

# Novi News

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## Mom 2 Mom Sale

Novi Community Education's Infant & Toddler Program, The Lily Pad Lane Day Care, is hosting its annual Mom 2 Mom Sale from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 8, in the Novi High School Atrium. All admission proceeds will benefit equipment for The Lily Pad Lane.

Admission is \$1 per adult and free for children under the age of 12.

Sellers may call 248-449-1713 to rent a table and/or rack space. Tables are \$20 (five feet round) and rack space may be rented for an additional \$15. Space for large items is available next to seller at no extra charge.

Sellers can display for sale anything child-related, including maternity clothes, baby items and kids' items up to preteen.

For more information, contact Community Education-Child Care Services at 248-449-1713.



Michigan Lt. Gov. Brian Calley (center, left) met Friday with Oakland County leaders at NLB Corp. in Wixom to discuss economic development and job growth.

# CALLEY PROMOTES ECONOMIC COMEBACK

Lieutenant governor visits NLB Corp. in Wixom to Snyder administration's efforts

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

Since the end of 2010, more than 220,000 new private-sector jobs have been added in Michigan, with more than 26,000 added in Oakland County.

Is that a comeback? Gov. Rick Snyder thinks it is and he's touting it in places like Oakland County.

It wasn't quite a celebration lap by Snyder's administration, rather it was a chance to say the state has more work to do and also recognize the success stories — like NLB Corp. in Wixom.

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley made a stop last week in Wixom to meet with county business community members as well as government

representatives at NLB Corp., which is a leader in water jet productivity.

With local officials like state Sen. Mike Kowall and Wixom City Manager Tony Nowicki on hand, Calley held a dialogue on the administration's efforts to stimulate Michigan's economy and create jobs in the area.

"The Snyder administration has been laser-focused on growing our economy and creating an environment that spurs innovation for local employers and workers," Calley said. "A number of key economic indicators demonstrate Michigan is coming back and we're going to continue to have an open dialogue with our job providers to ensure our initiatives support a strong economic future."

development grants and loans for six projects, helping leverage an estimated 140 jobs and \$46.7 million in private investment.

NLB has seen success and growth in the last several years, but it wants to be a larger part of a thriving Michigan.

"As a global innovator, NLB is dedicated to helping contractors and industrial customers complete their projects faster," said Drew Waltenbaugh, NLB Corp. CEO. "We're pleased to see that the state of Michigan is pursuing similar solutions for its business customers."

There has been investment in companies that will result in the creation of nearly 25,000 jobs and generate \$4 billion in private investment. Toward job development, the state has also done things like awarding more than \$7.2 million in brownfield rede-

velopment grants and loans for six projects, helping leverage an estimated 140 jobs and \$46.7 million in private investment.

Another part of this "comeback" is population growth. Michigan has experienced two consecutive years of population growth for the first time since 2003-04.

Snyder's administration would also say its business-friendly policies like welcoming new immigrants and streamlining red tape has helped spur some growth.

The push is still on to build the state's economy, so Calley is out spreading the word of what has worked and why and what can be

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## Auto parts supplier given OK to test noise variance

Novi residents could hear impact from Eberspaecher

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

A Novi auto parts assembly plant will get a chance to make some more noise, on a trial basis, at an earlier time of day as it expands.

Eberspaecher North America, Inc., was granted a variance from the Novi City Code to allow loading and unloading activities to take place outside of the normally permitted hours within 400 feet of a residential structure.

The approval was passed by a 4-2 vote of the Novi City Council.

Eberspaecher, located at 43700 Gen Mar, wants to conduct loading and unloading activities between the hours of 5 a.m. and 11 p.m. within 210 feet of the adjacent residential property. There are two neighborhoods nearby, Settlers Creek Court and Marlson Avenue.

"If I was a homeowner in this area that would be impacted by the noise from this activity, I wouldn't want to be woken up at 5 a.m. by this," said council member Andrew Mutch, who along with Laura Marie



Eberspaecher's North American facility, at 43700 Gen Mar, off Novi Road, petitioned the city to allow it to load and unload tractor trailers outside of the time normally allotted for that activity. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Casey voted no. "That is why we have these ordinances in place."

The city sent out notices to 16 homeowners in the area of the potential variance prior to the decision. No one showed up to the meeting to voice any concerns and no public hearing was required.

"The most obvious impacts to the adjacent residential development would be from a visual perspective and as a noise generator," Community Development Deputy Director Barb McBeth said.

Other council members

understand the concerns with the noise impact, however, they were willing to see how it works out considering this business is thriving.

Eberspaecher could add up to 200 employees to its operation of assembling exhaust systems for Chrysler, according to plant manager Larry Wojciechowski. The auto supplier has begun construction on an expansion of its parking area to accommodate the additional workers for the added shift and is adding an outdoor

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## Remembering Richard Ranalletti

Priest helped build Detroit Catholic Central in Novi

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

The Rev. Richard Ranalletti led with a quiet wisdom, helpful hand and fun smile during his time at Detroit Catholic Central High School.

He will be dearly missed by family, friends and colleagues who said goodbye Feb. 26 to Ranalletti at St. James Catholic Church in Novi. He died Feb. 14 in the Angela Hospice Care Center in Livonia, where he had been residing since August 2013. For those who knew him, he was a man who epitomized the school he helped build.

"Goodness, discipline and knowledge, that's what he represented," said Roy Kronsbein, the media specialist at Catholic Central. "He had a unique leading style that respected everyone's talents and recognized skills in others and he helped bring them out in people."

Ranalletti was a teacher and



Ranalletti

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# Girl, classmates reach out to ailing youth

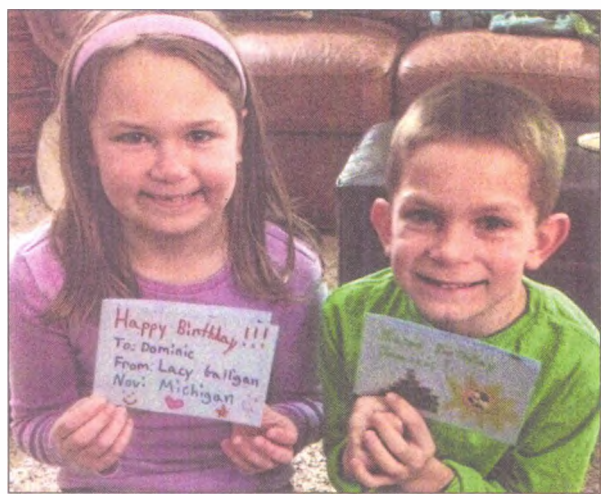
Lacy Galligan is in the fourth grade at Parkview Elementary. Lacy and her family saw a story on the WXYZ-TV (Channel 7) news about a 10-year-old Brighton boy who is ill and home-bound.

Lacy, 9, daughter of Lewis and Jen Galligan of Novi, began by making a birthday card for the youth at home.

From that, Lacy took on bringing young Dominic's Tyner's story to her classmates so they could write birthday cards for him.

"She went and told her teacher about it," Jen Galligan said.

Teacher Lindsey Buscemi took it from there, telling Lacy's mom, "What an incredible story and mission. I shared the news video with the class during our Monday morning meeting and thanked Lacy for her kindness and for being a great leader!"



Lacy Galligan and brother David made these cards at home after seeing a television report about Dominic Tyner, an ailing Brighton youth. Lacy then took the idea to her fourth-grade classmates, who also made cards.

Buscemi's class made cards the next day to send.

"She felt bad because this kid can't go out of his house," Jen Galligan said. The 24 or so classmates agreed and were glad to create cards.

"She's a very shy girl," Jen Galligan add-

ed. "It was nice to hear" she'd taken on a leadership role.

Birthday notes and cards can be sent to Dominic Tyner at P.O. Box 1627, Brighton, MI 48116. The effort is on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/tynerornado](http://www.facebook.com/tynerornado).

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Andiamo hosts chef charity challenge

Andiamo Trattoria Novi (42705 Grand River) is launching a new menu, featuring several dishes that will be exclusive to that location. To introduce these new menu items, the restaurant is hosting a special Chef's Charity Challenge Week, March 9-15.

Customers may enjoy any of the new appetizers or entrees and Andiamo will donate a portion of the proceeds to Gleaners Community Food Bank. For more than 36 years, Gleaners Community Food Bank has been "feeding hungry people and nourishing our communities." Gleaners distributes 41 million pounds of emergency food annually to more than 550 partner soup kitchens, shelters and pantries in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston and Monroe counties.

### Electronics recycling offered

Electronic waste makes up about 2 percent of the materials that are

placed in landfills, but equals 70 percent of the overall toxic waste. When hazardous items are sent to the landfill, toxins such as lead and other heavy metals can leach into the soil and water stream. This is why electronics recycling is so important.

The Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County and Vintage Tech Recyclers have teamed up to host three e-waste collection events this year. The first one will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 22 at Power Park, 45175 W. 10 Mile, Novi. This event is open to the public.

Accepted items include televisions, VCRs, DVD players, game consoles, computers, laptops, monitors, printers, copy machines and much more.

Last year, RRRASOC and Vintage Tech collected and processed nearly 83.5 tons of obsolete e-waste. That may sound like just a pile of old broken TVs and printers, but it represents 11,543 gallons of gas conserved; 2,849 trees saved; 109,115 plastic bottles recycled; and 485,650 aluminum cans recycled.

For more information, visit [www.rrrasoc.org](http://www.rrrasoc.org) or call 248-208-2270.

### Kowall running

State Sen. Mike Kowall announced he is asking Oakland County voters to return him to the state Senate for a second and final term. Kowall serves the 15th District, which includes Novi and Wixom.

"I'm proud of my record these past three years in the Senate. Michigan has 220,000 more jobs, a balanced state budget that reins in spending and is again becoming an economic development model for other states," Kowall said.

Kowall chairs the

Senate Economic Development Committee; is vice chair of the Senate Transportation Committee; and serves as a member of the Senate Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes Committee and the Senate Reforms, Restructuring, Reinventing Committee.

### Friends of the Novi Library Kaleidoscope Series

Virginia Bailey Parker will present a program on the All-American Girls Baseball League - a group of women athletes who played professional baseball from 1943-54, including on teams that competed in Michigan - at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, at the Novi Public Library. She will incorporate vintage photos and excerpts from video interviews she did with Michigan women who played in the league. The movie *A League of Their Own*, with Tom Hanks, Geena Davis and Rosie O'Donnell, was based on the true story of AAGPBL.

### Environmental Leadership community

The 2014 Olympics may be over, but gold, silver and bronze awards are still being handed out to a select group of Michigan communities.

A total of 33 Michigan local governments, including Novi (silver), were recognized Feb. 25 for environmental leadership at the Michigan Green Communities conference in Flint. They are the second set of governments recognized under the recently expanded Michigan Green Communities Challenge (<http://mml.org/green>). The program helps local leaders measure their progress in implementing energy, economic development and environmental improvements.

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## RANALLETTI

Continued from Page A1

assistant principal at CC in Redford in the 1980s. He left and returned in 2000 and was president in 2012-13.

And it was in education that his lasting impact will be greatly remembered.

"One of his lasting legacies will be the strong faculty he brought into this school over the years," said the Rev. Jefferson Thompson, CC president. "He loved the students and always had fun around the annual fund drive and he also really enjoyed living at the home with the Basilian fathers. He will be missed."

Thompson described Ranalletti as having a great wealth of practical wisdom, a talent he used to help others whenever they had a question.

The Rev. John Huber, CC principal, was a teenager when he first met Ranalletti and it was this wisdom that impacted him, but it was also Ranalletti's gentle spirit that he will remember.

"He had a gentle and helpful heart," Huber said.

Those who knew Ranalletti say his unique and positive influence has been far-reaching and long-lasting and his loss is profoundly felt by the many people who have been gratefully touched by that influence.

Ranalletti was predeceased by his dear parents, Philip Anthony and Florence Marthage Ranalletti, and his nephew Daniel King. He is survived by his loving sister Joan King of Nokomis, Fla., his niece Doreen Phillips of Wareham, Mass., his nephews Timothy King of Colebrook, Conn., and Michael King of Apopka, Fla., his cousin Ralph Simolo of Rochester, N.Y., numerous grand nieces and nephews, as well as several great-grand nieces and nephews.

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## THE REV. RICHARD RANALLETTI

Born Sept. 3, 1944, in Rochester, N.Y., he attended that city's Corpus Christi Elementary School, staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph, and went on to graduate from The Aquinas Institute (1962) and St. John Fisher College (1966) with a bachelor of arts in mathematics and education, both the latter institutions being under the direction of the Basilian Fathers at the time.

He entered the Basilian Fathers' novitiate in Erindale (outside Toronto) and professed his religious vows in 1967. Spending his seminary years in residence in that city's St. Basil's College, he completed his master of divinity (1972) at the University of St. Michael's College, also a Basilian institution, within the University of Toronto. He was ordained May 26, 1973, to the priesthood in An-nunciation Church in Rochester, N.Y., by the Most Rev. Joseph Hogan.

His priestly ministry was devoted to education, with appointments to The Aquinas Institute in Rochester, N.Y., as teacher, guidance counselor and assistant principal (1972-82), to Detroit Catholic Central High School in Redford as teacher and assistant principal (1982-85), to Bishop O'Dowd High School in Oakland, Calif., as teacher, director of studies, assistant principal and principal (1985-2000) and again to Detroit Catholic Central in both Redford and Novi as principal (2000-10) and president (2010-12).

He rounded out his distinguished career in administration as the secretary-general and treasurer-general of the Congregation of St. Basil at the Basilian Fathers' Curial Offices in Toronto (2012-13).

## NOISE

Continued from Page A1

storage tank on-site. Construction is expected to be completed in the spring.

"Our business operations have recently increased to the point that expanded shipping hours are now critical to our operations," Wojciechowski said.

Mayor Bob Gatt agreed about the potential negatives associated with the decision, so he offered a compromise.

"If we approve something like this on a temporary basis and then reconvene to re-assess it ... just to get a feel for it," Gatt said he would be in favor of the variance in the short term.

It was decided the

variance test will be for the next nine months.

"It's a terrible position to be in to try and weigh potential jobs to the quality of life of residents," council member Justin Fischer said.

He said the testing has not lessened his concerns and added he would be a "hard sell" in making this permanent. The biggest noise will probably come from air brakes being used on the delivery trucks.

Fischer and Casey said they would be interested in seeing how residents feel about it as the test goes along.

Casey pushed for a shorter testing period, but the council wants a longer period in order to see how the changing seasons impact the

noise.

According to city staff, based on the results of the initial noise study, the loading and unloading operations would exceed permitted noise levels in almost every scenario. A more complete study will be done in the coming months.

"I'm with everybody up here. I'm on the side of the residents, but I'm also on the side of business ... and don't want to be an obstruction," Gatt said.

However, he added residents will come first if it becomes a big concern, so the decision could be reversed.

Council could change its decision anytime it views appropriate to do so.

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## CALLEY

Continued from Page A1

done next, especially through training and education of those wanting a good job. Business leaders say there are jobs out there, especially in the skilled trades.

One key part of continuing any comeback will be preparing the next generation for jobs like those at NLB. This is what NLB employee Anthony Schwartz, who has been with the company for 13 years, wants the community to know - that skilled trades can lead to a career.

"I feel good to have this job; it's a great company," he said after listening to the discussion.

He took classes like welding back at Redford Union High School years ago as an elective and now he's working at a job he loves. He said he didn't know at the time the importance those classes would have for him.

"I've learned a lot in this work, especially being on the job around other hard-working people," he said.

Calley will continue to meet with the business community across the state to highlight economic achievements, while seeking feedback on what the state can do to further its economic growth.

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**"The Snyder administration has been laser-focused on growing our economy and creating an environment that spurs innovation for local employers and workers."**  
LT. GOV. BRIAN CALLEY

## UPDATES FROM CITY OF NOVI

### Register for Mother-Son Dance

The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department, in partnership with Paradise Park, will host a Mother-Son Dance 7-9 p.m. Friday, March 21, at the Novi Civic Center.

Participants are encouraged to dress in tropical attire to celebrate the "Surf's Up" theme. Mothers (or significant female in a child's life) and sons will shake and shimmy as Night and Day Productions plays today's hits along with some summertime favorites. Refreshments will be served, including a giant chocolate fountain with foods to dip into the gooey goodness, snowcones and popcorn. At the conclusion of the night, 800 balloons will fall from the ceiling.

The price is \$14 per person for residents and \$17 for non-residents. Each couple will receive a free photo from PortraitEFX. Photo packages will be available for purchase during the dance. In addition to dancing and refreshments, the evening will include a bounce house and fun giveaways. Plus, each child will receive a special gift upon departure.

Registration is going on now online via cityofnovi.org or in-person at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile. Registration deadline is

Friday, March 14. A \$5 late fee will be charged per person if space is available the following week; no registrations will be accepted at the door. For questions about the event, contact the Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department by calling 248-347-0400.

### Library kicks off coupon campaign

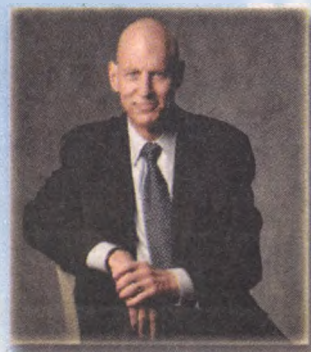
The Novi Public Library plans a fundraising campaign each year to raise money in support of its collections and resources. With themed events in the past, Director Julie Farkas had a different idea for 2014.

The coupon book is filled with not only coupons that offer discounts to local businesses, but gives the community a chance to explore the city of Novi.

Steve & Rocky's, Buffalo Wild Wings, Paradise Park, Perfect Deserts and One Training are a just a few of the featured sponsors that fill the pages. With 500 books printed, the library plans to sell them all in hopes of raising \$15,000 to go toward the technology fund. Books are available to purchase for \$30 at the library. All coupons are valid through the end of 2014.

For more information about this fundraiser, call 248-349-0720. To purchase one, visit at 45255 W. 10 Mile.

## Meet the Author

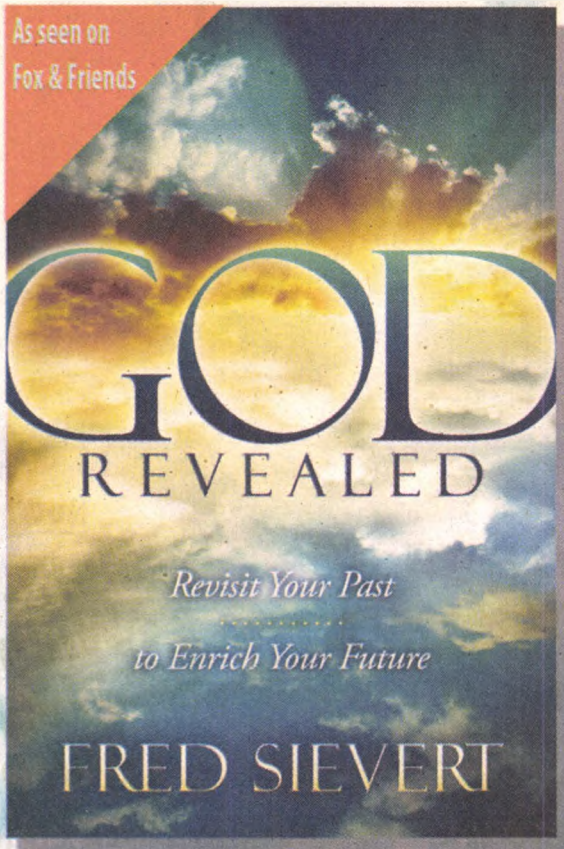


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## Supporting bond will help sustain excellence

Every summer when I was young, my family would drive from Albuquerque, N.M., to Fairland, Okla., my father's hometown.

On almost every visit, my father would, at some point, drive by the first school he ever attended. It was a one-room school house that sat back off the main road, no longer in use.

As my father recounted more times than I care to recall, the school had one teacher. It had one main room where students, in grades K-6, sat in rows arranged by grade. There was no playground, just a big empty field next to the building. A pot-belly stove sat in the corner, used for heat in the winter.

There was no gymnasium, no technology, no kitchen. There was no parking lot, no extracurricular activities, no



**Steve Matthews**  
SUPER TALK

band nor orchestra.

Upon completion of the sixth grade, the students would transition to the school in town. According to my father, it was a huge school.

At the school in Fairland, there was a gymnasium, they had athletic teams and they had a school kitchen. There were 17 students in my father's graduating class.

We have come a long way from one-room school houses, schools with no playgrounds and graduating classes of less than 20 people.

In Novi, just over 6,400 students attend school every day. We have almost 1.5 million

square feet of space in eight school buildings and three support facilities covering almost 300 acres of land. We transport more than 3,000 students a day on 26 buses, driving approximately 2,400 miles a day.

Our community has invested money, time and energy into our district, creating very positive learning spaces for our students. Our facilities are exemplary, our school buses are safe and our technology allows our students to develop the skills they need to be successful in the 21st century.

But things reach the end of their useful life. To sustain the excellence that we have in our district, we have to make an investment.

On May 6, the voters in our school district are going to be asked to support a \$70 million bond proposal to sustain our

excellence.

This bond proposal will not increase the current millage rate. The rate that our community pays now will be the rate moving forward if the bond is approved.

The proposed bond asks voters to support projects in three main areas. Facilities and sites comprise approximately \$35 million. This money would go to support our current infrastructure – roofs, parking lots, windows, HVAC, electrical and plumbing. Approximately \$15 million would be designated to support elementary K-4 classroom additions and a new early childhood education center. Finally, approximately \$25 million would provide continued support for technology, security, furniture replacement and buses.

Additional information on

this proposal, including our detailed facilities review and the citizen's committee review, is available on the Novi Community School district website at <http://www.novi.k12.mi.us/district/bond>.

We have come a long way from one-room school houses. My father, a teacher for 33 years, would look back fondly at where he had come from, but he also understood the need to continue supporting the current generation of students. On May 6, our community has a chance to vote for a no-increase millage that would allow us to sustain our excellence in Novi. I would encourage you to vote yes for this proposal.

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

### NOVI ON CAMPUS

#### University of Alabama

Bryan Korona of Novi was named to the President's List for academic excellence during the fall 2013 semester. He has achieved this distinction for all semesters completed. President's List honors are accorded students who achieve a 4.0 grade-point on a 4.0 scale while carrying at least 12 credit hours during a semester.

#### Saint Mary's College

Novi's Jacqueline Kjolhede was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2013 semester. To earn academic honors at Saint Mary's, a student must achieve a grade-point average of at least 3.6 on a 4.0 scale, have at least 12 graded credit hours, no incompletes and no grades lower than a C.

#### Miami University

Two students from Novi – Bradley Kozinski and Jacqueline Mullins – were ranked in the top 20 percent of undergraduate students within each division for first semester 2013 and were named to the dean's list recognizing academic performance.

### Count Day



Some 491 Village Oaks students, including Micah Lephart, shown working on an art project, attended school Feb. 12 – the second official Count Day. The district's total number of students that day accounts for 10 percent and is blended with the first Count Day, which accounts for 90 percent and was held this past October, to determine Novi's per-pupil funding of \$8,359 from the state of Michigan for the 2013-14 school year. Novi saw an increase of 37 students between the two count days and the district is anticipating a jump of 50-100 from October 2013 to October 2014. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

### Novi MEAP scores remain strong

Novi Community School District continues a trend of strong and steady MEAP scores. The Michigan Department of Education recently released MEAP scores from the tests given in grades 3-9 in October 2013. The results show continued strength in NCSD scores, which are consistently at the top tier of schools in the state of Michigan.

Last year's scores in all areas – reading, mathematics, writing, science and social studies – were near the top of all schools in the state of Michigan and this year's scores show continued success. Students generally maintained or improved in most tested areas and at most grade levels.

"Novi's MEAP scores continue to be strong," Novi Schools Superintendent Dr. Steve Matthews said. "They are one piece in a larger puzzle that helps us understand the strengths of our students. The performance of our students reflects the continued commitment and focus of our students, staff, parents and community to student achievement and quality education."

Statewide scores can be viewed at [www.mischooldata.org](http://www.mischooldata.org).

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# Detergent Detectives spreading eco-friendly word

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

Have you ever wondered what happens to detergent after it goes down the drain?

Well, three Novi girls have and now they want to get the message out on how this ultimately impacts our eco-system.

"We started wondering what happened to the detergent after it went down the drain and how it affected our eco-system - whether the water in our washing machines was somehow related to the water we saw in the wetlands around our homes," said Shaily Fozdar, Maithelee Sathe, Katie Xie, all eighth-graders at Novi Middle School.

They call themselves the Detergent Detectives and their goal is to promote eco-friendly detergent use, which they



Novi Middle School students (from left) Katie Xie, Shaily Fozdar, and Maithelee Sathe display some of their preferred choices for eco-friendly laundry detergent. They are taking part in a Siemens We Can Change the World contest that's encouraging young people to find ways to lessen their impact on the environment. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

say is better for our health and not harmful to our environment.

Their concerns came after learning that consumer companies are not required to list every chemical in the detergent formulation, such as the carcinogen 1,4-diox-

ane.

"Inspired by our near-by Novi Eco Green Dry Cleaners, we decided to promote the use of environmentally-friendly detergent and other cleaners in our households," the group said. "These detergents are

made of natural, organic and biodegradable ingredients."

Now they want to get the message out.

"It is better to take care of chemicals at the source since chemical scrubbers would be very expensive," Sathe said of a few of their goals. "We would also like major detergent companies to create new formulas with friendlier ingredients for our health and environment."

They went before the Novi City Council last month to voice their concerns and ask for help in communicating the message. They are encouraging people to buy eco-detergents by teaching them about their many benefits, like how they're inexpensive and just as good at cleaning as any other detergent.

The types of deter-

gents they recommend are marked with "USDA certified bio-based" or "EPA design for environment" symbols. Other eco-friendly options include using soap nuts or making soap at home.

"Water is Michigan's most important resource, so its pollution was our main concern," Sathe said.

The Detergent Detectives cite recent studies identifying toxic "chemicals of concern" from consumer products accumulating in the Great Lakes.

"Chemicals found in detergent residue increase algae growth and poison the gills of fish in our Great Lakes and other waterways," they said. "Consumption of these organisms can possibly end up harming us."

The chemicals can also cause irritation and

allergic reactions for people with sensitive skin.

The girls want as many people as possible to know of the issues. They will really work by word of mouth, but will also be reaching out to local legislators to get the attention of detergent companies with their proposals.

"We will keep on teaching our community members to clean green," they said.

They are sharing information through a YouTube video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1QIzj74W20Y>) and on their Facebook page, "Detergent Detectives." They can be reached via email at [detergentdetectives@gmail.com](mailto:detergentdetectives@gmail.com).

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

## NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS

### Preschool registration beginning

Novi Community Education Preschool will begin registration for new students for 2014-15 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 13, in the Community Education office (in Novi Meadows, off of Taft Road, in the Community Education entry between the fifth- and sixth-grade house).

To register, parents should bring: a completed registration form, a copy of the child's birth certificate and immunization records. The registration fee is \$50 and nonrefundable.

A class schedule along with prices and payment dates may be found on the Novi Community Education website at [www.novi.k12.mi](http://www.novi.k12.mi), by looking under Community Education and scrolling to the preschool site.

For more information, contact Novi Community Education Preschool at 248-449-1713.

### Calling all 2014-15 kindergartners

It's time for kindergarten registration for children who will have reached age 5 by Oct. 1. Contact your neighborhood Novi elementary school office for more information.

### A Growing Place open house

A Growing Place Preschool (40700 W. 10 Mile, Novi) announced the addition of a Young 5's Program to its preschool and pre-kindergarten classes.

An open house will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 15, and will include free activities, crafts and snacks.

This open house will give parents an opportunity to visit the school, meet the staff and learn about the classes and programs offered. There will be information on existing classes, as well as information highlighting the new Young 5's curriculum.

Growing Place will continue to offer full- and half-day preschool classes for 3's and 4's as well as pre-kindergarten sessions for children going off to kindergarten next fall.

The new Young 5's class is open to children who will have reached the age of at least 4½ by Sept. 1.

For more information, call 248-471-2333.

### Raina a semifinalist

Senior Raj Raina has been named as a semifinalist of the 73rd annual Science Talent Search. Novi High School is one of 185 schools across the nation from which one or more Intel Science Talent Search semifinalists were named this year.

As the nation's oldest and most prestigious pre-college science competition, the Intel Science Talent Search brings together the best and brightest young scien-

tific minds in the United States to compete for \$1.25 million in awards. Each semifinalist receives a \$1,000 award from the Intel Foundation with an additional \$1,000 going to his or her school.

### Tuition Expedition 2014

The Walled Lake Consolidated School District Foundation for Excellence, for its ninth consecutive year, has launched Tuition Expedition, a 50/50 raffle for postsecondary education funds. The winner may also choose a 40-percent cash option instead of the scholarship. The grand prize drawing is set for March 24, at the Walled Lake Consolidated School District Reflections Celebration at Clifford Smart Middle School. The winner need not be present.

No more than 500 tickets will be sold at \$100 each, and purchaser must be U.S. resident and at least 18 years of age. Funds will be paid (in the form of scholarship funds) directly to any U.S. "eligible educational institution" as defined by the IRS. Winner has up to 20 years to assign and split the funds among and up to four students, but once disbursement has begun, must be used within four years. The winner may also choose cash equal to 40 percent of total ticket proceeds in a lump sum (less 25 percent federal income tax withholding).

Tickets may be purchased online by visiting the Foundation for Excellence website at [www.wlcsd.org/foundation.cfm](http://www.wlcsd.org/foundation.cfm). Official rules and additional raffle details can also be found on the website. Checks may also be made payable to Foundation for Excellence for ticket purchases and mailed to its office at 850 Ladd Road, Bldg. D, Walled Lake, MI 48390.

"Tuition Expedition 2014 exemplifies the Foundation for Excellence mission to enhance and support the education of Walled Lake Consolidated School District's students," said

Michelle Bianco, executive director of the Foundation for Excellence. "Funds raised by this raffle will benefit the areas of technology, literacy, leadership and community within the WLCSD while also easing the grand, prize winning ticket holder's financial load for postsecondary education. The foundation, established in 1991, remains steadfast in moving forward with the district in supporting innovation and excellence in education and has done so by raising over \$800,000.00."

For more information, visit [www.wlcsd.org/foundation.cfm](http://www.wlcsd.org/foundation.cfm) or contact Michelle Bianco at 248-956-2116.

### Green Gala on March 29

The Novi Educational Foundation has also adopted the Leader in Me program as its major fundraising initiative and proceeds from the March 29 Green Gala will aid that cause.

The NEF's vision is to fill the district with students who are responsible, show initiative, are creative, know how to set goals and meet them, get along with people of various backgrounds and cultures and can resolve conflicts and problems.

The Green Gala will be held at Lyon Oaks, 52551 Pontiac Trail, Wixom (248-347-9200). It will be an evening of fun and excitement in support of Novi Community Schools and its children, which includes casino night gambling; strolling dinner and desserts; silent auction and raffle; music and dancing by DJ Don; strolling magician and cash bar. Participation will help the Novi Educational Foundation continue providing the Leader in Me program; instructional enhancements; program grants; and student scholarships.

Tickets are \$110 and \$1,000. New this year, ticket sales are limited, and each ticket provides a reserved seat. Purchase tickets online at <http://www.novieducationalfoundation.org/2014-green-gala>.

## Reading with dad

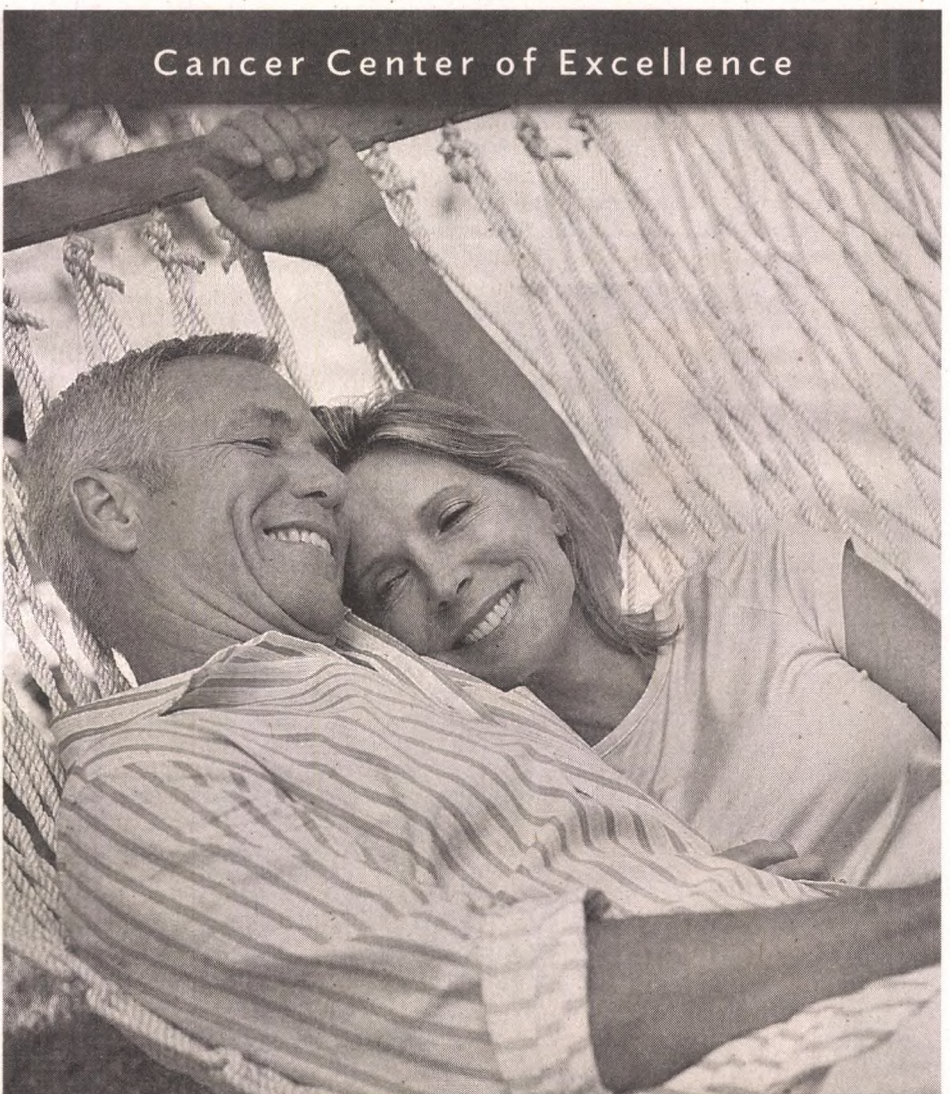


Many girls spent time in February attending and dancing with their daddies at Daddy Daughter dances held all over. Kindergarten student Adaleena Ferguson just wanted to see her dad - and that's what happened Feb. 25 at Dublin Elementary, a Walled Lake school. Adaleena was surprised in class with a bouquet of flowers, a stuffed animal and her daddy, of course. Cpl. Andrew Ferguson used to read nightly to Adaleena via Skype and he was the surprise guest reader in Mrs. Loveland's kindergarten class. Principal Jeff Drewno even made time to attend this special occasion. The dad and daughter last saw each other in person last summer.

## 100th Day



Deerfield Elementary celebrated the 100th day of school Feb. 18 after several postponements because of snow and cold days. Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Lyon have been celebrating 100th day each year since Deerfield opened in 2000. They have parent volunteers come in and help run several 100th Day centers. Will Noonan (from left), Mikey Shih and Ali Davison dig for 100 items in a bucket of rice.

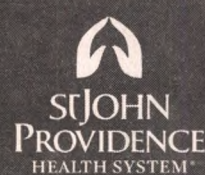


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Believe in better

# Prison for shooter; mom will fight on

Attorney general maintains terrorism was the right charge

By Lisa Roose-Church  
Gannett Michigan

Law enforcement and victims say the case of the Interstate 96 corridor shooter ended with his sentencing, but the shooter's mother says the fight continues.

The defendant's mother, Lana Timmer Hunt, said her son, Raulie Wayne Casteel, was not in his right mind and while she knew he "was going to have to answer" for shooting at 23 motorists in four counties in October 2012, she believes he should be in a mental facility and not prison.

"I love my son with all my heart and I don't care what anybody said. He would not have done this if he was in his right mind," Hunt said after the hearing Monday in Livingston County Circuit Court.

Casteel was sentenced to 16-40 years in prison for terrorism and an additional two years for felony firearms. The sentences run consecutively to one another, but concurrently to the 2½-4 years he received for felonious assault and 3-5 years for carrying a weapon with unlawful intent.

"I think terrorism is so wrong because I don't think he planned it," Hunt said. "I think he was warning people to stay away from him. I hope (Attorney General) Bill Schuette is happy. It's not over yet because I'm his mother and I'm going to make sure."

Casteel chose not to speak in court.

## Appropriate charge

Schuette's office prosecuted the case and, at a news conference after the hearing, Schuette said terrorism was the appropriate charge because Casteel's actions caused fear across southeast Michigan. He called the sentence imposed by Livingston County Chief Judge David Reader "tough, responsible."

Reader said the widespread effects Casteel's shooting had — including residents changing their daily routines — are "indeed terrorism." He said while no



Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette speaks at a news conference after the sentencing of Raulie Wayne Casteel. On the left is victim Jennifer Kupiec and at right is victim Lorian Arthur. GILLIS BENEDICT | GANNETT MICHIGAN

one was physically hurt, they were traumatized.

Reader empathized regarding Casteel's mental illness, sharing a personal story about his mother's experience and staring into "catatonic eyes, institutional eyes" as a teen. However, he noted, that although Casteel has a mental diagnosis and believed the government was somehow out to get him, there is nothing in the reports he received "to indicate that he was delusional in his use of deadly force or the possible outcome of what that could be."

"He knew and admitted on the witness stand that he was using a lethal weapon and if he wanted to shoot someone ... what the possible outcome could be," the judge noted. "What prompted him to shoot may have been delusional, but he certainly knew when he was shooting at various cars and people what the possible outcome could be."

Victim Stacy Banks was less sympathetic about Casteel's mental illness claims, telling him that she found his claims he was paranoid, driven by demons and meant no harm to be "ridiculous." She asked for the maximum sentence, which is life in prison.

"You aimed a gun at human beings and you pulled the trigger," she said. "You meant harm and you meant to terrorize people. ... Mr. Casteel, what you are is a criminal and you need to be separated from society."

## SCHUETTE GRATEFUL

Michigan's attorney general publicly thanked the hundreds of law enforcement officers who became the task force investigating the Interstate 96 corridor shooter in October 2012.

In a news conference Monday after the sentencing hearing for the shooter, Attorney General Bill Schuette said the state would not tolerate people who shoot at motorists.

He said the shooter, Wixom resident Raulie Wayne Casteel, terrorized Michigan citizens in four counties, Livingston, Shiawasee, Ingham and Oakland, in October 2012 when he fired at 23 motorists. Most of the shootings occurred on Wixom Road in Oakland County and M-52 in Ingham County. One shooting occurred on I-96 in Livingston County.

"It's a miracle that no child was killed," Schuette said, referencing the motorists who had their children in the vehicles. "Some people were afraid to travel on the highways and the roads of Michigan. They took different routes because they were afraid of their morning commute."

"This is why, because of acts of intimidation and coercion that caused fear across southeast Michigan for a period of time, we charged Raulie Casteel with terrorism and as a result Judge (David) Reader issued a (sentence) of 18-40 years and we're very pleased with that tough, responsible (sentence)."

Casteel was sentenced in Livingston County Circuit Court to 16-40 years in prison for terrorism and an additional two years for felony firearms, which run consecutive to one another for a minimum total of 18 years.

Casteel was initially charged in Livingston in a seven-count complaint with felonious assault and felony firearms, among other charges.

County Prosecutor William Vaillencourt said it was important for Livingston to charge the case and "get Mr. Casteel off the streets." It quickly became apparent, however, that Schuette's office was the best option for prosecution due to the multiple jurisdictions, he noted.

Michigan State Police Detective 1st Lt. Sean Furlong, a member of the task force, said during the investigation detectives re-interviewed the victims and it was then the Livingston County victim, Jennifer Kupiec, recalled the shooter's vehicle had a Michigan State University fundraising plate — a detail that was new to police. The vehicle was identified as a Malibu.

Furlong said from there officers were able to get a list of registered Malibus with an MSU fundraising plate from the Department of State and it came back to only one person in Wixom — Casteel.

## Close call

Prosecutors argued at trial that Casteel came within "milliseconds" of shooting and killing Brighton Firehouse Subs owner Jennifer Kupiec, who testified that she was driving a Cadillac about 80 mph to 85 mph on I-96 on Oct. 18, 2012, when she noticed a slower-moving Malibu in front of her. She said as she passed the vehicle, she heard a sound that left a ringing in her ears. She stopped at a gas station near the Tanger Outlet Center at Kensington Valley exit in Howell Township and she noticed a bullet hole in the backseat door handle on the driver's side.

At a news conference

after the sentencing, Kupiec said the only way she could describe what she felt when she realized someone had shot at her was "sheer hysteria." She said she was grateful she was speeding that day because had she been going slower, she believes Casteel's bullet would have struck her in the rib cage and killed her.

Assistant Attorney General Gregory Townsend, who co-prosecuted the case, said "selective targets, selective time and selective territory" were indicative that Casteel planned it and thought about it. He said Casteel brought a gun, which he placed in his arm's reach, and he had extra ammunition in his vehicle during his three-

day shooting spree.

"He had to reload and continued shooting on M-52," Townsend said. "The fact that he knew people were driving the cars and he knew what a bullet could do to them, he knew he could kill people and he continued to do the shooting anyway."

It was the prosecution's position that Casteel receive the high end of the state's minimum sentence guidelines, between 11.25 years and 18.75 years in prison, while the defense said the guidelines exceed "that which is necessary ... and they don't apply in a rational way to somebody who is mentally ill and has now found his way to treatment."

Defense attorney Douglas Mullkoff spent about 20 minutes outlining Casteel's mental health, which was detailed in a psychological report that indicated Casteel was having mental health issues since 2009, perhaps earlier. The report said Casteel was diagnosed and is being treated with delusional disorder.

## Oakland County case

Mullkoff also pointed to Casteel's Oakland County cases, where he was recently sentenced to a maximum of 12 years in prison for multiple charges including assault with intent to commit great bodily harm less than murder and felony firearms. He said the Oakland judge and prosecutor's office "were not being soft on crime."

"They were showing a recognition of the terror the victims endured, but also a compassion for the victim of mental illness, Mr. Casteel," the defense attorney said. "We should applaud the Oakland County solution to this problem because in a civilized society, I believe, we treat the sick and infirm with compassion, not hatred. The courts dole out justice, but it has to be tempered with mercy to be just."

Mullkoff asked if Casteel was "actually a terrorist." He questioned whether the Legislature intended the terrorism statute to fit someone who is mentally ill like Casteel. He called it a bad interpretation of the law, which was meant for the Timothy McVeighs or Boston Marathon bomber-like people in the world.

Casteel testified during the trial that he was not trying to harm people, but was shooting at cars because he was told to by a coded message he received in a Detroit Tigers game and because the long lines of traffic triggered the "demons" in his mind. His paranoia included believing people were targeting his family and that military aircraft were flying over his home when he lived in Kentucky.

"He's certainly a troubled individual," Mullkoff said. "I think the public views him as sad. ... Most people feel sorry for him. He told the court he wasn't shooting at people. ... He wanted the delusions to stop."

## NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

### Drunken driving

An illegal left turn led a Milford man to get arrested for operating while intoxicated.

Novi police stopped the man early the morning of March 1 after spotting him making a prohibited turn off of Novi Road onto the ramp of I-96. Police reported smelling intoxicants on the man and he told them he had two or three drinks earlier. The man was given a breathalyzer test after having trouble maintaining his balance during the field sobriety tests.

His blood-alcohol content was a 0.134 percent.

### Phone stolen

A man's iPhone 5 went missing March 1 after a visit to the restroom in Twelve Oaks mall.

He went inside the bathroom, but left his phone on the sink and later left without it. He went back in and it was gone. He reported the incident to the mall security.

### OWI-third offense

A man was issued his third drunken driving offense after Novi police stopped him March 1 for erratic driving.

Police spotted the driver after 2 a.m. at Potomac Street and Pennsylvania Avenue drifting in the lane and crossing the lines several times. Upon making contact, police reported the man saying he had more than enough to drink. He quit half way through the field sobriety tests and refused the breathalyzer.

He told police, "I am not under the legal limit." Police went ahead and got a warrant in order to draw blood for a test.

- By Lonnie Huhman

## Man robs Novi Rite Aid of gift cards

A man entered the Rite Aid on 10 Mile Road at Meadowbrook Road around 9:16 p.m. March 1 and handed the teller a note. The note demanded prepaid gift cards, which he had selected off of the store shelf, be electronically loaded along with the cash in the register and no one would die. The clerk loaded 10 to 12 gift cards with an undisclosed amount, which the suspect then fled the area with on foot, leaving behind the cash. A gun was implied, but never observed.

The suspect was described as a black male in his early 20s, approximately 5 feet, 8 inches, thin build, unknown hair color, unknown eye color. He was last seen wearing white gloves, unknown color baseball hat and a black hooded sweatshirt that possibly had a skull and crossbones design on the back. The hood was pulled over his face to conceal his identity.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Sgt. Scott Baetens at 248-347-0530.

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# Tea Party Express throws support behind Bentivolio

By Laura Colvin  
Staff Writer

This is a battle worth fighting.

Those were the words of Milford Republican Congressman Kerry Bentivolio, who was back in town last week to accept an endorsement from the Tea Party Express, a Sacramento-based political action committee.

"(Bentivolio) understands that big government is the problem, they're not the solution," Tea Party Express Chairman Amy Kremer said during an enthusiastic endorsement speech. "He has stood on the front lines in Washington fighting for all of us, not only people in his district, but people across the country."

The Tea Party Express endorsed Bentivolio when he first ran for office in 2012 and was fervent about standing behind the U.S. representative again, Kramer said during last week's gathering at Bentivolio's campaign headquarters near the Kroger market in Milford.

Bentivolio, a former Fowlerville Community Schools teacher who won his first election in 2012 after the resignation of U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, will square off against Birmingham attorney Dave Trott in the Aug. 5 Republican primary.

In terms of fundraising, Bentivolio has been significantly trailing Trott, but the Tea Party Express endorsement could potentially help the incumbent.

The group's political action committee gave him \$5,000 in the last race, but its endorsement could possibly be of greater help as a tool for the campaign to raise money nationwide.

"I don't care how much money is put into a



U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio (left), R-Milford, addresses supporters at his campaign headquarters.

race," Kremer said. "We win races with boots on the ground, passion and fire in the belly. That's how we won it the first time and ... that's how he's going to win it again."

The Tea Party Express maintains that it represents the views of "millions of tea party supporters across the country," saying it is the "most aggressive and influential national tea party group in the political arena."

Bentivolio touched on a wide range of subjects as he addressed supporters during the Tea Party Express endorsement announcement last week, including education, the national debt, the shrinking middle class, the need for an overhaul of the tax code and his drive to eliminate the Affordable Care Act.

"A war is raging for the soul of America," Bentivolio said. "It is not a war of steel and cartridge. It is a conflict of ideas, fought not in trenches, jungles or in deserts. Instead, it is played out in town halls,

round tables, tea party and liberty groups all across the nation. Instead of cannonades, there are editorials. Instead of bombs, there are speeches. Instead of rifle volleys, there is education on the blessings of liberty ordained by God and guaranteed by the United States Constitution."

Bentivolio also took the opportunity to describe what he called a "constitutional crisis" and to blast the press.

"Your right to keep and bear arms, to due process, to the most sacred right of religious freedom, freedom of speech, the press, peaceful assembly and the redress of grievances are under attack by the very same government that is supposed to protect your rights," Bentivolio said during his remarks to supporters. "And speaking of the press, servitude cannot be complete if the press is free. The press is a cheap Democratic instrument of freedom. Sadly, many in the press, like many in Congress, have neglected their

duty to ensure a free people. This must change. This is a battle

worth fighting."

Mike and Sandi Bockelman of Highland attended the event to support Bentivolio and said they plan to make financial contributions to the campaign.

"I'm impressed with the work he's done and I really appreciate how open he's been with his voting record," Mike Bockelman said.

Meshawn and Matt Maddock of Milford also came out to support Bentivolio.

"We've supported Kerry for a long time," Meshawn Maddock said. "He has so much integrity. He's a great guy. I was worried he was going to go to Washington and get chewed up and spit out, but I think he's holding his own."

Chuck and Ann Pickett of Livonia also attended the event and said they've supported Benti-

volio since before the first election.

"He's not out to impress those in higher places, he's concerned about representing the people he works for, which is the rest of us," Ann Pickett said. "All of us are concerned about the direction the country is going in; we want to rein it in and take it back to what it should be."

Two Democrats hope to challenge the eventual Republican nominee in the 11th District: Dr. Anil Kumar, a surgeon, and former U.S. State Department employee Bobby McKenzie. The district includes a range of communities in western Wayne and Oakland counties.

Gannett Michigan contributed to this report.

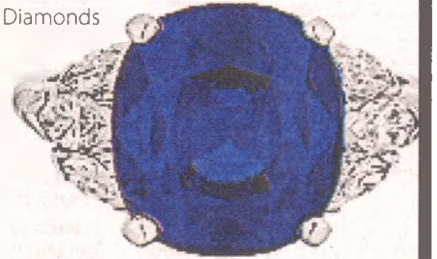
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March 9th @ 2:30PM

Reserved Seating: \$15 adults; \$10 seniors/kids 10 & under  
General Seating: \$12 adults; \$8 seniors/kids 10 & under

\*All proceeds benefit Living Hope International

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# NOVI COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## LOCAL EVENTS

### NOVI LIONS CLUB CHARITY DINNER

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Saturday, March 8  
**Location:** Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi  
**Details:** The Legend Brothers bring Vegas; \$25 per person (includes dinner and silent auction). Help club eliminate blindness – all proceeds to the Michigan Eye Bank.  
**Contact:** For tickets or additional information, contact Doc Barr 248-417-3218 or wbarr6651@aol.com

### SCHOOLCRAFT TO U PARTNERSHIP OPEN HOUSE

**Time/Date:** 5-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 12  
**Location:** VisTaTech Center, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Learn about your new education options in nursing, health information administration, communications and criminal justice through Schoolcraft College and The University of Toledo. Talk with Schoolcraft and University of Toledo advisers in one location at one time.  
**Contact:** www.schoolcraft.edu/SCtoU; 734-462-4426

### DEMOCRAT MEETING

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. socialize; 7 p.m. meeting; Tuesday, March 18  
**Location:** Novi Methodist Church, 4167 W. Ten Mile, Novi  
**Details:** Caitlin O'Rourke will address a meeting of the Democrats of West Oakland County to share the MDP plan for 2014. Meeting is free and open to the public. Snacks provided, pizza may be purchased.  
**Contact:** For more information: www.mydems.info

### CARELINK LECTURES

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

### FRIENDS OF ISLAND LAKE

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

### BEREAVEMENT MEETING

**Time/Date:** 7:30-9 p.m. third Tuesday of each month  
**Location:** Novi Civic Center (10 Mile between Taft and Novi roads)  
**Details:** Led by Michael M. Meyer, D. Min., goal is to give each participant an opportunity to share their story.

### NAMI METRO

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of each month  
**Location:** Providence Park hospital, Novi  
**Details:** Family support group meetings  
**Contact:** For more information, or questions, contact NAMI metro at 248-348-7197 or visit <http://www.namimetro.org/>.

### WOMANHEART OF NOVI

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. fourth Wednesday of each month  
**Location:** Providence Park Hospital, Novi  
**Details:** For women with concerns about cardiac health to share information and sisterhood at monthly meetings  
**Contact:** Sharon Mallon, 248-348-5189.

### SUBURBAN COLLECTION SHOWPLACE

**Location:** 46100 Grand River, Novi  
**Phone:** 248-348-5600



## Mobfather

The Novi Civic Theatre presents "The Mobfather," a murder mystery dinner theater show, at 6:30 p.m. March 14-15. The audience is cordially invited to the birthday party of Mob boss Carmine Cannelloni. This powerful don promises a drop-dead good time. With a cast of characters including his matriarchal wife, to his apparent heir, his right-hand man in the business and his biggest rival, what could possibly go wrong? When someone goes to "sleep with the fishes" in the middle of the party, no one is safe from suspicion. It will be a night of dinner and death – it's up to the audience to help the detective figure out whodunit. The cast includes 15 local adult actors, both seasoned and newcomers. "You'll have a killer time at The Mobfather!" director Jan Cartwright said. "Our great cast of local actors is hilarious in their roles and I feel confident they'll give our audiences an evening of entertainment that's deliciously diabolical and fun." The evening includes the show, dinner, two adult beverage tickets per guest (followed by a cash bar), live music, dancing and a few surprises. Performance times are 6:30 p.m. Advanced tickets are \$45 before March 10. After March 10 tickets, are \$55. Ages 21 and older are welcome. All seats are general admission. Tickets are available for purchase via [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) or at the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services office, 45175 10 Mile Road, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 248-347-0400 or visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org).

**Web:** www.SuburbanShowplace.com

### GREAT LAKES ART FAIR

**Times/Dates:** 1-8 p.m. Friday, April 11; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 12; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 13  
**Details:** Event combines exclusive and desirable works from local, regional and national artists and craftspeople with a charming village marketplace setting, seasonal motif and on-site cafe with light fare. The GLAF offers an unofficial kick-off to the warm weather art fair season, and a chance to see new artwork before it "hits the streets" at outdoor fairs across the region.  
**Contact:** 248-348-5600; www.GreatLakesArtFair.com

### LEGO KIDS FEST

**Date:** April 25-27  
**Location:** Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi  
**Details:** Hands-on building, creative experiences and one-of-a-kind activities for children of all ages and builders of all skills and levels. Dozens of new activities and popular favorites on the three-acre show floor. Five sessions – all identical – are available. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$20 for children and can be purchased online at

<http://www.lejokidsfest.com>.

### BUSINESS

**NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**Contact:** www.novichamber.com or call 243-349-3743

### LOCAL BUSINESS NETWORK MEETING

**Time/Date:** 8:45-10:15 a.m. first and third Wednesday of each month  
**Contact:** To RSVP, call 248-349-6225 or 248-685-9226

### AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

**Time/Date:** 6:15-8:30 p.m., second Wednesday of each month  
**Location:** DoubleTree Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd., Novi  
**Details:** Novi Oaks is a chapter of the American Business Women's Association. The group meets monthly for networking and a program featuring speakers on an array of market-relevant topics. Organizers strive to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support and national recognition. Guests are

always welcome; advance registration is required. Visit [www.abwa-novi.org](http://www.abwa-novi.org).

**Contact:** Holly Hengstebeck at [publicity@abwa-novi.org](mailto:publicity@abwa-novi.org).

### NORTHVILLE-NOVI BUSINESS NETWORKING BREAKFAST

**Time/Date:** 7:30-9 a.m. first and third Tuesday of each month (except November and December, which are just the first Tuesday)  
**Location:** Kerby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty

**Details:** Business networking focused on building relationships. The Sunrise Networking Group, LLC ([www.sunriseNETWORKINGgroup.com](http://www.sunriseNETWORKINGgroup.com)) is a group of about 250 business leaders who help each other to build more business by referring people to each other. Breakfast is \$10.  
**Contact:** Fonda Milana at 586-232-3009 or [fmilana@sunrisefinancialgroupllc.com](mailto:fmilana@sunrisefinancialgroupllc.com).

### METRO NOVI BNI

**Time/Date:** 7-8 a.m. each Wednesday  
**Location:** On the Border Restaurant, 21091 Haggerty (north of Eight Mile), Novi  
**Details:** BNI is a structured networking environment for professionals. The Metro Novi

BNI team members are committed to providing bona fide referrals. Members learn how to create and refine an "elevator speech," develop a network of other business professionals in the community and receive training/education on networking more efficiently. Guests are invited free of charge. Continental breakfast provided.  
**Contact:** Julie Paquette at 248-797-1665 or [juliapaquette67@gmail.com](mailto:juliapaquette67@gmail.com); [www.metrobninovi.com](http://www.metrobninovi.com).

### CLUBS

#### NOVI LIONS CLUB

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. social; 6:30 p.m. meeting second and fourth Wednesday of each month  
**Location:** Leo's Sports Bar & Grill Restaurant, lower level, 40380 Grand River, west of Haggerty. Visitors are welcome, dinner is from the menu. Novi Lions is part of Lions International, the largest service organization in the world. The purpose is to serve the blind and the community. Principal activities are fundraising for Leader Dogs, Penrickton Center for Blind Children and other blind charities along with fundraisers for high school scholarships.  
**Contact:** Lions President Ron Martin at 248-473-1156 or Secretary Ed Kramer, 248-348-2747.

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### Informational Sessions:

7:00 - 8:00 pm

FEBRUARY 4	FEBRUARY 10
Novi Public Library	Waterford Public Library
FEBRUARY 5	FEBRUARY 11
Auburn Hills Public Library	Birmingham Public Library
FEBRUARY 13	
Farmington Hills Public Library	

Applications for Fall 2014 will be accepted February 27 through March 28, 2014

## We do school differently at OEC.



# Shining a light on problem of bullying

Northvilles author's adventure story teaches kids how to deal with bullies

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

Northville resident and working mom Lori Costew has written a book that has received national acclaim for its lesson against bullying. Costew won a Silver Medal in the 2013 Readers' Favorite Book Contest in the Pre-Teen category for her novel *Sherpa's Adventure: Saving the Future*. She received the award in a ceremony held at the Miami Book Fair, the largest book fair in the United States. "This is such a tremendous honor and one that I hope will help shine a light on the topic of bullying as well as the importance of positivity," she said. This was a big moment for her after a lot of hard work while putting the story together. Costew, 44, originally from Ohio, moved to Michigan 17 years ago and has lived in Northville the last 14 years. She's a Buckeye married to a Wolverine, which

she says, "shows that there can be peace on Earth for 364 days a year." They have two children at Amerman Elementary, Troy and Cate. "The Readers Favorite Award ceremony was held at the Miami Book Fair and I had the opportunity to meet both well-known authors and new authors like myself from around the world. It was an amazing experience - I am still smiling!" she added. The basis for the novel comes from the many lessons Costew took in while studying modern-day bullying of children. "The statistics around bullying are chilling," she said. According to Costew, it's estimated that 160,000 children miss school every day due to fear of attack or intimidation by other students, while 35 percent of kids have been threatened online, as reported by the National Education Association. "This is such a seri-



Northville author Lori Costew recently penned a young adult book called "Sherpa's Adventure - Saving the Future." JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ous issue, yet I found most anti-bullying books are academic or written specifically about bullying," she said. She said she chose to focus on the sweet spot of wrapping positive messages into a fun adventure story in order appeal to kids. "Woven throughout the story are tools and techniques to help kids make positive decisions. The reviews online and feedback from voracious readers, reluctant readers, parents, grandparents and educators has been amazing," Costew said. "Yet what is most

satisfying are the comments by kids that the story keeps them so engaged that they keep reading. And when they keep reading, they start putting themselves in the characters shoes and realize kids can make a difference and choices impact lives." The novel is an adventure story about a 16-year-old girl from the 24th century, when cars fly and robots clean bedrooms. However, the main character's life changes when she is tasked with stopping an evil dictator, General Aveel, and his transfig-

uring HuBots from destroying world peace. The novel has elements of science fiction, time travel and history, "yet it directly addresses challenges kids face today like bullying, making good decisions and being part of something bigger than yourself." Throughout the story, Sherpa writes a manual titled, "How to Fix History and Save the World," which gives readers tools and techniques how to handle situations and identify making better choices. "Winning the Readers Favorite Award was such an honor and I hope it will help shine a light on the importance of positivity," Costew said. *Sherpa's Adventure: Saving the Future* can be found in all Northville elementary and middle school libraries, the Northville Public Library or on sale at Amazon and The Next Chapter Bookstore and Bistro. You can contact Costew at sherpakids@comcast.net.   
*lhuhman@hometownlife.com*  
248-437-2011, ext. 255  
*Twitter: @lhuhman*

## Super Saturday Sale expands, returns to Laurel Park Place mall

The Saturday Super Sale, which features Michigan-made items, began in April 2012 as a means to support the entrepreneurial spirit of people with disabilities. Now in its third year, the event has grown to include Michigan-made items and services from any community member. From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 8, Saturday Super Sale will be hosted once again at Laurel Park Place in Livonia. Up to 100 vendors will display and sell their products including hats, jewelry, beauty products, gifts, ceramics, T-shirts and much more. Several local agencies, including Community Network Services, Judson Center Redford, Lutheran Social Services, Preferred Home Care Providers and others, have sponsored vendor tables for their clients to participate. Vendor tables are still available. As shoppers browse and visit with the many vendors, they are able to pick up a free Lucky Ticket that enters them in a drawing to win one of 30 gift certificates from local restaurants, including Asian Too, Bar Louie, California Pizza Kitchen, Max & Erma's and more. One winner will be announced every 15 minutes. New this year is a community food drive. Gleaners Food Bank will be hosting the drive. To encourage food donations, a Lucky Ticket will be given for every two non-perishable items brought in during the event. Admission is free. Laurel Park Place mall is at 37700 W. Six Mile, Livonia. For more information, visit [www.SaturdaySuperSale.com](http://www.SaturdaySuperSale.com).

## Enjoy comedy show, help children fight cancer

By **Julie Brown**  
Staff Writer

A benefit for a summer camp for kids facing cancer will feature comedian Angel Salazar, who co-starred with Tom Hanks in *Punchline* and with Al Pacino in *Scarface* and *Carlito's Way*. The fundraiser for Camp Quality Michigan, an event for those age 21 and up, will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, March 7, at Big Tommy's Comedy Club, at Big Tommy's Parthenon, 40380 Grand


River, Novi. The facility seats 180, said Leigh-A Karpinkas, fundraising chair for Camp Quality. "This is new for us," said Karpinkas, a Troy resident. She and other organizers are spreading the word in the Novi area. "The club is really doing us a great favor," she said. Tickets are \$15, of which Camp Quality will keep \$10 for each one sold. "Very generous. We were looking to fill the room," but haven't set a dollar goal for the benefit.

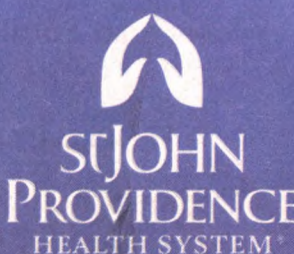
Tickets can be bought online by going to [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com) and searching "Camp Quality" in the Novi area. You can also email Karpinkas at [Leigh.Karpinkas@campqualityusa.org](mailto:Leigh.Karpinkas@campqualityusa.org) for ticket information or if you'd like to volunteer at camp. Camp Quality is a national organization for kids who have or have had cancer. There are two camps in Michigan, north in Traverse City, for which Karpinkas works, and south in

Fenton. Camp information is on the website [www.campqualityusa.org/mi](http://www.campqualityusa.org/mi). The camp serves kids ages 4-17, she said, with about 140 attending each year in Michigan. The organization has operated in Michigan more than 27 years. Many children and teens stay through high school. "So we've become quite the family with kids returning year after year," she said. Camp officials need volunteer "companions"

for campers, to maintain the 1:1 ratio, "which has been a good thing and pretty unique to our camp." The companions must be age 18 and up. Other camp volunteers help with crafts or archery. Some nurses and physicians volunteer, as do golf cart drivers for kids too ill to get around easily. "We have a whole variety of things to be involved in," Karpinkas said.   
*jcbrown@hometownlife.com*

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Patrick and Amy Sullivan enjoy the sights along the St. Clair River.

# Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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#### AVERILL, LEE E.

A lifelong resident of Milford, beloved Coach and Teacher with Milford and West Bloomfield High Schools, passed away on March 2, 2014 at the age of 76. Preceded in death by his beloved wife, Alice and his brother, Ron. Survived by his loving children, Lisa (Tim) Sweeney, Russ Averill and Vince Averill; grandchildren, Alicia and Erin Sweeney and Lillian Averill; sisters, Gail (Mel) Bowers and Diane (Craig) Schneider. Also survived by his nieces and nephews, including Tami Averill who has been a special support to Lee and family, many colleagues, former students, athletes and dear friends. A Memorial Service will be held at Milford High School Cafeteria on Saturday, March 8th at 11 a.m.

#### BROWNING, BARBARA J.

Age 84, of Brighton, died Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at Home Away From Home AFC. She was born September 19, 1929 in Detroit to Edward O. and Ruby Mae (Shore) Burnette and married Wilfred R. Browning, he preceded her in death in 1983. She was a teacher and librarian for Milford Public Schools for many years. Surviving are her three children, Laura (Dave) Parker of Brighton, Mitchell (Tina) Browning of Fenton, and Christopher (Angie) Browning of Pinckney; and six grandchildren. Memorial services will be held in the spring at Milford Memorial Park Cemetery in Milford. Memorial contributions may be made to Grace Hospice. Arrangements by Niblack Funeral Home, Fowlerville.  
[www.niblackfuneralhome.com](http://www.niblackfuneralhome.com)

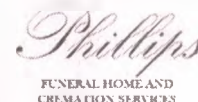
#### Bulszewicz, Norbert

age 87, February 28, 2014. Funeral Mass March 8 at 11 a.m. at St. Mary Catholic Church, Pinckney. Phillips Funeral Home.



#### de la FUENTE CARLOS

Age 65, passed away February 28, 2014. He was born on February 4, 1949, in Detroit, to Avelino and Maria Teresa (Garea) de la Fuente. He graduated from Cass Tech High School and Highland Park College with an Associate's degree. Carlos married Victoria Valutis on May 20, 1978. They moved to South Lyon in 1978. Carlos is survived by his loving wife of 36 years, Vickie; his children: Tania (Nicholas) Dedham, Erica (Mark) Golembiewski, Alicia (David) Oldebecking, Miguel de la Fuente; grandchildren: Claire, Owen, Henry, Brooke, Mason, Reid, and Harper; mother MariaTeresa de la Fuente; sisters: Juanita Perez-de la Fuente, Mari (Tom) LeDuc; brother-in-law Gerald Hall. He was preceded in death by his father Avelino de la Fuente and sister Linda Hall. A memorial service will be held on March 5, Wednesday, at 11:00 A.M. at Phillips Funeral Home, 122 West Lake Street, South Lyon. Online guestbook: [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)



#### FEOLE, MARY "BETTY"

Age 94. Longtime resident of Northville, 2/27/2014. Full obituary and online condolences [www.casterlinefuneralhome.com](http://www.casterlinefuneralhome.com)

#### FITZSTEPHENS, REGIS

October 10, 1936 - February 25, 2014. [www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)

#### FORBES, ROBERT "BUBBA"

Age 74, Feb. 27, 2014. Visitation March 3. Funeral March 4, 11am PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME. [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)

#### GIBSON, CHRISTOPHER

Age 39, of Hutto, TX, formerly of South Lyon, Michigan, passed away suddenly on February 25, 2014. He was preceded in death by his mother, Geraldine Gibson. Christopher is survived by his father, Richard Gibson; brother, Michael Gibson; sister, Debra Hughes; niece, Trinity Gibson. Services pending. Arrangements by Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home South Congress, 2620 S. Congress, Austin, TX 512/442-1446. You may view memorials at: [www.wcfish.com](http://www.wcfish.com)

#### GILHOLLY, DEBRA

January 7, 1959 - February 20, 2014. [www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)

#### KASINSKI, IRENE

Age 93, of Sterling Heights passed away 2/14/2014. Full obit and online condolences at: [www.casterlinefuneralhome.com](http://www.casterlinefuneralhome.com)

#### McGUCKIN, PATRICK

March 12, 1951 - February 21, 2014. [www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)

#### PELTO, PATRICK JAMES

Age 49, passed away March 3, 2014. He was born on June 23, 1964 in Detroit, son of Stanley and Jan Pelto. He is survived by his parents, his beloved wife Alissa and his loving boys Ryan and Jacob. Visitation will be held on Friday, March 7 from 10:00am-11:00am with a memorial service at 11:00am at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. Online guestbook at [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)



#### SAYERS, HELEN M.

Age 93, passed away Feb. 28, 2014. Arrangements by Phillips Funeral Home. Online guestbook [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)

#### SAYERS, HELEN (MILLS)

Age 94, passed away peacefully in her sleep on February 28, 2014. A longtime resident of South Lyon, she is survived by her husband of 71 years, James, and children James Jr. of Panama, and Linda (Jerry) Deputat of South Lyon. She was also the proud grandparent of Jeremy Deputat and Lindsay (Zachary) Fairchild. Born in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, she graduated from Saint John High School and went on to attend business school. Upon completion she accepted a job with the Canadian government and moved to Ottawa, Ontario. There she met James. They eventually married in 1942 in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, James' home town. At the end of WWII Helen and Jim moved to Detroit where they lived until 1977 when they relocated to South Lyon. Helen retired after 20 years of service as contract administrator for General Electric. Helen, together with Jim, enjoyed an active life of square dancing, tennis, traveling and being a devoted grandparent. Writing was another favorite pastime, and she was a regular participant in writing classes offered by the South Lyon Senior Center. Also, for someone of her generation she became quite computer literate, emailing her many friends and family members and using the internet. Helen and Jim are long time members of Holy Cross Episcopal Church in Novi. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 26, at 11:00a.m. at Holy Cross.



#### SHIGLEY, JONATHAN JOSEPH

Age 6, went to be with the Lord and his twin brother, Preston on February 26, 2014. He was born on November 22, 2007, in Royal Oak, son of Justin and Laura (Vollbach) Shigley. Jonathan had an adventurous spirit and loved amusement parks. He was a thrill seeker and loved to visit Disney World and Cedar Point. Jonathan traveled much of the country visiting amusement parks, and attractions with his best friend and soul mate, his Papa. He loved golf cart rides and his favorite color was orange. Jonathan was a loving and brave little man that inspired many people with his courage and infectious smile that never left his face. He is survived by his loving parents, Justin and Laura Shigley; his loving sister and best friend, Leah Marie and his loving brother, James Landon; his devoted grandparents: Mark and Tina Vollbach and Joe and Vicki Shigley; his uncle, Matthew Vollbach and his aunt, Jessi Shigley. Jonathan is also survived by many loving extended members of the Vollbach, Shigley and Bakhaus families. Jonathan's family would like to thank the PICU Team at Mott's Children Hospital. To Alison Barnett and her staff at Leaps & Bounds Therapy for their constant care and love for Jonathan and the Shigley family. Visitation was held on Friday, February 28, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with a Funeral Service on Saturday, March 1, at 1:30 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Ronald McDonald House Charities Inc., 26345 Network Place, Chicago, IL 60673-1263. Online guestbook at [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)



#### STANDHARDT, MARY ANNA

A long time resident of Milford, died on February 25, 2014 at the age of 80. She is survived by Charles William Standhardt Sr., her beloved husband of over 56 years; sons, Chuck (Ellie), Bob (Doris), Chris (Lisa) and John (Holly); grandchildren, Erika and David; sister, Aldona (Jerry) Ciesla; brother, Joseph Yodsnukis, Jr. and many nieces, nephews and dear friends. A Funeral Mass was held at St. Mary Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church, Milford, on February 28, 2014. Memorials may be made in his name to Great Lakes Caring Hospice. For further information please phone Lynch & Sons, Milford, at 248-684-6645 or visit: [LynchFuneralDirectors.com](http://LynchFuneralDirectors.com)



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Call: 800-579-7355  
Fax: 313-496-4968  
Email: [htowobits@hometownlife.com](mailto:htowobits@hometownlife.com)

#### STEPHEN, JAMES

Age 91, passed away February 28, 2014 in Frankfort, Michigan. He was born on February 14, 1923 in Scotland, son of the late George and Isabella Stephen. Formerly of Detroit, James moved to South Lyon 25 years ago and was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of South Lyon. He is survived by his loving children, James (Adrienne), Christine (Arthur) Schneider, and Cora (Mark) Houghan; six grandchildren, Jamie, Adrienne, Stephen, Tracie, Lauren, and Rita and two sisters. He was preceded in death by his wife Mary Stephen, two brothers and three sisters. Visitation was held on Sunday, March 2 from 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. with a Funeral Service on Monday, March 3 at 11:00 a.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Memorial donations to the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology. Online guestbook at [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com).



#### WEAVER, MARGARET E.

Age 94, died at Estabrooks Havencrest in White Lake, MI, on January 29, 2014, after a long illness. Beloved mother of Kathryn (Marlborough, MA) and William (Milford, MI), she was a long time resident of Farmington Hills, MI, where she substitute taught at Farmington's High schools and Jr. high schools for over 20 years (1961 to 1985). Born Margaret Estelle Wolfinger in Hagerstown, MD, May 18, 1919, she was the daughter of D. Angle Wolfinger, past District Attorney, Washington County, MD, and Edna (Shilling) Wolfinger, a homemaker. Margaret graduated from the University of Maryland, (B.S. in Physical Education), where she met her husband of 56 years, Harry B. Weaver, (B.S. Engineering) Harry passed away in 2002. Margaret taught PE in Silver Springs and Baltimore, MD school systems for 13 years, and especially loved coaching girls' basketball and field hockey. Margaret was an avid golfer, gardener and enjoyed traveling with her husband. She had many other hobbies including bridge, sewing and playing piano. In addition to her two children, Kathryn and Bill (Wanda), she is survived by grandchildren Allison Weaver Atkinson, Troy Weaver, Dana Weaver and three great-grandchildren. A memorial service is planned at Antioch Lutheran Church, 33360 W. 13 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334, on March 8, 2014, at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to any of the following: Antioch Evangelical Lutheran Church (Youth Ministry), 33360 W. 13 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334; Detroit Public Television, <http://www.dptv.org>; Gentiva Hospice 25925 Telegraph Road, Suite 102 Southfield, MI 48033

# Meet the Sullivans

Husband and wife serve as city managers for Northville, Huntington Woods

By Jay Grossman  
Gannett Michigan

Northville City Manager Patrick Sullivan never has to look very far when he wants a little advice about the job.

He can usually find it across the kitchen table.

His wife, Amy Sullivan, is the city manager of Huntington Woods. While there's no official record keeping on the topic, it's probably safe to say they're the only married couple in Michigan that's managing two towns.

"It's nice to bounce ideas off each other," Pat Sullivan said. "Unlike the private sector where they have trade secrets, there are no secrets among managers. If someone has a good idea, it's beneficial that we copy that idea and provide it to our residents. It's built-in networking."

Pat Sullivan, 51, has served as the Northville manager for eight years. Amy Sullivan, 55, is currently the Franklin Village manager. She starts a new position on Feb. 18 as the Huntington Woods city manager.

"I've been extremely happy in Franklin, but when the opportunity arose in Huntington Woods, I just couldn't pass it up," she said.

"First and foremost, it's a great community and these positions don't come up often. Alex Allie (the retiring supervisor) has been there 24 years, so it's a rare opportunity."

The two met at a manager's conference in Grand Rapids in 1990. She was the Sylvan Lake manager at the time and he was the village manager of New Haven. It didn't take long for merger talks to begin.

"He came late to one of the sessions and sat next to me ... and that was that," Amy Sullivan said with a smile. "I think it's been a real benefit to our relationship: we have the same background, we've gone through similar experiences and we deal with a lot of the same issues."

The couple lives in Northville with their three children, ages 16-21. The two are happy in their careers and want to stay in this area for a long time.

"When I was interviewing in Huntington Woods, I told the council they were getting a 'twofer' if they hired me because of my husband," Amy Sullivan said.

#### Serving the people

Pat Sullivan grew up on a farm in Richmond, and likes Northville in part because it has that same small-town charm. Amy Sullivan grew up in Royal Oak. She had been with Franklin Village for three years before she decided to take a step up the career ladder.

Huntington Woods is around 1.5 square miles with a population of around 6,200 residents. It's approximately half the size of Franklin Village, but double the population, meaning there will be more responsibilities.

"It's just a natural step for me to move to a community where there's going to be more challenges," she said.

The two try to have lunch every Tuesday where they'll typically talk about work and the issues of the day. Pat Sullivan said the weekly lunch date gives them a nice opportunity to bounce ideas off each other.

"I'm sure there are times when she doesn't want to hear about my issues, or I'm trying to forget about work," he said. "But I also realize how important it is when another manager has an issue. We help each other out—that's how our industry works."

At home, the conversation tends to focus on a different topic: their family.

"When we're together as a family, nobody is really interested in grants or snow removal problems," Amy Sullivan said. "We try to keep it more focused on the kids— they actually lead more interesting lives than we do."

#### Low profiles

Most communities operate under a city manager form of government, in which an elected board hires an administrator to oversee the various department heads. In Oakland County, for example, only two communities (Pontiac and Rochester Hills) have strong mayor form of governments. The rest are run by an appointed administrator.

"A lot of people don't understand what city managers do," Pat Sullivan said. "We tend to keep a low profile—but mostly, we make sure the trash gets picked up and all the other services are being met. In that sense, it's very nice to be married to someone who knows exactly what you're going through."

What if Northville and Huntington Woods ever became politically polarized over some regional issue? Would that not put a strain on the Sullivan household?

Hardly. "I cannot think of an issue where something like that might happen," Amy Sullivan said. "But we both recognize we serve the council—it's the council's directives and initiatives we're carrying out. If the Northville council feels one way, and the Huntington Woods council feels a different way, it's our job to carry it out."

# Screening can prevent colorectal cancer

**M**arch is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and St. John Providence Health is taking the opportunity to remind men and women to speak with their health care provider about getting screened.

Because colon cancers and rectal cancers have many features in common, they are often referred to together as colorectal cancer. It affects both men and women and is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States. The American Cancer Society estimates that nearly 150,000 people in the U.S. are diagnosed with colon



**Dr. Ernie Drelichman**

GUEST COLUMNIST

cancer every year and 50,000 die from this disease.

Colorectal cancer is one of only a few cancers that can be prevented through screening. It is important for everyone to note that this cancer is largely preventable through recommended screening and is often beatable when detected and treated in its early stages, according to Dr. Mohammed Barawi, a St. John Providence

gastroenterologist.

Most colorectal cancers develop slowly over a period of several years. Before cancer develops, a growth of tissue or tumor usually begins as a polyp on the inner lining of the colon or rectum. A polyp is a benign, noncancerous tumor and some polyps can change into cancer, but not all do. The chance of changing into a cancer depends upon the size and type of polyp.

The risk of developing colorectal cancer increases with age. More than 90 percent of cases occur in people who are 50 or older. That is why all persons aged 50 years

or older should be screened. High-risk individuals should begin screening earlier and more often. A number of tests can be used to diagnose colorectal cancer. These include a fecal occult blood test, barium enema and colonoscopy/sigmoidoscopy, among others.

The primary strategy for preventing colorectal cancer deaths is to detect and remove precancerous polyps or to detect and treat cancer in its earliest stages. Several effective screening options are available, so not getting screened is no longer an option.

Talk to your health care

provider about when to begin screening for colorectal cancer, which tests to have, the benefits and risks of each test and how often to schedule appointments. To find out more about St. John Providence colorectal cancer screenings, call the Care Coordinator toll free at 866-246-4673.

*Dr. Ernie Drelichman is board certified in general surgery and colon and rectal surgery. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the current chairman of the Michigan Cancer Consortium. He has offices in Novi and Southfield and can be reached toll free at 866-501-3627.*

## Your Invitation to

# Worship

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*Fr. John Rocus, Pastor*  
Weekend Liturgies Saturday 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.  
Please visit our Shrine of Turin Display and Book & Gift Shop

### Milford

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Preschool, Pre-K & Kdg. - Mo. Synod  
620 General Motors Rd., Milford  
Church office: (248) 684-0895  
Sunday Services: 8:30 am & 11am  
Bible Study & Sunday School @ 9:45 am  
*Rev. Martin Dressler*

### Novi

**BRIGHTMOOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
40800 W. 13 Mile Road, Novi on the corner of M-5 & W 13  
Sundays 9:15a & 11:15a  
www.brightmoorcc.org  
something for the entire family

**HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375  
Saturday: 4:30 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.  
*Fr. Bob LaCroix, Pastor*  
*Fr. Bela Espinoza, Associate*  
Parish Office: 349-8847 • www.holyfamilynovi.org

### Walled Lake

**CROSSPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
1850 S. Commerce Rd.  
Walled Lake, MI 48390  
Sunday Services: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.  
Wednesday Evening: 7 p.m. All Ages  
*Rev. Kenneth Warren - 586-531-2021*  
www.cpcenow.com

**FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD**  
VISITORS WELCOME!  
133 Detroit St., Milford • 248-684-5695  
*Pastor Steve Swazey*  
Sunday School (all ages) 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.  
Young Adults Dinner/Bible Study, Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesdays, 6:45-8:15 p.m.  
Awards, 3 yrs old thru 8th grade  
and Youth Group for 7th grade and older  
Website: milfordbaptist.org

**FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
44400 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-349-2345  
1/2 mile west of Novi Rd.  
www.faithcommunity-novi.org  
WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10 AM  
"Children, Youth and Adult Ministries"

**HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL**  
40700 W. Ten Mile Rd. • 248-427-1175  
Sunday Worship 7:45 am & 10 am  
Healing Service Wednesday 11:45 am  
*Rev. Ann Webber, Rector*  
holycrossnovi@gmail.com  
LO-0000179391

### Whitmore Lake

**FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH**  
10774 Nine Mile Road  
Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582  
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

**MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
*Pastor Bryant Anderson*  
238 N. Main Street, Milford MI (248) 684-2805  
www.milfordpc.org  
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School age 3 thru 5th grade @ 10 a.m.  
Youth Group 10 am - Grades 6-12  
A heritage of area worship since 1836

**MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
21355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 1/2 Mile  
248-348-7757 • www.mbcc.org  
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.  
*Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister*  
LO-0000178396

**OAK POINTE CHURCH**  
50200 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi  
Saturday Worship 5:15 p.m.,  
Sunday 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.  
Casual, contemporary service  
Phone (248) 912-0043  
www.oakpointe.org

### Highland

**HIGHLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
680 W. Livingston Rd. • Highland, MI 48357  
248.887.1311 • www.myuhmc.com  
Sunday Worship: 9:30 & 11 a.m.  
Kids Church: 9:30 & 11 a.m.  
MS & HS Youth: 11 a.m.  
MS Youth Night Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m.  
Grief Share Monday 6:30 p.m.

**Milford United Methodist Church**  
1200 Atlantic St., Milford, MI 48381  
Sunday Worship: 8:30 am and 10:30 am, 6 pm  
Children's Church: 10:30 am  
Groups for Children, Youth and Adults  
248-684-2798  
LO-0000179461 milfordumc.net

**ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI**  
46325 10 Mile Rd. • Novi, MI 48374  
Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.  
*Msrgr John Kasza, Pastor*  
Parish Office: 347-7778

**NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
41671 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 48375  
Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m.  
*Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor*  
248-349-2652  
www.umcnovi.com  
"Loving God, loving each other and living our core values"  
LO-0000181818

### South Lyon

### New Hudson

**NEW HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
56730 Grand River Avenue • New Hudson MI 48165  
(248) 437-6212 • Gerald S. Hunter, Pastor  
Sunday School & Bible Class - 9:30 a.m.  
Worship - 10:30 a.m.

**OAKPOINTE milford**  
1250 South Hill Rd.  
(248) 685-3560 www.opcmilford.org  
Contemporary Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am & 11:15 am  
Adventist/Diabetic Program: Sunday 9:15 am & 11:15 am  
The Rock Middle School: Wednesday 6:30-8 pm, Sunday 9:15 am  
The 707 High School: Sundays 6:30-8:30 pm  
Women, Men and Life Groups: Various Schedules  
LO-0000179360

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
205 E. Lake (10 Mile) 248.437.2875  
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Children's Church for Grades K thru 5th  
Nursery Care Provided  
Mid-Week Study Thursday 7:00 p.m.  
*Rev. Michael Horlocker, Pastor*  
www.fpcsouthlyon.org  
LO-0000179360

**BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH**  
*Gathering in Jesus Name*  
52908 10 Mile Rd • South Lyon, MI 48178  
Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.  
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.  
*Mike Ragan, Pastor*  
734-347-1983 pastor cell  
*Old fashioned preaching*  
KJV  
LO-0000179331

**NEW HOPE - A Unitarian Universalist Congregation**  
57855 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165  
Phone 248-474-9108  
Sunday Celebration of Life Service 10:30 a.m.  
*Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister*  
Website: http://www.newhopeuu.org

**Freedom Life Church**  
*Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Freedom Cor 3:7*  
1208 E. Commerce, Milford  
Worship: Sun 11am, Wed 7pm  
We are here through Christ Jesus to provide Freedom to those who are hurting, diseased, addicted  
LO-0000178468 and depressed.

**The Church of Christ**  
21860 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon, MI 48178  
248-437-3585 • www.southlyoncc.org  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School,  
10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship  
Wednesday Midweek Ministries 7 p.m.  
*Troy Singleton, Minister*  
LO-0000179313

**CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN**  
(Missouri Synod)  
Pastor Terry Nelson  
437-8810 • 486-4335  
Grissold Rd. at 10 Mile  
Worship: 10 a.m.; Sunday School: 10 a.m.;  
Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m.  
LO-0000179331

**First Presbyterian Church of Northville**  
www.fpcnorthville.org  
200 E. MAIN ST. AT HUTTON  
Worship, 9:30 am.  
Sunday School for all ages, 10:30 am.  
248-349-0911

**First United Methodist Church** (248) 349-1144  
777 West 8 Mile Road  
(8 Mile and Taft Road)  
Northville, Michigan  
Worship Times: September - May 8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.  
Memorial Day - Labor Day 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.  
*Rev. Marsha M. Wooley, Lead Pastor*  
www.fumnorthville.org  
LO-0000179331

**first united methodist church south lyon, mi** 640 S. Lafayette (248) 437-0760  
Worship: 8:15 am, 11 am & 6:30 pm  
Sunday School: 9:40 am  
*Rev. Sandra Willowbee, Lead Pastor*  
southlyonfirstumc.org  
LO-0000179331

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN**  
Wisconsin Synod • Reynold Sweet Pkwy. at Liberty St.  
Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.  
All Classes 9:00  
Pastor Scott Miller, (248) 437-1651  
LO-0000179334

**NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN**  
Experience Life Each Week  
Sunday Worship - 9:00 am & 10:15 am  
Sunday School and Children's Programs  
www.ncalife.org  
41355 Six Mile Road  
248-348-9030  
LO-0000165200

**WARD CHURCH** 40000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48168 248.374.7400  
Sunday Worship Services 8 am | 9:30 am | 11 am.  
4 different music styles from classic to modern  
www.wardchurch.org  
LO-0000179460

**Shepherd's Way Lutheran Church, ELCA**  
59255 10 Mile Rd.  
South Lyon MI 48178  
Sunday Worship 9:00 AM  
Education Hour 10:15 AM  
*Rev. Bart Muller, Pastor*  
248-573-7320  
www.shepherdswaysouthlyon.org  
LO-0000179468

**CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
28900 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon  
248-486-0400  
www.ecrossroads.net  
Sunday Services: 8:45, 10 & 11:30 am  
LO-0000179466

**OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
133 Orchard Dr., Northville  
WEEKEND LITURGIES Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday, 7:30, 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.  
Church 349-2621, School 349-3610  
Religious Education 349-2559  
*Rev. Denis Theroux, Pastor*  
LO-0000165200

**Our Savior Apostolic Lutheran Church**  
54899 8 Mile Rd. at Currie Rd. Northville, MI 48167  
248-374-2268  
Sunday Worship:  
10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship/Coffee  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Wednesday Bible Study (Colossians) at 7 pm  
*LO-0000165207 Pastor Andy Whitten*

**SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH**  
*Loving God and Loving People*  
22183 Pontiac Trail • 248-486-4400  
(In Brookdale Shopping Center, behind Powerhouse Gym)  
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:00 A.M.  
*Reed Heckmann, Pastor/Teacher*  
www.solidrocksouthlyon.com  
LO-0000179451

**FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Services held at:  
Saint Andrews Episcopal Church  
16360 Hubbard Road - Livonia  
South of Six Mile Road  
Adult Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15 am; Worship 10:30 am.  
Childrens Sunday School 10:30 a.m.  
*Dr. James N. McGuire • Nursery Provided*  
LO-0000179331

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

## OUR VIEWS

# Candidates must offer some solutions

Candidates are campaigning for the 2014 election and the state and congressional seats that will open up at year's end. With any luck, this election and the slate of candidates will bring positive and long-lasting change to government.

On one hand, candidates must realize that campaigning successfully for higher office means they need public exposure to capture voter interest and, unfortunately, money to campaign.

On the other hand, it's a good bet voters are recovering from last November's election and will hold off paying much attention until they are ready to face the onslaught of a new slate of people, discussing the same issues as in previous elections.

That's why it's important as this year progresses that candidates offer potential solu-

tions and strategies to the issues they raise. Voters have heard a lot of disagreement from both political camps — on all levels of government. It's one thing for candidates to say they agree or disagree on an issue, such as public education funding, increased road funding and job creation.

But that's just not enough. Voters want and are right to expect more. Voters want answers and solutions.

On the local front, Novi voters are going to have to pick a new state representative to replace the term-limited Hugh Crawford, R-38th District. His wife Kathy is seeking her husband's seat. Likewise, he'll be running for her 9th District seat on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners and Mike Kowall, R-White Lake, is seeking re-election for the 15th District state senate

position.

In addition, three seats on the Novi Board of Education will be up for grabs, though that election will not be until November.

The candidates who have announced are familiar names to local residents, but none of these candidates should assume success only because they may be known quantities. Voters want hard-working candidates who go out of their way to communicate and discuss.

What frustrates voters is they want to know what a candidate is going to do about current issues and how much a solution is going to cost them.

For example, instead of a candidate saying they want to see increased funding for public education, it would be a breath of fresh air if a potential strategy was offered to

convince the state Legislature — on both sides of the aisle — how it could be accomplished.

Voters are tired of hearing what they already know. Life has been tough for municipalities and school districts. Roads need fixing, bridges need fixing — everyone knows that. The question is what will the slate of candidates suggest as solutions to these problems.

Way too often, voters hear from representatives on all levels of government that nothing can be fully accomplished because of the ideological schism between the Democrats and the Republicans. This conflict has eroded the opportunity for compromise. Politics and governing is all about compromise.

Yet elected officials run the risk of reprimand when they vote against their party's ideology. Political parties too often

forget that candidates are elected to represent their constituents — not the political party.

The dire need for compromise and seeking commonalities between the parties must be embraced by the new slate of candidates.

It won't be easy. Any discussion with existing state legislators or county commissioners can give a candidate insight into just how difficult it is to bring ideologies and actions of the two political parties together to create beneficial change for the county and for Michigan.

But it has to be done. The public will be watching the 2014 slate of candidates at all levels of government. It's time to provide voters with the answers and the solutions they deserve to turn the tide and work together.

## Getting better roads: Change the Federal Highway Fund

Whether stuck in traffic because of construction or fixing a flat tire after hitting a pothole, Michiganders feel frustrated with the quality of our roads. Despite making the best cars in the world, our state ranks near the bottom of transportation spending per capita.

To pay for more infrastructure funding, some suggest additional taxes. Others demand moving money around in our state budget. A third way exists — a fairer, more efficient Federal Highway Fund.

Recently, my Republican colleagues U.S. Rep. Tom Graves from Georgia and Sen. Mike Lee of Utah introduced the Transportation Empowerment Act, which I happily co-sponsored. The Transportation Empowerment Act completely reforms the way the federal government distributes highway funds, by promoting local control, efficient projects and a more competent system for fixing our crumbling infrastructure. The bill promises to allow "states to respond to the needs of their communities and develop systems that result in less traffic, shorter commutes, access to more affordable homes and will help families better manage the work-life balance."

The Transportation Empowerment Act does three things that would improve our roads. First, it grants nearly "all authority regarding federal highway and transit programs to the states over a five-year period." I trust Michiganders to spend our taxpayer money more wisely than federal bureaucrats. We know which roads need to be fixed and which bridges need repair better than anyone in Washington, D.C.

Secondly, the bill decreases the federal gas tax from 18.4 cents to 3.7 cents. We have experienced pain at the pump far too long. The one-size-fits-all approach of a national gas tax simply does not work. Our governor and state legislators can assess the need for transportation revenue better than Congress.

Finally, Michigan would receive a block grant with fewer federal strings attached. This allows local leaders to determine where to get started. When we empower our communities, we are all better off. When we allow our city officials to decide which construction projects get built, we get more efficient use of taxpayer money.

The federal government makes a terrible middleman. The Transportation Empowerment Act helps Michigan, while decreasing federal taxes. In 2012, our state paid more than \$1 billion into the Federal Highway Trust Fund. After the money went to Washington and became entangled in red tape, Michigan's buying power fell to an estimated \$823 million. Nearly 20 percent of our gas tax went to the bureaucracy rather than infrastructure.

A broken transportation system hits Michiganders in the pocketbook. Every year, we spend millions of dollars on car repairs after driving on crumbling streets. Nearly everyone knows the annoyance of sitting in traffic congestion caused by the constant patching of our roads. It's time for that to change. Reforming how the Federal Highway Fund works is a good start.

Kerry Bentivolio, a Republican from Milford, represents Michigan's 11th District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

# NOVI NEWS

A GANNETT COMPANY

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### All People Matter

March is national social work month. This year's theme is All People Matter. It makes me proud to be a social worker.

All People Matter is the core value of my profession. My training has taught me to challenge oppression and help individuals and families realize their full potential. Often there is a stigma attached to the title of "social worker." People associate it with professionals who must take children-at-risk away from their families. Actually, social workers serve as experts in many important areas such as: employee assistance programs, gerontology, addiction rehabilitation, community development, legislation and social policy, education, poverty, food access, mental health and LGBT rights. Professionals must abide by a strict code of ethics or they lose their license.

Jane Addams, Sen. Debbie Stabenow and former Congressman Ron Dellums are all social workers. Across the globe we not only believe that all people have dignity and deserve respect, we work to make it so. American social work profession has a commitment to improving conditions and quality of life opportunities for everyone. "Social work is the profession that does the front line work when other professions stand back," said Dr. Maxine Thomas, director of the Michigan chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

We do this work because all people matter.

Colleen Crossey, MSW  
Novi

### CBO boosts ACA

This week's edition of the ongoing GOP drama, "If the data doesn't fit the narrative, misrepresent, mislead or even lie about it" involves conservatives and Republicans gleefully reacting to what was a premature report by some in the media that the CBO's annual report was a right-wing dream come true: Obamacare was proven to be the "job killer" that they knew it to be all along.

Wrong. Subsequent analysis indicates that the CBO report did not say that jobs will be lost at all. Actually according to the CBO report, the ACA will result in workers choosing not to work the full-time equivalent in hours of

two million jobs. Hence the equivalent in hours of two million full-time jobs will be vacated, not eliminated, and will be available for others to work. According to many economists, this will reduce unemployment and have the effect of putting upward pressure on wages since employers will be left in the lurch and anxious to fill vacancies.

Another plus is that analysis of the report predicts that the ACA will provide stimulus to the stagnant economy by allowing the millions who qualify for subsidies to spend some of those dollars otherwise relegated for health care elsewhere, providing added demand for goods and services, further improving the employment forecast.

Other disappointments included in the CBO report for Obamacare detractors include a debunking of the claims of skyrocketing premiums, rampant increases in part-time employment, an exploding deficit and a costly taxpayer bailout for insurers, all topics broached as ACA opponents rushed to microphones to comment. According to the report, rather than skyrocket, premiums will continue to rise but at a rate 15 percent lower than previously predicted.

On part-time employment, the CBO concluded that, "there is no compelling evidence that part-time employment has increased as a result of the ACA." The report goes on to destroy the claim about the ACA exploding the deficit stating that Obamacare policies will instead contribute to lower deficits over the next decade. Last, the creation of risk corridors that politicians like Republican Sen. Marco Rubio warned would constitute a massive taxpayer bailout of insurers is predicted by the report to actually cut \$8 billion from the deficit as money will actually be refunded to the treasury by insurers.

So what momentarily appeared to be a victory for those opposed to Obamacare turns out to be yet another devastating defeat, but don't expect them to stop shamelessly making the same fraudulent claims or refrain from inventing new ones. After all, the facts don't matter now and likely never did. They are opposed because of Obama.

Mitch Smith  
Canton

### Presidential fiat not an automobile

The Latin term "fiat" translates to "let it be done." Synonyms include "command," "dictate" and "decree."

One of President Barack Obama's recent "fiats" directed the IRS to issue regulations to curtail the activities of 501(c)4 social welfare groups. Proposed regulations under the new decree represent a brazen stifling of free speech. Since 1959, social welfare groups have "primarily engaged in promoting in some way the common good and general welfare of the people of the community." 501(c)4 groups have proliferated, promoting a host of activities from child welfare, jobs training, environmental concerns, energy policy, education issues, health care concerns, business policy, tax policy, nutrition ... pick your favorite.

Quite naturally, these activities often overlap with political policy. For instance, if I'm a member of "The Protection of Puppies Society," my group may strive to educate the public regarding toxic dog foods being imported without oversight. Naturally, I'd like to influence governmental policy makers and urge legislation to protect puppies. Political discourse is a natural extension of my group's primary mission, and my right to speak out for puppies is protected under the First Amendment.

By decree, the IRS is currently issuing unprecedented and oppressive regulations to squelch public discourse for 501(c)4 groups by prohibiting the mere mention of a candidate or political party, forbidding letter writing campaigns and even banning groups' use of the words "oppose," "vote," "defeat," "reject" and "support."

These dictates are the most recent action of an agency that has apparently been busy profiling and suppressing conservative groups for years now. The IRS's power to coerce and oppress is frightening, the fiat that unleashes that power is tyrannical. The history books are rife with examples, and so is our world today. If Americans value freedom of speech, now would be the time to speak to your legislators.

Joellen Pisarczyk  
Milford

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### What are you looking forward to most when the warmer weather finally arrives?

This question was asked at the Novi Civic Center.



"The bad weather has delayed me from moving, so I'm looking forward to getting that done."

Lee Faber  
Novi



"I want the snow and ice to melt!"

Judy Ward  
Novi



"To get outside and enjoy some outdoor activities without having to worry about it being zero degrees."

Dee Burris  
Novi



"To get outside and enjoy some nice weather for a change."

June Hare  
Novi

# Caution: Freeway shutdown on the horizon

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

It's the calm before the storm when it comes to the I-96 shutdown, scheduled for less than a month from now.

Contractors working on the looming reconstruction of the seven-mile stretch of highway through Redford and Livonia have begun setting up some equipment

on the project's western edge, but little else is currently taking place, Michigan Department of Transportation engineer Jeff Horne noted.

"It's business as usual," he said. "Not too much is going on."

Drivers who frequently use I-96 between Telegraph in Redford and Newburgh in Livonia have only a few more weeks to use the freeway

before being forced to find a different route. The freeway will close April 1 and will remain closed in both directions until some time in October. Weather delayed the project start about a week.

More details regarding the shutdown will be released during March, Horne said. The entrance ramp to eastbound I-96 at Telegraph is expected to

see some widening so an additional lane can be added. Horne said he was unsure of when that addition would take place, but said it would be in place sometime in March.

"We want that in place to handle the additional traffic," he said.

The exit ramp from southbound I-275 onto Six Mile has already been temporarily widened to accommodate more traffic that is expected to use Six Mile.

The \$150 million project will consist of reconstruction of the freeway, including repairing and replacing 37 bridges along the route. It was decided to shut down the freeway for most of 2014 after a public survey found most drivers would prefer getting the work done sooner. Had the project maintained some lanes of traffic, MDOT said it would have

taken several years to complete.

Some of the equipment being used on the construction is currently being stored near the western edge of the project between I-275 and Newburgh. That will be the only place the equipment will be stored, Horne said, since that is the only place near the project with the proper space for it.

"Everything east of it, there's nowhere to store the equipment. I think that's the only staging area," he said. "There's no other places they can store that equipment."

MDOT has opened an office in Livonia during the project, which is available for commuters, residents and other interested parties to ask questions about the project.

Interested patrons can contact the office at 734-

261-0560 or via email at MDOT-96fix@michigan.gov.

Horne said most of the communication the office receives comes from people with questions regarding their specific commuting patterns.

"We noticed a spike (in contact) after the public meeting, but it has subsided," he said. "It's more personalized on their daily commute. I'd say 80-90 percent are detour questions."

Official detour routes around I-96 include: the Southfield Freeway, I-94, I-696, I-275 and the Lodge Freeway. Horne said construction on those state trunk lines should be close to non-existent during the closure to ensure the increased traffic flows as efficiently as possible.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com

## RCOC proud of its work this winter

Given the historic weather we have seen this winter and the challenges that weather has created for our road crews, some people are surprised to hear me say how proud I am of the job our agency has done.

Yes, we had the snowiest January on record in our region's history. And, yes, February was rough as well, with below-normal temperatures and frequent snowfalls. And all this has happened against the backdrop of a road commission that has a smaller staff than at any time since the 1950s, as well as one of the oldest snowplow/salt truck fleets we've had in many years.

Despite those challenges, I am proud to say most of Oakland County's main roads were drivable following the historic storm of Jan. 4-6. Unlike our counterparts in a number of other states (such as New York, Ohio, Indiana), we never closed a road because we couldn't clear it.

Would we like to have been able to clear subdivision roads more quickly following a major storm? Of course. But even if we had twice as many employees, we would not be able to clear subdivision roads after a major storm as quickly as we, or many residents,



Greg Jamian  
GUEST COLUMNIST

would like. And, frankly, it's simply not possible or practical to staff up for a once-a-decade or even a once-a-year snowfall.

### Efficiencies

Over the last decade, we have taken many steps to become more efficient and cost effective in our operations and those efforts are paying off for us. For example, when it became clear that we could no longer afford to replace snowplow drivers when they left or retired, we looked at alternatives. For the last two years, we have hired temporary, part-time drivers to help us out in the winter.

These drivers have been a big help during this year's winter weather and they are allowing us to continue to provide critical services without the cost of adding additional full-time employees.

We also opted to hire contractors to help us clear snow following major storms. That, too, has proven beneficial, allowing us to clear back roads and subdivisions much sooner than we otherwise would have.

Of course, I have to acknowledge the amazing work of all our road commission employees. Our drivers, mechanics and garage supervision have put in incredible hours this winter in an effort to ensure our roads are in the best shape they can be. I would be remiss if I didn't thank the residents of Oakland County as well for their patience and cooperation, especially moving parked cars out of the roadways so our plows could do their work.

At the road commission, we take our responsibilities very seriously and truly believe that what we are doing helps to ensure the safety of the motorists of Oakland County.

Because of that, we are not about to rest on our laurels. We will continue to find ways to improve what we do, to be more efficient and to reduce costs everywhere possible.

But we also need the public's help. We ask that you join us in our pursuit of a road funding solution from Lansing — one that will fix our roads now and keep them drivable in the future.

Greg Jamian is chairman of the Road Commission for Oakland County. He can be contacted at 877-858-4804.

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*Balance of Power: A Throne for an African Prince*, through March 16.  
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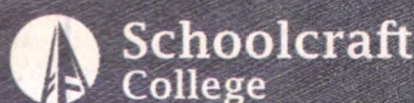
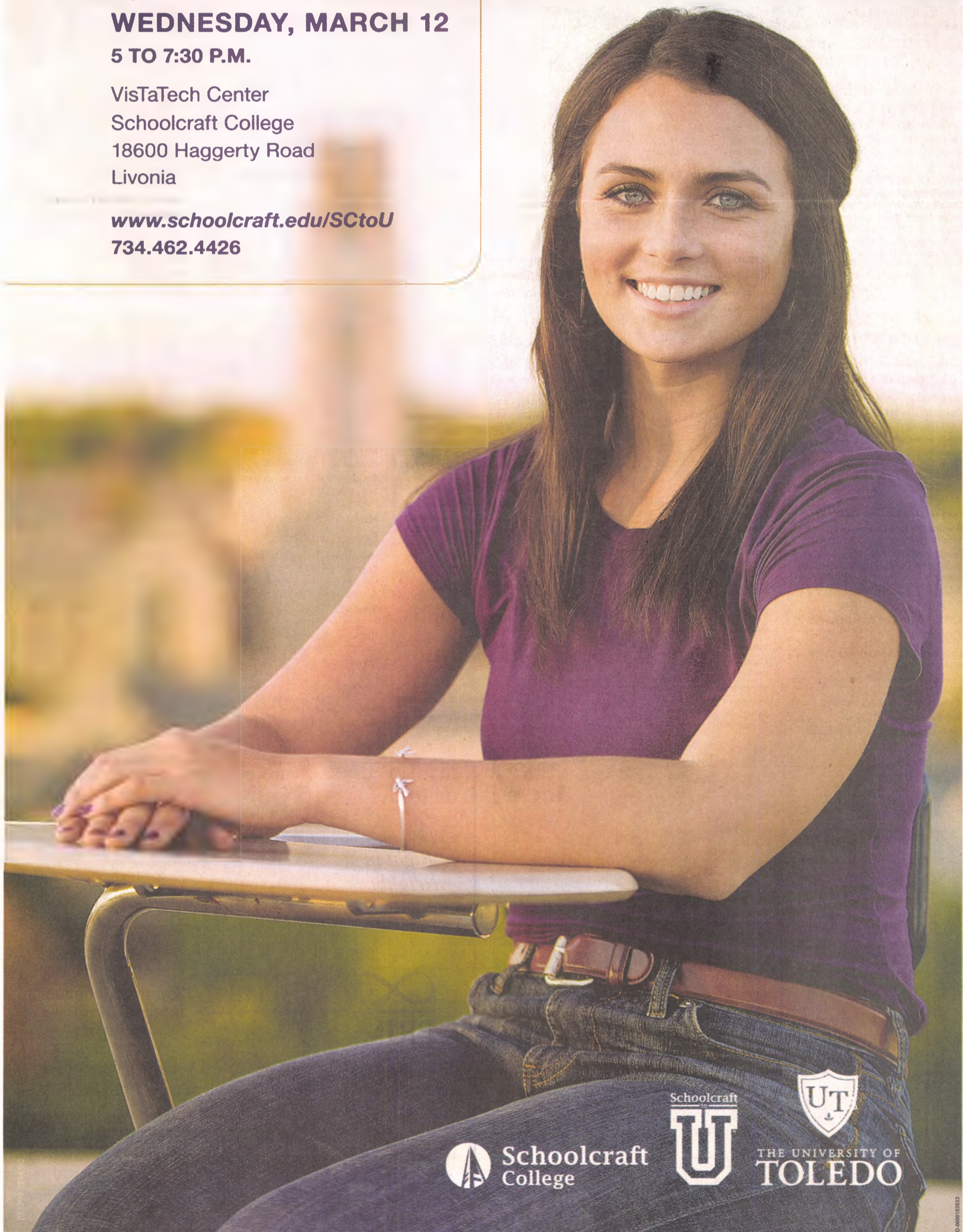
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## CC adds five more individual wrestling titles

By Tom Lang  
Gannett Michigan

March came in like a lion at The Palace. Not a tame match could be found in Saturday's Division 1 individual wrestling state finals as 14 champions were crowned kings of their respective weight class.

Two of those champs won their third state title — junior Lincoln Olson (125 pounds) of Davison and Drew Garcia (171) of Novi Detroit Catholic Central.

Olson (45-1) scored a technical fall in 5:39 over Rochester Hills Stoney Creek's Kyle Noonan, who won his 150th career match in the semifinals Friday night.

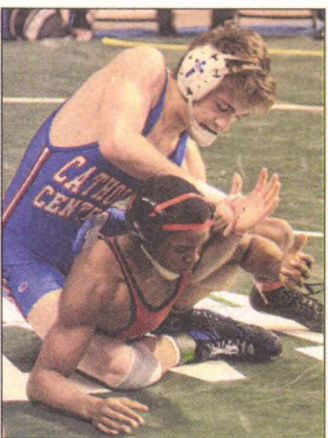
"I'm not training for state titles, but for goals like the NCAA championship in college. This stuff just comes along with it," Olson said.

Catholic Central won the team title in February over Davison for a second time and Garcia said the individual finals helped validate that effort.

Other CC champs Saturday were Trevor Zdebski (27-2) at 119, Myles Amine (42-6) at 140, older brother Malik Amine (34-3) won 145 for a second championship and Nick Bennett (43-0) won at 152 — a third title when counting two state championships he won in Texas.

"After we won the team, we were all so high that we came in Monday and coach (Mitch) Hancock put us through a brutal workout and that kind of brought us back down to earth, realizing the job's not done, we still have something to do," Garcia said.

"It's a great feeling to know that there are some great games that are also three-time state champs."



Detroit Catholic Central's Trevor Zdebski (top) wrestles in the state quarterfinals at The Palace. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

### PREP BOYS BASKETBALL DISTRICTS



Novii's Eric Foard (left) and Northville's Nathan Kellum wrestle for a rebound in the teams' district semifinal game at Canton. Novi prevailed 59-58, after losing a 12-point fourth-quarter lead. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## WILDCATS BEST MUSTANGS IN DISTRICT SHOWDOWN

Last-second heroics decide crosstown rivalry in state tourney game

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

It was another classic game between storied rivals, as Novi edged Northville in a boys basketball district nail-biter.

The two came into the opening game of the state tournament with the understanding that victories earned in the regular season meant nothing. Records were out the window. It was a new season and, in each game of the tourney, it is winner takes all and loser goes home.

Novi had just enough gusto, thanks to last-second heroics, to be the one to continue playing in the postseason, earning a tough 60-58 victory over the Mustangs.

Despite leading through most of the contest, the Wildcats found themselves fighting off surging Northville in the fourth quarter. Northville fought back from trailing by four to open the quarter to leading by one with approximately 20 seconds remaining in the game.

Novi didn't panic. The Wildcats didn't let the fact Northville had beat-



Northville's Joe Hewlett loses the handle on a rebound against Novi.

See WILDCATS, Page B3

## Hartland topples Wildcats in double overtime



Novi's Ryan Baxter breaks in on the Walled Lake Western goalie. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi blanks Western in semifinals before exit in final

By Chris Jackett  
Correspondent

It took two overtimes to determine, but Novi's ice hockey team fell short of the completing comeback from a two-goal deficit in Saturday's Division 2 regional final.

It was No. 6 Hartland (19-9-1) who got the last laugh when Eric Stevens knocked home a goal in the second overtime to upend No. 3 Novi (19-7-1), 5-4.

The Eagles led 3-1 going into the third period, but the Wildcats got three straight goals — two from Jordan Richardson and one from Alec Wells — and a 4-3 lead before Hartland answered with a fourth of its own from Chris McRae with 1:33 left in regulation.

Stevens' goal in the second

overtime gave Hartland its third straight regional title despite a strong effort by Novi senior goalie Austin Petty.

Petty was a vital role in the Wildcats' Feb. 26 semifinal victory over Walled Lake Western (8-15-2). Novi claimed an 8-0 victory, with four goals in both the first and second periods, while Petty picked up nine saves. Western goalie Anders Elmblad made 19 saves on the 28 shots he faced.

The Wildcats' offensive flurry started with what would be the game-winner by Pat Wojtylo just 1:32 into the game. Within seven minutes, Brad Hofelich struck twice and Bryan Fegert once to put Novi ahead 4-0.

The second period included goals from Brendan Wexler,



Novi players celebrate Patrick Wojtylo's first-period goal against Walled Lake Western.

Fegert, Richardson and then Hofelich completing his hat trick.

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

# Catholic Central wins hockey regional title

Shamrocks defeat St. Mary's, 5-2

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

The Detroit Catholic Central hockey team, for the second year in a row and the 18th time in school history, captured a regional championship.

The Shamrocks (21-6-1), coached by Doug Itami, picked up a 5-2 win Saturday over Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

Catholic Central score first, putting up a goal on a power play just 4:30 into the first period from Mitchell Ossowski with Luke Turner getting the assist.

The Shamrocks kept the pressure on through the remainder of the period, scoring again with just about three minutes left, this time with Ossowski assisting on a goal by Ryan Burnett for a 2-0 advantage.

Catholic Central went up, 3-0, off a goal by Jimmy Considine.

St. Mary's kept up strong pressure throughout the second period. That paid off with a goal by Taylor Bommarito that cut the Shamrocks' lead to 3-1. The Eaglets scored again with a goal by Nick Borellis that made it 3-2.

That would be the last time the Eaglets would find the back of the net, though they came close on several occasions. The Shamrocks didn't need to get



CC's Luke Turner lets a shot go against Northville.

close, as they found their mark with 5:55 left in the third period on a goal by Wade Orłowski for a 4-2 lead. They added a final goal, by Burnett on the power play, into an empty net.

Catholic Central was scheduled to play Plymouth today.

## CC 7, Northville 0

It was a one-sided affair Feb. 26 in the regional semifinal.

The shutout was the eighth in a row and 11th of the season for the Shamrocks. Northville, which had been shut out only two other times this season, finished 18-6-2.

The Shamrocks scored first on goal by Ryan Burnett with 7:15 remaining in the first period. Mitchell Ossowski assisted.

The second and third periods proved to be very fruitful for the Shamrocks, who went scored three times in each.

In the second period, Domenic Mancinelli, Lucas Turner and Mark

Gossett (unassisted) all scored to give Catholic Central a 4-0 lead. Assisting were Conner Gaffney, Carter Cerrantani, Andrew Lane and Gossett.

In the final period, Mancinelli scored a short-handed goal, followed by goals from David Spiegel II and Austin Featherstone. Assisting were Ossowski, Turner, Gossett, Brian Kearns, Kyle Mulka and Alex Kreutzer.

Catholic Central had eight penalties, including a 10-minute unsportsmanlike misconduct, while Northville was whistled for eight penalties, including two 10-minute misconduct penalties and a five-minute major.

Earning the win in goal was Spencer Wright, who faced 10 shots, while Jeremy Onofrio took the loss for Northville, stopping 16 out of 20 shots on goal. He shared time with Chance Boutin, who stopped 24 out of 27 shots.

# Team Detroit sweeps through Ohio



The Team Detroit 12-1 volleyball squad celebrates recently after winning the gold medal at the President's Cup tournament in Dayton, Ohio. The team swept through pool play and followed that up with exciting victories in the championship rounds. The tournament included teams from Ohio, Kentucky and Michigan. The previous weekend, 12-1 also brought home the gold medal when it won the Ohio Valley Region National Challenge in Parma, Ohio, defeating top teams from Ohio. This is the first time in more than 10 years that a U12 team from Michigan has won a major tournament in Ohio. Team Detroit is based in Novi and the 12-1 team has girls from Novi, Livonia and other surrounding cities.

# College-bound



One thing of which Novi High School never seems short are student-athletes who are signing to compete at the next level. Recently, 11 more Wildcats made it official by signing national letters of intent in a special ceremony among friends and family at the high school. Soccer was once again the leader of the pack, as Don Nakashima (University of Detroit), Taylor Pavlika (Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne), Gabby DeLeon (U.S. Military Academy) and Kendal Kramer (University of Michigan) all signed. Field hockey was close behind, sending Megan Paul (Miami of Ohio), Haley Notarantonio (University of Massachusetts) and Kayla Burkhartdt (Wittenberg) on to the next level. Also joining their classmates were a variety of other Wildcats student-athletes, including Jeff Baker (football at Notre Dame), Haley Parker (lacrosse at Siena Heights), Jordan Love (track at Boston University) and Tyler Whitehead (baseball at Hope College).

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Register for spring and summer sports leagues

Despite the continuing cold temperatures and snow, the city of Novi, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services De-

partment is preparing for spring and summer sport seasons. Registration is going on now via cityofnovi.org for the following leagues: Adult Softball Double Header League; Adult Tennis League; Adult Sand Vol-

leyball League; Adult Soccer League; Youth Tee Ball, Baseball and Softball Leagues; Golf League 55+; and Softball League 55+.

To learn about additional sport programs offered by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department, including a wide variety of summer camps and clinics, visit cityofnovi.org or call 248-347-0400 or 248-347-0414 for 55-and-over programs.

### Novi Athletic Boosters present wine tasting event

Novi Athletic Boosters club invites parents and other interested adults to attend the second annual Wine Tasting event 7:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday, March 22, at the Meadowbrook Country Club (on south side of Eight Mile, west of Haggerty Road).

Guests will enjoy a variety of specially se-

lected wines from around the world, along with hors d'oeuvres. Wine experts will be in attendance to enhance the experience. There will be a silent auction at the event and wine case sales.

For those wishing to catch the second round of the NCAA basketball tournament, there will be a separate cash bar area to watch the games.

All proceeds from the event will be used to

support high school and middle school student-athletes.

Tickets are \$40 per person and will be available at the next Novi Athletic Boosters meeting at 6:30 p.m. March 12 in Room 160 at the high school. Credit card purchases may be made by calling 248-642-4100 during business hours Monday through Friday (ask for Amy) or calling 248-982-0929 or 248-756-5833 evenings and weekends.

For franchise information visit [massageluxe.com](http://massageluxe.com).

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### Basketball team picks up win prior to district tourney

The Catholic Central basketball team looked to enter the state tournament with momentum on its side and did just that with a 53-38 victory over non-league foe Dearborn Heights Robichaud last week.

The Shamrocks followed the lead of Charlie Ryan and Noah Lee, who have been solid all season, as they put up 11

points each. Ike Marchie added 10 points.

Jashwan Wesley led Robichaud with 11 points.

Catholic Central climbed to 10-9 overall, while Robichaud fell to 4-15.

### Bowling team ends season at state finals

The Catholic Central bowling team made history this year with the school's first regional

championship and, with it, a trip to the state finals last weekend.

The Shamrocks weren't able to capture the Division 1 state title, though they looked very strong coming out of the Baker games.

The Shamrocks came out of the qualifying round in second place with 3,772, just behind Clarkston's 3,774.

In the first Baker, Catholic Central rolled 226 and added Bakers of 245, 246, 240, 220 237 and

203. CC added to that with regular game totals of 1,029 and 962.

In the quarterfinals, the Shamrocks were bested by Oxford, 1,279-1,255. Oxford rolled games of 180, 169 and 930, while the Shamrocks bowled 214, 145 and 896.

University of Detroit-Jesuit earned the state championship, defeating Grand Haven in the finals.

- By Sam Eggleston

## CATHOLIC CENTRAL ROUNDUP

### CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **CASA LOMA SITE PLAN NUMBER 13-52, LOCATED AT 21633 BECK ROAD ON THE WEST SIDE OF BECK ROAD NORTH OF EIGHT MILE ROAD FOR OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION OPTION, PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, WETLAND PERMIT, WOODLAND PERMIT AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL.** The applicant is proposing 10 single-family detached homes with associated infrastructure. Plans are available for review at the Community Development Department in the Novi Civic Center.

LOCATION MAP  
SCALE: 1" = 2500'

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 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, March 26, 2014.

Novi Planning Commission  
Michael Lynch, Secretary  
Published March 6, 2014

### CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **BECK NORTH CORPORATE PARK PHASE 2, LOT 56, SITE PLAN NUMBER 14-07, LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF CARTIER DRIVE, FOR PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT, WOODLAND PERMIT, AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL.** The subject property is approximately 5.5 acres and the applicant is proposing a speculative 75,461 sq. ft. light industrial building. 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 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, March 26, 2014.

Novi Planning Commission  
Michael Lynch, Secretary  
Publish: March 6, 2014



## 'Taste of Northville'

Event gives local businesses chance to show off

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

The Northville Chamber of Commerce "Taste of Northville Business Showcase" has been popular over its many years, recently drawing some 800 to 1,000 visitors. Traci Sincoc, chamber associate director, agreed there could be a cabin-fever uptick this year.

"It certainly would be a good opportunity to get out of the house," Sincoc said.

The 2014 "Taste of Northville" event will be from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 8, at Northville High School, on Six Mile west of Sheldon. Admission of \$3 is payable at the door.

There will be giveaways, prizes and raffle items from local businesses. Attendees will vote for the best restaurant and business dis-



The Chamber's "Taste of Northville" event will feature many local restaurants. Aubree's Pizzeria and Grill has participated in the past.

plays, as well as enjoying samples from restaurants and caterers.

"Food and giveaways are huge for people," Sincoc said. "It's an opportunity for the businesses to have direct contact with the consumers."

"It's one of the main opportunities we provide our members to talk to the consumers. Just having a great afternoon."

This year's sponsors are Community Financial Credit Union, Monroe Bank & Trust, Renewal by Andersen and

LevelOne Bank.

Service businesses, banks, fitness businesses, caterers and others attend. "The library comes," she said. "A variety of businesses. We have financial planners."

Sincoc added that Northville High has ample and convenient parking. "A nice, big location."

For more on the "Taste of Northville Business Showcase," contact the sponsoring Northville chamber at 248-349-7640 or online at [www.northville.org](http://www.northville.org).

## NOVI NEWSMAKERS

### Kerri A. Miller

FTCH, a full-service civil engineering, environmental, architectural/engineering and construction management firm with an office in Novi, has promoted Kerri A. Miller, P.E., LEED AP to the position of principal, the highest management and leadership honor at the firm.

Miller's main focus is business development and project management, where she is involved in marketing across many sectors. She joined FTCH's Civil

Division in April 2000 and her contributions resulted in promotions to senior engineer in 2007, associate in 2008 and senior associate in 2012. Her design contributions, innate talent in building relationships and commitment to client service has been instrumental to business development and project management for the firm.

As a senior civil engineer, Miller specializes in site development, utility design, and stormwater management design for higher

education, municipal and national clients. In addition, she has been involved with multiple sustainable design initiatives, including LEED project design work, third-party U.S. Green Building Council reviews and LEED consulting services.

Miller earned her bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Michigan State University. She became a licensed professional engineer in 2004 and is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

## NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

### C&L Ward rebranding

"Open Your Door to a Job Well Done" – that tagline that will now be seen throughout all of C&L Ward's re-branding, which includes a new website [www.goclward.com](http://www.goclward.com) and a



new toll-free number 800-462-9527. The last time the company re-branded was in 2006.

"The logo was really window centric," said Michelle Shook, C&L Ward's vice president of marketing & communications. "Andersen Windows are our core product, but over the past five or six years, our product mix has diversified into roofing, siding, attic insulation, decking and entry and interior doors and so much more. The new logo, a popular retro badge style, encompasses the entire home and has a hometown service feel, which is what we are known for. The tagline invites consumers to open their door to experience the C&L Ward Difference: A promise of quality craftsmanship, the best products in the market and our unsurpassed service."

### Retailers' 2014 forecasts turn chilly

Michigan retail businesses project only a 1.4-percent increase in their own sales this year, following a poor holiday shopping season and a worse January, according to the Michigan Retail Index, a joint project of Michigan Retailers Association and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

The latest monthly Index survey found 58 percent expect their year-over-year sales to grow in 2014, while 19 percent expect sales to shrink and 23 percent expect no change.

Although 25 percent expect their sales to rise more than 5 percent, the average across the state is for 1.4-percent growth. Ten percent project a more than 5-percent drop.

Their predictions followed a slow January in which many retailers saw sales decrease.

"We're still experiencing the adverse effects of a severe winter," said James P. Hallan, MRA president and CEO. "January provided no respite from the subzero cold and snow that have chilled shopping, or from a still-sluggish economy that makes consumers more cautious."

The January survey showed 30 percent of retailers increased sales over the same month last year, while 46 percent recorded declines and 24 percent reported no change. The results create a seasonally adjusted performance index of 42.5, down from 50.5 in December. A year ago January the index was at 57.9.

The 100-point Index gauges the performance of the state's overall retail industry, based on monthly surveys conducted by MRA and the Federal Reserve. Index values above 50 generally indicate positive activity; the higher the number, the stronger the activity.

Looking forward, 45 percent of retailers expect sales during February through April to increase over the same period last year, while 20 percent project a decrease and 35 percent no change. That puts the seasonally adjusted outlook index at 58.5, down from 63.3 in December. A year ago January it was 74.7.

### ABWA meeting

Join the Novi Oaks Chapter of the American Business Women's Association at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 12, at Alfocchino's restaurant for din-

ner, networking and an engaging presentation by Tracie Jackson-Hall, personal brand and marketing strategist and owner of The Thrive Co.

BrandCrafting: Simple Strategies to Build Your Reputation, Grow Your Influence and Boost will show you how to earn more referrals, position yourself as an expert in your field, and build faith, loyalty and trust with your potential market.

Advance registration is required and is available at [www.abwanovi.org](http://www.abwanovi.org).

### Signature leases space in Wixom

Signature Associates has negotiated the lease of 3,500 square feet of high-tech space located at 28800-28900 Beck Road, Wixom.

Jim Montgomery of Signature Associates represented the tenant, Alta Equipment, which is expanding the business. This new space will accommodate the accounting department.

### Free bowling to Olympians

Lucky Strike boutique bowling and entertainment announced that it will give 62 U.S. athletes who medaled in Sochi four years of complimentary bowling at any of its more than 20 locations nationwide. Additionally, Lucky Strike will provide one year of complimentary bowling to all U.S. athletes who competed in Sochi in recognition of their hard work and dedication and for representing the United States well on the world's largest stage.

Prior to the opening ceremonies, Lucky Strike offered complimentary bowling for life to any U.S. athlete who set/broke a world record. Although that did not happen during the games, the company is honored to award complimentary bowling as a thank you to all U.S. athletes.

"Everyone at Lucky Strike is proud of the hard work and dedication put forth by each and every American athlete in Sochi," said Steven Foster, founder and CEO of Lucky Strike. "Now that the Games are over, we hope they will come to Lucky Strike to blow off a little steam, celebrate their achievements, relax and enjoy some of the best food, drinks and entertainment around."

Recipients of complimentary bowling at Lucky Strike for the next

four years in Michigan are: Charlie White (Bloomfield Hills) – gold, ice dancing; Jeremy Abbot (Royal Oak) – bronze, team skating; and Meryl Davis (West Bloomfield) – gold, ice dancing.

### Home Builders Association forecast

The Home Builders Association of Michigan announced that despite the cold weather drag on the industry at the start of the year, the forecast for 2014 single-family home construction shows continued strong growth in permits. HBA of Michigan attributes the strong forecast to an increase in job growth, a continued strong rebound in North American vehicle production and a rise in home sales in 2013.

"Over 91,000 more people were employed last year compared to 2012, said Bob Filka, CEO of the HBA of Michigan. "Without question, the biggest contributor to the burgeoning housing recovery was the rise in home sales, particularly the 12 percent increase in average home sale values when comparing Michigan Association of Realtors data from 2013 to 2012. Combined with continually decreasing inventories, the result was an acceleration of new home construction."

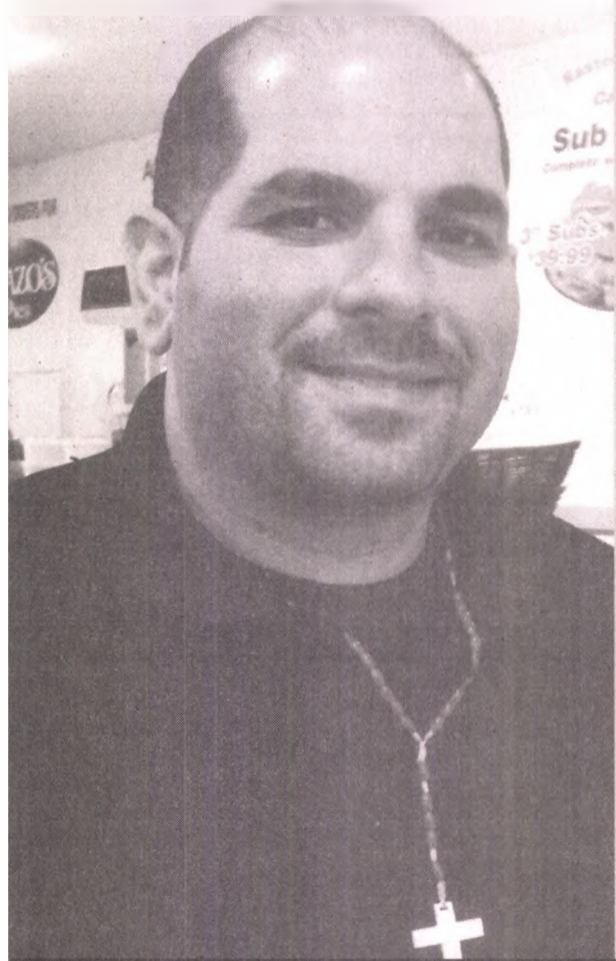
During 2013, Michigan saw 13,359 single-family home permits recorded year-to-date (U.S. Census Bureau data). This number was up by 28 percent compared to the 10,459 permits issued in 2012.

From a trailing 12-month perspective, Michigan single-family home permits exceeded the 13,000-permit threshold for the first time since May 2008, when the residential housing market was nearing the end of a nearly five-year "free fall" that began in January 2005 and didn't end until October 2009.

"We've seen steady upticks in virtually every market in the state," noted Filka. "Although the weather has created a slow start for 2014, we believe our forecast is conservative and that dependent upon labor availability and sustained job growth, our number could very well be surpassed." Looking ahead at single family home permits in 2014, HBA of Michigan forecasts a continued upward growth of nearly 20 percent, with a total of 15,966 single-family home permits expected to be issued in the coming year.

# Reasons why businesses turn to Observer & Eccentric Media LOCAL

Marvin Jarbo, Owner of Eastern Market of Canton speaking about advertising success in Observer & Eccentric Media



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## Sand Pirate



Kirk Schrader, part of the Sand Pirate team, works on creating a multi-story sand castle at the Feb. 28 combination Outdoorama and Cabin Show at Novi's Suburban Collection Showplace. The show featured lots of information on outdoor activities and goods like fishing rods and lures, foul weather gear and, of course, lots of items for those who have cabins up north. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



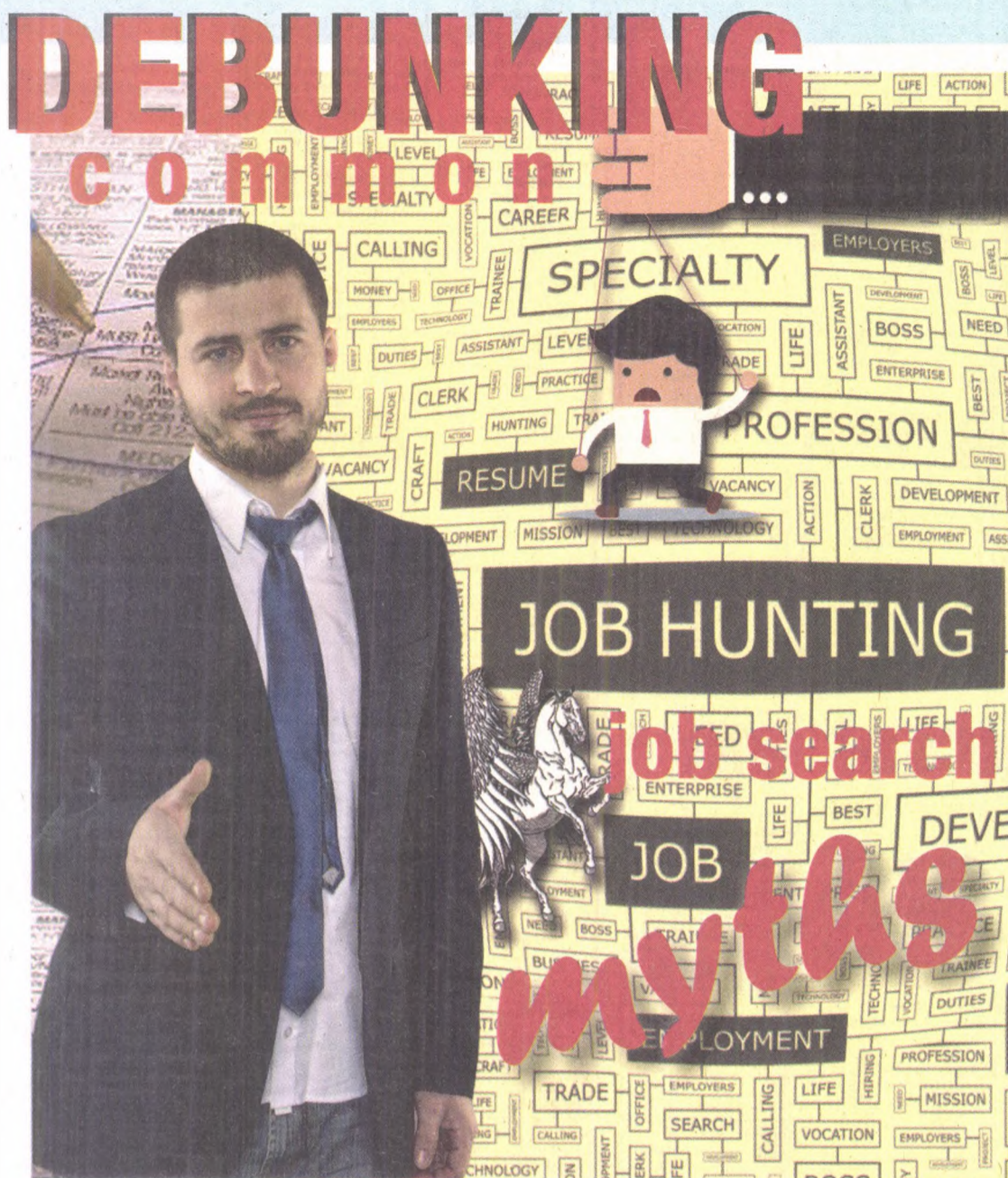




# JOBS

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**By Robert Half International**

We've all heard that a resume shouldn't be longer than a single page. And that "It never hurts to apply," even to jobs that are a long shot. It seems as if everyone has at least a small nugget of job search wisdom to pass along.

But rather than helping you, some of the advice you receive could be harming your chances of finding a new position. Job search myths -- like the "rule" about the one-page resume -- have a habit of sticking around even though they're not true. Here are several that have been debunked:

**You should keep your résumé to one page.**

This job search myth is perhaps the oldest of the bunch. Even if it were true at some point, it certainly isn't now. Hiring managers are much more interested in getting a true sense of your skills and experience than counting the number of pages you use. Although you don't want to ramble on unnecessarily, don't worry about going past the single-page mark if you need more space to list all of your professional accomplishments.

**You shouldn't bother to send a cover letter.**

Many job candidates think the cover letter is a thing of the past, especially since the vast majority of applications today are submitted online. But most hiring managers appreciate the introduction a cover letter provides. It also offers you an opportunity to expand upon one or two key points from your résumé, thereby strengthening your case for the job. Since fewer and fewer applicants are submitting a cover letter, a well-written one can help you stand out. If you are submitting your résumé as an attachment or uploading it to a database, use the email message as your cover letter.

**You should consider only full-time employment opportunities.**

It's a mistake to overlook temporary positions. These assignments can last for weeks or even months, providing a source of income and a chance to network and build new skills. In addition, an increasing number of employers are viewing temporary engagements as on-the-job auditions, evaluating a potential hire's fit for the role prior to extending a full-time offer.

**You should apply for as many jobs as possible.**

It's true you shouldn't pass up an opportunity you feel is right for you. But applying for openings that you have little true interest in or that have requirements you clearly cannot meet is a waste of time -- for both you and the hiring manager. Focus on positions that spark your interest and match your qualifications. Then, customize your application materials to show why you deserve to be considered.

**You shouldn't bother looking for work during the summer.**

Sure, people are on vacation during these times of year. But as we all know, business never stops. Companies hire year-round -- even at the end of the year and during the summer. Don't put your job search on hold. Instead, realize that there's less competition from other job seekers, increasing the likelihood you're the one called in for an interview.

**You shouldn't send an application unless a company has posted a job ad.**

Every job seeker dreads hearing that his résumé will be "kept on file." So it's understandable that you want to be sure a company is hiring before putting in the time and effort necessary to submit a résumé and cover letter. Use your professional network to uncover opportunities that haven't been announced yet.

**You should just cross your fingers after submitting a résumé.**

Once you've sent in your resume, the ball is completely in the hiring manager's court, right? Not necessarily. Don't be afraid to contact the employer after you've applied to reaffirm your interest in the position and explain why you're a good fit for the role. Employers sometimes need to be reminded of your qualifications. In fact, 81 percent of managers polled by Robert Half said job candidates should follow up within two weeks of applying for a job.

**You should take the first job offer you get.**

In a tough job market, this is one myth that is partially, but not entirely, true. Take a step back before rushing to sign on the dotted line. If your situation allows, it could pay to be selective. Ask yourself if the opportunity fits your long-term career goals. Will it give you opportunities for advancement and professional development? If not, taking the job could mean missing out on one that does offer this potential.

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