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**THURSDAY**  
July 21, 2011

HOMETOWN WEEKLIES  
Volume 56  
Number 9  
\$1.00

# NOVI NEWS

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## NOVI NOW

### Live jazz tonight

The Don Swindell Quintet is this week's featured artist at the Summer Sidewalk Series. Live music and art are presented from 5-8 p.m. each Thursday in the roundabout at 12 Mile Crossing at Fountainwalk. In the event of rain (or heat), the event will move inside Lucky's.

Upcoming shows include Randy Brock, July 28; Robin Moore, Aug. 4; Gia Warner Duo, Aug. 11; The Reasons Y, Aug. 18; and Lili Tiki, Aug. 25.

### Blood needed

The American Red Cross is now in a state of National Appeal for blood donations with supplies critically low. The following drives are being held:

- Friday, July 22, Novi High School, noon-5:45 p.m.
- Sunday, July 31, Holy Family Church, Novi, 9 a.m.-2:45 p.m.
- Tuesday, Aug. 2, Novi Sports Club, 1-6:45 p.m.
- Wednesday, Aug. 3, Northville Senior Adult Services, 1-6:45 p.m.
- Thursday, Aug. 4, Novi Ice Arena, 2-7:45 p.m.
- Thursday, Aug. 4, Faith Community Church, Novi, 1-6:45 p.m.
- Tuesday, Aug. 9, Northville Fire Department, 1-6:45 p.m.

Call Diane Risko at (313) 549-7052 to make an appointment at any of these drives.

### Novi News online

Have you checked out our 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](http://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](http://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."



Hunter Patterson, 11, enjoys a cooling splash at Novi's Lakeshore Park on July 19. Patterson and his family were visiting the area from Atlanta for the week. Hunter's mom Lindsay Patterson dismissed Novi's hot weather that day, jokingly saying it was cool enough to wear hoodies outside.

## Many seek relief from summer sizzle

Temperatures expected to top 90 degrees all week

Air conditioning, pools and lakes have become necessities for Novi residents as the summer's first heat wave hit metro Detroit this week. Temperatures have topped 90 degrees since Sunday, with today expected to be the hottest as temperatures could approach triple digits.

Christina Fadanelli was at the Novi Public Library with

two of her three children picking out books to take home and read. The family has set up shop in the basement to stay cool, and they're picking up food or making sandwiches to avoid cooking.

Cooling off in the pool seems like a logical option, if the water temperature wasn't 82 degrees.

"I just want to put ice cubes in it," said Lauren Fadanelli, 10.

Her brother Christopher,

13, said swimming is the only activity that will get him to go outside.

"I'm a spring guy," he said. Margi-Karp Oppener, assistant director at the library, said traffic has increased at the library as it is one of the city's two cooling centers. The Novi Senior Center is the other.

The Sizzling Summer Art Series performance of the

Please see **SUMMER, A2**

## Ancient Indian fest hits Novi Saturday

Festival of Chariots gives unique look at Indian culture

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

A global celebration will once again anchor its Michigan ties in Novi when the 26th annual Rath Yatra, known as the Festival of the Chariots, parade makes its way through the city on Saturday.

The festival, which commemorates the return of Lord Krishna to his hometown of Vrindaban, draws more than one million people worldwide and is replicated in major cities such as London, New York City, Los Angeles and Toronto.

Naimish Patel, director of the Festival of Chariots and spokesman for the International Society for Krishna Consciousness of Detroit, said it's a cultural celebration revealing the spiritual heart of India and dates back thousands of years.

The festival starts at 11 a.m. with a three-mile parade where people pull a 40-foot tall chariot down 10 Mile and ends at Furrer Park where the celebration begins.

This is the third straight year the festival has called Novi home, moving from Detroit where it had been since 1985. Mayor David Landry and other council members are expected to participate in the event.

"Novi has been a great city

"We want to reach more mainstream and expose people to the culture. For those who don't have a knowledge of it, it's a fun, free and easy way to experience an important part of Indian culture... There are some stigmas that are not well understood, and this is a great way for us to show what we really are all about."

NAIMISH PATEL, director, Festival of Chariots

for us because of its central, suburban location and broad interest among community members," Patel said. "The residents seem to be intrigued and interested in a unique cultural festival."

Patel said he expects more than 5,000 people at this year's local event, taking in the various entertainment options, shopping, yoga, a free lunch and more.

He said while they expect to draw a large Indian population, Patel hopes for a more balanced attendance.

"We want to reach more mainstream and expose people to the culture," he said. "For those who don't have a knowledge of it, it's a

Please see **FESTIVAL, A2**



The International Society for Krishna Consciousness of Detroit will present their 26th annual Rath Yatra (Festival of the Chariots) parade and festival on Saturday. The three-mile parade, in which people pull a 40-foot tall chariot, is followed by a celebration showcasing India's spirituality and culture. Last year (shown) was the second year for the event in Novi.

## Meadowbrook construction to add to headaches

Federal funding forced project to start sooner than expected

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

Commuters using Meadowbrook Road as a detour route for the Novi Road Link Project might want to find another route for at least the next three weeks.

The road widening and resurfacing work on Meadowbrook Road - from 10 Mile to Cherry Hill Road - was originally scheduled for 2012, but federal stimulus funding was moved up, requiring the work to be done

this year. "If we don't do it, we lose the money," said Rob Hayes, director of public services for the city of Novi, noting that 80 percent of the funding for the project is federal money.

Road work, which also includes the installation of concrete curbs and gutters, sidewalks, ramps and pedestrian signal upgrades, began last Monday.

Hayes said they worked with the contractor to "minimize the impact on rush hour traffic" by making hours of

operation from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday.

The road will remain open to two-way traffic, using alternating flag control.

Hayes said he is hopeful the project will be done by Aug. 8.

Please see **CONSTRUCTION, A2**

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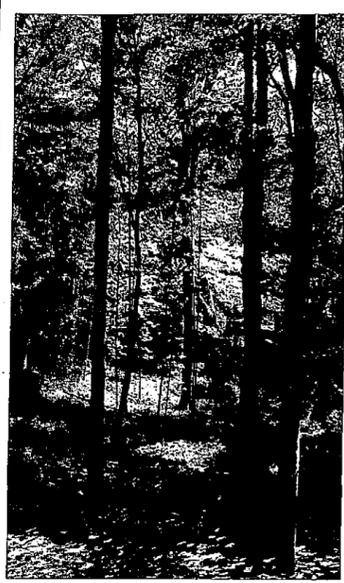
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### INDEX

APARTMENTS	B8	PUZZLES	B6	REAL ESTATE	B7
AUTOMOTIVE	B8	OBITUARIES	A8	SPORTS	B1
CAREER BUILDER	B6	OPINION	A12	BUSINESS	A15



**That's cool**

Maybury State Park's forest looks green, cool and inviting in this July 12 photo. The 944-acre park, located at 20145 Beck Road, in Northville Township, is open seven days a week from dawn until dusk.

JOHN HUBERT STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**SUMMER**

FROM PAGE A1

Magic Carpet Theatre was moved inside the library on Tuesday to keep kids out of the heat, and nearly 100 people were waiting outside for the library to open.

Jason Mangum, director of parks, recreation and cultural services, said all activities for little kids this week are being moved indoors, and said the attendance at Lakeshore beach is up 20 percent since the end of last week.

Meteorologist Mitt Mosteiko of the National

Weather Service office in White Lake said the streak of high temperatures could be considered a heat wave since it is expected to last longer than five days.

"In 130 years we have only had 39 heat waves," he said, adding that the last heat wave was last summer.

His advice to cope with this weather is to stay hydrated, find an air conditioned area and avoid prolonged outdoor activities. He also noted that heat is the number one cause of weather-related deaths, ahead of tornadoes and hurricanes.

"Watch out for the elderly

and children, because they are more susceptible to dehydration," he said.

Lakeshore wasn't the only local beach buzzing with action this week as Martindale Beach at Kensington Metropark was full of people trying to cool off.

Olive Makwati, who was there Monday, said she came up from Oklahoma to get away from the heat and to visit family in Highland where she lived most of her life. She was with her daughter, Abi, who will be two next week.

"I brought the heat with me," she said.

The hottest week of sum-

mer thus far was even hotter for about 2,500 Novi residents who were without power Monday evening.

Monday evening's early Tuesday morning thanks to an isolated thunderstorm that whipped through the city. Deputy Police Chief Tom Lindberg said power was restored around 2 a.m.

Temperatures are expected to dip under 90 degrees Sunday, but just barely, and could remain in the mid to high 80s much of next week.

Staff writer Diane Andreassi contributed to this article.

**CONSTRUCTION**

FROM PAGE A1

Road work will include 900 feet of full asphalt pavement reconstruction and 1,100 feet of milling/overlaying the existing asphalt pavement. Another key aspect of the project is the installation of a new culvert and grading of the existing low-points near the Beck and Nine Mile Road intersection that have flooded in the past.

Nine Mile will be open to two-way traffic, using alternating flag control.

The project is expected to be completed by mid-September.

**RING ROAD PROJECT**  
The first phase of the Northwest Quadrant Ring Road project was approved by city council on July 11, and construction is expected to start in August.

The multi-phased project will extend Crescent Boulevard from Expo Center Drive to Grand River Avenue, with a bridge over the Middle Rouge River, and include an industrial spur to serve existing industrial property. Hayes said this project is a

priority because the average daily traffic on Novi Road is "extremely high," and the intersection at Grand River Avenue is a problem for many trucks. Also the pavement on West Crescent drive is "horrible."

Commuters should see an improved level of service on Novi Road when this is completed," he said.

The first phase, which will cost \$404,801 including engineering services, includes the reconstruction of Crescent Boulevard from Novi Road through the intersection of Expo Center Drive and the rehabilitation of Expo Center Drive to the

north right-of-way limits. Phase two includes the bridge over the Rouge River, and phase three includes the remainder of Crescent Boulevard to Grand River and the industrial spur.

The second phase is on the Capital Improvements Program for fiscal year 12-13 at a cost of \$1.8 million and phase three for fiscal year 13-14 at a cost of \$1.5 million. Hayes said those dates are just estimates, as it all depends on the availability of funding.

Commuters should not see any delays from phase one of construction.

**FESTIVAL**

FROM PAGE A1

fun, free and easy way to experience an important part of

Indian culture."

He also hopes it can break down some barriers, too.

"There are some stigmas that are not well understood, and this is a great way for us to show what we really are all

about," he said.

For more information about the festival, visit [www.thefestivalofharlots.com](http://www.thefestivalofharlots.com).

"It is events such as this, Japan Festival and India Day which celebrate not only tra-

ditions around the globe but our cultural diversity as well," said Sheryl Walsh, director of communications for the city.

"I encourage everyone to come out and join the festivities and share a piece of Novi's culture."

**'One Solider's Story' premiering in Novi**

Novi filmmaker calls it his 'most emotional film ever'

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

Keith Famic has won nine Emmy's as a producer and director of various documentaries.

But when asked where his most recent film produced by Novi-based Visionalist Entertainment Productions, "One Solider's Story," ranks, the filmmaker didn't hesitate.

"It's my most emotional film ever," he said. "It's a documentary and a film, but it really is an opportunity for people to really see and understand what is happening every day over there."

The film is about Sgt. Michael Ingram, affectionately known as Mikie by friends and family. Ingram was killed on April 17, 2010, in Afghanistan after he stepped on an improvised explosive device while walking into a house during a mission.

Famic came across Ingram's story by "accident" as he was filming Msg. Jeff Rector, Michigan's casualty assistance coordinator for the U.S. Army Reserves, for a Vietnam documentary. Rector has the emotional job of sharing with families the heartbreaking news that their son or daughter died, as well as administering a proper military burial.

He asked Famic to join him at Selfridge Air National Guard Base when Ingram's body arrived, a moment Famic said he "will never forget."

Famic wanted to use some of the footage in his Vietnam film but first had to clear it with Ingram's family. When he met with them, they started to share stories of their son and of their desire to create a foundation that will provide soldiers overseas with calling cards so they can call home.



Members of the U.S. Army Reserve Casualty Assistance team carry the body of Sgt. Michael Ingram from a plane to a hearse at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in April 2010. Ingram is the main character in Keith Famic's documentary 'One Solider's Story' that premieres at 7 p.m. on July 25 at Emagine Novi.



U.S. Army Sgt. Michael Ingram was killed on April 17, 2010, while serving in Afghanistan. Novi filmmaker Keith Famic made a documentary of his story that will be premiering on July 25 at Emagine Novi.



Novi filmmaker Keith Famic will premiere his latest documentary, 'One Solider's Story,' on July 25 at Emagine Novi about the late Sgt. Michael Ingram. Proceeds from the event will support the Mikie's Minutes Fund that seeks to send calling cards to troops overseas.

The organization, dubbed Mikie's Minutes, became the source of Famic's inspiration as he interviewed friends, family and soldiers about Ingram.

"It's a real look at what a family really goes through," he said. "One of the more heart-wrenching stories told in the film is about how Ingram chose to stay with 'his guys' despite being injured and offered the chance to go home. It was 30 days after that injury

that Ingram was killed. 'Soldiers are volunteers, and they are patrolling and fighting not just because of their honor and duty to their country but because they want to,' Rector said. 'A soldier is there voluntarily and is willing to give everything, including death, to serve their country and their family and, in his case, his god.'

"This was a godly young man who cared about people and paid the ultimate sacrifice." Famic's documentary is

70 minutes long and calls it a "must see" for everyone as our society has almost come to terms with soldiers dying overseas.

"Everyone sees the news reports and the blip on the screen that says 'soldier dies in Afghanistan,'" he said. "But spend 70 minutes in the theater and you will understand what that blip really means."

The film will premiere in Novi at the Emagine Theatre at 7 p.m. on July 25. Cost of a ticket is \$20 and proceeds will sup-

port Mikie's Minutes. Famic said 19,000 minutes have already been sent to troops, and the goal is to send one million minutes in 12 months.

The premiere will include a formal color guard posting from VFW Post 2269 out of Wixom and will be hosted by Chuck Gaidica. Northville songwriter Steve Pichan, who wrote a song called "Mikie's Minutes," also will be performing it live. Pichan said Ingram's story inspired him expects everyone who sees the film to feel the

same way. "I hope they come away having a strong sensitivity to the difficult soldiers have when they are away and how hard it is for them to communicate with their families," he said.

Famic's hope is that people will walk out of the theater with a "clear understanding of what it means to give all." For more information about the Foundation or to purchase tickets, call (248) 869-0096 or visit [www.MikiesMinutes.com](http://www.MikiesMinutes.com).

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**Feldman donation**

Maria Feldman Chevrolet, represented here by Maria Feldman, vice president of sales, has graciously donated ball caps, T-shirts, raffle tickets for a new 2012 Chevrolet Malibu, and a \$500 check which was presented to Rob Reilly, board member for Novi Youth Baseball League, on June 21. Reilly has been working with GSM Sean Misko and Community and Corporate Development Director Keith Wilson for some time now on how Maria Feldman can help the Novi community in making this one of the best leagues in the metro area for the 2011 season.

**Polish Mission hosts grandparents and grandchildren workshops**

The Polish Mission has begun hosting "The Grandparents Project," made possible by a major grant from the Michigan Humanities Council. The project unites grandparents and grandchildren of Polish, Jewish and German backgrounds who share a common Polish heritage.

The Polish Mission at Orchard Lake Schools will host free two-day and four-day workshops throughout July and August with a goal of reaching 96 families. Workshops are held at 3935 Indian Trail, Orchard Lake.

Two-day workshops are scheduled 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (hour lunch break at 11:30 a.m.) July 25-26, July 27-28, Aug. 8-9, Aug. 25-26, Aug. 29-30 and Aug. 31 to Sept. 1. Four-day workshops offer morning or afternoon sessions, from 10-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-2 p.m., respectively. Workshop dates are July 18-21, Aug. 1-4 and Aug. 15-18.

The Michigan Humanities Council is very excited about this project and how it brings together different generations to share their cultural heritage," said Katie Wolf, executive director for the Michigan Humanities Council. Attendees will receive a complimentary copy of *Sto Lat*.

plimentary copy of *Sto Lat*.

The Polish Mission is part of the Orchard Lake Schools which was founded in 1885 by Polish immigrants. Its mission is to preserve and promote Polish and Polish-American culture, tradition and history for present and future generations. The Polish Mission organizes programs, courses and events that highlight Polish and Polish-American culture and accomplishments, and ensures a repository for artifacts, archival materials, works of art and publications.

Project sponsors include The Polish Mission, Polonia Americana Research Institute, with outreach via the West Bloomfield Public Library, Jewish Genealogical Society of Michigan, Oakland County Genealogical Society, and the Holocaust Memorial Center.

Sessions may be reserved online at <http://grandparents.eventbrite.com> or by calling (248) 683-0323.

The Michigan Humanities Council is a private, nonprofit organization. For more information, visit [www.michigan-humanities.org](http://www.michigan-humanities.org) or call (517) 372-7770.

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Novi's Community Financial Credit Union recently gave the Novi Community School District a donation of \$1,060 for its Student Nutrition Action Committee as part of the credit union's 'Summer of Sharing' program. From left are Community Financial's Liz Houston, JoAnn Clements, director of nutrition and food services for Novi; Ina Cheaten, Fresh Delights natural food chef; Michelle Thompson, nutritional professional; and Sept. Steve Matthews.

**School district recognized for emphasis on healthy foods**

Grant from Community Financial will help SNAC program expand

The district piloted the program last year with the help of Fresh Delights natural food chef and owner Ina Cheaten and nutritionist Michelle Thompson. They met monthly with students in different grades to perform hands-on cooking demonstrations that introduced them to new and healthy foods.

Cheaten's 'Chefs Move to Schools' initiative, the school district created its first SNAC at Village Oaks Elementary last year.

And thanks to a grant from Community Financial Credit Union last week to the tune of \$1,060 as part of its "Summer of Sharing" program, tips for healthy eating will reach all students in grades K-4.

"Our goal is to introduce new foods to kids to make them more aware of nutrition," said JoAnn Clements, director of nutrition and food services for the school district. "But one thing we never do is point out bad foods."

Clements said the majority of students were receptive to the idea of trying new foods, and emphasized that "no matter how healthy the food is, if they don't like the taste of it they won't eat it."

In addition to the grant from the credit union, the school district also received recognition from the U.S. Department of Agriculture as part of its food and nutrition service "Recipe for Kids Cookbook."

The recipe, an Aztec Grain Salad, was chosen as one of the top 30 recipes out of more than 340 submitted for the national Healthy Kids competition. The book will be published and sent to homes and schools across the country.

For a look at top recipes, visit [www.healthkidschallenge.com](http://www.healthkidschallenge.com).

"Our mission is to create an awareness of the diversity of healthy foods available to our children, with an emphasis on the importance of eating fresh, whole foods," Clements said.

[nmuellet@gannett.com](mailto:nmuellet@gannett.com) (248) 437-2011, ext. 255

**Schools need to use data to drive success**

BY STEVE MATTHEWS  
GUEST COLUMNIST

We live in a world where a person can get more information than they could possibly need about almost anything.

I downloaded an app onto my phone called Run Keeper. Technically, it's supposed to keep track of how much I run. But since I don't really run, I changed a few preferences and, miracle of miracles, it keeps track of my walking.

Since I first downloaded the app in September 2009, I have recorded 696 walking activities totaling 1,698 miles. I average just over 2.8 miles a walk. It has calculated that I have burned 220,162 calories or almost 370 calories every time I walk.

It calculates my split times and the elevation change on my walks. It shows me which day I walk the most and which day I walk the farthest. I can compare today's walk with yesterday's walk with the walk I took last week.

Why I need all of that information I don't know, but this app gives me data.

I thought of this app last week when the scores for the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) were released to the public. The state provides lots and lots of data. It shows the aver-

age ACT score, the increase or decrease in scores from last year or the year before that. It gives a breakdown of each student's potential.

Just as important are skills in creative thinking and creativity. Each student has potential in the arts and athletics. Skills and knowledge about citizenship and community involvement are important as well. But how do you test for those? Does the Michigan Merit Exam give us an indication of how well we are doing in those areas?

Data is important. I am an advocate for gathering and using data. We can't get fixated on a limited set of data. We need to mine the data we receive about test scores while we try and identify how we can gather data about other important pieces of the Novi Community Schools. In order to develop each student's potential, we can do so less.

Steve Matthews is the superintendent of the Novi Community School District. He can be reached at [smatthews@novi.k12.mi.us](mailto:smatthews@novi.k12.mi.us); (248) 449-1204; [www.twitter.com/dccsmatthews](http://www.twitter.com/dccsmatthews); or [www.novisuperintendent.blogspot.com](http://www.novisuperintendent.blogspot.com).

**NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS**

**Camp Invention 2011**

Creativity and brainstorming are the building blocks to your child's future! Camp Invention emphasizes those skills and more and Novi Middle School is proud to be among the select schools in Michigan that will serve as a host site during the week of June 27-July 1.

Children will create exciting new games and transform ordinary household items into extraordinary inventions during this weeklong summer adventure for those currently in grades K-5. Children will participate daily in five activity-oriented, hands-on modules focused on science, literacy, math, history and the arts. There is also a heavy emphasis on the STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

Registration for this camp is limited to 110 children, so register early, we're almost full! Contact Seth Furlow, Camp Director, at (248) 449-1500 or [sturlow@novi.k12.mi.us](mailto:sturlow@novi.k12.mi.us) for more information. You may also visit Camp Invention's Web site at [www.campinvention.org](http://www.campinvention.org) to find out more about this exciting program.

**Community Ed preschool**

Preschool registration for Novi's 2011-12 school is now open for full-day and half-day morning or afternoon classes.

Class programs focus on social, emotional, physical and cognitive development. The program follows the State of Michigan Standards and Benchmarks for Preschool along with the Creative Curriculum. The Creative Curriculum

includes language arts, social studies, science, math, music and movements. Novi Community Education Preschool provides all children with experiences and opportunities that allow them to meet the State Early Learning Expectations for 3-, 4- and 5-year olds.

Classes are three hours for the half-day and six and a half hours for the all-day program. Children must be 3, 4 or 5 years old by Dec. 1, 2011. Children also must be completely toilet trained.

All preschool classes follow the Novi Community School District calendar and will begin Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011. To secure a spot in the fall's 2011-12 sessions, parents must register their child at the Community Education Office in the Community Education/ITC Building, 25345 Taft, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile roads. Child care is also available for students attending preschool. Space is limited. Call (248) 449-1206 for rates and availability.

When registering a child (or children), please bring the following:

- A completed registration packet, available on the district's website under Community Education Preschool, [www.novi.k12.mi.us](http://www.novi.k12.mi.us)
- Child's birth certificate or passport
- Non-refundable registration fee of \$45

C.A.R.E. is available for parents needing child care before or after preschool classes. Registration information and prices are posted on our website at [www.novimuni.edu](http://www.novimuni.edu). Our C.A.R.E. program is also available at all of our elementary schools for students in grades K-8 studies. For more information, call (248) 449-1206.

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Tollgate Farm manager Roy Praslice, right, leads a tour of the MSU facility's gardens during a July 16 open house. Tollgate Farms is located at Twelve Mile and Meadowbrook Road in Novi.

PHOTOS BY JOHN MICHELE STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Tollgate Farms open house



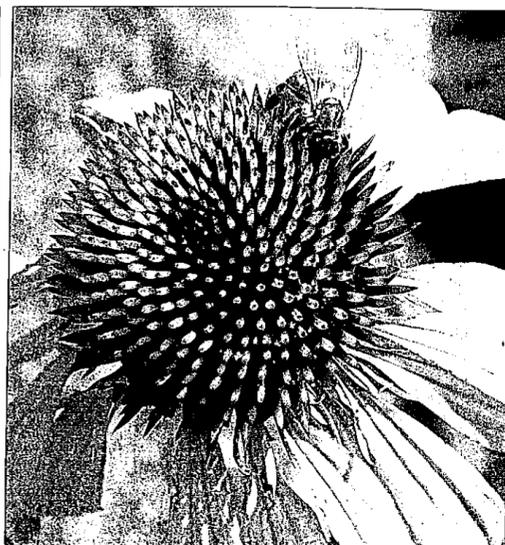
Tollgate Farms' 4-H club's Heather Gregory, 14, left, and Alana Hutka, 10, display some of the beets they've grown at the MSU facility on Twelve Mile Road. The Sun, Water, and Seeds club was selling the beets and other produce at the July 16 open house event.



Attendees of the July 16 open house at Novi's Tollgate Farms wander around its grounds.



Renata Rebitz sells some Denver daisies at the July 16 open house at Novi's Tollgate Farms. Rebitz is from Specialty Growers in Howell.



A honey bee busies itself on a coneflower at Novi's Tollgate Farms.

# County Parks' Mud Day brings out the kids ... and adults

BY SHE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There's something royal about Megan Hepp's family. In the four times she has brought her children to Wayne County Parks' Mud Day, the Northville resident has gone home with two kings and this year's queen.

"I laid in the mud and went back and forth," 6-year-old Kathryn Hepp said. "I hoped I'd win. My mom helped me." "I think the way to do it is layer upon layer upon layer upon layer and letting it dry between layers," her mother said. "It was a whole day of adding on mud."

Kathryn's bright purple crown was in stark contrast with the layer of brown mud that covered her from head to toe. But it was nothing like 10-year-old Cole Argo of Novi, whose eyelashes were a solid chunk of the brown goo.

It was his first time at Mud Day and he had to admit that he was very surprised he won.

"It was kind of hard to get the mud on. I just had to try to stay away from the water and kind of pile it on everywhere," he said. "I kind of used it as glue."

Sonya Szabo of Port Elizabeth, South Africa, may have come the farthest to be at Mud Day. She brought her son Jude, 9, and Cole.

"He's a friend and it's the one day a year I get to visit with him," she said. "I don't think he thought he'd win, but on the way here, my son was confident he'd win, so they worked together to load on the mud."

### FAR AND NEAR

While the park was officially closed to traffic July 12 from Ann Arbor Trail to Outer Drive due to flooding, fans of Mud Day flocked to the Nankin Hills area for the annual event. Cars, trucks and



Mud-covered youngsters race across the pit during one of the games.

school buses filled the available parking lots and lined in after parking their cars in nearby residential areas.

Both children and adults played and did contests like running backward in the muddy pit. When they were through, they cleaned off with the help of the Westland Fire Department and Western Wayne Hazardous Material Unit. The Westland Fire Department provided the water supply and the HazMat team "did the work" in the shower area.

"I can't believe all the kids that are here today," Westland Fire Capt. John Valensky said. "I've never seen it this big — there's school buses here."

Firefighters ran 400 feet of hose to the shower area, but when the line to clean up stretched almost to Hines

Drive, firefighters broke out another hose and rinsed off kids and adults at the end of the line.

"This is so great for the kids," Valensky said.

Judeh Odeh of Garden City was having a blast in the mud pit, but his 4-year-old sister Gabriella was hiding out under the stage. On a day when parents encouraged their kids to play in the mud, she was content to play with the grass.

"This was the family's first time at Mud Day and Judeh gave it a thumbs-up.

"It's a blast. I want to go in, but I can't," said his father, Frank, nodding to his daughter.

### 'THIS IS OK'

Lori Pfeil didn't care if her kids got muddy. The family is visiting from San Antonio, Texas.

"We're in a drought in Texas, so this is OK," she said.

Brighton resident Jennifer Pfeil found out about it from a friend who lives in Belleville, who told her they had to do it.

"They're all excited. If they did it at home, they'd get yelled at," she said.

Wallowing in the pit with Jennifer Pfeil were Sarah Pfeil, 14, Kalina Bransford, 14, Jessica Pfeil, 9, and Tori Pfeil, 13, who sported a smile full of muddy braces.

"It tastes gritty," she said, heading back for more. "The best part is the mud. We've been able to get dirty and not get yelled at."

"They're allowed to get dirty," Lori Pfeil said. "What's part of the fun, too, is when you get to do something like this?"



Caked with enough mud to win them Wayne County Parks honors are 2011 Mud Day King Cole Argo of Novi and Queen Kathryn Hepp of Northville.

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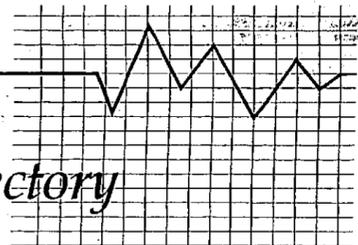
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Jessica Moore of Allen Park dips tomatoes in boiling water to loosen the skins for peeling. Lena Niseanian of Northville and Dagan McCarthy of Canton will do the same with their tomatoes.

# Schoolcraft's Kids on Campus

## Academic camps make learning fun

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
CORRESPONDENT

Kids do more than dream about becoming a doctor or video game designer at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Every summer, they learn about the skills required for success.

Although mainly academic, the weeklong camps provided plenty of fun for the first- to 12th-grade students who filled the classrooms on the first day of class July 11.

"This is the 32nd year children from Canton, Plymouth, Farmington Hills, Westland, Livonia and Novi have been drawn to Kids on Campus. For three weeks, they'll have the opportunity to learn about future careers and the arts.

"A lot of people work out this way. The camps get the kids out of the house instead of doing the same old, same old," said Lauren Murphy, promotion coordinator for Continuing Education & Professional Development.

"Enriching Minds, Transforming Lives" — the writing on the wall of the CPED office says it all.

"It's different than being in class during the regular year," Murphy said. "It's been 31 years of exploration, adventure, creativity."

So far, 1,606 kids have registered for the camps focused on culinary training, business and health care careers, Web and video game design, aerospace and rockets, robotics, writing, the visual arts, foreign cultures and high-tech manufacturing.

Schoolcraft College adjunct instructors and teachers from area school districts develop the exciting curriculum. New is Crime Scene Investigator for high school students.

Farmington Hills girl found Scrubs Camp informative. "I've learned about a lot of subjects, but not health care very close to it," Hong said.

Denison created the curriculum as an introduction to health care careers. The Garden City woman is a retired nurse practitioner and assistant professor at Wayne State University.

"I'm going to get the next generation hooked so there are people to take care of me," Denison said.

July 12 was all about nutrition, including choosing healthy snacks over not so healthy ones.

"It was really fun," Boursa said. "I'm good at math and really into computers. Next week I'm taking Web Design."

Andy Chen, 12, was waiting anxiously to carve his online user name, Dnabex. The Canton boy is an East Middle School student. He's already taken Web design, video games and robotics.

"You can do interesting things," Chen said. "I made a robot and website, learned the process of creating video games. Designing isn't much of a problem. The problem is getting the message to the computer."

CHALLENGING BUT FUN Sarah Wang experienced similar problems. She worked on the program with Cindy Shi.

"It's hard," said Wang, 11, of Novi. "I like writing out the program. My mom and dad write programs for computers. I thought it would be nice to do something they do. I want to be an engineer and think it's quite fascinating."

In the Forum building, kids were enjoying getting their hands dirty as they turned clay into bowls and wind chimes in The Potter's Studio with Michael Kuhn. Aaron Best, 10, of Southfield, had nearly finished a vase for his mom. His father works in Livonia. Gitika Kumar, 11, of Novi, was making wind chimes. Jocelyn Chu, 9, of Livonia, a dolphin.

Blake Roseவர் of Livonia had already made a bowl. This was the Johnson Elementary student's first year in Kids on Campus.

"It's really fun and I like that everybody has creative stuff," Roseவர் said.

Vibha Shivakumar of Novi was making a sculpture of strange mushrooms. This is the 10-year-old girl's third year.

Ellen Christensen of Livonia was working on a cup. She took lyric writing last year. She's been dancing since age 2 and is a student at the Bunny Sanford studio in Livonia.

"I like art," said Christensen, a 9-year-old student at Johnson Elementary.

Keyes' assistant, David Valencia of Northville, was helping students in the final process of machining their name tag.

"We're using a CNC mill used in industry," Valencia said. "It's the same program using basic geometry."

"They told us codes and we figured it out," Lin said as she watched the cutting arm go down and start carving her name in metal.

attorney Blieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television news of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-75. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of I-24. Call them at 1-800-331-9930 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security Disability benefits before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Blieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if

an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

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.

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# Medical technology vs. Michigan law

BY DAN HOOPS  
GUEST COLUMNIST

Advances in technology and changes to social norms continue to outpace the law. The complications faced when medical breakthroughs meet outdated legal doctrines can be detrimental to a client and attorney are not aware of the potential hurdles. Biotechnology and fertility programs are making strides in assisting individuals and couples in their pursuit of parenthood; however the present state of the law may require that people make some adjustments to their estate planning documents.

The definition of assisted reproductive technology is "all treatments which include handling the eggs and/or embryo." In addition to donations of egg, sperm and embryo, the technology used in assisted reproduction presently includes: intruterine insemination (injection of the male sperm into the female uterus), intracytoplasmic sperm injection (injecting the male sperm



Dan Hoops

into a female egg following the removal of the male sperm surgically, in-vitro fertilization (fertilizing the woman's egg with the man's sperm in a laboratory, then transferred into the woman's uterus). Not only are the advances in reproductive technology resulting in greater results in pregnancy, the acceptance of reproductive assistance as a method of starting a family is fast becoming mainstream. In 2009, there were 60,150 infants born in the United States using some form of artificial reproductive technology. In the 2008 Uniform Probate Code, the commissioners attempted to fill the gap between the present probate laws in the United States and these technologies when it included a definition for assisted reproduction as "any method of causing pregnancy other than sexual intercourse."

There are four issues that need to

be addressed under Michigan law: 1) whether a child born through any assisted reproductive technology can be considered the "natural child" of its parent(s), 2) whether the use of a surrogate mother would result in the child being the "natural child" of the surrogate mother or the non-gestational parent(s), 3) whether the donor of sperm, egg or embryo will be considered the biological parent of the child, or if the child will be the "natural child" of the intended parent(s), and 4) whether a child born through a deceased parent's cryogenically frozen sperm or egg will be considered the "natural child" of that deceased parent or not.

While the UPC addresses these issues in its recommended changes, few states have adopted these recommendations and have left it to their courts to decide on a case-by-case basis. So, where does this "gap" leave Michigan families that have used the services of a fertility clinic? Right now it is anyone's guess, although courts in many other states have provided

a whole host of decisions that are as wildly inconsistent as the underlying facts and technologies of these cases. Michigan's definition of "natural child" is a "natural child of a parent" and includes a child who is legally adopted by the parent. Considering that assisted reproductive technology is not recognized as "natural" this may be problematic for some families.

Unless the law is updated, it is recommended that families consider taking some preventive measures so that their intent is clearly followed in the event of their death; or consider an adoption proceeding just to be safe.

In the event the form of reproductive technology excludes one parent's genetic material from the child (e.g. third-party sperm, egg or embryo donor), a clear expression of both parents' intent to be the child's parents should be executed in a separate writing. If only one parent is the biological parent, a written acknowledgment should be executed demonstrating the intent to create a parent-child relationship with the non-genetic parent.

Any writing that was intended to be an acknowledgment of the parent's intended relationship with the child should also be referenced throughout all testamentary documents to avoid any ambiguities or questions as to the individual's testamentary intent.

Michigan law clearly needs modification to make it more realistic to the personal circumstances of many families in Michigan. Speculating and wondering what the true nature of your relationship to a loved one is an awful burden to place on people, much less that a child may not be considered a "natural child" under present law. What's worse is that the outcome of these parent-child relationships may not be known until years after the loss of a loved one.

Daniel S. Hoops is an associate professor at Walsh Business College teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in the Business Law and Taxation Department. He can be reached at Walsh College at (248) 623-1334 or dhoops@walshcollege.edu.

## Passages

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### BARBER, RUTH MARIE

Age 86, passed away July 18, 2011. A private family service will be held at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

### LANKFORD, ORTHA L.

Of Milford Twp, passed away peacefully in the care of her loving family at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

### GROELLER, FRED G.

Brighton, MI, age 65, died July 17, 2011 in Ann Arbor, MI. He was born March 3, 1945 in Grossschau, Germany the son of the late George and Elli (Haas) Groeller. Fred was a 1964 graduate of Freedom High School and proudly served his country in the U.S. Army. On May 20, 1967 in Ambler, PA. Fred married his high school sweetheart Maria Hirniak. He and Maria have celebrated 44 wonderful years of marriage. Fred loved holiday gatherings, family barbecues, hunting, fishing, and working on and restoring his '69 Mustang. He was employed as Hot Mill Manager for Michigan Seamless Tube for 21 years and was a member of American Legion Post #641. In addition to his wife, survivors include his daughter Robin and her husband Jeff Stapleton and Robin's daughter Gabrielle of Brighton, his son Michael and his wife Laura Groeller and their children, Mitchell and Matthew of Gregory, his brother Albert (Patricia) Groeller of Lakeland, FL and brother Mark (Christine) Groeller of Williamson, GA, and his beloved nieces (the Lury family members) who will miss him terribly. His family will receive friends on Wednesday from 2-8 PM with a Scripture Service at 7 PM and Thursday from 10-11 AM at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Hamburg Chapel. A healing service will be held 11 AM Thursday, July 21, 2011 at Borek Jennings. Memorial contributions are suggested to Old St. Patrick Church. Please leave a message of comfort to Fred's family by calling 877-231-7900 or visit his guestbook at borekjenings.com

### MARKEN, CARLOTTA MARIE

Age 71, passed away 7/17/2011. Funeral service was held on 7/19/2011 at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

### SMITH, DONALD J.

Age 65, passed away July 18, 2011. He was born on May 1, 1946, in Highland Park, to the late Charles and Caroline (Owens) Smith. He served in the U.S. Army. He was a Crane operator at Michigan Seamless Tube for over 35 years, and was a resident of South Lyon for many years. Don is survived by his children: Matthew (Becky) Smith, Deanna Smith, grandchildren: Madeleine, Gwendolyn, Stings Shirley Kozub, Charles Smith Jr., Frances Farkas, Robert Smith, and Norman Smith. Visitation will be held on July 16, Saturday, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. with a funeral service at 11:00 a.m. at Phillips Funeral Home, 122 West Lake Street (Ten Mile), South Lyon. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Humane Society of Livingston County. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

### HEINTZELMAN, GERALD (JERRY) H.

Passed away July 8, 2011 in New Bern, NC, at the age of 75. Preceded in death by his parents, Howard and Reba and brother Hugh. Survived by two nieces, Jerry Hugh and Rebecca. Burial will be held at Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon, MI. Memorial contributions are suggested to Old St. Patrick Church. Please leave a message of comfort to Jerry's family by calling 877-231-7900 or visit his guestbook at borekjenings.com

### ROSE, VERNA

Age 84, of Milford, died peacefully, surrounded by her caring family, on Wednesday, July 13, 2011. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Leroy C. (Doc) Verna is survived by her children, Brent (Sue) Rose, Sheila (Jerry) Baurenn; grandchildren, Shannon & Aja Rose, Sara (Eric Glowinski) & James Baurenn; siblings, Rosetta Horey, Janice Wolfe, Connie Richardson, Marvin Leonard. Services are being held privately. Verna will be remembered for her warm and ever caring heart. She showed a special compassion to the stray cats around her home. Verna would welcome them in and nurse them to good health with love and food. Following with her care for families, memorial contributions can be made to Pawabilities Inc. (a 501(c)3 organization), PO Box 555 South Lyon, MI 48178, they help to neuter & spay stray/feral animals. For further information please call Lynch & Sons Funeral Directors at 248-684-6645 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

### WEST, DONALD O.

Age 82, of Houghton Lake and formerly of Milford, July 15, 2011. Preceded in death by his beloved wife Marilyn (d.1989). He is survived by his son, John (Dorothy) grandchildren, Victoria, Jacalyn, Kristyn; step-daughter, Karen (Paul) Walper and many loving extended family members and dear friends. Private Services have been held. Memorials may be made to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation. For further information contact Lynch & Sons, Milford at 248-684-6645 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

### LAESCH, CHRISTINE MARIE

Was born on October 5, 1947, and passed away July 13, 2011. She was a devoted wife, loving mother, and caring grandmother. She was preceded in death by her parents Ken and Madeline Burkard. She is lovingly remembered by her husband Douglas, daughter Katherine, son Nathan (Stephanie), grandchildren: Tyler, Jared, Jayme, Breanna, Preston and Katelyn. A memorial service was held at Phillips Funeral Home on Saturday, July 16, 2011. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

### HEINTZELMAN, GERALD (JERRY) H.

Passed away July 8, 2011 in New Bern, NC, at the age of 75. Preceded in death by his parents, Howard and Reba and brother Hugh. Survived by two nieces, Jerry Hugh and Rebecca. Burial will be held at Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon, MI. Memorial contributions are suggested to Old St. Patrick Church. Please leave a message of comfort to Jerry's family by calling 877-231-7900 or visit his guestbook at borekjenings.com

### ROSE, VERNA

Age 84, of Milford, died peacefully, surrounded by her caring family, on Wednesday, July 13, 2011. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Leroy C. (Doc) Verna is survived by her children, Brent (Sue) Rose, Sheila (Jerry) Baurenn; grandchildren, Shannon & Aja Rose, Sara (Eric Glowinski) & James Baurenn; siblings, Rosetta Horey, Janice Wolfe, Connie Richardson, Marvin Leonard. Services are being held privately. Verna will be remembered for her warm and ever caring heart. She showed a special compassion to the stray cats around her home. Verna would welcome them in and nurse them to good health with love and food. Following with her care for families, memorial contributions can be made to Pawabilities Inc. (a 501(c)3 organization), PO Box 555 South Lyon, MI 48178, they help to neuter & spay stray/feral animals. For further information please call Lynch & Sons Funeral Directors at 248-684-6645 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

## 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 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

Attorneys J.B. Blieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear together at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only by the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Blieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Blieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set. 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.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law



Attorney Blieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television news of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-75. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of I-24. Call them at 1-800-331-9930 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security Disability benefits before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Blieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set. 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.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law

## Your Invitation to Worship

<b>Brighton</b> <b>LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 5661 Pleasant Valley Road • Brighton, MI 48114 810-227-3113 9:30 a.m. - Communion Worship 10:45 a.m. - Sunday School Rev. Dale Medford, Pastor www.lordoflifechurch.com	<b>Milford</b> <b>CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> Preschool, Pre-K & Kids - Mt. Synod 820 General Motors Plaza, Milford Church office: (248) 658-0885 Regular Service 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Jun-Aug - Sunday Service 9:00 a.m. Monday Evening 7:00 p.m. The Rev. Richard E. Pope, Pastor	<b>Novi</b> <b>ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> NOVI 46325 10 Mile Rd. • Novi, MI 48374 Saturday 9:00 a.m. Sunday 8 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Reverend George Chavira, Pastor Parish Office: 347-7178	<b>NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 1427 W. Van Meter Road • Novi, MI 48374 Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m. Rev. June R. Smith, Pastor 248-349-8652 www.umcnovi.com	
<b>Highland</b> <b>RIGHLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH</b> 2350 Harvey Lake Rd. (248) 887-4556 Contemporary Service 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. Sundays Men's Bible Study & Breakfast 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays 2nd & 4th Grade Youth Tuesdays 7-8 p.m. Pastor Rick Puffer	<b>Milford</b> <b>OAK POINTE CHURCH</b> 1700 Southfield (248) 665-3500 www.opcnov.org Contemporary Worship Service 10:30 am Adventures Children's Program: Sunday 10:30 am Sunday Evening 7:00 pm Sunday Evening 7:00 pm Life Groups: Various Times & Locations	<b>Novi</b> <b>FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH</b> 6440 Woodloch Rd., Novi, MI 48374 1/2 mile west of Novi Rd. www.faithcommunity-novi.org Worship: 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. *Children, Youth and Adult Ministries*	<b>CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY</b> 2550 Woodloch Rd., Novi, MI 48374 Weekend Hours Saturday 8:30 a.m. (English) & 10:30 a.m. (Spanish) Sunday 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. Fr. Timothy Hogan, Pastor www.chf-novi.org Parish Office: 348-8271	<b>Novi</b> <b>HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL</b> 40700 W. Ten Mile Rd. • 248-427-1175 Sunday Worship 7:45 am & 10 am Morning Service Wednesday 11:45 am Rev. Ann Weeber, Rector holycrossnovi@gmail.com
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# Making Main Street a reality

## Longtime business owner, resident focused on creating a downtown

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

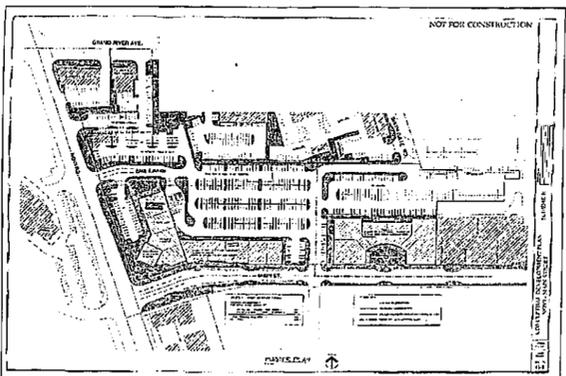
Victor Cassis knows many people may think his idea for developing Main Street in Novi is crazy, unrealistic and a financial risk.

But Cassis doesn't worry about what other people think because he has something he believes sets him apart from the developers who came before him — faith.

He has faith in himself, and most importantly, faith in the community that it will rally around his vision for Main Street and see the currently downtrodden area become a destination downtown like other nearby cities.

"I know it's quite daring for anyone to undertake a huge investment like this at a time of economic downturn and uncertainty," he said. "But I believe in Novi and its future, and I am willing to put my money where my mouth is."

And what he means by that is he fully intends to turn the 7.5 acres of land on Main Street and Novi Road that he purchased in December from the bank into Novi's central hub.



The rough sketch of Victor Cassis' plans for developing Main Street in Novi include a nice restaurant, unique boutiques and active walkable areas.

Cassis has kept the purchase a relative secret until a few weeks ago when he announced he was stepping down from the planning commission, a role he served in for the last

10 years. His focus now is on getting the ball rolling on his development. He said he would like to have plans before the Novi City Council within a year and have it developed within five years.

"I believe when we start developing this you will see some energy come into the picture," he said. "And I believe this will be the anchor, and thus the dream of Main Street would be accomplished."

Cassis has been around long enough — a resident for 21 years and business owner for 31 years — to know that past city councils have long been searching for a downtown to

rival nearby locations such as Northville and Milford.

Initially, Grand River was looked at, but those plans were shot down for several reasons, one being the speed of the road.

The current Main Street development opened in 1999 with plans of mixing retail and residential. The anchor was to be a medical building for Beaumont Hospitals, but when that hasn't happened,

It has been a rough go for businesses in the area since then.

Brian Larson, owner of Larson Jewelry Design on



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Businessman and former Novi Planning Commission member Victor Cassis has purchased and plans to develop this parcel of land along Novi's Main Street. The 7.5 acres of land he bought begins at Novi's Mixx Lounge and continues west to Novi Road.

"I believe when we start developing this you will see some energy come into the picture. And I believe this will be the anchor, and thus the dream of Main Street would be accomplished."

VICTOR CASSIS, Novi business owner

Main Street, was the first person to get into the area, and admits times have been hard as of late.

He said the area was supposed to be built out with in the first seven to 10 years, and that hasn't happened.

"It's disheartening to come in here a lot of the time," he said. "Luckily my business is doing good, but I cannot be the only one in this building, and that's the problem."

Larson said if Cassis' plans come to fruition it would be "huge."

"I'm looking forward to anyone doing anything here," he said. "As far as just having some fresh blood down here, nothing can hurt."

Cassis said his development is going to focus on families and be a "gathering place" for people in the community. He wants to have a fountain, outdoor ice skating rink in the winter and places for people to walk as well as a nice restaurant and unique boutiques.

"We need that ambience," he said.

He noted that while the Beaumont Hospitals project would have been well-received by council for obvious reasons — taxes — it was not what the original plan entailed.

"If you want a Main Street, you have to abide by the rules of a Main Street," he said.

Rules are exactly what Cassis plans to have in place when the development opens as he plans on being picky with tenants to ensure there is the right mix.

He admitted he is taking a chance, but calls this a labor of love for a community he loves.

"When I first heard of Novi I thought it was the sticks (back in 1976), but when I came here I saw it was going to be a nugget of gold," he said. "And now I realize that nugget of gold has had a gold mine in its depths."

nmueller@novi.net | (248) 437-2011 ext. 255

**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, August 10, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **MAIN MARKET CONDOMINIUM**, located south of Grand River and east of Novi Road, for a recommendation to City Council for approval of a Site Condominium. The applicant is proposing revisions to the existing condominium including the removal of Unit 3. The property is approximately 20 acres.

Approximate Condo Boundary Shown

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Division, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, August 10, 2011.

Novi Planning Commission  
David Greco, Secretary

Published: July 21, 2011

**City of Novi Public Hearing Notice**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, August 9, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers Novi Civic Center 45175 W. Ten Mile Road to consider:

**CASE NO. 11-028 UTA**  
The applicant is requesting a variance to allow placement of an additional 65 sq ft of wall sign on a tenant suite in the Novi Town Center retail center, located east of Novi Road, north of Grand River Ave.

**CASE NO. 11-026 43700 EXPO CENTER DR**  
The applicant is requesting a variance to allow continued placement of an oversized (100 sq ft) and height (13 ft) real estate marketing sign for a vacant commercial property. The sign was approved previously under ZBA 10-012 for a maximum of 1 year or until the property was leased, if less. The property is located south of I-96 and west of Novi Rd.

**CASE NO. 11-027 OLD DUTCH FARMS**  
The applicant is requesting a variance from an extension of a previous variance to allow continued placement of an oversized (36 sq ft) and height (8 ft.) sales and leasing sign for Old Dutch Farms Mobile Home Park for a period of two (2) years. The property is located south of 12 Mile and east of Napier Rd.

**CASE NO. 11-028 1601 EAST LAKE DR**  
The applicant is requesting variances from the required exterior side yard setback requirements and existing non-conforming building restrictions to allow the construction of a second floor addition of an existing (1) story portion of an existing residence. The property is located east of East Lake Dr. and south of 14 Mile Rd.

Published: July 21, 2011

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oeads@hometownlife.com

**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, July 27, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **MEDILLIDGE OF NOVI SITE PLAN NUMBER 1616C for REVISED PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, REVISED WOODLAND PERMIT AND REVISED WETLAND PERMIT APPROVAL**. The subject property totals approximately 20.65 acres and is located in Section 17, north of Eleven Mile Road between Heck Road and Wilson Road, parcel number 50-22-17-400-002. The applicant is proposing a 120 bed 78,560 square foot convalescent (nursing) home building.

Eleven Mile Road  
Heck Road

\*\*\*IN ACCORDANCE WITH MCL 125.3103, THE MANAGER OR OWNER OF A SINGLE STRUCTURE CONTAINING MORE THAN 4 DWELLING UNITS OR OTHER DISTINCT SPATIAL AREAS OWNED OR LEASED BY DIFFERENT PERSONS, IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO POST THE NOTICE AT A PRIMARY ENTRANCE TO THE STRUCTURE(S).\*\*\*

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Division, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, July 27, 2011.

Novi Planning Commission  
David Greco, Secretary

Published: July 21, 2011

# ATTENTION! SIGN UP NOW!

**If your business or organization serves seniors, you'll want to be part of this exciting event!**

**3rd Annual Senior Fall Health & Living Expo**

**Tuesday, October 4th, 2011  
Wayne State University - Oakland Center  
33737 West Twelve Mile Rd. Farmington Hills, MI**

- Special Section Promotion
- Print Advertising
- Web Presence
- Exhibitor Listings
- Expo Table

For more information about this event and to reserve your space, please contact:

**Choya Jordan**  
**313.222.2414**  
**Fax: 313.496.5303**

Email: cbjordan@hometownlife.com

Presented by:

hometownlife.com  
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A GANNETT COMPANY

**WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY**

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**SPECIAL OFFER!**

Customers who register by August 19, 2011 will be offered the **Early Bird Special Rate**

Customers can call for details and pricing 313.222.2414, email cbjordan@hometownlife.com or fax 313.496.5303



More: For a complete listing of local and regional events, see the Novi Calendar online at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com).  
 Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to [clstone@gannett.com](mailto:clstone@gannett.com); by fax to (248) 349-9832; or by mail to Novi News, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

**LOCAL EVENTS**

**Summer Sidewalk Series**  
 Location: Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountainwalk; roundabout  
 Dates: every Thursday from 5-8 p.m. through August  
 Details: Live music and artists July 21 - Don Swindell Quintet; July 28 - Randy Brock; Aug. 4 - Robin Moore; Aug. 11 - Gia Warner; Aug. 18 - The Reasons Y; and Aug. 25 - Liki Tikl  
 Contact: (586) 484-8797

**Sizzling Summer Art Series**  
 Location: Fuerst Park (southeast corner of Ten Mile and Taft roads)  
 Contact: (248) 347-0473 or [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org)  
**Terrific Tuesdays**  
 Time: 10:30 a.m.  
 July 26: The Amazing Clark Magic Show

**Friday Family Fun**  
 Time: 8 p.m.  
 July 22: Movie - How to Train Your Dragon; July 29: Jill Jack Band; Aug 5: Movie - Toy Story 3; Aug 12: The Candy Band; Aug 19: Movie - Viewer's Choice, vote at [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org); Aug 26: The Groove Council - Motown Band  
**Borders Bookstore**  
**Free Mahjong Lessons**  
 Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., Wednesdays in July  
 Details: Dorothy, a local Mahjong expert, will share her skill and enthusiasm with you.

**GOLF OUTINGS**  
**24th Annual Novi Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing**  
 Date: Aug. 17  
 Details: Registration deadline is July 1. New this year, teams of 12 will compete for a Challenge Cup. Register with your own team of 12



**A real sizzler**

Tom Seley (above right) and his band "Cupcakeasaurus" entertains a July 12 crowd at Novi's Sizzling Summer Series at Fuerst Park. With their sunglasses on to beat the bright sun, Mandy Frink and her daughter Abby, 2, (below right) enjoy the music. Under blue skies and a hot sun, a crowd (below left) enjoys the performance.



golfers or register individually, in twosomes or foursomes. Electronic scoreboards throughout the course will display team or individual scores. Team format allows even inexperienced golfers to win the Challenge Cup. Individual golfer fee is \$145; includes 18 holes, a golf shirt, lunch by Carrabba's at the turn, longest drive and closest to the pin contests, dinner and awards following the outing. Foursome fee is \$550. Call for team of 12 golfers fee. Title Sponsor: Varsity Automotive Group

Contact: [www.novichamber.com](http://www.novichamber.com) or call (248) 349-3743.

**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](http://www.sunrisenetworkinggroup.com)), or SUNG for short, is a group of about 250 business leaders who help each other to build more business by referring people to each other. Cost of breakfast is \$10. Contact: Fonda Milana 586-232-3009 or [fmilana@sunrisefinancialgroup.com](mailto:fmilana@sunrisefinancialgroup.com)

**American Business Women's Association Novi Oaks Chapter**  
**Metro Novi BNI**  
**Time/Date:** 7-8 a.m. every Wednesday  
**Location:** On the Border Restaurant, 21091 Haggerty Road (north of Eight Mile), Novi  
**Details:** BNI is a structured networking environment for professionals. The Metro Novi BNI team members are committed to providing bona fide referrals to each other. Members learn how to create and refine an "elevator speech," develop a broad network of other business professionals in the community and receive training/education on networking more efficiently. Guests are invited to attend free of charge. Continental breakfast provided. Contact: For more information, contact Julie Paquette at 248-797-1665 or [juliepaquette67@gmail.com](mailto:juliepaquette67@gmail.com); [www.metrobninovi.com](http://www.metrobninovi.com)

**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  
**Details:** Novi Toastmasters is a community-based club which is part of Toastmasters International. Our diverse group provides a mutually supportive atmosphere in which all can develop and refine their public speaking and leadership skills. Our members also have fun while building confidence in day-to-day communications and mentoring toward professional and personal excellence. Guests are welcome - and bring a friend. Visit [www.novitoastmasters.com](http://www.novitoastmasters.com). Contact: Linda Kreuter at PR@novi.toastmasters.com

**Novi Rotary Club**  
**Time/Date:** Noon every Thursday  
**Location:** Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road  
**Details:** Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check website for speaker information; [novirotary.org](http://novirotary.org).  
**Novi Chamber of Commerce**  
**Contact:** [www.novichamber.com](http://www.novichamber.com) or call (248) 349-3743.  
**Business to Business Breakfast**  
**Time/Date:** 8-9 a.m., Tuesday, July 26  
**Location:** James D. Compe, Inc.'s The Pheasant Hills Development, 901 McDonald Drive, Northville  
**Details:** Join for networking and a light breakfast; \$5 payable at door.

**LIBRARY LINES**

**Novi Public Library**  
**Location:** 45255 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi  
**Hours:** 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 10-5 Friday-Saturday; closed Sundays through Labor Day  
**Details:** Unless noted below, all programs take place at the library. Register for programs at the library or on the library website. Contact: (248) 349-0720  
**Website:** [www.novilibrary.org](http://www.novilibrary.org)  
**Summer Reading Programs run through Aug. 6 for Youth, Tweens, Teens, and Adults.** Sign-up now on the library website or at the library!  
**Story Times:** Please see the library website or story time brochure for details.  
**Novi Writers' Group**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, July 23  
**Details:** Writers' groups can be a great way to make connections in the writing and publishing world and to get critiques that will improve your skills as a writer. Come to the library for an inspirational environment where you can create and share ideas. This group is facilitated by local writer, Kathy Mutch. For ages 18 and up.

**BUSINESS**  
**Northville-Novu Business Networking Breakfast**

**STRICTLY BUSINESS**

Thursday, July 21, 2011 [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)



**Public Act 77**  
 State Sen. Mike Kowall (R-White Lake, 15th District) joined Gov. Rick Snyder (left) at the Capitol July 12 as Public Act 77 of 2011 (Senate Bill 383) was signed into law. The new law gives more flexibility to the administration by allowing the state treasurer and the Michigan Film Office to negotiate with those who apply for Michigan Business Tax film tax credits on the amount of the credit they will receive for the remaining months of the program.

**OAKLAND COUNTY BUSINESS WORKSHOPS**

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance are invited to attend seminars in August 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 at the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, west of Telegraph, in Waterford. For pre-registration and location specifics, visit [www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar](http://www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar) or call (248) 858-0783.

**Effective networking**  
 You know about the importance of networking, right? You have attended dozens of events and passed out all those business cards, but "networking" is just "not working." Find out what you need to do to make networking work for your business. Learn the keys to successful networking, how to develop an effective elevator pitch and how to get results from our networkers. Presented by the Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center (MS-BTDC).  
 Tuesday, Aug. 2, 6-9 p.m. The fee is \$40.

**SBA forum on small business lending**  
 Before you apply for a business loan, the county recommends that you first attend the SBA Forum on Small Business Lending. This is a free loan orientation conducted by a business banker, a business consultant from the SBA's network of Small Business Development Centers and an SBA representative. You'll learn how the lending process works and what is expected of you and you'll understand how the SBA can assist with our SBA Guaranteed Loan Program. This session is best suited to those who have good credit, a solid business idea, and some money to invest in their business. Because the SBA does not provide loan guarantees to real estate investment firms, including purchasing and rehabbing houses for sale, this type of financing is not discussed at the roundtables.  
 Wednesday, Aug. 3, 9 a.m.-noon. This workshop is free but pre-registration is required.

**Social media marketing part 3**  
 Advanced Social Media: Create and Launch your Social Media Campaign. In part 3 of this training series, you will learn advanced strategies and tactics for building a long-lasting online community and explore ways to take social media beyond marketing. Discover how to grow your base of followers and engage participants across all social media channels, ensure a reasonable rate of return on your social media investment and more. Pre-requisite for this workshop is Social Media Marketing parts 1 and 2.  
 Thursday, Aug. 4, 6-9 p.m. Fee: \$40.

**Pre-business research**  
 Are you thinking of starting your own business and want to research your business idea? Are you a business owner who wants to understand which research sources to use for your business plan and where to find the information you need? Presented by The Oakland County Business Center, The Entrepreneur's Source, Oakland County Market Research division, and a business reference librarian.  
 Tuesday, Aug. 9, 6-9:30 p.m. This workshop is free but pre-registration is required.

**CEED microloan orientation**  
 Many small business owners face obstacles when trying to obtain a business loan. The recognition of the serious need for working capital for existing businesses, start-up or expansion, equipment purchases and job creation is not the priority it once was. If you have a need for alternative financing consider the MicroLoan Program. Discover the requirements and process necessary to apply and obtain a microloan. Program presented by the Center for Empowerment & Economic Development.  
 Wednesday, Aug. 10, 9-11 a.m. This workshop is free but pre-registration is required.

**Fundamentals of starting a business**  
 This seminar is for anyone thinking about going into business. This course helps aspiring entrepreneurs assess their abilities to lead and manage a company as well as evaluate market and sales potential for their products. The basics of business ownership are introduced, along with resources available to help launch new ventures in Michigan.  
 Thursday, Aug. 11, 6-9 p.m. Fee: \$30.

**FastTrack: listening to your business workshop**  
 The day-to-day responsibilities of running your own business leaves little time to focus on long-term vision, goals and strategies. Find time in your schedule to spend it with Listening to your Business, a half-day workshop from FastTrack. Created for entrepreneurs just like you, Listening to Your Business makes the most of the knowledge you have about your business - and the limited time you have to make it better.  
 Friday, Aug. 12, 8 a.m.-noon. The fee is \$50.

**Fundamentals of writing a business plan**  
 This workshop is for small business owners who are developing a plan to serve as their road map to success. Workshop participants learn what elements are commonly found in effective plans and work on developing each of these for their own business. Assistance in the process as well as information on resources is provided.  
 Thursday, Aug. 18, 6-9 p.m. Fee: \$40.

**Social Media Marketing Part 1**  
 Millions of people use social media for fun, but these technologies are also powerful business tools that encourage communication and collaboration. Before you start using social media tools, learn how they work and what they offer, particularly for small businesses. Learn what it means to be engaged in social networking, which social networks are the most effective for conducting business, how to select the right tools for the job, how to protect yourself and your business and what you need to have in place before you get started. This is part one of three sessions.  
 Wednesday, August 24, from 9 a.m.-noon. Fee: \$40.

**HAVE A STORY IDEA?**

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

**Navigating hometownlife.com offers more content and chance to save money**

BY JON GUNNELLS  
 GUEST COLUMNIST



**Teach Savvy**  
 Jon Gunnells

Readers of this space have learned how to navigate the Internet, navigate social media and steer clear of online scams. But one website that many readers don't know how to navigate is none other than [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com) - the online home of the *Observer & Eccentric* and *Hometown Weekly* newspapers. Readers who are checking in from their computers or mobile devices already know about the benefits of [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com), but to those reading this column in the newspaper - have you seen all that [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com) has to offer?

**More content** - The site is rich in copy and has all of the columns, articles and briefs you receive in the newspaper, from sports to obits. But the website also has interactive photo galleries and videos which are updated weekly. It also has links to stories from other communities so if you live in South Lyon, you can also read the top stories from Milford, just by clicking the appropriate newspaper/community link at the top of the page.

**Marketplace** - Additionally, [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com) can save you some coin. You know all of those circulars in the weekly papers that tell you about deals from box stores selling mattresses, blenders and televisions? You can find them online, too. Just by clicking the "grocery

coupons" links at the top of the website, you will have access to hundreds of printable grocery coupons for food, goods and even movies. You will also gain access to [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com) links for national stores. But it gets better. Through [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com), you can also view a comprehensive database of local classified ads which include more than just jobs. [Hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com) also has links and information on discounts on services from local businesses that offer cement work, plumbing, roof repair and more.

**Interactive features** - Online buy and sell classifieds have already been mentioned, but did you know that through [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com) readers can access interactive real estate databases, job listings and even garage sale maps? Links for careers, real estate and more are located on the top toolbar at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com) and the seasonal interactive garage sale map can be found on the right hand side of the homepage.

The list of features on [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com) could go on all day. Instead, it might be easier to navigate by learning the tricks of the page. For example, did you know if you are searching for an article, obituary or anything on the site that you can type it into the search bar on the upper right hand corner of the web page? And your results will appear. You can find just about anything on [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com) this way. New stories, archived stories, even old Tech Savvy columns that you may have missed. Can't find a feature on [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com) like blogs, your personal calendar, the local HomesLikeMe page or anything else? You can use the search bar, but you can also scroll to the bottom of the page. There you will find direct links to everything you need like staff contacts links to the *Hometown* Twitter and Facebook pages and more.

There are links to get mobile alerts, links to subscribe to the e-mail lists, even links to set up an RSS feed. To learn how to complete any of those functions, set up a blog, or post in a forum, visit [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com) today. Search for the appropriate link and get started.

Better yet, you don't need to sign up. You can log in for free by using your Facebook credentials. Simply click "login" located at the top toolbar of [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com) followed by the Facebook connect "button" and get started.

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, driving and playing basketball. He can be reached at [jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com). Follow him on Twitter @Gunn50w.

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\*This offer is applicable to a one bedroom, one bath apartment. The grand opening rate includes a special discount of \$400 applicable for first 12 months of residence. This rate does not include fees for additional resources or optional services. Priority and membership valid at Leon Township location only.

Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstoney@gannett.com, by fax to (248) 565-2892, or by mail to Church Events/Novi, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

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

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

**Mass Schedule**  
Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday; 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday; 7 p.m. Tuesday; 4:30 p.m. (English), 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Saturday  
Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.  
Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment

**Crosspointe Meadows Church**  
Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 669-9400, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit www.crosspointemeadows.org

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

Details: Nursery and older children programs available. Worship blends traditional and contemporary elements resulting in a multi-sensory worship experience.

**Destiny Worship Center**  
Location: Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 Six Mile Road, Northville  
Contact: DestinyW3C@gmail.com or visit www.DW3C.org

**First Church of the Nazarene**  
Location: 21260 Haggerty Road, north of Eight Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 349-7600 or visit fcnazarene.org

**Sunday Schedule: 9:15 a.m.** Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's program, Youth Worship Service

**Tuesday Schedule: Tuesday 9:25-11:15 a.m.** Women of the Word Bible Study with childcare available for through age 5; 6:45 p.m. Ladies Evening Bible Study

**Wednesday Schedule: 5:30 p.m.** Family Meal, \$4 per person, \$12 per family; 7 p.m. Children's Caravan, Club 55, Bible Study, Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth Blast  
**Thursday Schedule: 6 a.m.** Men of Purpose Prayer Group; 7 p.m. Tae Kwon Do  
**Women of the Word**

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

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

**Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross**  
Location: 40700 W 10 Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 427-1175 or churchoftheholycross.com

**Sunday Worship: 7:45 a.m., 10 a.m.**  
**Sunday School and Nursery Care: 10 a.m.** Worship Service  
**Altzheimer'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 www.faithcommunity-novi.org

**Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.**  
**First Baptist Church of Northville**  
Location: 217 N. Wing  
Contact: (248) 349-1020  
**Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.**  
**Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.**  
**Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.** Tuesdays  
**Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m.** first Saturday of every month

**Treasure Seekers Vacation Bible School**  
**Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m.** Aug. 14  
Details: For kindergarten through sixth grade

**First Baptist Church of Novi-Family Integrated Church**  
Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 349-3647 or firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org

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

**First Presbyterian Church of Northville**  
Location: 200 E. Main St.  
Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit firstpresville.org

**Sunday Worship**  
Time: 9:30, 11 a.m.  
**Single Place**  
**Time/Date: 7:30 p.m.** every Thursday

**Location: First Presbyterian Church of Northville, 200 E. Main, Northville**  
Details: Single Place is a social organization for singles 40 and up hosted by the First Presbyterian Church of Northville. Thursday meetings feature speakers, games, or entertainment followed with an ice cream social.

**Contact: For a detailed schedule of all events (dining out, weekend activities, etc.) call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org.**

**Time/Date: 7 p.m.** July 28  
Details: Single Place cookout & comedy night. After dinner old classic comedy TV shows will be shown on our big screen. Come hungry as burgers, Italian sausages and side dishes are on the menu. Cost is \$7 for dinner only, or \$10 for the entire evening. Sign up at Single Place or call the church only if you plan to have dinner; (248) 349-0911.

**Time/Date: 7 p.m.** Aug. 4  
Details: Ms. Donna May will be speaking on the "Power of Humor. Learn how to use humor to ease the everyday tensions and problems we all have. The presentation will be followed by an ice cream social where you can meet other singles; \$5 donation.

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

**Sunday worship:**  
Times: 8:30 and 10 a.m. (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend); 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m. (Sept.-May)

**Pastors: Rev. Dr. Steven J. Buck, senior pastor and Rev. Jeff Sturgeon, associate pastor**  
**Coffee Hour: 9:30 a.m.** Sunday (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend); 10:15 a.m. Sundays (Sept.-May)

**Healing Service: 4 p.m.** first Monday of every month  
**Logo Youth Club: 5 p.m.** Wednesdays for fourth-12th graders (Sept.-April)

**Men's Club: 8 a.m.** second Saturdays  
**Contact: Heather J. Wallas, communications director, (248) 349-1144, Ext. 26, or e-mail hwallas@funmchurch.org.**

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

**Sundays**  
Time: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study; 10 a.m. Worship

**Novi Police Briefs**

**Witness helps catch drunk driver**  
1 Novi police arrested a man for drunk driving at 9:37 p.m. on July 12 at his residence on Windridge Drive after he was followed by a witness who observed his car swerving all over the road.

According to the suspect, the witness called police when the driver was swerving on Grand River Avenue near Wixom Road. She followed the driver to his home before police arrived.

The officer met the man at his home and he admitted to just returning home and having a few drinks. He failed field sobriety tests and a preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .168 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers in Michigan is .08 percent.

The man was arrested and taken to the police department where he was issued a citation for operating while intoxicated and released after posting bond and when sober.

**Purse taken from car**  
2 A woman had her red PT Cruiser broken into overnight on July 31 while it was parked at her home on Wellington Drive.

The woman said her vehicle was locked but the driver's side window was down an inch or two. The suspects were able to enter the vehicle and take her purse without damaging the car.

Taken along with her purse was her driver's license, Social Security card and a credit card. The suspects made two gas station withdrawals at an unknown location before she could close her account.

Police have no suspects at this time.

**Scrap metal stolen from auto shop**  
3 An unknown suspect stole approximately 10 brake rotors and one rear auto axle from Dan's Auto Service at 43151 Grand River Avenue between July 16-18.

The victim said the bin was full when he left on Saturday and when he returned on July 18, it was gone. The estimated value of the items stolen was around \$90.

There were no signs of forced entry and police will be performing extra patrol of the area at night.

**Drunk caught driving with no lights**  
4 A 22-year-old man was arrested for drunk driving at 1:13 a.m. on July 16 at Grand River Avenue and Main Street after an officer in the area observed him driving without lights on.

According to the report, the driver headed on to Grand River without lights before being stopped by the officer. The man admitted to drinking and failed field sobriety tests.

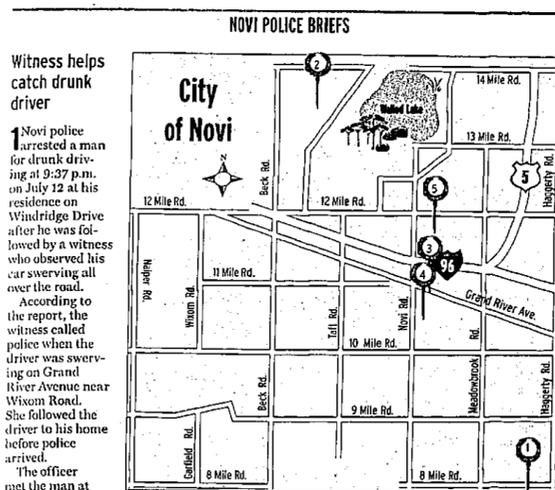
A preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .166 percent. The legal limit for drunk drivers in Michigan is .08 percent.

The man was arrested and transported to the police department where he was issued a citation for operating while intoxicated and released when sober and after posting bond.

**Parts cut off car**  
5 A woman had the catalytic converter cut off her 2000 Chevrolet Venture while it was parked in the parking lot at Twelve Oaks Mall between 7:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on July 13.

The woman said she noticed a loud noise when she returned to her car after work and found that the part was missing.

Police have no suspects.



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**SUMMER CLEARANCE EVENT**

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SECTION B (NRNN) **SPORTS** [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

THURSDAY, July 21, 2011

CLASSIFIED ADS INSIDE  
JOBS, B6  
AUTOS, B8  
PUZZLES, B6

**Northville's Clifton runs away with top honors**

By Sam Eggleston  
CORRESPONDENT

There has never been any doubt that this area is packed full of track and field talent.

If you don't believe us, then just take a quick glance over the teams that competed at the Michigan High School Athletics Association state finals: Detroit Catholic Central, Lakeland, Northville, Novi and Milford all had athletes who scored points in the most competitive meet of the year.

That's not bad, considering there are only two other schools in our area that didn't make that prestigious list.

So, as you can guess, picking an All-Area team for the boys track and field is never easy, but it's always a lot of fun.

But, like every year, one athlete has to stand out above the rest. Out of all of the selections, this one is always the most difficult. Yet, when all is said and done and the numbers, along with the intangibles, are considered, the 2011 All-Area Boys Track and Field Player of the Year was awarded to a consistently driven runner who made a lot of noise this year not only winning several titles, but improving his time each and every race he ran.

**Player of the Year**  
Edward Clifton, junior, Northville 800 run



Northville Mustang Ed Clifton in a 2010 file photo.

Edward Clifton, of Northville, may only be a junior but he has plenty of experience both as an All-Area athlete, having made the cut in both 2009 and 2010, and as a state finals qualifier. The first time he made the trip to Rockford was as a freshman, then again as a sophomore and this year he earned All-State with his performance in the 800-meter run, finishing in sixth with a time of 1:55.05.

"Clifton has consistently run at the highest levels, yet scored a new personal best every time he competed," said Northville coach Gordie McIntosh.

"Clifton was a captain this year and served as a mentor and role model, as well as a morale booster for his teammates."

Clifton has plenty of accomplishments to be proud of. He won the KLA Conference title in the 800 and set a new record along the way with a 1:57.8 showing before winning the regional title with a 1:56.2. In the state finals, after training virtually on his own for two weeks, he set another personal best, cutting almost a full second off his previous time.

In addition to running the 800, Clifton was also a key member of the 4x200, 4x400 and 4x800 relay teams for Northville.

**ALL-AREA BOYS TRACK**  
Player of the Year  
Edward Clifton, junior, Northville, 800 Run

**First team**  
Derek Kim, senior, Novi 110 hurdles  
Derek Kim is the kind of athlete you can just depend on. When you need points, he'll get them. When you need wins, he's the first to step up and give his best. That's why he's a no-brainer at All-Area, and he's proven his ability with a 2011 All-State performance in the 110 hurdles, too, finishing eighth with a time of 14.93 seconds.

"He's been a solid leader all year," said coach Marsha Reid. "He earned points in every meet."

Billy Riga, senior, Detroit Catholic Central 100 dash  
Billy Riga is one of those guys that you just love to watch run. He's got speed in reserve, and when he kicks his performance into high gear it's like watching the definition of athlete take the stage.

Riga is a quality runner who was key in several points for the Shamrocks this year.

**Second team**  
Lance Lilla, junior, Novi, 110 Hurdles

Deandre Fordham-Johns, senior, Novi, 100 Dash  
Brandon Wallace, junior, Milford, 400 Dash  
Deyonta Beal-Greer, senior, Novi, 300 Hurdles  
Ryan Hodges, senior, Milford, 800 Run  
Mike Jocz, junior, Novi, 200 Dash  
Andrew Garcia-Garrison, senior, Detroit Catholic Central, 3,200 Run  
Trevor VanAssell, sophomore, South Lyon, Discus  
Derek Cingel, junior, Novi, High Jump  
Alex Lambi, senior, South Lyon East, Long Jump  
Brent Parzuchowski, senior, South Lyon East, Pole Vault  
Mark Becker, junior, Detroit Catholic Central, Shot Put  
John-Paul Zebrowski, senior, Detroit Catholic Central, 1,600 Run

**Honorable mention**  
South Lyon: Blake Yard, Nick Dyer, Jake Sexton, Ian Herman, Joel Shekell, Ethan Fanning, Spencer Ruggiero, Corey Worob, Kevin Parzuchowski, Milford: Brandon Bell, Evan Smallman, Cody Starley, Shawn Welch, Paul Jusum, Brian Kelle, Nate Bertram, Ryan Hodges, Kyle Coggins, Jon Schwartz, Billy Schoenle, Robert Ritchie, Matt Wackerman, Dominic Haddock, Kyle Monagle, Lakeland: James Probstfeld, Scott Neff, Craig Dudley, Nick Furry, Grayson Thomas, Andrew Mannerace, Gary Essmanacher, Ryan Kelly, Dalton Christie, Eric Assad, Johannes Kaiser, Novic Brett Gampa

**Coach touched hundreds of lives over past 25 years**

Lyon remembered for sincerity by former collegiate players

By Chris Jackett  
CORRESPONDENT

Memorial contributions for Doug Lyon would be appreciated and should be sent to: Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, 1500 Rosecrans Ave., Ste. 200, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Many athletic coaches are well known to the public for the number of trophies they put in a display case, but it is those who change their players for the better as people that really have something to be proud of. That was Doug Lyon.

A 47-year-old Novi resident, Lyon passed away July 9 after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He had coached local soccer players' lives for more than two decades.

A Northville alum, Lyon graduated from Sterling Heights Stevenson in 2001 and played at Schoolcraft from 2003-05, not only playing for Lyon and head coach Bill Tolsted's Ocelot squad alongside Plymouth, but Turkington also worked for Lyon while attending Schoolcraft.

For more than 23 years, Lyon carried on a family tradition by working with his brother, Gordon, as an insurance agent and owner of C. Harold Bloom Insurance Agency in downtown Northville.

"While working with him we had a lot of memorable times," Turkington said. "We went to some work outings at Detroit Tigers games. Work lunches were always fun. Just walking somewhere local. He went beyond the tac-

**Road Runner Classic this Saturday at Maybury**

By Brad Emms  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Road entrance, one mile west of Beck.

All preparations are set up for a really great run on Saturday," race organizer Gary Taf said. "We'll have plenty of water and a lot of refreshments before and after race. We'll take care of the runners."

Cash awards will also go to the overall male and female winners, along with the masters (over-40) male and female champions.

First-, second- and third-place age-group placers will also receive awards courtesy of Sterling Cut Glass, along with finishing medals going to all 1-mile participants.

Race day registration, which begins at 3 p.m. is \$30. The 1-mile fee is \$5.

For more information, visit [www.northvilleroadrunners.org](http://www.northvilleroadrunners.org).

Maybury State Park is located off the Eight Mile

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Northville JV pom play earns award

The Northville junior varsity pom team attended the Mid-American Pom Pon summer camp June 23-26 at Davenport University. The JV team was awarded the coveted Team Unity Award on the final day for the JV level.

Tourney winners

The Northville Cubs IIIU baseball team won the championship of the Michigan Bitter Foundation tournament the weekend of July 9. The Cubs went 4-0 over the weekend, allowing only three runs in their first three games.



Cricket Cup

Novi to host first Cricket Cup 'under the lights' at Ella Mae Power Park. The City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department will host Novi's first adult cricket tournament at Ella Mae Power Park in August.

The 2011 Novi Cricket Cup will be held from 6-11 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, Aug. 6-7 and Aug. 14 and Aug. 20-21.

A modified form of baseball, Cricket will be played with a softer ball and abbreviated games. All teams will be guaranteed at least three pool play matches.

Awards will be provided for the winning team, runners-up and individual trophies will be presented to the best batsman, best bowler and a tournament MVP.

The deadline for registration is Thursday, July 28, at 5 p.m. A captains meeting for all participating teams will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, July 29 at the Novi Civic Center.

NORTHVILLE/NOVI SPORTS BRIEFS

Boosters golf outing

The Third Annual Northville High School Boosters Golf Outing and Silent Auction will be held Saturday, Aug. 27 at the Links of Novi.

3-on-3 basketball

The inaugural Willey's Hoops for Hope 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament will be held Aug. 18 at Novi's ITC Community Sports Park.

Cheer camp

Thirty-three junior cheerleaders recently joined the Northville High School Cheerleaders for a three-day camp. The junior campers learned cheers, chants, tumbling skills, stunting and a short dance.

Fastpitch championship softball coming to Novi

The City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department has partnered with Metro Detroit Amateur Softball Association (ASA) and the Detroit Sports Commission to host the 2011 Amateur Softball Association Northern National Girls 14 and Under Class B Fastpitch Championships.

2011-12 middle school athletic admission charge

For the 2011-12 school year there will be an admission charge for home middle school events in volleyball, basketball and swim and dive. The charge will be \$3 adults and \$1 students.



State champs

The Northville Broncos U-13 travel baseball team had a perfect 6-0 run at the USSSA AA State Championship tournament held in Canton. The team went 3-0 in pool play, winning against opponents Lakes Area Dodgers 5-3; Dayton D-Bears 9-1 and the Traverse City Fast 10-4.



Giants win Series

The Giants from the Northville Baseball and Softball Association's G League won the World Series 10-6 over the second seeded and talented White Sox, June 29 under the lights at Northville Community Park.



Madness champs

The Motor City Madness IOU Red Softball Team traveled to Toledo, Ohio to take on teams from Michigan, Ohio and New York. They came back with the championship by winning the final five games of the Independence Classic Girls Fast-Pitch Softball Tournament.



Tourney champs

The 10-U Travel Mustangs ended the 2011 baseball season in grand style winning the KVBSA Posey/Jackson Divisional Tournament Championship in Willis, MI. The Mustangs played their best ball of the season, cruising through the winner's bracket and finishing the tournament with a 4-0 record.

ALL-AREA

FROM PAGE B1

helping them to tie for sixth in the state finals. Shawn Shove, senior, Milford

Shawn Shove doesn't know the meaning of being satisfied with his own personal results, which is why he's perfect for the All-Area team. Shove, his coach, Brian Salyers, points out, is one of those players that is always trying to get his personal best time.

This year, Shove turned in some impressive performances, including third in the Lakes Conference and third in the KLA-A, setting a personal best time of 51.4 seconds.

Sean Suehr, senior, Lakeland 300 hurdles. One of the most difficult races in high school track is the 300 hurdles. It's grueling and it's challenging and it takes a special athlete to truly embrace it.

Sean was one of our biggest leaders this year on and off the track, said coach David Browne, who noted Defiance College is recruiting the speedy senior. "They would like to get an individual with his caliber of character."

Central 800 run. Catholic Central is so full of talent that it's almost like having an All-Star group to compete with each and every day at practice.

It's a shame to see an athlete like Jake Spuller graduate. Everything he put his mind toward, he succeeded at, and nothing showed that more than his senior track and field season under the guidance of coach Tony Magni.

Garrett Zuk, junior, Lakeland 3,200 run. Just watching Garrett Zuk run makes us tired. This junior long-distance runner makes it look easy.

Garrett is easily the toughest and smartest distance runner I have ever coached, said Browne. "He has tremendous work ethic."

With such an amazing array of accomplishments this year, Zuk was a serious contender for Player of the Year against fellow junior Edward Clifton of Northville.

Stone Monarch, senior, Detroit Catholic Central. With a name like Stone Monarch, you pretty much are guaranteed to be a terrific athlete.

Monarch is darn good at what he does though, winning the regional title this year with a throw of 146-feet-2-inches. Needless to say, the Shamrocks are going to be missing his pillar in that event next year.

Al Myers, senior, Northville high jump. Most people have had that dream where they are flying and it just feels so wonderful, making us envy the birds that take to the sky on a daily basis.

Myers, who graduates this year, made the state finals three times in his career. On his latest trip, he became an All-State athlete with his eighth-place showing at the state finals, leaping 6-5.

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

said McIntosh. "Myers is one of those athletes that every coach wishes to retain forever. He has a positive attitude and he leads by example."

Myers will compete at Western Michigan University next season. Ryan Majsak, senior, Detroit Catholic Central long jump.

Other than in the zoo, most of us haven't seen a kangaroo in action, leaping across the open with strides that somehow look natural yet impossible at the same time.

Majsak, who graduates from CC this year, showcased some impressive leaping skills all year long, but one of his most notable performances came at the regional tournament when he jumped 19.575 to help his team earn first place overall.

John Falvey, senior, Lakeland pole vault. Not everyone can learn how to pole vault, and even those who do aren't likely to become an outstanding competitor in the sport.

Falvey just missed the All-State mark this year, clearing 13-4. "John was cruising through the state meet," said Browne. "He set his personal record by six inches at the meet before heat and fatigue started to take over."

George Darany, senior, Detroit Catholic Central shot put. Talk about a guy who knows how to throw things around. George Darany, who has been on several All-Area lists in his career at Detroit Catholic Central, has been known to toss a few football players around.

Darany is a senior because Darany is one of those athletes that is almost impossible to replace. His work ethic, desire to succeed and competitive nature are hard to come by.

Joe Schubring, senior, Novi 1,600 run. "We're pretty sure that you could ask Joe Schubring to learn how to throw the discus and he'd end up being pretty darn good at it."

Joe stepped up in all areas of the distance part of our program, noted Reid of the All-State athlete who took eighth in the state finals with a 4:21.08 in the mile run.

Lakeland, 4x800 relay. What can be said about Lakeland's 3,200-meter relay team that they haven't said themselves through their performances?

The team took eighth in the states to earn All-State status with a time of 8:01.83—an incredible showing in one of the toughest events at the finals this year.

Detroit Catholic Central, 4x400 relay. Distance running is something the Shamrocks are just good at, and it showed in the 1,600 relay this year.

Magni (who is also the school's long-time cross country coach), took fourth at the state finals with a time of 2:25.92. With that kind of performance, it's hard to believe anyone was able to stay ahead of them.

Detroit Catholic Central, 4x200 relay. Apparently, distance running isn't the only thing the Shamrocks are good at. The Detroit Catholic Central athletes proved to be the best in the area when it comes to the 800 relay event, showcasing their talent at the regional tournament with a time of 1:29.4, which was worth second place and points that helped their team to first overall.

Novi, 4x100 relay. The Wildcats sure know how to put together a relay team. This squad was made up of some speedy sprinters all year long, which culminated in a regional time of 1:27-second showing against some of the best athletes Michigan has to offer.

In the time it takes for a burrito to warm up in the microwave, these Wildcats had already ran a quarter of a mile. Pretty impressive, hey?

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

Public Courses directory listing various golf courses and their rates, including Eagle Crest Golf Club, Stonebridge Golf Club, and Coyote Preserve.

COACH

FROM PAGE B1

and having an hour of nothing but good talks and laughs during the day always makes the day go by faster. He was always good company. I believe any of his SC players felt Doug was there for advice or motivation whenever he was needed."

Turkington said Lyon's friendships with his players continued after college. She and other former Ocelots went on trips as a group, and sometimes with Lyon's family, to the Dominican Republic, Searchmont Ski Resort and even Chicago for a Manchester United game.

Lyon's personal connections with his players helped them develop not only on the field as players, but as young adults.

"For me, personally, Doug helped me a lot with my confidence," Plymale said. "He gave me confidence to lead, to take on one on one better, to be the best that I could be."

With her newfound confidence, Plymale became one of the Ocelots' captains during her second year in the program.

"I have always been my worst critic and he helped to overcome that. He made me strong on and off the field mentally more than anything," Plymale said.

(Schroeder) player will ever forget hearing Doug yell 'to the hill,' Turkington said.

"We knew Bill and him weren't happy with our performance or behavior and, with that being said, we were running up and down that hill for a long enough time for us to rethink our situation and try our best to not let that happen again."

"He was always willing to help and be honest about what we needed to do as players to be the best we could be."

When he wasn't coaching, Lyon enjoyed golfing, skiing, curling and vacationing at his cottage on St. Joseph Island in Ontario. He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge in Northville.

He leaves behind his wife of 23 years, Lisa, and children Nate, Neysa and Maya, as well as his parents, Richard and Martha Lyon, brother Gordon and several other family members.

"He will definitely be missed," Plymale said. "There is a great quote I've heard that says 'the goal in life is not to live forever, but to create something that will.' I think Doug Lyon has definitely accomplished that."

Chris Jackett is a free-lance writer and former Noviknews staff writer.

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Pom camp

The Northville Varsity Pompon team participated in the Mid American Pompon summer camp held June 23-26 at Davenport University in Grand Rapids. The 25-member team, coached by Caitlin O'Connell, received a first place rating in their original routine.

DIANE WALKER

# REAL ESTATE

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John Brown, editor: (313) 222-6755  
[jbrown@hometownlife.com](mailto:jbrown@hometownlife.com)

## Lawn care pros at MSU have 'go green' tips

Michigan State University's Department of Crop and Soil Sciences lawn care pros offer simple advice for those who want their summer lawns in tip-top shape.

Mow high — recycle clippings. MSU experts say to mow at least 3 inches high and to return clippings to recycle nutrients. You should sweep or blow clippings from walks and driveways onto the lawn.

Taller grass crowds out weeds and promotes deeper roots, they say. Deeper roots help the lawn survive droughts.

You should fertilize in fall for the best results. Be patient in the spring, and wait until May to fertilize if that's your choice. Don't fertilize if the ground is frozen or saturated with water.

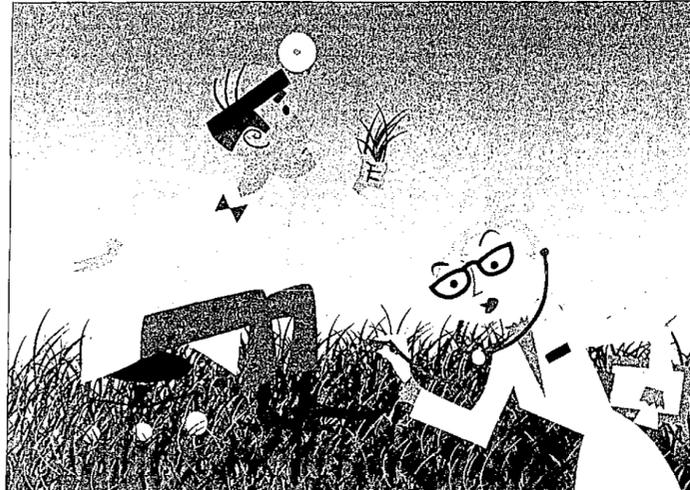
Don't guess, MSU experts add, soil test for proper fertilizer recommendations.

It's important to choose lawn-type fertilizers with low or no phosphorus (the middle number) and to follow directions. Avoid using "triple" products (e.g., 12-12-12).

Confirm spreader setting before applying, the pros say.

You need to clean up and avoid surface water. Maintain a no application zone near lakes, rivers, streams and storm drains. Never discharge clippings near lakes, rivers, streams or drains.

Sweep fertilizer granules from walks and driveways onto the lawn, and wash your spreader on the grass.



When it comes to being water smart:  
• Don't soak your lawn and avoid night watering  
• Watering should not produce puddles; lighter, more frequent watering is best

• Brown lawns are OK; dormancy is a natural response to drought, however, some water may be necessary during an extended drought of more than a month

For more lawn tips see: WWW.TURF.MSU.EDU. The website has extensive information on such subjects as moles, home lawn grub control products, Japanese beetles, European chaffer pests and more.

## Advertising: Check out documents for details

By Robert Meisner  
Guest Columnist

Q: We are in a mixed use development and the business portion of our condominium. In an effort to encourage foot traffic and improve the bottom line, we want to promote our business with signs and advertising in the front of the building and advertise in area publications. What can we do to stop that as residents?

A: It all depends on your documents and what rights the business owners have to provide for advertising, if any, if the association is responsible for the area where the new signage is being installed, the business owners may have to get permission from the association.

Obviously, the association's potential concerns about attracting more people to the area must be weighed against the business owners' need to keep their businesses going. In any event, the association should get legal counsel involved who will not be in a conflict between the two warring factions.

Q: We have a problem in our condominium with respect to various people hoarding property in the condominium and, eventually causing a safety hazard. What can we do to prevent the problem?

A: There should be a restriction of a general nature regarding any conduct which would be detrimental to the interests and/or safety of the residents in your documents. If you may also have a specific provision regarding excessive cluttering and, if necessary, some inspection mechanism to ensure that is not being done.

It is my experience that courts will issue injunctive orders if you can establish that a co-owner is hoarding goods and/or materials which are flammable or otherwise dangerous, including food and drugs. An injunction issued by the court allows the association to enter the premises and remove the hazardous materials at the cost of the co-owner. Obviously, hoarding can be a sign of mental illness and making hoarders remove their items can be traumatic.

You may wish to contact the local social services department to make the process easier and to provide the resident with access to mental health providers.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit [www.rmeisner.com](http://www.rmeisner.com) associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

## Boomers often like detached condos, but supply lags

By Nancy Austin  
Guest Columnist

I am on a moving mission. My website is being expanded and I've been asked to list all the senior condo complexes in the area for the 55+ group. Eventually the list will include apartment buildings, assisted living, Alzheimer's units, and other senior living arrangements.

The goal is to make it easy for the senior or the adult children of seniors to researching this kind of information.

The information will contain the location of the condo complexes, number of units, and amenities; for example, club house, a swimming pool, senior activities, transportation, pet restrictions, barrier-free entrances. The condos will be those situated in

Western Wayne and Oakland Counties. And there could be a few strays, should they be recommended.

The discovery I made and have long suspected, is that there aren't very many specifically designated "senior" with the age restriction specified. Period. I find it amazing.

How could such a large area as metropolitan Detroit be so devoid of senior-designated condo complexes. The concentration is definitely on apartment-style communities that they high-rise, one-story, or government subsidized.

Isn't the building industry missing a good bet? Maybe the only builder to catch on has been Dell Wee. The problem is that they are not in the immediate metro Detroit area. They are Downriver in Brownstown or north of their metro area in Grand Lodge.

(My sources tell me a similar type of community was to now isn't going to happen due to our economy.)

These are the kinds of contracts the boomers and others are looking for. Hello?

Does anyone hear me? Yes, I know the status of the building industry. It's in the same situation as the single-family home-building industry. It's not happening at break-neck speed.

But listen up. The boomers are retiring by the thousands. They don't necessarily want to live in the high-rise retirement buildings. They want to downsize into condos. They want to remain independent. They want access to services nearby such as health care, shopping, church, walking trails, health and fitness centers, restaurants, playgrounds for the grandchildren and want to live near their families.

OK, many of the condo can't be hundreds of units, but what about a smaller, more compact community. The trend today is away from attached condos to detached condos. The detached units are so much more desirable because you don't have the noise factor from adjoining walls. Because they are detached, privacy is still intact. I saw some really wonderful detached "cottages" as

they were called in Dexter, Mich., called the Cedars of Dexter. They are selling quickly, proving that the demand is there.

New construction is desirable because there isn't deferred maintenance causing the new owner to spend thousands on repairs, nor on massive amounts of updating. Owners want to move in, hang up their coats and hats and begin their new, retired life.

In my search for senior communities in Wayne County, I have found Braddy Park, and Crestwood condos in Plymouth. The Villas at Maple Creek are under construction in Canton. Hickory Ridge and Crestwood Manor are in Dearborn Heights and the Meadows in Garden City. Morley Manor is in Dearborn, a high-rise structure, but close to conveniences.

There are other complexes that seniors find attractive because of the substantial number of ranch condos that were built within the complex. But they are not designated senior complexes with the

amenities about which I have already spoken.

Both Botsford Commons and Penderon Club are in Farmington Hills. Botsford Commons has more than the average amenities. The condos are on the same campus as is the Commons building in which is situated a pool, library, dining room, movie theater, and health-care facilities.

If I have inadvertently omitted any senior condo complex, please let me know. The goal here is to accumulate as complete a list as is possible. Co-ops will be mentioned in a future column. If there are builders reading this who have begun to build a community or may have one on the drawing boards, please let me know. I will include them in the list. Please contact me either by e-mail or by phone at (734) 718-8900 and give me as much detail as possible. I look forward to hearing from you.

Seniors Real Estate Specialist Nancy Austin may be reached at [nancya@real.com](mailto:nancya@real.com) or by calling her at (734) 718-8900.

## HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

City	Address	Price
Canton	3516 Continental Dr	\$306,000
	4509 Coppin Ave	\$94,000
	461 E. Canfield Park	\$285,000
	4239 Elmwood Dr	\$174,000
Livonia	44623 Graystone Ln	\$165,000
	48500 Kenwood Cir	\$300,000
Farmington Hills	2341 Cedar Ave	\$18,000
	28104 Colbyton Dr	\$242,000
Livonia	415 Seneca St	\$60,000
	15031 Heben St	\$22,000
Livonia	46297 Anzola St	\$171,000
	10211 Cervantes Cir	\$68,000
Livonia	18081 Waverly Dr	\$100,000
	19471 Haggerty St	\$9,000
Livonia	39541 Sun Stone Dr	\$165,000
	48822 Freestone Dr	\$18,000
Livonia	15941 Johnson Creek Dr	\$165,000
	16704 Yellowstone St	\$40,000
Livonia	40380 Brentwood Dr	\$103,000
	11015 Sison St	\$48,000
Livonia	12366 Centralia	\$12,000
	13879 Creeley	\$13,000

## HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

City	Address	Price
Farmington	33495 Adams St	\$51,000
	22887 Hayes	\$19,000
Farmington Hills	25234 Chaperonville Dr	\$150,000
	23141 Cedar Ave	\$18,000
Livonia	26279 Croydon Tr	\$138,000
	26255 Haggerty St	\$104,000
Livonia	10001 Edwards Ave	\$26,000
	29149 Cranbrook Blvd	\$206,000
Livonia	28066 Cuyper St	\$35,000
	12322 Creston Dr	\$14,000
Livonia	12625 Wilshire Ave	\$63,000
	18425 Sycamore Dr	\$46,000
Livonia	26718 W. Carleton Park Dr	\$51,000
	23142 Woodcreek Dr S	\$55,000
Livonia	1479 Bathgate St	\$7,000
	9937 Portage Ln	\$35,000
Livonia	122 Riverside St	\$18,000
	1874 Wilwood Ln	\$37,000

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Learn about a career in residential real estate. Attend a free one-hour seminar or shadow a top agent to get an inside feel of the business. Seminars are at noon or 6 p.m. Wednesdays. To reserve a spot, contact Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

## RECENTLY LISTED

City	Address	Price
Livonia	44623 Graystone Ln	\$165,000
	48500 Kenwood Cir	\$300,000
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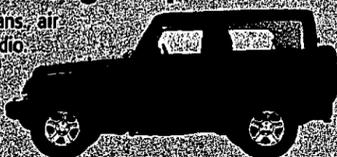
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