

# Novi News

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THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2014 • hometownlife.com



## Boosters present wine tasting

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 selected 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.

Tickets are \$40 per person and will be available 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.

## SOUNDS FOR A SHAMROCK



Catholic Central seniors surround Matt Sorisho after CC beat Brighton 5-1 in the state Division 1 hockey state title game Saturday at Compuware Arena.

# Band of doctors to perform for injured hockey player

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

Mazzin Najor of Southfield is looking forward to a benefit concert for his cousin, Matthew Sorisho, a local high school hockey player partially paralyzed on the ice.

"We'd like to get as many people out as possible," Najor said of the 8 p.m. Thursday, March 20, performance at the Uptown Grille, 3100 E. West Maple Road in Commerce Township.

A group of doctors is performing music to raise money for the cause.

"One, because we know the family. Two, because this is what we do," Najor said of Doctor Detroit's performance.

Sorisho was involved in an on-ice accident while playing for a developmental hockey league

this past October. He is paralyzed from the waist down. After surgery and extensive physical therapy, Sorisho has returned to Catholic Central High School to finish his senior year.

The band did a benefit concert last year for a girl getting a heart transplant, Najor said, and performs each year to help send physicians to Nicaragua.

"This one kind of hit close to home," he said. Najor grew up with the Sorisho family.

"He's back at school," Najor said of Sorisho, who last weekend accepted the state championship trophy on the ice for CC's hockey team.

"He has his ups and downs. He's improving," Najor said. Sorisho plans to attend Michigan State University, where he's been accepted, and may work with MSU's hockey team if his health allows.

"We just want to thank everyone who has helped Matt and his family through this difficult time," Dr. Amit Bhan, a physician at Henry Ford Health System and founding member of Doctor Detroit, said in a statement.

One member, Dr. Greg Olds, is flying in from Tennessee to play in the show.

"We really wanted to do something to show our support for Matt, who we have known for years," Dr. Ron Kattoo, critical care physician at Henry Ford Hospital, said in a statement.

Doctor Detroit members include Najor (vocals), Kattoo (guitar), Olds (guitar, vocals), Bhan (drums), Guido Milligan (bass, guitar) and Glendon Gardner (keyboards and harmonica).

The band will cover old rock and some new, Najor said, in-

cluding the Beatles and The Who: "It's all about everyone having a good time."

Sorisho and his family plan to attend, if his health allows. Admission is free, Najor said, with fundraising through an auction and donations, as well as T-shirt sales.

It's also a thank you for all who've rallied around the teen and his family, including the Catholic Central community. "We're extremely appreciative," Najor said.

The Rev. John Huber, principal of Catholic Central, said of Sorisho, "He goes to all of his classes. He's doing quite well. He's just like one of the other students."

Sorisho will graduate in May, Huber said, adding the teen has learned to drive again.

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## Novi will be unleashing a new dog park soon

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

Construction of Novi's first off-leash dog area will begin soon and will cost \$210,797.

The city council moved forward on the budgeted project Monday by awarding a construction contract for the Dog Park to Erie Construction, LLC, based in Woodhaven.

Jason Mangum is the city's director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, which along with the Public Services Department recommended the project to council. He said this plan comes in, "response to the continued popularity of dog ownership and continued trend to provide a setting for dog owners to socialize and relax with their dogs."

"Dog parks provide space to promote responsible pet own-

ership, enforce dog control laws and provide a safe environment for people as well as dogs to socialize. In addition, a dog park promotes public health and safety," he said in his report to council, which approved the plan by a 7-0 vote.

According to the plan, the park will be set up on vacant land owned by the city behind the Novi Ice Arena, which is on the east side of Novi Road south of 10 Mile. The total fenced area of the proposed park is just less than three acres and will be divided into two sections. The small or timid dog area will be approximately 0.75 acres, with the remaining 2.2 acres for all other dogs.

Amenities will include dog

See **DOG**, Page A2

## Staff votes for 'principal' Carter

Survey of teachers presented to school board

By Cal Stone  
Staff Writer

It may have been only one person, but the stack of paper she carried into the Novi Board of Education meeting March 6 carried the weight of many.

Chandra Maddaferri, president of the Novi Education Association teachers union (although she stressed she was not acting in that capacity last Thursday), handed over to the seven-member board the results of a survey taken by Novi High School

teachers.

There were eight questions, but just one overwhelming answer: The teaching staff at the school wants Nicole Carter to be their principal.

She is currently the interim principal for the 2013-14 school year, being reappointed by Superintendent Steve Matthews last August after the board failed to name her full-time principal.

Carter is one of three assistant principals at the school. She served as the interim principal for the last few months of the 2012-13 school year after Principal Carol Diglio was named assistant superintendent of human resources.

The principal job was posted June 12, 2013. Of the 67 candi-

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Carter



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## CARTER

Continued from Page A1

dates, Carter and Charles LaClear (also an assistant principal at the high school) were the two finalists. Matthews' recommendation to the board was for Carter, but at its Aug. 1 meeting, the board voted 3-3 and she did not earn the appointment.

Now the district is preparing another search and interview process and the high school teaching staff wanted board members to know exactly how they feel about Carter.

"There is overwhelming support that I want to address with you and the community at large for Nicole as our building principal," Madafferi said. "And the teachers really dug down and did some reflection on her performance this year - the overall morale, the programming that she's done - and the majority of our teachers are in support as maintaining her as our principal."

Some 103 teachers, about 93 percent of the full-time staff at the

*"There is overwhelming support that I want to address with you and the community at large for Nicole as our building principal. And the teachers really dug down and did some reflection ... and the majority ... are in support as maintaining her as our principal."*

CHANDRA MADAFFERI

high school, took the survey, a turnout Madafferi called "outstanding."

She said the staff is concerned about stability and she noted that the school has gone through many changes the past couple of years. Madafferi said the staff is pushing forward on some wonderful pro-

grams, curriculum and testing. And, she said, the staff believes Carter is someone who would continue to keep the growth and momentum going.

"I've said it before - she is a coach we want to win for. It really is that simple," Madafferi said.

Yes, Madafferi said, another person might bring some different experiences to the table, but "we also believe there is going to be a large learning curve. We wonder if those learning curves are going to take us steps back before we can take steps forward."

With more than 2,000 students, numerous teachers and a wide variety of departments, Carter knows the school. She was promoted to assistant principal at Novi High early in 2010. She started at the school 11 years before as a civics, economics and AP government teacher before becoming dean of students in 2007.

"We value her," Madafferi said. "And when you have a staff that values their leader, they want to do the best they can because it's internally driven."

## TEACHER SURVEY

These are the results (in percentages) from a survey taken by 103 Novi High School full-time teachers regarding Nicole Carter, the current interim principal.

**Q1: What are Nicole's best administrative traits? (check all that apply)**

Her communication skills - 85.44  
She listens to my needs - 80.58  
She follows through - 77.67  
She truly cares about all Novi students - 97.09  
She values my opinions - 77.67  
She gives praise freely and makes me want to succeed - 75.73

She supports my decisions - 66.99  
She is organized and professional - 97.09  
**Q2: Have you been happy with Nicole as our principal?**

Yes - 99.03  
No - 0  
Other - 0.97

**Q3: Do you feel confident Nicole would be a good/great principal if she were able to remain in her current position permanently?**

Yes - 8.82  
No - 75.49  
Other - 15.69

**Q4: Would you be confident an "outside" (from out of district) person could transition quickly into the role of principal?**

Yes - 8.82  
No - 75.49  
Other - 15.69

**Q5: Does Nicole make you a better teacher in any way?**

Yes - 92.71  
No - 0  
Other - 7.29

**Q6: If you had the power to do so, would you ...**  
Keep Nicole on as principal? - 93.07  
like to see anyone else but Nicole as principal? - 0

at least look for other candidates to see who is out there? - 4.95

do nothing about the principal position? - 0.99

Other (please specify) - 0.99

**Q7: What do you feel is best for the students at Novi High School?**

Keep Nicole on as the permanent principal - 95.10  
Seek out other candidates, but give Nicole the chance to move on - 4.90

Let Nicole return to the AP position, and seek a new principal - 0

Part ways with Nicole altogether - 0

**Q8: What do you feel is best for the staff at Novi High School?**

Keep Nicole as the permanent principal - 94.05  
Seek out other candidates, but give Nicole the chance to move on - 5.94

Let Nicole return to the AP position and seek a new principal - 0

Part ways with Nicole altogether - 0

Other (please specify) - 0

According to Matthews, the district is in the "taking applications" phase.

"We have posted the

job," he said. "It is open until March 27. Then we will begin screening and interviewing."

The goal, Matthews

said, is to get the board a recommendation in May.

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## DOG

Continued from Page A1

waste stations, benches, tables, drinking fountain to serves pets and humans and an electronically secured double entry system with key fob access. There will also be a sidewalk connection between the dog park and the ice arena parking lot, on-street parking and landscaping to screen the ice arena.

The project management team that helped put the plan together included Novi engineer staffers Ben Croy and Brian Coburn, Tracie Ringle with Community Relations, Wendy DuVall with Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

and Ayane Grubbs in information technology. OHM Advisors helped with design.

"Well-exercised dogs are better neighbors and less likely to create a nuisance, bark excessively or destroy property," according to the project team.

Construction is scheduled to begin this spring. According to Public Services planners, it is anticipated that work should be substantially complete in the spring or early summer. The contract does have provisions for the establishment of turf throughout the park, with the intent that the park will be open for use this fall.

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## PLAYER

Continued from Page A1

Huber agreed the school community has rallied around the family: "Absolutely. We've had several tragedies over the last several years. I think it has strengthened the brotherhood among the students," as well as greater family ties.

The principal noted many contributions to the fund for the Cipriano family, following that crime that impacted CC. "This is part of our family and we have the responsibility of taking care of our family. We are our brother's keeper."

The priest added CC

*"He has his ups and downs. He's improving."*

MAZZIN NAJOR  
cousin of injured player  
Matthew Sorisho

uses fidelity and prayerfulness. He's appreciative of the support from other Catholic schools nearby, Mercy, Ladywood and St. Catherine of Siena, as well as public schools such as Novi.

"The kids have friends at all these schools, so they have connections," Huber said.

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## Novi city property gets new landscape contractor

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

Getting the grass cut in a timely and quality manner is important no matter if you are a homeowner or the city of Novi.

The Novi City Council awarded a contract for lawn and landscape maintenance services to B&B Landscaping, Inc., for a one-year term with three one-year renewal options and an estimated annual cost of \$147,083.

The vote was unanimous, but council member Andrew Mutch needed some reassurance that this company would be up to the task. He cited a previous contract in which the lawn company backed out half-way through the season. And since this contract was awarded to the lowest bidder, he was worried.

"I'm concerned about over-promising," he said.

Each year, Novi contracts with a lawn maintenance contractor to mow grass and maintain landscaping along roadsides and on city properties.

Both interim City Manager Victor Cardenas and Public Services Director Rob Hayes assured Mutch this company is up to the task.

"This is an important contract for us," Cardenas said Monday to council members.

Work is scheduled to begin in April and will continue through October.

## Special donation



Several members of the Fraternal Order of Police Southwestern Oakland County Lodge 128 recently presented a check for \$2,773 to Special Olympics of Michigan. The F.O.P. 128 raised the majority of the much-needed monetary funds at the Polar Plunge on the Detroit River. Shown (from left) are Bob Houchins, Bob Stephens (event chair), Sarah Henry (Special Olympics Michigan), Dale Uranis and Jeff Gomez. The F.O.P. 128 membership is made up of police officers from cities in the metro area, including Detroit, Livonia, West Bloomfield, Novi, Farmington Hills, Milford, Walled Lake, South Lyon, White Lake and Westland. **CURTIS DROGMILLER**

## NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

### Jewelry stolen from a vehicle

A couple told Novi Police that some jewelry was stolen from their vehicle while they were inside Bar Louie at the Fountain Walk.

The incident occurred sometime March 1-2 at the location off of 12 Mile. The couple reported placing around \$4,000 worth of rings and a necklace inside a bag, which was then placed inside the center console. The only other person(s) who had access to the vehicle during that time was valet parking and the couple claimed it was locked.

The valet company and its employees denied having anything to do with the theft. No pawn records came up of the employees during a police search. There was no other evidence and the case has been closed due to lack of information.

### Kohl's thief caught

A woman was arrested for attempted theft at the Kohl's store on West Oaks Drive after being spotted on security camera removing earrings from their packaging. The afternoon of

March 6, store security told Novi Police they observed the woman grabbing the jewelry. An employee walked out to get a better look and saw the suspect concealing the earrings in her pocket. The suspect also grabbed some gloves and removed their price tag.

The woman attempted to walk out, but was detained. She later admitted to police of the attempted theft.

### Drunken driving

Slow driving led to a female driver being arrested for drunken driving.

Novi Police stopped the driver early March 6 while driving on west-bound I-96 at Beck Road. She was observed driving under the posted minimum speed limit. The vehicle's license plate light was not working.

She was asked to do field sobriety tests after police made contact with her and detected the odor of alcohol inside the vehicle. She had trouble with her balance and swayed during the tests. She was later detained after registering 0.124 percent blood-alcohol on the preliminary breathalyzer

test.

The driver was also ticketed for driving on a suspended license.

- By Lonnie Huhman

## Novi, South Lyon to keep dispatch

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

Novi approved a three-year contract for dispatch services for the city of South Lyon, a service Novi has provided for its neighbor to the west for the last two decades.

"The city of Novi Police Department has provided emergency dispatch service for the city of South Lyon Police and Fire Departments for over 20 years," Novi Public Safety Director David Molloy said.

The Novi City Council approved the agreement March 10.

The only change from the previous agreement is a rate increase. South Lyon is currently paying Novi

\$109,570 for dispatch services. This would go up 2 percent (\$111,761, \$113,996 and \$116,276) each year over the next three.

As part of the agreement, Novi agrees to furnish the South Lyon Fire Department dispatch services on a 24-hour, seven-day basis. Novi also agrees to serve as the primary safety answering point for South Lyon as part of the Oakland County E-911 Emergency Communications System.

Per the agreement, any requests from South Lyon that increase the scope of dispatch services from what is currently required shall not be binding on Novi unless approved in writing by the city's police chief.

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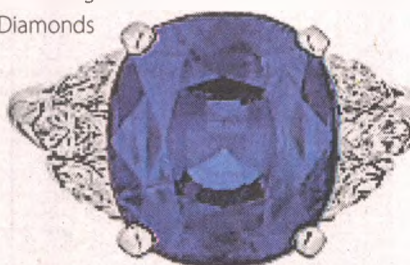
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## Novi Woods introduces the modern classroom

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

The classroom of the future has come to Novi.

Three classrooms at Novi Woods Elementary have been developed into learning studios as part of a pilot program to see the impact a new set-up would have on learning.

Through the help of a grant, two fourth-grade classes and one kindergarten were able to change from the traditional desk set-up to one arrayed with tables that encourage team-

work while also valuing individual time, plus comfy areas perfect for reading and group discussion.

"We are expecting our students to be able to work collaboratively, solve problems through inquiry and create, while still functioning in a 19th century-style classroom," said Novi Woods fourth-grade teacher Michelle Donberger, whose class shares a space along with Sally Chandler's fourth-grade room that has been turned into a learning studio.

Teachers and students in

Novi now want to change this by bringing the 21st century into their classrooms.

Donberger said they have been collaborating with Interior Environments, TMP Architecture, Siebold Baker Group and Izzy Furniture to come up with a "21st century learning studio for our students."

She said those companies, as well as the Novi Educational Foundation, have come together to fund these three learning studios, which were introduced on March 10.

NEF chair Geoff Wood said

this was a perfect project for the NEF to support because of its long history of funding innovations in the classroom that enhance the learning of our children and differentiate our school district.

"Initially we were drawn to this idea by the teachers' passion and the engagement of a local Novi business, Interior Environments, that is owned by two Novi residents who are very actively involved with our community," Wood said. "What ultimately makes this very appealing is the partnership

with the University of Michigan that enables the evaluation of this impact on the children's learning process."

They have been fully embraced by the students.

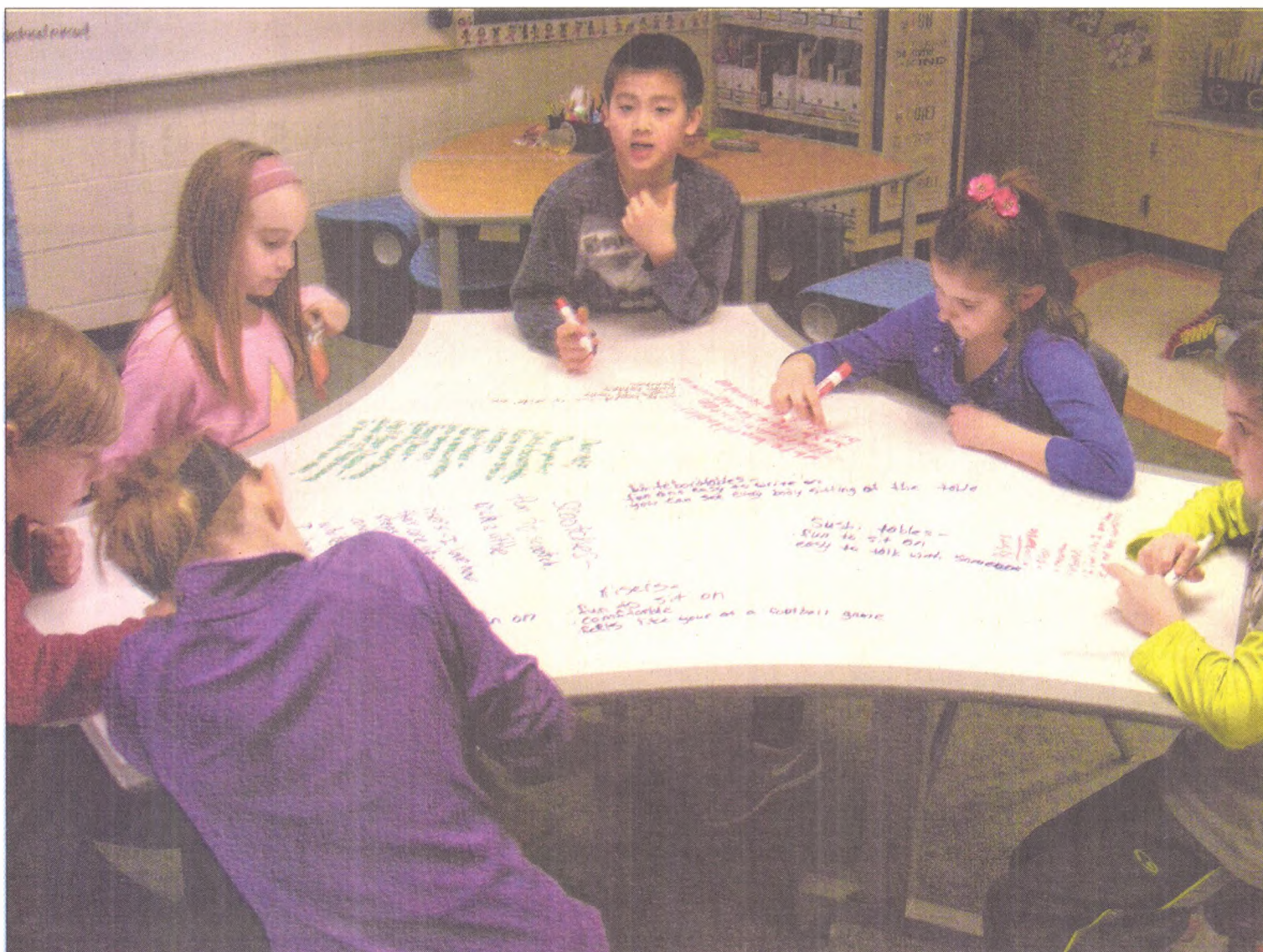
"When I walked in for the first time, I thought this was cool," fourth-grader Blaire King said.

"Being in a comfortable spot is important when you want to sit down and read for a while, so I think this will help us," fourth-grader Alyssa Welch said.

Kindergarten teacher Jodi Balconi said the new learning environment enables the classroom setting to become more flexible and gives the students options in how they want to learn.

Donberger said they will be consulting with the Curtis Research Center at the University of Michigan's School of Social Work to be able to measure the effectiveness of these learning studios.

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The new learning studio tables help with collaboration. Here, Novi Woods fourth-graders use the whiteboard tables to brainstorm notes. LONNIE HUHMANN

### ON CAMPUS

#### Emory College

**Nandita Balakrishnan** of Novi was named to the Dean's List for the 2013 fall semester. Students must be in the top 20 percent of Emory College or have approximately a 3.85 grade-point average or higher to be named.

#### Grand Valley State University

More than 1,000 students earned degrees from Grand Valley State University in December 2013, including (from Novi) **Kyle A. Diephuis**, BBA; **Kristin L. Fiscus**, MS; **Kenneth R. Gilbert**, BS; **Joseph S. Kargula**, BS; **Allison P. Pew**, BA; **Daniel D. Piligian**, MPAS; **Bridget A. Welsh**, BS; and (from Wixom) **Christy A. Os-tach**, BBA; and **Miles K. Smith**, BBA.

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# Novi is ensuring excellence in every classroom

passed my test!  
On Monday, all of the building administrators in the district finished three days of training on how to conduct interviews of prospective teachers. The training centered on identifying the qualities of great teachers. Hundreds of interviews of great teachers had been conducted and, from that, key characteristics of great teachers had been identified. The training all of our building administrators went through was designed to help us identify those characteristics in those who wanted to work for Novi.

We get better as a school district when we hire the right people, support those people through training, provide those people with the resources that they need to do their job and



**Steve Matthews**  
SUPER TALK

work with those people to continue to develop their skill and talent. But it all starts with finding the right people.

In Novi, we have four district goals. Goal No. 4 says that we will improve organizational quality and customer service by creating common standards, systems and principles. This training was a step in that direction.

One of my responsibilities as superintendent is to ensure that, as much as possible, there is equity and excellence in every classroom, every grade level and every building. That

does not mean that I am asking teachers to be the same or to set aside their personalities when they step into the classroom. Ensuring equity and excellence throughout the district does not mean that I want every classroom to be an exact replica of every other classroom.

Ensuring equity and excellence does mean that every first- or third- or fifth- or eighth- or 11th-grade classroom in the district is staffed by a committed, creative and resourceful teacher who puts the needs of her or his students first. Ensuring organizational quality means that I am confident that it does not matter who a child has for kindergarten or second or fourth or sixth or 10th grade, because I know that person is professionally

active, up-to-date and capable of reaching all students.

I want teachers to have a personality. I want teachers to bring "who they are" into the classroom. But I always want to ensure that the people we employ as teachers understand the qualities of great teaching and embody the characteristics of great teaching.

In order for us to ensure that we have great teachers in the classroom, I have to make sure that we can identify those who have the potential to be great teachers and those who understand the qualities of great teaching during the interview process.

Which brings us back to the training that all of our building administrators went through during the past six weeks. Our training consisted of three

days of examining the qualities that great teachers exhibit. We had homework – and we had to pass a test to become certified to participate in the interviewing process.

My final score was a 92 percent. I earned a 90 percent and a 94 percent on my final two interview exams. While in the grand scheme of things, it was not the highest of high-stakes tests, I am still glad I passed it.

This is one small step that we are taking in Novi to ensure that we build that quality organization that will continue to help our students reach their goals.

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

## Novi High School sending 78 students to HOSA state meet

Health Occupations Students of America is an organization for students interested in health careers. It is similar to DECA for the health field as students compete in various health career skills.

On March 1, Novi High School hosted the largest regional HOSA event in Michigan's history with 1,105 students attending. There are 45 different events for kids to choose from. State qualifiers must be in the top 10 in their event and compete against all of the Oakland and Wayne county chapters.

This is the first year for a HOSA chapter in Novi and 96 of the school's 120 members competed. Seventy-eight qualified for states in Traverse City, with 41 earning medals. Novi recorded 14 first-place finishes, 19 seconds and eight thirds. Novi students competed in 26 events and had state qualifiers in 24 events.

"The number of Novi kids that were called on that stage stunned everyone," said Emily Parker Pohlonski, Novi's HOSA adviser. "They swept the biotechnology round, taking first-, second- and third-place medals."



Novi High School HOSA students who qualified for the state competition are: Nithin Adapa; Sharon Amalraj; Raghu Arghal; Namratha Atluri; Adithya Balasubramanian; Erik Biberstein; Harika Bollineni; Shiva Bongu; Raj Bramhane; Amy Cao; Jasmeet Chahal; Michael Chang; Sahithi Chinnam; Rishitha Dalavayi; Varun Das; Navya Devarasetty; Aastha Dharia; Vivian Dinh; Aditya Doddipatla; Saitheja Gadde; Srivatsav Gotur; Rakshita Gouni; Sachit Grover; Shreya Gumate; Bradley Huang; Eshwar Inapuri; Tresa Jacob; Shraddha Jadhav; Ashna Jain; Kaartik Jain; Aditi Jajoo; Andrew Jamison; Vineet Jammalamadaka; Jessica Jiang; Ashwin Johri; Pratik Joshi; Akhila Kadiyala; Trishul Kalapuram; Rajdeep Kaur; Shakila Khan; Dong Kim; Jeswanth Kodali; Anurag Koduri; Sanketh Kolli; Rohith Kolluri; Justin Lee; Kevin Li; Andre Liu; Tiffany Liu; Sahisnu Malapati; Rishik Marneni; Allison Mascarenhas; Natasha Medhora; Nagendra Mogasala; Achyut Muchoor; Saiishitha Nalamolu; Tanaz Naterwala; Teresa Ng; Akira Nishii; Vikhyathi Pallerla; Pooja Panguru; Alexis Parenti; Daniel Park; Afreen Qadeer; Gautham Ravi; Kaushik Ravi; Varsha Reddy; Swathi Sampath; Christa Schafer; Jonathan Sohn; Dhivya Sridar; Abshisek Subash; Tulasi Talluri; Palguna Thalla; Alexandra Tretyakova; Komal Tur; Eric Yang; and Bilal Zahoor.

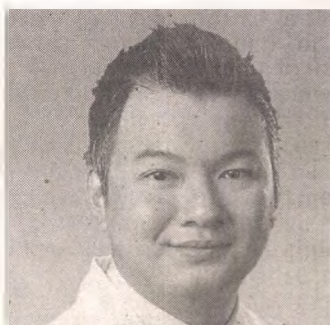
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# Pleasant Lake students becoming leaders

Every other Thursday, Pleasant Lake Elementary students participate in mentor groups made up of students in kindergarten through fifth grade. These groups are known around the school as "crews." Students meet with their crew leaders and fellow crew members for a lesson pertaining to the Leader in Me program and Stephen Covey's 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. Each crew's meeting involves more than 40 Pleasant Lake staff members.

Once a month, the school holds a crew assembly following the lesson. At the assembly,

crews share something pertaining to a current or past lesson.

Teachers MaryLou Clark and Blake Bernstein first began researching the idea in summer 2012. They visited Novi Woods Elementary School to learn more about their Leader in Me dens. Novi Woods was kind enough to share the details of its dens. The goals were to build a sense of building wide community at Pleasant Lake Elementary, to give each student another connection at school and to provide staff and students the opportunity to build a six-year relationship.

"The crews have been a huge success and staff and students have really enjoyed the relationships they've made spanning all grade levels," said Nayal Maktari, Pleasant Lake Elementary principal. "None of this could be possible without the hard work and dedication of the Pleasant Lake staff."

The Leader In Me program strives to take these basic principles and incorporate them into the lives of children, helping them to develop critical skills and characteristics such as leadership, accountability, responsibility, creativity and communication.



Pleasant Lake Elementary students are part of the Leader in Me program in Walled Lake.

## NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS

### Coffee with the superintendent

Join the superintendent of Novi Community Schools, Dr. Steve Matthews, at the Novi Public Library for coffee and conversation about what's happening in the Novi schools at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 17, or 10:15 a.m. Wednesday, March 19.

### 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 in-

formation 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.

### 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 post-secondary 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.

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>.

### Novi High Talent Show

Novi High School's Fourth Annual International Talent Show will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, March 21, in the Novi High School auditorium. All proceeds are donated this year to The International Justice Mission. Last year, more than 300 people attended the event, which raised more than \$2,000 donated to The Hunger Project.

The show will feature Novi High School students performing in acts

representing various countries. Some of the many acts include dances, soloists, instrumentals and more. Following the performances, a food court will be set up where attendees can sample international foods.

The production was organized by Novi High School's IB Diploma candidates. This event is part of their CAS (creativity, action, and service) requirement for earning the IB diploma. The students planned all aspects of the show from recruiting to advertising, ticket and program preparation, and emcee duties.

In addition, many of the IB students are performing in the show under the direction of their staff coordinator, Barbara Clift.

Tickets are \$7 per person and can be purchased at the door.

### W.L. Central to host Math Pentathlon

Walled Lake Central High School (1600 Oakley Park) is hosting the National Math Pentathlon Division I (kindergarten and first grade) tournament Saturday, March 29.

This year, 89 students from six Walled Lake elementary schools will be participating in the Division I tournament. Commerce Elementary has six students participating; Keith Elementary has 10 students participating; Mary Helen Guest Elementary has 24 students participating; Pleasant Lake Elementary has 16 students participating; Oakley Park Elementary has 17 students participating; and Walled Lake Elementary has 16 students participating.

Math Pentathlon is also hosting tournaments for students in second through seventh grade in several local high schools this spring. The Division II (second and third grade) tournament will take place Saturday, March 22, at Farmington High School.

The Division III (fourth and fifth grade) tournament will take place Saturday, May 10, at Stoney Creek High School in Rochester Hills. The Division IV (sixth and seventh grade) tournament will take place Saturday, May 10, at Stoney Creek High School.

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PROJECT CLEAN WATER



A family who received a filter in Guanazan.

# Rotarian spirit of helping flows in Ecuador

A team of certified technicians, led by Gary Sobotta of the Novi Rotary club, conducted a workshop in Ecuador on the construction of bio-sand water filters two years ago.

Now those systems can be found in homes and schools in this South American country.

"We cannot assume education would create an awareness of the value of sanitation," Sobotta said. "I believe we need to identify the aspects of beneficiary behavior to be changed to maximize the impact of health education and program activities aimed at behavioral change."

The workshop was attended by designated manufacturers and community health workers from the participating Rotary clubs in Ecuador. Technicians received instruction and hands-on experience in the construction of the filter, including molding and curing of the concrete housings, selection and installation of graded sand media, manufacture of diffuser basins and lids.

"Participants gained a clear understanding of the rationale behind the filter design, how to install it and instruct householders on its correct usage to ensure the proper and consistent use of the filters in Ecuador," Sobotta said. "The community health workers received more in-depth training on health, sanitation, and bio-sand filter operation and maintenance so that they can help others use and maintain their filters properly."



Gary Sobotta checking the flow rate of a filter to ensure proper pause time.

The Vocational Training Team developed training material appropriate to the physical and cultural conditions of the local population. Sanitation and hygiene improvement depends on the degree to which the local community understands the values and assimilates them within their own family and community contexts

**Return trip**

Sobotta and fellow Novi Rotarian Bryan Berent visited Ecuador in October 2013 to review the progress of Rotary Foundation Global Grant No. 25407. The Ecuadorian Rotary clubs of Tomebamba-Cuenca,

Gualaceo, Zaruma, and Esmeraldas (District 4400) have teamed with the American Rotary clubs of Novi and Milan and the Canadian Rotary Club of Chatham Sunrise (District 6380) to plan and implement a large-scale clean water and hygiene project in three provinces of Ecuador. Financial support for this project is through the generosity of these participating clubs and the Rotary Foundation.

"Under the management of the Rotary Club of Zaruma, bio-sand water filters have been placed in homes of 224 families and four schools in the Parroquia of Guanazan that are without any access to clean and safe water," Berent said. He and Sobotta used two components to evaluate the effectiveness of the project. A water quality testing of the source water and subsequent

water testing to determine the removal rates of the contaminants were performed.

The two Novi Rotarians also utilized survey questions to assess household use of improved drinking-water and sanitation and to assess hygiene-related practices.

"The survey questions are important for the evaluation to be used as a means of discussing the direction of the project and of identifying how the effectiveness could be improved," Berent said.

The Rotary Club of Zaruma has been provided with funds to manufacture another 200 filters. Under the stewardship, the Rotary Club Zaruma appears to have a good start in the community of Guanazan, a community of 600 families.

Under the management of the Rotary Club of Gualaceo and Tome-

bamba-Cuenca, Ecuador bio-sand water filters have been placed in homes of 64 families.

However, Sobotta and Berent discovered a flaw in the manufacturing of the remaining 134 filters, resulting in leakage.

"A pause period is needed to allow time for the microorganisms in the bio-layer to consume pathogens in the water," Sobotta said. "The bio-layer requires oxygen to survive. When water is flowing through the filter, dissolved oxygen in the water is supplied to the bio-layer. Leakage will cause the bio-layer to dry out."

**Latest development**

In February, the Tomebamba-Cuenca Rotary Club delivered 77 repaired filters to the community of Nabon. Under the stewardship, the club has entered into an agreement with the University of Cuenca to monitor the installation and implementation of the bio-sand filter project in the community of Nabon.

In June, Executive Director Natalie Relich

**FOLLOW AND SHARE**

You can follow the progress of the project on its Facebook page – Agua Limpia Ecuador – and use the "Like" button to share the content with your friends on Facebook. Rotary encourages its clubs and districts to support efforts which help people to provide themselves with safe water reasonably close to their homes using simple, sustainable technology. Besides technical and financial support for the program, the Novi Rotary Club promotes activities to develop community awareness of the value of sanitation and the requirements for operation and maintenance of facilities. Rotary Club members initiate thousands of projects each year to supply, conserve, and purify water – all with the goal of providing clean and safe drinking water to communities in need.

and Administrative Coordinator Stephanie Santoro from OHorizons Foundation will accompany Novi Rotarians to Zaruma to conduct a workshop. The OHorizons Foundation is committed to fighting world hunger through the development of innovative water, agriculture, energy and economic development solutions.

"Currently, the foundation is concentrating its efforts on creating a wood mold design to be utilized as a tool in bio-sand filter distribution efforts for communities in need of clean water solutions," Sobotta said. "For the cost of a traditional steel mold, an organization can build five to seven wood molds in roughly the same amount of time, making it easier, faster and cheaper to deliver water filters to those who need it most."

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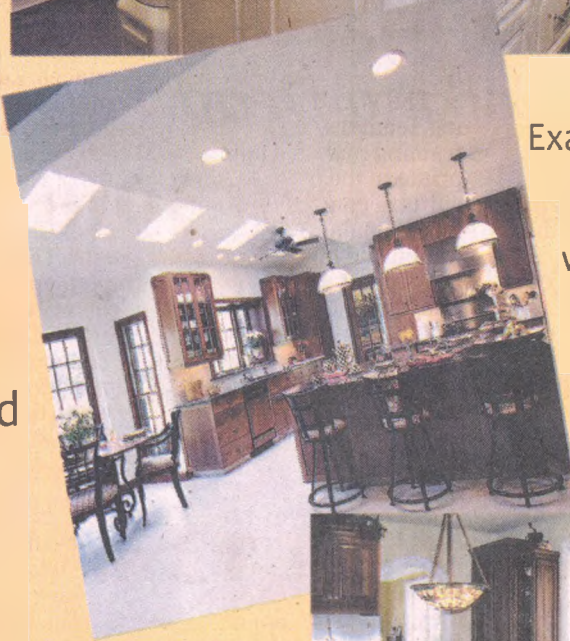
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## LOCAL EVENTS

## WEIGHT-LOSS SEMINAR

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday, March 13

**Location:** Better Health Market, 42875 Grand River Avenue, Novi

**Details:** Jay Bugal of Garden of Life will share his secrets on how lose weight quickly and safely and at the same time, balance your blood sugar in this free seminar.

**Contact:** Call 248-735-8100, extension 2, for reservations or visit [www.betterhealthstore.com](http://www.betterhealthstore.com).

## 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.mydem.info](http://www.mydem.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 who 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 248-465-5466

## 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 contributions and grants to support these initiatives.

**Contact:** [www.islandlakefriends.org](http://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

**Web:** [www.SuburbanShowplace.com](http://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](http://www.GreatLakesArtFair.com)

## NOVI COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## 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.legokidsfest.com>.

## BUSINESS

## NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Contact:** [www.novichamber.com](http://www.novichamber.com) or call 248-349-3743

## 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.sunriseNET-](http://www.sunriseNET-)

## Tax help



Novi residents Betty (left) and Dennis Wahlstrom get some help Feb. 27 in filing their 2013 taxes from AARP volunteer Bob Richards at the Novi Civic Center. AARP and its helpers will be at the Civic Center each Thursday until the week before April 15 helping seniors file their state and federal taxes. The service, funded by the IRS and AARP, is free, but is currently full. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

WORKINGgroup.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@sunrisefinancialgroupinc.com](mailto:fmilana@sunrisefinancialgroupinc.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 [juliepaquette67@gmail.com](mailto:juliepaquette67@gmail.com); [www.metronovibni.com](http://www.metronovibni.com).

## HUD COUNSELING

**Time/Date:** 5-8 p.m. first Monday of each month

**Details:** HUD-certified counselors are available to assist homeowners at risk of foreclosure. There is no charge for this service. Please call if you wish to attend. One-on-one sessions will

be scheduled.

## Book Discussion Group

**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m. first Thursday of each month

**Details:** Please drop in or call the library if you are interested in joining this recently formed group.

## 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.

## NOVI TOASTMASTERS CLUB

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m., first and third Tuesday of each month

**Location:** Novi Civic Center, Activities Room, 45175 W. 10 Mile

**Details:** Novi Toastmasters is a community-based club, part of

Toastmasters International. The group helps all develop and refine their public speaking and leadership skills. Members also have fun while building confidence in day-to-day communications and mentoring toward professional and personal excellence. Guests are welcome. Visit [www.novi.freetoasthost.us](http://www.novi.freetoasthost.us).

**Contact:** Linda Kreuter at [PR@novi.freetoasthost.us](mailto:PR@novi.freetoasthost.us)

## NOVI ROTARY CLUB

**Time/Date:** Noon each Thursday

**Location:** Novi Methodist Church 41671 W. 10 Mile

**Details:** Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check website for speaker information; [novirotary.org](http://novirotary.org).

## LIBRARY LINES

## NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Location:** 45255 W. 10 Mile

**Hours:** 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday

**Details:** Unless noted below, all programs take place at the library. Register for programs at the library or on the website.

**Contact:** 248-349-0720

**Web:** [www.novilibrary.org](http://www.novilibrary.org)

**Story Times:** Please see the library website or story time brochure for details.

## Help for Families, Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Tuesday

**Details:** Meet with an OLHSA staff member for support with Medicaid, food or cash assistance, foreclosure assistance and many other human services. Call the OLHSA office at 248-209-2683 to make an appointment.

## Knit 2gether Knitting Circle

**Time/Date:** 10-11:30 a.m. each Thursday

**Details:** If you have a leaning toward knitting or any of the related handcrafts (crocheting, needlepoint, embroidery, etc.) Knit 2gether Knitting Circle just might be your cup of tea. Skill levels range from complete "newbie" to "expert." No instructor; no registration. Bring your gear, your enthusiasm, your questions, and your stories. And, of course, attendance is free.

## WALLED LAKE LIBRARY

**Location:** 1499 E. West Maple Road, Walled Lake

**Contact:** 248-624-3772

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**Please join us on Saturday, February 14, 2015 for our 12th Annual Fireman's Ball. For more information or to donate please contact us at [thefiremansball@gmail.com](mailto:thefiremansball@gmail.com)**



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Photos by Craig David Butler Photography

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, snow-cones 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.

**On the Road**

Enjoy taking day trips, but not the planning and driving part? Mark your calendars for Wednesday, April 30, and join tour guides and local experts Kathy Crawford and Margi Karp-Opperer as they lead an informative and enjoyable day trip to Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester - including a special docent tour, luncheon and a play at Meadow Brook Theatre.

This cultural and entertaining day will depart from the Novi Civic Center at 9 a.m. and return approximately 5 p.m.. The cost of the trip is \$87, which covers deluxe transportation, lunch and admission to *The Andrews Brothers* show. Availability is limited and registration can be done by calling the Novi Library Administration Office at 248-869-7204. No refunds will be ac-

cepted after March 24.

The day will start with a guided tour of the historic estate built by one of the automotive aristocracy's most remarkable women. Lunch will follow in the elegant dining room and before traveling to Meadow Brook Theatre to see the play *The Andrews Brothers*.

For more information about the On the Road event, visit [www.novivlibrary.org](http://www.novivlibrary.org) or call 248-349-0720.

**Tech Talk classes**

City of Novi Older Adult Services is offering Tech Talk classes for adults 50 years and older who would like to become more tech-savvy by learning how to use tablets, smartphones and applications.

One-day classes are held 6:15-8:15 p.m. each Tuesday at the Novi Civic Center (45175 10 Mile). Each class is \$15 per resident and \$18 per nonresident. Registration is required and available at [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) or in person at the Older Adult Services office inside the civic center.

Upcoming topics include: What Do I Do with

This Smartphone? - Tuesday, March 18

All about Apps (Applications) and Tablets - Tuesday, March 25

E-book Readers: Concept, Comparison and How To Operate - Tuesday, April 1

For those who already understand the basics of technology and are looking for new uses and helpful hints, the Bits and Bytes Café offers the opportunity to gain valuable information, free of charge. Once a month, on Thursdays, the café is open to adults 50 and older to play games, investigate new websites and learn from others. Refreshments are provided. The Bits and Bytes Café is located at the Meadowbrook Activity Center, 25075 Meadowbrook Road. The café will be open 10-11:30 a.m. Feb. 20 and March 20.

For more information regarding Tech Talk classes or the Bits and Bytes Café, contact Older Adult Services at 248-347-0414. To learn more about other classes for adults 50 and older, visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org).

To learn more about what's happening in Novi, visit [www.cityofnovi.org](http://www.cityofnovi.org).

**Atrium features artwork**

For the second time, the city of Novi is partnering with Cassell and Associates to help bring awareness to survivors of traumatic brain injuries by showcasing their artwork in the Novi Civic Center Atrium through Tuesday, March 25. Proceeds from the artwork sales will be donated to the Brain Injury Association of Michigan.

The clients of Cassell and Associates, whose work helps brain injury survivors, were inspired by Michigan's many iconic landscapes, architectural landmarks and wildlife species while creating "Made in the Mitten" themed works of art. Twenty-seven artists will be featured in the exhibit, including avid outdoorsman named Donald, who was inspired to create his pieces by his love for his home state and the freedom he feels when he's in Michigan's great outdoors.

For more information about the Cassell and Associates show, call the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at 248-347-0400.



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**Getting ready**



Members of Democrats of West Oakland County are walking at Twelve Oaks mall to get in shape for walking door to door for Democratic candidates this election year. Shown (from left) are Chuck Tindall, Novi; Virgil Schave, Commerce; Cynthia Churches, Novi; Walter Sobczak, Novi; Jim Pearson, Highland; and Julie Schave, Commerce. DWOC meetings are at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at United Methodist Church (10 Mile west of Meadowbrook Road). For more information, visit [www.mydems.info](http://www.mydems.info).

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# Friends gather to honor Lisa Christensen

By Linda Rose  
Correspondent

It was Lisa Christensen's sister, Jane Freed, who coined the phrase "linked through Lisa." There was no denying its accuracy at a fundraiser held in Christensen's honor last month at Genitti's Hole in the Wall in downtown Northville. More than 100 people gathered for a wine tasting event with the goal of keeping Christensen's memory alive while raising funds to help support her two children. Last July, Christensen's life was taken by her estranged husband, who then took his own life. A resident of Novi, Christensen had strong ties to both the Novi and Northville communities through her involvement in her children's school activities, as well as youth sports. Christensen was the Northville Parks and Recreation Department's director of

youth basketball, a devoted mother and advocate for youth athletics. With members from both Novi and Northville, the TEAM LISA committee who executed this event has connections to Christensen through community, sports or longtime friendships. "So many of us helping with the fundraiser represent different aspects of the community and didn't know each other prior to losing Lisa," said Kim Yaggi, a member of the organizing committee. "Likewise, many of the people who attended the event in her honor did not know each other, which is a testament to how far Lisa's reach extended. From youth sports to soccer leagues to the schools and civic involvement, she touched so many lives in Novi and Northville. We really do feel we are linked through Lisa and I feel



TEAM LISA committee members (from left) Kim Yaggi, Sue Jostes, Jamie Tran and Eric Brucker enjoy a night of celebration as they honor Lisa Christensen.

that this chain is still growing even after her passing. It just shows what a powerful force Lisa was and that her spirit continues." Christensen's mother, Jeanne Bowman, has taken on the role of car-

ing for Christensen's two teenage children, Malloory and Mitchell Weber, and was in attendance at the fundraiser with her children, Jane Freed and Jon Bowman. "I know my sister Lisa would have been the first

to jump in and help when there was a need," Freed said. "We are overwhelmed by the compassion and sense of community. TEAM LISA is an amazing group of people. How do you thank people for some-

thing like this? We really can't express how grateful we are." Terri Borawski, a Northville resident, was one of Christensen's closest friends and echoed the feelings of many who attended the event, a sense of moving forward even through a great loss. "Our daughters played soccer together since they were 9 years old, so we traveled to many tournaments, sharing the drives and a lot of laughter. Lisa had a generous heart, touching so many people. I was amazed to see so many gather at the fundraiser who would not have come in contact with each other if it wasn't for my dear friend." TEAM LISA will continue its fundraising efforts with a golf outing June 22 at Lyons Oak in Wixom. To find out more information about this event, send an email to TeamLisa2013@yahoo.com.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Novi writer hosting workshop

Stanley D. Williams, Ph.D. will present his daylong workshop titled *The 18+ Secrets of Successful Story Structure Workshop for Screenwriters, Novelists, and other Writers of shorter works* from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 5 at Oakland University in Rochester. The spring writers' workshop, which cost \$100, is a new event, presented by Rochester Writers.



Williams

Williams, who lives in Novi, is a Hollywood and novelist story consultant, and is the author of the classic story structure guide, *The Moral Premise: Harnessing Virtue and Vice for Box Office Success*.

Workshop sessions will include Critical Story Elements, Successful Structural Elements, Analysis & Examples, and Plots, Goals & Irony. Breaks and lunch will allow attendees the chance to meet, network and have conversation. A Q&A will wrap-up the day.

Secure payment options are available to purchase online or by mail. A

complete description of the workshop is available at [www.RochesterWriters.com](http://www.RochesterWriters.com). Contact Michael Dwyer at 248-651-6869 for more information.

### 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.

### 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.

### County's Local Office Visit coming to Novi

Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds Lisa Brown will bring the ser-

vices of her office to Novi residents on Thursday, March 13, through the popular Local Office Visit program. A wide range of services will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Novi Public Library (45255 10 Mile Road).

The following records and services are available at no extra charge:

- » copies of birth, death and marriage certificates
- » marriage license applications
- » copies of deeds, mortgages, liens and other property documents
- » business registration or renewals, as well as access to Oakland County's assumed business names and co-partnerships database
- » copies of Oakland County Circuit Court documents, including divorce records
- » voter registration and absentee voter applications
- » notary public applications
- » concealed pistol license renewals

The Local Office will also be in Wixom from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 23 at the city hall (49045 Pontiac Trail).

Visit [www.oakgov.com/clerkrodfor](http://www.oakgov.com/clerkrodfor) for additional dates and updated information.



## 10TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S ENRICHMENT DAY 2014

### Ladies Day Off

No Kids, No Chores, No Cooking.

You're invited to **Women's Enrichment Day** on **March 22nd**. Have fun, learn, and be inspired with other women. For a \$5 donation to the HVEF, you can enjoy four different workshops with lots of topics to choose from. First 200 registered attendees will receive a goody bag. Also, you can check out the booth vendors, picking up some Easter gifts or Mother's Day shopping with jewelry, gift ideas, skin care and much more.



**ADMISSION: \$5**



Proceeds to benefit the **Huron Valley Education Foundation**

### SCHEDULE:

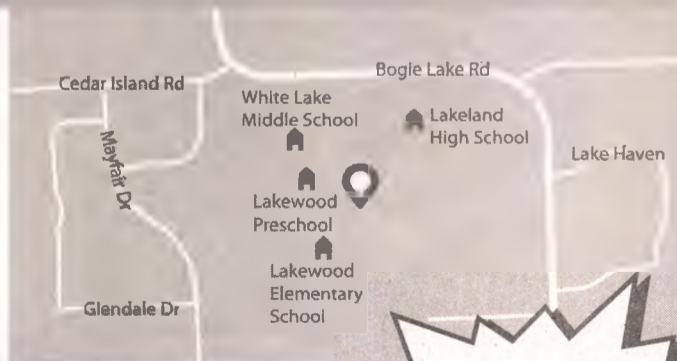
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| 8:00 - 8:30   | Registration, Name Tag, Gift Bags, Continental Breakfast, Shop Booths |
| 8:30 - 9:10   | Workshop Session 1  |
| 9:10 - 9:40   | Break, Shop Booths  |
| 9:40 - 10:20  | Workshop Session 2  |
| 10:20 - 11:00 | Break, Booths, Lunch Available*                                       |
| 11:00 - 11:40 | Workshop Session 3  |
| 11:40 - 12:20 | Break, Booths, Lunch Available*                                       |
| 12:20 - 1:00  | Workshop Session 4  |
| 1:00 - 1:20   | Door Prizes in Cafeteria  |



Please be on time for workshops!  
\*Lunch is not included with admission.

Schwartz's Delicatessen will have lunches available for purchase in the cafeteria.

Thank you to our 2014 sponsors...



Online registration is available at: [www.Enrichment-Day.com](http://www.Enrichment-Day.com)  
Walk In Registration Welcome. For More Information Call 248-889-1422

# Learning a new path

Author rose to national prominence, but needed God

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

Fred Sievert and his wife, Susan, live in Stamford, Conn., outside New York City. They



Sievert

also maintain a town home in Northville Township, which they've had since 2001. "So we come back quite often," said Sievert, 66, retired president of the New York Life Insurance Co. "It still sort of feels like Michigan's home."

They're graduates of Livonia Franklin High, who left Michigan in 1991 for his career. Fred Sievert, after retiring from his corporate career, headed to Yale Divinity School for a master of arts in religion degree. He hasn't been ordained, but is the author of *God Revealed: Revisit Your Past To Enrich Your Future*.

"It's been a lot of fun and I'm really glad it's having an impact on people's lives," said Sievert, who with Susan will soon be dividing his

time between Northville and Cape Cod, Mass.

*God Revealed* (Morgan James Publishing) is being used for Bible studies and book clubs, including locally. "My whole thing was to impact people's lives, not so much to sell books," Sievert said.

His subtitle, which he chose, is intended to have readers think about his stories, their own lives and "to see if they could uncover encounters with God."

In the book, Sievert, a former Fortune 100 "workaholic" president, challenges his readers to watch for messages from God in their daily lives. He recommends drawing on experiences to strengthen faith while enhancing work and home life.

During his work years, he prayed often in the workplace, not for things like sales goals but rather for guidance on doing the right thing, acting with integrity.

He and Susan have five children, the oldest three adopted early in life as orphans. The couple then had the miracle of two younger birth children, after being told that couldn't happen.

They have a couple grandkids, and the children range from 39 to 26 years. Sievert's book

grew out of a dinner with daughter Dena and her husband, Doug, with the couple's daughter urging her dad to share his experiences with the family and larger world through publishing.

In Michigan, Sievert had been with Macca-bees Mutual in Southfield, leaving in 1991 to work his way up with New York Life Insurance Company. He became president there in 2002.

Upon retirement, he chose Yale, at first concerned about its liberal reputation but emerging with no regrets. Yale was intellectually and spiritually stimulating.

"It was quite liberal but I actually appreciated that," he said. "It was the first time I went to school for the right reason."

He remains on five nonprofit boards, as well as two for-profit boards and teaching. Sievert said his book is "almost a ministry." His website is [www.godrevealed.com](http://www.godrevealed.com).

Sievert is a regular for Detroit Tigers and Lions games.

"It takes a lot of patience," he said of being a longtime Lions fan and season ticket holder. Sievert has a plaque at home which reads "Detroit Lions - Rebuilding Since 1957."

## RELIGION CALENDAR

### Brightmoor Christian Church

Location: M-5 and 13 Mile, Novi  
Contact: 248-668-7014 or CelebrateRecovery@brightmoorcc.org

Web: [www.brightmoorchurch.org](http://www.brightmoorchurch.org)

#### Celebrate Recovery

Time/Dates: 7 p.m. Mondays  
Details: Worship, teaching or testimony, and open-share recovery groups. Organizers offer the principles and tools to bring healing for the hurts, deliverance from life-controlling habits, and freedom from the hang-ups that keep us from developing strong and healthy relations with God and others. Enter at Door D on the south side of the building. No cost; free child care is available for children birth through fifth grade. Preregister.

### Church of the Holy Family

Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road

Contact: 248-349-8847 or visit [holymfamilynovi.org](http://holymfamilynovi.org)

#### Mass Schedule

Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Friday; 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday; 4:30 p.m. Saturday; 6:30 p.m. Saturday (Spanish)  
Holy days: 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.  
Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment

Priests: the Rev. Bob LaCroix, pastor, and the Rev. Beto Espinoza, associate pastor

AA: 8 p.m. Wednesdays

### Crosspointe Meadows Church

Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile

Contact: 248-669-9400, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit [www.crosspointe-meadows.org](http://www.crosspointe-meadows.org)

Sunday worship: 11:15 a.m.

Bible study classes: 10 a.m. for all ages

Details: Nursery and older children programs available. Worship blends traditional and contemporary elements resulting in a multisensory worship experience.

### Destiny Worship Center

Location: Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 Six Mile, Northville

Contact: DestinyW3C@Gmail.com or visit [www.DW3C.org](http://www.DW3C.org)

### Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia

Web: [www.emmanuel-livonia.org](http://www.emmanuel-livonia.org)

Contact: 248-442-8822

Sunday worship: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Adult special needs worship: 9:30 a.m.

Youth group: 7 p.m. Wednesdays

Women's Coffee Break Bible Study Advent Study: 10-11:30 a.m. Mondays; Christianity's Family Tree, Adam Hamilton  
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.; "Bad Religion: How We Became A Nation Of Heretics" by Douthat

Men's Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb 1; Commandments For Today

### Faith Community Presbyterian Church

Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile

Contact: 248-349-2345 or visit [www.faithcommunity-novi.org](http://www.faithcommunity-novi.org)

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

Women's Bible Study: 9:15-10:30 a.m. Saturdays; What's So Amazing About Grace? through March 22

### First Baptist Church of Northville

Location: 217 N. Wing

Contact: 248-348-1020

Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays

Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month

### First Church of the Nazarene

Location: 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile

Contact: 248-348-7600 or visit [dfcnazarene.org](http://dfcnazarene.org)

Sunday Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Classic worship service, Adult Bible Fellowship classes and Children's Sunday School; 11 a.m. Contemporary worship service with Kids Church, Teen Worship Service and Adult Bible Fellowship classes. Cafe is open from 9:15-11 a.m. Refreshments at 10:30 a.m.; 6 p.m. Evening Traditional Service

Tuesday: 9:25 a.m. Women's Bible Study (Women of the Word) studying 1 Peter

Thursday schedule: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group and Bible Study

Friday: 9:30 a.m.; Sweet Fridays

on the second and fourth Fridays - A Ministry for Moms of All Ages

### First Presbyterian Church of Northville

Location: 200 E. Main

Contact: 248-349-0911 or visit [www.fpcnorthville.org](http://www.fpcnorthville.org)

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. (for all ages)

### First Presbyterian Church

Location: 205 E. Lake St. (corner of Wells and 10 Mile), South Lyon

Contact: 248-437-2875

### First Presbyterian Church

Location: 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington

### First United Methodist Church of Northville

Location: 777 W. Eight Mile, Northville

Contact: 248-349-1144 or [www.fumcnorthville.org](http://www.fumcnorthville.org)

Summer Sunday Worship (Memorial Day-Labor Day): 8:30 and 10 a.m.

Summer Sunday School (Memorial Day-Labor Day): 8:30 a.m. - Nursery; 10 a.m. - Nursery-sixth grade

Sunday Worship (September-May): 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m.

Sunday School (September-May): 8 a.m. Nursery; 9:15 a.m. Nursery 12th grade; 11 a.m. Nursery-sixth grade

### Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Location: 41415 Nine Mile, corner of Meadowbrook Road, Novi

Contact: 248-349-0565

Sundays: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible study; 10 a.m. worship

### Holy Cross Episcopal Church

Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile

Contact: 248-427-1175 or [holycrossnovi@gmail.com](mailto:holycrossnovi@gmail.com); visit [holycrossnovi.org](http://holycrossnovi.org)

Sunday Worship: 7:45 and 10 a.m.

Sunday School and Nursery Care: 10 a.m. worship service

Alzheimer's Support Group: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month.

### Hope Lutheran Church

Location: 39200 W. 12 Mile (east of Haggerty), Farmington Hills

### Lakes Baptist Church

Location: 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake

### Livonia Church of Christ

Location: 15431 Merriman, Livonia

Contact: 734-427-8743 or visit [www.livoniachurch.net](http://www.livoniachurch.net)

Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.

Bible School: Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.

### Legacy Church

(formerly First Baptist Church and Orchard Hills Baptist Church)

Location: 23455 Novi Road, Novi

Contact: pastor Jon Hix, 248-349-5665 or visit [www.legacychurch.us](http://www.legacychurch.us)

Sunday School/Small Groups for all ages: 9:45 a.m.

Worship Services: 11 a.m.

Bible Study/Prayer: Wednesday 7 p.m.

### Meadowbrook Congregational Church

Location: 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight Mile and Nine Mile

Contact: the Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, senior minister, 248-348-7757, visit [mbccc.org](http://mbccc.org) or email to [office@mbccc.org](mailto:office@mbccc.org)

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

Church School: 10-11 a.m.

Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m.

Merry Widows Luncheon: 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of each month

Pilgrim Fellowship: 6 p.m. Sundays

### Orchard Grove Community Church

Location: 850 Ladd Road, Building C, Walled Lake

Web: [www.orchardgrove.org](http://www.orchardgrove.org)

Contact: Amanda Rehm at 248-926-6584 or [amanda.rehm@orchardgrove.org](mailto:amanda.rehm@orchardgrove.org)

### Northville Christian Assembly

Location: 41355 Six Mile

Contact: 248-348-9030; [ncalife.org](http://ncalife.org)

Sundays: 9-10 a.m. Sunday School for adults / youth / children; 9 a.m. Contemporary service in multipurpose gymnasium; 10:15 a.m.: Contemporary

service in worship center; children's super church on the second level (208/210)

Wednesday Family Night: 7 p.m.; Adult elective classes; junior and senior high ministries; children's programs, Nursery and Preschool Program on Sundays and Wednesday Home of Northville Christian School (day care); preschool through eighth grade; call 248-348-9031.

### Novi-Northville Center for Jewish Life

Details: Events, programs and activities for all ages throughout the year - children's programs, Sunday school, adult Jewish classes, youth clubs, holiday services and programs, community social events.

Contact: Rabbi Avrohhom and Leah Susskind at 248-790-6075 or [rabbie@novijewishcenter.com](mailto:rabbie@novijewishcenter.com); [www.novijewishcenter.com](http://www.novijewishcenter.com)

### Novi United Methodist Church

Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile

Contact: 248-349-2652 or visit [umcnovi.com](http://umcnovi.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Novi-United-Methodist-Church/59782031433>

Sunday Worship: 9:45 a.m.

Healing Service and Holy Communion: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month

Peace Vigil: noon, first Sunday of every month in front of the church. Members of the congregation and the community will stand united in prayer for peace.

### Oak Pointe Church

Location: 50200 W. 10 Mile, Novi

Contact: 248-912-0043

Web: [www.oakpointe.org/lifegroups](http://www.oakpointe.org/lifegroups)

Worship Services: 5:15 p.m. Saturday; 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. Sunday

ReNew Life Group Ministries: 7-9 p.m. Monday (groups meet weekly)

Women's Life Groups Ministries: 7 p.m. Tuesday; 9:30 a.m. Wednesday

Men's Life Groups Ministries: 6 a.m. Friday; at the church and various locations

### Our Saviour Apostolic Lutheran Church

Location: 54899 Eight Mile, Northville

Contact: 248-374-2268

Children (5-10) & Adult Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Bible Study: Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

### Orchard Grove Community Church

Location: 850 Ladd Road, Walled Lake

Contact: 248-926-6584; [www.orchardgrove.org](http://www.orchardgrove.org)

Mom to Mom Sale

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 15

Details: Sale includes toys, clothing, layette, books, movies, maternity and more. Admission is \$1.

Contact: [momlife@orchardgrove.org](mailto:momlife@orchardgrove.org) or visit [www.orchardgrove.org](http://www.orchardgrove.org)

### Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

Location: 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth Township

Contact: 734-453-0326, Ext. 221

### Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church

Location: 770 Thayer, Northville

Contact: 248-349-2621 or [olvnorthville.org](mailto:olvnorthville.org)

Saturday Worship: 5 p.m.

Sunday Worship: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

### Our Shepherd Presbyterian Church

Location: 1200 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth

Contact: pastor Bill Burke at 734-927-0891

Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. with fellowship and food after service

### Our Savior Apostolic Lutheran Church

Location: 54899 Eight Mile, Northville

### Pentecostals of Novi

Location: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile

Contact: 248-697-8158 or visit [www.thepentecostalsnovi.org](http://www.thepentecostalsnovi.org)

### Plymouth St. John's Episcopal Church

Location: 574 S. Sheldon in Plymouth

Contact: 734-453-0190, Ext. 16, or visit [www.stjohnsplymouth.org](http://www.stjohnsplymouth.org)

# Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

View Online  
[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • [htwobits@hometownlife.com](mailto:htwobits@hometownlife.com)  
Deadline: Tuesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday



### KING, RICHARD "Lee"

Age 79, longtime resident of Northville, passed away March 10, 2014. He was born on July 4, 1934 in Romulus, Michigan, to Cyrus King and Margaret Schmidt. Lee was united in marriage to Marilyn Holmes on May 19, 1956 and they spent 55 loving years together until her death in 2012. He graduated from Plymouth High School in 1952. Following high school, he attended Ferris State University and later Ford training. Lee worked for Ford as a Senior Designer on the Mustang, he retired after 34 years with the company. He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Livonia, where he served as a deacon. Lee was a dedicated husband and loving father to more than just his own children; he often saw potential in people and helped them to become successful. He was a nice, sweet, and very kind person; everyone who met him always had good things to say. He was often seen having breakfast at various Northville restaurants, and was a favorite among the waitresses, always remembering their names; monthly he met with a morning group called the ROMEOS. Lee, a talented musician, was a member of the Silver Strings in Garden City. He, along with his daughter Jenny, enjoyed sharing their musical gift with area senior citizen homes; he also taught at the Gittfiddler, which was located in Northville. Lee loved blue grass music and was inspired by Chet Atkins and Earl Scruggs; he inspired his children to become musicians, and his son, Steve, to work in the music industry. He is survived by his loving children, Steven (Roberta) King and Jennifer (Daniel) Orr, his grandchildren, Jacob Orr, Nicholas King, and Catherine Orr; and his brother, Ivan (Janet Wild) King. He was also loved by many nieces, nephews, and friends. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marilyn King and his parents. A funeral service will be held Friday, March 14, 2014 at 5 p.m. with visitation beginning at 3 p.m. at Casterline Funeral Home, 122 W. Dunlap, Northville. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to Deaf Professionals Artist Network, 1525 East 9 Mile Road, Ferndale, MI 48220. Online condolences at: [www.casterlinefuneralhome.com](http://www.casterlinefuneralhome.com)

MALO, CLARA E.  
Age 97, of South Lyon, passed away 3/4/2014. Full obit and online condolences at [www.casterlinefuneralhome.com](http://www.casterlinefuneralhome.com)

### McFADDEN ILA EDNA

Died peacefully in her South Lyon home at the age of 89, surrounded by her family on Saturday March 8, 2014. Ila was born to the late John and Edna Schwochow on July 5, 1924. After graduating from Wyandotte High School, where she was a member of the orchestra, swam on the high school team, and was a member of the girls athletic association, she worked as a secretary to the mayor of the City of Dearborn. After World War II, Ila married her high school sweetheart, Richard Earl McFadden. She went to work at Ford Motor Company as a Public Affairs secretary. Soon after that they started a family, purchased an 80 acre farm in South Lyon,

# Catholic Central grad wins bartender crown

**By Brad Kadrich**  
Staff Writer

Andy Hool knows the old adage, "Practice makes perfect."

And he may have proven it last week when he claimed the TGI Fridays World Bartending Championship at the restaurant chain's world competition in Dallas.

Hool, who has been chasing the prize for a few years now, finally claimed it.

"A lot of hard work and determination finally paid off," said Hool, known by the professional name of Andy Bro. "It was amazing."

Hool, a seven-year TGI Fridays veteran who has been

tending bar nearly six years, beat out 11 other bartenders from around the world to capture the crown. The contestants competed in categories including bar knowledge, compulsory and speed performances and a freestyle showcase.

Hool, making his third trip to the finals, said he'd built a comfort level with the various "tools of the trade" in the months leading up to the competition and his familiarity with TGI Fridays equipment really helped him settle in when he got to Dallas.

"I use every tool TGI Fridays wants me to use," Hool said. "When I got to the competition, I was comfortable with

everything. People are creatures of habit and that worked for me."

Hool, a former Livonia resident, now lives in Canton with his 5-year-old daughter, Payton. He attended St. Michael School in Livonia and is a graduate of Catholic Central, then in Redford, but now located in Novi. His parents, Gerald and Elizabeth Hool, still live in Livonia.

Hool said once he got into the competition, he tried to react to things like it was a normal, everyday shift at the Canton TGI Fridays.

"I tried to just treat it like it was a normal shift," Hool said. "It's hard to do, because obviously you're going to feel the extra pressure."



Andy "Bro" Hool hoists the championship trophy — a giant propeller — after winning the TGI Fridays World Bartending Championship in Dallas last week.

## Your Invitation to

# Worship

### Brighton

**HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
www.hsccc.net  
at the corner of Winans Lake & Musch Rd.  
810-231-9199  
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. Beto 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.cpcpcnow.com

**FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD**  
VISITORS WELCOME!  
133 Detroit St., Milford • 248-684-5695  
Pastor Steve Swayze  
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.  
Awana, 3 yrs old thru 5th 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

### 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.mbccc.org  
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.  
Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister  
Lo-0000179388

**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.ymhc.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  
www.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.  
Rev. Michael 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"

### South Lyon

**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

**BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH**  
Gathering in Jesus Name  
52909 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

### 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.  
www.newhudsonumc.org

**WEST HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH**  
1116 S. Hickory Ridge Rd., Milford, MI 48380  
248-887-1218  
Sunday Worship 9 am & 11:15 am  
Wed. Kids-6:30 pm/Adults-6:45 pm  
Also Small Groups / Ministry Teams

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

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

**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-0000179469 and depressed.

**Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
22200 Pontiac Trail (S of 9 Mile)  
Sunday Worship @ 9:30 am  
Sunday School @ 11 am  
Wednesday mid-week programs  
Rev. David Brown, Pastor  
248-437-2222 • www.fellowshippepc.org

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH LYON**  
60820 Margorie Ann St., South Lyon 48178  
Phone: 248-437-2983  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Worship Service 11:00 a.m.  
Evening Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.  
Senior Pastor: Rob Freshour / Assoc. Pastor: Randy Weeks  
Website: www.fbcsouthlyon.com  
Email: fbcsouthlyon@sbcbglobal.net

### Northville

**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** (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. Hockley, Lead Pastor  
www.fumnorthville.org

**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. Sondra Willabee, Lead Pastor  
southlyonfirstumc.org

**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

**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

**WARD CHURCH** 40000 Six Mile Road  
Northville, MI 48168  
248-374-7400  
Sunday Worship Services  
8 a.m. | 9:30 a.m. | 11 a.m.  
A different music styles from classic to modern  
www.wardchurch.org

**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

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## OUR VIEWS

# Michigan's lousy roads are just a disgrace

A half century ago, Michigan families were part of that great summer expedition Out West to see the national parks that was so well-documented in Ken Burns' PBS documentary.

What those families saw, in addition to natural wonders, was the state of the country's man-made road system. What those families found was a sense of pride, learning that Michigan's roads were well-recognized as among the best in the nation and that the state boasted the northern terminus of what would become the country's greatest north-south freeway – I-75.

How times have changed. Now travelers comment frequently about knowing when they have entered the state of Michigan, because the roads immediately change – for the worse, far worse.

The truth is that funding for roads is just about as broken as the roads themselves. Part of the reason for that lies with the vehicles that use them. As vehicles have become more fuel-efficient, the amount of revenue derived from tax levied on

each gallon of gas, or diesel, has dropped. With fewer gallons purchased, tax revenue drops.

The problem with road funding, however, doesn't lie just with fuel efficiency or the materials used to build and repair roads – although that should be questioned as well, following the yearly work on Tele-

**No matter what happens with funding, it will be a long time before Michigan's roads return to reliability.**

graph. The problem lies with the source of the potential solution – the broken leadership in the state Legislature and the U.S. Congress.

Gov. Rick Snyder has called for measures that would change and increase funding for roads. We aren't talking chump change here. Consider that the Road Commission for Oakland County says that it takes \$1 million to pave just one mile of a gravel road. His calls have gone unanswered by a Legislature unwilling to do what members were elected to do – lead. That should read, unwilling to face constituents who are loath to pay tax increases.

According to a recent EPIC-MRA poll of 600 Michigan residents, 36 percent of respondents said the state's budget surplus should go to improving roads.

The poll points out not only how serious the problem is, but that motorists are committed to solving it.

Visit just about any tire shop in the metro area and it doesn't take long to find a frustrated car owner whose car suffered a blowout thanks to a pothole.

A tire costs \$150, a rim another \$200 and suspension work even more. Residents are weary of the oft-used excuse that our shoddy roads are due to a vicious freeze-thaw cycle that is somehow isolated to Michigan.

No matter what happens with funding, it will be a long time before Michigan's roads return to reliability.

It should also be remembered that poor roads are a deterrent to economic development, with businesses not wanting to locate in places where they have trouble getting goods to market.

Constituents, meaning voters, need to insist that legislators buckle themselves into their elected seats and drive home a solution to Michigan's lousy roads.

Enough excuses already.

Think about this – the Pure Michigan campaign is bringing more people to our great state than ever. What message do we want them taking back home? That our roads are the worst they've ever driven on or that our lakes, beaches and forests offer the perfect backdrop for a family vacation?



A Novi DPW pickup truck and Bobcat (far right) travel Feb. 24 down 11 Mile Road to help smooth out its winter-worn pavement. The road, west of Meadowbrook, already in tough shape from years of use, has been torn up from this year's severe weather.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### What does 21st century learning mean to you?

Novi Community Schools and neighboring school districts are looking ahead to improve education, so we asked this question to some parents and teachers at Novi Woods.



"Enabling a new way of learning with the help of technology and things like classroom environment."

Lindsay Bouloulouian  
Novi



"Better use of technology with flexible styles of teaching and learning."

Jeryl Thibaudeau  
Novi



"Taking risks and learning from mistakes. Also, allowing students to discover through critical thinking while being accountable for their own learning."

Jodi Balconi  
Novi Woods teacher

"Teaching children that having goals and then achieving them is important. And that the plan to get there plays a big part."

Lauren Himle  
Novi Woods teacher

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### U.S. can learn from Finnish schools

For decades, it has been accepted dogma in educational circles that poverty and socio-economic factors play a huge role in determining student proficiency in school. Indeed, in 2011, Sean Reardon of Stanford University released a study that concluded family income is, by far, the most significant factor in predicting student success in school. It is simply a fact that parental income and education, parental involvement in student school activities, neighborhood environment, health care, home stability and so on provide the underpinning of student school proficiency. Countless, countless studies concur.

Indeed, according to former Assistant Secretary of Education Diane Ravitch, "American schools, in which fewer than 10 percent of the students were poor, outperformed the schools of Finland, Japan and Korea" on the latest Program of International Student Assessment (PISA). Finland, Japan and Korea are top performers. Call it whatever you like: demographics or socio-economic circumstance. It matters and American schools do well when demographics are considered. Generally, schools found lacking exist in the midst of poverty.

But you'd never know it when people passing as "reformers" compare American schools to countries that do well on international tests. Frantically, they howl that we're losing the race. Our schools are failing. Let's do something – anything!

Again, American schools are doing pretty darn good. Don't hear that much these days do you? Well, what do the other guys want, the "reformers"?

Neglecting that vouchers have been used in Milwaukee for nearly 23 years and are a dismal failure, they chant, "Give us a voucher." Ditto for corporate charter schools. All you have to do is look at the nation's report card, the NAEP report. When

tested, voucher schools have never outperformed public schools in Milwaukee. Additionally, the U.S. Department of Education ranks Milwaukee as among the lowest performing urban school systems in the country. So much for choice, privatization and corporate schools.

That aside, Finland, a perennial top performer on PISA, provides a good example of what can be done to achieve educational merit. The Finns have no charters, no vouchers. They do not have a testing obsession like we do. Finnish children are exposed to high stakes testing a grand total of one time during the entirety of their school experience. They do not evaluate teachers and schools, based upon one high stakes test given annually. They do not grade their schools A-F. They have strong unions. In a word, they do nothing, absolutely nada that "reformers" in this country endorse. Nothing!

Teachers in Finland are treated like professionals, like doctors and lawyers. They are supported by nurses, social workers and psychologists. They spend much more of their school day planning and collaborating with other teachers than we do. Their schools are smaller than ours. They put a premium on recess time.

There is much to be learned from Swedish schools as well. The Swedes have had privatization and corporate schools for 30 years. They do not do well on PISA.

Can American schools be improved? You bet! For a start, we might focus on teacher training and development. We might also focus more on thinking skills: creativity and problem solving, critical thinking generally.

Al Churchill  
Livonia

### Teen consequences

Recent *Free Press* reporting offers views of the student/secu-

rity guard assault at a Detroit high school. The following is a narrative of editorial comments and attorney statements regarding the incident:

"His (the student's) violent response was an unwarranted and dangerous escalation of the situation." (Removal of a hoodie.) This country's salvation is an adherence to the rule of law. The first lesson is clear: Actions have consequences.

Consequences are one thing, but brutal, unforgiving consequences are far too typical in our criminal justice system. In a just world, though, he ought to be given a chance to prove he can be mature enough to learn from his mistakes.

The student's attorney stated he has no prior contact with the system. He is extremely remorseful, but he is ready to move forward. It certainly is our position that Mr. Campbell should not be criminalized.

The Detroit Public Schools has taken an initial step and the student has been suspended. However, Michigan law is very clear regarding future action. In part Section 380.1311a of the Michigan School Code reads as follows:

"If a pupil commits a physical assault at school against a person employed by or engaged as a volunteer or contractor by the school board, the School Board shall expel the pupil from the school district permanently, subject to possible reinstatement."

"The individual may initiate a petition for reinstatement at any time after the expiration of 150 school days after the date of expulsion."

"The individual shall not be reinstated before the expiration of 180 school days after the date of expulsion."

Yes, actions do have consequences.

Jim Brenner  
Redford

## GUEST COLUMN

# Looking back on tragedy of three years ago

Three years have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake struck March 11, 2011, resulting in a tremendous number of irreplaceable lives lost and unprecedented damage, mainly in the Tohoku region of Japan. On this occasion, I would like to express my heartfelt sympathy to all those affected by the disaster.

We were overwhelmed by the immediate outpouring of compassion and support from the international community, particularly the U.S., including both Michigan and Ohio. Taking this opportunity, I would like to express our sincere gratitude once again, on behalf of the government and people of Japan.

Tragically, two American JET (Japan Exchange & Teaching Program) participants, Ms. Taylor Anderson and Mr. Monty Dickson, dispatched to Ishinomaki City and Rikuzentakata City, respectively, died in the tsunami. Earlier this month, I had an opportunity to participate in the film event *Live Your Dream*, which portrayed the lives and dreams of these two JET participants. Viewing together with their family members, the film's director, students and others, I was extremely



Kazuyuki Katayama

GUEST COLUMNIST

moved to recognize that the bereaved family – still coping with the reality of profound grief – as well as many other friends in the U.S., have shown enduring support and compassion to Japan. The Japanese people will never forget this kind outreach.

Since his inauguration as prime minister in December 2012, Shinzo Abe has visited the affected area 13 times and implemented ground-based initiatives to accelerate the restoration of the stricken areas. Seventy percent of the public work projects, such as highland relocation of evacuees and construction of housing, has already begun. The government of Japan will complete the highland relocation of evacuees in 200 areas and construction of more than 10,000 houses in 12 months, although many live greatly inconvenienced lives even now. In addition to the rebuilding of infrastructure and residential accommodations, it is extremely

important to address the mental health of the victims, especially including the well-being of children.

The government of Japan continues to take initiatives at the front line to address the serious issues of radiation, contaminated water and nuclear reactor abandonment, among others, at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station.

Taking the policy "Without the reconstruction of Fukushima, there will not be a rebirth of Japan" as its fundamental consideration, the government of Japan seeks to develop strongly in the future, with the people of Japan, hand in hand with citizens of the international community. As we do so, I humbly request your continued support.

*Dr. Kazuyuki Katayama joined the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit on Sept. 20, 2013. He began his career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan in 1983. Within the ministry, he has served as director of the Energy Resources Division of the Economic Affairs Bureau and as director of the Cultural Affairs Division of the Public Diplomacy Department. Overseas, Katayama has held posts at the Japanese Embassies in China, the United States, Malaysia and Belgium.*

# NOVI NEWS

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# Kensington staff shares maple syrup traditions



George Sluder talks to visitors about 18th century Native American techniques for maple sugaring.

**By Laura Colvin**  
Staff Writer

Ken Klemczak was at Kensington Metropark in Milford on March 1 to learn about the process of making syrup and sugar from the sap of maple trees.

"I'm going to try it at home," said Klemczak, who owns about six acres of land in Howell. "For me, it's about sustainability. I don't think the foods we're consuming today are very healthy; it's time to get back to the way things used to be."

Klemczak was among dozens who came out during the weekend to learn about "Maple's Sweet Story," a program geared at teaching participants about the process of producing maple syrup from a maple tree.

The program lasts about an hour and begins with an introduction by a park interpreter, who shows participants how to identify a suitable maple tree, as well as how to tap the tree to get the sap running.

Park interpreters present the information in a way that will encourage people to try the process at home.

"It's definitely a home-grown industry," said Victoria Taylor-Sluder, park interpreter. "You really don't need very many trees to make your own syrup."

Although it was a bit cold for sap Saturday — outdoor temps need to be at about 36 degrees before the sap will run — plenty of folks came out to see the process and possibly get a breath of fresh air. In the weeks ahead, when the sap begins to run, other aromas may be in the air as well, as the evaporator steams away to boil the sap into syrup.

"Boiling the sap creates a wonderful smell," Taylor-Sluder said. "It smells like toasted marshmallows out here in the spring."

Real maple syrup products will be available for sale and to sample and visitors can also stop by the French and Native American camp to hear

and see how sugaring techniques have changed throughout the years.

"It's good just to get outside; we've been inside too long this winter," said Kristy Penney of Livonia, who came out with her husband and kids.

"Maple's Sweet Story" takes place at the park from noon to 3 p.m. each Saturday and Sunday in March. Park officials

encourage participants to dress for the weather, as the program takes place outdoors.

Registration is not required for the weekend programs. Cost is \$5 for adults; \$3 for seniors and children 3-12 years old; children younger than 3 are free.

Contact Kensington Metropark at 248-684-8632.



Connor Kirkpatrick of New Hudson watches as Victoria Taylor-Sluder, park interpreter, demonstrates the sap-collecting process. PHOTOS BY LAURA COLVIN

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Presented by:  
**Indu Joshi Ph.D.**

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-2011 Study by Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the National Institute on Aging

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# Some area winters have been colder, snowier

We sure like to talk about the weather, especially this winter. In fact, the winter soon passing (we hope) has put the weather, starting with the icicles on our roofs and the snow piles in our driveways, at the top of conversation topics locally and nationally ... everywhere except Florida and Hawaii.

The Detroit area recorded its snowiest January in official weather history (31.5 inches), but not its snowiest month or winter season ... not yet anyway.

Our snowiest month on record was February 1908, when 38.4 inches fell. Our snowiest winter since 1870, when official weather records were first kept, was 1880-81. The snow that season totaled 93.6 inches. This winter, with 78.5 inches so far, we will likely move into second place (78.9 inches) any day now.

This area's snowiest



**Gene Scott**  
GUEST COLUMNIST

day ever (24.5 inches) was on the unlikely date of April 6, 1886. Our biggest single snowfall since then was Dec. 1-2, 1974, when we received 19.3 inches. Most recent biggest snowfall: 16 inches on New Year's Day 2008.

For all of Michigan, the one-day snowfall record (29 inches) came Feb. 23, 1872, at Ishpeming. Thompson Pass, Alaska, north of Valdez got 62 inches in one day (Dec. 29, 1955) on the way to 551 inches that winter, more than twice what falls during an average Upper Peninsula winter.

The state record for the most snow in one season? That's 333 inches at Tahquamenon Falls near Paradise (Michigan, that is) the winter of 1976-77.

## World snow record

Snowiest place on Earth? Since the 1998 Winter Olympics, ski resorts north of Nagano, Japan, have been making that claim: 600-700 inches a season.

Thompson Pass passed that years ago in 1952-53 with 974 inches and Tide Lake, British Columbia, accumulated 1,104 inches in 1971-72. But none of these are the record.

This belongs to another Paradise, the one in Washington near Mt. Rainier, where 1,122 inches (93.5 feet) piled up the winter of 1971-72.

Locally, we've had snow on the ground since early December - nearly three months. But this is below the local record of 119 days set in the winter of 1903-04, when there was snow cover from late November to early March.

Younger folks might think we've experienced our coldest night ever this past Jan. 6-7, when the temperature dipped to minus-14 degrees, but not so. Coldest night in this area was three days before Christmas 1872, when it was minus-24.

Two years later, the winter of 1874-75 may have been the coldest of all, when January and February had an average daily temperature of 13.7 degrees. Or was it the winter of 1880-81, with 86 days of below-freezing temperatures? Ironically, the following winter (1881-82) was the warmest of the century (19th century, that is), when the average daily temperature here was 37 degrees.

More recently, this area had its longest cold spell in January 1977, when it was be-



All the snow almost seems serene on Carpenter Street in Northville. DEANNA SUE STRONG

low freezing the entire month. Longest period of sub-zero temperatures was 68 hours, Feb. 8-11, 1899.

In the 1920s, the Detroit area had three winters in succession without a sub-zero reading. The local record for warmest winters was 1953-58, with no sub-zero nights five winters in row.

## Coldest temp ever recorded

The coldest night in Michigan - minus-51 degrees - happened Feb. 9, 1934. Compare that to the coldest temperature ever recorded on Earth: minus-128.6 degrees July 21, 1983, at Vostok Station, Antarctica. There also is a NASA report of minus-135 degrees having been recorded Aug. 10, 2010, in east Antarctica.

So far this winter, we've had 14 nights of sub-zero temperatures. The record for cold nights here: 23 in 1884-85.

It should be noted that there are slight variations (usually) between temperatures recorded at City Airport on the east side, a weather station since 1934 (before that in downtown Detroit), and other official weather stations at Detroit Metropolitan

Airport and White Lake/Pontiac. Suburban stations also often report slightly lower temps and different rain and snow amounts. A principal factor is closeness to Lakes Erie and St. Clair.

Will we set a new record here for snowfall this winter? Maybe, if you believe the *Farmers' Almanac* predictions, but I'd rather not count on it.

How do we know what the weather might have been like here or anywhere before the mid-19th century, when reliable weather records were first kept? Daniel Fahrenheit's thermometer wasn't invented until 1714 and it wasn't until 1870 that the National Weather Service was established in the War Department Signal Office, forerunner of the U.S. Weather Bureau.

According to early histories of Detroit, the winter of 1784-85 may have been among the coldest the city has ever known. A device for measuring temperature at that time recorded 23 sub-zero days in January and February. The Detroit River had frozen over by Jan. 7 and February went out with a roar at minus-10 degrees. The

ice on Lake St. Clair that winter didn't melt until May. On the other hand, the winter of 1824-25 was so mild that grass grew a foot in January.

During the 1855-56 winter, people could walk across the Detroit River to Windsor. Ice-fishing shanties dotted the river for two months and there was a concession built on the ice to sell liquor and supplies. The winter of 1869-70 was so bitterly cold that more than 100 ships were still waiting April 26 for 10-foot thick sections of ice to clear in the channels of Lake St. Clair. Who can recall winters quite like these in the last 100 years?

None of these records and recollections from earlier times are official records. Those were not kept until 1870. So there are historic weather records and modern-day official records.

Want to know more about Detroit and Michigan weather history? Try these sources at many public libraries: *All About Michigan Almanac*, *Detroit Free Press Almanac*, *Silas Farmer's History of Detroit and Wayne County*, *Information Please Almanac*, Richard Kean's *Michigan Weather*, Mal Sillars' *Detroit Weather Book*, J. Van Eichenlaub's *Weather and Climate of the Great Lakes Region* and other listings in library catalog files and website searches.

Gene Scott has been a Livonia Historical Society member for about 12 years. He is a retired editor and teacher who has published four books on the histories of Michigan towns. The most recent is "Michigan Shadow Towns." He and his wife Barb have lived in Livonia for 23 years.

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*Photo courtesy of Ken Brundage*



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The Shamrocks cheering section erupts at Compuware Arena.

## Salem dumps Novi in overtime

Wildcats' hot play snuffed in district semifinal game

By Chris Jackett  
Correspondent

The third time was the charm, as Novi's boys basketball team defeated baseline rival Northville in a March 3 district quarterfinal. The Wildcats hoped it would be again March 5 in the semifinal against Plymouth Salem.

The Wildcats (9-13) had lost by 14 and 12 in the regular season to Northville (13-8), but turned it around to win 60-58 last week in Canton.

"Very proud of our team for how they finished the season," Novi coach Brian Tass said. "Beating Northville was something we had talked about and planned for during the past few weeks."

"We had a lead all the way into the final minute of the Northville game. They got a one-point lead, but we finished it up at the free-throw line."

After losing to Plymouth Salem (16-5) by 23 and four in the regular season, Novi was poised for another upset, but the Rocks had other plans.

With a solid lead in the fourth quarter, Novi fought to hold off Salem, but couldn't do enough. Poised for a comeback of their own, the Rocks forced overtime and kept full-steam ahead to claim an 80-71 victory.

"We led much of the way against Salem on Wednesday night," Tass said. "The

See NOVI, Page B2



Novi's Eric Foard finds rejection from the hand of Salem's Michael Hoover. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Shamrocks capture hockey state title

CC tops defending champ Brighton 5-1 in final

By Perry A. Farrell  
Gannett Michigan

Novi Detroit Catholic Central wanted this matchup.

The Shamrocks wanted two-time defending state champ Brighton in the Division 1 hockey title game Saturday night at Compuware Arena.

They wanted to avenge last year's 2-1 loss.

This is what they wanted in front of a standing-room-only crowd. They wanted it for Matt Sorisho, a senior who was paralyzed from the waist down after suffering an injury during an elite league game. He was in attendance for the first time since the game at Orchard Lake St. Mary's six weeks ago and watched the 5-1 victory.

The team put a jersey on Sorisho and let him participate in the handshake line and trophy presentation.

"We were very fortunate to match up against Brigh-



CC staff members (from left) Tom Nugent, Rick Buttery, head coach Doug Itami, Todd Johnson and Gordie St. John.

ton after what happened last year," coach Doug Itami said. "We had a handful of boys that were in the locker room that remembered the feeling. We had a purpose today."

Carter Cerretani and Ryan Burnett led the offense with two goals each

and goalie Spencer Wright was solid as Sorisho watched from a suite.

"He's my best friend and I wouldn't go anywhere without him," Cerretani said of Sorisho. "I love him to death. I was glad to see him out there. We wanted to play Brighton because of

what happened last year. I thought we came out fast with a lot of energy and our special teams played great."

Said Burnett: "It really meant a lot to have him out there; we tried to play for him the whole season."

See HOCKEY, Page B3

# Vincent earns all-state in two events



Novi senior Tanner Vincent finished fourth in the 200 individual medley in a time of 1:51.97 during Saturday's Division 1 state meet. YIBING SHI

Wildcats tankers place 19th at Division 1 meet

By Chris Jackett  
Correspondent

It was a tall order to fill with the limited number of Wildcats tankers competing, but Novi's boys swim and dive team made a respectable showing at the Division 1 meet last weekend at Saginaw Valley State University.

The Wildcats advanced to the second day in three

events, securing spots in the top 16 of each to finish with 39 points as a team. It put Novi in 19th place, while Birmingham Brother Rice and Livonia Stevenson finished first and second with 345 and 202 points, respectively. Neighbors Detroit Catholic Central and Northville were sixth (126 points) and 14th (64 points), respectively.

Leading the way for Novi was senior Tanner Vincent, who was a part of all three finals races and earned all-state honors in two.

Vincent started by finishing fourth in the 200 individual medley in a time of 1:51.97 to earn 15 points. The finish missed the 30-year-old school record by 0.02 seconds, but keeps him in consideration for all-America status. Stevenson's Nick Arakelian took first in 1:47.47, a new all-class state record.

Vincent placed seventh in the 100 butterfly in 51.98 seconds, good for 12 points. He broke his own school record in

See TANKERS, Page B2

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# Taking their rightful place among legends

Northville's Dibble, Catholic Central's Mach join Michigan Sports Hall of Fame

By Kurt Kuban  
Staff Writer

Dorne Dibble has lived a fairy tale-like life, especially for an athlete.

He grew up in the small town of Adrian, where he played three sports and starred on the high school football team that won a state championship. After getting a scholarship to play football at Michigan State, Dibble was drafted in 1951 in the third round by the Detroit Lions. He became an outstanding offensive end and one of Bobby Layne's favorite targets and was an integral part of the last two Lions championship teams, in 1953 and 1957.

That football journey seemed to come full-circle Feb. 28 as he shared the stage with a group of sports legends during the 58th induction ceremony of the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame at the Max Fisher Music Center in Detroit. Dibble, a Northville resident, was inducted along with an outstanding class made up of longtime Lions kicker Jason Hanson; soccer's Alexi Lalas, who grew up in Birmingham; former MLB pitcher John Smoltz, who was famously traded by the Detroit Tigers to the Atlanta Braves where he starred for two decades; Red Wings captain and seven-time Norris Trophy winner Nick Lidstrom; broadcaster Jim Brandstatter; and Catholic Central High School football coach Tom Mach, who has won 344 games and 10 state titles since being hired in 1976.

Dibble, who moved to Northville about a dozen years ago, said he was "flabbergasted" but "very proud" to be hon-

ored among a group of such esteemed athletes and have his name enshrined in a Hall of Fame that has already honored some of his Lions teammates, including Layne, Joe Schmidt, Yale Lary and Doak Walker. He is one of the last remaining links to the Lions' golden era and was proudly wearing one of his NFL championship rings, which emcee Dan Miller held up high for everyone in the auditorium to see.

"This is what I think folks would love to see - another championship ring with the name Lions on it," said Miller, a Northville resident, who is the radio voice of the Lions and sports director for WJBK-TV (Channel 2).

Dibble's professional career wasn't long, but it was impressive. He had size and speed and the team used him in several positions, including running back, defensive end, defensive back and offensive end during his first season, when he tied Walker's team record of six touchdown receptions for a rookie. He also set a rookie record for average yards per reception with 20.4 on 30 catches.

Dibble was called to military service as the Korean War began and he was away from the team for a year, though he did get to watch his teammates win an NFL championship on a television at Bolling Air Force Base. He returned in 1953 and played a leading role in the team's second straight NFL championship. The 1954 season was perhaps Dibble's best, as he caught 46 passes for 768 yards



Michigan Sports Hall of Fame inductee Tom Mach (left) shares a laugh with guests during the 58th induction ceremony. JARRAD HENDERSON | GANNETT MICHIGAN



The 58th class of the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame includes (from left) John Smoltz, Jason Hanson, Alexi Lalas, Jim Brandstatter, Nick Lidstrom, Tom Mach and Dorne Dibble, joined on stage by Michigan Sports Hall of Fame Executive Director Jim Stark (right).

and was named *The Sporting News* All-Pro second team.

By 1957, Dibble was established as one of the league's most dangerous receivers and helped lead the team to its final NFL championship. At the end of the season, the Lions were going to trade him to the New York Giants, but he decided to retire and try his hand in the automotive industry. He finished his career with 146

receptions for 2,552 yards and 19 touchdowns - and two championships.

Dibble, 84, joked that the key to his success was learning "how to not get hit," but said he was fortunate to play with some excellent players and for top-notch coaches from high school in Adrian to the collegiate level at Michigan State and finally with the Lions.

"Now I feel like I

really made it," he said of his Hall of Fame induction.

## Mach among the best

Mach also took his deserved place in the Hall of Fame. He has established himself during his 29 seasons at the helm of Detroit Catholic Central as one of the greatest and most successful high school football coaches in state history. With his 344-88 record, he ranks fourth on the state's all-time victory list and second among current coaches, behind Farmington Hills Harrison's John Herrington. Mach has won 17 Catholic League championships and 10 state titles. The 2013 team was his 16th to play in the state championship game.

Mach grew up in the Chicago area and ended up enrolling in seminary school, before leaving to enroll at Wayne State University and making the football team as a walk-on. It was at Wayne State that he said he

really learned the game under the tutelage of coach Dave Hoover, who he would later try to emulate during his own coaching career.

Mach, 66, said he was grateful that Catholic Central leaders took a chance on him all those years ago - a decision for which they were never sorry.

Mach has coached CC at three different locations - in Detroit on Outer Drive, in Redford and now in Novi. During his career, he has had only two losing seasons. More importantly, he has helped produce a lot of outstanding football players and quality young men. Many of his players have gone on to collegiate success and five have made it to the NFL.

He said the key to his consistency has been keeping his players focused on the positive. The biggest hurdle, he says, is getting players to believe in themselves. Once that is achieved, anything is possible.

"We're faith-based and we're also very positive in our motivation. We like to think of the power of positive thinking and that power is in believing," he said.

Like Dibble, Mach was humbled by his induction into such an esteemed institution.

"As a high school coach, you don't think about the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame that much because you don't think you're going to get there," he said. "It's a very, very special, humbling honor to enter into the 58th class and know it's going to be like that forever. I'm very proud of all the players and coaches that helped me get here."

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## NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP

### Massey ties state record in regional semifinal loss

After winning a Class D district title, Novi Franklin Road Christian's girls basketball team (13-9) dropped its regional semifinal 75-56 to Clarkston Everest (14-5) on March 4. Senior Kristen Massey, who had 40 points and hit 18-of-19 free throws (94.7 percent), led FRC.

Despite the loss, FRC got in the state record books as Massey hit several milestones. Her 18 free throws put her at 209 on the season, which is second all-time, just four free throws back from her record-breaking junior season a year ago. Massey's sophomore

season is also fourth in the record books with 196 free throws made.

Whittemore-Prescott's Jessie Miller, who had 199 in 2002 and 194 in 2001, holds the third and fifth spots, respectively, on the season free-throw list. Miller's career record 697 free throws from 1999-2002 was also tied by Massey last week, as the local star finished her career with 2,032 total points.

Massey will continue her basketball career next year with Malone (Ohio) University.

### AAU girls basketball tryouts

All girls interested in trying out for the AAU Novi Motion girls basketball team should plan to

attend the upcoming tryout dates. On March 13, Village Oaks Elementary will host tryouts 6:30-8 p.m. for grades 8-9 and 8-9:30 p.m. for grades 10-11. On March 17, Deerfield Elementary will host tryouts 6:30-8 p.m. for grades 4-5 from and 8-9:30 p.m. for grades 6-7.

Players need to come 15 minutes before their start time and be dressed and ready to play. Tryout fees cost \$20 and a parent/guardian must sign a waiver. Forms are available online at <https://sites.google.com/site/novimotionbb>. For more information, call Ron Valente at 248-349-5464.

- By Chris Jackett

## NOVI

Continued from Page B1

guys were very excited going into the last minute with a bit of a lead. They scored a couple of baskets on a smaller lineup of ours since two of our posts had fouled out. We had a three-point lead going into the final 16 seconds and Salem hit a three near overtime. Hard way to finish, but proud of the effort."

It ended the season

for a Wildcats team that had been on a hot streak since early February, winning six of its last seven before running into Salem.

Despite the loss, Novi shot 51 percent (26-of-51) from the field with four players finishing in double figures.

The Wildcats were led by senior Nick Zugaro (20 points, three assists, two steals, one block), junior Max Yanke (17 points, four assists, three steals), senior Erik Biberstein (14 points, three rebounds, two blocks) and

sophomore Tony Asimadu (10 points, five steals).

Also chipping in were sophomores Eric Foard (three points, five rebounds), Kameron Hankerson (three points) and Naji Ozier (two points, three rebounds) and junior Billy Ulle (two points, three rebounds, three steals).

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

## TANKERS

Continued from Page B1

the 100 butterfly again. Monroe's Cameron Craig took first in 48.95.

The 400 free relay was Novi's third attempt at a finals success. Vincent teamed with freshman Sid Kareddy, junior Arthur Shibi and senior Jacob Robins to take 11th in 3:15.25 to earn the Wildcats' final 12 points. The group missed the school

record by three-quarters of a second. Brother Rice won the event with an all-class state record of 3:02.06.

"Although we lose a lot of talented seniors this year, we gained a lot of experience at this state meet," Novi coach Brent Pohlonski said. "Our returning Wildcats will go into next year's state meet with the experience it takes to be competitive at the state level."

Novi also competed in Friday's prelimin-

aries in the 200 free relay, 200 medley relay, Kareddy in the 100 butterfly, Jimmy Ciolli in the 1-meter dive and Gordy Williams in the 100 backstroke, but did not advance to Saturday's finals.

For full state meet results, visit [www.mhsaa.com](http://www.mhsaa.com).

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



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## Children's Spring Film Festival

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# Catholic Central's basketball season brought to an end

Shamrocks can't keep up with Canton's second-half performance

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

Detroit Catholic Central put up one heck of a fight in the first half of its district game against Canton, but Shamrocks were undone in the sec-

ond half due to some outstanding defense and sharp shooting by their foes.

Catholic Central's season came to a close with the 44-35 loss.

The Shamrocks, coached by Bill Dyer, fell

behind against Canton, 11-8, after the first quarter, but came back strong in the second to outscore their opponents, 11-7, and take a lead into halftime, 19-18.

Unfortunately, that performance would not be one the Shamrocks would repeat in the third and fourth quarters. Canton's defense held

the Shamrocks to just 17 points over the final two quarters, while the offense put up 26 points to secure the win.

Noah Lee led the Shamrocks with 12 points, while Charlie Ryan added 11.

Champ Kozlowski added five to the total, while Ike Marchig had three points and Ryan

McGillivray had two.

Leading the way for Canton was Davon Taylor, who put up 20 points to lead all scorers. Greg Williams added 12 for the Chiefs.

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

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Register for spring and summer sports leagues

The city of Novi, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department is preparing for spring and summer sport seasons. Registration is going on now via [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) for the following leagues: Adult Softball Double Header League; Adult Tennis League; Adult Sand Volleyball 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](http://cityofnovi.org) or call 248-347-0400 or 248-347-0414 for 55-and-over programs.

### 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 selected 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.

# Tribute dinner dedicated to Fracassa

By Marty Budner  
Staff Writer

Al Fracassa touched the lives of many during his legendary 54-year football head coaching career. Now, those thousands of people are returning the favor.

A "Friends of Fracassa" tribute dinner is scheduled for May 10 at The Henry Hotel in Dearborn. The idea is to raise some cash and recognize the well-respected Hall of Fame coach for the love he has shown over the years to his players, the school and the community.

The event was organized by the Friends of Fracassa Committee, a select group of nine individuals who decided the dinner assembly would provide the perfect retirement present. All former captains from Brother Rice and Royal Oak Shrine – the two schools where he served as a head coach – are designated as program hosts.

"It was just a bunch of former players who decided that we needed to do something for coach and acknowledge his retirement," said Pat Lynch, who played for the Warriors in the mid-1960s and whose son, Paddy, was a captain and member of the 2000 state championship squad.

"It's a tribute dinner and a way for us to give back for what he did for so many," Lynch said. "Not only did we want to honor coach, but we wanted to help out and do what we can to help him live the way he wants to in retirement. He's been pretty sacrificial in the way he's coached. This is a way to help him out



Pat Lynch (left), Brother Rice Class of 1968, has helped organize a tribute dinner for the school's legendary head coach Al Fracassa. JOHN LENIHAN

now that he's not coaching any more."

Fracassa called it quits this past season after leading the Warriors to the program's third consecutive Division 2 state championship. It marked the school's 10th state title, all of which came under Fracassa's 45-year reign at Rice. He previously coached nine years at Shrine.

Fracassa, who started at Rice in 1969, is the winningest high school football coach in Michigan history with 430 victories.

The Michigan State University graduate earned many accolades during his reputable career, including:

- » National Football League Coach of the Year in 1977

» American Football Coaches Association Hula Bowl Coach of the Year in 2002

» Michigan State University "Duffy Daugherty Award" and National High School Coach of the Year in 2005

» Coached more than 300 college football players, including 15 professional players

» Tenth high school football coach in the U.S. to surpass 400 career wins

"We really couldn't do this for everybody, but with his history and what he represents, it is just the right thing," said Lynch, who helped organize the event. "And we have the full endorsements of both schools where he coached.

"It's a way for his players to say we know

all of his records and what he has done for high school football, but it's more the way that he impacted the lives of so many people and that's really what counts," he added.

The cost is \$200 per person – \$2,000 per table of 10.

Organizers expect more than 800 people and tickets are going fast. All net proceeds go directly to Fracassa and his wife Phyllis.

Michigan State University head football coach Mark Dantonio will be the guest speaker. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central head coach Tom Mach and T.J. Lang, a former Rice player who is currently a lineman with the Green Bay Packers, are slated to offer individual testimon-



Al Fracassa's retirement tour last fall included this trophy named in his honor, courtesy of Orchard Lake St. Mary's. JOHN LENIHAN

## HONORING A LEGEND

**What:** "Friends of Fracassa" tribute dinner

**When:** Saturday, May 10

**Where:** The Henry Hotel in Dearborn

**Time:** 5:30 p.m. (cocktail reception); 7 p.m. (sit-down dinner); 8 p.m. (presentation begins)

**Honoring:** Retired Birmingham Brother Rice and former Royal Oak Shrine head coach Al Fracassa

**Guest speaker:** Mark Dantonio, Michigan State University football head coach

**Tickets:** \$200 per person, \$2,000 per table

nials. Brother Rice graduate Ken Calvert will be master of ceremonies.

A special tribute book with individual testimonials from anyone wishing to contribute will be presented to Fracassa.

For more information on the event, visit [www.friendsofracassa.com](http://www.friendsofracassa.com).

# Olympic athletes can teach us how to overcome injuries

For two weeks in February, we enjoyed watching the best athletes in the world compete. We get to see for a few minutes or even a few seconds how they perform. They have trained their whole life for these few moments. Most of these athletes overcame injuries they sustained over the years. Being the state of Michigan's Team USA sports doctor of chiropractic provider, I have managed these injuries. We can all learn from how these Olympic athletes rehabilitate and train to overcome these athletic injuries. There is a systematic approach that needs to be followed in order for an athlete to return to play.

Head, neck, back and extremity (shoulder, hip and knee) injuries are the most common among athletes. Diagnosing and rehabilitating these injuries in a step-by-step progression will lead to the best result. When there is an injury, we must follow certain protocols.

If we are out in the field at the event, the



**Kenneth Stopa**  
GUEST COLUMNIST

mechanism of injury must be observed. Life-threatening issues must be addressed first, starting with the primary survey.

Breathing, airway, circulation, disability, fracture management and brief signs and symptoms history must be addressed, as well as observing for swelling, bleeding and deformities. When these are stable, a secondary survey can be performed. When off the field, a head-to-toe examination will be performed and vitals will be taken to establish a baseline. A past medical history of surgeries, allergies, medications, injuries and treatments will be obtained. All chief complaints will be assessed in greater detail at this time.

What irritates? What makes it feel better? What type of pain is it (sharp, burning, tingling)? Does the pain radiate down an arm or

a leg?

What is the severity of the pain on a scale of 1 to 10?

After the history is taken, an examination is performed on that injury. Every 15 minutes, vitals are re-recorded.

Examinations will include: observation, palpation, active range of motion and passive range of motion of the injury. Pulses of upper and lower extremities will be assessed. Range of motion will be assessed of the injured part in all planes. Sensation, muscle test, orthopedic and neurological tests and special testing will be performed.

Ordering of an X-ray, MRI or a CAT scan would be done at this time. Diagnosis, prognosis and treatment plan would be established at this time. An athlete must pass return-to-play criteria in order to return to activity.

### Returning to play

Returning an athlete to play is a step-by-step process. The athlete must be diagnosed and treated using the least invasive treatments

that produce the most effective results. The rehabilitation process must be a dynamic progression of isometric to isotonic exercises in order to gain back stability, strength, flexibility and full function of the injury.

There must be minimal or no tenderness, full active range of motion, pain-free strength against resistance and no positive neurological symptoms – for example, weakness of an extremity or tingling, numbness or loss of general senses (seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting).

There must be no neurological symptoms and no signs and symptoms present.

When there is a head trauma and a concussion is suspected the U.S. Olympic Training Center uses the sport concussion assessment tool to document signs and symptoms and recommend return to play criteria.

Dr. Kenneth Stopa owns Main Street Family Chiropractic Center, P.C., in downtown Northville. He welcomes your feedback at 248-735-9800.



CC athletic director Aaron Babicz presents the team trophy to seniors Carter Cerretani (left) and Matt Sorisho.

## HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

CC (24-7) scored first on Burnett's first goal with an assist from Mitch Ossowski at 3:54.

Brighton (23-7-1) then made a crucial error to give the Shamrocks another goal.

Lee Pietila was sent to the penalty box for holding and, seconds later, was joined by teammate Todd Kiilunen for cross-checking. With a two-man advantage, CC didn't waste time, going up 2-0 on Cerretani's first goal with an assist from Burnett at 5:00.

"It's tough when you have to extend yourself on a five-on-three or a five-on-four," Brighton coach Paul Moggach said. "Obviously, it's tough to get here and lose, but this is the third straight year for some of our guys and not many players can say that."

Brighton scored in the second period on a power-play goal by Danny Bosio, with assists from Pietila and Aaron Sturos, to make it a one-goal

game.

The Bulldogs made the mistake of allowing the Shamrocks another five-on-three when Tyler Hayes (hooking) and Brian Dowd (slashing) were sent to the penalty box.

With Dowd two seconds from getting the Bulldogs back to full strength, Domenic Mancinelli scored for the second time in two days, this one a power-play goal on an assist from Alex Kreutzer to make it 3-1.

"That was really a big goal," Bosio said.

CC dominated play to that point, with a 29-10 edge in shots on goal and using the two power-play goals for a lead after two.

Cerretani put the finishing touches on revenge with a power-play goal 13 seconds after Pietila went to the bench on an interference penalty.

Brighton had its own five-on-three advantage with seven minutes to play. Not only didn't the Bulldogs score, but Burnett added his second goal.



### SHOW & TELL CONTEST

Brrr! You played in it. You built a snowman. You even stayed home from school because of it. Now here's your chance to show and tell. Show Scoop how you coped with the winter blast. Send a photo and brief description you could win your own copy of the DVD Disney's FROZEN.

**February Valentine Coloring Contest Winner**  
 Damian Born, age 8 from Highland, Mi won a \$10 Gift card to Toys R Us.

### Join Scoop's Birthday Club!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boy or Girl: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*Parent's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out the form and have your parents fill in their name and signature. Clip and mail, it's that easy!  
 \* Required for Birthday Club

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Michael Ledbetter**  
Livonia ..... March 3
- Ryan Sumner**  
Milford ..... March 3
- Addison Darnell**  
Novi ..... March 14
- Laela Lawrence**  
Novi ..... March 21
- Grace Lejzorowicz**  
Walled Lake..... March 27
- Ryan Finley**  
Livonia ..... March 28

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Interested in becoming a sponsor of Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights or have general questions?  
 Email cbjordan@hometownlife.com

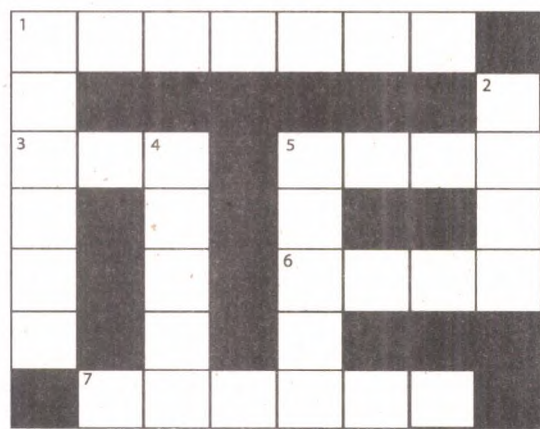
### Did You Know?

RAIN AND OTHER PRECIPITATION IS PART OF THE ONGOING WATER CYCLE OF THE PLANET. WATER EVAPORATES FROM OCEANS AND LAKES, FORMS CONDENSATION IN CLOUDS, THEN FALLS BACK TO THE EARTH.

### How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Snow
- SPANISH:** Nieve
- ITALIAN:** Neve
- FRENCH:** Neige
- GERMAN:** Schnee

### Crossword Puzzle



- |                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                   | <b>DOWN</b>             |
| 1. Making of higher temperature | 1. Cold season          |
| 3. Negative                     | 2. Frozen precipitation |
| 5. In a short time              | 4. Whole number         |
| 6. In a different way           | 5. Eaten between meals  |
| 7. Small, flat pieces something |                         |

Answers:  
 Across  
 1. Warming 3. Not 5. Soon 6. Anew 7. Flakes  
 Down  
 1. Winter 2. Snow 4. Total 5. Snack

Courtesy of Metro Creative

### Art is FUN!



The month of March is recognized as Youth Art Month. Many schools take this opportunity to feature student's works of art. Did you create an art piece? Share it with us. Selected items will be featured in next month's Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights and on Scoop's Facebook page. Send a scanned picture or photograph of your artwork along with your name, age and community. It would be great to include a photo of you holding your art piece if possible.

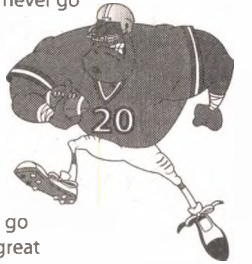
### My Hero

By Trevor Quattlander



Trevor Quattlander

"Oh, he broke another tackle and he scores" is what the announcer says when Barry Sanders gets the ball. Barry Sanders is not only my hero but my idol. I try every time to run the ball to never go down just like Barry Sanders did. Although he wasn't the fastest player on the field, he had some moves. He had a running style like no one else. If a hole wasn't there he would go



to the outside and find a hole. I think he has a great running style and that is why I admire him. That is why Barry Sanders in my hero and idol.

### Jack The Noble Knight

by Griffin Bryan

Once upon a time, a noble knight named Jack was guarding the king's castle when a messenger came to him and told him that a fierce and deadly dragon was terrorizing a city called Yanglehest, which was about 30 miles from the city that he was in called Edellbrook. Also, he said the king had requested Jack personally because Jack was a noble and brave knight.

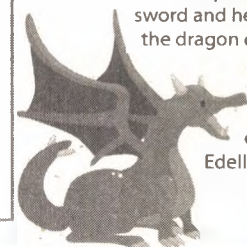


Griffin Bryan

A day later Jack set off on his journey to Yanglehest to slay the mighty dragon. He took food, armor, and supplies in case he needed them. In two days Jack had finally reached Yanglehest and what he saw was unimaginable. Houses were burned to shreds. Villagers were running around crazily, and above him flying around was the dragon! Quickly, Jack ran as fast as he could into the nearby house of about ten villagers to take cover from the dragon. He asked the villagers in the house if they knew how to kill the dragon but they said they didn't. One of the villagers told Jack that three warriors had tried to kill the dragon, but two of them fled. One of the warriors cut off the dragon's head but it grew two more heads and then the dragon ate him! Jack nervously said, "OK" and then he went out to face the dragon. Jack snuck around the outer wall of the house so he wouldn't be seen by the dragon, but the dragon saw him come out of the house. It swooped down and tried to eat Jack but Jack slit both of its throats. Jack then immediately remembered what the villager had told him and said to himself, "Oh no...," and then the dragon grew three heads! So then Jack panicked and ran straight toward the dragon with his sword and he put the sword right in the dragon's heart. Then the dragon died instantly and became ashes.



The people of Yanglehest praised Jack and told him that he was their hero and that he could come back whenever he wanted. The two towns of Edellbrook and Yanglehest lived happily ever after.



Mail contest entries, birthday forms and talent submissions to:

Scoop the Newshound, Observer & Eccentric Media, 615 W. Lafayette, Detroit Mi 48226 or email your submission to cbjordan@hometownlife.com by **March 28**

Winning submissions will be announced in a future Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.



## Manufacturing hub could have spillover effect

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Canton's selection as a trailblazing site for lightweight metals research and manufacturing could eventually have a ripple effect by ratcheting up demand for area housing, hotel lodging, retail stores and restaurants, local officials and market analysts say.

"I see nothing but great things coming out of this," Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said. "It's amazing. It's great."

Jason Borregard, sales manager for Clients First Realtors with offices in Canton, Westland and Shelby Township, said the American Lightweight Materials Manufacturing Innovation Institute is likely to have an impact on the real estate market.

"I believe there is going to be an effect - what effect is the question," Borregard said. "(But) the name Canton is going to get out around the country."

Canton Township Treasurer Melissa



University of Michigan student Jake Adams re-attaches string gauges in an ultrasonic fatigue apparatus in the Gerstacker Building.

McLaughlin said if the institute becomes as successful as its creators hope, it should have a spillover effect on the area's economy. She said the site's employees are likely to spend money on cars, clothing, restaurants and other amenities, while visiting partners pay for lodging, meals and other expenses.

"It could bring housing and commercial development and maybe some off-shoot industrial development," she said. "That is very definitely a possibility."

Alan Taub, a University of Michigan material science and engineering professor and chief technology officer for the project, said the specific site for the institute isn't being confirmed until the lease agreement is signed, which is expected soon.

### Fast track

"The institute is incorporated in Michigan and will become operational soon," Taub said by email, in response to questions. "The plan is to get the facility ready for occupancy within 90

days after lease signing."

LaJoy and Taub were among the officials at the White House when President Barack Obama officially announced the project Feb. 25, saying it is among four hubs intended to "put America at the forefront of 21st century manufacturing." Other sites are Chicago, Raleigh, N.C., and Youngstown, Ohio.

LaJoy said the institute, largely led by U-M, has put Canton on the national map.

"I think a lot of people are going to be very interested in what happens here and what they're about to come up with," he said. "It's going to be the hub of all that activity involving lightweight metals manufacturing and innovation. I would think people might want to be moving close to it."

Borregard and other real estate executives have said competition is already fierce for Canton housing.

Taub said project leaders worked with a real estate broker to find

a suitable location.

### 'Good match'

"The facility we found in Canton was a good match to the institute's needs," he said, adding later, "The facility will be used as our headquarters. We will be installing pilot scale advanced manufacturing equipment consistent with the priorities set by the industry needs. The facility will be used for both manufacturing technology development and training."

Taub projected "a limited number of full-time employees" at the headquarters, at least initially.

"However," he said, "the institute has a large and growing partner base of companies, universities and nonprofit laboratories that will be utilizing our technology development and training capabilities. By establishing this area as the national focus for lightweight metals manufacturing technology and workforce training, we anticipate those companies will want to locate

their plants in the region."

Project leaders have said the \$148 million institute could create as many as 10,000 jobs across the Midwest. It involves a consortium of more than 50 companies, universities and nonprofits across the nation, with U-M a key player.

The federal government is set to invest \$70 million over five years, with an additional \$78 million coming from consortium partners.

Obama said the institute is intended to forge manufacturing ties between the public and private sectors and lead to jobs that strengthen the nation's middle class.

Local officials have said the Canton site means the institute will have easy access to Detroit Metro Airport, the I-275 corridor and U-M.

U-M said the institute is intended to move cutting-edge lightweight metals out of the research lab and into future cars, trucks, airplanes and ships - both for the commercial and military sectors.

## NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

### ITC announces fourth-quarter results

Novi-based ITC Holdings Corp. announced its results for the fourth quarter and year ended Dec. 31, 2013, all of which are reported on a pre-stock split basis. Reported net income for the quarter, measured in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, was \$76.9 million, or \$1.45 per diluted common share, compared to \$48.3 million or \$0.92 per diluted common share for the fourth quarter of 2012. For the year ended Dec. 31, 2013, reported net income was \$233.5 million, or \$4.42 per diluted common share, compared to \$187.9 million, or \$3.60 per diluted common share for the same period last year.

Operating earnings for the fourth quarter were \$70 million, or \$1.32 per diluted common share, compared to operating earnings of \$57.0 million, or \$1.09 per diluted common share for the fourth quarter of 2012. For the year-ended Dec. 31, 2013, operating earnings were \$258.6 million, or \$4.90 per diluted common share, compared to operating earnings of \$216.5 million, or \$4.15 per diluted common share for the same period last year.

### Blaze celebrates Pi Day with \$3.14 pizzas Friday

In celebration of National Pi Day, Blaze Fast-Fire'd Pizza will offer all pizzas for just \$3.14 Friday. Blaze Pizza invites guests to enjoy their choice of any custom-

built artisan pizza at any location - including Novi (26401 Novi Road) - from open to close March 14.

This offer is valid for in-restaurant orders only.

"In math there are right and wrong answers, but at Blaze Pizza there's no wrong way to play," said Jim Mizes, president and COO of Blaze Pizza. "We celebrate each guest's individuality. You get to create a pizza exactly the way you want it and it's ready in less than 180 seconds. That's the kind of math we like at Blaze - on Pi Day and every day."

### Diamond Jim Brady's hosting annual St. Patrick's Day celebration

In tribute of the holiday for all of their "Irish" friends, Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro Bar (Novi Town Center, 43271 Crescent Boulevard) will be serving authentic Irish food Thursday, March 13 through Monday, March 17. Owner and certified executive chef Mary Brady and partner/chef Sharon Juergens are going all out for St. Patrick's Day. Guests can sing along to recordings of Irish tunes that will be featured.

Some of the authentic Irish fare that will be served at Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro Bar includes: corned beef and cabbage; Irish stew; salmon a la Dublin Bay; Parmesan seared sea scallops kinsale style; and beef and beer.

### Red Level Networks grows sales 30 percent

Last year was one of those years the folks at

Novi-based Red Level Networks will remember for a while and for all the right reasons.

"We had a great year in 2013," said David King, president of Red Level Networks. "It was one of our biggest growth years in a while."

The IT firm grew its revenue by 30 percent and added 48 new clients. Those new customers are in the manufacturing, finance and health care industries, among others.

Red Level Networks has hired nine people in sales and marketing over the last year. It now has a staff of 32 employees. It is looking to add a few summer interns and hire four more people for data center engineering, help desk and administrative staff.

### Providence one of nation's top hospitals

Providence Hospital is once again ranked as one of the nation's top 15 major teaching hospitals and one of the top 100 hospitals in the U.S. by a leading source of health care information and research.

The recognition from Truven Health Analytics recognizes hospitals that achieve or exceed national benchmark scores for hospital-wide performance.

This is the sixth time Providence has been recognized by Truven as a top major teaching hospital.

For the study, Truven Health researchers analyzed public information - Medicare cost reports, Medicare Provider Analysis and Review (MedPAR) data, and core measures and patient

satisfaction data from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Hospital Compare website.

The winning hospitals were announced in the March 3 edition of *Modern Healthcare* magazine.

### Japan continues as a leading foreign investor in the state

The Consulate General of Japan in Detroit released the results of its annual Japanese Direct Investment Survey. The

data, as of Oct. 1, 2013, indicate that there are now 469 Michigan-based Japanese facilities, which provide a total of 37,020 jobs.

Despite a slight decline in the overall facility number, 1,232 more workers were employed in Michigan than in 2012.

Japan continues to be a leading foreign investor in the Great Lakes State.

Investment in Michigan is heavily concentrated in manufacturing and the majority of employment gains occurred

in automotive-related jobs.

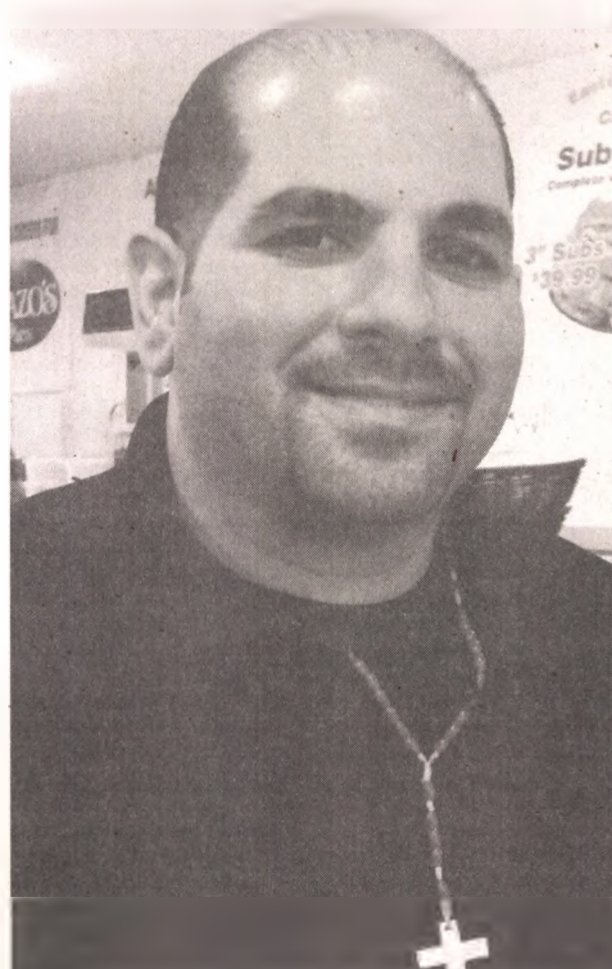
In 2013, there was a net gain of 1,160 jobs at manufacturing facilities, representing a 3.8-percent increase over the previous year.

Japanese investment is concentrated in the southeast and southwest regions of the state. The 380 facilities in southeast Michigan are primarily R&D, engineering and sales offices.

The remaining facilities are predominately manufacturing operations.

## 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



"Observer & Eccentric Media reaches local residents. People who support us are local. People want a newspaper that supports the area. Without our customers there is no us."

## Toast of the Town



A celebration of Novi's business community, The Toast of the Town, was held Feb. 28 at the newly remodeled Baronette Renaissance and sponsored by Walsh College, Varsity Lincoln and Lotus Bank. Bob Hynes, a veteran Detroit broadcaster for WXYZ-TV (Channel 7), was the emcee. Mayor Bob Gatt engaged the audience, as he recognized each of the Novi business winners and presented them with their award. Each business winner also received a tribute from Sen. Mike Kowall. Pictured (back, from left) are Aaron Quimby, Walmart; Michael Cash, Varsity Lincoln; Don Hipshier, Sidock Group, Inc.; Dr. Christian Groth, Tyler, Dumas, Reyes Specialists in Orthodontics; David King, Red Level Network; and Kowall; and (front, from left) Samira Boueri, Michigan CAT; Beth Yarmak, Yarmak & Co., CPA; Sheryl Romzek, Novi Chamber of Commerce; and Gatt.

## REALTORS GLAD TO SHAKE HANDS, GET LEADS AT CANTON EXPO

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

The Canton Home Improvement Expo gave local Realtors a chance to meet and greet March 1-2 at the Summit.

Reaching out to customers, as well as the bankers who attended, was Keller Williams Realty's John Gitre, a Canton resident who sells in the Novi-Northville area. He's been in the business 10 years.

"Great," Gitre said of business. "Sales are up, home prices are up. You can't really ask for a better market at this time."

Interest rates remain relatively low, Gitre added. He's lived in Michigan his entire life and was able to ride out the recession.

"Our economy is cyclical," he said. "People pulled back." They were worried about further job cuts and weren't spending.

In 2011, he saw the Michigan economy and housing market start a rebound. "They felt more secure. That major weight's been lifted off their shoulders," said Gitre, who's online at [www.johngitre.com](http://www.johngitre.com).

His buyers rarely choose fixer-uppers. Gitre agreed school systems are key, but "it is up to your child." He asks clients where they work, and where family and friends live.

"You have to approach every buyer differently," he said.

It was his first year at the Home Improvement Expo, under sponsorship of Canton Township, the Canton Cham-



Realtors, bankers and many other home pros were present at the annual Canton Home Improvement Expo at the Summit March 1-2.

ber of Commerce and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

"I plan on being back here next year," he said, adding, "One thing I like about real estate, you're always learning. I find it an interesting industry to be in."

He's glad there are fewer short sales and foreclosed homes now, and noted even those tend to be in solid shape. "A smart seller will fix up their house, do the minor things," Gitre added.

Realtor Marie LaGrow's with Remerica Hometown in Plymouth Township, and a Canton resident. She and husband Denny, a Realtor with

whom she works, also had a table at the expo.

Marie LaGrow has 17 years in the field. "Things were touch and go for everybody, but they are starting to come back," she said. She agreed 2011 was when the market began to improve.

"It's very good for all of us," she said, adding home values are coming up some. "So now's the time to buy, especially if you're moving up."

The LaGrows sell throughout Wayne, Livingston, Oakland and Washtenaw counties and even have a Boston, Mass., customer on an estate sale. "It makes it so much easier," Marie LaGrow said of technology

enabling them to expand services. "We're flexible now."

"The baby boomers want to downsize," she said of current customers, also with young families seeking bigger quarters. "There is a lot of demand," she said, and good deals.

"Hard work" got them through the recession. "But we did it. It's on the way up," she said. She has a variety of customers at Remerica Hometown and hears from them on the couple's website, [www.LaGrows.com](http://www.LaGrows.com).

"It all depends on what their needs are," she said.

[jcbrown@hometownlife.com](mailto:jcbrown@hometownlife.com)



Robert Meisner

## Senior status documents vary

**Q. We are on the board of a senior community under the exceptions to the Fair Housing Act, and we asked our members to complete an age verification form and provide a copy of a Driver's License. In the past, we have filled out an affidavit of compliance which asked for a signature under penalty of law. I thought this fulfilled our requirements to maintain our senior status. What do you think?**

**A:** An affidavit satisfies the requirement, but so does a driver's license. By their nature, senior communities engage in permissible discrimination. Such discrimination is allowed by the federal government under the Housing for Older Persons Act of 1995 which is overseen by HUD. To meet the age verification requirements the following documents are deemed reliable by HUD; birth certificate; driver's license; passports; immigration card; military I.D.; and any other local, state, federal or international documentation so long as the document contains information regarding the age of the individual.

**Q: Our condominium association decided on a plan to renovate the whole complex except for one building. It levied an additional assessment against all unit owners of all of the buildings except the one building where no work was going to be done. Two years later, the unit owners in that building requested renovations and after receiving bids, the Association assessed each building unit owner in that building over and above the amount that had been assessed against the other co-owners in the earlier building. Some in our building have paid only the amount that the others in the other buildings paid. The question is do we have an obligation to pay more than what the other buildings were additionally assessed? What do you think?**

**A:** Obviously, the answer to your question is document intensive and you must look at the documents to determine the ability of the board to assess and in what manner. However, in a similar situation out of North Carolina, the Supreme Court there agreed with the trial court that the assessment was unlawful because the Condominium Act, the Declaration (Master Deed) and Bylaws all require that assessments be uniform and pro-rata based on the percentage of the unit owners' respective undivided interest in the common areas. They pointed out that in that case, there were two separate assessments years apart and the latter assessment levied against only unit owners in the later building was not uniformly assessed against all co-owners. The court read the governing documents to require that each assessment must be levied pro-rata uniformly upon each co-owner.

**Robert M. Meisner** is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95, plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. "Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com). He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. It is available for \$9.95, plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping and handling. Call 248-644-4433 or visit [bmeisner@meisner-law.com](http://bmeisner@meisner-law.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

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

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 21-25, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

**BEVERLY HILLS**

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| 16321 Birwood Ave   | \$255,000 |
| 17969 Kinross Ave   | \$294,000 |
| 15701 Kirkshire Ave | \$175,000 |
| 22200 Orchard Way   | \$215,000 |
| 32525 Plumwood St   | \$380,000 |
| 32055 Sheridan Dr   | \$250,000 |
| 30300 Woodhaven Ln  | \$419,000 |

**BINGHAM FARMS**

|                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 30725 Ivy Glen Ct | \$320,000 |
|-------------------|-----------|

**BIRMINGHAM**

|                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 1917 Cole St      | \$189,000 |
| 1596 Hazel St     | \$252,000 |
| 309 N Eton St     | \$92,000  |
| 315 N Eton St # A | \$92,000  |
| 909 Pierce St     | \$735,000 |
| 685 Southfield Rd | \$533,000 |
| 240 W Lincoln St  | \$212,000 |
| 1685 W Lincoln St | \$290,000 |

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS**

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 2076 Devonshire Rd   | \$185,000   |
| 5395 Hickory Blvd    | \$190,000   |
| 4061 Hidden Woods Dr | \$275,000   |
| 7456 Lindenmere Dr   | \$505,000   |
| 651 Orchard Ridge Rd | \$1,650,000 |
| 4355 Risdon Ct       | \$195,000   |
| 4446 Tanbark St      | \$500,000   |

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP**

|                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 6631 Castle Dr    | \$200,000 |
| 2043 Eagle Pointe | \$212,000 |

|                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 320 Hillboro Dr          | \$359,000   |
| 3890 Lincoln Rd          | \$1,300,000 |
| 1839 Long Lake Shore Dr  | \$405,000   |
| 1250 Marymar Ln          | \$425,000   |
| 557 Newburne Pointe      | \$460,000   |
| 2434 Parcels Cir         | \$114,000   |
| 1338 S Carillon Ct       | \$1,148,000 |
| 310 S Cranbrook Cross Rd | \$195,000   |
| 1834 Spring Grove Rd     | \$252,000   |
| 204 Woodedge Dr          | \$265,000   |
| 5175 Woodlands Dr        | \$280,000   |

**COMMERCE TOWNSHIP**

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| 1771 Applebrook Dr   | \$50,000  |
| 5460 Bridge Trl E    | \$364,000 |
| 3535 Car Dr          | \$340,000 |
| 215 E Wise Rd        | \$110,000 |
| 2813 Greenlawn Ave   | \$275,000 |
| 8493 Hummingbird     | \$310,000 |
| 5675 Lancaster Ln    | \$315,000 |
| 2650 Old Sherwood Ct | \$270,000 |
| 2334 Palmetto        | \$190,000 |
| 9557 Trace Hollow Ct | \$25,000  |
| 6180 Turnberry Dr    | \$235,000 |

**FARMINGTON**

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| 35624 Briar Ridge Ln | \$193,000 |
| 24041 Farmington Rd  | \$240,000 |
| 23350 Woodhaven Ct   | \$300,000 |

**FARMINGTON HILLS**

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 29624 Ardmore Dr      | \$390,000 |
| 28484 Bayberry Rd     | \$175,000 |
| 31645 Belmont St      | \$145,000 |
| 35305 Blue Spruce Dr  | \$214,000 |
| 29638 Briarport St    | \$155,000 |
| 36837 Chesapeake Rd   | \$205,000 |
| 32241 Farmersville Rd | \$160,000 |
| 25977 Kilreigh Dr     | \$183,000 |
| 30169 Kingsway Dr     | \$288,000 |

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| 35133 Meadow Ln     | \$145,000 |
| 29740 Minglewood Ln | \$200,000 |
| 33260 Oak Hollow St | \$250,000 |
| 29148 Raleigh Rd    | \$223,000 |
| 29286 Stillwater    | \$304,000 |
| 30578 W 10 Mile Rd  | \$123,000 |
| 28921 Wellington St | \$375,000 |

**FRANKLIN**

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| 25620 Meadowdale St | \$603,000 |
| 30135 Woodside Dr   | \$379,000 |

**LATHRUP VILLAGE**

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| 19067 Rainbow Dr    | \$165,000 |
| 28280 Woodworth Way | \$150,000 |

**MILFORD**

|                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| 999 Byron Dr               | \$147,000 |
| 637 Dorchester Way         | \$260,000 |
| 3110 E Maple Rd            | \$265,000 |
| 4186 Grondinwood Ln        | \$385,000 |
| 1471 Lone Tree Rd          | \$209,000 |
| 290 Napa Valley Dr         | \$293,000 |
| 505 S Main St              | \$237,000 |
| 1290 Yellowstone Valley Dr | \$255,000 |

**NORTHVILLE**

|                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| 20912 E Glen Haven Cir | \$85,000  |
| 42171 Gladwin St       | \$132,000 |
| 51120 Park Place Dr    | \$579,000 |
| 42159 Pellston Dr      | \$130,000 |
| 42129 Roscommon St     | \$95,000  |

**NOVI**

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| 30768 Ardmore Ct     | \$105,000 |
| 24766 Bashian Dr     | \$115,000 |
| 22682 Bertram Dr     | \$413,000 |
| 28318 Carlton Way Dr | \$168,000 |
| 28358 Clymer Dr      | \$87,000  |
| 50413 Drakes Bay Dr  | \$672,000 |
| 24316 Jamestowne Rd  | \$205,000 |

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 24764 Jamestowne Rd   | \$300,000 |
| 27022 Ladbroke St     | \$258,000 |
| 27092 Ladbroke St     | \$274,000 |
| 44533 Louvert Ct      | \$240,000 |
| 45651 Marlborough Pl  | \$424,000 |
| 22744 Meadowbrook Rd  | \$242,000 |
| 41617 Mitchell Rd     | \$248,000 |
| 24602 Olde Orchard St | \$105,000 |
| 2440 Shawwood St      | \$221,000 |
| 24792 Sutherland Dr   | \$318,000 |
| 22916 Talford St      | \$65,000  |

**SOUTH LYON**

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 57479 11 Mile Rd      | \$431,000 |
| 59272 Carriage Ln     | \$302,000 |
| 23931 Copperwood Dr W | \$302,000 |
| 660 E Ridge St        | \$175,000 |
| 61194 Greenwood Dr    | \$73,000  |
| 253 Harvard Ave       | \$131,000 |
| 23472 Prescott Ln E   | \$368,000 |
| 52035 Red Cedar       | \$397,000 |
| 23339 Sawgrass Ct S   | \$360,000 |
| 58709 Swing Beam Ct   | \$79,000  |

**SOUTHFIELD**

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 507 Fifth St          | \$135,000 |
| 27300 Berkshire Dr    | \$127,000 |
| 21771 Frazer Ave      | \$20,000  |
| 18115 Magnolia Ave    | \$100,000 |
| 28555 River Crest Dr  | \$190,000 |
| 27140 Selkirk St      | \$141,000 |
| 17359 Silver Maple St | \$135,000 |
| 21468 Stahelin Rd     | \$74,000  |

**WHITE LAKE**

|                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 524 Union Lake Rd | \$46,000  |
| 24 Wildrose Dr    | \$255,000 |

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

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 11-15, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

**CANTON**

|                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| 40581 Blytheville Ln      | \$129,000 |
| 50458 Burr St             | \$260,000 |
| 338 Cherry Hill Pointe Dr | \$163,000 |
| 44941 Coachman Ct         | \$149,000 |
| 4149 Cornerstone Dr       | \$124,000 |
| 434 Country Club Ln       | \$346,000 |
| 45491 Glengarry Blvd      | \$335,000 |
| 4148 Hunters Cir W        | \$81,000  |
| 2041 N Arbor Way Dr       | \$93,000  |
| 45425 Plum Holw           | \$250,000 |
| 7523 Pointe Dr            | \$203,000 |
| 42427 Saltz Rd            | \$170,000 |
| 46941 Sherstone Dr        | \$248,000 |
| 4052 Sherwood Cir         | \$219,000 |
| 738 Sorel Dr              | \$223,000 |
| 46871 Torrey Hill Ct      | \$269,000 |
| 1768 Tradition Dr         | \$452,000 |
| 47617 Vistas Circle Dr N  | \$238,000 |
| 43539 W Arbor Way Dr      | \$79,000  |

**GARDEN CITY**

|                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 31028 Balmoral St | \$80,000  |
| 32319 Barton St   | \$108,000 |
| 5850 Deering St   | \$20,000  |

**LIVONIA**

|                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| 36261 Club Dr          | \$37,000  |
| 18903 Comstock St      | \$294,000 |
| 17403 Country Club Ct  | \$220,000 |
| 36039 Curtis Rd        | \$330,000 |
| 11019 Fairfield St     | \$151,000 |
| 11011 Flamingo St      | \$140,000 |
| 30001 Hathaway St      | \$120,000 |
| 31693 Hillbrook St     | \$209,000 |
| 9112 Hix Rd            | \$145,000 |
| 9112 Hubbard St        | \$145,000 |
| 9627 Ingram St         | \$165,000 |
| 19225 Meadowridge Dr   | \$127,000 |
| 16523 Middlebelt Rd    | \$48,000  |
| 11003 Milburn St       | \$143,000 |
| 31066 Minton St        | \$127,000 |
| 18512 Norwich Rd       | \$127,000 |
| 29643 Nottingham Cir   | \$91,000  |
| 11240 Oxbow St         | \$133,000 |
| 33869 Pondview Cir     | \$69,000  |
| 19980 Rensellor St     | \$22,000  |
| 29104 Saint Martins St | \$177,000 |
| 10051 Seltzer St       | \$132,000 |
| 33245 Summers St       | \$146,000 |
| 35843 W Chicago St     | \$140,000 |

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 16629 Westbrook St | \$265,000 |
| 20335 Whitby Dr    | \$255,000 |

**NORTHVILLE**

|                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| 44584 Aspen Ridge Dr   | \$370,000 |
| 44921 Aspen Ridge Dr   | \$385,000 |
| 16370 Brookwood Ct     | \$286,000 |
| 39491 Champion Ct      | \$223,000 |
| 619 East St            | \$700,000 |
| 17281 Lake View Cir    | \$410,000 |
| 15885 Morningside      | \$155,000 |
| 19605 Neptune Ct       | \$127,000 |
| 18020 W Northville Trl | \$393,000 |
| 41336 Windsor Ct       | \$131,000 |

**PLYMOUTH**

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 304 Blanche St        | \$199,000 |
| 42260 Clemons Dr      | \$243,000 |
| 42569 Five Mile Rd    | \$165,000 |
| 500 Ford St           | \$59,000  |
| 8891 Marlowe Ave      | \$129,000 |
| 40871 Newport Dr      | \$83,000  |
| 48660 Timber Crest Ct | \$375,000 |
| 9669 Winterset Cir    | \$333,000 |

**REDFORD**

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| 26326 Barbara       | \$59,000 |
| 20452 Beech Daly Rd | \$36,000 |
| 9241 Brady Ct       | \$54,000 |
| 16887 Centralia     | \$75,000 |
| 17666 Centralia     | \$76,000 |

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 18846 Delaware Ave | \$63,000  |
| 9575 Dixie         | \$65,000  |
| 15473 Dixie        | \$28,000  |
| 14236 Marshall Dr  | \$184,000 |
| 11430 San Jose     | \$89,000  |
| 9167 Seminole      | \$60,000  |
| 26611 Student      | \$50,000  |
| 17454 Sumner       | \$70,000  |
| 24543 W Chicago    | \$29,000  |
| 15525 Woodbine     | \$51,000  |

**WAYNE**

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 5036 Gloria St        | \$25,000  |
| 7527 Arcola St        | \$100,000 |
| 7660 August Ave       | \$100,000 |
| 32505 Avondale St     | \$106,000 |
| 33405 Bendon Ct       | \$20,000  |
| 33405 Bendon Ct       | \$22,000  |
| 38605 Canyon Dr       | \$116,000 |
| 2116 Ellsworth St     | \$18,000  |
| 34418 Florence St     | \$114,000 |
| 30305 Ledgercliff Ave | \$135,000 |
| 8218 N Grace St       | \$160,000 |
| 37108 Norene St       | \$115,000 |
| 32677 Steinhauer St   | \$75,000  |
| 1598 Surrey Hts       | \$85,000  |
| 7886 Terri Dr         | \$100,000 |
| 7610 Woodview St      | \$37,000  |

### BRIEFS

**Short sales**

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. each Thursday at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Please call the office at

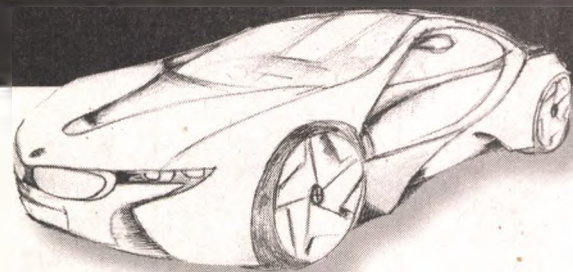
248-782-7130 or email [june.quantum@gmail.com](mailto:june.quantum@gmail.com) for your reservation or additional information.

**Investors**

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 6-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

# Car Report

## Nissan Gets Last Word on Ad as Sales of 2014 Rogue Keep Surging



By Dale Buss

Several weeks ago, Nissan was forced to issue a corporate apology for overwhelming NFL telecasts and other TV shows with the same advertisement for the new version of its Nissan Rogue.

But guess what? February sales results demonstrated that Nissan's blanket-advertising approach for its improved crossover — so annoying to some media pundits and others — was exactly the right strategy.

The crucial new version of Rogue feature better fuel economy, an available third-row seat and more technology features, correcting some of the important deficiencies in the original version that was an overall hit anyway.

Dealers moved this new Rogue at a blistering pace even amid the awful weather of February, and no doubt a good number of buyers had that annoying advertisement

dancing around in their heads.

Nissan Rogue sales increased by 72 percent in February over the year earlier, when the brand was selling an earlier version of the vehicle. Nissan sold more than 17,000 Rogues in the month, making the nameplate the second-highest-volume vehicle in the entire Nissan lineup, by far, after the bread-and-butter Altima sedan.

Including January, Rogue sales of more than 31,000 units for the year-to-date were a whopping 64 percent ahead of a year earlier.

A year ago, Rogue ranked only No. 4 in February sales among all of the company's nameplates. Nissan executed a major upgrade of the vehicle precisely because, as its main entry in the hot compact-crossover market, Rogue carried outsized importance.

In turn, Rogue's sales surge in February was the key to a strong monthly performance by Nissan amid a flat overall market and major shortfalls by several brands, most of which were blamed on the severe winter.

Nissan sales in February rose by 17 percent, and the company overall (including Infiniti) now has replaced American Honda as the No. 5 automaker in the United States, through February. The Nissan brand bumped the Honda brand to become No. 4 behind Ford, Chevrolet and Toyota.

Such results are important baby steps in the surge that Nissan is attempting to engineer for its brand in a challenging U.S. market that may indeed — weather-induced one-offs aside — be slowing down a bit.

And the Rogue's boffo sales performance seems to have justified Nissan's overwhelming the U.S. airwaves about two months ago with the ad — everyone knows it by now — that depicted the new Rogue leaping onto the back of a commuter train to illustrate with hyperbole that it is a fun and capable drive.

At the time, however, it wasn't too pleasant for Nissan to deal with the blowback to the incessant running of that single

commercial.

Typical was this Tweet by Jane Wells, a CNBC Los Angeles reporter: "In a Wells administration, networks can only run the Nissan Rogue ad once an hour."

Soon Nissan was issuing tweets of apology in response to specific individual complaints but with this general tone: "Sorry. We hear you. May have been a little TOO excited about the Rogue. Working w/ networks to show less this wknd. Our bad!"

There's nothing Nissan should apologize for in the vehicle itself. As the "Commute" ad and other advertising for the car amply points out, this is a nimble and more capable new Rogue that Nissan is aiming at an important market segment.

It's also roomier and more flexible inside. One common criticism of the original vehicle, which was introduced just six years ago, was that its 59.7-cubic-foot cargo capacity was relatively modest, even for the compact-SUV segment. The 2014 Rogue has expanded that space to 70 cubic feet, and an innovative "Divide-N-Hide" configurable rear storage system also is available.

Also, the original version of Rogue had a second-row seat that didn't slide or recline. Voila! The 2014 Rogue

does both, with a useful 40/20/40-split configuration to boot. Nissan also has added an optional third-row seat. Edmunds.com pointed out that this was "a particularly shrewd move" given that the competing Toyota RAV4 no longer offers one — without increasing Rogue's overall size or weight.

Under the hood, the new Rogue sports a 28-mpg-combined EPA estimate, even with all-wheel drive. Its 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine generates 170 horsepower. Its softened suspension yields "tepid handling," Edmunds.com opined,



The image seen by (nearly) all of America: the "Commute" ad

compared with the sport and similarly fuel-efficient 2014 Mazda CX-5. And the two-row 2014 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport promises "superior performance and a unique sense of style," Edmunds.com said.

For Nissan, combining its capable new Rogue with January and February sales means never having to say you're sorry ... again.



Nissan greatly improved the 2014 Rogue.

Advertising Features LO-2411868-01

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**'13 MERCEDES BENZ E350 BLUETEC DIESEL**  
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**Sports & Imported**

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**Cadillac**

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**Dodge**

**'12 DODGE CHARGER R/T**  
Leather, moonroof, navigation, only 18,000 miles. \$28,995  
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**DODGE 2009 2500 Sprinter Cargo Van**  
fully equipped w/backup camera & \$8000 custom interior outfit workshop modification. White Exterior Exc. like new condition. New Tires. (248) 655-5555 ONLY 60,000 Miles. one driver truck. lajuni@prnmshealthcare.com

**Ford**

**'08 FORD F-350 XL CREW CAB 4X4**  
Dually, Diesel, one owner, only 62,000 miles. \$25,995  
**Brighton Ford 800-836-7697**

**'08 FORD RANGER SPORT S-CAB 4X4**  
Full power, great car fax. \$17,995  
**Brighton Ford 800-836-7697**

**'09 FORD EDGE LIMITED**  
Certified, one owner, only 5,500 miles. \$17,995  
**Brighton Ford 800-836-7697**

**'12 FORD EDGE LIMITED**  
Certified, moonroof, navigation. \$26,995  
**Brighton Ford 800-836-7697**

**'12 FORD F-150 F4X SUPER CREW 4X4**  
Certified, moonroof, Nav. 5,500 miles. \$39,995  
**Brighton Ford 800-836-7697**

**'12 FORD F150 "Harley Davidson" S CREW 4X4**  
Certified, navigation, only 14,000 miles. \$42,995  
**Brighton Ford 800-836-7697**

**'12 FORD FLEX LIMITED**  
Certified, like new, priced to move. \$26,995  
**Brighton Ford 800-836-7697**

**'12 FORD FUSION SEL**  
Certified, moonroof, 20 to choose one price SALE \$19,995  
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**'13 FORD EXPEDITION EL LIMITED 4X4**  
Certified, navigation, moonroof. \$44,995  
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**'13 FORD EXPLORER XLT**  
Certified, leather, one owner. \$28,995  
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**'14 FORD F-250 XLT CREW CAB 4X4**  
One owner, Full power, like new. \$35,995  
**Brighton Ford 800-836-7697**

**'14 FORD FOCUS ST. HATCHBACK**  
Certified, moonroof, only 6,500 miles. \$24,995  
**Brighton Ford 800-836-7697**

**'14 FORD TAURUS LIMITED**  
Certified, full pwr, 3 to choose as low as \$25,995  
**Brighton Ford 800-836-7697**

**2007 FORD MUSTANG SHELBY GT 500 CONVERTIBLE**  
One owner, full pwr, only 3000 miles. \$35,995  
**Brighton Ford 800-836-7697**

**Kia**

**KIA SEOL 2011**  
Flaming Red power everything, owner treated like baby, super clean, 32 mpg, all service records, \$15,000/best. 734-710-0099. Call after 6p.

**Jeep**

**'13 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE SRT8**  
Moonroof, navigation, one owner. \$54,995  
**Brighton Ford 800-836-7697**

**Lincoln**

**'12 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR 4X4**  
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3 br., 2 bath, well maintained home. Move in ready for only \$29,900. (617) 552-2300 NMLS#275116, #340904 \*Some restrictions may apply!

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**Farmington Hills** - a large 1 br. apt., heat & water free \$550 mo + \$350 sec. 734-710-0099. Please call bet 9-4p.

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Love Hannah, Erika and Dad

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**ESTATE AUCTION**  
Sat., March 15th, 7pm  
Plymouth Cultural Center  
525 Farmer, Plymouth MI  
Antiques & Collectibles  
Furniture, Glassware  
Sports Items, Camera's  
Pinup Girls, Model Cars  
Cash/MD/Visa  
Bank Debit Cards  
No Checks  
Joe Carl,  
Professional Auction Service. 734.451.7444  
jcauctions@comcast.com

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West Highland Christian Academy, 1116 South Hickory  
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9-7pm, Fri., 3/21, 9-3pm.

**Estates Sales**

**Gigantic 7 Bdrm House!**  
Resident of 43 yrs.  
Appl., indoor/outdoor furniture,  
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board, skee ball, pool table,  
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Sett Crescent, Farmington  
Hills, off 91 M. btwn Drake &  
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Proceeds benefit martial artists  
going to World Championship  
(313)937-5700

**Household Goods**

**FURNITURE** - Desk 36x72,  
Oak, by Hon, full size head-  
board, Maple w/2 dressers & 1  
mirror; Bunk bed w/many  
drawers, maple. Call for price  
& details. 734-891-4606

**STUDIO COUCH, 72"**  
w/pull-out Stems & Foster  
mattress included, \$200  
734-266-3024

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**MIXED HARDWOODS**  
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Asking \$400 18HP lawn  
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**ACCOUNT SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE**  
For our new branch  
location in Novi. Candi-  
date must be willing to train  
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needed. He or She must  
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Applicants with previous  
credit union and cash hand-  
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DMCU offers a competitive  
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**CNA/PERSONAL AID**  
for 26 year old male with  
Autism. Must be responsible,  
mature adult. 20 flex. hrs  
\$11/hr. 734-323-2829

**SHORKIE PUPS,**  
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Adorable, parents  
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1st shots. \$350  
Please Call: 517-231-3226

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**Adorable Kittens**  
Call after 6pm  
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14 yrs old, needs good home.  
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Appl., indoor/outdoor furniture,  
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**FURNITURE** - Desk 36x72,  
Oak, by Hon, full size head-  
board, Maple w/2 dressers & 1  
mirror; Bunk bed w/many  
drawers, maple. Call for price  
& details. 734-891-4606

**STUDIO COUCH, 72"**  
w/pull-out Stems & Foster  
mattress included, \$200  
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**Are You Looking For a Rewarding Career In Property Management?**  
Dart Properties II LLC, a full service property management co., is seeking qualified, customer-service oriented individuals to join our team.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

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Applicants must have and maintain a valid Michigan driver's license with an acceptable driving record.

Please visit [www.dartproperties.com](http://www.dartproperties.com) today for a detailed description of these positions and also to apply. (EOE)

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75 New Positions, Now

Operators start \$11.00/hr  
Must have HS Diploma/GED  
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Call Adam for details  
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Established Co. in Brighton  
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needed. He or She must  
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task.  
Applicants with previous  
credit union and cash hand-  
ling experience, above aver-  
age computer knowledge  
and the ability to cross sell  
services preferred. We are  
seeking friendly, enthusias-  
tic, and outgoing people  
who are looking to make a  
difference.  
DMCU offers a competitive  
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Please submit resume with  
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requirements by  
March 25, 2014 to  
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NO PHONE CALLS

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**MUST BE COMPASSIONATE**  
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**CARING, RELIABLE & Dedicated People Needed**  
Helping individuals with disabilities, must have high school diploma/GED, valid driver's license. No exp. needed, full training provided. Start at \$8.50/hr. Full and Part-Time Benefits available. Howell area. Call: 517-376-8747

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Looking for a positive & dedicated, full-time **PRE-K & INFANT TEACHERS** Milford area. Please email resume to: [amandasherman@yahoo.com](mailto:amandasherman@yahoo.com) or call: 248-685-8123

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Full or part time, Mon-Fri. Apply in person: 801 Chestnut, Brighton or call 810-229-5437

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looking for part-time **LABORERS**, possibility for full-time & training for a motivated worker. 517-223-4210

**COOK/UTILITY POSITION**  
Must be reliable, personable, detail oriented. Rotating wkends. Apply in person Mon-Fri. 5am-4pm at: Plymouth Inn Assisted Living, 205 Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI

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Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for **Pay Hearst** Call Mon-Fri 9-5. 734-728-4572 or email [phoneworkinfo@aol.com](mailto:phoneworkinfo@aol.com)

**DRIVERS - CDLA**  
Local deliveries, no touch freight, benefits, 2 yrs. exp. [kymm@jtransport.net](mailto:kymm@jtransport.net)

**DRIVER-Seasonal Part Time**  
Distributor seeking a seasonal part time driver. Must be able to lift 50-lbs. have a chauffeur's license, operate a manual transmission, and operate a truck with a 14' trailer  
**CSI Geoturf**  
Email resume to [Ksergot@geoturf.com](mailto:Ksergot@geoturf.com)

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## Do background check on potential employer

**By Alina Dizik**  
Contributing Writer

Job seekers aren't the only ones who should undergo a lengthy background check; it's important that candidates research the company, too. Anything from pending lawsuits, bankruptcies or layoffs can be enough to raise a red flag. It's important to understand what you're getting into before accepting any position.

Doing background research also will help you ask all the right questions during an interview and impress hiring managers. Not sure where to start when it comes to researching the company?

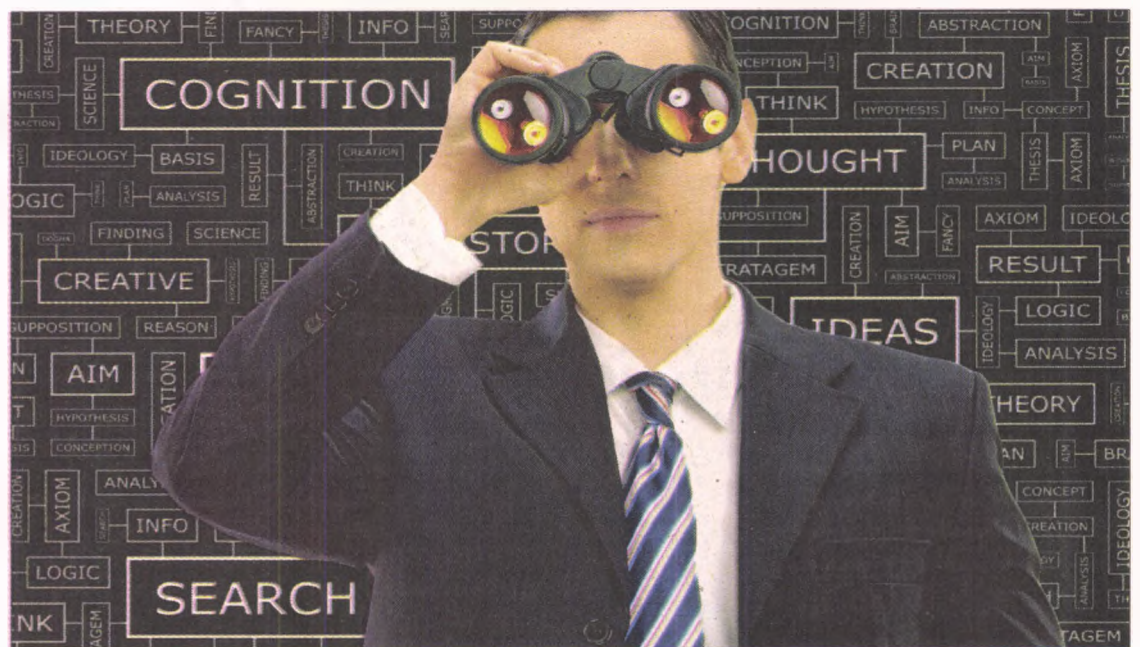
### Here's how to conduct your own background check on a potential employer:

#### Check the finances

"Always look at the financial stability of the company," says Jonny Laurent, vice president

and general manager of Sage Employer Solutions, a recruiting firm. While it may be difficult to find specific information for a private company, it's important to try. Do online research, search local news sources and ask former or current employees -- do some quick digging to make sure your employer is viable. When companies experience important financial events like bankruptcies, there's a greater chance you'll be able to find out about them and track results.

Gauge the company culture Speaking to current or former employees can help you understand whether you're a cultural fit with the company before you take the job. If you're not comfortable with areas of a company's culture, it can hurt your career. For example, a place that prizes cutthroat tactics to get ahead may be the wrong fit for someone who is looking for a team-oriented environment. "Find people in your network or close to your network who



do work or have worked for them and start a dialogue," says Laurent, who suggests LinkedIn as a good start. "Unless there is overwhelming evidence that the company is a bad fit, do not sell the company short and still interview, but now you can interview with open eyes."

### Check its problem-solving record

The way a company approaches problems can be a good indicator of whether you'd want to work there and how the company treats its workforce. Before taking a job, find out "what has been the company's greatest challenge over the past year and how have they approached and solved the problem," says Jayne Mattson, senior vice president of Keystone Associates, a career management company with offices in New England. In a weak economy, it can be especially telling to see how a company has dealt with tough times. For example, if it's been able to grow an area of its business -- and you're being hired for a new position -- it can be a sign of good leadership.

### Track layoffs and career progression

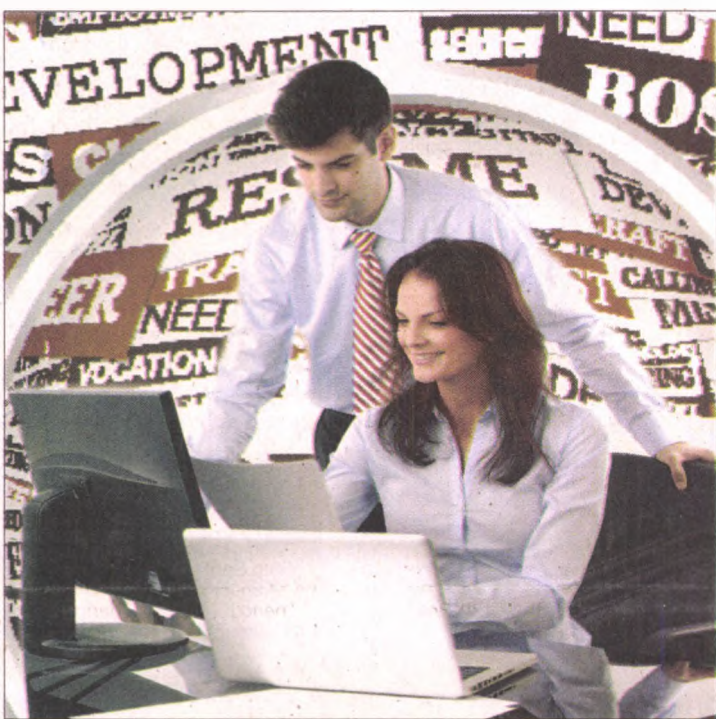
For most people, the biggest fear once they take on a new job is a layoff. And while that risk can't be entirely prevented, it's good to understand a company's track record. If the company has had multiple rounds of layoffs, it pays to be more careful when taking the role.

Additionally, try to find out who had your job previously, why she left and where she went. Knowing your career options after you're ready to move jobs can be a good way to gauge fit.

If you have any lingering questions, don't be afraid to

ask up when talking with the recruiter or during an interview with the company. Not only will it help calm your anxiety, but it'll show hiring managers that you've done your homework and understand the company. A background search "will help you and the company make sure the role is going to be a good fit for both of you," Mattson says. "Ask questions that will get to the heart of what you are trying to understand, so you will make the right career decision."

Alina Dizik researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues for CareerBuilder. Follow @Careerbuilder on Twitter.



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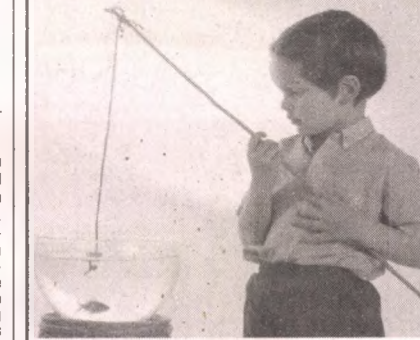
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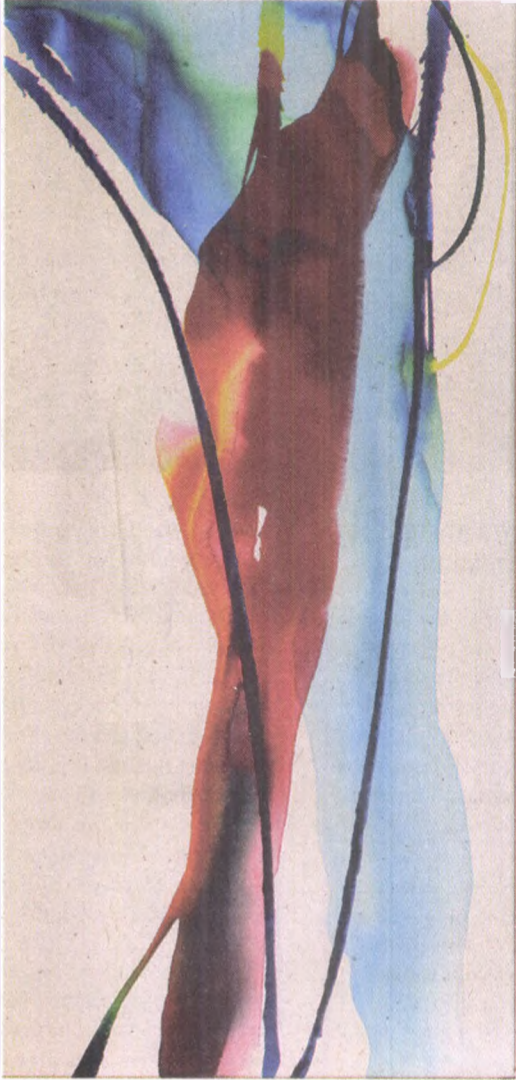
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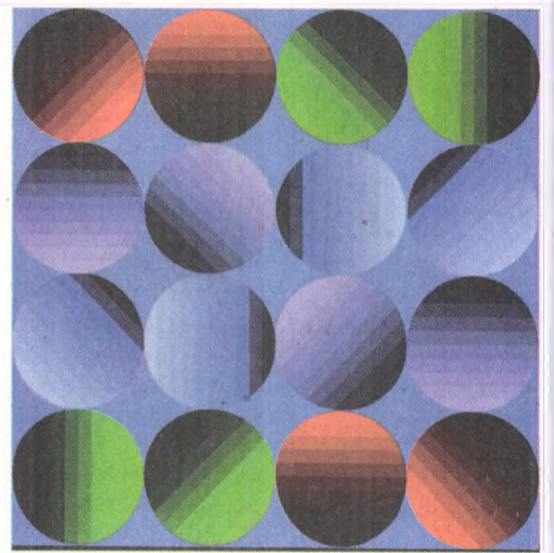
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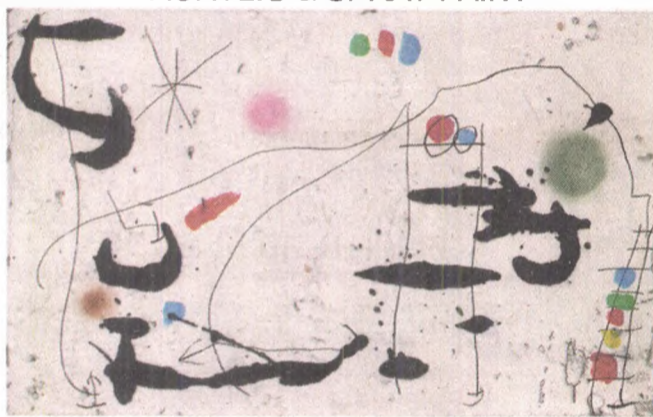
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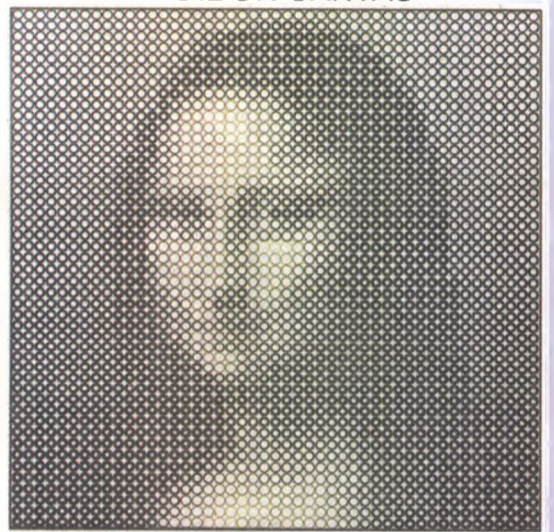
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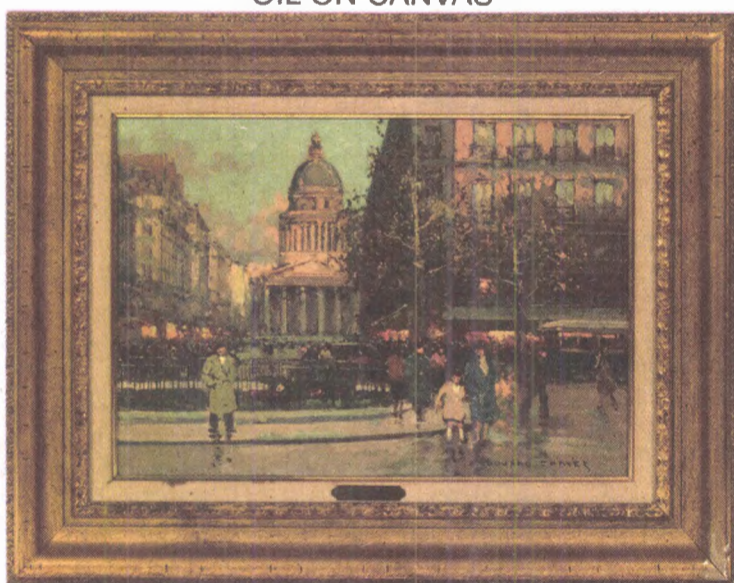
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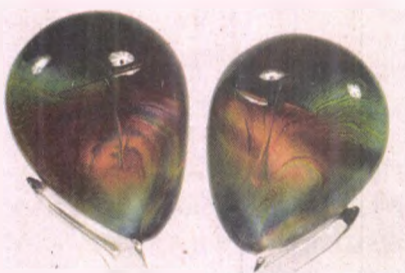
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