

# Novi News

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## Civic Theatre seeking 'staff' for the 'Good Times Diner'

The Novi Civic Theatre is looking for actors, comedians, singers and dancers, ages 50 and above to be a part of the 2014 Senior Variety Series, *Welcome to The Good Times Diner*. The production is a tribute to 1950s-era fun.

The first rehearsal and registration will be noon Monday, June 2, at the Novi Civic Center. No auditions or experience necessary; everyone will be a part of the production.

Rehearsals will be held from noon to 2:30 p.m. each Monday and Thursday. The registration fee is \$50 and includes costumes.

Six performances will take place between Sept. 25 and Oct. 5. The annual senior production is always a sellout and has been a community favorite for more than two decades.

For more information, contact Amelia Purdy at [apurdy@cityofnovi.org](mailto:apurdy@cityofnovi.org) or 248-735-5615.

## Budget solid for years to come

City's millage rates stay at 10.2, lowest in years

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

The city of Novi approved an overall budget plan of \$55 million for the fiscal year starting in July. Millage rates will stay at the current amount, a decade-long low.

"This is the third year in a row of holding the overall mills to 10.2, which is the lowest millage rate in the last 11 years," said Victor Cardenas, interim city manager.

The finance department presented its report May 19 to the city council, which unanimously approved the city's millage rate, budget, priorities and multi-year plan.

### Millage rates

This is just a fraction of the total tax bill residents pay, Cardenas said. However, he added it is important as it helps fund such city services as police and fire.

Councilman Justin Fischer said these votes were an important step in a long process, especially considering it comes after some changes on council, as well

as in the finance and city manager departments. Fischer said the millage rate and overall budget are stable and strong.

"It remains the same, but it's still down from several years ago, which is pretty much unheard of in this area of Michigan," Fischer said of the millage rate.

Cardenas said the Drain Fund mills were reduced to zero for the 2014-15 fiscal year. The approximate 0.12 mills previously levied for the Drain Fund have been applied to the 2002 Streets and Refunding Debt Fund, bringing that levy to a total of 0.3782 mills.

"The mills were reallocated from drains to debt service after review of the proposed 2014-15 expenditure budgets for each fund, as well as exploring possible early payoff of a portion of the outstanding debt," Cardenas said.

### Budget and planning goals

Fischer cited having a fund balance of more than 24 percent as exceeding the council's expectations and plan, thus helping maintain a secure budget.

The city hopes to do a variety

See BUDGET, Page A2



Students at Novi Woods Elementary School congratulate David Ascher after he was named Principal of the Year. PHOTOS BY LONNIE HUHMAN

## PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Novi Woods' Ascher recognized for his leadership

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

Novi Woods Elementary Principal David Ascher was caught off-guard at Friday morning's school assembly, where he was presented with the Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association Region 7 Elementary Principal of the Year Award.

"To see my parents and wife here and to be presented with this honor before our students and staff ... it was a complete surprise," Ascher said.

According to presenter and MEMSPA's

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Parkview Elementary Principal Jen Michos and Novi Superintendent Dr. Steve Matthews present David Ascher (middle) with his award.

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## Schoolcraft College will present electric vehicle show June 7



Show attendees at the 2013 event look at this Ford CMax under the hood. RENA LAVERTY

The largest electric vehicle show in the Midwest is celebrating its sixth year at Schoolcraft College. The show, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 7, is a must-see for anyone who's ever considered buying an electric vehicle.

The show is free and open to the public. It is a great opportunity to see all types of EVs and PHVs (plug-in hybrid), talk to the owners and ride in or drive many of the cars around campus.

The EVs on display will include the BMW i3, Cadillac ELR, Chevrolet Volt, Nissan Leaf, Tesla Roadster and Tesla Model S. The show also features electric scooters and performance

EV motorcycles.

Other vehicles at the show include unique conversions such as a Chevy S10s, an Austin Healy Sprite, a Fiat X19, a Ford Escort, a PT Cruiser, a Porsche Boxter and even an electric go-cart kit for kids. Past years have seen highlights such as a 1916 Detroit Electric, a 1976 Citicar and drag-pull racing electric tractors.

"This is the largest event of its kind in the Midwest," Michigan Electric Auto Association President Larry Tuttle said. "In addition to learning all about the latest EV and PHV technology and talking to people who drive

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# PRINCIPAL

Continued from Page A1

past president Robert Kauffman of Farmington Public Schools, this award is for Oakland County. There are more than 300 individuals in the region's pool of candidates.

The award is designed

to recognize outstanding principals whose contributions to the profession are exemplary and recognized by their peers and communities. The program honors principals who have exhibited extraordinary leadership, commitment to their students and faculty, service to their communities and contributions to the profession.

"Dave has held a clear vision of academic success for all students and created a culture of high achievement and continued growth for both staff and students," said Parkview Elementary Principal Jen Michos, who led the nomination of Ascher and was herself honored several years ago. "He cultivates leadership in others - students, parents, teachers alike. He has a laser-like focus on quality instruction."

Ascher began teaching in Novi in 1995 and has taught first, fifth and sixth grades. He also

## ABOUT THE AWARD

The MEMSPA Elementary Principal of the Year Award is designed to recognize outstanding principals whose contributions to the profession are exemplary and recognized by their peers and communities. The program honors principals who have exhibited extraordinary leadership, commitment to their students and faculty, service to their communities and contributions to the profession.

served as principal of Novi Meadows before going to Novi Woods in 2011.

He said the honor is something he attributes to the many people that he has had the privilege to work with and learn from, the students he has

taught over the years and everyone he calls family and friends.

"I am who I am because of them," he said of the different mentors and students he has had throughout his career. "Novi has changed my life."

Steve Matthews, superintendent of Novi Community Schools, said Ascher epitomizes the many leadership examples from across the district.

"He's a wonderful principal because he focuses on the kids and helps the teachers grow," Matthews said. "It's great to see him recognized for his leadership."

Ascher's award will include further recognition at the MEMSPA state conference in December.

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## NOVI NEWS

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## BUDGET

Continued from Page A1

of things to improve overall life for its residents while maintaining great services.

One goal is to make long-term strategic and sustainable investments in roads, pathways, water and sewer, as well as provide for development, acquisition and rehabilitation of parks and public lands. In addition, it will aim to provide cultural resources and recreational opportunities for a growing and diverse population.

Councilman Andrew Mutch noted that in the multi-year budget plan, the city aims to have a general fund balance above 22 percent while incorporating capital improvements, which demonstrates a solid fiscal foundation going forward. However, he added, there are some challenges ahead - especially with pension liabilities and retiree health care costs.

Fischer gave thanks to and said this three-year budget plan originated with Mayor Bob Gatt, who in turn said this type of planning comes from Oakland County.

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Guests at last year's show check out the interior of a Tesla Model S.

## ELECTRIC

Continued from Page A1

EVs every day, visitors can even 'Ride and Drive' in several vehicles."

A number of vendors who provide equipment, services and resources to the electric vehicle industry and EV owners will be on hand, including DTE Energy, Ann Arbor Automotive and Clipper Creek charging stations, Mechanical Energy Systems and many others.

Refreshments will be available. Concrete Cuisine will be on site selling gourmet food and Treat Dreams will be selling innovative ice cream and custom des-



The Tesla Model S will be on display at this year's show June 7. PHOTOS BY RENA LAVERY

serts from its mobile truck.

Event co-sponsors are Schoolcraft College and the Michigan Electric Auto Association in partnership with Detroit Area Clean Cities, Clean Energy Coalition, DTE Energy, Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training

Program and Observer & Eccentric Media. Event organizers see the show as an educational and entertaining way to raise awareness of the general public about electric vehicles.

Visit [www.schoolcraft.edu/evshow](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/evshow) for more information.

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# Summer Teen Center fun, educational for Novi youth

**By Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

It's always been a fun success, so again this year the Novi Youth Assistance wants to get the word out on the upcoming Jeanne Clarke Summer Teen Center.

"The kids love it," said Tom Swieboda, Novi Youth Assistance case-worker. "It really is a mix of education with fun, which makes it an all-around experience."

It's for Novi kids going into grades 6-9. The Teen Center runs from June 16

through July 24. Kids meet at the Novi High School cafeteria.

In the past, there have been up to 80 kids participating.

The program is sponsored by the Oakland County Circuit Court-Family Division, city of Novi and Novi Community Schools.

Daily events include tutoring (they bring their own materials and receive free tutoring) and arts and crafts. There are free snacks served at the center every day. Video games and board games

are also available every day and access to the pool and gymnasium vary.

There are a variety of special outings and events. Participants, among other things, will go to the Detroit Zoo, a local fire station and Detroit Tigers game.

The Novi Teen Center is a drop-in center open from noon to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. The registration fee is \$120 per child. Some activities/field trips require additional fees.

lhuhman@hometownlife.com

### TO SIGN UP

Go to the link: <http://www.cityofnovi.org/City-Services/Youth-Services/Jeanne-Clarke-Summer-Teen-Center/TeenCenterRegistrationForm.aspx> or register at the Novi Youth Assistance Office from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Mail form and payment to: Novi Youth Assistance, 45175 W. 10 Mile, Novi, MI 48375

# New credit union building gains square footage

**By Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

Planners for the proposed Detroit Metropolitan Credit Union, set to be located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Main Street and Novi Road, want it to be bigger.

The Novi City Council agrees.

By a 6-0 vote, city council approved the revision of the project plans, which will now have an additional second floor office/conference space. This brings the total building size to 5,686 square foot, up from 3,000 square feet.

"I'm glad to see this property developed - and now with a more prominent building," Councilman Andrew Mutch said.

He added that this revised plan is an even more positive development for the Main Street/Town Center area. Development in this part of Novi has languished, but hopes have gone back up now with this project.

Mike Blanek, a project planner from Stucky Vitale Architects, said the company reassessed its design and believed the increase would be better.

### PROPOSED DMCU



"The building is pretty much the same footprint as before, except we have the second story," he said to the Novi Planning Commission, which also approved the plan.

The second story could have a future as a meeting room for the community as well. Blanek said typically credit unions are community-based organizations and officials were intending to have it available.

The proposed development area is 0.83 acres and is currently vacant land. The original plan was approved early last year. There will be new parking spots created for the additional space.

DMCU will offer a full range of financial services.

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## Novi family given Righteous Among Nations award

Oakland County Commissioner Kathy Crawford served as a guest speaker May 18 at the Righteous Among Nations award ceremony, which honored the late Dr. Maria Holecek (1913-2006) at the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills.

Board members from the Yad Vashem museum in Israel, the largest living memorial to the Holocaust, presented the Righteous Among Nations award to Holecek's sons, Dr. Frank Holecek and Dr. Andrew Holecek. Frank Holecek and his wife Joy are longtime Novi residents.

The award, renowned throughout the Jewish community world-wide, is given to non-Jewish people who risked their own lives during the Holocaust. Maria Holecek was a dentist in Lithuania who rescued Jews during World War II by hiding them and arranging shelter and illegal transfers.

"We are so thankful to Yad Vashem for honoring the Holecek family and Dr. Maria Holecek with such a prestigious award," Crawford said. "Novi and southwest Oakland County are very proud of their diverse culture and their ongoing commitment to the Jewish community. It was a privilege to attend the event and to hear her amazing story."

Established in 1953, Yad Vashem is a world center for documentation, research, education and commemoration of the Holocaust. The Righteous Among Nations ceremony was sponsored by the American Society for Yad Vashem and the Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest. Roey Gilad (consul general) and S. Isaac Mekel, director of development for the American Society for Yad Vashem, also served as presenters at the event.

Crawford said that Maria Holecek was a hero.

"During my time as Oakland County commissioner, I have had the great honor of meeting several Medal of Honor recipients, as well as Tuskegee airmen from Michigan," Crawford said at the ceremony. "Those Medal of Honor recipients have a lot in common with Dr. Maria Holecek because, like her, they thought of themselves as ordinary people who in a single pivotal moment, with little or no time to consider the risks, did something so extraordinary, it was way beyond the capabilities of most people - taking great personal risk to protect and save the lives of people they often did not even know."

Crawford added that now, like those heroes, the Righteous Among Nations will include the story of Dr. Maria Holecek so that not only will her memory live on through her family, "but it is recorded for all time and will surely inspire generations of people we will never know."

## First steps



A Canada goose and its goslings trundle across the lawn of Novi's Meadowbrook Senior Center. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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## Big things in store for Novi's Class of 2014

As near as I can tell, I have participated in 24 high school graduation ceremonies.

The first was in 1972, when my sister graduated from high school. No. 25 will be May 31, when the proud Novi High School Class of 2014 graduates. Between my first ceremony and the upcoming ceremony, I have participated as a teacher, a Board of Education member, a school administrator, a parent and a superintendent.

I graduated from Sandia High School in 1974. It has been 40 years since I graduated from high school!

Even though it has been so long, I can still remember that ceremony. There were more than 700 in my graduating class. We held the ceremony



**Steve Matthews**  
 SUPER TALK

in the University of New Mexico basketball arena – affectionately known as The Pit. Having a last name that begins with ‘M’ I was smack dab in the middle of our class. Elizabeth Mathews – unrelated and only one ‘t’ – graduated in front of me.

I recall being mildly disappointed that my diploma cover was just that – a cover. I was unaware that I would not receive my diploma until I turned in my cap and gown.

At the time of my graduation, I knew I was going to college. Beyond that, I was

unsure of what my next steps would be.

I clearly did not know at the time that I would spend another 10 years in school earning three and a half degrees. Nor did I know that I would be continually engaged in the act of education. Some of my education would be formal – taking classes that earned credit. Some of my education would be informal – learning on the job or learning on my own.

And that is why high school graduation is such an interesting experience. High school graduation clearly marks an ending. We are no longer forced to attend school. State laws on compulsory education end and a person can decide never to go to school again.

High school graduation

also marks an ending, because the ties that bound us are now cut. Our social experience is no longer connected to a group of people at a particular school. Football games, homecoming dances, orchestra recitals, proms – all stop when you graduate from high school. As do Quiz Bowl, forensic competitions, FIRST Robotics, the high school play, ‘A’ lunch, ‘B’ lunch and ‘C’ lunch – all done.

But while high school graduation marks an ending, it is much more a beginning. The decisions that we make become much more important and, in some ways, more influential.

My choice of college influenced a lot of things in my life. At the first college I attended, I met a young woman

from Seattle, Wash. I ended up moving to Seattle to be near her. As a result, I graduated not from the college in the town I grew up in, but from the University of Washington. My college major influenced the next step in my life and, ultimately, the many steps after that.

I look forward to celebrating the end of something with the Novi High School graduating Class of 2014. But I really am looking forward to seeing them begin something new. While the ending will be wonderful, what lies ahead for the Class of 2014 will be tremendous!

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

## Novi High student to tour Europe with acclaimed choir

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
 Staff Writer

Novi High School freshman Madeleine Armstrong has been selected for the Blue Lake Fine Arts International Choir this coming summer and will perform throughout Europe.

“I feel pretty good about this. It’s an awesome opportunity,” Madeleine said of her upcoming trip. “Seeing it before I’m 18 will be a lot of fun.”

To become part of the group, she had to audition and go before an interview committee.

“I’ve loved singing ever since I was little,” she said.

For six weeks, she will be seeing the sights and performing in France, Luxembourg and Germany. Staying with host families, Madeleine will get an up-close look at places she has only heard about.

“I’m looking forward to seeing the different historical

spots and eating some great food,” she said with a laugh.

Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp is located on a 1,400-acre campus in Michigan’s Manistee National Forest. The International Choir is composed of talented and inspired young vocalists and performs a full range of choral literature. The 2014 International Choir will join with the Blue Lake International Youth Symphony Orchestra to perform Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony in six European communities, with a guest chorus in each location.

Madeleine said organized singing is relatively a new thing for her; she started in eighth grade with the choir. However, music has always been in her family. Her parents are “band people,” she said, so hearing and playing music was a big part of growing up.

She discovered she had a talent for pitch and put it to

use with the Novi High School choir, where she is currently with the Bella Voce Choir under director Claire Schurig.

“I’ve learned a lot and it was a great way to become integrated into high school life,” she said of joining the NHS choir.

She said Stacey Becker at Novi Middle School really inspired her to get to this point. Band and choir is a big thing at NHS, so Madeleine said she feels honored to represent her hometown.

“This will be a learning experience for me that will last a lifetime,” she said.

The group will open the 2014 Blue Lake Summer Arts Festival with a presentation Friday, June 13, of Beethoven’s Ninth and present an encore performance Tuesday, July 22, at Hill Auditorium on the campus of the University of Michigan.

lhuhman@hometownlife.com



Novi High School freshman Madeleine Armstrong plays piano in her home April 3. The talented young lady has been chosen to accompany the Blue Lakes International Choir when it tours Europe this summer.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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# Court to hear pension appeal

By Paul Egan  
Gannett Michigan

LANSING — The Michigan Supreme Court will hear an appeal by teacher unions of a Michigan Court of Appeals decision that upheld a state law requiring them to contribute 4 percent of their pay toward their pensions, the court said recently.

In January, a three-judge panel of the appeals court upheld a 2012 law that requires public school employees to pay more for their pensions and made veteran teachers contribute to their pension benefits for the first time.

That ruling upheld a 2012 decision by an Ingham County judge.

The law, backed by Gov. Rick Snyder and the Republican-controlled Legislature, was intended to cut an estimated \$45-billion unfunded liability in the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System by more than \$15 billion.

Under the law, school employees hired before 1990 — who were paying nothing toward retirement — must contribute 4 percent of their pay or have their benefits cut. Those hired from 1990 to June 2010 must pay 7 percent to keep their pensions intact. Previously, they paid 3 percent to 6.4 percent.

Those hired since the middle of 2010 are in a 401(k)-type pension plan and aren't affect-

ed by the law.

In 2012 lawmakers also ended employer-provided health care for new hires and instead gave them a match of up to 2 percent in their 401(k), plus a lump sum upon retirement to pay for health insurance.

Current retirees must pay at least 20 percent of their medical premiums.

The appeals court said the law doesn't violate a Michigan constitutional provision protecting earned pension benefits, because only future benefits are affected.

Also, unlike an earlier law that mandated 3 percent contributions toward health care, the 2012 law provides an opt-out provision, the court said.

# Rouge test



Fifth-grade students, including Maya Goudeseune, from Mary Helen Guest Elementary recently traveled to Ella May Power Park in Novi to perform water quality testing on a tributary of the Rouge River as part of the Rouge Education Project. Students conducted a physical stream survey, chemical testing and a benthic macro invertebrate study. Looking at these three water quality indicators provided the students with a well-rounded picture of the health of the river. Their results were submitted, along with all the other schools that tested May 7 at various locations throughout the watershed, to the Friends of The Rouge as well as the Michigan DEQ.

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248-887-1218  
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248-437-3585 • www.southlyoncoc.org  
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10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship  
Wednesday Midweek Ministries 7 p.m.  
Troy Singleton, Minister  
LO-0000179313

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LO-0000179351

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Sunday School for all ages, 10:30 am.  
248-349-0911

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(8 Mile and Taft Road)  
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www.umcnorthville.org

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## 'Idol' winners attend North Farmington prom

By Aileen Wingblad  
Staff Writer

Unlike most 17-year-olds, she's endured the grueling competition of *American Idol*, the frenzy and challenge of the national stage, a taste of the glamour and fame and hard work that a successful music career demands. But there's no question Jena Ascutto is still, in some ways, much like her peers: With the North Farmington High School prom just days away, she said she has no idea what she's going to wear.

"I still don't have a dress. I'm freaking out," she said. But the NFHS senior does have a date: *American Idol* winner Caleb Johnson. In a media conference call May 22 from Los Angeles, the *Idol*'s first runner-up confirmed that she and Johnson are, indeed, attending her high school prom, which was scheduled for Wednesday at the Dearborn Inn.

"Me and Caleb are flying in — it's going to be interesting," she said.

The "prom date" started out as a joke a couple of months ago, Jena said, and as the *American Idol* finale approached, she began to take note that she had no one lined up to share the big night.

Or so she thought. Caleb, she said, "was serious the whole time."

"I'm really excited," she added.

Jena will also be on hand for another high school rite of passage, attending her graduation ceremony June 8 at Compuware Arena.

But two days later, she leaves her Farmington Hills hometown, her

friends and most of the world she has known so far for the next stage of her musical journey. First up is rehearsal for the *American Idol* Tour.

And then? Like plenty of other *American Idol* stand-outs, the odds appear to be in Jena's favor for achieving success in the music entertainment industry. She says she's "still evolving as an artist, has a lot to learn and a long way to go." Yet on her short list is cutting an album — and fielding offers she said she's expecting after the whirlwind of *American Idol* winds down.

### 'The real deal'

Reflecting on her *Idol* experience — less than 24 hours after the show's 13th season concluded May 21 — Jena said it wasn't until a few weeks ago when she was among the last five competitors that "it all started to sink in that this is the real deal."

"I remember laying in bed one night (thinking) 'How did I get here?' And no matter the outcome, I was really proud to get to that point," she said.

Noting that she's been working at her craft since age 12, Jena said she's taken "bits of each person" who inspired her to create a sound that's "uniquely me."

"I'm glad it sounds different and it's a voice people know," she said, adding that "it's still developing."

She'll also continue to pen songs and has a goal to perform some of her own, such as *Unbreakable Me*, during the upcoming *American Idol* Tour.

"I think a lot of people like it, too. I'm hoping they'll let me," Jena said.

## Benefit to support camp, school in Nicaragua, local mission team

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

The Peace Project will hold a Family FUNdraiser 1-6 p.m. Sunday, June 1, at Northville Community Park, 15801 Beck.

"I think it's going to be a great fundraiser," said Amy Ansara, a Northville resident who's organizing the event. "It's going to be a fun-filled day. It's the best park in Northville."

The Peace Project is a community organization focused on expanding educational opportunities, fostering environmental stewardship and boosting community development in Laguna de Apoyo, Nicaragua. Some members will visit Nicaragua to volunteer on the project camp and school.

The Family FUNdraiser, to which attendees are encouraged to bring cash donations, will include food and beverages; face painting and glitter tattoos; princess nail art; chair massage; a popcorn machine; relay games and a water balloon toss; raffles for children and adults; and a "make a card" activity for Nicaraguan children.

Ansara is among area residents who will visit Laguna de Apoyo in June, part of a group of around seven. That includes two of her University of Michigan Health system co-workers, said Ansara, an occupational therapist who this summer will transfer from U-M in Canton to the new facility in Northville Township.

A second local group, including more students, will visit the Nicaraguan community in August. "I have a feeling I'm going to love it and go back every year," she said.

She's afraid of spiders, but still excited about the



Nicaraguan children thank last year's local volunteers for their efforts. This year's June volunteers who'll make the trip are Amy Ansara, Rob Neda, Tim Lin, Theresa Courter, Savannah Courter, Chitra Karnani and Catalina Marshall.

June trip: "It's supposed to be beautiful."

If you'd like to donate but can't attend, contact Ansara at amyansara@gmail.com. Proceeds will support clinic supplies, backpacks, toothbrushes, a filtered water system, reading corner, community garden, games, first aid kits and more. Dental supply do-

nations are being sought.

She noted the clinic there doesn't even have latex gloves for doctors and nurses. "Can you imagine going to the doctor and not having that?" she asked. "I can't even imagine."

The Peace Project leaders have high hopes down the road for a bus to transport children, with

Ansara noting its steep cost. "I'm hoping we can do as much as possible to work on their goal," she added.

The Peace Project website is www.thepeaceprojectnicaragua.org. Local event sponsors include Busch's, Costco, CVS Pharmacy, AMYZing Faces & Fun, Target, Meijer, Tim Horton's and The Home Depot.

Planning for the June 1 benefit, a first-time event locally, has taken a few months. Ansara, whose business, AMYZing Faces & Fun is among sponsors, tipped her hat to Tim Lin, a key helper, and other organizers.

She noted there's a pavilion at Northville Community Park: "I'm going to cross my fingers for good weather."



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# Kolar tapped as chief of transportation group

Road Commission for Oakland County Managing Director Dennis Kolar has been elected president of the Intelligent Transportation Society of Michigan by that organization's board of directors.

ITS Michigan is the state chapter of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America, the not-for-profit organization that fosters the use of advanced technologies,



Kolar

known as Intelligent Transportation Systems, in surface transportation.

"I am very excited about the opportunity to lead ITS Michigan at this critical time," Kolar said. He noted this is a big year for the organization because it will host the ITS World

Congress — the largest gathering of ITS professionals in the world — in Detroit in September.

ITS Michigan members include private corporations, public agencies and academic institutions involved in the research, development, design, sales, installation and deployment of ITS technologies.

The World Congress is held in North America only once every three

years (the off-years are in Europe and Asia, respectively) and has never been in Detroit before. It is expected to draw approximately 10,000 ITS professionals to the region from across the globe. For more information about the World Congress, visit <http://its-worldcongress.org>.

RCOC is a founding member of ITS Michigan and has been a leader in the field of ITS for more

than 20 years. The Road Commission's largest ITS initiative is its FAST-TRAC (Faster And Safer Travel through Traffic Routing & Advanced Controls) system of smart, "adaptive" traffic signals. FAST-TRAC is the second largest such system in North America.

However, RCOC is involved with numerous other ITS projects on the local, state and national levels. "ITS is not only a

rapidly growing industry that has the potential to be an economic driver for Michigan, it also holds great promise for dramatically improving motorist safety," Kolar said.

Kolar's term as ITS Michigan president begins June 1 and is for one year. For more information about ITS Michigan, visit the organization's website, [www.itsmichigan.org](http://www.itsmichigan.org).

## Why Michiganders pay high gas taxes — just to drive on crummy roads

By Paul Egan  
Gannett Michigan

High fuel taxes and low spending on roads.

It's a nasty combination, but Michigan motorists can rightfully complain they pay some of the highest fuel taxes to drive on some of the lousiest roads.

According to national data, Michigan has the sixth-highest state taxes on gasoline, but one of the lowest rates of investment on roads in the nation.

That's galling to motorists such as Norbert Kroll of Howell, who works as an engineer in Dearborn.

"What did they do with all that money?" Kroll asked. "We should have the sixth-best roads in the nation not the sixth-worst."

Lawmakers could vote on bills that would significantly increase gas taxes — by more than 25 cents a gallon over the next four years — but also sharply drive up state spending on roads for the first time in 17 years.

If passed in their present form, the bills would give Michigan total state gas taxes close to the highest in the nation — with California and New York — as early as January. By 2018, when the new 9.5-percent wholesale tax on fuel is scheduled to increase to 15.5 percent, Michigan's tax would easily be the highest in the country, barring significant increases in other states.

But adding about \$1.3 billion a

year in additional road investment — the amount the Michigan Department of Transportation says would be dedicated directly to roads if the bills raise \$1.5 billion — would move Michigan up about nine places, toward the middle of the pack, in spending per lane-mile of road, where it now ranks 33rd.

The department says it would also save money by protecting the value of Michigan's roads and bridges before they deteriorate.

Why does Michigan have such high taxes on fuel, but relatively low spending on roads?

Carl Davis, a senior analyst at the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy in Washington, D.C., said Michigan is one of only four states, with Indiana, Illinois and Hawaii, that fully applies its general sales tax to fuel sales.

Of the 41.4 cents in state taxes Michigan motorists pay on a gallon of fuel, only 19 cents is a fuel tax dedicated to transportation. The other 22.4 cents is all sales tax and, under Michigan's constitution, most of it goes to schools and local governments and very little of it can be spent on roads.

Remove that 22.4 cents from the equation and Michigan's 19-cent fuel tax ties with Arizona for ninth-lowest among the states.

"Including the sales tax skews Michigan tremendously," said Jeff Cranson, a spokesman for the Michigan Department of Transportation. "It's very disingenuous of the AFP (Americans for Pros-

perity, an anti-tax group) and others to make the point about what we spend on fuel taxes without noting that as a matter of public policy, our state decided to use sales tax on fuel to fund other things so what you pay at the pump is not a true user fee for roads."

Davis said Michigan won't be alone if it significantly hikes its fuel taxes.

New Hampshire brought in a sharp increase this year and in 2013 six states, including Pennsylvania, either increased fuel taxes or moved away from a fixed cent-per-gallon tax to a percentage rate that allows for increases over time, as Michigan proposes to do, he said.

According to 2014 statistics from the American Petroleum Institute, Michigan's state taxes on gasoline are exceeded only by California, New York, Connecticut, Hawaii and Pennsylvania.

And based on 2012 data from the Federal Highway Administration, Michigan ranks 33rd for the amount of investment per lane-mile of road; 47th for investment per vehicle mile driven, and dead last among the 50 states for investment per driver.

In the Midwest, Michigan's state tax on gas compares to 41.8 cents for Pennsylvania; 40.8 cents for Indiana; 32.9 cents for Wisconsin; 28 cents for Ohio; 39.1 cents for Illinois; and 32.3 cents for Pennsylvania. The national average is 28.2 cents.

## \$40,000 coming for Haggerty Road maintenance

Members of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners unanimously voted to approve county Commissioner Michael Spisz's resolutions requesting \$40,000 for Tri-Party Program funding for Haggerty Road improvements in the city of Novi.

These funds will be used for immediate road maintenance.

"For every dollar that is spent by the city of Novi, the Road Commission for Oakland County and Oakland County will

each match one-third of the funding for road improvement on Haggerty Road. That is a two-for-one return on this investment," said Kathy Crawford, county commissioner from Novi.

"This is the best approach to leverage funding for roads, especially as municipal budgets tighten. This effort is collaboration between the Road Commission for Oakland County, the city of Novi and Oakland County which is the best approach to road funding."

## CITY UPDATES

### Farmers Market opens June 28

The Novi Farmers Market will open for the season Saturday, June 28 and run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday through Sept. 13 on the Civic Center Campus, 45175 10 Mile, in the Novi High School parking lot.

Applications are being accepted for fresh, local items such as organically and naturally grown seasonal fruits and vegetables; herbs; plants, flowers and trees; candles; soaps; oils; vegan and gluten-free baked goods; dairy products;


tea, coffee and cider; condiments; spices, meats; granola and grains; locally grown international produce; and more.

Other goods that may be added to the market include original art work items such as jewelry, recycled items, ceramics, oil and water color paintings, photography, mixed media, metal and wood working.

Vendor applications are available online at [www.cityofnovi.org](http://www.cityofnovi.org). For additional information, contact Wendy DuVall at 248-347-0400 or [wduvall@cityofnovi.org](mailto:wduvall@cityofnovi.org).

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# Mackenzie faces two primary challengers

By L.L. Brasier  
Gannett Michigan

Two Oakland County judges, including Brian MacKenzie of the 52-1 District Court in Novi, are facing rare challenges for re-election. Across the state, there are 16 contested judgeships on the ballot this year. That's a typical number in an election, although some judges this year may be more vulnerable because of ongoing controversy.

"There has to be a smoldering fire for an attorney to work up the courage to run against a judge," said Bill Balenger, editor of Inside Michigan Politics and a longtime observer of state politics. Lawyers, he noted, are loathe to

challenge judges before whom they have to appear.

## Novi District Court

MacKenzie will square off against attorney Scott Powers and Travis Reeds, MacKenzie's former law clerk, in the Aug. 5 primary. The top two finishers will proceed to the November general election.

MacKenzie, who hasn't faced competition at the polls since 1988, was sanctioned by a higher court in December, after Oakland County prosecutors complained he was running a rogue court, hiding files and improperly dismissing domestic violence cases. Circuit Court Judge Colleen O'Brien determined MacKenzie was routinely violating the law, and is

now overseeing his domestic violence docket. MacKenzie also came under scrutiny for sending defendants to a drug testing company that employed his son and had financial ties to his wife. And earlier this year, the FBI was investigating a case where MacKenzie allegedly tried to pressure a defendant into giving up a civil suit against a police department in exchange for a more lenient sentence.

MacKenzie, in written responses to questions submitted by the *Detroit Free Press*, said he deserves to keep his seat, noting that he has implemented specialty courts, including drug and alcohol treatment courts and a court to assist veterans. "I have a balanced

temperament and more than two decades of experience," MacKenzie said. "I work hard to ensure that all of my cases are heard in a timely and fair manner."

Powers, a Highland Township attorney in private practice, said it is time for a change, noting that MacKenzie has a reputation for sending nearly everyone to drug testing, even in cases where there were no drugs or alcohol involved, and for imposing long probation periods and sometimes jail for minor offenses. Powers is the son of Judge Dennis Powers, a colleague of MacKenzie on the three-member Novi District Court bench.

"This is a district court, and we handle misdemeanors," Powers

said. "We're not dealing with hardened criminals here, we're dealing with people who made a mistake. I'd see these sentences imposed and I would scratch my head. It's oppressive and creates a great negative view of the court in the community."

Reeds, an attorney in private practice in Walled Lake, said he chose to run against his old boss not because he has any criticism of MacKenzie, but because he believes he will be a good judge. "I just think now is the right time," he said.

Reed said he told MacKenzie when he decided to run. "He's probably not pleased anybody is running against him, but I don't think he's mad at me."

## OAKLAND COUNTY ROAD WORK

The following are construction projects on Oakland County roads that could cause traffic delays.

The Road Commission for Oakland County list includes its work, as well as projects conducted by others, under permit, on roads under the jurisdiction of the road commission. Officials said projects can change from day to day, whether due to weather or other issues.

Find the RCOC on the web at [www.rcoc-web.org](http://www.rcoc-web.org) or on Twitter and Facebook.

### White Lake

**Road:** Cooley Lake Road, Williams Lake Road to Union Lake Road  
**Project:** Beginning in early May, RCOC will resurface this section of Cooley Lake.  
**Completion Date:** Early September

### Lyon Township

**Road:** Pontiac Trail, Eight Mile Road to Nine Mile Road  
**Project:** RCOC will resurface this section of Pontiac Trail.  
**Completion Date:** Early June

### Royal Oak

**Road:** 11 Mile Road between Troy Street and Campbell Road  
**Project:** There are intermittent lane closures on this section of 11 Mile Road between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. while the City of Royal Oak completes drainage structure repairs. The work will continue for the next month or so.  
**Completion Date:** Late May

## NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

### B&E at Novi Sports Bar

An unknown suspect reportedly broke into the Novi Sports Bar and Grill the morning of May 14.

The manager of the location on Novi Road told Novi Police that he first noticed something was up when he went on his computer to remotely access the bar's books. As he scrolled down the page, someone then scrolled up. This could only be done he said at the computer inside the actual office at the bar and grill.

According to the police report, the manager went to the location and found the back door unlocked and the office computer powered on to the exact record-keeping page. There were some pry marks on the office door, but none on the back door. The manager said someone could have used a crow bar to get in and then used a knife to unlock the office door's

deadbolt. There was no evidence to indicate a suspect.

### Computer stolen from home

A Microsoft Surface 2 laptop and keyboard were reportedly stolen from a front porch at a Novi residence in the 43000 block of Citation.

The theft occurred sometime during the afternoon and evening hours May 2. The items, along with some books, were delivered to the location by UPS, but the victim's roommate said only the books were on the front porch. It was confirmed the items were sent and placed at the location.

No one reportedly saw anything, but it was reported there was a similar incident at a neighbor's home. Until the items are found or more evidence is received, the case is inactive.

- By Lonnie Huhman

## Michigan Activity Pass program begins second year May 24

The Library Network has announced the "Michigan Activity Pass presented by The Library Network" renewed for a second year, beginning May 24.

The "Michigan Activity Pass presented by The Library Network" program is a partnership between Michigan's nearly 400 public libraries and 100-plus arts and cultural organizations. The program is designed to enhance the learning experience for people of all ages through books and other library materials, and to provide reduced cost or complimentary access to arts and cultural organizations across the state.

The project is supported in part by the Library of Michigan with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

"Public library patrons and our cultural partners were so pleased with the overwhelming reception afforded to the Michigan Activity Pass program during its first year, that renewal for a second year was a no-brainer," said Jim Flury, technical services manager and Michigan Activity Pass administrator at The Library Network in Novi. "That so many of our cultural partners from the first year of the program decided to sign on for a second year, speaks to the success the program has enjoyed."

Using TixKeeper software developed by Plymouth Rocket, the "Michigan Activity Pass presented by The Library Network" is available at all of Michigan's nearly 400 public libraries. Some of the participating cultural partners

include the Gilmore Car Museum, the Michigan Science Center, the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum and many others.

Library users with a valid library card from any Michigan library can print a pass, either from home or at the library, to one of the 70-plus participating cultural institutions at the <http://michiganactivitypass.info> website. Some cultural partners offer complimentary or reduced price admission; others, discounts in their gift shop or other exclusive offers for MAP pass holders only. Each pass expires one week from the date it is printed.

Each library will have five passes per week for each of the participating organizations.

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Wednesday, July 9 • 10:00 AM

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madeindetroitcarshow.org

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Brightmoor Christian Church, 40800 West 13 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48177



Special seating was provided for veterans and their spouses for the post-parade ceremony.

# REMEMBERING THE FALLEN



A wreath from local American Legion Post 147, on display in the front of the Civic Center.



Active military personnel from Selfridge Air National Guard Base led Monday's parade west on 10 Mile Road in Novi. Visit [www.novinews.com](http://www.novinews.com) for a video of the parade. PHOTOS BY CAL STONE

The following is an excerpt from Novi Mayor Bob Gatt's address given at the ceremony following the Memorial Day parade.

Good morning, everyone. My name is Bob Gatt and I have the privilege and the honor as the mayor of this great city of Novi to welcome you to this solemn event.

Memorial Day is a special day, created for one purpose and one purpose only – to honor those brave men and women who have died while serving our country in times of war.

Today, so many great Americans use this special day for a myriad of other reasons. It marks the unofficial beginning of summer. It's a time to go up north, open a cottage or get your garden ready for the year. All noble deeds, but not what this day is about.

An author named Rick Atkinson recently wrote a book titled *The Guns at Last Light: The War in Europe, 1944-1945*.

Here is a true story excerpt from that book, which should serve as a quiet reminder of what Memorial Day is meant to commemorate:



Bob Gatt, mayor of Novi, addressed the post-parade gathering in front of the Civic Center.

*"After all the noise and fury, it is the quiet moments that echo in the memory. In October 1945, Henry A. Wright, a widower, was waiting at the train station when the bodies of his three sons came home – Frank, killed on Christmas Eve in the Battle of the Bulge; Harold, dead of wounds*

*in a German P.O.W. camp; and Elton, killed in Germany just two weeks before the war ended. Their coffins were placed in the bedroom of their farmhouse in Springfield, Mo., where each had been born. Neighbors kept vigil overnight, carpeting the floor with roses, and in the morning they bore the brothers to Hilltop Cemetery for burial side by side by side beneath an iron sky."*

So many brave men and women have given their lives so that we may be free. We bury them in similar fashion all over the world. Imagine, at Arlington National Cemetery, the body of a deceased veteran arrives at their grave site via a caisson being driven by an army horse with a military escort.

Can you see the collective mournful, who solemnly await the approaching caisson, with its flag-draped charge?

Can you see the methodical final salute, profoundly rendered the charge, as the now barren caisson recedes toward the incessant horizon?

Can you hear the pre-

cision bark of a seven-rifle volley, thrice piercing the silence, jealously jolting back those lost in sorrow's command?

Can you hear the 24 melancholy notes, sounded by a distant bugler, as they linger, then fade into eternity?

Can you feel the flag's final snap, twice creased, 12 times folded, tucked once, before its pensive presentation to one dear soul?

Can you feel the 38 words of unimaginable gratitude, irrevocably spoken from a grateful nation, to that same darling soul?

Can you remember the stark white gloves, radiant polished brass, burnish shined boots, immaculate detailed uniforms?

Can you remember the occasional muffled sob, tear glistened cheeks, heartbroken emptiness, muted indelible memories?

If you can, time eternal will be testament to your courage, sacrifice and memory. May God speed your onward travels, for a brave and honored military veteran has journeyed home!



Military veterans rode proudly at the front of the parade and were showered with appreciation from the crowd.



This monument, dedicated to the memory of our fallen service men and women, is located in front of the Novi Civic Center, facing 10 Mile Road.

**Lingenfelter hosting MotorCity Gumball organizers**

Lingenfelter Performance Engineering debuted May 3 the first Saturday morning Lingenfelter Cars & Coffee event. Despite the rain, more than 200 visitors stopped by. The event will continue to take place from 8-10 a.m. each Saturday this summer at Lingenfelter's North Engine Build Facility in Wixom.

On June 7, the event will highlight the 2014 MotorCity Gumball rally. In 2011, entrepreneurs Alex Haggart and Waseem Qureshi formed the MotorCity Rally Club. The duo combined their passion for automobiles

and the city of Detroit to host the first MotorCity Gumball rally in 2012. The rally combines luxury lifestyle, motor sports activities and extreme sports into one action-packed weekend. The 2014 MotorCity Gumball is set for Aug. 23-24.

Although there is no fee to participate in the June 7 event, guests are encouraged to bring a donation of non-perishable food items to be donated to Gleaners Community Food Bank and/or make a donation to Reach Out World Wide.

**Support meeting for grandparents**

OLHSA's Grandparents Raising Grandchildren is having a free support group meeting

where participants can talk with fellow grandparents who share similar stories and experiences 9:30-11 a.m. June 5 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile.

Ron Borgnesser, OLHSA CEO, will also be presenting information for OLHSA's 50th anniversary. This presentation is sponsored by OLHSA, a Community Action Agency, Area Agency on Aging 1-B and the city of Novi. GRG offers a free support group for grandparents in Oakland County who are raising grandchildren.

Call Lisa Grodsky for more information at 248-209-2622 or email LisaG@olhsa.org.

**bd's supports Frankie's Tuesday**

Join bd's Mongolian Grill and Frankie's Friends Charitable Pet Foundation for dinner 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, June 10, at the restaurant chain's Novi location, 43155 Main St.

Be sure to bring a favorite photo of your pet and have fun during the raffles and contests. Fifteen percent of all sales from the whole day will be given to Frankie's Friends to support better treatment of pet cancers and other diseases.

**Democratic candidates rally**

More than 35 Democratic candidates running for various offices in November elections are attending the Democratic Candidates Rally,

3-7 p.m. Sunday, June 8, at the Troy Community Center, 3179 Livernois.

Ask questions or have one-on-one conversation

with candidates on topics of your interest. Light music and dinner will be served. Tickets are \$15 each; limited sponsor

tables are available for \$500 and \$250. Contact Faiz M. Khan at 248-686-4426 for more information.

**'I got it'**



Caden Conner, 5, looks a baseball into his mitt tossed to him by his dad Chris. They were playing catch May 21 at Novi's ITC Park while waiting for a coach-pitch league to start for Caden. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Arbor Hospice offering volunteer training sessions**

Arbor Hospice is hosting a new round of training sessions for volunteers who are interested in bringing comfort and companionship to patients facing life-limiting illnesses and their families. Volunteers choose locations they are most comfortable visiting within Arbor Hospice's seven-county service area. The four training sessions will be held at Arbor Hospice's Plymouth office, located at 40500 Ann Arbor Road E., Suite 102.

The comprehensive training sessions are set for 5-9 p.m. each Monday and Wednesday from June 9-23. A variety of volunteer opportunities are available, including patient companionship, care giver relief, facilitating pet therapy patient interaction, music visits or administrative support.

Helga Safranek, the wife of Arbor Hospice patient Frank Safranek, said the volunteers who visited her husband were a tremendous help. Over the course of eight months, when Frank was an Arbor Hospice patient, three different volunteers made visits to the Safranek home. They each provided companionship and a listening ear by engaging in activities Frank enjoyed.

"One of the volunteers was a carpenter and helped Frank varnish one of his unfinished projects," Helga

Safranek said. "I can't begin to explain how much that meant to us. To have someone spend time with Frank and help him do something he loved was so wonderful. After months of being unable to use his artistic skills and work in his workshop, Frank had that opportunity."

The other volunteer was not a carpenter, but came prepared nonetheless. With an iPad in hand, the volunteer visited Frank on a weekly basis prepared to research the artists Frank talked about.

Arbor Hospice volunteers are unique and compassionate individuals willing to help someone in a time of need.

In keeping with health care industry guidelines, Arbor Hospice provides a thorough training to ensure volunteers are fully prepared to assist patients, as well as provide a brief respite to caregivers. Make-up sessions are available for prospective volunteers who cannot make every date during the training series.

Over the course of the training sessions, volunteers will learn the differences between hospice and palliative care and how to interact with Arbor Hospice patients and families.

For more information, email [wwvolunteers@arborhospice.org](mailto:wwvolunteers@arborhospice.org) or call 734-656-0031.

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Use Program ID # 1809.	Check-in: 11:45 AM
Complimentary meal and parking will be provided.	Time: 12:00 NOON
Please RSVP by: Tuesday, June 17, 2014.	Location: Andiamo 42705 Grand River Avenue Novi, MI 48375
	Presented by: Mark B Silverman, DO Associates in Neurology, PC Novi, MI

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## OUR VIEWS

# PLAY IT SAFE

## Be smart about celebrating this graduation season

The countdown to becoming alumni is on for seniors at Novi High School. On Saturday, May 31, they will walk across the stage at the Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center in Ypsilanti to receive their diplomas.

It marks the end of high school and the start of a summer season filled with graduation parties, a chance to get together with classmates one last time before they go their separate ways, off to college, work or military service.

**Adults who allow teens to drink in their homes can be prosecuted. They also can be sued ... as the result of underage drinking.**

The reality is many of those celebrations will involve alcoholic beverages and many grads will indulge. Underage drinking is against the law in Michigan, but that doesn't stop teens from tipping a few beers or having a couple of shots. It's not much and it can't hurt, right?

Wrong. The annual prom/graduation season is the most dangerous time of year for teens. The period between Memorial Day and Labor Day has been labeled "The 100 Deadliest Days" for teen drivers. According to AAA, an average of 399 teens died

in traffic crashes during each of the summer months (May through August), compared to a monthly average of 346 teen deaths during non-summer months.

Parents who host graduation parties need to be vigilant and in control. If there will be alcoholic beverages at the party, keep an eye on who's drinking them. Monitor who's coming and who's bringing what. Your grad may think it's tacky to check bags, including the brown paper ones, but the last thing the host needs is teens bringing their own beverages to the party. And if underage guests show up drunk, don't be shy about calling their parents.

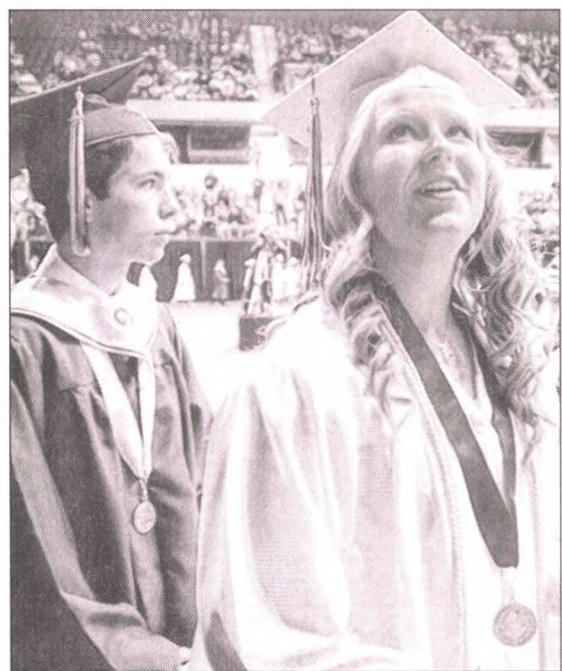
It's not OK to allow teen drinking at the party, even if adults take their keys away. Adults who allow teens to drink in their homes can be prosecuted. They also can be sued for the damages or deaths that happen as the result of underage drinking.

In Michigan, hosts of parties at which a minor possesses or consumes alcohol are committing a misdemeanor punishable by up to 30 days in jail and up to a \$1,000 fine. Anyone furnishing alcohol to minors (purchasing and giving it to them) is committing a misdemeanor punishable by up to 60 days in jail, community service and a fine of up to \$1,000 for the first offense.

Graduates also will be making the rounds to celebrate with their friends. Parents need to make sure they know where their grad plans to go and with whom. Use the conversation to talk about drinking - that is illegal and unacceptable at this age and that alcohol abuse is dangerous.

Parents can share as much information as possible with their teens before they head out to parties. And whether they're driving or their friends are, have a no-questions-asked backup plan in case they decide to drink. It's better to get a phone call from a teen to get a ride home than a call from the police or the hospital.

By all means, celebrate this graduation season. But be smart about it. It's better to be safe than sorry, especially when alcohol is involved.



Novi students completing their high school journey at last year's graduation ceremony.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### NHS All Night Party walk through

On behalf of the Novi High School Senior All Night Party, we would like to express our sincere appreciation for all of the generous donations provided by businesses and individuals. Without your support, this event would not be possible. Please join us for a community walk through at the high school to see the exciting environment you are helping to provide. The walk through will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 31.

Novi High School Senior All Night Party Committee  
Class of 2014

### Untested rape kits

It appears the feminists through President Obama are pushing for equal pay for women. It is reported that in Michigan women receive 26 cents less per hour than men for the alleged same work.

This is not to say that in certain work that women are more efficient in multitasking and have better organizational skills. I also stand in awe of the working single mothers who work, and have the work of keeping a house and raising a family. However, it appears that the pay in presumably white collar jobs in the White House have the same pay discrepancy as the national averages. It is said that if the number of hours worked and experienced at the job are factored in then it becomes 5 cents per hour or less. It is also said that if this factoring is applied nationally that discrepancy also disappears.

The reason for this discussion is that it would seem far more important for these feminists to raise a hue and cry over the 400,000 untested rape kits nationwide. I understand that Memphis is ahead of Detroit with 12,000. Perhaps they figure that it doesn't affect them as the majority may be poor black women.

What is the state of Michigan doing? The governor appropriated several million dollars to help Detroit test these kits, and they are doing about five a day which should take five or six years to eliminate the backlog. What is the State Police doing with these funds? Why the earthworm progress? I think that every woman should be ringing the phones off the hooks of the governor, their state representatives, their congressmen and their senators. I

think that a federal bill should be passed to allocate funds for the laboratory personnel and equipment as well as funds for prosecutors specifically charged with handling these crimes.

Perhaps chemical science majors could have some of their college debt forgiven if they train for this type of testing. Perhaps the FBI crime lab could train some recent science graduates for this type of work in states that don't have programs that are going to eliminate this backlog.

Alan MacEwen  
Westland

### Lipstick on pig

Education funding has increased since Sen. Pat Colbeck and Gov. Rick Snyder took office. The problem, if you are a school district, is that the increased spending has been mainly to make adjustments in legacy costs, while actual per-pupil funding has declined. When Gov. Snyder took office, the per-pupil funding was \$7,316 and in 2013-14 the funding is \$7,076.

This week, House Democrats proposed a cap on the state's furniture purchases from Gov. Snyder's cousin and also proposed an increase in the education budget by \$22 million, the same amount Gov. Snyder's cousin's furniture contract was increased when it was doubled.

Don't you just love the conditions of the roads in Michigan? After shameful neglect, Colbeck and Snyder are frantically proposing election year fixes, which should be welcome to us all - except that 84 road repair projects were submitted by legislators and only two went to districts represented by Democrats. Is it only Republicans that deserve to drive on safe roads?

Looking at the Colbeck and Snyder agenda and record, you can try and put lipstick on a pig, but it is still pretty ugly. How about Michigan Republicans making women buy special rape insurance so a legal medical procedure will be a covered part of their health insurance?

Steve Lawrence  
Northville Township

### Amazed, not surprised

The slyness of our Republican lawmakers in Lansing never ceases to amaze me. Not surprise, just amaze. I swear, at times I have to doff my hat at the absolute wiles these people are

able to pull off.

According to both of our daily newspapers, the Senate leader, Randy Richardville, has introduced legislation to raise the minimum wage by 75 percent Sept. 1. Sounds pretty good, right? Not so much when you look at the true motive behind this gesture.

A little information on what is afoot today. "Raise Michigan" has been circulating petitions to raise the minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour. It appears they will have more than enough signatures to ultimately put the issue on the November ballot. However, the petitions being circulated are to amend the current minimum wage law.

Now, here's the rub: Richardville's bill would repeal the very law the petitions seek to amend. In other words, the petitions would be useless, null and void, because you can't amend a bill that no longer exists.

Amazed, but not surprised. These right-wingers are not about to let citizens encroach on their turf with ballot initiatives, unless they fit in with their dogma. The best example of this was in 2012, when voters threw out the emergency manager law. During the last lame-duck session, these same Republicans resurrected that law, changed a few words, added some state funds, called it an appropriations bill and, ta da, untouchable by the electors.

At some later date, I'll inform you readers about some of the things they have planned for the next lame-duck session.

James Huddleston  
Canton

### Uphold Michigan's food

As a mother of two small children, healthy, local food sources are so important to me. I like to buy as much as I can from farmers markets.

It's healthy and helps our local economy. My family wants to buy to some land and have chickens and goats, but this makes us terrified to make the investment.

This also goes against property rights. If it is not a true nuisance or blight how can the government take away our rights to feed ourselves and our neighbors? The only reason for this I can see is to help industrial farms have less competition. Please protect our food.

Sarah Lukitsch  
Farmington

## GUEST COLUMN

# Working on an antidote for lip service

**"Lip service: Verbal expression of agreement or allegiance, unsupported by real conviction or action; hypocritical respect."**

Sorry to say it, but our political system works on lip service.

Our parties appeal supposedly to "patriotic Americans" as a whole.

But visit any serious political operation and you'll see the genus "American" sliced and diced into exquisitely refined groups, each structured for focused, efficient, narrow-casted appeal.

They slice them by race (black, white, Hispanic); gender (male, female, LGBT and so forth); geography (urban, suburban, rural); income; education; ethnicity; age.

They divvy us up by ideology: conservative, liberal, centrist, middle of the road, "tea party," lefty, libertarian and anarchist. By habit: church-going, martial arts watching, classical (or hard rock) music listening, fly-fishing, running, couch sitting and tube-skimming.

Once you know that, it's pretty easy to look at a political TV spot and work out to which group the appeal is being made.

Which raises the question: Does all the fragmentation underlying our political discourse make it impossible today to bring people together to express their views as ordinary Americans?

We hope not. And in the latest issue of the non-partisan Center for Michigan's online magazine *Bridge* (<http://www.bridge-mi.com>), we set out the ongoing attempt by the center to call forth the collective views of Michigan residents. Contained in the report, "Michigan Speaks," this process has resulted in nothing less than a citizens' agenda for Michigan.

For more than half a year, the center has brought citizens together to take part in often lengthy "community conversations." These consist of small (usually 10-15, but occasionally



Phil Power  
GUEST COLUMN

as large as 50) groups meeting in relaxed settings designed to provide a space for thoughtful and mutually respectful conversation about the issues of the day. We got feedback from 5,500 Michiganders.

Most of those have taken part in community conversations, though we solicited the views of another 1,200 in two statewide polls designed to provide statistical rigor to the findings.

### Essential part of process

This process of the mutual working through of varying viewpoints is essential to the formation of a broad-based public attitude that we believe should underlay our political process. This would be far superior to the "lip servicing" we see so much of today.

The center has been doing this work for the past six years. During this time, we have brought together some 30,000 Michiganders whose diverse demography in age, gender, race and geography looks exactly like the face of Michigan.

This has been the largest continued public engagement campaign in Michigan history and one of the largest in the country.

It's not a poll, which is a quick attempt to take a momentary picture of public opinion. Rather, it is a process I call "deliberative democracy," one meant to cut through lip service and dreary political rhetoric to reveal the true underlying attitudes of our people.

During election years, this work has often served the important purpose of turning political discourse and debate away from a focus on the sensational, the ideological or the merely irrelevant during election years. Four years ago, in our first report,

"Michigan's Defining Moment," the center set out the views of 10,000 Michigan citizens. Every single candidate for governor came to our office to probe deeply into our findings.

The report turned out, we believe, to have a significant influence on Gov. Rick Snyder's legislative agenda for the first couple of years of his administration.

We hope "Michigan Speaks" has the same effect this time around, during another election year. During this year's public engagement process, we discovered at least two newsworthy majority attitudes held by Michiganders.

No surprise is the importance they place on fixing the roads and bridges that were already bad and have deteriorated especially rapidly over the harsh winter. What's much more surprising is that a majority of participants are also willing to pay more taxes to do so.

But there is much, much more in the entire 30-page report, which includes both demographic cross tabs and a careful explanation of the methodology used in the public outreach process. You can read the entire report at <http://www.bridgemi.com>.

We hope you find it a useful contribution to the challenge of making our Michigan a better place.

Better for ourselves, our children and generations to come.

*Former newspaper publisher and University of Michigan Regent Phil Power is a longtime observer of Michigan politics and economics. He is also the founder and chairman of the Center for Michigan, a nonprofit, bipartisan centrist think-and-do tank designed to cure Michigan's dysfunctional political culture. The center also publishes Bridge magazine. The opinions expressed here are Power's own and do not represent the official views of the center. He welcomes your comments at [ppower@thecenterformichigan.net](mailto:ppower@thecenterformichigan.net).*

# NOVI NEWS

A GANNETT COMPANY

Cal Stone,  
Community Editor  
Susan Rosiek,  
Executive Editor

Grace Perry,  
Director of  
Advertising



RELIGION CALENDAR

**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. Preregister.

**Church of the Holy Family**

**Location:** 24505 Meadowbrook Road  
**Contact:** 248-349-8847 or visit holyfamilynovi.org  
**Mass Schedule**  
**Time/Day:** 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday 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:** DestinyW3C@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. Cafe is open from 9:15-11 a.m. Refreshments at 10:30 a.m.; 6 p.m. Evening Traditional Service  
**Tuesday:** 9:25 a.m. Women's Bible Study (Women of the Word) studying 1 Peter  
**Thursday schedule:** 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group and Bible Study  
**Friday:** 9:30 a.m.; Sweet Fridays on the second and fourth Fridays - A Ministry for Moms of All Ages

**First Presbyterian Church of Northville**

**Location:** 200 E. Main  
**Contact:** 248-349-0911 or visit www.fpcnorthville.org  
**Sunday Worship:** 9:30 a.m.  
**Sunday School:** 10:30 a.m. (for all ages)

**First Presbyterian Church**

**Location:** 205 E. Lake St. (corner of Wells and 10 Mile), South Lyon  
**Contact:** 248-437-2875

**First Presbyterian Church**

**Location:** 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington

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

**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 a.m.  
**Sunday School and Nursery Care:** 10 a.m. worship service  
**Alzheimer's Support Group:** 10 a.m. second Saturday of month.

**Hope Lutheran Church**

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

**Lakes Baptist Church**

**Location:** 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake

**Livonia Church of Christ**

**Location:** 15431 Merriman, Livonia  
**Contact:** 734-427-8743 or visit www.livoniachurch.net  
**Sunday Worship:** 11 a.m.  
**Bible School:** Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.

**Legacy Church**

(formerly First Baptist Church and Orchard Hills Baptist Church)  
**Location:** 23455 Novi Road, Novi  
**Contact:** pastor Jon Hix, 248-349-5665 or visit www.legacychurch.us  
**Sunday School/Small Groups for all ages:** 9:45 a.m.  
**Worship Services:** 11 a.m.  
**Bible Study/Prayer:** Wednesday 7 p.m.

**Meadowbrook Congregational Church**

**Location:** 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight Mile and Nine Mile  
**Contact:** the Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, senior minister, 248-348-7757, visit mbccc.org or email to office@mbccc.org  
**Sunday Worship:** 10 a.m.  
**Church School:** 10-11 a.m.  
**Fellowship Hour:** 11 a.m.  
**Merry Widows Luncheon:** 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of each month

**Pilgrim Fellowship:** 6 p.m. Sundays

**Vacation Bible School**  
**Time/Date:** 10-11 a.m. Sunday and 6-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, June 15-19

**Details:** Weird Animals - Where Jesus' Love is One-of-a-Kind. All preschool through fifth-graders are invited to join in for games, crafts, storytelling, music and snacks. There is a suggested donation of \$10 per child. Bring your friends.

**Orchard Grove Community Church**

**Location:** 850 Ladd Road, Building C, Walled Lake  
**Web:** www.orchardgrove.org  
**Contact:** Amanda Rehm at 248-926-6584 or amanda.rehm@orchardgrove.org.

**Northville Christian Assembly**

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

**Sundays:** 9-10 a.m. Sunday School for adults / youth / children; 9 a.m. Contemporary service in sanctuary; 10:15 a.m.: Contemporary service in worship center; children's super church on the second level (208/210)

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

**Novi-Northville Center for Jewish Life**

**Details:** Events, programs and activities for all ages throughout the year - children's programs, Sunday school, adult Jewish classes, youth clubs, holiday services and programs, community social events.  
**Contact:** Rabbi Avrohhom and Leah Susskind at 248-790-6075 or rabbi@novijewishcenter.com; www.novijewishcenter.com

**Novi United Methodist Church**

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

'Read!'



Sparty, the Michigan State University mascot, was in Novi last week. He came to read a story to third- and fourth-graders at Deerfield Elementary School and to promote reading this summer. MELANEE OEGEMA

See RELIGION, Page A15

# bordine's

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# Shoot me: Elaine Stritch says show must go on

**A**t 89 years old, Broadway legend Elaine Stritch certainly understands the credo of "the show must go on." So when the star — and now Birmingham resident — became ill May 1, the night before she was to be inducted into the Michigan Celebrity Hall of Fame at Variety's

Star is Born black-tie gala, event organizers and supporters had to work quickly. With the instrumental help of Cabaret 313 co-founders and Bloomfield Hills residents Allan Nachman and Sandy Reitelman, as well as founding member and Variety board member Lois Shaevsky, they were able to have their headliner, Scott Coulter, come in a day earlier from New York (Coulter was scheduled to perform a Cabaret 313 concert the



Broadway Bound at Variety, The Children's Charity A Star is Born black-tie gala: (from left) Cathy Deutchman of Franklin, Bonnie Dellinger of Novi and Leslye Rosenbaum of West Bloomfield. JULIE YOLLES

next night in Detroit) to entertain the Variety patrons. "Elaine is a survivor of life and she's not done yet," Coulter told the crowd before he sang *Tomorrow from Annie*. Coulter was joined onstage with Stritch's musical director, Rob Bowman, who's been with Stritch for more than 15 years and is featured in her recently released documentary *Elaine Stritch: Shoot Me*. "It's been a privilege to be with this beautiful woman to live, laugh,

love, cry and get under every veneer and face it all," Bowman said. And the show continued to go on all night long at the Imagine Theatre in Royal Oak. Guests enjoyed a strolling dinner with New York-themed stations and food like Carnegie Deli, Chinatown and Nathan's, live dancing to the Royce and Jenn Band and Renie Kaufman, black-tie bowling and, if that wasn't enough, guests could attend a screening of *the Amazing Spider-Man 2*.

## RELIGION

Continued from Page A14

book.com/pages/Novi-United-Methodist-Church/59782031433

**Sunday Worship:** 9:45 a.m.  
**Healing Service and Holy Communion:** 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month  
**Peace Vigil:** noon, first Sunday of every month in front of the church. Members of the congregation and the community will stand united in prayer for peace.

### Oak Pointe Church

**Location:** 50200 W. 10 Mile, Novi  
**Contact:** 248-912-0043  
**Web:** www.oakpointe.org/lifegroups  
**Worship Services:** 5:15 p.m. Saturday; 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. Sunday  
**ReNew Life Group Ministries:** 7-9 p.m. Monday (groups meet weekly)  
**Women's Life Groups Ministries:** 7 p.m. Tuesday; 9:30 a.m. Wednesday  
**Men's Life Groups Ministries:** 6 a.m. Friday; at the church and various locations

### Our Saviour Apostolic Lutheran Church

**Location:** 54899 Eight Mile, Northville  
**Contact:** 248-374-2268  
**Children (5-10) & Adult Sunday School:** 10 a.m.  
**Bible Study:** Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

### Orchard Grove Community Church

**Location:** 850 Ladd Road, Walled Lake  
**Contact:** 248-926-6584; www.orchardgrove.org

### Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

**Location:** 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth Township  
**Contact:** 734-453-0326, Ext. 221

### Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church

**Location:** 132 Orchard Drive, Northville  
**Contact:** 248-349-2621 or olvnorthville.org  
**Saturday Worship:** 5 p.m.  
**Sunday Worship:** 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

### Our Shepherd Presbyterian Church

**Location:** 1200 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth  
**Contact:** pastor Bill Burke at 734-927-0891  
**Wednesday Bible Study:** 7 p.m.  
**Sunday Bible Study:** 9:30 a.m.  
**Sunday Worship:** 10:30 a.m. with fellowship and food after service

### Our Savior Apostolic Lutheran Church

**Location:** 54899 Eight Mile, Northville

### Pentecostals of Novi

**Location:** Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile  
**Contact:** 248-697-8158 or visit www.thepentecostalsof-novi.org

### Plymouth St. John's Episcopal Church

**Location:** 574 S. Sheldon in Plymouth  
**Contact:** 734-453-0190, Ext. 16, or visit www.stjohnsplymouth.org

### Praise Baptist Church

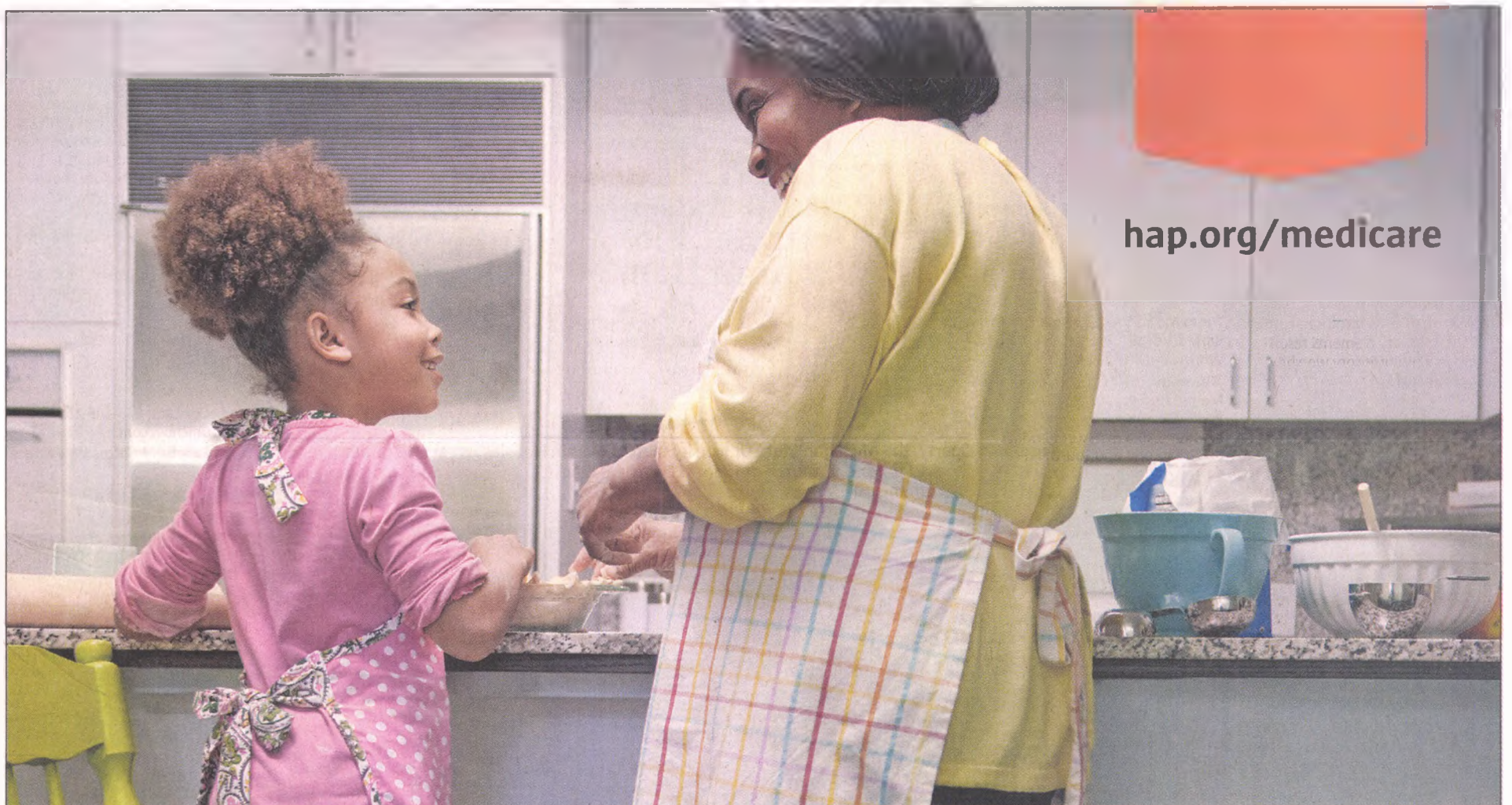
**Location:** 45000 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth  
**Contact:** 734-748-3898

### St. James Catholic Church

**Location:** 46325 10 Mile, Novi  
**Contact:** 248-347-7778  
**Pastor:** Monsignor John Kasza  
**Mass Schedule:** 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Tuesday; 7 p.m. Wednesday; 5 p.m. Saturday

### St. John Lutheran Church

**Location:** 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills  
**Contact:** 248-474-0584 or visit stjoh-lutheran.com  
**Saturday Worship:** 5:30 p.m.  
**Sunday Worship:** 9, 11:15 a.m.  
**Sunday School:** 10:15 a.m.



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## Wildcats' 10-game winning streak snapped

By Chris Jackett  
Correspondent

Despite having a 10-game winning streak was snapped last week, Novi's baseball team has some momentum heading into districts this weekend.

The Wildcats improved to 21-14-1 (9-7 KLAA Kensington) last week, adding to a solid 20-6-1 run since a 1-8 start.

Last week began with four more victories, kicked off by the final conference game May 20 at Livonia Franklin (14-13, 7-8 Kensington). The Wildcats pulled off a 4-1 victory behind a complete game from senior pitcher Mark Czapski, who allowed three hits, four strikeouts, two walks, two hit batters and one run in his seven innings.

"He always gives us a good chance to win the ball game, even when we don't give him much run support," Novi coach Rick Green said. "It was 1-0 go-

ing into the sixth inning."

Czapski got the run support he needed, as junior Michael Mitchell went 2-for-3 with a triple, senior Andrew Turek went 2-for-3 with a run, senior Jared Casaccia tallied a double and both junior Ryan Baxter and senior Craig Wilson notched a single that would result in a run.

The result meant a crossover May 21 at the South Divisions third-place team, which was a return trip to Franklin's diamond. This time, the Wildcats went off in a 14-5 victory.

Leading the offensive onslaught was Turek (3-for-4, three runs, two RBIs), Mitchell (3-for-5, three RBIs), junior Brendan Wexler (2-for-2, RBI, run), Casaccia (2-for-3, two runs), senior Tyler Whitehead (2-for-3; run, RBI), senior Bryan Klosterman (2-for-4, three RBIs), Wilson (1-for-4, run, RBI) and Baxter (two runs on two walks and

being hit by a pitch).

Whitehead picked up the victory in six innings, allowing five runs (two earned), seven hits, five strikeouts and one walk, before junior Jason Pastoor capped the last inning with one hit and one walk.

### W.L. Western

The victory meant a May 22 trip to Walled Lake Western (14-12, 7-9 Lakes) to battle for ninth in the KLAA. Novi led 6-0 early and held on for a 9-4 victory.

Junior Adam Tobias had seven strikeouts in six innings while allowing eight hits, three runs and three walks. Senior Charlie Richter pitched the final inning, allowing three hits, two strikeouts and one run.

"We came out hitting the ball pretty

See BASEBALL, Page B3



Novi's Tyler Whitehead rounds second and heads for third against Wayne Memorial  
JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Novi's Chloe Allen (left) battles Northville's Karen Lovelace. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## CHIEFS NIP 'CATS

Novi heads into postseason with victory over Brighton

By Chris Jackett  
Correspondent

Sometimes, the flow of the game and result on the scoreboard may not look the same.

That was the case May 19, when No. 4 Novi (12-3-2, 7-2-1 KLAA Central) visited No. 13 Canton (11-5-1, 8-2-0 South) for a girls soccer crossover between the runners-up in the KLAA's two Kensington Conference divisions.

"It was a disappointing game because we started the game great and were controlling play and had six good chances to score, but did not convert on any and then on their second shot on goal they scored to take a 1-0 lead," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "We had a few more good

chances to score and again they got a chance and scored."

Novi got on the board late, when sophomore Katrina Koomen headed in a free kick from senior Taylor Pavlika. However, it was too late and the Chiefs won 2-1 despite being outshot 13-5 and having a 4-2 corner kick disadvantage.

"But the only stat that matters is goals and we came up short," O'Leary said.

The loss put Novi into a battle for seventh in the KLAA May 21 at Brighton (8-3-1, 8-1-1 West), which the Wildcats won 2-0.

With five minutes left in the first half, junior Amanda

See SOCCER, Page B3

## Novi boys win Oakland County track title

Love, Taha, Pavlika, McMahan all win individual titles

By Chris Jackett  
Correspondent

Novi's track and field program continues to prove itself as one of the area's elite this season.

After both the boys and girls finished second at regionals last week, the boys won the Oakland County championship and the girls finished third in the meet at Waterford Mott.

The boys won with 63 points, ahead of Lake Orion's 50.5 and Oak Park's 50. Regional champ Walled Lake Western had 23, good for 11th. Wildcats claiming county titles included seniors Jordan Love (100 in 10.79) and Ali Taha (long jump with 21-7).

The girls took third with 41 points, behind Oak Park's 123.5 and Birmingham Seaholm's 72.5. Wildcats claiming county titles included seniors Taylor Pavlika (discus with 124-4) and Kerri McMahan (high jump with 5-5).

Several other Wildcats hit the podium repeatedly or just fell shy of individual county titles. Love was also second in the 200 (22.18) and tied for second in the 400 (50.13), while Taha was also fifth in the 200 (22.71).

Senior Brian Barnes was second in the 800 (1:53.63), senior Parker Sutton sixth in the 300 hurdles (40.44), sophomore Joost Plaetinck seventh in the 3,200 (9:39.77), senior Nick Oakley 12th in the 400 (51.44) and senior Marshall Sayles 14th in shot put (46-1).

The relay teams also did well. Taha, Love, Sutton and Oakley finished second in the 800 (1:28.80), while Josh Holcomb teamed with Oakley, Taha and Barnes to take fifth in the 1,600 (3:25.79).

On the girls end, Pavlika was also fourth in shot put (38-0), junior Hannah Lonergan fifth in the 800 (2:19.79), senior Abby Downs was fifth in the 100 hurdles (15.69) and eighth in the high jump (5-0) and

See TRACK, Page B3



Novi's Kerri McMahan won the high jump at the regionals in Milford. HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP

**Bowler Schulz signs with Lawrence Tech**

Novi senior Sara Schulz signed a national letter of intent to bring her talents in the bowling alley with Lawrence Tech's squad. Schulz was the Wildcats' leader all winter, where she finished 13th individually in the qualifying round at the Division 1 state meet before being eliminated in the round of 16.

**Boy lacrosse beats Saline, advances**

With an 11-8 victory in a May 22 regional quarterfinal at Saline (11-5), Novi's boys lacrosse team (13-6) advanced to a regional semifinal May 27 at West Bloomfield against rival Northville (11-6).

The winner will return to West Bloomfield at 7:30 p.m. Friday to face either Ann Arbor Skyline (14-3-1) or University of Detroit-Jesuit (3-13) in the regional final.

**Girls lacrosse upsets Salem in third attempt**

It was neck and neck the whole way, but Novi's

girls lacrosse team (10-6) edged Plymouth Salem (13-4) 18-17 May 21 in a regional quarterfinal. Salem took an early 2-1 lead before Novi went up 4-2. It was tied 8-8 at half before the Wildcats jumped ahead 13-10 and held on. Novi had previously lost twice to Salem this season.

The victory set up a regional semifinal May 27 at Canton (8-7); the winner advances to a regional final at 5:30 p.m. Friday at Ann Arbor Pioneer against either Pioneer (12-5) or South Lyon United (10-7).

**Softball team splits pair of games**

Novi's softball team landed at 20-15 (5-11 KLA A Kensington) to end the regular season last week. The Wildcats lost May 20 at Livonia Franklin (9-21, 4-11 Kensington) 4-3 in their final conference game before defeating Walled Lake Western (10-16, 3-13 Lakes) 11-10 in a battle for 21st in the 24-team KLA A May 22.

The 'Cats are hoping for the victory to spark a few more, starting at 10 a.m. Saturday against



Novi senior Sara Schulz signed her national letter of intent May 17 to continue bowling at the collegiate level, taking her talents to Lawrence Tech. NOVI ATHLETICS

host Farmington in a district semifinal. The winner plays again at 2:30 p.m. for the district title against Farmington Hills Mercy, Farmington Hills Harrison or North Farmington, with the champ moving on to a regional semifinal at noon June 7 on Novi's diamond.

**Golf squad advances to regionals**

Behind a fourth-place finish May 22 at districts, Novi's boys golf team advanced to regionals. Detroit Catholic Central won with 294, while Northville was sixth to advance with 319 from the field of 13 schools. Novi's 307 was led by senior Garret Buckley (fifth with 73), junior Bryan Fegert (16th with 77), junior Billy Ulle (17th with 78), freshman Ryan Welch (20th with 79) and junior Erik Czeka (22nd with 80). The Wildcats were

scheduled to take part in Wednesday's regional at Mystic Creek for a shot to head to the June 6-7 Division 1 state finals at Michigan State's Forest Akers East.

**Boys cross country tryouts announced**

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

**Soccer alumni planning game**

After a successful event in 2012, Novi High School soccer alumni are planning an alumni game for at noon July 12 at Novi Meadows. Those interested should register at <http://liquid-thread.me/novissoc>

er2014 by June 16. The \$35 cost will cover team shirts, with all excess proceeds and donations being donated in a tribute of former coach Larry Christoff to the Michigan Institute of Urology.

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

**Novi to host girls basketball camp**

The Novi Wildcats girls basketball camp is just around the corner. Winners of the past five KLA A Central Division titles, coach Bill Kelp and his squad will be back on the court in June to teach local girls the finer points behind dribbling, shooting, passing, pivoting, faking, rebounding, team play, sportsmanship and even provide an introduction to the Wildcats' offensive and defensive schemes. Gym clothes and shoes are required, while all participants will receive a T-shirt and outdoor basketball. Awards and trophies will also be given out for individual and team competitions.

The camp runs from from 9 a.m. to noon June 16-20 at Novi High School's performance gym and field house. Teams and competitions will be separated into two groups, grades 2-5 and 6-9, with the younger group using 8-foot baskets instead of the standard 10-foot baskets. Cost for the camp is \$120.

All registration is available online at [www.novi.k12.mi.us/athletics](http://www.novi.k12.mi.us/athletics) under "Summer Camps." Contact coach Kelp at [bkelp@novi.k12.mi.us](mailto:bkelp@novi.k12.mi.us) with any questions.

**Boys basketball camp coming up**

Novi's varsity boys basketball program is hosting a camp full of the proper and safe fundamentals of the game for

grades 3-9. Coaches and varsity players will teach fundamentals, drills and techniques for ball handling, shooting and defense, along with offensive concepts, sportsmanship and team play. The campers will get a daily opportunity to compete in game action June 23-27 in Novi High's gym and field house. The camps runs from 9 a.m. to noon each day and campers will receive T-shirts, along with contest winners receiving awards.

**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 Road. 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-\$15.

Those attending should wear comfortable clothing, tennis shoes and have their hair up and away from their face. They should not be wearing jewelry.

Registration is available online at [www.novi.k12.mi.us/athletics](http://www.novi.k12.mi.us/athletics) under "Summer Camps." Contact coach Ashley Karinen at [AKarinen07@gmail.com](mailto:AKarinen07@gmail.com) with any questions.

**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 \$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-victoryrun.com](http://www.olv-victoryrun.com).

- By Chris Jackett

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**NORTHVILLE RECORD** **NOVI NEWS** **MILFORD TIMES** **SOUTH LYON SHERALD**

# MHSAA makes football rule changes

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

The 2014 football season is going to see some changes due to new policies being handed down by the Michigan High School Athletics Association.

The MHSAA announced last month that there will be new limits put in place as to how often teams can require players to have full-contact practices.

The MHSAA, the governing body of high school athletics in Michigan, expects the new policies to make the game a safer one for all athletes.

"While it may be a big change for many football programs across the state, the rule changes regarding football practices will impact us (at Northville High School) minimally," Northville head coach Matt Ladach said. "I hope and anticipate that these changes will result in better fundamental skill development."

Football practice for high schools is slated to start Aug. 11 and the first change to go into play will be the requirement that no teams practice more than five hours in a

single day and no session is allowed to be longer than three hours.

Those first practices will also require a change in when athletes can be fully suited. Previously, players wore helmets the first two days, shoulder pads the third and full pads the fourth and beyond. The new policies will not allow full pads until the fifth day.

Additionally, the MHSAA has implemented two other rules into the 2014 practice schedules. Before the first regular-season game, schools may not schedule more than one "collision" practice a day, which is defined as a day that is full-contact, live, game-speed practices. That includes scrimmages, drills and any action that had a player squaring off against another player — even if full tackles are not included in the drills or practice.

After the first regular-season game, teams may conduct no more than two collision practices in any week, Monday through Sunday.

Ladach said the rule changes will require coaches to focus even more on the

fundamentals of the game and proper technique.

"One of the biggest struggles we (coaches) face is our ability to remain patient with the teaching process," he said. "It's easy to draw things up on a chalkboard — thinking that we're putting our team in a better situation to succeed. However, scheme does us no good if our players are unable to properly execute the fundamentals of their position."

This rule will have the biggest impact on teams that have traditionally gone full-speed, full-full collision practices throughout each week, like Detroit Catholic Central.

While the Shamrocks' coaching staff didn't comment on the policy change, assistant coach Michael Mach did make it clear that it won't change the style of football that has won the Shamrocks 10 state titles under head coach Tom Mach. CC has been the runner-up in the last three Division 1 state finals games and most recently won the state championship in 2009.

"As far as our style of play, I don't see any changes taking place," Michael Mach said. "While it will cause us to have

to tweak our practice schedule during the week, I doubt you will see any changes in the product on the field. Our identity will continue to be that of playing 'smash-mouth football' on both offense and defense."

Some critics have suggested the rule changes are uncalled for and point to the days when no such collision rules were in place. Those arguments, said Ladach, are baseless and noted less collisions mean more safety for all the players involved and reduces the chance of concussions.

"I think I am as 'old-school' as a 36-year-old can be, but there's this perception that non-contact drills are 'soft', and that rule changes like this are another example of the 'wussification' of society," he said. "I disagree with that sentiment. Rules like this don't prohibit us from demanding the absolute most from our players. They simply change the way that we plan and execute our practices."

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

## BASEBALL

Continued from Page B1

good and then we didn't score again until the sixth inning," Green said.

The hitting display came from Wexler (3-for-4, four RBIs), with help from Turek (2-for-3, two runs), senior Keaton Figurski (2-for-5), Klosterman (2-for-4, RBI) and 1-for-2 days from Whitehead, Casaccia and Wilson (two RBIs).

### Marysville

Novi's week ended Saturday as it hosted Marysville for a doubleheader and then some. The first game took two extra innings before a walk-off sacrifice fly by Klosterman brought home Wilson in the ninth inning for a 3-2 victory.

"We made some great plays in the field," Green said. "Andrew Turek made a couple great plays at short-stop."

Czapski got the start and allowed five strikeouts, zero walks, five hits and two runs in five innings before Whitehead took over for the final four innings, allowing two strikeouts, two walks, one hit and zero runs.

Whitehead also led the offense, going 3-for-4. Also chipping in were Klosterman (1-for-4, two RBIs), Keaton Figurski (1-for-3), Wexler (2-for-4, RBI), Beaton (2-for-4) and Wilson (1-for-2 on a double leading to the game-winning run).

With the second game serving as Senior Day and resulting in some lineup changes, the Wildcats played all 10 seniors, but lost 11-4 despite trailing just 5-4 midway through.

Richter started and went 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  innings, allowing two strikeouts, five walks, seven hits and nine runs. Pastoor capped the final  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the sixth inning, allowing two hits and two unearned runs. Beaton pitched the final inning.

The offense came from Whitehead (2-for-3, run, two RBIs), Klosterman (1-for-2, RBI), Turek (1-for-2, run), Figurski (1-for-1, two walks) and Richter (1-for-3, run).

"We had a 10-game winning streak going and I'm pretty proud of how we've played," Green said. "I'm pretty confident of our kids the way we've been playing. I think for not finishing first place this year, we have something to look forward to and think we can win districts."

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

## Catholic Central golfers on a hot streak

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

When the Detroit Catholic Central golf team goes on a hot streak, it pretty much leaves the competition smoldering.

The squad has won the past six tournaments it has played in, including a recent district championship and a Catholic High School League championship. The key to victory? Impressive scores across the board and solid players at the top of the leader board each week.

In the district tournament, the Shamrocks came away

with the team championship, shooting 294, and had a co-champion individually when Glenn Piot tied with Northville's Andrew Sarokin at 1-under 71.

Dan Ault carded a 73, followed by 75 each from Domenic Mancinelli and freshman Ben Smith, while freshman James Piot carded an uncharacteristically-high 80.

The team advances to the regional, along with Brighton, Hartland, Novi, Lakeland and Northville out of the district.

To qualify for the state finals, a team must finish in the top three at the regional; an

individual can qualify by being one of the top three players from a non-qualifying team.

In the CHSL tournament, the Shamrocks found themselves tied with Divine Child when the round came to a close. Going to a fifth-man playoff, Catholic Central proved to be the better squad and took home the championship.

Piot shot an astounding 5-under-par 67 to lead the Shamrocks, while Mancinelli and senior Jimmy Ryan carded a 74 and 75, respectively. Max Palmer rounded out the scoring with a 77.

The Shamrocks also played in the highly-competitive East Lansing Invitational against a field of 36 teams on the Forest Akers East and West golf courses, where the state finals will be held. Catholic Central came away with the win over the largest field it has faced all year led by Piot, who shot rounds of 70 and 68 for a 6-under-par 138. Junior Glenn Piot shot a 77-75, while Ault had a 79-76, followed by Smith's 76-82.

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

## Catholic Central to host summer cage camps

Detroit Catholic Central's varsity basketball program will be hosting two camps this summer for players in grades 5-9.

There will be separate June and July camps for each age group: from 9 a.m. to noon June 23-26 (registration deadline is June 9) and 1-4 p.m. July 7-10 (registration deadline is June 27).

The cost of the camp is \$125 per session and campers must have their own insurance.

The camp will focus on building a foundation of fundamental skills to help players reach individual goals. Players will be taught fundamental ball handling, shooting, rebounding, defense and agility skills and games will be played daily and will be refereed by current Catholic Central players and staff.

There will also be free-throw, layup and hot-shot contests through the camps and prizes will be awarded.

For more information, please contact Catholic Central coach Billy Dyer at 734-679-6773 or at [dyerja01@southredford.net](mailto:dyerja01@southredford.net).

## MEMORIAL DAY RUN



The 10K run held Memorial Day at Novi's Fuerst Park drew folks from all over, including Sonia Woodruff (left) of Algonac and Michelle Calkins of Roseville. The event also included a one-mile family run/walk; a 5K run/walk; and a New Balance elite mile race. For results, visit <http://www.novimemorialdayrun.com/results>. CAL STONE

## SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

Minissale made a run from her right defense position and challenged a Brighton defender in the box, beating her on the dribble and sending a cross over the goalie to senior Jessie Parvana for a header into an empty net for a 1-0 halftime lead.

Nine minutes into the second half, Koomen beat a defender and sent a cross into the box, where senior Meg Bruce just beat a Brighton player to the ball to send it to the far post, where freshman Bailey Baumbick one-timed the ball into the net for the 2-0 lead.

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

## TRACK

Continued from Page B1

senior Kristen Schubring was 11th in the 300 hurdles (50.04).

In the relays, Novi's 1,600 team was fourth (4:18.38), senior Jenny Chang, Downs, Eryka Ely and McMahan combined for sixth in the 400 (50.87) and Ely, Chelsea Collier, Ashley Mosley and Logan Flynn were 12th in the 800 (1:49.99).

Complete results are online at [www.athletic.net/TrackAndField/MeetResults.aspx?Meet=202005#12814](http://www.athletic.net/TrackAndField/MeetResults.aspx?Meet=202005#12814), as well as details of Novi's identical 76-61 victories May 20 over Plymouth Salem.

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

## TOURNEY CHAMPS

Novi's 9U HEAT travel baseball team defeated the Ann Arbor A's in the championship game May 18 to win the 9U Pirate Classic in Pinckney. Novi went 5-0 with wins over Garden City, Whitmore Lake twice and Ann Arbor twice. Team members include (front, from left) Anthony Zhong, Zac Rabinowitz, Marco Caruana, Chase Temple, Alex Czapski and Noah Mio; (middle, from left) Luke Aurilia, Brett Reed, Andrew Ablar, Justin Baird and Owen Kendall; and (back, from left) coach Ken Perpich, assistant coach Ben Ablar and assistant coach Alan Rabinowitz.



## 'MICRO PRACTICE'

Northville doctor opens new Novi office

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

"I wanted to help people," Dr. Deanna Master, M.D., said of her new family medicine practice in Novi. "I like the idea of a problem you can solve. I like working with my hands."



Master

Master earned her undergraduate degree from Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Mass. Her medical degree is from Wayne State University's Medical School, where she graduated in 1992.

She did her internship at St. John's Hospital in Detroit in 1993, followed by her residency in family medicine from Providence Hospital, completed in 1996.

Master's new practice in Novi is a solo one. She and husband Neil are Northville Township residents.

'Micro practice'  
The Birmingham

Groves High School graduate described the "micro practice" concept of streamlined care of Dr. L. Gordon Moore, M.D.

"Everybody knows you want a practice centered on patients," she said. Rising costs in the last few years, along with the introduction of the Affordable Care Act, have given patients higher deductible plans where they have more "skin in the game."

"Primary care doctors are the real way to solve the problems," she said. Master noted primary care physicians can understand patient needs and avoid excessive referrals.

She focuses on disease prevention, screening and counseling. "It doesn't take a lot of technology, but it takes time." In such a practice, the patient has more time with the physician. "I can spend an hour with my patient understanding their needs," she said.

About 50 minutes into a recent patient visit, that patient mentioned a major social stressor, which Master wouldn't have discovered with a shorter, more typical checkup. "I opted to talk about counseling and maybe medica-

tion," she said. "My field is pretty low-tech."

She trained at Providence, so the Novi location near Providence Park Hospital was a natural. "It's close to home, it's easily accessible," Master said. "I answer the phone, I answer the door. I call my patients with lab results."

She and her husband are parents of three children ages 22, 19 and 16 who were and are Northville Public Schools students.

"I'm really, really excited about this," Master said of her Novi practice. "I love this concept." She likes that it gives more time with patients.

She hears from patients about the ACA.

"I think in a lot of ways the Affordable Care Act has been good. It's brought a lot of patients into the fold," she said.

The new high-deductible plans have made patients more aware of costs, she said. "They're more interested in collaborating on the right test at the right time. It is a shift in the mentality. The day-to-day decisions have to be more carefully made."

jbrown@hometownlife.com

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Novi-based ITC Holdings' CFO resigning

Novi-based ITC Holdings Corp. announced that Cameron M. Bready, executive vice president and CFO, will resign from the company, effective June 20, to accept a senior leadership position with a technology firm based in Atlanta, Ga.

"I have truly enjoyed my time and experience at ITC as we have built



Bready

the leading independent transmission company in the industry today. It has been a privilege to serve as ITC's CFO and I appreciate the company's understanding and respect for my desire to pursue a new career opportunity," Bready said. "I look forward to seeing the company continue to build on its successful track record of executing on its plans and expanding the business and remain very confident in its future prospects."

Rejji P. Hayes, the current vice president of finance and treasurer of ITC, has been named the company's interim CFO.

Hayes is currently responsible for all treasury and cash management activities, financial planning and analysis, management reporting, and risk management and insurance functions of the company and will provide continued financial leadership. Terry S. Harvill, Ph.D., who is vice president of ITC Grid Development, will continue to oversee the company's grid development activities. During this time of transition, both Hayes and Harvill will report to Joseph L. Welch, chairman, president and CEO of ITC.

"On behalf of the Board of Directors and the entire company, I want to thank Cameron for his outstanding work and leadership in continuing the growth and success of ITC," Welch said. "I wish Cameron continued success in his future endeavors and wish him and his family well as they return home to Atlanta. We have a strong leadership team in place at ITC and we will continue to implement our strategic plan."

ITC Holdings Corp. is the nation's largest independent electric transmission company. ITC's regulated operating subsidiaries include ITC Transmission, Michigan Electric Transmission Co., ITC Midwest and ITC Great Plains. Through these subsidiaries, ITC owns and operates high-voltage transmission facilities in Michigan, Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma, serving a combined peak load exceeding 26,000 megawatts along 15,000 circuit miles of transmission line.

### OPS Solutions, Electro-Matic Products enter into channel partner agreement

Novi-based OPS Solutions LLC and Farmington Hills-based Electro-Matic Products have entered into a Channel Partner Agreement, with Electro-Matic taking on the Light Guide Systems product line for distribution and sales representation throughout Michigan and northern Ohio. The Electro-Matic team, from its offices located in Farmington Hills, Byron Center, Mich., and Brecksville, Ohio, will be working to quote, close and deliver Light Guide Systems to their broad customer base in the automotive, industrial, medical and defense/aerospace industries.

"We are very excited to sign on Electro-Matic as an authorized channel partner," said Paul Ryznar, CEO and president of OPS Solutions. "They have a top-notch sales team that understands the complexities of today's flexible manufacturing environment where our Light Guide Systems are a perfect solution for tough operational challenges. We look forward to working with the Electro-Matic team in generating demand for Light Guide Systems throughout their footprint and customer base."

### Botsford Hospital, clinics receive Governor's Award of Excellence

Botsford Hospital and seven physician practices of the Botsford Clinic System - including Botsford Family Medicine Center, Novi - have received MPRO's 2014 Governor's Award of Excellence.

Botsford Hospital was recognized for outstanding inpatient clinical achievement in the acute care hospital setting. To receive this honor, Botsford improved the quality and efficiency of the health care delivery system in four clinical topic areas (acute myocardial infarction, heart failure, pneumonia and surgical care) and in eight patient experience of care measures (nurse communication, hospital communication, hospital staff responsiveness, pain management, medicine communication, hospital cleanliness and quietness, discharge information and overall hospital rating). In addition, acute care hospitals were required to meet additional overall criteria, including the submission of a process improvement plan.

### Accesspoint HR, Advance Employment join forces

AccessPoint and Advance Employment announced the merger of their companies to form

a unified human resources outsourcing, recruiting and staffing firm. The new combined venture will provide clients with workforce management solutions covering the complete employment life-cycle, from initial job posting through retirement.

The corporate name of the new entity will be AccessPoint, which will have multiple dedicated business units.

Blaine Shultz, president of Advance Employment, said, "We are excited about our combined and expanded capabilities. This merger will create unprecedented opportunities for our clients to grow through the ability to focus on their core business while also being able to easily access the most talented workforce. We have an ideal solution now for smaller employers, Charter Schools, foreign-based companies and larger manufacturing companies. With this merger we have substantially broadened our expertise and capacity."

CEO of AccessPoint Greg Packer will lead the overall organization, while Blaine Schultz continues in his role as president of Advance Employment. The combined organization will be headquartered in Novi with the Advance Employment team operating out of Lansing.

### Registration opens for Demonstration Alley

Registration is now open for life science and health care companies who want to showcase their innovative products and technologies at Demonstration Alley as part of INNO-VENTION 2014 - a Medical Main Street Conference.

Conference organizers have expanded Demonstration Alley for the 2014 health care and life science event. They are looking for exhibits that have a demonstrable "wow" factor. INNO-VENTION 2014 is set for Oct. 21-22 at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi. Information on the conference can be found at [MedicalMainStreet.org](http://MedicalMainStreet.org).

Product evaluation criteria for the demonstration area includes: health care-related products that are new-to-market, visual and award winning. Interactive live demonstrations are preferred. Companies wishing to be considered for space on Demonstration Alley should apply online at [MedicalMainStreet.com](http://MedicalMainStreet.com). Submissions must be received by Sept. 5.

The fee to participate in Demonstration Alley is \$500, which includes exhibit space and one complimentary conference registration. Questions may be directed to Leslie Smith, CMP at 248-353-0735, ext. 152, or [lsmith@esd.org](mailto:lsmith@esd.org). Those selected will be notified by email by Sept. 12.

## Welcome



A ribbon-cutting ceremony was recently held for Croskey, Lanni & Co. PC in Novi (44725 Grand River Avenue, Suite 204). Pictured (front, from left) are Melissa May, Dick Shovan, David Croskey, Tom Lanni, Deana Vollman and Kevin Terry and (back, from left) Randy Nobles, Mark Irwin, Cliff Powell, Desiree Gade, Amanda Niedermaier, Gina Chase, Roger DeJong and Pat Sweeney.

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Join us at Chene Park in Detroit on June 7 for the Komen Detroit Race for the Cure. Try the 5k run or the 5k walk. No matter which you choose, you can help us stand strong in the fight against breast cancer from start to finish. Together, we can save countless lives.

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CANCER INSTITUTE  
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to register: [www.karmanoscancer.org/komendetroit](http://www.karmanoscancer.org/komendetroit) or 248-304-2080

## NEWSMAKERS

### Ilsa Ittner

The Michigan Osteopathic Association announced Ilsa Ittner, D.O., the 2014 Outstanding Resident of the Year Award recipient during MOA's House of Delegates, held in conjunction with the annual Spring Scientific Convention in Detroit.

The 2014 Outstanding Resident of the Year Award recognizes a resident who goes above and beyond to bring a sense of pride to the osteopathic profession by exhibiting the exemplary characteristics of an osteopathic physician.



Ittner

Ittner, a resident of Novi, earned her bachelor of science degree from Michigan State University and her doctorate of osteopathic medicine from Michigan State University's College of Osteopathic Medicine. Ittner is currently completing her residency at St. John Providence Health System in Southfield. For the past year, she has served as the residency program's chief resident and resident director of the Michigan Association of Osteopathic Family Physicians.

### Jim Neil

Jim Neil of Commerce Township has joined Farm Bureau Insurance as a new agent serving the area. He is working out of the Farm Bureau

Insurance office at 28345 N. Beck Road, Suite 300B, Wixom.

Neil recently completed an extensive career development program for new agents, which prepared him for the state licensing examination and provided instruction in all areas of property/casualty and life/health insurance.

Neil also attended training at the Farm Bureau Insurance home office in Lansing. Farm Bureau Insurance agents are licensed to sell all lines of insurance, including life, home, auto, farm, retirement, Lake Estate® and business.



Neil







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# JOBS

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## The pros of part-time jobs



**By Matthew Tarpey  
CareerBuilder Writer**

For many people returning back to work, life may not be going exactly as planned. The job market has many wondering when they'll put their skills and education to use at a real, full-time job. But rather than expect unemployment until that opportunity arises, they should consider taking a part-time position.

There are a number of reasons people should look more seriously at part-time jobs. The main reason among them is money. And for those about to graduate, it never hurts to have a little income, and it'll get your parents off your back. Student loan debts may be due soon, plus the sooner you're able to start saving money, the sooner you'll be able to move out of your parents' house. Not to mention that having an active social life requires cash.

### Filling a resume gap

But the benefits go much deeper than a little extra funding and staving off financial problems. A part-time job shows prospective employers that you can take life seriously and be proactive. Employers may question gaps in a candidate's resume, especially ones that stretch over a long period of



time. Showing employers that you're interested in their business may lead you to a full time and permanent position with that employer.

### Gaining experience in your field of interest

When researching part-time positions, look for ones that would give you experience in your desired field and possibly introduce you to professional contacts that may be useful down the road. For many employers, a candidate's prior experience is an important factor, and professional referrals remain one of the most trusted and widely used methods among hiring managers for filling vacancies. A part-time job in a related field is often more beneficial than a full-time position in an unrelated one.

Even if your part-time job isn't in your desired field, it is still a good way to round out a resume, as well as prove you're a driven self-starter. It may also lead to letters of recommenda-

tion, which will be invaluable in your job search.

### Improving time-management and organization skills

Taking a part-time job will also help in your quest to find sustainable employment in less-direct ways, such as improving your time management. With



nothing to do each day but fill out the odd job application and make a phone call or two, it's easy for an unemployed job seeker to get distracted and disorganized. A part-time job can help create structure that is likely to spill over into the rest of your life and prepare you for a full-time schedule.

A part-time job makes a great transition into the hustle and bustle of the daily work force. So, while it may not be what you originally wanted, any chance to put yourself to work, fill resume gaps and build worthwhile experience should be looked at as an opportunity.

Matthew Tarpey is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job seeker blog, TheWorkBuzz.com.



LO2419790

## JOBS

careerbuilder.com

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**Help Wanted - General**

**DRIVER/WAREHOUSE**  
With CDL License to drive full-time for local deliveries. Full benefits.  
Apply in person:  
**WHOLESALE BUILDER SUPPLY**  
51740 Grand River Ave., Wixom, MI 48393  
248-347-6290

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**ELECTRICIAN**  
Experienced commercial wire person needed. Call: 248-855-8909

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**FRONT DESK & HOUSEKEEPER**  
Full & Part-Time. Apply in person: Kensington Inn, Howell Or call: 517-548-3510

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**HOME HEALTH AIDE NEEDED**  
Experienced part-time Union Lake area. Call: 248-425-2214

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**HOUSECLEANING PERSON**  
Monday-Friday. Pay based on exp. Oakland County area. Call Donna: 248-624-5818

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**HVAC SERVICE TECHNICIANS**  
• GOOD BENEFITS • Accepting Applications Call (734) 453-6630

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**JANITORIAL**  
For evenings; must have min 3 yrs experience. Email: cccampus@catholiccentral.net

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**JOE'S PRODUCE GOURMET MARKET HAS OPENINGS!!**  
We are currently taking applications for energetic:  
• EXPERIENCED PIZZA MAKER  
• BREAD COUNTER SALES  
• DELI COUNTER  
• CAFE/BARISTA  
• DISHWASHER  
Experience preferred. Please apply in person at: 33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia

**Help Wanted - General**

**LANDSCAPE FOREMAN & OTHER POSITIONS**  
For large landscape company in Westland. Competitive wages Full-time + overtime.  
**UNITED**  
Call: 586-752-5000

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**Maintenance Supervisor/ Maintenance Technician**  
  
Maintenance Supervisor needed in Novi and Maintenance Technicians needed for our communities in Northville and Lake Orion. Supervisor must have experience in all aspects of maintenance and must be HVAC Certified. Freezer Recovery. Along with the following aspects: Maintenance such as basic electrical and plumbing skills, ability to trouble shoot, shared emergency on-call pager, general pool maintenance and snow removal. Maintenance Techs with HVAC certified a plus.  
  
Looking for team players with excellent customer service. Competitive salary and benefits included.  
  
Email resume for Maintenance Tech in Lake Orion to: orioncov@yorkcommunities.com  
Email resume for Maintenance Tech in Northville to: gdeise@yorkcommunities.com  
Email resumes for Maintenance Supervisor in Novi to: heights@novi@yorkcommunities.com

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**OFFICE CLEANING EVENING HOURS NEEDED IN NOVI AREA OR LIVONIA AREA**  
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248-313-9465

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**PERSONAL ASSISTANT**  
For the South Lyon, New Hudson, Novi & Wixom areas. Rewarding positions available serving persons with special needs in their homes or in group homes. Must be over 18 & have valid MI driver's license. Paid training. Please call to join our team: 734-239-9015, 248-946-4425

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**Help Wanted - General**

**PRINCIPAL APPLICATION ARCHITECT**  
Minacs Group (USA) Inc., located in Farmington Hills, MI 48331 has multiple openings for Principal Application Architects. For job description and requirements please visit our website at www.minacs.com. Please reference #051314 when mailing resume to: Human Resources, Minacs Group (USA) Inc., 310 W. Wisconsin Avenue Suite 1100 East Milwaukee, WI 53203

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**TRANSPORTATION COMPANY**

**VEHICLE DETAILER**

Ground transportation company is seeking an experienced vehicle detailer. This is a full-time position requiring experience with exterior & interior vehicle clean up, i.e. drying, buffing, polishing vehicle exteriors, vacuuming and detailing interiors using recommended practices, and anything else involved ensuring we present a clean product. Applicants must be high energy, organized, detail oriented, team player, dependable, flexible, and able to follow directions while working in a fast paced environment.  
  
Interested candidates should apply at:  
  
**Metro Cars**  
Attn: Human Resources/Detailer  
24957 Brest Road  
Taylor, MI 48180  
Fax: (734) 946-6040

**METRO CARS**  
EOE

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**Help Wanted - Office Clerical**

**Accounting Clerk**  
Canton office location looking for full-time accounting clerk. Quick learner with sharp data entry skills and detail oriented person needed. Experience required. Great benefits and opportunity for right person. Please forward resume to: Reference Box 6011 oeresume@hometownlife.com

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**METRO DETROIT AREA GOURMET MARKET**  
Is currently taking applications for  
• **Office Administration Position**  
  
Desired skills: Excel, Word, multi-line phone system, must be computer savvy and can multi-task. Energetic & friendly required. Send resume & salary history: livoniamarket@yahoo.com

**Help Wanted - Office Clerical**

**ASSISTANT**  
Fast paced Southfield Collections Law Firm looking for a payment processor and assistants to answer the phone. Excellent Telephone skills, knowledge of Collection procedures and previous employment in a law firm a must! If you do not meet this criteria, please do not apply.  
  
Send resume: csummers@ilwpc.com  
Attn: Colleen

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**PARALEGAL/LEGAL SECRETARY**  
**Brighton, MI**  
Burchfield, Park & Pollesch PC seeks an experienced and certified paralegal who possesses strong secretarial skills for combo position: 5 yrs. Minimum experience with preferred legal background in business, real estate, estate planning and general civil litigation. Must have quality research and writing skills. Must be proficient in MS Word & Outlook. Please submit resume to: sued@btpattorneys.com

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**Help Wanted - Medical**

**Clinical Case Manager (RN)**  
Must have unrestricted RN license & CCM cert or ability to qualify. Minimum 5 yrs clinical exp. Case Mgmt exp. in Disability, Medical, WC or Auto. Responsible for oversight of disability claims. Computer literate, exc. written/verbal skills. Novi. Good Benefits. No weekends or holidays. Email resume: humaresource497@yahoo.com

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**DIRECT CARE STAFF**  
No experience needed, paid training available! All shifts available. Working with developmentally disabled adults in their homes. Must have a valid drivers license, w/clean record, high school diploma or GED.  
**Starting \$8.75/hour Monday-Friday Call between 9am-5pm Livingston County area Sam: 517-548-4495 or Patrick: 517-548-3915**

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**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT**  
For busy pain management practice. Full-time position. Prefer 2 yrs. exp. in an outpatient clinical setting will consider new graduate. Candidate must be a graduate from an accredited physician assistant program with current licensure in the state of Michigan. Competitive salary & comprehensive benefits package offered.  
  
Fax or email resume to HR Director: 734-547-4871 deb@nichiganpain.com michiganpain.com Michigancorp.net PLLC

**Help Wanted - Medical**

**Caretel Inns**  
Due to the company growth and exciting changes at Caretel Inns of Brighton, the place to be for short-term-rehabilitation, skilled nursing care, assisted living, memory care and rehab care, has multiple openings! We are currently hiring for:  
  
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**Assistant Director of Health Services (ADON)**  
Full Time  
  
**RNs:**  
Full Time & Part Time  
Afternoon & Midnight Shifts  
  
**Guest Assistants:**  
Part Time  
Afternoon & Midnights  
  
**Lawn Maintenance Laborers:**  
Full Time Seasonal  
  
**Housekeeper:**  
Part Time  
  
Please stop by our beautiful facility to complete an application at:  
**1014 E. Grand River Ave., Brighton, MI 48116.**  
You can email us a resume: hr@caretelbrighton@gmail.com

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**FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST**  
Full-Time  
Experience preferred for busy Gastro office in Farmington Hills.  
**Fax resume: 248-471-8904**

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**MEDICAL ASSISTANT**  
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**MEDICAL ASSISTANT**  
Full or Part-time  
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Call (248) 626-1366 frmdoctor@yahoo.com

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**MEDICAL BILLER**  
Excellent starting salary & benefits. Flex time avail. For 20 yrs old Farmington Hills. Must be experienced in all phases of billing, rejections & follow-up. Email resume: elitemedicalbill@msn.com

**Help Wanted - Medical**

**MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST**  
Busy South Lyon practice. Fast paced environment. Must have minimum 3 yrs. exp. in a medical office. be able to multi task, & be computer proficient. Part-Time. Pay negotiable. Email: mbalivingston1@att.net

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**REFERRAL CLERK**  
Busy family practice. Medical office located in Milford has a full-time position available for an individual with medical experience & knowledge of insurance prior authorizations referrals. 2-3 yrs. recent exp required. Must be organized & detail oriented. Fax resume: 248-685-3891 or email: ccampo@milfordfamilypractice.com

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**Food - Beverage**

**BARTENDER WANTED**  
For private club. No experience needed. Must be 21+ yrs.  
**American Legion Northville**  
248-349-1060  
email: lloyd147@wowway.biz

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800-579-7355

**Help Wanted - Professional**

**Business Unit Manager**  
for Novi, MI auxiliary fuel-operated heater (FOH) manufacturer to act as application specialist for FOH in commercial vehicles; oversee customer accounts, installation & engineering of FOH to meet environmental standards; collaborate with Sales to determine system requirements; provide installation training & technical & business support regarding FOH use, operation & maintenance; troubleshoot & analyze root causes of technical issues; plan & modify product configurations; liaise with parent company to determine budget, strategy & pricing. Requires Bachelor's in Business Administration, Marketing, Public Relations, Engineering or closely related field; 5 yrs. progressive post-Bachelor's experience in application engineering role(s) with FOH manufacturer or supplier; providing FOH product training to technicians & customers, monitoring FOH compliance with environmental standards, and collaborating with upper management to determine budget, strategy & pricing. 50% travel within North America, Europe & Asia req'd. Email resume to Sandra Hanson, Espar, Inc., shansson@espar.com.

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