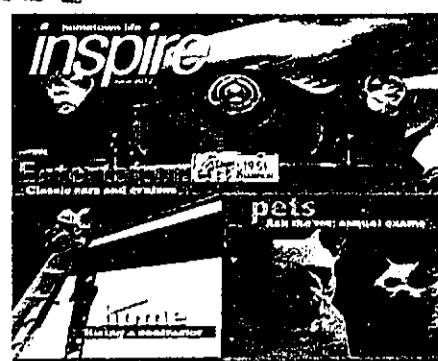




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NOVI NEWS

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Skate Bus

The Skate Bus, a new program presented in partnership with the PLUS Skate Shop in Farmington, will take local skateboarders, ages 6 years and up, to premier skate parks throughout Michigan and Ohio.

The bus will travel three Saturdays this summer, with pick-up and drop-off at the Novi Civic Center at 10 a.m. and Riley Skate Park in Farmington Hills at 10:15 a.m. Each Saturday will include two different skate parks. The three trips include:

- June 30 - Saginaw/Bay City
- July 28 - Lansing/Mason
- Aug. 25 - Sylvania/Toledo, Ohio

All skaters under the age of 9 must be accompanied by a parent. Participants should be a lunch.

The deadlines to register are June 15 for week one, July 13 for week two, and Aug. 10 for week three. The cost is \$29 per trip and includes a Skate Bus T-shirt. Registration is going on now at the City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department located inside the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West 10 Mile Road or the PLUS Skate Shop in Farmington. For more information, contact Greg Morris, Recreation Supervisor at (248) 735-5646 or gmorris@cityofnovi.org.

Novi News online

Have you checked out our website? It's chock full of local news from the Novi community and is updated often. There are several cool features at hometownlife.com that allow you browse through the latest news and features from your neighboring communities, too.

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Rezoning paves way for Beck Ten Land project

Council likes new residential plan with access road, larger homes

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Novi Mayor Pro Tem David Staudt cracked a smile a few times while stating his support for Beck Ten Land's updated proposal for the residential rezoning of the area on the northwest corner of 10 Mile and Beck roads.

And following the Novi City Council's approval of the rezoning of the property from R-1 to R-3, with a planned rezoning overlay, by a 6-1 vote, he wasn't the only one smiling.

"I think seldom do we see someone who has gone through the ringer come back with such an improved proposal," Staudt said. "This is a long saga, this particular corner. I think it has come to an end."

The PRO agreement acts as a zoning map amendment that allows the city and developer to agree on deviations to ordinances, use restrictions and tentative approval of a conceptual plan for development.

Please see REZONING, A2



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Novi City Council approved the residential rezoning request for the parcel of land at the northwest corner of 10 Mile and Beck roads in Novi after the applicant improved the plan to meet their requirements.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

With paper programs and frisbees in hand, Alejandra DeFuentes works to keep the hot sun out of the eyes of her kids Isaac, 4, and Gabriella Tavil, 3, at Tuesday's Sizzling Summer Series opener at Fuerst Park. Though temps were to be in the upper 90s later that day, at 11 a.m., they weren't too bad, only in the lower 80s.

Fuerst Park heats up with Sizzling Summer Art Series

Family-friendly programs feature something for everyone

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Puppet shows, creature exhibits, movie viewing parties, bands and more will take over Fuerst Park once again this summer as part of the third annual Sizzling Summer Art Series.

The free events, held at the park on the corner of 10 Mile and Taft roads, will take place

on select Tuesdays and Fridays throughout June, July and August.

Scott Pratt, superintendent of recreation for the city of Novi, said the idea behind the series is to give the community a place to come for the summer.

"It's very important," he said. "It brings community spirit and pride to everyone's everyday life. And it's a great time."

The series kicked off Tremendous Tuesdays with John the Magician on June 19. The majority of the Tuesday programs are catered toward younger kids, and every program starts at 10:30 a.m. The final Tremendous Tuesday show on July 31 is a performance from Cirque Amongus. Friday nights in the park start July 13 with a perfor-

mentous Tuesdays with John the Magician on June 19. The majority of the Tuesday programs are catered toward younger kids, and every program starts at 10:30 a.m. The final Tremendous Tuesday show on July 31 is a performance from Cirque Amongus. Friday nights in the park start July 13 with a perfor-

Please see SUMMER, A2

Preaching fireworks safety

City manager believes usage will be a problem

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

The night sky in Novi may be a little brighter around the Fourth of July as residents now legally can shoot off certain types of fireworks that were once banned in the state.

Gov. Rick Snyder signed the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act in January, allowing businesses to sell and residents to purchase what the state is calling "consumer fireworks." Examples of such

Please see FIREWORKS, A3



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A new law signed in to effect in January will allow Novi residents for the first time — legally — to set off fireworks like these bottle rockets and firecrackers.



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REZONING

Continued from page A1

City council members said in March they could not support the plan and tabled it because of the project deviated from the city's master plan...

Howard Fingerhut, managing partner of Pinnacle Homes and Beck Ten Land, agreed to several of the requests...

In March, residents spoke for nearly 30 minutes in opposition to the plan and sent numerous emails to council members regarding the request...

at park on the northwest corner of 10 Mile and Beck and formal landscaping treatments along both the 10 Mile and Beck Road frontages.

A new boulevard access point has been provided for Beck Road, as well as an access road to Beck Road...

Council member Justin Fischer noted that there will be no houses less than 2,600 square feet, and he was glad that a residential development will be calling that corner home.

"This puts to rest the issue of a commercial development on the corner," he said. "That is something I think we all want to see in the city of Novi."

Council member Andrew Mutch was the lone dissenter, saying he still has issues with the density setting a bad precedent, the development's impact on the adjoining residential area and the public benefit generated from the PRO.

The next step is for the city attorney to prepare a PRO agreement to be brought back before council for approval with specified PRO conditions.

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'John the Magician' entertains a crowd at Novi's Fuerst Park Tuesday at the kick-off of the season-long Sizzling Summer Series.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SUMMER

Continued from page A1

mance by The Candy Band, which features four Detroit area moms playing punk rock designed for children of all ages. The concert begins at 7 p.m.

There will be a few vendors serving refreshments at all the events, as well as parks and recreation staffers

SIZZLING SUMMER ART SERIES

Tremendous Tuesdays (10:30 a.m.): June 26 — The Magic Carpet Theatre July 10 — Mad Science: Make A Splash July 17 — Rocky the Dinosaur Puppet Show July 24 — Little Creatures with Dan the Creature Man July 31 — Cirque Amongus

Friday Family Fun (movies at dusk, concerts at 7 p.m.): July 13 — The Candy Band July 20 — Movie: 'Gnomeo and Juliet' July 27 — Michael May and the Messarounds Aug. 3 — Movie: 'The Muppets' Aug. 10 — Toppermost: A Beatles tribute band Aug. 17 — Movie: 'Puss in Boots' Aug. 24 — Gratitude Steel Band Aug. 31 — Movie: Viewer's choice, vote at cityofnovi.org Call (248) 347-0473 for weather updates

Friday Programs will head into the Novi Civic Center. People can call (248) 347-0473 for weather updates.

Pratt he hopes people who have never been to the series check it out this year because "it's some quality talent we get out there and the kids really enjoy themselves."

"It's also a great way to get to know your neighbors while also participating in a fun activity with kids," he said.

For more information about the series, visit www.cityofnovi.org

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FIREWORKS

Continued from page A1

fireworks include missile-type rockets, Roman candles, bottle rockets, aeriels, firecrackers, reloadable shell devices and single tube devices with report.

Jeff Johnson, Novi's director of EMS and fire operations, said he is not a fan of the new law, but is preaching safety to everyone who wants to take advantage of it.

The Novi City Council approved a pair of ordinances on Monday dealing with the new legislation. One addressed the sale of fireworks and prohibits people from discharging them on public school, church and private property or another person, while the other prohibits people from using fireworks in city parks.

Novi had one applicant seeking approval to use the old La-Z-Boy store as

FIREWORKS SAFETY

- Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities, including sparklers
• Light fireworks one at a time
• Keep a bucket of water or hose on hand
• Never stand over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse

"It was all about jobs, the economy, increasing our tax revenues, utilizing vacant buildings," he said, adding that stopping the interstate smuggling was behind it.

Novi City Manager Clay Pearson still has concerns regardless of whether the fireworks are sold in Novi or not. "I think it's going to be a

problem and we are going to get complaints and we are going to be out there responding to them," he said at a meeting in early June.

Residents who do not abide by the law and are caught, will be ticketed for the offense.

Johnson, who said the city has gotten complaints about fireworks in the past, hopes that if usage is increased because consumer fireworks are now legal, that people will do so with safety at the top of their minds.

Gannett News Service contributed to this report

A what's what in fireworks

By Christopher Nagy Gannett News Service

Eye-boggling colors aside, the packaging of some of the new sky-cracking offerings now available in the state are emblazoned with names as descriptive as they are amusing: Bling King, True Colors, Adrenaline Rush, Destroyer, Devestator, Bad Influence, Dark Horse and Howling Tiger, among scores of others.

Residents who do not abide by the law and are caught, will be ticketed for the offense. Johnson, who said the city has gotten complaints about fireworks in the past, hopes that if usage is increased because consumer fireworks are now legal, that people will do so with safety at the top of their minds.

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District committed to communicating clearly

By Steve Matthews
Guest Columnist



Super Talk
Steve Matthews

As summer begins and families prepare for vacations, I remembered a trip my wife and I took last year to see her family in Seattle.

While visiting, we went up to Snoqualmie Falls, which is about 30 minutes west of Seattle in the Cascade Mountains. At the falls we hiked from the scenic overlook down to the river.

Along the river the state of Washington had constructed a boardwalk for people to walk on. The boardwalk provided an easy path over the rocks that lined the river. It also provided a safe place from the river, which would rise and fall depending on the season.

There were signs that encouraged people to stay on the boardwalk. In fact the signs did more than encourage—the signs stated quite clearly, "Stay on the boardwalk." The signs warned that the river level could rise unexpectedly, and that for safety's sake people should not leave the boardwalk.

At the end of the boardwalk, about 75 yards from the bottom of the falls, there is a lovely scenic view. There is also a sign that says in big bold letters, "Do not leave the boardwalk." As you might guess, this is where I saw many people climbing over the railing to get down to the river. There must have been more than 50 people who

had made their way down to river and more were following.

I tried to figure out why people were so brazenly and cavalierly disregarding the very obvious warning sign.

One might argue that there was no danger that day. It was beautiful with no chance of rain, and people could make the case that the sign was really there just for those days when the river was high and dangerous.

The sign did not say stay on the boardwalk if the river is high. It said to stay on the boardwalk—all the time.

Others might argue that the sign was there just to remove liability from the state. If there was no sign and someone got hurt the state might be responsible because it did not warn people. So even though there is often little danger, the state felt obligated to put up a sign to protect itself and not the people who visited the falls.

I am not sure why people were so willing to climb over the railing and make their way down to the river. But it made me think about how we communicate. In my mind the message that day was very clear. The signs left no doubt what we were supposed to do, yet it

seemed that the message was not getting through. Or if the message was getting through, people were just ignoring it.

I spend a fair amount of time trying to figure out how to communicate. What is our message? How can we get it out to people? How can we make sure the message is clear?

I must confess that when I watched people ignore the signs that day at Snoqualmie Falls, I was a bit discouraged. Yet it also steered my resolve to figure out how to communicate better.

Our district is committed to communicating clearly. We use our website, send home information and create flyers and brochures. Yet, I know our message does not get through all the time. My commitment, and the commitment of our district, is to find ways to communicate clearly.

I don't plan on putting up big warning signs throughout the district. Evidently, based on my experience that day at Snoqualmie Falls, big signs don't work very well anyway.

What I do plan on doing is continuing to find ways to communicate and clearly as I can about the good things that are happening in our district.

Steve Matthews is the superintendent of the Novi Community Schools district. He can be reached at smatthews@novi.k12.mi.us; (248) 437-1234; www.twitter.com/docsmatthews; or www.novisuperintendent.blogspot.com.



So long, school

Parkview Elementary School student Helen Harpenau (above) waves classes goodbye as she and others board the bus for the start of their summer vacation. In fact, there were many kids and teachers with tears in their eyes, sad to see the school end for now. Parkview Elementary School teacher Michelle Vanston (below) gives a goodbye hug to student Bran Lubin. Novi's elementary schools let out June 14 for the summer.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DIA millage will be on August primary ballot

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Tri-county voters will be asked Aug. 7 to approve a new property tax to help fund the Detroit Institute of Arts.

The proposal — 0.2 mills for 10 years — would cost the owner of a \$150,000 home about \$15 annually over the next decade.

The tax is needed to cover the shortfall for museum operating expenses caused by the loss of funding from the state and city of Detroit, said Annmarie Erickson, executive vice president and chief operating officer of the DIA.

Residents in the counties that approve the proposal would have free general admission to the museum. In addition, community outreach and programs for seniors would be expanded and field trips for schools would be free, she said.

Preliminary polling showed 63 percent of voters favor the proposal.

'Direct benefits'

"The most compelling reason for most people is that there will be direct benefits," Erickson said of the reasons voters say they will approve it. "I think people hear that for a relatively small amount annually, the benefits are very significant."

Erickson is unaware of any organized opposition, but she said the proposal has been the topic of conversation at some grassroots Tea Party gatherings where the mantra is "no new taxes."

Voters in at least two of the three counties — Oakland, Wayne and Macomb — must approve it or museum services and



Visitors tour the European gallery at the DIA, one of the top six comprehensive fine-arts museums in the United States.



A school group learns about the world renowned Detroit Industry murals by Diego Rivera. Field trips will be free if the millage is approved, and some money will also be made available for transportation.

programs will have to be severely cut during the next two to three years, she said. That may mean selected galleries would be closed on weekdays,

and school tours and community outreach would be eliminated. The tax would generate approximately \$25 million per year — \$10 mil-

lion in Oakland, \$8 million in Wayne and \$5 million in Macomb. The DIA's operating budget is \$25 million. Currently, the DIA

receives no state, county or city funding. From 1893 to the early 1990s, it received support from the city of Detroit's general fund. In the 1970s, it began receiving money from the state budget. But beginning in the 1990s, as a series of economic downturns hit the state, state funding was steadily reduced and then eliminated. The same thing happened with city funding.

The museum has been relying on the private sector for operations, a model that is not sustainable, Erickson said.

Raising admission prices won't make up the shortfall since admissions make up just 3 percent of the DIA's revenue, she said. To raise prices enough to cover the annual operating gap would make the cost to visit the museum prohibitive, Erickson said. Currently, admission is \$24 for two adults and two

children.

Previous cuts
The DIA cut staffing by 20 percent in 2009, more than 60 full- and part-time positions, and reduced its operating budget by \$9 million. Further reductions would severely impair its ability to operate, Erickson said. It currently has no debt. Each county that approves the tax would have an art authority to oversee how the money is spent. The art authority members would be appointed by the commissioners and executives in each county, which would also have contracts with the DIA.

The DIA would continue to be governed by its board of directors under an operating agreement with the city of Detroit. Detroit Mayor Dave Bing encouraged each of the county boards to place the proposal on their ballots. "The DIA attracts visitors and potential future residents from around the world to our region," he said. "It is recognized as one of the top six comprehensive fine arts museums in the United States." The others include The Metropolitan Museum, New York; Chicago Institute of Arts; and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

The Wayne County board approved the ballot proposal in a 13-2 vote, Oakland a 15-9 vote and Macomb 8-5.

Thirty-eight percent of all museum ticket buyers live in Wayne County; 28 percent live in Oakland; and 12 percent live in Macomb.

For more information, contact the Northville Art House at 248-344-0497, visit our website at www.northvillearts.org or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

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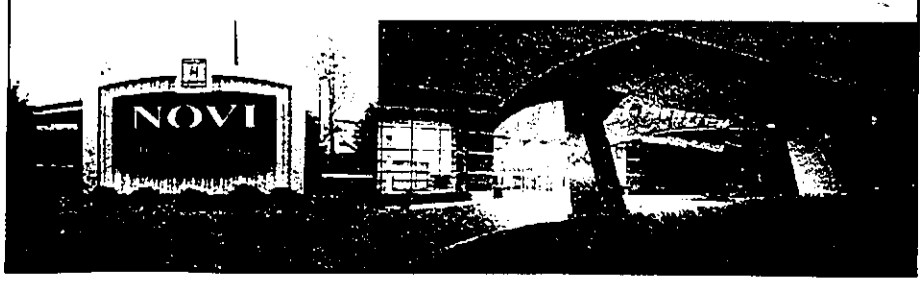
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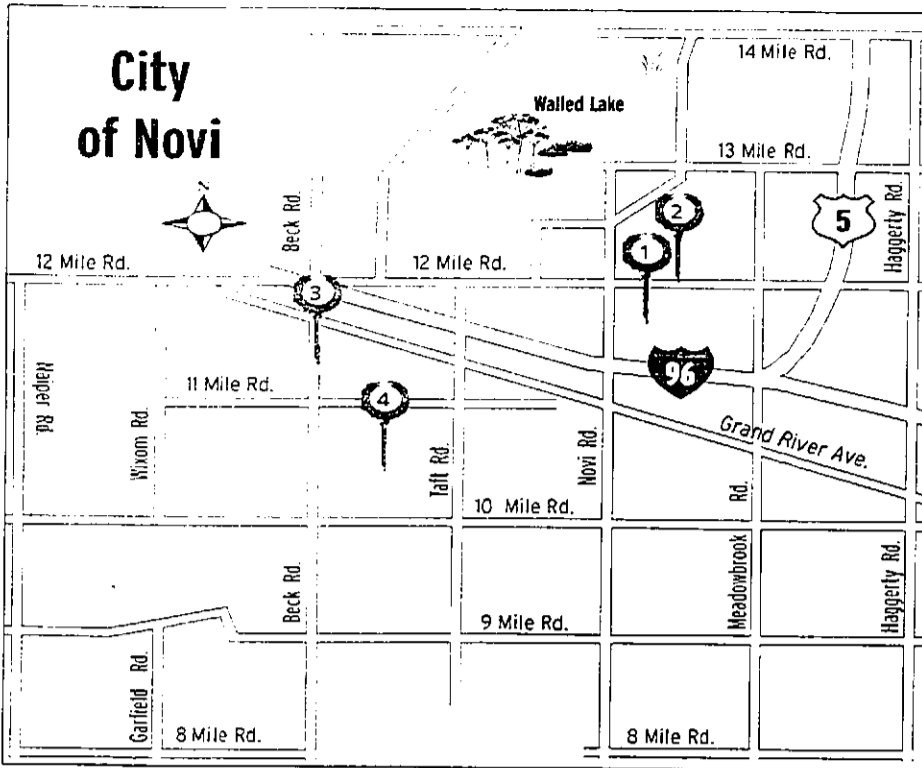
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NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Woman caught stealing from Lord and Taylor

1 Novi police arrested a woman for retail fraud after she was caught apparently stealing several items from Lord and Taylor inside Twelve Oaks Mall on June 16.

According to a police report, the loss prevention officers at the store saw the woman concealing items on closed-circuit television and leaving a fitting room without items with which she entered it.

She was stopped while trying to leave the store and admitted to stealing. The officers found a Coach purse, necklace, bracelet and a dress totaling \$462.48 in her possession. They also found a screwdriver and pliers in her purse.

The suspect already has three convictions for second degree retail fraud, one theft detection device/deactivation removal convictions as well as other convictions for felonies and misdemeanors, according to police.

She was arrested and transported to the Novi Police Department where she was held pending the issuance of a warrant for retail fraud first degree and possession of a theft detection removal device.

Drugged driver stopped by police

2 A 20-year-old woman was arrested on June 15 for her second operating with the presence of drugs offense after police were dispatched to the area of Twelve Mile Road, east of Novi Road, on a narcotics complaint.

According to a police report, a witness saw the driver and passenger acting suspiciously, and saw the driver throw a syringe out of the car.

Police arrived on the scene and the

Motorcycle trailer stolen

3 A \$3,000 motorcycle trailer allegedly was stolen some time June 15-18 while it was parked at Wixom Ready Mix on Beck Road.

According to a police report, the owner of the trailer is an employee of the business and let his boss use it prior to it being stolen. He last saw the trailer on June 15.

The owner did not have any suspects, and nothing else was taken from the property.

Electronic items taken from car

4 A Chase Drive resident allegedly had his vehicle broken into overnight on June 18, telling police someone took his radar detector, iPhone charger and audio cable.

According to a police report, the victim could not remember locking his vehicle, and there were no signs of forced entry.

The total value of the items taken was an estimated \$180, and police have no suspects at this time.

Compiled by staff writer Nathan Mueller

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18-290 FOR A NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: ARTICLE 2, "CONSTRUCTION OF LANGUAGE AND DEFINITIONS ZONING DISTRICTS AND MAP" SECTION 201, "DEFINITIONS" ARTICLE 14, "R-2 COMMUNITY BUSINESS DISTRICT" SECTION 1402, "PRINCIPAL USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO SPECIAL CONDITIONS" ARTICLE 15, "B-3 GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT" SECTION 1502, "PRINCIPAL USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO SPECIAL CONDITIONS" ARTICLE 16, "TC AND TC-1 TOWN CENTER DISTRICTS" SECTION 1600, "INTENT" ARTICLE 18, "FREEWAY SERVICE DISTRICT" SECTION 1801, "PRINCIPAL USES PERMITTED" ARTICLE 19, "I-1 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT" SECTION 1903, "PRINCIPAL USES PERMITTED IN LOCATIONS NOT ADMITTING A RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT AND SUBJECT TO SPECIAL CONDITIONS" ARTICLE 25, "GENERAL PROVISIONS" SECTION 2505, "OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS" AND SECTION 2506, "OFF-STREET STACKING SPACE LAYOUT STANDARDS CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE" IN ORDER TO PROVIDE CONSISTENT ORDINANCE LANGUAGE AND UPDATED DEFINITIONS PERTAINING TO AUTOMOBILE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE-RELATED USES.**

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, July 11, 2012.

Novi Planning Commission
David Greco, Secretary

Woman denied injecting herself with heroin, a report stated, despite having track marks on the inside of both elbows and constricted pupils.

She failed field sobriety tests, and consented to a search of her vehicle. During the search, police stated they found used syringes, and an empty baggie.

The woman was arrested and transported to the Novi Police Department where a blood draw was taken and she was released after posting bond and when sober.

The case is pending the blood test results.

Police arrived on the scene and the

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CHURCH

Continued from page A7

Come join in the friendly conversation; \$5 donation to help cover the cost of refreshments, ice cream and pop.

Date: June 28
Details: If you enjoy a friendly game of cards or like board games, you will have a good time. Some snacks are provided, but feel free to bring more; \$5 donation please. Ice cream follows as always.

Date: July 5
Details: Tonight we will share our special holiday memories, whether they are funny, sad or just special in some other way. You are asked to bring an appetizer or snack to share. Ice cream will follow; \$5 donation please.

Date: July 12
Date: Cards & Games Night. This is a great way to meet new people or just see old friends again. Snacks are provided & ice cream is always served later. Bring a friend; \$5 donation.

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
Location: 777 West 8 Mile Road, Northville
Contact: (248) 349-1144 or visit www.funmchurch.org

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

Sunday Worship
Time: 9:45 a.m.
Healing Service and Holy Communion
Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month

Peace Vigil
Time/Date: Noon, first Sunday of every month

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 P. 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

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

Sunday Worship
Time: 9:45 a.m.
Healing Service and Holy Communion
Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month

Peace Vigil
Time/Date: Noon, first Sunday of every month

LAKES BAPTIST CHURCH
Location: 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake

month

Location: In front of the church
Details: Members of the congregation and the community will stand united in prayer for peace.
Advent Service
Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. Sunday

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

Worship Services: 5:15 p.m. Saturday; 9:15 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday
ReNew Life Group Ministries
Time/Date: 7:15-9 p.m. every Monday
Details: Overseen by TrueNorth Christian Counseling, offering a variety of support and relational groups: Divorce Care; Grief Share; Life Disrupted (Doing Well At Being Sick); Restarting; Setting Boundaries with Teen & Adult Children; Single and Single Again; Men's Integrity; Cross Current; Her Story-Partner Care; Growing Seasons (for children); and two new groups are Caretakers and Knit 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

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

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

Saturday Worship
Time: 5 p.m.
Sunday Worship
Time: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

OUR SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Location: 1200 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth
Contact: Pastor Bill Burke at (734) 927-0891
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.

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

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

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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
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Novi/Northville MEDICAL SERVICE directory

Hand and Wrist
Michigan Hand & Wrist, P.C.
Exceptional care for the shoulder, elbow, wrist & hand.
26750 Providence Pkwy. Ste. 220, Novi, MI 48375 248.986.0412

Hearing
HEALTHY HEARING CENTER
Audiology & Hearing Aids
248-348-HEAR (4327)
23895 Novi Rd., Suite 100 (Just South of 10 Mile)
www.getthehealthyhearing.com

Physical Therapy
northville physical rehabilitation



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students at A Growing Place preschool work on some fun projects during a June 11 school session.

A Growing Place preschool celebrates 40 years in Novi

School focused on developing the whole child

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

A Growing Place is a fitting name for the Novi-based preschool that started with just six kids but now in its 40th year educates more than 125 students.

Nestled in two classrooms in the back of Holy Cross Episcopal Church on 10 Mile Road, the private preschool prides itself on developing the whole child, focusing on cognitive learning, motor skills, social interaction, creativity and a positive self-concept.

Director Kerene Jett, who has run the school for the last 25 years, said they are big on balance and it's important for children to learn how to handle problems, communicate and take responsibility.

"The first five years are paramount in a child's life

so we think it's all important," she said.

Thousands of children, from 33 months of age to six years old, have gone through A Growing Place's program over the last 40 years.

All of the teachers have a teaching degree in elementary or early childhood education or a degree in child development, and the "Can Do" curriculum encourages healthy habits, independence and self-esteem.

Nicole Saleski had checked out at least seven preschools for her daughter Kylee before taking a visit to A Growing Place while she was on a walk one day.

One step inside, and both she and her daughter knew it was the place for them.

"(She) begs to come in on her day off," Saleski said.

She also noted that the teachers put a focus on manners and etiquette, and it has changed Kylee's demeanor.

For Tania Moller, her Spanish-speaking household made it tougher for her son Diego to communicate in English, but being a diverse school, the teachers were prepared for the language barrier and have worked with him on his English.

"They are very helpful with the two languages," Moller said.

The school held a 40-year anniversary celebration at Lakeshore Park on June 7, and Jett said she is looking forward to another 40 years.

"I think our school just has a very warm vibe to it," she said.

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



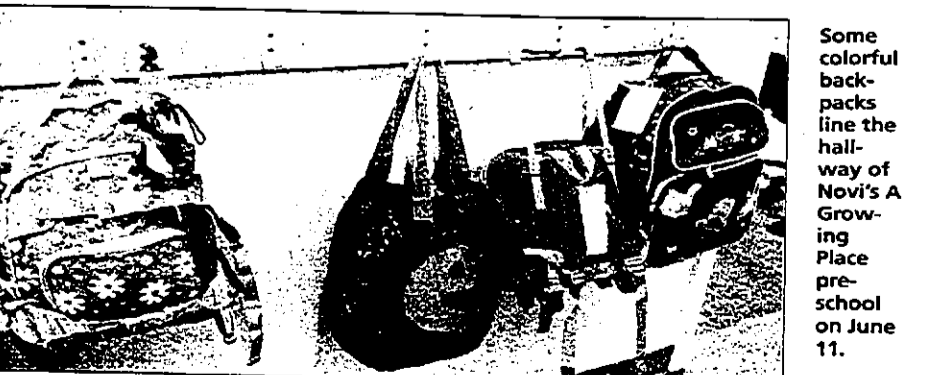
A Growing Place preschool students Mia Roeck, left, and Brooke Radovanovic enjoy some time in their classroom on June 11.



A Growing Place employee Mary Anne Cook works with student Diego Meyer-Wendt during the Novi preschool's June 11 session.



A Growing Place students sit in a semi-circle for show-and-tell on June 11.



Some colorful backpacks line the hallway of Novi's A Growing Place preschool on June 11.



A Growing Place employee Nuha Al-Hourani talks to Ethan Gomez-Kahi during the preschool's June 11 show-and-tell. A Growing Place, located inside Novi's Holy Cross Episcopal Church, is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

These photos and others in photo galleries at hometownlife.com are available for purchase, contact Web Editor Larry Ruehlen at lruehlen@hometownlife.com for more information.

Novi events

MICHIGAN MADE ARTS CRAFTS JEWELRY SHOW

Time/Date: noon-8 p.m. first Fridays through December
Location: Atrium Of Novi, 43155 Main Street

Details: Featuring many handmade items from people with disabilities. Anyone in Michigan that makes handcrafted items can get a space for \$20. Therapy Choir Michigan will perform at 6:15 June 1. Face Painting by Community Choices of Westland.

Contact: MichiganArtsCraftsShow@gmail.com; visit <http://www.MichiganArtsCraftsShow.com>; or call (248) 396-0396

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. Minn., goal is to give each participant an opportunity to share their story. Handouts describing the phases of grief and the tasks of grief are available.

NOVI SENIOR CENTER

Location: 25075 Meadowbrook Road
Contact: (248) 347-0414; thein@cityof-novi.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.sunriseNETWORKING-group.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 586-232-3009 or fmilana@sunrisefinancialgroupinc.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



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It's open

Jeff Edwards walks away from Novi's June 9 Farmers Market with a couple of flower baskets. The market will take place each Saturday through the summer — at Novi's Fueter Park from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Julie Paquette at (248) 797-1665 or juliepaquette67@gmail.com; www.metronovibni.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. Visitors welcome. Check website for speaker information; novirotary.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 communications and mentoring toward professional and personal excellence. Guests are welcome — and bring a friend. Visit www.novi.freetoasthost.us

Contact: Linda Kreuter at PR@novi.freetoasthost.us

NOVI LIONS CLUB

Time/Date: 6 p.m. social; 6:30 p.m. meeting starts; second and fourth Wednesdays

Location: Leo's Spoons 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

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: Please refer to www.Novi-HighReunion.com for more information.

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.

Computers for Absolute Beginners
Time/Date: Tuesday, June 26
Details: Learn basic PC skills in a no-pressure environment. There is no charge for this event, but please call the library to reserve a spot, as space is limited.

Microsoft Excel Part 2

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Tuesday, July 24
Details: Advanced, creating and working with worksheets and charts. Participants in the Excel classes should already know the basics of using a PC. Laptop PCs will be provided. There is no charge, but please register in advance by calling the library or email admin@walledlakeilibrary.org; space is limited.

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY

Location: 45255 W. 10 Mile Road
Hours: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10-5 Friday-Saturday; closed Sundays (Memorial Day-Labor Day)

Details: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the library. Register for programs at the library or on the library website.

Contact: (248) 349-0720

Web: www.novilibrary.org

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

Please see CALENDAR, A12

ST. MARY MERCY LIVONIA
St. Mary Mercy Health System

Women's Services

WOMEN AND PELVIC HEALTH

Thursday, June 28, 6-8 p.m.
The Inn at St. John's, Plymouth
or
Thursday, July 12, 6-8 p.m.
Summit on the Park, Canton

Featured Speaker:
Paul R. Makela, MD
Medical Director,
Gynecological
Robotic Surgery,
St. Mary Mercy Hospital

Approximately one-third of U.S. women will have a pelvic health problem by age 60. This includes stress urinary incontinence, pelvic organ prolapse, abnormally heavy menstrual periods and uterine fibroids. These conditions become more common with age. Pregnancy, childbirth or being overweight can stretch and weaken muscles that support your pelvic organs. Dr. Makela will discuss pelvic health, symptoms, diagnosis and treatment options.

The da Vinci® Surgical System is a sophisticated robotic platform designed to enable our surgeons to perform precise minimally-invasive procedures.

REGISTER NOW!
Registration is required.
Please call
734-655-1980.

Refreshments and giveaways.

strmarymercy.org

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REMARKABLE CARE**

Always community.

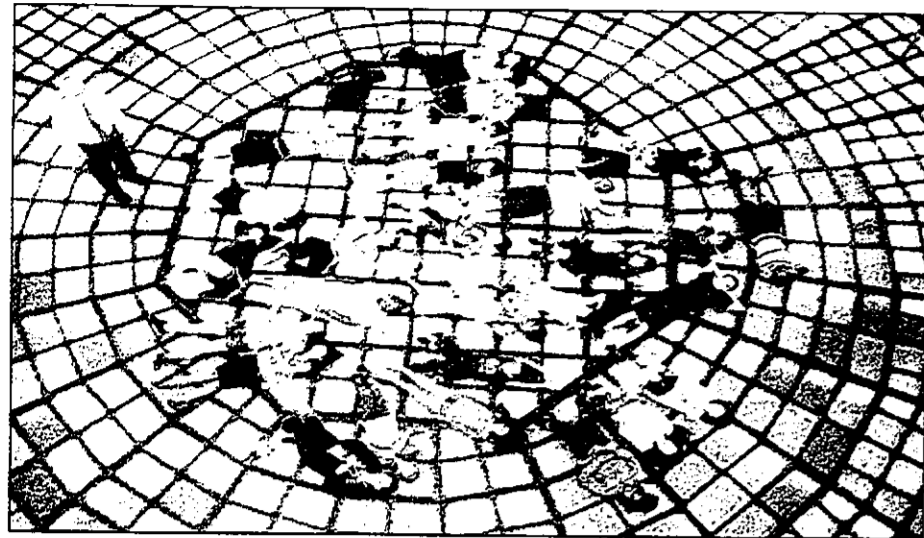
In your corner, around the corner.

When a nearly 100-year-old paper mill faced closure, they turned to mBank to restore financial stability. mBank's innovative and decisive actions saved not just a company but over 100 jobs in a local up north community. What can the power of mBank do for your business?

Birmingham 260 E. Brown St. | 248.290.5900

MEMBER FDIC Equal Housing Lender

Great view



On May 21, the fourth-graders from Novi Woods headed up to Lansing to visit the Capitol building and the Hall of Justice. Shown, students from Mrs. Chandler's class get a great view of the dome of the Capitol.

CALENDAR

Continued from page A11

Knit 2gether Knitting Circle
Time/Date: 10-11:30 a.m. Thursdays, June 21 and 28
Details: If you have a leaning towards knitting or any of the related handcrafts Knit 2gether Knitting Circle just might be your cup of tea. No instructor; no registration, and of course, attendance is free.
Get Crafty: Create Your Own Dream Catcher
Time/Date: 1-2 p.m. Thursday, June 21
Details: Kick off your summer by designing your own dream catcher! For grades K-4.

summer with this wonderful theatrical and storybook presentation. Afterwards, make a summer tradition by walking to the Library to checkout your favorite summer reads. If the weather is inclement, the program will be in the meeting room of the library.

Help for Families from OLHSA
Time/Date: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesdays, June 26 and July 3
Details: Meet with an OLHSA (Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency) staff member for support with Medicaid, food, cash, foreclosure, and many other human services. Please call the OLHSA office at (248) 209-2686 to make an appointment.
Tween/Teen Craft!
Time/Date: 2-3 p.m. Tuesday, June 26
Details: Make a craft to celebrate the summer season! For grades 5-12. Registration required.

We're Committed to Fitting Better Hearing into Your Lifestyle!
Offering our patients Peace of Mind Protection for THREE YEARS:
• Three years repair warranty
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Novi Writers' Group
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 23
Details: Writers' groups can be a great way to make connections in the writing and publishing world and to get critiques that will improve your skills as a writer. Come to the library for an inspirational environment where you can create and share ideas. This group is facilitated by local writer, Kathy Mutch.
Library Strategic Planning Focus Group
Time/Date: noon-1 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. Monday, June 25 and 10-11 a.m. Saturday, June 30
Details: In an effort to keep the library moving forward with valuable services, programs and resources, a strategic planning committee has been formed to create a five year plan for the library. As community members, your input is very important to us! Members of the Novi community are invited to attend a focus group session to provide feedback on how the library can better serve you.

Novi Historical Commission Meeting
Time/Date: 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 27
Details: Public is always welcome. Meetings discuss ongoing and future projects of the Novi Historical Commission.
Get Excited About Science
Time/Date: 11 a.m. to noon Thursday, June 28
Details: Get Excited About Science with Steve Belliveau. This fast paced science show will have you learning and laughing. For grades K-4.
Make Your Résumé Work For You
Time/Date: 7-8 p.m. Thursday, June 28
Details: Take the intimidation out of job-searching. Gain confidence that your résumé will stand out with this workshop covering résumé styles, formats, do's and don'ts, and employment resources from the Novi Library. Human Resources Professional, Stacy Houston, will be the guest speaker. Registration required.
Get Crafty: All American Crafts
Time/Date: 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 30
Details: Get in the holiday spirit by creating some all American decorations! For grades K-4.
Open Office Hours in the Local History Room
Time/Date: noon-2 p.m. Monday, July 2
Details: On the first and third Mondays of each month, a member of the Novi Historical Commission will hold office hours in the Local History Room to help researchers use its many resources.

Indo Fusion receives one of Novi's four liquor licenses
Council cites uniqueness as reason for approval

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

The city of Novi has just three quota liquor licenses remaining after granting one to the seven-month-old Indo Fusion restaurant in the Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk on Monday night. The approval of the business' request comes nearly two months after owners of Tilted Kilt Pub and Eatery — which is planned to open in the same center — were denied one of the city's quota licenses and told by council members to seek a transfer request instead. The key difference between the two restaurants, council members said, was uniqueness. Indo Fusion is a family-owned and run operation that serves Goan cuisine, which is a mixture of Portuguese and Indian. While Tilted Kilt is a Celtic-themed, sports pub franchise with locations in 25 states as well as Canada. Terrance Jolly, who spoke on behalf of Indo Fusion owner Jason

Noronha, noted that the six restaurants currently in Fountain Walk have liquor licenses. He also said while Noronha thought the draw of Goan food would be enough, as many as 80 percent of his customers request an alcoholic beverage with their meal. "The good Lord knows Fountain Walk needs all the foot traffic that this city council can assist, and that foot traffic would be increased by him getting a liquor license," Jolly said. Council member Andrew Margolis and Mayor Bob Gatt, who supported denying Tilted Kilt's request, both said they were convinced Indo Fusion was a "unique" restaurant. "I am one of those consistently picky about giving liquor licenses in the past," she said prior to the vote. "But I have to say that reading your material and hearing your presentation today I was leaning toward saying yes."

COUNTY ROAD CONSTRUCTION

The following are construction projects on Oakland County Road that could cause traffic delays. The Road Commission for Oakland County list includes its work, as well as projects conducted by others, under permit, on roads under the jurisdiction of the road commission. Find the ROC on the web at www.roccweb.org or on Twitter and Facebook.

NOVI ROAD: Grand River Ave. from just east of Novi Road to Haggerty Road
Project: ROC is resurfacing this section. During the project, the road remains open to through traffic, though there will be traffic delays.
Completion Date: By mid-September
ROCHESTER HILLS ROAD: Avon Road bridge over the Clinton River, just east of Livernois Road
Project: ROC is replacing this bridge. The road is closed throughout the project.
Completion Date: Mid July
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP ROAD: Cooley Lake Road, just east of Duck Lake Road to Mystic Valley Street/Majestic Oaks Street
Project: This section of Cooley Lake Road is closed in order to pave the gravel road. During the closure, the detour route will be Duck Lake Road to Commerce Road to Carey Road and back to Cooley Lake Road and vice versa.
Completion Date: November

Commerce. The road will be closed June 25-July 2. During the closure, the detour route for through traffic will be Union Lake Road to Wise Road to Carroll Lake Road and vice versa.
Completion Date: By Sept. 1
HUNTINGTON WOODS ROAD: Northbound Coolidge Highway at 10 Mile Road (I-696 Service Drive)
Project: The City of Huntington Woods is resurfacing Coolidge Highway at 10 Mile Road (I-696 Service Drive). Northbound Coolidge is closed at 10 Mile Road until September. During the work, the detour route for northbound Coolidge Highway is 10 Mile Road to Greenfield Road to 11 Mile Road and back to Coolidge Highway.
Completion Date: September
SOUTHFIELD ROAD: Lahser Road from 11 Mile Road through the 12 Mile Road intersection
Project: ROC expected to begin work June 18 on the reconstruction and widening of this section of Lahser Road (widening from four lanes to five). Once work starts, the road will remain open, but will be reduced to one lane in each direction.
Completion Date: November
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP ROAD: Andover Road between Long Lake and Telegraph roads
Project: Bloomfield Township is reconstructing this section of Andover Road, and the road will be closed to through traffic June 18-Aug. 31. During the closure, the detour route will be Long Lake to Telegraph and vice versa.
Completion Date: Aug. 31

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 12-09-42 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 97-18 AS AMENDED, THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE 28A, "ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT", SECTION 3004 "TEMPORARY SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS" AND TEMPORARY SPECIAL LAND USE PERMITS, IN ORDER TO ADD A TIMEFRAME FOR SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION AND TO PROVIDE REGULATIONS CONTAINING TO TEMPORARY CONNECTION WITH AN OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITY.

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 12-09-42 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 97-18 AS AMENDED, THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE 28A, "ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT", SECTION 3004 "TEMPORARY SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS" AND TEMPORARY SPECIAL LAND USE PERMITS, IN ORDER TO EXPAND THE AREAS WHERE THE RETAIL SERVICE OVERLAY IS PERMITTED AND CONSIDER PERMITTING DRIVE-THROUGH RESTAURANTS IN LIMITED INSTANCES WITHIN THE EXPANDED AREA OF THE RETAIL SERVICE OVERLAY.

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, July 10, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers Novi Civic Center 45175 W. Ten Mile Road to consider:
CASE NO. 12-022 39500 TEN MILE RD
The applicant is requesting a variance from Section 28-5(2)(a), 1.1. of the Novi Sign Ordinance to allow an additional 40 sq. ft. ground sign for a business within a multi-tenant office building. The property is located north of Ten Mile Rd. and west of Haggerty Rd. in the OS-1 Zoning District.
CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 28-5(2)(a), 1.1. allows ground signs not to exceed 30 square feet or 1 square foot of sign area for each 2 feet of setback from the centerline of the nearest street center line, whichever is greater, with a maximum of 100 square feet.

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
Twelve Mile west of Novi Rd. in the OS-1 Zoning District. CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 28-5 (3) permits one sign per parcel of property.
Section 28-5 (3) restricts the total wall sign area for multiple story buildings to not exceed 100 square feet. Section 28-5 (3) i permits buildings of over 40,000 square feet in an OS-1 District a second wall sign or a ground sign.
CASE NO. 12-028 49263 CRESCENT BLVD
The applicant is requesting a variance from CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 28-5 (3) which allows one advertising sign for this business. The applicant has received approval for one (1) wall sign in compliance with the ordinance and is now requesting one (1) additional sign of 56 square feet on the rear wall of the building for a second entrance located on the north elevation. The property is located north of Grand River and east of Novi Rd. in the TC Zoning District.
CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 28-5 (2)(b) in conjunction with CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 28-5 (9) permits only one wall sign for signs in the TC district, not to exceed 1.25 feet for every linear foot of contiguous public/private street frontage or 65 feet, whichever is smaller.

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
The applicant is requesting variances from Sections 2507 and 2503 of the Novi Zoning Ordinance. Applicant requests a variance to allow its loading/unloading zone and trash dumpster to be in the middle of its site, instead of in the rear of its site as the Ordinance currently requires. The property is zoned RC and is located at 44275 Twelve Mile west of Donelson Dr. and has road frontages on all four sides.
CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2507(2) requires a site within a district to place its loading/unloading space in the rear of the site.
CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2503(2)(FK1) requires a site within an RC district to have its trash receptacle in the rear yard of the site.
CASE NO. 12-026 2246 AUSTIN DR
The applicant is requesting a variance from Section 2400 of the Novi Zoning Ordinance. Applicant requests variance to allow construction of a sunroom/all-season room. Construction of the addition would infringe upon the 35 ft. rear yard setback requirement found in Section 2400 by reducing the setback to 33 ft. The property is located west of Old Novi Rd., south of South Lake Dr. in the R-4 Zoning District.
CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 requires that a site within an R-4 district have a minimum rear yard setback of 35 feet.
CASE NO. 12-027 44000 TWELVE MILE RD
The applicant is requesting variances to allow two additional wall signs from CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 28. Applicant requests a variance to allow erection of two additional wall signs, in violation of the requirement that a multiple story building in an OS-1 district have only one wall sign with the exception that buildings in excess of 40,000 square feet are allowed a second wall sign or a ground sign in addition to the allowable wall sign. The total of all wall signs on multiple story buildings in an OS-1 district cannot exceed 65 square feet. The applicant is proposing erection of two additional wall signs of 10 square feet each which would result in a total of 3 wall signs totaling 75 square feet. The signs would identify the building as a location with available urgent care services. The property is located at 44000

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
The applicant is requesting a variance from Section 2400 of the Novi Zoning Ordinance to allow construction of a kitchen addition. Construction of the addition would violate the 30 ft. exterior side yard setback requirement found in Section 2400 by reducing the setback to 25.4 ft. The home is located on a corner lot. The property is located north of Ten Mile Rd and west of Taft Rd in the R-4 Zoning District.
CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 requires that a site within the R-4 district have a minimum exterior side yard setback of 30 feet.
CASE NO. 12-030 1409 EAST LAKE DR
The applicant is requesting variances from the CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2503 (1)(G), Section 2503 2 (K)(C), Section 2503 (1)(E)(1), Section 2503 (1)(E)(5) and Section 2400 to allow construction of an 864 square foot detached garage in the rear of the property. The proposed accessory structure would require reduction of the minimum side and rear setbacks from 6 ft. to 4 ft., and exceptions to the maximum 25% rear yard coverage by an accessory building (41%), the maximum 25% total lot coverage total lot coverage (26%) and maximum 850 square foot size of an accessory building and the limitation of an accessory building to the size of the principal residence (exceeds by 14 square feet). The property is located north of 18 Mile, west of Novi Rd. in the R-4 Zoning District.
Section 2503 1(G) requires a 6 foot rear and side setback for accessory buildings in an R-4 district. Section 2503 (1)(C) of a required rear yard. Section 2503(1)(E)(1) states that an accessory building may not exceed 850 square feet. Section 2503 (1)(E)(5) requires that an accessory building not exceed the square footage of the main building. Section 2400 stipulates that in an R-4 district, the total area of all buildings may not exceed 25% of the total square footage of a lot.

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, June 27, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider SOUTH UNIVERSITY PARKING LOT EXPANSION SITE PLAN NUMBER 12-27 FOR PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, WOODLAND PERMIT AND STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL. THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS LOCATED IN SECTION 14, ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF TWELVE MILE ROAD AND MEADOWBROOK ROAD IN THE OS1 PLANNED OFFICE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY DISTRICT. The property totals 6.71 acres and the applicant is proposing to expand the existing parking lot on the south side of the building.
All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, June 27, 2012.
Novi Planning Commission
David Greco, Secretary
Publish: June 21, 2012

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Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks offers retirement living as unique as you are.
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OUR VIEWS

Yes on DIA tax

Benefits to taxpayers, region worth the cost

Residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties will vote Aug. 7 on a proposed property tax to help fund the Detroit Institute of Arts.

The proposal — 0.2 mills for 10 years — would cost the owner of a \$150,000 home about \$15 annually over the next decade.

We recommend voters approve it because of the direct benefits to themselves and the Metro Detroit area.

While no one likes to pay more in property taxes, the amount is relatively small.

Residents in the counties that approve the tax would receive free general admission to the museum. Adult tickets now are \$8, and a family of four pays \$24, so the tax would be a savings for most families that visit the DIA just once a year.

Plus, community outreach and programs for seniors would be expanded, and field trips for schools would be free. Also, some money would be available to help schools pay for transportation to and from the museum.

Tri-county residents are being asked to approve the tax because they are the ones who use the museum the most. They make up the majority of ticket buyers, 36 percent in Wayne, 28 percent in Oakland and 12 percent in Macomb.

Without the DIA, we would be forced to close selected galleries on weekdays, and eliminate school tours and community outreach programs. The DIA receives no state, county or city funding. It has been relying on the private sector to make up the shortfall in its \$25 million operating budget, something it can't do long term. Raising admission prices won't help because admissions make up just 3 percent of the DIA's revenue. Raising prices high enough to cover the annual operating gap would make the cost to visit the museum prohibitive.

The DIA is one of the top six comprehensive fine arts museums in the United States, up there with The Metropolitan Museum in New York, the Chicago Institute of Fine Arts and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. It attracts visitors and potential future residents from around the world.

According to ArtServe, a statewide nonprofit that advocates for the arts, for every \$1 that is invested in nonprofit arts and cultural groups, \$51 is pumped back into the Michigan economy.

The DIA employs 282 people who pay taxes and support local businesses. In 2011-12, the DIA spent \$7.1 million on vendor goods and services — \$4.3 million in Wayne County, \$2.3 million in Oakland and \$415,000 in Macomb.

Visitors spend money on local restaurants and shops. The DIA has been fiscally responsible. It cut staffing by 20 percent in 2009 — more than 60 full- and part-time positions — and reduced its operating budget by \$9 million. It currently has no debt.

Each county that approves the tax would have an authority to oversee how the money collected is spent — \$10 million in Oakland, \$8 million in Wayne and \$5 million in Macomb. The authority members would be appointed by the county commissioners and executives in each county, which would also have contracts with the DIA.

Voters in at least two of the three counties must approve the ballot proposal or the DIA will have to start severely cutting programs and services.

It would be a shame to let a jewel like the DIA slowly fade from existence, especially when the benefits to taxpayers and the metropolitan area far outweigh the cost.

Vote yes on the DIA ballot proposal Aug. 7.



Visitors tour the European gallery at the DIA, one of the top six comprehensive fine-arts museums in the United States.

LETTERS

Act of kindness

My son and I would like to thank the couple sitting next to us at the Red Lobster in Novi last Friday night. When we went to pay our bill we were told it was already paid by them.

Nina Van Lare
West Bloomfield

Banner has the brains

In the words of Dr. Seuss, "If you have a brain in your head and feet in your shoes, you can go in any direction you choose!"

Marjorie Banner has the brains in her head and she has her feet in the shoes of progress. Banner has proven her willingness to listen to the people and to make difficult decisions during her 12-year tenure on the Board of Trustees.

I urge you to vote for Banner for township treasurer to ensure the development of our community continues in the right direction.

Laurie Marrs
Northville

Catholic debate continues

My letter in the June 7 edition of this paper was in response to a constitutional argument that was based in Catholic religious zealotry, and not the contents of the Constitution. As I stated before, the Constitution provides for freedom of religion. It also provides, at the same time, for everyone else, freedom from your religion.

The argument you are making in your letter, Mr. McLaughlin, is your religious idealism, and is your right. It has no place in my life, or the life of anyone else but those who agree with you. There are many people who are employed by the Catholic Church who are not members of the church, and probably could care less what you believe, but still have the need to be able to access legal medical services, whether their boss likes it or not. That is freedom from religion. I am confident that there is more than one man that uses birth control to prevent or alleviate painful or dangerous medical conditions.

You are correct, Mr. McLaughlin, that you have a right to determine your way of life and live according to your conscience, but I have a right to do the same, and your right doesn't trump mine or anyone else's because you put the name of the Catholic Church behind it. Those who are "good Catholics" won't cost the church a dime using the medicine and procedures that others deserve as their right to practice their beliefs.

As I pointed out before, 98 percent of all Catholics have used or are now using birth control, and what "good Catholic" would be likely to openly admit to having had an abortion? Catholics do, in fact, freely use these services, but now "officially" there are some who want to deny others access to the same legal medical services and procedures they know the vast majority of the flock uses.

Our government couldn't possibly function if it had to cave into the "beliefs" of all the religions that are practiced in this country, and what is "appalling" is the lack

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.

Deadlines: 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.

demolished and redeveloped. The class of 2013 SANP committee needs to find a new building that can be donated for storage and building space, beginning this summer, for at least one year. Any generous community members who have space to offer should please contact John Avdoulos at (248) 568-4945 or avdoulosj@yahoo.com as soon as possible. This party keeps our graduates safe and off the streets following graduation. We hope this great tradition can continue.

On behalf of this year's committee, I thank the many wonderful families and local establishments who donated resources to the NHS Class of 2012 Senior All Night Party, and encourage our community to show them your support.

Sue Laabs
2012 SANP Committee chair

Youth served by program

Northville Youth Assistance clients are getting ready to have exciting summer experiences because of the generosity of members of our community. So far this year, we have awarded Conrad Charitable Foundation summer camp scholarships to 119 students totaling nearly \$57,000. These students will attend a variety of music, sports, recreation and day camps that they would not otherwise have been able to enjoy due to their family's financial circumstances. Due to the foundation's generous donation, we still have funds available, and parents may call me at (248) 344-1618 to request a scholarship application.

This week, mentors and mentees will attend a Detroit Tigers game, courtesy of the Tigers Foundation, which provides free tickets to our program. This outing has been an annual tradition, and we sincerely appreciate the ticket donation that makes it possible.

Members of Bushwood Golf Club donated golf lessons for two of our mentees to learn the sport this summer. The lucky recipients will visit a driving range then golf nine holes once a week for five weeks with an instructor.

These donations are much appreciated. Anyone who has extra tickets to concerts, festivals or sporting events may donate them to our program, and we'll make sure deserving clients and volunteers get them.

Northville Youth Assistance is a joint service between the City of Northville and the Charter Township of Northville with the cooperation of the Northville Public Schools. We provide a variety of programs that center around building resiliency skills in the community's youth. Programs include mentoring; counseling; alcohol, tobacco, drugs, anger management and decision-making classes; transition to middle school and high school seminars; and Challenge Day. These services are offered free of charge to families who reside in the City of Northville, the Charter Township of Northville and the Northville Public School District.

We are most appreciative to Mr. Bill Hahn of Franklin Properties for donating the space in the former Rite Aid on Seven Mile for our use the last eight years. During that time, decorations were stored, repainted and rebuilt. Unfortunately for future classes, but appealing for our community, the western half of the Northville Plaza is being

NOVI NEWS

Cal Stone, Community Editor
Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor
Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

General: 2011 annual parking and boat launch permits are available at the park office. Vehicle entry permits are \$25; senior citizen \$15. Boat launching permits are \$30; senior citizen \$15. The HCMA and Oakland County Parks permits, valid within both park systems, are \$48. Daily entry fee is \$5.

Kensington

Note: For more information for registration, call the Kensington Park office at (248) 685-1561 or (800) 477-3178. The Nature Center office phone number is (248) 685-0603. Pre-registration required for programs and a \$2 fee per person unless stated otherwise. Park hours are 6 a.m.-10 p.m. daily.

Nature Center

No Child Left Inside: Summer Nature Detectives: Sunday, June 24, 2 p.m. Many things above and below go unseen. Search for clues of these nature fugitives" along the trail. Wear your detective clothes. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required. For ages 6 and older.

No Child Left Inside: Pond Dipping: Saturday, June 30, 1-3 p.m. Get an up-close look at a pond, including the plant and animal life that live under, on and above the pond's surface during this hands-on family program. The program is free — vehicle entry permit required.

Rattlesnakes & Their Lookalikes: Sunday, July 1, 2 p.m. Don't be fooled. Not every snake that makes you quake is a rattlesnake. Learn to tell the difference between rattlesnakes and similar species found in the area. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required.

Beasts on the Beach: Saturday, July 7 from 1-3 p.m. Martindale Beach. Snakes and turtles are among the most fascinating of all animals. There's a lot of misinformation about them. Stop by to sort out what is true and what isn't during this free, ongoing program.

Meet a Turtle: Sunday, July 8, 2 p.m. Michigan's turtle species are as diverse in appearance as they are in behaviors and habits. Come hear about, see and touch nature's "ancient" creatures. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required.

Explorer's Day Camp: Nature Center, Tuesday, July 10-Friday, July 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Some of the many adventures at this camp are: touring Kent Lake aboard the island Queen II, experiencing astronomy from inside an inflatable planetarium, digging for fossils and studying about them, and taking the Voyageur Canoe to various islands in the lake. That's just a sampling of the fun in store for our day camp "explorers." For ages 7-13. Fee: \$150 per child. For additional information or to register, contact the Nature Center.

Stop the Invasion: Saturday, July 14, 10 a.m. Volunteers are needed to help retake

METROPARK CALENDAR



Don Naggie of South Lyon takes a walk on the Kensington path Friday afternoon. The metropark is a popular destination for area residents and those from throughout the Metro Detroit area.

the nature trails as they combat autumn olive, Asiatic bittersweet and garlic mustard — three invasive plant species. Bring loppers and gloves if you have them.

Summer Safari: Sunday, July 15, 2 p.m. Take a walk with an interpreter while exploring the sights and sounds of the nature area. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required.

Fish Camp: Nature Center, Tuesday, July 17, and Wednesday, July 18, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Kids will make their own tackle and a fish print T-shirt, discover fun facts about fish, catch pond bugs and go fishing. They will acquire the fishing skills needed to make their own fishing stories come true. For ages 8-12. Fee: \$75 per child.

Exploring a Pond: Saturday, July 21, 1 p.m. The pond is home to many wonderful and unique animals. Join an interpreter to meet some of these pond personalities. Free.

Beasts at the Boat Rental: Sunday, July 22, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the boat rental. Snakes and turtles are among the most fascinating of all animals. There's a lot of misinformation about them. Stop by to sort out what is true and what isn't during this free, ongoing program.

Insects We Love to Hate: Saturday, July 28, 1 p.m. Annoying painful and itchy, there

are many insects people love to hate, spray and swat. Find out what makes these insects so interesting and some tips on how to avoid them. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required. For ages 6 years and older.

Meet a Snake: Sunday, July 29, 2 p.m. Snakes are some of the most maligned animals, partly due to misinformation about them. Join an interpreter to sort out what is true and what isn't, and have the chance to touch or hold a snake. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required.

Farm Center

Kensington Women's Adventure: Saturday, June 23, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. This program gives women, 18 years and older, an opportunity to try out new outdoor experiences. Kayaking, rock-climbing, archery, geo-caching and more. Fee: \$60 per person. Advanced registration required. For additional information or to register, please call Sherrie at (810) 227-8910, Ext. 6446.

Fun on the Farm: Cows: Thursday, July 5, 10 a.m. This program for the little ones consists of story time, a craft and an activity. Children will have the opportunity to visit dairy cows and learn more about where milk comes from. Fee: \$3 per person.

Fun on the Farm: Pigs: Thursday, July 19,

10 a.m. This program for the little ones consists of story time, a craft and an activity. Children will get to see a pigpen, visit with piglets and maybe get a little dirty. Fee: \$3 per person.

Horse-Drawn Hayrides: weekends, noon-4 p.m. Take a relaxing horse-drawn hayride past the fields and through the woods. Hayrides are \$3 per child, \$5 per adult. For more information, please call (248) 684-8632.

Indian Springs

Note: For more information for registration, call Indian Springs at (248) 625-7280 or (800) 477-3192. The golf course number is (248) 625-7870. Discovery Center number is (248) 625-6640. Summer park hours are 7 a.m.-10 p.m. A metropark vehicle entry permit is required.

Environmental Discovery Center

No Child Left Inside: Frog Catchin' Fun: Saturday, June 23, 1 p.m. Who doesn't love a frog's big, bulging eyes and smooth, slippery skin? Venture out to the park wetlands with an interpreter, to learn to identify

Please see METROPARKS, A17

ST. MARY MERCY LIVONIA SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

The Center for Joint Replacement

Re-Discover Freedom

Learn more at our FREE Educational Seminar 6 to 8 p.m. St. Mary Mercy Livonia

Wednesday, June 27, Classroom 10
Thursday, July 26, Classroom 10

To register call 734.655.2345
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SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

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

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

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

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3330 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

www.ssdifighter.com

Landscaping gadgets to keep an eye on

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist



Tech Savvy
Jon Gunnells

Spend less time working on your yard this year and more time enjoying it by utilizing some of the latest landscaping gizmos and gadgets. From yard cleaners to pool cleaners, there are plenty of tech gadgets that can help you spruce up your outdoor space in time for summer.

Garden Groom — This reinvention of the hedge clippers allows you to trim bushes, trees and shrubs without having to rake or pick up the trimmings. The Garden Groom is connected to a vacuum and a bagging device. It also has a concealed blade so you don't slice off your finger when you get distracted by the squirrels. The Garden Groom can be purchased for about \$100 at GardenGroom.com.

Telescoping Sprinkler — This one sounds a bit cooler and more tech savvy than it really is, but a telescoping sprinkler can help you water tall plants without moving the hose every 10 minutes. The benefits of a telescoping sprinkler include adjustable height and, well, that's about it. Not the most technological-ly advanced item you will find in this space, but for \$10 or \$15 the telescoping sprinkler is much better than a watering can.

Self-watering planters — An even cooler water device that you can use indoors or outdoors, self-watering planters can help you go up to 12 weeks without watering. Water level indicators also help show users how much they need to water, so there is no over-saturating plants and flowers. You can purchase self-watering planters by visiting lechuza.us.

Amazing Rake — Like something straight out of an infomercial, the Amazing Rake allows users to rake and pick up leaves in one motion. You've likely seen contraptions like the Amazing Rake at your hardware store, but this rake is unique. Instead of trapping leaves by folding in half, the Amazing Rake pushes its two shovel-like claws together. It even has the capability of picking up one leaf — which would defeat the purpose of actually using a rake — but for \$40, it better be able to pick up one of anything you want.

Pro Handle — If you want to pretend to be the most advanced landscaper on the block, you can attach the Pro Handle to your Amazing Rake and go to work. The Pro Handle attaches to common yard tools such as rakes, shovels and brooms and helps users perform yard work with less stress on their lower back muscles. The Pro Handle retails for about \$15 and can be purchased from prohandle.com.

Solar Breeze Pool Skimmer — If you are lucky enough to have a pool and are going to do one thing this summer, it should be to invite me over for a swim. But if you're in love with rubber mulch, you can also find rubber patio blocks from your local home improvement store.

Rubber mulch — Much like the rubber pellets in field turf, rubber mulch is made mainly from recycled rubber and tires. It is softer and therefore safer for kids than regular mulch and is available in six colors from pinnaclearubbermulch.com. And if you're in love with rubber mulch, you can also find rubber patio blocks from your local home improvement store.

Jon Gunnells is a social media strategist at a regional advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @Gunn5how.

Join together



Novi Orthodontists Drs. Jamie Reynolds, left, and Larry Spillane co-hosted a June 7 gathering at their Taft Rd. offices to celebrate Reynolds' ten years of joining practices with Spillane. Lunch and door prizes were offered to their clients who stopped by to celebrate.

NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

Wixom space leased

Signature Associates has negotiated the sale of 16,306 square feet of industrial space located at 28016 Oakland Oaks Court, Wixom.

David Giltner and Jim Montgomery of Signature Associates represented the seller, Grand Oaks Management. Montgomery also represented the purchaser, Fleet Services, which continues to expand operations in the Wixom area.

Savon Blanc retains Shazaam! Savon Blanc, a Bloomfield Hills-based designer of high-quality hand soaps, has named Shazaam! Public Relations and Buzzphoria Social Media Marketing Agency as agencies of record. Shazaam! is an award-winning agency based in Novi and begun by local entrepreneur Adrienne Lenhoff.

"My soaps offer customers affordable luxury that will delight their sense. I consider each a work of art that is made exclusively for those who appreciate quality and natural beauty," said Carole Palombo, founder of Savon Blanc. "I found that the team at Shazaam! would treat my product and its future with as much care as I put into each item."

Several years ago, Palombo had met with Lenhoff and her staff at Shazaam!, but as the business continued to grow, Palombo decided it was the right time to reconnect with Lenhoff and discuss the direction for Savon Blanc's growth. Shazaam! was chosen as their PR advisor since they use a combination of online social media, PR, strategic partnerships, and traditional advertising in their marketing strategy — a more well-rounded approach.

Savon Blanc was established by Palombo in 2004, when she was working at a high-end linen store. She had overheard the store owners, upon returning from a trade show, say they had not found the unique, special soap for their store they had been in search of. Palombo had told them she had "a friend" who made decorative soaps. Secretly, Palombo had been producing soaps as a hobby in her kitchen. Upon seeing her work, Savon Blanc was born and was put among the other products in the store. The line has since expanded to include shower gels, body lotions, bath salts and scented beads.

Telcom Credit Union scholarships



Telcom Credit Union awarded five high school seniors with \$1,000 college scholarships as part of their ongoing FUSE Scholarship Program. The five recipients were selected from eligible students who are Telcom Credit Union members and plan to go to college this fall. Shown are scholarship recipients Anna Berezovsky (Walled Lake Central), Jared Slawski (South Lyon East), Stacey Jedeke (Plymouth) and Kalon Humphries (Walled Lake Western). Symone Martin (Romulus) is not pictured. "We are happy to once again present our FUSE Scholarships to five highly regarded young Telcom Credit Union members," said CEO. "These students have demonstrated esteemed scholastic excellence and community involvement, and we are glad to help them take the next step towards their educational goals and future careers." During the past four years, Telcom Credit Union has awarded a total of \$20,000 in FUSE Scholarships.

OAKLAND COUNTY BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance are invited to attend seminars in February offered by the Oakland County Business Center. 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, June 21, 6-9 p.m. The fee is \$40 person. No refunds.

LinkedIn for Business (Advanced)

In this session of LinkedIn you will learn how to establish your social media objectives and goals for LinkedIn, create your LinkedIn social media marketing strategy and schedule, integrate LinkedIn into your marketing strategy. You will also learn the core strategies and tactics businesses are using to get customers talking through LinkedIn, how to use social media management tools for LinkedIn, how to schedule updates in advance, and more. Prerequisites for this session are LinkedIn for Business (Beginner) and LinkedIn for Business (Intermediate).

Wednesday, June 27, 6-9 p.m. The fee is \$40 person. No refunds.

Cruisers to rev up their engines at Atchison Park

By Diane Gale Andreassi
Staff Writer

Take a ride back to the '50s and '60s with a cool car cruise and a chance to support local groups.

On Saturday, June 23, the South Lyon Spark Plugs car club is hosting its 10th annual Car Show and Swap Meet at James Atchison Park, 5800 Grand River in New Hudson. The swap meet is 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the car show is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Money raised will go to the Lyon Township Community Chest, Paws for the Cause and the Lyon Township Fire Department.

"We usually have about 65 cars," said show chairman Scott Landis. "We are trying to get bigger as we go and to raise money for the community. We're

DETAILS

When: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, June 23
Where: James Atchison Park, 5800 Grand River in New Hudson
More info: To be part of the show, call Scott Landis at (810) 423-1040

trying to give back." Owners of a wide variety of makes and models will show off their rides. In addition to the classic vehicles there will be displays by Matt Miller Collector Car Restorations, Hines Park Ford, Feldman Automotive, and R-Sounds and Security. Other local sponsors are Leo's Coney Island and Miners Barber Shop. Club member Paul Peters said anyone with a classic or customized car



Spark Plugs car club members (from left) Mike McKenna, Paul Peters, Harvey Miller, Nate Briggs, John Ballantine, Bob Ragusi, Keith Schirret, and David Douglass will be among those showing off their classic rides this weekend at James Atchison Park in New Hudson.

can pay a small fee to be part of the show. "There will be a wide variety of cars at the show, and there will be numerous prizes handed out, including a people's choice award," Peters said.

Food will be available along with a "Car Corral," which offers local vehicles for sale. The entertainment roster includes a live band, DJ Paul Peters, and a special guest appearance by

"Ryan Elvis." The Spark Plugs have been involved in community activities since 1965 and the group currently supports the Lyon Township Kite Festival, the Winter Fest and Relay for

Life. For further Spark Plugs show information call show chairman Scott Landis at (810) 423-1040.

dandreassi@hometownlife.com
(248) 437-2011, ext. 262

METROPARKS

Continued from page A15

frogs by their calls, and try sneaking up on some of these fantastic amphibians. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required.

Bug Bites and Rashes: Saturday, June 30, 1 p.m. Out in the wild, you often encounter annoying (and sometimes even painful) insects and plants. Join an interpreter and discover who some of these culprits are and how to avoid them. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required. For ages 6 years and older.

Tot Time: The Secrets of Seeds: Saturday, July 7 at 10 a.m. What happens when you plant a seed? Join an interpreter and discover the wonderful world of seeds. Kids will investigate where seeds come from and see what seeds produce. Get out and dig in the dirt. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required. For ages 2-5 years.

Colonial Paper Crafts: Saturday, July 7, 1 p.m. Celebrate being an American with some fun traditional crafts: make a paper wind vane, a thaumatrope, a phenakistoscope, a bald eagle toy, drill, a buzzaw and other fun stuff. While busying themselves with crafting, participants will learn about the significance of these items in our country's history. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required. For ages 6 and older.

Fireflies of July: Saturday, July 14, 8 p.m. What are those ghostly will-o-the-wisps lighting up the night? Could they be amazing bioluminescent insects? Join an interpreter to learn about nature's lightmakers while paying some flash-

light games, plus eat some snacks and seek out the "fireflies of July." Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required. Bring a flashlight, if you have one. For ages 6 years and older.

Nature Tech Day Camp: Tuesday-Friday, July 17-20, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. If you like computers and also being outside, this four-day camp is for you. Campers will get a chance to investigate all kinds of things in nature using hands-on technology and gadgets. Equipment like GPS units, microscopes, weather stations, data loggers, computers and more will be used to find out what the naked eye can't see about the amazing natural areas in the park. Open to children entering grades 4-6. Fee: \$75 per child. Preregistration required.

Turtles, Toads & Salamanders: Saturday, July 21, 1 p.m. Enter into the exciting world of our cold-blooded relatives while delving into the lives of these unique animals. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required. For ages 6 years and older.

Catchin' Pond Critters: Saturday, July 28, 1 p.m. Join a park interpreter while using nets to capture pond creatures in the park, and then investigate them using microscopes in the lab. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required. For age 6 years and older.

Nighttime Discovery Hike: Saturday, July 28, 8:30 p.m. Lions and tigers and bears, oh my. What's really out there in the dark forest? Explore the night woods — fireflies, wolf spiders, elusive deer, yipping coyotes and other surprises await you. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required. For ages 6 and older.



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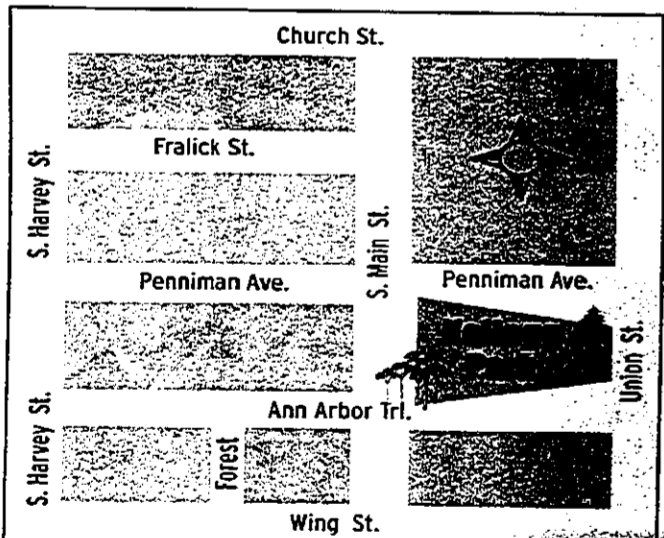
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Kellogg Park, downtown Plymouth

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Tomomi Mutakama (above right) assists Maria Kalas in making some origami during a May 17 event at the Novi Public Library. The origami and haiku-writing gathering was part of the "New Blooms" celebration of Japanese culture in Novi — a week long event which culminated in the ceremonial planting of trees at the Novi Civic Center. Carrie Ong, 4 (left), works on coloring some origami along with her mom Camille. A participant (below) in the origami folds some paper to begin the traditional swan.



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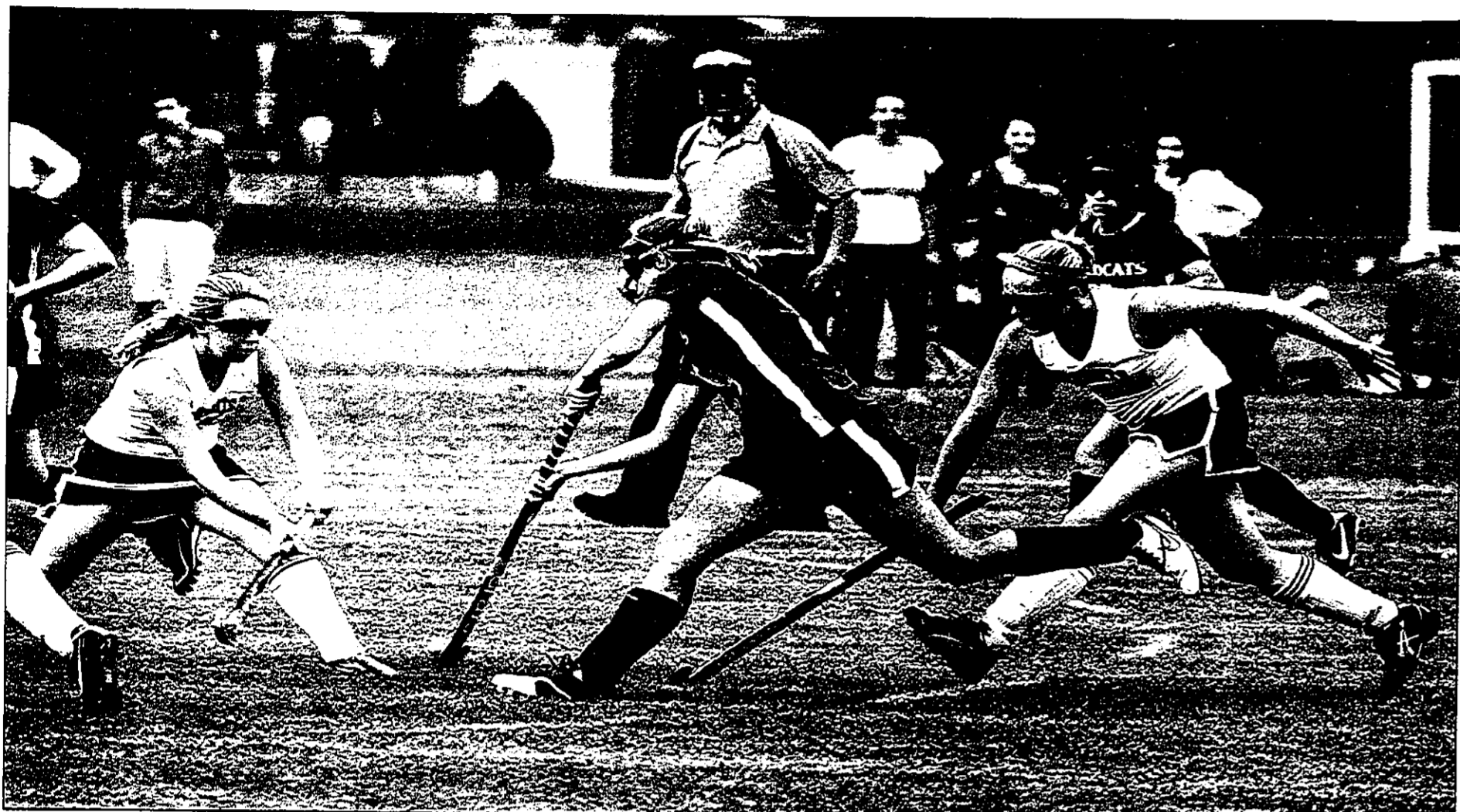
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Novi's Natalie Paul works in heavy traffic.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NOVI FIELD HOCKEY

SISTERS

Continued from page B1

because of the liberal art school's academics - she's considering an art major - and also because of family, both by blood and by team. "My favorite part of Novi field hockey was having a family. The team that Kilgore put together became a family and everybody respected one another," Paul said. "I chose Washington and Jefferson because it was a good school, all my family lives in Pittsburgh so they are really close and the team seemed like a family much like

my team at Novi. When I went to Washington and Jefferson, the team did stuff together like eating dinners with one another and going out for ice cream after practice and having cook outs after their games. Another big reason of why I picked W&J is that the team is hard working and I know that my coach will push me to be better."

Henley, who also plays with Pinnacle, chose Ball State University, north-east of Indianapolis. The young Cardinals program hopes to compete in the Division I Mid-American Conference and will count on Henley and another freshman to

backstop their lineup as the netminder. "I know that the competition will be completely different. Everyone that I play with and against will be trying their hardest and that is what will make it the most fun," Henley said. "I expect to join a new family that improves day in and day out. I think that, if we work hard day in and day out, we will be able to achieve our highest hopes."

Although demand for a quality goalkeeper may be high, Henley said she had trouble finding a school with a vacancy and this fall. "I had contacted a num-



Shelby Henley stands goal against Dexter.

ber of Division I schools, but at the time that I did, a lot of the teams already had their goalies for the 2012 season," Henley said. "Ball State was one of the schools that sounded interested in me. After meeting the coach and visiting the campus, I knew that Ball State would be a great fit for me, not only athletically, but academically as well."

Considering a health-care-related major, Henley said the family aspect of a team has been most important to her. "My favorite part of playing field hockey at Novi was my team," Henley said. "I have never been in sports my entire life and I have never been a part of a team that was so close. We were truly a family, which is what led us to so many victories. We could have never asked for a better coach, as well. She literally built us up from nothing and that is what made us Division III champs."

FUTURE
Having graduated two of its top players and all of the program's team members from the inaugural season, the Wildcats are looking to build on a 9-2-3 season that captured the Division III title in just its second attempt after moving up from Division IV, where it won the title in 2009 during its second season.

Among those leading the team into Division II this fall will be soon-to-be junior Megan

Paul, Natalie's 16-year-old sister. The defensive midfielder was one of 20 under-16 players from within the region of Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and western Pennsylvania who was selected from a pool of several hundred athletes in May to play in the U.S. Field Hockey Association's U16 National Tournament in July 14-16 in Virginia Beach.

"I just hope that she absorbs all that she can and brings the national level experience home to her teammates to make us better," said Kilgore, who will become the varsity assistant in the fall, relinquishing her head coach role to former junior varsity coach and current husband Kevin Kilgore. "She has already seen some national level play through her time with Pinnacle, but this will be her first select national experience. I am really excited for her to play against the very best in the country and improve as a player."

Having played field hockey for just three years, Megan picked up the sport just before her freshman year, when she was the first select national player. "This year for field hockey was absolutely filled with great girls, a great coach and great success," Megan said. "I am excited to see what these next two years have to come with our new divisions and our new additions to the team. The field hockey program is growing with new, athletic girls that will do

great thing on the team just like Shelby, Natalie and other teammates of mine. Amy and Kevin have truly made an amazing culture in the program."

She said the evaluations to make Nationals included being scouted at Regionals and timed obstacle courses, as well as good attendance at Futures practices, which develops potential Olympic hopefuls. "I am quite excited for this opportunity and am very thankful for my coaches and everything they have taught me," Megan said. "I am also blessed to have wonderful parents who support my passion tremendously for field hockey."

Kilgore said the Paul family's support has been instrumental in the field hockey program's early success, as well as the development of their two daughters. "Both Megan and Natalie are tremendous competitors and incredibly hard workers," Kilgore said. "I would say that they have been each others fiercest competition and great support. I'm not sure they would have accomplished all that they did without each others support and push. Their accomplishments have also been enhanced because their parents are incredibly involved and supportive. The Paul girls have taken advantage of every local and national level opportunity and are very involved in their local hockey club, Pinnacle."

South Lyon's Gironza dives to the top

By Jeff Theisen
Sports writer

The 2011-12 winter swim and dive All-Area team could easily be dubbed the year of the diver. South Lyon Unified's Dan Gironza topped them all at the Division 1 State Finals with a total of 466.25.

Earlier in the year, Gironza also won the Oakland County title and the KLAAs Kensington Conference title. The amazing part of the list of divers involved on the All-Area team is Gironza beat out teammate Brendan O'Shea who finished runner-up. Novi had the fourth-place finisher. To top it off, Milford had the Division 2 State Champion. It's an impressive list to put it mildly, and Gironza stands on top.

First Team
Brendan O'Shea, South Lyon
As if South Lyon wasn't loaded enough with Gironza on the team, O'Shea went out and proved he was right there with him, finishing second at state with 412.4. The senior also finished runner-up to Gironza at Oakland County.

Evan Faletti, South Lyon
The junior earned All-State honors individually with a third-place finish in the 50 free. He was also part of the fifth-place 200 free relay and placed 14th in the 100 free. Faletti won the KLAAs Kensington Conference title in the 50 free.

"Evan is a great sprinter who had a very good state meet," said coach John Burch. "He will have a chance to win the 50 next year as he gets stronger over the summer."

John Dunnuck, South Lyon
The senior finished 12th in the 100 breaststroke at state and also swam in the qualifying 200 medley relay. "John capped off a great high school career with his best ever time in the 100 breaststroke," said Burch. "He scored for the first time ever at the state meet, one of his goals. John was an excellent leader of the team."

Max Wilkinson, South Lyon
The sophomore helped the 200 free relay team to a fifth-place finish at state. He also qualified as part of the 400 free relay and in the 50 free.

"Max improved greatly from his freshman season until now," said Burch. "I am excited to see what the future holds for this very talented swimmer."

Spencer Ruggiero, South Lyon
The junior had a very busy state meet as part of the All-State 200 free relay team and also competing in the 400 free relay. Individually, he qualified in the 200 and 500 freestyle.

"Spencer is a big meet swimmer," said Burch. "The bigger and more important the meet, the faster he goes. That is why he had such a great performance at the conference and state meets this year."

Eric Weiss, South Lyon
The senior also earned All-State honors on the 200 free relay while also competing in the 400 free relay. "Eric was one of our captains and really led the team well," said Burch. "This was his second time at the state meet and he swam a lot faster than he did last year on the 200 freestyle relay."

Spencer Miller, Northville
The senior finished 16th at state in the 50 free and was runner-up in the same event at the KLAAs Conference meet. Miller was also on two placing relays - the 200 free relay (12th) and the 400 free relay (13th). He was also the conference champ in the 100 free.

Filippo Miavaldi, Northville
The senior finished 12th at state in the 100 backstroke. He was runner-up at the conference meet in the same event.

Derek Kim, Novi
The senior earned All-Conference, All-State and All-America honors in diving with a fourth-place finish at the Division 1 Finals (409.8). Kim also finished second in the KLAAs Conference meet behind South Lyon's Gironza but ahead of O'Shea.

Jong Min Kim, Novi
The senior earned All-Conference and All-State honors in the 100 breaststroke after placing fourth at state (58.9) and second at the KLAAs Kensington Conference meet.

Will Walker, Lakeland
Northville's Spencer Miller dives in at the start of a 50-yard prelim at the State Finals.



South Lyon's Dan Gironza flies through the air against Novi.

PHOTO BY HAL GOULD

The Eagle sophomore had a huge Division 2 State Finals with a third-place finish in the 500 free (4:39.74) and a sixth-place finish in the 200 free (1:43.86). He also swam on the 200 medley relay which placed eighth (1:40.77) and on the 400 free relay which placed 14th (3:16.01). These relays set all-time Lakeland team records and is the first time Lakeland has produced an All-State relay.

Ryan Johnson, Lakeland
The junior scored points in four events at the State Finals. He placed 10th in the 100 butterfly (53.25), 15th in the 100 backstroke (57.34), part of the eighth-place medley relay and was the anchor of the 400 free relay in 14th.

David Patawaran, Lakeland
The sophomore swam on both the medley relay (8th) and the 400 free relay (14th) as well as placing 12th in the 100 breaststroke in 1:02.35 for a new school record.

Evan Goan, Lakeland
The senior was part of both placing relays - the medley relay (8th) and the 400 free relay (14th).

Scott Jessup, Milford
The Maverick senior capped off his Milford career with a Division 2 State Title in diving with 449.45. He was fourth after the semifinals but roared into the top spot by nearly six points.

"Scott was undefeated in dual meets in nearly three full seasons and undefeated in the KLAAs and D2 region 2 for the last two years," said coach Chris Smith. Brian Simonich, Milford

The freshman will have big shoes to fill with the departure of Jessup but he stepped up big in his first shot at the State Finals with a 14th-place finish (3:16.85).

"Eric worked hard all season to learn new dives and focused tirelessly on his form," said Smith. "Brian will surely be a key returning point contributor next season, and has three more years to claim top spot the state championship meet."

Second Team
Adam Stone, South Lyon
The junior qualified for the State Finals as part of the 200 medley relay team.
Joel Bischoff, South Lyon
The sophomore gained State Finals experience by qualifying in the 100 backstroke.
Travis Burgess, South Lyon

BOYS SWIM & DIVE ALL-AREA

Athlete of the Year
Dan Gironza, South Lyon

First Team
Brendan O'Shea, South Lyon
Evan Faletti, South Lyon
John Dunnuck, South Lyon
Max Wilkinson, South Lyon
Spencer Ruggiero, South Lyon
Eric Weiss, South Lyon
Will Walker, Lakeland
Evan Goan, Lakeland
Ryan Johnson, Lakeland
David Patawaran, Lakeland
Scott Jessup, Milford
Spencer Miller, Northville
Filippo Miavaldi, Northville
Derek Kim, Novi
Jong Min Kim, Novi

Second Team
Adam Stone, South Lyon
Joel Bischoff, South Lyon
Travis Burgess, South Lyon
Alex Canadi, South Lyon
Brian Simonich, Milford
Travis Andrud, Milford
Chris Kim, Northville
Andrew Westphal, Northville
Sam Boyea, Northville

Honorable Mention
South Lyon: Jacob Lanczki (So), Eric Cutajar (Sr), Patrick Brodessor (Sr)

Milford: J.D. Brancheau (Jr), Brad Simonich (Jr), Derek Beslock (Jr), Thomas Diaz (Jr), James Fischer (Sr)
Novi: Andrew Ao, Tanner Vincent, Kenta Onimura

(13th).
Sam Boyea, Northville
The junior also competed on the 200 free relay (12th) and the 400 free relay (13th) at states.
Travis Andrud, Milford
The junior missed qualifying for the State Finals in the 100 back and 50 free by less than a second each. He was also a member of the 200 free relay which also missed qualifying by a second.

Catholic Central did not return requests for the All-Area team. The Shamrocks did get All-State swimmers from Jack Walsh, Michael Bundas and the 200 medley relay team.

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PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER



The Northville Mustangs celebrate their retaining of the Baseline Jug on Oct. 7 after their 37-32 victory over Novi.

MUSTANGS

Continued from page B1

cer, girls tennis and boys lacrosse. "I think the reasons we have been so successful are two main things," said Masi. "We have a very hard-working, dedicated coaching staff. Head coaches have surrounded themselves with excellent assistants, which have created many great learning experiences for student-athletes. Our teams and coaches are working all year long to develop skills, get stronger or more physically fit."

"I think the second main reason of our success is the community youth programs. These programs are developing kids at the elementary and middle school age so they are better prepared when they come to the high school."

Masi noted that some of the programs are at the districts middle schools, Hillside and Meads Mill, while others include the Colts and Stallions youth football, Northville baseball and softball association, Northville youth lacrosse program, Northville youth wrestling program, Northville youth basketball league and community club volleyball. Northville expects to return all of their current head coaches for next year's athletics with the exception of the boys track and field program, which is currently seeking applicants for the position.

Mustang Mallory Weber, right, busts in on Novi net-minder Sam Pavlika during the team's May 31 playoff game. Northville won, 3-1.



Mustang JV finishes 16-1-2



The Northville Mustangs JV girls soccer team wrapped up their year with two outstanding offensive displays besting Plymouth 7-1 and Hartland 4-0. These victories cap off a dominating and successful season for the team which finished 16-1-2 and an impressive goals-for-goals against statistic of 55-5. Highlights include two wins and a tie recorded shutout wins against all three opponents - Saline, Grand Blanc and DeWitt. Pictured are bottom row from left: Hailey Barba, Kaitley Danaher, Katie Michowski; middle row: Lauren McRoom, Kelly McHugh, Kyra Dahring, Erin Provagne, Morgan Gozdor, Sarah Castellano, Christina Minna, Karen Lovelace, Carly Kuehl; top row: Head Coach Lindsey Blair, Megan Cragel, Tara Pawloski, Anna Giacomini, Leah Taubitz, Gabby Mencotti, Jenna Baughman, Megan Thomas, Jenny Willerer, Alana Dorfstatter, Emily Holbrook and Assistant Lydia Blair. Not pictured: Suzie Reddick

Northville graduate signs pro baseball contract

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

When Steve Anderson headed to Grand Valley State University to play baseball after a standout career at Northville High School, there was no doubt it was a dream come true.

But Anderson's dream wasn't over when his collegiate career recently came to an end. Instead, the outfielder inked his name to a professional baseball contract with the Rockford RiverHawks of the Frontier League.

"I couldn't be more proud and happy for Steve," said John Kostzewa, his high school coach at Northville. "Nobody deserves to have a professional opportunity more than him. He has demonstrated a great deal of success at every level and I'm sure that trend will continue, because of the type of player and person he is. It's been a lot of fun following his career and I'm excited to be able to continue to follow him at the professional level. The whole Northville Mustang baseball family is very proud of Steve."

Anderson's career at Grand Valley State was a memorable one. He finished his time there as one of the best offensive players in the program's history, ranking first in career games played (21), runs batted in (187), total bases (396) and hit by pitches (35). He finished second in career games started (196), at-bats (689), hits (257) and home runs (26).

In his last season with the Lakers, Anderson hit .373, including six home runs, five triples and 18 doubles. He scored 44 runs and knocked in 57 RBIs. He led the team with 26 multi-hit games, 14 multi-RBI games and a 12-game hitting streak.

His awards have piled up, too. He was named the GLIAC Co-Player of the Year and Daktronics Midwest Region Player of the Year while earning All-GLIAC and All-Midwest First Team honors. He was also named to both the GLIAC and NCAA all-tournament teams and was an honorable mention All-American.

Anderson signed his contract with the RiverHawks, which play in Loves Park, Ill., on June 8 along with pitcher and fellow GVSU player Kyle Scheffel. Just two days later, he collected his first professional hit against the Southern Illinois Miners and had a RBI in the 16-5 victory.

Runner-up at Frankenmuth Classic



The 12U Northville Mustangs took second place in the Frankenmuth Baseball Classic on June 17. The Mustangs won their bracket to advance to the championship round, where they lost a close game (5-4) to the St. Clair Shores Mariners. Pictured are: (front) Mitchell Smith, Jackson Stegmeyer, Ryan Perkins, bat boy Drew Rankin, Jonathan Michalak and Ben Brady; (back) coach Eric Stegmeyer, Ben Schmidt, Zachary Swain, Lucas Buccellato, Tyler Troyer, Shane Rankin, Carson Bayoff and coach Glenn Perkins.

Alumni soccer game to benefit St. Jude

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

Last year, the Northville Mustangs girls soccer alumni game raised an impressive \$1,100 dollars for Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Research.

This year, those alumni are looking to raise a bit more with the proceeds of the game heading to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. And if you're alumni, it's not too late to sign up — though you may want to hurry.

"This is a great opportunity to get former players together to reminisce about past playing days while helping out a great cause," said current Northville girls soccer coach Eric Brucker.

The game is slated to be played June 23 at 3 p.m. at Northville High School. Any former varsity alumni players, including those who graduated in 2012, are eligible to play. There will be a post-game gathering at Buckminster Public House, 102 East Main Street, for players, family and friends.

Players are asked to donate \$20 to participate in the event, which drew 35 former Mustangs players and three former coaches to the field last year.

In addition to the game, there will be a raffle of donated goods from Northville-area businesses to support the cause. Items include gift baskets, gift cards, free passes, bread, sweatshirts, bike helmets and more from businesses that include Dancing Eye Gallery, Sizzling Sticks, Stamp Peddler, Gennetti's, Spillane & Reynolds Orthodontics, Town & County Bikes, Planet Fitness, Bricks, Northville Swim Club, Baby Baby, Stitching Post, Custard Time, Pizza Cutter, Great Harvest, Top Cat Sports Apparel and D&D Cycles.

AAU puts priority on protecting youth athletes

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

New steps are being taken by the Amateur Athletic Union to help ensure the safety of the thousands of young athletes who participate under its activities.

The union — more commonly known as the AAU — announced recently that it is taking steps to implement new measures that include requirements such as background checks for any and all adults involved in AAU activities, including volunteer coaches to AAU staff. In addition, the union will be adopting policies and procedures to ensure young athletes are not left alone with individual adults and requiring all AAU volunteers, coaches and staff to report any incidents of suspected child abuse to law enforcement as well as officials of the Amateur Athletic Union and related sports clubs.

"The new steps the AAU is taking will safeguard children participating in amateur sports across the country, so that we can continue our proud philosophy of 'Sports for All, Forever,'" said national AAU President Louis Stout in a prepared statement. "These new steps are not being implemented because we suspect anyone — rather, we must make these changes because we expect everyone to be willing to help us build a deeper trust and culture of safety."

To ensure that all adults involved in AAU activities are familiar with the guidelines, the organization will develop a manual of materials focusing on child protection. That information will be placed on the AAU website, www.aausports.org, and the membership registration site, and will be distributed through AAU district organizations, national events, coaches meetings and local activities.

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Millennial generation key to housing market's future

The next two decades in housing markets depends largely on the "Echo Boomers." That's according to panelists at the "Shifting Demographics and Housing Choice: A Whole New World?" session May 18 during the Realtors 2012 Midyear Legislative Meetings & Trade Expo in Washington, D.C.

There are approximately 62 million echo boomers in the U.S. Also called "millennials," echo boomers are currently ages 17-31. According to the 2011 National Association of Realtors Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers, younger homebuyers — those ages 18-34 — represent 31 percent of all recent home purchases.

"We know that although many young people may be delaying home purchases in today's economic climate, most of them still aspire to homeownership," said NAR President Moe Veissl, broker-owner of Veissl & Associates Inc., in Miami. "Realtors are committed to ensuring that the dream of homeownership can become a reality for generations of Americans to come."

During the session, economists from NAR, the University of Washington, and Florida State University presented various research and data that illustrate the future of homeownership from a generational standpoint.

"Demography is destiny," said NAR Chief Economist Lawrence Yun. "In that vein, demographics can provide very useful insights into the future of housing and homeownership, and the results of these reports indicate that certain generational shifts will have a significant impact on the real estate industry over the next two decades."

NAR Economist Selma Hepp identified several key demographic trends on both ends of the housing age spectrum. The demand for affordable, accessible housing will increase as the 65-and-over population grows; at the same time, as seniors leave their homes and move into assisted living and other arrangements, they will add



to the current supply of housing. Because of their sheer size, however, echo boomers will significantly impact the next two decades in housing.

"Echo boomers represent a long-term opportunity for a housing market recovery, but they are struggling in the current economic crisis," said Hepp. "Consequently, demand for rental housing is likely to climb in the near term."

As a group, the echo boomers are more racially and ethnically diverse than their baby boomer parents. While 65 percent of baby boomers are Caucasian, only 55 percent of echo boomers are Caucasian. Echo boomers are also more likely to be college-educated than previous generations, and are remaining single longer.

Glenn E. Crenlin from the

Runstad Center for Real Estate Studies at the University of Washington shared his insights into recent declines in homeownership and whether those declines indicate possible generational trends.

"It is worrying that the homeownership rate for those under 35 has fallen more sharply than the rate for older Americans," said Crenlin. "But I think we need to examine homeownership rates by generation in a more balanced way. Although the Millennial generation does not own homes at the same percentages of those in other generations, many of them are still in the early stages of home ownership — in fact, some of them are still in high school."

Crenlin presented data from the American Commu-

nity Survey that shows a significant increase in homeownership among millennials when compared to baby boomers at the same age. While 900,000 households in the millennial generation own their own home, only 500,000 baby boomer households owned their own homes at the same point in their lives.

"Given these data, what we're looking at in terms of the millennial generation is likely only a delay in homeownership of three to five years, not a long-term trend away from homeownership itself," said Crenlin.

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Crossword Puzzle

By Any Other Name

ACROSS

1. Part of NB
2. Lie low
3. Excuse me
4. Hamster's partner
5. Mom
6. Fatuous
7. Canal feature
8. And more of the same
9. Lion's pride
10. Solo performer
11. Potsmom
12. French coin
13. Common
14. Contraction
15. Waking
16. Avv
17. Devious
18. Mask
19. Feasible
20. Synthetic
21. Jack's place
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Answers to Last Week's Puzzle

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6 Summer Networking Strategies



enrichment programs for disadvantaged youth. You never know how serving others might end up helping you. Ashley Strauss, associate director and internship coordinator at Otterbein University's Center for Career Planning in Westerville, Ohio, notes that summer is a great time for college students to offer their skills -- and be intentional about networking. "You are interested in the field of health and wellness. Consider volunteering to help with the logistics of a local 5K, and take advantage of meeting folks who are putting on these events."

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