

Novi News

THURSDAY 05.12.16 || HOMETOWNLIFE.COM || PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



ACADEMIC ALL-STAR
SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE TODAY'S NEWSPAPER

Food drive

This Saturday is the Stamp Out Hunger food drive to benefit local food banks. Letter carriers with the U.S. Postal Service will be collecting non-perishable food items while delivering mail. Those able to donate are asked to leave the donations in a bag at their mailbox by 9 a.m.

Host a kid

Educatus International is looking for families interested in hosting an exchange student coming to Novi High School. Open your hearts and your homes and welcome an international student who is also curious about other countries, cultures and traditions. A monthly stipend will help offset the costs. Contact Sue McGrath at sue.mcgrath@educatus.org for more information.

Safety alerts

Novi Public Safety let's people know if there's a problem on the roadways. Sign up to get email or text alerts online at nixle.com to find out if there's an accident causing traffic backups.

Game plan: State of the City rings up winning numbers

James Mitchell
Correspondent

All jokes aside – and the send-ups of TV contests and quiz shows featured more than a few laughs – Novi Mayor Bob Gatt said the spirit of the satire was well-suited to last week's State of the City address.

"There's a lot we can learn from television game shows," Gatt said. "Sometimes you just need to play the game, put yourself all in and take risks. Most importantly, have fun and live life to the fullest."

Before Gatt took the stage May 3 at the Suburban Collection Showplace, a video introduction featured the mayor, city council members and municipal staff taking part in mock episodes of "The Price is Right,"

"Wheel of Fortune" and other familiar contests. The theme was oft-cited during the review, which put the spotlight on a city that has not only competed, but has aced most categories.

"Today, we come together to take stock of where we've been and where we stand," Gatt said of his fifth State of the City address. "We've overcome the economic challenges of a few years ago and developed into a more dynamic, prosperous community. I am more optimistic about the future of our Novi than ever before."

The 45-minute address that followed provided plenty of justification for that optimism. Compared to doom-and-gloom concerns throughout the state



Novi Mayor Bob Gatt (right) stands with the Spirit of Giving award winner Doreen Poupard at last week's State of the City address.

See ADDRESS, Page A3

PLAYING IN TUNE



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Under the direction of music teacher Julia Saeli, Novi Woods third-graders give a recorder concert for their fellow students and invited family members April 27. The school's fourth-graders gave a concert at the school later in the day.

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INDEX

- Business..... B7
- Crossword Puzzle..... B10
- Education..... A4
- Homes..... B12
- Jobs..... B9
- Obituaries..... A8
- Opinion..... A11
- Services..... B10
- Sports..... B1
- Wheels..... B10

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Volume 60 Number 52

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Bam! Batman creator reflects on a half-century in comics

Susan Bromley
Staff Writer

When Neal Adams first pitched his vision of Batman to a comic editor, it was not well-received.

"He told me to get the hell out of his office," Adams said. "He said, 'What makes you think you know what Batman is?'"

But the artist brought his hero to the page and, 50 years later, it is his rendering that had staying power and is the hero now universally represented, in both print and digital mediums, in an art form that has become a cultural phenomenon.

Adams, 74, billed as one of the greatest comic book artists alive, will be at the Motor City Comic Con this weekend at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

"Did I recreate Batman?" Adams said. "The truth is, I did



Neal Adams, comic artist, will appear at Motor City Comic Con.

the one I remembered as a kid – maybe the cape flows better. They messed up by following the TV show and now Batman, creature of the night, scares villains because they are a cowardly and

DETAILS

Motor City Comic Con is open 12:30-7 p.m. Friday, May 13; 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 14; and 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 15. Tickets for adults range from \$25 to \$35, depending on the day, with a weekend pass available for \$75. Children 5 and younger are free all three days. Children 12 and younger are free Sunday with a paid adult or can get a day pass Friday or Saturday for \$10. VIP and combo packages are also available. For a more complete list of celebrity guests and details, go to www.motorcitycomiccon.com.

worthless lot."

After a half-century in the comics industry, Adams is renowned not only for his work on Batman, but also X-Men, Green Lantern/Green Arrow, Superman and Deadman.

Starting early

His love for comics began before he even started school, when he was reading comics including "Tarzan" and "A Princess of Mars." Captain Marvel was his favorite as a child and he believes kids should be

allowed to read what they want to read, as well as be encouraged to pursue their own artistic endeavors.

"Art is one of the things they teach out of you," Adams said. "You want to draw comic characters and they make you draw landscapes."

He kept at it and, out of high school, he was given work doing Archie joke pages, paid to write, draw, letter and ink for \$32 per page. He stole jokes, taking

See CREATOR, Page A2

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'Safe from the real world,' meet actress Holland Roden

Susan Bromley
Staff Writer



Roden

Holland Roden, who plays Lydia Martin on MTV's "Teen Wolf," will appear May 13-15 during Motor City Comic Con at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi. She answered a few questions for the Novi News via email about her life as an actress, as well as the show:

Q: What led you to become an actress?

Well, I loved storytelling — and I did for fun in high school — I was the Veda in my girl — joining this adult acting class instead of the adult pottery class — and just fell in love with it from there.

Q: What has been your favorite role and why?

Well, getting to play Lydia for all these years because we have grown into young women to-

gether.
Q: What drew you to your current role as Lydia on Teen Wolf?

I liked that MTV and Jeff Davis went for a quirky looking girl to play the "popular" girl — it was originally written for a model "off the runways of Milan" and ha ha well — they certainly didn't end up with that. I appreciate they took that kind of approach — not a conventional one. It makes things more interesting.

Q: What do you like about your character? What do you think fans like about Lydia?

I like that she is always up for problem solving! She loves the idea of wanting to help in her way. I think the fans

like that Lydia has had quite the arc over the past 5 seasons. At least that is what they tell me. But officially, you would have to ask them. :)

Q: What challenges do you face as an actress in portraying this character?

LOL the high heels. Def the high heels. But that's Lydia — always pulling herself together.

Q: When do you film the show and how many hours per day do you spend on set?

We shoot the show most of the year — on most years — and days last anywhere from 13-16 (sometimes occasionally) hours.

Q: What do you think fans would be surprised to know about the show? Any teasers you can give about upcoming story lines?

Fans would be sur-

prised at how long it takes to film — how many different shots are needed for the show. It is a very slow process — ha ha def takes the suspense away when u are filming. The vibe on set is anything but suspenseful — I think that's not expected — we have a pretty happy set environment. :) noooo teasers:;) u know "Teen Wolf!"

Q: What do you see as the future of the show? Do you contribute ideas for stories?

I'm really really really excited for everyone to see 6!!!! It's my favorite!!!! Seriously!!!

Q: Are you often recognized in your personal life and how do you feel about fans approaching you? Do fans expect you to be in character?

Sometimes - it's quite flattering and I'm just grateful that they enjoy

our work.

Q: What do you like and dislike about being an actress? Is this career what you expected it to be?

I don't like the pressure that comes with being incredibly discipline for most actresses — how much scrutiny is out upon us to live our life a certain way. I think that stereotype and expectation is slowly changing, but it's slow. Everything else is a true blessing in this business. To do what our passion is, I think that's everyone's goal isn't it? If u are in that category with loving your job — then that's an ultimate win.

Q: What is your dream role?

Hmm, a long running show. Thankfully "Teen Wolf" is, but also I would love to play more period — '50s, '60s and what

were the issues socially at that time differ so much from today.

Q: How has being an actress changed your life? Has there been a defining moment for you that has solidified your career choice?

LOL, well the defining moment, I don't know if that ever comes for most of us. I currently am safe from the "real world of being an actor," but there will come a day when "Teen Wolf" isn't on anymore or I'm not on it, where u do wonder — that might be my last job, that's it — u never know when or if it will ever be the end. In this business it comes with the territory of this job that there might not be another one. I think only a handful of actors know they are safe from this pitfall but the rest of us are fair game.

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NOVI NEWS
Local News & Information

Novi News (USPS 398920) is published weekly (Thursday) at 29725 Hudson Drive, Novi, MI 48377-1736. Periodicals postage is paid at Novi, MI and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Observer & Eccentric Media, Customer Service, 29725 Hudson Drive, Novi, MI 48377-1736.

Community Office:
29725 Hudson Drive • Novi, MI 48377 • 866-887-2737
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
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Subscription Rates:
Newsstand price: \$1.50 Thursday
Thursday Mail delivery:
\$5.00 EZ pay per month
\$65.00 in county mail per year
\$91.00 out county in state per year
\$98.00 out of state per year

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CREATOR

Continued from Page A1

them out of Jr. Scholastic pages. "No one makes up jokes," he said.

Then came his run on Batman. The character was established, but each artist has his own style. Adams explained it as being called in as a relief pitcher in a baseball game. Someone else had done the first seven innings and he was called in to save the game.

"The difference in this case, they were doing Batman from an old TV show," he said. "It wasn't dramatic or very dark. The TV show had become popular with a lighter, daytime Batman. As a comic fan, I felt that wasn't Batman. Great style, satire and TV show and I loved it, but it wasn't Batman."

It was the late '60s and the comics weren't selling well. After the day he got tossed from the editor's office, he began

working on "The Brave and the Bold," which featured Batman, and letters started pouring in from kids across America. He later got "X-Men" two issues before it was to be canceled and then "Green Arrow."

"I basically showed the good side of these characters and redeveloped them into the 20th century," said Adams, who can draw two or three pages a day and often writes as well. "That's what I am doing right now with Superman. ... The difference with mine is, he has more anatomy, muscles, finds a way to exercise on the basis maybe another Superman will come along and kick some butt, he'd better develop his body and mind. He's a little more handsome. I'm trying to draw one that women would fall in love with."

Changing field

Adams recognizes the influence he can wield through a pencil (he now

rarely does his own inking) and believes the Internet has been a boon to comics, a help instead of the hindrance often seen with industries that originated in print. Digital comics are accessible to a broader audience and those who may never have thought of walking into a comic shop are now doing so after having been introduced to the medium online.

The Internet has animated comics, with moving characters and explosions. Technology has also advanced for print comics, with Adams' new graphic novel "Blood" using lenticular lenses to bring the cover to life as the reader moves the book.

There are 100 comic conventions in America per year that have attendance at each of more than 20,000 people and gaining in popularity worldwide.

Comic conventions are a regular part of the life for Adams now and he admits it's a three-day

circus of awful food, lights blasting in the eyes and yet, to him, it's incredible.

"No one gets drunk, no one shoots anyone, no one punches anyone," he said. "We believe in heroes and they do hard work."

Fans discuss the art and want to know how he can draw so elaborately when they struggle to make a straight line. They want to know why he invented the first black superhero who wasn't a gang-banger (answer: "Because I don't think they're all gang-bangers"). One guy wanted him to know he was on the road to drug addiction and then he read "Green Lantern" and stopped doing heroin.

Ultimately, comic con is for Adams "the whipped cream on top of an ice cream sundae."

The fans have gotten him where he is and will find him happy to talk about his art this weekend. For more information, go to www.motorcitycomiccon.com.

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ADDRESS

Continued from Page A1

and country just a few years ago, Novi last year posted build-and-bloom numbers across most every category. If the community's residents and businesses were contestants "looking to win big," the city made dreams come true and scored top ratings in the process.

"Last year, your city council approved \$250 million in residential developments and more than \$65 million in new research and development facilities," Gatt said, the latter continuing an incoming flow of high-tech jobs.

The numbers continued: In 2015 city planners approved more than 100 new residential site plans, a 30-percent increase from the previous year. Current residents added to the prosperity as more than 500 permits were issued for home improvements.

Business continued booming throughout the city and retailers defied the odds of recent history by posting a near 100-percent occupancy at Novi Town Center and renewed investments at West Oaks and Twelve Mile Crossing. Twelve Oaks mall, a nearly 40-year-old shopping center, continues to thrive in an era when many of its counterparts throughout the state have faded or closed.

Novi's attractiveness to residents and the business community was supported by across-the-board improvements in quality-of-life matters. Public safety has rarely been stronger, Gatt said, with major crime rates at the lowest point in 10 years. The past year saw significant declines, including a 64-percent drop in burglaries, a 55-percent decrease in aggravated assaults and a 22-percent reduction in larcenies. These, Gatt said, were in part made possible by a fully-staffed police department taking a data-driven approach to crime and safety, with assistance by Certified Emergency Response Team volunteers who contributed more than 1,500 hours of service.

The city is hardly in "Jeopardy," Gatt said, a status in which many municipalities remain facing the wake of the economic downturn that challenged the state and nation.

"Residents faced 'Jeopardy' during a recession that many of us had never witnessed," Gatt said. "Today, we're poised to lead from a position of strength and an economic engine that's continuing to grow and prosper."

City officials have been "careful with our finances," Gatt said, and those efforts have paid off in several ways. In 2015, the city's bond rating by Standard & Poor's was increased to AAA, the highest possible, and Novi's market and assessed values were rated at, respectively, 20 and 9 percent, among the best in the state.

"There are only a dozen other governments in Michigan with that rating," Gatt said. "Last month, council lowered the tax rate to 9.95 mills, the lowest in Oakland County. We've been feeling pretty good about this."

Beyond the numbers, Gatt said, were the intangible qualities that put the city in good stead to see continued bottom-line improvements. Novi includes one of the most diverse populations in the region and boasted an increase from 7 to 46 percent diversity in the school system, which is well-reflected in a public library system that regularly offers "story time" sessions in seven languages and hosts language conversation groups for adults.

"In the big scheme of game shows and wanting to win big, Novi is the ultimate prize," Gatt said.

NMS student is on pointe in 'Cinderella'



Marta Vaikaitis, 14, will star in the Academy of Russian Classical Ballet's production of "Cinderella."

Susan Bromley
Staff Writer

Bedazzled pointe shoes, not glass slippers, will adorn the feet of Marta Vaikaitis when she stars in "Cinderella" at 6 p.m. May 21 at the Brighton Center for the Performing Arts.

The Novi Middle School eighth-grader, 14, landed the role after years of dedication and practice. She currently dances three to four hours per day, six days per week, at the Academy of Russian Classical Ballet in Wixom.

"It's a lot, but I really like it because when you dance, that's all you focus on, you forget everything else," said Marta, a ballerina since she was 4 years old, but who upped the intensity in the past year, after learning to go on pointe at 12. "When I'm on

stage, I get a rush because people are watching and it is my time to show what I can do."

Marta previously had roles in "Don Quixote," as well as "Giselle." The academy performs "The Nutcracker" every Christmas season and, in this year's rendition, she had four parts.

However, none of these compares to landing the role of Cinderella, for which Marta learned she was chosen through an emailing of the cast list.

"Ballet is extremely competitive. If you see a teacher compliment another student and not you, you think, 'I want to be better,'" she said. "I was really shocked, because I was playing smaller parts. This is my first major role. They usually give really big roles to older students, not to a 14-year-

old." About 40 dancers ages 5-18 will perform in "Cinderella," along with Colorado Ballet principal Yosvani Ramos, who will play Prince Charming.

"I am excited about the whole thing: the costumes, the dancing, the expression you have to show," Marta said. "In ballet, you have to show what you're trying to say in dance; there is no speaking. The music and movements tell the story. ... I think I will be a little nervous in the wings when I'm about to perform, but when I get on stage, I totally forget being nervous, somehow."

Tickets for "Cinderella" are \$22 each and available at www.brightonperformingarts.com.

sbromley@hometownlife.com

POLICE BRIEFS

Woman uses car alarm as medical alert

A woman who fell and couldn't get back up used her car alarm as a medical alert.

Novi Police responded at about 12:46 a.m. May 2 to a home on Ladene Lane for a noise complaint after it was reported a car alarm had been going on and off for the last hour.

Upon arrival, officers found a woman lying on the floor of her garage, conscious and alert. She said she tripped and was unable to get back up and was using her car alarm to try to

gain the neighbors' attention. She has a medical issue that causes her to lose balance. She was helped to her feet and refused any medical treatment.

Fun

A woman caught shoplifting May 1 at Twelve Oaks mall told the responding police officer she didn't go there intending to steal, but thought it was fun.

The woman was observed by a Lord & Taylor loss prevention officer hiding a pair of \$150 sunglasses and then removing the sensor tag in the fitting room. She also allegedly took two sweaters, concealing one in

her purse and the other in her shopping bag.

She told police she took the sunglasses and "thought it was fun." She then took the sweaters because she did not think she would be caught. The case has been forwarded to the prosecutor's office for a warrant.

Lights out

A driver stopped by a Novi Police officer for a non-working license plate light ultimately found himself in trouble for more than just defective equipment.

The suspect was stopped at about 2:41 a.m. May 3 at Beck

Road and Ardmore Court and provided only a Michigan ID card, saying his license was suspended. He also stated he possibly had open warrants for his arrest.

The officer asked the man if he had anything illegal in the vehicle, to which the suspect responded he had some marijuana in the ashtray. The officer located the marijuana and also found a hand-rolled marijuana cigarette in the suspect's left sock. He was arrested for possession of marijuana.

Compiled by Susan Bromley from Novi Police reports.

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District making progress on these four goals

I had my hip replaced in December. All has gone well with my new hip.

However, I now walk differently, so I have thrown things a bit out of kilter. As a result, I developed plantar fasciitis in the foot of my non-surgical leg. Physical therapy, exercise and time are making it better.

As is often the case in life, things are sometimes unpredictable.

I share this small anecdote because those of us who work for the Novi Community School District are trying to build a school system that is very predictable and highly reliable. It is not that we are trying to create classrooms that all do the same things at the same time. We want creative and energetic classrooms. We want teachers to have the freedom to respond to



Steve Matthews
SUPER TALK

the needs of their students. We want teachers who will take risks and try new things. We want our staff to continually look for ways to improve upon our current practice.

At the same time, we want everyone in our community — parents, students and school staff — to have confidence in our schools. We want those who care about the Novi district to trust that good things will happen every day that students come to school.

That requires that we know and understand what we should focus on. In our district, we know that parents expect

students to learn when they come to our schools. We know that parents and students expect that we will have systems and practices in place that will extend and enhance opportunities for students.

To help us focus, we have defined four goals. These goals drive us every day. The four goals are:

1. The Novi Community School District will ensure that each student will make no less than one year's growth in one year's time.

2. The Novi Community School District will ensure that all students achieve at a high level. (There will be no achievement gaps.)

3. The Novi Community School District will evaluate and enhance opportunities for students while maintaining a minimum 10-percent fund

balance.

4. The Novi Community School District will improve organizational quality and customer service by creating common standards, systems and principles.

I want our community to be able to state with confidence when asked about the Novi Community School District that our district is not only working on these four goals, but that our district is making progress on these four goals.

A highly reliable organization operates in such a way that, no matter what happens, it can deliver on its goals. In Michigan, we operate in an educational environment where there is uncertainty. Within the past month, legislation has been introduced that would change the curriculum standards that we are expected

to teach.

Yet I know that parents and community members do not focus on the uncertainty as much as they focus on the educational outcomes. Parents, students and community members want to have confidence that the schools can deliver upon their promise.

Our commitment in the Novi Community School District is that we will deliver on our promise. Our focus is on ensuring that we make progress on our goals and that parents, students and community members can have confidence that good things happen every day in our schools.

Steve M. Matthews, Ed.D., is superintendent of the Novi Community School District. He can be reached at smatthews@novischools.net.

EMU student hopes to make a difference

Sue Buck
Staff Writer

A 19-year-old nursing student who attends Eastern Michigan University wants to make a difference in the world.

Evan DeMoss is traveling thousands of miles to Zambia from June 17 through July 2 on a mission trip with a 25-member group from Oak Pointe Church in Novi, where he attends.

Zambia is a land-locked country in southern Africa.

DeMoss will volunteer his time working in a temporary medical office.

With a passion for helping others, DeMoss is seeking donations to help pay for the \$4,500 trip. He's raised some money, but he's still short of his goal.

Mark Savedes, owner of Aleko's in South Lyon, learned about DeMoss' need to raise money for Zambia. Savedes offered his restaurant and a complimentary dinner this



Evan DeMoss has a passion for helping others and has done work with his church in the Detroit area for four years. He began doing so when he was in the ninth grade. He participated in a Bible study and a cleanup effort in Detroit.

past Monday to anyone who ate and made a goodwill donation for Evan's trip.

Savedes has volunteered on similar mission trips of his own.

The DeMoss family lives in South Lyon and Evan is a 2015 graduate of South Lyon High School. He plans to volunteer his time working in a temporary medical office.

"He has a passion for helping others and plans to do just that for two weeks in Zambia," said his mother, Shelly DeMoss.

DeMoss said he has long thought about the travel.

"I have wanted to go for a long time," he said. "There's something about going to a third-world country. The needs are so different than in our own. In a third-world country, they literally have nothing. We are going to the poorest part of the world. It gives you a different perspective on life. The families literally have nothing."

DeMoss said that he looks forward to helping the poorest of the poor. There will be two teams of volunteers heading across the ocean.

Faith is also part of the program.

"We will tell them about the Bible," DeMoss said. "They have a couple churches down there."

sbuck@hometownlife.com

Novi prom pics



Pictured are (front, from left) seniors Bradley Huang, Ryan Katulski and Narayan Manivannan and (back, from left) seniors Alexandra Cortez, Ava Bianchi and DeAnna Martynenko.

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Oakmont Common marks Mother's Day with flair

Northville's Oakmont Common senior community celebrated Mother's Day with a high tea.

More than 240 guests — daughters, nieces, granddaughters — attended the event to honor the ladies at Oakmont Common. Reminiscent of an English "high tea," wait staff dressed in Victorian-period costumes to serve a delicious assortment of petit fours, finger sandwiches, scones and specialty teas to guests seated at tables decorated with fine china and fresh floral bouquets.

The theme, "Wedding Memories," was inspired by the love stories of their residents and one very special wedding dress. Resident Pat Hibbard was getting married in 1945 as World War II was ending. One day, she returned home from work and discovered a package on her porch. When she opened the box, an ivory silk parachute came flowing out, along with a note from her future father-in-law. He had received the parachute from a pilot and sent it to her from the Pacific Islands for her wedding dress.

World War II created many shortages and rationing was a new experience for Americans. Everything was used for the war effort. Silk was one of the rationed items of the war and wearing a new silk wedding dress was unheard of. No one knows how many silk parachutes found their way home to prospective brides. Paratroopers were told to quickly rid themselves of their parachutes once they dropped behind enemy lines. They often buried them and later they were found by advancing troops on the ground and sent home when they were no longer needed.

Hibbard was thrilled when she opened her package and took the



Dearborn resident Kathy Harrison (left) attended the Mother's Day Tea with her granddaughter Emma Harrison and her mother Veronica Holden, a resident of Oakmont Common.



Brittney Malewski serves residents Marvella Bonell (left) and Mildred Hall.



Pat Hibbard shows off her parachute wedding gown with her daughter Marcia.

parachute to a local bridal store to have her wedding gown created. Her wedding gown has a sweetheart neckline, a fitted bodice and eight-foot train. She was so grateful to the seamstress that she gave her the remaining silk and her dress was displayed in the shop's window for two weeks.

In an effort to get all of the Oakmont moms into the spirit of the tea, all were encouraged to share their wedding pho-

tos, which were then used as centerpieces for the tables. Three vintage gowns, one from 1924 along with the silk parachute dress and 1940s lingerie was displayed. The festivities began with Marie Rumbley, Oakmont activity director, reciting a poem she wrote to honor mothers. Wedding cake and music were provided by D.J. Joe Spiteri. Executive director Madeline Lipinski also planned the event.

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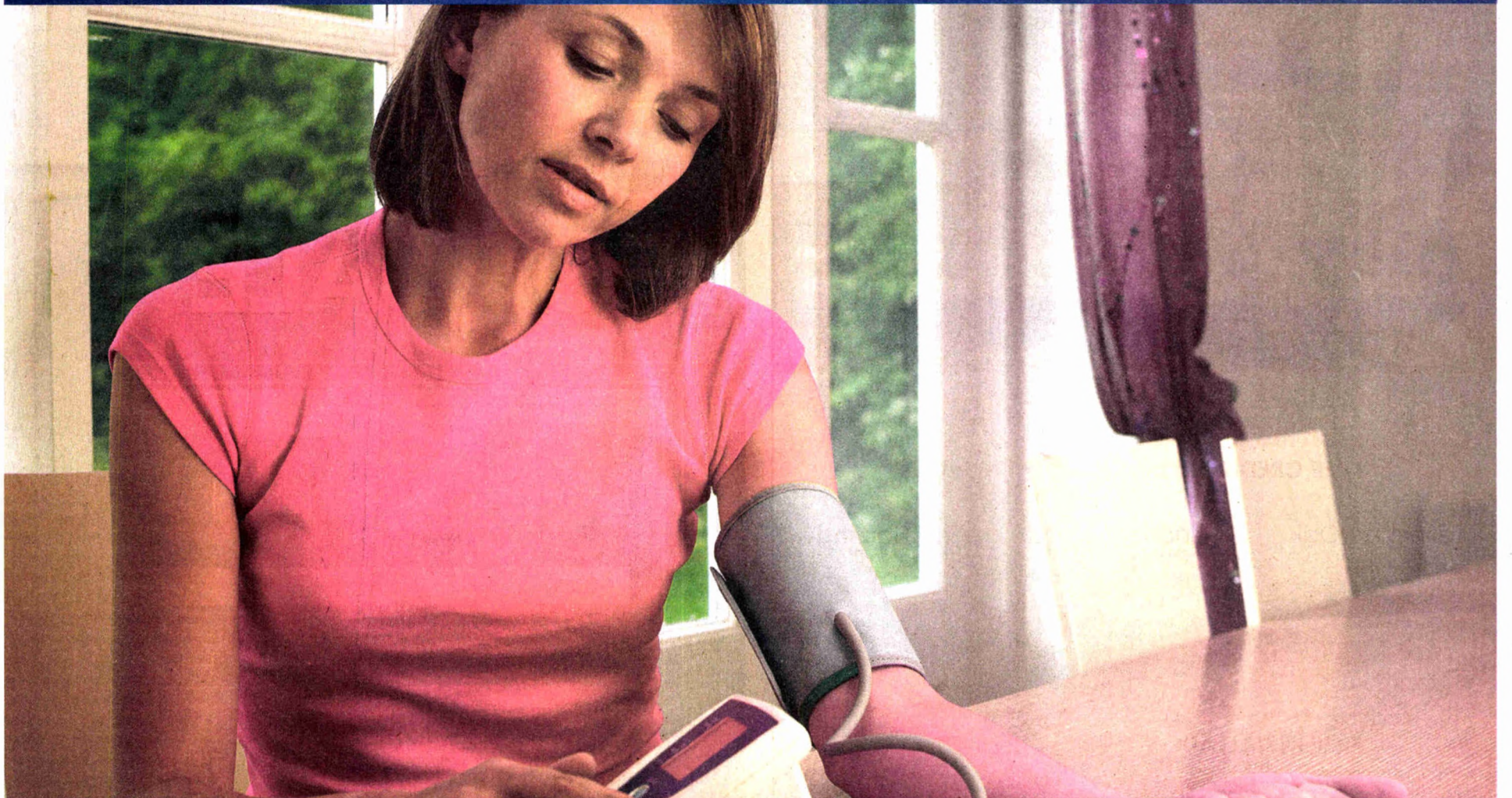
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Email: jean.kelly@stjohn.org



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Annual Farm Fest to take place at Maybury Farm

Danielle Alexander
Staff Writer

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 21, Farm Fest will take place at Maybury Farm.

"This is our biggest event of the year, but this year we have more activities than we've ever had," said Jessica Striegle, executive director of Northville Community Foundation.

For a \$4 admission fee (those 2 and under are free), there will be sheep and llama shearing demonstrations, a building workshop with Home Depot, an art project with the Northville Art House, cheese-making with Taste: A Cook's Place, wool spinning demonstrations, baby animals, garden planting with the Country Garden Club of Northville, face painting, story time and other games and activities for children.

"There will also be hay rides and concessions available for an additional cost," Striegle said.

Farm Fest is a fundraiser for Maybury Farm. The Farm is a program of the Northville Community Founda-



Visiting the animals, including the newly born ones, is just one of many activities for children at Maybury's Farm Fest.

tion, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and receives no tax dollars to operate. This year's sponsors include Aisin Group, Blackwell Ford, Community Financial Credit Union and the Northville Meijer.

"We rely on these big

events in addition to admission fees, donations and sponsors to operate," Striegle said. "But we do try to keep our prices low, so everyone can enjoy the farm."

Maybury Farm is at 50165 Eight Mile Road in Northville.

For more information, go to www.northvillecommunityfoundation.org, select the Maybury Farm tab and scroll down to Farm Fest.

dnalexander@hometownlife.com
248-860-4183

Northville library to host 'Restoring Public Trust' conversation

The Northville District Library will host a Community Conversation discussion at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 17. The conversation is presented by the Center for Michigan, a nonprofit, non-partisan organization. The topic is Restoring Public Trust in State Government.

Attendees can express their ideas and opinions about barriers to trusting state government. Topics include government services, the public purse and taxes, and the political system.

The Center for Michigan's objective with these Community Conversations is to make Michigan a better place by encouraging greater understanding and involvement in policy issues among the state's citizens and making sure their voices are regularly heard. It does this by regularly calling forth citizen views, amplifying those views and projecting them into the halls of power.

To register, call 248-349-3020 or go to the Events Calendar at northvillelibrary.org.

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Lindsey Casterline-Dogonski, manager

LIBRARY LINES

One-on-One Tech Help

Time/Date: Wednesday at 5 or 6 p.m.; Thursday at 1 or 2 p.m.
Details: Get a free, one-hour session with our tech librarian for your computer and device questions. Register online or call 248-349-3020.

Drop-in Super Saturday Storytime

Time/Date: 11-11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 14
Details: Make the most of your weekend with storytime! Join us for stories, music and more all about ocean creatures. Best for children ages 2-4, but all ages welcome. Just drop in!

The Catbird Seat in Concert

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Monday, May 16
Details: Wanda Degen and Kay Rinker-O'Neil perform a variety of tunes, including traditional and contemporary Celtic, Great Lakes and Appalachian folk music, featuring the auto harp and hammered and mountain dulcimers. Register online at www.northvillelibrary.org or phone 248-349-3020.

Community Conversation: Restoring Public Trust in State Government

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 17
Details: Come express your opinions and ideas about barriers to trusting state government services, the public purse and taxes, and the political system. Presented by The Center for Michigan, a nonprofit, non-partisan organization. Register.

Downloading eBooks and more with iPad

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 18
Details: Bring your iPad and learn how to download free eBooks, eMagazines and music from the Library. Bring your Apple App Store sign-in and library card

number and PIN. Registration required.

Hooray for LEGO Day!

Time/Date: 4:30-5 p.m. Wednesday, May 25
Details: Kids in grades 1-5 make a fun hand-sized LEGO creation to be displayed in the youth area of the library.

Kidz Time

Time/Date: 4:30-5 p.m. Thursday, May 26
Details: Fun program for first-, second- and third-graders featuring stories, games and crafts. Register for "Librarian's Choice" of fun stories and activities.

MILL RACE MATTERS

Mill Race Historical Village is at 215 Griswold Avenue, north of Main Street, near Ford Field. Buildings will re-open 1-4 p.m. Sunday, June 12. Grounds open daily dawn until dusk. Mill Race relies on rentals and memberships to maintain the Village. Consider becoming a member or making a donation today; go to www.millracenorthville.org for details.

Upcoming events

Grounds closed for wedding: 3-5:30 p.m. May 14.

Lecture Series: Sand Dunes, Sawdust & Shipwrecks: Stories from the Sunset Shore: 7 p.m. May 25. No fee. Donations accepted. This lecture sponsored by The Knickerbocker Group of Raymond James. Lecture series sponsored by the Water Wheel Centre.

Members Preview Party: 6-9 p.m. June 10. Become a member today.

General info

Website: www.millracenorthville.org
Volunteers: The Northville Historical Society at Mill Race Village accepts volunteers in many different areas. We are in special need of Sunday store clerks and help with our fundraising teas. Students, we're happy to verify your volunteer hours with school or scouts. Please contact the office for more information.

Office: The office is open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. All other times by appointment only. Call 248-348-1845 or email of office@millracenorthville.org.

CITY OF NOVI

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Notice is given that the Novi City Council will be interviewing applicants for appointment to the following Boards & Commissions:

- Beautification Commission
- Housing & Community Development Advisory Committee
- Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission
- Planning Commission
- Zoning Board of Appeals

If you are a registered voter and interested in volunteering to serve on a City Board or Commission, information about the various Boards and Commissions is available at cityofnovi.org or at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375, (248) 347-0456.

The deadline for filing an application (available online at cityofnovi.org or at the City Clerk's office) is Friday, May 27, 2016. Applicants will be contacted by the City Clerk's Office regarding the date and time of interviews.

Maryanne Cornelius, MMC, City Clerk

Published: May 12, 2016

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Milford
248-684-6155

GREGORY CIBOR, DO
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248-465-4782

Bet on JLB to do great things for the community

In honor of Mother's Day, it's very fitting that we spotlight the Junior League - one of the oldest and largest women's volunteer organization in the world, with a membership of more than 150,000. The Junior League of Birmingham is one of 291 chapters on four continents.

The JLB recently held its fourth annual Signa-



Julie Yolles
SOCIAL SCENE

ture Event at the Bloomfield Open Hunt Club. It was a night of gaming and chance and the dice and wheels were rolling and the cards were being dealt past midnight. A

great time was had by all. In addition to a silent auction that night, JLB had a very clever fundraiser where guests could purchase a bottle of wine, donated by JLB members, for \$10.

The Junior League of Birmingham is recruiting new members and looking for volunteers to help out May 13 for a carnival for the kids of CARE House of Oakland



JULIE YOLLES

Novi residents Jason and Erika Schwannecke, Junior League of Birmingham new member development-elect board member.



JULIE YOLLES

Northville residents Simon Esland and Melanie Rand.

County. To volunteer, call 248-203-9841. You can also go online to

jlbham.org and find out about High Tea at the Townsend on May 15 and

the annual general membership meeting May 18.

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Novi

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on the corner of M-5 & W 13
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www.brightmoorc.org
something for the entire family

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24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375
Saturday 4:30 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)
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Fr. Bob LaCroix, Pastor
Fr. Beto Espinoza, Associate
Parish Office: 349-8847 • www.holyfamilynovi.org

Milford

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(an Episcopal Community)
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• Communion 8am & 10am, Sundays
• Nursery, Sunday School 10am
• Bible Study 10:30am, Mondays
stgeorgesmilford.org
801 E. Commerce Street, Milford 48381

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620 General Motors Rd., Milford
Church office: (248) 684-0895
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Bible Study: Sunday 10:45 a.m.
Rev. Martin Dressler

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44400 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-349-2345
1/2 mile west of Novi Rd.
www.faithcommunity-novi.org
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Pastor Steve Swartz
Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 a.m. • Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.
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Wednesdays 6:45-8:15 p.m.
Awards, 3 yrs old thru 5th grade (Sept.-March)
and Youth Group for 6th grade and older
Website: milfordbaptist.org

MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Pastor Bryant Anderson
238 N. Main Street, Milford MI (248) 684-2805
www.milfordpc.org
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School age 3 thru 5th grade @ 10 a.m.
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248-348-7757 • www.mbccc.org
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Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister

OAK POINTE CHURCH
50200 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi
Saturday Worship 5:15 p.m.,
Sunday 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.
Casual, contemporary service
Phone (248) 912-0043
www.oakpointe.org

First Church of Christ, Scientist
All are welcome at all services
905 E. Commerce St., Milford, MI 48381
Sunday Service: 10:30 am
Sunday School ages 3-20: 10:30 am
Children's room: Web & Sun services
Wednesday service: 7:30 pm 248-685-7266

Milford United Methodist Church
1200 Atlantic St., Milford, MI 48381
Sunday Worship: 8:30 am and 10:30 am, 6 pm
Children's Church: 10:30 am
Groups for Children, Youth and Adults
248-684-2798
milfordumc.net

ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI
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Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.
Msgr John Kasza, Pastor
Parish Office: 347-7778

NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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248-349-2652
www.umcnovi.com
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707 High School Wednesdays 7:00-9:00 pm
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Rev. Michael Horlocker, Pastor
www.fpcsouthlyon.org

BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH
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Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Mike Ragan, Pastor
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Sunday Mass 9 & 11AM
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21860 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon, MI 48178
248-437-3585 • www.southlyonccc.org
9:30 a.m. Sunday School,
10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship
Wednesday Midweek Ministries 7 p.m.
Troy Singleton, Minister

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

Northville

First 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.
Rev. Marsha M. Woolley, Lead Pastor
www.fumcnorthville.org

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Sunday School @ 11 am
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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH LYON
60820 Marjorie Ann St., South Lyon 48178
Phone: 248-437-2983
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:30 p.m. • Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Rob Freshour / Assoc. Pastor: Randy Weeks
Website: www.fbcsouthlyon.com
Email: fbcsouthlyon@sbccglobal.net

Our Saviour Apostolic Lutheran Church
54899 8 Mile Rd. at Currie Rd. Northville, MI 48167
248-374-2268
Sunday Worship:
Sunday School at 9:45
10:30 am Fellowship/Coffee
11:00 am Worship Service
Wednesday Bible Study at 7 pm
Pastor Andy Whitten
oursaviouraloc.com

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Religious Education 349-2559
Rev. Denis Theroux, Pastor

first united methodist church south lyon, mi
640 S. Lafayette (248) 437-0760
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11am & 6:30pm
Sunday School: 9:30am
Rev. Sandra Wilhobe, Lead Pastor
southlyonfirstumc.org

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All Classes 9:00
Pastor Scott Miller, (248) 437-1651

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

Shepherd's Way Lutheran Church, ELCA
59255 10 Mile Rd.
South Lyon MI 48178
Sunday Worship 9:30 AM
Rev. Thomas Scherger
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
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Brighton

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Reed Heckmann, Pastor/Teacher
www.solidrocksouthlyon.com

MILFORD ROAD CHRISTADELPHIAN ECCLESIA
"Brethren in Christ"
Sunday 10:00 AM
24610 Milford Road, South Lyon 48178
248-486-4858
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For more information regarding this directory, please call
Janice Brandon at 248-926-2204
or email: jkbrando@michigan.com



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Responsible lawn care can protect water quality



Paulette Alioa
 GUEST COLUMNIST

Did you know that how we care for our lawn and landscaping has an effect on our local water quality? Here's how we connect the dots between lawn care and our water system.

Novi is part of two different watershed areas that drain into the Rouge and Huron rivers and, eventually, into Lake Erie. Our watersheds include natural lakes and streams and man-made drainage systems, like storm sewers. Rainwater that falls on lawns, hard surfaces such as driveways and sidewalks creates runoff that can carry potentially harmful fertilizers and other pollutants into our lakes, streams and drainage system, directly affecting the local water systems.

Phosphorus has long been one of the most troublesome pollutants carried by runoff to Michigan surface waters, causing toxic levels of algae blooms, thus reducing oxygen needed for healthy aquatic life. Consequently, a state law was passed in 2012 restricting phosphorus in lawn fertilizers.

By following these practices, or hiring a service company that does, you can contribute to keeping our water clean:

- » Use phosphorus-free, slow-release nitrogen fertilizers – the middle number on the bag should be 0. The other two numbers indicate nitrogen and potassium content.

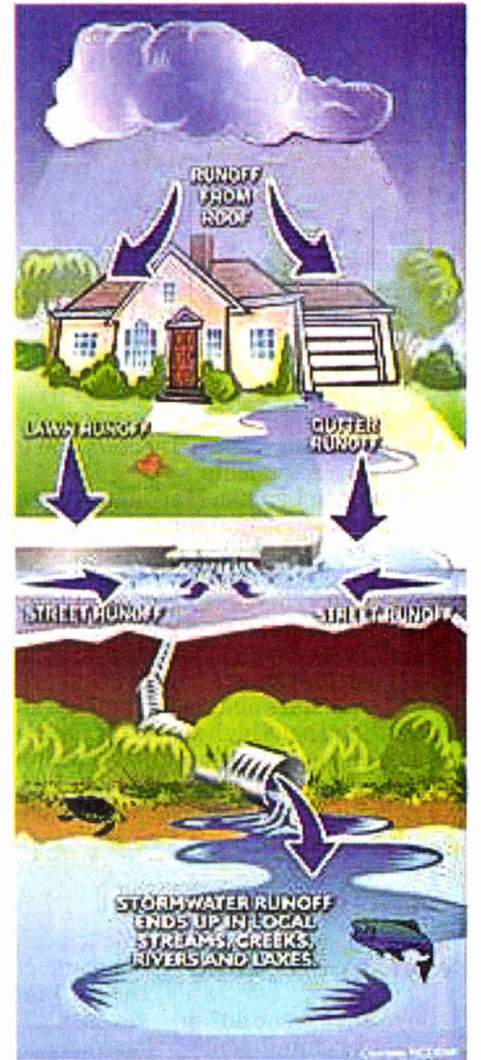
- » Fertilize sparingly and carefully – only apply fertilizer between May 1 and Nov. 15, not more than once every six weeks or more than five times during any calendar year. Use herbicides only where needed. Avoid weed-and-feed combination products.

- » Mow high – three inches is recommended to promote root growth, shade out weeds and requires less watering. A mulching blade also recycles clipping back into the soil, reducing the need for fertilizer by 25 percent to 33 percent.

- » Sweep it – fertilizer and grass clippings will easily wash into storm drains. Clean organic matter from streets and gutters.

- » Make fertilizer-free zones – apply fertilizer at least 20 feet away from the edge of natural water bodies or storm drains.

Paulette Alioa is a consultant and member of Sustainable Novi, a community-focused



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF QUALITY
 How runoff affects water.

Phosphorus has long been one of the most troublesome pollutants carried by runoff to Michigan surface waters, causing toxic levels of algae blooms ...

organization that builds local partnerships and spreads awareness about environmentally responsible practices that aim to reduce the burden on our natural resources, improve our public health and enhance quality of life. Group members will share occasional columns on sustainability. Go to www.facebook.com/sustainablenovi to learn more.

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REGULAR HOURS: Admission free
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 Buy a book and WIN! Giveaways while supplies last!

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 3 - 9pm
 Teachers receive 50% discount with valid ID

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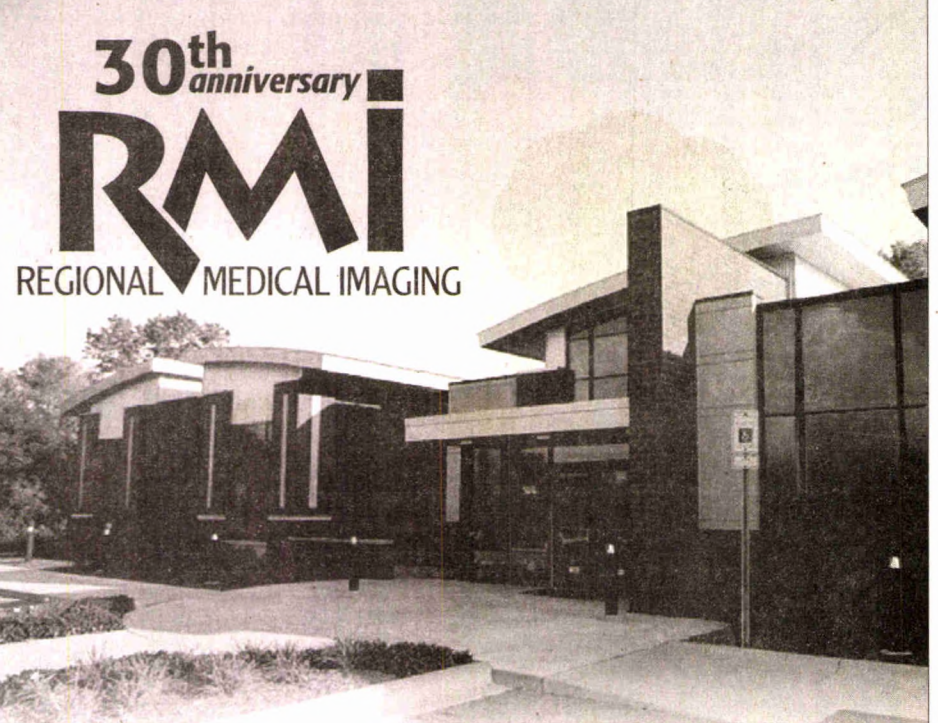
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OUR VIEW

Congratulations, Academic All-Stars!

The 2016 Observer & Eccentric Academic All-Star Team represents the most accomplished students from public, private and parochial schools in Oakland and western Wayne counties.

This year's team has 27 students to mark the 31st year of the All-Star program. Ten team members posted 4.0 grade-point averages in high school and perfect ACT and/or SAT scores.

Another 15 students are honorable mention and their scores are separated in most cases by a mere fraction of a point. They, too, merit praise.

Today, the Observer & Eccentric will publish, in cooperation with Madonna University, our longtime major sponsor, a special section that showcases these outstanding students.

Based in Livonia, Madonna is committed to teaching, scholarship and service.

Other community partners include Community Alliance Credit Union, a section sponsor, and Parkside Credit Union, the essay sponsor. One lucky all-star will win a \$500 scholarship for an award-winning essay to be announced at the All-Star Awards Ceremony on May 15 at Madonna University.

The all-stars and runners up are smart, ambitious, caring and have high praise for the teachers who have made an impact on their lives. Take time to read about how involved these teens are and what they hope to accomplish in the future. We are proud of them and

you will be, too. They are examples of the good things happening in our local schools and communities today.

Judging the team were Dan Willenborg, principal of Livonia Franklin High School, and Charlie Hollerith, principal of Bloomfield Hills High School. Both have been part of the program for more than a decade. The All-Star Team is selected solely on academic achievement in academic subjects and SAT or ACT test scores.

The 2016 team includes:

» The 10 students who tied for the No. 1 ranking (in alphabetical order) are: Yannis Bi, Northville High School; James Jahns, Churchill High School; Ean Maloney, Catholic Central High School; Zachary Obsniuk, Churchill High School; Jason Ren, Canton High School; Elizabeth Sullivan, North Farmington High School; Sreeram Thirupathi, North Farmington High School; Claire Wang, Country Day School; Claire Westerlund, Groves High School; and Zhao (Joe) Zhang, Country Day School.

» The remaining members are (in order of finish): Anjali Roychowdhury, Cranbrook Kingswood; Sruthi Sundar, Plymouth High School; Sam Inloes, Cranbrook Kingswood; Jarrett Black, Bloomfield Hills High School; Paul Chamberlain, Plymouth Christian Academy; John Dolan, Groves High School; Hugh Flynn, Brother Rice High School; Jhuree Hong,

Bloomfield Hills High School; Margaret Kondek, Harrison High School; Benjamin Levin, International Academy; Alexandra Mertz, Marian High School; Katherine Robertson, Northville High School; Shriharimurthi Bhaskaramurthi, Farmington High School; Daniel Evans, Seaholm High School; Zain Khera, Canton High School; Bogdan Manga, International Academy; and Riley North, Brother Rice High School.

The local students earning honorable mention include:

» Birmingham: Andrew Reed, Roper School; Natalie Leitman, Seaholm High School; Jacob Flynn, Roper School.

» Farmington: Lucy Devine, Mercy High School; Caitlin Delevie, Mercy High School; Pragathi Pathanjeli, Harrison High School; Dipika Krishnaswami, Farmington High School.

» Livonia: Catherine Kenzie, Ladywood High School; Allison Cale, Stevenson High School; Turner Miller, Stevenson High School; Elijah Spens, Clarenceville High School.

» Novi: Sebastian Miner, Detroit Catholic Central High School.

» Plymouth: Swetha Duraiswamy, Plymouth High School.

» Westland: Jillian Matasovsky, Lutheran High School; Bethany Hoehne, Lutheran High School.

LETTERS

Benefits of scouting

Boy Scout Troop 407 in Novi has a commitment to guiding youth toward helping others, serving our country and our community, participating in religion and keeping healthy, fit and positive in order to create young leaders and good citizens.

This boy-led organization promotes the development of youth to become trustworthy, loyal, helpful, courteous, kind,

obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent. These positive characteristics are built while the boys are having fun through campouts and activities like gliding, lugging, caving, rock climbing and rappelling. The troop also participates in high adventure events such as mountain climbing, horseback riding, sailing, and canoeing.

I know because I've been involved with scout-

ing since first grade. I am now a senior at Novi High School and hope to achieve the highest honor in scouting as an Eagle Scout in the coming weeks. This milestone has been achieved by four members of our troop in 2015 alone and many more will reach this goal in the coming year.

Though the camping and activities are central to the scouting experience, Troop 407 is also greatly invested in the Novi community through volunteering and civic service. The troop has participated in the Scouting for Food program, which collects crucial canned goods for the needy in our communities. We also take part each year in the Novi

Schools' Martin Luther King Jr. event, as well as the city's Memorial Day parade. Our scouts have also contributed through an abundance of Eagle projects and volunteer efforts for nonprofit groups and local churches including Holy Family Church, our troop sponsor.

The scouting organization benefits the community by bringing out the best in our youth and Troop 407 exemplifies the ideals of scouting through its cheerful service to the Novi community. The citizens of Novi would do well to encourage their children to participate in the scouting program.

Brian Vera-Burgos
Novi

High disapproval ratings hurt chances

I wonder how many delegates Donald Trump would have today without the advantage of opposition votes split amongst multiple candidates? I wonder how he would have done going head to head with one candidate from day one?

I wonder why he avoided states like Colorado, where you actually have to win delegates with character and substance rather than theatrics, then claim the game is rigged when he lost?

I wonder why Trump won't accept Ted Cruz's challenge to debate one on one or why he won't release his tax returns? I wonder why he won't authorize the release of a

taped interview with the New York Times about his views on immigration?

I wonder if his parents ever told him "No!" I wonder if he really thinks he could win the state of New York in a general election after winning the primary with a vote total half that of Hillary Clinton and 250,000 less than Bernie Sanders?

I wonder how he expects to win a general election with disapproval ratings at 75 percent amongst women, Hispanics and millennials?

I wonder if his fans will ever realize they're being taken in by appearances and rhetoric, much like people were taken in by Barack Obama?

Jack Belisle
South Lyon

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Quickest truck ever? Oakland County has one for sale

Bill Laitner
Michigan.com

Fewer than 3,000 were ever built, but enthusiasts still call it "the quickest truck ever built."

This month, at the same public auction where bargain hunters expect used TVs and high-mileage cop cars, a rare 1991 GMC Syclone pickup will go on the block with just 13,242 miles on the odometer.

It's to be auctioned by Oakland County officials at their annual sale this month, alongside another hot, low-mileage vehicle: a classic 1980 Chevrolet Camaro Z-28, in white with red stripes, a Corvette engine and less than 11,000 miles.

Both should be almost immaculate, after both were primed for parades and used for years in a county drug prevention program called D.A.R.E. Both are likely to draw bids from those hoping to cruise this summer in the Woodward Dream Cruise.

The ultra-rare '91 Syclone is still acclaimed as the "quickest" stock pickup ever built, according to enthusiasts who own, trade, blog about and race the rare breed of truck. Its name is a variant of "cyclone" to avoid copying the 1964-71 Mercury Cyclone muscle cars. General Motors made trainloads of '80 Camaros, but only 2,995 of the 1991 Syclone — and a piddling three of the '92s — before discontinuing the model, said Jim Vehko, a researcher at the General Motors Heritage Center in Sterling Heights.

"It was really just a one-year vehicle — all-wheel drive with a 4.3-liter turbo V-6," Vehko said.

"It did zero to 60 in 5.3 seconds. So even today, it



OAKLAND COUNTY GOVERNMENT
This ultra-rare 1991 GMC Syclone pickup will be auctioned May 21 in Pontiac. "It did zero to 60 in 5.3 seconds. So even today, it would be considered quick" — a term referring to fast acceleration, not top speed, said Jim Vehko, a researcher at GM Heritage Center.

would be considered quick" — a term referring to fast acceleration, not top speed, he said. The Heritage Center, a corporate conference center that's not open to the public, has a '91 in its collection, he said.

The two collector vehicles had been in the fleet of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office, county officials said. The Camaro was seized in a drug raid years ago before becoming a D.A.R.E. car, officials said. The Syclone was donated to the sheriff's office by General Motors in 2001 after it was stolen from the car maker, then recovered by county deputies, officials said. They had no further details.

More history came from the Michigan Association of Syclones and Typhoons, whose online forum lists posts by enthusiasts who have long been eyeing Oakland County's Syclone.

"Whenever we see one of these vehicles we've been keeping track of, we call it a storm sighting" — as in cyclone and typhoon, said the group's founder and president, Tony Pellegrini, 35, of Brighton.

Dozens of 1980 Camaros are listed for sale on

the Internet, at prices from \$6,500 to \$33,000, but the Syclone is hard to price because almost none are for sale. This one might well go for more than \$30,000, depending on condition, Pellegrini said.

Along with the two muscular GM vehicles, the Oakland County auction will sell dozens of former police cars and county utility vehicles, plus a boat with no engine, two mountain bikes, a pair of Ralph Lauren boots and a long list of computers, large-screen TVs and some nice-looking coffee makers. For details, call 248-858-1015 or go to www.oak-gov.com/auction.

There's free admission to the Oakland County auction May 21, at the county garage, Building 16E, 1200 N. Telegraph, in Pontiac. Registration is at 7 a.m., the auction starts at 9 a.m. and the vehicles go on the block at noon.

"The bidding process is fun by itself," said Dave VanderVeen, Oakland County director of central services, which stages the annual auctions. "Of course, the county benefits. The last few years, we've been grossing about a million dollars a year."

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Male chorus hits the right notes with new student program

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Trevor Franklin was "blown away" by the power of an all-male choir the first time he heard the Langsford Men's Chorus sing. "At our school, we only have mixed choirs consisting of the usual soprano, alto, tenor, bass groups. It was an intriguing thought to be able to sing with only men, as I had never heard an all-male choir in real life before," said Franklin, a senior at Farmington High School. "My choir director encouraged me to at least sit in on one of LMC's rehearsals and hear them sing. "After that, I was hooked on the idea of joining. The next week, I auditioned for the choir and the rest is history!" Franklin and three other high school students are finishing a



Franklin Firestone

four-month scholarship program with the 60-member, all-male vocal group. He and Farmington High School junior Dakota Firestone, Cornerstone School senior Barry Gilmore of Detroit and Alex Yang, a Warren Cousino High School sophomore, will sing with the Langsford Men's Chorus at "An American Choral Celebration" spring concert series, beginning this weekend. Performances are 8 p.m. Friday, May 13, at Royal Oak Middle School, 709 N. Washington Ave., Royal Oak; 4 p.m. Sunday, May 15, at St. James Catholic Church, 26325 10

Mile, Novi; and 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 17, at St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church, 21201 E. 13 Mile, St. Clair Shores. Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$12 in advance. They're available at langsfordmenschorus.org or by calling C.J. Reynolds at 586-202-1280. Singer-songwriter Paul Miles, "the Blues Man," will be the special guest artist. The concert will include classical and contemporary songs that celebrate the history and heritage of America. "There are very few men's choruses in the area. I think that is an attraction," Paul Hunter, chorus secretary, said in explaining what sets the group apart from other choirs. "I think it's a quality chorus, as evidenced by our performances internationally." A handful of Wayne State University Men's Glee Club alumni found-

ed the chorus in 1999, naming it after the Glee Club's late director, Harry M. Langsford. Today, members live in communities throughout southeast Michigan and bring a mix of choral music experiences to the group. It rehearses at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Birmingham under the direction of Steve Se-Graves. **Youthful members** Gary Reggio, former chorus president, said the fledgling scholarship program aims to introduce young men to the group. "We like the infusion of young voices," Reggio said. "One way to stimulate interest and reward those in high school (vocal music programs) is to offer a scholarship. It affords these young men

the opportunity to sing with a male chorus and we provide them with professional voice lessons. We pay for their choral-related expenses." After a pilot program last year that included one student, the chorus applied for a matching grant through Michigan Council For Arts And Cultural Affairs. It received \$3,000 and kicked in \$3,000 of its own money to bring Franklin and the other students on board in February. They were recommended by their vocal music teachers. "Next month, we're submitting for next year and asking for \$6,000," Hunter said. "I'm hopeful of attracting four students for fall and four for the spring semester. "The chorus members really like to have the

high school men with them. They help them and much of what is learned in rehearsal is not only from the conductor, but from chorus members singing around them." In a statement written for the upcoming grant application, Firestone said singing with the chorus had been "life-changing." "The men in this choir have taught me so much, from singing technique to plain old kindness," he wrote. "I've had a fantastic time at LMC despite the obvious age differences," Franklin said, adding that he would consider joining the group in the future. For more about the Langsford Men's Chorus, go to langsfordmenschorus.org

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Foster care graduate proud of career, being a mom

Sarai went into Michigan's foster care system at age 6.

"She was a very loving mom," Sarai, whose last name isn't being used for privacy reasons, said of her birth mother. "It's important to understand the dynamics of what leads some children into the foster care system."

Sarai's mother, from Vietnam, was in the Operation Baby Lift, which took many children from that country to the United States. "It wasn't something that was looked on very nicely in the Vietnamese culture," Sarai said, adding her mother had seen her own mother murdered.

Sarai is now grown, a mother herself, a college graduate who works in human resources. She shared her story at a Monday, May 9, forum at Faith Community Presbyterian Church in Novi with others involved in foster care and adoption.

"She was unable to communicate properly as she was growing into an adult," Sarai said. As a child, she broke her arm from a fall, their family's first contact with Child Protective Services. Sarai's mother didn't



JULIE BROWN

Sarai (right), who shared her experiences in Michigan's foster care system, visits with Sheila Henderson of Faith Community Presbyterian Church of Novi. Henderson lives in South Lyon.

know how to treat the fracture and tried home-based remedies.

"My mom was dealing with her own stresses," Sarai said of her mom, who slept a lot due to medication. Sarai broke her arm again and was taken from the home.

"I ended up being adopted by a family friend. Most of the time, I sat in the house all day," she said of that woman, who wasn't equipped for a boisterous child.

At 11, Sarai went back to foster care and didn't want another adoption. She urged her audience to be sensitive to foster care kids ages 11-18.

'Beautiful adults'

"As foster parents, we don't want to deal with those age groups," she said. "Those kids are going to grow up to be beautiful adults. You just have to continue to work with us as individuals."

Added Sarai: "I was very defiant. I was the one who spoke back and did what I wanted to do. I got pregnant when I was 16."

Her daughter is now nearly 11 and being raised by Sarai and they went through tough times at first. They were "couch homeless" for a year until Sarai was accepted at Michigan State

University and went into family housing.

"It took me five and a half years, a little longer than usual," she said of earning her degree. Sarai has found MSU became more understanding of student parents and their needs, realizing not all are the traditional 18-year-old with no family duties. That's true of other colleges and universities as well, she said.

She got a care package while at MSU and told her church audience those small things matter a lot.

"We are able to become productive, stable, self-sufficient young adults. It takes a village to raise a child and I appreciate each and every one of you," she told her church audience.

She's now active with Foster Care Alumni of America and talked about a close friend of hers who graduated from the University of Michigan and is headed to law school. Sarai and others wish to show another face of foster care alumni, those who succeed.

"We work very hard to promote the positivity within the foster care

community," she said. They have Thanksgiving get-togethers, as well as some for Christmas.

Another friend lost her mom to AIDS. "For us to support each other as foster care alumni was very important to her," Sarai said.

Sarai found the Outward Bound program, geared toward first-generation college attendees, helpful. She noted there needs to be better coordination of services to alumni of the system and that resources continue only up to age 25.

Sarai is excited about an entrepreneurial/professional development conference the Foster Care Alumni organization plans. "It's for us, by us," she said.

Also speaking that evening was state Rep. Kathy Crawford, whose committees include the Committee for Children, Families and Seniors. Her daughter adopted two children through the foster care system.

"My daughter was in love with this child," Crawford said of the older child, whom her daughter took every week for some four years to see her birth mom. The

child was 5 when the adoption was finalized; the birth mom gave birth to another child.

Crawford's daughter was told, "You have an hour to make a decision (on adopting the second child). Will you come and get this baby?" She did.

The two children are now healthy and happy, said Crawford, who recalled panels of youth in foster care who spoke when she was a county commissioner. Crawford explained legislation to make adoption easier.

"They need a chance, they really do need a chance," she said.

She discussed the Fostering Futures Trust Fund's scholarships. One woman present noted those tend to be for college/university education, whereas trade school education often helps young people more.

"We want to make lives of people like her better," Crawford said of Sarai, who added, "We really do need to work harder on family preservation," keeping children in their homes "if at all possible."

jcrown@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @248Julie

Faith-based coalition key to 'forever homes' for children, teenagers

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

As a group of about 35 listened to a foster care alumna tell her story, some 90 pillowcases rested on a nearby table at Faith Community Presbyterian Church of Novi.

"They often take whatever's theirs in a black garbage bag," church member Sheila Henderson said of foster care youth. Women of the church sewed and ironed the pillowcases to give to the Methodist Children's Home of Redford and

will continue that effort for other organizations such as Vista Maria that help children and teens.

Sarai, who was in foster care, and state Rep. Kathy Crawford spoke May 9 to the Western Wayne-Oakland Region of the Faith Communities Coalition on Foster Care. The meeting was at Faith Community Presbyterian Church of Novi, where Henderson's husband, the Rev. Dick Henderson, is pastor.

Sheila Henderson of South Lyon serves as facilitator for the region

for the coalition. It started with the Rev. Kate Thoresen at the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, with Thoresen later coming to the Novi church. First Presbyterian of Birmingham is now Thoresen's home church, where she works full time in foster care as a parish associate.

The coalition's local congregations include: Oak Pointe Church, Brightmoor Church, First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, First Presbyterian Church of Northville, Our Lady of Victory

Catholic in Northville, Faith Community Presbyterian of Novi and St. Paul's Presbyterian of Livonia.

Also working with the coalition is the state's Department of Health and Human Services, represented by Trina Richardson, statewide coordinator, Community and Faith-Based Initiative on Foster Care and Adoption.

The coalition works with agencies like the Methodist Children's Home of Redford, Vista Maria and semi-indepen-

dent living homes for older teens, Sheila Henderson explained. Other homes are evolving that give temporary respite for kids to help keep them from going into the foster care system.

"The seed was planted about 2007," said Henderson, whose Novi church has been active on the issue about five years. "It's a grassroots thing that just kind of exploded."

Added Henderson, "There are some pretty exciting things happening across the country.

We've got a long ways to do." Nearly 13,000 children are in foster care in Michigan "looking for forever homes," she said.

The coalition also works with the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange, a program of the Judson Center, Henderson said. The faith-based coalition's website is faithcommunitiescoalition.org.

The state's foster care and adoption website is michigan.gov/hopeforahome.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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Blood drives

Time/Date: 7:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 12
Details: NLB Corp., 29830 Beck Road, Wixom
Time/Date: 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. May 15
Details: First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile Road, Northville

Rummage, bake sale

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 12-14
Details: Rummage & Bake Sale at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Novi. Located on corner of 10 Mile and Napier roads. Proceeds go to the church building fund.

Natural health seminar

Time/Date: Noon and 2 p.m. Saturday, May 14
Details: Better Health Market welcomes New York Times best-selling author, motivational speaker, television personality and respected natural health expert Jordan Rubin for free health seminars. Rubin will be speaking about his newest book "Planet Heal Thyself," which contains information on how to start a revolution of regeneration in the areas of health and nutrition, sustainable agriculture and food production, as well as how to dramatically improve digestion and jump-start your metabolism. He will provide simple steps on how one can improve their health, viability and future of our planet.
 Attendees will receive a personal copy of Rubin's book for free while supplies last. Better Health Market offers a wide selection of natural and organic food, 42875 Grand River Ave., Novi.

Talk bones and joints

Time/Date: 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, May 17
Details: Arthritis is the nation's No. 1 cause of disability. Join in with Providence Park Hospital staff to learn about bone and joint issues, with a focus on the shoulder joint. Presented by Mark Shreve, M.D., free at the Providence Park Hospital-Southfield Campus, Fisher Auditorium. Register by calling 888-751-5465.

Battle of the Badges blood drive

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, May 18
Details: The Novi Police and Fire departments face off in the annual Battle of the Badges Blood Drive to benefit the American Red Cross. At the Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile Road, this friendly competition allows donors to choose which agency they want to donate blood for - Novi Police or Novi Fire - prior to their donation.

The two departments have been hosting this biannual blood drive since 2012 and assisted the American Red Cross in collecting 141 pints of blood, which has the capacity to help up to 423 patients. To donate blood, donors must be at least 17 years old, be in good health and weigh at least 110 pounds. Donors should register online at redcrossblood.org using the code "Novi."

Walk4Hearing

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 21
Details: Hearing Loss Association will host a 5K walk to raise awareness and provide funds for the programs of the Hearing Loss Association of America including Michigan's state and local affiliates. These programs provide information, education, advocacy and support to people coping

Movin' on up



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Using her arms to work muscles, Kim Chilton teaches a Keep on Moving exercise class at the Meadowbrook Activity Center. The class is coordinated by Novi's Older Adult Services office.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Loren Colwell (left) and others join in April 27 on a Keep on Moving exercise class at the Meadowbrook Activity Center. The class, designed for active seniors looking to maintain strength and agility, is taught two days a week in the morning by Kim Chilton.

with the challenges of hearing loss and those who work, live, or otherwise interact with them.

There will be light refreshments, face painting, a DJ providing music and bubble machine, a bounce house and art activity for children, and, of course, the beautiful park to enjoy. People may form teams, walk individually, donate to support this cause or just come to enjoy the event. At the west boat dock of Kensington Metropark in Milford.

For more information, go to www.walk4hearing.org or contact Barb (bquart@hearingloss-mi.org), Tony (aferrack@hearingloss-mi.org) or Audrey (audreyplesant@gmail.com).

Summer camp

Time/Date: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, June 27, to Friday, Aug. 19
Details: Registration for Novi Community Education's Summer Camp (formerly C.A.R.E.) is now open for all children ages preschool to eighth grade. New this year it the program now offers weekly scheduling. Students will

be placed in age appropriate groups. Children will participate in weekly field trips, arts and crafts and engage in new activities and experiences.

Children are to bring a sack lunch and drink. Snacks provided. This year's location will be at Deerfield Elementary School at 26500 Wixom

Road. Registration and daily fees are online at www.novi.k12.mi.us, under Community Education. Call 248-449-1706 for more information.

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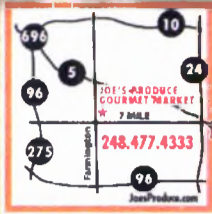
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BOYS LACROSSE

Brother Rice fends off stiff challenge from Shamrocks

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Birmingham Brother Rice remains a tough nut to crack when it comes to boys lacrosse.

The top-ranked Warriors, 11-time defending MHSAA Division 1 state champions, could not be solved by No. 2 Novi Detroit Catholic Central, which had a 4-3 lead with 6:47 left in the third quarter.

Rice then went on an 8-0 run before the host Shamrocks could answer, resulting in an 11-5 victory May 3 for the Warriors, who improved to 12-1 overall and 4-0 in the Catholic

League.

Senior attack Morgan Macko had a team-high four goals, including three in the final quarter, to put Rice over the top.

"We train for this kind of stuff, close games at halftime," Macko said. "We got a fiery speech from the captains and coaches and we just really wanted it that second half. CC is a huge rival and that fired an extra spark, too."

The Shamrocks were out-shot 29-12 during the first half, but trailed only 2-1 thanks to 11 saves by senior goalie Hunter Braun. Brennan Kamish had

the lone goal for CC from Cole Gingell, while Riley North and Jack Kelly both scored a goal for Rice.

"That goalie played a ridiculous game," Macko said of Braun. "Hats off to him. Once I think we started pumping them in, he kind broke down a little bit and didn't know where we were going with the shot placement, so that really helped out a lot."

CC (11-3), which had its eight-game winning streak snapped, stayed close in the third quarter on goals by Nich-



SCOTT CONFER

Catholic Central's Justin Baker (right) tries to avoid Brother Rice's Matthew Murray.

See LACROSSE, Page B2

GIRLS SOCCER

MUSTANGS EVEN SCORE AGAINST RIVAL NOVI



CHRIS HENZI

Novi's Lauren Calhoun (left) tries to maneuver past Northville's Megan Williams.

Dillon's late goal makes KLAA Central race a dead heat

Tom Morelli
Correspondent

Keeping your head in the game is a lesson athletes learn at the start of their career.

It's a frequently-used cliché among coaches that serves a specific purpose—don't let the score affect the way you play.

Northville forward Kendall Dillon decided to put her own spin on that timeless one-liner May 3 by sacrificing her

head to knock in the game-winning goal during the 76th minute to clinch a 3-2 decision over Novi in girls soccer.

After dealing with some soreness prior to the start of the game, it's safe to say that the reward of Dillon finishing off a free kick volley from Megan Williams with just minutes to spare outweighed the risk as it tied the Mustangs (6-5-2 overall, 4-1-1) with the Wildcats for the lead atop the KLAA Central Division.

"I recognized that no one was marking me at the back post and Megan's lob

happened to be perfect, so I just headed it in," said Dillon, a sophomore. "You have to endure the pain to win the game."

Northville coach Eric Brucker was proud of the late-game contribution from Dillon.

"Kendall's a spirited player and has a heart for the game and the spirit for competition," Brucker said. "It's great to see kids like that be rewarded with a

See NORTHVILLE, Page B3

GIRLS LACROSSE

Mustangs repeat as champs

Freshman attack duo Wasik, Tardich lead win

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Northville put an exclamation point on its second straight KLAA Kensington Conference girls lacrosse title with a 21-1 win Monday over host Canton.

The Mustangs, featuring only three seniors, improved to 5-0 in conference play and 11-2 overall.

"This is a great accomplishment for our team," second-year Northville Amanda Asher said. "The turnaround in our program started with last year's (13) seniors and, with so many of them graduating, you never know who is going to step up to fill that leadership void."

"My three seniors this year—Erin Scott, Kelly Leary and Shannon Leary—have been great leaders for us, along with Sarah Chase and Emma Dietrich, who are also captains for us as juniors. And all of the underclassmen have followed their lead."

Two freshman attackers led the offensive assault against Canton as Kendall Wasik had four goals and five assists, while Jessica Tardich added five goals.

Also getting into the scoring act for the Mustangs were junior Charlotte Beaudoin (three goals); junior Sarah Chase (two goals, one assist); Scott (two goals); junior Emma Dietrich (two goals, two assists); sophomore Ally Blough (one goal one assist); sophomore Gillian Croteau (one goal, one assist); and sophomore Brianna Carr (one goal).

Juniors Maddie Caffee and Kat Weissert split the game in net for Northville, combining for three saves.

Katja Nuler scored the lone goal for the Chiefs (1-14, 0-6).

Northville earned a spot in the KLAA Association championship game beginning at 7 p.m. Monday at Tom Holzer Field against the Lake Conference champion (most likely Brighton). "We have a young team,

See MUSTANGS, Page B2

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GIRLS SOCCER ROUNDUP

Wildcats settle for 3-3 deadlock against Salem

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Salem erased a two-goal deficit in the final 20 minutes to earn a 3-3 tie with host Novi, which now finds itself one point out of first place in the KLAA Central Division girls soccer race.

The Wildcats, 5-1-5 overall and 4-1-2 in the KLAA Central (15 points), trail division leader Northville by a point with three matches remaining.

It was the second straight tie between Novi and the Rocks, who stand 3-4-4 overall and 1-3-3 in the Central.

The Rocks took an early 1-0 lead on Sarah Hawks' goal from Katie Coleman, but Novi answered with a pair of goals to take a 2-1 halftime advantage.

Chloe Allen scored from Jessie Halmaghi to make it 1-1, followed by Katrina Koomen's goal, assisted by Julia Stadtherr.

Salem goalkeeper Kyler Brandt, who

made 10 saves, including a PK.

But the Wildcats went up 3-1 at the 45-minute mark on Jessie Bandyk's goal, assisted by Emmie Takada.

The score stayed that way until 18 minutes remaining, when Gabby Mazzuca scored from Caroline Simko, setting up Anna Faybrick's game-tying goal from Simko with only eight minutes to play.

DEARBORN 1, NORTHVILLE 0: Nasreen Kobeissi's header off a direct free kick at the 49-minute mark proved to be the difference Friday as the host Pioneers (10-2-2) downed the Mustangs (7-6-2) in a non-conference game.

Northville goalie Carlie Castiglione made six saves. "It was a very physical game, a lot of hard fouls, a little chippy," Northville coach Eric Brucker said. "Our focus right now is on our next three division games."

NORTHVILLE 2, SOUTH LYON 0: The Mustangs (7-5-2, 5-1-1) scored a pair of second-half goals May 5 to beat host South Lyon in a KLAA Central Division match against the host Lions (2-7-3, 0-5-1).

Goalie Carlie Castiglione made six saves, all in the first half, to notch her fourth shutout of the year for the first-place Mustangs. After facing a stiff first-half wind, Northville finally got untracked on Alissa Moore's game-winning goal in the 53rd minute off an assist from Maddy Westenberg.

Sarah Park's unassisted goal 90 seconds later helped seal the victory.



Northville's Alissa Moore (left) goes for a 50/50 ball against South Lyon's Mackenzie Flannery.

NORTHVILLE

Continued from Page B1

game-winner."

The goal was a huge relief for the Mustangs, who saw their 2-0 lead dissipate by an opportunistic Novi squad that began to come alive in the middle of the game.

With seven minutes remaining until halftime, Novi (5-1-4, 4-1-1) drew a foul in the penalty area to earn a penalty shot, taken by Chloe Allen, a senior forward. Allen wasted little time in sizing up the task at hand, firing a laser into the right side of the net to cut the deficit in half.

Allen would be called upon once again at the start of the second, as senior fullback Katrina Koomen sent a free kick over to the top of the box, where Allen finished the job in the 42nd minute to make it 2-2.

The workman-like mentality of Allen to seize such scoring opportunities drew praise from head coach Todd Pheiffer.

"Chloe knows that we count on her sometimes to never come off the field, so she picks and chooses when she needs some rest or when she makes a run," Pheiffer said. "She's a very smart player and a great leader, which is why she's one of our captains. She's been a team leader all season long for us and a great role model for our younger players. She keeps us organized on the field and is someone who'll work hard in the first minute of the game and the 80th minute of the game."

Williams put Northville on the scoreboard in the first half by scoring two scores in as many minutes, with a pair of assists being credited to junior Sydney Schembri.

After bouncing one in over the goalkeeper in the 25th minute, Williams repeated the feat by finding the back of the net from 20 yards out.

Williams talked about the importance this game had on her team's season, after losing the previous encounter April 15, 2-0.

"Novi's obviously one of our biggest rivalries," Williams said. "They got the win last time and we really wanted to come out and show that we could handle them. We worked our butts off and got the win."

"I just risked it all and put it in the back of the net."

The Mustangs received a scare in the waning moments of the game, as Allen nearly beat goalie Carlie Castiglione on a loose ball scramble in front of the net.

Sensing the magnitude of the situation, Castiglione made a beeline for the ball and dove on it just in the nick of time, while also evading contact. The awareness displayed by Castiglione



Northville goalkeeper Carlie Castiglione goes high for the save against Novi.

CHRIS HENZI

ne on that play was not only the most dramatic of her five saves, but also the most important.

"Honestly, it was, 'Get to that ball before she does,'" Castiglione said. "I wanted to get my body behind it and make sure nothing happens. I practice for that and it pays off."

Brucker said that the play was indicative of just how far Castiglione has grown in her role as a starter.

"Carlie has no fear," he said. "We

put a lot of pressure on her and we don't even have a backup goalkeeper on this team. Starting from day one, it was her job and, as a sophomore, she's taken everything in stride. She's taken the lumps of some losses that got to her a little bit, but I hope she revels in the wins knowing she was a key contributor and tonight was one of those nights."

Senior Aastha Dharia had four saves for the Wildcats, who tied Northville with seven shots on goal.

Pheiffer took the loss as a lesson learned for his team, as it continues to stay in the race for the top spot in the division. The Wildcats were coming off a 1-1 non-conference tie April 29 against Rochester Stoney Creek.

"After they scored that goal, we had two really good opportunities at the end," Pheiffer said. "That's what shows and that's the kind of stuff we learn from this. The biggest thing for me is the girls learning from this experience going forward. It's our first loss of the season, but sometimes you need that first loss. Credit to Northville for winning at home and credit to our girls for playing hard to the end."

PREP TRACK AND FIELD

Churchill carries the day at new Observerland Invite

Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

It was a great night to be a Churchill Charger at the inaugural Observerland Invitational for area track and field teams Saturday.

The Livonia high school was a double winner, capturing the boys and girls championships in the expanded and reformatted competition at Farmington High School.

The Chargers won both meets going away, leading by insurmountable margins going into the final event and being the only teams to break the century mark in total points.

For the first time in the 46-year history of the event, the girls were included, too, and the format changed from mostly relays to a regional-style meet.

"I think our guys outscored us by half a point, so I'll have to hear about that from the guys coaches," Churchill girls coach Patrick Daugherty said. "But to have something like this, with the inaugural event and the new format, is very special for both programs and is something I'll cherish the rest of my coaching career."

"(Churchill boys coach) Rick (Austin) and I have been coaching together 16 years and this is very special for us, doing this in the same year. I'm very proud of both our teams for taking a win on the first time around for this."

The Chargers scored 124 points in the boys meet. In the late stages, the battle was for second place, which went to Canton with 95 points.

The top six included Livonia Stevenson (89), Salem (84), Southfield (61) and Novi-Detroit Catholic Central (59).

"I'm surprised we were able to score 124 points, but that's indicative of how excited our kids get about running at this meet," Austin said. "The Chargers are the first winner under the new format, so that's kind of special."

"There was a lot of great competition. My hat is off to Canton and Stevenson. They have good teams and we just happened to be a little better today. That could all change next week at the conference meet."

Churchill amassed 123½ points in the girls meet. Farmington was runner-up with 96, followed by Birmingham Sea-

holm (67), Salem (65), North Farmington (45) and Canton (40½).

The Chargers were led by Chanel Gardner, who won the girls 400- and 200-meter races in 57.34 and 25.03 seconds.

Churchill's Takia Bradley won the 300 hurdles (47.24) and Imani Moultrie the long jump (16-3¼).

The Chargers also won three of the four relays. Gardner anchored the 800 and 1,600 teams, which also included Bradley and Moultrie.

Churchill won the 3,200 relay, too. The girls ran times of 1:43.52, 4:05.68 and 9:45.08, respectively.

Farmington won four open events and the 400 relay with a time of 50.78.

Akili Echols won the 100 meters (12.27), Maddy Trevisan the 1,600 (5:03.56), Morgan Merlino the 800 (2:18.64) and Morgan Murphy the high jump (5-3).

The other girls winners were Cantara Williams, shot put, Southfield, 36-1½; Kyndra Parker, discus, Salem, 101-4; Emily Caragay, pole vault, Plymouth, 11-0; Mia Flynn, 100 hurdles, Mercy, 15.90; and Natalie Douglas, 3,200 run, Franklin, 11:13.42.

Churchill won five events in the boys meet, including the 1,600 relay in 3:28.14.

Demarco McKinney threw the discus 144-0. Carrington Smith won the 400 meters in 50.69, Dash Dobar the 800 in 2:01.39 and Jamal Allen the 200 in 22.17.

Southfield's Delan Wynn, who will play football at Tiffin University in Ohio, was a double winner in the 100 dash (10.95) and the 300 hurdles (40.19).

Stevenson and Salem also had two winners each. Salem's Chaz Jeffress was first in the 1,600 run (4:28.25) and Jannik Schmitt the shot put (54-9).

Stevenson's Malik Lowery won the long jump (20-1) and Aaron Simmon the high jump (6-0). The Spartans also won the 3,200 relay.

Canton's Andrew Koenigsnecht won the pole vault (14-1) and the Chiefs won both sprint relays.

The other boys winners were Garden City's Denzel Tinsley in the high hurdles (14.59) and Livonia Franklin's Tony Floyd in the 3,200 run (9:47.51).

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Now open in Novi



The Novi Chamber of Commerce helped celebrate the opening of Burger 21 in Novi. It was a beautiful, sunny day for those in attendance. Those pictured include (from left) Alaa Samaha, Moe Algharably, Wisal Samaha (franchise owner), Moe Samaha (franchise owner), Crystal Sequine, Taija Pritch, Sade Holley and Darnell Howard. The eatery is located at 26425 Novi Road.



The Big Salad-Novi owner Christopher Pike (from left), Jean Claude Botena, Jenna Sheena, Noelle Mayer, Michael Smith and Madonna University business professor Nidhal Bouazizi pose with the "Seal the Deal" trophy.

Madonna University students 'Seal the Deal' with The Big Salad

A team of business students from Madonna University took top honors in a recent reality-based learning project sponsored by restaurant group The Big Salad.

"Seal the Deal" was a semester-long, for-credit project in which teams of students competed to create, design, test and market a new menu product for The Big Salad, according to John Bornoty, The Big Salad founder and CEO.

The winning team, composed of Michael Smith and Noelle Mayer, both of Livonia; Jenna

Sheena of West Bloomfield; and Jean Claude Botena of Westland, competed against three other teams and presented the judges with its "Chicken BLTA Wrap," a blend of chicken, bacon, lettuce, tomato and avocado. The winning entry will be on sale at The Big Salad's Novi location, 43168 Grand River Ave., through August, according to Christopher Pike, franchise owner of The Big Salad-Novi.

"All of the student teams did an excellent job," Bornoty said. "Every team's product was

different and very good."

Said team member Mayer: "It was an incredible experience taking the concepts we've learned within the four walls of a classroom to a real life experience. It was such a great feeling to know that what you created from scratch was brought to life and is actually going to market."

The Big Salad and Madonna University plan to resume the "Seal the Deal" project at the start of the fall semester.

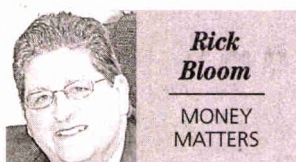
Life insurance for children usually not a good expenditure

The other day at the end of one of my library talks, I was approached by a young couple who told me they just had their first child. They wanted to know some of the things they should do being as new parents. They had questions about life insurance and, in particular, life insurance on their child. Since they have had their child, they have said they've received all sorts of solicitations regarding life insurance for their newborn. They told me they thought it was a waste of money, but they wanted my opinion.

The one thing that somewhat intrigued them was that, on one of the policies, the death benefit started at \$10,000, but could be increased to \$100,000. The sales pitch was that by buying a life insurance policy now, it insures the child's insurability into the future.

My answer to them was to save their money and not to buy life insurance for their child. First, life insurance is not an investment; it's a means of insuring against financial loss.

The question you always ask with regards to life insurance is if the proposed insured pass away, is there a financial loss to the family? Obviously, a loss of a child is very traumatic and tragic, but it is generally not a financial loss. There is no reason in the great ma-



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

majority of situations to insure a child.

With regards to the option to purchase more insurance down the road and the guarantee of insurability no matter what may happen in the future, it sounds nice, but in reality it's not worth much. I believe it is very gimmicky. It's sort of like saying you should buy a car today because you know that 18 years down the road your child is going to need a car. I believe most of us think it would be much better to wait until that time and see what is available. I apply the same thing to insurance. Why buy something today that you don't need and may never need? In addition, the reality of the situation is that a \$100,000 policy is not going to make a major difference to someone 30 or 40 years from now.

My advice for the couple was not to buy the insurance, but to save their money and invest it in a college savings program. My recommendation is that the couple start investing into the Michigan Education Savings Plan (www.misesaves.com). The money they were going to spend

on the insurance can be much more productively invested into a college fund. In fact, I recommended that they set up a college fund and then notify family and friends who want to buy the child a gift that they consider a contribution into the education fund as opposed to another toy that they'll probably forget about in two weeks.

One last note: I did tell the parents that it was important for them to consider what would happen if one or both of them passed away and how that would financially impact the child. Not everyone needs life insurance, but life insurance can be a valuable financial tool to cover risk. In that regard, I told them that they should definitely consider term insurance, as I believe it is the most economical type of insurance and one that suits many people's needs. Unfortunately, the salespeople push whole life and other types of expensive insurance policies, but for new parents, term insurance is almost always the better option. It is cheaper and it allows you to purchase the amount of insurance you truly need.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like him to respond to questions, email rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

Varnum adds attorney to practice

Varnum has announced that attorney Julia A. Perkins has joined the firm's Novi office.

Perkins works with clients in family law matters, including divorce, child custody, child support and parenting time matters. She has experience with international custody cases and valuation and division of high net worth marital estates. She is also a certified mediator with a focus in family law.

Perkins graduated magna cum laude from Detroit College of Law in 1996 and attended Indi-



Perkins

ana University for her undergraduate degree. She joins Varnum from Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer & Weiss P.C. in Southfield, where she was a partner in the family law practice.

In addition to her practice, Perkins is an adjunct family law professor at the University of Detroit Mercy. She serves on the planning commission for Canton Township and formerly served on the Canton Zoning Board of Appeals.

Her other community involvement includes serving on the advisory committee for Kids-Talk Children's Advocacy Center, which helps children suspected of abuse or neglect. Perkins also serves on the Culinary Challenge Core Committee, an annual charitable event that raises money for youth scholarships.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF NORTHVILLE

The City of Northville Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing to receive public input on a variance requested by the property owner at 238 Wing Court, Northville, Michigan, 48167. The applicant is seeking a variance to construct a new house addition and garage in the rear-yard setback on premises zoned R-1B, First Density Residential District, parcel number 48 003 03 0256 000. The City's Building Official has determined that a rear-yard variance of 22.416 feet is needed from Section 15.01 of the Zoning Ordinance to allow construction of the house addition and garage in the rear yard.

The public hearing will be held on Wednesday June 1, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-449-9902. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comment on the variance request. The variance application is available for review at the City of Northville Building Department during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, local prevailing time. Written comments pertaining to the proposed variance request will also be received at the above address.

ROLLAND STAPLETON
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS CHAIRPERSON

Published: May 12, 2016

LC-000281957 3x2.5

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONSIDERATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT UNDER ACT P.A. 198 OF 1974, AS AMENDED

Notice is hereby given that BoCo Enterprises, Inc. have submitted a request to the City of Novi for the establishment of an Industrial Development District under the "Plant Rehabilitation and Industrial Development Act P.A. 198 of 1974."

The proposed project is part of Parcel ID No. 50-22-16-251-023, located at 46100 Grand River Road, described as follows (with corrected legal description):

T1N, R8E, SEC 16 PART OF NE 1/4, ALSO PART OF SE 1/4 BEG AT E 1/4 COR, TH S 87-26-37 W 1339.12 FT, TH S 87-42-26 W 124.90 FT, TH S 01-24-20 E 347.64 FT, TH ALG CURVE TO RIGHT, RAD 83807.16 FT, CHORD BEARS N 73-03-46 W 328.67 FT, DIST OF 328.67 FT, TH N 72-57-29 W 755.69 FT, TH N 01-46-33 W 347.10 FT, TH N 73-01-11 W 109.66 FT, TH S 88-13-27 W 83.17 FT, TH N 01-46-33 W 900.29 FT, TH S 70-44-04 E 45.95 FT, TH S 34-37-33 E 20.66 FT, TH S 74-00-10 E 1693.39 FT, TH N 86-34-29 E 150.36 FT, TH S 74-00-10 E 901.58 FT, TH S 02-19-20 E 443.24 FT TO BEG 54.86 Ac 9-11-12 FR 021 & 022

CONTAINING 4 ACRES OF LAND MORE OR LESS.

Pursuant to Section 4 (4) of said Act, a public hearing shall be held on Monday, May 23, 2016 at 7:00 pm in the Novi City Council Chambers, located at 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, during which any property owner within the proposed Industrial Development District, and any resident or taxpayer of the City of Novi may appear and be heard in relation to the consideration of the aforementioned Industrial Development District.

If you have any comments regarding this proposal, they may be presented in writing to the City Clerk's office or at the public hearing.

Maryanne Cornelius, MMC
City Clerk

Published: May 12, 2016

LC-000281960

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONSIDERATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT UNDER ACT P.A. 198 OF 1974, AS AMENDED

Notice is hereby given that Stoneridge, Inc. have submitted a request to the City of Novi for the establishment of an Industrial Development District under the "Plant Rehabilitation and Industrial Development Act P.A. 198 of 1974."

The proposed project is part of Parcel ID No. 50-22-01-400-029, located at 39625 Mackenzie Dr., described as follows:

T1N, R8E, SEC 1 PART OF E 1/2 OF SEC BEG AT PT DIST N 02-30-06 W 632.02 FT & S 85-30-21 W 60.04 FT & S 85-30-21 W 215.71 FT & N 02-02-32 W 467.58 FT & S 87-57-28 W 162.89 FT & S 13-30-29 W 174.90 FT & S 41-04-28 W 75.81 FT & S 87-29-56 W 312.43 FT & S 44-08-59 W 370.51 FT & N 36-07-04 W 336.51 FT & N 30-23-13 W 363.98 FT & N 02-57-07 W 1161.60 FT FROM SE SEC COR, TH N 02-57-07 W 176.05 FT, TH N 87-02-53 E 108.36 FT, TH N 28-03-30 E 222.93 FT, TH ALG CURVE TO RIGHT, RAD 420 FT, CHORD BEARS S 73-28-03 E 167.85 FT, DIST OF 168.98 FT, TH S 61-56-30 E 159.14 FT, TH ALG CURVE TO LEFT, RAD 480 FT, CHORD BEARS S 72-03-48 E 168.71 FT, DIST OF 169.59 FT, TH S 02-30-19 E 387.94 FT, TH S 87-29-41 W 268.09 FT, TH N 61-56-30 W 420.91 FT, TH S 87-02-53 W 43.61 FT TO BEG 6.20 A 7-26-13 FR 026

Pursuant to Section 4 (4) of said Act, a public hearing shall be held on Monday, May 23, 2016 at 7:00 pm in the Novi City Council Chambers, located at 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, during which any property owner within the proposed Industrial Development District, and any resident or taxpayer of the City of Novi may appear and be heard in relation to the consideration of the aforementioned Industrial Development District.

If you have any comments regarding this proposal, they may be presented in writing to the City Clerk's office or at the public hearing.

Maryanne Cornelius, MMC
City Clerk

Published: May 12, 2016

LC-000281977 3x4.5

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Service personnel in the U.S. benefit from their military status in buying homes.

GETTY IMAGES/STOCKPHOTO

Industry survey: Military personnel purchase homes at younger age

Differences in household demographics and affordable financing options spur home buying demand for young active-service military members, causing them to significantly outpace the share of nonmilitary home buyers under the age of 35, according to the first-ever 2016 Veterans & Active Military Home Buyers and Sellers Profile, which evaluates the differences of recent active-service and veteran home buyers and sellers compared to those who've never served. The survey also found that while nearly all veteran and nonmilitary buyers and sellers use an agent, usage is practically universal among active-service military members.

NAR's survey gathered greater insight into how each population of buyers and sellers differs and is similar to those who have never served in the military. Of all home buyers, 18 percent identified as veterans and 3 percent as active-military. Of all home sellers, 21 percent identified as veterans and 1 percent as active-military.

The results revealed quite a few contrasts between active-service military buyers and buyers who've never served. At a median age of 34 years old, the typical active-service buyer was a lot younger than nonmilitary buyers (40 years old) and was more likely to be married and have multiple children living in their household. As a result, they typically bought a larger home that cost more than those purchased by both nonmilitary buyers and veterans.

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, says young active-service buyers (ages 18-35) bought homes at a far greater rate (51 percent) than nonmilitary buyers (34 percent). "Despite having a lower median income (\$76,800), more stable job security and no down payment financing options give aspiring homeowners in the military a deserving advantage over their civilian peers," he said. "Furthermore, their tendencies to marry and raise a family at an earlier age and carry less student debt

make buying a home a more desirable and achievable option."

Veterans Affairs loans — which offer over 100 percent financing for veteran and active-service home buyers — were the most popular loan type for active-service and veteran buyers, leading to the majority of active-service buyers financing their entire home purchase and veterans putting down a median down payment of 5 percent. For nonmilitary buyers, the median down payment was 11 percent.

Added Yun, "Current data shows that VA loans perform remarkably well and are a safe and affordable choice. Their current seriously delinquent and homes in foreclosure rate is 2.78 percent versus 3.44 percent for non-VA loans."

A place to call home is often times one of the few constants for the families of the brave men and women defending our country, said NAR President Tom Salomone, broker-owner of Real Estate II Inc. in Coral Springs, Fla. "That's why it's so important to ensure that homeownership opportunities and affordable financing options exist for qualified military personnel, veterans and their families."

With the ability to obtain a VA loan, only 5 percent of veterans and 3 percent of active-service buyers said saving for a down payment was the most difficult step. Of those, only 4 percent of veterans and 13 percent of active-service buyers said student loan debt delayed saving. Sixty-two percent of veterans cited having other types of debt and 43 percent of active-service military referenced credit card debt.

While a larger share of active-service military buyers had student loan debt compared to nonmilitary buyers and veterans, their debt balances were typically lower. Among active-service members, 37 percent had student loan debt under \$10,000 compared to 21 percent for those who've never served.

Active-service buyers prefer large single-family homes

The median income of veteran and active-service member home buyers in the survey was slightly lower than buyers who've never served in the military, which was \$86,500. Active-service buyers typically bought a 2,170-square-foot home that cost more (\$226,000) than those purchased by nonmilitary buyers and veterans. Veteran buyers had a median income of \$84,000, and they typically bought a 1,980-square-foot home costing \$220,000.

Mirroring the general population of buyers, over 80 percent of both veterans and active-service buyers purchased a single-family home, with those currently serving purchasing single-family homes at the highest rate (87 percent).

The primary reason for the home purchase for active-service military was job relocation, followed closely by the desire to own a home of their own. Compared to nonmilitary buyers, veterans were more likely to want to be closer to friends and family or moving for retirement.

Increased mobility means active-service and veteran buyers and sellers rely on real estate agents

Veterans and active-service buyers purchased a home a lot further away from their previous residence (at 75 miles and 28 miles, respectively) than buyers who never served in the military (10 miles). Among the biggest factors influencing neighborhood choice, veterans were most influenced by the quality of the neighborhood, while convenience to their job was desired the most by active-service members.

While nearly all buyers predominantly used the Internet and a real estate agent during their home search, active-duty buyers used a real estate agent at an even higher rate (95 percent versus 88 percent for non-military buyers). As a group, they were also most likely to use mobile or tablet search engines and relocation companies during

their search.

"Many Realtors are veterans themselves, who understand the unique housing needs of those serving our country," Salomone said. "Whether it's relocating to a completely new area across the country or needing to sell their home in a short time frame, Realtors are committed to helping active-service members and veterans succeed in their homeownership goals."

Some of the characteristics of active-service sellers differed from nonmilitary sellers. They were younger, far more likely to have multiple children living in their household and sold a home in a suburban area at a far higher rate. Additionally, the use of an agent was highest for active-service military sellers (94 percent), who — likely dealing with relocating to a new area in a short time frame — cited both wanting help marketing the home to potential buyers and help negotiating and dealing with buyers at a far higher rate than nonmilitary sellers and veterans. Eighty-nine percent of veterans used an agent, on par with nonmilitary sellers (90 percent).

The most commonly cited reason for owners selling their home varied. For nonmilitary sellers, the most commonly cited reason for selling their home was that it was too small (18 percent), while the most common reason cited by veterans was to be closer to friends and family (23 percent). Not surprisingly, job relocation for active-service military sellers was the most common reason for selling (43 percent).

NAR is committed to educating more Realtors about working with current and former military service members through its "Military Relocation Professional" certification program. This educational initiative available to Realtors offers insights into finding housing solutions that best suit the needs of current and former military members while taking full advantage of their military benefits.

Judges often allow support animals in court during testimony

Q: I have a young son who is being forced to testify in a case. Can I bring a support animal?

A: More than likely you can. In a recent Michigan Court of Appeals case, which was a criminal case, the court recognized that the trial court has within its inherent authority the right to control its courtroom and the proceedings before it to allow a witness to testify accompanied by a support animal.

Q: I am a landlord being pursued by a tenant because someone attacked him in my building. Apparently, this person who attacked this tenant had also attacked someone in our building in the past. Do you think I have any liability? I have reported it to my insurance company.

A: Probably not. On a case somewhat similar in facts, the Michigan Court of Appeals had recently ruled that in a case by the Michigan Supreme Court, it was stated that the common law imposes a duty of care when a special relationship exists such as between a landlord and its tenants and their invitees.

The court also said that landlords and merchants share a similar level of control over common areas that are open to their tenants and other invitees and thus assume the same duty of reasonable care with regard to those common areas. However, the landlord's duty regarding criminal acts of third parties is limited to and co-extensive with the duty to respond by reasonably expediting police involvement when it is given notice of a specific situation occurring on the premises that would cause a reasonable person to recognize a risk of imminent harm to an identifiable invitee.

The court said that like a merchant, a landlord can presume the tenants and their invitees will obey the criminal law and because of the unpredictability and the rationality of criminal activity, this assumption should continue until a specific situation occurs on the premises that would cause a reasonable person to recognize the risk of imminent harm to an identifiable tenant or invitee and only when given notice of such situation, is a duty imposed on the landlord. Depending upon your facts, there may not be liability, but, obviously, your insurance carrier will have to make a determination of the facts and circumstances of your case.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. Visit rmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Investors

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

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Red Lobster is next to 7-Eleven, near Trenton Road.

For more information, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayne Koehler at 313-819-0919.

Short sales

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

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

Call 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com.



Robert Meisner

Realtors Association lauds flood insurance effort

Property owners who opt to purchase flood insurance in the private market rather than through the National Flood Insurance Program may do so under current rules, but they risk paying higher rates if they return to the NFIP. H.R. 2901, the "Flood Insurance Market Parity and Modernization Act," passed the U.S. House of Representatives on April 28 by a vote of 419-0 and seeks to alleviate that concern.

The National Association of Realtors stands firmly behind the effort.

"Realtors know that a robust National Flood Insurance Program is important for protecting consumers and ensuring property sales can move forward in 20,000 communities nationwide," said NAR President Tom Salomone, broker-owner of Real Estate II Inc. in Coral Springs, Fla. "For many, the NFIP offers the only source of coverage that meets federally related mortgage requirements and protects properties in the 100-year floodplain.

"At the same time, consumers who wish to purchase insurance in the private market should have the freedom to do so," he said. "This legislation will help foster a vibrant private flood insurance market while giving consumers the flexibility to return to the NFIP at a reasonable cost if they choose to."

Under current regulations, the NFIP requires homeowners to retain a minimum amount of flood insurance coverage to maintain the lowest rates available within the NFIP. Those same regulations

treat consumers who move to private insurance as having had a "break" in coverage, even if the private insurance product offers comparable coverage for the property.

Oftentimes, consumers will return to the NFIP when a private insurance product goes up in price or is no longer available. In that instance, a homeowner can only do so in the face of a rate hike.

H.R. 2901 would change this by clarifying that private flood insurance that meets state law provides continuous coverage. If the bill becomes law, property owners could move seamlessly between the NFIP and private insurance markets without the risk of arbitrary rate increases.

Earlier this year, NAR wrote (link is external) to members of the House Fi-

nancial Services Committee to ask for their support of the bill; H.R. 2901 later passed the committee by a unanimous vote, clearing the way for the April 28 vote on the House floor.

Additionally, the week before April 28, NAR joined members of the SmarterSafer coalition to urge House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) to bring the bill up for a vote.

Salomone praised the bill's passage, calling it a step forward for reform of the broader flood insurance system.

"NAR is grateful to Congressmen Dennis Ross (R-Fla.) and Patrick Murphy (D-Fla.) for their leadership on this important issue," Salomone said. "This legislation is a step in the right direction as we work to reauthorize and modernize the NFIP."

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Be persistent, not pesky, after a job interview

BY MARY LORENZ
CAREERBUILDER

"Don't call us. We'll call you." That used to be the standard send-off to candidates as they left the job interview. In today's competitive landscape, however, waiting around to hear from the employer might mean losing out on a job.

Now, not only is it perfectly acceptable for candidates to follow up with an employer after an interview, it can even be advantageous. When up against other equally qualified candidates, taking the time and initiative to reiterate your enthusiasm for the role can set you apart in the eyes of the hiring manager.

There is a fine line, however, between being persistent and being pesky. How do you find a balance? Job-search experts give advice about what to do — and what not to do — when following up with hiring managers.

Do send a thank-you note. Sending a thank-you note after the interview isn't just good manners — it's good personal branding. "The thank-you note provides another opportunity to explain why you are a strong candidate, reiterates your interest in the role and helps you stay top of mind," says Julia Bonem,



a senior career consultant at Resume Strategists Inc.

Don't be generic. Send an individual message to everyone who interviewed you, and customize each one. "Each email should say something different in case staff compare thank-you notes," Bonem advises.

Don't delay. The sooner you send a follow-up note, the better. "Failing to be prompt with your appreciation can potentially take you out of the running for a job, especially if a hiring manager is making a

quick decision," Bonem says. While some experts say a personally written note makes the biggest impact, others say an email is perfectly OK. If you have a contact at the company, he or she may be able to advise you on which tactic is best.

Do ask for guidance. Even if you send a follow-up note, you may not hear back right away. Reach out again too soon, however, and your persistence may be perceived as peskiness. "If a place has not made a decision yet or they are waiting for final ap-

proval on something, again, ask when you should follow up to check on a final outcome," says Nikki Martinez, a licensed clinical professional counselor. Not only will you get a straight answer, your thoughtfulness will be noticed.

Don't resort to gimmicks. Some follow-up tactics can make you stand out — in a bad way. "Never show up at the company uninvited for any reason or send clever care packages, birthday presents or gimmicky items in an attempt to stay 'on the radar,'" Bonem says. Such gestures

can seem unprofessional or desperate and may take you out of consideration.

Do keep your options open. Even if you feel you have the job in the bag, opportunities sometimes fall through. Perhaps the hiring manager decides to "go another way," or maybe budgetary restrictions force a candidate search to be put on hold. Whatever the reason, keep your options open by continuing to network and apply for other jobs.

Don't burn bridges. If you don't get the job, don't write the company off just yet. "If you are turned (down) but like the company and they seem positive about you, it's absolutely appropriate to ask them to consider you for other positions, now or in the future," says Mikaela Kiner, founder of Uniquely HR. Check in with the recruiter or hiring manager every so often to remain top of mind. Should another opportunity arise with the company, you will be glad you didn't burn that bridge.

Mary Lorenz is a writer for the Advice & Resources section on CareerBuilder.com. She researches and writes about job-search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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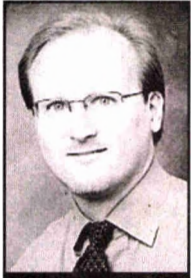
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Car Report

Audi Keeps Scaling New Heights with Latest Version of Q7 SUV and with Starring Role in new 'Captain America: Civil War'



By Dale Buss

The Audi Q7 already was the crème de la crème of SUVs, and the new 2017 version of this franchise vehicle has taken things to a whole new level. So why shouldn't we

be surprised that marketing of the Q7 line and other Audi products is rising to a whole new level through their presence in the hit movie Captain America: Civil War?

Driving the new, substantially enhanced Q7 as I did lately was an absolute joy from beholding the nameplate's new exterior design, where Audi has added some exquisite new lines, to enjoying the ride on the inside.

For one thing, there's the

panoramic sunroof which makes even rear-seat passengers feel like they're taking an open-coach ride, when that's desirable. Also, Audi — an acknowledged leader in the autonomous-driving derby — already has provided almost hands-free driving with its adaptive cruise control.

This feature essentially keeps you in your lane and away from cars in front of you, and I tested it with several maneuvers. Not only did Audi technology perform flawlessly, but it also provides the kind of smooth acceleration and deceleration — even in rather sudden avoidance actions — that you'd hope you'd execute as a skilled human driver.

So consider Q7 not only a sales winner for Audi but a worthy flagship SUV to which other luxury makes will have to aspire.

Meanwhile, Audi also is taking quite a ride with the Marvel

superheroes franchise as the new Captain America movie bursts out of the gate at the box office.

Tony Stark, Iron Man's alter ego played by Robert Downey, Jr., first drove an Audi R8 and its variations in the Iron Man movie in 2008. Audi was able to use the tech-laden vehicle to add to all the other things that have been going right for the Volkswagen-owned brand in the past several years as the next two Iron Man movies have fared well at the box office.

In the new Captain America flick, which stars both of those superheroes and others from the Marvel stable on various sides of an epic struggle, Stark steps up to a 610-hp RB V10 coupe.

But more than that, the new Audi SQ7 performance SUV is another automotive star of the movie. Its climactic scene is a chase in which Captain America, played by Chris Evans, is behind the wheel of an SQ7.

Loren Angelo, director of marketing for Audi of America, thinks the role of the SQ7 is ideal: For all its performance capability and technological sophistication, a family vehicle is whisking Captain America through a spectacular scene in the film.

"It's perfect to put our brand in these settings and be able to demonstrate how Audi is a component of the action and excitement that the Avengers represent," Angelo told me in an interview.

It's interesting to get other Audi vehicles, including an SUV, involved in the Iron Man and Marvel story.

Angelo: Whether it's the SQ7 or A4



The new 2017 Audi Q7 stars in its own ad related to 'Captain America' movie.

or R8, the brand is a part of the story. Audiences see the four rings and consumers have associated them with movie blockbuster action.

There's an organic thing going on with the technology in today's Audi vehicles and the cutting-edge technology represented by superheroes and their gadgets, right?

Angelo: The Avengers represent high-level technology, and Audi is the vehicle that carries them into the action as they are saving the world.

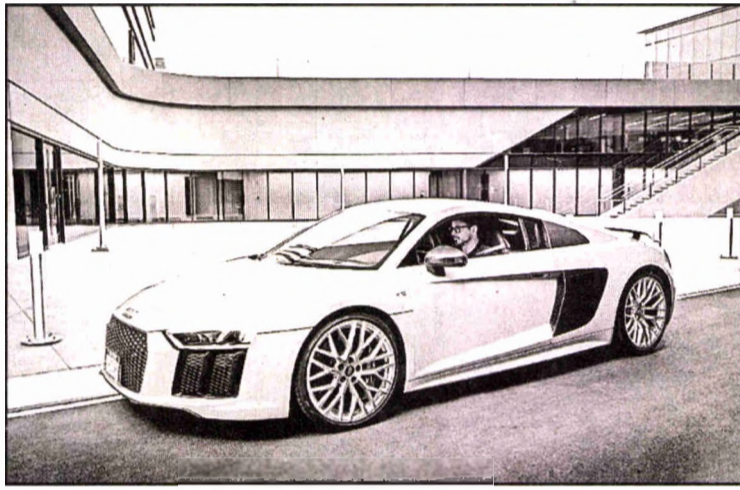
You've also got a TV commercial called "The Chase," featuring a family in an Audi Q7 that finds itself unwittingly in the middle of the movie's biggest chase scene. How did that happen?

Angelo: It was a unique opportunity to play off one of the critical scenes in the movie. And we

were able to release unique footage in our ad. It demonstrates how the Q7 can actually perform in every single challenge that's thrown at it.

One reason the Audi brand has risen to such great heights is that it has been perceived as a "challenger" brand to traditional German luxury, and you've certainly played that up. With sales increasing by double-digit percentages every year, and Audi brand equity leading the industry by many measures, can you keep selling Audi as that challenger brand?

Angelo: Our brand still needs to strengthen our awareness in comparison to the competition. That's why high-profile platforms play a critical role not only in launching new cars but also to give our brand new recognition on the biggest stages. But we're still outspent in marketing 3-to-1 by Mercedes and Lexus.



"Tony Stark" in the latest, greatest Audi R8.

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