NOVI HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ENJOY ANNUAL PROM NIGHT. LOCAL NEWS, A10

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2014 • hometownlife.com

Growing Together

The Novi Library will be partnering with Michigan State University's Tollgate Education Center and the Friends of the Novi Library 1-3 p.m. Saturday, May 17, at a family event, Growing Together. Families will have

the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, including hay rides throughout MSU Tollgate's farmstead, story times led by Mother Goose, quilt making, gardening, carnival games, visiting with farm animals near the children's garden and more.

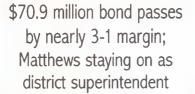
During the event, stop by the information tables of the Friends of the Novi Library, MSU Tollgate Education Center and the Novi Library to learn more about the growing collections, services and resources that they offer. Registration for a new Novi Library card will be available with proper documentation.

For more information about the Novi Public Library or to register for this event, visit novilibrary.org or call 248-349-0720.

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Voters approve of school bond overwhelmingly



NOVI

By Cal Stone Staff Writer

By a nearly 3-1 margin, voters in Novi passed a \$71 million bond proposal Tuesday, paving a bright future for the students in the district.

"I am so thankful to the Novi School District residents for approving this bond proposal," said Dennis O'Connor, school board president. "We are grateful for their unwavering support of our students and staff."

Of the 2,216 yes votes, 647 were absentee, as were 549 of the 866 no votes in the school district's 13 precincts.

The bond will fund a wide variety of projects beginning this year through approximately 2020. Those projects were identified in a Facility Assessment Report of district facilities performed under contract by the firm of Plante Moran Cresa beginning in June 2013 in conjunction with school district staff. Plante Moran performed the

'The Wizard of Oz'

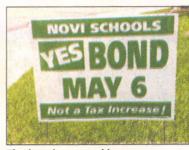
HOW THEY VOTED

The school bond passed with 71.9 percent yes votes to 28.1 percent no votes. Here's how it broke down by precinct:

Precinct	Yes 237	No 81	Total 318
2	211	107	318
3 4	183	83	266
4	191	82	273
5	94	36	130
6	191	79	270
7	104	53	157
13	68	19	87
14	156	46	202
15	248	69	317
16	243	107	350
20	135	70	205
21	155	34	189
Total	2,216	866	3,082

assessment of technology, while district staff performed the assessment of buses and furniture and equipment.

"We ran the campaign based on two important factors – financial integrity and public engagement," O'Connor said. "The school board requested both a



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The bond captured heavy support. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

comprehensive facility needs assessment and a citizen-input committee before trustees even considered putting any proposal before the voters. That was accomplished and the plan was overwhelmingly supported by the community."

In assessing the district's facilities, a 10-year replacement schedule was created for roofing; parking lots and sites; building envelope/exteriors; interiors; heating and cooling; plumbing; and electrical.

Class sizes and building capacity were reviewed to determine physical classroom needs from pre-kindergarten through high school and alternative education.

Student growth necessitates additional classroom space at many of the district's schools if Novi wants to keep one of the lowest class size averages in the county – 22 at the elementary level, 26-28 in secondary schools. The plan is to relocate programs at Meadows, the middle school and the ITC, freeing up classrooms at those sites, and build a new early childhood education center.

"We'll start with architects and planners to begin projects as quickly as possible," said Dr.

See BOND, Page A2

Second time's a charm

HOME &

GARDEN SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE TODAY'S NEWSPAPER

Carter is a unanimous choice for Novi principal

By Cal Stone Staff Writer

Nine months ago, the Novi Board of Education voted against naming Nicole Carter the full-time principal of Novi High School – but at last Thurs-

day's meeting, she was unanimously approved for the position. "I'm confi-

3

dent that I have the will Carter and skill to continue to lead Novi H

continue to lead Novi High School to greatness," Carter said. "Thank you for this opportunity and know that the best days are ahead of us."

See CARTER, Page A2

MANAR RESIGNS FROM BOARD

Jason Manar announced his resignation as trustee on the Novi Board of Education at last Thursday's board meeting.

Manar, who works for the U.S. government and is very tight-lipped about his position,

said about a year ago he began the journey of a temporary career assignment which involved more travel.



He was also

relocated, supposedly to Washington, D.C., and was participating in many board meetings via remote audio.

Manar told his colleagues and constituents that he prides himself on being transparent and remained focused on both his job and trustee position. However, he guestioned



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PRICE: \$1

Parkview Elementary School students perform the musical "The Wizard of Oz" May 1 for their fellow students and a few parents. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

whether he had taken on too much.

"Often times, it seemed more than I could bear," he said.

Manar said he's been debating on running for re-election in November and serving six more years, but for the last two weeks has been "considering other options" such as possibly leaving the Novi district.

The distraction, he said, is unacceptable and the people of Novi deserve undivided representation.

Serving on the board has been "one of the highest honors I have ever held," Manar said.

His resignation will be effective June 2.

Annual postal food drive Saturday helps food banks

By Julie Brown Staff Writer

Saturday is the annual food drive, a cooperative venture of the National Association of Letter Carriers with the U.S. Postal Service.

Some 42 Novi letter carriers will take to their routes that day, supporting St. James Catholic Church and Faith Community Church.

"They both have a food pantry there," local coordinator Sherri McIntosh, a Novi letter carrier, said of the churches. She and colleagues appreciate the generosity of residents.

"I would actually just like to thank them all very much," said McIntosh, a Clawson resident. "They're extremely generous."

This is her fourth year coordinating the Novi drive. Her first year, a little over 8,000 pounds of non-perishable food was collected in Novi. Last year, that was up to 18,317 pounds just for Novi.

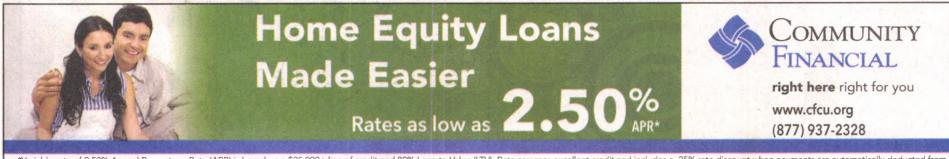
"I most definitely get excited," said McIntosh, a carrier for seven years and with the U.S.P.S. for 14. "This is our way of giving back and just showing we care. It's just gratifying in helping the community where we work. Just being able to help out the community."

This is the 22nd year nation-

See DRIVE, Page A2



Gerard Tobin and Sheila Leonard are among Novi post office letter carriers working on the annual food drive, set for Saturday. You're asked to put non-perishable food donations out in bags by your mailbox by 9 a.m. that day.



*Variable rate of 2.50% Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is based on a \$25,000+ line of credit and 80% Loan to Value (LTV). Rate assumes excellent credit and includes a .25% rate discount when payments are automatically deducted from a Community Financial checking account. Rates are based on the published Prime Rate and subject to change without notice. Additional rates available based on loan amount, LTV and individual credit history. Maximum rate 18.00% APR, minimum rate 2.00% APR. An early termination fee of \$300 will be charged on lines closed within the first 24 months. Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Lender. ©2014 Community Financial

DRIVE

Continued from Page A1

wide for the postal food drive. Residents asked to put nonperishable food in bags by your mailbox by 9 a.m. Saturday. Carriers will pick up the food when they deliver mail.

Cereal and Hamburger Helper boxes are great, she said: "Stuff that's easy to make. Rice, soups."

She and other carriers work with Mara Boyle, acting Novi postmaster, on the management side. That day, the postal workers work with church volunteers, with the food divided equally between St. James Catholic and Faith Community.

McIntosh noted both local food banks collect much food during the December holidays, but tend to have bare shelves now. The postal collection helps them for leaner months, including when children are out of school.

jcbrown@ hometownlife.com

BOND

Continued from Page A1

Steve Matthews, superintendent. "We hope to have added classrooms by summer of 2015."

Technology and security were reviewed in all district buildings and a plan was provided for replacement and expansion. Similar plans were developed for furniture

CARTER

Continued from Page A1

The high school is the district's largest building and has the most students, staff and activities, according to Dr. Steve Matthews, superintendent.

"The high school is our students' last chance to be ready for the world that lies beyond Novi," he said. "We expect our high school principal to be, quite frankly, a superhero."

The principal is expected to be there before students arrive at 6:30 a.m. and stay until the last event is over, often after 10 p.m. and equipment in all facilities, as well as for the district's bus fleet.

"This is very good news for the district," Matthews said. "We're very excited. We feel very fortunate that the community continues to support what we're doing. I'm looking forward to the next several years of when these bond projects start."

Matthews said he was "a little bit" surprised by

Matthews said it's "an impossible job, yet there are people, amazingly enough, who want to do it."

Carter started at Novi teaching civics, economics and AP government for 11 years before becoming dean of students in 2007. She was promoted to assistant principal in 2010 and was named interim principal for the last few months of the 2012-13 school year when Principal Carol Diglio was named assistant superintendent of human resources.

Last June, the principal position was posted and Carter was one of 67 candidates applying. After a lengthy interview process, Matthews in August recommended the board hire Carter for the job, citing numerous qualifications.

The vote was 3-3 (Trustee Jason Manar was absent), but the tie was the same as a "no" vote.

So what changed to make the board unanimously approve Carter last week?

New hiring process

According to board President Dennis O'Connor and Trustee George Kortlandt – two of the three (along with Trustee Shari Lebo) who voted against Carter last August – a revamped, more objective hiring process convinced them this time that Carter was the best candidate.

Matthews said he's been working over the past two years with the board to refine the disthe overwhelming support for the bond. "We felt very good

going into it," he said. "We felt we were (going) in the right direction. This is confirmation that the community supports where we're headed."

The \$70.9 million in funding breaks down to \$35.26 million for facilities and sites; \$15.15 million for building capacity and class sizes; and \$25.12 million for technol-

trict's hiring procedures. In February, he presented a new process that deals with posting, interviewing, hiring and mentoring. That new process also includes administrators being certified in interviewing by HumanEX Ventures, which also did the initial candidate screening interviews.

The high school principal position was posted Feb. 24 through the Oakland County Consortium and remained live for four full weeks. Matthews and Diglio reviewed all 83 applicants. Eleven external candidates and Carter, the only internal candidate, moved forward to the next round.

Four candidates and Carter each underwent a 51-question phone interview that lasted approximately 90 minutes. The analyst who did these interviews, from HumanEX Ventures, recommended three individuals - a high school principal from a smaller high school; an assistant principal from a large, comprehensive high school similar to Novi's; and Carter.

Those three were then interviewed by a panel of administrators, teachers and parents. Each candidate made a presentation, completed a writing assignment and was rated 1-4 on answers to 16 questions.

The remaining two candidates, including Carter, did a final interview consisting of 11 questions asked by Matogy, security, furniture, equipment and buses. The district is utilizing \$1.2 million from its recreation fund and \$4.4 million from sinking

funds to cover costs of

the bond project. Super staying

Matthews was celebrating the bond victory with family, friends and supporters at the Black Rock Bar and Grill in Novi's Twelve Mile Cross-

thews.

"Each candidate had strong credentials. Each candidate came highly recommended," Matthews said, adding his interviews gave him the "confidence in the ability of this person to move Novi High School forward."

That person was Carter.

President's concerns

O'Connor voted May 1 in favor of Carter, but he voiced displeasure with the superintendent, who he said ignored the board's directive last year to seek someone with experience as a high school principal, leading to a "very ugly public discussion."

After Matthews "offered a very public and compassionate argument that failed" last August, O'Connor said he ignored the board again by naming Carter the interim principal, for the second time, for the 2013-14 school year. O'Connor said he was concerned that these actions compromised the hiring process and scared away many good potential candidates

He also blasted the teachers union which – in March, in the middle of the job posting – issued to the media the results of a teacher survey that overwhelmingly supported Carter.

Those two issues, O'Connor said, made it difficult for him to fairly evaluate the superintendent's recommendation and made the process ing at Fountain Walk entertainment complex Tuesday night. He also said that, although he was one of two finalists for the position of superintendent of Troy schools, he learned he was not chosen.

"Troy picked the other candidate," Matthews said. "So I get to stay in Novi and I'm extremely happy about that."

cstone@gannett.com

unfair to Carter.

"There really aren't other choices here," O'Connor said. "Ms. Carter is a great professional and I will vote yes on this recommendation. I just hope in the future we can close these loopholes so that everyone can have a solid and fair chance for jobs in Novi schools."

Other board

members' thoughts

Trustee Ann Glubzinski said the process this time around was fair and unbiased and the applicant pool was sufficiently large. She thanked Carter for serving as interim principal during a "very extended tryout" and said she led graciously and professionally.

Glubzinski, Tracey Cadwell and Bobbie Murphy, board vice president, cast the three "yes" votes for Carter last August. Murphy, again, said it shouldn't be a surprise that someone from within the Novi district rose to the top of the hiring process.

Manar, who announced his resignation from the board at the end of Thursday's meeting (see related story), applauded Carter for "hanging in there."

"You took hold of it and ran with it," he said.

Carter "officially" begins as principal July 1, although Matthews has directed her to now introduce herself as the principal.

cstone@hometownlife.com 248-437-2011

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LOCAL NEWS

Pro-lifers rally outside Providence Park Hospital

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

A group of protestors gathered Friday outside of Providence Park Hospital in Novi to oppose what they say are the anti-Catholic practices going on inside.

"What's going on here is against Catholic teach-ings and it is an evil," said protester and Livonia resident Lynn Mills. "This rally is three years in the making, so we're here today to bring attention to something that really saddens us."

The Rally for Life was held with around 50 people gathered at the southwest corner of Grand River Avenue and Beck Road with protest signs.

There was a plane overhead also with a protest banner: "HOW **PRO-LIFE IS PROVI-**

DENCE HOSPITAL?" Several pro-life/antiabortion groups were on hand, including Call to Holiness, Pro-Life of Detroit and Citizens for a Pro-Life Society and Real Estate for Life.

Event co-organizer David Theisen said the rally was not just about bringing public awareness, but to eventually "bring an end to these practices.'

"These things shouldn't be done at a place that calls itself a Catholic ministry," Theisen said.

Group members said they were protesting the abortionist on staff and that a Catholic hospital does sterilizations or procedures like vasectomies. Theisen said St. Mary's in Livonia doesn't do these things, so Providence shouldn't either. In the Rally for Life

CITY UPDATES

opportunities offered by

The Novi Civic Thea-

the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

tre presents Disney's

and 17-18. Tickets are

available for purchase

via www.cityofnovi.org

or at the city of Novi

Parks, Recreation and

partment, 45175 10 Mile,

Monday through Friday.

follows Wendy Darling,

who loves to tell stories

to her brothers Michael

and John. When her fa-

ther announces she must

move out of the nursery,

Peter Pan comes to visit the children and whisks

The production has

two casts with 80 actors

grades. The Jolly Roger

them away to Never

in third through 12th

cast includes Megan

Land.

This fun-loving classic

Cultural Services De-

from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Peter Pan Jr. May 9-10

Department.

'Peter Pan Jr.'



"What's going on here is against Catholic teachings and it is an evil," said protester and Livonia resident Lynn Mills. CAL STONE

press release, it cited "the abortionists on staff are Moo Piak, Michael A. Roth, Leon Hochman and **Planned Parenthood** abortionist Glenn E.Taylor - who in addition to

referring for abortions from his Providence office, does vasectomies at this Catholic hospital camp."

In response to the rally, Providence Park released the following statement:

St. John Providence Health System provides care in accordance with the Ethical and Religious **Directives for Catholic**

Health Care Services (ERDs). Our medical staff bylaws clearly require all physicians to adhere to the ERDs when providing services in any of our facilities. Michigan law prohibits hospitals from denying medical staff privileges based on the fact that a physician provides abortion services at other locations.'

Its mission statement states, "St. John Providence Health System, as a Catholic health ministry, is committed to providing spiritually centered, holistic care which sustains and improves the health of individuals in the communities we serve, with special attention to the poor and vulnerable.'

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

Special Road Rally

Friends and families are encouraged to team up 6-10 p.m. Saturday, May 17, for the Novi Special Road Rally. Teams of four to six people will gather at the Novi Civic Center at 6 p.m., receive instructions and take off in their vehicle to search for wild and crazy predetermined items to photograph. Immediately following the photo scavenger hunt, participants will report to Aubree's in Northville for appetizers (included) and awards. Your team must bring one digital camera. Extra points will be given to teams in crazy attire. The cost is \$95 per

team and registration is going on now at www.cityofnovi.org. The deadline to register is Monday, May 12.

Visit www.cityofnovi.org to learn about upcoming recreation

Gron of Northville (Peter Pan); Camryn Tynan of Northville (Wendy); Drew Smith of Waterford (Michael); and Nick Czarnota of Novi (John). Performance times are 7 p.m. May 9; 4 p.m. May 10; and 5 p.m. May 18.

The Black Pearl cast includes Eve Culling of Commerce (Peter Pan); Sara Stanley of Novi (Wendy); Braden Baker of Farmington Hills (Michael); and Jack Barshaw of South Lyon (John). Performance times are 7 p.m. May 10 and 17; and 2 p.m. May 18.

Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$8 for children (age 4-12) and seniors (age 55 and older). All seats are general admission. For more information about the Novi Civic Theatre and other creative art opportunities in Novi, visit www.cityofnovi.org or call the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at 248-347-0400.





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EDUCATION CALST CSTONE® 248-437-2 FACEBOO

CAL STONE, EDITOR CSTONE@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-437-2011, EXT. 237 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

First-grader reminded me of why I'm here

nless I'm mistaken, the world is not ending tomorrow. But, of course, it could.

Occasionally, when I have the time, I ponder the fate of the world. I wonder if the world did end tomorrow, would I be satisfied.

The answer I arrive at is – probably not. I enjoy life. I enjoy the

I enjoy life. I enjoy the smell of fresh-cut grass. I enjoy watching the seasons change. I enjoy baseball. I enjoy a good book. I enjoy walks with my dog. I enjoy a round of golf. I enjoy so many



things. But most of all, I enjoy people.

So if the world ended tomorrow, I would miss those things. Oh, don't get me wrong.

People can be frustrating, maddening, ornery, cantankerous, rude, spiteful, mean ... I think you get the idea.

People are not always pleas-

ant

But luckily for me, I work in schools. Schools are full of people who make you believe that people are good. Mostly, schools are full of students. And as I visit the schools in our district, I am consistently reminded of the goodness of people through the eyes and voices of our students.

I hear the voices of our students as I talk to them at school. And I hear their voices, on occasion, when students send me letters.

Recently, I received a letter than began:

"Dear Dr. Matthews, I would be grateful if you put in a school zoo."

This letter, that I learned was written by a first-grader in our school district, carefully expressed her opinion about why a school zoo would be a good idea. She gave some very sound reasons.

This letter arrived in my in box at the end of a rather long week.

At times, it seemed like the world was going to end.

But this young first-grader reminded me of why I am here. Life is full of really wonderful things. Most importantly, life is full of people like this young first-grader. A person who still sees wonder in the world. A person who is excited about life. A person who believes that good things can happen just by asking for them.

My hope is that I may always be so full of wonder and so full of life ... until the world really does end!

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

SCHOOL BRIEFS

St. Baldrick's battling children's cancer

A community in the fight against childhood cancers was making a difference in the fight April 26, gathering at the Walled Lake firehouse for the annual St. Baldrick's Foundation head-shaving event.

Forty-six kids are diagnosed with cancer every school day. More children die from childhood cancer than any other disease. Less than 4 percent of the National Cancer Institute's budget is directed to childhood cancer research. The St. Baldrick's Foundation remains the largest funder of childhood cancer research grants, second only to the U.S. government.

Event organizer Emily Mac-Beth once again had the support of the Walled Lake, Commerce and Novi fire departments, as well as Annette Krzykowski, owner of Your Salon of Commerce Township. She and her staff were on hand supplying chairs and stylists taking on this the task of seemingly endless haircuts.

The firehouse was a sea of folks waiting in line for the opportunity to have their hair shaved. Leading the way to the first haircut of the day in the fight against childhood cancers was Walled Lake Elementary student Brennan Lynch, 8.

St. Baldrick's team captain/ coordinator Karrie Martin joined MacBeth and her cause for the



Pictured are (front, from left) Cameron Modreski, Luke Kalis and Brennan Lynch; (middle, from left) Michael Nowicki, Brandon Haas, Brenden Nominee and Joshua Kolling; and (back, from left) Principal Linda Day and fourth-grade teacher Ben Malonis. CURTIS DROGMILLER

fifth year, with a Mary Guest Elementary five-year total fundraising amount of \$55,000.00.

Smiles of joy and pride for their students involvement was clearly seen on the faces of Walled Lake Elementary Schools Principal Linda Day and fourthgrade teacher Ben Malonis. The day raised awareness and many needed monetary funds to help end childhood cancers.

There were raffles, T-shirts for sale, baked goods and hotdogs and beverages. The meeting room at the firehouse was converted into a game room for children to have fun.

- By Curtis Drogmiller

A Growing Place registration

A Growing Place is now registering new students in its afternoon young 5's and pre-kindergarten classes. Both classes are available in two-, three- or five-day options. Call 248-471-2333 for more details or to learn about full- and halfday classes. A Growing Place Inc. is located at 40700 W. 10 Mile in Novi.

Summer school registration

Novi Community Education has begun registration for summer school.

New this year is online registration (high school summer school only) at www.novicommunityed.org. High school students and parents will now view the courses online, download the forms for verification and fax or email them to the Community Education Office after they process their online selection and payment.

Summer school refresher courses prekindergarten to eighth grade will continue to register at the Novi Community Education office. Summer classes begin Monday, June 23, and end Thursday, July 24.

A list of classes, times and fees are online at www.novi.k12.mi.us under Community Education – Summer School.

Summer C.A.R.E.

Registration for Novi Community Education's Summer Child C.A.R.E. has begun. This program is for children ages 3 who have attended one year of preschool up to children going into the eighth grade.

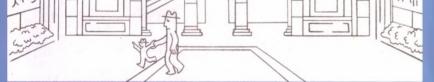
The program begins Monday, June 23 and ends Friday, August 15. Hours of operation are 6:45 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Students will be placed in age appropriate groups and will participate in crafts, sports, field trips, games and free play. This year's location will be at the Instructional Technology Building (Novi Meadows), located at 25425 Taft Road. Lunch and snack are included (except on field trips days).

Registration and scheduling is done online at www.novicommunity ed.org. Call 248-449-1713 for more information.







ALL-YOU-CAN-SEE BUFFET

Friday Night Live!

Brazilian jazz pianist Heloisa Fernandes performs original compositions with delicacy, driving rhythm, elements of dance and playfulness. *Rivera Court, 7 & 8:30 p.m.*

Family Sundays

Puppeter Tom Lee demonstrates the history of Japanese puppetry styles bunraku and kuruma ningyo and their influence on western culture. *Lecture Hall, 2 p.m*

Sunday Music Bar

Michael Chikuzen Gould performs on the shakuhachi, a Japanese flute made of bamboo. *Kresge Court*, 1-4 p.m.

Now On View

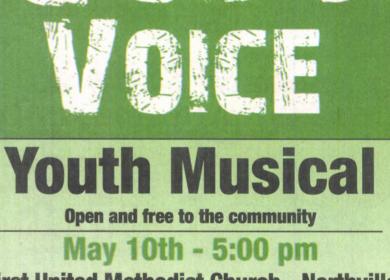
Samurai: Beyond the Sword, through June 1. FINAL DAYS! Tickets at dia.org

77th Annual Detroit Public Schools Student Exhibition, through June 8.

Let Me Show You What I Saw: American Views on City and Country, 1912-1963, through June 29.

General museum admission is free for residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

let vourse



First United Methodist Church - Northville Pasta Dinner to benefit Motown Mission Youth Outreach Immediately following May 10th performance

For tickets contact Paula Reitz at paulareitz@hotmail.com

May 16th - 7:00 pm Northville Town Square

May 18th - 9:15 & 11:00 am First United Methodist Church - Northville



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ON CAMPUS

Albion College

Novi student Rylan Probst received an Arthur and Eva Janson Endowed Scholarship for Visual Arts during Albion College's annual Honors Convocation held late last month. The Albion College faculty choose recipients of these awards from among the most exemplary students in all academic departments.

Probst is majoring in communication studies (organizational emphasis) and minoring in art. He is the son of Wayne and Christina Probst of Wixom and a graduate of Walled Lake Western High School.

Several local students demonstrated their outstanding work at Albion College's Elkin R. Isaac Research Symposium held in late April. The two-day symposium celebrated research, scholarship and creative activity done by students throughout the academic year.

Caitlin McClorey presented an original project titled "Business Plan Development: An

International Partnership between the USA and France - Full-Fit." McClorey was also elected to the Albion College chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa, a national honorary society for students outstanding in campus life and scholarship. McClorey is majoring in economics and management and minoring in business and organizations and political science. She is the daughter of Timothy and Marisa McClorey of Wixom and a graduate of Ladywood High School.

Joseph Silvestri presented an original project titled "Comparative Genomic Analysis of a Region (Contig51) of the Fourth Chromosome from Two Species of Drosophila." Silvestri also received a Lepard Family Pre-Medical Scholarship and a Mari-lyn Young Vitek Merit Scholarship in Biology for a Junior Male. Silvestri is majoring in biology. He is the son of Guiseppe and Josephine Silvestri of Novi and a graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School.

Vikings band chosen for Thanksgiving Day Parade

The Walled Lake Central Marching Band received the news April 30 that it has been selected to perform in the 2015 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Day Parade. "I could not be more thrilled that our program has been selected for the 2015 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. This has been one of our major goals for our program and we will represent our community, Walled Lake Schools and the state of Michigan with excellence and excitement. We are extremely grateful for being selected and cannot wait to give the performance of a lifetime," said David Rogers, band director and teacher at Central

The Vikings will join the line of march and begin their performance to the sound of Let's Have a Parade, the iconic phrase that has signaled the start of every Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade since 1924. They will join nine other marching bands from across the country as well as iconic Macy's staples: floats, giant character balloons, clowns and superstar performers galore Nov. 27.



David Rogers, Walled Lake Central band director, celebrates with students and band staff.

"The Macy's Band Selection Committee is excited to welcome Walled Lake Central High School Band to our parade family! The band's impressive history of success on the field and on the national stage speaks great volume about Walled Lake Central's commitment to musical excellence and we look forward to watching the Vikings entertain the Macy's Parade audience on Thanksgiving morning," said Wesley Whatley, creative director, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

The Vikings were selected to be one of 10

marching ensembles to perform, beating out more than 175 applicants nationwide. Each year, the Macy's Parade Band Committee looks for bands that have the stage presence to captivate a national audience as well as having the musical and marching abilities to showcase on a national scale.

"I am immensely proud of and happy for our students and staff," said Chuck Morgan, Central principal. "We will be able to share with the entire country, via the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the accomplishments of our threetime state championship marching band."

The band will spend the next 18 months planning for its big debut. Rehearsals and fundraising events not only bring the school and the community closer, but prepare the students for the march of a lifetime.

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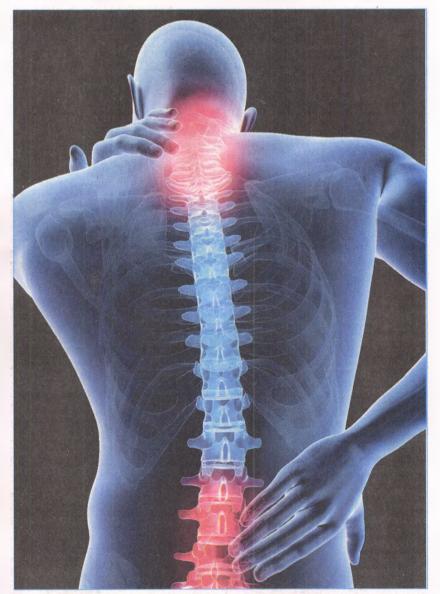
FLORIDA MICHIGAN NEW YORK

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Wixom Elementary held its second Dining to Donate event April 1 at Wendy's of Wixom, which donated \$1,141.89 from customers dining in the restaurant to the school. Owner Kelli Sefton, with the Wendy mascot by her side, worked the floor, handing out raffle tickets. "We wanted to help Alec (Bender, school principal) and his school," Sefton said. "I was impressed with his dedication, spending a half hour with me on a Saturday expressing his needs and how we could both help the kids." CURTIS DROGMILLER

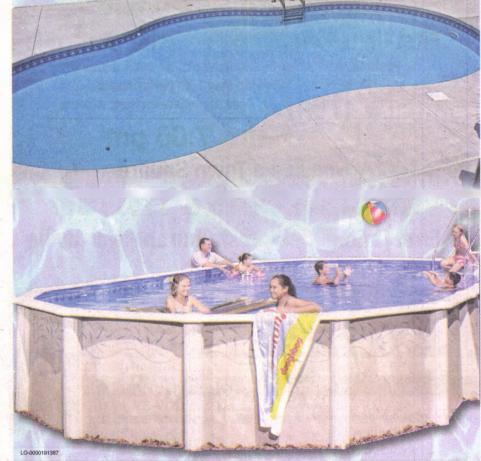




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Middle school students presenting 'Hairspray JR.'

Hairdos and excitement will be on the rise and Novi will shake and shimmy May 16 when local students at Novi Middle School present their production of *Hairspray* JR., according to Freddie Gershon, CEO of Music Theatre International.

The family-friendly show captures the spirit and turmoil of 1962 Baltimore through laughter, dance, romance and deliriously tuneful songs.

The story follows Tracy Turnblad, a full-figured girl with full-figured hair and a big heart, who has only one passion – to dance.

When her determination and rock 'n' roll moves land her a spot on a local television dance program, *The Corny Collins Show*, she is transformed from an outsider to an irrepressible teen celebrity.

This trendsetter in dance and fashion uses her fame to

DETAILS

Presentation: "Hairspray JR."

When: 7:30 p.m. May 16 Location: Novi Middle School, 49000 11 Mile Tickets: \$7 and may be purchased by check or cash in the main office or the performance night. For more information:

Email Lori Burkhardt at Iburkhardt@novi.k12.mi.us.

win the affections of heartthrob Link Larkin, challenge the program's reigning princess Amber and rally against racial segregation ... all without denting her 'do.

With a book by Mark O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan, music and lyrics by Marc Shaiman and lyrics by Scott Wittman, *Hairspray JR*. is based on the 1988 film written and directed by John Waters.

Art show



Novi High School senior and International Baccalaureate candidate Louisa Zheng describes some of her art portfolio April 28 during a show in the school's forum. Zheng and other art students showed off their senior portfolios to fellow students, their parents and school staff. Zheng will be attending the College of the Art Institute of Chicago next fall. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER





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Oakland County deputy is department's best

By Diane Gale Andreassi Staff Writer

Oakland County Sheriff's Deputy Mark Snider had an amazing year, with a string of successful foot chases and an arrest that is expected to solve a rash of armed robberies at a New Hudson gas station.

The 22-year veteran, who works out of the Lyon Township substation, was named Oakland County Sheriff's Office patrol officer of the year.

"It's very well-deserved," said his boss, Sgt. Mark Venus. "Mark has been that caliber of a patrol officer."

And when Snider was a detective in the substation a few years back, he was "as good an investigator," Venus said.

Working in patrol "is all I ever wanted to do as long as I can remember," Snider said. "There's something different every day and every call is different."



Oakland County Sheriff's Deputy Mark Snider was named patrol officer of the year. HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

As far as nabbing the suspected gas station armed robber, Snider was called to a personal injury accident scene and, like the best sleuths, he put pieces of the puzzle together and realized the guy sitting in the back seat of his patrol car might be the same person who was holding up attendants at the Mobil station on Grand River.

"Everything just came together — I had a lot of good luck and I had a lot of help from my partner," said Snider, who is married and has two children, 18 and 12.

The biggest downside of the job, he said, is responding to motorists on Interstate 96, especially when roads are slippery and there's a greater chance of motorists veering out of their lanes and into his path. Noting that he isn't the deputy with the highest number of citations issued, Snider chuckled and said he would rather help someone in need than write a ticket.

"I know it sounds corny, but it's why I wanted to do this job," Snider said. "It's not to write a ticket or throw someone in jail. It's helping people in need and doing what I can for them."

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

Sheriff warns county residents of jury duty phone scam

The Oakland County Sheriff's Office is investigating a phone scam that targets Oakland County residents by soliciting fraudulent funds to cover non-appearance jury duty fees.

Multiple complaints have come in from citizens receiving phone calls from suspects claiming to be Oakland County 6th Circuit Court or Oakland County Sheriff's Office employees. The suspects appear to be calling from a number with a 248 area code and claim that a warrant has been issued for the call taker's arrest because they did not appear for jury duty. The suspects instructed the call taker to pay the fine with a prepaid Green Dot Visa Card to clear the warrant. The suspects provided an alternate 248 area code number for the call taker to obtain verification. When this number was called for confirmation, the phone was answered "Warrants Unit" and claimed to be specific sheriff's office employees which perpetuated the scam.

The Sheriff's Office and the 6th Circuit Court advises that if anyone receives a call requesting money from a court or sheriff's office employee regarding fees for failing to appear for jury duty, he or she should immediately contact local law enforcement and under no circumstances make any payments.

"Anytime you receive an intimidating phone call from someone claiming to be in a position of authority and

money, always report the incident to local law enforcement," Sheriff Michael Bouchard stated in a release. "Scam artists and unscrupulous persons looking to dupe honest people out of their hard-earned dollars are always hard at work trying to trick honest people. If you suspect you are being scammed, there is a very good chance you are. Trust your instincts and report suspicious behavior to your local authorities.'

they are demanding

Residents receiving these types of phone calls can contact their local law enforcement agency or the sheriff's office at 248-858-4911.

Questions regarding jury duty service can be directed to the Oakland County Jury Office at 248-858-0029. Additional information regarding jury duty service is available on the Circuit Court website at www.oakgov.com/ courts/circuit/Pages/ jury_service.aspx.

Hockey stick stolen smoking an h Blood was

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

A hockey stick was stolen from the locker room at the Novi Ice Arena during the evening of April 25. Its owner said it's a white Bauer APX Vapor right-handed stick with an engraving – "DW33."

He was there that night for drop-in hockey. He told Novi Police that he suspected some kids who were also there playing hockey of doing it. They left early and, when the other players went back into the locker room, there were other things missing, including money. In anger, the stick owner kicked over a garbage can to reveal some of the missing cash underneath it, but not all of it.

Driving high

A driver was cited for OUID after almost side swiping a Novi Police patrol vehicle.

The arrest of the driver occurred April 27 at Grand River Avenue and Main Street after police spotted the near accident. Police reported smelling marijuana inside the vehicle, but the driver denied having any inside. However, the police asked him if he ate it because they reported seeing some in his teeth. He then did admit to smoking an hour earlier. Blood was later drawn from him and the case will be forwarded onto the prosecutor's office.

Drunken driving

Erratic driving led to the arrest of a driver for high blood-alcohol content.

After 2 a.m. April 27, Novi Police spotted the driver's vehicle along Grand River Avenue occupying both lanes. Police reported smelling alcohol inside the vehicle. During field sobriety tests, the driver had trouble maintaining balance.

His blood-alcohol level during the preliminary breathalyzer test registered 0.172 percent.

Makeup stolen

A woman was arrested for retail theft after Kohl's department store staff spotted her stealing an assortment of makeup and then attempting to leave without paying.

The incident happened during the afternoon of April 26 at the store on West Oaks Drive. The suspect was spotted by security camera putting \$77 worth of cosmetics inside her purse. She was detained after exiting the store and later admitted to the crime.

Braces in

– By Lonnie Huhman

Livonia Public Schools Opens Renowned Academically Talented Program To Out-Of-District Students

Eight seats are open to students entering 1st or 2nd grade, and Eight seats are open to students entering 3rd or 4th grade for the 2014-15 school γear.

Limited Registration window: May 9-May 23, 2014.

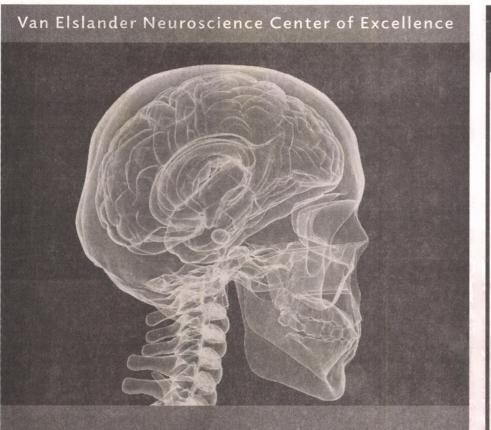
Livonia Public Schools is opening its Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (ACAT) program to Limited Schools of Choice for the 2014 - 2015 school year.

This program is geared toward academically talented students looking for a specialized learning experience.

Registration will be open from May 9 - 23, 2014 at Webster Elementary School, 32401 Pembroke, Livonia, MI 48152 from 8:00a.m. - 4:00p.m. Monday - Friday.

All candidates MUST meet the ACAT selection testing criteria.

For complete information on the application process, visit **www.livoniapublicschools.org** or contact Webster School at **734-744-2795**.



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One month in, I-96 construction still on track

By David Veselenak Staff Writer

It's been nearly a month since Interstate 96 shut down through Redford and Livonia. And with a little bit of cold temperatures and even some snow, the project is moving along and is still expected to be completed no later than October.

Construction crews have demolished many of the bridge decks along the route, as well as removed much of the road's surface, leaving piles of dirt and concrete that tower over the freeway.

"We are on schedule,

on target. We had a snow day, but that may have temporarily halted operations for 12 hours," said Jeff Horne, an engineer with the Michigan Department of Transportation, which is overseeing the project. "We were fine."

A portion of the freeway near Newburgh, about 1,500 feet, has also seen the pouring of new concrete, the first new portion that will make up the freeway when it reopens. Horne said crews will work on a short span of laying concrete along the road and near the retaining walls to make sure it will set properly, but will later ramp up work and do bigger stretches as the project moves forward.

"We do small increments in the beginning," Horne said. "Once all the lanes are poured, you do the barrier walls and the center median."

The \$148 million project has kept the freeway between Telegraph and Newburgh shut down since April 5. With the closure, many drivers have taken to surface streets and the official detour routes provided by MDOT, which include I-94, I-696, the Lodge Freeway and the Southfield Freeway. Many surface roads,

Many surface roads, including Plymouth, Five Mile and Six Mile, have seen some increased traffic with the project, though Livonia Police Chief Curtis Caid said his department has not had any major issues resulting from the larger amount of vehicles in town this past month.

"We've had minimal issues with that," he said. Horne said MDOT

continues to look at the alternate routes and work with Wayne County on determining signal timing to help keep traffic flowing appropriately. "We are aware of de-

tour routes getting congested," he said. "We're doing our best to get them optimized."

He said MDOT communicates with GPS providers to have them update their software and avoid routing drivers along the freeway. Google has even also removed the seven-mile stretch of the freeway from its Maps program.

Schoolcraft open for business

City and business leaders have erected several signs along main roads approaching Schoolcraft, which is down to one lane in each direction because of the construction, letting people know that business continues to happen along the service drive.

The signs, which read "Schoolcraft service drive open for business," have been placed near the intersections to keep people coming to the many businesses along the road, which have reported a decrease in commerce since the closure.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com 734-678-6728

DEMOCRATS PREP FOR SPRING GALA

Schauer, Levin featured guests at annual event at Meadowbrook Country Club

Following a smash hit last year, the Democrats' fifth annual Spring Gala 2014 is set for 7 p.m. Saturday, May 17, at Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville, 40941 W. Eight Mile.

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mark Schauer will be keynote speaker and U.S. Sen. Carl Levin will be an honored guest and speaker.

Levin's appearance commemorates his 36 years of service to the citizens of Michigan and the nation. He was keynote speaker at the first Democratic Spring Gala in 2010.

The Democratic Spring Gala is hosted by four local Democratic Clubs: Northville, Plymouth, Canton and West Oakland County. The galas have become premier events for Michigan Democrats and allow them to rub elbows with the stars in the panoply of Democratic local and national office holders and activists, organizers said.

Other highlights of the evening include an extensive banquet buffet orchestrated by Meadowbrook's executive chef Michael Olday, a cash bar and music and dancing to the everpopular Steve King and the Dittilies.

Tickets are available by contacting Karen Zyczynski of the Dems of West Oakland County at zyczynski2002



Democratic governor hopeful Mark Schauer is the keynote speaker.



atiring U.S. San Carl Lavin will also speak at the ave

Catholic seminary to drivers: Pray through I-96 construction woes

Many of those who commute from the western suburbs of Detroit will spend a lot of extra time on the road for the remainder of 2014 because of the I-96 freeway closure. But Detroit's Catholic seminary is hoping faith-filled drivers can use the extra commute time to pray. To that end, Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit and the Archdiocese of Detroit are giving away prayer CDs to 96 motorists who would pray the Rosary during their extra drive time.

drive time. "God is always waiting at the door of our hearts, wanting us to acknowledge and involve Him in our day," said Rev. Robert Spezia, undergraduate spiritual director and director of liturgy at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, who oversaw production of the CD and whose voice is heard beginning the Rosary. "We have a heavy construction season and people will be spending a lot more time in their cars - if we sincerely offer that time to God and pray, I can almost guarantee a peaceful commute instead of one so often filled with frustration and anger. I would challenge drivers to try it for 30 days and see if it affects their attitude and their heart."

The prayer CD, titled Beg the Master of the Harvest, is a live vocal and musical recording of the Rosary, a popular Catholic devotional prayer that calls on the intercession of the Blessed Mother while reflecting on passages about Christ from the Bible. It was recorded in 2007 by seminarians at Sacred Heart – many of whom are now local prayer for more priests in the Church, and as a fundraiser for the seminary's chapel. Each portion, or "decade," of the rosary is led by a different man. While the Rosary is traditionally prayed with hand-held beads, the CD allows drivers to keep both hands on the wheel.

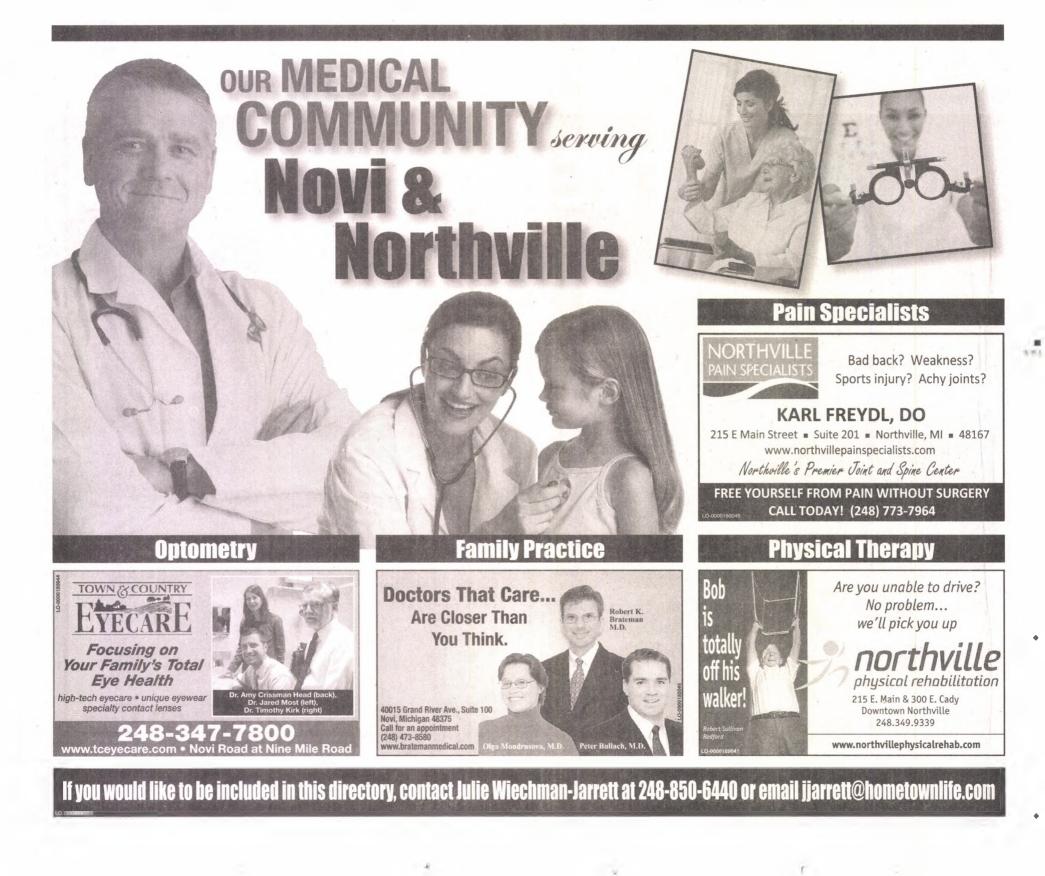
"There are various depths at which we can pray the Rosary and it will be more at the surface level if we pray it while driving," Spezia said. "We should not be concerned about that – the Holy Spirit is still at work. At the surface levels, the rosary can initially strike us as boring, but there is great spiritual power in repeating Scripture. Parents, teachers and coaches know the power of repetition. Many people have said to us that it is their favorite Rosary CD because each decade is led by a different person."

The giveaway of prayer CDs dovetails with two other Catholic initiatives. In early March, Detroit Archbishop Allen Vigneron announced that the local Catholic Church was beginning a Year of Prayer for a New Pentecost, during which time Catholics were invited to pray for a renewal of Christian faith in southeast Michigan.

Drivers who would like a copy of the Rosary on CD can tweet @DetroitCatholic with the hashtag #96Rosaries, email 96Rosaries@aod.org, or call 313-596-7144. Requests by those on any commute will be honored. Those who would like to purchase the CDs for \$20 to benefit Sacred Heart Major Seminary Chapel can visit www.aod.org/RosarvCD

priests – as a way to promote

or call 313-883-8508.



Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner



Former President Bill Clinton (center) spoke April 26 to a crowd of more than 2,000 at Cobo Center in Detroit at the annual Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner, the largest annual fundraiser for the Michigan Democratic Party. Ramesh Verma (third from left), treasurer of the Michigan Democratic Party, attended the event, along with many Indian community members. Clinton urged Michigan Democrats to embrace the Affordable Care Act and campaign on it this fall. He said President Obama's signature law still needs tweaking, but it's helping drive down the cost of health care, making America more competitive. Clinton said the key to Democratic victories this fall is to turn out voters at the same rate the party did in the presidential election.

Novi celebrating National Bike Month with week of activities

PEDALING NOVI

According to the League of American Cyclists, Michigan is the 12th most bike-friendly state. For the past seven years, the city of Novi has been recognized by the Michigan Governor's Council on Physical Fitness with a gold level **Promoting Active Com**munities Award due, in part, to a commitment of enhancing nonmotorized transportation. The city's Non-motorized Master Plan serves as guideline for allocating resources to increase the sidewalk and pathway inventory

To learn more about bike safety and the Non-motorized Master Plan, including a video highlighting bike safety, visit www.cityofnovi.org. May has been designated National Bike Month by the League of American Bicyclists and the city of Novi will celebrate with a week of activities.

Bike Rodeo: Novi Civic Center Campus, 6-8 p.m. Monday, May 12 – A free event geared for kids 5-12. Members of the Novi Police Department will be on hand and stations include safety, bike registration, trivia, giveaways & more. Bring a bike and helmet. No registration required.

Novi Nights Group Rides: Lakeshore Park, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 13 – Novi Nights is a beginner-friendly ride through Lakeshore Park's mountain bike trails hosted by Motor City Mountain Biking Association. Meet each Tuesday evening (weather permitting) near the trailhead kiosk. All skill levels are welcome. **Ride Your Bike To**

Work: Performance Bike, 7:45 a.m. Wednesday, May 14 – Celebrate Bike to Work Day. Meet in front of Performance Bike for a group photo and head to work in style (on your bike). Shirts provided to those who preregister to ride by contacting the city's Community Relations Department at 248-347-0416 by May 9. **Bike Safety Lunch**

and Learn: Novi Police Training Center, 11:30 a.m. Thursday, May 15 – Learn the rules of the road, safety suggestions, maintenance and proper bike selection. The Lunch and Learn is presented by Novi Police Bike Patrol and Performance Bike. Preregistration is requested by contacting the city's Community Relations Department at 248-347-0416 by May 12.

REGISTER NOW! 248-243-1361

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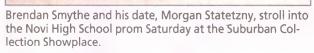


Wildcats prom



Attendees of the 2014 Novi High School prom enter the lobby of the Suburban Collection Showplace and head to the registration desk to find out their table assignment. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER





Allison Schutte (left) and Megan Zydezk walk into the prom Saturday – just ahead of their dates – as they try to beat the wind and cool temperatures.

Karissa Koomen and Andrew Terk attend Saturday's Novi High School prom.



Couples enter the Suburban Collection Showplace around 7 p.m. Saturday for the annual Novi High School prom.





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Brightmoor Christian Church

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

Web: www.brightmoorchurch.org

Celebrate Recovery

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

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 through Friday; 7 p.m. Monday and 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: DestinvW3C@ Gmail.com or visit 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.

Youth group: 7 p.m. Wednesdays Women's Coffee Break Bible

Study: 10-11:30 a.m. Mondays; God Revealed by Fred Sievert **Special Needs Ministry:**

Contact Judy Cook, 248-442-8822

Faith Community Presbyterian Church

Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Contact: 248-349-2345 or visit www.faithcommunity-novi.org Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

First Baptist Church of Northville

Location: 217 N. Wing Contact: 248-348-1020 Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.

and 7 p.m. Tuesdays Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month

First Church of the Nazarene

Location: 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile Contact: 248-348-7600 or visit dfcnazarene.org Sunday Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Classic worship service, Adult

Bible Fellowship classes and Children's Sunday School; 11 a.m. Contemporary worship service with Kids Church, Teen Worship Service and Adult Bible Fellowship classes. Café 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 Age

Mom Deserves the Very Best

First Presbyterian

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Location: 41415 Nine Mile, corner of Meadowbrook Road, Novi Contact: 248-349-0565

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

First United Methodist 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. Nursery-sixth grade

YOUTH MUSICAL Time/Date: 5 p.m. May 10; 9:15 and 11 a.m. May 18 Location: First United Methodist Church Northville Time/Date: 7 p.m. May 16 Location: Northville Town Square

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



70, passed away May 4, 2014. She was born on February 20, 1944, in Northville, daughter of the late Warren & Amy Simpson. Known for her devoted love to her husband, children and grandchildren, Patricia was the rock of the Groner family. She was very proud of her home and could often be found decorating the house for holidays, especially Christmas. She enjoyed baking, was an excellent cook and loved to go on color tours with her husband, Martin, in the fall. Patricia will always be remembered for her kind, generous spirit and her love for her family. She is survived by her beloved husband of 49 years, Martin; her loving children: Dwayne (Janet) Christine (Robert) Kotoucek Kelly (Russell) Collins and eight grandchildren and four greatgrandchildren. She is also survived by three brothers. Patricia was preceded in death by her parents, one sister and one brother. Visitation will be held on Thursday, May 8, from 4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. with a funeral service on Friday, May 9, at 11:00 a.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Make a Wish Foundation. Online guestbook at

hillips FUNERAL HOME AND

PACE, **RITA EMANUELLA**

Angela Hospice honors two

Syndie Best, volunteer services manager at Angela Hospice in Livonia,



Welsh

ized just how excep-

In addition, 15 of Angealways knew she la Hospice's volunteers had wonderworked over nine times ful, dedicatthe national average in

ed volun-2013. Tammy Welsh of Novi logged 424 hours teers. But last year. Welsh has been looking over the national a volunteer with Angela Hospice since 2010 and statistics, has even worked as a Best realmentor, training new

volunteers who wish to tional this work with patients. group was. "The

"She is extremely dedicated and reliable National and easy to work with," Hospice and Best said. Welsh was honored at Palliative Angela Hospice's Volun-Care Or-

ganization reports that teer Appreciation Dinner the average volunteer held last month, along devotes 44.4 hours per with fellow Novi volunyear," Best said. "Angela teer Phyllis Jason, who Hospice volunteers prowas recognized for five vide an average of 100.1 years of service.

> View Online www.hometownlife.com

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

PATRICIA L.

Roy, www.phillipsfuneral.com

CREMATION SERVICES

ge 84, passed away May



SELBY-HELF **HENRY GEORGE**

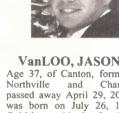
Born June 21, 1952 in Victoria, BC. Passed away on April 30, 2014 in Maple Grove, MN. An avid sailor, world traveler, Pantera owner and musician (clarinet). George (tried) spending as much time on the water as volunteering as a foster parent, YMCA Indian Guides leader, member of the church choir, council, and men's group. He completed his Bachelor of Music Performance at University of Victoria and his Associate of Technology Electronics at Brown College. His love of technology would lead him to work for such cutting edge companies as Varian Associates, Live as Varian Associates, Live Works Inc, Sony and Best Buy. Proceeded in death by parents and brother. Survived by wife Rosella; sons H. Lucas (Joanna) Selby-Hele, John Selby-Hele; sister Linda (Daniel) Mitchell; grandchild H. Aidan Selby-Hele; many other relatives and friends Celebration of life June 22, 2014, 4:00 p.m. at First Lutheran Church of Crystal. Visitation one hour prior. Internment: Rush Creek Cemetery.



VanLOO, JASON B.

Age 37, of Canton, formerly of Northville and Charlevoix, passed away April 29, 2014. He vas born on July 26, 1976 in Goldsboro, North Carolina to Bryan R. and Sheri L. (nee Wolgamott). Jason grew up in Charlevoix and graduated from Charlevoix High School. He received an Associate's Degree from Lansing Community College and later graduated from the Radcliff Center Fire Academy. He moved to Northville in 2001 and Canton in 2010. He was the owner of Jay's AAA RC, a RC repair company and also worked as a demonstrator and salesman for Extreme RC. Jason was also a volunteer firefighter for the City of Northville and the City of Charlevoix. Jason's family was his world; he was a loving father and adored his children. He was a lot of fun and very charismatic; he was everyone's friend and "that guy" who was always living in the moment. Jason was very athletic; his favor-ite sports were football, wrestling, and running, in which he still holds a high school record. His favorite hobby and passion were RC cars and helicopters. Jason was truly in his element when he was outdoors; he loved hunting, fishing, ice fishing, morel mushroom hunting, and





Passages

Age

Contact: 734-427-8743 or visit www.livoniachurch.net Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. Bible School: Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.

Location: 15431 Merriman, Livonia

Walled Lake **Livonia Church** of Christ

Church







Live Here, for the Best of your Life® - at half the cost of assisted living!

First Come, First Served.

INDEPENDENT SENIOR LIVING

Limited number of apartments available. Act now to avoid the wait list!

Nine floor plans to choose from, all including services and style to rival a fine hotel. Home Cooked Lunch Chapel Planned Activities and Outings Beautiful Indoor Exercise Room or Dinner* Luxurious Dining Room Library Friendly Staff Beauty/Barber Shop Coffee Shop Game Room 24 Hour Staffing Country Store Movie Theater Lounge Areas • Outdoor Court Yards Our Extras Make the Difference For more information, please call Grand Blan Tournship at Genesys Health Park 3221 E. Baldwin Rd. Across from Coyote Golf Club 28413 Abbey Lane Grand Blanc, MI New Hudson, MI (810) 606-1110 (248) 437-6550 www.abbeypark.com 金占 Find us on von Township location o

2014. She was born on December 19, 1929, in Gozo, Malta, daughter of the late Frank and Angela Portelli. Rita had a strong and abiding faith and had a loving generous heart for those in need. She was a devoted member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in South Lyon. She was an avid crocheter, excellent cook and was known for her delicious soups. Rita was a hardworking and proud wife, mother and grandmother and was her happiest when she was in the presence of family. She is survived by her loving children: Maria (Harold) Shura, Peter (Rita), Joseph (Carla), Aurelia (Mark) Orzechowski, Constantino (Sandra), and Angelina (Joseph) Beeler. She is also survived by 16 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, her sister, Carmena Sultana and her brother, Leli Portelli. Rita was preced-ed in death by her husband, Frank, in 2006 and 14 siblings. Visitation will be held on Thursday, May 8, from 2:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. with Rosary at 7:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, May 9, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 830 S. Lafayette, South Lyon. Memorial contributions may be made to St. John Reverence Hospice or the American Heart Association. Online guestbook at: www.phillipsfuneral.com

RACKHAM **KATHERINE M.**

passed away May 1, 2014 at the age of 82. She was born in Detroit to Harry George and Harriet Amelia (Pagel) Rackham. She is deeply loved and will be dearly missed by her sister Joanne A Rackham. She is also survived by her cousin Eva (Daniel) Thompson. Katherine lived most of her life in Northville, Michigan and graduated from Northville High School. She worked for a time at Anchor Company in Plymouth and then at Guardian Industries. Katherine later went to work at Unistrut in Dearborn where she retired after many years of service. Katherine was a member of First Presbyterian Church Northville and Order of Eastern Star 523 Kindness, Redford. She loved her Chinese Pug "Winston" and loved to Show Chinese Pugs in dog shows. Services were held Tuesday, May 6, 2014, at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth. Burial followed at Woodlawn Cemetery, Detroit. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Angela Hospice.

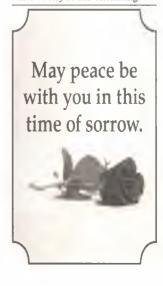


TOBEI LAURIE ANN

Age 55, of Oak Creek Canyon, Arizona passed away April 21. Private services were recently held in Novi, Michigan. She is preceded in death by daughter, Amanda Marian Shadmani and her father, Charles I. Tobel. Loving mother of Roya Roya Shadmani, beloved daughter of Darle Lynn Tobel, survived by brothers Kevin (Mary Lynn), Charles (Carol), sisters Lynn Wieties (William) and Beth Tobel. Loving partner of her fiance Danny Morton.

TURNER, THOMAS E.

Age 86 of Lake City, Michigan, passed away April 13, 2014. Survived by his loving wife of 62 years Frances; sons Timothy (Ruth), the late Jeffrey and Brian (Patty) Turner, all of Highland. Grandfather of Jane (Brett) Wolfe, the late Steven McKim, Connie (Jeff) Fox, the late Charity Turner, Amanda (Jim) Frazer, Crystal (Josh) Leach and Tommy Turner. Great grandfather of Ashlei (Josh) Johns, Eddie Durfee, Alexa Nash, Austyn Nash, the late Tyler Weathers, Shane Fox, Allison Fox and Cody Frazer Great great grandfather of Olivia Allen, Mia Durfee, Olivia Connor Johns, Avacyn Johns and Ayden Fox. Tom retired from the GM Proving Grounds in Milford after 30 years. He and Fran moved to Lake City and enjoyed 20 years of fun and farming on their 30-acre farm. Memorial service Saturday, May 17, 2014 at 1 p.m. at the VFW Post 9914 on North Duck Lake Rd. The Pastor Terry Klaus officiating.



adored children, Kylie, Racheal, Ellarie, and Jace; his parents, Bryan R. VanLoo and Sheri (Bill) Fels; his brother, Bryan R. VanLoo, Jr.; his grandparents, Barb (Les Spires) Storey, Faye (Dr. John Lignell) and VanLoo, Gordon Wolgamott; his fiance. MelissaJo Garner; the mother of his children, Courtney Hamilton VanLoo; and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Papa Roxy. A Celebration of Life was held May 5, 2014 at Casterline Funeral Home in Northville. A Celebration of Life will also be held at a later date in Charlevoix. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to the Charlevoix Fire Department, 201 State St., Charlevoix, MI 49720. Online condolences at

four wheeling. He is survived by

www.casterlinefuneralhome.com

YOUNG, LeROY E.

Age 84, passed away May 2. 2014, at his home surrounded by his loving family. He was born on September 2, 1929, in Detroit, son of the late John & Mildred Young. Roy was a proud Air Force veteran serving in the Korean War. He was an avid golfer, enjoyed bowling and loved his annual winter trip to Florida. Most of all, Roy was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grand-father. He is survived by his beloved wife, Sue, his loving chil-dren: William (Annie), John (Deborah), Mark, Patrick (Kathleen) and Karen (Kevin) Shroyer. Also by Sue's children: Grant (Dorothy) Stevens, Brad Stevens, Walt (Barbara) Stevens, April (Timothy) Frederick, and Dean (Dec'd 1991). Roy and his first wife, JoAnn are survived by 13 grandchildren, and 6 greatgrandchildren, after JoAnn passed away, Roy married Sue and added to his family 12 grandchildren and 11 greatgrandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife JoAnn and his brother, Douglas. Visitation was held on May 4 at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME. A funeral service was held on May 5 at Fellowship Baptist Church, Whitmore Lake, followed by military honors ren-dered by the United States Air Force. Memorial contributions may be made to Fellowship Baptist Church. Online guestbook at: www.phillipsfuneral.com

FUNERAL HOME AND REMATION SERVICES

for dementia

Help available

The Area Agency on Aging 1-B and the Alzheimer's Asso ciation-Greater Michigan Chapter are hosting a free training program for families concerned about and/or caring for someone with a dementia related illness, such as Alzheimer's disease. The Creating Confident Caregivers (CCC) program has been proven to reduce caregiver stress by empowering caregivers with useful tools and information.

Classes will be held once a week for six weeks at the Novi Senior Center (45175 W. 10 Mile) 3-5 p.m. Thursday, June 5, 12, 19 and 26 and July 10 and 17

Caregivers are encouraged

to attend all six classes in order to complete the training. All materials, fliers, and training books are provided by the AAA 1-B, and there is no cost for the caregiver to attend this training. The class is limited to 12 participants. Up to three members from one family can attend a training together.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

To register for the CCC training program, as well as on-site respite care, call the Area Agency on Aging 1-B at 800-852-7795, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Wixom author creates new extreme sport

For the sports-loving fanatics, Wixom author Richard A. Hughes has released his new novel, X-Slam SkaterCross, a new sport that takes love and

hate to the next level.

When Detroit All-American teenager Deal Dixon makes one mistake, he is given one choice: leave town and his first love, Vickie Anderson, and best friend, Jake Storm, or go to jail. He heads west to Los Angeles where the new extreme sport X-Slam Skater-Cross has launched an exciting new league.

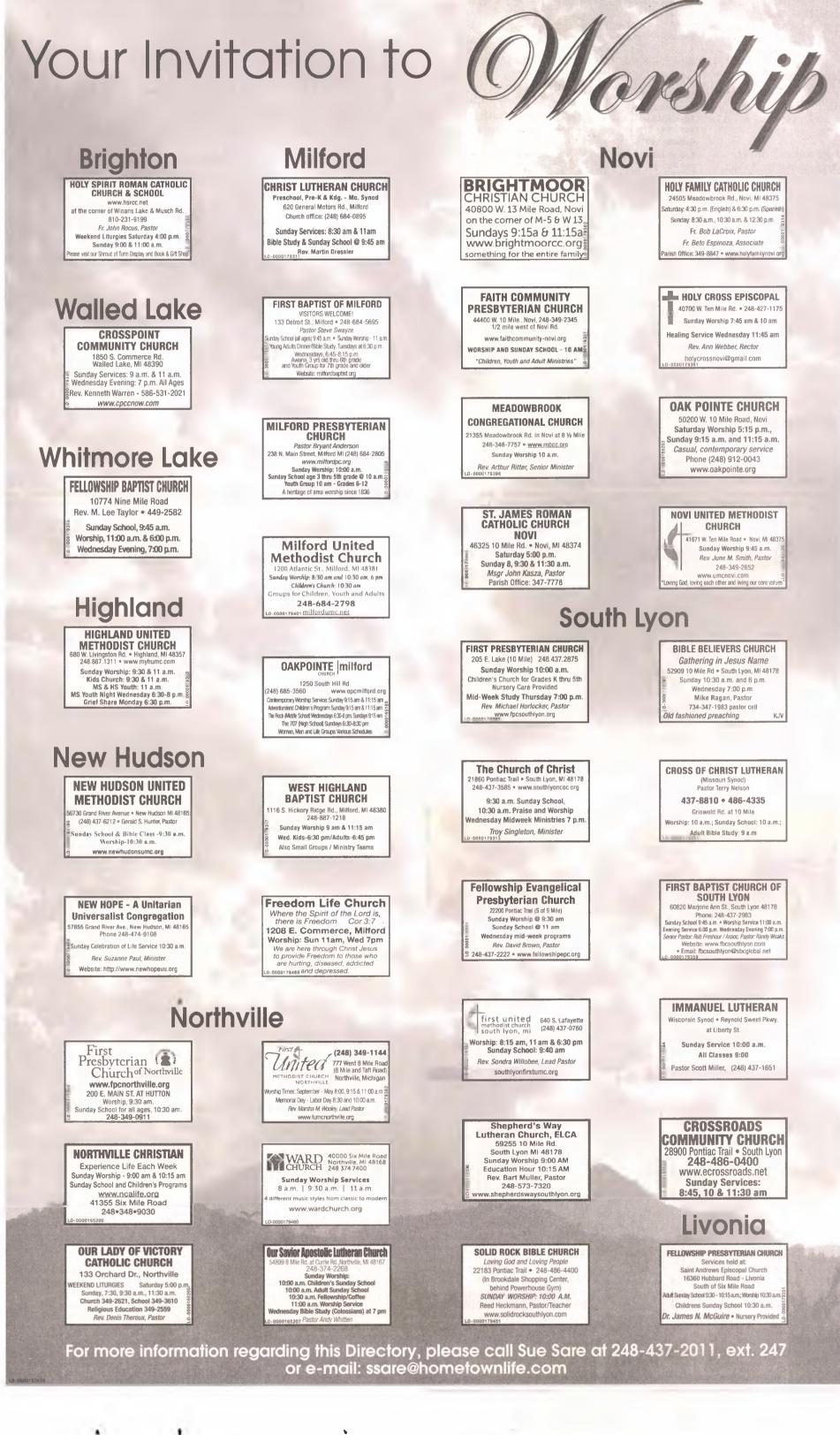
Published by Tate Publishing and Enterprises, the book is available through bookstores nationwide, from the publisher at www.tatepublishing.com/ bookstore, or by visiting barnesandnoble.com or amazon.com.

Hughes is a lifelong sports professional and journalism major who has worked within professional sports organizations.

Expressions' winners



Expressions Music Academy recently sent 81 students from its Novi school (opened almost four years ago) to a prestigious music competition called the American Guild of Music Great Lakes Regional Contest. "Our students represented us extremely well and came back with 90 awards in piano, voice, show-choir, guitar, violin, cello, clarinet and saxophone," owner/director Jessica Schatz said. "Several were invited to the finals at the national AGM competition." A display in the school's waiting room shows a total of 90 competitive awards, 13 theory certificates and 10 show-choir medals for Expressions. This does not include the 68 AAA evaluation trophies that were given to students or the 60-plus ribbons that were awarded for scores over 90 percent.



A14 (NN) THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2014 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

OPINION

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

OUR VIEWS

Do the research

Real work begins for candidates, voters

It may be three months until the August primary election, but political television ads and emails are coming fast and furious.

emails are coming fast and furious. If you are tired of the all the claims and counter-claims – and of not being able to "delete" a TV commercial the same way you would an email – just wait. There are plenty more to come.

April 22 marked the filing deadline for the August primary. That means that unless a candidate decides to conduct a write-in campaign, the candidate had to file with the appropriate governmental agency by that date in order to appear on the ballot. So far, there has been a ca-

The point of all this is that voters cannot afford to sit on the sidelines until the November general election. in open seats for the upcoming election. You can thank U.S. Sen. Carl Levin for that. The Democrat earlier announced that he would not run for re-election and end his distinguished career with the current term. That prompted U.S. Rep. Gary Peters, a Democrat who now

cophony of interest

represents areas from Southfield to southwest Detroit to Grosse Pointe, to bolt from the starting gate in a bid for that seat.

The attack ads have been many, as Terri Lynn Land, a former Michigan secretary of state and a Republican, is contesting Peters.

The moves by Levin and Peters haven't just had a trickle-down effect – it's been more like a waterfall, as other officials, both term-limited and not, have tumbled over each other to announce which race they are running for.

In the running

Two years ago, Republican Kerry Bentivolio of Milford rose from relative obscurity to win Michigan's 11th District congressional race.

The Tea Party favorite, former school teacher and builder known for raising reindeer was largely ignored in the race until former U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter of Livonia dropped out and resigned amid a petition signature scandal.

Now, the incumbent faces a fierce challenge from someone inside his own party, lawyer/ businessman Dave Trott of Commerce. As of the first quarter of this year, Trott had more than \$1 million in his campaign war chest compared with Bentivolio's \$130,000.

Trott has lined up a powerful string of endorsements and recently aired his first TV ad,

COMMUNITY VOICE

What did you learn from your mother?

Mother's Day is this Sunday. This question was asked at the Novi Public Library.



Patience. Jesse Barrons

"Patience." Michael Higgins Northville/Catholic Central senior



"My religious training and belief in God." Darlene Alexander



"Patience." Linda Hensley _{Novi}

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A call for Dem campaign money

Recently, you published a reader's plea for what was effectively campaign money for all the Democrats who are running for office this fall. It included Carl Levin, Gary Peters, Mark Schauer and Lisa Brown. The premise was that the rich Republicans, such as "the vast contributions made by DeVos family" and "the personal wealth of Terri Land," were buying elections and they were actually putting out "negative TV ads against Peters." What a bunch of hypocrisy. Let's consider some important fact checks:

No. 1) Almost all candidates, on both sides of the aisle, run negative ads occasionally. No. 2) The richest party by far is the Democratic Party. No. 3) Nancy Pelosi is by far the richest person in Congress. No. 4) John Kerry is not far behind with all his Heinz money. No. 5) George Soros, who is one of the richest men on Earth, gives tens of millions to the Democratic Party. No. 6) Hollywood is notorious for providing tons of money to the Democratic Party.

The only thing I agree with the reader is "The elections Nov. 4 are crucial."

Paul Thal Novi

Clarifying OCC policies

On behalf of the Oakland Community College Board of Trustees, we appreciate the feedback we received on OCC's international tuition rate for new students. As many have eloquently remarked, our international student population enriches all of us.

Since its inception, OCC has ampioned many global cause and aspired to meet the needs of international students through English as a Second Language programs and global partnerships with schools and colleges from around the world, such as IGNOU Community College in India and multiple school systems in Oaxaca, Mexico. In addi-tion to ESL, OCC offers a not-forcredit Bridge program, which teaches English to students who are not quite ready for the more advanced ESL program. We believe in the existence of a vibrant, global, international

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. Letters should be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats. Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday for Thursday's print edition.

Web: www.hometownlife.com Mail: Letters to the Editor, 101 N. Lafayette St., South Lyon, MI 48178

Email: cstone@hometownlife.com

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at www.hometownlife.com.

student body and are lucky to have students from all over the world attending OCC. Our deepest wish is for them to not only continue attending OCC, but to continue to be involved with us long after they have completed their degrees.

There may be a misunderstanding of the residency requirements within the tuition policies at OCC - by those who expressed concerns and by potential students themselves. Under no circumstances are residents who pay property tax (or their dependents) within the OCC district assessed out-ofdistrict or out-of-state tuition including immigrants, non-im-migrants or F-1 students. However, because of the complex nature of these matters and expressed concerns, we will be re-examining our policy.

Currently, the college is as-

for fall 2014.

We appreciate those of you who have chosen to speak up and help us reach a solution to this issue. It is only through honest conversation that we can grow and become better partners in our community.

M. Cathey Maze, Ph.D. interim vice chancellor, Academic & Student Affairs Oakland Community College

Stop the NDA Act

The unconstitutional National Defense Authorization Act of 2012 attacks freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom to petition our government for a redress of grievances, freedom to be secure in our persons, the right to due process when charged with a crime, the right of a trial by jury, all without any sunset provision.

According to the NDAA Sections 1021 and 1022, it has purportedly become legal for the military or other arms of the federal government to incarcerate people, including United States citizens, without recourse to proper judicial process. The definitions used in the NDAA to target someone are shockingly vague, dishonest and broad, putting us all at risk.

A lawsuit challenging this "law" is now before the Supreme Court, where the administration is trying to get it thrown out. If the NDAA is allowed to stand, people could potentially be whisked away in the middle of the night, never to be seen again. Is this a risk that you want to leave for your children and your grandchildren? It is their liberty that we must protect today.

Much more needs to be done by state and local authorities in order to interpose on our behalf

dorsements and recently aired his first TV ad introducing himself as a job creator.

The 11th District, which was redrawn in 2013, is considered Republican, but Democrats view both Bentivoilio and Trott potentially vulnerable.

Four contenders have filed to run on the Democratic side of the primary ballot: Bobby McKenzie of Canton, Nancy Skinner of Birmingham, Dr. Anil Kumar of Bloomfield Hills and Bill Roberts of Livonia.

More action

Kathy Crawford is vying for the seat her husband Hugh, currently holds, that of 38th District state representative. The Novi resident will go up against Dan Lauffer in the Republican primary, while two Democrats, Jasper Catanzaro and Jason Dorsch, will square off for a shot at the two-year seat in the November election.

In the musical chairs of term limits, Hugh Crawford is running for his wife Kathy's fouryear position on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, a seat he held before heading to Lansing. No Republican is challenging him in August, but he'll go against Democrat Colleen Crossey in the fall's general election.

Incumbent Mike Kowall has two challengers for his state Senate 15th District seat in the Republican primary, Matt Maddock and Ron Monar. Democrats Tom Crawford and Michael Smith face each other in August, too.

Scott Powers and Travis Reeds will try to unseat 52-1 District Court Judge Brian MacKenzie in November. And three six-year seats will be open on the Novi Board of Education (those candidates have until August to file).

Anyone running as an independent candidate has until July 22 to file in order to be on the November ballot.

The point of all this is that voters cannot afford to sit on the sidelines until the November general election. Many of the political races will be determined in the August primary. It may only be May, but it's not too early to start scoping out the candidates.

A lot will be said and done during the next three months, so voters should prepare for a busy election season by determining to stay informed and involved.



Cal Stone, Community Editor **Susan Rosiek,** Executive Editor **Grace Perry,** Director of Advertising

GUEST COLUMN

gate, review and compare international student tuition, the college's residency policy and the instructions in our catalog and website. The task force will include the following: members of the community, ESL faculty, an international student adviser, a counselor, international students and representatives from the college's Global Education Committee. The group will conclude its work by June 30 and make recommendations to the OCC Board of Trustees before we finalize out-of-state tuition rates

against a runaway federal government. Join us at the Take Back campaign (www.panda unite.org) to learn how to put a stop to this perverse National Defense Authorization Act.

As James Madison said, local and state officials are "duty bound to interpose for arresting the progress of evil." With politicians and bureaucrats, such as Harry Reid, labeling dissenters as "terrorists," time is of the essence. Please join us now. Dennis Marburger Bloomfield Township

Hospice CEO applauds National Healthcare Decisions Day efforts

//hile 82 percent of Americans say it is important to put their end-of-life wishes in writing, only 23 percent have actually done so. Because advance directives can be created without a lawyer, for free and relatively easily, this figure is astonishingly low. In recognition of this, National Healthcare Decision Day April 16 --- was created to provide much-needed information to the public, reduce the number of tragedies that occur when a person's wishes are unknown and improve the ability of health care providers to offer informed and thoughtful guidance about advance care planning to their patients.

I applaud the 40 organizations in Michigan and the more than 1,300 throughout the country who participated in NHDD 2014 (www.nhdd.org). These organizations understand the importance of initiating end-of-life conversations, documenting wishes and sharing them with loved ones. The events that were held, the education provided and aware-



ness brought to the community is vital for so many families.

Making health care decisions is often difficult in the best of circumstances; making decisions for others may be even more complicated. We can never know for sure when a health crisis will strike, robbing us of the ability to make our own decisions. Making decisions for others places significant stress on family members, who must make life or death decisions.

When the Annals of Internal Medicine looked at the impact of making health care decisions for loved ones, words such as "painful" and "overwhelming" were used to describe the experience. Emotions were less negative when they had been aware of the patient's end-of-life preferences.

You do not have to wait for National Healthcare Decisions Day. Taking the time to research, discuss and document preferences for end-of-life care with friends, family and health care providers now will make the process easier and less stressful at the end of life. Documenting your wishes ensures that your wishes are expressed and carried out in a way that suites you if you unable to express them yourself and ensures your loved ones do not feel burdened or uncertain with the decisions they may have to make.

Your decisions matter. There are no wrong answers when you complete an advance directive. Just make sure you complete an advance directive and share it with your loved ones. It may be one of the most important gifts you ever give.

Gloria Danna Brooks is president and chief executive officer of Arbor Hospice, a community-based nonprofit organization founded in 1984, with offices in Ann Arbor and Plymouth. For more information about on Arbor Hospice and Arbor Palliative Care, visit www.arborhospice.org.



Senior Living | Independent and Assisted Living

Join Independence Village of Plymouth Events

Fashionista Runway Thursday, May 8 6:30 p.m.

Join us for an evening of fun and fashion as we celebrate Mother's Day! Our resident models will be dressed by Advantage Apparel and made-up by Mary Kay Cosmetics. Family members will proudly escort these divas around the Thunderbird Dining Room. Elegant desserts will be served.

RSVP by May 5.

Spring Fling Wednesday, May 20

1:30 p.m.

Spring is in the air! Come and celebrate with us! New Generations musical group will perform and sampling plates of delectable desserts will be served. RSVP by May 18.

Memorial Day Celebration Friday, May 23 12:00 p.m.

Veterans from VFW Post 6695 will join us as we honor and remember those who have given so much for our freedom. We will have color guard, flag raising and patriotic music. Every veteran will receive a commemorative pin. An old-fashioned cookout style lunch will be served. RSVP by May 19.

Stay and Play

Try us out on a complimentary* basis and see why at Independence Village of Plymouth, our residents live life their way, in an affordable but luxurious setting. Call to learn more or stop by for a tour.

Independence Village of Plymouth

734-453-2600

14707 Northville Road Plymouth, MI South of 5 Mile Road





This May at Independence Village,

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Cinco de Mayo Celebration Monday, May 5 12:30 p.m.

Get in the spirit of Cinco de Mayo and celebrate the Spanish Holiday with Mariachi Motown. The trio includes Guitar, Trumpet and Accordion. RSVP by May 3.

Mother's Day Fashion Show Wednesday, May 7 12:00 p.m.

Enjoy a Mother's Day Tea, Luncheon and Fashion Show. Everyone is welcome to enjoy shopping for the latest Spring Fashion's following the show. Cash and Carry. **RSVP** by May 5.

Elder Law Workshop Thursday, May 22

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Join us as Attorney Nicole Wipp with Family and Aging Law Center provides information regarding VA Benefits, Estate Planning, Long term care insurance and Tax Planning. Please register at: (248) 278-1511.

Presentation of Greece Thursday, May 29 2:30 p.m.

Come enjoy a wonderful slide presentation of Travels to Greece. **Refreshments will** be served. RSVP by May 25.



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NOVI COMMUNITY CALENDAR

LOCAL EVENTS

REMOVING THE MYSTERIES OF PROBATE COURT

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Thursday, May 15 Location: City of Novi Older Adult Services (Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road)

Details: The Citizens Alliance for the Oakland County Probate and Circuit Courts will conduct a free seminar designed to enlighten and educate senior citizens so that they may make informed decisions regarding their estate planning and understand the probate process. The seminar will provide attendees with information on wills, trusts, powers of attorney, how to begin probate proceedings, when to consider use of guardianships and conservatorships and how "avoiding probate" could cause more harm than good.

Contact: To register for this free seminar, contact the City of Novi Older Adult Services at 248-347-0414.

DEMOCRATS MEET

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 20 Location: United Methodist Church, 41671 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi

Details: State Representative Vicki Barnett and candidate for U.S. Congress Bobby McKenzie will address a meeting of the Democrats of West Oakland County, as will 52-1 District Court Judge Brian MacKenzie who will be running in the August primary. The meeting is free and open to the public. Snacks provided; pizza may be purchased Contact: For more information, visit www.mydems.info.

CARELINK LECTURES

Transitions – Life After Treatment group

Time/Date: 6-7:30 p.m. second and fourth Monday of each month

Location: Providence Park Hospital's Assarian Cancer Center, Second floor Conference Room, 47601 Grand River Avenue, Novi

Details: Those have recently finished cancer treatment or have been out of treatment for a while and would like to connect with other survivors are invited to join this informative discussion and peer support.

Contact: Jenny Bailey at 248-465-5466

FRIENDS OF ISLAND LAKE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. fourth Tuesday of each month (except December) Location: Island Lake State Recreation Area headquarters at Kensington and

Grand River Avenue Details: Meetings are open to any interested individual. The group's purpose is to support, enhance, protect and promote the natural, historic and recreational features of the park and the Huron River by increasing awareness of the park's assets through the education and outreach activities, encouraging and facilitating communication and cooperation between users of the park and its staff, organizing volunteers and stewardship activities and fundraising through contributions and grants to support these initiatives. Contact: www.islandlakefriends.org

BEREAVEMENT MEETING

Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. third Tuesday of each month

Location: Novi Civic Center (10 Mile between Taft and Novi roads) Details: Led by Michael M. Meyer, D. Min., goal is to give each participant an opportunity to share their story.

NAMI METRO

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of each month

Location: Providence Park hospital. Novi

Details: Family support group meetings Contact: For more information, or questions, contact NAMI metro at 248-348-7197 or visit http://www.namimetro.org/

WOMANHEART OF NOVI

Time/Date: 7 p.m. fourth Wednesday of each month

Location: Providence Park Hospital, Novi

Details: For women with concerns about cardiac health to share information and sisterhood at monthly meetings

Contact: Sharon Mallon, 248-348-5189.

SUBURBAN COLLECTION SHOWPLACE

Location: 46100 Grand River, Novi Phone: 248-348-5600 Web: www.SuburbanShowplace.com

BUSINESS

NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Contact: www.novichamber.com or call 248-349-3743

LOCAL BUSINESS **NETOWORK MEETING**

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

AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Time/Date: 6:15-8:30 p.m., second Wednesday of each month Location: DoubleTree Hotel, 42100

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

NORTHVILLE-NOVI BUSIONESS NETWORKING BREAKFAST

licity@abwa-novi.org

Time/Date: 7:30-9 a.m. first and third Tuesday of each month (except November and December, which are just the first Tuesday)

Location: Kerby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty

Details: Business networking focused on building relationships. The Sunrise Networking Group, LLC (www.sunrise-NETWORKINGgroup.com) is a group of about 250 business leaders who help each other to build more business by referring people to each other. Break fast is \$10

Contact: Fonda Milana at 586-232-3009 or fmilana@sunrisefinancialgrouplic.com.

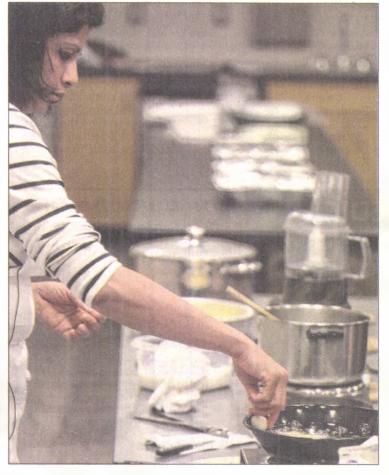
METRO NOVI BNI

Time/Date: 7-8 a.m. each Wednesday Location: On the Border Restaurant, 21091 Haggerty (north of Eight Mile), Novi

Details: BNI is a structured networking environment for professionals. The Metro Novi BNI team members are committed to providing bona fide referrals. Members learn how to create and refine an "elevator speech," develop a network of other business professionals in the community and receive training/education on networking more efficiently. Guests are invited free of charge. Continental breakfast provided. Contact: Julie Paquette at 248-797-1665 or juliepaquette67@gmail.com; www.metronovibni.com

HUD COUNSELING

Learning new techniques



Komal Patel drops balls of kulcha naan into a fryer during a May 3 class at Novi Library on authentic Indian cooking. Patel, Vasantha Nakirikanti and Sona Chadalvada all led different cooking demonstrations to create an authentic Indian dinner. The afternoon session was a packed house and those in attendance got to sample the creations after class. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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

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

Book Discussion Group

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

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

CLUBS

NOVI LIONS CLUB

Time/Date: 6 p.m. social; 6:30 p.m. meeting second and fourth Wednesday of each month

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

NOVI TOASTMASTERS CLUB

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

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

Details: Novi Toastmasters is a community-based club, part of Toastmasters International. The group helps all develop and refine their public speaking and leadership skills. Members also have fun while building confidence in day-to-day communications and mentoring toward professional and personal excellence. Guests are welcome. Visit www.novi.freetoasthost.us. Contact: Linda Kreuter at PR@novi.freetoasthost.us

NOVI ROTARY CLUB

Time/Date: Noon each Thursday Location: Novi Methodist Church 41671 W. 10 Mile

Details: Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check website for speaker information; novirotary.org.

LIBRARY LINES NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY

Location: 45255 W. 10 Mile Hours: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday Details: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the library. Register for programs at the library or on the website

Contact: 248-349-0720 Web: www.novilibrary.org



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Hundreds attend O&E Spring Expo

By David Veselenak Staff Writer

Stopping at the Observer & Eccentric Media's Spring Expo is something Adelle Zawacki tries to do every year.

The vast amount of information offered to attendees makes it a destination as spring starts, she said.

"This is one of the best places to come for info," the Farmington Hills resident said. "I think it prepares you more for the future."

Zawacki was one of hundreds of people who attended the Spring Expo – this year titled Live in Go – held Tuesday at the VistaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. In addition to gathering information on a wide array of services that included health, legal and other information, many of those in attendance showed up to try their luck at winning one of many prizes offered by vendors.

Farmington resident Shirley Ziemba said she arrived well before the event started to try her luck at winning a prize for being one of the first 100 people through the door. She didn't win this time, but admits she was still happy to stop by early

C University

Physician Group

pmr-rim.med.wayne.edu upgdocs.org f



Laura Lonergan, a representative of the Manor of Novi (right), talks to expo visitor Judy Morante at the VistaTech Center. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

and play some Family Feud. "It was fun playing Family Feud," she said. "We love the giveaways."

Ziemba's daughter-in-law, Livonia resident Mercedes Ziemba, came to the expo for the first time. She said she was happy she came and looked forward to sampling the food being offered by the vendors. "I'm still waiting for the food," she said. "It's a lot of fun."

One couple, John and Virginia Kay of Livonia, arrived and headed to the back of the food line to try some of the goodies. Tuesday was their first visit to the Spring Expo, a trip they made to attend a seminar done by attorney Nicole Wipp on trusts and wills.

They wanted to learn how to prepare as they get older to help their children and grandchildren in the future.

"As you get older, your needs change," John Kay said. "The best thing to do is get that advance (knowledge)."

Novi residents Larry and Laura Jansen came to the Spring Expo to gather more information to take back to their caregivers support group at Holy Cross Episcopal Church in Novi.

Laura Jansen said they planned on attending the wills and trust seminar as well and hoped to bring back some literature and info to the group, which meets the second Saturday morning of each month at the church, 40700 W. 10 Mile, in Novi.

She said attending the Spring Expo is a convenient way to get all the info they need to take back with them.

"We're always looking for good information to pass along," she said. "(The Spring Expo) puts everything under one roof."

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'Monsters' indie film to shoot in metro Detroit

By Julie Brown Staff Writer

Monsters is an indie film, a fantasy-thriller, in which the crew is scouting metro Detroit locations.

"This is a passion project for everyone involved," said Josh R. Jones, a Pontiac resident and locations manager for Monsters. Filming is set to start May 16, 17 and 18 at a to-be-determined metro site.

'We're trying to keep this under wraps as much as possible," said Jones, 23, who earned a bachelor of science degree in mass communications from Rochester College, and has worked in the industry since 2011.

Monsters was penned by local musician and author Josh Malerman. Last January, Malerman met Luke Jaden at the

Detroit premiere of Jaden's documentary film, Madman or Martyr? Jaden Jaden is

founder and owner of the Detroitbased production company, SOS Productions. Malerman is frontman for Detroit band, The High Strung, and author of *Bird Box*. The High Strung's song, The Luck You Got, can be heard on the Showtime Channel's Shameless, starring William H. Macy and Emmy Rossum.

Malerman's book, Bird Box, will be released through Harper-Collins everywhere on May 13 and was recently picked up by a major Hollywood studio to be made into a feature film.

"Josh (Malerman) actually wrote the film we're working on," Josh Jones said of Monsters. Malerman met Jaden and they hit it off. Jaden will direct and produce Monsters.

Jaden said, "Detroit is an interesting city. I truly believe it's going to be the start of something new." He calls it the "comeback city."

'I think Monsters is a story that needs something mysterious and unique," Jaden said. "Detroit is a city that's very surreal. It has a never-ending list of artistic possibilities. I chose Detroit for a reason," he added, noting Monsters could have been filmed in L.A. or New York City.

The crew is looking for the perfect house, which on the outside will have an appearance of normalcy. The "haunted house" will be central to Monsters.

DePaul-bound

Jaden, 18, of northern Oakland County is headed to DePaul University in Chicago. "I'll attend college and study film and television," Jaden said. After DePaul, he plans to head to L.A. to pursue a film career.

"Pretty much school's over for seniors," the director/producer said of his final year at Detroit Country Day wrapping up. He's eager to get working on Monsters.

"I'm very looking forward to it," Jaden said. "It's a fantasy that hasn't necessarily been told before. There are many elements dealing with fantasy and horror," as well as a thriller. "It should be pretty interesting how it turns out."

He compares it to work of David Lynch. "It's dark," Jaden said. "It's fantasy-like. It's

Gatsby Gala



Novi Catholic Central High School band and orchestra

director Greg Normandin came to the American Diabe-

tes Association Gatsby Gala along with his wife Carolyn,

who has Type 1 diabetes. The MGM Detroit Grand host-

Cure) March 29. The fundraiser benefits the ADA. Since

1992, the ADA's Gatsby Gala has raised more than \$4.2

million. In addition to going toward research and edu-

scholarships to ADA's Camp Midica in Fenton, a camp for

cational programs, the money raised will go toward

children with diabetes. JULIE YOLLES

ed the event (also known as the Commitment for a

quite out there." Jones said some homeowners are happy to work with the film crew.

"As of right now, we do have some hot prospects we're working with," he said. That portion of filming will be three days, not too much of an inconvenience for

the residents. "We want the homeowners to be as much a part of this as possible," Jones said of the collaborative effort to "support local artists."

"We're a small operation. We're not going to have a large cast," Jones said. The Monsters story will be told through "sensory visuals" of sight and sound.

'Awesome script'

"It's an awesome script Josh (Malerman) wrote," Jones said. There's no release date

yet for Monsters, which will be introduced to national audiences through film festivals.

Jaden's documentary Madman or Martyr?, about abolitionist John Brown, attracted attention and critical praise, Jones said: "This is looking to take it a step far-ther. I was very impressed with his level of professionalism. He's definitely the youngest director I know."

Jaden's Madman or Martyr? premiered recently at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit, and was based on a school history project. "It is very, very different," Jaden said of *Monsters*. It doesn't deal with real events, as his documentary did, and is a narrative "giving different perspectives from this monster creature."

Novi's Hu to perform in **Royal Oak** concert May 16

The Royal Oak Symphony's season finale is scheduled for 8 p.m. Friday, May 16, at Royal Oak Middle School, 709 N. Washington.

The concert will feature the winners of the Young Artist Concerto Competition. Novi's Isa-bella Hu, first-place winner, will perform the First Movement of Piano Concerto No. 1 by Chopin. Grand Blanc's Anna Mieckowski, secondplace winner, will perform the First Movement of the Violin Concerto by Sibelius.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors, at the door. For information, call 248-890-2096 or visit www.royal oakorchestra.org.

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INSIDE: BUSINESS, B5 • REAL ESTATE, B6 • CLASSIFIED, B7-9

SECTION B (NN) THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2014 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



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Former CC standout headed to MSU

Gatt signs national letter of intent to play for Spartans

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

Anyone who follows Detroit Catholic Central hockey is going to recognize the name Carson Gatt.

The former CC standout was a key member of the Shamrocks from 2010-13. During that time, the defenseman collected 43 points on nine goals and 34 from assists. He played in 82 games during that span.

Gatt was drafted by the Muskegon Lumberjacks of the USHL during the sixth round as the 83rd overall pick. There, he picked up five goals and eight assist in 38 games.

Gatt has signed a national letter of intent to play this fall for Michigan State University.

"What got me interested in ultimately playing for the Spartans was the brand of hockey that coach (Tom) Anastos instills in his players and the fact that it is a great academic institution," Gatt said. "Coach (Trevor) Nill gave me great insight that if I play my cards right and do what I'm supposed to do both on and off the ice while at East Lansing, then I will be set for life.

"All-around, Michigan State is the right fit for me."

It helped that Michigan State plays the type of hockey Gatt is used to – strong defense with an aggressive offense. Having played for the Lumberjacks, he said, helped groom him for this next step.

"My one year in Muskegon was a life-changing experience on my junior career, as the USHL provided you with an opportunity to go up against the best talent in the United States," Gatt said. "Also, I couldn't have asked for a better situation, being drafted by a USHL team in my home state, as I remained close to home and it didn't take long for



Novi's Tomo Hatta tries a scissor-leap over the high jump bar during warmups. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wildcats split with Mustangs on the track

Boys win, girls lose as Novi flexes strengths in hurdles, field events

By Chris Jackett Correspondent

The final event in Wildcat Stadium this season was a battle of Baseline rivals on the track.

Novi's boys team (3-0) claimed a 90-47 victory over Northville (0-2), while the Wildcats girls (2-1) lost 89-40 to the Mustangs (4-0).

Novi's boys won the 100meter dash (senior Jordan Love in 11.11), the 200 dash (Love in 22.72), the 400 run (sophomore Josh Holcomb in 53.66), the 110-meter hurdles (senior Aaron Lu in 16.17), the 300 hurdles (senior Parer Sutton in 40.66), the 400 relay (44.98 seconds) and the 800 relay (1:35.25).

The field events saw Novi claim victory in the shot put (senior Marshall Sayles with 46-4½), discus (Sayles with 119-4½) and long jump (senior Ali Taha with 19-10).

Novi's girls didn't win nearly as many events, but claimed victory in the 400 run (senior Kerri McMahan in 59.54) and 100 hurdles (senior Jenny Chang in 16.04).



Teams from Novi and Northville compete in the 1,600-meter relay.

ON TAP

Novi (3-0 boys, 2-1 girls) will compete in a KLAA crossover Saturday against an opponent not determined by press time.

The field events were similarly successful on the girls side, as Novi won the shot put (senior Taylor Pavlika with 36-10½), discus (Pavlika with 115-1½) and high jump (senior Abby Downs with 5-0).

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



Novi's Abby Downs takes off on a long jump attempt.

me to get comfortable in my surroundings."

Gatt's older brother Nickolas also plays for the Spartans as a senior defenseman. He played 41 games for MSU last season and is also a CC graduate.

Gatt will join several other former Catholic Central players on the MSU roster. Ryan Keller (sophomore), Justin Hoomaian (sophomore), Brent Darnell (junior) and Michael Ferrantino (sophomore) all attended CC.

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



Carson Gatt played last season for the Muskegon Lumberjacks.

Novi baseball team 8-2 the past two weeks

Wildcats cap stellar week with four straight victories

By Chris Jackett Correspondent

Things are finally starting to come together for Novi's baseball team.

The Wildcats (9-10, 4-5 KLAA Kensington) are 8-2 since April 22, including four straight victories last week. Five of those eight victories were shutouts.

Novi started its week April 30 with a doubleheader sweep over

visiting Livonia Stevenson, 2-0 and 8-6.

Senior Tyler Whitehead threw a complete game in the first contest, allowing just two hits, seven strikeouts, four walks and zero runs.

Novi totaled seven hits, led by two apiece from junior Michael Mitchell and senior Andrew Turek. Mitchell and junior Brendan Wexler tallied the pair of RBIs.

"In this game, (senior right fielder Jared) Casaccia made two outstanding plays," Novi coach Rick Green said. "One was a high fly ball foul down the right line that blew back in to the top of the fence. (Then with) runners on base with two outs, the ball was headed to right-center field and, because of the wind, away from him. He was just so quick and made it to the warning track."

The second game took a bit more effort. Senior Craig Wilson got the start, but allowed five runs (four earned) and four walks on six hits in 3¹/₃ innings. Junior Adam Tobias claimed the victory in relief by allowing one hit in 2¹/₃ innings before senior Blair Myers

See BASEBALL, Page B4

ON TAP

Novi (9-10, 4-5 KLAA Kensington) has a lot on deck this week. The Wildcats host Vicksburg in a doubleheader Friday and then host Rochester, Detroit Country Day and Grosse Pointe North in a series of games Saturday to raise money for breast cancer research. Novi faces Rochester at 9 a.m. and North at 4:30 p.m., while DCD faces the same two foes at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., all on Novi's diamond. "All the proceeds from everything we sell are going to the National Breast Cancer Foundation," Novi coach Rick Green said of Saturday's event.

Novi then hosts Wayne Memorial on Monday, visits Livonia Franklin on Tuesday and hosts South Lyon for a doubleheader on Wednesday, all at 4 p.m.

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Novi soccer rattles off two more league victories

Wildcats improve to No. 5 in Division 1 rankings

By Chris Jackett Correspondent

Two more convincing victories in league play last week helped Novi's girls soccer team improve to a No. 5 ranking in Division 1.

The Wildcats (8-1-1, 5-1-0 KLAA Central) hosted Plymouth Salem (3-3-1, 3-2-1 Central) April 29 and then Livonia Stevenson (5-4-2, 1-4-0 Central) May 1, picking up 2-1 and 4-1 victories, respectively. Novi scored 18 minutes into the Salem game when a corner kick by senior Taylor Pavlika was settled by senor Natalie Greenhalgh and passed to a wide-open senior Jessie Parvana, who tapped it into the open goal for a 1-0 lead that held until halftime.

Five minutes into the second half, sophomore Chloe Allen found herself on a break-

Allen found nerself on a breakaway via a through pass from junior Amanda Minissale and converted the chance for a 2-0 lead.

Salem cut the lead to 2-1 with 20 minutes remaining, but could not find the equalizer as

Rattling off four-straight

victories, Novi's boys lacrosse

team is up to 8-5 on the season

April 28 at Plymouth (4-9), 17-7 April 30 at South Lyon (9-2)

and 17-5 vs. Walled Lake West-

The squad hosts Canton

(6-4) at 7 p.m. today and then

With a trio of victories last

hosts Troy Athens (7-4) Sat-

week, Novi's softball team

improved to 8-9 (3-7 KLAA

Kensington). The Wildcats

downed visiting Livonia Stevenson 4-1 and 7-0 in an April

30 doubleheader before head-

ing Monday to Westland John

Glenn for a 7-3 victory.

Softball squad 3-0

after a trio of victories last

week. The Wildcats won 13-6

Unified tonight.

Boys lacrosse

sweeps three

ern (2-8).

urday.

last week

it was out-shot 11-4 by the Wildcats, who had an 8-3 advantage in shots on goal.

"Salem would make it interesting by scoring a goal with 20 minutes left in the game, but our defensive unit of Jacqui Kozlowski, Katrina Koomen, Karissa Koomen and Amanda Minissale would hold strong for the rest of the game and we would escape with a 2-1 win," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said.

Livonia Stevenson

Against Stevenson, Novi scored 12 minutes into the game when a handball led to a

NOVI ROUNDUP

The 'Cats will visit Farmington for a doubleheader at 4 p.m. today. Next up is the North Farmington Tournament at 10 a.m. Saturday, a home game against Wayne Memorial at 4 p.m. Monday, a visit to Livonia Franklin at 4 p.m. Tuesday and a home twinbill against South Lyon at 4 p.m. Wednesday.

Boys cross country tryouts announced

Tryouts for Novi's cross country team begins Aug. 13, but those interested should contact coach Robert Smith by the end of May at crosscountrycoachsmith@hotmail.com. There are several requirements that must be satisfied in order to make the team.

Novi alum earns NAIA honor

Novi track and cross country alum Mike Blaszczyk was named NAIA National Men's Outdoor Track Athlete of the Week for the week of April 21-27. Blaszczyk, now a senior at St. Francis (Ill.), clocked the fastest 10,000-meter time in the NAIA for the entire season April 26 by finishing in 29:48.15 at the 48th annual Hillsdale College GINA Relays.

He was third in the event, behind both Johnnie Guy (29:29.67) and Tyler Pence (29:47.76) of NCAA Division II Southern Indiana.

Soccer alumni planning game

ON TAP

Novi (8-1-1, 5-1-0 KLAA Central)

will visit No. 6 Rochester Adams

(7-2-1) at 1 p.m. Saturday, host

Central) at 7 p.m. Tuesday and

3-2-1 Central) at 7 p.m. May 15.

penalty kick that senior Gabby

With eight minutes left in

the half, Pavlika ripped a free

kick into the goal from 25

DeLeon converted for a 1-0

lead, but Stevenson tied the

game 10 minutes later.

No. 1 Northville (9-0-0, 6-0-0

visit Plymouth Salem (3-3-1,

After a successful event in 2012, Novi High School soccer alumni are planning another alumni game for noon July 12 at Novi Meadows. Those interested should register at http://liquidthread.me/novisoccer2014 by June 16. The \$35 cost will cover team shirts, with all proceeds and donations going to a tribute to foryards out to put Novi up 2-1 at the break.

Allen then scored twice in the second half to put the Wildcats up 4-1. The first came off a Pavlika corner kick, when sophomore Katrina Koomen dropped a pass to Allen for a one timer. The second came on another one timer, this time off a DeLeon pass where Allen placed it inside the far post. Novi's game May 2 at No. 14

Novi's game May 2 at No. 14 Plymouth (3-2-0, 3-1-0 South) was rescheduled.

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

mer coach Larry Christoff to the Michigan Institute of Urology.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/ groups/176557825720061 for updates or contact Class of 1995's Nickie (Borashko) Stocks at nborashko@hotmail.com.

Summer camp for young cheerleaders

Novi's varsity cheerleaders will host a set of clinics for girls ages 5-12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 7-9 at Novi Woods Elementary, 25345 Taft. The \$100 registration fee

The \$100 registration fee for the three-day, 18-hour clinic will include lunch, with T-shirts available while supplies last for \$15 each.

A 2:30 p.m. showcase July 9 will display what the girls have learned. Other items will also be available for \$5 to \$15.

- By Chris Jackett



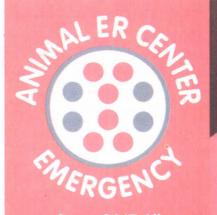


Haley Parker carry the ball against Plymouth. MICHAEL SALEMI

Girls lacrosse splits pair

After posting a split last week, Novi's girls lacrosse team find itself with a 7-4 record. The Wildcats defeated Plymouth (3-9) 12-6 at home April 28 before dropping a 13-6 decision against visiting South Lyon Unified (6-6).

The girls visit South Lyon



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LOCAL SPORTS



Tens of thousands of cubic feet of topsoil is removed from Novi High's stadium May 5. The stadium, one of the last in the area with natural grass, will switch to an artificial turf field in time for the first football game this fall. JOHN HEIDER [STAFE PHOTOGRAPHER

Ground breaks on turf installation at Wildcat Stadium

\$814K project to be completed in August

> **By Chris Jackett** Correspondent

Of the 24 football stadiums in the KLAA, 22 feature artificial turf. By the Aug. 28 season opener against Brighton, Novi will make that number 23

Construction began May 1 to convert Wildcat Stadium's grass field into artificial turf, leaving Hartland as the final grass football field in the KLAA. The \$814,600 project was approved March 6 by the Board of Education and is funded via both the 2013 recreational millage and the 2010 sinking fund.

"I think long before I came here there was talk about getting something in there," said Novi Athletic Director Brian Gordon, who joined the district in August 2012. "Turf was something that was necessary because of the short growing season in Michigan and the number of activities that we have that want to use that space. If we didn't have the soccer stadium like we do, we probably would've had it done years ago.'

Meadows Stadium hosts about 36 games per year between the boys and girls soccer teams. That has helped alleviate the stress on Wildcat Stadium, which hosts

and the technology behind it improved, leading to longevity and less questions.

How it works

"We went and looked at probably 10 to 15 fields," Gordon said. "I talked with a lot of folks in the KLAA, OAA, (etc.) and asked, 'What would you do different?

The technology of the turf has come a long way. We put an under layer, which is going to withstand our Gmax. It's a test of how the body and head reacts when it hits the turf. Over the course of its life, it's going to keep it feeling just like grass. I think it's going to be safe, if not safer."

The under layer is \$100,000 of the total cost, Gordon said. While the turf will require a retread job after 10-12 years, the under layer will not need to be redone. Older turf models cost about \$1 million for installation and would need to be replaced in less than half that time frame

"It's not biodegradable, because it's going to preserve that Gmax for a long, long time," Gordon said of the under layer. "It's going to act and feel like grass. It's going to be a nice contributor to the community."

While the field will be getting redone, the track surrounding it will not. The varsity squad ran its last race on it this season April 29 against Northville.

Wildcats netters fine tune for postseason

Novi rattles off victories in three of four meets

By Chris Jackett Correspondent

With a mix of local competition, Novi's girls tennis team improved to 8-3 last week.

The Wildcats defeated Plymouth Salem April 28 and Walled Lake Central April 29, both 9-0 at home. Novi then hosted No. 10 West Bloomfield April 30 in a 5-2 loss before rebounding for a 5-2 victory on the road at Brighton in a meet that took two days to complete, May 1 and 5.

'Salem gave us a battle," Novi coach Jim Hanson said despite the 9-0 team score. "All the singles were close. Erin (Day) had a good win against Chelsea Yu at one singles. We were tested and kids sometimes may not have their 'A' game, but they held together and pulled out some tough wins there."

The doubles corps continued to lead the way for the Wildcats, with seniors Asawari Kanitkar and Amy Zhou improving to 9-6 on the season at No. 1 doubles after going 3-1 last week. The duo defeated Salem 7-5, 6-4; Central 6-1, 6-1; Brighton 6-1, 5-2 and dropped a 6-0, 6-3 loss to West Bloomfield.

At No. 2 doubles, seniors Rachel Bailey and Dina Fawaz improved to 12-5 after defeating Central 6-1, 6-0; West Bloomfield 6-1, 6-1 and Brighton 6-0, 6-2. Freshman Ria Joshi subbed for Fawaz in a 6-2, 2-6, 6-1 victory over Salem.

No. 3 doubles kept it rolling, as senior Harika Bollineni and junior Dhivya Sridar defeated Salem 6-1, 6-0; Central 6-0, 6-0 and Brighton 6-2, 6-2.

Junior Sam Martin and sophomore Carolyn Zhang improved to 11-2 on the season at No. 4 doubles by defeating Salem 6-0, 6-1; Central 6-1, 6-0; West Bloomfield

ON TAP

Novi (8-3) will compete in the KLAA Kensington Conference meet at 8 a.m. Friday at Plymouth. The team then has a week to regroup before hosting regionals at 9 a.m. May 16.

6-0, 2-6, 10-7 and Brighton

6-1, 6-3. The No. 5 doubles tandem of junior Shakila Khan and freshman Teja Mogasala is now 6-1 after defeating Salem 6-0, 6-1; Central 6-0, 6-0 and Brighton 6-4, 2-6, 6-4. In the singles flights,

junior Erin Day led the way with a 6-4, 7-6(4) win over Salem; 6-3, 6-2 win over Central; 6-0, 6-1 loss to West Bloomfield and 6-1, 6-3 loss to Brighton.

Freshman Jessica Lypka is the only singles player above .500 this season at 7-6 after defeating Salem 6-4, 6-1; Central 6-0, 6-0 and Brighton 7-5, 6-3; but

falling 6-1, 6-0 to West Bloomfield.

At No. 3 singles, sophomore Youna Lee defeated Salem 6-2, 6-4 and Central 6-2, 6-0, but lost to West Bloomfield 6-0, 6-0 and Brighton 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Sophomore Allison Lollo battled through No. 4 singles, defeating Salem 6-4, 6-3; defeating Central 7-5, 6-1; losing to West Bloomfield 5-7, 6-2, 7-5 and then defeating Brighton 6-0, 7-6(3).

"It's hard to believe we were able to get in the matches we did because the weather has been threatening all week long," Hanson said. "It's been a quick season, especially with all the weather cancellations and the spring break. Our conference has three different spring breaks and that really messes up the schedule.'

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

Shamrocks fall to top-ranked programs

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

The Detroit Catholic Central lacrosse team hit a bit of a skid recently as it took on and fell to some of the top-ranked teams in the entire country.

The Shamrocks, 8-3 on the season, fell to the state's No. 1-ranked Birmingham Brother Rice to begin the skid before

taking a loss against Culver (Ind.) Academy, the current No. 2-ranked team in the nation.

The Shamrocks then took a loss to Catholic High School league rival Cranbrook.

And just as it seemed the season might spin a bit out of control, the Shamrocks found a way to get back on top when they took on Forest Hills

Central in a game that was fraught with penalties.

But the Shamrocks. who incurred 17 of the game's 21 fouls, came away with a 14-13 victory.

Leading the way for the Shamrocks was senior Jack Van Acker, as he put away six goals. Sean Stanners, also a senior, added four goals. The Shamrocks then

hosted rival DeLaSalle last Saturday and simply dominated their foes in a 20-7 drubbing.

Van Acker and Stanners once again led the way, scoring four goals each, as did senior Marc Longe.

Sam Eggleston is a freelance writer covering sports for the Northville Record and 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, May 28, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider WEST PARK WATER STORAGE RESERVOIR. SITE PLAN NUMBER 14-14. LOCATED ON THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF WEST PARK AND 12 MILE ROADS. FOR PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT, AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL. The subject property is approximately 2.8 acres and the applicant is proposing a water storage reservoir. Plans are available for review at the Community Development Department in the Novi Civic Center.



boys and girls lacrosse, in addition to football.

"When (soccer) teams come in, they love that they get to play on natural grass," Gordon said of Meadows Stadium. "When you get to the state finals, you play on grass somewhere. The district has invested a lot in keeping that strictly soccer. It's nice to have the option, so you don't want to not have the lines down.'

The new turf football field will have both football and soccer lines permanently installed, with additional tick marks to assist in painting temporary lines for both lacrosse and field hockey, which currently uses a grass field next to the softball diamond.

"That way it doesn't look like a road map,' Gordon said of the tick marks. "It allows for the community to really utilize the facility. The Bobcats (youth football) are going to be out there and I know the district has been in discussion with the Jaguars (youth soccer). Our schools will be first and have priority. Also, our physical education classes will be able to get out there during the day."

Gordon credited both Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations Steven Barr and Superintendent Dr. Steve Matthews with their efforts in preparing for the renovation.

Upgrading the field was necessary, but waiting longer than other districts also allowed two things to happen. Both the cost of artificial turf installation decreased

.

"We talked about redo-ing the track," Gordon said. "Turns out we've got to blow our track up, but there are other needs in the district like roofs, windows, heating and cooling that took priority.'

For the rest of the spring season, boys lacrosse will play at Novi Middle School and girls lacrosse will play at Meadows Stadium.

Gordon is hoping Wildcat Stadium will be ready for the first football practice Aug. 11, as the official target completion date is Aug. 13.

Just as Brighton hosted Novi for its turf field unveiling last fall, the Aug. 28 home opener against the Bulldogs will do the same for Novi and also feature the annual TasteFest event to usher in the new field to the average turnout of 3,000-4,000 Novi Nation faithful

"We are a one-horse town on a Friday night," Gordon said of being Novi's lone public high school. "I want us to be the focus in the community. There's nothing like Friday night lights. You get the cheerleading, the marching band, the whole community out supporting and the boosters. There's nothing like it."

For updates on the turf installation, visit www.novi.k12.mi.us/ district/busandfin/ construction/highschool-synthetic-turf.

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Oakland FlexTech Academy will hold a public hearing on June 5, 2014 at 6:00 pm at 24245 Karim Blvd, Novi, MI 48375 to review the proposed 2014-2015 operating budget. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the above address. Publish: May 8, 2014

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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, May 28, 2014.

Novi Planning Commission Michael Lynch, Secretary Published May 8, 2014

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LO-0000193302



Novi golfers claim Kensington Conference preseason title

Buckley takes individual honors

By Chris Jackett Correspondent

Novi's boys golf season got off to a good start last week as the puddles finally began to

The Wildcats (2-0) defeated South Lyon (0-2) 153-173 April 29 at Cattails and beat Plymouth Salem (0-2) 155-165 April 30 at Fox Hills before winning the KLAA Kensington Conference Preseason Tournament Friday at Fox Creek by edging Canton in a tiebreaker after both teams finished with 301 strokes.

dry on local courses.

Plymouth was third with 302 and Livonia Stevenson fourth with 310.

Novi senior Garret Buckley tied for first at the conference tournament with a round of 71, which was matched by Canton's Donnie Trosper.

Wildcats junior Bryan Fegert was fourth with 74, while juniors Billy Ulle and Erik Czekaj tied for 14th with 78,

freshman Ryan Welch was 23rd with 80 and Mike Dickmann 30th with 81.

Against South Lyon, Buckley led the way with a round of 36, followed by Fegert and Czekaj with 38 and Ulle and Welch with 41.

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

ON TAP

Skate

Club's

ice show

The Skate Club of Novi, a non-

profit run by volunteers, pre-

sents its annual ice show at 7

p.m. May 16 and at 1 p.m. and

7 p.m. May 17 at the Novi Ice

Arena, 42400 Nick Lidstrom

Drive. The show features fig-

ure skaters of all ages, from

beginners to elite level soloist.

tumes. Tickets are available at

information, call 248-347-1010.

the door for \$10. For more

This is a full-blown production, including lighting and cos-

Novi (2-0) will play Monday at the Milford Tournament at Prestwick, then Tuesday against South Lyon East at Walnut Creek and Wednesday in the Oakland County Championships in Pontiac. The dual meets begin at 3 p.m.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Whitehead to play in Kentucky

Tyler Whitehead, a senior left-handed pitcher for Novi High School, has signed a letter of intent to play baseball for Georgetown (Ky.) College, an NCAA Division II school. The Georgetown baseball team is currently ranked seventh nationally with a 35-7 record. Georgetown is located 12 miles from Lexington.

Pitch, Hit & Run

The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department is hosting a free Major League Baseball Pitch, Hit & Run competition for Novi-area youth from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 10, at Ella Mae Power Park.

Pitch, Hit & Run is the official skills competition of Major League Baseball. This grassroots program is designed to provide youngsters with an opportunity to participate in a competition that recognizes individual excellence in core baseball or softball skills.

Boys and girls are divided into four age divisions (7-8, 9-10, 11-12 and 13-14) and have the opportunity to advance through four levels of competition, including team championships at major league ballparks and the national finals at the 2014 MLB All-Star Game. The individual pitching, hitting and running champions, along with the all-around champion in each age and gender group at the local competition, will advance to the sectional level of competition.

No prior registration is necessary. All participants must have a copy of their birth certificate and parent or guardian available to complete a registration/ waiver form prior to the start of the competition. For questions concerning the competition, please contact Greg Morris at gmorris@cityofnovi.org or 248-347-0400.

Registration for youth T-ball, coach pitch baseball, softball and fast-pitch softball summer leagues is going on now through May 23. Visit cityofnovi.org to learn more.

OLV plans Victory Run May 31

Our Lady of Victory Church in Northville will hold its Victory Run at 8 a.m. Saturday, May 31.

Registration is \$30 before May 15, \$35 after May 15, \$40 the day of the 5K race. This race will benefit OLV Church, the Multiple Sclerosis Society and the Pancreatic Cancer Association.

To register, go to www.olv-victory run.com.



BASEBALL

Continued from Page B1

picked up a save by allowing three hits and two strikeouts in two innings.

'We were down 6-0 in this game," Green said before Novi tallied two runs in the fourth inning and six in the fifth. "I was pretty proud of our guys and how they fought back and played hard.'

Senior Bryan Klosterman had two hits that eventually led to two runs, but it was sophomore Scott Beaton's lone hit that led to an RBI that tied the game 6-6. A two-run double by Wexler provided the game-winning runs.

W.L. Northern

On Friday, the Wildcats hosted Walled Lake

2006

and falling when they came around third a

Northern went up 3-0

Up 10-9 going into the sixth inning, Novi had a five-run seventh inning, but Northern continued to chip away with two more runs.

to close out the win for the Wildcats. Junior Mike Ninkovich got the start and allowed three runs, three walks, one hit and one hit batter in the early innings before senior Mark Czapski came in for 2¹/₃ innings, allowing six runs (four earned) with three

strikeouts.

Myers got the win with three innings of action in which he allowed two earned runs before giving up three straight walks on 12 consecutive balls in the final inning. Senior Charlie Richter took over to secure the final two outs on a pair of fly balls.

"We didn't get another game to play because it was just too dangerous with the rain coming down and the cold," Green said of the original plans for a doubleheader.

Westland John Glenn

Novi capped the week Monday at Westland John Glenn, where it claimed a 5-0 victory.

"Since we started playing in the KLAA, we've never really played well at John

Glenn," Green said. A three-run first inning by the Wildcats, which could have been

five runs if not for a base-running mistake, was all the offense Novi needed.

It did get one more run in both the fourth and fifth innings.

Tobias had his second impressive performance of the week on the mound, throwing about 96 pitches in a full seven innings, allowing zero runs with eight strikeouts, two walks and one hit on a pop fly to center.

"We're looking a little more comfortable with him in the game now," Green said.

The offense was spurred by three hits from both Whitehead (one RBI) and Mitchell, an RBI hit by Klosterman and Wilson, plus a sacrifice bunt from Turek and sacrifice fly by Wexler.

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



IF YOU HAVE RELAPSING MS.

Northern on a field Green referred to as "a mud pit." "Kids were slipping

couple times," he said. The conditions kept

things interesting, as the two teams combined for 26 runs in a 15-11 Wildcats victory.

in the first, but Novi had a 10-run second inning to take a big lead before a four-run fourth by Northern.

It took four pitchers

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CAL STONE, EDITOR CSTONE@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-437-2011, EXT. 237 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

A beautiful floral arrangement

Donna and Larry's Flowers celebrates 30 years of community involvement

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

For 30 years, Donna and Larry Podpora have been helping the Northville and Novi communi-ties with their flower needs.

The married couple went into business in 1984 at their location on Novi Road and they have provided great service and make people smile ever since.

"Our longevity and success has been about our relationship with our customers. We see this as a family business, so we want our customers to feel they can rely on us," Donna said. "We wouldn't be here without them."

Many people in the community know the shop well, thanks to the different family dogs over the years that spent time at the shop as well as Larry's mother who, before her passing, gave everyone a smile and really connected with a lot of customers.

Through good economic times and bad, Donna and Larry's Flowers has remained the longest lasting florist in the Northville community. Being family owned and operated, it has built a reputation for quality and service. It's pride in their name and what it represents that drives them to give a quality experience. With every order, they work to ensure promises of quality and great service are kept.

"We always try to give it our best," Larry said

The couple met 30

Kroger cutting prices

Novi-based Kroger customers will find reduced prices on thou-

DONNA AND LARRY'S **FLOWERS**

Owners: Donna and Larry Podpora Address: 1063 Novi Road, Northville Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday Phone: 248-349-2380 Website: www.donnaandlarrysflowers.com/

years ago while they were both at different flower shops. It was a blind date through a mutual friend and they hit it off and haven't looked back. Their connection shows through the business.

The establishment of the business coincided with their marriage, so it was a big leap at an early stage. But it's worked.

"We've always worked well together," Larry said with a smile.

He's the main designer and creator at the flower shop and she runs the business side, which makes for a perfect combination.

The shop has a large inventory of fresh flowers, tropicals and plants and specializes in European/dish gardens, contemporary and tradi-tional arrangements, high-style floral arrangements and silk arrangements, dried floral arrangements, weddings and funeral designs. It also has an extensive gift line with gourmet and fruit baskets, gift baskets, greet-



The Podporas, Donna and Larry, pose for a photo along with shop dog Casey at their Novi Road business, Donna and Larry's Flowers. The pair have been in business together at the same location for 30 years. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ing cards, candles and plush.

Next up for the shop will be a major facelift, with renovations expected to give it a fresh, new look. This is something the Podporas have always wanted to do. There's more to come from this local flower shop.

"We've been blessed," Donna said. With Mother's Day

coming, up a trip to this

shop might be worthwhile and an opportunity to congratulate a true mom-and-pop shop.

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

NEWSMAKERS

Each year, Lennox Industries recognizes an elite group of Lennox heating and air conditioning dealers that not just meet, but exceed the highest standards. Matthew Winnie, president of Robin Aire Heating & Cooling, feels privileged to be distinguished with this award.

"We believe in offering our customers the highquality systems Lennox manufac-



tures and Lennox puts their trust in us to install and service their systems with the highest standards," Winnie said. "We are honored to re-ceive this award, but more honored to continually serve our customers."

Robin Aire services residential homes and commercial buildings throughout southeast Michigan. Founded in 1985, it employs 25 people at its Wixom facility. In addition to heating and cooling, Robin Aire also services and installs water heaters, water softeners, water purification systems and offers complete duct cleaning.

These dealers have earned this position through demonstrating outstanding accomplishments in customer service and sales leadership. The dealers that are fortunate enough to receive this particular honor from Lennox In-dustries find themselves in an exclusive group of Lennox dealers in the nation. Of the 8,000 dealers nationwide, 30 are recognized as Partner of the Year. Robin Aire is the sole winner of the award in the state of Michigan.

trepreneurs who demonstrate excellence and extraordinary success in

BUSINESS BRIEFS

such areas as innovation, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. These business leaders were selected from more than 50 nominations by a panel of independent judges. Award winners will be announced at a black-tie gala June 5 at the MGM Grand Detroit. The finalists include several locals: Richard Penington, president/ CEO, Summit Health Inc., Novi; Steven Greenawalt, CEO, Alta Equipment Co., Wixom; and Cheong Choon Ng, president/co-owner, Choon's Design, Wixom.

million for the first quarter of 2013. The \$90 million, or 12 percent, increase in sales was driven by increased volumes primarily in North America and Europe and incremental sales related to the company's acquisition of Jyco Sealing Technologies in the third guarter of 2013.





sands of items throughout the state's Kroger stores starting May 14. The cuts are part of The Kroger Co. of Michigan's price reduction plan and will impact grocery, produce, natural foods, dairy, meat/poultry/seafood, health and beauty products and deli and bakery foods.

"The Kroger team carefully selected items most frequently found in customer shopping carts to ensure all shoppers will benefit from the price reductions over time," said Jayne Homco, president of The Kroger Co. of Michigan. "We hope price reductions on products such as grocery, produce, dairy and natural foods will help customers increase the quantity of healthy, nutritious foods in their diet."

As part of its commitment to lower prices for all customers, The Kroger Co. of Michigan made the decision to accept coupons at face value beginning May 14. Michigan Kroger stores will continue to accept valid printed, printable and electronic coupons at face value.

The Kroger Co. began to reduce prices throughout stores in response to the economic downturn of 2008 as a way to financially assist customers and associates. The chain continues to leverage its scale as one of the largest traditional retailers in the world, working with suppliers to reduce costs and pass resulting savings along to customers.

Entrepreneur of the Year finalists

Enrst & Young announced the finalists for EY Entrepreneur Of The Year 2014 in the Michigan and northwest Ohio region. The awards program recognizes en-

Cooper Standard first-quarter results

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, announced financial results for the first quarter ended March 31. The company also reaffirmed its previous financial guidance for the full year.

"This was a solid quarter for Cooper Standard, highlighted by our strong year-over-year sales growth," said Jeffrey Edwards, chairman and CEO. "The actions taken to stabilize our North American business, combined with margin expansion in Europe, enabled us to significantly improve quarter-over-quarter adjusted EBITDA. We hired technical talent across the company and made infrastructure investments to ensure we have the capability necessary to support new business launches, product innovation and growth. We are on track to achieve our strategy for profitable growth.'

The company reported revenue of \$837.6 million for the first quarter of 2014, compared to \$747.6

Weinstein to speak at leadership event

On Wednesday, May 14, the concept of authentic leadership will be explored in a day-long conference held at Dearborn, Michigan's Henry Ford Community College, at satellite sessions in Chicago and Calgary, Alberta, as well as live streamed by Detroit Public Television.

Conference organizer Shawne Duperon explains that authentic leadership means, among other things, "trusting yourself, while at the same time forgiving yourself for not being perfect. It's relinquishing control you never had to begin with."

Speakers at the conference will include Federal Judge Damon Keith, Detroit Free Press columnist Rochelle Riley and Gary Weinstein, who lost his family in a car crash caused by a drunken driver and then learned not only to forgive the driver, but to teach the driver how to forgive himself. Weinstein's story led Duperon to begin a nonprofit, The Project Forgive Foundation, which will benefit from the conference.

The conference will be held in the Henry Ford Community College's main campus Forfa Auditorium, 5101 Evergreen Road in Dearborn, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with registration starting at 9 a.m.. Tickets for the live events are \$37 per person; streaming events are \$7 per person. Complete details and registration information can be found at www.Support ProjectForgive.com.

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B6 (NN)

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2014 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

REAL ESTATE

JULIE BROWN, EDITOR JCBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-842-8046 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Realtors offer advice for buyers

By Julie Brown Staff Writer

Properties in metro Detroit are moving quickly these days, and prospective homeowners need to recognize that, according to veteran Realtors.

"I think probably the best thing they can do is a find a Realtor with over the top local knowledge," said Bob Bake of Plymouth's Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel. He said a "sev-en-day a week person" is key when prospective owners look for homes.

He's been in the real estate field since 1967, and now works with daughter Carrie Bake and son-in-law Patrick Wong, also associate brokers and Realtors.

"It's very difficult to find a home right now in this market," said Bob Bake, a Plymouth resident. "People want to have all their decisionmaking done by Labor Day. They want to be moved in.'

Bake recommends prospective owners get pre-qualified by an approved lender. "You've got to be nimble and agile and quick," he said. "You've got to be able to move fast.'

Bake, his daughter and son-in-law focus on Plymouth, Canton and Northville homes, and he recommends pros with "a cutting edge advantage with local knowledge," he said. "Information ebbs and flows right from this table,' Bake added of the table where regulars meet weekdays at Plymouth Panera's.

Tablemate Scott Lorenz of Plymouth, who runs a local public relations firm, noted Carrie Bake is doing very well as a Realtor. "She knew the people that wanted to sell,' Lorenz said of local homes available. "It's pretty impressive, actually."

Down the street in downtown Plymouth is broker/

These are the area residential

real estate closings recorded the

week of Dec. 16-20, 2013, at the

office. Listed below are cities,

addresses, and sales prices.

BINGHAM FARMS

32916 Outland Trl

BIRMINGHAM

1054 Abbey St

1591 E Maple Rd

Oakland County Register of Deeds



Metro Detroit homes are selling quickly these days. GETTY IMAGES/FUSE

owner Richard Eisiminger of RichRealty. Eisiminger, a Canton resident, has been a

Realtor since 1991. "The best thing that buyers can do is get out and get with their Realtor," said Eisim-inger. "Have a focused area and then know what the market is bringing. Know what comes up and goes quickly."

He and other industry pros agree homes in good shape in desirable areas go quickly. Eisiminger said when a prospective buyer makes an offer, 'The negotiating's almost off the table because there are competing offers."

His focus is Canton, Ply-

mouth, Northville and Novi, and Eisiminger noted ranch homes in Westland are also starting to rebound on price.

Eisiminger agreed preapproval with a lender is key: "Get all your documentation in with your lender. You need to go methodically with your lender.'

Being an educated buyer as you look at homes is key. Eisiminger said he doesn't press people to buy a particular home if they're hesitant, noting buyers have a week to 10 days to investigate a property.

The only thing lost is time, no money," he said of getting your deposit back. He urges

prospective buyers to have a professional inspection done and to have an attorney review the particulars of a sale.

Eisiminger agreed a fulltime Realtor is ideal. He and others advocate homeownership, with Eisiminger citing it as part of the theme of the classic Christmas movie It's a Wonderful Life.

"If you have ownership, that neighborhood's going to thrive," said Eisiminger, adding, "You don't have anything in a rental situation and it's not even tax-deductible.'

\$295,000

\$400,000

\$394,000

\$315,000

\$248,000

\$30,000

\$88,000

\$285,000

\$118,000

\$75,000

\$230,000

\$50.000

\$33,000

\$55,000

\$55,000

\$49,000

\$80.000

\$38,000

\$108,000

\$57,000

\$50,000

\$37,000

\$75.000

\$60,000

\$60,000

\$83,000

\$27,000

\$84,000

\$117,000

\$239,000

\$49,000

\$111,000

\$110,000

\$105,000

\$65,000

\$55,000

\$205,000

\$87,000

\$113,000

\$40,000

\$69,000

\$129,000

\$48.000

\$108,000

\$135,000

\$51,000

\$155,000

\$85,000

\$153,000

\$47,000

\$63,000

Standards vary on disability modification

Q: I am wondering about the difference between making a reasonable modification as it relates to a handicapped persons as opposed to people that don't speak English. Can you give me any insight?

A: The obligation to make a reasonable accommodation in



Meisner

order to allow a reasonable modification applies only for handicap individuals not for national origin. Therefore, there is a difference as to what may need to be

done for a deaf person and what may need to be done for a person who doesn't speak English. There appears not to have been any statement by HUD or any case that an association must provide at its cost a sign language interpreter for a deaf member attending a meeting. That would seem to be much more than allowing an accommodation from say rules and policies, but rather it would be the provision of a service to the handicapped person. How-ever, the cost of doing so may be much less than the cost of defending against an administrative claim or lawsuit. On the other hand, if the association must provide a sign language interpreter so that a deaf person may participate in a meeting, query whether the association must also arrange for transportation for someone who cannot walk to or drive to a meeting so that person may participate.

Q: I understand that Michigan has amended its landlord-tenant law to permit speedier repossession by a landlord on a tenant's death. What can you tell me?

A: You are correct; the amendment speeds up and simplifies the process for owners to retake property from tenants who have passed away. Under the amendment, an owner who seeks repossession is deemed to have not unlawfully interfered with a tenant's possessory interest if several conditions are met believes the tenant had been dead for at least 18 days, rent has not been paid, and the owner waits at least 10 days after taking various specified actions including posting notice of intent to re-enter and contacting a person previously authorized by the tenant to receive notices. The amendment also provides that actions to regain possession of the premises must be commenced within 90 days from the time the cause of action arises or becomes known to the owner, but that an action for damage

600 Covington Rd **COMMERČE TOWNSHIP** \$301,000 5067 Carinas Way Ct 5133 Carinas Way Ct \$367,000 4760 Fairgrove Ln \$220,000 5065 Greenview Dr \$269,000 FARMINGTON 22744 Brookdale St \$115,000 35552 Lark Harbor Ct # \$152,000

42282 Woodward Ave #

D2

6

\$480,000

\$156.000

\$262,000

28645 Oakcrest Ct \$85,000 32740 Raphael Rd \$610,000 32406 Salvador St 38464 Saratoga Cir 23070 Tulane Ave 28426 W Eight Mile Rd Unit B3 27785 Wellington St 28900 Wellington St LATHRUP VILLAGE 27906 California Dr Ne MILFORD

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

\$258,000 \$77,000 \$184,000 \$52,000 \$30,000 \$315,000 \$295,000 \$125,000

\$1,

39599 Squire Rd \$230,000 25256 Sutton Ct 45676 White Pines Dr 45289 Yorkshire Dr **SOUTH LYON** 429 Second St 863 Glen Meadows Dr 329 Hampton Ct 712 Hidden Creek Dr 60665 Lillian St 24618 Padstone Dr 963 S Parkwood Dr

icbrown@hometownlife.com

758 Graefield Ct	\$84,000	22815 Maple Ave	\$63,000	824 First St	\$163,000	61211 Saddlecreek Dr	\$272,000
1807 Hazel St	\$697,000	33053 Meadowlark St	\$175,000	845 Abbey Ln	\$233,000	58654 Swing Beam Ct	\$81,000
1884 Humphrey Ave	\$235,000	33143 Meadowlark St	\$165,000	303 Cabinet St	\$215,000	SOUTHFIELD	
720 Kennesaw St	\$772,000	30751 Shiawassee Rd #	\$38,000	2550 Meadowood Ln	\$146,000	27740 Arlington Dr	\$134,000
720 Kennesaw St	\$783,000	31a		401 N Main St	\$218,000	19540 Butternut Ln	\$159,000
950 Larchlea Dr	\$645,000	36242 Smithfield Rd	\$210,000	2675 Shady Ln	\$187,000	23800 Evergreen Rd	\$98,000
1743 Shipman Blvd	\$266,000	FARMINGTON HILLS		205 Turnberry Ct	\$272,000	18418 Hilton Dr	\$145,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS		34035 Banbury St	\$175,000	NORTHVILLE		24614 Lois Ln	\$90,000
81 Barden Ct	\$290,000	37548 Burton Ct	\$256,000	20866 E Glen Haven Cir	\$110,000	17055 New Hampshire	\$140,000
1079 Forest Ln	\$640,000	21323 Cass St	\$219,000	20941 Lujon Dr	\$285,000	Dr	
625 Kingsley Trl	\$432,000	30973 Country Blf	\$135,000	NOVI		26900 W 12 Mile Rd	\$80,000
7000 Lindenmere Dr	\$295,000	30880 Country Ridge Cir	\$332,000	30669 Ardmore Ct	\$138,000	26701 W Carnegie Park	\$49,000
2363 Tilbury Pl	\$1,500,000	39303 Fulton Ct	\$315,000	24512 Bashian Dr	\$110,000	Dr	
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHI		29258 Glen Oaks Blvd	\$148,000	45000 Bayview Dr # 1	\$73,000	20502 Westhampton	\$38,000
2963 Aspen Ln	\$318,000	W		45850 Cider Mill Rd	\$250,000	Ave	
2300 Bedford Rd	\$173,000	32968 Hargrove Ct	\$238,000	23733 Hickory Grove Ln	\$320,000	29515 Wildbrook Dr	\$67,000
1353 Knollcrest Cir	\$319,000	33535 Heirloom Cir	\$400,000	40257 Ladene Ln	\$225,000	WHITE LAKE	
7355 Parkstone Ln	\$700,000	28036 Hickory	\$440,000	40578 Lenox Park Dr	\$290,000	8693 Brazos Ct	\$195,000
6899 Sandalwood Dr	\$270,000	27935 Kendallwood Dr	\$125,000	26160 Mandalay Cir	\$673,000	9085 Glasgow Dr	\$198,000
5108 Woodlands Ln	\$365,000	29809 Kenloch Dr	\$330,000	41609 Monterey Dr	\$168,000	1410 Midwood Dr	\$155,000
		25651 Lynford St	\$185,000	24461 Riverview Ln	\$245,000	11450 N Fox	\$169,000
		-		25867 Shoreline Dr	\$965,000		

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Jan. 13-17, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities. addresses. and sales prices.

CANTON

8460 Alton St 636 Buchanan St 7244 Burgundy St 1788 Crowndale Ln 6495 Durham Dr 1949 E Roundtable Dr 4009 Elizabeth Ave 50982 Federal Blvd 51323 Federal Blvd 282 Greenleaf St 44768 Hanford Rd 45105 Horseshoe Cir 2125 Knollwood Dr 2328 Lexington Cir N 41170 Maplewood Dr 3570 Napier Rd 1822 Pebble Creek Dr 44251 Sheridan St 1842 Steeplechase Rd 1874 Steeplechase Rd 464 Tyler Ln 3496 Wall St 43685 Yorktown St **GARDEN CITY** 5932 Arcola St 1027 Cardwell St 1624 Gilman St 6037 Inkster Rd LIVONIA 11035 Arden St 18579 Bainbridge Ave 29212 Barkley St 8845 Butwell St 12353 Camden St

9939 Deering St 14303 Denne St 30959 Dorais St 35209 Elmira St 31016 Fargo St 33363 Fargo St \$153,000 16874 Farmington Rd \$240,000 20318 Fremont St \$252,000 14507 Gary Ln 29620 Gaylord Ct \$241,000 \$176,000 9167 Gillman St \$154,000 32935 Grennada St \$135,000 9010 Hanlon St \$84,000 9336 Harrison St \$91,000 38070 Jamison St \$185,000 9244 Knolson St \$136,000 18024 Lathers St \$128,000 18432 Levan Rd \$155,000 19430 Merriman Rd \$275,000 9833 Middlebelt Rd \$150,000 33323 Navin Ct 39216 Orangelawn St \$160,000 34127 Parkdale St \$193,000 28510 Pickford St \$230,000 \$87,000 8943 Roslvn St 9990 Seltzer St \$86.000 \$230.000 32904 Summers St 14440 Summerside St \$253,000 18249 Sunset St \$173,000 18337 University Park Dr NORTHVILLE \$52.000 \$65,000 45861 Seven Mile Rd \$14,000 18951 Bayberry Way \$76,000 46080 Bloomcrest Dr 17722 Briar Ridge Ln 17793 Briar Ridge Ln \$150,000 17849 Briar Ridge Ln \$169,000 \$148,000 17904 Briar Ridge Ln \$150,000 16749 Carriage Way \$99,000 533 Horton St

36241 Club Dr

29828 Curtis Rd

\$42,000 16829 Lochmoor Cir E \$132,000 19531 Northridge Dr \$143,000 50733 Northstar Way \$155,000 50826 Northstar Way \$165,000 49131 Rainbow Ln N \$143,000 39759 Rockcrest Cir \$150,000 327 Saint Lawrence Blvd \$28,000 18072 Shagbark Dr \$145,000 50010 Teton Ridge Rd \$62,000 50262 Teton Ridge Rd \$160,000 50618 Teton Ridge Rd \$187,000 39533 Village Run Dr \$95,000 PLYMOUTH \$186,000 8821 Brookline Ave \$170,000 14804 Cherry Ln \$100,000 48029 Colony Farms Cir \$160,000 9093 Countrywood Dr \$136,000 11887 Deer Creek Run \$75,000 14696 Garland Ave \$235,000 13036 Glenview Dr \$179,000 1641 Gloucester St 165 Hamilton Ave \$60,000 \$225,000 548 Harding St \$146,000 493 Maria Dr \$225.000 47399 Marisa Ct 48688 Meadow Dr \$68.000 \$118,000 40665 Newport Dr 8894 Northern Ave \$100,000 \$140,000 1449 Palmer St \$110.000 730 Penniman Ave \$204.000 730 Penniman Ave 49265 Pine Bluff Ct \$87,000 49468 Pine Ridge Ct \$216,000 45795 Purcell Dr \$595.000 REDFORD \$330,000 26517 Clarita \$627.000 18676 Delaware Ave \$824.000 12891 Lenore \$676,000 14698 Lenore \$623,000 15666 Leona Dr \$148,000 9170 Lucerne \$158,000 25818 Lyndon

WAY	NE COUNTY
\$293,000	18483 Negaunee
\$95,000	13518 Norborne
\$761,000	17148 Olympia
\$720,000	17305 Olympia
\$370,000	19969 Poinciana
\$156,000	10019 Seminole
\$299,000	11343 Seminole
\$705,000	26528 W Chicago
1,096,000	15802 Wakenden
\$660,000 \$689,000	WAYNE
\$270,000	4139 Hayes St 31730 Madison St
\$270,000	WESTLAND
\$243,000	31731 Avondale St
\$185,000	37485 Barkridge Cir
\$160,000	34226 Beechnut St
\$355,000	8242 Carrousel Blvd
\$445,000	7382 Central St
\$125,000	35674 Florane St
\$307,000	8246 Gary Ave
\$335,000	39113 Hayward Dr
\$175,000	35731 Hunter Ave
\$450,000	6396 Hunter Pointe St
\$115,000	28031 Mackenzie Dr
\$445,000	32504 Mackenzie Dr
\$288,000	32681 Mackenzie Dr
\$98,000	8175 Melvin Ave
\$188,000	8012 N Wildwood St
\$300,000	32734 Parkwood St
\$280,000	33934 Pawnee St
\$338,000	2457 S Christine
\$456,000	716 S Henry Ruff Rd
\$590,000	38186 S Rickham Ct
\$330,000	34551 School St
¢ < 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,	38552 Scott Dr
\$60,000 \$52,000	34111 Shawnee St 1483 Shoemaker Dr
\$30,000	35051 Stacy St
\$85,000	601 Summerfield Dr
\$85,000	38530 Terry Ln
\$29,000 \$96,000	7365 Woodview St
\$96,000 \$10,000	33110 Woodworth Ct
\$10,000	55 FTO WOODWOITH CE

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of " Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95, plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. " Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and barnesandnoble.com. He is also the author of " Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," 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.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

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. The Red Lobster is next to 7-11, near Trenton Road.

Any questions or concerns, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayde Koehler at 313-819-0919.

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B8 (HTW) 0 & E Media | Thursday, May 8, 2014



JOBS

WORK FROM HOME OPPORTUNITY?



By Debra Auerbach CareerBuilder Writer

Telecommuting has many benefits for both employees and employers. It helps workers save time and money and gain more flexibility, and it can increase a company's efficiency and reduce its carbon footprint.

also inside... Homes • Wheels • Pets • Services

Yet the concept is still catching on in the corporate world. According to the latest American Community Survey data, slightly more than 2.5 percent of the U.S. workforce considers home their primary place of work. So while it may seem like a challenge to identify telecommuting jobs, by doing the right research and asking the right questions, you can find a position that matches your interests and desired working accommodations.

Look for telecommutingfriendly occupations

While every company, no matter the field, differs in their flexible-working policies, some industries tend to have more teleworking staff. "Some industries are better suited for telecommuting than others," says Kari DePhillips, owner of contentdevelopment company Content Factory, whose entire team works remotely. "Telecommutingfriendly industries include: graphic design, public relations, social-media marketing, writing and website development. In general, I think tech and startup companies are most likely to be open to the idea of telecommuting."

You may also have an easier chance of finding telecommuting roles by looking for contract or freelance positions. "Since you'll likely be commissioned for particular projects, employers are open to allowing independent contractors to turn in work projects digitally and communicate via social media, i.e., Skype," says Sudy Bharadwaj, co-founder and CEO of job-search platform Jackalope Jobs.

How to: Identify a TELECOMMUTING-FRIENDLY JOB

Do the right research

To find jobs, go to a jobsearch website such as Career-Builder and use the "keyword" search function. Christine Durst, a telecommuting and homebased career expert and author of "The 2-Second Commute" and "Work At Home Now," suggests using words and phrases including:

- Telecommute
- Telecommuting
- Independent contractor
- Work from home
- Offsite
- Virtual
- Remote
- Freelance
- Work from anywhere

Durst also recommends visiting sites that specifically cater to telecommuting jobs. Another option? Try a search engine, but use specific phrases to avoid any suspicious, too-good-to-be-true work-from-home job offers. To narrow in on relevant jobs, Durst suggests using phrases such as:

- "This is a telecommuting
- position" — "This is a remote position"
- "This is a home-based
 - position"
- "Will have the option to work from home"
- "Offsite position"

- "Qualified individual will work from home"
- "Must be willing to work from home"
- -- "This is a work-from-home position"
- "May work from anywhere"
- "This is a virtual position"
- "Our employees work from home"
- "Position can be based anywhere"

Ask the right questions

If a company doesn't explicitly say in the job posting that it's open to telecommuting, that doesn't mean it won't allow for a more flexible work schedule. So if you're really interested in a position, don't count it out. Use the interview as a time to take the company's pulse on teleworking preferences.

"When interviewing, ask the hiring manager about the company's policy on telecommuting," says Amit De, CEO and co-founder of job-search platform Careerleaf. "If the company has a strict anti-telecommuting policy, the position's probably not a great fit for you. Just be sure that the focus of the interview doesn't remain on telecommuting. Ultimately, you still need to get hired before you can consider telecommuting."

Keep an open mind Even if a job doesn't offer telecommuting at first, there's always the chance that, under the right circumstances, your boss will be open to the idea of a more flexible work schedule. "The key is to come with suggestions as to what tools you'll use to turn in work and interface with co-workers when work needs to get done," Bharadwaj says. "Outline practical ways to ensure your productivity, and give examples that note your sensitivity to deadlines, since with telecommuting you'll need to be a self-starter to accomplish tasks without being micromanaged."

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 issues.







Boy or Girl:	r here
Email:	4/
Phone:	
*Parent's Printed Name:	
*Parent's Signature:	
Fill out the form and have your parents fill in their name and signature. Clip and mail, it's that easy!	
* Required for Birthday Club	

Detroit Lions Youth Football Camp Contest Winners



Daniel Taylor, age 9: "I want to become a better football player so I can help my team win a championship".



Dylan Senda, age 9: "I was born to play football! I am built for football"!



Elton Yaldo, age 10: "I'm a huge Detroit Lions fan and a football fan ever since I was 5".



Max Cooper, age 5: "I love football. I want to score a touchdown"

Congratulations to all of the winners and a

special thanks to the **Detroit Lions Youth Football Camp**



Robby Heil, age 14: "I would like to win this scholarship for my team players because they always cheered me on".



Jackson Magyar-Pierson, age 8: "I would like to be like Calvin Johnson so I could play wide receiver next year when I play tackle football".



Marcellus Gaines, age 13: "My ultimate goal is to play football in the NFL. I strive to be and do the best for my team and set a positive example on and off the field."



Christian Wilson, age 7: "All my favorite football players are on that team. Football is my favorite sport."

Deadline for submissions:

Mail all entry forms to: Scoop the Newshound, 615 W. Lafayette, Detroit MI 48226 Level 2 May 30 Hound Doa Hiahliahts