THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2014 • hometownlife.com

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Electronics recycling offered

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. Saturday, March 22, at Power Park, 45175 W. 10 Mile, Novi.

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

Last year, RRRA-SOC 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 con-served; 2,849 trees saved; 109,115 plastic bottles recycled; and 485,650 aluminum cans recycled.

Electronic waste makes up about 2 percent of the materials that are placed in landfills.

For more information, visit www.rrrasoc.org or call 248-208-2270.

*****CAR-RT LOT**CO10

PUBLIC LIBRARY

Jennifer Smith credits the school community for her success



Novi School District Teacher of the Year Jennifer Smith (left) is congratulated Monday by her Principal Sue Burnham after getting the award in her

EACHER OF THE YEAR

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

Teacher of the Year is a big individual honor for Village Oaks Elementary School teacher Jennifer Smith, but it's one that she shares with her fellow staff at Novi Community

Schools.
"I'm overwhelmed by this honor," said Smith, a first-grade teacher. "Everyone here gives 110 percent each day, so I feel honored to be recognized. One big reason I'm here and enjoy my job so much is because of

the students, parents, teachers and everyone involved with Novi schools."

The Novi Educational Foundation, with the support of The Suburban Collection, presented the award to Smith on Monday. This partnership has been recognizing Novi teachers for ex-

cellence for the past 11 years. "Outstanding educators like Jennifer Smith are so important to our community," said Bob MacKenzie, general manager of a number of The Suburban Collection dealerships, including Chrysler/Dodge/Jeep/Ram of

Novi. "We are pleased to recognize her achievements and reward her with a new vehicle (free lease) for this coming year. It is our way of saying thank you to the top teacher who make so much of a difference to the children in the communities where we do business.

The other nominees were Angie Southworth, a world language teacher at Novi Middle School, and Don Crocket, an advance placement biology teacher at Novi High School.

"Novi Community Schools is

blessed with so many wonderful, passionate teachers," said Geoff Wood, NEF chairperson. "Every year it is very challeng-ing to pick just one teacher for the Suburban Collection/Novi **Educational Foundation Teacher** of the Year. This award allows us to bring recognition to the high-caliber teaching professionals within Novi Community Schools and the leadership they demonstrate each day in the classroom."

What made Smith stand out is

See TEACHER, Page A2

Molnar to challenge Kowall in GOP primary

So far, no one has filed to run against either Crawford

By Philip Allmen

Crossword Puzzle Education..... Homes Obituaries Sports..... Wheels

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Staff Writer Republican Mike Kowall faces at least one challenger in the Aug. 5 primary election as Republican Ron Molnar of White Lake filed last week for the state

Senate 15th District seat. Kowall, finishing his first term, previously announced his plans seeking re-election. Molnar has not held political office in the past, although he

has run several times. He ran for the state Senate 27th District seat four years ago while living in Genesee County. He also faced Mike Rogers for the U.S. Congress two years ago. He recently moved to White Lake, he said. The 15th District includes western Oakland County.

"We could use some fresh leadership," Molnar said. "I've seen what Gov. (Rick) Snyder has done with the business approach. We can use that. I think



I can serve the district well. We have a long ways to

Molnar, a selfdescribed "Ron Paul Republican" when he ran

against Rogers, said too often politics have gotten in the way of doing what's best for Michigan. He likes Snyder's approach, he said, much

"As far as getting things done and getting people to work together, it's a good way of doing it," he said. "The political way is not a good way to do things. We all need to grow a little bit and

improve.' Milford resident Mike Maddock issued a press release last month stating he was considering a run as a Republican for Kowall's seat. Responding to an

See PRIMARY, Page A2



Novi firefighters work on tamping down a hot spot as they continue efforts to extinguish a fire that destroyed six units of Olde Orchard condos March 12. The fire, which began in the morning, destroyed all six units and slightly injured one female occupant with minor burns. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fire destroys Novi condo building

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

A fire March 12 that left one person slightly injured destroyed a Novi condominium building.

"The fire was called in at approximately 9:36 that morning for reported smoke and fire at 24523 Old Orchard Court, Building 15," said Jeff

See FIRE, Page A2



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TEACHER

Continued from Page A1

her consistency in making every day in the classroom productive and fun. She prides herself on hard work, but said the resources in the school district give her a big boost.

"I try to do my best in everything that I do, but it helps a lot to be in such a great district,"

Her work hasn't gone unnoticed by school leaders, either.

"Visit Jenn Smith's classroom and you will see a teacher and students hard at work,' said Dr. Steve Matthews, superintendent. "She cares for her students, works hard to help them find success and creates a classroom that helps them develop the skills they need. Teachers like Mrs.

"I try to do my best in everything that I do, but it helps a lot to be in such a great district." **JENNIFER SMITH**

Novi teacher of the year

Smith make a tremendous difference in the lives of her students. This recognition is well-deserved."

The process to pick a teacher starts with an application, which is then reviewed by the NEF's Executive Board. It also solicits additional feedback from parents, students and the community and then makes the final deci-

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Students of Village Oaks teacher Jennifer Smith read the good news about her award. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF **PHOTOGRAPHER**

CORRECTION

Last Thursday's editorial headlined "Michigan's lousy roads are just a disgrace" should have stated the amount of revenue derived from the state gasoline tax of 19 cents per gallon levied on each gallon has dropped.

OVI NEWS

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A GANNETT COMPANY

DTE installing solar panels along I-96

By Diane Gale Andreassi Staff Writer

Let it shine. Drivers along I-96 east of Milford Road may have noticed some 3,000 solar panels being installed near Old Plank Road in Lyon Township. It is DTE's biggest solar energy project so far, DTE spokesman Scott Simons said. When the project is complete, it will provide 818 kilowatts of electricity, enough to

power about 150 homes. "It's hard to follow an electron, but they generally follow the path of least resistance and will likely be used by area residents and businesses," he said.

The panels are built on property owned by Milford Tree Farm. Simons said DTE has a 20-year contract with the property owner, which includes an up-front payment and annual payments through the contract. He declined to share specifics on the agreement. The property owner wasn't available for comment.

The \$3.5 million investment in Lyon covers

Novi recognized

leadership

for environmental

The city of Novi has

been recognized for envi-

ronmental leadership as

part of the Michigan

Green Communities

ic development, and

status for exemplary

action in a variety of

categories, including:

» installation of 24

270-watt overhead light

fixture to realize a reduc-

» replacement of Novi

fixtures to a new LED

tion of over 4,000 watts

Civic Center boiler (20-

crease efficiency from

bottle filling stations to

divert thousands of plas-

tic water bottles from

70 percent to 89 percent; » installation of water

plus years old) to in-

of electricity per use;

Challenge, which mea-

sures progress in imple-

environmental improve-

Novi achieved silver

menting energy, econom-



Chris Schear, an electrician for Ranck Electric, helps quide into place one of the 3,000 solar panels that are going up in Lyon Township along I-96 near Old Plank Road. Each panel should be able to generate, at peak wattage, about 700 watts of electricity. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

installation, construction and design. Simons said the project should be completed by May.

Lyon's project is the 19th solar energy plan in southeast Michigan. Others include Ford Assembly in Wayne; Monroe County Community College; Mercy High School in Farmington Hills; and a rooftop installation at Blue Cross Blue Shield in downtown Detroit.

While the location won't produce a tremendous amount of energy compared to traditional

energy producers, like the Fermi nuclear plant that puts off 1,100 megawatts, it is a step in making headway in alternative methods, Simons said, adding that this is DTE Energy's largest solar energy project in the state.

The state Legislature has mandated DTE and other energy companies reach a 10-percent renewable energy goal by 2015. The Lyon solar energy is "eight-10ths of the total needed," Simons said.

More solar renewal

projects are on the way and at least one will be bigger than the Lyon solar site, he added.

The Lyon solar project has a lot of visibility on the north side of Interstate 96, west of Old Plank Road. Letting the public know the company is committed to renewable energy production is key, Simons said. DTE started its solar initiative in 2009.

The location is good, because "it gets a lot of sun, we had an interested property owner and it has high visibility, so people know we are involved with renewal energy," he said.

Most DTE solar energy partners are with large organizations.

'Less than a handful are with individuals," Simons said. "We aren't really looking for partners, but if people think they have a rooftop or adequate amount of ground to host a solar energy project, we are more than willing to hear from them.'

dandreassi@hometownlife.com 248-437-2011, ext. 262

UPDATES FROM CITY OF NOVI

landfills;

» investment in motion sensing lighting to reduce the amount of wasted electricity from lights being left on for long unoccupied periods of time; and » incorporating recy-

cled-content building materials into projects including carpet, furniture, and tile.

The Michigan Green Communities Challenge, launched in 2009, emphasizes energy-efficiency projects in an effort to help local governments prepare for and make the best use of federal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant funds. It is supported by the Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan **Economic Development** Corp. Energy Office, Michigan Municipal League and Michigan Townships Association.

The city of Novi offers

opportunities for citizens to participate in environmentally friendly annual events, including Arbor Day, River Day, Earth Day and more. To learn more about "green" practices, visit www.cityofnovi.org and click on the Novi Goes Green icon.

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 Thea-This cultural and en-

tertaining 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 accepted 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 Broth-

For more information about the On the Road event, visit www.novilibrary.org or call 248-349-0720.

Tech Talk classes

City of Novi Older Adult Services is of-

See UPDATES, Page A3

The Novi Fire Department responds to a blaze at Novi's Olde Orchard Condos. JOHN

FIRE

Continued from Page A1

Johnson, Novi's Fire Operations/EMS direc-

According to Johnson, a six-unit condo was involved. He said Novi Fire and Police crews evacuated all tenants and began attacking the

"One female was transported with what's believed to be minor

burns to Providence Park Novi," Johnson

Emergency crews got the fire under control, but it appears that the building is destroyed.

Johnson said the fire marshal and Oakland County Sheriff Fire Investigation unit will look for a cause, but the preliminary cause looks to be a candle.

The Farmington Hills Fire Department assisted, while the Northville

City Fire Department was called to help cover Novi with other emergency calls.

"At this point, all six units are displaced and we are working with the condo management to relocate them," Johnson

Two families required assistance from the Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

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PRIMARY

Continued from Page A1

email last week, Maddock didn't indicate if he's made any further plans for the race. In the state House

38th District campaign, Oakland County Commissioner Kainy Crawford of Novi filed to succeed Hugh Crawford, her husband, who currently serves in the position. No one else has filed for that seat. The district includes Novi, among oth-

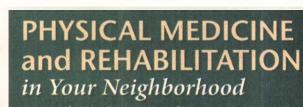
For the county commission, no one has filed against Hugh Crawford for the Novi seat his wife currently holds.

Candidates must file no later than April 22 to run on the partisan ballot. Locally, the winner of the August primary typically wins the Nov. 4 general election on Nov.

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Rehabilitation

Library program highlights women's league

Staff Writer

Betty Ruth Yahr, who died in 2010 at age 87, played right field for the Rockford Peaches in 1946, part of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League.

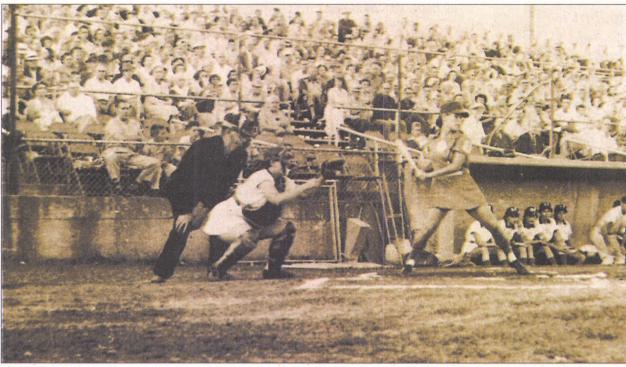
Yahr was interviewed for Canton's Township local access cable channel in the 1990s by historian Virginia Bailey Parker, a Canton resident.

'She was just delightful," Parker said. Parker had earlier been at the home of Terry Bennett, Canton Township clerk, and discovered Yahr was Bennett's aunt.

"I got all excited because that was one of the teams featured in A League of Their Own," Parker said.

Parker will share Yahr's story at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, in a Novi Public Library program, "Summer at the Ball Park: The Story of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League.'

Yahr grew up in Ann Arbor and played ama-



This photo shows a Grand Rapids home game. CAROL SHELDON COLLECTION

teur ball there. Her sports career began on the sandlots of Ann Arbor and through high school as a member of the Girls Athletic Club. She graduated from high school in

Her scouting report, contract, pay stubs, baseball glove and team hat, along with other memorabilia, were donated to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y. These items are in

the museum and library

After professional ball, she played for a local semi-pro team, Dad's Root Beer, and continued coaching and playing recreational ball.

Parker's presentation at the Novi library will cover the AAGPBL and the history of women's baseball in general. "Then I'm going to share some of Betty's stories,' she said.

Parker will share oral history suggestions for listeners' own families.

'I did a lot of studying about the baseball league," she said, adding that became easier with Internet advances, including a website for the league.

'These women were pioneers. They carved out a place for women in sports history," Parker

said. The league ran 1943-54 and was strong in the Midwest, with teams in Grand Rapids, Muskegon

and Kalamazoo. Parker is an awardwinning author, oral historian, speaker and writing coach. She has written three books, has been a columnist, newsletter editor for professional organizations and a freelance writer. She served on the Michigan Oral **History Association** Board of Directors for 10

years. Call 248-349-0720 or visit the library website at www.novilibrary.org for reservations.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

UPDATES

Continued from Page A2

fering 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 cityonovi.org or in person at the Older Adult Services office inside the civic center.

Upcoming topics include

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 Cafe offers the opportunity to gain valuable information, free of charge. Once a month, on Thursdays, the cafe is open to adults 50 and older to play games, investigate new websites and learn from others. Refreshments are provided. The Bits and Bytes Cafe is located at the Meadowbrook Activity Center, 25075 Meadowbrook Road. The cafe 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 Cafe, contact Older Adult Services at 248-347-0414. To learn more about other classes for adults 50 and older, visit cityofnovi.org.

To learn more about what's happening in Novi, visit 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

doors For more information about the Cassell and Associates show, call the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services De-

in Michigan's great out-

partment at 248-347-

Pistol safety class

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

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

After lunch, participants will move to the Novi Firearms Training Center to complete the course. Students must bring their own equipment, including a personal handgun, 100 rounds of ammunition, safety glasses, shooter's earmuffs or ear plugs, a pen or pencil, a baseball cap, and wear loose comfortable clothing to participate in the course. Participants must be 21 years old and do not have to be a Novi resident to attend.

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

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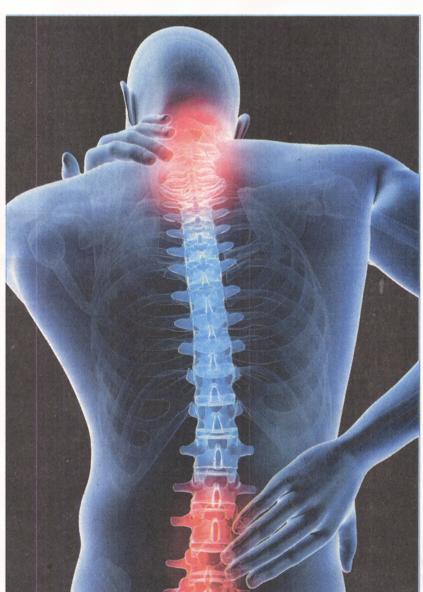
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District's diversity is one of its strengths

hat's it like to be different? I have been fortunate my whole life. I am not truly different. I look and sound pretty normal. I look and sound like a majority of the people around me. The only thing about me that is different is my walk. When I walk, I limp

It wasn't always this way. Up through fifth grade, I walked just fine - no limp at

Between the summer of my fifth grade and my sixth grade years, I developed a pain in my right hip. Initially, I was told it was just growing pains. Then I was diagnosed with a deep bone bruise. I was instructed to take three hot baths a day. So for the next six weeks, I was the cleanest kid on my block.

Still the pain persisted. A visit to a different doctor



Steve Matthews SUPER

finally identified the problem - Legg Perthes disease. My hip had stopped growing. Instead, it was starting to weaken. The "cure" was to keep all the weight off of my hip until it started growing

For two years, I wore a plastic and metal brace. Finally, I was told I was all right - but in truth, I was not.

When I received the OK to ditch the brace, I discovered that my right leg was now smaller than my left; it was shorter and weaker. Consequently, I limped. Oh, there have been attempts to correct my limp. They shortened my other leg. They operated to lengthen muscles. I've replaced my right hip three times. Still, I limp.

This was how I have been different. In truth, it has been such a small thing. I limped. Big deal.

But at various times in my life, it was a big deal. I was different than other people. In middle school, "friends" laughed at me. Instead of being chosen to be on teams, I was now one of the kids who was left out. In high school, my PE teacher pointed out to me that I ran "funny." Being different became something that I didn't want

Yet, through it all, there were those people in my life that helped me gain perspective. They took time to treat me like I mattered. They asked me to participate. They mentored me. They valued me for who I was and did not discount me because I was the kid who limped.

We are trying to create a district that values people for who they are and does not discount them because of what they look like or what they sound like. We call this our social justice effort. It is a mission in our district to ensure that every individual has a voice and that every individual is valued.

We have been at this work for a long time, but with intensity for the past three years. We have provided training to our administrators and teachers. We have provided training for our secretaries, food service workers and bus drivers.

We want all staff to understand the importance of and have skills in building positive relationships with students and responding to all students' voices. Every

student deserves to be in a place that has adults who value them and treats them like they matter.

There will be times when we fail; when we do or say something that communicates the opposite of what we say we are trying to do. When that happens, let us know. We want to get better. We want to be a place where all students feel important,

valued and recognized. Our diversity - the way we are different – is a strength in this district. We want it to continue to be so. In order to do that, we are working to help everyone who is a part of our district develop the skills they need listen, advocate, and understand.

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

Novi inducts 64 into **National Honor Society**

At total of 64 students from Novi High School were inducted into membership of the National Honor Society in a ceremony held at the school March 10. Members were selected by a Faculty Council for meeting high standards of scholarship, service, leadership and charac-

Vidhi Bamzai, a 2008 Novi High School graduate and former member of Novi's National Honor Society, was the keynote speaker. After graduating from U-M, Vidhi starting teaching in a Detroit elementary school with the Teach for America program. Her speech emphasized the importance of social justice and helping those in need.

"National Honor Society members are chosen for and then expected to continue expected to continue their exemplary contri-butions to the school and community," said Barbara Clift, chapter adviser. "They are the leaders in the school who display honesty, integrity, compassion and scholarship."

The Novi High School Chapter has been active since 1968.

The National Honor Society ranks as one of the oldest and most prestigious organizations for high school students. Chapters exist in more than 60 percent of the nation's high schools and, since 1921, millions of students have been selected for membership.

Slave or factory worker? Novi district stops asking student essay question

By Cal Stone Staff Writer

"Explain whether you would have preferred to have been a slave or a factory worker in the pre-Civil War era."

That essay question will no longer be asked of Novi Middle School students after a mother complained to the district that her daughter was upset by her classmates' answers.

In an online story posted by WWJ, Tina James said that her daughter was offended because the "majority of the class felt that they would rather be a slave than to be a factory worker. And she was just extremely confused by that, knowing what

slaves went through, she couldn't understand why anyone would choose that."

The students' ratio-nale, according to James, was that slaves had free housing, food and protection. But she and her daughter argue that those things were not

James met with Stephanie Schriner, the school principal, without satisfaction. She then emailed Dr. Steve Matthews, the district's superintendent.

"I spoke to my middle school principal, my assistant superintendent for academics and my director of student growth about this question," Matthews said. "That is when I discovered that this was part of

an Argumentative Writing Assessment." There were three

questions: 1. Explain why Andrew Jackson was a good

or a bad president. 2. Explain whether you would have preferred to have been a slave or a factory worker in the pre-Civil War

3. Explain whether the benefits of Manifest Destiny outweighed its negative consequences.

'Question 2 was taken from the Michigan Content Expectations for eighth-grade social studies, which state students should be able to explain the differences in the lives of free blacks (including those who escaped slavery) with the lives of free whites and enslaved peoples," Matthews said.

After learning that this question was being asked, he made the decision to remove it from this assessment.

"In my opinion, the word 'preferred' is prob-lematic," Matthews said. "No one would prefer to be a slave. No one would prefer to be a factory worker in the pre-Civil War era. However, asking students to compare those two stations in life is not appropriate."

Matthews says the teachers at the middle school are committed educators who were attempting to get stu-dents to think. They understood that slavery was awful and were not making a value judgment, but rather were attempting to help students explore life in pre-Civil War America.

"Slavery is a horrible, degrading institution,' Matthews said. "People were owned like cattle or other possessions. We need to help students understand the institution of slavery and its horrible, often lifethreatening, aspects. Factory workers clearly endured some extremely negative environments, but they were in no way commensurate with or equal to slavery.

Matthews said the district will be reviewing how to address the issue of slavery to make sure to underscore its brutality and its inhumane treatment of African Americans.

School district schedules bond information meetings

The Novi Community School District is asking voters to consider a \$70.9 million bond proposal May 6. The bond proposal results in no increase in the current millage rate. The bond focuses on sustaining the district's capital assets to provide the highest quality educational experi-

ence for its students. The community is invited to meetings where information about the proposed bond will be discussed. All meetings listed are open to

the community:

March 19, 10:15 a.m.,

Novi Public Library, Coffee with the Superintendent

March 19, 6 p.m.,

Parkview Elementary School, PTO meeting

March 20, 6:30 p.m., Novi Meadows Elementary School, PTO meet-

ing March 21, 9 a.m., Deerfield Elementary School, DCC meeting March 24, 7 p.m., Vil-

lage Oaks Elementary School, PTO meeting March 25, 10 a.m., **Educational Services**

Building March 25, 7 p.m., Novi Woods Elementary School, PTO meeting

March 26, 10 a.m., Orchard Hills Elementary School, PTO meet-

April 2, 9 a.m., Novi High School, Parent Council meeting

Jeffrey Jaghab, D.D.S.

April 14, 7 p.m., Novi High School-Fine Arts Wing, Band Boosters meeting

April 16, 6:30 p.m., Novi High School-Room 160, Athletic Boosters meeting April 21, 6:30 p.m.,

Novi Public Library, Coffee with the Superintendent

April 22, 7 p.m., Village Oaks Elementary School, Media Center

April 23, 10:15 a.m., Novi Public Library, Coffee with the Superintendent

April 23, 7 p.m., Novi Middle School, Media Center

April 29, time and location to be deter-





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NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS



Novi Woods students applaud the start of Milk and Cookies Night as the school held a session of storybook readings to kick off March is Reading Month. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Milk and **Cookies Night**

Susan LaRue (left) and Mayumi Naruse take turns March 13 reading a story in Japanese and English during the kickoff to March is Reading Month at Novi Woods. On that night, the school had its annual Milk and Cookies Night, featuring lots of story readings in various rooms, kids already in the pajamas and, of course, milk and cookies.

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 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 Pro-

ject. 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.

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. 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 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.

Preschool registration beginning

Novi Community Education Preschool has begun registration for new students for 2014-15.

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, by

looking under Community Education and scroll-

ing 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.

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 win-

ner 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. 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 Excel-

For more information, visit www.wlcsd.org/ foundation.cfmor contact 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.novi educationalfoundation. org/2014-green-gala.

Novi company helps famlies save on college costs

Novi-based Michigan College Funding LLC will host a free workshop on funding college education 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, at the Farmington Community Library.

The speaker will be Robert Hoger, certified college planning specialist with Michigan College Funding LLC, will be discussing such topics as how to send your kids to the school of their dreams without going broke; how to increase your eligibility for aid; how to find scholarships and grants.

Admission is free but seating is limited by the size of the room, so please call 248-662-1300 to reserve your seats now.



Educators' plan: More dollars in classrooms without raising taxes

By Karen Smith Staff Writer

A coalition of superintendents, school leaders, parents and other public school advocates is proposing an alternative school funding plan it says will put more money in K-12 classrooms without raising taxes.

The "Classrooms and Kids" budget, as it is called, builds on Gov. Rick Snyder's recent budget proposal by reducing or eliminating \$186.2 million in line-item categorical programs in the School Aid Fund to help provide an additional \$167 per student in base funding.

The categorical items are mostly programs that reward performance and the adoption of costeffective practices but also include some special programs.

The proposal would also require an extra \$88 million above Snyder's budget, with \$34 million coming from the budget surplus and \$54 million from the general fund.

This is the first time in years a large segment of the educational community has come together to proactively offer an alternative to the governor's proposal.

It is supported by the Michigan Association of School Boards, the Michigan Association of School Administrators, the Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators, the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals and the Tri-County Alliance for Public Edu-

"The 'Classrooms and Kids' budget recognizes that districts have various needs they need to address to support their students," Livonia Public Schools Superintendent Randy Liepa said. "This is a budget for our schools that is supported

NOVI'S CHIEF RESPONDS

Dr. Steve Matthews, superintendent of the **Novi Community School** District, offered the following response to this initiative.

'This proposal provides districts with flexibility. Instead of giving money with strings attached, it allows districts to make decisions that are best for the students in our district.

"As we review this proposal, it would have very little impact to us financially. However, we would not have to jump through hoops to receive state aid. Some categoricals - money designated for specific purposes that we currently receive - would be rolled into our perpupil allocation.

"In my opinion, this proposal makes sense. Continue to hold us accountability, but let the districts identify how to wisely invest our state aid to benefit our students.

by virtually everyone in education because it was created by those of us on the frontlines of education who see the needs of our children."

Darryle Buchanan, former president of the Southfield school board, said while the governor's proposal is a step in the right direction, the 'Classrooms and Kids' budget better meets districts' needs. "School boards across the state have a pulse on the needs of our schools and the outcomes expected by our communities and this budget allows us to address those needs," he

The plan was announced Feb. 27 during a press conference at the

state capitol. State Rep. John Walsh (R-Livonia), speaker pro tem, said he plans to meet the first week in April with Liepa to learn the details of the plan. He said while he likes the governor's budget proposal, he also likes the concept of using categoricals. "I think we can definitely do something there," he said.

Flexibility, stability

Liepa said the "Classrooms and Kids" budget proposal would provide an infusion of additional dollars into local schools, while also giving districts the flexibility to use the money to best meet their needs and providing stability to maintain programs from year to year.

Here's how it would work: Snyder proposed a per-pupil increase of \$111 for minimum foundation districts and an \$83 increase for districts above the minimum foundation. The "Classrooms and Kids" budget would add and additional \$167 per pupil for all districts, plus an additional \$13 per-pupil equity payment for minimum foundation districts.

That would bring the total per-pupil increase to between \$250 and \$291.

That increase would be off-set in some districts by a loss of revenue in categoricals. For example, Livonia Public Schools would lose about \$52 for each student from the elimination of the best practices grants.

Still, the 'Classrooms and Kids' proposal would put an additional \$1 million into LPS' coffers next school year over and above the \$1.2 million Snyder's budget would provide. That's almost enough to make up for the \$2.4 million projected revenue loss from an expected enrollment decline of 300 students.

Not a 'windfall' for districts

'This isn't a big windfall for school districts across the state; we're just trying to maintain existing programs," Liepa said.

The proposal is not a complete redo of the state's school funding model, he said, which would take a lot more time than the approximate two months left before the state adopts its budget for fiscal year 2015, which begins Oct. 1. "But it's a great start to get back into reinvesting dollars into the educational system," he said.

Over the past five years, LPS' foundation grant has been reduced by about \$500, Liepa said: "The 'Classrooms and Kids' proposal really does provide an infusion of funds into the schools that we haven't seen in quite some time."

The foundation grants provide more funding stability and flexibility than categoricals, he

Categoricals that would be reduced or eliminated include grants for best practices in management, \$80 million; grants for high academic achievement, \$46.4 million; and the Michigan Virtual University, \$9.38 million.

Liepa, who's vice president of the Tri-County Alliance for Public Education and on the legislative council of the Michigan Association of School Administrators representing metro Detroit districts, said the categoricals are those that "either restrict school districts or don't touch a lot of students." Left intact would be categoricals affecting special education and at-risk students, for example.

He said most districts are already following best practices in management in order to balance their budgets, and that categorical has been reduced over the years,

minimizing the incentive. He said the requested \$34 million is about 3 percent of the state's nearly \$1 billion budget surplus and the \$54 million is what the Legislature approved over and above the governor's budget proposal last year.

The reception to the plan has been good so far, he said. A recent EPIC-MRA poll showed 38 percent of 600 Michigan residents supports having the state budget surplus go to K-12 schools, compared with 36 percent for roads and 11 percent for an income tax cut.

Assessment: 'Classrooms and Kids' proposal 'simple' and 'doable'

Livonia Public Schools Superintendent Randy Liepa, who is vice president of the Tri-County Alliance for Public Education and on the legislative council of the Michigan Association of School Administrators representing metro Detroit districts, answered the following questions about the "Classrooms and Kids" school funding proposal:

How can taxpayers be assured the additional money translates into more learn-

One key point, we are not asking for additional funding from taxpayers or new revenue streams. The proposal is based on the governor's budget and available state funds. Second, as most school districts have experienced declining revenues in recent years, they have implemented tough budget reductions. This proposed increase in the foundation allowance will allow them to maintain and return staff positions and provide other direct resources that will go directly to students, which impacts student learning.

What kind of things can the additional money be spent on?

One of the benefits of the proposal is that it provides flexibility for local districts to utilize the funds as they see their highest priorities, leaving these important decisions to local school decision makers. In one district, they may need to upgrade their science curriculum, while another district may want to reduce class size. Every district has different needs and this proposal keeps the decisions where they need to be, at the local level so these specific needs can be met.

Does the \$250 to \$291 per-pupil increase bring districts back up to where they were before the state instituted cuts with the new administration?

No, but it is a move in the right direction. School leaders appreciate the governor's budget proposal, which begins to move in the direction of restoring this funding, and our proposal takes it one step further.

Is this a band-aid solution to help get districts through the next year or the basis for a more comprehensive school funding plan for the future?

It is an improvement on the current funding system for next year, based on the governor's

proposed budget. There is not time for a comprehensive overhaul of the school funding system prior to this year's budget being finalized. It is based on the governor's budget as the starting point, utilizing existing available funding to provide the first significant improvement in school funding in some

Does the MEA support this plan? If not, why not?

The MEA would rather see a comprehensive school reform plan. While we respect their thoughts, this will not occur by May when the state budgets are typically finalized. Our plan can be accomplished by then as it is based on the governor's budget proposal and it provides the first real increase in discretionary funding in some time, which we believe teachers across the state will welcome.

What are the chances this proposal will be approved?

We believe it makes great sense, so we feel there is a very good chance it will be successful. It provides lawmakers with an opportunity to increase funding for local schools for the first time in a significant way in several years. It does so without increasing taxes or finding an alternative revenue stream. It provides local school districts with more flexibility in utilizing their funds and more stability by reallocating funds from categorical funding areas, which aren't always stable. It meets the request of Michigan citizens, who have said K-12 funding is a priority (EPIC-MRA poll within last month says Michigan citizens want to see state budget surplus utilized for schools No. 1, well ahead of tax cuts). It is simple and doable. It is a win-win on many fronts.

What kind of response have you gotten from local legisla-

It is just being laid out for them, but there are so many positive aspects to the plan, we expect that it will be well-received. We also believe that legislators will appreciate a proactive proposal from the school community and it will have even more credibility based on the wide range of school organizations that support the proposal from across the entire state, a coalition not seen for a school funding proposal directly related to an upcoming budget.





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NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT RENOVATIONS TO INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER **BID PACK #7-SUMMER 2014** 141546

SECTION 00020 - ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Novi Community School District (NCSD) will receive bids for:

Renovations to Instructional Technology Center Bid Pack #7 - Summer 2014

Until 2:00 p.m., local time, Thursday, April 17, 2014 in the NCSD Administration Building, 25345 Taft Road, Novi, MI 48374 at which time, and place, all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Board room. Bids received after the above stipulated date and time will not be opened, considered or accepted.

Bid documents can be purchased at the offices of Dunn Blue, 1009 W. Maple Road, Clawson, MI 48107 beginning March 24, 2014.

Bid documents will be available to view from the PlanWell Enterprise System on-line by accessing the website at www.dunnblue.com. clicking on "Enter Planroom" then clicking on

Prospective bidders are strongly encouraged to attend a Pre-Bid Meeting scheduled for Friday, April 4, 2014 at 2:00 pm at the site located at 25299 Taft Road, Novi, MI 48374.

Prospective bidders must meet the following minimum requirements in order to submit a proposal:

• Must be an established Contractor in Michigan for a minimum of five (5) years

 Have successfully completed a minimum of 3 similar projects within the past five (5) years. • Must be technically and financially capable to execute a project of size and complexity

• Must be able to provide business and liability insurance, performance and payment bond for work required by the Bid Documents

All bids must be submitted on forms furnished in the Contract Documents and be accompanied by a bidder's bond or a certified or cashier's check payable to Novi Community School District for the sum of not less than five (5%) of the bid amount. All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the Owner (bidder) or any employee of the bidder and any member of the NCSD School Board, Administration or Staff. Bids received without a bidder's bond, certified or cashier's check, and a sworn and notarized statement of disclosure WILL BE GROUNDS FOR REJECTION.

Novi Community School District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, to waive any irregularities therein and accept that bid, which best serves Novi Community School District interest.

Publish: March 20, 2014

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How to do your federal taxes for free

Looking to save money and time when it comes to your taxes? There's a simple way to do your federal taxes and it's all free. The program, called "Free File," does the hard work for you, either through brand-name software or online forms. And it's available only at IRS.gov.

A simple way to cut fees

Free File is offered through the Internal Revenue Service by 14 of the nation's leading tax software manufacturers. Nearly 40 million people have used this helpful program and, using the most conservative estimate, they've saved \$1.2 billion in fees.

It's available 24/7, giving you the freedom to decide when and how to do vour federal taxes. Plus, the software is user-friendly, offering a

familiar Q&A format and the freedom to complete vour return at your own pace.

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Here's how you start: » Go to www.irs.gov/

» If your income was \$58,000 or less, select the "Start Free File Now" button.

» Each of the 14 participating companies has a special offer.

» Review the company offers or use the "help me find Free File software" tool.

» Select your tax software that matches your situation.

» Leave IRS.gov and go to the company's site to begin your taxes.

If your income was more than \$58,000, you can use Free File Fillable Forms, the electronic version of IRS paper forms. Just select the "Free File Fillable Forms" button at

www.irs.gov/freefile. This version is best if vou are comfortable preparing your own tax return with more limited help.

Remember to always use e-file to file your returns electronically. You'll get your refund faster when you combine e-file and direct deposit.

Use self-help options on IRS.gov

Free File is just one of many self-help options available at IRSgov. Wondering about vour refund? Just select "Where's My Refund" to track the status of your refund and get a personalized refund date.

Have a tax law question? Visit the Interactive Tax Assistant, IRS Tax Map or Tax Trails. You also can find payment options and request an installment payment agreement online. You can even

order a summary of a previous tax return. When you have questions, make IRS.gov your first stop.

Materials needed to get started

Keep this as a checklist of the items you will need to file your return. The IRS recommends keeping all tax-related documents for three years, in case of an audit. Tracking incomerelated documents can help you take full advantage of deductions available to you.

» A copy of last year's tax return

» Valid Social Security numbers for yourself, spouse and chil-

» All income statements, i.e. W-2 forms from all employers

» Interest/dividend statements, i.e. 1099

» Form 1099-G showing any state refunds

» Unemployment compensation amount » Social Security

benefits

» Expense receipts for deductions » Day care provider's

identifying number Volunteer income

tax assistance There are 13,000 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance sites nationwide that offer free help to people earning \$52,000 or less. Search "VITA" on IRS.gov for a nearby site.

Tax Counseling for the Elderly, which is operated by AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, offers free help all with priority assistance to people who are age 60 and older. Find a Tax-Aide site at AARP.org or call 888-227-7660. Some VITA/TCE sites even offer Free File.

> - Courtesy of **Family Features**

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Drunken driving

A Southgate woman was arrested for drunken driving after Novi Police stopped her for erratic driv-

The Novi Police reported March 2 the woman was driving along Grand River Avenue when she was spotted swerving and making a right-hand turn from the middle lane without using her signal. The police reported smelling intoxicants on the woman and asked her to perform field sobriety tests, which she had trouble doing while losing her balance several times.

She was cited for OWI after registering 0.14 percent blood-alcohol content on the breathalyzer test.

Cellphone stolen

An employee of Bar Louie in Novi reported her iPhone 5s stolen from the bar by an unknown person.

The reported theft happened March 16. The woman wasn't 100-percent sure as to where she set it on the bar, but after looking for it she could not locate it and suspected it was stolen. The phone was turned off and it did not have a tracking application on it, so it is still missing.

Drunken swerving

West Bloomfield woman was arrested for OWI or drunken driving March 15 after she was observed swerving in her lane of

According to the police report, Novi Police stopped the woman at 12 Mile and Novi roads after they spotted her driving erratically. The woman said she had two drinks and was trying to program her GPS when she swerved. She reportedly nearly fell over twice during the field sobriety tests.

Her blood-alcohol content was a 0.131 percent.

- By Lonnie Huhman

Driver flees police at 100 mph

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

The chase for a drunken driver started in Novi and ended in Ypsilanti early Monday morning with a 38-yearold man being arrested for OWI, fleeing and eluding and a suspended license.

According to Novi Detective Sgt. Scott Baetens, around 2:40 a.m. the driver was clocked going 87 mph along westbound I-96 when Novi Police spotted him. He was then pulled over and during the stop the police asked the man, the lone occupant, to exit his vehicle.

"He then rolled up his window and fled," Baetens

Initially, the driver got up to a 100 mph, but as the chase ensued he slowed down to as low as 30 mph. However, he wouldn't stop. The pursuit crossed jurisdictional lines and Novi called for assistance from the Michigan State Police, as well as the Livingston County and Washtenaw County Sheriff depart-

The driver took southbound US-23 toward Ann Arbor as he was being pursued by MSP. Police were able to set up stop sticks, which blew out a tire or two; however, he continued to flee even while driving on the vehicle's rims.

He eventually made it to the Michigan Avenue exit and to his home on Wingate Boulevard in Ypsilanti.

It was there the nearly 30-mile chase ended with police detaining him.

Not only was the man reportedly drunk, but he was driving on a two-time suspended license. He has been arraigned on those charges, as well as for the fleeing and eluding.

Ihuhman@hometownlife.com

Spring road restrictions applied

The Road Commission for Oakland County began applying seasonal spring weight restrictions Wednesday to its non-all-weather roads. The restrictions limit the amount of weight trucks can carry on the roads and are intended to minimize damage to the roads while the ground under the roads is thawing.

Normal roads (35-percent reduction in load required) in the Novi area include 14 Mile (east of Decker to Haggerty) and Napier (south of 12 Mile to Eight Mile). Designated roads (25-percent weight restriction) in the Novi area include Eight Mile (Napier east to Taft Road); 10 Mile (Napier Road east to Haggerty); and Haggerty (Eight Mile north to 14 Mile).

Anyone wanting an update on the status of the weight restrictions can call RCOC's weight restrictions hotline at 248-858-4765.

Each spring, in accordance with state law, RCOC reduces

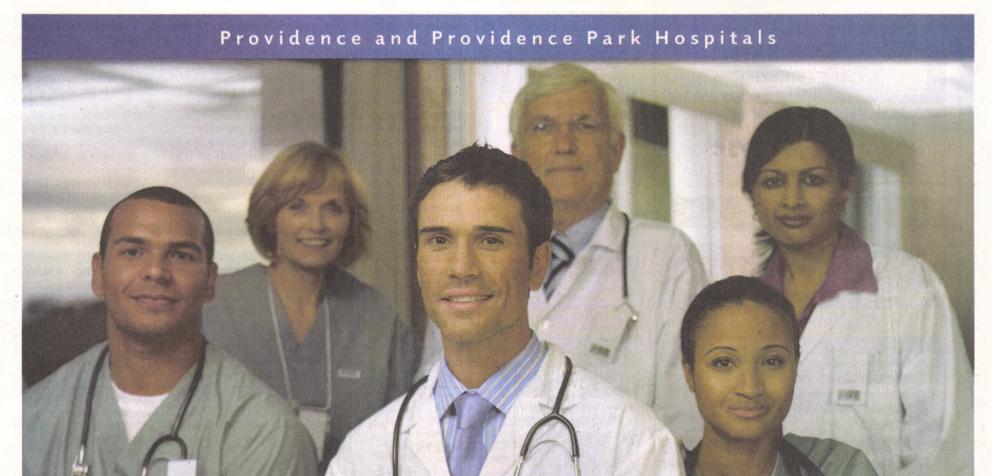
the weight limits on its non-allweather roads as temperatures begin to rise and the ground begins to thaw.

The restrictions do not affect passenger vehicles, but apply to commercial trucks.

Weight restrictions are enforced by weighmasters employed by the Road Commission, the state, local communities or the Sheriff's Department. Violation of the weight restrictions can result in a citation and fine.

A "truck operators' map" is available from the Road Commission that shows which roads have weight restrictions. The map is available by calling RCOC's Customer Services Department at 248-858-4835 or by visiting the department's offices at the RCOC facility at 2420 Pontiac Lake Road in Waterford Township.

The map is also available on RCOC's web page at www.rcoc web.org, and listings of roads are posted on the website.



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Novi director's film finished and off to festivals

Michigan feature film Papou was, after almost a year and a half of production, completed March 14. A recipient of Michigan's Film and Digital Media Incentive, Papou has been entirely produced in Michigan by state natives Michael Angelo Zervos, Christos Moisides and Michael

Papou stars Greek actor Yorgo Voyagis (Zorba the Greek, Borne Identity) and local Michigan actor Evan Kole Avengers, Misled) as the leads alongside dozens of other Michigan supporting talent. The first feature from 25-year-old director Zervos of Novi, the film tells the tale of a wildly imaginative young boy (Kole) and his dying grandfather's (Voyagis) attempts to

Road, in Novi).

president of Association

of Pool & Spa Profession-

als, Michigan Chapter.

"Many of our exhibitors

provide design, construc-

escape the clutches of

death.
"The journey getting to this point has been full of struggles and the fact that I can hold in my hand a Blu-ray of what was originally an idea is awe-striking," Zervos said. "Ours was not the smooth production of a multimillion-dollar picture that moves along with a single handshake, but the work and sacrifice of many people believing in the story I had to share.

Zervos does not overstate the obstacles. His journey began almost a vear and a half ago, when he raised \$51,000 on Kickstarter alone for the project. Eventually, he found private financiers for the rest of the film's \$200,000 budget and fought his way to

signing Voyagis as the

star.
"Yorgo believed in the story just as others had, but he was willing to make unnecessary sacrifices to take on this role. There might not be a Papou without his dedication," Zervos said.

A strong advocate of the recent surge of Michigan-made films, Zervos is in the process of applying for approval through the Michigan Film and Digital Video Incentive program.

He believes that if the incentive hadn't been reinstated in its latest form, he wouldn't have made the film at all.

"The common perception is that Michigan doesn't have a competitive incentive for filmmakers to film in state anymore," he said. "On

the contrary, Michigan remains in the top 10 best states to film in for monetary savings.

Papou has been submitted to a host of national and international film festivals and expects to premiere at one of the top festivals accepted.

"Of course, I'll not forget a premiere back in my beloved home state," Zervos said.

Even as the director of Papou is busy promoting the film, his editors are hard at work churning out the first trailer for the film. Release of this is expected in the next two weeks.

Visit http://Motherand midwife.com or https://www.facebook. com/MotherAndMidwife to find out more about the film.



Michael Angelo Zervos' feature film "Papou" was finalized March 14.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Backyard, pool, spa tion, servicing and refurbishing for inground and show this weekend above ground pools, hot The 19th annual Novi tubs, spas and backyard Backyard, Pool & Spa environments." Show will run Friday Hundreds of ideas. through Sunday at the

products and services Suburban Collection are available from the Showplace (Grand River major outdoor living environment categories Avenue, east of Beck including inground and "Homeowners will be above ground pools, hot able to swim, exercise, tubs, spas, swim spas, decks, patios, outdoor living spaces, landscaprelax or just have fun in their backyard this summer with the wide selecing, fencing, brick pavtion on display to fit any ing, decorative concrete, space or budget," said patio furniture and ac-Christopher Ferriss,

cessories. Show hours are 3-9 p.m. Friday; 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$8; \$4 for children 6-14, and free for children 5 and under. On site parking is available for a fee. For more information, visit www.NoviPool-Show.com or call 734-398-

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, 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.

tions are available to purchase online or by mail. A complete description of the workshop is available at www.Rochester Writers.com. Contact Michael Dwyer at 248-651-6869 for more information.

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.

Park and ride free **buses from Oakland County locations**

The Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) is providing free bus transportation to and from the mu29, for Oakland County residents. A bus will depart from the Novi Civic Center (45175 W. 10 Mile Road) at 9:30 a.m., and will leave the DIA at 2 p.m.

Visitors can browse the collection, take part in an art-making activity, view two free exhibitions, or see the Samurai: Beyond the Sword exhibition at the discounted group rate of \$12 per person.

The special Oakland County Day is provided thanks to Oakland County residents, who voted to support the DIA through last year's millage. The museum recently held a Macomb County Day and will host Wayne County residents on April 5.

Reservations for free bus transportation are required. For more information and to reserve a spot, call 313-833-4005 or go to http://www.dia. org/calendar/event. aspx?id=4406

Novi recognized for fitness

Gov. Rick Snyder announced that 62 Michiganders, organizations and events have been named finalists for the 2014 Governor's Fitness Awards. Novi earned a Promoting Active Communities Award.

The finalists were seum on Saturday, March selected by a committee of judges for their commitment to personal health, dedication to their communities, and the unique definition of what fitness means to them. The group, which includes a second-grader with Tae Kwon Do dreams, a team of nurses, and Fortune 500 companies, will be honored during the 2014 Governor's Fitness Award Gala Celebration at Ford Field in Detroit on April 24.

Easter Bunny hops into Twelve Oaks

A sure sign of spring is the arrival of the Easter Bunny, and those on the bunny trail will soon find him hoppily settled in his new home at Twelve Oaks Mall, in Center Court. Beginning March 24, the Easter Bunny eggcitedly awaits visitors in Bunnyville, a three-dimensional bunny town featuring RUUM American Kid's Wear, Sanders and the 24 Carrot Bank. The last stop in Bunnyville is a professional photo with the Easter Bunny in front of his Bunny House. Customers will receive a certificate for a free 11 oz. photo mug from Snapfish with the purchase of any photo package (\$22-44), and all children receive a small gift from the Bunny just for vis-

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Kathy Retich smiles as she hands out chocolate treats at the March 17 St. Patrick's Day luncheon at the Novi Senior Center Meadowbrook Commons complex. Fans of the Irish day gathered to enjoy a traditional corned beef and cabbage lunch, trivia games and live music from the Emerald Isle. Retich mentioned that even though she's not Irish, for the day, she can be referred to as Kathy O'Retich. JOHN HEIDER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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Lawmakers approve \$215M bill to repair Michigan roads

By Kathleen Gray Gannett Michigan

Michigan drivers will get some sorely needed relief from the state's winter-ravaged roads via \$215 million in repair funding approved by wide margins in the state

Legislature on March 12. The bill, which passed 30-5 in the Senate and 106-2 in the House, includes \$100 million for maintenance of Michigan's teeth-rattling, tirebusting roads and another \$115 million for pet road projects identified by various legislators as part of the state's midfiscal year supplemental budget. The priority list for the special projects will be determined by the leadership of the Republican-controlled House and Senate.

Lawmakers have submitted individual projects totaling about \$800 million from House members and \$800 million from senators, with very little overlap, said Jeff Cranson, spokesman for the Michigan Department of Transportation. A final list for \$115 million worth of road projects won't be determined until legislators meet with local officials and MDOT to cull projects into a master list

Oakland County, for example, has submitted a list of projects worth \$31 million to the county's delegation in Lansing for consideration. Ingham County has a dozen or so projects worth \$14 million it would like to see on the list, said Bill Conklin, **Ingham County Road**

Department managing director.

And those pet projects are a bone of contention for Democrats.

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, called it a "slush fund" that could be drained for Republican-proposed

projects.
"It would be my hope that projects are more evenly distributed on both sides of the aisle, rather than how previous projects were determined," he said. "That's the most fair way to distribute across the state."

The first \$100 million for winter road issues, though, was welcome news to local road agencies. Wayne County expects it will get about \$3.7 million from the pot, while Oakland County is expecting between \$3.4 million and \$3.8 million.

"Overtime is the biggest expense we have right now. We budgeted \$2.7 million and we've spent \$2.4 million before last night," said Terry Spryszak, director of Public Services and Environment for Wayne County. "So we only have \$300,000 for the rest of fiscal year," which ends Sept. 30.

The money will also help pay for an upcoming \$600,000 pothole blitz, which will pay for 60 additional seasonal workers to fill the prolific potholes in the county

In Oakland, the county has already blown through its \$12-million winter maintenance budget and is using money earmarked for summer projects, said Craig Bry-



The Michigan State Capitol in Lansing THOMAS GENNARA

son, spokesman for the Road Commission for Oakland County.

"If we didn't get this extra money, we would have had to do some significant cutting of spring and summer activities. he said. "But this sounds good; we'll certainly take

And as of the end of February, Ingham County had already spent 80 percent of its winter maintenance budget, which has to last through the end of 2014. The county's cut from the \$100 million in state money is \$795,000, Conklin said.

"This helps us restore our winter maintenance budget and will get us through November and

December," he said. If the \$115 million isn't committed to specific projects by July 1, however, it will go back into the traditional funding formula — 39.1 percent for the state, 39.1 percent for the counties and the rest for local communities.

The extra money for roads may come at the expense of tax cuts proposed for Michigan residents in the House and Senate and by Gov. Rick Snyder. Those cuts would come in the form of either an income tax cut or a resumption of the homestead property tax credit for residents who make less than \$60,000.

"I would prefer to see

the money spent on roads. I think it's a better bang for the buck for taxpayers," said state Rep. Joe Haveman, R-Holland. "Our constituents have told us overwhelmingly that 'my flat tire is going to cost me more than my tax rebate.' So put the money into

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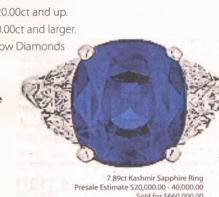
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RELIGION CALENDAR

Brightmoor Christian Church

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

Web: www.brightmoorchur-

ch.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 holyfamilynovi.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.

Sunday worship: 11 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

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

www.DW3C.org

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia

Web: 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. Wednes-

days 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 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,



BOYLE, LYNNE July 24, 1929 - March 4, 2014 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com



DOWNEY PATRICK MICHAEL March 17, 2014. St. Patrick's Day, age 78. Beloved husband of Gloria

42 years. Loving father of Kathryn (David) Butler, Matthew (Diane) Downey and Kenneth (Dawn) Hendrick. Dear grandfather of Crystal, Jeremy, Jack, Elizabeth, Melissa, Luke and great-grandfather of Mya. Brother of Isobel, John, and the late Joe, Ed, Fran, Clo, Christine and Walt. Uncle to many nieces and nephews. Patrick will be missed by numerous cherished friends. Memorial gathering this Saturday, 11 a.m. until time of at 12 Noon at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River, Novi (248) 348-1800. Please, no flowers. A celebration of Patrick's life will be held on Saturday June 7th. More details to follow at a later date. Online condolences: www. obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

HANDLEY, EDWARD January 10, 1924-March 5, 2014 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

KRAUS, **FLORENCE VIRGINIA**

Passed through the gates of heaven on March 10, 2014. Arrangements by PHILLIPS FU-NERAL HOME, South Lyon. www.phillipsfuneral.com.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



KUSCHEL,

KEITH GERARD Age 54 and a long time resident of Milford and Highland, and member of Pipefitter's Union passed unexpectedly on March 12, 2014 from pneumonia after a two year battle with lung cancer. He leaves his daughters, Sandra (Jason Pruneau) Kuschel and Marsha (Tedd) Cresmen; grandchildren, McKenzie, Jacob, and Javden: his mother, Leona Kuschel; sister, Michele (David) Stachel; aunt, Yvonne Trottier; many nieces and nephews; his former spouse, Diane; and many dear friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Glenn G. Kuschel; and brothers, Glenn A. "Skip" (Linda) Kuschel and Steve (Shari) Kuschel. Funeral Services were held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, Milford, on Saturday, March 15, 2014. Memorials may be made in his name to the American Cancer Society. For further information please phone, 248-684-6645 or visit, www.LynchFuneralDirecto rs.com

Lynch & Sons Funeral Directors

LANZETTA, RUDOLPH

March 20, 1927 - March 9, 2014 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

McMULLEN, **RAYMOND JOSEPH**

Age 74, former long time resident of Lake Sherwood in Milford, March 14, 2014. A Funeral Mass was held at St. Mary's Parish, Milford, on Wednesday, March 19, 2014. Condolences at LynchFuneralDirectors.com

McNAMARA, THOMAS

Sept. 18, 1932-March 7, 2014.

obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

NAGY, LESLIE Age 86, passed away February 26, 2014 in Sun City, AZ. He was born in Northville, parents Louis and Esther Nagy, and graduated from Northville High in 1946. Les is survived by his beloved wife Mary, son Tom Nagy, daughter Leslie Ann (Nagy) Hartlauer and brother Michael Nagy. Memorial may be viewed www.dignitymemorial.com/s unland-memorial-park-mortuary

NAPOLITANO, **MARIO**

May 2, 1930 - March 8, 2014 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com



Helping out

Students from Clarenceville High School's cognitive impairments class help to pack bags of food March 10 at Novi's Temporary Food Assistance Program. The group of students, along with their teachers, have been helping out at the Focus: Hope-run supplemental food distribution for a few months now. Shown (from left) are Alex Koss, Tanjia Minnis, Randall Wooten (partially hidden) and Nicole Manie. Also helping out that day was Tiejah Allen. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

north of Eight Mile Contact: 248-348-7600 or visit 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 Fellow-ship 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 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 **Nethodist Church** of Northville

Location: 777 W. Eight Mile, Northville

Contact: 248-349-1144 or 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.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Nursery-sixth grade

Location: 41415 Nine Mile, corner of Meadowbrook Road,

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; visit holyCROSSnovi.org

Sunday Worship: 7:45 and 10

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

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

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.lega-

cychurch.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 or email to 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 Contact: Amanda Rehm at 248-926-6584 or aman-

da.rehm@orchardgrove.org.

Northville Christian Assembly

Location: 41355 Six Mile Contact: 248-348-9030; ncalife.org

Sundays: 9-10 a.m. Sunday School for adults / youth / children; 9 a.m. Contemporary service in multipurpose gymnasium; 1015 a.m.: Contemporary service in worship center; children's super church on the second level (208/210)

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

Novi-Northville Center for Jewish Life

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

Contact: Rabbi Avrohhom and Leah Susskind at 248-790-6075 or rabbi@novijewishcenter.com; www.novijewishcenter.com

Novi United Methodist Church

Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile Contact: 248-349-2652 or visit umcnovi.com Facebook: https://www.face-

book.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,

Contact: 248-912-0043 Web: www.oakpointe. org/lifegroups

Worship Services: 5:15 p.m. Saturday; 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. Sunday **ReNew Life Group Ministries:**

Wednesday

7-9 p.m. Monday (groups meet weeklv) Women's Life Groups Ministries: 7 p.m. Tuesday; 9:30 a.m.

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.

Orchard Grove Community Church

Bible Study: Wednesdays at 7

Location: 850 Ladd Road, Walled Lake Contact: 248-926-6584; 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

Saturday Worship: 5 p.m. Sunday Worship: 7:30, 9:30,

Our Shepherd Presbyterian Church

Location: 1200 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth Contact: pastor Bill Burke at

Wednesday Bible Study: 7

734-927-0891

Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. with fellowship and food after

Our Savior Apostolic Lutheran Church

Location: 54899 Eight Mile,

Pentecostals of Novi Location: Novi Civic Center.

45175 W. 10 Mile Contact: 248-697-8158 or visit www.thepentecostalsofnovi.org

Plymouth St. John's **Episcopal Church**

Location: 574 S. Sheldon in Plymouth

Contact: 734-453-0190, Ext. 16, or visit www.stjohnsplymouth-

Praise Baptist Church

Location: 45000 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth Contact: 734-748-3898

St. James Catholic Church

Location: 46325 10 Mile, Novi Contact: 248-347-7778

Pastor: Monsignor John Kasza Mass Schedule: 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Tuesday; 7 p.m. Wednesday; 5 p.m. Saturday

Easter Celebration in Music Resurrection Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, April

Details: Friends of the Opera of Michigan present soloists Amy Blevins, soprano; Quinto Milito. baritone: and Jeanne Marie LaFramboise, piano. Free admission; donations are welcome. Contact: 313-582-0997 or foto-

mi@mi.rr.com

St. John Lutheran Church

Location: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills

Contact: 248-474-0584 or visit stjohn-lutheran.com Saturday Worship: 5:30 p.m. Sunday Worship: 9, 11:15 a.m. Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Location: 201 Flm St. Northville Contact: 248-349-3140

Unity of Farmington Hills

Location: 32500 W. 13 Mile, Farmington Contact: 248-737-9191; Adminis-

trativeDirector@unityfh.com

Unitarian **Universalist Church** of Farmington

Location: 25301 Halsted, Farmington Hills

Contact: www.uufarmington.org Youth Interfaith Journey: 9:30

and 11 a.m. Sundays **Details:** This religious education program is open to the public and currently enrolling new students. Classes are grouped into grades K-five, six-eight and

nine-12 with age-specific education materials for all. Contact: Jennifer Teed at

248-478-7272 or dre@uufarmington.org **Lifelong Learning Forum:** :30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays

Details: Six weeks exploring different topics like religion, philosophy, science, health, social and political issues. No advance registration necessary; a \$5 donation is suggested. Drop in and pick the class that interests you most at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Farming-

Contact: 248-478-7272 or uufarmington.org/uucf/relifespan

Multigenerational Services: 6:45 p.m. Fridays

Details: Family members of all ages can gather for drumming, chanting, and meditation followed by a brief participatory worship service which could include stories, songs and sharing. A religious education activity will follow, such as an art project, music, dance, game or theater. The evening will close with a light snack and a short time to socialize, ending at 8:30

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville (behind the shopping center at the corner of Six Mile and Haggerty)

Web: www.wardchurch.org Contact: 248-374-7400 Sunday Worship: 8 a.m. Liturgical in the Chapel; 9:30 a.m.

Contemporary in the Sanctuary: 11 a.m. Traditional in the Sanctuary; 11a.m. Post-Contemporary in Knox Hall **Sunday Groups and Classes:** Nursery, Children's and Middle School programs available on

Sunday mornings. High School

Sunday night at 6:30 p.m. Sunday Morning Adult Life Classes also available. FX: A Family Experience: An interactive family production where participants ignite conversations in the home on important topics to help kids and their parents follow God

together. First Sunday of the

month at 9:30 a.m. In Knox Hall,

September-May. Service Broadcasts: Live at http://live.wardchurch.org at 9:30 and 11 a.m. Sundays for live interactive video web-streaming.

Also, the Traditional Service is broadcast every week on WRDT-AM 560 at 11 a.m.

Local Scouts attain Eagle rank

The local young men from Troop 755 in Northville were awarded the rank of Eagle Scout during a Court of Honor on March 8 at Mill Race Village. Below are descriptions of their projects.

Hamilton Wilson constructed raised gardens for senior citizens that were interested in gardening, but could not physically perform all of the responsibilities necessary to maintain and preserve a garden on their own. He built a total of six gardens, all of which are in use at Thayer's Corner. Two of

the raised gardens had armrests for individuals who were physically disabled while the rest were at a height comfortable for an elderly citi-

Wilson's project was helpful to the community because the raised gardens give senior citizens a way to enjoy a garden as well as the happiness that comes from maintaining a garden, without it taking a physical toll on them like a normal garden would. He was glad to see people who usually wouldn't be able to enjoy the outdoors were using the gardens.

Mark Leja's Eagle Scout Project involved constructing a brick pa 1way to a historical by ing located within Name Race Village in downtown Northville. Most historical buildings on the grounds had a brick pathway leading to its entrance except for one. Leja's project corrected that issue, insuring visitors of all ages and disabilities are able to safely tour the historical build-

The grounds had to be raised, leveled, and contoured for water drainage before he was able to construct the pathway

which is about six feet wide and 28 feet long. With the help of a few hardworking volunteers, Leja was able to construct a solid brick walkway that will last for many years

Michael Higgins worked with an organization called Soldiers' Angels. This group is a volunteer-led, nonprofit with thousands of volunteers providing aid and comfort to the men and women of the United States Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, veterans and their families.

Higgins' project consisted of putting together



Pictured (from left) are Michael Higgins, Northville High School; Hamilton Wilson, Detroit Catholic Central; and Mark Leja, Detroit Catholic Central, members of Troop 755 of Northville recently awarded the Eagle rank.

care packages of new and unused clothing, DVDs, snacks and toiletries. Michael distributed collection bags in area neighborhoods to solicit donations. The items were then sorted and mailed to a number of locations including a military hospital in Germany and bases in Kandahar, Afghanistan. There was a huge response to this project, with much support from the people of Novi, Northville, and Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church in Northville. Many hours were spent in the planning phase of the project. The project was a lot of work but an overall success.

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Sunday Worship: 9:30 & 11 a.m. Kids Church: 9:30 & 11 a.m.

METHODIST CHURCH MS & HS Youth: 11 a.m. MS Youth Night Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m. Grief Share Monday 6:30 p.m.

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6730 Grand River Avenue . New Hudson MI 4816 (248) 437-6212 . Gerald S. Hunter, Pastor day School & Bible Class -9:30 a.m Worship-10:30 a.m.

www.newhudonsumc.org

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Universalist Congregation 57855 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165 Phone 248-474-9108

day Celebration of Life Service 10:30 a.m Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister Website: http://www.newhopeuu.org

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Sunday Worship 9 am & 11:15 am Wed. Kids-6:30 pm/Adults-6:45 pm Also Small Groups / Ministry Teams

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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-0000178469 and depressed.

Northville

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

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN Experience Life Each Week

Sunday Worship - 9:00 am & 10:15 am Sunday School and Children's Programs www.ncalife.org 248 • 348 • 9030

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133 Orchard Dr., Northville Saturday 5:00 p.m. EEKEND LITURGIES Sunday, 7:30, 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. Church 349-2621, School 349-3610 Religious Education 349-2559 Rev Denis Theroux, Pastor



Memorial Day - Labor Day 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Rev. Marsha M. Wooley, Lead Pastor www.fumenorthville.org

40000 Six Northville, MI 48168 248.374.7400 Sunday Worship Services www.wardchurch.org

Our Savier Apostolic Lutheran Church

240-314-2200 Sunday Worship: 0:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Fellowship/Coffee 11:00 a.m. Worship Service esday Bible Study (Colossians) at

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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

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Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister

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. Msgr John Kasza, Pastor Parish Office: 347-7778

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. Children's Church for Grades K thru 5th

Nursery Care Provided Mid-Week Study Thursday 7:00 p.m. Rev. Michael Horlocker, Pastor www.tpcsouthlyon.org

The Church of Christ

248-437-3585 * www.southlyoncoc.org 9:30 a.m. Sunday School.

10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship nesday Midweek Ministries 7 p.n Troy Singleton, Minister

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.fellowshipepc.org

first united 640 S. Lafayette (248) 437-0760

Worship: 8:15 am, 11 am & 6:30 pm Sunday School: 9:40 am Rev. Sondra Willobee, Lead Pastor south/vonfirstumc.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

SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH

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

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24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375 aturday: 4:30 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanis Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Fr. Bob LaCroix, Pastor Fr. Beto Espinoza, Associate rish Office: 349-8847 . www.holyfamilynov

HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL

40700 W. Ten Mile Rd. = 248-427-117 Sunday Worship 7:45 am & 10 am Healing Service Wednesday 11:45 am Rev. Ann Webber, Rector

holycrossnovi@gmail.com

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

NOVI UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m. 248-349-2652

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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

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Pastor Terry Nelson

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248-486-0400 www.ecrossroads.net **Sunday Services:** 8:45, 10 & 11:30 am

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Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Boad - Livonia South of Six Mile Road Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School 10:30 a.m. James N. McGuire . Nursery Provide

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

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

OUR VIEWS

Prepare an emergency kit in case of widespread flooding, severe weather

There is a springtime ritual the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division is hoping you complete – building or restocking your emergency preparedness kit.

This week is Flood Safety Awareness Week in Michigan, closely followed April 6-12 by Severe Weather Awareness Week.

Michigan may see widespread flooding in the next couple of months because of the heavy winter snowfall, according to Capt. Chris A. Kelenske, deputy state director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and commander of the MSP/EMHSD.

An emergency preparedness



kit will better prepare you in the event of an emergency or disaster

When a disaster strikes, you may have to evacuate, take shelter or go without basic services

for hours or days. Having enough supplies to function without basic services — such as electricity or water — is critical during an emergency or disaster, as emergency workers

may not be able to reach you right away.

Knowing you may have to survive on your own, you will need a supply of essential items—like food and water—to last at least three days, or 72 hours, per person. Using five-gallon buckets or similar containers, assemble a preparedness kit with the items you and your family will need during an emergency.

Essential items to include in an emergency preparedness kit are:

» Water, at least three gallons of water per person for 72

» Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food per person » Medications

» Battery-powered or hand-

» Flashlight and extra batter-

» First aid kit

» Whistle to signal for help

» A complete change of clothing and footwear for each person

» Bedding

» Important family documents

» Pet supplies (if necessary) For more information about what to do before, during and after an emergency, visit the MSP/EMHSD's website at www.michigan.gov/beprepared or follow it on Twitter at @MichEMHS.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Make Carter the principal

Enough!!! This has been going on for more than a year. Ms. Nicole Carter must be appointed as the permanent, full-time principal of Novi High School.

The superintendent and the Board of Education are sending a very bad signal to the community, the teachers, the staff, the students and the citizens of southeast Michigan. The teacher survey illustrates overwhelming support for Ms. Carter based on her outstanding performance as the current interim principal. With all this said, could there be another ugly, and unacceptable, reason for denying Ms. Carter the opportunity to be appointed to the post of principal? Please prove my suspicion as unfounded by appointing Ms. Carter as permanent principal without any further delay, machinations or manipula-

Frank R. Cadicamo

The Burger King philosophy

In March 2012, Institute for Justice attorneys Elizabeth Foley and Steve Simpson argued that Obamacare's individual mandate was incompatible with centuries of contract law since a compulsory contract is an oxymoron. Citing South Carolina's highest court in 1799, they argued that a contract in order to be binding must be voluntary and made without "fear to their persons." Obamacare was described as a law "from which there is no escape." Nancy Pelosi, who argued that it must be passed in order to discover what is in it, received a letter in July 2013 about its contents. Obama's loyal union supporters led by James Hoffa not only discovered they have "fear," but join with Sen. Max Baucus, a Democrat who helped design the law, in describing it as a "train

wreck." Seeking "to escape" its provisions union president Kinsey Robinson called for the repeal of Obamacare if necessary since it will "destroy the foundation of the 40-hour work week."

I can only hope that the Democratic politicians that are now re-examining their commitment to Obamacare look to the common sense approach described by Dr. Ben Carson at last February's prayer breakfast. He's a native Detroiter who actually understands both health care and poverty, having been raised in Detroit's housing projects and led the department of neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

The president's response to the resistance and backlash to Obamacare further reveals his addiction to "executive orders' and selective enforcement of the Constitution which he has sworn to uphold and defend. He dislikes DOMA, border protection laws, and workfare so he overrules the existing law of the land and imposes his will. Now we see unions and businesses favorable to Obama are being granted exemptions and waivers from its provisions. With elections looming, timelines with painful consequences are revised in hopes of not adding to already 6.2 million people who have had their insurance policies canceled. This eviscerates the tripartite system of government on which this nation was founded. The president is sworn in to enforce the laws of the nation as written not per his whim and fancy or to further build a constituency.

Additionally, the concept of equal protection under the law is undermined by a president who chooses to selectively enforce a law or uses executive orders to nullify the enforcement of existing laws. I'm willing to believe that at some point President Barack Obama walked into Burger King, where you get to have it "your way." I'm not willing to believe that the American people are

COMMUNITY VOICE

Novi schools have dropped this essay question after a parent complained: "Which would you rather be: A slave or a factory worker during the Industrial Revolution?" Do you agree with the district or is that a fair question to ask a middle school student?

This question was asked at the Novi Public Library.



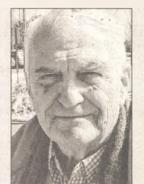
"I don't know the reason as to why they dropped it, but I hope they thought of something equally thought provoking to ask instead."

Michelle Hollman Novi



"I don't they should have had the question. Those two things are not on the same level."

> Debbie Banks Novi



"I think it was appropriate to drop it. It takes a lot of knowledge anyways to handle that question and I'm not sure middle schoolers are prepared yet for that question."

Richard Blake Novi



"My gut reaction is that it's not fair to ask that of them."

> Brian Wagner Novi

going to accept the Burger King philosophy taking up residence at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

> Michael C. Boucher Novi

Employ Michigan residents

I was surprised to learn about Michigan requesting visas to lure immigrants to Detroit. I thought this idea to lure immigrants to Detroit can help our struggling economy and create more jobs was interesting. However, I could not help but ask myself, "Why not employ Michigan residents?"

Currently, we have numerous unemployed individuals here in the state and Gov. Snyder wants to bring immigrants in to take the work opportunities away from them? It is disheartening to me that the companies that lay off all of these qualified employees contradict themselves by claiming that they do not have enough "skilled workers"?

Clearly, there are plenty of qualified workers, many of whom are overqualified, that reside in Michigan. Nevertheless, companies are not willing to pay such qualified individuals a fair wage. I can see the advantages of welcoming im-

migrants into this depressed economy that are already established business owners who want to relocate or open branch facilities here. Yes, this can create more job opportunities for those who are unemployed. Nonetheless, I believe that we should make it our No. 1 priority to assist and employ Michiganders.

Lindsey Compo Novi

GUEST COLUMN

Access to information should be a common goal for common good

f you've been watching what goes on in Washington and some statehouses across the country, you might wonder if there's any issue that everyone should be able to agree on whether they are conservative or liberal or libertarian, Democrat or Republican, prothis or anti-that.

There is: It's the need

for transparency in all levels of government. As we observe Sun-

shine Week in Michigan and around the country to encourage openness in government, the Michi-



GUEST COLUMNIST on for Open

Charles

Hill

gan Coalition for Open Government is urging citizens and public officials to seek transparency in the operations of their local and state governments, their schools and universities, their federal government and their courts.

You can do this by supporting Michigan legislation that would amend the Michigan
Freedom of Information
Act to make government
information more accessible by limiting fees and
discouraging delays.
Or by supporting a bill

that a Republican law-maker proposed to create an Open Government Commission to hear FOIA appeals. Or by supporting a bill that two Democratic lawmakers proposed to expand FOIA coverage for the legislative branch so it is more in line with the broader coverage that applies to the executive branch.

MiCOG, a nonprofit,

tax-exempt organization open to citizens, journalists and associations concerned with open government and freedom of information, urges passage of that pending legislation.

Make a difference

You also can make a difference by letting

your local officials —
from the mayor to school
board members — know
that it's important how
your tax dollars are being spent and how they
are making decisions
about classrooms or
parks or snow removal or
trash collection.

It's important for you to know this so you can independently judge the soundness of those decisions; so you can suggest your ideas for improvements in programs or government actions; so you can evaluate government officials' performance; and so you can guard against corruption and conflicts of interest.

You can help by asking questions of your government officials and by encouraging openness. Politicians and government officials are more likely to take the trouble to create open systems and practices if they know it is important

to their constituents.

Tell them that your assessment of their performance includes their record on open government.

Non-partisan Let them know this

should not be a partisan issue and that you want information regardless of which party or group is in power. If you're in New Jersey, you don't have to be a Democrat to want to know more about a big bridge closure in that state. In Michigan and Louisiana, you don't have to be a Republican to want information surrounding the corruption charges that resulted in convictions of mayors in New Orleans and Detroit.

Michigan has plenty of tough transparency and accountability challenges ahead, including how courts handle public access and fees for electronic records, whether juvenile criminal records should be public or secret and how much secrecy should be allowed in new mental health courts, including convict records and data revealing rates of recidivism for the program.

Remember that you have a stake in Michigan's freedom of information laws. How much you are permitted to know about your government directly affects the quality of your government, your schools, your courts, your job, your freedom and your life.

board of directors of the Michigan Coalition for Open Government and a former Michigan bureau chief for the Associated Press. To join or find out more about MiCOG, go to http://www.miopengov.org or follow MiCOG on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/ MIOpenGov or Twitter:
@miopengov.

Charles Hill is a member of the

Novi News

Cal Stone, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor

Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

Legislation could impact FOIA requests

Gannett Michigan

From business owners, to politicians, the media and special interest groups, the state's Freedom of Information Act has gotten a lot of use since it was passed in

Now there is a move in the state Legislature to change some provisions of it, and that is not sitting well with Berkley City Clerk Cheryl Printz.

"I think that some of the changes being proposed I would consider burdensome to me," she

Among the bills under consideration is legislation being proposed by state Rep. Tom McMillan, R-Rochester, that would establish an open government commission that would hear FOIA appeals on requests made

But what concerns Printz is a bill introduced by state Rep. Mike Shirley, R-Clark Lake, that would establish a fee structure that is expected, if signed into law, would lower the cost paid by those making FOIA requests.

Creating sunshine

Both McMillan and Shirley were honored last week by the Michigan Press Association for their support of "sunshine" and transparency in government. March 16-22 is nationally celebrated as Sunshine Week by groups including the media that seek open government and free access to information.

When Printz talks about a burden, she isn't referring to having to fulfill FOIA requests, but to the cost involved.

"It has to be fair," she said, adding that there

are costs involved.

Area clerks say that cost varies according to the type of request, meaning what information is requested. Some requests involve special printing costs for large items like drawings that require the information to printed.

Printz, who says she gets an average of 20 FOIA requests each year, gave an example of one of three requests she received in just the last

The request was for the city's 1996 zoning ordinance. She had five days, by law, to fulfill the request. Each request is permitted one 10-day extension for special circumstances, such as sending out the information to be printed.

In this case, Printz had to dig out the old ordinance. Also by law, any entity fulfilling a FOIA request is allowed to charge a per page fee, as well as for the time of the lowest paid hourly employee who can copy the material requested.

The cost

She said the maker of the request was charged for a quarter of an hour for copying, "but it took longer than that." Printz did not charge for her own time.

The more significant cost was for copying each page. The 1996 zoning ordinance is 284 pages, and the city charges 25 cents to print each page, making the per page cost in this case

Printz said that when she has an estimate of the cost, she contacts the person requesting the information, and does require a deposit for costly projects.

But not all requests

FILING AN FOIA IN NOVI

Last year, the city of Novi fulfilled 189 FOIA requests, not counting those that go directly to **Public Safety**



"It's important for to have

public ability

obtain

information in a timely manner," said Maryanne Cornelius, city clerk. "Many of our requests consist of applicants performing due diligence before a property is purchased or refinanced. In any event, when large blueprints need to be copied or larger volume requests are received, we try to work with the applicant to narrow down the request if it is too broad or nonspecific.

"We also note on our form that if a request will be more than \$50. we may request a deposit. We also clarify on the form that the search costs will include the hourly rate of the lowest paid person capable of retrieving the information.'

Cornelius added that when someone files a FOIA and requests copies and any internal department can readily access the information, copies are made so that they can leave with the information the same

are the same. Printz said that she gets many requests during election time from those who are seeking a list of people who vote by absentee ballot.

Printz said that, while some communities experience "abuses" of the FOIA, with requests by the same person each week, she doesn't get that in Berkley.

Other requests

The other two FOIA requests made last week involved buildings, floor plans and an architect's drawings. But Printz said that governments are not required to compile reports that don't already exist for those seeking information.

But you don't have to be a business or a politician to make a FOIA request, anyone canfrom school districts and other public bodies as well. Sample requests are available on the internet, and each community has a FOIA officer, someone who is responsible for keeping track of and making certain requests are met or the person making the request notified why it won't be.

There are few exemptions to the Freedom of Information Act, bu the thing to remember is that your request must be in writing and it must be specific. And if your request is denied, you have the right to appeal

For its part, the Michigan Press Association sees the work of McMillan and Shirley in a positive light. As MPA Executive Director Mike MacLaren said, they have an understanding that "government of the people, by the people and for the people doesn't work unless taxpayers have unfettered access to information compiled by government."

Sunshine Week offers chance to open government

elcome to Michigan's Freedom of Information Week. It's a great week to let folks know about how accountable and responsible their governments are at the state, county and local level

It's also the first official birthday of the Michigan Coalition for Open Government, a tax-exempt nonprofit group that keeps a sharp eye on the accountability, transparency and responsibility of public officials, governments, public universities and the courts.

Back when the state's freedom of information and open meetings laws went into effect in 1977, the Michigan Supreme Court exempted all Michigan courts from being covered by those laws.

In subsequent decisions, the court has exempted all 15 public university boards from the Open Meetings Act when it comes to presidential searches. The universities say that decision also applies to their retreats, pre-meetings and other discussions that occur outside of the public meetings mandated by the state constitution. That's extremely relevant now as a presidential search was just completed for the University of Michigan, and as searches are underway at Oakland University and Saginaw Valley State University. Public universities are annually given hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars, yet because of the court's ruling, information about applicants who want to become president can remain secret until a new president is selected.

Court decisions have consistently expanded



the interpretations of exemptions despite the public policy language of the Freedom of Information Act itself. Last year, the Michigan Supreme Court through the State Court Administrative Office helped draft legislation that exempts disclosure of any information on:

» Mental health courts (even data on the number of cases these courts handle, the success, failures and rates of recidivism on individuals involved)

» Hidden criminal juvenile records (including violent felonies and keeping potential employers from finding out about sex offenders)

Most recently, the Michigan Supreme Court through the SCAO has approved phasing in mandatory electronic filing of court documents without any mention of public access to the records and what that access should cost.

The people have a right to full access to their courts. As we head into Sunshine Week, Mi-COG urges the courts to maintain an attitude of public accountability to engender confidence and belief in the fairness of the legal system. It's what's best for the courts and for our citizens.

Jane Briggs-Bunting is the president of the Michigan Coalition for Open Government. She is former director of the Michigan State University School of Journalism and Oakland University journalism program.



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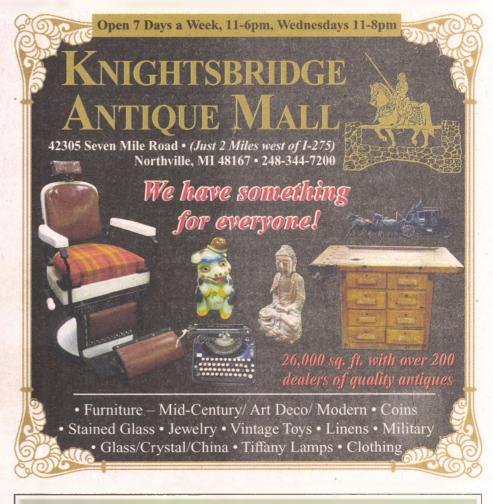
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All Green **Asparagus**

Fresh

California Seedless **Baby Cuties**

Seedless Cukes

Canadian Hydroponic Mild & Sweet

Meat & Seafood

Norwegian Salmon

\$899

\$2.00 lb

Drumsticks (5 lb bag) USDA Premium Choice Angus Porterhouse, T-Bone or Cowboy Ribeye

5 save 15 \$2.00 lb

16 \$1.00 lb

Bistro Steaks

Sausaae

\$1.00 lb

Fresh All Natural leal or Lamb Loin Chops \$2.00 lb

Fresh All Natural Ground Turkey or Chicken \$1.00 lb

Fresh All Natural Boneless Skinless Chicken Breasts

Fillets 16 \$1 00 lb \$1.00 lb

Fresh First of the Season Fresh Cod Alaskan Halibut Fillets Catfish Fillets

Save \$1.00 lb Fresh Wild Caught Tuna

Steaks

Fresh Swordfish

Save \$4.00 lb

Entrees to Go

Tilapia Parmesan Save \$1 00 ea Cornflake Encrusted Cod

\$1 00 ea

Dietz & Watson

Honey

BBQ Chicken

Boar's Head Maple Glazed Honey Ham lb Boar's Head

Save \$3.00 lb

Dietz & Watson

Pastrami

Spiced Beef

Save \$3.00 lb

Joe's

Boar's Head Corned Beef

lb Boar's Head Save \$3.00 lb

Dietz & Watson

Garlic Roasted

Cheddar

lb

Save \$1.50 lb

Hoffman's

Boar's Head Ovengold Turkey

Save \$3.00 lb

Fresh

Pollock

1b Boar's Head Save \$3.00 lb

Joe's Deli Rotisserie Chicken

Ib Save \$2.00 lb

Kerrygold Cheese (All varieties)

Save \$1.00 ea

LEMON

BARS

TRIPLE BERRY

BREAD

SMALL

LARGE

\$349

LEMON

MERINGUE

PIE

FRENCH TOAST

BREAD

PUDDING

Boar's Head Domestic **Swiss**

1b Boar's Head Save \$3.00 lb

Joe's

Ib.

Save \$2.00 lb

Parmesan

Save \$3.00 lb Hoffman's Roast Beef

Hard Salami

Save \$2.00 lb

Super Sharp Muenster Cheese Cheddar \$299 CPQQ Ib Hoffman Ib Save \$2.00 lb Save \$3.50 lb BAKER

199 Kerreng

Reggiano Cheese \$1 299 lb Save \$3.00 lb Cucina-Andolina Asiago Cheese \$599 Save \$1.00 lb

Borrelli's

Bread Crumbs 24 oz Seasoned & Plain

Stocks 32 oz All varieties **Boom Chicka Pop**

Medford Farms

Popcorn All varieties Cardillo Frozen

Pizza Dough

Yoders Fancy Shredded Cheeses All 8 oz varieties

Fish Fry Frenzy

Beer battered deep fried Atlantic cod, french fries, cole slaw, and homemade tartar sauce! \$6.95 per dinner. The perfect dinner! Order ahead and place your pick up time.

248-477-4311

HONEY WHEAT BREAD \$999

> **MADELINES** (5 pack) **\$949**

> > pkg.

ASIAGO BREAD \$999

Joe's Fresh **Roasted Coffee** Flavor of the Week:

French Apple Crumb Cake Save \$1.00 lb

Sander's **Easter Candy** Starting at

Snack Better Sahale Snacks All flavors

Claey's Old Fashioned **Hard Candy** All varieties

Save \$2.00 lb Tuna Pasta

Salad lb

Herb Roasted Redskin Potatoes

Mediterranean Quinoa Salad Save \$1.00

Chef's Feature

Fire Roasted Salmon Florentine Fresh Atlantic Salmon with a creamy Parmesan spinach topping.

Joe's Friday

Call Laura or Chef at 248 477-4333

bread Hours: Tues-Sun 8-6 Closed Mon.

CHERRY WALNUT BREAD

Rutherford

Ranch Wines Cupcake Moscato

D'Asti Eppa Sangria

Red & White

Joel Gott Cabernet Sauvignon

Atwater Brewing Six Packs Only

Blue Moon Brewing Six Packs Only

SECTION B (NN)

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2014 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

CAL STONE, EDITOR

CSTONE@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-437-2011 EXT. 237

ALL-AREA HONORS



Northville's Andrew Meacham is the 2014 boys basketball All-Area Player of the Year.

Northville's Meachem nets top boys honors

By Jeff Theisen Sports Writer

Averaging a double-double in high school means a player is getting it done on defense and with the rock. Coming close to 20 and 10 is downright impressive.

Northville senior forward Andrew Meacham averaged 19.0 points and 11.3 rebounds per game. He also dished out 3.0 assists, snagged 2.1 steals and swatted 3.5 blocks in being named All-Area Player of the Year.

'Andrew has been a tremendous asset to our program the past three seasons on the varsity," Northville coach Todd Sander said. "He has been our leading scorer and rebounder each of the past two years and his skill set is so dynamic that he can punish the opposition in the paint and behind the arc.

"He finishes his career with 988 points scored, which is a huge number. It ranks near the top in Northville history.

Meachem hit 45 percent of his shots, including 35 percent from beyond the arc. He also shot free throws at a 78-percent clip.

Meachem was voted team MVP as well as first team all-conference in the KLAA.

"Andrew has been a pleasure to coach during his career. In addition to his physical skills, he understands and thinks the game extremely well," said Sander. "I have really enjoyed watching him mature both as a person and player these past few seasons. We will miss him immensely."

First team Charlie Ryan, C **Catholic Central senior**

The 6-7 Ryan averaged a doubledouble with 13 points and more than 10 rebounds a night. He earned first team all-league honors and will continue his career with at Northwood University.

'Charlie has worked hard over the past two seasons to make himself a college basketball player," coach Bill Dyer said. "He improved his play around the basket and he made a lot

BOYS BASKRTBALL ALL-AREA TEAM

PLAYER OF THE YEAR Andrew Meachem, Northville

FIRST TEAM

Charlie Ryan, Catholic Central Nick Troxell, Lakeland Carter Drazga, South Lyon Jason Hugan, Milford Trent Willenborg, South Lyon East

SECOND TEAM

Malik Bazzi, Northville Noah Lee, Catholic Central Connor Young, Milford Brad Govan, Lakeland Nick Zugaro, Novi Tommy Averill, South Lyon

HONORABLE MENTION

South Lyon East - Derek Blunden (sr.), Jack Leckner (sr.) South Lyon - Will Sanders (sr.) Milford - Kyle Valden (jr.), Sam Jaklic (jr.) Lakeland - Timmy Brotherton (jr.), Grant Osborne (jr.), Jake Menzel (sr.) Northville - Joey Hewlett (sr.), Andrew Stevens (sr.) Novi - Erik Biberstein (sr.)

of big shots for us. Charlie had a season-high 27 points at Brother Rice. His best days are still ahead of

Nick Troxell, G/F **Lakeland senior**

Troxell played four years on varsity and it paid off with a division and KLAA Lakes Conference titles. He averaged 10 points and six rebounds while shooting 47 percent from the

"Nick is one of the very few high school athletes that plays above the rim," coach Bob Brugger said. "He easily has the most dunks of any player in Lakeland history. Nick did a little bit of everything for us this season. He is a versatile player capable of guarding all five positions and able to score both in the post and on the perimeter."

See BOYS, Page B2

14949 SHELDON ROAD (between M=14&5 Mile Road) PLYMOUTH • 734-453-2500 • www.jeannotte.com



Novi's McMahan leads girls basketball team

By Chris Jackett Correspondent

Competing against Novi senior Kerri McMahan is tough. The fouryear starting point guard and University of Akron commit led the Wildcats to title after title in the KLAA Central Division while burning opponents,

Year honors. 'Led us in all statistical categories," Novi coach Bill Kelp said. "True leader on the court who does

earning her All-Area Player of the

nake everyone better around While some stars were focused on points, rebounds or assists, McMahan did it all for Novi while keeping her teammates involved. She averaged 17.6 points, 3.1 assists, 4.8 rebounds and 3.5 steals per game this season, while shooting 53 percent from the field, 72 percent from the free-throw line and setting a single-game school record with 32 points Feb. 7 against Livonia Stevenson.

First team Gabi Bird, G/F **South Lyon East junior**

She was a big reason South Lyon East competed with the best in the tough KLAA Central Division. She led the area in scoring with 18.7 points per game and was second in rebounding with 10.4 per game. She also averaged 3.0 steals and 1.7 assists. Her points, rebounds and steals were all single-season school records for the young program, as was her singlegame performance of 28 points.

"Gabi is a great all-around player," East coach Rob Leadley said. "She has a strong post presence, but is also comfortable handling the ball and shooting from the perimeter. Gabi is extremely consistent in game situations. She had 14 double-doubles this season, despite being closely guarded every night. She works hard on her game and sets the tone for our team's work ethic."

Elise Gustafson, C Milford junior

Averaging both 12 points and 12 rebounds per game, Gustafson was one of the toughest players to guard

GIRLS BASKETBALL ALL-AREA TEAM

PLAYER OF THE YEAR Kerri McMahan, Novi

FIRST TEAM

Gabi Bird, South Lyon East Elise Gustafson, Milford Heather Randall, Northville Taylor Pavlika, Novi Dominique Zigo, Lakeland

SECOND TEAM

Jessica Mehr, South Lyon Gabby Mencotti, Northville Kristen Schubring, Novi Sydney Jones, South Lyon East Emily Maresh, Northville

HONORABLE MENTION Milford - Maddy Kurtz (Sr. G), Brenna Lovera (Jr. G) Lakeland – Lena Tiedeman (Jr. G), Molly

Stec (So. G), Alana Weyer (Jr. F), Kari Jurewicz (Sr. G) Northville – Jessica Moorman (Fr. G) Novi - Alexandra Felice (Jr. G/F) South Lyon - Emily Heinrich (Jr. G/F), Breanna Bias (Sr. G) South Lyon East - Rachel Janowiak (Sr. G)

in the KLAA, earning her all-confer-

ence honors. "Elise's presence on-court earned the respect of the opposing team," Milford coach Jennifer VanGoethem said. "Oftentimes, she was double- or triple-teamed, but that never phased her. Elise's inside presence is dominant and she keeps improving each year. Freshman year she averaged three points, five rebounds a game. Sophomore year, she averaged 10 points, 10 rebounds a game. This year, she averaged 12 points and 12 rebounds a game. Those stats speak loudly as to her work ethic and determination to become the best player possible.'

Heather Randall, F Northville senior

On a balanced squad, Randall led the team with 10.8 points and aver-

M & Th. 9-9; Tue, W & F 9-6

See GIRLS, Page B2



BOYS

Continued from Page B1

Carter Drazga, G **South Lyon senior**

He was almost always the smallest player on the floor, but Drazga would often make the biggest difference. He averaged 15 points and made 39 3-pointers. He also shot 82 percent from the line.

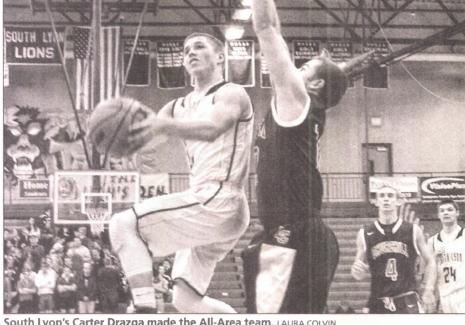
"Carter is a fierce competitor - a guy who wants to take the big shot, a guy who sees the floor really well and a point guard who provided our team with a lot of emotionally charged moments this year,' coach Doug Host said. Jason Hugan, C

Milford senior The Mavericks came on strong late and Hugan was a big reason. He averaged 10 points, 5.7 rebounds and 1.5 blocks

of his shots. Hugan earned first team all-conference hon-

while hitting 50 percent

"Jason was a presence in the middle that teams had to account for night in and night out," coach



South Lyon's Carter Drazga made the All-Area team. LAURA COLVIN

David Gilbert said. "When Jason played well, we were a different

team. Trent Willenborg, F **South Lyon East junior**

Teams focused their defenses around stopping Willenborg, but he still averaged 13 points and 9.0 rebounds per game. He scored a season-high 28 points against Novi and tallied 25 against Milford. He

earned all-conference honors.

"A top-level athlete, Trent has the ability to dominate a game from the paint or perimeter,' coach Ron Levin said.

Second team Malik Bazzi, F Northville senior

He was force for the Mustangs, putting up 11.0 points, 5.5 rebounds, 3.8 assists and 3.5 steals per

game. Bazzi was a big reason the Mustangs made a charge in the KLAA Central, finishing just one game behind Salem.

Noah Lee, G **Catholic Central senior**

He finished his threeyear varsity career with 13.0 points and 3.0 steals per game. He earned first team all-league honors

Connor Young, G

He led the Mavericks with 10.7 points and with 34 3-pointers and also hit 62-of-84 free throws (72

Milford junior

percent). He had a season-high 28 points against Mott and put up 26 against Brighton. **Brad Govan, F/C** Lakeland senior

He played hard under the rim at both ends. Govan tallied eight points aand six rebounds while hitting 54 percent of his shots. He was voted first team all-KLAA. Nick Zugaro, G **Novi senior**

He was second on the team with 10.6 points, but filled the stat sheet in other ways. Zugaro dished out 4.4 assists, grabbed 3.5 rebounds and had 2.2 steals while hitting 75 percent of his free throws. He scored 18 and 20 points in the two district games. Tommy Averill, F South Lyon senior

He averaged 10 points and five rebounds per game and sank 34 3pointers while hitting 70 percent of his free throws.

jtheisen@gannett.com 248-437-2011, ext. 228

BRIEFS

SPORTS

Register for spring, 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 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 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 winetasting 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 studentathletes.

Tickets are \$40 per person. 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

GIRLS

Continued from Page B1

aged 4.0 rebounds, 1.6 assists and 1.7 steals per game while shooting 43 percent from the field and earning all-conference honors. She has committed to play with Hope College next year.

(She's the) best shooter on the team," Northville coach Todd Gudith said. "Led (the) team in scoring. A gym rat who is consistently working on her game.'

Taylor Pavlika, G **Novi senior**

Although opponents had to be wary of McMa-

han, Pavlika was the glue and picked up the slack when McMahan had an off-night. With averages of 8.0 points, 2.5 assists, 3.5 rebounds and 2.5 steals per game, Pavlika earned all-conference honors. She'll attend Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne where, alongside her older sister, she will

play soccer. "Truly great competitor," Novi coach Bill Kelp said. "Leads team with 23 3-pointers. Natural leadership abilities and one of the hardest working kids."

Dominique Zigo, G **Lakeland senior**

Averaging 14.2 points per game, Zigo kept the

Eagles as a threat to the two Waterford powerhouses in the KLAA North Division. She also averaged 2.1 rebounds and 1.0 steals, shot 72.7 percent from the line and 32.5 percent from the field and tallied 26 3pointers.

"Dom is a scoring guard who can score from the arc or at the rim off the dribble, Lakeland coach Michael Head said. "She's carried the burden of being the team's primary scorer game in and game out. She is a competitor to the bone.

Second team Jessica Mehr, G

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND GRANT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Novi will hold a Public Hearing on the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Grant Application Proposal for land acquisition of parcel 50-22-18-100-004, for 10 acres of property located on 12 Mile Road east of Napier Road. The Hearing will be held on Monday March 24, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, for the purpose of hearing public comments on land acquisition of parcel 50-22-18-100-004, for 10 acres of property located on 12 Mile Road east of Napier Road.

> All interested citizens are requested to attend these Hearings

Comments will also be received in writing or in person at the City Clerks Office - City of Novi, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375 until 5:00 p.m. March 24, 2014.

Arrangements to reasonably accommodate special needs, including handicap accessibility or interpreter, will be made upon receiving 72-hour advance. Contact Maryanne Cornelius at 248-347-0456 for special services.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS

Publish: 3/20/2014

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City of Novi

Public Hearing Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers Novi Civic Center 45175 Ten Mile Road to consider: CASE NO. PZ14-0003 49251 GRAND RIVER AVE & PARCEL 5022-17-101-029 - VARSITY

LINCOLN

Zoning District: B3, General Business District

The applicant is requesting a variance from CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 28-5(5)b to allow an changeable copy ground sign of 28 square feet located on the south (Wixom Rd) existing access drive of display lot. The property is located on the south side of Grand River and east of Wixom Rd. CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 28-5(5)b changeable copy signs shall be

permitted only for places of worship; schools; movie theatres and similar entertainment venues; restaurants; and recreational facilities at which events change on a regular basis. CASE NO. PZ14-0004 24151 CORTLAND BLVD

Zoning District: R-4. One-Family Residential District

The applicant is requesting a variance from CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES: Section 2513 allowing an entrance monument sign within the corner clearance zone area. The applicant is also requesting variances from 28-5(2)d.3 to allow placement of the entrance monument sign within a required street right of way setback. The property is located on the south side of 10 Mile Rd and west of Novi Rd.

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Sign Ordinance Section 2513 which requires a 25foot corner clearance (clear view) zone and section 28-5(2)d.3 which requires entrance way signs be located at least 10 feet from any street right of way.

CASE NO. PZ14-0005 1171 EAST LAKE DR Zoning District: R-4, One-Family Residential District

The applicant is requesting variances from the CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 to allow construction of a one-story addition and a second floor addition over existing footprint on an existing nonconforming lot with a reduced side setback of 3 ft, a reduced aggregate side setback of 5 ft. The property is located east of Novi Rd and south of 14 Mile Rd. CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 requires that a structure within an R-4 zoning district have a minimum side setback of 10 ft., a minimum aggregate side setback of

25 ft. and maximum 25% lot coverage.

CASE NO. PZ14-0006 BUDDY'S PIZZA 44225 TWELVE MILE RD C103

Zoning District: RC, Regional Center District The applicant is requesting variances from Section 28-5(1)d, 28-5(2)b.1.(a)i.a. and 28-5(3) of the

Novi Sign Ordinance to allow additional signs as follows:

(1) Projecting wall signs of 87 sq. ft.(1) Wall sign of 81 sq. ft. at north elevation

(1) Wall sign of 95.6 sq. ft. at west elevation.

The property is located on the south side of Twelve Mile Road, and east of Cabaret Drive. CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCE, Section 28-5(1)d permits only one ground sign, wall sign, or canopy sign per parcel of property and 28-5(2)b.1.(a)i.a. permits a wall sign of maximum 65 square feet in area. Section 28-5(3) permits a single wall sign for each business storefront

CASE NO, PZ14-0007 APPLEBEE'S RESTAURANT 47900 GRAND RIVER AVE

Zoning District: B-2, Community Business District The applicant is requesting a variance from Section 28-5(2)a.2.ii of the Novi Sign Ordinance to allow a revision of a previous variance to allow an increased sign height from 7 feet to 8 feet. The property is located on the north side of Grand River, and west of Beck Rd. CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCE, Section 28-5(2)a.2.ii allows signage to a maximum

height of 6 feet. CASE NO. PZ14-0008 (FELDMAN AUTOMOTIVE) 42355 GRAND RIVER AVE

Zoning District: B-3, Business District The applicant is requesting a variance from CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section

28-5(3) to allow an oversize ground directional sign of 15 square feet for an existing automotive dealership. The property is located south of Grand River and east of Novi Road. Previous variance 08-014 approved a sign of this size and location specifically for Hertz car rentals. CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 28-5(3) number of on-premises advertising signs permitted states: "No building or parcel of land shall be allowed more than one (1) sign..."
Publish: March 20, 2014 Publish: March 20, 2014

South Lyon senior

Although her season ended a few weeks early due to shoulder surgery and her Lions couldn't buy a win in the tough KLAA Central Division, Mehr made a strong argument for All-Area honors while averaging 12.6 points, 5.5 rebounds and 2.2 steals through the first 14 games. She also shot 82.2 percent from the free-throw line, a single-season school record, which led to the corresponding career school record at 72.5 percent. She will play softball at Virginia Tech. Gabby Mencotti, G Northville senior

A speedy threat that meshed well with her teammates' abilities, Mencotti averaged 8.0 points, 5.3 rebounds, 3.0 assists and 4.2 steals per game. An all-conference honorable mention pick who was dubbed the "best athlete on the team" by coach Todd Gudith, Mencotti's speed broke down defensive presses. She will play soccer at Grand Valley State University. Kristen Schubring, F

Novi senior

A defensive force on a

team often heralded for its offense, Novi coach Bill Kelp said Schubring is one of the best helpside defenders the Wildcats have ever had and referred to her as "the backbone of the team.' The all-conference standout averaged 5.0 points, 5.0 rebounds and 2.0 steals per game.

Sydney Jones, G **South Lyon East senior** A four-year starter for the Cougars, Jones is a

big reason for her program's upward trend in recent years. She averaged 10.2 points, 3.6 rebounds, 1.7 assists and 1.6 steals and shot 31 percent from beyond the arc.

Emily Maresh, C Northville junior

As a physical presence in the paint, Maresh averaged 6.5 points, 5.7 rebounds, 1.8 assists and 1.9 steals per game while often battling taller opponents. She was the team leader in rebounds, third in scoring and will join Mencotti at Grand Valley to play soccer this fall.

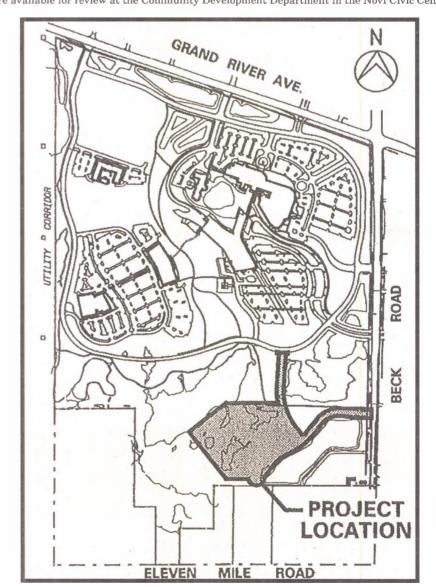
Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former staff writer covering Novi High School

sports for the Novi News.

CITY OF NOVI

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 9, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ROSE SENIOR LIVING AT PROVIDENCE SITE PLAN NUMBER 13-81. LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF BECK ROAD NORTH OF ELEVEN MILE ROAD FOR CONCEPT PLAN APPROVAL UNDER THE PLANNED SUBURBAN LOW RISE OVERLAY DISTRICT. The applicant is proposing a 182 unit senior living facility with both congregate care and assisted living accommodations. Plans was available for review at the Community Development Department in the New Const. are available for review at the Community Development Department in the Novi Civic Cent.



All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, April 9, 2014.

Novi Planning Commission Michael Lynch, Secretary

Published March 20, 2014

BUSINESS

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FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

Cooper-Standard launches proposed refinancing

Novi-based Cooper-Standard Holdings Inc., the parent company of Cooper-Standard Automotive Inc., a global supplier of systems and components for the automotive industry, intends to launch a refinancing of existing indebtedness outstanding under its Senior PIK Toggle Notes due 2018 and Cooper-Standard's 8½ percent

Senior Notes due 2018. In connection with the proposed refinancing, Cooper-Standard intends to enter into a \$725 million senior secured term loan facility and use borrowings thereunder to refinance \$200 million in aggregate principal amount of HoldCo Notes and \$450 million in aggregate principal amount of OpCo Notes. Holdings indicated that the proposed refinancing is expected to materially reduce its annual interest expense.

Town Center lighting project

The city of Novi is overseeing construction services, provided through DTE Energy, to replace street lights in the Town Center Area. The project will replace 88 existing lights with 69 new poles and energy

efficient LED luminaries.
Impact to traffic will
be minimal as road closures will be limited to
one lane at a time. To
complete each phase
safely, DTE Energy will
shut off power to the
impacted street lighting
circuits for 30 to 40 days.
As each circuit is completed, street lights will
be restored as quickly as
possible.

Yoga's up the wall at Sports Club of Novi

Staff Writer

The Great Yoga Wall at the Sports Club of Novi is the first of its kind in the Detroit area, if not in Michigan.

This new and dynamic way of practicing yoga was introduced at the club two months ago and has increased in popularity ever since, among all ages.

"I have a client who is 83 and another who is 10 years old," Yoga Wall instructor Tameka Gallien said.

She said the Yoga Wall will help take a participant to the next level at a pace and comfort level that fits. It's great for healing injuries and for traction of the spine. Gallien knows because it helped her with a nagging hip injury.

Her classes are small, with up to three people using the wall at one time. This allows her to give special attention to each client. With the use of straps connected to the wall, a person can find stability in every pose while improving flexibility, strength and rehabbing a variety of physical ailments.

Yoga Wall participant Kim Krygier said her first time using the wall was a welcome challenge

"Anytime you can challenge yourself and take something you enjoy doing to the next level, it's a great thing," she said. "Wall Yoga incorporates all the core strength training from the regular floor classes



Tameka Gallien, instructor at the Sports Club of Novi, demonstrates the gym's new Great Yoga Wall. Gallien instructs yoga practitioners on the wall using its straps to gently introduce the body to more flexible positions. It's the only such yoga wall in southeast Michigan. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

and adds the difficulty of the wall, harness and gravity."

She added, "It's a really fantastic concept and I am always amazed at Tameka's ability to constantly challenge us to be better."

Gallien is joined by Belinda Kabodian and Suzanna Ran on the Yoga Wall instructor team. They provide private wall training, as well as semi-private and triple wall training.

To learn more, go to www.tsnovi.com or call 248-735-8850. The sports club is located on 42500 Nick Lidstrom Drive.

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

EMU to host Michigan Collegiate Job Fair

With the Michigan job market heating up, college seniors and alumni from Michigan's two- or four-year colleges can meet with prospective employers from a variety of fields at the biannual Michigan Collegiate Job Fair.

The event, sponsored by Eastern Michigan University and supported by the Michigan Career Educator and Employer Alliance, is scheduled to take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, March 21, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, in Livonia.

The event is one of the state's largest career fairs, with more than 100 employers registered.

Employers include Coca-Cola, DTE Energy, Hewlett Packard, IBM, Quicken Loans, Siemens PLM Software, Thomson Reuters and various state of Michigan and U.S. government departments and agencies.

"Many of the employers are seeking to hire entry-level candidates with degrees in business, liberal arts, technology, engineering, human services and allied health," said Ebony Jones, senior corporate relations manager at Eastern Michigan University.

Candidates can view a list of participating employers online at

www.mcjf.org.
The fee is \$15 with walk-in registration.

Last November's event attracted 130 employers and 600 candidates.

Jones recommends that candidates dress in professional business attire, bring several copies of their resume and research the employers that they are interested in speaking with prior to the event.

20th anniversary



It has been 20 years since Dr. Tim Kirk and his family opened an optometry practice. The original location, in the Oakpointe Plaza shopping mall, opened in February 1994. Now a partner, Dr. Amy Crissman Head joined the practice in 2002. In 2004, Town & Country Eyecare moved to its present location in the free-standing building on the corner of Novi Road at Nine Mile. In 2010, Dr. Jared Most joined the growing practice as an associate. They attribute their success to the wonderful community of patients they serve and their skilled staff, led by manager Pam Lego. Visit www.tceyecare.com for more information.



Dr. Scott Tyler, whose practice was recently lauded by the Novi Chamber of Commerce, visits with a man during a Belize trip.

Chamber honors civic leaders

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

The Novi Chamber of Commerce lauded civicminded business people and community leaders Feb. 28 at the annual Toast of the Town at the newly-remodeled Baronette Renaissance.

The event was sponsored by Walsh College, Varsity Lincoln and Lotus Bank

"This is an event to give recognition to the business award winners," said Sheryl Romzek, chamber executive director. The winners are lauded that evening and in the media, including the city's quarterly *Novi Today*.

The event drew 160 people, she said, and was emceed by broadcaster Bob Hynes, now working with the Yankee Air Museum.

"It's a dressy occasion," she said. The band this year was the Jesse Palter Trio, with Palter hailing from West Bloomfield.

A Community Builder Award went to Tyler Dumas Reyes Specialists in Orthodontics, which is marking its 25th anniversary this year. The practice serves Novi, Northville, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Milford, Walled Lake and Wixom from its Novi office. The orthodontic practice also has offices in Birmingham and Rochester Hills that serve many communities in southeast Michigan. Its website is www.tdrortho.com.

Orthodonist Scott
Tyler, a Birmingham
resident, went to Belize
with his church group out
of Birmingham, joining
other Lutheran churches
throughout the country to
share his skills and training.

The awards, given by the Novi Chamber of Commerce, Novi Rotary and the city of Novi, were in two divisions – small (50 or fewer employees) and large (more than 50 employees) – with three categories in each. The winners are:

Community Builder:
Tyler Dumas Reyes Specialists in Orthodontics (small) and Michigan CAT (large). Businesses which partner with others to enhance the Novi community. Partnerships could include involvement with nonprofit organizations, schools, service clubs, the city of Novi or other organizations and associations that further business interests.

Best Place To Work: Red Level Networks (small) and Sidock Group Inc. (large). Businesses which create an optimal working environment for their employees. Examples could include businesses that have taken efforts to create a pleasant work environment, innovation or career advancement.

Customer Service Excellence: Yarmak & Co. CPA (small) and Varsity Lincoln (large). Businesses which demonstrate a commitment to excel in all areas of customer service to ensure customer satisfaction. Company attributes could include the ability to interact effectively with customers and exceed expectations on a continuous basis or a passion that runs through the company to address customer service.

Aaron Quimby was the Ambassador Honoree, chosen by Novi Mayor Bob Gatt

Bob Gatt.
Red Level Networks
was recognized as the
Best Place To Work for
the small category. Red
Level Networks is a full
service advanced infrastructure solutions company which designs, installs and provides ongoing network support for
small, mid-sized and
enterprise businesses
and the educational mar-

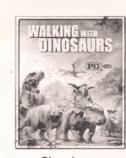
The Toast of the Town honorees were recognized by Gatt and state Sen. Mike Kowall at the gala.



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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.

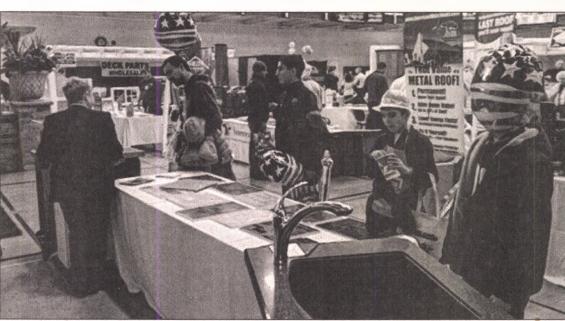
In 2011, he saw the Michigan economy and housing market start a rebound. "They felt more secure. That major weight's been lifted off their shoulders," said Gitre, who's online at www.johngitre.com.

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-

These are the area residential real

estate closings recorded the week of



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 Newspa-

"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

320 Hillboro Dr

3890 Lincoln Rd

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

\$145,000

\$200,000

\$87,000

\$672,000

\$205,000

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.

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

\$300,000

\$258,000

icbrown@hometownlife.com

24764 Jamestowne Rd

27022 Ladbroke St

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

35133 Meadow Ln

29740 Minglewood Ln

\$359,000

\$1,300,000

	Oct. 21-25, 2013, at the Oakland		5050 Ellicolli ita	\$1,300,000	237 40 Milligic Wood Ell	\$200,000	E / OLL LUGDIONC SC	\$250,000
			1839 Long Lake Shore Dr	\$405,000	33260 Oak Hollow St	\$250,000	27092 Ladbroke St	\$274,000
	County Register of Deeds office.		1250 Marymar Ln	\$425,000	29148 Raleigh Rd	\$223,000	44533 Louvert Ct	\$240,000
	Listed below are cities, ad	ldresses.	557 Newburne Pointe	\$460,000	29286 Stillwater	\$304,000	45651 Marlborough Pl	\$424,000
	and sales prices.		2434 Parcells Cir	\$114,000	30578 W 10 Mile Rd	\$123,000	22744 Meadowbrook Rd	\$242,000
	arra sares prices.		1338 S Carillon Ct	\$1,148,000	28921 Wellington St	\$375,000	41617 Mitchell Rd	\$248,000
	BEVERLY HILLS		310 S Cranbrook Cross Rd	\$195,000	FRANKLIN	1	24602 Olde Orchard St	\$105,000
	16321 Birwood Ave	\$255,000	1834 Spring Grove Rd	\$252,000	25620 Meadowdale St	\$603,000	2440 Shawood St	\$221,000
	17969 Kinross Ave	\$294,000	204 Woodedge Dr	\$265,000	30135 Woodside Dr	\$379,000	24792 Sutherland Dr	\$318,000
	15701 Kirkshire Ave	\$175,000	5175 Woodlands Dr	\$280,000	LATHRUP VILLAGE		22916 Talford St	\$65,000
	22200 Orchard Way	\$215,000	COMMERCE TOWNSHIP		19067 Rainbow Dr	\$165,000	SOUTH LYON	
	32525 Plumwood St	\$380,000	1771 Applebrook Dr	\$50,000	28280 Woodworth Way	\$150,000	57479 11 Mile Rd	\$431,000
	32055 Sheridan Dr	\$250,000	5460 Bridge Trl E	\$364,000	MILFORD		59272 Carriage Ln	\$302,000
	30300 Woodhaven Ln	\$419,000	3535 Car Dr	\$340,000	999 Byron Dr	\$147,000	23931 Copperwood Dr W	\$302,000
	BINGHAM FARMS		215 E Wise Rd	\$110,000	637 Dorchester Way	\$260,000	660 E Ridge St	\$175,000
	30725 Ivy Glen Ct	\$320,000	2813 Greenlawn Ave	\$275,000	3110 E Maple Rd	\$265,000	61194 Greenwood Dr	\$73,000
	BIRMINGHAM		8493 Hummingbird	\$310,000	4186 Grondinwood Ln	\$385,000	253 Harvard Ave	\$131,000
	1917 Cole St	\$189,000	5675 Lancaster Ln	\$315,000	1471 Lone Tree Rd	\$209,000	23472 Prescott Ln E	\$368,000
	1596 Hazel St	\$252,000	2650 Old Sherwood Ct	\$270,000	290 Napa Valley Dr	\$293,000	52035 Red Cedar	\$397,000
	309 N Eton St	\$92,000	2334 Palmetto	\$190,000	505 S Main St	\$237,000	23339 Sawgrass Ct S	\$360,000
	315 N Eton St # A	\$92,000	9557 Trace Hollow Ct	\$25,000	1290 Yellowstone Valley	\$255,000	58709 Swing Beam Ct	\$79,000
	909 Pierce St	\$735,000	6180 Turnberry Dr	\$235,000	Dr		SOUTHFIELD	
	685 Southfield Rd	\$533,000	FARMINGTON		NORTHVILLE		507 Fifth St	\$135,000
	240 W Lincoln St	\$212,000	35624 Briar Ridge Ln	\$193,000	20912 E Glen Haven Cir	\$85,000	27300 Berkshire Dr	\$127,000
	1685 W Lincoln St	\$290,000	24041 Farmington Rd	\$240,000	42171 Gladwin St	\$132,000	21771 Frazer Ave	\$20,000
	BLOOMFIELD HILLS		23350 Woodhaven Ct	\$300,000	51120 Park Place Dr	\$579,000	18115 Magnolia Ave	\$100,000
	2076 Devonshire Rd	\$185,000	FARMINGTON HILLS		42159 Pellston Dr	\$130,000	28555 River Crest Dr	\$190,000
	5395 Hickory Bnd	\$190,000	29624 Ardmore Dr	\$390,000	42129 Roscommon St	\$95,000	27140 Selkirk St	\$141,000
	4061 Hidden Woods Dr	\$275,000	28484 Bayberry Rd	\$175,000	NOVI		17359 Silver Maple St	\$135,000
	7456 Lindenmere Dr	\$505,000	31645 Belmont St	\$145,000	30768 Ardmore Ct	\$105,000	21468 Stahelin Rd	\$74,000
	651 Orchard Ridge Rd	\$1,650,000	35305 Blue Spruce Dr	\$214,000	24766 Bashian Dr	\$115,000	WHITE LAKE	
	4355 Risdon Ct	\$195,000	29638 Briarton St	\$155,000	22682 Bertram Dr	\$413,000	524 Union Lake Rd	\$46,000
	4446 Tanbark St	\$500,000	36837 Chesapeake Rd	\$205,000	28318 Carlton Way Dr	\$168,000	24 Wildrose Dr	\$255,000
						4		-

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

28358 Clymer Dr

50413 Drakes Bay Dr

24316 Jamestowne Rd

\$160,000

\$183,000

\$288,000

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,

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

6631 Castle Dr

2043 Eagle Pointe

and sales prices. **CANTON** 40581 Blythefield 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 32319 Barton St 5850 Deering St LIVONIA 36261 Club Dr 18903 Comstock St 17403 Country Club Ct 36039 Curtis Rd 11019 Fairfield St 11011 Flamingo St 30001 Hathaway St 31693 Hillbrook St 9112 Hix Rd 9112 Hubbard St 9627 Ingram St 19225 Meadowridge Dr 16523 Middlebelt Rd 11003 Milburn St 31066 Minton St 18512 Norwich Rd 29643 Nottingham Cir 11240 Oxbow St 33869 Pondview Cir 19980 Rensellor St 29104 Saint Martins St 10051 Seltzer St 33245 Summers St 35843 W Chicago St

32241 Farmersville Rd

25977 Kilreigh Dr

30169 Kingsway Dr

\$200,000

\$212,000

\$80,000 16629 Westbrook St \$108,000 \$20,000 \$37,000 \$294,000 \$220,000 \$330,000 \$151,000 \$140,000 \$120,000 \$209,000 \$145,000 \$145,000 \$165,000 \$127,000 \$48,000 \$143,000 \$127,000 \$127,000 \$91,000 \$133,000 \$69,000 \$22,000 \$177,000

\$132,000

\$146,000

\$140,000

BRIEFS

20335 Whitby Dr NORTHVILLE 44584 Aspen Ridge Dr 44921 Aspen Ridge Dr 16370 Brookwood Ct 39491 Champion Ct 619 East St 17281 Lake View Cir 15885 Morningside 19605 Neptune Ct 18020 W Northville Trl 41336 Windsor Ct **PLYMOUTH** 304 Blanche St 42260 Clemons Dr 42569 Five Mile Rd 500 Ford St 8891 Marlowe Ave 40871 Newport Dr 48660 Timber Crest Ct 9669 Winterset Cir REDFORD 26326 Barbara 20452 Beech Daly Rd 9241 Brady Ct 16887 Centralia 17666 Centralia

\$265,000 18846 Delaware Ave \$63,000 \$255,000 9575 Dixie \$65,000 15473 Dixie \$28,000 14236 Marshall Dr \$184,000 \$370,000 \$385,000 11430 San Jose \$286,000 9167 Seminole 26611 Student \$223,000 \$700,000 17454 Sumner \$410,000 24543 W Chicago \$155,000 15525 Woodbine \$127,000 WAYNE \$393,000 5036 Gloria St \$131,000 **WESTLAND** 7527 Arcola St \$199,000 7660 August Ave \$243,000 32505 Avondale St \$165,000 33405 Bendon Ct \$59,000 33405 Bendon Ct \$129,000 38605 Canyon Dr \$83,000 2116 Ellsworth St \$375,000 34418 Florence St 30305 Ledgecliff Ave \$333,000 8218 N Grace St \$59,000 37108 Norene St \$36,000 32677 Steinhauer St \$54,000 1598 Surrey Hts \$75,000 7886 Terri Dr \$100,000 \$76,000 7610 Woodview St \$37,000

\$89,000 \$60,000 \$50,000 \$70,000 \$29,000 \$51,000 \$25,000 \$100,000 \$100,000 \$106,000 \$20,000 \$22,000 \$116,000 \$18,000 \$114,000 \$135,000 \$160,000 \$115,000 \$75,000 \$85,000

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 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.

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. Any questions or concerns,

call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-

Seminar each Tuesday, **Thursday**

A free seminar on government-insured reverse mortgages is offered by Colonial Mortgage Corp. at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday and at 2 p.m.

each Thursday at various loca-

RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96.

Email Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.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?

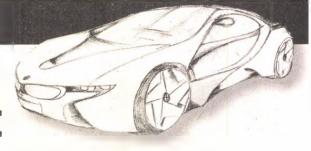
A: Obviously, the answer to your question is document intensive and you must look at the documents to determine the ability of the board to assess and in what manner. However, in a similar situation out of North Carolina, the Supreme Court there agreed with the trial court that the assessment was unlawful 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.

and the author of " Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95, plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. " Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and barnesandnoble.com. He is also the author of " Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staving 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. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawver

Car Report

Family-Friendly Vehicles Still Matter In American Car Market





By Dale Buss

In assessing automobiles, it's easy for evaluators to focus on top-line characteristics such as styling, performance and handling, and fuel economy. And each of these is an important criterion for what vehicle you should buy.

Besides, the "soft"

criteria are much harder to evaluate. Each vehicle may or may not meet the wants and needs of an individual buyer in myriad ways.

But it's still worth attempting to evaluate how well vehicles fit the actual day-in, dayout lives of one important slice of the market: the American family. That's why it's a worthy effort each year by one of the top assessors of new vehicles, U.S. News & World Report, to evaluate each nameplate through the lens of a family of two or more people.

And as the magazine said in its new 2014 awards for the "Best Cars for Families," family cars "don't need to be dowdy or boring."

Often, the best cars for families also are the best - best-looking. best-performing, most fuel-efficient - overall.

The magazine's award methodology combines professional automotive reviews, safety and reliability ratings, seating and cargo volume and the availability of family-friendly features. Within each of the 19 automotive categories, U.S. News & World Report named the vehicle with the highest composite score as Best Car for Families in that category.

Here's what the magazine came up with, along with some of my commentary on many of the nameplates:

Compact cars: Mazda Mazda3. U.S. News noted that the model delivers "performance that car reviewers love" in addition to available high-tech safety features such as forward collision warning and lane-departure

warning "as well as [a] spacious [cabin] that most car critics agree" feels upscale. It's also notable that Mazda3 was a finalist for the North American Car of the Year Award for 2014.

Upscale small cars: Buick

Hatchbacks: Mazda Mazda3. Midsize cars: Mazda Mazda6. The magazine echoed its comments for the Mazda3 when it came to hailing this new version of the Mazda sedan, which was completely overhauled last

Upscale Midsize Cars: Cadillac ATS. This nameplate was the North American Car of the Year for 2013 and is the brand's most worthy entrant ever in the midsize segment.

Large Cars: Chevrolet Impala. Once mainly aimed at rental fleets, the new Impala is a completely transformed machine in its new version as Chevy has succeeded in selling them to rank-and-file retail customers who appreciate the huge upgrade in styling, performance, fuel economy and amenities - including families.

Luxury Large Cars: Cadillac **CTS.** The magazine noted the car's appeal "for luxury-minded families who don't want an SUV" and that reviewers said "it provides plenty of driving excitement for mom or dad, as well as plenty of entertainment options for the kids." This also was a

finalist for the North American Car of the Year Award for 2014. Hybrid Cars: Ford Fusion

Hybrid. Wagons: Subaru Outback. Compact SUVs: Mazda

Luxury Compact SUVs: Audi

2-Row Midsize SUVs: Jeep Grand Cherokee. Jeep needed to score a hit with this vehicle that came out in a substantially overhauled model last year, and it has. Grand Cherokee was one of the original SUVs rendered in mainstream form a quarter-century ago, and it was wise for Chrysler to keep on top of the segment it helped create with a worthy new version.

3-Row Midsize SUVs: Buick Enclave.

Luxurv 2-Row Midsize SUVs: Lexus RX 350. Nearly two decades after it hit the U.S. market in 1998 and redefined luxury with the first worthy SUV aimed at upscale buyers, RX 350 still sets the standard for both luxurious desirably, smooth performance and reliable, family-friendly amenities, even though just about every other premium make has been crowding into this segment since then.

Luxury 3-Row Midsize SUVs: Acura MDX. The awards "also recognize luxury cars that work for families," the magazine pointed out. MDX "has seating for up to seven and an engine

that reviewers say delivers ample power, plus an upscale and modern interior.

Large SUVs: Chevrolet Tahoe. Notably, Chevy also is investing heavily in this once-dwindling segment with new versions of Tahoe and Suburban hitting the market this spring. The brand highlighted the appeal of the new models with a TV ad during the Sochi Olympics. Big SUVs are coming back as gasoline prices moderate.

Luxury Large SUVs: Toyota Land Cruiser.

Hybrid SUVs: Lexus RX Hybrid.

Minivans: Honda Odyssey.



The Lexus RX 350 continues to appeal to upscale families.

Best Minivan for Families for the fourth consecutive year, this vehicle "stands out in a class where every model is family-friendly," U.S. News said. "Though almost all minivans offer the space and safety features families are looking for, the Odyssey sets itself apart by offering features that go the extra mile, like a widescreen rear entertainment system and a built-in vacuum."

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800-836-7697 '12 FORD F-150 FX4 SUPER CREW 4x4 Certified, moonroof,

\$39,995 **Brighton Ford** 800-836-7697

'12 FORD F150 "Harley Davidson S CREW 4X4 Certified, navigation, onl 14,000 miles. \$42,995

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JOBS

Debra Auerbach

Looking for a job isn't easy. It takes time, patience and a lot of work. If you're starting a job search, it may be tempting to jump right in, but if you don't take some time to reflect on what you want and how you want to get there, you may end up taking your job search in the wrong direction.

Before you begin looking for a job, ask yourself some questions that will help you get a clearer picture of what you're looking for, what skills you can contribute to a company and what kind of job can help you achieve your career goals.

Not sure what to ask? Here are some questions to consider:

Why am I starting a job search?

This should be the first question you ask yourself. While you may think it's an easy one, getting to the root of why you're looking for a job can help you determine whether you're job searching for the right reasons. "If you are fresh out of school or unemployed, it's not an issue. But what if you are employed and just unhappy with what you are doing?" says Bruce A. Hurwitz, President and CEO of Hurwitz Strategic Staffing. "I have had a number of career counseling clients come to me thinking they wanted a new job but left realizing all they wanted were new responsibilities. They all stayed on the job, got new responsibilities, and they, and their bosses, were quite happy."

What unique value do I bring to potential employers?

Kimberly Robb Baker, certified résumé writer and job-search strategist, says that if you stick to only showing how you meet the basic requirements of a job, you'll be treated like a commodity. Instead, you need to think about what it is that

The questions to ask yourself BEFORE...
starting a new job search

makes you unique and attractive to prospective employers. "Whether your background in physical education informs your HR candidacy with a unique perspective on employee wellness programs or your coding knowledge makes you an IT manager who can speak engineers' language, you have something to offer that goes

beyond the basics. Find it and express it."

What type of corporate culture do I want to work within?

"Corporate culture is an important factor one must take into consideration when not only contemplating a job offer

but also when applying for jobs," says Jesse Siegal, senior managing director and recruiting expert of recruitment firm Execu-Search. "Therefore, before applying to jobs, you need to take some time to reflect on what you are looking for in a workplace. Some valid questions to ask yourself include: 'Do I need an employer who

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will permit me to work a flexible schedule? Am I okay with having to work long hours in a competitive environment? Do I prefer to work on more collaborative teams or do I prefer working independently?' Once you have these answers, when applying and interviewing for jobs, you'll have a better idea of what to look out for and what questions to ask the employer to learn more about an organization's corporate culture."

On what, if anything, can I be flexible?

While it's good to think about what you'd want in an ideal job, it's more realistic to consider what are "nice to haves" versus "need to haves," since no job will be perfect. "What is a must-have? This will help you decide if a job offer is worth taking or passing on," says Laurie Berenson, career strategist, certified master resume writer and president of Sterling Career Concepts LLC. "Location? Industry? Job function? Hours? Salary? Perhaps you're willing to take a low salary to break into your desired industry. Prioritize what's important to you."

Where do I ultimately want to be in my career, and what steps do I have to take to get there?

"Most people need several 'stepping stone' positions to reach their ultimate goal," Berenson says. "This is especially true of younger job seekers. The job you accept tomorrow may not be your dream job, but if it's getting you into your desired field or industry or is with a reputable employer, consider it a stepping stone to where you ultimately want to land. You can't expect to get there overnight."

Debra Auerbach is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job blog, The Work Buzz. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace

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Help Wanted - General

Maintenance Person We are currently seeking a full time Maintenance Person in Livoula to perform maintenance repairs of physical structures of building, misc., duties and the grounds in an Assisted Living Facility.

Fax resume to: 734-332-8922 rescitusart@hotmail.com

preciousart@hotmail.com

MANUFACTURING owder and liquid laundry fish detergent located i Wixom, MI is seeking an indi vidual to fill the following FORKLIFT OPERATOR/

delivering of raw materials components & finished prod-uct. Operate yard truck to move trailers within the copany property & tractor/ trail er between company & out side warehouse. Perforn computer inquiries in orde to adjust, locate, ship & re ceive inventory. Repair or re place any damaged sacks o cases of finished product. Verify pallet patterns of a finished products & case of yard. Must be skilled in ma neuvering trailers in tight limited spaces & have min. 3 years Hi-Lo experi ence, a Michigan Drivers Li cense & a Michigan Com Drivers Licens (CDL) - Group A.

We offer a competitive wage & benefit package including a 401K & Tuition Reimburse

Please fax resume to: HR Dept, 248-624-0506 or email to: dfannon@korex-us.com

не КОЯЕК

REPAIR ASSISTANT
Apr-Sept. Tile exp.
Non smoker. 248-207-5239

Help Wanted - General

OPTICIAN private office. Dispensing styling, adjusting, assisting doctor with patient care Certifications helpful eyecarehr@yahoo.cor

PLUMBERS Licensed Journeyman & Registered Apprentices Needed for several upcoming projects in the tri-county area. Non-union shop, con petitive wage & benefit pack

resume to 313-255-6189 **REAL ESTATE**

SALES OPPORTUNITY work with Michigan's #1 REALTOR Real Estate One

Commission Income
Rapidly Expanding
Real Estate Market
Start Earning
Commissions Right Away Own Your Own Practice Be Your Own Boss Bonus Programs Health/Life/Disability/



PAT RYAN, REALTOR

Real Estate Sales Position Opening

Join the company that once again achieved the Top Work Place award for the 3rd year in a row. #3 ranked among the large companies in the Metro Area. Below helps explain some of the reasons.

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Contact: Kathy Solan 248-348-6430

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> **ROUTE SALES REP** vision of Canton, MI. Retail Sales exp. preferred. Routing & Customer Service exp. helpful We offer very few wkends & regular shift hrs. Competitive pay, base plus commission pay. Please call from 2-7 daily.

734 -397-0353 SALES PEOPLE FOR: HARDWARE, POOL & **SPA &/or IRRIGATION** Full & Part-Time, and seasona

part time. Apply in person: Five Star Ace, 1135 S. Milford Rd., Highland Seasonal Laborers City of Farmington Hills Golf & Parks; April-Oct.

Min. 18 yrs old. H.S. Diploma or equiv. \$9-12/hr See web site: www.fhgov.com

2 yrs painting exp preferrer Please call 248-486-8430

SUBSTITUTE **CUSTODIANS**

needed for on-call work at South Lyon Community Schools.

Must have a valid driver's license. Pay is \$10.43 per hour.

Contact the Operations Dept. at 248-573-8920 to apply.

VET ASSISTANT Part Time / Full Time

Carousel Cat Clinic 38437 Grand River Ave Farmington Hills 48335 248-476-9860 WAREHOUSE

Full time, for small, established distributor. be able to lift 50+lbs. Forklift CSI Geoturf

KSergott@geoturf.com Help Wanted - Dental

Dental Assistant, Full-Time

Help Wanted - Dental

DENTAL ASSISTANT To work in family practice Mon-Thurs. Certification required. Hartland area Email resume to: hartlandjobs@gmail.com

Help Wanted - Medical



CERTIFIED **NURSING ASSISTANT** egency at Whitmore Lake a 124- bed, skilled nursing fality located in Whitmor ake btwn Brighton & Ann Ar oor, is seeking full/part-time C.N.A's. Looking for candidates to fill afternoon/midnight shifts (3-11:30pm & 11-7:30am). We have an updated competitive wage scale & excellent benefit program Must be able to pass a crimi screen Must be cert

Wlake_payroll@ cienafacilities.com

CNAs

Full Time & Part Time killed nursing and assiste iving care facility, we have multiple openings for CNAs. We are hiring for two—full time positions and one pan-time position for the mid-night shift. Also, two full time positions and one part time position for the after-noon shift. MUST have cur-rent MI CNA license. New

ome visit our facility if fill out an application 1014 E. Grand River Brighton, MI 48116 or email resume to

DIRECT CARE STAFF

No experience needed, training available! All Working with devel available. Working with developmentally disabled adults in their homes. Must have a valid drivers license w/clean record, high school diploma or GED Starting \$8.75/hour

Monday-Friday Call between 9am-5pm Kristie at: 517-518-8284

W House Front Desk/Admissions Feam Rehabilitation has open ngs for full-time & part-time ront Desk Admis We offer competitive salary excellent benefit pkg & bonus es. Apply online at

Help Wanted - Medical

MDS COORDINATOR

WellBridge of Brighton is currently hiring highly mo-tivated and self starting indi-viduals interested in joining

tion, have MDS experience & able to work in a fas

you can apply in person at:

WellBridge of Brighton 2200 Dorr Road Howell, MI 48843 (517) 947-4400

MEDICAL BILLER

Need well exp'd, person for orimary care office in Livonia

ambakrishnan@yahoo.com

Mental Health Therapist
Needed for busy Brighton
office. Referrals provided.
Email resume to; jdjd248@gmail.com relationshipcentermi.com

REHABILITATION PHYSICAL THERAPY

PT Technicians nos for full-time & part-tim

We offer a competitive salary excellent benefit package a bonuses. Apply online at: www.team-rehab.com

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ience necessary. High e, upscale restaura Apply in person only COMPARIS/ SARDINE ROOM/ FIAMMA GRILL 350 S. Main - Plymouth MI

• Beverage Cart Cook - Full Time (Experience preferred) Apply online or within ww.coyotegolfclub.com 28700 Milford Rd. New Hudson, MI 48165

· Bartender · Waltstaff

Full-Time Day COOK Also hiring BARTENDER & WAITSTAFF Apply at: Starting Gate, 135 N. Center St., Northville.

 O&E Media Classifieds 800-579-7355

Help Wanted - Domestic

HOUSEKEEPER king exp'd. Housekeeper. day a week for 8 hours. st have current references. Must have own transportation and willing to take a iminal/ background check. Competitive salary. West Bloomfield area.

248-933-9923 **Position Wanted**

I WILL CLEAN HOUSES IN SOUTH LYON: Call: (248) 982-3782



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This position requires a track record of sales success (outside sales, route sales or retail), excellent customer service skills and computer savvy Digital sales experience a plus. Must have dependable vehicle and impeccable work ethic.

We offer base salary of \$30k range plus commission, which should result in first year earnings in the \$40K range. We also offer a complete benefits package and mileage reimbursement. If we find the right person, we will move quickly. If you're interested and qualified, please email resume to jutter@gannett.com

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