

Flu shots

Oakland County Health Division will offer \$11 flu shots at Health Division offices located at the following addresses: • North Oakland Health Center, 1200 N. elegraph Road, Building 34 East, Pontiac South Oakland Health Center, 27725 Greenfield Road, Southfield Hours are noon-8 p.m.

ھ on Monday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. છુ Tuesday-Friday. Registration is preferred. To register for 8

a flu shot, go to www. oakgov.com/health. Clients may select the location, date and time ointment. Online of appo registration also provides a consent form that musi be taken to the clinic where the client is preenrolled. Online payment options include Visa, Mas ercard, Medicare and/or Medicaid. If you are unable to register online please call (248) 858-7350 or (248) 424-7120.

Donate car

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This year has been tough on almost evervone because of the economy and the high unemployment, Amer cans are a very resilient people. Even during troubling times, they are always ready to lend a hand to someone who needs help and is struggling. A great way to help a

person or an animal in eed is to donate a car you do not use anymore to charity. The process is very simple, the pickup is free and the rewards are great In return for your

generous donation, you will get the gift of a tax deduction when you itemize on your fee tax return. You will find hundreds of worthy charities to support with our car donation at Cars4Charities. Call 1-866-448-3487 or log onto http://w cars4charities.org/.

Residents give \$150k

Residents of Fox Run retirement community in Novi have donated \$150,000 to their campus' Staff Apprecia tion Fund to show their appreciation to hourly staff for jobs well done in 2011. The money will benefit staff members from Dining

Services, General Ser vices and the Medical Center

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New methods have wed city over \$200,000

Local sport

ROUNDUP, B1

PRICE: \$1 • THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2011 • hometownlife.com



Novi DPS worker Mark Schwartz steps down from one of the city's plows on Nov. 29 in front of their salt barn. The city has already had to use the trucks this year as winter

Novi improving liquids program to treat icy roads

By Nathan Mueller Staff Writer

weather is moving into the area.

Ice accumulation often is the most dangerous part of winter for driv-ers in Novi. So in an effort to keep the roads clear and drivers safe, the Department of Public Services is continuing to expand its relatively new "liquids program.' The program calls for the usage of a brine solu-

tion in two ways, one to handle ice once it has already formed on the roadways and second to prevent ice from even ming on the roads. Rob Hayes, director of

igan Winter Dog Classic, fea-

Kennel Club and Livonia Ken

turing more than 7,000 dogs, is hosted by the Oakland County

nel Club. The four-day event is

its, entertainment and education al seminars Jan. 19-22 at the Sub-

urban Collection Showplace in

Novi,

packed with can't-miss exhib-

The large tank on the back of this DPS salt truck contains a brine solution that wets the rock salt before it hits the Please see ROADS, A2 ground, thus making it more effective.

can provide." ARA TOPOUZIAN Novi's director of econ New economic

WHY 3 JOBS ARE

BETTERTHAN

SEE CLASSIFIED, SECTION B

development tools focus on fairness

By Nathan Mueller Staff Writer

"It's no longer about

throwing abatements at

what resources the state

people. It's finding out

New economic development tools are being rolled out in 2012 that could provide loans and grants of up to \$10 mil-lion for qualifying busi-

nesses. And despite the new tools leading to the elim-ination of Michigan Economic Growth Author-ity (MEGA) grants and Brownfield tax credits, Novi's director of economic development. Ara Topouzian, believes it's for the best.

the Michigan Business Development Program and the Michigan Com munity Revitalization Program — will provide a more level playing field that gives attention to what a business actually

needs. "As far as the state is concerned, they are lookng more at how can they help these business es with what they need to be retained, grow or come here." he said. "It's no longer about throwing abatements at people. It's finding out what resourc es the state can provide.' Novi took advantage of the MEGA grant over

the last five years with at least 13 businesses in the

- 31

city receiving one. But fopouzian said Novi will ot be hurt by their elimination because the city did not really offer tax

abatements as part of the local contribution "Moving forward, what this does is it helps by putting everything on an even basis so we can now be more specific in what we (the city, coun ty or state) are able to offer these companies,"

he said. The program is funded with a \$100 million appropriation for fiscal year 2012, and the Michgan Strategic Fund will be in charge of the grants and loans. The business development arm focus es on companies in Michigan that are investing and creating jobs, while the community revitalization part caters to devel opers that are investing and redeveloping con-taminated, blighted, func-

tionally obsolete or historic resources in Michigan urban areas. What I like is that it seems to be a methodi-

cal approach in trying to be discerning in how they utilize this pool money and resources," Topouzian said.

nmueiler@gannett.cor (248) 437-2011 ext. 255



The family-friendly 2012 Mich- breeds of "man's best friends" event that Saturday and Sunday. throughout the course of the Other exhibits include: event, including several breeds getting ready for the coun- Rock 'n' Roll Dog Show
Border Collie Duck Herding try's premier Westminster Ken-nel Club Dog show in Feb. 2012. Demonstrations Dogs will be judged in accor-dance with the American Ken-nel Club. This year the Michigan Winter Dog Classic welcomes special guests, the Detroit Zoo's mascots, "Zooper Heroes" Polar Bear & Giraffe who will be at the

Winter Dog Classic coming to Novi in January

 Canine Good Citizen Testing Sportsman's Dog Training Club
Police K9 Demonstrations Puppy Contest The 2012 Michigan Winter Dog Classic is scheduled to run from

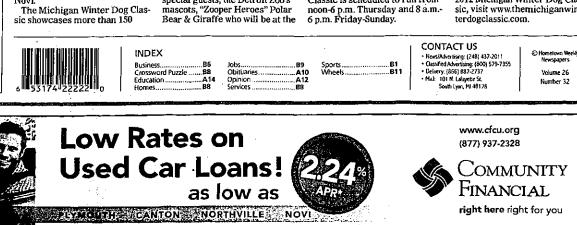
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and free for children 6 and under) can be purchased at the door the day-of-show. A \$35 Fam-ily Plan (includes admission for two adults and three kids) is also available. For more information and for

a full schedule of events for the 2012 Michigan Winter Dog Classic, visit www.themichiganwin-

Admission (\$10 for adults; \$8

for kids ages 7-12 and seniors,



Payment example: The monthly payment over 48 months would be about \$281.22 assuming: 2.24% Annual Percentage Rate (APR), 2009 model vehicle, Ioan amount \$15,000, 20% down and a strong credit history. An additional .25% atte discount is available with auto pay from Community Financial checking. Rates available on 2012 - 2006 models and subject to credit approval. APR as of 12/22/2011 and subject to change without notice. Federally insured by NCUA. D Squal Housing Lender. @2011 Community Financial

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Kometown Weeklies | Thursday, December 29, 2011

NOVI COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Novi events

BLOOD DRIVES Time/Date/Locatior Thursday, Dec. 29, Plym-outh Library, 223 S. Main Street, 10 a.m.-3:45 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, First Bap tist Church, 44500 Cherry Hill, Canton; Thursday, Dec. 29, Salem High School, 46181 Joy Road, Canton, noon-5:45 p.m.

Contact: Diane Risko for appointments; (313) 549 NOVI STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 19 Location: Baronette Re

naissance Hotel, 27790 Novi

Details: The City of Novi in partnership with the Novi Chamber of Commerce invites you to join Mayor Bob Gatt and City Council members. Cost for luncheon is \$30 per person; seating is limited to the first 230 attendees. Send checks, payable to City of Novi, to: City of Novi, attention Robin Working, 45175 W. 10 Mile

Road, Novi, MI 48375. **AUTHOR JULIA HAR-**VEY SEMINAR Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19 Location: Better Health Novi, 42875 Grand River east of Novi Road, Details: Julia Harvey a diet "survivor" who battled morbid obesity and weighed in at more than 300 pounds, is the best selling author of "The Vice Busting Diet". Contact: To reserve a spot please call 248-735-8100 o og onto the betterhealt

store.com or visit Better Health Market Facebook BEREAVEMENT MEETING Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. third Tuesdays

Location: Novi Civic Center (10 Mile between Taft and Novi roads)

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REMNANTS

Details: Led by Michael M. Meyer, D. Min. -- goal is to give each participant an opportunity to share their story. Handouts describing the phases of grief and the tasks of grief are available NOVI SENIOR CENTER Location: 25075 Meadow brook Road Contact: (248) 347-0414; theglin@cityofnovi.org **Balance Training** Time/Date: 3:15 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11 Details: Class focusing on stability and balance is designed to build bone, strengthen core, pelvic and leg muscles while improving posture and balance. Stretch & Strength Time/Date: 9 a.m. Monday,

Jan. 9 Details: This class focuses on cardio, strength, and flexibility within a very indiidualized program.

Business NORTHVILLE-NOVI BUSINESS NETWORKING

BREAKFAST Time/Date: 7:30-9 a.m. first and third Tuesdays (except Nov. and Dec., which are just the first Tuesdays) Location: Kerby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty Road Details: Business networking focused on building relationships. The Sunrise Networking Group, LLC www.sunriseNETWORKINGgroup.com), or SNG for short, is a group of about

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Lyon, MI 48178. Items

More: For a complete

listing of local and

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E sq. ft

each other. Members learn

newspaper.

townlife.com:

250 business leaders whe help each other to build more business by referring people to each other. Cost of breakfast is \$10. Contact: Fonda Milana 586-232-3009 or fmilana@ suprise financial group llc.com METRO NOVI BNI Details: BNI is a structured networking environment

Time/Date: 7-8 a.m. every Location: On the Border Restaurant, 21091 Haggerty Road (north of Eight Mile),

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NEXT DAY

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LOGAL NEWS

Novi Senior Center volunteer Tom Sitko leads a group on Dec. 13 at Meadowbrook Commons during the once-a-month Focus Hope food assistance program. Incomemeeting seniors can qualify for extra assistance from Focus Hope and the quarterly USDA Temporary Food Assistance Bank.

how to create and refine an "elevator speech." develop a broad network of other Submit: Send calendar business professionals in submissions via e-mail the community and receive to cstone@gannett.com training/education on networking more efficiently. by fax to (248) 685-2892: or by mail to Novi News, Guests are invited to atten free of charge. Continental breakfast provided. 101 N. Lafavette, South must be received by a noon on Monday to be Contact: For more in formation, contact Julie Paquette at (248) 797-1665 included in Thursday's or juliepaquette67@gmail. com; www.metronovibni. com. NOVI TOASTMASTERS CLUB the Northville Calendar online at www.home-,

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 atmo-sphere in which all can develop and refine their pub-lic speaking and leadership skills. Our members also have fun while building confidence in day-to-day communications and me toring toward professiona and personal excellence. Guests are welcome - and bring a friend. Visit www. novi.freetoasthost.us. Contact: Linda Kreuter al PR@novi.freetoasthost.us NOVI ROTARY CLUB

Time/Date: Noon every

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

Thursday

349-3743

WALLED LAKE LIBRARY Location: 1499 East West

Maple Road, Walled Lake Contact: (248) 624-3772 HUD Counseling Time/Date: 5-8 p.m. first Mondays

counselors are available o assist ho risk of foreclosure. Learn how to work with your lender to avoid foreclosure. There is no charge for this service. Please call if you wish to attend. One-on-one sessions will be scheduled. Book Discussion Group

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. first Thursdays Details: Please drop in or call the library if you are interested in join ing this recently-formed group.

THE NOVI NEWS blished Each Thursday By The Novi News

101 Lafayette South Lyon, Michigan 48178 Periodical

At South Lyon, Michigan

Mail Subscription Rates: In-County: \$37.50 for one year. Out of County (in Inchigan): \$48.00 for one year. Out of State: \$59.50 for one ear. For delivery call 866-887-2737.



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Library Lines

bly not have to use over Details: HUD-certified rine solution," Hayes said.

liquids program have been positive thus far. The department has been able to decrease its average salt use from 12,000 tons to 8,000 tons, and it has saved the city between \$200,000 and

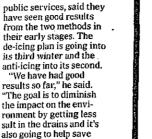
off," Hayes said.

(248) 437-2011, Ext. 255



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our infrastructure. Twelve of the city's 16 plow trucks are currentv outfitted with liquid brine tanks that wet the ock salt before it comes off the truck. The liquid s made at the DPS facilty, and has a much lower freezing point (below 6 legrees) than rock salt on its own and thus is more effective

online at hometownlife.com

ROADS

Continued from page A1

Hayes said because the salt is wet it is activated sooner and doesn't bounce and scatter as much, saving the depart ment up to 30 percent of

"Dry rock salt is seeking moisture," Hayes said. "If it is already wet it goes to work right away, and by going to

work right away it saves in the amount of salt we use.' The other method of dealing with ice is the

idea of preventing it from even forming. Hayes said if they can predict a storm is coming that will feature ice, they deploy a single truck with a brine tank that sprays the solution on to the road He said the idea is to treat the road ahead of time so the bond is bro-

ken between the precipitation and the road. "We can go do our roads during normal working hours and possi-

time - or at least we buy ourselves some time because the major roads are covered with this

The results from the

\$225,000 in costs. "It has been a very good nvestment that has paid



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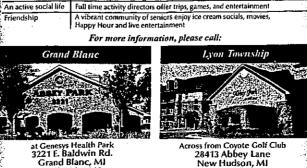


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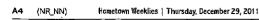
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Road commission names new managing director

Dennis G. Kolar, PE, has been named the new managing director of the Road Commission for Oakland County

(RCOC). Kolar, who previously served as Depu-ty Managing Director/County Highway Engineer, was appointed to the manag-ing director's position Dec. 1S by the RCOC Board of Road Commis-sioners. He will official-

ly start the new position on Jan. 1. Kolar replaces long-time Managing Director Brent Bair, who is retir-Dennis G ing at the end of the year Kolar after more than 34 years with the Road Commision and 19 as managing

director. "Brent did an excellent job of putting in place a group of managers who would be able to take over when he left," observed RCOC Board Chairman Eric Wilson. "I am confident that Dennis will carry on the traditions of excellence, transparency and accountability that Brent engendered for so many years." RCOC Vice-Chairman Greg Jamian noted that he is confident Kolar is prepared for the job. "We have worked closely with Dennis in his role as deputy managing director/county highway engi-neer," Jamian said, "and I am confident he will be able to transition smoothly into the man be able to Hanston's structury inte the managing director's role." Commissioner Ron Fowkes agreed. "We had some very qualified candidates for this position," he stated. "But Dennis were alwayed to be accelting

was clearly best suited to the position.

ing him, and noted he looks forward to the challenges of leading the agency that maintains the largest county road system in the state. "This is a large responsibility, and I

ed. "Fortunately, Brent is leaving a very well-run operation, and I appreciate that our Board has given me this opportuni ty. These are challenging times for road agencies in Michigan, given our decades of under-funding, but I am committed to continuing to provide the highest lev-el of service possible for our customers

in the Design Division of the Engineer ing Department, starting as a staff engi-neer and serving as a design squad leader before being promoted to design engi-neer in charge of the division. Following his service in the Design Division, Kolar transferred to the RCOC

moted to the deputy managing direc-

neer (PE) and holds a bachelor of science degree in construction engineering Lawrence Technological Universi ty. He is a member of the American Public Works Association and the Transpor tation Research Board, where he served eight years on the Maintenance and Operations Management Committee ions Management Committee

given his experience and the fact that he worked closely with Brent for many years." Kolar thanked the Board for appoint-Services Provided: In Home Hair and Nail Care

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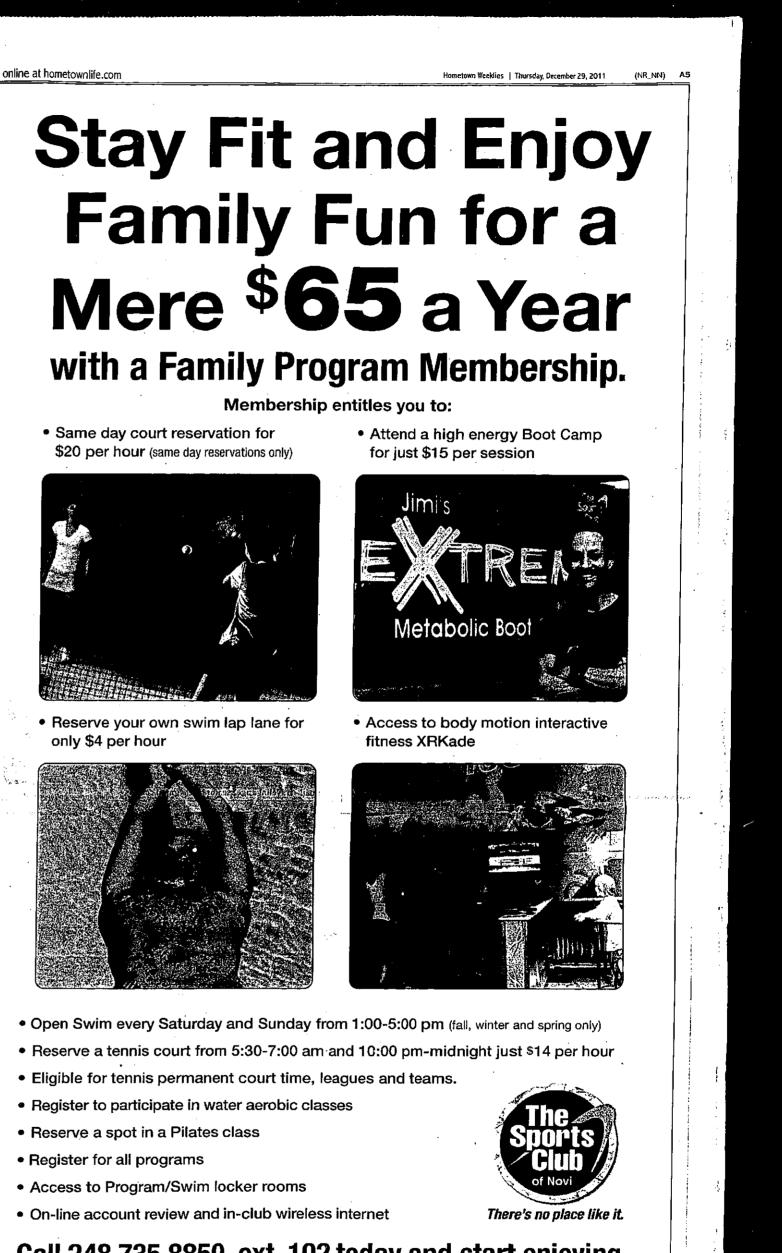


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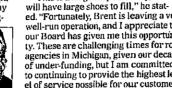


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- those using the road system, with the resources available." Kolar has more than 32 years of expe-rience in the road business. He began his career with the Michigan Department of transportation, where he was employed

for six years. After joining RCOC, he spent 11 years

Highway Maintenance Department, where he spent six years as the mainte nance operations engineer before being promoted to director of RCOC's Central Operations Department. He was then

Kolar is a registered professional engi-

(NR NN)

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, December 29, 2011

NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Wayne County flu shot

Art House exhibit call for entries

The Annual Member hibition was developed to showcase the art made by members of the Northville Art House. This year's nt, the sixth annual runs Feb. 3-18. Entry forms in this call for entries mus be received by Jan. 13 and are available at the Art House, 215 W. Cady Street or online, Call (248) 344-0497 for more information

Flu shots The Wayne Coun-

ty Department of Public Health emphasizes that "it's not too late to be vaccinated" to protect you and your family from the flu. Cost for adults and children six months and older is \$5 now through spring 2012 (regular price is \$15). Medicaid and Medicare Part B accepted. The flu season typically alth Center); and Redpeaks in January or February, and can last as late as ford Area Health Office, May, according to the Cen-17421 Telegraph Road, (313) 537-1708, by appoint ters for Disease Control ent only 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and Prevention

Vednesdavs.

RETIREMENT COMMUNITY = INDEPENDENT AND ASSISTED LIVING

ty Department of Public Health at (734) 727-7000. Public Health clinics clinic locations and hours include: Wayne Health Center, 33030 Van Born Road, (734) 727-7100, walkins 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays, by appointment 11 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Wednesdays and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Fridays: Taylor Health Center, 26650 Eure ka Road; (734) 955-3900, (same hours as Wayne

will close for the holiday break from Dec. 23-Jan. 2 and Jan. 16 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Reel Michigan Film Festival call for entries deadline April 23

For more informa-

tion, call the Wayne Coun-

LOCAL NEWS

After a successful premiere of Reel Michigan 2011, the Northville Art House and charity part-

ner Northville Civic Con

cern will present the sec-

-----online at hometownlife.com

after party where attendces can mingle with local filmmakers, meet the crew from Northville Civic Concern and watch as awards are given out for the best films in several

ond annual "Reel Michi-

gan" Film Festival, June

Reel Michigan is now

ccepting Michigan-made

or Michigan-themed short

films (25 minutes or less,

all genres, from student

Industry speakers and possible workshops will

igan 2012 as well as an

ž3.2012.

categories. Films will include including credits) as a part of the city's popular Arts & Acts event held June 22-24. any project filmed with any type of camera and Arts and Acts is a vibrant, al celebration of the incl des digitally made films. All entries must arts in Southeast Michigan be submitted on a DVD featuring art, music, film, plays and more! only. Reel Michigan will only accept entries from Reel Michigan welcomes filmmakers who filmed their entry in Michigan films to the experimental. or whose film is Michigan themed. Selected films for also be part of Reel Mich-Reel Michigan screening will be notified via email no later than May 21, 2012 For the entry form and more information, email Lisa at ReelMichigan@ gmail.com

> Hospice volunteers needed

The 2012 Progressive International Motorcycle Shows rolls into the Suburban Collection Showplace Jan. 6-8. Showgoers are invited to check out hundreds of the latest bikes from leading anufacturers including Aprilia, Beta, BRP, Darwin, Ducati, Erik Buell Racing, Gas Gas, Harley-Davidson, Hon-da, Husqvarna, Kawasaki, KTM, Moto Guzzi, MV Agusta, Norton, Star, Suzuki, Triumph and Yamaha, as well as the latest aftermarket parts and accessories Exciting features coming to the Michigan

torcycle Show include: • The Smage Bros Stunt Show - Made famous by their popularity on a nationally televised talent competition this past summer: Wiscon sin brothers Pat and Phil Smage will take motorcycle trials stunt riding to the next level with a brand new, never-before seen show. Stunt show hours are: Friday at 5:30

p.m. and 7 p.m.; Saturday at 11 a.m., 2, 4 and 6 p.m. and Sunday, at 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. Dream Pavilion Presented by Schuberth Hel nets - Showgoers are invited to leave their "every-day" ride behind and enter the fantasy world of rare, exotic

ion, featuring ultra, highnd motorcycles from Aprilia, Beta, Darwin Motorcycles, Ducati, Erik Buell Racing, Gas Gas, Husovarna, KTM, Moto Guzzi, MV Agusta, Norton and Triumph

• The Learning Curve An interactive stage will be jam-packed with industry experts present ing a variety of motorcy cling topics for both new and experienced riders including adventure riding, motorcycle mainte-nance, increasing bike performance, seminars' for women riders and more. Special presenters include: Yamaha Champions Riding School seminars from AMA Champion Nick Ienatsch, AMA Superbike Top 10 Finisher Ken Hill, AMA Superbike Champion Scott Rusmail address or printed sell and more. • Ultimate Builder Cusout as a show souvenir. tom Bike Show - Return- Progressive Insurance Open Road Experience ing to the series for the second year, the compe-Bikers dreaming of hittition will showcase elite level custom motorcyclcs

ting the road with Progressive's always happycompeting for a piece of a \$90,000 cash purse prize to-help sales clerk, Flo, can hop on a bike next to and a chance to com a virtual Flo at the Propete in the United States gressive booth, have their Championship, at the hoto taken and instant-Daytona Beach Motor ly share the photo with friends on Facebook. Ridcycle Show in March. In affiliation with the AMD ers can also win prizes, including a kickstand World Championship, this competition will feature four classes of compecoaster, Flo and Messen ger T-shirts and the abil tition, a People's Choice ity to create custom twinner and the chance rts in the Progressive for attendees to meet the Paint Shop. Riders can also kick back, relax and artists who create these rest their feet in the Procustom designs. Addition gressive lounge ally, attendees who vote "A Century of Motor for the People's Choice award are automatical-

Expertise.

into the past, as well as the future, with this discleUSA.com. The custom-ized Honda Fury built by MotorcycleUSA.com will play of bikes represent ing every decade since the tour stops. The win-ner will be selected at the Motorcyclist magazine was founded 100 years

1623

ago in 1912. Swag Wagon Presented by Allstate - A spe-cially designed mobile two-wheeled rolling free bie-machine, piloted by the show Swag Master. will cruise through the show spreading highenergy and laughs with



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be featured at each of bikes in the Dream Pavil-

conclusion of the tour. Ultimate Builder Custom Bike Show coverage and results will be posted at www.Motorcycle-USA com. • Kawasaki Design-A-Bike - This state-of

the-art interactive digital wall display invites motorcycle enthusiasts to virtually design their own custom exterior pain and graphics package on a selected Kawasaki motorcycle using exclusive technology from Lumacoustics. Showgo ers are invited to use a wireless digital spray-ca to choose from dozens of color palettes and more than 10 graphics packages to customize a digi tally displayed Kawasaki motorcycle. Custom creations can also be posted to Facebook, sent to an e-



(NR_NN) A7 .



DETAILS 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. Sunday, Jan. 7 Location: Suburban Col lection Showplace, 46100. Grand River Avenue, Admission: \$15 for adults: \$6 for children 6-11; free for children 5 and under, On Family Day, Sunday, all childre 12 and under are admit ted free when accompa nied by a paying adult. Phone: 800/331-5706 Web: www.motorcycle shows.com

The Ultimate Builder Custom Bike Show will be part of the Michigan Motorcycle Show that hits Novi's Suburban Collection Showplace Jan, 6-8.

moto-product giveaways, motorcycle oriented games, contests, prizes, music and more.

 Rider Connection Presented by Allstate - This motorcvcle concierge livers first-class ser vice and hospitality for riders looking to disc er local motorcycle riding opportunities, the latest bikes, new products and how to make the most of the Michigan Motorcycle Show experience.

• Free Gear Check -Riders will be invited to check helmets, jackets and other gear at the show's main entrance to free their hands and enjoy the new show expe rience

"We are excited to return to Michigan, as part of the 12-city Pro ssive Internations torcycle Shows tour,' said Progressive Interna-tional Motorcycle Show Brand Director Ker-

ry Graeber. "The show offers the latest custom, exotic and production bikes all under one roof along with high-energy entertainment and learn ing experiences for all types of riders. We have also assembled an amazing collection of custom bikes, as well a thrilling motorcycle stunt show from reality TV stars The Smage Brothers, interactive digital graffiti walls and much more.

ANDREW WHEELER AUTOMOT

vent: The Michigan

lime/Date: 4-9 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 6: 9/30 a.m.

; and 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Motorcycle Show

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1127 or www.common

• The Michigan Associa

tion for Suicide Prevention

The American Founda-

It Gets Better Project:

www.itgetsbetter.org

Services (248) 474-4701

The Farmington Area

Suicide Awareness Group

be financial distress or tur-

tion for Suicide Prevention

groundhelps.org

at www.afsp.org

Samaritan Couns

JOURNEY

Continued from page A8 advice, but I'm not — I'm listening. By listening, you are giving them hone.

It's been helpful for her, as well. "I'm making my worst thing my best thing," she

said, smiling. She's come a long way from the days of silence urrounding her younger brother's death. "Now I'm yelling it out on the mountain tops," she said. "This experience (at Common Ground) has made my life better. How I handled it originally is 'what not to do.' unfortunately. Majoros is also a founding member of the Farmington Area Suicide Prevention Task Force. "I'm so proud to be working on that - it's just an

amazing group of people."

what we'll do next."

she said. "I can't wait to see

Jeff Edwards is also turn-

ing his worst thing into his

best thing. The Brighton resident is the chairman of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and spends his time telling his story at forums and in

schools. He captivated the crowd of about 200 recently in Farmington Hills, at a forum presented by the Farmington Area Suicide Prevention Task Force and challenged them to see beyond the surface. He showed a collage of photos depicting a happy healthy boy who was silly; who was athletic: who appeared to be a normal boy, enjoying life. "What don't we see?" Edwards asked, "Where are our blind spots when we're looking at this? They didn't see that the happy, smiling kid in the photos was suffering inside

intensely that he killed himself in March 2003. That boy was Chase Michael Edwards, the 12-year-old son of Jeff Edwards.

	NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MILFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD 2012 MEETING DATES			
	The Township Board of the Charter Township of Milford will meet on the third Wednesday of each month at the Milford Civic Center, 1100 Atlantic, Milford, at 7:30 p.m.			
	as follows: January 18 February 15 March 21	April 18 May 16 June 20	July 18 August 15 September 19	October 17 November 21 December 19
	PLANNING COMMISSION 2012 MEETING DATES The Charter Township of Milford Planning Commission will meet on the last Thursday of each month at the Milford Civic Center, 1100 Atlantic, Milford, at 7:30 p.m. as follows with the exception of the combined November/December meetings which will be held on a Tuesday:			
ĺ	January 26 February 23 March 29	April 26 May 31 June 28	July 26 August 30 September 27	October 25 December 4
	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS 2012 MEETING DATES The Charter Township of Milford Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on the second Wednesday of each month at the Milford Civic Center, 1100 Atlantic, Milford, at 7:30 p.m. as follows (unless there is a lack of agenda):			
	January 11 February 8 March 14	April 11 May 9 June 13	July 11 August 8 September 12	October 10 November 14 December 12
	PAR The Charter Township of M Monday of each month at I Ream, 1100 Atlantic, Milk February which will be hele January 9 February 13 March 19 Any Special Moetings of t Appeals and the Parks & F Act within 18 hours prior to	2012 MEETI Ailford Purks & Re the Milford Civic C ord, at 7:00 p.m.; d on the second Mo April 16 May 21 June 18 he Township-Boar Recreation Commis	creation Commission lenter in the Police D is follows with the d onday. There is no De July 16 August 20 September 17 vl. Planning Commis	will meet on the third epartment Conference xception January and cember meeting. October 15 November 19
l	Holly Brandt, CMC Township Clerk			
L	Puldish: December 15, 2014			OED4780542 0x8.5
Γ	NOTICE VILLAGE OF MILFORD			
	2012 MEETING DATES The Villagu of Milford Council, Boards and Commissions meet at Milford Civic Center, 1100 Atlantic, Milford, MI, 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. The following are the scheduled meeting dates.			
	January 17 (Tuesday) January 17 (Tuesday) February 6 February 21 (Tuesday) March 5 March 19 April 2 April 16 May 7 May 21 June 4	MILFORD VILLA	July 2 July 16 August 1 August 2	20 ner 4 (Tuesday) per 17 1 15 er 5 er 5 er 19 er 3
	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS			
	January 5 July 5 February 2 August 2 March 1 September 6			
l	April 5 May 3 June 7			er 1
	PLANNING COMMISSION			
	January 12 February 9 Mareli 8 April 12 May 10 June 14		August 9 . Septemb October Novembe Decembe	er 13 11 er 8
	PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISISON January 4 July (no meeting)			
	February 1 March 7		August 1 Septemb October (
	April (no meeting) May 2 June 6		Novembe	
	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (7:30 A.M.) January 19 July 19			
	February 16 March 15		August 1 Septemb	er 20
	April 19 May 17 June 21		October 1 Novembe Decembe	er 15
	PARKING AUTHORITY (7:30 A.M.)			
	February B August 8			
	March 14 April 11 • May 9		October 1 November	l0 r 14
	June 13 December 12			
1	Any Special Meetings will be posted per the Open Meetings Act within 18 hours prior to said meeting.			
	Deborah S. Frazer, Clerk Village of Milford			
	Publish: December 29, 2011			C60872348- 319

By Stacy Jenkin Observer Staff Writer

Reports of suicides in public places made local eadlines throughout 2011 raising the attention on a topic that remains tabo In Farmington Hills, there were two murder suicides, one in which a 34-year-old dad shot and killed his 22-month-old son before turning the gun on himself in October Reports indicated he was upset about an impending

A 21-year-old Oak Park man was found with a fatal self-inflicted gunshot wound to the chest in October — he was found by a drinking fountain at the Marie Tot Lot, a children's park. He left a note at the

In Plymouth, police letermined the death of a 51-year-old Plymouth man was a suicide when his body was discovered on the train tracks after being struck and killed by a CSX Corp. train.

In Livonia, a S1-year old Plymouth man parked his vehicle on the shoulder of 1-96 during morning rush hour then opened the truck's hood and stepped out into the right lane. according to Michigan State Police. An armore truck struck and killed

In Birmingham, a 17year-old Cranbrook student jumped to his death from the roof of an apart ment complex at Old Woodward near Brown Street. A suicide note was found inside his apartment In Novi, a 39-year-old father and husband killed his wife and two young kids before killing him elf last January. He was found deceased from car bon monoxide poisoning in his vehicle in the Walmart parking lot at I-96 and Milrd Road in Lyon Town-

A Wayne man was hos pitalized after police responded to a call that he was armed and suicidal in a vehicle parked at Kroger at Merriman and Michiga Avenue.

Family members contacted police after finding the man had left a suicide note and had withdrawn all of his money from his bank ccount. He was found slumped over in the vehicle with pills scattered around and he was lying on a loaded rifle. Police had

man hospitalized for

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SIGNS, RESOURCES Warning signs: Feeling Common Ground for

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, December 29, 2011

sad; change in appetite; loss of interest in activi ties; change in sleeping patterns; difficulty concentrating; feeling helpless and hopeless; energy loss or fatigue; risk-tak behavior; extreme with drawal from friends and family; giving away favorite possessions; neglect in school work; stomach aches; and headaches Help should be sought if someone exhibits several of these signs over the course of a couple of

is on Facebook • Ozone House (734) 662-Resources 2222 Mational Suicide Preven Family Resource Center tion Lifeline: (800) 273located in the Maplewood TALK, or www.suicidepre Community Center in Ga vention/ifeline.org den City; (734) 793-1860

psychiatric care.

suicides and 220 people

From Jan. 1 throug!

health treatment.

problem

reasons.

noil in the family," Goral-'Increasing problem ski said. "If they are deal-Farmington Hills Police Chief Chuck Nebus said Hills Police ing with those issues and need help, they should cal suicides and mental health us. We have a responsibil ity to them and we're here issues are an increasing to help them." Nebus said in 2010, there In Canton Township, were four adult suicides in

there were 11 reported sui-Farmington Hills, no teen cides or attempts; in Redford Township, there was one reported suicide; in were petitioned for mental Plymouth Township, there were three reported sui-Dec. 14, there were 10 suicides.

nity formed the Farming-

on Area Suicide Preven

er Eric Hipple and Jeff

tion for Suicide Preven-

Edwards said a sur-

cides, including the two murder-suicides; 56 peo-Taking action nle threatened suicide: 50 In Farmington and Farmington Hills, news that ent to mental treatment after attempting suicide; there were several students who had expressed and 50 people were peopl were petitioned for mental thoughts of suicide in a short time frame promp health treatment for other ed city leaders to take

action. It was also noted The department now keeps detailed statistics, that the 10 adult suicides which show among teens is the highest number even recorded in Farmington there were no suicide in 2011; 18 teens were Public officials and referred for mental treat members of the commu

ment for threatening suicide and eight for attempt ing suicide Nebus said some reasons cited from the investigations included relationship breakups, unemployment financial problems, illness and history of depression. In Livonia, there were 3 reported suicides from

Jan. I through Dec. 6, comed to 11 in 2011 pai Lt. Tom Goralski said he numbers of suicides remained "relatively sta

'Sometimes we'll get tion. Both men lost their calls of someone who may sons to suicide be suicidal or in a crisis,

especially during the holivey showed 28 percent of days, because there might Michigan high schoolers

cited feeling depressed and 9 percent had contem-plated suicide. It's the third eading cause of death among people ages 15-24. "It's rampant," Edwards said. "It's an epidemic that we don't talk about. It's the 10,000-pound gorilla in the

room He said he finds it ironic that the media and comnunity will push out an information blast if there's an attempted abduction of a child; yet little, if any thing, is shared about this epidemic that's taking the lives of so many young

Encouraging The work the task force

has already tackled is encourag "I am grateful that Farmington and Farmington Hills started the Farmington Area Suicide Tasl Force at the start of 2011 so we are already promoting awareness and edu-cation," Nebus said. "We must educate teens that it is a duty to report or get help for a friend or help for themselves. I am encouraged that we have had examples of teens who have reached out to a school official or to a police liaison officer.'

Founding task force member Ken Massey, who is a Farmington Hills city councilman, said the work of the task force is ing noticed statewide. A March 20 suicide prevention training workshop will be hosted at a Michigan Municipal League mect-

"It really is getting some attention," Massey said, noting the city of Saginaw may be setting up a similar task force. He's also encouraged

that a group called MINDS visits classrooms all around the state and local area. He's disappointed it esn't visit Farmington

plenty of resources, but the problem is connecting the two - because we don't former Detroit Lions play talk about it," he said For more information about the group, its meet-ings and events, find it on Edwards, who is chairman of the American Founda-Facebook by searching

Farmington Area Suicide Prevention Task Force." sienkins@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2369



want me to tell people? Massey said It was at that moment that he realized they had to address Graham's suicide publicly and can-

didly. "It was the hardest thing to say that he com mitted suicide." said Massey, who just a few months prior helped start the Farmington Area Suicide Prevention Task Force. "But it is what it

has to be.' Massey knew that brushing the topic under the rug wouldn't do anyone any good. In fact, he recognizes that the secrecy only furthers the taboo surrounding suicide. Seven months later, it's still hard to talk about. "It is very hard for us to

say Graham killed himself." Massey said. "It's like somehow we let him Looking back, trying to connect the clues why the 7-year-old took his life, Massey said he thinks Graham had exhibited signs of depression. But when asked about it. Graham would always say he

was fine.

NOTICE TO BRIGHT HOUSE NETWORKS CABLE CUSTOMERS

Family members journey through pain, acceptance

> Of course, he wish es everyone would have pressed Graham a little more, to find out what

> > "If your guts tells you there's a problem, go with your gut," Massey said. Sara Majoros, of Farm ington, also said there were signs before he brother took his own life in 2001, at age 33. One major sign was a suicide mpt when he was 16. "My brother and I never talked about it - that's the hugest regret of my

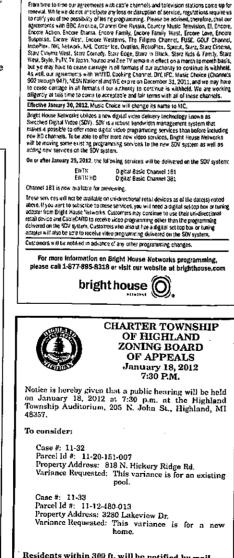
life." she said She said back then, no one talked about suicide. "It was an era where there was no support,'

Now, Majoros finds her self on the other end of the phone, with desperate people who call the Common Ground crisis hotline with a variety of

problems. From 2010-11, the crisis line received 1,436 calls relating to suicide. That number is up from 1,227 the previous year. She said the training she received as a volu teer at Common Ground was worthwhile. "The Common Ground training has been one of the most rewarding and coolest things I've ever done," she said. She said people just

need a listening ear. "People are in hard times," she said. "I thought I'd be giving

Please see JOURNEY, A9



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Publish: December 29, 2011

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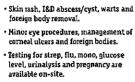
Margie Brockway Chairman

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Public Schools, though. tion Task Force, and hosted Massey said he knows the challenge in address a community forum in Sep tember. It was attended by about 200 people. A secing the topic of suicide ond forum was co-hosted "We've got plenty of peo by the Farmington Schools ple who need help and PTA Council in October Guest speakers at the September forum were

LOCAL NEWS

sized hole in this heart." Edwards said. "Why would you know that about me? I do a pretty good job of cov

"I've got a Chase-

schizo and depicted him-

ering it up.

a hird.

ill and undiagno

aren't always there

(313) 222-2369

Looking for clues Edwards, like every ved one of someon who takes their own life searched for clues and answers. He found a poen his son had written that described himself as crazy,

self as being tortured and guilty - then set free, like Edwards now knows that his son suffered deeply and

wanted his pain to end. He now knows that his son was Majoros said the answers

"That will always be there - you won't know why," she said. "It's just accepting that you'll nev-

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, December 29, 2011

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NOVI NEWS BRIEFS

Christmas classic "It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" is presented at Andiamo

Novi through Jan. 15. Inspired by the classic American film, "It's a Wonderful Life" is being performed as a 1940s live radio play in front of a studio audience. Produced and directed by Aaron Moore, the production stars Katie Galazka, Joel Mitchell, Kirsten Knisely (Bee hive!), Patrick O'Reilly (Five Course

Love) and Kevin Young. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Thursdays; 9 p.m. Fridays; 7 p.m. Saturdays; and 6 p.m. Sundays. For reservations, call (248) 348-

4448 or www.ticketmaster.com

Novi News online

Have you checked out our website? It's chock full of local news from the Novi community and is updated often. There are several cool features at www.hometownlife.com that allow you browse through the latest news and features from your neighboring communities, too, chime in with your opinion on our stories, editorials and letters to the editor, check out our amazing photo galleries and

videos that are captured daily by our reporters and photographers. Readers can also find garage sale listings -- with a map! -- each week from Wednesday-Sunday. So, bookmark www.hometownlife.com to be sure you're always in-the-know in you nometown. You can also find us on Facebook by searching "Hometown

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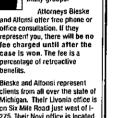
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GAMBLE, JUNE

Age 75, of Northville, passed away Dec. 20, 2011. Memorial Service was held Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2011 al Casterine Funeral Memorial Casterine Funeral

Home, Inc. of Northville. Contributions to Alzheimer's

V.

KROUT, JUNE NISSEN

PROCTOR

Wile of the late John Proctor and the current Col. Harold E. Krout, the current Col. Harold E. Krout, USAF, RET, passed peacefully into heaven on Saturday, December 10, 2011, June was born in Royal Oak,

2011. June was born in Royal Oak. Michigan in 1923 to Christian and Elsie Nissen. Her surviving sib-lings are Donaid, James and Joan. She is the beloved mother of live children, David, Sandra, Nicholas. Christina and Timothy: grandchil-dren David, Johnathan, James, Matthew and Auslin; great grand-children Bean and Jerica and great great grandchild Kasey. June was a member of both the First Baptist Church of Wixom and Wayne while she resided in Michigan. She moved to Naples, Florida in the tate 90's, June worked in the medical field as an LPN for over 30 yeas in both Michigan and Florida and was highly respected by her co-workers and patients. Those who knew her for her love of tile, famity and God will remember June. She will also be remember June. She will also

will remember Jurie. She will also be remembered for her great pies and jams. A Celebration of Life will be held summer 2012 in Wixom, Michigan. Donations in memory of June can be made to Samaritan's Purse, World Vision or the Alzheimer's Association.

LAABS, NANCY

lovi, Michigan died Decembe 2011 at Providence Hospita

her loving family at her bed. She was born to Elmer and

Association appreciated.

Deadline: Tuesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

BADALUCCO, BETTY M. Age 87, born on September 2, 1924 in Coal Port, Pennsylvania and passed away on December 26, 2011 in West Bloomfield, Michigan; Beloved wife of the late Angelo Badalucco: Loving mother M Judy (Marvin) Blachura Mabel of Judy (Marvin) Blachura Mabel Kujava, Bud (Darine) Fitzpatrick, Beity A. Hamilton, Jean (David) Vernarsky, and Susan (John) Develkis; Cherished grandmother of 17 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren. Dear sister of Irma Wurm, Arrangements entrusted to the Union Lake Road Chapel of the Elton Black & Son Funeral Home.

BENNETT, EILEEN M. BENNE I , EILEEN M. Age 76, passed away December 21, 2011. She was born on June 5, 1935, in Detroit, daughter of the late Thomas and Anne LaByatt. She was an avid gardener and anjoyed tending to her property. She is survived by her loving chil-dren: Thomas Bennett, Ann (Dale) Hoffmeyer, Kathleen Link, Ronald Jr. (Annette) Bennett and Colleen Cohle. She is also survived by her grandchildren: Terry, Erica, Timothy, Anthony, Christa and Mathwe; her great-grandchildren: Cameron, McKenzle, Lexi, Ethan, Austin and Hannah. She was preustin and Hannah. She was preceded in death by her husband Ronald and her grandson Bradley. Visitation was held on Friday. December 23, al PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. A Funeral Mass was celebrated on Tuesday, December 27, at 12:00 pm at SI, Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon. Online Guestbock at: www.billingtunerat.com www.phillipsfuneral.com

CHAPMAN, EDWARD J. Age 56, passed away Dec. 21, 2011. A Juneral service was held on Dec. 27, Tues., at 12 p.m. at Phillips Funeral Home of South Lyon, Online guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com



CLARK, MARY ANNE ctionately known as "MAC" Amecionately known as mAC, age 87, passed away December 21, 2011, She was born on February 3, 1924, in Phillips, Wisconsin, daughter of the late Joseph and Anne Ondrejka. Mary ed a very active and full life. consummate caregiver, she wil Iways be remembered for her merous, loving spirit. She could often be found volunteering at St Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Defaoit. After her husband's death she enjoyed giving care as a hos-pice volunteer. Mary was a whiz at her favorite shows: Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy. She was also an excellent player of Rummy and other card games. She was a woman ot deep, abiding faith. Her life was an example of that faith with her constant love, laughter and generosity to those in need. Her four grandsons will always be the loves of her life. She is sur-vived by her beloved children: Sister Mary Jane Clark O.P., Wayne (Janice) Clark and Patricia (Ronald) Stone; her four toving grandsons: Jason, Christian, Matthew and Bratley. She is also gurvived by her two sisters: Annie leiroit. After ber husband's death survived by her two sisters: Annie Bloom and Betty Riegel. She was preceded in death by her husband preceded in deain by her husband Henry in 1992 and two brothers and three sisters. Visitation was held on Monday, December 26, from 2:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m. with Rosary at 5:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. A Funeral Mass was celebrated Tuesday, December 27, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon. Memorial contribu-tions may be made to the Adrian Dominican Congregation in Adrian, Michigan. Online Guestbook at: www.philipsiuneral.com

24, 2011 at Frovidence Hospital with her loving family at her bad-side. She was born to Elmer and Eleen Springer on August 23, 1928 in Freeport, Illinois. Nancy was a proud Aquin High School Buldog. She was married to the love of her life, Bernard Laebs. Nancy, a telsty insh Matriarch was a loving wile, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, a true Sparian fan, devout Catholic, one-armed bandit aficionado. OVC patron, freguent visitor to Traverse City and some say a descendant of Pocahontas; none doubt tikis. She held Christmas Eve as her special family day. Nancy is survived by husbard Bernard; children David (Susan), Suzame (Daniel), Daniet (Kim), Peter (Colette), and Thomas (Katherine; grandchildren Amanda (Tom). Denver (Ashley). Ashley, Weston, Parker, Patrick, Brandon, Logan, Theresa, Dawson, Nancy; grate grandchildren Lity, Michael; sister Bille (Gabe). Instate at Our Lady of Viciory, 133 Orchard Drive, Northville was held on Tresday. December 27 from 12:30pm until December 27 from 12:30pm until know... December 27 from 12:30pm unt



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CHURCH EVENTS

FAMILY

PAFF JR.

ELWOOD CONRAD

Age 93, of Northvill Passed away Decemb 22, 2011. He was bo on July 22, 1918, in Scranto Pennsylvania. Elwood was a WM Army veteran. He was a pro-recipient of the Purple Heart. F vas the founder of Palf Electri so bonet: canutable family comp

an honest, reputable family o

ness that has proudly serv

metro Detroit for over half a cer

tury. He is survived by his below wife of 72 years, Lefa; his lowi children: Marcia Stetzal, Elwo C. (Candice) Paff III, Rosema Linko Marcia Stetzal, Child

C. (Lanoce) Part III, Kosemani (John) Newsom, Philip (Shirley) Paff, and Larry (Sheliy) Paff, He i also survived by 15 grandchild dren, 17 great grandchildren, and 1 great-great grandchild. Elvooc was preceded in death by his granddaughter Kaltrym Paft in 2003. Online Guestbook www.billiosfunceal.com

www.phillipsfuneral.com

PANTALEO; JULIA A. December 21, 2011, age 85 Beloved wife of the late Michae

for 62 years. Funeral was Dec. 2. at St. James Church, Novi. Online

obriensullivanfuneralhome.cor

RITCHIE, BETTY A.

RITCHIE, BETTY A. Age 87, December 25, 2011. Beloved wile of 61 years to the late Frank Ritchie, Mother of John (Sharon), Elizabeth and Mark (Lynda). Dear grandmother of John David, Kathryn, Andrew, Leah, Katelynn and Maggie. Born in Govington, KY, Graduated from the University of Cincinnati. Married Frank and moved to Canada in 1946. They moved to Northville/Farmington Hills in 1971. She was active in the

Canada in 1946. They moved in Northville/Farmington Hills in 1971. She was active in the AAUW. Farmington Hills Garder Club and the Friends of the Farmington Library. She leved gardening, golf and curring. She was an excellent mother, loved to cook and she will be missed by all Memorials to the Friends of the

Memorials to the Friends of th Farmington Library and Salvation Army. Arrangements by the Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Livonia.

harryjwillfuneralhome.com

WALCZAK (NEE EVANS), HELEN

Age 89, 12/21/2011. Beloved wiff of lite late Frank. Funeral was 12/27 at Our Lady of Sorrows

Church. Donalions to Interloche Center for the Arts. obriensuitivanfuneralhome.com

Let others

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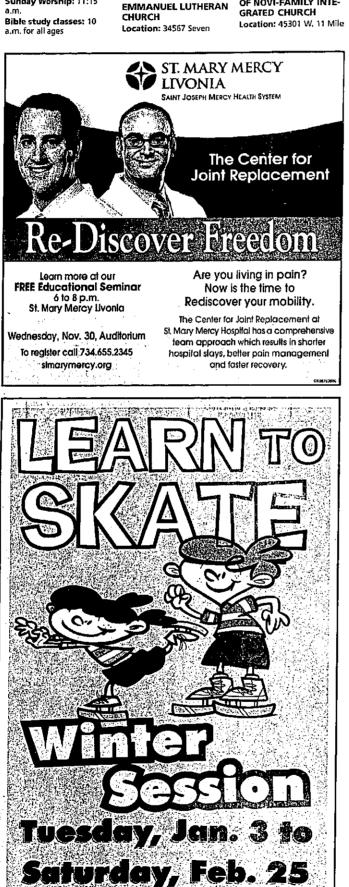
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novi.org Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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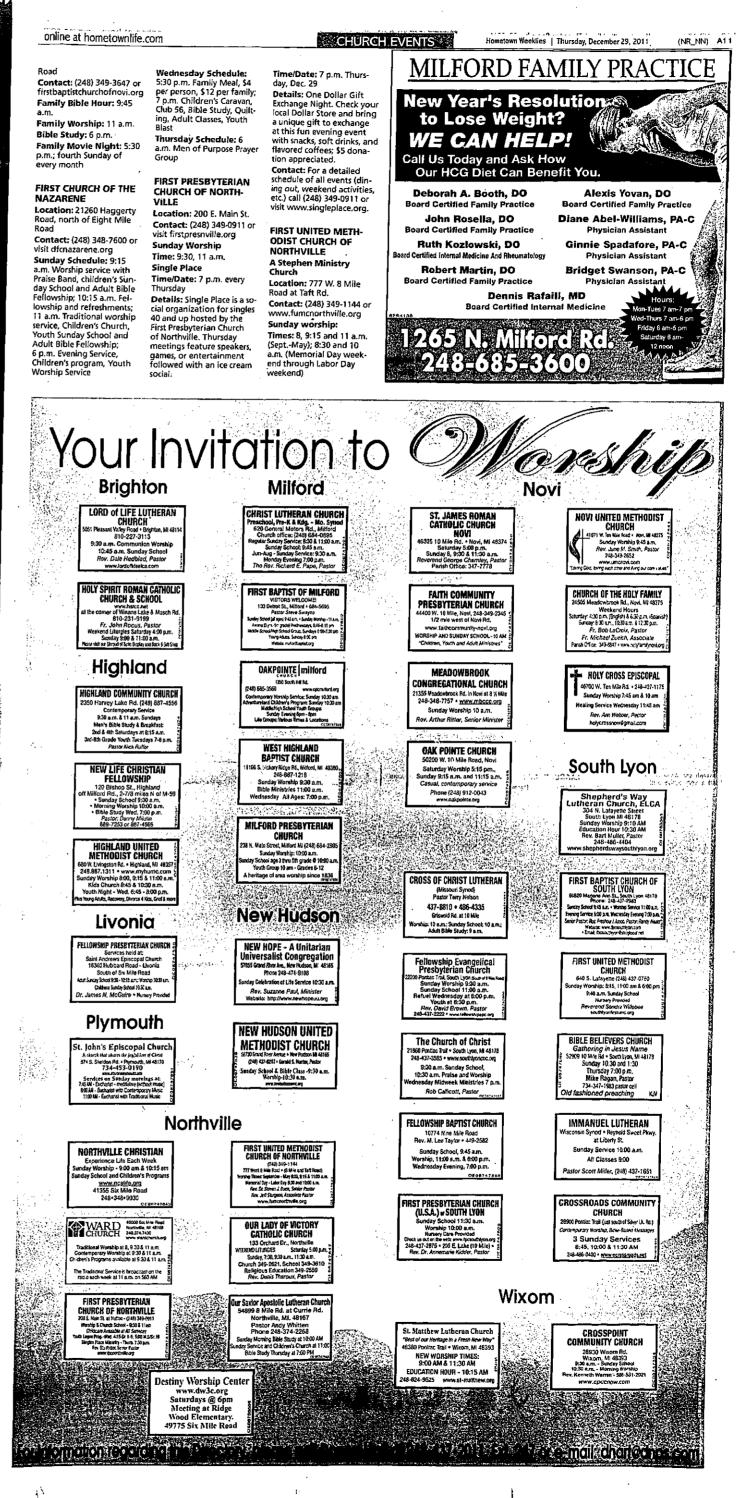
firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org

Group

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Thursday

Church



PAGE A12 . (NR_NO) HURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 20 IOMETOWN WEEKLIES HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

OPINION

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

OUR VIEWS

Working together: Key to success

We've had our silent night. Now the area is about to get a whole lot noisier, and it won't just be from the revelry on New Year's Eve.

As a troubled year is ending, a challenging one is beginning throughout the region. Frequently, as individuals voice their New Year's resolutions, a big one is always to lose weight, but that was high on Goy. Rick Snyder's list even before the end of this year.

The kind of weight the governor had in mind was that from unnecessary expenses and duplication of service in our towns and schools. Officials railed bitterly against making awards in revenue sharing and aid to education dependent on meeting criteria showing moves to reduce expenses by sharing the burden of providing services. Most officials pointed out that their schools and local governments have already done just that.

But the truth is that the state budget has become skinny, skin and bones, if you will. It is providing the spine of structure, but little else for local entities.

Perhaps in a way this is better than the bulimic feeding frenzy of past years for funding for sustenance of services that may have been able to have been fed a more healthy diet But who is to say what nutrients are essential and which are icing on the cake?

Well, the one good thing is that the governor has left it up to communities and schools to devise their own diet. The problem is that it has been a forced crash diet. So that noise you are about to hear as the New Year begins is likely to be from the gnashing of teeth as the budget process begins for the next fiscal year. There is an image with a puzzle that involves

a group of people sitting in a circle around a pot of food. person has a spoon, but it is a very, very los spoon - far too long to dip into the pot and their bring the nourishment to an individual's own lips.

The puzzle is: Will those people starve and go into receivership? Or will they find a solution to their collective problem? The answer to that puzzle is the one all schools and governments must embrace.

In the case of the pot of food, the people sitting around it discovered that the spoon may be too long to feed themselves, but it was just right to feed the person opposite them.

Local officials are all sitting around a pot of money, diminished though it is. As many times as they have called for cooperation, it is more essential now than ever.

"Local officials will always have their own spoons, but they will have to come up with ways to make sure we all get our daily bread.

Look to us in '12

The staff here at the Northville Record and Novi News are certainly anticipating a great 2012 — and looking forward to bringing all the news that matters to our readers. As always, our goal is to provide our readers with the most up to date look at the news stories that impact our local communities. Not only in our award-winning print editions, but also on our website, www.hometownlife.com, which is updated daily with breaking news stories.

For years, the so-called experts have been predicting the demise of the newspaper industry. And for sure, we've experienced some tough times in recent years - just like many other industries. But our commitment to our readers has never waned, even in the face of a faltering economy that has forced us to make some difficult changes.

For the first time in what seems like an eternity, the economy - both locally and nationally - is on the upswing. Let us hope that continues. It will be nice to report some good news on that front this year, especially now an improved economy will mean brighter days for our communities.

Élections also promise to be big news in We hope to see an informed electorate head to the polls in the August primary and November general elections.

While most of the national media will focus on the presidential race, we know that state and local campaigns will have a more direct impact on our readers, especially as it relates to taxes and services. You can look to us to provide the political coverage that hits closer to home.

We realize in most cases our newspapers are the only source when it comes to local news coverage. We take that responsibility verv seriously. That's why we have reporters at school board and city council meetings, prep sporting events and all the other happen ings that are important to our readers.

In 2012, we invite our readers to become more involved. Whether it is a letter to the editor or a comment on our website, we want everyone's voice to be heard. That's what we are here for. We just ask that everyone respects the opinions of others - even when

you might not agree. As we turn the page on another year, we hope you will continue to look to us as your trusted news source. We are proud to be a part of our communities. And we thank you for trust.



LETTERS

didn't think so.

Defends tea party

Ever been to one of the local

Tea Party Patriot rallies? No, I

What you would have seen

at any of the outdoor peaceful,

friendly park rallies is local candi-

women speaking about protect-

ing American freedoms. We say

the Pledge of Allegiance with our

sing the national anthem. We talk

about the freedoms our found-

ng fathers so wisely built into

the Constitution and the Bill of

Rights. We talk about supporting

local small businesses, constitu-

tionally limited government and

the personal freedoms we cher-

ish. We talk about stopping the

excessive government spending

Have you ever read the U.S.

Constitution? Did you read the

part where it said the federal gov-

ernment should grow and expand

its reach and take over the private

business sector? The part where

taxpayer money to bail out large

corporations that are "too big to

fail?" The part where the found-

ing fathers said forced unioniza-

tion of workers was the American

the government should use

Barack Obama

that has saddled Americans with

a \$17 trillion debt under President

hands held over our hearts, we

dates, senators, congressmen and

Do you have any New Year's resolutions for 2012?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the

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address and phone number for

verification. Letters should be

400 words or less. We may edit

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Online: Due to space limitations,

not all letters submitted can be

sublished in our print edition.

However, all letters will be pub-

lished online each week at www

because none of these progres-

sive, liberal notions exist in the

Constitution of the United States.

fathers would have vehemently

denounced the idea of govern-

Unions did not exist, the founding

hometownlife.com.

published in the Thursday edi-

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Deadline: Letters must be

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for clarity, space and content.

formats.

18178



"I don't really make any "My resolution would be to eat healthier, I guess, because I don't seem to keep them. I'm trying to and continuing doing yoga. But sometimes learn from past years." Kristen Morley I make them and then don't keep them." Nancy Hinz to it."



losing weight and eating to get back to walking and playing golf once right. It's probably the I get my new knee. It's same as everyone else." not really a resolution. but I'm looking forward

Carl Behnke

on Social Security and Medicare what an outlandish, unfounded statement

Lola Bernstein

And if you think the tea party is not a strong force to be reckoned with why are some so afraid of us? Was it the shellacking the Democrats suffered that Obama complained about in November 2010? Did you know that 78 percent of Americans support the Tea Party's goals, views and core values? I suggest you read, research and learn before you embarrass yourself like this again. Luke Jerue Novi

Republican ploy

The Republicans' blatant obstruction of any Democrat or Obama-inspired action, on the surface, seems risky when elections are imminent. Not so. They, the Republican Congress, deliberately take advantage of a conspicuous characteristic of American voters: too many are apathetic and oblivious to the political maneuverings that evenually determine the direction and laws of the land. The Republicans correctly esti-

mate that any perceived failure of our government will be blamed on the man-in-charge, President Obama.

Their ploys, obfuscations and outright falsehood will continue unchecked till their ultimate goal is achieved — a vicious, partisan coup d'etat under the guise of democracy. People, pay attention! It's your

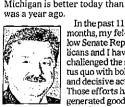
country, too Patrick Downey

Novi

Job climate is improving

s my first year represent-Senate District comes to a

GUEST COLUMN



Mike Kowall gling state, as

are safer, more highly valued and that we will get a better rate bor rowing money. That saves taxpay ers' money and makes Michigan more competitive relative to other

states in attracting businesses that create jobs. Having our credit rating upgraded is a step in the right direction.

I had to make tough choices so far this year, those decisions resulted in improvements in our financial posi-

Restoring Michigan's AAA credit rating status is a long-term goal. In order to achieve that objective, we must continue working to help the state's economy recover and budget responsibly. Going forward. I can assure you that I will focus on fiscal

responsibility and doing what is best Michigan and its residents. In other news, this year I supported a law to crack down on unemployment fraud and ensure the stability of these vital benefits for people who truly need them. By cracking down on the cheaters who are ming the system by collecting benefits they don't deserve, we

can help ensure that unemployment is available to individuals who reallv need it. As I look ahead to the next year, I can ensure you that helping spur job growth remains at the core of ou

upcoming agenda. While we have already made significant reforms. there is still much to be done. To help foster a pro-jobs environ ment, we are going to take a look at reforming Michigan's person-al property tax, which discourages and technology. Additionally, we plan to streamline permitting and regulation, and rebuild our roads state if we expect job providers to

follow suit. Just recently, legislation to ensure Michigan gets the best return on its nts was approved by both legislative chambers and sent to the governor for his signature. My mea-sure, Senate Bill 855, would increase. the job creation requirement from 500 to 700 jobs for developers seeking the state's battery credit.

If we're going to offer job providers incentives for investing in Michigan, then we need to make sure we're getting the biggest bang for our buck possible. My measure will help guarantee that credits given to businesses result in jobs created. I consider it a true privilege and nonor to be your voice in Lansing. We have made significant progress tuining the state around and we are heading in the right direction, bu we still have a long way to go. I look forward to continuing this important work for residents of the 15th Senate District and the entire state of

Sen. Mike Kowall represents the 15th

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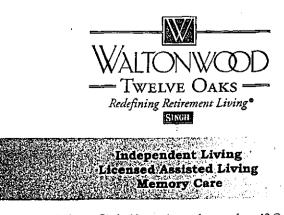
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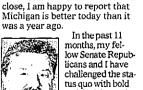
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Michigan.

state Senate District.

ment bailing out and taking over way and that government should the private sector, and the power favor unions and in return receive of the federal government was hundreds of millions of dollars strictly limited to favor strong in campaign contributions from states' rights. union dues? The constitutional Letter writer Pat Curran recently amendment that forces taxpayers stated the tea party "supports to buy government health insureliminating Social Security and ance or pay hefty fines if they do

Medicare ... " False. There are no not have the money? facts to support that wild ac-No, you did not read any of that cusations. Some of us depend



and decisive action Those efforts have generated good news for our strug-

Michigan's credit rating for all bonds was upgraded late this past summe to positive from stable by Fitch Ratings and the state's General Obligation Rating was improved to AA-. This means that Michigan bond









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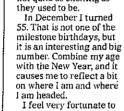
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beckon but my birthday

Steve Matthew

SUPER TALK

be in the Novi Community School District, Our district is one of the pre mier school districts in the state and nation. We have exemplary academic programs as evidenced by our 13 national merit semifinalists, our Advanced Placement scholars, our Interna-tional Baccalaureate program, our high rankings in the state's top-to-bot-

tom school rankings and our performance on the MEAP and MME assessments. In addition, we have a wide range of opportuni-ties for students, including athletics, fine art, and club activities. Our eighth grade students

visit Washington DC. Our fifth grade students go to camp. We have LEGO League; Destination Imagination, and Robot-ice tomes ics teams We also have a great community. Our commu-nity supports our schools

as demonstrated by the approval of a capital projects bond in 2007 and last year's renewal of our sinking fund. These funds allow our district



District leader

Community members also support our athletic teams, attend our band and choir concerts, and support the schools and our students in a wide variety of ways.

online at hometownlife.com

I am, I am also deeply appreciative of our students. As I visit the schools and sit in classrooms, our students con tinue to impress and maze me. They are polite, inquisitive, curi ous, and capable. They ask good questions, push us to be better, and enjoy

themselves and their schools. Our most important asset is our staff. I have been greatly impressed with the passion our staff has for the students. Our staff cares and wants our district facilities, programs, and curriculum to be the best, because

they realize our students deserve the very best we have to offer. As I look back, I can see that I am very fortu-nate to be here in Novi.

As I look forward I am excited about the possibilities. We have created four district goals that will bein drive us into the future. These goals reinforce our deep beliefs that every student is important, every student will make progress every

year, every student can perform at a high levthat we will continue to provide opportunities to our students, and we will continue our work at becoming a high quality

organization. believe the future of the Novi Community School district is bright. As the New Year dawns and I turn a year older. I am energized by the ibilities of what lies ahead.

Steve Matthews is the superintendent of the Novi **Community Schools District** He can be reached at smathews@novi.k12.mi.us; (248) 437-1204; www.twitter. com/docsmatthews; or www.novisuperintendent. blogspot.com

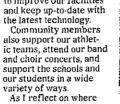


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metown Weeklies | Thursday, December 29, 2011

(NR_NN) A15

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, December 29, 2011 LOCAL NEWS

Pay It Forward: Madonna students combine service with learning

By Jill Halpin Correspondent

When some local Madonna University students signed up for a video editing class in the school's oadcast and cinema arts department, they were looking forward to learning how to use new equipment to make video productions in the school's new stateof-the-art broadcast studios. They never dreamed they would end up learning even more about the selves.

The students, from broadcast department director Chuck Derry's Field Production and Edit ing II class, were assigned a project that put their newfound skills to the test: make a professional sixminute video for local non profits to use in their actual marketing programs. For many of them, the project nas been life-changing.

This project just affirmed that this is my career path: telling stories, editing and filming ... I like o do this; it makes me hap py every day," said Mark Radwan, a 20-year-old junior from Livonia.

The project, called Pay It Forward, is part of an mphasis at Madonna to its discover th value of public service

The students are from broadcast department director Chuck Derry's Field Production and Editing II class. The overall purpose of the Pay It Forward initia while strengthening their ties to the community. Inte-grated into four courses at tive is to introduce or deep Madonna including sociolen the understanding that our students have around ogy, health care, marketing philanthropy and giving," said Olga Martinez, direc and broadcasting and cinema arts, the program helps

donna.

in the real world.

10w organi

RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

independence

students gain insight into

Giving back "Students are gaining real experience that is relpart of the prog evant to their academic learning while address ing community needs

zations operate

nization. Students in his class narrowed the field down to five by voting on the charities they felt were most deserving of their time, Derry said. "After that process was tor of Service Learning at complete, the students ided which group they According to Derry local would most like to work with and divided into onprofits were invited by his students to apply to be

groups to begin the prohe said. n in ear The nonprofit organi ly September. The seven program applicants then zations chosen by the stuvisited the class to give a dents include Detroit presentation on their orga Christo Rey High School

INDEPENDENT AND ASSISTED LIVING

Home Society in Redford Farmington-based S.O.U.L. (Source of Universal Love), Trinity Park Inc. of Livo-nia and Sweet Dreamzzz of Farmington. The students then had

three weeks to complete their task of creating sixminute DVDs, "a tangible product that organization can use to further their goals," Derry said. Derry said that the stulents were required to

ork quickly throughout the project, mirroring a eal-life timeline Great experience

This is a great real world experience for the students ... these are real businesses. The pressure is on and the product has to be delivered and delivered

right," said Derry, who developed the broadcast and cinema arts program for Madonna and continues a longtime career in the field on a local and national level. In addition to creating, filming, interviewing and editing the videos, the stu-dents also had the add-

ed benefit of making deciions about communi ty partnerships, includng how to award \$2,000 in funds from a service grant, Martinez said.

An added bonus for the participating nonprofits is the opportunity to gain up to \$1,000 in funding from Learn and Serve America, a national community ser-

online at hometownlife.com

writing the grant. said. The first-place win

> ry said. The project is a win-win for both the students and the organizations, he said "Students benefit from working as a team and, gain perspective into the real-life working world. ective into the They also work on a commercial entity with a com pany that is interested in a good product that they can use," Derry added.

for the students.

Madonna junior Han-nah Welch of Dearborn was "deeply touched" by the mission of the Method ist Children's Home Society. "This project made uge impact on my life. I was really impressed with their tagline, When you help a child, you change a life.' It is really powerful," said Welch, Although he message influenced her decision to spend her efforts with this particular group, she was also "very ressed with the fact t they are so well-estab lished. They have been elping kids and families in need in the community for 95 years ... what a grea way for us to be able to celebrate their birthday with

for the opportunity to pres-ent the group with a pro-

the Methodist children's group, which provides res-idential and foster care as well as adoption servic es, was particularly meaningful for Livonia resident Allison Follbaum, a junior. "It was very personal for me. I have many friends who were adopted and I had to chance to see it from a different angle. I feel blessed that my friends ere adopted into wonder ful homes," she said.

vice organization under-"The class got a grant of \$2,000 and they have decided to award prizes for the op three videos," Derry

ner will receive \$1,000, the second place will receive \$600, and the third place will get \$400. The money, in addition to the complete ed DVD's, will be given to the nonprofits to help further their missions, Der-

Although learning the ins and outs of producing professional videos is important, the opportunity to provide assistance also has a great deal for significance

them," she said. She said she is excited

motional tool they can actu-ally use to further their Working on the video for

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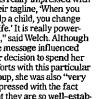
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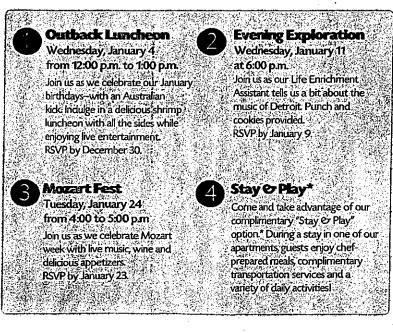












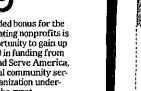
Independence Village of Plymouth 14707 Northville Road Plymouth, MI www.SeniorVillages.com 48170 734-453-2600 South of 5 Mile Road illage Management. "Certain conditions appl

A new year brings fresh opportunities for growth, learning and renewal. Resolve to explore these possibilities by coming to an Independence Village community event.

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By Chris Jackett In their first showing of the season, Novi's boys swim and dive team headed to Hartland Dec. 20 to face off with a pair

of Eagles.

2010000000

The Wildcats split the tricompetition to put their record at 1-1, with a victory over the hosts and a loss to Skyline, but had several solid finishes that ncluded first-place finishes in five of 12 events. Novi started the day with vic-

tories in each of the first three events, Gucci Onimura, Jongmin Kim, Tanner Vincent and Eugene Song combined to win the 200-vard medley relay in 1:43.33, while Gordy Williams Jr., Austin Reed, Dennis Kim and Will Sohn finished fourth in

1:49.42 Starting off on fire, Andrew Ao followed up with a victo-ry in the 200 free in 1:49.60 as Reed finished sixth in 2:00 88 Jongmin Kim also won the 200 individual medley in 2:02.15. while Dennis Kim finished

off until Jan, 12 when they visit rival Northville.

sixth in 2:10.89. Although the opposition start-ed winning the remaining Please see SWIM, 84

HAR BERTHERE

online at hometownlife.com

ry's intense nature, as the Shamrocks were hit for

four penalties for eight

riors were called for one

Earning the win in goal

infraction for two min-

was Ryan Mulka, who played all 51 minutes

for the Shamrocks and

stopped 22-of-24 shots.

Jack Bowman took the

loss for Brother Rice,

saving 20 shots on goal.

The Shamrocks are now

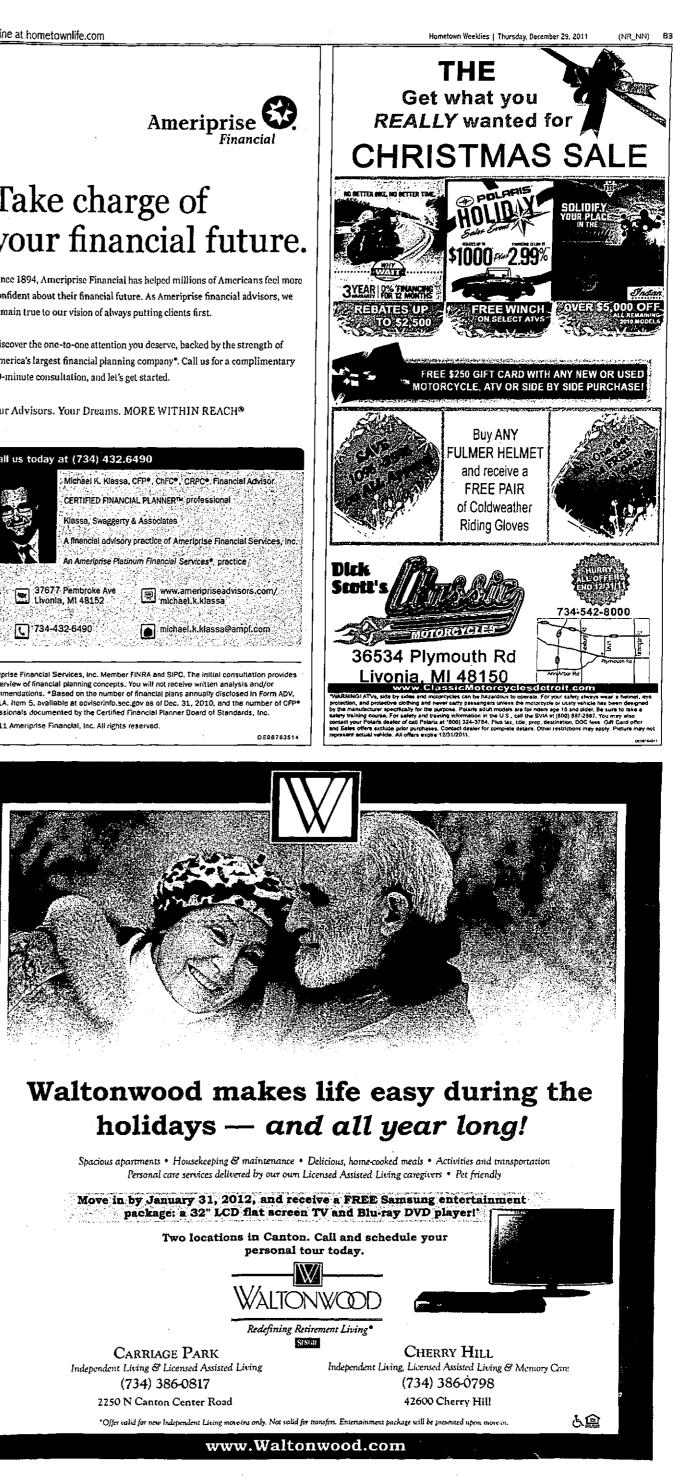
9-0 on the season and are

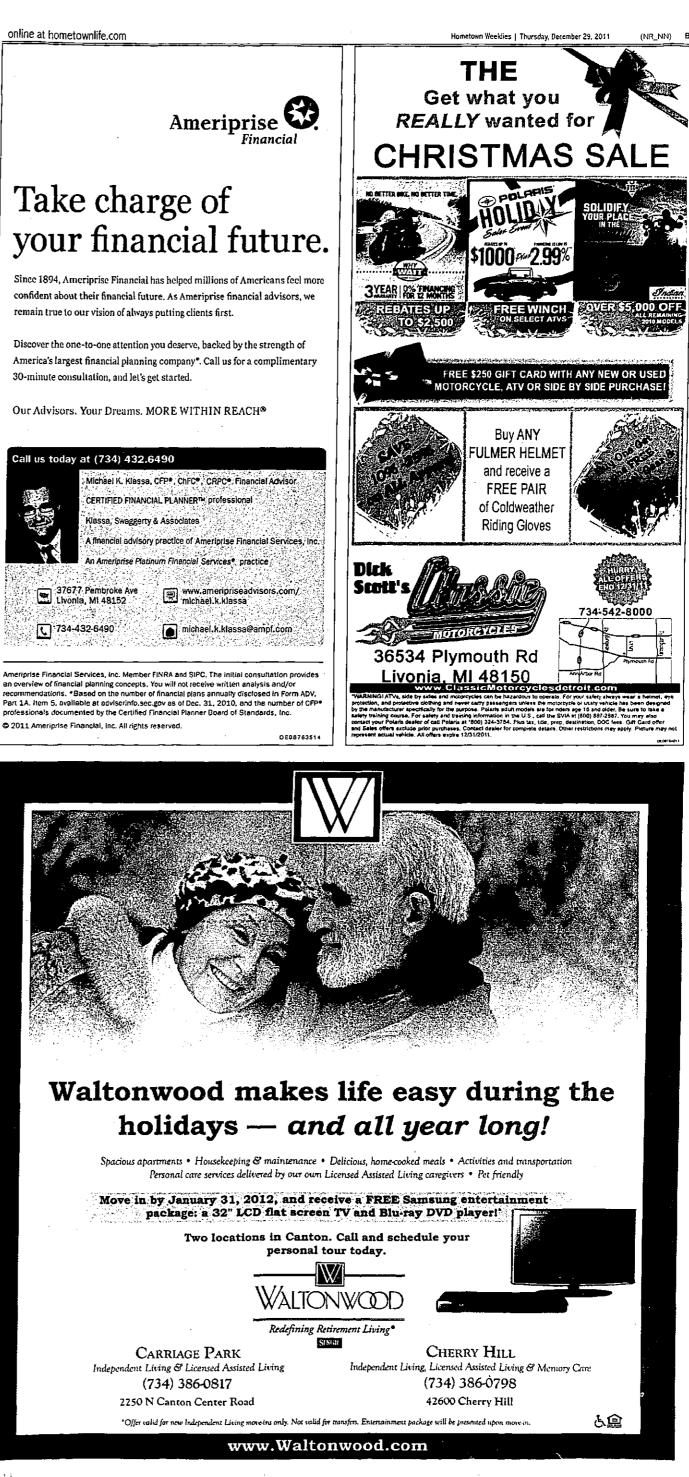
the No. 1 ranked team in

Sam Eggleston is a free-

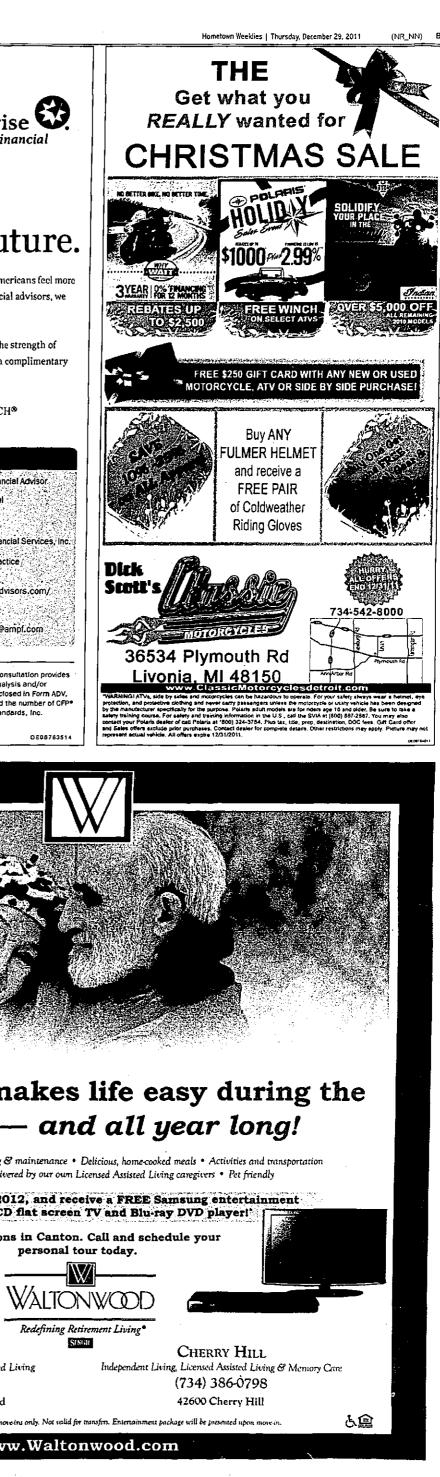
minutes and the War-

30-minute consultation, and let's get started.









Catholic Central hockey defeats Brother Rice Squad remains undefeated with victory ON TAP The Sharnrocks are slated to be back on the ice

By Sam Eggleston

Whenever the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks and the Brother Rice Warriors meet upno matter what the event--it's going to prove to be interesting.

From chess club to debate team to the foot-ball field, baseball diamond and, of course, the hockey rink, the rivalry between the Shamrocks and their Catholic High School League foes runs deep. What that means for fans is that it's always

guaranteed to be an interesting match-up--and the hockey teams from the respective schools didn't lisappoint last week. The two teams traded blows like heavy weight fighters standing toe-totoe until the Shamrocks closed the door in the third period to take home a 4-2 victory. The game started off

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, December 29, 2011

with a flurry of intense play, capped off as Dan-ny Middleton put the Shamrocks on the board with 11:16 off the clock in the first period to put his squad up, 1-0. Tyler

VanAcker and Matt Sorisho were credited with assistance on the play. But the Warriors unced right back, scoring in the opening minutes of the second period to knot the game, 1-1, as Jonathon Reschke took assistance from Chris Wilberding and Russell Cicerone and found the

back of the net for the tie. game interesting, scor-ing with just under three The Shamrocks didn't let up the pressure, howminutes off the clock in ever, taking the lead the third period to make again just two minutes it a 3-2 contest as Andrew later off a shot by Ste-Roye took a pass from bobby Cross and fired it ven Haydon that gave his team a 2-1 edge. It took 11 past the Catholic Central

goals.

at 6:30 p.m. January 4 more minutes before the when they visit Univer-sity of Detroit Jesuit High Shamrocks struck again as VanAcker took his turn to score to give his team hoal. the 3-1 advantage heading into the third stangoalie for the score. Detroit Catholic Cena. Pete Halash, Charlie Green, Jarzynski and

Middleton were credit-ed with assists on the two tral ended to back-andforth affair just two minute later as they put up the final goal of the game Brother Rice kept the off the stick of Tyler Van-Norman, who took a pass from Halash and worked

it into the net for the score. The game was surprisingly light on penalties,

lance writer and former staf sports writer for the Northconsidering the rivalville Record and Novi News

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks

Shamrocks defeat two ranked foes

Wrestling team continues to shine

To be the best, you have to wrestle against the best-and the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks aren't afraid to do just that, The Shamrocks wrestling team headed into the holiday season with two huge wins over state-ranked opponents as they defeat-ed Division IV's No.-2 team Hesperia, 48-22,

proud of the way they handled exam week with the rigors of making weight and getting ready to wrestle these two prideful squads. It's not easy, and the guys looked a bit drained tonight, but they still persevered

ria-a team that has had 25 individual state

before taking down Division I's No.-10 team Rockford, 53-4. "These guys battled tonight," said Sham-rocks coach Mitch Hancock. "I'm very

and wrestled hard

champions since 1997-was when Catho-

wrestling team is scheduled to be back on the mat when they wrestle in Medina, Ohio for an interstate competition. lic Central's Myles Amine defeated Chase Siersema, 41, with a late takedown and pen alty point. Siersema is a returning state finalist and the No. 1-ranked Division IV wrestler in the 112-pound weight class. The bigger team highlight was defeating

ON TAP

Rockford-a school that won team titles in 2007 and 2009 and was defeated by Detroit Catholic Central for the team title last year. The biggest showdown of that meet was between Alec Mooradian, who one last year's 135-pound state title, and Austin Scogg, who won the 152-pound state cham pionship for Rockford last year. Despite the

weight class difference, Mooradian prevailed, winning 1-0. The Shamrocks are now 10-0 on the sea-son and ranked first in Division I.

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



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SWIM

Continued from page B1 events, both Ao and Jongmin Kim each won another event later in

the meet. Ao won the 100 free in S0.15 seconds as teammate Song finished fifth in 53,79 seconds. Jongmin Kim won the 100 breaststroke in 1:01.78, while Reed (fourth in 1:07.63) and Nathan Louie (sixth in 1:10.22) also added top-eight inished for the Wildcats. Song also finished second in the 50 freestyle in 23.66 seconds, with Onimura finishing fifth in 24.49 seconds as Hartland won in 23.49 seconds.

Tanner Vincent got the Wild-cats big points in both the 100 fly and 500 free by finishing second in each event. Vincent's 55.65 seconds trailed Skyline's 53.97 in the 100 fly and his 5:08.83 trailed Skyline's 4:58.49 in the 500 free. Dennis Kim added a fourth-place fin-ish in the 100 fly in 57.68 seconds. Onimura (third in 59.98) and Williams (fifth in 1:04.97) added individual points in the 100 back-

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stroke, behind Skyline's winning time of 58.30 seconds. Novi's divers finished in the last three spots of nine total competing divers as Hartland won the event with 142.25 points. For Novi, Nick Dagher (seventh with 94.75) and Raj Chhaya (seventh with 89.10) earned points for the Wildcats.

In the remaining two relay events, the Wildcats offered two-seven and three-five punches in promising efforts. Ao, Williams, Reed and Song were third in the 200 free relay in 1:36.37, while Onimura, William Li, Derek Kim and Louie took

fifth in 1:42.13 and Skyline won in 1:33.69 In the 400 free relay, Ao, Vincent, Dennis Kim and Jongmin Kim finished second in 3:28.79 not far behind Skyline's winning 3:25.58 time. Derek Kim, Sohn, Arthur Shi and Patrick Renner combined to finish seventh in 3:49.28

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

LOCAL SPORTS

Exercising away those wintertime blues!

ty like going to work every-day. Don't fall into the category

of people who say, "I don't hav

Do you ever get down with the wintertime blues? Staying active during the win-

tain an active lifestyle. Did you know the average American gains 5 to 10 pounds during the holidays? Exercise is good for your heart and carovascular system to get the blood pumping and increase

the cellular level in your muscles. It is also important to increase your heart rate to 65 percent of maximum, three times a week for at least 20 minutes. Here are some Forever Fit tips to exercise away e winter time blues. 1. Find an activity or activ-

ities that you enjoy. I have always told my clients that half the battle to exercise is finding something you enjoy doing. It can be walking, circuit training, biking, running, weight train-

ing, etc. 2. Make exercise a priori-

things we provide.

ter is essential for us to maintime!" Remember, we always have a little time! Designate a specific time that you stick to, at least three times a week. 3. Find a friend, exercise group or club that you can exercise with. Sometimes all

the motivation you need is a friend or a group. 4. Hire a personal trainer. Hiring a trainer helps when your personal motivation is lacking. You are committed to making it to that appoint-ment, regularly. My clients sit down with me and set their goals based on their individual needs. Those might include

weight loss, increasing endu ance, speed, balance, core strength, etc. If you are uncomfortable with going to a personal trainer all by yourself, go with a friend. Several of my clients even bring their spouse.

5. Many would say that exer-cising outdoors in the winter is very unappealing. But, it doesn't have to be painful and cold. Remember the best approach to dressing for out-door exercise is with layers. Layering provides the most effective heating method, plus it allows you to remove the top layer if you get too hot. The lay er closest to your skin should wick away the moisture. The top layer should be both wind resistant and water resistant. Always remember that to prevent injury, warm up prior to going out and facing elements. With these Forever Fit Tips you should be able to exercise away those wintertime blues.

online at hometownlife.com

Jeremy Daum, CPT,CES,PES, is the owner of Forever Fit Persona Training at 215 E., Main Street, Northville, He can be reached at (248) 747-3037 or jeremy@ foreverfittrainer.com

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Verizon answers the call in county

By Stacy Jenkins Observer Staff Writer

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2011 HOMETOWN WEEKLIES HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

VERIZON

GRANTS

Grants were issued to

the following Oakland

National Council of

lewish Women, Greater

Volunteers of America

leglect Council, \$13,000

American Heart Asso

home in the nation for peo-

ple with developmental dis-

abilities," said Rick Loew-

enstein, of JARC. 'First

and foremost, we built it

made it 'green."

around the people who live in this home ... then, we

He was pleased to host

Thursday's press confer-

ence in the home. "When was the last time

you attended a press con-ference at a house?" he

Oakland County Exec-

son, who has called many

a press conference in his

time as an elected official

was on hand to thank Ver-

izon for its charitable con

maintain the high quality of

Patterson said he knows

St. Mary Mercy Hospital's

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Center for Joint Replacement Seminar

Michigan Bariatric Institute Seminar

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Guesi speaker Talla! Zeni, MD

Thursday, January 5, 6 p.m.

Thursday, January 19, 7 p.m.

Thursday, January 26. 6 p.m.

Guest speaker Tallal Zeni, MD

"Stay Awake" Series:

Thursday, February 2, 6 p.m.

Insomnia and Sleep Hyaiene

Guest speaker Punitha Vilavakumar. MD

Neurologist and Board Certified Sleep Specialist

Location: Bailey Center in Westland

Guest speaker David Mendelson, MD

nutrition goals.

tributions that will help

ife in Oakland County.

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utive L. Brooks Patter-

Detroit Section, \$5,000

HAVEN, \$10,000

Michigan, \$10,000

Child Abuse and

ciation, \$25,000

Oakland Literacy

Council, \$40,000

JARC, \$10,000

County nonprofits:

YMCA, \$1.600

The holidays came ear ly for nine Oakland County nonprofits Dec. 8, as Ver izon Wireless announced nearly \$120,000 in grants. "This truly was a Christ mas present wrapped up i a big bow," said Judy Lind strom, president of the Oakland Literacy Council. based in Bloomfield Hills Verizon Wireless gave the organization \$40,000 to assist with its technolo gy resource center, to pronote and supplement the literacy skills of adult stu-

"Verizon has just been wonderful to us, and for us," Lindstrom said, noting Oakland Literacy Council s the only literacy nonprof it in the county.

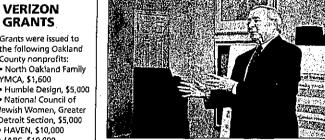
She said the need is there, citing a 34-percent illiteracy rate in the city of Pontiic alone. 'People look at Oakland

County and say illiteracy doesn't happen in Oakland County," she said. "Illiteracy doesn't stop at Eight Mile, it cont Michelle Gilbert, pub-

lic relations manager for Verizon's Michigan/Indiana/Kentucky region, announced the grants at a JARC group home on Minglewood in Farmington

JARC, provider of com-munity-based Jewish residential services for adults with developmental disa ities, has 20 group homes in Oakland County.

"This is the first 'green



BUSINESS

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson spoke at the press conference about the importance of corporate partnerships and contributions to programs that help keep a high quality of life in Oakland County.

ed with taxpayer dollars

- the Brooksie Way half

marathon fundraiser and

dents.

their parents.

stepped up.'

the pedometer program for

third- and fourth-grade stu-

He heard a lecturer say

"I wanted to do some

tinues to give so much.

how generous and impor-"They've shown a tretant the county's corpocommitment as a corporate citizen, especial rate citizens are in champi oning causes and supportly in a tough economy," Pating nonprofits. He startterson said. Gilbert said giving back ed two programs in recent years that couldn't be fund-

credo. "It's so special to have the opportunity to make a dif-

ty," she said. "We are here oday to do our part in giving back to the communi

is the first, in the history of the nation, to have a shortbeen a supporter of er life expectancy than HAVEN, a nonprofit that assists women who are vic tims of domestic violence, for many years, noted Bet thing in my own little way," Morrison, executive direche said, noting that he starttor of HAVEN. She said an ed to raise money for the pedometer program. "The employee of Verizon was corporate community, they murdered in a domestic sit uation about 15 years ago He said he's impressed and the company begar supporting HAVEN at that that Verizon Wireless con-

"It's not up to an orgaenforcement ... it really

takes an entire community and that includes corporate support," she said. Morrison noted that some of the other grants announced Thursday will help HAVEN as well,

support one another These dollars don't just go to one organization, they

us," she said. Gilbert said Verizon Wireless gave \$200,000 in grants in southeast Mich igan and about \$500.000 statewide this year. "Verizon Wireless will continue its commitmen

in the wonderful state of Michigan for many, ma years to come," she said.

severe budget problems and this has trickled down to the county and munic-



CAL STONE. EDITOR

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hile teaching an introductory income tax class ipal levels, Part of the charge for a government is to provide various services to its residents and these ter, I had a stuservices are paid through dent explain his "misun tax revenues. This is one derstanding" of the rela fundamental aspect of tax tionship between Nativo Americans and the U.S.

policy. If services are not provided to or available to a fits" of tribe, then the tribe and eing its members should not be subject to tax. If the services are available to a trib al member, for example a Native American living in the City of Novi, that tribvolaine al member should be (and the "tax is) subject to state income, consereal property, sales and use iences" of being

The other fundamena Native American to th tal aspect of tax policy is ensuring that certain taxable items are fairly taxed. In other words, Michigan has sales and tohacco tax es. If a non-tribal member were to purchase cigarettes from a grocer on are responsible for paying federal income tax, payroll a tribe, the State of Michigan loses tax revenue sole (or FICA) tax, estate and ly because the purchase gift tax. All U.S. citizens courred on the tribe.

are subject to tax on their To combat this type of worldwide" gross income conduct, the Michigan heasurer has entered and gross estates. In other words, from a federal tax into Voluptary Disclosure standpoint, there is no "tax Agreements, or tax treabenefit" to being a Native ties, with nine tribes. The purpose of the VDA is to American. Under state law, howevoutline the types of taxer, the tax consequences for being Native American es that can be imposed on tribes and tribal members, is another story. The U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs the method for collecting these taxes and a prorecognizes" Native Amer cedure for resolving tax disputes. In other words if Michigan exempted can tribes as "sovereignties" and, upon receiving this recognition, the tribe and tribal members are its tobacco tax under the

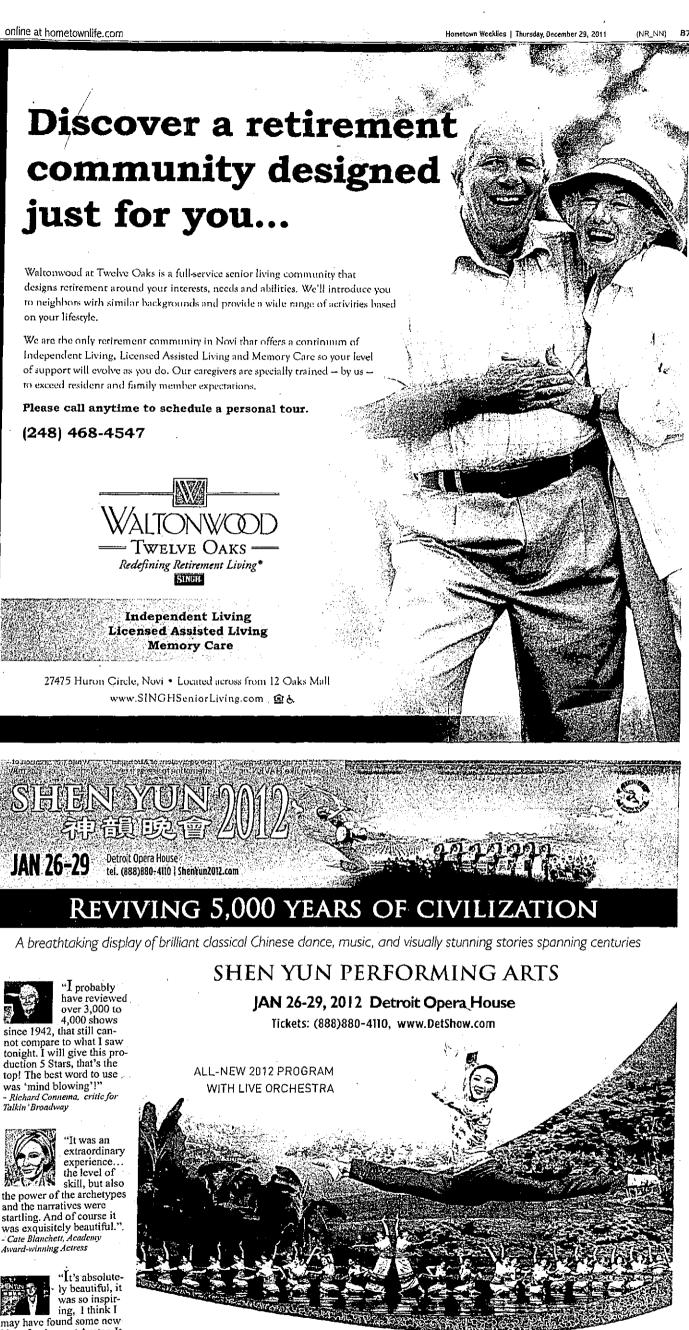
VDA, a tribal member who lives on the tribe can peticonferred various exem tions from state laws. For tion the Department of example, the State of Mich-Treasury for a refund for gan cannot tax the real any tobacco taxes paid. The non-tribal member. of a federally recognized tribe or the resident tribal however, would not be eli-gible for the refund under members. This would be the equivalent of Michigan the VDA While the taxation of

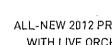
Native Americans may appear to be a difficult or complicated issue, it may be under state lav Under the Internal Revenue Code, however, it has exactly the same amount of difficulty for Native nericans as it does for all U.S. citizens.

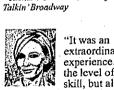
e located within the Stat Daniel S. Hoops is an "sovereign status". There are an additional 17 tribes associate professor at Walsh Business College teaching currently petitioning for sovereignty from the U.S. undergraduate and graduate courses in the Business Law and Taxation Department. that are recognized by the State of Michigan but not rofessor Hoops holds a master of laws in estate planning by the U.S. Being recog-nized by the BIA, however, from the University of Miar School of Law, a juris doctor from the Michigan State Uni-versity Detroit College of Law is the starting point in ana lyzing the state tax conseuences for Native Amer and a bachelor of musical arts from the University of Michigan. Hoops is also a 1987 the State of Michigan has graduate of Novi High School He can be reached at Walsh College at (248) 823-1334 or dhoops@walshcollege.edu.

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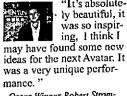
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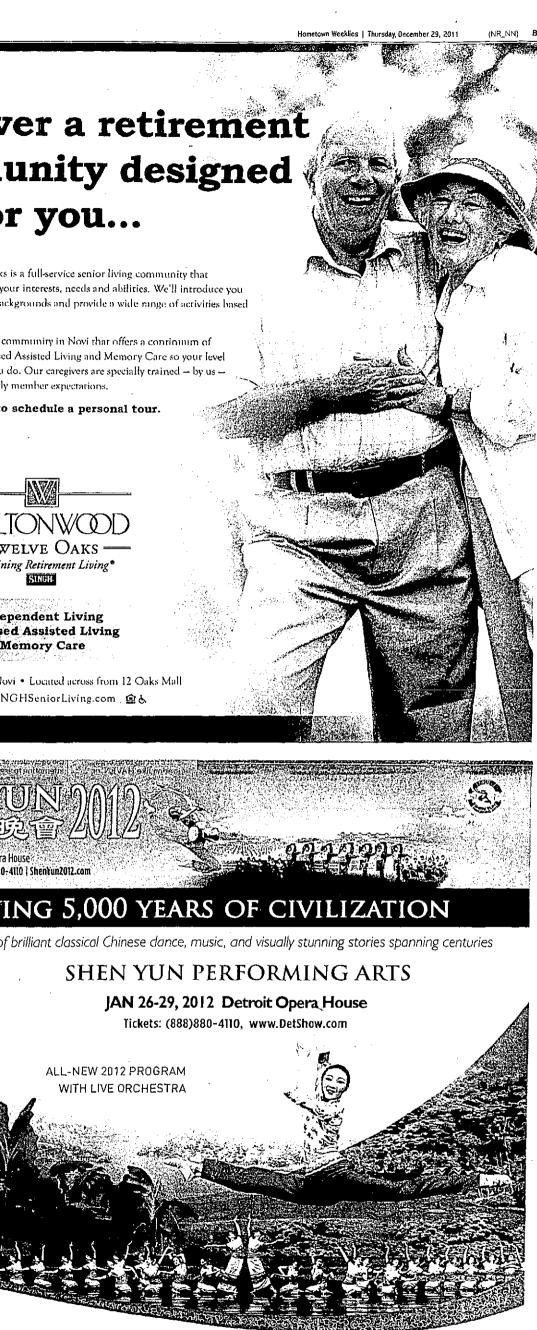


the power of the archetypes and the narratives were startling. And of course it was exquisitely beautiful.". - Cate Blanchett, Academy



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class, I began to realize that many of us are naïve Americans. Native Americans (i.e. people who are members of various tribes, both Indian and Eskimo) are U.S. citizens. All U.S. citizens

is a part of the company's

ference in our communi-

that the current generation Verizon Wireless has

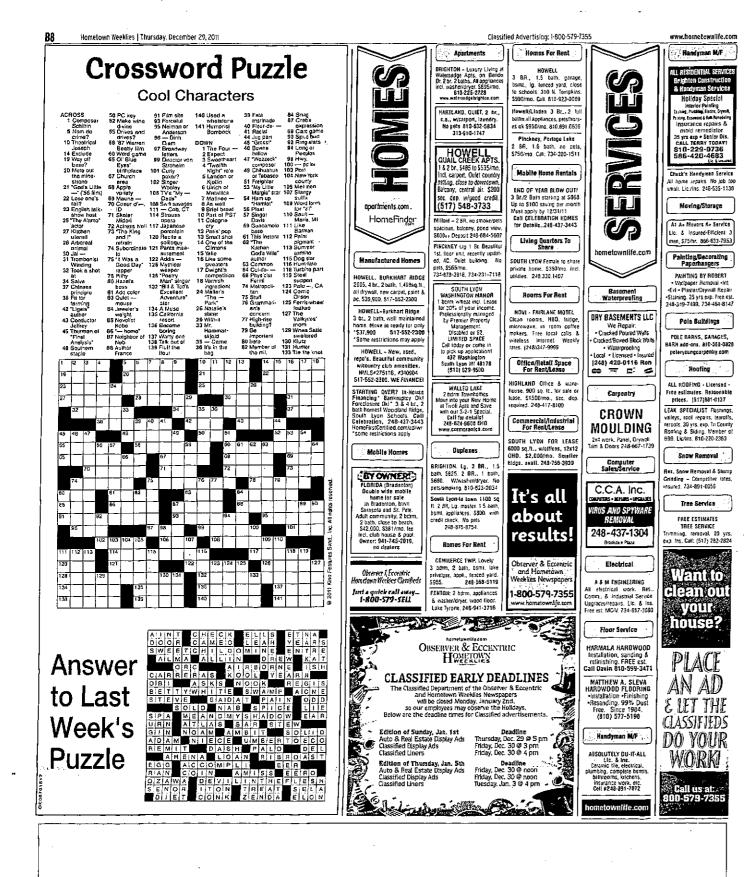
> Morrison said it takes the entire community to end domestic violence nization like HAVEN, or a few individuals, or lay

pecause the organizat

filter through to many of

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"A beautiful show---fantastic! If you ever get a chance to see it, you should." --- Joy Behar, Co-host of ABC's The View



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1

The second s Why 3 Jobs Are Better Than One 10 ways to maximize your 'portfolio career'

Paula Caligiuri, Ph.D. Author of "Get a Life, Not a Job: Do What You Love and Let Your Talents Work for You"

Just as the riskiest financial investment strategy is to have all of your money in one place the riskiest career management strategy is to have all of your income from one organization unless you are in a critical role and have skills that are difficult to find in the labor market. To enjoy job security and professional fulfillment in this new employment reality, you should have a "portfolio career that includes multiple and

simultaneous income stream or "career acts." Career acts can include an eBay business, part-time job, profitable hobby, nonexecutive board seat, franchise, authored book affiliate links on your blog. weekend jazz trio, etc. Here are 10 tips for

managing career acts in a portfolio career: Diversify

Start maximizing your talents to generate broad-based income streams. Some career acts can be slow and steady sources of income, while other can be higher-risk with higher potential reward. Professions such as nursing or teaching science are low-risk sources of guaranteed income, whereas starting a small business has a higher risk, with potential for a much higher reward.

Invest intelligently To build income-generating

Your career acts will need different investments and have different trajectories for growth. Today's careers are actively self-managed. Invest prudent/v Start protecting your time

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invest in yourself, your

like. You may need, for

business, your network and the

example, to return to school for

a degree or training program,

networking event. Manage the

financial risk incurred by being

realistic about your talents and

abilities and making sure you

to invest in equipment or

conference or some other

supplies, or to attend a

have the tenacity and

vour portfolio

effectiveness to take full

and your discretionary spending, as you may need both to start a new career act.

Maintain high ethical standards Do not add career acts that a reasonable supervisor wouldn't

consider or that would use company time or resources for your private gain. At the same time, remember that you did not take a vow of poverty when you became employed.

Sell high Many people actively manage

how they enter an organization but passively manage their exit, often waiting for a layoff, reorganization or something

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else to force their departure If you work for an nsupportive superviso have no opportunities for growth or dislike what you are doing, start planning your exit while you still have an income stream.

Know your

tolerance for risk Entrepreneurship is not right for everyone. Find a mix of career acts that do not add anxiety to your life and that align with your talents. Trust your hunches Do not let anyone tell you that you lack focus or should get serious about one career Careers today are moving further away from the traditional 40-hour-per-weel employer to more selfdirected opportunities for generating income.

Understand the data

Speak with multiple people who occupy any career act you would like to have. There are often different ways to achieve the same career goa Some ways may take less time and less money hut produce the same result.

Seek advice

Often people have a hard time understanding ways they can use their talents and abilities. Speak to trusted friends or advisers who know you well and want to see you succeed about what they see you doing. You will be surprised at how well others



can spotlight your talents and give you ideas. A well-managed portfolio

career can provide greater income, personal fulfillment and professional security. What income-generating opportunity can you create for yourself that vouid use your talents and skills, in a way you would like to work? Make a plan and start growing your amazing portfolio career.

Paula Caligiuri, Ph.D. is the author of "Get a Life. Not a Job: Do What You Love and Let Your Talents Work for You (FT Press, 2010). She is a work psychologist and Professor in the Human Resource Management Department at Rutgers University where she directs the Center for HR Strateau

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