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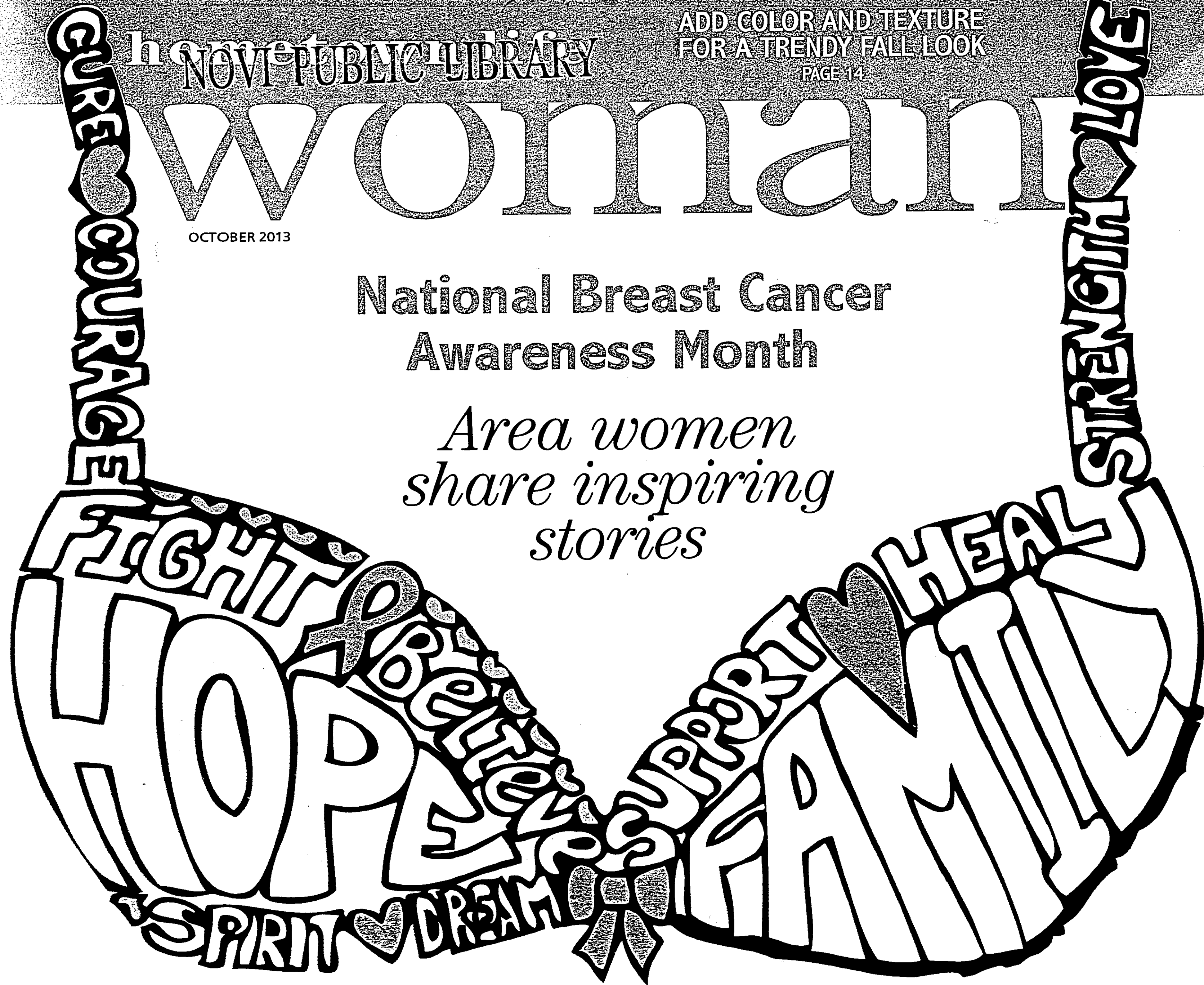
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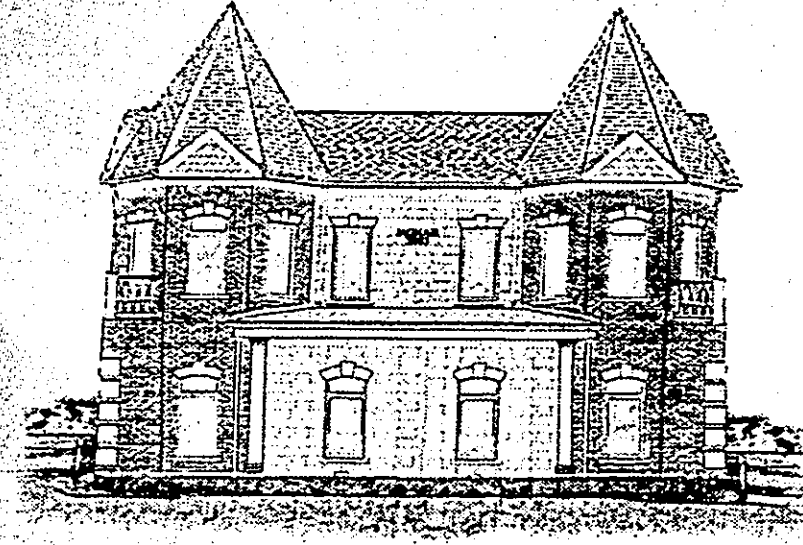
woman

OCTOBER 2013

National Breast Cancer
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*Area women
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Inside

Tips to maintaining classic beauty
Barbara Deyo5

Family caregiver resources
Sallie Justice6

Early detection key
Cover story10-11

Leather, rich colors trendy
Fall Fashion14

Women, wealth and legacy planning
Paul Swain16

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Early detection saves lives

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the staff at *Hometown Life Woman* is asking readers to reach out and urge friends, sisters, daughters, moms and grandmothers to get a mammogram.

Experts agree, early detection is the best defense in curing breast cancer. National statistics validate their statements.

This month's publication features two local women - Julie Sproul of Novi, who was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2006 and today is cancer-free, and Lisa Braddix, 31, of Southfield, who lost her mother Denise Braddix to the disease at age 45 in 2007 - relating their personal experiences.

Lisa Chism, a nurse practitioner in the High Risk Breast Clinic and clinical director of the Karmanos Cancer Institute's Women's Wellness Clinics in Farmington Hills and Detroit, wants women to know that "breast cancer, when caught early, is highly treatable."

Experts agree that improvements in medical therapies, including less invasive procedures, have also increased effectiveness in treating some breast cancers. The keys are screenings and early detection.

Take time to read today's cover story on the local women who share their journey and check out the events planned at area hospitals.

This month's *Woman* also features what's hot in fall fashion, plus columnist Barbara Deyo writes about how to "maintain that classic beauty."

Enjoy this month's edition of *Hometown Life Woman* and, as always, I welcome your comments and suggestions for future editions.

Susan Rosiek publisher
srosiek@hometownlife.com

turn, these radicals can start chain reactions. When the chain reaction occurs in a cell, it can cause damage or death to the cell. Antioxidants terminate these chain reactions by removing free radical intermediates and inhibit other oxidation reactions. They do this by being oxidized themselves, so antioxidants are often reducing agents such as thiols, ascorbic acid or polyphenols."

In other words, antioxidants - mainly beta carotene, vitamins A and C, zinc and selenium - protect your skin from free radicals, slow down the aging process and can save your life.

Fuel up

We have all heard the expression, "We are what we eat." We all know this is important for overall health, but did you know that you need clean blood in order to have healthy skin? Eating lots of fruits and veggies does more than just help our waistline, it helps our skin glow and a whole lot more. Some superstars are broccoli, spinach, kale and other dark green vegetables that contain loads of antioxidants, as well as fiber, which help the body eliminate toxins.

Dark berries, such as blueberries, cranberries, blackberries and cherries, play a significant role in cardiovascular health and help prevent osteoporosis and diabetes. Consuming flavinoid com-

Tips to maintaining classic beauty

Think of your body like a classic car. You can buff it, wax it, paint it and shine it - but you still have to fuel it, lube it, flush it and rest it in order to keep it running. Here are some simple things we can do to keep ourselves - especially our skin - in mint condition.

Protect your investment

The obvious piece of advice that we have heard a thousand times: wear sunscreen every day. But I'm going to talk about the lesser known strain of the protection family - antioxidants.

Antioxidants can be a bit complicated to explain, so I'll let Wikipedia do it. "An antioxidant is a molecule that inhibits the oxidation of other molecules. Oxidation is a chemical reaction that transfers electrons or hydrogen from a substance to an oxidizing agent. Oxidation reactions can produce free radicals. In turn, these radicals can start chain reactions. When the chain reaction occurs in a cell, it can cause damage or death to the cell. Antioxidants terminate these chain reactions by removing free radical intermediates and inhibit other oxidation reactions. They do this by being oxidized themselves, so antioxidants are often reducing agents such as thiols, ascorbic acid or polyphenols."

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Buff it

As we age, our cell turnover slows down, creating a "brick and mortar" effect of dead skin cells, thus dulling the skin. This is where chemical exfoliatives, such as salicylic acid or an alpha-hydroxy acid can help dissolve this "glue," making it possible to remove those built up dead skin cells by using a granular exfoliative. This leaves room at the surface for younger, fresher, newer cells to shine. Your makeup will apply much more smoothly and evenly to a freshly buffed surface, too.

Paint and detail

Highlight and contour can do wonders. Using an illuminating finishing powder acts as a light reflecting highlighter. Apply a thin veil across the bridge of the nose and tops of cheekbones, creating a light diffusing effect, softening the appearance of fine lines and giving the skin a youthful glow.

Contouring creates definition to the face. Sculpting cheekbones, slimming the bridge of the nose and sharpening the jaw line, creating a slimming effect that can make you appear more youthful.

Choose a powder a few shades darker than your skin and apply with an angled face brush to shade the underside of the cheekbones and under the jawline, then use a smaller shadow brush to contour the sides of the nose. Be sure to blend.

Check your fluid levels

I'm talking H2O ladies. Consume two to three liters of water daily. The fact is, skin is an organ - our largest organ. Lack of hydration will make the skin dry, flaky and, yep, wrinkly. All of our organs need water; unfortunately, our skin is last on the priority list.

We need to hydrate externally as well by applying liberal amounts of moisturizer, not only on our face, but our entire body. Also, a great ingredient to look for is hyaluronic acid, which holds 1,000 times its own weight in water, thus attracting water to the skin and holding it there. Don't forget your hands and neck, ladies - they are tell-tale spots for guessing your "real" age.

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Top 10 resources for family caregivers

If you are providing care to an elderly parent, spouse, aging or disabled family member, neighbor or friend, chances are you have a long "to do" list and a lot on your mind.

First of all, you are not alone. More than one million people in Michigan – one in four families – are providing care for aging or disabled loved ones.

Evidence shows that caregiving responsibilities can put tremendous stress on family members. Those who don't take time to care for themselves are at high risk for depression, stress and illness.

The good news is that there are services available to help. Consider these top 10 resources for family caregivers:

1. Join a support group. Many communities, senior centers, hospitals and religious organizations host



Sallie Justice

support group meetings. Some groups are specific to caring for a person with an illness, such as Alzheimer's disease/dementia, cancer or diabetes. Some groups are designed for spouses and family members in general. Support groups are a way to get out of the house and connect with others. You may come away with new ideas, resources, friendships and a deeper understanding that you are not alone.

2. Utilize a food service, such as Meals on Wheels. If you are concerned about preparing and getting a meal to the person you care for, Meals on Wheels is a low-cost solution and one less meal for you to prepare every day. Caregivers, over the

age of 60, also qualify for Meals on Wheels.

3. Find an alternative transportation option. How will you get mom to her doctor appointment next week when you have a meeting already scheduled? Call myride2 at 855-697-4332 or visit www.myride2.com. A myride2 mobility specialist will work with you and local transportation providers to find the best transportation options for the person you care for in Oakland, Macomb and western Wayne counties.

4. Bring in help a few hours a day. Consider turning to local organizations, like Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers, to arrange for a trained volunteer to provide friendship and supervision for the person you care for a few hours a week or an entire day. Don't forget about family members, friends and neighbors who may be willing, if asked, to help out, or contact a professional caregiver or home health

company and hire someone to provide care and supervision.

5. Visit a local Adult Day Service Center. ADS programs provide daytime care for older adults and persons with disabilities and often specialize in caring for individuals with dementia. Most programs provide personal care, transportation, meals and appropriate activities that encourage social interaction. Many programs offer flexible hours so that caregivers can arrange care for their family member for half days or full days, Monday through Friday.

6. Get some house-keeping help. You can make a dream a reality by hiring a company or individual to clean, organize, do laundry or even prepare meals, once a month, once a week, or daily.

See CAREGIVERS, Page 7

CAREGIVERS

Continued from Page 6

7. Visit the web. Searching the web can be a great way to gather care-giving tips, expertise on specific, relevant topics and even connect with other caregivers in online support groups. You may be surprised how much information is available to you in the comfort of your own home. Just "Google" what you are looking for!

8. Use family gatherings to have important conversations. Don't forget to communicate with other family members to explain how the person you care for is doing and what your day-to-day experience is. It is very possible that others may not have a clear understanding of the extent of your work and responsibilities or how they can assist you. Focus on the facts, remain positive and be specific in what you need.

9. Attend the Caregiver Expo in Novi on Oct. 12. The Area Agency on Aging 1-B is host-

ing the "Solutions for Family Caregiver Expo," a one-day annual event designed to provide family caregivers with resources, answers, services and experts, all under one roof. The event will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi. Guests can attend their choice of 12 education presentations and visit with more than 100 exhibitors. The event is free and parking is free. Call 800-852-7795 or visit www.michigancaregiverexpo.com.

10. Call the Area Agency on Aging 1-B. The AAA 1-B is a trusted, unbiased resource for family caregivers. Resource specialists are available to answer your questions and provide resource listings and information about any and all of the resources listed above, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call the AAA 1-B at 800-852-7795 or visit www.aaal1b.com.

Sallie Justice is communications manager of Area Agency on Aging 1-B, 29100 Northwestern Highway, Suite 400. She can be reached at 248-262-9947 or by email at sjustice@aaal1b.com.

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Keep little teeth healthy this Halloween and beyond

Halloween is a fun time of year, filled with costumes, parties and sweet treats. But sometimes parents worry that all those sugary treats can lead to cavities and poor dental health. The good news: It's not what children eat, but how often, and candy can be OK if children and parents are conscientious.

"No food is really bad for children's teeth who do not snack often," said Dr. Warren Brill, president of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. "In fact, many parents may not realize that children's dental health depends less on what they eat and more on how often they eat it."

All types of sugars and the foods that contain them can play a role in tooth decay. About 90 percent of all foods contain sugars or starches that enable bacteria in dental plaque to produce acids. This attack by bacterial acid, lasting 20 minutes or more, can lead to loss of tooth structure and to cavities. So a child who licks a piece of hard candy every few minutes to make it last longer, or slowly sips a sugared drink while studying, is flirting with a higher



GETTY IMAGES

risk of tooth decay. Such long-lasting snacks create an acid attack on teeth for the entire time they are in the mouth.

"Halloween should be fun and sweets can be part of that fun," Brill said. "But it is important for parents and caregivers to remember that moderation is

the key in keeping children, and their mouths, healthy."

Below are a few simple ways the AAPD suggests will help keep little mouths healthy this Halloween:

» Snack in moderation, no more than three times a day.

» A food with sugar or starch is safer for teeth if it is eaten with a meal, not as a snack.

» Tooth brushing should be performed twice daily. The best times to brush are after breakfast and before bed. Parents should supervise the brushing for school-age children until they are 7-8 years of age (about the same time they can tie their own shoelaces or write in cursive).

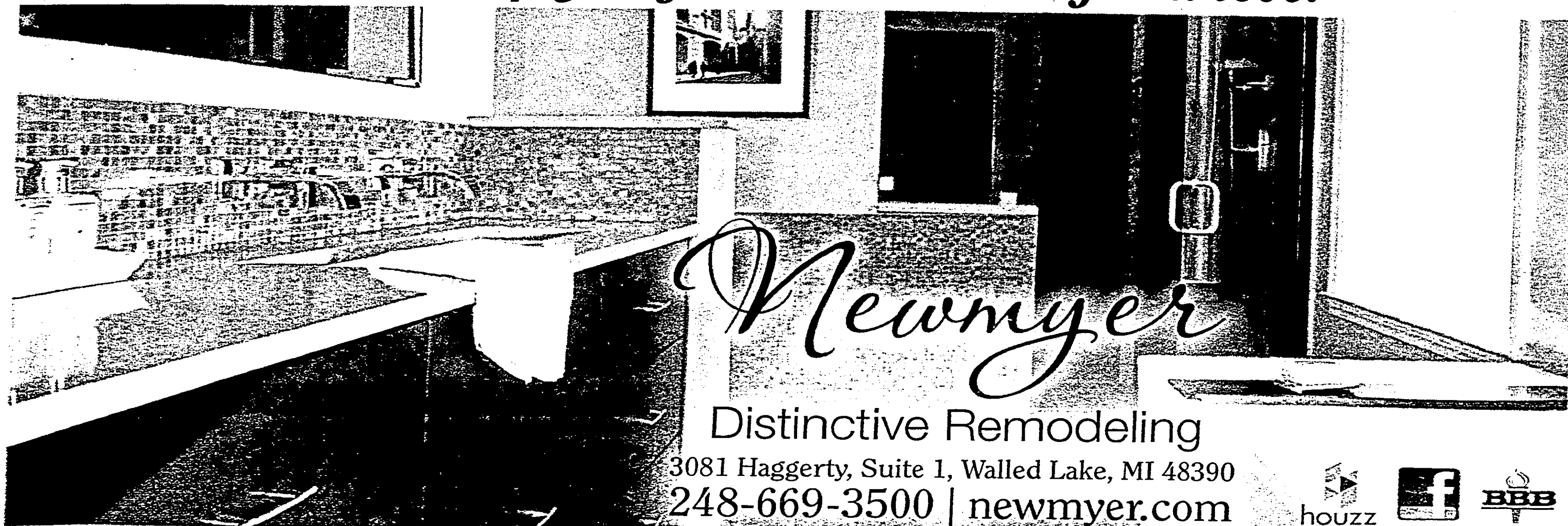
» The best toothbrushes have soft, round-ended (polished) bristles that clean while being gentle on the gums. The handle should be the correct size to fit your child's hand.

» Select a fluoride toothpaste with the American Dental Association Seal of Acceptance.

For more information about children's dental health, visit MyChildrensTeeth.org. As the recognized authority on pediatric oral health care, the AAPD is committed to providing parents and caregivers a trusted resource when looking for information and guidance related to their child's dental health.

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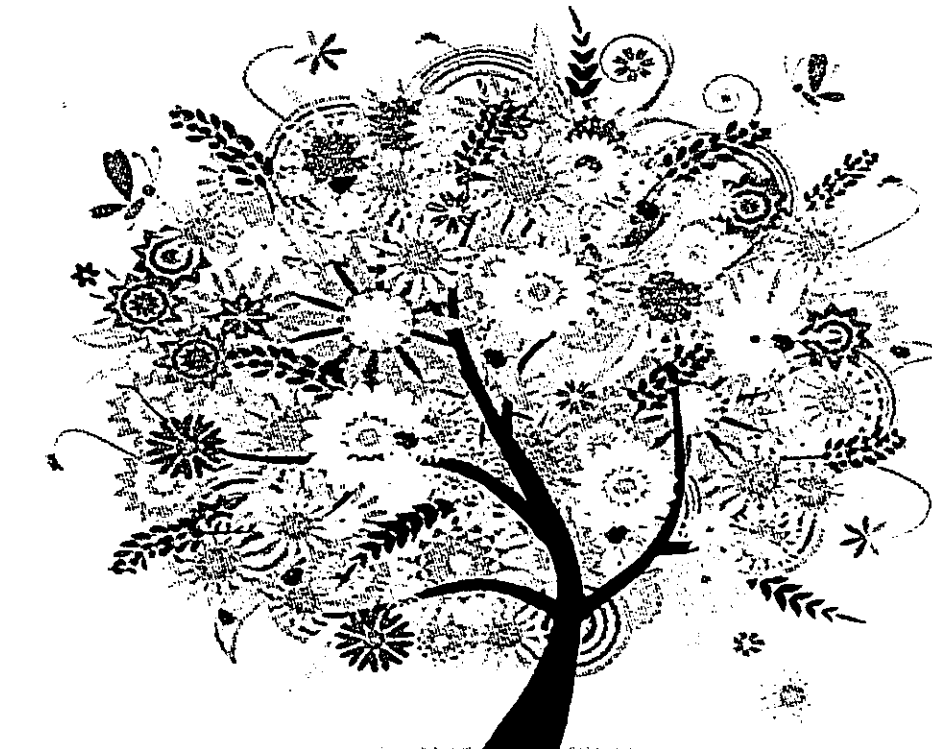
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October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Early detection key to successful outcome

By Jill Halpin
Contributing Writer

You may have noticed the splashes of pink decorating everything from T-shirts to coffee mugs this month.

That means one thing: October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, an event designed to raise awareness of the disease that will impact one in eight women annually, according to the American Cancer Society.

If you're like most women, those two words – breast cancer – can send shivers down your spine.

However, there is something that Lisa Chism, a nurse practitioner in the High Risk Breast Clinic and clinical director of the Karmanos Cancer Institute's Women's Wellness clinics in Farmington Hills and Detroit, wants other women to know.

"Breast cancer, when caught early, is highly treatable," said Chism, who holds a doctorate in the nurse practitioner profession from Oakland University. "There have been so many advances in the treatment of the breast cancer that many women can go on to live a full and healthy lifestyle after treatment."

The keys, Chism said, are breast cancer screenings and early detection.

Early detection crucial

"The earlier the detection, the greater chances of survival," she said, adding that is exactly why Breast Cancer Awareness Month is so important.

Increasing breast cancer awareness, sharing information and educating women about the importance of breast care – as well as providing access to

medical services such as screenings, the mission of Breast Cancer Awareness Month – is vital to the fight against the disease, said Dr. Lawrence Flaherty, medical director of the Clinical Trials Office at Karmanos Cancer Institute.

"It is exactly the point," of raising awareness, Flaherty said, "With three million survivors, the vast majority of women are going to remain cancer-free for their lifetime when it is caught early through screening."

Improvements in medical therapies, including less invasive procedures, have also increased effectiveness in treating some breast cancers as well, he said.

"We are getting better results with fewer surgeries and less drug treatments," he said. "It is nothing to be afraid of."

Fear did not hold Julie Sproul, 66, of Novi back when she discovered a lump in her breast in 2006.

Her follow-up mammogram did not show the lump. However, the subsequent breast ultrasound did. Sproul discovered she had not only one, but two different types of cancer in both breasts.

"I was in shock. It's something I will never forget," said Sproul, director of the Mercy Cancer Network.

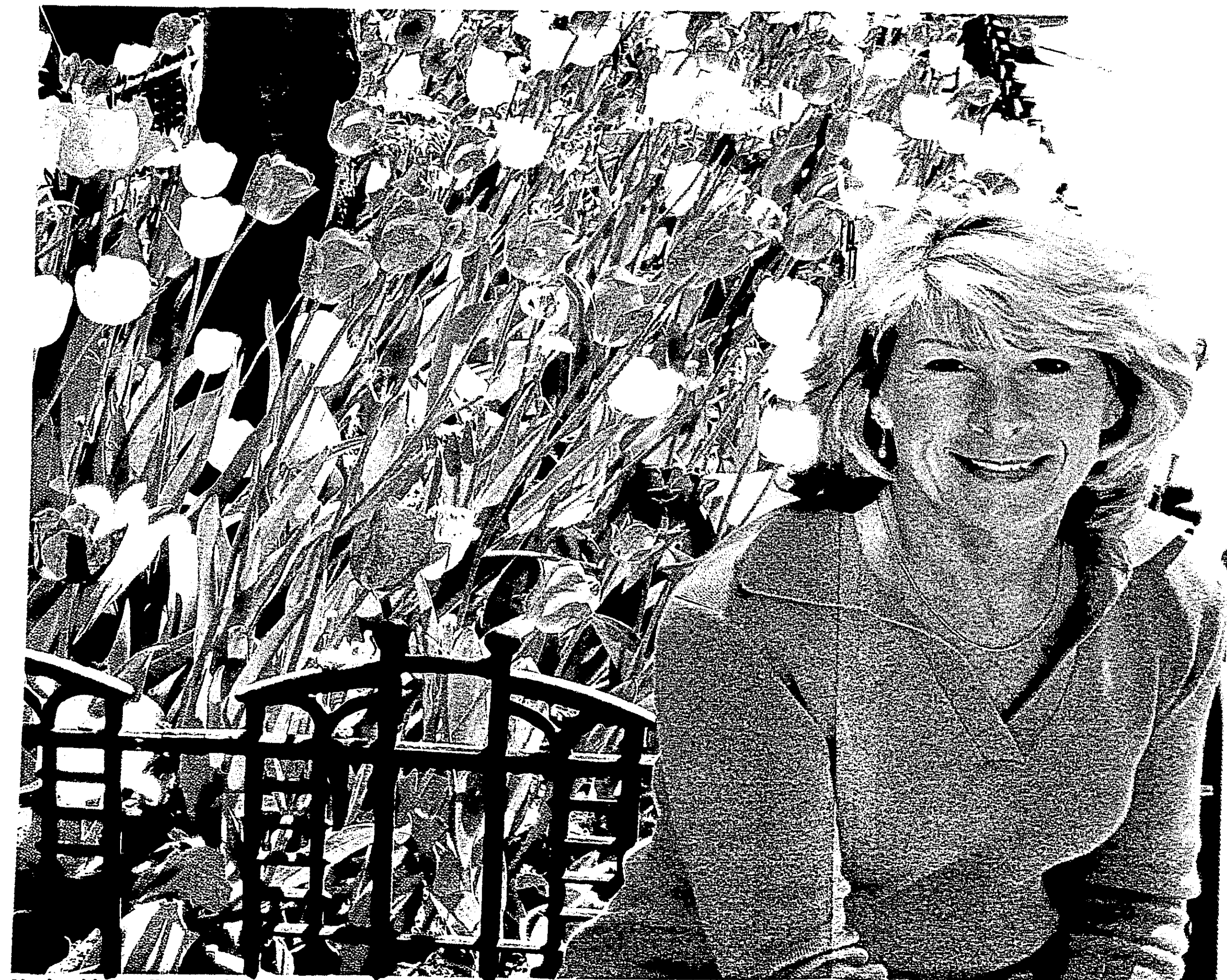
One of Michigan's largest networks of board-certified cancer specialists, Mercy Cancer Network is composed of the CHE Trinity Health-Michigan hospitals cancer programs, working together and sharing the best practices in cancer diagnosis, treatment and follow-up care, as well as providing the latest and most advanced cancer treatment available, Sproul explained.

She has been director of the cancer network since 2009.

No family cancer history

"I have no history of breast cancer in my family and I was not expecting it to come back that I had cancer," she said.

Sproul said it was her dense breast



Novi resident Julie Sproul is director of the Mercy Cancer Network. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2006 and today is cancer-free.

tissue, a condition common in many women, that made the lumps difficult to detect from the routine mammogram. That is one reason Sproul recommends discussing the option of additional screening for women with dense breast tissue.

"Early diagnosis of breast cancer is so vital and dense breast can make lumps hard to detect," she said.

The density of your breast tissue and appropriate plans for screenings are definitely things women need to dis-

cuss with their health care provider, Sproul advises. Becoming familiar with your breast tissue through regular self-exams enables you to detect changes earlier that can be reported to your physician.

"Once you find something, you can follow up. I had every test imaginable," she said.

Tests indicated that Sproul's breast cancer had a very low risk of recurrence, which guided her treatment plans.



Lisa Braddix, 31, of Southfield (left) has made it her life's mission to help others. Her mother Denise Braddix died of breast cancer in 2007 at age 45.

ment and subsequent follow up.

"It is a choice. There is help out there," she said.

Her life's mission

Lisa Braddix, 31, of Southfield did not have breast cancer, but she considers herself a survivor.

After losing her mother Denise Braddix to the disease at age 45 in 2007, she has made it her life's mission to help others avoid the devastating loss of someone they care for from breast cancer.

"I was only 14 when she was first diagnosed. The experience of watching her battle this disease for 10 years has had a tremendous impact on me," said Braddix, a breast cancer program specialist for Komen Detroit.

Her mother's struggle – and that of herself and her father and sister – guided her on a career path as a passionate advocate that includes a bachelor's degree in biology and a master's degree in public health.

"My experience is what drew me to my role," Braddix said. "Seeing how this disease not only affected my mother, but everyone around her: family, friends, co-workers. Even though I am grown, there are still things you need your mom around for – and she's not there."

In addition to self-breast exams, she also advocates regular mammograms as well as a breast cancer risk assess-

ment and subsequent follow up. "It is a choice. There is help out there," she said.

Education essential

There are many myths and misconceptions about the disease, Braddix believes, and educating women about the importance of early detection is essential.

Her mother's breast cancer was discovered late: she was in stage three when it was revealed she had the disease.

Braddix said she often thinks about "what if" her mother has found it earlier.

"I want to spread as much information as possible about the importance of finding breast cancer early. If you find it sooner, there is a greater chance of survival," she said. "There is so much out there these days, great research and technology that has improved prognosis. It is not the death sentence that it once was."

Educating others is empowering, she said.

"I ask people to please take what they have learned from me and go out and share it with someone else," she said.

Breast cancer in 2013: What you need to know

Thirty years ago, a diagnosis of breast cancer was thought of as a virtual death sentence for many women, but since that time, significant progress has been made in the fight against breast cancer. Reduced mortality, less invasive treatments, an increased number of survivors and other advancements have their roots in breast cancer research – more than \$790 million of it funded by Susan G. Komen, the world's largest breast cancer organization.

However, the reality is that breast cancer is still a serious disease. National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, marked each October, brings awareness to the disease and empowers women to take charge of their own breast health.

This year, about 200,000 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed among women in the U.S. and nearly 40,000 women will die from it. Globally, 1.6 million people will be diagnosed and 400,000 will die. Despite the increased awareness of breast cancer, major myths still abound. Women must remain vigilant against this disease by learning the facts and understanding how they may be able to reduce their risk.

Myths and facts on breast cancer

Myth: I'm only 35. Breast cancer happens only in older women.

Fact: While the risk increases with age, all women are at risk for getting breast cancer.

Myth: Only women with a family history of breast cancer get the disease.

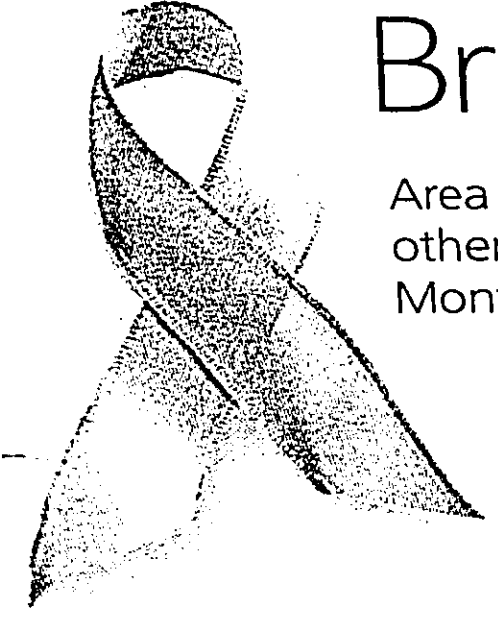
Fact: Most women who get breast cancer have no family history of the disease. However, a woman whose mother, sister or daughter had breast cancer has an increased risk.

Myth: If I don't have a mutated BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene, I won't get breast cancer.

Fact: You can still get breast cancer, even without a gene mutation. About 90-95 percent of women who get breast cancer do not have this mutation.

Myth: Women with more than one

See MYTHS, Page 16



Breast health events, services in October

Area hospital will host workshops, support groups and other events during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. See the schedule below.

Beaumont Health System

Beaumont Health System will hold its eighth annual Breast Health Fairs this month. Attendees can learn about breast cancer prevention, treatment, support, research trials and survivorship programs.

The fairs will take place from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 8, at Beaumont Hospital-Troy, second floor atrium, and from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 15, at the Breast Care Center at Beaumont Medical Center-West Bloomfield. No charge to attend.

The health fairs will feature information on Beaumont's comprehen-

sive breast care centers, Sharing & Caring Program, cancer genetics, Integrative Medicine Program, Ministrelli Women's Heart Center, Silver Linings, clinical trials and more.

For more information, call Sharing & Caring at 248-551-8585.

St. Mary Mercy

» Breast Cancer Support – Group meets 7-9 p.m. each Tuesday, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, and Dec. 10, in Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center on the hospital campus, 36475 Five Mile Road, Livonia. Call 734-655-1100. A free education group for women.

» Helen Palmer Image Recovery Center – Supportive image-enhancement services, such as wigs, skin and nail care, medical massage therapy, and safe products, for patients with cancer. Call 734-655-8810 to speak with a trained clinical specialist.

» Ladies Night Out – “Live your most adventurous life. It is good for

your health!” featuring Lila Lazarus at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17, in the St. Mary Mercy Hospital South Auditorium, 36475 Five Mile Road, Livonia. Bone density and blood pressure screenings and massage are offered 5:30-7 p.m. The event includes light refreshments, raffles and vendors. Registration is required; call 734-655-1182. An optional \$5 donation is requested and accepted at the door.

» MammoPlus®, the Better Mammogram – St. Mary Mercy Livonia offers MammoPlus®, digital mammography screening, plus a lifetime risk assessment for breast cancer. Call 734-655-2442 or visit stmary-mercy.org.

Garden City Hospital

The Garden City Hospital Center for Breast Care offers full field digital mammography, ultrasound services including biopsy, bone densitometry (Dexa) scanning, stereotactic biopsy and breast ultrasound.

The Garden City Hospital Center for Breast Care at the Specialty Centers of Westland is located at 35600 Central City Parkway, Ste. 107, Westland. Call 734-458-3471.

Botsford Hospital

The Drs. Louis and Lucille Spagnolo Breast Center is in the Botsford Cancer Center located on the hospital's main campus, 27900 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills.

The center offers digital mammography, breast ultrasound, stereotactic core biopsy, access to breast MRI and other services.

Call 248-471-8622 for information or an appointment.

St. John Providence Park-Nov

Comprehensive care available within the St. John Providence Health System Breast Care Program. Treatment focuses on the individual, with options geared to each woman's needs. For more information call 1-866-246-4673.

Oakwood Breast Care Center -Wayne

Located at 4491 Venoy Road across from Oakwood Annapolis Hospital, the Breast Care Center-Wayne offers digital, state-of-the-art breast screening and diagnostic technology. Call 800-543-9355.

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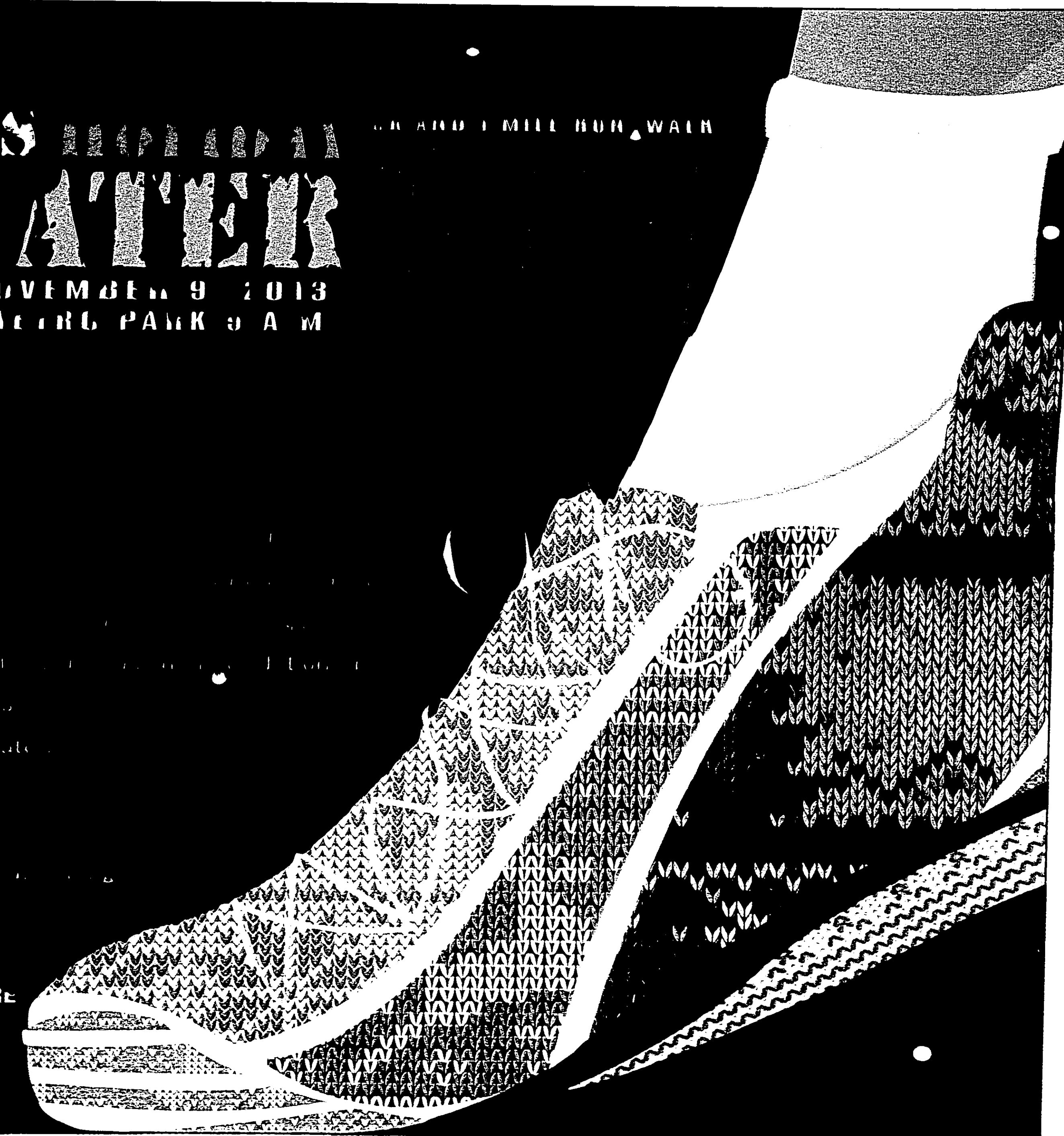
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Button cuff leggings by Dolcezza are made in the U.S. and available at The Clothing Cove in Milford. The leggings, a super soft Modal blend, retail for \$59.

Fall fashion:

Leather, texture, rich colors are trendy this season

By Jill Halpin
Contributing Writer

Fall is here and along with the cool weather comes new fashion dictates to keep you looking fresh and fabulous.

The bright neon ensembles of the spring and summer will slowly fade away as quickly as the warm temperatures, only to be replaced by eye-catching shades of deep blues, purples and greens.

"Think peacock colors – they are rich and vibrant jewel tones," said Andrea Kendra, a sales associate at Nordstrom in Novi.

That doesn't mean that your bright yellows, pinks and other neons need to be tucked away just yet, rather, limit them to an accessory or accent piece to stay on trend.

"There are so many choices this fall, that is what is so wonderful," about the new fashion

season, Kendra said.

According to Kendra and other local fashionistas, that means you can forget worrying so much about the right colors this fall. The focus this season is on textures.

From chunky knits and lace embellishments to leather and suede, the look this autumn is one of diverse combinations.

Leather hot for fall

"Leather, real or faux, is so hot right now," said Lauren Roumayah of Rococo, a women's boutique with locations in Northville and Birmingham. "We are seeing it everywhere from leather pants and leggings to bits of leathers added to sweaters or dresses as a piece of trim or more."

Although most often seen in natural colors and earth tones, this season leathers can also be colorful

See FASHION, Page 15

FASHION

Continued from Page 14

– a trend carried on from last fall and winter.

"As long as the leathers match and not clash, you can mix them with suede to add another element of style," Roumayah said.

Contrasting leather panels in dresses, shirts and sweaters are making a big appearance this fall and leather blazers are making a comeback as well, Kendra said.

"Leather is definitely a must-have this season," she said.

Rachel Paga, manager of the Clothing Cove in downtown Milford, says that while leather-accented pieces are a striking statement – making them wardrobe essentials this autumn – animal prints can be just as eye-catching.

Animal prints

"Leopard and cheetah prints are a real fashion-forward look," Paga said, "and they can be paired with everything from a business suit to a pair of jeans for a classy or casual look."

She cautions against mixing too many animal prints at the same time – it can be overwhelming.

"Animals prints are a great look this fall. But just like in nature, you need to keep your 'animals' separate – they don't play nicely together," she said.

In addition to leather, leggings are another fashion must-have this fall.

"A great pair of black leggings is a basic you can't do without this season," Paga said.

Just be sure to pair your leggings with a tunic top or sweater long enough to cover your rear, she remind: "You want to make sure you look great from every angle."

New this fall and making a comeback are high-waisted, men's wear-type trousers, Roumayah said.

Paired with crop tops or slouchy sweaters, these pants provide a slimming silhouette, she said, adding, "Again, you can dress them up or down, depending on your top and accessories."

Feminine embellishments, a carryover from last spring, still remain popular. Whether lace or rhinestones, tiny or eye-popping, these embellishments – adding a little extra flair to the simplest of pieces – are showing up on everything from sweaters to jackets to shoes.

"This season's embellishments seem to have more edge to them like rhinestones or studs," Kendra said.

The best thing about this fall fashion season is that there is a lot of room to play with different styles and still look great.

"Textures, embellishments and fabric weights, all of these things come into play in putting together your ultimate look," Paga said. "It still comes down to what looks good on your body."



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BEAUTY

Continued from Page 5

When all else fails – cover it up. A good concealer is a girl's best friend. By simply camouflaging dark circles and sun spots, we can take off a few years instantly. Use a synthetic brush with a solid product, rather than a liquid. You will get better coverage and longevity. Once completely covered, pat the product into the skin, until you don't see edges, then set with powder to prevent creasing.

Keep your air filters clean

How do we do this? Just breathe. Deep breathing serves as a pump for the lymphatic system. We need a healthy lymphatic system in order to properly detoxify and cleanse our systems. Active lymphatic drainage improves the appearance of the skin and reduces puffiness caused by water retention.

Breathing is one of the reasons practicing yoga is so good for you. But you can always sit and close your eyes and take 10 deep breaths throughout the day. Not only will it help stimulate circulation, it will help calm the mind and ward off depression and anxiety.

Take it on the open road

Yes, I'm going to tell you to exercise. This is one way to get the breath flowing. In addition, exercise increases the body's blood circulation, which improves skin appearance and texture. It also amps up production of collagen, the fiber that maintains skin's young, taut appearance. And if those aren't enough reasons, perspiration can help

unclog pores and calm outbreaks by preventing the release of stress-related hormones that contribute to breakouts.

Let your engines cool down

They don't call it "beauty sleep" for nothing. Lack of sleep causes blood vessels to dilate, bringing out those dreaded dark circles. Additionally, our skin repairs itself while we are sleeping, working hard to produce those fresh new cells I was talking about. Seven to eight hours is optimum. In fact, oversleeping can cause cell breakdown. So, as with everything, it's all about balance.

Enjoy the ride

"Laugh lines" aren't really caused by laughing. They are caused by the breakdown of elastin and collagen, resulting from environmental exposures and choices we made in our 20s coming back to haunt us in our 40s. So find something to smile about, often. Studies show that simply being happy and laughing out loud on a regular basis will help you look and feel younger.

So smile as you travel down that rambling road of life. It's OK to put the top down and let the hair flow – and when life hands you lemons, cut them up and put them in your water.

Barbara Deyo, a health, wellness, and beauty writer, and owner of Deyo Studio for face and body, is an internationally acclaimed makeup artist, having groomed the faces of Paul McCartney, Bob Seger, Kerrie Washington, Shaun Robinson and more. She has been named Best of the Best by Allure, Hour, Real Detroit and WDIV. Deyo Studio is located at 576 N. Old Woodward Ave, 2nd floor, Birmingham. Contact Deyo at 248-203-1222 or visit www.deyostudio.com.

MYTHS

Continued from Page 11

known risk factor get breast cancer.

Fact: Most women with breast cancer have no known risk factors except being a woman and getting older. All women are at risk.

Myth: You can prevent breast cancer.

Fact: Because the causes of breast cancer are not yet fully known, there is no way to prevent it.

Actions to reduce your risk

Breast cancer can't be prevented; however, research has shown that there are actions women can take to reduce their risk of developing breast cancer.

» Maintain a healthy weight – Postmenopausal women who are overweight have a 30-60 percent higher

breast cancer risk than those who are lean.

» Add exercise to your routine – Women who get regular physical activity may have a lower risk of breast cancer by about 10-20 percent, particularly in postmenopausal women.

» Limit alcohol intake – Research has found that women who had two to three alcoholic drinks per day had a 20 percent higher risk of breast cancer.

» Breastfeed, if you can – Research has shown that mothers who breastfed for a lifetime total of one year (combined duration of breastfeeding for all children) were slightly less likely to get breast cancer than those who never breastfed.

For more information on the facts about breast cancer and what you need to reduce your risk, or to find resources in your community, visit komen.org or call 1-877-GO-KOMEN.

– Courtesy of Family Features

Women, wealth and legacy planning

Whether nurturing the values of children, fulfilling charitable goals or making investment decisions that affect their own as well as their beneficiaries' financial security, women play a central role in establishing and preserving family wealth.

Women need to be involved, informed and comfortable with their role as guardians of family wealth.



Paula Swain

Active participation in wealth management can strengthen women's commitment to protect and grow their assets with the goal of leaving a legacy for their children, their community and beyond.

The following strategies may help assure the smooth transfer of both your measurable

wealth and your values surrounding wealth to the next generation:

Education leads to confidence

Attaining financial security for you and your heirs typically requires you to accept responsibility for the management of significant investment assets. Whether you are single, married or a surviving widow, it is in your best interest to receive as much education as possible about wealth planning, investments, succession and related matters.

Even if you are not directly responsible for making important financial decisions, it is vital to have knowledge in these areas in order to communicate effectively with professional advisers charged with these duties.

Professionals offer objective services

Relying on professional advice as opposed to family and friends is extremely important when making decisions affecting the accumulation, preservation and distribution of wealth.

What should you expect from a qualified professional? A good wealth adviser – or a team with other professionals, such as attorneys and accountants – should offer guidance and services in most areas of wealth management, including estate planning, retirement planning, insurance needs

assessment and college planning.

On a more personal note, a wealth adviser should work with you to:

- » Identify areas requiring special assistance, such as creating trusts.
- » Minimize taxes and planning costs.
- » Develop and implement a personalized wealth management plan.
- » Review your plan periodically and suggest changes when needed.

Philanthropy integral to planning

Wealth holders have a greater opportunity, if not responsibility, to make charitable giving an integral part of the legacy planning process.

Families that are charitably inclined may have clear goals in mind, but they may not know where to begin. In order to choose the best strategy, you should work with a trusted adviser to evaluate a number of factors, such as tax management objectives, types of assets to be gifted and your specific strategic intent. Then choose from among a range of charitable giving vehicles, such as donor-advised funds, family foundations, gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts/charitable lead trusts.

Responsibilities of wealth

Wealth is a gift that opens doors of opportunity not only for you, but also for your children, their children and generations to come. Yet wealth can be a weighty responsibility that takes time to manage, maintain and preserve. If you are a parent, you are no doubt concerned about the effects of wealth on your children's values and how the "money" lessons you pass on to them will resonate as they mature to adulthood. Family values should be held in the same high regard as family wealth.

Family values

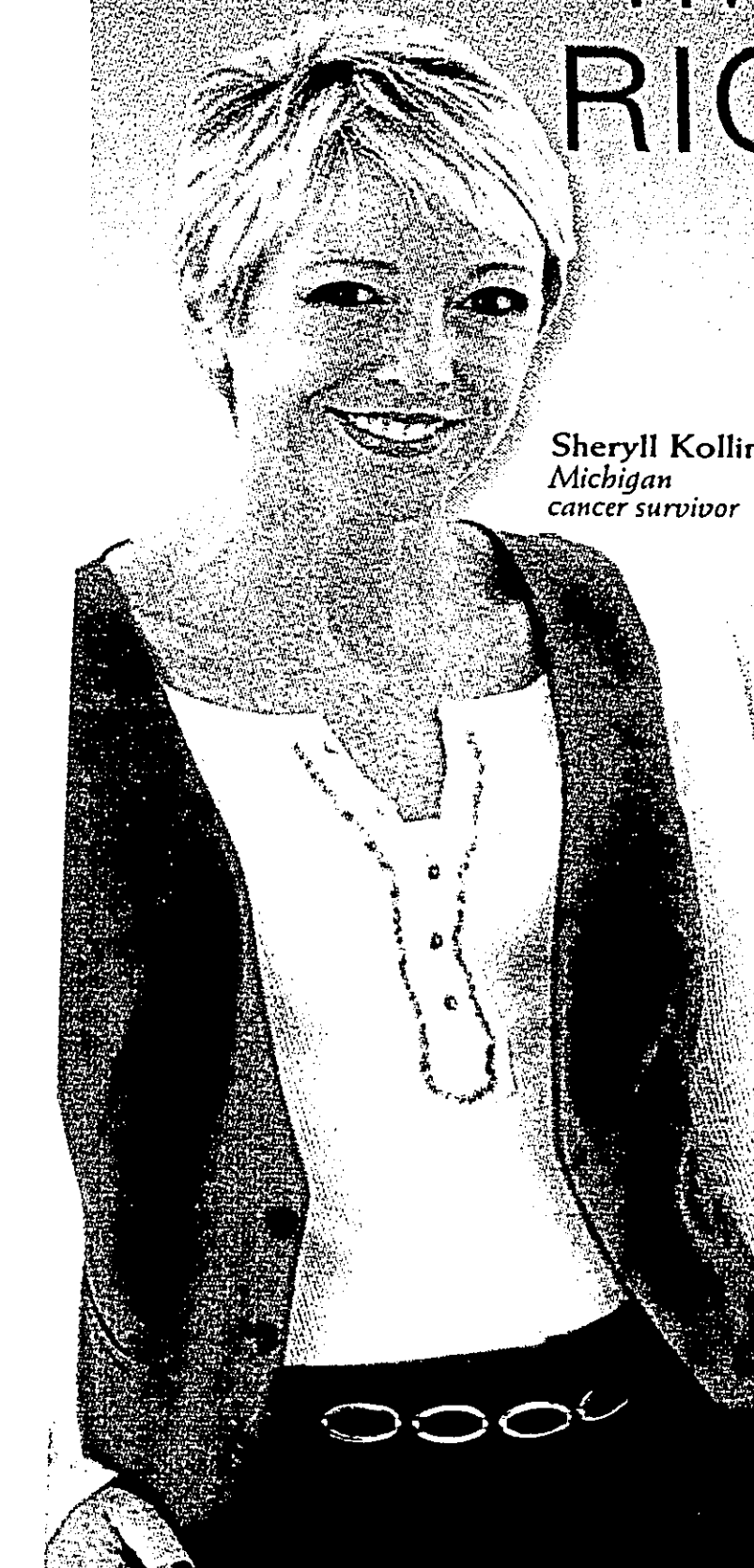
Those traits, behavioral patterns, beliefs, goals and morals that are shared by members of a family group define a family's character as much as dollar signs measure a family's wealth. By holding shared values in high regard and setting an example of commitment to financial responsibility, philanthropy and volunteerism for

See **PLANNING**, Page 18

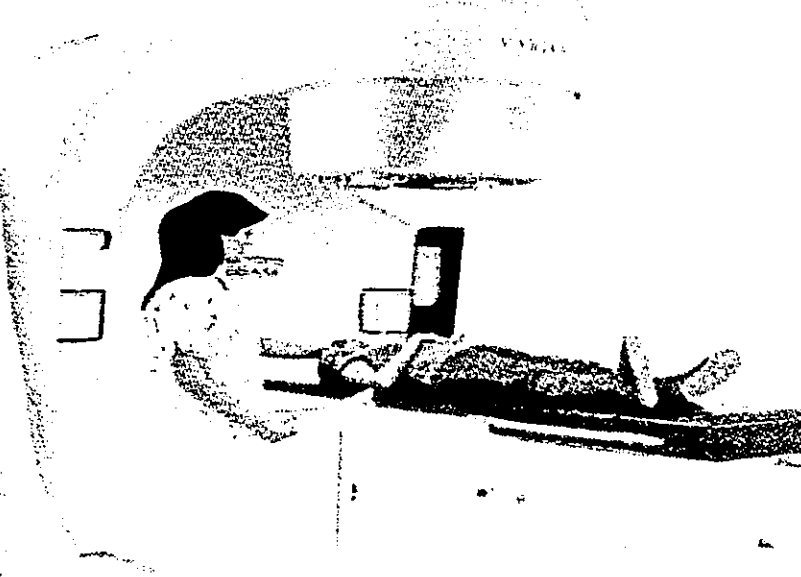
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PLANNING

Continued from Page 17

the younger generation, you will enrich your family's legacy for generations to come.

A woman's worth

As stewards of the family legacy, women are in a unique and influential position. They are holders of great wealth, as well as keepers of the family's moral and philanthropic vision. There are many financial, accounting, legal and business tools to assist in implementing a plan of action.

Contact your financial adviser for guidance in mapping out a legacy planning strategy unique to your situation.

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Paula Swain CFP® is a financial consultant at Swain Financial, LLC, 39111 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Contact Swain at 734-552-7610. Securities offered through LPL Financial, a member firm of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC).

Autumn fun for the whole family

Fall brings with it beautiful weather, cool breezes and colorful foliage. Celebrate all of the beauty, fun and flavors of the season with your family. Take a hike, visit a pumpkin patch, plan a party or spend the afternoon baking autumn-inspired treats.

Here are a few fun ideas to enjoy fall with your family:

» One traditional fall favorite is apple butter. Crisp apples are cooked slowly until the sugars caramelize into a deep, rich flavor. That's also the way Musselman's makes it.

Spread it on toast, pancakes or other baked goods. It is also a great way to add a new flavor to your favorite, familiar dishes. For tips and recipes, such as apple or pumpkin dips, visit www.musselmans.com.

» Take your family to the pumpkin patch. Pick a pumpkin or enjoy playgrounds, hay rides, corn mazes, petting zoos, hay forts and farm tours found at many patches. Take a picnic and enjoy the day.

» Celebrate autumn with a potluck. Encourage guests to bring dishes made with classic fall flavors like caramel, pumpkin, apples and warm spices. Sim-



Heavenly Sweet Potato Casserole

ply adding apple butter to favorite family recipes will give a cinnamon apple flavor to much loved dishes.

» Those lucky enough to live in an area where leaves turn breathtaking shades of bronze, yellow, orange and red should take advantage of the natural beauty with a family hike or slow drive through the country.

Every autumn, nature puts on a brilliant color show in many parts of the country. The beautiful weather, colorful background and traditional activities are the perfect excuse to embrace fall fun with your family.

— Courtesy of Family Features

HEAVENLY SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE

Servings: 8

2 pounds (3 large) sweet potatoes, peeled, cubed
 ¼ cup Musselman's Apple Butter
 2 eggs
 ¼ cup heavy cream
 ¼ cup honey
 ¼ cup melted butter
 ½ cup brown sugar
 ½ cup pecans, chopped, optional
 2 tablespoons butter, melted

Place potatoes in medium saucepan; add about 1 inch of water. Cover and cook 10 to 15 minutes or until tender. Drain very well. Heat oven to 350°F. Spray 1½-quart casserole with cooking spray. Mix apple butter, eggs, cream, honey and ¼ cup melted butter. Add potatoes and beat by hand or with electric mixer until mashed and well mixed. Spoon into casserole. Mix brown sugar, pecans and remaining butter in small bowl. Sprinkle over potatoes. Bake 20 to 30 minutes or until hot and bubbly.

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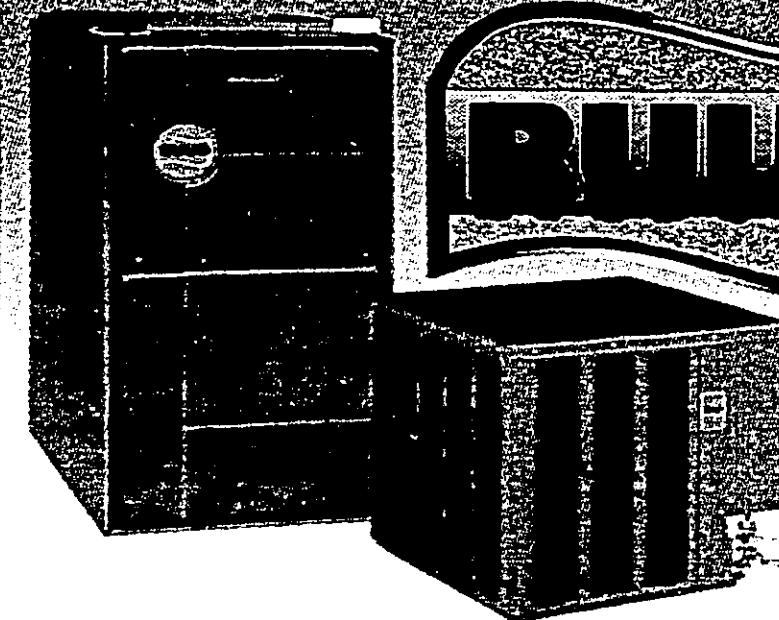


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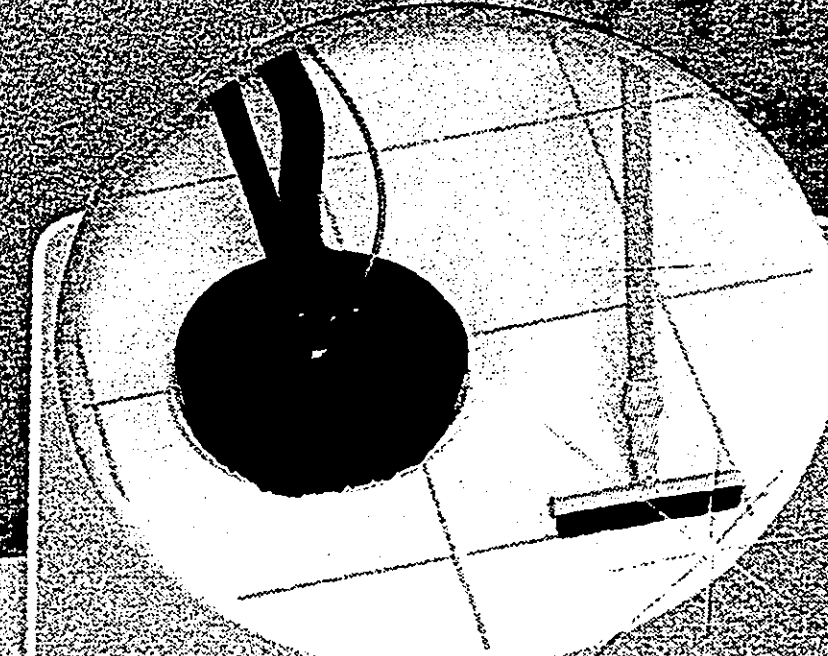
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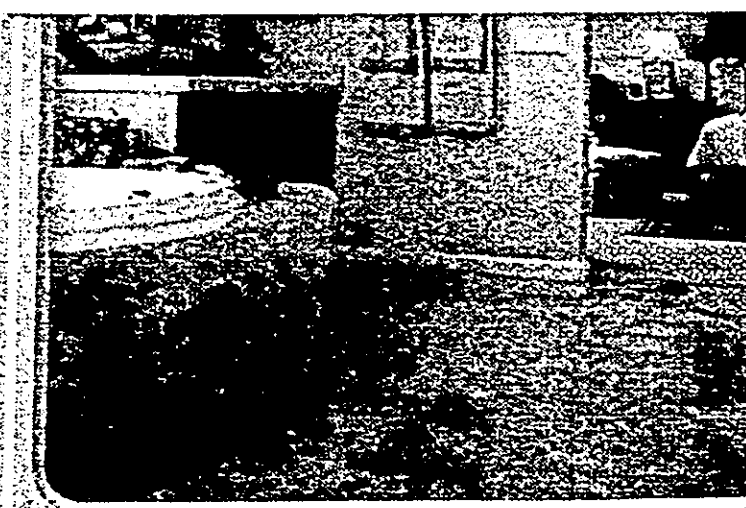
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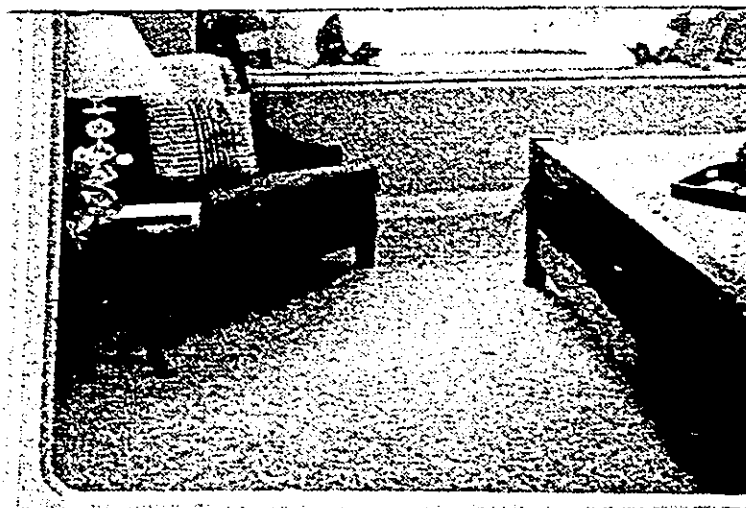


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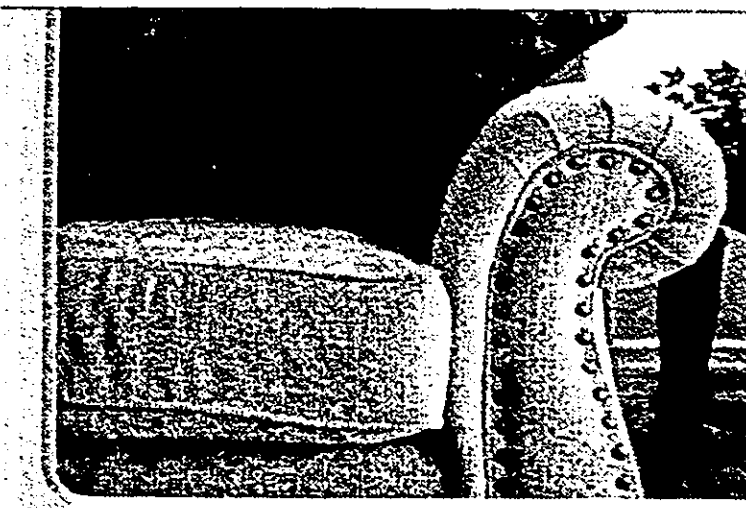


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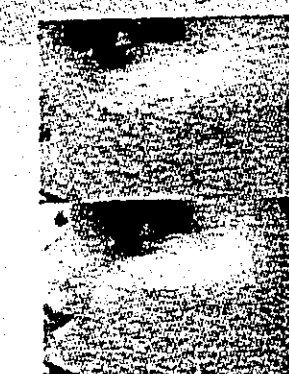
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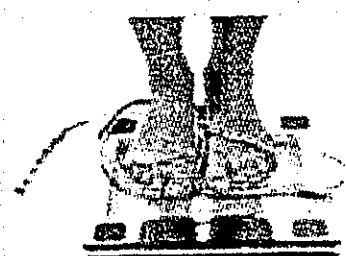
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On display

The city of Novi, in partnership with ArtsNovi, will showcase the works of local artists through Oct. 28 in the Novi Civic Center Atrium Gallery, 45175 10 Mile Road. The exhibit will include a variety of pieces and mediums.

A free public opening reception is scheduled 6:30-7:30 p.m. today, Thursday, Oct. 3.

Meet Dr. Ausaf Sayeed

The Michigan Indo-American Democratic Caucus is hosting a dinner reception with Dr. Ausaf Sayeed, consul general of India, Chicago Consulate, Oct. 12 at Mirchi Indian Cuisine, 25750 Novi Road.

Registration begins at 6 p.m. Cost is \$30 per person; \$50 for two; \$250 for table of 10. Make checks payable to the MIADC. A cash bar will be available. For reservations, contact Tej Jhamb at 248-539-4081. Sponsorships are also available.

Senior transportation gets \$54K

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Novi's senior transportation program, which averages 10,000 rides a year, just got a lift through some helpful funding support.

The city received \$54,454 in Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation Municipal Credit Funds for 2014 to support the Older Adult Transportation Program for Novi residents age 55 and over, as well as physically challenged non-senior residents.

"The Older Adult Transportation program is an essential service for many older adults in Novi," according to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services department.

Novi had expected to receive a lesser amount from SMART, but the current amount was recently restored. However, Novi officials said SMART funding is slated to change again next year and the amount is expected to be lower.

For fiscal year 2013-14, the

PROGRAM SPECIFICS

The transportation program operates from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, totaling 73 hours. Advance reservation of 72 hours is required for transports after 4 p.m. Passengers may ride anywhere within the city of Novi for a nominal fee of \$3 per one-way ride and \$5 per one-way ride for up to 10 miles outside the city of Novi. There is also a discounted fee of \$1 each way to go to the Senior Center, Civic Center or the Novi Public Library or to any program sponsored by Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services. Users can also purchase punch cards, in place of cash, for 10 rides within the city for \$30, six rides outside the city at \$30 and 20 rides to the Senior Center, Civic Center and library for \$20. To learn more, call 248-735-5617 or visit: <http://www.cityofnovi.org/Services/ParksAndRecreationSeniorsTransportation.asp>.

See PROGRAM, Page A2

WINNING THE WEST



Dancers hit the stage during the Sept. 26 opening day matinee of the Novi Senior Center Theatre's production of "How the West Was Fun." The show, which includes musical numbers, dancing and lots of laughter, continues with noon luncheon shows Oct. 3-4 and a final 2 p.m. show Oct. 6, at the Novi Civic Center. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Group keeps the faith with See You at the Pole event

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

It was a small group of people who faithfully gathered Wednesday at the flag pole at Novi's Fuerst Park.

"We're here to support our students and teachers in their Christian faith," event organizer Alan Pittel said prior to the event. "The public forum can be difficult for many Christians, so we want to show them they are not alone in their faith."

See You at the Pole is a global day of student prayer, which began in 1990 as a grass-roots movement with 10 students praying at their school. Twenty years later, millions pray on their campuses the fourth Wednesday in September. It is a prayer rally where students meet at the school flag pole before school to lift up to God their friends, families, teachers, school and nation.



Those gathered in Novi sang songs, gave testimony and prayers. Toby Manimalthu, a national speaker and evangelist, said a prayer of hope, love and faith.

See PRAYER, Page A2

Novi updating flood codes to keep up with state law

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Flooding in Novi is caused by three sources: a river or stream that leaves its banks during heavy storms, snow melt and ice/clear's jams. Flood waters can sometimes cover many blocks up to four or five feet deep, according to the Novi Community Development Department.

Novi is now updating its ordinance code to keep in compliance with state standards pertaining to flood insurance (and one for other property maintenance), "to properly reference state law," City Manager Clay Pearson said. Streams like Shaw Creek, Leavenworth Creek, Munro Creek, Chapman Creek, In-

See UPDATES, Page A2

INDEX

- Business..... A7
- Crossword Puzzle..... B6
- Education..... A4
- Homes..... B6
- Jobs..... B7
- Opinion..... A14
- Services..... B6
- Sports..... B1
- Wheels..... B7

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Police believe shooting to be murder/suicide

Investigators are confident the two bodies found in a Wixom apartment Sept. 26 are the result of a murder-suicide, with a man shooting a woman and then taking his own life.

A manager of the Stone Ridge apartment complex called police around 12:15 p.m. after discovering the bodies, Wixom Public Safety Director Clarence Goodle said. He said the manager had gone to the apartment to determine whether there was someone there who had not

gone to work. Goodle said the man is about 40 years old and the woman is about 25 years old. Investigators are still working to determine the identities of both as the gunshot wounds made it difficult. Their names

will be released after family members are notified. The Stone Ridge apartment complex is off Pontiac Trail, between Beck and Wixom roads.

—Gannett News Service

UPDATES

Continued from Page A1

gersel Creek, Bishop Creek, Thornton Creek and Novi-Lyon Drain are smaller streams, which flood during or soon after heavy storms. Flooding can also be caused from Walled Lake, Shawood Lake and Twelve Oaks Lake.

The city code for flood areas is being updated in part to accurately reference the updated FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps and revised location of the Flood Resistant Construction requirements in Appendix G of the Michigan Building Code.

Novi officials said the change in this ordinance chapter "addresses Flood Resistant Construction practices and designation of regulated flood prone hazard areas in compliance with Federal Emergency Management Agency and Flood Insurance Rate Maps required for participation in federal flood insurance programs."

City officials say residents who are interested in learning more about flood areas and protection should first check their flood hazard. Flood maps and flood protection references are available at the Novi Public Library.

Residents can also visit the Building Department to see if they are in a mapped flood

plain. The Building Department can provide specific information, such as flood elevations, flood depths and elevation certificates.

Contact the Community Development Department at 248-347-0415 for further information.

Property maintenance

The other proposed amendment adopts the 2009 edition of the International Property Maintenance Code as referenced in the 2009 Michigan Building Code, according to the Novi Community Development report.

Some things have been carried over and left unchanged from the previous code language.

"The provisions of the Property Maintenance Code are used by City Building and Ordinance Enforcement in concert with other provisions of the City Code to address issues including dilapidated and unimproved property, damaged or structurally unsound buildings, noxious weeds and grass, as well as damaged parking and sidewalk areas on private property," the city report read.

The city council unanimously approved these changes Sept. 30 as first readings; there will be another final approval to come.

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

Noon skate



John Auer enjoys the Sept. 27 noon skate at Novi Ice Arena. The skate occurs from noon to 1:50 p.m. Monday through Friday, is open to the public and costs \$2. Skate rentals are available for \$3. JOHN HEDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PROGRAM

Continued from Page A1

budgeted operating amount of the transportation program is \$26,620, of which \$12,166 is absorbed into the Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services budget. The Older Adult Transportation program has been supported by the city of Novi general fund, Community Development Block Grants, user fees and SMART Municipal Credits funding.

About the service
The first priority of the program is to transport older adults to medical appointments, as well as

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UPDATES FROM CITY OF NOVI

Princess and Superhero Party

The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department will host the second annual Princess and Superhero Party 6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11, at the Novi Civic Center.

The all-ages party will feature a fantasy filled evening of adventure, entertainment, craft building and music. Party-goers may don festive attire, including glass slippers and super hero capes, for the costume contest. Princess Bella will be at the party, along with the Amazing Spiderman, certain the crowd and teach princess and superhero techniques and etiquette. Appetizers will be available from California Pizza Kitchen.

Registration is \$14 per child and is going on now at cityofnovi.org. The deadline to register is Friday, Oct. 4. For questions, contact Greg Morris, recreation supervisor, at 248-735-5646 or gmorris@cityofnovi.org.

Civilian pistol safety class
The Novi Police Department will be offering a Civilian Pistol Safety Class from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2, at the Novi Police Department Training Center located at 45125 10 Mile Road. The course fulfills both the classroom and shooting requirements to obtain a Michigan Concealed Pistol License.

Registration forms are available online at cityofnovi.org and at the Novi Police Department. Class size is limited and all participants are subject to a criminal background check.

For more information, visit www.cityofnovi.org or contact Sgt. Michael Warren at mwarren@cityofnovi.org or 248-921-9843.

PRAYER

Continued from Page A1

"I challenge all of us to be Christians in the public sector," he told the group present. Pittel had hoped Novi High School students would be able to participate during their lunch break, but he said interim Principal Nicole Carter told him that morning that she could not give permission to high school students interested in attending due to separation of church and state restrictions.

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How Michigan's health care insurance exchange works



Michigan residents will use www.healthcare.gov to apply for coverage, compare plans and enroll. Specific plans and prices became available Tuesday when Marketplace open enrollment began. Consumers also can call 800-318-2596 to enroll in a policy.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is running the Michigan exchange, as well as out-of-state call centers provides consumers with information. The Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services retains oversight of the insurers and their licensing.

There are four categories of Marketplace insurance plans: bronze, silver, gold and platinum. All Marketplace insurance plans that are supposed to be the same set of essential health benefits. The categories do not reflect the quality or amount of care the plans provide.

The category you choose affects how much your premium costs each month and what portion

of the bill you pay for things like hospital visits or prescription medications. It also affects your total out-of-pocket costs — the total amount you'll spend for the year if you need lots of care.

How the exchange will operate

This online Marketplace provides policies that are supposed to be more affordable to families and individuals. About a dozen insurance companies are offering as many as 150 plans that, for the most part, are assigned categories. Platinum plans, the most expensive up front, will pay about 90 percent

of medical expenses. Gold plans will cover about 80 percent of costs, silver plans about 70 percent and bronze plans about 60 percent. The lower the premium cost up front, the higher the out-of-pocket costs later.

Anyone younger than 30 can purchase catastrophic health coverage instead of a regular policy to satisfy the federal health care law. Such a policy will have lower premium and higher deductibles and co-pays. It will provide coverage largely in cases of a catastrophic injury.

What to consider when choosing your plan

Think about the health care needs of your household when considering which Marketplace insurance plan to buy. Do you expect a lot of doctor visits or need regular prescriptions? If you do, you may want a gold or platinum plan. If you don't, you may prefer a bronze or silver

plan. But keep in mind that if you get in a serious accident or have an unexpected health problem, bronze and silver plans will require you to pay more of the costs. You must enroll by Dec. 15 for policies to be effective Jan. 1. Enrollment will continue until March 31, but effective dates on policies will be delayed.

After March 31, you can buy policies on the exchange only in special circumstances. It will usually be within 30 days following certain life events. Among them: a change in family size through, for example, marriage, birth or adoption; a change in legal status to U.S. citizen or legal immigrant; or a move that opens up options for other policies on the exchange. Native Americans can enroll any time in the Marketplace; they are not bound by enrollment periods.

Everyone enrolled can change policies annually during a limited enrollment period. Starting in 2015, the enrollment period will go from Oct.

MELINE

» Oct. 1: Open enrollment begins on health insurance exchange website www.healthcare.gov
» Dec. 15: Deadline for enrolling for coverage that takes effect
» Jan. 1, 2014: New coverage changes that affect current enrollees
» March 31, 2014: End of open enrollment through health insurance exchanges

» Small businesses — those with 50 or fewer full-time employees — will also be able to access the policies at www.healthcare.gov They will be directed to the Small Business Health Options Program Marketplace or they can call 800-706-7893. Like those buying insurance for themselves or their families, open enrollment for small businesses begins Oct. 1. But unlike those buying insurance for themselves, enrollment does not end March 31; it continues year-round. Applicants can't be denied insurance based on pre-existing conditions. Additionally, insurers cannot set limits on 10 essential benefits — hospital care, regular doctor's visits and prescription coverage, for example — that are required in the plans. However, only those without affordable employer-sponsored insurance, those not eligible for Medicaid and those who have incomes below four times the federal poverty level will be eligible for federal credits. Those credits will help shrink costs for

See INSURANCE, Page A12

What happens if you don't buy insurance: 2014 fees

Healthcare.gov offers the following on health care reform:

If someone who can afford health insurance doesn't have coverage in 2014, they may have to pay a fee. The fee in 2014 is 1 percent of your yearly income or \$95 per person for the year, whichever is higher. The fee increases every year.

In 2014, the fee for uninsured children is \$47.50 per child. The most a family would have to pay in 2014 is \$285.

It's important to remember that someone who pays the fee won't get any health insurance coverage. They still will be responsible for 100 percent of the cost of their medical care.

After open enrollment ends March 31, 2014, they won't be able to get health coverage through the Marketplace until the next annual enrollment period, unless they have a qualifying life event.

Minimum essential coverage

To avoid the fee in 2014, you need insurance that qualifies as minimum essential coverage. If you're covered by any of the following in 2014, you're considered covered and don't have to pay a penalty:

- » Any Marketplace plan, or any individual insurance plan you already have.
- » Any employer plan (including COBRA), with or without "grandfathered" status. This includes retiree plans.
- » Medicare.
- » Medicaid.
- » The Children's Health Insurance Program.
- » TRICARE (for current service members and military retirees, their families, and survivors).
- » Veterans health care programs (including the Veterans Health Care Program, VA Civilian Health and Medical Program and Spina Bifida Health Care Benefits Program).
- » Peace Corps Volunteer plans.

Other plans may also qualify. Ask your health coverage provider. What kinds of health insurance don't qualify as coverage?

Health plans that don't meet minimum essential coverage don't qualify as coverage in 2014. If you have only these types of coverage, you may have to pay the fee. Examples include:

- » Coverage only for vision care or dental care.
- » Workers' compensation.
- » Coverage only for a specific disease or condition.
- » Plans that offer only discounts on medical services.

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- 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Healthy Cooking Demo
- 6:30 - 7 p.m. Health Screenings
- 7 - 8:30 p.m. Guest Speaker - Lila Lazarus

Motivational speaker Lila Lazarus will inspire you to live healthily by adding adventure to your life! Everyone has a different idea or image of what adventure is. You don't have to be a thrill-seeker to enjoy adventures, all you have to do is take that first step, and just where that will lead you, well no one truly knows... maybe that is why it's called adventure! Join us in learning to live happily!

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The event is free, but registration is required. Space is limited. Please call 734-655-1182 or visit stmarmacy.org and click on Classes & Events.

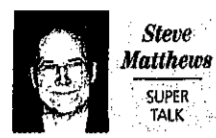
Optional \$5 donation to benefit Marian Women's Center programs.

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Support Novi schools on Nov. 5

Why does a community support the schools within its boundaries? For parents, the answer is fairly clear. Parents support the school district because there is an expectation that the district will provide an education for their children. The expectation is that this education will provide students with a strong academic background. Students will learn how to read, write and calculate.

Additionally, parents expect that the school district will help their children learn how to think and reason. No longer is it enough to know information. With the advent of technology, information is plentiful. What is more important is the ability to understand and use that information. The school district should be a partner with parents in helping students learn how to think.



Steve Matthews
SUPERINTENDENT
TALK

I believe a third important expectation of parents is that the school district will be a partner in helping students learn the skills needed to work with others. Skills in communication, collaboration, decision-making and teamwork are critically important. Parents absolutely have a right to expect that schools will help teach these skills.

If schools do their job and help with these various responsibilities, then parents willingly support the schools in their community.

For students, it is also fairly clear why there should be support for schools. Like parents, students need to have confidence that they are learning the skills that they will need to be successful in life. Academic skills, thinking skills and leadership skills are all very important.

But students also need to learn how to get along with others. Through classroom interactions, clubs, athletics, bands, orchestras and choirs, students not only learn the content of the class, but they learn how to cooperate and work together to achieve a greater goal.

In Novi, like most school districts, parents and students are not the majority. The majority in a community are those people without children in the school district. Why should those without children in the schools support the schools?

Schools are worth the support of the community because schools are the places where children learn the skills they need to become contributing members of their community. Strong

communities help our communities by helping to develop the kinds of people that we need to continue building strong and vibrant places to live, work and play.

Schools help our communities by developing the skills and talents of every student who walks in the door, trying to help those students find a way to contribute to the community.

Parents and community members support our schools in many ways. We have volunteers who read to our students, drive them on field trips and come to watch them perform and compete in our auditoriums, gyms and fields. Parents have conversations with their children about school and the lessons that are being learned. Community members support our schools by attending concerts, plays and sporting events.

On Nov. 5, our community has another way to

show its support for our schools. The Novi Community School District will have a millage renewal election, asking the voters in our community to renew an operating millage and a public recreation and playground millage.

The renewal of our operating millages is required if we are to receive full state funding. By renewing these millages (an 18-mill renewal on businesses and a 5.49-mill renewal on primary residences), our district would continue to be funded at \$8,359 per student.

If we fail to renew these millages, our per-pupil allocation would be reduced to \$5,446.24 per student. More than \$17 million of revenue is at stake in this renewal of operating millages.

The renewal of our public recreation and playground millage allows our district to continue to use school dis-

trict property for community recreation and playground. The community use of the pool, our fields, our gyms and our auditoriums is made possible by the recreation millage. Supporting this millage would allow these community uses of school district facilities to continue.

Communities support schools because schools help communities grow and prosper.

Parents, students and community members benefit from strong schools because schools help children grow into responsible, contributing members of society. On Nov. 5, the voters of the Novi Community School District can support our schools by voting "yes" on the two ballot questions.

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

NOVI ON CAMPUS

Grand Valley State University

Novi resident Elizabeth Ann Engelsen has been recognized as a member of sigma Alpha Lambda, a national leadership and honors organization dedicated to promoting and rewarding academic achievement and providing members with opportunities for community service, personal development and lifelong professional fulfillment.

Northwood University

Degrees were granted to the graduating class of the Richard DeVos Graduate School of Management, including Nicholas Prokop of Novi (MBA), during the spring commencement ceremony.

Three Novi students received a four-year bachelor of business administration degree: Jason B. Freeman, Colby Hubbard and Colton Pagano.

'Cat court



Novi High School's 2013 homecoming court (front, from left): sophomore Kylie Douglas, junior Claire Kalina, seniors Lauren Matson, Georgia Freeman, Mallory Regatzki and Mady Marzonie and freshman Aspacia Krall; (back, from left) sophomore Matthew Netter, junior Avery Garguilo, seniors Jon Bain, Geoff Gamm, Connor McDonald and Pratik Joshi and freshman Alec Bageris. The court's king and queen will be crowned at halftime of Friday's football game. JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS

Crafters sought
Crafters and mom-to-mom sellers who would like to rent a spot Oct. 4-5 inside the Novi Sheraton on Haggerty Road are sought. The second floor is reserved and there will be special rooms set aside for crafters, plus a room set aside for mom-to-mom sales.
Cost is \$30 per table for vendors; \$20 for the mom-to-mom vendors. If you would like to be involved in this show or would just like to attend, please call Tessi at 989-695-9797 or email mistessy4@yahoo.com.

There will be a Mother Daughter Tea Party after the Deer Widow Weekend on Friday night, which includes a room for four, breakfast, swimming and shopping.

Wixom Elementary receives Meemic donation
Wixom Elementary School recently received a donation of \$525 from John Ploskonka of the Meemic Ploskonka Agency for classroom supplies. Each teacher in the school will receive approximately \$25 to put toward classroom supplies.
The Meemic Ploskonka Agency recently opened an office in Wixom.

Novi Adult Education hosting open house
Novi Community School District's Adult Education will be hosting an open house for the community 3-6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 16, at Novi Middle School (49000 11 Mile Road at the corner of Wixom Road).
Bring your curiosity and come and learn about its balanced high school program and what it can do to help students graduate; meet the staff and tour the facilities.
Light refreshments will be served; please RSVP to 248-449-1717.

Adult ed registration
Novi Adult Education is taking registration for high school completion. Please contact the office at 248-449-1717 to come in and register for classes. Classes are free to those who qualify.

Novi High students volunteer efforts on the rise

The number of Novi High School students involved in volunteering for events in and around Novi is steadily increasing.

"In September alone, I have been contacted by 25 community organizations asking for our students' volunteer help. The word is getting out that Novi students care and want to volunteer to make their community a better place," said Barb Clift, Novi High School's volunteer coordinator.

Novi students have volunteered at the annual Novi/Northville CROP Hunger Walk for over 10 years, held this past Sunday.

"All of us on the planning committee for the CROP Hunger Walk are very grateful for the help we receive from

students at Novi High School," said Pamela Frisachen, logistics coordinator for the annual event. "Every year we have a great response to our request for walkers and for volunteers to help us with registration, water stops and scooping ice cream. As I talk with the students, I am amazed by how much they volunteer in the community despite their very busy schedules. Their enthusiasm and spirit encourages everyone on the walk."

"There are many opportunities to choose from to meet students' interest. Many Novi students enjoy working with children at the many events offered through Novi Parks and Recreation throughout the year. For example, coming up

this month are the Super Hero and Princess Party on Oct. 11 and the 'Tricks or Trucks Halloween Event' on Oct. 24.

"The students of Novi High School have made many positive contributions to the City of Novi Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services by putting in many hours as volunteers during special events," said Greg Morris, recreation supervisor at Novi Parks and Recreation. "Without their dedication and hard work, the events we put on would not be successful."

Also a favorite for Novi students in the fall is the Maybury corn maze sponsored by Northville Community Foundation, running every weekend through Nov. 3. Novi student



Students from Novi High School - (l to r) Junior Alex Felice and seniors Dina Favaz, Amy Zhou and Navya Devarasetty - volunteered Sunday at the CROP Walk. KATIE WHEELER

volunteers collect tickets at the corn maze, work in the refreshments and assist with the hayride. Carol Lehmann, assistant at Northville Community Foundation, counts on the Novi students to help

make this event a success. Many students chose to volunteer to gain experience in their chosen career path. For example, those interested in the medical field

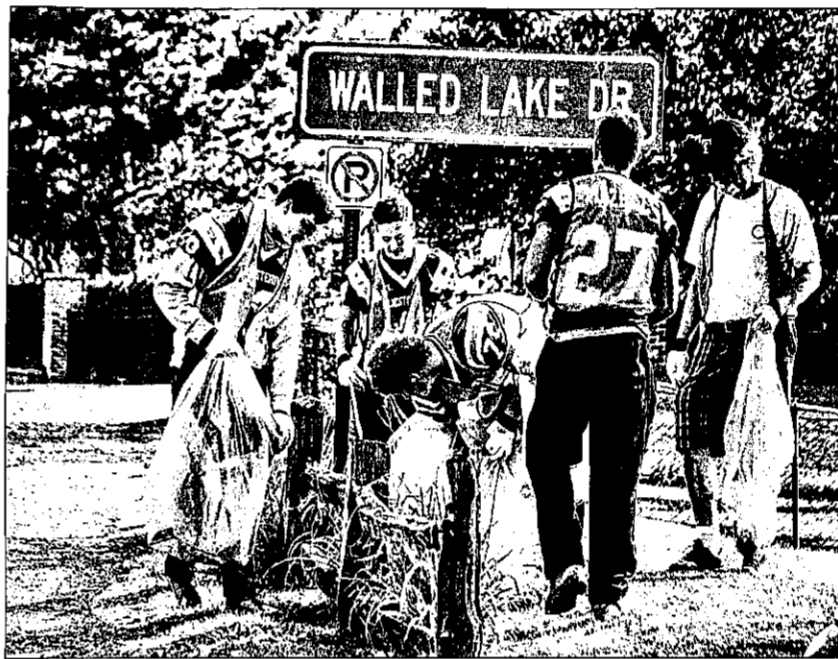
LEARN MORE

If any other community nonprofit organizations are looking for volunteer help, they can contact Barb Clift at bcclift@novi.k12.mi.us to post the opening. Students interested in finding out about all the upcoming events can see Mrs. Clift in the Volunteer Office at Novi High School on school days during lunch.

may choose Providence or Botsford Hospital, or Whitehall and Manor of Novi convalescent centers. They may also choose to volunteer at a Red Cross blood bank held in the area.

"The outpouring of our students' time and dedication to volunteer work is inspiring," Clift said.

Team work



Two teams in orange joined forces Sept. 28 in Walled Lake. The Lakes Area Rotary and Walled Lake Werten High School football team were busy helping clean up the community streets through the Oakland County Adopt-A-Road Project. Pictured are students Troy Thomas, Brandon Mazell, John Witkowski and Dylan Shumate and Rotarian Jeff Green. CURTIS BROGMILLER

Get writing at annual writers' conference

Thinking about penning a screenplay or writing a novel? Michael Dwyer, organizer and founder of the annual Rochester Writers' Conference, wants to help turn your dreams into action.

"Our goal is to motivate attendees to write and to do it right now," Dwyer said in a press release. "Professional development gives attendees the push they may need to work on their writing; and this conference includes the tools to market and sell it as well."

"Write Now!" is the theme for the sixth annual conference, set for Saturday, Oct. 5, at Oakland University in Rochester Hills.

The keynote speaker, Stan Williams, will return this year to deliver a two-part lecture for novelists, screenwriters and directors. Part one will discuss the 18 secrets to story structure and part two will cover characters, plots and subplots.

New this year is a Children's Literature Panel, featuring three authors with different paths to publication. Attendees will have a chance to ask questions of three Michigan authors.

Kelly Fordon will lead a workshop called Who's on First, about the use of first person vs. third person in a story. Alice Spellburg and Dawne Prochilo will present a literary panel with the focus on book publishing. And Lev Raphael will tell writers how to do a "killer reading" from their books.

Development sessions will be held for nonfiction writers and journalists. Presentations on the author's platform, engaging social media and using photo images online will help writers get their message to readers.

The early bird rate is \$99. www.rochesterwriters.com. Secure payment options are available at the site. Contact Michael Dwyer at 248-651-6869 for more information.

FALL Tune Up Specials

<p>STANDARD BALANCE & WHEEL ALIGNMENT \$99.00</p> <p><small>Valid only at Don Massey Cadillac Plymouth. Excludes diesel. Customer is responsible for deposit and taxes. Does not apply to insurance repairs or collision. Trucks & SUVs slightly higher. Must present coupon at time of service write-up. Not valid with any other offer. See dealer for details. Offer expires 10/31/2013.</small></p>	<p>BODY REPAIR WORK OVER \$300.00 \$50 OFF</p> <p><small>Valid only at Don Massey Cadillac Plymouth. Excludes diesel. Customer is responsible for deposit and taxes. Does not apply to insurance repairs or collision. Trucks & SUVs slightly higher. Must present coupon at time of service write-up. Not valid with any other offer. See dealer for details. Offer expires 10/31/2013.</small></p>
<p>ZMAX TREATMENT \$69.95</p> <p><small>Maintain efficiency by installing zMax treatment into all petroleum-based fluids and replace air filter.</small></p> <p><small>Valid only at Don Massey Cadillac Plymouth. Excludes diesel. Customer is responsible for deposit and taxes. Does not apply to insurance repairs or collision. Trucks & SUVs slightly higher. Must present coupon at time of service write-up. Not valid with any other offer. See dealer for details. Offer expires 10/31/2013.</small></p>	<p>FREE Fall Safety Inspection</p> <p><small>Includes Battery & Charging System, Check & Fill all Fluid Levels, Brake & Suspension Systems, & Condition of Tires. Call Today for an Appointment.</small></p> <p><small>Valid only at Don Massey Cadillac Plymouth. Excludes diesel. Customer is responsible for deposit and taxes. Does not apply to insurance repairs or collision. Trucks & SUVs slightly higher. Must present coupon at time of service write-up. Not valid with any other offer. See dealer for details. Offer expires 10/31/2013.</small></p>

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52 graduate from Sobriety Court

By Laura Colvin
Staff Writer

"It's been hard, but beer is no longer my best friend. That was the message from one grad. "This program is amazing. These people saved my life. That's all I can say without crying," another said.

And one man told the crowd that nothing — not jail, not losing his job, not being thrown out of his home — ever convinced him to sober up.

Nothing, that is, until a stint in Sobriety Court. In all, 52 individuals were honored two weeks ago at the 52-1 District Court's Sobriety Court graduation ceremony held at the Milford Civic Center.

"We know it's a tough program, we know we push you," District Judge Brian MacKenzie told Sobriety Court grads, who showed up with enough family members, friends and other supporters to create an overflow crowd. "But when you look in the mirror at night, what are you doing to see? You're going to see a new person, a person who deserves something — it's called being sober, for the first time in a long time, for some of you. All of us are proud of you."

What is it? Now in its 12th year, the 52-1 Sobriety Court is a rehabilitation program for drunken-driving offenders with high blood-alcohol content arrests and/or second-time offenses.

Offenders can receive a regular sentence — jail — or volunteer to participate in the 18-month program. The 52-1 Sobriety Court is one of the oldest in the country. When it was created in 2001, it was only the 18th in the



Sobriety Court grad Becky Bailey smiles as she gets a hug from probation officer Lauryn Ferro during the 52-1 Sobriety Court graduation ceremony held at the Milford Civic Center. HAL GOULD/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

U.S.; today, there are 16 in Michigan alone.

Harvey Hoffman in Eaton County is the longest-serving Sobriety Court judge in Michigan; MacKenzie is second. At the 52-1, Judge Robert Bondy and Judge Dennis Powers administer the program alongside MacKenzie.

But according to participants and administrators alike, the program is no walk in the park.

On a regular probation case, for example, offenders come in once every month or two and are tested for drugs and alcohol sporadically. 52-1 Sobriety Court Probation Officer Dave Campbell said,

In Sobriety Court, offenders — without driver's licenses — must meet with a probation officer every week for four or five months; they must attend an AA meeting every day for 90 days and attend substance abuse counseling weekly for the first nine months. And they must test for

alcohol every day, before 7:30 a.m., for the first 90 days.

"No questions, no exceptions," Campbell said. "If they don't test before 7:30 a.m., they get sanctioned and that means they go to jail for three days. It's an absolute responsibility program."

The 52-1 Sobriety Court operates under a "team" concept. The Sobriety Court Advisory Board consists of the three 52-1 judges, as well as prosecutor, probation officers, defense attorney, coordinators, law enforcement officer, treatment counselors and a victim/community advocate.

The team, Campbell said, puts a huge emphasis on personal accountability for those who participate in the program.

"Before this, the priority in their life was drinking and drug use," he said. "We turn it upside down, so the priority is responsibility. To maintain long-term sobriety,

you have to get someone honest with themselves before they can be honest with anybody else."

Positive reinforcement But it works both ways. Many of the participants, Campbell said, have never experienced much success.

"They're used to going to a probation officer who says, 'This is what you have to do, get out of my office,'" he said. "We try to make it personal. We get to know them, their family, their situation and that means a lot to them, because no one's ever really taken an interest in their life. The thing that works for us is that we truly care."

Clients who make progress are often rewarded with small tokens, like tickets to a sporting event, movie passes or restaurant gift cards.

Not for everyone In 12 years of Sobriety Court at the 52-1, Campbell said, about 1,200

ONE MAN'S EXPERIENCE

Derek said the choice for Sobriety Court over jail was an easy one.

"I didn't want to spend a single night in jail," said the former Milford resident, now living in White Lake. "But I also saw it as motivation to change. I knew if I went to jail, I'd just come out anxious for my first drink." Derek, 33, started drinking when he was 16 and, for the most part, had fun doing it. "I didn't drink every day," he said. "But every weekend, for sure. I got drunk every weekend. I worked all week and felt like I earned it."

Slowly but surely, things began to turn sour. He got his first DUI in 2008 and his second, in Milford, in 2011. "It all started getting out of control," Derek said. "I was drinking and driving, I'd been arrested, embarrassed and lost my vehicle. My life was in a downward trend."

"I've never been in the military, but the program felt like a boot camp," he said. "I learned a lot about responsibility, organization and making sure I had things lined up ahead of time, so I'd be prepared for what I had to do. Today, he's a new man.

"I feel better, a little bit sharper, a little bit quicker," he said. "I'm not getting in trouble, I'm not hung over. I have a better feeling of self-worth. The good times are better and the tough times are easier to handle, now that I'm not drinking."

—By Laura Colvin

people have come through the program. Of those, about 700 finished successfully.

"We do have a lot who don't make it," Campbell said after the graduation ceremony last week.

"Tonight we can go home and feel good because it's been a positive experience, but sometimes you get people who just won't quit drinking or they force their AA sheets or something like that. It can be a drag. It gets frustrating because for us, it isn't just a job. Their successes are our successes, their failures are our failure. When things are going badly

for them, we take it home with us and that can be very difficult."

But at the end of the day, he said, those who do succeed in the program improve not only their own lives, but those of their family and the greater community, as well.

"We understand that if we can get a person to the point where they understand and accept their addiction and are willing to work at it, then we're limiting our repeat business down the road," Campbell said. "That's the end goal."

lcolvin@hometownlife.com

BUSINESS

Blaze pizza coming to former Big Boy

Thin crust pies are specialty

Blaze Fast-Fire'd Pizza will soon open in the former Big Boy restaurant on Novi Road, just south of I-96, in mid-November. The new 62-seat restaurant will feature an outdoor patio for afternoon and evening dining.

The Novi Blaze Pizza will be operated by Blaze Midwest, Inc., a franchise group led by Rodney Walker.

Blaze Pizza uses an assembly line format that lets guests customize one of the menu's signature pizzas or create one of their own, choosing from a wide selection of fresh, artisanal toppings — all for \$6.95 or less. The personal pizzas are then sent

to a blazing hot open-hearth oven — the centerpiece of the restaurant — where dedicated pizzamiths ensure that the thin-crust pies are "fast-fire'd" in less than 180 seconds.

Blaze Pizza makes its own dough from scratch using a recipe developed by critically-acclaimed Executive Chef Brad Kent ("The Pizza Whisperer"), which requires a 24-hour fermentation period to produce his signature light-as-air, crisp crust.

"I am thrilled to have this opportunity to take the years I've spent developing my dough recipe and now bring it to a broader audience," Kent said. "For me, a good pizza begins and ends with the crust. I am really looking forward to introducing the Novi

community to Blaze." Blaze's menu of pizzas and salads uses fresh ingredients ranging from inventive to classic and accommodates a range of dietary needs, with a gluten-free dough and vegan cheese option.

The restaurant will also offer online ordering at www.blazepizza.com.

Blaze Pizza teamed with principal designer Ana Henton of Los Angeles' MASS Architecture and Signato to be both casual and current. Henton used urban architecture notes inspired by fire and foundries. Additionally, the restaurant has gone to great lengths to see that its packaging is eco-friendly — made in the USA from post-consumer recycled and/or sustainable materials.



A Blaze Pizza restaurant is set to open up where the former Big Boy restaurant was located on the west side of Novi Road, just south of I-96. JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Leadership best measured in degree of intent

"Be not afraid of greatness; some are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them." (Act II, Scene V from Shakespeare's Twelfth Night).

It is from this oft-quoted quote that the issue of "born" leaders and "made" leaders finds some degree of resolution. The concession appears to be that either process can be applicable given the person and the set of circumstances.

The ongoing debate from pundits to poets is one in which the answer is measured by the actions of leaders who are embedded in the annals of history. Their traits and lives are picked over, analyzed and subjected to revisionists' interpretations of the events, while contemporary leaders must endure the immediacy of "sound



bites" and product releases that send Wall Street into a feeding frenzy.

The love of leaders and leadership is hotly contested through the published works of an industry that lives off the next 12 methods, eight ways and four truths offered by expertise gained through experience, observation, research or strongly held belief. As a result, the models, concepts, ideas and labels come forward with equal claims to the true path.

It is no simple matter to find a leadership ideal that is reliable, explainable and applicable in ways that combine

to understand what the person was thinking. The "intent to do something" offers insight on motive and direction. As such, when applied to a series of leadership choices, the matter of intent is the first step in understanding the notion of Leadership in the First Degree.

An argument can be made that for the thousands of students currently enrolled in degree-granting institutions throughout the state of Michigan, there is an intent to achieve a milestone that can be used to augment their career portfolio and position them for organizational positions or the emerging ones that come with new businesses and shifting

social dynamics. However, hidden on the back collar of their academic pursuits is an unstated, seemingly vague, aspiration to do more than just earn a paycheck. There exists an underlying desire to influence (as opposed to blindly accept), to inspire (as opposed to randomly destroy) and to be intentional about those things that make a difference in their lives and in the lives of others.

While all the steps on that path may be unclear, the focus on an academic credential acknowledges that there is intent to lead in the first degree. The commitment to acquiring a broad base of knowledge that will complement a budding ca-

reer is one path to fulfilling the intent to lead. Clearly, it is not the only path used to measure intent, as has been demonstrated by so many successful entrepreneurs. It is one path in which the end result is not the end game.

As the process unfolds and the paths consists of quadrant jumps inside the career portfolio, the matter of intentional leadership will slowly become an emergent theme in which the vague is now clear and the intent to lead is a matter of degree.

Lee E. Meadows, Ph.D., is a professor of management at Walsh College. He can be contacted at lmeadows@walshcollege.edu.

NORTHVILLE FARMERS MARKET



Farmers' Market presented by: **HOLZER**

OCTOBER IN THE VILLE

The Northville community knows how to celebrate fall and Halloween. A variety of fun activities are provided by several community groups and organizations, all creating a month long list of experiences known as "October in the Ville."

DATE	EVENT	PLACE	TIME
Oct 4	Skeletons are Alive Launch Party: music, food and fun!	Town Square	6:30 - 9pm
Oct 5 - 31	Skeletons are Alive 53 themed skeleton sculptures will inhabit the downtown	Downtown Northville	Daily
Oct 5	Car Tunes Car Show	Downtown Northville	11am - 4pm
Oct 11-13	Fall Fair Craft Show*	Community Center	All Day
Oct 20	Trick or Treat Trail*	Mill Race Village	4:40 - 6:40pm
Oct 26	Kids Costume Parade and Trick or Treat Streets	Downtown Northville	12pm
Oct 26	Fright Night Festival	Downtown Northville	3pm
Oct 27	Historical Hauntings: Ghosts of Northville*	Mill Race Village	4 - 7:30pm
Oct 31	Trick or Treating	Northville Community	6 - 8pm
Oct 31	Fire Station Open House	Northville City Hall	6 - 8pm
Oct 31	Costume Contest	Community Center	7:30pm

*Requires pre-purchased ticket or event admission

Only one month left...that is scary! Visit the Northville Farmers Market and enjoy Michigan made and Michigan Grown products.

The remaining Chefs at the Market are Thursday October 3rd and 10th. See local chefs select from the market, create great dishes to sample and receive recipe cards.

Northville Farmers' Market is located on the northwest corner of Sheldon and 7 Mile Rd. in the Northville Downs parking lot.

Thursdays, 8am - 3pm
May - October 31

Farmers' Market sponsored by: **FARMERS' MARKET**



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For more information contact the Northville Chamber of Commerce: Phone: 248-349-7640 or visit www.northville.org

NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

PrimeCare open house

PrimeCare Urgent Care (39555 W. 10 Mile Road, Suite 301, near Haggerty) will be opening its doors to the public Monday, Oct. 14, and an open house will run from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, when free flu shots will be given to the first 500 people who request them.

There will be free food, entertainment and an introduction of Patricia R. Scheuerman, D.O., who will be joining the practice on Oct. 14. The urgent care will serve a growing need in the community for providing care during extended hours. PrimeCare feels it is vital to have a strong relationship with the community.

Signature leases in Wixom

Signature Associates has negotiated the lease of 5,248 square feet of industrial space located at 47900 West Road, Wixom. Steve Kozak and Jim Montgomery of Signature Associates represented the landlord, West Beck Business Park, LLC. Kozak also represented the tenant, Marine City Ceiling & Partition, Inc.

Pearle Vision seeks entrepreneurs

Pearle Vision plans to convert 10 of its neighborhood eye care centers in the greater Detroit area, including the Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi location, from company-owned to licenses. Pearle Vision is currently seeking qualified candidates who are interested in owning and operating their very own Pearle Vision to purchase existing locations for sale in the Detroit area. This is part of the

company's 2013 expansion plans to re-license 34 company-owned centers in 10 states.

Executives will host an informational seminar and cocktail reception at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, at Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant located at 2089 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy. Attendees will learn the benefits of joining the Pearle Vision brand and review existing restaurants available in Michigan.

To register, please contact Mike Hioford at mhioford@uxotticare.com or 616-204-9742.

Oakland County tops region in job growth

Oakland County outpaced the region and the state in job growth. Employment in the county improved by more than 25,000 jobs, or 3.9 percent, in the first quarter of 2013, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said. Employment in the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn Metropolitan Statistical Area and Michigan grew by 2.6 and 2.2 percent respectively in the same period.

The county's 666,040 jobs in the first quarter was the highest first quarter employment since 2008. The county has added more than 70,345 jobs since the low point of the first quarter of 2010.

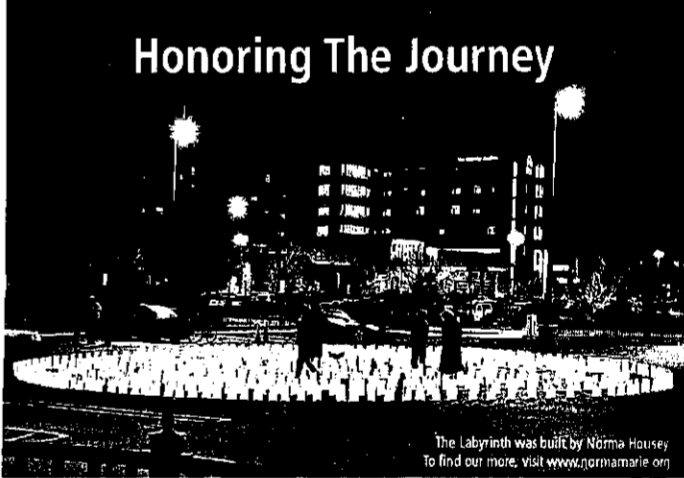
"We lost 60,000 jobs in 2010 because of the GM and Chrysler bankruptcies. Now we have replaced those jobs and then some," County Executive I. Brooks Patterson said today. "Our Emerging Sectors initiative to attract sustainable, high-paying, knowledge-based jobs is the reason why we are rebounding."

Earlier this year, University of Michigan economists George Fulton and Don Grimes forecasted much of Oakland County's job growth would be in the high-wage category. The Bureau of Labor Statistics data concurs. In Oakland County's professional and business services sector, employment was up 7.9 percent in the first quarter of 2013, and up 26.3 percent since 2009. The average weekly wage in this sector was \$1,320 in the first quarter compared to the \$1,072 average for all industries. The regional growth in that sector was 3.3 percent.

Shazaaam! agency for Oakland Bar

The Oakland County Bar Association and its charitable arm, the Oakland County Bar Foundation, have appointed Novi-based Shazaaam! PR and Marketing as their agency of record. Shazaaam! will be supporting both organizations with public relations services, including community awareness, relationship building with key stakeholders, expansion of members and donors and social media/media relations.

The trade association is the state's largest voluntary bar association for the legal profession with approximately 3,000 members who practice law in Oakland County. A 501(c)3 nonprofit, the Foundation raises funds to support worthy community outreach and resource programs, providing legal aid and education.



Honoring The Journey

Join Us for a Free Cancer Labyrinth Ceremony

A spiritually centered event to remember and celebrate those that have lost the fight and those that are triumphing over it. All are invited to walk the labyrinth at the Cancer Centers of St. John Providence Health

Dates/Times
Thursday, October 3rd, 7pm, Van Elslander Cancer Center - Grosse Pointe

Wednesday, October 9th, 7pm, Assarian Cancer Center-Novi

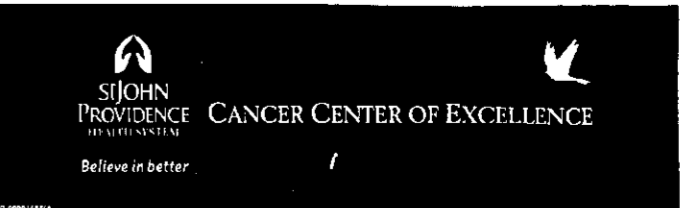
Thursday, October 10th, 6pm, Macomb Township - 23 Mile

Tuesday, October 29th, 2pm, Webber Cancer Center (Indoor Labyrinth in G103)

The Labyrinth represents a journey into our own center and back again out into the world - a journey made by many cancer patients.

We invite all patients, family members and survivors to join us for a spiritually centered evening of healing as we celebrate the journey that many have made.

Free event. Registration is required.
Please call 866-501-DOCS (3627)



Q&A: Learn about candidates for Novi City Council, mayor

By Cal Stone
Staff Writer



The Nov. 5 election in the city of Novi will include two local races.

MAYOR: Incumbent Bob Gatt will face Joseph Samona and Andrew Dorsch for the two-year term.

CITY COUNCIL: Six candidates are vying for three four-year seats—incumbents Andrew Murch and Justin Fischer and challengers Dennis O'Connor Jr., Gwen Markham, Alexander Pera and Jonathan Montville.

Each candidate was emailed a form Sept. 18 requesting answers to basic background information and 15 questions. Montville did not participate and did not reply to several emails and phone calls from the Novi News. He did, however, send an email to the newspaper Thursday evening, stating: "Unfortunately, for personal reasons, I have withdrawn from the City Council election."

Two months ago, Dorsch also sent an email to the Novi News, stating: "I will respect the wishes of Councilman David Staudt and resign from the race to be Novi's next mayor. The fact is I'm not a bureaucrat, I'm a citizen and I would like to remain simply as that for now."

In mid-July, immediately following the verdict in the Travon Martin case, Dorsch had sent an email to the seven city council members and the city's communications director: "After the George Zimmerman verdict, I don't want Mexicans near my land. I don't want them fixing my road or anything else, understand?"

Dave Staudt, mayor pro tem, called for Dorsch to drop out of the race. After Dorsch said he wanted to, but he found out that it was too late to take his name off the ballot. He did, however, complete the questionnaire.

The November ballot will also include five proposals to revise the city's charter, shown in the information box that they will appear on the ballot.

Due to space constraints, not all of the answers the candidates submitted are included here. However, readers may visit www.novinews.com to read their complete questionnaires.

MAYORAL CANDIDATES

Jason George Wellington Dorsch
Age: 31
Family: I've never been married and I have

no children.
Novi resident: 23 years

Education: I currently attend The University of Michigan Community Involvement: Where ever I can be helpful.

Employment: Sky Net. Technology, LLC

1) Do you support the construction of the proposed \$3 million 'ring road' from Novi Road to Grand River Avenue?

Support

2) Should the City relocate Fire Station #1 and sell the property for Main Street Development?

I don't support either of these proposals due to the fact Novi is in debt in the amount forty two million dollars. The city needs to repay its old debts before taking on new ones. At this time, it would not be wise for the citizens of this community or for city council to take on anymore burdens.

3) Do you support the use of tax abatements for economic development? If yes, under what circumstances?

Not at this time. I believe it would be too risky.

4) Please provide your ranking of the three most important city services?

All the city services are important, but if I had to pick one, it would be the services provided by the Novi Library.

Robert J. Gatt
Age: 63
Family: Two children, ages 33 & 28

Novi resident: 25 years
Education: B.S. Degree, Wayne State University, Business Administration/Marketing/Accounting, Master's Degree, Eastern Michigan University, Public Administration/Technology

Community Involvement: Novi Police Officer 27 years. Started the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program. Retired as a Shift Commander (Sgt.) in 2002. Volunteer at Holy Family Church. Member of the Knights

ARE YOU REGISTERED?

The last day to register to vote for the upcoming election is Monday, Oct. 7. If you are not currently registered to vote in the city of Novi at your present address, you may do so in any of the following ways:

- In Person:** At the Novi City Clerk's office (45175 W. 10 Mile Road) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday or at any Secretary of State Branch Office during normal business hours.
 - Online:** <http://cityofnovi.org/Resources/Library/Forms/VoterRegistrationApp.pdf>
 - By mail:** By obtaining and completing a Mail-In Voter Registration Application (found online at the above link) and returning it to the Novi City Clerk's office by the close of registration deadline, Oct. 7.
- You may contact the Novi City Clerk's office by calling 248-347-0456 or by email to election@cityofnovi.org. Residents can also vote by absentee ballot, which were required to be available by Sept. 21, according to Maryanne Cornelius, city clerk. She said a mass mailing was to go out Oct. 1.
- "Applications are available on the website or by contacting our office," Cornelius said. "Also, something new—when requesting an absentee ballot in person, a person must present photo ID or their ballot will be processed as a challenged ballot."
- A map of the precincts can be found here <http://cityofnovi.org/Services/CityClerk/VotingPrecincts.asp>.

of Columbus.
Employment: Manager of the Oakland County Animal Control and Pet Adoption Center. Responsible for more than 250 employees and volunteers and a \$3.2 million dollar budget. I work closely with Brooks Patterson and his staff, as well as the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, in an effort to keep government costs down. We ensure maximum public safety, as well as protecting the welfare of more than 6,000 animals in our care on a yearly basis.

Web: www.hobgatt.com

1) Do you support the construction of the proposed \$3 million 'ring road' from Novi Road to Grand River Avenue? If yes, how would you propose to pay for it?

Yes, I absolutely support the construction of the "ring road." There is, and will continue to be, much traffic congestion at that location. It's a matter of public safety. We need to alleviate the traffic, thus making the area safer. The City has a responsibility to pay for the road—but not 100%. I am in favor of partnering with a private developer (Adell property), as well as other businesses that will benefit greatly from the ring road. Additionally, we are working with our State Representative to secure some State road money, as it will be a great economic development tool for the immediate area. The City has money set aside for the ring road. I am in favor of paying a %.

2) Should the City relocate Fire Station #1 and sell the property for Main Street Development?

Yes. Fire Station #1 is presently located in a prime geographical spot and should be sold WHEN THE REAL ESTATE MARKET is better. Fire Station #1 should be relocated to our DPS facility grounds on Lee BeGole Drive.

3) Do you support the use of tax abatements for economic development? If yes, under what circumstances?

Yes, I support construction of the proposed "ring road." There is no doubt that a ring road would ease traffic congestion along Novi Road and Grand River. But the full cost burden for this type of project must NOT fall solely on Novi taxpayers. Funding models for this major construction should be formulated as "joint ventures" between public and private sectors because that would force all stakeholders to pull together and have a vested in-

under what circumstances?
Yes, but only under certain, quantifiable circumstances. The development must be of such magnitude that it will be a great asset to the entire city, as far as job growth, attraction to the area, status, etc.

2) Keeping community involved in the city through parks and recreation.

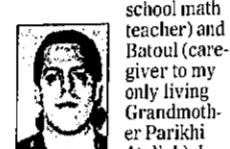
3. I would also consider Economic Development to grow the city a high priority

4) Please provide your ranking of the three most important city services?

Public Safety, Growth Management and Community Development

Joseph P. Samona

Age: 23
Family: Son of Farouk (Retired from Detroit Public Schools as a high school math teacher) and Batoul (caregiver to my only living Grandmother Parikh Atallah). I am the youngest of 4 boys.



The oldest is Randy, 36, who is married to Nicole and they blessed me with my 2 beautiful nieces, Madison & Sofia, 2. Then Ricky who is 34. Ricky held a position as project manager with Microsoft for 6 years and then formed his own company and lives in Seattle. The youngest above me is Patrick. He is 30 years old. All of my brothers graduated from Birmingham Brother Rice and Michigan State University.

Novi resident: I have lived in Novi since April of 2003.

Education: I am currently studying Criminal Justice with a minor in Sociology at Wayne State and plan to begin law school next year.

Community involvement: I belong to Mother of God Chaldean Catholic Church which is located in Southfield, Michigan.

Employment: Besides going to school, I am a realtor with Real Estate One Max Broock. Being licensed just under 2 years, I am a multimillion dollar producer and rank in the top 400 of over 1500 realtors in just this company!

1) Do you support the construction of the proposed \$3 million 'ring road' from Novi Road to Grand River Avenue? If yes, how would you propose to pay for it?

Yes, I support the construction of the proposed "ring road" from Novi Road to Grand River Avenue. I believe that this project will help make the intersection of Novi Rd. and Grand River Ave. less congested and safer. I would support this using capital improvement funds as it is already planned out in the FY14/15.

2) Should the City relocate Fire Station #1 and sell the property for Main Street Development?

The Novi Fire Department's Station 1 is in a strategic location on Grand River near Novi Rd. for the purpose of quick access to most of the city. I do not see any need to change the location anytime soon however I would be open to Department of Public Safety recommendations on location if they come up.

3) Do you support the use of tax abatements for economic development? If yes, under what circumstances?

I will support tax

4) Please provide your ranking of the three most important city services?

Public Safety, Growth Management and Community Development

Public Safety
Growth Management
Community Development

CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Alexander M. Fera

Age: 21
Family: Single
Novi resident: 8 Years
Education: Studying Computer Information Systems and Business Administration - Oakland Community College, Novi High School



Community involvement: Public Access and Promotion Committee, Eagle Scout

Employment: Plasti-pak Packaging, Fera Technology, L.L.C.

Web: www.alexfera.com

1) Do you support the construction of the proposed \$3 million 'ring road' from Novi Road to Grand River Avenue? If yes, how would you propose to pay for it?

I believe that this project will help make the intersection of Novi Rd. and Grand River Ave. less congested and safer. I would support this using capital improvement funds as it is already planned out in the FY14/15.

2) Should the City relocate Fire Station #1 and sell the property for Main Street Development?

The Novi Fire Department's Station 1 is in a strategic location on Grand River near Novi Rd. for the purpose of quick access to most of the city. I do not see any need to change the location anytime soon however I would be open to Department of Public Safety recommendations on location if they come up.

3) Do you support the use of tax abatements for economic development? If yes, under what circumstances?

I will support tax

4) Please provide your ranking of the three most important city services?

Public Safety, Growth Management and Community Development

ELECTIONS

Continued from Page A8

abatements to help businesses starting and moving in our city if they provide adequate justification for such funds. I would also be in favor finding other ways to appeal to business looking into moving and staying in Novi.

4) Please provide your ranking of the three most important city services?

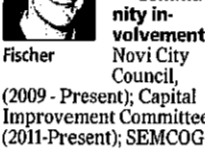
1. I would say by far Public Safety is most important to our city and should be our number one priority.

2. Keeping community involved in the city through parks and recreation.

3. I would also consider Economic Development to grow the city a high priority

Justin Fischer

Age: 30
Novi wife, Melissa
Novi resident: 30
Education: MBA, Michigan State University; BA, Finance, Michigan State University



Community involvement: Novi City Council, Capital Improvement Committee (2011-Present); SEACOG (2011-Present); Consultant Review (2009-2011); Chairman, Zoning Board of Appeals; Treasurer, Novi Parks Foundation; CERT Member

Employment: Market Securities and Debt Accounting Supervisor, Ford Motor Company

1) Do you support the construction of the proposed \$3 million 'ring road' from Novi Road to Grand River Avenue? If yes, how would you propose to pay for it?

I would support the City paying for a portion of the "ring road" depending on the economics of the any potential development in the area. The remaining funds would have to come from local, state, or federal grants, or from private development. I support some city resources for the ring road because it would provide a safer alternative to the intersection of Novi and Grand River for our residents and all who travel in our City.

2) Should the City relocate Fire Station #1 and sell the property for Main Street Development?

This could be a win-win situation and I absolutely support investigating our options. It's important to remember that this facility was built in 1980 when it helped service a community of 30,000 people. It certainly is prudent to review if there are fiscally responsible ways to modernize and improve service. Response times should be at the forefront of the discussion. If the City can build a new state-of-the-art facility while reducing response times; and the private sector

3) Do you support the use of tax abatements for economic development? If yes, under what circumstances?

I will support tax

4) Please provide your ranking of the three most important city services?

Public Safety, Growth Management and Community Development

can better utilize this prime real estate, the City would be silly to not take advantage.

3) Do you support the use of tax abatements for economic development? If yes, under what circumstances?

Tax abatements should be used sparingly. It is important to remember that Novi has a lot to offer including one of the lowest city property tax rates in the County and a great location/surrounding infrastructure for potential businesses.

That said, I do support abatements in limited instances and when an applicant meets the policy criteria. Each applicant is different, but I will generally support abatements under these types of circumstances:

* When a project is very unique or exceptional.

* When the proposal will result in many high-paying jobs

* There is significant capital investment and/or redevelopment of an area of interest to the City

4) Please provide your ranking of the three most important city services?

1. Strong Financial Governance: We lowered tax rates during the last four years while maintaining a healthy fund balance and providing essential public services.

2. The facilities continuing to diversify our tax base by encouraging economic development.

* Roads: We have added \$2 million annually for "neighborhood" streets and invested in new equipment and technology to improve snow storm response.

* Public Safety: Support our public safety administration by providing them the necessary funds and resources to keep our city safe. Elected officials must remember 1) The police administration has the education and background in public safety; 2) The Chief reports to the City Manager; Council should provide oversight and the appropriate level of support—but elected officials should not try to "run" the Department of Public Safety.

Gwen Markham

Age: 60
Family: Married 37 years to Dr. Bruce Markham, we have 2 sons ages 25 and 21



Novi resident: 18 years
Education: Bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Western Michigan University

Community involvement: 2 terms City of Novi Planning Commission, Past president, Friends of the Novi Theaters, VP Oakland-Macomb National Organization for Women, volunteer musician for Northville Public Schools, active member of AAUW

Web: www.voteforgwen.com

Employment: Retired automotive/defense electronic manufacturing manager, local piano teacher.

1) Do you support the construction of the proposed \$3 million 'ring road' from Novi Road to Grand River Avenue?

Yes, I support finishing the ring road. By having arteries around the major intersections of Grand River, Novi Road, and I-96, traffic can be diverted off the main roads and alleviate bottlenecks at peak times. It also gives visibility to businesses on or near the ring road. Completion of the ring may also give a boost to Main Street development, which has stalled. If yes, how would you propose to pay for it?

I will support the construction of the "ring road" when it is done in conjunction with private development with major economic benefits. A significant percentage of the funding must come from private, state and federal funding. I have not and will not support the city paying the entire cost of the project.

2) Should the City relocate Fire Station #1 and sell the property for Main Street Development?

I would not support Novi investing in the Fire Station #1 for the purposes of attracting development. There are many sites in Novi and the Main Street area that are already underutilized. Novi should emphasize and promote development in those areas first.

3) Do you support the use of tax abatements for economic development? If yes, under what circumstances?

I support very limited use of tax abatements. There should be a clear benefit to the City beyond traditional development proposals. Brownfield redevelopment, or unique small business incubators are two types of development where a tax abatement can help alleviate risk, yet benefit the City long term. To often tax abatements are used to "lure" business away from other communities. Novi is an excellent place to do business. There is no need to grant that type of tax abatement—it's the residents who end up with the tax bill.

4) Please provide your ranking of the three most important city services?

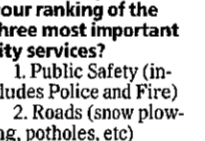
1. Public Safety (includes Police and Fire)

2. Roads (snow plowing, potholes, etc.)

3. Recreation (parks, activities, facilities, community events)

Andrew Ian Mutch

Age: 41
Family: Married to Wendy



Novi resident: 41 years
Education: Attended University of Michigan

Community involvement: Served on the Planning Commission, Library Board and Housing and Community Development Committee. Served as team captain, raising funds annually for Novi Youth Assistance through its Bowl-A-

1. Public Safety (includes Police and Fire)

2. Roads (snow plowing, potholes, etc.)

3. Recreation (parks, activities, facilities, community events)

4) Please provide your ranking of the three most important city services?

1. Public Safety (Police, Fire and EMS)

2. Public Works (Streets, Water and Sewer)

3. Library

Dennis Paul O'Connor Jr.

Age: 56
Family: Married to Gail for 31 years; two children (grown daughters) - Sara and Lisa



Novi resident: My family and I have lived in Novi for 22 years. We moved to Novi in 1986,

but I was transferred out of state in the mid-1990s. We then returned to Novi in 1998 to reconnect with a community where civic pride and educational excellence are top priorities. My two daughters graduated from Novi High School in 2002 and 2004.

Education: MBA: Marketing & Management, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI; Journalism & Mathematics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; Secondary Teacher Certification: University of Michigan Education School; Fellow: National Security Forum (NSF), Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Alabama, 2011; Fellow: Michigan Political Leadership Program (MPLP) Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, 2010; Award of Merit-School Board Member: Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB), Lansing, MI, 2009; Certified Focus Group Moderator: Burke Institute, Cincinnati, OH, 2006

Community involvement: President, Novi Board of Education (2013 to present); Trustee, Oakland County School Boards Association (2013 to present); Communications Director, Save Novi Roads Bond Committee (2012); Vice President, Novi Board of Education (2011 and 2012); Treasurer, Novi Board of Education (2010); Trustee, Novi Educational Foundation (2011-2012); Novi Legislative Representative: Oakland County Intermediate School District (2009-2011); Novi Community Education Advisory Council (2005-2010); Novi Schools Bond Proposal Citizens' Committee (2007); Novi Schools Utilization & Redistricting Committee (2006); Novi Schools Long Range Planning Committee (2004-2005); Novi Athletic Boosters, Vice President of Publicity Director (1998-2004); Novi High School Band Boosters (1998-2004)

Employment: Small business owner in Novi for 13 years. I operate a communications & training consulting agency. Prior to opening my own business, I was a Divisional Vice President for Maritz Communications Company in Detroit. I began my career in the newspaper industry as a reporter and editor for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

1) Do you support the construction of the proposed \$3 million 'ring road' from Novi Road to Grand River Avenue? If yes, how would you propose to pay for it?

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I will support tax

4) Please provide your ranking of the three most important city services?

Public Safety, Growth Management and Community Development

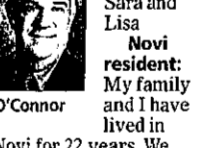
1. Public Safety (includes Police and Fire)

2. Roads (snow plowing, potholes, etc.)

3. Recreation (parks, activities, facilities, community events)

Novi 2013

Age: 31
Family: I've never been married and I have



Novi for 22 years. We moved to Novi in 1986,

but I was transferred out of state in the mid-1990s. We then returned to Novi in 1998 to reconnect with a community where civic pride and educational excellence are top priorities. My two daughters graduated from Novi High School in 2002 and 2004.

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2) Should the City relocate Fire Station #1 and sell the property for Main Street Development?

Local resident directs Players' 'Dracula'

Get ready for a killer of a drama when the Farmington Players debuts its production of *Dracula* by Stephen Dietz beginning Oct. 11 and running through Nov. 2 at the Barn Theater on 12 Mile Road.

John Boufford of Northville Township directs the new adaptation of the classic horror tale that he refers to as a "PG-13" production. The play preserves the suspense and seduction found in Bram Stoker's famous novel.

"This is a very dark and sexy version of *Dracula*," Boufford said. "While it pulls much from Bram Stoker's original work, it adds new layers that will appeal to modern-day vampire lovers."

Rich in both humor and horror, *Dracula* paints a bone-chilling picture of the fanged beast Count Dracula played by Rick Mickley of Keego Harbor. As *Dracula* begins to stalk the people of London, Dr. Van Helsing (Guy Copland of Berkeley) and his team try to piece together the clues in a valiant attempt to save themselves from a hideous fate.

Meanwhile, the piercing shrieks of *Dracula's* servant, the madman Renfield, shake the walls of an insane asylum. "I thought playing the guy who's insane would be an easy thing for some reason," said Gary Weinstein of Farmington Hills.

Weinstein is known as a zany character actor at the Barn, and Renfield's mood swings are perfect for the talented performer. "Really



Gary Weinstein of Farmington Hills and owner of Weinstein Jewelry in Novi, takes on the character of the famous Renfield.

the core of what I'm excited about in the role is the small shift between being sane and insane that Renfield deals with on a daily basis," Weinstein said.

"*Dracula* is one of the most technically heavy shows the Barn has ever done, and Boufford chose Keith Janoch of Farmington Hills as technical director in charge of presenting an "amazing sensory experience for the audience."

"We have so many different effects, the goal is that the audience will not realize that they are watching effects, but that they are simply immersed into the story," Boufford added.

Rounding out the cast are Meredith Deighton as Mina and Jennifer Beitzel as Lucy, two of *Dracula's* targets who share stories about their love

lives. Keith Firstenberg and David Galido as Harker and Seward, risking their lives to protect their women. Julia Spina-Kilar and Jayne Firstenberg play *Dracula's* screaming wixens, and Arman Banouni serves as an attendant in the asylum.

The show will open on the Barn's brand new stage floor. Tickets are now on sale for the drama by phone at 248-553-

2955 or online at boxoffice@farmingtonplayers.org. Tickets are \$14 for students and \$16 for adults. Season tickets are also available online at the Farmington Players website, www.farmingtonplayers.org.

Upcoming Farmington Players productions include *Annie*, *Assassins* and *Rumors*. The barn is at 32332 12 Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

Four authors celebrate reading at Novi library Oct. 9

The Detroit Chapter of the Women's National Book Association will present four authors for an evening of National Reading Group Month Celebration at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 9.

The panel will participate in a Q&A moderated by Willetta Helsing, local author and current president of the Detroit chapter of WNBA. Audience



members will be able to purchase all authors' works from Book Beat bookstore, which will be set up at the library for the evening. Signing will take place from 8-8:45 p.m.

Marjorie Celona earned her MFA at the Iowa Writer's Workshop,

where she was an Iowa Arts Fellow. Her first novel, about a baby left at the doors of a YMCA, is titled *Y: A Novel* (Free Press). A native of Victoria, British Columbia, Celona currently lives in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Michael Harvey is the co-creator, writer and executive producer of the Prime Time Emmy-nominated television

series *Cold Case Files* and a former investigative producer for CBS in Chicago. He has won many national and international awards, including multiple Emmys and an Academy Award nomination for the Holocaust documentary *Eye-witness: The Innocence Game* (Knopf) is his fifth book.

Ray Robertson has written two books of essays and six novels, including his most recent, *David* (Biblosis), a moving portrait of a little-known piece of Canadian history, set amidst racial tensions of life after the Underground Railroad. Robertson lives and writes in Toronto, where he is a contributing book reviewer for *The Globe and Mail*.

Larry Watson is the author of 10 novels, including *Montana 1948*, as well as collections of poetry and short stories. His latest is *Let Him Go* (Milkweed Editions), set in the Northern Plains in 1951. Born and raised in North Dakota, Watson has taught writing and literature for many years, currently at Marquette University.

Caregiver Expo Oct. 12 addresses growing need

By Julie Brown Staff Writer

Jim Schuster of Southfield, a certified elder law attorney, will be among speakers in Novi at the Saturday, Oct. 12, Caregiver Expo presented by the Area Agency on Aging 1-B.

Schuster earned his law degree from Wayne State University, and has been practicing since 1978.

"We're going to talk about must-know information for seniors and caregivers," said Schuster, whose practice is also in Southfield. Often, seniors need someone authorized to help them out.

A mother could put her daughter on a joint account, and end up losing the mom's life sav-

ings. "She could be laid off from a job and it could happen," he said. Some adult children are unscrupulous.

Schuster recommends no joint ownership other than with a spouse. If a son takes his mom's car and drinks and drives, "Mom's going to be paying some of the bill, maybe."

He'll talk about powers of attorney for health care and general business, as well as avoiding probate, including upon death. "These are some very important points that people really need to know," Schuster said. "It can really come back and bite them," not knowing powers of attorney and trust.

"Participants are strongly encouraged to come with questions,"

Schuster said. "It's a very interactive program."

He'll also cover government benefits, including Medicaid and in-home assistance for qualified veterans. "So you see, it's quite a full plate," the lawyer said.

This year's Expo offers expert presentations. More than 120 exhibitors will be on site displaying and demonstrating products and services for caregivers.

The AAA 1-B's Resource Specialists and trained Medicare and Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP) volunteers will be available all day at the "Ask The Resource Specialist" booth answering questions on Medicare, Medicaid, transportation options, in-home services, and access to local

DETAILS

The 14th annual Solutions for Family Caregivers Expo will be Saturday, Oct. 12, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Diamond Ballroom at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., one mile west of Novi Road in Novi. It provides access to resources, services and support for people who care for elderly or disabled adult family members or friends.

For more information on the Expo, visit www.michigancaregiverexpo.com or call 1-800-852-7795.

resources. Parking and admission are free.

Caregiver help

Caregivers who cannot leave the person they care for at home alone to attend the Caregiver Expo are encouraged to register their loved one in "Respite Care at the Expo," a free service provided onsite at the Suburban Collection Showplace during the event. Caregivers can leave their loved one in

the caring hands of qualified professionals, where they will enjoy refreshments and participate in activities such as singing, games, crafts, and social interaction.

Due to limited space, reservations for "Respite Care at the Expo" must be made by Oct. 4. Respite care is strictly for adults. For information or to make a reservation, caregivers can visit www.aaa1b.com, or contact the AAA 1-B at 1-800-

852-7795.

Speakers will cover topics ranging from: seniors and driving; home modifications; dementia; age-friendly exercise; managing chronic illness; and long-term care options.

The Caregiver Expo is sponsored by AAA - The Auto Club Group; HAP Medicare Solutions; Henry Ford Health System; Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan; Christopher J. Berry, certified elder law attorney; Priority Health; American House; Guardian Medical Monitoring; Meridian Care at the Expo; must be made by Oct. 4. Respite care is strictly for adults. For information or to make a reservation, caregivers can visit www.aaa1b.com, or contact the AAA 1-B at 1-800-

Win Tigers playoff tickets

Observer & Eccentric Media is giving away a pair of tickets for each home playoff game between the Detroit Tigers and Oakland Athletics. To enter the contest, visit our website at hometownlife.com and look for the Don't Miss section on the right side. Fill out the form, then share the contest link with friends on Facebook.

Whoever gets the most friends to like us on Facebook wins two tickets. Anyone with at least five successful referrals (the friend must like us on Facebook) will get a coupon for a Free Buddy's pizza. The deadline for entering is noon Friday, Oct. 4.

NOVI COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Brass band to perform at Fox Run

Five Lakes Silver Band, a British-style brass band based in Royal Oak, will be performing at Novi's Fox Run at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13.

This is an all-volunteer group of musicians which has produced four CDs and is beginning its seventh season. Under the musical direction of Neil Barlow, the band has won two international brass band contests and also most recently won first place in the First Section at the prestigious 2013 North American Brass Band Association's annual competition in Cincinnati.

Flu shots offer better protection

Oakland County Health Division will offer a vaccine that guards individuals against four flu viruses this season. This year's vaccine shields against Type A H1N1 and H3N2 and two Type B strains which are

most likely to occur this season. The vaccine protected against three flu strains in years past. Residents can pre-register now for the inoculation at www.ock.gov/health.

Flu shots cost \$20. They will be available at Health Division offices in Pontiac and Southfield from noon to 8 p.m. each Monday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Health Division will also hold community outreach clinics at the Walled Lake Community Education, 615 N. Pontiac Trail, 3-7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 15.

Online registrants will print out a consent form that they must bring to the clinic where they are pre-enrolled. Online payment options include Visa, MasterCard, Medicare and/or Medicaid.

Credit card fees apply. One may also pay cash. Register by phone by calling 248-858-7350 or 248-424-7120. Walk-in clients are welcome.

85 and up



Novi Mayor Bob Gatt gives a treat and a greeting to 92-year-old M. Elizabeth Coleman at the Novi Senior Center's Sept. 18 Luncheon. The gathering recognized some of Novi's 85-years-and-up residents and some of the many accomplishments they've compiled in their lifetimes. JOHN NEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Solutions

Family Caregiver Expo

For Family Members and Friends Caring for an Aging or Disabled Loved One

Saturday, October 12, 2013
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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Camper, RV show rolls into Novi's Showplace

The Michigan Association of Recreation Vehicles and Campgrounds is sponsoring the 24th annual Fall Detroit Camper & RV Show, Oct. 2-6 at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

More than 200 new recreation vehicles will be on display, including folding campers, motor homes, travel trailers, truck campers and fifth-wheel travel trailers. Special discounts include folding campers from \$4,999; trailers from \$9,999; and motor homes from \$49,999, plus manufacturer rebates on select RVs. There will be plenty of exhibitor booths featuring parts and accessories, campground information, on-site RV financing and RV rentals.

At the show, enter to win event tickets and camping packages from

DETAILS
Event: 24th annual Fall Detroit Camper & RV Show
When: Oct. 2-6
Hours: 2-9 p.m. weekdays; 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday
Where: Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi
Admission: Adult admission (ages 13 and older) is \$9, senior admission is \$8 and children 12 and under get in free. Purchase \$2 off advance tickets at select metro Detroit Home Depot stores; visit marvac.org for a list of participating stores. RV show ticket will also get you into the Novi Home Remodeling Show, Thursday through Sunday.
Parking: free
Phone: 517-349-8881
Web: www.marvac.org

Michigan International Speedway. Winning package includes tickets and camping to an MIS event of your choice.

A special coupon is available at www.marvac.org, Big Boy restaurants, NAPA Auto Parts Stores and in area newspapers. With this coupon, all consumers can get \$1 off any adult or senior admission. The 2013 RV & Campsite, a guide to camping and RVing in Michigan, will be available free to consumers.

The show is sponsored by the Michigan Association of Recreation Vehicles and Campgrounds, a member organization representing all aspects of the camping and RV industries.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alloni have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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

Bieske and Alloni represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3330 for a free consultation. If you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

www.ssdffighter.com

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OUR VIEWS

It is time for redistricting reform

Non-partisan approach needed

Michigan's process for drawing legislative districts is blatantly partisan and inherently unfair to voters. Now, long before it's time to draw them again, would be a good time for elected leaders to address the issue.

States are required to redraw district lines, for everything from Congress to county boards of commissioners, every 10 years following the national census to reflect demographic changes.

Ideally, such redistricting ensures every vote counts by drawing boundaries that reflect natural communities with common geography and interests. In reality, however, redistricting too often rewards the political party that happens to be in power.

Politicians, in effect, choose their voters. Look at the 11th Congressional

District, which winds from western Oakland and Wayne counties east to Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills. Those communities have little in common with western Oakland County and even less with Livonia or Canton.

Consider the 2012 election, in which President Barack Obama carried Michigan by 9 percentage points. Democratic candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives received about 240,000 more votes than their Republican counterparts, yet won just five of 15 congressional seats.

The tilt was no accident, of course, and is not unique to Michigan. In a remarkably candid report titled "How a Strategy of Targeting State Legislative Races in 2010 Led to a Republican U.S. House Majority in 2013," the Republican State Leadership Committee credits gerrymandered maps in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin with allowing Republicans to overcome a 1.1 million popular-vote deficit.

The report's authors explained their rationale this way: "Drawing new district lines in states with the most redistricting activity presented the opportunity to solidify conservative policy making at the state level and maintain a Republican stronghold in the U.S. House of Representatives for the next decade."

Gerrymandering districts is nothing new and, given the opportunities Democrats have proven no less nefarious than their GOP colleagues. Politics can be a dirty game.

But it doesn't have to be.

Across Lake Michigan, citizens in Wisconsin are calling on leaders to allow hearings on bills that would create a system for redistricting modeled on the successful non-partisan approach taken for more than 30 years in Iowa.

The bills are mostly Democrat-backed, but the push for reform is coming from a united front of newspaper editorial writers, nonprofit groups and engaged citizens and have the editorial endorsements of the *Wisconsin State Journal*, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, *Appleton Post-Crescent*, *Beloit Daily News*, *La Crosse Tribune*, *Chippewa Herald*, *Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune*, *Oshkosh Northwestern* and *Janesville Gazette*.

According to the *Journal Sentinel*, the bills would task a "non-partisan Legislative Reference Bureau with drawing maps that are compact, contiguous, strictly non-partisan" and how to establish municipal and county boundaries as much as possible. Iowa has used a similar process since 1981 and the process has been smooth—and cheap.

We would add "fair," as well, and we believe that it's something that Michigan should be doing, too.

We understand that we're asking Republicans to give up an advantage, which is why now would be a good time to start this process. A lot can happen in seven years and implementing a non-partisan process would ensure fairness to both parties.

Most importantly, it gives voters a stronger voice and could alleviate some of the rancor so typical of our Legislature today.

That's something every elected leader should support.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vote 'yes' on two school millages

On Nov. 5, voters in the Novi Community School District (NCS) will be asked to vote on two school millages. These include an operating millage renewal and a school recreation millage renewal.

We encourage you to vote "yes" on both of these proposals.

These are renewal millages—not proposals for additional funds. Voting yes will not increase your tax rate. Instead, these millages allow the district to maintain current school district funding.

Renewing the school district's operating millage will allow the district to maintain current general fund operating revenue that supports teachers, administrators, and programs in the district.

Renewing the school district's recreation millage will allow the district to maintain the funds that support public recreation and playgrounds including community use of the Novi High School pool, school district fields, playgrounds and community recreation. It also provides for after-school programs at Novi Middle School and Novi Meadows. If the recreation millage is renewed, these programs will not only continue, but it will also allow for upgrades to fields, gymnasiums, tennis courts, and additional enhancements to school district properties.

The operating millage renewal and school recreation millage represent a very large amount of funding for the district. We are confident in the high quality that is continually delivered by our schools, and maintaining these current funding level will allow the district to continue on its current course—a course that we believe makes our community a better place.

We encourage you to vote YES to renew these two millages.

Lou Martin and Willy Mena
co-chairs, Friends of the Novi Schools

Health care costs too high

Over the last few weeks, there have been a couple of letters and articles published in the *Observer & Eccentric* and *Hometown Newspapers* that suggested a "free market" answer for a perceived national health care dilemma. Unfortunately for those proposing a private enterprise solution for health care needs, the facts do not support their position.

The private sector has been present in American health care for a long time while other advanced democracies have embraced public intervention in the health care marketplace. The result, according to the Organization for Economic Development and Cooperation data, is that we pay roughly twice as much per capita for health care than those who have gone the public route. Ditto for gross domestic product.

In 2011, the United States spent \$8,508 per capita on medical care, while the average among OECD nations was \$3,339. Canada spent \$4,522. France, which, according to the World Health Organization

Medicare milestone

July 1 marked the 47th anniversary of Medicare, a program that impacts more than 40.3 million senior citizens of America.

Medicare is one of the remaining pillars of our health care safety net for seniors, including the vast baby boomer generation.

In 1966, former President Lyndon Johnson stated, "This program is not just a blessing for older Americans. It is a test for all Americans, a test of our willingness to work together."

He was right. Medicare continues to be vital for seniors today, especially since it may be the only source of health care coverage for seniors due to companies cutting and reducing earned supplemental health care coverage. Congress needs to preserve Medicare to prevent seniors from becoming economically impoverished from the rising costs of health care.

Our nonprofit group, protections.org, has written to the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee supporting the continued maintenance of Medicare and I urge all retirees to band together to make sure America's senior generation is not left unprotected.

Denise "Chip" Black
Milford

Privatized intelligence?

I am in agreement with President Barack Obama that we must balance the rights of the individual with the needs of our nation, while recognizing that intelligence never can be 100 percent transparent. I am concerned, however, with what is missing in this debate.

First is the role of privatization in intelligence. Are the private contractors loyal to the company who pays them, or to America? How does a private company determine the trustworthiness of an employee? For those individuals who complain about the cost of government, do they think it is more or less expensive to pay the salary of a public servant or that of a private contractor?

Second is it necessary that millions of individuals have top security clearance?

Third, are analysts checking for context when they hear what is being said or read what is written? For example, someone who bombs a test is very different from an individual who bombs a building.

In a participatory democracy, it is of vital importance that citizens debate the role of surveillance in the defense of our nation.

J.T. Liu
Novi

COMMUNITY VOICE

The deadline to register for the city of Novi election Nov. 5 is Monday, Oct. 7. Are you registered and do you plan to vote?

This question was asked at the Novi Public Library.



Norm Young
Novi



Chris Moyer
Novi



Phil Devereaux
Novi



J.T. Liu
Novi

Paddlers needed for first Rouge canoe race

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

Attention, all canoeing enthusiasts. If you are looking for a challenge and want to paddle some relatively unknown water—not to mention have a chance to win some cash—I've got the perfect opportunity for you.

The main feature of the Rouge-A-Palooza festival Oct. 12 in downtown Wayne is the inaugural Logjam Classic Canoe Race. Organizers of the event, of which I am one, wanted to do something to celebrate the progress local communities have made in cleaning up the Rouge River in recent years. The city of Wayne has been at the forefront of this movement.

The canoe race covers a three-mile course through the Wayne County-owned Lower Rouge Parkway, which is a green ribbon of forest where trees tower overhead and wildlife makes its home. It is an oasis of nature in an otherwise urban landscape.

Friends of the Rouge has organized a group canoe trip on the Lower Branch of the Rouge each October for several years now and its popularity has continued to grow, with more than 50 people taking part last year.

To raise more awareness to this budding recreational opportunity, we decided to organize the race this year for those looking for a new challenge.

Here are the basics. Our hope is to get up to 30 canoes in the race. Each canoe must have two paddlers. Due to the limited size of the river, teams will be sent every five minutes and will be timed. The team with the best time will be awarded cash (the total will depend on the number of competitors) and trophies cut from an actual Rouge River logjam.

The beginning of the race is just east of John Hix Road on Commerce Court behind the Wayne County Department of Environment office, while the completion is at Goudy Park behind Wayne City Hall, where Rouge-A-Palooza will be taking place.

The festival will feature five bands (local favorite Tyrone Hamilton, folksinger Alan Cavn, bluegrass trio Troublesome Creek, alt-country band Cordaddy, and the bluesy rockers Big Fatty), a beer tent featuring Michigan brew, a kayak raffle, rubber duck race, build your own miniature boat race for the kids, environmental educational booths, civic group booths, children's activities and a corn hole tournament. There will also be food vendors (Mean Weenie food truck, Las Cazuelas Grill, Avenue American Bistro, US-12 and Papa Romano's).

In addition, Friends of the Rouge will also be organizing its annual paddle trip, which will begin at the conclusion of the canoe race. For more information about how to join the trip, visit its website at www.therouge.org or contact the group at 313-792-9900. There will be canoe rentals available through Friends of the Rouge.

For me, however, the race is the main event of the festival. In a day and age with extreme competitions like the Tough Mudder being so popular, the Logjam Classic should be appealing to paddlers who are looking for a tough physical challenge. Despite the name, there won't be any impassable obstructions in the river, but the Lower Rouge is a fairly technical course. There are logjams to maneuver around (and under, in some cases), riffle areas that must be navigated and lots of bends and turns to the river.

For this reason, we are only allowing experienced canoeists in the race. And you must be in good physical condition to participate.

Our rules are pretty basic: there must be two people in a canoe and any canoe can be used. Unlike the famous AuSable Canoe Marathon, the Logjam Classic is more of a sprint. Winning teams should finish in less than an hour.

Although Michigan Avenue and Ford Motor Co.'s massive Michigan Assembly complex are nearby, competitors in the race will never know it as the river traverses its way through a scenic terrain of large cottonwoods, maples, willows and sycamore trees.

The whole point of the race is to draw more attention to the Lower Rouge and all the efforts that have been made to turn it back into a recreational resource for communities like Wayne, Canton Township, Westland and even Inkster and Dearborn further downstream. In fact, plans are currently under way to have the Lower Rouge designated a national water trail. Water quality of the river has improved dramatically in recent years, as local communities continue to make changes to clean it up.

The best thing about the Rouge River is the fact it's in our backyard. People who live in the Detroit area usually have to drive an hour or more to paddle a Michigan river. Our goal is to provide that opportunity closer to home.

If you think you have what it takes, preregister by contacting me at 734-716-0783 or kkuban@hometownlife.com. We are only allowing 30 canoes in the race. Cost is \$30 per boat. Each competitor will get a Rouge-A-Palooza T-shirt. If you don't have a canoe, but would like to compete, you can rent one for \$35 through Heaven's Canoe & Kayak Rentals by contacting Jeff Vallender at 248-798-7434.

If you don't want to compete in the race or participate in the group paddle, but are interested in efforts to clean up the river, head over Oct. 12 to Rouge-A-Palooza as we celebrate our river.

Kurt Kuban is the environmental reporter for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, community editor of the *Northville Record* and a *Rouge River cleanup* volunteer. He welcomes your feedback at kkuban@hometownlife.com or 734-716-0783.



Kurt Kuban (left) and Matt Mulholland on a practice run down the Lower Rouge River.

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Under trees burgeoning with apples, visitors make cider.



Max Garavaglia, 6, plops another apple into a cider press.

FALL OPEN HOUSE



Visitors got to enjoy a tractor hay ride around the property.



Visitors to Tollgate Farm register for a day of fun activities during the Sept. 21 open house.



Leah Kaminski, 5, greets a goat.



Megan Mato, 8, decorates a pumpkin.

Tollgate Farm held its Fall Open House Sept. 21. The MSU education center, located at 12 Mile and Meadowbrook roads, had a variety of fun fall activities for families that day, including hay rides, farm animal petting zoo, pumpkin decorating and cider making.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Step at a time

Runner finds meaning helping others reach fitness goals

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Whether it's running a business, running an event or running for the health of it, Randy Step is enjoying the race.

A dedicated runner for almost 40 years, Step is the president of Running Fit Inc., which just opened its eighth area running gear store and includes fitness event management and race-timing businesses.

It doesn't seem like work at all, the South Lyon resident says.

"I'm so fortunate to be in a business where everyone who works here is passionate about what they do," Step said during an interview at the Northville Township Running Fit.

"They're passionate runners." Step and his co-workers, who produce well-known Michigan running events such as Dances With Dirt and Run Woodstock, recently took on management of the inaugural Heroes on Hines, five-kilometer and half-marathon races in honor of Wayne County police officers and firefighters who lost their lives on the job.

The Saturday, Oct. 5, event, which will raise money for the maintenance of the county's First Responders Memorial, begins and ends near Hines Drive and Haggerty in Plymouth Township, where the memorial, under construction, will be located.

Running Fit joined Wayne County parks and recreation officials to plan Heroes on Hines and the company designed runners' shirts and medals, mapped the course and is promoting the event and handling registrations.

"I'm just trying to create something that I think would be really cool," he said.

Running kismet
Step grew up in Detroit and Redford Township, where his father worked at the Charles

Step Funeral Home, which was founded in Detroit by Randy's grandfather and is now run by Randy's brother, also named Charles.

Step didn't run in high school — he is a 1974 Redford Union graduate — but took it up at Michigan State University, where during his sophomore year, as a transfer student, he found himself in a dormitory with a concentration of Spartans cross country runners. "I pretty much got hooked and put in a lot of miles with those guys," sometimes logging 80 to 100 miles a week, Step said.

He majored in mortuary science and began his career as a funeral director, something he did for seven years. He has great respect for the work.

"You have the opportunity to help people in the most difficult days of their lives," he said.

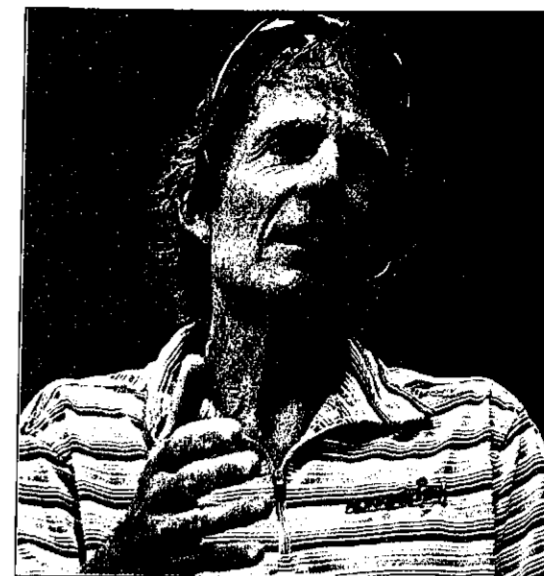
But the running bug had taken hold and Step also trained for races and triathlons (running, swimming and cycling), even taking time off with his wife Kathleen, a top female triathlete at the time, to train and compete.

"I never ran those kind of times where I thought I could make a living," he said.

Achieving goals
Still, he lived and breathed running and opened the first Running Fit in Ann Arbor in December 1994, eventually transitioning into retail full time. He also sold commercial exercise equipment for several years, when his partner bought Step's share of that business, he said, he decided to refocus on running.

Step said he felt guilty about leaving the funeral home for a business he found so enjoyable, but came to realize his new career gave him the chance to help people through difficult times, too.

"We have the ability to change people's lives dramati-



Randy Step talks running, life and business. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

cally and we see it all the time," he said. Step described how non-runners looking for a healthier lifestyle walk in after an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting "and think this is going to be some kind of torture."

Running Fit, which offers running classes, gait analysis and other support services for runners, helps them get to the next level and beyond, he said. "It's all personal," Step said of the goals runners set as they progress. "The psychological side's huge. The physical side's huge."

Step likes to tell runners to "run fast and take chances," meaning, he said, to get outside of their comfort zones.

Close call
But he also urges safety, saying that he prefers trail instead of street running, wears bright colors, runs without music and stays aware of his surroundings. "I hate running near a road," he said.

The dangers were painfully illustrated for him Aug. 14, when Step's wife Kathleen, competing in Running Fit's T-Rex Triathlon at Island Lake

Recreation Area, collided with a car while bicycling at top speed, he said. An inexperienced driver apparently didn't see her and turned sharply in front of her to get past a stream of T-Rex cyclists, Step said.

Kathleen Step flew clear of the car and landed in gravel, her husband said, and is pretty banged up, but expected to recover.

"Just to see her crushed me," Step said, explaining that he rushed to the scene, knowing only that a T-Rex participant had been in an accident, to find his wife covered with dirt, gravel and blood. "I came close to losing her."

Kathleen Step is a longtime nurse who recently earned a doctorate in nursing from the University of Michigan. The couple's children, Trevor, 28, and Anna, 25, followed their path as runners and fitness buffs — Trevor is Running Fit's general manager for retail, while Anna is the company's art director.

"I was a very proud dad," Step said. "It was fun to go see their cross country in college."

HEROES ON HINES

What: Heroes on Hines, Wayne County-sponsored five-kilometer (3.1 miles) and half-marathon (13.1 miles) races.

Where: Western end of Hines Park and surrounding areas, with start and finish near Hines Drive and Haggerty. Race-day parking is at Burroughs, at Plymouth Road and Haggerty.

When: Saturday, Oct. 5. Starts are 8 a.m. for the half-marathon, 8:30 a.m. for the 5K.

Why: To raise money for long-term maintenance of the First Responders Memorial under construction at Haggerty and Hines. The races will be followed by a memorial dedication ceremony. Organizers hope to make the run an annual event.

How: Visit www.heroesonhines.com for more information or to register.

The 5K is \$34 through noon Thursday, Oct. 3, then \$40 until race time. The half marathon is \$59 through noon Oct. 3, then \$70 until race time. Runners will get a technical shirt; half-marathoners will also get a finishers' medal. Medals for overall, age group and team competitions.

Step into the race

Step has high hopes for Heroes on Hines as an annual run and likes the idea of the First Responders Memorial.

"I'm hoping the race is enough that people take notice," he said. Organizers are planning to line the course's final mile with an honor guard of public safety personnel and equipment.

Step issued a challenge to the police and fire departments in Wayne County and beyond: Form a team, join the race and have a friendly competition against your colleagues in public safety. The FBI and the Ontario Provincial Police, he said, have already entered teams. "They should all have a team in this race, every precinct, every fire hall," Step said.

Step said. "It was fun to go see their cross country in college."

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SPORTS

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South Lyon juniors Joe Newman (left) and Erich Stephenson break up a pass intended for Novi junior David Johnson. CHRIS JACKETT

Lions avenges loss to Wildcats

Second-half surge the difference in South Lyon's 36-13 homecoming victory over Novi

By Chris Jackett
 Correspondent

A trio of touchdowns in the final 14 minutes turned around a tight football game last Friday in South Lyon.

The Lions (3-2, 2-1 KLA Central) never trailed, but let Novi (3-2, 2-1 KLA Central) get awfully close before a late push turned a 15-13 lead on homecoming weekend into a 36-13 final score, avenging a lopsided 43-6 road loss last season for Novi's lone victory in the Wildcats' 1-8 campaign of 2012.

"It was a little payback," South Lyon coach Mark Thomas said. "We had a little film on that and how it worked out for us. So it worked out well. It was a great game for us to come out. Novi's tough. The kids did everything we asked them to do."

The star of the night was Lions junior quarterback Anton Skupin, who threw for one touchdown and ran in three more, amassing 115 yards on 12 runs and 166 yards on 13-for-20 passing.

"Anton is a great player," Thomas said. "He's really stepped up as a junior and really taken charge of this as his team."



South Lyon junior Nico Woods breaks free from Novi junior Zac Siriani en route to a touchdown. CHRIS JACKETT

Novi's football squad (3-2, 2-1 KLA Central) will host Livonia Stevenson (2-3, 1-2 Central) at 7 p.m. Friday for its homecoming. Stevenson is coming off a 48-21 loss to Northville (6-1, 3-0 Central), which is on Novi's horizon at 7 p.m. Oct. 11 at Wildcat Stadium. Novi looks to avenge a 21-14 overtime loss to Northville and a 30-20 loss to Stevenson, both from last year.

adversity and our guys have to learn from this.

"For the first time, I saw us just hang our heads for that split second and that's all you need for a team to jump on you. These guys are going to come back harder this week, I guarantee it."

The scoring was scattered early in the game, with Skupin scoring on a 13-yard run with 62 seconds left in the first quarter. But the point-after kick attempt was blocked and it wasn't until with 3:28 remaining in the half that South Lyon had a chance to even it out following a 36-yard touchdown run by junior Nico Woods (73 yards on 12 runs), but the two-point conversion attempt by Skupin failed.

Novi sophomore Emanuel Jackson (53 yards on 16 runs) cut the lead to 12-6 with 61 seconds left in the half on a 17-yard touchdown run, but the Wildcats' PAT attempt was also blocked.

See LIONS, Page B3

Wildcats roll toward postseason

Novi tennis team cruises through week of KLA A champs, state-ranked opponents

By Chris Jackett
 Correspondent

As the No. 3 boys tennis team in Division 1, it was business as usual for Novi last week.

As the KLA A Central Division champion, Novi (8-1, 5-0 KLA A Central) disbanded North Division champion Walled Lake Central (4-3, 4-1 North) 9-0 Sept. 24, knocked off West Division champion Grand Blanc (6-1, 5-0 West) 8-1 on the road Sept. 26 and then went Saturday to the East Lansing Invitational, where it took care of No. 7 Traverse City Central, No. 10 Port Huron Northern and host East Lansing while conceding just one of 24 matches on the day.

"I thought we played well last week from top to bottom," Novi coach Jim Hanson said. "I'm starting to see some positive signs of those things we're working on in practice."

With the team going 40-2 on the week, there were few occasions where the Wildcats were not in control.

Against Walled Lake Central, No. 1 singles junior Tim Wang (22-1) was taken to three sets before defeating freshman Denali Kitayami 6-0, 6-7(2), 6-1.

See TENNIS, Page B4

ON TAP

Novi's boys tennis team (8-1, 5-0 KLA A Central) was set to visit Plymouth (7-1, 5-0 South) two days ago and No. 9 Bloomfield Hills at 3:30 p.m. today before Saturday's 8 a.m. KLA A Tournament, when Novi will host the top three teams from all four KLA A divisions. From there, the Wildcats host regionals at 8 a.m. Oct. 11. "Anything can happen when you put the top teams together," Novi coach Jim Hanson said. "It'll be a good test."



Novi's Kevin Xu warms up before a Sept. 24 home match against Walled Lake Central. JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Upperclassmen steering young girls harriers to success



Novi's runners stuck together en route to a 19-40 victory over South Lyon. RUBY GRANDSTAFF

Novi outruns both South Lyon squads

By Chris Jackett
 Correspondent

Despite its young roster, Novi's girls cross country team is making strides midway through the season.

The Wildcats (2-1 KLA A Central) recently rattled off convincing victories over both South Lyon and South Lyon East, while also finishing second at The Legends Meet to a solid Canton team (3-0 South).

The girls defeated the Lions 19-40 Sept. 17 at Island Lake and the Cougars 16-47 Sept. 24

mentored by (senior) Karissa Koomen, the young freshmen are learning how to race and race smart.

Loneragan finished The Legends Meet second overall with a season best time of 19 minutes, 37 seconds.

On her heels were freshman Hadley Peterson (10th in 20:14), Koomen (17th in 20:52) and freshman Heather Blair (19th in 20:57). Jessica Lyjka (21st in 20:58) and Grace Backus (25th in 21:04).

Rounding out the top seven was senior Victoria Cortez (22:06).

"Their times were a pack

See HARRIERS, Page B3

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Last-minute play leads to Shamrocks' first defeat

Football team falls on final play against Brother Rice

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

Detroit Catholic Central showed just how much its respected longtime Brother Rice coach Al Fracassa over the years.

Before the game last Saturday, the Shamrocks presented Fracassa, who is retiring after 45 seasons coaching the Warriors, with a black jacket featuring tributes to all of the state titles he has led Brother Rice to over the past decades.

CC football coach Tom Mach and Fracassa have been the head coaches of their programs for so long that most people can't recall when they weren't.

Through the years, a storied rivalry has built between the two schools, which often trade off as the top dogs in the Catholic High School League from year to year along with a mix of other talented programs. Together, Mach and Fracassa have been witness to some wild endings to the games between their two teams.

Add one more Saturday. The Shamrocks were 30 seconds away from forcing overtime against Brother Rice when a long pass from War-



CC's Alex Galiyas leads the way for Zach Bock against rival Brother Rice. DENNIS BARNES

riors quarterback Alex Malzone to the end zone ended with Patrick Sparks leaping into the air, bobbling the ball and then coming down with it for a touchdown and the game-winning score. Rice's sideline erupted with cheers as the squad secured a 28-21 victory.

"We did some good things and some not so good things, but that's the nature of a big game against a talented team like Brother Rice," Shamrocks assistant coach Michael Mach

said. "In the end, we were 30 seconds away from overtime and the credit goes to them — they made one more play than us."

Given a few more minutes, the game would have likely seen the Shamrocks making a few more plays for a score, too. Throughout the contest, it was chess move after chess move as the two teams tied it a 7-7, 14-14 and 21-21 before the final strike by the Warriors.

The Shamrocks were the

first to score, finding the end zone on a 5-yard run by quarterback Sean Birney, before the Warriors tied it in the second quarter on a 4-yard run.

Birney ended the game with 11 carried for 94 yards, while running back Connor Holton ran for 97 yards on 15 attempts and scored a touchdown.

Linebacker David Wright led the Shamrocks' defense with nine tackles and an interception.

Tom Mach said this is sim-

ply the reality of playing in a league full of talented teams.

"They played hard, we played with all our heart and, unfortunately, we came up short, but hopefully next week we won't," he said to the Detroit Press Press. "We have to get better each day. We have to come to practice each day this week and try to make something positive out of it."

Michael Mach said the Shamrocks, now 4-1 overall and 0-1 in the CHSL, still have lots of season ahead of them — and all of their season goals within reach.

"We have to keep our heads about us, use the experience to get better and keep competing," he said. "All of our goals — the Catholic League championship and state playoffs — are still attainable."

The Shamrocks and Warriors, who play in different divisions come the postseason, could still end up playing one another again if both teams are able to make to the CHSL championship game Oct. 26.

ON TAP

Detroit Catholic Central will be on the gridiron again when it hosts University of Detroit Jesuit at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Novi's field hockey team was set Monday to visit Farrington Hills Mercy before hosting Mercy last night. The Wildcats will visit Grosse Pointe South at 6 p.m. Tuesday before a 7 p.m. Oct. 10 trip to Ann Arbor Huron.

Novi's girls swim and dive team (2-1, 0-0 KLA Central) competed Sept. 27-28 in the Waterford Invitational at Waverly and collected a handful of top-eight finishes.

All three relays were successful, as freshman Emily Mayoras and sophomores Lauren Kim, Alexandra Cortez and Dana Kilponen teamed to take second in the 200 free medley relay in 1:57.67.

Sophomore Ava Bianchi then teamed with Mayoras, Kilponen and Cortez to take third in the 200 free relay in 1:45.69, while freshmen Karen Xu and Idalia Moore teamed with Kim and Bianchi for eighth in the 400 free relay in 4:04.84.

The Wildcats had several individual successes, as well. Cortez took third in the 200 free in 2:01.74 and fourth in the 500 free in 5:30.34, while Mayoras took fourth in the 100 backstroke in 1:04.56 and sixth in the 50 free in 25.92 seconds. Kim additionally took third in the 100 breaststroke in 1:13.24 and seventh in the 100 fly in 1:05.65, while Kilponen took eighth in the 100 free in 59.29 seconds.

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

Golfers win own Novi Invitational

Defeat Plymouth in dual meet tiebreaker

By Chris Jaccett
Correspondent

Behind a week of highs and lows, Novi's girls golf team finds itself tied atop the KLA Central Division with a 4-1 (5-1 overall) record.

The 'Cats started off with a tough field Sept. 21 at the Northville Invitational at Hudson Mills, where they finished 16th of 23 teams with a score of 394. Leading the way were junior Claire Kalina

ON TAP

Novi's girls golfers (5-1, 4-1 KLA Central) were set to be back on the links two days ago against Canton (0-0 South) at Fox Hills, yesterday against Livonia Churchill (2-2 South) at Cattails and at 3 p.m. Monday against Walled Lake Central (0-4 North) at Edgewood, before heading into regionals at 9 a.m. Oct. 10 at Durham Hills.

(career low 93), freshman Lauren Henry (season low 97), freshman Alexa Hatz (97) and sophomore Morgan Krupic (107).

A few days later, Sept. 26, the Wildcats battled to as narrow of a victory as possible against their KLA Wildcat brethren from Plymouth (3-2, 3-1 South).

Tied at 184 apiece, Novi's fifth scorer provided the tiebreaker victory.

Although Plymouth's Sydney Murphy was the match medalist with a 41, Novi was led by senior Lauren Cojei (43), junior Katelyn Henry (45), junior Madison Kroetsch (48), Lauren Henry (48) and Hatz (51).

Novi hosted its own

invitational Saturday at Cattails, winning with a score of 340. South Lyon (4-1 Central) finished second with 360 in a pool of 20 teams and 96 golfers.

Among the Wildcats leaders in that meet were Cojei (82 and medalist), Kroetsch (tied fourth with 85), Katelyn Henry (seventh with 86), Maya Grandstaff (tied eighth with 87) and Hatz (11th with 89).

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



Novi's Lauren Cojei led her squad Sept. 26 with a 43 against Plymouth. RUBY GRANDSTAFF



Novi's boys cross country team finished second at The Legends Meet. Pictured (front, from left) are Michael Dickmann, Colin Thomas, Sahisnu Malapati and Cameron Misko; and (back, from left) Brian Barnes, Nate Hall, Joost Plaetinck and Scott Beaton. ROBERT SMITH



Novi junior Jalen Ward pushes through a pair of South Lyon defenders. CHRIS JACCETT

LIONS

Continued from Page B1

A 33-yard field goal by South Lyon sophomore Vince Candella 3:10 into the third quarter and a 6-yard touchdown run by Novi junior Jalen Ward (26 yards on seven runs) 3:16 later cut the Lions' lead to 15-13, but that's when things sped up for the hosts.

With 1:49 to go in the third, Skupin scored on a 5-yard run. Just 2:47 into the fourth quarter, Skupin connected with senior Brock Oostermeier (47 yards on three catches) for a 25-yard touchdown and then, after recovering an onside kick, Skupin scored on a 35-yard run 49 seconds later. Candel-la did his part with three consecutive PATs in the span of 5:25 to put the Wildcats at 36-13 with 8:24 remaining in front of a fired up home-crowd.

"It was a great game," Thomas said. "The kids played well, great atmosphere. It makes the dance so much more fun tomorrow night."

In an effort to be-



South Lyon sophomore Trevor Tank rolls past a group of Novi defenders Sept. 27 during the Lions' 36-13 victory. CHRIS JACCETT

come more multi-dimensional, the Wildcats opened up the passing game, but juniors Billy Uile and Robit Moga combined to go 4-for-8 for 54 yards with two interceptions.

"Defensively we did a great job and stepped up. We knew we could step up and stop the run because they couldn't pass real well," Thomas said. "Just little things that would help hurt us earlier in the year. Now we've corrected those and the kids are following the program."

Novi senior Mark Ryan had a game-high 15 total tackles, 11 of which were assists, while David Dyer, Tim McPhee and Woods shared South Lyon's defensive leader board with six total tackles apiece. The Lions combined for 10 total tackles for losses totaling 28 yards, plus two interceptions.

The 36 points allowed by the Wildcats were more than in their first four games combined, when they allowed a total of 34 points and shut out both White Lake Lakeland and South Lyon East.

HARRIERS

Continued from Page B1

time of 12 seconds apart," Reid said of Koomen, Blair, Lyпка

and Backus. "As a group, these individuals are coming together as a team better than many of my previous teams. It is definitely showing with the work that they are doing as a team

during our races. I am looking forward to see the progress continue."

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

Novi harriers take top 22 spots against East

Multiple Wildcats set new personal bests

By Chris Jaccett
Correspondent

A wrong turn was all it took for Novi's boys harriers to dominate South Lyon East last week before finishing second at The Legends Meet.

With East's (0-2) top runner getting disqualified due to a wrong turn taking him off the course, the Wildcats (2-1) captured the top 22 spots in their Sept. 24 race at Cass Benton, winning 15-50.

"It really was not our intent to dominate in this way," Novi coach Robert Smith said. "We wanted to work on pack running again today and the runners from SLE just weren't there in the front of the race."

Seniors Trevor Malarkey, Palguna Thalla, David Gardner, Andrew Turek, Michael Dickmann, Tom Groedel and Brian Barnes all crossed the finish line with an identical time of 19 minutes, on the dot, although first place was awarded to Malarkey.

"It was real cool to see these guys all come in together," Smith said. "This does not happen too often, especially with it being for first place in a race. I'm sure it will be a great memory for each of these guys for a long, long time."

Just 12 seconds later, 13 Wildcats finished with an identical time of 19:12. That pack included Casey Croad, Paul Li, Chris Silva, Declan Winship, Michael Ho (a career best), Scott Beaton, Eric Landy, Sahisnu Malapati, Cameron Misko and Colin Thomas.

Novi's harriers kept things rolled with 64 points at last Saturday's



Novi's Sahisnu Malapati set a personal best of 16:50 at The Legends Meet. ROBERT SMITH

ON TAP

Novi's boys cross country team (2-1) was set to visit Cass Benton two days ago to face No. 2-ranked Northville (2-0) before Saturday's 9:15 a.m. Oakland County Championships at Kensington Metropark. The 'Cats then head back to Cass Benton to host Plymouth Salem (1-1) at 4:25 p.m. Tuesday.

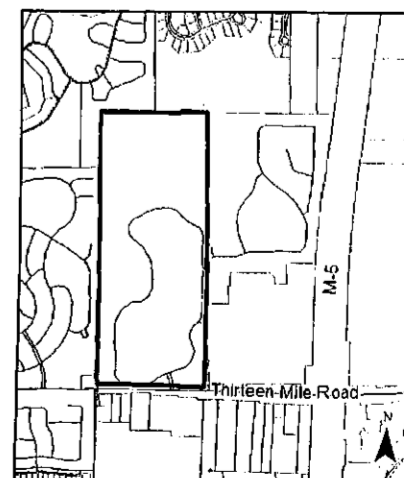
Legends meet at Huron Meadows, one point shy of first place.

"Birmingham Seaton beat us by the slimmest of margins," Smith said. "It took almost an hour for the meet directors to confirm the results. We knew that we earned a trophy; it was just a matter of which one. Had one of our athletes run one second faster over the 3.1-mile course, we would have brought home the bigger trophy. It was that close."

Barnes (sixth in 16:21), Nate Hall (11th in 16:40) and Joost Plaetinck (12th in 16:42) led the Wildcats, with Barnes and Hall setting career bests and

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 23, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ERICSON LIVING FOX RUN, JSP 18-64 FOR PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE REVISED PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN WITH A PD-1 (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT RESIDENTIAL) OPTION, REVISED SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT, REVISED PHASING PLAN, REVISED WOODLAND PERMIT AND REVISED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN. The subject property totals approximately 102.8 acres and is located in Section 01, north of Thirteen Mile Road and west of M-5. The applicant is proposing to revise the original approval for the remaining buildings in Phase 2. Plans are available for review at the Civic Center.



All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, October 23, 2013.

Novi Planning Commission
Michael Lynch, Secretary

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NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP

Novi volleyball takes hold of Central

Ranked No. 9 in Class A, the Wildcats volleyball squad (19-5, 5-0 KLA Central) took sole possession of the division lead last week with a big rivalry victory on the road at Northville (23-6-4, 4-1 Central).

Novi defeated the Mustangs 22-26, 25-21, 19-25, 25-18, 15-9 Sept. 24 and followed the effort with a 25-16, 25-16, 25-22 win at South Lyon (9-11, 1-4 Central) Sept. 26.

The "road trip" continues this week, as Novi visited Plymouth Salem (3-8, 1-4 Central) Sept. 26, two nights ago and then South Lyon East (3-7-1, 1-4 Central) tonight before hosting Livonia Stevenson (15-3, 3-2 Central) Tuesday and Northville Oct. 10. All matches are at 6:30 p.m.

Other than Northville, no one else in the division has won a set from Novi through the first half of division play.

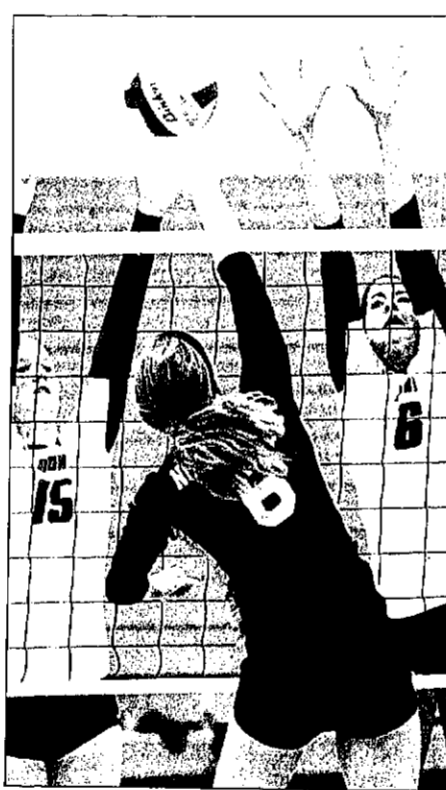
Young swimmers make strides at Waterford invite

Novi's girls swim and dive team (2-1, 0-0 KLA Central) competed Sept. 27-28 in the Waterford Invitational at Waverly and collected a handful of top-eight finishes.

All three relays were successful, as freshman Emily Mayoras and sophomores Lauren Kim, Alexandra Cortez and Dana Kilponen teamed to take second in the 200 free medley relay in 1:57.67.

Sophomore Ava Bianchi then teamed with Mayoras, Kilponen and Cortez to take third in the 200 free relay in 1:45.69, while freshmen Karen Xu and Idalia Moore teamed with Kim and Bianchi for eighth in the 400 free relay in 4:04.84.

The Wildcats had several individual successes, as well. Cortez took third in the 200 free in 2:01.74 and fourth in the 500 free in 5:30.34, while Mayoras took fourth in the 100 backstroke in 1:04.56 and sixth in the 50 free in 25.92 seconds. Kim additionally took third in the 100 breaststroke in 1:13.24 and seventh in the 100 fly in 1:05.65, while Kilponen took eighth in the 100 free in 59.29 seconds.



Wildcats Paulina Iacobelli (left) and Brooke Larey try to stop a spike by Northville's Olivia Landis. JOHN HODER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The team visits Northville (4-0, 1-0 Central) 6:30 p.m. today before visiting Birmingham Groves at 6 p.m. Tuesday

and Plymouth Salem (0-1 Central) at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 10.

—By Chris Jaccett

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Varsity routs Orioles 54-0

The Novi varsity Bobcats (5-0) unleashed their firepower at homecoming against the Livonia Orioles (2-3), routing them 54-0 Sept. 28 at Novi High School. The Bobcats honored their five six-year veterans in this game, naming Chad Howell, Casey Lyons, Brendan Smith, Tyler Vankirk and Matt Williams captains.

The Bobcats erupted early with Treadon Hankerson going 47 yards on the Bobcats' first play and capping off the drive with a 6-yard touchdown run. After a strong 23-yard punt return by Nick Williams, Smith scored on a 40-yard run and Blake King converted the PAT for a quick 14-0 lead.

The Bobcats' defense forced a fumble on a big hit by Troy Aikins that was recovered by King, setting up the next touchdown by Austin Turner, who rambled 16 yards for the score. The onslaught continued, with Troy Maddox throwing a perfect strike to Lyons, who ran for 28 yards after the catch. That set up Vankirk's touchdown run after hard running by Eric Budd, who amassing 30 yards on seven carries on the day. Maddox con-

ON TAP

The Bobcats' next games are Saturday, Oct. 5, at Novi Middle School against the Garden City Cougars, beginning with flag (9 a.m.), followed by freshman (11 a.m.), JV (1 p.m.) and varsity (3 p.m.).

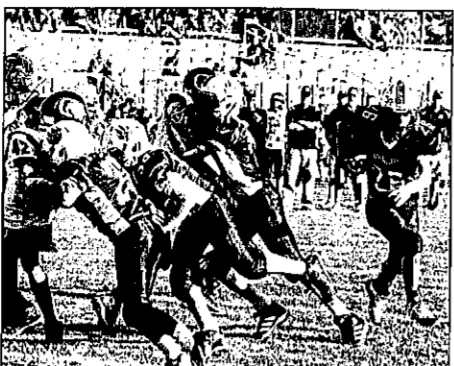
vented the PAT on a nifty pass to Johnny Bean and the Bobcats led 27-0. The Bobcats would score again before half on a 5-yard run by Aikins and the conversion run by Blake Turner.

The second half was all Bobcats defense, led by Jordan Ward's 46-yard punt return for a touchdown and Lyon's conversion run for the PAT. On the next series, Aikins was sprung loose on a big block by Vankirk following an interception near the goal line for a 96-yard touchdown. Finally, Maddox ran it in from 23 yards in the fourth quarter for the final score.

The Bobcats amassed 457 all-purpose yards, behind an offensive line anchored by center Matt Williams. Maddox rushed for 71 yards on six carries, three two-point conversions for 30 yards and a PAT and scored a touchdown.

Lyons and Vankirk had big days on both sides of the football,

NOVI BOBCATS ROUNDUP



Varsity Bobcat Tyler Vankirk (No. 26) runs for a touchdown behind blocks from Casey Lyons (No. 23), Eric Budd (No. 33) and Troy Aikins (No. 11) in Novi's homecoming win Saturday. NANCY LYONS

while Aikins contributed two tackles and three assists to go with his two touchdowns, forced fumble and interception.

Defensively, the Bobcats completely shut down the Livonia Orioles offense that had been averaging more than 43 points a game, holding it to minus-8 yards of total offense. Landon Green had three tackles and an assist. Bean had four tackles and an assist. Blake Turner had two tackles to go with seven assists. Chad Howell had three tackles and a DeShawn Clayton contributed two tackles. Green and Bean also each had tackles for big losses.

conversion, the Bobcats led 14-0.

Moments later Erno recovered his second fumble of the day and the Bobcats capitalized on it when Paige scampered for another touchdown from 50 yards out. Smith converted on the PAT again and the Bobcats held a seemingly commanding 21-0 lead. Alexander Lisowsky made a big tackle to thwart an Orioles touchdown, but moments later the Orioles finally scored to narrow it to 21-7. After a great block by Ryan Rutenber, Michael Williamson ran 48 yards for a touchdown and converted the PAT.

The Orioles scored on their next possession and started the third quarter strong with a 20-yard touchdown pass to bring them within striking distance. However, the Bobcats answered right back as Paige ran it in for another touchdown. The Orioles would not quit and scored again to fight back to within three points late in the fourth quarter, 35-32. Novi's defense rose to the occasion and stopped the Orioles when Griffin Conyers knocked down a crucial pass attempt and Adam Burgol came up with a big tackle to allow the Bobcats to take over

on downs. With just over a minute left in the game, Paige broke loose again, rambled 60 yards for an insurance touchdown and the final margin of victory for the Bobcats, 41-32.

Freshmen hold of Livonia

The Novi Bobcats freshman team improved its record to 5-0 with a tough homecoming victory over the visiting Livonia Orioles, 31-24. The Bobcats built leads in the first and second halves and buckled down to stop comebacks by the Orioles.

Robert Lalain, Ethan Cooper and Bacari Scott scored touchdowns for the Bobcats. Ethan Cooper, Bacari Scott and Niko Krall led the Bobcats in rushing with more than 20 yards.

Defensively, Bobcats leaders were Tommy Phimister, Jacob Brown, Ethan Cooper, Kyle Dowd, Logan Dooley and Bacari Scott. Quarterback sacks were recorded by Jacob Brown, Tommy Phimister, Kyle Dowd, Logan Dooley and Bacari Scott each had fumble recoveries. Ethan Cooper contributed with an interception.

—Submitted by Andrew Giddings

Novi soccer squad rolls out trio of victories

Wildcats average loss, defeat Northville

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

After a rocky stretch, Novi's boys soccer team kept itself in the KLA Central Division's title picture with a three-game winning streak last week.

The Wildcats (7-4-2, 4-3-1 Central) shut out both Brighton (6-5-2, 4-2-2 West) and South Lyon East (2-9-0, 0-8-0 Central) on the road before avenging a loss to Northville (9-5-2, 5-3-0 Central) from earlier in the season.

The Brighton contest kicked off the week Sept. 23 with a 1-0 victory. Novi's goal came with 20 minutes left in the game, when Nick Oakley split the defenders with a pass to Alan Rajkovic for a

ON TAP

Novi's boys soccer team (7-4-2, 4-3-1 KLA Central) looked to wrap up the regular season this week, visiting No. 10-ranked Plymouth Salem (9-1-3, 6-1-1 Central) Oct. 1, hosting Livonia Stevenson (5-6-2, 3-3-2 Central) at 7 p.m. today, hosting Walled Lake Western (4-4-0, 4-4-0 North) at noon Saturday and then visiting a South Division opponent Monday and a Lakes Conference opponent Oct. 5, both based on the final positions in their respective KLA divisions.

one-timer past the charging Brighton goalie.

"With our emphasis being on playing good defense, I was pleased with only allowing three shots," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "Sean Dallas and Stevie Caruso did a good job at outside defense, each playing the entire 80 minutes."

Next up Sept. 25 was East, which has been outmatched all season against an array of division opponents who regularly have state potential. Last week was no different, as the Wildcats mercied the Cougars 8-0.

the upper hand, scoring with nine minutes left in the first half.

However, Caruso made a run up the left side from the defense and crossed the ball into the box for a charging Tony Asimadu, who tied the game 1-1 with 84 seconds left until halftime.

Maldens then set Nakashima up for a break-away to give Novi a 2-1 lead, but the Mustangs tied it with 18 minutes left in the game.

A long throw-in by Kiura with eight minutes left went into Northville's goal box and was cleared by the defense, but Caruso ripped the cleared ball from the top of the goal box for a 3-2 lead that would last through the final whistle.

Both Don Nakashima and Matt Kiura notched two goals apiece, while Oakley, Dallas, Rajkovic and Matt Netter all tallied one. Assists went to Gabrielle DeFrancisco, Dallas, Kent Madans and Jay Kim, while Sam Sheeran and Tommy McMaster split time in goal.

On the heels of their third consecutive shut-out, McMaster and the Wildcats looked to avenge a lopsided 3-1 loss Sept. 10 at Northville. The Mustangs came to town last Thursday and wasted no time taking

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

DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL

Cross country
10/5 @Oakland County Championship 10:30 a.m.
10/7 @Bloorhtr Rice 4:30 p.m.

Football
10/5 Livonia Stevenson
10/7 University of Detroit 1 p.m.

Soccer
10/5 Moon Walled Lake Western
10/7 @ KLA Conference Cross-over
10/9 @ KLA Cross-over

Boys tennis
All meets 4 p.m. unless noted
10/3 3:30 p.m. @Riverview Hills
10/5 9 a.m. KLA Conference
Tournament @ Novi

SPORTS SCHEDULES

10/5 @CHSL Tournament 8 a.m.

Volleyball
All matches 6:30 p.m. unless noted
10/3 @ South Lyon East
10/8 Livonia Stevenson
10/10 Northville

Girls swimming
All meets 6 p.m. unless noted
10/3 6:30 p.m. @ Northville
10/8 @ Birmingham Groves
10/10 6:30 p.m. @ Plymouth Salem

Girls golf
All meets 3 p.m. unless noted
10/7 TBA @ Walled Lake Central (Edgewood)
10/10 7 p.m. @ Ann Arbor Huron

Boys cross country
10/5 9:15 a.m. Oakland County Championship (at Kensington)
10/8 2:25 p.m. Plymouth Salem (at Cass Benton)

Girls cross country
All meets 4 p.m. unless noted
10/5 11 a.m. Oakland County Championship (at Kensington)
10/8 2:25 p.m. Plymouth Salem (at Cass Benton)

Field hockey
All games 4:30 p.m. unless noted
10/6 6 p.m. @ Grosse Pointe South
10/10 7 p.m. @ Ann Arbor Huron

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TENNIS

Continued from Page B1

"Tim had a three-set match, but he was sick during the match," Hanson said. "I'll give the Central kid a lot of credit, he's actually ranked No. 1 in the (USTA) Southeast Michigan 14s."

Wang sat out sick against Grand Blanc and freshman Aakash Ray stepped up from his role atop the junior varsity team to battle to a 6-1, 6-0 loss to Grand Blanc sophomore Zach Bureau at No. 1 singles.

"Aakash actually gave a good battle to a Grand Blanc player," Hanson said.

Sophomore Maxx Anderson (20-5) also had a rough contest at No. 4 singles against Grand Blanc's Ben Walters, eventually winning 7-5, 5-7, 6-1.

At No. 2 singles, junior Andre Liu (17-7) had a challenge against Grand Blanc, but won 6-3, 6-2. Things didn't go as smoothly at the invita-



Novil's Shashank Chitta warms up. JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

tional, as he lost 6-0, 0-6, 6-4 to Port Huron North-ern.

Sophomore Koushik Kondapi (23-1) also faced pressure from Northern, but won 6-3, 6-2.

Wang, Kondapi and Anderson all went 3-0 on the day.

Junior Ryavere City Central has good doubles. Northern had some really good singles," Hanson said.

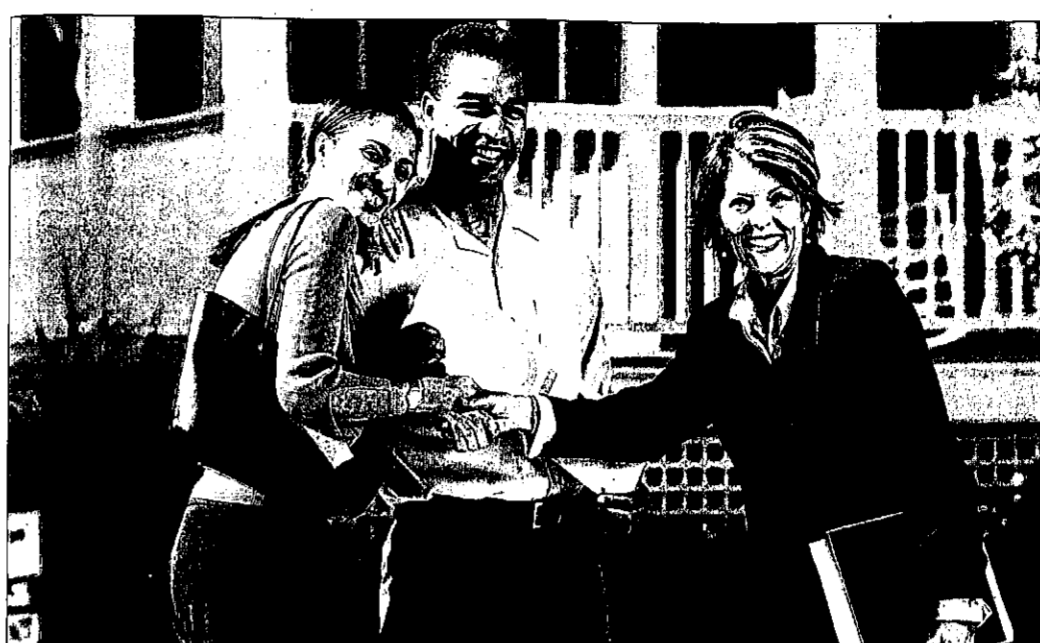
"Tim had an outstanding tournament. Andre won two of his matches, (but not the) one against the Port Huron kid, who is

better outings of the year," Hanson said of Chitta and Xu. "Mehl and Wen at four doubles are starting to click. They're a strong four doubles. They're doing a lot of things that we worked on in practice with them."

Fernandes was substituting for the injured freshman Daniel Yu at No. 3 doubles, which caused Fernandes' usual partner, sophomore Sriyastha Gotur, to pair with two others at No. 5 doubles.

Gator and senior Alex Guys defeated Walled Lake Center and then Gotur teamed with Ashwin Kumar to defeat Grand Blanc, both at No. 5 doubles.

"Tim and Ryan had played together before, with Daniel's injury, and they played well," Hanson said. "Our one doubles team continues to play well, we just have to get them to try to focus on winning every point. They're two very talented tennis players and tend to drift at times and try to win with power instead of playing more conservative."



Real estate pros who survived lean years buoyed by better market

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Gary Reggish, broker-owner of Remerica United Realty of Novi, has worked in his field since 1999. The Livonia resident is among real estate pros who survived a tough market in recent years and have emerged strong and set for business.

"When the going gets rough, the rough gets going," Reggish said of market conditions in which some real estate pros had their income cut sharply and didn't draw any unemployment compensation.

"They had to hit the ground running," he said. "They had to bond and weave and adjust to market conditions. The way that they did it is learn a new game."

Many learned about foreclosure and short sale properties. "By putting the public first, they survived," Reggish said.

He agreed some hard workers didn't make it in the field and had "to find some kind of consistent income." From 2006-09, the Michigan Association of Realtors lost about 35 percent of its membership.

"The market is definitely improv-

ing," Reggish said. "Homes are appreciating in value." His concern remains interest rates not being raised too high too fast.

"We have not fully recovered yet," Reggish said. "It has the potential of stalling the market."

Reggish agreed that, as with any business, topnotch customer service is key. "You have to be consumer-focused," he said. "Your needs are always going to be met" with that perspective.

Bob Bake of Coldwell-Banker Weir Manuel in Plymouth also survived the drought. Bake, a Realtor in the field since 1967 focusing on Plymouth and Northville, now works with his daughter and her husband.

"You really tend to build a portfolio, a history of customers you've dealt with," Plymouth resident Bob Bake said of his long tenure. "For me, there wasn't really any hiccup."

He added it was different for newcomers to the field. "Those people deserve a great deal of respect," said Bake of those who were able to dig deep and work long hours.

"You have to put your nose to the grindstone every day of the week," Bake added.

band, Patrick Wong, Northville Township residents, joined the business more recently. Carrie Bake has about seven and a half years in real estate, her husband about four, both coming from the automotive field.

"I was in marketing," she said. They lived in Japan for three years on an assignment for Wong, and she began to consider real estate work with her dad.

"I knew it was going to be tough," Carrie Bake said. Their focus remained on Plymouth and Northville, which they know well from their own lives, and on helping clients. "I think that was another key to success," she said.

"They really needed our help, especially the sellers," she said. They were able to be a partner "who could walk them through the process and be there through thick and thin."

"Just providing really good service" was key, she said. "Word of mouth and referrals is how we get our business." They were helped by the focus on walkability in communities, which made Plymouth and nearby Plymouth Township appealing.

"I'm just glad it's turned around for everybody," she added of the market.

jbrown@hometownlife.com

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of May 28-31, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.	110 Haddell Dr \$559,000	29588 S Meadowridge \$130,000	24192 Westmont Dr \$434,000
6663 Lahser Dr \$255,000	22801 Tulane Ave \$93,000	23140 Whitehall Dr \$571,000	
295 Millington Ct \$152,000	37667 Turnberry Ct \$430,000	42514 Whitman Way \$328,000	
7055 Pinewood Ct \$1,200,000	29203 Utley Rd \$340,000	SOUTH LYON	
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP	28439 W Greenmeadow Ct \$138,000	58600 Nine Mile Rd \$150,000	
1792 Applebrook Dr \$50,000	28439 W Greenmeadow Ct \$138,000	23848 Babycry Ct \$418,000	
5565 Bentwood Ln \$296,000	LATHRUP VILLAGE	23764 Copperwood Dr E \$432,000	
5073 Canas Way Ct \$288,000	18150 Margate Ave \$100,000	5487 Greenleaf Cir W \$348,000	
4481 Forest Hill Dr \$222,000	MILFORD	594 Kestrel Ridge Dr \$190,000	
3926 Ranys Dr \$410,000	507 Cumberland Trl \$495,000	24011 Prescott Ct \$339,000	
1845 Sleeth Rd \$300,000	1181 S Millford Rd \$127,000	28051 Valerie St \$114,000	
6013 Strawberry Cir \$300,000	NORTHVILLE	24465 Wedgewood Dr \$295,000	
5960 Turnberry Dr \$310,000	51985 Carrington Dr \$500,000	947 Wood Run \$273,000	
8680 War Bonnet Dr \$165,000	1159 Concord Ct \$442,000	SOUTHFIELD	
2909 W Lincoln St \$120,000	47707 Beckenham Blvd \$540,000	18911 Addison Dr \$145,000	
35782 Stratfield rd \$212,000	25126 Birchwoods Dr \$331,000	20331 Alhambra St \$180,000	
FARMINGTON HILLS	28352 Clymer Dr \$104,000	16130 Crescent Dr \$105,000	
23152 Fox Ck \$268,000	28456 Country Ln \$116,000	15620 Meadowood Ave \$124,000	
23025 Inquirer St \$198,000	301 Duane St \$260,000	16958 Morrison St \$91,000	
28909 Kirkside Ln \$185,000	26360 Fieldstone Dr \$264,000	18252 Webster Ave \$138,000	
28834 Lake Park Dr \$67,000	29925 Lilley Trl \$264,000	1385 Cooley Approach \$129,000	
22354 Orchard Cr \$280,000	45288 Sedra Ct \$379,000	545 E Oxhill Dr \$180,000	
39171 Plumbrook Ct \$162,000	24157 Westmont Ct \$430,000	9075 Elizabeth Lake Dr \$163,000	
		826 Farnsworth Rd \$168,000	

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of June 17-21, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.	32106 James St \$45,000	31563 Merrivood Park \$130,000	REDFORD	11738 Beech Daly Dr \$41,000
342 Lytle Pl \$55,000	34907 Munger Dr \$220,000	12860 Beech Daly Rd \$26,000	18887 Centralia \$43,000	
6127 Middlebelt Rd \$160,000	3107 Pierce St \$72,000	16318 Ronnie Ln \$254,000	20505 Dalby \$56,000	
LIVONIA	34165 Six Mile Rd \$151,000	17342 Rougeway St \$115,000	17233 Delaware Ave \$73,000	
10115 Bassett St \$140,000	31051 Roycroft St \$149,000	18400 Inlander Trl \$150,000	18400 Inlander Trl \$150,000	
20355 Beatrice St \$105,000	18332 Shadyside St \$183,000	9607 Lenore \$63,000		
14844 Benwick St \$120,000	15049 Sunnyside St \$164,000	15504 Leona Dr \$40,000		
11310 Blackburn St \$164,000	18409 University Park Dr \$120,000	14208 Mason Dr \$133,000		
11032 Brookerfield St \$109,000	30211 W Chicago St \$136,000	13211 Nathaline \$78,000		
10009 Cardwell St \$125,000	NORTHVILLE	18633 Poinciana \$45,000		
11670 Cavell St \$80,000	19389 Cardene Way \$152,000	24840 Schoolcraft \$73,000		
18049 Cascade Dr \$33,000	18049 Cascade Dr \$33,000	17234 Wakendean \$17,000		
17356 Doris St \$124,000	17513 Crestbrook Dr \$529,000	WAYNE		
48979 Jackson St \$155,000	40309 Hickory Ct \$42,000	3151 Addison Dr \$99,000		
258 Constitution St \$251,000	17754 Fairway Dr \$294,000	3151 Conway Dr \$93,000		
11670 Cavell St \$80,000	14256 Farmington Rd \$101,000	4643 Mildred St \$42,000		
18049 Cascade Dr \$33,000	17513 Crestbrook Dr \$529,000	WESTLAND		
17356 Doris St \$124,000	49407 N Glacier \$296,000	37160 Baker Ct \$219,000		
48979 Jackson St \$155,000	50780 Northstar Way \$614,000	30604 Burlington St \$85,000		
258 Constitution St \$251,000	41537 Sunnyside Ln \$90,000	3151 Conway Dr \$93,000		
11670 Cavell St \$80,000	18409 University Park Dr \$120,000	17501 Cullispeet Ct \$73,000		
18049 Cascade Dr \$33,000	19565 Mariner Ct \$93,000	3151 Conway Dr \$93,000		
17356 Doris St \$124,000	16347 Malberry Way \$415,000	4643 Mildred St \$42,000		
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258 Constitution St \$251,000	50780 Northstar Way \$614,000	37160 Baker Ct \$219,000		
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17356 Doris St \$124,000	19565 Mariner Ct \$93,000	17501 Cullispeet Ct \$73,000		
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17356 Doris St \$124,000	16347 Malberry Way \$415,000	17501 Cullispeet Ct \$73,000		
48979 Jackson St \$155,000	49407 N Glacier \$296,000	4643		

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Critical Knowledge For Those Interested To Work In Medical Billing And Coding



By Kristy Turner
Contributing Writer

The health care industry is continuously growing and there's no sign of it slowing down soon. The growth can also be seen on the allied health care services closely tied up to medicine.

The reason for this growth is the continued demand for health care. It was further fueled in the past decade by the fact that the world population is aging and is therefore requiring more health care services.

Based on this knowledge we can easily see that one of the best industries to start a career in is health care. With its continued growth this industry promises a stable career as well as possible fulfillment knowing that if you are a professional in this field, you are helping directly in making people's lives better.

However, it's not a secret as well that the traditional ways of obtaining a job in the medical industry isn't easy nor expensive.

It takes years and a lot of money to study for a health care career especially if you are working on the clinical side.

The good news is that there's another side to the medical industry where accountants, programmers, encoders, and people from other professions can go into. That is the administrative side of the health care industry.

Though the clinical side of health care is the heart of this industry, allied services are also required to keep the health care system working.

Accountants, marketers, purchasers, stock room custodians, computer programmers, encoders, transcribers, and back office staff are also needed in the administrative side of the health care system.

So if you are thinking of starting a career in the health care system but you don't have the money to invest for a profession in the clinical side of things, you can study for one of the allied health care services. One of the fields you can go into is medical billing and coding.

Medical billing and coding is the part of the administrative side of health care that deals with the revenue cycle. Medical billers and coders are the people that process the health insurance information of patients, the services rendered to patients and finally make sure that claims for services rendered to insured patients are submitted and settlements are received.

Though working on the administrative side of health care that particularly deals with the health insurance system, the medical billers and coders are still adept in the theoretical knowledge of medicine. Medical billers and coders won't be able to directly provide any form of health care to patients and are not licensed to do

so but they have working knowledge of the entire body anatomy and of the diseases that affects the body.

They are also adept in medical terminologies.

The working knowledge of medical billers and coders in medicine is a must. They are interacting with physicians and health care workers so it's a requirement that they know how the theories of medicine.

So the best way to become a medical biller and coder if you are interested in becoming one is to have professional training and learn all of the following critical knowledge required from all medical billers and coders:

- Human anatomy, physiology and diseases
- Medical language and terminology
- Health insurance and reimbursement process
- CPT and ICD-9-CM medical coding databases

These are the subjects that you must learn and master if you want to get into the health care industry by becoming a medical biller and coder. Though it will still take time to study these subjects it won't be as hard and as expensive as studying for a career directly involved in the clinical side of health care. Good luck!

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