

# NOVI NEWS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2013 • hometownlife.com



## Light Up the Night

The city of Novi is eager to Light Up the Night and celebrate the beginning of the holiday season 6-9 p.m. Friday on the Civic Center Campus. Mayor Bob Gatt and Santa Claus will light the holiday tree at 6:15 p.m.

New additions for 2013 include a petting farm from Michigan State University Extension, fire dancing and juggling from Detroit Circus, Five Star Entertainment food truck and performances including Chinese and Polynesian dance and more. Personal favorites include free food samples from local restaurants, marshmallow roasting, outdoor music throughout the night and the holiday craft show. A hay wagon will shuttle people to and from the Novi Public Library to enjoy two magic shows featuring John the Magician at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dan Dan the Choo Choo Man will offer miniature train rides 6:30-9 p.m.

Light Up the Night is presented in partnership with Bright House Networks. For more information, visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org).

## HELPING HANDS

### Food banks see increased demand during holidays

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

Hunger doesn't take a vacation nor a holiday. Local food banks and those in need know this all too well, but this challenge is overcome by remembering what matters most.

This time of year has many saying thank you and for those who receive help from places like Northville Civic Concern, Redford Interfaith Relief, the Connection Church in Canton's Open Door Ministry, South Lyon's Active Faith Community Service and Livonia's Holy Cross Lutheran and Wayne's John Bolde Food Depot, the feeling of gratitude is truly heartfelt.

"It means a lot to me that people in the community want to help," said Sarah, a 26-year-old single mother from Canton who, through Michigan Works, receives help from Northville Civic Concern.

Her last name has been omitted to protect her identity. For those giving of their time and help, this time of year is a reminder that their mission is an ongoing one.

"There's a tremendous need in many communities, even here in Canton," said Steve Darr, director of the food pantry at Connection Church. "We're not



Val Kushman checks out a bin of canned food Nov. 18 at the Novi Emergency Food Program. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

See FOOD BANKS, Page A12

## Businesses rate Novi very highly

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

Novi businesses are happy and looking to grow in the future, according to the Novi 2013 Business Survey, with nearly all respondents marking the city as an "excellent" or "good" place to work.

That's a dramatic change from just 10 years ago, when businesses felt like "no" was emphasized most in the word "Novi" when it came to dealing with the city.

Overall, the first-time survey bodes well for the community. More than 1,400 Novi businesses were contacted, with 245 responding this fall to the survey conducted by National Research Center.

Council member Justin Fischer said officials would like to see more respondents next time, but he is pleased with the results.

"This is a great foundation of things to come," Fischer said.

The results were similar to the citizen survey NRC conducted for Novi last year.

"The folks who work here and run and own businesses here think very highly of this place (Novi)," NRC president Dr. Thomas Miller said Nov. 25 during his presentation to Novi City Council.

Key findings include nine out of 10 respondents rating the overall quality of life in Novi as "excellent" or "good" and most businesses planning to expand in the coming years and supporting city actions to stimulate economic growth.

In addition, respondents hope for improved communication with local government; three-quarters of respondents thought physical improvements to city-owned property, such as streets and sidewalks, would benefit their business.

Businesses were very satisfied with public safety efforts and rated safety highly; three in four feel safe. They also felt there were opportunities for stability, growth and employment.

### Concerns

One concern expressed was transportation, from alternative modes of transportation to traffic flow on major streets.

Ease of bike travel and walking were rated low. Businesses want to see further improvements in this area, with emphasis on a broad section of users.

Communication is another area. Larger businesses felt communication with local government was good, but some smaller ones saw room for improvement.

This is a key takeaway for council member Andrew Mutch, who thinks the city should explore ways to do this and should address it in the upcoming goal-setting process.

Council member Wayne Wrobel sees the survey as a great way in the future to better compare Novi with other southeast Michigan communities in order to give city officials an idea on where improvements can be made.

[lhuhman@hometownlife.com](mailto:lhuhman@hometownlife.com)  
248-437-2011, ext. 255  
Twitter: @lhuhman

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Black Friday shoppers at Walmart in the Novi Town Center swarmed to the back of the store to take advantage of electronics sales. CAL STONE

## Retailers, shoppers get an earlier jump on holiday spending spree

By Cal Stone  
Staff Writer

Black Friday has morphed into Black Thursday (a.k.a. Thanksgiving), with retailers opening earlier and earlier to outsell their competition.

In Novi, with arguably more retail outlets than any Michigan city, the flagship — Twelve Oaks — opened at 8 p.m. Thursday.

"In general," said Peggy Hayes, marketing and sponsorship director at the mall, "we

were extremely busy Thanksgiving night into Black Friday morning, with stores reporting good sales."

They didn't stop when the sun came up, either.

"We had another wave of shoppers during the day of Black Friday, well past the dinner hour," Hayes said. And although it didn't really get started until noon, many stores reported greater Black Friday sales numbers this year than last year.

As busy as those two days

were, many of the mall's stores started their Black Friday promotions earlier in the week. And the past trend of "door busters" seems to be moving in a different direction as more stores are featuring a percentage off the entire stock.

"Many stores featured the same promotions for the entire weekend," Hayes said, adding that many of her tenants said they were more promotional this

year than last year.

As busy as those two days

See SHOPPERS, Page A2

INDEX

- Business..... B4
- Crossword Puzzle..... B7
- Education..... A4
- Homes..... B7
- Jobs..... B8
- Obits..... A14
- Opinion..... A18
- Services..... B7
- Sports..... B1
- Wheels..... B6

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**THANKSGIVING BLACK FRIDAY**

**TOP 5 STRONGEST CATEGORIES**

- 1. APPAREL
- 2. SHOES
- 3. ELECTRONICS
- 4. HOME & GARDEN
- 5. TOYS

**TOP 3 STRONGEST CATEGORIES**

- 1. APPAREL
- 2. SHOES
- 3. ELECTRONICS

**SELF-PURCHASING VS. GIFT PURCHASING**

**BUSIEST TIME**

**WHO IS OUT SHOPPING**

**SHOPPERS**

Continued from Page A1

year. She indicated reports were that there appeared to be much less Black Friday self-purchasing this year, but that Saturday folks appeared to be for themselves. When shoppers hit the mall Thanksgiving evening, they were focusing on apparel (sweaters, outerwear, denim, leggings) and footwear (boots, athletic shoes). Friday and Saturday, electronics, apparel and footwear were the dominant categories, Hayes noted.

**Across the freeway**

On the south side of Interstate 96, at Novi Town Center, there was a nice uptick in customer traffic relative to last year, said Jim Clear, general manager. "There was significant cross shopping in the Center due to the recent re-merchandise effort, giving the customer more choices and reasons to shop the Center," Clear said.

"Stores indicated they were adding more promotions this year."

**JIM CLEAR**, Novi Town Center general manager

better looking, it's much easier to maneuver logistically. That's led to more customers and, in turn, more retailers. "The addition of 25 stores in the last two years paid off in terms of fuller lots and a longer shopping stay in the Center," Clear said.

Good weather, he said, was also a factor in higher traffic those three big shopping days. Although a handful of the Center's stores were open Thanksgiving, including the anchor, Walmart, most opened early morning Black Friday.

"Stores indicated they were adding more promotions this year," Clear said, "and the promotions extended through the shopping weekend." Retailers are no doubt hoping the momentum continues for the next 19 days before Christmas.

stone@gannett.com  
248-437-2011, ext. 237

**UPDATES FROM CITY OF NOVI**

**Palette & Brush Club to display artwork**

The city of Novi is partnering with Palette & Brush Club to showcase numerous artworks including oils, watercolors, glass and mixed media and more in the Novi Civic Center Atrium Gallery, 45175 10 Mile, through Dec. 27.

To learn more about the Palette & Brush club, visit [paletteandbrush.org](http://paletteandbrush.org). The artwork included in the exhibit will be available for purchase.

**Overwhelmed by technology?**

Tech Talk classes, offered by city of Novi Older Adult Services, are designed just for those 50 and above who want to become more tech-savvy. Classes held 6:15-8:15 p.m. each Monday at Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile.

Each class includes a presentation and hands-on session featuring new technology being used today. Cost per class is \$15 per resident and \$18 per non-resident. Preregistration is required for each class online at [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) or at the Novi Civic Center.

For more information about this and other programs for adults 50 and over, visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) or call Older Adult Services at 248-347-0414.

**Win-win situation for Novi Woods students**



Students at Novi Woods had the opportunity to wear a hat to school if they donated money to the Red Cross to help toward the Philippines relief efforts. The school raised \$1,482.56. Shown (from left) are first-graders Chloe Sparkman, Anika Kannan, Kareena Ashok and Aidan Kendall.

CHECK US OUT DAILY ONLINE  
**HOMETOWNLIFE.COM**

**Technology: Tool for keeping residents informed**

**By Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

Modern technology has certainly helped keep the city of Novi better connected with those it serves.

Novi prides itself on transparency and accessibility. A big part of this is helped by its website and television channel, which allow residents to stay up to date from the comfort of their homes by watching the recorded monthly meetings and reading the various internet postings.

Much of this work gets done behind the scenes by people like Sheryl Walsh, Novi's director of communications, and video production specialists Dave Reinhardt and Frank Molner.

"Novi's transparency, inclusion and communication mission starts with city council's goal of being a citizen-focused government," Walsh said. "City Manager Clay Pearson and our entire staff team work hard to ensure useful information is available to everyone in the community. We want residents to be able to find the necessary information in a user-friendly manner and look to enhance and expand tools as much as we can."

She said officials are constantly trying to make the city's website better. It's virtually an online encyclopedia of Novi with a variety of useful info available at the user's fingertips 24 hours a day. Walsh said it's a great tool for everyone, including city staff.

**On cable**

Broadcasting the City Council, Planning Commission, Library Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services meetings also plays a big part in keeping residents

informed. Not everyone can make it to the various meetings, so having live broadcasts — as well as an archive file and replays of city council meetings — on TV give viewers access that some municipalities don't offer.

Reinhardt and Molner work inside the city council meeting chamber in a small studio with big capabilities. The meeting chamber has seen an upgrade in the last several years with things like multiple cameras and viewing screens installed to give each angle a better view of what's going on and being said.

Inside the small room at the rear of the meeting room, Reinhardt and Molner use things like touch screens and remote controls to turn the cameras in order to capture officials in their best form.

"We are here to make sure the public stays informed," Reinhardt said. "Novi takes pride in its transparency and a big part of that is broadcasting the open meetings to the community."

Their work appears on Novi Television (Bright House Channel 13 or AT&T U-Verse Channel 99), which is the government access channel for the city.

Reinhardt said Novi Television has up-to-date information about city services, meeting notices, community events and much more. There are also other informative programs that appear on this channel, like *Novi Unplugged*, *Update Novi*, *Behind the Badge*, *Common Knowledge* and *Destination Recreation*.

"Novi really stands out because of how it reaches out to the community," Molner said. "Groups of people may be challenged to make it out in the evening and visit city hall for the



Video Production Specialist Dave Reinhardt mans the control panel in the production booth. Reinhardt and co-worker Frank Molner record and produce every city council meeting. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

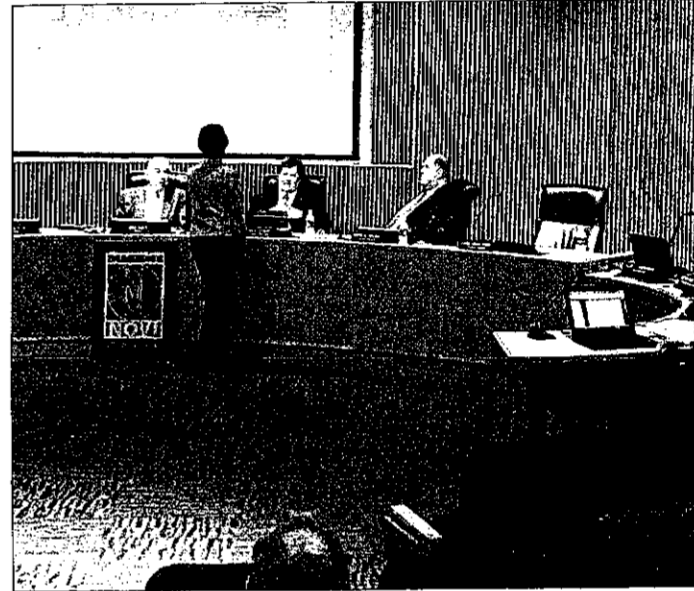
meetings, so with these different tools they are able to access a lot of information."

Reinhardt and Molner said they are always looking for feedback to help make the broadcasts better. Novi video programming has recently been added to YouTube, so visitors to [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) can keep connected at their convenience.

Novi City Council meetings air live on the first and third Monday of each month and are repeated at 7 p.m. Sunday and Monday and at 8 a.m. Wednesday.

For more information, go to <http://www.cityofnovi.org/>.

[lhuhman@hometownlife.com](mailto:lhuhman@hometownlife.com)  
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Inside the city council meeting room at the Novi Civic Center.

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**HOW TO REACH US**

**Community Office:**  
101 N. Lathrop  
South Lyon, MI 48178  
248-437-2011  
Mon - Fri 9:00 - 5:00 pm  
Editor:  
Cathy Stiers  
248-437-2011 ext. 237  
Email: [cstiers@hometownlife.com](mailto:cstiers@hometownlife.com)

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## Reading to young children is important (and fun!)

Growing up, my family would gather regularly to listen as my mom read a story. I can still see my family — my dad, my sister and I — sitting in the living room listening as mom read a book.

Why mom was the designated reader, I do not know. I also do not remember how books were chosen. All I can remember is sitting there listening as mom read. I thought it was wonderful.

When I was young, the competition for children's attention was not nearly as fierce as it is now. There was no cable television, with its 300-plus channels. We had five television channels to choose from. There were no home computers, tablets or game consoles. There were no video games. If there were video players, we were unaware of them in my family.

We were busy. There was Cub Scouts and then Boy Scouts for me, Brownies and Girl Scouts for my sister. We had Little League baseball, soccer and basketball. We had church.

Even so, looking back, one might argue that life was a little less complicated when I was growing up. So, perhaps, reading as a family was easier when I was growing up than it is now.

When my wife and I started our family, reading was something that became an integral part of our family life. We tried to set aside time every evening to read. For the most part, we were successful.



Steve Matthews  
SUPER TALK

There were times when we missed our evening reading time with our children. But that was the exception and not the rule.

As I sat with my mom and dad when I was young — and when I sat with my children when they were young — I was not aware of the benefits of daily reading. We did it because it was fun. We did it because it gave parents a chance to be with their children.

But reading to young children has many benefits. It has positive benefits on fluency and vocabulary. It helps children develop a sense of how language works. Reading to young children provides them an opportunity to learn how stories are put together and how to communicate. What we euphemistically call "reading for pleasure" improves a child's understanding of language and results in improved understanding of informational text.

Reading has been a part of my family's culture for a long time. I hope it is a part of your family's culture as well. If it is not, start today. Find a book, find a spot on the couch and ask your children to sit with you and read. Not only will it help them academically, it will be fun!

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

## Young author



Parkview Elementary School student Bacari Scott recently penned this action-adventure piece of fiction called "Super Alien Fighters" and had a number of copies printed for sale. JOHN HILKER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Typhoon aid

Parkview Elementary School students got together Nov. 22 to raise funds for the Red Cross. For a minimum \$1 donation, students could wear whatever hat or cap they wanted. They raised \$800 — \$400 each for disaster victims in Illinois and the Philippines. Shown (starting at the three o'clock position and proceeding counter-clockwise) are Rachel Karr, Jannhi Mate, Druthi Donthi, Ron Le, Abraham Lee, Hariharan Lirigo, Akash Rai, Fuka Atsumi, Anthony DeFeo, Ashley Chermiowski, Brianna Dotson and Isabelle Jedmers. JOHN HILKER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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## SCHOOL BRIEFS

### Super coffee

Visit with Steve Matthews, superintendent of the Novi Community Schools district, for coffee at the Novi Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 16, and 10:15 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18.

### Great Start

#### Readiness Program

The Novi Community Education Preschool will be offering the Great Start Readiness Program for 4-year-olds starting September 2014.

To qualify for this state-funded program, children must be age 4 by Oct. 1, 2014, and meet two of seven criteria set by

the state. The GSRP program is a free preschool and includes lunch and snack. Parents provide transportation.

The All-Day Class will be held Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and follow the Novi Community School district calendar.

Novi Community Education Preschool uses the Creative Curriculum.

This curriculum supports the children learning through hands-on activities, and follows the State of Michigan Early Childhood Standards. Lesson plans reflect social, emotional, physical, cognitive, and language development.

Registration is ongoing beginning Jan. 6. Space is limited and enrollment is not guaranteed. Parents or guardians should contact the Community Education Preschool office to schedule a registration appointment at 248-449-1713.

The following documents are necessary for pre-registration: 12-month proof of income (2013 tax forms, FTA statement), child's birth certificate, health insurance, copy of child's immunization records, and three proofs of Novi residency (one proof must be a mortgage or lease).

## Winter Wonderland ARTS & CRAFT SHOW



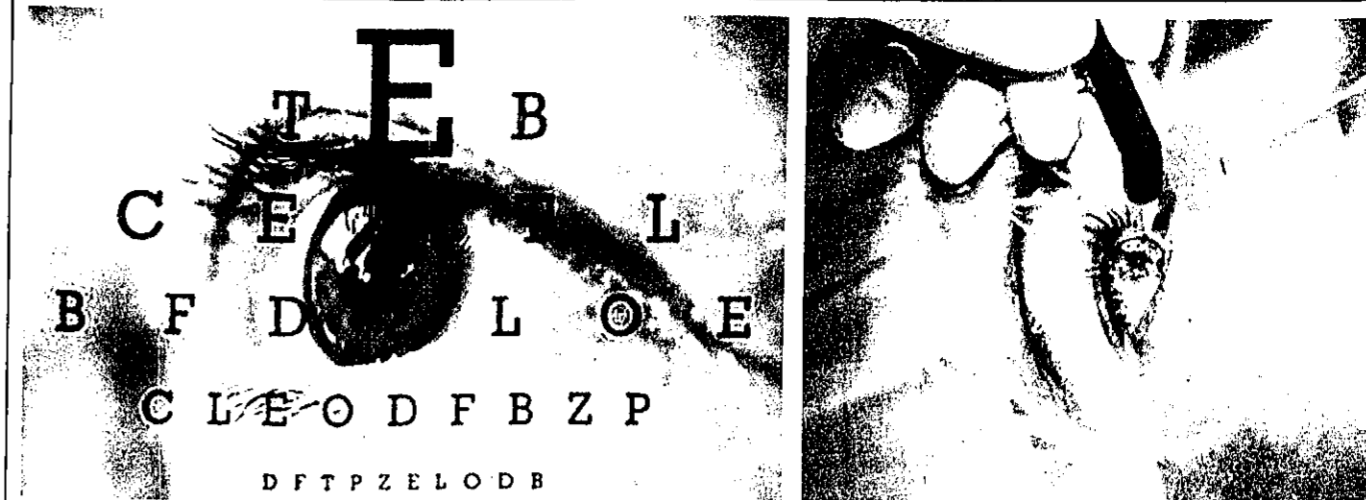
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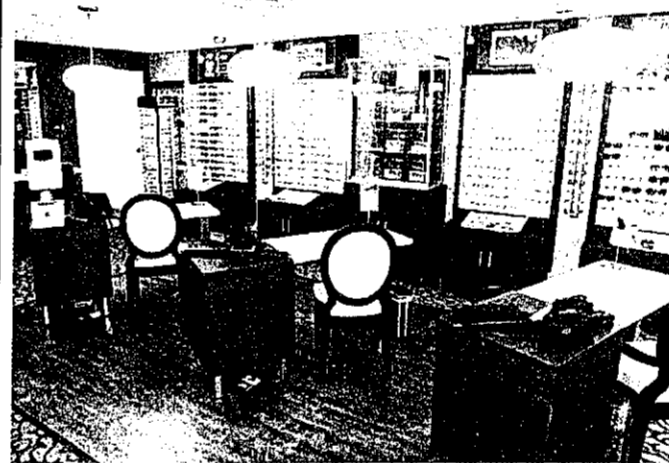


## Northville Vision Clinic plus Adelson Eye & Laser Center equals a 20/20 Solution

Northville Vision Clinic is excited to announce we have moved to 42000 6 Mile Road into a brand new, state of the art facility with Adelson Eye & Laser Center. We have been providing Northville residents with professional eye care for 40 years. Priding ourselves on using the latest equipment including the Zeiss 1 Terminal for precision frame and lens measurements, allowing us to produce the most exact glasses possible. Our staff consists of trained opticians who can help with all of your visual needs, including a full service optical lab to provide the fastest service. We stress complete family eye care including examinations for adults and children, contact lenses and the treatment of eye diseases. The optical department consists of 1000's of frames in all price ranges, including Tiffany and Co., Prada, Tom Ford, Dolce & Gabbana, Maui Jim, Oakley and Willy X. Our knowledgeable and



LASIKPlus currently has more than 50 centers throughout the United States and the LASIKPlus surgeon network has completed more than 1 million laser vision correction procedures. We are ecstatic that LASIKPlus has picked us to bring their services to our hometown of metropolitan Detroit. As ophthalmologists who are fellowship trained in advanced cataract and LASIK surgery and who have already performed thousands of procedures, we feel that the resources that LASIKPlus offers are invaluable. Most importantly, we now have our own laser center located onsite at the new Northville location. This allows us to offer all of the most advanced laser vision correction procedures, including all laser LASIK surgery, within the confines of our own surgical suite. Along with the assistance of LASIKPlus, we have brought all of the "latest and greatest" technology for laser vision correction right into our office.



experienced technicians will guide you in the selection of frames based on your style preference, budget, and functionality. We invite you and your family into our new home.

Adelson Eye & Laser Center is pleased to introduce our new and expanded location located at 42000 Six Mile Road in Northville as well. After almost 10 years of service at our Main Street location in downtown Northville, we have an all new full service center. This center offers the same comprehensive eye care, including the management of glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, macular degeneration, dry eye syndrome, cataracts, corneal diseases, conjunctivitis, retinal and vitreous abnormalities, and most other eye related difficulties.

Adelson Eye & Laser Center is additionally very excited to announce our new partnership with LASIKPlus.

Adelson Eye & Laser Center will also continue to provide cataract surgery, including the use of premium lenses which allow correction for nearsightedness, farsightedness, astigmatism, and presbyopia. We have performed thousands of these procedures and continue to evolve with the recent advances in cataract surgery. Additionally, we will also continue to provide blepharoplasty procedures (eyelid surgery) for droopy eyelids and age related changes. In fact, the cosmetic component of our practice continues to expand as we now perform many cosmetic modalities including laser resurfacing procedures around the eyes and throughout the face.

With Northville Vision Clinic, we have attempted to create a comprehensive eye care experience at our new location where we are able to offer quality care and services for everything from eyeglasses and contact lenses to eye health-related issues to laser vision correction, cataract surgery, and multiple cosmetic modalities.



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### Spelling bee



Jack Hensley ponders a word during Franklin Road Christian School's Nov. 12 spelling bee. The sixth-grader took first place in his grade and Emily Baker (seated) took second place. The Novi K-12 school, located on 13 Mile Road, is part of the Brightmoor Church complex. JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

### Veterans Coffee Hours and Q&A

Schoolcraft College's Veterans Services Office is sponsoring a series of information sharing sessions directed at veterans and their family and caregivers 8:30-10:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 9, in McDowell Center, Room 205, main campus in Livonia.

During these drop-in format sessions, participants can enjoy free coffee and doughnuts and get answers to questions about the benefits, services and resources available to military veterans, including medical benefits, employment benefits, special benefits for disabled veterans, state and local benefits available for veterans, and educational benefits.

To learn more, visit Schoolcraft's Veterans

### SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE UPDATES

Services Office website or call or 734-462-4100, ext. 5346.

**Professor awarded**  
Dr. Doris McPherson earned the Alliance for Excellence in Online Education Board's Distinguished Online Faculty Member of the Year award. McPherson received the award Nov. 15 at the OEB's Best Practices in Online Education Symposium.

McPherson began her educational career at Wayne County Community College and taught for more than 19 years as a full-time professor of computer information systems at Schoolcraft College.

She was awarded the distinction of professor emerita upon her retirement in 2011. After her retirement, she continues to teach online courses at Schoolcraft as an adjunct professor.

**Jazz Winter Wonders Concert**  
The Schoolcraft College jazz studies program, under the direction of Dr. Riccardo Selva, will present an evening of jazz performances featuring the talented musicians of the Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Improvisation Combo at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 16, in the Vis'laTech Center, main campus in Livonia.

The concert program - featuring both large and small jazz groups performing traditional, contemporary, and holiday jazz arrangements - is free and open to the public. Donations are accepted at the door and help fund scholarships for students in the jazz studies program.

**Sound of the Season Concert**  
Schoolcraft College's music ensembles, including the Choral Union, Synthesizer Ensemble and Wind Ensemble, will present a special holiday concert for the community at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17, in the Vis'laTech Center, main campus in Livonia.

This annual event - featuring a variety of spirited seasonal selections from a wide range of musical eras and a variety of genres - is free and open to the public. Donations are accepted at the door and help fund scholarships for students in the various Schoolcraft College music programs.

*Schoolcraft College is a public, predominantly two-year college, offering classes at the college's main campus in Livonia, Haggerty between Six Mile and Seven Mile; the Radloff Center in Garden City; the Public Safety Training Complex in Livonia; and online at www.schoolcraft.edu.*

## Teen, family reach out to hospitalized kids

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

Peter Weir, 14, of Northville Township was in the hospital Christmas Eve a few years ago.

"The hospital brought a bunch of toys into my room while I was asleep," the ninth-grade homeschooled said. "I thought that was really nice."

From that, Weir and his family have created Peter's Pals, providing toys, books and gift cards for hospitalized children and teens from their collection efforts. "It's a nice feeling to be able to help people who are stuck in the hospital," he said.

He's the son of Catherine and Owen and has two older siblings who are Northville High graduates. Peter has osteopathic juvenile osteoporosis, his mom said, and

uses a wheelchair.

He was at William Beaumont Hospital of Royal Oak that particular year.

"He's been in the hospital before when he's gotten presents," she said. "Emotionally, it's a real boost. It's a nice feeling - it just helps."

Another reason for starting Peter's Pals was to honor and remember Peter's friend Alec Cunningham. He was a friend who passed away two years ago. He and his family are very important to the Weirs. Cunningham's family lives in Northville and his brother now attends Northville High.

The Weirs deliver toys to area hospitals and one out of state where he's treated. Peter Weir got his Make-A-Wish wish this past spring and the Weirs had a team, Peter's

Pals, in the fundraising walk for Make-A-Wish.

The family uses a gift box at their home, with information on donating available from Catherine via email at weirus@wow.way.com.

Word of mouth, email and social media help them collect toys and gifts like gift cards that teens really enjoy. "Our church is very supportive," she said of First Presbyterian of Northville. "The Girl Scouts have done a drive. Just kind of a word of mouth thing."

"The toys must be new, unopened and unwrapped, due to hospital requirements."

"All ages are appropriate," she said. "Anything anybody's able to donate I will find a home for it. It brings a lot of joy."

jbrown@hometownlife.com



Peter Weir and his family appreciate the toy, book and gift card donations for hospitalized children and teens.

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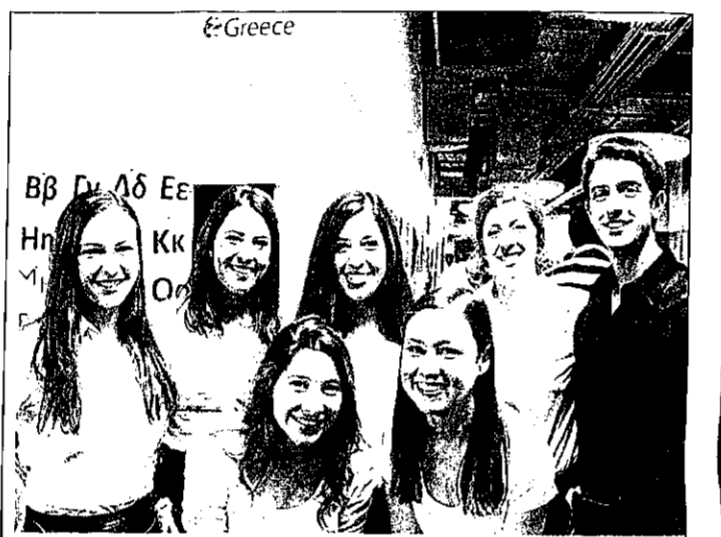
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### Greek heritage



Michigan State University students demonstrated a Greek heritage dance at the 2013 MSU Global Festival. This annual event encourages students from around the world to share information on their cultures and heritages with visitors and other students. Members of this dance group are (front, from left) Stephanie Garris, Ann Arbor; and Brienne Peers, Clarkston; (back, from left) Hannah Avdooulos, Novi; Viviana Rappis, Grosse Pointe; Tina Katopodis, Novi; Natassa Christides, Toledo; and Spiro Morris, Northville/Novi. RUTH A. MALHALAB

### Novi teen vies for title of 'World's Best Mobile Gamer'

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

Parker Sutton of Novi is in Kiiip's final competition for "World's Best Mobile Gamer," after scoring a record 341,820 points against global competitors in the Lane Splitter game.

Kiiip is a mobile-based rewards system and sponsor of the Guinness World Book of Records competition. Lane Splitter and other mobile games are played on Apple or Android products, said Sutton, a 17-year-old senior at Novi High School.

"It's a game that just appeals to me," Sutton said of Lane Splitter, in which the gamer "drives" a motorcycle through traffic, scoring points while successfully passing vehicles.

"I just heard about the competition," he said. "I started playing more and



more."

He's been a mobile gamer about three years, but estimates his playing time at one hour a week.

"I'm really focused on school right now," said Sutton, who plans to study chemistry at a college or university to be determined.

He has three to four mobile games he focuses on at a time. His friends have started to enter the competition, after his winning.

"I think I'll continue for a while going into college," he said of mobile gaming. "I'm not going into a gaming career."

jbrown@hometownlife.com

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# Business challenges its kind workers in food drive

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

Setco employees in Novi have big hearts. The business, with some 25 staffers in Novi, recently collected 1,410 pounds of food and water for Gleaners.

"We actually had a tremendous response," said coordinator George Rosen of Lincoln Park, a senior buyer at the machine tool spindle rebuild shop. It's based in Cincinnati, Ohio, with locations in California and Georgia.

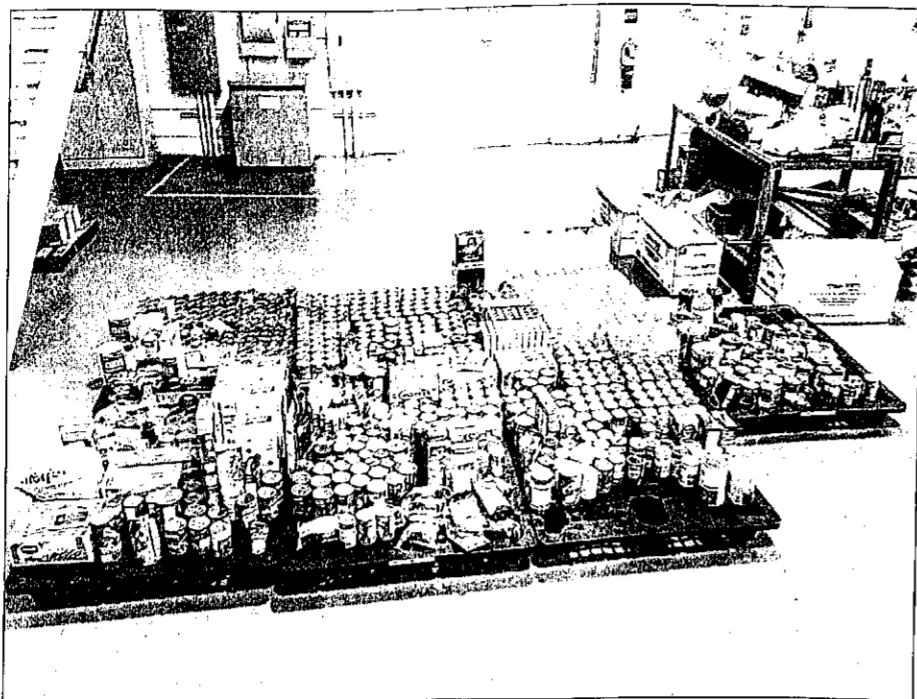
It's employee-owned and for an October employee appreciation effort, five Novi teams

competed for gift certificates by collecting food for Gleaners. The food and water was delivered Nov. 1.

He's very proud such a small shop was able to do so much good for neighbors in need. Setco has a scale in Novi. The staff weighed the empty crates, about 50 pounds each, then added the collected items to weigh, deduct crate weight and determine top teams.

"They were very appreciative," Rosen said of Gleaners representatives. "We're welcome to come out there and volunteer anytime we want."

jbrown@hometownlife.com



Setco staffers at the Novi location were generous in collecting food for Gleaners recently.

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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Novi's Quenon dancing in Butler University show

Michelle Quenon, of Novi, is dancing in Butler Ballet's 31st annual production of *The Nutcracker*, Dec. 5-8 in Clowes Memorial Hall of Butler University.

Show times are 7:30 p.m. Dec. 5; 8 p.m. Dec. 6; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 7; and 2 p.m. Dec. 8. Tickets are \$21.50 to \$28.50 for adults; \$17 to \$23 for children, students and seniors; and \$14 to \$20 for groups of 15 or more. Tickets are available at the Clowes Hall box office or through Ticketmaster. For telephone orders, call 800-982-2787.

Butler Ballet's performance of Tchaikovsky's classic ballet will feature 112 Butler dancers, plus 33 young dancers from the Indianapolis community. This year's *Nutcracker* will be accompanied by the Butler Symphony Orchestra under the director of Richard Audon Clark.

### Holiday Market

The city of Wixom invites all to a new, magical tradition reminiscent of a true European holiday "market" Dec. 5-7 in Sibley Square Park (18900 Pontiac Trail). Hours are 5-9 p.m. Thursday, 5-10 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday.

The event will feature the sights, sounds and smells of an old-world market; entertainment every half hour (including a 35-piece German band with alpenhorn); Santa's Workshop; arts and crafts; wood and ice carving demonstrations; chili cook-off; jingle bell

hayrides; grannies' stocking stuffers; ugly sweater contest; warming tent; glühwein; beer and wine tent (featuring Witch's Hat Kettle Weiss and Short's Brewing Co. Noble Chaos and Local's Light); roasted almonds; kettle corn; pretzels; concessions and more.

A full itinerary is available at [www.wixomparksandrec.com](http://www.wixomparksandrec.com). Call 248-624-2850 for more information.

### Get flu vaccination

The Oakland County Health Division urges residents to take preventative action and get vaccinated against seasonal flu. Oakland County's flu vaccine guards against four strains of flu this season.

Flu shots are 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. They cost \$20. The Health Division offices are located at the following addresses:

• North Oakland Health Center, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Building 34 East, Pontiac

• South Oakland Health Center, 27725 Greenfield Road, Southfield.

Walk-in clients are welcome. Payment options include cash, Visa, MasterCard, Medicare and/or Medicaid (no checks or money orders). Credit card fees apply.

Residents can preregister at [www.oakgov.com/health](http://www.oakgov.com/health) and print out a consent form to bring to the clinic where they are enrolled. Online payment options include Visa, MasterCard, Medicare and/or Medicaid. Credit card fees apply.

One may also pay cash at the time of the appointment. Those who are unable to register online may call 248-658-7350 or 248-424-7120.

For more information about flu, visit [www.oakgov.com/health](http://www.oakgov.com/health), contact the Nurse on Call at 800-848-5533 or follow the Health Division on Facebook and Twitter @publichealthOC.

### Northville market coming Dec. 13-15

Handcrafters Unlimited announced its Northville Tinsel & Treasures Holiday Market has been ranked 79th in *Sunshine Artist* magazine's Top Traditional & Contemporary Craft Shows in the country. The popularity and success of the show is based off the simple concept of giving real handcrafted unique gifts.

The 34th annual market will be held Dec. 13-15 at the Northville Community Senior Center, 303 W. Main Street. Hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$3 per person per day, free for children 12 and younger. Compact umbrella strollers are welcome and food will be available from Edwards Café & Cater.

Visit [www.HcShows.com](http://www.HcShows.com) for more information.

**Novi Choralaires rehearsals**

Do you like to sing and meet new friends? Join the Novi Choralaires. Open rehearsals are going to be held at 7:30 p.m., Jan. 7 and 14 at the Novi Middle School, 4900 W. 11 Mile Road.

# Fox Run residents become local TV celebrities

By Annie Huhman  
Staff Writer

"Aren't you the weather woman?"

That's a question Fox Run resident Carolyn Schooley has been hearing from a lot of different people since she joined the group of residents who are operating a fully-functioning, closed circuit television studio out of the Novi retirement community.

They do live shows while producing original content on-site, shooting it and then editing the film to make professional-grade video.

"It's been a lot of fun!" Schooley said of the minor celebrity she has gained while doing the weather report each Friday in a Sony E10 style of delivery.

"Many have told me they are entertained by it, so that's good to hear," she said.

She delivers the weather in front of a green screen, which was built by the group, and closes with her now famous tag line "I'm Carolyn Schooley and that's the weather...whether you like it or not."

Many in the group were new to working in front of and behind a camera, but they have caught on quickly. Others, like Bob Williams, have previous experience in this or related industries and have helped round out a group that is all volunteers.

Under the guidance of Michael O'Hara and Richard Coulter, the community TV coordinators at Fox Run, the residents produce three live shows each week, as well as documentaries, interview segments and other community programming on Channel 13.

"The residents are really passionate about

being involved in the programming," O'Hara said. "They enjoy having an input into what they watch on Channel 13. I think there is more appreciation community-wide knowing that residents worked hard to air programs that they want to see... programs for residents, by residents."

According to O'Hara, as many as 30 residents participate in TV studio programs and other events requiring audio/visual support throughout the community. Residents rotate roles and will serve as hosts, camera operators, audio technicians, floor directors and technical directors.

"A job is there for anyone, regardless of experience," said resident Jack Beggs, who along with Gene Wozniak and Dick Miles designed and built a three-piece green screen that allows the studio to change the



Fox Run resident Howard Fell operates the camera during the senior community's live television show. LONNIE HUHMAN

background to virtually any picture or video imaginable.

He jumped at the opportunity to get involved because he thought it looked fun and interesting.

The channel has become quite popular among the more than 1,000 residents. Seeing a neighbor or friend on TV for a good reason is always fun.

"It's been received

really well." Beggs said. "This is a good service for Fox Run because it helps give residents an idea what's going on in our community."

lhuhman@hometownlife.com

## Go prowling for owls at Maybury



Maybury State Park and the Friends of Maybury invite young and old alike to bundle up for the Owl Owl at 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7. Participants should meet at the concession building, take the Eight Mile Road entrance just west of Beck.

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# Santa Claus is coming to NOVI TOWN CENTER



Santa Claus will be at the Performance Bike shop in Novi Town Center every weekend in December from 11am til 3pm.

Bring your kids to visit with Santa on December 7/8, 14/15 and 21/22. Look for the inflatable Santa in front of the Performance Bike store. (43235 Crescent Boulevard (next to ULTA).

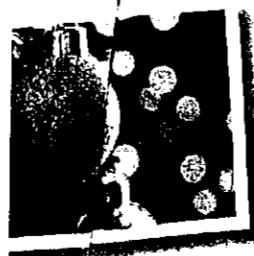
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# Holiday cards benefit charitable causes



Prince the Pekingese and kittens Sterling and Veronica send "warm and fuzzy holiday wishes" to recipients of the Michigan Humane Society holiday card.

Greeting cards from nonprofit organizations offer a way to spread holiday cheer while also supporting a good cause. Here's a sampling:

» The Michigan Humane Society offers one card style this year. Each box contains 15 5-by-7-inch cards and 16 envelopes. They cost \$12.95 plus tax and feature a Pekingese named Prince and kittens Sterling and Veronica, all animals that found new homes through MHS.

The inside greeting is "Sending you warm and fuzzy holiday wishes!" The MHS logo and messaging appears on the back of each card.

Order cards online at [www.shopmichiganhumane.org](http://www.shopmichiganhumane.org) or by calling 800-866-9189, from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays. They also are available at MHS adoption centers in Rochester Hills, Detroit and Westland. The Westland shelter is located at 900 N. Newburgh, south of Ford Road.

At the MHS online store, shoppers can create their own, personalized greeting cards. Photo holiday cards are available in packs of 20 and include the MHS logo on the front. Shoppers customize their cards with a high-resolution photo and short greeting on the front, along with a custom message on the back. Cost is \$24.95 for one box, \$19.95 for two boxes and \$17.95 for three boxes.

» Forgotten Harvest Cards and envelopes are sold in packs of 20 for \$28 and include shipping and handling. A tribute card, which can be slipped into the holiday card, is available for \$5. The collection includes two new holiday cards, designed by Matt LeBarre Illustration in Royal Oak, and also features two of Forgotten Harvest's 2012 bestsellers, Two Turtle Doves and Snowy Farm Scene.

Last year, the proceeds from card sales helped Forgotten Harvest rescue 45.5 million pounds of food. The organization collects surplus prepared and perishable food from 455 sources, including grocery stores, fruit and vegetable markets, restaurants, caterers, dairies, farmers, wholesale food distributors and other health department-approved sources.

Buy the cards online at [www.forgottenharvest.org](http://www.forgottenharvest.org). Allow five to seven days for shipping. For more information about Forgotten Harvest holiday cards, contact Rebecca Gade-Sawicki at [rgade-sawicki@forgottenharvest.org](mailto:rgade-sawicki@forgottenharvest.org) or 248-967-1500, ext. 151.

» Seedlings Braille Books for Children offers several different holiday cards to help support its mission to



A child in the Livonia Public Schools preschool program for students with visual impairments designed this card for Seedlings Braille Books for Children.



Forgotten Harvest's set includes this 2012 bestseller.



Matt LeBarre Illustration in Royal Oak created this new greeting card for Forgotten Harvest's holiday collection.

providing high-quality, low-cost children's literature in braille. But its newest card - and the only one with a braille message - is a 5-by-7-inch snowman card.

A child in the Livonia Public Schools preschool program for students with visual impairments created the artwork on the card.

The greeting inside says "Happy Holidays and Best Wishes!" and includes the same message in braille. Each package contains 12 cards and 12 envelopes and is available for \$16.

Seedlings also offers two additional sizes of holiday cards, a deluxe size and a smaller size. Both versions are created by Pumpernickel Press and priced at \$18 per box of 16 large cards and \$10 per box of 10 smaller cards. To view

the full selection of Seedlings' holiday cards, visit [www.seedlings.org/2013cardbrochure.pdf](http://www.seedlings.org/2013cardbrochure.pdf).

Proceeds from card sales will help support Seedlings' programs and services and enable it to place braille books into the hands of visually impaired children locally and around the world.

Buy the greeting cards from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Seedlings office, 141 Farmington Road, Livonia and online at [www.seedlings.org](http://www.seedlings.org). Call 734-4-8552 for directions and more information.

» Children's Hospital of Michigan Auxiliary offers a car with artwork by Cleo and Lucy Thomson of Lawson. They created the pictures of a stowman under a dark, scary night for the card but and a Christmas tree with presents for the lack of the card, in honor of their sister Natalie, who was a patient at the hospital from birth until she died from end-stage renal disease a few days before her first birthday. The inside of the card reads "Warmest wishes for a wonderful holiday season."

The holiday cards are \$20 for a pack of 10 cards. Cards may be printed with the sender's name for an additional cost. Gift cards are also available by making a donation to the auxiliary. For a minimum donation of \$5 per card, the donor will receive a special card acknowledging the gift.

Buy holiday cards online at [childrenshospitalmichiganauxiliary.org](http://childrenshospitalmichiganauxiliary.org), at the hospital, 3901 Deaubien, Detroit; or at Good Neighbors Family Pharmacy, 1935 Veno, Westland; 734-722-8774.

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6 1/2' Slim Bridgeport w/Staylit lights Was \$420.00 Now <b>\$279.99</b>	7 1/2' Redmond w/Staylit lights Was \$600.00 Now <b>\$399.99</b>	7 1/2' Easton w/Staylit lights Was \$600.00 Now <b>\$399.99</b>	7 1/2' Arctic Pine w/Staylit lights Was \$450.00 Now <b>\$299.99</b>	7 1/2' Balsam w/No-lights Was \$300.00 Now <b>\$199.99</b>
7 1/2' Slim Bridgeport w/Staylit lights Was \$570.00 Now <b>\$379.99</b>	Artic Pine	Balsam Pine	Staylit lights Was \$600.00 Now <b>\$399.99</b>	
Harrison Blue Spruce	Bryson	Windsor Pine	Marshall Spruce	Gimmaron

**Over 40 Different Staylit Pre-lit Styles in Stock**

**Over 10,000 Sq. Ft. of Christmas decorations & ideas**

**Super Saver Specials**

7' Marietta Pine with incandescent lights Was \$225.00 Now <b>\$99.99</b>	6' Canadian Pine with LED lights Was \$225.00 Now <b>\$79.99</b>
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**Free Ornament**  
Come in and see us and get a free Ornament your choice from preselected selection  
Expires 12-13-13  
Limit one per customer  
Coupon must be present

**20% Off**  
Department 56 Village accessories  
Coupon must be present  
Expires 12-13-13

**Free Tree Storage Bag**  
w/ purchase of Staylit Tree  
Coupon must be present  
Expires 12-13-13

**CORNWELL Christmas World**



Brightmoor Christian Church

Location: M-5 and 13 Mile, Novi
Contact: 248-227-4420 or www.brightmoorchurch.org
Celebrate Recovery
Time: 7 p.m. Mondays
Details: Worship, teaching or testimony, and open share recovery groups...

Church of the Holy Family

Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road
Contact: 248-349-8847 or visit holyfamilynovi.org
Mass Schedule
Time: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday, 9 a.m. Monday-Friday, 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. Saturday (Spanish)
Holy Days: 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment

GET LISTED!

Submit: Send calendar submissions via email to cstone@gannett.com; by fax to 248-685-2892; or by mail to Religion Calendar/Novi-Northville, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

Crosspointe Meadows Church

Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile
Contact: 248-669-9400, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit www.crosspointemeadow.org.
Sunday worship: 11:15 a.m.
Bible study classes: 10 a.m. for all ages
Details: Nursery and older children programs available. Worship blends traditional and contemporary elements...

RELIGION CALENDAR

Destiny Worship Center
Location: Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 Six Mile, Northville
Contact: 248-442-8822
Sunday worship: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Adult special needs worship: 9:30 a.m.
Youth group: 7 p.m. Wednesdays
Women's Coffee Break Bible Study: 9 a.m. Mondays; Advent Reflections, Making All Things New?
Faith Community Presbyterian Church
Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile
Contact: 248-349-2345 or visit www.faithcommunity-novi.org

Northville Christian Assembly

Location: 41355 Six Mile
Contact: 248-348-9630, nca@icf.org
Sundays: 9-10 a.m. Sunday School for adults/youth/children; 9 a.m. Contemporary service in multipurpose gymnasium; 10:15 a.m. Contemporary service in worship center; children's super church on the second level (208/210)
Wednesday Family Night: 7 p.m. Adult elective classes, junior and senior high ministries; children's programs, Nursery and Preschool Program on Sundays and Wednesdays Home of Northville Christian School (day care, preschool through eighth grade); call 248-348-9031.

Novi-Northville Center for Jewish Life

Details: Events, programs and activities for all ages throughout the year - children's programs, Sunday school, adult Jewish classes, youth clubs, holiday services and programs, community social events.
Contact: Rabbi Avraham and Leah Suskind at 248-790-6075 or rabbi@noviwc.org; www.noviwc.org

Novi United Methodist Church of Northville

Location: 777 W. Eight Mile, Northville
Contact: 248-349-1164 or www.funorthville.org
Summer Sunday Worship (Memorial Day-Labor Day): 8:30 and 10 a.m.
Summer Sunday School (Memorial Day-Labor Day): 8:30 a.m. - Nursery; 10 a.m. - Nursery - sixth grade
Sunday Worship (September-May): 8:15 and 11 a.m.
Sunday School (September-May): 8 a.m. Nursery; 9:15 a.m. Nursery 12th grade; 11 a.m. Nursery 1st grade
Cookie Walk
Time: 8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec 7
Details: A fundraiser for the Appalachian Service Project, a Christian home repair/home building ministry through which our volunteers and staff repair and build homes for low-income families in rural Appalachia. Local youth, seventh through 12th grade, along with adult chaperones, travel and stay for a week in Appalachia each summer on this mission to make homes warmer, safer, and drier for families in need. Purchase fresh, homemade holiday cookies (homemade nut-free and gluten-free cookies as well).

Novi United Methodist Church of Northville

Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile, Northville
Contact: 248-349-2652 or visit umcnovi.com
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pages/Novi-United-Methodist-Church/5292331433
Sunday Services: 9:45 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Healing Service and Holy Communion: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month
Peace Vigil: noon, first Sunday of every month in front of the church. Members of the congregation and the community will stand united in prayer for peace.

Passages

Obituaries, Reminders & Reunions
How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • htwobits@hometownlife.com
Deadlines: Friday, 4:15 p.m. for Sunday paper • Wednesday, 9:45 a.m. for Thursday paper

CASH, LESLIE L.
Age 76, a lifelong resident of New Hudson, passed away November 29, 2013. He was born on June 29, 1933, in New Hudson, son of the late Floyd and Leona Cash. Leslie's life was spent serving his neighbors and friends in New Hudson and Lyon Township as the Lyon Township Fire Chief for 30 years prior to his retirement in the late 1990's. The most important part of his life was his beloved wife, children, grandchildren and family. He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Renee; his loving children: Daniel (Michelle) Cash, Brian Cash, and Lisa Cash; his grandchildren: Devin, Matthew, Anthony, Taylor, Brima, and Nicole; his great-grandchildren: Caleb, Ediston, and one expected in January. He is also survived by his siblings: Roy (Barb) Cash, Ronald (Barbara) Cash, Warner Cash, Sally Ritter, and Nina (Chuck) Anderson, and many nieces, nephews and friends. Leslie was preceded in death by his parents, and his siblings: Mad Wayne, Shirley Dean and Walter. Visitation was held on Tuesday, December 3, from 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. A funeral service was held on Wednesday, December 4, at 11:00 a.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. Online guestbook at: www.phillipsfuneral.com

PERRI, GIUSEPPE
Age 90, passed away December 1, 2013. He was born on February 28, 1923, in Crolio, Italy, son of the late Pasquale and Josephine Perri. He served his country with the U.S. Army during WWII in the Pacific Theater. Giuseppe worked in Quality Control at Ford Motor Company for 36 years prior to his retirement in 1959. After retirement, he enjoyed hunting, farming and being outdoors. He will always be remembered for being a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He is survived by his children: Joseph (Linda Cooper), Donald, Frank, and Marilyn Perri-Carl; his grandchildren: Jason, Adrienne, Carmen, and Emily; his great-grandchildren: Dominic, Juliana, Tegan, and Amelia. He is also survived by his brother, Frank Perri. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Maria, in 2009. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, December 4, from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and Thursday, December 5, from 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, December 6, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 830 S. Lafayette, South Lyon. Online guestbook at: www.phillipsfuneral.com

HEENEY-SUNDQUIST
GRAICHEN, ARTHUR
KING, WANDA L.
PORTER, ELAINE J.
WILLIAMS, LEOANA M.
Age 86, passed away December 2, 2013. She was born on May 15, 1927, in Detroit, daughter of the late David and Harriet Williams. Leona is survived by her loving friends: Evelyn McLaughlin, Dorothy and Bill Parmentier, Revena McLaughlin and Diana Mosher, and by her two cousins: Josephine, Mabel and Elizabeth Skinner. Visitation will be on Wednesday, December 4, from 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. A funeral service will be held on Thursday, December 5, at 11:00 a.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. She will be laid to rest in Granlawn Cemetery in Detroit. Online guestbook at: www.phillipsfuneral.com

CLOSE, DORIS I.
Age 94, of Northville, passed away peacefully November 30, 2013. She was born May 14, 1919, in Plymouth, Michigan, daughter of Harold and Olive (nee Roberts) Conpton. She was a graduate of Plymouth High School in 1937. Doris was united in marriage to Clifford H. Herrick on December 2, 1949. They spent 18 loving years together until his death in 1965. Doris worked as a seamstress and designer for Cadillac, Chrysler, and many other companies. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Northville and continued her love of singing with the First United Methodist Church of Northville after becoming a member in 1970. She was active with FUMC throughout the years, her involvement included co-leading the Youth Club program, serving on the Youth Club Board, the FUMC Scholarship Fund, as well as the Christian Education Department. Doris also served as a volunteer leader using her building expertise for the Appalachian Service Project, making homes in that warmer, safer, and drier. It was a passion she shared with her family, especially grand-daughter Kelly. Doris was caring, resourceful, and brilliant. Following her mother's death when Doris was 14, her father taught her and her sisters how to be inventive and creative. She instilled in her own children how to be respectful, goal oriented, and independent, without question. Her family was raised the right way. She loved to dance, even participating in amateur ballroom dancing competitions with her husband Richard at Arthur Murray Dance Studio. In fact, she and Richard met while dancing. Doris is survived by her loving children, Judy (Russell) Dore and Nick (Daisy) Herrick; her step-daughter, Barbara Close; her grandchildren, Patrick (Karen) Calhoun, David (Cathy) Dore, Kelly (Henry) Moore, Jay (Roseanne) Dillon, Herrick, and Kevin M. Herrick; and her great-grandchildren, Anna and Russell Calhoun, Alice, Charlotte, and Claire Dore, Sophie Moore, and Juliana Herrick. She was preceded in death by her husband Donald "Hank" Herrick and her husband Richard Close; her parents; her step-son, Dale Close; and her sisters, Helen Wallace, Catherine Sklar, and Jeanne Metcalf. Visitation will be held Friday, December 6, 2013 from 1 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Castaline Funeral Home, 122 W. Danlap, Northville. A funeral service will be held Saturday, December 7, 2013 at 1 p.m. with visitation 12 noon until 1 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile Rd., Northville 48167. Does will be laid to rest in Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to Appalachian Service Project or FUMC Scholarship Fund. Online condolences at: www.castalinefuneralhome.com

DOYLE, TIMOTHY E.
Age 71, passed away December 3, 2013. A private service will be held. Online guestbook at: www.phillipsfuneral.com

Orchard Grove Community Church
Location: 850 Ladd Road, Building C, Walled Lake
Web: www.orchardgrove.org
Contact: Amanda Rehm at 248-926-6584 or amanda.rehm@orchardgrove.org
Our Saviour Apostolic Lutheran Church
Location: 54899 Eight Mile, Northville
Orchard Grove Community Church
Location: 850 Ladd Road, Walled Lake
Contact: 248-926-6584; www.orchardgrove.org
Orchard Hills Baptist Church
Location: 23455 Novi Road
Contact: pastor Jon Hill, 248-349-5655
Preschool/Kids Choir: 7:15 p.m. every Wednesday
Details: For ages 3-6; ongoing option; no need to preregister, all are welcome.
Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church
Location: 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth Township
Contact: 734-453-0326, Ext. 221
Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church
Location: 770 Thayer, Northville
Contact: 248-349-2621 or olv-northville.org
Saturday Worship: 5 p.m.
Sunday Worship: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.
Our Shepherd Presbyterian Church
Location: 1200 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth
Contact: pastor Bill Burke at 734-927-0891
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.
Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. with fellowship after service
Our Savior Apostolic Lutheran Church
Location: 54899 Eight Mile, Northville

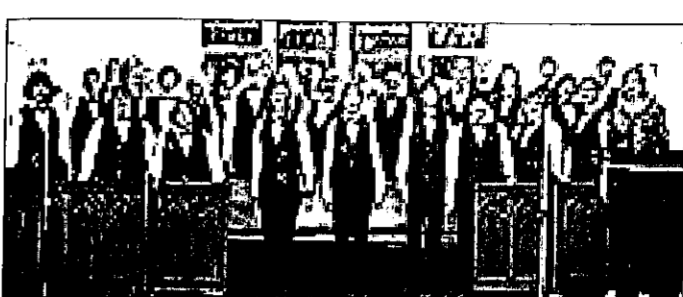
Paying tribute to the life of your loved one.
CASTERLINE
FUNERAL HOME INC.

May you find peace in this time of sorrow

Orchard Hills Baptist Church
Location: 23455 Novi Road
Contact: pastor Jon Hill, 248-349-5655
Preschool/Kids Choir: 7:15 p.m. every Wednesday
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Location: 54899 Eight Mile, Northville

Novi Choralaires kick off trio of concerts Saturday

While many consider Black Friday and its consumer-driven frenzy to be the start of the holiday season, the Novi Choralaires believe they have a better way to get people into the Christmas spirit. Novi's community chorus will perform its annual Christmas Show on three separate dates and at three separate sites for the enjoyment of the music lovers in the area. The first concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Novi Senior Center, 25075 Meadowbrook Road. The Choralaires will perform their second holiday concert the next day at 4 p.m. at the Church of the Holy Family, 24505 Meadowbrook Road. The final concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, at Farmington United Methodist Church, 33112 Grand River Ave.



The Novi Choralaires group has been singing for 39 years and is a part of Novi Parks Performing Arts department. They are currently performing at three venues. The group is available to perform for private parties and organizations in addition to putting together two annual shows each year. The holiday concert began as a concert every other year, but due to public demand has become a yearly program at three venues. River Ave. "An American Christmas" will include such classics as Frosty the Snowman and 'Tis The Season, along with the Appalachian Carols arranged by well-known American composer Gwyneth Walker. The group, currently directed by Liz Wolber, has been practicing the show since September on a weekly basis. According to the group's board of directors, the show appeals to a broad base of all ages who like music. The concerts are early in the Christmas season to get people in the Christmas spirit without all the shopping frenzy. Concert goers get about an hour and a half of music sung by the group of area singers, performing a wide range of Christmas classics both religious and secular. They are songs that most people already know the words to and the sing-along in the middle of the concert pleases audience members of all ages. Tickets are \$12 (\$10 for seniors and children under 12), and are available online at www.cityofnovi.org, the Novi Parks office and at the door. Discount tickets are also available for groups of 10 or more.

Your Invitation to Worship

Directory of churches and religious groups including: Brighton, Milford, Novi, Walled Lake, Whitmore Lake, Highland, New Hudson, Northville, Livonia, and others. Each listing includes location, contact information, and service times.



NOVI COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Hob Nobble Gobble

Give thanks for 87 Years of America's Thanksgiving Parade and even more thanks to the Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation for 24 years of hosting Detroit's premier family fundraiser, The Hob Nobble Gobble. The 24th annual Hob Nobble Gobble brought nearly 2,000 supporters—including Cathy and Eric Day of corporate sponsor ITC in Novi—to Ford Field on Nov. 22, less than a week before America's Thanksgiving Parade. The black-tie gala had non-stop live entertainment and dancing in the "D" with Detroit Lions mascot Roary. JULIE YOLLES



LOCAL EVENTS

HILLSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL CARNIVAL AND HOLIDAY BAZAAR

**Time/Date:** 4:30-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6  
**Location:** Hillside Middle School, 775 N. Center Street, Northville  
**Details:** Family-friendly carnival with inflatables, rock climbing wall, party games with prize tickets, mechanical bull, air brush tattoos, photo booth and more. Holiday bazaar features vendors from Thirty-One Gifts, Alibon, Avon, Philosophy, Slopeda, Rodan & Fields, Clix & Isabel, La Sophia, Sevensy and many more. Food court has pizza, pop walk, cake walk, pie eating contest, ice cream sundae, lake sale. Game tickets are 50 cents each, available at the door. Come out and have fun while supporting Hillside's biggest fundraiser of the year.  
**Contact:** Hillside Middle School, 248-260-3600

BLOOD DRIVES

**Time/Date:** 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12  
**Location:** St. Mary Mercy Hospital  
**Contact:** To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). Appointment sign-ups are also available in the hospital cafeteria. Walk-ins are accepted, but appointments are preferred.

CARELINK LECTURES

**Transitions - Life After Treatment**  
**Time/Date:** 6-7:30 p.m. on second and fourth Mondays  
**Location:** Providence Park Hospital's Ascarian Cancer Center, Second floor Conference Room, 47601 Grand River Avenue, Novi  
**Details:** If you have recently finished cancer treatment or have been out of treatment for a while and would like to connect with other survivors, please join this informative discussion and peer support.  
**Contact:** Jenny Bailey at 248-348-5189

WOMANHEART OF NOVI

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. fourth Wednesdays  
**Location:** Providence Park Hospital, Novi  
**Details:** For women with concerns about cardiac health to share information and sisterhood at monthly meetings and networking opportunities. Organizers strive to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support and national recognition. Guests are always welcome; advance registration is required. Visit [www.abwa-novi.org](http://www.abwa-novi.org).  
**Contact:** Holly Hengstbeck at [publicity@abwa-novi.org](mailto:publicity@abwa-novi.org).

SUBURBAN COLLECTION SHOWPLACE

**Location:** 45100 Grand River Ave, Novi  
**Phone:** 248-348-5600  
**Web:** [www.suburbanshowplace.com](http://www.suburbanshowplace.com)

FRIENDS OF ISLAND LAKE

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. fourth Tuesdays (except December)  
**Location:** Island Lake State Recreation Area headquarters at Kensington and Grand River Avenues  
**Details:** Meetings are open to any interested individual. The group's purpose is to support, enhance, protect and promote the natural, historic, & recreational features of the park and the Huron River by increasing awareness of the parks assets through the education and outreach activities, encouraging and facilitating communication and cooperation between diverse users of the park and its staff, organizing volunteers and stewardship activities and fundraising through contributions and grants to support these initiatives.  
**Contact:** [www.islandlakefriends.org](http://www.islandlakefriends.org)

CHRISTMAS WONDERFEST

**Dates:** Dec. 5-8  
**Details:** Christmas Wonderfest is modeled upon traditional European Christmas Markets, offering seasonal shopping for gifts and holiday treats, and also featuring special activities and thrills for youngsters, including a special North Pole area for Santa visits, holiday crafts, indoor carnival rides, and more seasonal fun for treasured family memories.  
**Location:** Kerby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty  
**Details:** Business networking focused on building relationships. The Sunrise Networking Group, LLC ([www.sunrisenetworkinggroup.com](http://www.sunrisenetworkinggroup.com)) is a group of about 250 business leaders who help each other to build more business by referring people to each other. Breakfast is \$10.  
**Contact:** Fonda Milana, 586-232-3009 or [fmilana@sunrisenetworkinggroup.com](mailto:fmilana@sunrisenetworkinggroup.com)

NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Sheraton Detroit-Novi Hotel, 21111 Haggerty Road  
**Details:** Southfield-based law firm MacDill, Hauser, Wartell, Roth & Heller P.C. will host its 22nd Annual Tax Symposium. The program, attended by tax professionals, including certified public accountants, will include a series of presentational topics made by firm attorneys.

LOCAL BUSINESS NETWORK MEETING

**Time/Date:** 8:45-10:15 a.m. first and third Wednesdays  
**Contact:** To RSVP, call 248-348-9225 or 248-685-9226.

AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

**Time/Date:** 6:15-8:30 p.m., second Wednesdays  
**Location:** DoubleTree Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd., Novi  
**Details:** Novi Oaks is a chapter of the American Business Women's Association. The group meets monthly for networking and a program featuring speakers on an array of market-relevant topics. Organizers strive to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support and national recognition. Guests are always welcome; advance registration is required. Visit [www.abwa-novi.org](http://www.abwa-novi.org).  
**Contact:** Holly Hengstbeck at [publicity@abwa-novi.org](mailto:publicity@abwa-novi.org).

NORTHVILLE-NOVI BUSINESS NETWORKING BREAKFAST

**Time/Date:** 7:30-9 a.m. first and third Tuesdays (except November and December, which are just the first Tuesday)  
**Location:** Kerby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty  
**Details:** Business networking focused on building relationships. The Sunrise Networking Group, LLC ([www.sunrisenetworkinggroup.com](http://www.sunrisenetworkinggroup.com)) is a group of about 250 business leaders who help each other to build more business by referring people to each other. Breakfast is \$10.  
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HUD COUNSELING

**Time/Date:** 5-8 p.m. first Mondays  
**Details:** HUD-certified counselors are available to assist homeowners at risk of foreclosure. There is no charge for this service. Please call if you wish to attend. One-on-one sessions will be scheduled.  
**Book Discussion Group**  
**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m. first Thursdays  
**Details:** Please drop in or call the library if you are interested in joining this recently formed group.

CLUBS

NOVI ROTARY CLUB

**Time/Date:** Noon every Thursday  
**Location:** Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile  
**Details:** Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check website for speaker information; [novirotary.org](http://novirotary.org).

LIBRARY LINES

**NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**Location:** 45255 W. 10 Mile  
**Hours:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday  
**Details:** unless noted below, all programs take place at the library. Register for programs at the library or on the website.

BUSINESS

NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Sheraton Detroit-Novi Hotel, 21111 Haggerty Road  
**Details:** Southfield-based law firm MacDill, Hauser, Wartell, Roth & Heller P.C. will host its 22nd Annual Tax Symposium. The program, attended by tax professionals, including certified public accountants, will include a series of presentational topics made by firm attorneys.

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page A16

who help each other to build more business by referring people to each other. Breakfast is \$10.  
**Contact:** Fonda Milana, 586-232-3009 or [fmilana@sunrisenetworkinggroup.com](mailto:fmilana@sunrisenetworkinggroup.com)

METRO NOVI BNI

**Time/Date:** 7-8 a.m. every Wednesday  
**Location:** On the Border Restaurant, 21091 Haggerty (north of Eight Mile), Novi  
**Details:** BNI is a structured networking environment for professionals. The Metro Novi BNI team members are committed to providing bona fide referrals. Members learn how to create and refine an "elevator speech," develop a network of other business professionals in the community and receive training/education on networking more efficiently. Guests are invited free of charge. Continental breakfast provided.  
**Contact:** Contact Julie Paquette at [248-797-1665](mailto:248-797-1665) or [juliepaquette7@gmail.com](mailto:juliepaquette7@gmail.com); [www.metrobninovi.com](http://www.metrobninovi.com).

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**Location:** DoubleTree Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd., Novi  
**Details:** Novi Oaks is a chapter of the American Business Women's Association. The group meets monthly for networking and a program featuring speakers on an array of market-relevant topics. Organizers strive to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support and national recognition. Guests are always welcome; advance registration is required. Visit [www.abwa-novi.org](http://www.abwa-novi.org).  
**Contact:** Holly Hengstbeck at [publicity@abwa-novi.org](mailto:publicity@abwa-novi.org).

NORTHVILLE-NOVI BUSINESS NETWORKING BREAKFAST

**Time/Date:** 7:30-9 a.m. first and third Tuesdays (except November and December, which are just the first Tuesday)  
**Location:** Kerby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty  
**Details:** Business networking focused on building relationships. The Sunrise Networking Group, LLC ([www.sunrisenetworkinggroup.com](http://www.sunrisenetworkinggroup.com)) is a group of about 250 business leaders who help each other to build more business by referring people to each other. Breakfast is \$10.  
**Contact:** Fonda Milana, 586-232-3009 or [fmilana@sunrisenetworkinggroup.com](mailto:fmilana@sunrisenetworkinggroup.com)

HUD COUNSELING

**Time/Date:** 5-8 p.m. first Mondays  
**Details:** HUD-certified counselors are available to assist homeowners at risk of foreclosure. There is no charge for this service. Please call if you wish to attend. One-on-one sessions will be scheduled.  
**Book Discussion Group**  
**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m. first Thursdays  
**Details:** Please drop in or call the library if you are interested in joining this recently formed group.

CLUBS

NOVI ROTARY CLUB

**Time/Date:** Noon every Thursday  
**Location:** Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile  
**Details:** Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check website for speaker information; [novirotary.org](http://novirotary.org).

LIBRARY LINES

**NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**Location:** 45255 W. 10 Mile  
**Hours:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday  
**Details:** unless noted below, all programs take place at the library. Register for programs at the library or on the website.



Outrun Hunger

Grace Community Church sponsored its third annual Outrun Hunger 5K run/walk and 1 mile fun run Nov. 2 on the scenic Commerce Commons Pathway, located at Commerce Township Hall. All the proceeds from the event are being distributed through the Hospitality House of Walled Lake and the Open Door Outreach Center of Waterford to assist families in need of food this holiday season. "I'm happy to say that this year we will be able to feed 533 families after raising \$10,677.20. We are grateful to our 259 participants, 78 volunteers, 50 donors and 23 sponsors," said Karla Cotter, organizer of the Outrun Hunger event. For more information about Outrun Hunger, contact Diane Longo at Grace Community Church at 248-438-5849 or visit [www.outrunhunger.org](http://www.outrunhunger.org).

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SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits. Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Allonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Allonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges. Attorneys Bieske and Allonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set. Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet. In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorneys Bieske and Allonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups. Attorneys Bieske and Allonsi 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 Allonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-75. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation! If you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits. [www.ssdfighter.com](http://www.ssdfighter.com)

**VETERANS' COFFEE HOUR Q&A**

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- Employment benefits
- Special benefits for disabled veterans
- State and local benefits available for veterans
- Educational benefits

Two consecutive Mondays:  
**December 2 & 9 \*\*\* 8:30-10:30 a.m.**  
Schoolcraft College Livonia Campus  
18600 Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile Roads  
McDowell Center Room 205, Veterans Services/Career Services Suite

Q&A WITH:  
Department Service Officer Toni Moses, Disabled American Veterans (DAV)  
DAV is a veterans' advocacy and assistance group. DSO Moses will answer questions about a wide range of benefits, services and resources available to veterans. Learn more at [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)  
Veterans Services Coordinator Pam Paxton-Keelner, Schoolcraft College  
Ms. Paxton-Keelner will answer questions about how veterans can use their educational benefits to pursue a college education. Learn more at [www.schoolcraft.edu/veterans](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/veterans) or 734-462-4400, x5346.

This event is free and open to all veterans and those who care for and support them.

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## True champions CC proves that trophy is not the final benchmark

Anyone who follows Michigan high school sports is well aware of Detroit Catholic Central's prowess. If not, one look at the school's trophy cases is all that's needed. The Shamrocks have amassed more than 50 state titles in their storied 85-year history that began in Detroit and moved to Novi in 2005. During that time, the school has excelled in its mission of educating young men in "Teach Me Goodness, Discipline and Knowledge."

On Saturday, CC went for its 12th football state title, but came up short against the powerful offense of Clarkston in a 32-14 decision. Was it heart-breaking? You can be sure that it was for every Shamrock player who bottled for 14 games this season, endured grueling practices and trained relentlessly in the off-season.

Winning is the goal of every athlete, but at Catholic Central, the adults who mold these youngsters into men are looking for more than one's performance on the field.

"Everybody wants to be champions," head coach Tom Mach said, "but it's really the journey that gets you there and what you learn from it."

Indeed, and all his team had to do was look into the stands Saturday and see the giant "33" - formed by some 400 CC students and fans wearing their royal blue and white colors - to realize that the big trophy is great to hoist above one's head, but there is so much more to being a Shamrock.

One year ago, 33 was the number David Widzinski wore on his CC uniform when he led his team with 16 tackles (with a broken hand) in the Shamrocks' state final loss to Detroit Cass Tech, again at Ford Field.

But the 16-year-old sophomore died in his sleep just a week later. The outpouring of support for the Widzinski family (the same support that was displayed when tragedy struck the Cipriano family just eight months earlier) would be called remarkable by most communities' standards - but completely expected when it comes to the Catholic Central "family."

"The sincerity and kindness of our young people has profoundly moved us," David's parents, Paul and Barbara, and siblings, Stephen and Emily, wrote in a letter published in the *Novi News*. "Their parents and community should look at them with great pride. They make the future look bright."

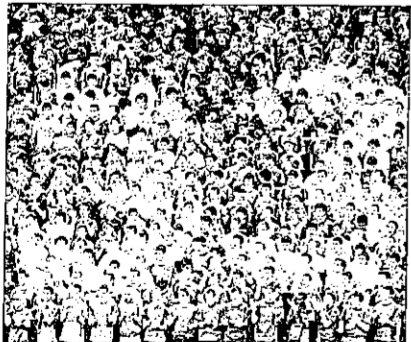
Players kept their fallen teammate in their hearts and noted his absence in their season opener against Detroit Cody by starting the game on defense with a "missing man" formation of just 10 players in his honor - and his name and number remained on their roster. The team's motto this season says it best: "All in for 33."

To reach Saturday's state final, the Shamrocks shut out Detroit Cass Tech a week earlier to improve to 11-2. After the game, one of the opposing players punched a CC player in the mouth during post-game handshakes. That could've turned into mayhem and been splashed all over the Internet. Instead, when questioned about it by the media, the CC player sporting a bloody lip simply responded, "No comment on that, sir."

That is the mark of a true champion and that is what CC is noted for developing. Congratulations, Shamrocks - your actions on and off the field give us faith in the future.

"The education of the whole person - body, mind and spirit - is the best way to prepare a young man to live in a complex world which will present him with both worthwhile opportunities as well as challenges that often contradict the values for which we stand."

Rev. John B. Huber, C.S.B., E.D.D., principal



Shamrocks students honor their late classmate and member of the football team David Widzinski, No. 33, during CC's state final game Saturday with Clarkston at Ford Field. DENNIS BARNES

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### What frightened them?

Twenty-six House Republicans voted with their majority to shut down government over the ACA. This law was passed by Congress and upheld by the Supreme Court. Yet, the GOP-controlled House voted for anarchy because they wished to change this law.

Eventually these 26 U.S. House Republicans joined with House Democrats to reopen government after 2½ weeks, costing us taxpayers nearly \$24 billion, to pay for this shutdown. Yes, Congress was paid while most of the government employees and those who contract with government, were not.

Now these same 26 GOP congressmen just voted to symbolically, ceremoniously and illegally, to change their vote back to the original yes ordering the government shutdown. These frightened GOP House members have gone from yes to shut government down, to no and now back to yes.

I wonder what caused their change of heart, conviction and credibility. Did the tea bag party members frighten them?

Gerald Maxey  
Farmington Hills

#### Law of the land?

In a recent letter, Ms. Farber-Bramson submitted: "The Affordable Care Act needs to succeed. Yet, if frivolous changes are made to this law, it will suffer irreparable damage."

Ms. Farber-Bramson, frivolous changes are being made and they're being made by the president. These changes are not to the benefit of country; they're political and nothing else. The president has usurped the Congress on every aspect of the ACA so far.

It is interesting in that you further submitted: "While it is true this legislation can't help every citizen of this country, millions of Americans will receive its many benefits. In other words, there are a lot more winners than losers."

Is this what the ACA is all about, Ms. Farber-Bramson? More winners than losers? And what if, Ms. Farber-Bramson, you were one of the losers? Would you have a different perspective of the ACA? You're counting on not being one of the "losers," right, Ms. Farber-Bramson?

Have you signed up for the

ACA. Ms. Farber-Bramson? If you have, then please let everyone know of the pleasant experience you had while doing so. Please expound as to how the ACA is now saving you money to the tune of \$2,500 annually. Please tell all how you were able to keep your doctor and that your life is now better than before the ACA.

If you didn't sign up and submitted such a letter of endorsement for the ACA, then you've absolutely no credibility at all. PERIOD.

You concluded: "It is of the utmost importance that Democrats show their resolve and commitment to this monumental law of the land."

Interesting, Ms. Farber-Bramson. This "law of the land" you write of is consistently being pre-empted by the president. The president takes it upon himself to bypass Congress and illegally change the "law of the land" to whatsoever fits his political agenda. Not one of his changes in the law were placed there to benefit the taxpaying citizens of this country. PERIOD.

Vincent Ziegler  
Farmington Hills

#### Keep Bentivolio in office

So the power brokers of the Republican Party decide to take back a political office that is rightfully "theirs." Somehow, an ordinary American (Kerry Bentivolio) got elected to Congress without their permission. That just won't do, so they troll around for somebody from their own political class to run against him. They pick the guy who operates a multimillion-dollar law firm that processes most of the mortgage foreclosures in Michigan.

Actually, that isn't a joke, even though the political class seem to be amazingly blind and deaf. Wasn't it just a few months ago that the Karl Rovians were complaining that many of the 2012 conservative candidates, like Sharon Angle and Christine McDonnell had an un-electable public image? Yes, they are really going this. A Mr. David Trott has lately started using his money to buy up endorsements from anyone in the 11th District who can help get him elected to Congress. Mr. Trott knows that Bentivolio, the incumbent Republican, has only his own office salary for an income.

The regular Americans who live in the 11th District want to

see an actual non-Madison Avenue conservative stay in office without being beholden to the party bosses and other well-connected fixers who make their money from selling access and influence.

Denis Curran  
Livonia

#### Like gas wars? Reader does

Today, I bought gas for \$2.98 a gallon in Milford, way down from this year's high of \$4.24 per gallon. Why is that? Is it because of government intervention? Is it because of environmentalist and our current president stopping or delaying the TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline? I think not.

It's because private enterprise and fracking companies like Chesapeake, ConocoPhillips, Marathon Oil, MarkWest and many smaller independent drillers, producers and small businesses in Michigan, Ohio and North Dakota. Believe it or not, these companies have hard-working people, just like you and me, that do what they can to keep your energy cost low, while looking out of your personal and environmental safety.

Gas prices likely would even be at a five-year low of under \$2 gallon if not for current president stopping the Keystone XL Pipeline a couple of years ago.

It's time for the United States of America to stand up to our ever-growing government regulation and interference with business both large and small and citizens, poor, middle class or wealthy. Yes we were built on free enterprise, liberty and pursuit of happiness.

We were country that was started by the slogan, "give me liberty or give me death." What happened to the country I grew to love that valued risk-taking and the entrepreneur spirit? As Thomas Jefferson once wrote in a letter to Thomas Cooper, "If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people, under the pretense of taking care of them, they must become happy."

I say no to the nanny state and have the government getting bigger and bigger and telling what to do, "don't drink, don't smoke," and yes to free enterprise and gas wars.

Doug Klingensmith  
Milford

## How state is addressing medical marijuana issue

Advocates for more lenient marijuana laws pessimistically await the Michigan House to take up the controversial Senate Bill 660, which would allow pharmacies to distribute medical marijuana and would also grant a single Canadian company a monopoly to be the only supplier the pharmacies could use. It is possible that the House will take up two other related marijuana bills, but not a third.

HB 4271, the Provi-



Neil Yashinsky  
GUEST COLUMNIST

sioning Center Act, and HB 5104, which would broaden the definition of usable marijuana in reaction to a ruling in the case of People v. Carruthers, are likely to be heard along with SB 660.

House Bill 4623, which would decriminalize the possession of an ounce or less of mar-

jijuana, is seen as unlikely to get a hearing. That bill, co-sponsored by Reps. Jeff Irwin, D-Ann Arbor, and Mike Shirkey, R-Clarksville, among others, has broad support among people advocating for less harsh approach to marijuana.

Pro-reform advocates point out that marijuana is empirically safer than alcohol, for the consumer, their family and society.

They also point to a DEA judge's ruling that states that marijuana is

one of the safest therapeutically active substances known to man.

With this in mind, they urge the Legislature to end the practice of arresting those in possession of an ounce or less. However, based on the past actions of the state Legislature, those advocating for better access to medical marijuana patients and caregivers believe that Michigan Republicans are more interested in interfering with the program than enabling it.

Irwin has cited a figure of a minimum of \$325 million spent annually in Michigan enforcing marijuana prohibition. He also notes that 17 other states - plus the cities of Detroit, Jackson, Lansing, Ypsilanti and Ferndale - treat possession of an ounce or less as a civil infraction and not an arrestable offense.

A recent poll of Epic/MRA poll showed that 46 percent of Michigan residents support legal-

izing and regulating marijuana and another 16 percent are in favor of replacing criminal penalties with fines. Only 26 percent support a continuation of criminal penalties.

Despite this, it is believed that easing of criminal penalties for an ounce of marijuana or less is unlikely this legislative session.

Neil Yashinsky is the Executive Director of Oakland County NORML.

## Republicans railroad citizens, democratic process while hijacking Court of Claims

Whether the reason was for allegations of a pending legal case regarding the way the Legislature behaved during the 2012 hand-duck session (violating the Open Meetings Act by locking people out of the Capitol) finally being heard or trying to protect Gov. Snyder's "NERD Fund" from any challenges, the Republicans railroaded through at lightning speed Senate Bill 652, which completely removes the Court of Claims from the 30th Judicial Circuit Court and places exclusive jurisdiction within the Michigan Court of Appeals.

This move stacks the courts in the Republicans' favor and would allow them to quickly pass controversial legislation, obtain a governor's signature and create laws without constitutional concerns or even receiving a hearing. This includes many claims, demands and counter claims against the state or any of its



Phil Cavanaugh  
GUEST COLUMNIST

departments, commissions, board, institutions, arms or agencies and puts undue burdens on people filing Freedom of Information Act or Open Meetings Act claims against the state.

Republicans claim this bill brings fairness to the judicial system by having this heard in a court where the judges

are all elected by the citizens of Michigan instead of a court with county-elected judges. But this is blatant move by the Republicans to rig the judicial system against the people allowing a political party in power (currently Republicans dominate all three branches of government) to hand-pick the judges who hear cases against the state of Michigan. This move stacks the Court of Claims in the Republicans' favor, making it harder for citizens to hold our government accountable for its actions or misactions.

Whether Republican or Democrat, we are all elected to serve by people who hope and pray that we will protect and uphold their constitutional rights. Everyone should be allowed a fair process through the judicial system. This bill makes a mockery of our constitutional designated separation of powers by allowing the Legislature to meddle in the affairs of the court. The Republicans, by

passing this strictly on party lines, scream the message to citizens that we will make it difficult for citizens to hold their government accountable.

I came up to Lansing to address real issues facing our great state. Not once have I had anyone say to me that we need to remove the Court of Claims, a trier of fact and original jurisdiction, and place exclusive jurisdiction with the Michigan Court of Appeals. This was a self-serving act that will diminish the public's faith in government, our judicial system and lead many around the state to believe that corruption doesn't just lie within the city of Detroit and Wayne County's borders, but instead has spread like a poisonous rash over our great state.

State Rep. Phil Cavanaugh, D-Redford Township, represents the 10th District, which includes Redford and a portion of Detroit. He can be reached at 517-373-0857 or philcavanaugh@house.mi.gov

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## Protect yourself from Medicare fraud during open enrollment period

The Area Agency on Aging 1-B receives numerous calls each year from Medicare beneficiaries concerned about contact they've had with suspicious salespersons or contractors. Unfortunately, with the start of the Health Care Marketplace and the Medicare open enrollment period just coming to an end Dec. 7, scams and unscrupulous activity targeted at older adults may be on the rise.

Recently, we received a call from a man who was contacted by someone asking for his Medicare or Social Security number so they could send him a new Medicare card. Another beneficiary reported getting a call from Medicare asking to come to her home to discuss her options. Fortunately, in both situations, the individual did not provide any information or make an appointment to have the caller visit their home.

In both situations, the caller was attempting to obtain the older adult's personal information to commit identity theft or fraud.

The AAA 1-B's Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program is a trusted resource that Medicare beneficiaries can turn to for answers, options and information. If you are on Medicare or know someone who is, here are some important guidelines to follow to avoid being a victim of a scam, fraud or financial abuse:

The Health Insurance Marketplace is designed to help people who don't have health coverage. If you have health coverage through Medicare, the marketplace won't have any effect on your Medicare coverage. In fact, it is against the law for someone who knows that you have Medi-



Jennifer Therrien

care to sell you a marketplace plan. Always remember, Medicare will not call or come to your home to sell you anything. No government worker will call you to ask for personal information or to verify your Medicare number, Social Security number or credit card information.

Guard your information. Don't give your Medicare, Medicaid or Social Security cards or numbers to an unknown person. Treat these cards like credit cards and keep them in a private and safe place.

Trust your instincts. If you receive a call or a visit from someone and you feel pressured or something does not feel right, then your instincts are probably right - it probably is a scam. Do not feel obligated to continue the conversation or provide any personal information.

Don't hesitate to ask questions. Ask for the person's name, number, address and the name of their agency/company. Someone who is legitimately trying to assist you will provide you with the information and respect your need to be a safe consumer.

Protect your information. Be suspicious of anyone, even health care professionals, who ask for your Medicare number in exchange for free equipment or services.

Recognize the difference between legitimate mail and scam mail. Mailings and letters from government agencies, such as Medicare and Social

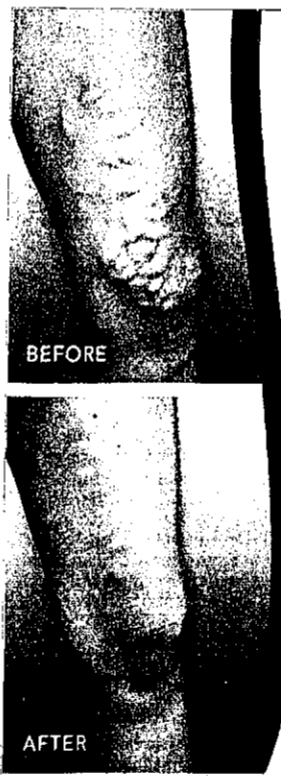
Security, will have an official government seal and/or logo on it. Don't overlook this mail. Other fliers, letters or postcards claiming to be from "Medicare" that don't have these seals/logos should be set aside. Do not respond to them unless you can verify that they are legitimate.

Save your Medicare summary notices and Part D explanation of benefits. Record the dates of all of your doctor appointments and procedures (tests, X-rays, etc.). Check your Medicare statements carefully to make sure they match and the details are correct. If you spend time in a hospital, make sure the admission date, discharge date and diagnosis on your bill are correct.

Report any type of potential scam, identity theft or Medicare fraud to an official, including the police and the Federal Trade Commission. Statistics indicate that for every one person who reports a fraudulent scam, there are likely 10 other people who experienced the same thing but either were afraid to speak up or didn't know who to call. You can file a complaint online, using the FTC Complaint Assistant online at https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov.

The Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program can help provide more information about Medicare or Medicaid fraud and explain how to report it. If you suspect Medicare or Medicaid fraud or abuse or have questions about Medicare or Medicaid, call MMAP at 800-803-7174.

Jennifer Therrien is manager of the Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program at the Area Agency on Aging 1-B. She can be reached at 248-262-1290.



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# Future of wolves on Isle Royale at risk

Predators are likely to die off if action is not taken to save them

By Louise Knott Ahern  
Gannett Michigan

At Michigan's Isle Royale National Park, a rugged chain of islands in north Lake Superior, a battle is playing out that will impact the entire National Park Service. The wolves of Isle Royale have become critically isolated, forced into generations of inbreeding because the ice bridge that used to allow new animals in from the mainland has all but disappeared during winter months.

Federal officials must decide whether to get involved and attempt to save them or step aside and let nature choose their fate.

No matter what park officials do, the plight of the Isle Royale wolves represents a historic tipping point in National Park Service policy — the first time the agency has considered saving a population of animals that are not suffering from direct human activity.

Isle Royale is considered the first test case in how the challenges of climate change will force a new way of thinking and doing in the nation's more than 300 parks and wilderness areas.

Climate change, National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis said, changes everything.

Signs of life

One of the highest points on Isle Royale is at the top of Mount Ojibway, a crest above the trees where eagles nest, winds buffet and wild blueberries grow.

From there, you can see all the way to Canada — it's closer than Michigan — and watch the whitecaps of Lake Superior pound the rocky shores in every direction.

It's from way up there that Rolf Peterson listens for signs of life.

Getting there isn't easy, but even at 64 years old, Peterson barely breaks a sweat despite the terrain. He has made this trek so many times, he recognizes individual trees and juneberry bushes.

"You see that radio tower way over there?" he asks, pointing to a steel structure, small and hazy in the distance.

He chuckles with compassion. "It's actually farther away than it looks."

Under the canopy of aspen trees and balsam fir, the trail he follows is little more than a rough-hewn path of jagged boulders and exposed roots, the red soil packed hard by the countless footfalls of nature lovers and adventure-seekers who visit the island.

When the trail breaks above the tree line, he climbs the 50 steps to the top of the radio tower.

He pulls from his 40-year-old backpack a receiver and two small antennas. He slowly swings the antennas left to right, waiting for a sound, listening for something other than static.

It has been more than a month since he has picked up the ping — the sign that Isabelle or Pip, the two radio-collared wolves on the island, are nearby.

He knows they're not dead. Not yet, at least. He, more than anyone else, would know.

For more than 40 years, he has spent every summer on the island with his wife Candy in a cabin with no running water as the chief re-



A wolf sits in the snow at Isle Royale National Park, a chain of islands in Lake Superior. GANNETT MICHIGAN

searcher on a world-renowned study through Michigan Technological University called the Wolf-Moose Project.

Now in its 53th year, it's the longest running study of its kind in the world and it could happen only at Isle Royale.

The island park is the only place on the planet where a major predator and a major ungulate — a fancy biologist's term for things like deer, elk and moose — live together without the interference of some other species.

Peterson turns the antenna in another direction.

Several minutes pass. All he hears is silence.

Silent nights

Nights on Isle Royale used to have a mournful soundtrack. During the wolves' heyday, their howls could be heard all night long, an almost guaranteed wildlife experience for Isle Royale visitors.

The nights have grown silent now.

There are only eight adult wolves left on Isle Royale and they have little to say.

Though not technically native to the island — that is, there's no evidence of a breeding pack here until shortly after World War II — the wolves here enjoyed a population of 50 in the early 1980s.

The population has steadily declined since then and those that are

in 25 years. The ice bridge that used to connect Isle Royale to Ontario, which allowed wolves to walk back and forth, has all but disappeared.

During the 1940s, '50s and '60s, an ice bridge formed nearly every other year.

Today, ice bridges form roughly once every 15 years.

Peterson wants the National Park Service to try a "genetic rescue" to save the wolves. He wants to bring new wolves to the island to mate with the current packs and clean up the gene pool.

What he's asking for, however, is a bigger deal than just moving a handful of animals around. It is, in fact, one of the biggest and most controversial issues facing the National Park Service, planting Michigan in the center of a broader debate about the effect of climate change on our natural treasures.

It also has sparked a passionate debate in the scientific community, pitting Peterson and Vucetich against long-time friends and colleagues who think intervention would only make things worse for the island.

The director of the National Park Service, Jon Jarvis, is considering three options:

» He could do nothing. He could let the wolves die out and let nature run its course.

» He could order the genetic rescue Peterson recommends, bringing in some fresh blood to re-produce and repopulate the island.

» He could wait until the wolves die out and then bring new wolves to the island, attempting to rebuild the population from scratch.

Jarvis has promised to make a decision sooner rather than later — be-

fore nature decides for him.

Whichever option he chooses, it will have a ripple effect on the entire National Park Service. The agency has adhered to a strict hands-off policy for managing wildlife in much of its 100-year history, intervening only when animals are endangered or suffering from the direct actions of humans.

If Jarvis chooses a genetic rescue, it will signal a sea change in policy — an intervention because of indirect human activity.

The stakes could not be higher, Peterson says.

Era of moose

There were a few decades at the beginning of the 20th century when moose on Isle Royale indulged. They were alone on the island — a major ungulate with no predator. Lynx were long gone and wolves had not yet arrived.

Isle Royale's vast, undisturbed food supply fueled an uncontrolled population boom.

In 1929, a biologist who visited the island estimated the moose population at 3,000 — unsustainable by anyone's measure.

Experts predicted a crash and they were right. By 1934, the party was over: The island's balsam fir had been devastated and the moose began to starve.

Within just a few years, the population dropped to roughly 400 or 500.

There are places on Isle Royale where the balsam fir still struggle to recover from the moose overpopulation.

Time is critical, Peterson says. Not just for wolves, but the entire ecosystem of the island.

But as Peterson learned in June this year, that's a tough argument to make.

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SECTION B (NN)  
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2013  
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# SPORTS

CAL STONE, EDITOR  
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CC's defense takes down a Clarkston runner. The Wolves beat the Shamrocks, 32-14.

## CC defeats Brother Rice, 4-1

Hockey team starts season strong under new head coach

By Sam Eggleston  
 Correspondent

There is no doubt that the Detroit Catholic Central hockey team is packed full of talented players, and it's come into the 2013-14 season on a hot streak despite being under the direction of a new head coach.

Though, admittedly, Doug Itami is no stranger on the Shamrocks' bench.

Itami, who was named head coach earlier this year, replaced Todd Johnson at the helm. Johnson will still be a part of the team, remaining on staff as an assistant coach this year.

Johnson led the Shamrocks to state titles in 2005, 2009 and 2010 and was co-head coach of the team with Gordon St. John when the team won titles in 2002 and 2003.

The Shamrocks haven't shown any signs of playing any different kind of game under Itami's leadership. Since the start of the season, they've picked up a 3-0 record, with the most recent win coming in a 4-1 decision over Brother Rice.

The Shamrocks scored first with 11:20 gone in the first period, when Ryan Burnett took assists from Mitchell Ossowski and Carter Cerretani.

It was the second period, however, that the offense lit up the scoreboard. Ossowski scored on a power play to earn what would prove to be the game-winning goal with just 12 seconds off the clock in the period. He was assisted by James Considine and Cerretani.

Burnett then scored twice, tallying a goal just 20 seconds after Ossowski's and another with 15:40 off the clock in the second period. Assists were credited to Owen Kiske and Cerretani on the first goal and to Dillon Jones on the second.

The Warriors were down 4-0 before they were able to tally their lone goal in the third period, by Noah Nitoski with 8:12 off the clock. He was assisted by Connor Jean.

The Shamrocks were the only team called for penalties as they picked up five for 10 minutes.

Earning the win in goal was Spencer Wright, who stopped 22 shots. Jack Bowman took the loss for Brother Rice, facing 29 shots and stopping 25.

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

### ON TAP

The Detroit Catholic Central hockey team will be back on the ice at 7 p.m. Friday and 1:30 p.m. Saturday when it plays at Upper Canada College.

## Slow start dooms Catholic Central

Shamrocks fall to Clarkston for third straight title game defeat

By Sam Eggleston  
 Correspondent

Clarkston came into the Division 1 football state championship game Saturday afternoon with the most potent offense Detroit Catholic Central had faced all year.

The Wolves made it clear why they earned that distinction as they followed the lead of running back Ian Erikson to a 32-14 victory over the Shamrocks to earn the school's first football state championship.

Erikson had three touchdowns and ran for more than 230 yards as he and his teammates jumped out to an early lead and held on despite a late Shamrocks resurgence.

"Clarkston did a real good job and they deserved the victory," Catholic Central coach Tom Mach said.

"(Erikson) gave us a lot of problems; we had a lot of trouble tackling him. They kept the ball away from us with first downs and first downs and first downs."

The two teams fought to a stalemate nearly the entire first half. That 0-0 knot was untied when Clarkston scored with 13 seconds left on a pass from quarterback D.J. Zezula to Shane Holler. The Wolves missed the point-after attempt to take a 6-0 lead into the half.

That first scoring drive lasted 17 plays, a grinding style that Clarkston hadn't showcased in the regular season but was more of Catholic Central's style



CC's Alexander Bock extends fully to haul in a pass.

of play.

The scoring for Clarkston continued in the third quarter, as it added touchdowns from Erikson on a 1-yard run and another from 37 yards.

Trailing 18-0 in the third quarter, the Shamrocks were able to put together a long drive that turned into their first score of the game when Dylan Roney punched the ball into the end zone from 2 yards out to make it 18-7 heading into the fourth quarter.

Unfortunately for the Shamrocks, Clarkston was able to respond, scoring on a 47-yard pass play on its next possession to extend the lead to 25-7 with just over 8:30 left in the game.

The Shamrocks didn't give in, however, scoring on a 48-yard touchdown

### ALL IN FOR 33

If you were at the Division 1 state championship game Saturday between Detroit Catholic Central and Clarkston, you may have noticed the students from CC were sitting in the stands wearing blue and white shirts. Nothing new there, right? Well, the coordinated effort found the No. 33 being displayed in the seating arrangement, with students wearing white shirts to create the numbers and students in blue shirts surrounding them.

A quick look at the roster at any point this season would identify No. 33 as David Widzinski and the coordinated effort was a living memorial to him.

Widzinski died in his sleep last December. He was a linebacker for the Shamrocks. From the start of the season, the team's motto has been "All in for 33."

See FOOTBALL, Page B3

## Tennis state champion Wang is best of the area's best



Novi junior Tim Wang won the Division 1 top singles flight state championship. JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

By Chris Jaccett  
 Correspondent

Facing all of the best high school competition in the state, Novi junior Tim Wang proved to be the best.

Wang went 34-1 on the season and won the Division 1 state title at No. 1 singles, earning all-state honors and both KLA and regional titles along the way. His lone loss came to Northville's Connor Johnston, who he then defeated on three other occasions this season, including for the state championship. His Wildcats finished second in Division 1 as a team.

"Tim Wang recorded many big wins for Novi during his junior year that included a state championship at the

MHSAA Division 1 state finals," Novi coach Jim Hanson said. "Tim utilized his consistent ground strokes, strong serve and competitive spirit to beat some of the best players in the state. His ability to change speeds and play the big points in close matches paid dividends for the Wildcats."

### First team

Connor Johnston  
 Northville So. 15

Johnston would've been the best player in Division 1 this season, if not for Wang. Johnston handed Wang his only loss of the season at No. 1 singles, but finished 30-3 with all three losses coming to Wang, including the state final, during his all-state campaign.

"He only had three losses on the year and all three were to Tim Wang, but he also had one win over Tim," Northville coach Matthew Stetson said. "Connor was runner-up in the conference tournament and the regional tournament to Tim Wang. Connor won the state championship at two singles last year as a freshman."

### Michael Dubé

Catholic Central Sr. 15

Coming out of Division 1's toughest region with a 25-3 record, Dubé advanced to the state semifinals before Johnston defeated him in three sets. A four-time all-Catholic selection and four-time all-Catholic league champion, Dubé was

See TENNIS, Page B3

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# Franklin Road Christian School athletics on the rise

College scouts find a third Novi high school with athletic talent

By Chris Jackett  
Correspondent

While Detroit Catholic Central and Novi prep student-athletes are regularly putting their John Hancock on a national letter of intent to play a collegiate sport each signing day, they're no longer the only options in town for coaches from the next level to scout.

Franklin Road Christian School moved from Southfield to a new campus alongside Brightmoor Christian Church at 14 Mile and M-5 in Novi in 2000. FRCS has seen more and more athletic success over the past five years than ever before despite enrolling roughly 100 students in grades 9-12 and nearly

350 overall in grades K-12. By comparison, Novi and CC each have roughly 2,000 and 2,100 high school students, respectively.

"We are a ways away from being at the level of the schools like CC, Detroit Country Day, Brother Rice, etc.," said Mike Harris, FRCS baseball coach and assistant athletic director. "We can become one of the stronger 'smaller' school programs and will become, if we're not there. Our athletes compete just as hard as the rest of the so-called 'big-wigs.'"

**Massey signs**  
The most recent collegiate signing was senior Kristen Massey's acceptance of a full-ride scholarship to join the women's basketball team at Malone (Ohio) University. She is FRCS's first NCAA Division II student-athlete after cap-

ping last season by setting the MHSAA record through all divisions for most free throws made in a single season at 213.

The previous record was 199 in 2002. Massey is also No. 3 in the record books with 196 during her sophomore season. Several other Warriors have gone on to compete at the collegiate level in the past few years, with the likes of Nick Harris (baseball at Spring Arbor), Nick Ward (golf at Spring Arbor) and Crystal Wilcoxen (soccer at Siena Heights) all heading to the NAIA, which is an NCAA alternative that includes Madonna, Concordia, Lawrence Tech, Marygrove, the University of Michigan-Dearborn and others.

Several current Warriors have also gotten before and have been talking with other NCAA and NAIA schools about po-

tentially joining their lineups in the future.

"Talent and success has been on rise for (the) past three to four years; highlighting our successes with Hall of Fame should help future growth," Harris said. "Success with getting athletes recognized by colleges is on the rise with the athletes mentioned. We have a handful of athletes that will go on to play a sport at the next level within the next two to three years."

### FRCS is growing

FRCS announced a new Hall of Fame last month that will soon honor the top student-athletes and staff members since the FRCS athletics programs took off in 1996. Harris said the caring family atmosphere has helped make the program a bigger success in recent years. "Teachers, administrators and students care about one another in and out of classroom," Harris said.

FRCS cross country coach Andrew Schmid said he brought his three children into the Frank-



The FRCS Warriors mascot has been overseeing a lot more success with the school's athletics programs in recent years.

lin Road Christian program because of the complete package the school provided between academics and athletics, with a family-oriented religious backdrop.

"We chose the school for its academics and its Christian-based school," Schmid said. "The benefits of the sports team was apparent early, as they were available to all the students, not just the most gifted. All of my children have participated in more than one sport and at the junior varsity and varsity levels. Their

coaches have understood that although sports are important, there are times when other events may take precedent (church or family events)."

Schmid said the efforts of athletic director Lynn Blackwell have also helped the programs to excel within the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

"I have worked with a coach's desire. Having a coach as a coach for four years and he is a good man and very supportive," Schmid said. "He has also put athletes' interest ahead of a coach's desire. Having a student (such as Jacob Weaver with soccer and cross country) play two sports in one season at many schools would not be allowed, yet Lynn saw the benefits for the student and the school and allowed him to compete in both."

For more information on the FRCS program, visit [www.franklinroadchristianschool.org](http://www.franklinroadchristianschool.org).

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

# Shamrocks receive national preseason recognition

Both Flo Wrestling and Intermat name squad 11th best in the country

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

The Detroit Catholic Central wrestling team is always touted as one of the best - if not the best - in the state of Michigan.

There's a reason for that. The Shamrocks have 10 MHSAA team state champi-

onships under their belt and 51 individual state champions. Over the years, they have produced 18 all-America grapplers and a staggering 153 all-state wrestlers.

So it comes as no surprise when the Shamrocks get touted as one of the teams to beat in Michigan.

This year, however, the Shamrocks enter the season as not just one of the best-ranked teams in the state, but as one of the top teams in the entire country.

In a recent ranking by Flo Wrestling, CC was given a preseason rank of 11th in the country. That ranking was the same given by Intermat in its preseason lineup.

This marks the third consecutive season the Shamrocks have entered the season as one of the top-20 ranked teams in the U.S.

"It's great to be recognized as one of the best programs in the country," Catholic Central coach Mitch Hancock said. "Our guys bust their tails year-

round to be the best team in the country and we're getting close to winning a national championship. Let's not get carried away, though - we need to take care of business in Michigan first. Our goal is to win a (Division I) title in Michigan."

Out of the top 25 ranked teams in the country, the Shamrocks will test their mettle against seven of them throughout the season.

On the schedule are: No. 2-ranked Oak Park River For-

est (Ill.), No. 6 Massillon Perry (Ohio), No. 9 Montini Catholic (Ill.), No. 12 Archbishop Moeller (Ohio), No. 13 Brecksville-Broadview Heights (Ohio), No. 14 Marmion Academy (Ill.) and No. 23 Davison.

"Our guys like competing," Hancock said. "It's in their blood. They embrace challenges and they don't mind putting it on the line."

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

# Northville's Moorman earns first team all-state football honors

Hewlett and CC's Bock and Jenkins earn mentions

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

David Moorman may not have been a name you've overheard on the loudspeakers a lot during Northville's run to a KLAAs football title this year, but that didn't matter.

What mattered was Moorman was busy doing his job and doing it so well that the average fan didn't notice. But the voting panel for the 2013 Associated Press all-state team definitely took note.

Moorman, 6-4 and 285 pounds, was hard to miss for those keeping tabs.

He handled just about anything defenses could throw at him, shoring up rushing defensive linemen and blitzing linebackers with ease.

And when he was tasked with moving people out of the way? Well, those initial blocks often turned into second-stage blocks that broke open running plays for his offensive backfield.

"David is the best offensive lineman I

have ever had the privilege of coaching," Northville coach Matt Ladach said. "He's got the size and strength to compete at the highest level and he plays the game with great intensity."

And the best news for Northville fans? Moorman is just a junior. He'll be back in 2014 to open up plenty of more holes for Ladach's high-powered offensive schemes.

Moorman has Division I college scholarship offers from Eastern Michigan, Central Michigan and Western Michigan and has received interest from multiple other schools like Michigan State, Michigan, Illinois, Rutgers, Nebraska, Toledo and Ball State.

Moorman wasn't the only Northville player to get noticed by the all-state committee. Senior quarterback Joey Hewlett had some stiff competition at his position, but he still earned honorable mention honors.

"Joey is a tremendous leader," Ladach said. "He is well-respected by his peers and by the staff at Northville High School. His presence alone makes us a much better football team."

Also earning special

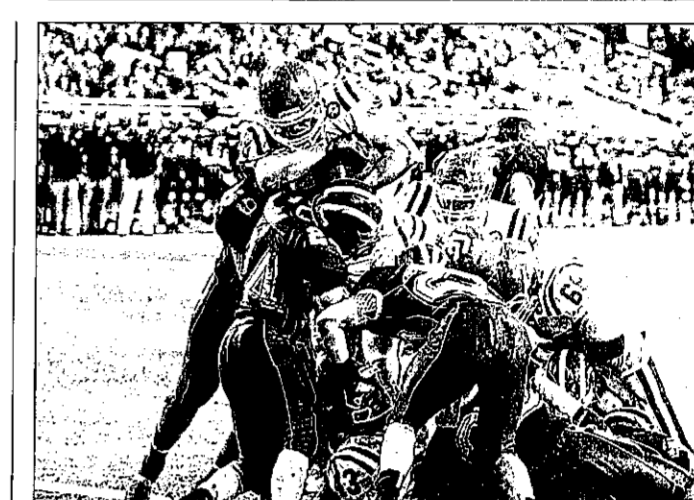
mention honors were two players from Detroit Catholic Central. Zach Bock is a utility player capable of doing everything from leading the team in rushing yards to kicking the game-winning field goal to being the top defensive player to running back punts to win the game.

Jordan Jenkins came into the middle line-backer role for the Shamrocks and made his presence known immediately this season. He was hard to miss, often being a part of CC's swarming tackles and earning himself plenty of recognition from teammates, coaches and, of course, opponents' offense lines.

This year's all-state team had two Players of the Year, with Deshaun Throver from Muskegon and Damon Webb from Detroit Cass Tech sharing the honor.

Other area players who earned honorable mention included Walled Lake Western's Kyle Bamard, Livonia Churchill's Matt Siskind, Skidmore's Jake Boucher and Livonia Stevenson's C.J. Weiss.

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



Dylan Roney pounds the ball in for the Shamrocks' first touchdown.



CC's Zach Bock looks for blocking to run the ball upfield.

lot of work in three years," said Mach, who was coaching his 19th state title game in his 38th season at the helm for Catholic Central. "Everybody wants to be champions, but it's really the journey that gets you there and what you learn from it."

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

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**NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP**

**Novi icers win two**  
After dropping a pair of close losses during its opening weekend, the Novi boys hockey team picked up a pair of victories to improve to 2-2-0 on the season. The Wildcats beat Plymouth Salem (1-1-0) 3-2 on the road Nov. 27 before beating St. Clair Shores Lakeview Unified (2-1-0) 10-1 at home Nov. 30. The offensive flurry in the second game featured multi-point performances from Ryan Baxter (four goals, two assists), Brad Hofelich (three goals, two assists), Bryan Fegert (four assists), Brennan Martin (one goal, two assists), Alec Welis (one

goal, one assist) and Jordan Richardson (one goal, one assist). Matt Kopel, Jake Lynch, Josh Ward and Jimmy Hole each added an assist as Austin Petty and Rob Gaul split time in goal.

The Wildcats were set to host South Lyon Unified (1-4-0) at 4 p.m. Saturday before heading to the Kensington Valley Ice House to face defending state champion Brighton (2-2-0) at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

**The week ahead**  
On top of hockey's third week of action, several other Wildcats programs start their seasons this week.

Girls basketball (18-3 last season) kicks off its season at 7 p.m. Friday in Pinckney (2-18 last season), while boys swim and dive heads to the Fenton Invitational at 9 a.m. Saturday to compete against Howell, Davison, Fenton, Brandon, Berkeley and Flint Carrman-Ainsworth.

The competitive cheer team will host its annual Winter Warm-Up at 8 a.m. Saturday, while the wrestling team hosts a tournament at 9 a.m. at Novi Middle School. Pinckney, Ferndale, Brandon, Jackson and Warren Woods Tower will join Novi for the season-opening affair.

Chris Jackett

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**TENNIS**  
Continued from Page B1

also all-state this year. He had won the No. 2 singles state title as a freshman and finished his high school career with a 109-13 record.

"Michael was a great example of character, sportsmanship and athleticism each and every match he played in his four years at CC," CC coach Joe Safford said. "He improved his game each year and he is very much looking forward to playing for MSU next year. Michael could be counted on to always give 100 percent and he never missed one practice in four years of high school tennis."

**Michael Chang**  
**Andrew Ying**  
**Novi Srs. 1D**  
As one of just nine pairs of doubles teams to earn all-state honors in Division I this fall, Chang and Ying racked up a 30-5 record at No. 1 doubles while advancing to the state semifinals. The KLAAs and regional champions' five losses all came to other all-state opponents, including D1 champion Ann Arbor Huron, D1 runner-up Birmingham Brother Rice and D3 champion Detroit Country Day.

"Letties Michael Chang and Andrew Ying used their penetrating ground strokes and solid volleys to become a very good doubles team," Hanson said. "They used their quickness to play defense and to counter aggressive play. Strong serves and good service returns allowed this duo to compete with the best in the state."

**Koushik Kondapi**  
**Novi So. 3S**  
With a staggering 35-1 record, Kondapi steamrolled his way to the No. 3 singles state title in Division I, avenging his loss from earlier in the

season to top seed Colin Williams from Ann Arbor Huron. Kondapi was also crowned KLAAs and regional champion on top of winning five invitational tournaments against opponents on ranked teams.

"Sophomore Koushik Kondapi's ability to change playing styles allowed him to capture a state championship at three singles," Hanson said. "Keeping his opponents off-balance with sliced ground strokes, offensive lobs and penetrating volleys were all part of Koushik's overall arsenal of shots that helped him to dominate the competition."

**Andre Liu**  
**Novi Jr. 2S**  
Liu went 26-8 at No. 2 singles and won both the KLAAs and regional titles before bowing out of the Division I state quarterfinals. He is also on a short list of individuals who claimed a victory over No. 2 singles state champion Ian Yi from Ann Arbor Pioneer.

"Andre Liu's experience added to Novi's solid singles lineup," Hanson said. "Andre's steady back court game would put pressure on his opponents by extending many points with long, exhausting rallies. Long matches equated to more victories for the solid, three-year varsity player."

**Alexander Kim**  
**Lakeland Sr. 1S**  
Although his team fell short of a trip to the Division I state meet due to a region packed with Novi, Northville and Detroit Catholic Central, Kim was a force to be reckoned with all season. Kim rattled opponents while earning a 24-3 record and second straight all-state honors. His three losses were to Johnston and Dubé. In his past three seasons, four of the six opponents who have defeated him have gone on to win individual state

**ALL-AREA BOYS TENNIS**

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
Tim Wang (Novi Jr.)

**FIRST TEAM**  
Connor Johnston (Northville So. 1S)  
Michael Dubé (Catholic Central Sr. 1S)  
Michael Chang & Andrew Ying (Novi Srs. 1D)  
Koushik Kondapi (Novi So. 3S)  
Andre Liu (Novi Jr. 2S)  
Alexander Kim (Lakeland Sr. 1S)  
Gabe Apaza (Catholic Central Jr. 2S)  
Maxx Anderson (Novi So. 4S)

**SECOND TEAM**  
Shashank Chitta & Kevin Xu (Novi Srs. 2D)  
Dan Baldwin & Umair Rao (Northville 1D)  
David Killian & Matt Wolfe (Catholic Central Srs. 1D)  
Andrew Schaffer (Northville Jr. 3S)  
Tim Lu (Sr.) & Daniel Yu (Fr.)/Ryan Fernandez (Jr.) (Novi 3D)  
David Mehl & Raymond Wen (Novi Srs. 4D)  
Jesse Jenter (Catholic Central Sr. 3S)  
Jason Wang & Jonathan Bi (Northville 2D)

**HONORABLE MENTION**  
**CATHOLIC CENTRAL** - Steve Magagna (CC Jr. 4S)  
**NOVI** - Sai Goutur & Ashwin Kumar (SoFr. 5D)

titles.

"What is classiest about him as a player is that here he is, one of the best seniors in the state and he didn't qualify (once again) to go to states, with three of the top five players, many would say, in the state also being in our region and he doesn't complain about it," coach Sean Become said. "He recognizes that he is going to move on and play at the next level. He got a taste of it as a freshman, but then our region got even tougher. He's such a great young man who will be missed, especially due to his impact on those around him."

**Gabe Apaza**  
**Catholic Central Jr. 2S**  
Apaza went 15-10 at No. 2 singles this fall, advancing to the state quarterfinals. He also made it to the finals in both the Catholic League and at regionals.

**Maxx Anderson**  
**Novi So. 4S**  
Anderson claimed the No. 4 singles title in Division I behind a 32-5 record. He was also KLAAs and regional champion, with three of his losses coming to D3 champion

Davis Wong from Detroit Country Day and the other two to D1 runner-up Jack Winkler of Birmingham Brother Rice and semifinalist David Gandham of Ann Arbor Huron, the latter two which Anderson defeated en route to the state title.

"Maxx added an attacking net game with crisp volleys and well-placed overheads to his already steady back court game and the combination of the two propelled him to a MHSAA state championship at four singles," Hanson said. "Maxx played his best tennis of the year at the state finals defeating the No. 1 seed (Brother Rice) and the No. 2 seed (Huron), players he had lost to earlier in the season."

**Second team**  
**Shashank Chitta**  
**Kevin Xu**  
**Novi Srs. 2D**  
With a 27-7 record, Chitta and Xu advanced to the Division I semifinals at No. 2 doubles before losing to eventual runner-up Ann Arbor Huron. The duo won the KLAAs and regional titles in their flight after mak-

ing the jump from No. 4 doubles as juniors.

**Dan Baldwin**  
**Umair Rao**  
**Northville 1D**  
Baldwin and Rao were both KLAAs Kensington Conference and regional runners-up to Novi at No. 1 doubles before they were knocked out of the Division I tourney by Rockford while trying for a shot at the quarterfinals. The duo picked up three victories over Detroit Catholic Central.

**David Killian**  
**Matt Wolfe**  
**Catholic Central Srs. 1D**  
Killian and Wolfe picked up a first-round victory at the state meet against Livonia Stevenson's No. 1 doubles squad before they were knocked out by the fourth seed from Grosse Pointe South.

**Andrew Schaffer**  
**Northville Jr. 3S**  
A captain, Schaffer made it to the conference and regional finals before losing to Kondapi, the eventual state champion at No. 3 singles. Schaffer went on to earn a first-round victory over Troy Athens' Naren Nathan at the Division I meet before fifth seed

Charles Xu from Rochester Adams knocked him out of the bracket.

**Tim Lu (Sr.)**  
**Daniel Yu (Fr.)**  
**Ryan Fernandez (Jr.)**  
**Novi 3D**  
Most doubles teams consist of two solid players, but Novi's No. 3 doubles squad featured three alternating pieces. Lu went 24-7 on the season with two partners. He was 11-2 with Fernandez and won the KLAAs title while his original partner, Yu, recovered from an injury. Lu and Yu finished the season together, as they had started it, and wrapped up with a Division I semifinal appearance that concluded with a 13-5 record together.

**David Mehl**  
**Raymond Wen**  
**Novi Srs. 4D**  
With KLAAs and regional titles under their collective belt, Mehl and Wen went 29-6 at No. 4 doubles and advanced to the Division I semifinals. They added depth to Novi's lineup and provided a punch many opponents' higher-level doubles teams would have struggled against.

**Jesse Jenter**  
**Catholic Central Sr. 3S**  
Jenter was a leader for the Shamrocks this season, but didn't get far in the Division I tournament. Jenter was defeated 6-0, 6-1 by Troy's Tarun Kalyanaram in the first round, who then lost to top seed and eventual runner-up Colin Williams of Ann Arbor Huron in the second round.

**Jason Wang**  
**Jonathan Bi**  
**Northville 2D**  
As conference and regional runners-up to Novi, Wang and Bi picked up a big win over Detroit Catholic Central in the regional semifinals to advance to the championship. The luck didn't hold out for the Division I meet, where Ann Arbor Pioneer knocked them out in the first round.

## Edwards retooling Cooper Standard

By Brent Snavely  
Gannett Michigan

Jeffrey Edwards has been chairman and CEO of Cooper Standard for just over a year, but has quickly made his mark at the Novi-based automotive supplier.

When Edwards arrived at Cooper Standard from his prior role as a vice president at Johnson Controls, he decided to travel to many of the company's plants and offices in Europe and Asia.



Edwards

"I think the first thing was to understand the company. I spent a lot of time with key stakeholders around the world," he said. "I was really trying to understand the strength of the company. I was trying to understand from our employees and our leaders what the company's strategy was as well as the history."

trim systems, fuel and brake delivery systems and fluid transfer systems.

But in 2009, the company — like many automotive suppliers — was forced to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. Cooper Standard emerged from bankruptcy May 27, 2010.

### BIOGRAPHY

**Name:** Jeffrey Edwards  
**Position:** Chairman and CEO of Cooper Standard  
**Age:** 51  
**Experience:** Was corporate vice president of Johnson Controls and group vice president of its Asia group before joining Cooper Standard. Joined Johnson Controls in 1984 as an industrial engineer.  
**Hobbies:** Sports and spending time with children and grandchildren, enjoys travel and experiencing cultural diversity.  
**Grew up:** In northwest Pennsylvania.  
**Parents:** Father was a business owner and helped Edwards develop his business skills, while his mother taught him how to interact with and respect others.  
**Education:** Degree in business administration in 1984 from Clarion University.

Edwards said the company will focus on expanding three of its product divisions: sealing systems, fuel and brake components and fluid transfer systems.

Edwards said the company will focus on expanding three of its product divisions: sealing systems, fuel and brake components and fluid transfer systems.

wards said. "We also needed to spend enough time with our other key stakeholders of the business and make sure we got it right. Now we are in the execution phase of that strategy."

Edwards is a graduate of Clarion University in Pennsylvania, spent 28 years at Johnson Controls before joining Cooper Standard. Why did he make the switch?

### NOVI NEWSMAKERS

#### Appointments at St. Mary Mercy

Jack Seman Jr. was recently named director of security at St. Mary Mercy Livonia. Seman comes to St. Mary Mercy with more than 20 years of diverse experience, including nine years working as a lead investigator for various organizations.



Seman

the Special Operations/ Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team for four years. FAST is a company that, among other duties, is responsible for force protection and security.



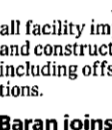
Gilbert

role of director, Campus Development. In this role, VanBrussel oversees the renovation of the hospital's North Wing patient rooms along with all facility improvement and construction projects including offsite locations.



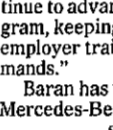
VanBrussel

Baran joined Baker College. Roger Baran has been named director of the automotive services technology program at Baker College's Auburn Hills campus.



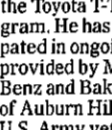
Baran

the automotive and training fields uniquely qualifies him to lead our automotive program," said Jeff Love, Baker College of Auburn Hills president.



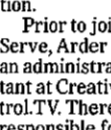
Love

ter's, he continued his education by taking computer science and automotive technology classes at Saint Mary's College (now Madonna University), Livonia, and Oakland Community College, Southfield. At Jackson Community College, Jackson, he completed the Toyota T-10 Program. He has also participated in ongoing training provided by Mercedes-Benz and Baker College of Auburn Hills. He is a U.S. Army veteran, trained in explosive ordnance disposal.



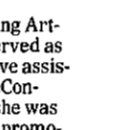
Arder

ArtServe Michigan, a statewide nonprofit arts and cultural advocacy organization, has announced Ashlee Arder as programs coordinator.



Arder

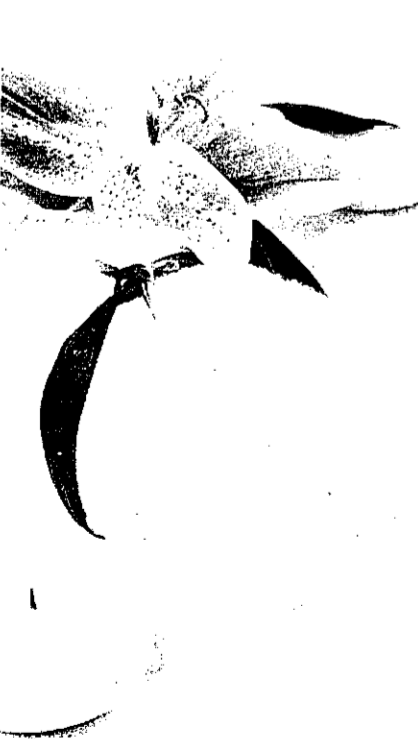
plan can receive for quality in five categories: staying healthy, managing chronic conditions, ratings of responsiveness and care, complaints and appeals, and health plan customer service. A five-star rating is considered exceptional.



Relocations

## Reasons why businesses turn to Observer & Eccentric Media RESULTS

Beth Jaber of New Face New Body in Canton speaks about advertising success in Observer & Eccentric Media



"I've tried all kinds of advertising in the past and got no results however when I advertised in Observer & Eccentric Media I got my money's worth. I like to spend my money wisely. Their advertising prices were half the price of some other newspapers. Also, people who subscribe to the newspaper want it and read it. The staff is also nice to work with."

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### NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Retail sales rise

More Michigan retailers increased sales during the holiday shopping season that "officially" began Thanksgiving.

October's Michigan Retail Index, a joint project of Michigan Retailers Association and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, registered the best retail industry sales since July.

MRA members' earlier holiday forecasts showed cautious optimism, averaging a 1.3-percent gain over last year. The survey took place during the federal government shutdown, the showdown over the

#### debt ceiling and the government's health reform website — all of which tempered their forecasts.

The October Michigan Retail Index found that 45 percent of retailers increased sales over the same month last year, while 39 percent recorded declines and 16 percent saw no change. The results create a seasonally adjusted performance index of 54.8 up from 52.8 in September.

The index gauges the performance of the state's overall retail industry, based on monthly surveys conducted by MRA and the Federal Reserve.

Fox Run health plan earns high ratings  
Erickson Living, developer and manager of Fox Run retirement community in Novi, announced that its health plan, Erickson Advantage, has received a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services 2014 Medicare Advantage health plan rating of five stars for Part C, and 4 1/2 stars for Parts C and D combined.

#### plan can receive for quality in five categories: staying healthy, managing chronic conditions, ratings of responsiveness and care, complaints and appeals, and health plan customer service. A five-star rating is considered exceptional.

Premier Relocations honored  
Premier Relocations, LLC, Novi, an agent of the nationwide household goods carrier Mayflower, was honored recently by the van line for exceptional performance. The recognition was conferred during Mayflower's 2013 Convention and awards program, held in Boca Raton, Fla., with more than 400 Mayflower representatives in attendance.

Premier received the following honors for achievements during calendar year 2012:  
» Million Dollar Club Award — at the \$1 million level — recognizing top Mayflower revenue producers.  
» Customer Choice Award — presented to the Mayflower agent based on highest satisfaction and loyalty scores as rated by their customers in surveys tabulated by a third party.

## Laurel Park building gains kudos, commercial real estate leaders feted

The Building Owners and Managers Association of Metro Detroit held its annual awards program, "The Outstanding Building of the Year (TOBY)" and Leadership Awards Presentation on Nov. 15 at the MotorCity Casino Sound Board, Detroit.



Laura Marble from U.S. General Services Administration received the Outstanding Service Award. She is pictured with Bill Wylonski, BOMA immediate past president, and Paul Magy, BOMA president.

The program honors outstanding leaders and commercial properties in the local commercial real estate industry. The TOBY Awards, now in its 29th year, is the most prestigious and comprehensive program of its kind in the commercial real estate industry, recognizing excellence in office building ownership and management. Judging is based on community impact, tenant/employee relations programs, energy management systems, emergency evacuation procedures, building personal training programs and overall quality indicators.

Laura Marble from U.S. General Services Administration received the Outstanding Service Award. She is pictured with Bill Wylonski, BOMA immediate past president, and Paul Magy, BOMA president.

Milligan of REDICO, the President's Award.

Detroit properties the Madison, and Chase Tower; Southfield property Southfield Centre; and Laurel Park Place Office Center in Livonia all took first place in their respective square footage categories as Building of the Year. Detroit's Coleman A. Young Municipal Center was first in the Historical Building class and the Chrysler House first in Renovated Building. Oak Tech Professional in Auburn Hills took the top award in the Medical Office category, and Dearborn's Corporate Crossings top bill as Corporate Facility. The Bingham Office Center in Southfield was recognized in the Suburban Office Park Low-Rise grouping.

## Amsterdam residents often rent

Do you think it is better to buy or rent a home in Amsterdam since I want to live there during the summer?

As I think that is a no brainer since only 20 percent of the houses in Amsterdam are purchased while 80 percent are rented. It costs you five euros an hour to park in town and eight euros a day outside of the city center, and they will give you a tram ticket to get into town. Obviously, there is an incentive on people to live outside of the metropolitan area. There are approximately 600,000 bikes in Amsterdam with only 800,000 inhabitants. You may be best off renting.

Q. How do we deal with a board member of our condominium association who doesn't think we need an attorney? We have no one on retainer now and the management company has recommended that we get an attorney, but this board member doesn't want to spend any money. What are your comments?

A: You are running a business. You are a member of the board of directors of a corporation. You have legal issues that come up including the obligation to collect assessments, enforce the bylaws, pursue claims against contractors and/or developers, deal with fair housing issues, FHA certification, procedures to implement your collection and bylaw enforcement policies, and a myriad of other issues that an attorney can assist you on irrespective of whether you have a pending legal problem.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling, and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95 plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. "Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and BarnesandNoble.com. He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track." It is available for \$24.95 plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. Call 248-644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

Table with 3 columns: Address, Price, and Date. Lists various real estate transactions in Oakland County.

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

Table with 3 columns: Address, Price, and Date. Lists various real estate transactions in Wayne County.



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# JOBS

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## 3 Reasons

# Why every job seeker needs a portfolio

**Nicki Krawczyk**  
Founder of  
FilthyRichWriter.com

Job interviews used to be about showing up, answering questions and being polite and professional. Now, with how competitive it is to get a job, successful candidates need to also focus on proving their usefulness to the company and their uniqueness as professionals.

### How?

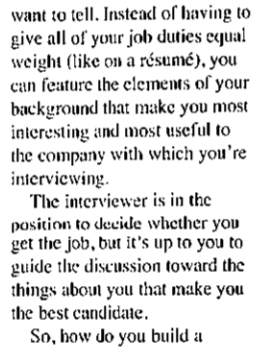
Portfolios -- visual representation of previous work -- have been go-to job search tools for copywriters, graphic designers and artists for years. But the benefits of a portfolio can be reaped by any serious job applicant, regardless of the industry. While they shouldn't replace resumes, portfolios can help bring your experience to life.

### Here are some benefits:

**1** People like pictures. It's simple but true: Instagram and Pinterest wouldn't be successful if it weren't. You can draw people in by showing an interesting visual representation of your previous work experience and volunteer activities. Did you volunteer for Habitat for Humanity? Use a picture of you helping to build a house. Did you do work on a social media campaign? Use a picture of some of your tweets and posts. Did you work the front desk for a pharmaceutical firm? Use some of the firm's pictures of people its drugs have helped (Always give photo credit and be sure that the photo is available for public use.) The purpose of the photo is to catch someone's eye and draw him in to learn more. The more interesting the picture, the better. Just be sure it's relevant.

**2** People like stories. Once you've drawn someone in with a picture, use a paragraph to tell a story about what you did at a company or in a volunteer position. Make sure you focus on how you benefited the company and made a difference. Use this story to answer the questions, "How did I help this company/organization meet its mission?" and "What did I do differently or better than others have done?" Keep it to just a few sentences, but keep it interesting. Remember, you've always got your résumé to fall back on for bullet-point details.

**3** Portfolios let you feature your strengths. When you put together a portfolio, you're guiding a hiring manager through the story you



portfolio? You'll want both an online and a print one. Sending a link to an online portfolio with an application or cover letter lets you show off your skills before an interviewer meets you. A print portfolio lets you show off your skills in person. For your print portfolio, you

can go to an art store and simply pick up a presentation case with clear archival pages (kind of like old photo book pages) in which to put samples. In a pinch, you could even use a good-looking binder. For your online portfolio, sites such as wix.com, imcreator.com, vrb.com and squarespace.com let you create your own site with a gallery/portfolio section and a place for a bio about yourself. Some offer free services, while others cost a small fee.



Portfolios are an effective way to help you direct the conversation about yourself as a job candidate. But, right now, not that many people outside of the creative industries are doing it, which means that creating your portfolio is just another opportunity to stand out and prove what an insightful, strategic and unique professional you are.

*Nicki Krawczyk is a copywriter, copy coach and founder of FilthyRichWriter.com, an online resource for new and aspiring copywriters.*



The interviewer is in the position to decide whether you get the job, but it's up to you to guide the discussion toward the things about you that make you the best candidate. So, how do you build a

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The Observer and Eccentric is looking for an Auto Account Executive to cover the suburban Detroit area. This position will work out of the Sterling Heights, MI location.

This position is responsible for all sales and related activities to advertisers within an assigned geographic territory. Will mainly be servicing auto businesses with the opportunity to sell into the Observer & Eccentric publications and DMP products. Primary responsibility is managing the territory to achieve sales quotas and developing new auto business. The Auto Account Executive will develop strategies, make presentations to new and existing advertisers and be responsive to customer needs. Sales orders, reports and documentation are prepared for management's review.

An Associate's degree and two years of sales experience and/or equivalent. Auto sales experience a plus. Bachelor's degree preferred. Professional communication, presentation and organizational skills are required. Must be highly motivated, analytical, detail-oriented and able to work under deadline pressure. Proficiency using a personal computer is required. Use of personal vehicle, valid driver's license, state mandated auto insurance and good driving record are required.

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