

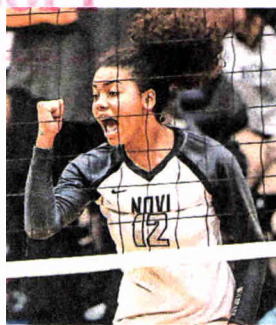


# Novi News

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**NOVI EARNS ANOTHER VOLLEYBALL STATE TITLE**  
SPORTS, B1

## Breakfast with Santa

The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department, in partnership with Novi Rotary, will host the annual Breakfast with Santa 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at the Novi Civic Center.

Children of all ages will enjoy spending the morning with family, friends and the favorite couple of the season, Mr. and Mrs. Claus.

The price is \$5 per person. Children under 2 are free. Spots will fill up fast, so do not delay. The deadline to pre-register is Friday, Dec. 2. To register, go to [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) or visit the Novi Parks office located inside the Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile Road. For questions about the event, call 248-347-0400.

## Area malls set holiday hours

Some will open Thanksgiving Day, others will stay closed

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com

While some will have visions of turkey and mashed potatoes this Thanksgiving, many will have dollar signs and doorbusters dancing in their heads.

Holiday shopping will see a big boost as shoppers begin to hit the malls this week. Several of them in the area are ready to

open by mid-afternoon.

Twelve Oaks mall in Novi will open at 6 p.m. Thursday and close at 2 a.m. early Friday morning. That night, general manager Dan Jones said, is one of the busier times the mall at 12 Mile and Novi roads will see during the year.

"It's a very strong crowd. A lot of families come out. Definitely one of the busier eight-

hour windows of time during the season," he said. "It's a very popular shopping night for our customers."

After the mall closes that night, it will open again at 7 a.m. Black Friday and remain open until 9 p.m.

Westland Shopping Center will also welcome patrons to the mall at Wayne and Warren roads in Westland on Turkey Day. The mall will be open from 6 p.m. to midnight Thursday and will open at 6 a.m. Black Friday

before closing at 9 p.m.

The hours at the Westland mall will be familiar to shoppers who have gone there in previous years, marketing manager Patrick Derrig said.

"It's the same hours, nothing changes drastically from last year to this year," he said.

What will vary are the anchor store hours at each mall: Each store has set its own hours, with some opting to remain open for

See MALLS, Page A2

## A LIFE WELL SPENT: HELPING OTHERS

Couple's mission: Expanding special-needs opportunities

Brad Kadrich  
hometownlife.com

Levi and Bassie Shemtov were raised in Jewish families, who believed a life well-spent was a life spent helping others.

They followed the teachings of an influential rabbi, who believed helping others was a large part of the reason God put them here on Earth.

And, like their families before them, the Shemtovs have done exactly that. But rather than sticking to helping those in their faith, Bassie and Levi have reached out to people of all faiths — especially children — with an outreach effort that benefits youngsters with autism, in particular.

The couple met through a connection with Bassie's brother, married in 1994 and moved from New York to Michigan. They started their outreach by establishing Friendship Circle (now one of more than 90 around the world), a nonprofit that provides assistance and support to thousands of people with special needs and their families by providing recreational, social, educational and vocational programming.

It focused on the Jewish community at first, meeting Levi's desire to help those with addictions. The group moved around for the first few years, finding space where it could in people's homes and even a trailer.

"We wanted to do social outreach," Bassie Shemtov said. "Levi thought it would be a good fit for him ... to reach out to the community suffering from addiction. As it grew, we were able to expand. Leaders told us there was a need in the special-needs community, so we reached out there, too."

### Starting small

The outreach started out small, with the Shemtovs finding a few teenagers to "do a good deed" and taking them to the homes of the special-needs children they were serving. The work was really aimed at helping the children — "We wanted to help the children and give respite to the families," Levi

See OUTREACH, Page A3



Levi and Bassie Shemtov, founders of Friendship Circle, opened Soul Cafe in April.

JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Friendship Circle LifeTown, located at the Meer Center in West Bloomfield, has a bank branch and a library where special-needs students can learn some of life's lessons.

S23 P1

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## MALLS

Continued from Page A1

more than 24 hours during the shopping blitz. Anchor stores at both Twelve Oaks and the Westland Shopping Center will be open the following hours:

» JC Penney will open at 3 p.m. Thursday and remain open through 10 p.m. Friday.

» Macy's will open at 5 p.m. Thursday and remain open through 10 p.m. Friday.

» Sears will be open from 6 p.m. to midnight Thursday and then again from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday.

In addition, the Kohl's at Westland Shopping Center will open at 6 p.m. Thursday and remain open all night until midnight the following day. Lord & Taylor at Twelve Oaks will open at 5 p.m. Thursday and close at 2 a.m. Friday. The store will then open at 5 a.m.

Friday and close at 10 p.m. Nordstrom at Twelve Oaks will be closed Thursday, but will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday.

### Some malls closed

While some malls in the area will be bustling with shoppers, others have decided to shut their doors for the Thanksgiving holiday. One of those is Somerset Collection at Big Beaver and Coolidge Highway in Troy. The upscale mall will remain closed Thanksgiving, a tradition that has taken place at the mall, just north of Birmingham, for several years. Somerset will open at 8 a.m. Black Friday and remain open until 9 p.m.

One area mall has made the decision to close on the holiday for the first time in more than six years. Laurel Park Place, at Six Mile and Newburgh in Livonia, announced earlier this fall it would close for

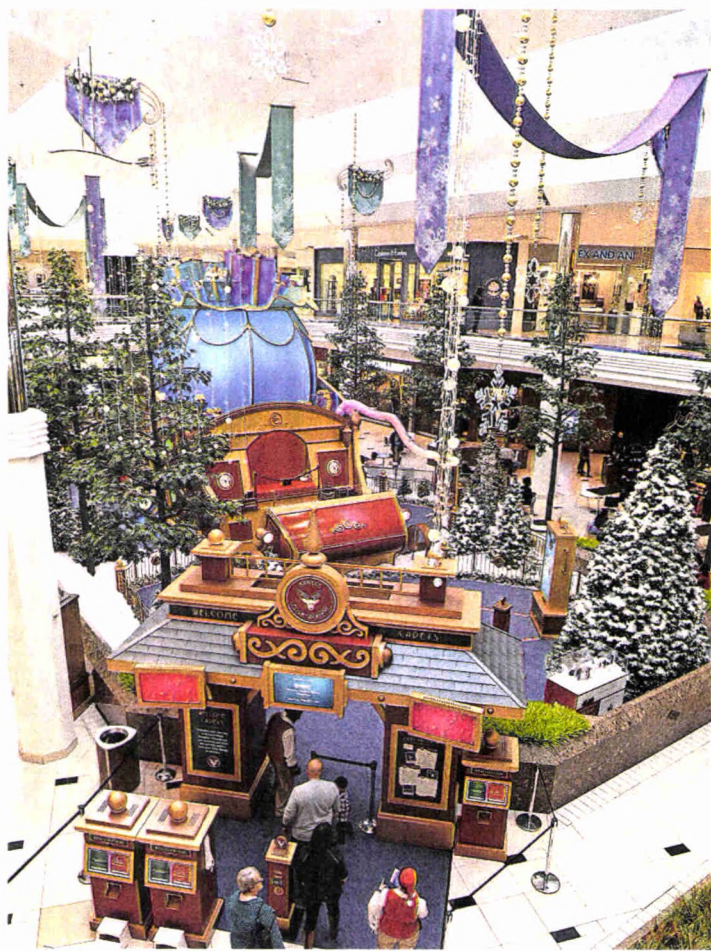
the Thanksgiving holiday, a decision made by its corporate parent, CBL & Associate Properties.

"We want you to spend Thanksgiving with family and friends and come fresh and excited to spend Black Friday with us," Stephen Lebovitz, the company's CEO, wrote in a letter posted on the Laurel Park Place website. "So enjoy that extra plate of pie at dinner, take a long afternoon nap, set your alarm and wake up with us to bring back the magic of Black Friday."

Laurel Park Place will open at 6 a.m. Friday and close at 10 p.m.

The only store open Thanksgiving at Laurel Park Place will be Carson's, which will open at 6 p.m. Thursday. The rest of the mall will open the next day, with several activities planned for children from noon to 2 p.m. Black Friday.

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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
The center court of Novi's Twelve Oaks mall is already decorated for its annual Christmas display. This year's theme is a Santa sleigh ride. The mall, near Novi Road and I-96, will have extended hours through the holiday season.

## NOVI NEWS

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## Got kidney stones? Try a roller coaster

R.J. Wolcott  
Lansing State Journal

Does your insurance cover amusement parks? Maybe it should.

For years, David Wartinger's patients told him stories of passing kidney



Wartinger

stones shortly after riding roller coasters. "Most urologists wouldn't be surprised by this," said Wartinger, a professor emeritus within Michigan State University's Department of Osteopathic Surgical Specialties. Jarring motions and vibrations often jostle stones stuck on the outer

area of kidney, enabling them to be passed.

But one patient's story prompted Wartinger to look at roller coasters more seriously. The patient told Wartinger he rode Big Thunder Mountain Railroad inside Disney World's Magic Kingdom three times in an hour and passed a stone shortly after each ride.

So Wartinger decided to test it himself. Alongside then-urology resident Mark Mitchell, Wartinger visited Disney in 2008.

He and Mitchell rode coasters with a backpack loaded with a 3D model of a kidney between them. Testing nearly 200 stones of different shapes and sizes, the pair found Big Thunder Mountain was particularly effective.

They found nearly 70 percent of stones were primed for passage when riding in the rear car at Big Thunder Mountain. Other carts on the ride weren't nearly as successful. The pair also tested Space Mountain and Aerosmith's Rock 'n' Roller Coaster, which failed to replicate Big Thunder Mountain's success.

Rough-riding coasters with quick turns are most likely to help stones move along, Wartinger said. Anyone looking to try Wartinger's method should avoid coasters with inverted loops or upside down movement.

The potential cost savings for patients, employers and insurance companies are substantial, Wartinger said.

"We want to offer people something cheaper than a \$5,000 Lithotripsy," he said, a procedure which breaks up large stones using ultrasound shock waves.

Coasters like Big Thunder Mountain won't work for everyone, Wartinger said. Much like a person's fingerprint, the inside of a person's kidney has a unique pattern. But for patients who know they have a small stone, recently had a larger stone broken-up or women looking to pass a stone before becoming pregnant, roller coasters are a logical proactive measure.

"I can tell you, if insurance companies want to save money, they'd cover visits to amusement parks," he said.



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# OUTREACH

Continued from Page A1

Shemtov said — but a funny thing happened on the way to the outreach. “We found (the teens) were actually bonding with them,” Bassie said. “It was supposed to be a one-way street, teens helping kids, but that’s not how it worked out. They often became friends.”

The nomadic nature of the center, though, couldn’t keep up with the mission and left the Shemtovs wanting something more permanent. “We were borrowing space everywhere ... to feel like a real organization, we felt we needed a space,” Bassie said.

Enter the Meer Center, opened with 23,000 square feet in West Bloomfield in 2005. The program grew exponentially — Meer Center houses LifeTown, a program that brings a sense of independence to autistic kids, with a Huntington Bank branch, a theater, a store and other avenues that teach the kids about money, socialization and other aspects of independence.

## Learning about life

A wide range of districts use the LifeTown program to teach their special-needs students life skills. Milford High School special education teacher Jennifer Grubb just had a group there Monday and has another group going Nov. 30. A total of some 55 autistic and cognitively impaired students from Huron Valley Schools use the program annually, she said.

Huron Valley has been using LifeTown for “at least 10 years,” Grubb said.

“It’s a really great opportunity for our kids to learn those life skills in a safe, friendly environment,” Grubb said. “It’s been a very positive experience for our kids.”

All of the outreach,



Learning about money is one of the benefits of the program at LifeTown.

particularly to those with special needs, fits with the teachings of Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, who the Shemtovs call the most influential Jewish leader of their time.

Schneerson, who they refer to as “Rebbe,” had a passion, Levi Shemtov explained, for understanding, as the underlying basis of the Jewish faith system, that each person “has a soul sent here by God with a unique mission.”

“Rebbe doesn’t see people; he sees souls. ... He dedicated his life to speaking to those souls,” Levi Shemtov said. “We decided to take that message and use it to elevate

other people.”

## Attracting donors

Word about that kind of work gets around, and Friendship Circle has benefited from generous donors who like the work the group is doing and came calling with offers to help.

“A lot of our donors were people who were attracted to us instead of us reaching out to them,” Levi said. “They saw the work we were doing and it spoke to them. They said, ‘I see what you’re doing and I want to be part of it.’”

That kind of work also gets around the professional communities.

Muyiwa Cornish, lead autism spectrum disorder teacher at Seaholm High School in Birmingham, said teachers around his district have heard about Friendship Circle and LifeTown through “word of mouth.”

The Birmingham district is using LifeTown for the first time this year.

“It’s a great educational opportunity” for ASD students, Cornish said. “They learn to use money, they learn to socialize ... it’s a great opportunity “to give them their independence.”

## Age progression

But what happens once the kids get past



Sam Morris prepares a table at Soul Cafe.

high-school age? It’s a question Bassie and Levi didn’t quite have an answer to, so they created one: The Farber Soul Center, opened in April 2016. The center houses the Soul Café and centers where artists can draw and painters can paint, a weaving room and an art gallery and is a place, Bassie Shemtov said, where special-needs adults can create.

The Soul Café is a place where autistic adults can continue their independence. Some 40 percent of the staff at the café are autistic.

“These are your families,” Levi Shemtov said. “If we went into it because we accepted this is our family, you don’t stop just because they turn 18. The reason you’re helping them is because they need the help.”

That, too, fits in with Schneerson’s philosophy that you shouldn’t limit people with challenges.

“Rebbe believes if God gives someone a challenge, He also gives them an exceptional trait,” Bassie Shemtov said. “Rebbe says when he sees someone with a challenge, he chooses to see them as exceptional. He sees something as its essence. The goal is to see deeper down and not just see the outside.”

Being leaders in their faith runs in the family. Bassie’s parents taught her to be involved and now Bassie is passing that faith down to her family. The Shemtovs’ daughter, Mushky, and her husband, Levi Dubov,

run the Chabad in Bloomfield.

## Life’s work

“My parents have raised us very strong in who we are and why we’re here,” Bassie said. “Everything we did was about helping people. My father gave us so much pride. He does what’s right. It’s being proud of who you are and never being judgmental.”

It’s been the couple’s life’s work and they hope they are fulfilling the destiny God gave them.

“I hope I’m doing what I’m supposed to be doing here,” Levi said. “We’re never sure what our mission is in this world. The harder you work, the more you can say, ‘Maybe this is the mission — to help them feel they are special, exceptional and that their life is not defined by their disability.’”

With Schneerson’s encouragement that they “dedicate our lives to the purity of our soul,” Bassie and Levi plan to continue the mission.

“When you know someone that holy and giving, it teaches you how to run your life,” Bassie said of Schneerson. “When you know why you’re here, it’s calming, it’s reassuring. Ever since we were little, we had a clear direction. It’s an amazing feeling to get up every day and be excited to go out and make this happen.”

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# Super talk: There's a lot for which to be thankful

As hard as it is to believe, Thanksgiving is upon. There is much for which to be thankful!

- I am thankful for:
- » Kind and compassionate students who on a daily basis demonstrate that they are eager care for and support each other.
  - » Curious and thoughtful students who enjoy learning and exploring ideas.
  - » Committed students who pour themselves into athletic, artistic and academic pursuits.
  - » Families who are



**Steve Matthews**  
SUPER TALK

committed to the idea of education and who understand the value of an education.

- » Committed parents who support their children with good homes and amazing opportunities.
- » Thoughtful and patient teachers who take the time needed to craft lessons that help our students grow.

» Smart and intellectually curious teachers who love the subjects that they teach.

» Kind teachers who take the time to listen to students and help them learn life lessons.

» Committed administrators who give of themselves daily to support the students and the staff in their buildings and in the district.

» Passionate administrators who work hard to create schools that are safe for our students and families.

» Building leaders who take on difficult

issues with kindness, firmness and compassion, ever mindful that each student is a valued member of our community.

» Administrators who work behind the scenes and who do not want the spotlight, but whose unseen work keeps our district running.

» Enthusiastic community support from our Novi Public Library, whose programs and resources serve our students and families well.

» Community members who understand the value of education and

support our schools.

» Supportive community leaders like our mayor and city manager, who are willing to visit our schools and talk with our students.

» Legislators who are accessible and who will listen to ideas on how to improve education in our state.

» Community support that provides our district and our students with world-class facilities and resources.

In a world that at times seems chaotic and difficult, I am thankful for the wonderful Novi

community. Our community supports our schools. That provides our students with opportunities that many students around our state and nation do not have.

As we pause this week and give thanks, I would like our community to know that I am thankful for this community and this school district.

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

## 150 years later, a former state governor comes home

**Ken Palmer**  
Lansing State Journal

Kinsley S. Bingham was Michigan's first Republican governor. He spoke against slavery, championed education and signed the legislation establishing an agricultural college that came to be known as Michigan State University.

But all of that was academic to Joshua Risner when he set about reproducing a portrait of Bingham to hang at the state Capitol Building.

Risner, the Capitol's decorative artist, felt an affection for the man based on the Lewis Ives portrait from more than 150 years ago.

"I think it's interesting how pleasant he looks," Risner said. "He looks like a guy who would be easy to get along with. It seems like the artist was able to capture this guy in an abstract way, an essential way. There's a kindness, a warmth that makes me think he was approachable."

Capitol historian Valerie Marvin had another



DAVE WASINGER/LANSING STATE JOURNAL. Joshua Adam Risner describes the handmade frame around his portrait of former Michigan Gov. Kinsley Bingham hanging in the Capitol Building Thursday in Lansing. The portrait will be formally unveiled during a ceremony on Monday.

word for it: "Grandfatherly." However you de-

scribe him, Bingham has joined the ranks of leaders hanging in the Capi-

tol's Gallery of Governors.

His likeness went up last week in a second-floor hallway of the Capitol's west wing in front of the Speaker's Library. The portrait was formally dedicated in a ceremony earlier this week.

The Michigan State Capitol Commission hopes to have all of Michigan's governors represented at the Capitol someday. Last year, 19th century territorial Gov. George Bryan Porter joined the fold through donation.

Bingham is No. 36; 11 are still missing.

"He was a remarkable man," Marvin said. "He was one of the most respected 19th century governors we had. I like that he has a strong personal connection with (the Lansing area). He grew up in a farming family in New York, learned law, served as a probate judge, a district attorney and was involved in politics for decades. He believed that agriculture education was very important. And he felt so strongly about the slavery issue.

That really became his life's work."

Bingham was governor from 1855-59. During the early to mid-1850s, he broke with fellow Democrats over the issue of slavery and joined with members of the Free Soilers, Free Democrats and Whigs to form the Republican Party.

Before becoming governor, Bingham was speaker of the state House for several years and served in the U.S. House. After his two terms as governor, Bingham represented Michigan in the U.S. Senate. He died in 1861.

The Ives portrait of Bingham was on exhibit at the Michigan Historical Commission. Risner used it as inspiration for a larger version. He also recreated the elaborate frame using three different types of wood.

"The frame is what drew me to the piece," Marvin said. "When we went over to see those portraits the first time, I thought this was clearly one of the most elegant. I remember thinking, what do we do with a

frame like this? I was both shocked and very impressed when Joshua said, 'Let me try.' We're very fortunate to have him on our staff. He's a very talented artist."

The portraits are an important part of the ambiance at the Capitol, Marvin said.

"The portraits can spark conversation," she said. "They create an opportunity to educate people about these past leaders. They draw us in. They give us insight into who this person was, what their priorities were as governors. What did they accomplish? What, perhaps, did they fail to accomplish?"

"Just seeing that face on the wall every day encourages me ... to discover just who that person was, what made them tick."

As for who might be next to join the Gallery of Governors, Marvin isn't talking specifics.

"We've tossed around several ideas," she said. "We'll probably look at it again in the new year."

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Alyssa Regan sells jams made by her mom Diana at a craft show. Diana Regan will sell handmade baked goods and jams at the upcoming holiday pop-up market in Milford.

## Sweets, greens, gifts abound at holiday pop-up market

**Sharon Dargay**  
hometownlife.com

Caramelized banana jam. Vanilla-cinnamon flavored maple syrup. Carrots that taste like candy.

You'll find those culinary treasures and more at the second annual Milford Farmers Market Holiday Pop-Up Market from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, at the corner of Main and Commerce in downtown Milford. The market will take place after the start of the Gobbler Gallop four-mile run/walk at 8:30 a.m. and during the community's annual Christmas parade, which starts at 10 a.m. along Main.

Kelley Kirchner, marketing and events coordinator, hopes the race and the parade will send lots of hungry participants to the pop-up market to grab a treat or two and a cup of hot cider. Shoppers will find fresh holiday greens, gift ideas, handmade jewelry and locally-produced baked goods and jams, all while browsing to the sounds of Christmas music.

"It's a community gathering. I truly feel you will feel the magic of Milford when you're here," Kirchner said. "People are pretty passionate about their farmers market. This is an opportunity to see the vendors again."

The pop-up market gives Lindsay Steele of Garden Fort, in South Lyon, and Diana Regan, owner of Highland Township-based Diana's Heirloom Produce, a chance to connect with customers before taking a break for winter.

Regan, who sells a variety of vegetables and fruits during the summer, switches to homemade jams and baked goods in late fall, when her produce harvest is gone. She'll have pecan shortbread, mint chocolate brownies—"you can grab those while you're watching the parade"—mini breads and soup and cookie mixes in jars for gift giving, in addition to her jams. She started selling her jam at the Milford Farmers Market just two weeks before it closed for the season last month.

"People are waiting for the jams," she said. "I have Michigan flavors, strawberry, blueberry and peach and even some cherry," she said. She also makes jalapeno and caramelized banana jam.

### Sweet, healthful

Steele has been experimenting with ways to extend the produce season on the farm and has tried sowing later into the growing season, with an eye toward harvesting in November and December.

"One thing we'll be bringing that I'm excited about will be carrots," said Steele, who also will sell leeks, arugula and salad greens. "If you start carrots early enough in the summer, you'll get them to grow to full size (by fall). The magic that happens with a carrot is once it starts

to see a frost or freeze, the carrot will freeze and then thaw and all the starches will turn to sugar, so it will make a sweeter carrot."

Bryan Droscha of Droscha Sugarbush in Mason is all about making life sweeter. He's a regular at Milford's spring-fall market and will sell maple syrup and maple syrup-flavored products at the pop-up event.

"We're getting ready for the holiday season," he said. "That is our season. People are thinking, 'Oh, I want pancakes,' although maple syrup is not just for pancakes anymore."

He sells a vanilla-cinnamon maple syrup

he calls "French toast in a bottle," along with vanilla-infused and bourbon barrel-aged syrups, mustard and barbecue sauce.

Other vendors will include Christine's Soaps, Warner's Orchard, Peru's Most Delicious, Stillpoint Wellness, Hollow Tree Honey, Rockin' with Linda, Brainer's Greenhouse, Palate Restaurant, Village Bar and Kitchen, Fortune Cooking Food Truck, Great Harvest Bread and Handcrafted Items by Lowell.

For more information, go to [meetmeinmilford.com](http://meetmeinmilford.com). For more on the Gobbler Gallop, go to [gobblergallop.com](http://gobblergallop.com).

[sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com)



Apryl Droscha sells her family's maple syrup.

# Kick off the Holidays in Downtown Plymouth

## The day after Thanksgiving



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**Friday, November 25th**

- 5:15pm Plymouth Canton Educational Park Choir takes the Kellogg Park stage**
- 5:30pm Joel Tacey "Let it Snow Santa Show"**
- 6:00pm Santa arrives by fire truck and turns on 1,100 new lights on the holiday tree**
- 6:30pm Santa's house officially opens for the season**
- 6:00pm- 8:00pm Free admission to "Yuletide at the White House" exhibit at the Plymouth Historical Museum. Children can also make crafts at "Santa's Workshop."**

- Enjoy snowflake lined streets, storefronts decorated for the season and lights on the Main St. boulevard trees and downtown streets**
- Sing along with the Plymouth Canton Educational Park strolling carolers every Friday and Saturday through Christmas**
- Stroll the Walk of Trees and other life-size holiday decorations in the winter wonderland of Kellogg Park**
- Visit Downtown shops and restaurants for holiday gifts**
- Donuts provided by IHA**
- For a complete listing of holiday events in Downtown Plymouth, visit [downtownplymouth.org/holidayevents](http://downtownplymouth.org/holidayevents)**



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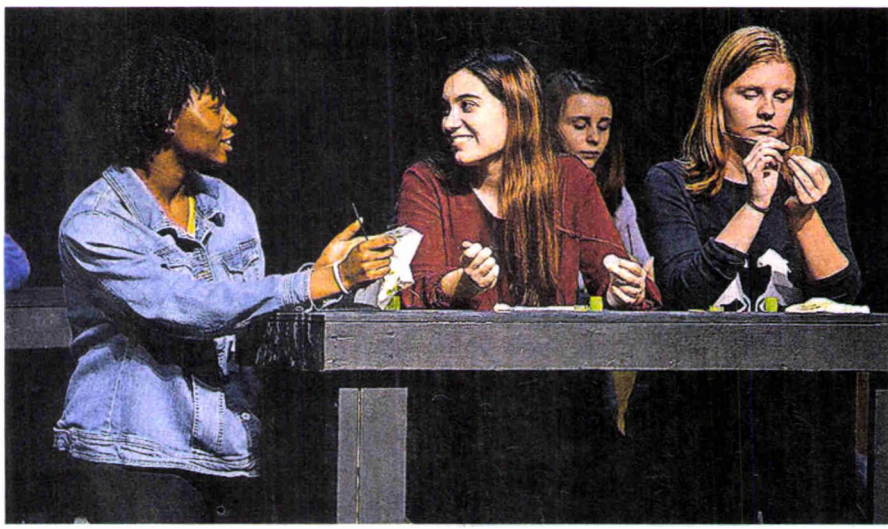
Sponsored by the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority and Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce

# Walled Lake Central presents 'Radium Girls'

Walled Lake Central High School Performing Arts Department presents "Radium Girls" Dec. 1-3 at Walled Lake Central High School (1600 Oakley Park Road in Walled Lake). Performances will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The students have dedicated weeks to making sure that the acting, sets, props and costumes are perfect so they can present a lovely work of art to the community. Students in leading roles include Renata Terrazzan, Drew Pype, Annie Laster, Jack Gibson, Marjorie Tubie, Christian Bashi, Malachi Graybill, Violet Wesenberg, and Maddy Strong.

In 1926, radium was a miracle cure, Madame Curie an international



Marjorie Tubie, Renata Terrazzan and Maddy Strong rehearse a scene from Walled Lake Central's production of "Radium Girls."

WALLED LAKE SCHOOLS

celebrity, and luminous watches the latest rage— until the girls who painted them began to fall ill with a mysterious disease. Inspired by a true

story, Radium Girls traces the efforts of Grace Fryer, a dial painter, as she fights for her day in court.

Her chief adversary is her former employer, Arthur Roeder, an idealistic man who cannot bring himself to believe that the same element that shrinks tumors could have anything to do with the terrifying rash of illnesses among his employees.

As the case goes on, however, Grace finds herself battling not just with the U.S. Radium Corporation, but with her own family and friends, who fear that her campaign for justice will backfire. Called a powerful and engrossing drama by critics, Radium Girls offers a wry,

unflinching look at the peculiarly American obsessions with health, wealth, and the commercialization of science.

"The students have loved working on this as it explores some of the darker aspects of human nature when it comes to corporate cover-ups and the pursuit of money," drama teacher Elizabeth Rextroat said. "The dedication to the ideas of the play has sparked some intriguing and inspiring discussions with the students."

Tickets are \$10 for adult and \$9 for seniors/students and can be purchased at the door, online at [www.wlcs.com](http://www.wlcs.com) or by calling 248-956-4980. All seats are reserved.

# Tipping Point stages 'The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance'

In the dusty, lawless town of Twotrees, an unconscious Ransom Foster is dragged into Hallie's saloon. He fell victim to Liberty Valance, an outlaw even the Marshal refuses to challenge. Once recovered, Foster sets himself on leaving town, but finds something worth staying for as he begins teaching Hallie to read. He is given a purpose in a broken land, but is it enough to save him from the vicious outlaw who still wants him dead? He must make the choice to turn and run or to fight for what he believes in. It's a classic western of good versus evil.

"Audience members can expect an exciting classic Western story told in a Tipping Point way up close and personal," director Angie Kane Ferrante said. "This particular production is challenging for a number of reasons. The story also deals with the



Dez Walker, David Bendena, Jim Porterfield and Hallie Bee Bard.

JOSE JUAREZ

issue of racial discrimination, which can be difficult to handle when told inside historical context. It's a fundamental layer to the story that needs to be handled delicately and truthfully."

When asked why should people want to see the show? she answered, "Who doesn't

love a cowboy story? There is something for everybody - and a mangy villain that will make your skin crawl."

"The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance" runs through Dec. 18. The curtain rises at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, with matinees at 3 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. A special mati-

nee performance has been added at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7.

The theater is at 361 E. Cady St. in Northville. Tickets are \$30 to \$40 for adults, \$28 to \$33 for senior citizens. For tickets or more information, call the box office at 248-347-0003.



Dez Walker, Hallie Bee Bard, Stebert Davenport and Dan Jaroslaw.

JOSE JUAREZ



Hallie Bee Bard, Dez Walker and David Bendena.

JOSE JUAREZ

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# Gymnastics center next step in Green Oak 'gateway'

**Jennifer Eberbach**  
Livingston Daily

Plans to eventually develop a new neighborhood — almost a community unto itself — on vacant land around the Legacy Center Sports Complex in Green Oak Township could take another step forward soon.

A proposed 45,370-square-foot Vortex Gymnastics Center could be the next addition to 285 acres of land located on the north and south sides of Winans Lake Road off U.S. 23, about three miles south of Brighton.

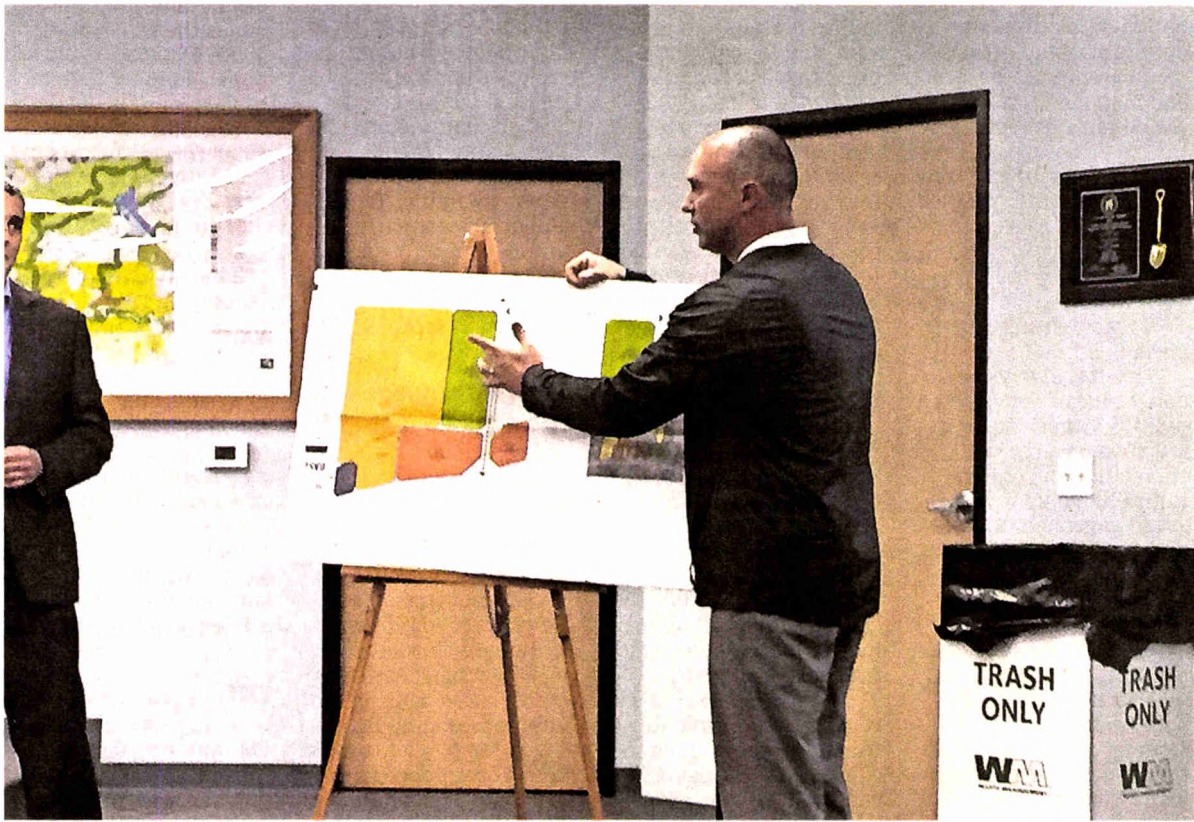
Legacy Center Sports Complex owner Rodney Goble said he envisions it will one day be "a new gateway to Green Oak," and include hundreds of homes, retail businesses, possibly a hotel and a grocery store.

It is all part of a planned unit development called Legacy Park, which was approved in 2012. Goble and partners represent the Legacy Park PUD, which maps out what kind of future developments would go on the vacant land.

The development already includes a 101,000-square-foot indoor sports fieldhouse, a 104,000-square-foot inflated dome with artificial turf used for multiple sports, and a 15,000-square-foot baseball and softball training facility as well as outdoor fields.

## Developers seeking approval for gymnastics center

Vortex Gymnastics Center, if approved by township officials, could feature gymnastics training classes, competitions, cheerleading, trampolines, a kids areas with a ninja warrior course, and it might eventually add an indoor ropes course, co-owners Jonathan Conrad and



Legacy Center Sports Complex owner Rodney Goble talks about the Legacy Park planned unit development as Paul Montagno, a planning consultant from the township, listens. Vacant land around the sports complex is planned for future development of homes and businesses.



A photo of an early architectural rendering of a proposed Vortex Gymnastics Center. The gymnastics center is proposed as the next step in a development that could eventually include hundreds of homes, a hotel, grocery store and additional retail around the Legacy Center Sports Complex.

Guy Sawka and their development team told township planners.

It would also feature party rooms to rent out, a pro shop, concessions and a second story mezzanine for spectators.

"We're trying to make it an easy place to go for

families," Sawka said.

He said a lot of the traffic would "piggyback off the Legacy Center," and part of the family could be at the sports complex while other family members visit the gymnastics center.

A future commercial

out lot could be developed as retail, like a coffee shop, Conrad and Sawka said.

The township's planning commission is considering the developers' request to amend the Legacy Park development to allow for the recreational facility to be built on the northwest corner of Winans Lake and Whitmore Lake roads just east of the Legacy Center.

That corner was originally planned for commercial development and the gym would be considered a recreational use. The building itself would be larger than the township would normally allow — 20,000 square feet — on land zoned for village center mixed use. And putting parking in front off Winans Lake Road would be another

deviation.

Township planners also need to review a traffic study.

Goble and Paul Montagno, a planning consultant for the township, both said they expect a proposal for hundreds of residences on the south side of Winans Lake Road to be in the township's hands shortly.

A residential component of 371 units was discussed in the past, but developers took it off the table for revisions.

Montagno indicated Thursday it would include a mixture of single-family homes and multi-family units, like town homes.

The exact number of soon-to-be proposed residences was not discussed.

In addition, Goble and his partners are planning

to expand the Legacy Center even more with a medical wellness building, baseball stadium, ballfields and another field house, he said earlier this year.

That could be a few years down the road, he indicated.

No other commercial or retail development proposals have come forward. However, the development plan allows for a list of uses, including a hotel and grocery store, as well as retail and commercial uses.

## Public discusses pros and cons

Township resident Beth Hess said she is in favor of the vision for the development.

"I've been waiting for something like this. It's going to bring in commerce," Hess said, who added the proposed gymnastics center "is beautiful."

However, others voiced doubts.

"Traffic is a real issue for us," Chris Burrell, who lives on the corner of Winans Lake and Rickett roads. "There was an event on Saturday, and we couldn't get out of the driveway for like two hours."

No action was taken by the planning commission Nov 3.

Members expressed approval for the gymnastics center, but they indicated more work needs to be done to amend the development plan and address future traffic generated from new homes and businesses.

The developers were asked to update the plans for the center, including allowing access only from Goble Drive and work with the township's attorney on legal language to more clearly define the development.

The Planning Commission is expected to review the plan again later this year.

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LETTERS

**America we believe in**

In regard to the daily protests occurring in cities across America since the election, I have seen many news reports reporting people (Trump supporters) saying there were no protests when President Obama was elected.

This is untrue, there were protests with people carrying guns in the open very near places where President Obama was speaking. People had posters of President Obama looking like the Joker and Hitler as well as many other things. This also happened during Obama's campaign. There were also chants of, "Not my President," just as they are occurring now.

If you look on social media you'll find many examples of less than civil conversation. Even more disturbing are the rumors, the outright lies and misinformation of personal attacks occurring on both sides. This also occurred when President Obama was elected and continued to occur throughout his Presidency. An example would be people claiming President Obama is not a U.S. citizen and is a Muslim.

I believe most of the insecurity and fear people are now experiencing could be, and should be, addressed by President-Elect Trump. He could reassure people that he will be president for all Americans. While he said this the night of the election he should continue

saying it in an effort to calm our country's fears and insecurities.

We are, in the end, a nation with different opinions. We all need to step back, take a breath, and help make America the country we believe in.

**Adam Parker**  
Novi High School  
sophomore

**Disagree, but with respect**

Respect despite disagreement.

This has always been a core value of American politics. Americans may not always agree with each other on political issues like big versus small government, taxes, and the like, but we have always respected each other and the right to disagree.

Whether we agreed or not with the political positions of Carter, Reagan, Bush, Clinton or Obama, we believed that they respected all Americans. Not this year. For many Americans, this election escalated past mere political platforms and became about something much more important: the foundational requirement itself that an American President should respect and include, not disparage and exclude large groups of Americans.

In this election, many Americans became willing to set aside their personal economic interests and party devotion to take a stand for all Americans, including people not like them. Many Americans voted against a candidate who made fun of Americans

with disabilities, said racist and bigoted things about non-white, non-Christian, non-heterosexual Americans, and who admitted to sexually predatory acts against American women.

That Mr. Trump was elected has resulted in feelings of sadness and fear for many Americans – not for usual political reasons but sadness that fellow Americans did not understand or value the bigger picture. Feelings of sadness that divisiveness, bigotry, and hate won. Many Americans now fear that racism, bigotry, and misogyny will be accepted and even promoted by the next president.

The appointment of a white supremacist to a top advisory position only inflamed those fears more. How can the same Americans who Mr. Trump made fun of, disrespected and singled out for exclusion from our country now be asked to respect Mr. Trump and unite together as one?

Feelings of sadness and hurt do not just go away, even when they annoy other people. And these feelings definitely will not go away with continued argument for one candidate or another. Feelings are not that simple.

So where do we go from here? I don't have answers but I do have an idea: how about if we – all of us – work to include all Americans in our country's next four years. Understand that racism, bigotry and misogyny are objective realities in this country and stand up to the political leaders in

your own party who promote them. Take an active stand against hate and exclusion. Work for inclusion. Actually get to know people who feel excluded and why they feel that way; don't just read or hear about it from slanted media.

How about if all Americans – including Trump supporters – work to eliminate hateful speech and conduct and to include people not like us.

**Jacqui Schulte**  
Novi

**A thank you to businesses**

The Friends of the Northville District Library are grateful for the continuing support of local businesses and the interest and loyalty they have demonstrated over the years. The Library continually looks for ways to reciprocate that appreciation. During the Summer Reading Programs the Library prints names of supporters on book bags that find their way around the community and share recognition along the way. Business supporters are crucial to the success of the reading programs and the Friends make every effort to highlight that partnership.

Recently, the Library celebrated its 20th anniversary in the Cady Street building. Again, our business partners stepped up with their contributions of gift baskets, gift cards and coupons to use as raffle items. Business donors names were printed in the event program to bring recognition to their generosity.

Businesses tell us they understand the value the Library brings to the Northville community and are enthusiastic about demonstrating that understanding time and time again. The Friends wish is to maintain a strong bond of cooperation with all those businesses who have endorsed the library and to invite those who have not previously participated in our programs to join this esteemed group in the future.

Please say yes the next time you receive a membership solicitation or a request for participation in our enrichment programs. Only with that support will the Library remain the jewel it is and grow to achieve the future we all expect.

**Friends of Northville District Library**

**Offers her gratitude**

I am grateful for the community's support to allow me to serve another four years on Northville's Board of Education. Whether you talked to your neighbor on my behalf, agreed to display a yard sign or wrote a letter of support, I am invigorated by your vote of confidence and look forward to working with our staff, parents and community in making decisions which will benefit our children in the years to come.

I congratulate my colleagues, Sarah Prescott and Matt Wilk, and newcomer Laurie Doner, and am confident their individual talents will complement the exemplary mix of professionals who make up the

Board. This District is wonderfully blessed to have seven incredible professionals who are passionate and dedicated champions for our children.

Scott Frush will continue as a strong advocate in his role as treasurer of the Northville Educational Foundation, our partner who works so diligently to move the district's initiatives into reality.

I stand ready, as the entire board does, to continue to work together for our District and our community. Happy Holidays to you and yours.

**Cyndy Jankowski**  
Northville

**'We accepted Obama'**

My wife and I would like to congratulate Leo Weber on his great letter in last week's paper. You hit the nail on the head for us, plus many family members and millions of Americans. It's a shame that people can't accept the outcome of the election without violence. We accepted Obama twice and got through it without violence. Plus, I find it very disturbing that the generation that is supposed to lead us into our future has to resort to coloring books, Play-Doh, LEGOs and therapy dogs to deal with disappointment. Life is filled with many disappointments and you can't just stop what you are doing and start coloring in books.

**Craig Knapp**  
Northville

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# Veteran's family reunited with his Purple Heart

**Joe Guillen**  
Detroit Free Press

The chance discovery in a Jerusalem consignment shop of World War II veteran Robert Mathis' Purple Heart certificate led U.S. Army Lt. Col. Matthew Yandura on a three-year journey to reunite the award with Mathis' family.

It was a quest that involved contacting military agencies, scouring the Internet and reaching out to suspected family members, only to be told he had the wrong Mathis family. "It was maddening," said Yandura, now a military science professor at Loyola University in Chicago.

This summer, with the help of Army Cadet Jay Choi, Yandura tracked down Mathis' family, 72 years after he was killed in action defending the beachfront of Anzio, Italy, in 1944.

On Nov. 13, several family members and Jewish war veterans were among more than 100 people who attended an hour-long ceremony at the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills to reunite Mathis' family with the Purple Heart certificate he earned on that beach in Italy. He is buried at a Jewish cemetery in metro Detroit.

"In reuniting Robert's certificate to his family, we dutifully return a soldier's lost honor," Yandura said Sunday during the ceremony. "We also restore a piece of a family's proud Jewish history and we also remind ourselves of the price of freedom and the cost of war."

Born Reuven Matusevitch in Lithuania, Mathis immigrated to the U.S. around 1939 and changed his name. After a couple of years, Mathis enlisted in the U.S. Army and was deployed with the 36th Combat Engineers. About the same time, Mathis' wife and child — whom he planned to bring to the U.S. — were killed by Nazis in Lithuania, along with his parents, Mathis' family members said Sunday.

As a combat engineer, Mathis was an infantryman technically versed in all aspects of detonation and explosives. He helped clear routes for combat teams and discarded captured enemies' explosives, said Choi, who met Yandura through Loyola's ROTC program and joined the effort to help find Mathis' family.

In Italy, "Mr. Mathis and his unit held their defensive position for 47 long, cold, grueling, aching days on the line without any relief," Choi said. "This never-quit, bend-but-don't-break attitude helped develop a unit motto — rugged."

Faye Menczer Ascher of West Bloomfield, Mathis' niece, spoke at Sunday's ceremony and recalled memories of her uncle. She remembered going to a toy store in Detroit with Mathis while he was visiting on furlough. She also remembered, as a girl 9 or 10 years old, seeing Mathis' Purple Heart in its box in one of her mother's drawers.

Exactly what happened to the medal and its certificate is unclear. The family believes the Purple Heart certificate eventually was in the possession of Mathis' brother in New York. Later in life, the brother moved to Jerusalem to be near his sister. After they both died, the family thinks there was an estate sale and the certificate came into the hands of an antique map dealer whose goods were for sale at the Jerusalem consignment shop where Yandura came upon it in 2013 while he was stationed at the Jerusalem consulate.

"While perusing the maps, my eye caught a small, non-descript gold frame resting on the ground against another map," Yandura said Sunday during the ceremony.



Allyse and Evan Denmark present a pair of glass eagle statues to Cadet Jay Choi and Lt. Col. Matthew Yandura as thanks for finding them and returning a Purple Heart Certificate Yandura found, belonging to their predecessor, Tech 5th Grade Robert Mathis, at the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills.



A group of Jewish war veterans thank Cadet Jay Choi for reuniting the family of Tech 5th Grade Robert Mathis with his Purple Heart Certificate during a ceremony at the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills.



Gloria Zeitak of Israel and Faye Menczer Ascher of West Bloomfield, nieces to Tech 5th Grade Robert Mathis, share their stories and memories of him.

"As I knelt down to get a closer look, I immediately recognized that the frame contained not a map, but a Purple Heart certificate."

Yandura said he asked for the certificate so it could be returned to the family. But the map deal-

er insisted on \$100, Yandura said. He paid for it and pledged to find Mathis' family. The certificate and a new medal were presented to the family Sunday.

The ceremony drew relatives from Israel, England and across the

U.S. Family members said the experience brought them closer together and taught younger generations unfamiliar with Mathis about his service.

The army's contact with his family began over the summer, when a

researcher contacted Allyse Denmark, Mathis' great niece who grew up in West Bloomfield and lives in Atlanta.

The U.S. is a nation of immigrants, Denmark, 48, said, and learning about Mathis helped Denmark and her family better understand its

history.

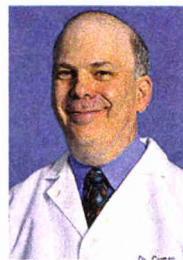
"Not everyone understands their immigrant story. But so many people who come to America are either fleeing some place in adversity or they're coming for a better life," she said. "We all have a story. This was our story."



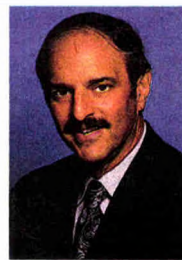
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Fireworks light up the sky.

# The lights are on at annual Lightfest

The Wayne County Lightfest officially opened Nov. 17 with the Lights On ceremony at Merriman Hollow Park, located at 7651 Merriman in Westland.

The Lightfest is the largest holiday light show in the Midwest, displaying more than 50 animated themed displays and more than 100,000 lights. Among the attractions at the ceremony was a performance by the Livonia Franklin High School choir, a fireworks show and an appearance by Santa. The ceremony concluded with Wayne County Exec-

utive Warren C. Evans turning on the switch to kick off the first drive of the 23rd annual Lightfest.

Lightfest runs through Dec. 31, with a closure Sunday, Dec. 25. The cost per vehicle is \$5. Visitors enter Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman Road in Westland and exit onto Warren Avenue near Telegraph Road in Dearborn Heights.

During Lightfest, Hines Drive closes to traffic at 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and at 5 p.m. each weekend.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne County Lightfest begins.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Santa Claus wows the Lightfest crowd.



## Passages

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### BROSCH



**JACQUELINE I. "JACKIE"**  
Age 94 of Novi, passed away November 13, 2016. Jacqueline was born in Detroit, Michigan to Theresa "Tess" and John Mack. She was married to the love of her life, H. Theodore (Ted) Brosch for 68 years. Jacqueline studied ballet from age 5 and spent her working career performing as a professional ballerina at numerous venues across the country. Jackie will be remembered for her great love of Ted, the theatre, and her keen fashion sense and elegant style. She and her husband were founding members of the Tipping Point Theatre in Northville and were generous supporters of many charities over their lifetime. These included: The Humane Society, The Capuchin Soup Kitchen, The Disabled American Veterans and many others. She was preceded in death by her loving husband Ted, her cherished mother Tess, and father John. She is survived by a loving community of friends, church members, and neighbors. Funeral services were held, local arrangements by the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 248-348-1800. Online condolences to [obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://obriensullivanfuneralhome.com).

### LANGHE

**HAROLD F.** 81, of South Lyon, passed away on November 17, 2016. He was born on October 16, 1935, son of the late Clarence and Eva Lange. Harold proudly served in the United States Army receiving the rank of Sergeant. He was active in the Lions Club, Brighton Masonic Lodge, South Lyon VFW Post 1224, American Legion and was a softball coach, an avid hunter and bowler, and was the first male girl scout leader in Oakland County when his daughter was younger. Harold was known for giving family and friends nicknames. He was kind, generous and always put the needs of others before his own. Harold enjoyed helping others, especially around the holidays. He is survived by his beloved wife, Wanda; his daughter, Rhonda (Chris) Walters; granddaughter, Ashleigh; his sisters, Sandra Hornsby and Barbara Michael; his brothers, Albert Lange and David Sticker; and also by many nieces, nephews, and friends. Visitation was held on Sunday, November 20 and a funeral service was held on Monday, November 21 at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. He was laid to rest in South Lyon Cemetery.  
[www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)

### PADO

**ROBERT J.** July 11, 1948 - November 13, 2016  
Expressions of sympathy at [obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)

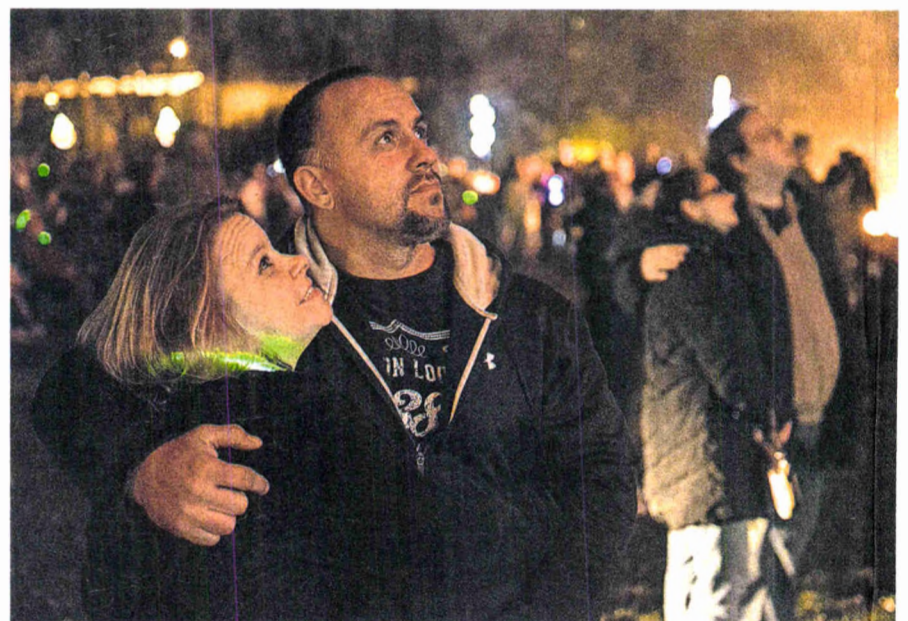


### RAYS

**BARBARA A.** June 7, 1931 - November 11, 2016  
Expressions of sympathy at [obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)

### ROCCO

**BEVERLY MAE** a resident of Milford, former resident of Detroit and Sterling Heights, and native of Cleveland, Ohio, died on November 16, 2016 at the age of 86. She was preceded in death by her husband, Arthur in 1984, and is survived by daughters, Elizabeth Barnes and Catherine (the late Richard) Winowiecki; son, Charles (Julie) Rocco; grandchildren, Nicole, Richard, Christopher, Gregory, Cameron, Tyler, and a great grandson, Braydon. Funeral Mass was held at St. Mary Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church, Milford. Memorials may be made in her name to the National Kidney Foundation or to the Milford Senior Center. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit [LynchFuneralDirectors.com](http://LynchFuneralDirectors.com)



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jay and Monica Suarez have come to opening night of Lightfest for 10 years. They are from Westland.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dionne Fitch handed her son, 2-year-old Cain Hawkins, to Santa. Cain doesn't look too sure about the bearded guy in the red suit.

# Toys for Tots begins prep for season

**David Veselenak**  
hometownlife.com

With Thanksgiving fast approaching, Christmas isn't that far off. And with the season of giving starting, area Toys for Tots coordinators are ramping up their efforts.

The program has coordinators all across the region, and wants those in the local community to

know who to contact if they're looking to donate or are in need of some assistance this holiday season.

Kim Felske, a regional coordinator with Toys for Tots, said the group wants to inform residents of who their area coordinator is to help assist them in making sure donations, collections and other information are going to the

right person.

"We don't want people missed, (that) is our biggest concern," the Brownstown Township resident said. "We'd like the toys collected in their communities to stay in their communities."

Coordinators for certain parts of the area have changed. For those in Livonia, Wayne and Westland, residents and

business owners can contact Nakii Adams at 734-258-2083 or via email at nakii4t@gmail.com. For those in Redford Township and Garden City, the point person is Phil Smith, who can be reached at 313-720-2754 or at psmithtoysfortots@gmail.com. For those living in Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Birmingham, Farmington,

Farmington Hills, Novi, South Lyon or Milford, the contact person is Rebecca Yarbrough, who can be reached at 248-331-7433 or t4trebecca@aol.com.

These coordinators can be contacted if a family is in need of assistance this holiday season, if someone is looking to donate items or if a business wants to set up a donation box.

More information can be found at [trenton-mi.toysfortots.org](http://trenton-mi.toysfortots.org),

[novi-mi.toysfortots.org](http://novi-mi.toysfortots.org) or [detroit-mi.toysfortots.org](http://detroit-mi.toysfortots.org).

Felske said the organization still sees need all across the region. Some areas tend to be higher for donations than others, though she said the need across Metro Detroit hasn't gone down.

"What we haven't seen is the need going up. But that could be for many different reasons," she said. "We haven't seen a drop in need for many, many years."

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# Worship

### Whitmore Lake

**FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH**  
10774 Nine Mile Road  
Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582  
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

### Highland

**Church of the Holy Spirit**  
3700 Harvey Lake Rd, Highland  
Saturday Mass 5PM,  
Sunday Mass 9 & 11AM  
248-887-5364 | HolySpiritHighland.com  
The Holy Spirit is Here - Come Home  
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### Novi

**BRIGHTMOOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
40800 W. 13 Mile Road, Novi  
on the corner of M-5 & W 13  
Sundays 9:15a & 11:15a  
[www.brightmoorcc.org](http://www.brightmoorcc.org)  
something for the entire family

**HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375  
Saturday 4:30 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)  
Sunday 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.  
Fr. Bob LaCroix, Pastor  
Fr. Beto Espinoza, Associate  
Parish Office: 349-8847 • [www.holyfamilynovi.org](http://www.holyfamilynovi.org)

### Milford

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(an Episcopal Community)  
"God Loves You. No Exceptions!"  
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• Nursery, Sunday School 10am  
[stgeorgesmilford.org](http://stgeorgesmilford.org)  
801 E. Commerce Street, Milford 48381

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Preschool, Pre-K & Kdg. - Mo. Synod  
620 General Motors Rd., Milford  
Church office: (248) 684-0895  
Worship Services:  
Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
Bible Study: at 9:45  
Rev. Martin Gressler

**FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
44400 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-349-2345  
1/2 mile west of Novi Rd.  
[www.faithcommunity-novi.org](http://www.faithcommunity-novi.org)  
WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10 AM  
"Children, Youth and Adult Ministries"

**HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL**  
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Sunday Worship 8 am & 10 am  
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VISITORS WELCOME!  
133 Detroit St., Milford • 248-684-5695  
Pastor Steve Swayze  
Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 am • Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.  
Wednesdays, 6:45-8:15 p.m.  
Awana, 3 yrs old thru 5th grade (Sept.-March)  
and Youth Group for 6th grade and older  
Website: [milfordbaptist.org](http://milfordbaptist.org)

**MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Pastor Bryant Anderson  
238 N. Main Street, Milford MI (248) 684-2805  
[www.milfordpc.org](http://www.milfordpc.org)  
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School age 3 thru 5th grade @ 10 a.m.  
Youth Group 10 am - Grades 6-12  
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**MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
21355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 1/2 Mile  
248-348-7757 • [www.mbcoc.org](http://www.mbcoc.org)  
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.  
Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister  
LO-0002267128

**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](http://www.oakpointe.org)

**OAKPOINTE | milford CHURCH**  
1250 South Hill Rd.  
(248) 685-3560  
[www.opcmilford.org](http://www.opcmilford.org)  
Contemporary Worship Service:  
8:30, 10:15, and 11:45.

**Milford United Methodist Church**  
1200 Atlantic St., Milford, MI 48381  
Sunday Worship: 9:30 am & 10:00 am  
Children's Church: 9:40 am  
Sunday School for all ages: 10:30 am  
Groups for Children, Youth and Adults  
248-684-2798  
[milfordumc.net](http://milfordumc.net)

**ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI**  
46325 10 Mile Rd. • Novi, MI 48374  
Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.  
Msgr John Kasza, Pastor  
Parish Office: 347-7778

**NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
41671 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 48375  
Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m.  
Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor  
248-349-2652  
[www.umcnovi.com](http://www.umcnovi.com)  
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### South Lyon

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
205 E. Lake (10 Mile) (248) 437-2875  
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Playroom available  
Kids/Youth Connection Sundays 6:30 p.m.  
Mid-Week Study Wednesday 7:00 p.m.  
Rev. Michael Horlacker, Pastor  
[www.fpcsouthlyon.org](http://www.fpcsouthlyon.org)  
LO-0002268993

**BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH**  
Gathering in Jesus Name  
52909 10 Mile Rd • South Lyon, MI 48178  
Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.  
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.  
Mike Ragan, Pastor  
734-347-1983 pastor call  
Old fashioned preaching KJV

### Northville

**First United Methodist Church NORTHVILLE**  
(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](http://www.fumcnorthville.org)

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

**The Church of Christ**  
21860 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon, MI 48178  
248-437-3585 • [www.southlyoncoc.org](http://www.southlyoncoc.org)  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School,  
10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship  
Wednesday Midweek Ministries 7 p.m.  
Matthew Oliver, Minister  
LO-0002302990

**CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN**  
(Missouri Synod)  
Pastor Terry Neilson  
437-8810 • 486-4335  
Griswold Rd. at 10 Mile  
Worship: 10 a.m.; Sunday School: 10 a.m.;  
Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m.  
LO-0002288571

**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  
[oursaviouralc.com](http://oursaviouralc.com)

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

**Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
22200 Pontiac Trail (S of 9 Mile)  
Sunday Worship @ 9:30 am  
Sunday School @ 11 am  
Wednesday mid-week programs  
Rev. David Brown, Pastor  
248-437-2222 • [www.fellowshippepc.org](http://www.fellowshippepc.org)

**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 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.  
Senior Pastor: Rob Freshour / Assoc. Pastor: Randy Weeks  
Website: [www.fbcsouthlyon.com](http://www.fbcsouthlyon.com)  
• Email: [fbcsouthlyon@fbcglobal.net](mailto:fbcsouthlyon@fbcglobal.net)

### Brighton

**HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
[www.hsccc.net](http://www.hsccc.net)  
at the corner of Winans Lake & Musch Rd.  
810-231-9199  
Fr. John Rocus, Pastor  
Weekend Liturgies Saturday 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.  
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**first united methodist church south lyon, mi**  
640 S. Lafayette  
(248) 437-0760  
Worship: 8:15am, 10:45am,  
11:00am & 6:30pm  
9:30am Sunday School for all ages  
Rev. Sondra Willabee, Lead Pastor  
[southlyonfirstumc.org](http://southlyonfirstumc.org)

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

**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](http://www.shepherdswaysouthlyon.org)

**CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
28900 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon  
248-486-0400  
[www.ecrossroads.net](http://www.ecrossroads.net)  
Service Times  
8:45am, 10:00am & 11:30am  
Renewed Hope Counseling Center  
248-560-7507  
[rhcpecc.net](http://rhcpecc.net)

**SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH**  
Loving God and Loving People  
22183 Pontiac Trail • 248-486-4400  
(In Brookdale Shopping Center,  
behind Powerhouse Gym)  
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 A.M.  
Reed Heckmann, Pastor/Teacher  
[www.solidrocksouthlyon.com](http://www.solidrocksouthlyon.com)  
LO-0002291977

For more information regarding this directory, please call  
Janice Brandon at 248-926-2204  
or email: [jkbrando@michigan.com](mailto:jkbrando@michigan.com)

# After delays, brewery eyes January opening

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com

A few months' delay wasn't something the owners at Supernatural Brewery and Spirits saw when looking into their crystal balls. But what they do see is an opening of their Livonia brewery and restaurant sometime in early 2017.

The brewery, at 36685 Plymouth Road at the former Midtown Grill and Bar, had originally planned to open sometime in October. But licensing and approvals have taken longer than expected, co-owner Ernie Pacsai said.

"The city's been great, but there's a cadence, a process they have to go through," said Pacsai, a Wixom resident and Livonia Bentley High School graduate. "We're just getting to talk to the local, state and federal (agencies). ... We're going through that right now, which takes a while to get to that, too."

Pacsai and the other co-owners secured the building earlier this year for use after the Midtown restaurant closed last year. Since then, they've gotten some approvals, including one recommending approval for a waiver use by the city's planning commission earlier this year.

Major renovations have taken place at the building, including improving the structure in order for it to support the thousands of pounds of beer the facility will brew.

"We're putting in a new steel beam to support the tanks," Pacsai said. "It's a big job."

Other improvements have been made inside as well as outside, including the removal of the brightly-colored paneling that had been installed on the building's exterior in recent years by the previous owner. Much work



Ernie Pacsai, Dan Gee and Chris Hibner met through work. Now they are opening Supernatural, a brewpub and spirits restaurant in the former Midtown Grille.

has been documented on the brewery's Facebook page over the last few weeks.

The brewery plans on crafting several beers right at the facility, as well as having guest taps of other local breweries on a rotating basis, Pacsai said. The food menu is expected to be standard pub fare, including burgers, sandwiches and other pub food.

Getting final approvals on the distilling aspect of the business will take a little longer, with Pacsai saying it would most likely be another year before spirits could be distilled there. In the meantime, the brewery plans to serve other local spirits until it can serve its own.

The brewery would mark the second onsite location where beer is

brewed and served in Livonia: Schoolcraft College recently began pouring beer at the American Harvest restaurant created by students in the brewing program. Plymouth-based Liberty Street Brewing Co. brews and bottles some of its beer at a facility in Livonia, but does not sell or serve it in Livonia.

Some other tweaks, including ones to the business's logo and other marketing materials, may still take place before the brewery opens. But Pacsai is getting pumped to begin pouring glasses for patrons.

"I just can't wait for people to drink it," he said.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com  
734-678-6728  
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak



Supernatural, the name of the new brewpub and restaurant, refers to natural, fresh food and great beer, plus a little of the mysterious. Ernie Pacsai holds the plasma ball. Behind Pacsai are partners Dan Gee and Chris Hibner.



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### City of Novi Notice of Public Hearing Community Development Block Grant Funds

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Novi will hold a Public Hearing on the use of Community Development Block Grant Funds. The Hearing will be held Monday, December 5, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., EST, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, for the purpose of hearing public comments on the Community Development Block Grant Program Year 2017 application in the approximate amount of \$98,481 to fund eligible projects.

**All interested citizens are requested to attend this Hearing.** Comments will also be received in writing or in person at the City Clerk's Office, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, until 5:00 p.m., November 28, 2016. Arrangements to reasonably accommodate special needs, including handicap accessibility or interpreter will be made upon receiving 72-hour advance notice. Contact City Clerk, Cortney Hanson at 248-347-0456 for special services.

CORTNEY HANSON, CITY CLERK

Published: November 24, 2016

# Lego team wins inspiration award for deer-car crash solution

**Sharon Dargay**  
hometownlife.com

Muir Middle School's First Lego League team couldn't get a robot to climb a wall, but might have what it takes to make a deer stop in its tracks.

The Vallibots, a team of sixth- to eighth-graders led by science teacher Jason Vallimont, took 12th place this month in regional competition, a two-part contest that involved programming a Lego robot to perform different tasks, plus an animal-related research project. The Muir students chose vehicle-deer accidents as the theme of their project.

"The research did extremely well. We did exceptional in interviews and average in the robot games," Vallimont said. "They did research to find out as much as they could about the problem. They had to come up with an innovative solution. They came up with KADTR, which stands for keep animals' deaths off the road."

The group devised an alert system involving two signs, infrared sensors, a sound system, reflectors and strobe lights. The sensors, stationed along the road, would detect if a car was

approaching and if a deer was near or in the street. It would relay the information to another sensor near the deer. The device would send out a strobe light and random sounds to scare the animal away.

"There are deer whistles that are put on a car and work by air flowing," Vallimont said, "but this goes on the side of the road."

He invited Oakland County Road Commissioner Ron Fowkes and Oakland County Commissioner Bob Hoffman to talk with students about their idea.

"The road commissioner said it was a good idea and he had a couple things that would need to be tweaked with it. The road signs on the side of the road are built so if a car hits one, it doesn't annihilate the driver," Vallimont said. "They would have to be solar-powered. That would be the next step."

The students created an image of their invention on computer, but did not build a working model.

Hoffman gave the team a thumbs-up for their research and presentation.

"I think the kids are absolutely amazing," he said in an interview this week. "They are very

creative. They thought it through and they gave us a little demonstration. It sure makes them think."

He likened the team's idea to hidden or invisible fencing that keeps family pets from straying away from his home.

"It's all done with sound waves," he said. "It's more than possible. I would suspect that as time goes on, there will be something like this built into cars, so that as you're driving along, it would alert you to all kinds of things."

Although the Vallibots didn't qualify for the state tournament, they did earn the judge's inspiration award. Vallimont called the group well-rounded with "great core values" such as team work.

Vallimont will mentor a different robot team for another series of competitions, but he noted he'd be happy to work with the Vallibots if the group wanted to develop the deer warning system.

"The would be awesome," he said.

*sdargay@hometownlife.com*

**Alyssa Hagan, dressed as a deer, works with Lego League team member Johnny Thompson on the robot portion of competition.**



# Walled Lake school district names two new building principals

Dr. Patrick Cavanaugh and Mrs. RosaLeigh Johnson were recently named principals with the Walled Lake Consolidated School District.

Cavanaugh, new principal at Walnut Creek Middle School, has been with Warren Consolidated School District for many years and was principal at Susick Elementary for the past seven years. He was also an assistant principal and teacher in Warren.

He earned his bachelor's in elementary education from Saginaw Valley State University; a master's in teaching and curriculum from the University of Rochester; an education specialist degree in educational leadership; and a doctorate in education from Oakland University. He has a teaching and an administrative certificate.



RosaLeigh Johnson (from left), Kenneth Gutman and Dr. Patrick Cavanaugh.

Johnson, new principal at Glengary Elementary School, has had many educational leadership roles and was most recently a teacher with Linden Community Schools. She has exemplary experiences with Linden, Clio Area Schools and Teach for America with a school district in Charlotte, N.C. While with Teach for

America, she served as a learning team leader and led monthly professional development on various research-based learning strategies.

She earned her bachelor's in human development and social relations from Kalamazoo College, bachelor's degree in elementary education from University of North Carolina at

Charlotte; a master's degree in public administration with a concentration in educational administration, from the University of Michigan-Flint. She has an elementary teaching certificate and is eligible for an administrative certificate.

Johnson has a passion and commitment to support and lead educators in order to best serve all students. Her empathy

for all children and literacy expertise will ensure teachers and students make reading and writing a priority.

"We are confident both Dr. Cavanaugh and Mrs. RosaLeigh Johnson will be great assets to the students, staff and parents of Creek and Glengary. Dr. Cavanaugh's energy and enthusiasm, along with his instructional background and leadership skills, are

a great match for Creek. Ms. Johnson has demonstrated her depth of understanding regarding elementary teaching and learning as well as of educational leadership," Superintendent Kenneth Gutman said.

Cavanaugh replaces Sophia Lafayette, who was named assistant principal at Walled Lake Northern High School. Johnson replaces Beth Timlin, who retired.

Check us out on the Web every day at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

**CITY OF NOVI  
NOTICE OF ADOPTION  
ORDINANCE NO. 16-187**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, AT CHAPTER 26, "PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS, COMMERCIAL HANDBILLS," SECTION 26-3, "NONCOMMERCIAL SOLICITATION PERMIT; APPLICATION"; SECTION 26-55, "INVESTIGATION OF APPLICATION; GRANT OR DENIAL"; AND SECTION 26-10, "HOURS OF PEDDLING/SOLICITATION; ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS," IN ORDER TO REMOVE AUTHORIZATION FOR AND REFERENCE TO SOLICITATION IN AREAS OF PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY.**

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, November 14, 2016 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Published: November 24, 2016 LO-000030334 3x2

**City of Novi  
Public Hearing Notice**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the **Zoning Board of Appeals** for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 7:00PM** in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider:

**The Goddard School of Novi (PZ16-0055) 48600 Grand River Avenue north of Grand River Avenue and east of Wixom Road Parcel # 50-22-17-126-012.** The applicant is requesting a variance from the CITY OF NOVI Code of Ordinance; Sections 28-5(3) to allow a 113.04 square feet of recreation space/child, Section 5.4.2 to omit separate loading space, 4.19.2F to allow dumpster in side/front yard (do not have a rear yard), 4.19 to allow accessory play structures in side and front yard, 28-5(3) to allow ground sign and one wall sign. This property is zoned B-3 (General Business).

**Signworks of Michigan, Inc. (PZ16-0058) 44000 Grand River Avenue, north of Grand River Avenue and west of Novi Road, Parcel # 50-22-02-177-013.** The applicant is requesting a variance from the CITY OF NOVI Code of Ordinance; Sections 28-5(3) to allow two 120 square foot wall signs. This property is zoned I-2 (General Industrial).

**Community Network Services (PZ16-0059) 24230 Karim Boulevard, north of Ten Mile Road and west of Haggerty Road, Parcel # 50-22-24-476-021.** The applicant is requesting a variance from the CITY OF NOVI Code of Ordinance; Sections 28-5(3) to allow a wall sign in addition to the existing ground sign and 28-7(b)(2) for two oversized identification driveway signs. This property is zoned OS-1 (Office Service).

**Audrey & Gordie Wilson (PZ16-0060) 1345 East Lake Drive, north of Thirteen Mile Road and west Novi Road, Parcel # 50-22-02-177-013.** The applicant is requesting a variance from the CITY OF NOVI Code of Ordinance; Sections 3.1.5 to allow an 11.42 foot encroachment of the building's second floor into the rear yard setback. This property is zoned R-4 (One-Family Residential).

Published: November 24, 2016 LO-000030366 3x4

**Oakland Physical Therapy**  
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**"Comprehensive Care of Back Pain at Oakland Physical Therapy"**  
Tuesday, December 6, 2016  
at 6:00 pm

This class will identify some of the more common causes of back pain and describe the management and treatment of back pain patients at Oakland Physical Therapy. The class will include lecture, demonstration, and participation (though this is not required). Please dress comfortably.

In addition, Oakland Physical Therapy is offering 30-minute consultation appointments with a physical therapist to answer any questions or concerns and assess if you may benefit from physical therapy treatment. These consultations can be scheduled at the time of the class or by phone and will occur February 9, 2016.

**There is no charge for the course or the consultation appointments, however, space is limited. Please call (248)380-3550 or e-mail [mail@oaklandphysicaltherapy.com](mailto:mail@oaklandphysicaltherapy.com) to register by February 3, 2016.**

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# P-CEP band ranks tops in Michigan



The P-CEP saxophone section performs at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

KRISTAN RODWELL



Senior mellophone player Alex Zygumt performs at Grand Nationals in Indianapolis.



The P-CEP Marching Band performs its 2016 show "Tangled in Gold."

KRISTAN RODWELL

Group finishes 21st at Grand Nationals

Christopher Zygumt  
Correspondent

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Marching Band ended its season Saturday, Nov. 12, as the highest ranked Michigan band at the Bands of American Grand National Championship in Indianapolis. The band performed its show titled "Tangled in Gold" twice at Lucas Oil Stadium, advancing to semifinals and finishing 21st out of the 100 bands participating.

The BOA Grand National Championship features top marching bands from around the country, coming from as far as Florida and California. The contest lasts from Thursday through Saturday and consists of three rounds of competition. Plymouth-Canton has been a finalist more than 20 times and Grand National Champion three times.

The competition was extremely tough this year, with many perennial finalist bands not advancing beyond the preliminary competition held Thursday and Friday of the week. Plymouth-Canton was one of only two Michigan bands to advance to the semifinals. Reeths-Puffer High School of Muskegon advanced as well, finishing 29th overall.

"The kids gave one of the most inspiring performances I've seen since I've been at Plymouth-Canton. It was truly their best of the year," said Jon Thoman, director of P-CEP bands.

While the students were disappointed to not advance to the finals, they still soaked up the experience of performing in Lucas Oil Stadium in front of thousands of spectators. Senior trumpeter Tyler Steele said of the experience, "Performing at Grand Nationals is forever life-changing. It's a whole weekend of positive attitudes and very loud crowds. I look forward to it every year and this year, being my last, I was so proud of what we accomplished."

Sarah Wonsowski, a sophomore clarinetist, was also impressed by

the audience. "Performing at Lucas Oil was lots of fun," she said. "It is very memorable performing in a big stadium. It was a great feeling to perform in front of such a large crowd that appreciates all of the hard work we put in throughout the year."

While the long weekend trip is hard work for the students, between rehearsals and performances, they did get a chance to unwind and visit the Circle Centre Mall in downtown Indianapolis. The kids also enjoyed a pizza party Saturday night to celebrate the end of a long season.

Before departing Sunday morning, the band held its annual closing ceremony known as the senior block. This tradition had the graduating members of the band take their ceremonial last eight steps with the band.

It was an emotional moment for the students as they said goodbye to the activity that engrossed their lives for as many as four years. Tears flowed as Thoman said goodbye to the seniors and challenged the juniors to fill their shoes as the marching band's future leaders.

Senior mellophone player Alex Zygumt described the feeling: "It felt so emotional that the four years had come to an end in those last eight steps. Band has given me so much and to see all of those who cared about me and supported me to be there for those final steps made the experience that much better."

After returning home, sophomore clarinetist Lindsay Adlhoch summed up the experience as, "an unforgettable trip. Throughout the performance at a very large stadium and the tears of the last morning, the experience was amazing."

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band welcomes new members every year. Informational meetings for those interested start in the winter months to prepare for the 2017 season. Information about the P-CEP band programs and schedule is available at [www.pcmb.net](http://www.pcmb.net).

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SULLIVAN FAMILY PHOTO

Ashley Gold of "Hardcore Pawn" fame, with 16-year-old heart transplant patient Trevor Sullivan. "My goal is to provide the greatest Christmas ever for Trevor and his family," Gold said.

## 'Hardcore Pawn' star teams with transplant patient to create bracelet

Jay Grossman  
hometownlife.com

Everybody knows the Hardcore Pawn Chick has a heart of gold. Ashley Gold, the former reality star of TruTV's "Hardcore Pawn" has created a personalized beaded bracelet that she's selling on her website to benefit 16-year-old heart transplant patient Trevor Sullivan.

"My goal is to provide the greatest Christmas ever for Trevor and his family," Gold said. "So many people have helped me along the way ... when I heard about Trevor's story I knew right away that I wanted to do something."

The Team Trevor Bracelet sells for \$20 and is available exclusively on [www.pawnchickshopping.com](http://www.pawnchickshopping.com). The colors of the bracelet — blue and black — represent Sullivan's love for the University of Michigan, and the strength he's displayed through the transplant process.

Through word-of-mouth, Gold has been selling over 20 bracelets a day.

"It's the power of social media," she said. "It can help change a life."

**Strength in numbers**  
Sullivan received his new heart in November

2015. He was on the road to recovery until last July, when he suffered what doctors believe is a rare reaction to a viral illness. As a result of the setback, the Southfield teenager spent several months recuperating at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. He's hoping to return to school later this month.

"He's getting stronger, and that's what counts," his father, Phil Sullivan, said Monday.

In the meantime, the family has had plenty of support from the community. Trevor's classmates at Groves High School included him in this year's Homecoming Court, and a few of them even trekked over to the Sullivan house to help with lawn work. Other neighbors have formed a Meal Train to help with dinners.

A Go Fund Me page has been set up for the Sullivan family to help with some of the bills. Despite having insurance, the family is facing thousands of dollars in medical co-pays. In addition, Phil Sullivan has been missing work and staying at the hospital, while his wife Kimberly stays at home with their three other children.

### Reality show vs. reality

It's an unusual partnership: a former TV reality star teaming up with a heart transplant patient. Gold spent six years on Hardcore Pawn, which focused on the Gold family and their pawn shop off Eight Mile Road in Detroit.

She still travels the globe for speaking engagements, along with running a successful online jewelry business. She still enjoys the art of buying or selling.

But most of all, she enjoys being a mom.

"I have two young children, and it's impossible for me to even imagine what it would be like," Gold said. "When I met Trevor, I promised him we would take this viral — and that's exactly what I'm going to do!"

Gold said she also plans on working with Trevor to help promote organ donations.

"He has such an incredible attitude," she said. "I met with him and his family at a restaurant, and he was showing me photos of his open heart surgery ... he's just so incredibly brave and he's focused on helping out other people. I think that's amazing."

[jgrossman@hometownlife.com](mailto:jgrossman@hometownlife.com)

## Lawrence Tech named Military Friendly School

Lawrence Technological University has earned the 2017 Military Friendly School designation by Victory Media, publisher of the magazines and websites G.I. Jobs, STEM Jobs, and Military Spouse.

First published in 2009, the list of Military Friendly Schools is provided to service members and their families, helping them select the best college, university, or trade school to receive the education and training needed to pursue a civilian career.

Institutions earning the Military Friendly School designation were evaluated using both public data sources and responses from Victory Media's proprietary survey. More than 1,600 schools participated in the 2017 survey. A Military Friendly Advisory Council of independent leaders in higher education and military recruitment assisted in the selections. Criteria include student retention, graduation, job placement, loan repayment, persistence (degree advancement or transfer) and loan default rates.

For more information about Lawrence Tech's commitment to attracting and supporting military students, visit

[tinyurl.com/h7zcu43](http://tinyurl.com/h7zcu43) or contact Celia LaPinta, school certifying official, at 248-204-2110.

Lawrence Tech offers a 15 percent tuition discount to all active military, inactive, reserve or retired military. Also, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has designated Lawrence Tech as a "Yellow Ribbon School" for providing up to \$5,500 per year in aid to qualified veterans.

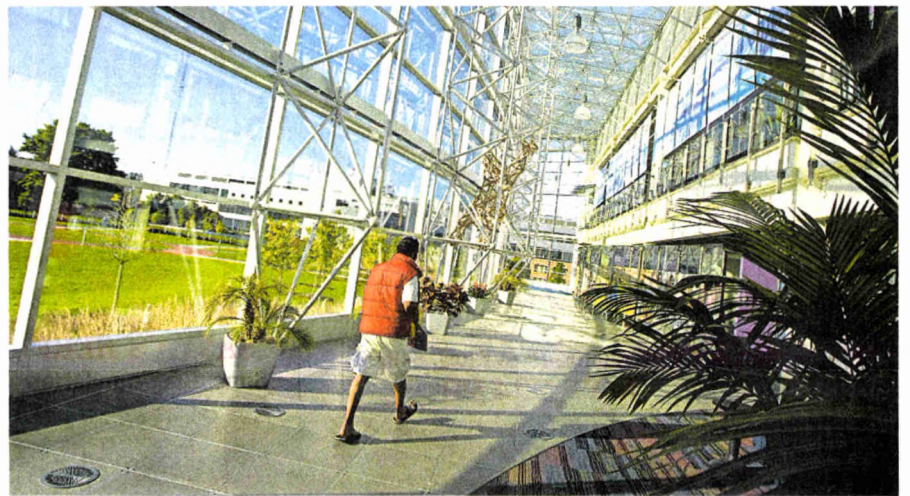
Lawrence Tech will be showcased along with other 2017 Military Friendly Schools in the annual Guide to Military Friendly Schools, special education issues of G.I. Jobs and Military Spouse Magazine, and on [militaryfriendly.com](http://militaryfriendly.com).

The Military Friendly Schools list is created each year based on extensive research using public data sources for more than 8,800 schools nationwide, input from student veterans, and responses to the proprietary, data-driven Military Friendly Schools survey from participating institutions. The survey questions, methodology, criteria and weightings were developed by Victory Media with the assistance of an independent research firm and an advisory council of educators and

employers. Data calculations and tabulations were independently evaluated for completeness and accuracy by EY. The survey is administered for free and is open to all post-secondary schools that wish to participate. Criteria for consideration can be found at: <https://militaryfriendly.com>.

Founded in 2001 and based in a suburb of Pittsburgh, Pa., Victory Media is a service-disabled, veteran-owned small business (SDVOSB) that connects the military community to civilian employment, educational and entrepreneurial opportunities through its G.I. Jobs, Military Spouse, and STEM Jobs magazines and websites.

Lawrence Technological University, [www.ltu.edu](http://www.ltu.edu), is a private university founded in 1932 that offers more than 100 programs through the doctoral level in its Colleges of Architecture and Design, Arts and Sciences, Engineering, and Management. PayScale lists Lawrence Tech among the nation's top 100 universities for the salaries of its graduates, and U.S. News and World Report lists it in the top tier of best Midwestern universities.



A student walks through Taubman Student Services Center on the LTU campus.



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### Novi Community Schools Novi, MI

#### SECTION 00 11 13 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for the **REBID** of Novi Community Schools' Bid Package #8, consisting of the **District-Wide Remodeling Projects** will be received until **11:00 A.M. Local time on Thursday, December 1, 2016** at the Novi Community Schools' Educational Services Building located at:

25345 Taft Road  
Novi, MI 48374  
ATTN: Mr. Steve Barr, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations

**Bids received after this time and date will not be considered or accepted and will be returned to the bidder unopened.**

**Faxed proposals will not be accepted.**

The **REBID** of this Bid Package will consist of a separate sealed bid for the following Bid Divisions:

108: Carpentry / General Trades                      115: Metal Studs / Drywall  
165: Band Tower Observation Structure

Bidding documents prepared by TMP Architecture, Inc. will be available for public inspection at the main office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335; the Dodge Plan Room, Construction Association of Michigan (CAM); Reed Construction Data; and Builders Exchange Lansing.

Bid Documents will be available beginning at 12:00 P.M. on Wednesday, November 16, 2016 via the following:

- Bidders may obtain one (1) set of 1/2 size bidding documents at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., located at 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335.
- Bidders may download bid documents from [Gradebeam.com](http://Gradebeam.com), free of charge, by contacting the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith at (248) 427-8400.

All bids should include 2 copies (1 original, 1 copy) of the Proposal Pricing Form (Section 00 41 26), Proposal Execution Form (Section 00 42 00), and the Iran Economic Sanctions Act Affidavit. **The Proposal Execution Form provides a space for the bidder to disclose any familial relationship as required by Section 1267 of the Revised School Code, as amended, MCL 380.1267, and this form must be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted. The Iran Economic Sanctions Act Affidavit form may be found in section 00 42 10 of the Bidding Requirements & General Conditions Manual.**

Each bid must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to Novi Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract.

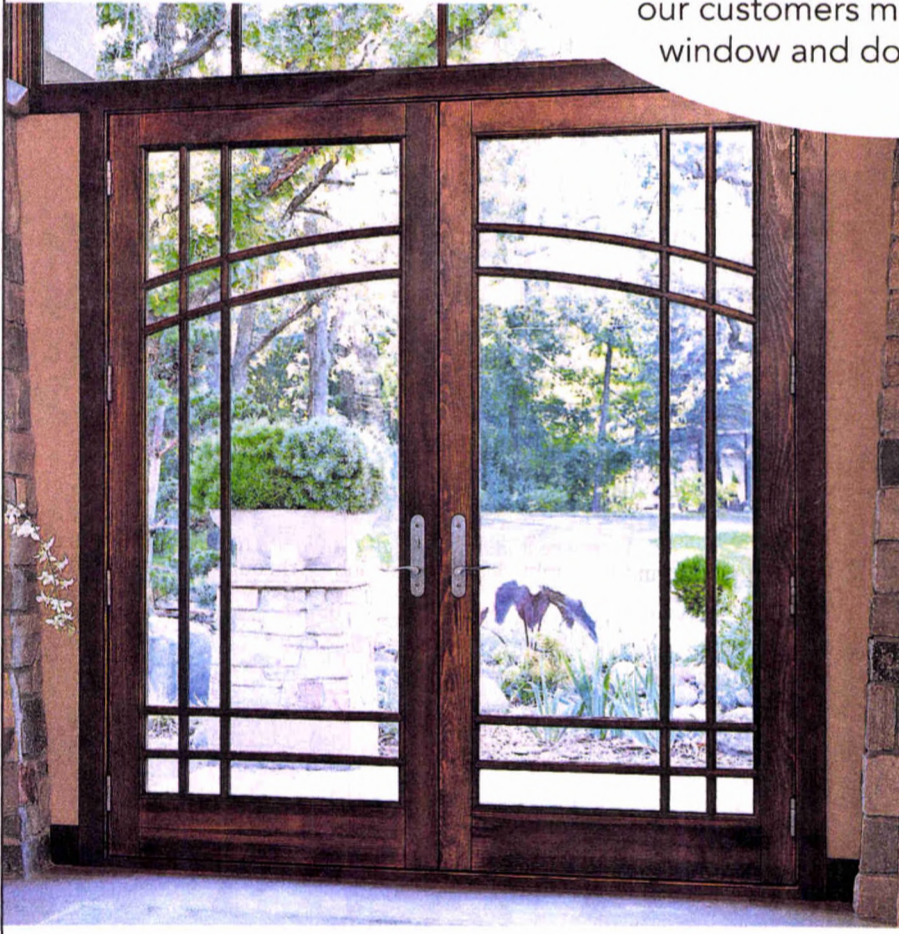
If awarded a contract, the successful bidder may be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in the amount of 100% of the contract price.

Novi Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received, to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding, and to accept a bid other than the lowest bid.



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PREP FOOTBALL

## Shamrocks heat up late, blank Romeo, 17-0



Catholic Central's Cameron Ryan (right) gets around the corner on Romeo's Kade Messner en route to the Shamrocks' first TD. SCOTT CONFER

CC advances to face Cass Tech in state title game

Tim Smith  
hometownlife.com

A power outage Saturday at Howell High School forced a change in venue for Saturday's Division 1 football state semi-final.

But nothing — not 36-degree temperatures, snow flurries, the late move to nearby Parker Middle School or an injury that knocked out their quarterback in the first half — was about to short-circuit Novi Detroit Catholic Central's quest to return to the championship game.

More than two hours in the cold weather didn't sap any of the power out of Catholic Central's running game, either, as the Shamrocks blanked defending D1 state champion Romeo, 17-0.

"This is what CC is known for, smash-mouth football," said Shamrocks junior running back Isaac Darkangelo, who scored on a 3-yard run with 25 seconds left to cap the win.

"We knew what we had to do. We came in and did it."

The Shamrocks, now 13-0, will make a state-record 17th trip to the state finals, at 1 p.m. Saturday against undefeated Detroit Cass Tech at Ford Field.

Catholic Central clung to a

3-0 halftime lead, thanks to a 31-yard field goal by senior kicker Jacob Nichols midway through the second quarter.

Finishing touch

For a while, it looked like that would be all of the scoring as both offenses literally struggled to get a grip on the slippery football.

Two big gainers set up Nichols' field goal. First was a 38-yard pass over the middle from sophomore quarterback Austin Brown to senior tight end Jack Morris.

On the next play, Brown zig-zagged 29 yards before being tackled hard at the 3-

See SHAMROCKS, Page B4

PREP VOLLEYBALL

## Wildcats make it a joyful repeat in Class A

Novi passes biggest test of tourney against Rockford

Brad Emons  
hometownlife.com

The team with a bull's-eye on its back the entire season delivered on the biggest stage Saturday afternoon in Battle Creek.

Novi repeated as MHSAA Class A volleyball state champion with a hard-fought four-set victory over upset-minded Rockford at Kellogg Arena.

The Wildcats, who finished the year 54-1, took the Rams' best shots to come away with the victory as 6-foot-1 junior outside hitter Abryanna Cannon delivered the match-clinching kill, her 20th of the afternoon.

For Cannon, a Notre Dame commit who transferred in from Traverse City West over the summer, it was her first state finals experience.

"I was a little nervous going into it," Cannon said, "but we had Erin (O'Leary), Ally (Cummings) and Kathryn (Ellison) and (Claire Pinkerton) ... I had all these people that were here last year to kind of help me through it, so it wasn't as bad going in there blind."

Junior setter Erin O'Leary, who set up Cannon for the final point, turned in another outstanding performance with 33 assist-to-kills, eight kills and 14 digs.

"It doesn't get any less amazing," said O'Leary, at University of Michigan commit who has been to three straight state finals now.

Novi's road to the championship match was relatively stress-free, but Rockford (48-9-1) provided the litmus test for



Novi's Mackenzie Kwasniewicz (left) and Abryanna Cannon celebrate after scoring a point. SALWAN GEORGES | DETROIT FREE PRESS

the tournament.

Novi won a highly competitive first set, 25-22, as Miss Volleyball runner-up Ally Cummings closed it out with one of her 10 kills.

Rockford, however, took charge to win the second set, 25-20, on Olivia Rademacher's

kill. The Wildcats took the third set, jumping out to a 17-12 lead, capped by Emmy Robinson's block after Rams pulled to within 23-22.

Robinson, 5-8 senior, gave Novi a huge lift with seven block-assists to go with three kills.

"She was matched up on those (Rockford) middles and had a big responsibility tonight and I thought she did a nice job of not just blocking the ball, but slowing them," Novi coach Jen Cottrill said. "She's a great lateral mover. We don't rely on her a whole lot offensively, but

expect her to work really hard at the net blocking for us."

The fourth set was close throughout, as Novi broke away from a 19-19 deadlock to outscore the Rams 6-3 down the stretch, getting a critical

See WILDCATS, Page B2

GIRLS SWIMMING

## Northville finishes fifth at D1 state meet

Mustangs set meet record; three relays make all-state

Brad Emons  
hometownlife.com

There was a lot to like about Northville's performance during last weekend's MHSAA Division 1 girls swimming and diving state finals at Oakland University.

The Mustangs recorded their best finish since 2007 by taking fifth overall, while also earning all-state (top eight) honors in all three relay races

along with seven other individual events.

Rockford came away with its first-ever state championship with 249 points, followed by Farmington Hills Mercy (239), Saline (231.5), defending champion Ann Arbor Skyline (221) and Northville (201).

"We had an amazing weekend at the meet," Northville coach Brian McNeff said. "We had a lot of lofty goals, both individually and team-wise, and we were able to achieve most of them. We wanted to be fourth as a team, but fell just

short and ended up fifth. No one was mad, though. Just about everyone dropped time and reached their individual goals, so we did all that we could have done."

The highlight of Saturday's finals for Northville was the 200-yard medley relay, which set a Division 1 meet record in 1:43.10, touching out runner-up Skyline (1:43.27) for first place.

Freshman Sophia Tuinman (backstroke leg) teamed with seniors Erin Szara (breaststroke leg), Kelsey Macaddino

See SWIMMING, Page B4



Northville's first-place and Division 1 record-setting 200-yard medley relay team consisted of (from left) Erin Szara, Kelsey Macaddino, Laura Westphal and Sophia Tuinman. EMMA PHILLIPS

# BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK GMC GMC

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PREP VOLLEYBALL

# Second state title cements Cummings' legacy

Novi senior also earned Miss Volleyball runner-up

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com

Novi's Alyssa Cummings didn't know how to react when the Michigan Miss Volleyball voting was announced last week.

"I was definitely surprised," said the 5-foot-11 outside hitter, who was runner-up to Corunna's Meredith Norris for the state's coveted individual honor. "When I was in class and got the news I was Miss Volleyball runner-up by only one point, I was, like, absolutely shocked. I never thought I'd even get top five, because everyone is so amazing in the race for that. It was so shocking to know it was so close."

Norris, a 6-foot-3 outside hitter headed to Michigan State, won by the closest margin in the history of voting, 160-159. She got 21 first-place votes to Cummings' 19. DeWitt's Lexi Nordmann was third in voting conducted by the Michigan Volleyball Coaches Association.

Cummings, who recently signed with NCAA Division I Valparaiso (Ind.) University, has played club volleyball with Norris for four years with



Novi senior Alyssa Cummings was Miss Volleyball runner-up.

Michigan Elite.

"I know five of the other Miss Volleyball candidates and I've played with them as well and I know every single one of them is an amazing volleyball player on and off the court, so going into it I really didn't

expect anything out of it, especially not a close race to the finish," Cummings said. "But I know Meredith won and she deserved it. She's an amazing player."

And although Cummings was nosed out by a point, all

was not lost.

"My dad (Rick) said congrats and he got a cake for me," Cummings said.

Meanwhile, Cummings and her Novi teammates capped an amazing 54-1 season Saturday in Battle Creek by winning their second straight MHSAA Class A state championship in a tense four-setter against Rockford.

That was certainly icing on the cake.

"It's all because of this team," said Cummings, who had more than 500 kills this season. "Everybody on this team is an absolute amazing player and, without them, I wouldn't even be a candidate for that. Just having been from the Novi-type program, everyone is such an amazing player, it definitely helped me be successful in that race."

Cummings, who also started as a sophomore on Novi's 2014 state runner-up team, said she and her teammates embraced the challenge this season of being the defending state champions.

"We think of ourselves so highly and we put ourselves up to such a big standard that pressure is pretty much on ourselves, because we expect ourselves to play to a certain level," Cummings said. "Of course, there was pressure from outside and we called

*"It's all because of this team. Everybody on this team is an absolute amazing player ..."*

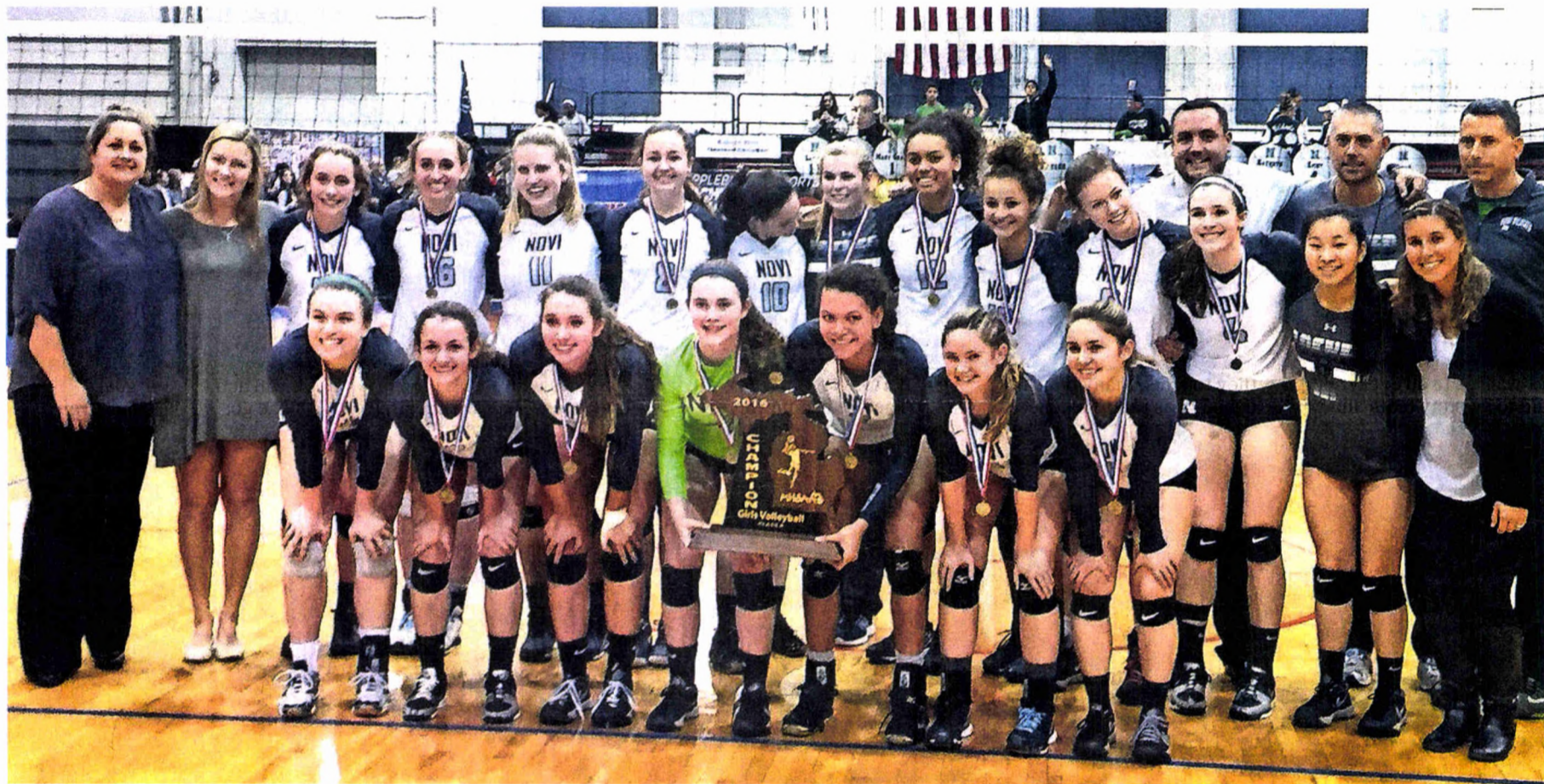
**ALYSSA CUMMINGS**  
Novi senior

that background noise. The most pressure was on ourselves, because we're held to such a high standard. You get stronger mentally with a target on your back. I'm not saying it's easy, but you get accustomed to it."

And with another state title, Cummings leaves a strong legacy following her stellar career with the Wildcats.

"If you have an amazing team with amazing players, but your chemistry is off, you're not going to be as successful," Cummings said. "And so the past four years that I played here, every single year, it's like family for us. So I'm sure that even once I graduate and these people start to graduate as well, it's still going to be as successful because I think Novi does a really good job of having, like, a great family and friendship that we play with every day."

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Novi repeated as Class A volleyball state champion Saturday in Battle Creek with a four-set win over Rockford.

BRAD EMONS

## WILDCATS

Continued from Page B1

ace from O'Leary to set up match point.

"Being down gives me more of a thrill to want to get up," Cannon said. "It's just all the better when you get that final point. This game was a fight to the finish, so it was more satisfying."

Rockford had three players in double figures in kills, led by Rademacher with 12 and Cassandra Smigiel and Sara Majerle with 11 apiece. Setter Hailey Delacher dished out 43 assists.

Novi had trouble throughout the match defending the Rams' quick sets to their middle hitters at the net.

"It's something different that we haven't seen and they passed the ball well enough to be able to run it," Cottrill said. "We were trying them get out of system, get the setter off the net. We were trying to keep our hands high to slow it down, but they were just successful at it. It seemed like they had more kills than 12 and 11. They had 50 (total), so I think we did a decent job of slowing that down and keeping them from getting the momentum."

Novi also played strong defense, with a total of 78 blocks. Pinkerton led the way with 21 digs. Cummings and O'Leary both contributed 14, while Kathryn Ellison had 12 (to go along with nine kills).

Meanwhile, Mykayla Vallad collected a match-best 27 digs for the Rams.

"Novi is a very good team and has a lot of offensive weapons," said Rockford coach Kelly Delacher, whose team was out-blocked 24-16. "We felt like we could come in and play some good defense against

*"That was a tremendous team we just played. We've been kind of cruising pretty much in the postseason since ... the district finals."*

**JEN COTTRILL**  
Novi coach

them. We held them to a .142 hitting percentage, which is pretty good against a team with their hitting firepower. I was very happy with the way we competed. We kept ourselves in every single game and gave ourselves some chances at the end to win at the end of those games.

"I think we're just a good team. We are a very well-balanced team. We have five good hitters and play good defense. I thought we did a good job of blocking today, as well."

The victory was rewarding in more ways than one for Novi after the Rams put up such a struggle.

"That was a tremendous team we just played," Cottrill said. "We've been kind of cruising pretty much in the postseason since pretty much the district finals. I was very, very proud of them for keeping their composure, digging deep and working hard."

The Wildcats, who return seven of their top nine players, will have a target on their backs next season, as well.

"When you take a step away and look at it ... yes, it's amazing and it's all because of the players and the program that have changed the culture and have tremendous leadership skills that have expectations of themselves and their teammates," Cottrill said. "And



Novi's Abryanna Cannon (left) goes up over Rockford's Olivia Rademacher and Hailey Delacher (right) for one of her 20 kills.

SALWAN GEORGES | DETROIT FREE PRESS

we're a family, they love each other from top to bottom. And we like to win, so it motivates you to keep winning you have that success."

In the press conference afterward, O'Leary had two Almond Joy candy bars sitting

in front of her at the interview table.

Any significance? "My grandma gets me little gifts after every game," the standout setter said.

And does that mean the Wildcats will be going for the

Almond Joy hat trick next season?

"We're happy with two, but we're going for three — yes," Cottrill said with a smile.

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## PREP VOLLEYBALL

# Ellison's 17 kills spur Wildcats in semifinal victory

Brad Emons  
hometownlife.com

Novi's defending Class A state champion volleyball team proved once again Friday night that it can come at you from all angles.

That was no more evident than during a convincing 25-14, 25-12, 25-15 state semifinal win over Fenton at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena as 6-foot-1 junior outside hitter Kathryn Ellison was the latest to lead the way with 17 kills.

Novi, which improved to 53-1 overall, advanced to its third consecutive state finals appearance.

While Fenton (46-5-2) was geared to stop Novi's vaunted outside hitting tandem of Miss Volleyball runner-up Ally Cummings and Abryanna Cannon, it was Ellison who emerged as the trump card.

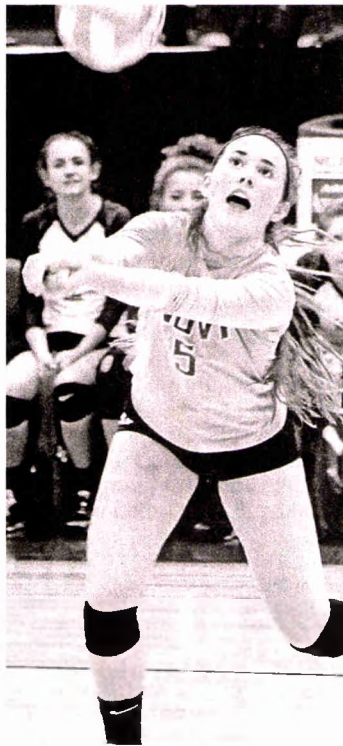
The 5-foot-11 Cummings, who signed with Valparaiso (Ind.) University, still finished with 15 kills, while the 6-foot-1 junior Cannon, a Notre Dame commit, contributed 11 kills.

"All three of our pin hitters have been playing great this postseason, it's just hard to defend," Novi coach Jen Cottrill said. "Kathryn is 6-1 and touches almost 10 feet. Their right-front block was significantly smaller, so it was a huge mismatch, something we saw on film, something to go after. She stepped up and played awesome. It was not only 17 kills, but she hit .577, which is very impressive."

In the second set alone, Ellison recorded nine kills.

"Oh my gosh, it's amazing," she said. "I was injured earlier in the season with an ankle injury. It really kind of stunk, watching from the sidelines, but I wanted to do everything I could to help my team and now I'm back. I've been looking forward to this all season. Just getting back to Battle Creek is such an great accomplishment. Now we're back in the finals and I'm so excited to continue this journey with this team."

Ellison, whom Cottrill says can be "very goofy," was giddy afterward in the post-match



TOM LANG | DETROIT FREE PRESS  
Novi libero Claire Pinkerton makes the dig during Friday's three-set semifinal win over Fenton.



TOM LANG | DETROIT FREE PRESS  
Novi's Emmy Robinson (left) and Abryanna Cannon team to block Fenton's Delaney Miesch.

press conference.

"She's kind of lightening the mood, so I'm not surprised she made us laugh," Cottrill said.

Fenton came in as a formidable opponent after coming off a quarterfinal victory over Midland and ousting Clarkston in the regional final. Clarkston was the only team to defeat Novi this season.

"Any team that beat Clarkston this year is a good team, so we had a lot of respect for them and got a game plan coming in and just refocus," Cottrill said. "They're very scrappy. As you could see tonight, they touched many balls that nobody has really touched for us this year in covers. They move really well. They're a very good team."

But the Tigers had no answers for Novi's well-rounded attack.

"They have some pretty powerful hitters and, besides that, they play some pretty dang good defense, too," Fen-

ton coach Jerry Eisinger said. "That's a very good team we just lost to. Again, I can't say that we don't have some regrets. I think we could have done some things better. We did start to figure out later in the game that we were doing a little bit better setting the ball inside a little bit. We were a little bit more powerful offensively, but that's a heck of a team to overcome. Hats off to them, they're definitely a great team."

Fenton pulled within 14-13 in the third set, but Novi took control by scoring six of the next seven points before closing it out.

"They're running a very quick offense, keeping our blockers from getting in front of them," Eisinger said. "Their setter (Erin O'Leary) puts the ball right on the mark a great deal of the time and they have the finish to boot. Obviously, that combination was probably a little more than what we could handle."

O'Leary, the junior setter committed to Michigan, finished with 43 assist-to-kills.

"She can get us back in system, even if she's 15 feet off the net," Cottrill said of her all-state setter. "We work on serve and pass a lot, but 90 percent of the time we're in system and that allows our attackers to be very successful. We also have all five of our attackers that can hit the ball at a very high rate."

O'Leary, a member of the U.S. U18 National Team this summer, is like a coach on the court.

"We already know from the sidelines with Erin's information where they are cheating toward," Cottrill said. "If they start cheating toward Ally, then we can throw it out outside or vice versa. So we have a really nice balance. Our attackers hit very high and are powerful and terminate very well. The goal is to get them one-on-one. Erin does a great job of doing that and she gets

them in position to put the ball away."

On the defensive side, Cummings finished with a team-high 13 digs, while Ellison and junior libero Claire Pinkerton added 10 and nine, respectively.

Chloe Idoni paced Fenton with 11 kills and 13 digs, while setter Kiley Aldred collected 19 assists.

"We've played some very good teams this postseason and we're just focusing on our side and what we're trying to do," Cottrill said. "We know that we have the tools, that if we do what we're trying to do, that we will achieve our goal."

The goal is a second straight state championship for the Wildcats.

"The entire team in practice has really been focused getting back to this match and getting ourselves an opportunity to defend our title," Cottrill said.

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## PREP VOLLEYBALL

# Novi sweeps Marian in quarterfinal match-up

Marty Budner  
hometownlife.com

Novi played its best volleyball match of the state tournament and that was bad news for Birmingham Marian during the Class A state quarterfinal Nov. 15 at Troy Athens.

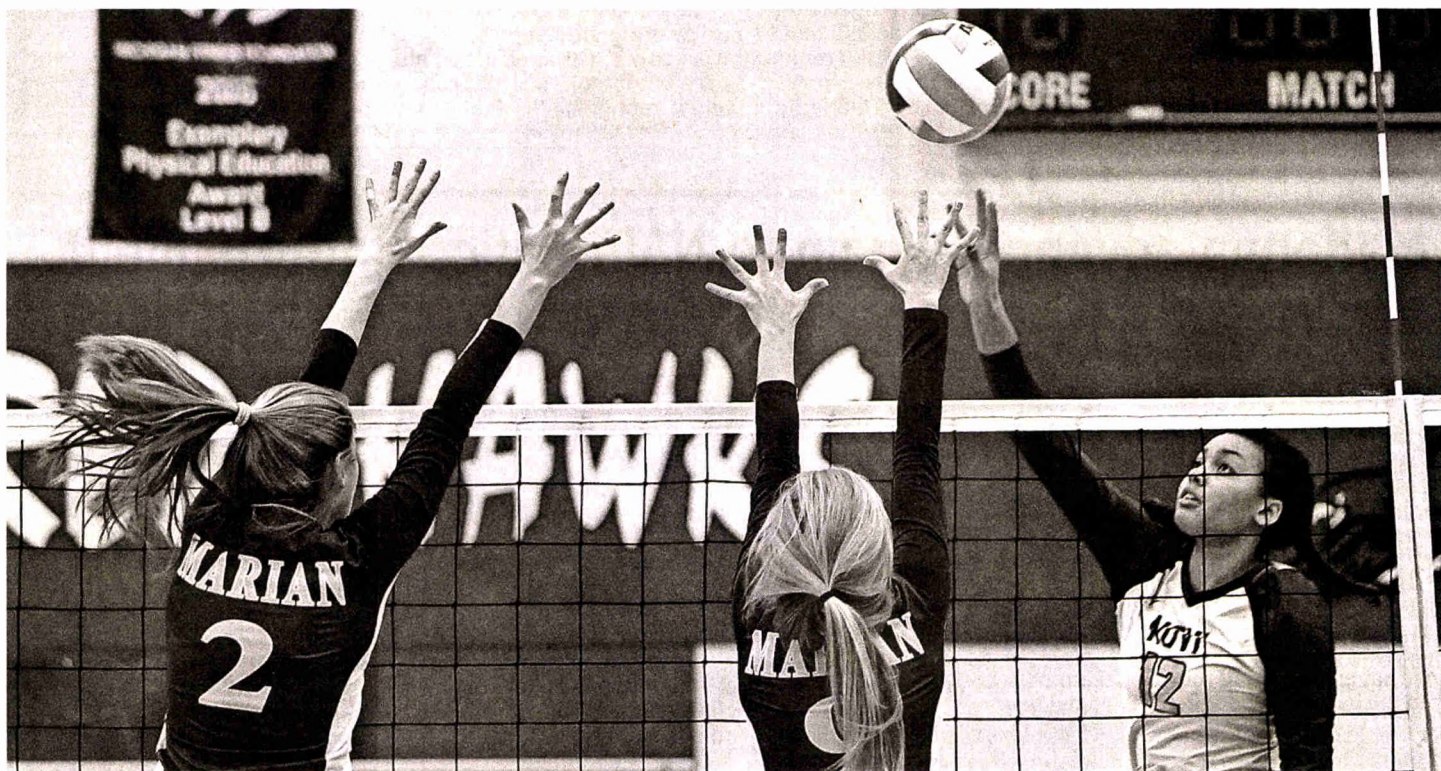
The defending state champion and No. 1-ranked Wildcats controlled all phases of the game and swept the Mustangs out of the tournament by the score of 25-14, 25-9, 25-12. The thoroughly convincing victory lifted Novi into the final four for the third straight season.

"We played pretty well last Thursday, too, against Mercy, but I thought this was pretty good, too," said Novi head coach Jen Cottrill, whose team is 52-1 on the season. "We have a lot of players who have been (to the final four) for two years and it was definitely a goal of ours to get back there."

"It's a relief, but yet it's exciting because it's a very unique atmosphere and experience to go there and play there," she added. "It's an honor to make it to that point, especially playing the caliber of teams we have played this year. Our road was slightly easier the last two years. This year, we had to beat three ranked teams (Northville, Mercy and Marian), so it feels rewarding. The girls have put in a ton of energy and it's nice that they're rewarded for it."

Marian took a 1-0 lead in each of the first two sets, but those would be its only leads of the night. The Wildcats defended virtually every Mustang attack, served and received with equal intensity and were never really threatened in the match, which lasted just 62 minutes.

"They serve tough. They pass well and then they have the hitters," Marian head coach Angela Kalczyński said. "They



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Novi's Abryanna Cannon (right) executes a kill over Marian defenders Maggie DePorre (left) and Sarah Cavanaugh during the Class A state quarterfinal.

have the setters and the hitters and that makes it incredibly difficult to take the ball away. That does make it very difficult to defend. Credit it to Jen. They have developed into a fantastic team and they are going to have a really good end of the season."

After trailing 1-0 in the opening set, where Marian won the longest point of the match, the Wildcats charged back with four straight points behind junior setter Erin O'Leary. The Wildcats gradually opened the margin, taking leads of 10-6, 15-8 and 20-13 before winning five of the final six points.

O'Leary lifted the game-winning shot over the net when it appeared as if she was going to set the ball for a teammate.

In the second set, the Mustangs again went ahead 1-0 off a kill by freshman outside hitter Christine Audette. Novi bounced back with eight straight points — six of them on Marian miscues — off the serving of junior Abryanna Cannon. The Wildcats closed the second set in style, winning 17 of the next 25 points to take a commanding two-set advantage.

Novi won the first point of the third set on a Cannon kill and then O'Leary continued the charge with three straight service points. It remained relatively close until the score was 12-7 in Novi's favor. At that point, Wildcats junior libero Claire Pinkerton secured the victory with seven straight service points to take a 19-7

advantage.

The Wildcats wrapped up the match and the trip to Battle Creek on a block kill by senior Emmy Robinson.

"The focus is to serve hard so the other team is out of their system," Cottrill said. "They have two really good middles and we knew that if we could get their setter 10-foot plus off the net, it makes it easier for us to defend them. We have a system. The girls have been playing it in this defensive system for two, three, four years and they're executing it really well right now."

Cannon had a strong all-around game with 14 kills and had a whopping .591 hitting percentage. Junior Kathryn Ellison added 11 kills and senior

Ally Cummings contributed eight kills and nine digs. O'Leary finished with 31 assists and seven digs.

As a team, Novi attacked at a sparkling .479 percentage.

Maddie Dowd paced the Marian offense with 23 assists. Senior outside hitter Kate Schafraan had five kills and 10 digs, while Audette and DePorre had five kills each.

"We had some really nice moments, but we mentally fell apart," said Kalczyński, whose team ended with a 48-14 record. "We broke down and that's not the way you want to end the season. But, ultimately, our girls will leave with their heads held high. We won a district and won a region and hadn't done that in a couple of years."

## BOYS HOCKEY

## Northville takes opening game, 6-3

Brad Emons  
hometownlife.com

If you want to succeed in sports, you have to give it your best shot.

The Northville boys hockey team followed that mantra and then some Friday in its season opener against Muskegon Reeths-Puffer, outshooting their opponent, 45-22, in the season opener at Novi Ice Arena.

It was a "shoot first and ask questions later" night for the Mustangs to say the least, who scored three scores in the third period to pull away with a 6-3 win.

Twenty of those shots occurred during the first period alone as Northville took a 1-0 lead with 46 seconds left until intermission on a power-play goal by junior defenseman Jack Sargent from the left face-off circle.

"We started off kind of shaky, obviously, but that's how it's going to start every first game of the season," Sargent

said. "We started getting pucks to the net and it worked out for us."

It wasn't until just shy of the halfway point of the second that the Rockets were able to respond, as junior Reid Sayles sent a pass over to the point, where classmate Garrett Reames banged the puck past goaltender Brett Miller.

The Mustangs, however, responded swiftly, scoring their first of three power-play goals with 8:34 elapsed to take a 2-1 lead. The play came on a drive from senior defenseman Luke Skillman at the blue line off a feed from captain Alex Iafrate.

Shortly thereafter, Northville found the back of the net again, this time on forward Laurence Rife's pass off the face-off to linemate Sanuda Gunaratne, who went glove-side to beat goaltender Colton Koopman (39 saves).

Reeths-Puffer took advantage of a two-on-one situation in the Mustangs' defensive zone to score their next goal,

with senior forward Logan Hornfield finishing off a pass from Collin Powers.

While Northville's shooting output dwindled in the final period, with nine shots on net, it certainly wasn't devoid of quality, with a pair of goals in a six-minute span.

A dump pass in the neutral zone by junior Joe Tobin was brought up ice by Sargent, who fired a bullet from the left wing toward Koopman. The puck took a wicked rebound, where an eager Iafrate was able to bang one home from outside the crease at the 2:09 mark of the period for the game-winner.

"It was nice to see production offensively out of all four of our lines," Iafrate said. "Everyone did their part, breaking the puck out in the offensive zone, which was nice to see. We need to work on our defensive zone coverage and getting back hard to stop those pucks."

Northville senior forward Nick Bonofiglio extended the lead to three with a nifty back-

handed shot, with Ty Kilar and Devin Labda earning assists on that goal.

The Rockets answered 40 seconds later, as Connor Weesies' shot deflected into the net after hitting a Northville defender.

Junior defenseman Nick Williams closed Northville's barrage of goals on a shot from the point with 3:56 remaining, which came courtesy of Easton Rea and Gunaratne.

"We were kind of sloppy the first two periods and we didn't have our wheels going," Northville coach Clint Robert said. "It's the first game and we're trying to do something new in the defensive zone and we've got to get used to it, but we need to do better. In the third period, I thought we came out determined and really started to push the play."

Miller, who was a 2015-16 all-KLAA and first team all-area selection, finished with 19 saves.

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## BOYS HOCKEY ROUNDUP

## Wildcats' Legace posts two shutouts

Brad Emons  
hometownlife.com

Senior goaltender Manny Legace Jr. posted a pair of shutouts over the weekend as the host Novi opened its 2016-17 boys hockey season by sweeping a pair of Muskegon foes at Novi Ice Arena.

On Friday, the Wildcats jumped out to a four-goal advantage en route to a 5-0 win over Mona Shores as Ryan Fonda had two goals, while Cam Czapski also had a goal and three assists. Brandon Kour and Anthony Luongo both added and a goal and two assists.

Novi followed it up Saturday with a 4-0 triumph over Reeths-Puffer as Czapski notched a hat trick, while Alec Giragosian contributed a short-handed goal.

Zach Perpich and Kour also chipped in two assists apiece.

"We played well defensively, scored goals and we came out hot in Friday's game, going up 4-0 after the first (period), just played really well," Novi coach Mark Vellucci said. "Been working on a lot of things in the first couple of weeks of practice and special teams scored a goal, too. Just really happy getting two shutouts in the first two games of the year. Not a bad way to start, for sure."

Legace, who assumed the starting goaltending duties this season for the Wildcats after being a backup to Josh Richardson last year, also turned in a pair of solid outings.

"We actually played well defensively in front of him," Vellucci said. "But when there were times he had to make the saves, he was there. And he didn't give up a lot of rebounds, which is even better. A lot of saves with frozen pucks, which is great. He's really good at that."

**CULVER MILITARY (IND.) 6, DETROIT CC 0:** Jack McNabb scored a pair of goals Saturday as host Culver Military Academy (5-3-1) completed its two-game weekend sweep of Novi Detroit Catholic Central (1-2) at Henderson Arena.

The Eagles, who led 1-0 after one period and 3-0 after two, put it away with three goals in the final period.

Nicholas Cefalu, Nate Clurman, Zach Richterman and Jackson Pierson also added a goal apiece for Culver.

CC senior goaltender Joe Pemecky made 29 saves.

**MONA SHORES 4, NORTHVILLE 1:** On Saturday, Muskegon Mona Shores (1-1) scored three unanswered goals in the final period to beat the host Mustangs (1-1) in a non-league game at Novi Ice Arena.

**CULVER MILITARY (IND.) 5, DETROIT CC 1:** Jack Pierson Connor Merrill both had two goals and one assist as host Culver Military Academy Prep (4-3-1) blanked Novi Detroit Catholic Central (1-1) at Henderson Arena.

The Eagles, who led 2-0 after one period and 4-1 after 36 minutes, also got a goal from Nick Stapleton.

Dylan Montie's goal from Rylan Clemmons and Austin Roell with 7:34 left in the second period cut the deficit to 3-1 for the Shamrocks, who got 19 saves from goalie Sean Finstrom.

**DETROIT CC 6, P.H. NORTHERN 0:** Six different players scored a goal Nov. 17 as three-time defending MHSAA Division 1 state champion Novi Detroit Catholic Central (1-0) opened its season with a shutout over host Port Huron Northern (1-0) at McMorrow Arena.

After a scoreless opening period, the Shamrocks exploded for three goals in each of the final two while outshooting the Huskies, 35-11.

In the second period, CC got goals from John Zielinski at 3:01 (from Spencer Kimball and Greg McQuade); Rylan Clemmons at 4:25 (from Jared Lee and Brendan West); and Ethan Ervin at 6:22 (from Zachary Sprys-Tellner and Patrick Brandemihl).

The Shamrocks put it away with three more in the final period: from Ryan Housman at 4:26 (from Kimball), Sprys-Tellner at 4:41 (from Ervin and Dylan Montie), and Nicco Bifano at 15:30 (from Dylan Montie).

CC goaltender Sean Finstrom made 11 saves, while Chad Kreda had 29 stops for Northern.

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## SHAMROCKS

Continued from Page B1

yard line. He had to be helped off the field and did not return.

At halftime, veteran CC head coach Tom Mach reminded his team it was doing everything well except getting into the end zone.

"We had a lot of good drives in the first half, but we just weren't finishing," Morris said. "We were in the red zone, but we weren't finishing. That's what we talked about at halftime."

It took a while in the second half for the Shamrocks to gain some footing on the snow-covered turf.

After a three-and-out series with under four minutes left in the third and the game still 3-0, CC junior Joe Jasser — stepping in to punt after starter Chris Jakubik limped off with an injury — lined a kick that rolled inside the Romeo 1-yard line.

The Bulldogs (9-4) managed to move the ball to their 36 before senior defensive back Nick Capatina led a host of Shamrocks tacklers to sack quarterback Austen Malczewski and force a punt.

## Breathing room

Catholic Central took over at its own 32 and went on a productive 11-play scoring drive to make it 10-0 with 4:24 left.

Carrying the ball on each snap, the CC trio of Darkangelo (eight carries, 61 yards), junior Cameron Ryan (20 carries, 85 yards) and junior Matt Young took turns bursting through the line.

Ryan, in particular, was



SCOTT CONFER

Romeo quarterback Austen Malczewski is brought down by Shamrocks defenders (from left) Joe Natoci, Blake Bueter and Jack Morris during Saturday's D1 state semifinal at Howell.

tough to bring down, bouncing off tacklers and picking up key yardage. He ultimately scored on an 8-yard run through the left side of the line.

"All our running backs run with a low pad level. We run hard," Ryan said, insisting that the cold weather wasn't a problem. "We just keep our feet moving."

The Shamrocks added the late insurance TD by Darkangelo for good measure.

"We had to keep the ball on the ground, keep the ball moving, keep the ball away from them, because they're a very explosive offense," Mach said.

"They're a very explosive offense. I thought our kids did a great job coming back."

Catholic Central also overcame losing Brown.

"They knew when Austin went down that we had to control the ball on the ground," Mach said. "Our line had to come through, our backs had to come through."

"Just try to keep that ball away from them and not put them into scoring position."

Mach said the punt by Jasser "was gigantic, it just worked out. Great effort on his part, but it took the right roll and it kept going."

Romeo co-coach Jason Couch downplayed the impact of the Jasser punt.

"We got the ball out to the 35 or 40 on that series," Couch said. "It's just that (with) the change of the quarter, we weren't able to keep the momentum going."

He added that he was proud of his team, which wasn't able to knock out the Shamrocks for a second straight postseason. "They continued to battle the entire game and they did it with class."

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## COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

## Madonna advances again to NAIA national tournament

For the fourth consecutive year the Madonna University women's volleyball team is heading to Sioux City, Iowa, for pool play of the NAIA national tournament.

The Crusaders qualified thanks to Saturday's 3-1 victory over visiting Point Park and are set to begin NAIA pool play Nov. 29. With the victory, Madonna improved to 32-7, while Point Park finished 20-15.

The Crusaders held a lead as large as 10 points in Game 1 and gazed at a 21-11 lead with the utmost confidence that they would cruise to a set one victory. Point Park had other thoughts as they came marching back with a 13-3 rally that



MADONNA ATHLETICS

Launching a serve for Madonna University is libero Deanna Krumholz.

knotted the score at 24-24. After a battle to grasp the two point advantage needed to collect the set victory, the Crusaders finally found their way to a 30-28 set-clinching lead.

Sets two and three were

split between the teams as the Crusaders handily won set two 25-12. With their backs against the wall the Crusaders forced a fourth set by grasping a 25-22 set three advantage.

The Crusaders answered the bell in set four with a 25-17

spect that has now propelled the Crusaders to the national tournament for the 15th time in the storied 30 year career of head coach Jerry Abraham, who led MU to a pair of NAIA semifinal appearances in 2002 and 2005.

Karlie Kelly (Romeo/Macomb CC) led the way for the Crusaders today as she tied Amanda Hawkins (Livonia Stevenson) for a team-leading 16 kills. Kelly also tied sophomore libero Deanna Krumholz (Romeo) with a team high 14 digs. Krumholz also added two aces for the Crusaders.

Dearborn's Jasmine DeMare had 13 digs and a pair of aces.

## SWIMMING

Continued from Page B1

(butterfly leg) and Laura Westphal (freestyle leg) as the second seed behind Skyline after posting a time of 1:44.91 in the prelims.

"Since the beginning of the season, we knew we were good enough to win," McNeff said. "We were second going into finals and we knew it was going to be a close race. We were going to need a great race from everyone to win and we got it."

Westphal, the anchor, posted a 22.69 split during her 50 freestyle leg.

"Laura was about a body length behind going into the

freestyle, but she was able to catch up and win," McNeff said. "That really set the tone for the rest of the meet."

The Mustangs' quartet of Macaddino, sophomore Katelyn McCullough, senior Gillian Zayan and Westphal also placed fourth in the 200 freestyle relay (1:36.22), while Rockford took first in 1:34.37.

Northville's 400 freestyle relay team of Macaddino, Tuinman, Zayan and McCullough finished eighth (3:34.10), while Saline took first in 3:24.44.

Westphal was also runner-up in the 200 freestyle (1:49.06) to Saline's Maddie Luther (1:48.34), while Szara was runner-up in the 100 breaststroke (1:02.40) to Rockford's Sydney McDowell (1:01.94).

Also reaching the podium (top eight) for Northville were Macaddino, fourth, 100 butterfly (55.78, after going 55.60 in the prelims); Tuinman, fifth, 100 backstroke (56.20); seventh, 200 individual medley (2:06.73); Westphal, sixth, 500 freestyle (5:01.42); and McCullough, seventh, 100 backstroke (57.43).

The Mustangs also got points from freshman Lauren Heaven, who took ninth in the 100 butterfly (57.57).

"I was so proud of how everyone performed," McNeff said. "They really were prepared and focused and did everything they needed to do. I was especially proud of our seniors. They have been such a big part of the success of our team the last four years and

they really came through this weekend, as well. They have so many accomplishments and awards from their time here. It is going to be different next year without them. Luckily, they have been great teammates and have trained the younger swimmers well on how to compete and what to expect throughout the season."

Northville not only took fifth at the Division 1 state finals, but also won the KLAA Kensington Conference crown this fall.

"This was a great season, right from the start," McNeff said. "We were very motivated all year long and all the girls on the team trained extremely hard to get to where they are. I'm so proud of all of them and

for what they have done all season. This was one of the best in our history."

Meanwhile, Novi sophomore McKaela Hill took 15th in the 1-meter diving event (336.75 points), which was won by Saline's Camryn McPherson (509.50).

Other Division 1 individual champions included Brighton's Taylor Seaman, who swept the 50 and 100 freestyles in 22.86 and 49.64, respectively; Skyline's Emma Cleason, 200 IM (2:00.86) and 100 butterfly (54.28); Skyline's Georgia Mosher, 500 freestyle (4:50.98); and Mercy's Katie Minnich, 100 backstroke (54.41).

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# Taking a counteroffer is never cut and dry

BY MATT TARPEY  
 CAREERBUILDER

In some cases, when your current employer finds out that you've received a job offer from another company, he or she will propose a counteroffer in an effort to keep you. The counteroffer frequently includes a considerable pay bump and sometimes a promotion.

Is it better to accept the counteroffer and stay with your current company? Here are some pros and cons to consider.

### Money

The biggest advantage of taking a counteroffer is also the most obvious: It's probably a higher salary. Also, the fact that your employer is fighting to keep you may hint at your status with the company.

"When you're able to get a counteroffer from your employer, you've effectively forced them to put their money where their mouth is," says Dorianne St. Fleur, a human-resources professional, career coach and blogger. "It's a unique opportunity for you to leverage your competing offer to get a higher salary and/or bigger job responsibilities."

### Retention costs

A higher salary may not always be indicative of greater



GETTY IMAGES

value to the company. In fact, the counteroffer might be an attempt to cut costs.

"The truth is that the cost of replacing an employee is higher than the cost of the raise," says Michele Mavi, director of internal recruiting and content development at Atrium Staffing. "In addition to the purely financial benefit to the company to keep you on board, they'll also be avoiding the administrative headache of replacing you. For many managers, the time, cost and disruption to their business might become things that they want to avoid at all costs."

### Reason to leave

The proposition of more money may be tempting, but don't lose sight of what caused you to seek a new job in the first place.

"A bump up in salary is terrific, but what else do you need and want?" says career counselor and executive coach Roy Cohen. "Are you upset that you have been passed over for a promotion? Would you benefit from a flex schedule or the opportunity to work from home occasionally? Are the benefits better at the new company? What is missing from your current situation,

and is it likely to be available to you if you stay?"

### Trust Issues

Even if you get a counteroffer, your employer knows that you were looking for another job. Money aside, this may have planted seeds of distrust that you need to overcome if you accept the counteroffer.

"Employers are human, too, and remember: You just told them that you disliked your situation so much that you went through the process of seeking and almost accepting employment elsewhere," Mavi

says. "Things may not return to normal right away. There may be promotions that you aren't considered for, or you may not be asked to lead the big project you had your heart set on. That's not to say that with time, things can't go back to normal or that some people haven't been perfectly happy accepting counteroffers — it's just not the norm."

### Co-worker dynamics

It's also worth considering your co-workers' responses to finding out you were prepared to leave. The feeling of disloyalty or betrayal may not be exclusive to your manager.

"If it becomes known that you accepted a counteroffer, your co-workers may become resentful of you and the morale of your department could change," says DeLynn Senna, executive director at Robert Half Finance & Accounting. "Other employees could start to believe that it takes threatening to leave to get a raise or a better title. Some employees could even go on the hunt for a new job so they can receive their own counteroffer."

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

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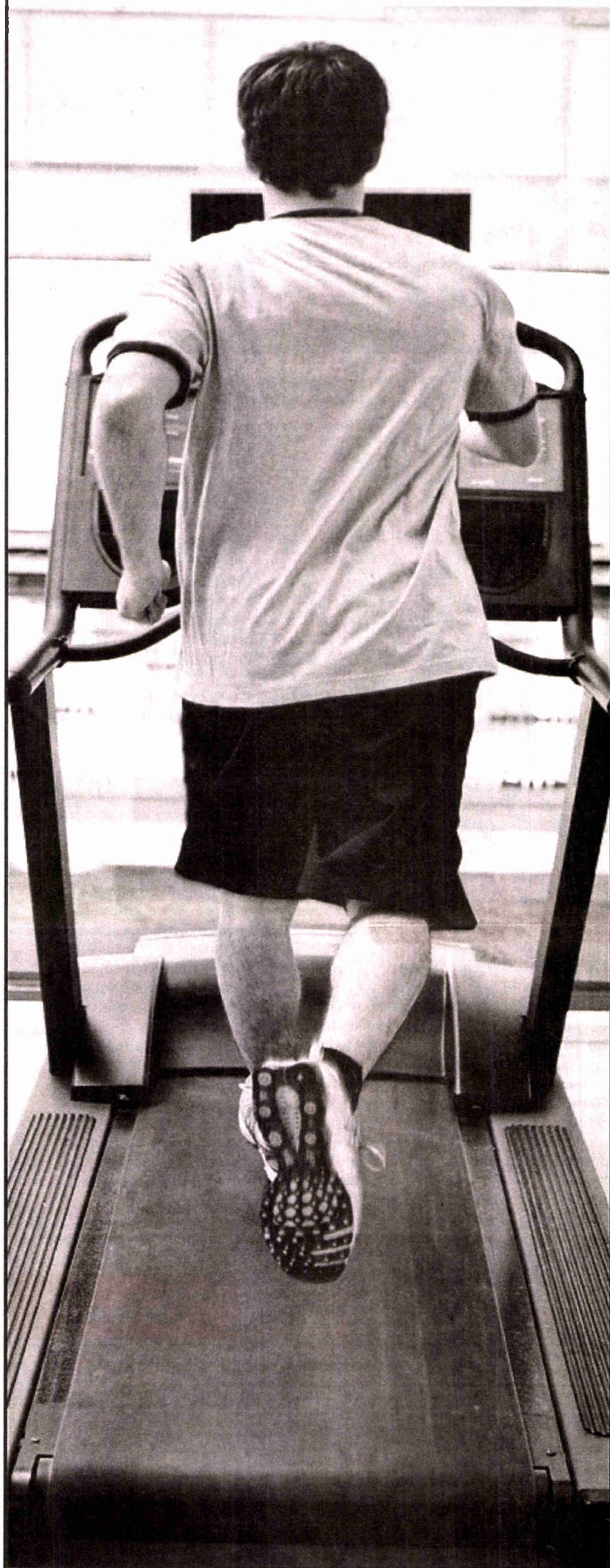
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## THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

### CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Tussle (with)
  - 8 Hindu chant
  - 14 Robotic floor vacuum
  - 20 Predicted
  - 21 Daisy types
  - 22 Relatives of 21-Across
  - 23 Pounding one's shawl?
  - 25 Like sacred statues
  - 26 Step up or down
  - 27 Instant, for short
  - 28 Santa — Colleague
  - 29 In history
  - 30 Book parts
  - 34 What aviator Orville or Wilbur was called?
  - 37 Found on these pages
  - 38 Kitty treater
  - 39 Fill up fully
  - 40 Celtics rival
  - 41 "What the Butler Saw" dramatist Joe
  - 42 Does penance
  - 45 Sprinter Bolt
  - 47 Small songbird with a cartoon cat?
  - 50 60-min. units
  - 51 "Rockaria!" band, in brief
  - 54 Singer Clay
  - 55 San — (Italian resort)
  - 57 Poet W.H. — your valise forcefully?
  - 59 Fusion
  - 64 Old laundry machine that's totally on the fritz?
  - 66 Raving sort
  - 67 People debating
  - 70 Bistro, e.g.
  - 71 "Goodbye, Columbus" author when he's very angry?
  - 73 Throw from a steed
  - 74 Tea garnish
  - 75 Apple debut of 1998
  - 76 Mini-serving
  - 79 Prior to
  - 80 Flan need
  - 82 Damage done to a periodical?
  - 89 Pub buys
  - 91 Find a new place for, as a pet
  - 92 Islamic equivalent of kosher
  - 93 Trial attire
  - 96 Siestas
  - 98 "Mazel —!"
  - 99 Hereditary sequence
  - 100 Declaration upon pulling
  - 103 Many a handcuffed person
  - 105 — Jo ('80s track star)
  - 106 That guy's
  - 107 Certain Wall St. trader
  - 108 Paradigm
  - 109 Hereditary
  - 111 Actress
  - Fay who was always cheerful?
  - 117 Get free of
  - 118 Silky goat or rabbit
  - 119 Helm handler
  - 120 Beaches
  - 121 Observed in the vicinity of
  - 122 Actor Erik
- DOWN**
- 1 Yackety-yak
  - 2 Lament
  - 3 — Khan
  - 4 Impose
  - 5 Capital of Kosovo
  - 6 Like the pre-Easter period
  - 7 — Allan Poe
  - 8 Comic Jay
  - 9 Bunyan's tool
  - 10 Story for an anchor
  - 11 Radials for a Rolls, say
  - 12 Fails to stay poker-faced
  - 13 Viper variety
  - 14 Slickers and galoshes
  - 15 Wilde with wit
  - 16 Bison-hunting tribe
  - 17 Household
  - 18 Intelligent
  - 19 Fancy ties
  - 24 — the season!
  - 28 Gallery gala
  - 30 Grub
  - 31 Berlin man
  - 32 Funnyman Johnson
  - 33 Hireling
  - 34 "... three — a tub"
  - 35 Ocean liquid
  - 36 Hotel relative
  - 38 Cast a ballot
  - 42 Take — view of
  - 43 "Bad!" sound
  - 44 Shopping jag
  - 46 Old Testament book
  - 48 Racial equality gp.
  - 49 Part of YTD
  - 51 Lawn gadget
  - 52 Dirty looks
  - 53 Ham — (deli classic)
  - 56 Rx signers
  - 58 Golden rule's second word
  - 59 Plenteous
  - 60 Bill of "Real Time"
  - 61 Japanese film genre
  - 62 Stitch's cartoon pal
  - 63 Dive variety
  - 64 "Yeah, no kidding!"
  - 65 Taylor of "The Nanny"
  - 67 Chair part
  - 68 Traipse
  - 69 Sporty auto
  - 72 Tepees' kin
  - 73 — Reader (alternative digest)
  - 76 Sierra
  - 77 Sea of — (waters off Ukraine)
  - 78 Gaming "City" dweller
  - 81 Non-Jews
  - 83 Somehow manages with
  - 84 Pair attached to an axle
  - 85 Also — (losers)
  - 86 Scores
  - 87 Arose (from)
  - 88 Painter Paul
  - 89 Nectar lover
  - 90 CIA worker
  - 93 Searches and robs
  - 94 Wise-looking
  - 95 Bucking one
  - 97 Card game expert John
  - 99 Bestows
  - 101 Triangle, e.g.
  - 102 Fly into — (get furious)
  - 103 Madison Ave. output
  - 104 Find a new purpose for
  - 108 — first "you don't succeed..."
  - 110 Corn spike existed
  - 111 Once
  - 112 — pro nobis
  - 113 That gal's
  - 114 Levin or Glass
  - 115 TV neighbor of Homer
  - 116 Time of note

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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

	4	2			3			
		8			7			5
								8 4
9			4		2			
	3			1				5
			7		5			1
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7	6	2	1	4	5	3	8	9	8
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1	3	4	3	5	6	7	9	8	2
2	5	6	8	1	9	4	3	7	7
8	8	6	9	2	7	4	3	7	9
4	8	4	2	6	3	8	6	7	9
5	7	1	2	7	4	7	6	8	2
6	1	7	9	3	1	7	6	4	9

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### WORDS

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# Car Report

## COMMERCIAL POSSIBILITIES: RAM PROMASTER, FORD TRANSIT FAMILIES STOKE HOT-SELLING CARGO VAN SEGMENT



By Dale Buss

Ask them to answer a multiple-choice question about what is the buzziest segment in the U.S. auto business these days, and most Americans probably wouldn't guess: It's cargo vans.

Arguably the most mundane of all vehicle types, commercial vans -- not aspirational Mustangs nor tough-talking F-150s -- were the vehicle Ford hyped most on the huge stage of World Series television broadcasts with its incessant promotion of the Transit.

And Ram has just launched a new marketing campaign into the swell, to try to capture more sales for its ProMaster and ProMaster City models.

Ram commercial sales overall are up more than 30 percent so far

this year compared with a year ago, and industry-wide commercial sales are more than 15 percent higher, representing 2.6 percent of the total vehicle market in North America, FCA said.

By contrast, after a record seven-year run, the total U.S. vehicle market is losing gas, as year-to-year sales are expected to fall in October for the third straight month.

Enter Ford's marquee positioning of Transit in the Fall Classic and Ram with a campaign that shows off the utility and versatility of ProMaster and ProMaster City with TV ads and digital elements that illustrate these qualities.

Ram's video includes "test drives" of a day for four different actual small businesses, such as Andrew's Honey, a beekeeper in New York City, and Veestro, a food-delivery company in Los Angeles.

"We're trying to reinforce that we're easy to do business with and respectful of [consumers'] time and

that we've got some great, efficient offerings for them to look at," Jim Morrison, head of the Ram brand, told me.

Ram introduced its new generation of commercial vans beginning in 2013 with ProMaster and followed with the smaller ProMaster City in 2014.

These sales are becoming more important. The segment has boomed in part because of a proliferation of offerings, with Ford Transit and Transit Connect, and the new Mercedes-Benz Metrix, along with associated advertising, creating more interest. Plus, FCA's entire truck fleet has taken on even more responsibility as the company's biggest profit driver while sales of its cars dwindle.

"The [commercial] segment will sell around 450,000 units this year, which is a lot," Morrison said. "And also there's a lot of other volume linked to commercial-van sales. A business might have a fleet of 10 pickup trucks, and since we recently upgraded our fleet of vans, now we have a chassis cab for them."

"Before, if they had the trucks but needed a van, they had to go to two different dealerships. This way they can have one relationship, with one dealer, one guy who does their regular maintenance and service on the whole fleet, and one purchase order."

Right now is "commercial truck season" also, Morrison said. "Business owners are wrapping up their finances



A commercial featuring the 2017 Ram ProMaster City

for the year and taking advantage of tax breaks. They're upgrading fleets. So we're explaining what we have to offer them. For some people, it's just getting their recognition of our full line of commercial vehicles."

Morrison acknowledged statistics which continue to show a decline in the formation rate of new U.S. businesses over the last several years and an increase in the failure rate.

"But I think small businesses are getting more confidence in their wealth, so they're coming in and buying," Morrison insisted. "Also we're attracting them with our efficiency message, about having the most fuel-efficient work van and about total cost of ownership. Also ProMaster City is very easy to maneuver. And ProMaster is available in both gas and diesel. A lot of customers are trading in old rear-wheel-drive V8 vans, so they can both upgrade and

save money."

Ford seems to encourage a certain amount of non-commercial consumer interest in its Transit Connect small commercial van, even offering it in a seven-passenger version. Why doesn't Ram do likewise?

"Well, that's a function of the fact that Ford doesn't have a minivan," Morrison explained. "Whereas FCA has minivan leadership for consumers with the new Chrysler Pacifica. We don't try to stuff people into cargo vans."

Morrison also dismissed the fact that there's been a crescendo of discussion about declining viewership of NFL games on TV, where Ram -- per the industry norm for trucks -- launched its ProMaster campaign. But he insisted he's not concerned overall.

"There are still a lot of people watching football," he said, "and they're not DVR-ing it."



The 2017 Ford Transit Connect

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Fri. November 25th 10am-1pm  
DHPP Lepto CV BDT \$38, 3 year Rabies \$14, Heartworm Test \$15 w/ purchase of 6 months heartworm prevention. MUST BRING AD. Skin, Ear & Eye exams avail. 313-686-5701

**LOW COST VET VACCINE WELLNESS CLINIC TSC - WHITE LAKE**  
10150 Highland Rd. Sun. Dec. 11th, 4PM-8:30PM DHPP Lepto CV BDT \$38, 3 year Rabies \$14, Heartworm Test \$15 w/ purchase of 6 months heartworm prevention. MUST BRING AD. Skin, Ear & Eye exams avail. 313-686-5701

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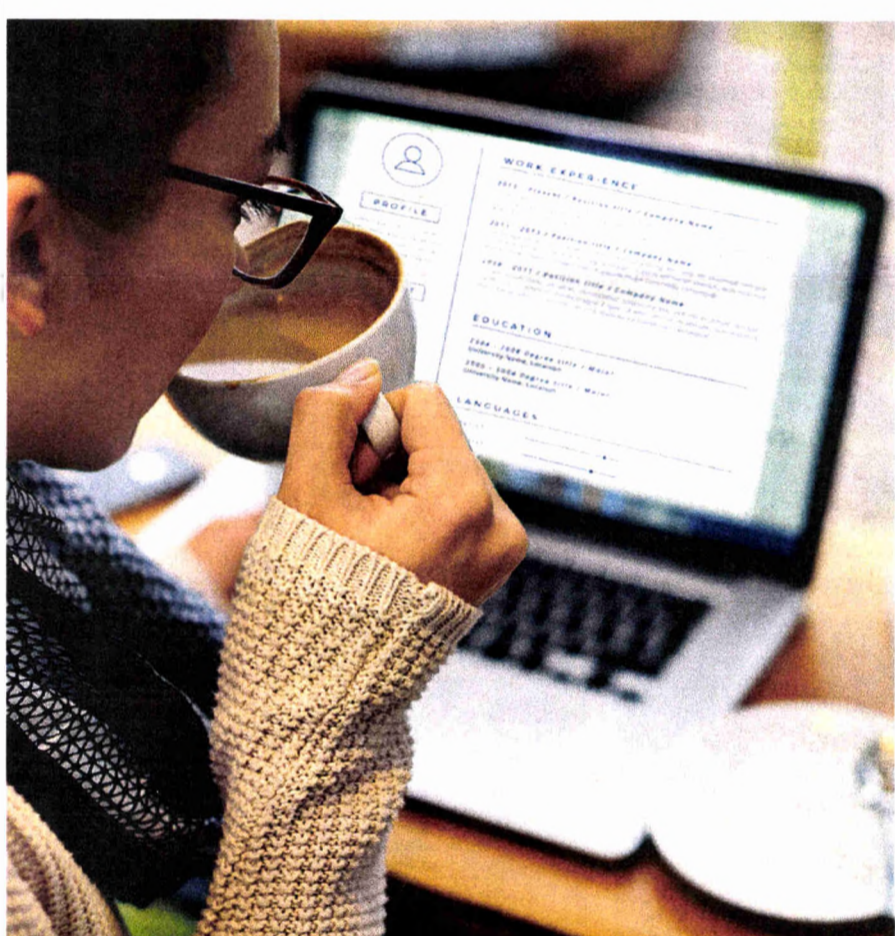
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**Great Buys Garage Sales**  
neighborly deals...

**Garage-Tag Sale**  
Livonia - 34574 Fairfax - W of Gill btw 7 & 8 mile rds. Sat & Sun Nov 26-27th 8a-4p Better than spending money in a store, all things Brand new or like new. Womens Clothes 8-12 & Mens M-L. Shoes, Fur Coat, Girls clothing sizes newborn to 10 and Boy size newborn to 2. Furniture, toys, Jewelry, Computer related supplies, desk, leather office chair, high chair, car seat, ect. Early Christmas present. All in outstanding condition.

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- \* Located on a peaceful court in Cobblestone Village
- \* Enjoy wonderful views from your screened in porch
- \* A must see Colonial!

MLS 216107592 248.684.1065 \$265,000



**Builder's Own Custom Colonial!**

- \* Five bedrooms, four and half bathrooms, on 1.12 Acres
- \* Gourmet kitchen with Granite counters, Cherry cabinets and huge pantry
- \* Main floor master suite with jetted tub and walk in closets
- \* Finished basement with full kitchen, bar and media room

MLS 216084025 248.684.1065 \$459,000



**Stunning Condo! Great Location!**

- \* Three bedroom, three and a half bathrooms, end unit condo
- \* Elegant kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite counter tops
- \* Convenient first floor laundry
- \* Finished basement with full bath and wine closet

MLS 216107766 248.684.1065 \$240,000



**Gorgeous Custom Built Ranch!**

- \* Four bedroom, two and half bathroom on 3.03 Acres
- \* Dream kitchen with granite counter tops and custom cabinets
- \* Beautiful master suite with claw foot tub
- \* 30 foot natural fireplace wrapped in stone

MLS 216066485 248.684.1065 \$584,900



**Charming Colonial!**

- \* Four bedroom, two and half bathroom, Colonial
- \* Master suite with crown molding
- \* First floor laundry, two car garage
- \* Inviting built in pool with slide

MLS 216054450 248.684.1065 \$275,000

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NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> - NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>

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MILFORD, MI 48381



**Corner Lot Colonial!**

- \* Four bedroom, three and a half bathrooms, charming Colonial
- \* Stone fireplace, custom cabinets
- \* Professionally finished basement with full bath
- \* Deck overlooking play area and lake privileges on Lake Chemung

MLS 216104747 248.684.1065 \$289,900



**Exquisite Custom Built Brick Home!**

- \* Four bedrooms, four and half bathrooms on 2.4 acres
- \* Wrap around cedar deck overlooking Proud Lake
- \* Fully finished walk out basement
- \* Two story barn with three horse stalls

MLS 216108469 248.684.1065 \$539,995



**Completely Remodeled Colonial!**

- \* Three bedrooms, one and half bathrooms, with lake access
- \* Stunning kitchen with granite countertops, tile backsplash and stainless steel appliances
- \* New paint, custom trim and carpet throughout
- \* Gorgeous 400 square foot cedar deck

MLS 216109602 248.684.1065 \$229,900



**Stunning Custom Built Lake Front Home!**

- \* Four bedroom, four bathroom, home with lake views from every room
- \* Gourmet kitchen with Omega cherry cabinetry
- \* Walkout basement with, stone fireplace, full kitchen and snack bar
- \* Gorgeous yard with stone break wall

MLS 216079736 248.684.1065 \$749,900



**Immaculate Home!**

- \* Four bedrooms, two and half bathroom, beautiful Colonial
- \* Kitchen with new granite and hardwood floors
- \* Master bedroom with huge walk-in closet and private bath
- \* Great private yard

MLS 216071707 248.684.1065 \$304,900

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LO 0900302125

**Condo/Town/Duplex**

Plymouth- 2br/2 bath 1st floor Condo, 1650 sq. ft., located in downtown. Clean, oak crown molding, gas fireplace, heated garage w/ elevator, newer appliances. \$235,000 Showings on Sat. or Sun. Call 734-679-9530

**Homes-Rent**

Livonia-Updated 3br/1.5ba brk ranch, fin. bsmt. w/ wet bar, pool table, nat. fireplace, all appl. \$1275 734-635-0001

**Rooms-Rent**

Canton Furnished or unfurnished home on 5 acres, all util. included, cable, wifi, \$475/mo Call 734-658-8823

**Home for Sale - In State**

Farmington Hills - Open house Sunday Nov. 27th 1-3p 20927 Whitlock off 8 mile. 1049 sq ft on half acre 2.5 car gar. beautiful yard quiet neighborhood. Large living & dining room w/ central air. Asking \$136,000. 248-328-0492 248-760-8051

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Offer expires 11/30/2016  
\*\*Some restrictions apply. EHO

**GARDEN CITY Hot New Listings**  
3 bdrm, brick ranch, Liv rm w/dining ell, Finsh/bsmt w/ kitchenette and BA that just needs to be completed, GA in fenced yard, Close to Garden City Hospital. \$77,500  
Century 21 Castelli 734-525-7900

**REDFORD Great Value**  
3 Bdrm Bungalow, L.R w/dining ell, updated Kitchen w/appliances, Finsh bsmt w/bar, Florida rm, 2 car GA \$80,000  
Century 21 Castelli 734-525-7900

**WESTLAND Great Value**  
2 bdrm Brick Ranch w/sep floor plan, updated oak kitchen, den, CA \$40,000  
Century 21 Castelli 734-525-7900

**Real Estate Rentals**  
great place to live...

**Homes-Rent**

Bloomfield-6811 White Pine Dr. 3/4 br, 3 bath, air, frpl, updated, 3 car gar, fin bsmt, \$2450/mo + sec. 517-862-5878

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