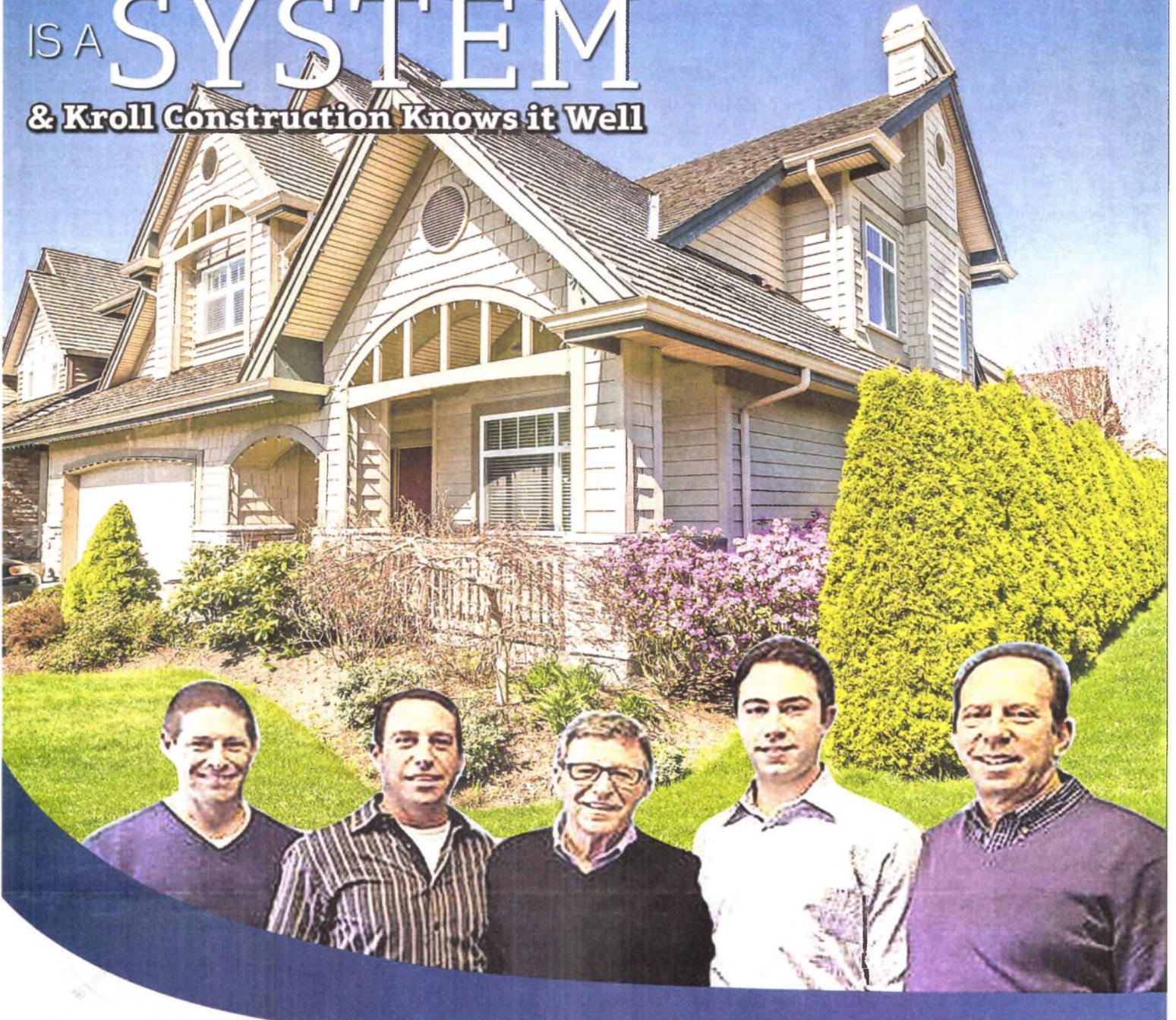
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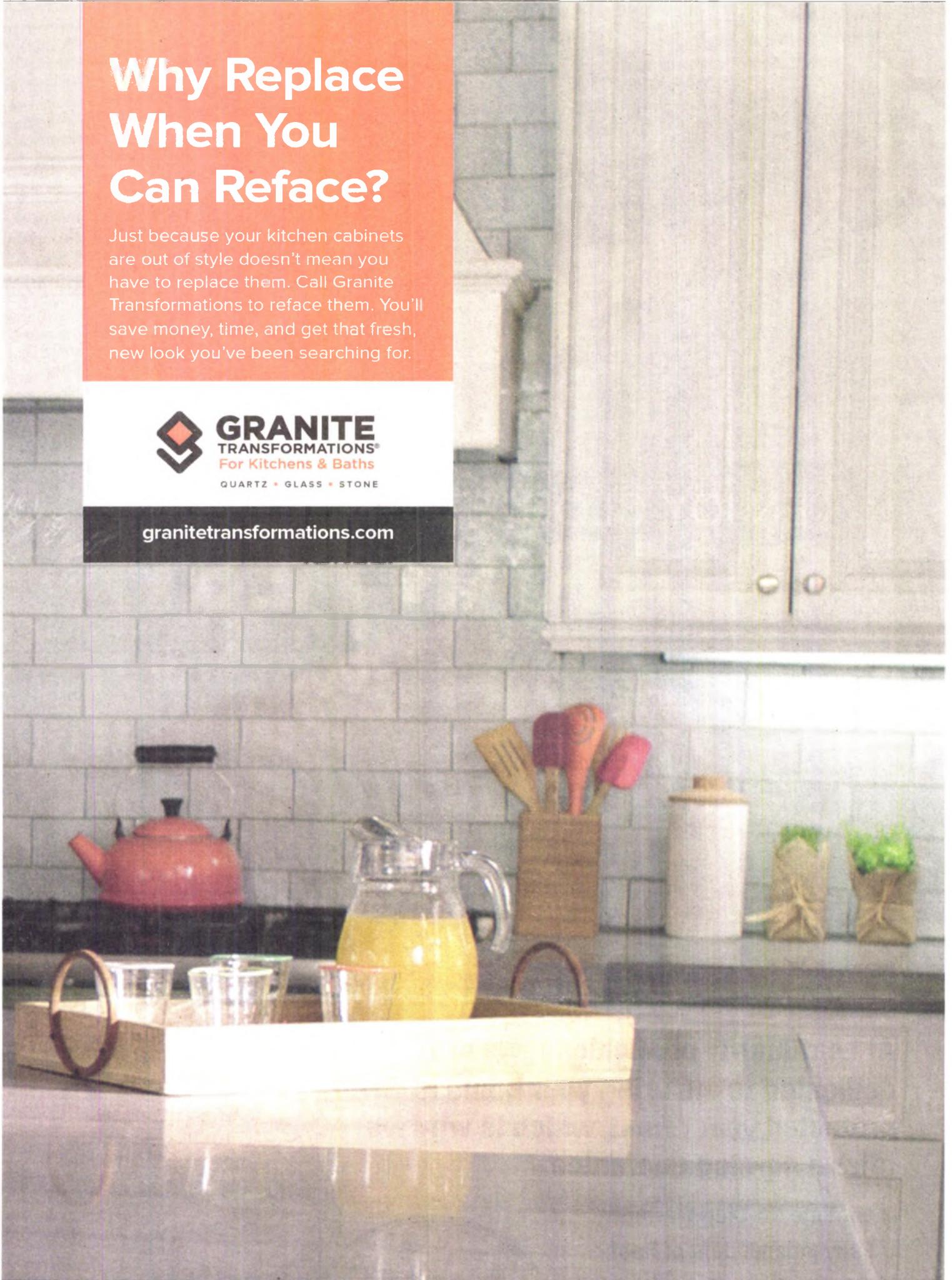
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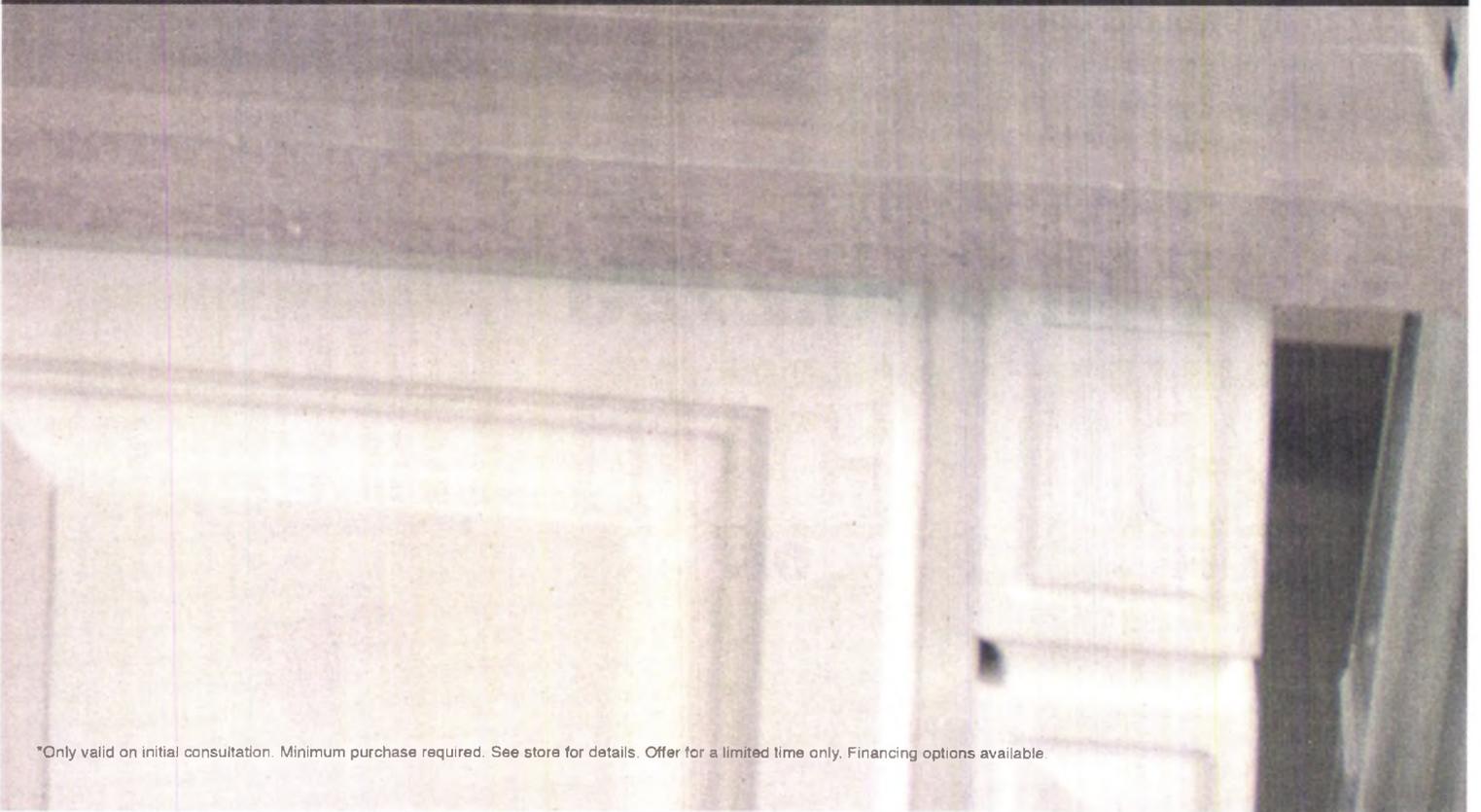


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