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**Novi News**  
A GANNETT COMPANY  
PRICE: \$1 • THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2013 • hometownlife.com

**Mobilize Today!**  
Is your website mobile friendly? Join the City of Novi Economic Development team and yo2mo CEO Shaun Quinn and Vice President of Emerging Technologies and Development Michael Washstrom, a native of Novi, as they explain the current state of mobile and its impact on business on Thursday, May 9 at the Novi Civic Center (45175 W. 10 Mile Road). Attendees will gain insight into opportunities to improve the mobile strategy for any organization. This free event will provide immediate takeaways that you can utilize to access the impact of mobile for your organization, including mobile search ads with Google Mobile Ads/Adwords. Networking begins at 5:30 p.m. followed by the program at 6 (and this is one program you will be asked to keep your mobile device turned on and utilize during the presentation!). There will be a Q&A cocktail hour immediately following, compliments of yo2mo. All attendees will be entered into a drawing to win a Nexus 7 Tablet. To RSVP, email Sue Fodor, Economic Development assistant, at sfodor@cityofnovi.org. For more information on yo2mo, please see the Strictly Business page inside.

**Nine streets slated for repairs**

**Work expected to be completed this summer**  
By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

The City of Novi awarded a paving contract to a Brownstown company in the first of three contracts that will get some road improvements completed this summer as part of the 2013 Neighborhood Road Program. The road segments listed under this contract include: Keenan Court, Sullivan Lane, Dunbarton Drive, Midway Drive, Broquet Drive, Onaway Court, Queens Pointe Drive, Pellston Drive and Roscommon Drive. According to Novi's Public Services Department, the city selects several residential streets to be addressed based on an evaluation of the pavement condition using PASER ratings, field observations by staff, and resident concerns. "For several years, the City Council has made it a goal to invest annually in neighborhood streets to maintain the city's local road network," noted the DPS report to council. There will be three construction contracts for Neighborhood Roads during the 2013 construction season with a total construction value of \$2.2 million. The council approved by a 7-0 vote to award a construction contract for the 2013 Neighborhood Road Program-Contract 1 (Concrete) to G.V. Cement Contracting Co., the low bidder, in the amount of \$338,477. According to Public Services, this project includes multiple treatment methods which were determined during the design process based on Novi's asset management approach, which is focused on preventative maintenance where appropriate and designed to extend the life of the city's roads in the most cost-effective manner.

**LEARN MORE**  
For the specific work to be conducted as part of Contract 1, go to the link: <http://www.cityofnovi.org/Resources/Library/Minutes/MinutesArchiveFrameset.htm>  
Please see **REPAIRS, A2**

**Reason to celebrate**



**First-grader's leukemia in remission**

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

It's been a tough couple of years for first-grader Gioia Masseus after being diagnosed in 2011 with leukemia. However, just recently things took a turn for the better when it went into remission, giving Gioia, her family and her friends a reason to celebrate. And they did, in grand fashion. On April 18 at Novi Woods Elementary, Gioia along with her father and mother, Leon and Szabina, her 5-year-old sister, and handful of fellow students celebrated the news that she has officially been in remission since April 8. With cupcakes, balloons and whole lot of smiles, the party was a memorable one for the Masseus family. "This support is so amazing and unexpected," said Szabina. "This school rocks... it has really become a second family to our family." The celebration was just going to be a classroom-only event, but it became bigger and schoolwide. Novi Woods parent Lindsay Boujoulain organized the party with the color orange (the color for leukemia awareness) being the theme. Her son is in Gioia's class. Fellow students handed out orange carnations as well.

Leukemia-beater Gioia Masseus smiles as she's adorned with piles of orange carnations by her Novi Woods classmates during an April 26 party to celebrate her remission. Classmates dressed in orange, ate orange cupcakes and stomped out orange balloons (a color associated with the disease) during the afternoon party attended by her sibling, parents and friends.

Please see **CELEBRATE, A2**

**Chamber: Romzek appointed executive director**

By Cal Stone  
Staff Writer

She's been serving as the interim executive director for nine months, but now it's official — Sheryl Romzek is in charge of the Novi Chamber of Commerce. She was hired as a part-time financial assistant in 2008, and she created new income statements to better analyze event profitability. Her position eventually expanded with additional duties, including the organization and implementation of the chamber's programs and networking events. From September 2011 to August 2012, she was the events manager, organizing an average of five monthly events. When Linda Daly left as executive director last August, Romzek accepted the interim role. "Over the past nine months, Sheryl has proven to be a great choice for the executive director position. The Board of Directors is thrilled to have her lead this new era for the Novi Chamber of Commerce," said Jeff Wilk, chairman of the board. In addition to overall operations, her responsibilities will include membership attraction and retention; sponsorship acquisitions; and planning and execution of the chamber's events. The major ones are Toast of the Town, a gala honoring the Novi Business Recognition Award recipients; the No. VI Dinner Tour; Challenge Cup Golf Outing; and Novi Business & Taste Expo. Her goal for the organization is straightforward: "For the chamber to be an advocate and a resource for the continued economic success of our dynamic business community," she said. A resident of Lyon Township, Romzek's prior experience in the hospitality industry and her relationship building abilities have been major assets to the chamber, noted Wilk, proprietor of the Novi Carrabba's Italian Grill, where Romzek was business administrator for seven years. Prior, she was a business analyst for six years for DTE Energy. "Representing 525 businesses, the chamber provides information, marketing guidance, education and networking opportunities for local business professionals," said Romzek.



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**CELEBRATE**

Continued from page A1

a surprised Gioia walked into the classroom. Many were wearing the shirt that noted: "I stomped out Leukemia!" After that, the students symbolically stomped out leukemia by popping a bunch of orange balloons under their shoes, which made the room a little bit louder but in a good way.

Novi Woods Principal Dave Ascher also recognized Gioia at the school's biweekly assembly earlier that day, which usually has two students picked out for exhibiting leadership and character. This time was different; it was a moment to single out and honor Gioia for her deter-

mination, strength and courage.

"This is really a big deal, at any age, but for a 7-year-old it's even bigger," said Ascher. "She's a sweet student, so when we learned about the diagnosis we got behind her. That's what we do here at Novi Woods -- support each other."

Her teacher Heather Dell said it's been tough at times for Gioia, with missing some school and being tired from the effects of treatment. However, Dell said she has always been there with a smile and a lot of enthusiasm.

"She's a trooper and always wants to be here, even when she can't be," said Dell.

For Gioia, the day was a great celebration. There were no words needed to describe her emotions,



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gioia Masseur smiles as she tickles the neck of her sister Kyra at Gioia's April 26 party at Novi Woods to celebrate her leukemia remission.

her big smile on her face as she enjoyed a cupcake with friends was enough.

The other two phases are nearing the completion for planning and design. Both are also expected to be done this year.

have in the city, and I know residents appreciate it." This project will begin this summer and should be substantially completed this construction season, according to City Manager Clay Pearson.

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**NOVI NEWS BRIEFS**

**Spring cleaning for your body**

A detox could be the solution to get you feeling your best. Plan to attend the free Spring Cleaning for Your Body seminar at noon Saturday, May 11 at Better Health Market in Novi (42875 Grand River Avenue).

Dr. Terry Willard is a world renowned herbalist who will explain the benefits of cleansing and teach us the tools that we need to have our body repair itself. He is recognized as one of North America's leading clinical herbalists.



Willard

For over 35 years he has been an active practitioner and teacher, director of the Wild Rose College of Natural Healing, is in the Canadian Health Food Association's Hall of Fame and is the author of 12 books. Terry lives on an organic herb farm on the Eastern Slopes of the Rocky Mountains, outside Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Reservations for the seminar are suggested by phone at (248) 735-8100, online at www.betterhealthstore.com, or visit The Better Health Store Facebook page.

**Redford Union class reunion**

The Redford Union High School Class of 2003 will hold its 10-year class reunion 7 p.m. Sept. 21 in Livonia. Current addresses for 2003 alumni are needed in order to send out invitations, so please email your name and current mailing address ASAP to rhu2003@gmail.com (which can also be contacted for more information). Once invitations are mailed out, RSVPs will be due by Aug. 2.

**More work needed on temple, cultural center**

**City of Novi amends Sri Venkateswara agreement**

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

Planners of the new \$10 million Sri Venkateswara Temple and Cultural Center want to open the doors by June 2, but the City of Novi is giving them until May 24 to complete unfinished work before requiring a guarantor.

Novi City Council at its last meeting unanimously approved an amended Completion Agreement with the facility, which is located north of 11 Mile Road on the west side of Taft Road.

This type of agreement, per the city's Code of Ordinances, generally requires all projects be completed within two years of the issuance of any starting permit for construction. This code chapter was put in place to prevent a situation in which a developer would leave town before completing a project that did not have any funding in place to see it through.

According to Novi Community Development Director Charles Boulard, this project is subject to the provisions of Chapter 26.5 of the Novi City Code, and requires a Completion Agreement. The original developer did not complete site improvements shown on the approved site plan within two years of issuance of the initial permit for any improvements, which was in October 2009.

asked the City Council to consider waiving this guarantee, saying the project is "in its last stages". However, city staff recommended that, in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 26.5, there be no reduction of the required financial guarantees.

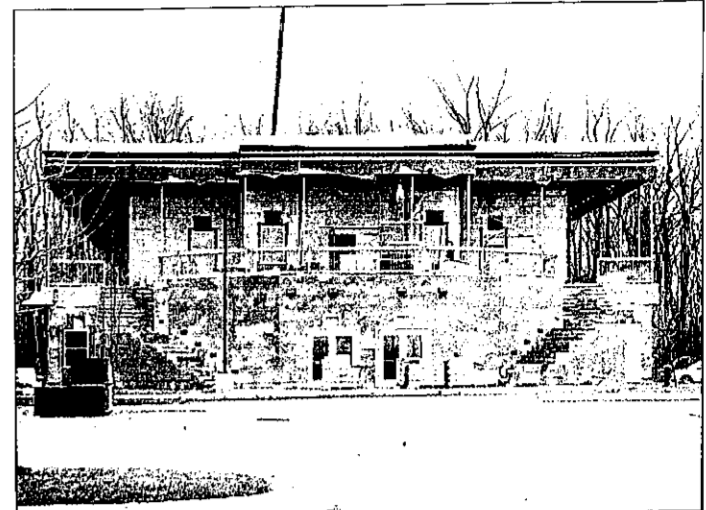
**Agreement terms**

City Council approved an agreement that SV Temple planners must work to complete as many of the outstanding tasks left by May 24. Then it would be determined how much more financial guarantees are needed.

As a condition of the Completion Agreement, the SV Temple developer is required to provide assurances including provision of a performance guarantee in the amount of no less than 200 percent of the cost of the work to be completed. At the end of May, whatever is left to do will be calculated using this formula.

The financial guarantees could be used by the city to get the work done if the project is not completed by September. Boulard said work left to do involves such things as paving and wetland measures. He said it's their hope that the SV Temple planners can get a lot of the work done in the next month.

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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Work continues on April 29 on construction of the Sri Venkateswara Temple and Cultural Center on Taft Road, south of Grand River Avenue in Novi.

**REPAIRS**

Continued from page A1

The project is part of the FY2012-13 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) with a total proj-

ect budget of \$1,654,000. "This is a much needed investment back into our neighborhood roads," said Andrew Mutch, City Council member. "I think it's one of the most visible and valued programs we

have in the city, and I know residents appreciate it."

This project will begin this summer and should be substantially completed this construction season, according to City Manager Clay Pearson.

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Jeff is a life-long Novi resident, Novi graduate, Eagle Scout and last year no other agent sold as many homes as he did in Novi-South Lyon. He's been the #1 selling and listing agent at his Novi Remerica United Realty office in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

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Novi High School Principal Carol Diglio, left, congratulates the school district's Support Person of the Year Anita Saurer on April 29. Saurer, an executive assistant in the school's main office, was noted for her dedicated service to making things run as smoothly as possible.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Sauer Support Person of the Year

On Monday morning at Novi High School, Anita Saurer was recognized as the 2013 Support Person of the Year for her commitment and dedication to the students, staff and parents of the Novi Community Schools.

Saurer has worked in a support role in the district for the past 19 years. She has been an elementary cashier, Title I paraprofessional, secretary and a payroll/benefits clerk at the board office. In 2002, she began her work at the high school where she has been a secretary/receptionist in the Administrative Office, secretary to the assistant principal and in January received a promotion to

be the principal's secretary. Saurer was nominated for this honor by Carol Diglio, Novi High School principal, who is currently serving as interim assistant superintendent for Human Resources. In her recommendation, Diglio stated that Saurer is a team player whose experience, work ethic, organization, multitasking skills and attention to detail are just a few of the characteristics making her an obvious candidate for such an honor.

"What I can tell you about Anita that her resume won't show is that she is an amazing person who will go out of her way to help someone

but take no credit," said Co-worker Kathy Donovan. "And she cares tremendously about her job and the people she works with."

"I was lucky to have Anita to work with in the Main Office," said Novi High School Assistant Principal Robert Baker. "She sees potential issues coming, strategizes, and helps to find ways to ensure that events, programs, and processes run smoothly."

The Novi High School Counseling Team said "It is not only how she approaches her daily tasks with zeal, but also the frequency with which she goes above and beyond the call of duty."

## It's a snap: Detroit Lions visit Deerfield for PLAY 60 Program

Students at Deerfield Elementary last week received a very special recess with some Detroit Lions players after winning the Detroit Lions "Play 60" contest, a campaign to encourage kids to be active for 60 minutes a day in order to help reverse the trend of childhood obesity.

The Detroit Lions partnered up with Playworks, a nonprofit organization that promotes play and physical activity at Detroit area schools, to roll out the Play 60 program that helps children stay active and healthy.

Lions Matthew Stafford, Shaun Chapas, Kellen Moore, Kris Durham and "Roary" the mascot, along with the playworks staff, guided Deerfield students in a very special outdoor recess with activities including foursquare, jump rope, tag, relay races and more.

"We are very excited to partner with the Detroit Lions," says Jeanine Gant, Playworks Detroit executive director. "They understand the value of play as a way of not only helping our children stay healthy, but as a way of promoting more positive social interactions and reducing bullying. This will help students on the playground, in the classroom and in the community."

Deerfield students were very excited to get the extra recess and it was a



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Detroit Lions' quarterback Matt Stafford holds the jacket of Zanna McNatt on his head while the Deerfield Elementary School Kindergarten skips some rope with his help on April 23. A group of Lions players visited the school along with the fitness-promoting Play Works to encourage the kids to keep fit and active.

real treat for them to play with the Detroit Lions players. As the grand prize winner of the Pepsi Recess promotion through Walgreens, Deerfield will also receive \$500 toward new playground equipment.

## Novi's Michael Wahlstrom helps yo2mo lead mobile industry to success

Tell us about your business, including types of services and/or products you feature.

Yo2mo is a mobile experience agency that creates exciting consumer engagement using the latest in mobile and emerging technologies. Our creative team builds mobile strategies based on the new mobile user and how they behave, shop, play and interact with their "smart" devices and the world around them. Yo2mo offers a full scope of services that includes, but is not limited to: mobile CRM (buying behavior segmentation), mobile landing pages, iOS and Android app development, augmented reality, mobile app advertising and NFC campaigns. Real-time analytic reporting, provided by yo2mo, allow clients to monitor and quantify the success of their marketing dollars.

How did you first decide to open your business?

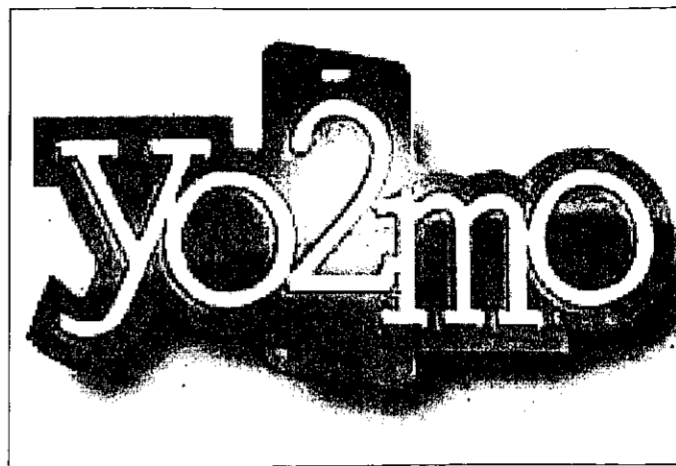
I was tired of the corporate world. After all of my successes and having everything I wanted, I still was not happy. I wanted to do something I enjoyed at the end of the day.

Why did you choose this area for your business?

Traverse City is one of the most beautiful places. I wanted a place where I could enjoy my surroundings as much as this business.

What makes your business unique?

At yo2mo we focus on the end user experience, working with businesses to identify the best strategy to set their organization apart. Is not about what the business wants; it's about what their customers want to experience. We aren't afraid to say "no" to something that we know will not be effective for a mobile user. Our team focuses on the behaviors of the mobile consumer identifying ways to integrate into the overall marketing strategy while also creating custom experiences. We recognize that no two clients are the



### DETAILS

**Business:** yo2mo  
**Address:** 3588 Veterans Drive, Suite 2, Grand Traverse, Mich.  
**Name/Title:** Shaun Quinn, president  
**Hometown:** Gobles, Mich.  
**Opened:** March 27, 2012  
**Number of Employees:** 12  
**Hours:** 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday  
**Specialty:** mobile marketing and advertising strategies  
**Phone:** (888) 767-9809  
**Website:** yo2mo.com

same and we specialize in making each experience exceptional. When you walk through the doors of yo2mo the energy is infectious. We say our team bleeds yo2mo blue because we are all so passionate about the experiences we create for our clients.

How has it changed since you opened?

We opened the doors in March of 2012 under the name Traverse Mobile Marketing. At that time we offered mobile landing pages, opt-in text campaigns and QR codes.

most creative thinking. When we decided to launch internationally we recognized that Traverse Mobile Marketing was not going to be an international brand.

Our team of partners sat around a table at a local pub with cocktail napkins brainstorming ideas for our new company name. In a stream of ideas we went from Traverse Mobile Marketing to yo2mo. Since then we find some of our best ideas arrive when we get out of the office with nothing but a pen in hand.

How has the recent economy affected your business?

Companies are tight with their spending, becoming far more frugal with their marketing dollars. This is where we come in. We are able to assist them with effectively tracking their marketing and advertising campaigns so they are able to redirecting funds in a more appropriate direction that is relevant and effective. Mobile users are active and engaged, the tools yo2mo offers allow businesses to gain solid analytics and define the success of all their campaigns.

Any advice for business owners?

What we learned as a company at yo2mo was that we overcomplicated everything. Our excitement about all we could do resulted in extensive presentations with way too much information. Potential clients became overwhelmed and gassy-eyed. Bottom line -- keep it simple.

What's in store for the future of your business?

Our goal at yo2mo is to stay three steps ahead. We know there is a short shelf life with mobile technology, a 24-month time frame. We want to stay ahead and have the capability to create products in advance. With mobile always changing drastically, I want the focus to be on quantifying advertising, engagement, the right demographics and analytics.

Do you have a funny tidbit or story about your experience as a small business owner to share with our readers?  
We find that getting out of the office element and into the community inspires some of our

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**Wish you were here**

Members of the Novi High School Class of 2013 enjoyed a spring break cruise aboard the Royal Caribbean ship Allure of the Seas. Pictured are (l to r, back) Katherine Harvey, Stephanie Ragatzki and Sarah Campbell; (front) Katherine Hamilton, Kelly Wilton, Ashley Penzato and Kelsey Dietrich.

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**Welcome**

Cutting the ribbon at the grand opening of the CUTCO Kitchen store at 43215 Grand River, Suite D, in Novi on April 16 are (l to r) Novi City Councilman Wayne Wrobel; Novi Mayor Bob Gatt; and Ken Coker, store general manager. Hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday. Phone (248) 679-1538 for more information.

**NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS**

**County offering free business counseling**

Budding entrepreneurs whose business will be headquartered in Oakland County are invited to attend the new, free Walk-In Business Counseling Service beginning May 9 in the Oakland County One Stop Shop Business Center.

During Walk-InStart-Up Thursdays, entrepreneurs who want to start a business but do not know where to begin can receive confidential, one-on-one advice from an experienced business counselor in a supportive atmosphere with no appointment necessary. Counselors will provide direct answers to start-up questions, suggest next steps and provide guidance on business planning tools.

"Our One Stop Shop Business Center was designed to assist entrepreneurs who needed guidance getting their business to the next step," Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson said. "Now we're expanding our services to include those entrepreneurs who are just beginning and have questions about getting their business off the ground."

The first walk-in counseling day is set for May 9 from 9:30 a.m. to noon and again from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sessions will be available on a first come, first served basis; no appointment is necessary. Initial counseling sessions are limited to 15 minutes.

"We usually operate on an appointment-only basis but many entrepreneurs walk into our One Stop Shop with ques-

tions on how to get started with their business idea," said Greg Doyle, One Stop Shop Business Center supervisor. "By designating special walk-in days, we hope to reach more entrepreneurs and help them understand their next steps as well as present the resources we can make available to them. Our aim is to get them started quickly in a way that makes the most sense to their unique situation."

All sessions will be held at the Oakland County Executive Office Building, One Stop Shop Business Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, Building 41W, in Waterford. The center is located on the first floor.

For more information, contact the One Stop Shop Business Center at (248) 858-0783 or visit AdvantageOakland.com/expand.

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Benefit

The Walled Lake school district recently partnered with the St. Baldrick's Foundation to raise money for childhood cancer research.



Overall, 86 members of the community (students, staff, and families) participated in the event. The district helped raise over \$34,000.

Walled Lake students to perform at the MYA Festival

Five Walled Lake Consolidated School District high school band and orchestra students have been selected to participate in the 2013 Michigan Youth Arts Festival (MYAF) at Western Michigan University.

Hannah Brown, clarinet, WL Central High School - band; Evan Kennedy, trumpet, WL Central High School - band.

Jeran Norman, alto sax, WL Central High School - band; Pujan Bhattarai, Colin Mudie, marimba, WL Western, WL Central, were recognized as Outstanding Soloists.

Clifford H. Smart Middle School - Emerald; Commerce Elementary - Evergreen; Hickory Woods - Emerald; Keith Elementary - Evergreen.

Mary Helen Guest Elementary - Evergreen; Meadowbrook Elementary - Green; Oakley Park Elementary - Green.

Sarah Banks Middle School - Emerald; Walled Lake Central High School - Evergreen; Walled Lake Western High School - Emerald; Wixom Elementary - Green.

Students are selected for participation by adjudicators at MSBOA State Solo and Ensemble Festival. Students must perform a demanding solo, play major and minor scales from memory, and sight-read difficult music.

The Michigan Youth Arts Festival is the culmination of a nine-month search for the finest artistic talent in Michigan high schools.

WLCSD 2013 Michigan Green School designations. The Walled Lake Consolidated School District announced that 11 schools are 'Michigan Green Schools' for 2013.

A school is eligible to receive a Green School, Emerald School, or Evergreen School Environmental Stewardship Designation if the school or students perform the required number of activities.

Activities include recycling paper, plastic, metal cans, batteries, cellular phones and coffee cups; reusing magazines and newspapers; adopting an endangered species animal.

Hosting an energy saving program; hosting an ecological presentation; building a birdhouse habitat; establishing a natural Michigan garden project with native plants; and observing Earth Day.

Walled Lake Schools that have been awarded 'Michigan Green School' certification and their level for this school year include: Clifford H. Smart Middle School - Emerald; Commerce Elementary - Evergreen; Hickory Woods - Emerald; Keith Elementary - Evergreen; Mary Helen Guest Elementary - Evergreen; Meadowbrook Elementary - Green; Oakley Park Elementary - Green; Sarah Banks Middle School - Emerald; Walled Lake Central High School - Evergreen; Walled Lake Western High School - Emerald; Wixom Elementary - Green.

Students are selected for participation by adjudicators at MSBOA State Solo and Ensemble Festival. Students must perform a demanding solo, play major and minor scales from memory, and sight-read difficult music which they have never seen before.

The Michigan Youth Arts Festival is the culmination of a nine-month search for the finest artistic talent in Michigan high schools. At MYAF, Michigan's exceptional student artists gather to explore, celebrate, expand and showcase their talent in multiple disciplines at the annual three-day arts spectacular.

Walled Lake Central High School - Evergreen; Walled Lake Western High School - Emerald; Wixom Elementary - Green.

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Schoolcraft plans \$18 million in improvements, partnership

By Karen Smith Staff Writer

Schoolcraft College will spend \$18 million on improvements over the next 18 months, including renovating a building it purchased earlier this year that may be used for either bachelor's and master's degree programs through a partnership with a university.

Schoolcraft President Conway Jeffress said Thursday it was too early to say which university it may be, but the college is hoping to partner with one whose programs are in harmony with Schoolcraft's.

He said students may one day be able to complete an associate's degree, a bachelor's degree and a master's degree without leaving Schoolcraft's main campus on Haggerty Road between Six Mile and Seven Mile in Livonia.

"I think Schoolcraft has been an asset and what you will have is an improved Schoolcraft," he said of the upcoming changes.

The Board of Trustees approved issuing \$18 million in bonds in a 7-0 vote Wednesday. The bonds will be repaid over the next 15 years without the need to go voters for a tax increase, Jeffress said.

Moody's Investment Services, the nation's leading bond credit rating agency, issued Schoolcraft College one of its highest grades, an Aaa rating.

Moody's recently released a statement that said Schoolcraft received the rating because of "solid financial management that has controlled expenditure growth and utilized tuition raising flexibility to maintain strong financial revenues." The company also mentioned the "very modern debt burden" the college currently holds.

The 110,000-square-foot building, located on the corner of Seven Mile and Haggerty roads in Livonia, was formerly occupied by American Community Mutual Insurance. Schoolcraft purchased it for \$3.4 million, Jeffress said.

The money for buying the building is not part of the \$18 million in bonds that will be issued, he said. The college will likely spend at least another \$3.4 million renovating it for classrooms and offices. Offices for the continuing education department, business office, president's office and business development center are expected to move there, Jeffress said.

But the biggest portion of the \$18 million will be spent overhauling the college's mainframe computer, Jeffress said.

Other projects on the list include tearing down the existing continuing education building and putting a parking lot in its place and building a road around the back of campus so motorists can get from Six Mile to Seven Mile without going onto Haggerty, Jeffress said.

Livonia Chamber of Commerce President Dan West applauded Jeffress and his team at Schoolcraft for the planned investment, saying it will give our area's students and business community the tools needed to adjust to an ever-changing marketplace.

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Your Invitation to Worship

Directory of churches including Brighton, Milford, Novi, Walled Lake, Whitmore Lake, Livonia, New Hudson, Plymouth, Northville, Highland, and South Lyon. Each entry lists church name, address, phone, and worship times.

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & News/Briefs. How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • htwebits@hometownlife.com



BAGGERLY, FRAN 82, of New Hudson, April 23, 2013. A devoted wife, mother and grandmother, member of Nardin Park United Methodist Church and avid NASCAR fan.

Whitmore Lake, MI. Age 91, passed away surrounded by her children on April 27, 2013 at her home, "The Farm," where she lived for 67 years.

Nov. 12, 1932 - April 18, 2012. To our special boy, who we would miss every day. Already 1 year since you left to go live with the Lord.

Age 77, passed away April 23, 2013. She was born on April 10, 1940, to the late Hugh and Lucille Foreman.

Age 73, passed away April 16, 2013. She was born on April 10, 1940, to the late Hugh and Lucille Foreman.

Of Scott passed away on Monday, April 29, 2013 at the age of 83. Yvonne was born on September 25, 1929 in Detroit, MI.

Age 73, passed away April 16, 2013. She was born on April 10, 1940, to the late Hugh and Lucille Foreman.

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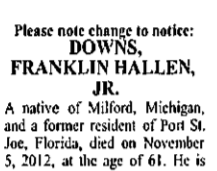
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FRANKLIN HALLEN, JR. A native of Milford, Michigan, and a former resident of Port St. Joe, FL, and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends.

Age 91, passed away surrounded by her children on April 27, 2013 at her home, "The Farm," where she lived for 67 years.

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CATHERINE MARY O'NEILL. A native of Milford, Michigan, and a former resident of Port St. Joe, FL, and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends.

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View Online www.hometownlife.com

TURNER, JEFFREY A. Of Lake City, MI, age 57 dies April 24, 2013.

Age 91, passed away surrounded by her children on April 27, 2013 at her home, "The Farm," where she lived for 67 years.

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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.

Downtown South Lyon Farmers & Artisans Market. Saturdays, 9am-2pm (May 4th - October 26th, 2013). Presented by Verizon Sprint. Enjoy live acoustic music by Larry Arbour. Children Activities: Plant a seedling. Other activities include: IXL Learning Centers will host a children's activity tent.

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One. Life Story Funeral Homes. FAMILY FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICE, INC.

For more information regarding this Directory, please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011, ext. 247 or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

# Fox Run resident gives behind-the-scenes glimpse into Motown's heyday

Perhaps no one is more pleased about the opening of "Motown: The Musical" on Broadway than Fox Run retirement community resident Evelyn Noveck. Her late husband, Harold, was a friend of Motown founder Berry Gordy for 32 years and also Gordy's tax attorney. As a result, Evelyn attended high-profile Motown parties with Harold. Her anecdotal stories give a rare, behind-the-scenes glimpse into Hitsville USA - The Sound of Young America.

She said Gordy often held parties at his home on Boston Boulevard in Detroit. His spacious, luxury home had a swimming pool and a one-lane bowling alley. "It was beautiful, and Berry made everyone feel welcome. He made us feel like we were his family," said Noveck, adding that at the parties she met many of Motown's superstars, in particular Smokey Robinson and Diana Ross. She remembers one party when Diana Ross arrived late. "Diana was an extremely attractive woman who always dressed modestly at the parties," said Noveck, who was married to Harold for 54 years prior to his death in 1998. Ross was humble even though she knew she was a huge star, according to Evelyn. "Diana often said my husband was her 'favorite man.' I always had good vibes about her."

"Smokey was a true gentleman," she said.

**For many years, Noveck had dinner with Gordy during her visits to California. When she attended parties at Gordy's California home she always brought a gift for him.**

"He made me feel as if I were worthy of conversation. I admired him and liked him a lot."

But Noveck's fondest memories are of Gordy. "Berry sent Christmas gifts each year to everyone ever associated with Motown and the gifts always had teddy bears included," she said. "I still have three of the teddy bears."

Gordy always made sure the gifts she and her husband received were kosher out of his respect for their Jewish faith and tradition.

"Berry was an extremely generous man and he was also a genius," she said. "He had a unique way of recognizing a person's musical talent and he knew how to get the most out of that person."

Gordy bought a Los Angeles condo, which he eventually sold, and told Noveck he never would have bought the condo in the first place if Harold had been there to advise him against doing

so. "Berry was only kidding when he said that, but it made me feel good to hear it anyway," she said.

When Gordy moved Motown from Detroit to Los Angeles, Harold was a key part of the business discussions. He traveled once a month to L.A. From the couple's West Bloomfield home to work on Motown matters.

"Berry and Harold would talk on the phone until well past midnight," said Noveck. "Berry seemed to forget about the West Coast time difference."

She attended Gordy's wedding to his third wife in Santa Barbara, Calif., on a waterfront estate.

"It was a fairy tale wedding - so beautiful. I'm glad he gave up getting married again after the third time," she said, just like a loving, caring family member might say.

For many years, Noveck had dinner with Gordy during her visits to California. When she attended parties at Gordy's California home she always brought a gift for him.

"Berry liked art, so I always gave him an art book," said Noveck. "He really enjoyed our mutual love of art."

She donated her and her husband's Motown memorabilia, photographs and papers to the Motown Museum in Detroit. She still keeps in touch with Edna Anderson, who has been Gordy's longstanding



Fox Run retirement community resident Evelyn Noveck shows a few teddy bears given to her as gifts by Motown founder Berry Gordy. Above her is a collage of pictures with her and her husband, Harold, at a Motown event with Gordy, Diana Ross and Gordy's long-time associate Edna Anderson.

associate. And she still listens to the music. "I love Motown," said Noveck, who has lived

at Fox Run for the past eight years. "I'm proud of my connection with Motown. They worked

very hard and deserve everything they got. I have wonderful memories."

## NOVI COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Local Events

#### BLOOD DRIVES

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

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 3:45 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.Risko@redcross.org or call (313) 549-7052.

#### SIZZLING SUMMER ART SERIES

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

#### TREMENDOUS 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 "Robots"

**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, Walled 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

**Contact:** Sharon Mallon, (248) 348-5189.

#### NOVI SENIOR CENTER

**Location:** 25075 Meadowbrook Road

**Contact:** (248) 347-0414;

#### 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.

# Tenpenny's Furniture coming to Novi

## Family-owned business offers a wide selection of items

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

Novi will be getting a new furniture store offering a large selection of a furniture brand not found in too many places in Michigan - and it's also a family-owned business that has served metro Detroit for over 30 years. Tenpenny Furniture is opening up a new location in the Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk center in mid-May. This will be its third store along with the other locations in Howell and South Lyon. Owners John and Jonathan Tenpenny said com-

ing to Novi has been their aspiration for a couple of years now. They are happy to have found the spot, which is right next to Dick's Sports. This father-and-son team is aiming to offer great customer service and selection to the Novi community.

"We're really excited about this opportunity," said Jonathan. "We've been looking at Novi for a couple years, and now we think the economic downturn has shifted and things are getting better. There's a renewed sense of confidence, especially here at the Fountain Walk, and we hope to add

to an already great business community."

Boasting the largest selection of Ashley Furniture in Michigan, Tenpenny first opened in 1979. John said he grew up in the business and eventually started his own with his wife, Dawn. He said being very hands on in providing great quality service and value to their customers has helped them succeed.

It's the customer service aspect that they feel sets them apart. "We're not pushy. We want our customers to feel comfortable while they look for new furnishings,"



Jonathan and his father John Tenpenny, right, will soon open their Tenpenny Furniture shop at Novi's Twelve Mile Crossing - on its north side. Tenpenny currently has one furniture shop in Howell.

said Jonathan. "There's always one of us here. It's an environment that's friendly and helpful." Quality products and prices are other features to Tenpenny, according to Jonathan. They seek out the best values and offer a complete selection. Higher style at a reasonable price is their goal. From the initial order and furniture selection process, to tracking of a customer's order and

delivery to a home, Jonathan said they have knowledgeable staff that helps with questions at each step of the way. Tenpenny's will be opening its doors in mid-May and will have its grand opening celebration in July. To learn more about them and their store, go to <http://tenpennyfurniture.com>.

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

# DDCdances presents its season finale

DDCdances presents City Songs, a concert of premieres danced to music by Detroit-based artists at 8 p.m. Friday, May 3, at the Wallace Smith Theater, Oakland Community College, Farmington Hills. The evening features the exciting dance suite, City Songs, performed to live music by the renowned Detroit singer Ursula Walker and musician Buddy

Budson. The artists and DDC have collaborated in the past and are thrilled to be performing together again this season. One movement of the dance features Ursula Walker and Barbara Selinger, DDC artistic director, in a duet. DDC dancers will also perform other movements of the suite to music by Detroit area composers/musicians, including Steve

Wonder. All music will be performed live by Walker and Budson's band.

*Come In*, a major piece choreographed by Barbara Selinger and danced to an original music score by Detroit composer/musician Dan Kolton, will also be premiered. This theatrical work was inspired by the short story, *The Liar* by Henry James. DDC dancers who will

perform include: Cate Brown, Ann Arbor; Susan Clayton, Ferndale; David Guzman, Southgate; Britany Knight, Milford; Christina Kuno, Milford; Melissa Phillips, Harrison Township; Jimmy Reske, Royal Oak; Patty Solizano, Ann Arbor; Barbara Selinger, Farmington Hills; Beth Stolzenfeld, Clawson; Jessica Joy Wise, Ypsilanti.

Tickets are:  
• At the Door: \$20 (cash or check only)  
• Online Only: Advanced Sale Discount \$17 (credit card)  
• Group Sales (10 or more): \$10 arrange via email [bar@detroidancecollective.org](mailto:bar@detroidancecollective.org)  
• To order tickets and for more info: [www.detroitdancecollective.org](http://www.detroitdancecollective.org) or (810) 444-4553.

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## Trio of Novi residents earn national Girl Scouts awards

Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan (GSSEM) announced three Novi residents — Dawn Bluga, Rene Lesko and Connie Gregory — each received national volunteer awards as individuals who demonstrate exceptional dedication and service as Girl Scouts volunteers.

They received the Appreciation Pin, awarded to Girl Scout adults who have significantly contributed to meeting Council goals in membership growth, retention, fund development, or increased visibility in a geographic area.

"Girl Scouts is a volunteer driven organization. We could not fulfill our mission of building girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place without them," said Denise Dalrymple, GSSEM CEO. "They lead troops, oversee our annual cookie sales in their area, serve on committees and on our board, and perform administrative duties, often at the same time. Their dedication and hard work makes lifelong impact on girls' lives and advances the Girl Scouting movement."

Bluga is a leader support coordinator and has been a Girl Scout volunteer for eight years. She has increased attendance at district meetings by infusing technology. Take Action community service projects, and coaching troop leaders about valuable, available resources for troop leaders. Bluga also holds various other roles including serving as recruitment volunteer, and as a member of girls' award committees.

Gregory holds several volunteer positions with GSSEM, including district product sales coordinator, troop leader and troop product sales manager. By sharing unique selling tips, and how to run a successful cookie both training, she encourages troops to reach their goals and beyond during the annual cookie and fall product sales.

Lesko has worked on many committees to execute large events. She has held various volunteer positions including troop leader, district registrar and product sales coordinator. She encouraged her troop to earn their Bronze Award, which is the highest award a Junior Girl Scout, grades fourth and fifth, can earn.

## NOVI NEWSMAKERS

### MAPP elects two from Novi

The Michigan Academy of Family Physicians (MAFP) recently held its annual meeting in Troy, where members elected new officers, national delegates and directors to lead the Academy in 2013-2014.

The newly elected officers serving the 2013-2014 term include Novi's Kim K. Yu, MD, FAAP (vice president) and Pierre Morris, MD (director).



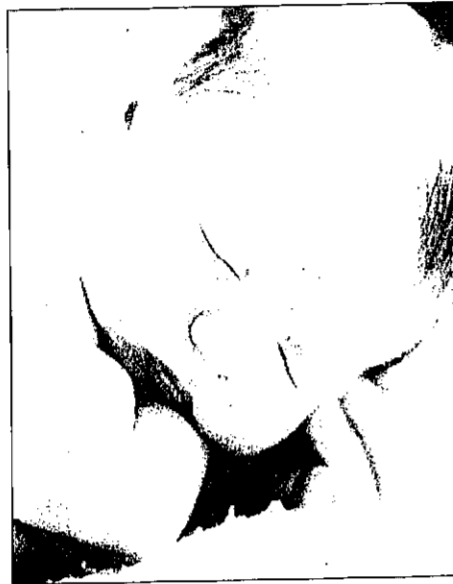
Yu



Morris

"We're grateful to these renowned physicians who have stepped up to lead the Academy in the year ahead," said Debra McGuire, MBA, IOM, CAE, chief executive officer. "The Academy serves as a key pillar to serving the needs of more than 3,000 family physicians so that they may concentrate on caring for, and improving the health of, patients, families and communities in Michigan."

### BIRTH



### Johnathan Ricardo Giovannini

Johnathan Ricardo Giovannini was born Saturday, Feb. 23 at Providence Park Hospital Novi. He weighed 8 pounds 6 ounces and measured 20 1/2 inches. He joins his parents, Lisa and Erick Giovannini and siblings, Dominic, 6, and Luke, 3, at home in Novi. Grandparents are Rosalie and Melvin Wollicki and Erick and Denise Giovannini, all of Livonia. Great-grandparents are Richard and Alexandra Giovannini of Dearborn.

### Novi's Emergency Run set for May 11

The City of Novi Police and Fire departments, in partnership with Providence Park Hospital, Sam's Club and Running Fit, will host the fourth annual Emergency Run on Saturday, May 11, 2013. The 5k run and one-mile stroke walk will be held on the Providence Park Hospital Campus (Grand River Avenue and Beck Road) in Novi.

The event, which last year drew close to 400 participants, will include a HealthFest, open to all community members offering informational booths and displays, a Kid's Korner, the opportunity to interact with emergency first responders, and refreshments.

Registration and the HealthFest begin at 8 a.m. with the run/walk beginning at 9 a.m. The pre-registration fee is \$28 for the run and \$12 for the walk; free for children 8 and under. All pre-paid registrants will receive a dry-fit T-shirt. Awards will be given to the top three finishers in each race category with all participating children receiving a medal.

Proceeds from this year's run will benefit the One Fund Boston. Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick and Boston Mayor Tom Menino announced the formation of The One Fund Boston, Inc. to aid the people most affected by the bombings during the April 15 Boston Marathon.

"For the past three years, the Emergency Run has been a compliment to healthy Novi initiatives and enhances the partnerships with those who provide emergency services to our community," said David E. Molloy, Novi's director of Public Safety and chief of Police. On-line registration is available at noviemergencyrun.org and mail-in registration forms are available at cityofnovi.org. Registration forms are also available at the Novi Police Department, Providence Park Hospital and Running Fit-Nowi.

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STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Morning refreshments were served, courtesy of McDonald's of Northville and Novi and Awrey's of Livonia.

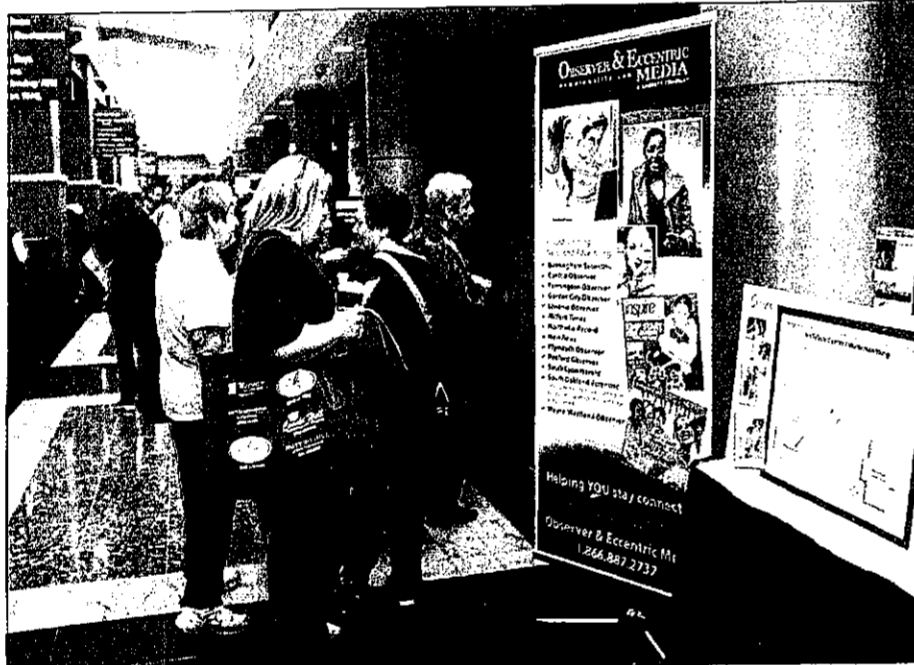
## Active adults get info, answers at O&E's Expo

By Karen Smith  
Staff Writer

Zoltan Karassy of Plymouth was glad the *Observer & Eccentric Media* presented its Spring Expo (formerly known as the Senior Expo) in April this year instead of May. Karassy said April 23 at the 18th annual event, held 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. An April date made it more convenient for him to get to the expo, which he attends every year to get information from the more than 50 exhibitors specializing in an array of services ranging from health care and finance to transportation, housing and home improvements.

### Knowledgeable exhibitors

"Everyone is so friendly, and they have all the answers," he said, praising the food as well. McDonald's of Novi and Northville and Awrey Bakery of Livonia provided morning refreshments. Nancy Schneider of Westland brought a small bus load of members from her church, Faith Baptist in Dearborn Heights, where her husband, Marvin, is associate pastor. A retired registered nurse recommended the expo. It was their first time there. "It's definitely worth it," she said. "I think it's lovely, very well-organized." Barbara and Paul Pomeroy of Livonia have attended the expo annually for about three or four years. "We look to see what's updated for senior care because one day we're going to need it," Barbara Pomeroy said. Ruby Giesler of Novi started attending last year and plans to be back again next year. "It's very informative," she said, adding she was looking for information on senior and assisted living in case she and her husband need it in the future. Paul Szymusiak of Farmington Hills was gathering information not only for himself and his wife but also for their parents. "This is great,



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland resident Crystal Miller plans her tour of the event.



Gospel singer Vickie Winans entertained the crowd at the Spring Expo.



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dan Haskins from Tri-County Pain Consultants located in Livonia prepares for the event.

he said of the event, which they attend every year. "Very informative."

"Great exposure" Amie Schulz, sales manager of Brookdale Senior Living, was

thrilled by the number of people stopping by their booth. "There's so many people here," she said.

grams at the hospital, a free Healthy Aging Conference 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 15, and the Senior Assessment and Resource Institute, which opens July 1. Seniors can get a two-hour consultation, covered by insurance, that is customized to meet their needs.

"It's going great," Elkins said of the expo, adding the number of people he talked to this year was double the number last year. "People are very interested in what we have to tell them about. People are aware of things they can do to detect any difficulty in advance of it happening."

### Close-by venue

Jennifer Lombardo, patient scheduling coordinator for the University of Michigan Livonia Vein Center, said she was answering a lot of questions about compression stockings and treatment options for spider and varicose veins. She said the location of the expo works for their center, located right up the street from Schoolcraft College at Eight Mile and Haggerty roads.

Mosin Askari, director of Comfort Dental Spa in Farmington Hills, the exclusive gold-level sponsor of the expo, said he liked this year's improvements, which included dropping the word senior from the name to attract active adults of all ages. "I think the management is doing a great job," he said. His only suggestion, he said, would be to move the event from a weekday to the weekend. "The timing is so only seniors can come," he said. Health Quest, the official chiropractor for the Detroit Lions, was offering complimentary spinal analyses. "This is always fabulous," Sandy Kresch of Health Quest said of the expo. "It's always well-organized and well-attended. That's why we do it." She said that because Health Quest is a returning exhibitor at the expo, a lot of attendees remember them from year to year.

More importantly, "a lot are patients" now, she said. St. Mary Mercy's booth was manned by John Elkins, senior services liaison. He wanted to get the word out about two new pro-

ksmith@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-2098

## Call a girlfriend: Michigan International Women's Show returns to Novi May 2-5

The Michigan International Women's Show celebrates 18 years of food, fashion and fun and everyone is invited to the party," said Beth Anderson, executive show manager of Southern Shows. "Grab your mom, sister or girlfriend and spend the day doing everything you love. Shopping, cooking, fashion shows, makeovers and more."

Jessica Robertson from A&E's reality television series "Duck Dynasty," will answer questions about being married to the youngest Robertson

### DETAILS

**Event:** 18th annual Michigan International Women's Show  
**Location:** Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue (between Novi and Beck roads), Novi  
**Hours:** 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.  
**Admission:** \$10; \$5 for ages 6-12; children 5 and under are admitted free with a paying adult.  
**Parking:** \$5  
**Web:** www.InternationalWomenShow.com  
**Phone:** (800) 849-0248

son, Jap and her four children, Lily, Merritt, Priscilla, and River. Season 8 Food Network Star finalist, cake artist and chef Linkie Marasi will relate during her cooking demonstrations her passion for food, reality show involvement and provide show goers tastes of her creations. Warren Caterson, author of "Table for Two—The Cookbook for Couples" will reveal time-saving kitchen tips and

helpful cooking hints as he uses fresh and readily available ingredients for dinner in under an hour with a minimum of leftovers. Women can balance it all at the "Balance Your Life" pavilion exhibits and Balance Your Life Stage educational workshops with features on health, fashion, beauty, travel business and all aspects of a woman's life and meet Kristy Villa, host of "The Balance Act" on Lifetime Television.

Chef instructors, organizations and southern cooking radio host Chef Lisa Lofton Shively will prepare recipes and provide cooking tips in the Stonebridge Kitchen & Bath Cooking Theater. Spring makeup trends and helpful cosmetic tips will be part of the makeovers offered by Macy's beauty experts along with an array of new spring scents. Show attendees will receive a gift card courtesy of Chevrolet after a vehicle test drive and see Chevrolet's latest cars for the best one designed for their specific lifestyle. SavingsAngel.com coupon clinics will teach how to cut a grocery bill in half using their database and technology resulting in more deals, greater savings and better flexibility. Author, relationship



On Friday, Sean Lowe from ABC's romance reality series "The Bachelor" will tell how he found his soul mate and about his upcoming wedding and share his experiences from ABC's dance competition series "Dancing With the Stars."

therapist and professor Terri Orbuch, The Love Doctor, will share her insight and provide advice, as featured in "The Wall Street Journal" and Cosmopolitan and on ABC's "Katie" and Fox TV-Detroit. Other features include Scavenger Hunt with gifts hidden throughout the show each day; special gifts to the first

100 show attendees each day; Friday's Girls Night Out with free gifts and discounts for attendees entering after 5 p.m.; Sunday's Mother & Daughters Day with gifts and prizes; and more than 400 exhibitors displaying cosmetics, fragrances, lingerie, purses, shoes, gifts, décor items, food, arts and crafts, fashion and accessories.

## SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE UPDATES

### Grad wins prestigious scholarship

Usha Kadiyala, a resident of Farmington Hills, has been named a Jack Kent Cooke Scholar for 2013. Usha is one of only 73 recipients of this prestigious transfer scholarship in the United States, which will provide her with up to \$30,000 per year to complete her undergraduate studies. To be eligible for the award, students must be nominated by a faculty representative from their community college. Criteria include achievement and academic ability, desire to engage in and contribute to the world, self-confidence and resilience. Usha graduates from Schoolcraft College on May 4 with

an associate of science degree and cumulative GPA of 3.9. In addition to her academic success, she has worked on campus in the Career and Disability Support Services office, is an officer in the Omicron Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honors Society, is a Student Ambassador, is a mentor in the Schoolcraft Scholars Honors and University Bound programs and is active in several on-campus organizations including the International Institute, Math and Physics Club, Student Activities Board and the Schoolcraft Connection. Usha plans to attend the University of Michigan-Dearborn to study biochemistry and then medical school to pursue a career in neuroscience.

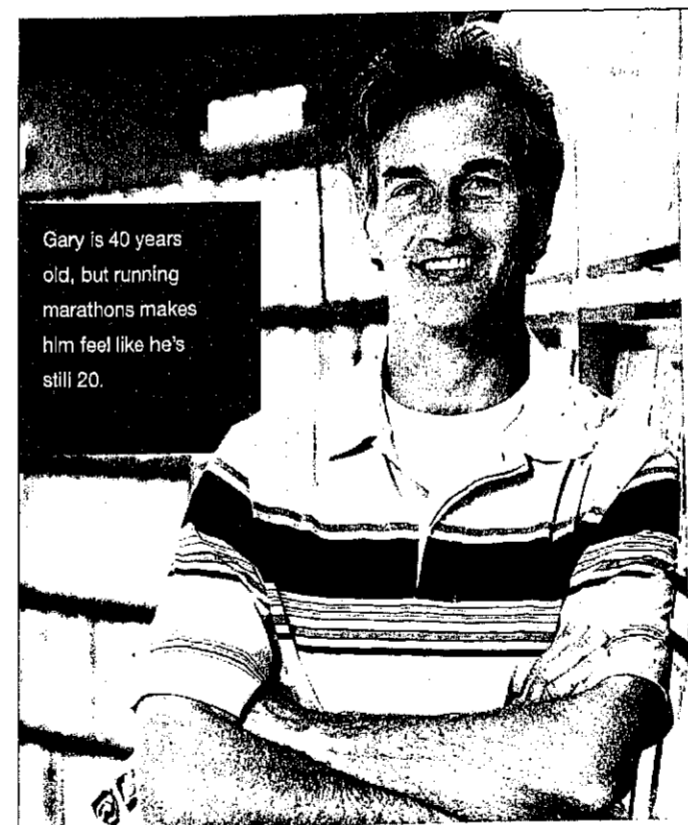
### College receives one of Moody's highest ratings

Moody's Investment Services, a bond credit rating agency, has issued Schoolcraft College one of its highest grades -- "A1" rating. Moody's recently released a statement that said Schoolcraft received the rating because of "solid financial management that has controlled expenditure growth and utilized tuition raising flexibility to maintain strong financial revenues." The company also mentioned the "very modest debt burden" the college currently holds.

### Commencement Ceremonies

Schoolcraft College will celebrate its 48th Commencement Ceremony at Compuware Arena in Plymouth. Of the nearly 1,300 students eligible to participate, more than 400 graduates will don their caps and gowns and join nearly 3,000 invited friends and family to celebrate their accomplishments. Admission is by ticket only. In addition to honoring the graduates, Schoolcraft College will be presenting the Distinguished Alumni Award to Northville resident Thelma M. Kubitsky, budget director for the City of Westland, and two honorary degrees to Dr. Richard Pappas, president of Davenport University (who will

serve as the guest speaker for the ceremony), and Mary Breen, a resident of Plymouth and a recently retired, longtime former member of the Board of Trustees of Schoolcraft College. There are four other special graduation ceremonies scheduled in the next two weeks including: • Associate Degree in Nursing Pinning Ceremony, 7 p.m. Thursday, May 2; VisITaTech Center • The Fire Academy Graduation Ceremony, 6:30 p.m. Friday, May 3 at 6:30 p.m.; Radcliff Center, Garden City • The Police Recruit Officer Training Graduation, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 9; Radcliff Center, Garden City • The Police Academy Graduation, 6:30 p.m. Friday, May 10; Radcliff Center, Garden City



Gary is 40 years old, but running marathons makes him feel like he's still 20.

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# Novi principal charged under 'Super Drunk' law

By Cal Stone and Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writers



Warren

Kim Warren, principal of Deerfield Elementary, was arraigned on Monday morning on the charge of operating a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .17 percent or more, commonly referred to as "High BAC" or "Super Drunk" legislation.

She was later released on a \$5,000 personal recognizance bond with conditions. She was also charged with possessing open intoxicants in a motor vehicle.

The arraignment took place at the 52-1 District Court in Novi via a video link at the Novi Police Department.

The conditions of the bond include Warren submitting to random weekly testing and staying away from alcohol. Warren was taken into custody by the Novi police on April 8 after she was found in her car on school property and suspected of being intoxicated.

Police received two separate calls from concerned motorists regarding her driving while on Wisnom Road, according to David Molloy, Novi's director of Public Safety/Chief of Police. She was arrested shortly after 2 p.m. in the school parking lot and released that evening.

Novi police reported at the time of her arrest, her BAC was at .21 percent and there was an open bottle of vodka in the vehicle.

"At no time did Ms. Warren enter the building, or come in contact with the children or staff of Deerfield Elementary while intoxicated," said Steve Matthews, superintendent of Novi Community School District.

"This is an unfortunate set of circumstances and out of character for Ms. Warren. Up until this event, Ms. Warren has served the Deerfield community and our district well."

Fending resolution of her employment status, Ms. Warren has been placed on paid administrative leave. Lisa Fenchel, long-time principal at Novi Meadows, is serving as interim principal at Deerfield Elementary.

Classes in Taiji Quan, a Chinese martial art focused on defense training and health benefits, will begin on Sunday, May 5 and taught by Master Jianchong Liang. Liang has been practicing Chinese martial arts his entire life and has been teaching Taiji Quan in Southeast Michigan for a number of years. Historically, Taiji Quan was passed from generation to generation; however, recently it has been shared with the public.

The 24 forms of Taiji Quan enables beginners of all ages to concentrate on and appreciate, the essential principles of effortless movement, relaxation, and awareness of the mind and body as one. It is purported that focusing the mind solely on the movements of the form helps to bring about a state of mental calm and clarity.

Taiji Quan classes will take place from 9-10 a.m. Sundays through Aug. 11 at the Novi Civic Center.

The session price is \$15 per Novi resident and \$24 for non-residents. Registration is available now via cityofnovi.org or at the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department located inside the Novi Civic Center, 45174 W. Ten Mile Road.

To learn more about additional fitness programs offered by the City of Novi, visit cityofnovi.org and click on the Engage! link.

**Fitness and fun for wee ones**

The City of Novi Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services and One Training Fitness will continue their successful partnership offering children fitness classes. News spring sessions of Parent & Baby Yoga, Babies on the Move, and Wee Fit begin May 14 and registration is going on now via cityofnovi.org.

Parent and Baby Yoga, designed for newborns to crawling age, works with gentle Yoga & Pilates postures and exercises and provides an opportunity for parent and baby to develop an awareness of their bodies and each other. Emphasis is on relaxation and bonding, facilitating a calm environment for parent and baby. This class takes place on Tuesdays from 10-10:30 a.m. and is \$48 for the six-week session.

Babies on the Move is a playful and fun class for both child and parent. Babies from crawling to 2 years old love to be active and movement is encouraged with exercises promoting rolling, crawling, scooting, bouncing and more. This class is often a child's first opportunity to learn from an adult other than a parent. This class takes place on Wednesdays from 10-10:30 a.m. and is \$48 for the six-week session.

Wee Fit allows young kids to move and play in a safe environment. Children, two to five years old, will enjoy popular, interactive games, obstacle courses, songs, circle time and more. This class has sessions on Wednesdays from 10:45-11:30 a.m. and is \$60 for the six-week session.

Classes will take place at One Training Fitness located at 40900 Grand River Avenue. A FREE demo day for all three classes will take place on Wednesday, May 8 with Parent-Baby Yoga at 9:30 a.m. Babies on the Move at 10:15, and Wee Fit at 11 a.m. The summer session will begin in July. For questions, please call the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at (248) 347-0400.

To learn about additional child friendly programs, fitness classes, and sport leagues, visit cityofnovi.org and choose the Engage! link.

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

The City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department, together with Wixom 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 fountain 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 Wixom at 11 a.m. and will return at approximately 6:30 p.m.

To register, visit 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**

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 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 (week 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 II (ages 5-7); Mega Boys III (ages 8-10); Mega Boys IV (ages 11 and older).

The deadline to register is the Friday before class is scheduled to begin. To register, visit 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.

**Drunken driving, pot possession**

A woman was cited for operating while intoxicated after being spotted going driving slowly on I-96 on April 15. Novi Police observed the woman driving around 45-50 in the 70 mph speed zone and then exiting the freeway onto Novi Road. It was there she was stopped at 12 Oaks Mall after crossing the fog line several times. Police reported smelling intoxicants and marijuana inside the vehicle upon approaching it.

The woman was arrested after registering a .141 percent blood alcohol content and marijuana was reportedly found as well.

**Tires slashed at bank**

A Fifth Third Bank employee reportedly had her tires slashed while her vehicle was parked at the location on Novi Road on April 9.

She told Novi Police she found her tire, as well as one of a fellow employee, flat. The police report said although no one was seen committing the act, a man was said to be a possible suspect after he left the bank complaining about transaction fees associated with his account. He was reported to have been yelling obscenities as he walked out.

Compiled by staff writer Lonnie Huhman.

## UPDATES FROM YOUR CITY

### New Taiji Quan martial arts classes begin May 5

Switching up routine exercise can have a positive impact on fitness levels. The City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department offers a wide variety of classes and is excited to add another to the mix.

Classes in Taiji Quan, a Chinese martial art focused on defense training and health benefits, will begin on Sunday, May 5 and taught by Master Jianchong Liang. Liang has been practicing Chinese martial arts his entire life and has been teaching Taiji Quan in Southeast Michigan for a number of years. Historically, Taiji Quan was passed from generation to generation; however, recently it has been shared with the public.

The 24 forms of Taiji Quan enables beginners of all ages to concentrate on and appreciate, the essential principles of effortless movement, relaxation, and awareness of the mind and body as one. It is purported that focusing the mind solely on the movements of the form helps to bring about a state of mental calm and clarity.

Taiji Quan classes will take place from 9-10 a.m. Sundays through Aug. 11 at the Novi Civic Center. The session price is \$15 per Novi resident and \$24 for non-residents. Registration is available now via cityofnovi.org or at the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department located inside the Novi Civic Center, 45174 W. Ten Mile Road.

To learn more about additional fitness programs offered by the City of Novi, visit cityofnovi.org and click on the Engage! link.

### Fitness and fun for wee ones

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

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### Drunken driving, pot possession

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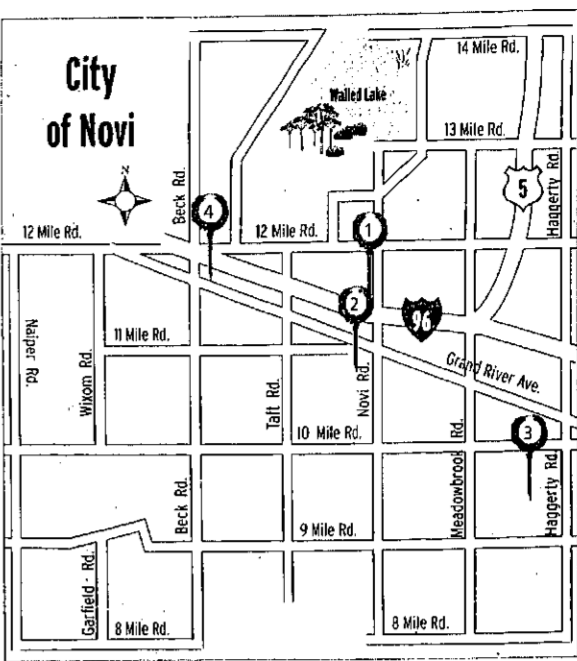
### Pod and Xbox stolen

A vehicle parked near the Outback Steakhouse on Grand River Avenue was broken into and robbed of a number of items, including the gaming system along with some games.

On April 26, Novi Police took a report from the owner, who said a window had been cracked a bit and this may have allowed the thief inside. There was no reported damage to the vehicle. The doors were later found unlocked.

In another LFA, a woman parked at her parent's house in the 4000 block of 13 Mile Road had her purse stolen from her car parked in the driveway.

Compiled by staff writer Lonnie Huhman.



## NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

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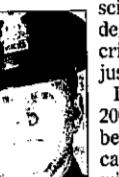
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Compiled by staff writer Lonnie Huhman.

# Novi promotes Ayren Edgar to sergeant

Detective Ayren Edgar was promoted April 26 to the rank of sergeant with the Novi Police Department. Edgar is an 11-year veteran of the department and previously served as a detective in the South Oakland Narcotics Intelligence Consortium (SONIC).



Edgar

Edgar is a 2000 graduate of Lake Superior State University where he earned his bachelor of science degree in criminal justice. In 2002, he began his career with the Novi Police Department after spending two years with the Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Office where he worked as a patrol deputy. While in college, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps Reserves and was called to active duty in February 2003. Edgar was deployed to Kuwait/Iraq and served as squad leader for the 1st Battalion, 24th Marine Infantry Regiment. In 2004, he returned to the Novi Police Department after being honorably discharged from service.

Edgar has held several assignments, including field training officer and Use of Force instructor. In addition, he earned the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) award in 2004 and 2005, four Merit Citations, one Unit Citation and was named Employee of the Month in June 2008.

"It was not only my honor, but a privilege, to promote Sergeant Edgar. I have every confidence he will embrace his new responsibilities and I look forward to working with him in his new assignment."

Edgar's promotion follows the retirement of Sergeant Terry Whitfield, who retired on April 24 after 25 years of dedicated service to the community.

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# Novi's neighbor partners with county to improve response

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

The City of Northville has improved its emergency response capacities with Oakland County by agreeing to participate in an emergency preparedness plan with other Oakland County communities and updating its communications with the other emergency units.

On April 15, the Northville City Council, both by a 5-0 vote, approved to participate in the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP), which covers the 62 communities in Oakland County, and a radio communications agreement with the county that will give the city much improved capabilities in times of emergency.

According to Northville City Police Chief Gary Goss, the City of Northville was asked by Oakland County in 2010 to assist in the updating of the mitigation plan, which the city agreed to do.

In 2012, the Oakland County Homeland Security Division, with the help of the Oakland County Advisory Committee, Oakland County LEP, local communities, schools, colleges and universities, as well as ASTI Environmental, updated the county's HMP, Goss told council.

And then in late 2012, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approved the updated HMP. "FEMA approval, however, is contingent upon adoption by each municipality. The plan was adopted by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners on January 23, 2013, and now must be adopted by each individual community," said Goss.

Communities must adopt the plan to maintain eligibility for FEMA hazard mitigation grant funding. "To provide for the safety of our community and recovery from any possible disasters, it's important for us to be part of that mitigation plan," added Goss.

The plan calls for City of Northville emergency personnel to participate in ongoing training, and coordination in fire and hazardous material response. In addition, Northville will continue to monitor the potential for flooding problems within the city, specifically in the 8 Mile and Novi roads area.

At this point there is no budget impact, according to Goss. The radio update was deemed necessary after the Northville City Fire Department reviewed its radio communications interoperability with bordering public safety agencies and found a deficiency. "Our department currently lacks the ability to easily communicate with the City of Novi Fire Department, and other Oakland County Public Safety agencies via 800 MHz radio," said Jordan.

"Radio communications with other agencies is essential in the event mutual aid is provided for, or received by our Fire Department." The Fire Department currently utilizes the Michigan Public Safety Communications System (MPSCS) for 800 MHz radio communications. The City of Novi and other Oakland County jurisdictions utilize an 800 MHz radio system owned and operated by Oakland County. The Oakland County radio system is known as OakWIN. The State of Michigan and Oakland County radio systems share the same 800 MHz frequency bands, but they are completely separate, Jordan said.

OakWIN's establishment and continued operation is financed by an ongoing Oakland County 9-1-1 charge, so emergency calls in Northville will finance its share. No user fees are assessed for continued use of the Oakland County radio system, and communications equipment is provided without cost, according to the department report.

Equipment provided without cost includes portable handheld radios, batteries, antennas, belt clips, and battery chargers. Oakland County also covers IT support, assignment of exclusive radio frequencies, and equipment maintenance associated with normal wear and tear, Jordan said. The department would be responsible for the repair/replacement of damaged or lost radios.

"Participation in the County-wide OakWIN 800 MHz radio system will enable our Fire Department to maintain seamless radio communications with other Oakland County Public Safety agencies," said Chief Jim Allen in his recommendation report to city council.

The City of Novi Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services and One Training Fitness will continue their successful partnership offering children fitness classes. News spring sessions of Parent & Baby Yoga, Babies on the Move, and Wee Fit begin May 14 and registration is going on now via cityofnovi.org.

Parent and Baby Yoga, designed for newborns to crawling age, works with gentle Yoga & Pilates postures and exercises and provides an opportunity for parent and baby to develop an awareness of their bodies and each other. Emphasis is on relaxation and bonding, facilitating a calm environment for parent and baby. This class takes place on Tuesdays from 10-10:30 a.m. and is \$48 for the six-week session.

Babies on the Move is a playful and fun class for both child and parent. Babies from crawling to 2 years old love to be active and movement is encouraged with exercises promoting rolling, crawling, scooting, bouncing and more. This class is often a child's first opportunity to learn from an adult other than a parent. This class takes place on Wednesdays from 10:45-11:30 a.m. and is \$60 for the six-week session.

Wee Fit allows young kids to move and play in a safe environment. Children, two to five years old, will enjoy popular, interactive games, obstacle courses, songs, circle time and more. This class has sessions on Wednesdays from 10:45-11:30 a.m. and is \$60 for the six-week session.

Classes will take place at One Training Fitness located at 40900 Grand River Avenue. A FREE demo day for all three classes will take place on Wednesday, May 8 with Parent-Baby Yoga at 9:30 a.m. Babies on the Move at 10:15, and Wee Fit at 11 a.m. The summer session will begin in July. For questions, please call the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at (248) 347-0400.

To learn about additional child friendly programs, fitness classes, and sport leagues, visit cityofnovi.org and click on the Engage! link.

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## 712 OF NOVI NOTICE OF PROVISIONS OF THE NOXIOUS WEED ORDINANCE

TO: All owners, occupants or possessors of subdivided lands or lots:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Chapter 21, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, all noxious weeds, grass, brush, or deleterious, unhealthy growths exceeding a height of eight (8) inches, growing, standing or lying upon any property in the City of Novi, shall be cut down, destroyed or removed as the case may be, at least twice in each year, once during the last half of the month of May and again during the last half of July of each year and more often as may be necessary.

If the owner or occupant, or any person or persons, agent, firm, or corporation having control or management of any subdivided land upon which any building or buildings have been erected shall fail, refuse, or neglect to comply with the above mentioned Code provisions, the city shall cause the weeds, grass, brush, deleterious, unhealthy growths, rubbish, to be cut down, destroyed or removed. Provided, further, that any lands which are situated within the floodplains or any natural streams or watercourses, or any area between the lower or upper banks of such streams or watercourses shall be exempted from the provisions of such Code provisions. The expense incurred by the City in the cutting, destruction or removal of same together with a fifteen (15) percent administrative charge will be levied and collected against such property in the manner provided by law.

Failure to comply with the requirements set forth in Chapter 21, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, may also result in the prosecution for same, and liability to the extent of the penalty therein provided.

Charles Boulard, Building Official  
City of Novi

Published: May 2, 2013

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

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 Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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

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

www.ssdfight.com

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### OUR VIEWS

## Snow ways

### Novi DPW's practices awarded

It took a little longer than preferred, but it appears spring has finally arrived in Michigan. The temp this week was expected to reach 80 degrees, which is actually warmer than normal for this time of year. Baseball is in full swing, flowers will be soon be blooming, and our thoughts will undoubtedly be far, far away from winter for the next six months or so.

But it was not that long ago that we were dealing with that dreaded (to many) four-letter word: snow.

Yes, it is beautiful to look at and fun to play in, but as the blues classic states, "The thrill is gone" once one gets behind the wheel and tries to navigate through a treacherous winter wonderland.

Thankfully, the City of Novi has one of the best crews anywhere when it comes to removing it from our roadways. They're so good, in fact, that the Department of Public Services recently won an award from the American Public Works Association for its "best practices in snow and ice removal while minimizing environmental impacts."

City engineer Rob Hayes, who serves as the DPW's director, notes that his department is an active member of the Southeast Michigan Regional Winter Maintenance Team. In addition to 12 local agencies, it includes the regional metro parks, the Michigan Department of Transportation, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, as well as local private firms.

About four times per winter, the team meets to discuss the different products used, application rates, training needs, issues impacting environmental sustainability, and winter maintenance operations overall.

This regional approach to learning from neighboring communities, according to Hayes, not only strengthens winter maintenance programs for individual communities, but working collaboratively creates synergy that enhances the overall approach to winter maintenance in the Southeast Michigan region.

Traditionally, newspapers are one of the first to receive calls from residents voicing their complaints: "Why aren't the roads clear? We pay good money for taxes? Find out why?"

The Novi News does not receive those calls. Odds are, the City of Novi doesn't get too many either. So what do Hayes and his staff do that sets Novi apart from many southeast Michigan communities when it comes to snow removal?

To begin with, they look back to plan for the future. They track winter operations performance by collecting data for each winter storm event. They then make comparisons to historical data to identify trends in spending, track material usage, and recognize opportunities for winter program efficiencies.

A year ago, as this newspaper detailed in a story, the department made major changes to its winter maintenance operation, including innovations and a new level of service policy:

- performing pre-season truck inspections
- working toward standardizing truck equipment controls
- performing pre-season and mid-season calibration tests
- enhancing brine making and liquid storage capability

- a fleet of 15 heavy-duty plow trucks
- 35 operators (six of whom were recruited from other city departments to work on an as-needed basis during heavy storms)

Not only is the DPW now better prepared to deal with snow, they're able to do it in a way that's better for the environment by incorporating several materials in order to effectively respond to a Michigan winter storm. These materials, in addition to the traditional rock salt, include liquid brine, de-sugared beet extract, and mineral well brine. And all are stored onsite and monitored routinely for potential pollution risks.

For the storage and handling of winter maintenance materials, Novi has also proactively developed a Pollution Incident Prevention Plan. It provides details regarding salt/brine storage, pollution prevention best management practices, loading operations, vehicle maintenance and care, spill response procedures for the release of materials, and a schedule for routine inspections.

It may be hard to get excited about snow removal right now, but it's definitely worth commending Novi's DPW for being a leader. Hayes' team is making sure to get the most value out of your tax dollars while also doing what's best for our planet.

**NOVI NEWS**  
A GANNETT COMPANY  
Cal Stone, Community Editor  
Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor  
Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

### COMMUNITY VOICE

## The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) now allows additional items on board airplanes, including pocket knives as well as the use of cell phones. Do you support this?



"No, that wouldn't be good at all or safe."  
Linda Colwell  
Novi



"No, there definitely shouldn't be knives on board."  
Bill Downs  
Northville

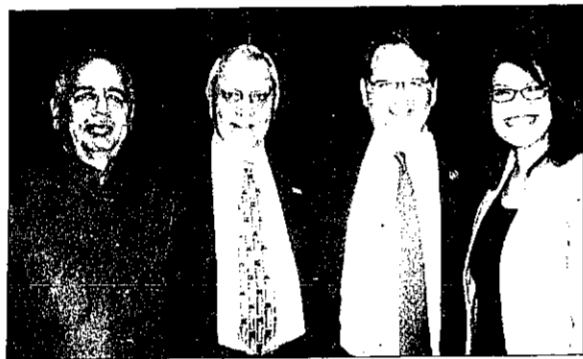


"No, I don't think there is enough security on board for that."  
Carla Giles  
Novi



"Absolutely not. Allowing pocket knives is the dumbest thing I've heard recently, and cell phones might be an imposition on other passengers."  
Dave Westhoff  
Novi

### LETTERS



Pandit Khosla, MDP Treasurer Ramesh Verma, Congressman Gary Peters and state Rep. Rashida Talib at the Jeff-Jack dinner on April 20.

### Jeff-Jack dinner

At the annual fundraising of Michigan Democrats at the Jeff-Jack dinner at Cobo Hall, Detroit, on April 20, there were more than 1,500 delegates from all over Michigan.

U.S. Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow and many other congressional delegates were present.

Vice President Joe Biden was the keynote speaker who spoke for 50 minutes about the Boston Marathon bombings and the fertilizer plant explosion in Texas. What it showed was the incredible resiliency, heroism, commitment and love of the people who responded to these tragedies. It is remarkable. In his speech, he emphasized that "rebuilding the middle class is the defining issue of our time." He urged the Democrats to work hard for the 2014 elections and help regain control of the House of Representatives, so President Obama can advance his agenda.

At the end, Pandit Girish Khosla, a Hindu priest, was introduced by Lon Johnson, chairman of Michigan Democratic Party. Pandit Khosla chanted the vedic mantras and shanti path. His eloquent benediction was well received by the delegates.

Ramesh Verma  
Novi

### Support local animal shelters, too

If you ask any person with a heart and soul, they'll tell you that they get somewhat emotional when the ASPCA commercials that show abused animals come on TV. I feel extremely sorry for the innocent animals, and I want to do something to help.

The ASPCA knows that their commercials pull at people's heartstrings and cause a large increase in their donations. It is completely fine if you're one of those people who donate after seeing a commercial, but people should be donating to protect animals without needing the motivation of an emotional advertisement.

While the ASPCA is a very worthy organization to give to, there are thousands of other shelters who are also in need of money and volunteers but can't afford to advertise on TV. People should consider reaching out to these needy local shelters because their animals have great need and do not have the advantage of national advertising for help.

So, the next time you see an ASPCA commercial, become motivated to donate and help your local shelters on a daily basis rather

than only donating to ASPCA once a month during their ad campaign. Your animal friends will be forever grateful.

Michelle Kearney  
Novi High School student

### Price of allegiance

What if there were an armed militia of 4.5 million domestic enemies — armed to the teeth and intent on telling you what to do? What if they used their combined military power to manufacture weapons and box them and sell them around the nation — with little or no intervention by our weakened government — because, in fact, the coup had been completed and these animals controlled the government?

What would you do if this network of organized animals was not intent on dominating domestic events but had set about interfering in the activities of other nations? What if this organized band of thugs manufactured weapons and shipped them abroad to vicious murdering tyrants whose end game includes not only dominating and torturing their own people but overthrowing our nation and burning down our homes?

Our armed forces and government officials pledge to protect the Constitution from foreign and domestic enemies. So why is there an active militia of 4.5 million armed individuals tolerated within our borders? Four and a half million people in the United States have surrendered their American citizenship to the NRA for the paltry price of \$35 — the cost of a one-year membership, \$1,000 is the fool's price for a life (or death) time membership.

The NRA is a rotten root that must be torn up like the poison vine that is has become.

Alfred Brock  
Wayne

### Painful cuts

When it became evident that the sequester would commence on March 1, Republican Speaker of the House John Boehner asserted, "I got 99 percent of what I want."

Although Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives offered several sequester replacement bills, House Majority Leader Eric Cantor expressed that he couldn't think of anything that Republicans would be willing to do in order to reach a deal to prevent sequestration from taking effect.

Republican lawmakers at that

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

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

Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published Thursday.

time appeared to be downright giddy about the sequester. One GOP legislator referred to sequestration as "the first significant tea party victory in D.C. Another indicated that the cuts are "a home run for America." Because of the Republican Party's mischaracterization of the sequester, many Americans have opted to simply ignore it. But now the reality of the sequester's effects are becoming too painful to ignore.

Numerous states are experiencing federal budget cuts including, a \$22 million decrease in funding for primary and secondary education, as well as a \$20.3 million reduction in educational services for children with disabilities. Many jobs for teachers and aides are at-risk.

Some 70,000 fewer children across the country will be served by Head Start which responds to the early educational, developmental and nutritional needs of primarily poor children. A number of senior citizens will find it more difficult to meet their nutritional requirements because Meals on Wheels is on the chopping block. Individuals seeking domestic violence services will find a dramatic decrease in assistance. In addition, tuition aid for students in the military has stopped. As if these cuts aren't painful enough, on April 1, cancer clinics nationwide started turning away thousands of Medicare patients because chemotherapy medicine is so costly and makes it impossible for these clinics to remain financially solvent.

Now Republican legislators are trying to blame the president for sequestration's cuts to the airline industry which have resulted in a reduction in air traffic controllers. Furthermore, the director of national intelligence, James Clapper, recently reported to the Senate Armed Services Committee that the sequester's cuts hinder the intelligence community's capacity to thoroughly investigate plots against the U.S. John Boehner and his fellow legislators had the opportunity to prevent the devastating effects of the sequester from ever occurring by agreeing to raise additional revenue through discontinuing tax breaks to oil companies, large corporations, hedge fund managers and their subsidiaries. However, once again, the Republicans have chosen party over country.

Jill Farber-Bramson  
West Bloomfield

## Church hosts run to remember victims of Boston attacks

By Pamela A. Zinkosky  
Correspondent

There were no medals awarded, no official shot gun start and no timing chips in Sunday's Boston Marathon Memorial Run. Nevertheless, the event, hosted by St. John Lutheran Church of Farmington Hills, drew 40 local runners and walkers who participated to remember and support the victims of the April 15 Boston Marathon bombing attacks.

"We thought it would be good to just come and spend a few minutes remembering those who lost their lives and those still recovering," St. John co-pastor Lauren Kirsh-Carr said in her opening remarks at the event.

Kirsh-Carr said the parish organized the event to give runners and other community members something to do in support of the victims.

"Runners have thought about this during the week," she said. "People always want something they can connect to and do. We're not fundraising or anything. It's just so we can come together."

Co-pastor Bill Kirsh-Carr, Lauren's husband, read from Philippians 3 of the Bible, which encourages moving forward in a spiritual pursuit of Jesus Christ. The pastors also led a short prayer before sending the runners out on their course.

Organizers routed runners through their choice of either a 1.8-mile or 2.4-mile route through Farmington, which began and ended at St. John on Gill Road.

Runners and walkers of all ages and abilities, including Oakland County Commissioner Marcia Gershenson, who represents Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield Township and Bloomfield Township, participated in the event.

Some held signs showing their support for Boston and the marathon participants. Most participants were from Farmington, Farmington Hills or Novi, but one woman came all the way from Centerline to run.

She heard about the event through her own Lutheran church. After finishing, participants received complimentary water and bananas, donated by Busch's.

Jim White, cross country coach and media specialist for East Middle School in Farmington, said he slow running shoes all week to show support for the victims. White, who ran the 2012 Detroit Free Press Marathon, participated Sunday in the same spirit. "I wanted to just be involved somehow," he said.

"If it can happen to one of us, it can happen to all of us," said Kristin Moilanen, a St.



From left, Sonja Stenson, Jessica Moilanen, Linnea O'Rourke, Emily Moilanen and Hannah Nelson carried signs showing support for the Boston Marathon tragedy's victims.

John parish member and Farmington resident who participated in the run.

Novi resident Bill Halvangis, another St. John member who participated, said he's not much of a runner but came to show his support. "It's the right thing to do. It's a small gesture."

Farmington resident Sara Bowman, who ran the 2011 Boston Marathon, said she knew people on the course when Monday's bombings took place.

"My initial reaction was for friends on the course," she said. "I had been tracking the progress of two runner friends online and knew they were near or at the finish when I learned of the bombings. They were fortunate and did not sustain physical injuries."

Bowman came to Sunday's run fresh from the Lansing Half Marathon, so she didn't run the event, but worked as a corner guard to direct runners.

"Any time there is a national tragedy, I feel it's important to participate in community events to maintain a sense of connection and solidarity," said Bowman. Bowman, who coaches a fifth- and sixth-grade running team at Power Upper Elementary School in Farmington, said the Boston Marathon tragedy will not deter her from participating in running events.

"We can't be held captive by fear and what-ifs. These types of events cannot stop life and living. Based on the attendance at Sunday's Lansing race, I would say that more people than ever are showing support for not only the running community but for all people affected. I read that instead of runners dropping out of Sunday's race due to concerns over safety, that the online registration and race day sign ups were actually higher than anticipated. The number of people with Boston shirts, signs and messages was amazing. People are really rallying together."



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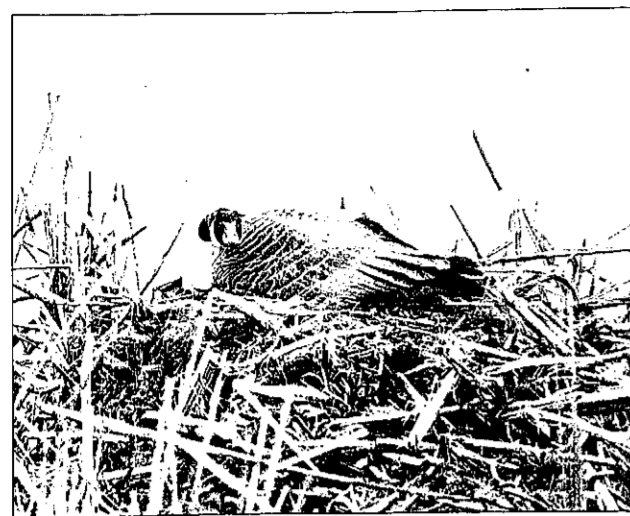
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Family Bible Hour: 9:45 a.m.

Family Worship: 11 a.m.

Bible Study: 6 p.m.

Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every month

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE**

Location: 200 E. Main Street  
Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit www.fpcnorthville.org

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

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# SPORTS

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Seven Novi High class of 2013 swimmers who will be taking their talents to the next level. From left: Kara Berg, Dana Morgan, Andrea VanderMey, Janice Burnett, Maranda Buha, Rachel Appelbacher, and Jillian Odum.

## Magnificent Seven!

### Novi swimmers graduating to collegiate waters

By Terry Jacoby  
 Correspondent

Every once in a while a special class of athletes shows up at a coach's doorstep. The Novi swimming and diving program experienced such a knock in 2009 that echoed throughout the state for the past four years.

"This group of freshmen walked on the pool deck in 2009 and immediately impacted the team," said Novi coach Annette VanderMey. "They immediately earned lanes in the varsity heats to score that freshmen year. And many competed at the state level all four years."

They also collectively as a class scored a record number of points for the Wildcats.

"Over the course of their four years they changed the face of the Novi varsity record board in nine of the 13 events," she said. "Together they saw two top-10 finishes in the state but never falling below 11th place."

Along the way, they defeated elite swimmers from across the county, conference and state in individual and relay events.

Closing the door on this group isn't going to be easy for VanderMey.

"Their absence is going to be a huge loss to a legacy and have taught those following behind them well," she said. "I have no doubt current swimmers will step up to make them proud. It really is no wonder that they are furthering their swimming and diving careers. They are an extremely talented group of young woman and I can not wait to follow their collegiate careers."

The Novi senior class will be sending seven athletes into the waters of collegiate swimming. Let's meet them.

**Kara Berg**  
 Kara Berg, 17, is the daughter of Lynn and Larry Berg. She will attend Ball State University.

"I picked this school because they have a great journalism program and I seemed to fit in well with the team," said Berg, who also considered the University of Missouri and University of Alabama.

Berg was All-State in the 200 free relay and All-State in the 200 medley relay.

She said she will leave Novi with plenty of fond memories.

"Winning the 200 free at conferences my junior year was one of my highlights," she said. "I'll miss knowing everything that is going on and being really close to everyone. I'll really miss the girls and the great friends I've made over the years."

**Maranda Buha**  
 Maranda Buha, 17, is the daughter of Barry and Lynn Buha and will attend IUPUI (Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis). It was actually an easy choice for Buha.

"I have gone down to IUPUI almost every year to compete in the Circle swimmers will attend Colorado Mesa University.

"Why is she heading out west?" "It was the vibe of the campus and the people, a school that I could swim at and that wanted me to swim for them," she said. "Also, the weather, and childhood memories of spending summer vacation up here at my grandparents' place."

Morgan, who will study Kinesiology/Exercise Science, also considered the University of Indianapolis, Grand Valley State and Rider University.

Morgan was a senior captain, earned a leadership award and lettered all four years. She went to states during her junior and senior seasons and was All-State and All-America Academic her senior year.

What will she remember most? "Making new friends that have become my sisters and the 10 minute drive between school and my house," she said.

**Dana Morgan**  
 Dana Morgan, 18, the daughter of Lisa and Jeff Morgan, will attend Colorado Mesa University.

"It was the vibe of the campus and the people, a school that I could swim at and that wanted me to swim for them," she said. "Also, the weather, and childhood memories of spending summer vacation up here at my grandparents' place."

Morgan, who will study Kinesiology/Exercise Science, also considered the University of Indianapolis, Grand Valley State and Rider University.

Morgan was a senior captain, earned a leadership award and lettered all four years. She went to states during her junior and senior seasons and was All-State and All-America Academic her senior year.

What will she remember most? "Making new friends that have become my sisters and the 10 minute drive between school and my house," she said.

## Boys track team tops South Lyon East

Team also has several top spots in Saline Invite



Northville's Charlie May clears a hurdle in last week's meet against South Lyon East.

By Sam Eggleston  
 Correspondent

It takes an entire team to get a win in track and field and the Northville Mustangs boys track team is showing the unity needed to gather up victories.

The squad, coached by Brandon Langston, earned a win over South Lyon East in a Central Division match-up last week, 83-54. Additionally, the team ran in the Saline Invitational and had several strong performances.

Against the Cougars, the Mustangs had strong performances throughout the lineup.

"Our expectations are really high for some of our athletes and they exceeded them versus South Lyon East," said Langston.

"We'll keep setting the bar higher and higher each week and see how far they can go."

Langston said what impressed him most at the dual meet was the standout performances from some new faces. Felix Lee and Eric Bochart tied for second in the long jump at 17 feet, 11 inches.

"Lee is an up-and-coming freshman while Bochart is a German exchange student competing for the first time in the long jump," said Langston.

First-time performances were Northville's specialty last week as Nick Milewski ran the 200 dash for the first time, taking fourth place. Nathan Tajer, traditionally a long-distance runner for Northville, ran the 400 dash

**ON TAP**

The Northville Mustangs boys track team will be back in action when they visit Farmington Saturday at 3 p.m. before hosting Livonia Stevenson at 3:45 p.m. Tuesday.

(Sims, Ferrante, Naughton and Nick Noles), the spring medley (Anthony Sources, John Stroud, Bailey Edwards and Tajer) and the 4-by-400 relay (Ryan Flanagan, Tajer, Sources and Alec Przybocki).

In the mile, Sims took first with a 4:49 while Noles, McCullough and Naughton took third, fourth and fifth, respectively. Ferrante won the 800-meter race, running a sub-2:00 time, while Flanagan took second in the 400 dash and Charlie Tajer took second in the 300 hurdles.

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

## Catholic Central golf team playing at high level

By Sam Eggleston  
 Correspondent

Heading into the season, the Detroit Catholic Central golf team was definitely in the discussion about which teams could potentially have the sheer talent to make a run at the state title.

After three tournaments, the Shamrocks have made it clear that not only do they have the talent, but also the consistency to make such a run a possibility.

The squad, coached by Mike Anderson, picked up wins in the Traverse City Central Invitational Monday at noon. They will then play a week from today in the Ann Arbor Pioneer Invitational starting at 9:15 a.m.

**ON TAP**

The Detroit Catholic Central golf team will be back on the links when they play in the NextTee Boys Seashore Invitational Monday at noon. They will then play a week from today in the Ann Arbor Pioneer Invitational starting at 9:15 a.m.

And that's an understatement, to be sure. Senior Charlie Green shot three over par in the Traverse City invite to end with a 145 and medalist honors as his team beat out 36 other teams for the top spot. The Shamrocks finished with a 609, an impressive 11 shots over Muskegon Mona Shores.

Junior Dan Ault also had an outstanding tournament, shooting 12 over for a 154 to tie for fourth place overall out of a field of 222 golfers.

In the Sunbelt tournament, the Shamrocks won by five strokes over second place Lakeview as they were led, unsurprisingly, by Green. The senior standout carded a two-under-par 70 to take second place overall while senior Corey Szmadzinski and sophomore Glen Plot tied for fourth with even-par 72s.

At Edgewood, the Shamrocks won a fifth-man tiebreaker to earn the victory in the tournament. Senior Preston Doolley shot three over for a 75 while senior Phil Ritchie shot over a 76.

# Novi baseball wins, softball falls to Churchill

By Terry Jacoby  
Correspondent

The Novi baseball team bounced back from a tough day against Brighton last week with a 6-2 win over Livonia Churchill on Monday.

"We didn't play the greatest baseball, but we played pretty well," Novi coach Rick Green said. "We had chances to win both games against Brighton and didn't. But, on the other hand, we didn't give up and showed some fight."

Mario Ferrini picked up the win in the victory over Churchill as the Wildcats improved to 4-5 overall and 2-1 in the KLA.

The senior went five innings and allowed two earned runs on

six hits and one walk with six strikeouts.

"His other pitches weren't working very well so he was getting out mostly with fastballs," Green said.

Blair Myers came in to get the save. The junior went two innings with one hit, one walk and two strikeouts.

The Wildcats offense was on target for most of the game. Bryan Klosterma was 3 for 3 at the plate with an RBI and a steal. Kyle Matel had two hits including two runs scored, an RBI and a walk. Blake Boron also had two hits along with two RBIs, a run scored and a stolen base. Jared Casaccia had a hit and two walks and Andrew Turek had a hit and a walk.

On Friday, the Wildcats dropped a doubleheader to Brighton.

"We led the first game 4-1 going into the fifth game and they scored five runs on two outs after we failed to catch a pop-up," Green said. "We had our chances."

Ryan Davis gave up seven runs, but only one was earned. He allowed seven hits and three walks. Myers pitched in relief and gave up two runs.

Ferrini had a big day at the plate with two hits including a double and two RBIs. Boron, Grant Wheeler (two runs scored) and Kyle Matel all had hits for Novi.

The Wildcats lost the nightcap 4-2.

Tyler Whitehead allowed a run in five innings but did give up three walks and hit two batters. He had four strikeouts. Myers came in the game in relief and gave up a hit, three walks, a hit batter and three runs.

Ryan Caputo and Nick Shelar each had two hits for the Wildcats. Turek, Casaccia and Ferrini all had one hit.

The Novi baseball team plays two games at Utica Stevenson on Friday and will play the annual alumni game at Novi HS at 11 a.m. on Saturday.

on Monday.

"It wasn't pretty," coach Bob Lulek said. "We didn't play very well."

The Wildcats lost 10-5 to Churchill in five innings.

Mallory Daschke allowed four earned runs in two innings. Natalie Tarrant and Casey Lawler also pitched for Novi.

Sam Trober, Jenna Lowmyer and Laura Oakley all had hits for the Wildcats.

The Novi softball team hosts Royal Oak at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday and Westland John Glenn at 4 p.m. on Monday.

Wildcats bounce back with victory

**Livonia tops Novi girls**

The Novi softball team wasn't able to get on the field all last week but they did get in a game

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

## NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP

By Terry Jacoby  
Correspondent

Cats lacrosse boys play best game of season

The Novi boys' lacrosse team went 2-1 on the week after a thrilling win Saturday over rival South Lyon.

"This was our biggest game of the season thus far," said Novi coach Eric Hoffman. "The winner of the game would be the front runner to win the division in the KLA."

The Wildcats are now the front runners after a 6-5 victory. This was the best game we have played this year.

"It was a full team effort, we played well the entire game," Hoffman said. "Our defense was outstanding. Holding South Lyon to only five goals is a great accomplishment. They have some great offensive players."

Novi goalie Mitch Adams had 15 saves and did a great job clearing the ball for the Wildcats.

"South Lyon ran a 10 man ride that made Mitch have to run the ball a few times to clear the ball," Hoffman said. "He did a really nice job. Travis Sparling shut down South Lyon's best player Pat McKay. Travis made him a non-factor."

Sparling finished with four takeaways and three GB's. Scott Schramm, Tommy McMaster and Jason Sheeran also had strong games for Novi. Schramm and McMaster each had two takeaways and three GB's and Sheeran had two GB's.

"All of our middles played great defense as well," Hoffman said. "Derrek Stockman and Austin Nicholson were outstanding. This was our best defensive effort of the season."

"Offensively, we had a good game as well."

Alex Caprara had three goals, and Keith Pravato, Lucas Buck and Austin Nicholson each scored once. "This was the first game all year we had a total team effort," Hoffman said. "I could not be more proud."

Last Thursday, the Wildcats lost to Notre Dame Prep 9-7.

In a hard-fought game, the Wildcats came out and took an early lead 2-0 before Notre Dame scored six unan-



Novi lacrosse player Scott Schramm hooks a pass into his netting on April 25 as Novi prepared to take on Notre Dame Prep at their Ten Mile Road stadium.

swered goals to lead 6-2 at halftime.

"We came out in the second half and played great," Hoffman said. "Unfortunately, it just wasn't enough to get the win. I was really proud of the team on how they never gave up. We fought all the way to the end."

Buck had three goals to lead the offense. Justin Danks, Pravato, Nicholson, and McMaster each scored once.

Adams had nine saves. Schramm had three takeaways and three ground balls, Sparling had two takeaways and five ground balls and McMaster had one of each.

"This was a good learning experience for the team, we just had a two quarter let down," Hoffman said. "We learned you have to play all four quarters to win."

Last Wednesday, Novi defeated Plymouth 14-5. Buck and Danks each scored

four goals. Mark Ghannam and Chris Kennedy had two goals. Caprara and Pravato each scored once.

Adams had eight saves on 10 shots and Jake Bielenda had four saves on seven shots.

The Novi boys' lacrosse team played at Walled Lake Western on Wednesday. The Wildcats play today at Troy Athens and host Salem at 7 p.m. on Friday.

Novi golfers getting into swing of it

It appears the weather and the Novi golf team are starting to warm up. The Wildcats knocked off South Lyon 159-172 last Thursday at Walnut Creek.

Jason Carless (37) and Garrett Buckley (38) led the way with solid rounds. Billy Uille shot a 41 and Brad Kozinski and Bryan Fegert each shot a 43.

Novi coach Bradley Huss is pleased with the way his team is swinging the clubs and expects even more improvement this week.

"The weather is supposed to be nice this week which will help everyone," he said. "We are 2-0 in KLA matches and I believe the boys will play well this week. We have not played one day where the weather hasn't been windy, cold and/or snowing so 70 degrees and sunny will be a welcome change."

Last Tuesday, Novi defeated Northville 155-158 at Tanglewood's South Course.

Kozinski and Fegert both shot a 38. Buckley fired a 39 and Mike Wenzl shot a 40.

The Novi JV team competed Saturday at an invitational at Hudson Mills. The Wildcats took fourth out of 22 teams with a 355 team score.

Connor Howell finished fourth overall with an 83.

Other top scores were carded by Blake Carrick (87), Brendan Campbell (85), Matt Kelley (96) and Mike Groechel (96).

The Novi golf team hosted a variety tournament at Birmingham Country Club on Monday. The Wildcats played at Salem (Fox Hills) on Tuesday and play South Lyon today at WCC.

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

## Novi Athletic Boosters seek nominations

Parents and guardians interested in becoming involved in supporting Novi student athletic programs have an opportunity to take that step by seeking a position on the Novi Athletic Boosters board or as committee chair for the 2013-14 school year.

Nominations are being accepted for all seven board positions for the election, which will take place during the regular Boosters meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 8, in Novi High School Room 160. As with all Boosters club business, all of those in attendance have a vote on this and other action items.

Membership is open to the parents and supporters of these students and student athletes. The club's board consists of four elected officers - president, vice president, secretary and treasurer - and three elected trustees. Board members serve one-year terms with term-limits varying by office, so all positions are determined by election each year.

Novi Athletic Boosters is a non-profit organization with a simple mission: Encourage our students to strive for excellence on and off the field, sponsor and manage fund-raising projects in support of the Novi Athletic Department, and assist in building and enhancing our inter-scholastic athletics program.

The boosters have gifted over \$100K every year for many years and this year they are on track to gift nearly \$200K in support of Novi student athletes.

In addition to the board positions, the Boosters club needs to fill several fundraising chair positions critical to the future success of the organization. These include Concessions scheduling and purchasing, Spirit Wear, Sports Passes, Millionaire Party's, and Taste Fest.

# Wildcats warming up with the weather

By Terry Jacoby  
Correspondent



Novi's #1-ranked player Erin Day stretches to make a shot on April 23.

The Novi tennis team netted an impressive week as the Wildcats continue to play well and improve at the same time. It's been a successful recipe for coach Jim Hanson and the Cats, who improved to 6-1 overall and 4-1 in the KLA.

"We have some young singles players and they are learning by experience," Hanson said. "Our doubles teams are playing very well. We keep improving and that's key. But we still have things to work on."

The Wildcats competed on Saturday at the Bloomfield Hills Lahser Invitational and like the weather, the Wildcats were hot. Novi took second place, just one point behind champion

St. Clair.

"Tournaments are good for conditioning and competition," Hanson said. "We did a lot of nice things on Saturday."

The doubles teams especially stood tall with three winning all three matches.

The No. 1 doubles team of Caitlin O'Brien and Amy Zhou defeated St. Clair 6-2, 7-5. Lahser 6-1, 6-0 and Holly 6-2, 6-0. The No. 2 doubles team of Rachel Bailey and Dina Pawaz defeat-

ed St. Clair 6-2, 6-2. Lahser 6-3, 6-2 and Holly 6-1, 6-2; and the No. 4 doubles team of Harika Bolline and Melanie Murphy defeated St. Clair 6-2, 6-1, Lahser 6-0, 6-0 and Holly 6-2, 6-2.

The No. 3 doubles team of Rebecca Chen and Asawari and Kanitkar defeated St. Clair 6-0, 6-3 and Lahser 7-5, 6-3. The No. 5 doubles team of Abigail Swain and Carolyn Zhang beat Lahser 6-1, 6-0 and Holly 6-3, 6-1.

On the singles side, No. 2 singles player Youna Lee won against Lahser (6-0, 6-3) and Holly (6-2, 6-0) over Holly at No. 1 singles and Dhivya Sri-dar defeated Holly 6-0, 6-0 at No. 3 singles. Allison Lollo won 6-3, 2-6 (11-9) at No. 4 singles.

Last Friday, the Wildcats won eight of nine

matches. The only loss came at No. 1 singles.

"We keep running up against some very talented No. 1 singles players," Hanson said. "Erin (Day) played No. 2 for us last year so she is learning against some of the best players in the state. Stevenson's Aimee Moccia is a very strong player. But Erin hits a lot of balls and battles to the last point."

Day, only a sophomore, lost 6-0, 6-1 to Moccia. Lee, Sridar and Lollo all cruised to singles wins in straight sets.

Novi's doubles teams all won in straight sets as well in the 8-1 win.

Last Thursday, the Wildcats defeated Saline 6-3. The Hornets have a strong program so it was a good test for the Wildcats.

Saline also has one of the top singles players in

### ON TAP

The Novi tennis team (6-1 overall) played Wednesday at West Bloomfield. The Wildcats will host Grand Blanc on Thursday.

Lee won her No. 2 singles match 6-2, 6-2 and Sridar won at No. 3 singles 6-2, 6-0.

Novi took four of the five doubles matches. The No. 4 team of Bolline and Murphy pulled out a tough 6-2, 5-7, 6-1 win.

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

## Nakashima commits to U of D



Novi Junior Don Nakashima (#11, shown against Ann Arbor Skyline), 16, made a verbal commitment on April 11 to play collegiate soccer at University of Detroit and is also looking forward to his senior year Wildcat soccer season. His soccer career started three years ago, and he decided that he wants to competitively play more in college. In his freshman year on the Novi High School JV team, the forward tallied 19 goals and 7 assists and then played in the MSVA/ODP (Olympic Development Program). In summer 2011, he attended the Region II ODP Camp, helping his team become the national finalist in March 2012. Last year, he joined the Novi Jaguars 96 Green team (2012 national champion) and earned Hometown Newspapers All-Area Player of the Year honors on the high school squad. He was also named First Team Division I (All-State, All-County First Team, All-Region, All-District and All-Conference). Nakashima, who currently holds a 3.94 GPA, and earned a 30 on the ACT, is the first commitment for Detroit for the Class of 2014.

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## Wildcats keep kicking games into win column

By Terry Jacoby  
Correspondent

The Novi soccer team blanked Plymouth Salem 3-0 on Thursday to improve to 5-1 overall and 3-0-1 in the KLA.

"It was a quality win for us against a very good Salem team, especially since it was the game after a highly emotional/physical contest against Northville," said Novi coach Brian O'Leary.

When the game started it was quite windy and Salem won the coin toss and went with the wind. The first half was even with Salem getting three shots on goal to two for Novi in a scoreless first half.

"In the second half, now with the wind in our favor, we carried play," said O'Leary.

The Wildcats would score three goals in 9 minutes to put the game away.

The first goal was scored when Erin Dircks headed a cross to the far post. Salem's goalie made a diving save, but Kelly Cauchi was there to knock in the rebound to give Novi a 1-0 lead with 17 minutes left in the game.

Five minutes later, Novi would score again as Kendall Kramer fired a shot from 25 yards out for a Salem defender. That rebound came to Natalie Krygi-er who beat a defender on the dribble and rocketed a shot into the upper corner of the goal.

Just 4 minutes after that goal, Dircks would head in a Taylor Pavlicka corner kick for the 3-0 win.

Novi goalie Jade Antolec made four saves and five grabs off her line. Karissa Koomen played a great game on

defense for the Wildcats.

A scoreless tie, that is. The Novi and Northville girls' soccer teams played hard all night long last Tuesday but when the scoreboard reached zero, neither team had anything to show for their efforts - including any goals.

The two rivals finished in a scoreless tie on the rainy night in Northville.

"It was a very well played game between two quality teams," said O'Leary said. "Northville carried play for the first 20 minutes, but our defenders, Kaylin Hoomaan and Karissa Koomen, were up to the task and were there to stop many charges into our end."

O'Leary saw an improved Novi team in the second half.

"Once we were given a chance to regroup at halftime, we played better and had some chances, but their defense and goalie were up to the task as well," he said.

The Wildcats had eight corner kicks to three for the Mustangs.

Antolec made eight saves to earn the shutout in goal for Novi.

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

## Qualified for nationals



Novi gymnast Evelyn Patient has qualified for the USA Gymnastics Level 9 Eastern National Competition. She qualified after competing at the five-state regional competition in Lansing in early April, where she placed second overall in her age group. Her favorite event is the uneven parallel bars, in which she has held the Region-5 Bar Champion title three years in a row. She has been involved in gymnastics since the age of 4, and is currently training with Michigan Elite Gymnastics Academy (MEGA). She is a freshman at Novi High School and her goal is to compete at the collegiate level.

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The 4-by-800 relay team of Rachel Coleman, Nicole Mosteller, Alison Robinson and Erin Zimmer set the Saline Invitational record last week with a time of 9:42.34. They broke the record set the year before by a Northville team of 9:51.3.

## Mustangs top South Lyon East in girls track

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

It was a good week for the Northville girls track and field team, and it was highlighted by some great weather and a big divisional victory.

The team, coached by Tim Dalton, picked up a 74-49 victory over the Congars while on the road at South Lyon East. The Mustangs then topped it off with a stand-out performance at the Saline Invitational. Against South Lyon East, the Mustangs picked up a Central Division victory and brought their dual meet record to 2-1 on the season.

One of the highlights of the meet was the 800-meter run, which junior Chloe Smith won in 2:41—her first-ever varsity victory.

"As a coach, these are the moments that are important to me," said Dalton. "She is a kid who comes to practice and works hard every day. She deserved it."

Northville also took first place in the high jump with a leap of 4 feet-6 inches from Julia Hopkins, while Lauren Rodriguez took first in the 100 hurdles in 15.52 seconds and first in the 300 hurdles in 51.06 seconds. Alexa Abbott won the 100 dash in 13.43 seconds and the 200 dash in 26.71. Alison Robinson (5:37.85),

### ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs girls track and field team will be back in action when they visit Saline tomorrow at noon before visiting Livonia Stevenson Saturday at 10 a.m. The team will then compete Tuesday at home against Stevenson at 3:45 p.m.

Erin Dunne (5:52.44) and Hailey Harris (6:03.76) swept the mile run while Lindsay Walters won the 400 dash in 1:02.63.

They also won the 3,200-meter, the 800-meter and the 400 meter relays.

In the Saline Invitational, the Mustangs had some outstanding performances and all of it in warm spring weather.

"We could not have asked for a better day, weather-wise, and the results showed," said Dalton. "It was a great day for us as a team as we had kids setting personal-best times all day, breaking meet records and breaking school record or knocking on the door of bringing school records down."

For the second straight week, the Mustangs set a 4-by-800 relay record with the team of Rachel Coleman, Nicole Mosteller, Alison Robinson and Erin Zimmer running a 9:42.94 to set the new mark.

## Mustangs tennis team tops Novi

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

There is no doubt in the mind of anyone who follows tennis in the Central Division that the team taking a win in the match-up between Novi and Northville is likely the front runner for the division crown.

This year, it looks like Northville has stepped into the lead role, picking up a convincing 7-2 victory over their cross-town rivals.

"The rain held off for the match, but the wind was blowing full force, sometimes gusting to 50 miles per hour," said Northville coach Linda Jones. And through all of that, the Mustangs were able to gain sole possession of first place in the KLA Central Division, sweeping all of the singles flights in the process.

At No. 1 singles, Reeshma Kumar was able to secure a 6-2, 6-2 victory over Novi's Erin Day to take the win while Emma Worley beat Novi's Youn Lee, 6-2, 6-2, at No. 2 singles.

At third singles, Claudia Ma picked up a 6-1, 6-1 victory for Northville over Dhivya Sridar, and Alex Jeannotte beat Allison Lollo, 6-0, 6-1, for a No. 4 singles victory for the Mustangs. Northville also won a No. 5 singles flight with Ali Kozerski topping Abigail Swain, 6-3, 5-7, 1-0.

"Northville is a very talented team with a solid lineup," said Novi coach Jim Hanson. "We played them tough. We need to get to that level."

In the doubles flights, the first doubles Novi



Mustang #1 doubles team of Danielle Romano, left, and Anika Mukerji get ready for another set during an April 23 meet.

### ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs girls tennis team will be back on the court when they take on Brighton today in the KLA West Cross-over game before competing in Midland in a quad tournament Saturday.

Northville team of Amelia Albanelli and Molly Bis topped Shakila Kahn and Carolyn Zhang, 6-1, 6-2, while the team of Rachel Crittenden and Malika Sachdev topped Melisa Bunio and Prasan-ti Ravipati in a sixth doubles flight, 6-1, 6-0.

In the first full day of tennis since the "spring" sports season began, the Northville Mustangs took home a second-place finish behind Grosse Pointe South.

Second-place medals were awarded to all four singles players—Kumar, Worley, Ma and Jeannotte. The No. 2 doubles team of Sakorafis and Hernandez with the No. 4 doubles team of Quinn and Williams both took second place as well.

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

## Mustangs pick up two wins and a loss

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

The Northville Mustangs outscored their opponents, 20-3, over the past three games and walked away with two wins and a loss.

The squad, coached by John Kostzewa, climbed to 5-1 overall and 4-1 in the KLA with a dominating 13-1 victory over Livonia Franklin last week. Previously, the team split a doubleheader with Salem, winning the first game, 6-1, and losing the second, 1-0.

Against Franklin, the Mustangs scored nine runs in the first three innings and used a stout defense to secure the win.

"We had quality at-bats from the start of the game," said Kostzewa. "We also got a few two-out, two-strike hits early in the game, which was nice to see. Overall, it was a much better offensive approach than we have had in recent games."

The offense was fueled by the hot bats of Taylor Turner, Brandon Patrone Jack Gessert and Evan Wieland while the defense was led by pitcher Jake Hansen, who allowed just two hits while giving up one walk and striking out five batters.

Against Salem, the Mustangs earned a 6-1 victory in the opening game of a twin-

### ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs baseball team will be back on the diamond when they visit Southgate Anderson Saturday at 10 a.m. before hosting Livonia Churchill at 4 p.m. Monday. They will then play Wednesday at South Lyon at 4 p.m.

bill, following a complete game pitching performance by Taylor as he gave up two hits and an unearned run. He struck out four and walked one.

"It was a very well-pitched game by Taylor," said Kostzewa. "Our defense played well behind him, but he really was efficient and attacked the strike zone."

Offensively, the Mustangs followed Zach Wilds and Brad Vanhulle, who had two hits each, while Vanhulle and Wieland each had two RBIs in the game.

In the second game, the Mustangs fell 1-0 despite a quality pitching performance by Evan Flohr, who struck out seven and walked one while giving up one unearned run.

"We struggled offensively from the start, getting only two hits and never made any offensive adjustments," said Kostzewa.

## Northville escapes grueling week unscathed

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

It must have felt strange for the Northville Mustangs girls soccer team when the sun poked out from behind the clouds and spring began proving that it was indeed something that happens in Michigan.

As the temperatures began climbing around 70 and the sun was shining, the Mustangs went tear during a grueling week of soccer, picking up four huge wins and two ties against some tough opponents.

"The team, coached by Eric Brucker, picked up wins against South Lyon East, Brighton, Saginaw Nouvel and South Lyon while taking ties against Novi and Midland (for coverage of the Novi game, see story in this week's sports section).

In their most recent contest, the Mustangs managed a tough 1-0 victory over their home field over the up-and-coming South Lyon East Cougars under sunny skies and 70-degree weather.

"We did not play to our potential tonight, which allowed Alex to stay in the game," said Brucker. "Our defense allowed us to hold the lead after the early goal. As we go through our division rivals again, we cannot let our foot off the gas."

The Mustangs scored what would be the game-winning goal at the sixth minute in the first half as junior Ashley Peper served a corner kick and placed it perfectly for senior Emily Bush to head into goal for the 1-0 contest.

Northville would have several more chances in the first half but could not find the back of the net despite offensive pres-



Wildcat Katrina Koomen braces for the ball but doesn't nail it on the head as she's beaten to the play by Mustang Emily Bush during the teams' April 23 meeting.

sure being generated by Bush, junior Rachel Yagci, senior Gabbie Gulbord and freshman Kacey Cerretani.

Earning the win in goal was sophomore Emily Marech, who stood behind the stout Northville defense, led by Alexi Mennotti on the backline, and didn't have much work to do as she recorded just two saves on the night.

Northville is now 9-1-2 on the season while South Lyon East drops to 2-5-1.

**Saginaw Invitational Tournament**

The Northville Mustangs took on three opponents in the Saginaw Invitational last weekend and came away with two wins and a tie.

"I thought we improved on the offensive end of the field and some of our set plays generated goals which is encouraging," said Brucker. "In all the games I thought we were

### ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs girls soccer team will be back in action when they play today at 7 p.m. when they host Livonia Stevenson before hosting Salem Monday at 7 p.m. The team will then play a week from today when they visit Novi at 7 p.m.

able to dictate pace and play our style.

"I'm looking forward to the second half of the regular season."

The squad picked up a big win against previously-undefeated Brighton, which came into the game with a 6-0 record. Northville used a high cross from sophomore Kelly McHugh that led to the only goal of the game as Cerretani poked it past the goalie to take a 1-0 lead in the first half. The defense kept the Bulldogs out of the net and led their team to the victory. Senior Kiki Hilmer earned the win in goal.

Northville also picked up a 3-0 victory over Saginaw Nouvel, the No. 4-ranked team in Division IV currently. They scored two goals in the first half with the first coming from freshman Macky Westenberg and the second from Mennotti before Bush headed in the third goal of the contest early in the second half. Peper picked up two assists in the game while Hilmer and Marech split time in the goal for the win.

Northville did end the day with a 1-1 tie against Midland, which came into the game with a 3-1 record.

"I think we tired a bit in the third game after being in the sun all day," Brucker said. "This was the first time that we played in any kind of heat

this spring." The Mustangs scored off a header by Bush in the first half and the Chemics tied it early in the second. Neither team was able to capitalize on scoring opportunities to break the knot late in the second half.

### Northville 4, South Lyon 1

Last Thursday, the Mustangs collected a convincing 4-1 victory over the South Lyon Lions, which had earned a 6-1 record leading up to the Central Division contest.

"I'm pleased with picking up another win on the road but this was not one of our better performances," said Brucker. "We did not move the ball well as a team. We need to continue to play to our strengths as we move forward in this season."

The Chiefs tallied three goals to open the first half but a quick exchange between the two teams and a burst of three back-to-back-to-back goals by senior Erica MacDonald put the Mustangs back in control of their own destiny. MacDonald tallied six goals and an assist on the night.

Northville won the final possession of the match thanks to great face-off play by Alivia DuQue—also scored a goal in the game—and pushed down field when Erin Vogel, who had four goals on the night, was awarded a shooting-space foul, resulting in a one-on-one shot against Canton's goalie, which she buried for the lead and the win.

The loss was Canton's first of the season as they came into the game with a 5-0 record.

Northville's defense was led by the play of

## NORTHVILLE SPORTS ROUNDUP

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

### Northville girls lacrosse team splits week

The Northville Mustangs girls lacrosse team escaped with an 11-10 victory over a tough Canton Chiefs squad last week—a game they were looking forward to as 15 of this year's Northville players suffered three losses to the Chiefs, including a season-ending overtime game in the playoffs.

The Mustangs and Chiefs played back-and-forth all night, including a last-second goal by the Chiefs that tied the game, 6-6, heading into the locker room for half-time.

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Northville's defense was led by the play of

Meredith Brady, Christina Hui, Maria Siddiqui, Lauren Syverson, Liz Hansell, Logan Van Riper, Becky Chase and Claire Beaudoin.

Earning the win with 15 saves in goal was Kati Maisano.

The Mustangs also suffered a tough 9-4 loss to Salem, a team they beat earlier this year. Salem controlled the game through strong face-off play and maintaining possessions.

Northville's game against Plymouth was postponed due to inclement weather.

### Mustang bow to Forest Hills

The Northville Mustangs boys lacrosse team took their sixth loss of the season as they fell, 12-5, to a very powerful Forest Hills squad last week.

"We struggled on both offense and defense in the first half of the game, but I felt we made some good adjustments at halftime," said coach Greg Durham. "The boys responded well, and the second half was much closer than the first."

The team picked up three goals and an assist from John Cooke, one goal and three assists from Alec Melucci and a goal from Alex Fuller in the losing effort. Durham noted Jake Fuller played well in the middle and Tyler Gozdor went 10-for-12 on face-offs before being knocked out of the game. Gozdor has gone 108-for-166 for over 65-percent face-off wins so far this year over nine games.

Jimmy McGlynn had 14 saves.

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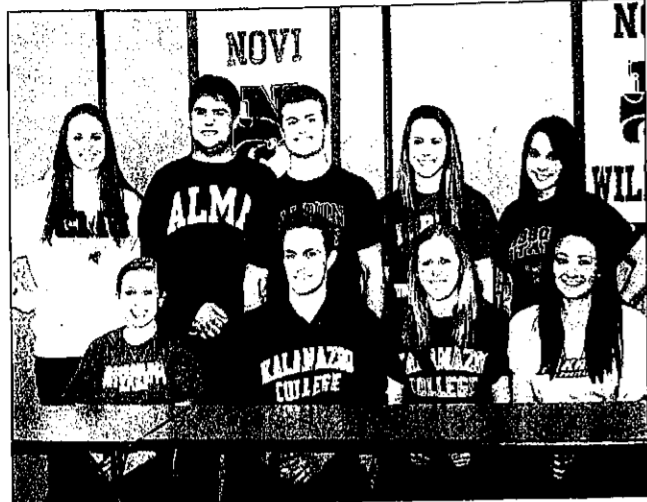
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Letters of intent



Congratulations to the following Novi High School athletes who signed letters of intent on April 19 to continue playing sports at the next level: Lucas Buck, Alma College, lacrosse; Scott Schram, Albion College, lacrosse; Maranda Buha, IUPUI, swim and dive; Jillian Odom, Missouri State, swim and dive; Casey Lowney, Concordia University, basketball; Mario Ferrini, Kalamazoo College, baseball; Janice Burnett, Kalamazoo College, swim and dive; Rachel Aeplbacher, Akron University, swim and dive; and Dana Morgan, Colorado Mesa University, swim and dive.

13U Broncos sweep Grove City tourney



The 13U Northville Broncos headed to Ohio last weekend for the 2013 Grove City Early Bird Baseball tournament in Columbus. The Broncos swept pool play knocking off the Southwest Stallions and the Arlington Bears. In the quarterfinal game they handled the Mid Ohio Diamond Dawgs, then defeated the Central Ohio Jaguars in the semis to make the championship game. The Broncos jumped on the Grove City Titans, scoring four runs in the first inning. The Titans fought back tying the game in the bottom of the 6th, but the Broncos scored four more in the top of the 7th on their way to an 8-5 victory.

Rush wins tourney in rain and mud



The U10 Michigan Rush Northville 03 Swosh Girls won the U10 Girls Blue Division of the Michigan Club Challenge Soccer Tournament held on April 26-28 at Northville Community Park. The team advanced to the finals by winning games against Plymouth Reign 03 White, LCSC 03 Meteors Blue, and Michigan Rush Hamburg 03 Nike. The girls won the championship game in the rain and mud against Michigan Rush Downriver 03 Nike team by a score of 2-1. Pictured (back from left) are coaches Nick Tacconelli and Loren Tacconelli; (front from left) Samantha Riordan, Emma Galt, Sydney Reed, Anja Olsen, Lauren Stewart, Kaiya Lawing, Sydney Shanahan and Abbey Pfeiffer.

SWIMMERS

Continued from page B1

City Classic and they have an amazing facility which actually held the Olympic Trials years ago," she said. "Through that annual USS meet I fell in love with downtown Indianapolis. I was fortunate to be recruited by them for swimming.

"While I had a lot of other schools on my radar, none compared to the schooling and coaching I would receive from IUPUI. They make anything you want to do possible. Being a student athlete, that was very important to me."

She will study nursing while staying on the pre-med track because "I am still debating med school."

Buha says winning the 50 freestyle at Oakland Counties meet was one of her career highlights.

What will she miss most?

"I'm going to miss going to school with my sisters and all the school functions my friends and I participated in," she said.

**Andrea VanderMey**  
Andrea VanderMey, 18, is the daughter of Mark and Annette VanderMey. She will attend Western Kentucky University.

She simply liked everything about the school, program and area.

"The head coach's philosophy of how he trains his athletes is better than any other coach I have ever talked to," said VanderMey, who will study Psychology.

"He really truly cares about each and every one of us and makes individual plans to best fit what each swimmer needs specifically.

"Also the campus is breathtaking and the perfect size, great psychology and photojournalism programs and it's only one hour away from Nashville."

VanderMey, who also considered West Virginia University and University of Wyoming, was a four-time All-American, 10 time All-State, team captain, sportsmanship standout and three time scholar athlete. She also was All-State Academic, All-America Academic and a junior national qualifier.

Among her many highlights, she lists winning the D-1 state title in the 100 backstroke as a freshman at the top of the list.

What will she miss?

"Spirit weeks; dressing up, pep rally, football game and homecoming dance," she said.

**Janice Burnett**  
Janice Burnett, 18, the daughter of Nancy and Ray, will attend Kalamazoo College.

College.

"The academic offerings were a perfect match with the field I want to study," she said. "Additionally, the size and location was exactly what I was looking for. Being able to further my swimming career was an added bonus."

Burnett, who will study Biology, has a pool full of accomplishments, including a 2012 state cut in the 50 freestyle and a top eight finish in the 50 freestyle at the 2012 conference meet. One of her favorite memories is winning the KIAA Conference meet her freshman year.

"I am going to miss all the influential people I have met throughout my four years of high school," she said.

**Jillian Odom**  
Jillian Odom, 17, the daughter of Julie and Brian Odom, will make her next splash at Missouri State University.

"I chose this school because I loved the overall atmosphere, the programs they offer, and their interest in me," said Odom, who will study athletic training and also considered Michigan, Michigan State, Central Michigan, Bowling Green and Akron.

Her biggest accomplishment was making states during her senior year.

"My highlight of Novi swim and dive were the teammates that I will keep close with the rest of my life," she said. "What I will miss most about high school is being a Wildcat and all my friends and teachers that made my high school years what they were."

**Rachel Aeplbacher**  
Rachel Aeplbacher, 18, is the daughter of Tom and Lauri, and will attend the University of Akron to study either interior design or graphic arts.

"I picked this school because I feel that it offers everything that I need to make my future the best as it possibly can be," said Aeplbacher, who also considered Ohio University, East Carolina University, and Florida Atlantic University.

While at Novi, Aeplbacher broke both the 11 and 6 dive records, was the KLA Division 2012 Champion and took eighth at the state meet, earning All-State honors.

While at Novi, Aeplbacher broke both the 11 and 6 dive records, was the KLA Division 2012 Champion and took eighth at the state meet, earning All-State honors.

But her highlight reel features plenty of memories outside of the pool.

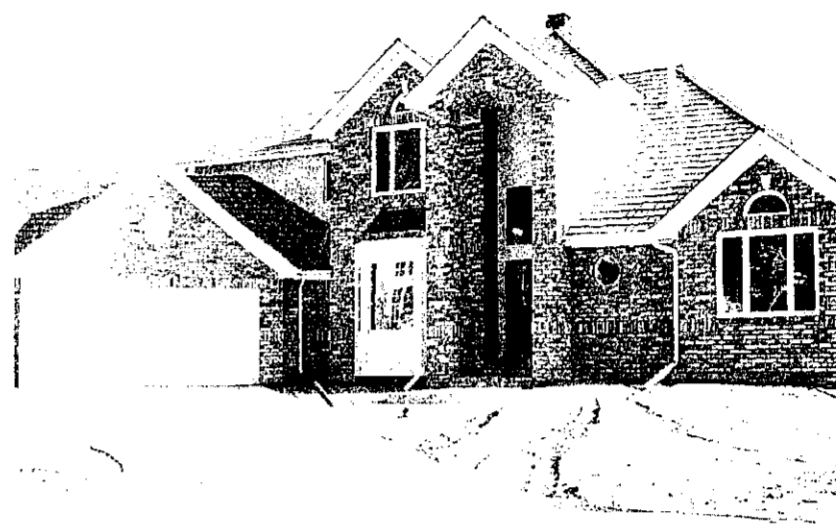
"Getting to be with my best friends everyday, making my parents proud, and getting All State at the state championships my senior year," she said, when asked to list what she is most proud of as a Wildcat.

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

REAL ESTATE

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FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Realtor chief praises FHA advances, urges more action



The National Association of Realtors reports the Federal Housing Administration is making advances in making home ownership possible, but has room to improve.

While the Federal Housing Administration still faces challenges ahead, the agency has already taken a number of significant steps to mitigate risk and increase the solvency and strength of the mortgage-insurance fund. That's according to National Association of Realtors President Gary Thomas, who testified recently before the U.S. House Financial Services Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity about the future of the FHA.

"Realtors believe that recent increases to premiums, increased down payments for some borrowers and greater risk management controls will help to substantially improve the FHA's financial condition," said Thomas, broker-owner of Evergreen Realty, in Villa Park, Calif. "These changes combined with an improving national economy and rising home prices will surely help stabilize the fund so that FHA can continue to serve the needs of hardworking American families who wish to purchase a home."

Thomas testified that FHA has also implemented a number of other measures to help improve the health of the fund, including hiring the agency's first credit risk officer to help better manage risk, implementing credit score floors, and instituting significant lender enforcement and oversight measures to increase the return to the fund.

FHA sustained housing markets nationwide during the economic and housing downturn, and like other holders of mortgage risk, it incurred financial losses as a result of

employment and market conditions that led to increased foreclosures. However, had FHA not stepped in to fill the market void, many families would have been unable to purchase homes, housing values could have dropped an additional 25 percent, and the country would be much further from a recovery, said Thomas.

FHA continues to be one of the primary sources of mortgage financing available to families today as private capital slowly makes its way back into housing markets. As housing markets continue to stabilize and improve and

new mortgage regulations are finalized, NAR anticipates that the private mortgage market will return and FHA's market share will return to traditional levels.

Increased private capital in the mortgage market doesn't obviate the need for additional reforms to FHA to further enhance and protect the availability of mortgage credit so that the fund can maintain its vital role to homebuyers, said Thomas. NAR strongly supports legislation that would give FHA greater flexibility to quickly change program requirements and help protect the fund from losses. NAR

also supports legislation that would allow FHA to improve its enforcement and oversight of lenders.

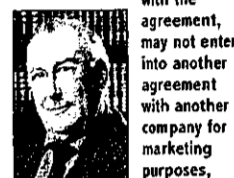
"Realtors urge Congress to quickly consider these bills to ensure FHA has the tools it needs to be able to continue to serve its mission of providing home buyers with safe, affordable financing in all markets," said Thomas.

"The National Association of Realtors, 'The Voice for Real Estate,' is America's largest trade association, representing one million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.

Phone plan raises legal issues

By Robert Meisner  
Guest Columnist

Q: Our association was contacted by a major phone provider to jointly market its services at the condominium. In exchange for a per unit fee, the association is to provide the company with the names and addresses of the residents and allow the company to market to those residents on the premises. The association, in accordance with the



Robert Meisner

agreement, may not enter into another agreement with another company for marketing purposes, but all other companies would have

access to the property to install similar services. What do you think?

A: It raises a number of issues for the association, including privacy issues, the authority of the Association to bind itself to such an agreement, the propriety of same and a number of other concerns which your association attorney should review before passing on the reasonableness of such an agreement.

Q: Our condominium association lawyer has not provided us with a written fee agreement. He was recommended by the management company, and we think he should have done something in terms of checking out our claims against the builder. Where do we stand in pursuing him for that?

A: Every attorney based upon the recommendations of the Michigan State Bar, should have a written fee agreement with his or her client. Not having a written fee agreement leaves it ambiguous as to what the scope of representation by the attorney is. In this case, the attorney may well be claiming that he represents your association, but when it comes to handling something that he should have done as counsel for your association, he seems to be skirting the issue. Get a new attorney who is willing to give you a fee agreement that outlines the scope of his or her representation of the association and chastise the management company for making that type of recommendation.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Stalled & Staying on the Right Track," second edition, available for \$35 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote "Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium." For more information, call (248) 644-1141 or visit rbmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be considered as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Jan. 7-11, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.	<b>CANTON</b> 49465 Garfield Ln \$375,000 170 Queens Way \$150,000 44425 Westminister Way \$180,000 <b>GARDEN CITY</b> 30047 Dawson St \$35,000 <b>LIVONIA</b> 11779 Hunters Park Ct \$278,000 3036 Virginia Dr \$130,000 10270 Wayne Rd \$61,000	<b>NORTHVILLE</b> 18243 Anselot Dr \$437,000 17152 Cameron Dr \$241,000 16200 Parkway Way \$180,000 17785 Parkshore Dr \$913,000 <b>PLYMOUTH</b> 49714 Draper Cir \$135,000 1329 Elm St \$360,000 1210 Sheridan St \$930,000 9376 Timberline Ct \$350,000	<b>REDFORD</b> 12701 Beech Daly Rd \$405,000 14277 Breakfast Dr \$128,000 9999 Crosley \$27,000 9157 Mercedes \$16,000 <b>WESTLAND</b> 6642 Bron St \$90,000 7545 Lathers Ct \$50,000 29108 Manchester St \$26,000 8304 Mriburn St \$54,000
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HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 18-21, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.	<b>350 Keswick Rd \$725,000</b> 330 Millington Blvd \$178,000 4725 Pickering Rd \$187,000 <b>BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP</b> 632 Ardmore Dr \$780,000 1561 Bataan Dr \$108,000 3677 Brookside Dr \$635,000 924 Dursley Rd \$120,000 433 Fox Hills Dr \$ # 1 \$67,000 1536 Kirkway Rd \$690,000 3526 Ridgeway Ct \$525,000 2011 Cobblestone Ct \$298,000 16176 Marguerite St \$448,000 16239 Marguerite St \$175,000 16208 W 13 Mile Rd \$76,000 <b>BIRMINGHAM</b> 280 Arlington St \$975,000 2414 Dorchester Rd \$175,000 1728 E Melton Rd \$181,000 704 Graefield Ct \$95,000 540 Landon St \$400,000 2125 Pembroke Rd \$181,000 1150 Puritan Ave \$599,000 <b>BLOOMFIELD HILLS</b> 4741 Hedgewood Dr \$390,000	<b>23064 Canfield Ave \$70,000</b> 21938 Flanders St \$52,000 37421 Gilengrove Dr \$240,000 35570 River Pines Ct \$152,000 22080 River Pines Ct \$180,000 28420 W 8 Mile Rd # 41 \$27,000 <b>LATHRUP VILLAGE</b> 28524 Eldorado Pl \$121,000 <b>MILFORD</b> 751 Promontory Dr \$150,000 <b>NORTHVILLE</b> 22338 Innsbrook Dr \$209,000 21600 Parkview Way \$268,000 22215 Waterland Dr \$353,000 <b>NOVI</b> 45824 Ashford Cir \$410,000 45243 Bartlett Dr \$110,000 24447 Bashian Dr \$50,000 23075 Beck Rd \$165,000 44563 Gwinnett Loop \$158,000 27594 Hopkins Dr \$160,000 27896 Hopkins Dr \$158,000 27924 Hopkins Dr \$158,000 27928 Hopkins Dr \$165,000 28260 Wolcott Dr \$84,000	<b>SOUTH LYON</b> 24455 Brompton Way \$362,000 24811 Brompton Way Ct \$338,000 23688 Copperwood Dr E \$310,000 23804 Copperwood Dr W \$59,000 28440 N Dixboro Rd \$373,000 58209 Peters Barn Dr \$81,000 24809 Purfin Ct \$85,000 61110 Sandcreek Dr \$345,000 <b>SOUTHFIELD</b> 17590 Cornell Rd \$45,000 27336 Fairfax St \$80,000 19600 George Washington Dr \$96,000 18196 Goldwin St \$110,000 20280 Harbor Ct \$85,000 22515 Lathroe Ln \$75,000 17315 Lincoln Dr \$145,000 15801 Providence Dr # 01c \$37,000 28705 Stuart Ave \$52,000 29123 Wellington Rd E # 2c \$53,000 <b>WHITE LAKE</b> 9460 Marina Dr \$40,000 8267 Wildwood Ln \$221,000
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Condo operation

The Meisner Law Group, P.C., announced attorney Robert M. Meisner will be conducting a four-week course. The day events 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 a condominium, subdivision, cooperative, or community association. Explore the many issues involved in the successful operation of an association. Cost is \$95 (\$88 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: rbmeisner@meisner-law.com, or visit the seminar page on the website: Meisner-law.com.

Short sales

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

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every

other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@addval-ureally.com or visit FreeForeclosureTours.com.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Investors

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

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