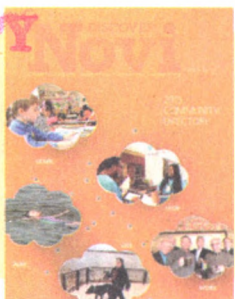


Novi News

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2015 • hometownlife.com

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COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE TODAY'S NEWSPAPER

Mom2Mom Sale set

Novi Community Education's Infant & Toddler program, The Lily Pad Lane, is hosting its annual Mom2Mom Sale from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday at Novi High School. Tables are \$20 per round and \$10 per space for sellers who provide their own racks. All baby, toddler and children's items will be accepted. Admission for adults is \$1 and free for children ages 15 and under. For more information, contact Community Education - Child Care Services at 248-449-1713. All proceeds will benefit equipment for the program.

Travel Fair

Discover where your next adventure will take you at the Group Travel Fair at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile. Attendees of the free event will learn about exciting day and extended travel opportunities offered by travel agencies. For more information, go to cityofnovi.org or call the Older Adult Services office at 248-347-0414.

What's the future of Novi, 13 Mile roads?

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

The undeveloped 21 acres of land on the southeast corner of Novi and 13 Mile roads has a long history of plans, litigation and sitting vacant. But that may soon change as the property owner presents a new concept and the city of Novi looks for public input on its future.

An open house was held Monday to give the community a chance to see and hear about the study of the land and to speak with city planners, as well as the developer/property owner, about the plan. At this time, the city is reviewing the approved designation of this property in light of the new development proposal, which would include nearly 200 new residences.

"The city wants to know what the community hopes to see on the property. A new proposal has been presented, so it's important we get input to help us see all of the different options and ideas," Barbara McBeth, deputy director of community development, said at the open house.

Input sought

The need for input goes back to 2002, following litigation between the city and the developer that resulted in the approved plan being adjusted to allow more commercial use than was earlier approved in the 1990s.

Residents attending the open house wanted to learn more about the plan. Some had concerns, but also understood that something needs to and will be done with the property.

Steve Segal, a homeowner in neighboring Vista Hills, said he's concerned as to what the new plan might do to his home's value. He does think some commercial, but not a restaurant, might work there. Dennis Fitzgerald,



Barbara McBeth responds to questions about the housing development proposed for Novi and 13 Mile roads during an open house Monday at the Novi Civic Center.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

who lives in the Tollgate Ravines neighborhood, said he's open to hearing different ideas for the land and hopes whatever goes there adds value to the community.

"The reality is something will go there, so we need to ask ourselves what should go there and bring the most value to the community," Fitzgerald said.

Planning

The property's history goes back to 1986, when the city created planned unit development

zoning standards to facilitate development. The plan then called for a mixed-use development, both commercial and residential.

In 1991, the Sandstone PUD was approved that would help set the plate for an actual phased mixed-use development with a commercial center, detached homes, town homes, apartments and central plaza.

That plan changed in 1995, with a new name of the Vistas. The PUD was amended to, among other things, increase the

STUDY CONTACT

For questions or comments regarding this study, contact Barbara McBeth, deputy director of community development, at bmcbeth@cityofnovi.org or 248-347-0415.

potential commercial/retail use up to 100,000 square feet. With litigation, the total

See FUTURE, Page A2

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State probably won't increase district's per-pupil funding

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

If nothing changes in the near future, the Novi Community Schools district could lose even more state funding in the next school year.

Steven Barr, assistant superintendent for business operations, gave an overview of the school aid funding plans that are now being debated by Gov. Rick Snyder and the state Legislature. The governor, House and Senate all have their own proposal. Under two of the plans, Novi would stand to lose overall per-pupil funding and, in the third, it would see no increase.

No matter what plan goes forward, it will still mean Novi is well below the school aid funding amount it was receiving seven years ago.

Barr said it's been reported that Snyder's proposal would add \$75 in student foundation allowance, but what's not re-

ported is the reduction or elimination in other funding sources schools have been relying on the last year or two.

Funding Novi received last year for best practices and per-pupil performance would be reduced, according to the governor's plan. Overall, the governor's proposed school aid plan would decrease Novi's per-pupil funding by \$25, a net total of \$162,500.

The House plan would also decrease the district's funding overall by \$162,500. This plan would also eliminate adult education funding, which would be \$89,654 for Novi. This wouldn't eliminate the program, but changes might have to be made. The Senate's plan would see a net increase of zero.

Funding concerns have become an ongoing concern. In 2007-08, Novi's student aid per pupil was more than \$9,000. In 2015-16, it might be slightly more than \$8,600, according to the governor's proposal. Novi's per-pupil funding since 2007-08 has decreased by 4 percent.

In comparison to neighboring South Lyon, its school district has seen its overall

per-pupil funding go from \$7,308 in 2007-08 to possibly more than \$7,500 for 2015-16.

Barr said a lot of the money taken from the School Aid Fund over the last four years has gone to higher education. A total of \$2.2 billion, or \$1,480 per pupil, has been diverted from K-12 to universities and community colleges.

"We won't give up; we won't ever give up," Barr said, referencing a famous quote by the late college basketball coach Jim Valvano. "Lansing can take away our money, steal from the School Aid Fund and force more mandates on us. But Lansing cannot touch our Novi mind, they cannot touch our Novi heart and they cannot touch our Novi soul. And those three things are going to carry on forever in Novi, because we have over 6,000 kids in Novi and 1.5 million statewide counting on us."

The state school budget plan will be approved by early summer.

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Barr

Life in Go! Save the date for O&E spring expo

Workshops, exhibits, demonstration and free stuff are all part of the *Observer & Eccentric* 12th annual spring expo, Life in Go, set for 1-6 p.m. Monday, April 27, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

This annual tradition for active adults features a variety of demonstrations and workshops, local business exhibitors, prizes, free admission, free parking and free refreshments. Learn to live healthy, make wise financial decisions and enhance life to make it the best ever.

The first 100 attendees will receive a Buddy's pizza coupon for a free four-square pizza. In addition, there will also be drawings throughout the afternoon for other prizes.

The hourly gift drawings are sponsored in part by St. Mary Mercy Hospital. Refreshments are sponsored in part by Twisted Rooster. The

See EXPO, Page A2

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Syrup time



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

As sweet-smelling steam arises all around him, Tollgate Farm volunteer Wayne Watson scoops out impurities from a batch of maple sap that's being boiled down to make syrup at the MSU education center. Watson and fellow volunteer Kenn Phifer were putting in some time that morning, working on turning lots of sap into a little bit of syrup. It takes roughly 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup and, on a good day, those that man the evaporator at Tollgate can create about a gallon in an hour. The maple syrup is sold at Tollgate's community functions, but a lot of it goes to the volunteers that help run the farm.

As American as ...



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Debbie Mayer (right) of Busy Bee Companions gives Eunice Prior an apple pie she's baked during the April 6 opening day celebration for the Tigers at the Novi Senior Center. Prior won the apple pie in a raffle which Mayer decided to make for its association with baseball. About 100 seniors attended the event and watched the Tigers win on the big screen.

EXPO

Continued from Page A1

2015 spring expo tote bags are made possible in part by sponsors Crystal Creek Assisted Living, Centurion Services,

Inc. and Twisted Rooster. This year, 10 dynamic demonstrations and workshops feature Rick Bloom of Bloom Asset Management, Dr. Sol Cogan of HealthQuest and HealthQuest's Back & Neck Solution Centers of America and Colleen McDonald of Senior Helpers.

Bloom, *Observer & Eccentric* guest columnist and frequent metro Detroit radio and television guest, will discuss "How to Determine What You Will Need to Retire and Stay Retired." Cogan, CEO of HealthQuest and HealthQuest's Back & Neck Solution Centers of America and the offi-

cial team chiropractor of the Detroit Lions, will speak on "New Technology in Pain Relief." McDonald, director of community relations for Senior Helpers and certified dementia trainer, will present "The Senior Gems: Alzheimer's and Dementia Care."

Look for a special spring expo section inserted into the *Observer, Novi News, Northville Record, Milford Times* and *South Lyon Herald* newspapers Thursday, April 23, and in the *Eccentric* newspapers Sunday, April 26.

This special publication will feature articles, interests and resources

for the today's active adults. The special publication will feature participating local business exhibitors and detail all demonstrations and workshops. A complete list of speakers are listed below.

Other speakers include: » Health, Wealth and a Confident Retirement by Steven R. Swaggerty, Ameriprise Financial Klassa, Swaggerty & Associates.

» Understanding Memory Loss by Gerald E. Turlo, M.D., St. Mary Mercy.

» Emergency Preparedness by Arnold Wicker, Schoolcraft Col-

lege Continuing Education and Professional Development.

» Improving Communication With Aging Parents by Jean Borin, Home Instead Senior Care

» Social and Emotional Benefits of Art by Grace Karczewski, Schoolcraft College Continuing Education and Professional Development.

» Healthy Smile for a Lifetime by Dr. Bruce Smoler, Smoler Institute of Implant Dentistry.

» Tai Chi by Michigan Tai Chi Association, sponsored by Schoolcraft College Continuing Education and Professional Development.

NOVI NEWS

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FUTURE

Continued from Page A1

square footage for commercial increased to 170,000.

During the last 20 years, a number of homes have been built, but the commercial/retail hope for the plan never was fully realized. Now there is a new

proposed plan with the property owner wanting to create 189 multiple-family dwellings with no commercial uses. To have this approved, the litigation's consent judgment would have to be revisited and amendments would have to be made.

Novi's Future Land Use Map shows the property designated as local commercial with the

"The reality is something will go there, so we need to ask ourselves what should go there and bring the most value to the community."

DENNIS FITZGERALD

Novi resident

surrounding area designated residential.

Once the study is complete, the planning commission will provide a recommendation to the

city council as to the next steps.

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Bomb threat shuts Red Lobster

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

Novi's Red Lobster received a bomb threat Sunday by an unknown person, which led to the restaurant being evacuated twice but nothing suspicious being found. According to Novi police, around 4:15 p.m., the restaurant at 27760 Novi Road received a phone call from an unknown person stating a

bomb had been left inside.

Public Safety Director David Molloy said a search of the business was conducted by police, fire and business management, with nothing suspicious being found. During the search, another threat was phoned in.

"Shortly after the first phone call and while emergency personnel were still on scene, a

second phone call was made to the business in regards to the same bomb threat. Management made the decision at that point to evacuate and close the business for a second search, which again did not produce anything suspicious," Molloy said.

He said investigators are currently following up on various investigative leads, which include identifying what phone

number was used during the commission of the threat.

"At this point, no viable suspects have been identified, but the investigation is in its early stages," Molloy said.

Red Lobster re-opened and no additional threats have been reported.

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Red Lobster, 27760 Novi Road, received a bomb threat Sunday.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tollgate tenants



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A group of ducks waddle around their pen at Novi's Tollgate Farm in the rain. Tollgate welcomes visitors to look at its farm animals, fields and woods seven days a week and regularly schedules special events on the weekends. For more information, go to www.tollgate.msu.edu.

Montessori-based day care home denied

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

A request by a Novi resident to set up a Montessori-based group day care home out of an existing residence was denied because it does not fit under city ordinance.

The Novi City Planning Commission denied by a 6-0 vote the special land use permit request of Little Birds Montessori, which was asking to operate a Montessori-based group day care home at 24620 Taft Road for up to 12 children.

According to city ordinance, operations supervising seven to 12 children are defined as group day care homes, which is consistent with state of Michigan regulations and definitions. In Novi, group day care homes are a special land use if they will be situated in the R-4, one-family residential district, which is the zoning of this residence.

In her application, Akemi Nagakura stated the operation would be based in her home and the hours would have been 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and open for schooling 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday except holidays.

The residence is located on the east side of Taft Road, north of 10 Mile.

The planning commission felt it would cause a detrimental impact on the existing thoroughfare because it is in a high-traffic area. Vehicles backing in and out of the single-family residence may cause an impact.

Additionally, the commission's denial stated it is not consistent with the goals, objectives and recommendations of the city's master plan for land use, as it is a residential area and the use is too intensive at this particular location. There are single-family



CITY OF NOVI

A Novi resident was denied her request to have this highlighted residential property become a Montessori-based group day care home.

homes in all directions. "It is not in harmony with the purposes and does not conform with the applicable site design regulations in the zoning district in which it is located because of it being a school for 12 children in a residential area and it will be sandwiched between two homes," the denial read.

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Disability Awareness Workshop opens the eyes of students at Novi Woods

By Lonnie Huhman
 Staff Writer

The Disability Awareness Workshop at Novi Woods Elementary Schools opened students' eyes to a reality outside of their own.

In a one-day, hands-on workshop, fourth-graders get to see life through the eyes and bodies of a disabled person, giving them a better understanding of the daily challenges.

"This really helped us see what some people have to face every day," fourth-grader Ben Wright said.

The workshop, which is organized in part by the school's PTO, was divided into different stations where students learn about a particular disability. From visual challenges to getting around in a wheelchair, they step into the

shoes of a situation to help them see it first-hand.

"I see how the day to day can be tough for some people," fourth-grader Carolina Mercado said.

The workshop goals are to help students learn about compassion and gain a more educated perspective about persons with disabilities. There were professionals on hand to help with the different stations. Local eye doctor Amy Crissman Head was one and she assisted the students in learning about visual challenges.

"It's really about helping them learn about empathy," Principal David Ascher said.

Another big part of the workshop was special guest speaker Therese D., a resident of Angel's Place, which provides people-centered ser-

vices, including homes and professional support, for adults with developmental disabilities. She has dealt with a lifetime of insults and misunderstandings about her disabilities.

"I love doing this," she said. "I want to help them understand what it's like growing up with a disability and what we go through every day."

The workshop was created by Oakland Schools, but had some funding issues so partnering schools were left to conduct it on their own. Through the help of parent volunteers, teachers and others in the community, Novi Woods has made the workshop an annual event, benefiting many students.

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The Disability Awareness Workshop gave students at Novi Woods a better understanding of living with a disability.

Celebration of Learning



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jen Villanueva sits down with daughter Alli to go over her reading progress March 27 during a Celebration of Learning at Village Oaks Elementary. On that day, students shared their reading goals and achievements with their parents.

W.L. Central student named finalist in photo contest

Photographer's Forum magazine announced the winners of the 35th annual College and High School Photography Contest, sponsored by Nikon, USA, including Walled Lake Central High School senior Hunter Thackham.

The son of Dana and Richard Thackham received scholarships from both Columbia College and the College of Creative Studies for his photographic excellence and he plans on attending the latter in the fall.

"Hunter is an amazing photographer with an incredible eye combined with a strong artistic voice that always has something to say," said Dave Deluca, Central High School art teacher. "His creative energy, motiva-

tion and determination will send him far into the art world."

More than 17,000 entries were received from students in the U.S., Canada and around the world. Judges in this year's competition were Kenda North, University of Texas; James Rudnick, School of Visual Arts; and Everard Williams, Art Center College of Design. College and high school entries were judged separately.

College freshman and 2014 Walled Lake Central High School graduate Noa Chandler received an honorable mention in the college division of the same contest. Chandler is currently studying fashion photography at Savannah College of Art and Design in Georgia.

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Meet 'SPARK' author

Author Dr. John Raley describes SPARK as a groundbreaking exploration of the connection between exercise and the brain's performance that shows how even moderate exercise will supercharge mental circuits to beat stress, sharpen thinking, enhance memory and much more. The book will change the way you think about your morning run or for that matter, simply the way you think.

Meet the author at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, at Novi Middle School. Registration is required; go to novilibrary.org or call 248-349-0720.

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to read SPARK in advance of the author event. To borrow a copy of the book, visit the Novi School library or the Novi Public Library. Copies are also available for purchase at Barnes & Noble, Northville.

Novi Co-Op Preschool events

Novi Co-Op Preschool, a play-based kindergarten readiness program for children ages 3-5 years, is hosting two events which are open to the public; children are welcome at both events:

Ice Cream Social - 4-6 p.m. Sunday, April 19; and Open House - 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 28

Novi Co-Op is located at 41671 W. 10 Mile Road (at Meadowbrook Road). For more information or to schedule a tour, call 248-349-3223 or go to www.novipreschool.com.

Registration for Novi summer school classes opens

Students may register for Novi high school summer school classes online at www.novicomunityed.org.

High School students and parents may view the courses online, download the forms for verification and fax or email them to the Community Education Office after they process their online selection and payment. The verification/registration form must be signed by the student's school counselor. All verification/registration forms need to be sent to the Community Education office for the registration process to be complete.

Summer School refresher courses pre-K to eighth grade will continue to register at the Novi Community Education office.

Summer classes begin Monday, June 22 and end Thursday, July 23.

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

Novi's Summer C.A.R.E. program

Novi Community Education will kick off its Summer C.A.R.E. program registration from 4:30-8 p.m. Monday, May 4, in the Community Education office at 25425 Taft Road in the Meadows Building. This will give parents an opportunity to talk to staff, register and complete the necessary paperwork.

Summer C.A.R.E. will run weekdays from 6:45 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, June 22, to Friday, Aug. 21. Registration fees are \$130 for the first child, \$110 for the second child and free for the third child. Daily fees are \$40 per child. Lunch is included except for field trip days. All fees are non-refundable.

Students are assigned to the grade level they will be attending in the fall. The staff is well

experienced and activities are age appropriate for the development of the students. Activities include field trips, crafts, science experiments, sports, games and more.

This program is for children age 3 who have attended one year of preschool and up to children going into the eighth grade, and it will be located at Novi Woods Elementary School, 25195 Taft Road.

Registration is also ongoing online from May 1-15. Packets, calendar of events and lunch menus are located on the website at www.novischools.net under Community Ed - Child Care.

For more information, call 248-449-1713.

Children's exhibit

Northville Public Schools Early Childhood Education & Extended Day Programs presents A Children's Exhibit - The Joy of Discovery April 23 through May 7 in Northville Square (133 W. Main Street) with opening night activities 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 23.

This annual exhibit represents a small sampling of the learning that takes place throughout the programs. Come celebrate children, honor their unique qualities and capture the power of project work.

Northville roundup, parent orientation

Northville Public Schools hosts two important events in the spring to ease some of your fears and answer many of your questions: Parent Orientation and Kindergarten Roundup.

Parent Orientation is an opportunity for you to hear about our programming, meet key staff members, learn about your child's elementary school and ask questions. The evening is interactive and highlights what to expect the first few weeks of school and how you can help prepare your child for his or her first day. At registration, you will receive a folder with important information that we ask you to review prior to parent orientation. Please note: This is a meeting for parents only; children should not attend.

The following are the dates for Kindergarten Parent Orientation and Round-Up at each elementary school: Amerman - April 30, 6:30 p.m. May 1; Moraine - May 11, 6:30 p.m. May 15; Silver Springs - May 6, 6 p.m. May 15; Thornton Creek - April 29, 6 p.m. May 7; Ridge Wood - May 11, 6:30 p.m. May 15; and Winchester - May 11, 6 p.m. May 12.

Novi's Frog Force heading to Robotics world competition

By Cal Stone
Staff Writer

The Novi High School Robotics team is heading April 22-25 to the FIRST World Championship in St. Louis, Mo., after a strong showing at the state championships in Grand Rapids this past weekend.

Team 503 Frog Force earned the highest achievement, the Chairman's Award. The team's robot was also chosen in the opening round of alliance selections as the team qualified for the world championship with total points.

"It was quite an affair - the governor was there," said Maria Mazza, the team's teacher representative.

The Chairman's Award is an accumulation of a team's efforts; three teams were honored.

"It's the ninth time Novi High has won it," Mazza said. "The whole idea is to assist others who are less fortunate and we helped two rookie teams from Detroit, who both ended up winning awards."

There are more than 90 Novi students participating on the team, but only 44 will be heading to St. Louis.

"We have to draw the line financially," Mazza said, noting the cost of



Novi High's Team 503 Frog Force earned the Chairman's Award at the state Robotics championships in Grand Rapids this past weekend and now is heading to the world competition in Missouri.

the bus trip and hotel rooms.

There are a variety of businesses that support the Novi team, but Magna is the team's primary sponsor.

"They write us a very nice check that allows us to do what we do," Mazza

said.

From the mentoring perspective, she said the team is very fortunate to have many engineering and IT parents helping.

"And there are others whose kids have graduated or who know about FIRST and just want to

give back by volunteering," Mazza said.

She's not involved in the technical end of things, but she is in charge of the "evidence book" - a five-inch binder filled with documentation of everything the team does during the season.

"If a student goes to a tech class, they provide a write-up," she said. "If they mentor another team, they do a write-up. There are drawings and volunteering documentation. We give the book to the judges to reference for credibility."

That book helped Frog Force capture the Chairman's Award. Now they're busy preparing for the Missouri competition.

This will be Mazza's third trip there and she relishes the opportunity to see students - especially inner-city kids who might not have a chance to go on to college - compete.

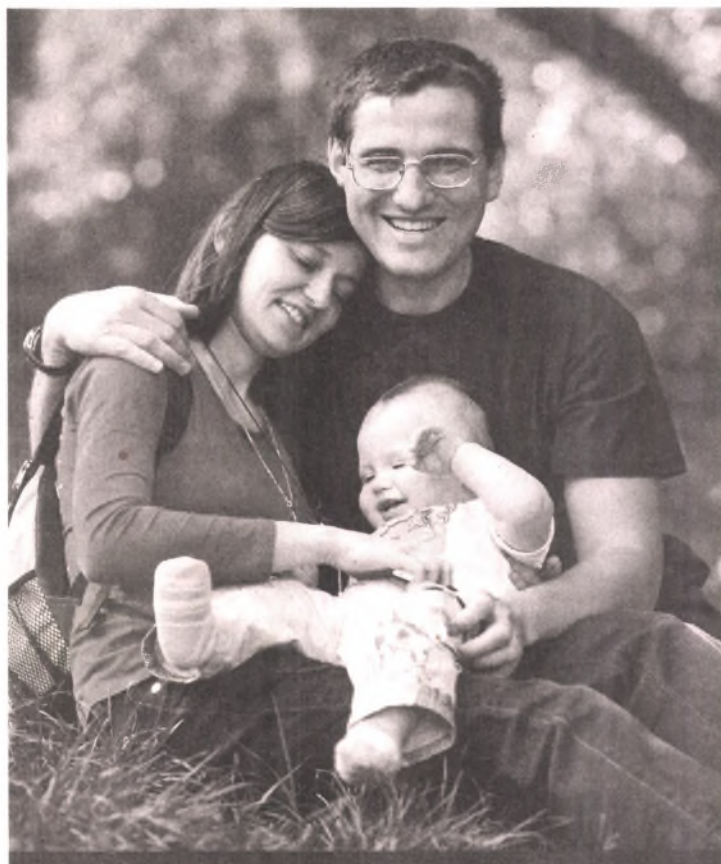
"It's a priceless experience when your kids compete against kids from Saudi Arabia, Brazil and Spain," she said. "The challenge is the same around the world. Everybody comes up with their own way of building a robot."

cstone@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TheNoviNews

Flying Aces



Novi Woods fourth-grade students Jasmine Howard (center) and Laila Crawley (right) are the center of attention as they pass a spinning disc between themselves during a Feb. 27 visit by the Flying Aces. The aces, Brian Hayes and Jay Moldenhauer, demonstrated their Frisbee abilities and preached that practice makes perfect.



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Everyone's favorite orphan coming to Northville High

The Northville High School Drama Club goes out with a bang April 23-25 by presenting four showings of a fresh incarnation of the original *Annie* at Northville High School (45700 Six Mile Road).

The musical, based on the seven-time Tony Award-winning production, is set in New York City in 1933 and is presented by more than 60 Northville High School Drama Club members.

"Once again ... these talented students have surpassed all expectations! It's truly a joy to be able to work with such an exceptional group of young people," said Tracy Spada, Northville High School's Drama Club director for the past seven years, who also serves as resident stage manager at the Tipping Point Theatre. "And to be

flanked by an amazing vocal director, pit director, choreographer and design team is a dream. This show will not disappoint."

The classic musical *Annie* tells the heart-warming story of a young orphan girl receiving the opportunity to stay a week in Oliver Warbuck's mansion. But after a few days, Annie is much more than Mr. Warbuck's bargained for as she works her way into everyone's hearts.

Annie will be performed at 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, April 23-25, as well as at 1 p.m. Saturday.

The Northville High School Drama Club puts three productions on stage per year: a fall play, a student-run winter production, and a spring musical. With a club of more than 60 students,



Some of the cast of the upcoming production of Northville High's "Annie."

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

the productions bring in thousands of attendees

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Northville High School Theatre productions

included *Miracle on 34th Street* and *Almost, Maine*.

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W.L. celebrates 2015 PTSA Reflections Event participants

More than 400 students, parents and staff attended the 2015 Walled Lake Schools' PTSA Reflections Celebration recently at Geisler Middle School. The district honored the more than 150 student participants for their creative express around the writing prompt: "The World Would Be a Better Place if ..."

The district had 17 entries receive state awards and four students' works were sent to the national event to be judged:

- » Macy Hannan; Sarah Banks Middle School; literature
- » Patrick Halim; Sarah Banks Middle School; musical composition
- » Amanda Checkowky; Walled Lake Northern; literature

The purpose of the PTA Reflections Program is to encourage artistic expression through categories of film/video production, dance choreography, musical composition, photography, visual arts and literature.


"We celebrate our students' ability to think and problem-solve," said Kenneth Gutman, superintendent. "They may have written a special piece, taken a unique photograph or created another artistic expression, but the critical thinking that went into creating the piece is what we are celebrate."

Stephanie Kaplan, PTSA Council president, Dawn Fehrwerk and Sharyn Gallatin, PTSA Council Reflections co-chairs, and Kathy Fargo and Maureen Brown conducted the various judging, planning and details for the annual PTSA creative expression event.

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College, high schools, community support work in Uganda

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Neither Simran Reddy, a Northville High School senior, nor Novi High School senior Ashi Arora have been to the African country of Uganda. Both young women, 17, who are dual enrolled at Schoolcraft College, just might make the trip someday.

They were key in creating Coins to Change in fall 2011 to support the work of Twesigye Jackson Kaguri, author of *The Price of Stones: Building a School for My Village*.

The students were among speakers the morning of Tuesday, April 14, as Kaguri accepted a check for \$25,000 from Schoolcraft President Conway Jeffress for the Nyaka AIDS Orphan Project. The support came from Schoolcraft College, Novi High, Northville High and their communities.

Schoolcraft first-year student Taylor Struna was among the speakers.

Reddy recalled family friend Anna Maheshwari, who chairs Schoolcraft's English department, speaking of Kaguri and his work in rural Uganda. "She asked me to read Jackson Kaguri's book. I just started working with them and raising money. Here we are today," Red-



Schoolcraft College student Taylor Struna (from left), Northville High senior Simran Reddy and Novi High senior Ashi Arora are key people in Coins to Change. Reddy and Arora are dual enrolled in Schoolcraft.

dy said, waiting her turn to take the stage and speak at Schoolcraft's VisTaTech Center.

The Coins to Change began simultaneously at Northville and Novi High schools in 2011. "I reached out to students and specifically to student council," Arora said. Many fundraisers were held.

"My teachers did wear jeans for \$5," normally not allowed at Novi High for teachers, Arora said. "There were a lot of events on campus."

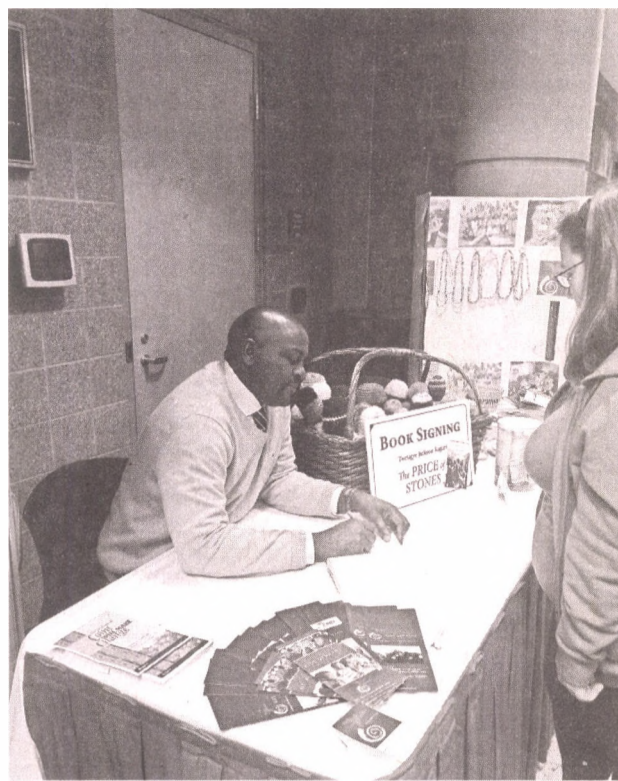
Reddy noted many administrators at Northville High helped. "It's been fun for us as students," she said. "I hope

to continue this when I'm in college."

Arora is to attend a Wayne State University program to guarantee medical school acceptance, with Reddy in a similar program and both young women planning to be physicians. Arora may also earn a Ph.D. and do research.

"This program helped me make friends and realize how much impact I could make," Reddy said. Arora noted she feels privileged to attend school in the U.S.

"They have these dreams," she said of the students in Uganda. "They need the resources. This program is



Twesigye Jackson Kaguri signs copies of his book at Schoolcraft College.

going to provide the resources."

Struna, an online graduate of Livonia Churchill High, is also a key part of the program's success. He's in his first year at Schoolcraft and got involved initially for extra credit in sociology class.

"People don't have control of what they're born into," Struna said.

"This made me kind of want to give back." He lost a parent and can't imagine losing both, as many AIDS orphans have.

Struna thanked Kaguri for his work, adding that he plans to visit many countries as a volunteer. Struna, 17, plans to study environmental science.

Jeffress said, "People have gotten together and they've talked and they've done something. This is a terrific project." He noted the burden on children "who must carry on without a parent."

Kaguri, after graciously accepting the check, spoke of young women who've been orphaned in Uganda but are now headed to medical school, to careers in law and more. "It means life to get a dream realized," Kaguri told the Schoolcraft audience.

His secondary school combines academic and vocational learning, he said, as photos were displayed. "No matter how old you are, you always have an opportunity to come to school," much like Schoolcraft, Kaguri said.

"You'd be welcome to see the students whose lives you've changed," Kaguri said in encouraging supporters to visit.

Additional information is online at nyakaschool.org. Kaguri lost his brother to HIV/AIDS, leaving three children behind. Shortly after, Kaguri's sister also died, leaving a son. He vowed to build a school in his village, using the down payment he had saved for his home.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Local blood drives help meet critical need in southeast Michigan

The American Red Cross is encouraging eligible blood donors to make a difference in the lives of patients this spring by giving blood.

Donated blood is perishable and must be constantly replenished to keep up with the demand. Red blood cells, with a shelf life of only 42 days, are the most frequently transfused blood component, and

are always needed by hospitals.

Eligible donors can give red cells through either a regular whole blood donation or a double red cell donation, where available. Double red cell donations yield twice the usual amount of red cells in a single appointment and are accepted at select donation locations. Double red cell donors must

meet additional eligibility criteria, which will be determined at the donation appointment.

Donors with all blood types are needed, especially those with types O-negative, A-negative and B-negative. Whole blood can be donated every 56 days and double red cells may be donated every 112 days, up to three times per year.

To find a donation

opportunity or make an appointment to give blood, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, go to redcrossblood.org or call 800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767).

Upcoming blood donation opportunities include:

Northville - 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. April 19 at Our Lady of Victory Social Hall, 133 Orchard Dr.; 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

April 26 at the First United Methodist Northville Church, 777 W. Eight Mile, and 3-8:45 p.m.

April 30 at Winchester Elementary School, 16141 Winchester.

Novi - 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. April 29 at Fox Run Retirement Community-Belmont Clubhouse, 41100 Fox Run.

All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients.

A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age, weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Walking the dogs



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Annette Rozek enjoys a stroll with her three dogs April 10 at the Novi Dog Park. The park, located behind the Novi Ice Arena, is open year-round from 9 a.m. to dusk. Novi residents must purchase an access pass from the city in order to enjoy the park. Rozek was with her dogs (from left) Ben, Roxie and Dakota.

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BRIEFS

Continued from Page A8

Enjoy wine tasting of red and white Italian wines and pizza appetizers by Cantoro's. Bid on unique raffle baskets with items donated by Northville businesses and participate in a *Judge A Book By Its Cover* raffle.

Tickets are \$45 per person and can be purchased online, over the phone or in person at the Northville District Library. Go to the library's website at www.northville.org and click on Books & Beyond: A Benefit for the Library.

If you have any further questions, contact the library at 248-349-3020.

Democratic clubs meeting

The Northville Democratic Club is inviting all party members, independents and others just interested in politics to the monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, **April 20**, at the Cady Inn, 215 Griswold Avenue (in Mill Race Village in downtown Northville).

The club is gearing up for very critical and exciting elections in 2016. Learn about upcoming interesting events, including the Spring Gala dinner and dance, more town hall meetings and group discussions to talk politics while socializing. For more information, go to www.NorthvilleDems.com.

The West Oakland Democrats will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, **April 21**, at United Methodist Church (41671 W. 10 Mile, Novi).

Michigan Education Association president Steve Cook and Tony Trupiano, progressive talk radio host, will discuss current issues important to Democrats, including Proposal 1. The meeting is free and open to the public; snacks provided and pizza may be purchased.

College Value & Affordability

The Northville District Library is hosting a Community Conversation discussion on College Value & Affordability at 7 p.m. Wednesday, **April 22**, presented by the Center for Michigan, a nonprofit, non-partisan organization.

Attendees will be asked about their experiences attending and paying for college. Attendees may be current college students, family members, college graduates, professors or administrators.

Call to register at 248-349-3020 or online at www.northville.org.

Used book sale

The Wixom Public Library (49015 Pontiac Trail) will hold its spring used book sale, sponsored by the Friends of the Wixom Library, **April 22-25**. Thousands of books and multimedia items for all ages, priced between 25 cents and one dollar, plus specially priced items.

Sale hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. April 23; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 24; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 25 with fill-a-bag for \$5. An advance sale for Friends members only will be from 5-7:30 p.m. April 22. Memberships will be available for \$5 at the door.

Phone 248-624-2512 for more information.

Fox Run residents are Ford Tough

Novi's Fox Run retirement community is home to dozens of people who spent their careers at Ford. Howard Freers is one of those people.

After graduating from a small engineering school in Indiana in 1948, Freers went on to build a career in the auto industry. He worked for Ford as a chief engineer for 22 years and retired in 1988. When he moved to Fox Run, Freers was interested in connecting with the other Ford retirees who lived there. He decided to start a Ford group.

"I said, 'I need some-

thing to keep me occupied' and, last August, I found out there are 60-plus people living here who have some Ford background," Freers said.

In October 2013, he held the first meeting of the Ford group at Fox Run. Freers says about 20 to 30 people usually attend the monthly meetings and the club is open to people who worked at Ford, as well as to others who are simply interested in the auto industry.

Veterans benefit counseling

In 2010, a nationwide Veterans Administration survey found fewer than half of all veterans understood their benefits, including medical care, college tuition reimbursement and pension or disability payments. City of Novi Older Adult Services has partnered with the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America to increase awareness of VA benefits and medical care for those who qualify.

Bonnie Williams, a service officer from MPVA, will host free, 30-minute, one-on-one counseling sessions 1-3 p.m. Monday, **April 27**, at the Meadowbrook Activity Center (25075 Meadowbrook Road). To schedule an appointment, call 248-347-0414 or stop by Older Adult Services office in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile.

For more information about Veterans Benefit Counseling, contact Sandy Fisher, Social Services coordinator, at 248-347-0414 or sfisher@cityofnovi.org. To learn about additional older adult social and educational programs, go to www.cityofnovi.org.

Special events offered by Novi's Older Adult Services

Don't let cold weather and a bit of snow diminish fun this winter; treat yourself to a warm meal, entertainment and friendship by attending a special event hosted by city of Novi Older Adult Services.

Tickets are on sale now for events offered throughout the winter (and spring) and are \$7 per Novi resident and \$8.50 per non-resident unless otherwise noted. Attendees must be 55 years or older. All events take place at the Meadowbrook Activity Center, 25075 Meadowbrook Road.

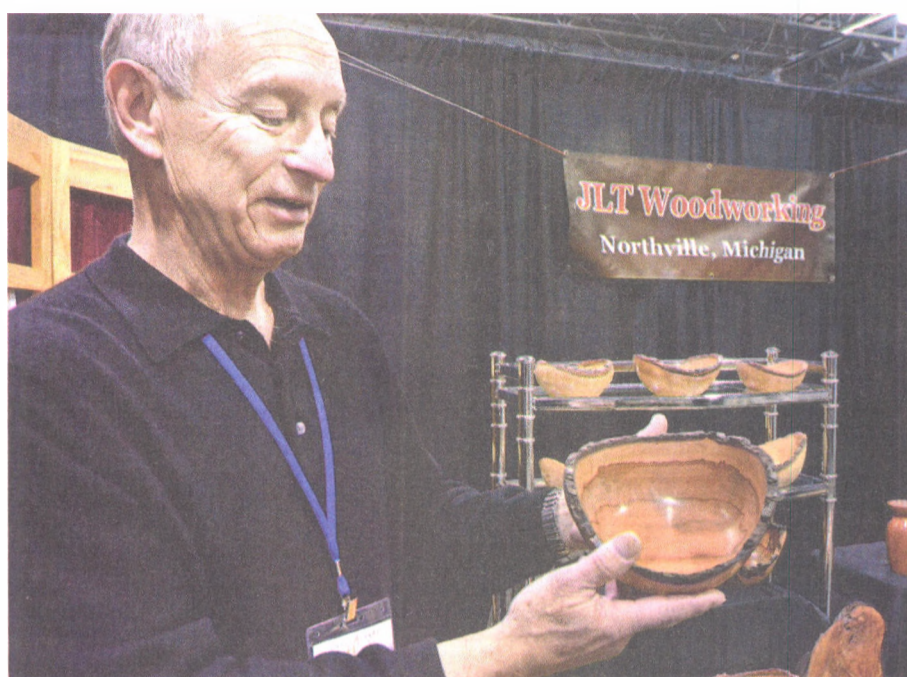
Kentucky Derby - 4-6 p.m. Saturday, May 2: Hear the roar of the crowd and the high energy announcers at Churchill Downs as they witness the most exciting two minutes in sports. Attendees will have fun horsing around the Meadowbrook Activity Center doing Derby Day activities along with dinner and watching the big event. Ticket deadline is **April 27**. Resident price is \$7.50 and non-resident price is \$9. Tickets are limited and must be purchased in advance at the city of Novi Older Adult Services office located in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile.

For more information about upcoming events and programs, go to www.cityofnovi.org or call city of Novi Older Adult Services at 248-347-0414.

Breakthrough for Brain Tumors Race

The third annual Breakthrough for Brain

Wood creations



Northville Township woodworker Jim Tesen displays some of his natural bowl creations April 10 at the start of the weekend-long Great Lakes Art Festival. Tesen, who's been woodworking for more than 20 years, specializes in creating bowls from single pieces of wood and retaining the natural bark around their rims.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tumors Race will be held Saturday, May 2, at Kensington Metro Park, 2240 W. Buno Road, Milford. The event site opens at 7:30 a.m. There will be a park entry fee: \$7 per vehicle

This is a USTAF-certified 3.1-mile walk/run (BT5K Race Results will be available the BT5K Michigan page within one week of the event.)

A minimum of two people is required. There is no fee to register a team. When forming or joining a team, each team member/captain is required to pay the standard registration fee. The first person to start a team will become the team captain. Pre-event prices are

\$35 adult participant; \$30 adult survivor; \$20 children ages 6-12; \$15 children survivor; free for children under age 6.

Online registration closes **April 28**. Contact the ABTA event staff at 800-886-1281 to register over the phone or register online at http://hope.abta.org/site/TR?fr_id=3183&pg=en.

Michigan International Women's Show returns

The Michigan International Women's Show returns **April 30** through May 3 to the Suburban Collection Showplace (46100 Grand River Ave-

nue) in Novi.

"We are celebrating our 20th annual show with sweets, surprises and shopping for moms, sisters, daughters and girlfriends," said Beth Anderson, executive show manager of Southern Shows. "It's just part of the food, fashion and fun that women can experience at the show."

For more information, go to www.InternationalWomenShow.com or call 800-849-0248.

Plan for the future

A retirement symposium you can't afford to miss.

Life in retirement can be truly fulfilling, but not without proper planning. The BLS Group is hosting an exciting retirement symposium featuring a panel of retirement and financial planning specialists who will share their latest research and recommendations to help you confidently plan for the next chapter of your life.

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Estate planning for seniors – What an effective estate plan looks like and why it's important for you and your family.

Fraud and older adults – Exploitation of seniors is on the rise. Learn about steps you can take to help keep you and your family safe based off findings from Wayne State University's Institute of Gerontology.

Wealth Management – Liquidity, longevity and legacy.

Quality of life during retirement – Findings from the MIT AgeLab.

These events are free of charge and are offered as a two-part series. We suggest choosing one event on May 6 and one event on May 13 to cover the full range of important topics we will be addressing.

Part I
Wednesday, May 6
1:30 – 4:00 p.m. or 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Part II
Wednesday, May 13
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Justice: Veterans treatment courts like Novi's work

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

Michigan Supreme Court Justice Mary Beth Kelly believes the state's veterans treatment courts are doing a lot of good for those who've served our country.

Kelly recently addressed the Michigan Association of Treatment Court Professionals at the Suburban Collection Showplace, highlighting the achievements of Michigan's veterans treatment courts as "champions for our healing heroes."

"Our veterans treatment courts, like our other treatment courts, offer an alternative to those persons whose underlying cause of their offense is rooted in the need for treatment," she said.

According to Kelly, Michigan leads the nation with 22 veterans treatment courts, including one at the 52-1 District Court in Novi. These courts promote sobriety, recovery and stability by offering alternative consequences and specialized treatment to former and current military service members who come into contact with Michigan's criminal judicial system.

Kelly serves as the Michigan Supreme Court's liaison for treatment courts, drug

courts and veterans courts.

Veterans treatment court uses a hybrid integration of drug court and mental health court principles to serve military veterans and sometimes active-duty personnel.

Kelly said it's impressive the way this treatment court has a coordinated response that involves cooperation and collaboration with community and state-wide partners.

The goal is to promote sobriety, recovery and stability through a coordinated response that involves collaboration with the traditional partners found in drug courts and mental health courts, as well as the Department of Veterans Affairs health care networks, Veterans Benefits Administration, state Department of Veterans Affairs, volunteer mentors and organizations that support veterans and their families.

Kelly said she has seen other treatment courts, such as ones for juveniles, successfully work, so it made sense for the legislation creating ones for veterans to be enacted in 2012.

"It's become a viable and successful part of the judicial system," she said. "I have seen their (treatment courts) success."

lhuhman@hometownlife.com

Yankee Air Museum rolls out 20th annual Bomber Buffing

The Yankee Air Museum is inviting people to roll up their sleeves Saturday, April 11, and join in its 20th annual Bomber Buffing.

This year it's bigger than ever, because the C-47 Skytrain "Yankee Doodle Dandy" also needs to be shined. The four engine B-17 heavy bomber "Yankee Lady" and twin engine B-25 medium bomber "Yankee Warrior" are also in need their aluminum skin polished to a high gloss. They'll be in Hangar 1, Bay 8, on the west side of Willow Run Airport.

Winter inspections and maintenance are complete, the planes have been washed. The buffing is the last step in preparing for the 2015 flying and air show season.

The free event runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A Hungry Howie's pizza luncheon will be served for everyone. People are encouraged to bring plenty of clean, soft rags. Mothers Polishes, Waxes and Cleaners, Inc. has donated plenty of aluminum polish for people to use.

"Twenty years we've been doing this and it never gets old," said Ray Hunter, chairman of the YAM Board of Directors. "I'm always amazed by the large crowd that comes out every April to help us and, believe me, it's a big help."

Hunter said this polishing party is even more important because 2015 is the 70th anniversary of



Volunteers help prepare Yankee Air Museum's four-engine B-17 heavy bomber "Yankee Lady" for the 2014 air show season.

the end of World War II. It's also the 70th birthday of the Yankee Lady, which was delivered July 16 to the U.S. Army Air Forces.

"World War II veterans are passing rapidly, the youngest might be 86 or 87 years old. We work very hard to keep our airplanes in top flight condition to honor them," Hunter said. "Veterans, their children and grandchildren all marvel at these aircraft when we fly them into air shows and believe me they notice and appreciate the high-gloss finish."

Hunter said he sees lots of families return year after year, but there

"I'm always amazed by the large crowd that comes out every April to help us and, believe me, it's a big help."

RAY HUNTER
chairman, YAM Board of Directors

are new faces, too. He attributes the excellent participation a sense of patriotism that people get when they get up close to the Boeing B-17G Flying Fortress and North American B-25 Mitchell. These aircraft are never on display at the museum's Collections and Exhibits Building on the east side of Willow Run Airport.

He added that each year the number of air-

worthy B-17s and B-25s declines. He estimated that only seven to nine B-17s and maybe eight to 10 B-25s will take to the skies in the United States this year.

"There's an added attraction this year, the Douglas C-47 Skytrain is also in the hangar and needing a shine," said Kevin Walsh, YAM executive director. "The museum will be announcing special sightseeing flights on board the C-47 real soon and we think the program will be a hit."

In planning the Bomber Buffing event, Walsh and the professional staff made sure the event is appealing to the whole family.

"The aircraft are the main attraction and each year we see many of the same people coming back, maybe somewhat taller, to help out again and have some fun," Walsh said. "We always see a lot of first-time visitors, too, many who simply want to 'see that airplane that's always flying over my house.'"

According to Walsh, logo merchandise and unique gifts will be available through the museum's retail operations. Special membership incentives also are planned for the day.

"People joining the Yankee Air Museum at this event will be escorted on board the B-17 to take the pilot's seat for a free cockpit photo. They'll also receive a ticket to the Thunder over Michigan air show when tickets are mailed to members by early July," he said.

Walsh said that increasing membership is imperative since the museum is rapidly growing, participating in the Save the Bomber Plant campaign, and becoming a "cool" family attraction. Aviation displays are continually being added, like the new "Fly Zone" which opened in February and puts kids at the controls of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles.

"This is a terrific time to join history in the making," Walsh said. "Come to the Bomber Buffing and check us out. You're going to find we're a membership friendly organization that offers pressure free opportunity."

Hangar 1 is on the northwest side of the airfield. Follow the road signs for west and south access to Willow Run Airport to get to Hangar 1. Entry will be through the door under the awning of M2 Aircraft Management.

Established in 1981, the Yankee Air Museum is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization located on the grounds of Willow Run Airport. For information about YAM, call 734-483-4030 or go to www.yankeeairmuseum.org.

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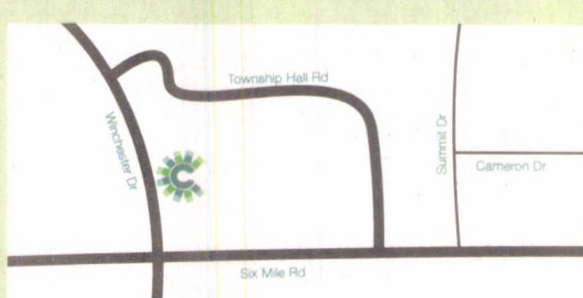
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Trott discusses veterans services during forum

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Seeing U.S. Rep. Dave Trott at the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 114 in Livonia was important for Mike Harris, executive director of the Michigan Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America.

"A lot of times, they work with your national offices and everything else," said Harris, who runs the Novi-based organization. "So when they come to their district, they get to hear really how their constituents are ... at the local level."

Trott, a freshman Republican congressman from Birmingham, stopped by April 7 to speak with several dozen veterans. He said while he himself is not a veteran, he has worked to learn as much as he can about veterans' issues and what can be done about them.

Hearing from veterans within the 11th Congressional District is helpful as well.

"Any ideas you have, big or small in that regard, I'd love to hear them," he said. "It's an honor to represent you. I'm enjoying it, I'm working hard at it and other than my feet hurting all the time - this is more walking than I normally do - it's a great honor and privilege to represent you."

Ideas

One idea he'd like to look into more is one Harris brought to him several weeks ago. The issue surrounds approval of medical device expenditures that cost more than \$3,000 through the Department of Veterans Affairs. Currently, Trott said if it exceeds that threshold, it must go to an office in Cleveland for approval, something that usually delays acquiring the item for a veteran in



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Congressman David Trott speaks to veterans at the Disabled American Veterans chapter in Livonia.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Joe Neussendorfer of Livonia listens to the update on veterans' affairs.

need by several weeks. Expenditures less than that are sent to the VA office in Detroit, Trott said, which drastically cuts down on time.

Harris proposed upping that threshold to a higher dollar figure, speeding up the process. Trott said it's an issue he wants to look at further, because it's one that would not need any extra funding, something that's hard to come by in Washington these days.

"We're trying to work on that," Trott said. "That's an idea that I think can make a difference."

Another issue he's brought up in bipartisan meetings with leaders is the lack of specific types of transitional housing for veterans with chil-

dren. While the state operates two veterans homes, one in Grand Rapids and one in Marquette, the need for some homes for veterans in transitional housing with children, especially in southeastern Michigan, is one he wants to examine.

Trott said he brought up the issue while at a meeting with other members of the Michigan delegation to Congress as something that could be looked at.

"There is no transitional housing for women veterans with children," he said. "This is another example of a void that needs to be met."

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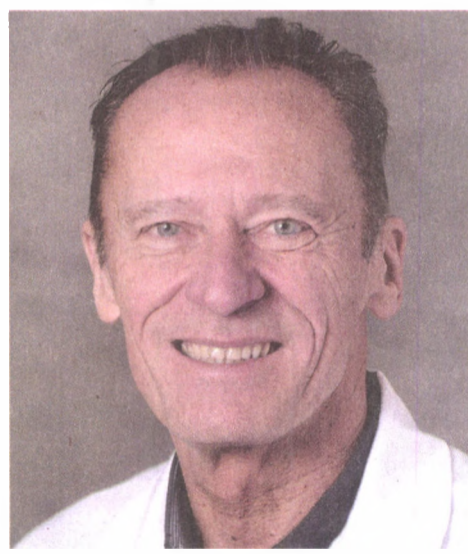
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U-M student, advocates: Sexual assault on campus remains prevalent



By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Laurel Ruza, a senior at the University of Michigan, thinks her Ann Arbor campus takes sexual assault seriously, based on her advocacy work with U-M administrators.

"I think the university is really trying to take steps to improve campus safety," said Ruza, a 2011 West Bloomfield High School graduate who'll complete her bachelor's degree in public policy this spring.

"I think more can be done," Ruza said.

"They're definitely willing to listen to student voices on this issue."

Sexual assault on college campuses is the focus of this year's Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Representatives from the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, *The Hunting Ground* film, the "It's On Us" campaign, the University of Michigan Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Center and the Michigan Coalition To End Domestic and Sexual Violence held a conference call April 9 on the

issue.

Call participants included *The Hunting Ground* director Kirby Dick, "It's On Us" U-M student organizer Ruza, NSVRC prevention campaign specialist Laura Palumbo, University of Michigan SAPAC director Holly Rider-Milkovich and MCEDSV senior program manager Lisa Winchell-Caldwell.

Ruza's internships include work with the U.S. Justice Department in Washington, D.C., as well as being an advocacy intern with Jewish Women International, also in

D.C.

"The solution begins with us," Ruza said in her remarks. She and others at U-M organized a three-day series of roundtables, recognizing sexual violence impacts those of all ethnic groups, races and genders.

"I wanted to make sure we had as many voices in the room as possible," Ruza said. "We wanted to focus on what we as students can do to facilitate this cultural shift." Many U-M students have told her they'd like more related programming.

Ruza cited collabora-

tion with student groups and with administrators. "Everybody has a role to play in the prevention of sexual assaults," she said, including active intervention.

Palumbo said, "We believe everyone has a role to play in ending sexual assault. Our hope is that educational efforts will reach far beyond April."

"I think it is important to have difficult conversations to get to the heart of this issue," Rider-Milkovich said.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Laurel Ruza is pleased with progress on sexual assault awareness at the University of Michigan, but would like to see more done. She's a senior at U-M and 2011 West Bloomfield High graduate.

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Construction Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on **Monday, May 4, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Mayors Conference Room Novi Civic Center 45175 Ten Mile Road to consider:

CASE NO.: PCB15-0002 ASCENSION BREWERY
William L. Finnicum, AIA on the behalf of Ascension Brewery for a Dimensional Sign Land Use Variance located at 42000 Grand River Ave. (parcel 5022-23-226-023) in the B-3, General Business Zoning District.
The applicant is requesting a variance of .34 from the allowable building area for each separate occupancies (separate occupancies shall not exceed 1.0, 1.34 proposed).
Section 508.4 and 508.4.2 MBC 2012

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NORTHVILLE POLICE BRIEFS

Tires stolen

A Northville man had all four tires/rim stolen from his Ford Fusion while it was parked outside of his residence the night of April 8. Northville Township police were the first to spot the car with the missing tires while in the neighborhood on a different call. The car was found up on landscape blocks on Lyric Court.

Open intoxicants

A Canton woman was stopped for driving on a suspended driver's license, which led to another violation for having an open pint of Remy Martin

in her center console. The Northville Township police spotted the 28-year-old woman's car on Six Mile Road near Cedar Lake Circle just before 3 a.m. April 9. A check of the plate revealed that the owner had a suspension. The woman was arrested and, during the search, the bottle of liquor was found.

Rock thrown at car?

The Northville city police investigated a report from a resident who said the car she was driving was struck by an unknown object March 31 as she passed under the pedestrian bridge at Hillside Middle School on

Eight Mile Road. The woman, who was driving her father's car, said she heard a loud noise as she went under the bridge and then looked back to see a young man crossing the bridge. Police reported the object that caused a dent on the car's roof almost hit the windshield and formed a perfect circle. The police are looking to see if school security cameras picked up the incident.

Wrecked car arrest

A Detroit woman was arrested after Northville city police stopped her for driving a badly damaged car with a warrant out on her. The police

reported spotting the woman driving along Main Street in a car that was heavily damaged on its back end. A plate check revealed the owner had a warrant out for her arrest. Police stopped the woman and, upon making contact with her, she was unable to produce any documents to verify her identity or car ownership. Through some personal questions and the work ID badge she was wearing, police did finally identify her as the woman wanted on a bench warrant out of Ypsilanti. She was turned over to Ypsilanti police.

- By Lonnie Huhman

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Heroin possession

A man was arrested by Novi police for drug possession after calling them because he locked his keys in his car. Novi police reported responding to a lockout call from the Novi Road and Grand River Avenue Mobil gas station March 15. Police reported the man was acting very nervous. When officers looked in the car, they

reported seeing a bag with needles on the passenger seat. A check on the man revealed he had a warrant out of East Lansing. Police found a small container with pills in it and a folded piece of paper with a substance inside, which the man said was heroin.

Hit and run

A man's car was struck while parked outside of the Old Navy

store on West Oaks Drive. The man reported the incident to Novi police after he found his car with a card on the windshield that stated the person who left it saw the incident. There was reportedly minimal damage, but he owner wanted to file a report.

Home broken into

A Novi home was broken into when the suspect cut through a

screen door to gain access March 12 on Denby Court. The homeowner came home and noticed shoe prints on the floor. A further check revealed \$800 in cash was taken from a bedroom. Police suspect the thief gained entry by cutting the screen, prying a sliding door partly open and then using a crow bar to lift up the wooden dowel.

- By Lonnie Huhman

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League of Women Voters hosts forum on Proposal 1

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Sitting in the Livonia Civic Center Library auditorium, Peggy Gray and Julie Lewis compared notes following a forum on the May 5 roads proposal.

Held April 6 by the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County, the forum detailed how the proposal would change the way taxes are assessed in the state. The forum, Gray said, helped her understand the issue better.

"I was only going by what people were saying," said Gray, a Livonia resident.

The women were two of several dozen who attended the event to gain a better per-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Eva Packard explains the background and the proposal.

spective on the statewide ballot proposal. While complicated, the proposal will essentially: remove sales tax from fuel and replace the current excise tax with a wholesale tax based on the price of gas; and increase the sales tax from 6

percent to 7 percent, an increase that would replenish and supplement funding for schools and local governments taken away by removing the sales tax from fuel. Vehicle registration fees would also not see any depreciation as they currently do today. Registration fees on trucks would also increase and a surtax would be applied to electric and hybrid vehicles.

The proposal is reportedly expected to increase funding for roads to more than \$1.2 billion beginning in fiscal year 2017-18.

Eva Packard, voter service director for the state League of Women Voters, gave the presentation, detailing how the proposal came into exist-

ence, what it would do to the price of fuel and arguments given by those for and against the proposal. While the League of Women Voters does not endorse candidates, it can endorse proposals and issues. However, the League has taken no position on the May 5 ballot proposal.

Packard went over the effect on the price of gas at two retail prices, \$2.40 a gallon and \$3.83 a gallon. With the way the proposal is worded and tie-barred to other laws, the price of gas would increase to \$2.50 and \$3.85, respectively, if federal taxes and other fees are included in the retail price.

"The estimate is that this change would bring in about

\$1.3 billion for fiscal year 2017-18," she said.

The proposal would also provide funding for some mass transit and a restoration of the Earned Income Tax Credit back to 20 percent. It is currently at 6 percent after being reduced in 2011.

Another aspect that would change is how vehicle registration fees are handled. Currently, a new car's fee decreases 10 percent each year for three years before it stops dropping.

Polls for the vote are open across Michigan from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. May 5.

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Sunday Worship @ 9:30 am
Sunday School @ 11 am
Wednesday mid-week programs
Rev. David Brown, Pastor
248-437-2222 • www.fellowshipepc.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH LYON
60820 Marjorie Ann St., South Lyon 48178
Phone: 248-437-2963
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Rob Freshour / Assoc. Pastor: Randy Weeks
Website: www.fbcsouthlyon.com
• Email: fbcsouthlyon@sbglobal.net
LD-0000237123

Northville

First Presbyterian Church of Northville
www.fpcnorthville.org
200 E. MAIN ST. AT HUTTON
Worship, 9:30 am.
Sunday School for all ages, 10:30 am.
248-349-0811

United Methodist Church (248) 349-1144
777 West 8 Mile Road
(8 Mile and Taft Road)
Northville, Michigan
Worship Times: September - May 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Memorial Day - Labor Day 10:00 a.m.
New: Marsha M. Wolley, Lead Pastor
www.funorthville.org

first united
methodist church
640 S. Lafayette
South Lyon, MI (248) 437-0760
Worship: 8:15 am, 10:45 am,
11 am & 6:30 pm
Sunday School: 9:40 am
Rev. Sondra Willobe, Lead Pastor
southlyonfirstumc.org

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

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN
Experience Life Each Week
Sunday Worship - 9:00 am & 10:30 am
Sunday School and Children's Programs
www.nvalife.org
41355 Six Mile Road
248-348-9030
LD-0000237488

WARD CHURCH
40000 Six Mile Road
Northville, MI 48168
248-374-7400
Sunday Worship Services
8 a.m. | 9:30 a.m. | 11 a.m.
4 different music styles from classic to modern
www.wardchurch.org
LD-0000237867

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

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH
28900 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon
248-486-0400
www.crossroads.net
Service Times
8:45am, 10:00am & 11:30am
Renewed Hope Counseling Center
248-560-7507
rhoecc.net

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

Our Saviour Apostolic Lutheran Church
54899 8 Mile Rd. at Curie Rd. Northville, MI 48167
248-374-2268
Sunday Worship:
9:45 am Children's & Adult's Sunday School
10:30 am Fellowship/Coffee
11:00 am Worship Service
Wednesday Bible Study at 7 pm
Pastor Andy Whitton
oursaviouralc.com

SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH
Loving God and Loving People
22183 Pontiac Trail • 248-486-4400
(In Brookdale Shopping Center,
behind Powerhouse Gym)
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:00 A.M.
Reed Heckmann, Pastor/Teacher
www.solidrocksouthlyon.com
LD-0000237266

HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL
www.hsccc.net
at the corner of Winans Lake & Musch Rd.
810-231-9199
Fr. John Rocus, Pastor
Weekend Liturgies Saturday 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Please visit our Shroud of Turin Display and Book & Gift Shop

For more information regarding this Directory, please call Sue Sare at 248-926-2219 or e-mail: ssare@michigan.com

Jazzercise fitness center opens new Novi location

Jazzercise Inc., an international corporation offering more than 32,000 classes weekly in locations around the world, has opened its newest fitness center in Novi (24289 Novi Road, in the Pine Ridge Shopping Center), offering 29 classes weekly.

Novi Jazzercise opened its doors almost 10 years ago, offering classes in a clubhouse setting. Since then, it's grown to serve a wide customer base representing all ages and walks of life. The business offers morning, afternoon, evening and weekend classes to fit all lifestyles and even offers babysitting for those with children. The new center enables Novi Jazzercise to offer even more class options in a great location designed specifically for Jazzercise.

"Jazzercise has become so popular in Novi that it's time to open our own facility," Novi Jazzercise owner and instructor Jacqueline Glebe said. "Now we can offer our students the best accommodations and the most convenient class times."

Novi Jazzercise invites the public to its grand opening celebration 1-3 p.m. Sunday, April 19. Attendees can come anytime 1-2 p.m. to meet fitness instructors and staff, tour the center, enjoy refreshments, win prizes and take advantage of the grand opening offer.

At 2 p.m., instructors will team up to demonstrate a complimentary Dance Mixx Jazzercise class for those who wish to try it out before or after joining. The 60-

minute Dance Mixx class includes a warm-up, heart-pumping dance aerobics and challenging muscle-toning routines choreographed to a variety of current music, then a cool-down stretch segment.

Jazzercise, founded in 1969, combines elements of dance, resistance training, Pilates, yoga, kickboxing and more to create a fitness program for people of every age and ability. Class formats include Dance Mixx, Fusion, Strike, Core and Strength. With constantly changing moves, new beats, a variety of workouts and calorie-crushing intensity, customers can expect to feel results after three classes and to stick with it long-term.

The Novi Jazzercise grand opening coincides with Jazzercise Inc.'s new look and class of-



Pictured (back, from left) are Novi Jazzercise members Maki Lowe, Blanka Bajc, Lenora Woloszyn, Pat Scott-Nelson, Susan Horsburgh, Denise Merlanti and Linda Brand and (front, from left) Novi Jazzercise instructor Pam Zinkosky, owner and instructor Jackie Glebe and instructor Michiko Spielman.

modern, mirroring what customers experience in class today.

"Some people still think legwarmers and leotards when they hear Jazzercise, but we left the '80s behind a long time ago," said Judi Sheppard Missett, Jazzercise founder and CEO. "Jazzercise is the original dance party workout and, 45 years later, we continue to transform the bodies and lives of our customers because we know how to get results and keep it fresh. We constantly evolve our workouts, mixing in new music, new moves and new classes to keep it challenging."

Learn more about Jazzercise at www.jazzercise.com. For more information about Novi Jazzercise, contact Glebe at 810-333-6110 or jackiejazz@yahoo.com.

ferings. In January, the company unveiled a new brand identity to reflect the calorie-crushing intensity of its workouts and to confront the mis-

conception that Jazzercise hasn't evolved from its meteoric rise in the 1980s. The new brand expression is edgy, intense, hard-hitting and

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Athleta and Garage coming to Twelve Oaks

Fashion and fitness enthusiasts will have two new options in store at Twelve Oaks Mall this spring when popular apparel brands Athleta and Garage join the center's retail lineup.

Twelve Oaks will be home to the first southeast Michigan store for Montreal-based Garage. With locations across the world, Garage is known for its on-trend, affordable clothing and accessories for teen girls. Customers can shop the season's hottest denim, the latest must-have styles and everyday fashion basics within a casually cool and unique environment.

Garage will be located on the lower level, near Lord & Taylor, and is scheduled to open in early May.

Coming in late May is premier fitness apparel brand Athleta. Existing at the intersection of fashion and fitness for women, Athleta blends performance innovation with sophisticated style to offer versatile pieces for all-day outfitting. The store will also serve as the go-to wellness resource where women can find information about local races and athletic events, as well as take part in free in-store fitness classes.

To celebrate the grand opening, Athleta will make a donation to the local chapter of Girls on the Run, a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating a world where every girl knows and activates her limitless potential. Athleta will be located on the upper level, near Sears.

Two Men and a Truck collecting for moms

Each Mother's Day, moms across the country are showered with attention and gifts. Unfortunately, while most moms are being treated to breakfast in bed or having flowers delivered to

them, tens of thousands of women spend their Mother's Day alone and unrecognized, living in shelters due to homelessness or as a result of escaping from domestic violence.

To aid mothers in crisis, Two Men and a Truck created its Movers for Moms program, a community-based initiative working with neighborhood schools and organizations – including Rainbow Childcare Center locally – to collect essential items to donate to women on Mother's Day. The program began as a statewide effort in Michigan in 2008 and has continued to grow to with seven schools in the Wixom area joining more than 60 others in the state to benefit women in need.

Collection efforts are also being made nationally and the moving company hopes to surpass its 2014 collection of 220,000 items donated to community shelters supporting mothers across the country. Movers for Moms will donate to more than a dozen Michigan shelters in 2015 including COTS (Coalition On Temporary Shelter) and YWCA Interim House.

The local Two Men and a Truck invites additional community partners to join the cause in 2015 in hopes of surpassing its collection objective. Schools and other organizations interested in supporting the Movers for Moms program should go to www.twomenandatruck.com to locate the franchise nearest them.

The Wixom franchise is located at 28287 Beck Road; phone 248-835-6683 or email info0173@twomen.com.

SCORE business mentoring

The Service Corp of Retired Executives one-hour appointments are available from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at the Novi Public Library.

SCORE mentors pro-

vide free one-to-one business counseling, discuss how to start your business, grow your business or overcome a specific business hurdle with an experienced business mentor from SCORE.

Go to the Novi Public Library's website (www.novilibrary.org) to get started on a path to an improved you in 2015.

Oakland County's Economic Outlook Luncheon

Online registration is now available for the 30th annual Oakland County Economic Outlook Forecast luncheon set for April 30 at the Detroit Marriott Troy.

University of Michigan economists Dr. George Fulton and Donald Grimes will present their projections on employment prospects in private manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors with breakdowns for all industry categories for Oakland County. The outlook report is a main component for Oakland County's long-term planning and promotion activities.

"Fulton and Grimes are two of the most respected economist in the country," Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson said. "Getting their perspective on the county's economic health is both insightful and helpful. I wouldn't spend too much time deciding whether or not this is worth your time. This event is always sold out and these seats will go fast."

Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased online at www.AdvantageOakland.Eventbrite.com. Registration closes April 21 or when capacity is reached. More than 600 people attended the event in 2014. The Detroit Marriott Troy is at 200 W. Big Beaver, east of I-75. The luncheon begins at 11:45 a.m.

The luncheon is hosted by Patterson, Chase and Oakland Community College.

Nordstrom Rack to open in Novi's West Oaks

Seattle-based Nordstrom, Inc. plans to open a Nordstrom Rack in the West Oaks shopping center in Novi. The approximately 33,000-square-foot store is scheduled to open in fall 2016. The property is owned and managed by Ramco-Gershenson Properties Trust.

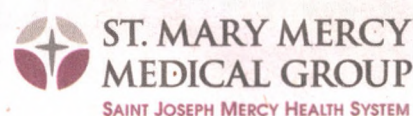
When it opens, it will be the fifth Nordstrom Rack in Michigan and will join retailers including Gander Mountain, Best Buy, Michael's, HomeGoods and DSW. West Oaks is located across Novi Road from Twelve Oaks Mall, where Nordstrom has operated a full-line store since 2007.

"Many of our most successful Rack stores are located across the street from a Nordstrom store. We have found that both stores really complement each other," said Geevy Thomas, president of Nordstrom Rack. "We're looking forward to being able to serve customers more conveniently with two ways to shop with Nordstrom when we open in Novi next year."

Nordstrom Rack is the off-price retail division of Nordstrom, Inc., offering customers a wide selection of on-trend apparel, accessories and shoes at an everyday savings of 30-70 percent off reg-

ular prices. The Rack carries merchandise from Nordstrom stores and Nordstrom.com, as well as specially purchased items from many of the top brands sold at Nordstrom. The Rack is designed to provide the ultimate treasure hunt to style-savvy customers.

"We are very happy to welcome Nordstrom Rack to our West Oaks shopping center," said Dennis Gershenson, president and chief executive officer. "This exciting, best-in-class retailer is certain to expand our shopping center's appeal and dominance in its trade area."



Westside

Obstetrics • Gynecology & Urogynecology

Women's Health Presentation Series

Dr. Paul Makela, gynecologist, provides insight and education about a host of female conditions. Grab a friend, your sister or mom and learn about the latest therapies and procedures available that may help eliminate or reduce your symptoms or pain, and improve your quality of life.

Upcoming Topics in 2015:

- Apr. 29: Pelvic Prolapse
- May 27: Bladder Dysfunction and Overactive Bladder
- Jun. 24: Pelvic Prolapse

Location

Cantoro Italian Market II
15550 Haggerty Rd., Plymouth

5:45 p.m. - Check-in
6 p.m. - Presentation

REGISTER NOW!

The presentations are free, but registration is required. Please call 734-655-1980.

Light refreshments will be served.

Dr. Makela is a member of St. Mary Mercy Medical Group, a group of primary care and specialty physicians who provide comprehensive medical care, health maintenance and preventative services to help you and your family stay healthy.

Isn't it time you Discover Remarkable?
stmarymercy.org/westside

OAKLAND COUNTY BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance are invited to attend seminars offered by the Oakland County One Stop Shop Business Center. Unless otherwise noted, all programs take place at the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, west of Telegraph, Waterford. For pre-registration and location specifics, go to www.advantageoakland.com/businessworkshops or call 248-858-0783.

Walk-In - Start-Up Thursdays Free Business Counseling
Thursdays from 9:30

a.m. to noon and 1:30-4:30 p.m.: Entrepreneurs who want to start a business but do not know where to begin can receive confidential, one-on-one advice from an experienced business counselor with no appointment necessary. Counselors will provide direct answers to start-up questions, suggest next steps and provide guidance on business planning tools. Sessions will be limited to 15 minutes and available on a first come, first served basis. No fee.

Capital Raise
Tuesday, April 28, 9:30-11 a.m.: If you are a start-up or early-stage

growth-based business looking for funding, we invite you to attend a 90-minute presentation by our capital strategist, Mike Brennan. He will detail the various capital sources in Michigan and talk about how to properly position your company to qualify for various funding sources, including: private/angel, SBA, short-term private lending, private equity, venture capital and angel network. Michigan and federally supported grant, loan and matching programs will also be discussed. Register for Capital Raise. No fee.

OUR VIEW

Local elections: Now's your chance to help community into the future

The political season is upon us and, as a reminder for those people thinking about being a candidate for office in Novi, the filing deadline - Tuesday, April 21 - is near.

Holding office is a serious commitment and residents considering a run for mayor, city council or city clerk need to be sure they're making the right decision before filing by the 4 p.m. deadline.

Local government is the foundation of our democracy. Being an elected local official requires a commitment of time and effort and a willingness to communicate with constituents. This is one level where residents can interact with their elected leaders face to face at city hall, the local grocery store or a restaurant.

There are many reasons people choose to run for public office and candidates would be wise to take a close at their motivation. Some people run for office because they want to give back to their community; they love their city and believe they have the solutions that will make it better. There are some candidates who run for public office because a local issue has them at odds with current officials, while there are those who run to just run or make themselves feel more important.

Voters should have choices in an election. That is what democracy is all about. We encourage candidates who can make a positive difference, who can help position the city for a bright future, who truly want to serve their hometown and make it a better place to throw their hats into the ring.

Do you have what it takes to hold office? In Novi, if any more than three times the number for mayor or council file a nominating petition or pay the filing fee, that triggers a primary. Maryanne Cornelius, city clerk, believes the last time that happened was 1999. Here are the city of Novi offices that expire Nov. 9 and will be filled in this election cycle:

» The two-year term of mayor, currently held by Bob Gatt.

» Three four-year terms on city council, currently held by Dave Staudt (mayor pro tem), Wayne Wrobel and Laura Casey.

» The remaining two years of a four-year city council position, currently held by Doreen Poupard.

The candidate filing deadline is 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, at the Novi City Clerk's office (45175 W. 10 Mile; 248-347-0456).

The candidate filing deadline is later for offices up for election in the city of Northville - 4 p.m. July 21 - at the Northville City Clerk's office (215 W. Main; 248-349-1300). Three seats will be decided in the Nov. 9 election:

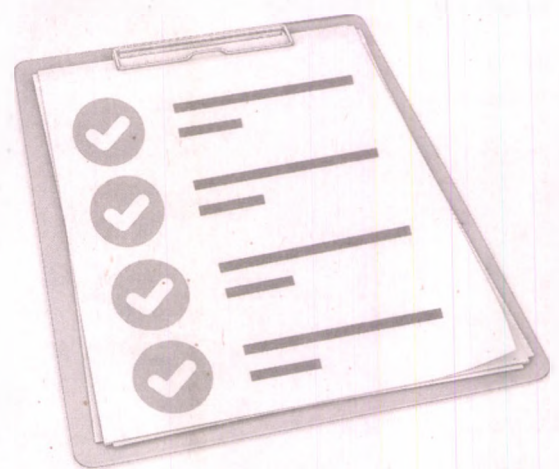
» The two-year term of mayor, currently held by Chris Johnson.

» Two four-year terms on city council, currently held by Ryan McKindles and Nancy Darga.

And with the exception of the May 5 statewide and Northville schools bond renewal election, there are no elections scheduled currently for Northville Township.

A nominating petition and Affidavit of Identity with Campaign Finance Act Compliance Statement must be filed with the city clerk in order for a name to be placed on the ballot. Nominating petitions are available at the local city clerk's office.

We encourage folks who are thinking about running for office to give it serious consideration. It is at the local level where you can have the most impact on your community.



COMMUNITY VOICE

"What do you think of police using drones?"

After getting authorization from the Federal Aviation Administration, Michigan State Police represents the first law enforcement agency in the United States that can use drones in every corner of the state. This question was asked at the Novi Civic Center.



"I'm for it. They should be used to help add protection capabilities."

Nancy McNamara
Novi



"If you're not doing anything illegal, then you will have nothing to worry about. So I guess I'm in favor."

Sally Petrous
Novi



"If the police are in favor of it and think it will help, then I approve of it."

Marlene Palicz
Novi



"It's fine by me, if it helps."

Kory Osborne
Novi

LETTERS

Road fix tax a bait-and-switch scam

I have to disagree with any endorsement in support for Proposal 1, otherwise known as the "road tax." First off, that term is in error; it is much more than a road tax. It is a hastily made mistake and poor excuse for legislation that deprives taxpayers of much more than good roads. Why add tax to my loaf of bread and milk, why add tax to my restaurant bill?

Does the public even know that this piece of ill-conceived legislation removes ad valorem taxes from your itemized deductions? As a single point to this, you will no longer be able to deduct personal property tax on the purchase/use of a vehicle. Add that up when you purchase a new \$20,000 vehicle at 6 percent tax deductible, or at 7 percent tax non-deductible.

In summary, the proposal will increase the sales tax from 6 percent to 7 percent, raise taxes on fuel and increase vehicle registration taxes. It will also hike the state's Earned Income Tax Credit.

Overall, the proposal will increase state tax revenue for fiscal year 2015-16 by approximately \$2 billion, of which \$1.3 billion will go to funding transportation - initially to accelerate repayment of existing transportation bond debt, to increase overall road maintenance and to spend more on transit and recreational grants. Of the additional \$700 million in new tax revenue, \$300 million would go to public schools, \$100 million to local government revenue sharing and pledges for future spending on local bus and transit agencies.

The proposal raises the state's sales and use taxes from 6 percent to 7 percent, a 17-percent increase in the rate. This would give Michigan the second-highest state sales tax in the nation.

Dangerous crumbling roads are no excuse for garbage legislation; that's how we got here in the first place. We need to send this back to Lansing so they can do this right. Band-Aid proposals full of bait and switch taxes while stealing more from the taxpayers is not what we need at this time. Take the time to put together a package that provides for better road specifications, enforcement of stronger warranties, lower load limits and direct dedicated taxation of fuels/road usage for repairs and maintenance.

Don't increase the tax on my bread and milk to pay for monies to be spread out over several agencies, to get lost in the general fund, to be mishandled and misused. I agree that something needs to be done about our roads, but this is definitely not it. Until our legislators get this proposal done the right way, with long-term solutions in lieu of short term Band-Aids, I must vote no.

Brad Wolkan
Livonia

Throwing money at roads

I read with interest the recent article on the I-96/U.S. 23 construction project. What particularly caught my attention was the comment that, "MDOT officials said the current interchange isn't geared for today's higher freeway speeds."

I must be wrong, but wasn't the speed limit in the '60s on these freeways the same 70 mph maximum that it is today? Yes. The question should be asked why taxpayers are paying \$70 million for a new interchange when next month voters are

being asked to hike sales taxes to generate \$1.6 billion to fix potholes. Only \$1.2 billion would go to fix roads, the rest for other pet projects unrelated to potholes.

Steep turns and merging traffic on that interchange have been a fact of life for more than 40 years. I know what you're all thinking - why not throw \$70 million at the problem when all we need to do is slow down? Naw. That would be too easy. After all, it's only money, right?

Scott Grigg
Milford

Supports ballot proposal

The Michigan Townships Association supports the May 5 transportation funding ballot proposal and will encourage its members to do the same.

MTA's Executive Committee believes a funding increase is in the best interest of townships and the state as a whole. Townships already spend more than \$186 million a year on roads and bridges, even though they aren't required to do so by law.

Quality roads are a critical driver for Michigan's economic prosperity and for the safety of our residents. MTA plans to work with other organizations in the coming months to actively support this proposal and ensure its approval.

Linda Preston
2015 MTA president

Pork-filled proposal

Why do most proposals, either out of Washington or Lansing, always have to include "pork"? Pork is the term used in politics that basically will buy votes from those who do not support various proposals set forth by either political party.

The proposal, which is to be voted upon May 5, does indeed include pork. The proposal is for \$2 billion of taxpayer money or a one-cent increase in our states sales tax. People who do not drive are getting taxed for something they don't really have a concern for.

Of the \$2 billion, only \$1.3 billion is going to be used to fix the roads. Here comes the pork. Schools will be getting \$300 million of the \$700 million, with \$100 million going to local government revenue sharing and pledges for future spending on local bus, not school buses, and transit agencies (which has nothing to do with our community).

Michigan has a catastrophe fund that has more than enough money in it to fund the road repairs. A tax increase, therefore, is not needed. Gov. Rick Snyder said that there is not a follow-up plan for this proposal.

There is. Quit acting like Washington. We do not need more senseless taxes. Fix the roads, enforce weight restriction on trucks, open up the weigh stations 24/7. Use Department of Corrections inmates to keep the roads litter-free. Use your common sense, governor. Work with the people, not as Washington is doing, working against the people.

Bob Johnson
New Hudson

No more taxes

Enough is enough. I am totally opposed to spending more taxpayer money to support our overfunded schools in the name of "fixing the roads." Gov. Rick Snyder is a "tax and spend" liberal who never saw a tax increase he didn't like.

The Michigan House of Representatives proposed an alternative that would fix the roads with zero tax increases. It

would require re-prioritizing some of our existing spending from over-bloated schools, using sales tax money which was collected at the gas pump for other things than roads, etc.

The reason our roads and bridges are in poor condition today is because spending on roads has been ignored, and the money used for other purposes for years. Having a huge tax increase that only adds to the pork will not fix the roads nor will it provide needed maintenance on our roads and infrastructure.

Please oppose any tax increase for roads. Use existing funds to pay for the roads by prioritizing existing funds. If repairing roads and bridges is our most urgent problem, then let's act like it. Or is there no waste and all of our existing expenditures more important than fixing our roads and bridges?

Gerald N. Wiggins
Salem Township

Truth not denigration

Where did Jack Belisle get his misinformation from? His assertions are not factual. President Obama was never brought up as a Muslim. Initially, he went to a Catholic school run by nuns. There he recited Catholic prayers, even though his white mother and grandparents were Protestant. He certainly did recite the Pledge of Allegiance and sang patriotic songs, as do American schools the world over.

President Obama loved his white mother and grandparents dearly. His grandfather asked his friend Frank Marshall Davis to mentor him in what it was like to be an African-American male, not a communist. Those were the years when many Americans were against the Vietnam war, including many university professors.

While living in Chicago, Michelle and he worshipped at the Rev. Jeremiah Wright's Christian church. Even so, millions of loyal Americans are Muslim and love our country, as do Jews, those of many other faiths, as well as non-believers, all are staunch Americans.

The political opposition went through 35 years of Wright's sermons to find the disparaging comments in a sermon delivered during Wright's militant days. The Obamas never heard this sermon while attending a service. The Obamas quickly disavowed these comments publicly.

We do need to transform this country into the democracy which our forefathers intended, not to be controlled by the super-wealthy who buy elections and ruthlessly dominate at the expense of the poor and our environment. Mr. Belisle may wish to check out true facts at our wonderful South Lyon library.

Delphine Palkowski
South Lyon

Protect public from Wi-Fi

France passed legislation banning Wi-Fi in childcare facilities. At what point does anyone in the United States take any steps to protect our children?

Children's brains are 10 times more susceptible than adults. Just because people want to play with their iPhone in restaurants, why do other people have to suffer in wireless radiation? I have a burning/sizzling sensation every time after being exposed to Wi-Fi. Think about other people, America!

Suzanne Yarbrough
Livonia

NOVI NEWS

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Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
Executive Editor

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Advertising

GUEST COLUMN

How to fix Michigan's roads without raising taxes

Voters will be asked May 5 to consider a ballot proposal that would seek to fix our roads by increasing our taxes. Voters have been told that there are no viable alternatives. After much investigation, I believe that it is important that voters understand that there are indeed alternatives that merit further consideration.

Over the past four years, I served as vice chair of the Senate Transportation Subcommittee on Appropriations. During this period, I have spent significant time with constituents and other legislators studying the deteriorating condition of roads and bridges in our state. Furthermore, I have examined how Michigan's road investments and road quality compare to other states. As a result of these efforts, I have assembled no less than four viable options that would allow us to fix our roads without raising taxes.

The first of these options is to simply ensure that the tax money collected at the pump goes



Sen. Patrick Colbeck
GUEST COLUMNIST

to fixing our roads. One way to accomplish this objective is a blast from the past commonly referred to as the "Bolger Plan." This option had already passed the state House of Representatives last year, but was replaced by the current road plan in the Senate. Among other things, this plan would ensure that 100 percent of the taxes raised at the gas pump would go toward fixing our roads. Another way to accomplish this objective is what I refer to as the "Proos Plan" after legislation offered by Sen. John Proos in previous legislative sessions that restricts the 17 percent of general fund revenue collected at the pump via the sales tax to road construction. This legislation has already been passed previously by the Senate. Either of these approaches would yield an additional \$150 million per year starting in the first year.

The second option is to

simply prioritize the spending of existing funds. This option features freezing general fund budgets with projected increases except for K-12 education, allocating 100 percent of "one-time" spending to roads, using the Budget Stabilization Fund to "stabilize the budget" and open up several restricted funds to allow usage of their fund balances to offset road maintenance costs. This option would add \$669 million to our road budget in the first year.

The third option is to reduce our expenses. These expense reduction opportunities can be broken down into MDOT cost reductions, non-MDOT government cost reductions and the removal of federal regulations that drive the cost of road construction. This option would not only address the quality of our road construction as a means of reducing total life-cycle costs; it would also address the quality of our government operations. This option would yield at least another \$53 million to our road budget in the first year.

The last option is simply an "all of the above" option. All told, we have the opportunity to put \$869 million toward fixing our roads in year one and apply over \$1.4 billion toward maintaining our roads for each subsequent year.

I have focused on first year spending because, as a public safety issue, I believe that we need to demonstrate that we are committed to fixing roads as quickly as possible. The options outlined above would enable us to put \$869 million toward fixing roads in the first year without raising taxes. For comparison purposes, Proposal 1 would only put \$434 million toward the roads in year one and

that is after increasing the taxes you pay by \$1.7 billion. In other words, the sum total of these options improves the safety of our roads more than twice as fast as the ballot proposal – and it does so without any tax increases.

As a fellow taxpayer, I believe that these options deserve more consideration than the current dismissive commentary would indicate. I encourage you to take time to explore these four alternatives. There may be some who are opposed to these alternatives simply because they don't believe that there are the votes needed to pass them. As engaged citizens, it is our duty to keep pressing and ask

"why?" Why are film credits a higher priority than roads? Why are we putting money away into restricted funds that sustain lower priority programs at the expense of putting more resources toward road construction? Why don't we build roads that last longer? Who should be pinching pennies, families or government?

It is important for us all to realize that there are indeed ways to fix our roads without taking more money out of your wallets. More information on these options is available in the Solution Center at Morningin-Michigan.com.

Patrick Colbeck is a state senator for the 7th District.

Where's the lake?



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Looking north from Novi's Pavilion Shore Park yields a view much fog and not much lake April 9. The 11-acre park on the south shore of Walled Lake officially opened in August 2013 and offers walkway paths, picnic seating and a fishing pier.



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2 + 1 = 3: Mathnasium owners add Northville location

By Cal Stone
Staff Writer

With the opening of their Northville location last September, Patrick Figurski and Joe DeFlorio now have in this area three Mathnasiums, a math learning center that helps students improve math skills, test scores and, ultimately, grades.

"Our teaching method is a good balance between individualized instruction and independent work," Figurski said. "This results in increased confidence leading to success, more engagement and even enjoyment."

Its programs include K-8, HS Help and ACT/SAT Test Prep. All programs start with an assessment to identify both the weak and strong areas. For K-8 students, whether it is for catching up or getting ahead, a personalized learning plan is developed to target the areas lacking understanding. The high school program focuses on helping students perform well in their current class.

"The gaps identified from the assessment highlight prerequisite concepts that may need review to help the student with their high school classwork," DeFlorio said. "The ACT/SAT Test Prep is one of the best programs available, resulting in students seeing significant increases in their scores. This is because the best way to ace the test is to know the math. Therefore, we pinpoint the critical areas of need and focus on helping them achieve understanding."

Why, what and where?

After working in the corporate world for several years, the two men decided to pursue something that would make a tangible difference in the community. Their com-



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mathnasium owners Joe DeFlorio (left) and Patrick Figurski have opened their math tutoring shop at the northwest corner of Six Mile and Haggerty roads in Northville Township. The pair also manage Mathnasiums in Livonia and Novi.

bined experiences of engineering and education were a natural fit for pursuing math education.

After doing some research and finding out the United States was ranked 29th in the world in math (since then the U.S. has dropped to 32nd), it became a clear indication that this was an area that needed some help.

"We investigated all the options available and were especially impressed with Mathnasium's curriculum and teaching methods," Figurski said. "We opened our first center in Novi in 2009, followed by a second center in Livonia in 2010. Northville was always on our radar screen, but we weren't able to find the right location, until recently."

They said they've always wanted to locate a center in this area because Northville places such a high priority on education. This was supported by many requests from a number of Northville clients already driving to attend the Novi and Livonia centers.

"Unfortunately, when we were looking back in 2009 and 2010, there just weren't any locations available," DeFlorio said.

"We continued watching and waiting for the right place and now we're excited to add Northville to our family of Mathnasium Math Learning Centers that we own and operate."

Math-only approach

They say there are a number of things that make their business unique, but the most important item is that they *only* teach math. This allows them to focus 100 percent of their efforts on ensuring the methods are consistent and at the highest possible level. All of the instructors are math experts and are required to demonstrate their proficiency through formal assessments.

Students who are struggling with the black and white nature of math require important nurturing techniques that are extensively covered in the instructor training program. "Getting a student to understand math and become confident requires a lot more skill than just knowing math," Figurski said.

"Since we only focus on math, we are the experts on how to help your child become successful at math. A good math pro-

gram cannot be diluted with other topics that may compromise the learning process."

They often tell prospective parents that their child, after a few weeks, will actually start to enjoy math and look forward to attending – and this is after they have, in some cases, literally dragged their child into the center.

"Of course, they always look at us and roll their eyes and say, 'Yeah, right' and write it off as some poor attempt at a sales technique," Figurski said. "However, in almost all cases, we will have parents come up to us in about a month and tell us that they simply can't believe it, but their child is starting to not only like math, but begin to choose attending Mathnasium over other events when it comes to a choice due to conflicts."

"The reason why children start to enjoy math at Mathnasium," DeFlorio said, "is because we meet them at *their* level, not at a too advanced or way too easy level. Also, our number-sense techniques help them to see math in a way that makes sense to them. And finally, there is no judgment regarding what they don't know, only nurturing and positive encouragement."

DeFlorio said there are always continuous improvements, but the core principle of the curriculum has remained essentially constant – teach math in a way that makes sense to them.

"Since we opened our first center in Novi in 2009," he said, "we have acquired even more information on the variety of inhibitors that contribute to students having difficulty with understanding math. As we learn more about various challenges that the students have with math, we continually tweak the curriculum and our

methods to further improve how we may help the students 'see' how the math works."

Because the Mathnasium method is individualized for each student, this knowledge is directly applied to the creation of each student's learning plan.

"We don't crank out cookie-cutter plans to force fit into each student, but rather we custom tailor the learning plan to meet each student's math capability and learning method," Figurski said.

When people don't have the extra disposable income, they tend to cut back on their spending. However, DeFlorio and Figurski have discovered that parents tend to make education a top priority. In many ways, they say, the recession solidified the need for a good education.

"It can provide a leg up on the multitude of candidates vying for the same position, whether it be to a good college or later a job in the career of their choice," DeFlorio said. "What better way to prepare your child for a successful future than to position them for being accepted in the schools of their choice?"

The business side

While corporate Mathnasium tends to focus its marketing on K-8 students, which is a very good program with excellent results, DeFlorio and Figurski will be working to get out awareness on their excellent high school programs.

"The ACT/SAT program, in particular, has demonstrated phenomenal results," Figurski said. "Our approach to prepping for these tests is much different than most programs that utilize the large classroom approach focusing on test-taking 'tips and tricks' rather than *knowing* the math – and at a

Mathnasium

Address: 17939 Haggerty Road, Northville MI 48168

Owners: Patrick Figurski, Joe DeFlorio
Hometowns: Novi, Wyandotte

Business opened: Northville, September 2015; Livonia, November 2010; Novi, October 2009

Employees: 12
Hours: 4-8 p.m. Monday through Thursday during school year; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and 4-7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday during summer

Specialty: Individualized math instruction for students in all grades, including ACT and SAT test prep.
Phone: Northville, 866-285-4188; Novi, 855-243-7086; Livonia, 855-274-1193

Website: www.mathnasium.com/northville, www.mathnasium.com/novi, www.mathnasium.com/library

more affordable price."

After opening their third location in just six years, these business owners have solid advice for others: Do something you are passionate about and can work toward being the very best.

"We believe Mathnasium has the best curriculum and methods for students to learn and improve their math skills," Figurski said. "We love what we do and go to extreme lengths to make sure students are getting the most out of each session they attend."

"When you enjoy and believe in what you do," DeFlorio added, "you will have no problem meeting the long hours required to run a successful small business."

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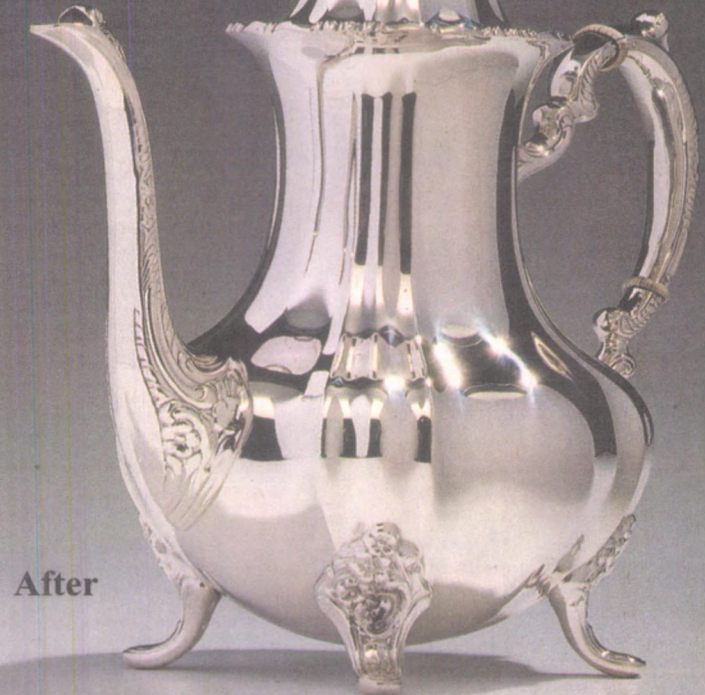
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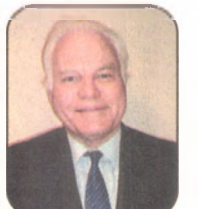
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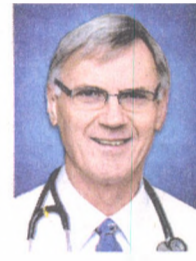
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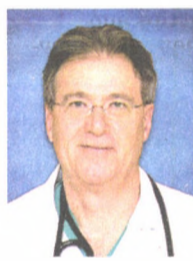
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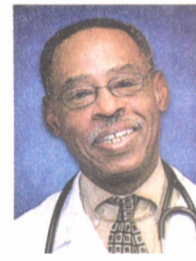
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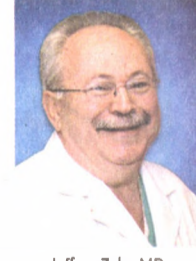
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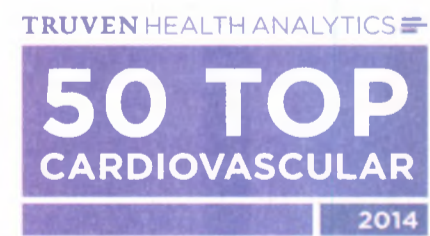
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Smoked Chicken Carbonara

ROAD RACING

Born to run: Ornelas finds niche in ultras

USATF 50K Road National champion is Boston-bound

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Zach Ornelas isn't joking when he says his one-to-one teaching duties during the day at Northville's Brightmont Academy often require more energy than running a marathon.

"I've learned how to run after eight, nine hours or more of teaching different students all day," said the newly crowned USA Track and Field 50-kilometer Road National Champion. "But I think in the teaching environment, I'm doing less mileage now because I'm not a collegiate runner anymore because I don't have all that excess time. Teaching all day is like extra mileage, then I go and run after work, so obviously it's an en-

durance type of day, so I think it's helping me in these long races."

The 23-year-old Ornelas, a native of Cedar Park, Texas, who ran four seasons of cross country and track as a distance runner at the University of Michigan, recently dipped his toes into ultra running and appears to have found his niche.

His first attempt came during the 2013 *Detroit Free Press* Marathon, where he won with a time of 2 hours, 20 minutes, 11 seconds.

In 2014, Ornelas upped his mileage and showed even more potential by placing sixth in the

Cayuga Trail 50 Mile, which served as the USATF 50 Trail National Championship, while taking another sixth against a strong field at the Flagline Trail Fest in the USATF 50K Trail National Championship.

50K champion

But his breakthrough came March 1 at Caumsett State Park (N.Y.), where he became the 2015 USATF 50K Road National champion when he posted a clocking of 2:52.17 on the 10-loop course that covered exactly 31.0686 miles.

The time was the sixth-fastest by a North American and just two minutes slower than the second-fastest clocking.

"The 50K, I surprised myself," said Ornelas who graduated from U-M in December 2013 with a degree in education.

See ORNELAS, Page B4



Zach Ornelas braved 17-degree weather recently on Long Island Sound to post the sixth fastest time ever by a North American in a 50-kilometer race.



Ornelas

LOCAL SKATERS BOUND FOR TOKYO

Ice dancers Chock and Bates just scratching the surface

Team Trophy competition for World silver medalists

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

It's their last major competition of what could only be categorized as a highly successful season for ice dancers Madison Chock and Evan Bates.

Coming off a satisfying runner-up finish in the International Skating Union's World Championships held last month in Shanghai, China, the duo - who train at the Novi Ice Arena - will be in Tokyo this weekend to defend their 2013 title at the ISU's World Team Trophy of Skating.

The 22-year-old Chock, who graduated from Novi High in 2010, looks forward to a uniquely different style of competition, which pits the top men's, ladies, pairs and ice dancers from the top six skating countries in the world.

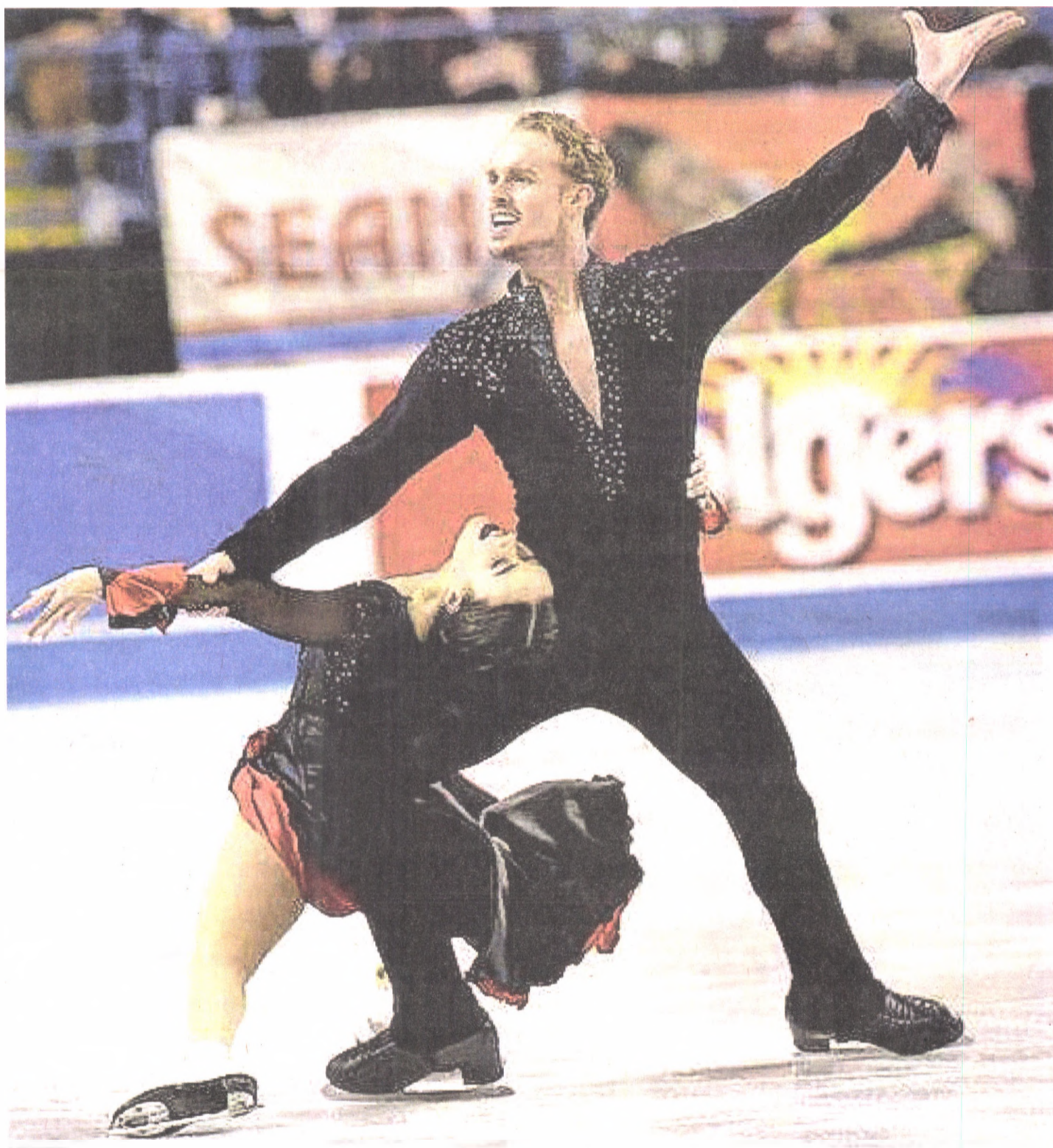
"You really bond with your team more and the other teams, because there's only a certain few of us there because it's a smaller team," Chock said. "You cheer on your team, you cheer on other teams that skate well, too, so it's a fun event. Everyone has a great time. You can dress up and have as much team spirit as possible because there's an award for that, too, at the end."

The 26-year-old Bates, who graduated from the University of Michigan in 2013 with a degree in organizational studies, has been named captain for Team USA, which also includes Max Aaron and Jason Brown, men's; Gracie Gold and Ashley Wagner, ladies; Alexa Scimeca and Chris Knierim, pairs.

Team dynamic

The World Team Trophy is also special in many ways and could be categorized as one of international skating's majors.

"It is, in a sense, because it happens only every other year," Bates said. "And most every event other than the Olympics is on the calendar every season, so the World Team Trophy has a lot of importance to us. It's the only time we get to compete



The ice dance team of Novi's Madison Chock and Ann Arbor's Evan Bates placed second recently in Shanghai, China, at the World Championships.

EVAN BATES

See ICE DANCING, Page B5

BOYS GOLF PREVIEW

CC's Piot brothers drive state title aspirations



GREGORY JOHNSON | GAM

Catholic Central's James Piot placed sixth in last year's state finals for the Division 1 runner-up.

Novi, Northville hope to contend this year as well

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

One stroke made all the difference last year.

That's what separated Novi Detroit Catholic Central from its first MHSAA Division 1 boys golf state championship since 2010.

The Shamrocks were edged for the title by Swartz Creek, 584-585, but return three of their top five players, led by the brother combination of James and Glenn Piot Jr., along

with sophomore Ben Smith.

"Everyone took it to heart. It was definitely a tough loss at the end of last season," said Glenn Piot, a first team Division 1 all-stater who signed in November to play at Michigan State.

INSIDE

Capsule outlook of area golf teams, B3

Glenn Piot was the winner of the 2014 Michigan Junior PGA Championship and was an alternate at the 2014 U.S. Junior Amateur qualifier. This summer, he also placed second at the AJGA Memorial Junior and tied for ninth at the AJGA Junior at Forest Lake

Country Club.

"I think he'll have a phenomenal year and he's got a great opportunity to step right in at Michigan State," CC third-year coach Mike Anderson said. "I'm close with program. I played there (1987-91) and I know the coach (Casey Lubahn) well and they're really excited to have Glenn coming there. He's got the type of game where he can step right in and play. He shoots good scores and, with the short game he has and if he keeps it in play off the tees, he's going to have a great round."



PIOT FAMILY

The Shamrocks' Glenn Piot Jr. earned Division 1 all-state honors as a junior for the state runner-up team.

See GOLFERS, Page B3

PREP TRACK AND FIELD

Shamrocks take down arch-rival Brother Rice

Catholic Central stops Warriors in dual meet to end four-year skid

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Novi Detroit Catholic Central used spring break to its advantage Monday as the Shamrocks opened their boys track season against rival Birmingham Brother Rice with a 76-52 dual meet victory.

"We came out ready to run, basically, because we've been home," said Tony Magni, who is in his 41st season as CC's head coach. "We practiced very, very well all last week and some of his kids (coach Bob Stark) were on spring break at Brother Rice. We been practicing and ready to run. I think the intensity was up there and, hopefully, we can keep it up."

Each team captured eight events, but CC picked up valuable points with seconds and thirds to clinch the Catholic League Central Division dual meet.

Donovan D'Amore was a double-winner for the Shamrocks, sweeping the 110- and 300-meter hurdles in 15.5 and 42.2 seconds, respectively. Another double-winner was Mike Misiak in the shot put (47 feet, 1 inch) and discus (130.9).

CC also got firsts from Lance Yassay in the high jump (5-8) and Brian Clark in the 3,200 run (10:20.0).

The Shamrocks' 3,200 relay team of Avery Felty, Brendan Canavan, Bailey Hobson and Scott Smith also won easily in 9:14.0.



Catholic Central's Ike Marchie finished runner-up in the long jump with a leap of 19 feet, 8.5 inches in Monday's dual against Brother Rice.

Another key contributor to the victory was senior Ike Marchie, who took second in the long jump (19-8.5), high jump (5-6) and 110 hurdles (15.7). He also teamed with Beau Bushart, Brett Manoogian and Brendan Smith for a victory in the 400 relay (45.3).

Other second-place finishers for CC were Chris Bradbury, discus (124-10), Anthony Schluentz, 300 hurdles (44.1); Bushart, 200 (23.9); Canavan, 800 (2:07.5);

Scott Smith, 1,600 (4:43.2); and Alex McLaren, 3,200 (10:22.0).

The Shamrocks were also able to overcome the sterling performance of Rice senior Chiebuka Onwuzurike, who captured the long jump (20-3.5), 100 dash (11.4) and 200 (22.3), while also anchoring the first-place 800 relay (1:34.4).

"The kids ran well and they responded very well to the pressure," Magni said. "We haven't beaten them in four years and I

just told them, 'If we keep it close, that we can get the seconds and thirds, we could sneak in there.' We swept the highs and lows (hurdles) and the the (3,200). That kind of thing really helps obviously."

CC returns to action 9 a.m. Saturday in the April Showers Relays at Dexter before traveling Monday to take on Central Division foe University of Detroit-Jesuit.

bemons@hometownlife.com

PREP BASEBALL

Hartwig homers twice as CC splits with Rice

Plymouth also takes pair in spring break DH vs. Shamrocks

After falling 10-0 in the opener, Novi Detroit Catholic Central came out swinging in the nightcap to earn 13-10 victory in eight innings and gain a split of its Catholic League Central Division baseball doubleheader Saturday against visiting Birmingham Brother Rice.

Davis Feldman pitched the shutout, while Karl Kauffman paced the offense three hits as Rice cruised to the 10-run mercy rule victory in Game 1. John Garry and Reese Trahey each added two hits to pin the loss on CC starter Grant Hartwig.

However, it was a different story in Game 2 as Hartwig collected three hits and five RBIs, including the game-tying three-run homer in the top of the seventh and a two-run homer in the eighth as the Shamrocks prevailed in eight

innings, 13-10. Jordan Jenkins also contributed three hits, including a solo homer, while Mike Scott and Justin Green contributed two hits apiece as CC improved to 2-6 overall and 2-4 in the league.

Dante Toppi pitched 4½ innings in relief to pick up the victory, while Hartwig came on to get the final two outs and the save.

Nick Plummer led Rice (9-1, 5-1) with three hits, while Preston Pilat, Steven Ring, Trahey and Garry added two each.

PLYMOUTH 6-1, DETROIT CC 2-0: Pitching was the name of the game as the Wildcats (4-3) swept a non-league doubleheader April 8 from host Novi Detroit Catholic Central (1-5).

Patrick Downing threw a complete game four-hitter and struck out seven over seven innings as the Wildcats captured the opener, 6-2.

Pete Carravallah went 3-for-3 at the plate to pace a 13-hit Plymouth attack, while Andrew Hejka, Kevin Anthony and Cam Stella each went 2-for-4.

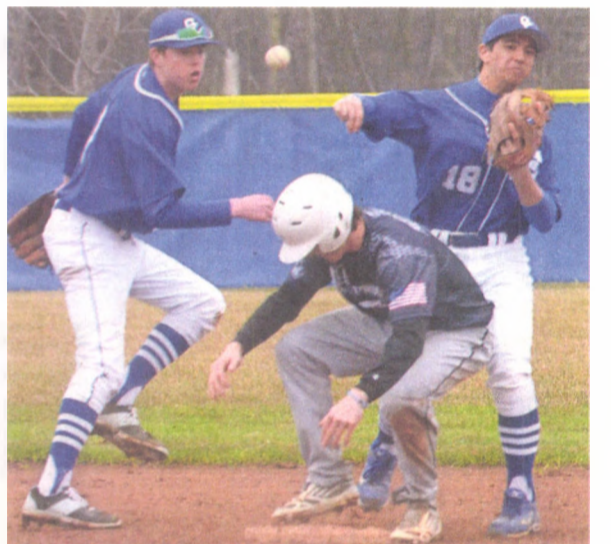
CC used four pitchers, while allowing just one walk, as starter Luke Hargis suffered the loss.

Justin Green and Nick Marcon each collected two hits for CC.

In Game 2, Kyle Wolter limited the Shamrocks to just two hits and struck out six as the Wildcats edged CC in five innings, 1-0.

Luke Hirshman collected the only RBI of the game for the Wildcats.

The Shamrocks used three pitchers with Jack Hintze taking the loss.



Catholic Central's Luke Hargis (left) and Sean Garica (right) turned a double play in the third inning against Plymouth. Retired at second base on the play was Cameron Stella of the Wildcats.

PREP BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Novi gets past Hartland, 6-5

Prystash's big day lifts Northville past Detroit Western, 9-4

Jack Reilly's two-run single in the top of the sixth inning proved to be the difference as Novi's baseball team improved to 4-3 overall with a 6-5 triumph Monday at Hartland.

Brendan Wexler also went 2-for-4 with two RBIs as the Wildcats overcame a 4-3 deficit with two runs in the sixth and one in the seventh.

Novi starter Jason Pastore, who pitched the first 5½ innings, earned the victory. He allowed four earned runs on five hits and three walks while striking out four.

Joey Carn came on for two-thirds of an inning allowing one run on one hit and a walk, while Scott Beaton earned the save as the gave up one hit and got the final two outs in the bottom of the seventh after Hartland pulled within a run.

Hartland starter Nathan Lohmeier pitched the first five innings, but didn't get the decision as reliever Richard Bortle, who gave up two earned runs on three walks in two-thirds of an inning, took the loss.

Max Cadman went 3-for-4 with a triple and four RBIs for the Eagles (2-1).

Mustangs prevail

Zach Prystash was the winning pitcher in relief and also went 2-for-4 and scored three runs Monday as host Northville (4-0) topped Detroit Western International (2-1) in a non-league game, 9-4.

The Mustangs used six different pitchers,

with Nate Wixon throwing two scoreless innings, while Prystash, Chris Dunn, Dugan Darnell and Ian Borthwick also kept the Cowboys off the board.

"We played well for not playing a game in a while," Northville coach John Kostrzewa said. "I thought we played pretty good defense and threw strikes. A lot of guys had a chance to throw. We made a couple defensive mistakes that we have to clean up. When Western scored, we came right back in and were able to put some runs back up, which I was really happy to see. It's something we talk a lot about."

Tyler Lowe also had a big day at the plate for Northville going 2-for-4 (both doubles) with three RBIs. Connor Walters, Nick Zalewski, Steve Grosz and Darnell also knocked in runs.

"Offensively, we put ourselves in good position to score runs, but we're a little undisciplined at times," Kostrzewa said. "We did have a number of people contribute up and down the order, which was a definite positive, and had some timely hits when we needed them."

Carlos Avina (RBI) and Marcos Moncivais each collected two hits for Western.

Novi goes 2-1

The Wildcats nearly completed the hat trick in Saturday's tripleheader at Coldwater.

Novi captured its first two games against Fremont (Ind.), 4-3, and St. Clair Shores Lake Shore, 3-2, before falling to Hamilton, 8-3.

Spencer VanKirk's punt single scored Jason Pastore with the game-winning run in the bottom of the fifth inning to give the Wild-

cats the win over Fremont (3-2) in the tourney opener.

Scott Beaton also went 2-for-4, while Mike Ninkovich added an RBI for Novi.

Sophomore Alec Bageris, who came on for starter Jack Colliu in the fifth, pitched three scoreless innings to pick up the victory. Bageris gave up four hits to go along with one strikeout and no walks.

Colliu worked the first four innings and allowed two earned runs on four hits. He struck out seven and walked one.


In Game 2, Beaton delivered the game-winning RBI single and Bageris added an RBI sacrifice fly as the Wildcats had only two hits, but took advantage of five Lake Shore errors to earn the victory.

Beaton, the winning pitcher, allowed just one hit, a walk and one unearned run over the first four innings. He came on in the fourth inning in relief of starter Adam Tobias, who allowed just one hit and two walks with four strikeouts during his three innings of work.

But in the finale, the Wildcats (3-3) had their three-game winning streak snapped by Hamilton, which scored four runs in the third inning and three more in the bottom of the fifth.

Michael Mitchell (2-for-3, RBI sacrifice fly), Noah Matthews (2-for-3, RBI) and Joey Carn (RBI) accounted for the three Novi runs.

Ninkovich, the losing pitcher, allowed five earned runs on eight hits. Reliever Jack Reilly gave up three runs (all unearned) in 1½ innings, while Brent Geiger came on to get the final four outs with a pair of strikeouts.



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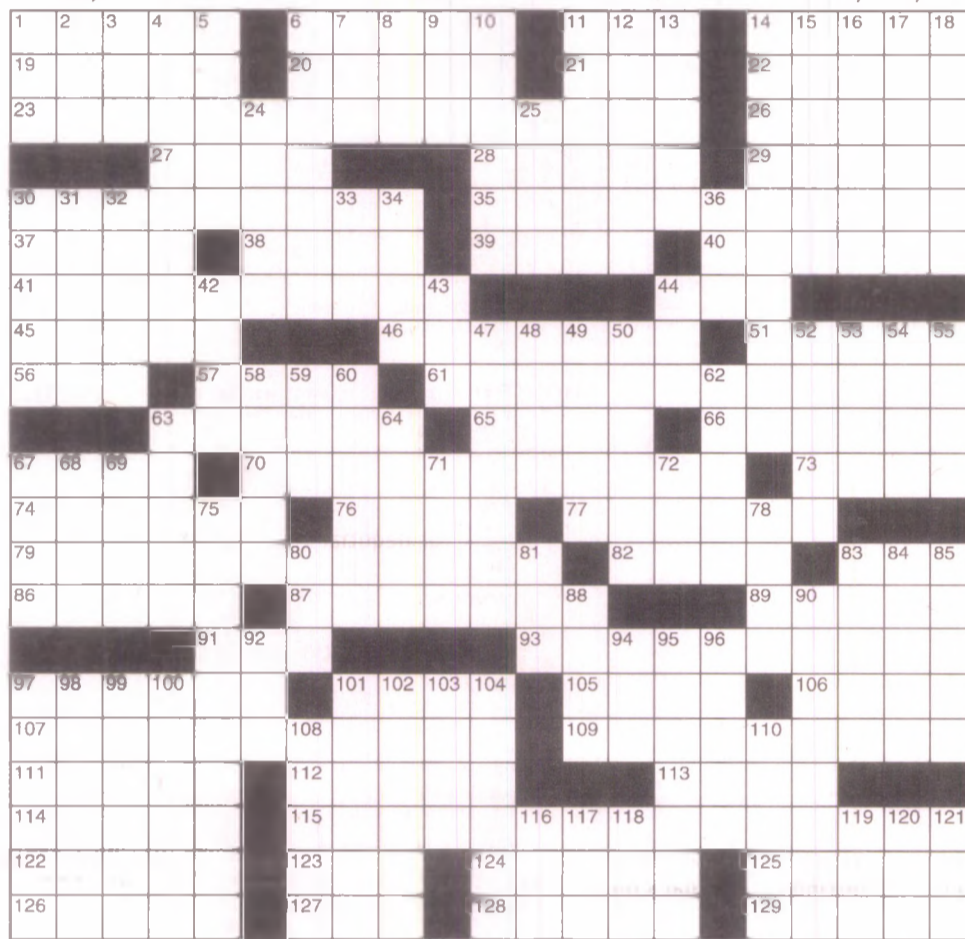


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Crossword Puzzle

Taking Out the Middle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Musical pace
 - 6 — you note
 - 11 Looker's leg
 - 14 LaBelle with a Grammy
 - 19 Oak seed
 - 20 Perfume queen
 - 21 Pal, to Gigi
 - 22 One of the Three Musketeers
 - 23 LOUIS
 - 26 Painter Dufy
 - 27 Co. heads
 - 28 Zero in (on)
 - 29 What a white flag signifies
 - 30 Speed
 - 35 LLOYD
 - 37 Make — out of (toughen up)
 - 38 Jogger's gait
 - 39 Pre- — (bump, so to speak)
 - 40 Candle blowers' secrets
 - 41 CAROL
 - 44 Caesar of old comedy
 - 45 Severe
 - 46 Hides from view
 - 51 Swan's kin
 - 56 Copy a bunny
 - 57 "Nuts" director
 - 61 CHRISTIAN
 - 63 Pep rally cry
 - 65 Tarot card reader, e.g.
 - 66 Singer Donny
 - 67 Folk knowledge
 - 70 JESSICA
 - 73 In the matter of
 - 74 Assembly with all members present
 - 76 Language of Bangkok
 - 77 Pastor's talk
 - 79 WASHINGTON
 - 82 Wren's home
 - 83 "Mike & Molly" aier
 - 86 Adams of photography
 - 87 Small carpet
 - 89 "Ulysses" star Milo
 - 91 Cumulative pay abbr.
 - 93 JEAN
 - 97 Cuba's Fidel
 - 101 Some jeans, familiarly
 - 105 "No, mein Herr"
 - 106 Peruvian of long ago
 - 107 CONAN
 - 109 Tropical grassy plains
 - 111 Kettle output
 - 112 Brand of fat replacer
 - 113 University in North Carolina
 - 114 1836 siege setting
 - 115 CARLOS
 - 122 Justice Ruth — Ginsburg
 - 123 Highway with a no.
 - 124 Leek relative
 - 125 With 59-Down, crude oil, in slang
 - 126 Deep pit
 - 127 Sun — -sen
 - 128 "— Hope" (old ABC soap)
 - 129 Build, as a building
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Paving gunk
 - 2 Prefix with car or warrior
 - 3 Unruly throng
 - 4 District police station
 - 5 How right turns are often allowed
 - 6 Mosaic tile
 - 7 DDE's forerunner
 - 8 Lunched, e.g.
 - 9 It's east of Calif.
 - 10 Painter Georgia O'—
 - 11 It's removed for a fill-up
 - 12 Total number
 - 13 Capital of Belarus
 - 14 Pheasants' cousins
 - 15 1980s video game consoles
 - 16 Despite the fact that
 - 17 "Clever comeback!"
 - 18 Florida keys, e.g.
 - 24 The Lone Ranger's companion
 - 25 Par for the course
 - 30 Hindu prince
 - 31 Mobil rival
 - 32 Settle the tab
 - 33 Boozing sort
 - 34 Fr. ladies with haloes
 - 36 Early 20th-cen. conflict
 - 42 Architect Saarinen
 - 43 "Stop talking!"
 - 44 IRS ID
 - 47 More like a hoarse voice
 - 48 High on the draft list
 - 49 Online folks
 - 50 Grow dim
 - 52 Financial tipster Suze
 - 53 Bears, in Buenos Aires
 - 54 Faxed, say
 - 55 Prefix with spore
 - 58 Response to "Who's there?"
 - 59 See 125-Across
 - 60 Dentists
 - 62 Houses for students
 - 63 Music style
 - 64 Skier Phil
 - 67 Women's links org.
 - 68 Steinhauer who wrote the 2009 bestseller "The Tourist"
 - 69 Antique cars
 - 71 "— Nagila"
 - 72 Sooner than
 - 75 Nasty bits of dirt
 - 78 Nebraska Sioux
 - 80 Ill-bred guy
 - 81 Barbecue spice mix
 - 83 Beijing's land
 - 84 Judge's seat
 - 85 Epic tales
 - 88 Cotton deseeders
 - 90 Less chubby
 - 92 Ontario's capital, on scoreboards
 - 94 Grassland
 - 95 Resident maids
 - 96 Wholly
 - 97 Melon type
 - 98 Place to sculpt in school, say
 - 99 Dependable
 - 100 English river
 - 101 "Blaze" actress Davidovich
 - 102 Tennis shoe hole
 - 103 Israel's flag carrier
 - 104 12th grader
 - 108 Bride's property
 - 110 Nick of "Cape Fear"
 - 116 — old way
 - 117 Actress Wasikowska
 - 118 Gained
 - 119 Firefighter's tool
 - 120 Freddie —
 - 121 Onetime jet-set jet



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Answer to Last Week's Puzzle

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Do's and don'ts for successfully negotiating your salary

DO GET THE MOST YOU CAN, AND DON'T FORGET TO DO YOUR RESEARCH. HERE'S HOW.

You wrote a killer resume. The interview process went off without a hitch. You can feel it: A job offer is coming your way. This is great news, but before you start planning your new commute, there are some final steps to getting the job that you're going to want to focus on—and they all involve salary.

Negotiating your salary offer can be stressful, and you may be worried about turning off the employer by an unknowingly unreasonable salary requirement. Here's what you need to do—and don't need to—when negotiating your salary.

DO research beforehand

You may have a number in your head that you'd like to make, but basing your ideal paycheck on hard facts, such as industry standards, company billings and the availability of quality candidates for that role will get you further in negotiation talks. Cheryl E. Palmer, certified career coach and owner of Call to Career, says, "Employers generally have a range in mind for what they intend to pay a new hire. Job seekers need to do their salary research [...] so that they go into the negotiation process knowing what the market will bear."

Begin your research process by accessing resources like the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook or CareerBuilder Salary Calculator. You'll learn about salary trends, certifications that can get you higher earning power and how competitive positions are in the current market.

DON'T be the first to bring up salary talks

"Whoever mentions salary first loses," Palmer says. "Generally speaking, once one side—either the job seeker or the employer—mentions a dollar figure, the other side is in a stronger position to negotiate. So if the employer asks you what you are looking for, it's best to say, 'Could you tell me what the salary range is for this position?' If you immediately volunteer a dollar amount, the salary discussion will be based on that amount. The converse is also true. If the company representative states a dollar amount first, the salary negotiation process will start from there. Thus, it is your best interest to avoid mentioning a dollar amount first if at all possible."

DO offer a salary range

If you're pressed for a salary requirement, you still have options for negotiating your salary without losing the upper hand. "Don't lock yourself in to a specific dollar amount," Palmer says. Instead, she recommends giving a range that you're open to. "That still leaves you room for negotiation. There is not a lot of wiggle room with a specific dollar amount."

DON'T accept the first offer

If you've managed to persuade the company to offer the first salary figure, remember that it's just that: the first offer. "Usually the first offer is not the company's best offer," Palmer says. "It is generally expected that you will try to negotiate even though the competition for jobs is stiff. You may not be able to negotiate the same salary that you could before the economic downturn, but it is still worth it to negotiate. You don't want to feel taken advantage of after you start your new job."

DO make a strong case

Not all negotiation talks will go smoothly, but that's no reason to be deterred from getting money that's on the table—in any form. "If you are lowballed, negotiate based on how well your qualifications match the requirements of the position," Palmer says. "An employer will not be impressed if you try to negotiate based on what



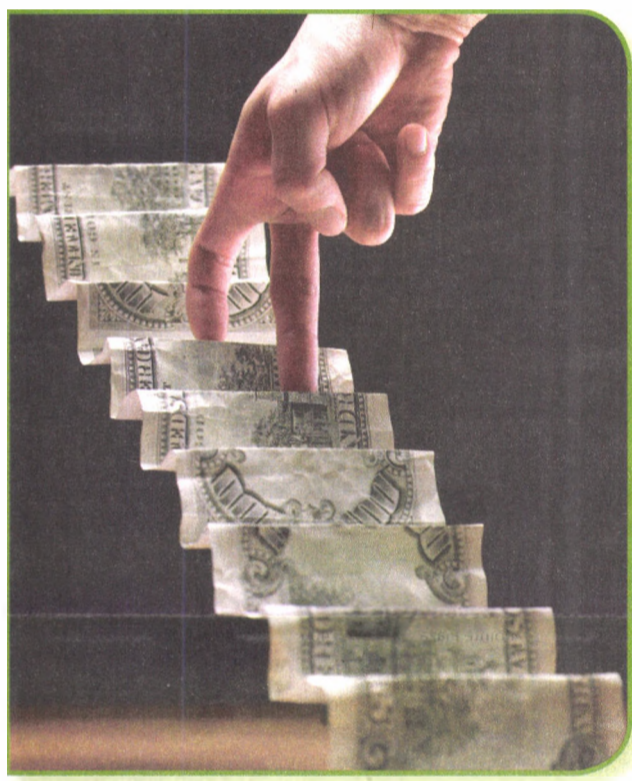
you made previously. The current job market is filled with qualified candidates. However, you are in a strong position to negotiate a higher salary if you are pretty much a perfect match for the position. The best thing to do is to reiterate what the position requires and restate the fact that you have exactly what they are looking for. Then you can say, 'My salary research shows that the going rate for someone with my qualifications and experience is between \$X and \$Y.' This makes your request for a higher salary objective instead of subjective."

DON'T forget to investigate other benefits or perks

If you're not able to get what you want from a monetary perspective, you may still have a few tricks left up your sleeve for negotiating a better employment package. Palmer says, "Health insurance and paid leave are worth money too, and they shouldn't be taken lightly. These can be negotiable. For example, if you already have health insurance through your spouse, you could try to negotiate a higher salary level since the employer will not be paying your premiums. You could also try to negotiate more paid leave, especially if you plan to use that extra vacation time to do consulting work to boost your income."

Though salary talks can be nerve-racking, it's a crucial final step to securing the job and ensuring that you're fairly compensated for your work. And that's a final step you definitely want to take.

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