Green Gala

The Novi Educational Foundation (NEF) is hosting the 7th Annual Green Gala fundraising event at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 23 at the Ivon Oaks County Park on Pontiac Trail in

The annual extravaganza has grown in years, Approximately 300 people come and enjoy casino games, silent auctions and raffles, dancing, food and drinks. Participants include parents sponsors, community members, businesses, Novi Board of Education trustees. Novi City Council members, NEI Board members, Novi education staff, Novi alumni and friends of

Novi schools. Tickets (\$90) may be purchased at all Novi public school buildings or on NEF website. www.novieducationalfoundation.org

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Off the road again?

Trio of property owners against Novi Road pathway

Eminent domain to be used if settlement not reached

By Lonnie Huhman

Bunny hug

The city has begun obtaining easements for properties along Novi Road to complete a path-

way, but not all property owners affected are in favor of the proj-

"I'm not sure the path is necessary since there is a sidewalk across the street," said proper-

ty owner Richard Herbel, "But we couldn't fight them or stop it, so we are hoping to reach a set-

Novi's Engineering Division reports that a total of four permanent easements and four temporary easements have been identified along the west side of

and 10 Mile to facilitate future construction and maintenance of

There are four property owners involved with the easements.

Please see PATHWAY, A12



NCAA hoop contest

We are giving away tickets to the men's NCAA basketball tournament at The Palace of Auburn Hills, The tournament is at the March 21 and Saturday, March 23 and we have tickets for both days. To enter, visit our website, Hometownlife.com, and click on the Don't Miss module on the right-hand side. This is a Facebook contest so you can share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get an extra five chances to win if they also enter the contest. The drawing is Monday, March 18, and you can enter once every day. Good

Mobile Office The full-service Secre-

tary of State Mobile Office is setting up shop at the Spring Boating Expo March 14-17 at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi during regular hours: Thursday and Fri-

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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Easton Marsack, 2, gets a friendly greeting from the Easter Bunny at Novi's Twelve Oaks Mall on March 8 as his mom, Katie, looks on. The Easter Bunny will be greeting kids until

Redevelopment **Ready Community**

Novi one of just 8 selected for state program

By Cal Stone

There may not be a lot of areas in Novi that need redeveloping, but the city is getting in a better position to get those properties back in use, thanks to the state's Redevelopment Ready Communi ties program.

Novi was one of just eight municipalities - and the only city in Oakland County - to pass the first round and earn participation in the program. And Novi's economic director is

elated his city is included. "To me, it's exciting," said Ara Topouzian. "Overall, this is a pretty good program. They've got a dedicated team in place that's been working on fine tuning and

putting this together." RRC is a certification program promoting effective redevelopment strategies through a set of best practices. The program measures and then certifies communities that integrate transparency, predictability and efficiency into their daily devel-

opment practices.
"This is something new," said Ara Topouzian, Novi's econom-

c development director, "It real ly centers on the process." He said Novi is

thirds built out and still has land to develop.

"As young community, it's good to take a look at this now," he said.

Best practices

The RRC certification is a formal recognition that a community has a vision for the future and the

Please see READY, A8

Novi residents generally happy about housing options

uation in Novi and are

it. His takeaway from

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

When Novi residents were asked about housing affordability and options in their commu-

nity, the majority rat-

ed both as excellent and

In last year's Citizen Survey, 388 completed surveys were turned into the City of Novi and as part of this the area of housing was examined. This survey is done every two years. For 2012, 70 percent of

PART ONE

respondents said there was an excellent or good availability of affordable, quality housing and 83 percent said the housing options were good as

Both are up from 2010 when affordability received a 69 percent approval rating and options had 75 percent rated it as good. After looking at the numbers, Novi's Com-

Director Charles Boulard said the city remains upbeat about the current housing sit-

the survey is, "vigilant optimism. "Our residents are justifiably proud of their community," Boulard said. "The future is an open book and expectations remain high. I see the results of the survey as very positive, but

ing to the survey, 55 percent of respondents in a one-family house that is detached; 37 per-

cent said they

live in a building

with two or more

apartments/condominiums. Sixty-seven percent of the respondents said they own their home while 33 percent said they rent. The monththere is always room for

ly housing cost (which



includes things like rent, mortgage payment, property tax, insurance generally ranged from

Please see HOUSING, A8



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Marathon man

Providence cardiologist completes quest to run marathons in all 50 states

By Pamela A. Zinkosky

Completing a single marathon is no small feat. So, Northville resident recently completed his 50th mar-Peter McCullough, M.D.,

a cardiologist for St. John Providence Health System in Novi, completed marathon number 50 last June in Kona, Hawaii — the end of a eight-year quest that involved running one mar athon in each state. On Feb. 22 in Fort Worth, Tex as, the 50 States Marathon Club presented him with an

An interesting factoid is that there are more people who have summitted Mount Everest than have run mar ethons in all 50 states," said McCullough, who is the 18th of 20 Michigan residents to complete marathons in all 50 states. members have claimed to

run their 50 marathors --fied by the Houston-based organization. The group has more than 3,000 members around the country who've either completed or are working toward comstate. There are 81 Michi-

McCullough, 50, said he started running as an adult and ran the Detroit Marathon in 2004. While there, he saw some 50 States members with T-shirts listing the states where they'd completed marathons

"I thought after I recovered that this might be something I would like to urv." he said. He explained that running 26.2 miles is a big enough event that people who do it

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time, which is easily accomplished by running in different parts of the country. "I came to the mental realization that I really didn't want to run the same marathon twice.'

multiple times want to have

a different experience each

even during Michigan winters-for McCullough to reach his goal. "The hardest step is the first step out the door," said McCullough, who said he typically runs in the morn-

feel invigorated for the rest

It took 12 years of run-

ning just about every day -

McCullough ran six to 15 marathons per year, which means the biggest break he took between running events was two months "It's actually easier to

do the marathons with

McCullough, a cardiologist for St. John Providence

Health System in Novi,

McCullough said, "It's easier just to stay fit at a certain level and not let all that training down between

A typical week for McCullough throughout his marathon-running stint involved running five to six miles almost every day with one long run tha could be anywhere from 10 to 20 miles.

your body can stretch up to While McCullough plans that 26.2 miles," he said. McCullough isn't the fastto continue running, he

est runner — his fastest marathon time was about 3 hours and 40 minutes but he always finished his races and ran the entire

"I've always likened running to taking a test n school, where it takes preparation," McCullough explained. "The race whole. No one wants to show up unprepared. A the worst thing to see in race results. The road for McCullough

as not always been easy.

He's sustained a torn

meniscus in his knee, plan tar fasciitis and other injuries, but he's always gone back to running after heal "I like to see other rac ers. There's a lot of interesting people out there." For example, he's met Dean Karnazes, who ran 50

marathons in 50 days; Lar-Maha in Kona ry Macon, who holds the Guinness World Record for running 157 marathons in one year; and many others who run despite obstacles like limb amputation. "It was quite a journey,"

said his Kona, Hawaii run, which completed his 50state goal, was his last marathon. The cardiologist has seen research that marathons, which force the body to pump blood at a high rate for several hours. can cause injuries to the

three to five liters per min ute." McCullough said. While running, it pumps 25 to 30 liters per minute Running a marathon forces the heart to work too hard for too long, he said and it can cause scar tissue that may later lead

For now, McCullough said he'll enjoy running shorter races with his wife Maha, who's completed five marathons; his 16-year-old son Sean, an accomplished half-marathoner; and his 17-yearold daughter Haley, who ran the 5K race along with

award will be displayed Northville home, he said. We have a wall of honor in our house with 300 to

McCullough's 50 state

500 medals on it. The rule for the wall is everything

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CROSSPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH

Novi High School stumit pieces to be juried. as are area arts group.

drawn to teapots. Weissman said. "There's

ists' reception, open to all, 5:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 3.

or tea cups.

The gallery is in the Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River Ave... Novi. It is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Elena Weissman, man ager for the Providence

online at hometownlife.com

Providence

show puts

tocus on

teapots,

sets, cups

By Julie Brown

Providence Healing

Arts will host the 11th

annual Mad Hatter Tea

Party beginning March

Artists will display orig

inal artwork in a profes-

sional art gallery at the

Providence Center for

the Healing Arts in the

lery, in the hospital's

Assarian Cancer Center.

original tea sets, teapots

The Mad Hatter Tea

Party exhibit will be on

display through April

30. There will be an art

Mad Hatter

were shown in previous years.

We're taking a very

playful aspect of them.'

Some make a toast-

car shape. One this year

"It's always what cre-

ative things are people

going to come up with.

are hand-built. None

thrown." Some of the

side ones are done on a

it," she said. The art-

ists' reception is the

Mad Hatter Tea Par-

of them are wheel-

Novi High and out-

wheel, she said.

land theme.

looks like a present.

Arts, said, "We started it as a way to showcase in the ceramics studio. It's fun, it's somewhat irreverent. It's just a dif ferent way to showcase

dents are invited to sub-

ple love the teapot show They complain when I take it down ' Programs at the center are open to patients, families, staffers, vol-

had a call from an oil

beauty of this show, it

covers from the ridicu

lous to the sublime. Peo

painter, "That's the

She's an artist who teaches in the ceramics unteers and the comstudio there. Weissman munity. "It's not about has been in the majority of Mad Hatter shows she said, noting lots of but on Feb. 13 hadn't patients take classes. sion and creativity, hav-"All the ones here ing fun, and doing it in a

18 through April 30. There will be an artists' reception,

open to all, 5:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 3. These pieces

safe place," the Ypsilanti resident said. "It's a labor of love. It's a lot of fun." There are a lot of pieces to set up, with tags that iden-

"It's about the fun of tify the artist and make serving suggestions. "We try to make them funny. The titles of the ty, with people encour pieces are usually irrev aged to dress up, based The week of March 11

on the Alice in Wonder jurying will take place. "Costumes are wel-"As long as we have it comed and encouraged. during that week," she call Weissman at (248) the better," Weissman 465-5448 for informa-"It's great when we

have two-dimensional The website www. artwork on the wall as stiohnprovidence.org/ well," she said, noting providencehealingarts that's sometimes conhas the schedule and tributed by elementary Organizers already

Crawford applauds legislation to create veterans

designation on driver's licenses State Rep. Hugh Crawford recently voted to approve legislation that will make it easier for Michigan veterans to receive the benefits and discounts they deserve.

House Bills 4287 and 4037 creates an optiona designation on a driver's The Mad Hatter Tea Party exhibit will be on display March licenses and state IDs for Michigan veterans that will eliminate some of the hassle they encounter when identifying themselves as a veteran

> "Veterans put their lives on the line to prodoing so have earned certain benefits," said Crawford, R-Novi. "We must improve the quality of life for our veterans, and I believe this bill does that. By placing the designation on licenses and ID cards veterans will now have an easy way to demonstrate their service and receive the benefits

As an added measure to ensure veterans are receiving their benefits, the Secretary of State's office will provide the to Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

Crawford, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran. said the legislation would make Michigan the 28th state to have a veterans designation on their driv er's licenses. HB 4037 now heads to the Senate for consider-

Kesto hosting cyber-safety seminar in Wixom

State Rep. Klint Kesto will sponsor a commu-

nity seminar on Monday March 18, providing parents and guardians help ful information to help keep children safe from

NOVI NEWS BRIEFS

the Internet. Kesto, R-Commerce Township, will host the seminar in conjunction with the Michigan Attornev General's Consumer Protection Division. The presentation takes place ty Center, 49015 Pontiac Trail. from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

There is no cost to attend ed. Those interested in attending are asked to RSVP by calling Kesto at (517) 373-1799 or emailing him at KlintKesto@ house.mi.gov.

Health screenings

If you are 18 or older, low-cost health screenings for serious illnesses, such as obesity, diabetes. high blood pressure, can cer, and heart disease, at the Project Healthy Liv ing event from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, March 22 tick Activities Center at 28600 Eleven Mile Road

in Farmington Hills. lic public health event is locally sponsored by the mission on Aging, the City of Farmington Hills enior Division, and Bots ford Hospital.

For more information. visit http://projecthealthyliving.org or call (248)

Crawford to speak at animal shelter fundraising event

Oakland County Commissioner Kathy Craw ford, R-Novi, will be the featured guest of honor

sored by the Friends For The Dearborn Animal Shelter (FFDAS) from 6 10 p.m. Friday, March 22 at the Warren Valley Ban quet Center, 26116 Warren Ave. in Dearborn Heights.

Crawford, an author and speaker, will present a motivational sneech called "Up, Up and Away" at the FFDAS activity. The presentation is focused on positive think ing and approaching life with a positive attitude. The FDAS is a non-prof ed to the rescue and protection of animals in the ing healthy relationships between people and their

companion animals. Tickets can be purchased online for \$40 by visiting the FFDAS web site at DearbornAnimals org. Tickets cost \$45 at the door on the day of the tion about FFDAS activi-

Speak out at the **Future on Aging** Services forum

ties, call (313) 943-2697.

The Area Agency on Aging 1-B (AAA 1-B) is plan for the distribution of approximately \$20 mil lion each year from 2013 to 2015 for services to older adults. Older adults caregivers and other interested individuals are invited to attend a community forum and have a voice in how older adult programs and services are provided in Oakland

The community forum will be held from 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 19 at Bloomfield Township Senior Services, 4315 Andover.

For more information. call (800) 852-7795 or email amulheisen@aaa1b



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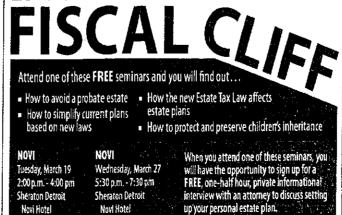
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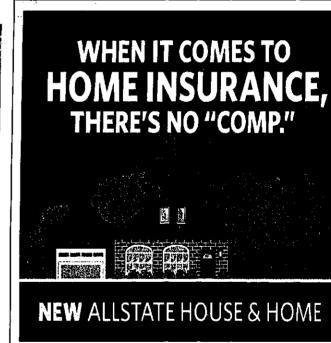






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He appears as Philemon. a Sanhedrin priest, and also plays Andrew, one of the apostles. Angeski does group sales for the play, being staged through Nieto Productions, Palm Sunday, March 24, through Easter, March



Dan Angeski of Novi and a cast of about 47 will appear in "The Cross and the Light" at the Music Hall for the

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Dan Angeski of Novi is among about 47 people in the cast of The Cross and the Light at the Music Hall for the Per-"This is by far the biggest role I've

ever landed. It's quite an opportuniy," said Angeski, a 27-year member of Church of the Holy Family in Novi. He appears as Philemon, a Sanhedrin priest, and also plays Andrew, one of the apostles. Angeski does group sales for the play, being staged through Nieto Productions, Palm Sunday, March 24, through Easter, March 31. There are 11 shows, morning, eve-

ning and matinee. "It's about the Passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ," Angeski

The Cross and the Light starts with Jesus coming in on Palm Sunday. Performances had been previously at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in

"We moved it to a performing arts center. The people at the back of the church couldn't see or hear very well. It's an awesome venue." Kelly Nieto is creator, producer and director for the Christian production, which includes 21 original songs.

"It's a two-hour Broadway style show." Act I is "Living Stations." Act II is "The Empty Tomb to Pentecost." "That's the spirit of God returning to

the Apostles," Angeski said. He noted the Music Hall is not for children under age S, and those working on the production suggest not below third or fourth grade. "You see the effects of it, the blood,

the agony.' Angeski retired from Ford Motor Co. after 30 years in 2007. "I acted in college many moons ago."

He's been in seven motion pictures with small parts, also doing TV commercial work and print work. "What's most awesome to me is to see people's reactions at the end of this

show. It's just so awesome to see the

audience reaction. It's very reverent. It's fantastic in a powerful, prayerful way. It is so moving. Especially for teens, he enjoys seeing that. "I think many of us get there, but it takes a while.'

For 10 years, the play had been at Our Lady of Sorrows in Farmington. He and the others see families come

back year after year.



Dan Angeski of Novi is appearing in "The Cross and the Light."

Angeski handles group sales of 25 or more, and you can call (734) 788-7073 for that. For individual tickets, call the Music Hall directly at (313) 887-8501. TicketMaster.com also has tickets, and www.crossandlight.com has the schedule of performances and clips.

It's not just for Catholics, he said, with Baptists, Lutherans and others also attending. "It's so awesome to see. It's a won-

derful way to prepare yourself for The production is also being done by

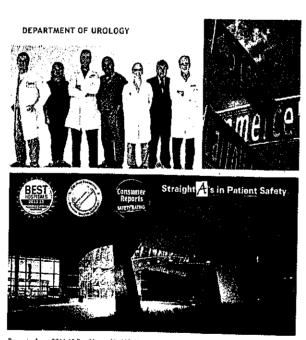
a group in Australia, he added. "It's as much a ministry as it is enterprise or entertainment. He wouldn't be surprised if it ended

up on Broadway "This is not community theater" Professionally trained actors appear as Jesus, Mary, Mary Magdalene and

For the Novi actor, it's a time for his family to see him on stage: "My daughter comes with her husband. My other daughter and her boyfriend come every year.

"Everybody's on a different path in their faith journey. " He said the performance will offer a personal and "It opens up the door for you to have

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THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2013 HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

EDUCATION

FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Sisters Sonali and Simran Reddy, both students at Northville High School are in a club called Coins to Change. They recently traveled to Bangalore, India, where they volun-

Seeking a little change

Coins to Change students reach out to improve global conditions

By Julie Brown

Sonali Reddy, 16, and her sister, Simran, 15, recently had a less-than-typical holiday break from Northville High

The girls traveled with their mom to Bangalore, India, where they volunteered in an orphanage. Sonali Reddy is a junior and her sister a sophomore

They are the daughters of Veena and

Praveen of Northville Township. "They don't have a lot of educational opportunities over there." Sonali Reddy said of the part of India they visited. She's among students who have worked together to establish the high school club Coins to Change on a local level, so they can help improve living

conditions and educational opportunities worldwide. Students from Schoolcraft College, Novi High School and Northville High are currently raising money for a school in the African country of Uganda. They're focused on the Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project, named for a village in

Coins to Change was already at Schoolcraft, Sonali Reddy said, and started at her school early in the 2011-12 school year. Their goal is to raise

some \$30,000 through a number of fundraisers, some done together and others separately.

She was inspired after hearing about Coins to Change from a Schoolcraft faculty member, and also read A School for My Village by Jackson Kaguri. "We were inspired by that," she said.

"I think it's a really good way to get involved in more of a global outreach. The three Reddy family members traveled to India recently, and come from an Indian family background.

Sonali's and Simran's grandparents came over from India. The girls worked over school break at an academic-based orphanage. Lessons were in the students' native language, so the Reddy girls concentrated on teaching singing and dancing, including the Indian classical dance

they know. Sonali is not sure on her college plans just yet, but wants a well-rounded education including communication and global service. She may earn a degree

The students at Schoolcraft College and Novi and Northville high schools are working to expand Coins to Change to other nearby schools.

Teaching is both art and science

had a wonderful teacher in fourth grade. She persuaded me to try things that I never would have dared try

without her encouragement. She encouraged me to write. So I wrote To this day I can clearly remember a stoball game told from the baseball's perspective. I learned about voice, tone. mood, and setting, all because she created an environment that helped me learn not only the mechanics but also the art of

She encouraged me to learn history. So did. I participated in one-act plays with my friends, acting out

some of the most memorable events in New Mexico and U.S. history. Through this simple trategy, she helped me learn and remember my nistory lessons. She also promised a

candy bar to any student who had perfect attendance for the year. I never missed a day of school. I look back fondly on fourth grade. My

dollar bill and a Hershey

teacher used a variety of strategies and approaches to keep me interested in

Yet activities and strategies that worked for me probably did not work for everyone in the class. An approach that I really enjoyed probably was not enjoyed by everyone. I am sure that there were times and there were activities that I did

That is the mystery of teaching. Why does something work so well for one student but not so well for another student

As I move around the district I try and get into as many classrooms as I can. I want to see how our teachers are trying to reach our students. What strategies are our teachers using to encourage and

Schoolcraft College

help our students learn?

and approaches and they need to know

Teaching is both art and science. Teachers have to know their subject but they also have to understand students. Teachers need to have a toolbox full of strategies

when and where to use those strategies. Our district goals focus on achievement. Yet, in order for our students to achieve we have to have teachers who can find ways to reach our students. Our teachers have to find those stratereport How the World's Best-Perform ing School Systems Come Out on Top (McKinsey and Company, 2007) improv ing instruction is heralded as the most effective way to improve outcomes. This report goes on to say that there is not a single documented case of a school successfully altering its pupil achievement trajectory in the absence of talented

If our district is to meet our objectives, we have to focus on instruction. It is a collaborative effort between administra tors and teachers. District administrative leadership must know and understand. what good teaching looks like and teachers must be able to identify and use classroom strategies that are effective

I have been fortunate to have great teachers throughout my life. My 4th grade teacher was a wonderful example She used strategies and approaches that drew me in and helped me learn.

trict, teachers who work hard at their craft. Our goal is to support our teachers encourage them to find, use, and reflect on their instructional strategies so that our students can be successful at learning the lessons that they need to learn.

Steve Matthews is the superintendent of the Novi district. He can be reached at smatthews@novi.k12.mi.us; (248) 449-1204; www twitter.com/docsmatthews; or www.novisuperintendent.blogspot.com.

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· See how Data Walls.

Leadership Notebooks, and

Plus/Delta Charts contrib-

For more information

Novi High School's 3rd

annual International Tal-

ent Show will be held at 7

p.m. Friday, March 22 in the

uditorium. All proceeds

Hunger Project, Last year

over 300 people attended

the event which raised over

\$2.200 donated to Doctors

The show will feature

instrumentals, drum line

The production was orga-

nized by Novi High School's IB Diploma candidates.

This event is part of their

service) requirement for

Without Borders.

ute to student success.

judyevola@wlcsd.org.

Habits have become the

Coffee with the

Superintendent Dr. Steve Matthews, Novi Schools superintendent, hosts a coffee meeting two times each month for parents and community mem bers at the Novi Public

Please join Dr. Matthews on Monday, March 18 at 6:30 p.m. or Wednesday March 20 10:15 a.m. for a related to our schools.

Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl

Thirty out of 120 students anese at Novi High School attended the annual Michi-March 2 at Michigan State University.

Novi earned second place in Division 1 with Lena Burgess, David Chen. Kathrvn Hong and Reanna Lotrey. The Division 3 team of Aditya Sayanur, Wenyu Shi Han Wang and Bilal Zahoor

The Division 4 team of Ayesha Shamsher, Ruitong Zuo, Jason Liu and Yeon Kwon earned second place. losing first by just one point. Also, Rylie Butner got the second place in the T-shirt

design. "Unfortunately, other teams didn't win, but they tried very hard, and did Novi High School students a great job," said teachperforming in acts repreer Noriko Rosen, "It was a long day, but everyone Some of the many acts had a great time and expeinclude dances, soloists, guage and the culture, not and more. A food court will be set up where attendees just competing against oth-

Pleasant Lake Elementary hosts Leadership Day

Pleasant Lake Elementary School is hosting Lead-

earning the IB diploma. The students planned all aspects of the show. In addia.m. Tuesday, March 26. Space is limited and guests tion, many of the IB stuare asked to RSVP for this event by contacting Brendents are performing in the da Raymond at brendarayshow under the direction of mond@wlcsd.org or (248) their staff coordinator, Bar-

bara Clift. Tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased at

Bright House Scholarship program

Bright House Networks announced the call for local entries for the 2013 Future eaders Scholarship proeram designed to recognize high school seniors in good standing in Bright House Networks service areas for their contributions to their schools and local commu-

All 2013 applicants for International the Future Leaders Schol-Talent Show arship must meet the following criteria:

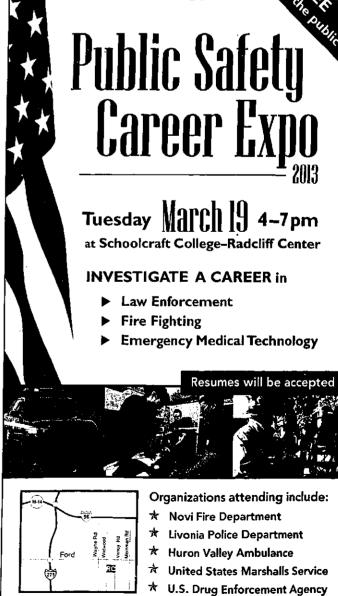
· attend a high school in the Bright House Networks service area as a senior in good standing have a minimum 2.5 grade point average are donated this year to The

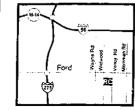
 demonstrate leadership ties or through work expe · In addition to the application form, applicants

must include a typed, minimum 500 word essay on the importance of leadership and community service. All applications must be completed and postmarked

by March 15 and received Application forms are available online at www.

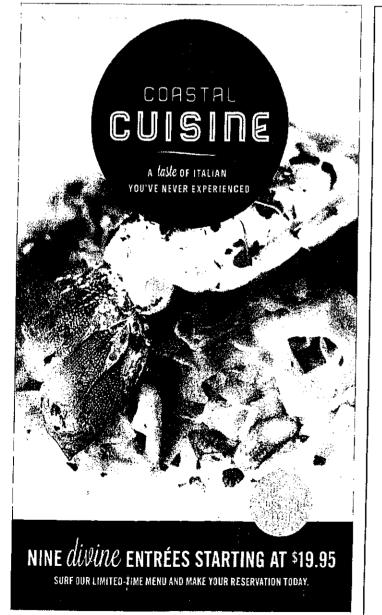
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UPDATES FROM YOUR CITY

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services recognized

It's no secret the Novi is proud of its parks and recreation offerings. This commitment was recently honored by the Michigan Recreation and Park Association (MRPA) with an Innovative Program Award and a Novi Parks Leader, Scott Pratt, superintendent of Recreation, named the Recreation Leadership Award winner.

The award is presented annually to a MRPA member who has made beneficial contributions and exhibited outstanding leadership in the area of recreation pro Pratt, who joined the City of Novi in January 2012, has diverse recreation experience. He began his career in Marshall, Mich., where he served eight years before spending 18 months as the adult athletsupervisor in the South Pacific's Marshall Islands. Prior to working in Novi, he was employed by Oak Park Recreation. During his tenure in Oak Park, as Recreation and Aquatics coordinator and deputy director of Recreation, he implemented pre-school programs, expanded swimming programs, improved municipal pool operations, enhanced the program brochure, and Since arriving in Novi, Pratt has expanded sports and fitness programs, initiated adaptive recreation opportunities and played an instrumental role in organizing the Theatre and Cultural Services Division. His ability to work with a variety of stakeholders, including vendors, employees, colleagues, program participants, and partner organizations, is reason he is successful as a recreation professional.

"Scott is a works tirelessly with relentless enthusiasm and great creativity. As our Superintendent of Recreation, he is responsible for all recreation programs and sports leagues offered through the Department," said Jason Mangum, director of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

Recreation and Cultural Services.
The 2012 Parent Child Golf Outing and Outdoor Movie received the Innovative Program award. This is the second consecutive year Novi has received the award.
The Parent Child Golf Outing and Outdoor Movie event was designed to introduce the game of golf to the younger generation while at the same time creating the opportunity for quality family time. Nearly 80 families participated in the 2012 event at the Links of Novi. The program will again be offered this September with registration beginning in July.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nina Cihelka, 6, practices her balance while gliding around the surface at the Novi ke Arena on March 8. The facility is open for a skate at noon Monday-Friday for \$2.

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Opening



Artist Greg Ritenour, right, discusses one of his creations with Novi City Manager Clay Pearson during a March 7 exhibition opening at the Novi Civic Center. Clients of Novi's Cassell and Associates rehabilitation center displayed their art. All of Cassell's clients have suffered some form of traumatic brain injury. The City of Novi has named March as Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Month.



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HOUSING

\$600 to \$2,499 with 29 percent statis Boulard said what makes Novi spe

"Novi offers residents a wide range of housing options ranging from detached single family homes to condominiums and apartments," he said. as at a number of other projects cur-"Our community also offers housing | rently proposed. tailored to the unique lifestyles of our senior citizens. All of these options are available at a variety of price points.'

And he added the outlook is good for

"Values of existing homes are rising significantly and we continue to see inquiries from developers for the full range or residential options ranging from very nice apartments o multifamily attached homes to individual detached homes on larger lots," he said. In the coming year he expects to see

new housing project work commencing on the Valencia Estates development at 10 Mile and Beck Road as well

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READY

Continued from page A1

fundamental practices in place to get there. Novi was one of 36 municipalities to apply for the program. Now, they're one of eight that will get formal evaluations. The others including Wixom — will get best practices train-

ng and assistance. 'We already have a lot of good practices in place," said Topouzian. Topouzian said Novi

has taken measures in evaluating how the city does business, and that was needed to be considered by the Michigan Corporation for the program. And, he added, the city is always open to learning and improving. "In six years, I'm proud of the chang-

Topouzian, "We take a look at finished projal, and evaluate how we did. We bring in businesses and the developer, landlord or contractor. We sit down and nterview them. There for them. Tell us what vou liked about the process and what you didn't like. We're already doing things like that things they're (MEDC) looking for - how do

ou involve your stake-

holders, and how do you

engage the community?

Process and benefits

Topouzian said the evaluation process should last three to

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eiving a formal RRC evaluation include Allegan; Ann Aor; Boyne City; East Lansing; Lansing; Lathrup Villageuskegon; and Novi.

tance include Al; Almont; Bedford Township; Birch Run; Breckenrid Burton; Clawson; Dearborn; Dundee; Durand; Eaton Rids; Farmington Hills; Fife Lake; Hamtramck; Imlay Citionia: Ithaca: Marine City; Marshall: Midland: Middley: Port Sanilac: Saginaw Township; St. Louis; Three Ris; Watervliet; White Lake Township;

For more informat on the Redevelopment Ready Communities Progle, visit http://www.michiganady tage.org/Redevelorent-Ready-Communities/.

the MEDC will publy present its evaluation Novi's practices at lit Council meeting, pra bly in June. At that to council members w adopt a memoranduk understanding to be of the RRC.

The MEDC has an advisory council that will provide technical expertise and strategi

"Then we would get a certification," said Topouzian, "and the bei efit is that it signals that we're a business-friend ly community.

Novi would get prior-ity in Michigan State Housing Development Authority or MEDC "There might be a benefit financially." sad

Topouzian. "The sies that come in, usualy the first line of deense is the MEDC. The tate gets large leads arl there. By getting ertification, it helps u nut out that we've gotgood properties out thee. It should put us in god

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Possible targets Equally important, the MEDC will take Novi's top three redevelopment

sites and market them. "This would be some bigger areas that they would help with " said Topouzian. "I don't know ing those properties yet, but I think that's big.' Although he said it's

premature at this point

to name any specific properties in Novi that would be targeted for redevelopment, the obvious examples would be Another benefit is that Center (southwest corner of Novi Road and I-96) and the former Husautomotive facili-(on the south side of Twelve Mile Road, just vest of Cabaret Drive). He expects the timene to be completed in e fall but said a lot an hapjen between hw andthen. Besides said, here could be afeady le development orthose wo properties

there was no fee to apply for he RRC, and Novi did s earlier this

"When they put the word out, we jumped on it," said Topuzian.

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Picture perfect

Photo club exposes members to new ideas, fun

Len Stein, 63, is an optometrist who still works. He's among mem bers of the new Digital Photography Club at Fox Run retirement community in Novi.

"I've been taking pic tures since I was a kid.' around 8, Stein recalled of early photos he took with a Brownie camera Recently, a divorce relo-

cated him to Fox Run. He attended a Gala for the Benevolent Fund, to help residents, and took some 450 photos. The photos were put on a disc and shown in slide form on inhouse television.

"I've always enjoyed taking pictures," said Stein. He's looking forphy at Fox Run, and pos-sibly at Tollgate Farm Metropark.

He's attended paras the "Strut Your Mutt" dog show, with camera in "It's been a lot of fun."

Stein said of the photogmeeting in November. One woman knows quite a bit about printing. "I'm more into candid." he said. "So it's quite a variety (of skills). But all

Matt Humphrey, 39, is on staff as a chaplain in the resident life program. Humphrey, a Novi resyoung girls, explained

nice people and a lot of

Fox Run aims to rally people together and have

"I'm definitely an amateur photographer," Humphrey said. He and his wife got a camera to photograph their daughters. "I have taken thou-The club has monthsands of photos, as any

proud father would." newsletter for all the Erickson properties in the U.S. "I see so many of our residents also taking pictures of these (Fox Run) events," said Hum-Contributing to the pub-

lication was a logical step. One local member was in the Detroit Photo Guild, "She has a deepof the technical aspects,'

2013 COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

They learn from pros about lighting, perspective and other key areas "Oh, definitely." Humment, "That's one of the joys I get. I am learning

ly meetings. "They are learners," Humphrey said of the residents "They want to learn to get out and document this. It's nice for older people who travel to document trips with photos, he added, rather than trinkets. The club uses Photo-

bucket, a free photo web

members use.

sharing site. They can make prints or put an app on an iPad, which some for Valentine's Day. One member used to do

Members of the Fox Run Digital Photography Club compare cameras during their March 1 meeting. From left: Len itein, Jack Kerby, and Matt Humphrey. The group goes on outings in the area to record lots of images and then gathers to critique those efforts.

a lot, too, to be creative," Humphrey said. In May, they'll have a community day of photographing on the grounds, including the butterfly garden. The members photograph many social events, such as the recent "History of Chocolate"

Humphrey said. The club plans to display its work in the community several times each year. Members have visited The Parade Company of Detroit on a photo shoot,

ers have more basic skills,

while learning new skills icbrown@hometownlife.com

and in coming months

will continue such trips



Members of the Fox Run Digital Photography Club look at some photos on a tablet computer during their March 1 meeting. From left: Len Stein, Matt Humphrey and Jack Kerby.

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tions religious institutions, medical facilities, and many other nonprofit and community

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cover Novi Community Direc-

tory is an effective resource to help promote business; events.

activities and initiatives in the

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- A 20-40 word description of the organization's purpose
- A photo attachment in JPG or TIF format, at 300 dpi resolution, no larger than 4" x 6" (photo is optional).

We reserve the right to accept or decline any submission. Submissions will be verified before publication. Submissions must be received no later than March 25, 2013. The directory publishes on April 18, 2013 in the Novi News, with additional copies delivered to various community organizations.

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Food service mogul Toni Wisne Sabina dies

president and co-owner of Epoch Hospitality Group, passed away March 7 after a recent hospitalization, surrounded by her loving family and close friends. She was 48.

online at hometownlife.com

"It was nothing that we thought this would be the end result," Paul Hess, director of operations at Epoch Hospitality Group, told Crain's Detroit Business, "Toni remained hands-on, engaged in the business on a regular basis and, you know, the same as she always had

Toni brought an extraordinary allure to the food and beverage decades. She belonged to an elite corps of female restaurateurs heading up an ensemble of hospital ity establishments over

the years. Toni grew up in Dearborn where she graduated from Divine Child High School, She quickly began her career in the hospitality industry at the young age of 15 when her father, Anthony, developed and built the Sheraton Oaks Hotel in suburban Novi, and encouraged Toni to get involved. She worked various internships during summers off from college while at Michigan State University and at the University of Central Florida, where she ultimately earned a bachelor of arts degree management. By the

Milestones

Jere and Patricia

Keyes celebrated their

60th wedding anniversa

ry on Feb. 14 with a din-

ville and a family gather

ing at their granddaugh-

They are proud parents

of five children and have

16 grandchildren, as well

as 12 great grandchildren

with one more due any

day. They have been res-

idents of Northville for

43 years. All of their chil-

dren attended Northville

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ter's home in Fowlerville.

fine-dining restaurant scene, while holding its own with other establish al acclaim. Chez Raphael was the first restaurant to be operated by the new Epoch Restaurant Group, which Toni founded with her brothers as partners. With Chez Raphael's

marily on restaurants. She would often say, "The service industry is in my blood. I love watching people enjoy their food and have a good time." In 1990, Toni oversaw

er of the Michigan Jew-

elry Supply Company for

the business he worked

for Leo Frank and Son in

ment in 1995. He contin-

which was taught to him

Keves, who also spent his

ness. Jere is an avid golf-

golf group every Monday

morning in winter. Patri-

raising their large family,

ues to do watch repair

by his father, Richard

life in the jewelry busi-

er, and meets with his

cia focused her life on

many years. After he sold

turned bistro Too Chez. had sevence while having two eral years successful restaurants under her belt led her to Tribute Restaurant in a hotel. Farmington Hills. She completely gutted and transformed an exist-

her professional degree, Toni returned home to Michigan to serve as el Guide Four-Star and president of PICO Man-AAA Four-Diamond dinagement Company, the entity that successfully managed the operations of the Sheraton Oaks In 1985, Toni moved

After

the hotel's esteemed restaurant Raphael's into a former car dealership that was next door to the hotel, and renamed it as Chez Raphael, Chez Raphael gained an immediate foothold in Detroit's ments of local and nation-

quick success, Toni decided she wanted to concentrate her energies pri-

tion of Chez Raphael into

In 1996, Toni's experiopen the highly regarded and nationally acclaimed ing building, and brought Michigan a Mobil Trav-

In 2002. Tribute was honored as one of the top 50 restaurants in America by Gourmet magazine, and the following year, in 2003, was awarded with an induction into the Nation's Restaurant of Fame," In 2002, Toni was named one of Crain's Detroit Business' Most

Influential Women. Toni's talents led to more restaurant success es, as Epoch opened Forté Restaurant in downtown Birmingham in late 1996. in the exclusive Bay Harbor area of Lake Michcasual Knot, Just a bar, also located in the Village at Bay Harbor, was added to the collection of restaurants in 2000. That same year, Toni led the expansion of Epoch into off-premise catering by opening Epoch Events in

In 2007, Enoch added another Knot, Just a Bar gan town of Omena, to

for Chatham Supermarket in Northville. She has

written 10 books on her

well as three biographies

As a member of the Sar-

and Jere's ancestry as

the stable of restaurants and their rapidly increasing catering business. That same year, Epoch Catering was formed to manage catering operations at the newly constructed Diamond Center at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi and in addition, now also provides exclusive management services for the Genesys Conference and Banquet Center in Grand Blanc, and for the Riverfront Banquet Center in downtown Flint. Epoch

also provides management services to Orange Tree Golf Club, a private golf club in Orlando, Fla., as well as to other area restaurants owned by outside investment groups. "I was very saddened by the news of Toni's

passing," said Blair Bow man, owner of the Suburban Collection Showplace. "Our relationship dated back to her and her family's support in helping to get the original gram started and continued through to Toni's fessionalism in the highlevel, quality food service in our current banquet center operations at the Suburban Collection Showplace today. She was a friend, and she will be deeply missed."

As a hands-on successful entrepreneur, the staff that worked closest to her appreciated how accessible and down-to-earth she was

ter DAR, she does lineage

research. She is a mem-

ber of U.S. Daughters

of 1812 and Daughters

of the Union. The Keve-

ses attend the Methodist

Church in Northville.

to many, "We're a family-owned business, and our employees respond to that - because they are our family as well," she said, "Many of our managers and chefs started as waiters and line cooks and that family philosophy contributes greatly to our accomplishments because we are all working towards the same

Born Oct. 20, 1964, Toni is survived by husband Steven Sabina, rence Wisne, Alan Wisne and Joseph Wisne and sisters-in-law Judy Piotrowski-Wisne, Kathy Wisne and Debbie Wisne.

her stepmother, Cathie Cranker Wisne, and nieces and nenhews that she dearly loved: Lawrence. Madelyn and Lee Wisne, as well as many, many friends. Toni was preceded in death by her parents Anthony and Hazel. niece Kyla and her neph-

Visitation was held Monday at Heeney-Sun-Farmington, A funeral mass was held Tuesday at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Farmington. Memorial gifts suggested to MI Humane Society or Vietnam Veter ans of America.

Easter

Join us on Saturday, March 23 from 9am-11am for Easter for Kids. It is a one-day VBS, where we make crafts, sing songs, and receive goodies and take-home items. We also get to hear about Jesus' death and resurrection and 🎮 why it matters.

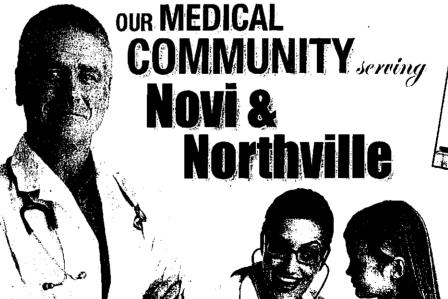
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Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday --

March 24, 10:00 am Maundy Thursday -March 28, 7:00 pm Good Friday -March 29, 7:00 pm Easter Sunday -March 31, 7:30 am and 10:00 am

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NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Theft at the Novi Sports Club A cellular phone was

reportedly stolen from a vehicle parked at the Novi Sports Club on Nick Lidstrom Drive On March 6, a Livo nia woman told Novi Police that her daughter discovered her phone

and \$125 in cash missing along with some other items from their van. The vehicle was reportedly locked but a rear door is faulty and may have been the point of entry. There are no suspects and this area of the lot is not covered by the security cam-

Wallet stolen at

An employee of Novi's ∠ Hooters location reported to Novi Police that her wallet went missing from the break room. On March 6, the employee told Novi Police the wallet was discovered missing after

Larcenies from autos at local

attempting to later pay

for gas. There are no sus-

pects and there is no cam-

hotels There were three 3 recent thefts from narked vehicles while parked at two local

On March 4-5, there

were two incidents at the Sheraton Hotel on Haggerty Road. One involved a rear passenger window being broken so the suspect could gain access to steal a stereo. The other involved a GPS being stolen. In this case, the vehicle may have been

unlocked. The other case happened at the Courtyard Road on March 5. The

unknown suspect broke in the rear passenger window and stole a factory-installed GPS navigation system. The vehicle, a Jeep, was parked lot facing the building. but there are no outside security cameras The system is valued at \$1,200.

Compiled by staff writer Lonnie Huhman.



eras.

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • htwobits@hometownlife.com

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

Age 79, passed away, March 7, 2013. She was born on June 6, 1933 in Detroit, daughter of the late Vincent and Sophie Ribikowski. She is survived by Ribikowski. She is survived by her loving children: Diane (James) Urbanik, Gary Aleksander and Marie (Michael) Welie. She is also survived by three grandchildren: Justin, Shelby and Carl and her siblings: Stella, Genevieve, Virginia, MaryAnn and Joseph. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Frank. Visitation was held on Sunday, March 10 at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. A Liturey of the Word funeral A Liturgy of the Word funeral service was held on Monday at 10:30 a.m. at the funeral home. Online guestbook at www.phillipsfuneral.com

THERESA

Millifes TUNEAUTION SERVICES



ALLEN, ROBERT HAROLD Bob Allen, 76, passed away on Thursday, March 7, 2013 at Memorial HealthCare. He was born March 29, 1936 to Viola (Ayliffe) and Harold Kenneth Allen. Bob owned H.K. Allen Paper Co. in Owosso and went to work on his last day. He was ac-tive in the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous for more than 35 ies Anonymous for more than 35 years, sharing his experience, strength and hope with many. He was an avid hunter and fisherman and enjoyed tournament fishing with his friend Bob Guenthardt aboard "The Reneade." Bob was a member of St. Johns United Church of Christ and served on the church council. He loved to work out at the Shiawassee Area YMCA and and chairman of the Camp Committee for more than 20 years. Bob was on dialysis for five years using it as an opportunity to inform and encourage others to try home dialysis. Survivors include his wife of 21 years, Paula K. Alexander; 'daughter Leisa (Ray) Tobey and their three sons Matthew, Seth and Ja-cob; daughter Tracy Mahaney of Ft. Lauderdale and her daughter Robert Koss Allen of Milford. er in law Les Bour and "heart children" Willie Church and Heichildren Willie Church and Heidi Church Mahler of northern
Michigan. His sister Theresa
(Tess) Bour and his parents preceded him in death. He leaves a
debt of gratitude to his business
partner Dan Butcher and his office manager and dialysis assistant Natalie Mesh. A celebration
of Bob's life will be held on Satof Bob's life will be held on Saturday, March 16 at noon at St. John's United Church of Christ, 429 N. Washington St. in Owosso with Rev. Peg Faulmann and Rev. Jim Dyke officiating. There will be a dinner following ries. Instead of flowers, please remember Bob with donations to the Shiawassee Area YMCA.

May 21, 1977-February 21, 2013 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

ERICKSON.

LynchFuneral Directors.com

AGATHA AGATHA
A former long time resident of
Mitford, died on March 11,
2013, at the age of 92. She was
preceded in death by her husband, Elmer D. Erickson in
1990, and a daughter, Helen
Marie Erickson. She is survived
by daughters, Virginta (Gerald)
Mantela, Kathleen (Barry)
Smothers, Ianice (Nowher) Balber: sons, John Erickson and Bruce (Mae) Erickson; seventeen grandchildren; seven great grandchildren and a sister, Lu-cille (the late Francis) Bryneari. . Mary Catholic Church, 1955 . Commerce Road, Milford, or made to Foundation Fighting Blindness, www.blindness.org in her name. Her generosity to the fight against blindness will con-tinue as an enduring legacy. Even in death she continues to E. Commerce Read, Milford, on Friday, March 15, at 11AM. Burial will follow at Milford Memorial Cemetery Friends may visit at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty St., Milford, on Thursday, March 14, 4support the fight through her donation to the Michigan Eye Bank. She will be sorely missed. 8PM with a Rosary at 7PM. For



CELETTE, EDITH E. August 11, 1933 to March 2 August 11, 1933 to March 2, 2013, at her home after a lengthy illness. Survived by a brother, Edwin Celette, two nieces and their families, and many special friends. Eadie was a long-time

area resident and prominent businesswoman. She held dual and psychology and was Ph.D. prepared. After many years in the Southfield School District she left the education field and entered the real estate field. She was most passionate about real 12:00pm at her home. For infor-mation, please contact Elton Black & Son Funeral Home.

D'ALESSANDRO, EUGENE July 19, 1931-February 23, 2013 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

DINSER, MARGARET Nov. 15, 1926-Feb. 19, 2013 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com



Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan of complications of metastatic breast cancer. She survived a previous battle with breast cancer in 1995-6. Phyllis was born on April 7, 1948 in Pigeon, Michigan to Hannah Jane Yackle and the late Orville Oswald Yackle. Phyllis was a graduate of Michigan State University with a B.A. degree in accounting. She Michigan State University with a B.A. degree in accounting. She also earned a Master's in Business Administration in 1982 from the University of Michigan. She received her certificate in public accounting in 1973 in the State of Michigan. She practiced as a certified multic accountant. as a certified public accountant in Northville and Livonia. Phyl-lis married her husband, Antho-ny J. Heckemeyer of Northville, who survives her, on June 17, 1972. Phyllis and Anthony have three daughters, Katrina (Tim) Smith, Amity (Nathan) Binkert

and Sarah (Leonard) Bixby. To-gether the daughters blessed them with nine grandchildren; Jackson, Hugh-ston, and Hannah Smith; Alexander, Bennett, and Liliana Binkert; and Halle, George, and Phillip Bixby, who gave Phyllis great entertainment and joy. She is also survived by her sister Patricia (Robert Kraay; her brother Douglas (Dia nne) Yackle: many loying nie ces, rephews, and friends. Phyl-lis and her husband, Anthony, have made Northville their home since 1976. Phyllis was very ac-. She held several offices with

the Northville Lions Club. She was a life member of the Northville Mothers Club and a member of the Women's Club of snowmobiling, beating or spend-ing time with family and friends at the family cabin in Leroy, Michigan, He will always be re-Northville. Phyllis was an avid music lover who was also an acmembered as a loving and devot-ed husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend. He is surmusic lover who was also an ac-complished pianist and organist. She sang with the Schoolcraft Community Singers. Phyllis was a strong woman of faith and an active member of Emmanuel Luvived by his beloved wife of 40 years, Corinne, his loving chil-dren: Scott & Diane Zischerk, Pamela & David McRoberts, his theran Church in Livonia where in keeping with to her musical spirit, she played bells in the church's bell quartet. She was al-so part of a local knitting group and knit many beautiful crearameta & David McKoberts, his adoring grandchildren: Andrew, Emma, Tyler, Evan, Dylan and Owen, He is also survived by his brother, Gary (Anita) and his sis-ters: Merry (Cougar) Goddard and Shari (Mike) Dickey. He is tions to be enjoyed for years to come. A funeral service was held Saturday, March 9, 2013 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Livo-nia. She was laid to rest at Rural Hill Cemetery in North-ville. Per hear required persons in-law, Gary Gorniak, and his sister-in-law Sharon (Eddie) Smith. Visitation was held on Monday, March 11. A Liturgy of her request, memorials should be the Word funeral service was held on Tuesday, March 12 at 10:00am a PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Online guestbook at www.phillipsfuneral.com

> . Shillips PUNIKAL HOMEAND ORESIATEDA APROLEA



March 6, 2013; age 88 of Northville, Beloved hus-band of Shirley for 59 band of Shirley for 59 years. Loving father of Steven (Suzette), Shelley (Steven) Misenheimer, Scott (Lisa), and the late Stanley (Irene), and infant daughter. Proud grandpa of Christina, Michelle, Chaz, Heather, Bobby, Amber, Tommy, Jessica, Jeffrey, Sarah, and Rachel; and great-grandpa of Athena, Lucy, and Mason. Dear brother of Margaret "Peg" Patterson, and the late Susan Forester. Also survived by many nieces son, and the fate Susan Forester.

Also survived by many nieces
and nephews. Fred proudly
served his country as a member
of the 1st Infantry Division, the
"Big Red One". He landed with the first wave on Omaha Beach on D-day. He received many recognitions, including two Pur-ple Hearts and the French Legion of Honor Medal. Funeral was



held Monday at Vermeulen Fu-

neral Home, Plymouth. Mem-

MILLER, MARIE

O'CONNELL, FRANCIS Feb. 9, 1929-Feb. 26, 2013

SCHANZ, MARGARET August 21, 1923-Feb. 22, 2013 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

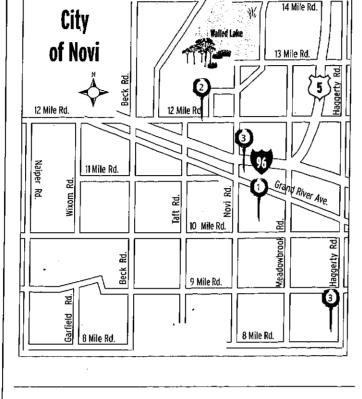
FREDERICK E Age 65, 3/5/13. Service March 23 1p.m. First Baptist Church of South Lyon, phillipsfuneral.com TWYDELL, KENNITH Age 72, died March 8, 2013. A memorial gathering Thursday, March 14, 11am-1pm military March 14, 11am-1pm military honors 1:00pm at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon.

VANDERHAEGHEN, CECILE D. Age 74, of Novi, passed away March 7, 2013. Condolences at www.casterlinefuneralhome.com



ZISCHERK. TERRY H.

Terry was an avid outdoorsman. He could often be found



PATHWAY Continued from page A1

Each owner is being asked for a permanent and temporary easement, and these are in various stages of the acquisition process.

The Novi City Council unanimously approved the easement recommendations made by the Public Services Department over the course of the last several meetings. Orchard Hills Baptist Church donat-

ed its easement, and the other purchase easements have a total cost of \$6.510. But those three property owners - Herbel; Jerome and Verda Toler; and Denis Appel — have informed city staff they are not for the project. According to Novi's Public Services director Rob Hayes, the Tolers are associated with the parcel owned by the Richard Herbel Trust (Richard

Herbel is the trustee; the Tolers are the beneficiaries. For the property owned by Herbel, the City Council on Feb. 25 approved a threefold motion: (1) a resolution concerning acquisition and approving declaration of necessity and taking and authorization of offer to purchase; (2) a declaration of taking; and, (3) an agree-

ment of sale and offer to purchase easements over real prope DPS Engineering staff told the coun-cil it has had multiple meetings and discussions with Herbel about his property at 23777 Novi Road to acquire a pathway easement and temporary grading permit that is required to con-

struct the pathway.
"Mr. Herbel has indicated he is not in favor of the project, and that he is not willing to provide the easements necessary for the project," according to the report by Novi's Engineering Division. "If the motion is approved, staff will contact Mr. Herbel and Jerome and Verda Toler with a good faith offer in the amount of \$769 for the permanent

and temporary easements. Herbel said he has rejected that offer and has posed a counter that is currently under review by the city. "This (pathway) is going in regard-

less, and I don't want to be too much of a hindrance anymore," said Herbel. Hayes said the Herbel Trust has will be brought forward for the City Council's consideration on March 25 Appel lives at 23675 Novi Road and is also the owner of a vacant lot under consideration, which is north of his residence. City staff indicated he is also not willing to provide the easements

necessary for the project. He owns 23675 with Anita and Johann Appel.

"I'm not necessarily against this, but things got off on the wrong foot," said Denis Appel. "I received no notice. They just came out and began surveying, damaging some shrubs in the pro-

Hayes said Appel never responded to the offer to acquire the easements, so the City Attorney filed a complaint that will give Novi right of entry in early April. Appel said he believes the offer was way too low compared to market value, which he said is \$20,000.

"The reality is, I'm just a little person," Appel said, "But I'm not just going to lay down when I feel they are being arrogant about it."

Eminent domain

The proposed compensation for the properties is based on a valuation of the property by the city assessor on the basis of assessment records and related information. If the offers are not accepted, Novi will begin proceedings to acquire the easements through emi-

According to Novi's attorney, if the property owners accept the offers and the easements are acquired prior to initiating eminent domain proceedings, the resolution and declaration of taking will no longer be necessary. In its declaration of taking document,

Novi stated, "A Resolution of Necessi Novi setting forth that present conditions necessitate the construction of a nonmotorized pathway/sidewalk on the west side of Novi Road between Nine Mile and 10 Mile Road ... in the interest of the public health, safety, and wel fare, and that it is necessary to acquire easements over certain property within the City of Novi for said Improvements, and that a good faith written offer to purchase said property has heretofore been made.

None of the City Council members nor the property owners made any comment during the council meetings. Haves said easement acquisition is typically a long, tedious process that involves a lot of back and forth between DPS's Engineering Division

the City Attorney and property owner. "This process is no different, although the church did donate easements in front of its parcel making it a bit smoother." said Hayes.

The pathway project is currently in the design phase and is budgeted for \$190,554.

> Ihuhman@hometownlife.com (248) 437-2011, Ext. 255



landscaping the shoreline of Novi's Pavilion Shore Park on the south end of Walled Lake. The park, slated to oper n July of this year. accessible shoreling and a fishing pier.

on March 7 on

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eggstravaganza: 13,000 egg hunt set for March 30

online at hometownlife.com

Imagine a giant grassy area filled with 13,000 eggs. Now picture hundreds of children scrambling around to gather them in their baskets and you've got the wildly-popular Rock

stravaganza at the First Church of the Nazarene The church, located at 21260 Haggerty (north of Eight Mile, east side), will host the annual event at 10:30 a.m. Sat-

'N Roll Easter Egg-

urday, March 30. But it's limited to the first 600 children who pre-register at www.dfcnazarene.org.

"One year we had 1,300 people, so the last four to five years we've had preregistration," said orga nizer Sharon Zalewski. "It works out better to help us determine food and prizes, and for safety

450 had signed up. The egg hunt is divided into five age groups: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 and 9-11.

The church has fundit has grown into a true

As of Tuesday, around

ed the event for about 11 or 12 years, she said, and

community event. "Even though we have a lot of people returning, we actually draw a whole lot of new folks each year," said Zalewski. "They're generalfrom the neighbor ing communities, but it always amazes me - we ran the stats last year.

Easter basket! and about 85 percent are not from our church And there are a lot of

represented, which is great."

In addition to the egg hunt, there will be pictures with the Easter Bunny; games; prizes and gifts; a juggler; drummers: song and dance: puppets; and hot dogs, chips, cookies and drinks

for everyone. Eggstravaganza will be don't forget to bring your

(248) 437-2011, Ext. 237



The grounds of the First Church of the Nazarene will be scattered with 13,000 eggs for the annual Eggstravaganza

NOVI UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

tav: 4:30 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Sc

Fr. Bob LaCroix, Pastor

Parish Office: 349-5847 • www.holylamilynovi.o

HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL

0700 W. Ten Mile Rd. • 248-427-117

Sunday Worship 7:45 am & 10 as

ling Service Wednesday † 1:45 a

Rev. Ann Webber, Rector

Shepherd's Way Lutheran Church, ELCA

304 N. Lafayette Street South Lyon MI 48178

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Wester 8 15 arrs 11 00 arrs \$ 6 30 cm

Reverend Sondra Willobe

BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH

Gathering in Jesus Name

Sunday 10:30 and 1:30

Mike Ragan, Pasto

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

at Liberty St

Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.

All Classes 9:00

Pastor Scott Miller, (248) 437-1

Your Invitation to

Brighton

LORD of LIFE LUTHERAN 810-227-3113 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Rev. Dale Hedblad, Pastor

HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL www.harcc.net t the corner of Winana Lake & Musch R 810-231-9199

Walled Lake

CROSSPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH 1851 S. Commerce Rd. Walfed Lake 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School 10:30 a.m. - Morning Worship

Whitmore Lake

ev. Kenneth Warren - 586-531-202

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH 10774 Nine Mile Road Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

Livonia

FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURA

Plymouth

St. John's Episcopal Church 734-453-0190 nanatahan mentaga Services on Sunday mornings : 16 M - Exhant medalve (vitad med 90 M - Exhant with Contropora) Music 11:00 M - Exhant with Tradional Music

Friends of Unity Plymouth, MI Parenth Community Arts Burling: www.friendsofunity.org

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH chaol, Pre-K & Kdg. - Mo. Sy 620 General Motors Rd., Millor ol & Actual Biblio Sharty; 8:45 a.m.-16

Milford

FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD 133 Detroit St., M. Hord v 684-5695

WEST HIGHLAND

S. Hickory Bidge Rd., Millard, MI 483 248-887-1218 unday Worship 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m Wednesday All Ages: 7:00 p.m.

OAKPOINTE milford

Milford United Methodist Church

248-684-2798

MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Youth Group 10 am - Grades G-12

New Hudson

NEW HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NEW HOPE - A Unitarian niversalist Congregatio nd Ruver Ave., New Hodson Phone 248-474-9108 y Celebration of Life Service 10:30 a.

Vebsile: http://www.newhopeuu.org

Northville

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN Experience Life Each Week unday Worship - 9:00 am & 10:15 am day School and Children's F www.ucalife.org 41355 Six Mite Road

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WARD 4000 S 4 Mile Rox feathwife Mil 48102 CHURCH 248 374 7400 Warw warsh (uch fee Traditional Worship at 8, 9 30 & 11 a m Contemporary Worship at 9 35 & 11 a m Mittee S Phytomeric Businable at 9 30 \$ 11 a f The Traditional Service is bacadrast or the Good cach work at 11 a.m. on 563 AM

Presbyterian Church Northville www.fpcлorthville.org

FIRST UNITED METHODIST 737 West 9 Mile Road • (8 Mile and Talt Road Times September - May 8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 - moral Day - Labor Day 8:30 and 13:00 a m enonel Du; - Labor Day & 30 and Terror Rev Dr Steven J. Buck, Service Passion

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH 133 Orchard Dr., Northville KEND LITURGIES Saturday 5:00 | Sunday, 7:30, 9:30 a.m., 11:36 a.m.

Northville, Mi. 48167 Pastor Andy Whitten Phone 248-374-2268

ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH **NOVI** 16325 10 Mile Rd. • Novi, MI 4837

FAITH COMMUNITY

MEADOWBROOK

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCI 355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 1/2 Mr

BRIGHTMOOR on the corner of M-5 & W 13 Sundays 9:15a & 11:15a www.brightmoorcc.org

South Lyon

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERA 437-8810 • 486-4335 Griswold Ad. at 10 Mile

Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church

The Church of Christ

9:30 a.m. Sunday School Rob Callicott, Pastor

Towng God and Loving People
22183 Pontac Trail • 248-485-4400
In Brookdale Shopping Center,
behind Powerhouse Gymi SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:00 A.M.
Reed Hickmann, Pastor/Teacher
www.scacrocksouthlyon.com

HIGHLAND UNITED

For more information regarding this Directory, please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011, ext. 247

Morship

Msgr John Kasza, Pastor Parish Office: 347-7778

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PISHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10 AM "Children, Youth and Adult Munistries"

OAK POINTE CHURCH unday 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.n

Youth at 6:30 p.m

SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH

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Highland

or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

GUEST COLUMN

LOCAL NEWS

NEWSMAKERS

OUR VIEWS

Campaign finance Proposals offer accountability

a catch phrase used by almost everyone elected to office these days. Too bad it isn't used more during political campaigns by those seeking elected office and by those working on ballot

It's too bad, because voters cast ballots and often don't know who is supporting those candidates and issues, and by how much

"Why does it matter? We should have a right to know who supports the candidates, and what positions they have that are supported by the contributors," said Rich Robinson, executive director of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network, a nonpartisan, nonprofit group Robinson spoke recently before members of the League of Women Voters in Livonia, specifically examining last year's Michigan Supreme

So how bad is it? Some overt political advertising is not considered such, because it addresses issues and does not necessarily try to get a candidate elected, according to Robinson. Nevertheless, the practice can have a big impact — at an enormous cost.

In fact, the MCFN, which has been tracking campaign expenditures, estimates that about \$50 million in advertising went unreported as required in the Department of State's campaign finance reporting system. That money did not spontaneously seep from some well to ground level, only to be siphoned off to fuel someone's campaign. On the contrary, It came from people - or corporations and special interest groups - who could very well have a vested interest in that campaign. That means, in some cases, it was likely more of an investment than a donation -- an investment with an expected favorable return in the form of a critical vote.

Follow the money. Unfortunately, that is easy to say but pretty tough to do. Some campaigners file financial reports after state deadlines. making it tough to know where their support is coming from.

What is a voter to do

"The (campaign committee) treasurer is critical to the election process," said Oakland County Commissioner Kathy Crawford, R-Novi. She said the treasurer is responsible "not only to meet reporting requirements, but also to inform candidates of all donations so that they may decide to accept or not."

The situation is not all doom and gloom. Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson. a Republican who had her roots in northern Oakland County as a state representative, has chosen this "Sunshine Week" to cast light on the campaign finance reporting process with a series of proposals.

Sunshine Week promotes the state's Freedom of Information Act and openness in govern ment, and Johnson has called the week "a great disinfectant." Those who have ever hung laundry outdoors understand the reference.

At first glance, Johnson's proposals are promw merit quick attention as the elec tion cycle is already beginning with fundraising efforts in some communities. Her proposals call for expansion of electronic reporting, tracking of campaign committee finances in non-election years, "real time" reporting of donations of \$1,000 or more and additional finance reporting for ballot question committees.

State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Pymouth Township, said that Wayne County already requires reporting by local candidates, but "that information is often difficult to access." Heise said he likes some of what Johnson has proposed.

Dave Staudt, a Novi city councilman who says he is treasurer for several campaign committees, points out that Oakland County has had online reporting for years. A Republican, he adds that he supports Johnson's measures.

Indeed, Johnson has carried forward to the state level things she had implemented as Oakland County clerk.

"Our goal is to apply some of that sunshine to Michigan's campaign finance reporting so citizens can continue to have confidence in our elected officials," Johnson said in a press

Voters must demand transparency not for its

own sake, but for the accountability it provides. "Elections are one of the most important parts of our American society," said Novi Mayor Bob Gatt. "People have the right to know who is donating money to the candidates running for office and that information should be out in the public view for everyone to see.'

Cal Stone, Community Editor

Grace Perry,

COMMUNITY VOICE

Do you plan on celebrating St. Patrick's Day?



"Yes, I'm with the Novi Concert Band and we're will have some fun that playing at the Civic Cen- day." ter that day, so it should

Kelly Kalitta



"Not specifically, but I

so I've never really ever celebrated it." **Donald Flis** Max Muqtadir



"Not really, I wish I could, but I can't that

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance

the lives of our readers, nurture the

hometowns we serve and contribute to

the business success of our customers.

Rick Radners

LETTERS

Curfew needs tweaking

Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk — featuring Emagine Movie Theater, Buffalo Wild Wings, Dick's Sporting Goods and much more recently enforced a curfew on minors. This curfew states that kids under 15 without an adult after 8 p.m. and kids under 17 without an adult after 10 p.m. will be given a

This has become a real issue since Novi's main movie theater, Emagine, plays a lot of movies at night. Also, the impact of receiving a ticket for such a non-offensive violation is despicable.

Many kids meet up with their friends at Fountain Walk to see a movie or go out to eat. Many of these people, however, are unaware of Fountain Walk's new policy involving the curfew. Let's say there is a scenario in which a 14-year-old kid goes to see a movie on a summer evening with his friends at 6 p.m. The movie ends at 7:45 p.m.; however, the kid needs to use the bathroom, taking us to 7:55 p.m. because of the lines. Now the young boy only has five minutes to leave the bathroom. locate his friends, leave the theater and find his mom or dad's car to go home. This is scenario is very plausible, and with the new curfew policy, it is possible to be breaking a

rule at Fountain Walk --- while it is still sunny outside and all you are doing is walking to your car on the back from a movie. This is ridiculous. Lam only 15 years old, and hoping that this policy will change — not necessarily terminate, but just change into something a little more flexible. There is no need for young people to be punished for fault of staying out past 8 p.m., which is a whole two hours before the driving curfew is even enforced in Michigan for 16-year-olds. With your help, we can change this policy to something that is beneficial not just to the adults and

workers at Fountain Walk, but also all

David Schulte

Battle obesity

We keep hearing from the media about the importance of overcoming obesity. Then why are we required to take only one semester of physical education in high school? If we truly need to stop obesity, then this is a great place to start. By increasing this physical education requirement, kids will stay more active and increase their chances of being healthy. It has been statistically proven that kids who get daily exercise mixed in with their learning pay attention more and retain more information. Additional benefits are that you will have less body fat, stronger muscles and bones, decrease type 2 diabetes, less likely to be overweight, and have a better outlook on life. Also, when we do not exercise, there is a much higher ratio of overweight people who may end up with high blood

pressure and cholesterol problems. There are 180 days of school, and if you exercise in gym for one hour a day, then you can really improve habits of exercise. Statistics say that 42 percent of boys and 11 percent of girls get their 60 minutes of daily senior goalie for Novi varsity hockey, exercise. One way that we could has given the Novi News no reason help this problem is to require at least to be so cruef. He is not a profes-

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

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

Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published Thursday. Online: Due to space limitations not all letters submitted can be published in our print edition. However, all letters will be published online each week at www hometownlife.com.

four semesters of physical education classes. I believe a change must be made to increase this minimal requirement in order to conquer America's obesity crisis.

Adam Tobias Novi High School sophomore

Marking anniversary

in the aftermath of the earthquake and resultant tsunami of March 11, 2011, the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit was inundated with an outpouring of sympathy, well-wishes, and generous donations from numerous individuals, and public and private sector organizations throughout its jurisdiction states of Michigan and Ohio. As we mark the second anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake, and on hehalf of the Japanese people and the Government of Japan, I would like to again express my profound gratitude to all of those in Michigan and Ohio who have shown --- and continue to show — us incredible friendship,

kindness, and support. Despite the loss of precious lives and property, and the ongoing challenges that lie ahead, overail reconstruction efforts continue to show steady progress. Clearly, Japan is back on the right track as a strong, revitalized and prosperous ally and partner of the United States of America. A silver lining of this tragedy

is the fact that the strength and closeness of the U.S.-Japan alliance was once again made evident—not only through the very successful "Operation Tomodachi (Friend)" between our nations' governments and military personnel, but also in the new and revitalized grassroots exchanges I witnessed here between so many sister-city clubs, municipalities, schools, and everyday citizens in the great states of Michigan and Ohio, and their

counterparts in Japan. Kuninori Matsuda Consul General of Japan, Detroit

Sports headline unfair

Lam writing in regards to the front page article of the Sports section of the Novi News, entitled "WLN gets last laugh on Carney." I am appalled at the headline used for this article. Patrick Carney, the

sional athlete getting paid millions of dollars; he is a goalie who played his heart out in his last game ever in high school hockey. For a newspaper entitled Novi News, I think using a headline to single out one player in such a negative way is unfair, especially coming from his hometown

The article itself discusses what an asset Carney was to Novi varsity hockey, and the headline is incredibly misleading. Patrick Carney did not lose the game; the team lost the game and it was a hard loss. So shame on you for trying to draw in readers at the expense of a high school kid who represents his school and city well.

> Sara Hudgens Novi High School student

Address poor roads

In addition to dodging orange construction cones, deer and the occasional jack-knifed 18-wheelers, drivers in the Mitten state have to somehow elude the thousands o potholes that dot the roads. And if you doubt the severity of the problem just ask the owners of the various tire shops, or the workers at any of the shock or strut shops in the state. Those businesses always realize an uptick in sales during this time of the year as a result of the numerous

potholes. It's been said that Michigan has some of the most generous highway truck weight options in the nation. Some conjecture that the cause of the numerous potholes can be attributed to the heavy-laden trucks damaging the roads. Of course our arctic-like winter weather also contributes to the problem. On the other hand, neighboring states also Ohio and Indiana and Illinois seem to have better roads. Could it be that the road contractors in those states do a better job of constructing and maintaining the roads? Just asking.

Motorists in Michigan also encounter the many road commission trucks that spread tar into the potholes. Watching this reminds me of an old joke. Seems two guys were working along a highway -- one of the workers was digging a hole, his companion then came along and filled the hole with dirt. After about a half mile of this practice, a local farmer approached and asked for an explanation. One of the men responded that the guy who normally plants a tree in the holes was out for the day so they carried on despite his absence.

Many years ago, when workers toiled on the roads and filled the holes with tar someone would use a metal tapper and pound the tar into the holes. These days, the workers just shovel the tar into the holes and depend on us driving our cars over the tar to pat it down. Of course this results in tar flying all over the place and becoming lodged in our wheel wells. Just like the absent tree planter, maybe the tar tapper has been on leave. Is it too much to ask that someone pounds down the tar? Again, just asking.

So be prepared to have your car jolted along with your teeth chattering as you hit one of the potholes. Bill Kalma Lake Orion

Join the effort to keep government open, accountable, transparent

By Jane Briggs-Bunting

elcome to Sunshine Week, and no, I am not talking about the fickle weather in the state. I am talking about the public's right and responsibility to keep an eye on what our government at the local, state and federal level are up to — from our legislators to our bureaucrats, school boards, state universities, teachers, mayors, managers, department heads, council members, cops and others.

Sunshine Week, a nationl initiative to encourage liscussion on the importance of open government and freedom of information celebrated annually in mid-March to coincide with ames Madison's March 16 oirthday

Sunshine Week is also the Jane Briggsofficial launch of the Michigan Coalition for Open Gov-ernment (MiCOG). Michi-

gan was one of just two states nationally (the other is Alaska) without an open government

Purpose

MiCOG's purpose is three-fold: to promote and protect transparency and accountability in state and local govern-

to recommend significant freedom of information, open meetings and public access legal cases to the National Freedom of Information Coalition (NFOIC) for finan-

 and to create educational programs and information.

And MiCOG invites you to join its efforts. Why? Citizens and journalists are having greater difficulty obtaining public documents from government agencies. They are deterred by long delays in responses and high fees. Most individuals and smaller news organizations do not have the resources to mount legal challenges in FOIA and OMA

But MiCOG can help with that, MiCOG makes citizens and news media in our state eligible to access some of the \$2M the Knight Foundation gave to NFOIC to fund worthwhile open access litigation. If the plaintiff prevails and recovers attorney fees and court costs (as required under Michigan's FOI and OMA), that money goes back to the national

group for future lawsuits around the nation. The NFOIC relies on state open government groups to recommend cases that could tap into the Knight funds. The national committee decides whether to back a case financially. One key role of MiCOG's board is to make certain that only cases with good sets of facts go to court to make good law.

Support needed

This type of support is necessary now more than ever. A 2010 survey by the NFO-IC and the Knight Foundation concluded that the economic crisis plus declining revenues for print and broadcast media resulted in a sharp decline in FOI requests and litigation nationwide. In the past five years, the number of open government lawsuits filed by the news media in 23 states fell "dramatically." Another eight states also reported declines. Nearly 80 percent of state FOI coalitions reported drops. Ominously, 85 percent said they expected FOI litigation to drop in the next Neither Michigan nor Alaska partici-

pated since both lacked open government groups, a deficiency MiCOG corrects. Effective use of the FOIA is critical to keep tabs on public officials around the

The situation is critical for Michigan where ethics and anti-corruption laws barely exist. In 2012 Michigan earned a failing grade, ranking 44th of 50 states (http://www.stateintegrity.org/michigan) in a State Integrity Investigation (http:// www.stateintegrity.org/) jointly done by the Center for Public Integrity, Global Integrity and Public Radio International. Michigan had a dismal showing for key transparency checkpoints; public access to information (D), ethics enforcement agencies (F); judiexecutive and legislative accountability (all F) and political financing/lobbying disclosure (both F).

Local governments from schools and universities to municipalities and police are usually just as nonresponsive, as well. If you want to help, please visit the MiCOG website at http://www.miopengov.org and join the effort to keep the governments of the people, by the people and for the people

Jane Briggs-Bunting is president of the Michigan Coalition for Open Government (MiCOG). She is an author and media attorney and former director of the Michigan State University School of Journalism

Dixon assumes new role with Plante Moran Plante Moran Financial Advisors

(PMFA), the registered investment advisor affiliate of public accounting and advisory firm Plante Moran. announced a new role for Novi resident Mark Dixon.

Dixon, who has been serving as both the leader of the firm's institutional practice and chief investment officer, will focus his efforts on leading PMFA's rapidly growing institution al practice. Baird, who had been serving as PMFA's chief investment strategist, will expand his scope and take over as the firm's new chief investment officer. The Plante Moran Financial Advisors institutional practice



currently has \$1.7 bil lion in assets under management, with an additional \$700 million in assets under super-

Dixon has been with the firm for 23 years. He is a partner within

Plante Moran Financial Advisors and has more than 20 years of experience in investment consult ing and financial planning. He serves high net worth individuals, foundations, endowments, and pensions and will continue in his role as chair of the PMFA Investment Committee. Dixon is based at the firm's South-

NOVI COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Local Events

BLOOD DRIVES Details: March is Red Cross Month and anyone who comes to the drives in March will eceive a commemorative Red Cross pin

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Monday, March 18 Location: Learning Care Group, 21333 Haggerty Road

finne/Date: 7:30 a.m. to 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 20 Location: Providence Park Hospital, Heart

Institute Building Contact: Diane at (313) 549-7052 or Diane. Risko@redcross.org

DEMOCRATS MEETING Time/Date: 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 19

Location: Novi United Methodist Church, 41671 West Ten Mile Road Details: Guest speaker Rita Chapman fracking specialist from the Sierra Club of Michigan, will speak on why fracking (hydraulic fracturing of rock to release natural gas) is dangerous to us all. The Democratic Club will also elect new officers. Free and open to the public. Snacks free: pizza for sale.

Contact: Kathi Kuehnel (kkuehnel@vahoo.

ART EXPLORATION Time/Date: 12:30-2:30 p.m. Thursday, April

Location: Meadowbrook Activity Center.

Point presentation focusing on the diverse

collections of the University of Michigan Mu-

dynamic, professional networking group We are looking for new members to pass

Contact: For more information contact City of Novi Older Adult Services at (248) 347 0421 or visit www.cityofnovi.org. BEREAVEMENT MEETINGS Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. third Tuesdays

seum of Art, presented by the UM museum's

art docents. Pre-registration is required. Cost

is \$7 for residents; \$8.50 for non-residents.

Location: Novi Civic Center (10 Mile between Taft and Novi roads) Details: Led by Michael M. Meyer, D. Min., goal is to give each participant an opportunity to share their story.

WOMENHEART OF NOVI Time/Date: 7 p.m. fourth Wednesdays Location: Providence Park Hospital, Novi Details: For women with concerns about

cardiac health to share information and sisterhood at monthly meeting: Contact: Sharon Mallon, (248) 348-5189. **NOVI SENIOR CENTER**

Location: 25075 Meadowbrook Road Contact: (248) 347-0414; theglin@cityof-

Business

LOCAL BUSINESS NETWORK MEET-INGS

Time/Date: 8:45-10:15 a.m. first and third Vednesdays Details: The Novi II chapter of Local Business Network (LBN) is a well established,

referrals to. Please come check us out.

Contact: For details and to RSVP call

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Thornton Creek evacuated after smoke spotted

Operations, electrical Smoke and fumes from wires in an exhaust fan a faulty restroom fan motor burned and creatcaused Thornton Creek ed the smoke and fumes. Elementary School to It was located in a girls have after-school prorestroom across from gram students evacu-Principal Alison Epler's ate from the building last office.

Thursday afternoon. This happened follow-According to Mike ing the regular dismissal. Zopf, Northville Public However, there were 60

students from Kids' Club, School's assistant superintendent for Finance/ Early Childhood and other after-school activities who were inside when it occurred.

> "Students were safely escorted out of the building as the Novi Fire Department personnel inspected the area," said Zopf, "And fire officials recommended that stu-

sheltering students. According to Jeff Johnson, Novi's director of Emergency Medical Services and Fire dents remain outside for Operations, the Novi Fire and Police departments responded to a 911 call received by the

> to find the school was evacuated. 'Upon entering the building the fire crews

Novi Communication

Center just after 4 p.m.

utes to allow the air-han

dlers and fans to dissi-

ed that buses be sent

to Thornton Creek to

assist in comfortably

The district request

pate the fumes."

light smoke near the front entrance. The fire crew found an overheated exhaust fan," Johnson said, "School maintenance and fire crews disconnected the elec tricity and removed the burned motor and insulation. Exhaust fans in

the building were used to evacuate the smoke. Zopf said parents were then notified to pick up students early from the after-school programs. An 'all-clear' was given by the incident commander from Novi at 6 p.m. Aside from the exhaust fan and motor. no facility damage was incurred due to this

Fire officials later gave clearance for items left in the build. ing. School staff was on hand until 6 p.m. to assist with this process School was able to be held on Friday.

"The district is responding to this event by changing all similar exhaust motors at Thornton Creek during the upcoming Easter break," said Zopf. "Exhaust fans at other buildings will also be evaluated for needed replacement, as well."

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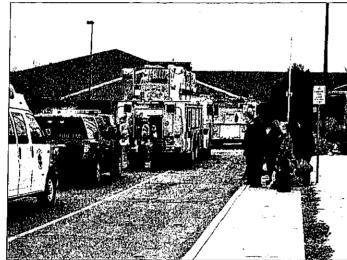
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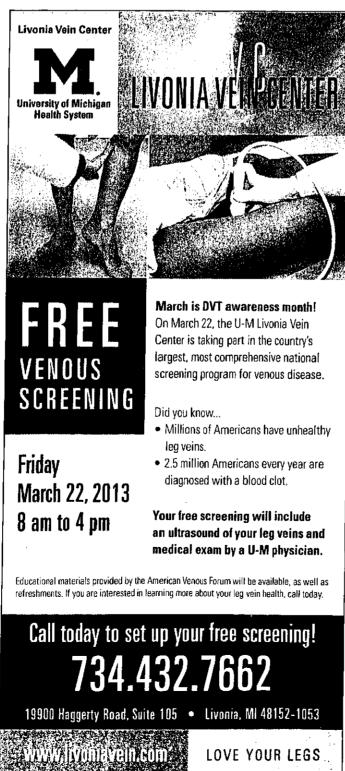
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"The coordination between all services involved — police, fire, EMS and the school staff -was fantastic," said Tim Sargent, who lives across from the school's soccer fields and took this picture. "Dealing with the elements, and the challenge of where to put that many youngsters while the investigation went on was handled wonderfully.

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are SOLD on Real Estate One's strong presence in Michigan as the state's #1 broker and its family ownership. - Photo by Sally Rummel

REAL ESTATE ONE IN SOUTH LYON LEADS NEW MARKET TRENDS

Now it's more important than ever to have a qualified agent, whether you're buying or selling

By Sally Rummel. Contributing Writer

online at hometownlife.com

If you've been waiting to jump into the real estate market until the time was "just right," your time has come. Buyers are back, home values are up and interest rates are still at low, low rates.

That's the good news from Lisa Prochazka and Gayle Henderson, both Realtors for Real Estate One's South Lyon office which also covers Milford, New Hudson, Wixom, Novi, Northville, Brighton and surrounding areas. "We're a local agency with numerous satellite offices, giving us the edge in market analysis and a local presence in these communities," said Lisa and Gayle.

They are pleased to be a part of the local success of Real Estate One-the #1 broker in Michigan and a Michigan-based, family-owned company. "We are so fortunate to be a part of this financially strong and stable company, which had another record vear in 2012," they added, "Real Estate One has emerged from the recession stronger and more capable than ever before."

Homeowners who may be interested in selling in the next three to five years may want to take a good, close look at giving the market a try in 2013. They'll find that their home values have as 10 to 20 percent in the last vear. "There are lots of buvers out there right now, and the future of low interest rates past market than 2013 will be a little more uncertain," said Gayle.

employment and the economy Gayin general. "There is also pent-up I e .

market has stabilized," added

However, sellers still need to price their homes at a fair market value and offer them in pristine condition, to get the best money for the transaction. "Today's buyers are looking for homes in move-in condition with low maintenance features." said Gavle. "Most buyers are ready and willing to pay for that.

Because of buyer demand and smaller inventories this year, it's more important than ever that homeowners on both sides of the real estate transaction select a knowledgeable, experienced agent. "In a changing market like we're experiencing today, this is more important than ever," said Gayle. Together, she and Lisa have more than 25 years of experience to bring to the closing table. They also handle their own transactions, from start to finish.

For people interested in buying a home in 2013, they will need to be both patient and aggressive in their search for just the right property. Patience will come into play as competition for homes is greater now than in any recent year. They'll have to move quickly with a strong offer when they find the perfect or near-perfect home. They may even have to overbid, with strong pre-approval from a

"It's a completedifferent itwasafew

reputable lender.

"That's why it pays to have an experienced agent at your side. Today's buyers may

also learn that "cash is king" when it comes to making an offer that will win over multiple offers on a desired property. They will also need a willingness to make up the difference between the contract price and the appraisal. "Appraisals haven't been as challenging lately as in past years," said Lisa, "How-

tional funds to the closing, should there be an appraisal issue." Real Estate One in South Lyon is easy to find. "Formerly a Catholic church, this historic building at 346 N. Lafayette is a landmark in town," said Gayle. "Real Estate One has been

ever, buyers should be

prepared to bring addi-

decade. Whether you want to buy or sell, call Gayle or Lisa at Real Estate One, 248-437-3800.

"We're a local agency with

numerous satellite offices, giving

located here for over a

Local community property sales and values include

2012 home sales totaled 261 properties, up 37% from 2011. Median home value was \$235,795, up 2.6% from 2011

MILFORD TWP / VILLAGE 2012 sales totaled 206 homes, up 4.6%

from 2011. Median value was \$212,000 up 47% from 2011 NOVI / NOVI TWP

2012 sales totaled 781 homes, up 5.8%

from 2011. Median value was \$200,000, up 21% from 2011 SOUTH LYON

2012 sales totaled 184 homes, down 8% from 2011. Median value was \$127,950, up 20% from 2011

2012 sales totaled 131 homes, down 4.4% from 2011. Median value was

\$160,000, up 24% from 2011 OAKLAND COUNTY 2012 sales included 18,654 total properties, up 4.9% from 2011. Median value

3)Western Oakland County is generally above—average in the number of home sales and median home sale prices between 2012 and 2011, according to data gathered by Real Estate One.

was \$140,000, up 24% from 2011

us the edge in market analysis and They both add that people are a go," knowledge about all these unique feeling more confident in their said markets." interest now that the real estate Lisa Prochazka and Gavle Henderson. Real Estate One in South Lyon



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23-0 run ends Novi cagers' season

Chiefs pick off Wildcats 49-24 in district semifinal

By Chris Jackett

The season came to a quick end in a district semifinal for Novi's cagers last week. In a March 6 contest with Canton (17-7, 9-1 South), Wildcats (8-13, 5-5 Central) jumped ahead to an 11-5 lead in the first quarter before being shut out 18-0 in the second quarter and not scoring a field goal for a 16-minute stretch in a 32-minute game, which led to a 35-18 deficit after three quarters. The reserves traded baskets in the fourth quarter as the Chiefs won 49-24.

"You've got to out and play better offensively, other than turning it over every possession and not getting a second chance," Novi coach Brian Tass said.

After struggling to connect all night, only eight successful field goal attempts and more than a dozen turnovers combined to put an end to Novi's season despite a strong effort by senior Tre Cadwell on both sides of the ball. He led his team with seven points and two steals plus a half-court three-poin er that the referees deemed was released and drained after the buzzer. "When your best players



Charles McKinney gets a shot off as he splits two Canton High defenders during conference play-

CC cagers bow out to Plymouth Wildcats

Shamrocks fall to Plymouth's slow-paced attack

By Sam Eggleston

The Plymouth Wildcats didn't bring anything fancy to the hardtook on the Detroit Catholic Cen tral Shamrocks basketball team in District tournament action. In fact, they relied on a very fundamentally-sound approach to the

The results of Plymouth's slowpaced offense didn't favor the Shamrocks at all, and Catholic Central's season came to a close with a 59-36 loss at Northville High School.

The victory was just Plymouth's second playoff win since the school opened. Neither the Shamrocks nor the

Wildcats looked to be the dominant force throughout the game, but late in the third the Plymouth squad made a run and led, 31-24, heading into the final stanza. It was then that the game began to unravel for Catholic Central as

senior Garret Moores went up for an defensive board and could only watch as the ball bounced away from his hand and back into the Plymouth hoop to give the Wildcats a nine-point advantage.

From that point on, the game just slipped further away from the Shamrocks as the Wildcats more the doubled up their point total in comparison to Catholic Centrals, 28-12, in the fourth quarter. The Shamrocks led midway

through the second quarter, but a quick spurt of points from Plymouth left them trailing, 18-13, at the half. Plymouth's Josh Priebe led all scorers with 17 points while Cath-

olic Central's Austin Beyer and Noah Lee each scored seven and Moores chipped in six in the losing effort.
Catholic Central ended their season with a 5-16 record.

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



Catholic Central Shamrock Garrett Moores tries to get a shot off against Plymouth on March 6 at

Ao breaks two school swimming records

Wildcat tankers finish 11th in Division

By Chris Jackett

The boys swim and dive season came to a close March 9 with the Division I meet wrapping up in Holland. Novi's team finished 11th of 32 schools, earning 69 points. Saline won the state title with 313 points to edge out Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice's 309. Livonia Stevenson was the oπly KLAA team to place higher than Novi taking third with 191 points. Other notables include Detroit Catholic Central at fifth with 156, Northville 21st with 26. Plymouth Salem 24th with 18 and South Lyon Unified 25th with 16.

The Hornets were dominant en route to their state title, winning nine of 12 events against the best in the state. Although Novi was unable to pick up victories in the other three events. they did pick up points among the top l6 in eight different events. Senior Andrew Ao, who had the two

highest placements for Novi, saw the most success. Ao earned All-State

both the 200 RESULTS freestyle and 100 freestyle. He visit www.mhsaa.com took sixth

in the 200 free in 1:42.75 after Saline won it in 1:38.31, and then took seventh in the 100 free in 47.08 seconds after Saline won that race in 44.65 seconds. His 200 free performance broke the 1988 school record of 1:43.49 and his 100 free performance breaking his own school record of 47.58 seconds from earlier this season.

Also earning All-State honors was junior Tanner Vincent, who was eighth in the 200 individual medley in 1:58.49 after Saline won it in 1:47.86. Vincent was also 11th in the 10 butterfly in 52.87 seconds, behind Saline's winning time of 48.59 seconds, but breaking Vincent's previous record of

Senior Gucci Onimura was Novi's only other individual top finisher, squeaking in at 16th in the 100 backstroke in 55.17 seconds, behind Saline's winning time of 49.75 sec-

The other four individual events shut out the Wildcats, as Saline won the 50 free in 20.96 seconds, Saline won the 100 breaststroke in 55.32 sec onds. Livonia Stevenson won the 500 freestyle in 4:27.75 and Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern won the 1meter dive with 442.30 points.

However, the Wildcats did continue to see some success in all three relay The 200 free relay team of Onimu-

ra, seniors Vinny Rosanali, Dennis Kim and Ao combined to finish 11th in 1:28.77 as Saline won in 1:23.92. Vincent, junior Jake Robbins, Kim and Ao combined to take 13th in the 400 free relay in 3:15.89 as Brother

The 200 medley relay squad of Onimura, Kim, Vincent and Rosana li wrapped things up in 14th at 1:40.11

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and



Novi Wild win state prep hockey crown

The Novi Wild prep hockey team won the MAHA State Championship Prep Division title this past weekend at Optimist Ice Arena in Jackson. Novi finished the weekend with a S-0 record, defeating Plymouth 5-3 in the opening game, followed by wins over Grosse Pointe South 5-1 and beating Hartland for the first time in five meetings, 4-1.

The semi final game against Catholic Central ended in dramatic fashion, 3-2. Akshay Bamzai scored first for Novi unassisted, CC tied the game but Novi regained the lead as Matt Hawkins scored, assisted by Ryan Rabinowitz and Bamzai. Regulation expired at 2-2, but with less then two minutes to go in overtime, Brandon Kour blocked a shot inside his blue line and raced down the ice for the game winner. That ended the chance of the Sham rocks attempt of winning back-to-back

titles and propelling Novi to the finals. In the championship against Northville, Novi struck first with a goal from Hawkins, assisted by Dan Savela and Mitch Berger. The lead increased to 2-0 as Kour went top shelf, assisted by Mitch Magliocco and Nik Tewilliager. The Mustangs fought back to tie

PLAYERS/COACHES

The team is comprised of Dan Savela. Mitch Magliocco, Ryan Rabinowitz, Jeff Malear, Ryan Turner, Jordan Richardson, Erik Czekaj, Nik Tewilliager, Gage Fisher, John VanderMey, Trevor Malarkey, Matt Hawkins, Will Dempsey, Mitch Berger, Matt Kopel, Brennan Martin, Akshav Bamzai, Brandon Kour, Josh Richardson. Austin Medico: head coach John O'Leary, and assistant coaches Mike Magliocco and Mark Tarpinian.

the game 2-2 in the third period, and it was overtime once again.

Early in the session, defensement Erik Czekaj skated out of his Novi zone, went coast to coast and lifted the rebound of his shot over the Northville tender for a 3-2 victory and the state championship for the Novi Wild Czekaj finished the weekend with 2

goals. Kour led the team with 4 goals and I assist while Tewilliager added 2 goals and 7 assists. Freshman goalies Austin Medico and Josh Richardson combined for 9 goals against in the

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Runner-up



Madness Red 10u finished as runner-up in the Battle in the Bubble at Genessee Field House in Grand Blanc, Mich. on March 4. Playing in their first games since the fall, Madness lost a well-played, back-and-forth final to the Ohio Wizards Elite by a 3-2 score. The game featured great pitching, very few mistakes, timely hitting, and was

HOOPS

Continued from page B1

have to step up and do things, he gave his all and we just couldn't get it done as a

Novi struggled on offense in the paint against 6-feet-8 junior Jordan Nobles (two points, four blocks) and from the perimeter against pretty much every-

"He had seven blocks on Monday, too," Canton coach Jimmy Reddy said. "He's a great back line on the defense for us Guys can trust that they can pressure the ball because they've got him behind The Chiefs' guards took full advan-

tage of their speed, steals and other Novi turnovers as senior Ryan Planey (13 points), sophomore Greg Williams (13 points) and senior Josh Mayberry (12 points) lit up the scoreboard time after time during a 23-0 run midway through "(Williams) was solid tonight," Reddy

said. "A real bounce back game for him He wasn't that solid Monday. He was attacking the rim, making some real nice

"Josh has been our guy all year. He's a senior three-year guy who's going to

have to keep doing that for us if we're going to keep winning

online at hometownlife.com

Cadwell received little help offensively, as senior Jionni Ivy (six points), junior Erik Biberstein (three points) and then two points apiece for seniors sophomores Billy Ulle and Brad Dotinga accounted for the rest of the Wildcats'

"We held them to under their average and that's what we came in here needing to do to win the game," Tass said. "Our starters did a heck of a job defensively for the most part, but you have to put points up to win.'

The Chiefs also got seven points from junior Davon Taylor and two points from junior Shaine Keyandwy as Canton won the battle of the boards 20-10.

With Cadwell, Ivy, McKinney, Brown and senior Brandon Macklin all on pace to wrap up their careers as Wildcats, Novi had three juniors, three sophomores and one freshman on varsity during the regular season that Tass hopes will step up next November for the 2013 14 season, plus any new additions from the junior varsity squad, including Dot-

Those guys are quality people and they worked hard this season and gave it all they had to win," Tass said.

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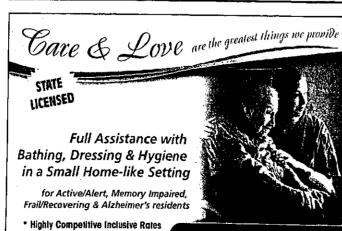
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McMahan darts past area's lady cagers

Leading Novi's girls basketball team to an 18-3 record, the fewest losses in program history and best among the All-Area schools, junior point guard Kerri McMahan's speed and instincts made her a threat even more damaging by her ability to find her teammates on the court. She averaged 10.2 points, 4.1 assists, 3.4 rebounds and 1.9 steals per game in her third-consecutive dominant season as a Wildcat starter, earning the Player of the Year honor in the process.

"Still the best player in the area," Novi coach Bill Kelp said. "Points were down a little, but assists were up. Missed four games because of ankle. True point guard who makes everyone better."

McMahan also earned KLAA All-Conference honors as she led the Wildcats to a 10-0 Central Division finish.

FIRST TEAM Kendra Brenner (Northville Sr. F)

A constant scoring option for the Mustangs, Northville senior forward Kendra Brenner averaged 13.3 points and 5.5 rebounds to finish fifth in scoring among the school's career leaders as a four-year letter winner. She shot 39.6 percent from the field this season including 36.7 percent from beyond the three-point arch, which helped her earn KLAA All-Conference honors.

"Kendra is one of the best shooters we've had in our program," Northville coach Todd Gudith said. "Very consistent and has long range capabilities. Can hit from anywhere. She stepped up as a senior to be a key part of our offense and lead us back to the district final. Career high of 26 points in a game is tied for second most in a game Her defense improved, especially her rebounding, which was important as we were not as big as we've been in previ-

Gabi Bird (South Lyon East So. F)

Averaging 14.2 points and 8.2 rebounds per game, South Lyon East sophomore forward has had a quick impact on the Cougars' girls basketball program. Bird also averaged 1.8 assists and 2.5 steals per game while shooting 37 percent from three-point land.

"Gabi has truly stepped up her game since last year," South Lyon East coach Rob Leadley said. "Her size and her ability to be effective in the post and on the perimeter make her a tough matchup for opponents. Her versatility and team-first attitude have contributed greatly to our program's success over the past two seasons.

Jessica Mehr (South Lyon Jr. G) As the Lions' Team Offensive MVP for the second-straight year, South Lyon junior guard Jessica Mehr averaged 14.4 points, 6.4 rebounds, 1.7 assists and 2.0 steals per game this season,

Walled Lake Western

marathon fundraiser

Walled Lake Western High School (600

Beck Road) is hosting a volleyball mar-

March 22 and ending at 7 a.m. Saturdav. March 23. All funds raised will go

directly to Friendship Circle, an organi

zation that provides assistance to fami-

inflatable games, a DJ, dancing, games,

hypnotists, comedians, food, prizes, and

more. It is open to any student who rais-

Prizes will be given to the top five stu-

The event will include volleyball,

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ents. And they perso

South Lyon East: Solana Gillis (Sr.), Sydney Jones (Jr.)

> which was first or second on the team in each category. Although a junior, she's already among the South Lyon record books with 39 three-pointers this season on 34 percent shooting, which was five hits shy of tying Tara Sutton's 1991 record of 44 three pointers made in a single season. Mehr also shot 79.2 percent from the free throw line, which is second among the Lions' single-season records, currently held by Julie Howell, who shot 80.4 percent in 1985.

ALL-AREA GIRLS

Kerri McMahan (Novi, Jr. PG)

Kendra Brenner (Northville Sr. F)

Gabi Bird (South Lyon East So. F)

Dominique Zigo (Lakeland Jr. G)

Amanda Lock (Lakeland So. F)

Elise Gustafson (Milford So. C)

Jade Antolec (Novi Sr. F)

Taylor Pavlika (Novi Jr. G)

HONORABLE MENTION

Kelly Merkle (Sr. G)

Heather Randall (Jr. F)

Carrie Stevens (Sr. F)

Gabby Mencotti (Northville Jr. PG)

lor Spierling (Sr. F), Rachel Lock (Sr. G),

Milford: Paige Smith (Sr. G), Maddy

Northville: Brittany Berehulka (Sr. G).

South Lyon: Breanna Bias (Jr. PG), Emily

Heinrich (So. G), Sarah Stockford (So. F),

Kurtz (Jr. G) Lindsay Smith (Sr.)

Jessica Mehr (South Lyon Jr. G)

Amanda Geiger (Novi Sr. G)

BASKETBALL

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

FIRST TEAM

SECOND TEAM

"I also hope this free throw percentage will place her in the top 10 for the state," South Lyon coach Erica Hoffman said. "Jessica has been our go-to player all year and has developed into a wellrounded player who can finish inside or hit from deep. She is a difficult matchup for any opponent with her exception al athleticism and strength. I look forward to watching her continue to devel-op as a team leader as a senior."

Amanda Geiger (Novi Sr. G)

SPORTS BRIEFS

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cases before a court date is

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sented by attorneys win a much

years reveal that those repre-

higher percentage of appeals.

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win a much higher percentage

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law

attorney Bieske has written a

book for attorneys about the

One of the Wildcats' most consistent threats, Novi senior guard Amanda Geiger left her mark in her debut with the program by averaging 8.7 points, 2.0 assists, 2.2 rebounds and 1.6 steals, Gei ger shot 52 percent inside the arch and 35 percent from beyond the arch, nailing 32 on the season en route to KLAA All-Conference honors.

"Led team in field goal percentage as a guard," Novi coach Bill Kelp said. "Above average in every aspect of the game. One of the best all-around players I ever coached. Strength is the area

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Lakeland: Lena Tiedeman (So. G), Tay-

Novi's junior point guard, Kerri McMahan, earned Player of the Year honors and led the Wildcats to an 18-3 record.

that put her into the elite level. (She has a) 3.98 GPA (and her) basketball IQ off

Dominique Zigo (Lakeland Jr. G)

Leading the Eagles with an average of 12.0 points per game, White Lake Lakeland junior guard Dominique Zigo was a force throughout the season. She shot 43 percent from inside the arch and 21 percent outside it, but managed to set the school's single-game record for three pointers with six against Wayne Memorial. Zigo was a force during Districts, with 14-fourth quarter points in a semi final for 24 total. She also shot 72.3 percent from the free throw line and picked up 2.4 rebounds per game.

"Gritty competitor who can do so many things offensively," Lakeland coach Mike Head said. "Has the capability to get to the basket anytime she wants, yet she is also one of the better shooters in the area.'

SECOND TEAM Amanda Lock (Lakeland So. F)

An impact player for White Lake Lakeland, sophomore forward Amanda Lock shows a lot of promise for the

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future of the Eagles' program. She averaged 10.9 points and 12.6 rebounds per game on top of 1.7 assists, 2.7 steals, nearly one block per game and a 41.6 field-goal shooting percentage. She led the Eagles in rebounding, assists and steals, tying the school's single-game rebound record with 20 against North Farmington and falling 10 rebounds shy of the school's single season rebound record.

Gabby Mencotti (Northville Jr. PG)

Behind an average of 7.2 points, 5.2 rebounds, 3.2 assists, 2.7 steals and 1.2 blocks. Northville junior point guard Gabby Mencotti was one of the most balanced and consistent student-ath letes in the league. She earned KLAA All-Conference honors in the process, causing trouble for opponents at all

Jade Antolec (Novi Sr. F)

After suffered two torn ACLs in the past two years, Novi senior forward Jade Antolec returned to average 8 points, 6.2 rebounds and 2 steals per game, earning KLAA All-Conference honors in the process. Despite the knee troubles, she led the Wildcats in rebounding and caused havoc in the

Elise Gustafson (Milford So. C)

Despite a tough season for her team, Milford sophomore center Elise Gustafson managed to average 10 points and 10 rebounds per game, including nine double-doubles on the season. A KLAA All-Conference honorable mention, the Mayericks have high hopes for Gustafson.

Taylor Pavlika (Novi Jr. G)

Although not the focus of opponents' defense, Novi junior guard Taylor Pavlika was often the glue in the Wildcats' lineup, setting up opportunities for her teammates. She averaged 7 points, 2.4 assists, 3.8 rebounds and 2.1 steals per game this season, hitting 26 threepointers at a 35-percent rate. She led earning All-Conference honorable men-

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

www.hometownlife.com



CC bows in state title tilt

Bulldogs prove to be best Division I team in front of packed arena

By Sam Eggleston

If you wanted to move around Compuware Arena last Saturday evening, you were out of luck.

Approximately 4,000 fans packed into the arena and it didn't take long for the drone of buzz-like chatter to fill the air as fans began to talk about the upcoming match-up between defending state champion Brighton and favored Detroit Catholic Central.

When all was said and done, it was the Bulldogs of Brighton who skated away with the 2-1 victory and the Division I title for back-to-back state championships. The last team to do so was Catholic Central when they won the championship in 2009 and

The state finals victory was Brighton's third. Trailing by one point

with time quickly expir-ing, the Catholic Central skaters did make a strong bid for overtime. Michael Babcock almost made it happen, too, with 6.8 secas he wound up right in

front of the goal and fired a hard shot that looked like it would get past Brighton's goalie, James

Milletics, somehow, got his leg in front of the shot, preserving the game and the state championship. It was just one of 37 saves he made on

the night. for this day since summer," Milletics said to the Detroit Free Press. "At the end, he (Babcock) got a shot off and I just sprawled my leg out hoping I could get it. It

worked pretty well," Catholic Central coach Todd Johnson was impressed with the play from Brighton, who led 2-0 at on point. He credited the play of Milletics as a deciding factor. "James had a great

game, and they blocked a ton of shots," Johnson said. "They had a pretsuccess. We didn't like being in the position of felt like an eternity. We made it 2-1 ... and we felt



CC senior Michael Babcock pressures Brighton's goalie

ly penalty, and two of those last seven minutes we had to kill. In the final eight seconds, we hoped to win the face-off and get something to the net

Catholic Central's lone goal came in the third period when junior Carson Gatt scored on a power play at 9:58 to make it a 2-1 game. He was assisted by Babcock and Nick Daigneau.

Brighton was the first team to score in the contest, finding the back of the net at the 15:07 mark as the puck slid past Catholic Central goalie Der-ek Moore off a shot by senior Michael Yuhasz, assisted by Daniel Bosio and Lucas Morgan. The game-winning goal came at 8:03 in the second period when Morgan scored off an assist from Yuhaz.

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



Shamrock goalie Derek Moore stops a breakaway by Brighton.

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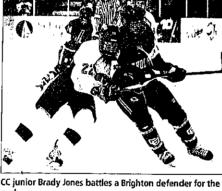
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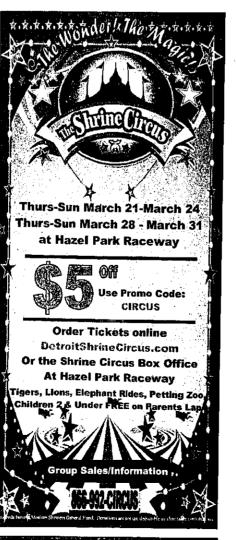
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A philosophy is the true measure of what a winning strategy entails

By Lee Meadows

ne of my four favorite times of the year starts this week. If anyone guessed daylight saving time, then there is a warped sense of reality that has found its way back into

The Big Ten Basketball Tournament (men and women) as a prelude to the NCAA Basketball Tournament, affectionately known as 'March Madness' and

the 'bracketological' argu-

ments and 'alleged' sick

next three weeks with no

days, will consume the

eftovers for the misin-

formed. We will see col-

ege basketball at its finest

nd highest level and rav

ish in the unpredictability

of a structured event. As a fan, I revel in the



Lee Meadows

pure combative give and take of two opposing forces. As a professor, I look for the "teachable" moments that can be translated back into the classroom. As a columnist. I look for the angle that allows me to think about an event

in a broader context There have been many who have talked about the link between business and sports, typically focusing on the leadership and/or team performance outcomes, So, what else can be said about this connection that has not already been stated? Let's start with this

What do Mike Krzyzewski (Duke University), Jim Boeheim (Syracuse University), Tom Izzo (Michigan State University, GO SPARTANS) and Pat Summit (University of Tennessee) have in common with John Calipari (University of Kentucky), Rick Pitino (University of Louisville), Bill Self (University of Kansas) and Roy Williams (Universi-

ty of North Carolina)? The eight names mentioned have all led their programs to, at least one, NCAA championship. As most fans, writers and casual observers of the game would agree winning just one NCAA championship is a lifetime accomplishment worthy of an elite status that many pursuers will never claim. So, what is it that separates this small

group from the rest of the crowd? Let's

start by further defining this group of eight. In the case of coaches Krzyzewski, Boeheim, Izzo and Summit, they have been mainstays at the head of their programs for 15 years or longer. During that time, they have managed to keep their basketball pro grams among the elite with a consistent phiosophy about talent utilization, teamwork and winning. When we analyze the success of these four coaches, it would be hard to dispute the value of longevity as a standard for building and maintaining a successful winning program.

Except in the case of coaches Calipari, Pitino, Self and Williams, longevity is not the key element, because each has achieved success based on their ability to quicky build or takeover a successful program. These four coaches have carried success with them across two or more programs, thus making it hard to dispute the value of a 'formulaic' approach that is successful and transportable. It is clear that the attraction of this approach lies in the ability to turn a non-winning program into a winner or sus

tain a winning program that needs a boost. Obviously, these four coaches have the core emphasis on talent utilization, teamwork and winning. So, individual style aside, we're left with this question: How can

two distinct styles be so, equally, effective? As much as I am inclined to believe that "it's just in the way they look at things', I am more compelled by the idea that leaders DO formulate and embrace a philosophy about how to achieve success. The philosophy drives the methods used and refinement comes through practice and a strict adherence to a set of rules. They recognize that no structure is perfect and adjustments are made to reinforce the philosophy.

While I don't want to oversimplify the process they use to achieve their success, I don't want to understate the importance of knowing, philosophically, what it is you are trying to achieve. Winning, clearly, is the ultimate measure of success, but a philosophy is the true measure of what a winning strategy entails

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

Spring weight restrictions begin in **Oakland County**

The Road Commission for Oak land County (RCOC) began applying seasonal spring weight restric-6 a.m. Monday. The restrictions lim it the amount of weight trucks can carry on the roads and are intended to minimize damage to the roads while the ground under the roads is

Roads in the Novi area affected include 14 Mile Road (east of Decker to Haggerty Road) and Napier Road (south of 12 Mile Road to Eight Mile Road) - both with 35 percent reduc-tion in load required. Three roads have 25-percent weight restriction: Eight Mile Road (Napier Road east to Taft Road); 10 Mile Road (Napier Road east to Haggerty Road); and Haggerty Road (Eight Mile Road north to 14 Mile Road).

Anyone wanting an update on the status of the weight restrictions can call RCOC's weight restrictions hotline at (248) 858-4765.

Each spring, in accordance with state law, RCOC reduces the weight limits on its non-all-weather roads as temperatures begin to rise and the ground begins to thaw. "As the road subsurface thaws, the road's ability to carry weight is reduced," explained RCOC Managing Director Dennis Kolar. "That means that a weight that wouldn't affect the road under normal conditions, might now damage the road. These restrictions help to ensure that our roads last as long as possible, with as few potholes as possible.'

The restrictions do not affect passenger vehicles, but apply to commercial trucks.

Weight restrictions are enforced by weighmasters employed by the Road Commission, the state, local

communities or the Sheriff's Department. Violation of the weight restrictions can result in a citation and fine.

David Czerniakowski, director of RCOC's Customer Services Department, said the timing of this year's weight restrictions is typical. "It is usually in February or March that the ground is thawing and we must apply the restrictions," he noted.

Czerniakowski will recommend that the restrictions be removed when he determines that the soil is no longer saturated and the frost has thawed. He noted that the weight restrictions have an impact on several industries including building construction, because it restricts companies' ability to move heavy

"Weight restrictions do not prevent trucks from operating," Czerniakowski said. "They may still operate on affected roads, they simply have to operate with a reduced load

A "truck operators' map" is available from the Road Commission that shows which roads have weight restrictions. The map is available by calling RCOC's Customer Service es Dept. at (248) 858-4835 or by visiting the department's offices at the RCOC facility at 2420 Pontiac Lake Road in Waterford Township (office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.). The map is also available on RCOC's Web page at www.rcoc-

web.org, and listings of the affected roads are posted on the Web site For a statewide listing of which

counties have imposed spring weight restrictions, visit the County Road Association of Michigan (CRAM) Web site, www.micounty

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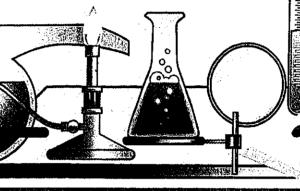
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Briana Karalis, 11 years old, of Livonia with dog, Maggie.

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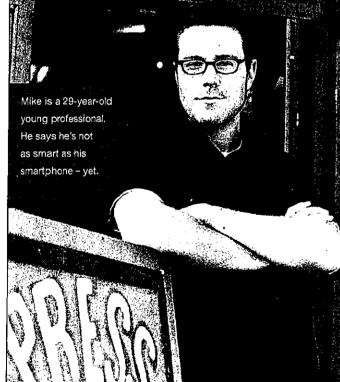


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NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

Telcom Credit Union will officially become Vibe Credit Union on March 18. "We chose a unique lence a minimum of sevand distinct name which incorporates a modern version of our historical

roots in telecommunications," said Tyler Ross. 'Vibe represents a new energy within our credit union, and with our new advancements in technology we will become a major player among all institutions.

St. Mary Mercy receives honor

name

Two national organizations have honored St Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia for delivering high-quality clinical and stroke care.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital ranks among the top 5 percent of hospitals nationwide, according to Healthgrades, receiving the Disinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence 2013 among only 262 U.S. hospitals. The recognition s given to hospitals that deliver high-quality care with better than expected clinical outcomes across clinical specialties. This is St. Mary Mercy's ninth consecutive year winning

the award. In addition, St. Mary Mercy is among the top 1 percent of the recipients grades America's Best Hospitals 2013 among

enforces standards for all nursing homes enrolled in consistency of care. Hos Medicare or Medicaid. pitals become eligible for "All of us at the Manthis award after receiving or of Novi are honored to be recognized by U.S. the Distinguished Hospita Award for Clinical Excel-News & World Report for

the exemplary care we en consecutive years. This provide our residents 24 hours a day, 365 days a year," said Lisa Berthold, year is the hospital's third year winning the Healthrades America's Best lministrator, The Manor Hospitals award. St. Marv of Novi. "Our exception Mercy received the recal staff, combined with the ognition as America's 50 latest rehabilitation ther-Best Hospitals in 2011 and apies keep us at the forefront of both short-term "Our consistency of proand long-term care in the

tic of our excellent teams of physicians, nurses and clinical staff," said Dave Spivey, President and CEO, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, speaking to the number of years recognized

Manor of Novi recognized

The Manor of Novi, a Ciena Healthcare skilled nursing facility in Novi. has been listed as one of the best nursing homes in the state, according to the latest rankings published by U.S. News & World Report. The facility received an overall five-star rating - the highest possible - and is one of nine Ciena Healthcare facilities to be included on

The U.S. News rankings are built on data from Nursing Home Compare, a website run by the fedcare and Medicaid Service es (CMS). CMS sets and

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fill in their name and signature.

Facebook facebook.com/Scoop The Newshound Design/Layout: Randali Masters, Graphic Artist



Sarah Walrath, 12 years old of South Lyon, with bunny Buggzy.

Cory Routen, 13 years old, of Westland with ca

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

Deadline

Mail all entry forms to: Scoop the Newshound, 41304 Concept Drive Plymouth, MI 48170 All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Media by close of the business day on March 29 for submissions: or email your form to: cbjordan@hornetownlife.com Winners to be announced in a future Scoop's Hound Dog Highl

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ESTATE BRIEFS

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures and what it takes to get started. Many sellers are misinformed or not sure about how the procedures work. Organizers will also discuss the internal workings of short sales and the different steps involved. Bonnie David, broker/ owner of Quantum Real Estate is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, down town South Lyon Additional parking across the street in back. Please call the office at (248) 782-7130 or e-mail gmail.com for your reservation or additional informa-

Free foreclosure

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sun day. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96, E-mail Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth

Learn about reverse mortgagry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Keep fire safety in mind at nightclubs, stadiums

The National Fire Protection Associa tion recently marked the 10th anniveroccurred in Rhode Island with a plea to the public to be cautious and keep safe ty in mind when visiting nightclubs or similar venues. The Station fire occurred on Feb. 20, 2003, and killed 100 people.

NFPA recently updated and expanded its resource page on assembly and nightclub fires in light of a January fire at the Kiss nightclub in Santa Maria, Brazil, that killed 238 people. The Kiss nightclub fire is ranked third on NFPA's list of the deadliest nightclub fires in the world: The Station is ranked 10th.

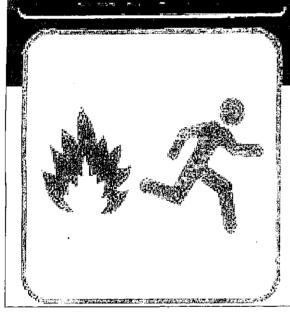
"When selecting or settling into an entertainment venue like a nightclub, sports arena or restaurant for an evening of enjoyment, how to get out if there in an emergency is probably not one of the first things on your mind, but it should be," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of Communications. "Fire drills are or should be common practice for businesses and schools, along with family home escape plans, so it's only natural for this level of awareness to be carried over to other places, even if you only plan on being there for a short time."

For those visiting events in night clubs or other places of assembly, there are basic tips to keep in mind when entering a potentially unsafe gather-

- Before you enter: Take a good look.
- Have a communication plan Plan a meeting place When you enter:
- Locate exits immediately Check for clear exit paths
- · Look for smoke alarms and fire sprinklers Do you feel safe?
- **During an emergency:** · React immediately Get out, stay out!
- Full descriptions of these steps, along with videos, reports and further analysis, can be found at NFPA's website. NFPA is a worldwide leader in fire.

electrical, building, and life safety. The mission of the international nonprofit organization founded in 1896 is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education. NFPA develops more than 300 codes and standards to mini mize the possibility and effects of fire and other hazards. All NFPA codes and standards can be viewed at no cost at www.nfpa.org/freeaccess.





HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real	223 Scarlett Dr	\$260,000	NORTHVILLE		19351 Delaware Ave	\$75,000
estate closings recorded the week	7130 Sylvania Ln	\$324,000	44927 Broadmoor Cir S	\$325,000	18851 Lennane	\$27,000
of Nov. 12-16, 2012, at the Wayne	1713 Thistle Dr	\$178,000	16970 Carriage Way	\$390,000	18346 Lexington	\$55,000
County Register of Deeds office.	GARDEN CITY			\$326,000	19137 Lexington	\$47,000
Listed below are cities, addresses, and	29525 Barton St	\$25,000	41816 Rayburn Dr	\$240,000	14219 Marshall Dr	\$140,000
sales prices.	29434 Rosslyn Ave	\$60,000	39656 Rockcrest Ln	\$117,000	14251 Mason Dr	\$145,000
·	LIVONIA		49626 S Glacier	345,000	12261 Nathaline	\$58,000
	36720 Seven Mile Rd	\$520,000	46425 W Main St	\$829,000	WESTLAND	
CANTON	15621 Auburndale St	\$139,000	PLYMOUTH		35976 Central City Pky	vy \$29,000
1753 Brookdale Dr \$218,000	9322 Eastwind Dr	\$147,000	561 Kellogg St	\$200,000	1115 Easley Dr	\$27,000
6802 Devonshire Dr \$177,000	11739 Hunters Park Ct	\$49,000	799 N Holbrook St	277,000	30737 Joy Rd	\$68,000
7451 Embassy Dr \$217,000	29510 Lori St	\$105,000	40544 Newport Dr	\$67,000	31132 Merritt Dr	\$110,000
45061 Horseshoe Cir \$140,000	29232 Lyndon St	\$66,000	520 Pacific St	\$211,000	486 N John Hix St	\$45,000
299 Princeton St \$218,000	9918 Mayfield St	\$129,000	REDFORD		34729 Somerset St	\$35,000
45612 S Stonewood Rd \$174,000	9035 Merriman Rd	\$30,000	8990 Arnold	\$49,000	29090 Van Born Rd	\$20,000
42078 Saratoga Cir \$152,000	38801 Plymouth Rd	\$175,000	14254 Breakfast Dr	152,000		
42162 Saratoga Cir \$156,000	-					

ND COUNTY **HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANS**

23373 Winnsborough \$355,000

These are the area residestate closings recorded Oct. 29 to Nov. 2, 201, land County Register of Listed below are cities, and sales prices.	the weeks of 2 at the Oak- Deeds office.
BEVERLY HILLS	\$245,000

BEVERLY HILLS	
15975 Amherst Ave	\$245,000
17319 Beechwood Ave	\$316,000
31426 Waltham Dr	\$287,000
18663 Warwick St	\$340,000
BIRMINGHAM	
687 Davis Ave	\$240,000
1743 Derby Rd	\$205,000
2291 Dorchester Rd	\$120,000
1905 E Lincoln St	\$436,000
661 Fairfax St	\$606,000
463 Henley St	\$395,000
1050 Lake Park Dr	\$518,000
1651 Latham St	\$355,000
397 N Old Woodward A	Ave
\$315,000	
1045 N Old Woodward	Ave
\$150,000	

1651 Latnam St	\$355,000	
397 N Old Woodwar	d Ave	
\$315,000		
1045 N Old Woodwa	rd Ave	
\$150,000		
662 Purdy St # 103	\$175,000	
1186 S Eton St	\$153,000	
BLOOMFIELD HILLS		
4387 Barchester Dr	\$415,000	
1948 Bloomfield Dr	\$20,000	- 3
4720 Cimarron Dr	\$725,000	-
2618 Covington Pl	\$700,000	- 3

WEALCHA	ıL	
1920 Hillwood Dr	\$733	3,000
875 Ivy Ln	\$243	3,000
1015 Joanne Ct	\$179	000,
3147 Middlebury Ln	\$199	000,
3917 Mount Vernon D	r \$290	0,000
5572 N Adams Way	\$224	1,000
1339 N Carillon Ct	\$873	000,
3036 Patch Dr	\$258	000,
20 Scenic Oaks Dr N	\$515	,000
42550 Woodward Ave	\$40	,000
1760 Woodward Ave #	42	
110,000		
LOOMFIELD TOWNSH	IP	
3335 Burning Bush Rd	\$585	,000

3036 Patch Dr	\$258,UUU
20 Scenic Oaks Dr N	\$515,000
42550 Woodward Ave	\$40,000
1760 Woodward Ave #	42
\$110,000	
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSH	IP .
3335 Burning Bush Rd	\$585,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	•
3255 Lochmore Ct	\$192,000
5866 Majestic Oaks Dr	\$420,000
2195 Palmetto	\$40,000
5072 Parkgate Dr	\$309,000
FARMINGTON	
23899 Colchester Dr	\$103,000
30624 Sunderland Dr	\$290,000
35654 Tall Pine Rd	\$253,000
Farmington Hills	
29941 Fox Club Dr	\$225,000
35101 Glengary Cir	\$196,000
22159 Inkster Rd	\$95,000
21305 Juniper Ct	\$116,000
23516 Middlebelt Rd	\$140,000
34134 Old Timber Ct	\$235,000
35136 Pennington Dr	\$190,000
30348 Shiawassee Rd	\$80,000
32423 Springwood St	\$99,000

ACTIONS-	OAKL	AND COU
0606 Squires Trl	\$41,000	44229 Winthro
2005 W 12 Mile Rd L	Jnit 105	SOUTH LYON
2,000		741 Challengii
357 Wykeshire Rd	\$180,000	23691 Copper
ANKLIN		23862 Copper
800 Brandingham F	Rd \$290,000	455 Eagle Way
LFORD		61009 Evergre
27 Bird Song Ln	\$193,000	58996 Peters B
62 E Maple Rd	\$139,000	59038 Peters B
1 Milford Glen Ct	\$236,000	156 Princeton
5 Napa Valley Dr	\$25,000	448 Princeton
3 Promontory Dr	\$150,000	51999 Red Cec
15 Shagbark	\$338,000	53970 Springw
VI	. ,	53686 Valleyw

32800 Brandingham R	ld \$290,000	455 Eagle Way	\$175,000
MILFORD		61009 Evergreen Ct	\$180,000
1027 Bird Song Ln	\$193,000	58996 Peters Barn Dr	\$75,000
3162 E Maple Rd	\$139,000	59038 Peters Barn Dr	\$80,000
761 Milford Glen Ct	\$236,000	156 Princeton Dr	\$26,000
455 Napa Valley Dr	\$25,000	448 Princeton Dr	\$195,000
763 Promontory Dr	\$150,000	51999 Red Cedar Ct	\$68,000
2615 Shagbark	\$338,000	53970 Springwood Dr	\$25,000
NOVI		53686 Valleywood Dr	\$212,000
45230 Bartlett Dr	\$84,000	26721 York Ct	\$310,000
45236 Bartlett Dr	\$84,000	SOUTHFIELD	
45237 Bartlett Dr	\$87,000	16336 Addison St	\$32,000
45285 Bartlett Dr	\$84,000	27430 Arlington Dr	\$130,000
41805 Borchart Dr	\$153,000	29285 Brooks Ln	\$225,000
41960 Borchart Dr	\$297,000	29254 E Chanticleer Dr	
303 Duana St	\$122,000	21771 Hidden Rivers D	r N \$16,000
44561 Gwinnett Loop	\$159,000	19015 Hilton Dr	\$50,000
44565 Gwinnett Loop	\$157,000	29629 N Rutherland St	
28022 Hopkins Dr	\$160,000	30513 Shoreham St	\$121,000
25998 Petros Blvd	\$225,000	27140 Spring Arbor Dr	
25534 Portico Ln	\$120,000	21147 W Nine Mile Rd	\$58,000
48140 Rushwood	\$299,000	WHITE LAKE	
22170 Shadybrook Dr	\$235,000	927 Aglaia Dr	\$161,000
44855 Stockton Dr	\$86,000	697 Akehurst Ln	\$286,000
44873 Stockton Dr	\$360,000	605 Sunnybeach Dr	\$471,000
27003 Victoria Rd	\$260,000	452 Woodsedge Ln	\$325,000
27135 Victoria Rd	\$45,000		

44229 Winthrop Dr \$255,000

741 Challenging Trl \$139,000 23691 Copperwood Dr W \$68,000

dropping plan needs legal check

By Robert Meisner

board a more practical way of dealing with pet droppings



controversial particularly, because certain people do believe that it is the responsibility of the pet owner to clean up, I am aware of commentators who have suggested that approach, and, it may not be totally unreasonable given the fact that it could be part of the maintenance responsibilities of the association, particularly if there are a number of dog owners who do not mind paying, perhaps by way of an additional assessment for that service. Where it gets more "hairy" is if the cost of cleaning up is distributed among all co-owners although, presumably, the garbage pickup is paid by all co-owners through the association even though some co-owners have more garbage than owners may not have any garage when they are out of town, perhaps during the winter. It is not an idea, therefore that should be totally rejected, but I would check with legal counsel for the association before implementing that plan.

Q: I have leaking in my basement. I called the management company and the representative came out and looked at it and I paid a plumber to give me an estimate to correct the problem which included standing water in the sewage pipes for approximately my pipes and I think it is the association's responsibility. the management company, association, builder, township

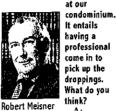
inspector who signed off on the work or the State of Michigan? A: You need a good lawyer to give you

your answer, but generally speaking, if it is the association's responsibility, you will need to put pressure on the association, as well as the managing agent, to take care of your problem. The State of Michigan and the township building inspector are not in a position to help you any more than your legislators or congress persons. All too often, people look for help from "free sources" when their best recourse is hiring a competent

lawyer and author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition, available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping/handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping/handling, Call (248) 644-4433 or visit brneisner@ meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

attorney.

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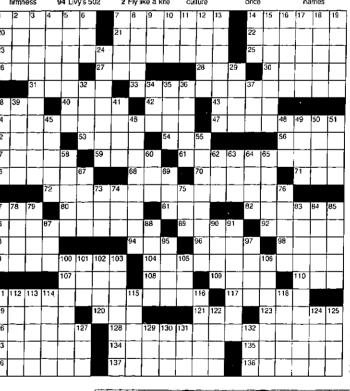
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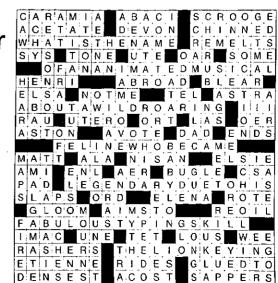
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Answer to Last Week's **Puzzle**



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Quiz: Is your cover letter like a bad handshake?

CareerBuilder Writer

A cover letter serves a specific purpose in the hiring process. While potential employers can turn to your résumé to see your work experience, a cover letter is an introduction to who you are and why the prospective employer should invite you in for an interview.

Handshakes are another form type of handshake your cover to potential employers:

1. Your cover letter's opening sentence is:

sition at your company." B. "I'm interested in the open position at your company and would like to submit my job

C. "I was surprised to hear of the open position at your company and was hoping you could look at my résumé if or when you get a chance."

2. If you're currently employed, do you mention your job in your cover letter?

A. Yes, I explain that my current job should pay better, and I'm interested in receiving a better title or promotion.

to the open position and explain why I'm ready to assume

to leave my current job.

of introduction, so think of your cover letter as a handshake. While you may think you're offering a warm handshake, your cover letter could actually be strong-arming you out of a job. Take this quiz to find out what letter is most associated with and the impression it's giving

A. "I want to tell you why you should hire me for this open po-

qualifications."

B. Yes. I relate my current job

5. How do you end your

company to think I'm not ready

3. Your experience matches about 90 percent of the job requirements. Do you address the requirement you don't meet in your cover letter?

perienced and smart I am and how impressed my past boss was with how quickly I picked

B. No. I address the requirements I do meet and include my relevant experience: I can mention the other requirement. if I get asked about it in a later

C. Yes. I point out that I don't know how to do it and say I hope I get the chance to learn it.

4. Where in your cover letter do you write about the company of

A, Briefly in the middle; most of the room was used for boasting about my qualifications and why I'm the best choice.

B. After the introduction paragraph about my interest and experience, I write a short paragraph about why I admire the company and the values I share with it.

C. Most of the cover letter is about them. I only included a few sentences about why I'd be lucky to work there.

relationship with the potential

A. Thank you for your time, and I know you'll make the right choice.

from you.

cover letter?

Mostly A's: Death-grip handshake

dent are great qualities, but you're coming on too strong. If your cover letter were a handshake, you'd break a few bones with that death grip. Keep your cover letter balanced with the qualities that would make you a great pick for the job as well as why you're interested in work-

Mostly B's: Confident B. Thank you for your time, and I look forward to hearing handshake

C. Thank you for your time, and it'd be so incredible to hear

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ing there. You want to build a

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and approachable You may be getting a call

your cover letter made a great first impression, just like a confident and approachable handshake. You clearly understand what it takes to write a great cover letter; expressing a genuine interest in the position and the company and relating your past experience to the new role. By presenting yourself as

a strong candidate, you set the

stage for a more in-depth con-

versation about if the job is a

for an interview soon, because

good fit for both parties. Mostly C's: Dead-fish handshake

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You'll need to muster up more courage in your cover the equivalent of a cold, limp handshake. It's wonderful that you're impressed by the business and you're trying to be polite, but that won't help the hiring manager understand who you are and why you're a good fit. A cover letter is an introduction, but it's also a tool to help the company make an informed hiring decision. Focus on the key points that company should know about you - why should they hire you over everybody else?

Susan Ricker is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder. com and its job blog, The Work Buzz. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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Car Report

C-Max is achieving Ford's goal: Taking big bite out of hybrids



corporate aim of eating into the dominance segment, so Ford is doubling down with an extension of the popular TV-advertising cam-

paign that launched the vehicle.

Ford's share of the U.S. hybrid market grew by nearly 9 percentage points between December 2011 and December 2012, mostly from the October launch of C-Max, the company said, while Toyota's share of hybrids dropped by 8 percentage points even though last year was the first complete year on the market for the company's expanded line of Prius models.

Additionally, initial sales data show that C-Max is stealing hybrid sales away from other brands at an impressive clip: Its conquest rate is about 64 percent, with Prius and the Honda CR-V ranking as the top nameplates abandoned by customers in favor of C-Max.

"We clearly sought to go head-to-head with Prius" in introducing C-Max, Ford's first nameplate reserved only for electrified vehicles, C.J. O'Donnell, marketing and strategy manager for Ford Electrified Vehicles, told me. "C-Max is, all around, iust a better car."

To that end, of course, Ford's first ads for C-Max last fall made direct comparisons in fuel economy, passenger roominess and other areas with Prius V, the slightly larger version of Prius that Toyo-

Soon, C-Max advertising — retaining the "La Linea" character introduced in

Ford's new C-Max hy- its first spot — will pivot to some playful brids are achieving the poetry readings designed to highlight C-Max features. C-Max pops up in the new ABC reality cooking show The Taste and Toyota Prius in the will be a key part of challenges on the March 8 episode. The car also will be visible this season in the course of Ford's regular sponsorship of American Idol on

> "Unlike typical launches, we're going to continue to invest in 2013 in C-Max to extend the launch," O'Donnell said. "Spending in media and creative and on grass-roots efforts will remain strong for nine to 12 months since the introduction rather than the typical three to six

O'Donnell said that Ford is encouraged by the fact that the C-Max Hybrid and the C-Max Energi plug-in hybrid, launched at the same time, have been helping the company exceed its usual market share in important electrified-vehicle markets

At the same time, about one-third of C-Max sales are occurring in the Midwest, typically among the worst markets for



Ford's C-Max is taking a bite out of Prius sales in the hybrid of new electrified vehicles. At

"Leading with this technology we're striving to improve share, on the East and West coasts, but it's great to be able to use it to retain our strength in the Midwest also,"

gratifying aspects of the sales patterns for C-Max so far is that the car has been able to steal significant numbers of customers who owned CR-V, Honda's compact SUV. "It's packaged with enough versatility to compete with that segment," he

In fact, within the Ford brand, many C-Max buyers migrate down in size from previous versions of Escape and Escape Hybrid — even though there's a signifihybrids — but, of course, the historical cantly refreshed new Escape SUV available now — as well as move from

> While Toyota has focused its electrified-vehicle efforts on conventional hybrids, and General Motors has emphasized its Chevrolet Volt plug-in hybrid, after a long and unspectacular record of offering conventional-hybrid versions of some of its most popular conventional models Ford has begun determinedly fielding a wide variety

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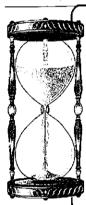
the Ford Focus compact sedan.

O'Donnell said that one of the most this point they include not only the two C-Max models but also the Focus Electric.

> "As a company, we're now second [in electrified vehicles] and pecking at Toyota because of the range of our products," O'Donnell said. "We don't have a single entry that we're trying to put all our weight behind. We provide choices to customers in what electrified product best suits their driving styles and per-

Still, about 70 percent of electrified vehicles sold by Ford this year will be conventional hybrids, he said; about 25 percent will be C-Max or Focus Energi plug-in hybrids; and the remaining 5 percent will be Focus Electric.

Ford accelerated its plans for C-Max as it reported that its U.S. February sales grew nine percent with 195,822 vehicles sold. That marked Ford's best February sales in six years - with cars up six percent, utilities up 21 percent and trucks up



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