

NOVI NEWS

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Northville & Novi Easter Church Directory

SPECIAL SECTION

Share favorite memory of your grandma!

On May 3, Hometown Life Woman will publish "A Salute To Women."

As part of this edition, we invite readers to add your words and photo to this special edition. Tell us about a special memory you have or of your grandmother (in 50 words or less, if possible).

Whether you call her bubbe, nana, nona, babcia, or just plain grandma, share your favorite memory and photograph (jpeg format attached to the e-mail).

E-mail your photo and special memory to Cal Stone (cstone@hometownwife.com). Be sure to include your first and last name and identify your grandmother with a first and last name, too. Tell us where you live, and don't forget to provide a daytime phone number where you can be reached.

Then look for your photo and/or memory in the May edition of Hometown Life Woman.

Excellent financial reporting

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada is pleased to announce the city of Novi has received the GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its comprehensive annual financial report. This is the 14th time Novi has received this honor.

The CAFR was judged by an impartial panel to have met the high standards of the program, including the demonstration of a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" that clearly communicated its financial story and motivated potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

New police pact similar to others

Novi expects considerable cost savings

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Novi police officers finally have a new contract after an arbitrator awarded them with a deal Thursday that puts them on par with the other unionized groups in the city.

Tia Gronlund-Fox, director of human resources for the city of Novi, said the city will see considerable immediate as well as long-term savings from the new contract.

"I believe the award was a positive one for the city," she said.

"This group is now more in line with the other union groups with regard to health care and pension and retiree health care for new hires."

The contract runs from July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2013, and includes several new aspects as it pertains to pension, health care, leaves and wages.

As for the pension plan, new hires will use a hybrid program that combines a defined benefit with a defined contribution plan, which results in less legacy

retiree costs. The plan for current employees now has a minimum age (at least 50) and 25 years of service requirement in order to be eligible to retire and collect a pension.

Health care changes include no more retiree health care for new hires, and active employee contribution for health insurance will be 20 percent of the premium. Both of these are in line with other groups throughout the city.

The city also will save money as training on days off will no longer be paid time and a half, and all leaves, including vacation, is at the discretion of the police chief so overtime is contained.

There are no wage increases for the contract years 2009-11, but the union was awarded a 1.5-percent wage increase that goes into effect when the contract is signed.

City Manager Clay Pearson said he felt the deal is fair to both parties and commended the group for its work.

"They have been very professional throughout the process," he said.

The part-time paid-on-call and auxiliary firefighters is the only group without a contract, but the city is expecting the arbitrator's ruling in the next few weeks.

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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Novi City Council chose to table the residential rezoning request for the parcel of land at the northwest corner of 10 Mile and Beck roads in Novi. Some of the problems with the plan were issues with density, and the lack of an access road to Beck Road.

Beck and 10 Mile rezone put on hold

Major issues include density, road access

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

The approximately 75 residents who attended the Novi City Council meeting Monday — regarding the proposed residential rezoning of the area on the northwest corner of 10 Mile and Beck roads — will have to wait a little longer after it was tabled for further discussion.

The proposal, brought forth by Beck Ten Land, is asking city council to rezone the property from R-1 to R-3, with a planned rezoning overlay. The difference between the R-1 and

R-3 zoning classifications is the density — R-1 is 1.65 dwelling units per net acre, while R-3 is 2.7 dwelling units per net acre. The PRO agreement acts as a zoning map amendment that allows the city and developer to agree on deviations to ordinances, use restrictions and tentative approval of a conceptual plan for development.

City council members listened to residents voice their issues with the plan for nearly 30 minutes before engaging in a 90-minute discussion of their own.

The unanimous decision was that they could not support

the plan — which calls for 38 total lots at a density of 1.77 units per acre — and plan to work with the developer before bringing the item back before council.

"In my opinion, if we can get the developer to agree to some of the conditions ... it's a win-win," Mayor Bob Gatt said. "It will put to bed forever the threat of commercial development going in there."

Residents' thoughts
Adherence to the city's mas-

Please see REZONE, A2

Matthews gets rave reviews from school board

Personal qualities, leadership stand out

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Steve Matthews has been superintendent of the Novi Community School District for less than a school year, but that didn't stop the Board of Education from heaping praise upon his work thus far.

Board members, who discussed his review at their meeting March 22, had nothing but good things to say about Matthews and the other administrators who work under him.



Board President Bruce Bagdady said the majority of Matthews' rankings exceeded expectations.

"To me the most important two were personal qualities and educational leadership, and those are the two categories in which you were scored the highest," Bagdady said. "It's certainly an evaluation of you. And, in a way, it's an evaluation of us because we had the opportunity not too long ago to make a very hard decision. And looking back, it was an easy call. "The evaluation shows us we did good."

Board Treasurer Ann Glubzinski said she appreciated the fact that Matthews was intent on setting goals and getting everyone focused on the same target of student achievement.

"We are a diamond to our city, and I'm proud of that and you are

Please see REVIEW, A2

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REZONE

Continued from page A1
 ter plan was the platform many residents spoke on when addressing council, as the smaller and narrower lots and slightly higher density do not match up. "The property right now has a zoning of R-1 and that's the zoning that was there when we purchased our home," resident Jill Bary said. "I think it's important to take into account our viewpoint, the people that are actually adjacent to that property."
 Bary said she feels it will lower the value of her home, and would like to see an R-1 proposal because she has yet to see one.
 Council member Andrew Mutch said coming in with 38 homes is a significant benefit to the

developer and he could not support that, while council member Terry Margolis said in her mind the density does fit with the master plan.
 "Is it a couple houses over? Yeah, but again what I'm looking for is can we get a quality residential development in there we can all be proud of and live with?" she said.
 Another resident, George Ommen, said he just wants the city to be fair. "I'm one of those who simply do not believe in having two sets of rules or two sets of regulations — one for all of us who bought property and one for another individual, not a resident, but a speculator who is trying to make money off this," he said.
Access to roads
 A big hangup for all council members was

lack of access to either Beck or 10 Mile roads. Resident, former city council member and Oakland County Commissioner Kim Capello said he was in favor of the plan if it had access to Beck Road.
 "The reason I am in favor of it is because I think it's time to get that piece developed," he said. "It's time to put some residential in there and lie to rest forever any type of commercial development that is coming."
 Gatt echoed Capello's sentiments.
 "For the development to go forward, there has to be an access road onto Beck Road and there has to be Beck Road improvements (the developer) would be responsible for paying," he said.
 Howard Fingeroot, managing partner of Pinacle Homes and Beck

Ten Land, said their objective is to "develop a quality and luxury residential development that was consistent with the general neighborhood."
 Council member Wayne Wrobel believes with a little negotiating, the city and developer could come to an agreement, but mainly it has to benefit the city.
 "One thing I keep in the back of my mind regarding PROs and other planning issues is it's not the city's responsibility to make sure a developer maximizes profit for a particular piece of property," he said. "We want him to be successful because it will benefit the city, but that is not our responsibility."
 Fingeroot said he was fine with tabling the request and plans to work with the city on its issues.

Cutting edge



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Milan Szkipala (above) carves an owl out of a pine tree stump during the March 7 Michigan Green Industry Association show at Novi's Suburban Collection Showplace. Szkipala brought a variety of chainsaws to the two-day show to demonstrate his abilities. He carved this bear (below) out of a mulberry tree stump.



REVIEW

Continued from page A1
 going to help us make it shine even more," she said.
 Trustees George Kort-

landt and Jason Manar praised Matthews for his ability to hire quality colleagues, while Secretary Bobbie Murphy was impressed with the example he sets for students

and staff by being a life-long learner.
 Matthews said he, too, is glad to have landed in Novi.
 "I truly do appreciate being in this district," he

said. "It's a great place with a lot of great staff, great students, and it's a great community to be a part of."
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District preparing students for every stage in life

By Steve Matthews
Guest Columnist

Recently, after submitting our passport application, my wife looked over at me and casually asked, "What did you put down for hair color?"

I looked in the rearview mirror. I knew what she was after, but I refused to play along. I said, "Brown."

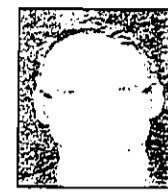
She just smiled. While I like to think that my hair is still what it used to be, truthfully, it is probably more grey than brown. I also like to think that I still have a full head of hair, but, if I were honest, I would have to admit that I have a lot less hair today than I did when I was in my 20s.

What does it all mean? First, I suppose, it means I am getting older. But that really is not the critical piece.

More importantly, it reminds me that all of us go through stages in life. It's true in my life and it is also true in the lives of the children in the Novi Community School District.

The students in our district start when they are young. Some come to us knowing their letters, shapes and colors, while others do not. Some students start school knowing how to count to 10, some can count to 20, and some can count as high as you would want them to count.

The responsibility our



Super Talk

Steve Matthews

district takes seriously is to take each child where they start and help them along to that next stage in their life. If a child needs to learn the alphabet, then we help them learn the alphabet. If a child already knows the alphabet, then we help them learn to connect letters and build words. If a child already knows how to build words and spell, then we make sure they can read.

The process extends for many years. Our responsibility is to ensure that every child will continue to grow while they are in our care. We have held ourselves accountable by establishing a district goal that says each child will make no less than one year's growth in one year's time.

For our kindergarten students that means we make sure they have strong fundamental skills in literacy and math. As students grow and enter the next stage in their life, it means we continue to help them develop the skills they need to succeed.

We are aware that each child is important and that children develop in their own unique way. Our responsibility is

to make sure we understand each child and that we then challenge them appropriately. If they can move quickly, we need to make sure that we can provide them with that challenge. If they struggle, we need to make sure we support them so when they are ready to move more quickly they will be able to do that.

No less than a year's growth in a year's time is our goal for every child. By the time the children in our district are young adults and ready to graduate from high school, our commitment is that they will be ready. At every stage in the life of children in our district our commitment is to make sure that we support, challenge, encourage, and prepare them for the next stage in their life.

I am not sure that I am ready for the stage in my life where my hair is completely grey. But I am more confident that we are working to develop a system in our school district that will support every student in appropriate and challenging ways so the children in our district are ready for each stage in their life.

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.

Winning poster



Fourth grade Orchard Hills student Lauren Moore is off to Lansing after her poster won third place from over 1,300 posters submitted to the Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness 2012 Statewide Poster Contest. She and her parents will attend an award ceremony and luncheon on April 18 in the Rotunda at the State Capitol Building in Lansing. In addition to the award, she also received a \$75 savings bond.

NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS

Fuerst Scholarships

If you are a resident of the Novi Community School district and are attending post high school education in an undergraduate program at an accredited community college, college, university, technical or vocational school, then you may be eligible for a Fuerst Scholarship. The Fuerst scholarship is based primarily on financial need and is administered through the Novi Educational Foundation. Up to \$17,000 in scholarship funds are awarded annually to qualified applicants. Application forms are available from the Novi High School Counseling Office, the Educational Services Building on Taft Road, or by calling (248) 449-1200. The deadline for applications is Friday, March 30.

Lakes Area Rotary offering scholarships

The Lakes Area Rotary Club is accepting scholarship applications from Walled Lake High School students. A minimum of three \$1,250.00 scholarships will be awarded. Eligible students will have maintained a B (3.0) average, be in good standing with the school and have actively participated in community service during their high school years. Application deadline is April 1. Applications can be secured at www.lakesarearotary.org (follow down on the right to the bottom of the page for a download) or by contacting Rotarian, Lorrie McVey at (248) 390-8572.

ON CAMPUS

Western Michigan University

The official graduation list for the 2011 fall semester includes the following Novi students: Allison Cunningham, bachelor of science; student integrated curriculum; Anthony Deneau, bachelor of business administration, sales and business marketing; Stephanie Graf, bachelor of social work, social work, cum laude; and Allison Place, bachelor of science nursing, WMU's next formal commencement, the 2012 spring semester exercises, will take place Saturday, April 28.

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE UPDATE

'Romeo & Juliet'

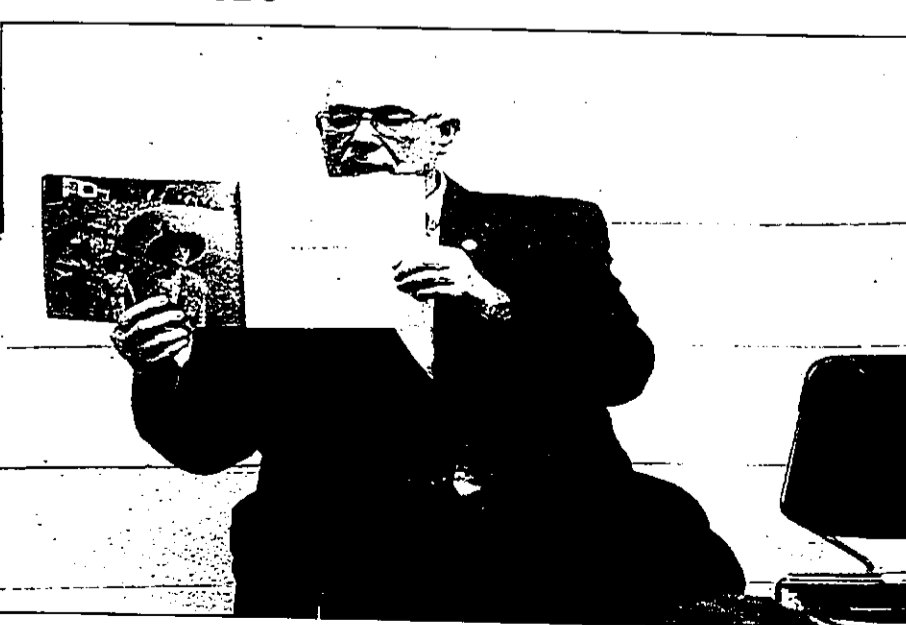
Schoolcraft College's Theatre Department presents dinner theatre performances of "Romeo and Juliet" on March 30-21, and theatre performances on April 13-14. The dinner theatre performances begin at 6:30 p.m. with dinner served in the ViTaTech Center followed by the performance at 8 p.m. in the Liberal Arts Theatre on the college's main campus in Livonia. Tickets for the dinner theatre performance are \$23 per person. Tickets for the theatre performances are \$12 per person and the

show begins at 8 p.m. in the Liberal Arts Theatre. Tickets are available in person at the Bookstore or by calling (734) 462-4596.

This very special production of Shakespeare's famous "Romeo and Juliet" has been edited by James R. Hartman, professor of theatre at Schoolcraft College, for more accessibility and ease of understanding.

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

Read s'more



State Rep. Hugh Crawford read to Village Oaks Elementary students March 12 as part of the school's Let's Read S'More Books!, March is Reading Month celebration. "This is the fun part of my job as state representative," Crawford told the students. "I enjoy coming into the community and schools and meeting with my constituents, which are all of you."

Novi chamber makes move into world of social media

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

The Novi Chamber of Commerce wants to do more for its businesses in the area.

And the organization hopes to meet their needs by stepping into the social media world through Facebook and Twitter to better promote its members and all they have to offer.

Lindsay MacDougall, who was hired as the chamber's membership coordinator in January, is heading up the social media efforts. She believes utilizing social media outlets like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube will help businesses reach more people.

"We are really excited about this," she said

Thursday at the annual Taste and Business Expo. MacDougall filmed portions of the event and plans to put a short video clip together that will be displayed on the chamber's Facebook page. The Novi High School graduate said she gets the majority of her news online, and believes the chamber can have a large impact by using social media avenues.

The chamber's Facebook page will have a new "featured" business every week, as well as other information about local businesses, including grand openings and special deals.

MacDougall also said businesses can help themselves by creating their own Facebook pages and Twitter accounts. A

chamber Twitter account is coming shortly, MacDougall said.

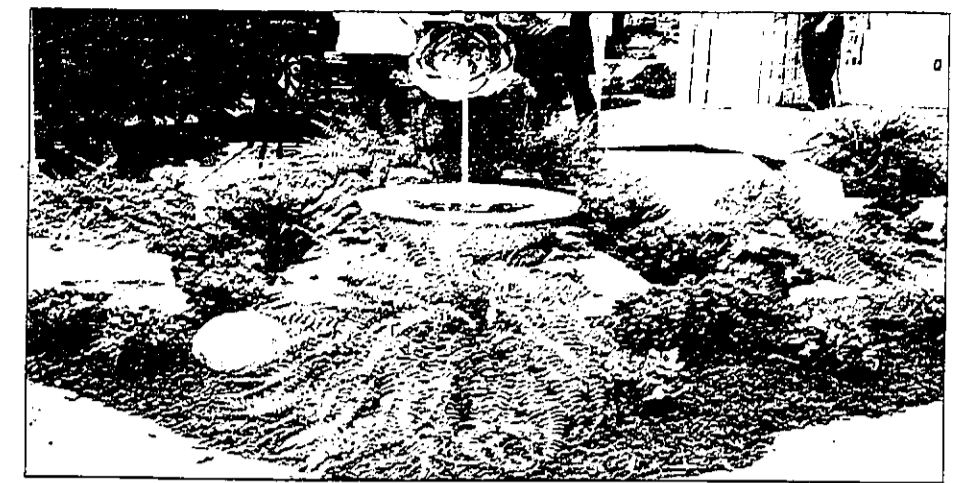
"If any business is not using social media they are doing themselves a disservice," she said.

She even is offering to help business owners get their pages off the ground if they are unsure of how to properly use it.

People can check out or post to the Novi Chamber of Commerce's Facebook page by going to www.novichamber.com or through Facebook at www.facebook.com/novichamber.

"We really expect it to take off in the next month," MacDougall said.

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Learn landscape design tips at the Spring Home & Garden Show, March 30-April 1 at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

Home & Garden Show hits Novi

DETAILS

Event: Spring Home & Garden Show
Location: Suburban Collection Showplace (north side of Grand River Avenue between Taft and Beck roads, Novi)
Date: March 30-April 1
Times: 2-9 p.m. Friday; 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday; 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday

Details: Walk through 25,000 square feet of landscaped gardens and browse hundreds of home improvement booths and exhibits. Talk to local home improvement specialists and designers to see the latest in indoor and outdoor design and get inspired.

Cost: \$8 for adults (ages 13 and up); \$7 for seniors (ages 60 and up); free for children ages 12 and under. Discount \$1 off coupons are available at www.novihomeshow.com. Home Depot stores in Brighton, Northville and Novi, Metro-Detroit Imagine Theatres, in the Indoor/Outdoor magazine and in area newspapers. Each family that purchases an admission ticket will receive a 1-year subscription to Better Homes & Gardens magazine.

Sponsor: Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan.

include:

- Landscape Design Tips from a Landscape Designer — Jeremy Christianson
- Three characteristics to look for when selecting plant materials and two you should avoid — Jeremy Christianson
- Armageddon Getting Tired of Replacing My Plants Every Year
- I Need Some Bloomsday Advice! — Bryan Mitnik

Find answers to your toughest gardening questions in the "Ask the Expert" area hosted by the Southeast Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association. Garden experts will be able for one-on-one consultations for landscaping and gardening assistance.

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Easter Store Hours
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Friday, April 6th - Saturday, April 7th: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
EASTER SUNDAY, April 8th: CLOSED

www.HoneyBakedFoods.com



Glenn Garowski describes how he felt following surgery for colon cancer. With him is Ila Onofrio, another patient of Dr. Amir Damadi. Those two along with Julie Moore spoke about the disease during Colon Cancer Awareness Month.

NOVI NEWS BRIEFS

100th Anniversary of Japan's Gift of Trees celebrated in Novi

In the year 1912, more than 3,000 flowering cherry trees were sent from Japan to the United States as a symbol of the friendship between the countries. In celebration of this 100th anniversary of the Gift of Trees the Embassy of Japan has been working with several partner organizations to reinforce this symbolism of friendship. Together with the Japanese Consulates in the U.S., the Embassy has taken the initiative to promote the planting of flowering cherry trees in a number of cities across the United States, with the hope that these plantings of beautiful cherry blossoms will further deepen Japan-U.S. friendship.

The City of Novi will be taking part in this initiative with an event-filled week of plantings and programming celebrating the Japanese culture beginning May 12. The celebration will culminate with an official planting ceremony at the Novi Civic Center on May 19, which will include entertainment by such local Japanese groups as the White Pine Glee Club, Trillium Women's Choir and Raion Taiko. Additional plantings and events will take place at St. John Providence Park Hospital, the Novi Public Library and Novi Meadows Middle School/Ringo Kai Japanese Saturday School.

As the city with the largest population of Japanese residents in the state of Michigan, and host of an annual Japan Festival, the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit is delighted Novi is among the initial 36 cities in the US where plantings have been planned.

The young trees to be planted in this initiative have been provided by the nonprofit conservation organization American Forests. The initiative has been funded by the support from the private sector.

Easter Bunny hops into 12 Oaks Mall

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

Photos with the Easter Bunny are available for purchase, and each child who visits receives a free gift. Central Park Garden is located in the Lower Level Center Court.

A new feature this year: the Easter Bunny has made some new furry friends. All customers can stop by the Easter Set and purchase a DVD and BLU-RAY copy of the popular Alvin and the Chipmunks: series. And each Easter photo package includes a promotional certificate for a free 8x11 photo book from Snapfish.

The Easter Bunny remains at Twelve Oaks Mall through Saturday, April 7. Photo operation hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. The Easter Bunny takes brief carrot breaks throughout the day. A complete list of photo packages and prices is available on www.shoptwelveoaks.com.

Gleaners Smart Bites

Huntington National Bank and Emagine Theaters are teaming up all through March to support Gleaners.

Please see BRIEFS, A8

Cancer diagnosis surprised these three

By Sandra Armbruster
Eccentric Staff Writer

LEARN MORE

What: Dr. Amir Damadi will be giving a lecture on colon cancer
When: 6:30 p.m. March 27
Where: Providence Park Hospital, 47601 W. Grand River, Novi. Use the Heart Institute entrance. Refreshments will be provided.

know how to really tell them. We didn't want to scare them, but they need to know that life is not always rosy. We did kind of sugar coat it." At Stage 2 for colon cancer, Moore is now going through chemotherapy.

"She's going to have a wonderful outcome," Damadi said.

The situation, and surgical outcome, was somewhat different for Garowski, who had noted some blood in his stool.

Damadi explained that he knew something wasn't right with Garowski's situation, but didn't say anything immediately. Usually a CT scan and other tests are performed before surgery, he said.

"In Glenn's case, the (lesion) was very close to the end of the rectum... In situations like that, I have to remove the entire area," he said.

That meant that Garowski would have

a permanent colostomy bag, something that Damadi said is pretty tough to talk with patients about.

"It was a shocker," Garowski admitted. "I had limited understanding of the situation, but (I knew there would be) substantial changes in your plumbing."

"Boy, that's not what I wanted to have. It's like having a diaper for a 63-year-old."

That was a year ago, and Garowski just had a check up with another CT scan and is awaiting the results.

Ila Onofrio, 49, had noticed that she just didn't "go" as much as she used to. She was 47 at the time. A lesion was found, requiring what Damadi said was more aggressive treatment.

"I went after everything I could," the doctor said. Onofrio has had both chemotherapy and radiation. "You do what you have to do," Onofrio said. "I didn't feel terrible."

SOUTHFIELD — Julie Moore figured being tired was no big deal. After all, she said, she has two teenage sons. But her doctor thought differently.

"I thank God she did," Moore said. It turned out that Moore was extremely anemic, she said, and a colonoscopy was ordered.

"It all happened so fast," she added. "I have a very strong faith."

Indeed, Dr. Amir Damadi, who was performing a procedure in a room adjacent to where Moore's colonoscopy was being performed, was called in to consult. Damadi is a co-ordinator of the colorectal center for excellence at Providence Hospital in Southfield. He removed a section of her colon through minimally invasive procedure called a laproscopic surgery that, he said, gets patients out of the hospital sooner

and "lets them live a normal life."

Moore, 45, was one of three patients who, along with Damadi, spoke with the *South Oakland Eccentric* in Southfield's Providence Hospital at the start of colon awareness month in March.

The other two — Glenn Garowski and Ila Onofrio — joined Moore in expressing their appreciation for the doctor during what was a trying time.

"You do think about your children," said Moore, whose sons are ages 13 and 14. "We didn't

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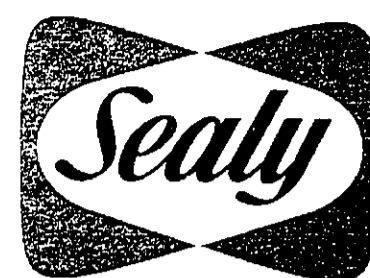
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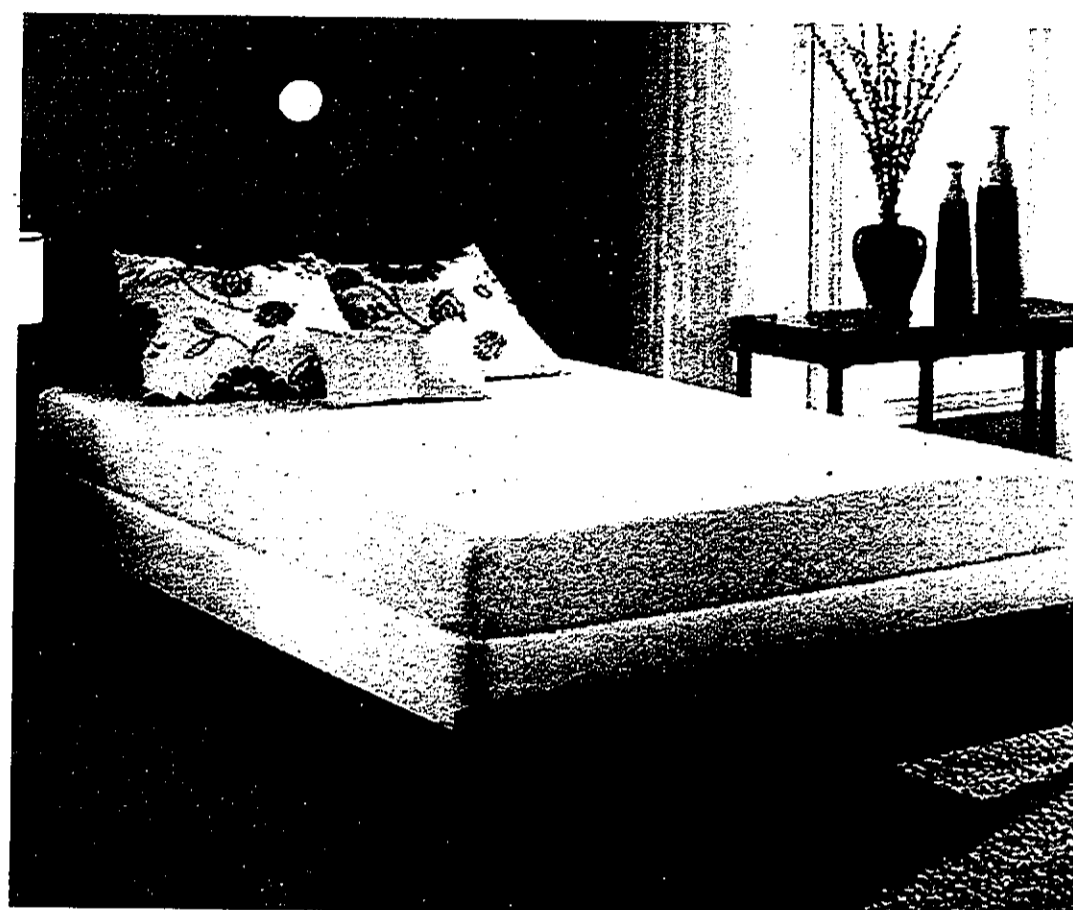
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Dearborn - Fairlane Town Center (Upper level next to JCPenny) Phone: 313.893.1800
Ann Arbor - East - 4843 Washtenaw Rd (1 Mile East of US 23) Phone: 734-978-9200

Novi - 25180 Ingersoll Drive (S. of I-96 in Novi Town Center) Phone: 248-348-8484
Royal Oak - 28074 N. Woodward (Next to Naked Furniture) Phone: 248-414-8909
Livonia - 31829 Plymouth Rd (Across from East Side Market) Phone: 734-428-1800

Roseville - 35088 Grand (Across from Macomb Mall) Phone: 586-294-8360
Southgate - 17820 Burdick Rd (Across from Ray Hunter) Phone: 734-281-7766
Royal Oak - 32767 Woodward (1 block S. of 74 Mile) Phone: 248-549-1951

Troy - 3526 Rochester Rd (Big Beaver & Watters) Phone: 248-743-1088
Waterford - 2585 W. Walton Blvd (Next to McDonalds) Phone: 248-673-1160
Taylor - 23480 Eureka Rd (Across from Value City) Phone: 734-287-0454

CALENDAR

Continued from page A9

welcome. Check website for speaker information; novotary.org.
NOVI LIONS CLUB
Time/Date: 6 p.m. social; 6:30 p.m. meeting starts; second and fourth Wednesdays
Location: Leo's Sports Bar & Grill Restaurant, lower level, 40380 Grand River, west of Haggerty. Visitors are welcome. Dinner is from the menu. Details: Novi Lions is part of Lions International, the largest service organization in the world. Our purpose is to serve the blind and the community. Principal activities are fundraising for Leader Dogs, Penick-Ten Center for Blind Children and other blind charities along with fundraisers for high school scholarships. Serving locally, in Michigan and worldwide as there is the need.
Contact: Lion President Ron Martin, (248) 473-1156 or Lion Secretary Ed Kramer, (248) 348-2747

Lyrical Lines

WALLED LAKE LIBRARY
Location: 1499 East West Maple Road, Walled Lake
Contact: (248) 624-3772
HUD Counseling
Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. first Mondays
Details: HUD-certified counselors are available to assist homeowners at 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 joining this recently-formed group.
NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY
Location: 45255 W. Ten Mile Road
Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sundays, 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

Details: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the library. Register for programs at the library or on the library website.
Contact: (248) 349-0720
Web: www.novilibrary.org
Story Times: Please see the Library website or story time brochure for details.
Knit Zgether Knitting Circle
Time/Date: 10-11:30 a.m. Thursdays, March 29 and April 5
Details: If you have a leaning towards knitting or any of the related handcrafts Knit Zgether Knitting Circle just might be your cup of tea. No instructor, no registration, and of course, attendance is free.
Reference USA Training
Time/Date: 7-8 p.m. Thursday, March 29
Details: RefUSA is a business directory database offered through the Novi Public Library containing current information on more than 14 million US businesses and 89 million US residents. Learn how to use this powerful business directory to generate lists of potential customers; find suppliers; look up credit ratings; find local businesses; generate a list of potential employers; find a specific person from a national white pages listing. Registration required.
PNC Bank presents Listen @ The Library
Time/Date: 3-4 p.m. Sunday, April 1
Details: PNC Bank, The Chamber Music Society of Detroit, and the Novi Library proudly present this family concert. New York Philharmonic Principal Player, Nancy Allen, will join internationally renowned flutist, Carol Wincenc, as they merge their individual skills of high artistry and extraordinary technical command in this wonderful performance.
Open Office Hours in the Local History Room
Time/Date: noon-2 p.m. Monday, April 2
Details: On the first and third Mondays of each month, a member of the Novi Historical Commission will hold office hours in the Local History Room to help researchers use its many resources.
Pin it - Crafty Clothespin Concoction
Time/Date: 2-3 p.m. Monday, April 2
Details: Grab some clothespins and let's make something new. Paint, decoupage, or draw on these conventional items and watch them transform to frames for a variety of objects. For grades 5-12. Please register.
Monday Evening Book Discussion
Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Monday, April 2
Details: Join your neighbors for a discussion of Once Upon a River by Bonnie Jo Campbell.
Spring Break Creature Feature
Time/Date: 11 a.m.-noon Tuesday, April 3
Details: Meet "Dan the Creature Man" and a bunch of his animal friends. Learn about the animals, their habitats, and history. Fun for all ages.
Help for Families from OLHSA
Time/Date: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesdays, April 3 and 10
Details: Meet with an OLHSA (Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency) staff member for support with Medicaid, food, cash, foreclosure, many other human services. Please call the OLHSA office at 248-209-2686 to make an appointment.
Animanga Club
Time/Date: 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 4
Details: Join us as we discuss anime, talk about manga, and generally have fandom-fun. And yeah, there will be snacks! For grades 5-12. Please register.
Spring Break Carnival @ NPL
Time/Date: 2-3 p.m. Thursday, April 5
Details: Come on in for a carnival of fun. We will have carnival games, activities, crafts, and a snack for grades K-4. Please register.
Kiddie Crafts
Time/Date: 10:30-11 a.m. Saturday, April 7
Details: Toddlers and preschoolers (ages 18 months-4 years) will have the opportunity to create a work of art using their imaginations and the supplies that we will provide. We may get messy so please dress accordingly. Each child must be accompanied by an adult helper. Registration is required.
ESL - Joy of Reading
Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Monday, April 9
Details: Fun and interactive program for the High Beginning to Low Intermediate English speaker. This is part of a 6-week series. Registration is required. Books and materials will be provided. Free.
Snack Tales
Time/Date: 7:45 p.m. Monday, April 9
Details: Each time we meet you will get a chance to listen to some great stories and cook up a tasty snack. For grades K-4. Registration required.
English Conversation Group
Time/Date: 1-2 p.m. Tuesday, April 10
Details: Make friends while you practice your English pronunciation and conversation skills. No fee to register.
Starlight Story Time
Time/Date: 7-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 10
Details: One of your favorite NPL Youth Librarians will combine stories, music, and fun for a special bedtime treat at this preschool story time. Wear your pajamas and you'll be all ready for bed when you get home.
Internet Instruction for Seniors
Time/Date: 10:30-11 a.m. Wednesday, April 11
Details: Personal instruction by a Librarian on internet basics such as navigating the task bar, searching with known addresses and keyword searching. Registration required.
Booked for Lunch
Time/Date: noon-1 p.m. Wednesday, April 11
Details: Join your neighbors for a discussion of Please Look After Mom by Kyung-Sook Shin. Feel free to bring a snack.

Passages
Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • htwtobits@hometownlife.com
Deadline: Tuesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

BLASCHAK, MARY M. (nee Comer)
February 26, 1924 - March 14, 2012
Online condolences: obrienullivanfuneralhome.com
DURBIN, AGNES C.
Age 89, of South Lyon, passed away March 25th, 2012. She was born on February 3rd, 1923, in Detroit, daughter of the late Richard and Annie Hamilton. Agnes enjoyed hearing about the active lives of her family members over a good family meal. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, friend and was happiest when she was in the presence of her family and her circle of friends in South Lyon. She is survived by her loving daughter Linda K. Peirier; her grandson Terry (Kelly) Peirier; and her great grandchildren Kendall and Leo. She is also survived by her sister-in-law Hazel Hamilton and her nephew Rick Hamilton. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, March 28th from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the funeral service at 12:00 p.m. (Noon) at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon, in memory of Agnes, contributions may be made to the Humane Society, P.O. Box 7026, Liberty Station, Ann Arbor, MI 48107. Online Guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com
ISAACSON, JULIAINE "Julie"
Age 63, longtime resident of Northville, MI, passed away peacefully March 20, 2012. She was born September 29, 1948 in Watertown, SD to Earl and Virgil (Saraann) Isaacson. She was a 1966 graduate of Lake Norden High School in Lake Norden, SD. She worked at Starting Gate in Northville for many years. She is survived by her loving siblings, Stephen (Terri) Isaacson, Earleen (Tom) Walter, and Pam (Larry) Hein; and her sister-in-law Cindy Isaacson. She was also loved by many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother Randy Isaacson. Private family services were held and at Juliaine's request her body was donated to the University of Michigan Medical School. Contributions to Salvation Army, 9451 S. Main St., Plymouth, MI 48170 or other charity of the givers choice would be appreciated. Arrangements by: www.casterlinefuneralhome.com
MILLER, MARY LOUISE
December 13, 1920 - March 13, 2012. Online condolences: obrienullivanfuneralhome.com
RICE, BETTY J.
3/20/2012. Wife of the late Wes. Interment Greenwood Cemetery, Memorial Service at Heifer International or Community Sharing. www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com
SCHIMMEL, LAWRENCE J.
December 18, 1916 - March 13, 2012. Online condolences: obrienullivanfuneralhome.com
WELCH, GERTRUDE ANN
April 14, 1933 - March 18, 2012. Online condolences: obrienullivanfuneralhome.com
ZAPP, RUTH B.
Age 98, passed away March 19, 2012. She was born on December 31, 1913, in Detroit, to the late Frederick and Johanna (Stienke) Brauer. Ruth is survived by her sisters: Leona (James) Bey, Annamias Seembae; brother Lorne (Erlene) Brauer; 20 nieces, nephews and many great-nieces and nephews, and loving friends. Visitation was held on March 22, and a funeral service was held on March 23, Friday, at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to Immanuel Lutheran Church, 230 E. Liberty St., South Lyon, MI 48178 or Grace Hospice. Online guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com

FILIPEK, ROBERT
Age 61, of South Lyon, passed away March 23, 2012. Memorial service 3/29/2012 at 11 a.m. at Casterline Funeral Home.
GERWIN, PAIGE FRANCES
March 20, 2012 - March 21, 2012. Online condolences: obrienullivanfuneralhome.com
SCHIMMEL, LAWRENCE J.
December 18, 1916 - March 13, 2012. Online condolences: obrienullivanfuneralhome.com
WELCH, GERTRUDE ANN
April 14, 1933 - March 18, 2012. Online condolences: obrienullivanfuneralhome.com
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Let others know...
When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages"... a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.
Call 1-800-579-7355

Food for thought



Nearly 100 church members, friends and community volunteers assembled and packed 10,000 meals on March 25 at Meadowbrook Congregational Church as part of Kids Against Hunger's efforts to support local and global hunger relief. Both children and adults gathered to assemble ingredients (a combination of rice, soy and vegetables), weigh, seal and box food packets. Local distribution was designated to Northville Civic Center, which currently is facing a dire shortage of food donations. Other distribution will be to global areas in crisis. Meadowbrook Congregational Church provided volunteers with a soup lunch immediately following the packing. Partnering with Kids Against Hunger for the event was Bridgepointe, a nonprofit charitable organization that promotes city and suburban partnerships in the Detroit area.

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Mass Schedule
Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Friday; 7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday.
Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.
Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment
Priests: Father Bob LaCroix, pastor and Father Michael Zuelich, associate pastor
Lenten events
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursdays
Details: "Catholicism" DVD discussion
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Fridays
Details: stations of the cross
CROSSPOINT MEADOWS CHURCH
Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 669-9400, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit www.crosspointe-meadows.org.
Sunday Worship: 11:15 a.m.
Bible study classes: 10 a.m. for all ages
Details: Nursery and older children programs available. Worship blends traditional

GET LISTED!
Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstone@annett.com; by fax to (248) 685-2892; or by mail to Church Events/Northville-Nov, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.
and contemporary elements resulting in a multi-sensory worship experience.
Destiny Worship Center
Locations: Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 6 Mile Road, Northville
Contact: DestinyW3C@gmail.com or visit www.DW3C.org
EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Location: 34567 7 Mile Road, Livonia
Contact: (248) 442-8822
FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit www.faith-community-novi.org
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Book of Revelation Study
Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 9:30

a.m. Wednesdays
Details: Come and learn what John is writing about; what the symbolism means, and how this book still speaks to us today.
Faith Journeys
Date: Third Sundays
Details: Following worship and fellowship, someone will share how they have experienced God in their life and the difference that has made.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
Location: 217 N. Wing
Contact: (248) 348-1020
Sunday School: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.
Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.
Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays
Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NOVI-FAMILY INTEGRATED CHURCH
Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-3647 or firstbaptist-church@novi.org
Family Bible Hour: 9:45 a.m.
Family Worship: 11 a.m.
Bible Study: 6 p.m.

Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every month
FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
Location: 21260 Haggerty Road, north of 8 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 348-7600 or visit dfcnazarene.org
Sunday Schedule: 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's program, Youth Worship Service
Wednesday Schedule: 5:30 p.m. Family Meal, \$5 per person, \$15 per family, 7 p.m. Children's Caravan, Club 56, Bible Study, Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth Blast
Thursday Schedule: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group
Have a New Kid by Friday!
Time/Date: 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, April 18-May 23
Details: A new parenting series by Dr. Kevin Lemm. Join for dinner between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. (\$5 per person), followed by the series at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
Please see EVENTS, A13

Your Invitation to Worship

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

OUR VIEWS

Beyond the presidency

Filing deadline approaching for variety of other races

While the Michigan primary is over, there are still many months left before voters throughout the country decide who will serve as U.S. president for the next four years.

But the decisions made at the ballot box won't be limited to the person who will sit in the Oval Office. Positions for U.S. Congress and various courts as well as candidates for the state House of Representatives and Wayne and Oakland county commissions have terms expiring at the end of the year.

There are always strong turnouts at the polls for presidential elections, but the local races have a far greater impact on families and businesses. It is state lawmakers who passed sweeping changes last year, cutting business taxes and taxing pensions. State elected officials decide how much money goes toward schools, prisons, recreation and more. Local government manages such things as the library, police and fire services, senior center and land use.

As the region works its way out of its economic slump, these next few years will be key in setting the communities up for the future. Who we elect to make the decisions is important.

Our hope is that strong, serious, community-minded folks willing to take a more active role in their community will get involved and seek office.

For those interested in any of these full-time elected positions, we urge them to start the process now. The filing deadline for partisan and nonpartisan candidates in state races is May 15 for the Aug. 7 primary. Candidates without party affiliation must file by July 19 for the November 6 general election. Public office is a big commitment, and one we don't want to see people make on the eve of the filing deadline. Take the time to do your research and then decide. The last thing we need is people who are candidates in name only.

Must read

March is reading month, and school children in Novi, as well as around the country, have been busy flipping pages, feeding their brains so they can grow. March has been selected as Reading Month in part because of the birthday of author Theodor Geisel, an American writer, poet, and cartoonist most widely known for his children's books written under the pen name of Dr. Seuss. Many a youngster has grown up with his *Cat in the Hat*, *Green Eggs and Ham* and *The Foot Book*. Many of his stories have become movies like *Horton Hears a Who* and *The Lorax*.

In today's world, doing well depends on being able to read. It is the backbone of life. Reading is important because it develops the mind. It also is important because it is how we discover new things.

Reading also is important because words — spoken and written — are the building blocks of life. Words we have heard or read help us become the persons we are. People, families, relationships and even nations are built from words.

Reading needs to be celebrated every month. It needs to be celebrated by those who can read and pursued by those who want to read. Those of us who can read need to help those who can't.

Reading is lifelong. It's a skill we must have, a skill we must make certain everyone has.

It's not just a case of need. It's a case of we must make every month Reading Month. So while reading month wraps up this weekend, we hope you — and your children — decide not to put that book down.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What are your plans for spring break?



"Taking a cruise to Belize, Honduras, Cozumel and Grand Cayman with family and friends. There are about 50-70 Novi seniors going."

Callie Wright
Novi senior



"I'm going up North with my family to our cottage in Kalkaska."

Rachel Murray
Novi junior



"My mom and brother are going to the Dominican Republic, but I am staying home with my sister and just hanging out."

Alison Trainor
Novi junior



"Going to Costa Rica on the school Spanish trip. I have never been out of the country so I'm pretty excited."

Kelsey Larkin
Novi junior

LETTERS

Republican control tactic

Thank you for another editorial condemning the power grab by the Republicans of Oakland County with the help of Republican state legislators and Gov. Snyder (Who's in charge? 3/22/12). I could not agree more that this was done for no other reason than to maintain Republican control of the county.

The Apportionment Commission that the Republicans are trying to nullify came under Democrat majority because they were placed in office when Oakland County voted Democrat in the 2008 election.

Brooks Patterson has often said that Oakland County is voting more Democrat because of people moving in from Wayne County and other Democrat-leaning areas. While that may be true for me personally, my wife and both our sons were born in this county and all vote Democrat. And it just might be that voters are switching to Democrats as they see Republicans more concerned with party control than following the voters' wishes.

If the Michigan Supreme Court proves to also be politically partisan, let's hope voters and the press remember in November. For those who think this is just politics and the Democrats got outfoxed, I suggest reading comments made by some of those in on the Power Grab on the Democrat club county website, www.OCDP.org.

Chuck Tindall
Novi

Health care law vital

Many myths exist regarding one of President Obama's signature accomplishments — the 2010 health reform act. In 2011, several lawsuits questioned the constitutionality of the ACA, especially the key provision called the individual mandate. Those legal challenges were thrown out. Most law experts and judges, including conservative judges, agree the mandate is constitutional.

The individual mandate places responsibility on all adults to obtain health insurance either through their employers or buying it themselves. There will be subsidies for those who cannot afford insurance. All people need health care during their lifetime, whether they buy it or not. Otherwise taxpayers pay the bill.

Basics of the ACA are: 32 million more Americans will be insured. The quality of health care will improve. Costs for all will be controlled. The act does not harm seniors. Medicare is more sustainable and more affordable for seniors. A national movement titled Doctors for America supports the ACA.

The Supreme Court was to devote three days (March 26-28) to hearing testimonies for and against the ACA. Rarely has this much time been given for an issue. Recently, two new conservative Republican judges replaced two moderate judges on the highest court in the land. Since then, this Supreme Court has revised its precedents on such issues as race, abortion and campaign finance reform. Recall the Citizens' United Ruling which said corporations are people and

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

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Mail: Letters to the Editor, Novi News, 101 N. Lafayette St., South Lyon, MI 48178
Fax: (248) 437-3386
E-mail: cstone@hometownlife.com

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.
Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Online: Due to space limitations, not all letters submitted can be published in our print edition. However, all letters will be published online each week at www.hometownlife.com.

could donate unlimited amounts of money to candidates.

Being aware of how the Supreme Court rules on the health care reform, a Republican president would likely nominate another conservative judge. President Obama must be re-elected so that he and his administration can perfect the ACA by making needed changes, additions and corrections.

To know the real truth about this landmark act, go to www.health-care.gov

Hannah Provence Donigan

Commerce

Stunned

The demands of anti-big-government groups befuddle me. They obviously resent government meddling in health care, environment protection, transportation safety, etc., but they persist in their almost fanatical demands that women procreate whether they want to or not; that an individual's sperm or eggs should be governed by law; that one's beliefs regarding creationism vs. evolution had better adhere to their own beliefs, and children should be indoctrinated accordingly. Who are these people (other than Santorum)? Where did they come from? Were they born and raised in this country? Unbelievable!

Patrick Downey
Novi

Observing downtown business

I went for a walk through downtown Northville last Thursday. I was surprised at how few people were on the streets. It was almost like a ghost town except for The Next Chapter Bookstore & Bistro. Immediately, I was concerned about the businesses.

As Mr. Riffle pointed out in your article, vehicle traffic is low and, also, Northville is a destination. The events, festivals and activities are the best way to bring people here. I enjoy the Friday nights music event; the streets are full of people. However, I have noticed that most of the businesses are closed on these Friday nights. So, people can

only window shop and not buy. If you go to downtown Plymouth on Friday nights in the summer for their music event, almost every business is open. Just an observation.

Carol Maynard
Northville

Are cyber schools good for Michigan?

The Michigan Legislature is poised to pass SB-619, which will allow virtually unlimited expansion of cyber schools in the state. Before we hand over \$7,000+ of our taxpayers' hard-earned money for every student who signs up for a cyber school, shouldn't we examine the success and failure of cyber schools?

We can learn from the experiences of other states. Investigative reports from Colorado, Florida and Pennsylvania and elsewhere raise serious concerns about the effectiveness of private for-profit companies, like K-12 Inc that are running cyber schools in Michigan. These findings are detailed in Education Week (Oct. 5, 2011) — "Test Scores Raise Questions About Colorado Virtual Schools" and in the New York Times (Dec. 12, 2011) — "Profits and Questions About Online School."

• Half of online students end up leaving within a year. When they do leave, they're often further behind academically than when they started. Online schools produce three times as many dropouts as they do graduates. One of every eight online students drops out of school permanently — a rate four times the state average.

• Millions of dollars are going to virtual schools for students who no longer attend online classes. • The churn of students in and out of online schools is putting pressure on brick-and-mortar public schools. Virtual school dropouts often try returning to local schools, which must try to educate them despite not receiving the foundation grant from the state.

• Online virtual schools maintain high student-teacher ratio, ranging from 70 for elementary students to 270 for high school classes. Most students have little or no contact with their teacher. Typically, they may speak by phone once every other week.

• The CEO of the for-profit K-12 Inc was paid \$5 million of taxpayer monies last year, while teacher pay and benefits have been substantially reduced in our local public schools.

In light of these facts it would be irresponsible to allow a massive expansion of cyber schools in Michigan. This learning approach may have a place in a blended approach of the future 21st century, but the proper role and use of these virtual schools is far from worthy of a massive investment of precious education dollars at this time.

Urge our elected representatives to investigate more closely before handing over millions to private for-profit virtual schools.

Scott Craig
Northville school board member

EVENTS

Continued from page A11

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

Location: 200 E. Main Street
Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit firstpres-northville.org

Sunday Worship

Time: 9:30, 11 a.m.

Single Place

Time/Date: 7 p.m. every Thursday

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

Date: March 29

Details: Cards & Games Night. Enjoy playing euchre, Mexican train and other games. Also honoring those who have had birthdays in the months of February and March. Birthday cake and snacks will be provided; \$5 donation please.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

Location: 777 West 8 Mile Road, Northville
Contact: (248) 349-1144 or visit www.funorthville.org

Sunday Worship

Meditative - Held in the Chapel - 8 a.m.
Contemporary - Held in the Sanctuary - 9:15 a.m.

Traditional - Held in the Sanctuary - 11 a.m.

Sunday School

Nursery - 8 a.m.
Nursery - 12th grade - 9:15 a.m.
Nursery - 6th grade/Special Needs - 11 a.m.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Location: 41415 9 Mile Road, corner of Meadowbrook Road, Novi
Contact: (248) 349-0565

Sunday

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

HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 427-1175 or holycrossnovi@gmail.com; visit holycrossnovi.org

Sunday Worship: 7:45 and 10 a.m.

Sunday School and Nursery Care: 10 a.m. Worship Service

Alzheimer's Support Group

Time/Date: 10 a.m. second Saturday of

month

LAKES BAPTIST CHURCH

Location: 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake

LIVONIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.

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

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Location: 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between 8 and 9 Mile roads

Contact: Rev. Arthur R. Ritter, Senior Minister (248) 348-7757, visit mbccc.org or e-mail to office@mbccc.org

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

Church School: 10-11 a.m.

Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m.

Merry Widows Luncheon

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of each month Pilgrim Fellowship

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sundays

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

Location: 41355 6 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 348-9030

Sundays 9-10 a.m.: Sunday School for Adults / Youth / Children

9 a.m.: Contemporary service in multi-purpose gymnasium

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

Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study

8:45-10:30 a.m.; (cafe)

Wednesday Family Night

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

NOVI-NORTHVILLE CENTER FOR JEWISH LIFE

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

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

NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-2652 or visit umcnovi.com

Sunday Worship

Time: 9:45 a.m.

Healing Service and Holy Communion

Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month

Peace Vigil

Time/Date: Noon, first Sunday of every month

Location: In front of the church

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

Advent Service

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

OAK POINTE CHURCH

Location: 50200 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi
Contact: (248) 912-0043 or visit oakpointe.org

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

ReNew Life Group Ministries

Time/Date: 7:15-9 p.m. every Monday

Details: Overseen by TrueNorth Christian Counseling, offering a variety of support and relational groups: Divorce Care; Grief Share; Life Disrupted (Doing Well At Being Sick); Restarting; Setting Boundaries with Teen & Adult Children; Single and Single Again; Men's Integrity; Cross Current; Her Story-Partner Care; Growing Seasons (for children); and two new groups are Caretakers and Knitted Together (Adoption/Foster Care) Workshops.

Contact: (248) 912-0043; http://www.oakpointe.org/lifegroups/renew/index.html

Women's Life Groups Ministries

Time/Date: 7 p.m. every Tuesday 9:30 a.m. every Wednesday

Men's Life Groups Ministries

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

ORCHARD HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

Location: 23455 Novi Road
Contact: Pastor Jon Hix (248) 349-5665

Preschool/Kids Choir

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

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

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Location: 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth

Contact: (734) 453-0326, Ext. 221

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Location: 770 Thayer, Northville
Contact: (248) 349-2621 or olnorthville.org

Saturday Worship

Time: 5 p.m.

Sunday Worship

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

OUR SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Location: 1200 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth

Contact: Pastor Bill Burke at (734) 927-0891

Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.

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

PENTECOSTALS OF NOVI

Location: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road

Contact: (248) 697-8158 or visit www.thepentecostalsofnovi.org

PLYMOUTH-ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Location: 574 S. Sheldon Road in Plymouth

Contact: 734-453-0190, ext. 16, or visit www.stjohnsplymouth.org

PRAISE BAPTIST CHURCH

Location: 45000 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth

Contact: (734) 748-3898

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

Location: 46325 10 Mile Road, Novi

Contact: (248) 347-7778

Mass Schedule

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

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Location: 574 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth

Contact: (734) 453-0190, ext. 16, or visit www.stjohnsplymouth.org

Weekend of Centennial Celebration The Centennial Festival Eucharist

Time/Date: 10 a.m.

Details: Service to celebrate official centennial anniversary with Bishop Wendell Gibbs joining for a combined service. Staff is busy with plans for this service including special music and it will be the first use of the banners created by the women and men of the parish. After the service, join the celebration reception and enjoy fellowship with the people of St. John's.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Location: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills

Contact: (248) 474-0584 or visit stjohn-lutheran.com

Saturday Worship

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship

Time: 9, 11:15 a.m.

Sunday School

Time: 10:15 a.m.

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NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Drunk driver stopped with weed

A Northville woman was arrested on March 22 for drunk driving, possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia after she was stopped at the intersection of Novi Road and Grand River Avenue.

According to the police report, the officer stopped behind the driver at Main and Grand River when the driver did not turn on a green light, instead waiting for another cycle of the light. The officer followed the driver for a bit before stopping her.

The woman admitted to drinking and failed field sobriety tests. A preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .13 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers in Michigan is .08 percent.

During inventory of the vehicle, the officer also found a bag of marijuana in the center console and a pipe in her purse. She admitted to the items being hers.

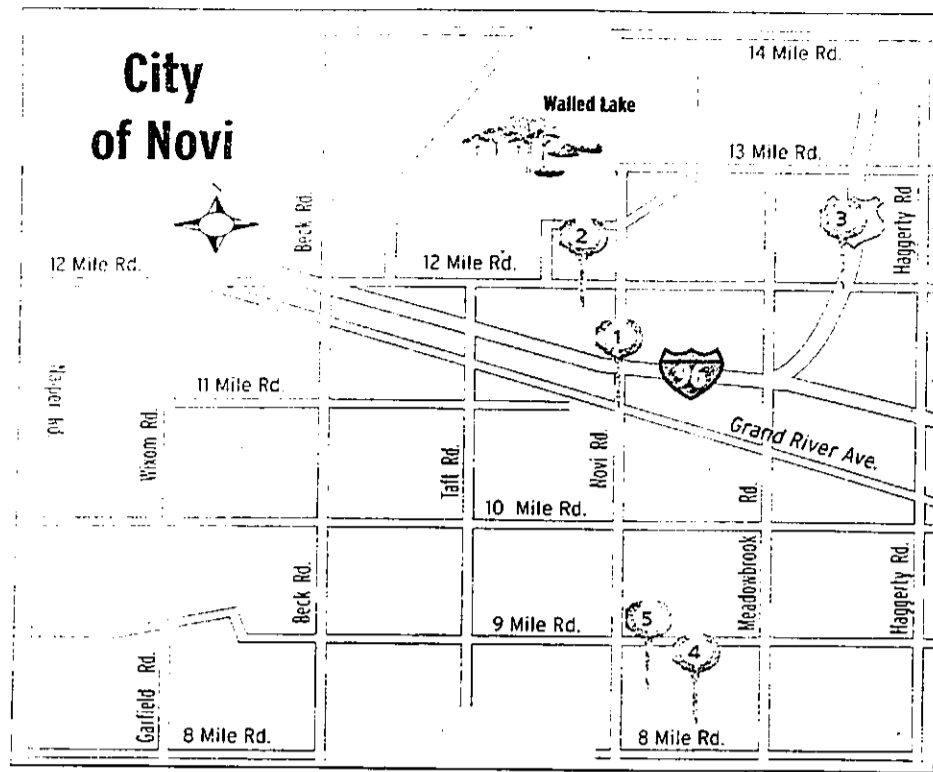
She was issued citations on the three charges and released after posting bond and when sober.

Women caught stealing from Kohl's

A pair of women were arrested for retail fraud after they were caught concealing items in their purses and cart at Kohl's on March 25.

According to the police report, the store manager and loss prevention officer observed the women switching items in shoe boxes and hiding them in the cart and also in a purse.

The two exited the store and fled when police arrived. Police were able



to catch both women, who admitted to taking the items but tried to take blame for each other.

Both were issued citations for retail fraud and released after posting bond. The total value of the items taken was estimated at \$180.

Two arrested after accident

Novi police arrested two men after the vehicle they were driving went off the road into a drainage ditch on M-5 and 12 Mile Road.

According to the police report, one man was out of the vehicle when officers arrived and neither would say who was driving. Police were eventually able to determine who the driver was, and he admitted to drinking. A preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol

content of .095 percent.

The driver was arrested for operating while intoxicated and driving while license suspended, while the passenger was arrested on an outstanding warrant out of Wayne County.

Seat taken off motorcycle

A 52-year-old Novi man had his seat and side bags taken off his 2009 Harley Davidson motorcycle while it was parked at the Woodland Glen apartments sometime between March 22-24.

According to the police report, the motorcycle was covered and in the car port when the larceny occurred. The victim said the cover was on the bike when he noticed the items missing. Police have no suspects.

Jewelry missing from Novi home

A Novi couple recently noticed that several pieces of jewelry were missing from their home on Ashbury Drive.

According to the police report, the wife went into their bedroom on March 21 and noticed that the drawers containing the jewelry were in disarray. Included in the theft was a woman's watch, necklace and bracelet set, cuff links and her husband's watch he received when he retired from the Detroit Fire Department.

She said the last time she saw the items was on Feb. 18. Police collected evidence and fingerprints at the scene but have no suspects at this time.

Police have no suspects. — By Nathan Mueller

Lindberg leaving to become chief of police in Milford

Novi restructuring its department to fill vacancy

By Nathan Mueller Staff Writer

Tom Lindberg's 26-year career as a Novi police officer could soon be coming to an end as he has accepted the job to become Milford's next police chief.

The hiring was not made official as of press time Tuesday as the background check was not complete, but Lindberg said he anticipates everything to go smoothly and hopes to start April 2.

Lindberg said the decision to leave Novi was one of the most difficult decisions he has had to make in his life, but this was the next step in his law enforcement career.

"(Milford) was always a community I have been interested in, and I have spent a lot of time out there and know quite a bit about it," he said. "It's a community that, as much as I will miss Novi, is one I'm pretty excited about working in."

Lindberg, who has served as Novi's deputy chief since 2007, is filling the position made vacant when former Milford Police Chief Tom Callahan retired in January. Lt. Mike Lauridsen has been serving as interim police chief.

Novi Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police David Molloy said the move was a natural progression for Lindberg, calling him a leader and mentor.

"He has the knowledge, skill, ability and leadership to know how to step into a CEO role," he said. Novi City Manager Clay Pearson called Lind-



Novi Deputy Police Chief Tom Lindberg has worked in the community for 26 years.

berg a "mainstay" in the Novi Police Department and one of the standouts there.

"He has obviously risen up because of his talents and dedication, and we are going to miss him," he said. "But we are glad he is staying in the area."

Looking ahead

Lindberg said he has already started talking to Molloy about how the two departments can work together.

"Whether it's training opportunities or community partnerships, there is no doubt I'm going to maintain close contact with not only chief Molloy but with the whole public safety team," he said.

With Lindberg's departure, Molloy said they are going to restructure the department, eliminating the deputy chief position and employing two assistant police chiefs. One will oversee operations and the other support services.

Victor Lauria is currently one of the assistant chiefs, while Molloy hopes to fill the other spot with an internal hire. The other vacancies would then be filled accordingly.

"The goal would be to get an officer back from layoff," Molloy said.

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

Talented!

IB students raise funds for Doctors Without Borders

Novi High School's second annual IB International Talent Show was held on March 17, and it raised \$2,537 for the international organization Doctors Without Borders. Over 300 people attended the event held in Fuerst Auditorium.

The show featured 20 student acts representing various countries. The program included several dances (Irish, Greek, Indian and Latin American), many songs including one sung in Chinese and another in Latin, instrumental pieces from German and French composers, as well as a Japanese traditional drum team performance.

The production was organized by Novi's IB

diploma candidates from the junior and senior classes under the supervision of their Volunteer CAS Coordinator Barbara Clift. The candidates from the junior class worked as emcees, prepared the programs and tickets, recruited and advertised for the show.

The senior candidates organized the International Food Court. During the intermission the audience was able to sample food from several different countries at the 10 tables set up. In addition, many juniors and seniors were performers in the show.

"I am so pleased the students were able to organize and pull off another successful show. The stu-

dents worked really hard preparing for the event and should be proud of all the money they were able to raise for Doctors Without Borders," said Clift.

Doctors Without Borders is an international medical humanitarian organization created by doctors and journalists in France in 1971. Today it provides aid in nearly 60 countries to people whose survival is threatened by violence, neglect, or catastrophe, primarily due to armed conflicts, epidemics, malnutrition, exclusion from health care, and natural disasters. It provides independent impartial assistance to those most in need and received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1999.



Vedant Ram, Tushar Verma, and Jay Shah in the Indian Bollywood Dance.



Melisa Ramirez and Aranza Ramirez doing a Latin American Dance.



Ambawalage Dulani Silva and Ambawalage Dhananji Silva doing a drama.



Akaya Shimaya is part of the Japanese Traditional Drum team.



Rubini Naidu doing the Indian Bollywood dance.



Sergio Brianti doing a French dance.



Melisa Ramirez doing a French dance.



Jacquelyn Gardner doing an Irish dance.



Rachna Chhaya doing an Indian Bollywood dance.



Apoorva Malladi doing an Indian Dance.



Taylor Mosley doing a Colombian dance.



Karla Ayala singing a Mexican song.

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SOCIAL SECURITY advertisement featuring attorneys J.E. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi, discussing Social Security Disability benefits.

ST. MARY MERCY LIVONIA advertisement for the Center for Joint Replacement, promoting a 'Re-Discover Freedom' seminar.

Subscription advertisement for Buddy's Hometown News, offering rewards like a free pizza for subscribers.

Work it out



JULIE YOLLES

The third annual Evening Out for Work It Out, founded by Danielle Karmanos, was a sell-out this year at Goodnite Gracies and O'Amato's in downtown Royal Oak. The venues hosted the event pro bono which included creative appetizer and Grey Goose Vodka pairings. About 150 people attended the evening and helped raised over \$20,000 to support DKWIO-DMC in fighting the epidemic of childhood obesity. DKWIO is a non-profit organization that teaches yoga and healthy-living to underprivileged kids in Detroit. Pictured (from left) are Bob and Terri Lessnau of Bloomfield Hills and Bob Paul of Novi.



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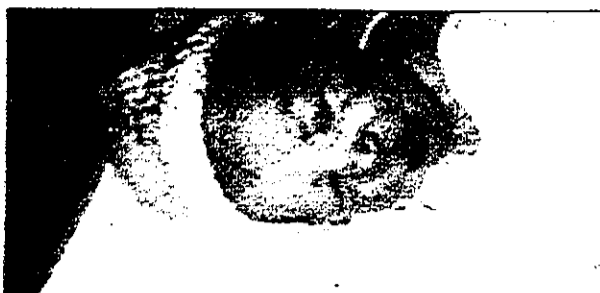
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- Fitness Center
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- Community Garden
- Walking Paths
- Emergency Call System

ANNOUNCEMENT



Filip Joseph Avery

Filip Joseph Avery was born Feb. 26, 1912, at Providence Hospital, Novi. He joins his parents, Michael and Marta, and brother, Dominik, 2, at home in Northville. Grandparents are Jeni and Lyle Avery of Salem Township and Barbara Solak of Poland. Great-grandmother is Aurilla B. Steele of Plymouth.

NEWSMAKERS

Outstanding Allstate service

As business leaders and involved citizens in the Novi area, Allstate Insurance Company is recognizing local Allstate agency owners who have earned the designation of Allstate Premier Service Agent for 2012. Bestowed upon less than one-third of Allstate's agency force, this designation was presented to the agency owners Bruce Faber and William Harb for their commitment to putting the customer at the center of their agency's work. The Premier Service Agency designation is awarded to Allstate agency owners who have consistently demonstrated excellence in delivering an accessible, knowledgeable and personal customer.

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Are you ready to cut the cord?

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist

A friend of mine recently cancelled his cable subscription after growing increasingly tired of expensive bills for programming he never watched. For a few months, the friend has gotten his entertainment fix for less than \$10 per month courtesy of Netflix.



Tech Savvy
Jon Gunnells

Canceling cable for digital subscriptions is called cord cutting and it's a trend that has grown as video streaming has become easier thanks to more sophisticated smart phones, game systems and even tablets. Even if you are in love with cable or satellite television, cord-cutting may be worth consideration because of the financial savings and flexible programming options. To determine if you are the type of person who could cancel a household mainstay like cable, you must first determine what programs you watch. Then compare costs between cable and digital streaming options. For about the cost of a Starbucks coffee (\$8), Netflix will stream movies, and television shows directly to your smart-

phone, tablet, internet ready TV, PS3, Xbox or Wii. Old movies, new releases and television shows from America's Funniest Videos to Workaholics are available instantly with a Netflix subscription.

Hulu Plus

Hulu Plus also offers instant streaming of movies and television shows for \$7.99 with no commitments. Just like Netflix, there is no need for a cable box, new remote, or digital receiver. All you need is a supported portable device, computer or game system. Amazon Prime is more of a newcomer to the digital streaming game, but they too offer an extensive library of instant streaming video.

But what if you don't have an Internet ready television or game system and don't feel like watching the newest action thriller on a tiny phone or tablet screen? Don't worry, a number of electronic visionaries have you covered. Roku offers digital devices that connect wirelessly to any TV and stream content for as low as \$49 per month. Roku is compatible with your Netflix, Hulu and Amazon subscriptions and also offers 350 channels worth of programming including the 24 Wall Street Journal channel and other unique programming you can't get through a cable or satellite television provider.

Roku players

Roku players also have HD capabilities and connect seamlessly with applications you may have on your phone or computer such as Pandora, Spotify, Angry Birds or Facebook.

One of the drawbacks to cord cutting is the inability to watch sports at an economical price. Sure there are streaming services available to catch every NHL, NBA or NFL game. But those packages can cost as much as \$350 per season.

And while there are a number of sports channels including the SEC Network the Big Ten Network is not available to stream through any service at any cost.

If you aren't a big sports fan however, a combination of Netflix and a Roku player would cost about \$39-\$70 up front depending on your chosen device, followed by about \$8 per month. That's around \$150 per year, or about one and a half months of cable. As you can see, cord cutting savings are astounding and the programming is vast and growing. If you are looking to save money or become less of a slave to your TV, consider cutting the cord yourself. The results may surprise you.

Jon Gunnells, a Northville local, is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @Gunn5how.

Hosting



LEAH COLMER

A student/professor delegation from the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology touring the U.S. is hosted by Novi resident (from left): Technion Professor Zalman Palmor of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering; Guy Bersadsky, a medical and electrical engineering student; Linda Kovan of Novi, American Technion Society (ATS) board member and president of Women of ATS Detroit; and Marina Toger, a master's student in the Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning. The Technion-Israel Institute of Technology is consistently ranked among the world's leading science and technology universities. Home to three of Israel's five winners of the Nobel Prize in science, the Technion commands a worldwide reputation for its pioneering work in computer science, nanotechnology, biotechnology, energy, water-resource management, medicine, drug development, and aerospace. Headquartered in New York City, the American Technion Society (ATS) promotes scientific and technological research and education at the Technion.

Peep on by
Suburban Eye Care
to see the Easter Bunny!

Where:
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32415 Five Mile Road, Livonia, MI
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When:
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Florida Grape Tomatoes	Jumbo California Broccoli	Louisiana Yams	Washington Extra Fancy Pink Lady Apples	California Sweet & Juicy Seedless Navel Oranges
99¢ pkg.	99¢ bunch	69¢ lb.	99¢ lb.	99¢ lb. 72 count

DELI

Boar's Head Honey Maple Ham	Dietz & Watson Gourmet Chicken	Joe's Signature Oven Roasted Turkey	Old Tyme Colby & Colby Jack Cheese
\$6.99 lb. Save \$3.00 lb.	\$6.99 lb. Save \$3.00 lb.	\$5.99 lb. Save \$2.00 lb.	\$3.99 lb. Save \$2.00 lb.
Boar's Head Baby Swiss Cheese	Dietz & Watson Buffalo Wing Cheddar Cheese	Dearborn Brown Sugar, Honey & Smokehouse Ham	Alexander & Hornung Spiral Honey Hams
\$6.99 lb. Save \$3.00 lb.	\$6.99 lb. Save \$3.00 lb.	\$4.99 lb. Save \$2.00 lb.	\$3.99 lb.

Come In To See Our Beautiful Selection Of Spring Flowers! Fresh Cut Tulips, Fresh Cut Daffodils, Fresh Cut Bouquets for Every Budget

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Keller's Lamb Shaped Butter Sculptures **\$3.99**
While Supplies Last - Great for Easter!

Bettermade Tortilla Chips 13 oz bag **2/5**

Bettermade Salsa 16 oz jar **2/5**
Mix or Match

Looza Fruit Nectars **2/5**
33.8 oz. - All Varieties

Lefa's Extra Virgin Olive Oil **\$4.99**
Blow Out Special! - 25.3 oz. - While Supplies Last

International Delight Creamers **2/4**
16 oz. - All Varieties

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Spring 2 Bite Cupcakes **\$4.49** 12 pk.

Hot Cross Buns **\$3.99**

PASTRY

Lemon Raspberry Bread **\$3.99** Small
\$7.49 Large

CAFE

Joe's In Store Fresh Roasted Coffee "Flavor of the Week" Raspberry Nut Cream **\$8.99** lb. Save \$1.00 lb.

Happy Spring!
Easter is right around the corner and Joe's Bulk Department has an amazing selection of Spring Candy & Premade Easter Baskets

Jelly Beans **99¢** lb.

Stop by our Floral Department for a breathtaking selection of Easter Plants & Flowers
4" Bulb Plants & Violets **\$3.99** each
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BLT Pasta Salad **\$3.99** lb. Save \$1.00 lb.

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Joe's Gourmet Market Cordially Invites You to: Wine Tasting at the Market Thursday April 26th, 2012 at 7:00 pm
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SECTION B (NN)
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SPORTS

CHL STONE, EDITOR
cstone@hometownlife.com
(248) 437-2011 EXT. 237

CC's Halash skates to top

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

With 12 goals and 24 assists (for 36 points) to his credit, Detroit Catholic Central senior forward Peter Halash was the area's best hockey player this winter, earning the All-Area Player of the Year honor. He also earned the second-most votes among all first-team All-State forwards in Division I.

"He was our leading scorer, a team captain and an inspiring leader," CC coach Todd Johnson said. "The combination of skill and consistency was key to our Catholic (League) and MIHL championships."

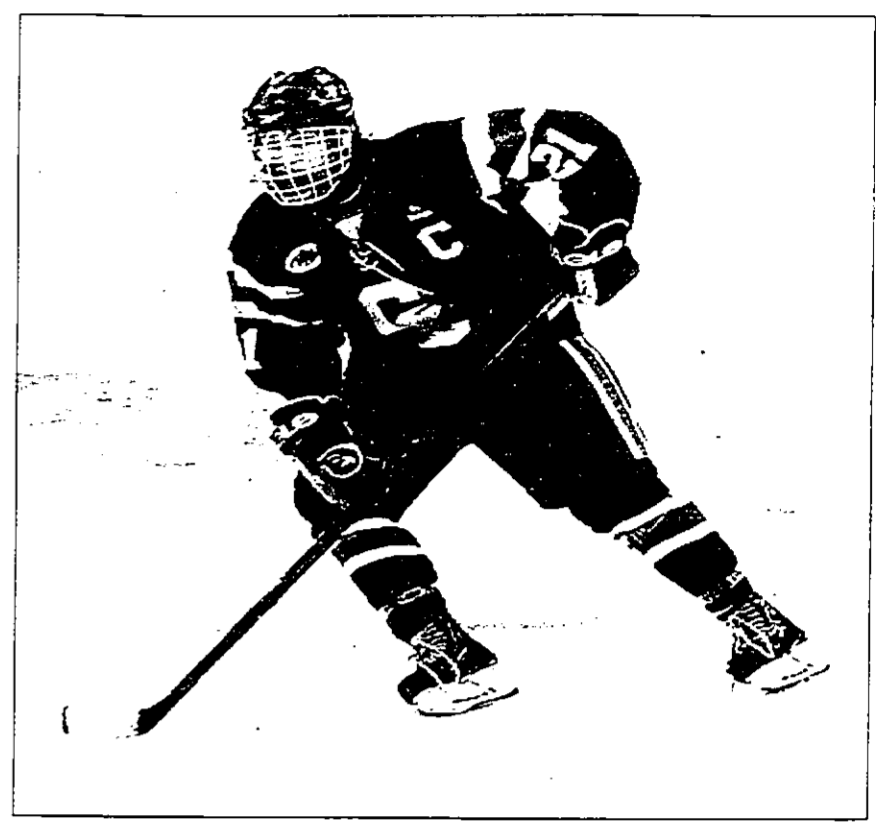
ALL-AREA HOCKEY PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Peter Halash, Catholic Central

FIRST TEAM
Curtis Herzog, Novi
Kent Burnett, Novi
Nolan Gluchowski, CC
Charlie Green, CC
Nick Ferrara, Milford
Michael Babcock, CC

SECOND TEAM
Carson Gatt, CC
Travis Trainor, Novi
Jared Vincek, South Lyon
Mitch Leist, Lakeland
AJ Bradley, Northville
Mike Pobur, Milford

HONORABLE MENTION
Detroit Catholic Central
-Steven Haydon (CC Sr. D)

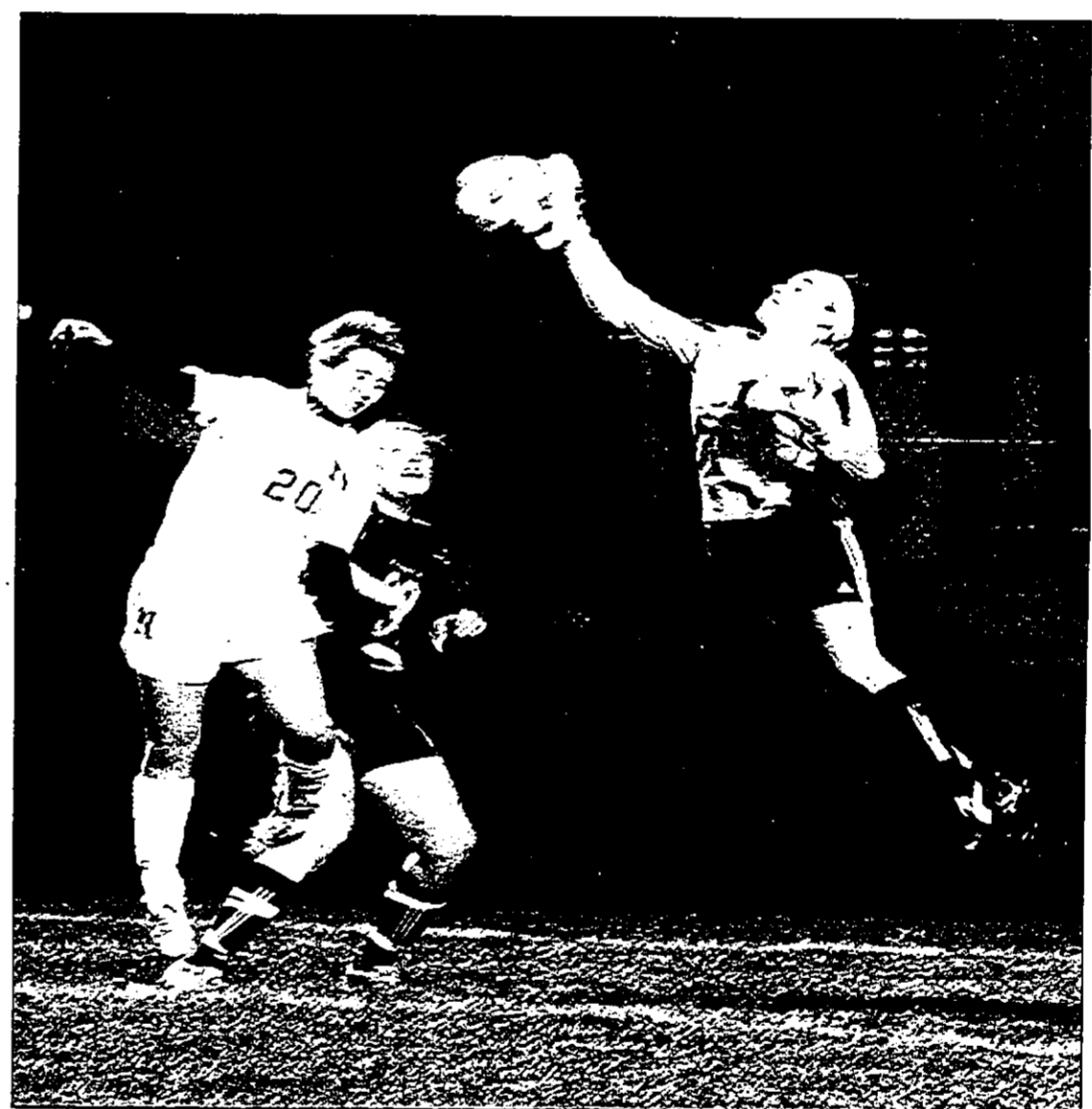
Lakeland - Bobby Shumacher (Sr. D), Kevin Lechner (Sr. F), Trevor Kalinowski (Jr. GK)
Milford - Kyle Hamilton (Jr. C), Evan Wilson (Jr. RW/D), Tony Shand (Jr. F), Sam Murad (Sr. D), Quin Malysz (Sr. D), Tony Bima (Jr. GK), Trevor Tierney (Jr. F)
Northville - Clay Neal (Sr. F), Cole Brown (Sr. F), Ben Crabill (Jr. F)
Novi - Wes Guenther (Jr. D), Jon Mencer (Jr. F)
South Lyon Unified - Colin Tittle (Sr. F/D), Louis Carnevale (Sr. GK), Jake Talaro (Sr. F), Ryan Betz (Sr. D/F), Cam Thomas (Jr. F), Zach Zitrnik (Sr. D), Jeff Gunn (Sr. D), Blake Robertson (So. D)



CHAY HALASH
CC's Peter Halash at Joe Louis Arena from the Catholic League Championship game that CC won against St. Mary's 5-3.

FIRST TEAM
Curtis Herzog (Novi Sr. F)
Novi senior Curtis Herzog was

Please see HOCKEY, B3



CHRIS JACKETT
Plymouth sophomore netminder Kylie Robb (right) punches a ball from Novi senior Jessica Jarvis during a 1-1 tie at Novi March 26.

Novi, Plymouth kickers open season with draw
New netminders impressive in debuts

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

In a match-up between two programs that met for the Division I state title two years ago before one repeated last season, it was a sophomore goalkeeper who stole the show.

Plymouth netminder Kylie Robb (three saves) flung her body all over her goal box to keep the two-time defending state champion Novi Wildcats off the board, punching away corner kicks and deflecting crosses wide of their intended target. The game ended in a

ON TAP
Novi's girls soccer team (0-0-1) was scheduled to host Ann Arbor Pioneer last night before visiting Canton 7 p.m. tonight to lead into spring break.

1-1 tie in the season opener for both squads.

"She stepped up good for a first start for a sophomore. Kylie did a really good job for us, made a couple really big saves, especially second half there when they started putting the pressure on us," Plymouth

coach Jeffrey Neschich said. "Opening night for both of us, so we all got some stuff to work out. But overall, at the end of the day, I think both teams looked pretty strong out there. Both teams had their opportunities to put that one away late going down late."

After Novi's offense got a few good looks early on that either went wide or were thwarted by Robb, Plymouth picked up momentum and took a lead in the 26th minute when junior Stephanie Dillon tapped a short

Please see SOCCER, B2

Sports Club of Novi: where top-ranked tennis players hone skills

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

Year in and year out, the tennis programs at Novi and Northville high schools are ranked among the top in the state, regularly placing in the top 10 at the Division I meet. For the student-athletes, it's not just a recurring three-month streak of luck each year, but a year-round effort local Wildcats and Mustangs are putting in. When the leaves fall, the temperatures drop and snow covers their courts, there is one place members of the local high school teams can be found honing their games: The Sports Club of Novi.

"I'd say a majority of the girls play year-round," said Brady Crosby, a club pro at The Sports Club of Novi who is starting his first season as

Northville's girls coach. "It's a real asset to have the club there. Not just the club, but the coaching. Whether I'm in contact or not, I know they're getting that good coaching."

"The Novi/Northville area almost seems like just one area because they play together in the offseason. As a coach, you can only do so much in the offseason, so it really falls on the girls."

Crosby has helped coach some of the area's highest-ranked players during the past three years. He was one of the offseason coaches for Novi alum and one singles state champion Amanda Border in 2010 and also helped coach both current Novi one singles Abby Wang and Novi three singles Sara Carlson.

"Having a place to play dur-

Please see TENNIS, B3



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
New Northville High School varsity tennis team coach Brady Crosby instructs his team during a March 19 practice.

CITY OF NOVI 2011 ANNUAL CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT ON WATER QUALITY

CITY OF NOVI WATER AND SEWER DIVISION

The City of Novi proudly presents the 2011 Annual Consumer Confidence Report on Water Quality. As detailed in the report, we have surpassed water quality standards mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ).

About our system The City of Novi purchased 2,234,604,910 gallons of treated water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) in 2011, and currently has approximately 13,646 customers on the Novi water distribution system.

How do we know our water is safe? To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

Contaminants that may be present in "source water" (untreated surface or ground water) include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses. Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

DETECTED CONTAMINATION TABLES

The tables and information contained below are based on tests conducted by DWSD and the City of Novi. DWSD conducts many tests throughout the year however, only tests that detect the presence of a contaminant are shown.

Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant 2011 Regulated Detected Contaminants Tables

Table with 6 columns: Contaminant, Test Date, Units, Health Goal MCLG, Allowed Level MCL, Level Detected, and Major Sources in Drinking Water. Rows include Fluoride, Nitrate, Sulfate, Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM), Nitrocellulose Acids (NCAAs), and Disinfection By-Products (DBPs).

Table with 4 columns: Highest Single Measurement Cannot Exceed 1 MCL, Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Turbidity Limit of 0.3 NTU (Maximum 15%), Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water, and 2011 Microbiological Contaminants - Monthly Monitoring in Distribution System.

Table with 6 columns: Contaminant, MCLG, MCL, Highest Number Detected, Violation Yes/No, and Major Sources in Drinking Water. Rows include Total Coliform Bacteria and E. coli or fecal coliform bacteria.

Table with 6 columns: Regulated Contaminant, Treatment Technology, Existing Annual Average, Monthly Ratio Range, Violation Yes/No, and Typical Source of Contaminant. Row includes Total Organic Carbon (TOC).

Table with 4 columns: Contaminant, MCLG, MCL, Level Detected, and Source of Contamination. Row includes Sodium Chloride.

In 1992, the City of Novi began testing homes with plumbing systems that may contribute lead and copper to the household's tap water. The results of lead and copper testing have all been below EPA-prescribed action levels.

Table with 7 columns: Regulated Contaminant, MCL, Treatment Technology (TT) Standard, Treatment Technology (TT) Violation Yes/No, Reason for Violation, Action Taken, Major Sources in Drinking Water, and Health Effects. Rows include Lead and Copper.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing.

Table with 7 columns: Contaminant, Test Date, Units, Health Goal MCLG, Action Level AL, % of Samples Over AL, Number of Samples Collected, Violation Yes/No, and Major Sources in Drinking Water. Rows include Lead and Copper.

The 90th percentile value means 90 percent of the homes tested have lead and copper levels below the given 90th percentile value. If the 90th percentile value is above the AL, additional requirements must be met.

Table with 3 columns: Symbol, Abbreviation for, and Definition/Explanation. Rows include MCLG, MCL, ppb, ppm, NTU, TT, AL, and PPM.

As part of the 1998 Amendment to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) Rule became effective September 1998. The CCR Rule requires all community water systems in the United States to prepare an annual water quality report and to deliver it to all of the water system's customers.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps the EPA determine where certain contaminants occur and whether those contaminants need to be regulated.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Special Health Information Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk to infection from contaminants.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing system.

The City of Novi strives to provide quality drinking water at an affordable cost. In an effort to reduce our wholesale water rate charged by DWSD, we are asking our customers to adhere to the Lawn Watering Ordinance by watering lawns on an alternate, odd/even day basis according to the last digit of your street address.

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. The Novi City Council frequently takes action regarding the City's water distribution system, and City Council meetings are held twice a month on Monday nights at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers located in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W Ten Mile Rd., Novi, MI 48375.

If you would like to know more about this report, please contact Robert M. West, Water & Sewer Manager, (248) 735-5647 or rwest@cityofnovi.org. Additional copies of this report are available online and at the Novi Civic Center and Novi Public Library.

City of Novi Water Division (248) 347-0496 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791 United States Environmental Protection Agency website: www.epa.gov/safewater/

Welcome to Novi



Pro Martial Arts celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony March 23. Standing (from left, back) are Master Marvill, Michael LaPre, Clint Savage, Kris Smith; (front) Dave Staudt, Master Samane, Robb DeRoock and Sarah DeRoock.

OAKLAND COUNTY BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance are invited to attend seminars in February offered by the Oakland County Business Center.

Unless otherwise noted, all programs take place at the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, west of Telegraph, Waterford. For pre-registration and location specifics, visit online at oakgov.com/peds/calendar, or call (248) 858-0783.

QuickBooks Essentials This introduction to small business financial management provides an overview of accurate record keeping, report interpretation and utilization, and management of the variety of tools provided in this system.

Small Business Loan Workshop Getting a small business loan can be a challenging process. Learn the "5 C's of Credit," how to develop a winning loan proposal and what you need to know to position your business to be "bankable" before you meet with a lender.

CEED Microloan Orientation Many small business owners face obstacles when trying to obtain a business loan. The recognition of the serious need for working capital for existing businesses, start-ups or expansion, equipment purchases and job creation is not the priority it once was.

Business Research: Feasibility to Expansion Are you thinking of starting your own business and want to research your business idea? Are you a business owner who wants to benchmark your profit margin and other measures against similar size businesses in your industry?

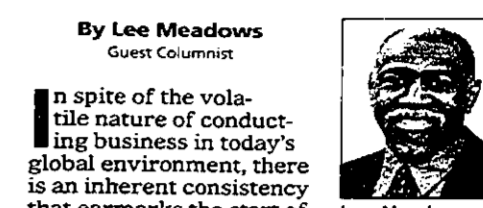
NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

Planet Fitness to donate sign-up fees to Breast Cancer Research Foundation For the third straight year, Planet Fitness will hold a special springtime promotion to raise money for The Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

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Planet Fitness to donate sign-up fees to Breast Cancer Research Foundation For the third straight year, Planet Fitness will hold a special springtime promotion to raise money for The Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

Play the 'What if' game to inspire creativity



In spite of the volatile nature of conducting business in today's global environment, there is an inherent consistency that earmarks the start of a growth cycle.

All businesses go through a fractured, frenzied, chaotic, shoot-from-the-hip, try-anything, start cycle. If it actually survives that phase and moves to actual market penetration, customer response and profit, a funny thing happens. The business runs the risk of becoming victimized by its own success.

As the story is often told, back in the 1950s a CEO of an airplane propeller manufacturing company was asked his opinion of jet engines.

His response was, "The engines are too noisy, they burn too much fuel and, besides, we're in the airplane propeller business." So, the fate of his company was sealed the moment he locked onto the one idea that had determined his success.

What if company-sponsored sports teams (baseball, basketball, track, golf) were actually composed of employees from

different departments so as to increase the likelihood that a cross fertilization of ideas will materialize?

What if 'passive productivity' Fridays were replaced with dedicated time to engage in an 'informal walk and talk about ideas' with employees beyond your cubed culture?

What if we designed our work environments so the flow of ideas is primarily inward to organizational resources instead of outward to rarely being fulfilled?

Keep in mind that an innovative idea just builds on an existing idea. The iPod/iPhone unit is just several iterations removed from the first portable AM/FM radio, as unlikely as that might sound.

As much as the demands of building a business can divert the use of limited resources, ideas are a resource that organizations have in abundance.

During the latter half of the 19th century, the director of the U.S. Patent Office, in what some would describe as a moment of organizational clarity, sent a memo to the president of the United States, directing him to shut down the patent office because, "All that can be invented, has been invented."

What if a department sponsored a once-a-month 'lunch, munch and chat' session where the department springs for soup and sandwiches for its employees and during that hour, employees are asked to engage in an ideas free-for-all about any aspect of the business that can be improved?

Lee E. Meadows, Ph.D is a professor of management at Walsh College working at the Novi Campus. He can be contacted at lmeadows@walshcollege.edu.

Advertisement for Crystal Creek Assisted Living. Text includes: 'Care & Love are the greatest things we provide', 'STATE LICENSED', 'Full Assistance with Bathing, Dressing & Hygiene in a Small Home-like Setting', 'for Active/Alert, Memory Impaired, Frail/Recovering & Alzheimer's residents', 'Highly Competitive Inclusive Rates', '24 Hour Professional Staffing', 'Private/Semi-Private/Barrier-Free', '3 Home-Cooked Meals a Day', 'On-Call Nurse Practitioner', 'Medication Management', 'Daily Housekeeping & Laundry', 'Beauty & Barber Shop', 'Wander Secured/Enclosed Courtyard'. Contact: (734) 455-3203, www.CrystalCreekAssistedLiving.com.

Advertisement for J&R Flooring. Text includes: 'Grand Opening Sale', 'FREE PAD & LABOR with any in-stock carpet purchase', 'The year you were born is the price you will pay (per yard) for all Top Quality In-Stock Carpet', 'Was \$25-sq. yd. NOW \$19.42 sq. yd.', '3/4" Hardwood NOW \$5.99', 'Laminate Flooring NOW \$3.99', 'Dura Ceramic Tile NOW \$10.99', 'Porcelain Stone NOW \$9.99', 'J&R Flooring', 'Serving the Tri-County Area Since 1974 in Floor Care Products', '32421 W. 8 Mile Rd. (E. of Farmington) • Livonia 48151', '248.888.1200 www.jandrflooring.com', 'HOURS: M & F 10-6, Tu & Th 10-7, Sat 10-4, Sun-12-4'.

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West Hills Garage Sale
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