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THURSDAY
July 15, 2010

HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

Volume 55
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NOVI NEWS

hometownlife.com

NOVI NOW

Youth Toastmasters Club

A new Toastmasters club will meet for eight one-hour sessions within the next few months.

Toastmaster members basically present short speeches to be peer critiqued during the meetings. Organizers are looking for enthusiasm and a positive hardworking attitude from dedicated young adults ages 11-18. The first meeting will be an information session.

Please call or email Pooja Singhi for more information: (248)-996-5253 or asinghi@yahoo.com

Tollgate celebration

Tollgate's Summer Celebration a yearly event where everyone is invited to come and enjoy the beauty of the Tollgate Farm and Gardens, will be held from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, July 17. Most of the gardens will also have homemade exceptional quilts beautifully displayed for your enjoyment. The Tollgate Quilters have made a garden quilt which will be raffled off at the end of the day.

This year's garden market vendors will include perennial plants, herbal wares, jewelry, fine art and pottery. Free light refreshments will be provided.

MSU Tollgate Farm and Gardens are located at 28115 Meadowbrook Road, Novi.

Novi Palooza hits July 30

The long-running Novi 50's Festival has merged with last summer's West Oakland Rib Cook Off and Family Fest as Novi Palooza on July 30-Aug. 1, adjacent to the Rock Financial Showplace.

Fun for the whole family will include live music from a wide variety of talented local bands, a casino tent, BBQ Cook Off, volleyball tournament, ribs for sale, beer tent, portable put-put golf and more.

The event producers are committing a donation of at least \$2,500 to the Novi Library. Details about the event are available at www.novipalooza.com

The West Oakland Rib Cook Off is currently seeking BBQ competitors who want to test their skills for prizes totaling \$4,000 and a chance to compete in the Memphis Barbeque Network's national competition in the spring of 2011. For registration information and applications please visit www.experiencewo.com or call Shelby Wallach at (248) 348-5600 x 206.

District, teachers union at impasse

State funding issues cause hangup

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Talks between the Novi Community School District and the Novi Education Association regarding possible concessions from the teachers union have stalled.

Tom Brenner, NEA president, said the sides were "close," but Bob Schram, assistant superintendent of human

sources, did not like a condition Brenner's members wanted in the deal. "We asked if the amount of money from the state foundation allowance was different than what (the district) budgeted for, we would like to not have to concede as much money," Brenner said.

Schram agreed that both he and Brenner had something to take to their respective boards initially, but

the modifications the NEA made were not within the parameters established. "Their conditions were unacceptable to me and the board," he said.

Schram also noted that the fluid situation with state funding "changes the whole dynamic any ways."

The two sides have been talking about possible concessions since late last year, when the district was looking at an initial deficit of \$6.7 million. But the elimination of programs, laying off of employees and changes in state funding appears to have changed the situation.

Brenner also said a recent retirement plan from the state that forces public school employees to contribute 3 percent of their salaries toward their eventual retirement also played a factor.

Both sides said they are open to continue talks, but it is unlikely anything will happen until the state budget is approved Oct. 1.

"We hesitate to do more without knowing what the numbers are," Brenner said.

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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fore!

Total Golf Adventure camper Alex Wobrock, 9, tees off at a July 13 session at Novi's ITC Park. Counselor Jamie Coley, left, looks after camper Rushil Narang, 5, behind Wobrock. For more information on summer camps through Novi Parks and Recreation, call 248-347-0400.

Parks director calls leaving Novi 'toughest decision'

Auler to lead nationally recognized Westerville, Ohio, parks department

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The decision was not easy for Randy Auler.

But at the end of the day, the opportunity was too good to pass up.

Auler, who served as the director of parks, recreation and cultural services for the city of Novi for the past nine years, accepted a job last week to head the parks and recreation department in Westerville, Ohio, and will start there the end of this month.

"It was probably the second toughest decision I've had to make in my life and the toughest career decision I've had to make," he said. "At the end of the day, I really enjoy Novi, our team and the community. But, by the same token, the opportunity to work with another great team that has been nationally recognized... I'm excited about that opportunity as well."

Auler was one of 11 candidates to interview for the position in April, saying at the time he accepted the interview after being contacted by a search firm because "it's worth looking at it."

What he saw was a parks and recreation department that not only features 46 parks and facilities spanning 559 acres, but also has won the gold medal for Excellence in Parks and Recreation Management for Class IV in 2001 and 2007 (winners must wait five years before

applying again).

Clay Pearson, city manager for the city of Novi, said Auler "genuinely" loved the city and praised him for creating a top-notch parks and recreation department.

"He has done a great job for us," Pearson said. "And he is going to be very tough to replace."

During Auler's tenure as director, the park system has grown from 600 acres to over 1,000, been awarded more than \$3 million in grants, seen programs and participation increase drastically, had parks created or renovated and more.

He said he is extremely proud of the improvements made to Ella Mae Power Park, which is attracting numerous state and national tournaments to its fields, and

Please see **AULER, A3**



Auler



Cowan

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School cut gets small reprieve

Change amounts to estimated \$68,000 for Novi

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Novi Community School District Supt. Peter Dion does not want the public to get the wrong idea after the Michigan Legislature recently approved giving back \$11 per pupil to school districts as part of a new \$12.8 billion school funding plan.

The \$11 is not an increase, Dion said, but rather improves an already present cut from \$165 to \$154.

It amounts to roughly a \$68,000 difference for Novi, a number he said is negligible.

"Should we jump up and down for \$68,000?" he said. "No, it's not significant in a \$70 million budget. And the disappointing thing to me is

that it is being portrayed as an increase, when at the end of the day our revenue is still going to be down \$154 per student."

The new school aid budget takes effect Oct. 1, and Bob Schram, assistant superintendent, said local officials "applaud" the Legislature for

Please see **SCHOOLS, A3**



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Father, stepson rescue woman from burning home

Neighbor: 'I couldn't let someone die'

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Ron Roberts didn't have much time to think when he saw smoke and flames coming from his neighbor's house across the street on July 3.

He knew people were inside the home, specifically the 73-year-old homeowner who struggled to walk without her walker, and he had to get her out.

Going on instinct and adrenaline, Roberts rushed across Meadowbrook Road to the back of the house where he could hear Donna Honeycutt yelling. Roberts said "the smoke was pouring out so bad you couldn't even see," but he went in regardless, finding Honeycutt and carrying her outside.

His stepson, Anthony Daniel, who was visiting from Atlanta, also joined Roberts in the backyard to get Honeycutt away from the house before it was completely engulfed by flames.

"It's just what neighbors do," Roberts said. "I couldn't let someone die, and when you see someone in trouble it's just how you react."

Anthony said he "wasn't even thinking of himself" at the time he ran across the street in his socks to help his father carry the woman, and he spent the rest of the night by her side before she was transported to the hospital to be treated for smoke inhalation.

"I have no idea where I got the strength from," he said. "It was pretty crazy. I had no idea I was coming home to save a life."



A late night blaze on July 3 at a Meadowbrook Road home could have had a much worse outcome as an elderly woman was stuck inside before a father and his stepson helped get her outside.

According to Jeff Johnson, director of EMS and fire operations, the fire started in the garage after a firework that was not fully extinguished caught debris inside a garbage can on fire.

Kurtis Crowell, 39, Honeycutt's son, was lighting off fireworks earlier in the night and at a neighbor's next door when the fire started.

He said he was grateful Ron ran inside to help his mother. "I told him I really appreciated it because she could have easily got burned or I would have," he said.

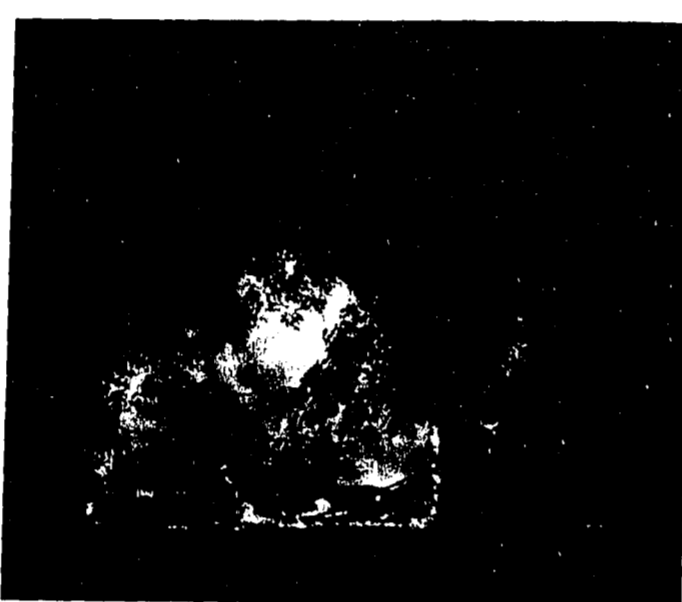
Roberts said he didn't feel like he was "in any danger" at the time and was inside the house for 30 seconds at most.



Ronald Roberts (left) and his stepson Anthony Daniel helped an elderly woman who was trapped inside her burning home get to safety before the entire house was consumed by flames.

Roughly two-thirds of the home was involved in the fire as well as a vehicle that was

parked out front. The remainder of the home sustained heavy smoke damage.



A fire that started in the garage of a Meadowbrook home on July 3 quickly spread to the entire house.

Johnson commended the two men for their quick response and giving an already dire situation a happier ending. "It goes to show there are

some good people out there who want to help and put themselves in harm's way," he said.

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Spend a summer day at the farm

Tollgate hosting annual garden open house

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The MSU Tollgate Farm in Novi is a gardener's paradise. Spanning more than 160 acres, the farm features 20 theme-specific gardens that will be the highlight of the free Summer Celebration, taking place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

Roy Prentice, farm manager,

said volunteers will man each of the gardens and tours of the property will be given four times throughout the day.

"It's not a young kid event, but more of a gardener or quilter focused event," he said. "But children are definitely welcome."

The gardens, which range from roses to an interactive children's garden, will feature quilts made by local quilters, and there will be workshops

taking place throughout the day to help people with their own gardens.

Prentice said the annual event usually draws between 500-600 people.

Tollgate Farm is located at 28115 Meadowbrook Road. For more information visit, www.tollgate.msu.edu or call (248) 347-3860, ext. 251.

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CAL STONE

Too hot!

High temperatures forced the monthly Fuerst Park concert, presented by ArtsNovi and the City of Novi, inside the Civic Center last Wednesday, but the Don Swindell Quartet provided cool sounds for the audience. The next concert will be Aug. 4 with the Royal Garden Trio.

SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE A1

making the decision now and not during the school year.

However, he is still concerned that it might not hold up as prorations have come in three of the last five election years.

"Obviously right now it is good news in the right direction," he said.

Including the now \$156 cut, Novi schools are still expecting to be reduced by \$280, including the 2009 funding, an additional \$100, a number officials are predicting based on figures from the Revenue Estimating Conference.

Dion said the most recent \$11 change is not going to trigger immediate action, but programs and staffing will be looked at as a result. An amendment to the budget the school board already approved will come in November, when the district knows its student count.

FEWER LAYOFFS EXPECTED
A large number of retirements, coupled with improved funding projections, is going to save jobs for several school district employees.

Initially, 75 staff members were being cut to help the district cope with a \$6.7 million deficit, but at tonight's school board meeting, many of those

employees are being brought back as only 28 are expected to remain laid off.

Dion said a combination of "being fiscally responsible and not spending every nickel and dime" as well as changes in the per-pupil allowance and restructuring some positions and programs in the district were key.

The fact that 25 employees took Michigan's retirement incentive also played a big role. "We are going to replace them, but there is going to be a difference (financially) between the person retiring and the one we are hiring," he said.

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AULER

FROM PAGE A1

the creation of Fuerst Park near the civic center campus.

"I'm really most proud of the people I work with, their development, commitment and dedication," he said. "From the

parks and recreation commission to city staff to city council, those are the people who made things happen."

"I'm going to miss Novi and the people -- that is what makes the community great, but ... I'm looking forward to the opportunity to serve with another great team."

Auler's last day in Novi will

be July 23, and Nancy Cowan, superintendent of recreation, will serve as acting director until a new hire is made.

Peardon indicated the search for a new city manager started this week, and once that person is in place the search for a new director will take place.

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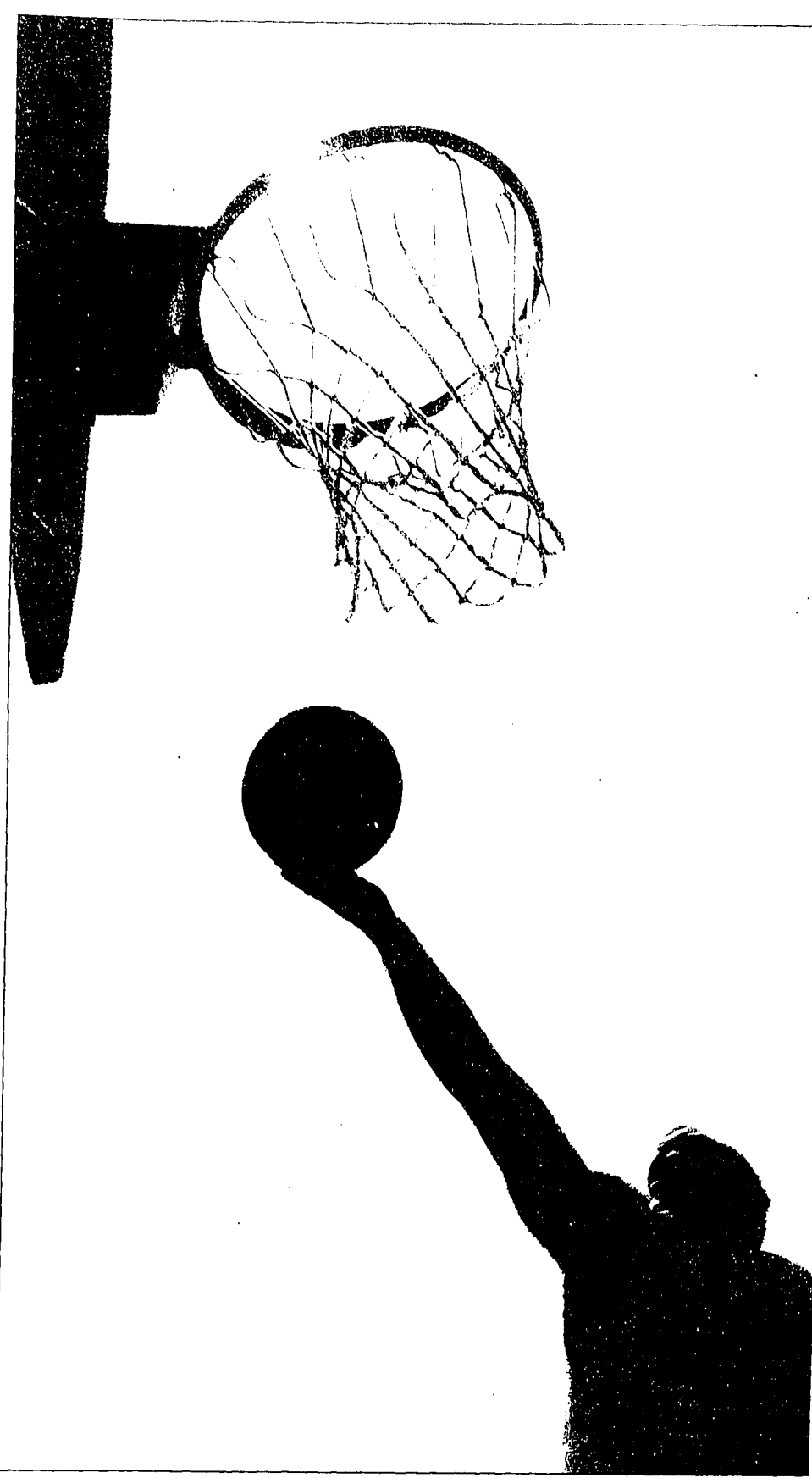
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Hot time in the city

Todd Schmitz, visiting the area from South Carolina, shoots some hoops at Novi's ITC Park on July 7 - a day the Carolinian could relate to as the mercury climbed to 93 that day.

Cab company chooses not to renew contract
Van service hours being expanded

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

It looks like the city of Novi's subsidized cab program is going away after all.

The city council discussed making changes to the older adult transportation program by eliminating the cab service and relying solely on the van program to transport residents during budget talks a few months ago. However, just prior to budget approval, city officials made a change to keep both around.

But now, because Community Cab declined to renew its contract with the city and no other cab services submitted bids, the cab service appears to be going away for good.

"Our main goal is to service all of the users and residents that are part of the program, and I think we will still be able to do a good job of meeting their needs," said Nancy Cowan, superintendent of recreation.

The new plan calls for expanding the hours of the van transportation service to ensure the riders have a similar level of service.

Currently the vans run from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. The new plan, which is effective July 19, calls for the service to expand hours to 9 p.m. Monday-Friday and 5 p.m. Saturday for employment or medical appointments that cannot be made during regular transportation hours.

It also calls for 72 hours notice for transports during the expanded hours, and there will be no rides on Sundays.

"There still will be taxi services available, just not subsidized," said City Manager Clay Pearson.

A total of 51 riders used the program last year, and 70 percent of the cab riders used it during the same time the vans run.

Rates for the service will remain the same: \$4 for a one-way ride within the city and \$6 for a one-way ride outside the city but within a 10-mile radius for medical appointments.

For more information, contact the transportation desk at (248) 735-5617.

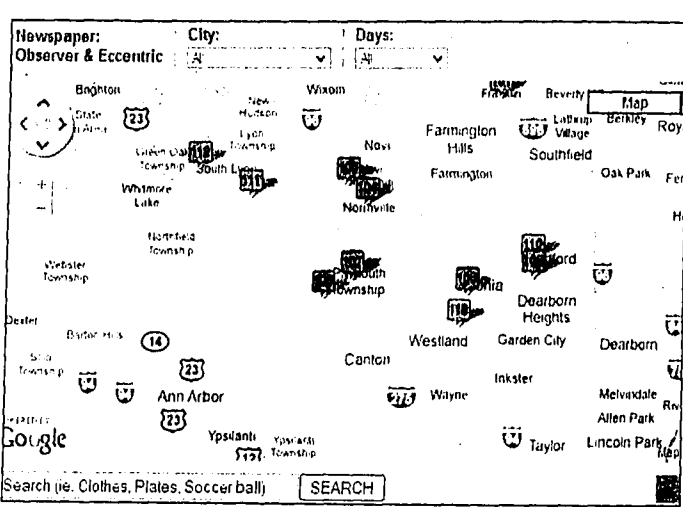
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way from location to location. The garage sale map is proving popular with our online readers, too, as hits have tripled since its debut two weeks ago. That means anyone who wants to advertise a garage sale in the *Observer & Eccentric* Newspapers and *Hometown Weeklies* may do so with the

added confidence of knowing a growing number of bargain hunters are turning to hometownlife.com to make sure they don't get lost along the way.

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EDUCATION

Thursday, July 15, 2010 hometownlife.com

Novi's Fox Run awards scholarships to student staff

Katy Williams of Northville and 18 other recent high school graduates shared a pretty special evening on June 21 with their families and the men and women who live and work at Fox Run Village in Novi.

They all gathered to honor the graduates - all student staff members at Fox Run - and to present them with four-year scholarships they earned through the Fox Run Scholarship Program. They also were gathered to celebrate the relationships students and residents have formed and to hear about the students' continuing education and career plans.

Williams' fond memories began with having dinner with her mother, Katie Williams, and her grandmother, Dorothy McGinn, who lives at Fox Run. They continued as the 19 student staff donned their high school graduation caps and gowns for the scholarship awards ceremony right through the myriad hugs and applause they received throughout the evening.

"Thank you to all residents at Fox Run for donating to the Scholarship fund, your generosity, thoughts and support," Williams said. "Working here and developing relationships with the Fox Run community has enriched my life in many ways."

The 2010 program has many hallmarks and has broken several records since the first \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to nine students in 2004, according to Marianne Mikkelsen, philanthropy manager at the continuing care retirement community.

"This year, a record number of residents and staff members donated to the fund, more funds were raised than ever before and the scholarship amounts are larger for recipients," she said.

The 2010 scholarship program realized \$143,250 in donations, exceeding the \$95,000 goal for scholarships for 19 eligible student staff.

As a result, the resident-led Fox Run Philanthropy Committee increased the amount of the four-year scholarships



Katy Williams of Northville pauses during the Fox Run Scholarship Awards Ceremony with her mother, Katie Williams, and grandmother and Fox Run resident Dorothy McGinn (center).

from \$4,000 to \$5,000 per recipient. They also increased scholarship amounts for previous recipients with one to three years remaining in their scholarships, from \$1,000 to \$1,250 each year.

"The generosity of the Fox Run residents is unprecedented," said Michael McCormick, executive director at Fox Run. "The men and women who call Fox Run home greatly appreciate the students who serve them daily and have developed wonderful relationships. Together the residents and staff make Fox Run a truly unique community."

The Fox Run Scholarship Committee administers the program that is open to Fox Run student staff members who are nominated by a resident and who work a minimum of 1,000 hours at Fox Run during a consecutive two-year

period. Scholarships are for tuition at an accredited college, university or trade school. The program is funded primarily by Fox Run residents, staff and memorial gifts. This year, 97 percent of Fox Run residents contributed to the fund, with 37 residents contributing the equivalent of one year in a four-year scholarship in memory or honor of a family member or friend.

"The outpouring of support is unmatched among Fox Run residents who are making an investment in the future of these students," Mikkelsen said. "And for the young dining servers, they not only receive financial support from residents, they also receive residents' encouragement, guidance and affection. Fox Run residents and staff are family to each other."

Mikkelsen introduced each student scholar, Bill Moran, resident and Philanthropy Committee chair, shared his thoughts on the important role this generation plays in supporting our future. Scholarships then were presented by Chadrick Mena and Shail Menon, managers of the restaurants on campus, followed by remarks by Doreen Poupard, president of the Resident Advisory Council.

In addition, resident Lyndia Park-Nielsen led the National Anthem and student scholar Ambia Allay performed "Hero" by Mariah Carey. "The Fox Run Student Scholarship Fund is just one of the many programs that bring our mission to life, by demonstrating how residents and staff share our gifts to create a community that celebrates life," McCormick said.

NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS

C.A.R.E. now open

Registration for Novi Community Education's Summer Child C.A.R.E. is now open for all Novi residents ages preschool through eighth grade. The program ends Wednesday, August 25. Hours of operation are 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Students will be placed in age appropriate groups and will participate in crafts, sports, field trips, games and free play. This year's location will be at Village Oaks Elementary School. Registration and weekly session fees are available on the Novi School District Web site at www.novi.k12.mi.us under Community Education - C.A.R.E., or call (248) 449-1713 for more information.

NOVI ON CAMPUS

Drake University

Clay Paciorek of Novi, graduated at the conclusion of the 2010 spring semester with a bachelor of arts in journalism in radio-television from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

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Training in internal medicine & pediatrics allows Dr. Leff to provide comprehensive care for children and adults, with an emphasis on preventative medicine. Partners with patients to achieve their best health by allowing them to become active participants in their own health decisions. Special interest in all aspects of women's health, from adolescence through menopause, including in-office gynecological care.



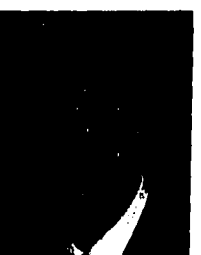
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Phone: 248-684-6155

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Hospitals in Southfield and Novi

Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstone@hometownlife.com...

Church of the Holy Family Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road Contact: (248) 349-8847 or visit holyfamilynovi.org

Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment Crosspointe Meadows Church Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road...

Detroit First Church of the Nazarene Location: 2160 Haggerty Road, north of Eight Mile Road...

for through age 5, 6:45 p.m. Ladies Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m. Men's Evening Bible Study...

ReNew Life Group Ministries Monday/Date: 7:15-9 p.m. every Monday Details: Ongoing Life Groups that support and facilitate personal growth...

Orchard Hills Baptist Church Location: 23495 Novi Road Contact: Pastor Jon Hix (248) 349-5665

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church Location: 40000 Six Mile Road Contact: (248) 374-7400 or (248) 374-5978

Single Purpose Concessions (20-30 year old) Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday in the Chapel for singing, Bible study, and fellowship...

Learner's Bible Study Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays Room A101 Men's Bible Study Time/Date: 6:30 a.m. Wednesday Single Adult Ministries office...

Novi United Methodist Church 4121 W. Ten Mile Rd. + Novi, MI 48375 Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m. Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor

Church of the Holy Family 24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375 Sunday 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. (Spanish) Saturday 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m.

Holy Cross Episcopal 4070 W. Ten Mile Rd. + Novi, MI 48375 Sunday Worship 7:45 am & 10 am Healing Service Wednesday 11:45 am

St. James Roman Catholic Church 48325 10 Mile Rd. + Novi, MI 48374 Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Rev. Timothy Hogan, Pastor

Passages Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 email: HTWobits@hometownlife.com

WILFRED G. MANLEY Age 97, July 8, 2010. Beloved husband of Eleanor for 67 years. Loving father of Kathleen (George) Nutwell of MD, Elaine (Charles) Lada of New Hudson and Alice Manley of Westland.

BONNIE JEAN (KEMP) BROWNLEE Age 86, of Munising, MI, and formerly of Marquette, Northville, MI and Melbourne, FL, died Saturday July 3, 2010, at the Tendercare Health Center in Munising, following a lengthy illness.

STEVE P. MARKOVICH Age 85, of Northville, MI, passed away peacefully at home on July 9, 2010. He was born December 7, 1924 in Detroit, Michigan to Eil and Katie (Ding) Markovich.

MARGARET A. CALDWELL Age 97, of Milford and formerly of Holly, died peacefully in the care of her family on July 9, 2010. She was the beloved wife of the late Charles (D.1991) and is survived by their children, Patricia (Gary) Erhard, Mary (the late Edwin) Valieres, Joan (Roy) Marks, James Caldwell, Thomas (Kathleen) Caldwell, Linda (John) Press, Sheila (Richard) Langs, Elizabeth (Daniel) Keich, Teresa (Earl) Smith, 32 grandchildren, 56 great-grandchildren, five great-great-grandchildren and many loving extended family members and dear friends.

RICHARD "RICK" FADER Age 82, of Plymouth, Friday, July 9, 2010. Funeral Mass will be held July 14th at St. Genevieve Parish, Livonia. Friends visited at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, Milford. For further information visit: www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 427-1175 or churchoftheholycross.com Sunday Worship: 7:45 a.m., 10 a.m. Sunday School and Nursery Care: 10 a.m. Worship Service

First Baptist Church of Northville Location: 217 N. Wing Contact: (248) 348-1020 Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays

First Presbyterian Church of Northville Location: 200 E. Main St. Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit firstpresv.org Sunday Worship: 9:30, 11 a.m. Walking in the Park Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. every Saturday

KATHERINE A. WILCOSH Age 46, July 2, 2010. Visitation: O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River, Novi, 248-348-1800, Sat. July 17, 9:30am until memorial service at 11:00am. Memorial donations to: Suncoast Humane Society. Online condolences: www.obrienfuneralhome.com

First United Methodist Church of Northville A Stephen Ministry Church Location: 777 W. 8 Mile Road at Tatt Rd. Contact: (248) 349-1144 or www.funorthville.org

St. John Lutheran, ELCA Farmington Hills Location: 2325 Gill Rd. + Farmington Hills, MI 48334 Sunday Worship 8:30 am & 11 am. Sunday School 10:15 am

Highland Highland Community Church 2350 Valley Lake Rd. (248) 897-4556 Contemporary Service 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. Sundays

Northville Northville Christian Sunday Worship - 9:00 am & 10:15 am Sunday School and Children's Programs www.nccall.org 41355 Six Mile Road 248-348-9030

White Lake White Lake Presbyterian Church 4800 Highland Rd., Robinson Road & Grand Rd. (248) 897-4556 Contemporary Service 10:00 a.m. WWC@white-lake.org

Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church - Milford Novi and the Greater Livonia Area - Plymouth Park 1201 W. Highland Rd., (248) 897-4556 Contemporary Service 10:00 a.m. WWC@white-lake.org

West Highland Baptist Church 11168 S. Hickory Ridge Rd., Milford, MI 48380 248-887-1218 Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m. Bible Ministries 11 a.m. Wednesday All Ages: 7:00 p.m.

New Hudson New Hope - A Unitarian Universalist Congregation 5765 Grand River Rd. + Farmington Hills, MI 48335 Phone 248-474-9108

Northville Christian Excelsior Lutheran Church 41355 Six Mile Road 248-348-9030

First United Methodist Church of Northville 777 West 8 Mile Road + Novi, MI 48375 (248) 349-1144

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church 130 Orchard Dr., Northville WEEDEN LUTHERANS Sunday 5:00 pm, Sunday 7:30, 9:30 am, 11:30 am, Church 248-2821, School 349-3810

Oak Pointe Church 50200 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi Saturday Worship 5:15 pm, Sunday 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Casual, contemporary service Phone (248) 912-0143 www.oakpointe.org

First Baptist Church of South Lyon 6020 Maylene Ave. S., South Lyon 48178 248-432-2323

First United Methodist Church 640 S. Lafayette (248) 437-0700 Contemporary Worship, Bible-Based Messages

Bible Believers Church Gathering in Jesus Name 601 S. Lafayette St., South Lyon, MI 48178 Sunday 10:30 and 1:30 Thursday 7:00 p.m. Mike Riggs, Pastor 734-341-1903 pastor cell

EVENTS FROM PAGE A6

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church Location: 40000 Six Mile Road Contact: (248) 374-7400 or (248) 374-5978

Orchard Hills Baptist Church Location: 23495 Novi Road Contact: Pastor Jon Hix (248) 349-5665

Brighton LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH 5551 Pleasant Valley Road + Brighton, MI 48114 810-227-3113

Farmington Hills ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA Farmington Hills + 2325 Gill Rd. + Farmington Hills, MI 48334

Highland HIGHLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH 2350 Valley Lake Rd. (248) 897-4556 Contemporary Service 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. Sundays

New Hudson NEW HOPE - A Unitarian Universalist Congregation 5765 Grand River Rd. + Farmington Hills, MI 48335

Northville NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN Sunday Worship - 9:00 am & 10:15 am Sunday School and Children's Programs

Livonia FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Services held at Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church 10300 Hubbard Road - Livonia

White Lake WHITE LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 4800 Highland Rd., Robinson Road & Grand Rd. (248) 897-4556

Milford CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL & KIDG. - Mt. Speed 603 General Motors Rd., Milford Church office: (248) 584-0895

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church Location: 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth Contact: (313) 453-0326, Ext. 221

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church Location: 770 Thayer, Northville Contact: (248) 349-2621 or olvnorthville.org

South Hill Church, S.B.C. 120 South Hill Church and 60000 Milford (248) 685-3550 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. KIDS Worship 10:15 a.m.

Milford PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 238 N. Main Street, Milford, MI (248) 684-2800 Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

New Hudson NEW HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 5810 Grand River Ave. + New Hudson MI 48145 (248) 473-2111

Northville NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN Sunday Worship - 9:00 am & 10:15 am Sunday School and Children's Programs

First United Methodist Church of Northville 777 West 8 Mile Road + Novi, MI 48375 (248) 349-1144

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church 130 Orchard Dr., Northville WEEDEN LUTHERANS Sunday 5:00 pm, Sunday 7:30, 9:30 am, 11:30 am, Church 248-2821, School 349-3810

Novi GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 9 Mile & Meadowbrook Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod Sunday School & Adult Bible Class will resume September 12

St. James Roman Catholic Church 48325 10 Mile Rd. + Novi, MI 48374 Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Rev. Timothy Hogan, Pastor

Faith Community Presbyterian Church 44000 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-348-2345 1/2 mile west of Novi Rd.

Meadowbrook CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 2185 Meadowbrook Rd. + Novi MI 48375 248-348-7757 • www.mbcc.org

South Lyon CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN (Wisconsin Synod) Pastor: Terry Nelson 437-8810 • 486-4335

The Church of Christ 21869 Pontiac Trail + South Lyon, MI 48178 248-437-2323 • www.churchofchrist.org

Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church 22200 Pontiac Trail, South Lyon, MI 48178 Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) - SOUTH LYON Sunday School 11:30 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Nursery Care Provided

Immanuel Lutheran Wisconsin Synod + Reynolds Sweet Pkwy. at Liberty St. Sunday Service 10:00 a.m. All Classes 9:00 Pastor Scott Miller, (248) 437-2289

Novi UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 4121 W. Ten Mile Rd. + Novi, MI 48375 Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m. Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor

Church of the Holy Family 24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375 Sunday 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. (Spanish) Saturday 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m.

Holy Cross Episcopal 4070 W. Ten Mile Rd. + Novi, MI 48375 Sunday Worship 7:45 am & 10 am Healing Service Wednesday 11:45 am

Oak Pointe Church 50200 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi Saturday Worship 5:15 pm, Sunday 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Casual, contemporary service

First Baptist Church of South Lyon 6020 Maylene Ave. S., South Lyon 48178 248-432-2323

First United Methodist Church 640 S. Lafayette (248) 437-0700 Contemporary Worship, Bible-Based Messages

Bible Believers Church Gathering in Jesus Name 601 S. Lafayette St., South Lyon, MI 48178 Sunday 10:30 and 1:30 Thursday 7:00 p.m. Mike Riggs, Pastor 734-341-1903 pastor cell

Crosspointe Community Church 28930 Wixom Rd., Wixom, MI 48393 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School 10:30 a.m. - Morning Ministry Rev. Kenneth Warner - 586-51-0261

Wixom CROSSPOINTE COMMUNITY CHURCH 28930 Wixom Rd., Wixom, MI 48393 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School 10:30 a.m. - Morning Ministry Rev. Kenneth Warner - 586-51-0261

Your Invitation to Worship

Grid of church listings for Brighton, Milford, Novi, Farmington Hills, Highland, New Hudson, Northville, Livonia, White Lake, Plymouth, and Wixom. Each listing includes church name, address, phone number, and service times.

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Obituary received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

Please see EVENTS, A7

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

NOVI NEWS
with advertisements
Cal Stone,
Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
Executive Editor
Grace Perry,
Director of Advertising

OUR VIEWS

Vote 'Yes'
Millage renewal needed for Oakland County parks

When Oakland County voters enter the polls for the Aug. 3 primary election they will be asked to renew a 10-year millage for the Oakland County parks system.

We believe that vote should be YES. Oakland County Parks provide county residents with some outstanding recreational opportunities. The county's 13 parks cover nearly 7,000 acres of land and are spread out across the county making them accessible to most residents. For years, the one exception has been the southeast portion of the county where there were no parks. That was addressed in recent years, when the parks system took over Catalpa Park in Southfield.

Recreational opportunities throughout the park system include camping, boating, fishing, nature centers, sledding, waterparks for the kids, golfing and more than 68 miles of trails. The parks are also well used, playing host to about 1.5 million visitors annually, according to parks officials.

Voters are being asked to renew the .2415 mills, which supports operation of the parks, as well park improvements and land acquisition. The tax provides about half of the park system's total budget of about \$28 million. Even if the millage renewal does pass, the budget will be reduced to \$26 million over the next two years because of projected lower property values across the county.

We realize that times are difficult, especially in this region where the poor economy has cut the deepest. But this is not a tax increase. It will cost about \$25 for the owner of a home worth \$200,000. That is a relatively minor investment for a top-notch park system that adds to the quality of life residents in this county have come to expect.

Is a park system necessary? Probably not. But it is one piece of the puzzle that makes life in Oakland County so desirable. And the fact is, without this renewal, the parks system as we know it would cease to exist.

Need for blood critical this summer season

It's the middle of summer and vacation time is in full swing. But while we're off enjoying fun in the sun, someone somewhere may be in need of something you have - your blood.

According to figures provided by the American Red Cross, some 32,000 pints of blood are used every day in the United States. It could be a child battling cancer, a person having emergency surgery, a mother giving birth or a young man injured in a car accident who needs that blood, but unfortunately only 5 percent of the 60 percent of adults eligible to give do so.

In the summer, blood donations are at their lowest. People are out of town, busy with their friends and families. The idea of donating blood is the furthest thing from their minds. But summer is when the Red Cross truly needs people to role up their sleeves and give the gift of life.

People have many reasons not to give. For some the idea of donating a unit of blood is scary; for others, the idea never crosses their mind. If all blood donors gave at least twice a year, it would greatly strengthen the nation's blood supply. Giving blood will not decrease your health. Quite the contrary, it'll make you feel good about yourself and the three people that unit of blood will help.

Each unit of blood can be broken down into its components - red blood cells, plasma, platelets and cryoprecipitate which is used to treat hemophilia and other clotting disorders. An adult undergoing heart surgery uses an average of up to six units of red blood cells, four units of plasma and 10 units of platelets. The average liver transplant needs up to 10 units of red blood cells, 10 units of platelets and 20 units of plasma. An average bone marrow transplant may need hundreds of platelets and more than 20 units of red blood cells. One car accident victim alone can require up to 100 units of blood.

Every two seconds someone in America needs blood, and it's volunteer blood donors who provide nearly all of the nation's blood supply for transfusion. Anyone in good health, who is at least 17 years old and weighs 110 pounds or more may safely donate blood. Any company, community organization, place of worship or individual can host a blood drive.

While all blood types are needed during the critical summer months, Type O negative is always in high demand because it can be transfused to patients with any blood type, especially in emergency situations. Type O negative donors can make the difference between an adequate blood supply and a summer shortage.

You can donate at a Red Cross Blood Donation Center or stop by a mobile blood drive. We urge you to make for a blood donation. It only takes about an hour -- not much time when you think about three people you'll be helping. Call the Red Cross at 1-800-RED-CROSS to schedule an appointment.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What do you do on a hot summer day to keep cool?



Staying in the air-conditioning and going to the pool.

Sarah Ehlers
Walled Lake



I wear loose clothes and tie my hair up and keep cool with ice water and chilled fruit.

Freda Ansara
Novi



I don't do anything differently. I'm fine with days that are hot.

Adam Parsons
Novi



I wear my hat and sunglasses to keep cool.

Lizzy Mendelsohn
West Bloomfield

LETTERS

Wal-Mart makes sense

I am not a fan of the Wal-Mart corporation and never shop there. However, I am a fan of Novi and being environmentally responsible. As much as I would prefer to see another company express interest in the Town Center, I'm glad there is an opportunity to bring a major store to a shopping area that has been visibly struggling for years. It makes environmental sense for Wal-Mart, or any retailer, to make use of our city's abundance of existing retail space as opposed to chewing up vacant land. I'm confident that any current Town Center residents that might be displaced in order to make room for Wal-Mart will be able to successfully relocate within Town Center.

As long as they keep the best interests of Novi residents front and center, I would like our city council and planning commissions to continue to explore the viability of Wal-Mart at Town Center.

Elaine Maylen
Novi

Bentivolio, a new kind of statesman

The American people are being steered by an out of control government. In the words of Thomas Jefferson, "A government big enough to give you everything you want is strong enough to take everything you have."

Kerry Bentivolio, a candidate for the 15th Michigan Senate District, is in favor of a part-time Legislature, repealing the Michigan Business Tax and downsizing government. This is a breath of fresh air to hear a candidate favoring smaller, less intrusive government. Michigan is a minority state in that it is one of a handful of states that still has a full-time Legislature. If you consider Michigan has less than a third of California's population but has 25 percent more legislators you have to wonder why. When legislators only have time to legislate the absolute necessities, the citizens of Michigan are all winners. When legislators have time to sit around and write oppressive tax policies and burdensome regulations, it only forces businesses and college graduates out of the state.

Mr. Bentivolio (he insists on being called Kerry) is a true patriot, having fought in two wars and truly cares about his country and state. He lives in Milford and has worked in the automotive industry, is a small business owner and a school teacher. You can hear the passion in Kerry's voice when he talks about downsizing government and making a business-friendly environment in Michigan. Without businesses Michigan will continue to lead the nation in unemployment, house foreclosures and the exportation of college graduates.

Kerry is a rare gem and Michigan would do well to elect him to the state Senate. When you consider all the professional politicians that have been sent to Lansing and that Michigan has one of the worst economies in the nation, the citizens of Michigan must be questioning the choices they made. The citizens of this state must start electing a different kind of person. I have seen Kerry bristle at the very title of politician. He would rather be known as a statesman. The dictionary defines statesman as "one who exercises political leadership wisely without narrow partisanship." I think the operative word here is "wisely." It seems like wisdom is a rare commodity in our government leaders today. Kerry understands the role of

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats.

E-mail: cstone@gannett.com

Read or comment online: www.hometownlife.com

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at www.hometownlife.com.

International Council of Nurses (ICN) as the International Year of the Nurse. All nurses are enjoined to host gatherings to honor and celebrate our colleagues, speak at schools and civic meetings about the value of nurses, write about NURSES and NURSING to make the general public aware of the value of nurses in the United States and throughout the world. We are all acutely aware of the shortage of nurses, and how many nurses have left the profession, are getting too tired to handle the 12-hour shifts that is now commonplace in many health care facilities, or getting old enough to retire. The patient population likewise is getting older and sicker, so the demand for skilled care is even greater. The Philippines, a small country in southeast Asia is a steady source of nursing manpower. Hospitals periodically send recruits in the Philippines, and nurse nurses to come to the U.S. on a working or H-1 visa.

However, the gravity of the nursing problem has gone global. Because Philippine nurses are attracted to go abroad (U.S., Canada, U.K., Saudi Arabia, and other countries), the Philippines itself is in short supply of qualified nursing faculty to teach in their schools and colleges of nursing. Some Filipino nurses are now going "home" during their vacation, or after retirement, to teach at their alma mater. Such is the case in my College of Nursing, Mary Johnston College of Nursing, a department of the Philippine Christian University in Manila.

Last year, I participated in naming the theme for National Nurses Week. My entry was short and simple: "NURSES - Building a Healthy America." I thought of this theme for two major reasons: the aging population and their chronic medical problems, and the young people and the growing incidence of obesity among our young people. Was I surprised when my entry was chosen by ANA! In 2010 the theme is closely related to last year's: "NURSES - Caring for a Healthier America."

Nurses do care for a healthier community. But how can we take care of our community when there is a dwindling supply of care providers? It is my earnest hope that by hosting the "Open House and Nursing Career Fair" during Nurses Week, that we will inspire and motivate many young people, high school students, even elementary and middle schoolers, to consider a career or lifetime vocation in nursing. After serving as the first president of the Philippine Nurses Association in Michigan (in 1974), I made it my life mission to encourage, support, and provide avenues, for men and women who have the aptitude and compassion, to consider this career choice. I also continue to urge and nursing colleagues who have baccalaureate degrees to go back to school for a master's or doctoral degree, or even a teaching certificate in nursing, in order that they can teach full time, or even part time, at the schools of nursing or community colleges in their city or hometown.

Even nursing faculty in Michigan colleges are aging, and most are approaching retirement age. We need qualified, experienced nursing educators to teach in the classroom and in the clinical setting, so our young nurses will learn the ABCs of caring and healing from seasoned practitioners.

To find out more how you can participate in the International Year of the Nurse, go to the website: www.2010inyourse.com.

Georgianna Rose Tutay, M.S., R.N.
Mary Johnston College of Nursing Alumni Association, Michigan Chapter, Novi

Honoring nurses, students

National Nurses Week is celebrated in all 50 states of the United States each year from May 6-12. This year, 2010 is designated by the



Learning to golf

Jamie Coley of Total Golf Adventures works with golf camper Rushil Narang, 5, at a session at Novi's ITC Park on July 13. The week-long camp gave youngsters a basic introduction to the game of golf and its rules and set them up swinging with clubs. For more information on summer camps through Novi Parks and Recreation, call 248-347-0400.

ANNOUNCEMENT



Smith-Orr

Richard and Jeanette Smith of Farmington Hills, announce the engagement of their daughter, Holly Anne, to Kevin Orr, son of Dawn Orr and David Orr, of Sterling Heights. The bride-to-be is a graduate of the University of Michigan where she received an undergraduate degree in education. She is pursuing a master's specialist degree in school psychology in Chicago, Ill. The groom-elect also graduated from the University of Michigan and received a degree in cellular and molecular biology. After attending medical school in Chicago, he began his residency in anesthesiology at Loyola University Hospital. They plan a summer 2011 wedding.

NOVI IN THE SERVICE

Curtis C. Berenguer

Curtis C. Berenguer has entered Basic Cadet Training at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo., in preparation to enter the first academic year at the academy. The six-week, two-phased orientation program must be successfully completed by the cadets prior to entering their freshman year. The training prepares men and women to meet the rigorous mental and physical challenges experienced by new cadets.

Phase one involves personal in-processing, orientation, and training in the fundamentals of being a cadet. Cadet trainees are prepared to adjust from civilian to military life and

disciplines, and learn proper wear of the uniform, saluting policies and procedures, drill and ceremony, marching, and living quarters standards. During phase two, cadets train outdoors living in tents while learning to function in field conditions. Cadets apply and practice team work, cohesion and learn to deal with physically and mentally demanding situations. They complete the obstacle, confidence, assault, and leadership reaction courses, and participate in a rescue mission termed Operation Warrior.

He is the son of Gilbert and Janet Berenguer, of Novi. Berenguer is a 2010 graduate of Novi High School.

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE A11

is required and limited to the first 32 participants. For grades 5 through 12.

Aqua-Kadabra with Doug Scheer
Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m. and 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, July 21
Details: What happens when a great magician has a great show? You guessed it - everybody has a GREAT time! Join magician extraordinaire Doug Scheer performing world class tricks to amuse and delight you! All ages welcome!
Library Board Meeting
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 21
Details: The Library Board meets the third Wednesday of the month at the Novi Civic Center Council Chambers.
Novi Historical Commission Meeting
Time/Date: 7-8:45 p.m. Wednesday, July 21
Details: Public is always welcome. Meetings discuss ongoing and future projects of the Novi Historical Commission.
Novi Writers Group
Time/Date: 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, July 24
Details: This group will provide a welcoming environment for writers to collaborate, critique and create with other writers. The group is facilitated by local writer, Kathy Mutch. Writers of all genres are encouraged to participate. For 18 years and older. Please register.
Puppets in the Park
Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. Tuesday, July 27
Details: Bring the kids and enjoy games, activities and an interactive puppet show at Furst Park. The show will be held at the Novi Public Library if there is inclement weather.

Wizard School Workshop
Time/Date: 3-4 p.m. Tuesday, July 27
Details: Want to be the talk of the next party and amaze your friends? Come and join us as a professional magician teaches the secrets to some amazing magic tricks that you can do, 5th grade and older please.
Family Martial Arts
Time/Date: 1-2 p.m. Wednesday, July 28
Details: Discover the realistic, practical style of martial arts that is Isshinryu Karate at a demonstration and lesson provided by Novi's Family Self Defense Center. Appropriate for children in grades K-4.
Walleye Lake City Library
Location: 1499 E. West Maple Road, Walleye Lake
Phone: (248) 624-3772

REGIONAL

Hawaiian Luau
Time/Date: 7 p.m.-midnight Saturday, July 10
Location: Tanglewood Dining and Golf Club, 53503 W. Ten Mile Road, South Lyon
Details: The Island Event will be complete with tropical appetizers, hula dancers, a whole roasted pig, flaming dessert, fruit cocktails (umbrellas optional), dancing and a special aloha performance by "The King"! Advance tickets are \$35/person all inclusive of food, four beverage tickets, entertainment and taxes. Seating is limited and advance reservations are required.
Contact: (248) 486-6277.
Village Center Concert Series
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Thursdays through Aug. 12
Location: Sibley Square Park, 48900 Pontiac Trail, Wixom
Details: July 8 - Paisley fogg; July 15 - Gia Warner (5-10 p.m. Showcase Wixom); July 22 - Justine Blazer; July 29 - Randy Brock Group; Aug. 5 - Global Village; Aug. 12 - Shawn Riley Band
Contact: (248) 624-2850
Women's Network Source
Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m. second Mondays
Location: Real Estate One office, 346 N. Lafayette, South Lyon
Details: Networking and education meetings; \$5 (includes refreshments); Women's Network Source was established to empower, motivate and support women to become successful entrepreneurs; WNS welcomes women curious about exploring whether to start a new business or learning how to grow their current business to attend an upcoming meeting.
Contact: Debra Downing at (248) 252-2952; ddowningdd@aol.com.

SENIORS

Novi Senior Center
Location: 25075 Meadowbrook Road, Novi
Contact: (248) 347-0414
Blood Pressure Checks
Time/Date: 11-11:45 a.m. Wednesdays
Details: Every Wednesday blood pressure checks are offered. Check yourself regularly and stay healthy. Your blood pressure record will be on file at the Senior Center so you can track your health. No charge.
Panera Bread
Time/Date: 8:15-9:30 a.m. Tuesdays
Details: With thanks to Panera for a great partnership, every Tuesday is Panera Bread Day. Enjoy bagels, rolls, bread, sweets, coffee and conversation. No charge.
Bingo
Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays
Details: Try your luck and get those cards filled up. A great way to socialize and meet new people. Price: \$5.00 per card at the door.

Time for state to think global but act local



Tom Watkins

Getting our national China policy right is essential. How we resolve our mutual tensions will impact both nations -- and all humanity.

My lifelong interest in China and my more than 20 years of travel there leads me to conclude that if we want to thrive economically in the 21st century we need a global plan that exceeds the Chinese in terms of hunger for success, willingness to adapt to new ideas and change -- and not on a dime, but on a Chinese Yuan!

Michigan lacks an aggressive plan to make China's rise and globalization work for us. China can and must be part of the ingredients necessary to reinvent and revitalize Michigan's economy.

Sadly, there is no such plan in Michigan today or will at the highest levels to begin crafting one. This is unacceptable in a day and age when ideas and jobs can and do move across the globe effortlessly.

It is clear that when it comes to China, Michigan is like the proverbial nine blind men holding an elephant. Each individual describes the animal quite differently depending on the part he is holding. There is no shared vision, no overall direction, no common agenda.

It's high time Michigan's leaders stopped using China for division and subtraction and started developing a plan to assure that China's rapid rise results in addition and multiplication of jobs in Michigan.

There was a time when what happened in China had minimal impact on our lives. Those days are gone. What happens in China no longer stays in China.

The Asian behemoth is underwriting U.S. debt to the tune of \$1 trillion and growing, has the fastest-growing large economy in the world, is producing more autos than America, and is intent on winning the race for clean, alternative energy technology.

Since the opening of China to the world by Deng Xiaoping, the leader who followed Mao Zedong, China is a rising economic superpower. The Chinese economy has grown by double digits for the past 20 years and the auto market remains in its infancy with an enormous growth potential.

It all adds up to countless business opportunities in China for Michigan companies willing to be creative and innovative. Further, the Chinese will continue to seek places to invest throughout the world we should be bending over backwards to make Michigan a hospitable place for such investment.

State government has an important role to play, once it stops looking at China through a rearview mirror and recognizes the reality of the situation and the enormity of the opportunities.

The Chinese market, with 1.3 billion people and a rising middle class, is the mother lode of 21st century global commerce. More than 300 million Chinese people have risen out of poverty in the last century.

LEADERSHIP AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

The county executives from Wayne and Oakland, Robert Ficano and L. Brooks Patterson, along with Paul Gieglehem, chairman of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners, together with Commissioner Ed Broley, Ken Lampar and State Representative Fred Miller are doing their part to build bridges. They have organized multiple trade missions, set up offices in China and encouraged their local community schools to begin to offer Mandarin Chinese to their students.

What is missing is a comprehensive statewide initiative to tap this rich vein of potential investment in ways to create jobs for our citizens and assure China's rise does not come at our demise.

Here are some steps that could be taken to enable Michigan to tap the rich China vein:

1. First, drop the China rhetoric that is not conducive to building positive relationships (what the Chinese call "guanxi"), conclude China is not going away and ask how to make its rise work for our state.
2. Seek advice from knowledgeable individuals inside and outside Michigan on what other states and nations are doing that we should emulate and what is uniquely Michigan that the Chinese want or need.
3. Convene a cross section of Chinese American community leaders from such groups as the Chinese Association of Greater Detroit, Chinese American Association, Asian and Pacific Islanders Chamber of Commerce, and Detroit Chinese Business Association and ask how the state can leverage their existing China relationships.
4. Brainstorm with all the various China experts and pull together an action plan that can position Michigan to take full advantage of the continuing rise of China, with emphasis on economic, cultural, agricultural, tourism and education initiatives.

The China wave will continue to come, we can do nothing and be swamped -- or learn to surf and ride the wave.

Remember the ancient Chinese saying about beginning with a single step? It is time Michigan broke into a run.

Tom Watkins of Northville is a business and educational consultant. He served the citizens of the state as superintendent of public instruction (2001-2005) and mental health director (1986-1990) and an elected member of the Wayne County Charter Commission 1980-1982. Write to him at tdw@tdw.com.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Thursday, July 15, 2010

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BECOME A FAN TODAY

Novi Fire Department offers free child car seat inspections

The City of Novi is pleased to announce the Novi Fire Department will provide free child car seat safety checks and installations from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday by appointment.

Michigan Law requires:

- Children from birth until age 8 be properly restrained in a child safety seat or booster seat in the vehicle, unless they're over 4'9" tall.
- Children who are eight years old but less than sixteen years old must use a safety belt no matter where they are riding in the vehicle.
- The Novi Fire Department has two Certified & Licensed Child Passenger Safety Technicians on staff ready to provide the most up-to-date information, a free check of your child seat and, if necessary, perform a complete child seat installation. Both technicians were recently certified through the State of Michigan Department of Community Health and the National Child Passenger Safety Board (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) after completing an intensive, 80-hour course.
- "This is a life-saving, community service the Fire Department team members can offer Novi residents. Motor vehicle injuries are the leading cause of death among children in the United States," notes David E. Molloy, director of Public Safety/Chief of Police.

2 forward-facing harness seat to a booster seat

- 3 booster to an adult safety belt
- The benefits of riding properly restrained, including all adults.
- in and around the vehicle (never leaving children unattended, walking around the vehicle before moving, etc.)
- State laws and best practice recommendations for occupant safety.

Community members are asked to bring the following items to the inspection:

- vehicle owner's manual;
- car seat owner's manual; and, if possible,
- the child who will be "properly secured" in safety seat.

Please allow 25 minutes for the installation and the safety check process.

Please contact the Novi Fire Department at (248) 349-2152 to schedule an appointment. For more information on the Novi Fire Department, visit cityofnovi.org.

Tools stolen from trailer

A backpack blower and two chain saws were taken from a Jorge's Landscape trailer while it was parked near the business on Grand River Avenue some time between June 25-29.

The owner told police the trailer was attached to a truck at the time, but was left unlocked. Only the gas-powered items were taken.

The value of the three items is \$1,500. Police have no suspects at this time.

Money, debit card taken from purse

A Best Buy employee had her car broken into and some money and a debit card were taken from inside the vehicle while she was working at the store on West Oaks Drive between noon and 5 p.m. on July 4.

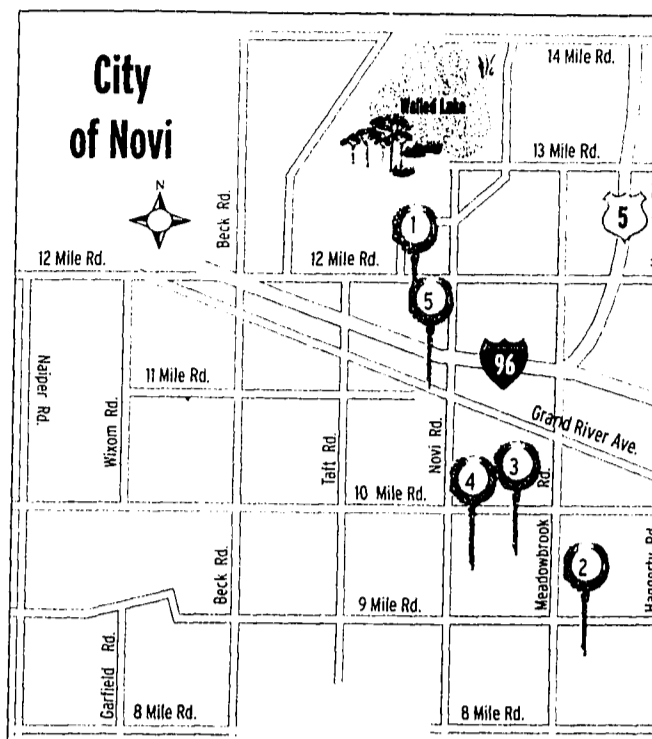
According to the report, the woman said she left her purse on the passenger seat while she worked and the window was cracked. The vehicle was still locked when she returned to it, but her wallet was moved from her purse to the glove box.

Nothing else was taken from the car, and police have no suspects.

Firecracker blows up mailbox

A Novi couple had a late-night fireworks show as

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS



An unknown suspect blew up their mailbox at their Shadybrook Drive home overnight on July 4.

The force of the explosion completely dismantled the mailbox and pieces of it were strewn across the yard.

Police did find a firework attached to the bottom of the mailbox base, but there was no evidence to process.

GPS taken from car

A new Garmin GPS was stolen from an unlocked vehicle overnight on June 29 while it was parked in front of a residence on Pleasant Run.

The owner said she got into her car to go to work when she noticed the item missing. Its estimated value is \$249. Police have no suspects.

Purse stolen after window smashed

A woman had her purse stolen from her locked vehicle between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on July 6 while it was parked in the parking lot of the Sports Club of Novi.

According to the report, the woman returned to her vehicle after using the gym to find the passenger side window broken and her purse was taken from under the seat. She took her wallet inside, so the purse only contained her work ID card, pager and a debit card.

The purse is valued at \$600, and an iPod and GPS were not taken.

Police have no suspects at this time.

Minor arrested for drinking

A 19-year-old girl was arrested at 11:30 p.m. on July 8 for minor in possession after she was spotted running across Grand River Avenue near the CSX Railroad bridge.

When police arrived the woman was sitting with a man on the north side of Grand River Avenue near Flint, and the man told police she had shown up at his house "very drunk" before running outside.

The woman said she had gotten in a fight with her father earlier in the night, and smelled strongly of intoxicants. She agreed to take a preliminary breath test which registered a blood alcohol content of .24 percent.

She was arrested and taken to the Novi Police Department where she was issued a citation for MIP and released when sober.

- Compiled by staff writer Nathan Mueller

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Novi
 July 21, 2010
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†Paid Spokesperson, Doris Biscoe, is a member of a HAP non-Medicare Plan.

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SECTION B (NRNN) **SPORTS** hometownlife.com
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Milford's Cupp a rock at or behind the plate

BY JEFF THEISEN
 SPORTS WRITER

It didn't matter the side of the plate Milford's Sara Cupp was on, she was going to make an impact. The senior catcher ripped opposing pitchers for a phenomenal .567 average and a .654 on base percentage thanks to 26 walks.

Cupp is the All-Area Softball Player of the Year. "She was obviously the leader of our team on the field and off the field," said coach Vaughn Richmond. "She was a very scary batter. A lot of people were afraid to pitch to her."

Cupp finished the season 59 for 104. She knocked out 12 doubles, three triples and two home runs for a .798 slugging percentage. "She spends hours on hours on hours hitting," said Richmond. "If she doesn't have a batting cage available, she's using a tee or hitting soft toss. She swings constantly. It's just like golf; if you do a lot of it, you get naturally better at it."

"It helps she's a very strong girl." But the other impact was limiting the running game of opponents. She threw out 18 of 26 attempted steals.

"With her, I had faith she was going to stop anything in the dirt, so I had faith to call any kind of pitch with her back there," said Richmond.

Cupp will take her career to University of Detroit. Richmond isn't sure where she will play in college, but he said she may be at third or first.

As happy as Richmond is to see her play in college, he knows her graduation leaves a huge void.

"She's one of the best all-around players I've ever dealt with," he said. "She's a leader. Whatever it would take to help a teammate."

FIRST TEAM
Kelsey Johnson, Lakeland
 The junior catcher made the All-State First Team after hitting .385, scoring 43 runs, knocking in 25 and swiping 27 bases. Only two of nine attempted steals were successful against her.

"Your catcher usually is not a real quick kid, and she was real quick," said coach Joe Alsup. "This year, she had nine triples. The year before she had 13. In order to get triples, you have to have tremendous speed. All around, she's very, very talented."

Kelsey Cleary, Lakeland
 The junior centerfielder also landed a spot on the All-State First Team. As a leadoff batter, she hit .441, had a .520 on base percentage, scored 40 runs, knocked in 29 and stole 36 bases.

"She causes all kinds of problems," said Alsup. "She can bunt, or if they come in on her she can drive it past them. She runs like a deer and can chase down a bunch of things for us. She's probably the fastest girl I've ever had."

"She's going to be even better next year."

Carlee Meek, Lakeland
 The senior was all over the field for the Eagles this year. She pitched 17 wins, played at short when an injury effected the infield positions and moved to third for the playoff run to the State Finals.

Meek batted .398, knocked in 22 runs and scored 22 runs. As a pitcher, she compiled a 1.59 ERA with 105 strikeouts in 101 innings with just 26 walks.

"She had a great year," said Alsup.

"She did a lot of different things to help us out. In the tournament, she made a lot of great plays at third. She's actually an outstanding catcher. They may in college use her as a catcher. She's a total athlete. She has great instincts no matter where you put her."

Sierra Burke, Lakeland
 The sophomore proved to be a huge asset at the plate with a .400 average. She also played a strong right field. Her biggest hit of the year was the two-run homer against Troy in the state semifinals.

"She's a big-league hitter," said Alsup. "You may not think it because she's a small girl, but she can hurt you pretty bad."

Colleen Kotis, Novi
 The junior third baseman held

Please see **SOFTBALL, B2**

Novi sends 12 to national championships

110-meter shuttle hurdle team wins All-America honors

BY SAM EGLESTON
 CORRESPONDENT

Anyone who knows very much about the sport of track and field knows that Novi is one of the best at cultivating talent.

This fact has been shown in years past with some of the best athletes in the state and this year it was punctuated with 12 Wildcats heading down to North Carolina to compete in the national championship.

The New Balance National Track and Field Championships, which were held in Greensboro, found the Novi Wildcats turning in some impressive performances. The most impressive came from the 110-meter shuttle hurdle team of juniors Davante Greer and Derek Kim and sophomores Lance Lilla and Derek Cingel took fifth overall with a time of 1:02.4. Their time was just three seconds shy of the fastest team in the country.

Also at the national championships, Novi's mile relay team placed 16th with a time of 18:23. Running in that event were seniors Dan Egner and Mike Blaszczyk and juniors Brett Giampa and Joe Shubring.

Novi also competed in the 4x200 relay, in which the Wildcats finished 12th in the country. Representing the area were senior Michael Jocz, junior Derek Kim and sophomores Brett Kuhn and Justin Hopton. They finished in 1:29.79.

In the 800 spring medley championship, Jocz, Kuhn and Hopton were joined by junior DeAndre Fordham-Johns as they raced to 13th overall in a time of 1:34.41.

Racing individually was Kim, who ran the 110 hurdles in 15.41 seconds to finished 29th in the nation. Taking first was Jalen Walker of Burlington, Penn., who finished in a blazing 14.55 seconds.

Sam Eggleston is a free-lance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News.



Wolfpack
 Legacy U16 Wolfpack defeated a top Minnesota team for a place in the top championship bracket at the AAU National Volleyball Tournament in Orlando, Fla. June 22. The local team is comprised of Lakeland, Novi, Walled Lake Northern and Mercy athletes. They finished ninth overall in their age division in the nation. Their division was comprised of 150 of the best teams from all 50 states. Pictured are Coach Sarah Schmit, Aly Ryan (Novi), Annie Bodien (Mercy), Isabelle Giancy (Novi), Courtney Scott (Northern), Victoria Rose (Novi), Brooke Mayrand (Northern), Leslie Harrington (Novi), Molly Marzonie (Novi), and Lindsey Hansard (Lakeland).

CC's Alex Moore defends Shamrock program

BY SAM EGLESTON
 CORRESPONDENT

When it comes to lacrosse, few areas are as blessed with talent as this one.

Between Catholic Central and Northville this season, an All-Area team of their own could have been formed. Throw in Novi, Huron Valley and South Lyon and the teams are just about as good as they get short of the All-State squad.

This year, the Catholic Central Shamrocks stood out if for no other reason than taking second place in the state. Their teamwork was outstanding and their individual play was noteworthy. That's why the Shamrocks were able to secure the All-Area Player of the Year with defender Alex Moore.

Moore, a senior, was a first-team All-State unanimous selection as well as an All-American. His ability to shut down the opposing team's best attackman made him the player everyone always had their eye on, and his work ethic was second to none.

"He's an intense, hard-working player," said Catholic Central coach Dave Wilson. "He's a 'Hoover' on ground balls and will take the ball from you and clear it up field himself."

Moore will be taking his talents to Michigan State next year where he will be playing for the Spartan lacrosse team.

ALL-AREA FIRST-TEAM
Kevin Lerg
 Senior, Detroit Catholic Central goalie

There's a reason the Shamrocks ended up 18-4 with two losses coming against state champion Brother Rice and the others from out of state teams: Amazing goaltending.

Goalie Kevin Lerg showed that it's impossible to beat a team if you can't score against them. His efforts this year earned him First-Team All-State unanimous voting and an All-American nod.

"He's got the best hands in the state," said Wilson. "He's an exceptional shot stopper in tight and is very good on clears and controlling the defense."

Ashok Selby
 Senior, Northville defenseman

When it comes to defense, few people are as good in the state as Northville's Ashok Selby. The senior defender snagged 107 ground balls this season and collected three goals.

"He is a quick, takeaway type of defenseman that scored two huge goals on our extra man with the long stick against Walled Lake Northern," noted Northville coach Greg Durham. "Ashok has some of the best stick skills on the team."

Selby will be playing at Albion College in their inaugural lacrosse season.

Cody Muirhead
 Senior, Huron Valley defenseman

Huron Valley has always been known for having scrappy defenders, and senior Cody Muirhead embodied that tradition this year.

The three-time letterwinner collected 96 ground balls this year and had three assists as he helped the

Please see **LACROSSE, B2**

34th ANNIVERSARY SALE

2010 GMC ACADIA AWD Stk. #7328 LEASE PAYMENT \$349/Mo. 48 MONTHS \$349 Due	2010 GMC SIERRA CREW CAB Stk. #7238 LEASE PAYMENT \$328/Mo. 48 MONTHS \$328 Due	2010 BUICK LACROSSE Stk. #8321 LEASE PAYMENT \$279/Mo. 48 MONTHS \$279 Due	2011 BUICK REGAL IN STOCK AND READY FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY M-14 Sheldon Road 5 Mile Road
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SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

down the No. 2 spot in the lineup, hitting a .314 clip. She earned All-District and All-Conference honors.

"Best all-around athlete I have ever coached," said coach Bob Lulek.

Katie Fetech, Northville "The junior led the Mustang bats with a .375 average while also producing a .539 slugging percentage. She also led the team in doubles while holding down first base in the field.

Erin Schopha, South Lyon "The senior second baseman scalded the ball for a .510 average (.611 OPS). She also averaged a team-high 40 bases to help earn All-District honors.

"She's a leader," said coach Jeff Hankins. "She comes to play every day and works hard. She's a great leadoff hitter. What made us tick was her. She's the one that made us go. She's an outstanding athlete.

South Lyon is going to miss her." Danielle Boore, South Lyon "The senior pitcher was the No. 1 in the 1-2 pitching punch with teammate Danielle Godard. She threw a pair of no-hitters.

"She was a workhorse on the mound," said Hankins. "She works hard out there. When she gets on the mound, she gets serious and gets it done.

"She had a great fastball and a great breaking ball that would get you with two strikes. Olivia Richwsky, South Lyon East "The sophomore outfielder slapped her way to a .514 batting average (.54-105). She scored 28 times and knocked in 15 runs. She only struck out 11 times. Richwsky was a captain and carries a 4.0 GPA.

"She knows the game. She's very knowledgeable and always wants to know more," said coach Katie Duncan. "A lot of kids don't have leadership

ALL-AREA SOFTBALL

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Sara Cripp, Milford

FIRST TEAM

Kelsey Johnson, Lakeland Kelsey Cleary, Lakeland

Sierra Burke, Lakeland Erin Schopha, South Lyon

Danielle Boore, South Lyon Gwen Hittle, Milford

Olivia Richwsky, East Coleen Koike, Novi

Katie Fetech, Northville Katelyn Hinkle, Northville

Michelle Stiltner, Lakeland Devan Olah, Lakeland

Anna Armstrong, Lakeland Olivia Wenzel, South Lyon

Danielle Godard, South Lyon Ashley Landin, Milford

Maddy Sinkovitch, Novi Olivia Nelson, South Lyon

Kristen Niloch, South Lyon East Mary Rounsifer, Northville

HONORABLE MENTION Candace McHugh, Lakeland

Morgan Craft, Lakeland Stephanie Shatzer, Lakeland

time her career at Alma. Olivia Nelson, South Lyon East

"The freshman pitcher posted a 13-13 record with 118 strikeouts and just 19 walks allowed. She had a 3.32 ERA. Nelson

also led the team with 25 runs batted in on offense. Kristen Niloch, South Lyon East

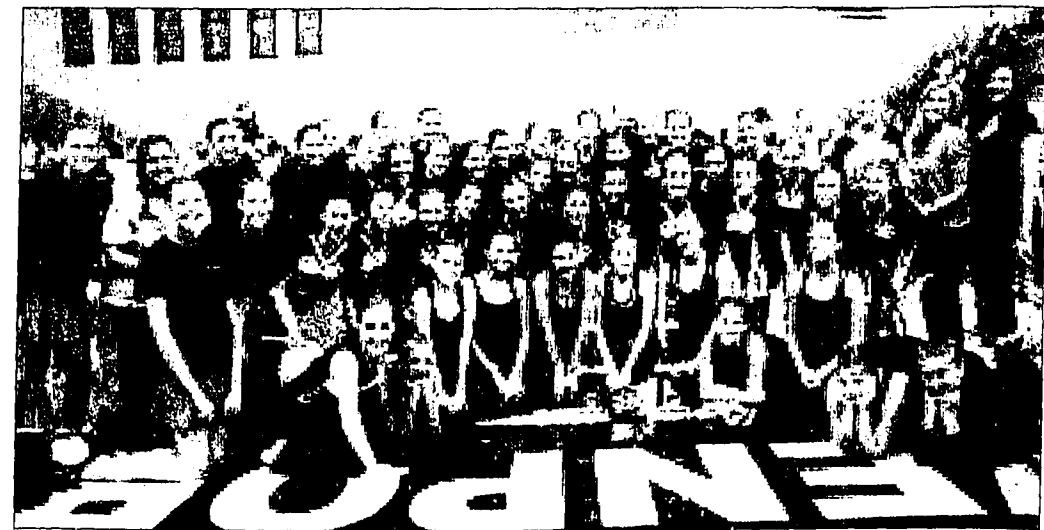
"The junior catcher batted .260 with 19 runs batted in and 15 runs scored. She was rock solid behind the plate with a .964 fielding percentage.

Ashley Landin, Milford "The senior centerfielder batted leadoff for Milford and set the table with a .418 average for second on the team. She scored 25 runs and was 25 of 26 in stolen bases.

Michelle Stiltner, Lakeland "The junior power pitcher came through with a 22-3 record and pitched throughout the playoff run. She logged 148 innings of work with a 0.80 ERA and just 29 walks allowed.

Devan Olah, Lakeland "The junior infielder earned All-District, All-Region and All-State Honorable Mention after posting a .385 average with 21 runs scored and 24 runs batted in.

Anna Armstrong, Lakeland "The senior brought the big bat for the Eagles. She hit .361 with four home runs and 26 runs batted in. She will con-



Davenport camp

The Northville varsity JV pom team attended pom camp at Davenport University from June 26-30. Both teams received a Grand Champs trophy for outstanding performances each night at camp. The JV team received the Peggy Pom award for showing the most enthusiasm and spirit of any JV team at camp on Sunday. The senior kickline routine took third place out of seven with their "Genie in a Bottle" routine. Made Basic and Liz Allen dazzled campers and staff with their fabulous skills taking first place overall. Varsity is coached by new head coach Caitlin O'Connell and new assistant coach Meghan O'Connell. JV is coached by new head coach Amy Mich.

LACROSSE

FROM PAGE B1

Huron Valley Titans take on some of the area's best players this year. His scrappy style of play made him an invaluable part of Huron Valley's defense this year.

Dan Stern "Senior, Northville defense Take your best attack and put him on the field against Northville and the guy who was likely going to be sticking on him like white on rice is senior defender Dan Stern.

Northville's top athlete was a key leader on defense, but what mattered most while he was on the field was the intangibles: Stern was guaranteed to show hustle and heart in every game.

"Dan was always that defenseman that we put on the other team's best attackman, for he is a very exceptional athlete and very physical," said Durham.

Stern earned Third-Team All-State honors and was an All-KLAA selection. Mitch Burgin

Junior, Detroit Catholic Central attackman He may just be a junior, but Detroit Catholic Central's Mitch Burgin plays offense like he's been doing it for years. Burgin collected 67 goals and 25 assists this year as he helped his team finish second in the state.

"Mitch has an uncanny ability to put the ball in the net," said Wilson. "It goes in high, low, around people, under people - whatever. It just goes in."

Burgin was a unanimous First-Team All-State selection this year and a member of the All-America team. Taylor Howell

Junior, Novi attackman He's quick, he's accurate and he's determined - all of these factors make Taylor Howell of Novi a threat when the ball is near him.

"The junior attackman plays the game like he only has one goal in mind, and that's getting the win.

"Taylor was a great on-field leader and role model for our team," said Novi assistant coach Yusuf Yanikoglu said.

ALL-AREA BOYS LACROSSE

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Alex Moore, Catholic Central

FIRST TEAM

Kevin Lerg, Catholic Central Ashok Selby, Northville

Cody Muirhead, Huron Valley Dan Stern, Northville

Mitch Burgin, Catholic Central Taylor Howell, Novi

Dylan Gelven, Northville Jason Roberto, Huron Valley

SECOND TEAM

Tony Jokinen, South Lyon Dan Griesbeck, Huron Valley

Vince Gasparotto, Novi Eric Tamm, Huron Valley

Jacob Kippola, Northville Jeff Amer, Catholic Central

Mike Birney, Catholic Central

"He showed excellent sportsmanship as well as a high level of skill at the attack position. We look forward to his return next year as a captain and All-State candidate."

Dylan Gelven "Junior, Northville attackman As a junior, Dylan Gelven earned Second-Team All-State honors, a selection to the All-KLAA team and was the top point scorer on the team, in the KLAA and in the region with 109 total points off 48 goals and 61 assists. The best part? He's back next year.

"Dylan is by far one of the most talented players I have ever coached," said Durham. He is a student of the game and is the number one reason our offense did so well this year. He would draw a double-man constantly, feeding others on important goals. We look for him to be even better next season."

Jason Roberto "Senior, Huron Valley midfielder Want to know why Jason Roberto stands out on the Huron Valley Titans team? It's simple: He's a midfielder who plays the game with an attackman's mentality.

Roberto was all over the field this year, helping the defense and boosting the offense as he collected 36 goals and 23 assists in his senior campaign. It's no wonder he's a four-year letter winner with the program.

Roby Brzezinski "Senior, Detroit Catholic Central

Central midfielder "The comment his coach made about him said it all when it comes to senior middle Roby Brzezinski.

"There wasn't a better guy around," Wilson said. That sums it up. Brzezinski was everywhere at once and had key moments whenever his team needed it. That's why he earned unanimous All-State First-Team selection this year.

"The team's faceoff specialist won 63-percent of his team's draws, a talent that will no doubt serve him well when he plays at Trine College in Indiana next year.

Ian Meador "Senior, Northville midfielder There's been talk about Ian Meador in Northville for years - and for good reason. The senior midfielder earned himself First-Team All-State honors as a face-off specialist last year and this year as well as All-KLAA selection and a member of the Elite 8 in the National Face-Off Classic this year.

Meador won 67 percent of his face-offs this season, picked up 90 ground balls and had nine goals and seven assists.

"I am not taking away from the other captains that I've had, but Ian is by far the best that I have had since my tenure at Northville," said Durham. "He works extremely hard and leads by example, and pushes the others on the team to do their best. He was a significant part of our success this season in possessing the ball."

Meador will be tough to replace next season when he heads to Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio to play lacrosse.

ALL-AREA SECOND TEAM

Tony Jokinen, South Lyon goalie Dan Griesbeck, Huron Valley defense

Vince Gasparotto, Novi defense Eric Tamm, Huron Valley attack

Jacob Kippola, Northville attack Jeff Amer, Catholic Central midfielder

Mike Birney, Catholic Central midfielder

STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, July 15, 2010

hometownlife.com

Novi grad grows business

Freda Salon joins Faces by Freda on Grand River

BY NATHAN MUELLER STAFF WRITER

Freda Ansara could have left the state to pursue better business opportunities when her career was taking off. But that would have been too easy.

The 1998 Novi High School graduate never was never one to back down to a challenge, and after traveling the country for a few years as a make-up artist, decided she wanted to set up shop back home.

It was five years ago, in Novi, that Freda Cosmetics was formed and Faces by Freda opened.

Now she is expanding her reach even more with last week's opening of Salon Freda.

"I grew up here and always thought we needed something like this," she said. "Honestly, I love it here. I love my community and I love my clients because they turn into family."

"This is my hometown and I don't want to give up on Michigan and I'm not going to give up on Novi."

Ansara has been preparing for the opening of the salon for the last two years, and wanted to make sure it had its own building to not conflict with Faces by Freda, which is two doors down.

Faces by Freda offers cosmetic services ranging from make-up and waxing to skin care consultations and treatment. Salon Freda will specialize in hair.

"I always knew I wanted to venture out and the opportunity came and I had to do it," she said. Joining the staff at Salon Freda are Tina Ivezaj, formerly of Gjetto's Salon and Day Spa



Freda Ansara, center, recently opened Salon Freda near her 41460 Grand River Avenue cosmetic store, Faces by Freda. Joining her will be veteran stylists Tina Ivezaj and Sarah Ehlers, right.

and Luna Studio, Timothy Jack, of Utopia Salon and Spa, and Sammy Ehlers, of Tricho Salon and Spa. The salon is located at 41460

Grand River Avenue, suite E. To set up an appointment, call (248) 344-1900. First time clients will get 20 percent off their first visit.

For more information about the cosmetics line, visit www.fredacosmetics.com. nmuelle@gannett.com (248) 437-2011, ext. 255

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Cal Stone Voice Mail: (248) 437-2011, ext. 237 E-mail: cstone@gannett.com Comment online at hometownlife.com

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Art Is In Market opens in Twelve Oaks

Creative investing in Michigan is the goal for Debbie La Pratt of Sterling Heights, Michigan, as she opens her second Art Is In Market location in the Twelve Oaks Mall (near Maye's). The success of the Laurel Park Mall store since 2005 provides a model for LaPratt and her artist friends to open in Novi.

Over the past five years Art Is In Market has provided a place to show and market their artistic efforts for over 100 Michigan artisans. The Novi location will provide an opportunity for an additional 45 artists to prosper through their artistic efforts.

The "Twelve Oaks location will include artisans of pottery, floral design, watercolor, canvas photography, nature photography, oil painting, charcoal drawing, steel sculpture, hand painted art wear, jewelry and other art media. According to LaPratt, "the wide array of art gives the store an uncommon appeal to customers who are looking for something different.

The art pieces range from \$7-\$1,000 with the average price of \$40. This makes unique art objects both affordable and accessible.

La Pratt, an architectural pottery artisan, found that a big issue for artists is having a place to show and market their work on a regular on-going basis. Those shopping for unique gifts and 'one-of-a-kind' items are also limited.

Caribou Coffee helping to fight hunger

Yesterday was the kick-off and launch of a series of rallies supporting the local hunger relief efforts of Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan and Forgotten Harvest.

The hunger relief agencies are teaming with ConAgra Foods and Feeding America on their nationwide Child Hunger Ends Here campaign, focused on providing food to children throughout the summer when the school breakfast and lunch programs they rely on for meals, aren't operating.

Through the public rallies, the organizations aim to involve the community in helping to end childhood hunger.

Caribou Coffee locations, including Novi, are participating in individual rallies through July 26, serving as collection sites for food and cash donations. Caribou Coffee will give donors \$1 off any large cold beverage of their choice. At each rally, Caribou will also donate 10 percent of the stores proceeds after 3 p.m. to Gleaners and Forgotten Harvest.

More information can be found on the Child Hunger Ends Here program by visiting www.childhungerendshere.com.

VOICES & VIEWS: COMMENT ONLINE hometownlife.com

Public Courses advertisement for various golf courses including Eagle Crest Golf Club, Hilltop, and Stonebridge Golf Club. Includes prices for seniors and weekly rates.

Woodlands of Van Buren advertisement for golf. Features "Great Golf at an Excellent price!" with rates for Monday Madness (\$18), Senior Green Fee (\$25), and Green Fee (\$30).

Milford, Michigan Labor Day 10K & 30K Festival of Races advertisement. Includes details about the 10th Annual festival, race distances, and registration information.

New law allows for quiet time

Sometimes it takes legislation to keep us from doing things we should not do, let alone keeping us from doing something that can be outright dangerous and life threatening.

On July 1, a law took effect in the State of Michigan that bans texting while driving. It is now illegal to read, type or send text messages while operating a motor vehicle on a street or highway. Getting caught doing so is a civil infraction resulting in a fine of \$100 for the first offense and \$200 for repeat offenses.

Michigan is the 24th state to ban texting while driving. The law steps not just teens from texting while driving, but all drivers, many of whom may have been business people checking and responding to text and e-mail messages.

Perhaps there is a hidden benefit in this legislation in that it will force business people to take a break from the constant bombardment of texts, emails and calls during periods of the day.

Interestingly, the law parallels what some companies are putting in place to help reduce the distractions and interruptions that emails and phone calls cause. Over the past few years, companies such as Intel, U.S. Cellular and PBD Worldwide Fulfillment Services have experimented with "quiet

time" and even email-free days such as No Email Fridays.

Studies have found that workers are more productive, with some employees reporting that the quality of work-life improves from "quiet" periods.

Harvard Business School Professor Leslie Perlow studied the positive effects that quiet time can have on workers and their productivity. Quiet time can be a few hours in the morning or certain times of the day when employees put a hold on responding to emails and phone calls, allowing information workers more time to concentrate, think, and possibly become more creative.

According to Basex, a New York-based firm specializing in collaborative business environments, Intel conducted an internal survey that found the average executive received 300 messages per day and the average employee spent 20 hours per week managing emails - and this information was from a survey conducted in 2006! Basex reported that interruptions from the excessive information overload cost

U.S. companies \$650 billion per year in lost productivity. According to Entrepreneur Magazine, a study by RescueTime, a time-management software company, cited that some business people end up checking their e-mail 50 times per day. Over-attending to e-mails, texts, and phone calls not only cost time and money, but also can increase workers' stress. Edward Hallowell, a psychiatrist and author of the book, Crazy Busy, coined the term "culturally induced attention deficit disorder" to describe the way people are "overstretched" by the distractions in life, especially from cell phones and emails 24/7.

Consider taking a break. Respond to phone calls, texts and e-mails just a couple of hours each day. At the very least, refrain from texting while driving. It is now the law.

Linda Hagan, Ph.D., is a professor of business communication and the director of the Doctor of Management program at Walsh College. She teaches courses in the Bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs and consults on management/organizational communication issues. Hagan is an accredited member of the Public Relations Society of America and a member of the Board of Directors of the PRSA Detroit Chapter. She can be reached at lhagan@walshcollege.edu.

Oakland County offering business workshops

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance are invited to attend seminars offered by the Oakland County Business Center. Business Basics workshops are now offered in the evenings on alternating months. Seminars are held in the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road (west of Telegraph), Waterford. For pre-registration and location specifics, visit oakgov.com/858-0783.

JULY Pre-Business Research - Are you thinking of starting your own business and want to research your business idea? Are you a business owner who wants to understand which research

sources to use for your business plan and where to find the information you need? Presented by The Oakland County Business Center. The Entrepreneur's Source, Oakland County Market Research Department, and a Business Reference Librarian. Thursday, July 8, from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. This workshop is free, but pre-registration is required.

Drakeshire Dental Center advertisement. Features services like dental exams, X-rays, and emergency care. Contact information for Karson L. Carpenter and Alma R. Nava, D.D.S.

Plymouth Nursery advertisement. Promotes "Unusually Beautiful" plants like Weeping Nootka False Cypress and Wave Petunia. Includes prices and contact information.



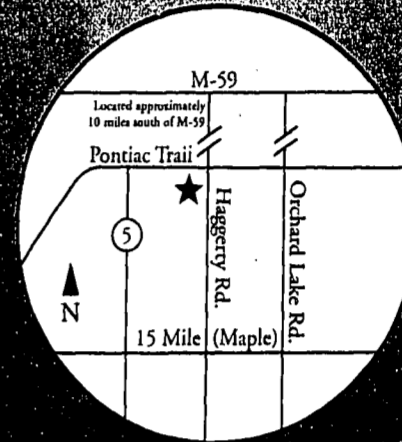
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