

WALLED LAKE TAPS 2 SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS, A4

Novi News

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SECTION

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2013 • hometownlife.com

Signs: Useful or not?

Appearance, expense factors residents relay to council

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Directional signs that help lead someone on a bike to the library or a neighborhood pathway are very useful in Novi, but they can also be an annoyance to those who have them in their yard or home vicinity.

During the past month residents have gone before the Novi City Council to voice their displeasure with potential signs coming into their neighborhoods.

At the July 8 meeting, Gary Gaughan and Michael Varana, who both live on Village Wood,

voiced concerns about a sign being placed at the pocket park in that neighborhood. Gaughan felt it was "unnecessary to spend money for the sign." Varana said there were enough signs in their subdivision, and it was getting out of hand and should be addressed.

At the next meeting, resident John Garback, of Emerald Forest Drive, also said he felt that directional signs that were being installed to point bike riders to places like the library were not necessary, including those proposed along a five-foot pathway near his home. He said that pathway wasn't built as a neigh-

borhood connector and there are plenty of areas along main roads where the signs can go.

Council's opinion

After getting a lot of feedback, the City Council at its July 22 meeting took up the policy discussion on the installation of destination/informational guide signs in the public right-of-way for non-motorized transportation use. It was a divided debate.

Council member Justin Fischer said the city needed to be careful where it installed



Signs, like this one near Emerald Forest Drive, are being reviewed. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

See SIGNS, Page A2

The Life of Henry Ford

The public is invited to attend Ford historian Steven Stanford's Aug. 2 presentation — From Roots to Branches: The Life of Henry Ford — at Fox Run retirement community, 41000 13 Mile Road, Novi.

This free presentation, which will be held from 1:30-3 p.m., is sponsored by the Fox Run Genealogical Society.

Stanford will highlight the ancestors and descendants of Henry Ford. He will also provide unique insights into the tinker-turned-titan by discussing Ford's family.

To register, email frgsen@gmail.com or call 248-669-6330.

2 locations to vaccinate children

Oakland County Health Division offers immunizations at two locations: 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Building 34, East in Pontiac, and 27725 Greenfield Road in Southfield.

Clinic hours are noon to 8 p.m. Monday and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday.

Brain-drain battle



Lorenzo Burgone, 9, and Sofia Sarandria, 8, see if they can find a fire going using magnifying glasses during a recent session of Green Science Adventure Camp at Novi's Tollgate Farm. Read more about the Michigan State University facility's camps on page A5. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cipriano, Young get life

Defiant Young plans to appeal

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

While Tucker Cipriano asked his family for forgiveness and acknowledged that he was the "direct cause for such pain," his accused companion Mitchell Young claimed he was wrongly accused, trounced his defense attorney and told Oakland County Circuit Judge Shalina Kumar he will appeal his life sentence.

Cipriano and Young each read comments from a written statement during their sentencing July 24 before Kumar in the death of Cipriano's father Bob and the beatings of his mother Rose and brother Salvatore in June 2012 in their Farmington Hills home.

Little more than a year after Bob Cipriano was beaten to death, Kumar, as expected and required by state law, sentenced Cipriano and Young to life in prison without parole.

Cipriano pleaded no contest in June to spare his family a trial. Young was later found guilty on five charges, one of which was the murder of Bob Cipriano.

The relatively small courtroom was packed with media representatives, as well as family members, who sat in a row reserved for them. Friends sat directly behind family members.

Throughout the almost 90-minute sentencing for Cipriano and Young, family and friends wept, as did the defendants. What typically is a



Tucker Cipriano



Mitchell Young

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Help us pick the Seven Wonders of Michigan

Remember the first time you crossed the Mackinac Bridge? Did you hug the window in the backseat of your parents' car, neck craning to peer over the edge to the straits below?

What about the first time you huffed and puffed your way to the top of Sleeping Bear Dunes and caught a glimpse of turquoise water from that magnificent vista?

Michigan is full of places that take your breath away, places you hope your children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren will someday enjoy, places that make you realize Michigan is one of nature's masterpieces.

What are your favorites? The *Observer & Eccentric Media* wants to celebrate Michigan's majesty. We're ranking the Seven Wonders of Michigan and we need your help.

Starting today, we're accepting your nominations for Michigan's grandest sights — either natural or man-made.

To nominate your favorite places, visit www.hometownlife.com/7wondersofMI and click on the nomination form or go to Twitter and include #7WondersofMI in your tweet.

Finalists will be revealed online Aug. 8 and winners announced online Aug. 29.



A contender: Lake Michigan Overlook, Sleeping Bear Dunes. TRAVEL MICHIGAN

Wixom working on future developments

By Cal Stone
Staff Writer

For decades it was occupied by one of the largest manufacturing plants in North America. Now the northwest corner of I-96 and Wixom Road is close to being leveled and ready for development.

The Ford plant generated approximately \$1.5 million in revenue for the City of Wixom in fiscal year 2003-04. The facility closed in 2007, and in 2011-12, the city only saw \$182,026 coming in from it.

Now the city is preparing an Economic Development Strategy — funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administra-

See FUTURE, Page A2

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SIGNS

Continued from Page A1

signs and should protect the look and character of the community.

"Most people in the city who live here probably know where the library is," said Fischer.

ed. We just assume that everyone knows how to get from point A to point B," said Mutch.

Next steps City staff is now going to review its sign policy and will most likely come back to council with amended policy language in the coming meetings.

Novi's current process for the installation of destination and route guide signs calls for city staff to retain a consultant to develop a plan that identifies each recommended sign type and location.

On the other hand, Council member Andrew Mutch, who serves on the Walkable Novi committee, said less signs are good in some cases, but there are opportunities to link neighborhoods that could benefit the whole community.

Novi has a lot of bike riders who want to take a different route, rather than along a main road, to a place like the library. However, they might not know where it is.

"I think we take some of this for granted."

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

NOVI NEWS

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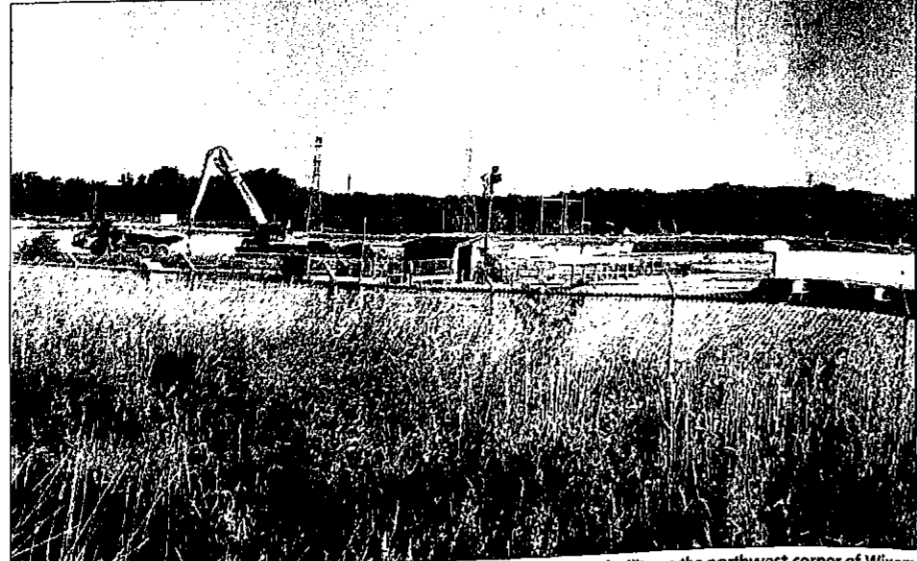
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Demolition continued Tuesday on land once occupied by a Ford manufacturing facility on the northwest corner of Wixom Road and I-96. CAL STONE

FUTURE

Continued from Page A1

tion - designed to create a broad framework for attracting and retaining businesses and building upon the existing assets of the city.

Wixom will conduct extensive research, including surveys and interviews with local businesses and residents, to learn more about the local workforce and the needs of local businesses.

Lathrup Village-based Clearzoning is leading the city's project team. The 24-year-old planning consulting firm helps municipalities improve customer service and attract economic development by using clear, easy-to-read plans, codes, online resources, guides, and reports that improve the development review process.

Tony Nowicki, Wixom city manager, said the economic development project has three main components: 1) understanding the city's assets and creating strategies to help fill gaps in the market for industrial, retail, and

ABOUT WIXOM

Recipient of the University of Michigan - Dearborn School of Management's Metro Detroit 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012 Entrepreneurial City Award.

The 9.35-square-mile city of approximately 13,500 people is located along the I-96 corridor of Oakland County. It is within driving distance of three universities, two airports, a variety of recreation opportunities, and a diverse housing stock.

Home to over 700 businesses; major employers include Moeller Manufacturing Company, Mac Valves Inc. and Adept Plastic Inc.

Take the survey

A survey has been published and was available on the city's homepage (www.cityofwixom.com) through July. It is designed to collect information from residents of Wixom and surrounding communities.

Forty-five acres are proposed for the store and outlots. West of that land and also with the freeway bordering the south, General RV has an option to purchase approximately 33 acres from Barrow Development.

stone@hometownlife.com | 248-437-2011, Ext. 237

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- SEIZING SUMMER ART SEIZINGS: Location: Fuert Park... BLOOD DRIVES: Location: St. Mary Mercy Hospital... WOMENHEART OF NOVI: Location: Providence Park Hospital... EBENEZER: Location: Oak Pointe Church...

CIPRIANO

Continued from Page A1

short legal process, the sentencing lasted longer than expected as Young claimed his innocence and counted off the errors he claimed were made by his defense attorney, Michael McCarthy.

"I am being sentenced for five crimes for which I didn't have any involvement in," Young said in a strong and loud voice. "The event that has brought us all here is nothing but absolute tragedy," he continued. "I never intended for any of this to happen. Every day I regret the fact that I was unable to stop it."

Praised parents

In sharp contrast, Cipriano — in a quiet, halting voice — spoke of his family, particularly his mother and father. "My father was a great man. He was there with me all the time," Cipriano said, recalling his youth. "My mom is an amazing woman."

He credited his parents with taking the time to help him as he struggled with a learning disability and other issues, including drug and alcohol abuse. Cipriano admitted he made mistakes, "some of which I will never recover from."

Without admitting he had beaten his father and severely injured his mother and brother, Cipriano said that he "is

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EDUCATION

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Olivia Guo (left) and Jordan Jorian, both 8, work together as a team to find some insects along a stream bed on July 15 at Novi's Tollgate Farm. The pair and about three dozen other kids were at the first day of a week-long Green Science Camp at the facility located at 12 Mile and Meadowbrook. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Green Science Adventure Camp counselor Meraya Chambolean, 15, (middle) leads Jorian Gallo (left) and Joanne Murphy around Tollgate's pond in a canoe on July 17.



Tollgate Farm's camps provide fun education

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Michigan State University's Tollgate Farm is helping prevent brain drain this summer for some Novi kids while also making their learning a lot of fun for those participating in its youth camps.

This past month at the MSU Tollgate Education Center, kids have been participating in the 4-H Green Science Adventure Camp and Outdoor Adventure Camp at the 166-acre farmstead owned by MSU, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the Americana Foundation.

"The camps are a great hands-on experience that is a lot of fun and at the same time helps prevent that brain drain that can happen over the summer for many kids," said Tollgate Education Coordinator Alan Jaros. "We have a variety of activities that keeps them engaged and learning."

According to Jaros, Tollgate offers the opportunity to experience agriculture hands-on in an urban environment. He said school groups, families, organizations, and community members can all take advantage of its educational programs and activities. "It's amazing to be learning about all this wondrous stuff," said camper Michael Robinson, 10, of Novi.



A bee buzzes a cone flower.

tion while encouraging ethical food producers and consumers," Jaros said.

The Green Science Camp allows campers to experience science outdoors as campers will spend most of their week outdoors, exploring questions, Jaros said. These include how milk from a cow becomes ice cream. Where salsa from the grocery store gets its start. How does your Halloween jack o'lantern get so big? Why does grass grow in your yard but not in the forest? Are worms really the best fish bait?

With Outdoor Adventure, the kids learn about the lives of many native Michigan animals, from robins to rabbits, and everything in between. Through interactive games that demonstrate how these animals survive in the wild, and team-building activities that teach the best ways to explore while being good stewards of the earth, children discover that the adventures are endless in the outdoors while also learning at the same time, Jaros said.

Tollgate camps focus on science literacy, academic success, and natural resource and environmental stewardship. There are more camps going on this summer at Tollgate, which is located at 2815 Meadowbrook Road. To learn more about them or to sign up go to www.ExperienceTollgate.com.

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



Michael Kitkowski, 8, (left) and Neil Chandran, 9, (right) help out fellow Green Science Adventure Camp member George Merem, 7, during an orienteering exercise on July 17.



Campers approach Tollgate Farm's pond on July 17 as they prepare to hit its waters and learn how to canoe.



Lucy Kritko, 6, and other campers scouted the grounds of Tollgate Farm for edible wild veggies and came up with lots of purslane, which she and others cleaned and then enjoyed in a salad at lunch time.



Green Science Adventure Camp attendees got to meet lots of Tollgate's farm animals — like this goat — and learn how they are raised, what they eat, and what conditions are best for them at the farm.

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SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE UPDATES

Disney Institute seminar in health care

Schoolcraft College's Continuing Education and Professional Development Department on Monday, Sept. 16, welcomes the Disney Institute and its one-day seminar on Building a Culture of Health Care Excellence. This seminar will teach how to create a sustainable culture of service that can lead to a competitive edge for health care organizations.

For more information, call 734-462-4448 or email CEPD@schoolcraft.edu.

Social media safety presentation

Wayne County Sheriff Cpl. Erin Diamond will speak about the benefits and pitfalls of using social media, especially for high school and college students, at 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 12, in the VisTaTech Center,

main campus in Livonia.

In many cases, young adults aren't aware of the long-term effect and implications of what they say and post on social media sites can have on their higher education aspirations and even career goals. The message, according to Diamond, who is also a member of the Michigan State Police and FBI's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, is to teach and remind kids how to be smart and safe online.

Diamond's presentation is sponsored by the Student Athlete Support Services at Schoolcraft College and is free and open to the public.

Book discussion group schedule

The public is invited to join with Schoolcraft College students, faculty and staff in the monthly PageTurners book discussions and events. Sep-

tember's featured book, *All My Sons*, by Arthur Miller, explores the relationships between fathers and sons and the conflict between business and personal ethics.

Discussions of the book will be held at 4 p.m. Monday, Sept. 23, and at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 24, in the Bradner Library on the college's main campus in Livonia and at 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26, at the Radcliff Center in Garden City. A special presentation of the movie adaptation of the book will be shown at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 25, at 1:30 a.m. in the McDowell Center on the main campus.

International Institute focuses on Russia

Each year, the International Institute coordinates a campus-wide focus on one cultural region of the world or global theme. The Focus Series features films, presentations,

displays and performances allowing students and community to explore the culture, politics, economics and history of the featured region and its relation to the rest of the world. Instructors in many departments introduce materials related to the theme, and encourage their students to participate in these varied learning opportunities. The community is encouraged to participate in Focus Series events, too.

Russia and its Environs will be the focus for several events this fall, including a traveling exhibit from the Florida Holocaust Museum: The Holocaust through Czech Children's Eyes in Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center from Sept. 20 to Oct. 11.

Daniel Yezbick, associate professor of English and the coordinator of global education at Forest Park College in St. Louis, Mo., will be on campus

for several events including an exploration of how filmmakers shaped the opinions and perceptions of the world about former Soviet bloc nations like Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia for decades, at 9:30 a.m. Oct. 2 in the McDowell Center.

The Focus Series Film Festival will host an airing of "4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days in Liberal Arts" at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 9. Directed by Cristian Mungiu, the film is set in Communist Romania in the final years of the Nicolae Ceausescu era. It tells the story of two students, roommates in the university dormitory, who try to arrange an illegal abortion. After making its worldwide debut at Cannes, the film won the Palme d'Or and the FIPRESCI Award at the 2007 Cannes Film Festival.

For more information, visit www.schoolcraft.edu.

Walled Lake Schools names two new administrators

The Walled Lake Consolidated School District has hired Christina Carlin, new Commerce Elementary principal, and Dr. Marc Augenstein, new assistant principal at Walled Lake Northern High School.



Carlin



Augenstein

Carlin taught second and third grade at West Bloomfield Schools for nine years, most recently serving as the reading specialist at Scotch Elementary School. She has a bachelor's degree, two master's degrees, certification in reading recovery and a building reading specialist certification.

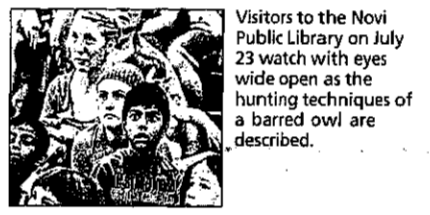
Augenstein taught English and German at Grand Blanc High School for nine years and for the past five years has been the principal at the K-12 Bear Lake School in northern Michigan.

She has two bachelor's degrees, a master's degree in curriculum and teaching, an education specialist in administration and a doctorate in educational leadership that will benefit the Commerce and Northern School communities. Their clear passion for student learning and natural inclination to be inclusive in their thinking make them an excellent fit for Walled Lake Schools," Ken Guttman, superintendent, said.

Who?



Michelle Maust of the Organization for Bat Conservation visits the Novi Public Library on July 23. Maust brought a number of nighttime critters including this barred owl, and kids and parents learned a bit about the nocturnal creatures' habits. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Visitors to the Novi Public Library on July 23 watch with eyes wide open as the hunting techniques of a barred owl are described.

NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS

Host families needed

Host families are being sought for two Chinese students who will enroll in the 12th grade at Novi High School in September. Single adults or parents whose adult children have left, as well as families with children at home, are encouraged to apply to be a host family.

The Center for Management Training Counselors regularly visit the host families and students to ensure a successful experience for everyone, while Novi High School counselors oversee the students' classes and school activities. Frequent cultural activities for the host families and the students are offered. Host families receive \$600 monthly reimbursement to cover the student's living expenses, and students cover all out-of-pocket expenses.

For more information, feel free to contact the Center for Management Training at 248-730-0669; email nextgen.hostfamily@gmail.com; or visit www.oakland.k12.mi.us or www.NextGenExchange.org.

Novi High's Link Crew rolls out the red carpet for incoming freshmen

Novi High School's Link Crew will be rolling out the red carpet to welcome incoming freshmen this fall. Incoming freshmen are invited to attend a high energy, interactive freshmen orientation from 8 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Aug. 20, in the main gymnasium.

Link Crew is a nationally recognized high school transition program that welcomes freshmen and makes them feel comfortable throughout their first year of their high school experience. Built on the belief that students can help students succeed, juniors and seniors have been selected to be Link Crew Leaders. As positive role models, Link Crew Leaders are mentors and student leaders who guide the freshmen during the transition to high school.

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

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

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

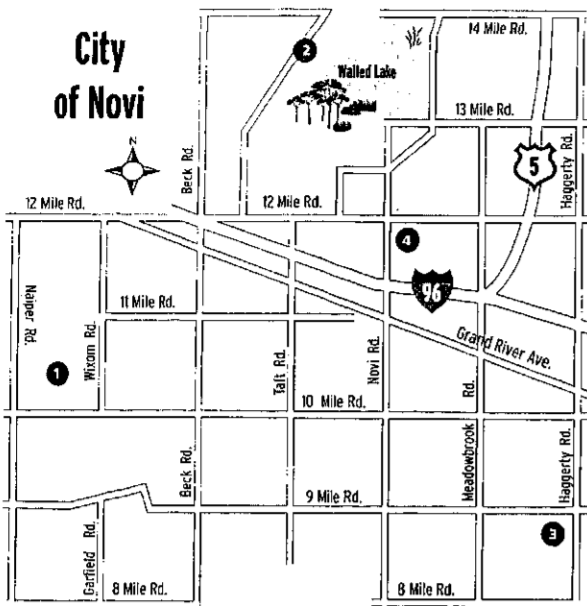
In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bleske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bleske and Allonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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

Bleske and Allonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their offices are located at 275 S. State Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of I-275. Call them at 1-888-291-4341 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

www.ssdfighter.com

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS



Tools gone

Over the course of the last month or so a number of tools were taken from jobs sites in the Island Lake neighborhood. JD Masonry reported to Novi Police on July 23 that its tools -- including three shovels, a wheel barrow and scaffolding -- had been stolen. The most recent reported theft location was at Langley Drive and Terra Del Mar Drive. (1)

Car stolen

A green 1999 Ford Taurus was stolen outside a residence on Windy Trail sometime on July 21-22. The car was

parked outside the residence when the owner went to the next day it was missing. He said it was paid off, there were no debts with it, and he had the keys to it. (2)

Assault arrest

A Redford man was arrested for assaulting his ex-girlfriend. According to a Novi Police report, a Novi woman told police that her ex-boyfriend had gone to her residence on July 21 and choked her. She said during this assault he was holding an opened flip knife in his hand at his side. The man was later arrested by Redford Police at a residence

in that jurisdiction. (3)

Rings taken

A pair of rings was stolen from Helberg Jewelers in 12 Oaks on July 19. The robbery occurred when a suspect grabbed a Diamond Solitaire ring and Renditions white gold diamond ring off a ring stick being held by an employee. The suspect, who may have had an accomplice, ran from the store after grabbing the rings priced at \$8,299 and \$2,195, respectively. (4)

Compiled by staff writer Lonnie Huhman from police department reports.

Dwyer shows 'Curbing Gun Violence' report to county leaders



Bill Dwyer, M. Gershenson

Oakland County Commissioners Bill Dwyer and Marcia Gershenson are asking the public to study and provide feedback on their Curbing Gun Violence report.

Residents may read the report online at www.oakgov.us. Click on the survey link to provide feedback. The report was created after a five-part series of informational hearings held by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners' Public Services Committee.

The hearings were webcast and recorded. Dwyer presented the report to the full Oakland County Board of Commissioners.

Public Services Committee Chairman Dwyer and Gershenson will continue their bipartisan effort, as specified by resolution MR 13017, to "Examine How Oak-

land County Citizens Are Protected From Gun Violence" by encouraging the public to offer feedback. "There are no easy answers to the difficult questions that the committee examined. The recommendations contained in this report are not meant to be a wholesale solution for the prevention of gun violence in Oakland County. They do, however, offer significant insights into current practices and offer some suggestions for improvement," Dwyer said.

Dwyer, a Republican, represents District 14; Gershenson, a Democrat, represents District 13. For more information, call Dwyer at 248-417-7500 and Gershenson at 248-808-1032.

McCotter staffer gets probation, community service

By David Veselenak Staff Writer

One of the last cases resulting from the former U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter petition scandal last summer saw a sentence of probation and community service for one of his former staffers.

Mary Turnbull of Howell was sentenced to two years probation and 200 hours of community service July 23 by Oakland County Circuit Judge Leo Bowman. Turnbull was originally charged with conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a felony, and one count of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor. She pleaded no contest to both charges back in May.

"I sincerely regret my actions," Turnbull said, her voice cracking. "I would like to apologize to the office of

attorney general. Throughout my life, I have tried to do the right thing."

Her attorney, Leon Weiss, told the court Turnbull

had moved out of McCotter's congressional district and mistakenly believed that precluded her from circulating petitions on behalf of his candidacy. After she had gathered signatures, she asked a supervisor whether she could have someone who lives in the district sign the sheets as the circulator. She was told yes, Weiss said.

"She made a mistake," Weiss said. "She didn't mean to break the law, but she stands ready to accept full responsibility." The sentencing was originally scheduled for July 3, but was ad-

justed several times. Turnbull was one of four individuals charged in the petition fraud case, which ultimately led to McCotter's resignation from Congress.

Secretary of State officials found several irregularities with the petitions filed by McCotter, a Livonia Republican, and his staff, and ultimately disqualified him from the ballot and the resignation prompted the governor's office to call for a special election last year to fill the seat, which led to Jelloville Democrat David Carson occupying the seat for less than two months.

His former seat in Congress is currently occupied by Kerry Benivolio, a Republican from Milford, who won the restricted seat in the November election. McCotter was not charged in the case.

Priest pleads guilty to child porn charges

A Catholic priest banned from working in the church because of sexual misconduct has pleaded guilty to two federal child pornography charges.

The U.S. Attorney's Office announced July 24 that Timothy Murray made the plea to one count of distributing child pornography and one count of possessing

child pornography. Prosecutors said the 62-year-old Novi resident used peer-to-peer software to trade child pornography with others, including an undercover Department of Homeland Security investigator.

A search warrant executed at Murray's home recovered at least seven computer devices containing child porn.

Murray's collection included more than 650 movies and 450 images.

The Archdiocese of Detroit removed Murray from public duty in 2004 after investigating a complaint of sexual abuse involving a boy from years earlier. He is to be sentenced Dec. 4 in Detroit federal court. -- Garnett News Service

Theisen promoted to fire captain



Theisen

The City of Novi promoted Lieutenant Mark Theisen to captain in the Novi Fire Department. He was selected after placing first in a competitive promotional process.

"Capt. Theisen has demonstrated a proven ability in advancing the mission, vision and values of the Novi Fire Department," notes David E. Malloy, director of Public Safety/Chief of Police. "The fire captain is a key leadership position in our Public Safety team; working in partnership with our full and part-time personnel, Capt. Theisen will continue to enhance the quality services our com-

munity is known for delivering."

Since beginning his career with the Novi Fire Department in 2006, Theisen has provided mentoring and training to several new firefighters and taught CPR and AED courses to many City of Novi staff. He has partnered with colleagues on Novi's Geographical Information Services team to develop a mobile mapping solution for fire apparatus laptop computers and smart phones. He is an advocate for many fire department initia-

tives, including programs such as home fire inspections and fall prevention for older adults.

Theisen is a graduate of Spec Howard's School of Broadcast Arts and holds certifications as a Firefighter, EMT/Paramedic, CPR and Fire Instructor, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Fire Inspector I and Fire Officer I, II and III. He serves on the Western Wayne County Hazardous Material Response Team.

To learn more about the Novi Fire Department, including classes and services offered to community members, visit cityofnovi.org.

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UPDATES FROM CITY OF NOVI

Pistol class offered: The Novi Police Department is offering a Civilian Pistol Safety Class from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 3, at the Novi Police Department Training Center, 45125 W. 10 Mile. The course fulfills both the classroom and shooting requirements to obtain a Michigan Concealed Pistol License.

Registration forms are available at cityofnovi.org and the Novi Police Department. Completed registration forms and the \$200 course fee (cash or money order) may be returned to the Novi Police Department. Class size is limited, and all participants are subject to a criminal background check. After lunch, participants will move to the

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UPDATES

Continued from Page A6
The Great Lakes Pastel Society seeks to promote and increase the public awareness of the creative pastel paintings as a fine art medium. The juried exhibit will feature 50 works chosen from 173 entries. Most members of the society are Michigan residents; however, artists from California to Montana and New York are also members.

As a stranger is just a friend you haven't met yet. Independence Village

Dog Days of Summer Wednesday, August 7 1:30 p.m. Cool off with ice cream and cake. Cool entertainment by Debbie Fogel and Generations. RSVP by August 5.

Civil War Presenter Wednesday, August 28 1:30 p.m. Kevin Courter displays genuine uniforms and tent quarters while describing the actual experiences of the men and women who fought in the Civil War. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP by August 26.

Family Appreciation Feast Saturday, August 17 12:00 p.m. Noon Mama Mia! Join us for a delicious Spaghetti Dinner. Live entertainment provided by Mario Messina and the Northville High School String Club. RSVP by August 14

August commemorates national Best Friends Day and Senior Citizen Day - two things that we know a thing or two about.

Independence Village of Plymouth 14707 Northville Road, Plymouth, MI South of 5 Mile Road www.SeniorVillages.com 734-453-2600

Environmental worries prompt push

State Dems call for fracking legislation

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

State Democrats don't dispute that gas and oil drilling can help Michigan's economy, but they want increased accountability and transparency to protect the public health and the state's waterways from the effects of "fracking" — using water to hydraulically fracture underground rock.

Democratic state Reps. Vicki Barnett of Farmington Hills, Jim Townsend of Royal Oak and Ellen Cogen Lipton of Huntington Woods are among the legislators across the state who have introduced a series of eight bills to ensure that the some 930 chemicals used in the process are publicly disclosed.

"It is a growing prac-

tice in Michigan and we need to regulate it," Barnett said at a July 11 morning press conference in Heritage Park, Farmington Hills.

Already current and pending drilling permits throughout Michigan estimate water usage for fracking operations at 500 million gallons. One unnamed drilling company has proposed 500 new sites in Michigan with an estimated Great Lakes water usage of four billion gallons, according to the legislators.

The bills call for giving municipalities and residents the opportunity to request a public hearing before a fracking permit is issued to allow public comment in the process.

The bills also would:

» Allow units of government to control track-



From left, Oakland Water Resources Commissioner Jim Nash, state Rep. Jim Townsend of Royal Oak, Mary Brady of Michigan Clean Water Action and state Rep. Vicki Barnett of Farmington Hills show residents current and proposed drilling operations in Oakland County. PHOTO BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI

ing operations in communities

» Create a public-private advisory committee to study the effects of fracking and to make recommendations

» Increase the setback distance of fracking operations from residential areas, as well as

schools, hospitals, day care centers and public parks.

"We should all play by the same rules," Townsend said, maintaining there is no oversight of drilling companies and their processes in Michigan. "They are able to do this without proper accountability."

Controversial

The controversial technique, also known as hydraulic fracturing, is used by the energy industry to extract oil and gas from rock by injecting high-pressure mixtures of water, sand or gravel and chemicals. The practice has been used for decades but has been expanded to horizontally drilled wells that use millions of gallons of water, according to Michigan Clean Water Action.

By July 12, the Michigan Oil & Gas Association, which has 1,000 members and represents independent oil companies, major oil companies, and the exploration arms of various utility companies, issued a statement:

"Michigan has been and continues to be a leader when it comes to producing clean natural gas from our state's own resources, while maintaining an outstanding track record of keeping

the environment and communities clean and safe. At the same time, Michigan energy production is vital to our state's economy — supporting some 30,000 Michigan jobs and contributing about \$3 billion to the state's economy," according to the MOGS statement.

"As we look at the legislative proposal announced today — or others that could come forward — our goal is to make sure this winning track record for Michigan-made energy, Michigan jobs and Michigan's environment continues. Importantly for Michigan, the package does not call for an all-out non-sensical, and job killing ban, as some activists are advocating," according to MOGS.

"Michigan producers have used hydraulic fracturing for six decades. While it already is a proven safe technology, improvements are continually being made that result in our ability to even more effectively produce the natural gas that 80 percent of Michigan homeowners use in ways that fulfill our responsibility to safeguard Michigan's environment," MOGS continued.

But the amount of water used in fracking — considering that Michigan is home to one-fifth of the world's fresh water supply — is a significant concern, Barnett said.

Some four billion gallons of water will be used in proposed new wells in Michigan. "That's enough to drain Kent Lake twice," said Barnett, displaying a gallon jug of water.

Among concerns expressed by legislators is the potential for the water — used in fracking — and the chemicals used in the process to leach into the fresh water supply. "It is a cocktail that cannot be recycled,"

Barnett said. "With our low water levels what more do we need to talk about?"

But the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality claims that fracking is not a problem and there have not been any environmental disasters associated with the process. "Oil and gas companies are subject to the same requirements as other users of large volumes of water — they must first evaluate the potential effects of the withdrawal using a computer program Michigan regulators designed to track and measure water use and protect local aquifers," according to the DEQ.

While the bills have been introduced and the Democrats plan and expect to work with their Republican counterparts, Townsend said it could be some time before the legislation is passed.

The next step in the legislative process is to set up committee hearings, followed by discussion and a vote by the state House and then the Senate.

Fifteen Oakland County communities, including Southfield and West Bloomfield, have enacted bans or moratoriums on the fracking process, Townsend said.

Oakland County Water Commissioner Jim Nash of Farmington Hills told residents July 11 that he has held six town halls around Oakland to discuss fracking. "They were all well-attended. Everybody is concerned about potential sites."

Understand issues

One of the sites targeted for drilling, Indian Springs Metropark on White Lake Road, would be conducted in a wooded wetland. "People need to know what is being tracked into their community."

See FRACKING, Page A13

McCoskey crowned Miss Oakland

2013 honoree says 'I have really grown from this organization'

Miss Oakland County 2013 is Makayla McCoskey and she is from Farmington Hills and a North Farmington High School graduate.

"I think I have really grown from this organization," McCoskey recently told the Farmington Hills City Council, referring to the Miss America program.

Miss Oakland County is a program under the auspices of the Miss America program in which scholarships are awarded to participants.

It is a preliminary to the Miss Michigan and Miss America pageants.

McCoskey was crowned Miss Oakland County on July 13 at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills.

The 18-year-old said she intends to become an ophthalmologist and attends the University of Michigan where she studies cellular and molecular biology.

While McCoskey's talent for the competition was singing,

her platform is Unite for Sight. During her year as Miss Oakland County, McCoskey will promote her cause of eye-related disorders and the need for better optical care for the elderly.

"Those extra years aren't better" because many senior adults have optical problems, which can limit their independence and activities, McCoskey said.

Other contestants included:

» Outstanding teen: Brooklyn Lambert, 16 of Monroe. Talent: dance; platform: Coating with kindness throughout every season.

» First runner-up: Victoria Lines, 18 of Troy. Talent: Irish dance. Platform: Get Buckled! Save lives.

» Second runner-up: Ashleigh Allen, 23, of Adrian. Talent: Vocal. Platform: Target Teens: Cancer Awareness and Prevention.

» Third runner-up: MacKen-

zie Strom, 19 of Commerce. Talent: Lyrical dance. Platform: "Pure" Michigan — helping to create a more environmentally pure state.

» Fourth runner-up: Mollie Smith, 20 of Highland. Talent: Vocal. Platform: Know your Genes — Prevention and Early Detection of BRCA Related Cancers.

» Aldo Vagozzi Community Service Award: Melissa Keith of Wixom.

» Community Service Winner: Chelsea Nedrow of Wolverine Lake.

» Kelly Garver-Nieto Talent and the Kirsten Haglund Lifestyle & Fitness award: MacKenzie Strom of Commerce.

» Nonfinalist Talent Winner: Camille Bridges of Southfield.

» Spirit of Miss America Winner — two winners: Mollie Smith of Highland and Melissa Keith of Wixom.



Miss Oakland County 2013 is Makayla McCoskey who was crowned Miss Oakland County 2013. She is a North Farmington graduate.

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 18.267

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOVI CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 18.267 TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 97-18 AS AMENDED, THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE, AMENDING ARTICLE 25, GENERAL PROVISIONS, ADD NEW SECTION 2526, TO PROVIDE BICYCLE PARKING REQUIREMENTS AND TO PROVIDE BICYCLE PARKING AREA LAYOUT STANDARDS.

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, July 22, 2013 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective seven (7) days after its publication. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk

Publish: August 1, 2013

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 18-113.04

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOVI CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 18-113.04 TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 28, PARKS AND RECREATION, ARTICLE IV, PARKS AND RECREATION PROTECTION, DIVISION I, GENERALLY, IN ORDER TO ADD NEW REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE PARKING OF VEHICLES AND USE OF THE LAKESHORE AND PUBLIC DOCKS/PIERS.

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, July 22, 2013 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk

Publish: August 1, 2013

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT TUP 13-019

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the applicant Suburban Collection Showplace is requesting a Temporary Special Land Use Permit at 4610 Grand River Ave. & 47600 Grand River Ave., parcels 5022-16-176-022 & 5022-16-176-020. The applicant is requesting approval to use the above parcels for overflow parking, staging and recreational vehicle parking for Michigan State Fair guests and participants between August 30, 2013 and September 2, 2013 in accordance with Section 3004 of the Zoning Ordinance. A public hearing will be held on Monday August 19th at 11:00 AM in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi Michigan to consider the request. Plans are available for review at the Community Development Department in the Novi Civic Center.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi MI 48375 during regular business hours, Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 PM and should be directed to Angie Pawlowski and must be received prior to August 16th, 2013.

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE FOR SERVICE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BSLU13-0066

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the applicant Socialite Bistro is requesting Special Land Use approval at 44175 Twelve Mile Rd, parcel 50-22-13-200-110. The applicant is requesting approval to use the portion of the parcel for service of alcoholic beverages accordance with Section 2525 of the Zoning Ordinance. A public hearing will be held on Monday August 19th at 11:30 AM in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi Michigan to consider the request. Plans are available for review at the Community Development Department in the Novi Civic Center.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi MI 48375 during regular business hours, Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 PM and should be directed to Charles Boulard and must be received prior to August 16th, 2013.

Angie Pawlowski
(248) 347-0415

Publish: August 1, 2013

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OUR VIEWS

Helmet law

Increased costs, injury severity provide reasons for repeal

Freedom comes at a price. In the 15 months since Michigan scrapped its longstanding law and allowed certain motorcyclists the freedom to ride without helmets, medical payments for insurance claims based on the severity of injuries have increased. Severe injuries are occurring and driving up costs, which collectively demand a repeal of the weakened law.

Already, statistics show that freedom for a few will likely increase costs for the majority. It's a simple equation. The more insurance companies have to pay out in claims, sooner or later rates will increase to offset those costs. That's how insurance works.

But there is a human cost to allowing motorcyclists to ride without the safety of helmets. No one wants to witness a motorcycle crash in which the rider is not wearing a helmet. And no one wants to witness that crash when a motorcyclist is toiling down a freeway at 70 mph or faster. Logic dictates the consequences.

The weakened law—enacted on the off-chance of boosting tourism—allows motorcyclists 21 years and older to legally ride without a helmet if they carry a minimum \$20,000 in medical payments coverage.

Today, only 19 states require all riders to wear helmets, while 28 require helmets for some motorcyclists. Illinois, Iowa and New Hampshire have no helmet laws.

Curious enough to find out the impact of Michigan's new law, the Highway Loss Data Institute (HLDI) conducted a study and compared its results with other states, including Iowa, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. It also considered factors including the age and class of motorcyclists, rider demographics and weather issues. The study also took into account the motorcycle riding season in Michigan.

The HLDI's results are eye-opening. Overall medical payments were 30 percent higher than expected for Michigan after the law changed in April 2012. HLDI researchers qualified that result by adding that some of the increase may reflect an increased crash risk because collision claim frequency on its own increased about 12 percent.

But the research group made it very clear that the increase in medical payment overall losses stems from a definite 36 percent increase in the severity of claims. Granted, following the change in the law, some motorcyclists who chose to ride without a helmet also increased their medical payments policy limits to the required \$20,000 minimum.

Yet even with the change in policy limits, HLDI found that medical payments claim severity is estimated to have increased—just in 15 months—by 22 percent. HLDI said the results are “consistent with the expectation that crashes after the law change resulted in more severe injuries as a result of less helmet use.”

Sooner or later, the increased claims and the associated costs will translate into increased insurance costs for all Michigan drivers who have vehicle insurance. The writing is on the wall—and at a time when state legislators debate whether to put an end to no-fault insurance.

For some motorcyclists, a helmet is uncomfortable and cumbersome. But for some vehicle drivers, seat belts are equally uncomfortable and cumbersome. Just as the belts have proven to save lives or to reduce the severity of injuries, there is no denying—especially statistically—that helmets reduce the degree of brain injuries.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation, which advocates safe motorcycling, holds fast to its belief that helmets work, just as different types of helmets work in sports and other professions, including construction, football and the military.

Four basic components in a helmet protect the rider: an outer shell, an impact-absorbing liner, comfort padding and a retention system, also known as a secure strap.

ABATE of Michigan, which strongly supported the weakened law, maintains that helmets have done nothing to improve safety, reduce fatalities or the cost of insurance. In fact, ABATE also claims that helmets impede vision and hearing while motorcycling.

HLDI's study proves otherwise. The issue isn't just about fatalities. It is about severe brain injuries that essentially ruin a life, while costing society a lot of money. If a helmet can protect even one motorcyclist from severe damage, while holding down insurance costs, it is worth repealing the weakened law.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Where's your favorite place to visit in Michigan?

This question was asked at the Novi Public Library and in downtown Northville.



“East Tawas. We have a cabin up there on Lake Huron, and it's just great being on the big lake.”
Jan Russell
Northville



“Ludington. It's a gorgeous place with a great beach.”
Kevin Reynolds
Novi



“The cross in the woods near Indian River. It's a very calming and serene setting.”
Amanda Voto
Novi



“Traverse City. I just love the Cherry Festival.”
Amy Bak
Novi

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



The Friends Library Board (l to r, back): Bob Cutler, Pat Brunett, Carol Hoffman, Evelyn Cadizmo, Sue Johnson; (front) Gale Ford, Marilyn Amberger, Julie Abrams, Barb Brunett, Carol Bauer, Evelyn Young and Jim McLean.

Thank you, Friends

The Friends of the Novi Public Library is a group of over 400 members, of which many are dedicated volunteers who give of their time and talents to help advocate for and support the Novi Public Library. The group has been in existence since the library began serving the Novi community in 1960.

Over the years, the Friends have helped the library with sponsoring programs, purchasing furniture and technology, fundraising and promoting the library's many events and resources.

In December 2012, the Friends gave a generous gift of \$20,000 to the library. The Friends have been on-going sponsors of Listen @ the Library (a concert series in association with the Chamber Music Society of Detroit), Community Reads, Battle of the Books, Summer Reading and Novi Newbies—just to name a few.

One of the many projects that the Friends dedicate time to is the Book Nook—a used book store inside the library. This store offers great books at reasonable prices.

It is with Friends like these that our library continues to be a relevant and vibrant source of information, education, recreation and entertainment for our residents. A special thank you goes out to our amazing Friends Board who guides the decisions of the Friends group. They are true champions for our Novi library!

For more information on the Friends of the Novi Public Library, visit www.novilibrary.org.

Julie Farkas
Novi Public Library director

Plan for Sunshine Week

I have an issue with the way news media present such rosy prospects for FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) each year during Sunshine Week. Year after year, optimism is based, not on new ideas to improve FOIA, being enacted into law, but merely on a new bill with a short shelf life being introduced or reported out of committee.

The ballyhoo over the Issa-Cummings FOIA implementation bill taken up by the U.S. House Oversight and Government Reform Committee just in time for this past Sunshine Week comes to mind. Publicizing that is like awarding a soldier the Congressional Medal of Honor for telling what he might do in combat someday.

Just as bad or worse, news organizations downplay or ignore efforts to inhibit open government. A recent example would be proposals put forward by the Michigan State Court Administrative Office.

In RICO cases, the cast of characters consists of three types: (1) racketeers, often con artists, (2) dupes exploited as false fronts and (3) victims. Sunshine Week works in a similar fashion. Legislators, press and public.

Let's hope that annual celebrations by the press of wobbly legislative hints of reform haven't become a meaningless ritual. If next year's Sunshine Week is going to be any different, now is the time to start plan-

A note to the sheriff

We all knew it was going to happen, so when tragedy struck on Sylvan Lake on July 13 it was really no surprise. Your office's suspension of lake marine patrols a few years ago was a very serious and unconscionable thing to do. There certainly were other ways to save your budget dollars than to put the safety of our citizens at risk.

I have lived in Oakland County for 27 years on Duck Lake in Highland Township, and we had always been fortunate to have marine patrols (and a sheriff's boat docked on our lake) to help control the safety. I believe this was a way to make sure that those with poor judgment were being spot checked and I think it helped people do the right thing. In the three summers since you have suspended our patrols, I have seen the behavior and judgment of the boat and PWC operators deteriorate and I think it is because there is no one on the lake to stop them and write up a violation.

I continually see no spotters on boats pulling skiers, boarders and tubers. People are cutting each other off and not following the simple rules of the water to go counter-clockwise. All these elements that added up to tragedy on Sylvan Lake and will continue to happen.

As a lakefront property owner, I pay a much higher property tax rate than my fellow neighbors not on the lake. With that expense should come some additional services such as the marine patrols. That is a very fair and reasonable request. I have already paid for those patrols. I should not have to pay again to get our lake association to privately contract with your office to patrol my lake.

We may be lucky enough next year to get this money approved and in our budget going forward, but maybe not. I hold you and your office responsible for this kind of tragedy as it is an indirect result of your suspension of the lake marine patrols. You are atypical of all politicians who immediately want to cut spending in the way that directly hurts the taxpayers the most. Oakland County is one of the richest counties in the country and you should be ashamed to suspend services that could effect the safety and well-being of your citizens.

You have lost my vote and so has L. Brooks Patterson for allowing this to happen.

Mark G. Gels
Highland

Lotta wheels: FOP car show Saturday in Wixom

Southwest Oakland Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 128 invites the public to attend and participate in the annual Car Show Saturday, Aug. 3, at the FOP Lodge (28525 Beck Road, Suite 114 in Wixom).

Proceeds will benefit Michigan Concerns of Police Survivors (M.C.O.P.S.) and the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

Erik Hamilton, car show committee chair, says this will be one fun and exciting car show, a show for kids and adults.

This event is totally open to the public; car show participants may register at the gate the day of the event, registration fee is \$15. Registration and setup starts at 10 a.m.; show time is 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A disc jockey will provide music; food will be available along with a variety of adult beverages. There will be hourly 50/50 raffles. A foreign vehicle will be on display, and for a small donation individuals may strike it with a sledge hammer. Participants of the event will be eligible for hourly door prizes.

Car show vehicle honorary judges will be representatives from M.C.O.P.S. and the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. John Kirkpatrick, president of Lodge No. 128, said: “Everyone has worked hard on this car show, it should prove to be a day of pure car fun, I am thankful and proud of everyone involved from our generous sponsors like Varsity Lincoln in Novi to our car show participants, vendors and all of our F.O.P. membership and volunteers for making this annual car show happen.”

The car show will conclude at 4 p.m. with a raffle for a television donated by Whitbeck Home Appliance Mart.

For additional information, visit www.fop128.org.

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Lodge members (l to r) Jeff Gomez (car participant), Erik Hamilton (event organizer) and Bob Houchins (car participant). CURTIS DRUGMILLER

Feature length film shooting locally

Crews seen around town at work, play

Mother and Midwife Pictures is now in the second week of an almost month-long shoot of its feature length film, *Papou*. Gianni Cairo (actor playing Constantine Yannis) remarked “After just a week of coming on to set, I feel like this is a new family, and I always look forward to coming (to work).”

The excitement surrounding this film has grown with each passing day as people see the film crews in locations across Metro Detroit. Last week, the first day of filming occurred at Archie's Coney Island in Livonia, and people spent hours standing outside the restaurant trying to get a glimpse of the process.

Local restaurants have donated food to the cast and crew each day, and some of the cast and crew members say they have never eaten so well on the set of a movie. A local grandmother has cooked desserts for everyone working on the film as well.



Michael Zervos talks to two youths in a treefort at a residence in Novi during filming of “Papou.”

Kanella Katsikas, the real-life grandmother that inspired one of the characters in the film, said: “This film is an honor for my husband, and it is an honor for me.”

Starring international screen actor Yorgo Voyagis (*Zorba the Greek*) and Evan Kole (*The Avengers*), this unique tale of an imaginative

young boy and his sickly grandfather has been brought to life by over \$51,000 from a Kickstarter fundraiser and almost \$55,000 in potential Michigan Film and Digital Media Incentives.

The film is being produced by film industry veterans Michael Sinanis and Christos Moisides and directed by 24-year-old, first-time feature

film director Michael Angelo Zervos. Despite the fickle weather, Zervos, who penned the story himself, said: “We've had really great shots. I look forward to our audiences seeing what I do on the (Red Epic) monitor.”

Visit motherandmidwife.com to follow the daily updates posted on set.

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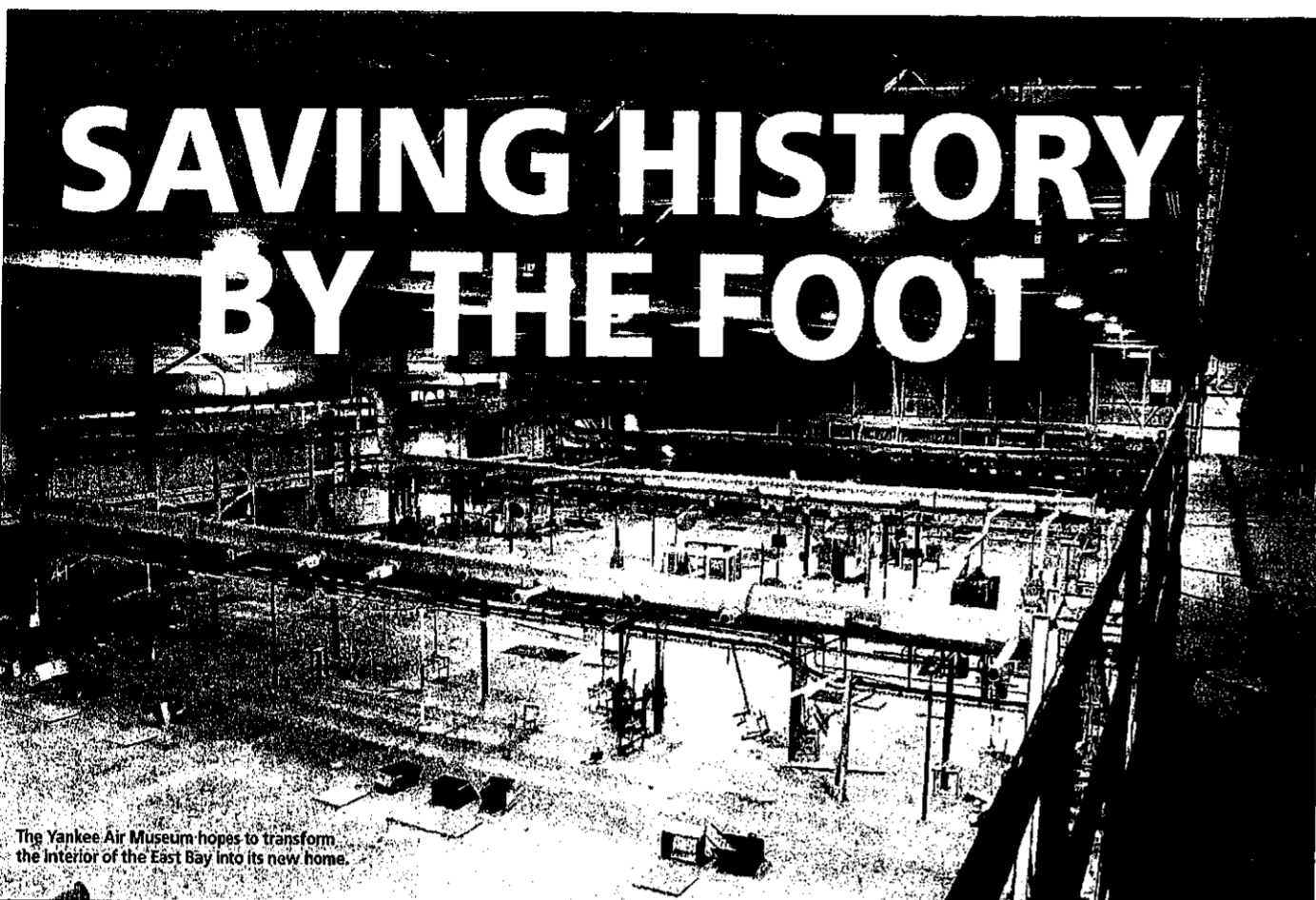
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The Yankee Air Museum hopes to transform the interior of the East Bay into its new home.

Museum wants space in former bomber plant

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

In an iconic 1942 poster promoting the war effort, 17-year-old Geraldine Doyle flexed her muscles and told the country and the world that "We Can Do It."

Seventy-one years later, she's back with a new message and a new purpose: helping the Yankee Air Museum preserve a piece of the history that Doyle has come to represent.

The museum is on a mission to buy 175,000 square feet of the former Willow Run bomber plant where more than 8,600 B-24 Liberator bombers were built. Acquiring the building would be a dream come true for the museum. The factory space is four times the size of its current museum and large enough inside to house all of its planes, except the massive B-52.

The only things standing in the way are \$5 million and an Aug. 1 deadline.

"It's exciting, the very concept of bringing everything back together is heaven to us," said Kevin Walsh, executive director of the Yankee Air Museum. "To have the entire collection back under one roof like it was from 1961 through 2004 is paramount."

Since April, YAM and the Michigan Aeronautical Foundation, through the SaveTheBomberPlant.org campaign, have been working to raise the \$5 million needed to buy the space from RACER, or Revitalizing Automotive Communities Environmental Response,

Trust. The trust was created to dispose of properties left after GM's 2009 bankruptcy. RACER has had little interest in the five million-square-foot former GM Powertrain plant and plans to tear it down to open up 300 acres for development.

Raising millions

The museum needs to raise the \$5 million to buy just a portion of the former bomber plant, but a total of \$8 million is needed to acquire, enclose, secure and power up the area to eventually become the new museum.

The SaveTheBomberPlant.org campaign, co-chaired by retired NASA astronaut Frank Lousma and retired GM executive Bob Lutz, has been set up to help raise the money. The museum has already raised \$3.1 million, but still needs \$4.9 million to reach its goal.

According to Mike Montgomery of the Michigan Aeronautical Foundation, which signed the letter of intent with RACER Trust to acquire the property, large donations are being pursued, but support from the community is needed.

"Obviously preserving a piece of history is really important," Montgomery said. "This allows the museum to expand on the story it's telling. It's more than the Arsenal of Democracy, it's about what happened. We can tell that story here, but to tell it at the actual site is much more effective."

"It'll give us room to grow for

decades; it'll let us expand," he added.

The larger facility also would allow the museum to integrate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) content, expanding the visitor experience and educational opportunities. It also would provide a new venue for corporate, community and family events.

"It's an opportunity to make it a center where we can host 1,000 people," Walsh said. "It's the difference between a convention hall and a signature location. It would be an incredible facility for the community. The demand is here."

The assembly line

The plant was designed by Charles Sorensen, vice president of production for Ford. Albert Kahn, a prominent industrial architect, translated Sorensen's sketches into the factory where workers were able to produce a B-24 bomber every 55 minutes.

The more than two million-square-foot plant was built in an L-shape in Washtenaw County, just over the Wayne County line. Plans moved down the assembly line by fours and then twos. But instead of going straight out of the factory and into Wayne County, the assembly line turned to the right and exited into Washtenaw County.

"Ford built the plant so that it delivered all the planes to the Army Air Force in Washtenaw County, so he wouldn't have to pay personal property tax on them,"

Montgomery said. "It's that space at the end of the line that we're determined will become the new museum."

The Yankee Air Museum opened in the 1980s in a wooden hangar at Willow Run Airport. It suffered a major setback when the hangar caught fire in 2004.

Volunteers were able to rescue three planes — the B-17, B-25 and C-47 — but the remainder of the aircraft and artifacts that were housed in the hangar were lost. A new museum opened in 2010 in a 40,000-square-foot building that was purchased from the Michigan Institute of Aviation and Technology.

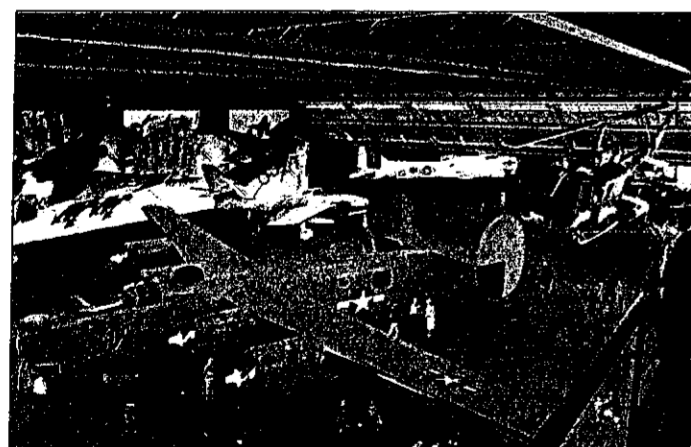
Admittedly the fundraising goal is ambitious, but the campaign is open to donations of all amounts. Every \$50 raised saves one square foot of the bomber plant. In addition to raising money to buy the facility, Lousma and Lutz also are raising money to create exhibits for the museum's new home.

For more information on giving and sponsorship opportunities, contact the Save The Bomber Plant campaign at info@savethebomberplant.org or call 734-483-4030, Ext. 222.

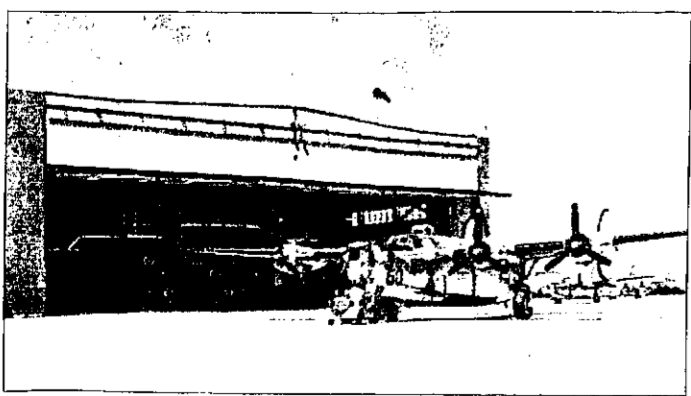
If YAM is unable to meet its fundraising goal, gifts to the campaign will be put toward a hangar for flyable aircraft at the current museum.

"We've been getting by since 2004. This is an opportunity to make this happen," Walsh said. "We need the financial support to make this happen."

smason@hometownlife.com | 313-222-6751
Twitter: @SusanMarieMason



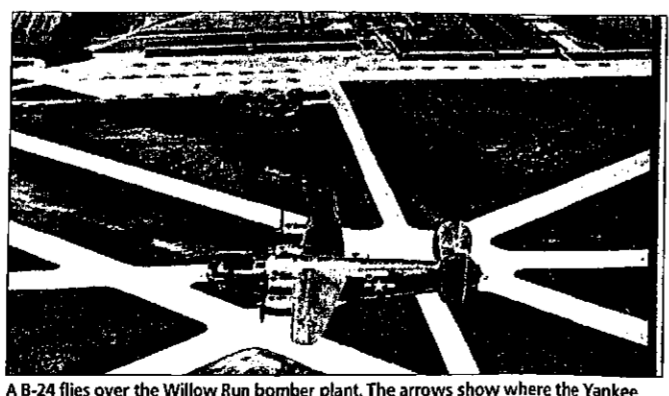
The Yankee Air Museum plans to transform the area into a display area filled with many of the planes it now has on static display outside.



A completed B-24 bomber leaves the East Bay of the Willow Run bomber plant.



The existing hangar doors would allow the museum to move aircraft in and out of the building.



A B-24 flies over the Willow Run bomber plant. The arrows show where the Yankee Air Museum would be located.

SAVING HISTORY BY THE FOOT



Rosie the Riveter is featured on this poster to help save the former bomber plant.

Willow Run plant designed to build B-24 bomber

The Willow Run bomber plant was built on a Ford Farm in Washtenaw County. Virtually overnight, the gardens and maple trees were replaced with a factory designed to produce one B-24 Liberator bomber every hour.

An estimated 100,000 yards of concrete, 38,000 tons of steel and 10 million bricks were used to build the 80-acre plant in record time. It was actually two plants — a manufacturing plant producing parts for the bomber and the assembly plant.

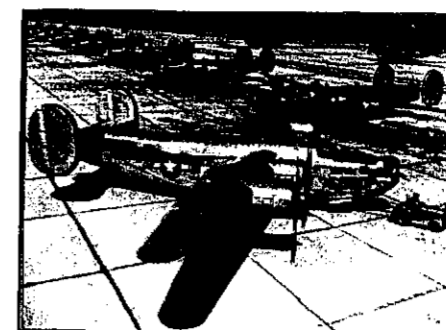
The factory was tooled to produce one bomber every 55 minutes. The plane had a 10-foot wing span and had four 1,200-horsepower Pratt and Whitney engines. It carried 10 men, four tons of bombs

and 5,000 rounds of munitions. It could fly 3,000 miles nonstop and cruise at high altitudes at a speed of 300 mph.

Eighty-five percent of the plane's 20-ton weight was aluminum.

Each plane had more than 1,700 aluminum tubes for its 12 different control systems and 400,000 rivets. The landing wheels were shipped in, as was the plane's twin tail, which was made at Ford's Rouge plant.

To manufacture the plane, Ford cut it up into major assembly sections which were "mated" on the final assembly line. By breaking down the process into sub-assemblies, parts of the plane were built in hours rather than days. By using the process, the center



The number on the side of this B-24 says it all — it was the 6,000th plane built at the Willow Run bomber plant.

wing span, the first section to be built, was completed in a matter of hours rather than 19 days.

Piece by piece

The assembly process started with four lines where the different sec-

tion of the airplane were mated to the wing span. The first section was the nose piece, which included the instruments and cabins for the pilots, radio man, flight engineer, navigator and bombardier.

The next section was the tail part of fuselage, then the assembly line narrowed from four to two lines. In the next step, each of the four engines was attached to the wing span in 15 minutes, with added time to hook up the controls as the plane moved down the assembly line. Only four bolts 1/2 inch in diameter held an engine in place on the wing.

After the twin tail was in place, the wing tips were attached to the wing span. Finishing touches like painting on the insignia, installing instruments, radio equipment, the wing flaps and sound proofing was done before the 4,200 square feet of skin and the windows were cleaned.

Ford's plans to produce the airplane were viewed with skepticism,

but its experience with mass production allowed it to build 8,685 B-24s, each of which had 1,225,000 parts.

To become a part of preserving the Willow Run heritage, contact the Michigan Aerospace Foundation, "Rebuilding the Yankee Air Museum," P.O. Box 8282, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

More information is available at www.michigan-aerospace.org and www.yankeearmuseum.org.

For donor information, send an email to info@michigan-aerospace.org.

Source: "The Story of Willow Run," a 1945 Ford Motor Co. documentary available on DVD in the Yankee Air Museum gift shop.

OUR VIEWS

Make a donation

The deadline is today for the Yankee Air Museum to buy 175,000 square feet of the former Willow Run bomber plant from RACER (Revitalizing Automotive Communities Environmental Response) Trust, which is disposing of properties left after GM's 2009 bankruptcy.

The museum has to raise \$5 million to buy that portion of the five million-square-foot former GM Powertrain plant where more than 8,600 B-24 Liberator bombers were built during World War II. Without the money, YAM supporters will have to watch as RACER has the plant torn down to open up 300 acres for development.

Raising that kind of money in a short amount of time is a monumental effort for the museum, which signed a letter of intent to purchase the

building in April. The museum has raised approximately \$400,000. Unless many donors step forward, YAM will fall far short of its goal.

YAM has been around since the 1980s, working to preserve the country's aviation history, first in a wooden hangar that burned down and then in a smaller building it recently purchased. Having the opportunity to save a piece of the history of the Arsenal of Democracy and a chance to consolidate its collection, including all but its largest aircraft, under one roof is a huge plus for the organization.

Every dollar counts. According to YAM, every \$50 raised saves one square foot of the bomber plant. That means 100,000 people, businesses, even veterans organizations, would need to donate that amount to save the build-

ing and let YAM accomplish its dream of becoming a signature destination in southeast Michigan. A show of community support could also spur major donors to give.

History was made at the Willow Run bomber plant, which has close ties to the area. More than 40,000 men and women worked there, and Westland's Norwayne Subdivision was built in 1943 to provide housing for defense workers who built the B-24 bombers.

YAM needs everyone's help to keep its dream alive. Be one of those people and send a donation to the Michigan Aerospace Foundation, "Rebuilding the Yankee Air Museum," P.O. Box 8282, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

No amount is too small to save a piece of history.

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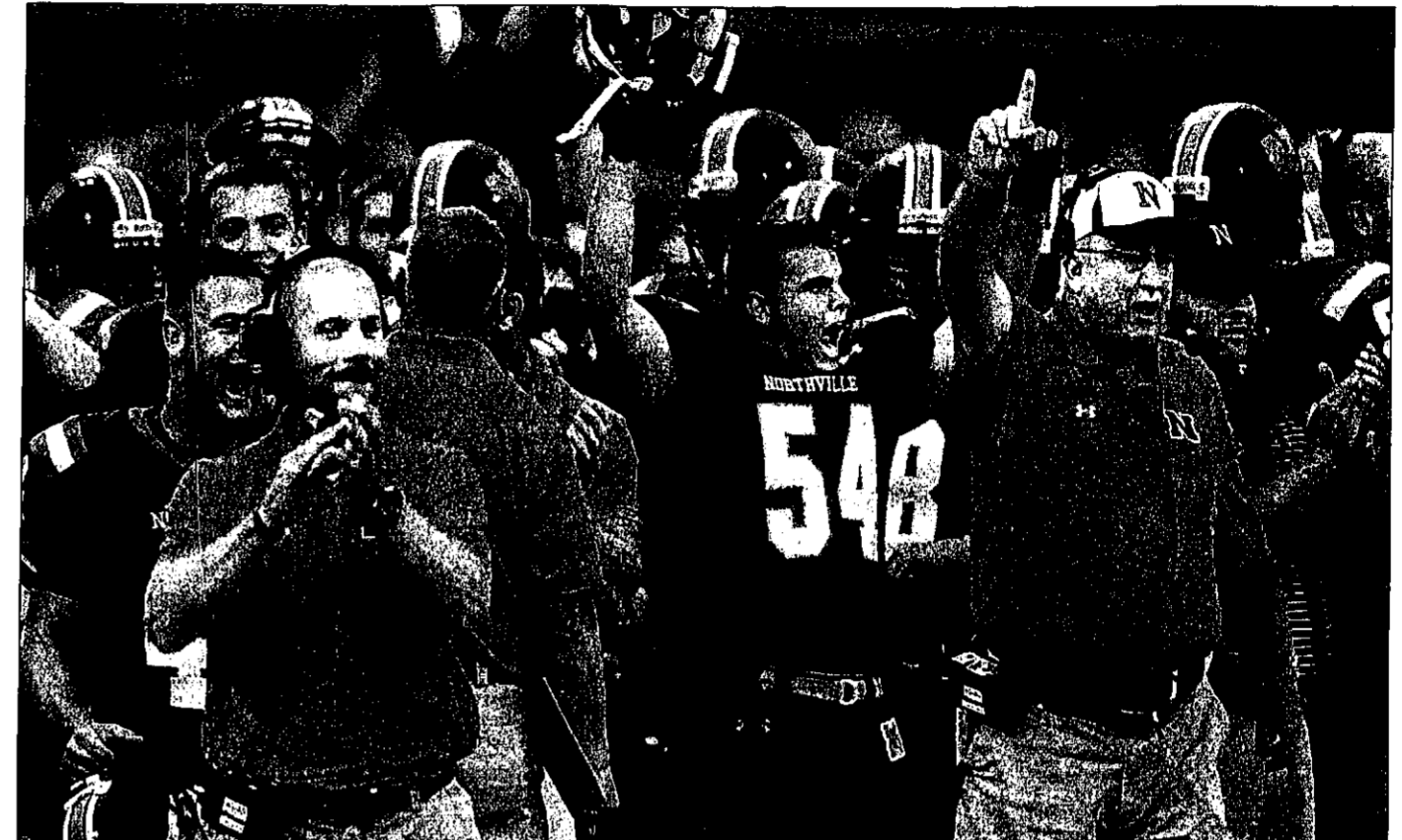
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The Mustang bench, including Coach Matt Ladach (left), R.J. Holloway (middle) and assistant coach Dennis Colligan (right) celebrate one of many Northville touchdowns during the 2012 campaign. ALL PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

KLAA a fall powerhouse

By Jeff Theisen
 Staff Writer

The KLAA is one of the clear-cut power high school conferences in Michigan. The 24-team league posts unbelievable depth in just about every sport sponsored by the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

The following is the first of a three-part series focusing on how the KLAA fared not only during the season but also in the state playoffs.

The series will go in order of how the school year goes, starting with the fall season of 2012, followed by winter and finish with the spring season. The series will also be broken up with stories for boys and girls separate so the stories aren't overbearingly long.

All records are taken from the site www.klaastandings.com, so if something is a little off, please don't shoot the messenger.



Part of the boys cross country team takes off during an Oct. 2, 2012 meet at Cass Benton Park.

Football
 Football brings the most fans out to any single event



Northville's Dan Baldwin keeps his eyes on a serve for the Mustangs.

Part of the boys cross country team takes off during an Oct. 2, 2012 meet at Cass Benton Park.

Football brings the most fans out to any single event

Only Plymouth would emerge as a district champion, eventually losing to finalist and runner-up Catholic Central in regional play.

Cross country
 The KLAA has runners like none other. It's the premier conference in the state for distance running, and it can't even be argued.

Milford went on to capture the State Title in 2012 with Waterford Mott finishing runner-up. While that alone would be enough to make the point, Pinckney finished seventh, Hartland ninth, Northville 11th, Walled Lake Northern 14th and Grand Blanc 15th. That's seven teams in the top 15 at the State Finals.

Individually, Milford's Brian Kettle took home the title in 15:07.3. Waterford Mott's Nathan Burnand was third overall and second in team scoring with Milford's Cody Snavely in right after him for fourth and third in team scoring. Also cracking the top 10 was Northville's Dan Sims in eighth overall and Mott's Ryan Robinson in ninth. That's five of the top nine in the state from the KLAA.

Kettle, Sims and Robinson all return this year for another shot at the top 10.

The top 30 earn All-State honors. The KLAA had three more against each other, putting three in the second round, along with Grand Blanc for four teams in the district finals.

Just missing the honor were Milford's Chris Housel in 31st, Pinckney's Wesley Sanders in 32nd and Milford's Matt Graves in 33rd.

It's safe to say, this is the KLAA's most loaded sport of any season for both team and individually.

Soccer

The KLAA Central Division is one of the hardest divisions for any sport or any conference in the state. Novi, Salem, Stevenson and Northville are all capable of making big runs come state playoff time. Salem came out as the division, conference and association winner, but Novi made a run to the Finals.

KLAA STANDINGS

- FOOTBALL**
 Division winners:
 Central - Northville, Stevenson (4-1)
 South - Churchill (5-0, Conference Champ)
 West - Hartland (5-0)
 North - Walled Lake Northern (5-0, Conference Champ)
- CROSS COUNTRY**
 Central - Northville (5-0)
 South - Churchill (5-0)
 West - Milford (5-0)
 North - Waterford Mott (5-0)
- SOCCER**
 Central - Salem (7-1-2, Conference, Association Champs)
 South - Canton (10-0)
 West - Brighton (9-0-1, Conference Champ)
 North - W.L. Northern, W.L. Central (8-0-2)
- TENNIS**
 Central - Novi (4-0, Conference, Association Champs)
 South - Plymouth (5-0)
 West - Grand Blanc (5-0, Conference Champ)
 North - Walled Lake Central (5-0)



Mustang Nate Baughman tries to slip past a Salem High defender during the teams' Sept. 20, 2012 meeting at Northville High.

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Motor City Madness softball clinics. The Walled Lake Schools' Athletics Department is hosting its Inaugural Coaches Clinic from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 2 at Walled Lake Northern High School.

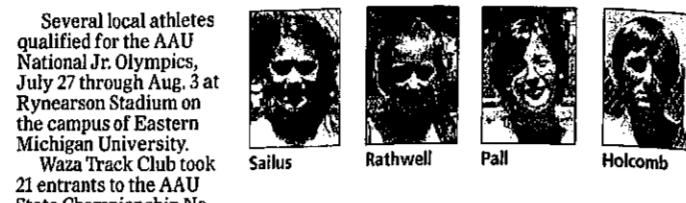
Walled Lake Schools to host Coaches Clinic on Aug. 2. The Walled Lake Schools' Athletics Department is hosting its Inaugural Coaches Clinic from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 2 at Walled Lake Northern High School.

KLAA Continued from Page B1. final four come playoff time. On the other side of the KLAA, Grand Blanc did one better and made it all the way to the finals, falling 1-0 to East Kentwood.

KLAA Continued from Page B1. victory and a State Title at No. 2 singles. At No. 3 singles, Novi's Koushik Kondapi made a run to the finals before finishing runner-up. Novi teammate Pavan Rao went undefeated through the No. 4 singles to claim the title.

KLAA Continued from Page B1. Novi and Northville are clear from the rest of the pack, and this past season was no different. Novi finished tied with Brother Rice for second in the state with 27 points. Northville finished tied for fourth with Troy at 17 points.

Local athletes qualify for National Jr. Olympics



Several local athletes qualified for the AAU National Jr. Olympics, July 27 through Aug. 3 at Rynearson Stadium on the campus of Eastern Michigan University. Waza Track Club took 21 entrants to the AAU State Championship National Qualifier, June 29-30 at Ypsilanti High School. Those athletes who finished in the top eight of their respective events advanced to the national championship meet. Several athletes qualified in more than one event. The 20 Waza TC competitors earned 32 medals (first through fourth place) and 12 ribbons (fifth through eighth place). The club had six state champions. Each athlete set at least one personal record. The Waza athletes included: Bella Haynes, Dearborn (9) - fifth, 800 (3:11.25); second, 1,500 (6:10.77); and sixth, long jump (7.8).

Catholic Central hires new baseball coach

Dan Michaels will take the reins of the Shamrocks program. Michaels is no stranger to the game. He played hockey and baseball at Catholic Central and played college baseball at the University of Michigan before transferring to and playing for Western Michigan University where he was a pitcher on the 1989 Mid American Conference Championship team. He went on to receive his M.B.A. from the University of Toledo in 1993 and was assistant coach for the Rockets for two seasons.

Michael's familiarized himself with the current CC program by working as an assistant coach last season and was a member of the coaching staff from 2008-10 as well. "Life is about the journey, not the destination and as the Shamrock family, we look forward to rallying around our school," Mary Alma Matter, our young man and our new head coach," Babicz said. Michaels lives in Novi with his wife, Judy, and their three children.

KLAA Continued from Page B1. Novi and Northville are clear from the rest of the pack, and this past season was no different. Novi finished tied with Brother Rice for second in the state with 27 points. Northville finished tied for fourth with Troy at 17 points. Other KLAA teams scoring points at the finals were Grand Blanc and Stevenson (tied for 16th with three points) and Churchill with two points to tie for 19th. Individually, Novi and Northville put a singles player in the finals in all four of the singles brackets. Northville's Tyler Gardner finished runner-up at No. 1 singles. Teammate Connor Johnson blasted by the No. 1, 6-2

KLAA Continued from Page B1. victory and a State Title at No. 2 singles. At No. 3 singles, Novi's Koushik Kondapi made a run to the finals before finishing runner-up. Novi teammate Pavan Rao went undefeated through the No. 4 singles to claim the title. In doubles play, Novi's Jason Carless and Andrew Ying carried the top seed at No. 1 doubles and blasted into the finals before finishing runner-up. The same result happened for teammates Nishant Kakar and Michael Chang at No. 2 doubles. Novi also had a pair of semifinal runs at three and four doubles.

Team Cincinnati earns World Series title

Ohio squad tops SAYO Grays for championship. After his team's first two games of the NABF World Series in Northville last week, Team Cincinnati coach Sam Armino was starting to wonder if his team was simply going to have to pack up their bags and go home. Two losses to the Allen Baseball Club, 3-0, and to the Hurricanes Select team, 5-2, had Team Cincinnati on the ropes. "We just didn't get the hitting we needed, and they had some great pitching," said Armino. "After that, we used our pitching to stay in the game against the (Long Island) Titans and then in the sixth inning we had three or four hard-hit balls and scored three runs to get the win."

Broncos have quality showings in World Series

Squad wins three games, loses two. It was a great weekend to be a baseball fan in the Northville area last week when the community hosted the NABF World Series for the 32nd year. And it was a good weekend to be a member of the Northville Broncos U16 baseball team, too, as they picked up three wins and took two losses. Unfortunately, one of those losses came in the semifinals of the World Series tournament as the squad fell to the SAYO Grays, 6-4. "They were in it and had a chance to win," said tournament director Bill Flohr about the semifinals game. "A couple of errors made the difference and the team just couldn't overcome them."

Northville, coached by Mark Zalewski, became the tournament with a well-played 8-7 victory over a tough Top Tier Nationals team to open the tournament. The next morning, they fell to the SAYO Grays in the first meeting between the two teams, 4-3, before going on to defeat Creekside Fitness, 5-2, later in the day Friday. Northville's next game found them putting together a convincing 10-5 victory over the Hurricanes Select to advance to the tournament's semifinals against the Grays. Flohr, who was in his first year working as the tournament director along with Carrie Slominski, said the tournament would never have been possible without the support of the community. "We had some great volunteers again this year," he said. "There's no way a tournament like this could happen without that kind of support. They really stepped up."

One of the highlights coming out of the tournament headquarters was the newly-designed program for the tournament, which featured several dozen pages packed full of ads from businesses in Northville and the surrounding communities. The tournament was a hit for everyone, including the visiting teams. "It was really well put together," said Sam Armino, the head coach of Team Cincinnati. "We have our own tournament here, and I help put it together and it's not run as well as they do in Northville." Final records throughout the tournament showed the Top Tier Nationals and Lincoln Park Rails finishing 0-3 each, the Allen Baseball Club going 1-2, the Long Island Titans and PAA Nationals finishing 1-3 each, Creekside Fitness and Twin City Devil Cats finishing 2-2 each, while the Hurricanes Select recorded a 3-1 record, the Toronto Mets finished 4-1 and Team Cincinnati winning it all with an overall 4-2 record.

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

Skills competition showcases Northville's quality players

Broncos win three of four skills events. The skills competition is all in good fun. The Northville Broncos team did really well, and we're really proud of them. "The skills competition is all in good fun. The Northville Broncos team did really well, and we're really proud of them."

KLAA Continued from Page B1. victory and a State Title at No. 2 singles. At No. 3 singles, Novi's Koushik Kondapi made a run to the finals before finishing runner-up. Novi teammate Pavan Rao went undefeated through the No. 4 singles to claim the title. In doubles play, Novi's Jason Carless and Andrew Ying carried the top seed at No. 1 doubles and blasted into the finals before finishing runner-up. The same result happened for teammates Nishant Kakar and Michael Chang at No. 2 doubles. Novi also had a pair of semifinal runs at three and four doubles.

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Northville Swim Club Penguins win league crown after 28-year wait

It has been a long 28 years for the Northville Swim Club Penguins - 1985 was the last time the summer swim team won the league championship. The wait came to an end July 27, when the 214 member team swam to an overwhelming victory in the Summer Independent Swim League championship meet hosted by Fairway Farms Swim Club in Livonia. The league includes teams from Newburgh Swim Club (Livonia), Fairway Farms Swim Club (Livonia), Burton Hollow Swim Club (Livonia) and Colony Swim Club (Plymouth-Canton).

One hundred and forty four swimmers from the Northville club participated in the meet, ranging in age from 5 to 18. The team is coached by Dave Rembessa and assistant coaches Will Greenlee and Nora Naughton, all of Northville. Both Naughton and Greenlee, now college students, were swim team members for many years before coaching. "The most important thing about summer swimming is that it is fun," said Rembessa, who has coached the Northville Penguins for the last three years. "Winning as a team is great, but getting your best time, being part of a close knit team and having fun while you're doing it is the joy of summer swimming."

Highlights of the meet included a league-record breaking first place finish from the 8-and-under 100 freestyle relay team of Nolan Ebel, Maggie Patterson, Layne Barritt and Michael Barron as well as a league-record-breaking first place finish from Laura Westphal (14) in the girls' open 100 M individual medley. The summer swim team's season runs June and July with daily morning practices, eight dual meets and the day-long league meet at the end of the season. Full meet results can be found at www.lightgraysoftware.com/sis12013/results/Results.htm. For more information about the Northville Swim Club, visit www.northvilleswimclub.com.

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

Northville Swim Club. Photos of team members and coaches.

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

REAL ESTATE



Portugal cities: Consider outskirts home

Q: I have family in Portugal, and I am thinking of maintaining a part-time residence there...

Q: I travel to Barcelona, Spain, on business on occasion, and I read that employment there is as high as 25 percent...

May home stats a bright spot

By Julie Brown Staff Writer

There's encouraging news from the Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan on home building in metro Detroit...

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

Table with 4 columns: Location, Address, Price, and Date. Lists transactions for Oakland County.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

Table with 4 columns: Location, Address, Price, and Date. Lists transactions for Wayne County.

and Detroit led in single-family home building. There were 125 permits in the city...

Q: I am living in a nursing home, and I am wondering if I can still claim a homestead property tax exemption...

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling, and Operating a Condominium..."

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Careers in the healthcare fields are plentiful and attractive

By Nancy F Higgins,
Contributing Writer

If you are wondering why so many people are joining the healthcare industry, the reasons are plenty. Pursuing a career in healthcare can turn out to be one of the most professionally sound and profitable moves of your life. Here's why:

Ample job opportunities: Even at the peak of recession, healthcare was among the few bright spots that continued to shine through the darkness. Recession has receded since then, but healthcare is still one of the fastest growing industries in the country promising numerous job opportunities. And it's not something that's likely to change very soon as an increasingly aging population; technological advances in the field of medicine; and growing focus on preventive care continue to spur the demand for healthcare professionals of all kinds.

Variety of jobs: It's not just the number of jobs, but also the variety of jobs it offers that makes healthcare such an attractive career proposition for so many individuals. Your options are not just limited to hospital-based professions involving direct patient care such as nursing, physical therapy or respiratory. There are

professions like medical transcription or medical coding that are usually performed at a back office and may not even require you to step your foot inside a hospital.

Jobs to fit all educational levels: Another reason why pursuing a career in healthcare industry makes sense is that you can pick a job that ties in with your academic plans. It's not necessary to spend 5-10 years on postsecondary education for a career in healthcare. You can just as easily find options that require less than a year of training. For example, pharmacy tech training from a career school can be completed in a few months' time.

Job security: No more spending sleepless nights wondering if you'll still have your job the next morning - that's the advantage of joining an industry that's adding workers at a time when others are cutting jobs and handing out pay cuts to employees. A stable and secure career, at the end of the day, translates in to peace of mind.

Attractive compensation: Just because healthcare careers offer stability doesn't mean the money to be had is any less. Most healthcare occupations offer decent paychecks. Many employers, in fact,



offer very attractive salary and benefits packages to their employees to fill the gaps in demand and supply of trained and qualified healthcare professionals. Rest assured you can make a healthy living out of a career in healthcare!

Flexibility: Since a lot of healthcare occupations tend to be round the clock in nature, flex timings are possible in these jobs. You can negotiate with your employers how many days a week, how many hours in a day and the shifts you want to work. Some allied health careers like medical transcription and medical coding, in fact, can also be practiced from home. This arrangement works extremely well for moms who want to stay home with their children; retirees looking to generate an income;

and individuals who cannot commute to work due to physical disabilities or have conditions like extreme sociophobia that make working in an office environment difficult for them.

Job satisfaction: Whether you're a nurse taking care of the sick and injured; a pharmacy tech filling prescriptions; a medical assistant greeting patients in to a healthcare facility with a smile or a medical transcriptionist diligently transcribing doctor dictations - it's important to know that the work you do impacts real people with real problems. From this knowledge comes gratification and contentment that you are doing your bit to make this world a better, safer, and healthier place to live!

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