

SENIOR

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although very few members know what Moore has been through, it likely wouldn't change their opinion of him. "His effort stands out," said fellow senior Dominique Felice. "He always tries hard and gives his all." During his sophomore year, a special "Volunteer Award" was created to honor him for his help. And last year he won the "Most Helpful" award unanimously — the first time any member has received a vote from every band member. This year he was named a clarinet section leader, an honor bestowed on him not because he was the strongest player but because of what he

brings to the team. Hourigan calls Moore an inspiration to both the students and staff, recalling a time where he was sick and didn't want to go home because he felt he was letting the team down. Hourigan finally had to force him to leave. "He's pretty unique," he said. "He is a determined kid and willing to put forth the effort." The band director admitted he didn't know what to expect when he saw Moore for the first time, but the teenager put the concerns to rest rather quickly. "You see this kid go to work and he has this never-going-to-give-up attitude," Hourigan said. "And he will grind through it no matter what." On top of leading the clarinet section, Moore also is the team's "door-man." The tradition start-

ed when Moore was a freshman when he held the door leading outside until every band member exited. He then did the same thing when they returned. Now, without fail, he is at the door every day, even having to push people off when they try to steal his job. "I don't really know how it started, but I saw someone struggling and held the door for them," he said. While band takes up the majority of his time, it's not all Moore does. For the last three years he has been playing competitive roller hockey, and he has thoughts of joining the National Guard. "The medical limitations could prevent that from happening, but he isn't going to rule it out just yet. His mother Emily said

it's his "character" that makes him stand out, and she takes great joy in all her son has accomplished. "It's quite amazing to see, despite all these things he has had to overcome, that he never uses it as an excuse or crutch," she said. "He's just like everybody else. That is what is so amazing because as a baby you think, 'Oh my gosh, what kind of challenges is this life going to hold for him?' And he overcomes them." As far his final season of band goes, Moore's expectations are simple. "My number one goal is to make it to the state finals for all four years," he said. Judging by past experiences, it wouldn't be a surprise if it happens.

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PROJECT

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want to go in there and do some heavy maintenance that will make it much more usable and really get in there," Bryson said. Meadowbrook work nears end. The unexpected road widening and resurfacing work on Meadowbrook Road — from 10 Mile to Cherry Hill Road

— is almost complete and on schedule. The road work was originally scheduled for 2012, but federal stimulus funding was moved up, requiring the work to be done this year. Pearson said all that remains is striping and some edge work. "We appreciate everyone putting up with the construction and it appeared to work out pretty well," he said.

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FICANO

Continued from page A1

full of international businesses, using its proximity to freeways and the airport as a driving force behind getting companies to locate here. Donna Melonio, director of administrative services for Detroit Heavy Truck Engineering located in Novi, said the Aerropolis' international focus "fit close to home" for the company. "We are Chinese-owned and invest in China, so this makes a lot of sense to us," she said. Ficano said global companies look at the area as a whole, so it's crucial to get all the communities to buy in. "It's important for the whole region independent of borders," he said.

future, and it impacts the whole region in what it does." The idea of an Aerropolis focuses on developing the areas around the airport with high-technology businesses. The Detroit Region Aerropolis Development Corp. made up of Wayne and Washtenaw counties, along with seven local governments and various private supporters, is spearheading the drive and expects it to expand into other nearby communities. "We are going to start marketing the rest of the world to come into the area," Ficano said. Novi is one city that is

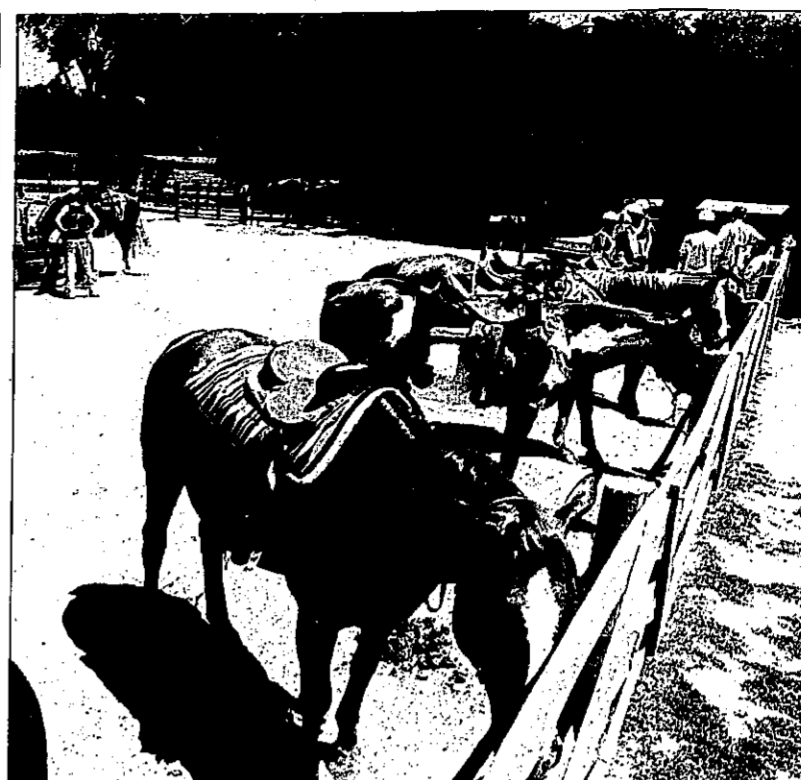
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Published Each Thursday
By The Novi News
101 Lalayette
South Lyon, Michigan 48178
Periodical
At South Lyon, Michigan

Mail Subscription Rates:
In-Country: \$27.50 for one year. Out of County (in Michigan): \$48.00 for one year. Out of State: \$59.50 for one year. For delivery call 866-867-2737.

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Publication Number USPS 396920

Just horsin' around



Maybury Riding Stable trail hand Megan Bernard (above left) tends to a horse after a group of riders finished on a hot July 6 afternoon. Horses (above right) await more riders at the Maybury Riding Stable on July 6. The riding stables are open from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday 12-5 p.m. and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and is located at Maybury State Park's Beck Road entrance south of Eight Mile.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Students from Kudan Secondary School in Japan pose for a picture with Assistant Supt. RJ Webber during his trip to the country with the Educators to Japan program.

Educators' eyes opened in Japan

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Angie Southworth can now check "travel to Japan" off her bucket list. The Novi High School graduate — now Novi Meadows world languages teacher — recently made the trip to the country with the Educators to Japan program sponsored by the Japanese Business Society of Detroit.

Southworth, along with Assistant Supt. RJ Webber, represented Novi on the two-week trip as he traveled to different parts of the country and was immersed in Japan's culture and school environments. She said she went because she thought it



Novi Assistant Supt. RJ Webber practices his writing at Kudan Secondary School during his recent trip to Japan as part of the Educators to Japan program sponsored by the Japanese Business Society of Detroit.

would be a great opportunity for her to learn more about where many of her students came from — and it did not disappoint. "It was unbelievable,

overwhelming and eye-opening, and also reassuring to see that kids are kids no matter where they are. Please see JAPAN, A6

No excuses needed when accountability is expected

By Steve Matthews
Guest Columnist

I read an interesting story over the weekend about accountability. It was actually a story about a baseball game. It became a story about accountability when the pitcher for the Texas Rangers suggested that his most recent effort was not nearly as bad as it looked.

His team had staked him to a lead, but he promptly gave it back through a combination of walks and hits. He gave up seven hits and four walks leading to five earned runs in just four-plus innings of work. After the game, he said, "Just 100 percent unlucky. Infield hits, bloopers and bleeders." In essence, even though he could not get through the fifth inning, he said he really did not have that bad a day.

As I read the account of this game and then this pitcher's reaction to it, I thought about what accountability means. I expect and believe that everyone who works for the Novi Community School District wants to be held accountable.

We should be able to demonstrate that we are educating the children of our community, provid-



Super Talk
Steve Matthews

ing a safe environment and using the resources given to us by the community wisely. One way that we hold ourselves accountable is by sharing information. On August 4, the board of education heard a report on our most recent Michigan Merit Exam results. The results show we are doing a good job of educating the students in our district.

A high percentage of our high school students meet or exceed state standards. When we compare our results to other districts in the state or in Oakland County, we rank very high.

When I look at the results, I should be satisfied. If our job is to educate students, then when compared to other districts that surround us, we do a good job.

But I don't want us to look at our results in the aggregate. If we do we could get complacent. When we summarize the results, it could be argued that we are one of the best districts in the state. I believe that — yet there is work to do.

Instead of looking at our test results from the 10,000 foot level, I want us to look at our results from a parent's perspective. Parents don't ask how everyone in the district is doing. What a parent really wants to know is how is my child doing?

When I look through that lens, we have work to do. There are some students in our district that are not being successful. I want to be held accountable for reaching those students. If I am the superintendent of the Novi Community School District, I should be held accountable for meeting the needs of all of our students — not just those who score well on the Michigan Merit Exam or the MEAP assessment.

Accountability should not be a tricky thing. I either do the job or I do not do the job. I want to do a great job for the Novi Community School District and I want the board of education and the community to hold me accountable.

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

NOVI ON CAMPUS

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Seyed Hossein Tamaddoni, of Novi, received a doctor

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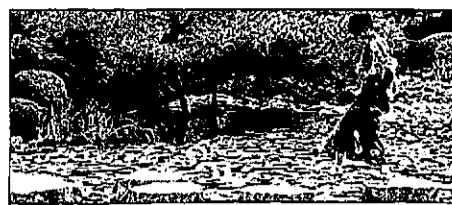
JAPAN

Continued from page A4

they are," she said. "And also that we as teachers are doing our best to educate them and open their minds to the world."

The trip began June 25 in Tokyo and included stops in other cities in the northern Japan prefecture. The group did its fair share of sightseeing, including a stop in Hiroshima, and spent a lot of time in schools and with a host family.

With the Japanese School of Detroit relocating to Novi this fall, Webber felt it was a perfect opportunity to take the trip. He said it helped him better understand their culture as well as give him knowledge that will aid in fostering a good relationship between the district and the school. "It really was a once-in-a-lifetime experience," he



The tour guide for the Educators to Japan carefully navigates across stones in Miyakojima, Japan.

said. "My goal was to be in the moment and learn as much as I possibly could about a different culture, and I did that."

Some of the things that stood out to Webber were the lack of technology in the classrooms and the concept of "lesson study" — where teachers watch other teachers give a lesson to learn how to better help students understand a particular topic.

It was something Webber said he would be interested to see how it could be used in Novi.

Another "big takeaway" from the trip was seeing how hard the students worked.

"The reason they do well on tests is because they put in the time to get there," he said. Southworth said she was amazed by how everyone rallied around each other in the wake of the tsunami tragedy and was very accepting of others.

"I learned that you take the best of everything, and make it work," she said.

Showplace waits on tax abatement

Committee members concerned about fairness, impact on businesses

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

The city of Novi's Ordinance Review Committee is faced with a unique situation — coming up with a policy that addresses the recently amended Commercial Rehabilitation Act.

The uniqueness lies in the fact that the policy only applies to the Suburban Collection Showplace and owner Blair Bowman's plans for adding a hotel adjacent to the existing expo center.

Bowman will likely be using the act to seek a real property tax abatement that would freeze the taxable value of the building as it was before the improvement, thus saving him money.

Novi has a policy in place when it comes to industrial abatements, but the three-member committee of Mayor David Landry and council members Terry Margolis and Andrew Mutch is being tasked with creating one for commercial from scratch.

The committee has met twice recently and will be meeting again before likely submitting a proposed policy to the full city council.

Mutch and Margolis

expressed concern that the abatement wouldn't be fair to other businesses in the city, especially the 14 other hotels, and want the policy to include language that requires the applicant to show how it will help the city.

"What can he show us, in a way he can quantify, that this is above and beyond what any other hotel could bring?" Mutch said at Friday's meeting. "I have a hard time seeing quantifiable benefit to the city."

"The city also can determine the abatement period, and the committee agreed to make it six years, the same as an industrial abatement. It's estimated the city would abate roughly \$240,000 in city taxes during that time frame."

Landry said he, too, would like to see what positive impact it would have on other hotels and business, but believes the abatement would be worth it because of what the expo center brings to the city.

"To me this is about the success of the expo center, not the hotel," he said. "And it's of value to the city to bolster our expo center."

Bowman's estimated planned investment in

the project is \$8.5 million, and it calls for the creation of a 120-room hotel with seven additional meeting rooms.

Novi's current hotels have a combined total of 1,840 rooms and more than 40 meeting spaces. Margolis said the proposed hotel would already have a competitive advantage sitting next to the expo center.

She also noted that the Baronette Renaissance recently completed more than \$2 million worth of renovations without a tax break.

"There is no doubt this will be of economic benefit to the Suburban Collection Showplace," she said. "But what is the city getting that it currently doesn't already have?"

"I think he is going to get occupancy at the expense of other hotels."

City council will ultimately decide on whether to give the Bowman the abatement, and that decision could take place before the end of the year as Bowman indicated in early July he was looking at submitting preliminary site plans in the next two to three months.

The Schoolcraft College Foundation presents its annual Culinary Extravaganza, a premier food and wine event that highlights the culinary talent of metro area restaurants, pastry shops and beverage vendors.

This year's event, 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, marks two special anniversaries — the 20th year of the food and wine event and the college's 50th. The extravaganza allows guests to sample a variety of fine food, wine, beverages and desserts in one afternoon, while at the same time support student scholarships. Proceeds from the event provide scholarships and grants for students. Individual tickets are \$50 each and available at the college or online. Throughout its 50-



Culinary guests can expect tasty as well as creative displays of food and beverage at the fall event. At a previous event, guests look at the bread creations made by Jeff Greenwald.

Food and wine event benefits Schoolcraft students

The Schoolcraft College Foundation presents its annual Culinary Extravaganza, a premier food and wine event that highlights the culinary talent of metro area restaurants, pastry shops and beverage vendors.

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Throughout its 50-

year history, more than 300,000 individuals have been educated at Schoolcraft College.

Business and individual sponsorships are still available for this year's event.

"The generosity of our event sponsors is vital to our fundraising efforts and an excellent opportunity to introduce your business to alumni, donors, friends and community members," said Kristina Mayer, an officer of the Foundation Board of Governors and chairwoman of this year's culinary event.

"More importantly, proceeds raised from the extravaganza directly support student scholarships and our culinary arts program. Your support for one afternoon can change many lives," added Mayer.

vice president and branch manager of Bank of Ann Arbor's Plymouth Township office.

This year's event will feature more than 50 food, wine and dessert stations, a silent auction and raffle, along with a wine-tasting seminar and wholesome healthy foods demonstration by master chef Jeff Gabriel.

Food and beverage vendors include Sive Restaurant at St. John's Inn in Plymouth Township, Toasted Oak Grill and Market in Novi, Old World Olive Press in Plymouth and McCormick Distilling Co.

In addition to food, attendees can bid on a variety of gifts cards and baskets, including a VIP wine-tasting at Chateau

Chantal, a weekend stay at the Townsend Hotel in downtown Birmingham or sports and entertainment packages.

Highlight of this year's raffle is a Hearts on Fire Diamond necklace from Orin Jewelers in Garden City and Northville valued at \$3,400. Other raffle prizes include \$500 cash, \$250 cash (two winners) and dinner for two at the American Harvest Restaurant at Schoolcraft (three winners).

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10. In addition, each ticket has value even if you don't win a prize. Patrons can redeem the ticket for discounts at the American Harvest, Steve & Rocky's in Novi and the Ironwood Grill in Plymouth. Raffle tickets are available at the college.

Author visits during Second Annual Community Reads

Once every few years a novel comes along that touches readers so deeply that it changes the way they look at their own lives. This year's Community Reads book selection from The Neighborhood Library Association (NLA) is one such novel — The Art of Racing in the Rain by award-winning author and documentary filmmaker Garth Stein.

The goal of the NLA's Community Reads is to bring community members together to read and discuss the same book, and attend related events and presentations. The NLA is comprised of Lyon Township Public Library, Northville District Library, Novi Public Library, Salem-South Lyon District Library and Wixom Public Library. Copies of the book are now available for checkout at each library. Programs to be hosted include a Pet Adoption Expo, Pet Psychic, and World of Drag Racing. Events kick off Sept. 22 and will culminate with a visit from Stein on Nov. 10.

The Art of Racing in the Rain is a heart-wrenching love story and moving tale of redemption, narrated in the opinionated and insightful voice of an extraordinary dog, Enzo. He provides a captivating look at the wonders and absurdities of human life as he tells his tale about his friendship with his best friend and owner, Dreyer, an aspiring race car driver.

"The Art of Racing in the Rain has everything: love, tragedy, redemption, danger, and — best of all — the canine narrator Enzo. This old soul of

EVENTS

Community Reads events include the following.

- Pet Psychic on Sept. 22; Session 1 at 5 p.m. and Session 2 at 6:15 p.m. at Wixom Public Library
- Are Pets Like People: Animal Behavior on Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. at Northville District Library
- Pet First Aid and Healthcare on Oct. 20 at 6:30 p.m. at Lyon Township Public Library
- Pet Adoption Expo: Pet Adoption 101 from noon-1 p.m. and Pet Adoption Drive from 1-5 p.m. on Oct. 22 at Salem-South Lyon District Library
- Pedal to the Medal: The World of Drag Racing on Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. at Novi Public Library. Registration may be required at these events. Contact each library for details.

To learn more about the book and for a schedule of Community Reads events, dates and times, please visit <http://my.nla.info>.

a dog has much to teach us about being human.

Stein will be available for a "Meet the Author" event at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10 at Novi Public Library. Please contact the library to register at (248) 349-0720. Book discussions are scheduled at each library in September and October. A list of the dates and times for all events, including book discussions for adults and children can be found on my.nla.info. Contact the individual library to register.

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"I had doubts about moving, but now I tell everyone I know **IT WAS MY IDEA**"

Leroy Jenkins and his wife had differing opinions about what living in a retirement community would be like. He pictured a boring, routine life, but it turned out to be just the opposite.

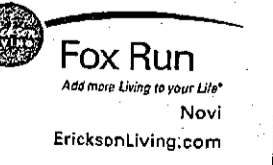


"These are the best days of my life."
Leroy Jenkins
Erickson Living® Resident

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See what makes Fox Run such a great fit for your retirement.

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Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

The Sawmill is Closing!

Your Source for Fine Wood Furniture for 33 Years!

August 3, 2011

Dear Valued Sawmill Customer,

This letter is to announce that The Sawmill will be closing after 33 years of business in Northville. Another opportunity has arisen for us within the furniture industry, an opportunity we can not pass up. We feel that we can not run both businesses simultaneously so we had to make a choice. We will remain open for approximately 60 days allowing us to fill all open orders and offer great savings on our remaining inventory.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our customers that have supported us over the past 33 years. We are honored to have been an integral part of supplying you and your families with quality wood furniture.

Sincerely,
Brandon Mardossian
Brandon Mardossian
Ashley J. Mardossian
Ashley J. Mardossian

GREAT SAVINGS ON OUR REMAINING INVENTORY!

316 N. Center St.
Northville
248.349.8585
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10-7
Sat. 10-5, Sun. 12-4
www.thesawmill.net

Summer days



Jamie Summers (above) wraps her shivering son Brady, 2, up in a towel during a July 7 visit to Novi's Lakeshore Park. Even though it was a summer day, the air temperature was only about 78 at the time. With goggles and water wings firmly in place, Jamie Summers, 5, (right) runs along the beach of Novi's Lakeshore Park.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE UPDATES

Auditions for 'Dracula' Sept. 6-7

The Schoolcraft College Theatre Department's fall production is "Dracula" by Hamilton Deane and John L. Balderston. Auditions will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 6-7 in the Liberal Arts Theatre on the college's main campus in Livonia, Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile roads. No previous theatre experience is required and the auditions are open to all students, faculty, staff, and the general public. The performances of "Dracula" will be on Friday and Saturday evenings, Oct. 28-29, and Nov. 4-5 and 11-12.

Pageturners hosts 'North by Northwest' as part of Summer Classic Movie Series

Pageturners, Schoolcraft College's book discussion group, will present "North by Northwest" at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 17 at the McDowell Center on the college's main campus in Livonia. In this classic thriller from 1959, directed by Alfred Hitchcock, Cary Grant plays Roger Thornhill, a hapless New York advertising executive who is mistaken for a government agent by a group of foreign spies. He gets involved in a series of misadventures and is pursued across the country by both the spies and the government while being helped by a beautiful blonde (Eva Marie Saint).

For more information on these or any other Pageturners' events visit http://sites.google.com/site/scpageturners.

Free math workshops offered in August

The Learning Assistance Center at Schoolcraft College is offering three math preparation/refreshers workshops in Aug. The workshops are free and open to anyone planning to take a college-level math course at Schoolcraft College or any college or university. Jump Start 1000, which will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18 and Tuesday, Aug. 23, is created for those entering Math 045* (Schoolcraft course) or similar proficiency level college course. Participants will benefit from a math study skills inventory and a review of the four fundamental operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) of whole numbers.

Jump Start 2000, which will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 22 and Thursday, Aug. 25, is created for those entering Math 047, 101 or 111* (Schoolcraft course) or similar proficiency level college course. Participants will benefit from a math study skills inventory and a review of fractions, decimal, percents, and order of operations.

Jump Start 3000, which will be held from 1-3:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 22 and Thursday, Aug. 25, is created for those entering Math 053 or 105* (Schoolcraft course) or similar proficiency level college course. Participants will benefit from a math study skills inventory and a review of basic integer operations, order of operations, expressions, and equation solving.

"We want to give math students all of the tools they need to be successful in their college courses," said Terri Lamb, mathematics learning specialist at Schoolcraft College. "For some students these workshops can serve as a timely refresher for the skills and knowledge they need just before the start of the fall semester. For other students, the Jump

Start sessions will provide an extra boost of confidence walking into their new math class. The Jump Start sessions are free and open to anyone, however registration is necessary. For more information or to register call 734-462-4436. Space is limited. The workshops will be held on the college's main campus in Livonia, Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile roads. Jump Start is made possible through a grant from the Schoolcraft College Foundation.

New event planner certification program coming this fall

Schoolcraft College's Continuing Education and Professional Development department is launching a new Event Planning certification program this fall. The program is a 54-hour course of study designed to teach students the fundamentals of being an event planner. This program is designed to meet the needs of a variety of individuals including those interested in wedding planning, corporate events, non-profit event planning, trade show organizing and more. The first six-week session, Introduction to Event Planning, begins Tuesday, Sept. 27.

In addition to Introduction to Event Planning, which will explore working with vendors, budgets, scheduling and the importance of planning and promotion, the remaining classes required for certification include: Wedding Planning, which provides an overview of the wedding industry, how to plan and organize the event, and focuses on the importance of budgeting, venue and vendor selection; Special Event Design & Décor, to teach students how to creatively develop design, and themes for the many different types of special events; and finally the students will put their knowledge to work by participating in the planning and implementation of an actual special event in the Event Planning Practical Experience class.

According to Economic Modeling Specialists (EMSI), the regional occupational growth or unemployment is nine percent by 2017, with an average hourly wage of \$17.58. Career settings can include office administrative services, support services, state and local government, hotels, religious organizations, and convention and trade show organizations.

"We have offered event planning classes in previous semesters and they have been very popular," said Jennifer Bodurka, Programming Coordinator. "We are pleased we are able to now provide a certificate program in this specialty area. There are many opportunities for event-related jobs and freelance positions in the event and meeting industry, and we are excited to educate those interested in becoming a part of this growing, multi-billion dollar industry."

The Event Planning Certificate program has been created in partnership with renowned event planning company, Christopher & Company in Walled Lake, Michigan. Owners Christopher Gregorich and Joseph Martinez will provide instruction for the program. For more information on this non-credit certificate program, go to www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd/eventplanning or call the Continuing Education and Professional Development office at (734) 462-4448.

Schoolcraft College is a public two-year college, offering classes at the Livonia campus. Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile roads; and at the Radcliff Center in Garden City; and online at www.schoolcraft.edu.

NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS

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, 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 avail-

ability. 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.novik12.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.novicommunityed.org. Our C.A.R.E. program is also available at all of our elementary schools for students in grades K-5 students. For more information, call (248) 449-1206.

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Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

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: 7 a.m. Thursday, Wednesday: 7 a.m. (English), 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Saturday Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment Priests: Father Bob LaCroix, pastor and Father Michael Zuelch, associate pastor CROSSPOINTE MEADOWS CHURCH Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road Contact: DestinyW3C@gmail.com or visit www.DW3C.org

GET LISTED!

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

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) 348-7600 or visit dcnazarene.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 56, 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.

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Location: 34567 Seven Mile Road, Livonia Contact: (248) 442-8822 or www.nwepocenter.org

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 56, 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.

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 Alzheimer's Support Group Time/Date: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit www.faithcommunity-novi.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

Location: 217 N. Wing Contact: (248) 348-1020

Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NOVI-FAMILY INTEGRATED CHURCH Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-3547 or firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org Family Bible Hour: 9:45 a.m. Family Worship: 11 a.m. Bible Study: 5 p.m. Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every month FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE Please see CHURCH, A11

Your Invitation to Worship

Grid of church listings for Brighton, Milford, Novi, Highland, South Lyon, New Hudson, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth, and Wixom. Each listing includes church name, address, phone, and service times.

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances. 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • htwb@hometownlife.com

Obituary notices for Lillian Elizabeth Dunnabeck, Gillan, William, Kielian, Stephen J., Kriebaum, Barbara Elizabeth, Hinman, Charles J., Hoard, Gary R., and Mcintosh-Sears, Frances I.

Obituary notice for Barbara Elizabeth Kriebaum, detailing her life and funeral arrangements.

Market moves



The Farmers Market, presented weekly by the Novi Chamber of Commerce, relocated from The Suburban Collection Showplace to Furst Park (Taft and Ten Mile) July 30 with new hours — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Pumphrey appointed NA president at Cooper Standard

Cooper Standard announced the appointment of Bill Pumphrey to president, North America effective Aug. 16. He replaces Edward Hasler who recently retired from the company. In this role, he will oversee the commercial and manufacturing activities of Cooper Standard's North American operations. In addition to Pumphrey's responsibilities in North America, he will also function as Cooper Standard's Senior Executive responsible for the global coordination of the Ford business relationship. Based at the company's headquarters in Novi, Pumphrey will report to Keith Stephenson, chief operating officer.

NOVI NEWSMAKERS

Standard team and look forward to working with him in the years ahead," Stephenson said. "With his successful track record, more than 25 years of automotive background and proven leadership skills, Bill has the knowledge and expertise to further grow and evolve our North American business." Most recently, Pumphrey served as president, Americas for Tower Automotive in Livonia, where he successfully led the operations through the 2009 automotive industry downturn. From 2005 to 2008, he served as president of Tower's North America operations, where he was responsible for the development and execution of the division's restructuring plan. From 1999 to 2004, Pumphrey held various positions at Lear Corp. in Southfield. Most recently, he

served as president of the company's Asia Pacific operations. Prior to this, he led numerous divisions within the company, including the DaimlerChrysler, Ford Europe, and Electronics and Electrical divisions. Pumphrey joined Lear in 1999 as vice president, sales and marketing for the DaimlerChrysler division. From 1991 to 1999, he held positions of increasing responsibility at Dearborn-based UT Automotive (acquired by Lear in 1999). Prior, he worked for PRS Consulting International Ltd. in London, England and started his career at General Motors Corp. in 1984. Pumphrey earned a master of business administration degree from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and a bachelor of arts degree in economics from Kenyon (Ohio) College.

NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

City Council approves tax incentive for Tognum

The City Council voted in favor of an eight-year tax abatement for Tognum America, Inc. The passage completes step two of Tognum's Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate application. City Council voted in favor of step one on July 11. Tognum has indicated they would relocate its headquarters and current employees (200+) to a new facility, located in Novi. Tognum was seeking a special property tax abatement under PA 198, indicating that the abatement incentives under that Act are required in order for the investment to make sound financial sense for the relocation. Under the City's policy, an abatement could be considered because there is new investment and new jobs involved. Tognum asked specifically for an eight-year abatement, believing that it will ultimately meet the criteria (investment of over \$5 million and over 276 full-time jobs). Tognum's 11-year lease would include a single-story, approximately 68,000-square-foot office building located in the build-to-suit location at 39525 Mackenzie Drive, part of the Haggerty Corridor Corporate Park Phase II, north of Thirteen Mile/Haggerty roads.

Comfort CPM develops new machine

Comfort CPM, located in Commerce Township, announced the development of a new ComfortCPM machine. "This totally new design is easy to set up, easy to use, convenient, and effective in post-operative treatment of total knee replacement surgery as well as other orthopedic knee repairs and procedures," said Randall Fennell, owner of ComfortCPM. "Through collaborative efforts with local physicians specializing in rehabilitative medicine, orthopedic surgery, and physical therapy, we have designed the Comfort CPM to effectively increase knee range of motion after surgery with patient comfort and convenience as the ultimate goal." The new ComfortCPM is designed, developed and manufactured in the company's 14,000 sq. foot facility in Oakland County.

Twelve Oaks featuring "Celebrity Stylist" throughout September

People StyleWatch will host "Celebrity Stylist" events from noon to 6 p.m. every Friday, Saturday and Sunday throughout September at Twelve Oaks Mall's Center Court. This is a continuation of the program, first launched in the spring, that is designed to give thousands of young mall shoppers the information and insight on how to look their best with available apparel, footwear and accessories in stores. Get the star treatment and a jump on the hottest fall fashion trends with a free style consultation from a Style-Watch style expert. At "People StyleWatch's Style Studio," a Celebrity Stylist will be giving advice on how to get a celebrity-inspired look. As the official beauty sponsor, Clinique consultants will offer expert beauty tips and pro-skin care advice. Guests can also browse the Denim Bar—a look at the hottest trends in denim this fall. Guests will receive a look book and a special Style-Watch gift bag with the stylist consultations.

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 or call (248) 858-0783.

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.

FastTrac: listening to your business workshop The day-to-day responsibilities of running your own business leaves little time to focus on long-time vision, goals and strategies. Find time in your schedule to spend it with Listening to your Business, a half-day workshop from FastTrac. 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. 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

- FUTURE WORKSHOPS**
(a.m.) Morning Class 9 a.m. to 12/12:30 p.m.
(p.m.) Evening Class 6 p.m. to 9/9:30 p.m.
Sept. 8: Pre-Business Research Workshop (a.m.)
Sept. 13: Social Media Marketing Part 2 (a.m.)
Sept. 14: Working for Yourself... Becoming a Contractor, Service Provider, etc. (p.m.)
Sept. 15: Fundamentals of Starting a Business (a.m.)
Sept. 21: CED Microloan Orientation (a.m.)
Sept. 22: Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan (a.m.)
Sept. 27: Social Media Marketing Part 3 (a.m.)
Sept. 28: 5 Keys to Achieving Fiscal Fitness (p.m.)
Sept. 29: QuickBooks Essentials Part 1 & 2
Oct. 5: SBA Forum on Small Business Lending (p.m.)
Oct. 6: Pre-Business Research Workshop (p.m.)
Oct. 13: Fundamentals of Starting a Business (p.m.)
Oct. 18: Legal & Financial Basics
Oct. 19: CED Microloan Orientation
Oct. 20: Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan (p.m.)
Oct. 27: Fundamentals of Marketing Your Business

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.

Oakland County Venture Forward This intensive, 10-week program is designed for owners, CEOs and top management team members of businesses with at least two years of operating experience. Focused on issues most important to business health and growth, attendees gain knowledge to make critical decisions about their business and strategy, investigate next-stage growth and opportunity, plan for strategic growth, build and maintain a competitive advantage and maximize cash flow for profitability. The class is Fridays, Aug. 26-Nov. 4 (10 consecutive sessions), 8:30-11:30 a.m. The fee is \$140. Admission is not automatic — all applicants need to be pre-qualified.

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. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally 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 file the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Bieske 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 Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups. Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of I-275. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits. www.ss4light.com

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- Linens
- Military

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CHURCH

Continued from page A9

Location: 200 E. Main St.
Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit firstpresnovi.org
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
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.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Location: 205 East Lake Street (corner of Wells and 10 Mile Road), South Lyon
Contact: (248) 437-2875

Annual Rummage Sale
Time/Date: 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11; 8 a.m.-noon Saturday, Nov. 12 (\$1 bag sale 11 a.m. noon)

Details: Collection is 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1-10

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
A Stephen Ministry Church
Location: 777 W. 8 Mile Road at Taft Rd.
Contact: (248) 349-1144 or www.fumcnorthville.org

Blessing of the Pets
Time/Date: 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 14

Details: Everyone is welcome to attend the Blessing of the Pets and ice cream social. All pets must be on a leash or in a carrier.

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@fumcnorthville.org

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
Location: 41415 Nine Mile Road, corner of Meadowbrook Road, Novi
Contact: (248) 349-0565

Sundays

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www.vendtek.com

CHURCH

Time: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study, 10 a.m. Worship

LAKES BAPTIST CHURCH
Location: 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake

LIVONIA CHURCH OF CHRIST
Location: 15431 Merriman Road, Livonia
Contact: 734-427-8743 or visit www.livoniachurch.net

Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Bible School: Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Location: 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight and Nine Mile roads
Contact: Rev. Arthur P. Witter, Senior Minister (248) 348-7757, visit mbccc.org or e-mail to office@mbccc.org

Sun. day School: 10 a.m.
Church School: 10-11 a.m.
Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m.

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

Pilgrim Fellowship
Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sundays

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY
Location: 41355 Six Mile Road
Contact: (248) 348-9030

Sundays 9-10 a.m.
Sunday School for Adults / Youth / Children
9 a.m.: Contemporary service in multi-purpose gymnasium

10:15 a.m.: Contemporary service in worship center; children's super church on the second level (208/210)

Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study
8:45-10:30 a.m. (café)

Wednesday Family Night
7 p.m.: Adult elective classes; junior and senior high student ministries; children's programs (N-Pact Girls Club & Royal Rangers Boys Club) Nursery and Free School Program on Sundays and Wednesdays Home of Northville Christian School (day care, preschool through eighth grade) — contact (248) 348-9031

NOVI - NORTHVILLE CENTER FOR JEWISH LIFE

Details: A Jewish center with events, programs and activities for all ages throughout the year — children's programs, Sunday school, adult Jewish classes, youth clubs, holiday services and programs, community social events.

Contact: Rabbi Avrohom & Leah Susskind at (248) 790-6075 or rabbim@novijewishcenter.com; www.novijewishcenter.com

NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-2652 or

visit umcnovi.com

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

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

Advent Service
Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. Sunday

OAK POINTE CHURCH
Location: 60200 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi
Contact: (248) 912-0043 or visit oakpointe.org

Worship Services: 5:15 p.m. Saturday; 9:15 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday

ReNew Life Group Ministries
Time/Date: 7:15-9 p.m. every Monday

Details: Ongoing Life Groups that support and facilitate personal growth, healing, learning, change from a Christian perspective.

Women's Life Groups Ministries
Time/Date: 7 a.m. every Tuesday 9:30 a.m. every Wednesday

Men's Life Groups Ministries
Time/Date: 6 a.m. every Friday morning at various locations. For both Women's and Men's Life Groups Ministries, please contact the church office.

ORCHARD HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
Location: 23455 Novi Road
Contact: Pastor Jon Hix (248) 349-5665

Preschool/Kids Choir
Time/Date: 7-8:15 p.m. every Wednesday

Details: For ages three to six; ongoing event; no need to pre-register; all are welcome.

CHURCH

Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.
Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. with fellowship and food after service

PLYMOUTH-ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Location: 574 S. Sheldon Road in Plymouth
Contact: 734-453-0190, ext. 16, or visit www.stjohnsplymouth.org

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH
Location: 46325 10 Mile Road, Novi
Contact: (248) 347-7778

Mass Schedule
Time/Date: 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Tuesday; 7 p.m. Wednesday; 5 p.m. Saturday

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Location: 574 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth
Contact: (734) 453-0190, ext. 16, or visit the church website at www.stjohnsplymouth.org

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Location: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills
Contact: (248) 474-0584 or visit stjohn-lutheran.com

Saturday Worship
Time: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship
Time: 9, 11:15 a.m.

Sunday School
Time: 10:15 a.m.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON
Location: 25301 Halstead Road, Farmington Hills
Contact: www.ufarmington.org

Youth Interfaith Journey
Time/Date: 9:30 and 11 a.m. Sundays

Details: This religious education program is open to the public and currently enrolling new students. Classes are grouped into grades K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 with age specific education materials for all.

Contact: Jennifer Teed at 248/787-7272 or dree@ufarmington.org

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
Location: 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth
Contact: (734) 453-0326, Ext. 221

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH
Location: 770 Thayer, Northville
Contact: (248) 349-2621 or olvnorthville.org

Saturday Worship
Time: 5 p.m.

Sunday Worship
Time: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

OUR SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Location: 1200 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth
Contact: Pastor Bill Burke at (734) 927-0891

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PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 With a startled look on his face, the Amazing (Eugene) Clark (above) entertains at Novi's Furst Park on July 26 as part of Novi's Sizzling Summer Series. Colleen Warren (below) shares a laugh with her son Cash, 4, at the magic show. Warren was there with Cash and her other son, Briggs.



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OUR VIEWS

Musical chairs

Changing elected office mid-term no benefit for residents

Political life is series of short-term jobs. Elected officials run for various offices, each with a predefined term of service. County commissioner? Two years. Township board? Four years. Candidates can seek re-election, unless term limits, like those placed on state senators and representatives, prevent continued service in a single public office.

When voters head to the polls, they are selecting who will represent them in office for the next several years. When they vote, they expect the person they endorse will take the job and serve it for the full length.

That's not always the case, though.

Take Michigan Secretary Ruth Johnson, R-Groveland Township. In November 2008, she was elected Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds. She served in that capacity for two years before she was elected Michigan's Secretary of State. A nice promotion for her political career.

The problem is she left the county position two years before her term was set to expire. Voters thought they were selecting someone who would be there for four years.

To replace Johnson, circuit court judges picked in December Bill Bullard, R-Highland, to fill the remainder of her term.

The only problem with that is a month earlier voters re-elected Bullard to represent District 2 on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. Bullard vacated his commission seat before he ever took office.

That prompted a pair of special elections to replace him. For Highland Township, that meant \$30,000 in expenses it otherwise could have saved or used elsewhere.

With U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, setting his sights on the White House in 2012, that potentially opens his congressional seat to newcomers. Enter state Sen. Mike Kowall, R-White Lake, who has plenty of political experience. He served as a state representative and White Lake Township supervisor, winning multiple elections for each position.

Kowall announced last month his plans to run for McCotter's seat, wanting to take his talents to Washington, D.C.

If he does, he'll be leaving his state Senate seat halfway through that term. He won that position in last November's election. If he wins, he'll be vacating his seat mid-way through. And if that happens, it wouldn't be the first time. When Kowall was elected a senator, he vacated his township position, leaving the remaining elected officials in White Lake to battle for months over who would replace him.

To make matters worse, a special election would be held to replace Kowall in the senate. With 15 communities in southwest Oakland County comprising District 15, local communities would be forced to shell out as much as a half million dollars to replace Kowall.

That's a lot of money for communities that have struggled to make budget ends meet without big cuts to service and personnel.

We can't fully blame elected officials like these three for wanting to advance. Secretary of State is far more appealing than simply a county clerk, which is much more enticing than serving as a county commissioner. And why be an elected official at the state level when you could do the same on the federal level?

And it's perfectly legal. As Kowall said after announcing his plans for a congressional seat: "This is America. You have the ability to run for any office if you so choose."

But just because you can doesn't mean you should.

Johnson, Bullard and Kowall all do a decent enough job in their elected positions. That's why they've received support to move on to bigger offices. It seems only fair that those who ask the public for their vote hold up their end of the bargain and serve the full term of office that they said they would. And that hasn't always been the case of late.

COMMUNITY VOICE

We asked a group of Novi High School students, what is your guilty pleasure?



"Chocolate. I feel like such a fatty but I can't stop myself."
Nicole Utterbeck, 16
Novi



"Television and ice cream. I can sit in front of the TV and eat a half-gallon of ice cream."
Elizabeth Richmond, 16
Novi



"Country and classical music."
Domini, que Felic,e, 17
Novi



"Jumping on slow moving trains."
Steven Grady, 17
Novi

LETTERS

A Job Creator

The debt-ceiling crisis ended when Congress negotiated a settlement (7/30/2011). Politicians warned that failure to increase the debt limit would have been catastrophic.

Rejoicing over the debt-ceiling settlement, Asian stocks jumped 1.3 percent and the Dow Jones futures rose 1.5 percent in overnight pre-market trading (8/11/2011).

However, within minutes of the U.S. stock market opening, stocks began to fall. By week's end, stocks plunged 6.26 percent.

If the stock market crash was not enough, our economy still remains gloomy.

Since President Obama took office, our deficit as a percentage of GDP increased by 75 percent.

The unemployment rate now stands at 9.1 percent, 3.4 percent more than 30 months ago. And the GDP annual growth rate is 1.3 percent - a GDP growth rate of at least 3 percent is needed to create new jobs.

Despite the dismal numbers, there are positives to note. Corporate earnings have been rising. Over the first quarter of 2011, corporations averaged 19.1 percent in earnings growth, and second-quarter 2011 earnings grew 17.6 percent. Most significant is the steady and sizable double-digit earnings.

Furthermore, 2011 first-quarter exports increased by 7.9 percent, and exports rose again in the second quarter by another 6.0 percent. Exports added 50 percent to GDP growth over the year. Also, manufacturing added 24,000 jobs last month.

In a recent U.S. Chamber of Commerce survey, small-businesses said that they were not hiring. And a smaller but significant percentage were expecting to layoff workers. It's unfortunate because 70 percent of net new jobs are from small businesses.

In my June letter (6/23/2011 - "Where Have All the Real Jobs Gone?"), I described how corporate taxation "CONTRIBUTES" to unemployment. When a U.S. corporation makes a profit in China, it pays China's 25 percent tax rate. Investing that profit into America, a U.S. corporation must pay an additional 10 percent to make up the 35-percent U.S. tax rate. Knowing this, U.S. corporations keep their investments out of America, keeping Chinese employment high and U.S. employment low.

Evidenced by healthy growth in corporate earnings, exports, and manufacturing, there is demand for our goods, services, innovation and know-how. By reducing tax rates and by eliminating tax loopholes on all categories and on all taxpayers, businesses can invest in America and create U.S. jobs. Corporations will then need goods and services themselves.

Small businesses will meet the increased demand. As the creator of 70 percent of net new jobs, small businesses will be hiring again.

We desperately need this transformational job creation.
Ed Lee
Novi

Typical Republicans

Well much to the dislike of the Tea Party and others of the Republican right, the debt ceiling

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

E-mail: ctstone@jannet.com

Read or comment online: www.hometownlife.com

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

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

ing has been raised, saving our country from economic disaster.

This was accomplished by compromise and majority vote, two things those on the right do not like. They just seem to hate democracy.

This freed Republicans to return to their jobs agenda as they showed by adjourning and going home for a months vacation leaving the FAA unfunded. This has resulted in layoffs of 70,000 construction workers at airports around the country and the loss over \$100 million in tax revenue in just the first week.

The Republican jobs plan consists of trying to take Obama's job from him, adding to their ranks by blaming the president for the bad economy they caused and refusing any changes resulting in revenue increases further delaying an economic recovery.

When the Republicans said they were all about jobs, jobs, jobs, I hope no one thought they meant for the unemployed.
Chuck Tindall
Novi

Looking back

In response to letter (8/3/11) that quoted verbatim President Obama's 2006 Senate speech deploring an increase of the debt limit, I am compelled to comment.

Understandably, it was most likely that Obama could hardly have anticipated that the Bush administration and his supporters' single-minded, stubborn refusal to tax the extremely wealthy would drive us and the economy to the depth of our depression.

Sadly, he couldn't predict nor expect such prolonged stupidity and, thus, he must eat his own words.

Also, we must not forget that the debt limit had been raised seven times during the G.W. Bush years. So, just about everyone must have been somewhat upset about the debt limit increases.
Patrick M. Downey
Novi

Cut spending now

The debate in Washington to raise the debt ceiling the past few weeks is interesting to be sure, but this is not the real issue we face. It is just another round of Red versus Blue political paint ball before the election in 2012.

Politics is running rampant regarding raising the debt ceiling

Car vandalized in driveway

A Novi resident had this 2010 Ford F-150 spray painted by an unknown suspect sometime on July 27 while it was parked in the driveway of his home on Albert.

According to the report, an officer was clearing an ongoing complaint in the area prior to meeting the victim. The spray paint was on the passenger side rear wheel well and had been cleaned off by the victim.

The man later noticed the stop sign at Albert and Twelve Mile Road also had an inappropriate word spray painted on it and notified police.

The officer also met with a juvenile who lived in the area that the victim said might know who committed the crime, and the case has been forwarded to the detective's bureau.

The man said he went to pick up his car on Aug. 1 and noticed the driver's side mirror had been broken off and the rear quarter panel on the same side was dented.

Nothing was stolen from the car and police have no suspects.

Part stolen off car

A Trenton woman had the catalytic converter stolen off her 2003 Chevrolet Venture while she was working at a business on the 4300 block of Twelve Mile Road on July 28.

The woman said she noticed the noise when she started her vehicle and called police. Police have no suspects.

Police stop drunk driver

A 21-year-old man was arrested at 2:34 a.m. on July 28 for drunk driving after he was stopped on Grand River Avenue east of Main Street for traveling without his car's headlights on.

According to the report, the officer smelled a strong odor of intoxicants coming from inside the car when he approached and the driver admitted to drinking four drinks. He failed field sobriety and a preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .15 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers in Michigan is .08 percent.

Car damaged over weekend

A man had his 2006 Nissan Sentra damaged over the weekend of July 29-Aug. 1 while it was parked in the park-

warded to the detective's bureau.

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NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Three women caught stealing

Novi police arrested three women for retail fraud at 2:45 p.m. on Aug. 8 after they were caught shoplifting from Macy's inside Twelve Oaks Mall.

According to the police report, the store's loss prevention officer observed four women go into the junior's section of the store and rapidly select items.

All four women then went into the same booth in the fitting room before walking out with fewer items than they walked in with.

They then proceeded to attempt to exit the store before being stopped by the loss prevention officer.

Three of the women admitted to stealing, and the fourth did not and was released at the scene. The total cost of the items stolen was just under \$200.

The three women were arrested for retail fraud third degree and transported to the Novi Police Department where they were issued appearance tickets and released after posting bond.

Durango found on blocks

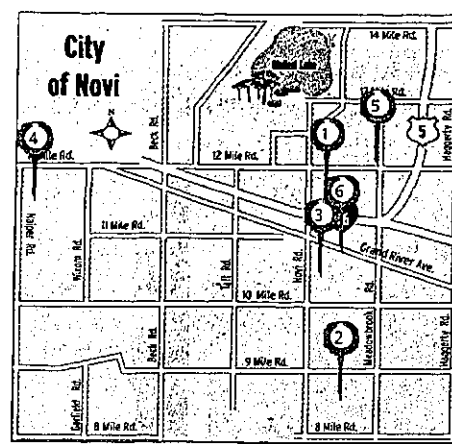
A Novi resident had the rims and tires stolen off his 2011 Dodge Durango while it was parked in the driveway of his residence on Chase Drive on Aug. 8.

According to the report, the victim noticed the theft at 4:45 a.m. The vehicle was on landscaping blocks, and the lug nuts were left behind.

Police have no suspects.

Car damaged over weekend

A man had his 2006 Nissan Sentra damaged over the weekend of July 29-Aug. 1 while it was parked in the park-



ing lot of a business on Trans X.

The man said he went to pick up his car on Aug. 1 and noticed the driver's side mirror had been broken off and the rear quarter panel on the same side was dented.

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Sharing more than a bite



Maddy Brady, 13, right, talks to Novi Fire Marshall Mike Evans during the July 27 Novi Teen Center community luncheon at Novi High School. The luncheon is put on towards the end of the teen center's session to thank its supporters, including the city of Novi, Novi Police and Fire Departments and Novi Youth Assistance.

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Family Self Defense Center continues to take top honors nationally

Family Self Defense Center (FSDC), in partnership with the Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department, has received national recognition for the third consecutive year as one of the top Isshinryu Karate programs in the country. The school has been named the 2011 Outstanding Dojo of the Year and one of the Top Five Isshinryu Teaching Dojos in the Country (for the sixth consecutive year) by the Isshinryu Hall of Fame Board of Masters.

The Karate students just returned from the National Isshinryu Hall of Fame Awards and Tournament in Chattanooga, TN, where they broke all previous school records. Thirty-three trophies were earned by the FSDC competitors, with five National Champions crowned.

Tournament Awards
First Place National Champions: Krishna Kiru, Soorya Ramappan, Alex and Tom Pospeshil, and Tanaz Naterwala
Runner up Jr. Black Belt Grand Champion: Tanaz Naterwala

2nd Place Awards
 Lizzy Arnold, Mitchel and Joshua Huang, Abby O'Meara, Alex Pospeshil, Soorya Ramappan, Aditya Savanur, and



Family Self Defense Center — National Achievement Award Winners include (front, from left) Alex Pospeshil, Tanaz Naterwala, Mitchel Huang, Ryan Swanson, and Devon DeCaire; (back) Mark Swanson, Kathy O'Meara, Belle Spencer, Chris Szepal, Mr. Z Szepal, Jim DeCaire (hidden) and Ami DeCaire.

Andrew and Mark Swanson

3rd Place Awards
 Krishna Kiru, Kathy O'Meara, Alex Pospeshil, Soorya Ramappan, Aditya Savanur, Rohun Savanur (2 awards),

Cyd Spencer, and Mark Swanson

4th Place Awards
 Lizzy Arnold, Shaelyn Carroll, Ashwin Vangipuram, Shankar Kiru, Josh O'Meara, Tanaz Naterwala, Annabel Spencer, Ryan and Andrew Swanson, and Savanna Frick

Medal Recipients
 Yogesh Mohanraj, Ram Kiru, Andrew

Pospeshil, James Takeshita, Trina Frick, and Devon DeCaire

National Achievement Awards
Top Karate Students in the Country
 Female ages 12 and under: Ryan Swanson
 Male ages 12 and under: Ian Kosaka
 Female ages 13-17: Tanaz Naterwala
Top Contributors to Isshinryu Karate: Ami, Jim and Devon DeCaire.
Top Male Instructor in the country for Isshinryu Karate: The school's co-owner, Ed, "Mr. Z", Szepal,
Top Five in the Country
 Female ages 13-17: Belle Spencer
Male Instructor: Chris Szepal
Male Competitor: Tom Pospeshil
Male Competitor in the Jr. Division: Alex Pospeshil
Adult Male Karate Student: Mark Swanson
Adult Female Karate Student: Kathy O'Meara
Contribution to Isshinryu: Mitchel Huang
Spirit of Isshinryu: Ed Szepal
Family Self Defense Center offers classes in Isshinryu Karate and Samuraï Sport Sword throughout the year through the City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. The school will also be hosting their annual tournament October 29 for both karate and sword participants. More information can be found by visiting karatebyfsc.com or cityofnovi.org.

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
 Aug. 11 - Gia Warner; Aug. 18 - The Reasons Y; and Aug. 25 - Lik! Tik!

Contact: (586) 484-8797

SIZZLING SUMMER ART SERIES

Location: Forest Park (southeast corner of Ten Mile and Taft roads)

Contact: (248) 347-0473 or cityofnovi.org

Friday Family Fun
Time: 8 p.m.

Aug 12: The Candy Band;
Aug 19: Movie - Viewer's Choice, vote at cityofnovi.org;
Aug 26: The Groove Council - Motown Band

HEALTH SEMINAR

Location: Better Health Market, 42875 Grand River Avenue, Novi

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 16

Details: Herb Lewis, an international lecturer in the nutritional supplement industry will be giving a free seminar on how you can have unlimited energy and develop a natural method for weight loss using whole foods and herbs.

Contact: (248) 735-8100 or visit www.thebetterhealth.com

GET LISTED!

Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to ctstone@gannett.com, by fax to (248) 685-2892, 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.

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

store.com

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 golfers or register individually, in twosomes or foursomes. Electronic scoreboards throughout the course will display team progress. Team format allows even inexperienced golfers to win the Challenge Cup. Individual golfer fee is \$145; includes 18 holes, a golf shirt, lunch by Carra-ba's at the turn, longest drive and closest to the pin contests, dinner and awards

Contact: Fonda Milena 586-232-3008 or fmilena@sunrisefinancialgroupinc.com

following the outing. Four- some fee is \$660. Call for team of 12 golfers fee. Title Sponsor: Varsity Automotive Group
Contact: www.novichamber.com or call (248) 349-3743.

Business

NORTHVILLE-NOVI BUSINESS NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 7:30-9 a.m. first and third Tuesdays (except Nov. and Dec., which are just the first Tuesdays)

Location: Kerby's Coney Island, 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) 797-1565 or juliepaquette67@gmail.com; www.metrobninovi.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.

NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Location: 45255 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi

Hours: 10 a.m.-5 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

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY

Location: 45255 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi

Hours: 10 a.m.-5 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.

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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

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.novi.toastmasters.org

Contact: Linda Kreuter at PR@novi.toastmasters.org

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Location: Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road

Details: Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check website for speaker information; novirotary.org.

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Bob and Kathy Schram of Lyon Township took their Novi News to the top of Ruth Glacier (elevation 5,500 feet) in front of Mt. McKinley on a recent trip to Alaska.

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A group of mellophone players march in place during Novi High School's band camp last week.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Marching to their own beat

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Band's week-long camp prepares members for long season

There is nowhere to hide during the band camp week.

And by the end of it, freshmen and seniors alike will have paid the price.

The days are long — 12 hours — and the activity intense as the majority of the 180 members are on their feet for most of the day marching while carrying their instruments.

Mental strength also is needed as they learn new music and new steps.

Band director Mark Hourigan said at the midway point of the week he has been encouraged by the group's attitude, but admitted more work needed to be done.

"Frankly, we have to get them to work harder to get better," he said. "Nothing takes the place of good old-fashioned hard work."

The band is bigger this year, but also younger as 50 freshmen will make their debut this season.

Dominique Felice, a senior and trombone section leader, said the seniors have raised their expectations for the freshmen and expect positive results.

"The whole band is showing a lot more effort this year, and it's such a big step up," she said.

Novi finished eighth in Flight I — thought by many to be the toughest in the state, at the Michigan Competing Band Association State Finals last year — and anything less than a return trip would be a disappointment.

In Hourigan's 10 years running the program, the band's highest finish is fourth.

"We expect to go to the state finals, and if we don't get there, we have fallen short," he said.

The name of this year's show is "Symphonities" and will include four different songs by Sting. The community is encouraged to see the show at the Panfare marching band competition Sept. 25 at the high school and at every home Novi High School varsity football game.

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Sophomore Laura Baumgarten marches with her teammates during band camp last week at the high school.



While the students were outside marching last week, Novi High School marching band moms Marcia Boileau, left, and Cathy Ross worked on sewing the flags for the band's color guard.



Members of Novi High School's marching band battled the heat and rain last week during band camp.



Members of Novi High School's marching band are a blur as they marched around the practice field on Aug. 3 during band camp week. Band fans will have to wait until Sept. 9 to hear the group at a football game when Novi hosts Livonia Stevenson.

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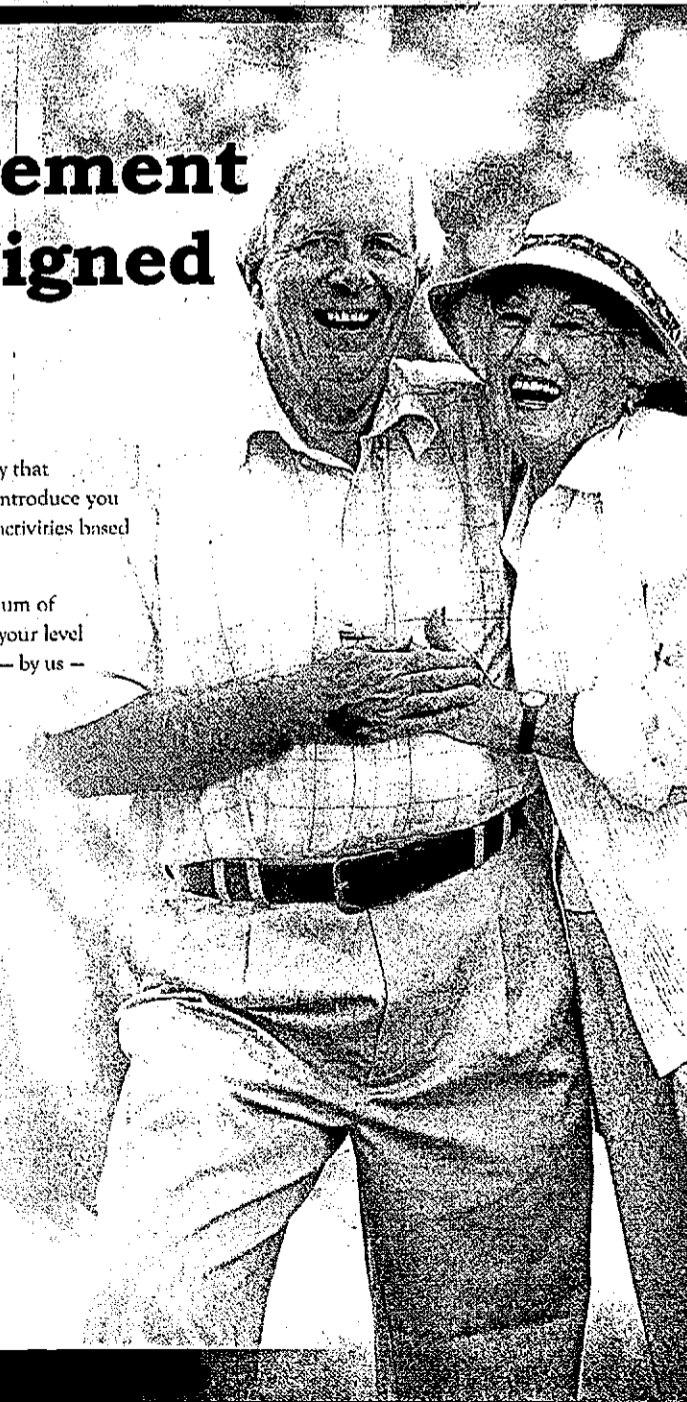
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SPORTS

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NABF World Series ends in style

By Sam Eggleston
 Correspondent

It was almost like two old rivals were facing off against one another when the Ohio Glaciers and the Bloomington Normal baseball teams met in the NABF World Series Championship July 31.
 The teams had only played once before, three days before the title match when the BNBA squad had edged out their foes for a 2-1 victory.
 That was enough, however, to bring out a rivalry tension at the Hillside baseball field. And, in rivalry fashion, the game wasn't decided until the final minutes when the Glaciers held back a rally and captured a 3-1 championship victory.
 Despite the loss, BNBA's Kent Frantz pitched a sterling game and would have likely earned a victory on the mound if it weren't for being matched nearly pitch-for-pitch by Ohio's Jake Froats and Chris Maze.
 The Bloomington Normal squad earned the first run of the game in the top of the third inning when Frantz slapped a double before trying to score on a single by Alex Jefferson. Glacier outfielder Santana Barrera charged the ball, fired a hard throw to Froats who relayed it to catcher Tyler Spain for the out. Jefferson, however, scored easily on the next pitch when Adam McGinnis cranked out a towering double to deep center for the RBI.
 Neither team added to the score again until the bottom of the fifth when the Glaciers put on a show that would ultimately be the deciding moments in the game. Ohio's Harry Finelli led off his squad with a walk before Sean Coyne put down a perfect bunt and reached first safely while advancing the runner. With runners at first and second, the Glaciers bunted again but had their runner thrown out at third by Frantz. The Glaciers were rewarded for their patient play, however, when Spain, batting left handed, stepped into his swing and sent a massive home run over the right field fence for the 3-1 lead.
 Bloomington threatened in the sixth inning with two runners on base, but a calm Maze struck out the side to squash the rally. He then struck out BNBA's next three batters in the seventh inning to earn the victory for his squad.



Northville Bronco's Jack Gessert tags a base hit on July 29 during the NABF series at Hillside.

Series celebrates 30th year in Northville

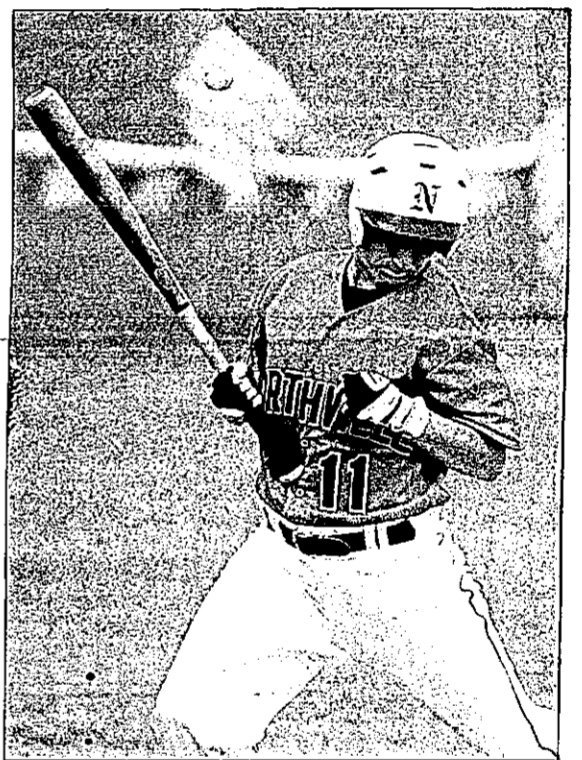
By Sam Eggleston
 Correspondent

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



A Bronco's infielder fires a throw to first base.

After 30 years of hosting the NABF World Series in Northville, you'd think that all that could happen has already done so.
 But, this year marked a first for the tournament and a first for Northville as the host city had two teams playing against some of the nation's best squads.
 "We had 10 teams this year (and) two from Northville," said tournament director Scott Baldwin. "The Northville 15U Broncos got in because Dayton dropped out at the last minute."
 Playing against mostly 16U teams, one might assume the young Broncos, who were coached by Ken Cheslick, were out of their league. That was hardly the case, however, as the 15U team cranked out a 2-2 record and just missed getting into the semifinal bracket after dropping an extra-inning thriller. The team even earned an all-star player in Zack Wilds, who collected honors as one of the top pitchers in the tournament. Wilds can also hit a few balls, too, and showcased his talent in the home run derby that he just missed winning the title for in the final round.
 The 16U team, coached by Bob O'Neill, didn't have the same level of success as their younger counterparts, but they put on quite a show nonetheless and earned two spots on the NABF World Series All-Star team. Jack Gessert and Matt Stojkov were named as infield all-stars to this year's squad.
 While the festivities and games weren't without their down moments—like rain dampening an otherwise exciting home run derby during the opening ceremonies—most of the weekend tournament was full of top teams playing top-notch games. Northville and the volunteers that help make



Bronco Nick Gross is hit by a pitch during their Friday morning game at Hillside.

KLAA winter sports stay hot come playoff time

By Jeff Theisen
 Sports writer

The Kensington Lakes Activities Association has proven itself as a powerhouse on the state level, and the winter season is no exception.
 This is the second story in a three-part series analyzing how the KLAA has fared in the state playoffs and post-seasons, focusing on winter sports. The league is barely three years old, made up of the for-

mer KVC and WLAA leagues combining with a new school in South Lyon East, a pair of Walled Lake Schools and Grand Blanc entering the league when the Parker High School in Howell never came to fruition.
Boys Swimming
 One of the most impressive sports of the winter season comes in the pool. It's not that the KLAA has a state champion, it has teams loaded in the top 25 every year at the State

Finals.
 This past year, Salem finished seventh, followed by Livonia Stevenson in ninth, Novi (11th), Northville (12th), Canton (16th), South Lyon (18th), Howell (22nd) and Hartland (24th).
 For the Central Division alone, that's all five teams within the top 18 and four within the top 12.
 "I personally think that seeing all of these top teams in dual meets and then again in championship meets at the end

of the season makes everyone better," said South Lyon coach John Burch. "All of the teams know that they have to be on the top of their game if they want to have a chance to win the conference meet at the end of the year."
 "At the same time, it can be difficult for a coach to convince high school teenagers that even though they may have finished last in their division they are not a bad team, and in fact are a very good team."

One of the many highlights for the KLAA at the Division 1 State Finals came in the 100 backstroke with a 1-2-3 finish for the league. Canton's Victor Zhang beat out Stevenson's Kellen Schoff and John Ferrara for the title.
 In Division 2, Walled Lake Northern also cracked the top 15 by finishing 13th.
 In 2010, The KLAA also put

Please see KLAAs, B2

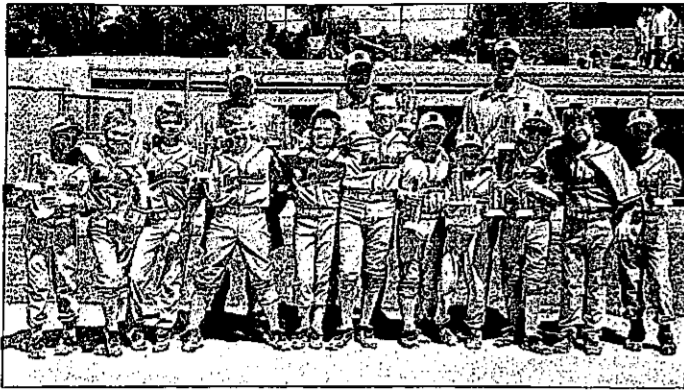
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Dual champs



DAWN WEBER

Northville's 10U Bronco team won the Toledo Battle at the Border Tournament and the Frankemuth Summer Heat Tournament...

11U champs



Northville's 11U girls fastpitch travel softball team went 12-1 in league play to win their division. The team includes (back, from left) Marie Grace, Sammie Noles, Rachel Holmes...

KLAA

Continued from page B1

seven teams in the top 24 of Division 1, led by Northville in third, Stevenson in third and South Lyon 11th. Howell was next at 12th...

The main state highlight that year came in the 100 breaststroke with South Lyon's Adam Oxner taking title, ahead of Ben Chodos from Hartland...

In the first year for the KLAA, the swimmers grabbed seven spots in the top 22. Grand Blanc joined the KLAA the following season...

In Division 2, Walled Lake Northern placed 13th with Lakeland in 18th. In the previous two years, it was the Howell show, finishing runner-up each year in Division 1...

Boys Bowling The KLAA has been nothing but strikes come playoff time in two different divisions.

The KLAA saw multiple titles in 2011, starting with an individual showdown in Division 1.

John Glenn's Jordan Hornes defeated Salem's Ryan Clark in two games for the title. Also cracking the semifinals was Jeremy Brown from Wayne, losing to Clark.

John Glenn also rolled to a runner-up finish as team, falling to Macomb Dakota in the finals. Wayne also rolled into the semifinals.

In Division 2, it was South Lyon hoisting the team title trophy. The Lions knocked off Sparta to claim the title.

In 2010, John Glenn and Salem earned spots in the final eight.

In 2009, Wayne finished runner-up in Division 1, and Brighton's James Koss rolled to the individual semifinals.

Girls Bowling The 2011 highlight for

the quarterfinals. Individually, the KLAA placed 22 wrestlers at the Division 1 finals and two more in Division 2.

At 130 pounds, John Glenn's Anthony Pavlich beat Hartland's Jeff Lopez for an all-KLAA finals. Pavlich finished the year 59-2.

Hartland's Nick McDiarmid snagged the title at 215 pounds, finishing the year a perfect 61-0.

Canton's Brent Winkoff finished runner-up at 152 pounds.

In 2009, Hartland reached the final four by beating John Glenn in the quarterfinals.

The KLAA had 19 All-Staters in Division 1 and one more in Division 3.

Girls basketball The KLAA has had at least one team in the final four in each of its first three years.

Canton reached the semifinals the past two years, and Livonia Franklin made a run all the way to the finals in 2009, finishing runner-up.

Boys basketball No team has reached the quarterfinals so far in KLAA existence.

Gymnastics Despite only having 11 teams in the KLAA, the league is well decorated come State Finals time.

Last year, Canton finished second with Brighton seventh and Salem 10th.

Cheer In the past two years, the lone team to crack the top 10 at states is Hartland with a seventh-place finish in 2010.

Skating Though not a recognized league sport, teams within the KLAA have thrived at the State Finals.

For girls, four of the top-nine teams came from KLAA schools. Walled Lake Central was fourth, followed by WL Central in sixth, Brighton in eighth and Hartland in ninth.

For the boys, Grand Blanc was fifth with Brighton eighth.

In 2010, Hartland wrestled into the final four with John Glenn reaching

the quarterfinals. Individually, the KLAA placed 22 wrestlers at the Division 1 finals and two more in Division 2.

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Three Northville players earn All-Star honors



By Sam Eggleston

Correspondent

Earning your way onto any all-star team is quite an accomplishment, but doing so in a world series tournament is even more impressive.

Three Northville Broncos players — two from the 16U team and one from the 15U squad — earned all-star nods this year. Jack Gessert and Matt Stojkov were infield selections off the 16U Broncos team this year while Zack Wilds, of the 15U Broncos, was named as one of the all-star pitchers.

Wilds drew plenty of attention to himself this year for more than his pitching. Wilds

hit six home runs out of 10 swings in the opening round of the annual home run derby, including slapping the first five out of the park that were thrown to him. He advanced to the final round where he hit two home runs out of five swings despite steady rain dampening the event. He was edged out of the championship by Jacob Froats of the Ohio Glaciers and David Marcus of the Toronto Mets, who both hit three home runs in the finale to share the championship honors.

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

The Broncos' bench looks on at Friday morning's game at Hillside.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NABF

Continued from page B1

The NABF tournament a possibility were ready for all the eventualities, however.

"Each year presents new challenges—but our dedicated group of volunteers welcomes those challenges and works hard to make this the finest tournament these teams participate in each year," said Baldwin. "This year we battled the elements to complete every game of the round robin pool play before awaiting to a perfect day for the championship."

It also helps, said Baldwin, that the field that hosted the championship game is one of the best around. "Hillside held up very well and we witnessed a great baseball game to crown the Ohio Glaciers as champions," he said.

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



As pitcher Brad VanHulle covers first, infielder Andrew Slayton tries to make an out during the Bronco's July 29 morning game at Hillside.

ALL-STARS

Earning All-Star honors this year were:

Table listing MVP, Batting Champ, DH, 1B, 2B, 3B, C, OF, IF, P for various teams like Ohio Glaciers, Brownlee Lookouts, etc.

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Favot brings defensive prowess to Wildcat gridiron coaching staff

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent



CHRIS JACKETT

The last time Sonny Favot and Todd Pennycuff worked together, South Lyon's football team won a regional title and advanced to the state semifinals in 2004. Pennycuff was the Lions' offensive coordinator and Favot had a team-high five interceptions as a senior defensive strong safety, a position the team called "the lion."

Now, seven years later, Favot joins Novit's program as the defensive backs coach. Pennycuff is entering his second year as Novit's head coach. Both are hoping they can duplicate the 2004 effort and improve on that strong playoff run.

The Wildcats finished 5-4 in 2010, missing out on the playoffs for a second straight year. "My expectations are high, I am putting a lot of pressure on myself to be a great coach. I want to get better everyday," Favot said. "I am new coaching, but I feel like I have valuable knowledge that I can share."

After a strong career at South Lyon, where Favot led the team with 81 tackles as a junior inside linebacker before moving to strong safety, he played primarily free safety as a member of Ferris State University's squad. He had 57 tackles (27 solo) in 28 games to go along with one sack, one interception, six passes defended and two fumble recoveries.

"I learned that it's not always about how hard you hit, but how hard you can get hit and keep coming back and battling the next play," Favot said.

of his senior year. "That year the saying 'attitude is everything' really rang true for me. We never got down on ourselves and always came to battle every Saturday. You can't dwell on the past and think about past failures or the last play, you have to focus on the next play and your future success."

Favot graduated from FSU in summer 2010 with a sports management degree and has been spending his time working as a field marshal at nearby Total Sports Complex in both Wixom and Novi since then.

"I would eventually like to work for a professional sports team," Favot said. "My degree helps me in coaching, because I am loyal to the game. I love being around the sport."

Chris Jackett is a free-lance writer and former staff writer for the Novi News.

reconnected over the off-season purely by chance, and a love for food.

"A couple other South Lyon football alumni and I were about to sit down at Red Robin in Novi when we ran into our old coach," Favot said. "He said they were looking to hire a new coach for the defensive backfield and asked if I was interested. I had always considered coaching, but wasn't sure how or when I would get into it. So when the opportunity presented itself, I had to take it."

Favot said he wants to help Novit's players have the same experiences and learn the same life lessons he did. "I feel like it's my way of giving back," Favot said of coaching. "Football gave me so much, taught me lessons of responsibility and preparation, brotherhood, trust and playing with my best friends in high school was the best time of my life, not to mention my scholarship. I know what it has done for me and the opportunities I have had because of sports. I want these kids to experience what I was lucky enough to have experienced when I was in their shoes."

Although he will always support his alma mater, Favot will be wearing green and rooting against them during his Sept. 30 return to The Jungle as a coach.

"I am always going to be loyal to South Lyon, having played there, but, in general, I am loyal to the game. I love being around the sport."

Chris Jackett is a free-lance writer and former staff writer for the Novi News.

NORTHVILLE/NOVI SPORTS BRIEFS

The Northville 11U travel softball tryouts

The Northville 11U travel softball team is holding tryouts on the following dates:

- Sunday, Aug. 21, 6-7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Aug. 27, 10-11:30 a.m.
- Sunday, Aug. 28, 6-7:30 p.m.

All girls, ages 10-12, who are interested in playing fastpitch softball at a competitive level are encouraged to attend. Tryouts will be held at Millennium Field SE on 6 Mile between Sheldon and Beck roads (across from Northville High School, behind the Fire Department.)

Northville Cubs 12U baseball roster spot available

The Northville Cubs 12U travel baseball team is looking to add one or two players to its roster for the 2012 baseball season. The Cubs will play in the KVBSA league for the third consecutive year. Additionally, the Cubs will participate in six to eight week-end tournaments and a possible trip to the Cooperstown Dreams Park tournament.

The Cubs have no residency requirement but give preferential consideration to Northville school district residents. Interested players from surrounding communities are welcome to tryout for the team. If interested in a tryout, please contact Jim Marshall at jim@northvillebaseball.com

Tennis Camp
Northville Parks and Recreation is offering End of Summer Tennis Camps, morning and evening times, for ages 6-14 years. Beginner to intermediate levels are invited to attend. Join head coach Todd Beyer for games, point play situations and team tennis.

Lacrosse Camp
Northville Parks and Recreation is offering their End of Summer Lacrosse Camps for boys and girls

in second-eighth grades -- featuring MCLA and CCLA Coach of the Year Dwayne Hicks (Michigan State University head coach) for the boys' camps and Stacey Tardich, high school coach, for the girls' camps.

All skill levels are welcome to attend. Cost is \$190 for boys and \$175 for girls. Camp includes high intensity drills and scrimmages daily. Camps are (9 a.m.-noon) Aug. 22-24 for second-fourth graders; and Aug. 30-Sept. 1 for fifth-eighth graders. Register online at Northville Parks and Recreation (www.northvillepark-sandrec.org) or e-mail kroupa@ci.northville.mi.us for more information.

Northville sports passes

Don't miss your chance to purchase a 2011-2012 Northville High School Athletic Boosters Club Family Sport Pass. This convenient pass provides admission to all Northville High School and Middle School (Meads Mill & Hillside) sports regular home games. A one-time cost of \$125 covers your immediate family including your NHS student or students or \$50 for an individual pass.

Motor City Madness fastpitch softball tryouts

The Novi based Motor City Madness fastpitch softball program is holding tryouts on Saturday, Aug. 13 and Sunday, Aug. 14. Girls 7-18 years old (as of Dec. 31, 2011) are encouraged to attend.

Tryout times are: (10U) 9-11 a.m.; (12U) 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; (14U-15U) 1-3 p.m.; (16U) 3-5 p.m.; (18U - Sunday Only) 5-7 p.m. Pitcher and Catcher specific tryouts run an additional 30 minutes. Team selections begin on Saturday and athletes may be asked to return Sunday for a second look.

For a copy of our registration form or additional details, visit www.eteamz.com/MotorCity/

REAL ESTATE

MSU student builds career success through internship

By Julie Brown
OSE Staff Writer



Stephen J. Short II (left), intern, John DePorre, Pinnacle Homes, Richard Komer, Wineman & Komer Building, and Michael Stoskopf, BIA's CEO.

Stephen J. Short II, 21, of Troy is getting some great on-the-job training this summer through an internship. Short, a 2008 Troy High School graduate, will be a senior this fall at Michigan State University in construction management.

At a spring 2011 meeting of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's Charitable & Educational Foundation Board, Richard Komer of Wineman & Komer Building Co. suggested that the foundation sponsor a summer intern from Michigan State University's Construction Management program to work with a BIA member company.

"I'm learning in this internship," Short said. "I do think it could benefit me in school also." He's getting paid, which helps with tuition, books and other college expenses. BIA leaders are glad to offer the internship.

"This will serve the dual purpose of offering the intern hands-on experience in our industry, and giving our members and our foundation the opportunity to help shape the future of home building in our area," said Komer in a statement.

BIA's CEO, Michael Stoskopf, contacted the MSU Construction Management Program and obtained resumes. He also located a builder who was interested in participating in the program: BIA's 2010 Builder of the Year, Pinnacle Homes.

Short was tapped to fill the position that is funded half by BIA's Foundation and half by Pinnacle Homes. Short became interested in construction while working for his father's plumbing business.

He praises his superintendent, Ben Reyff, as good to work with. "Ben has told me that residential is a whole different animal as compared to commercial," said Short, the son of Maria and Stephen.

Short is working at Pinnacle's Country Club Village Community in Rochester Hills. His responsibilities include checking on the daily progress of home construction. "He is doing a great job," said Reyff. "He is taking a lot of initia-

tive and helps us to keep track of jobs to be done. This is an opportunity for him to see the whole process of home building."

Short's dad is a plumbing contractor and the younger Short began working summers with him around eighth grade. "More of the management part, the management and scheduling of the project is what he's getting this summer at the internship, running through around Aug. 19."

"So far, it has been a good experience," Short said of the internship. Much of it is similar to his MSU coursework.

"I can actually say that it's very similar." At MSU, students trained in a computer scheduling program not totally used at his summer internship. "All the other courses I've taken definitely went right along with what I'm learning in this internship," Short said.

John DePorre, president of Pinnacle Homes, said in a statement, "Our involvement in the internship program through BIA has been a terrific experience. This program has allowed Pinnacle Homes a cost-effective way to recruit a highly qualified and motivated student to assist our field managers with their day-to-day tasks, thus allowing our field managers to pursue other projects. It's also nice to fulfill a professional responsibility by providing Stephen with real work experience, and in return be on the receiving end of some fresh, new ideas Steven has brought to Pinnacle Homes."

Short said, "I'm actually not completely sure of what I'm going to do yet" after college graduation. He may work with his dad or in another professional capacity. BIA's Charitable & Educational Foundation was established in 1991 to promote and improve the availability of affordable housing opportunities for low-income families throughout Southeastern Michigan and to create a viable opportunity for BIA members to give back to their communities by volunteering their professional talents and skills, and making cash and in-kind contributions to help meet the needs of those less fortunate. The foundation's mission is to engage in activities that promote and improve housing opportunities, combat commu-

nity deterioration, and inform and educate the general public and members of the construction and property management industries on issues relating to affordable housing. Since its inception, the foundation has raised and distributed nearly \$1.6 million to housing-related nonprofits including Lighthouse of Oakland County, Southwest Solutions, Jewish Family Services, Michigan Colleges Foundation and others.

Headquartered in West Bloomfield, Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and Apartment Association of Michigan are trade associations representing nearly 600 builders, remodelers, multi-family property owners, developers and suppliers to the single family and multi-family residential construction industry. BIA is affiliated with the Michigan Association of Home Builders in Lansing and the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C. Membership nationwide includes more than 175,000 individuals and companies.

The BIA contributed to this report.

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

1362 Bramblebush Run # V-81 \$160,000	1900 Tiverton Rd \$1,060,000	801 W Long Lake Rd #D1 \$33,000	739 Windemere Ct \$488,000	7341 Chula Vista Ln \$325,000	1160 S Square Lake Rd \$242,000	1719 Hickory Bark Ln \$270,000	211 N Glenhurst Dr \$505,000	4386 Pine Tree Trl \$445,000	4255 School Bell Ln \$193,000	3500 Sunnydale Rd \$315,000	3391 Wabek Rd \$259,000	8400 Cascade St \$84,000	710 Grand Traverse St \$22,000	8649 War Bonnet Dr \$122,000	21262 Cass St \$19,000	21304 Colwell St \$74,000	33100 Hillside Dr \$112,000	22944 Middlebelt Rd Unit 250 \$52,000	34601 Thornbrook Dr \$192,000	32274 W 12 Mile Rd \$51,000	21227 Glenhurst St \$54,000	30934 Westwood Ct \$170,000	25 Riverbank Dr \$425,000	3860 Dabate Ct \$160,000	450 W Maple Rd \$397,000	51236 Luke Ln \$234,000	24009 Ripple Crk \$125,000	23515 Stonehenge Blvd \$53,000	27087 Victoria Rd \$259,000	23115 W Le Boat \$147,000	26521 Mallard Ct \$60,000	Southfield	14234 San Jose \$58,000	66251 Franklin Pointe Dr \$41,000	21978 Frazer Ave \$35,000	17021 Maryland St \$86,000	White Lake	956 Hidden Cove Dr \$163,000	1395 Waverly Dr \$73,000
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HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

7059 Weatherfield Way \$212,000	7551 Wheaton Dr \$160,000	Sardin City	32415 John Hawk St \$37,000	Livonia	29452 Bobrich St \$45,000	14826 Country Club Dr \$138,000	13355 Denine St \$65,000	38111 Elsie St \$109,000	34444 Fargo St \$299,000	14834 Ingram St \$78,000	27670 Oakley St \$244,000	16658 Penn Dr \$170,000	16830 Pollyanna St \$153,000	14405 Riverside St \$144,000	16805 Wayne Rd \$163,000	Northville	44725 Aspen Ridge Dr \$275,000	18750 Beck Rd \$450,000	44507 Broadmoor Blvd \$330,000	44615 Broadmoor Cir N \$350,000	16116 Crystal Downs E \$437,000	15869 Johnson Creek Dr \$129,000	16049 Johnson Creek Dr \$135,000	39585 Muirfield Ln \$229,000	49496 N Glacier \$208,000	40778 Rayburn Dr \$262,000	336 Saint Lawrence Blvd \$295,000	42853 Savoy Ct \$82,000	41074 Stoneleigh St \$120,000	777 Thayer Blvd \$410,000	1068 Washington Cir \$100,000	Plymouth	46588 Denise Ct \$265,000	46870 Forestwood Dr \$285,000	47575 Katherine Rd \$325,000	42024 Micol Dr \$85,000	460 Ross St \$150,000	9393 Village Manor Dr \$275,000	Redford	11316 Crosley \$30,000	10045 Grayfield \$34,000	9111 Kinloch \$55,000	8883 Riverview \$38,000	15170 Salem Ct \$62,000	13988 San Jose \$55,000	14234 San Jose \$58,000	25994 Southwestern Hwy \$15,000	20550 Sumner \$25,000	11367 Wormer \$45,000	Westland	33027 Chapman Cir \$109,000	7947 Manor Cir \$15,000	34333 Melton St \$88,000	1866 N Marie St \$42,000	32213 Ontonagon St \$13,000	1720 S Carlton St \$115,000	33083 Sandra Ln \$40,000
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REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real Estate Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty of Plymouth will hold a Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, at the office, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. Attendees will learn about the \$50,000 income guarantee and the free pre-licensing course. For more information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laieilo@kw.com.

Foreclosures

A program on "Buying Foreclosures" will be presented by Linda Orleans, sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, Aug. 11, 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members. \$20 non-members. Call (800) 747-6742. (www.REIAofOakland.com)

Real Estate Sales and Appraising

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.

JULIE BROWN, EDITOR
KBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
(313) 222-6755
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Chinese project massive effort

Q: I understand that there is a great deal of redevelopment in China as well as the building of the "Three Gorges Reservoir." What have they done with the people that lived there?

A: Since the state still runs the show in China, notwithstanding its capitalistic economy, they have literally displaced the people that lived in the city where the dam was built. In a recent article in the Beijing

English newspaper, the government indicated that improving the living standards of people displaced by the construction of the Three Gorges Reservoir, "while increasing economic and social prosperity will be a top priority for the government." According to the government, it will increase industrial restructuring, boost employment incentives, and improve the social security aid being offered to the residents. The government also claims to vow to protect the environment, take steps to prevent geological disasters over the long term and better manage the effects of the project on the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River. The main body of the Three Gorges Dam is located in the town of Sandouping, in central Hubei province. Apparently, since 1993, when the project was started, 1.35 million people have been moved to make way for the construction of the largest hydroelectric dam in the world.

Q: I have heard about a recent case in the Supreme Court regarding people who are front lot owners who property abuts a public road running parallel to the lakeshore. Do they or do they not have riparian rights?

A: In the 2000 Baum Family Trust vs. Babel case decided by the Supreme Court of Michigan in 2010, the court indicated that the front lot owners whose property abuts a public road running parallel to a lakeshore have riparian rights in the lake, as similarly situated persons have always had in Michigan. The Court also indicated that when the public road is dedicated to the county, it does not receive title in the nature of private ownership but takes a "base fee" or "nominal title" only, therefore, it does not obtain beneficial ownership of the land or the usual rights of the proprietor, therefore, the county could not exercise rights to the road because such uses would be incompatible with the underlying dedication. In that case, it was the Charlotte County Road Commission.

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: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit rmsmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column should not be construed as legal advice.

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Overcoming The Unemployed "Stigma"

By Michael Froehls
author of "The Gift of Job Loss"

In the movie "The Company Men," several managers get laid-off. One of them is afraid that the neighbors will find out. He dresses up in the morning, and then leaves home in a suit, only to return for dinner as if coming back from work. Apparently, he perceives the social stigma of unemployment to be higher than the many negative consequences of his behavior — living a double life, missing opportunities within his network, and the inconvenience and inefficiency of scheduling an unproductive day. In short, a behavior that is emotionally destructive, wastes time and does not achieve positive results. Let's take a closer look at the issue of social stigma. It comes in two parts and either one or both might apply to you:

You feel like a victim. Either way, you are in shock. You might even think that your worth as a human being has declined. You believe there is social stigma attached to your situation without even knowing whether this is the case or not.

2. The perception of others: People might look down on you. Yes, for someone who has never experienced job loss and doesn't understand today's job market, unemployment is your fault. The good news is that you can largely overcome both issues. Once you conquer your own fear and act accordingly, you will also raise the probabilities of overcoming your negative perception of others.

3. Use your time strategically. Don't just apply for jobs and watch TV the rest of the day. Use your time wisely. Perhaps you would have better job prospects if you were certified in your field? Go for it. Want to check out a different city with better opportunities in your area of expertise? Your time has come. Always positioned becoming fluent in a foreign language? Learn one now. Never had the time to shed unwanted weight? Put in the effort now. The options to use your time to lay the groundwork for your personal and professional future are countless. The benefits could be amazing. By staying active, you are less likely to feel sorry for yourself. You acquire new skills and become a better job candidate. Your energy and emotional well-being will show in the confidence you act in front of others. This includes the HR managers who will be impressed by you.

2. Change the perception of others through your actions. Notwithstanding the above, you will be surprised by how you can turn social stigma into admiration, even inspiration. If you do, let's say, a few months of your time between jobs to invest in your job skills, get healthy, help a charity, and enjoy a long-postponed dream vacation with your spouse, you will not perceive you as smart and driven. Why? Your time wisely, while others just waited for the "right" job. Your positive attitude plus the results achieved will make you a stand-out job candidate.

In sum, don't let perceived or real social stigma or unemployment weigh you down. Your attitude and actions can help you overcome your own negativity and the views of others. Your odds of landing your desired job have just gone up.

Michael Froehls, Ph.D., is an independent management consultant and former global executive. He is the author of "The Gift of Job Loss." After losing his job during the recession, he used his time strategically by traveling, learning, and spending quality time with family. See www.thegiftofjobloss.com.

1. Your own perception: You blame yourself for job loss. Or

1. Understand the facts. Losing a job is not unusual

1. It does not matter — disregard the noise around you.

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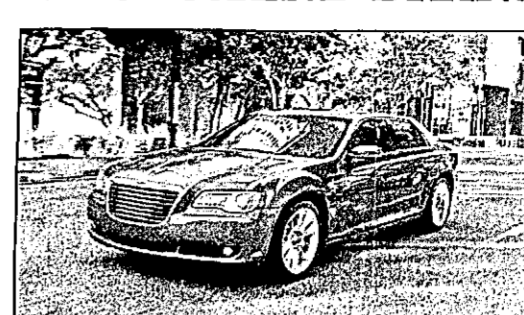
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CHRYSLER 300 LOOKS TO EXTEND BRAND REVIVAL

By Dale Buss

The 2011 Chrysler 300 has allowed the brand to mount a next act — beyond the stunning impact of the Super Bowl advertising spot on the debut of the Chrysler 300 last winter — with marketers splitting the 300 as an exemplar of Chrysler's new "earned luxury" positioning. But the improving 300 is fighting for share in a segment of the market that has taken on a



The 2011 Chrysler 300 is a restyled version of one of the company's biggest product winners of the past decade.

dividing relevance and seems to be in long-term decline. The 300 is still important to Chrysler's future, partly because the brand only has three models now, and the 300 is the one that Chrysler has positioned as the flagship for the entire Chrysler group of brands," said Ivan Drury, a U.S. sales analyst for Edmunds.com. "But the segment has shrunk considerably as a reaction to ever-increasing fuel costs."

Clearly, the accelerated evolution of the 300 embodies some challenges for Chrysler. But executives prefer to focus on the opportunities driven into view by their biggest makeover of the model line — stretching over both 2011 and 2012 versions — since the

debut of the 300 platform in 2004 almost single-handedly revived Chrysler's fortunes. For Olivier Francois, who was Chrysler's brand chief until last week's announcement of a new merged Fiat-Chrysler management structure, the goals for the 300 are to establish Chrysler's new "approach to luxury" and to gain recognition for the car as the segment's best in class. "We have had to re-launch the brand, and we want Chrysler as an American company — and that is about great cars that people enjoy driving," he said. "That is what the 300 is."

It is difficult to overstate the impact that Chrysler made with the "gangster-styled" rear wheel-drive 300 when the company launched it seven years ago as a clean-sheet revival of a venerable nameplate from the Chrysler stable of past successes. The car rose to as high as 29 percent of Chrysler brand sales in late 2006, according to

Edmunds.com data, and as high as 10 percent of the large-car segment of the U.S. market in early 2006. Soon, however, the styling-based excitement wore off; gasoline prices turned erratic; the economy tanked; Chrysler sought a bailout; and the 300 was on cruise control, with little even retouching each year or marketing support. The neglected nameplate's nadir came last November, when sales dipped to only about 1,300 units, and the 300 could command only less than 4 percent of the diminished large-car segment. After comprising 24 percent of Chrysler sales for all of 2006, the 300 was down to 19 percent of sales for 2010 and just

14 percent of sales in the first half of this year. Fortunately, at that point, Chrysler management already was well into executing Fiat's plan to overhaul much of the company's existing fleet in quick-and-dirty fashion through 2012, as a longer-term reconstitution of the Chrysler lineup has been hatching under Fiat's aegis. Chrysler refined the 300's design, invested in improving fuel economy and varying powertrain configurations, and pumped about \$1 billion into its Brampton, Ontario, plant to upgrade manufacturing of the car.

It was long past time for the 300 to be dealt with. The retro styling that had made it, and the PT Cruiser, such immediate curiosities to car buyers long since had lost its allure. So Chrysler designers softened the lines of the exterior overall and backed off some of the more

regreous aspects of the basic 2006 design; for example, the windshield of the 2011 300 extends about three inches further back, trimming the roof line, to improve front-seat visibility. Interior appointments of the 300 were boosted, in keeping with a directive that Fiat CEO Sergio Marchionne had imposed soon after his company's 2009 takeover for Chrysler to address immediately the huge areas of weakness. Handing was re-tuned to curb a big sedan feel.

And powertrains were upgraded. Fiat was retooling the 300 under the long shadow of the 2008 gasoline-price bubble, and was bound to introduce the 2011 version in the midst of this year's \$4-a-gallon spike, so fuel economy was top of mind. That priority is reflected in a new eight-speed transmission in the 2012 version that Chrysler says will boost fuel economy on the highway to 30mpg from 27mpg now even with the new all-wheel-drive option. There's also a new 3.6-liter Pentastar V-6 in the 2011 version; the latter offers more power and better mileage than either of the two V-6s available in 2010.

"We took our most fuel-efficient engines and brand-new technology and installed it throughout the [Chrysler] line," Francois said. "We're really tackling the problem... We want to be best in class for fuel economy in the V-6 part of the market."

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Full-time, Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm. Located in Kalamazoo, MI. The successful candidate will be responsible for managing the office's administrative functions, including scheduling, correspondence, and general office support. A minimum of 2 years of experience in an administrative role is required. Please email your resume to: hr@homedepot.com

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'07 CADILLAC SRX V8 AWD

Aluminum, navigation, one owner. \$19,995. Brightline Ford 800-836-7697

2007 FORD FUSION

Full power, alloy. \$10,995. Brightline Ford 800-836-7697

'11 FORD EXPLORER

XLT 4x4. Certified, low miles. \$26,995. Brightline Ford 800-836-7697

'06 LINCOLN ZEPHYR

Nav, moon, and more. \$17,995. Brightline Ford 800-836-7697

Quoting Department

Individual experienced in quoting and processing precision components for the aerospace industry. Requirements: The ability to discern part requirements from drawings, CAD models, customer and industry standards. Familiar with machining a wide array of materials ranging from aluminum alloys, tool steels, titanium, carbide, cast irons, bronze, Inconel, castings and forgings. Possess a working knowledge of GD&T requirements while utilizing the latest technologies in CNC machining, EDM and grinding applications. Experience with heat treat, NDT and plating processes are also required.

Production Manager

Individual must be familiar with aerospace requirements, be able to read blueprints and understand G & T. A college degree, solid communication and leadership skills along with the ability to work in a team environment are also required. Daily requirements include scheduling, interaction with manufacturing personnel, process improvement and overseeing subcontractors and maintenance/machine repair. We offer competitive wages with good benefits in a clean A/C facility.

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Qualified Programmer/Operator to add to our turning and vertical machining departments. • Works well in a team environment. • 30 years minimum experience. • Program, set up and run CNC turning centers utilizing CAD files and 2 D drawings. • Complete understanding of G & T. • Familiarity with HAAS controls on vertical machining centers is a plus.

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Production Manager

Individual must be familiar with aerospace requirements, be able to read blueprints and understand G & T. A college degree, solid communication and leadership skills along with the ability to work in a team environment are also required. Daily requirements include scheduling, interaction with manufacturing personnel, process improvement and overseeing subcontractors and maintenance/machine repair. We offer competitive wages with good benefits in a clean A/C facility.

CNC Machinist

Qualified Programmer/Operator to add to our turning and vertical machining departments. • Works well in a team environment. • 30 years minimum experience. • Program, set up and run CNC turning centers utilizing CAD files and 2 D drawings. • Complete understanding of G & T. • Familiarity with HAAS controls on vertical machining centers is a plus.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Full-time, Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm. Located in Kalamazoo, MI. The successful candidate will be responsible for managing the office's administrative functions, including scheduling, correspondence, and general office support. A minimum of 2 years of experience in an administrative role is required. Please email your resume to: hr@homedepot.com

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Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights!

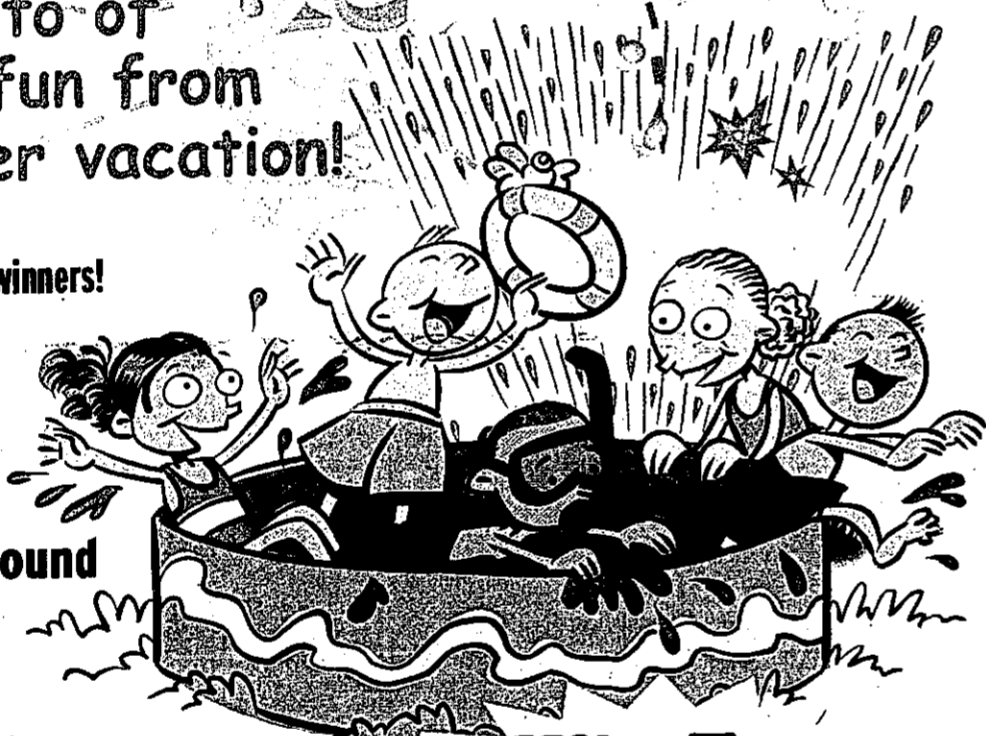
Summer Fun

How have YOU spent the summer?

Send a photo of something fun from your summer vacation!

Scoop will pick 3 random winners!

Send a photo of what you did this summer that was fun to Summer Vacation Contest:
Scoop the Newshound
c/o: Michele Austin
41304 Concept Drive
Plymouth, MI 48170



Deadline for submissions: 8/26/11
All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers by close of the business day on Aug. 26th. Winners to be announced in the September Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

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Selected winners will have their name, age, hometown and photo in the next Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

Lucky winners from last month's contest

Each winner received 2 tickets to The Novi Putting Edge and a Scoop the Newshound t-shirt!

Scoop, the newshound, will be offering contests on a monthly basis. Look for Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights page monthly in this newspaper!