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April 21, 2011

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IN BRIEF

Novi News online

Have you checked out our newly redesigned website? It's chock full of local news from the Novi community and is updated often. There are several cool features at www.hometownlife.com that allow you to browse through the latest news and features from your neighboring communities, too. Chime in with your opinion on our stories, editorials and letters to the editor, check out our amazing photo galleries and videos that are captured daily by our reporters and photographers. Readers can also find garage sale listings - with a map! - each week from Wednesday-Sunday. So, bookmark www.hometownlife.com to be sure you're always in-the-know in your hometown. You can also find us on Facebook by searching "HometownLife."

12 Oaks Easter Bunny

All signs point to spring at Twelve Oaks Mall as the Easter Bunny hops into the lush, colorful Central Park Garden display. Photos with the Easter Bunny are available for purchase, and each child who visits receives a free gift. Central Park Garden is located in the Lower Level Center Court. The Easter Bunny remains 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 11 a.m.-6 p.m. The Easter Bunny takes brief carrot breaks throughout the day. A complete list of photo packages and prices is available at www.shop12oaks.com.

Celebrating women

Women of the World, a special event celebrating women, health and diversity will take place from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, April 28 at the Diamond Center at Suburban Collection Showplace (formerly Rock Financial Showplace), 46000 Grand River, Novi. Presented by Providence Park Hospital and the Providence Health Foundation, this first annual "friend-raiser" features Jean Meyer, president of Providence Park Hospital, and seeks to connect with women, strengthen relationships and showcase the cultural diversity within the communities served by the hospital. Tickets for the "Women of the World" event are \$40 per person or \$360 for a table of 10. Call Lorraine Owczarek at (313) 343-7582 for details or tickets. The RSVP deadline is April 15.

Council changes tune on pathway

Smaller project will cost \$79,000 more

"When I saw that tape measure come out ... as a homeowner myself it was a very good checkpoint."



TERRY MARGOLIS, Novi City Council

The vision of Rebecca Smith's tape measure depiction of the proposed pathway on Nine Mile Road stuck in the minds of several Novi City Council members when they left their meeting on April 4.

— was enough to convince the members to forgo a federally funded 10-foot wide pathway and replace it with one that is just six feet wide.

And two weeks later, that visual — along with some compelling arguments

Council member Terry Margolis said those that voted to move ahead with the larger pathway "blew the decision," and

commended the residents for their tact in petitioning the council to change the plans.

"One of the best examples of government is when we can have an opinion and the residents can in a civil and positive way comment and give us something to think about," she said. "When I saw that tape measure come out ... as a homeowner myself it was a very good checkpoint."

Discussion about the pathway on Nine Mile Road between Meadowbrook and Haggerty roads started in December. At a council meeting in January, the council members decided to not spend extra money to see what an

eight-foot pathway would look like and appeared content with moving forward with the 10-foot one.

The larger pathway was enticing because the city would only have to foot a portion of the bill, but in order to get the money the pathway had to be 10 feet wide to meet federal requirements.

The city would have spent an estimated \$283,000 — including its \$77,480 match — for that project, and will be spending approximately \$79,000 more for the six-foot project.

Rob Hayes, director of public services, said a decision now has to be

Please see **PATHWAY, A19**



JOHN HEBER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Vietnam War veterans David Peck, left, and Russell Stewart greet each other at the April 14 open house at the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America - Novi chapter on Grand River Avenue.

Paralyzed vets celebrate 50 years in Michigan

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The annual open house last Thursday for the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America was such a draw that visitors were forced to park on the grass or in neighboring parking lots.

And while it may have been an inconvenience to some, it was a good sign to MPVA executive director Mike Harris.

"It is a very powerful message they are sending back to us," Harris said of the outpouring of support.

The open house carried a more special meaning this year as the nonprofit organization is celebrating 50 years of service in Michigan. It also coincided with Michigan Paralyzed Veterans Annual Awareness

Week, which ran from April 11-15. The Novi-based chapter of the organization has been in the city since 1995, a feat Harris is proud of. Several city of Novi employees and Mayor David Landry also stopped by during the day.

Council asks for list of potential cuts

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The \$3.6-million dollar difference between general fund revenue and expenditures was the main topic of discussion at the Novi City Council's budget session on Saturday.

"The sky is not falling. For me if it is necessary to eliminate jobs then we do what is necessary, but I don't think you do it before it's necessary."

Several council members indicated they wanted to find a way to bring these two figures closer to equal rather than use the fund balance to make up the difference now and in the future.

The recommendation was to have city administration put together a list of potential operating cuts for the council to look at during its next budget meeting on April 27.

Council member Dave Staudt is one of the

Please see **BUDGET, A19**

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New parks director preaches innovation

Mangum filling position that has been vacant since July

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Jason Mangum said he was looking for an opportunity to advance his career when he came across the open parks, recreation and cultural services director position in Novi. And after visiting the city and meeting with staff, the Arizona resident was offered the job and knew it was the

right fit for him and his family. "One of the things that attracted me was that the city officials and city council seem to understand the benefits of parks and recreation to the entire community," he said. "They see how it promotes healthy living, attracts businesses and how quality of life is an important part of building a healthy and vibrant community."



Mangum is leaving his position as parks and recreation director in Show Low, Ariz., a city of about 60,000 residents, to start working in Novi on May 9. While in Show Low, he created a recreation advisory board

to help with strategic planning, and also served as the liaison between the city and the Arizona State Legislature, Arizona State Parks and the Arizona Commission on the Arts. He said he has been fortunate in his 15 years of recreation that he has worked in places that have given him the freedom to try new things and see the same opportunity in Novi. "I always have to be looking at what is new and innovative and seeing what we can do to

make something happen," he said. "That is one of the things I love about this industry." Jay Dooley, chair of the parks, recreation and cultural services commission, spoke with Mangum via Skype last week and was impressed with his vision for the department. "He always wants to learn and is not one to settle on his reputation," Dooley said. "He is very strategic and committed, and will be a breath of fresh air."

Mangum, who has a wife and five children, will be replacing former director Randy Auler who left last July to take a similar job in Westerville, Ohio. Nancy Cowan has been serving as the interim director, but will return to her role as recreation supervisor once Mangum is on board. "Jason is going to be a perfect fit to lead us," said city manager Clay Pearson. "He has a variety of experience in different organizations and has a very professional dedication to parks."

22nd Annual Motor City Comic Con is reunion for stars

Motor City Comic Con, Michigan's original Comic Convention, celebrates its 22nd Anniversary, May 13-15 at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave in Novi. The 2011 event brings together a stellar roster of comic world luminaries, as well as a glittering array of iconic TV and film stars and fan favorites from the World of Wrestling as well.

"Motor City Comic Con has become a very popular destination on the national Comic Convention circuit," says event owner Michael Goldman. "The fans here are truly dedicated to pop culture and bring a great spirit and energy to the show, and past guests have really enjoyed themselves. Positive reviews travel at the speed of light in the Con world, and we've had great interest from across the

industry this year." Motor City Comic Con gathers comic book and multimedia dealers from across the country, offering a vast variety of pop culture merchandise, including comics, art, tee shirts, movie memorabilia, posters, and more. Over 250 comic book creators, writers and artists will be on site at Comic Con, as well as more than forty actors from the television and self-titled movie industry. A number of guests whose screen credits include Star Trek films as well as the

TV series will gather at Motor City Comic Con; Kate Mulgrew, (Captain Kathryn Janeway, Star Trek: Voyager) Trek films) and Brent Spiner (Android Data, Star Trek: The Next Generation). The talent and scope of comic creators appearing at the 2011 Motor City Comic Con is available at www.motorcitycomiccon.com, but highlights include Tim Sale (Marvel Comics) Carmine Infantino (the Flash), James Robinson (Starman), and Bill Sienkiewicz. (DC Comics) Original art and limited edition prints by many of these contemporary masters are available for purchase at the event.

D-Movement engages suburbs in supporting Detroit

BY LINDA ANH CHOHIM
CORRESPONDENT

The D-Movement brought its message to Schoolcraft College in Livonia on April 12 and it was inspirational. Throughout the audience, there was a buzz about working, living and playing in Detroit.

"The time is now and Detroit is the place."

MARGARITA BARRY play in the DiPonio Room across the hall from the Presentation Room. He attends D-NewTech meetings the first Monday of the month at Quicken Loans headquarters downtown. The H & T sales and marketing director spent last weekend enjoying Detroit's cultural and sports offerings with his wife.

"A DETROIT WEEKEND"

"We had a Detroit weekend, went to the Red Wings game Friday and on Sunday to the Fakes and Forgeries exhibit at the DIA," said Baldonado. "I go to the D-NewTech meetings for information. We have a keynote speaker, usually an investor. It's an opportunity for people with startup businesses. I like the fact there's a Midtown resurgence and for people to move back to the city."

Back at the Presentation Room, Kathleen Zadroga sat listening to speakers from the D-Movement, the grassroots effort composed of professionals, students, businesses and organizations. Zadroga is human resources representative for rconnect in

Farmington Hills. The business provides applications for wireless technology.

"I'm always interested in innovative ideas and am concerned with linking businesses and finding new talent, what's working. There's a lot of talent still here," said Zadroga of Redford.

Zadroga was one of the audience members who raised their hands when Andrew Humphrey asked how those in attendance heard about the event. She found information on LinkedIn. Others read details on Facebook, Twitter and the *Livonia Observer*.

Humphrey, a meteorologist and reporter for WDIV-TV, encouraged the audience to tweet about the event as it was happening. Humphrey was master of ceremonies. He was excited about meeting people at the event to share ideas. He introduced speakers Shane Sevo, founder of the user group Journal Detroit; Amy Kabel, co-founder of Detroit SOUP; Linda Daichendt, co-founder of Mobile Monday Michigan; Shawn Neal, executive producer of *The Sugar People*, a musical duo that provided entertainment; Margarita Barry, founder and publisher of *I Am Young Detroit*; and Jan Zemke, managing editor and a business journalist for SE Michigan

Startup.

Mike Mehall led off the presentations. Mehall chairs the Computer Graphic Technology Department at Schoolcraft College, one of the event sponsors. Students from the Practical Applications capstone class displayed their work in the lobby between the Presentation and DiPonio rooms so guests could learn about the program that offers training in areas ranging from 3D to video graphics and Web design. Students designed the logo for the evening's program.

A show of their computer graphics runs Saturday, April 16, to Tuesday, April 26, in the Bradner Library on campus.

"We want to show the community what we offer educationally," said Mehall, former director of computer technologies at Center for Creative Studies (now College for Creative Studies) before coming to Schoolcraft College 12 years ago. "Events like this bring industry in and shows students how networking is important." Tran graduated from the Schoolcraft program then went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees from Michigan State University.

"GREAT TIME FOR STARTUPS"

"Our mission is encouraging entrepreneurship in the city and southeast Michigan," said Tran. "It's a great time for startups."

Tran said collaboration and working together were key to success. "We may have the next Facebook in Detroit."

Shane Sevo lost his job in 2007 and through networking with a Joomla user group received the support he needed to start a Web design business. Margarita Barry is encouraging those under age 35 through *I Am Young Detroit.com* to pursue their passions and do it successfully. She featured several startups including Husted Detroit and Burn Rubber, a sneaker boutique owned by rapper Ro Spit in Royal Oak. I Am Young Detroit offers entrepreneurial training as well as seed grants. "We bring inspirational stories to life through on- and off-line events," said Barry. "The time is now and Detroit is the place." Quicken Loans and CompuView are helping to make that possible by offering space for groups like Joomla! Detroit and Mobile Monday Michigan to meet.

Detroit SOUP holds collaborative dinners in the loft above Mexicantown Bakery, 4304 Vernor, across from Clark Park. For \$5, guests not only receive soup, salad and bread but a chance to win the pot of proceeds from the evening. Those in attendance vie for money to support their creative projects. One man liked to work every day and drew Detroit. A coloring book is now available at the Cass Café.

"It's a chance to share your voice," said Kahler. Detroit Soup presents their next dinner May 1. For details, visit www.detroitsooup.com.

The next meeting of D-NewTech is 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 4, at Quicken Loans in Detroit. For information, visit dnewtech.org.

"It's a critical point in time to collaborate to reinvent Detroit," said Tran. Humphrey couldn't agree more. "It's about turning a negative into a positive," Humphrey said as he ended the presentations and directed the audience to the DiPonio Room for networking, food and refreshments provided by students in the college's award-winning Culinary Arts Department.

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A spring break mission

Senior uses time off to help struggling in Detroit

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Novi High School senior Derek Kim had a spring break he will never forget. And, no, he didn't spend it on the beach with friends, but with strangers in homeless shelters and on the streets of Detroit.

It was an easy decision for Kim to forgo his senior year spring break to help others because he also did that his junior year in Jamaica.

"I couldn't sit on a resort when there are people out there who need me," he said. "It gives me a sense of satisfaction I cannot even describe."

The easy decision for the senior class president and homecoming king would have been to join his friends for one last high school hurrah, but Kim and some of his classmates at Novi High School wanted to be different.

"I go there hoping to change people and I always am the one who comes back changed. Some of those people in Detroit are the most humble people I have ever met. I've learned a lot from them."

DEREK KIM, Novi High School senior

He said the trip to Jamaica changed his life, and he saw Detroit as a place that needed him.

Kim's focus for his week-long mission trip into Detroit was to feed into the EACH (Everyone A Chance to Heal) initiative. EACH is bringing together more than 400 churches to pray for and help people in southeast Michigan, and the big event was a Prayer Walk on April 16. (Look for a story on the Prayer Walk in next week's edition.)

"(Detroit) is one of the most down-trodden places ever but I love it," Kim said. "There is so much potential."

While in Detroit, Kim spent time at the Detroit Rescue Mission feeding the needy, walked the city doing street evangelism and worked with City Mission to pass out food.

He said the most rewarding time was actually sitting down with the people he met and getting to know them.

"I go there hoping to change people and I always am the one who comes back changed," he said. "Some of those people in Detroit are the most humble people I have ever met. I've learned a lot from them."

One thing he learned during the trip was how easy it is to help, and he wants to inspire others to give of their time and talents as well.

"We are so blessed where we live," he said. "And living in this area we feel we are the majority, but I hope people realize we aren't."

He also said you don't have to be famous or rich to be a role model or change the world.

"The opportunity is right in front of us and we should be taking advantage of it," he said. "It's about doing your part."



Northville sophomore Shelby Gregory, Novi junior Ben Landry and Novi seniors Derek Kim and Mike Michniak stand on a street in Detroit during their spring break. The group joined several others helping the less fortunate in the city.

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Worship with Seder Meal

Good Friday
Friday, April 22, 12:00 Noon
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Snow bunny

Tyler Brown, 4, and sister Ashley, 2, made the best out of snow in April by helping their mom, Stacie, make their very own Easter snow bunny on April 18.



Japanese relief effort

Novi Rotarians Gary Keller (left), Danny Lanley (center) and Tom Kavanagh (right) display tools for the Japan fund-raising effort April 23 in Novi. Several members of the club collected over \$1,300 from motorists at Novi Road and Grand River. The funds will be forwarded to Rotary clubs in Japan for distribution in communities where it is most needed.

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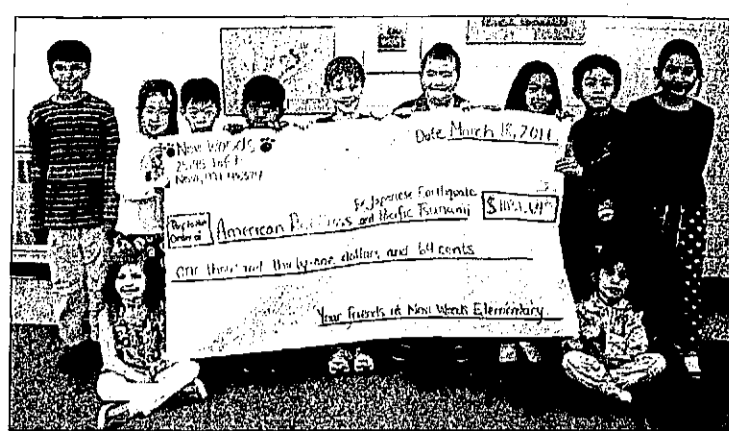
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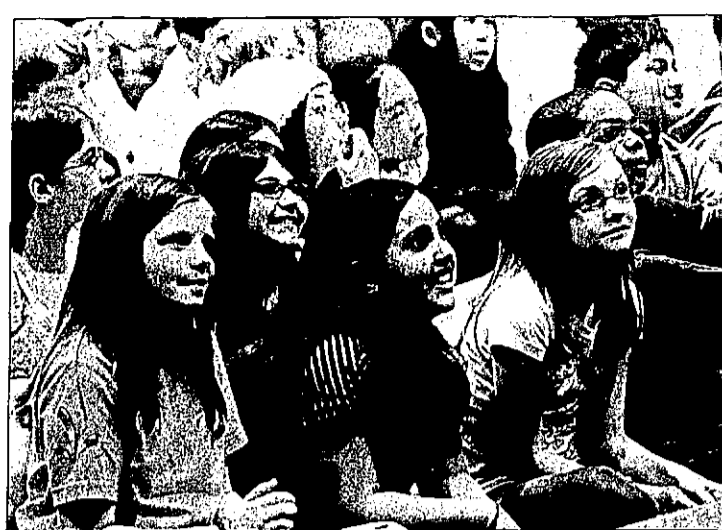
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Jammies for Japan.

Novi Woods participated in Jammies for Japan day on March 18. For the donation of \$1, the students were allowed to wear pajamas to school. The proceeds went to the American Red Cross for Japan Earthquake and Pacific Tsunami Relief Effort. The students were able to raise \$1,849.50. Shown (l to r, back) are Makund Jayaraju, Nanako Mori, Ian Cheng, Nakhi Daniel, David Wilk, Shun Okamoto, Allison Gagui, Masaya Nakagaki, Eya Du; (front) Ashley Kakish and Yumi Nakagaki.



Pollution Solution

Novi Meadows students enjoy a "Pollution Solution" show from Doug Scheer on April 13. Through humorous information Scheer attempted to teach the kids about the importance of energy and water conservation and how doing so would mean less pollution in the atmosphere.



Doug Scheer presents his "Pollution Solution" on April 13 at Novi Meadows. Through humorous information Scheer attempted to teach the kids about the importance of energy and water conservation and how doing so would mean less pollution in the atmosphere.

DOWNTOWN SOUTH LYON LADIES NIGHT OUT

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EDUCATION

Thursday, April 21, 2011 hometownlife.com

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

Barr ready to face district's financial challenges

Credit calls him 'best of the best'

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Steven Barr said he has always liked challenges. And the newly hired assistant superintendent of business and operations for Novi Community Schools is going to get just that as the district — like all others across the state — face drastic

budget cuts. "We have never experienced anything like this in my 19 years in schools," he said. "We have to be creative and smart. Some people are not going to be happy with some of the budget changes we have to make, but hopefully we can find ways to reduce the budget with minimal impact on programs and students."



Barr
Macomb Intermediate School District — spending a lot of time on shared services — and prior to that was the director

of finance in Troy for five years and worked for 11 years with Uica Community Schools. He said he was attracted to Novi because it has a "great reputation for student achievement, community and good fiscal management."

"I think they have been very proactive in managing their budget in the future," he said. Barr also has some familiarity with incoming Superintendent Steve Matthews

as the two worked together in Troy. He said it should make for an easier transition as he understands how Matthews works. Matthews will be getting started in his new role on May 9. Current Superintendent Pete Dion does not officially retire until June 30 and will be helping Matthews transition into the position until then.



These Orchard Hills students will be helping out in the school's upcoming consumer electronic recycling drive which will benefit the school and Goodwill. From left are: Vinay Panyam, Brendan Downs, Noah Woods, Cecile Steck, Sam Stefanski, Steven Koko, Deepika Baskar and Seth Bryant.

Orchard Hills preaching 'green'

Student-run recycling drive to take place in May

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Nine students at Orchard Hills Elementary are committed to making a difference — not just at their school but on their environment — through a green recycling program that starts in May.

The students are working with Recycling Fundraiser, which will take all the items collected and give the school money in return. The items the company does not purchase will be donated to Goodwill and Goodwill will earn money for the items through its partnership with Dell.

Despika Baskar, a fourth grader, said she was involved in a recycling program at her old school and thought it would be fun to help. "They had a lot of good ideas so I thought I could share some of them with Novi," she said. "Some of the items being collected include, iPods, GPS units, digital cameras, digital picture frames, cell phones, netbook computers, DVD players and more. They will not accept televisions, microwaves or small household appliances. Anyone in the community can donate, and the drop off date for larger items is May 14. For more information or questions, contact Woods at piwoods1@mac.com."

Saginaw Valley State University

Sixteen students — including Sasa Lucic, an MBA student from Wixom — have been inducted in the Beta Gamma Sigma business honor society.

NOVI ON CAMPUS

Selected by the College of Business and Management, students are in the top 10 percent of their junior or senior class, or in the top 20 percent of their graduate class. Chapters of Beta Gamma Sigma are permitted only at

institutions accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International, an accreditation conferred on just 15 percent of business schools worldwide. Students can join through invitation only.

NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS

National Trimathlon Day May 14

Mathnasium will host its first annual National TriMathlon Day on Saturday, May 14 at more than 200 participating centers across the United States (www.mathnasium.com/TriMathlon), including Novi, 47908 Grand River Avenue.

National Pi Day, March 14, was the opening day for free registration for Mathnasium's TriMathlon to all students in third, fourth, fifth and sixth grades attending public, private, or home school. The event is intended to create excitement about math among area students and schools.

Students will first compete locally at Mathnasium of Novi. Along with medals for first, second and third place winners, each participant will receive a certificate of achievement for their involvement.

National TriMathlon winners will be selected from the top three scorers in each grade level from all participating Mathnasium locations. The 12 national winners will receive honors and more than \$10,000 in cash prizes.

The TriMathlon consists of three challenges: The Counting Game (tests student's ability to count from any number, to any number, by any number), Magic Squares (students are awarded points for creativity in developing their own math problems), and Mental Math Workout (evaluates student's Number Sense by asking them to solve given problems the "smart" way without pencil and paper). Questions become progressively more difficult for students in higher grade levels.

Patrick Figurski and Joe DeFlorio, owners, Mathnasium of Novi and Livonian believe Mathnasium's National TriMathlon Day is an ideal opportunity to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of math students in these grade

levels. Additionally, each challenge tests a different facet of students' analytical and computational abilities. Their hope is that this event will generate excitement about math education among Detroit Area students and schools.

Learn more and register online at www.mathnasium.com/TriMathlon.

Catholic Central wins Quiz Bowl state championship

Detroit Catholic Central, Detroit Country Day and Utica Academy for International Studies emerged from the 2011 State Championship High School Quiz Bowl tournament with state titles in their respective classes.

More than 700 Michigan high school students from across the state gathered at Michigan State University on April 15-16 to participate in the competition former Senate Majority Leader Dan L. DeGroff began as an annual event 24 years ago.

The event, sponsored by the Michigan State University Honors College and Meijer, Inc., was held at MSU for the eleventh time this year.

The Class A competition, won by Detroit Catholic Central High School, was determined in one final match. Members of the Detroit Catholic Central team (coached by Jason Jones, Ben Herman, and Christopher Gismond) included Robert Cernak, David Ciccarelli, Ryan Dillon, Matt Messina, Connor Teevens, Kevin Wegienka, Chris Wolfe, Bobby Dorogojones, Brandon Roach, James Haubert, Brett Kusch, Alex Morgan, and Collin Parks.

For the eighth time the state tournament committee selected an All State Quiz Bowl Honorary Team who were nominated by moderators and judges of the competition as the most exceptional players of the tournament. In Class A, honors went to Benjamin Peck of University of Detroit Jesuit High School, Mayank Patke of Okemos High School, Stephen Morrison of Grosse Pointe North High School, Corey Bowen of Dexter High School, and Robert Cernak of Detroit Catholic Central High School.

Donations needed for Senior All Night Party

Organizers for the Novi High School Senior All Night Party are hard at work planning for the 2011 event and are requesting donations from parents, businesses and community members to make this year's event the best one yet. The annual Senior All Night Party, scheduled for June 4 at Novi High School, offers food, activities and prizes, allowing graduating seniors to celebrate in a safe, supervised environment. Checks may be made payable to NHS Senior All Night Party and should be sent to: NHS Senior All Night Party, C/O Dana Nussio, 22041 Shadybrook Drive, Novi, MI 48375. Information may be obtained by contacting Dana Nussio at nussio@earthlink.net or Anne Lewis at alewis13@mmr.com.

The SANP Donations Committee is seeking raffle prize and monetary donations to cover the cost of decorations, entertainment and additional raffle prizes. Organizers encourage those planning to make financial contributions to do so as soon as possible so the committee can plan a budget.

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9 Convenient Locations

Novi Center 39885 Grand River #300 Novi, MI 48375 T: (248) 615-0282 F: (248) 615-0415	Plymouth Canton Center 9368 Lilley Road, Plymouth, MI 48170 T: (734) 416-3900 F: (734) 416-3903	Livonia Center 37250 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 T: (734) 462-3240 F: (734) 462-3831
Wixom Walled Lake Center 29822 Wixom Road Wixom, MI 48393 T: (248) 926-5826 F: (248) 926-5830	Canton West Center 49550 Cherry Hill Rd, Ste 230 Canton, MI 48187 T: (734) 495-3725 F: (734) 495-3734	Livonia East Center 29528 Six Mile Road Livonia, MI 48152 T: (734) 422-0802 F: (734) 422-0873
White Lake Waterford Center 9145 Highland Road White Lake, MI 48386 T: (248) 698-1277 F: (248) 698-2089	Commerce Center 8896 Commerce Rd, Suite 1 Commerce Township, MI 48382 T: (248) 363-2115 F: (248) 363-2308	Northville Center 133 W. Main St., #120 Northville, MI 48167 T: (248) 347-1168 F: (248) 347-1252

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"Faithful Rally to Restore Hope"
The Detroit News

WITNESS THE LAUNCH OF A NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN MOVEMENT IN SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN.

This Easter, thousands of people in Metro Detroit will start donating a million volunteer hours to their local communities, ready to share the reason for their efforts: Jesus. Watch this historic event unfold at our services! Our free bagels, sweet live band, fantastic teaching, and knock-your-socks-off kids' programs are pretty cool, too.

Easter: Saturday: 5:15 p.m. Sunday: 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.

Good Friday: 4:00 & 5:30 p.m.

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College students— come home for the summer!

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Download a Michigan Uniform Guest Application at the Web site listed above. You must be admitted to Schoolcraft before you can register.
Have a plan
Use that Web site to explore your options and then work with a counselor at your current college to identify the specific Schoolcraft courses that you will transfer.
Register for classes

Be our Guest This Summer

Schoolcraft College 734-462-4426 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, MI

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

Church of the Holy Cross Location: 40700 W 10 Mile Road, Novi Contact: (248) 427-1175

6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Saturday Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays by appointment. Priests: Father Timothy Hogan, pastor and Father Michael Zuelch, associate pastor

Church of the Holy Family Ecumenical Good Friday Worship Time/Date: noon Friday, April 22 Details: The Novi Ministers Association is participating in an Ecumenical Good Friday Worship Service...

Sunday Worship: 11:15 a.m. Bible study classes: 10 a.m. for all ages

Destiny Worship Center Location: Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 Six Mile Road, Northville

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

10 a.m. Worship Service Alzheimer's Support Group Time/Date: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month

Faith Community Presbyterian Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit fcnorthville.org

First Baptist Church of Northville Location: 217 N. Wing Contact: (248) 348-1020

Details: Single Place Cards & Games Night. Once again this is our popular monthly informal social evening of games, conversation, snacks...

First Baptist Church of Northville Location: 217 N. Wing Contact: (248) 348-1020

First Baptist Church of Novi-Family Integrated Church Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road

10 a.m. Worship Service Alzheimer's Support Group Time/Date: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month

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Passages Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 email: HTWobits@hometownlife.com

ANDREASEN, RICHARD J. Age 69, passed away April 12, 2011. He was born on June 21, 1941, in Detroit, to Asbjorn and the late Ingrid (Mortner) Andreassen.

COIL, SANDRA JEAN Age 56, April 16, 2011. Beloved daughter of Mary Ann and the late Harold. Sister of Ronald. Funeral was April 20, 2011 at St. James Church, Novi.

SNYDER, MARILYN JANE Age 85, passed away April 14, 2011. She was born on February 23, 1926, in Detroit, to the late Fred and Merial Schneider.

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Bible Study: 10 a.m. Worship Lakes Baptist Church Location: 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake

Lyonia Church of Christ Location: 1543 Merriman Road, Lyonia Contact: 734-427-8743 or visit www.lyonia-church.net

Meadowbrook Congregational Location: 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight and Nine Mile roads

Merry Widows Luncheon Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of each month

Northville Christian Assembly Location: 41355 Six Mile Road Contact: (248) 348-9030

Novi - Northville Center for Jewish Life Details: A Jewish center with events, programs and activities for all ages throughout the year

Novi United Methodist Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-2652 or visit uncnovi.com

Healing Service and Holy Communion Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month

Peace Vigil Time/Date: Noon, first Sunday of every month

Church of the Holy Family Ecumenical Good Friday Worship Time/Date: noon Friday, April 22

Church of the Holy Family Ecumenical Good Friday Worship Service. Ministers from several of Novi's congregations will be participating in the noon worship.

Crosspointe Meadows Church Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road

6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Saturday Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays by appointment. Priests: Father Timothy Hogan, pastor and Father Michael Zuelch, associate pastor

Church of the Holy Family Ecumenical Good Friday Worship Time/Date: noon Friday, April 22

10 a.m. Worship Service Alzheimer's Support Group Time/Date: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month

Faith Community Presbyterian Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit fcnorthville.org

First Baptist Church of Northville Location: 217 N. Wing Contact: (248) 348-1020

Your Invitation to Worship

Advertisement for various churches including Brighton, Milford, Novi, Highland, New Hudson, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth, and Wixom. Each church listing includes name, address, phone number, and service times.

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Take Kids to Work Day

Novi Department of Public Works employee Scott Rozell, far right, tells his "Take Your Kids to Work Day" visitors how the water department services the water mains running through the city during an April 6 visit.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rotarians host Andra Doria survivor

The Novi Rotary on April 21 will host over 70 of Novi's seniors for a special Easter luncheon. Included in this total are a number of seniors from local nursing homes. During the luncheon, attendees will listen to the story of author, speaker, voyager and survivor Pierette Simpson, of Novi, who will discuss "The Last Voyage of the Andrea Doria".

Run, it's an Emergency!

Second annual 5K run and 1-mile walk to benefit community health and safety. The City of Novi and the Novi Police and Fire Departments, in partnership with Providence Park Hospital, Sam's Club and Running Fit will host the second annual Emergency Run on Saturday, May 7. The 5K run and one-mile stroke walk will be held on the Providence Park Hospital Camps (Grand River Avenue and Beck Road) in Novi. Last year's event drew close to 400 participants from 6 to 68 year's old. This year's event will include a HealthFest open to all community members offering informational booths and displays, a Kid's Korner, and refreshments.

Novi High students to exhibit art in Civic Center

The City of Novi is delighted to partner with Novi Community Schools to bring the second annual Novi High School Select Art Show to the Novi Civic Center May 30. This juried, multimedia exhibit highlights the creativity of local teens showcasing their talent through a variety of media including painting, ceramics, photography, metal work and digital media.

"This is a unique opportunity for high school students to display their artwork in professional public gallery. We are honored to have such talented young adults, and very proud to have this opportunity to display their work. Many of the featured students plan to go on to art school and pursue a career in visual art," said Erin Harbar, Art Teacher at Novi High School. Please join the artists for an opening reception from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, May 6 with an award ceremony taking place at 7 p.m. Light refreshments will be served and all are welcome.

The Civic Center Artium Gallery provides local artists the opportunity to display their work and share it with the public. Upcoming exhibits include a collaborative show featuring local artists Kathleen Rodak, Stephanie Spackman and Ar Wheeler-Carlson June 3-26. The Novi Civic Center is located at 4517 West

Ten Mile Road and is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information including weekend availability, please contact the Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at (248) 347-0400.

Registration and the HealthFest begin at 8 am with the run/walk beginning at 9 am. The pre-registration fee is \$28 for the run and \$12 for the walk. Registration at the event will be \$35 for the run and \$15 for the walk. Children 8 and under are free. All pre-paid registrants will receive a dry-fit t-shirt. Awards will be given to the top three finishers in each race category with all participating children receiving a medal.

"The Emergency Run is a compliment to healthy Novi initiatives and enhances the partnerships with those who provide emergency services to our community," said David E. Molloy, Novi's Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police. "I invite all community and business members to join us as we strive to enhance the health of Novi."

On-line registration and mail in registration forms are available at cityofnovi.org. Registration forms are also available at the Novi Police Department, Providence Park Hospital and Running Fit- Novi. Proceeds from the event will benefit health and safety initiatives for the Novi community.

For more information regarding the Emergency Run, contact Robin Working at 248.347.0416 or visit cityofnovi.org.

Novi, Northville students join forces for Relay

Last month's second annual American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Northville/Novi Students raised over \$48,000 to support the Society's mission of saving lives from cancer, as area residents rallied together during the 24-hour event at Suburban Collection Showplace.

It's not too late to support the Relay For Life in these communities. There will be events held in May and June for Northville and Novi community members. Call 248-663-3410 for more information on these two events coming up. Donations can also still be made by finding our event on www.relayforlife.org/nststudentsmi.

Memorial Day parade plans

Ten Mile Road will be full of festivity beginning at 10 a.m. Monday, May 30 for the annual Memorial Day parade. The parade, which travels west along Ten Mile Road from Karim Boulevard to the Novi 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 specialty vehicle, or building a float. Veterans will have a designated 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 13 will host a luncheon for veterans 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) 347-0414.

Looking for Rotary Peace Fellows

Rotary has long been committed to creating peace in the world and the Rotary Peace Fellowship program

was developed to meet this very need. For the Rotary Peace Fellowship recruitment process for 2012, Rotarians are asking alumni to look to their colleagues, friends and possibly to themselves and see who could be a future world peace leader through the Rotary Peace Fellowship.

Rotary Peace Fellows are awarded 15-24 month fellowships to earn master's degrees in Peace and Conflict Resolution. They study at one of five Rotary Peace Centers all over the world and complete a summer internship in the field. Applicants may also apply for the three-month professional development certificate in peace and conflict resolution. The program is located in Bangkok, Thailand and runs twice a year. For more information on the Rotary Peace Centers, please visit our website at www.rotary.org/rotarycenters.

See our online images

You can see staff photographer John Heider's photos in print in the Novi News and Northville Record, but don't miss his videos of the Super Gardener, a young moth rancher and the Novi girls state soccer march. His photo galleries feature the Farmers Market, Buy Michigan Now Festival, the Michigan Art Institute's open house, Novi High's Band Camp and much, much more.

Visit hometownlife.com every day and see what's new!

Report potholes to road commission

As spring pothole season approaches in Michigan, the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) asks residents and motorists to report potholes and other road safety issues.

If pothole complaints are called or e-mailed directly to the Road Commission, they are addressed as expeditiously as possible. Residents can contact RCOC's Department of Customer Service directly via phone (toll free at 877-858-4804 or through the Road Commission's Website, www.rcocweb.org (click on the "contact us" button).

The Department of Customer Service is staffed weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. The best way to

report a non-emergency problem after hours is to file a report at the RCOC Website. For emergencies during non-business hours, contact the RCOC dispatch office at (248) 858-4895.

The Great 38 promotion

Do you know of a deserving community project that provides a service, activity or event that helps to enrich southeast Michigan? Detroit's WADL TV38 wants to shine the spotlight on 38 of southeast Michigan's best community-based organizations by recognizing their dedication and commitment to the lives of others. Each of the 38 groups selected will be awarded with significant broadcast time on WADL TV38. The station will produce 30-second messages for daily broadcast that will amount to over thirty minutes of complimentary air time.

WADL-TV38 is seeking nominations throughout the year from organizations that have exemplified outstanding support for the southeast Michigan community through their leadership and charitable efforts. Whether these groups worked to raise funds for the hungry, generated resources to organize a family festival or directed resources to send kids to camp - by acknowledging the organizations and sharing their successes, we hope to encourage others to engage in service to the community to help move our state forward.

Viewers can nominate worthy groups from southeast Michigan by logging on to the WADL TV38 website: www.waddetroit.com/great38. An average of three outstanding community programs will be selected each month to receive this coveted recognition throughout the next 12 months.

Wanted: vacation photos!

Take a copy of your Northville Record along on your vacation and we'll publish a photo of you and your

travel companions in the paper with the headline: Wish You Were Here. Just be sure to include the newspaper in your photo. Send your photo in a jpg format to cstoney@gannett.com.

Identify everyone in the photo (first and last names) and tell us where they live. Tell us when the photo was taken and where. Tell us what was special about your trip, if you wish. Include a daytime phone number so we can contact you if necessary. Then look for your photo in the newspaper and on our Facebook site under WISH YOU WERE HERE!

Your news, now!

Breaking stories and news updates are always posted online at hometownlife.com. Check out the latest happenings in Novi throughout the day.

Get into the online discussions by clicking on Story Chat on each story, editorial, or letter to the editor. It's a great way to sound off and to connect with other readers. Check out the awesome photo galleries posted by our staff photographers and our readers, as well as video clips that help tell the stories in our community. Stop by the Hometown Weeklies' Facebook page and become a "friend" to receive news updates right on your wall. It's your news, on your time, in the format of your choice.

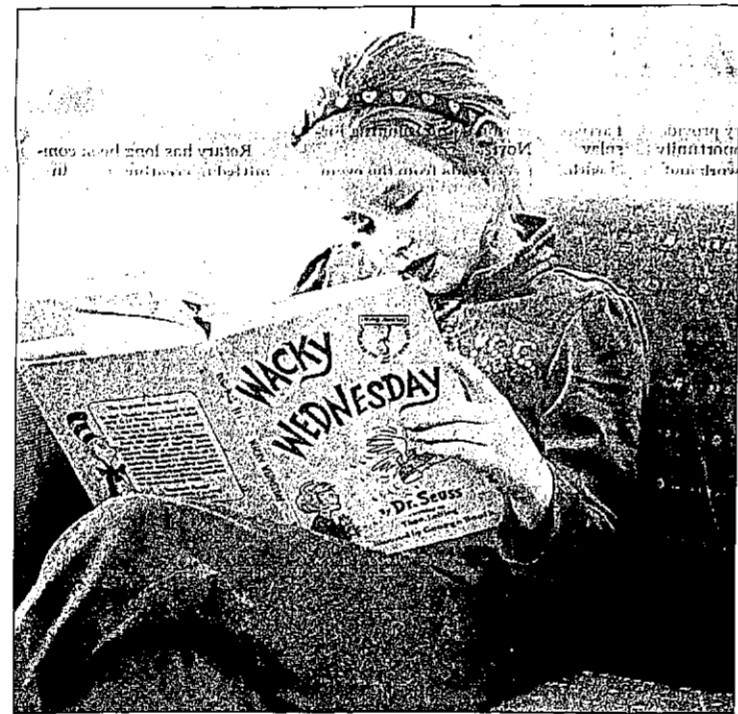
Cleaning for a reason

If you know any woman currently undergoing chemotherapy, please pass the word to her that there is a cleaning service that provides free housecleaning once per month for four months while she is in treatment. All she has to do is sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service. This organization serves the entire USA and currently has 547 partners to help these women. Find out more at www.cleaningforareason.org.



Passionate

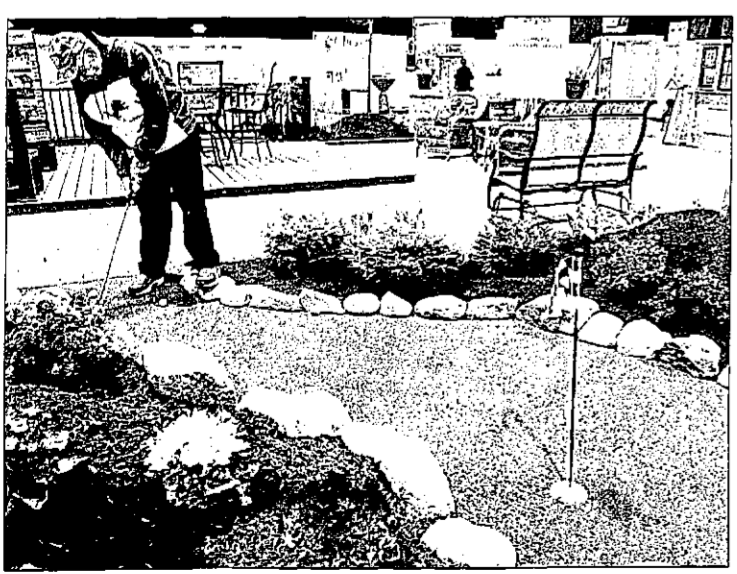
Approximately 900 people participate in the Passion for Life event on March 26, despite frigid temperatures. Although no dollar amount was available yet for funds raised through registration fees, people also donated both online and at the event itself. People can still make a donation by going to www.passion5k.com. Drew Clayborn (who is still doing his rehab in Novi at the DMC RIM) is shown with (l. to r.) the founder and organizer of Passion for Life, Neb Stojkovic (also the boys varsity track coach at Walled Lake Central High School where he teaches math); CJ Clayborn (Drew's brother); Tracie Nichols; LeDon Clayborn (Drew's father) and Shannon Waybrant, Passion for Life marketing director.



Reading time

Evvey Oegema, 6, looks at Dr. Seuss book on March 15 at the Novi Public Library.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Home and Garden Show

Matt Tierney of Harsens Island tries out a small putting course put together by Heritage Irrigation and Landscaping at the April 8 Spring Home and Garden Show at Novi's Suburban Collection Showplace.



Book It!

Novi Public Library patrons look at items up for silent auction during its Book It fundraiser event April 15. The benefit for the children's section of the library raised approximately \$10,000 from 200 attendees.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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 Saturday, April 30th
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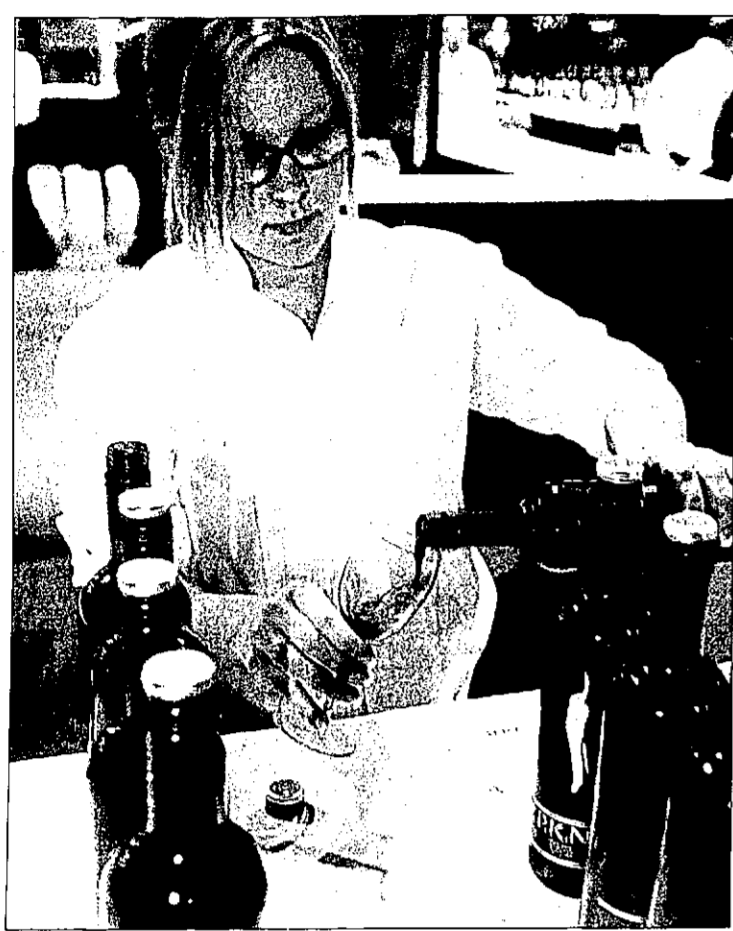
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STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, April 21, 2011

hometownlife.com



PHOTOS BY JOHN NICHOLS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wine expo

(Above) Samantha Finnemore pours a cabernet sauvignon at the April 15 Michigan Wine Expo at Novi's Suburban Collection Showcase. (Below) Michael Smiltz, a purveyor of Vintage Wines, takes a sip of a sauvignon blanc. Hundreds of wine enthusiasts gathered to sample wines, brands, mixed drinks and lots of gourmet food from merchants from all over the U.S.



OAKLAND COUNTY BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance are invited to attend seminars in April offered by the Oakland County Business Center. Business Basics workshops are now offered in the evenings on alternating months. Unless otherwise noted, all programs take place in the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, located at 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, west of Telegraph, in Waterford. For pre-registration and location specifics, visit our website at oakgov.com/peds/calendar, or call (248) 858-0763.

Legal & Financial Basics for Small Business

This workshop covers many of the key legal and financial issues faced by both new and existing small businesses in Michigan. The program

initially focuses on the many management and liability concerns faced by entrepreneurs, as well as today's tax consequences. The program also provides solutions and techniques for business concession and individual investment and retirement planning. Presented by Carter & Affiliates, P.C.
Tuesday, April 26, 9 a.m. to noon. This workshop is free, but pre-registration is required.

Future Workshops

(AM) Morning Class 9 a.m. to noon/12:30 p.m.; (PM) Evening Class 6-9/9:30 p.m.
May 4, CEED Microloan Orientation (AM)
May 5, Pre-Business Research Workshop (AM)
May 10, Working for Yourself: The Ins and Outs of Becoming a Consultant, a Contractor or Service Provider

May 11, SBA Forum on Small Business Lending
May 12, Fundamentals of Starting a Business (AM)
May 17, Social Media Marketing Part 2 (AM)
May 18, WBE Certification Orientation (AM)
May 19, Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan (AM)
June 1, Effective Networking (PM)
June 2, Pre-Business Research Workshop (PM)
June 8, CEED Microloan Orientation (AM)
June 8, 5 Keys to Successful Financial Planning for Small Business
June 8, Social Media Marketing Part 3 (PM)
June 9, Fundamentals of Starting a Business (PM)
June 16, Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan (AM)
June 21, Small Business Loan Workshop (AM)
June 23, QuickBooks Essentials Part I & II

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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

Protecting finances in a web world

BY JON GUNNELLS
GUEST COLUMNIST

A few unsavory characters recently decided to use my debit card number to make some purchases at a handful of gas stations across Colorado. Since I enjoy saving my money — or at least spending it — I've spent the past week in safety mode securing my computer and protecting myself on the web.

By showing more precaution before the unauthorized access of my bank account I could have saved time, temporary loss of funds, and a few trips to my bank.

There are a number of ways you can protect yourself and your finances in the information world before your accounts become hijacked — or in my case — so my accounts don't get hijacked again.

Secure your e-mail accounts. Your most important password isn't the password you use to access your credit card statements or retirement account — it's your e-mail password. Because if you forget a password or login information for any other site (e.g. banking sites) the reminder, or new password is sent to your e-mail. Save e-mails with sensitive information to a secure location on your computer, or print them off and keep them in a safe place and then delete them.

Don't use your debit card online. I used my debit card for online purchases for the first time when I used it to purchase some posters for my cubicle at work. It is no coincidence that last week was also the first time my debit card account was compromised. And while I have a cool 6-foot-tall Barry Sanders poster hanging across from my office space, it would not have been cool if that \$4 purchase led to my bank account being liquidated by some bum in Colorado.

Credit cards are safer to use online because they generally offer better fraud protection and have spending limits.

PayPal (paypal.com) is also a secure option to do business online. It is frequently used among eBay buyers and sellers and small businesses and the company is founded on the principles of safety. Users aren't

liable for fraudulent charges. I have been a PayPal user for eight years, and have had no issues with the free service.

Use a firewall and lock down your wireless network. Two more ways to keep your computers and data safe from predators. A firewall can keep others on the internet from accessing your computer. Similarly, others could also access your computer through an unprotected wireless network. If you have a wireless network at home, neighbors could log on to your network and in some cases access your data.

Run your antivirus and anti-malware software. Assuring you have antivirus software and anti-malware/spyware software you should run it weekly. If you don't have antivirus or anti-malware software you should put down this newspaper and get to work. These types of software can prevent viruses that could steal passwords and deliver your important information to the same type of people that stole my debit card number. Care.com offers a variety of free tools to keep your computer safe and can also provide input on the best antivirus tools that can be purchased.

Jon Gunnells, a Northville Township resident, is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. A 2007 graduate of Michigan State University, he holds a B.A. in Journalism. When he's not working, Gunnells enjoys college sports, social media and playing basketball. He can be reached at joanhan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnShov.

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Presenters tell story of creating a 'School With Soul'

Angela Hospice honors NovI volunteers
Volunteers give over 35,000 hours of their time each year to support the patients and programs at Angela Hospice. The Livonia-based hospice has more than 450 active volunteers, who help in a variety of ways — from baking cookies, to providing companionship for patients; assisting with fundraising, or delivering supplies; answering phone calls, hosting ice cream socials, or mailing out letters.

To thank the volunteers who help out in 100 many ways to count, Angela Hospice held its annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on April 12, during National Volunteer Week. During the dinner, held at the Italian American Club of Livonia, pins were presented to 78 volunteers who reached milestones for each 5 years or 500 hours of service. A special award, Volunteer of the Year, was given to Jane Cuba of Livonia.

Novi residents who were honored included massage therapist Terence Gahman, for 10 years of service; Care Center volunteer Janine Patel, for five years of service; and food preparation volunteer Andrea Smith, for five years of service.

"Volunteers are vitally important to the operation of Angela Hospice," said volunteer services manager Syndie Best. "We say the words 'we couldn't do what we do without our volunteers,' and that isn't just sentiment; that's a fact! Our wonderful volunteers allow us to provide exceptional care that goes above and beyond the call of duty to those in our program."

McGee Wins Outstanding Service Award
Novi's Michael P. McGee, a principal and public finance lawyer in the Detroit office of the law firm of Miller Canfield, has received a 2011 Outstanding Service Award from the Michigan Municipal League (MML) for his longtime commitment to the League and Michigan's communities. He received the award at the MML's Capital Conference on April 6 in Lansing.

The MML said about McGee: "Attorney Mike McGee of Miller Canfield in Detroit is instrumental in providing the League's Lansing team feedback on various bills that address local government in Michigan. He is an expert at giving both legal and practical advice on legislation and its impact on our communities. He dedicates a significant amount of time to answer questions from League staff, participate in workshops, or come up to Lansing to be our 'expert in the field.' His dedication to helping Michigan communities succeed is recognized by everyone and appreciated greatly."

At Miller Canfield, McGee has served as board counsel and underwriter's counsel for hundreds of transactions in various areas including economic development, transit and transportation. In addition, he has negotiated complex intergovernmental agreements for a wide variety of clients, including a major economic development project for the Southeast Michigan region and related legislation. Over the past 25 years, he has had primary responsibility for general obligation and revenue bond issues amounting to more than \$3.5 billion.

A three-time graduate of the University of Michigan, he earned a bachelor's degree in economics and political science cum laude in 1979, a law degree in 1982, and a master's degree in public policy studies in 1988.

In 2010, Deerfield Elementary School of the Novi Community School District was in the top one percent of high performing schools for the state of Michigan. But at the recent National School Board Association's Annual Conference in San Francisco, Calif., an early Saturday breakout session entitled, "Touching Hearts, Educating Minds," did not focus on championing the school's test scores. Instead, presenters treated audience members to an inspiring story of how Deerfield came to be.

Based on a book of the same name written by Deerfield Elementary School Principal Richard Njus, the session explained how a unique planning and design process has helped develop a highly-effective culture of learning at the K-5 school.

"From the beginning, Deerfield was meant to be a school focused on educating the whole child," shared Former Novi School Board Member Julie Abrams. "The facility planning committee set a very clear vision based on the four Cs: Community, Curriculum, Climate and Character."

Njus then shared how Deerfield students live the four Cs every day, through multi-age learning, morning meetings for academic teams, and a focus on volunteerism.

"Our culture is summarized by the Deerfield pledge," he said before reciting the pledge for the audience: "Deerfield Explorers are caring, responsible community members, who respect themselves, others and their environment."

George Kacan, the project's architect and a member of the design firm Fanning Howey, followed Njus by explaining how the building's design is meant to support these activities.



Richard Njus (seated) with the Kacans: George, Cheryl, Kevin and Kelly.

"We used a nature theme to connect with the surrounding landscape and create a very unique and exciting experience," he said. "As a result, students at Deerfield identify very strongly with their learning environment."

In a surprising turn, the audience also heard from Kacan's children, Kevin and Kelly, who both attended Deerfield. Kevin and Kelly addressed how the planning and design of Deerfield created a special atmosphere that enhanced their learning experience.

"One thing I can never forget about Deerfield was the school

itself," shared Kevin. "The media center was beautiful. Being inside the media center almost felt like I was physically in a story myself."

According to Kevin, there was no typical school days. During some lessons he would be collaborating with his small group; for others, he would be working in an expanded class of 60 kids or even 100 kids. He especially enjoyed the relationships that this approach allowed him to develop with different teachers.

Kelly joined her brother in praising Deerfield's personalized instructional approach. "We were always encouraged to learn at our own pace, and older students in the house would teach the younger students," she said. "It seemed to remember more and understand more by doing that. It was very much like a family."

She also praised the school's focus on building each child's self-esteem, along with their knowledge base.

"I played a pilgrim in the school play, called Christmas in July," she said. "This was a great opportunity to learn how to present in front of a large audience to help build your confidence. Kind of like standing here today, presenting to you!"

"I was one of my favorite people," Landry said. "I was such a great guy."

Cindy Koczyński, who worked with Muscat, said he was crushed when the festival was canceled last year because he loved everything about the event.

"It was just a fun-loving man," she said. A memorial service was held at Lynch and Sons Funeral Home in Walled Lake on Tuesday and interment will be at Lake Lyndsay Cemetery in Brooksville, Fla.

Photo by John Nichols

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More: For a complete listing of local and regional events, see the Novi Calendar online at www.hometownlife.com.

LOCAL EVENTS

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Contact: (248) 735-8100

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HCG Seminar
Time/Date: 11 a.m. Saturday, May 14

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Contact: (877) 807-SAFE (7233)
Details: As the world celebrates William and Kate's Royal Wedding, enjoy a presentation about the art of English tea making with Pauline, our resident "Brit", who has had the honor of taking tea in the gardens of Buckingham Palace.

Afternoon Tea
Time/Date: 3 p.m. Saturday, April 30
Details: As the world celebrates William and Kate's Royal Wedding, enjoy a presentation about the art of English tea making with Pauline, our resident "Brit", who has had the honor of taking tea in the gardens of Buckingham Palace.

Location: Rock Financial Showplace, Grand River Avenue between Tall and Beck roads
Details: Comrades and fellow veterans, please join these monthly meetings; attendance is needed to maintain and grow the Post.

American Business Women's Association - Novi Oaks Charter Chapter
Time/Date: 6:15 p.m. (networking); 6:45 (dinner); second Wednesday of each month

Suburban Collection Showplace
Location: 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi
Motor City Comic Con
Time/Date: 12:30-7 p.m. Friday; 10:30-6 Saturday; 10:30-5 Sunday, May 13-15

Novi Toastmasters Club
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. every first and third Tuesday
Location: Novi Civic Center, Activities Room, 45175 West 10 Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375

Novi Historical Commission Meeting
Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 27
Details: Public is always welcome. Meetings discuss ongoing and future projects of the Novi Historical Commission.

Walled Lake Library
Location: 1499 East West Maple Road, Walled Lake
Contact: (248) 624-3772

Novi Community Education
Contact: (248) 449-1206
Web: www.novicomunityed.org
Novi Community Education
Contact: register, call (248) 449-1206 or visit www.novicomunityed.org

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NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION MAY 3, 2011 FOR NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
To the Qualified Electors of Precincts 17, 18 and 19 in the City of Novi - Oakland County, Michigan,
Notice is hereby given that a Special Election will be held in the City of Novi, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, TUESDAY, May 3, 2011.

Business
Northville-Novu 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.

NIGHTLIFE
Andiamo Novi / Dirty Martini Lounge / Andiamo Theater
Location: 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi
Contact: (248) 348-9838
Off-Broadway Series
Details: Space is limited to approximately 200 guests per show.
April 29-May 1: "Celebrity Autobiography"
May 4-22: "Bad Dates"
May 25-June indefinitely: "The Last Five Years"
June 22: Comedian and actor Pauly Shore

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, May 11, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18.248 FOR A RECOMBINATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 9718, AS AMENDED, THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE AT ARTICLE 26, GENERAL PROVISIONS SECTION 2615, FENCES (RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL) IN ORDER TO ADD REGULATIONS REGARDING MAINTENANCE AND MATERIALS, WITH CERTAIN EXEMPTIONS.

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OUR VIEWS

Japanese disaster
Get involved; help is still needed

On Dec. 26, 2004, a massive earthquake occurred under the Indian Ocean just off the coast of Indonesia. The 9.0 magnitude quake created a series of tsunamis that devastated Indonesia and Sri Lanka. The death toll was measured in hundreds of thousands.

For those of us living on the other side of the world, details of the death and destruction caused by the quake-induced tsunami was slow in coming. Much of what we saw in the days that followed was videos taken by tourists who videotaped the event as it unfolded.

Shch was not the case March 11 as the world watched in real time as a 23-foot wall of water swept across the Japanese coast, destroying buildings and claiming the lives of an untold number of people who had little time to escape.

The power of Mother Nature is something to behold, but so is the response of mankind to such disasters. Governments, including our own, have committed resources to help the living and find those trapped in the wreckage. But we as people can also help the Japanese people and we must.

For two and a half hours this past Sunday, the JSD Women's Club and the Japan America Society of Detroit and Windsor hosted a baked goods and crafts charity sale at the Novi Civic Center in support of Japanese earthquake and tsunami relief efforts. More than 80 volunteers sold cakes, cookies and various handmade craft items with 100% of the proceeds going to the Japanese disaster relief fund through the JBSD Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Eiji Kato, foundation president, said the organization has received more than \$330,000 in generous contributions from businesses and individuals to support the disaster relief efforts in Japan.

But you can still do more. Here's two ways that are simple to do:

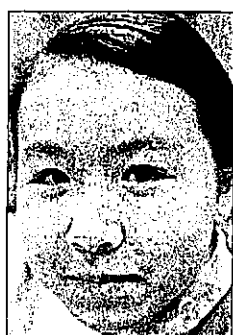
• Similar to its efforts to help Haiti after the earthquake in 2010, Red Cross is accepting donations either online or via text message. Simply text REDCROSS to 50599 to donate \$10 from your phone. You'll be prompted to confirm with a second text reading YES.

• The Salvation Army, which has had a presence in Japan since 1895, also is accepting donations via text message. Those interested in contributing \$10 to the group can text "Japan" or "quake" to 808988.

We urge readers to get involved and make a donation. Ten dollars isn't a lot of money — a few fast food meals at best. We also ask that you remember in your prayers those who have lost loved ones in the disaster and to those who face the arduous task of rebuilding. Recovery will take time, but with the help of the world, we know it will happen.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What's your favorite book of all time?
(Asked at Novi's Battle of the Books competition on March 26).



"I like the Nancy Drew, Harry Potter and Twilight series. I like how they're targeted to young readers and their plot lines are interesting."
Rosa Zhang, 13
Novi



"I like 'The Schwab Was Here' by Neal Schusterman. The writing is really good and the concept original."
Yash Sathi
Novi



"I like 'The Catcher in the Rye.' I've read it two or three times already, and I like that it's a different story about teenagers' lives."
Katie VanDroot, 15
Northville



"The Gallagher Girls.' It's a series that been pretty good so far and is about a school for kid spies."
Alex Shremeta, 15
Novi

LETTERS

A King Solomon-like suggestion

Before ground is broken and pavement laid, a simple suggestion:

Each of the officials responsible for planning a 10-foot wide black top switch through the yards of the Nine Mile Road residents should study their own property, if they own any, and delineate a 10-foot wide path through it. Be sure to visualize the elimination of any footage within two feet on each side of their black ribbon.

Enough said? The power of eminent domain should be exercised only with caution and consideration. Dollar signs often blur the picture. "Wow! I can get a 60 percent discount if I buy that white elephant!"

A six-foot wide sidewalk? Why not? A 14-foot wide freeway? Ridiculous!

Novi needs an ombudsman.
Patrick M. Downey
Novi

Keep funding in K-12

Our schools are in serious trouble. The Michigan School Aid Fund (SAF) is the only mechanism by which Michigan pays for its K-12 public schools. If you haven't already heard, Gov. Snyder has proposed gutting school (K-12) funding by taking almost \$1 billion (\$900M) from the SAF and moving it to fund community colleges and universities. This will necessitate

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

E-mail: cstone@gannett.com
Read or comment online: www.hometownlife.com

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

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

Our public schools are critical to preparing our children for the future. These aren't do-over years for our kids' education. They won't get a chance to do chemistry labs that have been canceled. They won't get to re-take art class or band or orchestra because they've been cut from the curriculum. They won't have the influence of a particular fantastic literature (or history or calculus or biology) teacher if he/she is laid off. They'll miss the strong start of all-day kindergarten.

We pay for the schools. We own them. It's OUR money sitting in the School Aid Fund. We are responsible for the curriculum. It's easy to dismantle good schools — it's very hard to establish them. While it's our battle to fight and not the superintendent's, I recommend you go to the Novi Schools' website and read Superintendent Dion's explanation of our dire (but unnecessary) situation. I recommend you then contact Gov. Snyder and Novi's two Michigan legislators, Hugh Crawford and Mike Kowal. Their contact information is included in Mr. Dion's message. Please tell them you strongly oppose de-funding our schools. Ask your neighbors to do the same.

These aren't years we can get back for our kids. It harms ALL of us when we de-fund education and cut away crucial learning opportunities and experiences. Please take action to stop it.
Kathleen Hood
Novi

Pamelama gave me an education on the word 'tough'

BY CAL STONE
STAFF COLUMNIST

I used to think that I was pretty tough. Not in the sense that I could kick somebody's butt, but rather that I could handle a lot physically and mentally.

From eye surgery as a baby through a severely broken wrist, two fractured ankles, surgery on both knees, teeth knocked out by a baseball and more stitches than a sewing convention, my body has had its share of abuse.



Cal Stone

Then there was cancer followed by a divorce, bankruptcy and ugly scarring my three kids a few days a month more than enough mental anguish as well.

So yeah, I thought I was tough. That was until I got to see a now-110-pound woman from Indiana show me what that word (and courage and strength) really mean.

When I met Pam Fleming about a dozen years ago she was a robust, red-headed, rusp-checked Irish woman with a slight, but charming, Southern accent. She's still got that drawl, but her body has changed.

The first time we met, I was interviewing her for a writing position at a business publication where I was the editor. She came highly recommended by another staff member — and he was right.

She was prolific; a godsend for any editor. It didn't matter what story I threw at her, she gobbled it up. And her copy was what we call "clean" — nearly perfect, error-free. I rarely had to ask her to follow up with more detail. She thought like a reader. What more could I ask for?

When the publication closed in January 2002, thanks in part to the after-effects of 9/11, I was out of work for a few months until I got a call to edit the Novi News. When a staff writing position became open, I called Pam, who was juggling a couple of part-time retail gigs to make ends meet.

A few years later, I bounced over to the Northville Record and asked Pam to join me on staff. My Novi successor asked if I'd swap her with his writer, who was pretty darn good too. "No way," I told him. "I might have been here yesterday, but I stayed up all night. Pamelama (my nickname for her) is going where I go."

She was stellar in Novi, and she equally embraced Northville and all its beats — city, township, cops, business, features and education. If you've been reading these papers for the last eight years, you know she is the face of the Record in Northville, not me. People called her with story ideas. They told her all the juicy "off the record" info. And that was just fine by me. What more could I ask for?

The recession whittled our staff down to three — Pam, me and our trusty photographer, John Heider — we rolled with it. You do what you gotta do, right?



Pam Fleming signs the back of the old wooden Northville Record sign, which used to hang above the newspaper's front door on Main Street. It was donated to the Northville Historical Society in March 2010.

I took on both the Novi and Northville papers. John shot more photos and became our company's leader in videos. And Pamelama ... she just kept on writing — even when she learned in January 2009 that she had pancreatic cancer. Pretty harsh news when you're just 54, eh?

Like I said, I thought I was tough. Pam was about to give me and everybody else a serious lesson about life. She didn't quit her job and travel the world (even though all of us kept telling her to take that dream trip to Ireland), but she did continue to enjoy her biggest thrill, golf, as much as she could (and

REACH OUT

Want to reach out to Pam Fleming? Take a few minutes and send her an e-mail or a card. She'd enjoy hearing from you.
E-mail: pamelafleming@yahoo.com
Snail mail: Pam Fleming, 21322 E. Glen Haven Circle, Northville, MI 48167

trust me, you wanted to be teamed up with her when it came time to hit the links). She bought a cool condo and a new Ford. And, of course, she kept writing. What more could I ask for?

Pam has spent the last two years battling this vile disease that I must ask God about when I meet him: "Two years plus is a long time, my friends. Very long when you're undergoing chemotherapy, medication, experimental drugs, in and out of the ER, countless trips to a variety of medical facilities, and ... writing for a weekly community newspaper."

Yes, Pam kept it up far longer than any of us thought she would. I e-mailed her on a Monday in February to see how things were going, and her reply was one I truthfully had expected many, many months prior: "I can't do it anymore."

I knew then that it was bad if she was going to quit writing. The weeks before, she had been writing from her bed, making calls to sources for stories and doing everything she could to keep it going.

Although I don't hear from her every day anymore, we keep in contact via e-mail, text messages or phone calls. I e-mailed her to see if it was OK to stop by last Wednesday after Northville's State of the Community luncheon (where Township Supervisor Mark Albo asked everyone during his presentation to keep Pam in their thoughts and prayers. That was classy).

"Sure," she texted. "Stop on by afterwards if you have time."

If I have time. Yes, I believe I have time. Pamelama. In fact, I wish I had given her more time and support these last two years, but I get wrapped up in my own little world and think that my woes are actually serious. In comparison, they're not.

A few weeks ago, Hospice started helping out, and her friend Chris had been the friend that we all hope we have if we're ever in this position. I won't nuince words with you: Pam is frail. She has an oxygen tank and was barely able to sit up on the couch when I visited. We small-talked for a half hour before I had to leave and write a story about the luncheon that, at that moment, seemed like the most trivial piece of journalism ever.

I hugged her, careful not to squeeze too hard. I then went to my car and wept. I was sure that I was friends with the toughest woman in the world. What more could I ask for?

Cal Stone is the editor of the Northville Record and Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 437-2001, Ext. 237, or cstone@hometownlife.com.



Juried art show

Novi High School student Maddi Phimister looks at a door she's painted at the start of the juried art show at the school April 14.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Novi High Senior Keely Mann takes a look at one of her paintings in the April 14 Novi High School Select Art Show. Most of the students exhibiting there were doing so to qualify their portfolios for the school's International Baccalaureate Program.



Novi High's Emily Patterson explains her portrait at the April 14 juried show.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 40% of those who apply for disability benefits.

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Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

Attorney Bleske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 27 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings.



In a recent radio interview attorney Bleske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. You may be eligible even if you have retired and are receiving a pension. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related 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 deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Call attorney J.B. Bleske at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you are considering applying for Social Security Disability benefits or if you have been denied. His Livonia 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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Wish You Were Here

Two Greenwood Oaks subdivision families — John and Hannah Lesko, and John, Tin and Carter Barnes — were all on a Royal Caribbean cruise to Jamaica for spring break April 4-9. The captain of the ship "Navigator of the Seas" is holding the newspaper and the cruise director is also in the picture.

Novi police offering pistol safety classes

The Novi Police Department will be offering two opportunities for area residents interested in taking Civilian Pistol Safety Classes.

The first class will be an evening course offered in two segments beginning on April 27 from 5:30-10:30 p.m. at the Novi Police Department Training Center, located at 45125 W. Ten Mile Road. The second segment of this course will meet on May 11 from 6-9 p.m. at the Novi Firearms Training Center. The second class will be held on May 14 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Novi Police Department Training Center. After lunch, participants will move to the Novi Firearms Training Center to complete the training. Both courses fulfill the classroom and shooting requirements to obtain a Michigan Concealed Pistol License (CPL). Initially offered in July 2010, the demand for CPL course continues to grow, now offering both day and evening class schedules. According to Director of Public Safety / Chief of Police David E. Molloy, "Educational opportunities like the Civilian Pistol Safety Class strengthen the partnership between the community and the Novi Police Department."

Participants must be 21 years old and can register online at cityofnovi.org or pick up a registration form at the Novi Police Department. The course costs \$200 and can be paid with cash or money order. All participants are subject to a criminal background check. Class size is limited. Students must bring their own equipment, including a personal handgun, 100 rounds of ammunition, safety glasses, and shooter's earmuffs or ear plugs. For more information, visit cityofnovi.org or contact Sergeant Michael Warren at mwarren@cityofnovi.org or (248) 347-0572.

Two men find body near Novi's Hilton Garden Inn

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Two men out for a walk Friday evening on Cabernet Drive north of I-96 came upon an unsuspecting discovery — an unresponsive body lying in the wooded area south of the Hilton Garden Inn.

The men tried to wake the man several times before calling police, and when officers arrived they confirmed the man was dead.

Michigan State Police also arrived on the scene with a helicopter to video the area and check for other victims and evidence.

Novi Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police David Molloy said the victim did not have any identification on him and are working with potential family members to positively identify him.

"We believe the victim is a homeless male who has been frequenting this area and the area of Eleven Mile and Taft roads," Molloy said in an e-mail.

The Oakland County Medical Examiner's Office performed an autopsy on Saturday and determined the preliminary cause of death to be accidental hypothermia. There was no trauma found on the victim's body.

A final ruling will come following toxicology results.

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PATHWAY

FROM PAGE A1

made by the City Council on whether to scale back or defer other projects because of the additional cost.

"The decision by the council on Monday was met with smiles and handshakes by the residents who gathered in the council chambers Monday night."

Naomi Wood, whose home is on the corner of Chestnut Tree and Nine Mile Road, said she and her husband Doug have always wanted a sidewalk of some sort but was concerned

about safety because the pathway was so large. The path itself was going to be 10 feet wide with two feet of a green buffer zone on each side.

"We think a pathway is nice as long as it's the same style as others in the city," she said.

"The two also thought the larger project was going to go forward regardless of their concerns and were 'pleasantly surprised' by the result."

"It was very refreshing," Doug said after thanking several of the council members for doing their due diligence.

Naomi Wood said Mayor Pro tem Bob Gatt was a key player on behalf of the residents, personally calling her after the April 4 meeting to tell her he was no longer in favor of the larger path.

"The last time we voted (in January) it was whether we should spend money on another study, and that is what I was against," he said. "The people who came here last time were professional, courteous and articulate. They stayed on point, and most all they were right."

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BUDGET

FROM PAGE A1

long-term fixed cost... and that is employees."

It was not a sentiment shared by council member Terry Margolis and mayor David Landry, however.

Margolis was adamant that "the idea we should horde money is against everything I believe about government." "When I live in my city I deserve to have services provided to me based on the taxes I am paying," she said. "I don't deserve to have the city put away money and horde it just in case."

"That 'just in case' may never

happen."

The 2011-12 budget as presented calls for using \$3.6 million from the fund balance to balance the budget, while also keeping the fund balance at the top of the newly-established, higher range of 18-to-22 percent. The ending fund balance is estimated at \$6,231,669 or 21.9 percent.

Landry noted that the city council has "always used fund balance for budget stabilization" and the 2012-13 estimate of using \$895,550 would be an all-time low. He said he feels the majority of council is taking an "extremely conservative" approach to the budget and offered a suggestion to look at the list of capital expenditures

and see what could be deferred until the end of the year or put off to the future.

"I don't think we need to do this," he said of looking at operational cuts. "The sky is not falling. For me it is necessary to eliminate jobs that we do what is necessary, but I don't think you do it before it's necessary."

"The city administration also will be providing council with a more accurate view of revenues to include additional constitutional state shared revenue as a result of the increase in population."

The April 27 meeting is set for 7 p.m. in the council chambers and is open to the public.

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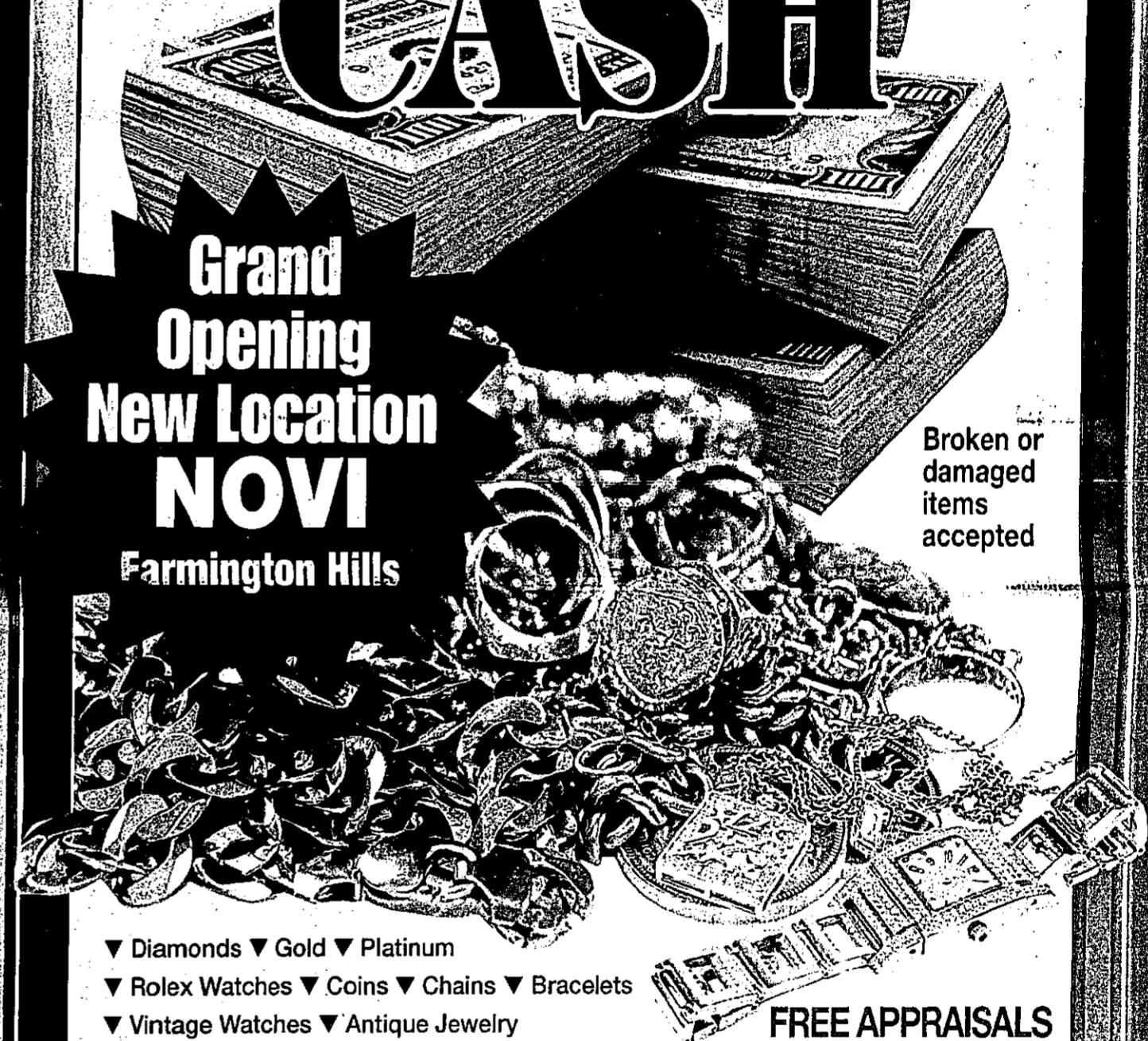
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Baseline soccer rivalry ends in tie after late goal

ON TAP
 Novi girls soccer team (2-0-1, 1-0-1 KLA Central) has to wait for other teams to return from their spring breaks before visiting Livonia Stevenson (3-0-1, 1-0-1 Central) April 26 and South Lyon (1-2-0, 1-0 Central) April 28. Both games kick off at 7 p.m. leading into an 11 a.m. April 30 contest with Ann Arbor Skyline (2-1-0), who made it to the Division 2 semifinals last season ranked No. 8 in their division without any juniors or seniors.

The Wildcats (2-0-1, 1-0-1 KLA Central) nearly got on the board 90 seconds into the game when a goal-line cross by senior Nicki Caruso was intercepted by the defense and tapped back to Northville sophomore goalkeeper Kiki Hilmer (one save), who had to dive to stop it from going into the net.

The illegally grabbed pass back gave Novi an indirect free kick at the top of the six-yard box. With all 11 Mustangs creating a wall on the goal line, Novi junior Kelli Timar tried to shoot the ball off one of them and into the net, but the shot and rebound were both blocked before the Northville net (4-0-2) was safe again.

"That first opening couple minutes, they got a free kick at the six-yard box and we managed to deny," Northville coach Eric Brucker said. "That could have emotionally killed us right from the start. To get things set up and defend, (Hilmer) plays good."

Ten minutes later, both teams began trading five big scoring opportunities in an eight-minute span, but neither could get on the board.

Novi senior netminder Gabby Gauruder (six saves) came up huge for the Wildcats with multiple point-blank saves on freshman Jamie Cheslik, junior Tara



Novi junior Kelli Timar (left) and Northville sophomore Gabby Gauruder fight for the ball April 12 during a 1-1 tie at Meadows Stadium.

Novi hurdlers sweep Mustangs, lead way at Oxford Invite

Cingel, Jocz lead Wildcats through early meets

ON TAP
 Behind victories in 12 of 17 events and sweeps in four of them, the Wildcats' boys track and field team defeated baseline rival Northville 97-40 April 12 to kick off division play.

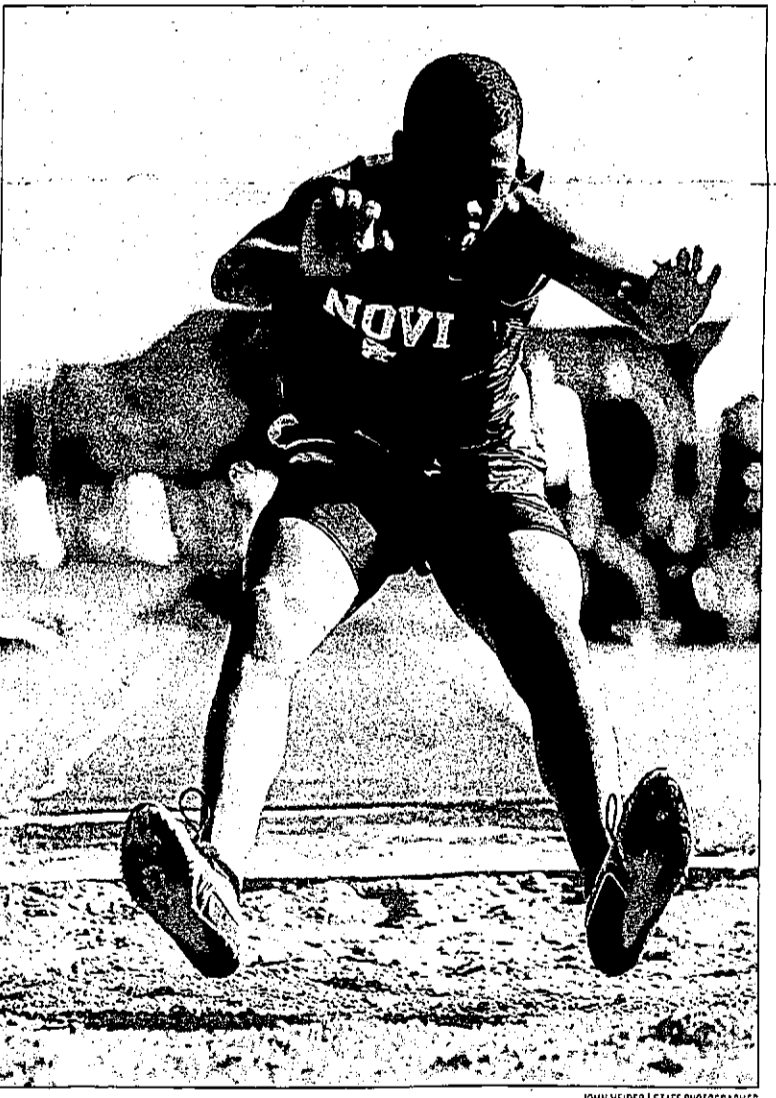
After the first eight events, Novi (2-0 KLA Central) was ahead 53-7 and there was no looking back.

The relay squads won three of four events, with the Mustangs (1-1 Central) winning the 4x400 relay in the final event of the day.

Novi senior Derek Kim (15.57), junior Derek Cingel (16.0) and junior Lance Lilla (16.30) swept the 100-meter high hurdles and Cingel (42.66), Lilla (43.21) and sophomore Audie Bolden (43.50) swept the 300 hurdles, combining for 18 points toward the meet's total score.

Freshman Ali Taha (18-feet-7.5), sophomore Connor Daly (18-feet-0) and Bolden (17-feet-8) also swept the long jump for Novi.

In the short events, Novi freshman Jordan Love won the 100-meter dash in 12.13



Wildcat Audie Bolden competes in the long jump at Northville on April 12.

'Cats start off division play 2-0

Novi netters defeat Salem, Stevenson with 10-0 doubles flights

ON TAP
 Novi's girls tennis players (2-1, 2-0 KLA Central) were scheduled to visit No. 4 Saline Tuesday, West Bloomfield yesterday and South Lyon East (0-3, 0-2 Central) at 4 p.m. today, but with snow Monday and rain forecasted for the past two days, those plans could change.

The unranked 'Cats will have two tough contests 4:30 p.m. Wednesday at No. 2 Clarkston and 4 p.m. April 29 when they host No. 5 Northville (4-0, 0-0 Central).

The Wildcats (2-1, 2-0 KLA Central) hosted Plymouth Salem (3-2, 1-2 Central) April 12 and Livonia Stevenson (2-4, 1-2 Central) last Thursday, winning both matches.

"The Salem match we had to work to get a victory there," Novi coach Jim Hanson said. "Four matches went three sets and we won three of the four, so we won the match. The pressure was on the kids. I was pleased with how the kids played."

The three-set victories gave the Wildcats a 7-2 meet victory in the first league contest of the season. Things went smoother against Stevenson, as the 'Cats rolled to an 8-1 win with all nine matches ending in two sets.

"I saw some good things in both matches and also things we have to work on," Hanson

Darkness halts Wildcats attempt of sweep in South Lyon

Big bats demolish Lions in first game

ON TAP
 The Wildcats (2-0, 1-0 KLA Central) were scheduled to visit Brighton (4-2, 3-0 West) for a doubleheader last night before hosting South Lyon East (0-4, 0-3 Central) 4 p.m. Wednesday in a doubleheader.

With an offense as potent as that of Novi's sluggers, it took South Lyon so long to get three outs per inning to end the game that the second game of the doubleheader will have to be completed at a another time.

The Wildcats (2-0, 1-0 KLA Central) got on the board early against the Lions, combining two walks, an error a sacrifice fly by senior Nick Bageris to take a 3-0 lead after the first inning.

Novi struck again in the third inning, adding four more runs to take a 7-0 lead. Senior Mike Kruse and junior Jim Eloff (2-for-4, three runs, two RBIs) had to back-to-back doubles before junior Logan Regnier (2-for-4, three runs, RBI) brought Kruse home with a single.

Two more walks brought Eloff home and loaded the bases for junior Tyler Schwanz, who knocked in a two-run single.

Senior pitcher Tyler Root was solid on the mound for the first two innings, keeping the Lions off the scoreboard. But South Lyon gave Root some trouble in the third inning.

Three walks, a batter hit by a pitch and two singles cut the deficit to 7-2, but Root (2-0) struck out the last two batters of the frame to snuff the comeback attempt.

Senior Chris Valade led off the fourth inning with a walk, stole second and came home on a single by Eloff. Regnier also singled and Bageris drove two runs in with a drive to left center field to expand the lead to 10-2.

Root finished his day on a walk, stole second and came home on a single by Eloff. Regnier also singled and Bageris drove two runs in with a drive to left center field to expand the lead to 10-2.

The Wildcats couldn't score in the top of the third, but the Lions got two runs in the bottom half of the inning off two walks, two hits and an error to tie the game 5-5.

Neither team scored in the fourth inning, as Andrew Valade returned to pitch for the 'Cats and the Lions got one hit and one walk before a double play ended the inning. With darkness covering the South Lyon field, the final few innings will be played later this season.

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



Hawks win GVSU tournament

The Michigan Hawks U10 soccer team finished first in the U11 Division of the 2011 Grand Valley State University Tournament held the weekend of March 26-27. In their games against the Tri-Cities Strikers, Fruitport Fire and Grand Rapids Crew club, they scored 13 goals and only allowed one to be scored against them. Pictured (l to r, back) are Charlotte Beaudoin (Northville), Madeline Carlson (Farmington), Erin MacDonald (Plymouth), Lillian Lucas (Plymouth), Chloe Parano (Canton), (middle row) Ashley Armstrong (Allen Park), Madison Krzysnik (Novi), Madison Brown (Howell), Vy Nguyen (Canton), (front row) Sierra Nissan (Canton) and Sophia Ivezaj (Northville). The team is coached by Michele Brach-Krzysnik.

Novi runners win Oxford Invitational

ON TAP
The girls were scheduled to host South Lyon East (0-1 KLA Central) last Tuesday, if the weather held out, and now prepare to visit Plymouth Salem (2-0 Central) 3:45 p.m. Tuesday.

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

The 49th Annual Oxford Invitational was kind to Novi's girls track and field team last Saturday, as the Wildcats tied Waterford Mott for the championship with 84 points in an 11-team field.

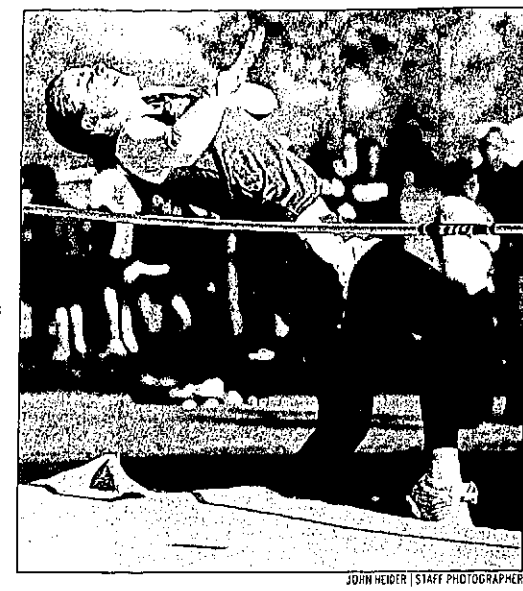
The Cats were rolling on all cylinders, led by junior Kelly McCloskey in the 300-meter hurdles and the 800 relay team of McCloskey, sophomore Taylor Mosley, freshman Kerri McMahan and junior Jasmine Ward, who each placed first in their two events.

McCloskey won the 300 hurdles by 1.4 seconds over Mott in 47.3 seconds and helped the 800 relay team to a 0.9-second margin of victory over Pontiac in 3:49.3, sophomore Lisa Davis also finished fifth in the 300 hurdles in 53.5 seconds.

The three other relay teams also fared well, with the 1,600-meter team finishing second, just 7.15 seconds behind Mott in 4:16.51. The 400 team finished third in 2:07 seconds, 0.2 seconds behind Walled Lake Central's group. The 3,200 relay team finished seventh at 11:40.2, about 1:43.5 behind the winners from Mott.

McCloskey placed in the 100 hurdles event as well, finished second in 16.2 seconds, 0.6 seconds back from the winner from Mott, freshman Abby Downs finished third for Novi in 16.9 seconds.

Senior Rachel Staudt was consistent in both the shot put and discus events, but couldn't best Pontiac's Angela Bursley in either. Staudt finished second in the shot put with a toss of 32-feet-10.5, about 2-feet-7.25 behind Bursley. Staudt's discus toss of 89-feet-9 was fifth best,



Novi Wildcat Abby Hall attempts a high jump at Northville High.



Wildcat Abby Downs.

as Bursley won that event with a throw of 108-feet-11. McMahan finished fifth in the 400-meter dash in 1:03.0, just 3.7 seconds behind Bloomfield Hills Lahser's Joylisa Davis.

With no Novi runners placing in the 800- or 1,600-meter runs, junior Zoe Jenkins managed to finish eighth in 3:05.2 in the 3,200-meter long haul. Mott's Shannon Osika won the event in 11:13.3.

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

Great Scott effort leads to series split at South Lyon

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

The 1987 Oakland Athletics led the "Bash Brothers" and it appears the Wildcats' lady sluggers have such a tandem in seniors Maddy Sinkovich and Colleen Kolis.

These "Sluggo Sisters" combined to go 11-for-14 with two triples and one double in a doubleheader split at South Lyon (2-1, 1-1 KLA Central) last week.

The Wildcats (1-2, 1-1 Central) battled to a tough 4-3 loss in the first game before shutting out the Lions 3-0 in the second game.

"I'm pleased with both games," Novi coach Bob Lulek said. "The kids played hard. We couldn't win them both, but we ended up splitting."

Sinkovich (two singles, one double) and Kolis (two singles, one triple) led Novi's batters, as seniors Meghan Robinson, Kim Powers and freshman Laura Oakley added singles.

"We had everyone there and I did see a lot of progress," Lulek said. "My first five are hitting real well."

The teams traded the lead a few times in the first game, with Novi jumping out to an early 2-0 lead.

But the Lions battled back to take a 3-2 lead. Lulek said there was some controversial contact by a South Lyon baserunner

NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP

BOYS GOLF
Of 24 schools, Novi's boys golfers finished sixth at the Farmington Invitational at Farmington Hills Golf Course with 322 points last Thursday. Jackson Lumen Christian and Pinckney tied for first with 313 points.

Freshman Garret Buckley led the Wildcats and placed sixth as an individual by shooting a 76. He was followed by senior Sam Palmer (77th in 80), junior Johnny Walker (77th in 80) and sophomore Brad Kozinski (46th in 86). Jason Carless also hit a 90, but it didn't contribute to the team score.

"This is a young team with a lot of ability and I expect them to have a very good year," Novi coach Brad Huss said. "Garret is one of the best freshmen I have ever coached and his potential is limitless, if he improves each season. I am excited about this team and I think they will have a legitimate chance to place or win every time they play this season."

The junior varsity squad displayed the golf program's depth this season, placing second at the Hartland JV Earlybird Invitational and third at the Farmington JV Invitational.

In Hartland on April 12, the 'Cats took second of 36 teams with 34.5 points. Michael Wenzl (second with 81), Steve Dickman (seventh with 84), Chris Park (89) and Alex Davis (91) led the way.

Two days later in Farmington, the JV Wildcats took third of 24 teams with 339 points. Dickman (eighth in 80), Wenzl (83), Park (83) and Michael Tomkinson (83) combined in that performance.

Both teams are back in action 1 p.m. Monday at the West Bloomfield Invite. The 'Cats will then face South Lyon at Walnut Creek Country Club 3:30 p.m. Wednesday.

LACROSSE
The Wildcat lacrosse team (4-1) climbed to as high as seventh in the state last week before landing at No. 18 Monday following their 14-9 loss to No. 1 Forest Hills Eastern (5-0) last Saturday.

Novi built up its ranking with a 14-3 win at No. 70 Plymouth Salem (2-6) April 13 and 14-2 win at No. 74 Grand Blanc (2-9) last Thursday.

With snow rescheduling Monday's contest against No. 22 South Lyon (4-1), the 'Cats prepared for visiting No. 80 Walled Lake Western (2-5) Wednesday and No. 66 North Farmington/Harrison (1-4) April 29. Both games are 6:30 p.m. at Wildcat Stadium.

SWIM & DIVE
Novi's boys swim and dive team was ranked the No. 1 academic team by the Michigan Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association and the girls team was ranked second among their gender.

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

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SOCCER FROM PAGE B1

Cureton and senior Mallory Weber.

"She made some good saves," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said of Gauruder. "There was a few times where a Northville player was right there on the five and she was right in position."

Hilmer lucked out when her defense blocked a Novi shot on the empty net after her blocked clear attempt outside the goal box.

Caruso had a golden opportunity with 8:53 left in the half after senior Nikki Greenhalgh took the ball up the right side and passed it to freshman Gabby DeLeon in the center about 35 yards from the goal. DeLeon quickly sent the ball to Caruso, who was streaking up the left side alone. Caruso onced the shot with her left foot from about 10 yards off the left post and sent it sailing about a foot over the nearby crossbar.

"I thought we could have done a little bit better job on our nose around the goal, a little bit better composure in the upper 12 yards there," O'Leary said. "We had some deep balls when we were 30 minutes in and we had some opportunities that we fired wide. If anything, maybe that upper third there, we could have done a little bit better job staying composed. We're creating offense against a very good team and it's early in the season, so I'm not terribly disappointed. Scoring in practice is one thing, but scoring in the game is a completely differ-

ent issue. I think it'll come in time for us."

Weber connected with Cheslik for an open shot with six seconds left, but it was right at Gauruder, sending both teams into the half tied 0-0.

"We have a little more speed up top, helping out a bit with Jamie Cheslik, the freshman, and we have Emily Bush, the sophomore. That helps open up a lot more space," Brucker said. "We're still putting pieces together. While these guys only replaced four starters, we had to replace 10. I don't want to call it a rebuilding year, but for a team that still hasn't lost yet, we're doing pretty good."

Caruso and Cheslik tallied the majority of the scoring opportunities for their respective teams throughout the first 59 minutes of play, but it was the 60th minute where Weber broke through to score the game's first goal.

Northville freshman Megan Buckingham took a short corner kick from the right side, passing the ball low into the goal for a shot that went off the crossbar and back to Buckingham on the right side as the defense was pressing forward. With two defend-

ers still guarding the posts, Buckingham chipped the ball into the center of the box, where Weber emerged from a group of players to knock a shot high into the heart of the goal from four yards out.

"It just kind of worked out," Brucker said. "We have some setups for corner kicks. The ball coming back to the person playing it in, Megan, that kind of helped out. I think the deflec-

tion back to her just kind of worked out and we finished." Looking for an equalizer in the final 20 minutes, Greenhalgh forced her way into every loose ball that came within 30 yards of her, while junior Katie Seelenbinder kept Weber from getting any more clean shots off for the Mustangs.

"That's classic Greenhalgh for ya. She's a workhorse. She's got a great combination of size and speed. The number one thing about her is she's so relentless. I swear she never tires out," O'Leary said. "Katie Seelenbinder, for defense, played a great job against Mallory Weber. I mean, fantastic. That's a huge assignment and she did a great job all game long shadowing Mallory Weber. And then Mollie did a real nice job for us at the end there making a big play up top."

With time winding down, Novi senior Mollie Krick took the ball into the left side of the goal box, outmaneuvered her defender and had to go to the ground to hit the ball so it would thread through a crowd in front of the net to connect with Jarvis in the center for an easy goal five yards out with 23 seconds remaining.

"We let it slip away," Brucker said. "The game's 80 minutes in and we didn't get it done for the last 23 seconds. It's typical Novi/Northville rivalry. You never know what you're going to get. I think we were there in the second half with them just coming off spring break and us having got five games under our belt.

"The team's frustrated, you can tell in their emotions. We'll regroup. We'll take a tie on an away pitch and make sure we defend our own field in a couple of weeks when they come to our house and hopefully we take care of business."

TENNIS FROM PAGE B1

The Wildcats followed the rivalry contest with its first Central Division victory of the young season with a 2-1 win at Plymouth Salem (1-3-2, 0-1-1 Central).

O'Leary said his 'Cats came out flat for 3/4 of the game and shots were tied 3-3 in a scoreless contest at halftime.

"We played well for about 20 minutes," O'Leary said. "For the other 60 minutes, we were very flat and lacked energy. The first half was evenly played and, at halftime, shots were three apiece and all three chances for both teams were dangerous, but the score was 0-0."

"We played well for about 10 minutes into the second half when Caruso cut into the box and received a pass from Timar for a short breakaway that Caruso buried in the back of the net for a 1-0 Novi lead.

However, five minutes later, Salem's Kristina Klusek scored with an impressive individual effort to tie the game 1-1.

TRACK FROM PAGE B1

Novi's top player 6-1, 6-1 and Stevenson's best 6-0, 6-0.

Abby played a very good match both against Salem and Stevenson," Hanson said. "That 6-0, 6-0 isn't indicative of how hard Abby had to work to get a victory there."

Senior Ashley Aljadali had a tough week at two doubles, falling to 0-2 on the season with a pair of losses. Salem got the best of Aljadali 7-6(4), 6-2 and Stevenson won 6-3, 6-0.

"She played two competitive matches. I'm not worried," Hanson said.

Novi's #1-ranked doubles team of Jenna Snyder, left, and Meg Riegel pause outside the Middle School courts after quickly defeating an opponent on April 14.



Novi's #1-ranked doubles team of Jenna Snyder, left, and Meg Riegel pause outside the Middle School courts after quickly defeating an opponent on April 14.

both Salem and Stevenson. Juniors Emily Kwederski and Ori Nagasaka also improved to 3-0 with identical 6-2, 6-2 scores against Salem and Stevenson.

"One doubles looked good both matches, two doubles looked steady," Hanson said. "We won all the doubles, so that's our strength."

Sophomore Caitlin O'Brien and Junior Emily Sherman improved to 2-1 at three doubles with a back-and-forth 6-3, 4-6, 6-4 win over Salem and a 6-3, 6-1 decision over Stevenson.

The senior/freshman combo of Meng Meng Jie and Amy Zhou were strong and succeeded in improving to 3-0 at four doubles with a 6-0, 6-2 victory over Salem and 6-3, 6-0 win over Stevenson.

"I think they compliment each other's games very well," Hanson said of the third-year and first-year varsity student-athletes. "Meng Meng is more of a ground stroker and Amy is a little more aggressive."

Juniors Angela Huang and Alice Jiang improved to 2-1 at five doubles, starting slow and finishing strong with a 8-6, 4-6, 6-1 win over Salem and a 6-3, 6-1 win over Stevenson.

"They're two players that sometimes try too hard," Hanson said. "They played together a couple years on JV. They know each other's game."

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

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BY JULIE BROWN
OF STAFF WRITER
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LINCOLN REVIVAL NOW IS IN FULL SWING

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Dale Buss

As it seeks to revive the Lincoln brand once and for all, Ford has a number of things in its corner.

First and foremost, Ford has committed to providing its luxury brand with seven new or substantially overhauled new products, many of them within the existing MK product and brand architecture, over the next four years. A completely new C-segment sedan will be part of that roster, said C.J. O'Donnell, Lincoln's group marketing director. "You're going to see an enhanced, fresher, stronger and more competitive MK range as well as a few new entries," he promised.

O'Donnell said that Lincoln also must double down in product development on two things that have emerged as clear attributes of the first generation of MK products: design, and technology. "With the MK range we already have a distinctive and stunning design language that we need to leverage more," he argued. "It is eye-catching, and its appeal is giving customers reason to pay attention to what we're doing. In the luxury category, design is the entrée to telling your broader story."

For Lincoln, promotional technology elements include better-mileage power trains under Ford's Eco Boost program, new hybrids, and MyLincoln Touch infotainment systems. "We've had a lot of resonance with the in-car technology that we're delivering in our product now,

especially recently," said Ford CMO Jim Farley early this year. And Ford CEO Alan Mulally told auto-securities analysts at the North American International Auto Show in January that Lincoln developers will "take the platform to the next level" with innovations in areas such as electronic controls.

The MKZ Hybrid is showing O'Donnell some of what new products and technology might be able to accomplish for Lincoln in the months and years ahead. When it was introduced at the beginning of the year with the same \$34,600 sticker as the conventional MKZ, Ford expected the hybrid to account for about 15 percent of sales.

But during the first quarter, MKZ Hybrid tracked at 20 percent of sales instead, promoted as the most fuel-efficient luxury sedan in the U.S. market. Customers "just love the performance" and the "quietness, comfort and power" of the MKZ Hybrid, said Ed Witt, a Lincoln dealer in San Diego, who has sold more of the vehicles than any other dealer so far.

What's more, 70 percent of MKZ Hybrid buyers are new Lincoln owners, and more than half migrated to the brand from imports, O'Donnell said.

But O'Donnell maintained that Lincoln's already-improving product picture isn't confined to just the MKZ Hybrid. He also cited the MKX



The 2011 Lincoln MKX is attracting a growing crowd.

crossover, whose sales jumped 11 percent in March (though they were down nearly 5 percent for the quarter compared with 2009).

"The craftsmanship in the interior of that car has moved on significantly," he said. "And we've made technology messaging a core part of the communications for that car, which is clear in the new advertising campaign. This product continues to retain Lincoln loyalists; but at the same time, half of MKX customers are new to the brand."

One more thing should help Lincoln add to these bursts of product momentum: the brand recently received the highest score for durability of three-year-old vehicles in the latest closely watched J.D. Power survey, vaulting past premium marques Porsche, Lexus and Jaguar for the top spot.

O'Donnell also firmly believes there is the opportunity for Lincoln to gain some traction with its marketing, and quickly. Naturally, the chance starts with improving products. "A lot of positioning today really does focus on the core attributes that qualify us as a luxury

brand: design, driving dynamics including the power train and vehicle handling. Those are core to being in the luxury category, and you have to be exceptional in those attributes to be considered by any luxury buyer. Then the differentiator is innovation."

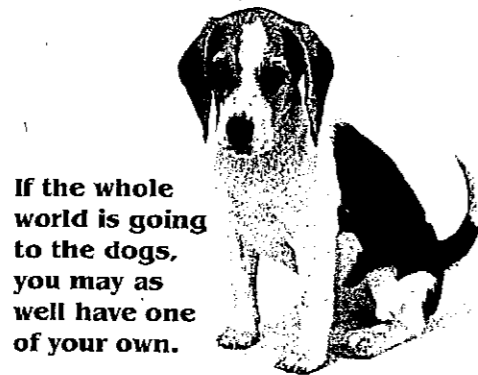
Lincoln is attempting to boost its credibility for innovation in the eyes of luxury buyers with an ad campaign, "Smarter than luxury," that it launched several months ago. "It is getting excellent results," O'Donnell said, despite a decided lack of evidence so far in actual sales figures. "Memorability scores and impressions of the brand are tracking upward rather aggressively."

What's more, Ford is attempting to partner with Lincoln dealers as never before in creating a fresh and winning new brand. But while the company promises a raft of new models and effective new marketing, it wants a couple of big things from dealers: fewer of them selling the cars, and big investments in facilities, people and processes by those Lincoln dealers that remain.

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