

COMMON INTERVIEW QUESTIONS — AND HOW TO ANSWER THEM EFFECTIVELY CLASSIFIED, SECTION B

LOOK INSIDE FOR MONEY SAVING COUPONS

HONORING MOTHERS

LOCAL NEWS, A13



Run, it's an Emergency!

The City of Novi and the Novi Police and Fire Departments, in partnership with Providence Park Hospital, Sam's Club and Running Fit will host the third annual Emergency Run on Saturday, May 12. The 5K run and one-mile stroke walk will be held on the Providence Park Hospital Campus (Grand River Avenue and Beck Road) in Novi.

Last year's event drew close to 400 participants from 6 to 74 year's old. This year's event will include a HealthFest open to all community members offering informational booths and displays, a Kid's Korner, and refreshments.

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

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

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

For more information regarding the Emergency Run, contact Robin Working at (248) 347-0416 or visit NoviEmergencyRun.org.

NOVI NEWS

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Voters to decide on road millage increase in August

Change would allow city to complete more road work

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

The Novi City Council is going to let voters decide in August whether or not they want to amend the city charter to increase the maximum millage amount for specific street and highway improvements.

City Manager Clay Pearson said officials have been "ham-

strung" with the current 1.0-mill cap that was reduced to 0.7719 mills by the Headlee Amendment, and noted the only way the road network is going to get better is if the road millage maximum is increased. Funds from the increased millage also can be used for sidewalks and pathways.

Please see MILLAGE, A2

DETAILS

The Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating system, which the city uses to evaluate road conditions, had Novi's average PASER rating in 2011 at 6.25. The scale ranges from 1 to 10, with 1 being pavement in failed condition and 10 being new pavement in excellent condition.

The current funding level for roads is \$3.2 million, but studies show if that is not increased then the quality of roads will decrease.

The city currently manages approximately 172 miles of road and, of that number, 19 miles are in poor condition (PASER 1-3), 98 miles in fair (PASER 4-5) and 55 miles very good (PASER 6-10).



Novi letter carriers (from left) Sherri McIntosh, Stacy Kelly, Bob Turner and Cheryl Sherwood are hoping for a big turnout from the community for the annual Stamp Out Hunger food drive on May 12.

Residents' support needed for letter carriers food drive

Non-perishable food, hygiene products can be left out with mail Saturday

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

All Sherri McIntosh could say was "wow" when she walked into the food pantry at Faith Community Presbyterian Church a few weeks ago and saw a plethora of bare shelves.

Jim Ernst, co-chair of the Novi Emergency Food Program, said they are as low as they have ever been and need a large amount of donations.

So it's fitting that during the food program's time of need, the United States Postal Service will be hosting its 20th annual Letter Carrier Food Drive on May 12 to benefit them as well

as the food bank at St. James Catholic Church.

"My heart sank," McIntosh said when she saw the empty shelves, "and I feel a lot of pressure, to be honest."

The USPS has been hosting this food drive nationwide for the last 20 years, collecting more than one billion pounds of food.

And in Novi, McIntosh, the food drive coordinator, feels a slight sense of relief as the community has generally responded well over the years. Her goal for this year is to collect more than 10,000 pounds of food.

"Most people think of Novi

as an affluent community, but there are young families and seniors that still need help," she said. "I'm happy all these donations stay in Novi."

Ernst said the USPS food drive is his food program's largest of the year and helps them get through the lean summer months. The majority of his clients are seniors, but they are starting to get more young people than usual.

"We are still really busy," he said. "There is a real need."

Novi residents can help by putting their non-perishable food items, as well as health

Please see FOOD DRIVE, A2

Novi council approves budget with lower taxes

Gatt says first budget as mayor was 'smooth'

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Novi Mayor Bob Gatt wanted to make sure everyone understood exactly what the Novi City Council did Monday when it unanimously approved a resolution that lowered the 2012 millage rate to 10.2 mills.

Staring straight ahead from his seat in the center of the council table, Gatt said: "What we just did was reduce your taxes."

The reduction in the overall millage rate will result in a tax reduction of an estimated \$981,000.

"I think we are the only city in the country that can boast of that feat," he said. "We are reducing your taxes without any reduction in the services we are providing you."

The city was able to accomplish

Please see BUDGET, A2

"I think we are the only city in the country that can boast of that feat. We are reducing your taxes without any reduction in the services we are providing you."



BOB GATT
Novi mayor

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MILLAGE

Continued from page A1

"I think anyone who cares about the community will recognize this is a big deal," he said. "This is something that for a decade will make a difference in how this city serves its residents."

Increasing the maximum millage for the roads would not impact the newly established overall city millage rate of 10.2 mills, as the city would adjust other millages that do not get tapped much.

Council member Terry Margolis said the goal of the city a few years ago was to get to the point where officials are using current dollars to fix roads and not having to issue bonds or debt.

That is the case now because the city has reduced its overall debt, thus making it "very

easy to get this millage increase under the decreased millage rate of 10.2."

"This has been a long time coming and something that will really benefit the city," she said.

Mayor Pro Tem Dave Staudt is in favor of the plan, but had concerns about timing. He said the Aug. 7 ballot could potentially contain items from the county and state that are "contentious issues," and he did not want that to impact how voters felt about the millage increase.

"I am a little concerned about August, but you know what, it's one of those kinds of things that it's time for us to let the voters speak on this particular issue," he said. "This is something that absolutely needs to be done."

nmuelier@gannett.com
(248) 437-2011, ext. 255
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'The Oz Monologues'



Spotlight on Youth presents a hilarious look at Dorothy's adventures in 'The Oz Monologues' for one week only, Thursday, May 10-Saturday, May 12, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill (50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton). Directed by Novi's Barbara Bloom, 'The Oz Monologues' will take you to the hilarious behind-the-scenes look at what really happened when Dorothy landed in Oz, what became of the other characters after Dorothy left, and the secret behind the magical ruby slippers. Alora Adams of Novi plays Glinda the Good Witch. For tickets, call (734) 394-5300; tickets are \$10 each.

FOOD DRIVE

Continued from page A1

and beauty products, in a bag next to their mailbox by 9 a.m. May 12. The letter carriers will pick up the bags during their routes and then sort

the items, splitting them between the two organizations.

Kroger also donated bags that some residents will receive with their mail.

"It's a great opportunity to help people," McIntosh said.

BUDGET

Continued from page A1

the feat of cutting the millage rate down from 10.5416 mills by trimming the drain fund from 0.7719 mills to 0.3435 mills. City officials said the drain fund is healthy, thus their reasoning for the change.

"It's important we are able to do this in these times and lower the millage rate," City Manager

Clay Pearson said. Novi resident Victor Cassis said what council did "underscored the wisdom and caring of this community and the people in it."

"This is a good day for the citizens of Novi," he said. "Not just selfishly because I own property here, but every resident should be proud of you tonight."

2012-13 budget
On top of approving the

new millage rate, city council also approved the 2012-13 budget and a resolution acknowledging the multi-year budget, including projections of future fiscal years 2013-14 and 2014-15.

The budget passed through council with few issues, other than cutting funding for the proposed ring road project from Novi Road to Grand River Avenue.

"This is my first budget as mayor, and I think it was very smooth," Gatt said. "We had some very robust discussions and, in the end, I believe what we (approved Monday) is the very, very best deal for the citizens and city of Novi."

Some council members said they would have liked to see something in the multi-year budget that included the ring road, but it did not change their vote as both items passed unanimously.

Gatt said council is mimicking the multi-year budgeting practices of Oakland County, and believes it better prepares the city for the future.

"I think Novi is going to be the first municipality in the state of Michigan to do a three-year budget, and we should be very proud of that," he said.

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Community Office:
101 N. Lafayette
South Lyon, MI 48178
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Mon - Fri 9:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Editor:
Cal Stone
248.437.2011 Ext. 237
Email: cstone@hometownlife.com

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Kerry Kowalczyk, a first-grade teacher at Parkview Elementary, was named Nov 2012 Teacher of the Year on Monday, and receives a free one-year lease of a vehicle from The Suburban Collection. Here she is congratulated by Novi Educational Foundation Chair Geoff Wood (left) and Suburban Collection General Manager Robert MacKenzie (right) in her classroom.

Parkview's Kowalczyk 'overwhelmed' by teacher honor

'I have the best job in the world'

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Kerry Kowalczyk saw the balloons being carried into her Parkview Elementary classroom on Monday and wondered what the celebration was all about. Little did she know that the balloons, cake, flowers and surprise guests were there to congratulate her on being named Nov 2012 Teacher of the Year. "I was completely overwhelmed," Kowalczyk said on Tuesday, noting she was still sifting through congratulatory e-mails until 3 a.m. "I work with some of the most talented people, and knowing that all your hard work is being appreciated means the world to me." Kowalczyk has been

teaching first grade at Parkview for 20 years, saying she never had a desire to leave because it is the best feeling when a student comes up to her to tell her they "get it." "I have the best job in the world and wouldn't change it for anything," she said. But change is a big part of Kowalczyk's teaching model as she is known for constantly adapting her style to better reach the students. Jodi Blackman, whose son Griffin was taught by Kowalczyk and her daughter Emily is currently in her class, said she continues to innovate every year and keeps things "fresh and fun." Blackman credits Kowalczyk for helping her students grow in reading,

putting them well above their grade levels. "Nothing is constant with Kerry," Blackman said. "You never know what you are going to get, but she always is readily available when you have concerns about your child's education and is a great communicator about what is happening in the classroom." Also for being named Teacher of the Year, Kowalczyk received a free year-long lease on a vehicle from The Suburban Collection. "I am in dire need of a new car so this couldn't come at a better time," she said. "It's way too generous of them."

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

Assistant superintendent critical of school's custodial services

Barr not afraid to terminate if expectations are not met

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Steve Barr, assistant superintendent of business operations for the Novi Community School District, said he has certain expectations of how the school buildings should be maintained. And if the custodial group hired to perform that duty cannot meet his requirements, Barr said he is not afraid to make a change. At a board of education work session last Thursday, Barr informed the trustees that the district's contract with GCA Services Group expires at the end of June. The district solicited bids from several outside companies and whittled it down to three finalists, but Barr is recommending the board sticks with GCA, the company the district has used the company since 2010. His only change is that they do so on a one-year trial basis, as opposed to a three-year contract,

as he has some concerns that need to be ironed out before he would want to agree to anything long term. "There have been some hiccups," he said, noting he has talked to other business managers facing similar issues with the company. Some of those hiccups include the quality of work, employee turnover, light maintenance work and problems finding substitutes, among other issues. The company is putting a lot of credibility in their changed middle level management team and is working on ways to provide employees with incentives, Barr said. GCA provided the district with the lowest bid at just over \$1.5 million, and has staffing and insurance packages the district likes. The company also knows the district and has typically not billed for extra hours. If GCA, or whatever company the board

chooses to go with, does not live up to expectations then Barr plans to move on. "I'm very hopeful it doesn't come to that," he said. "Obviously there are no guarantees, but I'll be honest: If it came to that and they weren't performing to the level I expect, that (director of maintenance) Mike (Dragoo) expects, that the board expects and we demand, then they know next February, March at the latest, we would talk to these two other companies and start negotiating with them. There would not be another chance next summer." "I hate to be so harsh and direct about it, but this is money, this is justice, and that is just how I feel." The board of education will weigh in on the contract discussion at its regular board meeting at 7 p.m. on May 17.

nmueller@gannett.com
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Spring break fun



Elin Stone, 11, tries her hand at learning how to juggle during the Novi Library Spring Break Carnival.

Proposals call for retired lawmakers, school employees to pay matched rate

By Christopher Behnan
Gannett News Service

A proposal in Lansing for retired lawmakers to pay more toward a controversial health-care benefit would match the increased rate retired school employees would pay under a separate proposal. The state House Republicans recently introduced legislation that would reduce the amount the state pays toward the benefit from 90 percent to 80 percent effective next year, doubling legislators' contribution from 10 percent to 20 percent. In separate, sweep-

ing legislation, retired school employees would increase their contribution to the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System's health benefit, or MPSERS, also from 10 percent to 20 percent. The Legislature last fall passed a law to phase out the lawmaker retiree health-care benefit, which covered 90 percent of health premiums for legislators who serve at least six years in office once they reach age 55. Former lawmakers were grandfathered in, and several current lawmakers were exempted in enacting the benefit,

however. The Midland-based Mackinac Center for Public Policy for years has called for a wholesale end to the legislator retiree benefit, Jack McHugh, the Mackinac Center's senior legislative analyst, said. McHugh said the proposal at least removes a "rhetorical point" school employees may otherwise make in comparing benefits of retired legislators and teachers, however. "That aside, there is a fairness element there. It's a 'what's good for the goose is good for the gander,'" he said.

Woman uplifted by generosity of volunteers

Novi home gets spruced up on Rebuild Day

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Sarah Ortwine watched in amazement as the volunteers from St. James Catholic Church and Rebuilding Together scurried about her home on April 28 working on various projects.



Novi resident Sarah Ortwine sits with Rebuilding Together volunteers Bob and Sandy Harmer during Rebuild Day on April 28. Bob, along with Kevin Clark, headed up the effort to spruce up Ortwine's home inside and out.

Some of the crew battled the elements outside, cleaning up her landscaping and rehabilitating worn out outdoor furniture between rain drops and the occasional sleet and hail, while others worked inside repairing walls, installing new doors and sprucing up several features inside the home. Ortwine, who is battling multiple sclerosis and relegated to a wheelchair, said it was like "winning the lottery" on a much smaller scale. "It was driving me crazy I couldn't stand up and help," the Novi resident said. "Everyone was extremely warm, and I feel very privileged to be part of this." Ortwine's home was one of 50 homes in nine Oakland County communities that were treated to some upgrades as part of the annual Rebuild Day.

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A crew of volunteers take on the task of sprucing up the landscaping at Sarah Ortwine's Novi home as part of Rebuild Day on April 28.



A pair of volunteers from St. James Catholic Church and Rebuilding Together put the finishing touches on the landscaping in the backyard of Sarah Ortwine's Novi home.



This crew of volunteers from St. James Catholic Church and Rebuilding Together spent April 28 doing small repairs and various projects at Novi resident Sarah Ortwine's home.

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NOVI-FAMILY INTEGRATED CHURCH
Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-3647 or firstbaptist-churchofnovi.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 dcnazarene.org
Sunday Schedule: 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 6 p.m. Evening Service
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 through May 23
Details: A new parenting series by Dr. Kevin Leman. 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.
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
Location: 200 E. Main Street
Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit firstpresby-novi.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 that meets at the First Presbyterian Church of Northville. Thursday meetings feature speakers, games, or entertainment followed with an ice cream social.
Date: May 10
Details: Wait Strasiniski whose discussion topic is "Success or Failure, Your Choice". Ice cream social to follow; \$5 donation requested.
Date: May 17
Details: Dr. Tom Gerou, whose topic is "The Importance of Maintaining Good Health As We 'Age to Perfection'". Ice cream social to follow; \$5 donation requested.
Date: May 24
Details: First cookout of the season. Burgers and brats form the grill accompanied by the usual picnic food of baked beans, potato salad, etc. If bad weather, we picnic inside. On Facebook: In memory of Project Pat Delahanty pat-delahanty.memory-of.com

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

outh
Contact: (734) 453-0326, Ext. 221
OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH
Location: 770 Thayer, Northville
Contact: (248) 349-2621 or olvnorthville.org
Saturday Worship
Time: 5 p.m.
Sunday Worship
Time: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.
OUR SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Location: 1200 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth
Contact: Pastor Bill Burke at (734) 927-0891
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 stjohnlutheran.com
Saturday Worship
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Worship
Time: 9, 11:15 a.m.
Sunday School
Time: 10:15 a.m.
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Location: 201 Elm Street, Northville
Contact: (248) 349-3140
Vacation Bible School
Time/Date: 9 a.m.-noon June 18-21
Details: Concordia's Amazing Desert Journey - Where Jesus Leads Us Home
UNITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
Location: 32500 W. 13 Mile Road, Farmington
Contact: (248) 737-9191; AdministrativeDirector@unityfh.com
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON
Location: 25301 Halstead Road, Farmington Hills
Contact: www.uufarmington.org

Youth Interfaith Journey
Time/Date: 9:30 and 11 a.m. Sundays
Details: This religious education program is open to the public and currently enrolling new students. Classes are grouped into grades K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 with age specific education materials for all.
Contact: Jennifer Teed at (248) 478-7272 or dro@uufarmington.org
Lifelong Learning Forum
Time/Date: 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays
Details: Six weeks exploring different topics like religion, philosophy, science, health, social and political issues. No advance registration necessary; a \$5 donation suggested. Drop in and pick the class that interests you most.
Contact: (248) 478-7272 or uufarmington.org/LifelongLearningForum
Multi-Generational Services
Time/Date: 6:45 p.m. Fridays
Details: Family members of all ages can gather for drumming, chanting, and meditation followed by a brief participatory worship service which could include stories, songs and sharing. A religious education activity will follow, such as an art project, music, dance, game or theater. The evening will close with a light snack and a short time to socialize, ending at 8:30 p.m.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4965 • htwtobits@hometownlife.com
 Deadline: Tuesday 9 a.m. for Thursday



ASHER, WILLIAM H.

Age 87, a longtime resident of Northville passed away peacefully on May 1, 2012. He was born on January 21, 1925 in Flint, Michigan to Edward and Mary (nee Wolfe) Asher. Bill, a 1945 graduate of NYS, met the love of his life, Margie, his son, Ron (Beverly) Asher, Jerry (Laura) Asher, and Rick (Janine) Asher; his sister Hazel Louz; 8 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; and 4 great-great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and 4 brothers and sisters. He is survived by his beloved wife Margie; his sons, Ron (Beverly) Asher, Jerry (Laura) Asher, and Rick (Janine) Asher; his sister Hazel Louz; 8 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; and 4 great-great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and 4 brothers and sisters. He is survived by his beloved wife Margie; his sons, Ron (Beverly) Asher, Jerry (Laura) Asher, and Rick (Janine) Asher; his sister Hazel Louz; 8 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; and 4 great-great grandchildren. 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Quadriplegic Novi man vows to walk again

Couple needs votes to hopefully win wheelchair accessible vehicle

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Mary Ann Skaja is doing laundry in the basement of her Novi home in October 2008 when she heard a sound that forever changed her and her husband Pat's lives.

The sound was of Pat, now 70, falling backward down the stairs, hitting the ground with a "thud." Pat's fall badly bruised his spinal cord and compressed the nerves, causing him to become a quadriplegic.

Since that day, the Skajas have not left the house together because they do not have a vehicle capable of transporting Pat in his wheelchair. The only time they leave is when the Novi Senior Transportation Van takes him to his medical appointments.

"It has been hell on Earth," Mary Ann said. "However, only with the help of Jesus have we been able to get the strength to go through this."

It's that faith and strength that inspires Pat every day in his quest to walk again. He has progressed a great deal since the accident, and is to the point where he is walking with a rolling walker and the help of others.

Still, he spends the majority of his time in his wheelchair, as Mary Ann is not strong enough to lift him.

"I would like to walk again," he said. "And I'm striving every day to do that."

His wife said he pictures Jesus walking by



Novi resident Pat Skaja navigates onto the senior transportation van outside of his home Thursday afternoon with the help of driver Jim Leskun. The van is Skaja's only means of transportation, and makes travel difficult on him and his wife Mary Ann.

his side, and said it's "absolutely wonderful" to watch him walk with the walker. They firmly believe he is going to do it on his own one day.

"He is a fighter," she said. "He hasn't given up."

While walking is the Skaja's ultimate goal, the current need is transportation. A Ford Focus gets Mary Ann around town, but does little for Pat, who ironically enough used to drive the senior transportation van he now relies on.

The couple lives on a fixed income, and because of where Pat's injury took place, they do not receive any public funding.

You can help Pat

In an effort to help, a family friend signed Pat up for the chance to win a custom wheelchair accessible vehicle as part of

National Mobility Awareness Month. People can vote through May 13 for Pat by visiting <http://www.nmeda.com/mobility-awareness-month/local-hero-contest> and searching for "Skaja."

Mary Ann said getting a vehicle would be "life-changing."

"It would mean the world," she said. "It would open our lives up again." In the meantime, the Skaja's are going to take their first vacation north since the injury to celebrate Pat's father's 95th birthday. It is going to cost them \$800 just to rent the van, not including gas, but it was an event they couldn't miss.

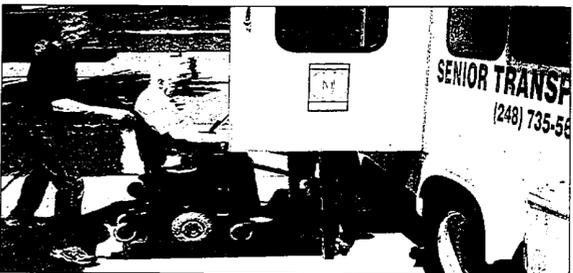
And is an event they hope to make next year without having to rent.

nmueller@gannett.com
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PHOTOS BY NATHAN MUELLER

Novi residents Pat Skaja and his wife Mary Ann have put their faith in God and are hoping to receive enough votes to win a wheelchair-accessible vehicle van as part of National Mobility Awareness Month. The couple has not taken a trip since Pat's injury in 2008, relying on only the Novi senior transportation van for medical trips.



Novi resident Pat Skaja, who is being loaded onto the senior transportation van by driver Jim Leskun on Thursday afternoon, has been paralyzed since 2008. He and his wife Mary Ann do not have their own wheelchair-accessible vehicle, thus trapping them in their home. The couple is hoping to win their own van through an online contest as part of National Mobility Awareness Month.

Novi grads share satirical guide to time travel

By Jon Gunnells
Correspondent

If you took a time machine back to Novi circa 1999 you may stumble upon Phil Hornshaw and Nick Hurwitch writing their first book together.

Warp back to present day and the 2003 Novi High School graduates have their first published book — "So You Created a Wormhole: The Time Traveler's Guide to the Universe" — available in bookstores across the country and on Amazon.

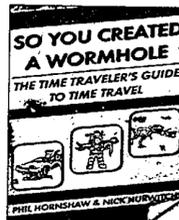
"Phil and I each bought a copy of Amazon just for the thrill of receiving our own book in the mail," Hurwitch said.

"I'm not sure how many our parents bought, but for the book release party a few weeks ago, we signed bags full of books — for just about every extended family member they could think of."

The lifelong friends, who met years ago at Village Oaks Elementary School in Novi, now live in Los Angeles and work as writers — Hornshaw mainly as a video game journalist and Hurwitch as a scriptwriter and director.

Their book, which was released on April 3, is the culmination of lots of creative writing experience dating back to high school and a strong interest in time travel and pop culture.

"We have seen a lot of movies about time travel and started taking notice to all the mistakes they were making," Hornshaw said. "So we created a how-to-guide, to turn time travel into something humorous and fun."



Phil Hornshaw's and Nick Hurwitch's book has two parts and begins by teaching readers about time travel using examples from popular Hollywood movies. The second part is a survival guide that educates readers on how to stay alive if they encounter a disgruntled pirate or hungry dinosaur.

The book has two parts and begins by teaching readers about time travel using examples from popular Hollywood movies. The second part is a survival guide that educates readers on how to stay alive if they encounter a disgruntled pirate or hungry dinosaur.

"We don't go from movie to movie," Hornshaw said, "but we incorporate familiar examples of the time-travel universe to show readers how it works."

To show their extreme passion for time travel, the authors offered up their ideal time travel destinations.

"Any time with dinosaurs would be kind of amazing," Hornshaw said. "Chances are if you travel through time you are going to die, so you might as well do it on the



Hurwitch



Hornshaw

back of a dinosaur." Hurwitch agreed that the prehistoric era would be a great visit, but would prefer visiting to a time that hasn't come yet.

"I would go to the distant future and travel through space," Hurwitch said. "Hopefully I'd encounter aliens and build a group of outlaw adventurers and fight in another galaxy. It would be crazy amazing."

While it sounds like all fun and games, creating their first published book was more than day-dreaming about time travel and catching up on the *Back to the Future* trilogy. After months of writing, the first time authors have spent countless hours promoting their products through social channels, viral videos and more.

You can still find the authors churning out travel facts and info about the *Time Traveler's Guide* by following them on Twitter @TimeTravelGuide, find them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TimeTravelGuide, or at www.time-travelguide.com

You can also purchase the book at local retailers such as Barnes & Noble at Six Mile and Haggerty roads.

'Beauty and the Beast Jr.'



Tickets are now on sale for Disney's 'Beauty and the Beast Jr.' presented by the Novi Civic Theatre. The show opens Friday, May 11 and tickets may be purchased online at cityofnovi.org or at the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services office, located inside the Novi Civic Center (45175 W. 10 Mile) from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Alan Menken, Howard Ashman and Tim Rice's score is brought to life in the stage adaptation of the classic tale. Based on Disney's Academy Award winning animated film, the stage version tells the story of the winsome Belle and her ferocious captor. Sixty-two young actors from Novi and the neighboring towns of Northville, Walled Lake, Farmington, Belleville, Livonia, Wayne, and Wixom will grace the stage in this magical production. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$12 children and seniors. All seats are reserved. For more information, please call the Novi Parks office at (248)347-0400. For more information about the Novi Civic Theater, visit cityofnovi.org.

ANNIVERSARY



Mildred and William Brown

The Browns

Congratulations to William and Mildred Brown, of Northville, on their 70th wedding anniversary. The couple exchanged vows on May 16, 1942, in Detroit, Mich.

The Browns have four children — Judy and Fred Krupic, of West Bloomfield; Carol and Jim Brown, of Howell; Peggy and Doug White, of White Lake; and William Jr. and Donna Brown, of Northville.

They also have nine grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

Both are very active with family activities and hobbies. Mildred retired from Macy's and enjoys reading, baking, watching

her favorite TV shows and, of course, shopping.

Bill is retired "almost" from Bill Brown Auto Clinic in Canton. He is active in several clubs and organizations, such as Canton Rotary and is a past-president lifetime member of the Midwest Radio Control Club; mem-

ber of the Experimental Aircraft Association and the International Comanche Society; and is an adviser to the Lawrence Technological University Model Aviation Program.

The couple will celebrate this rare and wonderful event with a private party.

Redefine Your MS

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Saturday, May 19, 2012
at 10:30am

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Please RSVP by calling
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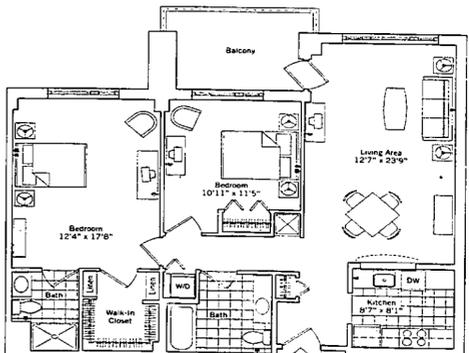
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Students organize clothing drive to benefit Holy Family

Gently used items can be dropped off at Novi library May 14-19

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

The main role of the teen representatives on the Novi Public Library Board of Trustees is to educate their fellow classmates about the benefits of the library. But Novi High School junior Nishant Kakar and Walled Lake Western junior Torry Yu wanted to take it a step further by encouraging their classmates, and the community, to clean their closets and bring in gently used clothes to donate to the Church of the Holy Family's Clothes Closet.

at the same time." Kakar said. "It's a pretty easy thing to do."

The clothing drive takes place May 14-19 at the Novi Public Library. People who wish to donate should make sure the clothes and shoes are clean and in good condition, and put them in a drop box in the library's outer lobby during library hours.

Clothing of all ages and sizes will be accepted, and people also can request a tax donation sheet. Members of the Interact Clubs at both schools will be organizing and sorting the clothes when the drive is complete.

assistant director at the library, said Holy Family representatives told her they have 50 appointments every Friday for people needing clothes. "It's one of those silent problems people don't speak about," she said. Yu said he understands the need is "pretty high" and is excited about the opportunity to help.

"I have six bags sitting in my room right now ready to bring in," he said.

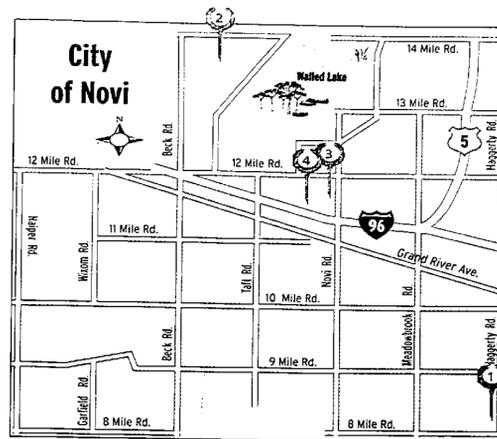
The library is open 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Saturday.

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

Margi Karp-Opperer,



Novi High School student Nishant Kakar, right, and Walled Lake Western student and fellow representative to the Novi Library Board Torry Yu are organizing a clothing drive from May 14-19 in the lobby at the library on 10 Mile Road.



NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Sebring stolen from Best Buy parking lot

A light blue 2001 Chrysler Sebring was stolen on May 1 from the parking lot at Best Buy on Haggerty Road while the driver was inside the store getting his laptop fixed. According to the police report, the driver had the keys to the vehicle and was sure he locked it. He said he was driving it because his daughter said it was having some problems and he was testing it out. The man said the vehicle is paid off. Police have no suspects at this time.

Truck broken into overnight

A 47-year-old Novi man had his GMC 2 truck broken into overnight on May 2 and several items stolen from inside the cab while it was parked outside his apartment on Timberlane Court. According to the police report, the man said he believed he locked his doors, but when he returned to the truck in the morning a wrench, \$150 tool box, a rope valued at \$100 and \$200 worth of seeds were gone. There were no signs of forced entry and no property in the bed of the truck was taken. Police have no suspects.

Woman flees after stealing from Homegoods

Novi police are looking for a heavy set woman in her 30s who was

observed stealing several items from Homegoods on May 7.

According to the police report, the loss prevention agent at the store observed the woman on surveillance camera putting nearly \$200 worth of items in her cart and leaving the store without paying.

The agents attempted to detain her for retail fraud, but she was uncooperative. She did go back inside the store at one point before fleeing in a gold 2011 Toyota. The stolen items, however, were recovered. The agents did get a license plate number and told police they are unable to use physical force.

Catalytic converter snatched off car

A woman had the catalytic converter stolen off her car on May 4 while it was parked in the parking lot at Chuck E. Cheese's in the Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk shopping center.

According to the police report, the woman said she returned to her car just two hours later, and when she started the vehicle it make a "loud, horrendous noise and it shook."

Police have no suspects at this time.

Compiled by staff writer Nathan Mueller

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 - June 18-20: 5th-7th Grade Boys Skillz Camp (8:30 am - 12:30 pm)
 - June 18-20: 8th-9th Grade Boys Skillz Camp (2:00 pm - 6:00 pm)
 - July 16-18: 8th-9th Grade Girls Skillz Camp (8:30am - 12:30pm)
 - July 16-18: 5th-7th Grade Girls Skillz Camp (2:00 pm - 6:00 pm)
 - Camp Cost: \$195
- 2 DAY POINT GUARD CAMP Limited to 20 Players**
 - June 21-22: 5th-7th Grade Boys Point Guard Camp (8:30 am - 12:30 pm)
 - June 21-22: 8th-9th Grade Boys Point Guard Camp (2:00 pm - 6:00 pm)
 - Camp Cost: \$195
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 - July 9-10 (Scheduled from 9am - 12pm)
 - Camp Cost: \$100

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OUR VIEWS

New danger Novi not immune from potpourri-like drug

The idea of lighting up incense and smoking it should seem incredibly stupid, not to mention dangerous. But don't fool yourself — it's happening, even here in Novi.

If the chief of police is concerned, then residents should be, too.

This synthetic marijuana goes by many different names — Spice, K2, Blaze, Bliss, Cap N' Kush, Black Mamba — but its addictive high comes at a high cost: paranoia, hallucinations, vomiting, agitation, drowsiness and even heart attacks.

The scariest part of it all? It's legal to sell. It can be purchased at many convenience stores and users then can choose to ignore that "not for human consumption" label.

And many people do, as Judge Brian MacKenzie of the 52-1 District Court in Novi confirms an increase in users coming before him.

It's also been in Novi High School, according to school resource officer Jeremy Stempien.

Of course, MacKenzie will throw you in jail if you're caught using, and the school district will punish users, too. But the harm may have already been done.

By now, parents should know the drill, but it bears repeating: Talk to our kids about the dangers of drugs. Peer pressure is strong, but so is proper parenting.

There are two other talks we suggest. The first is with legislators. Let them know that you agree with proposed legislation to categorize these substances as controlled and dangerous.

The other is with any store owner you see selling this product. Let them know that you won't patronize their business if they continue to do so. Our children are more precious than profit.

Letter carriers' 20th annual food drive this Saturday

Imagine what it's like — as it is for 16 percent of Americans — to be uncertain where your next meal is coming from. That's reality for four million senior citizens as well as one in five children under age 18.

The folks who deliver mail every day, the National Association of Letter Carriers, have thought about it, and for the last 20 years, they've been taking action via their Stamp Out Hunger national food drive.

Every year, the second Saturday in May is our opportunity to donate food to needy families in the community, with the help of our letter carriers, in the nation's largest one-day food-collection event.

Last year, according to Fredric Rolando, NALC president, letter carriers collected more than 70 million pounds of food. However, the need in this continuing recession is still staggering as millions of Americans struggle to make ends meet and food banks report declines in the inventories as high as 35-percent.

"This year," said Vicki Escarra, Feeding America president, "we enter the drive amidst a 'perfect storm' of high unemployment, sky-high food and gasoline prices, unprecedented budget cuts to federal nutrition programs, limits on charitable-giving incentives and a decline in federal commodities."

It's up to all of us to lead the charge in the ongoing battle against hunger by helping to stock food banks and shelters for the summer and a simple act: Just leave a perishable food next to your letter carrier to pick up this Saturday.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What was your first job?



"It was when I was only 14, in 1944, at Muirland Market in Detroit. I helped at the checkout without the benefit of a register or adding machine."

Jean Radke
Novi



"It was in Coffeerville, Kansas, in 1939, where we built two- and four-wheel trailers. I think I earned one dollar a day."

Harold McMann
Novi



"It was in the mid-'40s, when I lived up in Ironwood. I was cashier at a grocery store where I had to add up orders using a pad of paper. I was 13."

Dorothy Grasso
Novi



"I worked for United Technologies as an administrative assistant and later in the financial department."

Kim Chilton
Milford

LETTERS

Litter bug

On Friday, April 20, I was in the left-turn lane at the corner of Beck Road and Ten Mile at 3:07 p.m. waiting to turn north on Beck. A black Ford Expedition was in front of me. The young man driving rolled down his window and threw a beverage can out on to the nearby sidewalk. I repeatedly honked my horn and shook my head and waved my index finger at him. He thought this whole situation was funny, as did his fellow passenger. I'm hoping that somebody reads this letter and recognizes the vehicle and asks this young man about this. I hope it will be his parents. His littering of our community is not appreciated, nor is his disrespect for others.

John A. Kuenzel
Novi

Kudos for Book It!

The Novi Public Library sincerely thanks all the second annual Book It! Fundraiser sponsors, participants, planning committee members, and supporters for making the April 27 event a success and raising over \$11,000 to benefit the library's multimedia collections. Special thanks to the Book It! Sponsors: Steve & Rocky's Restaurant, Telcom Credit Union, Providence Park Hospital, Global Office Solutions, and Twelve Oaks.

The fundraising event featured live music by Brian Bagozzi, food by Steve & Rocky's, live and silent auctions, and a photo booth from IMR Productions — all to fit the theme of Hollywood Nights. The live auction, emceed by Oakland County Commissioner Kathy Crawford, offered a wine dinner for six; iPad 2; weekend Grand Traverse Resort stay; weekend spin in a 2013 Lincoln MKS; and Casino Hotel stay and dinner — donated by Carrabba's Italian Grill, Gale Cengage Learning, Mark Sturing, Varsity Lincoln, and Greentown Casino, respectively.

The event also highlighted a fantastic variety of silent auction items donated by local businesses and library supporters including: David Amamoto, Bagger Dave's, Baronette Hotel, Bhakti Yoga - MJ LaDuke, Bi Bim Bab, Big Boy's, Biggy Coffee, Bonefish Grill, Buffalo Wild Wings, Brian & Lori Burke, Busch's Market, Cassell & Associates, Chamber Music Society of Detroit, China Café, City of Novi, Rep. Hugh Crawford, Lynette Curtiss, Diamond Jim Brady's, Display Group, Aggie Dorchy, Elle Studio, Friends of the Novi Public Library, Gale Cengage Learning, Mary Gantt, Gina Agosta Salon, Glenda's, Goldfish Swim School, Golf Tech, Hattie's Hallmark, Margi Karp-Opperer, Larson Jewelry Design, Library Board Trustees, Margolis Family, Meadowbrook Art Center, Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, MGM Grand, Michigan Film Office, Wendy Woltjer Mutch, Novi Chamber of Commerce, Novi

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:

Web: www.hometownlife.com
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.

Family Dental, Novi Fine Wines, Novi Northville Camera Club, Novi Sports Club, Oishi Restaurant, Pampered Paws Pet Care, Paradise Park, Pearson Family, Read-A-Latte Café, Rod Arroyo Photography, Salon Head West, Shiro's, Stanesa Glass, Starbucks, Stuart's Ice Cream & Yogurt, Suburban Collection Showplace, Three Days Gourmet, Tony Sacco's Pizza, Twelve Oaks.

Again, the Novi Public Library thanks all who helped the Book It! event meet its fundraising goals and welcomes everyone to the library to enjoy the resulting enhancements to the DVD, Blu-ray, and video game collections over the next few months.

The Novi Public Library is located at 45255 W. 10 Mile Road. For more information on the Novi Public Library or Book It! event, visit www.novilibrary.org.

Julie Farkas
Novi Public Library librarian
Laura Liddicoat
Novi Public Library communications specialist

Republicans against women

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) designed to combat domestic abuse was enacted in 1994, and this past week came to a reauthorization vote in the Senate with 68 in favor 31 opposed. The act was expanded to include greater protections for LGBT victims, immigrant women facing abuse, and Native American women which have been traditionally underserved.

In the past 12 years, this act has been unanimously reauthorized by Congress twice. However, in this session of Congress, 31 Republican male Senators voted against reauthorization, becoming the first Senators ever to cast a vote against VAWA.

House Republicans are pushing their own version of VAWA without the new provisions ad-

ding these three groups. The idea of picking and choosing which individuals deserve protection is objectionable. Ever since this act was renewed, underserved groups have been included to ensure no one is left out of a law that was designed to protect everyone from domestic violence. Resistance to the bill is further proof of Republicans disregarding issues affecting women. Let's hope the House Republicans will not prevail and exclude these groups from protection in their version.

Joanie Ignash
Commerce Township

Republicans against democracy

One can witness this in their legislative shenanigans. With Democrats winning two county-wide offices in 2008, Republicans feared losing control of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners this year. So, with their allies in the Legislature, a new law was fabricated (applying only to Oakland County) and signed by Gov. Rick Snyder, thus circumventing the democratic choice of the people of who will govern by changing the rules after the fact. This undemocratic power grab was denounced by this paper and many others to no avail and allowed to stand by our Republican-dominated Supreme Court.

They want to take away catastrophic injury coverage in auto insurance. They tried this some 10 years ago but were stopped by a democratic vote of the people to keep this wanted coverage. Now with the law change allowing the ridiculously unsafe act of riding a motorcycle without a helmet and (no doubt because of this change) an increase in the charge for the catastrophic coverage they may have their way. The increase in cost to all car drivers may be just what they sought to get some to give up this coverage and those who still want it would be offered less coverage at a higher cost.

Voters in 2000 said no to school vouchers that would have allowed taxpayer funds to go to any private school. But now Republicans in the Legislature are removing the cap on the number of charter schools. Charter schools are taxpayer-funded, publicly-run, for-profit schools. The voters who voted no to vouchers; is this their way around that no vote.

They also seek to destroy unions which are democratic organizations formed for the benefit of all workers and dedicated to the prosperity of our nation.

Republicans do not like democracy. I am a Democrat and I believe in democracy, and that is one of the reasons I am running for State Representative of the 38th District.

Chuck Tindall
Novi

Novi events

NOVI CHORALAIRES CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 12
Location: Novi Middle School Auditorium, 49000 W. 11 Mile at Wixom Road, Novi

Details: Tickets are \$12 adults; \$10 seniors and children under 12; \$10 for groups of 10 or more.

WEST OAKLAND DEMOCRATS CLUB MEETING

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 15

Location: Comfort Suites Inn, Wixom Road, Wixom

Details: 46th District Court Justice Sheila Johnson, candidate for justice of the Michigan Supreme Court, will address the meeting; free and open to the public; snacks provided; pizza may be purchased.

Contact: www.mydems.info.

BALANCING YOUR HORMONES

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. May 17

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

Details: Free seminar - learn natural alternatives to HRT, how to have healthy bones throughout your life, what nutrients can help nourish your skin to bring out a youthful glow, and what you eat can either zap or pump you with energy.

Contact: Reservations for the free seminar can be made by calling 1-888-48-BETTER, or via web site www.thebetterhealthstore.com or visiting The Better Health Store Facebook page.

ANDIAMO THEATER

Location: 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi

Time/Date: 8 a.m.-1:45 p.m. Sunday, May 20

Location: St. James Church, Novi

Time/Date: 2:30-8:15 p.m. Tuesday, May 22

Location: Ridgewood Elementary, Novi

Time/Date: 8 a.m.-7:45 p.m. Location: Providence Park Hospital, Novi

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-3:45 p.m. Location: Novi City Hall

Time/Date: noon-5:45 p.m. Location: Novi Ice Arena

Contact: To set up an appointment, contact Diane Risko at



Travel Across America

The Novi Choralaires community chorus will be performing their annual spring concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 12 in the Novi Middle School Auditorium (49000 W. 11 Mile Road). The show, Travel Across America, will include a wide variety of regional favorites from coast to coast. A beloved southern folk song, a Motown favorite, and a classic western number are just a few of the songs that will be featured, along with some great traveling songs featuring planes, trains, and automobiles. Accompanied by Trena Baldrige, this will be the Choralaires' first spring concert under the new direction of Liz Wolber, who became the new artistic director in fall 2011. After a successful holiday concert series, Wolber has worked tirelessly to ensure the spring concert will be a lot of fun and that her first year with the group is one to remember. The Choralaires are a chorus of men and women from Novi and the surrounding communities who return year after year. Tickets, \$12 each, for Travel Across America are on sale now at the Novi Parks Office (45175 W. 10 Mile Road). Tickets can also be purchased online at cityofnovi.org and at the door. To learn more about creative art opportunities in Novi including upcoming Novi Civic Theatre Performances and the Sizzling Summer Art Series, visit cityofnovi.org.

Times/Date: 9 a.m.-2:45 p.m. Thursday, May 17

Location: Henry Ford Medical, Novi

Times/Date: 8 a.m.-1:45 p.m. Sunday, May 20

Location: St. James Church, Novi

Time/Date: 2:30-8:15 p.m. Tuesday, May 22

Location: Ridgewood Elementary, Novi

Time/Date: 8 a.m.-7:45 p.m. Location: Providence Park Hospital, Novi

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-3:45 p.m. Location: Novi City Hall

Time/Date: noon-5:45 p.m. Location: Novi Ice Arena

Contact: To set up an appointment, contact Diane Risko at

Diane.Risko@redcross.org or (313) 549-7052.

CONVERSATIONS IN HEALTH

Location: Providence Park Hospital (southwest corner of Beck Road and Grand River Avenue, Novi) in conference rooms A, B and C (Enter the campus off of Beck Road and continue straight to the building's Heart Institute entrance. The conference rooms are located immediately to the left.)

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays

Tuesday, May 22: Stroke

Tuesday, June 19: Intelligent Exercise

Details: Sandwiches, salads and refreshments will be available at no charge to all registered attendees.

There is no charge to attend.

Contact: To register please call 866-501-DOCS (3627) so they can anticipate the number of attendees. Registration is free and includes only your name and the contact information that you would like to supply.

SAVVY SOCIAL SECURITY PLANNING WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 1-2:30 p.m. or 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, May 10 and Tuesday, June 5

Location: Novi Public Library, 45255 W. 10 Mile Road

Details: Join wealth managers Walter J. Powrozek, CFP and Joseph J. Lezotte, CFP as they present What Baby Boomers Need to Know to Maximize Retirement Income.

GET LISTED!

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

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

Contact: Reservations are free, but seating is limited. Call Sigma Financial toll free at (877) 557-4462 or visit www.123Retirementplanning.com.

GRIEVING WITH GREAT HOPE WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. May 15, 22 and 23

Location: Holy Family Parish-24505 Meadowbrook, Novi

Details: Workshop offers a prayerful, practical and personal approach for individuals who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Speakers will include Fr. Bob La Croix, as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization. Registration forms are online at www.goodmourningministry.net or call the Holy Family Parish office.

Contact: Holy Family (248) 349-8847 or visit www.holyfamilynovi.org

3RD ANNUAL 5K EMERGENCY RUN AND 1-MILE STROKE WALK

Location: Providence Park campus (southwest corner of Beck and Grand River Avenue, Novi)

Time/Date: 8 a.m. Saturday, May 12

Details: Everyone is invited to participate - please share this information with your family and friends! The registration form can be accessed on the City of Novi website at http://cityofnovi.org/Services/ParksAndRec/Programs/SenseOfCommunity.asp#EmergencyRun. The event will be staged in the driveway to the Asarian Cancer Center.

Contact: Holy Family (248) 349-8847 or visit www.holyfamilynovi.org

Please see CALENDAR, A16

Novi/Northville MEDICAL SERVICE directory



Optometry

TOWN & COUNTRY EYECARE

Focusing on Your Family's Total Eye Health

high-tech eyecare • unique eyewear • specialty contact lenses

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Exceptional care for the shoulder, elbow, wrist & hand.

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Family Practice

Doctors That Care... Are Closer Than You Think.

Robert K. Brateman, M.D.

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Novi, Michigan 48375
Call for an appointment
(248) 475-8500

www.bratemanmedical.com

Peter Butsch, M.D.

Doctors

Doctors, Your Ad Could Be Here!

Call Amy Norton @ 248-437-2011, Ext. 241

NOVI NEWS

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Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
Executive Editor

Grace Perry,
Director of Advertising

CALENDAR

Continued from page A15

PROSTATE CANCER PRESENTATION

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Saturday, May 12
Location: Better Health Market, 42875 Grand River Avenue, Novi

Details: Gary Lalonde, motivational speaker and prostate cancer survivor shares his story on how he is beating his cancer — naturally — in this free seminar.
Contact: (248) 735-8100 or log on to the web site www.thebetterhealthstore.com

BEREAVEMENT MEETINGS

Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. third Tuesdays

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

Details: Led by Michael M. Meyer, D. Minnal, goal is to give each participant an opportunity to share their story. Handouts describing the phases of grief and the tasks of grief are available.

ANTI-AGING FROM THE INSIDE OUT: BE A NEW YOU IN 2012

Date: Wednesday, June 13
Location: DoubleTree Hotel, Novi

Details: The Novi Oaks Charter Chapter of the American Business Women's Association presents Pamela R. Benitez, M.D. Discover the power of the right foods and lifestyle choices in prevention and understand how you can slow the aging process through good nutrition. Best of all, become empowered by simple solutions you can start immediately. Networking begins at 6:15 with dinner and presentation following.

Contact: Visit www.abw-novi.org for registration and payment information.

NOVI SENIOR CENTER

Location: 25075 Meadowbrook Road
Contact: (248) 347-0414; theglin@cityofnovi.org

Business

NORTHVILLE-NOVI BUSINESS NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 7:30-9 a.m. first and third Tuesdays (except Nov. and Dec., which are just the first Tuesdays)
Location: Kerby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty Road

Details: Business networking focused on building relationships. The Sunrise Networking Group, LLC (www.sunrisenetworkinggroup.com), or SNG for short, is a group of about 250 business leaders who help each other to build more business by referring people to each other. Cost of breakfast is \$10.

Contact: Fonda Milana 585-232-3009 or fmilana@sunrisefinancialgroup.com

METRO NOVI BNI

Time/Date: 7-8 a.m. every Wednesday

Location: On the Border Restaurant, 21091 Haggerty Road (north of Eight Mile), Novi

Details: BNI is a structured networking environment for professionals. The Metro Novi BNI team members are committed to providing bona fide referrals to each other. Members learn how to create and refine an "elevator speech," develop a broad network of other business professionals in the community and receive training/education on networking more efficiently. Guests are invited to attend free of charge. Continental breakfast provided.

Contact: For more information, contact Julie Paquette at (248) 797-1665 or juliepaquette67@gmail.com; www.metrobninovi.com

NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Contact: www.novichamber.com or call (248) 349-3743

NOVI ROTARY CLUB

Time/Date: Noon every Thursday

Location: Novi Methodist Church 41671 W. 10 Mile Road

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

NOVI TOASTMASTERS CLUB

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

Details: Novi Toastmasters is a community-based club which is part of Toastmasters International. Our diverse group provides a mutually supportive atmosphere in which all can develop and refine their public speaking and leadership skills. Our members also have fun while building confidence in day-to-day communication and mentoring toward professional and personal excellence. Guests are welcome — and bring a friend. Visit www.novifreetoasthost.us

Contact: Linda Kreuter at PR@novifreetoasthost.us

NOVI LIONS CLUB

Time/Date: 6 p.m. social; 5:30 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, Penrickton 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

Reunions

NOVI HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES OF 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977 AND 1978

Date: Aug. 11
Location: The Suburban

Collection Showplace, Novi
Details: combined class reunion

Library Lines

WALLED LAKE LIBRARY

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

HUD Counseling

Time/Date: 5-8 p.m. first Mondays

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.

Library closed all day Sunday, May 13

Story Times: Please see the Library website or story time brochure for details.

Knitting

Time/Date: 10-11:30 a.m. Thursdays, May 10 and 17

Details: If you have a leaning towards knitting or any of the related handcrafts

Knit Zgether Knitting Circle
Time/Date: 7-8 p.m. Wednesdays, May 15 and 22

Details: Make friends while you practice your English pronunciation and conversation skills. No need to register.

Novi Public Library - Regular Board Meeting

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, May 16

Details: The Library Board Meeting will be held at the Novi Civic Center - Council Chambers. The board meets to discuss planning for the future, making policy decisions, developing and approving the annual budget, and broad operational oversight of the library.

Creating Japanese Crafts and Haiku

Time/Date: 4-8 p.m. Thursday, May 17

Details: Partnering with the City of Novi and the Novi Community School District and in recognition of the "New Blooms in Novi," we will be exploring and constructing Japanese crafts as well as composing beautiful Haiku poetry together. Hope you will join us for an inspiring and fun time for all ages.

Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Meeting

Time/Date: 3:15-4:15 p.m. Friday, May 18

Details: Join the TAB as we create and plan programs for teens at the Library.

Decorate Your Own Kite
Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 19

Details: Prepare for the 4th annual Kite Festival in Lyon Township at the Library. Decorate your own kite

Monday, May 14-Saturday, May 19: There will be a box in the library's outer lobby for your drop offs during the Library's regular business hours. The Church of the Holy Family will help distribute the clothing. Clothing of all ages will be accepted.

ESL Joy of Reading

Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Monday, May 14

Details: For the High Beginning to Low Intermediate English speaker. Plan to have fun in this interactive program with American Tall Tales, short novels, reading aloud to musical melodies, and more. This is a 6-week series. Registration is required. Books and materials will be provided. Free.

E-Reader Sampler

Time/Date: 7-8 p.m. Monday, May 14

Details: Learn how to download library items to your eReader with hands-on instruction. Please have an eReader set up prior to coming and bring your fully charged eReader and Novi library card with you. Registration required.

Help for Families from OLHSA

Time/Date: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesdays, May 15 and May 22

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.

English Conversation Group

Time/Date: 1-2 p.m. Tuesdays, May 15 and 22

Details: Make friends while you practice your English pronunciation and conversation skills. No need to register.

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Spanish Story Time

Time/Date: 10:30-11 a.m. Tuesday, May 22

Details: Spanish-speaking volunteer storytellers read Spanish picture books to preschool aged children.

Novi Community Schools - Coffee with the Superintendent

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, May 22 and 10:15-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 23

Details: Novi Community Schools Superintendent, Dr. Matthews, shares coffee and conversation at the Library twice a month through May.

Hindi Story Time

Time/Date: 10:30-11 a.m. Wednesday, May 23

Details: Hindi-speaking volunteer storytellers read Hindi picture books to preschool aged children.

Math 101 For Preschoolers

Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 23

Details: Classification, patterning, and numeration are big words for a little person. Help your preschooler learn about these terms in a hands-on workshop for parents and children together. Participants will practice simple math activities they can do at home to encourage the joy of math. Registration is required and will be done on a first come, first served basis.

to take to the festival and learn about kite safety. Participation is limited to the first 20 people. Registration required. For grades K-6.

Musical Instrument Petting Zoo

Time/Date: 1:30-2:45 p.m. Sunday, May 20

Details: Before the Listen @ the Library Family Concert at the Novi High School, stop by the Library to touch, hold, and try out a variety of musical instruments to enhance the concert experience.

Chinese Story Time

Time/Date: 10:30-11 a.m. Monday, May 21

Details: Chinese-speaking volunteer storytellers read Chinese picture books to preschool aged children.

Open Office Hours in the Local History

Time/Date: noon-2 p.m. Monday, May 21

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.

Lego Club

Time/Date: 6-6:45 p.m. Monday, May 21

Details: Join us once a month for Lego show-and-tell and building activities. We supply the Legos, you supply the imagination. For grades K-4.

Chinese Language Conversation Group

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Monday, May 21

Details: Want to sharpen your Chinese? Adults & Teens interested in practicing the Chinese language are invited to meet at the Novi Public Library on the 2nd Monday of the month. Registration required. If you are interested in starting a language conversation group at the Novi Public Library, please contact Maureen Simari at (248)349-0720 ext. 7269.

Spanish Story Time

Time/Date: 10:30-11 a.m. Tuesday, May 22

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ST. MARY MERCY LIVONIA
 SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM



Could You Be At Risk for Stroke?
 May is National Stroke Awareness Month

Do you smoke? Have diabetes? High blood pressure? High cholesterol? Family history of heart disease?

Stroke - Time Lost is Brain Lost!

Learn about the importance of emergency care for stroke, new technology and rehabilitation of a stroke patient.

To register call 734-655-2365, or visit stmarymercy.org and click on Classes & Events.

Drawings for great prizes! Refreshments and light snacks will be served.

Tuesday, May 15 4:30 to 7 p.m.
 St. Mary Mercy Hospital Auditorium

REMARKABLE MEDICINE. REMARKABLE CARE.

SOCIAL SECURITY



Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

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

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

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

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Blieske has written a book for attorneys about the

Blieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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Officials leery of personal property tax proposal

By Valerie Olander
 Correspondent

City and township leaders in Oakland County are wary of an eight-bill package introduced in the state Senate to reform personal property taxes without a solid plan to replace the lost revenue for local services.

The result would be a devastating blow for local governments already forced to slash budgets due to recent cuts in state-shared revenue and decreased property values.

A complex reimbursement formula proposed after the initial legislation does little to ease fears, local officials said.

"It's difficult to determine who is eligible for reimbursement. It appears a lot of communities won't be eligible," said Kathy Smith-Roy, finance director and treasurer of Novi, which collects about \$2.3 million annually in personal property tax.

Personal property taxes are paid exclusively by businesses on items such as machines, equipment, furniture, fixtures, and tools.

For example, if a business buys a computer, it pays a tax based on its value over the life of the equipment, in addition to real property tax, the tax homeowners are accustomed to paying yearly.

Many neighboring states don't levy personal property tax, resulting in a move by Gov. Rick Snyder to eliminate the tax to retain and attract jobs to the state.

In Lyon Township, personal property taxes account for more than half, or nearly \$320,000, of the \$590,000 in property taxes it collects annually for its \$2.6 million budget.

"I've never been a fan of personal property tax, but this leaves local government in a sad state, affecting police, libraries and school districts," Lyon Township Treasurer Patricia Carcone said.

Lyon Township police could lose funding for up to three police officers, she said.

Huge cut
 "The library only collects \$31,000 in taxes for operations. If you take away the \$39,000 it gets from personal property taxes, that's huge. It means books, part-time people. How do you make that up?" Carcone said.

Other small governments, like South Lyon and the city of Farmington, would take a devastating hit.

South Lyon City Manager David Murphy said personal property tax generates \$240,000 for its \$4 million budget. Cutting that much money from its small budget would hurt, he said.

Personal property tax generated \$235,000 for

Municipality	Total personal property tax collected in 2011	Total budget
Farmington	\$235,000	\$8.1 million budget
Farmington Hills	\$2.6 million	\$51.4 million budget
Lyon Township	\$320,000	\$2.6 million budget
Novi	\$2.2 million	\$48.7 million budget
South Lyon	\$240,000	\$4 million budget

Source: Municipal governments

the City of Farmington and \$30,000 for its Downtown Development Authority in the 2011 fiscal year, said city Treasurer Christopher M. Weber.

"The personal property tax revenue is unrestricted and is used to support all city functions," Weber said. "If personal property tax is eliminated, the City would be faced with cutting services or raising the millage on real property."

Neighboring Farmington Hills, which has a large business tax base, generates \$2.6 million in personal property tax to fund its \$51.4 million budget.

"Any loss of tax revenue not reimbursed would have to be addressed in future city budgets," said Dave Gajda, finance director/treasurer for Farmington Hills.

Proposal words
 The legislation proposes to eliminate the tax for small businesses with a taxable value of \$40,000 immediately. Other business sectors, manufacturing and commercial, would be phased out by 2016.

In Novi, Smith-Roy, calculated that the im-

proposed reduction would be \$182,950 for the first phase. The personal property tax reform would eliminate \$1,529 of its 2,428 business parcels from the tax rolls. Small businesses represent a large number, but only pay slightly more than 8 percent of the city's total personal property tax collection.

By 2016, all personal property tax would be phased out and Novi, home to Twelve Oaks Mall and a strong commercial district, would lose \$2.25 million in personal property tax revenue.

"The impact for us is obviously significant," she said. "Even if the (real estate) market goes up, we're limited by Proposal A on property tax, that's 5 percent (or the rate of inflation). It will be challenging for us to

come back."

Statewide, the personal property taxes paid by businesses to local governments, generate \$1.3 billion per year for local police, fire, libraries, local roads and bridges and public schools, according to the Michigan Municipal League.

The MML has launched a "Replace Don't Erase" campaign calling for a constitutional amendment to guarantee replacement revenue for eliminating the personal property tax and protect local homeowners from property tax increases that the legislation would trigger.

The Michigan Townships Association claims the constitutional amendment would not be approved by two-thirds of the legislature. The group is calling for local governments to receive a

Staff writers Stacy Jenkins, Kurt Kuban and Nathan Mueller contributed to this report.

credit against the Corporate Income Tax, expected to increase if the personal property tax reform spurs more business activity within the state.

William Anderson, legislative liaison for the Michigan Townships Association, told the Senate Finance Committee on April 27 that the "state has no skin in the game" as the legislation currently stands.

"Many local governments that will lose 8 to 10 percent of their property tax revenues would not be eligible for any reimbursement using this 2 percent of government funds formula," Anderson said.

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New blooms for Novi

The City of Novi will take part in a centennial celebration of U.S.-Japan friendship through a gift of cherry trees as part of the 2012 Japan-U.S. Cherry Blossom Centennial National Tree Planting Initiative sponsored by Prizer, the Japan Commerce Association of Washington, D.C., and the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of New York. Twenty cherry trees (Sakura) will be planted at four locations in Novi - Providence Park Hospital, Novi Meadows Elementary/Japanese School of Detroit, Novi Public Library and the Novi Civic Center.

In the year 1912, more than 3,000 flowering cherry trees were sent from Japan to the United States and planted in Washington, D.C. as a symbol of the friendship between the countries.

In addition to the plantings, activities are scheduled at each location:

- Saturday, May 12
Providence Park Hospital - Assarian Cancer Center, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Join fellow community members for a planting ceremony, light refreshments, and a Japanese-language yoga class following the conclusion of the Emergency Run 5K.
- Novi Meadows Elementary/Japanese

School of Detroit, 3-4 p.m.

Novi Meadows and Japanese School of Detroit students will share their collaborative art project with the community. Light refreshments will follow a planting ceremony. • Thursday, May 17
Novi Public Library, 4-8 p.m. You're invited to experience Japanese culture by learning to compose beautiful Haiku poetry and constructing Japanese-themed crafts at this open, drop-in program.

Free kite kits

The Lyon Township Kite Festival in New Hudson will be held at the James F. Atchison Memorial Park on Saturday, June 2.

So that every child has an opportunity to fly a kite at the official kite festival for free, neighboring libraries are hosting a children's kite decorating program to prepare kites for the upcoming Lyon Township Kite Festival.

The festival kite committee will have kite kits available for children to decorate at 10:30 a.m. May 19 at the Novi Public Library located at 45255 West Ten Mile Road.

The Lyon Twp. Kite Festival that will be held from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, June 2 at James Atchison Memorial Park (Grand River, west of Mil-

ford Road, New Hudson). Kites of all shapes and sizes will fill the air at Oakland County's best kept secret for kite flying - the bluff-top park that overlooks the beautiful hamlet area of New Hudson. Don't know how to fly a kite? You can learn at the Kite Festival to launch, fly and land kites. If you don't use a free kite kit provided by the festival - you can purchase one at the Kite Festival.

Civilian pistol safety class

The Novi Police Department is currently accepting registration for the Saturday, June 9 civilian pistol safety class from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Novi Police Department Training Center, 45125 W. 10 Mile Road. After lunch, participants will move to the Novi Firearm Training Center to complete the course.

Participants must be 21 years old and do not have to be a Novi resident to attend. Registration forms are available at the Novi Police Department, or online at cityofnovi.org. The \$200 course fee may be paid by cash or money order. Class size is limited, and all participants are subject to a criminal background check.

The course fulfills both the classroom and shooting requirements to obtain a Michigan Concealed License (CPL). Students must bring their own equipment, including a personal handgun, 100 rounds of ammunition, safety glasses, and shooter's earmuffs or ear plugs.

For more information, visit cityofnovi.org or contact Sergeant Michael Warren at mwarren@cityofnovi.org or (248) 347-0572.

Annual Oakland County auction set for Saturday

Xbox 360 game systems, iPods, and Nintendo DS systems are among the items available at Oakland County, Michigan's annual spring auction Saturday, May 12. Other items up for bid this year include a Starcaster Electric Guitar by Fender, a motorhome, and several boats.

In addition, a variety of automobiles, snowmobiles, tools, office equipment, electronics, and jewelry will also be for sale.

"There's the potential for some great deals on auction items this year," said J. David VanderVeen, director of Central Services. "There are more than 50 cars for sale alone."

The auction will be held at the Vehicle Operations Building, 1200 North Telegraph, Building 16 East, in Pontiac. Gates open at 8 a.m. Saturday. Sales begin at 9:30 a.m., with automobiles at 11 a.m. Potential bidders may preview items 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, May 11. All bidders must register online or in person. To register, preview the rules,

or see a list of auction items, go to www.oakgov.com/auction. Call (248) 858-1015 for more information.

Social Security planning workshop

Join wealth managers Walter J. Powrozek, CWS and Joseph J. Lezotte, CFP along with the Novi Library for Savvy Social Security Planning: What Baby Boomers Need to Know to Maximize Retirement Income from 1-2:30 p.m. or 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, May 24 and Tuesday, June 5.

This workshop will help you decide 1) when to start receiving benefits; 2) how to coordinate benefits with your spouse; 3) how tax issues can affect your benefits; 4) how to coordinate benefits with your other sources of retirement income; and much more.

The program will be at the Novi Public Library at 45255 West 10 Mile Road. Reservations are free, but seating is limited, register by calling Sigma Financial toll free at (877) 557-4462 or by going to www.123RetirementPlanning.com

Congressman Hansen Clarke to speak at Spring Gala 2012

U.S. Representative Hansen Clarke, the man who will face U.S. Rep. Gary Peters in the Aug. 7 Democratic primary election, will be the guest speaker at the

Democrats' Spring Gala 2012 on May 19 at Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville.

At the 7 p.m.-to-midnight affair, more than 200 Democrats from five sponsoring clubs - Northville, Livonia, Plymouth, Community (Canton and environs) and West Oakland - will hear Clarke speak to his efforts to retain a congressional seat.

Immediately after the redistricted maps were approved by the Michigan Legislature in April, Clarke declared that he would be running in the majority-minority new 14th congressional district. Since Peters' district was merged with U.S. Rep. Sander Levin's district in the redistricting process, Peters chose to run against Clarke.

Other highlights of the Gala at the posh Meadowbrook Country Club at 40941 W. 8 Mile Road, just west of I-275, include an extensive buffet, cash bar and live music and dancing in Meadowbrook's Grand Ballroom.

Tickets are still available at \$50 per person; patron \$75; host \$200 (includes two tickets); and student \$30.

For tickets and further information, contact Northville Democratic Club, Susan Nichols, (248) 374-3992, snich9@aol.com.

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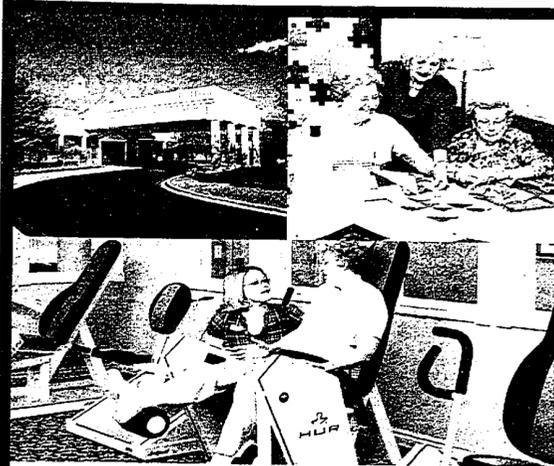
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Novi sophomore Jessie Parvana (left) volleys the ball past South Lyon freshman netminder Lydia Richards as sophomore Samantha Strauss trails on defense during Novi's 8-0 mercy victory May 1. Parvana's shot would get into the net for the final goal.

Soccer team earns win and a tie

Squad stays ahead of foes in two tight games

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

The Novi Wildcats are no strangers to ties this season, but that's just fine with the squad and their coach when you take into consideration the difficulty of the team schedule.

The girls soccer squad, coached by Brian O'Leary, collected a tie against the No. 1 ranked team in the state in Okemos, 1-0, last week after edging a scrappy South Lyon East squad, 1-0, earlier in the week.

Against Okemos, the Wildcats found themselves in a team determined to win and came out ready to do just that in the opening half of play.

"It was a great game between two very good teams," said O'Leary. "The first half saw Okemos get the better of play—once they hit the crossbar and twice Sam Pavlika had to make great saves."

The Wildcats' defense kept Okemos' charge at bay and even helped provide their own offense with two good scoring chances that came up just short of finding the net. As the halftime buzzer sounded, the scoreboard remained at 0-0.

The second half was more in Novi's favor as they scored the first goal of the game off a one-time kick from Gabby DeLeo that bounced off the crossbar and into the net for the 1-0 advantage. Katie Seelenbinder earned the assist on the play.

Please see SOCCER, B6

Novi kickers use heads to mercy Lions

Wildcats find finishing touch, defeat South Lyon

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

After scoring nine goals in their prior nine games, Novi's girls soccer team used their heads to notch eight goals in 52 minutes as they mercied South Lyon.

The Wildcats (6-1-3, 4-1-0 KLA Central) showed every bit of their No. 5 Division I ranking as they nearly scored within the first minute against the Lions (5-9-0, 0-5-0 Central) before a Katie Rudzinski corner kick from the left side found the head of senior Kelli Timar two yards off the goal line for the game-winning goal just 7:12 into the game.

"I thought Kelli Timar played her best game of the season," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "I



South Lyon junior Andrea Pesch (right) shields the ball from Novi sophomore Taylor Pavlika during the Wildcats' 8-0 victory May 1.

Catholic Central has strong week in golf

Squad earns two wins, takes third in tourney

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks had a great week of golf as they showed their talents in a tournament and a tri-meet.

The squad, coached by Bill Hayes, took third place at a tournament held at the Orchard Lake Country club as they finished behind Plymouth and Brother Rice. The Shamrocks collected a 311 while Plymouth shot a 305 and Brother Rice a 307. There was a field of 21 teams in the tournament.

Leading the way for the Shamrocks was Charlie Green, who carded a 75 on the day. Patrick Luther and Dominic Sco-

pone each shot a 77 to help the Shamrocks along.

The squad then played at Cat-tails in a tri-match against University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Cranbrook. The Shamrocks beat both of them, shooting a 153 over nine holes.

Senior John Dooley paced the Shamrocks club with a 36 while Green carded a 37 in the victories.

Eric Dooley, who is John's twin, shot a 40, as did Joe Lawless and Preston Dooley, who is no relation to the other two players with the same name.

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

Novi makes short work of tennis foes

Squad collects 3 wins without much trouble

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

The Novi Wildcats didn't have much trouble earning three wins last week as they improved their record to 9-1-1 overall this season.

The squad, coached by Jim Hanson, simply dominated Walled Lake Western, 9-0, before beating West Bloomfield, 5-3, and Grand Blanc, 8-1.

Against Walled Lake Western, the Wildcats swept every flight starting with No. 1 singles standout Abby Wang, who earned a 6-0, 6-2 win over Natalie Holland. Erin Day, at No. 2 singles, defeated Aileen Zhao, 6-1, 6-1, while Dhivya Sridar, the No. 3 singles player for Novi, beat Ashley Lustre, 6-0, 6-1. At fourth singles, Caitlin O'Brien beat Emily Wang, 6-

ON TAP

The Novi Wildcats girls tennis team will be back on the court when they play in the Association Tournament at home at 8:30 a.m. Saturday before playing in an Ann Arbor Huron quad meet starting at 2:15 p.m. Monday.

The doubles flights had the same success as they followed the lead of No. 1 duo Emily Sheeran and Rebecca Chen as they toppled Shayna Lickfold and Lily Iijima, 6-0, 6-3. Emily Kwederis and Ori Nagasaka had the same success at No. 2 doubles, defeating Mackenzie Parsons and Allie Lewin, 6-3, 6-0. At No. 3 doubles, Dina Fawaz and Melanie Murphy

earned a 6-1, 6-1 victory for Novi over Nicole Whaley and Ashley Lucas, while Angela Huang and Alice Jiang beat Elana Malinova and Ashana Rao, 6-0, 6-1, in fourth doubles play. Earning the win at fifth doubles were Novi's Natalie Doherty and Yolanda Zhang, who beat Megan Crawford and Amanda Svenson, 6-0, 6-0.

Novi 3, West Bloomfield 3

In their tightest contest of the week, the Novi Wildcats took two losses in singles play and one loss in the doubles flights as they earned yet another victory. Earning singles wins were Wang, who defeated Sam Dean, 6-2, 6-2, and O'Brien,

Please see TENNIS, B3

Wildcats continue to put up the good fight

Squad can't top Stevenson in doubleheader, but play hard

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

The Novi Wildcats softball team may not have the healthiest squad around with so many injuries plaguing their every game, but their heart is still going strong. The team, coached by Bob Lulek, took on Livonia Stevenson in a doubleheader and took a loss in both games, 4-0 and 10-0.

In the opening game, the Wildcats just couldn't get a runner across home plate despite having the opportunity presented.

"We had chances to score, just could not get a hit with the bases loaded twice," lamented Lulek.

Taking the loss on the mound was Taylor Scott, who threw a complete game and allowed five hits, four runs and three walks. There were three errors on Novi's side of the ball.

Kacey Richman had three base hits in the loss while Emily Bielski and Miranda Hanby had two each. Abby Robinson and Scott added a hit apiece in the losing effort.

In the nightcap of the twinbill, things just couldn't get rolling for the Wildcats. Novi's Natalie Tarrant took the loss in the mercy-rule shortened contest as she threw six innings, gave up 11 hits and two walks while striking out five batters.

"We hit the ball hard, but right at someone," said Lulek.

And when it rained, it poured for Novi. The squad made five errors with runners on base.

"We still make too many errors on easy plays," Lulek noted. "The girls are trying hard, it's just that it seems like we make one error with runners on base and bad things happen."

Hanby had a triple in the loss while Scott and Robinson collected a hit each.

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



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Novi Wildcat third baseman #4 makes a leaping dive for but can't quite hold on to this pop foul during their April 23 home game against Plymouth.

ON TAP

The Novi Wildcats softball team will be back on the diamond when they visit South Lyon East Friday at 4 p.m. in a make-up game from April 20. They will then play in the Fred Pieper tournament Saturday before hosting Wayne Memorial on Monday and South Lyon Wednesday. Both games start at 4 p.m.



A Novi Wildcat swings and connects with a pitch during their April 23 game against Plymouth.

Wilson commits to joining former teammates at OU

Verbal agreement would reunite three Wildcats as Golden Grizzlies

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

He still has one more year of high school to go, but Novi junior Matt Wilson has the next five years planned out.

Wilson, 17, had more than a dozen Division I collegiate programs recruiting him, but he made a verbal commitment April 30 to play collegiate soccer at Oakland University, where he will join former Novi teammates John DeLeon and Wes Smith, as well as fellow Novi resident Nick Kristock, a Detroit Catholic Central alumni.

With 39 goals and 32 assists in 68 games during his first three years of varsity soccer at Novi, Wilson plans to begin with the Golden Grizzlies in fall 2013. He led his team in points in 2011 while earning third-team All-State honors in Division I.

At 6-foot-2 and 160 pounds, Wilson also did well in the off-season, helping his Waza FC West 95 Boys Black team to State Cup titles in 2011 and 2009 during his U16 and U14 seasons. From 2009-12, he's notched 52 goals and 46 assists in 79 games during the past four seasons.

Often used as an attacking midfielder due to his size and speed, Wilson has also participated in national Olympic Development Program training this past winter and will attend the Region II ODP Camp this summer before leading the Wildcats as a senior in the fall.

Wilson also maintains a 3.5 grade point average and earned a 24 on ACT, helping him secure the OU scholarship to play collegiate soccer.

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



Novi junior Matt Wilson (right) holds off Canton sophomore Griffin Parks during Canton's 3-1 overtime win over Novi for the district championship Oct. 22.

PHOTO BY CHRIS JACKETT

TENNIS

Continued from page B1

who won, 7-5, 6-2, over Sara Nirenberg. Winning at No. 2 doubles were Kwerderis and Nagasaka, who defeated Sara Langnas and Anjana Nair, 6-1, 6-1. Chen and Asawari Kanitkar combined forces at No. 3 doubles to defeat West Bloomfield's Kayla Trexler and Anki-ta Ajampur, 6-0, 6-1, while Rachel Bailey and Fawaz earned a win over Nicole Dean and Hannah Shink, 7-5, 6-2, at No. 4 doubles.

Novi 8, Grand Blanc 1

Wang took home a big 6-2, 6-0 win over Sabrina Dass to set the pace at No. 1 singles while Day took a 6-0, 6-7(8), 6-1 victory away from Allison Stevens at two singles. Winning at No. 3 singles was

Sridar, who defeated Lana Abdole, 6-3, 6-4, while O'Brien collected a 6-0, 6-3 victory over Raghdha Ishaq at No. 4 singles.

Novi's Kwerderis and Nagasaka earned a 6-1, 6-0 victory at No. 2 doubles over Madysin Oliver and Haley Harisin while Chen and Kanitkar beat Carley Fockler and Kate Colasanti at No. 3 doubles, 6-1, 6-1. Bailey and Fawaz were also winners, beating Sam Elias and Christine Colasanti, 6-3, 6-2, at fourth doubles while the fifth doubles duo of Huang and Jiang eat Madeleine Auster-mann and Haley Guffey, 6-4, 6-0.

In exhibition play, the duo of Melanie Murphy and Abigail Swain earned a win for Novi over Kiran Ajamid and Ham-rad Ajamid, 6-1, 6-0.

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

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Limited Registration window: May 11 - May 25, 2012

Livonia Public Schools is opening its Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (ACAT) program to Limited Schools of Choice for the 2012-2013 school year. This program is geared toward academically talented students looking for a specialized learning experience.

Registration will be open from May 11 - May 25, 2012 at Webster Elementary, 32401 Pembroke, Livonia 48152 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. All candidates MUST meet the ACAT selection testing criteria.

For complete information on the application process, visit www.livoniapublicschools.org or contact Webster School at 734-744-2795.

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GIRLS

Continued from page B1

thought she really, really did a good job all around the field. Her leadership on the field was just really more evident today than it has any other game this season, both with her physical actions and, when she wasn't near it, directing play with her mouth."

Novi, which has had trouble finishing scoring opportunities this season, scored on eight of the 11 shots that were on net. They also had eight corner kicks, compared to South Lyon's one shot and no corners.

The Wildcat offense kept flowing with a goal by junior Erin Dircks five minutes later after a shot by sophomore Kendall Kramer beat South Lyon freshman netminder Lydia Richards, hit the right post and bounced right to Dircks' feet with an empty net in front of her.

"We made a lot of mistakes that you can't make against a good team. We're sort of in a lull, in a learning mode," South Lyon coach Tracee Senter said. "Overall, we came in and we gave up a couple goals that stunned us early. And we stopped moving to the ball, which is a recipe for disaster."

Junior Aubrey Soave gave Novi a 3-0 leave with 15:39 left in the half when a low shot took an awkward bounce off Richards' foot and popped up into the net. Junior Natalie Krygier



Novia senior Katie Seelenbinder (center) cuts between South Lyon junior Sydney Farrington (left) and junior Rachel Hay during the Wildcats' 8-0 win May 1.

assisted. With five minutes left in the half, a South Lyon goal kick was blocked and popped up into the goal box. Novi junior Kelly Cauchi won a foot race with Richards and headed the high-bouncing ball over the arms of Richards and into an empty net. Just 1:22 later, a corner by sophomore Taylor Pavlika from the left side went right to the head of sophomore Jes-

sie Parvana for another goal to give the 'Cats a 5-0 halftime lead on nine shots and five corners. "We've been struggling scoring goals. It's been an issue for us all season coming into this game," O'Leary said. "To get the ball in the back of the net is a step in the right direction. Hopefully it can get their confidence going."

With the sun setting, Novi went to work in the second half, scoring 51

seconds in when Kramer took the ball up the center off a pass from Krygier and placed a low shot past Richards from the penalty spot. Less than five minutes later, senior Jessica Jarvis hustled to a ball that was headed out of bounds along the goal line and being trailed by a South Lyon defender, and slid to knock the ball into the center of the goal box where Dircks was waiting at the pen-

alty spot for a quick shot into the top left corner. Novi senior Kelly Yusko set Parvana up for a volley at the penalty spot as Richards dove forward, but the ball skipped into the net exactly with exactly 28 minutes left in regulation, ending the game by an 8-0 mercy rule. "We've lost a few starters to ACL injuries. We've got three ACLs, a concussion, a flu and broken ribs," Senter

said. "I think we came in with more of a defeatist attitude today." Novi senior netminder Sam Pavlika claimed her seventh shutout of the season. "She's a great goalie," O'Leary said. "In a game like this, you're not going to see it. She's got seven shutouts in 10 games, so she's quite a goalie."

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

SPRING 2012 HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY SPORTS SCHEDULES

Northville Mustangs

GIRLS SOCCER
5/12 7 p.m. @South Lyon
5/12 noon Ann Arbor Pioneer
5/15 6 p.m. @South Lyon East

GIRLS TENNIS
All games at 4 p.m., unless noted
5/12 TBA @Association Tournament
5/14 Port Huron Northern

TRACK & FIELD
All events at 3:45 p.m., unless noted
5/11 Noon @Conference Meet

BOYS GOLF
5/12 TBA @Bedford
5/15 3:30 p.m. @South Lyon
5/16 3:30 p.m. Livonia Stevenson

SOFTBALL
All games at 4 p.m., unless noted
5/14 John Glenn
5/16 @Livonia Stevenson

BOYS LACROSSE
5/12 1 p.m. Forest Hills Eastern
5/14 TBA @Association XO
5/16 6:30 p.m. Notre Dame Prep

GIRLS LACROSSE
5/11 6:15 p.m. Farmington
5/14 7 p.m. @Harrison
5/16 @ p.m. @Salem

BASEBALL
All games at 4 p.m., unless noted
5/12 10 a.m. @Sajine
5/14 John Glenn
5/16 @Livonia Stevenson

Catholic Central Shamrocks

BASEBALL
All games at 4 p.m., unless noted

Novi Wildcats

5/11 @Divine Child

TRACK & FIELD
5/12 10 a.m. @ AA Huron Invitational
5/14 4 p.m. @Brother Rice

GOLF
5/10 10 a.m. @Ann Arbor Pioneer Invitational
5/14 8 a.m. @Dearborn Invitational
5/14 11 a.m. @HVS Invite/Milford
5/16 TBA @Oakland County Tournament

GIRLS SOCCER
All games 7 p.m., unless noted
5/10 @ Plymouth Salem
5/15 Livonia Stevenson

BASEBALL
All games 4 p.m., unless noted
5/12 11 a.m. Milford (DH)
5/14 Wayne Memorial
5/16 South Lyon (DH)

SOFTBALL
All games 4 p.m., unless noted
5/12 TBA @ Fred Pieper Tournament
5/14 Wayne Memorial
5/16 South Lyon (DH)

GIRLS TENNIS
All meets 4 p.m., unless noted
5/12 9 a.m. Westland John Glenn
5/14 @ Ann Arbor Huron

TRACK & FIELD
5/11 11 a.m. @ Conference Meet in Plymouth

BOYS GOLF
5/14 9 a.m. @ Huron Valley Schools Invite (Prestwick GC, Highland)

BOYS LACROSSE
5/11 6:30 p.m. Rochester Adams
5/14 TBA @ KLAAC Championship/Crossover

GIRLS LACROSSE
All games 7 p.m., unless noted
5/12 12 p.m. @ Midland Dow

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Wildcats edge Northville in golf match-up

Squad seeing improvement each day on the course

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

Anytime Novi can topple Northville in a sport, it's definitely worth the effort.

The Wildcats boys' golf team, coached by Brad Huss, did just that recently as they beat the Northville Mustangs, 152-139.

The Wildcats followed the lead of Mike Wenzl, who shot an impressive 37 to lead his team to the victory while Garret Buckley and Johnny Walker each carded a 38 and Brad Kozinski recorded a 39 in the victory.

The win improved Novi's record to 1-1 in the Kensington

ON TAP

The Novi Wildcats golf team will be back on the links when they play in the HV5 Invite at Prestwick Golf Club at 9 a.m. Monday. They will then host Salem a week from today starting at 3 p.m.

Lakes Activities Association. The links squad also played in the Seaholm Invitational recently and was led by Kozinski's 78.

"This was a very tough day due to the wet conditions, the difficulty of the course and some very tough pin positions,

so I am pleased with their performance," Huss said of the golf team.

Jason Carless and Bryan Gegert each shot 81 in the tournament while Buckley carded an 82.

"Brad is playing really well and Jason is doing much better," Huss said. "Bryan has been very solid this year as a freshman and Garret is one of the top sophomores in the area. He had a rough start yesterday but I was pleased how he held it together and shot a decent score."

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

Wildcat sluggers to raise money for breast cancer Saturday

Pink bats, pink balls to take the field against Milford

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

Having at least three mothers of recent student-athletes touched by breast cancer during the past few seasons, Novi's baseball team decided to do something this year.

The Wildcats (6-6) will be raising money for the National Breast Cancer Foundation during an 11 a.m. May 12 doubleheader against Milford (3-8).

"It's something he always wanted to do. Our baseball family's been touched," said Cathy Reilly, a former team parent who is helping organize the effort along with coach Rick Green and current parents Denise Boron and Sue Davis. "I think through the years Rick's just been affected. He just thought if one day we can ask people to donate. He just feels like it's so prevalent now."

Green said he got the idea last season, but wasn't able to get it organized in time.

"I'd really never done any fundraising for a good cause. I figured it'd be a nice thing to do," Green said. "I think everybody's had a friend or a family member we've known (who's been affected)."

The Wildcat players will wear pink ribbons on their jerseys and use both pink bats and balls during their May 12 doubleheader.

bleheader. Green said he also hopes to have special pink baseball jerseys for sale.

"Hopefully everybody plays and we have a good time for a good cause," Green said.

Baseball games typically do not charge an admission fee, so any gate collections would be purely donations. Reilly said some parents are considering donating \$5 per hit with increasing amounts for doubles, triples, home runs or other key plays. Patrons are welcome to join in on such a commitment.

"It's all voluntary. It's what people want to do," Reilly said.

She also noted that this is the first season the new dugouts and bathtubs at the baseball diamond are up and running since they were installed last summer. Some concessions will also be available.

"Please come and support your high school baseball teams," Reilly said. "It's about the cause and the proceeds. Come out and watch a little baseball."

The team is also planning an Armed Forces Day during two May 19 games the following weekend against White Lake Lakeland (4-8) and Wyandotte Roosevelt.

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

Wildcats take home three wins

Novi follows lead of Logan Regnier

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

It was the kind of week that coaches just love: Three games and three victories.

The Novi Wildcats baseball team, coached by Rick Green, stepped up against Livonia Stevenson last Wednesday in a double header and swept their foes, 9-3 and 10-2, before taking on Livonia Churchill last Friday and earning a 3-1 victory.

"I have been very pleased with our defense as of late, and our pitchers being able to throw first-pitch strikes," said Green. "Our hitting has improved with a good percentage of quality at-bats. We weren't as good Friday with our at-bats, but we had several real nice defensive plays."

Against Stevenson, the Wildcats followed the lead of Logan Regnier,

who went 6-for-8 over the two games, including three runs batted in, five runs scored and a two-run home run.

If that weren't enough to stun the Spartans, Grant Wheeler went 2-for-5 with a three-run homer while Jimmy Eloff went 4-for-7, Tyler Schwanz was 3-for-6, as was Mike Zugaro. Mario Ferrini went 3-for-7 and Kyle Matel was 3-for-3 in the nightcap.

Eloff pitched the opening game of the double header, throwing seven innings for the complete game while giving up three runs with one being earned, striking out four and walking one. He allowed two hits in the contest.

Ferrini took the win on the mound for Novi in the nightcap, throwing six innings while giving up two runs, walking three and allowing four hits.

The Wildcats are now 9-6 over-

all and 4-4 in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association.

Novi 3, Churchill 1
Regnier was the hero of the game with a two-run double that sailed over the left fielder's head to push the Wildcats into the lead and the victory. Eloff added two hits while Wheeler, Zugaro and Matel each collected one in the low-scoring defensive game.

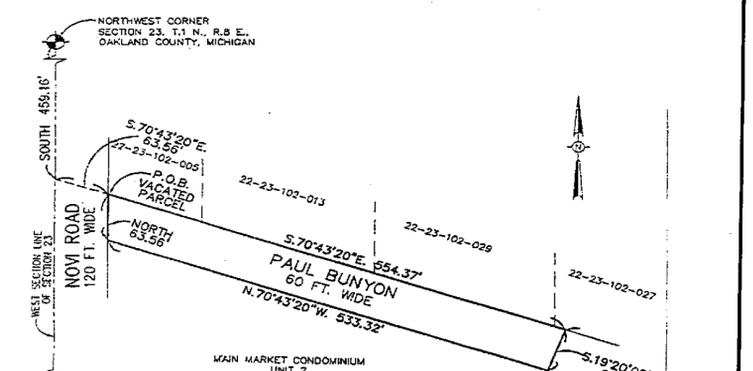
Earning the win on the mound was Ryan Davis, who threw the first four innings, walking four while giving up the lone run off two hits. Alex King came in as relief and picked up the save with no runs while striking out three, walking one and allowing two hits over the final three innings.

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

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED VACATION OF A PART OF ORCHARD AVENUE/PAUL BUNYAN DRIVE, ALSO KNOWN AS SIXTH GATE, ADJACENT TO THE MAIN STREET NOVI DEVELOPMENT EAST OF NOVI ROAD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Novi City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the same may be reached, on the proposed vacation of a part of Orchard Avenue/Paul Bunyan Drive, also known as Sixth Gate, adjacent to the Main Street Novi development east of Novi Road.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this hearing will be held in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile, Novi, Michigan 48375. All interested persons will be heard at this hearing.



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SOCCER

Continued from page B1

Despite dominating the play for the next 21 minutes, the Wildcats opened the door for Okemos to tie the contest with a foul at the top of their own box that allowed their foe to convert on a free kick and tie the game, 1-1.

Novi ended the game with 10 shots on goal. They are now 7-1-4 on the season.

Novi 1, South Lyon East 0

The weather wasn't working in anyone's favor when the Novi Wildcats took out South Lyon East in a Kensington Lakes Activities Association Central Division contest.

The two teams were forced to play in a brisk wind that kept the ball from being precise in passing and shots, though Novi had a strong first half despite it.

"We moved the ball around really well and made very intelligent decisions with and without the ball," said

O'Leary. The Wildcats scored their one and only goal of the game at the 18 minute mark when Jessica Jarvi headed in a Taylor Pavlika corner kick for the 1-0 lead. That would prove all the scoring needed, which was great for Novi considering the second half of play did not work well in their favor. The strong wind grew fiercer, throwing off shots over and around the goal and messing up deep passes.

With 15 seconds left in the game, South Lyon East made a strong push on goal and nearly tied the contest, but quick reactions by goalie Sam Pavlika preserved the 1-0 victory and gave her the 8th shutout of her season.

"Overall I thought we were quite erratic, but some of that is a credit to East, who played a well organized game and stayed patient the entire game and had some strong goalkeeping," said O'Leary.

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



9th Annual Spring SENIOR EXPO

May 22, 2012

Imagine Theatre movie pass for the 1st 100 seniors!

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Schoolcraft College Livonia Campus
Vis TaTech Center - Haggerty Rd. between 6 and 7 Mile Roads

- Prizes
- Free Admission
- Morning Refreshments
- Free Parking

Workshops & Demonstrations

Workshops

- Medicare 101: Area Agency on Aging I-B
- Oral Health is Overall Health: Comfort Dental Spa
- Long Term Retirement Planning: How to Ensure Your Finances Will Last 30 Years into Retirement: Rick Bloom, Bloom Asset Management, Inc.
- Medical Fraud: The Senior Alliance
- Diabetic Care: Garden City Hospital
- Fall Prevention: The Recovery Project
- Savvy Social Security Planning: AFS Wealth Management, LLC
- Ways to Manage Back and Neck Pain: HealthQuest
- The ABC of Conservative Investing: Bouchey and Moore, Associates
- Healthy Eating for Healthy Aging: Priority Health
- Long Term Care Insurance: Richmond Financial, LLC
- Estate Planning: Gaggos Law Firm, P.C.
- The Effects of Aging on Hearing: Fluke Hearing Instruments
- Sleep Like a Baby Again: Manooogian Manor Assisted Living for Seniors
- Assessing Quality Home Care Services: Affordable HomeCare
- Is Grief Really Good, Charlie Brown?: Angela Hospice

Fitness Demonstrations

- Zumba Gold: Schoolcraft College
- Strength Training for Seniors/Fit as a Fiddle: Schoolcraft College
- Chair Yoga: Schoolcraft College

Join the Fun!

Gold Sponsor

Creating Beautiful Smiles

Comfort Dental Spa is not affiliated with Comfort Dental Center in Southfield, MI or Dr. Halmaghi.

Novi Oaks Chapter of ABWA honors two members

The Novi Oaks Chapter of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) recently honored two of its members for their contributions to Michigan business and the ABWA organization.

Jean Parent was recognized as the chapter's Woman of the Year, an annual local chapter honor in recognition of a member's contributions to ABWA. She is a four-year member of ABWA, and owns and operates Advanced Tech Sales, a manufacturer's rep firm. She holds an associate's degree in business from Oakland Community College. Parent is the current chapter treasurer and is a driving force behind the chapter's fundraising efforts.

Christina Struwe is the current vice president of the Novi Oaks chapter and has been nominated for the Top Ten, a national ABWA honor. As a 24-year member of ABWA, Struwe has held many offices and chaired many committees. She works as a relationship manager in Government Banking at Huntington Bank, and holds a BA in business management from Madonna University. Her steady leadership, positive influence, and enthusiastic involvement in the chapter's activities have been invaluable. For several years, Struwe has chaired the chapter's annual Autumn Brunch With Auction, by which the

chapter raises money for the scholarship and education fund. This year's auction will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel in Novi on Saturday, Oct. 27. Donations of gift certificates and new items for the auction are welcome, and recognition is given to donors at the auction and in the auction souvenir program.

ABWA members are nominated for the Top Ten based on their career achievements, ABWA activities, education, and contributions to their local communities. In July, a panel of impartial judges from business in the Kansas City area, where ABWA National is located, will choose ten recipients from the nominees from ABWA chapters all across the United States who will be featured in ABWA's "Women in Business" magazine. From that Top Ten group, a single National ABWA Woman of the Year will be chosen by a panel of ABWA National officers and past officers, and announced at the ABWA National Conference held on Oct. 11-13 in Memphis, Tenn.

The mission of ABWA is: "To bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and it provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support and national recognition."

ABWA was founded in 1949, and is the only national women's organization that offers a web-based networking and training program for its members. The Women's Instructional Network (WIN) brings members from across the U.S. together, and offers training programs in writing resumes and interviewing, and provides leadership and chapter management modules. Local ABWA chapters provide face-to-face opportunities for building relationships and gaining knowledge. Student memberships are also available at a reduced rate.

The Novi Oaks Chapter Chapter raises money for scholarships, grants, and tuition reimbursement, and also provides training opportunities for its members. The focus is on meeting other women, being actively involved, and building relationships for the long term. The organization offers interesting, educational, and business-relevant programs. Novi Oaks holds dinner meetings on the second Wednesday of every month at the DoubleTree Hotel in Novi. Paid reservations are required (\$16 by mail or \$17 via the website at www.abwa-novi.org).

For more information about the Novi Oaks Chapter of ABWA and how you can join, attend a meeting, or communicate with officers, visit www.abwa-novi.org.



Open house

An open house was held May 4 at Envision Diagnostic Center, 39475 Lewis Drive, Novi. Envision Diagnostic Center opened in March of 2011. They offer a wide array of services, ultra sound, mammograms, cardiology imaging, and x-ray. They are conveniently located off of Hastery Road, north of 12 Mile. They offer flexible hours and state of the art technology. Shown (from left) are Dr. Nathan Block, Dr. Tony Munaco, Novi Mayor Pro-tem Dave Staudt, Dr. John Brown and Michelle De Vries.

NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

SOCAP golf outing

SOCAP Great Lakes, a part of a 25-year-old international network of professionals devoted to consumer affairs and satisfaction issues, is taking registration for its 19th Annual Golf Outing and Early Birdie event, held at the Tanglewood Golf Club in South Lyon on June 7.

The event is open to members and non-members alike and provides an opportunity for members of local industry to network with specialists across a variety of platforms, learn about customer service opportunities and methods, and play 18 holes of golf.

The Early Birdie event, which begins at 8 a.m. and includes breakfast, offers a panel of experts in the field of industry and customer relationships discussing emerging technologies in customer experience management. The presentation and Q&A session features officials from Unilever and Kellogg's who will share key methods they are using to adapt to the next generation of customer care, such as mobile apps and more.

"This event is an excellent opportunity to learn about opportunities available in this dynamic, growing field," says Jason Wolcott, president of SOCAP Great Lakes.

Following the Early Birdie presentation, teams of four will take to the golf course for a scramble on 18 holes at the Tanglewood Golf Club. Dinner and awards will take place at 5 p.m.

"The outing, both social and competitive, provides an excellent opportunity to network with peers in the customer care industry," said Wolcott. "The events take place at Tanglewood Golf Course located at 53503 W. 10 Mile Road in South Lyon. The Early Birdie event begins at 8 a.m. followed by golf at 11:30 a.m. and dinner/awards at 5 p.m. Cost for the Early Birdie event only is \$20; golf plus the Early Birdie event and dinner is \$100; a foursome is \$390. For more information, contact the chapter president at admin@socapl.org or to register online go to www.socapl.org/greatlakes.

For more information about SOCAP Great Lakes chapter, contact the chapter president at admin@socapl.org.

OAKLAND COUNTY BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance are invited to attend a series of business workshops offered by the Oakland County Business Center. Business Basics workshops are now offered in the evenings on alternating months.

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

Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan

This workshop is for small business owners who are developing a plan to serve as their road map to success. Workshop participants learn what elements are commonly found in effective plans and work on developing each of these for their own business. Assistance in the process as well as information on resources is provided.

Thursday, May 10, 9 a.m.-noon
Fee: \$40. No refunds

Women's Business Certification (WBE) Orientation

Learn about the benefits and process of becoming a Women's Business Enterprise (WBE.) Benefits include certification to private sector WBE's and access to procurement opportunities with major national companies. For additional information visit micedd.org. Presented by the Michigan Women's Business Council.

Wednesday, May 23, 9-11 a.m.
The fee is \$25 (Please make checks payable to WBCE-GL).

Team SBA Financing Roundtable

This session is best suited to those who have good credit, a solid business idea and some money to invest in their business. Before you apply for a business loan, we recommend that you first attend a Financing Roundtable. The roundtables are a free loan orientation

FUTURE WORKSHOPS

- (a.m.) Morning Class 9 a.m.-12/12:30 p.m. (p.m.) Evening Class 6-9/9:30 p.m.
- June 5: FastTrac NewVenture Series
- June 6: Fundamentals of Marketing Your Business (p.m.)
- June 7: Small Business Loan Workshop
- June 7: Business Research: Feasibility of Expansion (p.m.)
- June 13: CEED Microloan Orientation
- June 13: LinkedIn for Business (Beginner) (p.m.)
- June 14: Fundamentals of Starting a Business (p.m.)
- June 20: LinkedIn for Business (Intermediate) (p.m.)
- June 21: Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan (a.m.)
- June 27: LinkedIn for Business (Advanced) (p.m.)
- June 28: QuickBooks Essentials Part 1 and Part 2
- July 5: Business Research: Feasibility of Expansion (a.m.)
- July 11: CEED Microloan Orientation
- July 18: 5 Keys to Achieving Fiscal Fitness (a.m.)
- July 19: Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan (a.m.)
- July 31: Legal & Financial Basics (a.m.)

conducted by a business banker, a business consultant from the SBA's network of Small Business Development Centers, and an SBA representative. During the roundtable, we'll debunk the myths and demystify the process of small business financing. You'll learn how the lending process works and what is expected of you and you'll understand how the SBA can assist with our SBA Guaranteed Loan Program. Because the SBA does not provide loan guarantees to real estate investment firms, including purchasing and rehabbing houses for sale, this type of financing is not discussed at the roundtables. Presented by: Small Business Administration (SBA) Representative, Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC) Consultant, and Business Banker.

Thursday, May 31, 9 a.m.-noon
This workshop is free, but pre-registration is required.

Tell Scoop how you love your Mom and you could win Great Prizes!

Mail to:
Scoop the Newshound
41304 Concept Drive
Plymouth, MI 48170

Deadline for submissions:

All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers by close of the business day on May 28th. Winners to be announced in the June's Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

Join Scoop's Birthday Club!

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Zip: _____
Date of Birth: _____
Boy or Girl _____
Email: _____
Phone: _____
*Parent's Printed Name: _____
*Parent's Signature _____

Fill out the form and have your parent's fill in their name and signature. Clip and mail, it's that easy!

* Required for Birthday Club

Mail to:
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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Irelyn Sullivan	Livonia	May 7
Alyssa Moskalczyn	Livonia	May 12
Sydney Wargyn	Livonia	May 14
Caroline Loder	Livonia	May 27
Jaycen Born	Milford	May 29
Hailey Gibson	White Lake	May 31

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Choye Jordan, Marketing Manager
Design/Layers:
Randall Masters, Graphic Artist
Interested in becoming a sponsor of Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights or have general questions?
Email cbjordan@hometownlife.com



OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights

I love you Mom

Show mom how much you love her by writing a short poem of 10 lines or less. Submit the poem along with a photo of you and your Mom.

First Place: \$20 Kohl's Gift Certificate
Second Place: Emagine Theatre Pass for 2 and Buddy's Pizza Coupon

The poem and photo will be featured in June's Scoop Hound Dog Highlights.

Scoop's Craft Corner

Spring is here and bursting with color! Help Scoop color these images...



We Celebrate You!

Ms. Bonnie Goodrich, a proud Literacy Teacher at Dodson Elementary School submitted these wonderful poems written by a few creative 4th grade students. We celebrate your talent!

Don't Let the Leaves Go

Something told the lonely tree
The leaves would have to go
Even if the other trees were nice
Bright and green
The lonely tree told the voice you
Just don't know.
The tree held on to the leaves
And said I won't let you go
The voice made a nice breeze
The leaves flew across the land
Where all the trees could see
Something told the lonely tree
Leaves would have to go
The tree let go of the leaves
And said, "I love you so"



By Payton Dixon

Best Friends

Friends are friends
No matter how far
Or near in your heart
Best friends never turn you down.
It doesn't matter if your short, tall,
Pretty or ugly.
It matters how you are on the inside
And express your feelings.
White or brown
It doesn't matter to me,
That's not what I see,
I look for the inside
And how you act,
That's what I see



By Payton Stanecki

Peaceful

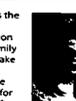
Peaceful is not people
Dying in war.
Peaceful is a state
Without fighting
Peaceful is a treaty between
Two countries.
Peaceful is the world
Without conflict.
Peaceful sounds like people
Talking together.
Peaceful sounds like people
Singing in harmony.
Another word for peaceful
Is freedom.
Something about peaceful
Is quiet.



By Alex Evans

Scoop's Recycling Winners!

Our family helps the environment by picking up cans on the walks are family takes. Then we take the cans to the grocery store. We sum in the cans for 10 cents each. After our family gets the money we take it home. After we have \$30 or more we all take the money to the Humane Society. We have taken money two times. That is how my family helps the environment.



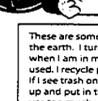
Caroline Loder
Age: 9
Livonia

Our family helps save the environment by walking or riding our bikes to locations that are close to our house instead of driving the car. We walk to the store if we only need a few things that we can carry. We sometimes walk to McDonald's too, if we have a coupon for a free treat or something like that. We also take our wagon to Westborn Market to get fruit and veggies and such. But my favorite environmental saving thing we do is riding our bikes to the library to get books in the summer. I like it because it's fun, I get active, and the best part is that I'm helping save the environment.



Emily Loder
Age: 12
Livonia

I started a recycling program at my church 2 years ago. I bought 2 recycle bins that stay at church for anyone to put recyclable items in. I empty the bins every Sunday and bring the recyclables to my house. I then put what I have collected in with my own recycling to be picked up at the curb. I get plastic, metal, glass and cardboard.



Cory Routen
Age: 12
Livonia

These are some things I do to help the earth. I turn off the lights even when I am in my house when not used. I recycle paper in my classroom. If I see trash on the ground, I pick it up and put in the trash. I try not to use too much water when I brush my teeth or when taking a shower. I take care of the tree in my yard so we can have shade. I try to use old things in new ways. I rinse out plastic milk cartons and use them for cool-aid. I always eat my lunch at school and don't throw it out. I donate my old clothes to Goodwill. I do my best to help the earth.

Abigail Kulas
Westland

A+ Teacher Award Nomination Results!

Congratulations to these special teachers. You have made a difference in the lives of your students. Now it's time for everyone to know how special you are.



From: Abigail Kulas
Student's Grade: 3rd Grade
School: Edison Elementary
Community: Wayne/Westland
Teacher: Mrs. Galven

I like my teacher Mrs. Galven for many reasons. She lets us use smart boards. She gives us special notes when we do well. She helps kids when they are having trouble with work. She has a nice personality and is always friendly and funny. She knows how to teach so we can understand subjects.

Abigail Kulas

From: Zoe Gargiulo
Student's Grade: 5th
School: Cooke School
Community: Northville
Teacher: Miss Donna Case

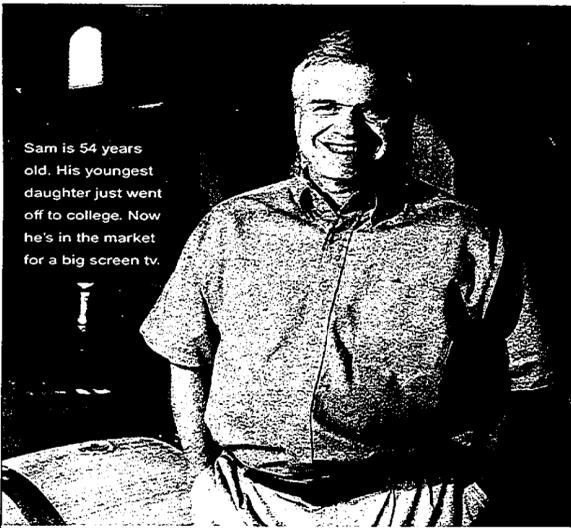
I am nominating Donna Case as the teacher nomination for the Scoop Award. She works with disabled children at Cooke School in Northville, MI and helps handicapped children to find vocational jobs once they reach a certain age or graduate from high school. She's a close friend of ours and is a good caring teacher.

Sincerely,
Anna and Zoe Gargiulo

From: Lauren McKeny
Student's Grade: 2nd
School: Roosevelt-McGrath
Community: Wayne-Westland
Teacher: Mrs. Steiner

My teacher deserves this award because she makes our school an official green school. From every class at Roosevelt-McGrath she picks 2 students to do the green team with her on Friday. She is the best teacher I ever had.

Lauren McKeny



Sam is 54 years old. His youngest daughter just went off to college. Now he's in the market for a big screen tv.

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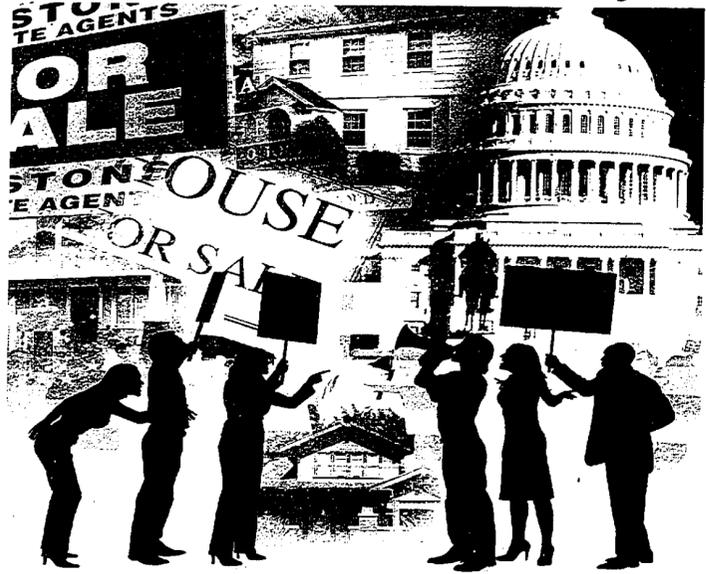
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REAL ESTATE

JULIE BROWN, EDITOR
 JCBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
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Realtors to rally in Washington, D.C., focus on homeowners, economy

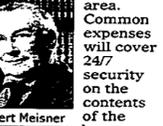
By Julie Brown
 O&E Staff Writer



Location key to value

By Robert Meisner
 Guest Columnist

Q: I have heard something about a new business opportunity, something called Safebox Condominium Vaults. What can you tell me about it?
 A: There is a company that intends to construct a condominium called "Safebox Condominium Vaults" where the units will be comprised of safety deposit boxes within a secured vault. The common elements will comprise a reception area (with onsite refreshments and snacks), private viewing rooms and a parking area. Common expenses will cover 24/7 security on the contents of the boxes to a set amount. Optional pickup service to and from an owner's home or office will be available at an additional cost. Common expenses will also include contributions to the condominium reserve fund just like any other condominium. Unlike most condominiums, however, the condominium corporation will have insurance on the contents of the units. The concept is that by purchasing a unit, it will be an investment opportunity where property values could increase over time, but as in any real estate, the property locations will be one of the most prominent factors in determining future property value.



Robert Meisner

Q: We have a number of co-owners in our condominium project, as well as others who speed in the condominium. We have a private security officer to enforce our rules. Does our security officer have a right to stop a speeder?
 A: Based on a recent Illinois case, the Illinois Appellate Court indicated that security guards occupy the same status as private citizens under Illinois law and may only make an arrest if there is reasonable cause to suspect that an offense is being committed. The court concluded that it was unlawful for the security officer to stop and detain drivers for violating the association's traffic rules, and it was questionable whether the association could have established a fine against the driver, if in fact, he was a member of the association. In that case, the association's use of radar equipment was not deemed unlawful and, indeed, in that case, it was decided that the security officer in pulling over the driver with his security lights flashing was, in fact, guilty of false imprisonment since the driver was restrained by the security officer.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and author of Condominium Operations: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition, available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping/handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping/handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit meisner-law.com.

On May 17, Realtors from across the U.S. will Rally To Protect the American Dream in Washington, D.C., as part of the National Association of Realtors' Midyear Legislative Meetings & Expo that week. The rally aims to keep housing and homeownership issues at the forefront of the nation's public policy agenda on behalf of homeowners and aspiring homeowners.

Realtors will unite in the nation's capital to remind members of Congress that homeownership matters — to families, communities and the nation's economies. The focus will be on such issues as the mortgage interest deduction, foreclosures and short sales, affordable financing and available credit.

Leanne Jernigan, public affairs associate for the NAR, said, "We're doing it in support of homeownership and the various issues that are going on." Colleague Stephanie Singer is managing director, media communications for the National Association of Realtors.

"It's actually part of a larger weeklong event we do every year," Singer said. Members meet with congressional representatives and senators to discuss issues. "It's the first time we've ever done a rally. We know in an election year lots get discussed," she said.

"A lot is at stake," she added, of the importance of letting future generations pursue their dreams of homeownership. Homeowners have a great impact on their communities, the NAR notes.

The rally will draw some 10,000 Realtors from throughout the country. "Some members of Congress will be joining us as well," Singer said. A Georgia senator and Maryland representative are confirmed speakers.

"The Realtor membership is very engaged on this issue," she said. Many NAR members have been active on legislation earlier. "This event has really motivated many more Realtors who may not have previously engaged on public policy issues."

Realtor Tony Schippa of Plymouth is president of the Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors and with Coldwell Banker Preferred of Plymouth. "We are going to have a lot of

representatives there," he said. Schippa will attend the D.C. event. "It's important because the person on the street, their voice has to be heard." The political action committee for Realtors will meet with those in Congress.

"We go and fight for things that save people money," Schippa likes a people on property rights, along with issues of eminent domain, such as what arose with the underpass on Sheldon in Plymouth. "That actually created a better good for the public," he said.

of that outcome. "I think we will have a good result. We're in the communities and we want to promote our rally. You have to have a passion for it, or as I say a passion for your industry. "I think it's going to be good. When we come together, it's just camaraderie," he added. Follow the Realtor Rally conversation on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/realtor/rallytime/> or on Facebook: www.facebook.com/#!/realtor/rallytime/

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

29021 Balmoral St \$35,000	16822 Riverside St \$164,000	20428 Delaware Ave \$200,000
32620 Cambridge St \$59,000	38978 Ross St \$138,000	18814 Gaylor Dr \$47,000
6600 Fairfield St \$78,000	36560 Roycroft St \$135,000	11762 Grayfield \$52,000
6503 Lathers St \$55,000	18792 Vanderhaven Ln \$375,000	14189 Mason Dr \$127,000
LYONIA	NORTHVILLE	19427 Norborne \$28,000
14304 Arcola St \$100,000	44526 Aspen Ridge Dr \$265,000	9196 San Jose \$65,000
11316 Auburndale St \$125,000	18980 Heather Ridge Dr \$255,000	15078 Seminole \$84,000
11308 Berwick St \$112,000	17651 Maple Hill Dr \$281,000	26230 W Chicago \$68,000
33806 Bretton Dr \$192,000	15951 Morningside Dr \$114,000	20065 Woodworth \$36,000
37150 Bretton Dr \$252,000	42631 Savoy Ct \$52,000	WESTLAND
11422 Brookfield St \$80,000	16387 Westminster Dr \$267,000	31000 Avondale St \$65,000
9994 Deering St \$68,000	PLYMOUTH	35614 Booth St \$50,000
14880 Fairlane St \$26,000	44478 Albert Dr \$120,000	7412 Central St \$17,000
15389 Garden St \$105,000	41216 Bruce Ave \$105,000	30784 Grandview Ave \$27,000
18239 Gill Rd \$326,000	986 Harding St \$245,000	32215 Harvard St \$39,000
18249 Gill Rd \$326,000	103 N Holbrook St \$109,000	5858 N Linville St \$170,000
41580 Glade Rd \$195,000	39719 Village Wood Ln \$41,000	8404 N Wayne Rd \$180,000
50044 Grant St \$196,000	174 Rose St \$168,000	6529 Pochantosa St \$30,000
45743 Graystone Ln \$120,000	9888 Tavistock Ct \$154,000	37125 Riviera Dr \$30,000
44223 Kingley Ct \$193,000	REDFORD	35228 Roslyn St \$36,000
428 Meadowlark Rd \$172,000	26442 Five Mile Rd \$28,000	1524 S Carson St \$35,000
1875 N Ridge Rd \$72,000	15802 Beech Daly Rd \$40,000	924 S John Hix St \$68,000
2138 Preserve Cir W \$138,000	14103 Breakfast Dr \$127,000	612 S Marie St \$37,000
41398 Southwind Dr \$47,000	15980 Oak Dr \$115,000	1518 Selma St \$180,000
371 Torrington Dr W \$340,000	19607 Riverside St \$43,000	6216 W Morgan Cir \$80,000
46020 Windridge Ln \$290,000	14304 Rensselaer St \$118,000	

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	21498 Riverwalk Ct \$215,000	1043 Vassar \$87,000
683 Half Moon Rd \$650,000	22964 Tack Rd \$105,000	SOUTHFIELD
801 W Long Lake Rd # G7 \$60,000	MILFORD	20058 Beechaven St \$150,000
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP	851 Panoroma Dr \$61,000	29527 Chelmsford Rd \$62,000
5335 Leafwood Ct \$150,000	25464 Birchwoods Dr \$210,000	17549 Dorset Ave \$57,000
1676 Point St \$125,000	28001 Hopkins Dr \$118,000	29513 Marshall St \$20,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	27933 Middleton Dr \$156,000	20096 Woodburn Dr \$85,000
38634 Brandmill \$88,000	22522 Mondavi Dr \$30,000	WHITE LAKE
34610 Bunker Hill Dr \$175,000	39719 Village Wood Ln \$41,000	8736 Trenton Tr \$170,000
29823 Fernhill Dr \$148,000	41700 W Nine Mile Rd \$285,000	
30385 Kingsway Dr \$220,000	SOUTH LYON	
28172 Lochmoor St \$77,000	59939 Mulberry Ln \$248,000	
24300 Locust St \$130,000	61130 Palomino Ct \$240,000	

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real Estate Career Seminar
 Learn about the \$50,000 income guarantee 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 17, at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100 Plymouth. For more information, contact: Mike Workman at (734) 459-4700 or mworkman@kw.com.

Investors
 Real estate investing program 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 12, at Royal Oak Senior Center, 3500 Marras, Royal Oak. It is north of 13 Mile between Crooks and Main.

Speaker will be Robert Shemlin, sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland. \$29. Call (800) 747-6742 (www.REIAofOakland.com).

Seminar on Tuesdays
 A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Investors
 The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Participants will discuss what they have learned. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate. Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. Any questions or concerns, call Wayne Koehler, (313) 277-4168.

Free Foreclosure Tours
 Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@addvaluearealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

On Facebook
 RE/MAX has launched a new Facebook page for customers and the public to get direct answers from their real estate questions from RE/MAX experts. The new site is a chance for the public to ASKREMAX and get clear, expert answers in real time. Visit www.facebook.com/ASKREMAX.

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ACROSS	1 John host	52 Yesterday's threshold	87 Pianist	3 Stiffened a	44 With 47	82 Wash-
2 John	53 Lillian or	54 Full of	88 -- Old	4 Contains	45 Down	83 48-
3 Full of	54 Dorothy	55 Fancy	89 Cow Hand	5 Expand	46 Produces	84 48-
4 Anantillado	55 Dorothy	56 First dog in	90 Objective	6 Free-for-all	47 City on the	85 48-
5 container	56 Dorothy	57 First dog in	91 Counter	7 City on the	48 Danube	86 48-
6 Beseched	57 Dorothy	58 Pie in	92 Botanist	8 Day --	49 See 44	87 48-
7 Nile feature	58 Dorothy	59 Pie in	93 Gray	9 Finger food	50 Long	88 48-
8 in good	59 Dorothy	60 Lofly peak	94 Age	10 Stun	51 Day --	89 48-
9 health	60 Dorothy	61 Lofly peak	95 Erle of	11 Stun	52 Manipulate	90 48-
10 -- Without	61 Dorothy	62 Lofly peak	96 Erle of	12 Ties --	53 Drum din	91 48-
11 Low	62 Dorothy	63 Lofly peak	97 Erle of	13 Ties --	54 Nick of	92 48-
12 (68 hit)	63 Dorothy	64 Lofly peak	98 Erle of	14 Ties --	55 Nick of	93 48-
13 Sanctuary	64 Dorothy	65 Lofly peak	99 Erle of	15 Ties --	56 Nick of	94 48-
14 Hood's	65 Dorothy	66 Lofly peak	100 Erle of	16 Ties --	57 Nick of	95 48-
15 handle	66 Dorothy	67 Lofly peak	101 Erle of	17 Ties --	58 Nick of	96 48-
16 Admiral	67 Dorothy	68 Lofly peak	102 Erle of	18 Ties --	59 Nick of	97 48-
17 Zurwalt	68 Dorothy	69 Lofly peak	103 Erle of	19 Ties --	60 Nick of	98 48-
18 Tiny part	69 Dorothy	70 Lofly peak	104 Erle of	20 Ties --	61 Nick of	99 48-
19 of a second	70 Dorothy	71 Lofly peak	105 Erle of	21 Ties --	62 Nick of	100 48-
20 Wagner	71 Dorothy	72 Lofly peak	106 Erle of	22 Ties --	63 Nick of	101 48-
21 work	72 Dorothy	73 Lofly peak	107 Erle of	23 Ties --	64 Nick of	102 48-
22 Annealing	73 Dorothy	74 Lofly peak	108 Erle of	24 Ties --	65 Nick of	103 48-
23 oven	74 Dorothy	75 Lofly peak	109 Erle of	25 Ties --	66 Nick of	104 48-
24 Flagon filter	75 Dorothy	76 Lofly peak	110 Erle of	26 Ties --	67 Nick of	105 48-
25 Newspaper	76 Dorothy	77 Lofly peak	111 Erle of	27 Ties --	68 Nick of	106 48-
26 Take-home	77 Dorothy	78 Lofly peak	112 Erle of	28 Ties --	69 Nick of	107 48-
27 Stan of a	78 Dorothy	79 Lofly peak	113 Erle of	29 Ties --	70 Nick of	108 48-
28 remark	79 Dorothy	80 Lofly peak	114 Erle of	30 Ties --	71 Nick of	109 48-
29 ring stat	80 Dorothy	81 Lofly peak	115 Erle of	31 Ties --	72 Nick of	110 48-
30 Thwack	81 Dorothy	82 Lofly peak	116 Erle of	32 Ties --	73 Nick of	111 48-
31 Compact	82 Dorothy	83 Lofly peak	117 Erle of	33 Ties --	74 Nick of	112 48-
32 ring stat	83 Dorothy	84 Lofly peak	118 Erle of	34 Ties --	75 Nick of	113 48-
33 Stan of a	84 Dorothy	85 Lofly peak	119 Erle of	35 Ties --	76 Nick of	114 48-
34 remark	85 Dorothy	86 Lofly peak	120 Erle of	36 Ties --	77 Nick of	115 48-
35 ring stat	86 Dorothy	87 Lofly peak	121 Erle of	37 Ties --	78 Nick of	116 48-
36 Thwack	87 Dorothy	88 Lofly peak	122 Erle of	38 Ties --	79 Nick of	117 48-
37 Compact	88 Dorothy	89 Lofly peak	123 Erle of	39 Ties --	80 Nick of	118 48-
38 ring stat	89 Dorothy	90 Lofly peak	124 Erle of	40 Ties --	81 Nick of	119 48-
39 Thwack	90 Dorothy	91 Lofly peak	125 Erle of	41 Ties --	82 Nick of	120 48-
40 Compact	91 Dorothy	92 Lofly peak	126 Erle of	42 Ties --	83 Nick of	121 48-
41 ring stat	92 Dorothy	93 Lofly peak	127 Erle of	43 Ties --	84 Nick of	122 48-
42 Thwack	93 Dorothy	94 Lofly peak	128 Erle of	44 Ties --	85 Nick of	123 48-
43 Compact	94 Dorothy	95 Lofly peak	129 Erle of	45 Ties --	86 Nick of	124 48-
44 ring stat	95 Dorothy	96 Lofly peak	130 Erle of	46 Ties --	87 Nick of	125 48-
45 Thwack	96 Dorothy	97 Lofly peak	131 Erle of	47 Ties --	88 Nick of	126 48-
46 Compact	97 Dorothy	98 Lofly peak	132 Erle of	48 Ties --	89 Nick of	127 48-
47 ring stat	98 Dorothy	99 Lofly peak	133 Erle of	49 Ties --	90 Nick of	128 48-
48 Thwack	99 Dorothy	100 Lofly peak	134 Erle of	50 Ties --	91 Nick of	129 48-
49 Compact	100 Dorothy	101 Lofly peak	135 Erle of	51 Ties --	92 Nick of	130 48-
50 ring stat	101 Dorothy	102 Lofly peak	136 Erle of	52 Ties --	93 Nick of	131 48-
51 Thwack	102 Dorothy	103 Lofly peak	137 Erle of	53 Ties --	94 Nick of	132 48-
52 Compact	103 Dorothy	104 Lofly peak	138 Erle of	54 Ties --	95 Nick of	133 48-
53 ring stat	104 Dorothy	105 Lofly peak	139 Erle of	55 Ties --	96 Nick of	134 48-
54 Thwack	105 Dorothy	106 Lofly peak	140 Erle of	56 Ties --	97 Nick of	135 48-
55 Compact	106 Dorothy	107 Lofly peak	141 Erle of	57 Ties --	98 Nick of	136 48-
56 ring stat	107 Dorothy	108 Lofly peak	142 Erle of	58 Ties --	99 Nick of	137 48-
57 Thwack	108 Dorothy	109 Lofly peak	143 Erle of	59 Ties --	100 Nick of	138 48-
58 Compact	109 Dorothy	110 Lofly peak	144 Erle of	60 Ties --	101 Nick of	139 48-
59 ring stat	110 Dorothy	111 Lofly peak	145 Erle of	61 Ties --	102 Nick of	140 48-
60 Thwack	111 Dorothy	112 Lofly peak	146 Erle of	62 Ties --	103 Nick of	141 48-
61 Compact	112 Dorothy	113 Lofly peak	147 Erle of	63 Ties --	104 Nick of	142 48-
62 ring stat	113 Dorothy	114 Lofly peak	148 Erle of	64 Ties --	105 Nick of	143 48-
63 Thwack	114 Dorothy	115 Lofly peak	149 Erle of	65 Ties --	106 Nick of	144 48-
64 Compact	115 Dorothy	116 Lofly peak	150 Erle of	66 Ties --	107 Nick of	145 48-
65 ring stat	116 Dorothy	117 Lofly peak	151 Erle of	67 Ties --	108 Nick of	146 48-
66 Thwack	117 Dorothy	118 Lofly peak	152 Erle of	68 Ties --	109 Nick of	147 48-
67 Compact	118 Dorothy	119 Lofly peak	153 Erle of	69 Ties --	110 Nick of	148 48-
68 ring stat	119 Dorothy	120 Lofly peak	154 Erle of	70 Ties --	111 Nick of	149 48-
69 Thwack	120 Dorothy	121 Lofly peak	155 Erle of	71 Ties --	112 Nick of	150 48-
70 Compact	121 Dorothy	122 Lofly peak	156 Erle of	72 Ties --	113 Nick of	151 48-
71 ring stat	122 Dorothy	123 Lofly peak	157 Erle of	73 Ties --	114 Nick of	152 48-
72 Thwack	123 Dorothy	124 L				

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