

Top stories

Continued from Page 5A

houses a restaurant, ice cream shop and milk processing plant located on three acres at 21300 Novi Road.

A new menu and liquor license are planned, as well as better seating inside. John McGuire established Guernsey Farms Dairy in 1940 in downtown Northville. In 1966, the business moved to the current Novi location. It's expanded over the years, including a 100-seat restaurant and store in 1985 to serve construction workers building homes in the area.

Shelby Tankersley

Shelby Tankersley is the most recent hire among the news staff, having started in May. She came to Hometown Life from the Oxford Leader, where she worked after graduating from Oakland University. Tankersley covers Livonia, Westland, Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Here are her top stories in 2019:

Madam Mayor: Brosnan wins Livonia's top spot by razor-thin margin

Politics dominated the Livonia landscape for much of 2019. A vocal, at times bitter, race ensued between Maureen Brosnan and Laura Toy to become the city's first female mayor. Brosnan won by less than 200 votes.

MDOT plans massive I-275 improvement project for 2020

Construction can be a challenge, particularly when it's along Interstate 275, one of the region's busiest roads for commuters. The October story reported on MDOT's invitation to residents to discuss the project that is expected to take up the bulk of the 2020 construction season.

The project stretches through Northville, Livonia, Plymouth and Canton and includes pavement and bridge work throughout the area.

Here are the two, maybe three, schools Wayne-Westland will close

Wayne-Westland Community Schools has seen its student population drop in recent years, heavily impacted by school of choice. In May, the school board approved closing Marshall Upper Elementary at the end of the current school year, and Hoover Elementary following the 2020-21 school year.



Maureen Brosnan defeated Laura Toy by 164 votes to become the first woman elected mayor of Livonia in November.

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

Depending on enrollment numbers, Walker-Winter Elementary may close the school year after that.

Primary sets up showdown for Livonia's first female mayor

In more Livonia election coverage, this story revealed the winners of the primary election - Brosnan, Toy and Bruce Tenniswood for mayor - as well as the top eight candidates seeking a position on city council.

Man buys winning \$2 million lottery ticket in Westland

Christmas came early for a Westland man on Thanksgiving Day when he bought a \$2 million winning Classic Black lottery ticket. The life-changing ticket was bought at the Westland Food Store on I690 South Venoy Road.

John Heider

John Heider is a veteran photojournalist who first joined the company in 1996, covering the Novi-Northville area. After a break, Heider returned to Hometown Life in late January 2019. Heider handles photographic needs across our coverage area.

Here are his top photo galleries in 2019:

Detroit Catholic Central's 2019 graduation ceremony, May 19th, Ann Arbor's Hill Auditorium

Livonia Churchill's June 2nd graduation ceremony

South Lyon High's class of 2019 June 8 commencement ceremony at EMU's Convocation Center

Heider was quite busy this past spring, running about to cover as many high school graduation ceremonies as possible.

Angela's Ristorante opens in Westland

This photo gallery accompanied a story on the opening of the restaurant, the second for owner Ernesto Magdaleno-Guzman, who wanted to open a spot in western Wayne County. He opened the restaurant Nov. 11.

Floyd Galloway, Jr. preliminary exam in the disappearance of Danielle Stislicki

Photos accompanying the preliminary exam where prosecutor's began building their case alleging he murdered Danielle Stislicki were popular.

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