

Novi News

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NOVI, NORTHVILLE TEAMS PLAY ANNUAL OUTDOOR HOCKEY GAME
SPORTS, B1

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Virtual 5K aids parks

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has partnered with Epic Races to offer the inaugural HeartMISnow Virtual 5K. A portion of the proceeds will go back to Michigan state parks.

To participate in the HeartMISnow Virtual 5K, follow these steps:

» Register at RunSignUp at www.epicraces.com/event/heartmisnow by Feb. 28.

» Locate a state park, forest, trail or public land managed by the DNR (or even a local trail or park). Participants can run, walk, hike, snowshoe, cross country ski or take part in any non-motorized activity to meet the qualifications.

» Complete your HeartMISnow Virtual 5K between now and Feb. 28.

» Visit the HeartMISnow Facebook event page and "join" the event. Upload a photo of your GPS tracker showing your mileage and time, share a selfie or post a comment telling us about it.

For more information, contact Epic Races at info@epicraces.com or 734-585-7101.

Novi honors memory of King with ceremony

Library hosts speakers, students

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com

After coming to the U.S. from Jamaica, Dr. Herman Gray's father had to live and work as a dishwasher in New York and take the train to Boston, where he attended medical school, because Boston "wasn't too favorable" to African Amer-



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Dr. Herman Gray speaks to the Power of Unity Breakfast at the Novi Public Library.

icans back then.

During a visit to a doctor's office in Detroit, Gray's father met — and eventually married — that doctor's receptionist and, following medical school, tried to find work in Detroit. He couldn't, Gray recalled, because Detroit hospitals weren't friendly to African-American doctors.

Gray told his father's story as part of his keynote address Monday at the Novi Public Li-

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I am an American We are One Nation

Each week, this series will introduce you to an exceptional American who unites, rather than divides, our communities. In this installment, read about Mawia Elawad, who uses communal art to help unite her community in Rochester, New York. Page A6

LOCAL WOMEN WALK FOR HOPE, RIGHTS AT NATIONAL MARCH



Colleen Crossey of Novi shows the sign she'll take to the Women's March on Washington.

Sharon Dargay
hometownlife.com

Hannah Provence Donigan finalized her travel plans for the presidential inauguration before election day.

When her candidate lost, the 81-year-old Commerce woman, two of her friends and her eldest daughter found a reason to go through with the trip, swapping out one big event for another.

"Since the women's march came up, now we're flying from Detroit to Baltimore. We'll stay in Baltimore and rent a car," said Donigan, a former teacher and a Humanist minister.

On Friday, Jan. 20, inauguration day, they'll sight-see and possibly take in a few museums. On Saturday, Jan. 21, they'll join thousands of other women and men at the Women's March on Washington. Organizers floated the idea of a march to raise awareness of women's rights on Facebook after Donald Trump won the presidential election. The concept snowballed into an event that is expected to draw hundreds of thousands of marchers to the nation's capital the day after Trump takes the oath of office.

"I have hip problems, but I'm going to do it. I'm determined to go," Donigan said, adding that women's rights include pay equality, career choices, safeguarding Roe v. Wade and protecting voting rights for all Americans. "It's about a lot of things ... liberty and justice and love instead of hate — and hope. If you don't have hope, you don't have anything."

The march will run from 10 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., starting at

See MARCH, Page A3

THREE GENERATIONS JOIN MARCH IN D.C.

Maria Taylor
Correspondent

Like many Americans, Pat Girbach of Farmington figured Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton was a shoo-in for the Nov. 8 presidential election. So after putting in 16 hours at the polls where she worked as chair of Farmington's Precinct 1, she went home and went to bed.

The next day, the news hit her.

"I woke up on the morning of the ninth, thinking that I had helped elect the first female president," she said. "And I got blindsided."

Girbach was devastated. So was her daughter Elizabeth Campion, who lives in Harper Woods. "My daughter wrote a Facebook thing a week or two later, when we could finally face Facebook again," Girbach said. "It was like someone you



Elizabeth Campion (from left), her daughter Eleanor, 12, and mother Pat Girbach will join Saturday's march in Washington, D.C.

JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Volume 61 Number 37

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KING

Continued from Page A1

brary's first "Power of Unity Breakfast, Celebration & Essay Contest," honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. While acknowledging these are "still difficult times," Gray pointed out that King's message of peace and love, of inclusion — highlighted by his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech, which was "tried out right here in Detroit" — must have worked.

"Dad couldn't get a job because Detroit hospitals wouldn't have African-American doctors on their staffs," Gray said. "Ironically, his son grew up to be president of one of those hospitals."

Gray, former president of the Detroit Medical Center and currently president/CEO of United Way of Southeastern Michigan, was one of several speakers on the

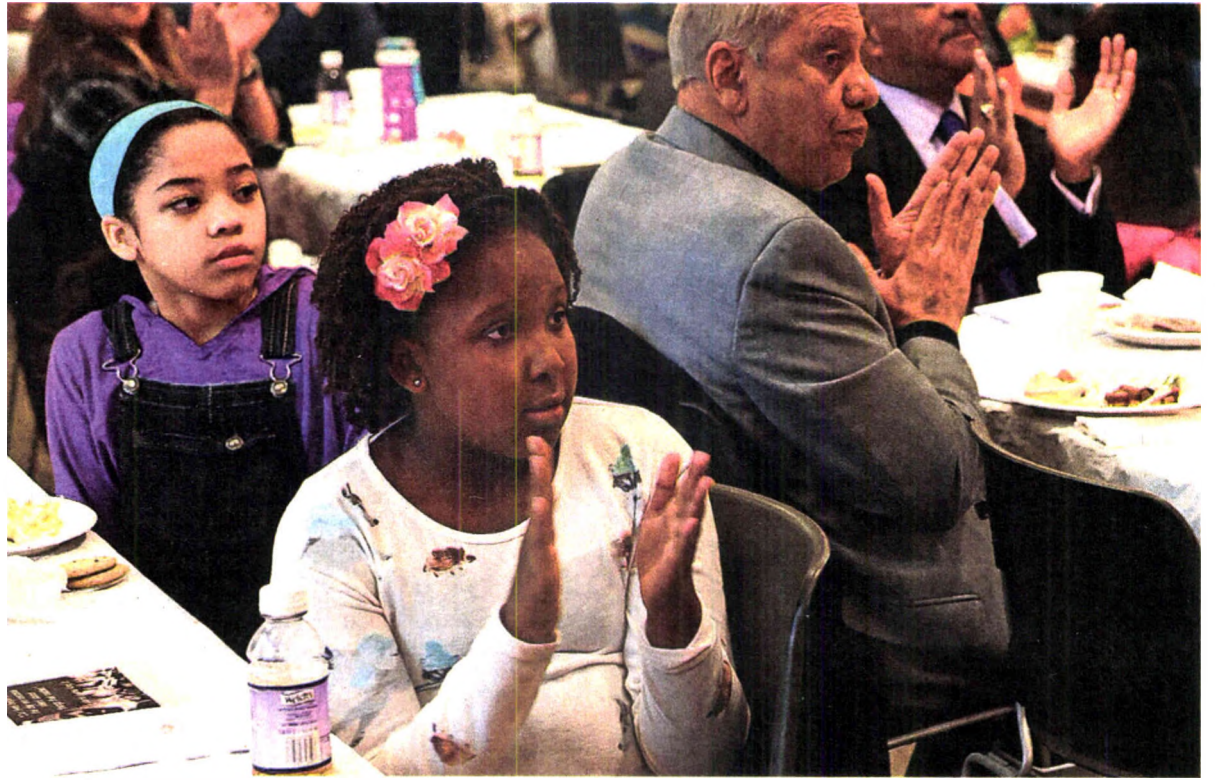
agenda at Monday's event. He also talked of his mother, who cooked meals and baked cookies for Detroit firefighters during the city's 1967 riots.

He said King's legacy lives on in him and in his wife and two adult children, because of his parents, who were influenced by King.

"My father taught me the meaning of perseverance and my mother taught me about love, that we are, indeed, our brothers' keepers," Gray said. "(King's) legacy lives on."

Monday's event also recognized essay writers and included remarks from a variety of local leaders. Members of the Novi Middle School band and the Novi High School Theater Group also performed. Kids also made unity cookies and bracelets in honor of the occasion.

Gail Anderson, programming coordinator for the Novi Public Li-



Novi Meadows sixth-grader Taylor Weston applauds a speaker at Monday's Power of Unity breakfast at the Novi Public Library. The morning was filled with speakers, music and performances to celebrate the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Behind Weston are speakers Dr. Herman Gray (right), president and CEO of United Way of Southeastern Michigan, and India League of America and Novi Public Library board member Ramesh Gudapuri.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NOVI NEWS

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

Community Office:
29725 Hudson Drive • Novi, MI 48377 • 866-887-2737
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
hometownlife.com

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<p>Subscription Rates: Newsstand price: \$1.50 Thursday Thursday Mail delivery: \$5.00 EZ pay per month \$65.00 in county mail per year \$91.00 out county in state per year \$98.00 out of state per year</p>	<p>Home Delivery: Customer Service: 866-887-2737 Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. After hours, leave voicemail Email: custserv@hometownlife.com</p>
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A brass quintet from Novi Middle School, including Drew VanGoethem (right), entertains the MLK celebration at the Novi Public Library. The group was under the direction of Evan Blanchard.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

brary, said the inaugural event fit in with the library's motto: "Inform, Inspire and Include." "Our mission as a library is to embrace our community's diversity," Anderson said. "We want to make sure we expand upon that mission. ... This day is a perfect day to recognize that."

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MARCH

Continued from Page A1

Independence Avenue and Third Street, near the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. The march and rally, featuring advocates, artists and entertainers, is free and open to "any person, regardless of gender or gender identity, who believes women's rights are human rights," according to its website. The organizing committee asks participants to register online at www.womensmarch.com to ensure an accurate count.

Phoebe Hopps, state coordinator for the Women's March, estimates that at least 6,000 women from Michigan will participate in the national event. Some will carpool, take trains or fly to Washington, D.C. At least 5,000 will take buses.

Bus from Livonia

Schoolcraft College students and Livonia

residents Lizzie Casella and Christian Sullivan will ride with other students, faculty and community members on a bus chartered by the college student activities department.

"I hope this non-violent march is an opening message to the new president that women will have their rights and safety protected," said Sullivan, who is pursuing a nursing degree. "I personally hope to get a positive experience from my first march. I am assuming I will be one of the few men compared to the amount of women at this march, but I want to be shoulder-to-shoulder with the powerful women that are standing up for what is right."

He wants Congress to listen to the marchers' concerns, especially the message that "nobody should tell a woman what she can or can't do with her body."

Casella also supports women's reproductive rights. As a writer for the college newspaper

and a future broadcast journalist, she is concerned about First Amendment rights and the president-elect's treatment of the press.

Casella was in the student activities office in December when she noticed fliers about Schoolcraft offering a bus to the march.

"I was the very first one to sign up," she said. "I really hope for myself to gain a little bit of self-pride, being a part of something so big and amazing that could be life-changing. I always wanted to be an activist. As a journalist, I'm excited to be in the event, live reporting it and coming home and sharing the experience through writing."

Her mother initially planned to attend the march, but couldn't get time off from work and will participate in a simultaneous march in Lansing. A rally is planned 1-3 p.m. Saturday on the steps of the state Capitol, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. For more details, go to

<https://www.marchonlansing.org/>.

"I'm excited to be a part of it and honored that Schoolcraft College allowed us to do something like this," Casella said.

Sold out

Deborah Burke, Schoolcraft College psychology professor, said as a public institution Schoolcraft should expose students "to all kinds of thought" and events, including the Women's March on Washington.

She worked with Lisa Jackson, a faculty member who also leads the college's student civil rights action club, in working with the college's student activities department to arrange the bus. The ride was priced at \$100 per person, but all students on the bus will receive full or partial scholarships funded by donations from the Schoolcraft community, plus Burke's friends and neighbors. The 56-passenger bus sold out earlier this

month.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to take part in a historic event, a moment that is a starting off point," said Burke, who made a quilted sign, bearing the message, "the person is the political," for the march. "And I'm excited to share this opportunity with people I work with, students I teach and the community."

Jeannine Donigan-Hales, Hannah Provence Donigan's daughter, will ride a bus with her 16-year-old daughter to the national event. Donigan-Hales is a teacher in the Farmington Public Schools district and will be part of the Michigan Education Association convoy to Washington.

"Certainly, education is important to everybody in the U.S. and a fair and equitable education for all is important. Being a part of a union, unions are important, too," she said, adding that she hopes government officials pay attention to the marchers' concerns.

"I'm not going to an anti-president march," she added. "For me, it's about women's issues and coming together to be kind and loving to each other."

Colleen Crossey, a social worker and Novi resident who will drive to the march, agrees that the event is not necessarily anti-Trump, but an airing of many concerns and grievances.

"There are so many ways that women are unfairly treated ... the wage issue, health care issue, reproductive health care issue and other things, like racism, sexism, fear of Muslims," she said. "The grievances can't fit on one sign."

She hopes lawmakers will pay attention and realize that women's issues are family issues.

"Government hasn't been doing a great job of listening to people in general," she said. "Women are saying, 'Enough is enough.'"

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THREE

Continued from Page A1

had loved had been in a hit-and-run and the person who did it was jumping up and down celebrating and couldn't be caught."

Fast forward two months and both women have found a way to channel their grief into action. Girbach, Campion and Campion's 12-year-old daughter Eleanor are among some 30,000 Michiganders who will board buses Friday, heading for Washington, D.C., and the Women's March on Washington.

The march is scheduled for Jan. 21, Donald Trump's first day in office as 45th president of the United States. Born from a Facebook post in the wake of Trump's election, the march has become a nationwide movement aimed at bringing attention to progressive issues: think reproductive rights, immigration reform, worker's issues and race relations. Per its Eventbrite listing, it's open to anyone, men included, who believes that women's rights are human rights. Nearly 200,000 people have indicated on the event's Facebook page that they're planning to attend.

For Girbach, 71, it's her first time taking a major political stand. "I've always been a liberal, all my life, but I've never gotten off my duff and participated in anything yet," she said. "I'm hoping people will notice that we have not gone to earth — that there are people out there who care. We're not just going to roll over and accept whatever the new status quo may be."

Like the march's leaders, Girbach said the event goes beyond a protest of the Trump administration. "I think it's bigger," she said. "I think it's unification of people who are in danger of being marginalized: women, people of color, people of various sexual persuasions and any religion that isn't mainstream Christian."

Campion, 46, who works at the Harper Woods library and serves on the library board, echoed that sentiment.

"It's more of a march in support of so many important issues to women," she said. "The party in power, not necessarily Mr. Trump himself, seems to want to take away a lot of things important to women or don't really seem to respect women's issues. It's a lot about having our voice — to say, 'We are an incredibly large part of society; think of the issues that are important to us.'"

Campion is concerned in particular with women's reproductive rights. Girbach is

worried about losing the Affordable Care Act. For her part, Eleanor, who goes to Parcels Middle School in Grosse Pointe Woods, wants to make a statement about the need for change in America. She and her mom went to a Clinton rally at Detroit's Eastern Market and what she heard there really resonated with her.

"If there's something I can do to help, I should," Eleanor said. "I feel really strongly about women's rights. ... I think things need to change and we can show that by marching."

Eleanor and her mom are taking a poster with the Bill of Rights. They'll also be wearing aprons with slogans on them — a throwback to the suffragettes, who wore them when protesting for women's rights in the early 1900s. For her part, Girbach is planning to wear a pink hat with pussycat ears, a reference to Trump's comments about grabbing women by their private parts. She made 130 pink felt hats, enough for everyone in the bus group she's traveling with.

The three women will

be going to D.C. with a group from Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church in Southfield. They'll leave Friday evening, ride the buses all night and get to D.C. in the morning. After the march, a local UU church will have food and a place for them all to get warm before the overnight trip home.

Campion said she knows a lot of women who are also making the trip — an Ann Arbor friend and her child, a local city council member and folks from Ohio, North Carolina, and Maryland. "I might not

run into them, but knowing they'll all be there at the same time, even if I don't see them, is very powerful — the coming together of women from all over the country who are so passionate about their beliefs and their rights," she said.

Others she knows are going to local "sister marches," like Michigan's march on Lansing. "It adds to sense of community," she said, "that no matter where they are, they're out in spirit with everyone."

Campion said the best part of the march will be having her mom stand-

ing there by her side. She credits Girbach with leading her to become the woman she is today and said that being there with her means a lot.

"My mom did so much for me when I was a child. She raised me to make my own choices, to know I am strong as a woman, not weak because I'm a woman, and to do things I wanted to do," she said. "We are coming together to do this: to say we are strong women. I think it's important for the world, not just for us, to say we are united."



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 Karen Schmidt of South Lyon; Deb, Emma and Lauern Van Hevele of Grand Rapids; Alicia and Sierra Atwater of Walled Lake; Monique Carbarry of Phoenix, Ariz.; Linda Luchi of Commerce; Yolanda Tiano of Novi; Christy Eischer of Wixom; Tina Avallone of Macomb; Grace and Kristen Backus of Clinton Township; and Marie Ryan of Harrisburg, Pa., gathered for a photo at the Charity Preview opening ceremony.

Charity Preview: Their shoes are made for walking



Julie Yolles
 SOCIAL SCENE

Jimmy Choo, Christian Dior, Kate Spade and Louboutin were some of the designers who adorned the pristinely pedicured feet of nearly 13,000 people Friday at the North American International Auto Show's annual Charity Preview. But back at her home in Bloomfield Hills that night, the only thing gracing Shari Barnett's tired soles were a pair of cars.com swag slippers that she picked up days before during the NAIAS press and industry preview days.

Barnett, director of creative services at Productions Plus-The Talent Shop in Bingham Farms, was home regenerating that night, having staffed 344 people for NAIAS 2017. Barnett and her team of 32 from all four Productions Plus-The Talent Shop offices in Bingham Farms, Orange County, Calif.; Dallas; and Atlanta hired, placed and trained 243 product specialists and 101 brand ambassadors.

And, in an innovative move that spotlights "runway meets the roadway," according to Productions Plus-Talent Shop President Hedy Popson, she led the team and Barnett fostered the partnership between fashion-forward international designer Zang Toi and their client Lexus.

"This partnership was so unique because Zang Toi made a custom, hand-knit outfit specific to each product specialist working on the floor for Lexus," said Barnett who, along with Toi, is a graduate of the prestigious Parsons School of Design.

"None are off the rack. They are truly couture pieces."

Zang Toi was in town last week during press preview days, introducing the Lexus NAIAS line which includes a hand-loomed knit dress and hand-beading and embroidery on jackets.

"Zang Toi was looking at classic silhouettes with a sexy twist to them,"



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Mayor of Detroit and Livonia native Mike Duggan greets people at the Charity Preview.

added Barnett. "He created monotone designs to blend well on the floor and be an extension of the display while being very cohesive with Lexus' luxury brand."

The Charity Preview, the kickoff to the Auto Show, raised an unprecedented \$5.2 million for southeastern Michigan children's charities. Since Charity Preview's inception in 1976, the Detroit Auto Dealers Association has raised more than \$111 million for children's organizations including the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan, Boys Hope Girls Hope of Detroit, The Children's Center, Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation, Judson Center, Detroit PAL, March of Dimes, and the DADA Charitable Foundation Fund, a fund of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

Following a special concert by the Beach Boys, more than 1,000 Charity Preview attendees boarded luxury buses back to Ford Field for the AutoGlow, a benefit for The Children's Center of Detroit. Presented by Ford Motor Co., AutoGlow was hosted by Lisa and Bill Ford and Jane and Mark Fields.

The auto show continues through Sunday, Jan. 22. Public Show ticket prices are \$13 for adults, \$7 for seniors and children 7-12 (6 and under free when accompanied by parent or guardian).

Auto show information and recommendations for experiencing Detroit while in town can be found at naias.com.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Stacie Cartagena of Clawson, Jennifer Bryant of Farmington Hills and Amy and Scott Traver of Grand Blanc.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Westland Mayor Bill Wild and Sherri Wild at the Ford display.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 It's time for a selfie by the Mercedes Benz exhibit for David and Yesenia Olivencia of Munster, Ind., and Paul Montalvan and Crucita Santiago of Canton.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Stephani and Sam Tianari of Northville and Samantha Roberts of Plymouth. Sam is a building contractor for the auto show.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Laura and David Gutierrez are from Detroit. Laura works in Livonia at St. Mary Mercy Hospital. This is their 30th Charity Preview. The family owns Gutierrez Brothers Racing, competing in the NHRA's top alcohol dragster series.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Merriam and Ed Weglarz are from Livonia.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Steve and Kathleen Schafer of Novi pose with Cadillacs.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Past NAIAS chairman Scott LaRiche speaks with Gregory and Susan Brooks of Novi.

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I am an American We are One Nation

HEALING COMMUNITIES THROUGH ART

Mawia Elawad works to help city's residents express fears and hopes

SARAH TADDEO
USA TODAY NETWORK

Each week, this series will introduce you to an exceptional American who unites, rather than divides, our communities. To read more about the American profiled here and more average Americans doing exceptional things, visit onation.usatoday.com.

For Mawia Elawad, a conversation between a neighborhood resident and a police officer while helping paint a community mural would make her work worth it.

Elawad, a 21-year-old Alfred University senior from Rochester, New York, is part of Art Force 5, a student group providing an outlet for residents to express their emotions through communal art projects that touch major U.S. issues like poverty, race and police-community relations.

"We're giving people the chance to have their voices heard," she said, adding that the projects are focused on "messages that help (community members) highlight their own self-esteem and realize the strength they have within themselves."

The projects often include tiles that community members can paint to form larger murals, to be displayed at community events or exhibits to demonstrate peaceful unity.

The group did another project where community members could hang black or blue ribbons, to memorialize both the black lives and the police lives lost.

Art Force 5 started as an outreach program related to an Alfred University class called "Drawn to Diversity." Students hold workshops for elementary school children, acting as "superheroes" to show that anyone can be a "hero" and deliver powerful community messages.

At a Black Lives Matter rally in Rochester last year, Art Force 5 offered boards with the words, "Why" and "What Now?," where residents could jot down their thoughts. The group showed the boards to Rochester police officers after the rally to continue the discussion about community-police relations.

Elawad and Dan Napolitano, Alfred's director of student activities who heads the Drawn to Diversity class, are working together to seek grants to start an



OLIVIA LOPEZ/USA TODAY NETWORK

Mawia Elawad, 21, immigrated to the U.S. from Sudan and is a student at Alfred University in Rochester, N.Y., working with Art Force 5, a group that creates communal art projects.

Art Force 5 team in New York City. Art Force 5 members are not telling people what to create or what they should be feeling, said Elawad. "We are not a remedy, we are a reflection," she said. "This is for (the community), and it's all about their voices."

Mawia Elawad

Location: Rochester, New York

Age: 21

Profession: College student, member of Art Force 5

Mission: To facilitate community conversations around hotbed issues through communal art

Q&A WITH MAWIA ELAWAD

Mawia Elawad of Rochester, New York, attends Alfred University and is an integral member of Art Force 5, a small group of students working to facilitate conversations about race, poverty and social justice through community art. She was born in Sudan, came to the U.S. as a child and found that community service and justice efforts have helped her discover her cultural identity as an immigrant and an American.

What does it mean to be an American?

"To be an American means to be someone that understands privilege but doesn't shy away from it. Being an American means taking all the different cultures and ways of life that we experience, and saying, 'How do I fit into that?'"

What moment touched and motivated you to take part in this effort?

"When I did my first classroom visit, it was to a third-grade classroom. I liked that we engaged the kids, and it was refreshing and humbling to see them having fun and learning at the same time. We get to be a part of that process and growth, and that's the larger part of the picture in what we try to do with Art Force 5."

What gives you hope and what concerns you?

"The one thing that concerns me is the fact that people are so quick to neglect the other pieces of other cultures that they have within them, and only embrace what they see through tunnel vision. Programs like Art Force 5 and the work that other community members do are what give me hope. It only takes that 1 percent, one degree, to change someone's mind."

What do you hope to accomplish through your efforts?

"What we hope to get on a personal level is our own growth and development, but also knowing that we empowered one person through one interaction to maybe do something different that day, or in the long run to learn something different about themselves."
— Sarah Taddeo

ONE NATION NOMINATE AN AMERICAN

Who are your American heroes? Share stories and nominees at onation.usatoday.com or via email to onenation@usatoday.com or post a video submission to Twitter, Facebook or Instagram (no longer than 2 minutes, please) with the hashtags #IAmAnAmerican #WeAreOneNation.

ST. MARY MERCY
LIVONIA
SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

LADIES' NIGHT OUT

Heart to Heart

Gender Matters When It Comes to Heart Disease

Thursday, February 2

St. Mary Mercy Livonia South Auditorium

5:30 to 7 p.m. - Health Screenings, Vendors and Massage

7 to 8:30 p.m. - Keynote Speaker, Aziz Alkatib, MD
Cardiologist
St. Mary Mercy Livonia



Aziz Alkatib, MD

Heart disease is the number one killer of women, causing one in three deaths each year. But it doesn't affect all women the same, and the warning signs for women are different than men. Learn more about heart disease in women and what you can do to help prevent it.

*Special appearance by Karen Wright, the wife of Livonia's Mayor Dennis Wright.

Prizes • Vendors • Massage Light Refreshments

The event is free, but registration is required. Space is limited. Please call 734-655-1182 or visit stmarymercy.org and click on Classes & Events.

Women's Health SERVICES

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

SECTION 00 1113 - ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

DATE: January 19, 2017
PROJECT: Novi Community School District BP15 - Security System Upgrades Novi, Michigan
OWNER: Novi Community School District 25345 Taft Road Novi, Michigan 48374
ENGINEERING/TECHNOLOGY DESIGNER: Integrated Design Solutions, LLC Architecture, Engineering, Interiors & Technology 1441 W. Long Lake, Suite 200 Troy, MI 48098 Telephone (248) 823-2100 • Fax (248) 823-2200
BIDS RECEIVED: Until 2:00 pm local time on February 9, 2017, the Owner will receive sealed Bids for the work as set forth in the Bidding Documents at:
Attention: Steve Barr, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations Novi Community School District Educational Services Building 25345 Taft Road Novi, Michigan 48374

At which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. A bid tabulation summary will be available. Bids received after this time and date will not be considered or accepted and will be returned to the bidder unopened. Faxed or electronic proposals will not be accepted.

The Bidding Documents will be on file on and after January 19, 2017, and may be examined at the offices of Integrated Design Solutions, LLC, 1441 W. Long Lake, Suite 200, Troy, MI 48098 during regular business hours. Monday through Friday. The Engineering/Technology Designer will furnish electronic documents to the Bidders. The documents may be downloaded from: <http://cloud.ids-troy.com/bids/bids/novi/securitysystems>. Bidders are responsible for checking the website from time to time to verify they have all addenda, requests for information and other documents related to the Bid.

All bids should be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship (or lack of a relationship) that exists between the Owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board of Education of the Novi Community School District or Superintendent of the School District. The District shall not accept a bid that does not include a sworn and notarized disclosure statement. All bids should be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement confirming compliance with the Iranian Economic Sanctions Act (P.A. 517 of 2012). The District shall not accept a bid that does not include a sworn and notarized disclosure statement.

A pre-bid conference is scheduled for January 26, 2017, at 2:00 pm local time. All bidders are responsible for attendance at the pre-bid conference. Bidders shall meet at the Instructional Technology Center (ITC) located at 25425 Taft Road, Novi, MI 48374. The ITC entrance is located between Novi Meadows 6th Grade House and Novi Meadows 5th Grade House.

Additional building walk-thrus, if required, shall be coordinated with the Engineer/Technology Designer.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informality or irregularity in the bidding.

Walled Lake names top teachers

The Walled Lake Consolidated School District announced the district Teachers of the Year for 2016-17.

The elementary Teacher of the Year is Monica House from Mary Helen Guest Elementary. The middle school Teacher of the Year is Jean Buller from Clifford Smart Middle School. The high school Teacher of the Year is Barbie Green from Walled Lake Central.

"We are so very fortunate in Walled Lake to have the amazing educators who teach, facilitate and model learning for our more than 14,000 students every day," Superintendent Kenneth Gutman said. "Teaching is much more than a profession - it is a calling. I am proud, privileged and happy to honor the 2016-17 Teachers of the Year and to thank them for their dedication and commitment to our children, families and community."

In their nomination essays:

» House said: "I believe that 'teaching every child' starts with ensuring their happiness. I create a physical environment, as well as an emotionally safe atmosphere, that supports my students' needs and fosters a willingness to take risks that are inherent to all learning. I believe that when given time, space, support and the right environment, every



Jean Buller (from left), Barbie Green and Monica House were named Walled Lake District Teachers of the Year for 2016-17.

child is capable of reaching their goals."

» Buller said: "I have learned the importance of constantly adjusting my teaching techniques to meet the needs of every child in my classroom. What I have found is that no one strategy meets every child's learning needs. As a teacher, I try to convey the love of learning. Learning in my classroom is about my students growing to appreciate science and to understand how the world works."

» Green said: "It is essential that I not only teach my students how to communicate in French, but also give them an

understanding of French history and culture so that they can better appreciate the language and the people who speak it. Sharing my passion and opening students' eyes to the beauty and importance of this amazing subject that brings me immense joy."

The 2016-17 Teacher of the Year nominees are: Dan Love, Commerce Elementary; Jennifer Phillips-Weckstein, Dublin Elementary; Lara Dryden, Glengary Elementary; Monica House, Mary Helen Guest Elementary; Danielle Bigi; Hickory Woods Elementary; Matt Hewitt, Keith Elementary; Brandy Carlson, Loon Lake

Elementary; Carrie Estabrook, Meadowbrook Elementary; Sherry Rachwal, Oakley Park Elementary; Jill Stromback, Pleasant Lake Elementary; Shannon Cipriano, Walled Lake Elementary; Alexis Meyes, Wixom Elementary; Lynn Dunn, Sarah Banks Middle School; Tarra Pitcock, Walnut Creek Middle School; Linda Martin-Seng, Geisler Middle School; Jean Buller, Clifford Smart Middle School; Barbie Green, Walled Lake Central High School; Kaye Lynn Mazurek, Walled Lake Northern High School; and Paulette Loe, Walled Lake Western High School.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS

Honors

Harding University
Katelyn Perrett of Highland, a broadcast journalism major, is among more than 1,400 university students included on the dean's list for grades achieved during the fall 2016 semester.

Hope College

The following students have been named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester: Briana Bailey, Rebecca Compton, Brian Simonich, Mitchell Van Acker of Highland; Ryan Johnson, Matthew Orr, Austin Smith, Cullen Smith, Sarah White of Milford; Alyssa Adams, Shannon Bauch, Teresa Cameon, Brittany Evans, William Harrison, Brendan O'Dowd, Rebecca Pavlock, Sara Plohetski,

Samantha Savalle of South Lyon; Matthew Blessed, Kathleen Finn, Emma Jones of White Lake.

Heidelberg University
Marshal Scott of Commerce Township, a senior majoring in criminal justice, was named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester.

American International University

Trevor Cope of White Lake has been named to the fall 2016 dean's list.

Lehigh University

Da Hyun Ko of Novi has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester.

Spring Arbor University

The Crossroads League Academic All-Crossroads League award winners for the 2016 fall season includes Kevin Veeder (soccer) of Milford.

NORTHVILLE SCHOOL BRIEFS

'Pippin'

Northville High School Drama Club will present its winter musical, "Pippin," at 7 p.m. Feb. 2-4. The show offers songs from the composer of "Wicked." It uses the premise of a mysterious performance troupe, led by a Leading Player, to tell the story of Pippin, a young prince on his search for meaning and significance.

Tickets are on sale now online at www.showtix4u.com. Contact the drama club at nhsstageparents@gmail.com.

gmail.com.

Battle of the books

Northville District Library's Middle School Battle of the Books begins. Books are now available at the library and in each school's Media Center. Team registration forms must be filled out by Tuesday, Jan. 31. Mandatory team manager meeting is at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31, at the Northville District Library. Battle Competition date is Wednesday, March 15, at Northville High School.

Students celebrate peace with winning contest posters

Joanne Maliszewski
hometownlife.com

Students at Hillside and Meads Mill middle schools celebrated peace in a colorful and artistic way through a popular contest hosted by Lions Clubs all over the world.

"It's something we have been doing for many years. It's kind of joining people together," said Kevin Clark, a member of the Northville Lions Club, which organizes the local annual peace poster contest.

The contest offers to students local, county, national and international levels of competition. Throughout each level of competition, chapters of the Lions Club compete against each other, Clark said.

Through the Northville Lions Club, four middle school students were chosen as winners in the local contest. They are Anastasia Hunsaker, who took first place, and Layo Mangipudi, who took second place, both students at Meads Mill Middle School. Also in the local competition, Hillary Luan took first and Sydney Brown took second, both at Hillside Middle School.

The first-place local winners went on to the county competition, where Luan took first place and Hunsaker took second. Luan also participated in the state competition.

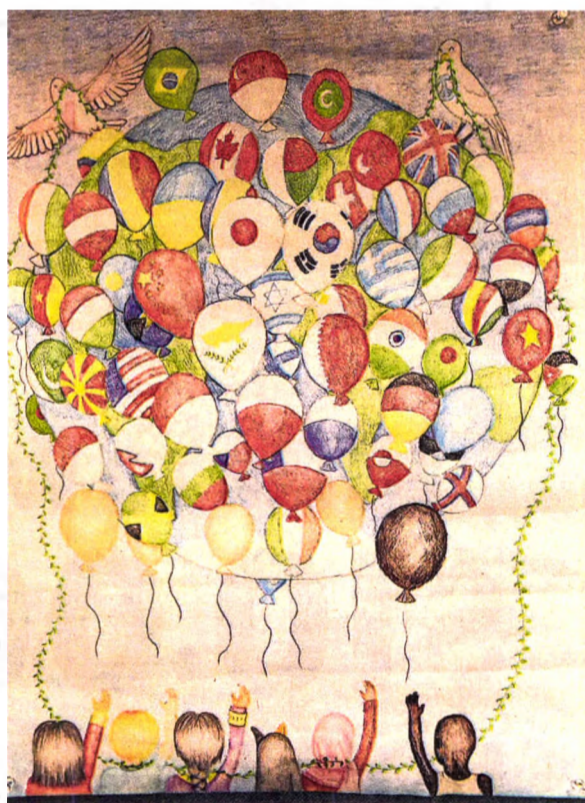
In her winning poster, Luan chose to draw balloons, expressing a diversity of people in the world with flags of various nations. She used colored pencils for her drawing. "Balloons seemed peaceful to me," she said.

Hunsaker's drawing featured a large white



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hillside teacher Pamela White with local contest winners (from left) Sydney Brown, Hillary Luan, Anastasia Hunsaker and Layo Mangipudi, along with Meads Mill teacher Jennifer Hart.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hillary Luan of Hillside Middle School took first place with her drawing at the county level competition, hosted by the Lions Club.

dove of peace surrounded by hands of many colors, expressing the world's diversity. She used water colors, crayons, pastels and Sharpies. "I just wanted my drawing to be simple," Hunsaker said.

As winners of the county competition, Luan

received \$100 and Hunsaker \$50.

Mangipudi used pencils for her drawing, which featured a dove of peace and flowers. "It was a growth of inspiration," she said of her local winning poster.

Brown's drawing is also of the dove of peace,

shown flying above the world. She used spray paint for her drawing's background.

"We kind of let them loose," Meads Mill teacher Jennifer Hart said. Added Hillside teacher Pamela White, "Every year, I am amazed at what (students) do."

INVITATION TO BID 2017 DOOR HARDWARE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM at THORNTON CREEK, RIDGE WOOD AND MORAIINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Board of Education of Northville Public Schools is accepting Prime Contractor firm bids for all labor, materials, equipment and all other services to complete the interior door hardware replacement work at the Northville Public Schools listed above.

Plans and specifications may be downloaded via PlanWell and are available for review at the office of the George W. Auch Company, 735 S. Paddock Street, Pontiac, MI 48341 248.334.2000, on or after **January 17th, 2017**. Bid Package consists of Instruction to Bidders, Proposal Forms, General and Supplementary Conditions, drawings and pertinent trade specifications. Contact Scott Oswald or Shawn Debo for download instructions.

Your proposal will be accepted **NO LATER THAN 1:00PM, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2017 TO: NORTHVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION-ROOM 307, 501 WEST MAIN STREET, NORTHVILLE, MI 48167**. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 1:00 P.M., February 3, 2017 at the Northville Board of Education-Room 104, 501 West Main Street, Northville, MI 48167.

A pre-bid walk through is scheduled for Wednesday January 25, 2017 beginning at 1:00 pm beginning at Moraine Elementary main entrance lobby, 46811 Eight Mile Road, Northville MI. This meeting is not mandatory but highly recommended.

All contracts to be entered into by the Northville Public Schools must and will comply with the equal opportunity laws of the State of Michigan.

All bids must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid packet.

All bidders must provide familial disclosure in compliance with MCL 380.1267 and attach this information to the bid proposal. The bid proposal will be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Northville Public Schools, Board of Education or the Northville Public Schools, Superintendent. The District will not accept a bid proposal that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.

Proposals must include a Treasury listed bid bond or certified check made payable to Northville Public Schools for not less than five percent (5%) of the contract for each proposal over \$23,417 and must be submitted on the bid proposal form furnished with the specifications. All proposals shall remain firm for a period of sixty (60) days.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part; to award contract to other than the low bidder; to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the owner.

Roland Hwang, Secretary
Northville Public Schools, Board of Education

Published: January 19, 2017

LG-0000309189 3x7

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - PUBLIC HEARING February 15, 2017 - 7:00 P.M.

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) has scheduled a public hearing for Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at the Northville Township Municipal Office Building, located at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI. The ZBA will consider variance requests as follows:

- Chapter 170, Zoning Ordinance, Article 29, Wireless Communications (Setbacks) for Commercial property located at 41620 Six Mile Road, Northville MI (Parcel ID#s 77-044-99-0002-007 & 77-044-99-002-711).
- Chapter 170, Zoning Ordinance, Article 25, Use Specific Standards (Drive-Thru) and Chapter 145, Sign Ordinance (Wall Signs) for commercial property located at 20401 Haggerty Road, Northville MI (Parcel ID#001-99-0001-716).

Written comments regarding these requests will be received by the ZBA at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48168. The meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M.

Paul Slatin, Chair
Zoning Board of Appeals

Publish: January 19, 2017

LG-0000308770 3x3

LETTERS

What were you thinking?

So you voted for Donald Trump! Do you think there are good sexual predators and bad sexual predators? Do you think there are good racists and bad racists? Do you think there are good homophobes and bad homophobes? Do you generally think it is kind of OK to demean a Gold Star Family, or a prisoner of war or make fun of a disabled reporter?

And you "evangelicals." Since you tout your belief in redemption is that person even eligible for that consideration when he publicly said he has never asked for forgiveness because he has "never done anything wrong?"

Donald Trump showed the country on endless occasions who he is. And wasn't your vote for Donald Trump more of an indication, as a person, as to what your standards are? On the other hand, maybe after one of Mr. Trump's many hateful tweets, or when he made some ignorant statement, and one of his many surrogates came out the next day to tell us "what he really meant," you found some reason to give him a pass on his racism, his history of sexual assault and more.

What were you thinking?

Steve Lawrence
Northville

Trump unworthy for job

The inauguration for Donald Trump will be a historical one ranking high on the list with other major disasters that befell our country, like Pearl Harbor and 9/11.

Trump is not qualified nor experienced enough to be president. He is also unworthy and continues to show it with his tweets.

He has already caused a loss of faith in our system of govern-

ment and our intelligence agencies.

He has incited hate and mistrust of fellow Americans, along with disrespect and violence.

It will be heartbreak to see this man given the oath of office.

And truly heartbreaking is knowing it did not have to be this way. Republican leaders could have stopped him, but instead they chose to place their interest before that of the country and its citizens. They are willing to pay any price to maintain their power and control.

We will all pay a price, I fear a very large price, for their choice.

Chuck Tindall
Novi

Anticipating the march

I am an 81-year-old Humanist minister/celebrant. I am anticipating with excitement being part of the Women's March on Washington Saturday, Jan. 21.

A daughter and two friends who are in their 50s will march with me. I am joyful because another daughter and her 16-year-old daughter will participate with several people from the Michigan Education Association. Many fellow members of my Unitarian Universalist church and other churches will be involved. All states will be represented.

We demonstrate for justice, freedom, love, peace, hope.

Hannah Provence
Donigan
Commerce

DeVos a bad choice

Betsy DeVos is Donald Trump's nominee for the national educational secretary. This cabinet position oversees our American education system, and requires Senate confirmation.

In the history of America, there has never been a more inappropriate educational nominee. Thanks to her fam-

ily's political contributions, millions of dollars have been made to support her private charter school initiative, allowing her to be a major influence on the education policies in Michigan — all of it bad and not based on effective practices or educational improvements.

Her fervor has brought her single-minded theories for education (charter school movement) to Michigan with devastating results. When her Detroit charter schools are measured by academic achievement, they are a spectacular failure, while diverting \$1 billion away from public school students and teachers, into her private entrepreneurial follies.

Detroit charter schools have shown horrendous results. Last year, 84 percent of charter schools performed substantially below state averages. DeVos successfully lobbied against legislation requiring increased charter school accountability. After the Legislature defeated the charter school accountability legislation, DeVos contributed \$1.5 million to Republican legislative candidates.

Contact your Michigan senators, Debbie Stabenow at 202-224-4822 and Gary Peters at 202-224-6221, and voice your opinion regarding her dismal performance in Michigan schools and recognize the danger DeVos poses to the future of national public education. Encourage them to reject her nomination.

William Fear
Brighton

Just nonsense

Joe Rzyzi and Maggie Kurtweil would like you to believe that they don't know the name of the person they were maligning at the close of the Jan. 9 South Lyon council meeting. Joe even went so far as to say he didn't

know if I was male or female, yet he has talked to me and about me on Facebook.

The only truth they spoke was that we have never met. Thankfully, I have never met anyone like Joe or Maggie, that is why I find their treatment of other people so deplorable.

Let me start with Joe's untruths.

First, I do not go after the other members of the council. Second, the only conversation I have ever had with Tedd Wallace regarding troops was when I asked him if he knew of a local address for Wounded Warriors, so I could make a donation.

If you watch the council meetings and then read my follow-up letter to the editor, you will see that I am not the one being nasty, just the one calling out Maggie and Joe for the nasty way they treat all the other people at the meeting.

Now to Maggie. In all her mumbo-jumbo hypothetical maligning of me, she actually gave out someone else's Facebook name that has nothing to do with this matter.

As to me being a hate-monger and attacking her for four, five, six, seven, eight years, there is a small speck of truth to that. Many years ago, Maggie wrote the most despicable letter to the editor I have ever seen. The man she wrote about had done absolutely nothing wrong. Just as she is doing with me, she made up all this hypothetical nonsense about him, even going so far as comparing him to Kwame Kilpatrick. Although I had never met the man, I could not sit quietly by and let her malign this man for something she thought he might have been capable of doing. She was the hate-monger, not me.

Maggie would like you to believe that I have continued writing about her all during the eight-

year period. Absolutely not.

Fast forward to when Maggie became a council member and started attacking everyone else at the meetings, that's when my letters to the editors began again.

Joe and Maggie's vicious, malicious attack, which had zero basis in fact, against someone they knew was not there to refute their lies with the facts, is yet another example of their lack of professionalism.

I can assure the public, despite all of Joe and Maggie's hype, that I do not own a weapon and I am not a danger to anyone.

It's too bad they decided to waste all this time on such nonsense instead of doing something positive with the time.

Maureen Zormeier
South Lyon

In reality, a sad story

Regarding R.J. Wolcott's report about MSU's cow "super mom" Ellie, I'm sure most readers smiled and thought "ah, what a sweet story." That is far from the truth. The story was careful to make everything sound so humane.

It was careful not to mention the annual forced impregnation of dairy cows (to learn the truth about dairy, Google "rape rack," a term commonly used in the dairy industry). It also did not make it clear that these dairy cows never got to be with her babies.

Now I will admit that Ellie is probably treated with more care than other cows in the dairy industry, because she is an MSU "matriarch" who will one day have her photo "rest among the most memorable cows." That does not mean her suffering is any less.

The male babies of dairy cows have long become veal and the

female babies of dairy cows are born into the same slavery.

I imagine she finally succumbed to her fate and those "dark colored eyes" that "shined bright as she hung her head below the guard rail" we're not shining with hope.

Every single animal will fight to protect their young. Cows are no different and form strong bonds with their babies when allowed to do so. Humans steal milk from the one for whom it was intended. Humans have zero need for cow milk. And yet we inflict this insane cruelty on cows.

Want to know the final chapter of a dairy cow's story? After she is worn out and can no longer give us her milk and her babies, she will be wrapped in cellophane in your grocery store.

Donna Schmidt
South Lyon

Save small town America

The Thursday, Jan. 12, issue of the South Lyon Herald contains articles pertaining to the continued proliferation of proposed/planned home building in the Lyon Township/South Lyon area. A quote from Xuan Liu, research manager for the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments states, "Lyon Township is one of the fastest developing communities in southeast Michigan." This growth is clearly evident, particularly along the landscape of 10 Mile Road, from Wixom Road to Milford Road.

We moved to Lyon Township/South Lyon from Livonia 20 years ago, to escape the explosive growth in that area known as the "Golden Corridor." If you navigate that area in Livonia these days, you will find nothing but traffic in constant gridlock and every little parcel of

See LETTERS, Page A9

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Sweepstakes by:  USA TODAY NETWORK

LETTERS

Continued from Page A8

ground being developed with brick and mortar. We came to Lyon Township/South Lyon to enjoy the country atmosphere, slower pace and its small town America atmosphere. To our dismay, the environment we moved to is now disappearing at a rapid pace.

Every week, there is another piece of open land that has a sign announcing a new housing development. In many cases, this sign is accompanied by a rezoning notification. The effects of the rapid and the seemingly uncontrolled growth in Lyon Township/South Lyon can be easily seen by the increase in traffic on 10 Mile, Milford Road, Martindale Road, Pontiac Trail, etc. With the in-

crease in traffic, an increase in impatient drivers and higher speeds is escalating. On any given day, one can see numerous drivers coasting through stop signs, traffic lights and exceeding posted speed limits. In many, many cases, these drivers are holding a cellphone in their hands, either talking or texting. It would seem that adherence to traffic laws and proper driving etiquette is now optional.

The continued explosion of growth will make existing driving conditions even worse, especially with the inadequacy and or lack of simultaneous infrastructure growth. Though many may not care, the wildlife community is also being decimated by the growth. For those who are moving to the so-called country because there is wildlife and open spaces in the area,

be assured it will only be seen in past pictures very soon.

Reading that the Erwin Farms property is up for sale and that a developer has already submitted a housing development proposal to the township is extremely disappointing. Certainly, the Erwin family has the right to retire after 96 years in business. The Erwin Orchards property is an icon of the community, bringing the joy and pleasure of numerous varieties of apples, fresh doughnuts, pies and their tantalizing aromas. This is not to mention the experience of breathing fresh air and not the toxic fumes of road traffic while walking through the property.

This past fall, the attendance at Erwin Orchards was clear proof of the enjoyment families from miles

around came to experience. Once Erwin Orchards is gone, where will these families go for a similar experience? The answer should not be, "Too bad, it is the price of progress." If Erwin Orchards must go, then the property should not be rezoned from its current status R1-O, which requires one-acre lots. Assuredly, developers will pressure the township for a higher-density development, like they do with every piece of land they purchase. Developers see only one thing when looking at open land — money. The more structures they can get on the land, the more money they make. It defies understanding why home buyers are satisfied with purchasing a home on a postage stamp lot, in many cases at a price of \$400,000 to \$500,000 or more. Ever notice how many of

these developments carry the name "Estates"? What a joke. Many people move to a new community for better schools, a more open atmosphere and because of the uniqueness of the town/city. Lyon Township/South Lyon possessed all these qualities when we first moved here. However, growth seems to be eroding what made our community unique. More homes, basic brick-and-mortar businesses and increased traffic flow will eventually make us no different than Livonia, Novi, Brighton, etc.

In the past year, we lost two icons of the community, Brown's Root Beer Shoppe and the South Lyon Hotel, which was destroyed by fire. Fortunately, the South Lyon Hotel is being rebuilt. The loss of Erwin Orchards will be a major hit to the unique

nature of our community. Lyon Township/South Lyon have master plans for development. The elected/appointed leaders of Lyon Township/South Lyon have an obligation to ensure that the growth of our communities is not primarily focused on the development of brick and mortar, so as to satisfy developers monetary objectives.

Development is inevitable, but there should be provisions in the master plan to protect some portion of the landscape from development — parks, playgrounds, open space, etc. As the words go, "think outside the box." This is their challenge — let's be different than the norm — save small town America.

Art and Jackie Boucher
South Lyon



Silver Springs Elementary School students react with laughter to puppeteer Richard Paul during his visit to the school for his "Diversity is Cool" presentation.

JOHH HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi honors its Employee of the Year

Recreation Supervisor Greg Morris knew the pressure he was going to be under when he set out to help the Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department achieve national accreditation.



But the long hours and stressful evaluation process proved worthwhile when Novi Parks earned its accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies. Novi is one of only four agencies in Michigan and 151 nationwide to have received the honor.

For his work on that project, his positive attitude and his passion for Novi, Morris took home some recognition of his own — the city of Novi Employee of the Year award.

Morris was one of five finalists for the award, which was handed out at the annual Evening of Appreciation in December. Joining him as finalists were Geospatial Application Services Manager Keri Blough, Community Relations Specialist Nathan Mueller, Parks and Municipal Property Superintendent Matt Turco and Building Attendant Torry Yu.

"All of the finalists are not just outstanding

employees, but outstanding people who are committed to making Novi a great city," said Novi City Manager Peter E. Auger. "Anyone who knows and interacts with Greg quickly sees that he truly cares about his job and the people he works with. It's easy to understand why he was selected as the Novi Employee of the Year."

Morris, who has been with the city since 2012, was nominated by several colleagues in his department. In their nomination, they said Morris "exemplifies what it means to be an amazing employee," and consistently exhibits "outstanding performance" in his job.

"It's an honor to be recognized by the employee base within the city of Novi, and I am truly blessed to be part of a high-quality organization," Morris said.

The city of Novi created the Employee of the Year award as a way to acknowledge exemplary city employees. The award is open to all full-time and permanent part-time city employees, city workers, volunteers, city residents and any person who does business with or within the city are invited to submit a nomination at any time during the year.

For more information about the procedure or to submit a nomination, visit cityofnovi.org.

Puppets teach lessons at MLK event

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com

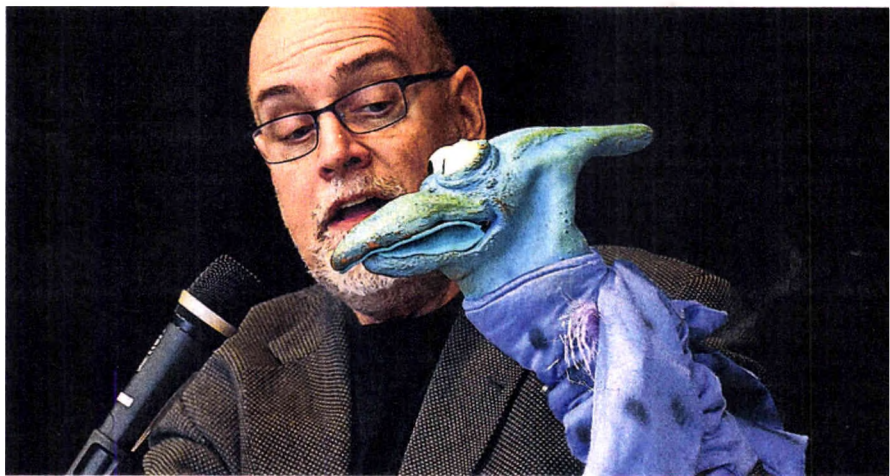
Ventriloquist Richard Paul was talking Friday to students at Silver Springs Elementary School about various aspects of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and the civil rights movement and began to tell the story of the woman who refused to give up her seat on the bus.

Then Paul paused to ask how many of the students knew the name of the woman involved in that anecdote. Nearly every hand shot into the air, with many of them yelling Rosa Parks' name.

The discussion was part of Paul's "Diversity is Cool" talk during the MLK observance at Silver Springs. Paul has spoken at various other events in the district.

"It really hits at exploring and understanding one another's differences," Paul said of his presentation. "It complements what Dr. King's movement was about, what it's still about: making his dream a reality."

Paul uses an assortment drawn from his collection of some 40 puppets — he used two Friday — to make his points. He's been practicing ventriloquism since he contracted rheumatic fever as a child and started watching shows like "Sesame Street."



Puppeteer Richard Paul gave a presentation Friday at Northville's Silver Springs Elementary on diversity, acceptance and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

JOHH HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

He's also drawn from famous ventriloquists like Jimmy Nelson, who used to appear on "The Ed Sullivan Show," and Paul Winchell, who had puppet Jerry Mahoney as a muse.

Paul has impressed folks in the Northville district enough to be asked back for multiple appearances.

"Having Richard here is a fun way to energize the kids in Dr. King's message and make sure the kids are trying to sustain Dr. King's vision," Silver Springs Principal Katie Booth said. "It's a fun and engaging way to get that message across."

The K-5 students will continue lessons learned from Paul's performance in their classrooms,

where they'll follow up with activities that "supplement what they heard," Booth said.

Fourth-grader Kendall Leitheuser said she "liked" the performance and the message it delivered.

"It teaches you it's not what you look like on the outside, but it's how you are on the inside," that's important, Kendall said.

That's the kind of message Paul is happy to have kids glean from his performance.

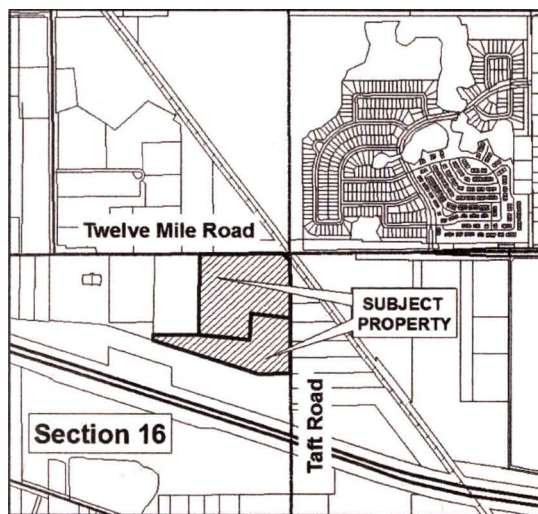
"I like when they walk away with a message that will embed in their minds," he said, "and maybe change their way of thinking."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 08, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **COMMERCE PARK JSP 17-02 AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.716 FOR PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR A ZONING MAP AMENDMENT FROM RA (RESIDENTIAL ACREAGE) TO OST (OFFICE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY)**. The subject parcel is approximately 30.64 acres. It is located on the southwest corner of Twelve Mile Road and Taft Road (Section 16).



Subject Parcel ID: 50-22-16-226-004 & 50-22-16-226-008

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, February 08, 2017.

Published January 19, 2016
Novi Planning Commission
Michael Lynch, Secretary

Published: January 19, 2017

CITY OF NOVI VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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

- Beautification Commission
- Construction Board of Appeals
- Library Board

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

The deadline for filing an application (available online at cityofnovi.org or at the City Clerk's office) is Friday, January 27, 2017. Applicants will be contacted by the City Clerk's Office regarding the date and time of interviews.

Cortney Hanson, CMC | CMMC | City Clerk

Published: January 19, 2017

LO-0000309100 3x6.5

LO-0000309100 3x6.5

Novi man arrested for Rite Aid theft

LeAnne Rogers
hometownlife.com

A Novi man was arrested for shoplifting Jan. 8 at a South Lyon drugstore.

Police were called to the Rite Aid store, 25610 Pontiac Trail, just before 6:30 p.m. about a shoplifter who was inside the

store with stolen items in his pocket. Two employees pointed out the Novi man, 26, as the shoplifter.

When officers arrived, the man was at the checkout attempting to purchase a television antenna along with a case of beer and some candy. The officer noted the antenna box had been

opened. After telling the officers that he had no stolen items on his person and had just picked up a prescription, the man was handcuffed and detained under suspicion of shoplifting. He was escorted from the store and again said he had no stolen items on his person, giv-

ing his consent to be searched. An employee told officers that she had been alerted to keep an eye on the man, who was described as possibly intoxicated and acting suspicious, by the pharmacist. The employee said she spotted the man walking to the front of

the store looking at an attachment for a smart phone camera, a black cord hanging out of his pocket. An empty box from the smart phone flash was found hidden behind a box of cleaning supplies, with the unit itself hidden behind a box of cereal. An adapter was

also found hidden in another aisle. The man was cited for retail fraud less than \$100. His prescription medication was turned over to him at the police station and he was released with a warning not to return to the store or he'd face a trespassing charge.

rogers@hometownlife.com
734-883-9039
Twitter: @LRogersObserver

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Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

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Sunday Mass 9 & 11AM
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Novi

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Sundays 9:15a & 11:15a
www.brightmoorcc.org
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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. Robert A. LaCroix, Pastor
Fr. Didier Kutshienza, Associate
Parish Office: 248-349-8847, www.holyfamilynovi.org

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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 Dressler

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

HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL
40700 W. Ten Mile Rd. 248-427-1175
Dec. 17 Blue Christmas @ 11:30am
Dec. 24 Christmas @ 3pm & Midnight Mass @ 10:30 pm
Dec. 25 Christmas Service 9am
www.holycrossnovi.org

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and Youth Group for 6th grade and older
Website: milfordbaptist.org

MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Pastor Bryant Anderson
238 N. Main Street, Milford MI (248) 684-2805
www.milfordpc.org
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School ages 3 thru 5th grade @ 10 a.m.
Youth Group 10 am - Grades 6-12
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21355 Meadowbrook Rd. In Novi at 8 1/2 Mile
248-348-7757 • www.mbccc.org
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister
LO-000287129

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

OAKPOINTE | milford CHURCH
1250 South Hill Rd.
(248) 685-3560
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 & 11:00 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

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
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South Lyon

Northville

First United Methodist Church (248) 349-1144
777 West 8 Mile Road
(8 Mile and Telford Road)
Northville, Michigan
Worship Times: September - May 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Memorial Day - Labor Day 10:00 a.m.
Rev. Marilee M. Woolley, Lead Pastor
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

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 Horlocker, Pastor
www.fpcsouthlyon.org
LO-000286983

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 cell
Old fashioned preaching KJN

Our Saviour Apostolic Lutheran Church
54999 8 Mile Rd. at Camie Rd. Northville, MI 48167
248-374-2266
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
oursaviouralca.com

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

The Church of Christ
21860 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon, MI 48178
248-437-3585 • www.southlyoncc.org
9:30 a.m. Sunday School,
10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship
Wednesday Midweek Ministries 7 p.m.
Matthew Oliver, Minister
LO-000280289

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN
(Missouri Synod)
Pastor Terry Nelson
437-8810 • 486-4335
Griswold Rd. at 10 Mile
Worship: 10 a.m.; Sunday School: 10 a.m.;
Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m.
LO-000286551

Brighton

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www.hsccc.net
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810-231-9199
Fr. John Rocus, Pastor
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Sunday 8:00 & 11:00 a.m.
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12701 Highland Rd. • Hartland, MI. 48353
Sunday worship services
8:30, 10:30, & 6pm
WWW.mylallsaints.com

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

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.
Assoc. Pastor: Randy Weeks
Website: www.fbcsouthlyon.com
Email: fbcsouthlyon@sbccglobal.net
LO-000280181

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.shepherdwaysouthlyon.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

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH
28900 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon
248-486-0400
www.ecrossroads.net
Service Times
8:45am, 10:00am & 11:30am
Renewed Hope Counseling Center
248-560-7507
rhoecc.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
LO-000281927

first united methodist church south lyon, mi
640 S. Lafayette
(248) 437-0780
Worship: 8:15am, 10:45am, & 11:00am
9:30am Sunday School for all ages
Rev. Sondra Willabee, Lead Pastor
southlyonfirstumc.org

For more information regarding this directory, please call
Deb Wolff at 585-258-2481
or email: dwolff@gannett.com

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Board Certified in Rheumatology & Immunology and Internal Medicine

Medical School: University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kansas City, MO

Clinical Interests: Rheumatology and Immunology: Arthritis, Tendinitis, Osteoporosis, Musculoskeletal Pain, and some Autoimmune Diseases

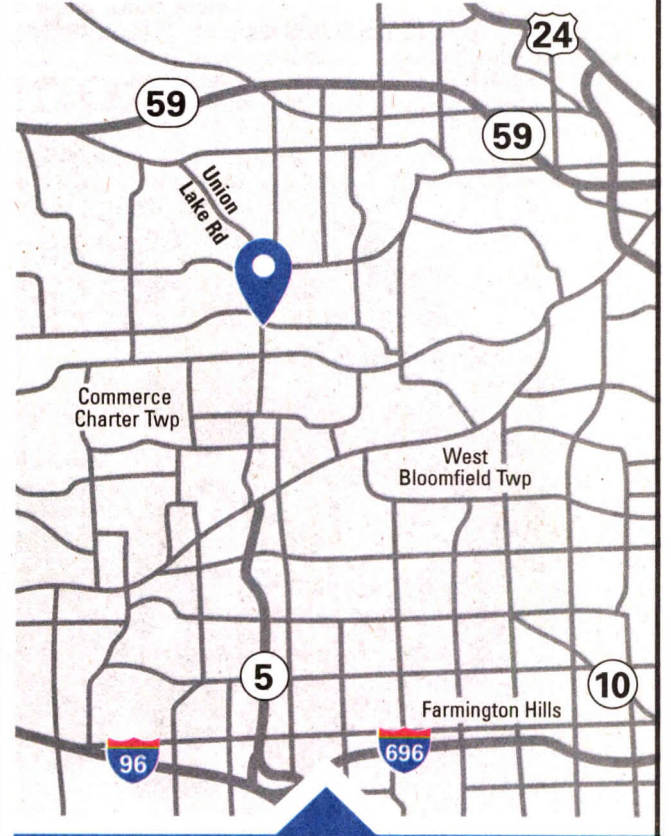


DENNIS RAFAILL, MD

Board Certified in Internal Medicine

Medical School: Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, MI

Clinical Interests: Primary Care, Internal Medicine, Preventative Medicine, Hypertension



SAME AND NEXT DAY APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

2455 Union Lake Road, Suite 102
Commerce Township, MI

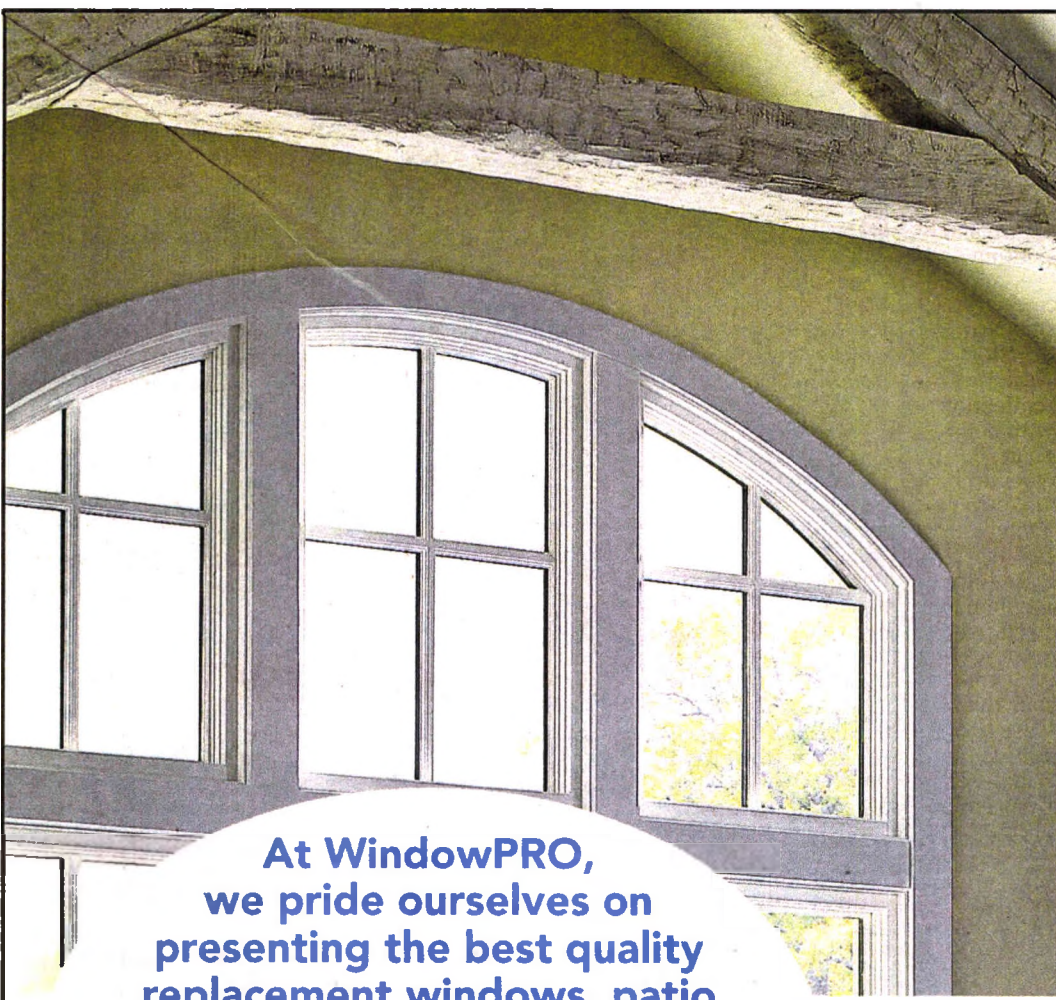
Please call **248-363-2239** starting January 3rd to make an appointment and a representative will be happy to assist you.

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Dearborn Brown Sugar Ham
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Cavit Wines \$10.99 1.5 L

Decoy Cabernet Sauvignon \$15.99 1.5 L



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PREP ATHLETICS

Shamrocks basketball royalty returns home

CC honors Sanetello, Holowicki with pregame event

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Bob Santello and Bernie Holowicki have come full-circle.

Thanks to a pregame ceremony Friday night prior to Novi Detroit Catholic Central's varsity boys basketball game against rival Birmingham Brother Rice, the former longtime athletic director and the school's winningest basketball coach will be linked forever.

After serving 35 years as the school's A.D. while fulfilling numerous other roles in the school, including coach, teacher and dean of students,

CC's basketball/wrestling facility will now named after Santello.

"When you start this A.D. profession, you don't think they're going to have a venue of any kind named in your honor," Santello said. "And so when it does happen, you're overwhelmed by it all."

Santello, who was succeeded by Aaron Babicz, remains a fixture at CC athletic events. A member of CC's Class of 1958, Santello still lives and dies with the Shamrocks.

"Now that you're retired, you have more time and you can pick and choose which events you want to go to," San-

See ROYALTY, Page B4



BRAD EMONS

Catholic Central Principal the Rev. Dennis Noelke (far left) and current A.D. Aaron Babicz (far right) honored former A.D. Robert Santello and basketball coach Bernie Holowicki.

BOYS HOCKEY



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi goalie Manny Legace Jr. (left) tries to snare the puck near his net as Northville's Jimmy Dales tries to take a poke at it.

Northville slides by Novi in annual outdoor game

Mustangs overcome slow start to defeat Wildcats at Detroit's Clark Park rink

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

It's all about the legs when it comes to the Northville boys hockey team.

And the Mustangs found them after a slow first period Sunday to beat rival Novi in their second annual outdoor classic game at Detroit's Clark Park, 5-4.

Northville improved to 8-4 overall with the win, while Novi, which won the first meeting earlier this season, slipped to 8-5-2.

Weather-wise, conditions were ideal at 35 degrees and the sun shining brightly in southwest Detroit, but skating proved to be a challenge as

Northville was able to overcome deficits of 2-0 and 3-1.

"The ice wasn't great; it was definitely tough to move the puck," said Northville senior defenseman Alex Iafrate, whose goal tied the game at 3-3 late in the second period. "It was tough to stick-handle with it, but our coaches just really emphasized getting it deep, getting our feet to the net and making plays."

The message from the Northville coaching staff during each intermission stayed pretty much the same.

"They just wanted us to work hard and keep our feet moving, finish our checks and, once we started doing that, we were able to get pucks to the net and take the lead," Iafrate said.

Although outshot 9-5 in the opening period, Novi led 1-0, getting a goal from Zach Perpich at 14:12 assisted by Alex Scarozza and Logan Londo.

"We weren't really happy with our start," Northville coach Clint Robert said. "We weren't moving our feet and we've been kind of moving our feet the last two games and so it was a little surprising we weren't moving our feet. I think they maybe wanted to make an excuse about the ice and we said, 'Play through it, play our game.' Our goal was to get pucks to the net, bodies to the net and get some ugly goals and we were able to do that."

See OUTDOOR, Page B4

COLLEGE RECRUITING

Northville's Guthrie flips to Gophers

Linebacker follows Fleck after he leaves Western Michigan

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

It's been a whirlwind of a week for Northville High School linebacker Trenton Guthrie.

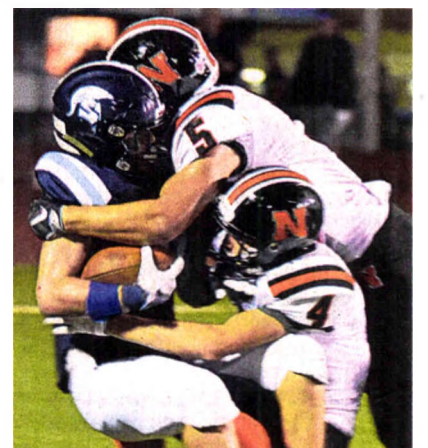
The senior literally had his bags packed Jan. 7 as an early enrollee and was headed to Kalamazoo, with all intentions of playing football for the Western Michigan University Broncos.

But the night before — when WMU head coach P.J. Fleck, coming off a 13-1 season and Cotton Bowl appearance, got the job at Minnesota — Guthrie's destination changed overnight.

"Due to NCAA rules, they can't call us, but they can text us, so that night after coach Fleck had left for Minnesota, he shot me a quick text asking me to call him," Guthrie said. "So I gave him a quick ring. He was pretty busy, but he offered me there and then started to sell me the program and everything. Then I knew I wanted to be with coach Fleck, like, he didn't have to sell me the program. I knew the culture he was going to build there at Minnesota. It's going to be the same culture he built at Western Michigan, which is a very elite culture, and I knew I wanted to be a part of it, so I committed right there on the spot."

The 6-foot-2, 205-pound Guthrie, one of six WMU commits reportedly to flip during earlier this month to Minnesota after Fleck got the job, registered 62 tackles his senior year, including eight sacks. He helped Northville to a 7-3 overall record while winning the KLAAC Central Division and earning a Division 1 state playoff berth.

See GUTHRIE, Page B4



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northville linebacker Trenton Guthrie (right) flipped his commitment from Western Michigan to Minnesota.

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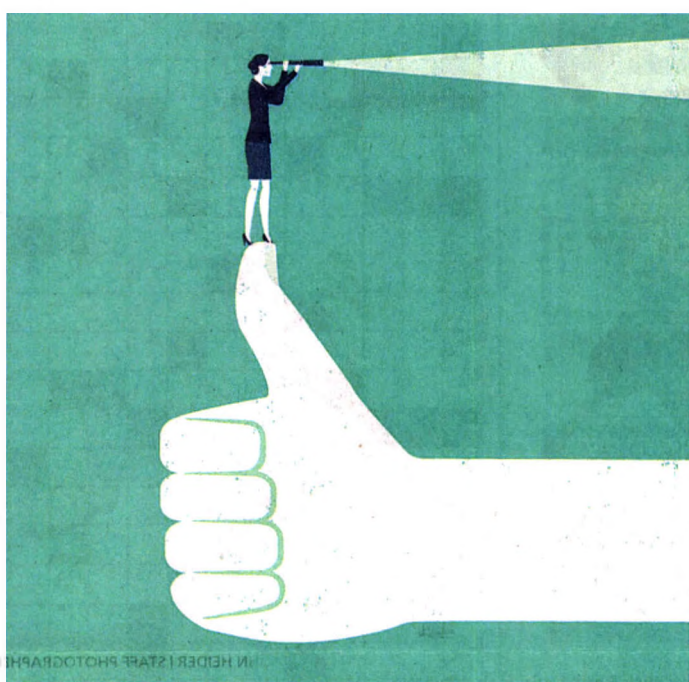
Watch for these employment trends in 2017

BY MATT FERGUSON
 CAREERBUILDER

With a divisive election season behind us and a new administration taking over, many job seekers may be wondering how their employment prospects will be affected in the new year. The good news is that employers are entering 2017 watchful yet optimistic, an approach that is reflected in their hiring plans.

According to CareerBuilder's annual job forecast, three out of four employers report that they are in a better financial position than they were a year ago, which is making them more confident about adding people to their payrolls. In turn, the hiring outlook for 2017 is the best the U.S. has seen in a decade, with 40 percent of employers planning to hire full-time, permanent employees this year, up from 36 percent in 2016. Thirty percent of employers expect to increase their number of part-time, permanent employees in 2017, up from 26 percent last year. Temporary and contract hiring is also expected to increase.

This uptick in hiring is the catalyst for other trends identified in the forecast, including the need for employers to offer more competitive wages and reskill or upskill work-



GETTY IMAGES

ers to fill in-demand roles. At the same time, employers expect job seekers to evolve their skills to keep up with the modern workforce.

Here is a closer look at the key employment trends to track in 2017:

Opportunities abound in temporary and contract hiring.

A trend that has emerged over the past several years is the growing demand for temporary labor. This will continue to be strong in 2017 because

it allows employers to have more flexibility with their staff levels. In fact, 51 percent of employers plan to hire temporary or contract workers in 2017, an increase from 47 percent last year.

Temporary hiring also offers job seekers the advantage of flexibility, as it gives them a chance to determine if a position is the right fit without having to make a long-term commitment. At the same time, there will be opportunities for job seekers to turn their temporary or contract job

into a career, as 63 percent of employers plan to transition some temporary or contract workers into permanent roles in 2017, up from 58 percent last year.

Companies are under pressure to pay better.

With more employers planning to hire in 2017, competition to recruit top talent will be fierce, which will ultimately benefit workers' pocketbooks. Two-thirds of employers plan to increase salaries on initial job offers, with 30 percent of all employers increasing salaries by 5 percent or more. Forty-seven percent of employers expect to increase the minimum wage at their organizations, and of those employers, 44 percent will increase it by \$3 or more.

Hard skills alone won't get job seekers hired.

As more functions within organizations become automated, employers are placing a higher value on workers' soft skills (e.g., having a positive attitude, being team-oriented, dependability), which can't be replicated by technology. When evaluating whom they will hire this year, 62 percent of employers rated candidates' soft skills as very important. While the right background and experience may get job seekers in the door, a mix of both hard

and soft skills will more likely get them the job offer.

Workers must be comfortable with social media.

Social media has officially crossed over from a hobby to a professional skill. According to the survey, 63 percent of employers say they expect employees across job functions to have some experience with social media. Employees in today's workforce must be social-media-savvy if they want to stay competitive.

Employers are more open to hiring less experienced workers.

One of the key challenges for companies in 2017 will be bridging talent gaps within their organizations. To do this, employers are reskilling and upskilling workers for difficult-to-fill positions: 55 percent of employers say they will train workers who don't have experience in their field and hire them in 2017.

Job seekers who on paper may not be the right fit for a role but who show potential will have a chance to pursue a better-paying, more fulfilling position.

Matt Ferguson is the CEO of CareerBuilder and co-author of "The Talent Equation" (thetalentequationbook.com).

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 * Three car garage with loaded storage racks

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Immaculate Home!
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 * 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 \$299,900



Cute Colonial!
 * Four bedroom, two and half bathroom
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Car Report

FORD AND FLAT ROCK PLANT WILL GAIN AS COMPANY PIVOTS TO SELF-DRIVEN, EV FUTURE – EVEN WHILE NODDING TO TRUMP



By Dale Buss

On the whole, the North American International Auto Show this week promises more of the same to Metro Detroit residents who've been waiting a year for the next gander at the hottest new sheetmetal and the most robust new engines that the Big Three and their rivals will be rolling out in coming months and years.

But have no doubt: The weight of the show is quickly shifting to showcase developments in electrification, automated driving and mobility services, including the new adjunct to the show this year, AutoMobili-D.

And Detroit's two leading hometown automakers exemplify the shift.

Ford generated its share of excitement at the press preview of the show this week, as usual. It introduced an improved version of the F-150 pickup truck, America's best-selling vehicle. Ford also confirmed that it will be bringing back two iconic nameplates: the Bronco SUV and the Ranger mid-size pickup truck, which are expected to be built in Wayne.

For good measure, Ford is showing off its ear-splitting, \$400,000 Ford GT sports car at NAIAS again this year, demonstrating to those concerned that the auto industry has not lost touch with its performance fans even in the era of quiet, fuel-sipping electric cars that everyone wants to see driven by machines.

And Ford has made clear that it has become an aggressive player in the forming market for ride-sharing, car-sharing and other mobility services as well as self-driving cars. Like other automakers, Ford also is pushing hard for further

electrification of its vehicle fleet so that it can meet stiffening U.S. and California fuel-economy and emissions requirements—and have them available assuming that mainstream demand for EVs eventually picks up.

At the same time, CEO Mark Fields has been tapping the brakes on immediate expectations for Ford, for its sales and prospects for the year ahead.

The company began taking a dimmer view of the near-term future of the U.S. auto market last summer, when it controlled production and kept inventories in check in anticipation that 2016 overall car sales might not match last year's record.

Meanwhile, cross-town rival General Motors took a more optimistic view, with its production figures underscoring that.

Sure, GM has had to close a few small-car plants this month for a week or two. But automotive CEOs at the Detroit auto show seemed to be coalescing around the view now that 2017 US sales could be at least as good as 2016, in which sales came in at a record for the seventh consecutive years, at 17.55 million vehicles.

For its part, Ford is sticking with a rather sober view of 2017. Fields said in a presentation at Deutsche Bank's global automotive conference that he expects lower profitability for Ford's auto operations this year, in part because of investments in new-era services and technologies—as



The new 2018 Ford F-150

well as in 11 new product launches planned globally for this year.

But, Fields said in his presentation, Ford expects its profitability to strengthen in 2018 due to its ongoing efforts to strengthen current product pillars such as its F Series truck line and SUVs, and to optimize weak areas of the business such as the Lincoln brand, and small cars sold abroad.

Meanwhile, General Motors' Maven car-sharing unit is an important arena for the automaker not only to explore and innovate mobility services but also is becoming an important business in its own right, Julia Steyn, who heads Maven for GM, said at NAIAS.

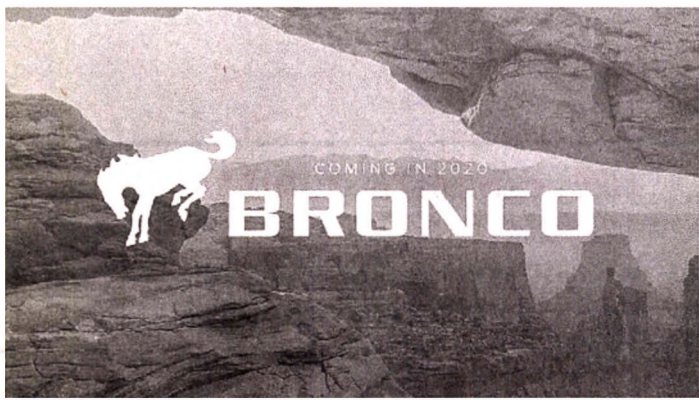
Steyn said that after just a year or so in business, GM decided that Maven "is not just a mobility experiment; we can truly build a business. We're now serving 8,000

residents all over the country."

Among other reasons to believe that Maven is a business with strong potential rather than simply a skunk works, Steyn said, is that "we see the rise of the gig economy, especially with the young workforce who want to work flexible hours" – and so are prime customers for Maven.

And as far as building a start-up-type company in Detroit, and under the wing of GM – neither of which have great reputations for fostering that sort of thing – Steyn was enthusiastic.

"It's extremely easy" to recruit the right talent to Maven from anywhere, she said. "People are proud to be part of Detroit. The auto industry is on the cusp of merging technology with the real assets that the automotive industry has created. There's no more exciting industry on the planet."



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