

NOVI NEWS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2013 • hometownlife.com

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HIGHER EDUCATION

A GUIDE TO
HIGHER
EDUCATION

SPECIAL
SECTION

Super coffee

Please join Dr. Steve Matthews, Novi Community Schools superintendent, for coffee and a discussion of activities, events and topics related to Novi Schools at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 16, in the East Meeting Room (105B) at Novi Public Library and at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, in the library's board room (202).



FILE PHOTO

Novi Band bottle drive

The Novi High School Band and Band Boosters will be collecting empties from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday for the Fall Bottle Drive, going door to door throughout Novi to collect empties.

If you wish to contribute, but are unavailable Saturday, just bag your empties and place them on your front porch or curbside. Attach this notice to your empties.



Generations of the Dinsers exit one of their Novi nurseries Sept. 4. The longtime purveyor of plants and flowers will close today. Michael (from left), Tom, William, Gary and Rob Dinsler all have worked thousands of hours over the years at the nursery and tended its plants year-round. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dinsler's closing shop today after 43 years

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Dinsler's Flowers and Greenhouse is closing up shop this month after more than 40 years of serving Novi and the surrounding communities.

The family-owned business was the go-to spot for flowers a long time, but with an abundance of options in the area, business has dwindled. The owners have sold their property, which will have homes built on it in the coming years.

What started out as a hobby for their great-grandfather in Detroit turned into a retail and wholesale business that had successive generations of family members working at growing some of the best flowers around.

Located on 10 Mile Road, the business has been run by the five Dinsler brothers for years now and will officially close its doors today. They leave behind a tradition of growers that has spanned nearly 100 years. "Our family was great growers and had the finest quality of



Dinsler's Flowers and Greenhouse, located at 10 Mile and Wixom roads in Novi, will be closing today. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

plants," Michael Dinsler said, looking back on four generations of family members who worked the greenhouses day and night.

Looking for a good spot to expand, Dinsler's opened in Novi in 1970 and intended on being a wholesale business. However, it quickly turned into

a popular retail location as customers came looking for flowers for a special occasion. It's these committed customers the Dinsers want to thank most. "I thank them from the bottom of our hearts for all of their support — they are a big reason

See DINSER'S, Page A2

Chase bank in Novi robbed

Police looking for suspect captured on security video

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Novi Police are on the lookout for a man who robbed the Chase bank Sept. 5 of an undetermined amount of cash.

According to the Novi Police, at approximately 3 p.m., the Police Department received a 9-1-1 call from the Chase bank located near the northwest corner of Eight Mile and Haggerty roads. The caller was an employee who stated the bank had just been robbed.

Police said the preliminary investigation reveals a male suspect entered the bank, walked up to a teller and produced a note demanding money while implying he had a weapon. After the suspect was handed an undetermined amount of cash, he fled the bank through the front door.

The suspect is described as a white male, between 50 and 60 years of age, between 6 feet and 6 feet, 6 inches tall, with a thin build. He was wearing a black T-shirt and camouflage pants and was also wearing a tan or white baseball cap with an unknown dark colored design.

The photographs were captured by bank security cameras.

Police are asking anyone with information to contact Novi Detective Kristie Gruenwald at 248-348-7100 or remain anonymous by calling Crime Stoppers at 1-800-SPEAKUP.

lhuhman@hometownlife.com
248-437-2011, ext. 255, Twitter: @lhuhman



Novi police are looking for this man caught on a security camera in connection with the bank robbery.

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Happy fifth: Providence Park Hospital celebrates anniversary, birthday

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Providence Park celebrated its fifth anniversary last week, including a celebration for the first family to give birth at the Novi hospital.

Detroit residents Rich and Karla Walker clearly remember that momentous day in their lives like it was yesterday. They had raced to the hospital on Beck Road and Grand River Avenue to give birth to their daughter, Wisdom Love Walker. At the time, both recall a different hospital than what it is today.

"The parking lot was empty. There was no one here really and hospital staff was still getting equipment out of their boxes," Rich Walker said of that September day five years ago. "It's wonderful to see how things have progressed here."

Karla Walker remembers giving birth to a beautiful baby girl and she also remembers how accommodating hospital staff members were.

"They were very attentive. I was impressed," she said. She was surprised to find out they were the first family to have baby at the hospital. She said it was a little shocking to know this, but also exciting to be the first in such a great hospital.

Providence Park marked the day last week with a party and birthday cake for the Walker family.

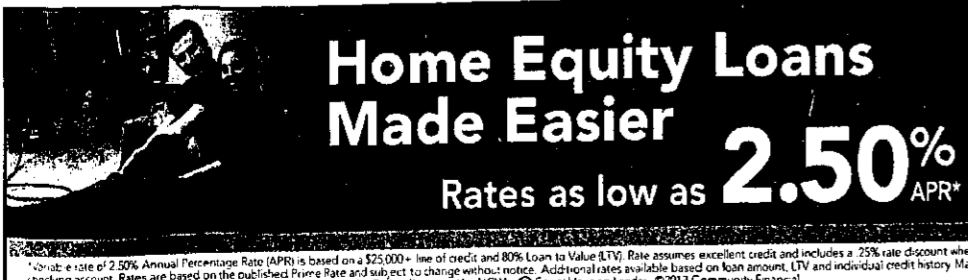
Future growth

This anniversary comes at a time when Providence Park is looking to expand even further to take on the ever increasing needs

See CELEBRATE, Page A3



Nov Providence Park Hospital President Peter Karadjoff greets one of the hospital's biggest benefactors and initiators, Sister Xavier Ballance. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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Levin, Bentivolio differ on taking military action against Syria

By Jay Grossman Staff Writer

Prior to President Obama's announcement that he will seek approval from Congress to strike Syria, Rep. Kerry Bentivolio said he was opposed to getting the military involved - even if it meant saying no to the president.



Levin



Bentivolio

In an interview Sept. 5 with the *Birmingham Eccentric*, Bentivolio, R-11th District, was asked about Syria and how the U.S. should respond to allegations of a chemical strike outside Damascus.

At the time, Bentivolio said he was getting conflicting reports about who actually used the chemical weapons.

"I don't see how getting stuck in a civil war thousands of miles away helps keep us safe," the congressman said. "The situation isn't black and white - it's very complex.

"We just spent over 10 years fighting al-Qaeda. If we get rid of (Bashar) Assad, it would create a power vacuum for al-Qaeda to take over. Al-Qaeda is in opposition to Assad in Syria and it doesn't make sense for us to get involved."

Rep. Sander Levin, D-9th District, on the other hand, issued a statement last weekend indicating he supports the president's decision.

"I support the president's decision to seek authorization from Congress," Levin said. "Based on the evidence provided to date, I think

that there must be a response to the actions by the Syrian government. In order to obtain all of the latest information, I am returning to Washington tomorrow for a classified briefing."

Secretary of State John Kerry said the U.S. has solid evidence the Syrian government ordered the chemical strike.

Bentivolio also said he had signed a letter, along with 115 other members of Congress, indicating they believed the president needed authorization from Congress before carrying out strikes against Syria.

He even suggested the U.S. might offer humanitarian aid to civilians in Syria who are trapped in the middle of the conflict.

"I'm looking at ways now where we can offer them some kind of help or get them out of there - get them out of harm's way," he said. "But what's the answer? I'm still thinking about that, contemplating that, talking to people about that.

What can we do to get innocent women and children out of there who are just going to be victims - without escalating the fight that's already going on?"

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William Dinsers waters some of the few remaining plants the Novi nursery is still trying to sell before closing. Dinsers, who grew up at the business at the corner of 10 Mile and Wixom roads, recalled hunting pheasant and rabbit right outside the nursery for years, while Novi was still a sleepy farming community in the mid-'70s. JOHN HEDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DINSER'S

Continued from Page A1

Two employees, Cathy Buzzy and Norma Lafever, had nearly 30 years of experience. The Dinsers say their employees were the best and could always be counted on.

Over the last year, the owners have been settling into shutting down operations. Land clearing work has started around the neighborhood and other spots along Dinsers Drive have been marked for future work. For Gary Dinsers, it has been a sad and hard process. All of the brothers aren't sure what's next, but they are sure they worked hard and leave behind a legacy as a small, family-owned business.

"There's always going to be a need for flowers; it will always be part of people's lives. And we won't forget the impact it has had on our lives," Tom Dinsers said.

Another big reason for the consistent quality was the staff of professional floral designers and gardeners.

Advertisement for Dinsers', located at 10 Mile and Wixom roads.

Advertisement for Dinsers', located at 10 Mile and Wixom roads.

Advertisement for Dinsers', located at 10 Mile and Wixom roads.

CELEBRATE

Continued from Page A1



Novi's Providence Park Hospital recently celebrated its fifth anniversary. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

and we couldn't be more appreciative of that. We couldn't have asked for a better five years."

He said it is planning a \$17 million build-out of the fifth patient floor to accommodate the increased need. The project will add 32 beds in the first phase, with another 32 later. The work will begin this year and is scheduled to be completed in 2015.

The future may hold even more expansion on the 200-acre campus. Senior housing, retail outlets and growing its overall footprint could be in the works five to 10 years down the line.

For Peter Karadjoff, president of Providence Park, the fifth anniversary marks an exciting time of further growth.

"It's thrilling to be here," he said. "The community has been a great supporter of this hospital

it is filling for the surrounding communities. In the past five years, it has had more than 60,000 admissions to the hospital, more than 200,000 emergency room visits and nearly 53,000 surgeries.

It opened with 100 beds, but is now operating with 200 beds and is near capacity.

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"It's thrilling to be here," he said. "The community has been a great supporter of this hospital

meet the needs of citizens and help them to achieve their personal fitness goals.

Fitness classes with sessions beginning in September and early October include Zumba, Taiji Quan, Basic, Lunch-Time, Hatha and Yin Yoga, Total Body Barre, Definity Total Workout, Bollyfit, Arms, Abs & Legs, Capoeira, Tai Chi, Parent and Baby Yoga, Morning Tone & Stretch, Martial Arts for Everyone and more. Classes are offered morning, noon and night.

Registration is going on now via cityofnovi.org or at the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services office located inside the Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile Road.

For more information regarding fitness classes, including programs for young children, visit cityofnovi.org or call 248-347-0400.

Boomers and Beyond invited to explore sports

City of Novi Older Adult Services is excited to offer sports opportunities for those 50 years or older. New pickleball and bocce ball leagues will



Wisdom Love Walker, 5 (center), was feted Sept. 5 at Providence Park Hospital as the hospital celebrated its fifth anniversary. Walker was its first baby born in the facility at Beck and Grand River.

begin at 9 a.m. Monday, Sept. 16, at The Play Ground, a new facility located in South Lyon (south of Nine Mile in the Brookdale Square Shopping Center, 22185 Pontiac Trail). Both sports are easy to learn, easy to play and offer exercise, competition, strategic challenges and camaraderie! Each league includes an instruction clinic, six matches and a season-ending tournament around Dec. 16.

The league fee is \$32 for Novi residents and \$38 for non-residents. The deadline for registration is Friday, Sept. 13. For more information, visit cityofnovi.org or call the Novi Older Adult Services Office at 248-347-0414.

UPDATES FROM CITY OF NOVI

Popular family golf scramble back for second year

The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department is seeking artists for Novi Civic Center Atrium Gallery shows in 2014.

Registration is \$35 per team and is going on now at cityofnovi.org. The deadline to register is Friday, Sept. 13. For questions, contact Greg Morris, recreation supervisor, at 248-735-5646 or gmmorris@cityofnovi.org.

The Great Lakes Pastel Society seeks to promote and increase the public awareness of the creative past paintings as a fine art medium.

The juried exhibit will feature 50 works chosen from 173 entries. Most members of the society are Michigan residents; however, artists from California, Montana and New York are also members.

The Novi Civic Center Atrium Gallery showcases works from local artists. The final exhibit of 2013 will be Arts@Novi in November.

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EDUCATION

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Judging fraught with many difficulties; opinions may vary

My father grew up in a small town in Oklahoma. In high school, he belonged to the FFA - Future Farmers of America. One of his projects was raising a calf. At the end of the year, he took the calf to the county fair, where it was judged and sold.

His calf did very well at the county fair. However, his friend's calf did not do as well. His friend was upset. Judging anything creates controversy.

Which team is better? Which pie is better? Which clothes look best on me? Which calf is better?

For most things in life, where judgments have to be made, there is seldom an exact formula. People will see things differently. A piece of evidence that I consider important, another person might view less critically.

One might not think that judging schools would be that complicated. Look at test scores, graduation rates and daily attendance. Yet, because we like to make life as complicated as we can, there are a number of variables that experts can argue over that could impact the perception one generates of a school.

In our district, we are committed to certain things. There are four things that take priority - we call these our four district goals.

1. Our district will ensure that each student will make no less than one year's growth in one year's time.

2. Our district will ensure that all students achieve at a high level.

3. Our district will continually evaluate and enhance opportunities for students while maintaining a 10-percent fund balance.



Steve Matthews
SUPER
TALK

4. Our district will improve organizational quality and customer service. I judge the success of our district on our progress toward these four goals. We use a variety of metrics to determine our success - the NWEA, MEAP, MME, Fountas and Pinnell, district surveys and other assessments help give us a perspective on our progress in achieving our goals.

Last year in our district, using the NWEA, 86 percent of our students in grades 2 through 8 achieved a high level in math and 91 percent of our students achieved at a high level in reading. In grades kindergarten through 10, using the NWEA, growth projections were consistently met.

From my perspective, we are making progress. We still have work to do and we can get better. Another perspective on school quality is given to us by the state of Michigan. In August, the state released the new Michigan School Accountability Scorecard. Using a color-coded system, the new state scorecard reflects the progress of each school and district on goals established by the state.

The range of colors, from green (highest) to lime green, yellow, orange and red (lowest) does not indicate achievement. The colors indicate progress on achieving the building and district goals as assigned by the state.

In presenting this scorecard, the state would have you believe that each school rated in a similar color category has similar student achievement. That is simply not the case. For example, here are two schools both rated yellow by the state. The Novi School clearly has higher achievement than the school from another district, substantially higher in some cases, yet both schools are rated yellow.

Math achievement (percent proficient)

Non-Novi	All students	Novi
70.12%	92.34%	
	Bottom 30 percent	
17.60%		74.36%
86.36%	Asian	95.41%
44.44%	African American	66.67%
43.75%	Hispanic	100.00%
73.35%	White	90.78%
59.22%	Economically disadvantaged	83.33%
25.00%	English Language Learners	81.25%
	Students with Disabilities	54.17%

The state rating system suggests that both of these schools have similar student achievement. That is not the case. The Novi school is rated yellow because it has different and more challenging goals to work on based on past performance.

All of Novi's schools are rated yellow or orange, even though on the most recent MEAP and MME exams, student achievement was high and overall our students ranked among the highest performers in the county and in the state. Our data does indicate that while our subgroups also continue to achieve well above state averages, we still have work to do.

Dr. Steve Matthews is superintendent of Novi Community Schools. He can be reached at 248-449-1204 or smathev@novi.k12.mi.us.

We continue to identify how we can provide support where appropriate and enrichment where needed to ensure that every student will make no less than one year's growth in one year's time and to ensure that every student is making progress toward achieving at a high level.

As a parent, I would want to know that the schools I send my child to are strong and vibrant. I would want the best for my child.

Let me assure you that the schools in the Novi Community School District are among the strongest in the state of Michigan. On every measure - MEAP and MME results, daily attendance, graduation rate, subgroup performance and success after high school - our students achieve at among the highest levels in the state. The goals that we have for set for ourselves challenge us. Our focus is on meeting the needs of every single child, ensuring the each child makes growth and helping each child achieve at a high level.

I appreciate different perspectives and value the opportunity to discuss what makes a school great. Judging is, as my father learned, fraught with difficulties and opinions may vary. What I know is that our commitment in Novi is to make sure that every student is successful. Because we are committed to achieving that goal, we will make sure that every child in Novi gets the attention and challenge they need to succeed.

Eight restaurants, an entertainment vendor and three corporate sponsors will take headline roles this year. The event will feature tastes from b'ds Mongolian Grill of Novi, Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar of Novi, Cold Stone Creamery of Novi, Subway of Novi (West Oaks), Pizza Marvelous of Novi, Biggy Coffee of Novi, Olga's Kitchen (Grand River), Applebee's of Novi and Qdoba.



Therapy dog

Dylan Gipson, his fellow students and the staff were excited to meet a very special new student at Orchard Hills Elementary last week. He is a Portuguese water dog named Perry. He is a therapy dog that helps cheer up children who are sad and can be a friend to a child who is lonely. He can also listen to students while they practice their reading and be a reward for good behavior. JACQUELINE UKROP

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Tastefest tomorrow

Novi restaurants, entertainment vendors and corporate sponsors will show their Novi Wildcats spirit Friday as they take on key roles in Novi Athletic Boosters club's premier fundraising and community outreach event, Tastefest. Organizers of the seventh annual event are hoping for a wonderful late summer evening, so restaurants are planning dinner for more than 3,000 people.

Gates at Wildcat Stadium open at 5 p.m. for restaurant service and the Tastefest Silent Auction in the field house, followed by the Novi High School Wildcats varsity football game against the Salem Rocks at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5.

Eight restaurants, an entertainment vendor and three corporate sponsors will take headline roles this year. The event will feature tastes from b'ds Mongolian Grill of Novi, Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar of Novi, Cold Stone Creamery of Novi, Subway of Novi (West Oaks), Pizza Marvelous of Novi, Biggy Coffee of Novi, Olga's Kitchen (Grand River), Applebee's of Novi and Qdoba.

In addition to enjoying dinner and dessert, Tastefest patrons will have the opportunity to bid on more than 200 items of-

See BRIEFS, Page A9

Novi grad takes top spot in French Horn competition

Dallas Symphony Orchestra hornist Haley Hoops, a Novi High School graduate, won first place in the 2013 International Horn Competition of America's professional division.



Haley Hoops graduated from Novi High School in 1990. She recently won first place in the 2013 International Horn Competition of America's professional division.

Hoops competed in the competition against the world's leading French horn players at the University of Louisville School of Music and was announced the winner Sept. 1. She won in the final round after playing a grueling piece known to hornists for its laboriousness: *The Othmar Schaeck Concerto for Horn and String Orchestra*.

Hoops graduated from Novi in 1990. She said the years she spent playing in Novi's marching band were a terrific launching pad for the success she's had in her music career.

"I learned that I liked to be in the spotlight playing solos in the marching band," she said.

Hoops received a bachelor's degree in musical arts from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in music from Northwestern University.

Dr. Bruce Heim, horn professor and festival host, said the event attracted 70 players from 11 countries around the world. They were judged by some of the nation's eminent hornists, including top-level symphony orchestra musicians and professors from leading schools of music.

The festival has been called the "Olympics of horn playing." Heim said, stressing that the French horn is a notoriously difficult instrument to master, one that's been described as "demanding," "unforgiving" and "rebellious."

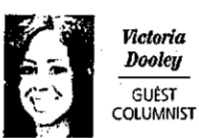
"Great hornists make it sound easy, of course," he said. "Haley is indeed among the best."



New path

Wixom Elementary, a Walled Lake Consolidated school, held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Sept. 6 to announce the latest edition to its school. A brand new walking path was purchased by the Wixom Elementary PTA and is now open evenings and weekends to the community. The paved path is one-fifth mile and is intended for walking and jogging. On hand to cut the ribbon were (from left) Jennifer Ludwig, PTA president; Kenneth Gutman, superintendent of Walled Lake Schools; Angelina Lamsal, Devin Hill, Lee Bellino, physical education teacher; Mikalah Gestler; Maryann Spraggins; Cameron Boony; Emanuel Zefi; Austin Murray, Walled Lake Western cross country runner; and Alec Bender, principal at Wixom Elementary. CURTIS DRUGMILLER

Back-to-school asthma watch



Victoria Dooley
GUEST COLUMNIST

According to the CDC, more than 7 million children in the U.S. currently have asthma, a chronic respiratory illness which is the No. 1 illness that causes children to miss days of school. Experts warn that children with asthma are nearly twice as likely to visit emergency rooms for asthma attacks when school starts than during any other time of the year.

Allergies (which may peak in September), exposure to viruses such as the common cold from classrooms, chalk dust, exercise and even back-to-school related stress can trigger asthma to flare. Additionally, children often stop using their asthma controller medications over the summer, when their symptoms are better. By identifying your child's asthma triggers, you can work with your doctor to create an Asthma Action

Plan to help keep them free of symptoms this fall.

An Asthma Action Plan is a written plan that you develop with your child's doctor to help control your child's asthma. It can help you learn how to identify when your child's asthma is getting worse, so that you can treat it before they require hospitalization. It will also help you to identify what symptoms would require emergency care.

You can help ensure proper treatment of your child's asthma by providing your child's teacher, coaches and school nurse with copies of their Asthma Action Plan and instructions on when and how your child should use their asthma medications. Additionally, all children with asthma should have an annual flu shot, as the flu virus can trigger life-threatening asthma attacks.

It is now more important than any other time during the year to make sure your child's asthma is well-controlled. If you have a child with asthma, you should make an appointment with their doctor to be evaluated right away, even if they are not currently having symptoms.

Dr. Victoria M. Dooley is a physician with Northville-Novi Family Medicine and is affiliated with St. John Providence Health System. She can be reached at vdooley@drdooleymd.com.

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Schoolcraft, OCC get culinary accreditation

Area schools prep for offering four-year degree programs

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Schoolcraft College President Conway Jeffress knows how important accreditation is to his school's culinary arts program.

"It's so important that before the school thinks about cooking up a four-year degree program, it first wanted the accreditation of the American Culinary Federation, he said. It achieved that goal earlier this summer, earning an 'exemplary' mark.

"It says you know what you're doing and you're doing it well," he said. "I wouldn't be going after the baccalaureate without having first gone after the ACF accreditation."

Schoolcraft College and Oakland Community College recently received word their programs would be accredited for the next seven years, the maximum amount allowed. Both schools received the highest rating possible, which could open the door for the two-year colleges to begin offering four-year degrees.

Currently, 10 other institutions in Michigan are accredited with the ACF, according to its website, including Macomb Community College, Henry Ford Community College and Washtenaw Community College.

The state approved a bill in the last year that would allow two-year colleges to offer four-year degrees at their campuses for specific areas of study, including concrete technology and culinary arts. Schools looking to start four-year programs need to have several approvals before they

begin that process. Jeffress said he hopes Schoolcraft will begin offering those four-year degrees sometime in 2015, pending approval.

"We're probably going to be done with our curriculum changes by December, we're going to the HLC (Higher Learning Commission) probably around June of next year," he said. "So the first baccalaureate students will be here probably in June of '15."

Chef Kevin Enright, chairman of the culinary department at OCC, said the college has looked into offering a four-year degree in the culinary field at its Farmington Hills Orchard Ridge campus, but has nothing set in stone.

He said the college's size will hopefully help if the school decides to try to offer the program for four years. "We've been encouraged by our administration and we're kind of a bigger ship than some other colleges," he said. "We are definitely looking at it."

Rigorous program

Chef Shawn Loving, head of the culinary arts department at Schoolcraft, said if the college were to have a four-year degree, the level at which he works with students would not change.

"I think right now our students are excited because they want to stay around more anyway," he said. "So when even the words came out that we were attempting to go down this road, the excitement became greater just because our students, in a good way, don't want to leave us."

"It's just a great way to continue them on a path." Currently, an associate's degree from Schoolcraft and



Culinary student Pajama Praphantasak of Ypsilanti prepares pella fours, made with almond pound cake and raspberry jam. ALL PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

OCC in the culinary arts requires students to complete 73 credits in areas such as baking, culinary nutrition and dining room service.

Enright said, if offered, a four-year culinary degree could help teach students more of the necessities for the job outside of the kitchen, including running a restaurant from the business angle or other professions that use a culinary background.

"It would be a higher level of management. It would enhance your skills," he said. "There's more than just restaurants."

Alumni praise their schools

And the support for the schools doesn't just come

from the instructors and administration. Students who have graduated and taken jobs in the "real world" attest to the level of education they've received in southeast Michigan.

Diana Woodward, who teaches culinary arts for Plymouth-Canton Schools, said offering a four-year degree at Schoolcraft, her alma mater, would help keep many students more local.

"A four-year culinary degree is not easy to find. Many students seeking further education leave the state or opt for a hotel and restaurant management degree at a university," she said. "The four-year program is the icing on the cake."

Currently, Madonna Univer-

sity in Livonia offers a transfer program with Dearborn-based Henry Ford Community College. Students enroll for three years at HFCC and then transfer to Madonna for their last year to complete a degree in hospitality management.

Chef Drew Sayes, a 2003 OCC graduate and Ferndale native, has worked across the country before returning home to metro Detroit as the executive chef at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham. He said his instructors were clear with him on how the outside world works when it comes to the culinary arts, starting off with low pay and long hours.

"Once I got into the program, they did a great job preparing me for the real world," he said. "I really appreciate the fact that they didn't candy-coat it."

Enright said the Detroit area has always had a strong presence in the culinary field; continued accreditation at area schools shows that southeast Michigan schools take their programs very seriously.

"The area's always been really strong in culinary. We've been here forever; Schoolcraft has been around forever," he said. "We're both very well known in the ACF for quality education."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com
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Jaene Conley of Detroit uses a channel knife to make lemon slices more attractive. In the background, Mary Lalicki of Troy cubes a block of cheese.

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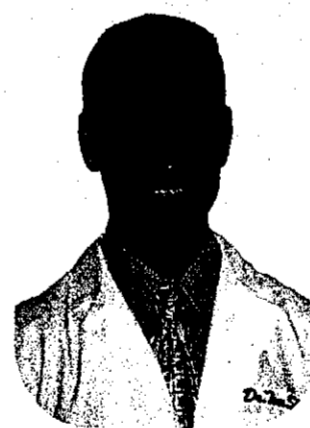


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Card signup month, autism program at Novi library

Along with it being library card signup month, the staff at Novi Public Library has been busy creating a new mobile app, enjoying the library's new hours - from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and from noon to 6 p.m. Sunday - and working on ways to make the smartest card in your wallet, now required for service, easier to use.

The purpose of the recent requirement of library cards is to provide an easy checkout process for patrons. By presenting your card, this prevents the possibility of checking out items to the wrong patron and lessens time spent waiting in line.

To make this process even simpler, you can

now use your smart phone to download an app (cardmobili, mobile-pocket, keyring and cardster) and scan it at any checkout station or take a photo of the back of your library card or key fob.

Technology at Novi Library is constantly being updated and changing to make each visiting patron's experience easier and faster. The library's collections, programs and services are available to anyone with a library card and are now accessible through their new mobile app. The app allows you to search the catalog, place holds and view upcoming events all at your fingertips.

Autism program
The library invites you to experience what

has changed the lives of so many parents and children.

Dr. Rick Solomon will discuss the Play and Language for Autistic Youngsters (P.L.A.Y. Project) - an evidence-based developmental intervention for families of young children with autism spectrum disorders - at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17.

Solomon will present an overview of the P.L.A.Y. Project, including video examples, along with spending time answering questions.

To register for this program, visit novilibrary.org. For more information on the P.L.A.Y. Project, visit playproject.org. For more information on Novi Public Library visit novilibrary.org or stop in at 45255 W. 10 Mile Road.

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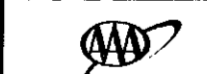
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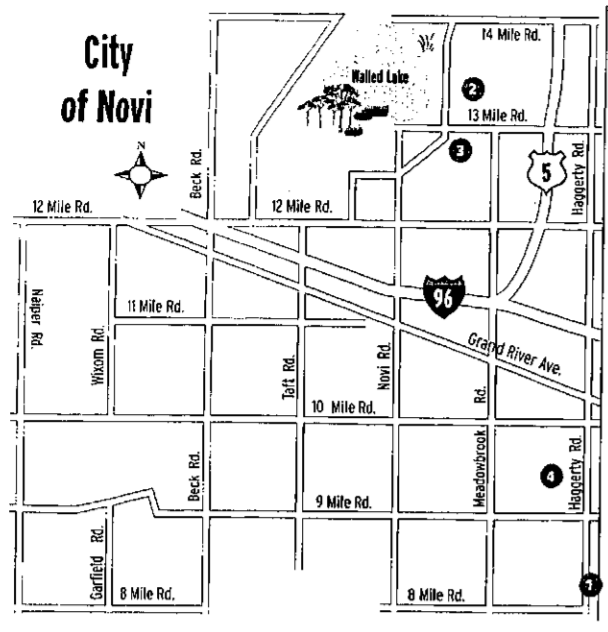
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NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Robbery at Speedway

1 A Novi man had his cell phone stolen Aug. 19 while he went inside the Speedway gas station on Haggerty Road. The man told Novi Police that he was at the station pumping gas and then went inside to get a drink. When he came back out, he discovered his phone was missing. His vehicle was unlocked at the time.

Bike stolen

2 A bike parked at a home on Larmier Drive was stolen by an un-

known suspect Aug. 16. A Novi man told police his silver and black mountain bike was missing. It was parked under a bedroom window, but was not chained up. He said the window was open, but nothing was heard.

Car window smashed

3 A vehicle parked at Holmes Road and Whittier Trail had its window smashed. The vehicle owner had parked there and went out of town on vacation and when she got back, found it damaged. She had planned on

donating it to charity. It was not working at the time and nothing of value was inside.

Stereo stolen

4 An MP3 player and phone charger were stolen from a vehicle parked on Clearwater Court. The vehicle owner told Novi Police that the thefts happened sometime Aug. 12 or 13. It was parked outside his residence and the owner found the door damaged the next morning. Police said the door lock was punched in.

Join law enforcement members in Friday's Community Run

Join Oakland County-area law enforcement officers Friday, Sept. 13, to raise money for Special Olympics Michigan athletes at a Community Run. There is an East Leg and West Leg to the Oakland County Community Run. The West Leg starts at 9:30 a.m. at the South Lyon Police Department and will include 10 departments, including

Novi's and Wixom's. Both legs will meet at the intersection of 12 Mile and Evergreen and will continue together alongside the Southfield Police Department runners. The Community Run will finish at 2 p.m. at the Southfield Police Department Civic Center.

Community members are invited and encour-

aged to form teams and participate in these relay runs. The Oakland County Community Run is an opportunity for law enforcement members and community members to run shoulder to shoulder, raising money and awareness for Special Olympics Michigan athletes. It is one in a series

of similar events. See RUN, Page A9

PUBLIC SAFETY BRIEFS

Napier Road resurfacing begins

The Road Commission for Oakland County began work Sept. 9 on the resurfacing of Napier Road from 10 Mile Road to just north of 11 Mile Road on the Novi/Lyon Township border.

The road will remain open to through traffic during the project, but is reduced to one lane, with traffic controlled by flaggers. Work is expected to be completed in mid-October.

The project involves drainage improvements, pulverizing of the existing paved surface and the application of four inches of new asphalt. The work is being performed by Cadillac Asphalt of Clarkston.

Eight Mile project rescheduled

The Road Commission for Oakland County has changed the order of the segments of its Eight Mile resurfacing project between Napier and Taft roads on the Novi/Northville Township border and in the city of Northville. The section between Napier and Beck will be completed in November. The section between Beck and Taft will be

completed in 2014. Originally, RCOC expected to complete this year the section between Garfield and Beck, with the section between Napier and Garfield to be completed next year. The scheduling was changed to avoid closing the road just before the start of school due to some unforeseen engineering concerns.

The project involves resurfacing this section of Eight Mile with three inches of asphalt. Additionally, the lanes will be widened to accommodate bicycles, there will be drainage improvements and sidewalks will be completed between Beck and Taft roads.

As part of the project, the traffic signals at the Eight Mile/Beck Road and Eight Mile/Taft Road intersections will be updated. The pedestrian crosswalks along this section of Eight Mile Road will be upgraded to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

This section of Eight Mile Road between Napier and Beck will remain open to traffic at all times during the project this year, but it may be reduced to one lane at times, with traf-

fic directed by flaggers. The project is expected to be cost approximately \$4.7 million. Of that amount, \$2.8 million is federally funded. The remaining \$1.9 million will be shared by RCOC, Northville Township, the city of Northville, the city of Novi and Oakland County general government (through the Tri-Party Program).

The work is being performed by Dan's Excavating of Shelby Township.

14 Mile closed starting Sept. 23

The Road Commission for Oakland County expects its contractor to begin work Sept. 17 on the reconstruction of 14 Mile Road between Haggerty and County

Way in West Bloomfield Township. The road will then be closed to through traffic beginning Sept. 23. It is expected to be largely completed and the road re-opened by Nov. 15.

Throughout the closure, access to Country Way Street will be from the east only. The detour route for 14 Mile through traffic will be Halsted Road to 13 Mile Road to Haggerty Road and back to 14 Mile Road and vice versa.

Commissioners look to implement gun proposals

By Joanne Maliszewski Staff Writer

Five hearings and an extensive report have led to the creation of a working group of Oakland County commissioners to provide recommendations on how to implement some of the recommendations in the "Gun Violence in Oakland County" report. "We're going to be

looking at recommendations for the county and for funding for some of the campaigns, such as gun locks and video games," said Republican Oakland County Commissioner Bill Dwyer, who represents a portion of Farmington Hills and Farmington.

Dwyer and Oakland County Commissioner Marcia Gershenson, a Democrat who also

The report outlines the need for improved education.

represents a portion of Farmington Hills, joined forces to produce — based on information gathered at a series of public hearings — the

See GUN, Page A9

Fire departments holding emergency preparedness exercise

Local first responders to gather Sunday in Novi for testing

Hundreds of firefighters from around Michigan will take part Sept. 15 in an emergency preparedness exercise on the heels of the 12th anniversary of 9/11.

The Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System exercise will test communications systems and coordination efforts of a statewide call out of fire departments. MABAS will begin the mutual aid exercise at 9 a.m.

Locally, fire resources from the two Oakland County MABAS Divisions, one MABAS Division from Wayne County and one Livingston County Division will begin arriving at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue, in Novi about 9:30 a.m. Sunday. They will stage until late morning, when the exer-

cise concludes.

"Preparedness saves lives," said MABAS President William Nelson, who also serves as the fire chief in Troy. "The statewide MABAS test is an opportunity to see what we do right and to learn what we can do better should we ever have to respond to an incident that requires mutual aid from around Michigan."

MABAS is a user-driven system designed to streamline requesting and providing emergency and fire services resources across Michigan and the Great Lakes Region for events such as major fires, train derailments, tornadoes, hazardous materials incidents, wild fires, domestic or foreign terrorism and other events that may overwhelm a local fire department.

Michigan joins several Midwest states that have implemented the MABAS program. Within Michigan, there are more than 200 member fire departments, an Urban Search and Rescue Task Force, Hazardous Material Response Teams and an Incident Management Team. Fourteen MABAS divisions will take part in the exercise. Fire departments in each division will respond to staging areas in their own regions. A total of about 300 firefighters will respond to the MABAS exercise that will include 14 engine strike teams, totaling 70 fire engines and 14 command vehicles. The exercise is funded by a grant from the Urban Areas Security Initiative.

Missing Livonia teen found in Novi after two days

By David Veselenak Staff Writer

Livonia police say they've located a missing teenager who vanished Aug. 31.

Derek Andree, a 15-year-old who lives in the 32200 block of Wisconsin on Livonia's south side, was reported missing late that day. Andree, who is a highly autistic teenager with a possible bipolar disorder, was last seen by neighbors that day sitting outside his



home on the curb. He is believed to have ridden his bicycle, a silver Schwinn mountain bike, away from his family's home. Police said he was found late Sept. 3 in Novi. Police say Andree was left home alone over the weekend, with his father calling routinely to check up on him. His father last

spoke to him about two hours before he was reported missing and the two got into an argument, leading to Andree hanging up on him. When the father arrived at the home, he discovered Andree was missing, along with about \$30 to \$50 in loose change from the home.

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BRIEFS

Continued from Page A4

ferred through the Tastiest Silent Auction in the field house.

W.L. Western senior named USA Twirling Ambassador

Nicole Harris, a senior at Walled Lake Western High School, was recently named as one of 12 USA Twirling Ambassadors. On Sept. 18, she will travel to Trujillo, Peru, where she will spend two

weeks twirling at the annual Spring Festival. The delegation will entertain crowds and perform for various charitable groups, including boys and girls orphanages.



Harris was chosen for this honor because she is the reigning Teenage Miss Majorette of Michigan. Harris is the second twirler from the Walled Lake Consolidated School District; Moriah Muscaro was selected in 2010.

RUN

Continued from Page A8

of nearly two dozen community runs scheduled in September around the state during Law Enforcement Torch Run Central Route week.

Cost to participate in the Community Run is \$25 per person. For more information, visit www.soml.org and click the Torch Run link.

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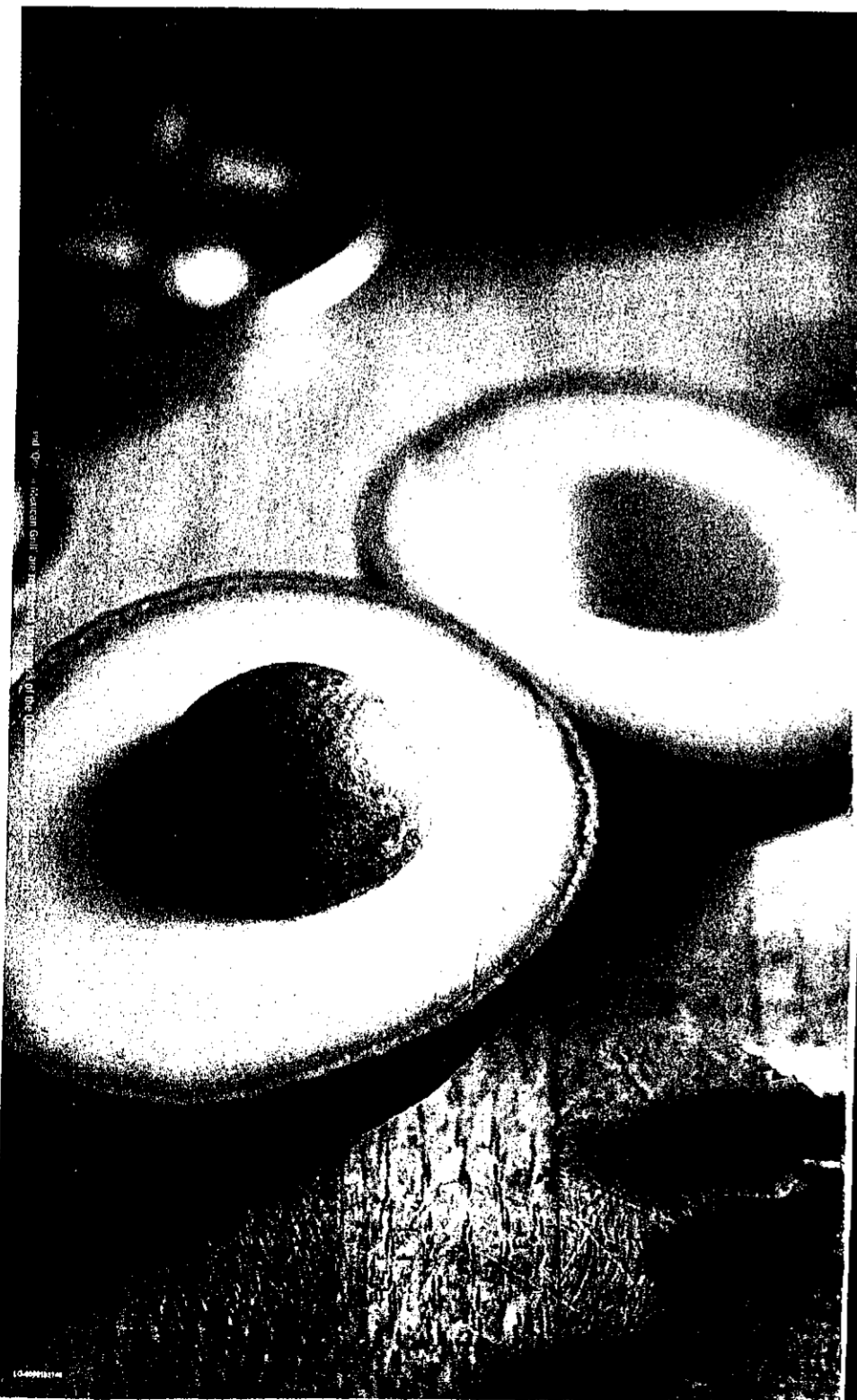
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CULINARY EXTRAVAGANZA

Vendors offer signature dishes at annual event

By Sharon Dargay Staff Writer

Whether you say "to-ma-to" or "tom-AH-to," chef Steve Allen of Steve & Rocky's Restaurant in Novi hopes you'll get a

chance to taste his fresh, heirloom varieties at this year's Culinary Extravaganza at Schoolcraft College. "I grow a huge garden. I grow a lot of heirloom tomatoes. So I've got to

imagine it's something that's going to be with heirloom tomatoes," said Allen, envisioning his menu for the event, an annual fundraiser for the college's culinary department and student schol-

arships. "Last year, it was a pretty big success. I brought 500 pounds of beautiful colored tomatoes. We had a tomato frenzy. People were lined up out the door for just

beautiful tomatoes (in different vinaigrettes, different salads, sauces. I'd ask them what they'd like. I'd season it up."

Steve & Rocky's will be among approximately 50 food and beverage vendors that will serve tastings of their signature dishes, delectable desserts, fresh fare, wine and more, 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 22 in the VisiTech Center on campus, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Tickets are \$50, \$20 of which is a charitable contribution. Order them at 734-462-4689 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation. For sponsor information, call 734-462-4518.

In addition to food and beverage sampling, Culinary Extravaganza will feature a silent auction and a raffle of cash and dinner gift certificates at the American Harvest Restaurant at Schoolcraft College. Certified master chef Jeff Gabriel, and wine expert Lee Hershey will share their expertise in a joint session on wholesome, healthful food and wine pairings. In the past they've presented separate programs. "We talked and said we should combine these," Gabriel said. "I have to give him a menu. I know I'm going to do a salmon dish and I'm probably going to do something vegetarian."

"I think people are more health-conscious in general. Every culinary school is now cooking lighter. We're trying to limit the amount of fat and salt and we're trying to incorporate more vegetables."

"We usually don't plan to turn the Lions game on the TV," Lynch said. "But people see the TV and ask if we can turn it on. Last year it was an exciting game that was tied until the end. "This year we're planning for it. This year we're making it festive in one area that will highlight the game."

Lynch said Culinary Extravaganza raises approximately \$60,000-\$65,000 every year. Some of the proceeds benefit the culinary arts program, funding its special projects, seminars by guest chefs and the culinary competition team. The rest of the money goes toward scholarships. "It's not limited to culinary studies. "It's a worthy cause," said Allen, a former Schoolcraft student. "Not everyone can meet the financial obligations to go to college."



Chef Jeffrey Gabriel checks chicken consommé prepared by student Dawn Shook at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. M.L. BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NOVI AREA RELIGION CALENDAR

- Brightmoor Christian Church: Location: M-5 and 13 Mile, Novi. Contact: 248-227-4420 or www.brightmoorchurch.org. Celebrate Recovery: Time/Dates: 7 p.m. Mondays. Details: Worship, teaching and testimony, and open-share recovery groups. Emmanuel Lutheran Church: Location: 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia. Web: www.emmanuel-livonia.org. Faith Community Presbyterian Church: Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile. Contact: 248-349-2345 or www.faithcommunity-novi.org. First Baptist Church of Northville: Location: 200 E. Main St. at Hutton. Contact: 248-349-0911.

AGAPE Novi emphasizes Christ, serving others

By Julie Brown Staff Writer

Pat Nielsen, a member of Holy Cross Episcopal Church in Novi, knows poverty is real in this city.

Nielsen, a Northville Township resident, has seen the needs of people firsthand through her work with AGAPE Novi, of which she's board president. The name is an acronym: Agency Giving Assistance to People in Need Every-

where in Novi. "We try to help people with a variety of needs," primarily in Novi, and also some in Farmington Hills, she said. "People think it's more affluent, but there's a lot of need due to the downturn in the economy."

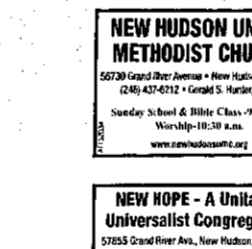
AGAPE has provided food, gas, temporary shelter, clothes and financial assistance. It's existed less than a year, originating from the Novi clergy group's organizing efforts. AGAPE raised about \$200 with a concert July 14 featuring classic rock band Exit 145 and Mike Lamb, a singer and songwriter. The group recently completed its first community project, a food drive for the Novi food emergency program based at the Faith Community Presbyterian Church.

In a short time, AGAPE organizers were able to fill a van with food and plan a large-scale food drive in the future. AGAPE is the Greek word for selfless or self-giving love. The group has about half a

dozen volunteers, Nielsen said, and welcomes more. "Oh, always." Financial donations to AGAPE Novi are also welcome. "We consider AGAPE Novi an outreach. Outreach is the basis for helping your fellow man. That was what Jesus taught," Nielsen said. Another board member is the Rev. June M. Marshall Smith, pastor of the Novi United Methodist Church. West has talked to principals at a couple of Novi elementary schools about needs there.

"They have a lot of need in these schools," Nielsen said. She and the others enjoy their work. "It's hard work," Nielsen said. "People have to be screened. You have to know how to question people. They have to have a plan to get past their difficulties."

For more information on AGAPE Novi, call 248-719-8517 or email agapenovi@gmail.com. jbrown@hometownlife.com



AGAPE Novi, call 248-719-8517 or email agapenovi@gmail.com.

Exit 145 performs for the concert crowd at the AGAPE Novi fundraiser.

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Worship directory listing for Brighton, Milford, Novi, Walled Lake, Whitmore Lake, Livonia, New Hudson, Northville, and Highland areas. Includes church names, addresses, and service times.

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Passages Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances. Contact: 1-800-579-7355. Website: htwbobits@hometownlife.com.

Obituary for ACKER, ALVIN W. JR. Age 39, passed away on September 7, 2013. Burial at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Obituary for HARRIS, CATHERINE P. Age 62, of Brighton, passed away September 7, 2013. Burial at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Obituary for NEIRYNCK, ROBERT. Age 69, of Commerce, passed away September 8, 2013. Burial at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Obituary for TALLANT, BARBARA HOY. Age 77, a longtime resident of Milford Twp., passed away September 8, 2013. Burial at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Obituary for PRATT, DONALD "DON" NORMAN. Age 82, of Colwater, passed away on Tuesday, September 3, 2013. Burial at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Obituary for CROSS, RAE ANNA (RICHARDSON). Age 78, passed away September 27, 1933 in Memphis, Tennessee. Burial at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Obituary for HODGE, SANDRA GAIL. Age 65, of Flint, died Tuesday September 3, 2013 at Geniva Funeral Home.

Obituary for SHERRILL, EUGENE. Age 80, Sept. 3, 2013. Burial at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Obituary for STEINBERGER, DOROTHY ALICE. Age 96, of Novi, passed away October 2, 2013. Burial at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Obituary for DIEHL, MICKEY. Age 81, of Commerce Twp., previously of Northville, passed away 9/9/13. Burial at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Obituary for JUDITH ANN. A resident of Milford, passed away peacefully on September 8, 2013. Burial at St. Mary's Cemetery.

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Obituary for SHERRILL, EUGENE. Age 80, Sept. 3, 2013. Burial at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Obituary for SHERRILL, EUGENE. Age 80, Sept. 3, 2013. Burial at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Worship directory listing for Brighton, Milford, Novi, Walled Lake, Whitmore Lake, Livonia, New Hudson, Northville, and Highland areas. Includes church names, addresses, and service times.

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

OUR VIEWS

Internet sales tax

Legislation will help level business playing field

When it comes to shopping, we have always encouraged readers to do it locally, whether it's for a hammer, pair of shoes or piece of furniture. It's part of our fundamental purpose listed every week on our editorial page. But those local retailers are at a disadvantage in the marketplace.

The Main Street Fairness Act, legislation introduced earlier this year in Lansing, will, if passed, help contribute to the success of the mom and pop stores that make up the bulk of our community. We hope the state Legislature acts quickly to pass this legislation, a small step in leveling the playing field among stores in the community with online retailers.

Currently, online retailers don't have to collect sales taxes if they don't have a physical presence — such as a brick-and-mortar store or office — in the state. Some web-based companies collect the tax on a voluntary basis, but not all do. And that's the rub for state Rep. Eileen Kowall, R-White Lake, who is sponsoring the legislation.

"Our bricks-and-mortar businesses in our community employ our family and friends and neighbors," Kowall said. "They are getting harmed by the unlevel playing field this creates."

The legislation would essentially shift reporting responsibilities from individuals to companies, which would be required to collect and submit the tax under state oversight.

In 2011, only 107,900 people reported untaxed online purchases, paying about \$6 million in sales tax as part of their tax returns. The state Department of Treasury estimates that total represents only 1.4 percent of the total amount due. The department also estimates Michigan has lost \$204 million to \$249 million in sales tax revenue each year since 2011 because internet retailers aren't collecting sales taxes.

That amount is expected to grow to \$272 million in the 2014 fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1. Factoring in all other remote sales — which include catalog and other types of mail-order sales — the amount increases to \$491 million in 2014.

In addition, a 2012 report by Lansing-based Public Sector Consultants stated the online sales tax loophole has a significant negative impact on job makers, too. The study found that closing the online tax loophole would lead directly to the creation of as many as 1,600 new jobs and increase investment in Michigan's economy in the form of sales at brick-and-mortar retail outlets by as much as \$126 million per year.

These are the businesses that pay local taxes, hire local employees and give back to their communities.

Kowall first introduced this legislation last year, but the Legislature never acted on the measure. This time around, it appears elected officials will consider the measure. It was scheduled for a hearing Wednesday in the state Tax Policy committee. Whether the measure will be passed at the state level is still up in the air. Ari Adler, spokesman for Speaker of the House Jase Bolger, said the measure is something that seems better addressed at the federal level.

A House fiscal analysis of the bill agreed, indicating the impact would be far greater if passed at the federal level. Unfortunately, that doesn't appear to be happening anytime soon. While the U.S. Senate passed legislation, it appears the U.S. House won't approve the measure, at least for the time being.

Correcting this loophole is a no-brainer, which is why Gov. Rick Snyder is among the governors calling on Congress to act.

Not everyone, besides online retailers themselves, thinks taxing online retailers is the right move.

Critics of the national initiative are calling it a money grab by states that should be focused on reducing spending. Opponents say it's unfair to require online companies to pay sales taxes in all 9,600 state and local jurisdictions that levy a tax.

Ultimately, an online sales tax bill simply requires businesses to collect taxes that, legally, are already owed. That's only fair and the state Legislature and Congress should send the bills to the governor and president, respectively, for their signatures. Michigan's passage of such a law will be another step to show federal officials the importance of its passage.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Are you for or against a military strike on Syria?

This question was asked at the Novi Public Library.



"I'm against it. We shouldn't get involved. We've become a laughingstock and are already in debt. They can take care of their own problems."
Judi Putnam
Novi



"I'm against it. We don't belong there. Period. We have enough problems over here."
Mary Anne Fradette
Novi



"I'm not for it. We have enough of our own issues."
Shirley Lutes
Novi



"I'm against war in general, but they got to do what they got to do. War doesn't make peace."
Michael Brown
Novi

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A look at Detroit

The Aug. 15 editorial page pointed out the obvious: America is still racially segregated. This segregation is the result of no current law compelling different ethnicities to live separately. And like with ethnic enclaves before, forcing people to live in different cultural communities is not necessarily a good by its own sake. Nevertheless, the editorial permitted someone else to articulate how we became segregated. So let's look at Detroit.

Before Coleman Young became mayor, segregation in Detroit was the product of the car manufacturers "importing" from the southern states African American laborers, who were then consolidated in "Black Town." There's the Big Three's contribution.

Following the '67 race riots, Young, Detroit's first black Democratic mayor ushered in 40 years of Democratic rule in Detroit with the proclamation, "It's our turn now."

You can see the fruits of every liberal philosophy and program today. If President Barack Obama were mayor of Detroit for the past 40 years, it would look no different. It's not because Detroit is overwhelmingly black. It's because it's overwhelmingly Democratic.

How is Detroit governed? Detroit residents are simply political pawns. It's a liberal white man's philosophy: enslavement of the weak, in this case, the poor, welfare-solicited black population of Detroit.

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. Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday for Thursday's print edition.
Web: www.hometownlife.com
Mail: Letters to the Editor, 101 N. Lafayette St., South Lyon, MI 48178
Email: cstone@hometownlife.com
Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at www.hometownlife.com.

shot for a vote. A segregation point for the GOP.

Let's level the boom against ourselves, too: the suburbanites. Detroit is the white suburbanites' playground. We only go to Detroit for Lions, Tigers, Red Wings, auto show, casinos, work, concerts and DJA. Our lovely highway system takes us quickly and blindly past the mundane life of this city we all try to call our own.

We take our church youth groups around the world to help some poor sick girl in India with many gladly putting down thousands of dollars so our children can add to their college resumes. Go 30 minutes to love and care for a poor, welfare-dependent, gang-victimized, pregnant, fatherless girl in Detroit? Or send a fraction of what you would spend on a mission trip? No; we look to be entertained instead. Point for the 'burbs.

We'll brand Lions football as "One Detroit, One Pride." We'll sell cars saying "Imported from Detroit" and we'll take pride in that, too, because "We are Detroit." Bull. That means "Imported from Hell," a hell of our collective creation. Look around you: you're not living in a living hell.

The editorial is right: this hell needs to be broken. It begins by looking at ourselves and our relationship with Detroit. If we're at all still human in this nihilistic age, something will be stirred in us, and that just might move us to be human once again.
Jordan Adams
Highland

GUEST COLUMN

College bound: Jump start your family's planning

Are you the parent of a high school freshman — Class of 2017? How about a Class of 2014 high school senior? Surely college planning has been on your mind and it's easy to get overwhelmed when thinking about planning for your children's college education. There are so many things to do and so little time. Where do you start and how do you stay on track?

Here are five little known tips on applying for financial aid. Sound like information you could use?

Tip 1: Don't hesitate to apply for financial aid, even if you assume that you won't qualify. As with any contest, lottery or sweepstakes, you can't win if you don't enter. This is also true in regards to college financial aid. A financial aid check is not going to appear in your mailbox by magic.

Even if you have been denied financial aid in the past (for an older child), it is always worth a try. Don't assume that you earn too much money and won't qualify. Also, try not to let the forms that appear very complicated, scare or deter you either. That would be a huge mistake.

Tip 2: There is no stigma attached with applying for college financial aid. On the flip side, you certainly don't want to pay "list price" for a college education. In the past, many college students and their parents were embarrassed to admit that they needed financial aid to help defray the cost of tuition and accompanying fees. That's not the case these days. More and more



Robert Heger and Richard Leidal

college-bound students are seeking financial aid as the costs associated with attending college are on the rise.

Tip 3: You might pay less if your child attends a private school rather than a public school. Yes, you read that right. Your son or daughter may be able to attend a private college at a lesser cost than a state university.

Many private colleges have greater funds available for student aid thanks to generous endowments and other income generators.

Groups such as alumni associations and corporate sponsors connected with the private institutions offer various financial assistance programs. Try not to let the initial "sticker price" of a private college shock you into passing them by.

Tip 4: Apply to more than one school. When applying for financial aid, don't put "all your eggs" in one basket. In general, students apply to more than one school to increase their chances of being accepted academically and to receive a nice financial aid package. However, keep in mind that you need a "Plan B" just in case your top college choice says no, or offers you less than what you want or need in financial aid. Keep your options open.

Richard Leidal and Robert Heger are principals and founders of Michigan College Funding, Michigan College Funding, LLC is located at 41850 W. 11 Mile, Suite 225, Novi.

Patriot Week: Renew faith in America

In 2001, the terrorists slaughtered nearly 3,000 innocents simply because they were Americans — holders of the sacred flame of liberty. Osama bin Laden specifically stated that America is "the worst civilization witnessed by the history of mankind," it was the duty of his followers and that his disciples "do not have to differentiate between military or civilian." As far as we are concerned, they are all targets.

A decade later, it is still fitting to ask, why did we end up with such fanatical hatred? The answer is so obvious, it has almost become trite: Americans hold the torch of liberty, illuminating freedom for the world.

We are such a beacon, not because of our gross domestic product, entertainment, culture or fashion. It is because of the "why" we exist at all. Unlike any other country in world history, America is defined by the First Principles articulated in the Declaration of Independence and embedded in our Constitution: the rule of law, unalienable rights, equality, the Social Compact, limited government and the right to alter or abolish an oppressive government. Al-Qaeda wages war with us because it despises those First Principles.

The fight over America's future, however, wages on more than one front. We have the military might to win the battle against the terrorists, but there is an all but invisible war being fought in our own society. A host of studies reveal that our K-12 school students, college graduates and the general public are too ignorant of our Constitution, civics and history to maintain the freedoms we cherish. We are falling far short. And if we fail, the terrorists win by default.

However, we have the capacity to preserve our freedom, if we make it a priority. There are many ways to address the crisis, but one very powerful method often overlooked is reviving the civic calendar.

Many of our current holidays have become overly commercialized or have lost their deeper meaning. Yet those celebrations were vital to remembering our roots and to replenishing the energy needed to maintain a free republic. With the old holidays all but discarded, we need to invigorate our appreciation and understanding of America's spirit through newer celebrations such as Patriot Week.

This is why, in 2009, my then 10-year-old daughter Leah demanded that we act and we co-created Patriot Week.

The hunger for renewing the spirit of America is palpable. This simple idea has taken strong root in Michigan and across the country. Michigan Senate and House resolutions have unanimously passed bills to permanently recognize



Michael Warren
GUEST COLUMNIST

the week are pending final approval.

Anchored by the key dates of Sept. 11 (the anniversary of the terror attacks) and Sept. 17 (Constitution Day, the anniversary of the signing of the Constitution), Patriot Week renews the spirit of America by celebrating the First Principles, Founding Fathers and other patriots, vital documents and speeches and flags that make America the greatest nation in world history.

For example, Patriot Week highlights our rich set of Founding Fathers and other great patriots who made those First Principles come alive, such as Thomas Paine, Patrick Henry, John Adams, James Madison, Thomas Jefferson, John Marshall, George Washington, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass and Martin Luther King Jr.

Patriot Week is very much a grassroots effort and participants include K-12 schools, Rotary clubs, courts, senior living communities, community organizations, colleges, libraries, war

heroes, elected officials and others. Activities range from community panel discussions, lessons plans, movies, book discussions, commemorations, graveside ceremonies, picnics, home celebrations and others.

Locally, Patriot Week is involved in a 5K race, Patriot Palooza!, Patriot Picnic, author tour, service day project, panel discussions, school visits and lessons, a Detroit Symphony Orchestra performance, a Detroit Tigers game, history lectures, Rotary and Kiwanis meetings and many other activities.

Although Patriot Week is only one element needed to keep our republic alive, it is vital to renewing our faith and understanding of America. In the long term, Patriot Week will only succeed if it is embraced, spread and kept alive by the public.

Participate in Patriot Week this year and you can learn more (and begin preparations for next year) by visiting PatriotWeek.org or the PatriotWeek Facebook page or Twitter account (@PatriotWeek). Join us and help save America.

Michael Warren is the co-creator of Patriot Week (PatriotWeek.org), an Oakland Circuit Court judge and author of *America's Survival Guide* (AmericaSurvivalGuide.com).

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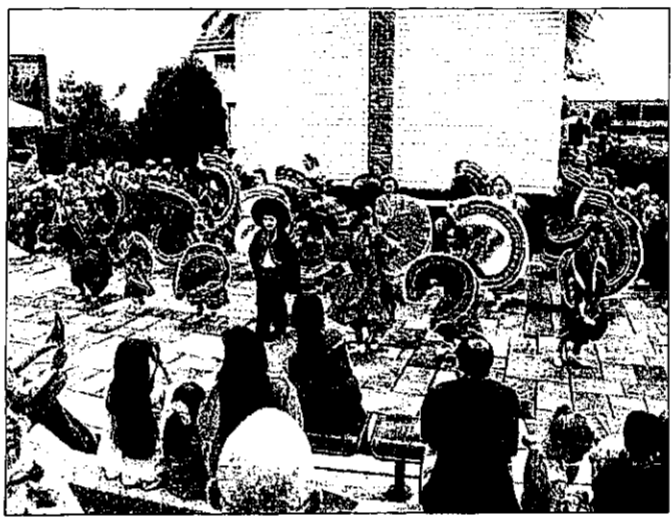
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Novi's world

Live entertainment represented numerous countries with Indian, Chinese, Mexican, Polynesian dance, Japanese drumming and much more. Sept. 7 at the Ethnic Taste & Tune Fest at Novi's Fuerst Park. Several local restaurants had menu favorites available for purchase, including Cherry Blossom, Odoaba and PDQ Sandwiches. Children were busy working on fun creations in the kids craft area and Novi Farmers Market vendors sold unique gifts and produce. crv 06 NOV

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Victorian Festival's evolved over the years, but it's still Northville's signature event

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

Laurie Marrs still remembers the very moment that the plan for Northville's Victorian Festival was first hatched a quarter century ago.

At the time, Marrs was executive director of the Northville Chamber of Commerce, a position she held for 20 years. She and several other members of the chamber board were sitting in Genitti's brainstorming about ways to get more people involved in the community. That's when Lois Presley, wife of chamber member Greg Presley, threw out an idea.

"You know, we're a Victorian town. Why don't we celebrate that history?" Marrs recalls her saying. "Everyone in the room said what a great idea."

From there, it was convincing the community to run with the idea. Fortunately, virtually everybody jumped on board. And the rest, as they say, is history. Some 25 years later, the Victorian Festival has become the Northville community's signature event.

Marrs was one of five committee members that helped get that first festival off the ground back in 1988. The others were Greg Presley, a local architect; Anne Willis, former editor of the *Northville Record*; Don Mroz, who owned the Atchison House Bed and Breakfast; and financial adviser Greg Spinazzzer.

Marrs said the group did a lot of research about the Victorian era, including its dress, its music, its dancing and its entertainment. From there, they incorporated much of what they learned into the various Victorian Festival activities.

The biggest hit, she said, was a formal ball that took place in a large tent set up at Mill Race Village. The first couple of years, it was wildly popular in town. Everyone who attended had to dress according to the age and then had to learn how to dance in the manner of the Victorian age.

"That first year, the ball was the highlight. No doubt about it. We had people lined up just to see the people who were attending walk in and to see how they were dressed. We used to have each couple picked up and dropped off by horse and carriage. It was just wonderful," Marrs said.

Nonprofits thrive
The main reason Marrs believes the festival succeeded was due to everyone having fun with the Victorian theme and running with it. Also, she said local civic groups, nonprofits and other organizations got involved and used the event as a big fundraising opportunity, which is still the case today.

"We contacted all the nonprofits, because we wanted to keep the money in the community. We didn't bring in any outside vendors," Marrs said. "Our only requirements for having a booth were that you had to be local and you had to dress in Victorian clothing."

"That first year, as you walked up and down the streets of downtown, you really felt like you were back in the Victorian age. You really did. It was like a scene from *Little House on the Prairie*," she said. "Getting the nonprofits on board was the key. We were able to get so many groups involved. Everybody was talking about the event."

Festival evolution
Well, like all things, including the community itself, the Victorian Festival has evolved and changed since 1988. There is no longer any ball, which was dropped after participation fell off (and transformed into the Saloon), nor is there a Queen Victoria crowned, as was the case in the early years. Other activities were added that didn't necessarily have a Victorian theme, including inflatables for the kids. But the Victorian heartbeat remains the same.

"The world has changed since 1988. So has our community. Back then, the township was just on the cusp of starting to develop," said Traci Sincock



Enjoying the catered offerings at the 1993 Victorian Ball is Carole Jean Stockhouse (second from right) and others. HAL GOULD/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

of the Northville Chamber of Commerce, which still organizes the festival. "The festival couldn't remain the same. Things have been added that aren't really Victorian. You have to keep things fresh and new to keep people coming."

However, don't get the idea that organizers don't want people to play the part.

"We still want people to dress up. It's really neat to see what people come up with year after year. It's just fun," said Sincock, who said she has been part of all 25 festivals.

Along those lines, the chamber, with the help of the Northville Historical Society, came up with a theme for this year's festival, something it hopes to continue to do in the future. The theme for this year is "The Gold Rush Era."

25TH ANNUAL VICTORIAN FESTIVAL

When: 5-10:30 p.m. Friday; from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday; and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday

Where: Downtown Northville
More info: Visit the Northville Chamber of Commerce's website at www.northville.org

gan's Green Gold" of the lumbering era. HCMA staff will be dressed in period costume and explain aspects of Michigan's lumbering past, which in a way was very similar to the more famous gold rushes. Fortunes were certainly made.

Michele Fecht of the Northville Historical Society believes incorporating a new theme each year is a great way to keep people engaged and said the Historical Society should play an active role helping people understand how the theme had a local impact.

"This should be a huge event for us," said Fecht, who also serves on the Northville City Council. "If we can't tell the story of our history, who can?"

The historical society will be spearheading all kinds of activities at Mill Race Village and Ford Field. Many will play off the gold rush theme. All of the Village buildings will be open for much of the weekend and there will be plenty of the staples people have to come to expect during the festival, including Victorian-era games for the kids and, of course, the big duck race that concludes the festival Sunday afternoon.

Fecht said the Victorian Festival may have changed over the years, but one thing hasn't: it remains the biggest event in town.

"The festival is really the signature event for our community," Fecht said. "It's been popular since the get-go. It's just one of those great, cohesive events that brings the community together."

kkuban@hometownlife.com
248-437-2011, ext. 245

CALENDAR

Continued from Page A12

Location: 217 N. Wing
Contact: 248-348-1020
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays
Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month

First Baptist Church of Novi - Family Integrated Church
Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile
Contact: 248-349-3647 or firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org
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 Church of the Nazarene
Location: 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile
Contact: 248-248-7600 or www.dfnazarene.org
Sunday Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Classic worship service, Adult

First Presbyterian Church of Northville
Location: 200 E. Main
Contact: 248-349-0911 or www.fpcnorthville.org
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church
Location: 205 E. Lake Street (corner of Wells and 10 Mile), South Lyon
Contact: 248-437-2875

First United Methodist Church
Location: 777 W. Eight Mile, Northville
Contact: 248-349-1144 or www.funorthville.org

Bible Fellowship classes and Children's Sunday School; 11 a.m. Contemporary worship service with Kids Church, Teen Worship Service and Adult Bible Fellowship classes. Open is open from 9:15-11 a.m. Refreshments at 10:30 a.m.; 6 p.m. Evening Traditional Service
Wednesday schedule: 6:30 p.m. Bible Study
Thursday schedule: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group and Bible Study

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Location: 41415 Nine Mile, corner of Meadowbrook Road.
Contact: 248-349-0565
Sundays: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study; 10 a.m. Worship

Holy Cross Episcopal Church
Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile
Contact: 248-427-1175 or holycrossnov@gmail.com; visit holycrossnov.org
Sunday Worship: 7:45 and 10 a.m.
Sunday School and Nursery Care: 10 a.m. Worship service
Alzheimer's Support Group: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month

Summer Sunday Worship (Memorial Day-Labor Day): 8:30 and 10 a.m.
Summer Sunday School (Memorial Day-Labor Day): 8:30 a.m. - Nursery; 10 a.m. - Nursery - sixth grade
Sunday Worship (September-May): 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m.
Sunday School (September-May): 8 a.m. Nursery; 9:15 a.m. Nursery 12th grade; 11 a.m. Nursery sixth grade

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 67% of those who apply for disability benefits.

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

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

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law, attorney 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.

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

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 1-800-231-8530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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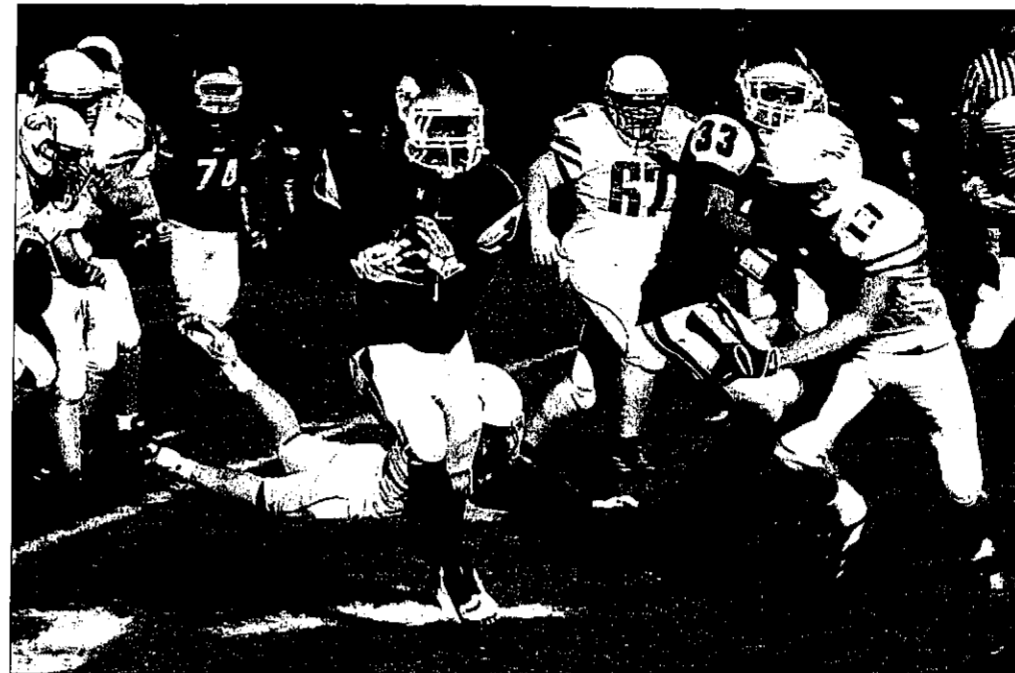
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INSIDE: BUSINESS, B7 • REAL ESTATE, B8 • CLASSIFIED, B9-12

SECTION B (NN)
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2013
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SPORTS

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Novi senior running back Jeff Baker breaks through a gap during the Wildcats' 17-0 victory over Lakeland. CHRIS JACKETT

Novi shuts out Lakeland, 17-0

Wildcats' stellar defense and kicking back Eagles into corner

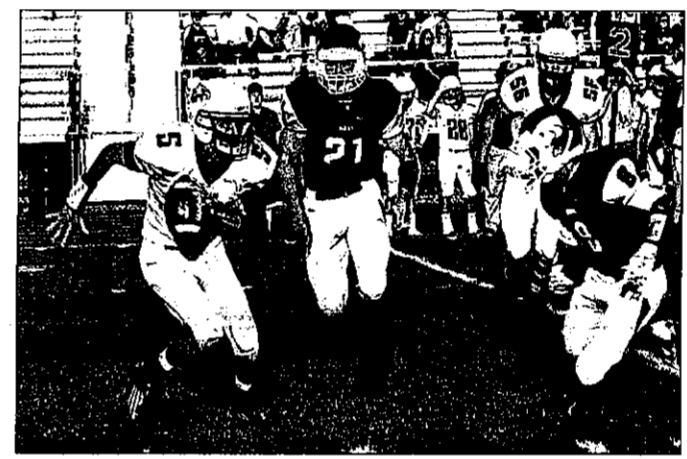
By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

Fans of grind-it-out football were likely pleased last Friday at Wildcat Stadium, as Novi and Lakeland battled it out on the gridiron.

The lone score in the first-half was a 38-yard Novi field goal before a pair of rushing touchdowns led to a 17-0 Wildcats victory in front of a crowd of about 5,000.

"What I like is that we're still playing lights-out defense right now," Novi coach Jeff Burnside said. "Unfortunately, the offense has to catch up a bit. They got a few more points for us tonight. A shutout, that's a beautiful thing, a beautiful number."

Of Lakeland's 12 drives, the Wildcats (1-1) forced three-and-outs on seven of them, while senior kicker Bryan Klosterman kept the Eagles (1-1) backed up, starting three drives inside their own 20, causing just three drives to finish on Novi's half of the field.



Lakeland senior quarterback Ross Heiman looks for space as Novi senior Austin Racicot (center) and junior Christian Durham rush toward him. CHRIS JACKETT

"Offensively, we didn't play nearly to the capabilities that we're capable of," Lakeland coach John Maltese said. "Novi came out and they played well defensively and we did not play well offensively and that sums it up."

The Eagles gained just 116 yards of offense (37 rushing, 79 passing), while 165 of Novi's 219 yards came on the ground and were highlighted by a

See FOOTBALL, Page B4

Youthful tankers take second at Laker Invite

Wildcats' youngster competing well against upperclassmen

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

The thing about the Laker Invitational that kicks off each season at West Bloomfield's pool is that it measures a team's depth.

The meet has four heats in each event, with the top racers in the third heat earning just as many points as the top racer in the top-ranked heat. Because of the scoring system, Lake Orion finished third as a team despite winning 10 of the 12 top flights. However, Novi, which took second in four of the top flights and third in five others, also used the depth-scoring to its advantage, finishing second of the six teams with 205 points. It was five more than Lake Orion, but also five shy of the victorious North Farmington squad.

A trio of Wildcats notched two top-three finishes individually and also combined for a top-three relay finish, all in the top heats.

Sophomore Lauren Kim took second in both the 200 individual medley (2:24.39) and 100 breaststroke (1:11.60), while sophomore Ava Bianchi took second in the 50 free (27.01) and third in the 100 free (1:01.54). Sophomore Alexandra Cortez landed third in both the 200 free (2:03.21) and 100 butterfly (1:07.06).

The trio teamed with freshman Emily Mayoras to finish third in the 200 medley relay in 1:58.74. Mayoras also took third in the 100 backstroke in 1:05.78.

All eight finishes were second to Lake Orion's heat leaders.

The 200 free relay and 400 free relay teams both took fifth for Novi in 1:51.83 and 4:02.06, respectively.

The other two top-flight performers for Novi were junior Jaymie Ziegler, who finished second in the 1-meter dive with 300.85 points, and sophomore Elizabeth Glenn, who finished fifth in the 500 free in 6:05.17.

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer covering Novi High School sports for the Novi News.

ON TAP

Novi's girls swim team was set to host Grosse Pointe South before Marian comes to town at 6 p.m. today. The Wildcats then host the Novi Invitational at 8 a.m. Saturday.

Lonergan fourth at KLAA Invitational



Heading down Saturday to Willow Metropark in Belleville, Novi's girls cross country team finished fifth of eight KLAA squads competing. Plymouth Salem won the event with 33 points, while the Wildcats finished with 117, just three shy of fourth place. Salem's Kayla Kavulich won the race in 19 minutes, 13 seconds, while Novi's top runner was Hannah Lonergan, who took fifth in 20:02. Following Lonergan in the other four scoring positions were Grace Backus (16th in 20:58), Hadley Peterson (26th in 21:30), Jessica Lyuka (35th in 22:06) and Karl Grandstaff (39th in 22:13). The girls were scheduled to visit Livonia Stevenson two days ago before competing Friday in the Michigan State Invitational and at South Lyon at 4 p.m. Tuesday at Island Lake. RUBY GRANDSTAFF

Novi netters top division foes

Wildcats get best of ranked teams at shortened invite

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

With their first two dual meets of the season under the belt, things are looking good for Novi's boys tennis team.

The Wildcats (2-0, 2-0 KLAA Central) had their junior varsity squad knock off South Lyon's varsity team (0-3, 0-2 Central) 9-0 Sept. 4 before heading to Plymouth Salem (1-1, 1-1 Central) for a 9-0 victory in a traditional varsity match. Against the Rocks, no Wildcat relinquished more than one game per match as the combined score across the nine flights was 108-4.

"They had quite a few players graduate," Novi coach Jim Hanson said of Salem. "We played well. The level of competition you still have to go out and do your best and try to win every point every game."

Ranked No. 3 in Division 1, Novi's netters had a bit more of a challenge last Saturday as they hosted No. 4 Grosse Pointe South, formerly ranked West Bloomfield and Division

ON TAP

Novi's boys tennis team (2-0, 2-0 KLAA Central) was set to be back in action two days ago at Livonia Stevenson and at Northville at 4 p.m. today, before competing in Saturday's East Grand Rapids Invitational. The "Cats will then set the JV squad up Tuesday to host South Lyon East, while the varsity visits Division 3 No. 1 Detroit Country Day at 4 p.m., followed by a 3:30 p.m. Sept. 19 home match against Saline.

"We've got a big week coming up," Novi coach Jim Hanson said. "It'll be a good week of tennis ahead. We just have to play them one at a time and keep improving. Connor Johnston and Tim Wang are two of the best players in the state, so it'll be a real battle there at one singles."

3 No. 3 Cranbrook Kingswood. Although rain cut the quad meet short, the Wildcats gathered 16 points to claim victory, while Cranbrook picked up 11, West Bloomfield six and G.P. South 4.

"Four good teams. There was a lot of tough matches played between the schools," Hanson said. "I thought all of Cranbrook Kingswood, Grosse

See TENNIS, Page B2

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Novi kickers hand Rochester first loss

Squad rises to No. 11 ranking after three victories in a week

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

Following a tough pair of games to open the season, Novi's boys soccer team is on the road to steady improvement after a trio of victories, including handing previously undefeated Rochester its first loss through eight games.

The Wildcats' week began Sept. 3 in South Lyon with a solid 3-1 victory over the continually improving Lions (2-2-1, 0-2-0 KLA A Central). Novi (3-1-1, 2-0-0 Central) picked up its first goal of the season when a Matt Kiura throw-in found the head of junior Nick Oakley in the goal box with 15 seconds left in the first half for a 1-0 lead.

"It was a very good win for us as South Lyon has a very good team this year and I believe they will play a huge role in the division standings," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "It was also a good win because, not only is South Lyon a sleeper type of team, but the game was played at South Lyon, which is a very difficult field to play at."

Four minutes into the second half, senior Stevie Caruso crossed a ball to senior Jay Kim, who headed it to junior Don Nakashima at the back post for what would be the game-winning goal, as the Lions scored 10 minutes later to make it 2-1.

Nakashima put the game away with a goal off a Kim corner kick to tally the 3-1 final as junior Tommy McMaster picked the win in goal. "The defensive unit of Parker Sutton, Amo Chahal, Jake Geary and Matt Kiura had the best game as a unit so far this season," O'Leary said.

Two nights later, the Wildcats steamrolled through the Lions' sister school, defeating South Lyon East (2-3-0, 0-2-0 Central) 8-0 as goals came from junior David Schulte, Caruso, senior Seiya Ogino, sophomore Tony Asimadu, junior Kent Maidens, senior Parker Sutton and two from junior Alan Rajkovic. Assists came from Ogino, Maidens, Nakashima, Oakley, Kim and two from Rajkovic. Saturday's contest was a bit tougher, as Rochester showed up in Novi with a 5-0-2 record. The scoring came early and often though, as Kiura played a through ball in



Novi's Stevie Caruso tries to get past South Lyon's Alexander Kopko. JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ON TAP

Novi's boys soccer team (3-1-1, 2-0-0 KLA A Central) was set to head to Northville (4-2-1, 1-1-0 Central) two nights ago before hosting defending KLA A Central Division champion Plymouth Salem (3-0-2, 2-0-0 Central) at 7 p.m. today. The Wildcats will then visit Plymouth (2-1-0, 2-0-0 South) at 7 p.m. Monday, Livonia Stevenson (3-3-0, 1-1-0 Central) at 7 p.m. Tuesday and host South Lyon (2-2-1, 0-2-0 Central) at 7 p.m. Sept. 19.

front of his forwards and Nakashima beat the Falcons' goalie to the ball for a goal 12 minutes into the game.

Rochester scored four minutes later but, five minutes after that, Asimadu knocked a cross by Geary into the back of the net to regain a 2-1 lead. Nakashima then

threw-in into the goal with four minutes left, leading to a 5-1 final score and dropping Rochester to 5-1-2 on the season.

"We played very well, moved the ball around exceptionally well and surprisingly dominated from start to finish," O'Leary said.

Despite the impressive record of the Falcons, the Wildcats held a 23-5 shot advantage and 6-1 edge in corner kicks.

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer covering Novi High School sports for the Novi News.



Novi netminder Tommy McMaster corraling a ball near the net during the Wildcats' visit to South Lyon. JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fracassa starts final season with impressive win

By Marty Budner
Staff Writer

All Fracassa's farewell football season at Brother Rice got off to a flying start Aug. 31 in the Prep Kickoff Classic at Wayne State University. Fracassa led the Warriors to a 29-20 triumph over Cleveland St. Ignace. It is Fracassa's 45th and final season as Rice's head coach, and he couldn't have been more pleased with the outcome. "You know, you have

to enjoy things like this because they don't come around very often," the 80-year-old Fracassa said. "I'm very happy. I feel a lot younger now."

Jason Alessi, who played a pivotal role in the triumph with two field goals and a 70-yard punt return which ultimately provided the game-winning points, said how satisfying it was to open the season with a big victory.

Brother Rice dominated the game through the first three quarters,

but it never could put the visitors from Ohio away. St. Ignace scored on a pair of 80-yard touchdown bombs to keep it close despite Rice's nearly 3-1 advantage in total time of possession (38:14 to 9:46).

In the first half, for instance, Rice ran 52 plays to St. Ignace's 15. The Warriors amassed 254 total yards to the Wildcats' 90.

The Warriors scored the first 10 points of the third quarter to take what seemed like a com-

fortable 27-6 lead. However, St. Ignace kept fighting back and scored the next 14 points to get within 27-20 with 2:05 left in the game.

Brother Rice then got a couple key first downs with time winding down. The Warriors were forced to punt the ball away with a minute remaining, and Jonathan Forster's punt from his own 44-yard line rolled all the way down to the Wildcat 7-yard line.

On their first play from scrimmage, Rice

defensive end Jack Dunaway sacked St. Ignace's quarterback John Thomas in the end zone for a safety which finally sealed the deal.

Rice's first two touchdowns were scored by Damaris Woods on a 17-yard pass from junior quarterback Alex Malzone late in the first quarter and a 1-yard run by Brian Walker late in the second quarter. Alessi provided the next 13 points with a pair of field goals (41 and 31 yards) and the thrilling third-

quarter punt return. Thomas' two long passes were to Michael Siragusa and Nicholas Fabian. Michael Vitale also scored on a 4-yard run.

Statistically, Rice finished with 416 total yards to St. Ignace's 331.

Malzone completed 24 of 35 passes for 284 yards. Corey Lacanaria caught 10 for 157 yards and Grant Perry hauled in nine for 104 yards. Brian Walker led the rushing attack with 74 yards on 17 carries.

down away from the ball on his own 5-yard line and didn't get up for 20 minutes, until he was taken off on a stretcher with full movement in all four limbs.

"All the medical staff was saying it's 99 percent nothing and Eric wanted to get up and walk off the field, but the doctor was on site saying, for that 0.01, let's just be sure," Maltese said.

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer covering Novi High School sports for the Novi News.

Catholic Central soccer team splits pair for the week

Squad can't top U-D, but earns win over Temperance Bedford

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

A bad pregame warm-up by a team can have a lasting effect with negative results — just ask the Detroit Catholic Central soccer team.

The Shamrocks, coached by Gene Pulice, couldn't seem to get their game rolling in the right direction following some less-than-stellar warm-ups prior to their contest against the University of Detroit Jesuit High School last Thursday.

ON TAP

The Detroit Catholic Central soccer team will be back on the pitch when it hosts Cristo Rey at 7 p.m. Saturday before visiting Detroit Western at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday. The team will then play at home at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 19 against University of Detroit.

day, CC fell in the Catholic High School League contest, 2-0.

"CC had a bad warmup and it bled into the game," Pulice said. "U-D, however, was very disciplined and it's a hard-working team. Kevin Tuite is a fine coach."

The Shamrocks were able to turn the week around, however, when

they took on Temperance Bedford. The squad picked up a 4-2 win in that game.

"After a poor display of our talent versus U-D, CC came back strong and played the game we are working on," Pulice said.

Noah Kleedtkie was the player to watch for the Shamrocks. He kept Bedford off-balance throughout the night and tallied two goals in the victory. Austin Smith and Andrew Tombley also got in on the action, scoring one goal each in the winning effort.

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

SPORTS BRIEFS

Novi all-sports passes available

Novi Athletic Boosters all-sports passes for the 2013-14 school year are available during registration at Novi's middle and high schools. Community members and students who haven't included passes on their registration vouchers may purchase them by downloading a form at www.noviatleticboosters.com under "Forms" from the Coach's Corner menu. Passes provide entry into all high school and middle school regular home sporting events. Individual sports passes are \$60 and family passes for all family members living in one household may be purchased for \$180. Regular gate admission for high school events is \$5 and adult admission for middle school events is \$3. All-sports passes are

New race event

Alan Whitehead of the Kona Running Co. and Nas Dastmalchi of RRM have established a new race event called the Novi Half Marathon. The inaugural event, set for Sunday, May 4, 2014, will offer a half marathon, 10K, 5K and one-mile, with the half marathon course through the communities of Novi, South Lyon and Wixom.

The half marathon, 10K and 5K courses are flat and fast with scenic views of Island Lake on both paved and country roads with horse farms. The mile course is on the South Lyon East High School track and all four distance events will finish on the 50-yard line of the football field. All the race events will start and finish at the high school.

The plan is to donate funds to the Karmanos Cancer Institute and to the surrounding communities. Online registration is now open and organizers are currently seeking new corporate race sponsors, race staff members and volunteers.

For further information, contact Dastmalchi (Alan.rrm@gmail.com or 248-974-8074) or Whitehead (Alan@KonaRunningCompany.com or 248-345-6168) or visit www.NoviHalfMarathon.com or www.KonaRunningCompany.com.

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FOOTBALL

Continued from Page B1

third-quarter 14-yard touchdown run by senior Mark Ryan (22 yards on five runs) and a fourth-quarter 11-yard touchdown run by junior Jalen Ward (91 yards on 18 runs). Sophomore running back Emmanuel Jackson was sitting out from a Week 1 leg injury. "Jalen Ward, I'm not sure if we even repped him once last week," Burnside said. "We

ON TAP

Novi's football squad (1-1) will host Plymouth Salem (0-2) at 7 p.m. Friday. Salem is coming off a 56-9 rout of East Walled Lake Northern (2-0). The Wildcats are then at South Lyon East (0-2), which is coming off a 56-29 loss to Walled Lake Western (2-0). Novi lost 30-13 at Salem last year and then 26-23 in overtime at home to East.

worked with him this week, I'll give all the credit to Jalen. He runs hard, he works hard and he's really stepped up. When he got his chance, he just kept it."

For Lakeland, junior Michael Kurtz led the way with 39 yards on 13 attempts, while senior quarterback Ross Hei-

man managed a 5-for-17 effort for 79 yards and one interception.

Junior Billy Uile led the Wildcats in the pocket on 7-for-9 passing that produced 51 yards, including a 35-yard toss to senior Austin Kociot. Burnside applauded his defensive line's ability to help out of the

fense, which is still finding its shape for the season, as well as Klosterman's ability to keep opposing offenses deep in their own zone.

"Defense was giving us short fields. It's a lot easier to go 20 or 30 yards than it is to go 60 or 70 right now," Burnside said. "We made a few tweaks with blocking, but the kids just executed. It was really just starting to look like old school Novi defense."

Although senior Carston Cook, Ryan, senior Keaton Figurski, junior

Nick Meadors and senior Aldo Dino all recorded a sack for Novi — and junior Zac Siriani grabbed an interception and carried it upfield 13 yards — the Eagles also had a pair of bright spots on their defensive line. Senior Dave Brown notched nine solo tackles, including a sack, and five of senior Colin Papler's six tackles were also solo efforts.

As things opened up late in the game, one scary moment lasted 20 minutes when Lakeland senior Eric Snek went

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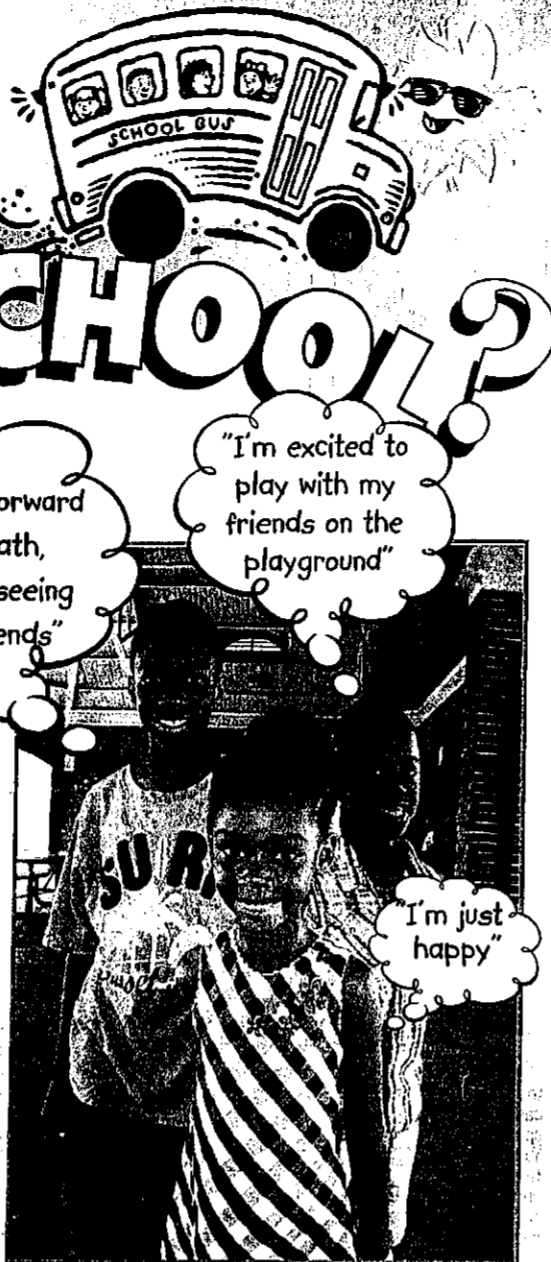
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Pictured from rear left to right: Allen Morgan, age 9, Redford; Edward Jordan, age 6, Redford; Symea Jordan, age 5, Redford



Pictured from left to right: Juanan Rogers, age 12, Redford; "I'm going into the 8th grade and I am looking forward to the out of state field trip." Julius Rogers, age 12, Redford; "I'm looking forward to making new friends at school and the field trips." Deshawate Thomas, age 11, Redford; "I'm looking forward to learning new things." Nyctavious Wright, age 13, Redford; "I'm going to my first year in high school. I'm looking forward to going to a new school and meeting new teachers."

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BUSINESS



Joe & Aldo's Italian Tavern in Novi is family-friendly with affordable prices, restaurant Joe Vicari says. HOLLY GRIFFIN | DETROIT FREE PRESS

Andiamo owner takes casual approach with Joe & Aldo's in Novi

By Sylvia Rector
Gannett News Service

With diners continuing to gravitate to ever more casual, affordable dining spots, restaurateur Joe Vicari has debuted a new family-friendly Italian concept called Joe & Aldo's Italian Tavern with a menu and style that are "completely different" from his white-tablecloth Andiamo Italia restaurants, he said Monday.

The first Joe & Aldo's opened quietly late last week in Novi, replacing the Andiamo restaurant on Grand River. The next will replace his Mesquite Creek steak and seafood restaurant in Clarkston, he said.

He also is looking for a location for a third Joe & Aldo's at this point to convert any other Andiamos. "They are all doing quite well," he said.

"The biggest thing is that (Joe & Aldo's) is family-friendly and more affordable. This is different than what we've done in the past," he stressed. Compared with the Andiamo restaurants, "it's more of a come-as-you-are place, but we are still able to get the quality of food we serve," he said.

"You can get bigger portions at moderate prices. You can pick and choose: Some entrees come with soup or salad and a side of pasta, and some do not, so there's a little more variety depending on your price points."

The menu will offer a few staple Andiamo pastas dishes, but all the other entrees, salads and sandwiches are new. There's also a children's menu of about a half-dozen dishes. And unlike Andiamo locations, with separate lunch and dinner menus, Joe & Aldo's will offer the same menu throughout the day, so even the most casual items can be ordered at dinner.

Average per person check prices, including a glass of wine, will be in the \$18-\$25 range, he said.

Driving his decision to introduce the new concept was the continuing trend toward more casual dining, said Vicari, whose Joe Vicari Restaurant Group owns 22 dining spots and employs more than 1,000 full- and part-time workers.

Nationally, "people are gravitating more toward casual and even... fast-casual dining, in places like Panera Bread and Chipotle. These guys are up double-digit numbers — 16% or 17% — over year-ago sales. And white-tablecloth fine-dining restaurants, again according to the National Restaurant Association, are down 6% over last year's numbers."

He chose to convert the Novi Andiamo because it was not performing well and because it was located so closely to the Livonia Andiamo that the two were competing with each other, he said.

"I think this is enough of a separation that, if you want to go and experience Andiamo with tablecloths, you'll go to the Andiamo store. And if you're looking for something more casual and family-friendly, you'll go to Novi," with TVs in the dining room and a more lively atmosphere.

Reservations can be made by calling the restaurant at 248-348-3838 or online at www.opentable.com; the menu also is online there. Hours are 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11-11 p.m. Friday; 4-11 p.m. Saturday; and 3-9 p.m. Sunday. The restaurant is located at 42705 Grand River in the Mainstreet complex.

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NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

Steer Business Forward event

The Greater Detroit Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) is inviting everyone to Steer Business Forward on Friday as the organization sponsors a General Motors Ride & Drive event from 4-6 p.m. in the parking lot of the Novi Sam's Club (27300 Wixom Road).

Following the event, there will be a dessert reception, an excellent opportunity to network and listen to guest speakers Reginald E. Humphrey, supplier diversity manager, General Motors; and Clay J. Pearson, city manager of Novi — talking on the topic of Steering Business Forward.

Several General Motors vehicles will be onsite and available to be test driven. GM will be providing the latest models of the Chevrolet Impala, Buick Encore and Cadillac ATS.

It's free to drive, but be sure to arrive early to get one of the limited amount of drive tickets. All drivers must be 21 years or older and present a valid driver's license. Free BBQ will also be provided by Sam's Club.

The reception, which will include a raffle, will be from 6-7:30 p.m. Tickets can be bought at the NAWBO Greater Detroit website (NAWBOGDC.org). Cost is \$10 for NAWBO members, \$15 for non-members.

Total Hockey opens at Novi Town Center

Total Hockey has opened their new store at Novi Town Center, offering the latest in hockey equipment, apparel and merchandise from hundreds of name brands like Bauer, Reebok, Easton, Warrior & CCM.

"We are very excited to have one of the nation's leading hockey retailers now open in Novi Town Center," said general manager, Jim Clear.

The new store is located at 43111 Crescent Boulevard; 248-344-1061; www.totalhockey.com. Store hours are 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

PrimeCare open house

PrimeCare Urgent Care (39555 West Ten Mile Road, Suite 301, near Haggerty) will be opening its doors to the public on Monday, Oct. 14 and an open house will run from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 12 when free flu shots will be given to the first 500 people who request

Ideal Image opens

Ideal Image laser hair removal is now open at Novi Town Center. Offering a more permanent solution for hair removal, Ideal Image's state-of-the-art lasers are directed by registered nurses, physician assistants or nurse practitioners to remove hair from any skin type, complexion or body part.

The new store is located at 26122 Ingersol Drive; 800-235-3325; www.idealimage.com. Store hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

OAKLAND COUNTY BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

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

Unless otherwise noted, all programs take place at the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, west of Telegraph, Waterford. For pre-registration and location specifics, visit www.advantageoakland.com/expand or call 248-858-0783.

Walk In - Start-Up Thursdays Free Business Counseling

Thursdays, Sept. 12, 19, 26, 9-9:30 a.m. to noon and 1:30-4:30 p.m.; free

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 with no appointment necessary. Counselors will provide direct answers to start-up questions, suggest next steps and provide guidance on business planning tools.

Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) Certification Orientation

Wednesday, Sept. 18; 9-11 a.m.; \$25 per person

Learn about the benefits and process of becoming a Women's Business Enterprise (WBE). Benefits include certification to private sector WBE's and access to procurement opportunities with major national companies. For additional information on WBE or CEED visit www.miced.org.



Mary is 34 years old. She just purchased her first home and is searching for the perfect couch.

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Meadowbrook work continues



Work continues Aug. 26 on a much-needed resurfacing of Novi's Meadowbrook Road between Nine and 10 Mile. The road is currently only running in one direction, north, although access to all the businesses along Meadowbrook is being maintained. JOHN HEDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Deadline for Submissions:

Mail entry forms and talent submissions to: Scoop the Newshound, 41304 Concept Drive Plymouth, MI 48170
All items need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Media by close of the business day on September 27
or email your submission to: cbjordan@hometownlife.com
Winning submissions will be announced in a future Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

HOUSING SURVEY: DESIRE TO BUY ON UPSWING

Americans overwhelmingly believe owning a home is a good financial decision and a majority of renters say homeownership is one of their highest priorities for the future, according to a survey by the National Association of Realtors. The 2013 National Housing Pulse Survey also found that renters are thinking more about purchasing a home now than in past years, while the number of people who say they prefer to rent has declined.

"Homeownership matters to Americans who consistently realize the many benefits it provides to communities, families and the nation's economy," said NAR President Gary Thomas, broker-owner of Evergreen Realty, in Villa Park, Calif. "Due to high housing affordability and today's interest rates it makes sense for people to consider homeownership over renting. In fact, in many parts of the country it's cheaper to own a home than to rent one. Therefore, it's no surprise that renters recognize that owning a home offers tremendous long-term benefits and is an investment in their future."

The survey, which measures consumers' attitudes and concerns about housing opportunities, found eight in 10 Americans believe buying a home is a good financial decision and more than two-thirds (68 percent) said now is a good time to buy a home.

Since the last survey in 2011, more renters are now thinking about purchasing a home, up from 25 percent to 36 percent, while those who say they prefer to rent dropped from 31 percent to 25 percent.

Half of renters say that eventually owning a home is one of their top personal priorities, up from 42 percent to 51 percent. Attitudes toward the housing market have also improved over the years. Nearly four in 10 Americans (38 percent) identified an increase in activity within their local housing market in the past year, compared to just 22 percent who reported a slowdown in activity.

By contrast, in 2011 some 51 percent reported a slowdown in activity. There was also less concern than in the past about the drop in home values; a majority said housing prices in their area are more expensive than a year ago. In addition to these improved attitudes about the housing market, respondents also showed an improved outlook about the national economy. Just under half (48 percent) said job layoffs and unemployment are a big problem, down from 61 percent in 2011. The concern over foreclosures



showed a steep decline from 2011 when 47 percent characterized distressed properties as "very" or "fairly big problem," today only 29 percent say it's a problem.

For many Americans, the perceived obstacles to homeownership have remained unchanged over the years: low wages, student loan debt, and little savings for a down payment are closing costs continue to make it difficult for many to become homeowners. Respondents across the board — young and old, college graduates and non-graduates — consider student loan debt to be a large obstacle.

"Student loan debt is a concern for many consumers in today's market, especially first-time buyers," said Thomas. "Buyers with student loan debt may find it difficult to access mortgage credit, as well as save for a down payment. Pending mortgage finance regulations requiring higher down payments could also contribute to the already tight lending environment. Realtors are working with regulators to address this issue and are committed to making sure those who are willing and able to own a home have the opportunity to pursue that dream."

When asked for reasons why home-

ownership is important, respondents' top reasons underscored basic American values and freedoms; they were building equity, wanting a stable and safe environment, and the freedom to choose where to live.

While these reasons have remained virtually unchanged since 2011, they do vary slightly according to demographics. The top scoring reason for African-Americans and Hispanics was that homeownership provides stability and a safe environment; women also placed more emphasis on environmental factors than men. Non-college graduates placed stronger emphasis on public schools, owning a home before retirement, and living in a safe and stable environment.

The 2013 National Housing Pulse Survey is conducted by American Strategies and Myers Research & Strategic Services for NAR's Housing Opportunity Program, which aims to position, educate and help Realtors promote and address opportunities in their community, in both the rental and homeownership sectors of the market. The telephone survey polled 2,000 adults nationwide and has a margin of error of plus or minus 2.2 percentage points.

Outside attorney may be helpful

Q: I am on a board with an attorney and several other qualified professionals who seem to be relying on the attorney for all of their advice. I know a lot about condos, having had experience in running them, and I know that this attorney is way off base in terms of his feelings about pursuing collections, bylaw enforcement and the developer. What can I do to get these other board members to wake up?

A: Unfortunately, in condominium governance, people who serve on boards are frequently volunteers who know nothing about business and/or legal matters as they relate to the condo association. They sometimes are glibble, naive or frankly stupid in not opening their eyes to what is going on. They will look for cheap ways to get matters resolved and not hire experienced outside consultants including CPAs, accountants and professional management companies to help them with their job. An attorney on a board, regardless of his or her background, is often deluged with questions and if the attorney is on an ego trip, he will provide his advice which may or may not be sound advice, and may well be self-serving depending upon the attorney's connections, including whether his firm has any involvement with your developer by way of example. Get an outside attorney with broad-based and well-known experience to meet with the board and shake them up.

Q: I understand that there was a case in California where a lawyer was not allowed to attend a board meeting on a co-owner's behalf. Do you have any information on that?

A: Yes. While the facts were somewhat more complicated in that the co-owner had formed an LLC, and wanted to appoint the lawyer as a representative of the LLC, the court held in that case that the master deed defined member as a record lot owner, and that the attorney was not a member of the LLC and was therefore not authorized by its Articles of Organization to manage the business of the LLC. Thus the LLC could not delegate management authority to the attorney. Furthermore, the court found that the master deed (Declaration in California) and corporate law prohibited the LLC from transferring any membership rights to the attorney except the right to vote by proxy. Additionally, holding a member's proxy does not entitle a member to attend or speak at board meetings since no business is conducted by the association members at board meetings. You are best advised to check with your own attorney, but try to get the board's approval to allow you to bring an attorney on your behalf.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling, and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95 plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. "Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and BarnesandNoble.com. He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track." second edition. It is available for \$26.95 plus \$2.30 for tax, shipping and handling. Call 248-644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column should be construed as legal advice.

BRIEFS

Career Seminar
Keller Williams Realty will hold a free Career Seminar, explaining the \$50,000 income guarantee, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100 Plymouth. For more information, contact Mary Beth Kaljian at 734-459-4700 or mbk@marybethk.com.

Seminar
The Meisner Law Group announced that Robert M. Meisner will conduct a four-week course Tuesdays in October from 7-9 p.m. covering "Introduction to Successful Condominium Operation." 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 legal issues involved in the successful operation of an association. Cost is \$95 (\$85 per person when two or more enroll from the same meeting place). The Meisner Law Group at 248-644-4433 or 800-470-4433, via email at: bmeisner@meisner-law.com, or visit the seminar page on the website: Meisner-law.com.

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. Email Georgia.addedvalue@realtor.com or visit FreeForeclosureTours.com.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS - OAKLAND COUNTY

Table with 5 columns: City, Address, Price, and two other columns. Lists residential real estate sales in Oakland County.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS - WAYNE COUNTY

Table with 5 columns: City, Address, Price, and two other columns. Lists residential real estate sales in Wayne County.

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Crossword Puzzle Factual Value. Includes a crossword puzzle grid and a list of clues.

Answer to Last Week's Puzzle. Includes the solution to the crossword puzzle from the previous week.

