



**MOVING FORWARD**  
GETTING READY FOR 2013  
WOMAN - SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE



**BENTIVOLIO HEADS TO D.C.**  
LOCAL NEWS, A4



# NOVI NEWS

A GANNETT COMPANY

PRICE: \$1 • THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2013 • hometownlife.com

## Flu shots available

Oakland County Health Division (OCHD) is offering flu shots for \$16 at their Pontiac and Southfield offices. Flu clinic hours are noon to 8 p.m. Monday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Residents can pre-register online at oakgov.com/health.

The Health Division offices are located at the following addresses:

- \* North Oakland Health Center, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Building 34 East, Pontiac
- \* South Oakland Health Center, 27725 Greenfield Road, Southfield

For more information, visit the Oakland County Health Division website at oakgov.com/health or on Facebook at facebook.com/publichealthOC.



## 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 to browse through the latest news and features from your neighboring communities, too. So, bookmark www.hometownlife.com to be sure you're always in-the-know in your hometown.

You can also find us on Facebook by searching "Hometownlife."

## Phasing out of tax will hurt Novi

### New legislation to cost Novi more than \$180,000

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

The city of Novi will lose another \$180,000 starting in 2014 based on new legislation to phase out much of the state's industrial personal property tax. Not only will Novi lose that revenue, the city would not get any reimbursement.

"What happened on literally the last day of the lame-duck Legislature is that a new bill was introduced that created a fairly complex revision for personal property tax over the next several years," Novi City Manager Clay Pearson said, adding that nothing changes for 2013.

Earlier in December, a Republican-led House committee

approved language for the legislation that could phase out taxes on industrial personal property over 10 years and wipe out taxes on small businesses whose equipment has a taxable value of less than \$40,000. Businesses currently pay taxes on personal property items like computers, equipment and furniture.

term impact on Novi would be more than \$180,000 in lost revenue. He said the continued phasing out will see the city impacted even more.

"The numbers are that we would be losing the \$18 million in taxable value (about \$183,600) through SB 1070, which is the

Please see SB 1070, A2

## Winter wonderland



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rob Knurek shovels snow off the driveway of his Novi home on Dec. 26 as the day-after-Christmas snowstorm gets underway. By about 5 p.m. that day, Novi had nearly five inches of the white stuff on the ground.

## City seeking input for Pavilion Shore Park

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

Novi wants community help in recognizing the history of Pavilion Shore Park, including input on design ideas for creating a historical marker at the park that sits on the Novi side of Walled Lake.

City officials believe the park, at Old Novi and 13 Mile roads, has great historical significance for the surrounding community and they want to honor it.

According to Novi City Manager Clay Pearson, there will be an open house meeting in the next month for residents interested in learning more and giving their ideas.

Last year the city sought help with renaming it from Landings Property to Pavilion Shore Park, one of nearly 100 suggestions provided by citizens as part of a community-wide naming effort.

Pavilion Shore Park's name came at the recommendation of a local man, Bob Niemi, who said it ties into the rich history from the 1920s through the 1950s, when the area gained regional and national prominence for summer recreation, dancing and band performances.

Novi officials said over the years the land encompassed by the park has experienced many significant events, from pre-settlement use by Native Americans to a casino dance hall pavilion, lake recreational opportunities and an amusement park.

Capturing this diverse history is the goal, and getting different ideas from citizens will be crucial.

"Really, what we're looking for is some guidance," Pearson said.

### Possible icons

At the city council meeting Dec. 17, consultant Hamilton Anderson and Associates, as part of its park design process, suggested two possible his-

Please see PAVILION PARK, A2

## TransX building demolished to make way for new development

### Novi Special water tower will stay

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

The 'Novi Special' water tower looks like it will remain, but the building next to it at the southeast corner of Trans X and Novi roads was demolished and will be cleared for redevelopment.

Novi City Manager Clay Pearson said the building site has been vacant for some time, and now the ownership wants a change.

"My understanding is that the owner, Frank Stevens, has

contracted to have those buildings, which have been vacant for some time, demolished," Pearson said last week. "As with the old Novi Expo Center, I am assuming that each of those property owners saw the redevelopment opportunities for good location to be higher with the property cleared and ready to go."

Pearson also said the the adjacent, long-standing water tower is staying. It has a 1940s-style race car depicted on it. According to MiSpeed.Net, Bud Winfield and Leo Goossen produced one of the world's most renowned car engines with sponsorship help from Lewis Welch in Novi and this tower commemorates that.

Commercial property real-

tor Jonathan Brateman is representing the ownership of the building, which was used for industrial purposes. Now the hope is that it will become a different type of development.

Brateman said it's the only building coming down in that location.

"I think a multi-story building with mixed use: retail, banquet, office and residential or hotel on the upper floors will be ideal," he said of the possibilities.

However, there is no plan yet.

Novi's Community Development director, Charles Boulard, said he has not received any indication regarding

Please see TRANSX, A2

CAR-RT LOT-C010  
NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY  
45255 W 10 MILE RD  
NOVI MI 48375-3014  
P-3 P47 1757  
WSH 0010



### INDEX

Business.....B6  
Crossword Puzzle.....B6  
Home.....B6

Jobs.....B7  
Obituaries.....A6  
Opinion.....A14

Services.....B6  
Sports.....B1  
Wheels.....B8

### CONTACT US

• News Advertising (248) 437-2011  
• Classified Advertising (800) 579-7335  
• Delivery (866) 867-7377  
• Mail: 101 N. Lafayette St.  
South Lyon, MI 48178

© Hometown Weekly Newspapers

Volume 27  
Number 33

**Free Checking**  
Now with Mobile Banking

Visit [cfcu.org](http://cfcu.org) today!



right here right for you  
[www.cfcu.org](http://www.cfcu.org)  
(877) 937-2328

PLYMOUTH • CANTON • NORTHVILLE • NOVI

Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Lender. ©2013 Community Financial

Demolition begins on a former factory located at Novi Road and Trans-X Drive. The factory is home of the well-known water tower featuring an image of the legendary Novi Special racer.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**TRANSX**

Continued from page A1

future plans for the Trans X/Novi Road site. However, he does understand that the owner may be working with a developer to explore opportunities for redevelopment and certainly believes the demolition will make the site more attractive in terms of marketing.

"We are talking to companies and promoting," said Brateman. "but the 3.5-acre site is still available."

Brateman said the TransX site is an ideal property for rezoning to the Town Center because it's located on the arbitrary border of Industrial or Town Center.

"The Town Center zoning would, in my opinion, be more compatible with the neighborhood," he said.

**Expo Center**

These things can take a little bit of time. The old Novi Expo Center was demolished earlier this summer, but the plans for that also remain unclear. Boulard said at this point there is no concrete news on the old Expo site.

He said the city hopes to see that site redeveloped in accordance with the Master Plan, which designates it for Planned Office, Research, Development and Technology. The proximity of this site to the freeway would allow increased height up to 110 feet with appropriate setbacks.

"This designation is intended to encourage and allow development of high tech, multi-use office/laboratory and production uses," Boulard said.

huhman@hometownlife.com  
(248) 437-2011, ext. 255

**SB 1070**

Continued from page A1

exemption for under \$40,000 in assets," Pearson said of the potential impact. "If the rest of the reform goes through, we will lose the majority of the eligible manufacturing personal property (another \$12 to \$18 million in taxable value and the prorated revenue) in 2016."

He added that by shrinking the tax base with removing personal property taxes paid by business, the remaining businesses and all residents will be paying slightly more for required debt service costs to be spread out over that slightly smaller base.

The legislation does allow communities who get 2.35 percent or more of their revenue from PPT to get state reimbursement for up to 80 percent of lost revenue. Cities like Novi that fall under the 2.35-percent threshold would not.

Pearson said Novi receives nearly zero dollars from the Economic Vitality Incentive Program, and received nearly nothing from the previous statutory revenue sharing. "This would be less money

for the city to grow and provide our essential services of public safety, roads, library and parks and recreation," he said.

**Pros and cons**

The debate between the political parties on the PPT has legislators staking out two general camps. Republicans claim the PPT punishes business investment and therefore makes the state less competitive, so it deserves removal as an additional tax break for business, like the removal of the Single Business Tax. Democrats rely on the argument that if the tax is phased out, municipalities and K-12 schools will see lost revenue that would not fully be replaced and lead to more spending cuts at the local level.

"We don't want to harm anyone, and we're not minimizing the challenge this would present to schools and municipalities," said state Rep. Hugh Crawford, R-Novi. "No matter what I believe, the entire state will benefit, either directly or indirectly, from this."

Pearson said they have written and shared with Crawford and state Sen. Mike

Kowall, R-White Lake, concerns about the negative impact on the city's revenue by removing the PPT from the tax base.

For Novi, the stance is similar to the Michigan Municipal League's opinion: Reform is needed, but not at the expense of local governments already seeing revenue reductions. Crawford supports the change and views it as another way to make Michigan more attractive for new and current businesses. He believes the PPT's phasing out, like right-to-work, will be good for the state as the years go on.

The approved bill could replace \$500 million of \$593 million in reduced taxes in part by devoting a portion of the state's 6-percent use tax, currently devoted to the state's general fund, to a special authority that would send the revenues along to communities.

A statewide vote on this will happen in 2014, upon which all the rest of the personal property tax reform is contingent.

huhman@hometownlife.com  
(248) 437-2011, ext. 255

**PAVILLION PARK**

Continued from page A1

torical icons for use at the park's entryway.

The first concept consists of a 30-foot lattice-type structure inspired by the steel trellis structures of the amusement park. One of the concerns with the design was that it might dominate the landscape and give the modern implication of a smaller version of a communication or cell phone tower. The estimated cost of this option is \$19,000, which is included in Phase 1 of the Conceptual Phasing Estimate Site Improvement.

The second concept put a stronger emphasis on the content of the historical marker, while utilizing subtle design elements which relate to the site history (such as

keeping the trellis design on a smaller scale). This concept shifts the marker to the north side of the walkway so park users can look over the property as they read about it and its former uses.

This marker would be divided into four primary content areas: the Native Americans, the Pavilion, the Waterfront and the Amusement Park. Each area would be represented with interpretive panels that would have pictures and text related to each area.

Council was in general agreement that option two is best because it's more subtle and suitable for a property of that size. The Historic Commission had a similar opinion.

"Less is better," Mayor Bob Gatt said, reiterating other council members. They all agreed more discussion is needed. Mayor Pro Tem David

Staut said it was his desire to see the city seek out help from the true pioneers of the community and get their input before anything is done.

**Park project**

The initial development of Pavilion Park is planned to include a stone waterfront and pier on the lake, biking and walking paths intersecting the park, interpretive gardens and landscaping, a picnic lawn and a parking area. The project is largely funded by a 2010 Michigan National Resources Trust Fund Grant for \$437,500. According to city officials, a funding match of 30 percent, or \$187,500, was required from Novi, while \$50,000 of the match was funded by the Novi Parks Foundation.

huhman@hometownlife.com  
(248) 437-2011, ext. 255

**Vets teach trick of caring for pets during winter months**

By Diane Gale Andreassi  
Staff Writer

If only our pets could talk and tell us if they're hungry, thirsty or too cold, especially during these winter months.

Area veterinarians have become their voice by sharing advice about how to care for animals when the temperatures plummet and the winds are bitter.

"Make sure your pets have a warm, insulated pet house or shelter," explained Jennifer Groehn at Highland Veterinary Hospital. "It is important for the house to be elevated off the ground so that moisture will not accumulate inside and possibly freeze."

Those shelters should have a door on the outside, like a flap made of material similar to canvas, to keep those harsh winter winds from harming your pets inside the shelter.

"If the wind chill or other weather conditions become severe, bring your pets inside," Groehn added. "Vaccinations need to be kept up to date, especially this time of year, too, she said."

"The increased stress of cold weather lowers their resistance to disease," said Groehn, who reminds pet owners to give their pets heart worm preventative year round to ensure all immature heart worms are killed when they reach the stage of susceptibility to the medication. A parasite routine test should be done every six months. "These parasites drain your pet's blood, protein and energy, depleting them of nutrients and calories, according to the Highland-based veteri-



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dr. Jennifer Groehn at Highland Veterinary Hospital, pictured here holding Misty, said pet owners need to make sure their furry companions have warm, dry shelters if they stay outside. Holiday plants like poinsettias, fireplaces and even your car can be dangerous to pets, if you aren't careful, she said.

Keep in mind that cold temperatures and indoor heating can also cause dry skin and lead to dandruff. Brush your pet's coat regularly.

Sometimes pet clothes seem silly, but experts say go ahead and put that sweater on if your pet will acquiesce. It will help a little, but you can't depend on it entirely for warmth. Pets lose most of their body heat from their paw pads, ears and respiratory tracts. The best way to guard your animals against the cold is keep-

ing a close eye on them to make sure they're comfortable. Frostbite is as dangerous to animals as it is to their owners, and the fur coat Fido has doesn't offer as much protection as you may think. Wind and cold exposure should be the two biggest concerns for all pet owners. Frostbite causes damage to the skin and tissues due to exposure to extreme cold. Always remember to remove snow and ice from your pet's paws and coat as soon as you notice them, said Groehn. Frostbitten skin may turn red, white or gray, and it may

be scaly or sloughing. If you suspect frostbite, take your pet to a warm place immediately. Thaw out your pet's frostbitten areas slowly by applying warm, moist towels that are changed frequently. Continue this cycle of warm towel compresses until the areas become flushed, and contact your veterinarian as soon as possible.

**Keep routines**

"Remember, being gone for extended periods of time or having guests over for the holidays can upset your pet's routine and promote anxiety-based issues," said Heather Ferguson, a veterinarian and partner at Lyon Veterinary Clinic on Pontiac Trail in South Lyon. "If you have concerns about

this, contact your veterinarian."

Ferguson also pointed out that holiday food and plants can be toxic to your pets. The biggest concerns come from poinsettia, holly, mistletoe and lilies. Ferguson recommends refraining from giving your pet too much of your food, which can significantly increase the risk for intestinal upset or other problems. Dogs and cats don't understand, "If I do this I will pay later," Ferguson said. "They only know, 'But, I want, or I like.'"

Keeping warm requires pets to get extra calories from food, especially if they are normally outside pets. For dogs, you should be able to feel a layer of fat, yet still be able to

feel their ribs and backbone, said Ferguson. When the temperatures drop, consult your veterinarian for advice on increasing your pet's diet.

Make sure your pets are well hydrated during the winter, too, Groehn said. If your pet is kept outdoors, be sure to check the water frequently since it may freeze. Porcelain bowls are best for outdoor pets; this will prevent their tongues from sticking to the bowl.

**Outside dangers**

Remember to keep your pet away from snow removal salt and antifreeze. De-icing salts can be toxic. Keep these products stored

Please see PETS, A4

**NOVI NEWS**  
Published Thursday by the Hometown Weeklies  
866.887.2737 www.hometownlife.com  
Publication Number USPS 398920  
Periodical Postage Paid at South Lyon, MI 48178

**HOW TO REACH US**  
Community Office:  
101 N. Lafayette  
South Lyon, MI 48178  
248.437.2011  
Mon - Fri 9:00 - 5:00 pm  
Editor:  
Cai Stone  
248.437.2011 Ext. 237  
Email: cstone@hometownlife.com

**To Advertise:**  
Classified Advertising & Directories: 800.875.7263  
Legal Advertising: 586.828.7082  
Fax: 248.437.2011  
Email: news@hometownlife.com  
Print and Digital Advertising:  
Britan Cutler  
248.850.6440  
Email: bcutler@hometownlife.com

**Home Delivery:**  
Custom Service: 866.887.2737  
Mon - Fri 8:30 - 5:00 pm  
after hours by voicemail  
Email: custom@hometownlife.com

A GANNETT COMPANY

**NOVI NEWS**  
Published Thursday by the Hometown Weeklies  
866.887.2737 www.hometownlife.com  
Publication Number USPS 398920  
Periodical Postage Paid at South Lyon, MI 48178

**Subscription Rates:**  
Newsstand price: \$1.00 Thursday  
Thursday Mail delivery  
\$4.00 in county mail per year  
\$6.00 out county in state per year  
\$7.00 out of state per year

**Advertising Policy:**  
All advertising published in this newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department. We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our ad-takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an ad constitutes acceptance of the advertiser's order.

**Postmaster:**  
Send address changes to:  
Hometown Weeklies  
41304 Concept Drive  
Plymouth, MI 48170

A GANNETT COMPANY

**The All New Don Massey Cadillac**  
In Plymouth  
Come see our brand new state-of-the-art repair facility at  
40475 Ann Arbor Road  
Plymouth, MI

**FREE WINTER SAFETY INSPECTION**  
Includes: Battery & Charging System, Check & Fill all Fluid Levels, Brake & Suspension Systems, & Condition of Tires. Call Today for an Appointment.  
Expires 1-31-13.

**20% OFF ANY SERVICE, REPAIR, PARTS, ACCESSORIES & BOUTIQUE ITEMS**  
Up to \$100 in Total Savings.  
Valid at Don Massey Cadillac Plymouth only. Must be presented at time of write up. Not valid with any other offers or in-store specials. Excludes tires. Does not include sales tax, hazardous waste fees or shop supplies. See dealer for details. Expires 1-31-13.

**\$99.00 POT HOLE SPECIAL**  
Includes: Tire Balance & Rotation, & Front End Alignment  
Valid at Don Massey Cadillac Plymouth only. Must be presented at time of write up. Valid on most cars and light duty trucks. See dealer for details. Expires 1-31-13.

**FREE LOANER CARS**  
With any collision center repair.  
We service all makes and models. We are a direct repair facility for many major insurance companies. Full warranty on all repairs.  
Expires 1-31-13.

Hours of operation: Mon., Thurs. 7:30 am - 7:00 pm;  
Tues., Wed., Fri. 7:30 am - 6:00 pm; Sat. 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

**Call Today for an Appointment**  
**(734) 453-7500**  
www.donmasseycadillac.com

**Your Estate, Financial and End of Life Plans Should Work Together**

Join us for a **FREE, informational Luncheon and Seminar** Tuesday, January 8 • 12 noon

Learn how your Estate, Financial and End of Life Planners, working in unison, can create resource synergies and strengthen your asset portfolio.

**Full Buffet Luncheon Will Be Served**

Sponsored by:

- The Hantz Group Financial Services
- Harry J. Will Funeral Home
- Shea, Aiello, Dossie & Petz PLLC
- Dignity Memorial

**Harry J. Will Funeral Homes**  
Integrity, Respect, Service Excellence & Enduring Relationships

In the Harry J. Will Funeral Home Banquet Room  
37000 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48152

Insurance products offered through Hantz Agency, LLC, PLUS Agency, LLC, Hantz Benefit Services, LLC, Hantz Benefit Agency, Inc. and Hantz Commercial Insurance Agency, LLC. Insurance products offered through Hantz Financial Services, Inc. Investments are subject to risks, may lose value, are not guaranteed by any bank, or bank affiliate, and are not FDIC insured.

\*Member FPA/SIPC. Information about SIPC and the SIPC brochure may be obtained by contacting SIPC at (800) 371-8360 or on their website at www.sipc.org.

RSVP Today by calling  
**(734) 591-3700**  
Kevin Bullock, Location Manager

**Dignity**

Shop Local! Buy American!  
**END-OF-YEAR CLOSEOUT**

**Inventory Liquidation**

Coupon  
**\$100 OFF**  
Any Purchase of \$599.00 or more  
With this coupon. Expires January 6, 2013. Prior orders excluded. One coupon per purchase per household. Cannot be combined with any other offers, discounts, or 1/2 off mattress discount.

**Save up to 70% OFF**  
**All Mattresses 1/2 OFF**

**We Will Not Be Undersold!**

**Tenpenny Furniture**  
124 N. Lafayette, South Lyon  
**248-437-1590**  
Store Hours: Daily 10-8 • Sun 12-5  
www.tenpennyfurn.com

**SHOP EARLY FOR BEST SELECTION!**

**NEW LIVINGSTON LOCATION COMING SOON!**

**THE CHALLENGE**  
By Stephanie Gurnea  
11.17.12, Complete Fitness Magazine

**Madonna lost 30 pounds!**  
**Have a Merry Fitness & a Happy New Rear!**

We have program for everyone | Accept No Substitution  
**The Original Challenge**  
UPCOMING PROGRAMS TO SERVE YOU BETTER:  
**The Challenge** - An 8 week program, 3-90 minutes a week, work out  
Open house January 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am  
**The Trimmed Challenge** - An 4 week program  
Open house January 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm

- These programs are physician endorsed
- All programs include unlimited memberships to 59 fitness for the duration of your program
- Monitored cardio vascular workouts to strip the fat
- Weight work to tighten and sculpt your body
- Educational nutritional guidance
- Weekly weigh-ins to keep you on track
- We welcome beginners, intermediate and advanced

**Register to win a free 4 week fitness program!**  
**LivingstonFitnessChallenge.net**

810-923-9703 • www.StephanieGurnea.com  
Morning, Afternoon and Evening classes  
786 Highland Rd. Highland MI 48157  
59 West Sports Complex

PETS

Continued from page A3

In tight containers away from pets. Rock salt is not only detrimental to your pet's health if it is ingested, it can also irritate their paw pads. Always clean your pet's paws after a trip outside. Antifreeze is also dangerous to your pets and it has an appealing smell and sweet taste. Even the slightest amount of ingested antifreeze can be fatal. Clean up any antifreeze spills and dispose of it so it is out of reach for your pets.

As the weather turns cooler, cats seek a comfy warm spot and may curl up near your car engine or underneath the hood. If you have a cat that frequently goes outside, be attentive to their whereabouts and give your horn a quick honk before starting your engine, Groehn said.

The festive decorations and tasty sweets that accompany the holiday season can also be a danger to your pet.

"All of us appreciate a beautifully decorated Christmas or Hanukkah tree, sometimes our furry friends appreciate them a little too much," Groehn said. "To keep your tree beautiful and your pets out of trouble, anchor the top of your tree to a wall using a strong cord or rope. This is especially useful for those of us that have a tree-scaling cat or a large canine companion."

Remember, too, if you light a fire in the fireplace or plug in a space heater to keep your home toasty, your pets will be attracted to the heat, too. Make sure tails and paws don't come in contact with flames, heating coils or hot surfaces. Pets can either



Dr. Heather Ferguson at Lyon Veterinary Clinic checks the pad on Gunny's front paw during a recent check up. Pets, like humans, are susceptible to cold and windy weather.

burn themselves or knock a heat source over and put the entire household in danger. Also, Ferguson recommends being aware of carbon monoxide leakage for you and your pets. Carbon monoxide is odorless and invisible, but it can cause headaches, fatigue and trouble breathing. Pets generally spend more time in the home than owners, so they are more vulnerable to carbon monoxide poisoning than the rest of the family.

Cold weather can be especially harmful to elderly and arthritic pets, leaving their joints stiff and tender, making them more awkward than usual. Pay attention when they are climbing stairs or jumping onto furniture and consider changing their environment to make it easier for them to get around. Make sure they have a thick, soft bed in a warm room for chilly nights. Also, watch stiff and arthritic pets if you walk them outside; a bad slip on the ice could cause a significant injury.

"The common analogy is 'drinking water from a water hose,'" he said

# D.C.-bound

Bentivolio's congressional term starts Jan. 3

By Aileen Wingblad  
Staff Writer

Life has changed in the past couple of months for Kerry Bentivolio.

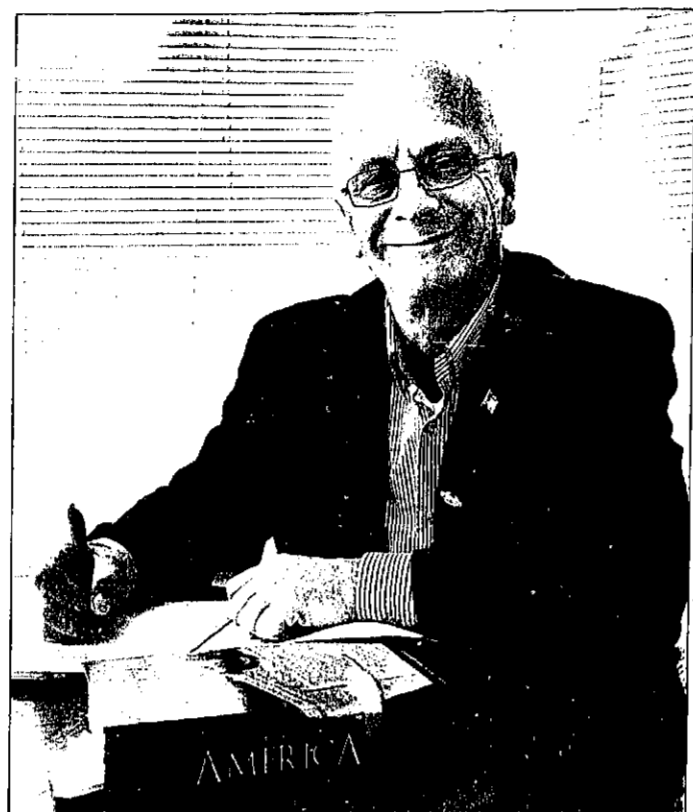
Just a bit. The Tea Party favorite, former school teacher and builder known for raising reindeer, honeybees and chickens at his Milford Township home is seemingly giddy as he talks about face time with Speaker of the House John Boehner and Congressmen Fred Upton and Eric Cantor — fellow Republicans he has met with in recent weeks as he prepares for his own two-year term in the U.S. House of Representatives, beginning Jan. 3.

"It's surreal," Bentivolio said — the same word he used earlier this year as he was thrust into front-runner status for the 11th District, when former Rep. Thad McCotter resigned amid a petition scandal.

A self-described "regular guy," Bentivolio is still getting accustomed to Washington, D.C., of having Capitol Police who he's never met address him by name, of setting up an office in the Cannon Building and a second home in an apartment complex blocks away.

He's dined with Steve Forbes. He's had briefings on budgets and ethics, House rules and floor protocol. And he's thrilled to be named to the Small Business Committee and the Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

"The common analogy is 'drinking water from a water hose,'" he said



Kerry Bentivolio sits at his kitchen table, taking notes as he prepares to start his Congressional career on Jan. 3. He plans to "hit the ground running" once his term starts.

of the whirlwind weeks. "They keep it coming at you, they just keep piling it on."

**Two standing rules** Yet as different as his world has become of late, Bentivolio said his focus is intact.

"I have two standing rules: To be in the district as often as possible based on the congressional calendar, and to give my constituents a real congressman. 'They deserve that,' he said.

For his first "rule," he has leased an office at 770 Welch Road in Commerce Township, near M-5 and Maple Road. The space is set to open in early February. He's also establishing a mobile office to take to various cities and townships in his district.

"We'll park it in Canton for a week or two, move it to Livonia, Troy, Auburn Hills, Birmingham, White Lake, Highland. I'm reaching out to folks about issues and concerns — and it will be bipartisan. If I can help and they are in my district, I'll listen," he said.

Visits to his office in D.C. are welcome, too. "I've instructed my staff that they can interrupt what I'm doing if someone stops in to say 'hi,'" he said.

Bentivolio plans to "hit

the ground running" when Congress reconvenes after the December break. One of his priorities, he said, is "getting to the bottom of Benghazi-gate" — referring to the Sept. 11 terrorist attack in Benghazi, Libya, which killed U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans. There are lingering questions regarding its misrepresentation by U.S. officials for weeks afterward, as well as mistakes the Obama administration may have made in handling the deadly assault, he said.

"I'm not letting this go away. I'm going to bring this to the carpet — I want to know what went on, why they were left in the lurch. And then I'm going to tell the public and let the public deal with it. If someone dropped the ball, we are going to find out," Bentivolio said.

**Open dialogue** Bentivolio also wants to "show people the light" when it comes to the barrage of new taxes that will soon come into effect with the Affordable Health Care Act, commonly called Obamacare. "There are 23 new additional taxes, and people aren't talking about it. I want people to know what's happening," he

said. And he's determined not to lose his enthusiasm — or commitment to his district. "I'm having the time of my life. This is so exciting," Bentivolio said. "But this is all about service and getting the job done. That's what this is all about."

HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Teachers trying to figure out what to make of right-to-work

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

The Northville Education Association isn't happy about the new right-to-work legislation and is concerned about its potential impact in the near future. But NEA president Nick Nugent does say even with this change, the union remains confident about its future.

"We're (NEA) disappointed with the legislation and governor," Nugent said. "There are a lot of misconceptions about this issue."

He said the coming year will be a time for the NEA and Michigan Education Association to figure out what's next.

"We're concerned, but we don't think it's going to affect us too much," Nugent said of the legislation.

In the past month, Gov. Rick Snyder signed two bills pertaining to Right-to-Work. One bill, which was approved by a 58-51 vote in the Republican-

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you think Gov. Rick Snyder made the right decision to sign right-to-work legislation? Please e-mail your opinions to Editor Kurt Kuban at [kkuban@hometownlife.com](mailto:kkuban@hometownlife.com) or post a comment on our website at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com).

House of Representatives, will ban workplace rules that make union membership a condition of employment for government workers. A second bill covers private-sector workers, and this passed by a vote of 58-52.

After the signing Snyder said it was time to move forward on the topic of workplace fairness and equality.

It is set to take effect in March. Michigan is the 24th state to enact such legislation. Workers will have a choice say proponents and pay-

ment of union dues becomes voluntary. But opponents counter by saying the union negotiates on a worker's behalf and those not paying union dues will still benefit from it.

"It's Freedom to freedom," Nugent summed it up. "A person selecting not to participate with the union will receive all of the benefits the union works so hard to bargain for."

The NEA is probably Northville's largest union with 430 members. It has had some challenges lately, including teacher layoffs in the past year as well as seeing custodians and transportation contracted out to private companies. Its collective bargaining agreement with Northville Public Schools is set to expire in August 2013.

Nugent said he's confident that going forward the NEA will retain most of its members, at least 98 percent. He added there have been misun-

derstandings in the past about the union, such as being required to join, but that wasn't the case. Bringing more aware-

ness to the NEA and its role will be important. Meanwhile for the NEA, Nugent said, "Now we have to take time to

figure out where to go from here."

[huhman@hometownlife.com](mailto:huhman@hometownlife.com)  
(248) 437-2011, ext. 255

## I CAN MAKE ANYONE LOSE WEIGHT!

That may sound like a bold statement, but that's how confident I am in our weight loss program. Not only can I make you lose weight, I can show you how to keep it off forever! In 22 years of practice I have found that helping people lose weight and keep it off is the one single thing that has the potential to create the most numerous changes in overall health problems.

If you are like most people, you have probably lost weight in the past only to gain it back and then some. *The old yo-yo dieting syndrome.* There is a reason for that and I'll show you what it is. There is no gimmick or quick fix that will ever make you lose weight permanently. This is the REAL THING!

I know there is a good chance you are dealing with Type II Diabetes, High Blood Pressure, High Cholesterol, Hypothyroidism, joint pain and possibly a number of other health conditions. Come spend one hour with me and I'll show you how you may be able to completely rid yourself of Type II Diabetes, and possibly throw away your blood pressure and cholesterol drugs forever. Whether you want to lose that last 10 pounds or you NEED to lose 100 lbs. or more, I can show you how to do it.

## IF YOU ARE SERIOUS ABOUT LOSING WEIGHT THIS YEAR, DO NOT MISS THIS FREE ONE-HOUR SEMINAR!!!



Greg Kramer, D.C., D.A.A.M.L.P.  
Diplomat American Academy of Medical Legal Professionals.  
Studied under nation's leading Chiropractic Neurologist.

- Listen to what just a few of my patients have to say:
- Lost 22 inches in 6 weeks.
  - Lost 55 pounds in 12 weeks.
  - "I have never been a size 4 but now I am a size 2."
  - "I never knew eating healthy tasted this good or I would have done it years ago"
  - "I have more energy and feel great"
  - Husband and wife team together lost 200 pounds.

Saturday, Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> at 11 am

Livonia Charles Towne Office Center  
34441 Eight Mile Rd. • Suite 116

248-615-1533

SEATING IS LIMITED, SO CALL TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY!!

P.S. This will be my biggest weight loss seminar of the year and will book up fast. Don't be left out. Call now to reserve your spot.  
[www.LivoniaSpineAndHealth.com](http://www.LivoniaSpineAndHealth.com)

## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



## Bulbuk

Chaz and Johanna Bulbuk (Novi High School 2004 and 2003 graduates, respectively) announce the birth of their daughter, Brooke Bulbuk, born at 8:02 a.m. Dec. 9, 2012. She joins big brother Charlie, 15 months. Grandparents are Brad and Pam Dase, of Northville, and Mike and Karen Bulbuk, of Novi. Great-grandparents are Donna Saunders, of Wixom; Vikki Melton, of Hartland; John Bulbuk, of Athol, Mass.; Kenneth Lloyd of Plymouth; and Ann Loveland and Ralph Pedersen of Bloomfield Hills.

Check us out on the Web every day at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)



## Your Nesting Place

HOME FURNISHINGS

332 N. Main, Milford • 248.685.7314

[www.yournestingplace.com](http://www.yournestingplace.com)

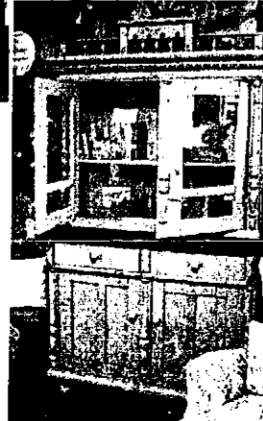
Open Mon. 10-6; Tue., Wed., Sat. 10-6; Thur. & Fri. 10-7

# 30% OFF

FULL PRICED MERCHANDISE\*  
60% OFF SELECTED FLOOR SAMPLES



VINTAGE TREASURES  
FURNITURE  
ACCESSORIES  
UNIQUE ONE OF A KIND FINDS  
ART • LAMPS  
VOTIVO CANDLES  
FLEXSTEEL  
AND SO MUCH MORE!



\*Excludes previous sales and prior purchases. Cannot be combined with any other offers. While supplies last. Expires January 31, 2013.

Check us out on the Web every day at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)



Detroit Country Day School provides its students with a well-rounded liberal arts education that is nationally recognized for a tradition of excellence in academics, athletics and the arts.

Lower School Pre-K - 2nd grade  
Junior School 3rd - 5th grade  
Middle School 6th - 8th grade  
Upper School 9th - 12th grade

DETROIT COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL  
[www.dcds.edu](http://www.dcds.edu) • 248.616.7717

Visit our Open House on Sunday, January 13 • 1-3 p.m.

## OUR MEDICAL COMMUNITY serving Novi & Northville



Optometry

Family Practice

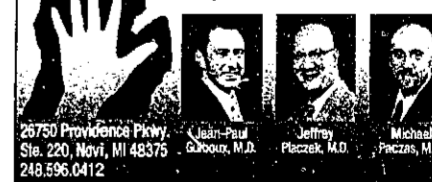
TOWN & COUNTRY EYECARE  
Focusing on Your Family's Total Eye Health  
High-tech eye exams • unique eye wear • specialty contact lenses  
248-347-7800  
[www.tceyecare.com](http://www.tceyecare.com) • Novi Road at Nine Mile Road

Doctors That Care... Are Closer Than You Think.  
40015 Grand River Ave., Suite 100  
Novi, Michigan 48275  
Call for an appointment: (248) 473-8560  
[www.bratnammedical.com](http://www.bratnammedical.com)

## Hand and Wrist

### Michigan Hand & Wrist, P.C.

Exceptional care for the shoulder, elbow, wrist & hand



Physical Therapy

Are you unable to drive? No problem... we'll pick you up  
northville physical rehabilitation  
215 E. Main • 300 E. Lady  
Downtown Northville  
248.349.9339  
[www.northvillephysicalrehab.com](http://www.northvillephysicalrehab.com)

If you would like to be included in this directory, contact Brian at 248-850-6440 or [bcullins@hometownlife.com](mailto:bcullins@hometownlife.com)



# Taking the plunge



PHOTOS BY HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Oakland County Sheriff's Office diving instructor J.P. Reynolds helps float Eric Hix, playing the part of the victim, while Dave Bach (left) works trains in giving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation as part of a recent training session at Milford High School.

## Training is important for OCSO dive team

By Aileen Wingblad  
Staff Writer

Oakland County is known for its hundreds of lakes and the recreational opportunities they offer, but pleasure can quickly turn to peril — or worse — because of an accident, foolish mistake or poor decision.

It's a reality that Frank Schippani knows well.

For the past 30-plus years, Schippani has been ready 24-7 to help on waterways in Oakland County and the rest of the metro-Detroit area as part of the dive team for the Oakland County Sheriff's Office.

Every month for each of those 30 years, Schippani has spent one day with other crew members training in lakes and, occasionally, indoor swimming pools so they are prepared and ready for those emergency calls.

Once a year, the training is bumped up several notches to include an underwater obstacle course — which each diver must negotiate blind-folded — as well as a required 20-lap swim and 15-minutes of treading water.

To remain on the team, success is a must.

"This isn't for everybody, some do drop out after a year or two," said Schippani, a retired OCSO deputy and former sergeant who has been the dive team's instructor for the past several years. The dives can take an emotional toll, he explained, estimating that the crew deals with more than a dozen drownings in an average year.

And then, of course, is the time commitment to keep skills up-to-date and getting accustomed to new equipment made available from advances in technology. This currently includes a remote operated vehicle fitted with sonar and cameras, rapid-response, rigid inflatable boats for swift water rescue, and a hovercraft for rescue on thin ice. Also, divers have \$4,000-plus in personally-assigned gear that they are responsible to maintain and always have with them.

Last week, for the first time ever, the dive team took its special annual training indoors to Milford High School. The underwater obstacle course was set up in the far end of one of the pools in some 13 feet of water, and a robotic camera provided video feed to two OCSO marine deputies, on hand to monitor the training.

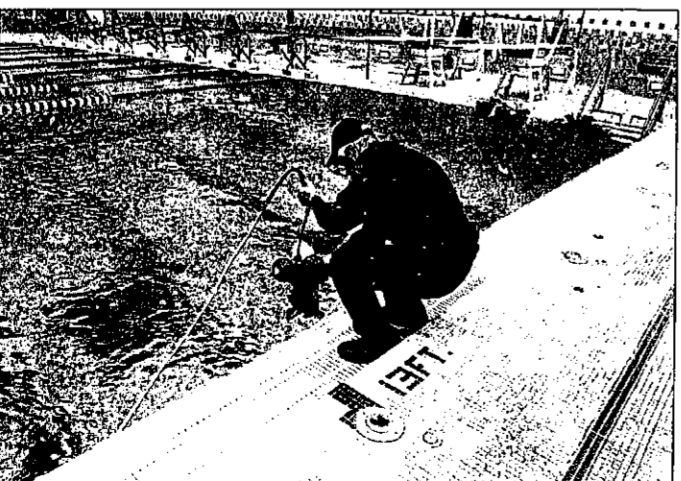
As explained by OCSO Sgt. Matt Snyder — dive team commander and team member since 2001 — the obstacle course calls for divers wearing their gear and black covers on their goggles, submerging themselves in the water and purposely get entangled in a net, then removing their equipment and making their way through a cylinder cut from a 50-gallon tank.

Winter training other months brings the team out to frozen lakes in the county, he said, allowing for experience in some of the most challenging conditions.

"You want to simulate the situation, create the anxiety for them to deal with, and that's how you build confidence," Snyder said.



Marine Deputy Pat Miles with the Oakland County Sheriff's Office watches a monitor showing underwater views during dive team training.



Deputy Dave Luke puts the remote operating vehicle into the pool during training.

### More recovery than rescue

Though the team is trained in rescue and recovery, the work is typically more recovery than rescue, according to Doug Stewart, a 14-year dive team veteran and the team's newest instructor.

The dive team is on a scene within 5-10 minutes of being notified, he said, yet all-too-often people don't realize right away that someone in their party may be in danger of drowning or has gone missing below the water's sur-

face. By the time they seek emergency assistance, precious minutes have passed.

During Stewart's tenure, just two victims have been pulled from the water alive. One died soon afterwards.

Still, the dive team leads to every call with the idea that the victim will be rescued, he said. But even when recovery is the end result, there's a sense of satisfaction among the crew of knowing they helped the victim's loved ones find closure, he said.

"The goal is to rescue that person. What we all strive for is to save them. If they can't be saved, at least we are bringing the body to the family. And we always get the hugs, the thank yous — because they know we did everything we could possibly do. And that is rewarding to us," he explained.

### 'A good team'

Water rescue and recovery calls for a variety of diving techniques, such as line or spiraling search patterns, depending on the water's depth. Other times, searching divers pair up on either side of a tow bar behind a boat.

Working in unfamiliar territory, and often a murky, cold environment, demands that the crew keeps up with training — and that they can rely on fellow team members.

"Under water, there are no ranks — deputy, sergeant, lieutenant. We're all on the same level and all have to count on each other," Stewart said.

Of course, being a dive team member isn't without risks. Stewart said a ruptured ear drum is the most common consequence for divers, yet he recalls a couple years ago when he and another team member were searching for a missing scuba diver in 120 feet of water, stayed down longer than they should have and then surfaced too quickly. They both ended up in Beaumont Hospital overnight with "the bends" — decompression sickness that has the potential to cause paralysis or death.

Still, dive rescue and recovery is a duty he relishes. "We do get a sense of accomplishment, even when (there is a drowning) and we recover the body," he said. "That's so important to (the victim's family), and we're able to do that for them."

Early next year, a 12th diver is expected to be added to the county's crew, bringing it to full capacity. Snyder explained that OCSO staffers who express interest in being part of the team have to wait for an opening, then are interviewed and subjected to dive and swim testing, physical examination and more before being accepted. On average, a team member stays with the program 10-15 years.

Schippani, eyeing retirement from the team, holds every member of the crew in high regard. "It's a good team," he said. "The guys are dedicated, good divers. They do a really good job."

Snyder agreed. "We have a good core of people," he said. "They are a great bunch of guys."

awingblad@hometownlife.com | (248) 665-1507, ext. 261

## Help tally seasonal birds Saturday at Kensington

By Philip Allmen  
Staff Writer

Looking for a different way to spend some of your Saturday while enjoying the winter weather?

Head over to Kensington Metropark's nature center and help out with its annual New Year's bird count, where volunteers will spread out to the far reaches of the metropark in Milford to see what birds are hanging out in the area.

"We do several bird counts a year," said Mike Broughton, an interpreter at the nature center. "We get an idea of what birds are around. Some birds migrate. Some are here year-round."

Depending on the species, some birds can be found in metro Detroit throughout the year, like chickadees, blue jays and cardinals. Others venture south as the temperatures drop. Yet others, like the snowy owl or junco, make southern Michigan their home during the winter. "This is their wintering ground," Broughton said. Snowy owls haven't been seen in recent years during the winter bird counts at Kensington, but their have been some reports in the area, he added.

The bird count is a free, family-friendly event, although Broughton said it's probably not suitable for young children, because groups will be walking around the park along trails and through the snow.

There will be experienced birders with the groups who can help volunteers identify the different bird species.

"If you're new to birding, this is a really good way to go, because there's someone who knows what



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kate Mann of Livonia uses some sunflower seeds to get a songbird to land in her hand during a recent visit to Kensington Metropark. The park's nature center will hold its annual New Year's bird count this Saturday.

they're doing," Broughton said.

Since the counts take place outside, people should dress for the weather, and binoculars will definitely help in the endeavor.

The variety of bird species found is an indicator to the health of the local habitat. Park staff hope to find a wide variety of winter birds in this weekend's count.

"It's fun. For some people it's kind of like a contest," Broughton said.

The bird count starts at 8 a.m. at the park's nature center. Broughton said some volunteers spend the entire day searching

p.allmen@hometownlife.com  
(248) 437-2011, Ext. 226

## NOVI COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Local Events

#### BLOOD DRIVES

**Time/Date:** 7:30 a.m. to 7:15 p.m. Jan. 7

**Location:** Providence Park Hospital, 47601 Grand River Avenue, Novi

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m. to 7:45 p.m. Jan. 13

**Location:** St. James Church, 46325 Ten Mile, Novi

**Time/Date:** 2:30-8:15 p.m. Jan. 14

**Location:** Meads Mill Middle School, 15700 Franklin Road, Northville

**Details:** The Red Cross Nationally needs 17,000 blood donations each day for patients in need. This holiday season, the Red Cross encourages people to give someone hope by donating blood. It's a gift that doesn't cost a thing but can offer patients another holiday season with family and friends. Blood

donations typically drop during the winter months. Every day, patients count on generous volunteer blood donors to give the gift of life. All who come will be entered into a monthly raffle for a \$500 Visa Gift card.

**Contact:** Please go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter your zip code to find the drives below or call Diane Risko at (313) 549-7052 to set up an appointment.

#### STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS & LUNCHEON

**Time/Date:** 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 17

**Location:** Baronette Renaissance

**Details:** The City of Novi, in partnership with the Novi Chamber of Commerce, invites you to join Mayor Bob Gatt and City Council members for the State of the City Address and Luncheon. Cost is \$30

per person. Reservations be made by sending a check made payable to: City of Novi, attention Sue Fodor, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375; or online at <http://www.novichamber.com/>. Seating is limited to the first 230 attendees. **Contact:** (248) 349-3743

#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT - BREAKFAST AND HEALTH DISCUSSION

**Time/Date:** 8:30-9:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 17

**Location:** Novi Senior Center, 25075 Meadowbrook Road

**Details:** Join for breakfast and January's discussion, "Busting the Myths of Hearing Loss," presented by David Witzgird of Hear Clear. Cost is \$3 for residents; \$4 for non-residents; pre-registration is required. **Contact:** (248) 347-0414 or visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) for more information.

**ST. MARY MERCY LIVONIA**  
SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

**The Center for Joint Replacement**

## Re-Discover Freedom

Learn more at our **FREE Education Seminar**  
6 to 8 p.m.  
St. Mary Mercy Livonia  
Wednesday, January 23, Classroom 10  
To register call 734-655-2345  
[stmmarymercy.org](http://stmmarymercy.org)

Are you living in pain?  
Now is the time to **Rediscover your mobility.**

The Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Hospital has a comprehensive team approach which results in shorter hospital stays, better pain management and faster recovery.

**MOVE IN BY FEBRUARY 1, 2013, AND WE'LL PAY UP TO \$1,000 TOWARD YOUR MOVING COSTS!**

## Enjoy a Worry Free Winter at Waltonwood

Gone are the days when cold weather would keep you from getting out to visit friends or to the store. No more worries about snow removal or slipping on the way to the mailbox.

Waltonwood offers carefree senior living with endless opportunities outside your door. With friendly neighbors, convenient amenities, personal staff and caregivers on-site, you're free to choose how you spend the day.

Spacious apartments • Housekeeping & maintenance • Delicious, home-cooked meals • Activities and scheduled transportation  
Pet friendly community • Personalized care services available

**Serving seniors and their families in three local Waltonwood communities. Call and schedule your personal tour today.**

**WALTONWOOD**  
Redefining Retirement Living®

**CARRIAGE PARK** • Independent Living and Licensed Assisted Living  
2000 N Canton Center Road, Canton • (734) 386-0817

**CHERRY HILL** • Independent Living, Licensed Assisted Living and Memory Care  
42600 Cherry Hill, Canton • (734) 386-0798

**TWELVE OAKS** • Independent Living, Licensed Assisted Living and Memory Care  
27475 Huron Circle, Novi • (248) 468-4964

\*Independent Living only. See community for complete details.

[www.Waltonwood.com](http://www.Waltonwood.com)

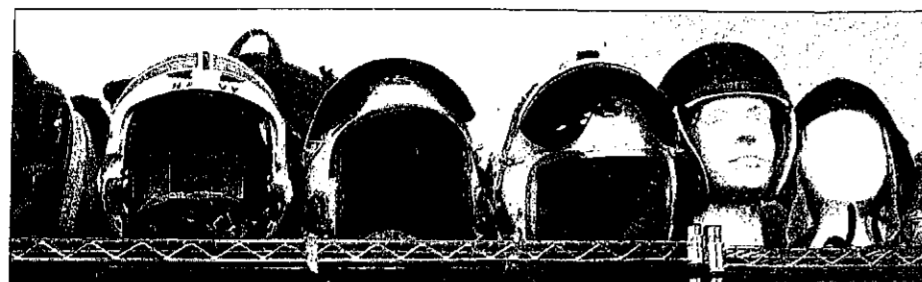
# Unique clothing drive

## Air museum seeks uniforms from Iraq, Afghan veterans

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

You might think Scott Gerych is a greedy man. With a collection 500-400 vintage military uniforms, the Grass Lake resident wants more. He's looking for uniforms and personal effects from veterans of recent U.S. military actions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

But he doesn't want the military clothing for himself. He's looking to add to the collection at the Yankee Air Museum where he has been working with his father, Merv Wygant of Plymouth,



Flight helmets sit on a shelf in the collections room.

PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CAMIRELLI (STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

since February to organize and catalog donations. "There's a huge need to have them in the collection," said Gerych. "This

isn't just an air museum, it's about global warfare from the time of aviation." The museum lost its entire collection of arti-

facts in a fire in 2004 and has been slowly rebuilding. Up until a few months ago, donations had been stored in boxes in the collections room of

the museum located in a hangar at the east end of Willow Run Airport.

### More room

By moving the museum library to a nearby schoolhouse, the department has been able to expand and "almost all" of the boxes have been opened. The uniforms now hang on racks by the year they were received, starting with 2004.

"Hopefully, we'll be able to sort them further to identify even more," Gerych said. "The collection goes from World War I to current, but we want more World War I stuff to go with the Spad, which is almost done, and we need jungle fatigues from Vietnam. We have a lot of uniforms and some enemy uniforms, but we'd like the personal stuff, anything that will give the story that goes with the uniform."

The Spad is a French SPAD XII World War I fighter that a group of volunteers have been building from scratch using the original blueprints. The plane will look as it did as part of 103d Aero Squadron in 1918,

complete with the Hat in the Ring emblem. Gerych sounds like a walking encyclopedia when talking about the uniforms. His interest in collecting began when he was 9 years old. His grandfather, a World War II veteran, took him to gun shows and would "buy me stuff to keep me quiet."

A veteran himself, Gerych was studying for his master's degree in history and was required to do community service during one semester. His father-in-law wanted to volunteer at the museum and one thing led to another.

Gerych was working on airplanes, but that was in flux, so he went into collections. It's been "very interesting" and he's learned a lot, he said. Now the two men are working on making the museum's catalog system better.

"When we find something in the collection, we search to see if a number exists for it, sometimes we find it was brought in and not cataloged," said Wygant who was working on a pair of Vietnam jungle boots. "They're not in the system, so I have to track them back."

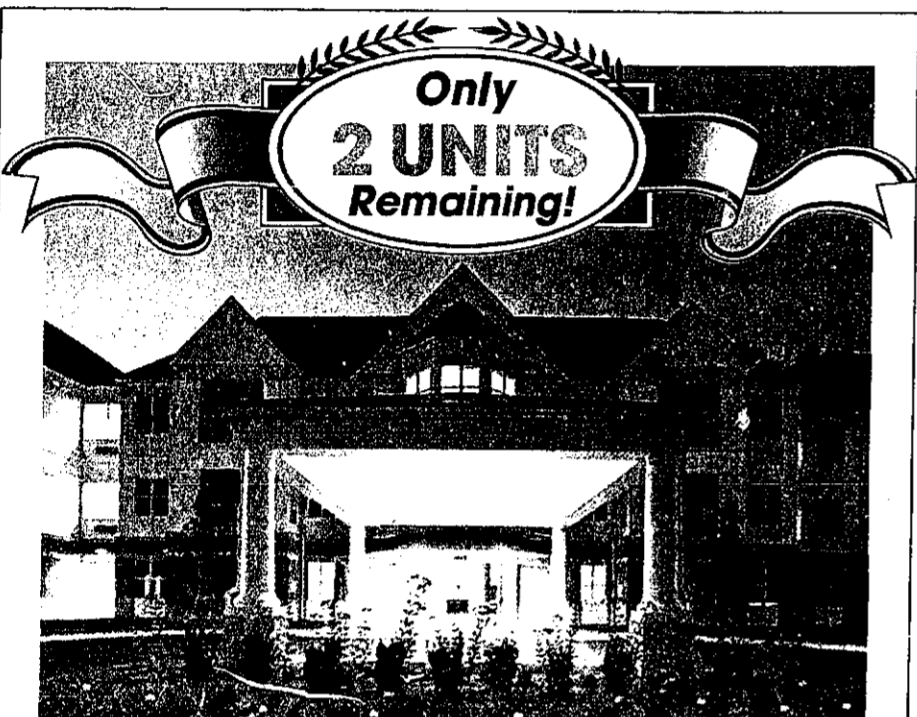
### Painted jacket

In addition to uniforms, the collection includes such things as a hard-to-get painted bomber jacket belonging to J.D. Asmussen who was credited with seven kills as a member of the crew of the Yankee Queen.

Please see UNIFORMS, A11



The museum is getting new mannequins that will better fit the uniforms of soldiers and aviators who were much smaller than today's soldiers.



Come Share The New Year With Your New Marycrest Heights Family

Marycrest Heights is a newly constructed retirement community, with a commitment to quality construction, safety, and maintaining a faith-based community atmosphere. With Marycrest skilled nursing and rehabilitation services in your backyard, heated underground parking, and a range of community events and activities, Marycrest Heights provides independence, safety, and convenience.

Let us take care of the maintenance while you enjoy the greatest years of your life in our faith-based retirement community.

**Marycrest HEIGHTS**

A Vacation Resort You Never Have to Leave!

(734) 838-6240

Marycrest Heights  
15495 Middlebelt  
Livonia, MI

MarycrestHeights.org

- Community Amenities:
- Chapel
  - Beauty Salon/Barber Shop
  - Resident Activities
  - Media Room
  - Lounge
  - Fitness Center
  - Heated Underground Parking
  - Community Garden
  - Walking Paths
  - Emergency Call System

**NORTHVILLE LUMBER CO.**  
SINCE 1845 • 248-349-0220  
Andersen  
"LIKE A LUMBERYARD SHOULD BE"

**FRESCO PIZZA**  
Friday's Gourmet Pizza of the Week  
Fresco Verde Chicken Pizza  
Homemade Basil Pesto Chicken with our own Fresco Cheese Blend  
\$2.00 OFF  
145 S. Milford Road, Milford  
248-714-5916  
Mon, Tue, Wed, Thur: 11AM-9PM  
Fri, Sat: 11AM-11PM • Sun: 12PM-8PM  
Leave The Porch Light On For Faster Delivery!

# Personal info helps tell story



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CAMIRELLI (STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)  
Merv Wygant (above) is working on identifying a pair of combat boots that were donated to the Yankee Air Museum. Flight helmets (top) sit on a shelf in the collections room.

Knowing more about the clothing and artifacts donated is important to the Yankee Air Museum which is participating in the Veterans Oral History Project.

The information provides a story of the uniform beyond what can be determined by looking at the patches which can tell the last name of the person who wore it, what unit the person was in, where he or she served and in what branch of the military.

A case in point: the uniform and artifacts of a World War I aviator Henry Rex Waddell which is on display in the museum near where volunteers are building a French SPAD.

A native of Port Lambton, Ontario, Waddell was enrolled in the University of Michigan School of Engineering when he left in 1915 to join the Canadian Regiment and become a Royal Flying Corps pilot and flight instructor in England. He also piloted a Handley Page bomber and patrolled the North Sea before being reassigned to France just before the Armistice began on Nov. 11, 1918.

After being discharged from the service, he worked for a nickel mining company in Ontario.



The donation from Henry Rex Waddell included his World War I uniform, leather and wool aviator caps and goggles.

before taking a job at Henry Ford's Dearborn Publishing. He was transferred by Henry Ford to his office in 1924 and the next year was introduced by Ford to his future wife, Etha Peabody. The couple was married in 1926.

Waddell went on to serve as the personal secretary of the Fords and later joined Ford Archives where he worked until he retired in 1979.

The museum also has uniforms and personal artifacts donated by Marie Mountain Clark, who was a Women's Air Force Service pilot during World War II, and her husband, John Alden

Clark, who served in the 8th Air Force 100th Bomb Group and flew 32 missions over Germany. While those are some of the "stars" of the collection, the museum also is looking for donations from others.

Veterans and their families who would like to make donations can bring items to contact Pete Stowe who is at the museum Tuesday through Thursday. Call (734) 483-4030, Ext. 255, to schedule an appointment.

The Yankee Air Museum is at 47884 D St., west of Beck Road, in Van Buren Township. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

## UNIFORMS

Continued from page A10

The collection also includes World War I aviator uniform Henry Rex Waddell, who was a personal secretary for the Ford family, Marie Mountain Clark who was a Women's Air Force Service Pilot during World War II, and her husband, John Alden Clark, a B-17 pilot.

Waddell's uniform is in a display case near where the World War I fighter is being built.

The museum also has several North Vietnam-

ese Army and Viet Cong uniforms. And in boxes in the collections room are items such as Nazi banners. While some people don't think the flags should be shown, it was the flag and flew in Germany in the 1930s through 1945, Gerych said.

"One thing my father-in-law says is that if it wasn't for Germany and Japan, we wouldn't have had a bomber plant in Detroit," said Gerych. "They started the war and we responded."

White Gerych would like younger veterans of recent wars to consider making donations,

he can pass them down to their kids. He recommends that they take care of their items. The collections room has the distinct aroma of moth balls and some of the wool uniforms are moth eaten.

People can call and make an appointment to drop off items, and museum volunteers will go out and pick up donations.

"We're not just looking for uniforms, we really need the average soldier stuff — uniforms and personal effects," Gerych said.

smason@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-6751

**OUR MEDICAL COMMUNITY** serving South Lyon & Lyon Township

**Physical Therapy**  
BROSTROM PHYSICAL THERAPY  
McKenzie Certified Therapist  
New Providing New & Effective Treatment for Parkinson's - LSVT BIG

**Senior Care/Rehab**  
248-437-2048  
700 Reynold Sweet Pky  
South Lyon, MI  
Short Term Rehab Skilled Nursing Care  
Restore Recover Rejoice

**Family Medicine**  
South Lyon Family Docs  
Office: (248) 437-5613  
26006 Pontiac Trail South Lyon, MI 48178

**Podiatry**  
SOUTH LYON FOOT & ANKLE SPECIALISTS  
22245 PONTIAC TRAIL  
(248) 486-8886  
Dr. Anthony Mastrogiacomo

**Optometry**  
Let Our Family Welcome Yours!  
BIFANO EYECARE  
Dr. Christopher Bifano Dr. Rhonda Bifano  
317 N. Lafayette • South Lyon • (248) 446-1146

**Cosmetic & Family Dentistry**  
Diagnose M. Pitak  
FREE CONSULTATIONS  
248-437-2008  
www.pitakdentalassociates.com

**Physical Therapy**  
PERSONALIZED HEARING CARE, Inc.  
SOUTH LYON & WESTLAND  
248-437-5505

**Cosmetic & Family Dentistry**  
GDC Gateway Dental Care  
25660 Pontiac Trail at 11 Mile  
248-446-2700

**Physical Therapy**  
Paul Laminio, MPT & Carol Glenn, MPT  
Physical Therapists  
25700 Pontiac Trail, South Lyon  
(248) 446-2801  
mrspt.com

If you would like to be in this directory, contact Amy at 517-375-1118 or anorton@hometownlife.com

# Battered in lame-duck session, state Dems have big 2013 agenda

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

Democrats in the Michigan Legislature will have their work cut out for them in 2013. Between issues they say need to be addressed to improve the state's economy and the well-being of local communities, and the desire to push back on some of the measures the Republican-controlled Legislature hurried through a lame-duck session last month, they have a long to-do list for the coming year.

Many goals several area Democrats have set for themselves highlight philosophical differences that often separate the parties — on taxes and spending, on the economy, on the way public schools should be run. That will likely mean a tough road for Democrats in the state House of Representatives, they will be outnumbered 59-51 despite picking up a net five seats in the November election, while in the Senate, Republi-

cans hold a commanding 26-12 majority.

Still, Democrats say they're ready to fight. "The last two years under Republican leadership have been the years of corporate present-giving," said Rep. Vicki Barnett of Farmington Hills, who is beginning a third term in the 37th District. "We really should've been focused on hard-working men and women and working families."

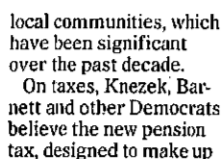
"We can't continue to prioritize big business and CEOs over the people themselves," said Representative-elect David Knezek, whose 11th District includes Garden City and portions of Livonia and Westland. "We're at a very critical time right now where we need to start prioritizing the right way."

### Dollars and cents

Barnett and Knezek were referring to the \$1.8 billion cut in business taxes that came with the 2011-12 state budget and the elimination of the Michigan Business Tax, and to the cuts in aid to



Barnett



Knezek

local communities, which have been significant over the past decade. On taxes, Knezek, Barnett and other Democrats believe the new pension tax, designed to make up revenue lost when the MBT was axed, should be abolished. "With a small budget surplus now, the state can afford to do away with the pension tax," Knezek said. "When we're running a surplus, there's no need to be further burdening" retirees.

The phase-out of the personal property tax, passed during the lame-duck session and signed Dec. 20 by Gov. Rick Snyder, is also of concern to Democrats. The PPT is a tax on business and manufacturing equipment; the new law provides a means for replacement revenue of 80 percent

for most communities, and 100 percent when the money goes toward public safety. The phase-out will not take effect without voter approval in 2014 of the creation of a statewide authority to administer the replacement funds.

Democrats say the PPT replacement should be 100 percent no matter what. "That other 20 percent is key, especially when you're talking about millions and millions of dollars," said Robert Kosowski, a House member-elect from Westland whose 16th District includes the city of Wayne, which has a large manufacturing base and relies heavily on the tax.

"We've got to replace it at 100 percent," said Rep. Ellen Cogen Lipton of Huntington Woods, whose 27th District includes Ferndale and Pleasant Ridge. "I think that's a tweak that has to be made."

Knezek also wants state revenue sharing to local communities, which has been drastically scaled

back, to be increased. Revenue-sharing cuts, he said, have put a squeeze on local budgets, to the point where public safety funding has been hampered.

"I think we take the handcuffs off our cities, go back to a dedicated formula" for statutory revenue sharing, he said.

### Building the economy

Democrats counter the Republican emphasis on reducing the tax burden for businesses to create jobs by saying that good schools, good services and safe communities factor in the equation when businesses consider expansion and relocation, and that people need disposable income to increase demand for the goods and services businesses provide.

"Tax breaks will not create jobs. People with money buying stuff creates jobs," Barnett said. Businesses also need tax stability and predictability, she said. "Michigan's corporate tax rate is one of the lowest in the country," Knezek said. "Why is it that we haven't seen this massive influx of businesses and jobs?"

Michigan's corporate tax climate ranks seventh among the 50 states in the latest index from the Tax Foundation, a non-partisan think tank based in Washington, D.C. The ranking improved dramatically with the tax changes enacted in 2011, the foundation says.

Democrats want to focus on education and improving communities and the business climate, steps they say will retain and attract companies and young professionals.

Lipton, for example, wants a program of incentives for housing energy-efficient retrofits: better windows and doors, insulation, efficient appliances. A small-scale program in Oak Park that involved foreclosed houses, she said, was extremely successful; energy efficiency became a major selling point and the houses were snatched up.

"This generation of 20-somethings, a new generation of buyers, places a higher value on energy efficiency and sustainability," she said. Barnett said she will continue her push to have Michigan recognize benefit corporations, a corporate structure in which a company's mission includes a commitment to a public good as well as to making a profit. She introduced such legislation during her first term and reintroduced it in her second, with a similar bill in the Senate, but movement has stalled.

Without formal recognition, she said, such companies in Michigan could face legal liabilities. Several other states, including Illinois, have jumped on the benefit corporation bandwagon.

"Young entrepreneurs

are looking for this type of corporate structure," she said, and consumers are also looking to support projects that benefit society when they make purchases.

Lipton said good schools are key to the state's economic comeback and that if other lawmakers truly believe that, too, "we've got to push back on these massive cuts." More broadly, Lipton favors what she calls a "longitudinal study" of the costs of education, and a prioritization of what public schools should be doing.

"My gut reaction is that \$6,900 per pupil is too low," she said, referring to the state's minimum per-pupil funding, "but maybe it's too much, I don't know."

Lipton, Knezek and other local Democrats also want to restore limits on charter schools, they say, are siphoning dollars from traditional public schools to companies with a profit motive.

"I believe it's one of the most fundamental things to a democracy, to have public education available to all children," said Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, whose 6th District also includes Garden City, Livonia and Redford Township.

They view cyberschools — computer-based learning programs without the overhead costs of brick-and-mortar schools — similarly. "It's an unproven educational alternative," Anderson said.

"We have no concept of what the success rate is going to be," said Knezek, who did allow, however, that a few students may learn better outside of a traditional classroom and should have a cyber-school option.

Local Democrats are also against broadening the powers of the state's Educational Achievement Authority, a district created to manage poorly performing schools. The issue was discussed

Please see DEMS, A16

# GOP expects to address regulatory reform, higher ed and corrections

By Ken Abramczyk  
Staff Writer

Michigan Republican lawmakers believe their work isn't finished yet. Last week's legislative sessions were tumultuous as lawmakers passed controversial right-to-work laws and took aim at personal property taxes. Lawmakers also passed legislation to create a regional transit authority, a replacement emergency manager bill and prohibit young drivers from talking on cell phones while driving.

"It was a very historic, contentious and profound week in Michigan history," said state Rep. Kurt Heise of Plymouth. House and Senate Republicans expect in 2013 to continue to work with Gov. Rick Snyder to tackle issues and policies they believe are hindering business and job creation.

House Republicans lost five seats in the Nov. 6 general election, down to 59 lawmakers, but they still carry a majority. The GOP has a 26-12 majority in the state Senate.

The Observer contacted several area lawmakers from Oakland and Wayne counties to discuss what they believe will be on the agenda in 2013.

John Walsh  
John Walsh of Livonia, who serves as House speaker pro tem, chaired the House Judiciary Committee and was vice chair of House Tax Policy Committee, believes discussions will continue about the repeal of personal property taxes, regulatory reform and the state's 2014 budget, including how to increase spending for higher education and create incentives for universities that meet academic requirements in a timely manner, as well as begin initial talks about cutting correctional costs.

"We will open up an early agenda to address the regulatory environment; then in February the budget process begins for next year," he said. Walsh wants to examine efficiencies and how to reduce overhead costs at universities. Walsh wonders why administrators have increased while the number of teaching faculty has remained unchanged. "I'd like to take a look at setting aside more dollars in the classroom and whether we can assist in that area," he said.

Walsh wants to look at sentencing guidelines and how to better train inmates to avoid recidivism. He believes criminals should serve their sentences, but added: "We have not been providing the right training at the right time for them to get a job."

Walsh used a generic example of a 10-year sentence, then gets it cut to seven for good behavior, but then he or she receives training two years into the sentence. "That will not help him five years later, because things change in five years," Walsh said.

Kurt Heise  
Heise hopes to continue as vice chair of the House Judiciary Committee. Lawmakers will not know about their new committee assignments until the first week of January.

"For me, the next two years will be refocusing on the economy and jobs," he said. Heise expects discussion of the repeal of personal property taxes to continue. "Everyone agrees that we have to fine-tune it," he said. Local governments were guaranteed reimbursement of 80 percent — not 100 percent, which is what they wanted — but the personal property

tax will not be killed unless voters approve a ballot initiative related to the replacement revenue in 2014.

Heise said the current plan is a 10-year plan through 2022. "What we approved last week is a much more realistic plan than what we had two weeks ago," he said Dec. 17. "It will depend on the statewide election expected in 2014. If voters reject it, it stops."

Businesses with assets of less than \$40,000, such as print shops, salons or barber shops, will see relief, Heise said. "If I am a small business paying personal property tax under \$40,000, I don't have to pay on equipment," he said. "That's a big tax cut for a small business."

Heise expects the House Judiciary Committee will deal with court reform in terms of efficiencies currently pursued by local governments and school districts in merged services

and collaborative efforts to cut expenses. "We've seen a lot of stories of judges behaving badly, especially in Wayne County," Heise said in reference to poor attendance and ethical decisions. He would like to see the court system examined for combined services. "We need to see where people's time and talents are being spent."

Money for indigent defense and medical marijuana issues also are expected to be tackled, Heise said. Policy for corrections will be driven by the governor, but lawmakers will earmark funding for it, he said. "Privatization doesn't always work, but we have to give it a chance in some cases," Heise said. "We have to look at who is in prison, too. Some need hospice care, are old and don't belong in a prison, and we need to look at putting those people into some other facilities."

"We've seen a lot of stories of judges behaving badly, especially in Wayne County,"

Heise said. "We need to see where people's time and talents are being spent."

Money for indigent defense and medical marijuana issues also are expected to be tackled, Heise said. Policy for corrections will be driven by the governor, but lawmakers will earmark funding for it, he said.

"Privatization doesn't always work, but we have to give it a chance in some cases," Heise said. "We have to look at who is in prison, too. Some need hospice care, are old and don't belong in a prison, and we need to look at putting those people into some other facilities."

Hugh Crawford  
State Rep. Hugh Crawford of Novi expects that educational reform will be on the agenda early in 2013, along with regulatory reform.

The Educational Achievement Authority will be discussed. "It addresses the lowest 5 percent of the schools in the state," he said. "Fif-

teen schools in Detroit are EAA, and there will be a statewide cap of 50 schools."

"I think it will help kids. I visited a couple in Detroit and I was impressed with the kids and with the teachers compared with what I had heard last year."

With the personal property tax repeal, reimbursement of local governments "is obviously a big issue," Crawford said. "We have to make sure that they are not harmed. They can add money locally."

Regulatory reform will be front and center on Crawford's plate if he continues to be on that House committee. The Office of Regulatory Reform has issued reports to that committee that may result in hundreds of bills introduced to address what officials believe are overregulated areas.

Getting rid of the personal property tax, approving right-to-work and getting rid of the Michigan Business Tax in 2011 are accomplishments for Snyder and state lawmakers, Crawford said.

Please see GOP, A16

and collaborative efforts to cut expenses.

"We've seen a lot of stories of judges behaving badly, especially in Wayne County," Heise said in reference to poor attendance and ethical decisions. He would like to see the court system examined for combined services. "We need to see where people's time and talents are being spent."

Money for indigent defense and medical marijuana issues also are expected to be tackled, Heise said. Policy for corrections will be driven by the governor, but lawmakers will earmark funding for it, he said.

"Privatization doesn't always work, but we have to give it a chance in some cases," Heise said. "We have to look at who is in prison, too. Some need hospice care, are old and don't belong in a prison, and we need to look at putting those people into some other facilities."

Hugh Crawford  
State Rep. Hugh Crawford of Novi expects that educational reform will be on the agenda early in 2013, along with regulatory reform.

The Educational Achievement Authority will be discussed. "It addresses the lowest 5 percent of the schools in the state," he said. "Fif-

**NOTICE**  
**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MILFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD 2013 MEETING DATES**

The Township Board of the Charter Township of Milford will meet on the third Wednesday of each month at the Milford Civic Center, 1100 Atlantic, Milford, at 7:30 p.m. as follows:

January 16	April 17	July 17	October 16
February 20	May 15	August 21	November 20
March 20	June 19	September 18	December 18

**PLANNING COMMISSION 2013 MEETING DATES**

The Charter Township of Milford Planning Commission will meet on the last Thursday of each month at the Milford Civic Center, 1100 Atlantic, Milford, at 7:30 p.m. as follows with the exception of the combined November/December meetings which will be held on a Tuesday:

January 31	April 25	July 25	October 31
February 28	May 30	August 29	December 3
March 28	June 27	September 26	

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS 2013 MEETING DATES**

The Charter Township of Milford Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on the second Wednesday of each month at the Milford Civic Center, 1100 Atlantic, Milford, at 7:30 p.m. as follows (unless there is a lack of agenda):

January 9	April 10	July 10	October 9
February 13	May 8	August 14	November 13
March 13	June 12	September 11	December 11

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION 2013 MEETING DATES**

The Charter Township of Milford Parks & Recreation Commission will meet on the third Monday of each month at the Milford Civic Center in the Police Department Conference Room, 1100 Atlantic, Milford, at 7:00 p.m. as follows with the exception January and February which will be held on the second Monday. There is no December meeting.

January 14	April 15	July 15	October 21
February 11	May 20	August 19	November 18
March 18	June 17	September 16	

Any Special Meetings of the Township Board, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and the Parks & Recreation Commission will be posted per the Open Meetings Act within 18 hours prior to said meeting.

Holly Brandt, CMC  
Township Clerk

Published January 3, 2013

**HIGH SPEED INTERNET available EVERYWHERE!**

Get speeds as FAST as 12Mbps  
Up to 200x Faster than dial-up!

Starting at \$49.99/mo  
Available EVERYWHERE!

**CALL NOW AND GO FAST!**  
**1-866-979-9513**

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm • Sat 9am-5pm • Sun 10am-6pm EST

**ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE FROM HOME**

\*Medical, \*Business, \*Criminal Justice, \*Hospitality.  
Job placement assistance. Computer available.  
Financial Aid if qualified. SCHEV authorized.

Call 877-895-1828  
www.CenturaOnline.com

**Centura COLLEGE**

**AIRLINE CAREERS BEGIN HERE**

FAA approved training.  
Financial aid if qualified - Housing available.  
Job placement assistance.

CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance  
877-891-2281

**MICHIGAN Ad Network Solutions**

NEW ZONED REGIONS!

Just imagine... reaching 2,500,000 readers with just one phone call!

Contact your newspaper's advertising representative or call 517.372.2424

**PERSONALIZED HEARING CARE, Inc.**  
Audiology and Hearing Aids

**SOUTH LYON**  
321 Pettibone-Ste. 105  
248-437-5505

**WESTLAND**  
35337 W. Warren  
734-467-5100

• Hearing Aids • Evaluations • Repairs  
• Custom Molds • Consultations  
• Protection • Amplified Living Devices

www.personalizedhearingcare.com

**Important Notice for WOW!** Cable customers in the Lansing DMA. On February 5, 2013, the following nine channels will be converted to digital signals: CNM (ch 45), CNBC (ch 39), Discovery Channel (ch 59), MSNBC (ch 41), MTV (ch 40), Spike TV (ch 43), The Weather Channel (ch 40), truTV (ch 42), VIII (ch 44). In order to receive uninterrupted service of these WOW! Basic Cable channels, you will need to connect a Digital Adapter to any TV in your home that does not already have WOW! digital equipment. TVs with QAM built-in digital tuners do not need Digital Adapters. Digital Adapters are \$2.00 per month.

Published January 3, 2013

**OUR MEDICAL COMMUNITY serving Huron Valley**

**Dermatology**  
Louis C. Chiara, M.D.  
Milford: 1205 Main St. 248-684-1282  
Novi: 35900 W. 10 Mile Rd. #100 248-427-1000

**Chiropractic**  
Bowers Chiropractic Center, P.C.  
216 E. Commerce Rd., Milford (2 blocks East of Main St.) (248) 685-2623

**Pharmacy**  
1191 N. MILFORD RD., MILFORD, MI 48381  
Milford SAV-MOR Pharmacy  
FREE DELIVERY • Compounding • Vet Medication • Yellow Joy, Old Drug • Medicare Experts • Health Care Supplies

**Family Care**  
MILFORD FAMILY PRACTICE  
Deborah A. Booth, DO Board Certified Family Practice  
John Rosella, DO Board Certified Family Practice  
Ruth Kozlowski, DO Board Certified Internal Medicine and Rheumatology  
Robert Martin, DO Board Certified Family Practice  
Alexis Yovan, DO Board Certified Family Practice  
Dennis Rafail, MD Board Certified Internal Medicine

**Vision**  
Heinsight Optical, Inc.  
304 W. Commerce Rd., Milford • (248) 685-0728  
www.heinsightoptical.com

**Medical Equipment**  
Essential Health Care Supplies  
Durable Medical Equipment  
• Inhalators/Aids • Bathroom Safety • Back Braces  
• Patient Room Equipment • Diabetes Supplies  
• Orthotics & Prosthetics • Diagnostic & Surgical Supplies  
• CPAP/BiPAP Machines • CPNs • Compression Garments  
• Sequential Pumps • Wheel Chairs • PENS Units  
• Electric Scooters  
Women's Cancer Care  
• Certified Filters • Fitted Bras • Lymphedema Sleeves  
• Breast Forms (Silicone & Foam) • Bathing Seats  
• Camisoles • Hats • Scarves • Skin Care  
Maternity Care  
• Breast Pumps & Accessories • Maternity Bras and Supports  
Women, Men & Children's Wig  
• Synthetic  
• Heat Resistant  
• Human Hair  
• Custom Wigs

**Doctors**  
If you would like to be in this directory, contact Laurie Wasker at 517-375-1369 or lwasker@hometownlife.com

**1265 N. Milford Rd. • 248-685-3600**  
Hours: Mon-Tues 7am-7pm, Wed-Thurs 7am-6pm, Friday 8am-5pm, Saturday 8am-5pm

**MPA MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION**

OUR VIEWS

## Regional success

### Caring about Detroit is a matter of self-interest

Detroit is important to Michigan and the southeastern metropolitan region. As a symbol of horribly declining urban decay, it sends a negative image to the rest of the country — and the world, for that matter.

The opportunity lost because of high unemployment and scandalous school dropout rates is almost too much to calculate. While a nation grieves for the killing of 26 people in Connecticut, it mostly ignores that a similar number of murders takes place every month in Detroit. Mostly, as a state, we accept that carnage as unchangeable — just keep it away from us.

But the innocent lives put in harm's way in Detroit are no less precious than the undeserving victims in Connecticut. Every generation that is ignored — every tax dollar that is wasted or stolen — is merely another investment in the continued decay of a once great city.

It's not just a morally correct obligation to care about Detroit, it is also in our self-interest. A thriving Detroit would benefit the region, just as its decline has hindered the area's vitality.

There are positive steps, including visionary and courageous investments by private enterprises. These are encouraging, but their value is limited until the city can shake itself from its financial blunders, corruption and incompetence. Unfortunately, too many city leaders have been unwilling or unable to muster the political courage and allies to overcome decades of entrenched cronyism.

A ray of hope emerged during the otherwise chaotic and controversial lame-duck session of the Michigan Legislature. Several bills, signed into law recently by Gov. Rick Snyder, can help with some of the maladies afflicting Detroit.

The long-sought regional transportation authority — a stinging reminder of the toxic relationship between the city and its neighbors — has finally been created.

Federal authorities have begrudgingly indicated that \$25 million is available to help support private funds for a much-needed bus rapid-transit system. But it insisted first on a regional authority, the creation of which has evaded several warring government factions.

A sign of the politics that plagued the authority was evident when legislative Democrats, who are big supporters of mass transit, largely voted against it because they were angry at the Republican power play that passed right-to-work legislation. Their attitude may be understandable, but they were only risking the welfare of their constituents.

On another front, the city can't keep its lights on. It's another horrible symbol of a city that doesn't work. Before lawmakers left town, they approved a public lighting authority that was proposed by Detroit Mayor Dave Bing. The legislation provides a financing vehicle to back revenue bonds that will raise the estimated \$250 million to upgrade lighting.

Snyder also signed a bill allowing the Iltch family to use funds from the Detroit Development Authority to help build a \$650 million downtown arena and entertainment district. This would include a new home for the Detroit Red Wings and add to the signs of life appearing in downtown Detroit.

The city government, however, must come to grips with a dysfunctional budget. Either they will do it themselves, or Gov. Snyder will appoint an emergency manager for the city under new legislation passed during the lame-duck session. Hopefully the city will get its act together in time to prevent the latter from happening. But the reality is an emergency manager is probably a better option than declaring bankruptcy, which is where the city is headed now.

For Detroit's in bad shape, so solutions will be painful. But not as painful as continuing on with the failures of the past.

Cal Stone,  
Community Editor  
Susan Rosiek,  
Executive Editor

Grace Perry,  
Director of  
Advertising

COMMUNITY VOICE

## What's one thing you'd like to accomplish in 2013?

(Posed to Northville Township and Novi leaders)



"I would like to get the issue of the Scott Prison resolved so that the prison physically disappears at no cost to the township. Also I would like to have a plan in place for the entrance to the township at Back Road and Five Mile Road that would be appropriate for the Five Mile corridor."

David Staudt  
Novi mayor pro-tem



"My goal for the city is to complete the northwest ring road at Novi and Grand River to relieve some of the congestion at the intersection and make it as safe as possible."

Terry Margolis  
Novi City Council member



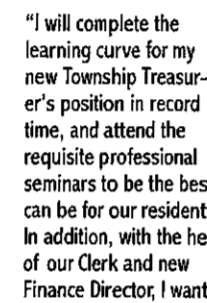
"In 2013, I would like to see the City of Novi complete the first segment of the ITC Corridor Trail between 8 Mile Road and Grand River."

David Staudt  
Novi mayor pro-tem



"For 2013, I would like to see completion and opening of the Pavilion Shore Park at Old Novi Road and 13 Mile Road along with progress towards a unique new park property, the David Barr Sculpture Park on Napier Road."

Clay Pearson  
Novi city manager



"I will complete the learning curve for my new Township Treasurer's position in record time, and attend the requisite professional seminars to be the best I can be for our residents. In addition, with the help of our Clerk and new Finance Director, I want the Township to maintain its economic stability, while keeping our eye on the future and our feet firmly planted in our history."

Marjorie Banner  
Northville Township treasurer



"Awareness of our power to choose is at the heart of successfully setting goals and achieving them. A goal looks very different when you recognize the rewards are inherent in the process. Combining the capacity of the front line staff with our Board of Trustees will allow the leadership team to look beyond immediate circumstances and imagine new possibilities. My goal is to align board members with staff and enjoy both the possibility and potential that is created."

Chip Snider  
Northville Township manager

LETTERS

### Tax rollback time

The election is over, so let's talk taxes. Ending the so-called Bush tax cuts has been debated for years. These cuts have put our nation deep into debt and proved that cutting taxes for the rich does not create jobs.

What is needed is a tax rollback, rolling tax levels back to the level they were the last time our country was operating in the black. That would be the Clinton years, which ended with a budget surplus. Republicans know this is what is needed (that, no doubt, is why they passed the Bush cuts with an automatic expiration), but they want someone else to take the blame like Jennifer Granholm did here in Michigan.

While in office, Gov. Granholm put through a tax rollback, and the Republicans extended it when they took full control of the state in 2010. However, they also raised taxes on seniors and started taxing pensions while cutting school funding. Rolling back taxes would allow for needed investment in our infrastructure and paying down some debt for the two wars started under Bush. This will result in job creation and more revenue to help further paying down the national debt.

The Republicans seek to postpone, as they have so far, an economic comeback at our expense so they may regain the White House. Their way has been tried and it has failed. The voters said no. It is time to move forward with a tax rollback.

Chuck Tindall  
Novi

### Book sale raised needed funds

The four-day Friends of the Northville District Library Fall Used Book Sale brought in \$1,513. These funds will be used to support library programs and projects.

I would like to thank the community for supporting this twice-annual event. I would also like to thank the volunteers who helped

### Shoot or call 9-1-1?

The Connecticut shooting tragedy has spurred renewed calls for gun control.

Violent behavior is not surprising with the degradation of morals, ethics and parenting. Political correctness has replaced God and morality in schools. Fewer than 20 percent of Americans regularly attend church. Parents are allowing television, video games and movies laced with violence to baby-sit their kids.

The ACLU has done its part by "protecting" the rights of disturbed individuals from being admitted for treatment in the absence of a crime. They need to harm someone first.

We don't need gun control. We need expanded concealed carry. If a mentally disturbed gunman entered your child's school, would you prefer a trained staff capable of quickly putting the shooter down or prefer them to call 9-1-1?

James Morche  
Friends of the Northville District Library Used Book Sale volunteer coordinator

### What happened to democracy?

Gov. Snyder for two years has claimed he would not seek right to work legislation but now after the unions helped fight Matty Maroun's anti-bridge ballot proposals,

### Shovel snow

Shoveling snow can wreak havoc on the musculoskeletal system. The Michigan Association of Chiropractors offers these tips for shoveling snow:

• If possible, shovel snow later in the day. Many back injuries occur in the morning, since the tissue around the spine is not warmed up or loose after a night of rest. If you must shovel snow in the morning, be careful. Listen to weather forecasts so you can rise early and have time to warm up to shovel before work.

• Layer clothing to keep your muscles warm and flexible.

• Do some warm-up stretching before you grab that shovel. Shoveling can strain "deconditioned" muscles between your shoulders, in your upper neck, lower back, buttocks and legs.

• When you do shovel, push the snow straight ahead. Don't try to throw it. Walk it to the snow bank.

• Avoid sudden twisting and turning motions.

• Bend your knees to lift when shoveling. Let the muscles of your legs and arms do the work, not your back.

## Take precautions before engaging in outdoor winter activities

By Kenneth Stopa  
Guest Column

When snow, ice and frigid weather blast into town, watch out. Taking precautions and being safe around ice and snow will allow for a much easier (not warmer) winter season.

Slipping on sidewalks, climbing awkwardly over snow banks, wearing the wrong kinds of clothing or shoes, and even shoveling snow the wrong way can lead to spasms, sprains and strains. Simply walking outside in the freezing weather without layers of warm clothing can intensify joint problems and cause a great deal of pain. As muscles and blood vessels contract to conserve the body's heat, the blood supply to extremities is reduced. This lowers the functional capacity of many muscles, particularly among the physically unfit. Preparation for an outdoor winter activity, including conditioning the areas of the body that are most vulnerable, can help avoid injury and costly health care bills.



Kenneth Stopa

### Shoveling Snow

Shoveling snow can wreak havoc on the musculoskeletal system. The Michigan Association of Chiropractors offers these tips for shoveling snow:

• If possible, shovel snow later in the day. Many back injuries occur in the morning, since the tissue around the spine is not warmed up or loose after a night of rest. If you must shovel snow in the morning, be careful. Listen to weather forecasts so you can rise early and have time to warm up to shovel before work.

• Layer clothing to keep your muscles warm and flexible.

• Do some warm-up stretching before you grab that shovel. Shoveling can strain "deconditioned" muscles between your shoulders, in your upper neck, lower back, buttocks and legs.

• When you do shovel, push the snow straight ahead. Don't try to throw it. Walk it to the snow bank.

• Avoid sudden twisting and turning motions.

• Bend your knees to lift when shoveling. Let the muscles of your legs and arms do the work, not your back.

• Take frequent rest breaks to take the strain off your muscles. A fatigued body is more prone to injury.

• When shoveling snow, be heart

### Winter Sports

Winter sports like skating, skiing and sledding can cause painful muscle spasms, strains or tears even in the fittest body. Before you start any winter sport, you must warm up. Skipping your warm-up may lead to injuries. The Michigan Association of Chiropractors suggest that you start with some light aerobic activity such as jogging, biking or fast walking for about 7-10 minutes before jumping into your winter sport of choice. Follow these tips:

• For skiing, do 10-15 squats. Stand with your legs shoulder width apart, knees aligned over your feet. Slowly lower your buttocks as you bend your knees over your feet. Your knees should not go past the length of your feet. Stand up straight and repeat.

• For skating, do several lunges. Take a moderately advanced step forward with one foot. Let your back knee come down to the floor while keeping your shoulders in a vertical line over your hips. Repeat the process with your other

er foot.

• For sledding/tobogganing, do knee-to-chest stretches to fight compression injuries caused by repetitive bouncing over the snow. Either sitting or lying on your back, pull your knees to your chest and hold for up to 30 seconds.

• Don't forget cool-down stretching for all of these sports. At the bottom of the sledding hill, for instance, before trudging back up, do some more knee-to-chest stretches, or repetitive squatting movements to restore flexibility.

After any of these activities, if you are sore, apply an ice pack to the affected area for 20 minutes, then take it off for an hour and repeat 3-5 times each day over the next couple of days. If you continue to feel muscle soreness, a massage may help, however if you feel pain or strain after your winter activity and it has not gone away after icing for a couple of days, you may want to set up an appointment with your local doctor of chiropractic for an evaluation.

Dr. Kenneth Stopa owns Main Street Family Chiropractic Center, P.C. in Northville. He can be contacted at (248) 735-9800.



Tuscan Cafe employee Andy Cipolla gets busy shoveling snow last week in front of the Center Street eatery in downtown Northville.

Open 7 Days a Week, 11:00am - Wednesdays 11:00am

## KNIGHTSBRIDGE ANTIQUE MALL

42305 Seven Mile Road • (Just 2 Miles west of I-275)  
Northville, MI 48167 • 248-444-7200

We have something for everyone!

Furniture • Mid-Century • Art Deco • Modern • Coins  
Stained Glass • Jewelry • Vintage Toys • Linens • Military  
Glass/Crystal/China • Tiffany Lamps • Clothing

MOVE IN BY FEBRUARY 1, 2013, AND WE'LL PAY UP TO \$1,000 TOWARD YOUR MOVING COSTS!\*

## Enjoy a Worry Free Winter at Waltonwood

Gone are the days when cold weather would keep you from getting out to visit friends or to the store. No more worries about snow removal or slipping on the way to the mailbox.

Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks offers carefree senior living. With friendly neighbors, convenient amenities, personal staff and caregivers on-site, you're free to choose how you spend the day.

Spacious apartments • Housekeeping & maintenance • Delicious, home-cooked meals • Activities and scheduled transportation  
Pet friendly community • Personalized care services available

Call today to schedule your personal tour  
(248) 504-0590

WALTONWOOD  
TWELVE OAKS  
Redefining Retirement Living®

Independent Living • Licensed Assisted Living • Memory Care  
27475 Huron Circle, Novi, MI 48377 • Located across from Twelve Oaks Mall  
\*Independent Living only. See community for complete details.

www.Waltonwood.com



**DEMS**

Continued from page A12

recently in the Legislature, but no measure was passed; opponents say the proposal threatens local control of schools. "Our school districts have done a great job, our superintendents, our teachers, and it's time for our teachers to take back control of what they're teaching their kids," Kosowski said. Barnett said the EAA is run outside the state's Board of Education and school superintendent and gives too much power to the executive branch. "I think it's a real problem, and it should alarm everybody in the state," she said. Knezek mentioned three steps in public edu-

*'Some of the gun owners say put more guns in the hands of people and we're going to be safe. I just don't buy that argument.'*

Glenn Anderson

cation he'd like to see taken: broadening opportunities for early childhood education, providing incentives for teachers to obtain advanced degrees and moving toward year-round school. The latter, he said, would require renegotiating contracts and installing air-conditioning in some buildings, but would decrease students' backsliding during the summer months and

make Michigan schools more competitive. "You look at other countries that are outperforming us in education: 220 school days a year," he said. "Michigan has 180." Barnett said she is working on a proposal that would make college much more affordable, something she said would be attractive to companies and their employees.

**Laundry list**

Other priorities for area Democratic legislators include: • Mental health system: Barnett wants to improve insurance coverage for mental health problems in the state's health care system. Anderson wants to explore the idea of having special courts for criminal defendants with mental health issues that would steer them to treat-

ment rather than incarceration if appropriate. • Law and order: Lipton said she'll push for reforms in the way the state manages criminal legal defense for the indigent. "The current system, she said, varies from county to county and is sometimes inadequate. She wants a uniform system that adheres to the American Bar Association's principles for indigent defense.

Anderson wants restrictions on where weapons can be carried, either concealed or openly; he applauded Snyder's veto of a lame-duck measure that would have allowed people with permits to bring concealed guns into schools and churches. "Some of the gun owners say put more guns in the hands of people and we're going to be safe,"

said Anderson, a gun owner. "I just don't buy that argument."

• Pushback: Anderson, reacting to the flurry of controversial bills Republicans passed this month, said he is planning to propose an amendment to the state constitution that would limit legislators' power during lame-duck sessions. An emergency would have to be declared — by the governor and at least two-thirds of each chamber in the Legislature — before a significant issue could be voted on in a lame-duck session, he said. "When you see a highly active lame-duck session, you scratch the surface and you find that there are many pieces of bad legislation that get through," he said. Anderson also wants to see a repeal of the so-

called right-to-work law, the most highly charged piece of legislation to come out of the lame-duck session. The law, which takes effect in April, will allow workers in workplaces where there are unions to not join the union and not pay union dues or a union fee, even if they benefit from collective bargaining undertaken by the union. Anderson, a former automobile plant worker, said the law will be divisive in union workplaces and won't have the job-creating effect its Republican backers say it will. "It's going to work in a very negative way and contrary to what we've been trying to do to create jobs," he said.

njchman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405



**Meeting a legend**

Randall Paul and Hope Drogmiller pose with Detroit Tigers legend Denny McLain (right) Dec. 22 at the Double Tree Hotel in Novi during a charity auction benefiting St. Jude Children's Hospital. Paul, of Great Lakes Auctions, and Robert Van Sickle of the New Hudson Auction Company hosted the event. Novi resident Drogmiller, 13, volunteered during the event. McLain signed books and enjoyed the evening with others supporting the cause. During the event, people could bid on gift cards, signed sports items and more. There was also a dinner.

**Hiding in plain sight**



The Northville Art House, located at 215 W. Cady Street in Northville, will present a new exhibit, "Patricia Candor: Hiding in Plain Sight", from Jan. 9-26 with an opening reception and artist meet and greet from 5-9 p.m. Jan. 11. Candor is a long-time adjunct professor at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit and at Lawrence Technological University. The exhibit pieces will present the personal and creative evolution of the artist from 1978 through the present. Admission is free. Hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. For more information, call (248) 344-0497 or visit [www.northvillearts.org](http://www.northvillearts.org).

**GOP**

Continued from page A13

"These are things that we're doing to help Michigan get going again," he said.

**John Pappageorge**  
State Sen. John Pappageorge of Troy believes much of the legislative discussion depends on Gov. Snyder's State of the State address Jan. 16. "The big thing will be the budget process," Pappageorge said. "There's never enough money for what you want to do." Pappageorge believes

lawmakers need to look at infrastructure and transportation budgets. "There are three things that most of the general population of my district care about: the gas tax, toll roads and potholes," he said. "That's the dilemma. We have to figure out how to get more resources here and make infrastructure a priority."

Funding teacher retirements will be another topic and work will continue on the EAA issue. On tax policy, Pappageorge believes most of the "big stuff" was taken care of with the personal property taxes and workers comp costs.

**Patrick Colbeck**  
State Sen. Patrick Colbeck of Canton believes the state needs to promote reforms it has completed over the past two years.

"I'd like to follow up the reforms and bring jobs," he said. He'd like to make sure returning military veterans land jobs.

Colbeck, who served on the Senate Education Committee, also wants to see educational policies promote local control. "We're going to bring peo-

ple who complete these reports before the Educational Policy Committee, ask them how they are using the information in these reports and see if they are necessary," he said. "We want to let the teachers do what they are trained to do, and that is teach."

Colbeck wants to make sure government is more customer relations-oriented to businesses looking to move into Michigan. "We want to let them know where the properties are and where the skilled labor is," he said.

Colbeck believes that companies can find out that information quick-

ly on the Internet and he wants the state to market itself and let companies know to locate in Michigan with a favorable tax climate. "Time is money in economic development," he said.

"Can we respond quickly to market conditions, get the jobs here and get the tax revenue?" Colbeck asked. "The emphasis is on speed in economic development."

**Mike Kowall**  
Mike Kowall, state senator from White Lake, said his main focus will be getting people back to work through the port authority legislation, which will help bring in

more business. Port authority bills have worked well in other states, Kowall said, using them to bond out for projects including everything from grain elevators to short rails. Ohio built a headquarters for Goodyear tires using this mechanism. Kowall wants to see the Brownfield Development Act returned. In Oakland County alone, it could bring 1,865 jobs.

Kowall said Snyder appointed new employees in the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. "They are going through every rule, every regulation, to determine whether they are worth keeping or getting rid of," he said. "This is a major effort."

Kowall wants to see stricter penalties against people caught transporting Asian carp. He wants to hit the transporters with not only jail time, but hit them in their pocketbooks by confiscating their fish tanks. "Those are very expensive," he said. "It is along the same line as drug forfeiture laws."

"The economic impact of the Asian carp on our lakes is in the hundreds of billions. We need to at least have a discussion on it. I won't say it will pass, but we need to have the discussion."

katbramcz@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2591 | Twitter: @KenAbramcz

**ONE-STOP SHOP.**

SAVE ON INSURANCE:

- Car
- Life
- Home
- Motorhome
- Renters
- Motorcycle
- Business
- Boat

And much more...

Call me to get more for your money. I make it easy to protect everything on your list and save money too. Call now and you'll also get a FREE lifetime membership in Good Hands™ Roadside Assistance. Get 24/7 access and low, flat rates on everything from tires to tire changes. Call me today!

Sara C. Tyraniski (734) 326-6660  
2012 S. Wayne Road Westland  
sryaniski@allstate.com

**Allstate.**  
You're good hands.

Pay only when suitable services provided. Subject to terms, conditions and exclusions. Allstate Insurance Company, Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company, Allstate Indemnity Company, Lincoln Benefit Life Co., Lincoln, NE and American Heritage Life Insurance Co., Jacksonville, FL. © 2011 Allstate Insurance Co.

**2 DAY SALE**  
January 7th & 8th  
CALL. CLICK. COME IN.

Andrea, 23

**WARNING: ANOREXIA IS NOT A SUPERMODEL!**  
This is 100% Anorexia - no retouching, no tricks, no gimmicks, just straightforward honest fitness. SIDE EFFECTS MAY INCLUDE: Having a bikini body all year round.

Sign up by Jazzercise®

<b>START FOR \$0!</b> with 12-month registration Waived joining fee January free Unlimited classes	<b>START FOR \$29!</b> with 6-month registration Discounted joining fee January free Unlimited classes	<b>10 CLASSES FOR \$80!</b> 10 Classes must be used by 3/31/13.
--	--	--

\*Offers valid at participating locations. Other restrictions may apply.

**jazzercise. real Results** jazzercise.com/sale | (800)FIT-IS-IT

Please Join  
**AMERIPRISE FINANCIAL**  
at  
**FLEMING'S PRIME STEAKHOUSE AND WINE BAR**  
17400 Haggerty Road, Livonia, MI 48152

**PROTECTING YOUR RETIREMENT WITH GUARANTEED LIFETIME INCOME**

FEATURING SPEAKER  
**CARISSA HAGEN**  
REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT, RIVERSIDE SEC ANNOUITIES

SAVE THE DATE MONDAY, JANUARY 14th, 2013 | 11:15 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Auto workers, have you been offered the option to receive a lump-sum payment from your employer? If so, please join us at our upcoming informational event.

Luncheon to include choice of:  
\$ Filet Oscar *grilled filet topped with jumbo lump crab & béarnaise sauce*  
\$ Tuna Mignon *seared tuna with papaya, sea anis, potatoes & tomato vinaigrette*  
\$ Seared New Bedford Scallop *major lemon-bacon glaze, baby carrots & green beans*  
\$ New Zealand Double Lamb Chops *grilled to order with a plum sauce compote*

Seating is limited, please RSVP today.  
Call Mary at 734.432.6490 or email to [Mary.A.Zak@ampf.com](mailto:Mary.A.Zak@ampf.com)

**Michael K. Klassa, CFP®, ChFC®, CRPC®**  
Financial Advisor  
**CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™** professional  
An Ameriprise Platinum Financial Services® practice

Klassa, Swaggerty & Associates  
A financial advisory practice of  
Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.

37677 Pembroke Ave., Livonia, MI 48152  
734-432-6490  
[michael.k.klassa@ampf.com](mailto:michael.k.klassa@ampf.com)  
[www.ameripriseadvisors.com/michael.k.klassa](http://www.ameripriseadvisors.com/michael.k.klassa)

Ameriprise Financial

THINKING ABOUT...  
A NEW FURNACE?  
**LENNOX**  
FREE ESTIMATES  
(734) 525-1930  
Our 38th Year!  
**UNITED TEMPERATURE**  
8919 MIDDLEBELT • LIVONIA  
[www.unitedtemp.com](http://www.unitedtemp.com)

**BINGO**  
Every Friday  
Doors Open at 4:30 pm  
8:00 pm to 7:00 pm  
CHARITABLE GAME  
TICKETS AVAILABLE  
Hall Rental Available  
**AMERICAN LEGION HALL**  
510 W. COMMERCE RD., MILFORD  
(248) 684-9919

**CANTON CINEMA**  
Quality Theaters  
734-844-2456  
10075 E. W. A. A.  
8071 E. W. A. A. 820-2009

**\$5.25 BARGAIN TWILIGHT**  
DAILY 4:00-6:00 PM  
EXCEPT FRIDAY 4:00-6:00 PM

VISIT [WWW.GQTI.COM](http://WWW.GQTI.COM)  
FOR SHOWTIMES

METROPOLITAN OPERA  
LES TROIS  
LIVE SAT. 10:30 PM

METROPOLITAN OPERA  
UN BALLO IN MASCHERA  
ENCORE WED. 1/9 6:30 PM

FREQUENT MOVIEGOERS  
Sign up at [www.gqti.com](http://www.gqti.com) for the Frequent Moviegoer Club  
Earn points & see movies for a bargain price!

**MOVE IN BY FEBRUARY 1, 2013, AND WE'LL PAY UP TO \$1,000 TOWARD YOUR MOVING COSTS!\***

**Enjoy a Worry Free Winter at Waltonwood**

Gone are the days when cold weather would keep you from getting out to visit friends or to the store. No more worries about snow removal or slipping on the way to the mailbox.

Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks offers carefree senior living. With friendly neighbors, convenient amenities, personal staff and caregivers on-site, you're free to choose how you spend the day.

Spacious apartments • Housekeeping & maintenance • Delicious, home-cooked meals • Activities and scheduled transportation  
Pet friendly community • Personalized care services available

Call today to schedule your personal tour  
(248) 277-5981

**WALTONWOOD**  
— TWELVE OAKS —  
Redefining Retirement Living®

Independent Living • Licensed Assisted Living • Memory Care  
27475 Huron Circle, Novi, MI 48377 • Located across from Twelve Oaks Mall

\*Independent Living only. See community for complete details.

[www.Waltonwood.com](http://www.Waltonwood.com)



2 SENIORS

Continued from page B1

because of his drive to be a part of the game. "I tried out this year because I love the game," he said. "Through hard work and perseverance, you can overcome a lot and do special things on, and off, the court."

Jelso's journey to the varsity team was a bit different. "Tryouts his freshmen and sophomore years never turned into a chance at being a member of one of the Northville basketball teams. He was cut both years after tryouts and knew full well that the senior-led team of 2011-12 wasn't going to have room for him."

Instead of being deterred and turning away from his dream of playing basketball, he worked on every facet of his game when he wasn't playing golf for Northville and prepped himself in every way possible. "Jelso was a regular during all of the pre-season conditioning, which was very intense, and he kept coming back," said Sander.

"That showed us that he really wanted this." When his name was included on the final roster following tryouts, Jelso knew that his determination played an important role in his success. "Hard work pays off," said the senior. "I tried out this season to show everyone that you should never give up on anything."

Sander said having Jelso and Rogers on the team has been nothing but positive. They come to each and every practice ready to give their best effort, which is an intangible that can't be coached. "It is obvious that both of them love the game of basketball," said the fifth-year varsity head coach. "Their attitudes have been spectacular so far with terrific work ethic."

"Their game minutes have been limited, but they are always among the first ones to congratulate their teammates coming off the floor. Much of their work and contributions so far occur during the two hours of practice every day. As a coach, you admire these types of players that want to improve themselves, but also push their teammates to the max every day."

Rogers and Jelso prove each and every day that they put on a Northville basketball jersey — both for a game and for practice — that if you focus on achieving a goal, it's likely never out of reach. The key, as they have shown, is the perseverance and refusal to simply walk away.

"We talk a lot about roles on our team," said Sander. "Whether it is a business or a team, everyone's role is equally important to the success of the organization from the top down and the bottom up. It is also essential to stay ready, as one never knows how a season evolves and what happens during the year. Opportunities may come when guys least expect it and you want to be ready to take advantage of them."

SOCCER

Continued from page B1

tangs' offense often passed through junior midfielder Joey Van Houten en route to successful finishes, helping him earn All-District and All-Conference honors.

**Matt Kiura (Novi Jr. D)** A set piece specialist for the Wildcats, Novi junior defender Matt Kiura was instrumental on most throw-ins, corner kicks and free kicks for the Wildcats this season, earning him one goal and six assists. His efforts earned him All-District and All-Conference honors to go with a 3.64 GPA.

"Matt was a very steady defender that is strong on the ball and wins almost all of his physical challenges on the field," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "His ability to take long throw-ins was a huge part of our offense and it is the reason he picked up six assists."

**Conrad Bush (Northville Jr. D)** The defensive efforts of Northville junior Conrad Bush earned him the coaches award from Mustang coach Henry Klimes, which accompanies his All-District and All-Conference honors.

**Ben Holbrook (Northville Sr. M)** As the Mustangs' scoring leader, Northville senior midfielder Ben Holbrook found himself on the end of several exchanges with his fellow All-Area teammates, helping him also earn All-District and All-Conference honors.

**Scott Michael (South Lyon Jr. GK)** When faced with seven penalty kicks this season, Lions teammates were confident in South Lyon junior netminder Scott Michael, who stopped five such occasions. An All-KLAA honoree, he was named the top goalkeeper in his Division II district tournament.

"Our team gave up seven penalty kicks this season. Scott saved five of them," South Lyon coach Brian Elliott said. "In addition, he is a great leader."

**Mitchell Stark (South Lyon Jr. CM)** As the third-ranked student-athlete in his Division II district, South Lyon junior center midfielder Mitchell Stark earned All-KLAA honors while orchestrating much of the Lions' play this fall.

**Taylor Janssen (Lakeland Sr. M)** White Lake Lakeland's Eagle of the Year, senior midfielder Taylor Janssen was his team's top midfielder, racking up All-District

Player of the year

Don Nakashima (Novi Jr. F)

**First team** Troy Dolanetsch (Northville Sr. D) Nick Oakley (Novi Jr. D) Andy Metter (Novi Sr. GK) Joey Van Houten (Northville Jr. M) Matt Kiura (Novi Jr. D) Conrad Bush (Northville Jr. D) Ben Holbrook (Northville Sr. M) Scott Michael (South Lyon Jr. CM) Mitchell Stark (South Lyon Jr. CM) Taylor Janssen (Lakeland Sr. M) David Roskens (South Lyon East Sr. M)

**Second team** Robert Costanza (South Lyon East Sr. M) Travis Hamers (South Lyon East Sr. GK) Jake Kuznicki (South Lyon East Sr. GK) Derek Blunden (South Lyon East Sr. M) John Victor (Lakeland Sr. D) Roddy Green (Lakeland Jr. F) Nick Kemenu (Lakeland Jr. F) Grant Scovel (South Lyon Sr. D) Alex Stowe (South Lyon Jr. F) Matt Allain (South Lyon Jr. D) Chandler Lach (South Lyon Sr. CM)

**Honorable mention** Lakeland: Michael Naher (Jr. D), Mario Kaje (Jr. D), Joe Slezacek (Sr. MF) South Lyon: Taylor Janssen (Sr. MF), Andy Staven (Sr. F), Alec Velthoven (Sr. D) South Lyon East: Nestijan Georjovski (So. F/M)

**Note:** Coaches from Detroit Catholic Central and Milford did not respond to several requests for nominees during the past month.

**Robert Costanza (South Lyon East Sr. M)** Like his fellow senior center midfielder, South Lyon East's Robert Costanza was a complete-game threat, racking up seven goals and eight assists in the process. A captain, he was also All-District and an All-Conference honorable mention.

**Travis Hamers (South Lyon East Sr. GK)** Splitting time between defense and goalkeeper, South Lyon East senior Travis Hamers had three goals and three shutouts, earning him All-District and All-Conference honorable mention honors.

**Jake Kuznicki (South Lyon East Sr. GK)** Also splitting time in goal, South Lyon East senior Jake Kuznicki also had three shutouts, pulling in one goal and one assist while spending time on defense while matching up with many of the area's top forwards.

**Derek Blunden (South Lyon East Jr. MD)** Behind six goals and three assists, South Lyon East junior midfielder/defender Derek Blunden earned All-State honorable mention and All-District honors.

**John Victor (Lakeland Sr. D)** Silent, but effective, Lakeland senior sweeper John Victor led by example both on and off the field after the Eagles graduated their entire defensive line last season. In the process, he earned All-District and All-Conference honors on the field, as well as All-Conference academic honors in the classroom.

**Roddy Green (Lakeland Jr. F)** As a freshman forward, Lakeland's Roddy Green notched five goals in his debut campaign, earning All-District and All-Conference honors in the process.

**Nick Kemenu (Lakeland Jr. F)** With eight goals, Lakeland junior forward Nick Kemenu led his team in scoring, earning All-District and All-Conference honors in the process. He also earned All-Conference academic honors.

**Grant Scovel (South Lyon Sr. D)** An All-District and All-KLAA honorable mention, South Lyon senior Grant Scovel was a defensive focal point for the Lions, slowing down some of the area's talented offenses in a tough KLA Central Division.

**Alex Stowe (South Lyon Jr. F)** As the Lions' scoring leader, South Lyon junior forward Alex Stowe earned All-District honors.

**Matt Allain (South Lyon Jr. D)** The defensive efforts of South Lyon senior Matt Allain earned him All-District honors.

**Chandler Lach (South Lyon Sr. CM)** A captain for the Lions, South Lyon offensive midfielder Chandler Lach earned All-District honors.

**Senior Jaylin Jackson** added 13. Freshman Kevon Fuller, who stands 6-7, scored 11. Detroit Catholic Central followed Nick Malone, who had 16 in the game, while Mitch Katkic added 10 and Noah Lee had seven.

Unfortunately for the Shamrocks, who suffered their first loss of the season against Cody, the worst part of the game wasn't the score. The squad was without Katkic, the team's leading scorer, throughout much of the third quarter and all of the fourth as he went down with an injury and could

potentially be out with a broken ankle. Despite the loss, Dyer said the game did have some positives for the team. "I really liked the fact that we kept fighting, but we just couldn't get the game to a one basket game and we ran out of time," he said.

Against the Ypsilanti Lincoln Raiders splitters, the Shamrocks jumped out to a 14-7 lead in the first quarter and looked to control the game from the start, though the Ypsilanti Lincoln squad was determined to not go down without a fight. They outscored Catholic Central, 12-8, in the second stanza to keep the game close heading into the locker room.

"It was a close game at the half," said Dyer. "We had a nice run to start the second half and we kept Ypsilanti Lincoln a least four baskets down most of the second half."

WRESTLING

Continued from page B1

ed DeNova another loss before DeNova won the seventh-place match 12-2 over Walled Lake Northem's Justin Miles.

Sophomore Evan Davis (125 pounds) got a quick pin over Shamar Borden of Ferndale, but followed up with a loss by decision. After a 13-0 victory over South Lyon's Jake Race, Davis dropped his fourth match by a 6-2 decision. His tournament run ended with another 6-2 loss Saturday.

Senior Ben Landry (160) lost his first match to Andrew Scott of Holly, but finished his first night with two successive victories by pinfall. However, in the second day, he lost a close 7-3 decision to Ken Daniels of Southfield, knocking him out of contention.

CC HOOPS

Continued from page B1

The Shamrocks wouldn't go away quietly, however, and came back strong in the fourth to make it a game. They outscored their foes, 17-12, in the fourth, but it wasn't enough to overcome the deficit they had dug for themselves.

"When we had chances to get the game really close or take the lead we missed free throws," said Dyer. "We missed four-out-of-five free throws when it was tight in the third quarter and that's hard to overcome."

The Shamrocks went 10-for-16 at the free throw line throughout the night while Cody made just half of their 26 shots.

Leading the way for Cody was 6-foot-2-inch senior Amani Kyalangallwa, who scored 15, while



Northville junior Spencer Compo works to turn his opponent at Pinckney.

N'ville grapplers suffer two losses

Team falls to Churchill, Franklin and compete in Pinckney tourney

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

It was a tough week to be a member of the Northville Mustangs wrestling team as they hosted two extremely talented teams and suffered two losses last week.

The team, which is suffering through a bout of illness and injuries right now, took a 57-19 loss to the Wayne County championship team from Livonia Franklin and a 43-29 loss against Livonia Churchill.

"Even in the losses we saw some nice performances," noted assistant coach Adam Coe. He noted one such performance came from senior captain Sean Wagner, who won both of his matches by fall in the 140-pound weight class, as well as junior Spencer Compo, who had two victories via a major decision and a pin in the 130-pound division.

Wagner had a 13-5 record on the season, including 12 pins. "Our two captains continue to set a great example on and off the mat," said Coe. Alex Coe, the other team captain, is currently leading the team with a 16-3 record.

Northville concluded their week with a showing at the Pinckney-hosted Seasons Wrestling Tournament and finished the day with a 2-2-1 record. "As we have all season, our grapplers got the taste of the good and the bad," said Coe.

ON TAP

Northville's wrestling team will be back on the mat when they grapple in the Rochester Adams Highlander Invitational Saturday.

Leading the way were seniors Jon Wines and Alex Clevenger, who both finished the tournament with unblemished records. Clevenger went 5-0 in the 160-pound division while Wines went 4-0 at heavyweight and didn't give up a single offensive point all day.

Wines likely would have been 5-0 on the day, but he let the team's No. 2 heavyweight, Alex Carson, get in some valuable time on the mat and win by fall.

"This really shows the type of person and teammate Jon is," said head coach Robert Boshoven. "He was the most vocal teammate during Carson's match, and he really cheered him on and encouraged him."

Northville's underclassmen continued to show improvement and the Mustangs coaching staff was impressed with sophomore Christopher Koumaritis, who stepped up into the varsity lineup and recorded two victories for the Mustangs.

"Chris really puts his heart and soul into each match, and I was really glad to see that kind of effort pay off," said Coe. Sophomores Jim Behr and Shante Wang both earned three wins last week at 103 and 125 pounds, respectively.



NOTICE Charter Township of Milford

A Synopsis of Minutes of the Charter Township of Milford Board of Trustees regular meeting held on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 is available at the office of the Township Clerk or on the website at www.milfordtownship.com.

HOLLY BRANDT, CMC Township Clerk

Published: January 3, 2013

SYNOPSIS DECEMBER 20, 2012 - REGULAR MEETING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DATE: Thursday, December 20, 2012 TIME: 7:30 a.m. PLACE: 44405 Six Mile Road

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Nix called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. PRESENT: Robert R. Nix II, Supervisor; Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk; Marjorie F. Banner, Treasurer; Marv Gans, Trustee; Symantha Heath, Trustee; Mandy Herrmann, Trustee; Fred Shadko, Trustee

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

- 1. Agenda: A. Approve the Consent and Regular Agendas and add item #5 H. SEMCOGG Dues to the agenda - approved
- 2. Appointments, Presentations, Resolutions & Announcements: A. Employee Recognition for Years of Service B. Marjorie Banner to EDC Liaison - approved C. Sue Hillebrand to Alternate to Conference of Western Wayne - approved D. Marv Gans to EDC Liaison - approved E. Mindy Herrmann to Seniors & P & R Liaison - approved F. Symantha Heath to ZBA and NYA Liaison - approved G. Fred Shadko to Planning Commission Liaison & EDC member - approved H. Richard E. Allen - reappoint to Planning Commission - approved I. Kent Anderson - appoint to Planning Commission - approved J. Brian Doren - reappoint to ZBA - approved K. Paul Slithin - reappoint to ZBA - approved L. Richard Henningsen - Appoint to Seniors - approved M. Sandra Larson - reappoint to Northville Youth Assistance - approved N. Don DiComo - reappoint to Building Board of Appeals - approved O. Sharon Demmer - appoint to Building Board of Appeals - approved P. Laurie Marrs - reappoint to Building Authority - approved Q. Michael Noka - appoint to Ethics Board - approved R. Jennifer Frey to EDC/BRA as Township Representative - approved S. Tom Casari to Building Authority - approved
- 3. Public Hearing: None
- 4. Brief Public Comments: Bill Bullard was introduced as the new governmental consultant with Robert Law's firm.
- 5. New Business: A. DWSD Contract Amendment #2 - approved B. Back Road Booster Station, Payment #2 - approved C. Back Road Water System Improvements, Payment #3 - approved D. Water & Sewer Forecast - approved E. 2013 Meeting Dates of the Board of Trustees - approved F. Approval of Financial Institutions - approved G. Year-end Budget Amendments - approved H. SEMCOGG dues - approved
- 6. Unfinished Business: None
- 7. Ordinances: None
- 8. Bills Payable: A. Bills payable in the amount of \$2,376,214.03 - approved
- 9. Board Communication & Reports from the following: A. Robert R. Nix, II, Sue Hillebrand, Marjorie F. Banner, Marv Gans, Symantha Heath, Mindy Herrmann, Fred Shadko, Chip Sniar
- 10. Any other business or public comment for the Board of Trustees: None
- 11. ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

This is a synopsis of the meeting. A draft of the unapproved minutes will be available after January 4, 2013.

Respectfully submitted: Sue A. Hillebrand, M.M.C.

Published: January 3, 2013

Reebok Lions 70% OFF Jerseys, Tees, Hats. Red Wings 50% OFF Jerseys, Tees & Hats. Tigers World Series 60% OFF Pictured Lions Tees \$19.99 Now \$6.99. Post Christmas Sale Thursday Dec 27th - Tuesday Jan 1st. New NCAA Basketball \$9.99 Gear In Stock! www.fanaticu.com

Hearing Loss or Just Earwax? Find Out Now Using A Tiny Video Camera.

Free Video Ear Inspection!

Modern technology is fascinating, isn't it? Now we can look inside your ear using a tiny video camera called a Video Otoscope. This new procedure is painless and allows us to see all the way to your eardrum, helping you to understand why you may be experiencing difficulties with your hearing like:

- Hearing but not understanding certain words
- Difficulty hearing on the phone?
- Frequently asking people to repeat themselves
- Having to turn up the TV loud in order to understand what is being said

You will also receive a FREE\* hearing evaluation to help further determine the cause of your hearing difficulties and aid in amplification selection if necessary.

There is NO CHARGE and NO OBLIGATION for these services.\* These Video Otoscope Exams will be held now through January 19, 2013 ONLY.

WANTED...30 PEOPLE with hearing loss to try new digital hearing aids!

This is a great opportunity to try quality hearing aids. Miracle-Ear will let 30 people with hearing loss experience digital sound. Call now because we have to limit this offer to the first 30 people who contact us

- DEARBORN: In Sears, Fairlane Town Center (313) 441-5593
- LIVONIA: In Sears, 7 Mile & Middlebelt (248) 471-5909
- ANN ARBOR: In Sears, Briarwood Mall (734) 769-8226
- WESTLAND: 35735 Warren Rd. B/w Parry City & Petco (734) 749-3810
- LINCOLN PARK: In Sears, Lincoln Park Shopping Center (313) 483-5587



www.miracle-ear.com

\*Hearing evaluation and video otoscopy inspection are free. Hearing evaluation is an audiological test to determine if you have a hearing problem. These are not medical exams or diagnoses, nor are they intended to replace a physician's care. If you have a hearing problem, please seek treatment from your doctor. 24902 COPYRIGHT © 2011, Inc.

NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MILFORD INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 211

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Milford held on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 the Board voted to introduce the following ordinance amendment:

An ordinance to amend Article IV, Kensington Metropark, of Chapter 20, Parks and Recreation, of the Code of Ordinances for the Charter Township of Milford, by repealing Section 20-155, Use of Hike and Bike Trail, in order to allow the township to more appropriately complement the helmet guidelines of the Huron Clinton Metropolitan Park.

A copy of the ordinance amendment in its entirety is available at the Township Offices during normal business hours of Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or by email at cler@milfordtownship.com.

Holly Brandt, CMC Township Clerk

Published: January 3, 2013

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LYON OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING VARIANCES FROM ZONING ORDINANCE REQUIREMENTS

Pursuant to Michigan Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended (the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act), notice is hereby given that the Lyon Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 22, 2013, for the purposes of considering proposed variances from Zoning Ordinance requirements. The public hearing will be held at the Lyon Township Hall, 58000 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165.

The public hearing has been scheduled to consider the following case:

Saman Samooe, Applicant, 58805 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165 (Copper Creek Vineyard) Applicant proposes to construct an addition to an existing convenience store requiring the following variances:

- 1. Section 36.02, Schedule of Regulations, minimum front setback in the B-2 district is 75 ft., proposed setback is 73.5 ft., variance required: 1.5 ft.
- 2. Section 36.02, Schedule of Regulations, minimum side setback in the B-2 district is 20 ft., proposed setback at northeast corner is 11.5 ft., variance required: 8.5 ft.
- 3. Section 36.02, Schedule of Regulations, minimum side setback in the B-2 district is 20 ft., proposed setback at southeast corner is 14.5 ft., variance required: 5.5 ft.

Plans for the development may be viewed at the Township Hall. Interested parties are welcome to attend and present their comments. Written comments concerning the proposal may be submitted prior to the meeting to the Township Clerk at the address noted above.

Michele Cash Township Clerk

William Erwin Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman

Published: January 3, 2013

BOBMAXEY.COM BOBMAXEY.COM BOBMAXEY.COM BOBMAXEY.COM BOBMAXEY.COM BOBMAXEY.COM

# BOB Maxey of Howell

517-545-5700

NOW OFFERING MERCURY EARLY BIRD LEASE TURN IN!!! UP TO 6 PAYMENTS WAIVED!

YEAR END CELEBRATION

Brian Mylin 31 years in the Business

**OUR AWARD WINNING SERVICE DEPARTMENT NOW OPEN SATURDAYS 8:30AM-4:00PM**

Servicing all makes & models

People's Choice Winner

LIVINGSTON COUNTY'S SUPER DUTY HEADQUARTERS! ALL NEW ECOBOOSTS IN STOCK!

0.0% APR UP TO 60 MOS. 1.1% 84 MONTH FINANCING AVAILABLE

100+ F-SERIES AVAILABLE NOW!

F-150's! F-250's! F-350's! F-450's!

WHY ORDER? REG. CABS! SUPER CABS! CREW CABS!

**NEW 2013 FORD F-150 SUPERCAB 4x4 STX**

Stk. #HD0189. 5.0L V8, full power, 18" alloy wheels, trailer tow, SYNC, Sirius, chrome step bars, nicely equipped.

LEASE ONLY \$225\* per mo.

FACTORY REBATES UP TO \$7,500! 21+ MPG!!!

24 months, 10,500 miles per year. With \$2,545 due at signing. Includes off lease renewal waived security deposit plus tax, title, license.

<p><b>2012 FORD FOCUS SE 4 DR</b></p> <p>Stk. #H17259. Auto, SYNC, alloy wheels, full power, heated seats.</p> <p>LEASE \$128.14*</p> <p>24 months, 10,500 miles per year. With \$2,457 due at signing. Includes off lease renewal waived security deposit plus tax, title, license.</p>	<p><b>2013 FORD ESCAPE FWD</b></p> <p>Stk. #HD0887. Auto, a/c, full power, CD/MP3, 17" wheels, AdvanceTrac, nicely equipped!</p> <p>LEASE \$163.33*</p> <p>24 months, 10,500 miles per year. With \$2,400 due at signing. Includes off lease renewal waived security deposit plus tax, title, license.</p>	<p><b>2013 FORD EDGE SEL FWD</b></p> <p>Stk. #HD0572. Heated leather, MyFord Touch, rear camera, chrome wheels, navigation, power liftgate.</p> <p>LEASE \$202.30*</p> <p>24 months, 10,500 miles per year. With \$2,611 due at signing. Includes off lease renewal waived security deposit plus tax, title, license.</p>	<p><b>2013 FORD FUSION SE</b></p> <p>Stk. #HD0535. Auto, full power, alloy wheels, nicely equipped.</p> <p>LEASE \$197.51*</p> <p>24 months, 10,500 miles per year. With \$2,486 due at signing. Includes off lease renewal waived security deposit plus tax, title, license.</p>
--	--	---	---

<p><b>2013 FORD TAURUS SEL</b></p> <p>Stk. #HD0098. Heated leather, SYNC/MyFord Touch, reverse sensing, dual auto climate control, nicely equipped.</p> <p>LEASE \$234.43*</p> <p>24 months, 10,000 miles per year. With \$2,585 due at signing. Includes off lease renewal. Waived security deposit plus tax, title, license.</p>	<p><b>2013 FORD EXPLORER 4WD</b></p> <p>Stk. #H17300. 3.5L V6, Sirius, nicely equipped.</p> <p>LEASE \$207.38*</p> <p>24 months, 10,500 miles per year. With \$2,586 due at signing. Includes off lease renewal. Waived security deposit plus tax, title, license.</p>	<p><b>2013 FORD FIESTA SE</b></p> <p>Stk. #HD0022. Auto, full power, power moonroof, SFE pkg.</p> <p>LEASE \$15,086*</p> <p>*A/Z Plan with off-lease renewal plus tax.</p>	<p><b>2013 FORD FLEX FWD SE</b></p> <p>Stk. #16776. 3.5L V6, Sirius, 17" alloy, privacy glass, SYNC, nicely equipped! 7 pass. seating!</p> <p>LEASE \$273.75*</p> <p>24 months, 10,500 miles per year. With \$2,657 due at signing. Includes off lease renewal waived security deposit plus tax, title, license.</p>
--	--	--	--

**PRE-OWNED CENTER**

2011 FORD F-150 XLT 4 DOOR 4WD Crew Cab, 6 spd auto, 3.5L V6, Stk. #H0195P \$34,495	2011 MERCURY MARINER PREMIER Gold Metallic, auto, 4WD, Stk. #HD0469V \$21,995	2010 FORD FUSION SE Black, auto, PWD, sunroof, Stk. #HD0370U \$15,995	2010 FORD FOCUS SE White, auto, Stk. #HD0711U \$12,995
2010 FORD F-150 PLATINUM Crew Cab, 4.6L V8, Stk. #HD0250U \$31,995	2008 FORD F-150 XLT 4X4 CREW CAB Red, running boards, Stk. #HD0315A \$21,995	2010 FORD ESCAPE XLS Silver, automatic, 4x4, Stk. #HD0289U \$15,995	2007 FORD FOCUS ZX5 SES Silver, auto, Stk. #HD0511U \$12,495
2009 GMC YUKON SLT Silver, auto, Stk. #HD0379V \$29,995	2008 BUICK ENCLAVE CXL Cocoa metallic, auto, Stk. #HD0547U \$20,495	2010 FORD ESCAPE SEL Red, auto, Stk. #HD0289U \$15,995	2011 FORD FIESTA SE Black, manual trans, Stk. #HD0544V \$12,495
2011 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED SAHARA Silver, auto, 4x4, Stk. #HD0564A \$29,995	2008 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED X Red, auto, 4x4, Stk. #HD0560A \$20,995	2009 FORD ESCAPE LIMITED FWD Silver, auto, Stk. #HD0560U \$14,995	2008 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS GS Red, auto, Stk. #HD0726J \$11,495
2010 FORD F-150 LARIAT 4X4 White, auto, crew cab with cap, Stk. #HD0567U \$29,995	2012 FORD ESCAPE XLT Black, auto, 4x4, Stk. #H4649 \$20,495	2009 FORD ESCAPE XLT Light Sage, auto, 4x4, Stk. #HD0709U \$14,995	2010 FORD FOCUS SEL Black, auto, Stk. #HD0336A \$11,495
2009 CHEVY TAHOE HYBRID 4WD Silver, auto, Stk. #HD0257V \$27,995	2010 MERCURY MARINER PREMIER White, auto, 4WD, leather, Stk. #HD0416A \$19,995	2009 FORD FLEX SEL Black, auto, 7 passenger, Stk. #HD0487A \$14,995	2009 FORD FOCUS SE Blue, auto, Stk. #HD0666U \$10,995
2010 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED RUBICON White, auto, 4x4, Stk. #HD0567U \$26,995	2010 MERCURY MARINER PREMIER White, auto, Stk. #HD0635U \$19,995	2009 DODGE AVENGER SE White, auto, 4 door, Stk. #HD0267 \$14,995	2003 FORD EXPLORER SPORT TRAC XLT Green, auto, running boards, Stk. #HD0427A \$10,995
2010 FORD F-150 XLT Red, crew cab, running boards, Stk. #HD0370U \$26,995	2009 MERCURY MARINER PREMIER White, auto, Stk. #HD0635U \$19,995	2007 BUICK LUCERNE CXL Black, auto, Stk. #HD0207A \$14,995	2007 BUICK LUCERNE CXL Black, auto, Stk. #HD0207A \$14,995
2010 FORD F-150 XLT Blue, crew cab, 5th running boards, Stk. #HD0636A \$25,995	2008 FORD F-150 XLT White, ext. cab, 4x4, auto, Stk. #HD0683U \$19,495	2002 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2500 LT Red, 4 door, reg cab, auto, 6.6L V8, diesel, Stk. #HD0190Q \$14,995	2006 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS LS Beige, 4 door, auto, Flex Fuel, Stk. #HD0295A \$10,995
2010 FORD F-150 XLT Silver, crew cab, running boards, Stk. #HD0379U \$25,995	2011 FORD FUSION SEL Burgundy, auto, Stk. #HD0567U \$18,995	2007 LINCOLN MKZ Burgundy, auto, Stk. #HD02313 \$14,495	2009 FORD RANGER XL White, manual, tow hitch, Stk. #HD0318U \$9,995
2010 FORD F-150 XLT Black, 4x4, Ext. Cab, running boards, Stk. #HD0379U \$25,495	2009 LINCOLN TOWN CAR Light Blue, Signature Limited, auto, Stk. #H4127 \$17,995	2006 FORD F-150 XLT EXT CAB 4X4 White, matching cap, Stk. #HD0279U \$14,495	2008 FORD FUSION SE Green, auto, Stk. #HD0572A \$9,995
2011 MERCURY MARINER PREMIER Red, auto, Stk. #HD0567U \$24,995	2009 FORD FOCUS SEL Red, manual trans, Stk. #HD0208A \$13,995	2009 FORD FOCUS SEL Red, manual trans, Stk. #HD0208A \$13,995	2009 FORD F-150 XL White, 2 door, regular cab, auto, Stk. #HD0350U \$8,995
2009 FORD F-150 XLT EXT CAB White, auto, running boards, Stk. #HD0379U \$23,995	2010 FORD TAURUS SEL Black, auto, Stk. #HD0209U \$13,995	2010 FORD TAURUS SEL Black, auto, Stk. #HD0209U \$13,995	2005 FORD FIVE HUNDRED SE Grey, auto, PWD, Stk. #HD0100A \$7,995
2009 FORD F-150 STX EXT CAB Blue, running boards, running boards, Stk. #HD0379U \$22,995	2008 LINCOLN MKZ Silver, auto, Stk. #H4274 \$16,995	2010 FORD FUSION SE White, auto, 4 cyl, Stk. #HD0550A \$13,795	2006 FORD FREESTYLE LIMITED Silver, Stk. #HD0236A \$7,995
2010 FORD ESCAPE LIMITED Red, auto, 4WD, Stk. #HD0579U \$21,995	2010 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT Red, auto, Stk. #HD0311U \$16,895	2009 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT Silver, 4 door, 4WD, auto, Stk. #HD0289A \$12,995	

Hours: Mon & Thurs 9-8; Tue, Wed & Fri 9-6; Sat 10-3

2798 E. Grand River • 517-545-5700

BLUE OVAL CERTIFIED

BOBMAXEY.COM BOBMAXEY.COM BOBMAXEY.COM BOBMAXEY.COM BOBMAXEY.COM BOBMAXEY.COM

## Orders fly in for local online appliance repair company

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

An 81-year-old woman was distraught after the baking element quit working on the General Electric oven range that came with a house she bought 50 years ago.

Without a replacement part, she faced a pricey decision to replace not only her beloved avocado green stove but, to avoid clashing kitchen colors, the matching refrigerator and dishwasher.

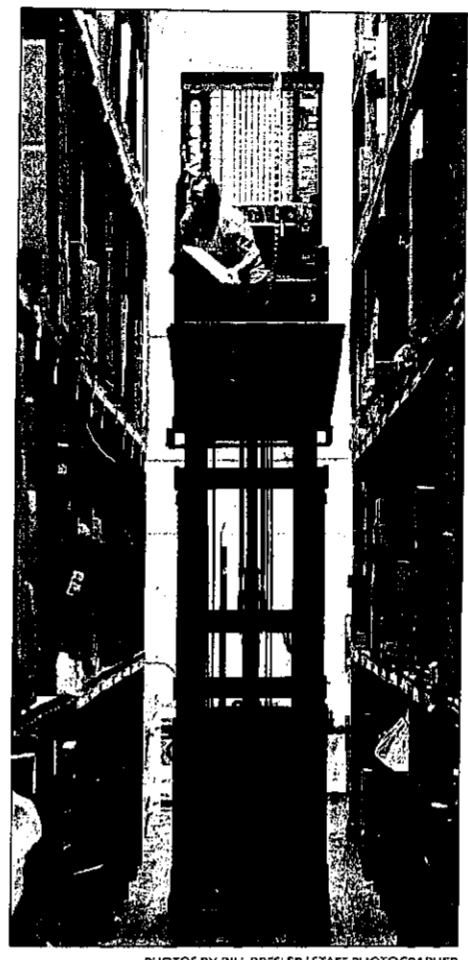
After ordering a \$20.88 part from Canton-based RepairClinic.com, this happy Connecticut customer can use her retro range and bake until her heart's content. She even said so in an email she sent to this growing company, on Michigan Avenue west of Beck.

"I'm good for another 50 years," she wrote. "On second thought, that might be a reach. I'm 81 years old. Still, the part is supposed to extend the range's life — not mine."

That's a favorite testimonial of Jody Lamb, public relations manager for RepairClinic.com, a multimillion-dollar company that stocks more than a million parts — mostly new, some aftermarket — for major home appliances, vacuum cleaners and outdoor power equipment such as lawn mowers and weed trimmers. Just weeks ago, the business launched its product line for heating, ventilation and air conditioning.

**Adding video**

RepairClinic.com touts annual sales of \$30 million to \$50 million and ships



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Yolanda Taylor pulls parts from stock to fill customer's orders.

thousands of parts every day by Fed Ex throughout the United States and, since August, to Canada. It has reached three million customers.

What's more, the company has complemented its parts by producing 850 do-it-yourself videos that have accumulated 10 million hits on its YouTube channel and its own web site, www.RepairClinic.com.

Not bad for former appliance repairman Chris Hall, the company president who started the business in a rental building in 1999 with CEO Larry Beach. It became so successful they opened their current 86,000-

square-foot facility in 2004, Hall said, "and 2012 has been the best year in the history of our company."

RepairClinic.com employs 130 full- and part-time workers, though it expects to add several jobs next year. The vast majority of its customers order their parts online, though some walk in to the front desk and others contact a telephone call center that's open 6:30 a.m. to midnight, seven days a week, with English- and Spanish-speaking employees.

The company has established a strong following among the online do-it-yourself community, which relies on videos to repair 150 brands ranging from carpet cleaners to washing machines. RepairClinic.com also has started making troubleshooting videos to help customers.

**Picture perfect**

Moreover, the company has a photo lab where pictures are taken — and posted online — for the parts it stocks. It also has a partnership to provide parts to 2,000 Home Depot stores.

Though RepairClinic.com had a slower-than-normal year in 2010, Hall said business has otherwise flourished amid a tough economy as more people delay expensive purchases and buy much-cheaper replacement parts.

"We're growing because of the economy," Hall said, adding later, "Refrigerators are the biggest thing. They have a lot more parts than other appliances."



Chris Hall, president of RepairClinic.com, stands next to a pallet of 150 pressure washer pumps. Chris says that because they need to stock 150 pumps, the pressure washers probably have a high failure rate.

Lamb has noticed one consumer trend.

"There has been a definite recent spike in comments from customers making a point to identify themselves as women, 65+ years old or unhandy by nature," she said.

Customers pay a flat \$5 shipping fee, though they can pay more for rush orders. RepairClinic.com sells more parts to the most populated states, but orders have shipped to every state, Puerto Rico and Ontario, Canada.

"California is our biggest market just because of the population," Hall, a Saline resident, said.

Inside the RepairClinic.com building, Hall and Lamb gave a tour of an efficient, high-tech facility that allows employees to use software, wireless gadgets, cardboard boxes, biodegradable packing materials, an automated conveyor system and stock-picker lift trucks to locate specific items, get them packaged and shipped to customers.

**Protect the rep**

Company worker Dean Kovacs of Romulus drives a lift truck, which essentially operates itself using an under-concrete wire that communicates with a truck sensor to guide the vehicle to the appropriate shelf. The truck then lifts Kovacs up — sometimes way up — so he can retrieve the part.

"It's like second nature after a while," he said.

In another area, video production manager Roger Ryan of Livonia and video specialist Adam Earl of Brighton demonstrated the do-it-yourself videos they make using information they get from repair videos. They strive to create videos to help even the most fix-it-challenged viewer.

Pausing in one area, meanwhile, Hall points to a large box filled with 150 pressure washer pumps the company has received for its stock.

"If we order 150 of these," he said, "it means that part is failing."

RepairClinic.com has built a reputation on customer service, including a return policy that stretches a full year. That's how confident Hall and others are that they are providing the parts and the videos people need to succeed.

"We're empowering people to fix something they used to hire out," Hall said. "We're not saving the world. We're just helping people fix something like a washing machine."

## Rocky's of Northville celebrates 20 years

Rocky's of Northville will be the toast of the town in January, as the popular eatery celebrates 20 years in business.

Rocky's has remained a favorite dining spot with local residents for many years, and they have a long list of awards for their 20-plus years of service, including being voted Northville's #1 Best by the readers of The Northville Record several years in a row, and Chef Chuck "Rocky" Rachwitz has rarely not taken first place in any chili cook-off he has entered. Rocky's of Northville was even listed in Nation's Restaurant News as "One of Detroit's Hot Spots."

"It's been a long haul but I would do it all over again given the chance," said Rachwitz. "Few people know that I started as a dishwasher at Dubb's Country Kitchen when I was just 13. Within a year I was the broiler cook and stayed at Dubb's for eight years. It was the best job I ever had. I went on to work for the Holiday Inn, Bloomfield Charley's, The Sundog, the Ponchartrain Hotel and later as regional chef for the Chuck Muer Restaurant Corporation."

Back in 1976, Rachwitz was a line cook in the very same building that now houses Rocky's of Northville. Back then it was called Northville Charley's.

"I would never had dreamed of one day owning the place," Rachwitz



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Chefs Steve Allen (left) and Chuck (Rocky) Rachwitz have plenty to celebrate with their successful restaurant ventures in Northville and Novi. Rachwitz runs Rocky's of Northville, which is celebrating 20 years in business, and both have a hand in Steve & Rocky's in Novi, which is celebrating 15 years of operation in January.

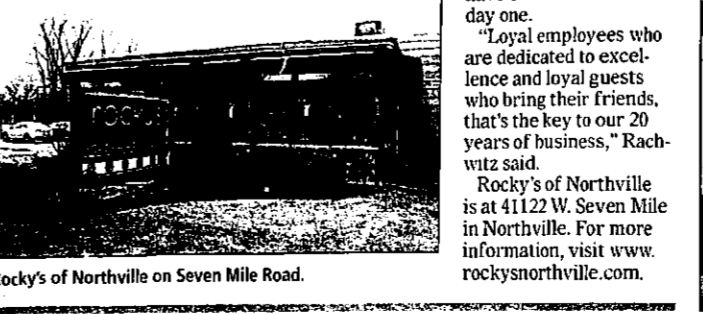
**STEVE & ROCKY'S ALSO CELEBRATING MILESTONE**

Steve & Rocky's, located at 43150 Grand River Ave. in Novi, is owned by the same group that operates Rocky's of Northville and is also celebrating a milestone in January. The Novi restaurant will be celebrating 15 years in business. Guests who visit for lunch or dinner anytime between Jan. 7-Jan. 31 will be offered a complimentary glass of champagne for every main course ordered.

"The idea is for our guests

to raise a glass of bubbly and toast to us and then. Fifteen years is a long time and had it not been for our many loyal guests we would not be here today," stated Chef Steve Allen. In addition to free champagne, Steve & Rocky will be offering guests a chance to enjoy more than a dozen house favorites all at prices from the original 1998 menu.

For more information, call (248) 374-0688 or visit www.steveandrockys.com.



Rocky's of Northville on Seven Mile Road.

Care & Love are the greatest things we provide

STATE LICENSED

Full Assistance with Bathing, Dressing & Hygiene in a Small Home-like Setting

for Active/Alert, Memory Impaired, Frail/Recovering & Alzheimer's residents

- Highly Competitive Inclusive Rates
- 24 Hour Professional Staffing
- Private/Semi-Private/Barrier-Free
- 3 Home-Cooked Meals a Day
- On-Call Nurse Practitioner
- Medication Management
- Daily Housekeeping & Laundry
- Beauty & Barber Shop
- Wander Secured/Enclosed Courtyard

**Crystal Creek Assisted Living**

8121 Lilley Road  
Canton, Michigan 48187  
(Located between Joy & Warren Roads)

(734) 453-3203  
www.CrystalCreekAssistedLiving.com

BECOME A MORE ACTIVE YOU.

We Can Help! We offer classes in:

- Aerobics
- Yoga
- Pilates
- Tai Chi
- Martial Arts
- Fitness
- Weight Loss
- Sign up for an Exercise Class today!

Continuing Education and Professional Development  
www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd 734.462.4448

Schoolcraft College

Facebook: www.facebook.com/schoolcraftcollege



