

Novi News

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2013 • hometownlife.com



Crafts Show set Oct. 19

There will be more than 160 booths offering a variety of gift options at the Novi Athletic Boosters Holiday Kickoff Arts & Crafts Show, including jewelry and accessories, home décor, sculptures, art, clothing, purses and an assortment of holiday gifts and ornaments.

"We are so excited with the response we have received from the artists and crafters wanting to attend our inaugural show," said Jack Kilger, show chair.

The show will take place at Novi High School (24062 Taft Road) from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19. Admission is \$3; free for children under 10 years of age. No strollers are allowed.

Event sponsors include Metro Detroit Buick GMC, Banners Nationwide Garden City, Bigby Coffee-Nowi, Michaels-Nowi and Applebee's-Nowi.

For more information, visit the craft show Facebook page NAB Holiday Kickoff Arts & Craft Show or www.noviathleticboosters.com or email noviathleticboosters@gmail.com.

Novi's student count climbing

District's anticipated increase of 20 jumps 60 more

By Cal Stone
Staff Writer

One of two official student count days – the first Wednesday of October – yielded a large number than expected in Novi and that translates into more money for the district.

According to Steve Barr, the assistant superintendent of business and operations for Novi Community Schools, the district anticipated and budgeted for an increase of 20 students



Barr

over last year's 6,377. Last week's count, however, showed an actual increase of approximately 80. With each student equating to \$8,359 in funding – from the state's per-pupil allowance and two district millages – those extra 60 students not budgeted for will mean approximately \$500,000.

"But we hired more teachers

and paraprofessionals to deal with that and keep our class sizes down to one of the lowest in the county," Barr said.

Novi's K-4 classrooms average 22.5 students, while grades 5-6 average 27. The middle and high schools are between 20 and 30 students per class.

"We're maintaining or reducing class sizes compared to last year," Barr said.

He added that the district hired three more teachers than originally budgeted.

"We're in negotiations now with the teachers," Barr said. "We're working with last year's

contract. We've met quite a few times and we're scheduling more dates."

The district budgeted for a 1-percent pay cut across the board for all groups, equating to around \$500,000 in savings.

Increase factors

Barr attributes a bump of 60 more than the anticipated 20 to housing and the school district's commitment to excellence.

"The housing market has turned very favorably – especially in Novi in the last eight to

See COUNT, Page A2



Baseball Hall of Famer Johnny Bench visited Providence Park Hospital last week and signed a baseball for orthopedic patient Linda Noble.

Baseball Hall of Famer Bench visits Novi

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Years of wear and tear took a toll on Baseball Hall of Famer Johnny Bench's body, but he found relief with a new pair of hips and this was the message he brought last week to Novi's Providence Park Hospital.

"I'm thankful to have this new opportunity," he told attendees at the joint pain seminar held Oct. 4. "Living with pain is not fun."

A former baseball player for the Cincinnati Reds from 1967-

83, Bench is widely regarded as one of the greatest catchers in Major League Baseball history. However, the constant up-and-down motion and long grueling seasons damaged his lower body.

He came to Novi to help educate people on the benefits of joint replacement, by sharing his hip replacement experience with attendees at a joint pain seminar at Providence Park.

When he began experiencing pain in his left hip, Bench knew not to wait until he was sidelined by the pain before seeking

help. "When your time comes, you will know it," he said of the aches that dogged him and his decision to address it. "The pain will get so bad."

He underwent total hip replacement of his right hip in April 2004 after suffering for years from chronic joint pain. And then he elected to undergo total hip replacement of his left hip in 2010.

Stryker implant

In '04, he discussed his options with his surgeon and re-

ceived a Stryker hip implant.

After undergoing the procedure, Bench realized his lifestyle recovery goals and got back to his active life without hip pain. Again, he opted to receive the latest technology available from Stryker. He was the first patient to receive Stryker's Mobile Bearing Hip.

He told the seminar attendees a story being chased by an elephant during a safari in Africa after the surgery. It was then he knew he made the right deci-

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City keeping on top of developments' impact

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

To those Novi residents concerned about an increase in traffic and the toll some new developments may have on the community's infrastructure, city officials say they're on top of it.

Construction and new residential projects are popping up all over Novi. Recently, a condo community plan was introduced to go in near Detroit Catholic Central High School, as well as developments at Dinser and 10 Mile roads, Beck and 10 Mile roads, 12 Mile and Napier roads and the ongoing developments between Novi and South Lyon.

Some Novi residents, like Gary Lounsbury, have expressed concerns about more

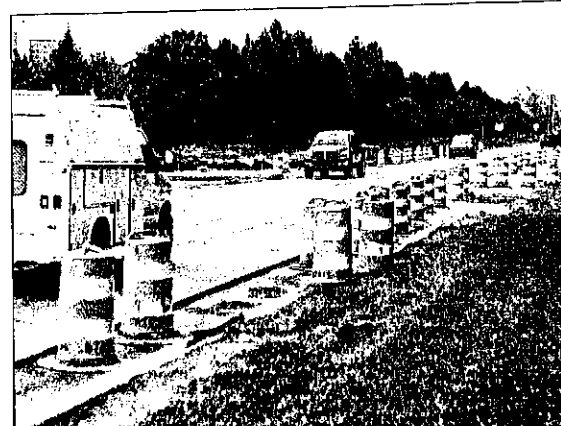
traffic coming with these developments.

"Considering all this development, I would hope major road improvements are being planned," he said.

Lounsbury said he welcomes the new development and community growth, but he was wondering what the city of Novi and Oakland County have planned to address this. He noted that in his opinion, Wixom Road between Grand River Avenue and 10 Mile is way beyond current traffic capacity.

According to Novi Public Services Director Rob Hayes, the issues pertaining to traffic and infrastructure are considered during the approval process and residents can be reas-

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Road work is slowing traffic a bit along northbound Beck Road near 10 Mile Road, as a new housing development is worked on nearby. 10/10/13
HEIDER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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IMPACT

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sured that city planners know of the potential impact while reviewing any plans.

"All private development projects go through an extensive site plan review process to ensure that the impact to existing infrastructure is minimized," he said. "Each site plan gets reviewed by our engineering staff to ensure there are no capacity issues related to water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer infrastructure."

Additionally, he said there's a separate review by the city's traffic engineer with an eye toward safety, as well as capacity.

"If our reviews identify issues of concern, then we make sure the developer includes specific infrastructure improvements in the project to abate that concern," Hayes said.

He added that area roads are being addressed by the Road Commission of Oakland County and will continue to get attention in

"Considering all this development, I would hope major road improvements are being planned."

GARY LOUNSBURY

the near future.

"Although it isn't a capacity improvement, RCOOC is currently repaving Napier between 10 Mile and 12 Mile," Hayes said of current plans. "Additionally, RCOOC has identified the need to make safety improvements to the Napier/10 Mile intersection and a future project is being discussed for that location."

He added widening Beck from two lanes to a five in a section between Eight Mile and Grand River is a long-term project that would increase capacity in the future. Construction would take place in the 2021-25 time frame, depending on the availability of funding.

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COUNT

Continued from Page A1

12 months – and that's helped with growth," Barr said.

He said the district draws families from not only the surrounding area, but out of state and even out of country. "People are moving here for our schools, no

question," he said. "Our reputation as a great school district is helping pick up kids."

Barr said the district used to be able to predict which grades would see fluctuations, but now it's all over the place.

"They come in any grades," he said. "For example, we have 43 more 10th-graders than we had ninth-graders last year. That's very

unusual."

With not that much new development and growth inside the school district in the last couple of years, Barr said the district's reputation is a key factor to the increase in students.

He's curious to see the impact new developments on 10 Mile will have on the student count as families begin moving in next April and

May.

The student count from last Wednesday is 90 percent of the final "blended" count, with the other 10 percent coming from Feb. 12, the second Wednesday of the month. But, Barr said, the student count varies very little between the two Wednesdays.

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Baseball great Johnny Bench spoke at joint pain seminar Oct. 4 at Providence Park Hospital in Novi.

BENCH

Continued from Page A1

sion because he was able to get away safely.

Since then, he has shared his joint replacement experience with attendees at Stryker educational seminars throughout the United States.

For many at the Novi seminar, seeing Bench and hearing his stories was an exciting event. "It was a great talk. I

had never heard him speak before, so this was an exciting opportunity. He's a down-to-earth

guy," said John Popovczak of Novi, who also lived in Cincinnati for more than 20 years. "I'm glad he found some relief. My knees are starting to hurt and I'm getting older, so this is good to know for the future."

Providence Park's Dr. David Markel joined Bench at the seminar to talk about the benefits of modern joint replacement, especially with the

help of Stryker's technology.

Markel specializes in orthopedic surgery, the diagnosis and treatment of disorders that affect bones and their supporting structures. His special areas of interest are joint replacement and hip and knee reconstruction.

He said no matter what, most knee and hip replacements go well, with the ultimate goal being "relieving pain, so patients can live life normally and have a

better quality of life." Markel said Stryker's anatomic design and technology offer patients like Bench the potential for increased stability, range of motion and a greater resistance to wear.

Providence Park's hip and knee replacement program is accredited by the Joint Commission and is also a Blue Distinction Center.

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Art Walk will honor Novi artist David Barr

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Saturday's Art Walk at the Villa Barr Park will be a great opportunity for community members to learn about the works from international artist and Novi resident David Barr, while also enjoying a fall day outdoors at this new community setting.

"This is a unique park that you will not find in many other cities," former Novi mayor and Parks Foundation board member David Landry said. "We have a world renowned artist here in David Barr, so this Art Walk will be a great chance to see and learn about some of his pieces outdoors at this new park setting."

The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department is

"This is a vital and growing community. It's evolving and it's alive and hungry to develop its cultural side. It's gratifying to see this happening."

DAVID BARR
Novi artist

hosting the free event 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12. Attendees will meet in the Novi Civic Center council chambers to enjoy light refreshments and a video about Barr and his pieces. Transportation will be provided to and from the park for this self-guided tour.

Currently in the begin-

ning stages of development, this four-acre park will become a center for creative opportunities in Novi. In coming years, the property is likely to function as an arts education center, play host to cultural programming and serve as a space where people can enjoy many varieties of art. At this time, the grounds are unpaved and in their natural state.

Barr and his wife Beth still live in their home on the property. They both feel honored by the park and this event to showcase it. The idea for the park was presented to the city by Barr several years ago because he wanted to bring to the community an idea for combining art with education in a nature setting.

"We are surprised by this, but it's a positive

development for us to be able to combine both of our loves for art and education," Barr said. "To be acknowledged like this and know the community finds value in art feels good. It's satisfying to see art and education combined this way."

Novi was given, at no extra cost, six sculptures created by Barr to reside at the future art park. Landry said this is an example of the communi-

ty's continuing effort to promote its culture and arts. For Barr, it's an example of what makes Novi a special place.

"This is a vital and growing community," Barr said. "It's evolving and it's alive and hungry to develop its cultural side. It's gratifying to see this happening."

Landry points to Fuest Park as another example of outdoor art adding to Novi's park life.

Barr also has a new book coming out on his life in art, which will explain the specifics about the works at Villa Barr Park. His work deals with themes of nature and science.

The Art Walk has limited space, so call 248-347-0400 for more information.

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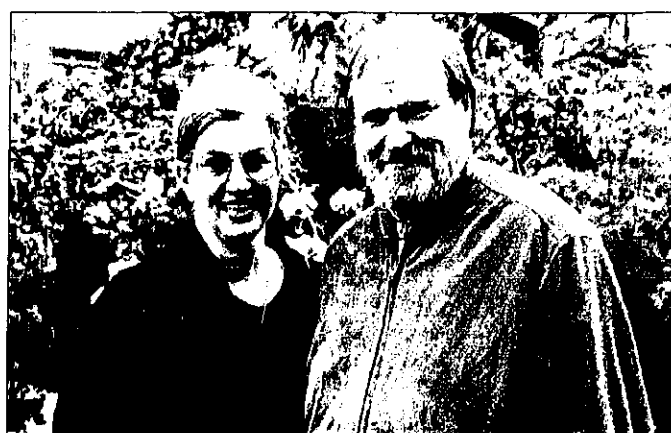
The city of Novi acquired the Napier Road home and grounds of Novi sculpture artist David Barr to use as an art park. Many of his installations are on its spacious grounds. An Art Walk will be held Saturday. JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Beth and David Barr's home/park is located on the east side of Napier Road between Nine and 10 Mile roads.

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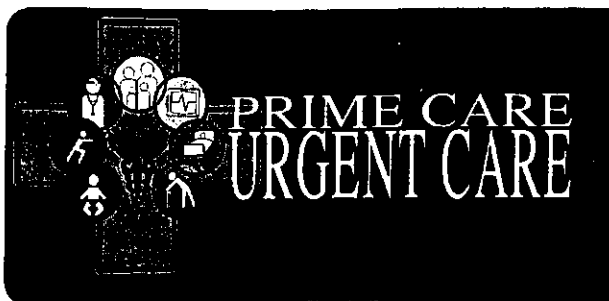
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Multiple measures give a more complete picture of performance

In fourth grade, I took my first standardized test. It was in the cafeteria of my elementary school in Albuquerque, N.M. All of the fourth-grade students at school sat there that day taking the test. We sat at the cafeteria tables in a zig-zag pattern to discourage cheating. It was remarkable.

Since then I have taken scores of standardized tests. I took nationally normed tests, state assessments, college entrance exams, graduate school entrance exams and date certification exams. Most of them were exactly the same.

This week, our students in grades 3-9 have started taking the MEAP test.

Standardized tests have come under increased scrutiny as of late. Some argue that tests are important because



Steve Matthews
SUPER
TALK

they help hold schools, administrators and teachers accountable. Others argue that tests are a poor way to measure growth and achievement and can never capture the complex process of learning.

Let's set tests aside for a moment and ask the question: Why do parents send their children to school?

I believe that parents send their children to school to learn. A parent expects that a teacher and the school will take their child who is a second-grader and get them ready for third grade. A parent expects that the teachers and the school will take the child who is assigned to a U.S. history or

a biology or an English class and, over the course of a semester or a year, move them forward.

In our district, our first two goals focus on this idea that students will learn when they come to school. District goal No. 1 states that our district will work to ensure that all students will make a year's growth in a year's time. District goal No. 2 states that all students will achieve at a high level. This goal focuses on ensuring that all students will be proficient and that we will close achievement gaps.

These two goals focus on each and every child. Regardless of where each child starts in our district, we are committed to moving them forward.

If those indeed are our goals, how do we measure them?

That is where assessments come in. We cannot assess our

goals if we cannot measure growth and achievement. In our district, we have taken an inclusive approach to assessments. We do not want to place all of our eggs into one basket. We want to use a variety of assessments to demonstrate that students are making growth.

We use the NWEA or MAP assessment. We use MEAP and the MMP. We use the EX-PLORE, PLAN and ACT. We use classroom assessments. We use performance assessments.

The goal is to have these various assessments line up to provide a clear picture to parents and to students of the academic progress that is being made. Without assessments, it would be difficult to measure progress. By using multiple measures, we will provide meaningful feedback for teachers, parents and stu-

dents.

The rationale for using multiple measures is to reduce the chance that any one assessment will become the sole measure of a student. Learning is a complex and rigorous process. Using multiple measures gives us a more complete picture of any one child's performance.

If we cannot help students and parents understand an individual student's growth and achievement, then we will have failed to do our job. While learning is complex, those of us in the schools must do our best to ensure that we have the tools necessary to communicate what and how a student is learning in our classrooms and schools.

Steve Matthews is superintendent of Novi Community Schools. He can be reached at 248-449-1204 or smatthews@novi.k12.mi.us.

Fun Run

Stella Tatulli (left) and other Parkview Elementary first-graders race around the field Oct. 2 at the Novi school during its Fun Run. The run and walk and skip event was held as a combination fundraiser for the school and to encourage healthy activities. JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Novi Adult Education open house Oct. 16

Novi Community School District's Adult Education will be hosting an open house for the community 3-6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 16, at Novi Middle School (49000 11 Mile at the corner of Wixom Road).

Bring your curiosity and come and learn about its balanced high school program and what it can do to help students graduate, meet the staff and tour the facilities.

Light refreshments will be served; RSVP to 248-449-1717.

Adult ed registration

Novi Adult Education is taking registration for high school completion. Contact the office at 248-449-1717 to come in and register for classes. Classes are free to those who qualify.

W.L. teacher selected for project

Melody Arabo, a third-grade teacher at Walled Lake's Keith Elementary, has been selected

NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS

W.L.'s Carlson recognized by Artonia

Brandy Carlson, art teacher at Walled Lake's Loon Lake Elementary, has been recognized by Artonia, the world's largest online kids' art museum, for outstanding leadership in the area of arts education.

Arabo and five other Michigan teachers were selected to be part of the Master Teacher Project, an elite national program of some of the nation's best teachers who will share best practices through a single platform, designed to be accessible to all teachers, educators and learning experts across the nation.

In total, 96 teachers selected across the nation will share math and English language arts teaching skills and resources that can serve as a living, breathing document over the course of the year, with the goal of transforming and modernizing teaching and learning.

Their experiences, observations and lesson plans will be uploaded to www.betterlesson.com.

Carlson

Annual Leadership Award is an honor extended to teachers from only 10 schools per state across the United States. Carlson has created a school community deserving of recognition. During the 2012-13 school year, the Loon Lake Elementary gallery showcased 4,430 pieces of artwork. That artwork was visited more than 46,827 times and has received 180 comments from friends and families.

Teens travel from across three continents to attend Novi High

Foreign exchange student program hits record numbers

By Chris Jaccetti
Correspondent

The halls of Novi High School have long been considered diverse, but things were taken to a different level this fall when a growing foreign exchange student program surged from a combined two students over the past two years into a 30-student group this fall. "It is a significantly larger group," counselor Amy Kilgore said. "I have been at the school for eight years and we have always provided the opportunity (and been open to it). It has been in the last four years that it has really taken off."

"We live, learn and work in a global world and we need to know how to communicate cross-culturally. When we do live with people from all around the globe, we are forced to learn how to communicate with and care for one another. Everyone benefits from our exchange program. I would say the greatest beneficiaries are the families that open their homes and host an exchange student for their 10-month stay."

One such family is the Vincents, who are hosting a 17-year-old senior from São Paulo, Brazil, named Fabio Cesar Shiotqui dos Santos. Like many Brazilian soccer players, he is better known as simply Fabio, who arrived Sept. 2 and will be living with the Vincent family until the school year ends in June 2014.

"The week before school started, we received some emails from the school asking for host families," Shona Vincent said. "My son Tanner actually is the one who wanted to host, so we discussed it and decided to give it a try. It seemed

like a natural fit since I was actually an exchange student to Brazil myself when I was 17."

"Of course, that was a very long time ago, before cellphones, Skype, laptops or any computers, etc. The way I communicated with my family back in Ohio was snail mail and about three collect calls home during the whole year. Obviously, technology has changed the way exchange students communicate now. Fabio speaks to his family and friends back in Brazil daily."

Language barrier

With Portuguese being Fabio's primary language, it has given the Vincent family a chance to brush up on their bilingual skills, having lived in Brazil as a family when Tanner was a child.

"Our favorite part has been getting to speak Portuguese once in a while with him," Shona said. "As a family, we lived in Brazil for a couple of years and speak Portuguese. Tanner has been hoping to re-learn it - he was too young when we came back to the U.S. and he has forgotten it - as he is going on a medical mission trip in May to the Amazon River in Brazil. An interesting thing was that (my husband) Mike Vincent went to Brazil a couple of weeks ago for work and he has forgotten it."

During his short layover, he was able to meet Fabio's parents, who live a mere 10 minutes from the airport. "Brazil is one of many countries represented by the Educating program. Others from across three continents hail from Thailand, China, Korea, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, Spain and others throughout Europe."

Because Novi offers several English as a Second Language classes already and the Vincent family knows Portuguese, Fabio had a better transition than most. "I decided to sign up this program in U.S. because it's so important for me to learn English and live in other culture," Fabio said. "I hope to go back to Brazil speaking English fluently, have other vision of society and be more mature."

Culture shock

The cultural differences between Novi and São Paulo have been very noticeable for the exchange student. "I'm loving here, the city, people, host family, school, my friends," Fabio said. "I'm so happy here, I don't want to go home more; this is my dream, is exactly like in the movies I watched in Brazil."

"My favorite thing here was the house, neighborhood, people and school. In Brazil, I lived in an apartment building; in my neighborhood don't have house with yards. Novi High School is bigger than mine in Brazil that also was built. In São Paulo, (we) don't have more space so (we) have many builds there."

"São Paulo is a big city, many things happening at the same time, our lives there is a lot of agitated," he added. "Here is better because it's more calm, don't have traffic than São Paulo because there almost everybody use car for everything. Here is very clean, the air is pure. In São Paulo, (we) have many pollution."

In addition to hanging out with Tanner Vincent and his friends, Fabio has made a few of his own, spending time as a student manager for the boys soccer team. He also got his first taste of collegiate sports, traveling to Columbus for an Ohio State-San Diego State football game just five days after arriving in the U.S.



Brazilian foreign exchange student Fabio Cesar Shiotqui dos Santos takes in his first American collegiate football game Sept. 7, when Ohio State hosted San Diego State. The parents of his host family, the Vincents, are OSU alumni. SHONA VINCENT

He said, although the language barrier was the biggest challenge, the biggest adjustment came with the shift of lunch and dinner meal times from 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. he

was used to in Brazil. Used to a typical lunch of rice, beans and meat, Fabio's new gotten used to sandwiches.

"School is really different here, he likes the school spirit and sports," Shona said. "Our school days are much longer, so that took some getting used to. Also, at home, he does not move from his classroom. The students stay in one room and the teachers move

from classroom to classroom. He was overwhelmed during 'passing' time at Novi High School. He says it's so big and has so many people."

"We live within walking distance from the high school, so Fabio does not ride a bus to school. He got to ride the school bus a couple of times to go to soccer games and was so excited," she added. "They do not have school buses in Brazil and he had only seen them in movies."

With a variety of new experiences in his first month here, Fabio said he is looking forward to the next nine months before he returns to Brazil. With 20 other foreign exchange students in the program, the number of experiences the Novi community will provide the 30 teens for the first time is sure to be bountiful.

Chris Jaccetti is a free-lance writer covering Novi High School sports for the Novi News.

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OfficeMax awards supplies to Orchard Hills

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

A special surprise delivery by OfficeMax of Novi put smiles on the faces of students and staff at Orchard Hills Elementary School.

One teacher in particular was brought to tears by the event.

A crew from the school/office supply store went before the entire school Oct. 1 for a surprise assembly that had them presenting teacher Diane McCurdy with a certificate of appreciation and box full of supplies, priced at \$1,100.



The Novi OfficeMax crew stands behind the \$8,000 in school supplies it donated to Orchard Hills Elementary School. PHOTOS BY STEVE ALEXANDER

"I'm honored to be representative of this great school and staff," McCurdy said. "This is a huge help to us."

After her presentation, the OfficeMax crew then presented the rest of the school staff with \$8,000 worth of supplies for their classrooms. The gym erupted in cheers when this was unveiled.

"We thank OfficeMax for their generosity," Principal Pam Quitiquit said. "This is an acknowledgment of the great teaching staff we have here at Orchard Hills."

Twelve deserving teachers from metro Detroit schools, classified as Title 1 schools in

need, received a visit from OfficeMax to award them with \$1,000 worth of classroom supplies as part of the annual OfficeMax "A Day Made Better" advocacy program to help erase teacher-funded classrooms. Local winners were among 1,000 teachers nationally who were nominated by their principals for their extraordinary efforts in the classroom.

This was the first one

in Novi, so it was a special visit for the local OfficeMax store. Last year, the Novi store went to Walled Lake.

"It's about giving back to the community," store manager Vahn Klink said. "We want to help out where we can and we know this is a need, so...why not?"

Since 2007, "A Day Made Better" and other OfficeMax Goodworks programs have contributed more than \$25 million in grants and supplies to support more than 31,000 teachers and their classrooms. Additionally, through the annual event, OfficeMax has helped its nonprofit partner AdoptAClassroom.org secure funding for more than 100,000 classrooms nationwide.



Diane McCurdy's class explores the box full of donated school supplies.

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NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Birth certificate stolen

A 19-year-old woman had her birth certificate and naturalization papers stolen from the back seat of her vehicle Sept. 21. Her car, parked at Twelve Oaks Mall near Max and Zima's, was reportedly locked with the windows up. When she got back, the windows were down and it was unlocked.

License plate tab stolen

A Novi woman had the tab from her license plate stolen while her car was parked outside her residence Sept. 22. The yellow June 2014 tab was missing when the woman found it after leaving her residence. Only a small piece was left behind. She believes it was taken while at her residence.

Drunken driving

A woman was arrested for drunken driving after putting her vehicle in a ditch Sept. 22. Novi Police were called to the area of Center Street and Galloway Drive by the Northville Department on a report of a possible drunken driver in a car without tires. She was found in the vehicle unconscious while crashed in a ditch on the north side of Byrne Drive.

One tire was flat and another was missing altogether. It left gouge marks on the street. The woman was found with vomit on her and the preliminary breathalyzer test registered a 0.18 percent blood alcohol content. She was also cited for hit and run after a mailbox had been discovered damaged by her vehicle.

Marijuana possession

A Detroit man was arrested for marijuana possession after being stopped for a license suspension Sept. 23.

Novi Police spotted the man on westbound I-96 and ran a plate check, which came back that he had a suspension and arrest warrants. The police report stated the man was a multiple offender for suspensions and this led to his plate being confiscated.

A check of the car revealed a baggie of marijuana inside, which he said was his.

Novi pediatrician sentenced for criminal sexual conduct

By Cal Stone
Staff Writer

Former Novi pediatrician Dr. Jeffrey Lee Dembs was sentenced Oct. 1 to 76 months to six years in prison by Oakland County Circuit Judge Shalina Kumar.

That exceeded the 29- to 57-month guideline. Dembs' plea deal included surrender of his medical license and he also will be on the Sex Offender Registry for the rest of his life.

Dembs had been charged

with one count of first-degree and two counts of second-degree criminal sexual conduct, each with a person younger than 13. He wound up pleading to three counts of CSC 2, according to Jessica Cooper, Oakland County prosecutor.

He was to go to trial Oct. 21, but pleaded to lesser charges, which the family of the victim agreed to so the boy would not have to testify at trial. Dembs became a father figure to the then 11-year-old after his father died

of a brain tumor. At least 70 incidents allegedly occurred at Dembs' West Bloomfield residence, in Las Vegas and on a boat, starting in spring 2009.

"We were prepared to offer testimony that the number was between 70 to 100 incidents," Cooper said. A pediatrician for more than four decades, the doctor worked at My Kid's Doc office in Novi. Although the victim was one of his patients, Cooper said no incidents could be documented

at the business. "We brought a motion for similar acts' evidence alleging that this behavior went back to the '70s," Cooper said. "And we had an out-of-state witness ready to testify."

Troy-based criminal defense attorney Gerry Gleeson said in January that Dembs had taken a voluntary leave of absence from work and maintained his client's innocence.

stone@hometownlife.com
248-437-2011, ext. 237

Number of car-deer crashes decreases across Michigan

By Alan Miller
Gannett Michigan

Across Michigan, the number of encounters between deer and motor vehicles has dropped 20 percent since 2009, but experts aren't sure what is driving that downward trend.

Car-deer crashes fell from 61,486 in 2009 to 48,918 in 2012, a review of crash reports filed with the Michigan State Police shows. Possible reasons for the change range from a smaller deer population to fewer crashes being reported to improved driving habits and/or less driving.

Car-deer crashes were down in much of metro Detroit, although Oakland County took the top spot in the state for the highest number of car-deer crashes in 2012. A total of 1,683 were reported in the county last year, but that was a 3-percent drop from the year before.

Macomb County reported 479 crashes in 2012, down from 543 in 2011. Drops also were recorded in Livingston County (from 719 in 2011 to

669 in 2012) and Washtenaw County (from 1,026 in 2011 to 925 in 2012).

The number of car-deer crashes in Wayne County increased — from 385 in 2011 to 412 in 2012 — bucking the statewide trend.

Brent Rudolph of the state Department of Natural Resources said the decline in crashes supports the supposition that the deer herd in the southern Lower Peninsula is not increasing, as it had been in earlier years.

"We do believe over about the past decade, deer numbers in southern Michigan in general have finally hit a stabilizing point and have even come down over those years," Rudolph said.

The most recent estimate of the Michigan deer herd is from 2011, when state officials put the population at 1.73 million. Those estimates are broken down by region, with an estimated 310,000 deer in the Upper Peninsula, 580,000 in the northern Lower Peninsula and about 840,000 in the southern Lower Peninsula.

Rudolph also suggested rising gas prices and unem-

ployment could influence how and where people are driving, resulting in fewer car-deer crashes.

Vicki Paski, president of the Harry Culp Insurance Agency in Grand Ledge, said she has not noticed a drop in claims through her agency.

"Insurance companies have gotten a little more relaxed on insisting on a police report because they can tell by looking at the car," said Paski, who has been in the insurance business since 1973. "We have noticed that more than we have noticed a lessening of car-deer accidents."

Laurie Connerton of the Insurance Institute of Michigan said the agency has worked to raise awareness of car-deer crashes.

"There are a lot of factors, but I do credit public awareness with a lot of this," Connerton said. "You can't teach animals, so you have to help drivers. We tell them about what time of day, what month and what you can do."

Alan Miller is a reporter for the Lansing State Journal.

Novi police offering civilian pistol safety class Saturday, Nov. 2

The Novi Police Department will be offering a Civilian Pistol Safety Class from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2, at the Novi Police Department Training Center located at 45125 10 Mile Road. The course fulfills both the classroom and shooting requirements to obtain a Michigan Concealed Pistol License.

Registration forms are available online at cityofnovi.org and at the Novi Police Department. Completed registration forms and the \$200 course fee (cash or money order) may be returned to the Novi Police Department. Class size is limited.

After lunch, participants will move to the Novi Firearms Training Center to complete the course. Students must bring their own equipment, including a personal handgun, 100 rounds of ammunition, safety glasses, shooter's ear muffs or ear plugs, a pen or pencil, a baseball cap and wear loose comfortable clothing to participate in the course. Participants must be 21 years old. For more information, visit www.cityofnovi.org or contact Sgt. Michael Warren at mwarren@cityofnovi.org or 248-921-9843.

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IN AND AROUND NOVI

Oct. 10-12: Wixom Library Used Book Sale & Million Penny Drive

What do books and pennies have in common? They both help the Wixom Public Library.

"During the fall used book sale, we'll have thousands of books in quality condition for sale at really good prices," said Jane Kieban, president of the Friends of the Wixom Library. "And we're also hoping with the money they're saving on the great book values, customers will bring in their pennies to contribute to the Million Penny Project."

The Friends is an advocacy group dedicated to raising funds for the library and is excited to bring these two activities together Oct. 9-12.

The Million Penny Project is a year-long effort that began in April, whose goal is to raise \$10,000 for technical equipment such as computers and iPads to benefit library patrons. So far, \$3,000 has been raised via donation boxes and other collection activities. Penny wrappers are available at the library, where donations may also be dropped off during library hours.

The popular fall used book sale features all types of fiction and non-fiction books, multi-media materials, plus games and specially priced items for all ages. A hardcover book is \$1 and pocketbooks are 50 cents; children's books are 50 and 25 cents.

The sale runs:
10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12
(buy a bag for \$5)

The library is located at 49015 Pontiac Trail in Wixom. The library's phone number is 248-624-2512.

Oct. 10-11: Congressman's mobile center in Novi

U.S. Rep. Kerry Benvenuto's Mobile Constituent Service Center will be stationed Oct. 10-11 in Novi at the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services in the Civic Center (45175 W. 10 Mile Road). Get assistance with IRS issues, difficulties with Veterans Administration, problems with Medicare/Medicaid and Social Security, obtaining passports/visas, immigration troubles and more.

Oct. 12: Canoe race

Teams are still needed for the first Logjam Classic Canoe Race on the Rouge River, which will take place Saturday, Oct. 12. The three-mile race takes place in Wayne County's Lower Rouge Parkway in city of Wayne as part of the Rouge-A-Palooza festival.

Teams consist of two paddlers and will be timed. Only 30 boats will be entered in the race.

To register or for more information, contact Kurt Kuban at 734-716-0783 or visit the Rouge-A-Palooza page on Facebook.

Oct. 12: Meet Dr. Ausaf Sayeed

The Michigan Indo-American Democratic Caucus is hosting a dinner reception with Dr. Ausaf Sayeed, consul general of India, Chicago Consulate, Oct. 12 at Mirchi Indian Cuisine, 25750 Novi Road.

Registration begins at 6 p.m. Cost is \$30 per person; \$50 for two; \$250 for table of 10. Make checks payable to the MIADC. A cash bar will be available.

New hours



Ku Wang reads her stall at the Sept. 17 Novi Farmers Market at Furst Park. Wang brought lots of leafy, green vegetables from a farm in the thumb region of Michigan for sale that day. The market, normally open Tuesdays morning, is now open 3-5 p.m. each Tuesday through the end of October. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Seating is limited. For reservations, contact Tej Jamb at 248-539-4081. Sponsorships are also available.

Oct. 12: Fight Leukemia at Emagine

Emagine Theater Novi will host an event for the Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan from 10 a.m. Friday to 10 a.m. Saturday.

The mission of Hollywood Nights Movie Marathon is to create a unique fundraising event that will bring together film enthusiasts and supporters of Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan who would like to enjoy a great movie watching experience.

Participants who raise \$100 will enjoy all-you-can-watch new release movies and old favorites, unlimited popcorn and soda, lunch and dinner Friday, continental breakfast Saturday, choose-your-own raffle, a goodie bag and prizes for the top three fundraisers. Also, you will receive a wristband so you can come and go from the theater as needed.

A Paparazzi Pack includes two movies of your choice for four guests, a goodie bag, meal, unlimited popcorn and soda and more for \$140. Paparazzi Packs are available in two sessions: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or 4:30-10:30 p.m.

To register, visit leukemiaemichigan.org or call Elyse Rafaidus at 248-530-3014.

Oct. 13: Brass band to perform at Fox Run

Five Lakes Silver Band, a British-style brass band based in Royal Oak, will be performing at Novi's Fox Run at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13.

This is an all-volunteer group of elite musicians which has produced four

CDs and is beginning its seventh season. Under the musical direction of Neil Barlow, the band has won two international brass band contests and also most recently won first place in the First Section at the prestigious 2013 North American Brass Band Association's annual competition in Cincinnati.

Oct. 17: Candidates forum at Fox Run

The Fox Run Political Awareness Committee is sponsoring a candidates forum 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17, in the Belmont Clubhouse Performing Arts Center. A reception will follow in the nearby Derby Room.

All three mayoral candidates and six contenders for city council have agreed to participate in this informational event.

Contact Marilyn Ratner at 248-624-0106 for more information.

Oct. 22: Authors LIVE Luncheon!

The public is invited to attend "Authors LIVE Luncheon!" from noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 22, in Fox Run retirement community's Belmont Clubhouse (41000 13 Mile Road) that will feature authors Allison Leotta (*Speak of the Devil*), Teresa Irish (*A Thousand Letters Home*) and Monica Wood (*When We Were the Kennedys*) discussing their books and the creative process.

The cost is \$18 per person. Seating is limited to 200. To RSVP, call Annie Kennedy at 248-688-8889. This event is sponsored by Novi Public Library, Fox Run and Friends of Novi Public Library.

Throughout October: Lady Jane's Haircuts fighting cancer

Detroit Lions middle linebacker Stephen Tulloch is partnering with Lady

Jane's Haircuts for Men and its foundation, Wicked Awesome Wishes, throughout the 2013 NFL season to raise awareness of childhood and breast cancer in metro Detroit. Through the partnership, Tulloch and Lady Jane's will choose a child or family that have been affected by cancer to receive two front row tickets to the every Detroit Lions home game.

The Lady Jane's in Novi is located at 43434 W. Oaks Drive.

Throughout October, the Stephen Tulloch Foundation and Lady Jane's will also take 55 kids and families to each Detroit Lions home game from Angels of Hope and the Pink Fund, honoring families that have been affected by this terrible disease. All attendees receive a ticket, food and Team Tulloch shirts to wear to the game.

If you or someone close to you has been affected by cancer, please visit www.WickedAwesomeWishes.org and submit who you think should win front row ticket giveaway.

Throughout October: Bracelets battling cancer

Brighton Collectibles announces the arrival of its 2013 Power of Pin bracelets — which have been created by its own designers to support breast cancer charities. Through the years, the company has donated \$4,750,000 to worthy organizations that are working toward the cure we all hope will come soon. This year's bracelets will be available through the month of October.

Brighton Collectibles, Twelve Oaks Mall, has chosen The Inflammatory Breast Cancer Foundation as their charity and will be donating a portion of sales — \$10 per bracelet — to the IBC Foundation.

Family hopes to raise funds for foundation supporting substance abuse treatment

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Having a loved one addicted to drugs is tough for any family. But Phil and Dawn Bahr of Livonia took the opportunity to turn the experience into a positive for others.

The couple formed the Ashes to Glory Foundation, a locally based charity offering financial aid for people who require long-term substance abuse treatment.

The idea started several years after the couple's son, Brandon Bahr, was admitted into a program for substance abuse treatment. During the process, Phil Bahr thought about possibly forming a charity to help other families in need.

He received an email shortly after from someone who convinced him it was the right thing to do.

"It wasn't until two years later that this idea struck him," Dawn Bahr said. "Within 24 or 48 hours, he got an email from someone saying, 'I know your heart. I don't know if you've ever thought of this, but there's really a need for something like this.'"

"He felt like God was asking him to do something related to our experience down the line. It was real confirmation that it was something he needed to do."

Now, the family operates the nonprofit foundation and has helped nearly 20 families with financial aid for rehabilitation programs that are long-term and Christian-based.

"I'm amazed what has happened with limited effort," Phil Bahr said. "The need for funding is significantly bigger. We have plenty of people

needing the help."

Ashes to Glory has been able to help fund extended stays for more than 15 people and has received support from people locally, nationally and internationally.

The family has grown closer since Brandon Bahr's time battling his drug addiction. He's now working in Bloomington, Ill.

Even though he's six hours away, he said he's never felt closer to his family and is happy to see them wanting to make a difference.

"I would say that my thought throughout the past three years is (I'm) incredibly proud of my family," he said. "I'm humbled God's blessed me with the family He has."

Benefit concert

One way the Bahrs hope to raise money for the foundation is through a concert scheduled for next weekend. It is co-directed by Scott Bahr, Brandon's brother. Scott Bahr is a member of the Covenant Chamber Choir, a Midwest group consisting of members of the Apostolic Christian Church of America.

The concert is scheduled to take place at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Apostolic Christian Church, located at 29575 Wentworth in Livonia.

The concert is free and will feature a wide range of music, from traditional hymns to spirituals to anthems. A freewill offering will be accepted, with all funds going to benefit Ashes to Glory Foundation.

"It actually came out of a woman in our church," Scott Bahr said, "who came out of the blue and said, 'I want to raise money for Ashes to



Phil and Dawn Bahr talk about the Ashes to Glory Foundation, which they started to help people with funding for a long-term drug rehabilitation program. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

them into one thing," he said.

While the concert isn't scheduled as an annual event, Phil Bahr said if it goes well, it could trigger an annual event in Livonia.

Brandon Bahr will also be there and will share some of his struggles with his addiction. He's happy his brother has been able to bring the concert to town and hopes it brings more attention to his family's foundation.

"I would not miss it for anything," he said.

veselenak@hometownlife.com
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Phil Bahr (right) with his son Scott, co-director of a Midwest-based choir, which is performing Saturday evening at Apostolic Christian Church in Livonia.

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rue21 From the newest trends to their own signature brands, rue21 is the fashion destination for fresh, fun apparel and accessories for girls and guys.

DOTS Discover a great selection of the latest in women's and plus size fashions, clothing and accessories.

maurices maurices stands for fashion, quality, value and customer service with women's clothing and apparel in sizes 1-24.

Dressbarn Inspiring women to look and feel beautiful with high quality women's clothing for casual or special occasions.

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Local woman fights Huntington's as patient, advocate

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Ron Knotts had many of what his daughter Deb Allen knows are the tell-tale signs of Huntington's disease.

His walk was ungainly. She remembers him standing in line in a store and seeing a little drool coming from his mouth. He'd choke on the simplest of foods. But Allen, a Canton resident, figured those were signs of aging, not symptoms of a deadly disease.

Little did she know how wrong she was or how much it would affect her above and beyond losing her father.

Knotts was diagnosed with Huntington's disease in 2007 and died what she called a slow, ugly death in 2010. Now his daughter, diagnosed a year after her father was, fears she faces the same fate. She's pre-symptomatic at the moment, but knows what's coming and she's getting ready.

"I will have symptoms eventually, so I'm doing what I can for my kids," Allen said. "I'm glad I got tested, because it gives me the opportunity to prepare. We never had that chance with my father."

According to the Huntington's Disease Society of America, Huntington's disease is an inherited brain disorder that results in the progressive loss of both mental faculties and physical control. Symptoms usually appear, according to the HDSEA, between ages 30-50 (Allen was diagnosed the day after her 50th birthday), then worsen over a 10- to 25-year time period.

There is no effective treatment or cure and, although medications can relieve some symptoms, research has yet to find a means of slowing the deadly progression of HD.



Deb Allen of Canton with her father Ron Knotts at the 2007 wedding of Allen's daughter. Knotts was diagnosed with Huntington's disease a week later.

"It's like living with Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and ALS all at once. It's a death sentence and it's a really ugly death sentence."

KATHLEEN SAMULSKI national HDSEA advocate

50/50 chance

The HDSEA estimates 1 in every 10,000 Americans has HD and more than 250,000 others are at-risk of having inherited it from a parent. Allen knows the statistics: children have a 50/50 chance of inheriting the disease from a parent.

It's one of the reasons she got tested when she found her dad had it. That, and the fact her daughter was thinking about having a baby.

"I wanted to get tested because my daughter wanted to start a family," Allen said.

Having lost her father to the disease and now certain she's headed down the same path, Allen is at least trying to fight back, becoming a vociferous advocate for awareness of the disease. She has walked in the last two Walk for a Cure events Downriver and, in June 2012, attended her first HDSEA convention in Las Vegas.

This past April, she traveled to Washington, D.C., to advocate for HD patients. She met with the staff of U.S. Rep. Kerry Benito, and Sens. Debbie Stabenow

and Carl Levin. Since her visit, she said, Benito and Stabenow have agreed to co-sponsor the Huntington's Disease Party Act.

A friendly face

It was in Washington she met Kathleen Samulski, a Dearborn resident who works as a technology consultant to Wayne County school districts. Samulski was there as the caregiver to her husband Adam, who is a HD patient.

Adam Samulski, whose mother died of Huntington's at age 52, was Kathleen's high school sweetheart. Kathleen grew up in Livonia and met Adam while the two were students at Stevenson High School. The couple married and had a daughter Kelly, now 10.

But Adam's symptoms began materializing. His memory is affected, as is his behavior, particularly toward Kathleen. The disease causes involuntary movements - "Kelly calls them his 'moves like Jagger,'" Samulski says - that can inflict damage.

Eventually, it got so bad Kathleen made the only decision that made



Kelly, Adam and Kathleen Samulski of Dearborn. Kathleen is the caregiver for Adam, who got Huntington's disease from his mother, who died at age 52. Kelly recently raised some \$5,000 for the annual Walk for a Cure.

sense to her: she was forced to divorce Adam, although she remains his caregiver.

That's the thing about this disease, Kathleen said.

"The cognitive stuff goes first and then the behavioral problems happen," she said. "It's really hard to watch someone you know in the prime of his life deteriorate before your very eyes. I've made it my life's work to understand, and beat, Huntington's disease, because it has screwed up my life."

Kathleen Samulski has been at it a little longer than Allen. Samulski is a national HDSEA advocate and has been trained to go out and talk to various groups about clinical trials. She's also an ambassador to a pharmaceutical company that provides HD medication.

'Secretive disease'

The HDSEA says that while Huntington's was once thought a rare disease, it is now considered one of the more common hereditary diseases. It's not necessarily a contention with which Samulski agrees.

"This is a very secre-

tive disease," she said. "It's not talked about. If you know about HD, usually either you have it or you know someone who has it. People don't know much about it."

Allen met Samulski while both were trying to change that, advocating in Washington for the HD Party Act, a bill that would, among other things, waive the two-year waiting period for Medicare for HD patients. The two have become fast friends and confidants since.

"She has taught me a lot about being an advocate," Allen said. "It's been horrific. My family will never be the same, ever. I stopped having fun. But as I've learned more, I've moved beyond that. I can have fun now."

She was there when her father passed away and she made him a promise, which she's trying to keep now.

"My promise to my father was to do everything in my power to fight," she said. "For us, for everyone out there faced with this on a day-to-day basis and yet can still smile, laugh and hope for a cure."

the disease. Although research is getting closer, Samulski - like Allen - knows the future is likely grim. It makes her angry, which is why she's doing what she can.

"It's like living with Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and ALS all at once," she said. "It's a death sentence and it's a really ugly death sentence."

"In the face of all the horrible stuff," she added, "I decided I was going to do something positive with it."

A final promise

She walked the Walk for a Cure and her daughter Kelly raised more than \$5,000 for the cause. Allen walked the walk, too, and now the two are getting ready for the Michigan HDSEA conference in Lansing in March and the national convention in Louisville, Ky, in June.

Allen is busy herself learning as much as she can about her disease, so that she can prepare her family and prepare herself.

Until then, she's just enjoying her grandchildren, hugging them even closer when it gets hard and the emotions overcome her.

"My grandchildren make me smile, but I still think about what could be in store for them and it hurts," Allen said.

"It's been horrific. My family will never be the same, ever. I stopped having fun. But as I've learned more, I've moved beyond that. I can have fun now."

She was there when her father passed away and she made him a promise, which she's trying to keep now.

"My promise to my father was to do everything in my power to fight," she said. "For us, for everyone out there faced with this on a day-to-day basis and yet can still smile, laugh and hope for a cure."

Princess and Superhero Party set for Oct. 11

The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department will host the second annual Princess and Superhero Party 6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11, at the Novi Civic Center.

The all-ages party will feature a fantasy filled evening of adventure, entertainment, craft building and music. Party-goers may don festive attire, including glass slippers and super hero capes, for the costume contest. Princess Bella will be at the party, along with the Amazing Spiderman, to entertain the crowd and teach princess and superhero techniques and etiquette. Appetizers will be available from California Pizza Kitchen.

Registration is \$4 per child and is going on now at cityofnovi.org. The deadline to register is Friday, Oct. 4. For questions, contact Greg Morris, recreation supervisor, at 248-735-5646 or gmorris@cityofnovi.org.

Travel with Older Adult Services

Looking to explore Michigan and beyond this fall? City of Novi Older Adult Services is offering travel opportunities near and far. Local trips include:

» Witches, Wizard & the Magic of Fall, Friday, Oct. 11, Colon and Marshall; \$80

» Flashdance the Musical, Friday, Oct. 11, The Wharton Center at MSU; \$127

» Johnny Mathis, Thursday, Oct. 17, The Wharton Center at MSU; \$127

» Mysteries of Washtenaw County, Tuesday, Oct. 22, \$89

» Autumn Apple Adventure, Tuesday, Oct. 22, Romeo; \$69

Stay or go?



A number of mallards, green, flap and mingle Sept. 20 around a pond along Haggerty Road in Novi. Most mallards will stick around through Michigan's winter. Others will pass through the state during the next month, on their southern migration. JOHN HEDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

» Halloween Tour, Thursday, Oct. 31, Woodmere Cemetery, Mariner's Church; \$69

Advance planning is the key to a successful trip: reserve your spot today by calling city of Novi Older Adult Services at 248-347-0414 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Trick or Trucks

The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department is excited to host the second annual Trick or Trucks event 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24, at Novi High School for children 3 years of age or older.

Trick or Trucks provides the opportunity of kids to discover some big and exciting vehicles while showcasing their costumes. Touring station to station, attendees will not only enjoy a fire

truck, police vehicles and large construction equipment, they will fill their goody bags with festive treats. The night will also feature a craft from Novi Co-Op Preschool and refreshments will be served.

Registration is \$8 per person and is going on now at cityofnovi.org.

The deadline to register is Tuesday, Oct. 22. In the case of inclement weather, the event will be moved to Oct. 25. Space is available for additional large trucks; contact Greg Morris, recreation supervisor, for more information at 248-735-5646 or gmorris@cityofnovi.org.

To learn more about family-friendly happenings, including the Spooky Skate at the Novi Ice Arena and the Holiday Family Road Rally, visit www.cityofnovi.org.

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- 5:30 - 7 p.m. Health Screenings
- 7 - 8:30 p.m. Guest Speaker -
Lila Lazarus

Motivational speaker Lila Lazarus will inspire you to live healthy by adding adventure to your life! Everyone has a different idea or image of what adventure is. You don't have to be a thrill-seeker to enjoy adventures, all you have to do is take that first step, and just where that will lead you, well no one truly knows... maybe that is why it's called adventure? Join us in learning to live happy!

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

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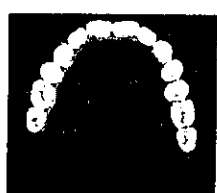
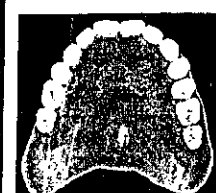
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Still rockin'



Novi Middle School was rockin' Oct. 2, thanks to a concert put on by the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 128. The FOP lodge, located on Beck Road in Wixom, presented legendary '50s and '60s musician Chris Monte, who's 70 years old and performed like he was in his 20s. CURTIS DROGOWILER

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AskFlorine.com
OR by phone: 248.479.1377
Seating is assigned by date ordered, so don't wait to place your reservation!

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LOCAL EVENTS

DEMOCRATS TO MEET

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 15

Location: Novi United Methodist Church, 41671 W. Ten Mile

Details: Barbara Speltzer-Berent, AARP representative, will address a meeting of the Democrats of West Oakland County on the Affordable Care Act.

Meeting free and open to the public. Snacks provided, pizza may be purchased.

Contact: www.mymdems.info

NOVI ADULT EDUCATION OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 3-6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 16

Location: Novi Middle School

Details: Learn about Novi Community Schools' leveled high school program to help students graduate, meet the staff, check out the facilities. Refreshments will be served.

Contact: RSVP at 248-449-1717

CONTROLLING KNEE, HIP JOINT PAIN CLASSES

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Oct. 24

Location: Henry Ford Medical Center, Columbus, 39550 W. 12 Mile Road, Novi

Details: When joint pain begins to affect a patient's life, negative feelings can surface. Fear of losing independence or apprehension about having surgery are two of the most common factors observed. Patients can counteract many of their worries by learning to manage their joint pain and maintain their active lifestyle. Henry Ford Health System's Joint Preservation Program aims to educate patients living with joint pain. A series of upcoming free educational classes will familiarize attendees with ways to slow down the progression of joint pain, focusing primarily on the knee and hip joints, without surgery. Information provided at the classes includes: how the joints work, self-management of joint, medical treatments, physical therapy, exercises to strengthen joints.

15TH ANNUAL COSTUME PARTY BENEFIT

Time/Date: 7:11-30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26

Location: Three Cedars Farm, 7887 Six Mile Road, Northville

Details: Dancin' party, benefits Night Vision prayer ministry. Cost is \$12.

BLOOD DRIVES

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11

Location: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi

Details: If you have recently finished cancer treatment or have been out of treatment for a while and would like to connect with other survivors, please

join this informative discussion and peer support.

Contact: Jenny Bailey at 248-455-5465

FRIENDS OF ISLAND LAKE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. fourth Tuesdays (except December)

Location: Island Lake State Recreation Area headquarters at Kensington and Grand River Avenue

Details: Meetings are open to any interested individual. The group's purpose is to support, enhance, protect and promote the natural, historic, & recreational features of the park and the Huron River by increasing awareness of the park's assets through the education and outreach activities, encouraging and facilitating communication and cooperation between diverse users of the park and its staff, organizing volunteer and stewardship activities and fundraising through contributions and grants to support these initiatives.

Contact: www.islandlakefriends.org

BEREAVEMENT MEETING

Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. third Tuesdays

Location: Novi Civic Center (10 Mile between Taft and Novi roads)

Details: Led by Michael M. Meyer, D. Min., goal is to give each participant an opportunity to share their story.

WOMANHAERT OF NOVI

Time/Date: 7 p.m. fourth Wednesdays

Location: Providence Park Hospital, Novi

Details: For women with concerns about cardiac health, to share information and sisterhood at monthly meetings

Contact: Sharon Mallon, 248-348-5189

SUBURBAN COLLECTION SHOWPLACE

Location: 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi

Phone: 248-349-5600

Web: www.suburbanshowplace.com

See CALENDAR, Page A13

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OUR VIEWS

Supporting school millages right thing to do

Community should know that strong district funding makes for desirable destination

It's always challenging to craft an editorial about millages without bombarding readers with numbers. Too many figures have a way of complicating the issue.

So let's just get them out of the way and then explain why it's crucial that Novi voters approve both school millage "renewals" (that word is key) on the Nov. 5 ballot.

The first is the operating millage—18 mills on businesses and non-homesite properties and 5.49 mills on primary residences. Currently, the Novi Community Schools district receives \$8,359 per student in state funding. If this millage

renewal fails to pass, that funding would drop to \$5,446 per student—or \$17.8 million of the district's \$68.6 million general operating fund.

The second is the public recreation and playground millage, 0.98 mills that will generate about \$1.9 million per year.

Both millages are for 10 years.

That's the nuts and bolts. Now the heart and soul.

These are "renewals," not requests for additional money from taxpayers. Novi residents are currently paying both these millages and will not see increases in their taxes. The

millages will, however, allow Novi schools to maintain current funding.

The recreation millage funds let the community use school district property and facilities—playgrounds, tennis courts, gymnasiums, auditoriums, the high school pool and fields. After-school community rec activities are supported by this millage and the funds make possible rent-free use of the facilities at Novi's elementary, middle and high schools. Community soccer and other rec activities wear and tear the district's fields and these funds help maintain and even upgrade property.

The operating millage goes in the general fund, which pays for programs, special education, athletics, transportation, fine arts, administrators and

teachers (and enables the district to keep class sizes at one of the lowest in Oakland County). Now try to imagine paying for those with 25 percent less money. Obviously, drastic cuts would be needed to balance the budget, which the district is legally obligated to do.

And don't think for one minute that the state will give Novi more money if these millages fail. Since Proposal A, in fact, the exact opposite has been true as all districts have been receiving less and less funding annually.

Parents, you expect your child to be educated and provided with a wide variety of skills to be successful in life: communication, reading, leadership, decision-making, writing, calculating, reasoning and collaboration.

Your school district does this and is consistently noted as one of the best school districts in Michigan.

Parents also expect their children to have a wide spectrum of non-classroom activities, like music, athletics and clubs. Again, this district is up there with the best.

And even residents who don't have children in the local public schools expect them to be of the highest standards, because it's one of the reasons Novi is a desirable place to live.

The Novi Community Schools district holds up its end of the deal daily by providing K-12 education that is as fine as any district's.

Nov. 5, it's your turn to show your support by voting "yes" on both millage renewals.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vote for Gatt

When you go to the polls Nov. 5, I encourage you to vote for Bob Gatt for mayor of Novi. Mayor Gatt has proven his ability to lead our community. He has the respect of his colleagues on city council, the city administration, the business community and the Novi residents. He has been a calm hand on the helm of the city.

Our city government has continued to provide its residents and businesses with excellent services while maintaining fiscal responsibility. Novi is the only city I am aware of that has lowered its millage rate in the last two years!

Most importantly, Bob Gatt cares about Novi. He personally cares about the people who live and operate businesses in our city. That kind of personal concern shows through in our city services, public safety and the basic attitude at city hall.

Bob Gatt gets my vote for mayor. Thank you Bob Gatt, for your willingness to continue to serve our city.

David B. Landry
Novi

Home Tour kudos

As chair of the American Association of University Women Northville-November Branch's 18th annual Home Tour, which took place Saturday, Sept. 21, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the area businesses that supported us in our event. We greatly appreciated the excellent press coverage in the Northville Record and Novi News.

We had four Home Tour sponsors. A special thank you goes to HandyPro Handyman Service, Orin Jewelers and Pure Products International for sponsoring a home and Epiphany Kitchens for sponsoring two homes on the tour this year. In addition, there were six area businesses willing to sell tickets for us: Gardenviews, the Northville Chamber of Commerce, Pear-Aphemia and Starring "The Gallery" in Northville; and Calico Corners and Meadowbrook Art Center in Novi. Special thanks to Mary Starring for letting us hold our free ticket raffles at "The Gallery" during "Girl's Night Out" and First Friday in August and September.

Thanks also to the Northville Country Garden Club for letting us hold a raffle during their Garden Walk in July. We would also like to thank

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 formats. Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday for Thursday's print edition.

Web: www.hometownlife.com

Mail: Letters to the Editor, 101 N. Lafayette St., South Lyon, MI 48178

Email: ctoner@hometownlife.com

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at www.hometownlife.com.

The Appliance Doctor of WAAM radio, Joe Gagnon, for supporting our event.

Thanks to Great Harvest Bread Co. and Long's Plumbing and Kitchen & Bath Design for donating buses for our patrons' use during the Tour. Many local businesses, restaurants and individuals advertised in our Guide booklet and we thank them very much for their support.

We also want to give special thanks to the six homeowners who allowed us to tour their homes and of course, all of you who attended our event and provided us with lots of positive feedback. We were especially pleased with the National Honor Society students from Northville High School who helped host and hostess at the homes this year.

The money we raise at the Home Tour goes to support our many projects in both communities such as scholarships for young women in Northville and Novi High Schools planning on attending college, the transition centers at Schoolcraft College and Oakland Community College, the Mercy Education Project in Detroit, Let's Read Math, a Career Path Day for middle school girls and Kids 4 Afghan Kids. Thank goodness for mostly sunny weather and thanks to all our volunteers for helping me deliver a successful and enjoyable event.

Jane Hecker
Northville

Kowall for or against schools?

At last Thursday's Novi Board of Education meeting, several of Novi Schools media centers

Library tribute



Media specialists (from left, holding plaques) Kim Clark (Novi Meadows), Janis Canady (Deerfield Elementary), Bethany Bratney (Novi High School) and Kim Wesner (Novi Middle School) received legislative tributes from state Sen. Mike Kowall (center) at the Novi School Board's Oct. 3 meeting for being selected as School Libraries in the 21st Century. Visit http://michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/0,2351,7-160-34169_51980--00.html to learn more.

were recognized for achieving exemplary status as 21st Century Libraries.

"SL21" is a standards program to help measure the quality of school library programs within individual K-12 school buildings in Michigan. By setting benchmarks in areas like instruction, technology, and facilities, those libraries that achieve exemplary status are recognized as showing a strong commitment to information literacy and student achievement.

Novi schools are exemplary in many ways, and as a Novi resident and parent of students here, it's gratifying to see our Novi schools team recognized for the work they do for our kids.

Our state senator, Mike Kowall, presented the awards at the meeting and expressed his pride in the Novi Community Schools media centers being in his district. His presentation of the awards seemed ironic to me because over the last few years that I've

been paying attention, Sen. Kowall has consistently voted against supporting our public schools. He voted "yea" to cutting the School Aid Budget in 2012 to pay for a huge corporate tax cut which, along with right to work, was supposed to unleash job creation in Michigan—except that Michigan's unemployment rate has since gone back up to 9.0 percent.

Sen. Kowall also supported the atrocious package of bills in the 2012 lame-duck session that were designed to weaken and defund locally controlled public schools. That set of bills, driven by ALEC (a notorious corporate lobby funded by the Koch brothers and other big business interests), established an unaccountable Education Achievement Authority, allowed seizure of taxpayer-funded school buildings while lifting limits on charter and virtual schools, effectively handing over taxpayer dollars to for-profit Wall Street corporations not accountable to the citizens of Michigan.

Mr. Kowall is probably not in danger of losing his seat in the next Senate election, our district being what it is. However, it is worthwhile as taxpayers, homeowners and parents to keep track of which legislators really do support our outstanding public schools and which really do not.

Kathleen Hood
Novi

Leaders lead

What do Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton and George W. Bush all have in common? They all have negotiated in good faith with the opposing party when they were in office. The only time Barack Obama reaches across the aisle is to hammer the Republicans.

Barack Obama's signature legislation was passed along party lines since the Democrats controlled everything. In fact, it was passed without many of the Democrats actually reading

the legislation. These are the facts, but I don't want to debate the health care law in this letter.

The constitution is a wonderful document that builds in a series of checks and balances so that no one arm of government becomes too powerful. The public reflected this by voting the Republicans the control of the House in 2010, and again in 2012. The Republicans are just following the Constitution and trying to represent the people that elected them to public office.

Barack Obama has publicly stated he is not willing to negotiate with the Republicans on the government shutdown. His has taken steps to make the shutdown as painful to the public as possible. One example is not allowing the state of Arizona and private businesses to fund the operation of the Grand Canyon. He sounds more like a child threatening to hold his breath if he doesn't get his way.

Barack Obama was only successful in getting his legislation passed in the first two years of his term when his party controlled everything or by executive order. He was elected because he was going to be different type of president and unite all sides. He has not followed through on his promise to unite people in Washington. In fact, he has been responsible for a greater divide by his my-way-or-the-highway attitude.

The president needs to stop throwing a temper tantrum, because he is not getting his way, and negotiate with the opposing party to find some common ground. After all, he is the president of the greatest country in the world and he should act accordingly.

Edmund P. Shaheen
Novi

COMMUNITY VOICE

How do you feel about the federal government shutdown?

This question was asked at the Novi Public Library.



"It's too bad to see the parks closed. And I do have some friends who work for the government, so it's been tough on them. The government needs to get their act together."



"I feel they are doing the right thing. The debt is climbing and no one is paying attention."



"It's very stupid and totally unnecessary. It's silly to hold Obamacare hostage with an unrelated subject."



"Essentially, it sucks. They don't cooperate with each other. And the Obamacare law was passed, but now we're talking about it with funding."

Local couple hopes story 'rings' a bell after 40 years

By Beth Jachman
Staff Writer

Mike and Patty LaPradd will be married 40 years in March and they want to give back the wedding and engagement rings they purchased from a Farmington or Farmington Hills family. No, they are not splitting up—they would just like to give the rings back to the original owners.

The tale begins in 1973 as a story of young love, when Patty was a senior at Livonia's Bentley High School. She met and fell in love with Mike LaPradd, who was 21 at the time and had just moved in across the street with his family.

"We met as neighbors," she said. Both families lived on Hoy Street off of Five Mile between Merriman and Ypsilanti in Livonia.

"His family came from Detroit. I went to school with his brothers," Patty said. The brothers were her age, but Mike was older and out of school.

They decided to marry while she was still finishing high school, against the wishes of their parents. They didn't have much money for rings, but they found an ad in the *Livonia Observer*. It read, "Wedding ring set for sale. 477-1658."

"My mother found the ad in the paper," Mike LaPradd said. "We were young and in love and had no money, obviously. We didn't have two nickels to rub together."

The rings
In answering the ad, Mike and Patty went together to a home in Farmington or Farmington Hills after all these years, they are not sure which community it was. Patty waited outside in the car, while Mike went in to buy the rings.

It was said that the wife was sick, they think with cancer, and the couple had horses, as the area was more rural at the time, Patty said. "She was ill and they wanted to feed the horses. The bills were piling up," Patty said. They were the reason they gave for selling the rings. Mike bought them for \$100. That was Feb. 4, 1974.

Fast forward nearly 40 years. After an apartment as newlyweds in Livonia, they bought their first house in Plymouth, then moved to Westland and later to Garden City, before moving to Howell 17 years ago. They have one son, age 35, who suffered a closed-head injury in an auto accident and is now living in a group home.

Mike retired from the GM Powertrain plant in Ypsilanti after 33 years as a machinist. He now sells cars at a dealership in Brighton. Patty worked as a cashier for Kroger in Hartland for 20 years, but has been sidelined with rheumatoid arthritis in recent months.

He thinks the house was on two or three acres with two horses in a fenced off area and that it was a small bungalow-type home.

He recalls the husband and wife as older, maybe in their 50s or early 60s. They don't know the couple's names or if they had children.

Now they are wondering if anyone else might remember the couple.



Mike and Patty LaPradd are nearing their 40th wedding anniversary.



Patty and Mike LaPradd on their wedding day.

maybe, just maybe, they could track them down. The original rings sit in a jewelry box most of the time now, Patty said.

Search begins

The LaPradds went to the Livonia Civic Center Library and searched through the archive of *Livonia Observers* to find the ad for the rings. They found it in the Jan. 18, 1974, paper. But they called that old phone number and found it is disconnected. They have tried through the phone company to track what address that phone number was attached to, but have had no luck, Patty said.

"It was the Farmington-Farmington Hills area. That's all I can remember. I can't remember the name of the street," Mike said.

He thinks the house was on two or three acres with two horses in a fenced off area and that it was a small bungalow-type home.

He recalls the husband and wife as older, maybe in their 50s or early 60s. They don't know the couple's names or if they had children.

Now they are wondering if anyone else might remember the couple.

give the rings back. "I want to let everyone know how much those rings meant to me at the time," she said. "I have a wonderful husband and I'll never forget how I felt when he gave me those rings."

"They gave me 40 good years," she added. "Everyone thought we were crazy then and here we are 40 years later."

"We thought if we could possibly find a family member or something, they would appreciate it," Mike said.

"I'm hoping the husband is still alive to give this set back," Patty said. "I would love to have at least one of them alive still."

"It's very important to both of us," Mike said. Anyone with information about that couple from 40 years ago can call Mike's cellphone at 313-300-8201 and leave a message.

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Gov. Snyder signs legislation to upgrade immunization reporting

Legislation signed Oct. 1 by Gov. Rick Snyder updates the grade at which Michigan students must submit a certificate of immunization to schools. The new laws now require students to submit the certificate upon entering seventh grade instead of sixth grade.

The change will better accommodate the age at which most students receive vaccinations and will allow school districts more time to alert parents about needing vaccinations, as well as for parents and health care providers to schedule them.

In 2010, vaccinations for tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis and me-

ningococcal vaccines were added to the existing Michigan school rules and required for all students entering sixth grade if they were at least 11 years of age at the time they entered sixth grade.

However, some sixth-grade students enter the program at 10 years of age, before the vaccines are routinely recommended. Since vaccine reporting is done at the beginning of the school year and sorted by grade level, it has proved difficult for schools to keep track of students who enter the program at 10 years of age and those who enter at 11.

This change will help ensure students are

properly vaccinated by giving schools more time to notify parents and families and health care providers more flexibility to schedule vaccination appointments," Snyder said.

Senate Bills 237, 238 and 239 amend the Public Health Code, the Revised School Code and the State School Aid Act, respectively, requiring the submission of a certificate of immunization upon enrolling in seventh grade.

SB 237, sponsored by state Sen. Jim Marleau, is now Public Act 120 of 2013; SB 238, sponsored by state Sen. Rebekah Warren, is now PA 121; and SB 239, sponsored by state Sen. Judy Emmons, is now PA 122.

Clergyman pens book on love, marriage

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

The Rev. George Shalhoub, founder of the Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of St. Mary in Livonia, has written a book to help couples discover the clues to a happy life together.

The Mystery of Love & Marriage is a 200-page "road map for anyone looking to be in a relationship" based on Shalhoub's 42 years of marriage to wife Nounah, four decades of counseling couples as a priest and 25 years of teaching about marriage and family at Madonna University in Livonia.

"People think happiness lies with money or getting your own way or winning an argument," Shalhoub said. "The reality is happiness is the reward that comes our way when we utilize our God-given gifts such as compassion, forgiveness, generosity."

Shalhoub, who uses the book as a textbook for his class, said people are disappointed to hear that marriage is hard work. "A common misconception about marriage is that love can solve all your problems," he said.

In reality, love carries with it a high price, he said. It requires being patient when you have no more patience, enduring when the mood is heavy, forgiving yet one more time.

"The problem is most often not in your spouse; it's in oneself, one's attitude, perception," he said.

Forgiveness is No. 1 principle

Forgiveness, he said, "is the No. 1 principle for a long and happy marriage." He gives tips on



The Rev. George Shalhoub has written a book.



"The Mystery of Love & Marriage" is a 200-page "road map for anyone looking to be in a relationship," according to the Rev. George Shalhoub.

how to become more forgiving, not just for the sake of the marriage, but for the long-range benefit of the one doing the forgiving.

Forgiveness replaces negative thoughts and feelings with peace, happiness and healing, he writes.

Another misconception is that marriage shouldn't change us. "Yet marriage changes your entire life, like a hurricane," he said. "If you have a good foundation, you remain standing." That good foundation

starts with loving ourselves by realizing we were created in God's image, he said. "We are more to God than the moon, the sky and the mountains and people mesmerize about nature, but only you and I are a copy of that beauty (God's image). This is where self-respect is born."

Each chapter of the book ends with points to ponder.

The book is Shalhoub's first, other than a history he wrote about the Basilica of St. Mary, which he founded with a handful of parishioners in 1972.

Shalhoub has a bachelor of science degree from Eastern Michigan University in sociology and psychology, a master's degree in theological studies from St. John's Provincial Seminary and a doctorate in pastoral counseling from the Graduate Theological Foundation.

The book is available at www.StMaryPress.com, amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, amazonkindle and nook. It can also be ordered by calling 734-743-1041.

MIDWEST ROUNDUP BRINGS CLOWNS TO AREA

By Beth Jachman
Staff Writer

There's an event where no one is going to tell you to quit clowning around.

It is the annual Midwest Roundup of the Midwest Clown Association. Where else can you take classes called "Throwing up with Jewels," "Stupid Stuff for Funny People," and "Intermediate Balloon Twisting"? This year's event, the 40th annual, was held last week at the Holiday Inn in Livonia.

Hosted by Clowns Around Redford, the annual Midwest Clown Roundup brought about 160 people to Livonia for the week to enjoy everything clowns. It was the first time Clowns Around Redford had hosted the event, which is hosted somewhere in the Midwest each year.

"For a lot of people it's old home week," said Jim Caffrey, Midwest Clown president or "chief joey" as he's called in clown lingo. Caffrey, who is "Jay J" the clown, traveled from Colton, Ill., to be at the roundup.

Caffrey said many feel their fellow clowns are like an extension of their family. "Look at what a clown is—a person really willing to give of themselves freely," he said.

Clowns also attend the convention to enter competitions in makeup, group and single skits, and parade ability to earn points toward membership in the Midwest Clown Hall of Fame.

For Janice and Dan Priest, a lovely and Derby, clowning is a way of life and how they make their living. Owners of 2clowns.com based Downriver, they helped set up educators and dealers for the roundup.

Clowns compete
Competitions help clowns push themselves to be better. Dan Priest said. The Priests entered the makeup competitions, which include cheek, full face and creative.

He used John Herrmann, 9, of Livonia as a model. Herrmann, who is home schooled, had his entire face painted to look like a wolf. Priest pointed out the contouring and shading done with makeup as well as speckles to make the boy's face look more furry.

Her face painted as a witch—green with a wicked mouth—Amy Ansara of Northville also attended the event as a model. "I actually know Dan (Priest). He asked me if he could borrow my face,"



Nancy Opatich of Livonia, professionally known as Bubbles, glues on her nose while presenting at a makeup workshop.



Peggy Walker, a.k.a. Pepper, from Kenosha, Wis., learns how to make a balloon weave during a workshop presented by Tim Thurmond, who holds a Guinness Book record for inflating balloons by mouth.



John Winslow of Southgate is known as Rusty Bathwater. He's heading for a workshop on clown makeup. Rusty toured with Ringling Brothers Circus. Photos by Bill Bresler | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

she said as she waited to go in for the makeup judging.

She runs a business called AmyZingfaces.com which includes face painting and party planning and found herself inspired at the roundup. "Everybody is very friendly and creative," she said.

"I love painting faces—it's so therapeutic," she said.

Mary Ann Lund of Milwaukee, a retired radiation therapist who is also a member of Clowns of Waukegan, said she has been a clown since 2000. "A friend of mine dragged me. I know you'd be a great clown," Lund said her friend told her.

Miss Sparkles, aka Corinne Smith of Dryden, entered the creative portion of the makeup competition meaning anything can be used such as head pieces, balloons, sparkles and sequins. The roundup offers the chance to bounce ideas off of other people, she said.

Bubbles the clown, aka Nancy Opatich of Livonia, who is president of Clowns Around Redford, taught one of the makeup classes during the roundup. An organizer of the event, Opatich has been a clown for 25 years and is in the Midwest Clown Hall of Fame. She was inspired by her dad who was a Shriner clown.

She loves helping people forget their stresses through her work as a clown, she said.

Clown culture

David "Silly Billy" Kaye, John "Rusty Bathwater" Winslow, and J.T. "Bubba" Sykes are well-known and attract people to come to the convention, Opatich said.

Young people are also involved in the roundup. Known as Junior Joys, they learn the art of clowning from many angles, Dan Priest said.

Other classes included "Parade ability," "Faerie Faces," "Fearsome Faces" and "Towel-gami."

Not everyone who attends is a clown; some just offer their expertise. John Pullum of Redford taught Towel-gami, the art of twisting towels into animals or shapes without the use of pins or needles. "There are places clowns can't do balloons such as hospitals," he said. "But they have towels."

Many of the clowns volunteer at hospitals and nursing homes, according to Dan Priest. Belonging to a clown association such as Clowns Around Redford is kind of like the Kiwanis for clowns, he said.

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In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law, attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Allonzi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Bieske and Allonzi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Hagerty Road just north of I-275. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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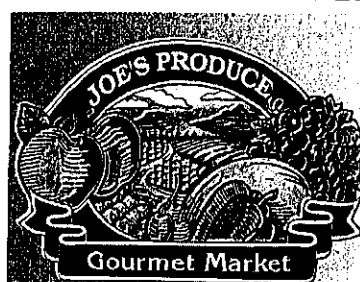
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SECTION B (NN)
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SPORTS

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'Cats slip by Stevenson



Novi junior Jalen Ward hurdles Livonia Stevenson junior C.J. Weiss. CHRIS JACKETT

Novi pulls out 15-13 homecoming victory after 40-minute lightning delay against Spartans

By Chris Jackett
 Correspondent

ON TAP

Despite a 40-minute lightning delay that cleared out Wildcat Stadium, Novi's football team had a happy homecoming result last Friday as it edged Livonia Stevenson, 15-13.

With the benefit of Stevenson (2-4, 1-3 KLA Central) turning the ball over five times, including fumbles during its first two plays from scrimmage, the Wildcats (4-2, 3-1 Central) quickly found themselves ahead in what would become a close game.

The scoring began when senior Mark Ryan recovered a Spartans fumble at the Stevenson 35-yard line 88 seconds into the game, setting up a 16-yard touchdown run by junior Jalen Ward (132 yards on 30 runs) just four plays later.

With senior Bryan Klosterman's point-after attempt sailing wide left, the Wildcats held an early 6-0 lead.

"Jalen is a hard runner and we tried to get the mixture of backs in tonight and whoever was running hard is the guy we keep feeding it to," Novi coach Jeff Burnside said.

"Jalen was running hard, so we kept feeding him."

Klosterman made up for it 68 seconds into the second quarter, when he nailed a 34-yard field goal to put the 'Cats ahead 9-0.

The Spartans cut the deficit to 9-7 with 5:34 left in the first half, when junior C.J. Weiss (3-for-7 passing, 55 yards, one interception, 26 yards on 12 runs) threw a 22-yard lob to senior Billy Bonanno in the back left corner of the end zone and senior Chris Bladick nailed the PAT.

Stevenson nearly took the lead with 22.6 seconds left in

Novi (4-2, 3-1 KLA Central) will host Northville (5-1, 4-0 Central) at 7 p.m. Friday in an attempt to reclaim the Baseline Jug after a four-year dry spell and also lay claim to a share of the Central Division title. The Mustangs are coming off a 48-30 win over South Lyon East (0-6, 0-4 Central) and defeated Novi 21-14 in overtime last year.

"You've got to bring it every single down," Novi coach Jeff Burnside said. "It would be nice to get a piece of the division and get the jug. We constantly talk about how important Northville is. I don't think we'll have to worry too much about intensity at practice this week."

The 'Cats then hit the road for a KLA Kensington Conference crossover at 7 p.m. Oct. 18 at Canton (5-0, 3-0 South), Plymouth (4-1, 2-1 South) or Livonia Franklin (3-2, 2-1 South), depending on each team's finish.

Another scare for the Wildcats came 3:09 into the third quarter, when Stevenson junior Jack Ferguson grabbed a pass along the right sideline from senior J.T. McCallion (1-for-1 passing, 29 yards) and carried it for an 85-yard touchdown, but the play was called back to the Spartans' 7-yard line as Ferguson was penalized for offensive pass interference.

With 4:24 left in the third quarter, one official claimed he saw lightning to the west at 8:41 p.m., resulting in the field, stands and stadium being cleared until the game resumed at about 9:20 p.m.

"I commend the fans that stayed," Burnside said. "That crowd is awesome and our kids feed off that. We talked to our

See FOOTBALL, Page B4

Novi harriers ninth in county

No. 2-ranked Mustangs run past rival Wildcats

By Chris Jackett
 Correspondent

It's always tough when your Baseline rivals are ranked No. 2 in Division 1. Some squads might pack it in early, but that wasn't the case for Novi's boys cross country team.

The Wildcats (2-2) faced No. 2 Northville (3-0) Oct. 1 at Cass Benton. Despite Novi's efforts, the Mustangs won, 22-35, taking four of the top five spots.

"Northville is a solid top 10 team in the state," Novi coach Robert Smith said. "I am very proud of the way we ran. We were in the race the whole

ON TAP

Novi's boys cross country team (2-2) was set to host Plymouth Salem (1-2) Tuesday at Cass Benton before the KLA Kensington Conference meet at 4:15 p.m. Oct. 17 at Huron Meadows.

way and we never gave up. Twenty-six of our athletes set a course-best time for the year. Although we lost, the times were fast for both teams. Northville had to bring their 'A' game."

Brian Barnes led the Wildcats by finishing second in 16 minutes, 30 seconds, surging forward late in the race.

"At one point, Brian was in fifth," Smith said. "But over the last mile of the race, he pushed the pace and caught everyone but Nick Noles of

Northville. This was another strong finish for Brian and another (personal record), as well."

Barnes was followed by teammates Joost Platinick (sixth in 17:22), Sahisnu Malapati (seventh in 17:34), Cameron Misko (eighth in 17:39) and Nate Hall (12th in 17:45), who all set personal course records.

Other highlights included a career-best 18:18 by senior David Gardner and varsity-caliber runs by freshman John Landy (17th in 18:07) and sophomore Scott Beaton (19th in 18:12), the latter two who finished out Novi's top seven.

"That is considered varsity," Smith said. "Today we had one freshman, two sopho-

See HARRIERS, Page B4



The Novi boys cross country team takes off as it goes head-to-head in its dual meet against second-ranked Northville. JOHN HEDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Novi's Shashank Chitta smashes a return. JOHN HEDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wildcats netters capture conference championship

Novi battles to defeat No. 9 Bloomfield Hills

By Chris Jackett
 Correspondent

Two more up and two more down as Novi's boys tennis team wrapped up dual meet competition last week, improving to 10-1 on the season.

Ranked No. 3 in Division 1 and holding on to the KLA Central Division crown, the Wildcats won the Kensington Conference title Oct. 1 against Plymouth (7-2, 5-0 South) 9-0 and then defeated No. 9 Bloomfield Hills 7-1 on Oct. 3.

"They're a strong team," Novi coach Jim Hanson said of the Black Hawks. "Their dou-

ON TAP

Novi's boys tennis team (10-1, 5-0 KLA Central) was set to wrap up the KLA Tournament finals Tuesday before hosting regionals at 8 a.m. Friday. If the Wildcats can advance past the likes of Northville, Detroit Catholic Central, Brighton, Howell, Hartland, White Lake Lake school, they have a trip to Midland for the Division 1 state meet Oct. 18-19.

bles played us extremely tough. We won the match, but the good thing is that we were tested at all the doubles and ended up winning three of the four.

See TENNIS, Page B4

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Wildcats test No. 10 Salem

Novi downs W.L. Western to celebrate help senior night

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

The final week of KLA Central Division play wrapped up last week for Novi's boys soccer team and, although the results were not ideal, the contests were close and helped prepare the Wildcats for next week's state tourney.

Novi (8-5-3, 4-4-2 KLA Central) started with a tough road test Oct. 1 at No. 10-ranked Plymouth Salem (11-5, 7-3-2 Central), which would wind up repeating as the Central Division champion by the end of the week.

Looking for revenge for a 2-1 loss earlier in the season, the Wildcats came out hot in the first 20 minutes before play evened out in the final 20 minutes of the first half. Tied 0-0 at half-time, the Cats took the upper hand 15 minutes into the second half, when junior Nick Oakley took a pass from junior Kent Maidens, beat two defenders and fired a 25-yard blast into the upper left corner of the goal.

However, the Rocks found the equalizer with 10 minutes left and the game would end at 1-1.

An Oct. 3 home contest against Livonia Stevenson (8-6-2, 5-3-2 Central) was also close-contested. Despite outshooting the Spartans, 8-2, Stevenson made its two shots count and claimed a 1-0

ON TAP

Novi (8-5-3, 4-4-2 KLA Central) was set to visit Livonia Franklin (6-6-1, 5-4-1 South) Monday in a Kensington Conference cross-over for seventh place before facing either Milford (7-8-1, 4-6-0 West) or White Lake Lakeland (6-8-1, 3-6-1 North) for 13th or 15th in the KLA Central. That tied into a district quarterfinal Monday at Farmington (2-12-2), where the winner advances to a Wednesday semifinal at Northville against the winner of No. 15 Northville (12-5-2, 7-3-0 Central) and North Farmington (6-4-3).

All kickoffs are at 7 p.m. victory to wrap up division play.

With a senior night contest Saturday, the Wildcats started their seniors for both halves and ended up coming away with a 4-0 victory against Walled Lake Western (6-6-0, 6-4-0 North). Seniors Gabrielle DeFrancisco, Parker Sutton, Amariyah Chahal, Jay Kim, Steve Caruso and Seiya Ogino started alongside junior stars Oakley, Don Nakashima, Matt Kiura and goalkeeper Tommy McMaster in handily dismantling the Warriors.

"We would start all of our seniors both halves and they did an excellent job," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said.

Oakley scored off a Kim corner kick and junior Ian Hanley scored on a penalty kick to put the Wildcats ahead 2-0 at half-time, before Caruso set Kim up for a goal and Nakashima with a well-placed corner kick to give Novi the 4-0 victory.

Bested by 'Stangs



Novi's girls' varsity swim team (2-2) fell 15-50 to No. 2-ranked Northville (3-0) Oct. 1 at Cass Benton. The Wildcats will hit the course again Oct. 8 against Plymouth Salem (3-1) at Cass Benton and Oct. 17 at the KLA Kensington Conference meet. JOHN HEIDER (STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

Mustangs swim past rival Wildcats

Northville takes first in eight of 12 events

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

It was a Baseline rivalry match-up, but things weren't adding up for Novi's girls swim and dive team Oct. 3 as it visited Northville.

The Wildcats (1-3, 0-1 KLA Central) were defeated 116-70 by the Mustangs (5-0, 2-0 Central). Northville won eight of 12 events and took two of the top three spots in nine of 12 events.

Novi's two best show-

ON TAP

Novi's girls swim and dive team (1-3, 0-1 KLA Central) was set Tuesday to visit Birmingham Groves and then Plymouth Salem (0-1-1, 0-1-1 Central) at 6:30 p.m. today before hosting Livonia Stevenson (3-0, 1-0 Central) at 6 p.m. Oct. 17.

ings came in the 100-yard backstroke and the 1-meter dive, both of which the Wildcats finished with a 1-2 punch.

Jaymie Ziegler won the diving event with 206.85 points, followed by Alyssa Stark's 158.71 points.

In the 100 backstroke, Karen Xu won in 1:07.24, followed by teammate Ziyang Huang's 1:07.29.

Novi also got a win in

the 100 freestyle from Alexandra Cortez in 56.19 seconds, plus a 2-3 combo in the 50 freestyle from Ava Bianchi (second in 27.02 seconds) and Dana Kilponen (third in 27.05).

Novi's other big success came in the 200 free relay, where Cortez, Emily Mayoras, Dana Kilponen and Bianchi teamed to win in 1:45.68.

From there, it was all Mustangs. Northville took both first and second in each of the 200 medley relay and 400 free relay. It also swept the top three in both the 100 butterfly and 500 free.

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer covering Novi High School sports for the Novi News.

Wildcats girls golf team revs up for regionals

Novi defeats both Canton, Churchill

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

In its final two dual meets of the season, the Novi's girls golf team looked sharp, knocking off two of the top three teams in the rival division within the KLA Kensington Conference.

Following a three-way tie for the KLA Central Division title, the Wildcats (7-1, 4-1 Central) first beat Canton (5-0

ON TAP

Novi's girls golfers (7-1, 4-1 Central) were set to compete in the KLA Kensington Conference at host Walled Lake Central's Edgewood course earlier this week before heading into regionals at 9 a.m. today at Dunham Hills. The top regional teams advance to the state finals Oct. 18 at Michigan State University's Forest Akers East course.

South) 169-191 Oct. 1 at Fox Hills before defeating Livonia Churchill (3-2 South) 185-249 at Catalina.

The highlight of the two meets was junior Katelyn Henry, who had a career low score of 37 against Canton, which not only made her the match medalist, but also

tied for second best in Novi school history.

She got some help defeating the Chiefs from sophomore Maya Grandstaff (43), senior Lauren Cojeli (44), junior Madison Kroetsch (45) and freshman Lauren Henry (49).

Against Churchill, the

Wildcats picked up the win with Cojeli as the match medalist with a score of 42. She was assisted by Kroetsch's 45, freshman Alexa Hatz's 47, junior Olivia Ghanam's season low 51, sophomore Marissa Catter's 51 and junior Stacey Sirabian's 60.

In both cases, the Wildcats' junior varsity squad picked up victories, as well.

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer covering Novi High School sports for the Novi News.

SPORTS BRIEFS

'Cats open hoop tryouts

Open basketball tryouts for fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade boys will be held 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 14, and Wednesday, Oct. 16, at Novi Middle School.

You must attend at least one tryout session to be eligible. Please arrive 15 minutes early and have a parent or guardian present.

For more information, contact Billy Downs at 248-767-0034 or visit www.novibasketball.com.

Dig Pink Match today

There will be a lot less orange and black than fans are used to on the court when the Northville volleyball team

heads to Novi for a showdown against its Central Division rival today.

The Mustangs and the Wildcats will be showcasing their support for the fight against breast cancer in the first-ever Dig Pink Match.

"To support the fight against breast cancer, the players will be wearing Dig Pink jerseys, the gym will be decorated in pink and the refs will even be using pink whistles," Northville coach Amanda Yaklin said.

Fans can participate, too, by coming to the game, as all proceeds will be donated to the fight against breast cancer.

Additionally, Yaklin said there will be raffle tickets for baskets that are being made by the two teams, as well as a drive to have everyone

who attends the game wear pink to show unified support from the fans of both teams.

Dig Pink shirts can be ordered from the Northville volleyball website at www.northvillevolleyball.com and by visiting the "Dig Pink Match" link.

New race event

Alan Whitehead of the Kona Running Co. and Nas Dastmalchi of RRM have established a new race event called the Novi Half Marathon. The inaugural event, set for Sunday, May 4, 2014, will offer a half marathon, 10K, 5K and one-mile, with the half marathon course through Novi, South Lyon and Wixom.

The half marathon, 10K and 5K courses are flat and fast with scenic

views of Island Lake. The mile course is on the South Lyon East High School track and all four distance events will finish on the 50-yard line of the football field. All the race events will start and finish at the high school.

The plan is to donate funds to the Karmanos Cancer Institute and to the surrounding communities. Online registration is now open and organizers are currently seeking new corporate race sponsors, race staff members and volunteers.

For further information, contact Dastmalchi (Nas.rnm1@gmail.com) or 248-974-8074 or Whitehead (Alan@KonaRunningCompany.com) or 248-345-0168 or visit www.NoviHalfMarathon.com or www.KonaRunningCompany.com.

Shamrocks down Cubs in 69th Boys Bowl

Victory marks fifth straight time Catholic Central has won annual contest

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

A walk down the halls of Detroit Catholic Central High School last week would have told you all you need to know about the importance of the Boys Bowl to the football program.

Lining the halls were hand-made posters cheering the Shamrocks to a win over Catholic High School League foe University of Detroit-Jesuit. There was even an assembly that reverberated with the pride the student body holds for its gridderies.

The football team took all of the praise and the

ON TAP

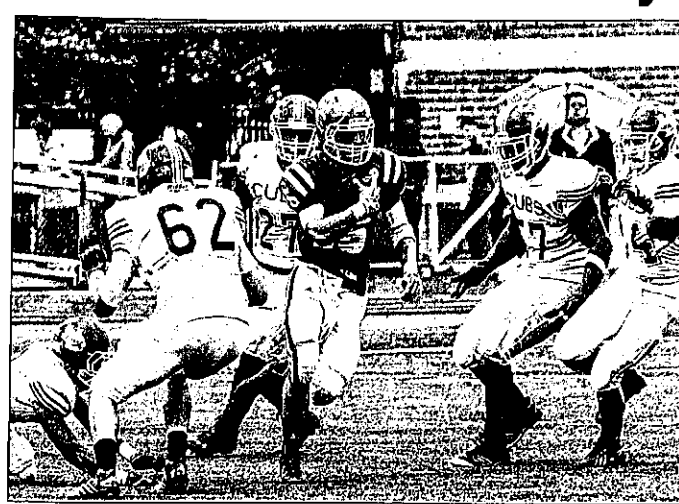
Detroit Catholic Central will be back on the field when it hosts Orchard Lake St. Mary's at 7 p.m. Saturday.

desire for victory to heart and came away with the program's fifth straight Boys Bowl triumph with a convincing 42-3 decision over U-D.

The victory puts the Shamrocks at 5-1 and 1-1 in the CHSL Central Division.

They need just one more victory to guarantee a place in the MHSAA playoffs.

The playoffs were the last thing on the minds of the Shamrocks when they kicked off the game last Sunday. First and foremost on the agenda was shutting down U-D, which fell to 4-2 overall and 0-2 in the CHSL with the loss.



CC's Zack Bock cuts through the Cubs' defenders for an 80-yard punt return. DENNIS BARNES

Catholic Central's focus paid off as it forced a three-and-out and then took the ball right down the field and scored on a run from 1 yard by Dylan

Roney to go up, 7-0, with five minutes left in the first quarter.

The Shamrocks took their next possession

well, this time on a 66-yard run by Zach Bock that put his squad in the lead, 14-0.

The Cubs did manage to cut into that advan-

tage, hitting a field goal to make it a 14-3 contest, but the Shamrocks didn't even seem to notice as they scored on a carry by fullback Nick Giese to go up 21-3 before the half.

Giese added another touchdown to open the second half and then added another in the third quarter following a 40-yard scamper by Connor Holton that found its way into the end zone. When the smoke cleared, the Shamrocks led 42-3 with almost a minute left in the third quarter.

In the fourth, the Shamrocks' scoring cooled off, but the team was able to get valuable experience in one of the season's biggest games for many of its younger gridgers.

Sam Eggleston is a freelance writer covering sports for the Northville Record and Novi News.

Shamrocks soccer continues to post mixed results

Squad has ups and downs in Catholic League and beyond

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

The old sports adage goes: You win some, you lose some. Right now, few teams know that quite as well as Detroit Catholic Central's soccer team.

The squad, coached by Gene Pulice, have had its fair share of ups and downs this season, a trend that has continued the past couple of weeks. Most recently, the

ON TAP

The Detroit Catholic Central soccer team will be back on the pitch when it visits Farmington Hills Harrison at 7 p.m. today before playing in the state districts.

team took on DeLaSalle and found itself in a pretty one-sided affair, despite the final score coming out at 1-4.

The Shamrocks came out and immediately controlled the tempo, scoring the opening goal off a strong kick by Paul Wiedmaier just 19 seconds into the game to hold a 1-0 advantage. And while the team wasn't

able to score any more goals, it did have several near-misses and dominated the game on the defensive side.

Earning the shutout for the Shamrocks was goalie Alex Pastor.

The Shamrocks also took a tough loss Sept. 26 to a well-coached North Farmington team, 2-1, and fell the day before that against DeLaSalle, 4-2, after trailing 3-0 at the half. The squad also played Sept. 24 to a 1-1 draw with Brother Rice.

Sam Eggleston is a freelance writer covering sports for the Northville Record and Novi News.



Catholic Central's Austin Smith (left) chases after the ball.

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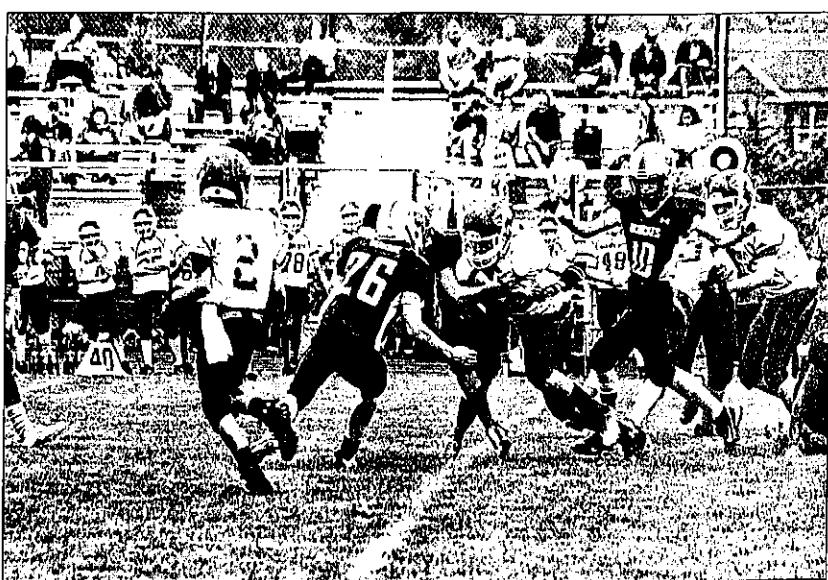
NOVI BOBCATS ROUNDUP

Varsity rolls past Cougars, 34-6

The Novi varsity Bobcats (6-0) beat the Garden City Cougars (3-3) 34-6 Oct. 5 at Novi Middle School. The Bobcats scored early and quickly, jumping out to a 20-0 lead after running just five offensive plays and scoring three touchdowns. Nick Williams opened the scoring, running 53 yards on his first carry for a touchdown, while Blake King made the PAT kick, making the score 8-0 in the first quarter. On their next possession, the Bobcats' Jordan Ward, behind downfield blocks from Tendon Hankerson and Brendan Smith, ran 66 yards untouched down the sideline for another touchdown to make it 14-0. On their next possession, Nick Williams electrified the crowd with an 80-yard touchdown run. Williams would finish the day with 135 yards on just those two carries and two touchdowns.

The Bobcats scored twice more in the second half, first on a blocked punt by Smith that he recovered and ran in for another score, followed by King's PAT kick to bring the score to 28-0. Finally, the Bobcats scored on a fine end around run by Johnny Bean behind a crushing block from Keegan Houseworth to spring him. Houseworth also contributes two tackles and two assists on the day. Bean had two tackles, two assists and one quarterback sack to go with his touchdown.

The Bobcats' defense continued to dominate, not giving up a score until the fourth quarter, after holding opponents scoreless for the past 17



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—By Eric Smith

JV overwhelms Cougars, 42-13

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Oegema recovered both Cougars fumbles for the Bobcats. With under two minutes left in the third period, Paige raced 67 yards for his third touchdown of the game. In the fourth quarter, behind the blocking of Ethan Brennan, Gabriel Young and Nathan Ramachandran, Beno raced 80 yards for a touchdown. Griffin Conyers converted the PAT. On the Bobcats' final possession, Beno found Michael Kirkman open for a 60-yard touchdown pass. On the PAT, Beno connected with Bryce Lubin to bring the game to a final score of 42-13. With two games remaining on the schedule, the JV Bob-

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HARRIERS

Continued from Page B1

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Missing out on the all-county mark was Plaetnick, who landed 35th in 17:21.

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Chris Jactett is a freelance writer covering Novi High School sports for the Novi News.

FOOTBALL

Continued from Page B1

kids during that break and said that the team that survives the adversity coming out of the break would win the game. Both teams came out pretty good. Everybody gave everything they had to win that game. We're exhausted."

Those who stuck around saw both teams come out determined to gain the upper hand. It was Novi which capitalized first, with senior Austin Racicot recovering a fumble at the Spartans' 9-yard line 24.5 seconds before the final quarter.

The play led to a 4-yard touchdown pass from junior Billy Uille (1-for-5 passing) to junior Nick Meadors in the back left corner of the end zone for his only catch of the night. It was the Wildcats' second touchdown pass of the season, giving them a 15-7 lead after Klosterman's PAT was blocked.

"Billy just made a great play. We kind of used Rohti (Mogalayapalli) a bit more tonight, but Billy is kind of our under center piece or goal line package there," Burnside said. "Nick Meadors had a huge game, made a lot of big plays on defense and he was the one who caught that touchdown pass."

Stevenson senior Devin Kelly (65 yards on nine runs) made things interesting with a 42-yard touchdown run up the left side with 3:19 remaining. It was the first play of a drive by the Spartans, but the two-point conversion run by McCallion was stopped on the 2-yard line, allowing Novi to



Seniors Geoff Gamm and Lauren Matson were crowned Novi's homecoming king and queen Oct. 4 during halftime of the game against Livonia Stevenson. CHRIS JACKETT

maintain a 15-13 lead. With an onside kick bouncing out at Novi's 42-yard line, Ward pushed the Wildcats to a first down, allowing the 'Cats to run out the clock and secure the victory.

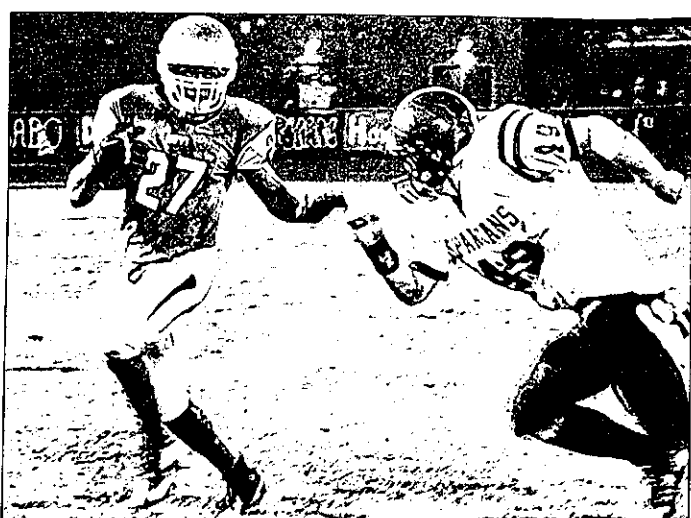
Although Stevenson had better yardage, 218-204, five turnovers proved too much for Spartans to overcome, as did an 11-tackle performance by Ryan and four other Wildcats defenders who had five apiece.

"The defense, I think we needed a little humbling," Burnside said. "I think we were getting a lot of pats on the back just for winning three games in a row. I told them we haven't done

anything yet. And even now, we've just won four games. We want to get Novi back to where it belongs and just four games is not going to cut it."

Kelly and junior Robert Schneider each had 13 tackles on the day for the Spartans, largely focusing in on containing Novi sophomore Emanuel Jackson (15 yards on 13 runs), which allowed Ward and junior Mogalayapalli (56 yards on nine runs, 1-for-3 passing) to find open space when given touches.

Chris Jactett is a freelance writer covering Novi High School sports for the Novi News.



Novi junior Jalen Ward (left) strikes a Heisman-like pose while on the run against Livonia Stevenson senior Dom Ferrera. CHRIS JACKETT

TENNIS

Continued from Page B1

"It's what we expected when you put two good tennis programs, Andover and Lahser, when you put them together, you're going to have some pretty good tennis."

It was another strong week for the singles corps, as all four players went undefeated last week, led by junior Tim Wang (24-1) at No. 1 singles with a 6-1, 6-1 victory over Plymouth and 6-1, 3-6, 7-5 victory over Bloomfield Hills.

Junior Andre Liu improved to 19-7 at No. 2 singles with a 6-1, 7-6(1) win over Plymouth and 6-0, 6-1 win over Bloomfield Hills.

Sophomore Koushik Kondapi (15-1) kept his hot streak going with a 6-0, 6-0 victory over Plymouth and a 6-1, 6-0 victory over Bloomfield Hills.

Sophomore Maxx Anderson (22-5) capped off the singles competition with a 6-0, 6-1 victory over Plymouth and a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Bloomfield Hills.

"Tim had a good three-set win against Bloomfield Hills' Josh Mukherjee, he's one of the top young players in the state," Hanson said. "Maxx had a battle down at four singles."

Doubles went just as well against Plymouth, but proved to be a tougher challenge against Bloomfield Hills.

After seniors Andrew Ying and Michael Chang (22-4) beat Plymouth 6-0, 6-1 at No. 1 doubles, they pushed through a 7-5, 6-4 victory over Bloomfield Hills.

Seniors Shashank



Novi's Kevin Xu warms up before a match. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chitta and Kevin Xu (16-6) had an even tougher route at No. 2 doubles. After defeating Plymouth 6-1, 6-0, they had a three-set 4-6, 6-1, 6-0 victory over Bloomfield Hills.

Senior Tim Lu and junior Ryan Fernandes (8-2) split their week at No. 3 doubles, defeating Plymouth 6-0, 6-0 before a hard-fought 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 loss to Bloomfield Hills.

At No. 4 doubles, seniors David Mehl and Raymond Wen (18-4) won 6-0, 6-0 against Plymouth and then defeated Bloomfield Hills 6-4, 7-6(6).

At No. 5 doubles, sophomore Srivatsav Gotur and senior Ashwin Kumar (2-0) capped off the competition with a 6-1, 6-1 win over Plymouth.

The Wildcats also got started on the KLASA Tournament last Saturday, but a delayed start and several close matches pushed most

flights back three days later to Tuesday.

"The tournament (Saturday), because it was so humid, the courts didn't want to dry. All our flights - other than five doubles, who has a semifinals match to play - got to the finals," Hanson said.

With all nine of Novi's flights headed to the finals - pending a No. 5 double victory over Canton - the Wildcats were slated to face Northville for the KLASA championships at No. 1 singles and Nos. 2-5 doubles. Grand Blanc was the other finalist at No. 1 doubles and Nos. 2-4 singles.

"It was a long day, but there were a lot of close matches and that's why we couldn't get to the finals," Hanson said. "The KLASA Finals are going to be good."

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PICTURE IT: Fun Fall

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*Winner's parents may need to complete a waiver and registration online at skyzone.com before admission.

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Zip:

Date of Birth:

Boy or Girl:

Email:

Phone:

*Parent's Printed Name:

*Parent's Signature:

Fill out the form and have your parents fill in their name and signature. Clip and mail, it's that easy!

*Required for Birthday Club

What's the Difference?

There are five things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

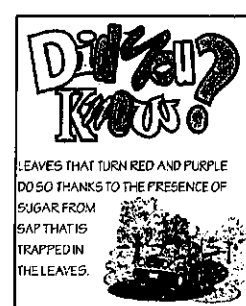


Answers: 1. Leaf upside down 2. Missing "school" on building 3. Tree leaves are pink 4. Exhaust coming out of bus 5. Missing cloud

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

VRHTEAS EMIT



LEAVES THAT TURN RED AND PURPLE DO SO THANKS TO THE PRESENCE OF SUGAR FROM SAP THAT IS TRAPPED IN THE LEAVES.

Autumn Word Find

Just in time for the fall season, find the hidden words in the puzzle.

APPLES			CLASSROOM			LEAVES					
AUTUMN			COOL			SCHOOL					
BRISK			FALL			SEASON					
CHANGES			HARVEST			TREES					
C	Z	A	I	N	S	M	U	J	T	A	K
A	P	R	U	C	O	G	S	J	S	W	S
J	R	M	T	C	N	S	E	D	I	O	E
M	C	O	N	F	U	V	A	R	B	C	E
T	O	O	Z	S	R	M	B	E	M	W	R
L	D	R	F	A	L	L	N	E	A	S	L
N	T	S	H	S	E	L	P	A	E	R	
F	W	S	C	H	A	N	G	E	S	A	L
X	Q	A	I	O	C	D	U	N	U	V	O
L	F	L	Y	L	O	Z	I	U	R	E	C
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V	I	N	I	B	Z	Y	U	I	P	I	

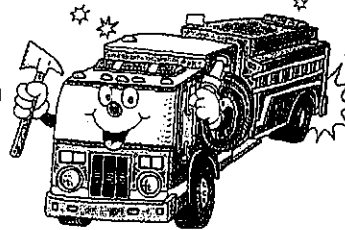
Courtesy of Metro Creative

Fire Prevention Month

Word about Safety: You can help mom and dad keep your home safe.

1. Never play with matches or lighters.
2. Remind your parents to install new batteries in smoke detectors.
3. Have home fire drills.
4. Know who to call in case there is an emergency.

REMEMBER, SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY



All Dressed Up and on the go!



Scoop hanging out with new friends at the Northville Victorian Fest.



Kurt Kuban Northville Record Editor with his two sons Kaden 6, and Kameron, 9.

Last month's contest question

"What is your favorite Movie?"

Sydney won tickets to Imagine Theatre. Her favorite movie is

"Teen Beach Movie"

by The Disney Channel

Sydney Spiridon,

Garden City, 8



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Chops Jordan, Marketing Manager

Design/Layout:

Randall Masters, Graphic Artist

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Winning submissions will be announced in a future Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

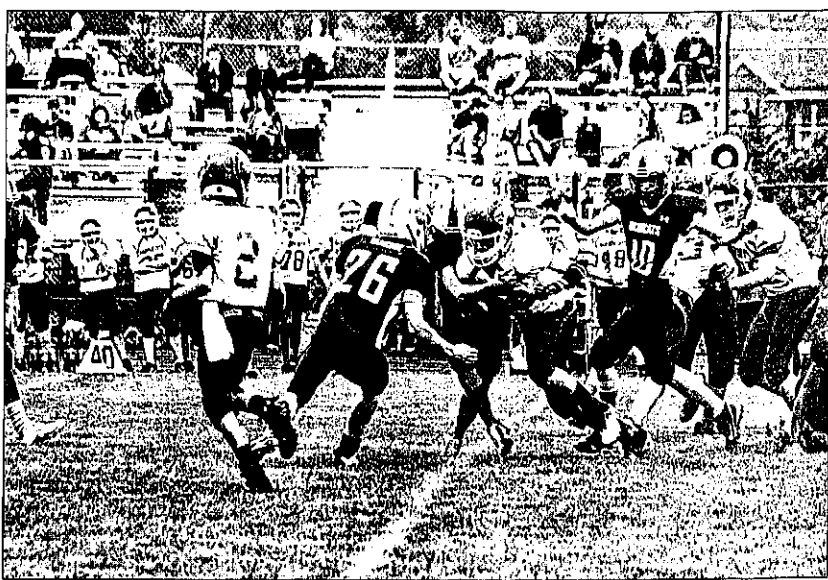
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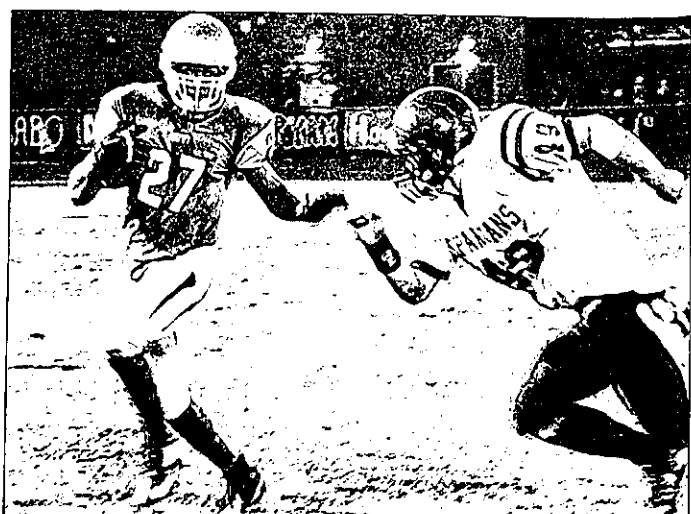
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Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights

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Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Boy or Girl: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

*Parent's Printed Name: _____

*Parent's Signature: _____

Fill out the form and have your parents fill in their name and signature. Clip and mail, it's that easy!

*Required for Birthday Club

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Ella Carlson
Berkley
10/8

Damian Born
Highland
10/11

Paulina Wrobel
Northville
10/16

Sawyer Spiridon
Garden City
10/27

Grace Ho
Farmington
10/28

Khloe Flynn
Novi
10/28

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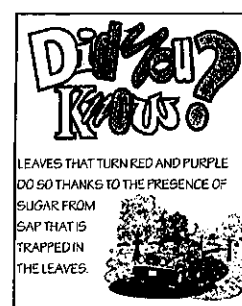


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C Z A I N S M U J T A K
A P R U C O G J S W S S
J R M H T N S E D I O E
M C O N F U V A R B C E
T O O Z S R L M B E M W R
L D R F A R L L N A S L T
N T S H S E L P A E R
F W S C H A N G E S A L
X Q A I O C D U N U V O
L F L Y L O Z I U R E C
U E C K Q D L K A V S W
V I N I B Z Y Y U I P I

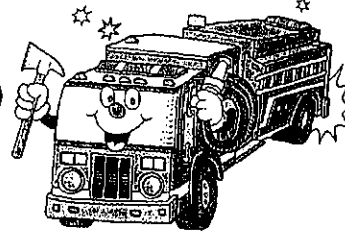
Courtesy of Metro Creative

Fire Prevention Month

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Sydney Spiridon, Garden City, 8



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Randall Masters, Graphic Artist

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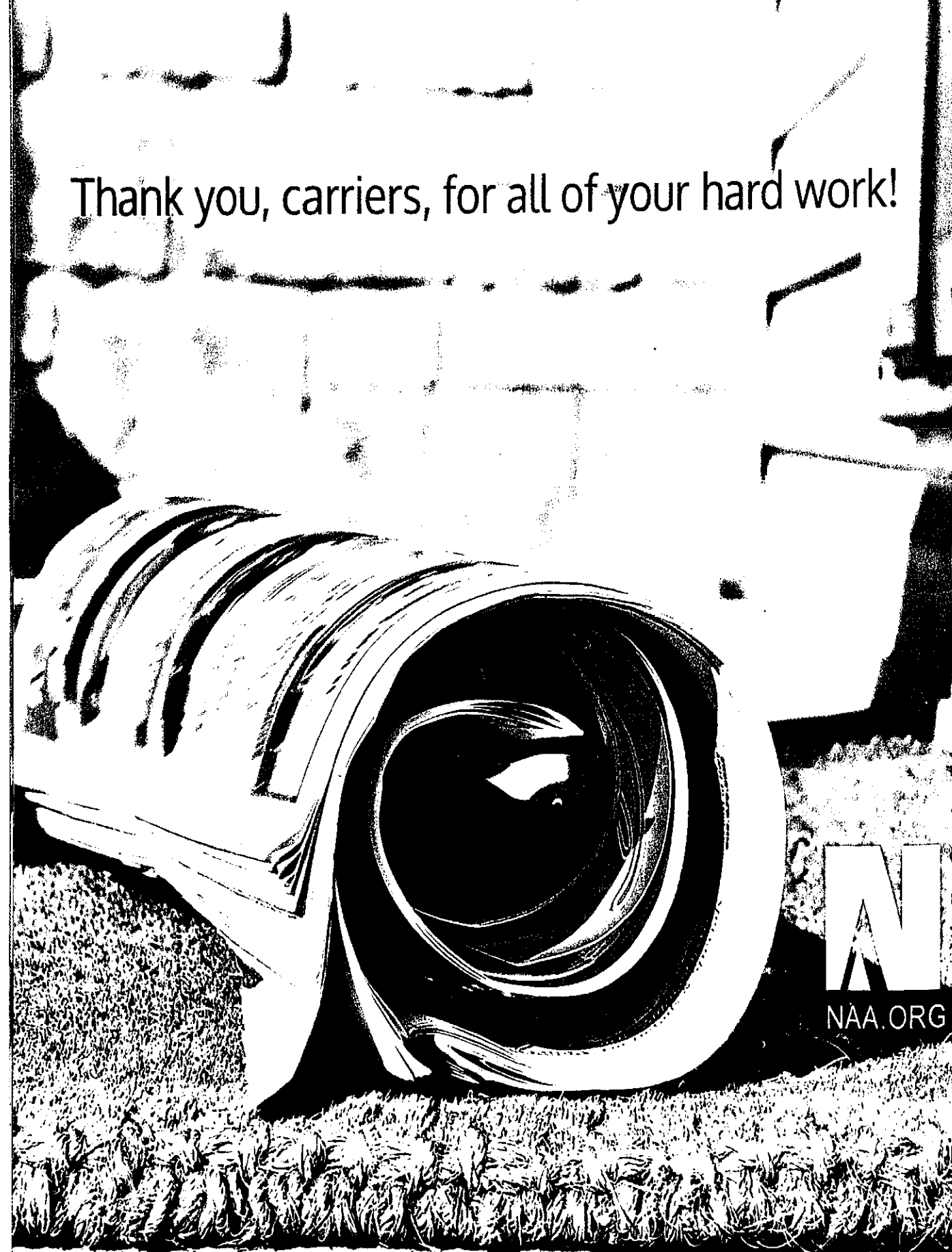
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Survey identifies skills needed for advanced manufacturing

Increased technical skills for job applicants and better worker recruitment techniques for employers are among the recommendations to help advanced manufacturers fill job openings, according to a regional survey of advanced manufacturers commissioned by Oakland County.

The Skills Needs Assessment Project, a six-month regional survey of 150 advanced manufacturers in Oakland County and surrounding counties, was conducted to help understand why advanced manufacturing jobs were vacant and how to fill them. It concluded the greatest challenge for regional employers to overcome is the virtually non-existent pipeline of young workers to fill available jobs and insufficient training programs to meet current demand.

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson recently released the results of the survey to about 250 employers, educators and community leaders at the Troy Marriott Hotel during "Business Works in Oakland County." The session provided Patterson, the Oakland County Workforce Development Board and the Michigan Workforce Development Board with a chance to discuss the survey and some of the services available to employees and employers.

"I think we've hit a raw nerve with the survey," Patterson said. "We now have documented evidence for employers as to the skills they need to put people to work in good-paying jobs."

Survey says

The 48-page survey provided an in-depth look at advanced manufacturing and how educators can best prepare their curricula and students for employment in that field. It also identified the skills and education job seekers need to qualify for one of a host of attractive advanced manufacturing opportunities. The survey identified the top 14 jobs in advanced manufacturing, the median salary, the educational requirements and the number of job openings expected from now until 2018.

The survey said the most difficult job to fill was mechanical engineer followed by tool-and-die makers and machinists. The complete report is available online at www.advantageoakland.com.

"We've been attempting to rebuild an economy by trading employees between companies," Deputy Oakland County Executive Matthew Gibb said. "We hear every day that this company is taking five employees from someone else instead of addressing the core issue. We have a lack of interest in training in careers that are the very backbone of our economy here. We have to quit trading employees like baseball cards and get them interested in these careers like those available in advanced manufacturing."

Why this sector?

Advanced manufacturing was chosen because of the significant job growth expected in that sector within

ABOUT THE SNAP SURVEY

The survey focused on the six-county region of the Economic Growth Alliance: Genesee, Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Oakland and St. Clair counties and also Wayne County. SNAP is the second survey done by EdEn to help job applicants identify the skills employers seek when looking for new employees. In 2009, a survey identified the top jobs by sector that Emerging Sectors companies needed and the skills necessary to obtain those jobs. The 30 job profiles created gave educators and employers a road map to develop courses and certification programs that prepare the workforce of the future.

Since the 2009 report, several colleges and universities have infused curricula with more soft skills to the accommodate employers.

SNAP is funded by Oakland County, the Oakland County Workforce Development Board and through the Michigan Workforce Development Agency and the U.S. Department of Labor.

EdEn is working on a third survey, which examines health care. The results are expected later this year.

the next three years and because companies have been unable to operate at full capacity because they can't find skilled workers.

University of Michigan economists George Fulton and Don Grimes predicted in an economic forecast of job growth that advanced manufacturing will add 4,125 jobs by 2015. Patterson and the Workforce Development Board determined that advanced manufacturing should be examined to help answer why demand far outweighed the supply of qualified workers and provide possible solutions.

Among the issues:

- » The pipeline of qualified employees that once met the needs of advanced manufacturers no longer exists.
- » Advanced manufacturing jobs require strong basic and technical skills.
- » Employers said they can't find qualified workers for current job openings and future opening will go unfilled.

"Employers have told us they're ready to hire, they want to hire, but they can't find enough qualified applicants to fill these high paying jobs," Patterson said. "These are jobs that will go unfilled unless we find qualified workers."

EdEn Inc., the Rochester-based research firm which conducted the survey, said the results showed an increasing level of technical knowledge is critical for jobs regardless of education level. They also revealed that not all employers use the most modern methods when recruiting potential employees.

"Some companies are still putting a sign out in front of the business looking for employees instead of using social media or more modern techniques," Gibb said. "We've got to do better."

NOVI Energy working with companies in-state and out

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

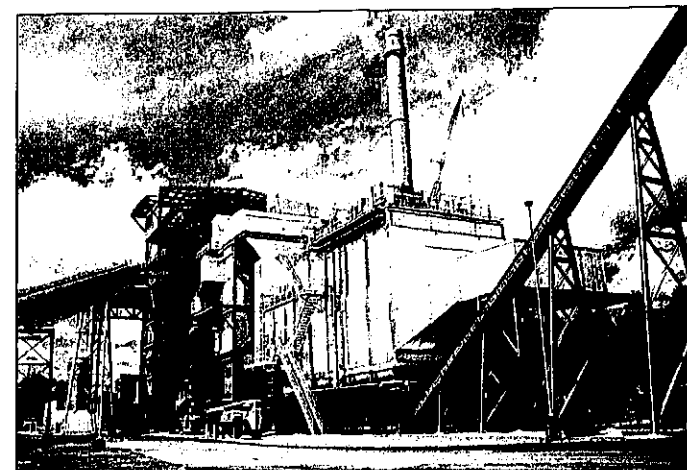
NOVI Energy has been busy developing renewable energy solutions for in-state and out-of-state companies.

The Novi-based entrepreneurial company provides a broad range of services in energy infrastructure project development and energy consulting for utility, industrial, institutional and commercial clients across the United States and the world. It has partnered with a Virginia-based firm to establish a facility that will use waste wood left over from logging operations as fuel.

The Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative and NOVI Energy recently announced that the NOVEC Energy Production and Halifax County Biomass plant have been working together near South Boston, Va., and generated their first electricity and connected to the PJM regional electric transmission grid at 11:11 a.m. Sept. 11 during testing.

"NOVI Energy had a vision that a waste-wood-fueled renewable power plant was possible in South Boston and now it is a reality," said Anand Gangadharan, president of NOVI Energy. "This state-of-the-art facility will be a reliable power production asset for Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative."

The \$170 million NEPECB generation station, which also does business as South Boston Energy, will generate up to 49.9 megawatts of renewable electricity for



NOVI Energy helped develop and build this plant for South Boston Energy, which is located in Halifax County, Va.

NOVEC customers. It is located on a 104-acre site in the Halifax County Industrial Park in southern Virginia.

NOVI Energy developed and is overseeing construction of the plant for the owner and one of the largest electric distribution cooperatives in the nation, NOVEC. Headquartered in Manassas, the not-for-profit corporation distributes electricity and energy services to more than 150,000 customers.

"We've been working on this project for three years," said Mike Dailey, NOVEC vice president of Energy and Business Development. "This successful synchronization with the power grid marks a major milestone in the development of the station and now sets the stage for commercial operation."

Gangadharan said the plant will use "reclaimed water" from the local

water authority for plant cooling water. As a result, it will not discharge any water into the Dan River during normal operation.

The plant will also recycle leftover wood ash. The wood fuel, chopped into small wood chips, will burn inside the boiler to create steam that will turn turbines and generate electricity.

Michigan-based solutions

Short's Brewing Co., one of Michigan's largest craft breweries, has also partnered with NOVI Energy to divert high strength effluent from the Short's production brewery to NOVI Energy's Fremont Community Digester for conversion into biogas usable in renewable electricity generation.

"This commitment by Short's Brewing Co. to isolate waste water from the brewing and cellar-

ing processes will help fuel generation of the three-megawatt Fremont Community Digester electricity generating station. Power generated by the Digester is sold to Consumers Energy," according to NOVI Energy.

"Our relationship with NOVI Energy has been an opportunity for us to achieve some great successes with the worst of our waste water," said Matt Gacochi, sustainability specialist at Short's Brewing Co. "Reducing the strain on the Elk Rapids Waste Water Treatment Plant while providing organic material for clean energy generation will allow us to continue on our mission to support protection of the natural world we're constantly inspired by northern Michigan."

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NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

Dentists relocate

The dental offices of Dr. Neil Blavin and Dr. Aaron Zeevi moved from Seven Mile and Newburgh roads in Livonia to 10 Mile and Beck roads in Novi last month.

"The office is beautiful and it has a state of the art innovative water purification and decontamination system (Vista-clear) to deliver the purest/cleanest water for our patients," Blavin said.

The two moved primarily because their patients have been moving west.

"In addition to the typical dental services, we also provide intravenous sedation for fearful patients and six-month-smile adult cosmetic orthodontics, which allow people with crooked teeth to have a beautiful smile in six months without veneers or other cosmetic treatments," Blavin said.

The office also has an in-house periodontist (gum specialist) for implants and periodontal treatments.

"We invite all our neighbors in Novi, South Lyon, Wixom and Northville to come and meet our experienced staff and doctors, and tour our office," Blavin said.

Phone 248-347-0030 for more information.

PrimeCare open house

PrimeCare Urgent Care (39555 W. 10 Mile, Suite 301, near Haggerty) will be opening its doors to the public Monday, Oct. 14, and an open house will run from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, when free flu shots will be given to the first 500 people who ask.

There will be food, entertainment and an introduction of Dr. Patricia Scheuerman, who will join the practice Oct. 14.

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Open Houses

Sunday, October 13

COLDWELL BANKER
WEIR MANUEL

Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel
877-360-9949 | cbwm.com
For a complete list of open houses
visit www.cbwm.com/openhouses



OPEN 1-3 | 79559 North Avenue, Armada - It's all here! Clean, well maintained Cape Cod boasting 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, \$239,900 Rhonda Gleffe 586-406-4787



OPEN 1-4 | 2728 Oakshire Ave., Berkeley - Gorgeous Berkeley Cape Cod complete w/modern updates - won't last long! Fab master, \$225,000 Penny Toth 248-302-6130



OPEN 1-4 | 202 Austin Ave., Birmingham - Stunning Vintage Craftsman Cape Cod, 4BR, basement, garage, newer roof, \$239,900 Patrick Carolan 248-342-7653



OPEN 1-4 | 2647 Dorchester Rd., Birmingham - Gorgeous brick ranch - 3BR, finished basement, hardwood floors, updated thru-out, \$229,000 Patrick Carolan 248-342-7653



OPEN 1-4 | 3746 Darlington Rd., Bloomfield - Expansive floor plan w/dark hardwood floors, updated kitchen & 1st floor office, \$825,000 Janine Tondolan 248-563-2095



OPEN 12-3 | 1686 Hamilton Dr., Bloomfield - Private all sports Square Lake with this impeccable spacious home updated in 2000, \$775,000 Steve Cole 248-914-0008



OPEN 1-3 | 3824 W. Maple Rd., Bloomfield - Attractive ranch situated on 0.62 acres on the N Course of Oakland Hills, \$285,000 Mary Dean 248-835-9417



OPEN 12-2 | 211 Eileen Dr., Bloomfield - Charming 3BR all brick ranch with Bloomfield Hills Schools. Lots of character, \$194,900 Susan Wojtaszek 248-249-2470



OPEN 1-4 | 2895 High Meadows Ct., Brandon - Located on cul-de-sac surrounded by 100 Evergreens. Contemporary w/1.5 stories, \$324,000 Patty Moran 810-444-5225



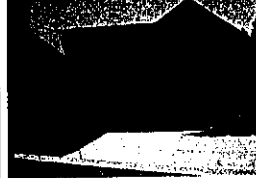
OPEN 1-4 | 5020 Granger Rd., Brandon Twp. - Secluded living... Minutes from downtown Oxford, Clariston, shops & x-ways! \$300,000 Hosted by Nan Denis 248-877-8740



OPEN 1-4 | 8102 Rolling Meadows Dr., Canton - Exquisite custom built home in Canton's exclusive Rolling Meadows Sub. \$799,000 Chris Patrick 734-546-9778



OPEN 2-4 | 7240 Bedore, Clay Twp. - HARSENS ISLAND Pride of Owners! Well-maintained & spacious 164' on S. Channel, \$450,000 Laila Abud 313-886-4200



OPEN 1-4 | 40900 Magnolia Dr. East, Clinton Twp. - Well-maintained end unit, 2BR/2BA w/1st floor laundry. Open layout, door wall to deck, \$125,000 James Hedrick 586-242-6466



OPEN 1-4 | 26364 Springland St., Farmington Hills - Interior Decorator's home. Complete remodel '13. Beautiful, new, kitchen, \$194,900 Michele Jarrett 313-673-5806



OPEN 1-4 | 745 Flowerdale St., Ferndale - Stylish & sophisticated bungalow on one of the loveliest streets in the "Dales", \$139,900 Cindy Rose 248-752-2667



OPEN 1-4 | 6332 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City - Property consists of three adjacent parcels of land. Retail space, office, warehouse, \$840,000 Norm Lusder 313-506-9280



OPEN 2-4 | 1008 Yorkshire, Grosse Pte Park - Beautiful English Manor home, completely updated. Spacious room sizes, \$835,000 Joe Rich 313-550-6800



OPEN 2-4 | 521 Middlesex, Grosse Pte Park - Beautiful 4BR country French home near Windmill Pte. Complete remodel last several years, \$829,900 Joe Rich 313-550-6800



OPEN 2-4 | 87 S. Deeplands, Grosse Pte. Shores - Spacious center entrance 6BR Colonial on corner of S. Deeplands & Balaunte, \$499,900 Joe Rich 313-550-6800



OPEN 2-4 | 89 Willow Tree Pl., Grosse Pte. Shores - Stunning professionally decorated 4BR, 2 full, 2 half BA. Custom built home, \$759,000 Christian Mortimer 313-886-4200



OPEN 2-4 | 471 Oxford Rd., Grosse Pte. Woods - Beautiful brick Colonial with park like setting, wonderful flow, great location, \$635,000 Patricia Barnes 313-622-4077



OPEN 1-4 | 2150 Fleetwood, Grosse Pte Woods - Beautiful 3BR Colonial in prime locale. Large living room with fireplace. Never kitchen, \$159,000 Kay Rinke 313-701-2729



OPEN 2-4 | 805 Pemberton Rd., Grosse Pte. Park - Well-maintained & in Windmill Pte. Refined hardwoods, fresh paint thru-out, \$325,000 Rita Tucker 586-489-8264



OPEN 2-4 | 2002 Roslyn Rd., Grosse Pte. Woods - Magnificent Quad-level home, 5 Bedrooms, possible 6th bedroom, 3 bathrooms, \$189,000 Jim Addison 313-682-2152



OPEN 1-4 | 30600 North River Rd., Harrison Twp. - Great marina w/home. Deep, wide part of Clinton River near lake, large deep boat wells, \$399,000 Carol Paton 586-665-8808



OPEN 1-4 | 37780 Lakeville, Harrison Twp. - Great locale, wide open canal, no bridges. Large oversized lot, steel seawall, min. to Lake St. Clair, \$269,900 Carol Paton 586-665-8808



OPEN 1-3 | 4100 Orchard Park Blvd., Howell - A 10! Beautifully appointed better than new! Loaded w/upgrades! Gorgeous culinary kitchen, \$189,925 Jean Wells 248-872-6110



OPEN 1-4 | 8940 Coon Lake Rd., Iscoo Twp. - 1700 sq. ft. open plan on 2 tree acres, boasts a 4-car garage and pole barn too! \$164,888 Tracy Slinkak 248-872-6433



OPEN 1-4 | 3223 Woodview Cir., Lake Orion - Spectacular Colonial backs to private 9 acre lake & sides to common area-only 1 neighbor! \$475,000 Leslie Doran 248-390-3930



OPEN 1-4 | 3183 Woodview Cir., Lake Orion - The minute you walk into this Birmingham model home, instantly see the dramatic detail, \$425,000 Leslie Doran 248-390-3930



OPEN 1-4 | 38484 Lancaster, Livonia - Beautiful Colonial, 5 & Newburgh Rd! 4BR/2.5BA. Over sized family room w/fireplace, \$248,505-8290 Donna Grele 248-505-8290



OPEN 1-4 | 15944 Clinton Ave., Macomb Twp. - Beautiful move-in ready, private owned home in "The Rivers" sub, \$309,900 Hosted by Shawn Winters 586-457-9499



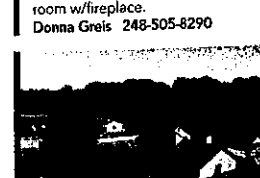
OPEN 1-4 | 20200 26 Mile Rd., Macomb Twp. - Large Tri-level on country size lot. Spacious family room with fireplace, \$169,900 Carol Paton 586-665-8808



OPEN 1-3 | 1808 Parkdale Ave., Madison Heights - "A Must" to get inside this clean/sharp brick ranch on spacious corner lot! \$139,900 Diane Shires 248-321-4480



OPEN 12-3 | 16123 Portis Rd., Northville - Northville Colony 3BR brick ranch on quiet interior street! Heated sunroom 21x18, \$279,900 Chris Patrick 734-546-9978



OPEN 1-4 | 3965 Collier Rd., Oakland Twp. - Ride, refresh, relax...you can have it all! Inviting 4BR soft contemporary, \$650,000 Donna Bousson 248-515-1843



OPEN 1-4 | 2472 Armstrong Ct., Lake Orion - Newly updated 2,500 square foot Cape Cod home is Keatington Sub! 3BR/3BA! \$225,000 Hosted by Dianne Giovinazzo 248-394-3493



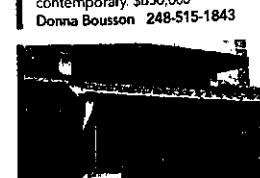
OPEN 1-4 | 49265 Pine Bluff Ct., Plymouth - Spectacular wooded location for custom ranch on 4.480 sq.ft. with finished walkout! \$464,900 Chris Patrick 734-546-9978



OPEN 1-4 | 9168 Redbud Ave., Plymouth - Awesome 3BR brick ranch in the township... Just blocks from downtown Plymouth, \$209,900 Jessica Tremonti 313-478-0819



OPEN 2-5 | 2603 Stonebury, Rochester Hills - Move-in! Colonial with picturesque setting! Full brick front & large entry, \$259,000 Marlene Roe 248-709-0838



OPEN 11-4 | 2027 Clawson Ave., Royal Oak - Charming 1924 bungalow in highly sought after Northwood Sub. Inviting front porch, \$299,000 Kim Elliott 586-246-5007



OPEN 2-4 | 1011 Tron, St. Clair Shores - 2-car attached-3-car detached garage & full basement finished with game room, fam room & more! \$425,000 Laila Abud 313-886-4200



OPEN 1-4 | 22200 Colonial Ct., St. Clair Shores - Great home on Milk River. In ground heart-shaped pool w/diving board and slide, \$220,000 Becky Livernois 586-817-7293



OPEN 1-4 | 14015 Bery Dr., Sterling Heights - Beautiful 2BR/1.5BA ranch condo. Everything is on one floor, including the laundry! \$104,900 Kay Rinke 313-701-2729



OPEN 1-4 | 5642 Drake Hollow Dr., West Bloomfield - Exceptional price on this stunning 1,597 sq.ft. 2BR, 2.5BA townhome condo, \$179,900 Jack Bertola 248-310-9940