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Coffee with the super

Dr. Steve Matthews, **Novi Community** School District superintendent, will be hosting a number of Coffee with the Superintendent events at the Novi Public Library, in the Board Room, on

a variety of dates. The first two of these events will be held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 19 and 10:15 a.m. Wednesday, March 21. The topic of discussion for the first two dates will be ooking Ahead to the 2012-13 Budget.

Please refer to the Novi News and the Novi Community School District website www.novi.k12. mi.us for additional dates, times and topics of discussion.

SMom 2 Mom Sale

Novi Community Education's infant toddler program, the Lily Pad Lane, is hosting its fourth annual Mom 2 Mom sale from 9 a.m.noon Saturday, March 24 at the Novi High School in the Atrium.

Admission is \$1 per adult and children ages 15 and under are free. Sellers may call (248) 449-1713 to rent a table

and or rack space. Tables are \$20 per round and \$10 per rack space. All baby and toddler items will be accepted.

For more information contact Community Education - Child Care Services at (248) 449-1713.

Book drive

Novi Meadows Girl Scout Troop 40173 is holding a children's book drive at the Novi Library, Gently used children's books are requested for donation to Oakland County Child Protective Services. For more information, e-mail Troop40173@ yahoo.com.

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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chef Steve Allen, co-owner of Steve and Rocky's in Novi on Grand River Avenue, will have to deal with customers frustrated by the needed road construction in front of his restaurant this summer. Road crews are expected to start resurfacing work on March 19, and Steve and Rocky's is hosting an informational meeting the next day to provide people with updates on the project.

Long-awaited resurfacing to start on Grand River Avenue

Work begins March 19, finishes in August

By Nathan Mueller Staff Writer

Road work on one of Novi's most talked about thoroughfares will be begin sooner than expected thanks to a burst of early warm weather.

The resurfacing of Grand River Avenue between Novi Road and Haggerty could start as early as March 19, according to Road Commission for Oakland County public information officer Craig Bryson.

And for city officials, residents and business owners, it couldn't be sooner.

"We are definitely excited to see resurfacing being done after all these years,'

LEARN MORE

To get information out about the Grand River Avenue repaving to residents and business owners in the area, the city is hosting an informational meeting at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 20, at Steve and Rocky's at 43150 Grand River. The meeting will feature spokespeople from the city and RCOC who will give the project time line, detour information and marketing/public relations tips.

Sheryl Walsh, director of communications for the city, said she hopes business owners use the meeting as a way to form partnerships.

"Businesses can learn from each other," she said. "There is that sense of community because they will all be going through it.

For more information about the meeting or project, call (248) 735-5628.

Piease see GRAND RIVER, A2 Louncii names historic property Pavilion Shore Park

Novi's Director of Parks and Recreation Jason Mangum walks along the shore of Novi's Landings Property on March 13 with his son Reece. 12. The city re-named the property last night and is planning on going ahead with a major renovation of the park along the south shore of Walled Lake utilizing the help of the Michigan DNR.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

By Nathan Mueller Staff Writer

The Novi City Council paid homage to the historic pavilion that stood on the shores of Walled Lake from the 1920s to 1950s by naming the park property on 13 Mile and Old Novi Road the Pavilion Shore Park on Monday night.

The property, which was previously called the

Please see PARK, A2

Expo gives glimpse of services, food in Novi

Event takes place March 22 at Novi Civic Center

> By Nathan Mueller Staff Writer

Residents looking to get a quick peek at some of the services and food choices the city has to offer need look no further than the fourth annual Novi Taste and Business Expo.

The event, which runs from 3-6 p.m. on March 22 and starts with keynote speaker Lee Meadows, will be held at the Novi Civic Center for the first time as it outgrew its previous space at the Baronette

Renaissance. This year, more than 50 businesses will be on hand, as well as nine restaurants.

"The purpose is two-fold," said chamber director

Linda Daly. "It gives our businesses an opportunity to display their products and services for other businesses, and also allows them to dis-play it for the community as well."

For an entrance fee of \$5, patrons can taste food from Bagger Dave's, Carrabba's Italian Grill, Ido Fusion, Hooter's, Buffalo Wild Wings, Los Amigos Mexican Restaurant, Pizza Marvelous, The Melting Pot and Tony Sacco's Coal Oven Pizza.

There also will be a cash bar for people looking to have a drink with the food.

Diane Risko, American Red Cross donor services representative, said she came back for a second year because of the opportunity to network with businesses and residents.

"It's a lot of mingling with the community and other business people, and it's a great way to take a little longer to explain what our dusiness does and now it cai benefit people in the community,"

Meadows, a professor of management at Walsh College and author, will be speaking on the topic of "Small and big in the new era of business." His presentation is open to the public.

The event also will feature several door prizes, including Detroit Tigers tickets. "It's a good education for people

living and working in the community to see what is here," said Daly. Last-minute vendor spaces also

are still available for \$140. For more information about the event, or to secure a space, call (248) 349-3743 or e-mail Daly at

nmueller@gannett.com | (248) 437-2011, ext. 255

linda@novichamber.com.



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said Rob Hayes, director of Novi's Department of Public Services. "It has been a long time coming - and, if properly maintained, it should last 20 years."

The \$4.1-million project calls for resurfacing the asphalt, some isolated base repairs where there are major problems, repairs to curbs, gutters and the drainage system, extension of the right turn lane on westbound Grand River just east of Novi Road and updating the pedestrian crosswalks throughout the area to be ADA-compliant.

Hayes said one of the main reasons the road was in such bad shape was because of poor drainage, and the improvements should keep water out of the road bed.

Federal funding will take care of just over \$3.3 million of the project cost, with the remainder being split between the city and RCOC. Novi's share is \$272,000, with the majority of it coming from triparty funding and the remainder from the municipal street fund. Bryson said at least one lane of traffic will be open at all times, but delays should be expected. He also said all lanes of traffic are expected to be open on Aug. 17.



Motorists and business owners along Grand River Avenue in Novi are looking forward to a resurfacing of the pitted, potholed road this summer. Areas like ©gannett.com | (248) 437-2011, ext. 255 this, east of Novi Road, are particularly bad.

PARK Continued from page A1

Landings Park, was desgnated as parkland in March 2010. The city later received a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund development grant to the tune of \$437,500 to aid in its development. and work on the first two phases is expected to

start this summer. More than 80 naming uggestions were submitted by community members about a month ago, and the top three were chosen by a park naming committee to go before city council. The other two suggestions were Casino Point or Casino Shores Park and Potawa tomi Park. Some council members

said they were leaning toward the casino names. but reconsidered after hearing from members of the community and thinking about the meaning of the word "casino" today. "I think over the years the meaning of certain words happen to change, said Mayor Bob Gatt. "And in the year 2012. to name a park Casino Park or Casino Shores

— although it has very great historical value — it would be very confusing to our new generation of

Mayor Pro tem David Staudt said while he couldn't support using name, he wouldn't be opposed to using it and the other suggestions for other areas in the park. "There are a lot of real-

ly good recommendapiece of property here that has some unique characteristics about it — the shore line, some wooded areas, some open areas — and I'd like us to consider using some of these other recommendations," he said.

Council member Terry Margolis said she liked the sentiment behind the other two suggestions, but liked Staudt's plan to use the names inside the

"I really like Pavilion Shore," she said. "I think that also is a historic name and keeps us away from having people get off 696 and 96 and heading to the casino in Novi."

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District relies on contributions from everyone to be great

By Steve Matthews

ove sports but my athetic career was not record books.

I enjoyed playing. worked hard and had my moments. But the biggest benefit of my athlet ic experience was the lessons it taught me.

I learned an important one when I was 9 years old. I played Little League

my dad was the coach. I was convinced I should be a pitcher because I threw the ball as hard as anyone on the team. How hard could it be to throw the ball over the plate?

My dad and the other coaches on the team worked with me. They all told me I threw the ball hard and that I needed to work on my command. Getting the half over the plate was harder than I had imagined.

After several weeks of practice and several games into the season, my dad came to me and told me I was going to start the next game. was very excited. I knew it was going to be a mem-

orable experience. I was right for all the wrong reasons.

only game I ever started as a pitcher. On the bright side, I struck out three batters in my one inning of work. However, I walked six and hit two others. Technically as a starting pitcher I have never surrendered a hit But that's not really how

other people look at it.

illiard Room

take nine-

to what the adults were saying when I played third base. but as the starting pitcher I heard every word. Most of the comments questioned both my ability and

the wisdom of the coach. My dad visited the mound to try and reassure me. He told me to relax, throw to the target and trust my motion All the things you would expect a coach to say to a pitcher who couldn't find

After the inning I trudged off the mound. I was embarrassed. I was frustrated. I was upset. My dad put his arm around me and said some thing to this effect. "I

don't think you are a pitcher. But I know that you will help this team. We just need to find the place where you will shine. We won't win without you." And that's the lesson that I learned when I was

9. Not everybody is going

to be the pitcher, but the team can't win unless everyone contributes. I carry the lesson that I learned from that experience with me everyday. A team is composed of people doing their job well. Our school district is no

different. We won't be suc-

cessful here in Novi unless

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where they can contribute. District goal number

four talks about building a quality organization. One of the defining characteristics of a qual ity organization is that everyone contributes to the success of the team. I have been in Novi

for only eight short I have seen bus drivers, mechanics, food ser vice workers, secretaries, teachers and administrators working hard to contribute to the success of our team. I have also seen students, parents and community members focusing their efforts on helping us get better.

I am heartened that we have so many people working so hard to make sure that the students in our dis trict will be successful. Every job is important and every job needs to be done well. I believe our team here in Novi understands the important role that everyone plays in making sure our students will be successful.

As I trudged off the mound many years ago, I learned the importance of everyone finding their role and doing their job. I am confident that is a lesson we have learned here in Novi and I know it will contribute to our success.

Steve Matthews is the superintendent of the Novi Community Schools District He can be reached at smatthews@novi.k12.mi.us; (248) 437-1204; www.twitter. www.novisuperintendent. blogspot.com.

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Happy birthday!



Deerfield Elementary students participated in Read Across America by bringing in their favorite Dr. Seuss books on March 2. They also were celebrating Dr. Seuss's 108th birthday. Pictured are students Anavi Uppa, left, and Jordana Krstovski

NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS

IB Talent Show

Novi High School's second annual IB International Talent Show -Around the World in 20 Acts - will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 17 in the auditorium. All proceeds are donated to Doctors Without Borders. Last year over 300 people attended the event which raised \$2,485, and this year the group hopes to raise even more funds for this international organization

The show will feature Novi High School students performing in 20 acts representing various countries. Some of the many acts include dances from India, Greece, Ireland, and Mexico; songs in Latin and French; instrumentals from French and Finland composers, a Japanese traditional drum performance, and more.

The production was organized by the 27 IB diploma candidates at the school. This event is part of their CAS (creativity, action, and service) requirement for earning the diploma. The students planned all aspects of the show from recruiting to advertising, ticket and program preparation, and emcee duties. In addition, many of the IB students are performing in the show under the direc-tion of their staff coordinator, Barba-

A new feature added to the event this year is taste testing of international foods during the intermission. Tables will be set up with food from Japan, India, Belgium, Germany, China and

Tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased at the door. Come help and

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE UPDATE

Nominate Difference Maker

In celebration of its 50th Anniversary, Schoolcraft College is paying homage to those who have helped make the college and the community what it is today. Nominations are currently being accepted to recognize the 50 most influential Difference Makers from Schoolcraft College.

There are two primary categories we are seeking nominees from - those who have made an impact on Schoolcraft College; and those by virtue of their relationship to Schoolcraft College have had a significant impact on their community, professionally or personally. Nominees can be current students, alumni or former students, instructors, staff members, donors, volunteers, board mem-

bers, friends, community leaders, etc. Nominators are asked to provide contact information on themselves and the nominee; basic information about the nominee and their relationship to the college, including the era in which they were influenced or had influence on the college; and a brief description on their impact on Schoolcraft College or how Schoolcraft College had an impact on their lives and

therefore their contribution to society. "The Difference Makers campaign is a great opportunity for us to honor the college's 50-year legacy of serving this community by recognizing the people who have created that legacy," said Dr. Conway A. Jeffress, president of the college. "With thousands of faculty and staff, and hundreds of vol-

of nominations so far," said Michelle Gaynier, communications coordinator. "Of course there are some folks we would expect to see on the list like our former college presidents, all of whom have contributed in their own unique way to the college. We also have had several alumni nominated including those who have gone on to have tremendous professional success as well as those who are dedicated to community service, both locally and in other areas of the country." Instructors and staff who have been instrumental in developing and expanding programs, a donor whose generosity has provided scholarships for several years for dozens of students, and several volunteers have also been nominated

Nominations will be accepted until March 31. Nomination forms are available on the college's website at www. schoolcraft.edu/50. Questions can be directed to (734) 462-4412.

ON CAMPUS

Carthage College Madeline Price, a sophomore from Novi, is a member of the Carthage Wind Orchestra, which is undertaking a special musical tour in March, celebrating the 165th anniversary of the founding of the college

The tour opens in Mena-

sha, Wisc. on March 16.

Included on the concert

in Hillsboro, Ill.

commissioned by Car-

tutions from around

thage with 29 other insti-

the world premiere of Martin Ellerby's A Solilquy

the world. The tour will include a March 21 stop at Hillsboro, with a concert at St. Paul's Lutheron March 25 in Kenosha

with a 7 p.m. concert at the A. F. Seibert Chapel. Each concert is free and open to the public. Price is a graduate of Novi High School, majoring in music education.

an Church, and concludes

support this charity while celebrating the diverse talents of the Novi students Fuerst Scholarships If you are a resident of the Novi Community School district and are attending post high school education in an undergraduate program at an accredited community college, college, university, technical or vocational school, then you may be eligible for a Fuerst Scholarship. The Fuerst scholarship is based primarily on financial need and is administered through the Novi Educational Foundation. Up to \$17,000 in scholarship funds are awarded annually to qualified Application forms are available from the Novi High School Counseling Office, the Educational Services Building on Taft Road, or by calling (248) 449-1200. The deadline for applications is Friday, Lakes Area Rotary offering scholarships The Lakes Area Rotary Club is accepting scholarship applications from Walled Lake High School students. A minimum of three \$1,250.00 scholarships will be awarded. Eligible students will have maintained a B (3.0) average, be in good standing with the school and have actively participated in community service during their high school years. Application deadline is April 1. Applications can be secured at www. lakesarearotary.org (follow down on the right to the bottom of the page for a download) or by contacting Rotarian, Lorrie McVey at (248) 390-8572. unteers, donors and friends of the college helping to build the college through the years, and more than 300,000 alumni who have gone out into the world spreading their influence, it is going to be very difficult to narrow it down to only 50 Difference Makers." The Difference Makers will be ce brated in a special pull-out feature section in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Hometown Weekly Newspapers in April. Their stories will also be shared on Schoolcraft's website and they will be honored at a reception later this spring. "We have had an interesting mix

Dr. Sladic is holding a free seminar.

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AAUW-Northville Novi launches 'Let's Read Math'

Imagine being rich one Sunday and poor the next because of not counting very well, or imaging being queen and having a bed that is way too short because the carpenter's apprentice measured the length of his own foot to build a six foot bed.

Twenty second- and third-graders and their parents are imagining and thinking creatively about math concepts in a four-Saturdays March series called Let's Read Math The program combines familiar children's literature with fun math activities to build positive attitudes about math while helping children appreciate that math is alive all around them every day in everything that they do. Mom or dad is also an active participant to

inspire follow up at home. The book "How Big is a Foot?" by Rolf Myller was the inspiration for last Saturday's focus on standard measurement. Each workshop is staffed by a team of American Association of University Women-Northville Novi and Northville High School Honor Society members. Longtime Amerman teacher

leader last week. There were plenty of giggles and smiles all around as honor students gave an impromptu dramatiza tion of a royal household measuring crisis. Finally the king decreed that the length of his foot would be the standard of measure throughout the kingdom ... it just happened to be 12 inches. Legend has it that one of the King Hen-

Arlene Frayne was team



Let's Read Math is sponsored and conducted by AAUW-NN as part of its commitment to support local community education. Members of Northville High School Honor Society are partnering as workshop assistants. Northville Community Library is the series site.

this decree. The 90-minute workshop flew by. After practicing the concept of estimating length, working in teams to measure all sorts of objects with a variety of measuring devises, each child headed out the door armed with a measur ing tape and ruler.

Let's Read Math is sponsored and conducted by AAUW-NN as part of its commitment to support local community education. Members of Northville High School Honor Society are partnering as workshop assistants. Northville Community

Library is the series site. AAUW anticipates that this is just the first of many times that Let's Read Math will be offered to Northville and Novi community families. Most of the pilot enrollees are Amerman students. Approached, last December, by AAUW member and former principal Jane Hecker, Amerman Principal Steve Anderson was receptive and responsive

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to sharing registration information with faculty and school families. At the development stage, Let's Read Math founder Dr. Claire Pas

santino, Ed.D tried it out with her local Pennsylvania AAUW group as presenters in local schools. Now the program has been adapted from coast to coast for school classrooms. after-school centers, fami ly nights, libraries and day camps. After learning that its sister Ann Arbor organization had launched Let's Read Math in AA schools last winter, AAUW-NN Initiatives Committee invited antino to make a January flight in from Pennsylvania to train 26 AAUW

members and 10 honor society members. Team members spent a lot of February hours shopping for supplies. packing the right props for each workshop and deciding what role each team member would play. Now it is fun time

for everyone. The series

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DETAILS

AAUW Northville-Novi Inc. is an organization of college graduates whose local activities are designed to advance equity and improve the quality of life for women and girls through support of education, development of program and enrichment opportunity, community outreach and involvement. Let's Read Math is a nice addition to well established AAUW community outreach - Career Path Day for middle school girls, family graduation celebration for women awarded a GED after a lapse in their education, annual scholarships to Northville and Novi High School graduating senior girls, annual additions to AAUW Scholarship Endowments established at both

Community College. AAUW-NN is able to give back to the community because the commu nity supports its annual Northville Home Tour scheduled in 2012 for 10 a.m-4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29. For more about AAUW, see aauwnn.org.

Schoolcraft and Oakland

winds up with a little geometry exploration where everyone builds polygons, pyramids and prisms. Then it will be evaluation time and back to the drawing board to decide when, where, what next for Let's Read Math.

Submitted by AAUW-Northville Novi member Corinne Vincent, who can be reached

LICENSED

Tech-savvy retirees reside at Fox Run

Keeping up to date with the latest technol ogy can be difficult if you didn't grow up using computers, cell phones, ic gadgets. But that's not stopping people living at Fox Run retirement community in Novi from embracing new technology that can make their lives easier

and more entertaining. A group of residents has formed an iPad club to exchange tips, share applications (known simply as "apps"), and help one another troubleshoot technology issues. Gloria Maire came up with the idea for the club, and she asked her friend and neighbor, Hilda Edwards, to help organize it. About 20 people showed up for the first meeting and others are expected join as more residents continue to purchase iPads. Edwards, a former

school teacher, who moved to Fox Run from Bloomfield, says she has been using computers for more than 30 vears and describes herself as a "techie." In fact, she used a computer to help her students learn to read in the 1980s. She has stayed current with technology since then, and when Apple introduced the iPad, she knew she

wanted one of her own. "I already had an ereader, so I really didn't need it," she said, "but I saw a lot of my friends using it and thought, 'This looks like fun." She purchased an iPad

2 last fall, and she uses

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it on a regular basis.

She checks her e-mail on it, plays games, and periodically watches TV shows. She even recently discovered an app that allows users to download electronic copies of the Bible.

"I have over 20 apps, she says, "What is so cool about the iPad is whatever vou feel like doing, you can do. Jack Beggs, another Fox Run resident. who moved from Troy, received an iPad

as a gift last Christmas. He and his wife. Rosemary, use it to check e-mail and read newspapers."It's a very portable device; you can take it anywhere," he says. Beggs says he's

found the Skype application most useful It enables users to make video telephone calls over the Internet. Some of his and his wife's friends from Fox Run were spending the winter in Barbados but wanted to stay in touch with their neighbors back in Novi. His iPad was the perfect solution.

'Now we can go into the living room [in Fox Run's clubhousel which has wireless Internet, so we can show our friends in Barbados what is going on [there] using Skype," he said. Prior to receiving his

iPad, Beggs had primarily used PCs, so he's just getting familiar with Apple's operating system. Fox Run's iPad club, he says, is a good opportunity for him to trade tips with other users.

Crustal Creek

Assisted Living

Rotarians cleaning up Ecuador's water Novi's Sobotta leads training team Novi Rotary Club meminstruction and handsber Gary Sobotta lead a on experience in the vocational training team construction of the filfrom Rotary District ter, including molding 6380 in conducting a projand curing of the conect implementation for a crete housings, selection bio-sand water filter and and installation of gradcommunity health promoed sand media, manufaction workshops in Cuenture of diffuser basins and ca, Ecuador on Feb. 10-12. lids. Participants gained a The team included clear understanding of the Paul Earwaker (UK) and rationale behind the fil-Eva Manzano (Spain) of ter design, how to install

Novi's Gary Sobotta (front, second from left) lead a vocational training team from Rotary District 6380 to Cuenca, Ecuador, in February

and community contexts. "All persons have the right to a safe and secure supply of water," said Sobotta, "We are privileged to turn on our tap and enjoy the clean water of those five enormous lakes along the Canadian-American border which hold 20 percent of the

world's fresh water." After the workshop, the team met with each club conducting a project planning exercise. This shared visioning exercise provided a useful framework for a club to consider and develop a coherent, shared set of goals, and values for the project. During the first phase of the project, each club will complete 20 filters to determine the true cost of manufacturing for each region, and the acceptance of implementing the filter into the community. The clubs expect the first phase of the project to be complet

ed by July 1. The team will use two the effectiveness of the project. A water quality testing of the source water and subsequent water testing to determine the removal rates of the containments. Also, a questionnaire to study and continuously monitor and evaluate the efficacy of the bio-sand filter and health/hygiene programs implemented in selected Ecuadorian communities

The workshop is just the beginning of the knowledge and skill transfer process. The team will

provide on-going consult ing and support via e-mail. telephone and site visits to support the training participants with their projects and continue to enhance their capabilities. The team will provide technical and implementation support in program development, troubleshooting, network building and project management On request, custom con-

sultation will be provided Follow the progress of the project on its Facebook page, Agua Limpia Ecuador, and use the "Like" button to share the

Rotary recognizes the importance of safe and clean water and has made it one of its highest priorities. Rotary encourages its clubs and districts to support efforts which help people to provide themselves with safe water reasonably close to their homes using simple, sustainable technology. Rotary club members initiate thousands of projects each year to supply, conserve, and purify water - all with the goal of providing clean and safe drinking water to

MEDC president to speak at OCC commencement

Michael Finney, president and CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, will be the featured speaker at Oakland Community College's 46th commencement ceremonies at the Palace of Auburn Hills, Saturday,

the Centre for Afford-

able Water and Sanita-

tion Technology; Erica

Gwynn, former Rotary

Ambassador Scholar of

Farmington Hills, Mich.

the Ann Arbor Rotoract.

and Lindsay Nicoson of

"We provided the

knowledge and skill of

their own needs," said

Sobotta.

local populations to meet

The training was con-

ducted entirely in Span-

interpreter. Twenty-four

community health work-

ers and designated tech-

nicians from the Rota-

rv clubs of Esmeraldas,

ba-Cuenca and Zaruma

attended the workshops.

Gualaceo, Tomebam-

ish without using an

online at hometownlife.com

May 19, starting at 2 p.m. MEDC is a private-public organization serving as the state's lead agency for business and job growth, talent enhance

On Your Side'

arts and cultural grants and overall economic growth Finney's

it and instruct household-

ers on its correct usage

to ensure the proper and

consistent use of the fil-

munity health workers

received more in-depth

training on health, san-

itation, and bio-sand fil

ter operation and main

tenance so that they can

help others use and main-

tain their filters properly.

team developed training

material appropriate to

the physical and cultur-

al conditions of the local

hygiene improvement

which the local commu-

nity understands the val-

ues and assimilates them

within their own family

population. Sanitation and

depends on the degree to

The vocational training

ters in Ecuador. The com

also include serving as Governor Snyder's Economic Growth Group executive, as well as president and chairman of the Michigan Strate-

gic Fund. Under Finney's

Michigan-based compa-Prior to his MEDC Snyder in 2010, Finney had been the first CEO

leadership, the MEDC

Connect, an innovative

economic development

developed Pure Michigan

program that provides comprehensive business development, capital enhancement access talent enhancement and marketing assistance to

appointment by Governor of Ann Arbor SPARK, a

public-private partnership whose mission is to advance economic development in the Greater Ann Arbor region.

"We are honored to have Mike Finney as our commencement speaker We look forward to hearing his message of Michigan's economic growth to the graduates of the class of 2012," said OCC Chan-

es located throughout

vear's commencement celebration at the Palace. More than 2,600 OCC graduates were awarded diplomas and certificates. llege officials estimate that this year's class will be as large, if not larger. With five campus-

cellor Tim Meyer.

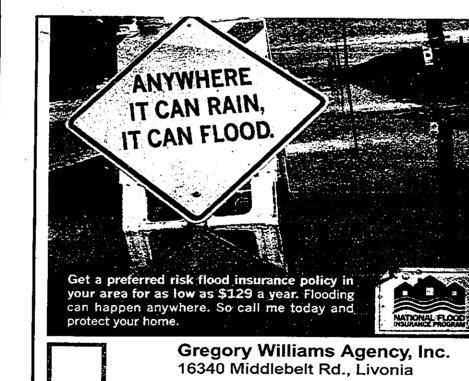
An audience of more

than 5,000 attended last

munity college and the 25th largest in the nation. OCC offers certificates and associate degrees in more than 160 fields including university transfer courses in business, science and the lib eral arts. Approximately 78,000 students attend OCC each year.

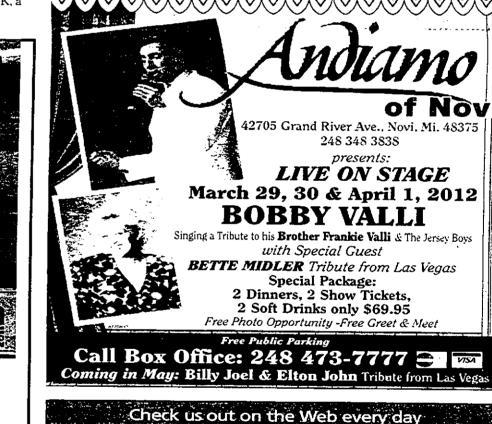
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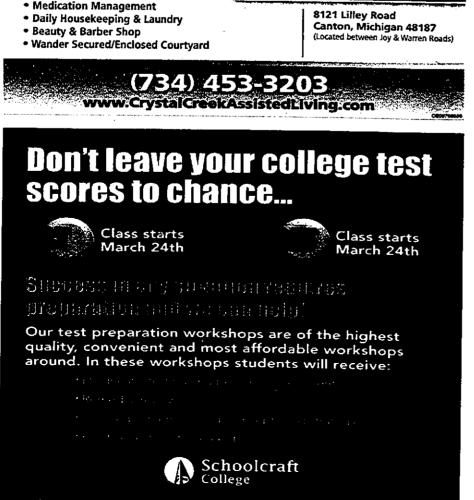
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City gives preliminary OK to Showplace hotel site plan

Bowman calls hotel a 'very important component'

By Nathan Mueller

Blair Bowman said it's hard to believe it's been almost five years since he first proposed construction of a hotel on site at the Suburban Collection Show-

And Monday night, that vision moved closer to becoming a reality as the Novi City Council granted the Hyatt Place Hotel preliminary site plan and stormwater

management plan approval. The owner of the Suburban Collection Showplace said he is very proud of the plan and excited. "It's a combination of a hotel

and a significant amount of additional meeting space and break out space, really providing us all the pieces to the puzzle bringing a full-service convention center concept into conclusion on the site." Bowman said. The proposal calls for the con-

struction of a six-story, 128room hotel attached to the east side of the existing conference and banquet hall area.

"Although it's a small hotel, it's going to be a very important component," he said. Bowman's quest for an on-

site hotel gained steam last fall

when he received Novi's first commercial rehabilitation tax

The tax abatement the Showplace received is a 100-percent, six-year, real property tax abatement that would freeze the taxable value of the building as it was before the improvements. It's estimated the city would abate an estimated \$627,500 dur-

One of the only issues brought up during the meeting Monday involved parking, as construction of the hotel will eliminate roughly 221 spaces, but city staff did not believe it would be an issue.

Council member Wayne Wrobel was happy with the plans he saw. "I'm very impressed with this," he said. "I like it a lot better than the first version when the hotel was up closer to Grand River. I think it's a better use of space and it doesn't take the prime parking spots that are used for the daily events people come in for,"

Final site plan approval is still needed before Bowman can

(248) 437-2011, ext. 255



Mary Jane Scott, Director of Sales and Marketing at Novi's Suburban Collection Showplace, displays a blueprint of the conference center's proposed hotel which won its preliminary site approval recently. The convention center is hoping to break ground soon on its Hyatt Place at the Suburban Collection Showplace

Passages View Online www.hometownlife.com

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • htwobits@hometownlife.com Deadline: Tuesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

KARLE, IRENE T.

Age 95, passed away peacefully on March 2, 2012 at King's Daughters Home in Midland Irene was the fourth of eight enhance

dren, born in Detroit on June 7

1916. to Roman and Clara (Renauer) Stuve. Irene graduated from Detroit's MacKenzie High

school in 1934. She worked as a nanny, a soda jerk at Cunningham's Drug Store, and a secretary for General Filters. On November 23, 1939, Irene married Gene E. Karle. She often and the state of the state of the state of the secretary for General Filters.

said, "The best decision I eve

said, "The best decision I ever made in my life was to marry Gene." They honeymooned in New York City riding the sub-ways. Together, they raised three children, first living on Detroit's

northwest side and later, in Irene's

dream house which they built on Upper Pettibone Lake in Highland

Township. Irene enjoyed travel-ing with her husband around the

country. After Gene passed away,

seniors' organization, and was a

teer at St. Mary's Church-even

mother for a Laotian family

becoming a 'substitute grand-

n 1994 Irene moved to Riverside

Place in Midland. She planted

peonies at her new home, and

enjoyed her many friends, shop-ping at the farmers' market, and walking along the river. Irene was a member of the Quilters Club

frene moved to King's Daughters Home in 2008, she was surround-ed by a loving, caring staff who

nurtured her with kindness and

compassion. New Year's 2012

tions. When her daughter asked liene to share advice with those

gathered, Irene looked around at her family and said, "Stay togeth-

er!". Irene Karle is survived by

her daughters Clarissa (Paul) Heil of Midland, Elaine Karle (Jerry

Schour) of East Lansing, daugh-ter-in-law Linda Karle of Highland, and five grandchildren:

Holly Karle, Bart (Lynn) Heil, Alex Karle, Hanns (Sara) Heil, Max Heil, and sister Geraldine Cooney of Florida, brother Dick

band, Gene, son Karl, and six sib-

lings. A memorial mass will be held at St. Mary's Our Lady of the

Snows Parish (1955 Commerce

Street, Milford, MI) at 11:00 a.m. on March 20, 2012. The family

will greet visitors starting at 10:30

given at SmithMiner.com. There

Midland. In lieu of flowers, co

Snows Parish (1955)

vill be no services or viewing in

tributions may be made to the Midland Quilt Makers (1508)

Commerce, Milford, MI 48381); King's Daughters Home (2410 Rodd Street, Midland, MI 48640).

HARRIS, KATHLEEN

Street, Midland, MI

Irene continued to travel, visiting

BOONENBERG.

STUART MICHAEL 58, of Milford, died 3/2/2012. Memorials to Relay for Life-Feam DCI Walkers for Wellness



DEJOHN,

SHEILA CATHERINE 74 of Bend, passed away peacefully while surrounded by family on February 7, 2012. A memorial service will be held on March 17th at 2pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Bend, OR. There who with to realize Presbyterian Church of Bend, OR. Those who wish to make memorial contributions in lieu of flowers may contribute in her name to The Weston A. Price Foundation, The High Desert Museum or a nature conservatory of their choosing. Planes with the of their choosing. Please visit the on line registry for the family at

ELIZABETH PERRY isitation was on March 12 at Phillips Funeral Home. Funeral March 13 at St. Joseph Catholic hurch, South Lyon.



RALPH

I, of South Lyon, passed away acceptly on March 7, 2012. alph is survived by his loving ancy (Phil) LaDuke, Mary Oon) Nelson, Joyce (Mike) reddy, and Paul (Angie) Emig. le was also the proud grandpa of 3 grandchildren and 9 great-randchildren. Ralph taught math ping on to become a respected ore than 30 years. He was ar ttage in Stoney Point, Ontario le was always the happiest when arrounded by his family. He will lovingly remembered by all ho knew him for his gentle spir his humble disposition, his end his humble disposition, his end-ss patience, and his huge heart. sitation for Mr. Emig was held March II at PHILLIPS on March II at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. 2, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon. Online guestbook

EWALD, GUTHREY

isitation was held Saturday, 3/10 at Phillips Funeral Home, South yon, www.phillipsfuneral.com

LAMB, ROBERT A. of Milford, died March 1 2012. Funeral Services at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, Thursday,

MAYO, JACK LEE Age 80, of Lyon Township, passed March 5, 2012. A private family service was held. Arrangemen by PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME South Lyon. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com



PUZZUOLI, THOMAS

Hospital, Mr. Puzzuoli was born in Benwood, West Virginia on July 9, 1926 to Benedetto and Concetta (Panetta) Puzzuoli. His family later moved to Detroit where he spent his youth and attended the Detroit Public to the rank of Staff Sergeant. At the end of the war he returned to Detroit where he met and married Barbara Jean Robinson at the Firs Methodist Church of Highland Park. Mr. Puzzuoli was a commercial artist and freelance designer and is survived by his children. Thomas Brent (Franziska), Kent David (Theresa). He also enjoyed

Novi his grandchildren and great grand children as well as nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his sisters, Lydia, Gilda and Rosemarie. He was pre-deceased by siblings, James, Jerry, John and Yolanda. A Memorial Gathering Howell Funeral, 280 South Main March 17, 2012 from 2pt time of service at 3pm. In lieu of flowers contributions are suggest-ed to the American Cancer Society. Share your special thoughts and memories at:

RIDNER, MARY LEE Age 76, of Wixom, passed awa March 5, 2012. A private family South Lyon, Online guestboo

www.phillipsfuneral.com

RUBRITIUS, HERMAN 95, of Milford and Commerce, March 10, 2012, Services were held March 13, 2012. More info a www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

SROKA, JAMES EDWARD

72, 3/11/2012, Visitation at Lynch Great Lakes National Cemetery.

TETREAU, WARNER S. November 29, 1919- March 6, February 22, 1918- March 1

Women of Ravensbruck: Portraits of Courage

New Holocaust Memorial Center exhibit details life in female concentration camp

www.holocaustcenter.org.

women, young and old,

The collection con-

tains original artifacts

from the camp, includ-

ing a handmade recipe

book and gifts secretly

exchanged by the women

Holocaust Memorial

Center Executive Direc-

tor Stephen M. Goldman

exhibit in collaboration

with guest curator Dr.

conceived the idea for the

Rochelle G. Saidel in 2001

while he was the director

"This is a long overdue

testament to these wom-

en who survived deplor-

able conditions and inhu-

Goldman. "We wanted to

honor the local survivors

of Ravensbruck and pay

were imprisoned against

their will - many of whom

did not survive to see the

homage to all those who

mane treatment," said

of the Florida Holocaust

those who did not.

those who survived and

The Holocaust Memorial Center is located at 28123

Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills. Hours are Sun-

day-Thursday from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. (last admission at

sion at 1:30 p.m.). The museum is closed on Saturday

and public holidays. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for

For more information, call (248) 553-2400, or visit

seniors and college students and \$5 for children.

3:30 p.m.); and Friday from 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. (last admis-

A new exhibit is on display at the Holocaust www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com Memorial Center Zekel man Family Campus in Farmington Hills.

The exhibit, "Womеп of Ravensbruck: Portraits of Courage, which opened on Sunday details the lives of those imprisoned at Ravensbruck, the Nazi's major concentration camp for women, with a special focus on the few survivors with ties to southeast Michigan. It will be on display through June

The exhibit features the stories of local womresearched by the late artist Julia Terwilliger, and those who did not survive Ravensbruck.

The local women included in the exhib-

it are: • Lola Taubman, of Ann Arbor

 Irene Zuckerman-Snitchler, of Southfield · Paula Barton-Marks, of West Bloomfield Elizabeth Wees, of

Terwillger's artwork has immortalized the faces of the women of Ravensbruck in one of the newest exhibits of Holocaust art to emerge The exhibit centers around seven large wood en panels with mixed media and photo transfer images of Ravensbruck

Art, history The exhibit, on loan from the Florida Holocaust Museum, fea-

camp liberated."

tures both art and history. In addition to Terwilliger's artwork, the exhibit includes historical photographs, documents, and rials plus rare artifacts. The exhibit is supported by Lauren and Sam Bie nenstock in honor of their family members imprisoned at Ravenshruck. who are featured in the

Florine Mark, of Farmington Hills, presi-Watchers Group, was the opening ceremony on Sunday, March 11, Her speech, "The Courageous Woman Inside Each of Us," honored the women of Ravensbruck and acknowledge all women as part of National Women's History Month. "We are very honored

to have Florine Mark speak at the opening ceremony," said Goldman. 'Her leadership role in the community and business expertise is an inspiration not only to women, but to all of us."



JASON LOUDERMILK Paula Barton-Marks, of West Bloomfield, reads the panel in the exhibit that is about herself.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY **GET LISTED!**

Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Contact: (248) 349-8847 or holyCROSSnovi.org Mass Schedule

online at hometownlife.com

Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Friday; 7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday.

Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30

Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment Priests: Father Bob LaCroix, pastor and Father Michael Zuelch, associate pastor Lenten events

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursdays Details: "Catholicism" dvd discus-

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Fridays **Details:** stations of the cross **CHRISTIAN BIBLE TALKS** Location: Plymouth VFW Hall, 1426 S Mill Street (north of Ann Arbor & Lilley Rds)

Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstone@ gannett.com; by fax to (248) 685-2892; or by mail to Church Events/Northville-Novi, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

Time/Dates: 4 p.m. Sundays, March 18 and 25

Details: These one-hour meetings will emphasize the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. No collections will be taken. Ministers are Matthew Jensen & Jason McInally Contact: (515) 851-2939

CROSSPOINTE MEADOWS CHURCH Location: 29000 Meadowbrook

Road, south of 13 Mile Road Contact: (248) 669-9400, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit www.crosspointemeadows.org. Sunday Worship: 11:15 a.m. Bible study classes: 10 a.m. for

all ages Details: Nursery and older children programs available. Worship

blends traditional and contempo rary elements resulting in a multi-Destiny Worship Center Location: Ridge Wood Flemen

tary School, 49775 Six Mile Road, Contact: DestinyW3C@Gmail.com

or visit www.DW3C.org. EMMANUEL **LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Location: 34567 7 Mile Road, Contact: (248) 442-8822 FAITH COMMUNITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit vww.faithcommunity-novi.org Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. **Book of Revelation Study**

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays Details: Come and learn what John is writing about, what the book still speaks to us today. **Faith Journeys**

Date: third Sundays Details: Following worship and fellowship, someone will share how they have experienced God in their life and the difference

FIRST BAPTIST **CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE** Location: 217 N. Wing

Contact: (248) 348-1020 Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.

and 7 p.m. Tuesdays Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month FIRST BAPTIST **CHURCH OF NOVI-FAMILY**

INTEGRATED CHURCH Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-3647 or firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org Family Bible Hour: 9:45 a.m. Family Worship: 11 a.m. Bible Study: 6 p.m.

Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every month FIRST CHURCH

OF THE NAZARENE

Location: 21260 Haggerty Road, north of 8 Mile Road Contact: (248) 348-7600 or visit

Sunday Schedule: 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's program, Youth Worship Service Wednesday Schedule: 5:30 p.m. Family Meal, \$4 per person, \$12 per family; 7 p.m. Children's Caravan, Club 56, Bible Study, Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth Blast Thursday Schedule: 6 a.m. Mer of Purpose Prayer Group

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN **CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE** Location: 200 E. Main St.

Please see CHURCH, A11

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Fr. Bob LaCroix, Pastor

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NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP 120 Bishop St., Highland off Milford Rd., 2-7/8 miles N of M-59 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship 10:00 a.m. Bible Study Wed. 7:00 p.m. Pastor Danny Milktin 889-7253 or 887-4566

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MORTHVILLE 200 E. Main St. at Hutton Vorship & Church School - 9:30 & 11am

Destiny Worship Center www.dw3c.org Saturdays @ 6pn Wood Elementary. 49775 Six Mile Road

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD RST BAPT has a VISTORS WELCOME: 133 Detroit St., Millord + 684-5695 Paster Steve Swinyzo Sandry School Jacopi 95 Jan. 5 Suncy Worldon Anana (2 yrs. 55) gradel Windhestory, 6:35-6-17 Middle School/legt School Group, Sundays 6:00 pm

OAKPOINTE milford

WEST HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Bible Ministries 11:00 a.m.

MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN

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New Hudson

NEW HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (248) 437-6212 • Gorald S. Hunter, Pastor

> FIRST UNITED METHODIST Ray, Dr. Steven J. Buck, Semor Pustor

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH thurch 349-2621, School 349-361 Religious Education 349-2559 Rev. Denis Theroux, Pastor

Our Savior Apostolic Lutheran Church Morning Bible Study at 10:00 A

Bible Study Thursday at 7:00 PM

ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH 46325 10 Mile Ad. • Novi, MI 48374 Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.

FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.faithcommunity-novi.org

MEADOWBROOK **CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH** 1355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 1/2 Mil 248-348-7757 • www.mbccc.org

OAK POINTE CHURCH unday 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m

Phone (248) 912-0043

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

South Lyon

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FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH 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.

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Prone: 248-347-2983
Sunday School 246 a.m. • Worstep Service 11:00 a.m. Evening Service 600 p.m. Wondersty Ferring 7:00 p.m. Senior Pastor: Runcy Health
Weeder: www.Tasabuthyon.com
- Smalt Totabuthyon.com

FIRST UNITED METHODIST hip: 8:15, 11:00 am & 6:00 p

BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH Sunday 10:30 and 1:30 Thursday 7:00 p.m. Mike Ragan, Pastor 734-347-1983 pastor cell

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN at Liberty St. Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.

astor Scott Miller, (248) 437-1651

Wixom

CROSSPOINT

OUR VIEWS

Wrong decision

Council should reject Beck-10 rezoning

The Novi Planning Commission recent ly made a decision that has us wondering

Six commissioners — Tony Anthony, David Baratta, David Greco, Andrew Gutman, Mark Pehrson and Leland Prince (Michael J. Lynch was absent) - recommended the Novi City Council approve a new residential development on the northwest corner of 10 Mile and Beck roads by developer Beck Ten Land

The commission voted to rezone the land from R-1 (one-family residential) to R-3 (one-family residential) with a Planned Rezone Overlay (a regulatory tool that creates a special zoning district, placed over an existing base zone).

The problem is the size of the lots and the houses proposed. They're smaller than what the Novi City Master Plan designates - and that could negatively impact other home values. The Planning Commission stated that

Also, homes in adjacent neighborhoods average just over 3,100 square feet while the proposed new homes average 2,400 — a 23-percent

difference.

the "proposed development meets the intent of the master plan" and that it is "consistent with and comparable to surrounding developments.' Not quite.

The Master Plan calls for 1.65 developed units per acre. The proposed subdivision is 1.77 developed units per acre. Surrounding subdivisions (Greenwood Oaks, Warrington Manor and Mockingbird) are 1.32 devel-

oped units per acre. Adjacent lots average nearly 23,491 square feet while the proposed subdivision lots are 14.750 square feet on aver-

age. That's a 37-percent difference Also, homes in adjacent neighborhoods average just over 3,100 square feet while the proposed new homes average 2,400

 a 23-percent difference. When a community develops a master plan, such as Novi has done, residents trust that it will be followed. Homes west of Beck Road have been required to be built on half-acre lots. These smaller proposed lots and homes may impact the value of neighboring subdivision.

The second pitfall of the Planning Commission vote is the precedent it sets by not sticking to the Master Plan. What happens when another developer requests a slight deviation from Beck Land's proposal? The slippery slope gains momentum. If the city doesn't grant the next request, it opens itself up for a lawsuit.

Many homeowners choose to live in the west-of-Beck area because they understand and agree with the Master Plan requirements. But even if you don't live in this quadrant, you should be concerned when decision are made that deviate from the Master Plan.

In 1989, Novi residents overwhelmingly voted against City Council's decision to override the Master Plan to allow a large shopping mall on the northeast corner of 10 Mile and Beck. (There was a subsequent lawsuit, and in December 1990, a consent judgment was entered that authorized B-1 uses on that corner.)

We urge City Council to reject the planning commission's recommendation so residents don't have to do it by vote.

Novi's citizens need to trust that their Master Plan is a consistent roadmap for this city's future land use. Proposals for this property, mainly commercial, have come before our city leaders before, but caving in to the developer now is not the answer.

The matter comes before City Council on Monday, March 26.

Cal Stone, Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor

Grace Perry, Director of

OPINION

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers

COMMUNITY VOICE

Are you happy about the early warm weather or would you like to see one more snowfall?



"I'd like to see one more snowfall because I like the snow and I can go skiing and sledding and hang out with my **Claire Tuckey**

"I want one more snow because it didn't snow

much this year at all and I want to go skiing." Saurav Kolli



"I'm happy it's spring because I hate the snow."

Shae Russell



an early spring because we really only had half winter and it's good to be warm so I can go do something."

John Robertson

LETTERS

Clarifying contraception issue

Wisely choose your representatives. That means taking a little time to think logically and reasonably about the issues. It means do not swallow political spin hook, line and sinker. Don't believe everything you hear in the mainstream media, which has moved away from relatively fair and balanced journalism. Many people are hollering that

Republicans want to take away women's rights. Some are absurdly saying that Republicans feel that contraception should be banned. Not true! The issue is: Should our government require all employers to offer free contraception, including the morning-after pill, which is an abortifacient? Since some employers are morally opposed to abortion, some even morally opposed to contraception, they cannot provide these services as a matter of conscience. No one is suggesting that women should not be able to obtain these services. Of

course, they are able and will be able to get contraception services. Republicans simply want the religious freedom guaranteed in our constitution to be honored. Forcing employers to pay for someone else to do something that the employers believe is morally wrong is taking away their religious freedom. This is a religious freedom issue which the current administration is spinning to try to make it look like an endangerment of women's rights. This is simply politically motivated. They want to get the women all riled up against icans so we can all suffer through four more years. If anyone has a low opinion of women, it must be liberals if they think that all

women are silly enough to fall for their rhetoric. Even if you are not religious, you should pay attention to the attempts of this administration to take away our religious liberties. It is a typical move on the part of every regime that wants to consolidate power. And it is one of the first moves in a program of destroying more and more freedom.

Holly Giannola

Healthy alternatives needed

I agree a grocer would be a good idea for the Northville Plaza, but to take it a step further, healthy alternatives would be welcome in this community. This could include Whole Foods or Plum Market and a restaurant such as Chipotle Mexican Grill. The closest location currently is West Bloomfield. Thanks for your article!

John Salem

Happy birthday

March 15 is the birthday of the American Legion. In 1919, the first American Legion caucus, held by members of the American Expeditionary Force, convened in Paris. March 15 is the date when the American Legion came to life. They did not form the organization out of self-interest. The bedrock of their

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. Letters should be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following

Web: www.hometownlife.com Mail: Letters to the Editor, Novi News, 101 N. Lafayette St., South Lyon, MI 48178 Fax: (248) 437-3386 E-mail: cstone@hometownlife

Biog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com. Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edi-

Online: Due to space limitations, not all letters submitted can be published in our print edition. However, all letters will be published online each week at www ometownlife.com.

existence would revolve around four pillars — a strong national defense, Americanism, support for veterans and mentoring our youth.

Today, the American Legion doesn't just recite these pillars .. let us reflect on the Preamble to the Constitution of The American

"For God and Country, We associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

"To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a 100 percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on Earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpful-

> Ken Reynolds Farmington

Cheesy grits? Yeah, right

During a campaign swing through Mississippi last week, Mitt Romney remarked, "Mornin' y'all," stating he had started his day in Mississippi with "cheesy grits and biscuits." Give me a break. Perhaps caviar and a croissant, but grits? No

Romney is so desperate to make a connection with any voter making \$1 million or less, but a consumer of cheesy grits just does not ring true.

Romney seems much more comfortable in a corporate board room speaking with other millionaire CEOs than us other 99-percenters.

You would seriously think Romney's highly paid staff of handlers could come up with a better desperate identity seeking opening to the people of Mississippi. But then again, perhaps they are highly paid but incapable of helping Romney

reach iust average folks

Farmington Hills Double standards

Rush Limbaugh described a young woman as a prostitute because she expected others to pay for her sex activity. Technically, Rush was correct, but he apologized for being crude. Michele Malkin, Sarah Palin and Michele Bachmann

are derided frequently by politicians and comedians. No apologies - conservatives expect this from liberals. Conservative Limbaugh caused a firestorm treating a liberal in this

manner. He knows the rules. Hank Borgman

Your choices, not

In a recent letter published concerning women's issues there was much inaccurate information. Republican extremists (Tea Party) do not tell people, including women, how to live their lives. In fact, it is the liberal Democrats who feel it is the government's responsibility to force their beliefs on the American

government's

people. The Tea Party is not trying to take away contraception, family planning, or prenatal testing. They are simply refusing to force those who pay taxes to pay for other people's contraception and family planning. They are standing up for religious institutions that are being forced to support and pay for contraception and family planning methods that violate their sacred beliefs. They do not want to take these things away, they just don't want to pay for it! Individual responsibility, indi-

Obama's science czar, John Holdren, has written books advocating compulsory abortions for population control. As you say, "Yeah, right. I don't believe that!" Look it up. The Democrat liberals are on a mission to control even the most personal aspects of all Americans'

The Democrat liberals, headed by Michelle Obama, are removing individual dietary choices. Because of the infamous Obamacare policies, the government wants to force Americans to eat only healthy foods to lower the cost of health care that they planning to take over. Kids' homemade lunches are even being sent home and the children are forced to purchase Michelle's approved foods. The Tea Party believes in the individual right to eat their individual choice of food, and in the consequences that individuals will be forced to pay as a result, not the taxpayers.

Contraception and family planning is an individual right, and an individual responsibility. So is what we choose to eat and feed our children. It is not government policy, at

least not in a free society Yes, let's be aware of the importance of the health of all people, including those helpless to voice their desire to live.

Julianne Ropeta Kennedy Highland

Continued from page A9 Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit firstpresnville.org Sunday Worship

CHURCH

Time: 9:30, 11 a.m. Single Place Time/Date: 7 p.m. every Thursday

Details: Single Place is a social organization for singles 40 and up hosted by the First Presbyterian Church of Northville. Thursday meetings feature speakers games, or entertainment followed with an ice cream social.

Date: March 15 Details: St. Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage dinner with Mary Ann Mur phy providing traditional rish music. Cost of dinne and entertainment is \$12. Please sign up for the din ner or call the Church (248-349-0911) for reservations. Date: March 22

Details: Peter Baker, of AAA of Michigan, discussing changing insurance needs as our life changes. Single Place social follows; \$5 donation please Date: March 29

Details: Cards & Games Night. Enjoy playing euchre, Mexican train and other games. Also honoring those of who have had birthdays in the months of February and March. Birthday cake and snacks will be provided; \$5 donation please.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN Location: 205 East Lake

Street (corner of Wells and 10 Mile Road), South Lyon Contact: (248) 437-2875

Location: 777 West 8 Mile Road, Northville, MI 48167

Sunday Worship:

Gerald Maxey

CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE Contact: (248) 349-1144 or visit www.fumcnorthville.

Meditative - Held in the Chapel - 8 a.m.

HOLY CROSS **EPISCOPAL CHURCH** Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Contact: (248) 427-1175 or

Sundays

churchoftheholycross.com Sunday Worship: 7:45 and 10 a.m. Sunday School and Nursery Care: 10 a.m. Worship

Contemporary - Held in the

Sanctuary - 9:15 a.m.

Sanctuary - 11 a.m

Sunday School:

Nursery - 8 a.m.

Needs - 11 a.m.

brook Road, Novi

Traditional - Held in the

Nursery - 12th grade - 9:15

Nursery - 6th grade/Special

GOOD SHEPHERD

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Location: 41415 9 Mile

Road, corner of Meadow

Contact: (248) 349-0565

School and Bible Study: 10

Time: 8:45 a.m. Sunday

Alzheimer's Support Group Time/Date: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month

Holy Cross Episcopal Church (Novi) **Lenten Book Study** Dates: Tuesdays in Lent - March 20, 27

Details: A five-week study of The Heart of Christian ity Part One: Seeing the Christian Tradition Again b Marcus Borg. Each meeting will begin at 6 p.m. with a soup-and- salad supper followed by discussion of the book at 6:30 p.m. The program will be repeated on Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. All are welcome to

Blanket Blitz 2012 Dates: Saturdays, March 17 and March 24 a.m.: (cafe©)

Details: Join Holy Cross Episcopal Church on March 17 to cut the fleece and/or March 24 to tie the fleece for the fleece blankets we are making for Project Night Night (PNN), PNN provides homeless shelters

with free totes for children containing a blanket, children's book, and stuffed animal. This is a fun activity to do with friends and family, so please invite others to

LAKES BAPTIST

CHURCH Location: 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake LIVONIA CHURCH **OF CHRIST**

Location: 15431 Merriman Road, Livonia Contact: 734-427-8743 or visit www.livoniachurch.net Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. social events. Bible School: Sunday 10

a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m. MEADOWBROOK CON-**GREGATIONAL CHURCH** Location: 21355 Meadow brook Road, between Eight

and Nine Mile roads Contact: Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, Senior Minister (248) 348-7757, visit mbccc.org or e-mail to office@mbccc.org. Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

Church School: 10-11 a.m. Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m. **Merry Widows Luncheon** Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of each month Pilgrim Fellowship Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY Location: 41355 6 Mile Contact: (248) 348-9030

Sundays 9-10 a.m.: Sunday School for Adults / Youth / Children 9 a.m.: Contemporary service in multi-purpose gymnasium

1015 a.m.: Contemporary service in worship center; children's super church on the second level (208/210) **Tuesday Morning Ladies** Bible Study 8:45-10:30

Wednesday Family Night 7 p.m.: Adult elective classes; junior and senior high student ministries: children's programs (M-Pact Girls Club & Royal Rangers Boys Club) Nursery

and Preschool Program on Sundays and Wednesdays Home of Northville Christian School (day care; preschool through eighth grade) - contact (248) 348-

NOVI-NORTHVILLE CENTER FOR

JEWISH LIFE Details: A Jewish center with events, programs and activities for all ages throughout the year children's programs, Sunda school, adult Jewish classes, youth clubs, holiday services and programs, community

Contact: Rabbi Avrohhom & Leah Susskind at (248) 790-6075 or rabbi@novijewishcenter.com; www novijewishcenter.com

NOVI UNITED METHODIST Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile

Contact: (248) 349-2652 or

Worship Services: 5:15 p.m. Saturday; 9:15 and

visit umcnovi.com **Sunday Worship** Time: 9:45 a.m. **Healing Service and Holy**

Sunday

Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month Peace Vigil Time/Date: Noon, first Sunday of every month

Location: In front of the

Details: Members of the congregation and the community will stand united in prayer for peace. **Advent Service** Time/Date: 9:45 a.m.

OAK POINTE CHURCH Location: 50200 W. 10 Mile Contact: (248) 912-0043 or

visit oakpointe.org ReNew Life Group Ministries Time/Date: 7:15-9 p.m. every Monday

Details: Overseen by True-North Christian Counseling offering a variety of support and relational groups: Divorce Care: Grief Share: Life Disrupted (Doing Well At Being Sick); Restarting; Setting Boundaries with Teen & Adult Children: Single and Single Again; Men's Integrity; Cross Current; Her Story-Partner Care; Growing Seasons (for children); and two new groups are Caretakers and Knitted Together (Adoption/Foster Care) Work-

Contact: (248) 912-0043: http://www.oakpointe. org/lifegroups/renew/index

Women's Life Groups **Ministries**

Time/Date: 7 p.m. every Tuesday 9:30 a.m. every

9900 Ann Arbor Road W.

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Northville Vision Clinic

Optometry

Martin J. Levin, O.D. 43041 Seven Mile Road (248) 348-1330

ww.gethealthyhearing.com

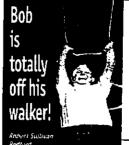
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sage and data rates may

Teen caught stealing from Macy's

4 A 15-year-old Milford girl was caught stealing more than \$100 worth of merchandise from Macy's inside Twelve Oaks Mall on March 12.

According to the police report, the girl was carrying bags from other stores in the mall when she entered the dressing room at Macy's two different times with items from the store. Each time she left the dressing room she had fewer items than what she entered with and nothing was left behind.

The girl was stopped after exiting the store and the items were removed from one of the bags. She was arrested and transported to the Novi Police Department where she was later picked up by her mother.

The case has been forwarded to Milford Youth Assistance for further review.

Man caught drunk driving twice

Novi police arrested a man on a second drunk driving offense after police were dispatched to the area of Pontiac Trail and Beck Road on March for a possible drunk driver who had been in an accident.

According to the police report, the driver was stopped in the CVS lot when police approached. The officer could smell the odor of intoxicants coming from inside the car and noticed the man was only wear-

*

416 S. Main Street

Northville, MI 48167

[243]) 349-2750

Wednesday, Thursday 7am-4pn

ing one shoe There was considerable damage to the vehicle, and the man said he got into a rollover acci-

dent in Milford. He admitted to drinking, and a preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .14 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers in Michigan is .08 percent. He was arrested and transported to the Novi Police

Hub cap taken off Hummer

A Novi resident had the driver's side front window smashed and a hub cap taken of his 2009 Hummer while it was parked on Chase Driver on March 9.

According to the police report, an officer on routine patrol noticed the damage to the vehicle and found the driver at a nearby home. The driver said nothing was taken from inside the vehicle, but the hub cap was taken.

Police have no suspects at this time and there were no other vehicles on the Chase Drive that had been damaged.

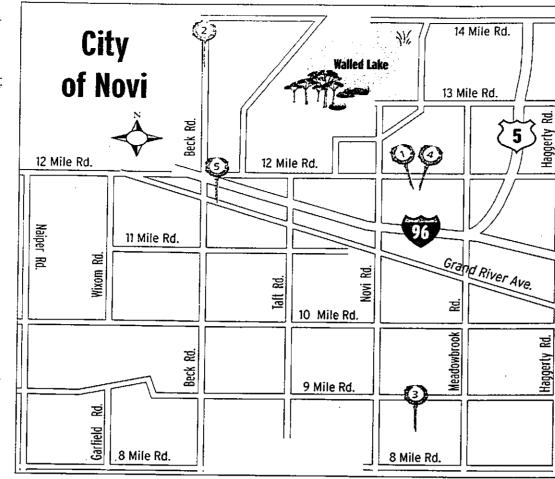
Woman stopped after stealing from mall

A Novi police arrested a wom-an on March 10 after she was caught stealing and removing a theft device from two stores inside Twelve Oaks Mall

According to the police report, the woman and her friend were trying to flee the

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

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mall before being stopped by security. Witnesses at one of the stores said they observed the women enter a fitting room

at the store with four pairs of jeans and could hear them removing the security tags

from them.

The women then left the store without paying. Both combative when stopped

by security and police, and only one of them had items in her

The arrested woman was taken to the Novi Police Department, and she did not want to

Minor caught drinking at boxing

A 20-year-old man was Darrested for minor in possession of alcohol after he was involved in a fight at the SubMarch 10.

According to the police report, a security officer at the boxing event said the man was being rowdy all night. He then was observed trying to fight other patrons in the parking lot

The man told police he had been drinking, but would not tell them where. He was arrested and transported to the Novi Police Department, and a preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .22 percent.

- Compiled by staff writer Nathan

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Jeffrey Jaghab, D.D.S. Stephanie Jaghab, D.D.S. and Associates

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

Chinese celebrations set for March 16-17

online at hometownlife.com

The Chinese Association of Greater Detroit - the largest Chinese American organization in the state — will celebrate its 20th anniversary on Friday, March 16 with a gala dinner that will include influential business and political leaders and also starts the Year of the Dragon Celebration on Saturday, March 17. Both events will be at Suburban Collection

Showplace in Novi. VIP guests planning to attend the CAGD dinner include Chinese Consul General Yang Guoqiang, Sen. Debbie Stabenow, Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano, and exec-

During the dinner, Special Tribute Awards will be given to Gov. Rick Snyder; Tom Watkins,

CEO of TDW & Associates; and Carol Cain, Emmy winning Senior Producer and Host of WWJ-TV CBS Detroit's "Michigan Matters" and columnist at Detroit Free

The CAGD dinner also marks the beginning of the Year of the Dragon Celebration with events on Saturday, March 17, also at Suburban Collection Showplace. It includes family fun festivities such as dragon and lion dances and other performances, interactive activities for families, Chinese folk art like paper cutting and Chinese calligraphy, Chinese merchandise, as well as sampling of Chinese cuisine. The Saturday's festivities are from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and admission is \$5 per family with free

The Year of the Dragon Celebration is coorganized by Oakland County, Wayne Coun-

ty, and Macomb County. GM is the largest sponsor of the celebration. Other sponsors include Ford, HAP, and Tempo Group.

For more information about the event, please contact Lisa Gray at lisa gray@live.com

Easter Bunny

orful Central Park Garden display.

Bunny are available for purchase, and each child who visits receives a free gift. Central Park Garden is located in the Lower Level Center Court. A new feature this

year: the Easter Bunny has made some new fur ry friends. All customers can stop by the Easter Set and purchase a DVD

hops into 12 Oaks

All signs point to spring at Twelve Oaks Mall this March as the Easter Bunny hops into the lush, col-

Photos with the Easter

and BLU-RAY copy of the popular Alvin and the Chipmunks: series. And each Easter photo package includes a promotional certificate for a free

8x11 photo book from Snapfish. The Easter Bunny remains at Twelve Oaks Mall from Friday, March 16 through Saturday, April 7. Photo operation hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Monday-Saturday and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. The Easter Bunny takes brief carrot breaks throughout the day. A complete list of photo packages and prices is available on www.shoptwelveoaks.

Gleaners Smart

Huntington National Bank and Emagine Theaters are teaming up all through March to support Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan's Smart

Bites program. The community is encouraged to make a contribution at theaters, online or by phone (call or text). Huntington National Bank will match every dona-

tion dollar-for-dollar. More than 25 percent of children living in southeast Michigan experience food insecurity. Gleaners' Smart Bites program provides healthy snacks to children who do not get enough to eat at home. During the school day or at after school programs, teachers distribute Smart Bites bags containing items such as granola bars, cereal, dried fruit and pretzels to ensure children are receiving proper nourishment in order for them to learn

Donations can be made: Online: Visit www. gcfb.org Phone: 866-GLEANER (453-2637)• Text: Keyword EAT to 85944 to donate \$10 (mes-

Make a donation at any Emagine Theater location in Novi, Canton, Woodhaven, Royal Oak or Rochester Hills. "When a child is hungry at school, they have difficulty concentrating and learning," said Gleaners President W. DeWayne Wells, "Studies show hungry children experience lower academic achievement Gleaners is working to make sure all children in our community reach

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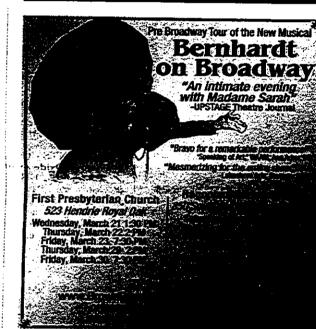
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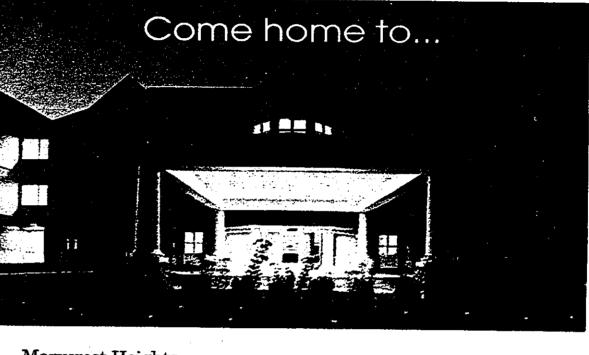
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HEICHTS

Hometown reporter pens book on Maltese in Detroit

Diane Gale Andreassi, a Livo-nia resident and reporter for the South Lyon Herald (a sister publication of the Novi News and Northville Record), recently published Maltese in Detroit, a book documenting the emigration of residents from Malta, a small island country off the coast of Italy, to the Motor

Detroit has one of the largest Maltese populations outside the small nation, which is south of Sicily in the Mediterranean.

Published by Arcadia Publishing in the Images of America series, the book is filled with pictures of early immigrants and introduces readers to lat-

Inc., a non-profit organization providing group

support for adults with

an incarcerated loved

one, will host a special

presentation, "Finding

Hope" by Jerry Dash

Hope When There Is No

from V.I.P. Mentoring in

Detroit, Monday, March

26, at Kirk of Our Savior

Dash is the chief exec-

Church in Westland.

utive officer of volun-

teers in Prevention, Pro-

bation and Prisons, Inc.,

also known as VIP Men-

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Healing Hearts hosts VIP's Jerry Dash

residents. Pictures of Most Holy Trinity in Detroit and the Maltese clubs in Dearborn and Detroit offer a flavor of

life among the Maltese today. Between 35,000 and 70,000 people of Maltese heritage live in the United States and the Detroit area has the largest concentration. In fact, it is one of the largest Maltese populations in the world outside the small European nation.

"The response to the book

tem with

on chil-

ents.

ed by incarceration

He will share his per-

sonal story about how he

has been overwhelming," said in their heritage," Andreas-Andreassi, who was born in Detroit of parents who left their homeland to settle in a large Maltese-populated Corktown neighborhood of Detroit.

The book illustrates the importance of the Roman Catholic Church in Malta and among the Maltese immigrants in their new land. It introduces readers to the Maltese priests who were among the notable people who welcomed and helped acclimate the others as they arrived.

"It was wonderful to meet so many Maltese people and to learn about the pride they have si said.

It took a year to assemble Maltese in Detroit, but it was a labor of love for Andreassi, who graduated from the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a double major in economics and English.

She started her career in journalism at the Dearborn Heights Leader and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers as a reporter and a lifestyles editor before taking a leave to raise a family. She has worked on countless freelance stories for a number of publications, including Gale Research, working on encyclopedia

Malta and its people. She has been reporter for the

Herald for more than a year. Andreassi was active in Livonia's St. Colette religious education program for more than 10 years and worked as a substitute teacher and volunteer in the Livonia Public Schools. Andreassi is an avid reader of books and newsprint of all

The books are available at large and small bookstores and for a discount rate by calling (734) 432-5974.

Readers can contact Andreassi at dandreassi@hometown-

believed all was lost and how he was finally able, even in the darkest of situations, to find hope both in prison and returning home. He will speak from the heart as he shares some of the things that he feels might make a difference in the lives of inmates

Dash is an ex-offender and their families. and served time in the fed-The 6:30-8:30 p.m. preseneral penitentiary in Terre tation is open to the public. Kirk of Our Savior at 36660 Haute, Indiana, in the early 1980s. He uses his expe-Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, in Westland. For rience to talk with inmates and families of inmates more information, contact and tells about how that Bonnie at (734) 646-2237 or experience is now being go to www.hope4healingused to help others affect arts.com. To learn more about Jerry Dash and his program, go online to www.

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Jennifer Klein

With the expedited growth of National Food Group the past several years, Jennifer Klein has been promoted from account manager to business development and product innova-

tion. This position encapsulates National Food Group's core values of relevance

Klein is a veteran in supplying food to the correctional industry and she has a keen ability to listen to her customers' needs as do all the account managers here. "Through much of her career Jennifer has been an account manager, but she has always taken her job to the next level by being uniquely passionate about visiting food manufacturers, identifying new product lines, and responding to market requests," said Vice-President and General Manager Tracey Komata. "Her relationships and market knowledge matched with National Food Group's management and procurement team will enable us to adapt to market changes with speed



NEWSMAKERS

Robyn Lewis

Associate broker Robyn Lewis has joined the multi-office real state brokerage RE/ MAX Classic at their Novi location. The certified residential specialist is well versed in res-

idential and condominium sales, relocation assistance and waterfront properties throughout Oakland County. She brings with her over 17 years of experience in sales, service and buyer representation. Her education extends to the distressed property market holding such high designations as the SFR - short sale and foreclosure resource specialist.
"Robyn is dynamic in her field and her continued education in her special-

ties of expertise in real estate make her a sought after professional in her field," said Carol Boji, broker/owner of RE/ MAX Classic. "She is exceptional at her craft and her knowledge and experience make her an excellent choice for anyone buying or selling a home. We are very pleased she is now an associate at RE/ MAX Classic and a welcome addition to our Novi office."

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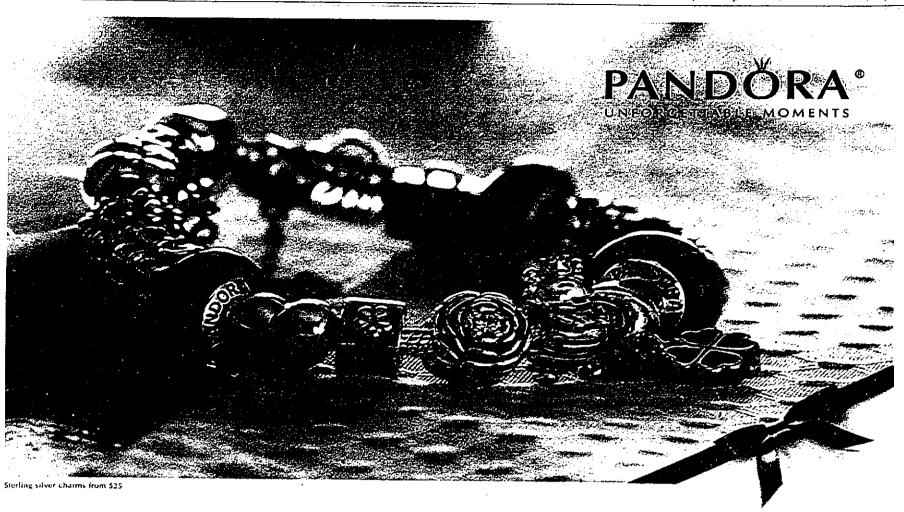
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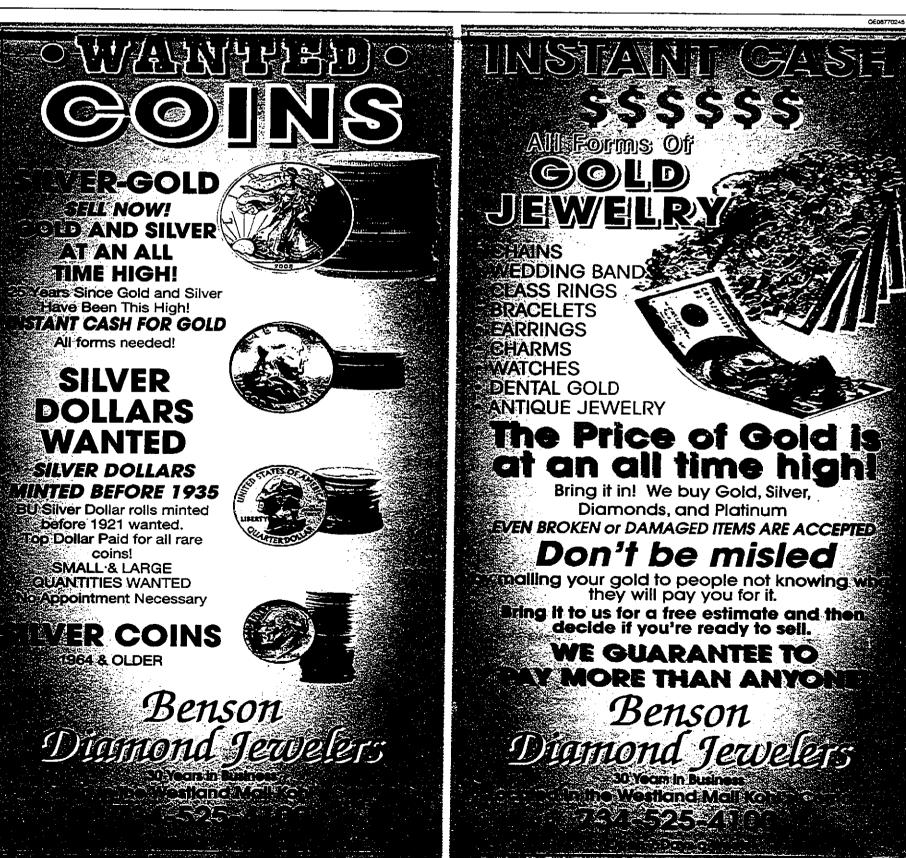
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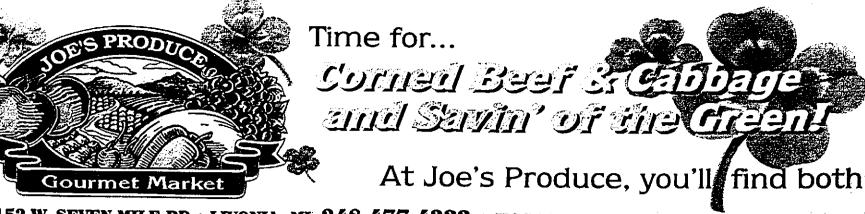
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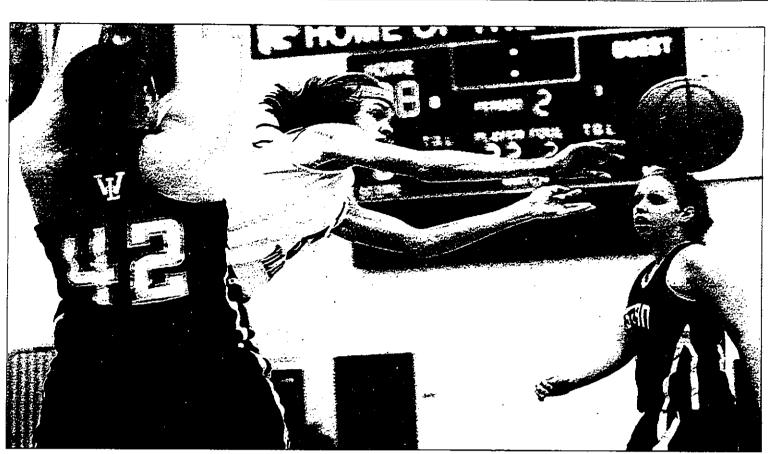
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Novi Wildcat Kerri McMahan makes a pass in front of Warrior Brooke Schwandt during the teams' Nov. 29 game at Novi High.

Novi's McMahan drives to the front of the pack

By Chris Jackett

Few local girls basketball players did as much for their team as Novi sophomore guard Kerri McMahan. With more speed than most players in the KLAA, McMahan had a midrange game reminiscent of former Detroit Piston Richard Hamilton, and it led her to average 13.7 points

per game.
"(She) not only lead us in most offensive statistics, but made every ne around her better," Novi coach An All-Conference selection in

the KLAA's Kensington Conference, McMahan also averaged 2.5 steals, 2.5 assists and 3.7 rebounds per game while shooting 47 percent

FIRST TEAM (South Lyon Sr. G)

A senior guard, Gabrielle Williams was the nucleus to South Lyon's program for the past few years. Averaging 11.4 points, 6.2 rebounds, 3.3 steals, two blocks and 1.8 assists per game. Williams did a little bit of

Please see HOOPS, B4

GIRLS BASKETBALL ALL AREA Player of the Year

Kerri McMahan, Novi First Team Gabrielle Williams, South Lyon Alex Movnes, Northville Jade Anteloc, Novi Jessica Mehr, South Lvor Meredith Williams, Northville Second Team.

Ally D'Annibale, Novi Claire Slaughter, Milford Willow Cohn, South Lyon East Sam Pavlika, Novi Gabi Bird, South Lyon East (So. PG), Taylor Jones (Sr. G)

Honorable Mention Lakeland - Jessie Clink (Sr. G), Marlayna Malvich (Sr. F), Caitlin

Zigo (So. G)

Milford - Paige Smith (Jr. PG), Lane Andrews (Jr. F), Elise Gustafson (Fr. C) Northville - Kendra Brenner (Jr. G/F), Aly Bates (Sr. F) South Lyon – Emily Slavik (Sr. G), Maddy Rosochacki (Jr. G) South Lyon East – Sydney Jones

Wojichowski (Sr. G), Dominique

NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP

By Chris Jackett

Novi gathers KLAA All-Conference awards

The KLAA All-Conference awards were announced last week for hockey, boys basketball and girls basketball.

Among Novi hockey All-Conference selections were seniors Curtis Herzog, Travis Trainor and Kent Burnett, while senior AJ Bradley earned the honor for Northville

The boys basketball squads earned All-Conference honors for senior center Michael Jocz of Novi, as well as senior point guard Jeffrey Gert ey and senior forward Brett MacDonald of Northville, Novi sopho more guard Nelson Cagle and Northville senior guard Jeffrey Hewlett earned honorable men

On the girls basketball side, the Novi girls saw junior forward Jade guard Kerri McMahan and senior forward Ally D'Annibale earn All-Conference honors while senior center Alex Moynes and senior point guard Meredith Williams did the same for Northville. Novi senior guard Sam Pavlika and North ville senior forward Aly Bates earned honorable mentions.

The full All-Conference basketball lists are available online at www.wlcsd.org/parents cfm?subpage=1204260.

AAU Girls Basketball-

All high school girls interested in trying out for the AAU Novi Motion

Please see NOVI, B2

CATHOLIC CENTRAL ROUNDUP

By Sam Eggleston

New soccer coach chosen at Detroit Catholic Central Despite being a brand new head

coach at Detroit Catholic Central, Gene Pulice knows exactly what kind of expectations are placed on education, success and tradition on the Shamrocks' pitch. That's because Pulice, who has over 25 years of coaching

experience, used to be an assistant coach for the program. Pulice was announced as the new gram last week and will take over for Joe Nora, who is

departing the soccer team after a successful decade at the helm "Gene Pulice knows what the Catholic Central program needs to be successful," said Detroit Catholic Central athletics director Aaron Babicz. "He knows our CC family and is a man of

the community. We couldn't be happi-

er hiring someone who is familiar with

which has had national success during his tenure there. His soccer coaching experience doesn't end there, either. Pulice is also a current varsity assistant at Farmington Mercy, has coached at the Catholic Central feeder school Our Lady of Good Counsel and is a former regional director of the Midwest

our mission and the Shamrock family."

Currently, Pulice is coaching the Michigan Wolves/Hawks club team,

Two Shamrocks race in ski state finals

The Shamrocks may not have raced as a team in the state finals this year, but they did send two representatives to Traverse City to compete as individ-

Damon Rottermond finished third in the giant slalom with a final score of 49.34-just .01 away from second place. His first run through the course resulted in a 23.87 final and his second was Ian Price also raced in the state

finals as an individual, taking 14th in

Please see CC, B2

CC boys stop Salem

Champions of their respective leagues butted heads Friday night with the Class A district hoor championship on the line. But KLAA champion Salem met the same fate as Park rival Canton did two nights earlier - as Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's boys basketball buzzsaw cut them to the quick.

The host Shamrocks earned the trophy with a 68-53 victory to improve For the Rocks, who finished 20-3, not even a 26-

point game by senior guard Tyler Stewart could thwart the Shamrocks. Leading Catholic Central with 16 points each

were senior forward

Kyle Cooper and senior

guard Richard Katkic. with senior forward Matt Doneth adding 13.



Salem senior guard Grant Bettner (No. 32) tries to impede Catholic Central's Chase Janer (No. 2) from driving inside Friday night. In the background for the Shamrocks is CC's

"They have strength, head coach Bob Brodie

said. "They knocked the

shots down they needed

to knock down at critical "That's not so much the

environment or the pres-

sure of the game. This

team's been through a lot Please see BOYS, B2

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March 11 for the ACHA

national championship.

'Heading into Nation

als, I expected to place in

one of the top four spots

because we were ranked

said. "We played well, but

just couldn't put the puck

in the net as much as the

other teams even though

we outshot our opponents

in every game. Everyone

our team won the national

was gunning for us since

BOYS

Continued from page 81

of pressure. We just weren't on all cylinders tonight.

Stuck outside

The inside game all but disappeared for Salem, with junior forward Chris Dierker managing just two points and eight rebounds.

Without a handful of treys in the first half, the CC lead at the break would have been much bigger than 35-28. But because Salem needed to rely on perimeter shooting, the Rocks were unable to sustain any

"It seemed at the start of the game we were a little too nervous. too anxious to get the game going, Salem senior center Josh Peterson (four rebounds) said. "It's been like decades since we've been in this kind of atmosphere, playing this bigtime game. It just kind of got to us

"We weren't running our sets, we were basically playing street ball out there and throwing up bad shots." Brodie emphasized Catholic Central's sturdy defense was the reason.

"Give them credit for their defense," Brodie said. "They're big bodies inside there, and it becomes tough to try to battle that inside all

"I told our players at halftime, 'We have to take the ball to the glass a little tougher.

Brief glimmer

Salem did get out to an early 5-2 lead, with Stewart scoring all of those points. But the last time the Rocks were in front came when junior forward Cameron Werner nailed a jumper midway through the first to put Salem up 7-6.

The Catholic League champions built an 18-9 lead and only a lastsecond trey by junior guard Kevin Mack gave Salem's faithful hope. Mack opened the second with

another 3-ball, but the Shamrocks never flinched. In the final minutes of the first half, consecutive triples by Salem senior guard Markus Olind (seven points) and a trey with 20 seconds

(seven points) shaved the deficit to The third quarter was a defensive struggle, with CC's 10-8 edge giving the home team a 45-36 lead with one

left by senior guard Grant Bettner

quarter left.

That's when Stewart tried to take things into his own hands, and he did a remarkable job. The Madonna Uni versity recruit scored Salem's final 15 points, featuring two triples, a tip-in and scoop layup.

"I just didn't want to go home," Stewart said, "I tried to get to the basket and get other people involved if I could, just make some baskets." Brodie said the performance by Stewart was one to remember.

"That's kind of what you expect from a senior leader and captain like he's been." Brodie said. "He's a great player, when the game's on the line he wants to take charge. ... We're going to miss him tremendously next year."

But unfortunately, the Shamrocks followed just about every Stewart basket with a trip to the charity stripe. Catholic Central sank 24of-32 from the foul line; Salem made just 6-of-15 chances.

"They went to the line a lot more than us, but most of that's our fault.' Brodie said. "We don't go to the line. We take outside shots and don't draw

According to one of Brodie's longtime coaching colleagues, former Livonia Stevenson coach Bill Dyer, the senior-laden Shamrocks were able to dominate the low post and draw plenty of fouls.

"We've been pretty consistent this year outshooting people at the freethrow line." Dver said. "We get to the basket pretty well, and we're pretty tough and physical so I think we feel we draw a lot of fouls some-

"We've been up late in games, too, and people have to foul us. So that's part of the reason. Dyer tipped his hat to Brodie and

the Rocks, and sounded apologetic about being the team that knocked "I have a lot of respect for him

(Brodie)," Dyer said. "I coached against him (at Stevenson) for six years. As far as high school basket ball coaches go, there's nobody better. The guy's an absolute gem. "For me, it's tough to see him lose because I like him so much and I got a lot of respect for him. But on

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the other hand, I wanted my guys to

win, too, so it's kind of a Catch-22 for

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NOVI

Continued from page B1

basketball program should tryout March 22 at Village Oaks Elementary School, 23333 Willowbrook.

SELECTIVES COLORS

Tryouts for freshmen and sophomores is 6:30-8 p.m., while juniors and seniors will tryout 8-9:30 p.m.

Cost is \$20. Players should arrive 10 minutes prior to start with shoes, shirts and shorts ready to go. A parent or guardian will need to fill out forms. For more information, call Ron Valente

Boys Cross Country

at (248) 349-5464.

Novi High School's boys cross country team will hold tryouts Aug. 14, but those who are interested and did not run on the team last year are asked to contact coach Robert Smith by the end of March.

Potential student-athletes must have a completed MHSAA physical exam card brought to the tryout and be prepared to run a time trial to qualify for the team. Contact Smith at crosscountrycoachsmith@hotmail.com by March 31.

Novi pom girls earn pair of scholarships

Mid American Pompon, which provides in pompon competitions, summer camps and training for pompon teams in middle school through the collegiate level, has awarded \$3,000 worth of scholarships to six high school seniors from throughout Michigan. Each student will be presented with a \$500 check made payable to the college or university that they will attend. The organization has donated more than \$60,000 worth of

scholarships over the last 24 years. Mackenzie Kelley and Ashley Wojtylo senior members of the Novi High School pompon team, were recipients of the

dents must meet the following criteria: is a graduating senior with a 3.2 or above GPA: has attended two or more Mid American Pompon events as a participant or competitor; composed an essay in an anonymous format which described how pompon has enriched their life and how they have contributed to the sport, and submitted a letter of recommendation from a coach. A scholarship commit tee, comprised of a Mid American Pompon coach advisory board, selected the finalists. The awards were presented at the Mid American Pompon State Championship at Eastern Michigan University on Sunday, Feb. 12.

"We created the scholarship fund to give deserving graduates financial college a little more comfortable," said Julie Hobbs Julian, director of pompon. 'The girls are chosen based on their academic and leadership abilities in addition to their dedication to the sport

Youth baseball signup

Novi Youth Baseball League has opened up online registration for the 2012 baseball season. Players ages 7-19 that are interested in baseball are encouraged to register by March 15. Register online at www.noviyouthbaseball.org now. Email Rob Reilly with any questions at rreilly@noviyouthbase-

Continued from page B1

the giant slalom with a final score of 50.73. His first run was a 24.89 and his sec-

ond resulted in a 25.88. In the slalom event, Rottermond did not place following a 35.98 run down the hill in the first portion of the race. He was disqualified in the second run.

All-State hockey team honors several Shamrocks

The Detroit Catholic Central hockey team was ranked first in the state throughout the it had some of the best players on the ice on

The was proven a fact this year during the All-State hockey team selection. The Shamrocks earned four first-team selections and one second-team honor this year Peter Halash, Michael Babcock and Charlie Green were selected as first-team All-State forwards while Nolan Gluchowski was selected as a first-team defensive player. Carson Gatt, a defender, was the lone Shamrock on the second-team All-State

Record and Novi News.

scholarships. To be eligible for the scholarship, stu-

assistance to help make the transition to of pompon."

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former staff writer for the Novi News.

entirety of the season, and for good reason-

Sam Eggleston is a freelance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville

Quartet of Novi freshmen add young core to MSU women's hockey

THEO CALLES TO STORE THE

By Chris Jackett

Although finding a full squad of quality hockey players may be tougher for women's college programs because the pool of candidates is smaller than it is for the men's program, Michigan State University's women's club hockey team grabbed four from Novi alone and made a run for a second-straight national title this season with the talented freshmen foursome.

Novi residents Lauren Grigg, Emily Hayes, Julia King and Madison Van Antwerp have all grown up in local hockey circles. playing with one another on and off for several years. Van Antwerp and Hayes started play ing at when they were 4. Grigg when she was 6 and King when she was 12. All were based out of Novi Ice Arena or Suburban Ice Arena in Farmington Hills.

"It has been nice to have four of the girls from Novi because we're all coming from the same place and can relate to each other and also get rides home with each other if we need to," King

King was in the netminder rotation all season while the other three earned playing time on the third and fourth lines as freshmen for the defending national champions who finished the regular season ranked No. 2 in the country due to a large core of upper-

"The college game is much more intense than I thought," said Van Antwerp, a Detroit Country Day School alum who was a member of the inaugu-



Lauren Grigg is Emily Hayes is a Novi resident a Novi resident and recent and recent Northville Northville graduate.

graduate.

graduate. ral girls hockey team as a sophomore. "Growing up, we were always told that AAA was the best hockey you could play, so everyone believed that. But. college women's hockey is just as intense and time-consuming as AAA, if not more intense. Going from high school hockey to college hockey was a huge change. The pace of the college game is extremely fast and you

up a lot of time to play." Her Novi teammates echoed her thoughts, but none would have traded a moment of the experiences they had during the first few months of their college careers. "Meeting all of the

have to be willing to give

girls on the team was

my favorite part of this year," said Grigg, who also played golf, lacrosse and hockey at Northville High. "I am so glad I chose to try out for the team because I believe we will all be good friends for a long time The hockey team is like a big family and I think everyone else would agree with that statement. The older girls really made us freshman feel very comfortable and really helped us feel included as part of the



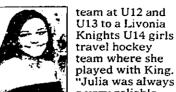
Julia King is a Novi resident and recent Detroit Country Day School

The freshmen's roads to the Spartan program all took long, winding paths through multiple vouth teams. Grigg and Van Antwerp both started their hockey careers in the Novi boys league for several years before teaming up to help start the Farmington Hills Fire U12 travel team, which was coached by their two

"I played with my older brother Michael on Novi house boys hockey teams for five years," Van Antwerp said. "Hockey is in my blood because my dad, my uncles, cousins and three brothers all play or played hockey throughout their life Now I am 18 years old and still loving hockey just as much as I did

when I was 4." Van Antwerp is the only one of the four Novi freshmen who had played with all three of the others at different points growing up.

"Lauren, Emily and I were three out of the four only girls who played Novi boys house hockey when we were younger. It was nice to know that there were other girls involved in the sport." Van Antwerp said, noting that she moved from the Fire



Madison Van Antwerp is a Novi resident and recent

ers, focused mainly on AAA hockey. "I had played with al three of the Novi girls before, but the girls travel hockev community is very small," Hayes said. 'Out of the 10 rookies on the team this season, I had played with seven of them previously. I think it helped bring our team together more because. once you bring new peo ple into a situation, they have to get to know each

ward in high school, was

moved to fourth-line

ı very reliable

with her, too.

zoalie and I had a

lot of fun playing

Haves said she

year on Northville

High's girls team,

only played one

other, then they have to get to know the older girls; but, if most of them already know each other, half the job is already "Most weekends of the first semester were spent cooped up in a hotel with the hockey team. You really get to know people like that."

Grigg and King are the only combination of the four Novi freshmen that hadn't previously played together until this year together as Spartans. Grigg and Haves were fourth-line forwards together, while Van Antwerp, who played for-

> defense with another former forward and the two gelled and moved up to third line by season's "The transition was

rough at first, but I grew to love the position and I began to feel really confident about it and I improved a lot." Van Antwerp said. "We ended up getting a lot of ice time as the season went on."

Despite gelling as a young core and helping the Spartans main tain a No. 2 seed, the trip to Nationals March 8-10 didn't end as planned among the field of the nation's top eight women's ACHA teams. MSU (25-9-1) dropped

eliminated. Northeasterr

defeated Minnesota 3-1

championship last year. "All were low-scoring games where it came a 2-0 decision last Thursdown to one break or day to eventual nationbounce. There really al champion Northeast wasn't much difference ern, who was ranked No. in the teams. They were 7. The girls went on to tie all good and all the games No. 5 Liberty 1-1 Friday were close. and then lost to No. 4 Min nesota later that day to be

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former staff writer for the Novi News.

City of Novi Notice of Public Hearing Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Grant Application Proposal 13 Mile & Old Novi (formerly Landings Park) Phase 3

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Novi will hold a Public Hearing on the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Grant Application Proposal for Phase 3 of the 13 Mile & Old Novi Park (formerly Landings Park). The Hearing will be held on Monday, March 26, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., EST, at Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Nov Michigan 48375, for the purpose of hearing public comments on Phase 3 of the 13 Mile & Old Novi (formerly Landings Park).

All interested citizens are requested to attend this Hearing. Comments will also be received in writing or in person at the City Offices, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi,

Michigan 48375, until 5:00 p.m. March 26, 2012. Arrangements to reasonably accommodate special needs, including handicap accessibility or interpreter, will be made upon receiving 72-hour advance. Contact Maryanne Cornelius at 248-347-0576 for special services

CITY OF NOVI

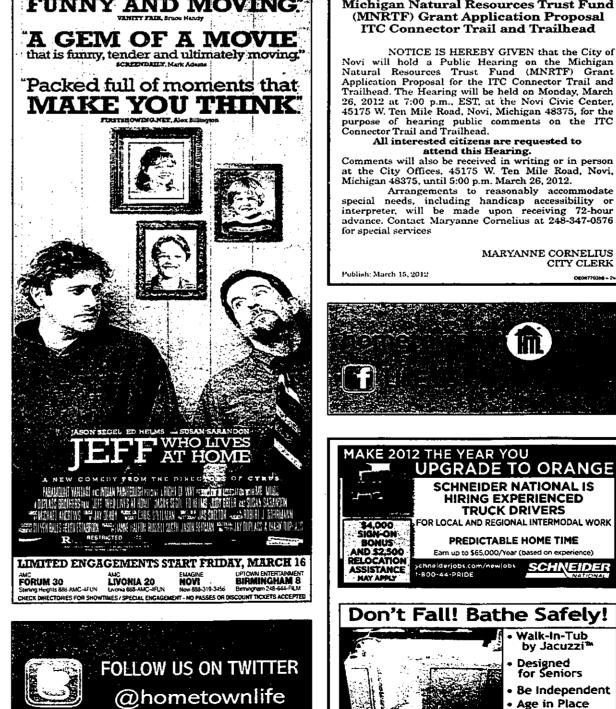
MARYANNE CORNELIUS



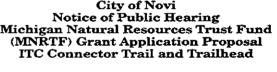


Coming April 19th in the Observer and









NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Novi will hold a Public Hearing on the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Grant Application Proposal for the ITC Connector Trail and Trailhead. The Hearing will be held on Monday, March 26, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., EST, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, for the purpose of hearing public comments on the ITC Connector Trail and Trailhead.

All interested citizens are requested to attend this Hearing. Comments will also be received in writing or in person at the City Offices, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, until 5:00 p.m. March 26, 2012. Arrangements to reasonably accommodate special needs, including handicap accessibility or

interpreter, will be made upon receiving 72-hour advance. Contact Maryanne Cornelius at 248-347-0576 MARYANNE CORNELIUS

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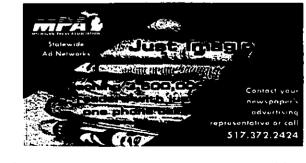
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

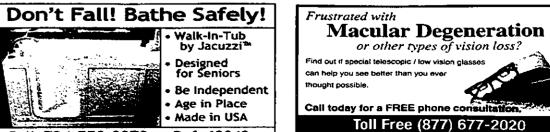
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider a recommendation to City Council for site plan amendments to SP 95-53 MAIN STREET NOVI and to consider NOVI MAIN STREET CONDOMINIUM AND MAIN MARKET CONDOMINIUM for a recommendation to City ouncil for dissolution of the two condominiums he property is located south of Grand River and east of

comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Division 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M.

Novi Planning Commissi David Greco, Secretary

Publish: Musch 15, 2012





Continued from page 81 everything for the Lions while hitting 70.5 percent from the free throw line and 31.2 percent from beyond the three-point arch. She was an All-Conference selection and Team MVP after being named her team's Offen-

sive MVP as a junior. "No one in the area has done more for their team than Gabby, and she has been doing it for four years," South Lyon coach Erica Thomas said. "She plays with passion, grace, athleticism and power, and is the first player willing to sacrifice her body to save a play for her team. You don't find players who can impact the game in as many ways as Gabby does; she is extremely versatile - our best ballhandler, shooter, rebounder. defender and our toughest

She finishes in her program's top 10 for career points, rebounds, steals, blocks, threes and both free throw and three-point percentages.

Alex Moyne: (Northville Sr. C)

Northville senior Alex Moynes played her way into the record books as the top Mustang center in school history. She averaged 12.1 points, 6.6 rebounds and three blocks per game this season, leading her squad in all three categories and earning All-Conference honors. The future Hillsdale College player finished fourth in career scoring, first in both rebounds and blocks among Northville's all-

time leaders. "Alex was a force to reckon with inside," Northville coach Todd Gudith said, "Most nights she was double-teamed, yet managed to still pro duce. Her size was a big **SECOND TEAM** advantage for her and our Ally D'Annibale team. Defensively, she can (Novi Sr. F)

around the rim well." "(Novi Jr. PF)

No matter what side of the ball she was playing on, Novi junior Jade Anteloc was a force in

Many people are wrongly rejected when

they apply for Social

cenefits. Money was

paychecks for Social

they could no longer

overnment denies

combined experience

disability clients. And they

that they would receive

vork full-time. Sadly, the

apply for disability benefits.

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and

Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years

and appear personally at all court

inexperi-enced attorneys to your

located thousands of miles away

and only fly the attorney in the

tay of the court hearing

lichigan judges.

earings. Many large firms assign

ase. And some of these firms are

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have

pproximately 60% of those who

taken out of their

alter an opponent's shot

when they try to go inside.

Offensively, she can finish

the paint. Averaging seven points per game on 40 percent shooting and 7.5 rebounds per game while executing post-up defense on the top post players in the KLAA, Anteloc was a key force behind the Wildcats' division title this sea-

"One of hardest working girls, always guarded (opponents') best post player (and was) more vocal (this season)," Novi coach Bill Kelp said. Jessica Mehr

(South Lyon So. F) As a sophomore forward, Jessica Mehr provided an inside threat to compliment Gabby Williams' guard play. Mehr averaged nine points, 5.5 rebounds, two steals and 1.4 assists per game for a resurgent Lions squad.

"Jessica has a unique ability to attack the basket aggressively off the dribole," said coach Thomas. "Her physical size and quickness present matchup problems for opponents, and at the same time, she can hit a big outside shot. She's only going to get better as she develops more at her natural position on the wing next

Meredith Williams

(Northville Sr. PG) The Mustangs' offense rolled through senior point guard Meredith Williams. The All-Conference standout distributed the hall while averaging 6.2 points, 2.9 assists, 2.8 steals and 4.4 rebounds per game. She was scouted by colleg es, but is still undecided.

terback on the floor.' Northville coach Todd Gudith said. "She's a pass first point guard but and score when needed. She was our second leading rebounder. One of the hardest workers I've been

In her time to shine, Novi senior forward Ally D'Annibale had a string of bad luck. She played through the first half of the season with a partially torn ACL while averaging seven points and four rebounds per game, as well as shooting 70 per-

SOCIAL SECURITY

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi

can often make a winning differ

ence at the application stage.

And, if an appeal is necessary

they have won several hundred

cases before a court date is even

Those denied can appeal on

nted by attorneys win a

their own but statistics for many

years reveal that those

much higher percentage of

specialize in Social Security

Disability cases win a much

Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written

book for attorneys about the

In addition to practicing only

cent from the free throw line. Then she tore her other ACL, ending her high school basketball career.

The Mavericks struggled to pick up victories this season, but senior cappushed them closer and closer throughout the season. The guard averaged 11 points, five rebounds. steals per game while holding down the Milford

Willow Cohn

(South Lyon East Sr. G/F) Although division play was a struggle for South Lyon East, the Cougars finished the season above .500 largely in part to a consistent effort from All-Conference senior Willow Cohn. Averaging 10 points, six rebounds, 2.5 steals and 1.1 assists per game to go with 34 percent shooting from distance and 69 percent shooting from the charity stripe, the scholar athlete with a 3.7 GPA capped her four-year varsity career as the young program's all-time leading rebounder.

Sam Pavlíka (Novi Sr. G) The Temperance Bedford transfer made an immediate impact on the Wildcats' lineup after missing the first month her better while she averaged 5.1 points, 3.5 rebounds, two steals and

1.5 assists per game. "Meredith was our quar-Gabi Bird (South Lyon East Fr. F)

Claire Slaughter

LOCAL SPORTS

(Milford Sr. G) tain Claire Slaughter was a consistent contributor who

defense.

guard Sam Pavlika's court vision made those around

South Lyon East freshman forward was an immediate impact mak er on the court for the Cougars alongside Cohn. Averaging nine points, seven rebounds and two steals per game while shooting 68 percent from the free throw line and earning a 3.5 GPA while adjusting to the high school setting, Bird flew through the final five games of the season, averaging 15 points and 10 rebounds per game in a preview of what could be expected during the next three years since

increased touches on the

ball since Cohn and Taylor

iterviewed on vario

adio programs and

ave given speeches

Attorneys Bieske

and Alfonsi offer free phone or

fee charged until after the

case is won. The fee is a

percentage of retroactive

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clients from all over the state of

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on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at

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consultation if you have been

possibly applying for Social

denied, or if you are thinking o

www.ssdfighter.com

higan. Their Livonia office is

office consultation. If they

Jones are graduating.



Central Catholic Shamrock Colin Brinkman swims in the prelims of the March 9 Div. 1 MHSAA swim finals at EMU.

Shamrocks, Mustangs swim state finals

State finals are never easy to compete in. The pressure is on, the compe ition is well beyond the definition of fierce and the expectations are over-The Northville Mus-

tangs and the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks boys swimming and diving teams squared off with over three dozen other schools in the Division I state finals last weekend. The event, held at Eastern Michigan University, found Saline winning the state finals with little trouble, finishing with 326.5 points while Rockford was second with 233 and Brother Rice third with 176. Detroit Catholic Central finished sixth overall with 111 points while Northville

finished with 24 points. "We didn't swim as well as I had hoped, but the guys had a good season overall and we look for-

coach Rich Bennetts. "All three of our relays swam their best times of the season, so that was a positive and we were able to get a couple of individuals swim come back on Saturday. Not really what we want-

meet and hung in there The only two events in which Northville and Detroit Catholic Central both earned finals finishes were relays-the 200 and 400 freestyle.

ed, but the boys gave their

pest. It was a really fast

In the 200 relay, the Shamrocks took ninth in 1:27.73 with a team of Dan Szuba, Tim Szuba, Grayson Arnold and Colin Brinkman. Northville finished 12th, finishing in 1:28.51 with a team of Sam Bovea, Andrew Westphal. Dawson Laabs and Spencer Miller. The 400 free relay found the Catholic Central tankers finishing ninth in 3:12.5 with a team of Brinkman, Tim Szuba,

far behind, taking 13th in 3:15.92 with Westphal. Boyea, Chris Kim and Miller racing for the team

The Sharprocks had a strong showing in the 200vard medley relay as well capturing third place with a time of 1:37.03. The team consisted of Walsh, Ryan Newman, Dan Szuba and

In the 200 freestlye, the Sharnrocks earned nine points from the ninthplace finish of Brinkman who swam the race in 1:42.79. Brinkman also finished ninth in the state in the grueling 500 freestyle swim, taking home a final time of 4:41.26.

Walsh finished fifth in the 200 individual medley to help his team out, swimming it in 1:54.06 to earn his squad 14 points.

Northville's Miller had some tough competition in the 50 freestyle, but that didn't stop him from taking 16th overall in the race as he turned in a time of

Novi swimmers 16th at state meet

Jack Walsh and Dan Szu-

By Chris Jackett

Although the Division I boys swim and dive meet took place in Ypsilanti last weekend, it was all Saline, who ran away with another state title Saturday after winning seven of 12

The Hornets picked up 326.5 points at Eastern Michigan University, well ahead of runner-up Rockford's 233. Novi finished 16th with 48 points in a field of 39 scoring teams, behind local squads from Detroit Catholic Central (sixth with 111), South Lyon Unified (eighth with

89), Livonia Stevenson (11th with 68) and Canton (13th with 62), but ahead of baseline rival Northville (27th with 24) and Walled Lake Central (34th with

Despite the disappoint-

ing finish, there were two

highlights on the day as seniors Derek Kim and Jongmin Kim both finished fourth in an individual event Derek Kim was fourth in the 1-meter dive with 409.9 points, behind cham-

pion Dan Gironza's 466.25 points for South Lyon. Jongmin Kim was fourth in the 100-yard breaststroke in 58.90 seconds,

behind Saline's Josh Ehrman, who set a new Division I record in 55.36 seconds, Jongmin Kim also finished 15th in the 200 individual medley in 1:58.71. The event was won by Saline in 1:49.47.

Sophomore Tanner Vincent was the only other Wildcat individual to place in the top 16 of an event. finishing 15th in the 100 fly in 53.17 seconds, a few strokes back from Saline's winning 49.62-second time

Although the Wildcats struggled with the depth of the competition in individual events, two of the three relay teams made

NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BID PROPOSAL CUSTODIAL SERVICES

Novi Community Schools is accepting sealed bids for district-wide Custodial Services

Six (6) copies of the sealed bid along with one (1) original and (1) electronic copy should be submitted to: Steven Barr, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations, 25345 Taft Road, Novi, Michigan 48374 by 10:00 a.m., local time, Monday, April 9, 2012. The bids will be publicly opened at this time and the proposals must contain the wording, "PROPOSAL: CUSTODIAL SERVICES" on the envelope/package. Bids received after the specified date and time will not be considered or accepted. Faxed or arrested proposals will not be accepted. e-mailed Proposals will not be accepted.

A <u>mandatory vendor's conference</u> will be held on March 19, 2012, 8:30 a.m. local time, at Novi High School.

Bid documents may be obtained and/or examined beginning on March 9, 2012 at Novi Community School District, 25345 Taft Road, Novi, Michigan 48374, and are also available on the district web site at http://www.novi.k12.mi.us.

Publish: March 8 and 15, 2012

Many small business owners face

Vednesday, April 4, 9-11 a.m. This workshop is free but pre-registration is required.

Business Research: Feasibility to Expansion

Are you thinking of starting your own business and want to research your business idea? Are you a business owner who wants to benchmark your profit margin and other measures against similar size businesses in your industry? Do you want to know about market trends and opportunities to grow your sales? Are you looking for new customers or to diversify your market base? Business Research will show you ways to find your ideal customers, find your com-

Wednesday, April 4, 6-9 p.m. This workshop is free but pre-regis-

offered in the evenings on alternating tration is required. Unless otherwise noted, all programs take place at the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Cen-Your Business ter. 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, west of Telegraph, Waterford. For pre-registration and location specifics, visit online at oakgov.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2012 HOMETOWN WEEKLIES HOMETOWNHITE COM

com/peds/calendar, or call (248) 858-0783. QuickBooks Essentials

Business owners and entrepreneurs

who need assistance are invited to

attend seminars in February offered

by the Oakland County Business Cen-

ter. Business Basics workshops are now

Novi-based Cooper-

Standard Holdings Inc.

ent company of Cooper

(OTCBB: COSH), the par-

Standard Automotive and

a global supplier of auto-

motive sealing, fluid and

anti-vibration systems.

announced its financial

quarter and year ended

"Our strategic focus

on providing global and

regional support to our cus-

tomers around the world

percent increase in sales

ued discipline in operation

al excellence and capacity

rationalization again deliv

ed EBITDA margins," said

Jim McElya, chairman and

Cooper Standard. "More-

ered double digit adjust-

in 2011, and our contin-

helped contribute to an 18-

results for the fourth

December 31, 2011.

This introduction to small business financial management provides an overview of accurate record keeping, report interpretation and utilization, and management of the variety of tools provided in this system. Presented by Kildal Services, LLC. Session i includes basic accounting terminology, new company file setup, customizing forms and letters and working with bank accounts. Session II includes invoicing customers, receiving payments and making deposits, entering vendor bills/paying vendor bills and using credit card accounts. Thursday, March 29. Session I 9-11:30

a.m. Session II 12:30-3 p.m. Session One: \$40/person, Session Two: \$40/person, Both Sessions: \$75/person. Laptop highly recommended.

CEED Microloan Orientation

obstacles when trying to obtain a business loan. The recognition of the serious need for working capital for existing businesses, start-up or expansion, equipment purchases and job creation is not the priority it once was. If you have a need for alternative financing consider the MicroLoan Program. Dis cover the requirements and process necessary to apply and obtain a microloan. Program presented by the Center for Empowerment & Economic Development (C.E.E.D.)

petitors, perform competitive analysis

and more! Presented by Oakland County's Business Center, Market Research Division and an Oakland County Public Library business reference librarian.

Cooper-Standard announces

year-end 2011 results

over, we have positioned

the company for future

growth through our initia-

tives to expand our product

offerings and to capitalize

on global platform trends."

ed revenue of \$695.7 mil-

lion for the fourth quar-

ter of 2011 and \$2.85 bil-

lion for the full year, rep-

resenting growth of 15.2

percent and 18.2 per-

cent, respectively, over

the 2010 comparable peri-

ods. This revenue growth

reflects higher industry

volumes, favorable for-

eign currency exchange

movement as well as busi

nesses acquired during

2011, which contributed

approximately \$58 mil-

and \$158 million for the

Gross profit for the

full year.

lion in the fourth quarter

OAKLAND COUNTY BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

Cooper Standard report-

quarter ended December

31, 2011 was \$97.6 million

compared to \$96.8 mil-

ter of 2010. Gross prof-

ter represented 14 per-

cent of sales, compared

in the fourth quarter of

2010, with comparative-

ly lower gross margins

lished Cooper Standard

increased raw materi-

al prices accounting for

the majority of the dif-

ference. For the full year

enue growth and lean ini-

tiatives offset higher raw

material and acquisition

costs, generating gross

profit of \$450.6 million,

cent of sales, compared to

representing 15.8 per-

2011, the company's rev-

France joint venture and

at the recently estab-

to 16 percent of sales

it in the 2011 fourth quar-

lion in the fourth quar-

\$409.6 million in 2010, or

The company reported

net income of \$23.2 mil-

lion in the fourth quar-

ter of 2011, compared to

income growth was due

primarily to increased

and lower effective tax

er raw material prices

company reported full

rates, which offset high-

and increased SG&A. The

year 2011 net income of

share on a diluted basis.

Cooper Standard report

ed adjusted EBITDA of

\$66.6 million. Adjust-

percent to \$324.1 mil-

ed EBITDA for the full

vear 2011 increased 17.2

lion from \$276.5 million

\$102.8 million, or \$3.93 per

For the fourth quarter,

\$14.8 million in 2010. Net

17 percent of sales.

BUSINESS

Fundamentals of Marketing

Marketing is an essential of business success. All products/services must be sold to well-targeted audiences with a wide-ranging marketing mix. Staff/SCORE counselors can guide you through successful techniques and marketing principles helping you to promote your products and services to the most promising customers-your target audience. Presented by The Michigan Small Business & Technology Developent Center (MI-SBTDC).

Wednesday, April 4, 6-9 p.m. The fee is \$40 per person. No refunds.

Small Business Loan Workshop

Getting a small business loan can be a challenging process. Learn the "5 C's of Credit," how to develop a winning loan proposal and what you need to know to position your business to be "bankable" before you meet with a lender. Presented by The Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and the Oakland County Business Center.

Thursday, April 5, 9 a.m.-noon. The fee is \$20 per person (make checks payable to SCORE). Includes: Handouts and SBA Source Book. No refunds.

Facebook for Business: Introduction to Social Media Marketing and using **Facebook for Business**

Millions of people are using Facebook

and social media for fun, but it is also a powerful business tool that can connect you with your customers, potential customers and the world. Social media is a two-way marketing channel — a conver sation with your customers. With social media marketing and Facebook you can leverage these conversations and relationships to: increase brand visibility and reach, be established as a thought leader and expert in your field, give real time customer service, stay on top of industry trends and conduct competitive research build brand advocates, and yes - you can see a measurable ROI - even sales. But before you jump in and start using social media, learn how to get these results with an introduction to social media marketing and Facebook for business.

Tuesday, April 10, 6-9 p.m. The fee is \$40 per person.

NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

Community Financial asks residents to give a Thumbs Up For Charity

When a job is well done, a common sign of approval is a thumbs up. Now, Community Financial Credit Union is offering the community a chance to give a collective thumbs up and \$25,000 to its favorite chari-

From March 5 through March 30, Community Financial will be accepting nominations from individuals sharing which charitable organization deserve a 'Thumbs Up" and a donation in recognition of the good work it does in the community.

Nominations can be made at www.cfcu.org/ThumbsUpForCharity

The nominations will result in five finalists being chosen and put to a vote on the website for a chance to win the \$10,000 grand prize. The charities that finish in second and third place will receive \$5,000 each and the fourth and fifth place finishers will each receive

"The nonprofit groups in our communities do an amazing job and we are proud to support them hroughout the year," said Bill Lawton, Community Financial president/CEO. "However, we wanted to provide the residents of our communities a chance to tell us which groups they think deserve recognition, and "Thumbs Up for Charity" gives them that opportuni-

To stay connected with Community Financial and keep up-to-date on the latest financial news and information as well as Community Financial's community involvement, please "like" us on Facebook at www. Facebook.com/CommunityFinancial or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/CFCreditUnion.

For complete contest rules, visit www.cfcu.org

Capitalizing business opportunities in Michigan and Asia

The APACC 2012 East West Business Connection will be held at Suburban Collection Showplace (Diamond Center) from 1-9 p.m. Thursday, March 22.

It will be a two-part event focused on the trends for business growth and opportunities in the Asian Pacific region and locally in Michigan followed by a procurement Meet the Buyers showcase with corporate buyers, minority-owned businesses, U.S. and Asian-owned

Buyers confirmed to-date include Aisin World Corporation of America, Beaumont Health System Chrysler Group LLC, Comerica Bank, Delphi Corporation, DENSO International America, Faurecia, Federal Mogul, Ford Motor Company, General Motors Company, Honda of America Manufacturing, Martinrea, Ogihara America Corporation. ThyssenKrupp Bilstein of America, Toyoda Gosei N.A., Toyota Motor Engineerng & Manufacturing and Yazaki North America, Inc Call (248) 844-4100 for more information and registration details.



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Home Expo pros see rebound in economy

O&E Staff Writer

Jason Benward of Canton is remodeling manager for Horton Plumbing & Remodeling of Plymouth. and among some 135 vendors at the 11th annual Canton Home Expo March 3-4. He and other business people were seeing plenty of potential customers those days at the Summit on the Park in Canton.

"The 'age in place,' we call it," said Benward. who cites taller toilets and step-in shower replacements for older people who wish to stay in their homes.

"And they're maintenance-free, which is nice. he said of the upgrades. "There's no grout or

Benward said sales are up, "especially in Canton. Canton right now is booming, which is great We love serving Canton. His business dates back to

The annual expo. which draws some 5.000-6.000 over a Saturday and Sunday, is sponsored by Canton Township, the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Observa er & Eccentric Newspa-

Lee Brees, general manager of Colonial Heating & Cooling in Plymouth. was also pleased with expo traffic for his first visit to

"It's been very nice," said Livonia resident Brees. whose business started 13 years ago. "Traffic has been good. He noted a lot of people

still can't move from their homes easily, so they fix them up. Rebates and tax credits brought him past business.

"We are seeing a different kind of business coming up," said Brees, who agreed some people buy-



The Canton Home Expo draws a big crowd each year of those eager to learn about home improvement options.

ing bank-owned homes need work done on those.

Projects in mind nifer and Allen Williams of Canton were firsttime visitors to the Home

Expo. The homeowners

had just arrived. 'We have some ideas." said Allen Williams, who with his wife has two dogs and a cat. They've been in

their home six years. "We haven't done any major work, just general upkeep," he said. They may replace floors in the kitchen/dining areas, as well as updating the bath and the kitchen counters.

"Just checking it out right now," he said. "It's literally five minutes down the road."

Nearby was Shawn Brown of N.A. Mans

Canton Township staffers answer questions on building and inspections during the recent Home Expo.

Building Center of Canowned since 1900. They

do the Canton show most years, the Downriver resi

business 51 years, "It's been excellent, it's been good," he said of business "It's coming back, A lot of

interest early in the year." His customers are looking at bath remodeling. roofing, siding, "a little bit of everything. They're looking to fix up their homes.

Kroll credits a "phenomenal referral program" of word of mouth supplemented with other promotional efforts, in the business' longevity. "Our past customers

That's how my dad built the business." John Wever, Canton building official, was a busy man at the two-day expo. It started as a one-

keep us going," he said.

day event and grew, said Veyer, a Canton resident. Some 135 vendors come. mostly from southeast Michigan. "We've even had them come from as

far as Ohio," Wever said. Some vendors have attended yearly since the start. Customers have projects in mind and can

get answers. They can come out and within a couple hours go through the show," he said. Free admission's also a draw, and vendors pay less than at oth-

er shows. The Home Depot sponsors workshops for kids The Detroit Carpenters Council was outside raffling off benches.

Heights at the Summit. "People aren't buying new Weyer said the expo houses, they're fixing them helps businesses, residents and township officials interested in code enforcement.

"So it's just a win-win It's just very positive," he said. "We're happy to see the new housing starts. he added, noting many others wish to stay put

\$45,000 \$60,000

\$190,000

\$255,000

\$175,000 \$185,000

\$48,000

HOMES SOLD-REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS/WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 28 to Dec. 2, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

1515 Aberdeen St 39474 Cherry Hill Rd 50221 Cherry Hill Rd 41569 Conner Creek Dr 624 Constitution St 1939 Echo Woods Dr 2240 Hogan Way 42135 Hystone St 46510 Killarney Cir \$169,000 \$110,000 \$175,000

47575 Pembroke Dr 44555 Penny Ct 2458 River Woods Dr N 263 S Village Way 42237 Saratoga Cir 6165 Stonetree Dr 454 Sylvan Dr 31704 Bridge St 32601 Windsor St LIVONIA 33086 Allen St 9646 Arcola St 14637 Arden St

17960 Floral St 16472 Golfview St

9794 Houghton St 29168 Jacquelyn D 33182 Martin St 15579 Oak Dr 15672 Oporto St 9434 Patton St 37877 Pickford Dr 4929 Richfield St 37319 Seabrook D 16865 Carriage Wa 417 Dubuar St 16587 Dundalk Ln 50635 Hawtho 17212 Lake View Cir

45529 Pebble Beach Ct 39830 Rockcrest Cir PLYMOUTH

\$21,000 \$58,000

761 Ann St 9956 Fellows Creek Dr 12488 Howland Park Dr 46850 N Territorial Rd \$160,000 \$75,000 \$195,000 14319 Northville Rd \$297,000 \$120,000 375 Roe St 1199 S Sheldon Rd 348 Sheridan St \$305,000 15054 Willowbrook L \$112,000 12822 Brady 14063 Breakfast Dr

anxious for spring, I think.

They seem to be fixing up

When asked about the

recession ending. Brown

said, "I hope so, definitely

Jason Breneman of Trov

vas representing Everdry

Waterproofing of Sterling

up." Breneman said.

Those who buy fixer-

uppers need work done

as well, said Breneman,

usiness since 1977. He

said the recession is "pos-

Todd Kroll of Birming-

ham owns Kroll Construc-

'Coming back'

hose employer's been in

what thev have.

nope so.`

12841 Tecumseh 14371 Wormer WESTLAND 2047 Ackley Ave 31757 Arenac Ct 1637 Ashby St 37577 Barkridge Cir 32714 Benson Dr 32725 Birchwood 5 30603 Burlington 35920 Fernwood S 815 Judith St 35191 Melton St 35535 Pheasant Lr 35123 Stacy St 27700 Trailbrooke Cir

HOMES SOLD-REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS/OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 21-25, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BIRMINGHAM 212 Puritan Ave \$550, 411 S Old Woodward Ave Unit \$550,000

\$175,000 BLOOMFIELD HILLS 4895 Franklin Rd 6702 Cathedral Dr. 5507 Farmers Ln 1847 Golf Ridge Dr 2388 Klingensmith Rd 5495 Shadow Ln COMMERCE TOWNSHIP \$390,000 4700 Botany Gln 5618 Deerwood \$30,000 \$241,000 \$73,000

FARMINGTON

33615 Hillcrest Dr FARMINGTON HILLS 37814 Blossom Ln 34645 Brittany Dr 33449 Colfax Dr 27654 E Echo Viy 34743 Huntington Ct 23040 Montclair St 28400 Rollcrest Rd 29760 Sierra Point Cir 29860 W 12 Mile Rd

\$55,000 30500 Rosemond Dr NOVI 45565 Bristol Cir \$248,000 302 South Lake Dr SOUTH LYON \$775,000 \$57,000 \$90,000 \$125,000

52528 Trailwood Dr 52528 Trailwood Dr SOUTHFIELD \$148,000 27100 Harvard Rd 21403 Chase Dr \$429,000 41691 Magnolia Ct \$90,000 23310 Meadowbrook Rd \$119,000 28402 Idensbrook Ct 18455 Kesh St 17176 Melrose St 30058 Sparkleberry Dr WHITE LAKE 23665 Country Club Dr 54901 Grenelefe Cir W 54907 Grenelefe Cir W 550,000 8835 Cove Ct 9105 Steephollow Dr

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gages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext.

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multi-office southeast age. Seawright specializes in residential and commercial sales and brings

with her a strong background in bank-owned and investment properties. "Shangrila is a wealth of knowledge in residential

el of energy and enthusiasm is a welcome addition to our office and our firm. We are very happy to have her join On Facebook

Western Wayne and Oakland

counties," said broker/own-

Michigan real estate broker-

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JOB COACH NEEDED

Unconventional places to expand your network

Rachel Zunek. CareerBuilder.com writer

Update résumé. Write cover letter. Post résumé online. Apply for jobs. Wait to hear from potential employers.

Such was the process back in the days when job seeking was a simple process -simpler than it is now, anyway. Unfortunately, in today's ultra competitive job market, job seekers can't afford to be ordinary. As a result, they are turning to untraditional methods of job searching. Betsy Richards, director of career resources at Kaplan University, an online university, says it's important for job seekers to realize that they shouldn't be using one method or the other but rather, they should use the two strategies together.

"In today's market, you need to reach out to people who could give you access to new networks and employment communities outside of your field and your normal work group," Richards says. "Even effective job seekers may have exhausted their network and have to expand it. It could mean the difference between a successful and unsuccessful job search.

Many job candidates are finding their job searches are taking longer than expected, Richards says. In fact, 70 percent of job searches last four weeks or longer, according to a recent study by CareerBuilder.com. For these people, traditional strategies won't cut it.

"You have to use every strategy that is at your disposal. Each person has to find tactics that are a fit for them," Richards

Some job seekers, however, are afraid to step out of their comfort zones to do something different to attract an employer's attention. They're afraid cold-calling a company or standing on the street wearing their résumé as a billboard will be too bold and turn employers away.

you won't be taken seriously," Richards says. "Some people walk a fine line between being bold and being obnoxious. For most people, the real issue is that they are shy or uncomfortable. However, some might misconstrue a low-key approach as laziness.

For job seekers who have struck out with the traditional routes to find employment, it's time to take the job search to the streets and use creative ways to get noticed. Here are five nonprofessional places and events to consider as career opportunities, according to Richards:

Sporting events. Schmoozing with fellow alumni in a relaxed atmosphere can be a great career move. "At a [Miami] Dolphins football game just last week, a fellow I was sitting next to struck up a conversation with me and introduced himself. This led to a discussion about what each of us did for a living and he let me know that he was looking for a new job. Little did he know that I advised professionals on their career advancement and could help him plot his strategy," Richards says.

Social networking sites. Each day, millions of people make connections through Facebook MySpace, BrightFuse and LinkedIn. Consider sending out a note to your

"friends" and "connections" about your job search. "Job seekers should reach out to their own network to be sure friends and colleagues know what you are looking for [in a job]," Richards says. "You have to research the people in the network and the

"You can never be too bold. If you are—companies and organizations they are not hold, you won't get the contact and affiliated with. Then, you have to actively different networks is important. ask your contacts to introduce you to the others and follow through."

> 3. Local farmers markets. These community hubs are great places to trade information and chat it up. "You never know who is picking out peaches next to you! The same is true at the grocery store," Richards says. "These are relaxed environments where job seekers can strike up a conversation with another shopper by talking about their favorite types of apples or kicking around ideas for recipes and preparation. All of this can lead up to an introduction and sharing your career status and

Conferences not related to your expertise. For service professionals, attending industry events and seminars that attract experts outside of your traditional industry or peer group is a good way to regenerate your network. There are a lot of career changers out there. One approach for those seeking to move into a new industry is to attend a conference focused on that professional arena," Richards suggests. "To start building this new network, you may attend conferences about topics outside of your field. Building a new network of

contacts and meeting professionals with

Nail salon, hairdresser, local restaurant or the gym . The places we frequent can be an oversight when it comes to the job search. The opportunities to strike up conversations with people you are already familiar with could be a breeding ground for job opportunities, "The person providing services to you at a salon comes in contact with lots of people who share their personal information." Richards says. "Lots of clients will express frustrations and be very open. While you are in the chair, the situation may even inspire a conversation with the person next to you."

Here are four ways Richards says you can pitch yourself to prospective network contacts when in nonprofessional situations:

Prepare an "elevator speech" of three to four sentences that introduces your most marketable skills. Keep it succinct at no more than 20 seconds

When networking, introduce yourself and ask the people what they do for work. After they tell you, you have the opportunity to let them know that you are searching for a job. Explain what type of position fits your particular background. You should ask if they have heard of anything that could be a match

Always carry business cards no matter what the circumstance. Keep them in your wallet, handbag or cardholder at all times.

4. Make sure your résumé and/or bio and cover letter are prepared so you can quickly send out the information if a contact is made.

Rachel Zupek is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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