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**NOVI HIGH TEENS, STAFF SUPPORT GOOD CAUSE, A4**



# NOVI NEWS

PRICE: \$1 • THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2013 • [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

## Washer and dryer contest

O & E Media has teamed up with Bill and Rod's Appliance to give away a Whirlpool top load washer-and-dryer set valued at \$1,199. To enter, look for the contest link on our Don't Miss at [HometownLife.com](http://HometownLife.com). Fill out the form and tell us why you need a new washer and dryer in 50 words or less. The winner will be chosen May 3.



## Used book sale in Wixom

The Wixom Public Library is holding a used book sale. Select from thousands of items: fiction, non-fiction, DVDs, CDs, talking books, special items and more. Book prices are 25 cents to \$1 (more for special items). The sale began yesterday for Friends members and continues for the general public from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. today; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday (fill a bag for \$5). Sponsored by the Friends of the Wixom Library, all proceeds benefit the library; book donations are welcome. The library is located at 49015 Pontiac Trail.

## Recycling's on the rise in Novi

800-plus tons went through city's center in 2012

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

Recycling in Novi is going up, according to the Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County.

In 2012, there were more than 824 tons of materials dropped off at and ultimately processed from the Novi center, which is a 37.4-percent increase from

2011, said Michael Csapo, RRRASOC's general manager. In an effort to continue this trend, the Novi City Council approved a five-year agreement with the RRRASOC to maintain the regional recycling dropoff center at the Field Services Complex on Lee BeGole Drive.



Csapo

Novi has been part of this authority since 1997, and has maintained a regional recycling dropoff center ever since. The current agreement was set to expire this fiscal year.

"The recycling dropoff center in Novi continues to grow in popularity," Csapo said.

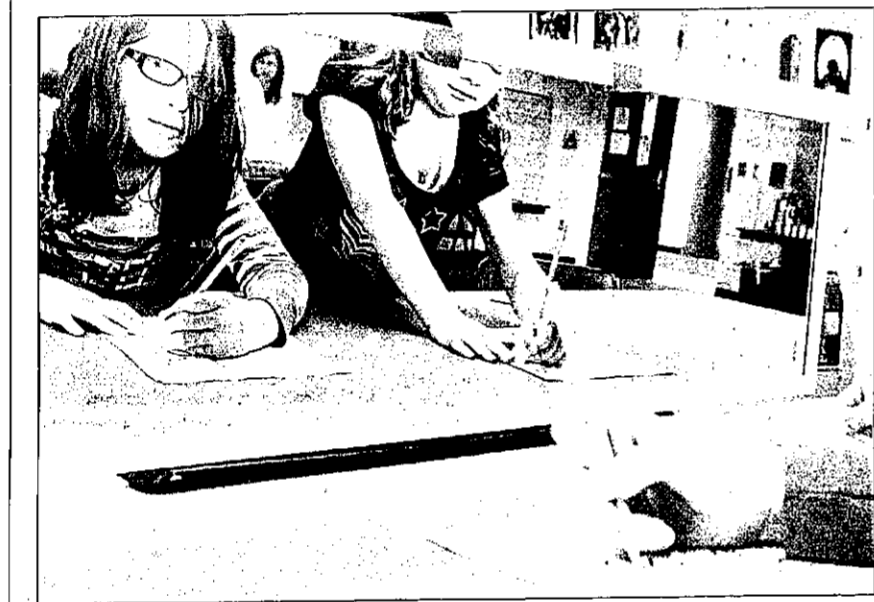
In terms of reduced environmental impact, he said the ton-

nage recovered and recycled equates to more than 6,100 trees saved.

"In addition to the environmental benefits of recycling, that material is an important recycled material feedstock, with which continued value-added activity can take place, contributing to Michigan's economic growth," Csapo said.

As part of the new agreement, recycling of specific recyclable materials will continue at the existing dropoff center located

Please see **RECYCLE, A2**



JOHN HEBER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi Woods students Elena Eiken, left, and Laura Gettel try to connect-the-dots while staring into a mirror to see what someone who has cognitive issues might have to deal with while writing.

## Becoming aware

Fourth-graders simulate lives of disabled

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

The annual Disability Awareness Workshop at Novi Woods

Elementary School has opened the eyes of many fourth-graders — and this year was no different. Through a variety of exer-

cises and discussions, students are now better aware and have a whole new respect for those

Please see **AWARE, A16**

## Run & Walk honors wife, mom who lost cancer battle

By **Julie Brown**  
Staff Writer

Mike O'Connell of South Lyon lost his wife, Andi, to adenoid cystic carcinoma in 2007 when she was just 40.

He and the couple's three children were out to breakfast at Big Boy later after church, and discussed starting a foundation to support research.

"It's a rare cancer with little awareness and little funding," said Mike O'Connell, who grew up in Novi and lived in Novi 30

Please see **HONORS, A2**



O'Connell

## Diamonds, Denim & Digital Detox: busy week at library

By **Cal Stone**  
Staff Writer

The Novi Public Library is kicking it into high gear with a pair of events — one that's become a yearly tradition and a new one that takes a step back in time.

The third annual Book It! event, 7-10 p.m. Friday, will include an evening of shopping, sipping and fun under the theme Diamonds and Denim (western wear is encouraged).

Proceeds will benefit the library's Fiction & Electronic Book Collection.

"I cannot think of a more fun way to celebrate a Friday night than with the Novi library — eating great food, enjoying a beverage,

### LEARN MORE

For information on these programs or to register, visit [novilibrary.org](http://novilibrary.org) or call (248) 349-0720. The Novi Public Library is located at 45255 W. 10 Mile Road.

listening to great music and shopping," said Julie Parkas, library director. "We will have it all in one place and it benefits an amazing cause!"

The evening will consist of a silent raffle, live auction, music by The Sundowners Duo and food by local eatery Steve and Rocky's restaurant.

Other sponsors include Menchie's Frozen Yogurt, Glob-

al Office Solutions, Twelve Oaks, Chasing Fotos, Walmart, Providence Park Hospital and Novi Town Center.

The cost of admission is \$20 for an individual ticket and \$35 for a couple. To purchase, call the library's administrative office at (248) 869-7204. Limited tickets will be available at the door.

### Digital Detox Week

Put down the iPad, turn off your BlackBerry and pause the Xbox game — it's time for Digital Detox Week at the Novi Public Library, April 28 through May 4, a fun-filled week celebrating events that encourage everyone to turn off screens and "turn on life."

"I love the concept of Digital



Detox because I think it reminds us all that we can sometimes be distracted by our digital devices and lose connections with friends and family," Parkas said. "This week encourages reconnecting and having fun without technology."

In partnership with the Novi Rotary and Novi Parks, Recreation

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HONORS

Continued from page A1

years. "We wanted to do something good in the face of what had happened."

The Live Like Andi Foundation will support the Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma Research Foundation with its sixth annual "ACCELERATE the Cure" Run & Walk on Saturday, beginning and ending at Novi-Detroit Catholic Central High School.

There will be a 10-Miler, 10K Run, 5K Run, 5K Walk, Kid's Run and Heroes Wall Display. Register online at www.LiveLikeAndi.org.

Andi was only 19 when she was diagnosed. "She always had a big smile on her face and she had a positive demeanor," her husband recalled.

The foundation has raised over \$400,000, mostly for research. It also supports scholarships for students who've overcome obstacles who attend Novi High School, Catholic Central or South Lyon High School. To date, \$30,000 has been given in high school scholarships.

The O'Connell fami-

ly includes son Tyler, 19, a Washtenaw Community College student, daughter Gabrielle, 16, a junior at South Lyon High, and daughter Olivia, 13, who attends Millennium Middle School.

Gabrielle is co-director of the foundation and awards the scholarships.

"She gave a very passionate speech," her dad recalled of one assembly. "It got a standing ovation."

Gabrielle has great memories of her mom. "Everything about her was so fun," she said. "She was never without a smile on her face."

Gabrielle likes awarding the scholarships. "That's really fun to give," she said. "She's also glad to be involved with the foundation."

"It feels really good to know I'm helping out the other families. It's good to get the community involved," the teen said.

Mike O'Connell agreed the family has benefited from the involvement.

"After such a loss, you're not really sure what to do. It's been a tremendous way for us to deal with the loss. It's been very helpful for all of us."

They feel they carry on Andi's legacy, recalling her



This year's event, the sixth annual, will again benefit the Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma Research Foundation and local scholarships. It's set for Saturday, April 27.

upbeat spirit as she fought cancer. "Yet she did it with such grace and style," Mike said, remembering friends who were amazed at her attitude. "It was inspiring, it was really something."

Andi had hoped to see their children graduate and get married. "We were very lucky to have her the time we did," her husband said. Her testing when she was ill helped with cancer research. Tumor samples were sent around the world,

he said, including to the University of Virginia for research. "It was important for her even though she knew her time was short," he said.

jbrown@hometownlife.com

LIBRARY

Continued from page A1

and Cultural services, families and friends can participate in a variety of programs throughout the week.

**Family Bike Event:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 28. Meet in the library's main lobby. All ages can enjoy a bike ride using the city of Novi's new paths and explore the wonderful artwork on display by the Detroit Institute of Art's Inside/Outside program. Also, take part in a bike drive by donating used bikes to Detroit-area children. Maps will be provided; registration required.

**Family Game Night:** 7-8 p.m. Monday, April 29. In the library's Whole Meeting Room. See how your skills stack up against other families in the first-ever Pictionary Draw-off. Other games are also available. For all ages; registration required.

**Family Book Discussion:** 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 1. In the library's

Whole Meeting Room. There is nothing quite as sweet as reading a book together. Join in a discussion and activities related to *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo. Upon registration, each family will receive a copy of the book. For ages 7 and older; registration required.

**Family Story Time:** 7-7:45 p.m. Thursday, May 2. In the library's Whole Meeting Room. Enjoy stories, read by local Rotary members, along with music and a craft. For all ages; registration required.

**Decorate Your Own Kite:** 1-2 p.m. Saturday, May 4. In the library's Whole Meeting Room. Prepare for the fifth annual Kite Festival in Lyon Township on June 2 by decorating your own kite and learn about kite safety. For kindergartners and older; registration required.

**Community Financial Credit Union** awarded Novi Public Library and Novi Rotary a \$1,000 grant which helped fund these fun-filled, family-friendly activities for the community.

RECYCLE

Continued from page A1

at the north end of Lee BeGole Drive. In consideration for operating and maintaining the drop-off center, the city of Novi will receive from RRRASOC an annual host fee of \$16,000. In addition, RRRASOC will provide a sufficient number of dropoff containers and will haul full containers to its Material Recovery Facility for processing.

Novi City Manager Clay Pearson said in addition to the environmental benefits, this is also a longstanding partnership with other communities, including Farmington, Farmington Hills, South Lyon, Southfield, Walled Lake and Wixom. The goal of the authority is to provide regional recycling programs and services in a cost-effective manner.

# Frustrated with a Thyroid Condition?



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## Attend my Thyroid Recovery Seminar:

Location: Wixom Public Library  
49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom, MI 48393  
(This is not a library sponsored event. DO NOT CALL THE LIBRARY)  
Date: Saturday, May 4th @ 10:30 am

Presented by: Dr. Tom Sladic, D.C., CNS, Certified Nutrition Specialist, Member of the Institute for Functional Medicine, Member of the American College of Nutrition  
**Dr. Sladic's protocols are based on the ground breaking work of Dr. Davis Kharrazian, author of the book "Why do I still Have Thyroid Symptoms when my lab tests are normal?" Seminar attendees will be eligible to receive a copy of this book.**

Topics to be discussed:

- Why you still feel horrible even though you're on Thyroid medication
- 6 patterns of Thyroid problems and only one requires medication
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- Why Hashimoto's is not a problem with your Thyroid
- Natural solutions for Thyroid problems
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*"Before I met you I was overweight and tired all the time. No one could tell what was wrong with me. I was hopeless. As of today, I've lost 40 pounds and my life has completely changed. I have energy all day long that I never thought I could get back. I am thrilled to feel normal again."* - Ellen S., Lake Orion

*"My life was in turmoil before I met you. I was extremely depressed, gaining weight, no energy. I felt horrible. My grandmother heard about the seminar and I went. The rest is history. I was amazed at how good I felt for the first time in years. Thank-you for taking the time to discover my problem. I am forever changed."* - Lindsey H., Northville

*"I could no longer do the many activities I once enjoyed. I knew something was wrong. People told me that this happens as you age and it's normal. So I tried to pretend everything was ok. My husband and I attended your seminar and I felt hopeful. The improvement I experienced was dramatic in just a few weeks. All of the symptoms I've struggled with began to fade away. I am back on my feet again."* - Sane F., Novi

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## SCA: Novi High students, staff team up to raise funds, awareness

Novi High School will be hosting the annual Staff vs. Seniors Charity Basketball Game in remembrance of Wes Leonard, who passed away on March 3, 2011 right after he scored the game-winning basket for his team. The cause of his death was sudden cardiac arrest.

The Wes Leonard Heart Foundation was established shortly thereafter with the ultimate goal to raise awareness of sudden cardiac arrest and to help schools across the state have working AEDs (automatic electronic defibrillator) ready for use. After learning about this foundation, Novi High School Student Council established the Novi Heart Team. Council members did an inventory at their school and found they have numerous working AEDs at disposal. Their goal is to raise enough funds to donate a working AED machine to another

school within the KLAAs Kensington conference.

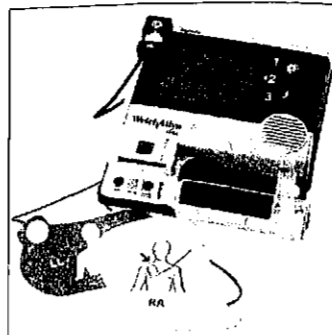
Novi High Assistant Principal Nicole Carter serves as Student Council sponsor attended a state conference for assistant principals in February where one of the speakers was the mother of Leonard.

"It was inspiring," said Carter, "and I was quick to come back and share information with my student leaders. They have grabbed onto this idea and are working diligently to ensure a successful event. The students who have done a stupendous job of preparing for this event are Tanner Vincent and Moynawk Ganapathy."

You can support their cause by donating money, attending the game or simply by spreading the word about sudden cardiac arrest. Valuable information about sudden cardiac arrest will be shared

throughout the game at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 1 in the main gym at Novi High. Cost is \$5; each attendee will be entered into a raffle for prizes.

In addition the charity basketball game, the Novi High School Class of 2016 will hold their Inaugural Tin Can Raffle in the Commons of Novi High School during the game in an effort to raise money for The Walter Reid Medical Hospital. With the generous support of multiple local businesses, raffle ticket holders have the opportunity to win gift cards, services, and goods being raffled. The \$1 and \$5 raffle tickets will be available for purchase before and during the charity basketball competition. Tipoff will be at 7 p.m. and tickets can be placed in their desired tin cans until the final buzzer. Drawings will take place after the game. Companies that have



Fund from the annual Staff vs. Seniors Charity Basketball Game on May 1 will be used to purchase a working AED machine to donate to a KLAAs Kensington conference school.

generously donated goods and services include: Schokolad Chocolate Factory; Benito's Pizza; Target; Yankee Candle; Starbucks; Panera; Applebee's; Buffalo Wild Wings; Walgreens; Alandre Salon; My One Salon; and The Sport's Club.

### NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS

#### Students, host a blood drive

The American Red Cross is offering two opportunities this summer to help high school seniors and high school sponsored groups earn money by hosting a blood drive.

High school seniors will have the money forwarded to their college. (It's a great addition to add to resumes and college transcripts that you are a Red Cross blood drive coordinator, and it's also good for community service hours.)

High school-sponsored groups can earn money for their organizations. The amount of money that can be earned depends on how many pints are collected. This program will

help support the expected slump in blood collections during the summer months when the need for blood often goes up.

Interested participants should contact Diane Risko as soon as possible at (313) 549-7052 or Diane.Risko@redcross.org for further information.

#### Walled Lake Central to host College Fair

Walled Lake Central High School (1600 Oakley Park Road) is hosting a College Fair from 6:30-9 p.m. April 30 in Central's gymnasium. All Walled Lake Schools students are welcome to attend this very informative event. College representatives

from all over Michigan as well as several out of state representatives will be here to answer questions about their university and programs offered.

Over 50 colleges and universities will have representatives in attendance for students and parents at this event. In state schools include: Michigan State, Wayne State, Oakland University and the University of Michigan. Out of state schools include: Penn State, the University of Alabama, the University of Toledo and Ohio State University.

For more information, please visit [www.wlcsd.org](http://www.wlcsd.org) or contact Ann Marie Rutherford at [annmarierutherford@wlcsd.org](mailto:annmarierutherford@wlcsd.org) or (248) 956-4829.

## Novi's a quality district, but we can do better

By Steve Matthews  
Guest Columnist

### SUPER TALK

I look forward to my daily walks with our dog Kaya because quite often the walks provide me with time to reflect on how things are going in our school district.

Sometimes, however, I don't get a chance to reflect. Last week Kaya found a smushed, moly, smelly squirrel carcass as we crossed the street. She quickly scooped it up. I told her to drop it. She did not.

Super Talk

I pulled on her collar using the best stern voice I had, told her I was really serious about her dropping it. She did not. She carried that squirrel with her for almost a mile. Finally, when we arrived back at the car, I had to wrestle it from her mouth. She had a really good grip. It took several minutes and multiple "I think I have it, no I don't" moments before I finally pried it from her jaws.

When Kaya is doing things like that I don't have much of a chance to reflect on our district. But at other times Kaya is perfectly content to walk and give me time to think about things.

I spend time thinking about two categories. First, I think about the encounters I have with people who are upset or mad or disappointed in the district. It always surprises me when people call me or find me to tell me that they are unhappy. I am

surprised because I want our district to make people happy, to help people, and to be a positive experience. Evidently, sometimes it is not.

I hope and believe that we do not intentionally try to make people unhappy or angry. Sometimes there are honest differences of opinion on what is the right course of action. Intelligent, caring, committed people can see things differently. When we see things differently and when a decision needs to be made, it is not unusual for one or more people to feel that they have not been heard.

My commitment is that people will know why we are making the decisions that we are making. In the end we may disagree but I hope that we can agree that those who work for the district have the best interests of students at heart.

At times though, when I listen to community members, parents, and staff, I find myself agreeing that they have a right to be unhappy. Sometimes we don't treat people well. We miscommunicate. We don't follow through. We don't listen. We jump to conclusions. Sometimes it feels like we make excuses instead of looking for answers.

These are the times that the employees in our district need to do a better job. Myself included.

My hope is that we are trying. I know that we can do better and my goal is for each one of us who works for the district to try every day to do the best job that we can do. When I walk with Kaya, I spend time thinking about how we can be better.

I also spend my time on my walks thinking about how lucky I am to be in this district and the wonderful people who work and go to school here. I think about the teachers who buy supplies for their classrooms with their own money and never ask for anything back.

I think about the food service workers who help pay for lunches or aides who go the extra mile to help a student find a lost item. I think about secretaries who take care of sick children without complaint. I think of computer techs that listen patiently to the same problem over and over and offer solutions. I think about bus drivers who greet students every morning to start their day the right way.

I think about all the wonderful people in our district who daily do great things that go unnoticed. These people do these things not because they have to but because they know it is the right thing to do. They demonstrate passion, courage, and kindness not because it is in the job description but because they know it is important.

My time spent walking with Kaya gives me a chance to think about our district. At times I think we can do better. At other times I am impressed with the quality work that is done by the people in our district.

But believe me when I say I prefer thinking about our school district rather than wrestling a squirrel from Kaya's mouth.

Steve Matthews is the superintendent of the Novi district. He can be reached at [smatthews@novi.k12.mi.us](mailto:smatthews@novi.k12.mi.us); (248) 449-1204; [www.twitter.com/dosmatthews](http://www.twitter.com/dosmatthews); or [www.noviperintendent.blogspot.com](http://www.noviperintendent.blogspot.com).

Steve Matthews is the superintendent of the Novi district. He can be reached at [smatthews@novi.k12.mi.us](mailto:smatthews@novi.k12.mi.us); (248) 449-1204; [www.twitter.com/dosmatthews](http://www.twitter.com/dosmatthews); or [www.noviperintendent.blogspot.com](http://www.noviperintendent.blogspot.com).

### ON CAMPUS

#### Schoolcraft College

Schoolcraft College's Math competition team recently finished third in the U.S. and first in the Midwest at the annual Student Math League contest. The two-round SML competition is organized by the American Mathematical Association of two-year colleges.

Led by student Rohit Bhadange, the Schoolcraft team posted a combined score of 269. The next closest Midwest team scored 197. Bhadange's individual combined score also ranked him sixth in the nation.

Each round lasts one hour and consists of 20 difficult questions. The top five scores from each college are added up to obtain the team score.

There were a total of 12 Schoolcraft College students on the team. The team is coached by professor Mike McCoy.

#### Michigan State University

At the April 12 Board of Trustees meeting, 23 students – including Novi's Erin O'Connor – were recognized with awards for having the highest scholastic average at the close of his or her last semester. They all received a 4.0 GPA. The students will also be recognized at the spring commencements May 3-5. O'Connor, daughter of Thomas and Rosita O'Connor, is a member of the Honors College and a psychology major.

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

## Kudos: Novi Oaks Chapter of ABWA honors two members

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

Novi Oaks recognized Holly Hengstebeck as the chapter's Woman of the Year, an annual local chapter honor in recognition of a member's contributions to ABWA. Hengstebeck is a five-year member of ABWA and CEO of Inner Pixel Productions. She holds a B.S. in finance and an M.B.A. from Wayne State University. Hengstebeck is the current chapter vice president and also chairs both the program and publicity committees.

Christina Struwe, a 25-year member of ABWA, has been nominated for the

Hengstebeck

Struwe

Top Ten, a national ABWA honor. Struwe has held many offices and chaired many committees within the chapter. She works as a relationship manager in government banking at Huntington Bank and holds a B.A. in business management from Madonna University. Her steady leadership, positive influence, and enthusiastic involvement in the chapter's activities have been invaluable.

Struwe has chaired the chapter's annual Autumn Brunch With Auction for several years, by which the chapter raises money for the scholarship and education fund. This year's auction will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel in Novi on Saturday, Oct. 19. Donations of gift certificates and new items for the auction are welcome, and recognition is given to donors at the auction and in the auction souvenir program.

For more information about the Novi Oaks Charter Chapter of ABWA and how you can join ABWA, attend a meeting, or communicate with an officer, visit [www.abwa-novi.org](http://www.abwa-novi.org).

### NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS



#### New Menchie's store opening in Novi

Menchie's will be celebrating opening the doors of its new Westmarket Square location in Novi on April 28.

Menchie's will spread smiles with a six-day grand opening celebration from May 5-10, packed with free giveaways including T-shirts and Menchie's merchandise, family-friendly activities and free servings of its best-in-class frozen yogurt.

Store operator Danny Samson says that he's excited to be a "good corporate citizen" of the unique community of Novi.

"For a large town, Novi is very community-minded and family-oriented," said Samson. "Menchie's philosophy is very focused on being involved in the community, so it's a perfect fit. It really is about making people smile and creating a unique experience."

Although its doors aren't even open yet, Menchie's Westmarket Square is already putting that philosophy into action by sponsoring activities at the recreation center, library, elementary and high schools.

The new self-serve store offers arts and crafts for kids, enjoyable music and indoor/outdoor seating areas where friends and family gather. Guests can choose from more than 100 rotating yogurt flavors and a variety of over 70 delicious toppings for unlimited combinations, ensuring happiness in every cup.

As Samson noted, Menchie's is also committed to giving back to each community it serves. Stores partner with local schools in fundraising activities and education incentive programs. Each Menchie's store donates thousands of dollars in cash and products annually to local schools to support student programs.

Menchie's Westmarket Square is located at 48010

Grand River Avenue. It will be open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 11 a.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday. For more information, please call (313) 570-6264 or visit [www.menchie.com](http://www.menchie.com).

#### Better Health Market teams with Gilda's Club

Better Health Market (42875 Grand River Avenue, Novi) has committed to helping raise important funding for people diagnosed with cancer – those diagnosed, their families, friends and caregivers. During the month of May, Better Health Market has teamed up with Gilda's Club Metro Detroit and will be donating a portion of proceeds from every sale May 1-15 at their various metro Detroit locations, up to \$5,000.

Gilda's Club/Metro Detroit encompasses the vision and passion of late actress, comedian, and Michigan native Gilda Radner. Gilda's Club provides a no-cost program for men, women, teens and young children living with all types of cancer, as well as their families and friends. In a home-like setting, Gilda's Club provides traditional support, bereavement groups as well as nontraditional programs and wellness workshops.

#### Advancing in the Resurgent Economy

The PMI Great Lakes Chapter will hold its 12th Annual Symposium on April 26 at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, with the theme being Advancing in the Resurgent Economy.

Participants at this one-day event will discover how organizations can be equipped to embrace efficient practices, promote team innovation, and incorporate the best project management practices to create rapid value delivery.

For more information about registering, visit <http://www.pmi.org/symposium2013>.

#### Marywood seeks public's input

Marywood Nursing Care Center (Marywood) in Livonia has once again been recognized by U.S. News & World Report as one of Michigan's best nursing homes for 2013.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) continues to rate Marywood a 5-Star facility. Marywood is now examining how it can best respond in order to continue offering 5-star quality care. Guided by its board of directors an effort is under way to solicit ideas, concerns and opinions from various Marywood stakeholders.

A brief on-line survey can easily be found on Marywood Nursing Care Center's website: [www.marywoodnursingcarecenter.org](http://www.marywoodnursingcarecenter.org), just look for the Survey Monkey link.

The rooms I designed are in the living room, window treatments, and home office categories," said Simmons. "To keep the voting objective, I'm

### Name change



Novi-based Tekom Credit Union became Vibe Credit Union on March 18, as recognized by employees Staci Bates, Tracey Mutter, Jill Zadzman, and Tom Reagan. The name Vibe was chosen as it is unique and different yet incorporates a modern version of the credit union's historical roots in telecommunications over the past 77 years. Vibe Credit Union reimagined everything about banking and in the process created something truly unique. Along with the new name, Vibe Credit Union now provides cutting-edge technology that allows members to conveniently connect with the credit union in any way they like. Vibe's remote banking options include Online Banking with Integrated Bill Pay, Mobile Banking Apps, a Mobile Website, and their redesigned website [vibecreditunion.com](http://vibecreditunion.com). "Our new name is creating excitement and energy among our members and employees," said Tom Reagan, president/CEO of Vibe Credit Union. "We look forward to making a connection with people through our new brand and cutting-edge technology." Vibe Credit Union is a \$424 million full-service credit union with over 32,000 member-owners. Vibe has branches in Berkley, Canton, Livonia, Novi, South Lyon and Southfield. Anyone can become a member. To learn more, visit [vibecreditunion.com](http://vibecreditunion.com) or call (248) 735-9500.

### OAKLAND COUNTY BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

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

now offered in the evenings on alternating months. Unless otherwise noted, all programs take place at the Oakland County Executive Office Building Confer-

ence Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, west of Telegraph, Waterford. For pre-registration and location specifics, visit online at [www.advantageloanland.com/expand](http://www.advantageloanland.com/expand), or call (248) 858-0783.

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# Local mother to help other women dealing with grief, pain of losses

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

## DETAILS

Donna Marie of Northville Township lost her son Michael last year at age 30 to an accidental drug overdose. He was a Northville High School graduate and golf pro who left behind a young daughter, Samantha Faye Heyer.

Marie's firm, Donna Marie Consulting, will present a "Grieving Mothers - Grieving Women" workshop 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 27, at the Holiday Inn Express, located at Eight Mile and Haggerty. She is a master's level licensed psychologist who will share her expertise and personal experiences.

Information on registration is available at her website, [www.DeaWithStressToday.com](http://www.DeaWithStressToday.com).

"A lot of emotional healing, more understanding of what they've gone through

- **What:** Grieving Mothers - Grieving Women Workshop
- **Who:** Workshop is being put on by Northville Township-based Donna Marie Consulting
- **When:** 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 27
- **Where:** Holiday Inn Express, located at Eight Mile and Haggerty
- **Cost:** \$189
- **Web:** [www.DeaWithStressToday.com](http://www.DeaWithStressToday.com)
- **Phone:** (734) 420-2935

and ways to move forward," she said of the goals. "I feel a strong connection to my son." Attendees will create some ceremonies to honor the lost loved one, along with guided visualization techniques.

She will cover the stages of grief, moving forward and getting support through the loss.

"We'll learn how to celebrate their life also. It's a roller coaster ride," she said.

Women who've had stillborn children, lost children to AIDS or miscarriages, acci-

dents and others are also welcome. She's inviting women who've lost a spouse, sibling or friend, as well as a job or home.

"There's a myriad of losses that are out there," she said. "Women will learn to go through grief at their own pace. Often, well-meaning people say 'I know what you feel,' but generally don't."

Women attending will share what they wish to share.

Women who are mourning also often hear "What can I do to help?" She hopes to



Donna Marie



Emily Kaley (from left), Mary Grace Sinkovich, JJ Wright, Joyce Cucksey, Jordyn Kreucher, Katie McMaster, Kira Hurley and Anna Mikkelson are Cadet Scouts who visited the elementary school with a plant for each classroom.

# Scouts spread word on environment

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

Girl Scouts from Cadet Troop 4141 have green thumbs.

The girls, based at Novi Middle School, visited Novi Woods Elementary School April 10 to present each classroom with a plant.

"At this level, we take Journeys," explained Scout mom Peggy Wright, whose daughter, JJ, 14, is a troop member. This is part of "Journey Breathe."

"The Scouts are exploring clean air and the environment. They've already received their Bronze and Silver Awards, with the eight young women getting pinned for Silver at Scouting founder Juliette Gordon Low's birthplace in Savannah, Ga.

The girls are working with leader Denise Sinkovich, also a troop mom. Girl Scouts work toward the Gold Award, the highest honor in Scouting.

Presenting the plants was both fun and educational.

"It's promoting clean air," Peggy Wright said of the elementary school project. "The quality of air can be improved with plants in the room."

The grade schoolers will also learn about plant care and growth. Plants were chosen to avoid problems with allergies, with a lot of troop research going into picking plants.

"Most of them come from Novi Woods Elementary," Wright said of the Scouts. "Hopefully we can catch onto the other four elementary in Novi and every classroom."

This is the first time she's organized this workshop. She does many others on stress issues, and is a consultant/spokeswoman for Health Alliance Plan.

jbrown@hometownlife.com

# Classic car auction rolls into Showplace this weekend

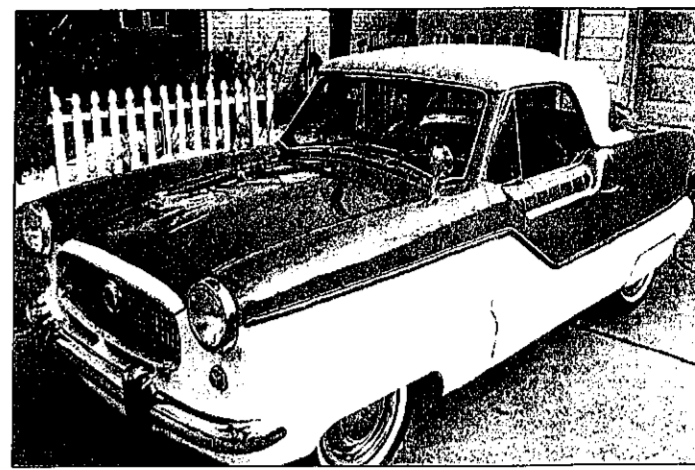
## DETAILS

Classic Motorcar Auctions will host its second annual Novi Metro Detroit Spring Classic Car Auction on Saturday and Sunday at The Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

The Spring Classic Car Auction offers an all-indoor format with more than 200 vehicles, of every make and model, in nearly every collector's price range.

"This will be the second year we've held our Classic Motorcar Auction in Novi, and as a continuation of a major classic auto auction event that dates back more than 15 years, this event has truly become a Motor City tradition," said Bob Lichty, president, Classic Motorcar Auctions.

"If you enjoy looking at classic automobiles, we invite you to come to the auction since it's a great car show. And with Barrett-Jackson auction-



This 1960 Nash Metropolitan is one of many cars featured in this weekend's auction at Novi's Suburban Collection Showplace.

eer Joseph Mast leading the live auction action, there's sure to be a lot of excitement."

The auction will also offer rare and interesting automotive memorabilia and Petrolina, including porcelain and neon signs, toys, models and other collectibles. Many area vendors will also be on display, providing fun and entertainment for the entire family.

Notable automobiles set to cross the auction block include:

- 1960 Nash Metropolitan
- 1939 Cadillac LaSalle
- 1960 Chevy Impala Sport Coupe (ACA National first place winner)
- 1988 Ferrari Mondial
- 1997 Mercedes V12 SL600 Roadster
- 1971 Olds 442 Convertible
- 1999 Porsche Carrera Roadster
- A wide range of Corvettes from the 1960's to late model years
- Consignments for the auctions are still being

accepted. Also welcome are multiple collections and estates, for which special arrangements can be made. Reliable Carriers will be on hand to assist customers who may have vehicle shipping needs.

Participants can pre-bid or proxy bid live via computer during the auction.

Bidders may pre-register online or by phone prior to the auction for free. On-site bidding registration is \$25, which includes two admissions.

# Dive 'Under the Sea' with Novi Civic Theatre

## DETAILS

Tickets are now on sale for Disney's "The Little Mermaid Jr." presented by the Novi Civic Theatre. The show opens Friday, May 3 and tickets may be purchased online at [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) or at the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Office, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road.

The beautiful young mermaid, Ariel, longs to leave her ocean home to live in the world above. First, she'll have to defy her father, King Triton, and convince Prince Eric that she's the girl with the enchanting voice. This charming musical is one of the entire family can watch together.

This Novi Civic Theatre production involves 52 cast members, ranging in age from 7 to 17. In addition to two weekends of shows, the cast is also doing a special show on Monday, May 6 for Wixom and Parkview Elementary first graders. The students will see the show and learn about performing arts and the theatre.

Abbey Scheidler, of Wixom, plays Ursula and is enjoying her experience with the production. "I love the show! Being a part of it has been so much fun."

The senior at Walled Lake Western has been performing in theater productions since she was 11. "I have never played a character like this before. I have never played a villain. Developing my character has been challenging, but a lot of fun!" This musical adventure also

stars Novi residents Austin DuBois, Lindsay Webster, Trey Richman, and Sophie Psiakis.

Performances are 7 p.m. Friday, May 3; 2 p.m. Saturday, May 4; 2 p.m. Sunday, May 5; 10 a.m. Monday, May 6; 7 p.m. Saturday, May 11; and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 12. Ticket are \$12 per adult and \$6 per child (age 3-17) and senior (age 60+). All seats reserved. For more information and to learn more about the Novi Civic Theatre, visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) or call (248) 347-0400.

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**SOCIAL SECURITY**

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

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

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

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

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bleske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bleske and Allonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Bleske and Allonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-888-351-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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

**City of Novi Public Hearing Notice**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers Novi Civic Center 45175 W. Ten Mile Road to consider:

CASE NO. PZ13-0018 41216 VINCENTI CT (DH EQUIPMENT SLAES)

The applicant is requesting a variance from the CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 1906 to allow outdoor storage. The property is located east of Meadowbrook Rd and south of 11 Mile Rd in the I-1 Zoning District. Section 1905 requires that uses within the I-1 District shall be conducted wholly within a completely enclosed building.

CASE NO. PZ13-0019 27145 KAREVICH / 27156 KAREVICH (PI DISTRIBUTION & GENSII STEAKHOUSE)

The applicant is requesting variances from Sections 28-1, 28-5 and 28-10 of the Novi Sign Ordinance to allow two entrance ground signs of 30 sq. ft., 6 ft. in height including signage for the business on the adjacent parcel, an additional (2nd) wall sign of 1.3 sq. ft. for the restaurant building and the addition of a continuously lit flame at the top of the facade tower for a recently reconstructed restaurant and catering businesses with common ownership on adjacent parcels. The properties are located west of Novi Rd, and south of Twelve Mile Rd in the C Zoning District.

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCE, Section 28-1 requires business signs to advertise the business located on the premises only, 28-5 permits a single wall sign or ground sign to be installed on 27145 S. Karevich parcel and a single wall sign and a ground sign on the 27156 S. Karevich parcel and 28-10 states that "a sign not expressly permitted is prohibited" applicable to the proposed continuous open flame.

CASE NO. PZ13-0020 25843 STRATH HAVEN DR

The applicant is requesting variances from the CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 to allow construction of a new single family home with a reduced front setback of 30 ft. (45 ft. required) and reduced aggregate side yard setback of 41 ft. (50 ft. required) on an existing non-conforming lot. The property is located east of Beck Rd and north of 10 Mile Rd in the RA Zoning District.

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 requires that structures constructed within the RA zoning district have a minimum front yard setback of 45 ft. and an aggregate side yard setback of 50 ft.

CASE NO. PZ13-0021 27754 NOVI RD (LA Z BOY)

The applicant is requesting variances from Section 28-5 of the Novi Sign Ordinance to allow a two oversized wall signs of 132 sq. ft. and 94 sq. ft. for business re-occupancy of an existing retail facility. The property is located east of Novi Rd, and south of Twelve Mile Rd in the RC Zoning District.

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCE, Section 28-5 permits a single sign to be installed at this retail location and limits the sign area to 65 sq. ft.

CASE NO. PZ13-0022 43769 GALWAY DR

The applicant is requesting a variance from the CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, 2400 to allow construction of a new covered front porch extending 7.33 ft. into the required 30 ft. front setback of an existing home. The property is located west of Novi Rd and north of 8 Mile Rd in the R-4 Zoning District.

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 requires a minimum 30 ft. front yard setback in the R-4 Zoning District.

CASE NO. PZ13-0023 2012 WEST LAKE DR

The applicant is requesting variances to allow reduced side yard setbacks of 5 ft., on each side respectively to allow construction of a deck on the rear of an existing home. The property is located east of West Lake Dr and north of South Lake Dr in the R-4 Zoning District.

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 requires minimum and aggregate side yard setbacks of 10 ft. and 25 ft. respectively.

CASE NO. PZ13-0006 43280 ELEVEN MILE (RUNNING FIT)

The applicant is requesting a variance from CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 28-5(i) to allow a second wall sign of 32 square feet located on the east face of a retail tenant suite. The property is located north of Grand River and east of Novi Rd in the TC Zoning District.

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 28-5(i) permits a single wall sign for each business storefront in the TC district.

Novi Planning Commission  
David Greco, Secretary

Published: April 25, 2013

**CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 15, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider CADILLAC OF NOVI, SITE PLAN NUMBER 13-28, FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL, FOR SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT OPTION CONCEPT PLAN AND SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL. THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS LOCATED AT 41500 GRAND RIVER AVENUE IN SECTION 24, AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF GRAND RIVER AVENUE AND MEADOWBROOK ROAD, IN THE GE GATEWAY EAST DISTRICT. The subject property is 6.7 acres and the applicant is proposing additional building storage. Plans are available for review at the Community Development Department in the Novi Civic Center.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. and must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday May 15, 2013.

Novi Planning Commission  
David Greco, Secretary

Published: April 25, 2013

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CHECK OUT THE NUMBERS IN TODAY'S SPORTS SECTION

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**Auto workers, have you been offered the option to receive a lump-sum payment from your employer? Do you wish for more information about your options, if you act on the offered option? If so, please join us at our upcoming informational event.**

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- PETITE FILET MIGNON *our leanest, most tender beef*
- BREAST OF CHICKEN *baked with white wine, mushroom, leek and thyme sauce*
- BARBECUE SCOTTISH SALMON *slow-roasted with barbecue glaze*
- GRILLED PORTOBELLO MUSHROOM WITH RAVIOLI

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Call Mary at 734.432.6490 or email Mary.A.Zak@ampf.com

Abbey Scheidler of Walled Lake plays Ursula in the Novi Civic Theatre's latest production.

**Ameriprise Financial**

## Great food, adoptable dogs and lots of wet kisses at Busch's event April 27-28

By Lonnie Muhman  
Staff Writer

If you are looking for a good opportunity to adopt a pet, look no further than the Busch's store in Novi on April 27-28.

For the first time, this store will be sponsoring an event called Shop and Adopt. Busch's is joining forces with Almost Home Animal Rescue League for a two-day adopt-a-pet event. All proceeds benefit the Almost Home Animal Rescue League.

"If you are looking for a dog and are interested in adopting then it is the best way to do it," said Jane Marple, who works at the Novi Busch's and volunteers with Almost

### DETAILS

Shop and Adopt will be held between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, April 27-28. Marple said both days there will be great food, adoptable dogs and lots of wet kisses.

The store is located at 41840 W 10 Mile Road. For more details contact it at (248) 348-0708.

Home. "There will be all kinds of dogs to choose from, so finding a dog for the family can be fun and help a good cause."

Almost Home, which is based in Southfield and serves southeast Michigan, is a non-profit no-kill organization. Marple said the organization's mission of helping unwanted, abandoned and homeless pets was what attracted her to

volunteer with it. Almost Home is dependent on local help and donations.

To help the cause and find some homes for some lonely dogs, Marple thought it was a natural fit to team up her employer with this animal shelter. She said Busch's has always been a great community outreach store that in recent years has raised nationally over a \$1 mil-

lion toward various causes.

During the event, volunteers from Almost Home will be on hand to help guide interested families or individuals through the adoption process through counseling, application help and just being there to offer general help to make finding a pet worthwhile. There will also be food and refreshments available.

"It's going to be fun, and it will help out a good cause," said Marple. "Novi is a very giving community, so I expect there will be some dogs finding new homes that day."

lhuhman@hometownlife.com | (248) 437-2011, EXT. 255



NOVI BUSCH'S JANE MARPLE, WITH NADIA, IS HELPING TO SPEARHEAD THE TEN MILE AND MEADOWBROOK GROCERY STORE'S SHOP AND ADOPT PROGRAM ON APRIL 27 AND 28. DOGS LIKE NADIA, CAN BE ADOPTED BY SHOPPERS - WHO WILL BE ABLE TO SEE A NUMBER OF WORTHWHILE BREEDS AT THE STORE THAT DAY.

### NOVI NEWS BRIEFS

#### Special woman

Salute the special woman in your life during the month of May.

Send us a photo of you and your mom, grandmother, stepmom, aunt, godmother or that special "mom-like" woman who has made a difference in your life.

Send the photo (jpeg format only, as large as possible) to cstone@hometownlife.com. Be sure to identify (first and last names please) you and your mom and where you live (i.e. Novi, Birmingham, Milford, Plymouth). And tell us in two sentences or less why

your mom, grandmother, aunt or other person is special to you.

Look for a photo gallery of all submissions during May at hometownlife.com.

This gallery is sponsored by Indigo Salon and Day Spa of Canton. Five lucky winners will receive a \$20 gift card to Kohl's or Meijer in a random drawing of all names and photos submitted.

The photo gallery will be on display at hometownlife.com throughout the month of May.

Deadline to submit photos and names for the random drawing is midnight Sunday, April 28.

#### Mother's Day

Here's what the Novi News wants to know in advance of Mother's Day: What rules, sayings, advice or other parenting methods do you channel from things your own mother said to you when you were a kid? Whether it was "Do as I say, not as I do" or "Wait 'til your father gets home!" we'd like to hear about it.

Email your examples to Novi News Editor Cal Stone at cstone@hometownlife.com for a story that will appear in the May 9 edition (Mother's Day is May 12). Include a JPEG photo of you and/

or your mom, if you'd like (just make sure to identify the folks in the photo). We'll use as many of the examples and photos as we can. Deadline is Tuesday, May 6.

**Projects on list**

The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) plans to construct nearly \$30 million worth of road projects during the 2013 construction season, and three local projects are included:

- 8 Mile Road from Napier to Taft in Novi and Northville (\$4.6 million)
- 14 Mile Road from Haggerty to Country Way

in Farmington Hills/Commerce Township border (\$450,000)

• Haggerty Road from Nine Mile to north of Village Woods Drive in Novi/Farmington Hills border (\$900,000)

The repair, rehabilitate and resurface of each includes repaving the road base and adding three to four inches of new asphalt to existing lanes. Road construction season starts as soon as weather permits and runs until weather prohibits further work, typically in mid-November.

Most of the 2013 road improvements are being paid for through multiple

funding sources. Eighty percent of the cost of most of the major road construction projects will be paid for with federal road dollars (generated by the federal gas tax), with the remaining 20 percent typically split between RCOC and the local community in which the projects take place.

A number of projects will also be funded fully or in part through the Tri-Party Program, which is a combination of dollars in equal parts from three sources: Oakland County general government, the Road Commission and individual communities.

Jonathon Platt draws a pint of Michigan-brewed beer at Novi's Black Rock Grill on April 15. The grill and pub is located at the south end of the Twelve Mile Crossing complex.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Black Rock expansion brings new dining option to Novi

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

Lonny and Janette Morganroth have been pleased with business since opening their Black Rock Bar and Grill of Hartland over two years ago. A Novi location seemed natural, and opened April 2 in Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk at the previous GoJaiko location.

"We're known for everything but steak's what people mainly come in for," he said. "We have a great lunch menu. Come and try us for lunch also."

The Morganroths, Highland residents, are proud of multiple awards for food and service from the Livingston Press & Argus, as well as a WDIV-Channel 4 "Best of the Best." Dinner entrees average \$16-18, he said, noting they beat out some big names in the field for recognition.

At Black Rock Bar and Grill, cooking of steaks is done on rocks tables. The cooking rocks are heating to 755 degrees Fahrenheit in special ovens. That process keeps juices in the meat,

"so the steak is juicier, more flavorful. Your last bite is as hot as the first bite."

The restaurant also has 36 televisions. There is live dinner-style music on Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday.

The Novi restaurant's hours are 11 a.m. to midnight Sunday-Thursday, 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Reservations are accepted.

The Morganroths cite the 32 beers on tap, as well as root beer on tap and a frozen pop machine with several flavors. "We're absolutely kid-friendly," he said. The Hartland restaurant is still going strong, which encouraged them to expand.

The Novi restaurant can be reached at (248) 465-7777. Lonny Morganroth said the city of Novi officials have been welcoming.

"Unbelievably good. I truly think they wanted to see this type of concept in this particular location."

The couple's four children include two sons who played hockey in the Novi Ice Arena program.

jbrown@hometownlife.com

As delicious smoke wafts upward, Black Rock Grill visitors Ryan Figurski and Jonelle Criscuolo enjoy grilling a tender steak at their table using a searing-hot rock during an April 15 lunch hour. Black Rock specializes in bringing out cuts of meat to the table on pre-heated slabs of rock - for customers to cook to their likings.

Open 7 Days a Week 11-10pm; Wednesday 10-5pm

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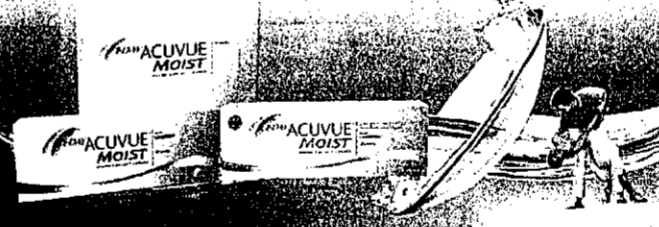
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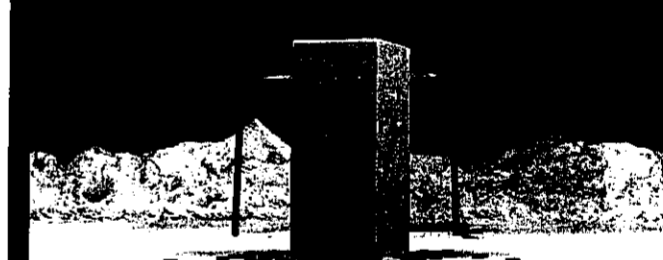
\*Offer Courtesy of Town & Country Eyecare.

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Ann Elizabeth Superfisky and Andrew Robert Kenzie

Engagement

Superfisky & Kenzie

Pam and Fil Superfisky, of Novi, announce the engagement of their daughter, Ann Elizabeth Superfisky, to Andrew Robert Kenzie, son of Robert Kenzie, of Troy.

in management from the Olin School of Business, receiving a bachelor of science in business administration degree with majors in finance, accounting and mathematics. She is employed by Bank of America Merrill Lynch in Chicago as a corporate real estate credit products officer.

University of Michigan where he graduated with highest distinction from the Stephen M. Ross School of Business, receiving a bachelor of business administration degree with an emphasis in finance and corporate strategy. He is employed by Thoma Bravo, a private equity firm focused on software and technology services located in Chicago, as a senior associate.

Passages

How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • htwtobits@hometownlife.com

Deadlines: Friday, 4:15 p.m. for Sunday paper • Wednesday, 9:45 a.m. for Thursday paper

COLE, ANN M. Age 79, passed away April 20, 2013. She was born on February 23, 1934, daughter of the late Robert & Ada Shoup. Ann proudly served as Treasurer of Colonial Acres Phase II for many years. She will always be remembered as a loving and devoted wife, mother and grandmother.

HAIEWSKI, ANTHONY P. Age 88, loving husband of Ann. Step-father portion of the death notice to read: Step-father of Carol Murray (Norel Dicks), David (Karen) Murray, and James Murray (Sheryl McLeod). Grandfather of five.

VARILONE, GEORGE JOSEPH. A resident of Milford, Michigan, who passed away peacefully on May 20, 1924. George was the son of Italian immigrants, Michael and Theresa, and brother to 3 sisters and 5 brothers.

BARRETT, EDWARD "JERRY". One year has passed, miss your laughter my dearest husband, and so does your family! Time passes too slow for people who miss you, for you are gone one year already!

LARSEN, ALFRED "DUKE". Age 81, of New Smyrna Beach, FL and South Lyon, MI, formerly of Milford, MI. Born December 12, 1931, passed away April 14, 2013 in Edgewater, FL.

MARJORIE ANN. A longtime resident of Northville, passed away April 7, 2013 at the age of 88. Born September 7, 1924 in Detroit to Chaucey and Rena (Cruse) Walker.

EVANGELISTA, ANGELINE "ANGIE". Age 85, passed away April 18, 2013. Funeral April 22, St. Joseph Catholic Church, philippsfuneral.com

LINDLEY, DOROTHY E. Age 90, passed away April 18, 2013. She was born on December 26, 1922, in Rockland, Michigan, daughter of the late Walter & Anne Lehto.

FAESSLER, MARJORIE ANN. A longtime resident of Northville, passed away April 7, 2013 at the age of 88. Born September 7, 1924 in Detroit to Chaucey and Rena (Cruse) Walker.

MARCUS, THELMA GRACE. Age 86, April 17, 2013. Beloved wife of Tom H. Marcus for 49 years. Dear mother of Tom (Karen), Mary (Scott) Pennebaker.

ROZEN, EMILY V. Age 70, passed away April 20, 2013. Visitation April 23 at Philipps Funeral Home. Funeral April 24 at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

SZALONY, NORMAN. Age 70, passed away April 17, 2013. Visitation held April 20-21 at Philipps Funeral Home. Funeral April 22, St. Patrick Catholic Church.

NOVI NEWSMAKERS

Ascension Health promotes Maryland

Patricia Maryland, Dr.PH, has been promoted to president of Health-care Operations and chief operating officer for Ascension Health, effective July 1. Dr. Maryland will continue her roles as Michigan Ministry Market Leader for Ascension Health and president and CEO of St. John Providence Health System (SJPHS) in Detroit.

McGee appointed CEO of Miller Canfield

Miller Canfield announced that lawyer Michael P. McGee has been named chief executive officer. McGee, a principal and public finance lawyer in the Detroit headquarters office, joined the firm in 1985. He has served on the firm's management board and was its hiring chair.

through June 30. Maryland has more than 30 years of health-care leadership experience. Prior to joining St. John Providence in 2008, she served as president of St. Vincent Hospitals and regional chief operating officer of St. Vincent Health in Indianapolis, another member of Ascension Health.

Among her recent accomplishments, Maryland worked in collaboration with physician leaders to lead the development of a new and innovative partnership with The Physician Alliance (TPA), a 2,200-member physician organization whose physician practices span five counties and 1,500 square miles of Southeast Michigan.



Let others know... When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in 'Passages'... a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

MICHIGAN MODERNISM EXPO APRIL 27 & 28 Southfield Civic Center Evergreen Rd at Civic Center Dr Sat 10 - 6 • Sun 12 - 5 • \$8 with adv

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Astronaut melds science, faith in upcoming talk

By Diane Gale Andreassi Staff Writer

Former astronaut Col. Jack Lousma will talk about how faith and science coexist during a presentation Saturday at a local church.

ing with NASA and share his Christian testimony. "The program is about 'faith and science' rather than 'faith versus science,'" said Rev. David Brown, Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church pastor.

Some Christians shy away from pursuing science degrees, Kummer said, because they're afraid the courses conflict with their religious beliefs. "He's a man of faith

and a man of science," Kummer said. Lousma is a University of Michigan graduate who served as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps for 25 years. He was a jet attack pilot, a reconnaissance pilot and a NASA astronaut.

commander of the third orbital test flight of the Space Shuttle Columbia. He was also the backup docking module pilot for the 1975 Apollo-Soyuz test project, America's first joint spaceflight with the Soviet Union.

recipient of four Distinguished Service Medals, NASA Space Medal, Collier Trophy and the Goddard Memorial Trophy. He has been inducted into three halls of fame: NASA Astronaut, International Space and Michigan Aviation.

Your Invitation to Worship

Worship Directory listing churches and services in Brighton, Milford, Novi, Walled Lake, Whitmore Lake, Livonia, Plymouth, New Hudson, Northville, and Highland.

# Former Novi police officer sues, citing illegal ticket quotas

By L.L. Brasier  
Garrett News Service

A former longtime Novi police officer is suing the department, claiming he was forced out for refusing to meet illegal ticket quotas.

Michael Corbett, 46, said beginning in 2006, his superiors demanded that patrol officers make at least four traffic stops and write a minimum of two tickets each shift. When he consistently failed to meet the quotas, he was harassed, denied a promotion and ultimately was forced out on April 15, according to a lawsuit filed earlier this week in Oakland County Circuit Court.

Novi Assistant Police Chief Jerrod Hart declined comment, saying the department had not yet been served a copy of the lawsuit. Ticket quotas are illegal in Michigan. He told the Novi News on April 19 the police department had been made aware of the suit by the media and had not seen anything official. However, he added the accusations they've heard are not consistent with "our practices nor the professionalism of the department."

Bloomfield Hills attorney Deborah Gordon is representing Corbett, who is suing for wrongful discharge and as a whistle blower.

"This man has an impeccable record, and they came up with a plan to retaliate against him simply because he was insisting upon following the law," Gordon said this afternoon. "This is not the

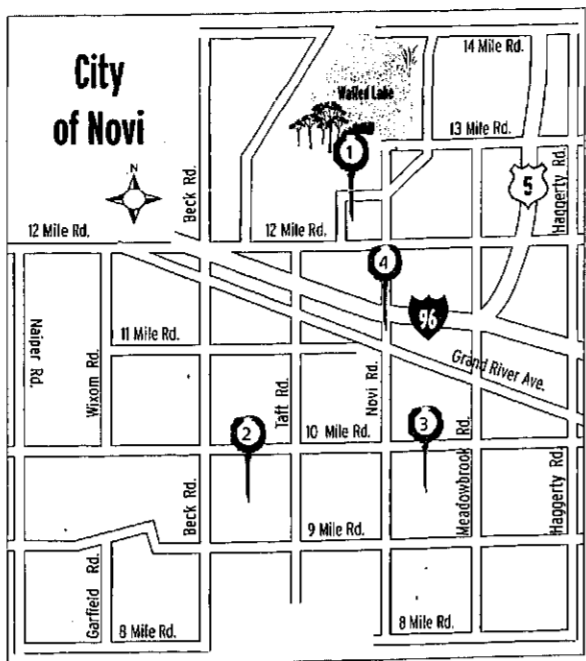
kind of mentality we need out there charged with enforcing the law." Corbett — who had been on the force for 25 years until he took an early retirement April 15 — also names the city of Novi, Novi Police Chief David Molloy and Assistant Police Chief Victor Lauria in the lawsuit.

The quotas, he said in the suit, were "an attempt to ticket and extract money from motorists who would ordinarily not be ticketed under the circumstances, in order to increase and inflate revenues to the city and its police department."

The lawsuit said Molloy and Lauria "closely monitored and tracked the revenue." According to the lawsuit, Lauria made it clear in a 2009 meeting emphasizing the quotas, "that he did not care that the practice was illegal."

The suit also alleges that in February, a supervisor rode with Corbett on patrol and insisted that he give a motorist a ticket for failing to completely halt at a stop sign, even though Corbett believed the motorist deserved a warning. The supervisor did not insist, however, that Corbett cite a city-owned vehicle that ran the same stop sign and was speeding, the lawsuit said.

On March 10, Corbett learned he was under investigation by the department. He said in the lawsuit his supervisors reviewed the videos tapes from the last 60 days he was on patrol and said they needed to question him about 84 issues. The suit seeks unspecified damages.



## NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

### iPhone stolen

A Powerhouse Gym member had his cell phone stolen while inside the gym on 12 Mile Road on April 12. He told Novi Police that he had set his iPhone on a ledge in the basketball court area of the gym with some other belongings. He came back to it 10 minutes later and found the phone missing, but his wallet and keys

### Mailboxes damaged

Mailboxes located in the 24000 block of Wintergreen Circle were damaged by an unknown suspect who left behind a small shoeprint. The boxes were on one pole and were kicked off of it sometime on April 12-13.

### Gun stolen from auto

A Novi woman, licensed to carry a concealed weapon, told Novi Police that her Glock 9mm handgun was stolen from her vehicle while parked outside her home in the Chippmunk Trail neighborhood.

According to the police report, the woman said she had left it behind in the center console while getting her child and some groceries inside during a rain storm. The

incident occurred sometime on April 9-10 and it was reported the vehicle was locked, but there were no signs of forced entry. She later demonstrated to police the possible entry point. When she pushed to lock it, a rear door did not

Drunk driving  
A Southgate woman was arrested for drunken driving after being stopped for having a brake light out and weaving in traffic on April 13.

Novi Police stopped the woman at Grand River Avenue and Town Center Drive for the light and after changing lanes without using her turning signal. The police reported smelling intoxicants inside the vehicle. She had trouble with the field sobriety tests, losing her balance during the tasks. She was cited for OWI after the breathalyzer registered .139 percent blood-alcohol content.

Compiled by staff writer Lonnie Huhman.

## NOVI COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Local Events

#### ART EXPLORATION

Time/Date: 12:30-2:30 p.m. Thursday, April 25  
Location: Meadowbrook Activity Center, Novi

Details: The next Lunch & Learn is a PowerPoint presentation focusing on the diverse collections of the University of Michigan Museum of Art, presented by the UM museum's art docents. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$7 for residents; \$8.50 for non-residents.

Contact: For more information contact City of Novi Older Adult Services at (248) 347-0421 or visit www.cityofnovi.org.

#### BLOOD DRIVES

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Tuesday, May 14  
Location: South University, 41555 W. Twelve Mile

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Friday, May 17  
Location: Novi Civic Center

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Sunday, May 19  
Location: St. James Church

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, May 23  
Location: Henry Ford Medical Center, 39450 W. Twelve Mile

Time/Date: 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Location: Providence Park Hospital, Heart Institute

#### Building

Contact: To make an appointment for any of these drives, please email Diane at Diane.Risk@redcross.org or call (313) 549-7052.

#### SIZZLING SUMMER ART SERIES

Location: Furst Park (southeast corner of Taft and Ten Mile roads, Novi)

TREMEMOUS TUESDAYS  
Time: 10:30-11:30 a.m.

June 18: Dakini Circus  
June 25: John the Magician

July 9: Jason Kollum: Comedy Juggler  
July 16: "Fisherman and his wife" theatre show

July 23: Animal Adaptations  
July 30: Joe Reilly

Aug. 6: Try this at home! Hands-On Museum  
Aug. 13: "3 Little Pigs - Large and in Charge" puppet show

Kids entertainment begins at 10:30 a.m.  
FRIDAY FAMILY FUN NIGHTS  
Times: Music starts at 6:30 p.m. and movies begin at 8:45 p.m.

June 21: Out of this world! Cosmic Groove and "Robotbots"  
July 26: Sweet Summer Fun! Candy Band and "Wreck-it Ralph"

Aug. 16: Bugs and Insects! Toppermost Beatles Tribute Band and "A Bug's Life"

#### FOOD ADDICTS IN RECOVERY ANONYMOUS

Time/Date: 1 p.m., May 18 (informational meeting); weekly meetings 6 p.m. Fridays

Location: Crossroads Presbyterian Church, 1445 Welch Road, Walked Lake

Details: Are you having trouble controlling the way you eat? Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a free 12-step recovery program for anyone suffering from food obsession, overeating, under-eating or bulimia.

Contact: (248) 277-0628, or visit: www.foodaddicts.org.

#### BEREAVEMENT MEETINGS

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

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

Details: Led by Michael M. Meyer, D. 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 meetings

#### NOVI SENIOR CENTER

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

#### Business

##### LOCAL BUSINESS NETWORK MEETINGS

Time/Date: 8:45-10:15 a.m. first and third Wednesdays

Details: The Novi II chapter of Local Business Network (LBN) is a well established, dynamic, professional networking group. We are looking for new members to pass referrals to. Please come check us out.

Contact: To RSVP call (248) 349-6225 or (248) 685-9226.

##### AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Time/Date: 6:15-8:30 p.m., second Wednesdays

Location: DoubleTree Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd., Novi

Details: Novi Oaks is a chapter of the American Business Women's Association — a national organization. Our energetic group meets monthly for networking and a program featuring speakers on a broad array of market-relevant topics. We strive to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to

provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support and national recognition. Guests are always welcome; advance registration is required. Visit www.abwa-novi.org.

Contact: Holly Hengstebek at publicity@abwa-novi.org

##### NORTHVILLE-NOVI BUSINESS NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 7:30-9 a.m. (first and third Tuesdays except Nov. and Dec., which are just the first Tuesdays)

Location: Kertys' Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty

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

Contact: Fonda Milana, (586) 232-3009 or fmlana@sunrisefinancialgroup.com

##### METRO NOVI BNI

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

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

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

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

NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
Contact: www.novitchamber.com or call (248) 349-3743

## GET LISTED!

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

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

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

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

NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
Contact: www.novitchamber.com or call (248) 349-3743

CITY OF NOVI  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
ON PROPOSED 2013-2014 BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council will hold a PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED CITY 2013-2014 BUDGET at the Regular Meeting of Council to be held on MONDAY, MAY 6, 2013. Said hearing will be held at 7:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the same may be reached, at the Novi Civic Center Council Chamber, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan.

Interested citizens may appear and present written and/or verbal comments on the proposed budget.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

A copy of the proposed 2013-14 budget is currently available at the Novi Civic Center, Office of the City Clerk for public inspection, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan.

Maryanne Cornelius, MMC  
City Clerk

Published: April 25, 2013

CITY OF NOVI  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 15, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18.282 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE AT ARTICLE 25, GENERAL PROVISIONS, TO ADD A NEW SECTION 2826, TO PROVIDE BICYCLE PARKING REQUIREMENTS AND BICYCLE PARKING LAYOUT STANDARDS.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing. The proposed text amendment is available for examination and review at the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Any written comments must be received by the Community Development Department by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, May 15, 2013.

Novi Planning Commission  
David Greco, Secretary

Published: April 25, 2013

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## NORTHVILLE / NOVI CHURCH CALENDAR

BRIGHTMOOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
Location: M5 and 13 Mile Road, Novi  
Contact: (248) 227-4420 or www.brightmoorchurch.org

Celebrate Recovery  
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays  
Details: Worship, teaching or testimony, and open-share recovery groups. We offer the principles and tools to bring healing from the hurts, deliverance from life-controlling habits, and freedom from the hang-ups that keep us from developing strong and healthy relations with God and others. Enter at Door D on the south side of the building. No cost; free childcare is available for children birth through fifth grade. Please pre-register when you contact us.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY  
Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road  
Contact: (248) 349-8847 or visit holyfamilynovi.org

Mass Schedule  
Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Friday; 7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; 4:30 p.m. Saturday  
Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.  
Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment  
Priests: Rev. Bob LaCroix, pastor, and Rev. Michael Zuelich, associate pastor

CROSSPOINTE MEADOWS CHURCH  
Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 669-9400, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit www.crosspointemeadows.org  
Sunday Worship: 11:15

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Location: 34567 7 Mile Road, Livonia  
Contact: (248) 442-8822  
Sunday Worship: 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. (SS at 9:30 for all ages) Ministry for Special Needs Adults contact judy@emmanuel-livonia.org

FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit www.faihtcommunity-novi.org  
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. Worship with Easter Cantata  
Time/Date: 10 a.m. Sunday, March 24  
Maundy Thursday Service  
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 28  
Women's Bible Study  
Time/Date: 9:15-10:30 a.m. Saturdays  
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# OPINION

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.

**OUR VIEWS**

## Plenty of opportunities to make your part of the world better

There were two repeated themes on Twitter following the explosions that rocked Boston and the world near the finish line for the renowned marathon April 15. One was the frantic search to find friends and loved ones, such as with the tweet that pleaded for help in finding a woman who did not speak English and was missing.

The frustration and feeling of helplessness was palpable as the evening wore on. It was something we all experienced, but there was another theme that emerged on Twitter that night, and it was the recognition that there are heroes among us.

Not only were they the first responders, but also the everyday folks who, instead of running somewhere, anywhere for safety, turned instead toward the blasts and did what they could to help. They may not have been able to drive fire trucks, to perform surgery, to ferret out the people who caused the destruction, the hurt, but what they did make a difference for a lot of people.

It is something to think about as this is National Volunteer Week (April 21-27).

There are heroes, too, right here among us in Novi. They are the first responders, obviously, but they also are the teacher who befriends a child who doesn't quite fit in, the homeowner who hands a postal worker a cup of coffee on a bitter day, and the shopper who returns a purse left in a shopping cart to the store.

Last month, as part of the city's Green Novi effort, the Beautification Commission honored the deceased by beautifying the Novi Cemetery, the resting place of one known Civil War soldier and nine who served in the War of 1812.

Yes, these are acts of kindness, but they also are markers for ways in which we can all be heroes in our own part of the world. And this Saturday and beyond, there are a number of opportunities to make that difference by giving up just two hours (10 a.m. to noon).

Locally, the annual Arbor Day celebration, an opportunity to give back to your community and the environment by volunteering to plant and mulch trees, will be held at Novi's Lakeshore Park (601 South Lake Drive) this Saturday.

In honor of Earth Day, the following Saturday, May 4, volunteers will head over to the Michigan State University Tollgate Farm, 28115 Meadowbrook Road, to mulch, plant trees, weed, pull Garlic Mustard Weed, and prepare the Hungry Garden for spring planting.

And on June 1, River Day, volunteers will gather for a "spring cleaning" of Rotary Park, 22220 Roethel Drive, which is part of the Rouge River Watershed.

Activities include planting, weeding, and clearing of the walking trails. All volunteers will receive a picnic lunch at noon provided by the Novi Rotary Club.

All of these events are rain or shine, and no pre-registration is required. Hand tools and shovels are recommended.

No medals of heroism will be awarded, but gloves are supplied. Besides, the best reward is knowing that you made your part of the world a better place to live.

## NOVI NEWS

Cal Stone,  
Community Editor  
Susan Rosiek,  
Executive Editor

Grace Perry,  
Director of  
Advertising

**COMMUNITY VOICE**

### Do the Boston Marathon bombings make you think twice about attending major events?



"No, it could happen anywhere. We can't live being worried all the time because then we're not really living."  
**Cody Attisha**  
Novi



"Not at all. We can't let that stuff scare us away from events like that."  
**Bob Vanhamme**  
Novi



"I think it should create more awareness, but it also could bring about some apprehension — especially when you're with your family. However, I will still go to events."  
**Hari Dandapantula**  
Novi



"No. I'm originally from Iraq, so I've seen this before. That's what the terrorists are trying to do; they want to scare you. They can't stop people from living their lives."  
**Mustafa Kamaladin**  
Westland

**LETTERS**

#### Mayor Gatt deserves re-election

We all need to work hard and partner with our elected representatives to ensure that fair and balanced laws are passed that reflect the importance of the business community in our state and in our community. My friend and current Novi mayor, Bob Gatt, is running for re-election on Nov. 5. He is bright, articulate and is in touch with the City of Novi — a community where he has lived and worked in for most of his adult life. I am strongly supporting Bob Gatt for another two-year term as Novi's mayor, and I am urging you to join me.

You may know Bob. He was a Novi police officer from 1975 until his retirement from the department in 2002. While on the police force, Bob started the highly acclaimed D.A.R.E. program in our schools, teaching our kids the hazards of abusing drugs and alcohol. He was known then to thousands of Novi residents simply as "Officer Bob." Bob's tenacity was exemplified when he was put in charge of the Novi Police Memorial Day project and persuaded the vice president of the United States to visit Novi and speak at the event. He was elected to the Novi City Council in 2003 and re-elected in 2007. He was appointed mayor pro tem in 2009.

Bob currently serves as the manager of the Oakland County Animal Control Division where he works under L. Brooks Patterson. The division oversees the Oakland Pet Adoption Center in Auburn Hills. Before that, Bob was the chief of field operations for Oakland County's Community Corrections Program. He held that position since 2002 before his recent promotion to the Animal Control Division.

But even more important than his extensive practical experience, Bob is principled on the issues. Bob is a strong, common-sense conservative who understands you cannot have employees without employers. He has made the economy and local business development a top priority in Novi.

Please vote for Bob Gatt for Novi mayor on Nov. 5. He is a good and honest individual. He's earned your vote, and he makes me proud to be a member of the Novi community.

**Blair Bowman**  
Novi business owner

#### False information

In his April 11 letter to the editor titled "Have musket," Gerald Maxey provided false information as to a Brady Report on gun violence.

Mr. Maxey submitted that, according to the Brady Report: "Nearly 100,000 people will die from gun violence this year. Some 19,000 will be under 19."

This is not what that report chronicled, nor is it representative of the information provided on its web-based Injury Statistics Query

#### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

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

**Blog:** You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com).

**Deadline:** Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

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

and Reporting (most recent year available Oct. 12, 2011). It is not even close.

Mr. Maxey is either mendacious in his re-reporting, or has some comprehension difficulties in transcribing.

Regardless, his credibility continues to languish.

Mr. Maxey, obviously without resolve in a solution to avert random future school violence, believes that an unarmed school representative there to protect the well-being of the students would be better off in protecting those students without equal decisiveness. Of course, this is contrary to the NRA's stance on school safety, which Mr. Maxey so prominently rejects.

While Mr. Maxey applauds the pending Connecticut gun law legislation, he neglects to expound upon the particulars that would specifically benefit society, and exactly how: "This legislation could serve as a model in our current federal debate on gun safety measures."

Will the state of Connecticut now be more safe from those intent on violating whatsoever the law prohibits?

The answer is "no." Inasmuch as Mr. Maxey delineates concern of the Second Amendment, he truly has no regard for it. His expressed opinion of "The NRA hides behind the Second Amendment" is wholly irrational and ludicrous.

Rather than explaining the foundation of such a denisory statement, he lets such an absurdity stand as is perhaps in an attempt to tap into Alinsky's rules No. 3 and No. 11.

Mr. Maxey's contributions to the *Observer & Eccentric* remain unimpressive due to intentional deceit. His continual "fact-based" writings are easily debunked and worthless in content.

**V. Ziegler**  
Farmington Hills

**Pamela L. Curtis**  
Royal Oak

#### Meat kills

The new link between meat consumption and heart disease, discovered by Dr. Stanley Hazen of the Cleveland Clinic, is just the latest evidence linking meat consumption to killer diseases that cripple, then kill, 1.3 million Americans annually. Hazen's study showed that carnitine, an amino acid contained in all meat products, is a major factor in heart failure.

Similarly, an Oxford University study of nearly 45,000 adults in last January's *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* found that vegetarians were 32 percent less likely to suffer from heart disease than people who ate meat and fish. A Harvard University study of 37,698 men and 83,644 women, in last April's *Archives of Internal Medicine*, concluded that meat consumption raises the risk of total, heart and cancer mortality.

"They didn't diagnose me (with hepatitis) because they heard the congestion in my chest and assumed the fever was due to congestion," she said. "It gave me a couple fluid liters of antibiotics."

After nearly a week in the hospital, she headed back to her Novi home,

**Byron Bunn**  
Birmingham

#### Trying so hard

Trying so hard to process what happened to the Boston Marathon?

Why is it possible for a person to be so cold?

Who wants to destroy World Peace?

We have had so many tragedies

With our youth being violent

When we had peace and love

Before in our youth

How much more hate is to come?

Disregard for human existence

I believe in God and religion

To help us through

This horrible life

I have witnessed death of loved ones

And the memories

Still haunt me

You feel weak, sad and you cannot

Go on in a way you felt before

Scarred for life

You remain on the path of a winding road

You learn how to tuck your feelings away and smile waiting for a new imbalance

Brought on by senseless death to unearth you

Remember to pray for the suffering

For God will comfort and bring a new day.

# Pastor hit with hepatitis A in Israel

By Cal Stone  
Staff Writer

Yes, June Marshall Smith has hepatitis A, but she wants to make one thing — very clear: You aren't going to get it from her, but get the vaccine!

The pastor at Novi's United Methodist Church for the past six years contracted it while in Israel on a 10-day trip, returning March 3 after an extension there with members of her congregation.

"I drank some tap water in the hotel room in the Dead Sea," she said. "It wasn't until after that I saw a brochure in the room that mentioned you shouldn't drink it because it's not filtered for human consumption."

She and Ann Hocking of the Oakland County Health Department are fairly certain that's where Smith's tormented journey began. They went through everything she had eaten or drank since returning and factored in the time it takes hepatitis A to incubate.

The day after Easter, Smith was running a high temperature, but that's "not uncommon for a pastor to get run down after a holiday," she said. But then she began sweating profusely and was extremely tired.

The following Sunday, she knew she was very sick, and she wound up in the emergency room at Novi's Providence Park Hospital on April 8.

"They didn't diagnose me (with hepatitis) because they heard the congestion in my chest and assumed the fever was due to congestion," she said. "It gave me a couple fluid liters of antibiotics."

After nearly a week in the hospital, she headed back to her Novi home,

stressing that "I'm not contagious anymore. You have to be feverish for that."

She also has a bit of a cold, and said her chest was still congested from lying down so much. Talking on the phone last Thursday while preparing a meal for her young grandson, Smith sounded drained physically, and a bit emotionally, too. In addition to the challenges of hepatitis A on her body, as well as gallbladder issues, Smith has had to also battle rumors.

"People like to know what other people don't and they get things started," she said. She was waiting to get the go-ahead from Hocking before sending out a letter to her congregation letting them know the symptoms and that they are not at risk. "Nobody said it was necessary, but I wanted to be honest and up front," said Smith. "I don't think that makes anything less scary for people. I've nothing to hide — I'm not a drug user, I don't have unprotected sex, so there are no risk factors. It's just a freak situation."

People touching hands generally doesn't transmit it, said Smith. You have to have poor hygiene — it's basically transmitted by fecal matter — and she says she's fastidious.

"I was a liability claims adjuster, so I handled all those claims when people got sick because of food-borne illness," she said. "So I know what things cause food-borne illnesses — not washing food adequately, not washing hands. But I don't cook for people. And you can't get it from hugging me at Sunday morning worship."

Smith was proactive in informing people she had contacted, like one of her parishioners at The Manor in Novi. She got in touch with all the people who

traveled with her to Israel via the travel agency and let them know.

Even though she got sick in Israel, Smith says she'll return there.

"It was an amazing trip," she said, "and I will take a trip again. I do plan on leading another one in 2015. I will do it, as sick as I am. One of the first things I will ask everybody, though, is make sure you get shots. Maybe sit down with a health officer."

Smith is adamant about telling folks to take preventive measures now, especially those who travel.

"The one thing I would want people to do is get a Hepatitis A vaccine," she said. "It's not commonly recommended, but they do it for kids in school now. It's a \$25 shot, now and then six months later. My co-pays and deductibles are going to be way more than that. If people were more proactive, they could avoid being as sick as I am. It's such a small cost, considering I've been down for the count for three weeks. I would've spent 30 bucks 10 times over in hindsight."

As for her pastoral duties, her congregation of about 150 is rallying behind her, and a couple of retired pastors are stepping up to cover for her, but those in the community have to be without Smith's presence until she fully recovers.

"I'm getting better," she said. "My bilirubin is coming down. I'm so jaundiced; it looks awful. I can't eat. Everything is nauseating. I'm pretty much existing on water, juice and PopTops. I can smell the scent of garbage bags all the way upstairs!"

Smith was proactive in informing people she had contacted, like one of her parishioners at The Manor in Novi. She got in touch with all the people who

traveled with her to Israel via the travel agency and let them know.



June Marshall Smith contracted hepatitis A during a recent trip to Israel, and she's urging folks to get vaccinated.

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As parent-volunteer Joy Beatty watches, Novi Woods student Sophie Menendez tries to navigate a corridor while temporarily sightless.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi Woods Elementary School fourth-grader Raymond Wu finds out how difficult it is to bend over, while on crutches, and pick up an object during the school's April 18 Disability Awareness Workshop. During the day-long event, grades cycled through different activities and found out first hand what it might be to be blind, deaf, have limited mobility or even deal with dyslexia.



Billy Wei dons a pair of glasses to mimic an eye disorder during Novi Woods' April 18 workshop.

## AWARE

Continued from page A1

who live disabled.

"This really helps us learn how disabled people get through their daily lives," said fourth-grader Sophie Menendez while doing the blindfold exercise that has the students using a cane for the blind to maneuver down the hallway with obstacles to get around.

"It was difficult to do," Sophie said afterward. "I'm learning life has different challenges for people."

The workshop was held on April 18 and had all fourth-grade students participating. The main emphasis of the workshop was to help the children become more aware of disabled people's needs. The students rotated through several stations to learn about speech impairments, vision impairments, physical impairments, hearing impairments and learning differences. Parent volunteers helped throughout the day, and with the PTO's help the workshop has continued at the school. Volunteer Tara Faulbee was at the Physical Disability station. By using such things as a wheelchair or walker as well as taping two fingers together to simulate arthritis, students got to see how daily activities like opening doors can be challenging.

"The goal is to get them to see that people have different challenges and disabilities. Some we can see and some we don't, but it doesn't mean they can't do the same things as others," Faulbee said. "It gives the students a new perspective."

Inside the Learning Disability room, students were working on exercises to simulate hearing and sight loss. They also learned what it's like to have dyslexia. They did things like read with braille while wearing goggles that blinded their eyes.

Two speakers from Angels' Place in Southfield gave the students even more insight during a discussion session. Angels' Place director of development Barbara Urbiel brought along resident Therese (last names of its residents are not given) who spoke in Donberger's classroom about her daily life.

"I've had people poke fun at me because it may take me longer to do stuff, but I don't pay attention to people who make fun of me," said Therese.

Urbiel urged the students to have patience and respect for people who may be disabled, even when it's not "cool" to do so.

Priyanka Gadam uses a gripper device to grab a bottle during Novi Woods' April 18 Disability Awareness Workshop.

lhman@hometownlife.com | (248) 437-2011, Ext. 25

### Motorcoach trip will take you out to the ballgame in style

The City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department, together with Wascom and Northville Parks and Recreation Departments, is offering a group trip to watch the Detroit Tigers take on the Cleveland Indians on Sunday, June 9. Hear the ROAR and watch the water fountains SOAR at Comerica Park during this family-fun outing.

The deadline to register is Monday, May 6. The price is \$45 for the upper box level and \$53 for the lower level and includes transportation, admission and kids rides. Seats are assigned on a first come, first served by date of registration and are limited per community. Tiger fans will board the motorcoach at Meijer in Wyom at 11 a.m. and will return at approximately 6:30 p.m.

To register, visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) or in-person at the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department, 45175 West Ten Mile Road. For more information, call (248) 347-0400.

### Gymnastics classes offered in partnership with MEGA Fun and Fitness

The City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department has formed a new partnership with MEGA Fun and Fitness to offer a wide variety of gymnastics classes to the community, starting in May. Classes will be offered for children ages 18 months (or walking) to age 11 and older. Class placement is determined by age and ability level. Children about 18 months to age five will enjoy exploratory gymnastics programs, specifically designed to keep them engaged. Children age five and up will take part in skill building classes such as MEGA Girls and Boys Gymnastics I.

Classes beginning in May and June include: Tiny Mega (walking to age 3); Mini Mega (age 3); Mighty Mega (age 4); Super Explorer (age 5); Mega Girls I (ages 6-8 & age 9); Mega Boys I (ages 5-7); Mega Boys II (ages 8-10); Mega Boys III (ages 11 and older).

Classes typically begin the first full week of each month. The deadline to register is the Friday before class is scheduled to begin. To register, visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) or the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department located inside the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. For questions regarding classes, call (248) 347-0400.

### Spring melodies in the air

The sounds of spring are in the air and the Novi Choralaires and Novi Concert Band are adding to the melody with upcoming performances. The Novi Choralaires will present the "Rhythm of Life" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 11 at the Novi Middle School Auditorium (4900 W. Eleven Mile Road).

The show will feature many classics about life and love, including "When I Am 64" by the Beatles and "Circle of Life" by Elton John.

Tickets are \$12 for adults; \$10 for seniors and children ages 3-17. Tickets are available now via [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) and at the Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Office (45175 West Ten Mile Road).

The Novi Choralaires is made up of men and women from Novi and the surrounding communities, brought together by a shared love of music and fellowship. For more information about the Novi Choralaires and upcoming performances, visit [novichoralaires.org](http://novichoralaires.org) or "like" on Facebook.

The Novi Concert Band will perform a free concert at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 28 at the Novi High School Auditorium (24062 Taft Road).

The Novi Concert Band is a symphonic wind ensemble comprised of an all-volunteer group of instrumental musicians from Oakland and Wayne Counties. For more information about the Novi Concert Band, send an email to [noviconcertband@live.com](mailto:noviconcertband@live.com) to be added to the mailing list or "like" on Facebook.

Additional creative art performances taking place in Novi this spring include the Novi Civic Theatre's production of Disney's The Little Mermaid, May 3-12. Tickets are available now online at [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) and at the Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services office. To learn more about creative art opportunities in Novi, including the Detroit Institute of Arts' Inside I Out program and summer camps, visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org).

### Tech classes for 50 and up

Tech Talk classes, offered by the City of Novi Older Adult Services, are designed for those 50 and above who are interested in becoming more tech savvy. The classes will introduce smart phones, buying and selling on the Internet, and using technology to remain independent.

Each class will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, between 6:15-8:15 p.m. and \$15 per resident and \$18 per non-resident. Pre-registration required for each class.

Monday, April 15 Using Technology to maintain your Independence

Register is available online or at the Older Adult Services office located inside the Novi Civic Center. For more information, call (248)347-0414. To learn more about old-

### The Rhythm of Life



Novi's Community Chorus, The Novi Choralaires, will present their spring concert to music lovers and families at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 11, at 7:30 p.m. With the title, The Rhythm of Life, this year's concert will feature familiar favorites for all ages from Broadway to pop to the Beatles. Under the direction of Liz Wolter and accompanied by Tranda Baldridge, the group has worked tirelessly to make their 38th spring concert one to remember. The Choralaires are a chorus of men and women from Novi and the surrounding areas. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for seniors/children under 10. They are on sale at the Novi Civic Center Parks Office, 45175 W. 10 Mile (between Novi and Taft roads). For information about group sales for 10 or more, call (248) 347-0400. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.

er adult programs in Novi, visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org).

### Super Saturdays beat winter blues

Super Saturdays, presented by City of Novi Older Adult Services, fills the prescription of much needed fun with themed activities taking place on Saturdays between 4-6 p.m.

Dinner, entertainment and friendship are on the menu at the Meadowbrook Activity Center (Novi Senior Center), 25075 Meadowbrook Road. Participants must be 55 or older and the cost is \$7.50 per resident or \$9 per non-resident, per event. Tickets may be purchased at the Older Adult Services office located inside the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road.

Saturday, May 5, Kentucky Derby - Hear the roar of the crowd and the high energy announcers at Churchill Downs during the most exciting two minutes in sports! Have fun watching the race and "horsing around" doing Derby Day activities. Ticket deadline is May 1.

Tickets are limited and must be pur-

chased in advance. Registration deadline is the Wednesday prior to the Saturday event or until sold out. Transportation to the events is available for \$1 each way. Please call to reserve a ride by calling (248) 735-5617.

For more information about Older Adult Services in Novi including upcoming events and classes, visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) or call Novi Older Adult Services at (248) 347-0414.

### Library offers free tech classes

If you are having trouble figuring out Microsoft word, want to learn more about your e-mail, or interested in Skype, the Novi Public Library has free training to help you.

Classes are offered throughout certain months and are held at different time slots. All classes will take place in the computer lab on the second floor at the library (45253 W. Ten Mile Road). Each class lasts anywhere from a half hour to an hour. Pre-registration is required.

PowerPoint Basics, Intermediate Word, Skype Essentials, and Excel Basics are a few of the computer classes; check out the library's website for more information on these courses and to sign up.

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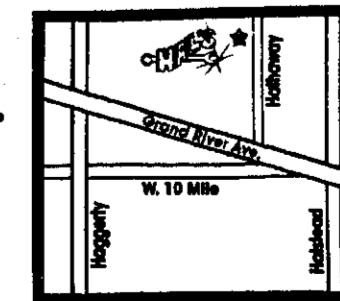
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INSIDE: CLASSIFIED, B7-10

# SPORTS

CAL STONE, EDITOR  
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Wildcat pitcher Ryan Davis in action on April 17 at Northville. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Wildcats drop a chance to compete with Plymouth

By Terry Jacoby  
 Correspondent

The Novi baseball team made some costly errors in a 7-2 loss Monday afternoon at Plymouth. The loss dropped the Wildcats to 3-3 overall on the season and 1-1 in the KLAAs.

"We couldn't catch a pop up," said Novi coach Rick Green. "I thought we pitched pretty well but we made too many errors. We need to do a better job catching the ball."

The Wildcats made four errors behind starter Mario Ferrini, who as Green said, pitched well but was pulled when his pitch count reached 49 pitches. The senior went just one hit and no earned runs in his two innings of work.

Ryan Caputo came in and pitched the next two innings, allowing an unearned run and two hits while striking out three. Blair Myers allowed just one hit and no earned runs in his two innings of work.

Kyle Matel was 2-for-2 at the plate with an RBI for the Wildcats. Luke Bageris had a double and an RBI, and Jared Casaccia walked twice and was on base three times. Ferrini, Andrew Turek and Keaton Figurski had one hit apiece.

Terry Jacoby is a freelance writer covering sports for the Novi News.

## Shamrocks lax team falls to powerful Brother Rice

By Sam Eggleston  
 Correspondent

The Brother Rice Warriors lacrosse team is the squad everyone measures themselves against when looking at just how strong their team is and what their potential is. That's because the Warriors haven't lost a game since the 2002 season, and that streak is still intact.

After a heart-breaking overtime loss last week, the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks now know how they stack-up-but that doesn't take the sting out of the loss, despite the thrill of coming so close to victory against a team that hasn't played in overtime against a foe from Michigan since 2006.

"There are no moral victories, but taking Rice to overtime was a pretty great feeling," said Catholic Central coach Dave Wilson of the 14-13 game. "We handled the pressure, took care of the ball, matched their aggressiveness and tossed in a few wrinkles of our own. We were right there when it counted at the end of the game."

Catholic Central was just seconds away from snapping the Warriors' long-time reign over Michigan. With about 20 seconds left in regulation, Catholic Central brought the ball into the offensive zone and pressured the Warriors. Brother Rice held fast, however, and forced a bad shot as time ran out to force the game into overtime.

In the extra stanza, the Shamrocks held on for two full minutes-even getting a great save from Jon Conley to keep Brother Rice out of the net-before the game went in favor of the Warriors. Catholic Central's Alex Gilhooly brought the ball down the field but was forced out of bounds in the Shamrocks' offensive end of the field. Joe Plaskey, a Brother Rice defender, then raced down the field and fired home a strong shot that found the back of the net for the victory.

The Shamrocks were led by Gilhooly, who had six goals and an assist, while Jack Van Acker added two goals and two assists and Adam Findley had three goals from his position in the midfield.

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

## Girls take victory away from first home meet

By Sam Eggleston  
 Correspondent

The Northville Mustangs girls track team made the most out of their first home dual meet of the season, walking away with a victory, 95-42, over South Lyon.

The squad, coached by Tim Dalton in his first season at the helm, took firsts in 12 events to secure the division win.

"It was a nice, solid win for our team," said Dalton. "I was impressed with our efforts across the board."

Starting the meet off was the 4-by-800 team of Rachel Coleman, Alison Robinson, Nicole Mosteller and Erin Zimmer, which took first place in 10:18.72-a full minute ahead of the competition. The team then snagged a first place in the 100 high hurdles from Morgan Robertson, followed by second from Lauren Rodriguez before Chloe Abbott took first in the 100 dash in 13.14 seconds.

Northville also took first in the 4-by-200, 4-by-400 and 4-by-100 relays while Coleman, Zimmer and Robinson took first, second and third, respectively, in the mile run. Alexa Abbott took first in the 400, followed by Nadia Affes and Lindsay Walters in second and third, respectively, while Rodriguez and Robertson took first and second, respectively in the 300 hurdles.

Northville also captured first in the 800 run with Zimmer taking the top spot.

Please see TRACK, B3

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# Novi track team takes second in Milford

**By Terry Jacoby**  
Correspondent

The Novi track team competed at the Balawagder Relays last weekend and finished in an impressive second place. The Balawagder Relays are held at Milford High School and feature teams from all over Southeastern Michigan.

**ON TAP**  
The Novi track and field team will participate in the Raider Relays on Friday at North Farmington HS. The Wildcats will compete on Tuesday at Northville starting at 3:45 p.m.

The Wildcats had a number of strong performances, including from Abby Downs, Hannah Lonergan, Jordan Love, Brian Barnes and Connor Daly.

Novi also had several second-place finishes that helped the Wildcats grab second overall in the meet.

Terry Jacoby is a freelance writer covering sports for the Novi News.



Wildcat pitcher Natalie Tarrant goes into her windup during Novi's April 17 visit to Northville.

Wildcat pitcher Natalie Tarrant goes into her windup during Novi's April 17 visit to Northville.

# Wildcats softball falls to Plymouth 10-0

**By Terry Jacoby**  
Correspondent

The Novi softball offense has gone cold. And the team-wide slump hasn't come at a very good time for the Wildcats.

"The whole team is in a slump," said Novi coach Bob Lulek, following his team's 10-0 loss Monday to host Plymouth.

"I thought we hit some balls hard but we need more than one hit to compete."

The lone Novi hit came off the bat of Casey Lawler, who ripped a double into the gap. And Brooke Embley had a walk, but that was it for the Wildcats, who struck out eight times.

"Their pitcher wasn't super fast but she had good location," Lulek said. "We are struggling on the mound. We tried all three pitchers (Monday). Teams are hitting the ball hard and we made some errors. But it all starts with pitching."

On April 13, the Wildcats split a doubleheader with Walled Lake Western. Novi lost the opener 12-8 on a grand slam home run with two outs in the bottom of the seventh.

**ON TAP**  
Novi (2-4 overall) played a doubleheader Wednesday against South Lyon East. The Wildcats play today against Canton and at Churchill on Monday. All games are at 4 p.m.

Mallory Daschke took the loss, allowing nine hits. But five of the runs were unearned. Sam Troher had two hits and two RBI and Kaley Oppat had a triple and a walk. Daschke and Jenna Lowney also had hits.

But the Cats bounced back to take the nightcap 7-5.

In the second game, Natalie Tarrant was the winning pitcher, allowing five runs on six hits with one strikeout. Casey Lawler (2 for 3, two RBI) and Lola Teran (two hits including a double) helped provide the offensive spark for Novi.

Terry Jacoby is a freelance writer covering sports for the Novi News.

# Wildcats score easy soccer wins over South Lyon teams

**By Terry Jacoby**  
Correspondent

The Novi soccer team has a losing record against Mother Nature, but on the field the Wildcats are enjoying the sunshine of a strong start.

In between rain and basically miserable weather, Novi won two games last week to improve to 4-1 on the season.

The Wildcats made up Thursday's postponement against South Lyon East on Saturday and defeated their hosts 8-1.

Erin Dircks, a senior forward, led the Wildcats with three goals. Freshman Chloe Allen, senior Natalie Krygier

**ON TAP**  
Novi (4-1) and have a big week next week with away games against Northville on Tuesday and Salem on Thursday. On Monday, Novi plays at Stevenson and then plays host to South Lyon on May 2. All games are 7 p.m.

shot, to pick up the win. On April 16, Novi had few problems with South Lyon, knocking off their hosts 8-0.

Allen scored twice for the Wildcats. Parvana, Pavlika, Dircks, Krygier, Megan Riley and Cat Nussio all found the back of the net in the win.

Assists went to Dircks (two), Krygier (two), Karissa Koomen, Pavlika, Allen and Kendall Kramer.

Antolec made four saves to earn the Wildcats' first shutout of the season.

Terry Jacoby is a freelance writer covering sports for the Novi News.

# 'Cat lacrosse girls fall to talented South Lyon 17-6

**By Terry Jacoby**  
Correspondent

The Novi girls' lacrosse team got a first-hand look at where they want to go.

"The way South Lyon plays is the way we want to play," said Novi coach Cathin Ward. "We aren't there yet. They are a great team and the best we've seen this year. They were a lot for us to handle."

South Lyon won 17-6 over the host Wildcats, who fell to 3-4 on the still young season. "It was a great learning experience for us," Ward said. "Their defense

**ON TAP**

The Novi girls' lacrosse team (3-4) played at Plymouth on Wednesday and will host Northville on Monday and Saline on Tuesday. Games start at 7 p.m.

was rock solid and their passing was outstanding." Morgan Staszny and Gina Salemi each scored twice for the Wildcats. Natalie Trainor added a goal. Alanna Clark continues her strong play, winning 10 faceoffs for Novi. Last Friday, the Wildcats knocked off previously undefeated Rochester 16-10.

"We played really well," Ward said. "We don't have a lot of depth but we were able to get everyone into this game and that experience should help us."

Clark had five goals and won 13 draws and Salemi and Haley Parker each scored three times to lead the offense. Jordan Howard scored twice and Staszny, Nicole Lazzara and Lauren Brown each scored once.

Terry Jacoby is a freelance writer covering sports for the Novi News.



Mustang Alex Kerns competes in the pole vault during Northville's April 16 home track meet.

# Mustangs dominate South Lyon

**By Sam Eggleston**  
Correspondent

It's always nice to be able to walk away with the first victory of the season, especially when it comes in the first meet in front of the home stands.

The Northville Mustangs boys track team did just that last week, beating South Lyon in their first home dual meet of the season, 100.5-36.5.

"Our victory was sparked by key contributions from all facets of the team: long distance, sprints and field events," said first-year coach Brandon Langston. "Everybody did their part to facilitate this win."

The Mustangs swept the 100-, 200- and 400-meter dashes as well as the mile and two-mile runs.

"That really speaks well of the depth and talent of our athletes on this team," said Langston.

Nathan Lwo came out and won the 100 dash in 11.76 seconds while Justin Hsieh and Charlie May went one and two, respectively, in the 110 high hurdles and then switched spots in the 300 hurdles, finishing second and first, respectively.

Sean Wagner won the high jump and finished second in the pole vault



Mustang Nathan Tager runs the 4x400 meter relay race on April 16.

**ON TAP**  
The Northville Mustangs boys track and field team will compete again Saturday when they visit Saline before hosting Novi on Tuesday at 3:45 p.m.

Walled Lake Western and finished sixth out of a field of 12 teams. Three relay teams took first place medals, with two of those teams setting new meet records.

The team of Nick Noles, Connor Naughton, Jason Conrre and Dan Sims broke the meet record in the 6x4K medley—running a mile, half mile, half mile and two miles—with a time of 18:40.7.

Ferrante, Ryan Flanagan, Noles and Sims then ran the distance medley relay 800, 400, 1,200 and 1,600 runs and set a record with a time of 11:01.86. The same team set the previous mark the year before.

The spring relay team—which runs a 400, 200, 200 and 400 sprints—was made of Flanagan, Anthony Sources, Eric Tang and Ferrante and won in 1:35.

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

# Overtime thriller!

## Wildcats edge Northville 12-11 in boys' lacrosse

**By Terry Jacoby**  
Correspondent

The Novi boys' lacrosse team scored an impressive 12-11 overtime win on Sunday over rival Northville in what turned out to be a wild finish.

In a back-and-forth, hard-fought game, the Wildcats appeared to be headed to the win column. But with 4 minutes to go and leading 10-8, Novi was called for a penalty.

The Mustangs responded by scoring three consecutive goals to take an 11-10 lead with the clocking winding down.

While Northville was trying to play keep away in the final seconds, Novi's Scott Schramm knocked the ball loose and goalie Mitch Adams was able to scoop the ball up. On the play, Adams was slashed in the back, drawing a penalty on the Mustangs.

With the man advantage, Mark Ghanam fired a shot from the top of the key that landed in the back of the net to tie the score at 11-11 with just 17 seconds left.

In overtime and still on ground balls and Travis Sparling had four and Caprara three.

Schramm had three takeaways while Sparling had two and Tommy McMaster one.

Adams recorded 14 saves for the Wildcats. On Saturday, Novi lost to Troy 11-9.

"It was a hard played game, and the team is coming together," Hoffman said. "That is hard to say with a loss but we are starting to play more as a team. Good team plays lacrosse games."

Kennedy led the offense with three goals. Buck and Caprara each had two goals. Ghanam and John VanderMey scored one apiece.

Pravato had three assists and Caprara and John VanderMey each had one assist.

Sparling had two takeaways and Schramm and Jason Sherran each had one.

Adams made five saves in the loss.

Terry Jacoby is a freelance writer covering sports for the Novi News.

# Weather woes: Novi golf team ready for season to get into full swing

**By Terry Jacoby**  
Correspondent

Some sports can play in the rain and cold. Golf isn't one of those sports.

"This has been such a crazy spring that the players haven't been able to practice much," said Novi coach Bradley Huss.

Poor weather aside, there is plenty of optimism on the scoreboard for the Wildcats.

"I think the varsity scores are much higher than they will be in a few days because this is a very good group of players and these scores are not indicative of their ability as individuals or as a team," Huss said. "I am confident they will have a great year."

The Wildcats began KJAA competition on Tuesday against Northville at Tanglewood Golf Club.

"This is always a close match and I expect that it will be decided by a shot or two so we need to focus on winning the division again," Huss said. "Billy Ulle (sophomore) will be joining the other five varsity golfers to form our six-man dual meet team. He has played well on two days with poor weather conditions in the JV events, so I look for him to help the team this year."

In the varsity team's only action this season, the Wildcats took 22nd place at the Sealhorn Varsity Invitational on April 22 at Red Run Country Club.

Junior Garret Buckley had a strong outing with a 77, good enough for fourth place.

Other scorers for Novi were Brad Kozinski (85), Jason Carless (86), Mike Wenzl (89) and Bryan Fegert (91). The Wildcats shot a team score of 337.

The Novi JV team has played in two JV tournaments.

On April 16, they played against Hartland at Dunham Hills and took second with a score of 347. Ulle shot an 84 followed by Erik Czekaj (85), Matt Kelley (89), Connor Howell (90) and Brendan Campbell (90).

The JV took eighth place at the Pinckney Invitational on April 20 with a score of 347. Ulle, Chris Park and Kevin Havens all carded an 84. Czekaj shot a 91 and Blake Carrick shot a 95.

# TRACK

Continued from page B1

and Coleman in second while Alexa Abbott and Chloe Abbott went one and two, respectively, in the 200 dash. In the two-mile run, Emma Herrmann took first and Erin Dunne captured second.

Molly DeDona also captured a first in the Shot put with a throw of 26-foot-9 inches.

The Mustangs also competed in the Stafford Memorial Relays at Walled Lake Western last week and took second place—just 4.5 points behind winner Ann Arbor Pioneer.

"It was a great overall effort by the girls today, especially considering

the weather, strong winds and temperatures in the 30s," said Dalton. "We are progressing nicely as a team right now and are continuing to show improvement across the board."

The girls' 6x4K medley relay team of Coleman, Robinson, Zimmer and Talen Shabrigian took first in 21:41, breaking the record they formally set by Northville in 2010 of 21:47.

Northville also took first in the distance medley relay, which consists of a 800, 400, 1,200 and 1,600 run with a time of 12:47—just two seconds off of the meet record. The team that won the race was Robinson, Walters, Zimmer and Coleman.

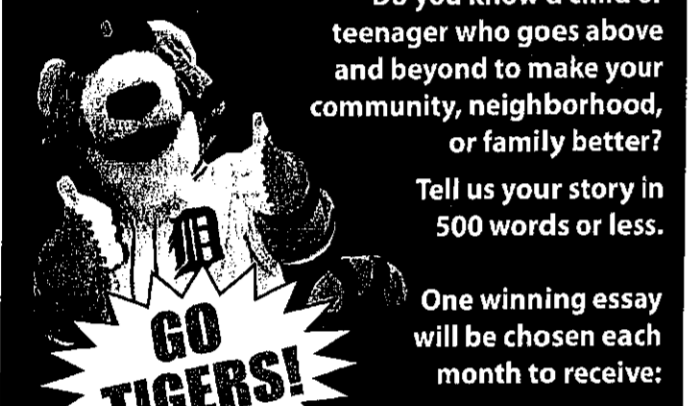
The team of Rebecca Shoup, Audrey Baetz, Robertson and Rodriguez took first in the shuttle hurdle relay team with a time of 11:11.72.

Taking second-place finishes were the 4-by-800 relay team of Coleman, Robinson, Mosteller and Zimmer while the team of Affes, Chloe Abbott, Robertson and Alexa Abbott took second in the sprint medley relay. Also taking second was the 4-by-800 team of Mosteller, Herrmann, Chloe Smither and Hailey Harris and the 4-by-400 team of Walters, Rodriguez, Affes and Alexa Abbott.

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

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## First match leads to win for Northville

After delays upon delays, Mustangs finally get to play

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

Spring has not been kind to the Northville Mustangs girls tennis team, forcing them to cancel several events and delay others to the point that it was driving the team a little stir-crazy.

The Mustangs finally got on the court last week and they took their pent-up frustrations out on the Livonia Stevenson Spartans, winning their dual meet, 8-1.

"Although it was windy and cloudy, no rain allowed us to finish the match, losing only on the No. 1 singles court," said coach Linda Jones.

The No. 1 singles match found Northville Emma Worley falling to a tough Aimee Moccia from Stevenson, 6-1, 6-3.

In the second singles flight, Northville earned a win and then didn't look back. Reeshma Kumar, a freshman for Northville, upended Stevenson's Caroline Hay, 6-1, 6-0, to take the second singles win, while Claudia Ma beat Laura Shurelo, 6-0, 6-0, to earn a No. 3 singles victory for the Mustangs. At fourth singles, Alex Jeannotte beat Batool Hussain, 6-0, 6-1.

In the doubles flights, Northville simply swept their way to victory as the No. 1 team of Anika Mulkerji and

### ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs girls tennis team will be back on the court when they host Ann Arbor Huron today at 4 p.m. before playing Saturday on the road against Ann Arbor Pioneer at 8 a.m. The team will then play Tuesday on the road in the KLA North crossover game at 4 p.m. They will also play at home in the KLA West crossover game a week from today at 4 p.m.

Danielle Romano beat Arryn Dochentz and Sam Digovane, 6-1, 6-2, and the team of Elizabeth Sakorafis and Jordan Hermiz topped Josie Abdulbaki and Shelby Spay, 6-0, 6-0, at No. 2 doubles.

In the third doubles flight, Northville's duo of Paige Baal and Chloe Page beat Madeline Chimento and Julia Gramitico, 6-0, 6-0, while the team of Shannon Williams and Libby Quinn topped Sara Morse and Sam Cyrus, 6-0, 6-0, at No. 4 doubles.

The final doubles flight of Amelia Albanelli and Molly Bis topped Danielle Marzec and Lauren Larson, 6-1, 6-1.

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

## Northville edges Salem for soccer victory

Team fights through wind, wet conditions to get win

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

The Northville Mustangs girls soccer team isn't going to know what to do with themselves when the sun actually comes up and nice weather starts appearing. The team played through 25-mile-per-hour winds and a sopping wet field from two days of rain to defeat the Salem Rocks, 1-0, in the Central Division showdown.

"The defense played well tonight," said coach Eric Bruecker. "The back line deserves a lot of credit for our early-sea-

### ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs girls soccer team will return to the pitch when they visit South Lyon today at 7 p.m. before visiting Saginaw Heritage Saturday. The team will then play Monday at home against South Lyon East at 7 p.m. and a week from today when they host Livonia Stevenson at 7 p.m.

son success. Alexis Mennotti, Ashley Payer, Cassidy Ebach, Morgan Gozdor, Tara Pawloski, Sarah Castellano and Karen

Lovelace have all contributed to a solid defensive stance."

That defense was key in taking down Salem, which came into the game with a 3-1-1 record. The Rocks were able to only get one shot on goal in the first half and two additional shots on goal in the second half, giving sophomore goalie Emily Maresch a lot more time to watch the game than having to dive on the wet field to stop shots.

Northville's lone goal came in the fifth minute of play when junior Gabby Mennotti tracked a through ball along the

left flank as it headed toward the touch line. With her final touch, she played a cross the floated in the high winds over the Salem goalie's head and to freshman Kacey Cerretani, who poked the ball into the net for the only score of the contest.

In the second half, the Rocks pressed as hard as they could for an equalizing goal, but Northville's defense held strong.

Northville is now 5-1 on the season.

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

## Girls lacrosse team splits week

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

You win some and you lose some, but what matters most are the lessons learned from those games.

For the Northville Mustangs girls lacrosse team, the lesson they learned in their 17-2 loss to South Lyon was you have to pick yourself up and keep moving forward. That's what they did when they visited Waterford four days later and earned a 10-7 victory despite 25-mile-per-hour winds and snow flurries.

The Mustangs took a 6-4 lead in the first half of play against Waterford and built on that lead in the second half to secure the victory behind the outstanding play of Erin Vogel.

### ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs girls lacrosse team will take to the field again when they visit Novi Monday at 7 p.m. before visiting South Lyon at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

Vogel scored five goals and snagged two ground balls as she led her team to another victory. Her first three goals came in the first half with Northville leading 1-0 at the 20:08 mark. Vogel took a pass from Erica MacDonald and buried it to give her squad the 2-0 advantage.

She scored again less than three minutes later, this time assisted by Anne Dultz, to make it a 3-0 game. Waterford scored with

16:42 on the clock to cut the lead to 3-1 and then tallied another goal a minute later for a 3-2 contest, but the Mustangs didn't let it phase them, scoring off the stick of Grace Guibord, assisted by Mary Dalrymple, to make it a 4-2 advantage before Vogel scored an unassisted goal 2:30 later to increase Northville's advantage. Waterford scored twice more to cut into Northville's lead and Hope Miller tacked on a goal for Northville for the 6-4 lead heading into the locker room.

Alivia DuQuet scored the opening goal of the game, unassisted.

In the second half, Northville watched as Waterford tallied two goals to tie the contest before going on a 18-minute dry spell, during

which time the Mustangs tacked on four scores of their own. Liz Hansell, a sophomore, scored her first varsity goal on a free shot with 15:03 left in the game to give the Mustangs the lead again before Vogel scored back-to-back goals for a 9-6 lead. Northville's final goal came from MacDonald, who scored on a free position shot to seal Northville's scoring.

MacDonald had six draw controls in the contest to help the Mustangs gain offensive possessions while Kati Maisano had nine saves in net to secure the victory.

Northville is now 5-2 on the season.

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

## Bill & Rod's Appliance

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Registration begins April 27, 2013  
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## Builder survey shows signs of optimism

A statewide survey shows a strong surge in optimism among homebuilders and remodelers which bodes well for a stronger housing market in 2013. The Michigan Housing Index (MHI), which is conducted by the Home Builders Association of Michigan (HBA Michigan), recorded its highest total in the three-year history of the survey. "The survey confirms what we have been hearing from homebuilders and remodelers for the past several months," said Robert Filka, HBA Michigan CEO. "There has been considerable pent-up demand among consumers as they have waited for market conditions to improve. Many potential buyers recognize that now is a perfect time to enter the market."



The latest Michigan Housing Index covers the time period of January through March 2013. The first quarter 2013 index for builders was 59, which was up sharply from 38 in December of 2012, and 44 recorded in March 2012. Following is a year-to-year comparison of the MHI Index:

March 2013	December 2012	March 2012
Builders Index	59	38
Remodelers Index	58	38

The Michigan Housing Index (MHI) is a quarterly summary of building and remodeling activity compiled by HBA of Michigan. The survey asks builders about the number of homes currently under construction and in the planning stages. Builders are also asked to evaluate their prospects for future customers. Totals are calculated in an index that is reported quarterly to provide a tracking mechanism for the industry's process. The survey breaks down builder/remodeler sentiment into three categories:

- Less than 45 (pessimistic)
- 45-55 (cautious optimism)
- Above 55 (optimistic)

"It is significant to note that the Michigan Housing Index total for the first quarter shows that builders and remodelers have for the first time in the history of the survey moved into the solidly optimistic category," said Filka. "There is still a long way to go before we can say that housing is all the way back, but the trend lines are certainly encouraging."

A noteworthy trend in the MHI survey for the first quarter was the growing amount of interest that builders are experiencing among consumers purchasing more expensive homes, particularly in the \$200,000-\$500,000 category. There has also been a modest uptick in consumer interest for homes in the \$50,000-\$80,000 category. "During the economic downturn, most of the homes that did sell were under \$200,000," said Filka. "The fact that more homebuyers are now looking at higher priced homes is another indicator of a recovering housing market."

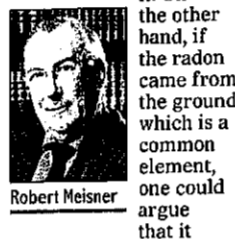
The Michigan Housing Index combines results of a monthly survey of Michigan build

## Determine source of radon

By Robert Meisner  
Guest Columnist

A condominium unit in our complex tested high for radon. The radon reports show that the radon has entered into the unit through the concrete floor, accordingly, the owner has asked the association to mitigate it. Is the association responsible for mitigating radon found in the unit?

A: The answer boils down to whether the issue of mitigation rests upon where the radon was found or from where it came. Obviously, if the position of the association or their documents is that if the radon is in the unit, then the co-owner is responsible for where the radon is found and it would be unit owner's responsibility to mitigate it. On the other hand, if the radon came from the ground which is a common element, one could argue that it is the association's responsibility since it was the source of the radon and the concrete floor was presumably a common element through which the radon traversed. You are best advised to get a consultation with your community association-condominium lawyer.



Q: We have a time share complex in Florida which is a condo and we are suspicious of how the finances are being handled, but are told that the head of the board will not give specifics even to other board members. The onsite manager is an ex-maid there and her ex-husband. Elections were just held and a new member proposes to get to the bottom of the finances, but if she gets stonewalled, what is her recourse and, what is ours?

A: Presumably, you have a right to look at the books and records of the association and if you are stonewalled, get a lawyer and threaten a lawsuit to seek a review of all of the documents. Unfortunately, sometimes persons in a position of authority in condominium associations steal money and/or otherwise abuse their position. If you have any sense of impropriety, get a lawyer as soon as possible and investigate the situation. Being stonewalled is no excuse not to take action.

Q: I am a mixed use project and I am wondering if we are FHA eligible in terms of loans. A: FHA in considers a project ineligible if any single live-work unit in the building exceeds their 25 percent cap on nonresidential space. Therefore, even if only one unit has space allocated to work "that exceeds 25 percent of the space of that unit," it would render the whole project ineligible.

Robert M. Meisner is a 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 [meisnerlaw.com](http://meisnerlaw.com). This column should not be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

Address	Price	Address	Price	Address	Price
1738 Weybridge Dr	\$120,000	9718 Horton St	\$33,000	12952 N Beck Rd	\$308,000
1758 Westworth Dr	\$210,000	11314 Hubbard St	\$166,000	730 Penniman Ave	\$189,000
44425 Westminister Way	\$160,000	37124 Kingsburn Dr	\$365,000	1341 Sheridan St	\$210,000
GARDEN CITY		27525 Lyndon St	\$125,000	REDFORD	
32137 Belmont St	\$66,000	14676 Melrose St	\$77,000	11422 Croley	\$35,000
10528 Beechwood St	\$106,000	30606 Minton St	\$117,000	15654 Fox	\$60,000
122 Central Ct	\$45,000	9911 Roseland St	\$45,000	15312 Kinloch	\$24,000
32128 Chester Ct	\$26,000	15222 Singleton St	\$90,000	26772 Margareta	\$45,000
26554 John Hawk St	\$85,000	17001 Algonquin Dr	\$385,000	18657 Neguena	\$23,000
9214 W Rose Ave	\$107,000	19047 Angell Blvd	\$95,000	26309 W Seven Mile Rd	\$17,000
LIVONIA		18888 Bayberry Way	\$526,000	15509 Wakeview St	\$450,000
33580 Ann Arbor Tr	\$183,000	46574 Broadmore Cir N	\$450,000	24520 Wedgeway Dr	\$32,000
14843 Arcola St	\$125,000	19709 Cardene Way	\$1,600	WESTLAND	
14676 Beechwood St	\$115,000	16729 Lynhurst Cir	\$290,000	380 Bedford Dr	\$85,000
36144 Barkley St	\$115,000	715 Randolph Pl	\$320,000	7346 Central St	\$20,000
14705 Blue Skies St	\$117,000	28222 Pinehurst Dr	\$520,000	38062 Hurford Pl	\$65,000
46919 Heather Ln	\$195,000	4122 West St	\$229,000	1335 Craig Dr	\$130,000
42512 Harrowick Rd	\$280,000	6825 Woodbury Ct	\$650,000	35668 Fernwood St	\$71,000
757 N Beck Rd	\$221,000	PLYMOUTH		37608 Garden Ct	\$40,000
41801 Princess Dr	\$265,000	8807 E Deborah Ct	\$123,000	37608 Garden Ct	\$40,000
47489 Raminder Ct	\$21,000	35061 Ellen Ct	\$215,000	48567 Hillcrest St	\$300,000
45588 S Stonewood Rd	\$182,000	35001 Allen Ct	\$215,000	48568 Green Valley Rd	\$150,000
427 Sandalwood Rd	\$349,000	34521 Fairfax Dr	\$240,000	748 Harding St	\$62,000
44070 Southampton Dr	\$142,000	30328 Fairfax St	\$109,000	41930 Lindsay Dr	\$125,000
2826 Stanton St	\$25,000	9039 Henry Ruff Rd	\$50,000	48631 Meadow Dr	\$35,000

## HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 25, 2012, to Jan. 11, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON  
2441 Benwick Dr \$168,000  
705 Burlington Rd \$130,000  
45402 Cypress Ct \$278,000  
632 Filmore St \$278,000  
49966 Harrock St \$335,000  
46919 Heather Ln \$195,000  
42512 Harrowick Rd \$280,000  
757 N Beck Rd \$221,000  
41801 Princess Dr \$265,000  
47489 Raminder Ct \$21,000  
45588 S Stonewood Rd \$182,000  
427 Sandalwood Rd \$349,000  
44070 Southampton Dr \$142,000  
2826 Stanton St \$25,000

## HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 10-17, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

1895 Pine Ridge Ln \$225,000  
5546 Westwood Dr \$305,000  
5131 Woodlands Dr \$280,000  
CANTON TOWNSHIP  
4740 Driftwood Dr \$360,000  
8119 Farrant St \$352,000  
7958 Marshalsea St \$275,000  
2135 Parkside \$265,000  
1111 Commerce Rd \$185,000  
4478 Ravinewood Dr \$465,000  
1825 Sleeth Rd \$386,000  
5941 Strawberry Cir \$209,000  
35501 Howard Rd \$28,000  
3740 Wild Oak Blvd \$141,000  
FARMINGTON  
35252 Drake Heights Dr \$265,000  
22820 Darvers Dr \$155,000  
FARMINGTON HILLS  
36996 Aldgate Ct \$290,000  
28804 Appleblossom Ln \$280,000  
1856 Hazel St \$140,000  
557 Henrietta St \$170,000  
1720 Washington Blvd \$750,000  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS  
172 Kirkwood Ct \$660,000  
2512 Loch Creek Way \$449,000  
7425 Parkstone Ln \$198,000  
1788 S Hill Blvd \$248,000  
6628 Vachon Dr \$248,000  
1197 Windchime Dr \$130,000  
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP  
9111 Dedham Ct \$215,000  
3065 Devon Brook Dr \$105,000  
2389 Devon Brook Dr \$270,000  
4693 Hedgewood Dr \$210,000  
2384 Kingsmith Rd \$57,000  
5608 Lahser Dr \$285,000

## REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

**Condo operation information**  
The Meisner Law Group, P.C., announced attorney Robert M. Meisner will be conducting a four-week course Tuesday evenings in May from 7-9 p.m. covering "Advanced Condominium Operation, The Essentials for Success."

This seminar is designed for board members and officers, managers, developers, and association members

living in or working with condominium, subdivision, cooperative, or community association. Explore the many legal issues involved in the successful operation of an association. Cost is \$95 (\$85 per person when two or more enroll from the same organization).

For registration information, contact The Meisner Law Group, P.C. at (248) 644-4433 or (800) 470-4433, via e-mail at [bmeisner@meisner-law.com](mailto:bmeisner@meisner-law.com), or visit the seminar page on the website: [meisner-law.com](http://meisner-law.com).

**Short sales**  
If you own 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, downtown South Lyon. Additional parking across the street in back.

Please call the office at (248) 782-7130 or e-mail [june.quantum@gmail.com](mailto:june.quantum@gmail.com) for your reservation or additional information.

Robert M. Meisner is a 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 [meisnerlaw.com](http://meisnerlaw.com). This column should not be construed as legal advice.

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Susan Ricker, CareerBuilder Writer
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Car Report

Advertising Feature

Volvo aims marketing campaign at brand's true believers



By Dale Buss

Volvo has been adrift and marginal in the U.S. market for several years. But now in its third year of ownership by Geely of China, the surviving Scandinavian auto brand is counting on a new marketing campaign and more confident positioning to spark an American revival in the short term while waiting for a fresher, broader product line to provide long-term brand prosperity.

Beginning this month, Volvo is launching an integrated advertising campaign in the U.S. that explicitly appeals to the non-materialistic, minimalist ethos that brand executives believe differentiates Volvo aficionados from buyers of other luxury and near-luxury brands.

In the process, they hope to produce a bounce in sales for a franchise whose U.S. results peaked a decade ago, when the company was owned by Ford, and have kept on sliding. Ford sold Volvo in 2010 to Geely, a large Chinese automaker, for \$1.5 billion.

Volvo North America CMO Tassos Panas told me that most of Volvo's core customers didn't drift away even after a resource-strapped Ford began neglecting the brand's product-development needs several years ago, nor even much once Geely introduced the strange new element of Chinese ownership of a Swedish brand into the equation three years ago.

"We would hear rumblings from our dealers when there was news in the marketplace about problems or changes at the brand," he said. "But when the news

went away, we didn't hear much at all."

Now, Volvo is attempting to reconnect with brand true believers as the next step in the journey back to becoming more than an afterthought in the U.S. automotive marketplace. And while Volvo never has been regarded as a true luxury vehicle, Panas isn't afraid to put it in the company of true luxury brands in an attempt at a deft repositioning that carries some risks.

Volvo owners' "interpretation of luxury is different but very real," said the vice president of marketing and production planning. "They're more into life's experiences, and more into a Scandinavian simple design [of vehicles] versus a lot of clutter. They are very much luxury customers and love luxury products, but they don't feel a need to impress others."

Thus, the first new TV ads in the campaign, which are breaking this month on national cable networks, underscore these alleged differences. One spot, "Rearview," juxtaposes a Volvo owner's priorities to those of competitive luxury-car drivers.

In the ad, a woman at a stoplight in a Mercedes-Benz SUV is priming her highly put-together face in her rear-view mirror, when another woman pulls up alongside her in a Volvo XC60. The Volvo driver, pretty but less made-up, seems not to notice the Benz driver next to her.

Instead, she looks in her own rear-view mirror and crosses her eyes, making her two little kids in the backseat squeal with laughter. "Volvos aren't for everyone," the ad intones, "and we kinda like it that way."



Volvo's new campaign is unapologetic.

Volvo's new campaign is unapologetic. The answers we got were about people not feeling comfortable in a BMW, that Mercedes-Benz was too os-

tentatious, that 'everybody in my neighborhood has a Lexus and I wanted to be different.'"

Still, in the other major aspect of the campaign, Volvo is directly targeting yet another luxury brand, Audi. In its S60 Challenge, Volvo is working with its dealers to pit the Volvo S60 against the Audi A4 in a test-drive promotion: If the consumer still decides to purchase an A4 after driving both, Volvo will cover the first month's payment on the Audi.

Volvo's share of the overall U.S. market has dwindled to just 0.5 percent and, of the luxury segment, to just 6 to 7 percent. For the year through March, while the overall U.S. market increased by 6 percent, Volvo sales have slipped by another 8 percent.

Right now, Volvo is relying on the relatively new sporty S60 and XC60 utility vehicle. Panas promised a 2015-model V60 wagon, all-new to the U.S., by early next year and a new version of the now-hoary XC90, a larger utility vehicle, in the first quarter of 2015. And as always in the auto industry, it's "new sheetmetal" that really moves the sales needle.

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