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THURSDAY

HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

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SNOVI NOW →Novi Road closed Hthis weekend, next

The contractor for the County (RCOC) is expected to close Novi Road adjacent to the Post Office on Novi Road south of Gen-Mar Road (midway between Grand River Ave. and 10 Mile Road) in Novi during the weekend of April 9 and 10. If construction proceeds as planned during the April 9-10

weekend, the road will then

also be closed on the north

side of Gen-Mar Drive during the weekend of April 16-17. The closures are needed so that sanitary sewer lines can The work is part of the ongotion of Navi Road between 10 Mile and Grand River. The road is being widened to five lanes and a bridge constructed over the CSX Railroad tracks.

During the dosures, access nesses along this section of Novi Road, though, the access will be either from the north (for businesses north of the closures) or from the south (for businesses south of the closures).

The detour route for through traffic during the closures will be 10 Mile Road to Meadowbrook Road to Novi Road and vice versa.

Handbell concert

Tickets are on sale now for the Detroit Handbell Ensemble's concert this Sunday, April 10, at 4 p.m. at Meadowbrook Congregational Church in Novi.

Fourteen performers will present a variety of music under the direction of Michael BurkhardL five plus octaves of Malmark handbells and five octaves of Malmark Choirchimes.

Ensemble is an auditioned concert choir and its members are church musicians, educators, composers, engineers, and across southeastern Michigan. 4 p.m. concert.

Tickets are \$8 presale and "Knowing that revenues have changed, we are trying \$10 at the door for adults. For students over age 10, tickets are \$4 presale and \$5 at the door. Children 10 and under are free. The concert is open to the public. Meadowbrook Church is

Road, between Eight and Nine Mile roads in Novi. For furthe information, call the church office at (248) 348-7757.



'Book It!' to the Novi library for a night out

Fundraiser to benefit children's collection

BY NATHAN MUELLER

Novi Public Library director Julie Farkas said it is going to take "out of the box" thinking to keep growing the collection and improving programs at the library in the

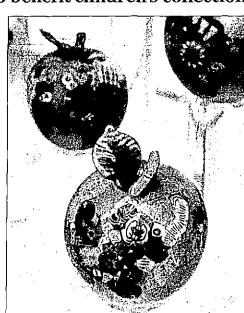
And the first event with that idea in mind is a fund-raiser to benefit the children's

The event dubbed "Book It!" - that will take place from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, April 15 — is the first fundraiser the library will host to raise

It's a new avenue the library is going down as it faces decreasing tax revenues. The less in tax revenue last year. and expects a decrease again Tax revenue is where 90 percent of the operating funds come from, Farkas said.

to be more creative in finding revenue streams for the library," Farkas said, "This is the library and reach out to

The fundraiser is for adults over 21 years old and costs



Glass apples like these by artist Richard Ritter, seen displayed at the Novi

food from Carrabba's, a cash bar, live music, prizes and live and silent auctions. Some dass apples similar to the

ones on display in the library, a condo stay at the Grand Traverse Resort and an in-

Residents upset over pathway

City sticking to plans for Nine Mile project

BY HATHAN MUELLER

Plans for the Nine Mile Road pathway project are not going to change. Even after a group of

residents who live in the area voiced their concerns with the project, city officials are foot wide pathway that will to Haggerty roads.

Eleven residents addressed the Novi City Council on Monday with issues ranging from safety, maintenance, lack of communication and liability to cost and justification. They wanted the council to look at the plans again, which they already did once when deciding between an eight-foot wide pathway and 10-foot wide one, but that

will not happen.
Rob Hayes, director of public services, said it was discussed again Tuesday morning with city leadership and "nothing has changed

"This pathway is the number one priority in our master plan for prioritizing and identifying sidewalk needs," he said. "There is not a denser population in the city than in that area of town, and I would be very surprised if it wasn't heavily used."

The project is being funded by a federal grant through the Michigan Department of Transportation, which is 60 percent of the estimated cost of \$243,700. The city's

The Walkable Novi Committee marked this project number one because of I-275 regional pathway, proximity to a dense population, public interest, connection of existing gaps and the access it will provide to other desti-nations in the city.

One condition of the grant

is that the pathway must dance with the American Association of State Highway design standards. There also must be two feet of right away on either side. The width is what has most resi-

'This pathway is the number one priority in our master plan for prioritizing and identifying sidewalk needs. There is not a denser population in the city than in that area of town, and I would be very surprised if it wasn't heavily used.'

ROB HAYES, director, city of Novi

"It's hard for me to fathom how anyone could think a 14foot wide pathway through a very well-established neighborhood is a good idea," said resident Doug Wood. "Even if it didn't entail the destructhe bulldozing of trees."

that it will be destroying too many trees and other landscaping they have in their

backyards. Hayes said the difference in elimination of trees between the 8-foot and 10-foot wide paths is "negligible." The current plans call for the removal of about 28-29 trees that are larger than 6 inches in diameter as well as about 100 saplings, shrubbery and bushes

Also, in the majority of the cases, it's not really in their backyards but rather on city owned property. Hayes said they have already secured easements for any work they will be doing on an individu-

al's property.
The city also is going to to replace as many trees as

backvard is on Nine Mile could have done a better job worries that the elimination of trees, which once saved her home from getting hit by

a car, puts her in danger. "This is not a sidewalk," she said, using a tape measure to show the cou members how wide 14 feet

Other concerns Hayes

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Novi students measure up on MEAP

Fourth-graders tops in Oakland County in writing

BY NATHAN MUELLER

The students in the Novi Community Schools district once again posted scores on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program that puts them near the top of the county and among the best in the state.

And while scoring high

in math, reading, science and social studies has been the norm for the students in grades three-nine, RJ Webber, assistant superintendent of academic services. was most pleased with the performance in writing.

a new writing exam, and while fewer than half the students in the state who took it

passed, Novi was not part of that group. The fourth graders posted

a 78 percent passing rate
— good for tops in Oakland County along with Troy — and the seventh graders a 61 percent passing rate — above the county and state averages "We have put a lot of

Please see MEAP, A3



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Spring into a New

State - 84%

Novi - 78%

County - 58%

State - 47%

Grade 5 Math

Novi - 95%

County - 86%

Grade 5 Readin

Novi - 95%

County - 89%

Reading - 85%

Grade 4 Writing

MEAP RESULTS

Grade 3 Math Novi - 100%

County - 97%

Grade 3 Reading

State - 95%

County - 90%

State - 87%

Grade 4 Math

County - 94%

State - 91%

Grade 4 Reading

Nov1 - 95%

County - 88%

keep our scores that way."

Also scoring 100 percent

Deerfield and Village Oaks.

This was the fifth consecutive

year Deerfield third graders

David Ascher, principal at Novi Meadows, said he is

pleased with the results but

scored 100 percent.

isn't satisfied.

in math were third graders at

County - 84%

State - 78%

Grade 6 Math

County - 88%

Grade 6 Reading

State - 84%

Novi - 94%

County - 87%

Grade 6 Social

studies

Novi shows around Swedish executives

Group gets taste of local governments in Michigan

The city of Novi has been last couple weeks.

It started March 24 with the city honoring longtime resi-dent and Swedish-born hockey player Nicklas Lidstrom by renaming the street leading o Novi Ice Arena after him. And continued last week with a group of Swedish local government executives staying in Novi and touring the city as the capstone to a yearlong leadership program sponsored by Price Waterhouse Cooper.

Novi City Manager Clay Pearson helped bring the group to Novi, and was one everal city employees who showed them around the metro Detroit area

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get to see how different forms of government work," he said.
"And for us, it got a variety of our staff inv olved and it's good for them to share our story."

Pearson also said the visit is consistent with the city's mission of trying to diversify. like this you always have the

resource," he said.

The group arrived in Novi on Sunday and stayed at the Baronette Renaissance the entire week. They toured local stop at the Farmington Hills City Council meeting last Monday, listened to a presen tation by Novi Mayor David

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YOU AND COMY 15 MINUTES

Landry and went to a Detroit Red Wings game (they lost 10-3) on Wednesday and attended the International City/County Management Association's annual Midwest Conference at

> arketing. "The market for us is no longer just Michigan, it's the world," he said. "We have to think globally.

city manager of Vallentuna.

changing times in terms of

the end of the week.

Landry's message to the visi-tors touched on local govern-

ment and how it's run, as well

as the future of Michigan.

"The next 20 years in

Sweden, was visiting Michigan for the first time and said everyone was "very friendly" and interested to talk to them She also said she has learned a great deal from the trip, and

Michigan you are going to see a lot of consolidation because simwas intrigued by how everyone works together ply it needs to happen," he said. He also talked about the "We need to figure out how to get people to contribute to their society," she said, "I will take back from this trip that people were proud of what they do and where they live, and you can better do some-



Novi Mayor David Landry, right, greets visitor Per Ola Gunnarsson to city nmueller@gannett.com | (248) 437-2011, ext. 255 council chambers during a March 30 visit by Swedish officials.

Swedish city managers visit the Novi City Council chambers on March 30.

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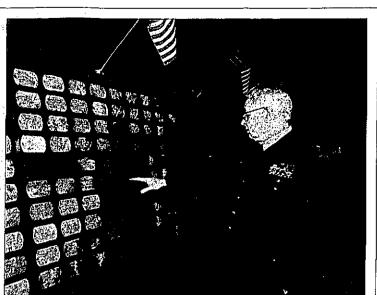
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Honoring those who serve

U.S. Army Lt. Col. (Ret.) Denny Gillem (above) looks at a memorial wall for soldiers at the March 26 Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund dinner at Novi's Suburban Collection Showcase. The evening was to benefit the fund that looks after veterans and their families and featured a number of items donated for silent auction. Attendees of the dinner (below) take a look at some of the items that were up for silent auction.



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MEAP

last few years and our teachers took it very seriously," he said. Consequently it shows with the results of our students. "If writing is sound, every-

thing else follows." The MEAP test was administered in October about a month after school starts so it is mainly an indication of the prior year and the programs then, Webber said.

The district has seen very tle changes in its scores over the last five years. The most noticeable jump since 2006 was in sixth grade math as it oved from 92.8 percent to 97.2 percent. The biggest drop from 95 percent in 2006 to 90.7 percent this year.

All five elementary schools, Novi Meadows and Novi Middle School posted math and reading scores above 90 percent. Novi Woods had 100 percent scores in third and fourth grade math, 99 percent in third grade reading and 96.1 percent in fourth grade

"Our scores have been consistently high the last few years and our goal is to keep increasing them," said Principal Pam Quitiquit. "All the credit goes to our staff and teachers because they work very hard to

County - 81% Novi - 93% State - 75% Oakland County, third graders were tops in math and fourth in reading; fourth graders were third in reading, first in writing and second in math; reading, sixth in science and fourth in math: and sixth

graders were fifth in reading,

ninth in social studies and

first in math "It's an exciting professional challenge," he said. "We have The MEAP is only one of the ways the district assess its students, Webber said, and less resources financially from the state and more students the results of all of them help who are struggling for a lot of shape future ideas. Staying content isn't one of to be raised we want all our

students to be able to meet it.
"We push and challenge our-"Even if you are No. 1, people selves and want the students to you are doing to get better," he do the same. Compared to the 44 other

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PATHWAY

addressed were that the maintenance of the sidewalk is the city's responsibility, and unless the property owner directly causes an issue on the pathway, they are not liable for

In terms of traffic controls

the Nine Mile and Haggerty intersection currently has pedestrian push button con-trols and flashers. And this project would provide push buttons and flashers for the west leg to allow pedestrians to safely cross from the new pathway on the north to the south side of Nine Mile, Hayes

Snow removal is the respon-sibility of the homeowner, but

that is an ordinance the city council members said they are The design for the project is

nearing completion and will be ready for construction this fall once the final easement is acquired from Pavilion Apartments. The other easements have already been

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LIBRARY

home dinner for eight by Chei Steve from Steve & Rocky's. Farkas said finding new ways to raise money is critically important in this econ-omy and a must for libraries as many across the state are educing hours or shutting its

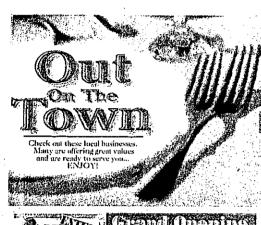
"We don't want to turn into Troy," Farkas said, referring to the city's library that is expected to close in the com-

ing months due to a lack of inding. More than 100 tickets have een sold for the fundraiser thus far, and 200 attendees

is the maximum number

People can purchase tickets by calling (248) 869-7204. "I hope this will be an annual event." Farkas said. Sponsors for the event are Carrabba's, Global Office

and Providence Park Hospital. nmueller@pannell.com | (248) 437-2011, ext. 255



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plates," Liddicoat said. Some of the programs dur-

Novi library ready to celebrate

Author of history on Tigers highlights National Library Week

The Novi Public Library will join libraries across America in celebrating National Library Week starting April

And the party in Novi carries a little more meaning as this is the first time it is being

held in the new facility.

Programs for the week will cater to everyone from prebaseball fans can get in on the fun by attending author Tom Stanton's "A Journey Through Detroit Tigers History" pro-

"It's a whole week to view the brary, get an understanding of what it has to offer and give urselves a pat on the back too," said Laura Liddicoat, munication specialist for the library.

One area the library and residents can give themselves pats on the back for is the new library is attracting and serving more users than ever

The library was averaging about 800 patrons a day in the old facility, and since opening the new building in June 2010 it has been averaging 1,230 per day - an increase of more lhan 50 percent. This year's theme for

National Library Week in Nov s "Create Your Own Story." Everyone who visits the library s encouraged to do that by filling out a book template anything else that touches on their favorite library memory All the templates will be dislayed throughout April. "The hope is we can decorate the whole library in these tem-



Julianna Hanna, 3, works on a crafts project at the Novi Public Library on April 5

g the week include Snacl Tales, e-mail instruction for seniors, Readers' Theater, Beginning Builders, Spring Story Time and more.

natalie zooey PORTMAN DESCHANEI

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PINEAPPLE EXPRESS



Stanton's visit is the main program, and the award-winning author will talk about his four baseball books, including "The Final Season," a Tiger The Michigan resident will

ed for the event. the library and programs tak-

them. Registration is request-





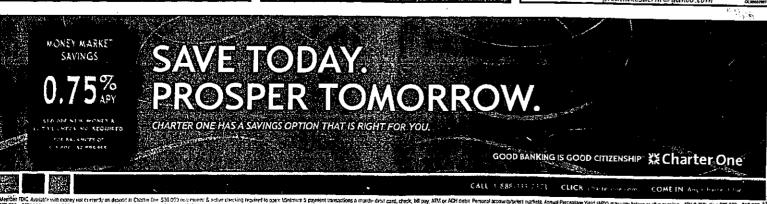
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Japanese relief

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On March 19, three Ringo Kai Japanese School of Detroit locations — including Novi Meadows — raised money and collected donations for disaster tsunami/earthquake refief in Japan, Shown (I to r, front) are Akemi Munekata, Aya Munekata, Masako Cardno; (back) Miyuki Nakagawa, Yoko Maeda, Tornoko Takashima, Koichi

striped suits and the girls

wearing heels and dresses. Wardrobe isn't the only thing demonstrating the differences between the 1950s and now. wanted to live back then," said plays Sarah Brown, the leader

devotes her time to saving sin-Being a lead means more memorizing and rehearsals to attend compared to past musi-cals McElhenny has particiin "Beauty and the Beast" and porting one in "FAME the cal" the past couple of years.

Throughout the show, Sarah becomes involved with Sky. Sky is also a lead character but that's nothing new to Leppek, who has participated in all four high school musicals. During his sophomore playing the Beast in "Beauty and the Beast," so he said he trusts his experience and

the guys wearing bright pin-

senior Dan Inglese, is another gambler in the show. Inglese has less musical experience at the high school than his costars, with "Guys and Dolls"

T've always liked the the ater, so I finally tried out and it's been a blast," Inglese said Senior Alison Anolick said ome of her favorite pars of rehearsal are when she's work

> nolick performed with While the show's drama and

humor is entertaining to an audience, the cast enjoys per forming the show as well "Incredible: it's really incredible to be up there pre senting your character. I'd nd it to anyone who's willing to put themselves out there," McElhenny said.

Gatt's gaffe

E-mail about fundraiser inaccurately appeared to come from Novi chamber

e sent by the Novi Chamber about a fundraiser for may oral candidate Bob Gatt was

That is what Gatt is saying after the c-mail with the subject line "Bob Gatt for Novi Mayor" hit people? e-mail boxes Thursday afternoon. The sender portion of the e-mail indicated it was sent from the chamber, but also included Gatt's e-mail address. bob@bobgatt.com

director of the chamber few hours later saying "this e-mail was NOT sent by the

ut by a third ber has had

a long stand political can ting political fundraisers," Daly wrote. "We

have taken action to prevent this problem from occurring in the future." The problem, Gatt said, was an error made by a com pany he hired to market his

upcoming fundraiser. Gatt and said he is no longer using

"We were working with

the chamber list was part of it," he said. "The mistake was not removing that sentence saying it was from the cham-

Gatt said the moment he found out that the e-mail appeared to be coming from chamber and not him, he "stopped it immediately" and called Daly to apologize

"This was no plot or ploy to do anything wrong," he said. When reached by phone on Monday. Daly did not want to discuss the issue further.

"I'd rather not elaborate," Gatt, currently the mayor

pro tem, is running for mayor against council member ustin Fischer.

'Guys and Dolls' hits the stage April 11

full cast, crew, and pit, have been kept busy with illegal gambling, drunken behavior and a love story that goes together in a comical twist of events sure to keep the atten

Novi Creative Arts Collaborative presents "Guys and Dolls" in the high school's April 14-16. Tickets are available beginning April 11 at the Novi High School Attendance Office (7 a.m.-3 p.m.) or at the door. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors 65 and over

"This year the musical has a lot of comedy that is sur-prisingly funny for being sort of old. It has a lot to offer and humor," said senior

ing dice gambler who finds himself in love with the proper "Guys and Dolls" is set in 1950s New York City with

Masterson, the smooth-talk

being his first musical at Novi

ing with Inglese.

McElhenny and Leppek in "Beauty and the Beast." This year, Anolick is playing the Nathan's longtime fiancé

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Novi students share their love for reading

March is Reading Month celebration ends at Detroit elementary school

Novi High School senior Derek Kim hated reading when he was younger. class president got older, he found books that interested

iim ... and he got hooked. Now he is using his own personal experiences to nfluence others, as Kim and his fellow classmates from the high school shared their message on March 25 with students at Logan

Elementary in Detroit.
"When I started to read things I cared about, it relped me grow not just as a student but as a person as well," he said. "I hope what they take from our visit is a

love for reading."
Kim and students from Novi Meadows, Novi Middle chool and the high school visited Logan as part of a March is Reading Month program organized by the Northville-based nonprofit organization Bridgepointe. The organization works with six other Detroit schools for various programs throughouthe year, including a year-

end Christmas party.
The students from Novi
played games, created crafts and ate ice cream with the students from Logan. The high school students delivd books to each classroon and also read to the stu-

Kim, who said he has "always had a heart for the city of Detroit" and has done mission work in the city, said how fortunate he and his classmates are and that they need to always look to help

"Living in a community like Novi we are so blessed and get used to living in our bubble," he said. "It's impor-

doing the things you love.

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tant to maintain that broad viewpoint.

Rose Maylen, an eighth grader at the middle school, made her fourth trip to a Bridgepointe and was glad to be able to make a difference in the student's lives.

"I think they realized there are a lot of good people in the world and they were grateful for us being there," she said. "It's really important for us to do this becaus we have such great things in



Students from Novi schools and Logan Elementary in Detroit play a game during the Novi students' visit to the school as part of March is Reading Month.

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EDUCATION

Thursday, April 7, 2011

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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

Two Novi principals to change schools

Quitiquit moves to Orchard Hills, Ascher to Novi Woods

new relationships as well.

A pair of familiar faces in the Novi Community School District will be in new buildngs next school year. Novi Woods Principal Pam

Quitiquit and Novi Meadows Principal David Ascher are moving schools, with Hills to replace the retiring Paul LaPlae and Ascher taking Quitiquit's spot at Novi

the district since 1995 and worked in Meadows for all but one year, said it was not an it as an exciting opportunity

for change.
"This is where I have spent all of my time," he said. "The

Reading parade

relationships I have formed here are special to me, but I also get to say hello to some

"Another good thing is I will be able to maintain my relationship at Meadows because every student goes through Ascher has been the prin-

Board Certified Teacher who has taught first, fifth and sixth rades. He will be replacing Quitiquit who has been the principal at Novi Woods the last 11 years, and served as an elementary school principal

cipal in the fifth grade house at Meadows for the last four

vears, and also is a Nationally

for 26 of her 32 years in educa-Novi Woods was ranked

Village Oaks Elementary student Lilly Kaiser hoists up 💮 Village Oaks 1st grade student Nathan Chabot is one one of her favorite books during her school's reading of many students who dressed up as a character or

Village Oaks students march to show their support for reading on March 31.

achieving schools in Michigan during the 2009-2010 school

Quitiquit said she put a lot of thought into the decision and felt it was a good opportunity for her to head to Orchard

"It's a new adventure for me and one I am excited about," she said.

Both principals will start in their new buildings on July 1. Supt. Pete Dion said they are in the process of filling. the vacancies at Meadows and Deerfield Elementary, as well as the assistant principal position at Novi High School that opened as a result of Stephanie Schriner becoming the principal at Novi Middle

nmueller@oannett.com | (248) 437-2011, ext. 255



Tech Showcase

Deerfield Elementary fourth graders presented at the conference 'Student Technology Showcase' at Cobo. The showcase is part of the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) Conference. Over 4000 teachers, media specialists and administrators attended the conference on March 17. Deerfield Elementary presented 'Discovering the World of Economics with Integrated Technology' through its Mini-Society. It's a third and fourth grade economic unit in which practical real-world connections are made regarding supply, demand, opportunity costs, marketing, and other economics concepts. As media specialist, Janis Canady, facilitates a multi-media project in which students create and video tape commercials for their Mini-Society businesses. Throughout this process, 21st century skills of problem solving, integration of writing and social studies, communication skills, and technology are utilized in student learning. Shown (I to r) are Kate Wiacek, Lexi Whalen, Media Specialist Janis Canady, Nitin Xinra and Ryland Bennett.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

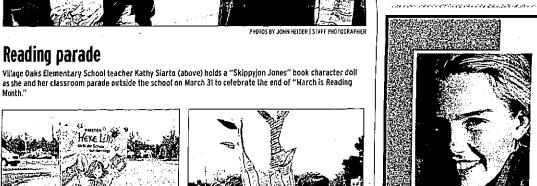
obtained by contacting Dans

Donations needed for Senior All Night Party

Organizers for the Novi High School Senior All Night Party are hard at work planning for the should be sent to: NHS Senior All Night Party, C/O Dana Nussio, 22041 Shadybrook Drive, Novi, donations from parents, businesses and comm MI 48375. Information may be to make this year's event the best Night Party, scheduled for June 4

at Novi High School, offers food, net or Anne Lewis at alewis 13@ activities and prizes, allowing graduating seniors to celebrate in The SANP Donations a safe, supervised environment. Checks may be made payable to NHS Senior All Night Party and

Committee is seeking raffle prize the cost of decorations, enterent and additional raffle prizes. Organizers encourage those planning to make financial ossible so the committee can



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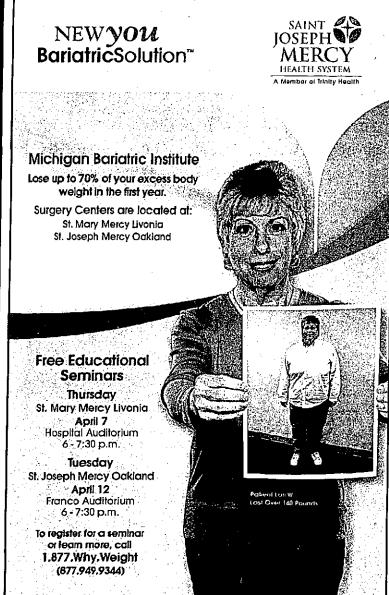
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15.37

ROBERT WALTER BECK

Age 64, of Lawrenceville,
Georgia (formerly of
Highland, MI) passed away
peacefully & surrounded by lamily on
March 30, 2011, He left to be reunied with the love of his life & vile of
41 years, Charlotte. Robert was born
November 25, 1946 in Detroit. MI.
He has touched many lives & accomplished much in his short 64 years
on his earth. As a young man be head
in friends into muttipe "business" ventures" that will always be remembered by those lucky enough to be
"chasen". He also had an amazing
gift for the game of hockey, & at one
point was invided to skale at a New
York Rangers camp, but his country
came calling & needed his services
in Vietnam. Robert was a proud velerrand the Vietnam War & served this
country well. During his time statriud at Petroit. Diesed Allison where he
went on to become a well respected
an Observable of the country
came calling & needed his services
in Vietnam. Robert was a proud velerrand the Vietnam War & served this
country well. During his time statriud at Petroit. Diesed Allison where he
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country well. During his time statriud at Petroit Diesed Allison where he
went on to become a well respected
brother is the proposed of the country of the
Beck of Highland, Sister:
Mary Ann Stevens of Redford:
Bervolution and currently fellowbehalf or Robert and the American
Revolution and currently fellowbehalf or Robert as Robert was also a member of
briber Allison where he
went on to become a well respected
briber of the American
Revolution and currently fellowheld for Robert as Robert was also a member of
the Daughter of the American
Revolution and currently fellowheld for Robert as Robert was also a mem Michigan. Robert resurred his career at Detroit Diesel Allison where he went on to become a well respected & admired supervisor of the quality department. Their dirst child. Sandra ("Gooch"), was born in 1968 & the Becks had firmly planted their flag on Beech Daily in Redlord, MI. For nine years the Becks lived there, throwing. years the Becks lived there, throwing multiple parties & being involved in their community, a legacy Robert will also be a gathering of triends & family at the home of Michael Beck alterwards to share to live on a lake \$ he alter the source. to live on a lake & be able to spend more time fishing, one of his greatast passions in life. Robert's proud tamily grew when his second child, Michael, came along in 1978. As Robert garden out to be remarked. obert reached out to his new neigh-GEORGE HOWARD bors in the Dunleavy Subdivison, more & more of them would gather BRIDSON JR meet in the Becks' backvard, From a meet in the Becks' backyard. From these gatherings Robert and his vite Charlotte co-tounded the Dunleavy Tri-Lakes Homeowners Assn., & South Lyon, to the late George and served on their boards for many Evelyn (Hibert) Bridson. He was years, "The King" had a great relations between the served of South Lyon and Stephen with the Chief and the served on the served on the served on the served of South Lyon and Stephen with the Chief and the served on the served o served on their duards for many years. "The King" had a great relationship with all of his neighbors. He towed volunteering & organizing special reighborhood events for the children in the V.F.W. Post #2502.

onship with all of his neighbors. He oved volunteering & organizing special neighbor/hood events for the children through the Association. Egg hunts, summer picnics, or playing Santa at the Christmas Party, Robert would always te involved by his wife Dolores Bordson of South Lyon, James (Kathy) Bridson of South Lyon, James (Kathy) Bridson of Nortross, GA, Leffrey (Beth) Bridson of Pinckney, David Bridson of Nortross, GA, Leffrey (Beth) Bridson of Pinckney, David Bridson of Nortross, GA, Leffrey (Beth) Bridson of Pinckney, David Bridson of Nortross, GA, Leffrey (Beth) Bridson of Pinckney, David Bridson of Nortross, GA, Leffrey (Beth) Bridson of South Lyon, James (Kathy) Bridson of Nortross, GA, Leffrey (Beth) Bridson of Pinckney, David Bridson of South Lyon, and 10 grandchildren: Jennifer (Aalan), Michael (Arny), Stacy, Leconh (Kelly), Allana, Katlyn, Hobert was like a second latter, and through his generosity & warm heart Lyon, and 10 grandchildren: Jennifer he embraced the role, Fishing was a lifelong passion for Robert, He enjoyed annual fishing trips to Gaylord, MI where he fished many lakes, including his favorite, Oley and Aaden, He was preceded in death by 2 brothers through the control of ate hung proudly on his wall next to by Phillips Funeral Horne, South Arra the biggest catches of his children and himself for the rest of his life. In 1984 Robert welcomed the birth of

Lyon. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

his third child, Wendy ("Winky"). That same year Robert went to the

games when the Detroit Tigers clinched the pennant & when the word they won the World Series. He even brought home a place of the grass from the field & he and his daughter

No.



Sandy planted it together in the back-yard. In 1985 Robert's son Randy ("Bub") was born & he had the fami-the wanted; two daughters & two sons. Robert became a grandfather in 1988 with the birth of Sandra's con Con-His second grandfather Cory. His second grandchild, DONA MAE GOODRICH Sandra's daughter Jessica, was born santars bauginer Jessica, was born just a lew years later in 1992. Robert had a special place in his heart for Cory & Jessica, as they were his only grandchildren until 2001. Shortly after Jessica's birth Robert helped Age 82, passed away March 31, 2011. She was born on July 6, 1928, in Saginaw, to the late William T. and Lola V. (Luecke) Ingalls. She was a member of the Presbyterian Womens Club of St. Andrews his wile open her business "Ain't That Cute", a crafting consignment Presbyterian Church in Dearborn Pressylectan Curter in Dearborn Hgts, and an Eastern Star. Dona is survived by her husband Eugene "Bud" Goodrich of South Lyon; 2 daughters: Deborah G. Koval, Diane (Wayne) Domine; brother William T. (Lois) Ingalls; 4 grandchildren: Erin Koval, Jessica (Anthony) Tobis, Christina; (Pater) Partich Michael tore on the corner of Duck Lake hildren & their dads, something he njoyed dearly. Robert retired in 2002 alter 37 years with the Detroit Omine and her great-grandchild Domine and her great-grandchild Abigail Tobis. Visitation was held on April 3, Sunday from 12:30-8:00 p.m. at Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon, A funeral was held on April 4,

Monday, at 11 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church of South Lyon, Memorial Contributions may be made to Susan G. Komen for the Cure, 5005 Lyndon B. Johnson Freeway, Suite 250, Dallas, TX 75244. Attention: Development

Department, Online questbook

www. Phillipstuneral.com

Throughout his entire life Robert PHYLLIS ELAINE GRAHAM

long after his playing days were done. He watched it on television Bevolution and currently fellow Canton. After graduating Manistee High, she attended Central Michigan University. Visitation will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 on Friday, April 8 at Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 9 at 11:00 a.m. at Fellowship Evangelical Officiating will be Pastors David Brown of Fellowship Church and John Shinn of Calvary Bantist Church in Plymouth, In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to either Fellowship Church or Calvary Baptist.



by her children: Gary Koval, Gait (Mike) Terrana, Karen (Mark) including his favorite. Oley and Aaden. He was preceded in Ziglhow, Keith (Wanda) Koval, which he has fished at since he child. He founded & ran the Briscon Visitation was held on April (Day) Duby, Peggy Hickok; sisters:

Leonard Lakes Fishing 5, Tuesday from 6 to 9 p.m., April 6, Kareen Atwood, Sharon Lange; 17 Lake, which he has fished at since he was a child. He founded & ran the annual Leonard Lakes Fishing Tournament for over 20 years. This event was very popular on Dunteavy Drive, & was looked forward to every year. The awards ceremony after the tournament included a polluck dinner that became a wonderful tradition in the neighborhood. In 1983 Robert wan a Michigan Angler's Award for catching the fifth largest channel catifish in the state that year. That certificate human was leaded to the chally be yearly service was held at Colonial Acres fish in the state that year. That certificate was not a Michigan Angler's Award for cate humon proudly on his wall next to by Phillips Funeral Home, South

MI 48178. Arrangements were made to the chally by Phillips Funeral

www.phillipsfuneral.com

RICHARD G. MORRIS

Brownstown, Michigan, Owner & Founder of Dick Morris Chevrolet in

Commerce Twp., died on Thursday, March 31, 2011 at the age of 75. Funeral Services were held at Church of The Hofy Spirit in Highland on Tuesday, April 5th. For

further information please phor

A resident of Millord,



Lynch & Sons Funeral Home in Milford at 248-684-6645 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com BILLY JOHN WILSON South Lyon, MI, Passed away Sunday, March 27, 2011. Billy's and collecting Harley Davidso Koval, Jessica (Anthony) Tobis.
Christina (Peter) Parrish, Michael
Domine and her great-grandchild
Abigail Tobis. Visitation was held on
April 3. Sunday from 12:30-8:00
Catholic Church in Hamburg, MI at a

> **ELEANOR ANN ZAMESNIK** Age 86, passed away April 4, 2011.

Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstone@gannett.com; by fax to (248) 685-2892; or by mail to Church Events/Northville-Novi, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper. Church of the Holy Cross

Location: 40700 W 10 Mile Road, Novi Contact: (248) 427-1175

LOCAL NEWS

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

Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday;

9 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday; 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday Friday: 7 p.m. Tuesday: 4:30 p.m. (English), 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Saturday Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by

appointment Priests: Father Timothy Bogan, pastor and Father Michael Zuelch, associate pastor Crosspointe Meadows Church

Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Contact: (248) 669-9400, 9 a.m.-3 n.m. Monday

Thursday or visit www.crosspointemeadows.org. Sunday Worship: 11:15 a.m. Bible study classes; 10 a.m. for all ages Details: Nursery and older children programs available. Worship blends traditional and contemporary elements

resulting in a multi-sensory worship experience. Destiny Worship Center Location: Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 Six

Mite Road, Northville Contact: DestinyW3C@Gmail.com or visit www.DW3C.

First Church of the Nazarene Location: 21260 Haggerty Road, north of Eight Mile

Contact: (248) 348-7600 or visit dfcnazarene.org Easter Eggstravaganza Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 23

Details: New this year, pre-registration is required at www.dichazarede.org.and.closes.for.salety.reasons at 600 children or on April 20, whichever comes first. There will be over 10,000 eggs to hunt for age groups 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 and 9-11 years old. There will be an "Eggciting" show by The King's Yomen; pictures with the Easter Bunny; games to play, crafts and many special prizes; and hot dogs, chips, cookies and drinks for everyone. Bring your family, friends and neighbors (rain or shine) for some "eggstra" special

fun. Don't forget vour Easter basket. Sunday Schedule: 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday School and Adult Bible fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adulf Bible Fellowship: 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's program, Youth Worship Service

Tuesday Schedule: Tuesday 9:25-11:15 a.m. Women of the Word Bible Study with childcare available for through age 5; 6:45 p.m. Ladies Evening Bible Study Wednesday Schedule; 5:30 p.m. Family Meal, \$4 per person, S12 per family: 7 p.m. Children's Carayan, Club 56, Bible Study, Ouilting, Adult Classes, Youth Blast Thursday Schedule: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group; 7 p.m. Tae Kwon Do

Women of the Word Time/Date: 9:25-11:15 a.m. Details: The W.O.W. Tuesday Ladies Bible Study welcomes you to their study of the Ephesians. There is a \$15 registration fee, which includes interdenomina tional study materials. Childcare will be available in the morning for children through age 5.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Location: 34567 Seven Mile Road, Livonia Contact: (248) 442-8822 or www.newhopecenter 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

Alzheimer's Support Group Time/Date: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month Faith Community Presbyterian

NORTHVILLE/NOVI CHURCH EVENTS

Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit fpcnorthville.org Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt Time/Date: 2 p.m. April 16 Palm Sunday Worship with Cantata

Time/Date: 10 a.m. Sunday, April 16 Seder Meal Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. April 21 **Faster Worship**

Time/Date: 7 a.m. and 10 a.m. Sunday, April 24 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 Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every

First Baptist Church of

Novi-Family Integrated Church Location: 45301 W. II Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-3647 or firstbaptistchurchofnovi

Family Bible Hour: 9:45 a.m. Family Worship: 11 a.m. Bible Study: 6 p.m. Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every

First Presbyterian Church of Northville

Location: 200 E. Main St Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit firstpresnville.org Sunday Worship Time: 9:30, 11 a.m.

Single Place Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. every Thursday Location: First Presbyterian Church of Northville, 200

Details: Single Place is a social organization for singles 40 and up hosted by the First Presbyterian Church of Northville, Thursday meetings feature speakers, games, or entertainment followed with an ice cream social. Contact: For a detailed schedule of all events (dining out, weekend activities, etc.) call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org.

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. April 7 Details: Single Place presents Ms. Jennifer Vogel, who is a certified personal trainer at Fitness 19 in Livonia. She will be speaking on Finding What Works, exercise and outrition planning, for each individual person, (One plan does not fit all.) Bring your questions, she has the answers Ice Cream Social will follow. \$5 donation.

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 14 Details: Single Place presents Delphine Goodwin to discuss Genealogy - Do You Know Who You Are? Come join us, meet other singles, and enjoy an ice cream social hat follows: \$5-donation: in

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m.:Thursday, April-28+ Details: Single Place Cards & Games Night. Once again this is our popular monthly informal social evening of games, conversation, snacks, flavored teas or coffee, soft drinks, and ice cream with various toppings: \$5 donation.

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 5 Details: Cinco Di Mayo dinner is the theme tonight complete with facos and virgin margaritas, with games and snacks to follow. Meet and socialize with other singles: \$7 for dinner and \$3 for games and snacks. For dinner reservations call the church office.

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, May 12 Details: Single Place Presents Bob Scanlan who will speak on open communication. If you sumetimes have difficulty communicating with someone, find out how to deal with the problem. Join other singles for an ice cream social that will follow

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

Times: 8:30 and 10 a.m. (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend); 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m. (Sept. Pastors: Rev. Dr. Steven J. Buck, senior pastor and Rev.

Please see CHURCH, A9

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Jeff Sturneon, associate nastor Livonia Church of Christ Coffee Hour: 9:30 a.m. Sunday ((Memorial D Location: 15431 Merriman Road, Livonia Contact: 734-427-8743 or visit www.livonia

online at hometownlife.com

weekend through Labor Day weekend): 10:15 a.m. Sundays (Sept.-May) Healing Service: 4 p.m. first Monday of every month Logo Youth Club: 5 p.m. Wednesdays (

CHURCH

fourth-12th graders (Sept.-April) Men's Club: 8 a.m. second Saturday Contact: Heather J. Wallas, communications director, (248) 349-1144, Ext. 26, or e-mail hwallas@fumcnorthville.org

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Location: 41415 Nine Mile Road, corner of Meadowbrnok Road, Novi Contact: (248) 349-0565

fime: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m. Study; 10 am. Worship Merry Widows Luncheon Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of Lakes Bantist Church each month Location: 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake Pilgrim Fellowship Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sundays Asking Questions adult education class

Time/Date: 10 a.m. Tuesdays church.net Vespers Sunday Worship: Il a.m. Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Bible School: Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday i Details: This traditional-contemporary service is led by Reverend Ritter with musical accom-

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

Sermon: Better Than You

Church School; 10-11 a.m.

Meadowbrook Congregational paniment of quitar and piano Northville Christian Assembly Location: 21355 Meadowbrook Road. between Eight and Nine Mile roads Location: 41355 Six Mile Road Contact: Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, Senio Contact: (248) 348-9030

Minister (248) 348-7757, visit mbccc.org or Sundays 9-10 a.m.: Sunday School for Adults e-mail to office@mbccc.org. / Youth / Children 9 a.m.: Contemporary service in multi-pur-

pose gymnasium 10:15 a.m. Contemporary service in worship

LOCAL NEWS

center; children's super church on the second level (208/210) Tuesday Morning Ladles Bible Study 8:45-10:30 a.m. (café)

Wednesday Family Night 7 p.m.: Adult elective classes; jr. and sr. high student ministries; children's programs (M Pact Girls Club & Royal Rangers Boys Club) Nursery and Preschool Program on Sundays and Wednesdays Home of Northville Christian School (day care: preschool through eighth

grade) - contact (248) 348-9031 Novi - Northville Center for Jewish Life Details: A Jewish center with events, programs and activities for all ages throughout the year - children's programs, Sunday school adult Jewish classes, youth clubs, holiday services and programs, community social events. Contact: Rabbi Avrobborn & Leah Susskind at (248) 790-6075 or rabbi@novijewishcenter com: www.novijewishcenter.com

Novi United Methodist Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-2652 or visit amonovi com-Sunday Worship Time: 9:45 a.m. **Healing Service and Holy Communion**

Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every Peace Vigil Time/Date: Noon, first Sunday of every month Location: In front of the church

Details: Members of the congregation and the community will stand united in prayer for peace. Advent Service

Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. Sunday Oak Pointe Church

Location: 50200 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi Contact: (248) 912-0043 or visit oakpointe.org Worship Services: 5:15 p.m. Saturday; 9:15 and

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WARD A0000 Str Mile Road Northwile, MI 48168 246.374 7400 www.mffchurt.org oe Worship at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. eesry Worship at 9:30 & 21 a.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAL CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 200 E. Main St. at Hutton - (245) 349-0911 FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD

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CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

SOUTH HILL CHURCH, S.B.C.

KIDS Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.tr

WEST HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH tory Ridge Rd., Milford, MI 248-887-1218 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Bible Ministries 11:00 a.m. ednesday All Ages: 7:00 p.m

MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. day School age 3 thru 5th grade © 10:00 a.m. Nursery care available © 10:00 a.m. R. John Harris, Pastor

New Hudson

Universalist Congregation 57855 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165 Celebration of Life Service 10:30 a. Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister Website: http://www.newhopous.c

NEW HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

y School & Bible Class -9:30 a.m Worship-10:30 a.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH EEKEND LITURGIES Salurday 5:00 p.i Sunday, 7:30, 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. ibarch 349-2621, School 349-3610 Religious Education 349-2559 Ray, Denis Theroux, Pastor

ur Savior Apostolic Lutheran Churt 54899 8 Mile Rd. at Currie Ad. Pastor Andy Whitten Phone 248-374-2268

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH **HOVI UNITED METHODIST**

ST. JAMES ROMAN SI, JAMES RUMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI 46325 10 Mile Rd. - Novi, MI 4837 Suturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11;30 a.m. Roverand George Chamloy, Pasto Parlah Office: 347-7778

FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCI

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

OAK POINTE CHURCH orday Worship 5:15 pm., 1y 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m Phone (248) 912-0043

60820 Margorie Ar

· Ernel: tocso

CHURCH

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Weekend Hours
rdsy, 4:30 p.m. [English] & 8:30 p.m. [Spain
study, 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. § 12:30 p.m.
Fr. Timothy Hogan, Pastor
Fr. Michael Zuelch, Associate

HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL

Sunday Worship 7:45 am & 10 am

1.1

40700 W. Ten Mile Rd. • 248-427-117

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH LYON 60820 Margorie Ann St. South Lyon +8178

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY

3 Sunday Services 8:45, 10:00 & 11:30 AM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST

640 S. Lalayette (248) 437-0760 inday Worship: 8:15, 11:06 am à 6:00 p 9:40 am. Sunday School Narsey Provided

BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH

CHURCH 1948) 437-0760

Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m. Rev. June M. Smith, Pasto 248-349-2652 www.umcnovi.com

South Lyon

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN 437-8810 • 486-4335

Sunday Worship 9:30 s.m. Sunday School 11:00 s.m. Refuel Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Youth at 6:30 p.m. Rev. David Brown, Pastor 248-437-2222 * www.febr.

The Church of Christ 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Praise and Worst Rob Callicott, Pastor

FELLOWSKIP BAPTIST CHURCH 10774 Nine Mile Road Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582 Sunday School, 9:45 s.m. forship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m

Gathering in Jesus Name 2909 10 Mile Rd • South Lyon, MI 4817/ Sunday 10:30 and 1:30 Thursday 7:00 p.m. Mike Ragan, Pastor 734-347-1983 paster cell FAMILY LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH A/G

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) or SOUTH LYON Nursery Care Provided heck us out on the web; www.fpcsouthyon.o ;48–437-2875 + 205 E. Lake (10 Mile) Rev. Dr. Annemarie Kidder, Pastor

> IMMANUEL LUTHERAN at Liberty St. Sunday Service 10:00 a.m. tor Scott Miller, (248) 437-228

. John's Episcopal Chu A church that shares the logful loss of Chittle 574 S. Sheldon Rd. • Plymouth, MI 48170 734-453-0190

Plymouth

Wixom.

CROSSPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW Applicants must be present

when submitting the application

and must have a valid driver's

Parents requesting a passport

for minors under the age of 16

must both be present at the tim

of their application, unless one

parent has a notarized consent

form signed by the absent paren:

ALL minors applying for a pass

port must appear in person with

· Applicants must bring a certi-

lied copy of his or her birth cer-

tificate or naturalization papers

Passport Office. Documentation

is mailed back to the applicant

when the passport is issued.

For those born in Oakland

County, birth certificates are

credit card) for the first copy.

available at a cost of \$15 (cash of

Applicants must bring a check

or money order as a portion of

the fees is sent directly to the

U.S. Department of State

to be forwarded to the U.S.

their parents.

license or state identification

STRICTLY BUSINESS

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Cooper Standard acquires USi, Inc.: expands technology capabilities

Novi-based Cooper Standard Automotive Inc. announced its acquisition of USI, Inc. from Ikuyo Co. Ltd. of Japan, effective immediately. USi, based in Rockford, Tenn., provides an exclusive hard coating process for use in automotive and industrial applications, including bright trim assemblies on vehicles produced by umber of global automakers, including Ford Motor Co., General Motors Co., Honda Motor Co., Hyundai Motor Co., Nissan Motor Co. and Toyota Motor Corp. Terms of the sale were not

"This is an excellent acquisition for Cooper Standard, as it allows us to apply USi's innovative hard coating technology on products we currently offer, while also expanding our product offering," said Jim McElya, chairman and CEO, Cooper Standard, "USi's portfolio incorporates Japanese, North American and European technologies, which will allow Cooper Standard to offer our global customers a full-range of bright trim scaling assemblies

that are quickly gaining popularity."

Through the sale, Cooper Standard acquire USi's 109,000 square-foot plant in Rockford, Cooper Standard also gains access to USi's unique coating process that allows for the development of a multitude of surface finishes to meet growing customer demand. Cooper Standard has plans to spread USi's technology and capabilities to its European businesses, where automakers are also seeking bright trim and hard-coated products to enhance overall vehicle appearance.

Oakland County unveils Commercial Real Estate Refinancing

More small businesses have a chance to refinance their mortgage debt, thanks to an extension of a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) refinancing loan program, offered by the Oakland County Business Finance Corporation (BFC). Small business owners with eligible commercial real estate mortgages maturing both before and after Dec. 31, 2012, will be able to secure more stable, long-term financing through the SBA's temporary 504 refinancing

program.
In February, the SBA implemented a jemporary refinancing program enacted under the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010, which allowed small businesses facing maturing commercial real estate mortgages or balloon payments before Dec. 31, 2012, to refinance with an SBA 504 loan. The SBA change will lift the date limitation and will allow more small businesses to secure stable, long-term financing and avoid potential foreclosure on mortgages approved before and during the recession. BFC loan officers can be reached at (248) 858-0765 to determine eligibility or

answer any questions.
"I applaud the SBA for opening up this critical assistance to more small businesses," said Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson "This gives local businesses, both within Oakland County and the surrounding areas, the opportunity to restructure their debt and free ip capital that will be essential to keep their loors open and provide them the ability to grow

Structured like the SBA's traditional 504 loan, borrowers must commit at least 10 percent equity and work with third-party lending institutions and SBA-approved Certified Development Companies in the standard 50 percent/40 percent split. The program does not require an expansion of the business to

Borrowers may be able to refinance up to 90 percent of the current appraised property value or 100 percent of the outstanding mortgage, whichever is lower, plus eligible refinan costs. Loan proceeds may not be used for other business expenses. Existing 504 projects and government-guaranteed loans are not eligible to be refinanced at this time

This is a pilot program. The SBA will begin

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accepting refinancing applications from small business owners with mortgages maturing after December 31, 2012 after publication of the Federal Register on April 6. The program, authorized under the Small Business Jobs Act,

will be in effect until Sept. 27, 2012.

The SBA estimates that as many as 20,000 businesses may ultimately participate in the in SBA-guaranteed financing leading to total project financing of over \$30 billion

The BFC, authorized under the SBA's Certified Development Company program in 1982, was formed to stimulate the growth and xpansion of the region's small businesses. The BFC also acts as an agent to analyze, package and submit loan requests under the SBA 504 loan program and is a servicing agent for the

Interchange Forum

The Interchange Forum invites business leaders to attend an engaging symposium that will explore effective strategies used in creating long-term business strategies. The event will take place on April 19 at the Walsh College

"Our four firms are excited to be in a partner ship where we collectively offer a comprehen-sive view on business growth, from strategic planning to customer needs to product innova-tion to brand development," said Qvive president Eric van der Meulen

Dan Walker of River's Edge Consulting added, "We look forward to exchanging ideas with business leaders that are challenged to define their company's future, as well as a

To find out more about the event and the Interchange Forum, go to www.interchangefo-rum.com to get additional information.

Wixom movers helping moms

Mother's Day should be a happy time for all moms. Unfortunately, many moms are forced to spend this holiday living in community shelters, he victims of domestic abuse or homelessness For these women, TWO MEN AND A TRUCK has initiated Movers for Moms, a community-based program collecting simple gifts for deliv-ery on Mother's Day.

Started by TWO MEN AND A TRUCK Michigan franchisees in 2008, Movers for Moms is expanding to 10 states and more than

In Wixom, TWO MEN AND A TRUCK will collect essential items for women staying at the

YWCA Metropolitan Detroit.

Last year, working with schools across
Michigan, Movers for Moms collected more than 20,000 items for women in need on Mother's Day. This year, TWO MEN AND A TRUCK will seek to raise more than 50,000 items for women in shelters.

The YWCA of Metropolitan Detroit joins individuals of diverse socioeconomic, ethnic, religious and generational backgrounds who are dedicated to the YWCA's Mission of climinat-Detroit local association is an integral part of a national and international YWCA organization that provides consistency on issues of importance to women and girls at local, national and

"We truly appreciate being apart of the Movers for Moms program once again this year," said Curtis Steen France, sheller adminstrator at the YWCA of Metropolitan Detroit. "In this challenging time donated items are needed at our shelter, and we couldn't be more

In addition to partnering with community schools, TWO MEN AND A TRUCK welcomes support on Movers for Moms from local businesses and other organizations interested in providing support. This year, WJR-AM, WDVD-FM and WDRQ-FM are partnering with the Movers for Moms program. Anyone interested in supporting Movers for Moms can visit www.twomenandatruck.com to find the nearest participating TWO MENAND A

Planned Activities

Beauty & Barber Shop

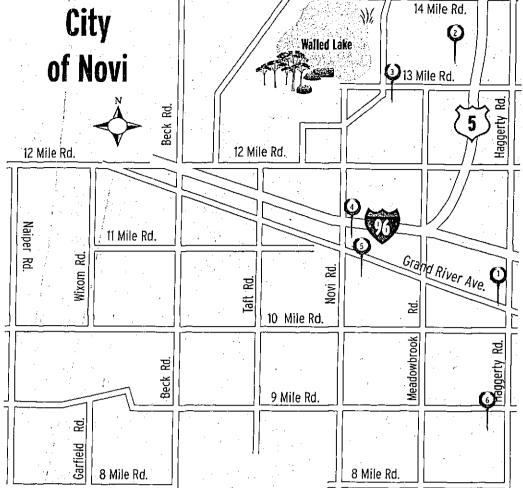
· On Call Nurse Practitioner

Medication Management









NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Police catch drunk driver

Novi police arrested a man for drunk driving at 1:38 a.m. on April 3 after observing while traveling on Grand River

Avenue near Haggerty. Road. The officer initiated the traffic stop after watching the car swerve several times, and when he approached the car could smell a strong odor of intoxicants coming from inside.

The man admitted to drink ing one beer, but failed field sobriety tests. A preliminar reath test registered a blood alcohol content of 13 percent The legal limit for adult driv-ers in Michigan is .08 percent. The man was taken to the Nov Police Department and his breath test registered .17 percent. The suspect was issued a cita-

tion for operating while intoxi-Damage done to cars in Lenox Park

For one day only

A Navi police officer was 🚄 checking for possible lar-

Broken pieces soldered.

cenies around 7 p.m. on April 1 on Lenox Park Drive when he found a black Jeep with the driver's side window broken.

He contacted the owner who reported nothing was missing om the car. The damage dor other larceny and malicious destruction of property com-plaints that were made in the area of the Beachwalk Apart

Music player taken from SUV

3 An iPod nano and loose change were taken from an SUV while it was parked overnight on April 3 on Clay Court.

The owner of the vehicle told police the unknown suspect pried the bottom of the window frame to make the glass fall down. The contents of the center console also were pour out onto the seat.

Woman has keys stolen while at work

4A woman had her sweat-shirt and car/house keys

stolen from the locker area while it was parked overnight while she was at work at Red on March 29 on Solomon Robin on the evening of April

According to the report, the The woman told police she driver's side window was browould have noticed if a cusken and all that was taken was tomer entered the area and thinks a co-worker took them She called the people she worked with that night and

Police have no suspects. Several cars keyed on Main Street

5 A Northvine man of the state had their cars keyed overnigh on April 1 while they were parked on Main Street

no one knows who took the

sweatshirt and keys.

The man said his car was scratched on the hood and three of his friends also had damage to their cars.

Window smashed, GPS snatched

are required, can be taken on the GPS. The doors were still the spot for a fee of \$10 at the

Police have no information.

- Compiled by staff writer

Oakland County Clerk's Office. The Oakland County

County holding special Passport Day Saturday

Bullard Jr. announced that his office will be participat-Day in the USA on Saturday April 9 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m at the main office at 1200 N. Telegraph in Pontiac.

passports, the Vital Records section of the Clerk's office will observe Saturday hours and assist with, business/assumed names registrations, on-thespot copies of birth, death and marriage certificates, marriage license applications notary services and concealed pistol license applications. To assist residents, the Oakland County Sheriff's Office will also be open the same hours for fingerprinting service, which is required for CPL

People lead busy lives," Clerk Bill Bullard Jr. said. "And it's not always easy for them to get to our office during normal hours. My goal is to make our office e accessible to the public This is another opportunity, along with our mobile office that visits a different commun ty every month, and our expansion of online services. For someone born in

Oakland County who cannot locate their birth certificate, these hours are a unique opportunity for a "one stop

shop" for obtaining a passport applicants age 16 and older is \$110. For applicants under the age of 16, the cost is \$80. Both are payable via personal DEPT OF STATE and a \$25 processing fee payable by cash or credit card to Oakland County Clerk. Photos, which

Clerk's Office is located on the ground floor of the Oakland

Telegraph in Pontiac. Visitors for Passport Day in the USA must use the north, first floor entrance of the courthouse.

Passport regulations have been tightened in the last several years. Currently, U.S. citizens must present a valid passport when entering or re-enter-ing the United States by air. Citizens entering the United States from Canada, Mexico. the Caribbean and Bermuda at land borders and sea ports of entry must present a passport passport card or other travel documents approved by the U.S. government. For full passport requirements, visit the Clerk's website at www.

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Two locals earn Teacher of the Year honors

Novi resident, Walled Lake teacher win

CITY OF NOVI

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider CHUCK E. CHEESE EXPANSION,

DISTRICT. The subject property is part of the larger Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk shopping center and the applicant is proposing an approximately 3,000 square foot addition on the rear of the existing Chuck E Cheese building.

be heard at the hearing and any written comments mabe heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, April 27, 2011.

Publish: April 7, 2011

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may

TYY IS LOCATED AT 44275 TWELVE MILE ROAD IN N 15, SOUTH OF TWELVE MILE ROAD, WEST OF SON DRIVE, INTHE RC, REGIONAL CENTER

SITE PLAN NUMBER 11-09, FOR RECOMMENDATION TO

CITY COUNCIL FOR SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT AND

PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN APPROVAL, THE SUBJECT

Representatives of Oakland iools, together with the Superintendent of Farmington Public Schools, on March '30 knocked on the classom door of Beechvieu démentary School teacher Bobbie Blazo to announce she s been selected as the 2011 Oakland County Outstanding

the Year. Walled Lake Central High School teacher Amanda McCartney was also selected as the 2011 Oakland County Outstanding High School

Teacher of the Year. Blazo, of Novi, began her teaching career in 1992. and has been teaching a Beechview Elementary School in Farmington Public Schools





since 1997. "Mrs. Blazo's constant encouragement to become a 'risk-taker' helped me grow not only as a student, but also as an individual," said Alex Wheeler, a current high school senior and former student. "Of the many teachers I've encountered throughout my time as a student, Mrs. Blazo stands out

and leadership in the school s one of the very best." Blazo was selected from a community and support stateoool of 16 elementary school ments from colleagues, parents and students McCartney, of Waterford, comprised of education and Mich., began her teaching career in 2004, and has "Bobbie is perhaps the mos creative, high energy and naturally gifted teacher I have been teaching at Walled Lake Central in Walled Lake Consolidated Schools since

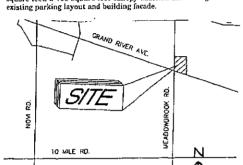
known in my career," said col-league Laura Orlowski. McCartney was chosen from 19 nominees. Candidates are evaluated in six areas: Engaging students, meeting individual needs of students demonstrating knowledge of subject area, demonstrating classroom management, relat ing to parents and colleagues, strating citizenship

Paquette, a former student said, "Ms. Amanda is not just an excellent teacher, she is ar exceptional person."
Blazo and McCartney

will be honored, along with the middle school winn Christopher Walker of White Lake Middle School and the remaining nominees at an went at Oakland Schools on Thursday, May 5. The three winners will each receive a check for \$2,000 at the event. The Oakland County Outstanding Teacher of the Year program is sponsored by the Oakland Schools Education Foundation with funds from Health Alliance consecutive year HAP has funded the program.

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 at 7.00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider CADILLAC OF NOVI, SITE PLAN NUMBER 11-10. FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR A SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT OPTION CONCEPT PLAN APPROVAL. THE SUB-JECT PROPERTY IS LOCATED AT 41350 GRAND RIVER AVENUE IN SECTION 24, AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF GRAND RIVER AVENUE AND MEADOWBROOK ROAD, IN THE GE, GATEWAY EAST DISTRICT. The subject property is 6.7 acres and the applicant is proposing a building addition totaling 2,523 square feet, a 708 square foot canopy addition and changes to the existing parking layout and building facade. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission



 Λ All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, April 27,

DAVID GRECO

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Troher & Pearn Lauren Troher and Jonathan

Pearn announce their engage-The bride-to-be, daughter of Dan and Julie Troher of Novi, is a 2006 graduate of Novi High School, where she was a 2005 and 2006 state varsity soccer

and passion for education with

her students, parents and the

community. She understands

sensory needs, behavioral

concerns, and socialization

challenges her students face

and she meets the needs of

Gutman, Walled Lake Schools

uperintendent, said. When asked to describe

champion. She is a registered nurse at Botsford Hospital.

Her fiance, son of Greg and Nancy Pearn of Farmington Hills, is a 2002 graduate of Orchard Lake St Marys. He graduated from the University of Detroit Mercy with a master's degree in architecture and is a certified fire-fighter and EMT. An autumn 2012 wedding is planned at Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

Rogg & Ramas Brian and Erin Rogg of Novi are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Rachael Rogg to Kevin Ramas of Farmington, son of Linda and Tim Ramas. Rogg is a 2009 Michigan

State University graduate with a degree in advertising. She works as a business development epresentative doing sales and marketing

A Westland native, Ramas is a 2008 Michigan State University graduate with a bachelor's degree in finance. He is scheduled to graduate from Wayne State University Law School this May. He urrently works as a law clerk with plans to be an attorne The couple met more than three years ago inside the MSU library.

A February 2012 wedding is planned at The Townsend in

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More: For a complete listing of local Walter J. Powrozek, CWS, Joseph J.

online at hometownlife.com

and regional events, see the Novi Calendar online at www.hometown

Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstone@gannett.com; by fax to (248) 349-9832; or by mail to Novi News, 101 N. Lafayette. South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper

LOCAL EVENTS

Kovi Community Schools Health Curriculum Public Forum Time/Date: 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 12. Location: Instructional Technology Center, located on Taft Road between the Novi Meadows' build

Details: Open forum to discuss the proposed updates to the Health Contact: the Administration Building for more information (248)

Stroke: Detection and Treatment

lecture Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Juesday, April 12 Location: Providence Park Hospital.

449-1200

Novi, Conference Rooms A and B Détails: Within just one minute of lack of blood flow to the brain 2 million nerve cells will die. That means that time is the most important factor in improving your chances of survival and mini mizing life changing disabilities. Learn more about the risk factors. warning signs and prevention of stroke. Presenter will be Dr. Mark Providence Hospital and Providence Park Hospital. There will be free blood pressure screening at this

Contact: To reserve your seat or for more information, please contact St. John SeniorLink at 888: 751-5465.

Social Security Workshop Time/Date: 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 12 and 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday Location: Novi Public Library, 45255 West 10 Mile Road

Details: "Join Wealth Managers

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to join in the planting, planning and Lezotte, CWS, and Ray Dryer, along with the Novi Library for "Savvy Contact; sunwaterseeds@gmail.

NOVI COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Social Security Planning: What Baby com or (248) 956-0029 Boomers Need to Know to Maximize TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Retirement Income". Reservations Time/Date: II a.m.-noon every are free, but seating is limited. Contact: (877) 557-4462 or visit Location: The group has moved www.123RetirementPlanning.com from the Senior Center to the Rook Iff

Time/Date: 6.9 p.m. April 15

Details: An evening of shop-

ping, sipping and sampling to

Mile at Taft Road

Borders Books

Location: Novi Town Center

Details: Gather round for a fun

story suitable for children of 6

Educator Appreciation Days

Details: Current pre-K through 12

and college educators save on pur-

chases for personal and classroom

use. Just bring proof of current

educator status to save 30% off

Sun, Water & Seeds 4-H Club

Location: Tollgate Education

most items (some exclusions apply

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays

Center, 28115 Meadowbrook Road.

Details: A 4-H youth garden and

farm stand where kids learn about

plant science, nutrition and entre-

preneurship by raising produce for

Contact: (248) 347 0780

Children's Storytime

Time: 2 p.m Saturdays

years old and under

see store for details)

Dates: April 8-12

Location: Novi Public Library, Ten

Belmont Clubhouse at Fox Run on 13 Mile between M-5 and Meadowbrook. Contact: Deloris Roman at (248) 668-8600 for additional informa-

raise funds to help build their American Legion Post 19 Children's Collection, Enjoy food Monthly Meeting by Carrabba's, wine/beer cash bar. Time/Date: 7 p.m. third Tuesdays live jazz, a pulting contest with fun Location: Rock Financial prizes, a silent and live auction. Showplace, Grand River Avenue Items include one-of-a-kind glass between Tail and Beck roads apples created by artist Richard Details: Comrades and fellow vel-Ritter, a two-night/three-day condo erans, please join these monthly stay at Grand Traverse Resort and meetings; attendance is needed to an in-home dinner for eight by Chef maintain and grow the Post. Steve of Steve & Rocky's. Ticket are Contact: Commander Denni \$10: this is a 21 or older event. Each Strikulis (248) 378-7841 or dstrikuattendee will also receive a gift at lis@twmi.rr.com or Service Officer the end of the evening. Only 200 Paul Erickson (248) 344-7193 or available so call nov Contact: call (248) 869-7204

BUSINESS

Northville-Novi Business Networking Breakfast Time/Date: 7:30-9 a.m. first and third Tuesdays (except Nov. and Dec., which are just the first Tuesdays) Location: Kerby's Coney Island.

21200 Haggerty Road Details: Business networking focused on building relationships The Sunrise Networking Group, LLC (www.sunriseNETWORKINGgroup. com), or SNG for short, is a group of about 250 business leaders who help each other to build more business by referring people to each other. Cost of breakfast is \$10.

3009 or fmilana@sunrisetinancialgrouplic.com American Business Women's Association - Novi Oaks Charter Chapter

Contact: Fonda Milana 586-232-

Time/Date: 6:15 p.m. (networking); each month

Location: DoubleTree Hotel in Novi

group offering networking, professional development and leadership

opportunities. Cost is \$16 which includes dinner and presentation Guests are welcome! Contact: For more information or to RSVP for dinner, please contact

president@abwa-novi.org. Novi Chamber of Commerce The Novi Chamber of Commerce is an active, progressive chamber offerprograms, an enhanced Web site, and lyement with local charities

> Location: 41875 11 Mile Road. #201, Contact: For more information, call (248) 349-3743 or www.novicham-

ber.com. Learn Before Lunch Time/Date: 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 13 Location: Walsh College, 41500 Gardenbrook Rd., Novi Details: Art Johnson, president of SEO Web Technologies, will speak on Utilizing the Internet to Generate and Drive More Leads and Sales to

Your Business", The program is free but pre-registration is required. Networking Luncheon Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 13

Location: Walsh College, 41500 Gardenbrook Rd., Novi Details: The Power & Potential of Customer Feedback to Improve Your Bottom Line Special luncheon price of \$20: pre-registration required prior

Business to Business Breakfast Time/Date; 8-9 a.m. Tuesday, April

Location: Speedpro Imaging, 24404 Catherine Industrial, Ste. 316, Novi • Details: Join for networking and a light breakfast; \$5 payable at door. Please pre-register. Combined After 5 Networking with Livonia Chamber

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m. Thursday, April Location; Holiday Inn, 17123 Laurel Park Dr. North, Livonia Details: Complimentary appe-

tizers and cash bar: \$10 oreregistration; \$15 at door; \$25 non-members. Non-members must register by calling the flow Chamber office.

Please see CALENDAR, A15



Generations of style

Anita Knatz (left) of Brighton and Linda Kovan of Novi attend the America Michigan Region. The fundraiser brought mothers and daughters, girlfriends and even aunts and grandmothers togethe for the benefit. Money raised that evening will supports needy students around the world, in 58 countries, and, locally, at the David B. Hermelin ORT Resource Center in West Bloomfield. The Hermelin OR1 Resource Center hosts a program called Better Job Opportunities which offers free computer classes to unemployed and underemployed residents of Metro Detroit. "You can be stylish Benefit Co-Chair Nicole Kovacs. In keeping with the even theme, Kovacs enlisted the help of her mother, Jackie Layne of Bloomfield Hilfs. Layne is a personal stylist at Saks Fifth Avenue, which hosted the Generations of Style event.

MEN

Do you have unwanted same sex attractions.

Help and support is available in a true Christian context! Please call (248) 912-0048 to find out more. You are not alone.

Your contact will be strictly confidential.

Artisan & Craft Fair

Saturday, April 9, 2011 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

West Middle School [Corner of Ann Arbor Trail & Sheldon Road]

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Juried Crafts, Scrapbooking Specialty Foods, Jewelry Ladies Clothing, Home Décor

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omplete breast care from beni

A PASSION for HEALING

OPINION

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

Cal Stone. Community Editor Susan Rosick, Executive Editor Grace Perry,

Director of Advertising

OUR VIEWS

Gatt's e-mail

Too many unanswered questions

Did you get the Novi Chamber of Commerce's email invite to mayoral candidate Bob Gatt's fundraiser reception? It was

sent out at 4:20 p.m. last Thursday. From: Novi Chamber of Commerce bob@bobgatt.com Subject: Bob Gatt for Novi Mayor

That's odd because the Novi Chamber does not endorse candidates. In fact, shortly after that email was sent, another one was sent to chamber members.

Today you may have received an email regarding a local political fundraiser. This email implies an official correspondence from the Novi Chamber of Commerce and an endorse ment. This email was NOT sent by the Novi Chamber of Commerce but by a third party. The Chamber has had a long standing policy of not endorsing political candidates or promoting political fundraisers.

We have taken action to prevent this problem from occur-

If you have any questions please contact me at (248) 349-

Linda Daly Executive Director

Novi Chamber of Commerce

We, like probably many of the chamber members who received the Gatt email, wanted to know what happened. So we called Daly because that's what she indicated we should do if we had questions. Her response? "I'd rather not elaborate."

What exactly does "If you have any questions please contact me" mean?

We wanted to know how the chamber's email list got in the hands of a mayoral candidate. Did she give it to Gatt? Did another chamber employee? Did Gatt purchase it? Did somebody in Gatt's camp hack into the chamber's system and steal it? What's the "action" that was taken to prevent it n happening again?

Here's the thing about offering "no comment" - by not saying anything, you leave doubt and suspicion. That's some thing Gatt, a former cop and now mayor pro-tem, should

We then contacted Gatt, who offered an explanation, but still hasn't answered all our questions.

He said a company hired by him to market his fundraiser made the mistake of not removing the chamber's name in the From' portion of the email, and that he notified Daly as

OK, but why wouldn't Gatt tell us the name of that company (which he says he is no longer using) so we can verify his story? Why wouldn't he tell us how he got the chamber's list in the first place? And how did he find out that the emails appeared to have come from the chamber?

Those are simple, easily-answered questions for Mr. Gatt, a man who will be asking residents in November to elect him to lead this city.

Perhaps his Campaign Committee Co-Chairs - Blair Bowman (Suburban Collection Showplace), attorney Matt Quinn and Moe Leon (Moe's on Ten restaurant) - who cordially invited recipients of the email to the fundraiser, would know why the chamber's name was shown as the sender

"I have no knowledge of this at all," replied Quinn in an email back to the editor.

Leon's verbal response was similar when contacted by phone, and Bowman didn't respond to our phone call. At this point, the email served Gatt's purpose – it notified chamber members of his fundraiser. But if he truly wants the trust (and votes) of Novi residents, he should be prepared

to tell the whole story. "This was no plot or ploy to do anything wrong," he said. Fair enough. Explain what happened

COMMUNITY VOICE

Has the recent rise in the price of gasoline changed your driving habits?



"I have to say not too much. It makes it painful drive around the Novi



"First of all, I'm retired, so I'm careful to combine trips whenever possible. centralized. Our goal was But I do think this is a wakeup call. We need to · end our dependence on

LETTERS

When we were 'young'

"young people" paying taxes to support the services that seniors are using, so seniors should pay taxes on their pensions. Well, along that line of thinking, maybe we should take away their taxpayer-funded shuttle bus service and make them pay for their own transportation. Also perhaps we could pass a law prohibiting senior discounts at stores so they have to pay full price like the "young people" have to and, in doing so, pay more in sales tax.

gratulate the 56 fifth and sixth grade Novi children who participated in our Eighth Annual Battle of the Books at the Novi Civic Center on Saturday, March 26, Ten teams participated, reading the same six books and coming together in a competition to answer questions about those books. We also celebrate the commitment of their parents and coaches who spent so many hours reading and preparing these youngsters for the competition. To us, every single one of these young persons i a winner for participating in our event. The names of the teams and their mem-

bers are as follows: First Place: Team Atlantis: Ria Joshi, Shannon Murphy, Elena Komesu, Saachi Pawa, Mitchel Huang, Yeajoon Lee. Coach Rupali Joshi and co-coaches Nishant Kakar

and Leona Komesu Second Place: Team Unique: Saily Chouthai, Shaily Fozdar, Neha Seshadri, Mathew Yang, Alexander Yuan, Sarah Wang, Coach Sabina Seshadri

Third Place; Quiz Whiz: Aditya Chitta. Hanna Dong, Amber E. Renton, Maithelee Sathe, Ritvik Sengal, Steven D. Zhang. Coach Malathy Padmanabhan and co-coaches Shashank Chitta, Sachin Padmanabhan, Yash Salhe

Book Warriors: Sai Gadde, Trishul Kalapuram, Prajwal Konanur, Yasir Mehmood, Mayukh Nath, Raghav Neela. Coach Vanita Neela

Jaguars: Vedant Gandhewar, Amal lvaturi, Nathan Lys, Mahesh Rajashekar. Coach Shantanu Gandhewar JMEKK: Jonathon Bean, Kevin Blossfeld.

Star Readers: Raj Bramhane, Vivek Chinimilli, Suhas Chinthalapuri, Yandik Vadlapudi, Yarun Vinod: Coach Sree Gatt Team No Name: Connor Betts, Chris Deneweth, Alex Dietrich, Austin Dubois

Drew Olsen, Kevin Tice, Coach Kim Tice Three Readateers: Elin Stone, Maddie Schultz, Ireland Whalen, Coach Marge

to each of our participants.

in childhood, it behooves all of us to focus a substantial amount of our energy on making reading and the use of the public library relevant to this segment of our population. Activities like Battle of the Books, we believe, do this in an entertaining manner, enriching not just the participants and their families, but the entire

Kelly Kolchuk, Suzanne Carpenter, Jennifer Preston, April Stevenson, and Phyllis Weeks

Youth and Teen Services librarians



husband works in Novi. when I fill up, but I mostly When we moved here, we to keep ourselves in one



Melanee Oegema



my kids to the library and recreation - and the high prices stink."

"No. We live in Novi, my

But is it fair that seniors are still. helping to fund schools through sales. property and income taxes that they may pay while they no longer have kids in school? Also, it should be remembered that in most cases a lot of the schools that "young people" are sending their kids to were built with the taxes paid by the seniors when they were the "young people" as they set aside funds for their senior years while they also paid taxes to fund services for their seniors.

Does the governor want to set one gen eration against the other or find a way to work together for the benefit of all? Patty Gibson

Battle of the Books

The Youth and Teen Services Department of the Novi Public Library Michael Jecmen, Kiran Rushlon, Clay Simmons, Evan Yokie. Coach Daniel Rapid Readers: Arushi Arora, Aneesh

Cherkuri, Gitika Kumar, Shilpi Shah, Ashwin Vangipuram, Nikith Veluru, Coach Karuna

We thank Bonaventure Skating Rink. which was kind enough to donate coupons

Since we know that reading habits begin

Novi Public Library

On the road: Look to Ford Motor as a way to transform our schools

GUEST COLUMNIST

ublic education can learn from Ford — "Change or die!" Ford Motor Co. has a special place in my heart. I paid my way through college by working summer at Ford bending, welding, assembling and painting metal at Ford.

In the late '70s in the Ford Rouge complex, foreign car companies were brands. In 10 short years starting in the mid '70s, Japanese automakers acquired Tom Watkins 30 percent of the U.S. market.

American carmakers reacted in blame, scapegoating and, finally, protectionism. Today, under Bill Ford and Alan Mulally, leadership at plan to cut costs, enhance quality, ovate, stabilize market share and restore the company to profitability. Like Ford, schools need to change

domestic auto industry in accepting

course in a changing world. Far too many of our schools are acting like nothing has changed - when every

The protectors of the educational status quo are similarly at a cross-roads, spinning through the same responses: denial, blame, scapegoat-ing and protectionism, when what they need to do is to adopt Ford's mantra of "Change or die!"

paths the domestic car companies have taken and the journey yet to be taken by our schools:

Auto executives received raises and bonuses despite losses in profit and market share. This nonsense was finally stopped until their companies returned to profitability. During the principals and teachers received raises and contract extensions, alon with golden health care and pen-

PARALLELS BETWEEN CARS AND

Consider the parallels between the

Lansing and charter schools sions, even as the state's revenue plummeted and student performance remained stagnant at best Auto company boards of directors behaved like ostriches, sticking their

the new reality and crafting a new heads in the sand and enjoying the to innovate. good life as losses mounted. Knowing lion deficit and local districts suffer falling tax collections school boards continued to enter into multiple-yea contracts that are unsustainable and reduce the number of hours of

instruction. The auto industry realized its cost structure and legacy costs were unsustainable and took action to address the imbalance. To date, in far too many schools actions taken to address these issues border on anemic to non-existent.

At first, the domestic automakers blamed their market share losses, poor quality and declining profits on their competitors and the union Today, schools blame academic decline on the kids, parents, unions school choice, lack of money from

"It's not my job" was the chorus on the factory floor back in the day That was later replaced with a gulp and, "It's not my job that is disap-pearing, is it?" Now management and labor work together as a team to understand that quality and afford-ability are everyone's job. Michigan work to contain change instead of working together

Manual labor was replaced by technology to the point that today's auto factories have become some of the

most technologically advanced spacdigital, personalized and e-learning tunities are fought against by hase anchored to the old ways of education, holding back our children and Michigan's collective future. Today, innovation and the ability to

have been hotwired into Ford's DNA. The domestic auto industry has fought through change, modified its approach and cost structure, and

dapt to changing market condition

TRANSFORMATION NEEDED

Like the auto industry, we are past the point where incremental changes are sufficient. Major change is now required to get many schools out of financial distress and educational bankruptey. Competition and edu-cational improvement on the world stage are on steroids even as we in struggle with incremental change. Gov. Rick Suyder promised dur-

ing his State of the State Address to

tion to the legislature this month. It couldn't be more timely. The ticket to making Michigan competitive again

Like the auto industry of the past, e can continue to delude ourselves into thinking we have a divine, preor economically and spiritually secure. Or we can harken back to our roots and realize those achievements must be earned all over again through imagination, ingenuity, innovation, hard work and risk.

be part of the reinvention of our state. This requires more than minor tweaks to the current education system. Education in Michigan canno Like the auto industry, education is in need of a major overhaul to pre-pare our children for the future. Ford has a better idea, the righ idea - will Michigan? Like Ford, it is

Tom Watkins, EducationNews.org's 2010 Upton Sinclair Award winner, is a business and educational consultant in the U.S. and China. He served as state superintendent

time for Michigan and our schools to

Andiamo Novi / Dirty Martini Lounge / Andiamo Theater Location: 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi Contact: (248) 348-3838

Off-Broadway Series Details: Space is limited to approx malely 200 guests per show. Through April 10: "I Love You. You're Perfect, Now Change' April 13-24: Robert Dubac's - "Male ntellect - An Oxymoron? April 29-May 1: "Celebrily Autobiography May 4-22: "Bad Dales" An education transformation must May 25-June indefinitely: "The

LIBRARY LINES

call (248) 348-4448

Novi Public Library Location: 45255 W. Ten Mile Road Hours: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday 10-5 Friday-Saturday: 1-5 Sunday Details: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the library

Contact: www.ticketmaster.com.or

Please see CALENDAR, A20

City's 2011-12 budget process under way

hether you are a child learning to tie your shoes, a teenager parallel parking for the first time, or a veteran golfer like Phil Mickelson attempting to win your 39th tournament, the ability to focus is essential for achieving positive results. The same need for focus is true for an organization and a co munity wishing to succeed. The City of Novi's budget for the upcoming year, now available for review on cityofnovi.org, provides the focus for our continued successes in Novi: Increased population over the last throughout the year on operations were used in January 2011 for the decade, amongst the highest in southeast Michigan for hosting new private development investm ver unemployment, and better housing value retention.
In Novi, we share pride in many

things - being open and transpar-ent, good community stewards and partners, welcoming to and celebrating diversity, excellent public safety services, and abundant natural features and recreational offerings. One thing we seldom credit, but practice every day, is our focus. Novi's focus

Metro Novi BNI Time/Date: 7-8 a.m. every

Location: On the Border Restaurant

21091 Haggerty Road (north of Eight

Details: BNI is a structured networking environment for profes

sionals. The Metro Novi BNI team

members are committed to provid-

ing bona fide referrals to each other

Members learn how to create and

refine an 'elevator speech,' develop

a broad network of other business

and receive training/education on

networking more efficiently. Guests

are invited to attend free of charge.

Continental breakfast provided.

Contact: For more information,

www.metronovibni.com.

third Tuesday

Novi, Toastmasters Club

Location: Novi Civic Center

Road, Novi, Michigan 48375

Details: Novi Toastmasters is a

contact Julie Paquette at 248-797-

1665 or juliepaquette67@gmail.com;

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., every first and

Activities Room, 45175 West 10 Mile

community-based club which is part

of Toastmasters International, Our

diverse group provides a mutually

supportive almosphere in which al

can develop and refine their public

Our members also have fun while

building confidence in day-to-day

toward professional and personal

and bring a friend. Visit www.novi.

Contact: Linda Kreuler at PR@novi.

Time/Date: Noon every Thursday

Location: Novi Methodist Church.

Details: Lunch is \$10 at meeting Visitors welcome, Check Web site for

reetoasthost.us

Novi Rotary Club

41671 W 10 Mile Road

excellence. Guests are welcome

communications and mentoring

speaking and leadership skills.

professionals in the community

CALENDAR

you identify. The recommended balanced FY 2011-2012 Budget demonstrates a continued focus on providing essen tial quality services. Our General expenditures for Fiscal Year 2011/12 starting this July 1, are rec ded at \$28.5 million, down

roads and sidewalks.

loví a special edge.

is what gives us in

and 2010, the City

of Novi conducted

Clay Pearson

Surveys to gauge citizen percep-

these perception surveys provided

statistically-valid views of the entire

population of Novi, the services pro-

ided and your desired direction for

the future. The survey and reports

City Council's Goal setting session

- being open and transparent, good community stewards and partners, welcoming to and celebrating diversity, excellent public safety services, and abundant natural features and recreational offerings. One thing we seldom credit, but practice every day, is our focus. Novi's focus on our fiscal fitness, economic vitality, and robust network of roads and sidewalks, is what gives us in Novi a special edge.

The City staff team and I then used all of this information to prepare the the prior year. Our full-time General Fund staffing level is 201 positions, upcoming fiscal year budget now available. We focus on the priorities down another 15 from the prior year and down from 234 (16%) five years ago. We realize great results because of our community partners and the City staff to whom we give the training, tools, and technology to make the most of what we have. We have managed the recent trend of declin-

Revenue from Lansing.
The City of Novi has long standing tradition and reputation for provid-ing outstanding services and will tinue to do so. While there have been cost reductions, they have bee done without major service impacts. Your City offices remain open 40+ hours a week and the City of Novi Public Library is open 62 hours a week. Because of active management, our Novi Police and Fire average

response times are down, case clear

ance rates are up, and traffic safety

laborate with our local government reighbors to consolidate services and streamline once-duplicated services and processes, with the end goal of further cost savings. These results are attributed to a dedicated City staff from the estimate of \$28.9 million for decisions about how we use precious resources and constantly make adjustments to focus upon what is important. Attracting the largest population gain in Oakland County over the previous decade, secur-ing the relocation of the Japanes School of Detroit (opening in fall 2011 bringing 800+ kids and their

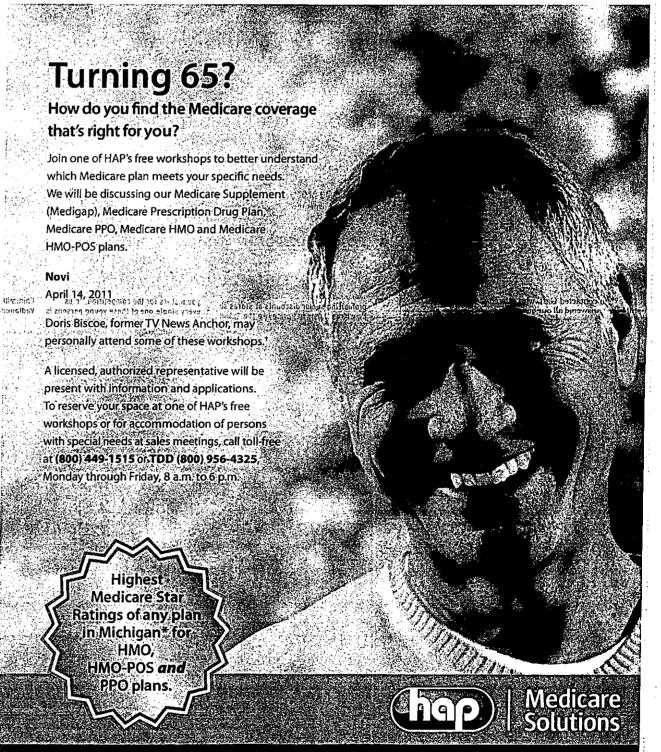
maintaining the property tax mill-age for the 13th year in a row, and holding our own for taxable value -are all testament to the focus of the daily efforts of the City Council and your City team. This success has been

earned, not given.
Our focus is possible because of you and your commitment to Novi. You choose to live here, play here, shop here, support Novi through volunteer efforts, and share the positive "story of Novi. You see, we are one team, FOCUSED on the same goal - creat ing the highest quality community, a city of choice for all.

Over the next several weeks, City Council will meet to discuss and ultimately approve the fiscal year 2011-2012 budget which focuses upon continued financial fitness for our available for viewing in its entirety on

www.cityofnovi.org .
As always, as we keep our focus upon and move into the future, I wel-come your feedback and suggestions.

Clay J. Pearson is the city manager for the city of Novi. He can be reached at opearson@ novi.org or (248) 347-0420.



Call toll-free at (800) 449-1515 or TDD (800) 956-4325

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Workshops are for Medicare-eligible individuals who do not have benefits paid for by a former employer and who pay for their own

*Based on the 2011 Medicare Overall Plan Star Ratings. See full results at www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan,

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

HAP Senior Plus (hmo), HAP Senior Plus (hmo-pos) and Alliance Medicare PPO are health plans with a Medicare contract. Alliance Medicare Rx (pdp) is a stand-alone Prescription Drug Plan with a Medicare contract. Alliance Medicare Rx (pdp), Alliance Medicare Supplement and Alliance Medicare PPO are products of Alliance Health and Life Insurance Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Health Alliance Plan. Alliance Medicare Supplement is not connected with or endorsed by the U.S. government or the federal

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Household hazardous waste collections

Spring fever is going around and with it comes spring • Oct. 8. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at cleaning. Be sure to dispose of Novi City Hall, 45175 W Ten old chemicals in an environ-Mile Road mentally friendly way by tak-ing those items to a household hazardous waste event.

RRRASOC provides events to residents of the following ommunities: Farmington, Farmington Hills, Lyon ownship, Novi, Southfield South Lyon, Walled Lake and Wixom, Residency is checked

This year RRRASOC residents will have five events of household hazardous waste: Wixom DPW, 2041 Charms

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, April 7, 201

sions, and more

box limit please

Last month's second annual Acceptable items at the American Cancer Society HHW events include: oil-Relay For Life of Northville, based paints, used automotive Novi Students raised over \$48,000 to support the fluids, pesticides, aerosols, corrosive cleaners, pool chem Society's mission of saving lives from cancer, as area resi eals, mercury, batteries, used lents rallied together during computer equipment, televi-

Secure document shredding is also available at the HHWs. More than 400 people. represented by 35 team There is a 100-pound or threeparticipated in this year's

www.rrrasoc.org or eall (248) 208-2270. Novi, Northville students join forces for Relay

the 24-hour event at Suburba

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Coming to a yard near you!

You may have recently seen one of our in

your neighborhood, and a straining sign in a nearby yard.

That's because your neighbor chose a professionally

installed **Invisible** solution to keep their **Fence** Brand

safe. Over the next few weeks, an Invisible Fence Brand

pet will train your neighbor's to stay within his

new boundaries, which are temporarily marked with

Soon, one more will have the freedom to run and

1-800-824-DOGS (3647)

www.InvisibleFence.com

Offer Code: 040311. Discount is valid with the purchase of a new, premium, outdoor package. Not valid on ecanomy systems. Save \$50 on Super Dog, \$100 on Top Dog, or \$150 on Ultra Dog packages. One (1) coupon per customer. Not valid on prior sales or combinable with other discounts. Nat redeemable for cash. Participating dealers only. Expires 5/31/11.

play, safe at home, thanks to Fence Brand

zations, clubs, sport teams, and groups of friends. The event offered the students schools a chance to celebrate people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost and provide participants with an opportunity to fight back ngainst the discase. The American Ca Society Relay For Life of

Northville/Novi students wa made possible by the all the teams that took part. Two teams went above and beyond ogether raising over \$11,000. Team Carnival For A Cure, led by Sarah Cohen, raised over

comprised of student organi-

Defeat, led by Northville soph omore Lia Busse and Hannal Sims, managed to raise over \$5400. The event's top indi vidual fundraiser was Alivia Duquet from Team Carnival For a Cure, who single-hand edly raised over \$1100. The commitment of all the teams fundraising efforts created

great success. It's not too late to support the Relay For Life in these he events held in May and June for Northville and Nov community members. Call mation on these two events

coming up. Donations can also still be made by finding our event on www.relayforlife.org/

To view Oakland County's Memorial Day parade plans dashboard, go to www.oakg. com/dashboard. For its fisca Ten Mile Road will be full of festivity beginning at 10 a.m. Monday, May 30 for the reports, click on www.oakgov ual Memorial Day parade. & Publications." For vendor contracts, type www.oakgov

The parade, which travels west along Ten Mile Road from Civic Center, will showcase community spirit and pride in our veterans and active military personnel. Local businesses and civic organizations are encouraged to participate by marching, displaying a secialty vehicle, or building a float. Veterans will have a de ignated float in which they are invited to ride upon.
Immediately following the

parade, a ceremony will be held on the grounds of the Novi Civic Center. The ceremony honors the sacrifice and service to our country given by our veterans. Additionally American Legion - Post 19 wil and their families.

For more information or to receive a parade entry form, visit cityofnovi.org or contact, Rachel Zagaroli, Senior Services Manager at (248)

Oakland County Launches Dashboard

aunched its own dashboard to nighlight its continuing efforts ability and leadership. It is designed to enable residents to monitor the progress of their county government in areas such as its three-year budget. and community and home

"Oakland County has a fundamental belief in transpar-ency," said Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson residents why Wall Street considers us among the best man aged counties in the nation. Among the information

residents will find in Oakland County's dashboard includes: How much cash does the county keep on hand to pay its

· What is the county doing to reduce its energy consump-tion and how much is it saving taxpayers?

· How are Oakland County housing counseling initiatives helping to stabilize housing for residents, especially those fac ing mortgage or property tax default and foreclosure?

 And how many people has the Workforce Development Division placed into new jobs "A week ago, Governor Snyder called on all Michigan communities to create das ours," said Phil Bertolini, ity county executive and chief information officer. "As Oakland County residents peruse our dashboard, they will find their county gov ment is serving them well."

tion, Patterson announced in

Oakland County's dashmake this year's event a sucboard is not the county's firs effort at transparency online Submitted by Mike Paparella, Cub Scouts Pack 54, its financial reports, among Committee Chair other fiscal information online since 2005. In addi

12 Oaks Easter Bunny

All signs point to spring at Twelve Oaks Mall this April, as the Easter Bunny hops into the lush, colorful Central Park Garden display, Photos with the Easter

address that Oakland County Bunny are available for purchase, and each child who visits receives a free gift. Central Park Garden is located in the

online at hometownlife.com

has begun to post its vendor

com/purchasing and choose

SWOCC (Southwestern

Oakland Cable Commission)

will be conducting training

to certify people to produce

in use the remote cam

April 13 and Hands-On

a.m.-noon or 1-5 p.m.).

To be certified, candidates must attend Wednesday

and one of the Saturday ses

of Farmington, Farmington Hills, or Novi; non-resident

Pinewood Derby

The scouts where provided with blocks of wood, wheels

axles and a set of rules. They

and their adult sponsor par-

ticipated in weeks of planning

the design and strategy of the perfect car. They learned

The racers first matched up

against their peers within their

54 Grand Finals. After the

"Safari Car" ended in first

place with the fastest time of

217.4 mph. Less than a tenth

f second behind for second

Shortly behind him in third

being fast it's about having

goes out to the following

• Trey Mullin's "Bree's

Racer" car won "Scouters Choice" award

Weinermobile" car won

· Allen Watatani's "Sponge

A big thanks goes out to the United Methodist Church

Mikkelsen (event organizer)

cialist), and all of the Scout

ronics spe-

"Parents Choice" award

Cruiser" car won "Judges Choice" award

(hosting facility), John

John Biberstein's

place was Connor Truax's "Fire

olace was Ian Dixon's "Steeler's

This event is not only about

tricks of the trade which

fast as it could

sions. No charge to residents

mming at SWOCC

"Contract Public Search."

SWOCC certification

board. For its fiscal

Lower Level Center Court. The Easter Bunny remain at Twelve Oaks Mall through Saturday, April 23. Photo operation hours are Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sunday from Bunny takes brief carrot breaks throughout the day. . complete list of photo pack

www.shoptwelveoaks.com. Social Security workshop Join three wealth managers

ages and prices is available on

programming at SWOCC studios, crew in Studio B, and J. Lezotte and Ray Dryer along with the Novi Library raining Saturday, April 16 (8 for "Savvy Social Security Planning: What Baby Boo leed to Know to Maximize Retirement Income'

Workshops are 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 12 and 6:30-8

W. 10 Mile Road. Reservations are free, but seating is limited, so register by calling Sigma Financial toll free at (877) 557-4462 or by going to www.123Retirement! lanning.com.

Community Event Celebrates Women, Health and Diversity

Women of the World, a sne cial event celebrating women health and diversity will take place from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. inmond Center at Subu Collection Showplace (former 16100 Grand River, Novi. Presented by Providence Park Hospital and the

Foundation, this first annual friend-raiser" features Jean Meyer, president of Providence Park Hospital, and seeks p.m. Thursday, April 14 at the

Novi Public Library at 45255 strengthen relationships and sity within the communities served by the hospital

> opportunity to celebrate od and learn more about St. John Providence Women's Health Initiative, a and coordinated service that their lifespan in their quest for optimal health, From provention and general wellness to specific disease treatmen and spiritually based, holist care of chronic health conditions, the Women's Health Initiative will uniquely position Providence Park Hospits to better anticipate and meet the health needs of women in

The afternoon will include a

welcoming reception, plated luncheon, an informative

program emceed by Amyre

Makupson, remarks from

Jean Meyer, and an entertain ing performance by Mary Faktor entitled "The Six Ages The event offers a special love, marriage, kids, careers

rousework and aging.

The goal of this first-time event is to establish a network of area women who ar interested in becoming more involved with the work of Providence Park Hospital and future activities related to the Women's Health Initiative as well as community outreach education, awareness, fund raising and more.

To showcase the diversity theme, "Women of the World, each table at the luncheor will have a hostess, who is also inviting family members leagues to join in the occasio a specific culture, heritage or ethnicity. Space is limited to the first 200 guests, so please Tickets for the "Women of

the World" event are \$40 ne person or \$360 for a table of 10. Call Lorraine Owczarek at (313) 343-7582 for details or tickets. The RSVP deadline is

Mother knows best

Local woman and girls are invited to send us (in 50 words or less) the best advice you received from your mom, Include a photo of your mom or, better yet, of you and your mom. E-mail your best submission and photo (jpg format only) to estone@gannett.com Include your, first and last name, your hometown and identify your mother (first and last name, please). Include a daytime phone number o cell phone where you can be reached during business hours The photos and advice will appear in the Thursday, May 5, Salute To Women edition of Hometown Life Woman. Deadline to submit advice and photo is 5 p.m. Friday, April 15.





Invisible

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Attorney J.B. Bieske can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary Bieske has won several d cases before a court date is

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by altomeys win a much higher percentage of appeals, and altomeys who specifize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage.

Attorney Bleske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 27 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he



SOCIAL SECURITY

Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience; and often these firms aren't even based in Michigan.

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attorney Bicske explained tha many people are not even aware that they are eligible to benefits. You may be eligible even if you have retired and are receiving a pension. If you have nettered and are receiving a pension. If you have not retained to your work, are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your decased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits). Call attorney J.B. Bieske at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if

benens, ne orders a nee-phone or office consultation. Bleske represents you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is woo. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview

331-33-30 for a FHEE CONSUMATION IT you are considering applying for Social Security Disability Benefits or if you have been denied. His Livenia office is located on Six Mile Road Just West of I-275 and his Novi office is on Haggerty Just North of 12 Mile Road.

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CALENDAR

Register for programs at the library or on the library website Contact: (248) 349-0720 Website: www.novilibrary.org Story Times: Please see the Library website or story time bro chure for details. Create Your Own Story @ The Library is the theme for this year's National Library Week, April 10-16. Fill out a book template with a

to send to those they love. Supplies to create your card and or write a letter will be in the NPL Teen Stop. but you will need to supply the Antique Appraisal Clinic

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday, Details: Friends of the Novi Library and the Novi Historical Commission story, poem, artwork, or anything are proud to have representatives else that expresses your favorite from the Dumouchelle Galleries of library memory. The templates will Detroit at the Novi Township Hall to be displayed in the Library for the help you appraise your treasures. month of April. Keep an eye out for Fees and limitations to the number special programs during this festive

Celebrate National Card and Letter Writing Month! Throughout April, teens in grades 7-12 can stop by the NPL Teen Stop to create some cards

Details: Each time we meet you will get a chance to listen to some great stories and cook up a tasty snack! For grades K-4, Registration required.

the website for details.

Time/Date: 7-7:45 n.m. Monday

A Journey Through Detroit Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Monday, April

Details: Author Tom Stanton will take Detroit Tigers fans on generations of baseball history. A longtime journalist. Stanton, is author of four baseball books and recipient of the 2008 Michigan

English Conversation Group the University of Detroil Mercy. The Time/Date: 1-2 p.m. Tuesday, April Friends of the Novi Library will be 12 and April 19 selling books and Mr. Stanton will be happy to autograph your selec-

tions. Registration required.

ESL Book Discussion Group

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m.-1.p.m.

Tuesday, April 12 and April 19

then join our ESL Book Discussion.

advanced English speakers. We will

discuss one book during the 6-week

Books will be provided. Registration

required and limited to 15 partici-

For advanced-intermediate to

session. Title to be announced.

Details: Make friends while you practice your English pronunciation Savvy Social Security Planning

for Boomers & 2011 Healthcare Details: If English is your second Time/Date: 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, language and you would like to be more proficient in reading and April 12 and 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, discussing books written in English.

Details: Walter Powrozek and Joseph Lezotte, independent wealth managers from SIGMA Financial Corporation, will answe questions such as: When should I apply for social security? How can I maximize my benefits? How much the Healthcare Reform impact me? This is information that everyon needs to know. Receive a free Baby Boomer's Guide to Social Security

Time/Date: 7-7:45 p.m. Tuesday, April 12 Details: Especially for those in

grades 2-4. Unleash the inneractor in yourself! Readers' Theater is a group of participants who read from a script without costumes or scenery. For this Readers' Theater activity, you will be given a part, a script, and will read plays aloud all within one hour. We won't be performing for don't give out Academy Awards,

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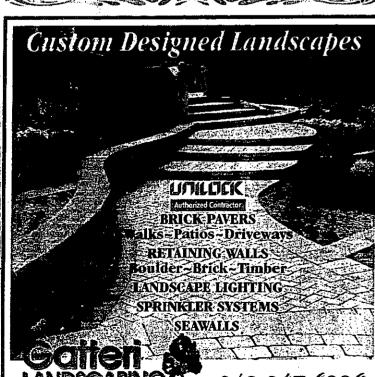
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CATHOLIC CENTRAL STARTS OFF SEASON UNDEFEATED, B2

SPORTS

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Rochester sweeps Novi singles, defeat Wildcats 6-3

Experienced Falcons scratch younger 'Cats

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

Novi's girls tennis team found that out the hard ras March 29 when they visited Rochester.

The top end of the Falcons' lineup is loaded with

eight seniors, including Kelsey Dieters. She was the one singles state champion as a sophomore before being upset in the Division I semifinals as the No. I Novi junior Abby Wang debuted as the Wildcats'

new No. 1 singles, replacing graduated state cham-pion Amanda Border. However, Dieters opened

the season with a clear message that she intends to reclaim the individual state title by defeating Wang "(Dieters is) a very good player. I think Abby

played a very good match," Novi coach Jim Hanson said. "The score isn't indicative of how it went at all. (Dieters) moved the ball around the court well. "(Wang is) a battler, she's very aggressive. She's not afraid to go to the net and has good foot speed

She's got experience. She'll hold up at one singles." The rest of the chilly affair didn't go well for the Wildcats (O-I), who finished fourth at the state finals last year, but lost 6-3 last week to the Falcons (1-0), who finished 12th at the state meet.

Novi's girls netters (1-0) have some time off for spring break before opening KLAA Central Division play with a home stand April 12 against Plymouth Salem and April 14 against Livonia Stevenson.

Rochester swept the singles contests with convincing scores as seven Novi players made their varsity

for her very first match at two singles," I

Novi senior Ashley Aljadah lost her two singles match 6-4, 6-2, while three singles sophomore Rebecca Chan lost 6-4, 6-0 and freshman Asawari Kanitkar lost her four singles contest 6-0, 6-2.
"Ashley Aljadah did a very nice job at two singles

Seniors Meggie Riegel and Jenna Snyder won

their one doubles contest 6-0, 6-3 and juniors Emily Kwederis and Ori Nagasaka followed with a 6-2, 6-4 win at two doubles

Asawari Kanitkar, the girl she played was an extremely hard girl to play. She kept slicing it."

The doubles teams fared much better for the

Wildcats, but it wasn't enough, as Rochester took

three of four flights, as well as the five doubles on

first match out," Hanson said. "One doubles looked real sharp to start out, but kind of relaxed in the

"I thought all the doubles played real well in thei

Please see TENNIS, B2



Novi High School Wildcat hurdle team standouts: Derek Kim, Derek Cingel, Lance Lilla, and Davanta Greer

Wildcat hurdlers poised for record-setting season

National top-10 finishes prepare experienced core for KLAA competition

There was nothing overwhelming about any single Novi hurdler last season when opponents lined up against them as individuals, but when the team took to the track together, their strength showed

through.

Four boys hurdlers went the extra mile during the offseason to compete at two national nicets, finishing in the top 10 both times. Although they competed on their own as Ivon TC (Novi spelled backwards) and weren't racing on behalf of the high school, these four upperclassmen have high hopes for the upcoming school season coming off two successful national

enough to win a state title, but collectively

it is rare to have four hurdlers that are as good as these four on the same team, Novi boys hurdles coach Seth Furlow said Seniors Derek Kim, Davanta Greer

and juniors Derek Cingel and Lance Lilla probably wish there were hurdle relay events at high school dual meets, because hey were very successful at the two New Balance national meets since last season

On June 20, 2010, the group fin-ished fifth at the New Balance Outdoor Nationals in Greensboro, NC, with an All-American relay time of 1:02.4.

at the March 13 New Balance Indoor Nationals in New York City, the squad finished ninth of 33 teams with a time of 31.47 seconds. The time was 0.3 seconds away from another All-American honor and just 1.1 seconds back from first place

BIG EXPERIENCE

The recent race at The Armory in New York, which houses the National Track and Field Hall of Fame, left a lasting impression on the Novi student-athletes as they gear up for a new high school track

"It was really neat," Kim said. "Just being able to compete at that level was just so cool, competing with some of the fastest people in the country. But also, the place we ran at. The Armory, is a historic rack. Many world records have been bro ken there. Just to be running at that same

facility was something really special."

The guys agreed that competing out come without some jitters.

"It was a huge adrenaline rush because 's a super higher step compared to (States)," Greer said, "I haven't even competed at States, so to make it to Nationals, it was a really big step for me; just con-trolling my adrenaline rush and stuff. It

Please see HURDLERS, B3

Freshman McMahan ahead of the pack Young tri-athlete making waves with Novi athletics

BY CHRIS JACKETT

Few student-athletes are as dominant in three different varsity sports as Novi's Kerri McMahan, and she's still a

Coming off successful seasons with the girls cross country and basketball teams, the 15-year-old is poised to continue into the spring track season where she left off in middle

school, with a record-setting pace.
"She has a ton of potential. It's somewhat untapped poten tial," Novi cross country and track coach Marsha Reid said. To be a freshman, come in and be All-State in cross country to be varsity all year in basketball and, out of the gate, to be part of what's a pretty solid track team right now, a varsit athlete and that kind of stuff. It's huge. I can see her anywhere from the 200(-meter run) and up, qualifying for the

McMahan said she plans to be a regular in the high jump and +00-meter run, both of which she competed in last year. Her personal bests are 5-feet-0 in the high jump and 1:02.07 in the 400, which are just six inches and three seconds away from the Novi High School records.

My goal going into track season is to qualify for the

state meet in a couple events and just take it from there," McMahan said. "It's just been a really successful year and I couldn't ask for anything better."

Starting off her first year of high school with an impressive cross country season, McMahan qualified for the state meet and finished 28th in Division I with a personal best time of

"My goal for cross country, I knew I'd be a pretty good runner and I set my goal to be All-State, which I ended up achieving," McMahan said. "It was just great to accomplish that going through the whole season. My goal for basketball

was just to make the varsity team and get as much playing time as I can and help my team get the best record." She surpassed that goal, earning the starting point guard

Please see MCMAHAN, 83



Novi High School track team highjumper Kerri McMahan practices on March 30 at the school.



Go Green!

The Novi Cats sixth grade green team won the 2011 Brighton Invitational Boys Basketball Tournament on March 19. The Cats played the FABE basketball team from Flint in the championship game and won 54-31. The team includes Alec Bageris, Kyle Bandyk, Raj Bramhane, Anthony D'Annibale, Mirad Hadzialigagic, Nate Lys,

Catholic Central starts season off undefeated

Baseball team has wins over three foes

BY SAM EGGLESTON

If a coach could pick any way to start their season, it would be with victories again

league opponents.
Thankfully for coach Bill Lis, that's exactly how the Detroit Catholic Central base the opening weeks of their sea-son. The squad, which is now 4-0 over all, handed defeats to Catholic High School League rivals Divine Child and DeLaSalle and another to non-league opponent Detroit

the season-opening contest, the Shamrocks earned a 6-3 victory, Tanner Waterstreet while Ryan Keller slanned

The Shamrocks continued their strong play as they took on DeLaSalle just days later. The squad won the opening game of the twin bill, 10-5. victory and PJ Nowak hitting a two-run homer and Greg Voutsos cranking a grand slam for the win. In the nightcap, the Catholic Central squad led, 9-4, but the game was called due to darkness and will be

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ever, winning the opener, 5-3. before expanding on that score with an 8-3 victory in the closer. John Lawless was the winning pitcher for the first game and Chris Boher getting the nod in the second. Keller added to his stats with a tworun homer in the nightcap, a game that also found Bobby Dulzo hitting two home runs

finished April 16.

Catholic Central didn't have

a problem with darkness when

they played Divine Child, how

Sam Eggleston is a freelance writer and former staff sports writer for the

A STATE OF THE STA

NOVI SPORTS BRIEFS

Novi Youth Baseball registration The Novi Youth Baseball League has opened

up online registration through April 15 at www. seball.org. Visit for more information and to register your child for the 2011 summer season. Any questions, contact Rob Reilly at rreilly14@yahoo.com

Soccer drive

LOCAL SPORTS

There will be a soccer equipment drive from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. on both Saturday, May 7 and Sunday, May 8 during the 2011 Jaguar Invitational at ITC Community Sports Park (Eight Mile and Napier roads). All donated items will be sent to the Philippines for the less fortunate children there. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Mark Mangune (mark.mangune@gmail.com).

Youth archery shoot

Detroit Archers is once again hosting their annual Youth Shoot. This is an indoor target event for youth archers up to age 16, of all ability levels, from kids who have never shot before up thru state champions. For \$10 each child receives a hot dog, can of pop and a trophy. Equipment is avail-

Shooting times are 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. either Saturday, April 30 or Sunday, May 1. Register in advance as spaces are limited. To register or for more info contact Jack Flaharty at (248) 360-0346 or jflaharty@comcast.net. Detroit Archers is located at 5795 Drake Road in West Bloomfield between Maple and Walnut Lake roads. Visit

Confusion caused by regulation changes in Little League bats

The upcoming youth baseball season holds the promise of both excitement and confusion Parents headed out to buy their Little Leaguer a new bat will have new rules to follow when i comes to finding the right bat, with many still fuzzy as to what is acceptable and what might

The Little League International Board of Directors -- along with youth leagues, which include the Babe Ruth League and the American Legion Baseball League - decided to ban composite baseball bats due to potential safety concerns. To add to the confusion, not all youth leagues have made these changes.

"Many leagues are banning composite bats because they are concerned about the safety of the kids," said Ian Somerville of Play It Again Sports Novi. "We are advising parents to check with their league to confirm bat materials, bat barrel diameter, and ounce drop- the difference between the length of the bat in inches, and the

Composite bats have thinner walls and a larger sweet spot, which allows the ball to travel faster and farther, in turn allowing for higher scoring games, which is exciting for players and parents. However, since the bats make the baseballs travel faster, fielding players are given less reaction time and are at a higher risk of injury.

However, some composite bats are being waived and allowed for competition. Aluminum, alloy, and wood bats along with bats with composite material in the handles are not affected by the ban.

TENNIS

The kids like their partners and chemistry is very

important," Hanson said. Sophomore Caitlin O'Brien and junior Emily Sheeran battled through a tough first set, but lost their three doubles match 7-5, 6-1. "They were up 4-I in the first set and the

Rochester girls found another gear," Hanson said.
"Errors will come back to haunt you and we made Senior Meng Meng Jie and freshman Amy Zhou

added another victory for the Wildcats with a 6-0, 6-2 decision at four doubles. "They looked very sharp," Hanson noted of the pair that consists of a third-year and first-year var-

Because Rochester already had the match lead 5-3 heading into the five doubles contest, juniors Angela Huang and Alice Jiang played a single pro set, losing 8-5

"Angela and Alice, first time out on varsity, I think they did a good job," Hanson said. 'Overall, I was pleased. We just have to try to get better in The tough test against Rochester is one of many

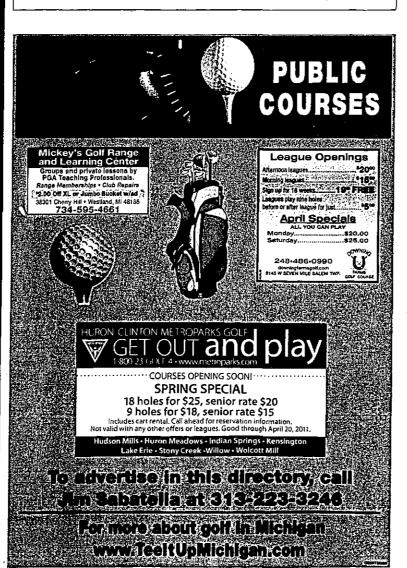
neasuring sticks the Wildcats will face this sea as several state-ranked opponents are on the schedule along with a very strong rival Northville squad. "Our non-league competition is very tough. Playing the competition we do will only make us better," Hanson said. "We got a good start to the season even though we lost a match. They had a

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former Novi News staff writer.



Pom pon parade

These Novi Pom girls are members of the Mid American All Star Pom Pon Team who marched in the St. Patrick's Day parade in Chicago on March 12, Behind them is a green Chicago River, Shown (I to r) are Mackenzie Betts, Mackenzie Kelley, Katie Groechel, Mary Favorite, Morgan Shepherd and Defaney Ulle.



Novi High track team hurdlers: Lance Lilla, Derek Cingel, Derek Kim, and Đavanta Greer.

online at hometownlife.com

was hard to deal with, but I got through it."

STARTING YOUNG

The four Wildcats attribute their success as a group to both their experience and familiarity with one another, as all four began racing in middle school and have been

together the past three years.
"Lance Lilla talked to me in eighth grade and said 'you should just come out for track because he had run the previous year. I just went out and gave it a shot and it was pretty natural. I enjoyed it and I jus stuck with it," Cingel said. "My favorite part about hurdles is that it can go any way. If you're in last, you can still catch up. They could screw up or some thing. It's not just if you're losing, you're going to lose. You still have a chance."

The extra aspect of an of what attracted Kim to the

"I was always interested in track and field growing up, but, I always hated running inofe than 200 meters," Kim said. "I hated to run for a long period of time, but, at the same time, I wanted something a little with nothing in the way, I new and I tried it in seventh grade and it ended up working out pretty well."

However, hurdles weren't a natural fit for all of the team

"I actually don't know how I got into hurdles considering, when I started, they were half my height," Greer said. "My er teacher, in seventh grade, told me that I should go out because I guess he saw me practicing with them one day when we were at track. So he told me 'you should do this,'

so I just tried it one day and I guess it just fit my running style. I was 4-feet-7. They wer little bit past my waist.

Having ran together as a unit for the past three years, the guys have developed a araderie that benefits their performances on the "We mesh together pretty

well." Kim said. "When it comes down to when we have to start running, we blend ogether. Other than that, we have a lot of fun in practice. We all definitely have different personalities, different strengths and weaknesses on the track. We balance each other out pretty well, and I think that's the big reason we've had a lot of success.

RECORD-SETTING PACE All four runners will look to have success in the 110-meter hurdles this spring, and all but Kim will also compete in the 300-meter hardles.

"I'm expecting to win Regionals in the 300, go to there. Maybe break a school

The junior's optimism ma personal bests of 40.8 seconds in the 300 hurdles, 15.1 sec-onds in the 110 hurdles and 5-feet-11 in the high jump are just 0.6 seconds, 0.3 seconds and nine inches away from the school records in each event. "Last year we broke a ton of

school records for our grade, so hopefully we can continue doing that," said Lilla, the "Last season for the 110s, I roved by over a full second in the 110s, so hopefully I can continue on that and that'll be really good."

Lilla ran 15.5 seconds in the 110 hurdles and about 43.1 seconds in the 300 hurdles, while he plans to also factor into the some of the Wildcats' relay

Kim already has a school record under his belt as part of the 4x200 relay team that set the pace at 1:29.6 last year His personal best in the 110 rdles is 14.95 seconds and he'll also compete with the

4x100 relay.

Greer is focused on running every race without regret like it's his last.

"Hopefully we're going to

do good since we're already competing at a higher level So hopefully we have the competition to bring to the field," Greer said. "It's been fun the past three years to run with these three guys and its not go to college. I'm never going to be able to run with them

The Michigan State University-bound senior has personal bests of 15.4 seconds seconds in the 300 hurdles. He competed in his first long jump event at the Oakland County Indoor Meet two weeks ago, placing fourth at

"I think individually they're going to do very well," Furlow said. "They each had a good season last year, especially with two of them being onl phomores last year. That's ually not the year they have their best, when they're still learning the event and its still a big transition from middle ool. And this is the year when we usually see them in

terms of what they really have "It'll be interesting to watch them. This is the most excited I've been to watch a small group of guys. Just knowing what they have potential-wis this is the first time we've had a season start and we know we have a lot of depth. It's really theirs to take. If they work for it, I'll be shocked if both of our records don't go down this year. And then two of the guys have a whole other year left

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former Novi News staff writer

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spot on the basketball squad, helping the team vin the division with a 17-5 record. She averaged 9.8 points, three assists, 2.5 steals and ree rebounds per game. "Not only led team in scoring, assists, steals and free throws attempted, but, as all true point guards and great players, she made everyone around her better," Novi girls basket-ball coach Bill Kelp said. Having played basketball since fourth grade, McMahan spends the offseason playing hoops in the AAU league, which began a new season

"My main sport is definitely basketball. I play it year round. I just can't get enough of it," McMahan said, "It works out pretty well. Most of our practices are on the weekend and, if we lenient with if I can make it or not. But overall, t works out pretty well." Being a varsity tri-sport student-athlete and

olaying AAU ball on the side, McMahan is onstantly busy, but her passion for her sports provide her with all the energy she needs to keep going.

"I'm just so used to by now," McMahan said. "It just doesn't seem to affect me that much, but there are times where I can feel it and I feel like I'm getting tired. I think it will defi-nitely help out in the long run."

McMahan gives a lot of credit to those around her for helping her develop into a successful student-athlete at the freshman level. Both her coaches and teammates have helped

her mature quickly both on the track and on the court.

"They've all been really great. They're really accepting. They've just helped me throughout the season in both sports," McMahan said of her upperclassmen teammates. "I've learned a lot through them. I learned a lot of mistakes I've needed to correct for myself from younger ages of running and basketball. But it was just a quick fix and we got through the season

"I definitely have to give a lot of credit to my coach. She definitely pushes me. My cross country coach and my basketball coach. They definitely know that I have a lot of potential, and they push me to achieve the most that I can and I know I want to achieve the most, so it just works out really well."

Reid said having a student-athlete with the focus and talent that McMahan has makes her job as coach easier. It also makes the opportunities for both individual and team success that much greater.

As long as she's healthy, I think she'll just get better and stronger and faster. She's already got some pretty broad goals. We have a high jump record that's been on the board for the last decade that she's already eyeing, that she wants to put down and everything," Reid said. "She already has some lofty goals and I just see her continuing to get stronger over the next few years as she continues to grow. She's definitely a unique athlete. In my 10 years of coaching here, I've never had an athlete who is just, like, 'bring it,' every single day.'

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former Novi



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Owning a home usually a boon come tax time

The possibility of eliminating the mortgage interest deduction from Americans' tax returns has caused a stir in real estate circles.

Living Great Lakes Real Estate with offices in Rochester Hills, Clarkstor and West Bloomfield, is president of the Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors, which is merging with the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors, She'll be president of the nev merged group, the name of which will soon be announced.

She's been in real estate since 1990 and sees tax benefits to owning a

There's a significant benefit at the federal level. There is a lot you can deduct in terms of your closing costs, she said. "And there are tax benefits at

Mortgage interest deduction is important. "You're building equity," she said. "History has shown over the last 100 years there's a benefit in home

The last few years have been diffiing. It's an interesting market here in Michigan."

She's seen a bottoming out of prices in the past several months, "Listings are down. We're seeing a lot of buyers in the market " Her office and other agents she knows are seeing multiple offers on properties in good shape,

"Then we're going to start seeing an ipswing in the value of these proper-

"It would be a terrible thing, I think, if the government removed the benefit," Coon said of the mortgage interfights to keep that deduction in place. It's "for the consumers best inter-

est. They keep chipping away at the consumer. They're the ones who are ultimately hurt," she said: Coon doesn't see taxes as a big factor

for new buyers.
"I think first-time buyers are just so



lecades veteran of his field, said of

owning a home, "Lenders, banks, con

umers, all guilty as charged." Those

reigh their income and overhead, he

"So many people, they just go into it so leveraged. I love my home, I love

going home to it. To me, it's the hub of

National experts in real estate have

mortgage interest deduction as a plus-

"Owning a home offers myriad ben efits throughout the year, but some

of the financial advantages of home

broker-president of Phipps Realty in Warwick, R.I. "As many of today's

hardworking American families are

feeling a financial squeeze, the tax

benefits that can come from owning a

varied views but rally around the

your life," Smith concluded.

considering a home purchase must

excited about home ownership." Taxes

Dan Smith, a Northville resident and vice president/mortgage banking for First Place Bank of Livonia. "So many people buy houses for all the wrong casons," said Smith, who believes you should buy to put a roof over your

Smith said it's always a mistake to take on a lot of debt. "Somehow people perceive it as more affordable because of the deduction, and it is," said Smith, who favors capping property tax and

In the past, he's seen some people run up credit card balances and put them on a home equity loan. "They're giving it all away. You've got to live somewhere. They'd be living in the

"I don't think it should be even in the

ers: these include deductions — with specific limits — for mortgage interes and capital gains on home sales, and credits for certain energy-efficient me improvements. Even with these benefits, homeowners pay 80-90 per-cent of all U.S. federal income taxes.

A number of tax deductions and

"It's been suggested that many of today's tax incentives for home owne ship primacily benefit wealthy individuals, but that's simply not true," said Phipps. "As today's public debate continues about what home ownership means for families, communities, and the nation's economy, there's no question that for many, owning a home is still the best way to begin building

Ninety-one percent of homeownrs who claim the mortgage interest deduction earn less than \$200,000 a year, and the ability to deduct the interest paid on a mortgage can mean significant savings at tax time. For in 2010 with a \$200,000, 30-year, interest rate of 4.5 percent, could save searly \$3,500 in federal taxes when they file this year, according to the

Realtors see the very real positive impact of home ownership every day with our clients," said Phipps. "Recent proposals to reduce or eliminate the ortgage interest deduction and remove government support of the housing finance market could have disastrous consequences for the economy, not to mention making it harder or nearly impossible for millions of families to own their own homes. We believe America must continu to invest in home ownership, for the

future of our families and our nation. For homeowner tax season tips, visit www.HouseLogic.com. HouseLogic is a free source of information from NAI ownership are most apparent at tax time," said NAR President Ron Phipps, that helps homeowners maintain and enhance the value of their homes and engage in issues that affect their local

The NAR website contributed to this report.

					•			
			HOMES SOLD-WA	YNE	-		······································	-
These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 20-24, 2010, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices. Canton 44236 Creton Cl 5168,000 2668 Doncaster or 517,000 7462 Emeison Dr 5152,000 44934 Forest Trial Dr 5152,000 1376 Grengarry Biol 5230,000 3404 Parklawn Dr 5179,000	544 Stanchenge Dr 39747 Wales St Garden City 475 Arcola St Livonia 28165 Sis Mile Rd 3938 Be wick St 3038 Be wick St 31781 Cambridge St 29078 Curtis Re 15124 Fairtield St 29137 Grandon St 37398 Kingsburn Cl 31224 Munger St 15657 Oporto St 19026 Pinetree St	\$160,000 \$113,000 \$42,000 \$160,000 \$156,000 \$174,000 \$274,000 \$274,000 \$274,000 \$274,000 \$246,000 \$246,000 \$246,000 \$378,000	35537 ik Chicago SI 19208 Westmore SI Morthville 50285 Seven Mile Bd 49/465 freestone Dr 16/61 Chicago Cr 16/072 Myriningsice 418 Randolph SI 19029 Slone water Blvd 20599 Mootteek Blvd 9241 Corinne SI 275 Garling Dr 13175 Heverhill Dr 285 N Mai SI 499 M Sheldon Rd 550 Parkview Or	\$97,000 \$125,000 \$107,000 \$379,000 \$235,000 \$111,000 \$50,000 \$50,000 \$120,000 \$120,000 \$260,000 \$96,000 \$96,000 \$96,000 \$96,000	334 Pinembod Br 14750 Rebinwood Or 1893 S Sheldon Rd 1363 Union St 14756 Thorntidge Dr Redford 1912 Detaware Ave 9339 Gartield 9239 Kinloch 11394 Lucerne 26338 Margarete 1312 Marion 27100 Meadowbrook Rd 14027 Repkähand 17167 Ryland 9300 Salem 14924 Summer	\$56,000 \$180,000 \$29,000 \$315,000 \$160,000 \$66,000 \$46,000 \$46,000 \$49,000 \$17,000 \$180,000 \$133,000 \$133,000 \$25,000	Westland iBII Alexander Dr. 3230 Avondale St. 7341 Bedrice 7347 Carell St. 33331 Fennrood St. 33503 Jill Dr. 33505 Loruss Ave. 2003 Watkenzie Br. 33427 Qekwood Meadows Dr. 34999 School St. 810 Superior Phwy. 6319 Twin Oaks	\$93,000 \$53,000 \$48,000 \$6,000 \$30,000 \$155,000 \$164,000 \$185,000 \$185,000 \$55,000 \$62,000
			HOMES SOLD-OAK	LAND	<u></u>			
These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 20-24, 2010, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices. Beverly Hills	3206 Edge-nod Park Ct 4750 Habberd St 5886 Majestic Oaks Or 3765 N Yanstone Or 4515 Waltow Ct Farmington 36619 Vicery In Farmington Hills 33960 Braebury Rdg	\$395,000 \$275,000 \$275,000 \$206,000 \$179,000 \$133,000 \$350,000 \$300,000 \$165,000 \$165,000	34006 Glouster Cir 20562 Halsted 36710 Kenmore Dr 25499 Leetsloch 29292 Marvin Rd 34274 Gdl timber Rd 23900 Springtrook Dr 25462 Springtrook Dr 31629 Stableview Br 29468 Syrvan Ln 2496 Harvin Vally Cl Lathrup Village 28665 Eldotado Pf	\$225,000 \$450,000 \$372,000 \$96,000 \$250,000 \$255,000 \$17,000 \$17,000 \$17,000 \$133,000 \$40,000	23463 Argyle SI 45824 Ashlord Cir 20590 Chase Br 23764 E Le Bost 44831 Perimose Dr 26961 Victoria Bd 46080 White Pines Dr South Lyon 10 Li Gentry Dr South Br 2020(1 Athambra S 27339 Apple Blossom Ln	\$470,000 \$420,000 \$345,000 \$190,000 \$98,000 \$45,000 \$590,000 \$305,000 \$115,000 \$123,000	28815 Murray Crescent Dr 23902 Plambrooke Dr 30248 Southhield Rd # A275 24549 Femplar Ave 16941 W 13 Mile Rd 20385 Westover Ave White Lake 8420 Jamestown Dr 1600 Maple Heights Dr 559 Over look St 8019 Springdale Dr 9669 Steephollow Dr	\$42,000 \$166,000 \$20,000 \$49,000 \$49,000 \$37,000 \$24,000 \$333,900 \$45,000 \$46,000 \$45,000
Birmingham Cur. con	30941 Cedar Creek Dr	\$200,000	Millord	CHEE AAA	22405 Chatslord Circuit St	\$190,000	2204 Wiggen Ln	\$60,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Career Seminar

A Real Estate Career Seminar will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 21, at Keller Williams Realty 0600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100 Plymouth. You can learn about the ree pre-licensure course.

Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

· Building Industry Association o Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will sponsor a three-hour Continuing Competency course, required for and Maintenance and Alterations Contractors licenses, on Tuesday, April 12, from 9 a.m. to noon at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

For those with licenses issued prior to Jan. 1, 2009, three hours of continuing competency are required each licensing cycle. The instruc-

tor, Don Pratt, CGB, CGR, CGP, CAPS, of CECS of Michigan, LLC, will present one hour for each of the required subjects: legal issues, codes, and safety issues. Registration fees are \$55 for members or guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www. builders.org/events.php.

 Apartment Association of Michigan's (AAM) Property
Management Council (PMC) will onsor a seminar for leasing profes sionals called Leasing 101: The 2011 Tour on Friday, April 15, from 9 a.m. Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield

Kathleen Mabie of Ann Arbor based Success On Site will provide guidelines to increase occupancy mediately. Topics to be presented include Competitive Analysis Closing from Start to Finish, Secure Contacts when they call, hit web-Interface, Follow-up and more. The entire leasing process will be cov-

Registration fees are \$69 for PMC members, \$79 for AAM or Building Industry Association members and \$99 for guests. For registration register online at: www.builders.org/

events.php.
• Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's (BIA) NAHBR Professional Remodelers Council will hold a three-part seminar series called "Your Master Planned Business" on April 19, June 15 and Oct. 19.

The seminars will be presented by Dawn Drozd, business coach and CEO of ClearVision Business Coaching Part One to be presented Once." Part Two is "Your Master Blueprint" and will be held on June 15. Part Three is "Project Review" and will be held on Oct. 19. The April 19 program will begin at 12:30 p.m. with lunch followed

The Real Estate Investor by the seminar from 1-2:30 p.m. It

will be held at the Ford Conferen & Event Center at 1151 Village Road in Dearborn in conjunction with the Pella Pro Expo being held at that ocation later that day. The June 15 and Oct. 19 programs will each run from noon to 2 p.m., including lunch

at Association Offices, 2075 Walnu

Registration fees for members or guests are \$40 per person for each seminar or \$80 per person, if you register for all three seminars. For further information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at: www builders.org/events.php.

Investors Association of Wayne County holds monthly meetings the first Tuesday of each month at the Holiday Inn. 17201 Northline Road, Southgate. Entrance fee is \$20 for nonmember to be applied to annual membership. For information, call (313) 819-0919

'Specialist may not be all that claims say

Q: I have seen on the statements from our attorney that a so-called "collection specialist" is handling our matters. I have inquired as to what a collection specialist is and got a response that is somewhat vague. Do you have specialist is?

A: Frankly, I doubt if the collection specialist is an attorney or, for that matter, a certified legal assistant. It is probabl administratively in the That doesn't make that person a "specialist" in the sense of obtaining a degree



Robert Meisner

area. It is

who does not have a legal assistant degree. You are best advised to request a full explanation as to what is meant by a "collection specialist" fron your attorney and absent receiving same, find an attorney that utilizes legal assistants and attorneys to they have falled to clean my sidewalk and/or my driveway on two separate occasions. I have company but they refuse to espond in a timely fashlon. I am thinking about docking them for having me hire a snow removal contractor to take away the snow from my driveway and

walk. Do you think that is a good

A: Probably not, your

condominium documents as do most, do not allow a co-owner to deduct from his or her assessmen obligation the cost of work which they had to undertake which allegedly is the responsibility of the association. What will probably happen is that the Association will consider your assessmen to be delinquent and seel collection activities. You in turn have a right to sue for mismanagement, but you do not have a right to withhold assessments because deprivation of services. Indeed, this writer wrote that section of the Michigan Condominium best advised to consult the association and the management company a letter indicating that you will seek recourse agains them for all damages incurred by you because of their failure collectively and individually to properly maintain the condominium in accordance with the

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominius Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or ates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

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RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE Commerce United Methodist Church, 1155 N. Commerce Rd., Commerce Twp. Thurs-Fri., April 7th & April 8th 9-4. Sat., April 9th, 9-noon, Sat. 8ap Day \$3. (248) 363-3935

luction Sales

AUCTION Saturday, April 9, 10:00 am

2900 E Hibbard Rd, Corunna, MI Doors, Windows, Door knobs, Treated, Oak, Cedar, SPF, HEM Fir, OSB, Poplar Nascor, Trex Saddle, Insulation, Ice & Water, Durabond, T&G white pine, Cedar opola, mailboxes, Prefinished base, CWP R/L, #2 WP, 8' alum poles & more

oving Sales IVONIA Garage Sale on April 8th/9th, 18775 Purlingbrook 8t., Livonia Household Items; urniture (some antique), vomen's clothing, collect-

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iles, appliances. NO EARLY BIADS PLEASE! SOUTH LYON Moving/Estate Sale-April 9/40, from 9-4, 23422 Sawgrass Court South, South Lyon 48178, Everything Must Go!!

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15 Jobs That Pay Well, No Degree Required

Anthony Balderrama, CareerBuilder.com Writer

Conventional wisdom states that college-educated workers earn higher salaries because the their jobs require more education and advanced skills. In addition, fewer workers have college degrees, so they are harder to find in relation to workers without degrees. Indeed, according to the most recent U.S. Census Bureau data, 19 percent of Americans hold a bachelor's degree, while approximately 31 percent have a high school diploma.

Census data also shows that the mean income for a college graduate is \$58,613, a significant difference from the \$31,283 mean income for a high school graduate. You might reason, then, that to bring home a sizeable paycheck. you need to go to college. Although that's often true, there are exceptions. Many jobs pay workers well because their daily tasks are dangerous, difficult or extremely specialized. Experience also factors into the equation because many employers value years of experience more than their years of education. These jobs not requiring a degree aren't necessarily easy to perform nor they easy to land.

That's not to say you shouldn't earn a college or graduate degree if you want. However, if college isn't the right option for you or if it's not a plausible option in the

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short-term, consider these 15 professions that don't require a college degree but pay well: 1. Aides supervisor \$63,231*. Aides supervisors supervise homehealth aides, which involves setting their work schedules and monitoring their performance to ensure quality care for patients.

2. Air traffic controller \$139.314. In order to ensure the safety of all flights, air traffic controllers monitor

planes coming to and leave from an airport so that there are no collisions. They also monitor conditions to keep flights free of delays.

3. Assembly Supervisor \$66,034 In assembling and manufacturing plants, these supervisors oversee the flow of

production work. Depending on the industry, assembly workers can produce anything from large mechanical and aviation components to small, technology devices. 4. Cable supervisor \$76,739 Cable

supervisors monitor workers who install, maintain and repair cables. Because these cables can be buried underground or overhead on telephone poles the process can be dangerous for workers and difficult

5. Chemical supervisor \$73,955. Chemical supervisors oversee workers who make chemical products, a careful process that involves handling dangerous substances and following strict safety guidelines.

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DIRECT CARE WORKERS

Drivers

6 Construction equipment operator \$53,543. Construction equipment operators are charge of the large-scale tools and equipment used on construction sites. They are also responsible for inspecting the equipment for safety and performance issues when necessary.

7. Credit and collection supervisor \$66.847. Credit and collection workers calculate credit risks and collections information for consumers who apply

for loans. Their supervisors monitor their performance and sometimes review client cred history to grant or deny extensions of credit.

8. Data control supervisor \$66,554.

Data control supervisors oversee

the daily operations of data entry workers and are responsible for the completion and accuracy of their

9. Electrical repairer Electrical repairers disassemble and fix problematic electrical equipment and any related components. Depending on the particular job, the equipment can range from small mechanisms to large technological

10. Elevator repair worker \$67,538 Elevator repair workers performance routine maintenance on elevators and escalators and also respond to any reported problems. 11. Home care aide supervisor \$69,061. Home care aides visit

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assist with daily activities and some rehabilitation exercises. The supervisor ensures that all patients are being taken care of properly by their aides according to legal regulations and quality standards.

12. Illustrator \$60,060. Illustrators work in advertisement agencies or as freelancers to design fonts and images for a variety of media, from websites to print campaigns and

13. Lead carpenter \$73,055. Lead carpenters act as the head for carpentry workers on a specific task in order to keep the project on time and meet quality standards.

14. Payroll supervisor \$72,951. Payroll supervisors oversee the process of calculating compensation based on workers' hours, reviewing timecards, distributing pay and adhering to government regulations for payroll.

15. Real estate broker \$79,494. Real estate brokers maintain their own real estate businesses that help home buyers look for houses or condominiums. They research neighborhoods, find available homes, and assist buyers through the financial and legal aspects of the purchase process.

*Salary data based on figures from CBSalary.com.

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