



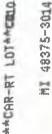
### **Busch's** helping Forgotten Harvest

Busch's Fresh Food Market will help Forgotten Harvest feed the hungry in its Season of Sharing holiday food drive through Nov. 26

A family-owned chain, the Busch family has held these drives for more than 20 years. Seven of Busch's metro De-troit area locations including Novi's at 41840 W. 10 Mile Road – will be dedicating donations to Forgotten Harvest.

Customers can purchase a \$10 pre-made "Ready to Go" food donation bag filled with items to be given to a family in need. Customers can make a contribution of any amount at the Busch's checkout registers.

Customers will be able to purchase \$5 gift cards for produce and \$10 gift cards for meats. Gift card purchases will be converted into produce and meat donations to Forgotten Harvest at the value of the of gift card purchases. Customers can also donate their bottle return slips.



#### **By Lonnie Huhman** Staff Writer

Since she came to Fox Run nearly a decade ago, it's been Doreen Poupard's goal to better connect the senior living community with the city of Novi. She's gone far in doing that, but now she has the opportunity to bridge the gap even further after being selected as the newest Novi City Council member.



Poupard

family to pursue a new career opportunity.

There were seven other candidates for the vacancy: Lowell

### **Gab and Gobble**



During a spe-cial meeting Thursday night, the council voted for Poupard to fill the vacancy left by Justin Fischer, who has moved overseas with his

Fox Run resident picked for council

Sprague, Matthew Mosteiko, Rickie Ibe, Michael Meyer, Col-leen Crossey, Charles Staab and Bob Copes. The council made its selection through a secret ballot and Poupard was the only candidate with at least four votes.

Poupard said the field of candidates was a strong one and believes all could fill the role. After finding out about her selection by reading an email late Thursday night, she's looking

forward to her new role over the next year.

"I believe that I can bring my voice as a senior and my experience as an educator to the council table as a service to the broader Novi community," she wrote in her letter to the mayor and council.

Poupard is retired from the Ann Arbor Public School Dis-

See COUNCIL, Page A2

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Betty Harpe (left) is served a turkey lunch by helper Linda Colwell at the Gab and Gobble lunch Nov. 13 at the

Interfaith Network clothing store available for all Novi's needy families

> **By Cal Stone** Staff Writer

In a city considered as affluent as Novi, it might come as a surprise to learn that there are needy families living in the city limits

With winter fast approaching, those folks will appreciate the efforts of local churches providing appropriate clothing to get through the harsh season. This is especially important for young students, who might not have the proper clothing to go outside and enjoy recess with their classmates.

"Village Oaks and Orchard Hills elementaries have been hit really hard with a lot of families living in poverty and a lot of single-parent households," said the Rev. June Marshall Smith, pastor of Novi United Methodist Church. "What we're finding is a lot of those kids don't have win-ter clothing."

Smith's grandson, who attends Village Oaks, told her that if students don't have hats, coats, gloves and boots, they aren't allowed to go outside for recess.

"The children who don't have full winter attire are the kids who likely are not playing in the backyard on the weekend. It's like a punishment," Smith said. "When I heard that, I said we can't allow that to happen. Many of the families we served last year were single-parent households. If you think about it, those parents are doing double duty as parents and working. Who would keep an eye on them when they play outside? So warm clothing was the answer."

Dia Maria

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PRICE: \$1

Novi Senior Center. Seniors got to enjoy the full Thanksgiving dinner (two weeks early), each other's company and some after-lunch musical entertainment. The senior center, located at Meadowbrook Commons, has already sold out its December holiday party.



STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Jean Radke serves up plates of turkey, gravy and mashed potatoes Nov.

JOHN HEIDER

#### **Clothing store**

Last year, the Novi United Methodist Church created a free clothing store with church members heading out to consignment, store sales and Salvation Army thrift stores to buy snow pants and boots, both usually running around \$30 per pair.

See CLOTHING, Page A2

# City wants to help neighborhoods beautify

#### **By Lonnie Huhman** Staff Writer

The city of Novi has established a Neighborhood Entryway Enhancement Matching Grant Program to provide funding and assistance to Novi homeowners associations to help them with entrance beautification projects.

Crystal McLain, a management analyst graduate intern in the city manager's office, presented the program Nov. 10 to the city council. It has been established "to support their efforts to enhance their neigh-

1

borhoods through high-quality, sustainable neighborhood entrance way beautification projects that help to establish the neighborhood and also benefit and enhance the Novi community."

"These projects must be in-tended to beautify a subdivision entrance through significant and permanent physical improvements, including adding/ modifying entrance signs, constructing flower beds, planting trees and installing other related entryway improvements,'

#### See BEAUTIFY, Page A2



The entrance into the Vista Hills neighborhood is an example of the beautification projects the city of Novi wants to help fund through its new grant program.



Day, Greg Geiger, Joe

clothing store. Day's church, The Church of

Jesus Christ of Latter-

and distributed invite-

day Saints, held a winter

clothing drive Oct. 24-25

only vouchers for identi-

fied local needy families.

came to Smith's church to

**Those organizers** 

help organize her shop,

bringing with them sev-

eral pallets of clothing

collected from the Far-

other volunteers to help

with this year's project

and prepare the store 1-9

p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 26,

Currently, invitation-

only vouchers are being

distributed through Novi

schools for families to

come Black Friday and

vouchers, they can con-

tact teachers and princi-

"They can shop for

shop. If families need

pals of their schools.

whatever they need."

open it to the general

Smith said. "We'll have

bags to fill and then we'll

public on Nov. 29 and 30."

church is collecting win-

ter clothing. Ideal hours

for drop off are from 9

through Thursday, plus Tuesday and Wednesday

on the store, call Novi

For more information

United Methodist Church

a.m. to noon Monday

evening

In the meantime, the

mington church. The

church is looking for

and 3-7 p.m. Thanks-

giving Day

Cody and Cory Perriton,

to hash out details of the

### COUNCIL

#### **Continued from Page A1**

trict, where she served as the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction from 1985-99. She earned her Ph.D. in instruction and curriculum from the University of Michigan.

Among her many community service highlights, she served the Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council in a variety of positions for 17 years and she volunteered for Arbor Hospice for six years.

Locally, she has made a big impact in the time she's been in Novi. She has taken on a leadership role at Fox Run and has established groups like the Political **Awareness** Committee and has served as its resident director, which is an elected position.

She said at this point she does not look to run for the vacancy after

#### *"I love the Novi* community and Fox Run. I want to give back ... that's been my

**DOREEN POUPARD** New Novi City Council member

life goal."

the partial term is over, but in the meantime her main goals are to bridge the gap between Fox Run and the community and help Novi set the table for long-range planning

"I love the Novi community and Fox Run," she said. "I want to give back. I believe when you've been given much, you should give back and that's been my life goal.' She was sworn in

Friday afternoon.

NEWS

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# **CLOTHING**

Continued from Page A1

People of the community and other churches dropped off clothing at the church when they heard what was happen-

ing. "Many parents are just scraping by with only a coat for their kids," Smith said. "Add \$60 on top of that. So we thought we'd provide those."

The Novi Rotarians also pitched in \$1,000 toward last year's effort, which assisted more than 50 Novi families. Orders were then taken at Orchard Hills and a Black Friday shopping trip ensued.

This year, the Interfaith Network of Novi will make the clothing store available for all needy Novi children to come and get what they need. And it looks like there will be plenty of stock on hand.

"As I look outside our office, we have 15 bags of clothes that Baby Baby in Northville dropped off today," Smith said. "They give a lot of clothing to Holy Family, but when they heard about we were doing, owner Lourdes Weidl said, 'I can set that aside for those families!""

That afternoon, Smith was meeting with fellow members of an interfaith group, including Jeff

### BEAUTIFY

Continued from Page A1

#### McLain said.

To qualify, projects must be located at the entrance of a neighborhood, clearly visible from the public right-ofway. Eligible projects may be either new construction/installation of physical improvements or a rehabilitation of existing improvements. Reoccurring or nonpermanent items such as mulch or annuals are not eligible, nor are other

maintenance items. According to the program guidelines, grant project funding requires at least an equal (1:1) match from the homeowners association and may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the project or a maximum amount of \$5,000.

If the funding from the city and the portion provided for by the receiving organization is not sufficient to complete the project, then the receiving organization is responsible for raising the difference. "The intent of this

(41671 W. 10 Mile Road) at 248-349-2652.

#### **Non-winter needs**

The needs don't end with cold weather, either. Smith's church, along with Julie Farkas, director of the Novi Public Library, and a few local churches work together to feed school children.

**Church volunteers** wrap product from Panera Bread in the morning and take it to Orchard Hills Elementary, where teachers pack it for families in need.

"The Veggie Pails is a two-women program -sort of a Schwan's for vegetables - who take their extra produce to the school, when they heard what we were doing. All that is supplemented by funds from teachers and parents for food that can go in backpacks. Canned goods are very heavy," Smith said. "The purpose is to assure that children are getting enough food on weekends. That may be common in areas like Detroit, but there are no soup kitchens in Novi.

"Out here, poverty is an invisible part of our population. When I mention the need in our city, residents are stunned that poverty is present in Novi - they have not seen it," she added. "We point out that we have five mobile home parks in Novi. I suggest that there might be two or three families in each of those

grant is not to completely

assist with as many pro-

out the community," the guidelines state. "The

amount awarded will be

reimbursed directly to

the applying organization

upon successful comple-

tion of project and con-

formance with all stan-

dards of the program."

ess will be conducted by

the city of Novi Beautifi-

cation Commission. The

commission will estab-

lish qualifying projects

and provide recommen-

dations to city council,

The evaluation proc-

jects as possible through-

fund projects, but to

parks that might be living on the edge. When I share that with people, that's when the light goes on."

#### Changing demographics

Ten years ago, Novi's population qualifying for free and reduced lunches was just 1 percent. Currently it's at 8 percent and two years ago it was 10 percent, according to Darby Hoppenstedt, the Novi school district's MTSS 504 coordinator.

MTSS (multi-tiered system of support) 504 federal law covers students with a disability, which could be any physical or mental impairment from diabetes or ADD to depression.

That 8 percent equates to about 500 students. In addition to a recession, the increase can be attributed to several factors, including an influx of people from local cities trying to provide a good education to their children," Hoppenstedt said.

She said some school staff members, like counselors or social workers, may reach out to families in need that they are connected with.

"We really can't target families in need, but if families have disclosed to us that they have a need, we may mention that (clothing drive)," Hoppenstedt said.

cstone@hometonwlife.com

which may then choose projects for final approval. Need, feasibility and planning will be the criteria used to judge.

Applications are due by Feb. 1, 2015. Five projects will be picked in the first round of the program.

To learn more, go to http://www.cityofnovi.org/Agendas-Minutes/ City-Council/2014/141110/ Presentation1 NeighborhoodEntryway MatchingGrantPro.aspx.

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# Wixom recognized for its positive entrepreneurial climate

For the seventh time in eight years, the city of Wixom has been recognized for its work to foster entrepreneurial growth and economic development. In the annual eCities study conducted by researchers at iLabs, University of Michigan-Dearborn's Center for Innovation Research, Wixom was selected and honored as a five-star community along with 32 other communities across the state.

"This recognition by the University of Michigan is validation of our efforts to support and improve the entrepreneurial client of Wixom," said Tony Nowicki, city manager. "Successful businesses are the foundation of strong and stable communities and our staff is committed to creating a community climate that enables businesses to develop, grow and prosper."

The eCities research surveyed 83 communities from 30 counties in Michigan that are home to 26 percent of Michigan residents and 33 percent of its college graduates. These communities count nearly one quarter of the state's entrepreneurs with more than \$2.6 billion in selfemployed income as residents. These communities also had more than \$12.3 billion in 2013 commercial construction and account for more than 31 percent of Michigan's commercial property.

"We are seeing the nature of economic development evolving and eCities is a tool to help local governments dem-

#### WHY WIXOM WAS CHOSEN

Most recently, the city of Wixom established a series of improvements to services including:

 The level of in-house plan reviews has been increased which reduces the cost of doing business in the city. All third-party plan reviews have been eliminated and all construction plan reviews are conducted in-house.
The use of "Job Boards" for commercial projects to post timely inspection results.

» The ability to conduct in-house fire suppression/alarm plan review which ultimately leads to a decrease in permit turn-around time.

 » New construction permit applications that are userfriendly and easily converted for future website use.
» Updated customer oriented hand-outs and guides which will be issued after the first of the year.
» Dramatically reduced time frames in the permitting process from initial permit intake to final issuance of

permit. » Reduced construction plan review times to less than 10 days for commercial projects and less than five days for residential.

» A document storage and retention program to reduce paper consumption.

» Restructured permit fee schedules to insure compliance with state requirements and provide more efficient and practical enforcement measures, without unnecessarily increasing fees.

» Standard operating procedures for construction and development services.

» Participation in Oakland County's One-Stop Ready Program with implementation of their concepts.

onstrate their role in the changing economy. These governments are supporting unique and innovative efforts locally, while collaborating regionally to help Michigan business compete in an ever-changing business climate," said Tim Davis, director, iLabs.

The communities were honored Nov. 13 at UM-Dearborn. Support for eCities is provided in part by the DTE Energy Foundation, Miller Canfield, Oakland County Economic Development and Community Affairs and UM-Dearborn's College of Business.

The annual eCities

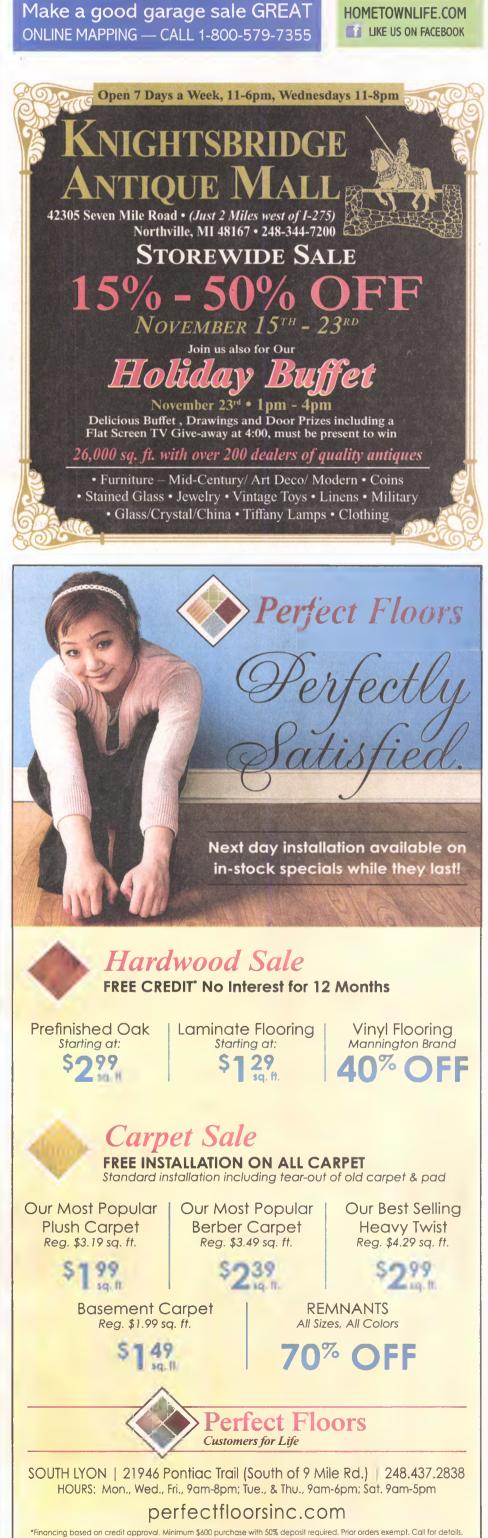
began in 2007, uses data supplied by the participants, as well as other public records to assemble a six-factor, 32item index of entrepreneurial activity, looking at such factors as clustering, incentives, growth, policies, community and education. The study focuses on entrepreneurship because of its importance to expansion and diversification of Michigan's regional economies and the impact small businesses have on job creation. To date, 197 communities across Michigan have participated in the study.

research project, which

### **'Hockeytown Doc'**



Nearly 100 Fox Run retirement community residents Oct. 27 heard Dr. John Finley, former physician of the Detroit Red Wings, speak and read from his book "Hockeytown Doc" at an author event made possible by Friends of the Novi Public Library. Shown (from left) are Fox Run sportscaster John Fountain; Julie Farkas, director of Novi Public Library; Geri Angel, chair of Fox Run Political Awareness Committee; Finley; Oakland County Commissioner Kathy Crawford; and state Rep. Hugh Crawford.





# The holiday fun kicks off this weekend in Downtown Northville! Join us November 21-23 for these festive events:

November 21 (6:30 pm) Holiday Lighted Parade & Tree Lighting Ceremony in Town Square

November 22 (7:30 pm) FREE Showing of the Holiday Movie, "Elf" at the Marquis Theatre

November 22 (10 am-4 pm) & November 23 (11 am-3 pm) Holiday Greens Market in Town Square

> For a complete list of Downtown Northville holiday events, shopping, and dining visit www.downtownnorthville.com



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#### SCHOOL BRIEFS

#### Night at the Joe

The Detroit Red Wings, in partnership with the Novi Educational Foundation, extend special group savings for all Novi Community Schools District students for the third annual Novi Educational Foundation Night at the Joe at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30, as the Detroit Red Wings take on the Vancouver Canucks.

From each ticket sold through this special offer, \$5 goes toward the foundation to support the Novi Community School District. Ticket packages include Preferred (\$45 – Upper Level, rows 4-12) and Regular (\$30 – Upper Level, rows 15-21).

If ordering more than 10 tickets, call Jamie Clark directly to pick your seats and get your per-ticket service fee waived. To purchase tickets, visit www.DetroitRedWings.com/novi and use the promo code: novi.

#### **Complimentary Pistons tickets**

The Novi Community School District has partnered with the Detroit Pistons to offer a complimentary ticket for students and staff to attend the Pistons vs. Bucks game Friday, Nov. 28.

Students will receive one complimentary ticket voucher to be redeemed online. Additional tickets can also be purchased for friends and family for \$10 each at the time of the voucher redemption.

Everyone in attendance on behalf of the Novi Community School District has the opportunity to participate in a post-game shot on the court.

#### **Adams singing for Alma**

The Festival of Carols, a cherished holiday tradition at Alma College, goes

on the road for a special one-time performance in Birmingham at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, at the First Presbyterian Church (1669 W. Maple Road).



Among the singers will be alto Alora Adams, an Alma College senior from Novi majoring in history/ social studies for secondary education. A graduate of Oakland Early College in Farmington Hills, Adams is the daugh-

ter of Kelly Adams of Novi. Tickets may be purchased online at: http://www.alma.edu/alma-collegepresents/foc-birmingham/. For ticket information, call 989-463-7304.

# Districts team up for parenting fair

Walled Lake Schools announced that the 22nd annual 2014 Parenting Education Fair is expanding its reach and participation to become the Western Oakland County Parenting Education Fair.

Parents, educators, teachers, administrators and childcare workers are invited to the fair from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22, at Walled Lake Northern High School (6000 Bogie Lake Road). The event will feature keynote speaker Jim Fay.

The newly-formed partnership with the PTAs and staff from Farmington Schools, Huron Valley Schools, the Oakland County Youth Assistance, Oakland Schools, Walled Lake Schools and West Bloomfield Schools is planning an expanded parenting education experience.

Gold sponsors for this event include Dance Dynamics, DMC Huron Valley Sinai Hospital, Henry Ford Hospital and

### **Fall Choral Concert**



Pictured (from left) are superintendents James Baker, Huron Valley Schools; Ken Gutman, Walled Lake Schools; and Dr. George Heitsch, Farmington Public Schools.

#### Oakland Community College.

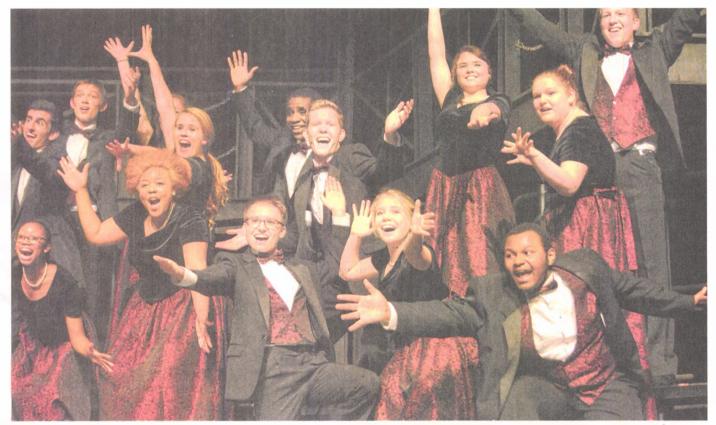
"The purpose of the Western Oakland County Parenting Education Fair remains the same – it is to educate, inform and provide resources for parents and caregivers," said Kristin Rendi, Oakley Park Elementary School principal and chair for the event.

This year will include two tracks and three rounds of breakout sessions, featuring more than a dozen different presenters. There will be a track of sessions geared toward preschool through fifthgrade parents and another track of sessions specifically for parents with students in grades 6-12.

Child care will be available for \$3 for one child or \$5 for two or more children, including lunch.

All participants are invited to purchase a complete box lunch prepared by the Walled Lake Food Service Department for \$8.

Visit the Walled Lake Schools website (www.wlcsd.org) and click on the Western Oakland County parenting fair link to learn more about the fair and preregister for this year's event. Tickets are \$12 online, \$15 at the door.



CURTIS DROGMILLER

Walled Lake Western High School Vocal Music Department presented Oct. 23 its annual 2014 Fall Choral Concert featuring the Walled Lake Western choirs (pictured) with special guest choirs from Sarah Banks Middle School and Geisler Middle School. Band directors were Western's Gregory Cleveland, Banks' Jeff Danner and Geisler's Ryan Dawley.



# RELIE\/E



# November 21 - 23

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LOCAL NEWS



Detroit Catholic Central teachers Ben Herman (left) and Christopher Gismondi talk about coaching their school's Academic Team.

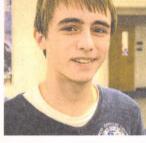
# **CC Academic Teams compete at championship level**

#### **By Lonnie Huhman** Staff Writer

The Academic Teams at Detroit Catholic Central High School in Novi are high-achieving. This current competition season is young, but both of its teams are ranked highly.

Catholic Central's 'A' team is ranked No. 4 in the nation (as high as it's ever been) and the 'B' team is ranked No. 43. still in the top 50 in the nation. The Catholic Central Academic Team prides itself on being a fierce competitor in the state and is consistently recognized as one of the most competitive programs in the nation.

"We're very proud of them. They are a dedicated group," said co-coach and CC teacher Ben Herman, who coordinates the



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Catholic Central student Jack Watts is captain of the school's Academic Team.

team with teachers and fellow coaches Chris Gismondi and Anthony Cornish.

The 'A' team's level of excellence was tested recently in a tournament at Ohio State University and it came through again in facing a Michigan State University team

twice, beating it both times.

"This was really exciting, but we are humble and know there's a lot of work in front of us," Herman said.

The Academic Team is a competitive program that is open to all grade levels. Competition is based on a team's mastery of specific academic categories, including literature, fine arts, science, geography, history, current events and mathematics. Nearly 40 CC students are participating this year.

The CC Academic Team competes at the varsity, junior varsity and freshman levels. All three teams compete throughout the state and travel out of state to nationally recognized tournaments.

In 2013, the team won its third straight Class A

**Quiz Bowl Title. Since** 1988, it has won nearly 20 of these.

TE CHAMPIONS

Even with all of the day-to-day academic work and studying, the students involved in it love it and that's what drives them.

CC senior Jack Watts, a team captain, said he was attracted to the team after being in quiz bowl in middle school. Now four years later, he's leading the team and enjoying every minute of learning more to help in the next competition.

"It's harder and more engaging," he said of the Academic Team compared to the middle school level. "But that's what I like about it and that's what drew me in."

The team has a tourney coming up in Chicago and members are putting in extra time to prepare.

With a database of old questions and new ones, the teams are ready for more head-to-head competitions and, hopefully,

CC has won all but two of the Michigan Quiz Bowl championships since the year 2000.

successes.

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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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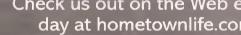
Cassandra Johnson, ANP-BC Adult nurse practitioner specializing in spinal cord injury.

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# Area musician shines in U.S. Army Field Band

#### **By Brad Kadrich** Staff Writer

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st **Class Christopher Blos**som saw an opportunity to pursue his life's dream 10 years ago - and he took it.

Ten years later, he couldn't be happier with his decision.

Blossom, a 1997 graduate of Canton High School who joined the Army in 2004, is a saxophonist with the U.S. Army Field Band, a position that gives him the career he's wanted since even before he joined the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band back in high school.

"I fell in love with music and (that feeling) really picked up in high school being in the marching band," said Blossom, a Canton native now stationed at Fort Meade, Md. "(Marching band) was just awesome.

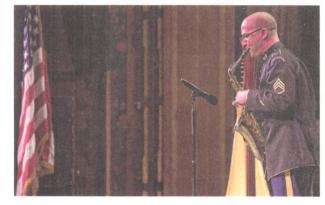
It was a really great experience for me and I really picked up the bug. I couldn't really see myself doing anything else, to be honest."

Blossom, son of David and Rebecca Blossom of Canton, was drum major when he was in the P-**CEP Marching Band. He** graduated in 1997, two years before the band won the national championship. Blossom's sister Monica was in that championship contingent.

"That's something she always has on me," Blossom said with a laugh.

#### **Music lover**

Blossom has always been a musician. In addition to the sax, he's also played the clarinet and the bass clarinet. He was in the band at the Universitv of Michigan, where he was busy obtaining his master's degree. He played bassoon, as did his future wife Anne (they



Canton native Christopher Blossom plays the saxophone now, but he can also play the bassoon and the clarinet.

were married in 2008). While he was finishing up at U-M, Blossom discovered the U.S. Army was auditioning players for the U.S. Army Field Band. He was "looking for a way to have a job," had a lot of student debt and the service "was just a good fit for me.'

While they're eminently proud of him,

Blossom's decision surprised his parents. "I was taken back a bit," David Blossom said. "I asked him, 'Are you sure you know what you're getting into?' He was willing to do that to get where he wanted to go. He's always been consumed with music. He's taken it to the next level.'

#### Lots of travel

The U.S. Army Field Band is the touring musical representative for the Army, traveling thousands of miles each year presenting a variety of music throughout the nation and abroad. Since being formed in March 1946, the field band has appeared in all 50 states and more than 30 countries on four continents.

Blossom said the band travels more than 100 days a year and he estimates it plays some 120-140 concerts a year. As an outreach program, the band plays formal public concerts, school assemblies, educational outreach programs, festivals and radio and television appearances.

All the travel can get tiresome, he said, but technology is making it easier. Programs like Facetime and Skype make it easier to stay in

touch with Anne and their 18-month-old son Desmond.

#### **Great place**

"You kind of find the balance," Blossom said. "It's hard to be away from home for so long, but that bridge has kind of been built with technology. Stuff like that makes it easier to be on the road than it used to be.

He's done a lot in his musical career, including time spent at Interlochen ("It's a really intense music camp and I just loved it," he said). He can see himself staying in the band - and the Army for a long time.

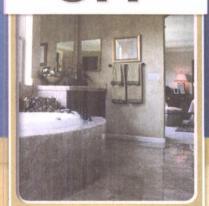
"I really love being in the field band," Blossom said. "It's the right fit for me. It's such a great place to be. I get to play with world-class musicians every day. It's such a good job. You just can't really beat it."

PS!



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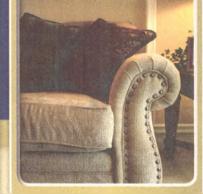
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# Tree farm helps families make yuletide memories

#### By Robin D'Angelo Correspondent

Whether it is generations gathering each week for Sunday dinner or taking to the fields each season to plant, nurture, prune and harvest 118 acres of Christmas trees, the Brians of **Broadview Christmas** Tree Farm are all about family.

Marty Brian, her sister Cathy and brother Bill are the owners/operators of the farm, which has been in the family since its purchase by English immigrant Alfred Barrett in 1849.

'Alfred started with sheep and his son David continued that. David's first son Adrian added potatoes to our farm ... even when Bill and Cathy and I were children, we had potatoes," Marty Brian said.

"My grandpa Earl Barrett continued with the sheep and the potatoes. His daughter was our mother, Betty, who married Ott Brian. Mom and dad added strawberries to the potatoes and, in 1972, we added the Christmas trees."

#### Preparation

Overseeing a Christmas tree farm is an extensive operation - one that begins well before the air turns crisp and continues long after the holiday decorations have been shelved for another year.

There is the planting season, spraying season, weeding season and pruning season - the



The Brian family is excited that this year the farm has indoor bathrooms for visitors.

latter being one of the most time-consuming, as each tree must be shaped and guided to ensure that is the best specimen possible come November. The tractors, wagons and machinery must be prepared and fixed, if needed, and the family hires extra workers - mainly local teens - in anticipation of the crowds.

"We like to have the kids come out and prune as a prerequisite, because that is a tough job," Marty said.

"Once they can do that, they are asked to come back and join us at Christmastime. So in addition to all of the members of our family working, we have about 15 more kids that help us out."

Broadview opens its doors the weekend before Thanksgiving for what Marty calls the "setup weekend," but the official rush begins right after the holiday and runs all the way up to the week of Christmas. The farm features Canaan fir,

Douglas fir and Fraser fir, with Canaan being the most popular.

"We do sell a lot of Canaan, because its size varies, it has soft needles and retains them well," Marty said. "I don't mean to downplay the spruce, but those needles are just a little pickier."

#### **Making memories**

Amidst all the bustle of opening the farm to the public, Marty said the most rewarding aspect is observing the camaraderie of customers young and old who gather to make memories at Broadview.

"All of this is a part of their story, part of their Christmas," she said.

"The wagon ride out to the field and watching them choose their tree. Some know right away what they and others we hear, 'Oh ... you want that one?' Every tree has its own character and belongs to someone. We have families that have been coming to us for years and years and now

have their own children and grandchildren. Everyone's traditions are different and they help to make ours, that's for sure. It's just a happy time.'

Broadview is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily starting Nov. 22 and features wagon rides, U-cut and pre-cut trees, wreaths, roping, free boughs, a small gift shop, professional family photos and scheduled children's crafts.

Tree-seekers are invited to come in and get warm in the farm's kitchen with hot chocolate and cider, doughnuts and coffee or stay for a hot dog lunch - and the most avid of those are invited to bring their own refreshments and tailgate at the tree farm to make a day of it.

Santa Claus visits the farm from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. each weekend and the petting farm (miniature goats, hens and roosters) is open for all to enjoy each weekend as well. Pets are welcome, but must be on a leash.

Judy Brian, wife of Bill, describes the tree farming life as "magical and a lot of hard work." "Meeting the people is

the best part," she said. 'Last year, it seemed like it was very important for people to tell us how many years they've been coming. We've been trying to come up with a way to track all the generations of customers," she said.

Giving back is another important part of the holiday season for the

Brian family and its employees: each year, the Brians host lunch at the farm for the Highland White Lake Business Association, of which they have been members for the past 30 years.

"We know everyone and we thought it would be fun to have them out during the week for a hot dog lunch, which is what we serve here on the weekends," she said.

The family also donates a number of trees to local military families and all tips collected during the season are pooled in a jar to donate to the needy.

Returning to Broadview this year are handmade commemorative ornaments, as well as a compliments/complaints table for customers to share their feedback.

"The thing I am the most excited about this year is ... we have indoor bathrooms!" Judy said.

'We've always had port-a-potties in the past and I have to say, that's the first place I'm going to show off to people. They're really classy."

#### Family matters

Marty Brian said new customers are often surprised to learn about the length of time the family has owned and farmed the land, as well as the number of family members that have stuck it out together over the years. As of now, seven families live on the farm.

"Not that we see each other every single day and we're not on each other's doorsteps every

single day, but at the same time at one given call we would all be together," she said.

'Most every Sunday I put a dinner together and some can make it and some can't. The farm helps out financially with food for our dinners and everybody brings something. I just put it out on the counter and everybody helps themselves. They might only be here for an hour or two and then they go on about the rest of their evening. Everyone sits around together. It's just kind of fun and not fancy.

She added that the latest generation of Brians recently pushed to make the farm a prime site for weddings during the summer and fall months - an endeavor that Marty says has worked out just fine.

"There are eight generations of family that have worked on this same land. This new generation, who are now starting families of their own, are adding tons of help and knowledge to our farm," she said.

'For this upcoming season, we pray that people will come out and continue their years of tradition, or start a new one.'

The Broadview Christmas Tree Farm is located at 4380 N. Hickory Ridge Road in Highland Township. For more information on upcoming events, hours and tree pricing, go to www.broadviewtreefarm.com or call 248-887-8733.

# Yankee Air Museum finally gets its piece of history

#### **By Sue Mason** Staff Writer

There was formality in the signing of the documents, but once done, Ray Hunter, chairman of the Yankee Air Museum, was like a kid on Christmas Day. Holding the purchase agreement in the air, he said to the invited guests at the historic signing, "Let's go see what we bought.'

Held in Hangar 1 at Willow Run Airport, the



work can begin on enclosing what was the end of the assembly line for the bomber and transforming it into a museum

#### **Still Yankee** Museum

According to Kevin Walsh, the museum's executive director, the Yankee name will continue until the new museum opens. And the planes bearing Yankee names will retain those

Air Museum as it currently exists will continue for years until we move into the new building.'

For phase two, the focus will be on fundraising and raising national awareness of the new museum. Story lines have been developed, focusing on Willow Run and the Arsenal of Democracy, aviation heritage and science and technology.

Plans are to move into

ceremony was the culmination of a dream hatched three years ago by Dennis Norton, a founder of the museum and president of the **Michigan Aeronautics** Foundation, and the start of phase two of Save the Bomber Plant --- fundraising to transform it into the National Museum of Aviation and Technology at Historic Willow Run.

"Just in case you're wondering, the bomber plant is ours," Hunter said. "This is a new milestone for the Yankee Air Museum. The only thing left standing is the home of the new museum. I want to thank RACER, the Wayne County Airport Authority, Ypsilanti and Van Buren Township in helping us preserve our past and build our future."

Norton persisted in convincing Trustee Elliott Laws that RACER Trust should sell the museum a 175,000square-foot portion of the former Willow Run Bomber Plant. Laws eventually agreed and the museum launched an \$8 million fundraising campaign that reached its goal with a last-minute

SUE MASON Ray Hunter, chair of the Yankee Air Museum Board of Directors (left), and Elliott Laws of RACER Trust sign the purchase agreements for the Willow Run Bomber Plant.

push over the top by the state of Michigan.

"It's a dream come true for me and for everyone in the room,' Norton said. "It's been a fantastic volunteer effort and it has been a very difficult, tear your hair project.'

#### **State assistance**

Among those who watched the ceremony was state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, who worked with his colleagues in the state Legislature to in-clude a \$1.5 million line item in the state budget to support acquisition of the bomber plant. With three-quarters of the money raised by volunteers, it made it easy to "rook the senators into going for it," Colbeck said

"This is an awesome day," said Colbeck, who presented an oversized check numbered 8685, representing the number of B-24 Liberator bombers that were built at the plant during World War II. "I've always been excited about what's happening here."

Colbeck, along with state Sen. John Pappageorge and state Rep. Earl Poleski, helped get the funding through both houses.

"We made it clear this would benefit everybody in the state and fit in with the push for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education," Colbeck said. "This was the right thing to do. I'm keen on seeing the kids excited in a few years. It made it easy that it was a professional organization and we were doing it for the right reason.'

as part of the inauguration of a new runway at Willow Run Airport. The Yankee Lady was the first plane to take off on

#### **CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18.273 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 97-18 AS AMENDED. THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE AT ARTICLE 4. R-1 THROUGH R-4 ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS, SECTION 402. PRINCIPAL USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO SPECIAL **CONDITIONS IN ORDER TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL HEIGHT FOR PLACES OF** WORSHIP.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing. The proposed text amendment is available for examination and review at the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Any written comments must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, December 10, 2014.

Novi Planning Commission Michael Lynch, Secretary

Publish November 20, 2014

An aeronautical engineer, Colbeck got another ride in the B-17 bomber runway 5R23L on its final flight of the season.

The signing came just over a year after museum officials raised the doors and invited the public in to see what it hoped to buy. With the help of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, the environmental concerns have been remediated and now name.

"When it started in 1981, the Yankee Air Museum name fit the museum, it was reflective of what the museum was about and what it did," Walsh said. "The museum has outgrown its name. It is no longer reflective of what this historical and education institution really is.

"The museum has become so much more and the name no longer reflects what we're doing. We made sure the new name embodied what we're doing and that it refers to the bomber plant. The Yankee

the building in summer 2017. For now, the new name will be used for fundraising to create the museum's facilities and exhibits through the Save the Bomber Plant campaign.

Another \$5 million is needed and the story lines will be used as avenues of fundraising, according to Norton.

"Save the Bomber Plant phase two kicks off today." Norton said. "The next \$5 million starts today."

smason@hometownlife.com 734-674-2332 Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

#### **City of Novi Public Hearing Notice**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers Novi Civic Center 45175 Ten Mile Road to consider:

CASE NO. PZ14-0045 43979 DURSON STREET The applicant is requesting variances from the CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 to allow construction of a new one story living area addition with a reduced side yard setback of 1 ft. (10 ft. required). The property is located south of 11 Mile Rd and east of Old Taft Rd

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 requires that a structure within an R-4 zoning district have a minimum side setback of 10 ft.

CASE NO. PZ14-0054 41200 BRIDGE STREET

The applicant is requesting an extension of the variance granted in ZBA case PZ12-035 and PZ13-0051 for one 24 square foot oversized real estate sign located at 41200 Bridge St. The property is located east of Meadowbrook Rd and south of Interstate 96, north of 11 Mile Rd.

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCE, Section 28-6 (4) states: "Sale, rental or lease sign which identifies the sale, rental, or lease of the non-residential property...be...not less than one-half the distance between the principal building and adjacent street and not higher than ten (10) feet nor more than 16 square feet in area.

CASE NO. PZ14-0055 45995 GALWAY DRIVE

The applicant is requesting variances from the CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 to allow construction of a new addition reduced aggregate side yard setback of 34.5 ft. (40 ft. required). The property is located south of 9 Mile Rd and west of Taft Rd.

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 requires that a structure within an R-1 zoning district have a minimum aggregate side setback of 40 ft.

CASE NO. PZ14-0056 WEST OAKS I 43741 WEST OAKS DRIVE The applicant is requesting variances from the CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Sections 2400 to allow construction of an 9,942 sq. ft. additional on the north and west sides of the existing center with a reduced north front yard setback of 95 ft. and a reduced west side yard setback of 67.73 ft., and Section 2507 to allow loading zone located on the side of the property. The property is located west side Novi Rd, South of 12 Mile Rd.

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES; Section 2400 requires minimum front and side yards setback of 100'. Section 2507, within the RC District, requires the loading zone be located in the rear yard or interior side yards.

CASE NO. PZ14-0057 1296 EAST LAKE DRIVE

The applicant is requesting variances from the CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 to allow construction of a new single family home with attached deck on an existing lakefront lot with a reduced south side yard setback of 4.92ft, a reduced north side yard setback of 3.0 ft., a reduced aggregate side setback of 7.92 ft. and maximum lot coverage of 33%. The property is located east of Novi Rd and south of 14 Mile Rd.

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 requires that a structure within an R-4 zoning district have a minimum side yard setback of 10 ft., a minimum aggregate side setback of 25 ft. and maximum 25% lot coverage.

Publish: 11/20/2014

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LOCAL NEWS

hometownlife.com

# Novi wins snow plow competition

#### **By Lonnie Huhman** Staff Writer

With winter's snow just beginning to fall, Novi residents can rest assured their streets are in good hands.

Snow plowers Matt Turco and Marc Tolsdorf were recently presented with the Metro Branch Snow Plow Roadeo Championship Trophy by the American Public Works Association's Michigan Chapter for winning a competition for snow plowing personnel.

"They take pride in what they do, so this is another great honor for our department," said Rob Hayes, Novi's director of public services, who oversees snow plowing on Novi city streets.

The competition involved an obstacle course designed to simulate actual snow plowing operations where drivers are timed and scored for accuracy, safety and speed. It also requires each team member to compete the snowplow course independently; the scores



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Novi DPW workers Matt Turco (left) and Marc Tolsdorf were part of the team that won the Snowplow Roadeo held September at The Palace of Auburn Hills. The team had to precisely maneuver snowplows through an obstacle course.

were combined for a team total. There's also an inspection and written exam.

Turco and Tolsdorf, who are part of the DPS crews that snow plow 530 lane-miles within the city of Novi, competed for the first time in the event last year. Through practice and experience gained over a tough winter, they scored high in

all facets of the competition.

"We were really glad to win, but we were surprised a little bit. Everyone in the competition is good at what they do,' Turco said.

The event took place in September in the parking lot of The Palace of Auburn Hills. The course had its tough parts, with a serpentine

or winding roadway with cones serving as parked cars. Both competitors said the neighborhoods in Novi with parked cars are great practice ground for this part of the competition.

"We are always good with the parked vehicles part of the test," both men said.

They will probably get a lot more practice in the coming months. Last year, the Novi

crews were tested with one of the worst winters in recent history hitting the state with cold temperatures and record snow fall. The Novi crews are prepared for this year and look to their hard-earned skills from past nights and holidays plowing snow. Matt Wiktorowski,

DPS field operations senior manager, said they are ready for the winter.

"We've been gearing up over the last couple of months for whatever comes," he said.

lhuhman@hometownlife.com 517-294-4215 Twitter: @lhuhman



#### ROD SANFORD | MICHIGAN.COM

Several agencies across the state, including Wayne County, the city of Dearborn and Missaukee County, have lodged complaints with the state attorney general over possible price gouging by salt companies.

# Salt prices jump for Wayne County; AG investigating

#### **By David Veselenak** Staff Writer

Salt prices for Wayne County and other communities are seeing increases this year, something some officials are questioning

The Michigan Department of Transportation estimates average costs for agencies across the state maintaining roads shot up 46 percent from last year, going to an average of \$65.81 per ton. That's up from the average of \$44.99 per ton last year.

Cindy Dingell, the deputy chief operating officer at Wayne County, said the county is paying much more for salt through the Mi-DEAL consortium, which contains more than 1,000 governmental organizations across the state.

The pre-fill amount was \$74.42 a ton from one salt contractor, North American Salt Co., and the seasonal fill price is from the same company is lower at \$58.95 a ton, something that took the county off-guard, she said. The county is also receiving some seasonal salt from Detroit Salt Co. at \$47.01 a ton, the same business Livonia uses through its consortium with several communities in the Detroit area. "I would say the seasonal one we kind of expected that to jump,' she said. "We were shocked at the early (fill price)." The cost per ton with the seasonal rate from North American Salt last year was \$45.46 and Detroit Salt's price per ton last year was \$35.21 a ton. Several agencies across the state, including Wayne County, the city of Dearborn and Missaukee County, have lodged complaints with the state attorney general over possible price gouging, spokeswoman Joy Yearout said. The complaints from Wayne County came from state Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, Yearout said. "We have received several inquiries about salt prices from cities and we are reviewing the matter," she said. "We are looking into it right now."

Wayne County filled up its domes with roughly 33,000 tons of salt earlier this year, Dingell said. Wayne County maintains all roads in the county's townships, as well as several mile and main roads, which include Inkster, Middlebelt, Merriman, Farmington, Haggerty, Seven Mile. Six Mile and others.

#### **Consortium selects** contract

While some of the salt Wayne County purchased through the consortium is from the Detroit Salt Co., the county has no control over the contracts that come through the consortium because of the way the contract through MiDEAL works, Dingell said.

'We don't select who gets awarded the contracts," she said. "We would love to get it (from Detroit Salt Co.)."

About 12,500 tons came from the Detroit Salt Co. for the county this year, compared to 87,000 from North American Salt, Dingell said.

Because of the vast difference in prices this year, Dingell said the county leadership could recommend the next leadership team look at another option to purchase salt through for 2015.

This is definitely

# Road Commission prepared for winter

The Road Commission for Oakland County is reviewing winter plowing and salting procedures with its truck drivers, preparing its trucks for winter and getting snow plows ready for winter weather.

This year, for the third year in a row, RCOC is hiring part-time, temporary snowplow/salt-truck drivers to augment its shrinking full-time staff. The agency plans to hire 40 temporary drivers. "Our full-time staff

numbers have been reduced so much in recent years that we simply didn't have enough fulltime drivers to provide the level of service that the public deserves," **RCOC** Chairman Greg Jamian said. "Augment-ing the full-time staff with temporary, parttime drivers is a costeffective way to maintain

that level of service.'

#### **RCOC FACT SHEET**

Below are some facts and figures related to winter road maintenance in Oakland County.

» Salt trucks and snowplows typically travel more slowly than other traffic. RCOC urges drivers to use caution around the orange trucks and allow them enough room to safely do their jobs:

"Don't crowd the plow. » RCOC uses an average of 64,000 tons of salt per winter.

» RCOC salt trucks are kept at six garages located throughout the county. Salt is kept in salt storage facilities at each of those garages. Those facilities, currently nearly full, hold a total of about 37,500 tons of salt.

» RCOC does not anticipate any problems getting salt this year, based on assurances from its salt vendor.

» In all, RCOC has jurisdiction over 2,700plus miles of county roads (including subdivision and gravel roads).

» RCOC also maintains 230 miles of mostly multi-lane state highways on behalf of the Michigan Department of Transportation. This includes I-75, I-696, I-96, M-59, Telegraph Road and Woodward Avenue, among others. These 230 miles of mainly freeway roads are the equivalent of

» Most RCOC salt trucks are equipped with computerized salting mechanisms that automatically adjust the amount of salt spread based on the vehicle's speed. The salt spreaders also include "prewetting" devises that spray salt brine on the salt as it is being spread, so that it begins working more quickly. These technologies also allow RCOC to conserve salt

» At temperatures below 20°F, salt begins to lose its effectiveness. At 10°F, it does virtually nothing.

» Salt is still the most cost-effective option for removing ice and maintaining the safest roads possible.

» RCOC keeps salt trucks ready to go 24 hours a day, seven days a week » RCOC crews maintain state and county roads in Oakland County based on a priority system. "Critical priority" roads

are those with more than 10,000 vehicles per day per lane. "Priority 1" roads are those with 2,500 to 10,000 vehicles per day per lane, while priority 2 and 3 roads have less traffic. » RCOC typically does not use sand on

paved roads because it does not melt ice and can clog storm drains. Sand is used on gravel roads where typically there are no storm drains, and where salt is less

Jamian noted the agency has also brought back an additional four retired plow drivers on a part-time basis. RCOC has reduced its staff about 35 percent overall since 2007 and nearly 40 percent within the Highway Maintenance Department as a result of the decline in state-collected road funding over the last decade.

While the part-time workers should alleviate some of the strain, RCOC continues to struggle with aging equipment.

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2,000-plus miles of one-lane pavement. » RCOC divides all the miles of paved primary roadway it maintains (including county roads and state highways) into 106 salt "routes." A single "salt run" for a truck typically uses about six tons of salt. » RCOC expects to spend approximately \$12 million on winter road maintenance this year alone, including approximately \$4.4 million to maintain the state highways for MDOT.

» RCOC expects to spend more than \$3 million this winter on salt alone (cost per ton: \$49.90).

» RCOC standards call for approximately 400 pounds of salt to be applied to each two-lane mile of pavement.

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effective.

» A snowstorm that shuts down Michigan's economy for one day has a \$251 million impact on the state's economy (Source: the nonprofit Salt Institute, Alexandria, Va.).

» A single RCOC snowplow/salt truck costs approximately \$220,000. » RCOC has approximately 135 snowplows/salt trucks, though all trucks are never used at the same time (some are "spares," used when others break down). RCOC also employs 19 "road graders" that are used plow heavy snow. » Fully loaded, RCOC snowplows get about four miles per gallon of fuel. Empty, they get about six miles per gallon.

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something that has everybody's attention," she said.

MDOT and its contract agencies used more than 653,000 tons of salt across the state last year. Because of the unpredictable nature of the weather in the state, it's not easy to determine how much salt is needed for the upcoming winter, state officials say.

"It's impossible to predict how much salt we'll need to use for our highways this winter, but the higher prices make it more likely that salt will eat up a larger portion of our budget,' state Transportation **Director Kirk Steudle** said in a press release. "If we use the same amount as last year, the total bill for salt could top \$40 million."

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



#### **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE** NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS **OFFICE CLOSING**

The Charter Township of Northville Administrative Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 27 & Friday, November 28,2014 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. The offices will reopen at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, December 1, 2014.

**POLICE & FIRE EMERGENCY SERVICES WILL REMAIN AVAILABLE** 

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Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk

Publish: November 20, 2014

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#### **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

#### **NOVI**

#### **Novi Choralaires** holiday concerts

The Novi Choralaires holiday performances include 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at the Novi Senior **Center Auditorium** (25075 Meadowbrook Road); 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, at the Farmington United Methodist Church (33112 Grand River Ave.); and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the Church of the Holy Family (24505 Meadowbrook). Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors and children under age 12 and \$10 for groups of 10 or more. Visit

www.novichoralaires.org for more information.

#### **Gorman's partners** with Arc

It is estimated that nearly 4.6 million Americans have an intellectual or developmental disability. Gorman's Home Furnishings & Interior Design, through its Lifeline of Hope Campaign, will once again raise money to help make a difference in the lives of these local individuals and their families.

Customers can participate in this communitygiving program by vis-iting any of Gorman's four southeast Michigan showrooms in Novi, Troy, Southfield or Lakeside (Shelby Township), Nov. 26 through Jan. 19, and make a minimum donation of \$50 to The Arc of Oakland County. As a thank you, donors will receive \$200 off the price of any recliner from Gorman's 10 best brands, or \$400 off select, worldfamous Stressless® recliners.

The Arc of Oakland County Inc. is Michigan's largest community-based organization of and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It works through education, research and advocacy to

improve the quality of life for the people it serves.

For more information about The Arc of Oakland County, please visit http://thearcoakland.org/.

#### **Light Up the Night** in Novi

The annual Light Up the Night event will take place on the Novi Civic Center Campus on 6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5. Mayor Bob Gatt and a special visitor from the North Pole will light the holiday tree at 6:15 p.m.

**Engaging activities** will be held indoors and out and includes a craft show, kids' crafts, marshmallow roasting, hockey skills competition, petting farm, ice sculptures, and more. Live performances from various dancing groups featuring Mexico Lindo Ballet Folklorico, Polynesian Dancers of Michigan and other various dances will take place on the indoor stage. Attendees will enjoy free food samples from several local restaurants. A festive hav wagon will shuttle people to and from the Novi Public Library to enjoy two magic shows featuring Baffling Bill at 7 and 8 p.m. The ever-popular Dan Dan the Choo Choo Man will offer miniature train rides 6:30-9 p.m.

The annual Light Up the Night event is an opportunity for community members to gather together and share in the festive seasonal spirit," said Jeff Muck, director, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department.

Light Up the Night is presented in partnership with Bright House Networks, ITC and many other Novi businesses.

For more information about Light Up the Night in Novi, visit www.cityofnovi.org or call the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at 248)-347-0400

#### Give blood, platelets

The American Red Cross asks eligible donors to give something that means something this holiday season - a lifesaving blood donation.

Blood donations often decline this time of year when donors get busy with holiday festivities and travel. Severe winter weather and seasonal illnesses, like the flu, can also have a serious impact on blood donations, but the need for blood remains steady. On average, the Red Cross must collect 15,000 blood products every day for patients across the country.

Prime Care of Novi (39555 W. 10 Mile Road) will be taking donations from 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Dec. 14.

Eligible donors with all types are needed, especially those with O negative, A negative and B negative. To learn more about donating blood and to schedule an appointment, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767.

#### **ITC towers light up**

ITC's Michigan operating entities ITCTransmission and Michigan Electric Transmission Company, LLC, which own and operate the high-voltage electricity grid in most of Michigan's Lower Peninsula, lit up nine of its 150-foot tall transmission towers with colorful holiday decorations

The Novi tower is located at I-96 and Meadowbrook Road.

The transmission towers are decorated with approximately onequarter mile of rope lights (16,000 bulbs). The displays include 10- by 15-foot Happy Holidays signs and brightly lit stars at the tower tops. The festive lights will shine every evening

from through Jan. 2. "Our tower decorations have become a popular holiday tradition in Michigan," said Gregory Ioanidis, president of ITC Michigan. "We're happy to join the communities we serve all across the Lower Peninsula in celebrating this festive time of the year.'

Avery Sign Company of Ferndale designed and maintains the decorations for ITC. Utility Lines Construction Services places them on the towers

ITC also will feature lighted holiday signs on its headquarters building along M-5 in Novi.

#### **Hunger-Free** Holidays bazaar at **Showplace**

The Diamond Center at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi will usher in the holidays 6-10 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, with the inaugural Hunger-Free Holidays Bazaar benefiting Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan.

Patrons will enjoy a strolling dinner while shopping the marketplace of items --- abundant hostess and holiday gifts, furniture made from reclaimed materials and unique apparel and accessories, crafted by Michigan artisans

Guests will enjoy Epoch Hospitality's Detroit BBQ and Fajita stations - offering braised brisket with crispy onions, pulled buffalo chicken sliders, fresh tortillas with chicken, sauteed peppers and onions with all the fixings. A cash bar will also be available

Every dollar raised provides three meals, helping to ensure a hunger-free holidays season for southeast Michigan families. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. To purchase tickets, visit gcfb.org/holiday.

#### **Novi Farmers Market continues** through winter

The 2014 Novi Farmers Market was so successful - with hundreds of people enjoying fresh vegetables, flowers and other items throughout the summer and fall that the market will continue through the winter with gourmet foods and artisan items indoors at the Novi Civic Center. 45175 10 Mile Road.

The winter market will take place twice monthly from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the following Saturdays: Nov. 22; Dec. 6 and 20; Jan. 10 and 24; Feb. 14 and 21; March 7 and 21; and April 4 and 18.

The market will showcase an expanded selection of Michigan food products, as well as selected artisans with items to complement the home. Patrons will find foods, decor and gifts for holiday entertaining.

To stay in the know about the Novi Farmers Market, including recipes, vendor features and more, like it on Facebook. For more information, contact manager RoseAna Twitchell at 248-347-0400 or rtwitchell@cityofnovi.org.

#### **Plan with Novi Older Adult Services**

City of Novi Older Adult Services is planning a variety of fall events, providing fun opportunities for attendees to stay active and socialize with friends. Each below event includes a meal and entertainment.

» Thursday, Dec. 11-"Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" holiday luncheon, noon to 2 p.m., Meadowbrook Activity Center

The events are \$7 for Novi residents and \$8.50 for non-residents. There is no cost for Veterans at the Home of the Free, Because of the Brave **Brunch**. Pre-registration

is required and is available now at the Older Adult Services office (45175 10 Mile Road) and the Meadowbrook Activity Center (25075 Meadowbrook Road).

To learn about the above programs or additional older adult social and educational programs, call 248-347-0414 or visit www.cityofnovi.org.

#### Coffee with the Superintendent

Join Novi Schools Superintendent Steve Matthews for Coffee with the Superintendent at the Novi Public Library in the Board Room 202 on: Dec. 15 (6:30 p.m.); Dec. 17 (10:15 a.m.): Jan. 12 (6:30 p.m.); Jan. 14 (10:15 a.m.); Feb. 9 (6:30 p.m.); Feb. 11 (10:15 a.m.); March 9 (6:30 p.m.); March 11 (10:15 a.m.); April 13 (6:30 p.m.); April 15 (10:15 a.m.); May 11 (6:30 p.m.); and May 13 (10:15 a.m.).

#### Art classes for older adults

City of Novi Older Adult Services invites those ages 50 and above to socialize, relieve stress and lift moods by taking part in the upcoming Color Your World art class series. The classes are led by volunteer Novi High School art students who want to share their love for art. No previous experience is necessary.

Pre-registration is required and can be completed online at www.cityofnovi.org, at the Novi Civic Center (45175 10 Mile) or Meadowbrook Activity Center (25075 Meadowbrook Road).

Classes are held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday at the Meadowbrook Activity Center. There is no cost to register, but a \$3 supply fee will be due to the instructors at each class. The schedule includes: » Saturday, Dec. 13: oil

See BRIEFS, Page A11



### vill receive a Why wait for the holidays to get **Planning Guid** together with family and friends?

# At Waltonwood you'll have friends nearby all year round!

Independent Living • Assisted Living • Memory Care

As your family gathers this holiday season, you may notice changes in your aging loved ones. If you're concerned about their ability to live alone, or if they could benefit from increased social opportunities, we encourage you to take advantage of this time and visit a Waltonwood near you.



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Personal and group tours are available throughout the Thanksgiving weekend, Friday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Waltonwood at Cherry Hill (734) 335-1554 42600 Cherry Hill Canton

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Waltonwood at Royal Oak (248) 397-5308 3450 West Thirteen Mile Road Royal Oak

Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks (248) 468-4903 27495 Huron Circle Novi

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Seniors



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www.facebook.com/waltonwoodseniorliving

### BRIEFS

#### Continued from Page A10

pastels; learn colorblending techniques

For more information, call 248-347-0414.

#### **Clothing recycling** program

For Walled Lake residents, recycling unwanted clothing is now as easy as a walk to the curb with the free curbside collection program offered by Simple Recycling

The program is simple and convenient since pickup occurs on the same day as recycling service, collection bags are provided and replacement bags are left each time full bags are set out for curbside pickup

While the focus is on recycling clothing, Simple Recycling will also accept shoes, accessories, toys, books and small home goods in working condition such as kitchen ware and tools

Residents who live in communities not serviced by the Simple Recycling program are encouraged to donate unwanted clothing to their favorite charity or thrift shop. A list of local organizations, including those that offer pickup, is available on the RRRA-SOC website.

#### **Students display** work at Novi Civic Center

The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department will host an art exhibit featuring the students of Fran Seikaly in the Novi Civic Center Atrium Gallery through Tuesday, Dec. 2. The gallery is located at 45175 10 Mile.

Siekaly has taught in the community for more than 40 years with focus on drawing, pastels, color pencil and oil painting. More than 30 artists will showcase their pieces,

ranging from oil and pastel to color pencil and graphite.

Some artwork is available for purchase. If interested or for more information, please contact the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at 248-347-0400.

To learn more about art initiatives in Novi. including outdoor displays, classes and theater, visit www.cityofnovi.org.

#### NORTHVILLE

#### **Children's Christmas** Workshop

The Northville Historical Society's 36th annual Children's Christmas Workshop will take place Saturday, Dec. 6, in the New School Church at Mill Race Village.

Children in grades first through sixth are invited to participate in the opportunity to make seven old-fashioned, hand-made gifts for the special people on their Christmas list. The intent of the workshop is to surprise family members with the gifts that the children have worked on and made themselves.

There will be a morning session from 10 a.m. to noon and an afternoon session 1-3 p.m., accommodating 150 children total. Enrollment is \$20 per child, payable by cash or check made out to the Northville Historical Society.

For more information, contact the Stockhausens at 248-349-2833.

#### **Holiday Lighted** Parade

Entries are now being accepted by the Northville Chamber of Commerce for the annual Northville Holiday Lighted Parade which will take place Friday, Nov. 21. The 2014 parade theme is "All I Want for Christmas is ..." and entries are invited to follow the theme in order to compete in three award categories. Bands, floats, dancers and entertainers are welcome to perform in the evening parade that kicks off the holiday season in downtown Northville.

There is now charge to participate in the parade, but an application form is required. Applications are available on the Chamber website at www.northville.org or by calling 248-349-7640.

The parade, sponsored by Tom Holzer Ford, begins at 6:30 p.m. and travels through the streets of downtown Northville. Following the parade, a community sing-a-long and tree light-ing ceremony will be held. Local churches will provide free refreshments before and after the parade in Town Square.

#### **Blues** @ The Elks

Plymouth-Ann Arbor Elks Lodge No. 325 in Plymouth will present Blues @ The Elks the second Tuesday of each month in partnership with the Detroit Blues Society and Jazz @ The Elks the last Tuesday of each month. The Lodge is located at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, in Plymouth Township. The events run 7-10 p.m.

For more information call 734-453-1780 or visit www.plymouthelks 1780.com.

#### **Heise invites** residents to **November coffee** hours

State Rep. Kurt Heise is hosting coffee hours to give residents a convenient opportunity to meet with him locally and discuss state or local issues 7:30-9 a.m. Friday, Nov. 21, at Panera Bread, 400 S. Main Street, Plymouth. No appointment is necessary.

Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office. Residents are invited to call 855-REP-KURT or email kurtheise @house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.





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#### Welcome Dr. Irby-Johnson

The St. Mary Mercy Medical Group would like to extend a warm welcome to NiJuanna Irby-Johnson, MD. She joins our medical group of over 25 primary care and specialty physicians as an internal medicine physician. She has more than 10 years of experience in adult primary care, preventative care and management of chronic disease

Dr. Irby-Johnson received her medical degree from Wayne State University School of Medicine and is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

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#### LOCAL NEWS

# Area veteran thanks Schoolcraft College for his education

#### **By Julie Brown** Staff Writer

Lawrence Smith of Canton had his opportunity Veterans Day, Nov. 11, to say "thank you" as the expanded Veterans **Resource** Center was dedicated at Schoolcraft College

Smith is a 22-year U.S. Army veteran and Detroit police officer. He graduated from Schoolcraft with honors in 2012 with an associate's degree and is finishing his bachelor's degree in public safety administration with honors at Eastern Michigan University.

"Pam Paxton-Keehner, my counselor, was a great tool in getting me started," said Smith, 51, who'll graduate from EMU in December. "I was scared to go back to school. It was a great learning experience. Smith urged other

veterans to seek out Schoolcraft staffers expertise and assistance. "They will help you through this process," he said

Schoolcraft President Conway Jeffress told the audience that space was a challenge in constructing the facility in the McDowell Center on the Livonia campus. Jeffress noted the Star Trek reference of "space, the final frontier," adding, "This is an expandable space."

Jeffress noted not all veterans are aware of their benefits and that paperwork can be a challenge. "This is to help veterans get all that paperwork done," he said. Schoolcraft has some 220 veterans enrolled.

Jim Fausone, a college board member and attorney, also spoke at the ceremony. His wife, Carol Ann, is the first

woman to become a brigadier general in the Michigan National Guard and was also present.

"This is a rarity," Jim Fausone said. "I get to give the speech," he said, adding his wife would tell him later how he did.

Fausone noted the U.S. has some 22 million living veterans, including some 2.4 million who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. He urged the audience to thank veterans for freedom to attend school, to assemble and to worship without fear.

Fausone also referenced the recent general election in the U.S. "We do it without violence,' he said of voting. "We do it by casting our ballots.'

Fausone urged veterans to use the discipline and skills acquired in the service to reach civilian goals. "We know you're not asking for charity,' he said of benefits



JULIE BROWN

Schoolcraft graduate Lawrence Smith of Canton visits with Pam Paxton-Keehner, who coordinates the Veterans Resource Center at Schoolcraft. Smith urged other military veterans to return to school as he did. He's finishing his bachelor's degree at Eastern Michigan University

earned.

Fausone also lauded the family members of servicemen and women. As the ceremony ended, the doorway area up-

stairs in the McDowell Center had a ceremonial ribbon cutting, followed by informal tours. The center features several computers in the study

area, as well as resources for veterans and an area to socialize and watch TV.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com



Shown (from left) are event co-chairs Nathan Leader and Amy Goodman; IDF soldier Capt. Ilai; event honorees Teri and Mark Goodman; FIDF IMPACT! Scholarship graduate Moshe; Lt. T.; and event co-chairs Regan and Jeff Goodman.

# Annual dinner raises \$1M to support Israeli soldiers

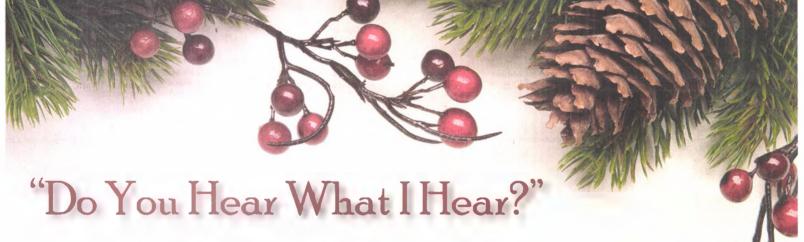
Friends of the Israel Defense Forces Michigan Chapter's annual Gala Dinner Nov. 4 raised more than \$1 million for well-being programs for the brave men and women of the IDF. More than 850 FIDF supporters from across the state gathered at Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Walled Lake to honor Enid and Gary Goodman and Teri and Mark Goodman. Mark and Gary have

FIDF missions and have seen first-hand how Israeli soldiers work tirelessly to protect the Jewish homeland and its people. They take great pride in being Jewish and supporting the local Jewish community, as well as the state of Israel.

"Our recognition tonight is not a sign that our work is done," Mark Goodman said. "On the contrary, it motivates us to keep reaching new heights on behalf of Israel's soldiers."

Speakers included combat soldier in reserve Moshe, wounded Paratrooper Capt. Ilai and 1st Lt. T., who lost his twin brother, 2nd Lt. Hadar Z'L, during Operation Protective Edge.

Moshe served in the IDF's Egoz Reconnaissance Unit, which specializes in anti-guerrilla warfare and is credited with preventing more terrorist acts than any other IDF unit. He was trained as a sniper and ultimately lost some of his hearing because of his role. Even though Moshe was designated a disabled veteran, he continued to serve as a combat soldier. He commanded a team which took part in high-risk missions in Gaza, the West Bank and Lebanon. Through FIDF's IM-PACT! Scholarship Program, he received a college scholarship and volunteered at Tlalim, where he tutored severely disabled children. In July, he was deployed to Gaza and fought in Shuja'iyya, where his unit lost three soldiers. Ilai was shot in the leg while in battle with Hamas during Operation Protective Edge. His unit, along with Special Forces and other IDF units, were awaiting orders to destroy every Hamas tunnel excavated under Israeli borders. During his four days in the hospital, Ilai received thousands of visitors; some he knew, and many he didn't. This month, he will be returning as captain of the Reconnaissance Force of the Paratroopers brigade to command over 130 motivated young men. One of the most memorable moments of the night was hearing the story of fallen IDF soldier 2nd Lt. Hadar Z'L, from his twin brother, 1st Lt. T. The audience was profoundly touched by T.'s bravery in facing the loss of his brother.



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#### **RELIGION CALENDAR**

Send calendar information to cstone@hometownlife.com by noon Monday to be included in Thursday's publication. The calendar is also available online at www.hometownlife.com.

#### Brightmoor **Christian Church**

Location: M-5 and 13 Mile, Novi. Contact: 248-668-7014 or Cele-

brateRecovery@brightmoorcc.org. Web: www.brightmoorchur-

ch.org. **Celebrate Recovery** 

Time/Dates: 7 p.m. Mondays. Details: Worship, teaching or testimony and open-share recovery groups. Organizers offer the principles and tools to bring healing for the hurts, deliverance from life-controlling habits and freedom from the hang-ups that keep us from developing strong and healthy relations with God and others. Enter at Door D on the south side of the building. No cost; free child care is available for children birth through fifth grade. Pre-register.

#### **Church of the Holy** Family

Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road

Contact: 248-349-8847 or visit holyfamilynovi.org.

#### Mass Schedule

Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday through Friday; 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday; 4:30 p.m. Saturday; 6:30 p.m. Saturday (Spanish)

Holy days: 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment.

Priests: the Rev. Bob LaCroix, pastor, and the Rev. Beto Espinoza, associate pastor. AA: 8 p.m. Wednesdays.

#### Crosspointe **Meadows Church**

Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile. Contact: 248-669-9400, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit crosspointemeadows.org.

#### Sunday worship: 11 a.m. Bible study classes: 10 a.m. for

all ages. Details: Nursery and older children programs available. Worship blends traditional and contemporary elements resulting in a multi-sensory worship experience.

#### **Destiny Worship** Center

Location: Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 Six Mile, Northville.

Contact: DestinyW3C@Gmail.com or visit www.DW3C.org.

Books of Ruth and Esther Wednesday: 5:30 p.m. family dinner; 6:30 p.m. Caravan Scouting program for ages 4 through fourth grade; Club 56 for fifth and sixth graders; Surge Youth Group, Bible Study with Pastor Troy Ogle; and Little Critters for preschool age.

Christmas Around the World Concert: Sunday, Nov. 30. There will be an outdoor live nativity from 4:30-6 p.m., followed by a concert with carols featuring the Novi Singers. There will be a cookie and hot cocoa reception immediately following the concert. This is open to the public and it is free.

#### **First Presbyterian Church of Northville**

Location: 200 E. Main. Contact: 248-349-0911 or visit www.fpcnorthville.org. Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. (for all ages).

#### **First Presbyterian** Church

Location: 205 E. Lake St. (corner of Wells and 10 Mile), South Lyon.

Contact: 248-437-2875.

#### **First Presbyterian** Church

Location: 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington.

#### First United **Methodist Church of** Northville

Location: 777 W. Eight Mile, Northville. Contact: 248-349-1144 or

www.fumcnorthville.org. Sunday Worship (September-May): 9:15 and 11 a.m

Sunday School (September-May): 9:15 a.m. Nursery 12th grade; 11 a.m. Nursery-sixth grade.

#### **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

Location: 41415 Nine Mile, corner of Meadowbrook Road, Novi.

Contact: 248-349-0565. Sundays: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible study; 10 a.m. worship.

#### **Holy Cross Episcopal** Church

Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile. Contact: 248-427-1175 or holycrossnovi@gmail.com; visit holyCROSSnovi.org. Sunday Worship: 7:45 and 10

a.m. **Sunday School and Nursery** Care: 10 a.m. worship service. **Alzheimer's Support** Group:10 a.m. second Saturday of month

### **Brain games**



Seniors take part in the Nov. 12 Brain Games session at the Northville Community Center.

Brenda Roberts works on a Soduku game during a Nov. 12 Brain Games gathering at the Northville Community Center. The morning of activities, hosted by the Wayne State Institute of Gerontology, gave seniors information on how they could keep their brains sharp via puzzles, name games and proper nutrition.



How to reach us:

1-800-579-7355 · fax 313-496-4968 · www.mideathnotices.com

#### Deadlines: Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. for Thursday papers Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

ALLEN, HAZEL Of Northville. June 27, 1926 -November 13, 2014. Services entrusted to L.J. Griffin Funeral Northrop-Sassaman Home, Chapel

### CORNISH, CHARLES R.

Age 78 of Durand, passed away at his residence on Sunday, No-vember 16, 2014. Cremation has taken place and there will be no services at this time. Charles was born June 30, 1936 in Wayne County, the son of Charles Howard and Anna Marie (Lundin) Cornish. He married Barbara Travis in Detroit on September 8, 1956 and together raised 3 children. Prior to his retirement in 1989, Mr. Cornish was a Fireman on the Detroit Fire Department, while assigned to the Fireboat he received the Medal of Valor from the department. Charles is survived by his wife of 58 years, Barbara; three children: Judith Tisher of South Lyon, Steven (Jeanine) Cornish of Durand, Beverly (Frank) Laway of Cheboygan; eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren. He was preceded

HOLMAN, **HENRY FRANCIS** Of Milford, passed away in the care of his family on November 15, 2014 at the age of 67. Henry was preceded in death by Nancy. his beloved wife, his parents and his brother Tom Holman. In ad-dition to his sons, John (Chris) Holman, Douglas (Alice) Holman, George Holman, and Matthew Holman, Henry is survived by his grandchildren Jessica, Dakota, Jon, Tracie, and Edward Rebecca; brothers (Twyla) Holman, Russell Michael (Diane) Holman. Holman, Jack (friend Leslie) Holman, and Frederick (Jennifer) Holman; sister-in-law Patricia Holman, as well as many nieces, nephews and extended family. Funeral Service will be held from Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty St., Milford on Wednesday, November 19 at 11 a.m. with gathering to begin one hour prior. Burial and Navy Honors will follow at Milford Memorial. Cemetery. Friends may visit Tuesday 2 - 9 p.m. Memorial encouraged to: Wounded Warriors Project or American Cancer Society. For



#### KONZ VIRGINIA LOÚISE

South Lyon, MI Age 87, passed away on Monday, November 10, 2014 at Arbor Hospice. She was born October 13, 1927 in Toledo, Ohio the daughter of George and Vida (Aufderheide) Mentzer. She was preceded in death by her parents and sisters Kathryn Bruner and Laura Ramsdell and brother-in-law Floyd Ramsdell. She is survived by her brother Robert, children Jeffrey (Lois), Kristine Konz, Gordon (Kasey) and Thomas (Jamie); eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren. The family will receive friends at Phillips Funer-al Home 122 W. Lake St. (10 Mile), South Lyon, MI on Satur-day November 22, from 9:30-11:30 am. Funeral service will be 1:30 pm Saturday November 22 at Toledo Memorial Park



View Online

www.hometownlife.com

#### STEINBACH, SANDRA "SANDEE" LEE

Of Milford, passed away in the care of her family on November 12, 2014 at the age of 65. In addition to Dan, her beloved hus-band of 47 years, Sandee is sur-vived by her daughter, Kim (Steve) Freiberg and son, Dan (Kim) Steinbach; grandchildren Timothy, Allison, Cassandra and Kaitlyn; brothers Robert (Judy) Fulkerson and Harry (Karen) Fulkerson; and nieces Brenda, Erica and Cheryl. Services will be held privately. Memorial donations encouraged to the American Cancer Society. For further information, phone Lynch & Sons, Milford at 248-684-6645 or visit

LynchFuneralDirectors.com LYNCH & SONS Funeral Directors

#### **Emmanuel Lutheran** Church

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia.

Web: www.emmanuel-livonia.org.

Contact: 248-442-8822.

Sunday worship: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Youth group: 7 p.m. Wednesdays.

Women's Coffee Break Bible Study: 10-11:30 a.m. Mondays;

Christiainity and World Religions: Wrestling with Questions People Ask by Adam Hamilton

The Andy Griffith Bible Study: 11 a.m. Sundays; adult Bible study

**Special Needs Ministry:** Contact Judy Cook, 248-442-8822.

#### **Faith Community Presbyterian Church**

Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile. Contact: 248-349-2345 or visit www.faithcommunity-novi.org. Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

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#### **First Baptist Church** of Northville

Location: 217 N. Wing. Contact: 248-348-1020. Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays. Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month.

#### **First Church of the** Nazarene

Location: 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile.

Contact: 248-348-7600 or visit dfcnazarene.org.

Sunday Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Classic worship service, Adult Bible Fellowship classes and Children's Sunday School; 11 a.m. Contemporary worship service with Kids Church, Teen Worship Service and Adult Bible Fellowship classes. Cafe is open from 9:15-11 a.m.; 6 p.m. Evening Traditional Service.

Thursday: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group and Bible Study.

Tuesday: 9:25 a.m. Women of the Word Bible Study -- the

#### Hope Lutheran Church

Location: 39200 W. 12 Mile (east of Haggerty), Farmington Hills.

#### Lakes Baptist Church

Location: 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake.

#### **Livonia Church of** Christ

Location: 15431 Merriman. Livonia.

Contact: 734-427-8743 or visit www.livoniachurch.net.

Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. Bible School: Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.

#### Legacy Church

(formerly First Baptist Church and Orchard Hills Baptist Church) Location: 23455 Novi Road,

Novi. Contact: pastor Jon Hix, 248-

349-5665 or visit www.legacychurch.us.

Sunday School/Small Groups for all ages: 9:45 a.m. Worship Services: 11 a.m. Bible Study/Prayer: Wednes-

day 7 p.m.

#### Meadowbrook Congregational Church

Location: 21355 Meadowbrook Road between Eight Mile and Nine Mile.

Contact: the Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, senior minister, at 248-348-7757; visit mbccc.org; or email to office@mbccc.org. Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

Church School and Nursery Care: provided during worship. Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m.

#### **Orchard Grove Community Church**

Location: 850 Ladd Road, Building C, Walled Lake. Web: www.orchardgrove.org. Contact: Amanda Rehm at 248-926-6584 or amanda.rehm@orchardgrove.org.

in death by both two sisters: Katherine Secord and Elaine King. Memorial contributions given in Mr. Cornish's name are suggested to the

Detroit Fireman's Fund. Online condolences may be sent to his

family by going to www.watkinsfuneralhomes.com



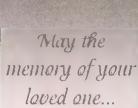
#### GOLDBERG SHEPARD C.

Beloved husband of Janet Goldberg. Dear father of Carly Goldberg and Haley Goldberg. Devoted brother of Marsha (David Hoof) Goldberg. Also survived by many other loving family members friends. SERVICES W and WERE HELD AT THE DORFMAN CHAPEL. FARMINGTON HILLS, (248) 406-6000, or visit www.thedorfmanchapel.com.



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6382 Monroe Street, Sylvania, OH. Memorial contributions may be made to Active Faith Community Services, South Lyon, MI or Arbor Hospice, Ann Arbor, MI

#### **PATTERSON HELENA S.** December 7, 1921- November 12, 2014. L.J. Griffin Funeral Home-Northup Sassaman Chapel

#### SAJA, EDWARD

92, of Northville, passed away November 15, 2014. Beloved husband of Emily. Devoted father of Sharon (Jean Captain) Manns, Connie Lane, Ron (John Herrera) Saja, and Allan (Ron Harris) Saja. Dear brother of Gene (Beverly) Saja, Helen Kolod, and Florence (Roy) Kimball. Cherished grandfather of Mark Manns, Jennifer Bradwin, and Jeff Lane; greatgrandfather of James Bradwin Edward was interred at St. Hedwig Cemetery of Dearborn Heights. heeney-sundquist.com HEENEY-SUNDQUIST FUNERAL HOME

SCHARF, WILLIAM Age 66, passed away November 17, 2014. on www.phillipsfuneral.com

SIMON, RAYMOND A. September 22, 1943 -November 16, 2014 L. J. Griffin Funeral Home. Northrop-Sassaman Chapel

#### WALTON, **DONALD EDWARD**

Age 88 of Milford, formerly of Ferndale, passed away on Sun-day, November 16th, 2014. He was preceded in death by his wife, Anita Walton in 2012 and is survived by his children, Gary (Suzie) Walton, Lori (Joe) Neighbors, Bruce Walton; grandchildren, Guy (Jeanette), Danielle (Brian) Bobbitt. Nickole (Ryan) Anderson, Gary Jr. (Michelle), Tighe, Kyle (Brittaney), Blair, Kelsey (Tony) Rubin; eight great-grandchildren, extended family and dear friends. Visitation will be held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty St., Milford on Wednesday, November 19th from 4-8 p.m. A Funeral Mass from St. Mary's Catholic Church, 1955 E. Commerce Rd, Thursday, November 20, 2014 at 11 a.m. with gathering beginning at 10:30 a.m. Msgr. John Budde to officiate. Burial Milford Memorial Cemetery. Memorial con-tributions may be made in his name to the Milford Senior Center. For further information phone 248-684-6645 or visit

LynchFuneralDirectors.com LYNCH & SONS

Funeral Directors

WEIMAR, SHIRLEY H January 22, 1918 - November 14, 2014. L. J. Griffin Funeral Home. Northrop-Sassaman Chapel

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The Japan Business Society of Detroit announced that its members have pledged more than \$3 million for the Detroit Institute of Arts' Grand Bargain and Japanese Gallery at the museum.

Hikaru Sugi, JBSD president, and Takashi Omitsu, JBSD executive adviser, led the fundraising efforts to add to the \$1 million pledge made in August by Toyota Motor North America, JBSD's largest member.

Twenty-one companies committed to making a contribution, resulting in \$2,167,000 in pledges and gifts. The majority of the money, 75 percent, will be

used for the DIA's commitment to the Grand Bargain, while the other 25 percent will go toward reinstalling the museum's Japanese collection in a new gallery.

The contributing 21 companies include: DEN-SO International America, Inc.; AISIN group; Toyoda Gosei North America Corp.; Toyota Tsusho America Inc.; Hino Motors USA group; **JTEKT North America** Corp.; Toyota Boshoku America, Inc.; Akebono Brake Corp.; Yazaki North America, Inc.; American Mitsuba Corp.; Mitsubishi Electric Automotive America, Inc.;

N.S. International, Ltd.; Panasonic Automotive Systems Co. of America; Tram Inc.; Hirotec America, Inc.; Hitachi Metals America, Ltd.; Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A), Inc.; Sumitomo Corp. of America; Isuzu Manufacturing Services of America, Inc.; Hitachi Automotive Systems Americas, Inc.; and Hayashi Telempu North America Corp. Additional commit-

ments from 13 individuals and 14 other companies totaled more than \$100,000, which will be donated to the DIA through the JBSD Foundation, a philanthropic arm of JBSD, to be used

for the Japanese gallery. "Judge Rhodes' verv well reasoned and historic opinion accepting the city of Detroit's Plan of Adjustment and authorizing Detroit to exit from the bankruptcy process fully embraced the Grand Bargain initiative as a key element of his rul-ing," said Eugene A. Gargaro Jr., chairman of the Board of Directors of the DIA. "All donors to the Grand Bargain success story, including the Japan Business Society of Detroit, should applaud Judge Rhodes' decision and recognize that through their generous financial support, Detroit

will rise again, pensioners will have a reliable funding source and the future of the Detroit Institute of Arts will be secure for generations to come."

The JBSD, which started in 1973 and celebrated its 40th anniversary last year, has been focusing on contributing to the local community. Also, the JBSD Foundation, established in 1991 under U.S. code 501(c)3 as a philanthropic arm of the JBSD, has been supporting a scholarship program for overseas study for American students and activities of nonprofit organizations

located in more than 40 cities in Michigan through annual donations.

"The DIA is a significant cultural icon in metro Detroit and in the state of Michigan and we are pleased to be able to support their activities," Sugi said. "We look forward to working with the DIA on the Japan Gallery, so we can continue strengthening the friendship and understanding between the U.S. and Japan."

**JBSD** Foundation plans continuous support to the DIA by soliciting donations from corporate and individual members for Japan Gallery.

# Your Invitation to

# **Brighton**

**HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL** www.hsrcc.net at the corner of Winans Lake & Musch Rd. 810-231-9199 Fr. John Rocus, Pastor Weekend Liturgies Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.n e visit our Shroud of Turin Display and Book & Grit Sh

### **Walled** Lake

CROSSPOINT **COMMUNITY CHURCH** 1850 S. Commerce Rd. Walled Lake, MI 48390 Sunday Services: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. Wednesday Evening: 7 p.m. All Ages Rev. Kenneth Warren - 586-531-2021 www.cpccnow.com

# Whitmore Lake

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

Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

# Highland

# Milford

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

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**MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN** CHURCH Pastor Bryant Anderso 238 N. Main Street, Milford MI (248) 684-2805 www.milfordpc.org Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m. Sunday School age 3 thru 5th grade @ 10 a.m. Youth Group 10 am - Grades 6-12 A heritage of area worship since 1836

Milford United **Methodist Church** 1200 Atlantic St., Milford, MI 48381 Sunday Worship: 8:30 am, 10:30 am, 6:00 pm Children's Church: 10:30 am Groups for Children. Youth and Adults 248-684-2798 19798 milfordumc net

# Novi

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

#### **FAITH COMMUNITY** PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 44400 W. 10 Mile., Novi, 248-349-2345 1/2 mile west of Novi Rd. www.faithcommunity-novi.org

WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10 AMS "Driveren, Hendh and Adult Ministe

MEADOWBROOK **CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH** 21355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 1/2 Mi 248-348-7757 • <u>www.mbcc.ora</u> Sunday Worship 10 a.m. Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister

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

Msgr John Kasza, Pastor Parish Office: 347-7778

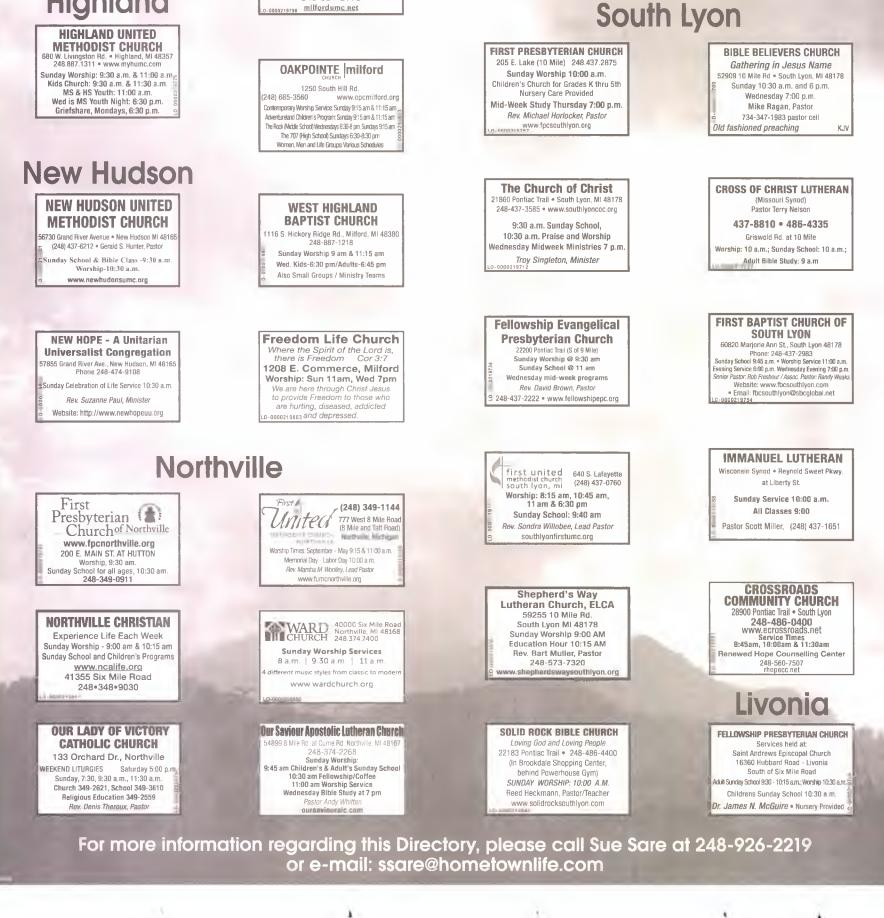
#### HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH 24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375 aturday: 4:30 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Fr. Bob LaCroix, Pastor Fr Reto Espinoza Associate arish Office: 349-8847 • www.holyfamilynovi.c

HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL 40700 W. Ten Mile Rd. • 248-427-1175 Sunday Worship 7:45 am & 10 am Healing Service Wednesday 11:45 am Rev. Ann Webber, Rector holycrossnovi@gmail.com

#### **OAK POINTE CHURCH**

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





#### LOCAL NEWS



The first floor lounge area of Novi's Hotel Baronette.

# Baronette completes \$1.5M hotel renovation

The Baronette Renaissance Hotel in Novi has completed a \$1.5 million renovation of its location that includes an upgrade in technology, business center banquet facility and outdoor patio, which can now comfortably accommodate 250 people. The 155-room, three-star hotel and banquet facility is located on the southeast corner of 12 Mile and Novi roads near Twelve Oaks Mall.

"This is a renovation and construction we've been looking forward to for a while," said Sora Chan, director of sales. "With these upgrades, we get the opportunity to offer our clients and customers the very best experience possible, whether they be overnight guests, business guests or party guests. All can enjoy the enhancements we've made here."

The long-planned construction included a complete renovation of

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sora Chan, director of sales, steps out of the newly-designed work space on the first floor. The hotel has recently completed a redesign, including many new works of art and graphics on the walls.

business meeting spaces, consisting of five breakout rooms that can comfortably accommodate small- to mid-sized meetings. Each contains upgraded technology:

» 80-inch or 70-inch LED displays

» Built-in conference line with mics and speakers installed into walls » HDMI and VGA/

Audio connections » Hardwired and wire-

less internet connections In addition, the renovation redesigned the Baronette's Grand Oak Ballroom, the 300-capacity on-site banquet facility popular with weddings and corporate parties. The hotel is currently scheduling parties for the holidays and already has several on the books, including 5-Hour Energy, which annually schedules its holiday parties with the hotel.

"Living Essentials, 5-Hour Energy has chosen The Baronette Renaissance Hotel several times over the past five years because it is a great environment, has great accommodations, great food and a great staff for our holiday event," said Elizabeth Carter, controller for Living Essentials, 5-Hour Energy. "We look forward to each year that we have our event there.'



An aging workforce and a lack of experienced job applicants are two significant employment challenges area health systems face in the coming years, according to a regional survey of six leading health systems commissioned by Oakland County.

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson announced the release of the survey the Skills Needs Assessment Project - to more than 400 health care and life science professionals, educators, physicians and government officials attending IN-NO-VENTION 2014 - a **Medical Main Street** Conference Oct. 22 at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

"We are focusing on the health system needs because they are the fastest growing and the largest of our employment sectors in Oakland County," Patterson said. "This professional review of the health systems' future needs will be an indispensable aid to the health community as it adjusts to an aging workforce."

The Skills Needs Assessment Project, a year-long survey of health systems in southeast Michigan, presents important information about job prospects in the health care industry for employers, educators and students. SNAP began in 2009 with a study of skills and knowledge required for jobs in the Emerging Sectors, which identifies the top growth sectors in the region such as medical, communications, information technology and advanced materials. A second study was completed in 2013 on advanced manufacturing. The complete report is available online at www.AdvantageOakland.com.

"It's important to not simply talk about the need but to roll up your sleeves and do the difficult work," Deputy County Executive Matthew Gibb said. "Oakland County doesn't just talk about it. We develop the tools to fix it."

The 32-page report provided an in-depth look at employment within area health systems and identified challenges and potential solutions. It also identified skills and education job seekers need to qualify for a host of health care opportunities.



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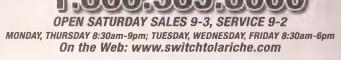
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# OPINION

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

**OUR VIEW** 

# Family caregivers are our unsung heroes

It is appropriate that National Family Caregivers Month shares November with the traditional Thanksgiving holiday. While being thankful for all that we have, this month is a special time to recognize, praise and give thanks to the 42 million Americans — 2.1 million in Michigan — who help care for aging parents, spouses and other loved ones so they can remain at home rather than in often-costly institutions.

Consider that in Michigan family caregivers provide 1.4 billion hours of unpaid care each year. That care, which amounts to about \$16 billion annually, includes caring for loved ones in their homes. The so-called sandwich generation — men and women who are still raising their children or financially supporting grown children, while caring for aged parents – is living a time-consuming, stressful and financially straining reality.

The important role family caregivers provide cannot be dismissed or taken lightly. Indeed, in American society, these caregivers are our unsung heroes.

Often faced with no other choice, a woman (typically) – if not caring for a loved one around the clock – will spend an average 20 hours per week providing assistance, usually to at least one or more aging parents, in their home.

And many caregivers provide this assistance while maintaining careers or, in many cases, giving up careers, to ensure quality care, further putting a hefty strain on families' financial health.

According to AARP, care-giving as the norm in family dynamics will only continue, particularly as America's largest population, the Baby Boomers — those in the post World War II generation head into deep old age.

Yet, the Baby Boomer generation is also the one hardest hit by job loss and salary reduction in the country's — especially Michigan's — latest economic recession. Many in this generation are still putting their children through college, while their parents have reached the point in their lives at which they need help and more intensive care.

AARP Michigan, which recognizes the changing dynamics of families, caregivers and sick or elderly parents, conducted a survey this summer of voters 50 and older. The results are not that surprising.

The survey showed that four of every five Michiganders want to live independently in their own homes as they age. Results also showed that it is family members who step up to provide assistance to maintain a loved one's independence. Assistance includes bathing, dressing, meal preparation, managing finances, transportation and grocery shopping.

Understanding the difficulties faced by family caregivers, AARP Michigan wants a common sense solution. It is called the Caregiver, Advise, Record, Enable Act — also known as CARE — to be addressed in the state Legislature's new session beginning in January. The bill offers three important provisions:

#### **COMMUNITY VOICE**

### Thanksgiving is Nov. 27 – what are you thankful for?

This question was asked at the Novi Public Library.



"I'm thankful for my family." Sue Budlong



"I'm thankful to be given the opportunity to live in America and for my parents being able to bring me up and sustain me."

> Colin Sherrod Novi



"For our good schools." Andrew Bradley Novi



"For being given a lot of opportunities and the chance to be whatever I want."

Sihan Wang Novi

#### **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Novi

#### **Reasons for results**

As they gloat, Republicans could/should realize the reasons for the results:

1. Low turnout showing anger, apathy and disgust about Congress and many state legislators;

2. Resurgence of Ayn Rand's philosophy as shown by Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan that government should not serve people — people should improve their lives by their own efforts regardless of circumstances, otherwise socialism results;

3. Fear about the economy, even though gas is now about \$3 a gallon, unemployment is under 6 percent and the stock market is breaking records every day; 4. Money from individuals and

4. Money from individuals and extreme right groups, thanks to the Citizens United ruling by the Supreme Court;

5. Rapid changes in all aspects of life, including technology and climate, which are difficult to explain or understand, and voter suppression, as well as difficulty for some citizens to vote in nearby areas;

6. Fear plus uncertainty about terrorism and disease;

7. Non-acceptance or agreement with any policies of a president who was unlike any previous president in race or ethnicity.

The burden after Nov. 4 is on Republicans to benefit and improve the lives of all U.S. citizens and to keep our country safe and respected throughout the world. I have doubts, but have hope. I know I will work even harder to make the previous statement a reality.

Hannah Provence Donigan Commerce Township

### Take sub-machine guns from bureaucrats

The recent solicitation by USDA for sub-machine guns raises great and grave concern among farmers, local food consumers and everyday citizens. Why would an agency responsible for regulating agriculture in the United States need submachine guns? I do not believe that they should.

I am asking that you support HR 4934 to demilitarize agencies like the USDA and FDA who are regulatory agencies and should not, by default, require such serious weaponry. I believe that we are putting agricultural workers and the citizens who support them at risk if we give the USDA sub-machine guns to use at will.

If sub-machine guns are truly warranted, the USDA should go through the procedures to gain support from the Department of Justice and leave the sub-machine gun use to those men and women whose profession it is to use them.

Carol Soborowski Novi

#### The truth is ...

There are 1,600,000 abortions per annum.

That is one million, six hunired thousand terminated pregists accord it a right and a freedom to all women to terminate their pregnancy when they care to.

It is not limited to a danger to the mother or the fact that the child will die anyway or is dead or is the product of rape or incest – it is up to the woman.

There is no protection for that little thing. When the mother is "counseled" for abortion before the act, it is often to ensure she is not going to walk and so the fee to the clinic would be lost. If there are truly a combina-

If there are truly a combination of pregnancies by rape and lost for medical reasons that are not being recorded elsewhere – as in the crime and health statistics – and the numbers are not showing up, then we have some problems in this society that are clearly not being addressed.

Having said that and considering the weight of these problems, why is our government invading other nations and attempting to literally change them to our ways?

Our "enemies" do not believe in abortion. It is common knowledge around the world that people in the United States routinely kill their own children.

kill their own children. Consider the plight of one soldier in Afghanistan who suddenly realized that he was guarding an abortion clinic.

There will be more than one coming home that knows the truth.

What will you do with truth?

» That the name of the family caregiver is recorded when a loved one is admitted into a hospital.

» That the family caregiver is notified if the loved one is to be discharged to another facility or back home.

» That the facility must provide an explanation and in-person instruction of the medical tasks the family caregiver must perform at home.

AARP Michigan also wants nurses to be given more authority to heal and to ensure that community resources are available, including home care and adult day care. Equally important is the need for caregivers to receive training, help at home and workplace protections, AARP Michigan said.

The CARE bill is a step in the right direction that state lawmakers must embrace in the new legislative season. Providing care is not an easy task and caregivers must be supported with resources and easier access to provide the necded tasks required today.

No one really wants to recognize that their lifetimes are growing short. But elderly family members and even those headed in that direction must provide direction and information to potential caregivers about what they want for their lives, including designating a patient advocate.

While training for caregivers is essential, it is equally important that caregivers are armed with the legal permission to provide care and to make decisions, including financial. Otherwise, medical personnel who stand outside the family circle will make those decisions, often not what the patient or caregiver wants, but want is expedient and cost-effective for the medical industry.

Make no mistake, the stress and strain for family caregivers will continue, particularly as the large Baby Boomer generation grows older. Caregivers are our unsung heroes for what they do, not only in a practical sense, but for the love and genuine effort they make to maintain the dignity and quality of the lives of their aging family members.

While acknowledging the Thanksgiving holiday next week, let's remember there is a special group among us who have — whether by necessity or desire — extended their strengths, their days and their own physical, emotional and financial health to ensure that our aging population is valued, cared for and provided quality living.



Cal Stone, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor **Grace Perry,** Director of Advertising nancies each year. The abortion-

Wayne

#### **GUEST COLUMN**

# Afghanistan offers reasons for optimism

ecently I had the honor of speaking to the United States Institute of Peace as that institution celebrated its 30th anniversary. I was a cosponsor of former Sen. Sparky Matsunaga's legislation establishing the USIP, which Congress passed in 1984. Last April, I saw firsthand one example of the value of the institute's work, when the institute's staff in Kabul, Afghanistan, hosted briefings for me with civil society leaders, women, young people and human rights activists. At USIP, I focused my re-

At USIP, I focused my remarks on the pursuit of peace in Afghanistan and the wisdom that has aided us in that pursuit.

I am hopeful about Afghanistan's future, because of the progress we have helped bring about over the last several years. And I am hopeful because of the recent peaceful and democratic transition of power, a first in Afghanistan's long history. That transition offers increased reason for optimism that we have an essential ingredient for success in place there, perhaps the essential ingredient - a unity government of Afghans whose own goals are in harmony with our goal of a free, peaceful and unified Afghanistan.

Afghanistan faces immense challenges from Taliban terror to corruption to poverty to ethnic and political tension. But the progress the country has made is also immense.

Too many people forget what Afghanistan was like before coalition intervention in 2001. Even in major cities, access to food, clean water and employment was limited. Women were barred from attending school, working outside the home or even leaving their houses unless accompanied by a male relative. Today by contrast there is

Today, by contrast, there is vibrancy in Afghan society. In



just one decade, life expectancy in Afghanistan has increased by 22 years and child mortality has decreased by 62 percent. Under the Taliban, there were just 900,000 students in school, all boys. Now, student enrollment is more than 8 million, including about 3 million girls. In 2001, Afghanistan had 20,000 teachers, all male; today, there are 200,000 teachers, including 60,000 women.

The Afghan security forces have exceeded our military commanders' expectations, successfully responding to Taliban attacks and safeguarding two rounds of elections. I have always believed that our principal mission in Afghanistan is to help establish Afghan forces so they can protect their people and their hopes for a free nation. That is the Taliban's worst nightmare.

Afghans now have hope for better governance as well, as President Ghani and Chief Executive Officer Abdullah, who competed in a hotly contested election, have resolved their differences over the election and formed a unity government. That gives the Afghan people reason to hope that the nation's new leaders are more interested in building Afghanistan's future than in pursuing partisan or sectarian or corrupt agendas.

While public opinion polls show that the Afghan people think we have accomplished much and are glad we came, polls in the United States show that Americans believe our involvement in Afghanistan has

#### failed.

I believe that the American public's failure to understand what we have accomplished in Afghanistan is due, in large part, to the constant, almost totally negative portrayal of events in Afghanistan in the American press.

The press understandably reports on negative events. A Taliban truck bomb in Kabul does make a more dramatic story than a million girls going to school. But it would be tragic if this negative focus deprived the American people, our men and women in uniform and their families of the sense of accomplishment they deserve to feel about our effort in Afghanistan.

While Afghanistan's gains have been impressive, they remain reversible. Afghans continue to fear that the United States will abandon them, as they believe we did after the Soviets left in the early 1990s. The Afghans have assumed responsibility for their own security and for their own political affairs, but they continue to depend on international funding, training and institution-building, in particular, for sustaining the Afghan army and police.

If the public continues to believe that Afghanistan is a lost cause, it may become a selffulfilling prophecy. Simply put, if we don't understand what we and our coalition partners have gained in Afghanistan, we risk losing it. Much remains to be done, but I believe if the Afghan people remain united and if we remain constant in our support of them, Afghanistan will take its place among the achievements of which our nation can be proud.

Carl Levin is the senior U.S. senator from Michigan and chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

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# Three area men face charges in betting ring case

#### By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

Three men charged with participating in a multi-county illegal sports betting ring have been ordered bound over for trial.

George Abick, 64, of Garden City, Sean Barnes, 42, of Novi and John Cramblet, 45, of Detroit, all waived their preliminary examinations Nov. 13 before 18th District Judge Sandra Cicirelli. All three men had entered not guilty pleas at arraignment.

However, Cramblet waived his hearing conditionally. His defense attorney, David Lankford, said he had talked with the officers in charge of the investigation and was told they wouldn't recommend incarceration for Cramblet as the case is resolved.

"The prosecutor is not in a position to make that decision — it would have to move up the chain," Lankford said. "If no incarceration doesn't come to pass, then the matter would be remanded back for the preliminary examination."

The preliminary examination is the hearing at which the prosecution, in this case the Michigan Attorney General, presents its probable cause case that the crimes were committed and the defendants likely committed those crimes.

"I don't have the authority to make that (no jail time) recommendation," Assistant Attorney General Richmond Riggs said. "If it is the recommendation of the officers in charge, I need to speak to my superiors. If it isn't possible, we'll return for

#### **POLICE BRIEFS**

#### NOVI

#### Vehicle theft

Novi Police have issued a "Be on the Lookout" for a stolen gray 2013 Ford Escape.

The reported theft happened the night of Oct. 11-12 at a residence on Bancroft Drive. The owner told Novi Police she left the garage door open for her son to get in that night as he was coming home from out of town. The vehicle was unlocked and did contain the key fob. There was nothing inside of value. the preliminary exam." Getting that kind of decision usually takes about 30 days, Riggs said, so he expected to be able to have that by the scheduled circuit court arraignment date Dec. 11. All three defendants, free on bond, are scheduled for Dec. 11 arraignment.

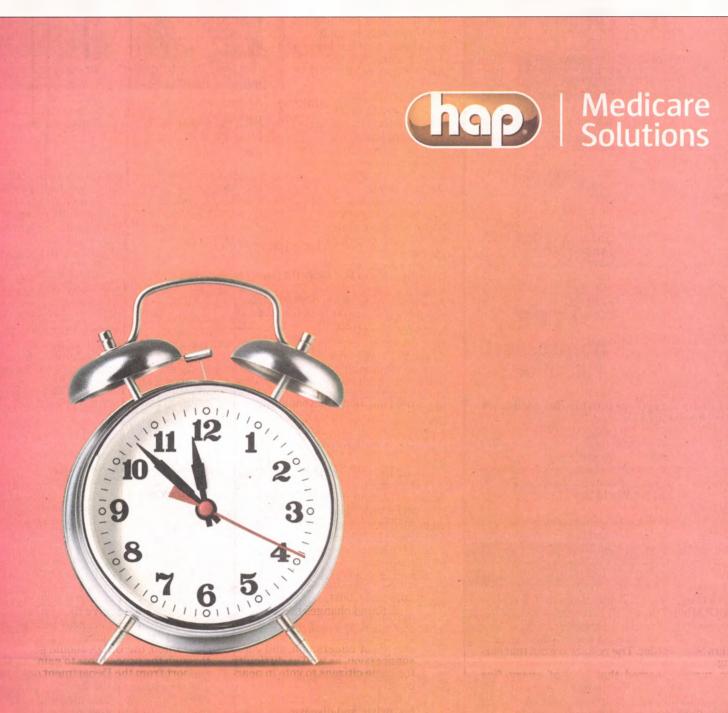
All three men are charged with operating a continuing criminal enterprise — two counts for Abick — along with failing to file income taxes. Abick and Barnes are charged with four counts each of gambling/taking bets, with Cramblet facing three counts of the same crime.

According to the complaint, the defendants were involved in a sports betting ring operated by Westland residents John and Ellen Zunich. According to police, the three men were instrumental in producing and distributing the football cards used in the betting ring.

The three defendants are accused of working for John Zunich, 71, who pleaded guilty to one count of conducting criminal enterprises (also known as racketeering), a 20-year felony, and no contest to one count of failure to file/ false taxes, a five-year felony. He is currently serving an 18-month to 20-year sentence in state prison with his earliest release date in July 2016.

The investigation found that John Zunich took bets and printed professional and college football betting cards at ArtCraft Printing, a business he owned in Detroit. The cards were reportedly distributed in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

His wife pleaded no contest to one count of failure to file/false taxes, a five-year felony. Ellen Zunich handled all the bookkeeping for the legitimate business and the illegal gambling operation. She was sentenced to probation, which is scheduled to end in January 2016.



# Last minute Medicare questions? We're here until 8 p.m. every night and until midnight on December 7.

#### Drunken crash

A female driver was arrested for drunken driving after a witness told Novi Police she crashed into a building.

The incident occurred Oct. 11 outside the Little Caesars on 10 Mile Road. According to the police report, a witness phoned police and reported the crash. The driver said her brakes weren't working, but police suspected she was drunk.

After having trouble with the field sobriety tests, the woman registered a 0.14 percent on a preliminary breathalyzer test. This was reportedly her second drunken driving arrest.

#### NORTHVILLE

#### Marijuana possession

A Livonia man was arrested for marijuana possession after being stopped by Northville City Police for running a red light.

The arrest occurred Nov. 12 at the intersection of Center Street and Seven Mile Road. The 19-year-old driver ran a flashing red light just before 2 a.m. He told police he was distracted while looking at his GPS. Police reported smelling marijuana in the car.

He admitted to having some and police did find a baggie of it in the center console.

– By Lonnie Huhman

LO-0000221734

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LOCAL NEWS

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# Afghan translator builds new life in Michigan

#### By Laura Colvin Staff Writer

When he stepped off the plane in the United States this past April with just a backpack, small rolling suitcase and no money, Mohammed Elham – everyone calls him Elham – wasn't sure he was really in the U.S.

"I was like, 'Am I dreaming right now?" he said. "It was the coolest time in my life. I felt like I had a heavy weight lifted from my shoulders."

Indeed. Here in the



States – here in Milford, where he lives with Scott Hippakka and his family – Elham feels safe from the constant threats on his life in his native Afghanistan.

After just a few short months in the U.S., Elham is working at Palate in downtown Milford. He already has a car and he's hoping to fulfill a dream of becoming a nurse so, one day, he can go home to Afghanistan and help the many poor families who are living without even basic medical care.

For Elham, it's the American dream.

#### **Army translator**

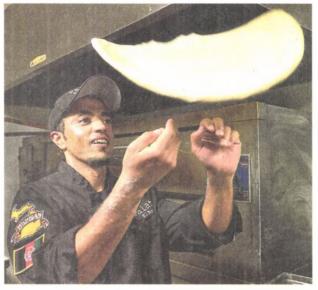
It all began in 2007, when a friend in Afghanistan suggested Elham, with his knowledge of the English language, apply for a translator's job with the U.S. Army.

At first he wasn't sure – he had no experience being around military forces – but decided to give it a try.

After he was hired, he found the job was a challenge for many reasons. As a linguist, his task wasn't just translating word-for-word between the Americans and the Afghans. It was important, he explained, to make sure both parties understood the intent behind the words and to make sure the Americans understood the cultural nuances of the Afghan people.

Along the way, Elham met Hippakka, a U.S. Army lieutenant colonel who was a task force commander with teams dispersed though northern and western portions of Afghanistan.

Elham began going along on various missions with the U.S. forces – translating and lending a hand as the U.S. teams he was working with helped to deliver medical



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mohammed Elham tosses a pizza at Palate in Milford where he works. The Afghan worked as a translator for the U.S.

assistance to remote g villages, develop schools, d water sources, community infrastructure and c also worked to support v the Afghan Border Po- s

#### **Threats made**

Army.

lice.

After his first year on the job, Elham became a senior linguist and over the next seven years, while he was translating for the U.S. forces, his face became recognizable – he'd been shown on local television channels – and things began to get especially dangerous for him.

On numerous occasions, he was told by intelligence officers that threats had been made against his life – common for Afghan translators.

"He was my senior linguist and he was the senior linguist for a lot of different people," Hippakka said. "Because of that, he was out and about. Early on in the war in Iraq, a lot of the translators would wear masks so their face couldn't be seen. In Afghanistan, most linguists didn't wear a face mask."

As the threats increased, Elham knew it wasn't safe for him to stay any longer in Afghanistan. His life, as well as that of his family and his fiance, was in imminent danger and because of his work for the U.S. military, he was eligible to come to the United States. He had, in fact, submitted his application more than a year prior.

So he sold his family's car, packed two small bags and took a huge step toward freedom and safety.

#### A new life

Elham arrived April 1 in the United States. He knew he had a home waiting in Milford.

"In January 2013, before I left Afghanistan, I told Elham when you come to the U.S., just let me know what I can do," Hippakka said. "If you need a place to live, you can come live with me. The choice was his." Another Afghan linguist who'd also worked with Hippakka's team arrived in Michigan several months earlier, while another is currently working toward the same end.

For Elham – who is currently working to bring his fiance to Michigan, as well – it's a dream come true.

He has his struggles, certainly, like finding his way through all kinds of red tape in order to get federal assistance with schooling. Hippakka, he said, has been a huge and consistent help in teaching him about things like credit cards - there are none in Afghanistan interest, credit ratings and paying bills online, as well as car insurance none of that in Afghanistan, either - and rules of the road.

"The people are so, so friendly. I love to work with them," he said.

At his new home in Milford, where he's staying until he can afford his own place, Elham lives with Hippakka and his family: wife Susan and children Abby, 14, and Alex, 11.

"I told my mom, 'Don't worry, I have a second family, they are well taking care of me," he said. "My mom asks, 'What are you doing, what are you eating, how are your living conditions?' I tell her, Scott's family, they are so awesome to me. They are so good to me."

Elham's favorite thing about living in America is his security. And the people. And the nation itself.

itself. "When you come from a country such as Afghanistan, you would understand how blessed you are here in the U.S.," he said.

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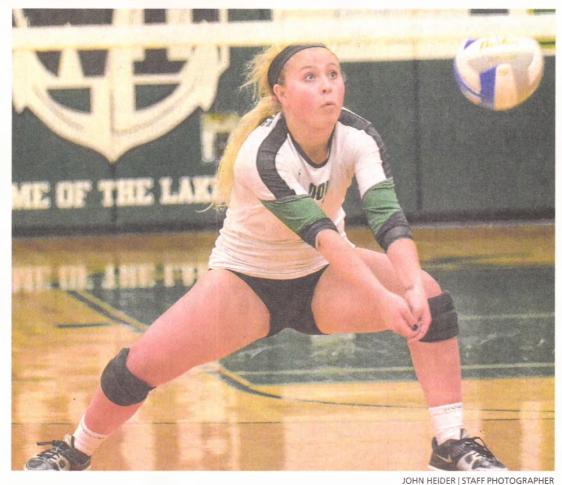


### **INSIDE:** BUSINESS, B5 • REAL ESTATE, B8 • CLASSIFIED, B9-11

SPORTS

SECTION B (NNNR) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

#### **PREP VOLLEYBALL**



Novi senior libero Jordan Massab makes one of her 23 digs in the Class A regional championship win over Lakeland.

# Novi clips Eagles for regional crown

#### By Brad Emons Staff Writer

Close encounters of the third kind?

It didn't happen this time as the Novi volleyball team won the rubber match Nov. 13 against White Lake Lakeland, 25-16, 23-25, 25-17, 25-15, for its first Class A regional title since 2007 while stamping its ticket to the MHSAA quarterfinals.

The Wildcats, who improved to 51-5-5, were scheduled Tuesday to face Lapeer in the state quarterfinals, with the winner earning a trip to the state semifinals beginning at 5:30 p.m. Friday at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena season, with the Eagles taking a best-of-three pool play match Nov. 1 in the Birmingham Seaholm tournament.

But after Lakeland had evened the rematch at one set apiece, Novi roared back, jumping out to leads of 15-5 and 19-9 during the final two sets to win emphatically.

"I think the last time we played Lakeland, I think we learned a lot about our character," said Novi senior libero Jordan Massab, who finished with 23 digs. "I think we underestimated them the last time we played and I think they are a very, very skilled team. We just walked in and thought we were going to win.

serving were awesome tonight. And our offense did amazing, just moving around the ball and stuff like that."

Novi's offense was pretty potent, to say the least, as the Iacobelli twins, Victoria and and Paulina, finished with 21 and 12 kills, respectively.

The Wildcats got another boost from sophomore Ally Cummings, who finished with 11 kills, and from senior Olivia Bradford, who added seven while hitting at a .545 clip.

clip. Erin O'Leary, the freshman setter, was outstanding once again, with 12 digs to go along with her 52 assists.

"We started out the match serve-receiving very well," **GIRLS SWIMMING** 

# Northville's Westphal keeps eyes on prize

**BRAD EMONS, EDITOR** 

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**BEMONS@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM** 

By Brad Emons Staff Writer

Northville's Laura Westphal was an unknown entering last year's swim state finals.

But despite being only a ninth-grader, Westphal made quite a splash to become the MHSAA Division 1 champion in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 4:57.84.

The sophomore now finds herself a target as she tries to defend her title this weekend at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium.

The Kensington Conference champion has clocked 5:02.93 as a season best and is currently seeded third in Division 1. Only juniors Ellyse Conn of Farmington Hills Mercy (4:56.77) and Morgan Bullock of Zeeland (4:58.77) have posted better times this season.

"I've been training pretty hard this year, definitely harder than last year, and I hope it pays off," Westphal said. "I haven't been swimming as fast as I have last year, but I am getting faster and I hope to do well at the state meet."

Northville coach Brian McNeff believes Westphal, who is now in full taper mode, is right on schedule entering Friday's prelims.

"I think the swimmers saw that a freshman won it last year, so they kind of geared up to try and beat her," McNeff said. "There have been some times that have been pretty good, but we'll see who is entered. She won't enter as the top seed, but knowing her,



she's got the attitude where she sees what she's got to do and she's going to win it." Westphal is

also expected to also do well in

Westphal

the 200 individual medley, where she took 10th in 2013 with a clocking a 2:07.14. She ranks sixth this season with 2:08.71.

She comes from a swimming family. Her older brother Andrew, now a freshman at the University of Michigan, was a Division 1 placer for the Northville boys team as a senior last March when he took fourth in the 100 freestyle (46.23).

Westphal got her first taste of competitive swimming at age 6 with the Northville Swim Club Penguins before joining the Novi Sturgeons as an 8year-old, where she continues to train in the off-season.

"I knew about her, but I didn't know she was going to be that good," McNeff said. "I didn't think anyone knew how good she was going to be going into last year. She's obviously one of the top swimmers, but she dropped a ton of time last year and now this year she's close to the times where she going into the state meet, so she's going to have a great state meet."

In August, Westphal competed in the National Club

See WESTPHAL, Page B2



against the Mason-Grand Haven quarterfinal winner. Novi and Lakeland had split their two meetings this "This game we fought our hardest and we knew what we wanted to accomplish today. I think our serve-receive and Novi coach Jen Cottrill said. "We have pretty good setter

See VOLLEYBALL, Page B2



WILL HAYES Northville sophomore Laura Westphal will try to defend her Division 1 state title in the 500 freestyle.

#### **BOYS HOCKEY PREVIEW**

# Area squads harbor high hopes for new season

CC, Novi, Northville all expect to contend

By Brad Emons Staff Writer

When the puck drops tonight on the boys hockey season, it's a safe bet that three area teams will have a plenty to say throughout 2014-15 campaign and once the MHSAA pre-regionals start the week of Feb. 23.

Novi Detroit Catholic Central, which made a coaching change just prior to the season, returns 12 players off last year's Division 1 state championship team including first team all-state players Ryan Burnett (16 goals, 22 assists) and Mitchell Ossowski (13 goals, 20 assists).

Goaltender Spencer Wright also returns for interim coach Danny Veri, along with senior defensemen Owen Kipke and Andrew Lane.

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Catholic Central's hockey captains this season include (from left) Mitchell Ossowski, Andrew Lane, Ryan, Owen Kipke and Ryan Burnett.

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"We've got the skill to be successful, but we have to have the heart and the work ethic to be successful," said Veri, who takes over a CC team that went 23-7 last season.

Meanwhile, Novi (18-7-1) hopes to make a run in the Division 2 state tourney and in the KLAA's tough Central Division under second-year coach Mark Vellucci.

The Wildcats will be led by senior captain Nik Tewilliager, a third-year player, along with

See HOCKEY, Page B2

### Catholic Central hockey makes unexpected coaching change

#### By Brad Emons Staff Writer

Just a week prior to its 2014-15 boys hockey opener, Novi Detroit Catholic Central and coach Doug Itami have parted ways.

Itami, who served 12 seasons as an assistant under Gordie St. John and Todd Johnson before being elevated to the head coaching position in 2013-14, guided the Shamrocks to a 23-7 record and the MHSAA Division 1 state championship in his only season as varsity coach.

Čatholic Central athletic director Aaron Babicz also announced that Danny Veri, who has been involved coaching CC's White and Blue JV teams the past four years, will take over this season with an interim tag as varsity coach.

"Obviously, I'm not a big fan of discussing personnel changes. I don't think anybody is," Babicz said. "It's nothing serious, more than just a difference in coaching philosophies and I just felt this was the best way to rectify the situation.

"The timing obviously seems to have thrown off the whole situation. I don't think there's ever a time to do something like, but with tryouts only starting on Nov.

See CHANGE, Page B2



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### VOLLEYBALL

#### Continued from Page B1

(O'Leary) that moves the ball around and it's pretty unpredictable, so right away we were able to get some easy points with some kills. It always helps your confidence and some momentum. Game two we didn't pass as well, so we weren't as efficient, but I think that was the key. We passed better and served pretty tough."

Lakeland, the KLAA North Division champ at 10-0, got 12 kills, 17 assist-to-kills and 27 digs from senior Amanda Leonard, while senior Gabrielle Alvira added 12 kills. Senior Calleigh Coffin also chipped in 28 digs and two aces

Meanwhile, sophomore setter Kaitlyn Hawke was out of the lineup and sitting on the bench after suffering a fractured sternum in a car accident the day before the regional final while driving to school with her grandmother.

"Unfortunately, our game

plan had to change," Lakeland coach Jen Dukic said. "I started with one setter and that didn't work out, so I switched setters. And that seemed to help them.'

The makeshift lineup certainly had an effect.

"It was just not the setting part, but the defense had to be a certain way," Dukic said. "Serve-receive was going to be a certain way and then I had to switch that. I had to tweak things on both ends.'

Despite a slight hiccup during a closely contested second set, Novi's defense was stellar as the 5-foot-9 Iacobelli twins finished with 29 and 24 digs, respectively.

"I think they were a little more relentless on defense, but I don't think we brought it as much this time," Dukic said. They really had a passion to beat them the first time. I'm not sure that was the case this time, unfortunately. Sometimes that happens when you have seniors and it's their last game and they kind of worry about things rather than playing the game.

Novi, meanwhile, was ready

for its third encounter with the Eagles.

LOCAL SPORTS

"We didn't play well; it was two-out-of-three and we made 30 errors," Cottrill said of the Seaholm tournament setback. "At that point, everybody is going to beat you when you make 30 errors. I think that we really good because I think they would really have to respect them and really work hard and play our game to beat them."

And the Wildcats definitely raised their level of play after advancing with a three-set regional semifinal victory Nov 11 against Fenton.

"I honestly didn't think we played that well on Tuesday,' Cottrill said. "I thought we were pretty sloppy. I knew we obviously we'd have to play better. And I thought they came ready to work, ready to battle.

Although the Eagles lose nine seniors to graduation, Dukic said the future appears bright

"I'm excited for next year," she said

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WESTPHAL

Continued from Page B1

Swimming Association Summer Swimming Championships in Indianapolis, posting personal bests in the 400meter freestyle (4:32.96), 200 IM (2:31.62) and 400 IM (5:06.72).

And just a month earlier, she set four personal bests in the USA Swimming Central Zone Sectional meet at Miami (Ohio) University.

Swimming has become a year-round passion for Westphal, but away from the pool she spends her free time doing community service work for the Girl Scouts. She also

HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

Hofelich, Brendan Wexler

for Novi is goaltending, as

junior Josh Richardson and

sophomores Manny Legace

and Ryuta King are battling

"Once we get our defense and goaltending situated,

we'll be a solid varsity team,"

Vellucci said. "We have great senior leadership and a lot of

Optimism is also running

for the job.

depth overall.'

and science as her favorite subjects in school.

enjoys reading, with English

"I just always loved swimming," said Westphal, who turns 16 in March. "I played basketball when I was younger, but with time management I just always loved swimming better and chose that.

Westphal, who will also compete in the 200 medley and 400 freestyle relays for the Mustangs in this weekend's state finals, brings a consistent work ethic to the pool that rubs off on her teammates

"She doesn't take a set off," McNeff said. "She's there every day and just has a great stroke. That's really what it comes down to, it's effortless

for her. The best thing about her - and I've talked to other coaches about it - is her attitude. She's unflappable, she knows what she has to do and does it. You never know by her attitude how actually fast she was. She's a great kid and works her butt off every day. When you combine those two, then you really have a great swimmer.'

Westphal, who said she is undecided whether she'll swim in college, doesn't know where she gets her motivation

"I just enjoy working hard at the sport that I love," she said. "And I know it makes me a better swimmer.'

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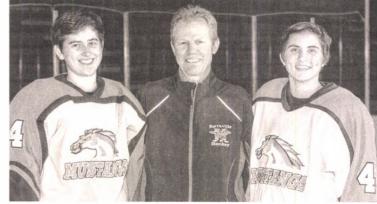


Leading the way for Novi's hockey team this season are (from left) Brendan Wexler, Brad Hofelich, James Hole and Nik Tewilliager.

Catholic Central, a member of the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League's North Division, opens its

At 6 p.m. Friday on the Blue Rink, Novi faces North Farmington-Harrison, while

#### **GIRLS HOCKEY PREVIEW**



SHELLY BUSH PHOTOGRAPHY

New Northville girls hockey coach J.D. Damrath (middle) will rely on seniors Grace Healy (left) and Marisha Hackett this season.

# Northville girls squad seeking improvement

New coach Damrath takes over Mustangs' program

#### **By Brad Emons** Staff Writer

It's a new season and new outlook for the Northville girls hockey team.

J.D. Damrath, who coached the Michigan High School Selects, is taking the reins from longtime coach Bill Holden as the Mustangs try to ascend the ladder of the Michigan Metro High School Girls Hockey League.

The Mustangs launched their 2014-15 season Monday night against defending Division 1 state champion Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett, coming out on the short end of a 6-1 count.

Kara Francis scored four goals and added one assist for the Knights, who led 2-1 after one period before breaking it open with three unanswered goals in the second.

Senior forward Grace Healey scored the Mustangs' lone goal in the first period off assists from senior forwards Marisha Hackett and Megan Kerr.

Despite the setback, Damrath was encouraged by his team's performance.

"I think we're going to surprise some people," he said. "I think the work ethic is really strong and the enthusiasm is high. It's my first year with the team, so I don't have much of a history with them. But the kids could have quit last night after two periods, being down 5-1. They came out and played them basically even in the

third. Just a lot of enthusiasm."

In addition to Healey and Hackett, the Mustangs return 14 other players off last year's squad, including seniors Emily Comben (forward), Isobel Bush (goalie), Hailey Gross (defense) and Haley Ramsden (defense).

Junior returnees include Adrienne McCarthy (defense), Annette Taylor (goalie), Clare Ramsden (forward), Neha Gandra (forward), Megan Bartley (forward) and Kamryn Holtz (forward).

Sophomores Anna Pilarz (defense), Amanda Olson (defense), Haley Anderson (defense), Nadia Ismail (forward) and Abby Koet (goalie) also return.

Kerr, a first-year senior player, and Kendall Murray, a sophomore defenseman, are among two promising newcomers for Damrath.

Rounding squad is Angela Lee, freshman defenseman; Olivia Lesh, freshman forward; Lauren Masse, freshman forward; Stacie Shaw, freshman forward; Gabby Goree, senior defenseman; and Sierra Watkins, sophomore forward.

The Mustangs, who play their home games at Livonia's Edgar Arena, were scheduled to face Bloomfield Hills, a Division 2 member of the Michigan Metro, Wednesday.

Going forward, Damrath would like his team to shore up play behind its own blue line.

'I would say defensive zone responsibilities is probably a big area," the new coach said.

bemons@hometownlife.com

which will make a bid in Divi sion 1 and in the KLAA Central Division.

high at Northville (19-6-1),

Seventh-year coach Clint Robert has a veteran squad, led by senior captains Alec Morgan (16 goals, 24 assists) and Jack Meacham (14 goals, 24 assists), along with senior goaltender Chance Boutin (9-2-1, 1.53 goals-against average).

"We as a team, we'll be committed to strong team defense," Robert said. "We believe that everything starts defensively and would rather win games 1-0 as opposed to 7-6.'

season at 6 p.m. Thursday against host Port Huron Northern at McMorran Arena before taking on Division 1 state runner-up Brighton in a rematch of last year's final, beginning at 5 p.m. Saturday at the Kensington Valley Ice House

Northville and Novi will open Friday and Saturday in the 13th annual Metro High School Invitational at the Novi Ice Arena. The two-day showcase features five teams from the KLAA and five from the Oakland Activities Association.

be the one that coaches them

Northville takes on Clarkston at 8:15 p.m.

Saturday's games will all be played at the Blue Rink. with Northville taking on defending Division 3 state champion Farmington at 5:30 p.m., followed by Novi and Lake Orion at 7:45 p.m.

One-day tickets, which feature four games, are \$7 (adults) and \$5 (ages 5-18 and seniors). Two-day passes, on sale at Novi Ice Arena, 42400 Nick Lidstrom Drive, are \$12 (adults) and \$9 (youths and seniors).

#### bemons@hometownlife.com

### **CHANGE**

#### Continued from Page B1

3 ... obviously happening before the first game, like I said, it was the best way to handle the situation.'

Itami said Friday that he planned to attend CC's preseason scrimmage Saturday at Compuware Arena against Dearborn Divine Child. The Shamrocks open their season Thursday against Port Huron Northern at McMorran Arena.

"I'm not saying anything about my departure, only that I have nothing to be ashamed of," Itami said. "I'll be at the rink. It's not like I'll be hiding out or you'll never see me again because you know that everyone will cringe if I walk in the rink ... no. All the parents and I all still get along. All the boys and I get along."

After the coaching change was made, Itami said he talked with some of CC's current players, but not with the coaching staff – which includes St. John, who won seven state titles when he was varsity coach at CC, along with Rick Buttery and goaltending coach Tom Nugent.

"I'll still be a supporter of the group," said Itami, who previously coached in the Honeybaked program before coming to CC in 2000. "I may

in the fall during the fall season. I don't have a bad taste in my mouth about Catholic Central, so I'll never say anything bad about the school or about Aaron Babicz or about the program. I have the utmost admiration. I was blessed to be there, for sure. I'm heartbroken not to be there. But you can only control what you can control and they made a decision. And that's OK. I can't do anything about it. I'm old enough now to know that you can't control things that you can't control. I'll still be a fan of the boys. I did it for the boys.'

Babicz, Itami and Veri declined to go into specifics on what led to the coaching change, but there is speculation that there may have been a disagreement among the coaching staff or about the division in which CC should play during the 2014-15 state tournament.

The MHSAA has not yet announced its division assignments (based on school enrollment), but there are rumors that Catholic Central could possibly be on the bubble and could move down to Division 2 from Division 1, joining last year's state runner-up Brighton, which won Division 1 titles in 2012 and 2013, and Birmingham Brother Rice

Fellow Catholic League

members University of Detroit-Jesuit and Orchard Lake St. Mary's have all opted to play in Division 1 instead of staying in Division 2 despite their lower enrollments. The MHSAA, however, allows schools during a two-year window to play up in a higher division.

The 46-year-old Veri, meanwhile, ran his first varsity practice Friday at Compuware as CC's head coach.

Like Itami, Veri coached in the Honeybaked hockey program before moving over to CC

Veri said he has no aspirations to take over CC's varsity team on a permanent basis.

"It's just finishing this year," said Veri, who owns Livonia Builders, a construction and land development company based in Canton. "They're going to conduct a search for a head coach next year. I really enjoy the JV program and that's what I'm going to stay doing. I like to help the boys get to varsity.

Meanwhile, Babicz said he harbors no ill feelings toward Itami

"It's obviously nothing personal, none whatsoever," Babicz said. "More than not or more than anything - it's just difference in philosophy. I have nothing but positive things to say about him."

bemons@hometownlife.com

#### **BOYS HOCKEY CAPSULE OUTLOOK**



CLINT ROBERT

Northville players (from left) Jack Meacham, Kyle Abraham, P.J. Scnepp, Nick Strom and Alec Morgan receive instruction during a recent practice.

#### NOVI

Head coach: Mark Vellucci, second season. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (Central Division). Last year's overall record: 18-7-1

Last year's overall record: 18-7-1. Notable losses to graduation: Austin Petty, Chris Kennedy, Mike O'Reilly, Josh Ward. Leading returnees: Nik Tewilliager, Sr. F (captain); Brad Hofelich, Sr. F (assistant captain); Brendan Wexler, Sr. F (assistant captain); Ryan Baxter, Sr. F; Bryan Fegert, Sr. F; Jake Cyr, Jr. F; Jimmy Hole, Sr. Def (assistant captain); Alec Wells, Sr. F; Pat Wojtylo, Sr. Def (J Sr. Def.; Drake Shepard, Sr. Def.; Brennan Martin, Sr

Promising newcomers: Alex Cai. Jr. F: Andv Promising newcomers: Alex Lai, Jr. F; Andy Mizerowski, Jr. F; Brandon Kour, Soph. F; Brandon Kour, Soph. F; Cam Czapski, Soph. F; Dave Denova, Soph. F; Ryan Wexler, Soph. F; Ryan Turner, Sr. Def.; Eric Czekaj, Sr. Def.; Ryan Rabinowitz, Jr. Def.; Ryan Fonda, Soph. Def.; Josh Richardson, Jr. G; Manny Legace, Soph. G; Ryuta King, Soph. G. Vellucci's 2014-15 outlook: "We have no clearcuit No. 1 goalia. Bl three will be competing

clearcut No. 1 goalie. All three will be competing every practice and every game. We have high expectations for this year's varsity team. We're going to score a lot of goals. Once we get our defense and goaltending situated, we'll be a solid varsity team. We have great senior leadership and a lot of depth overall. With 24 players on the roster, there will be a to decompetition to get in the linear and take in the overall. With 24 players on the roster, there will be a lot of competition to get in the lineup and stay in the lineup the whole year. Our goal is to win the Division 2 state championship. The coaches and players believe that if we work hard and play the right way, we'll have a very successful year The four core values are TEAM (Together Everyone Accomplishes More), hard work, sportsmanship (class) and results."

#### NORTHVILLE

Head coach: Clint Robert, seventh season. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington (Central Division)

#### Last year's overall record: 19-6-2

Notable losses to graduation: Alex Shuart Leading returnees: Alec Morgan (captain), Sr. (16 goals, 24 assists); Jack Meacham (captain), Sr. (14 goals, 24 assists); Chance Boutin, Sr. G (9-2-1, 1.53 goals against, 1933 save); P.J. Schnepp, Sr. Def.; Kyle Abraham, Sr. F; Nick Strom, Sr. Def.; Alec Melucci, Sr. Def.; Brett Ridener, Sr. F; Kyle Dann, Jr. F; Grant

LaLonde, Sr. F; Sam Bradley, Jr. F.

LaLonde, Sr. F; Sam Bradley, Jr. F. Promising newcomens: Matt Jankowski, Sr. Def; Sean O'Malley, Sr. Def; Cameron Layne, Sr. F; Petar Elieff, Sr. F; Kevin O'Connell, Sr. F; Riley Brass, Jr. F; Kevin Onofrio, Jr. G; Brendan Hicks, Jr. F; Anthony Calab. H: Size Oraci J. Def: Mild Millisers G. F. Def: Solak, Jr. F; Zac Osaer, Jr. Def.; Nick Williams, Fr. Def.;

Solak, Jr. F; Zac Osaer, Jr. Det.; Nick Williams, Fr. Det.; Jack Sargent, Fr. Det. **Robert's 2014-15 outlook**: 'This season we feel we have a locker room full of 'hockey players' rather than guys who just play hockey. We as a team will be committed to strong team defense. We believe that everything starts defensively and would rather win games 1-0 as opposed to 7-6. We like our team speed and hope to use that to our advantage as well. Our team orals tart with winning the KIAA (If we Our team goals start with winning the KLAA. If we can do that, we should be playing at a high enough level to take a series run at a state championship

#### CATHOLIC CENTRAL

Head coach: Danny Veri, first season. League affiliation: Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League (North Division)

Last year's overall record: 23-7. Titles won last year: Division 1 regional and state champions.

Notable losses to graduation: Carter Cerretani (first team all-state), Lucas Turner (honor able mention all-state), James Considine, Domenic Mancinelli, Austin Featherstone, Michael Ronavne,

Connor Gaffney. Leading returnees: Mitchell Ossowski (captain), Sr. F (first team all-state, 13 goals, 20 assists); Ryan Burnett (captain), Sr. F (first team all-state, 16 goals, 22 assists); Owen Kipke (captain), Sr. Def. (8 goals, 9 assists); Andrew Lane (captain), Sr. Def.; Spencer Wright, Sr. G; Alec Calvaruso, Jr. G; Nick Macari, Jr. F; Kyle Mulka, Jr. F; Alex Kreutzer, Jr. Def.; Brian Keams, Jr. F; Dillon Jones, Sr. F; Paul Hildebrandt,

Promising newcomers: Evan Rochowiak, Sr. ; Joseph Mancinelli, Jr. F; Luc Krasicky, Jr. Def.; J.P Lafferty

Veri's 2014-15 outlook: 'I think we're very good up front. I think we're solid in the back end and I think we're solid in the goaltending. I think we're a very good team. We have to work. Our talent won't mean a whole lot if we don't outwork our opponents. We've got the skill to be successful, but we have to have the heart and the work ethic to be successful.

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# Novi reaches regional title game

#### Wildcats oust stubborn Fenton in three sets

#### By Brad Emons Staff Writer

There were a few anxious moments, but it was another safe passage for the Novi volleyball team.

The second-ranked Wildcats, who improved to 50-5-1, moved into their first Class A regional final since 2010 with a 25-20, 25-12, 25-22 triumph Nov. 11 over pesky Fenton in a semifinal match-up at West Bloomfield.

Fenton (38-15-4) made the Wildcats work for the victory, particularly in the first and third sets.

And when 5-foot-9 senior outside hitter Carly Granger got hot, it appeared the Tigers were on their way to forcing a fourth set as they built an 18-13 advantage.

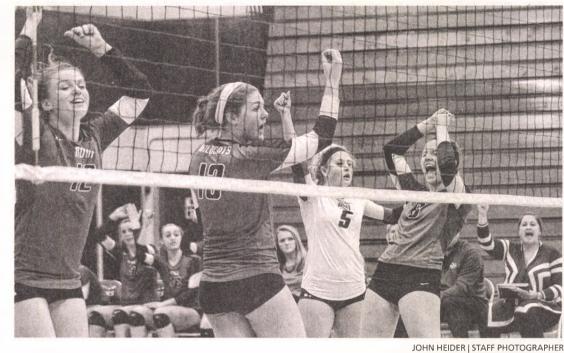
But Novi regrouped with a 12-4 run to close out the set and the match, getting a key kill from junior Victoria Iacobelli to make it 21-21, followed by an ace by the 5-foot-9 junior outside hitter to put the Wildcats ahead to stay 24-22.

Fenton then made a hitting error to end the match.

"We were a little frazzled that we weren't scoring points," said Iacobelli, who finished with 15 kills and 12 digs on the night. "And we just took care of our side and got the momentum. We just took it one point at a time to come back.

"We just kind of came out expecting to win because we beat them so badly in the second set. We put cruise control on and didn't work our hardest in the beginning of the set."

Although Fenton trailed 6-0 and 9-2 in the first set, the Tigers pulled even at 20-20 before Novi closed it with five unanswered points, including a key dig that resulted in a kill by senior libero Jordan Massab, who finished



The Wildcats celebrate after Victoria Iacobelli (far right) tallied a point during the Class A regional semifinal victory over Fenton.

with a team-high 25 digs. Paulina Iacobelli, Victoria's identical twin, added 12 kills and 15 digs, while sophomore Ally Cummings chipped in seven kills.

Freshman setter Erin O'Leary also stood out by racking up 37 assist-to-kills to go with three aces and four kills.

Granger collected nine of her match-best 16 kills in the final set, but she got little support from elsewhere on the attack as middle hitter Jessica Eastman was next best with five.

"She's an outstanding player," Novi coach Jen Cottrill said of Granger. "In our scouting report – we hadn't seen them – but the coaches and the teams that had seen them said just key on her. We moved our block in to try and slow her down a little bit because she was getting some kills cross court because she read it and hit the ball down the line. We were very glad when she moved to the back row." Meanwhile, it was all Wildcats during the middle set as they jumped out to a 14-4 advantage and were never threatened.

But it may have lulled Novi into a false sense of security. "I think we got a little

"I think we got a little cruise control going after the second set," Cottrill said. "Anytime you're going to end somebody's season, they're just not going to go away. They're make you earn it and they're going to give you everything they've got. I think it's good for us to play from behind and be in that situation. And to be able to come back and win gives us some confidence moving forward."

Once again, Novi used a well-balanced attack to earn its 50th victory of the season.

"Obviously our setter Erin (O'Leary) does an outstanding job delivering the ball, but the emergence of Ally (Cummings) – pretty much the past month – has been the key to our success because we're able to spread our offense up from pin-to-pin," Cottrill said. "Before they could just camp out on them (Iacobelli twins) on the outside. And also our libero, (Jordan) Massab, is key on serve-receive and protecting the ball on first contact."

Fenton coach Jerry Eisinger came away impressed with the Wildcats.

"They (Novi) play great defense and they don't make a lot of mistakes," he said. "Even though we got on a run, it was still tough because they don't make a lot of mistakes. We're missing one of our starting middles right now (Jessica Warford), so we're missing quite a bit of firepower.

"But I thought the girls did a tremendous job of staying with it. We easily could have folded up and gave them that third game without a fight, but extremely proud of the way we played and went out."

bemons@hometownlife.com



By Brad Emon Staff Writer

Novi Franklin Road Christian gave it a shot, but proved to be no match Nov. 11 against last year's Class D volleyball state runner-up Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes.

The Catholic League C-D Division champs got 13 kills from Lindsey Wightman en route to a convincing 25-13, 25-13, 25-10 victory against the Warriors in the regional at Plymouth Christian Academy.

"They had a really good hitter (Wightman) that we haven't been used to and that kind of hitting of the teams we've faced before," said Franklin Road first-year coach Michelle Angel, whose team bowed out with an 11-16-1 overall record. "So it was kind of something that we needed to adjust to, but we just didn't. We didn't adjust very well. She was really good."

Sophomore libero Danielle Fusco had eight digs, while setter Carmel Tapawan added eight assist-to-kills. Sophomore Reagan Mumford was the Warriors' top hitter with just three kills.

The Warriors simply could not get in sync against the Lakers, who improved to 25-21-5 and moved into the regional final, where they defeated host PCA in five sets to reach the quarterfinals against Marine City Cardinal Mooney.

"Communication is everything and when you don't talk, you don't move and when you don't move, you don't play well," Angel said. "It was just a trickle effect."

The future, however, looks good for the Warriors, who captured their first district title since 2000. They graduate only two seniors in Tapawan and Laura Warren.

"It looks really good," Angel said. "We have returning sophomores, a couple of juniors returning. They'll all be working in the off-season to prepare for it. We're going to be working on our hitting some more, get some more powerful hits, because we just don't have the power that we want."

bemons@hometownlife.com





The Northville Meads Mill eighth-grade volleyball team finished its second undefeated season this year, going 10-0 in league matches while winning a pair of tournaments. Team members include (front row, from left): Maggie Petix, Natalie Turner, Emma Bell, Faelan O'Brien and Elena Lenyo, (second row, from left) Andrea Nam, Makayla Olds, Hannah Grant, Ally Backus, Natalie Barnhart and Jordin Rickard and (third row, from left) coach Angie Phillips, Izzy Guleff, Olivia Thompson, Maddie Kwiecinski, Nicole Martin, Maria Murillo and coach Kate Counts. Also on the team is coach Laura Melvin.

### **NXC** harriers sixth

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The NXC Running Club, made up of Northville High girls cross country runners, placed sixth out of 30 teams Sunday in the NIKE Midwest Regional meet held in Terre Haute, Ind. Northville's Lexa Barrott (ninth, 17:55) and Cayla Eckenroth (12th, 17:59) both broke the 18-minute barrier for 5,000 meters to earn second team all-regional honors. Other finishers for NXC included Emma Herrman (19:12), Hailey Harris (19:17), Emma Smith (19:42), Rachel Zimmer (20:11) and Taylor Gattoni (21:53). Barrott plans to compete over Thanksgiving weekend in the Foot Locker Midwest meet in Racine, Wis.

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#### THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP FOOTBALL (MHSAA Division 2 semifinal) Southfield vs. Warren DeLaSalle at Novi High School, 1 p.m. PREP HOCKEY Thursday, Nov. 20 Detroit CC vs. Pt. Huron Northern at McMorran Place, 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21 (Metro Inv. at Novi Ice Arena) Novi vs. Farm. Unified, 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22 Detroit CC vs. Brighton at Kensington Valley I.H, 5 p.m. (Metro Inv. at Novi Ice Arena) Northville vs. Clarkston, 8:15 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22 Detroit CC vs. Brighton at Kensington Valley I.H, 5 p.m. (Metro Inv. at Novi Ice Arena) Northville vs. Clarkston, 8:15 p.m. Novi vs. Lake Orion, 7:45 p.m. Detroit CC vs. Birm. Brother Rice at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29 Novi vs. Utica Eisenhower at Novi Ice Arena, 3 p.m. PREP VOLLEYBALL (Class A semifinals at Battle Creek) Friday, Nov. 21 Novi-Fenton quarterfinal winner vs. Mason-Grand Haven winner at Kellogg Arena, 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22 Class A championship final at Kellogg Arena, 2 p.m. GIRLS SWIMMING Friday, Nov. 21 MHSAA Division 1 prelims at EMU's Jones Natatorium, noon. Saturday, Nov. 22 MHSAA Division 1 finals at EMU's Jones Natatorium, noon.

#### SPORTS ROUNDUP

#### Krick named all-MAC

Eastern Michigan University senior Molli Krick (Novi), who helped the Eagles (11-7-1) to their second straight Mid-American Conference West Division title, recently earned



all-MAC first team accolades for the first time in her career. Krick was a primary instigator of the EMU attack by starting scoring

KATE WOODRICH

Krick starting scoring opportunities for her teammates in the midfield for all 19

games.

In her final match at EMU, Krick scored on a free kick to start a comeback in which the Eagles struck for a pair of goals during the final nine minutes of regulation to force overtime against Western Michigan before falling, 3-2, in the MAC tournament quarterfinals.

Earlier this season, Krick tallied a goal and assist in a 4-2 non-conference win over the University of Illinois-Chicago.

Krick, an exercise science major, appeared in 76 games for EMU, making 59 starts in the midfield. She finished with five career assists, while totaling nearly 6,000 minutes during her four-year career.

#### Novi ski swap

The Novi High School ski swap will be from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23, at the high school (atrium), 24062 Taft Road, Novi.

The swap is free, with new and used equipment items available to buy or sell such as skis, snowboards, poles, helmets, jackets, snow pants, etc.

For more information, email Novi assistant ski coach Garett Farley at gfarley@fishstix.net.

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LOCAL SPORTS

# Kobakof proves to be 'the man' in middle

#### Novi midfielder is area's Player of the Year

#### **By Brad Emons** Staff Write

When it comes to being an efficient player in the midfield, Novi's Ryan Kobakof has few peers in high school boys soccer in Michigan.

The senior, who recently signed to play at the the Uni-



versity of Michigan, enjoyed a stellar senior season as he led the Wildcats to a 13-4-3 record. The area boys

soccer Player of

the Year finished with 11

Kobakof

goals and eight assists en route to Dream Team honors from the Michigan Interscholastic High School Soccer Coaches Association.

Kobakof also picked up the most votes in the MIHSSCA **Division 1** all-state balloting after earning all-Kensington Lakes, all-district and all-regional honors.

"Ryan's a fierce competitor, plays all areas of the game well," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said.

"He defends very well, he passes very well and he finishes around the goal, so he really is a complete player."

#### First team **Grant Tyburski** Northville

The senior defender made Division 1 all-state honorable mention as well as all-KLAA and all-region as the Mustangs reached the regional finals.

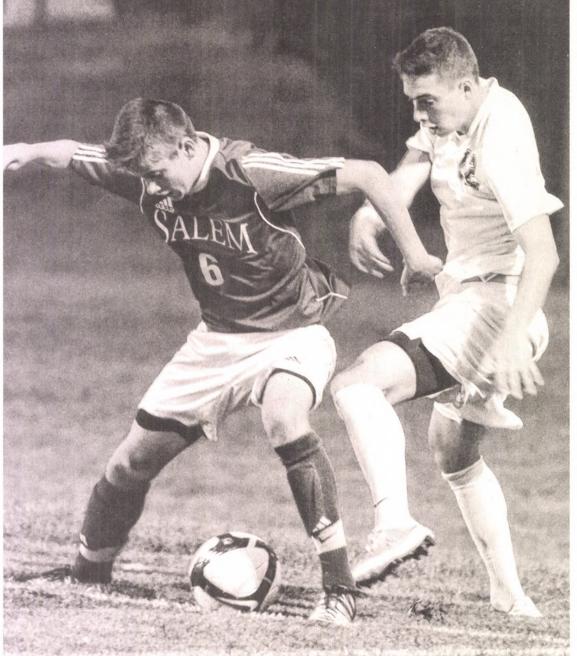
"High power in the back, plays with complete control and that's why our goals against was so down," Northville coach Henry Klimes. "He solidified our back and (we) couldn't ask for a better defender all year." **Noah Kleedtke** 

#### **Catholic Central**

The senior midfielder, who scored 11 goals, earned Division 1 all-state second team and all-Catholic League honors

"He's a very dynamic player," CC coach Gene Pulice said. "He's got great tactical sense to him. He reads the game well. He was our captain and an outstanding leader." **Tony Asimadu** Novi

#### The junior forward, who had four goals and 13 assists, made Division 1 all-state honorable mention as well as all-



Novi's Ryan Kobakof (right) was named the area's boys soccer Player of the Year.

#### **ALL-AREA BOYS SOCCER**

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR** Ryan Kobakof, Novi

#### **FIRST TEAM**

Grant Tyburski, Northville Noah Kleedtke, Catholic Central Tony Asimadu, Novi Johnny Rodriguez, Northville Garret Weaver, Northville Kent Maidens, Novi Chad Quick, Catholic Central Micah Charlick, Franklin Road Paul Wiedmaier, Catholic Central Roddy Green, Lakeland David Bonhard, Milford

#### SECOND TEAM

Peter Kirouac, Catholic Central Alec Morgan, Northville Jake Geary, Novi Tanner Spires, Franklin Road Dan Baldwin, Northville Champ Kozlowski, Catholic Central

Gabriel Martinez, South Lyon Kyle Capstick, Lakeland Jorge Martinez, Lakeland Brendan Stephan, Milford

#### **HONORABLE MENTION**

Catholic Central: Justin Murray (jr.); Brendan Paul (sr.); Austin Smith (sr.)

Northville: Nick Toupin (sr.); Alec Melucci (sr.); Jake Reitzloff (jr.) Novi: Amissi Kajinake (sr.); Sean Dallas (sr.)

Franklin Road Christian: Gavin Harris (jr.)

South Lyon: Erik Habkirk (sr.); Owen Jarl (jr.); Hristijan Georgievski (sr.); Jerod Allen (jr.) Milford: Dante D'Alisio (soph.);

Roland Gibson (sr.); Kiah Finley (sr.)

Lakeland: Chase Rospond (soph.); Tyler Green (soph.); Tyler Lauer (jr.)

#### **Micah Charlick** Franklin Road

The junior midfielder, who racked up 22 goals and 22 as-sists, was the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division MVP along with earning all-region and Division 4 all-state honorable mention honors

"Micah did everything from taking goal kicks to direct kicks to corner kicks, as well as control the middle of the field with his dribbling skills to set up our forwards," Novi Franklin Road Christian coach Paul Coombs said. **Garret Weaver** 

#### Northville

The junior defender earned all-district and all-KLAA honors for the district champions, who finished 14-6

offensive mids or forwards," O'Leary said. "He was a key to our team as a connection from our defense to our offense." **Paul Wiedmaier** 

#### **Catholic Central**

The senior forward earned all-region honors while scoring 10 goals.

"He's a forward through and through who is very dy-namic," Pulice said. "He's a pacing forward, very creative. He's got a forward's mentality of 'take 'em on." Roddy Green Lakeland

The junior had a monster year with 19 goals and two assists to lead Lakeland to a third-place finish in the KLAA North Division.

"Roddy is a dynamic player and a nose for the goal," coach Robert Kroezen said. **David Bonhard** 

#### Milford The junior forward notched

14 goals with six assists. He earned all-district and allconference honors.

#### Second team

**Peter Kirouac Catholic Central** 

The junior goalkeeper earned all-Catholic League, all-district and all-region honors.

#### **Alec Morgan** Northville

The senior captain scored six goals and added seven assists from the midfield while earning all-district and all-KLAA honors. **Jake Geary** 

#### Novi

The senior defender finished with two assists while earning all-KLAA honors. **Tanner Spires Franklin Road** 

The junior was an all-MIAC Red first team selection and all-district pick who racked up a team-high 26 goals to go along with 10 assists. **Dan Baldwin** 

#### Northville

The senior forward made all-KLAA while scoring nine goals and adding four assists. Champ Kozlowski **Catholic Central** 

The senior defender earned all-Catholic League honors as the Shamrocks won their first A-B Division title since 1992. **Alex Kopko** 

#### South Lyon

The senior defender was called the "rock" on defense by coach Brian Elliot. **Gabriel Martinez** 

#### South Lyon The senior midfielder took the free kicks while adding

three goals and two assists. Kyle apstick

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

region and all-KLAA. "Tony was our leader as far

as putting pressure on the other teams' goal," O'Leary said. "He did it with speed and did it with dribbling ability. He actually has a great combination of quickness and keeps the ball close to his feet. He does a great job beating defenders one-versus-one.

#### **Johnny Rodriguez** Northville

The junior forward, who had seven goals and seven assists, made Division 1 allstate honorable mention as well as all-region.

Alex Kopko, South Lyon

"Johnny is a tremendous athlete, game-breaker and scored a couple of great goals in big-time games," Klimes said. "He's definitely a go-to guy with a huge future next year."

#### **Chad Quick Catholic Central**

The Division 1 all-state honorable mention choice, a senior defender, also earned academic all-state honors for the

Catholic League A-B Division champion.

"Chad didn't get a whole lot of recognition because he's a defender, but as a defender he still had seven goals and five assists," Pulice said. "He scored the tying goal against Novi (district tourney) and he's really a versatile player, but he did the best for us on the back line."

"Garret was our center back along with Grant (Tyburski), a solid young defender who never missed a beat," Klimes said. "Great distribution, won all the head balls. Scored only one goal, but solid and will be a leader next year." Kent Maidens Novi

The senior center midfielder finished with four goals and six assists en route to all-KLAA honors.

"He doesn't have a lot of stats because a lot of times his role was to win balls defensively and then send them up to the

#### Lakeland

The senior added offensive punch with seven goals and eight assists. **Jorge Martinez** 

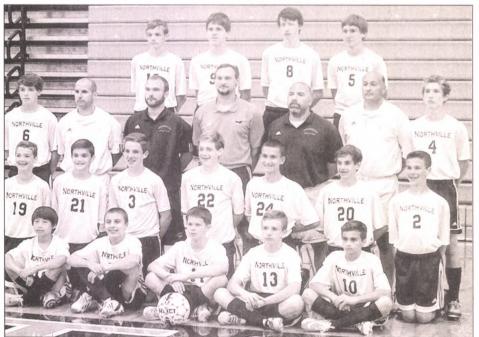
#### Lakeland

The senior provided six goals and seven assists. **Brendan Stephan** Milford

The junior forward was second on the team with 13 goals and added seven assists to earn all-district and allconference honors.

Note: South Lyon East did not submit nominations.

### **Undefeated season**



JAMES ZESTOS

The Northville High freshman boys soccer team recently finished an undefeated season under coach Tom Allardyce. Team members include Harrison Foster, Paul Boran, Zachary Komejan, Vasili Zestos, Nick Broda, Robbie Kuphal, Sam Stevens, Jad Jarouche, Brian Walker, June Kim, Maxwell Vereb-Hatley, Kyle Moilenen, Jeremy Puckett, Jacob Tremonti, Adam Dion, Tyler Schneider, Collin Neal and Nick Maiz.

### **U-11 Lightning strikes**



MEGAN PAWELSKI

Northville Soccer Association Lightning, a girls under-11 team, finished their season with an 8-0 division record while outscoring their opponents 40-11. The Lightning also captured the Dearborn Soccer Fest Tournament, Oct. 17-19, outscoring their opponents 11-3. Team members include (bottom row, from left): Emma Pawelski, Anna Merucci, Julia Greenlaw and Sophie James, (middle row, from left) Sophia Hoglund, Julia Huang, Samantha Rivera, Marissa Malleck and Ella Hoglund, (back row, from left) Delaney Hopkins, Maggie Swyt, Mia Gress and Miranda Provencher and (top row, from left) Robert Greenlaw, coach Megan Pawelski and assistant coach David Gress.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# BUSINESS

CAL STONE, EDITOR CSTONE@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-437-2011, EXT. 237 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

#### **BUSINESS BRIEFS**

### Oakland County in search of 'Elite 40'

If you know a young entrepreneur, community leader, teacher or any person who has made significant contributions to their chosen field and the quality of life in the region and you want them recognized for their good work, here is your chance.

Nominations are being accepted for the Oakland County Executive's Elite 40 under 40 Class of 2015. Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson started the program in 2012 to honor young professionals and thought leaders who excel in their field and have demonstrated dynamic leadership.

To submit a candidate, go to www.Advantage-Oakland.com/Elite40. Nominees must live or work in Oakland County to be eligible. Entries close at 5 p.m. Nov. 21.

A panel of judges will review all completed applications and reduce the number to the top 40 entrants. Of that group, three candidates who scored the highest will be placed before the public for an online vote to determine the winner.

#### Friedman adds Northville apartment community

Friedman Integrated Real Estate Solutions was recently awarded leasing and management responsibilities for Northville Woods, a 274apartment community in Northville.

Located at 18800 Innsbrook Drive, two miles west of I-275 on the south side of Seven Mile Road between Haggerty and Northville roads, the apartment community features spacious one, two- and three-bedroom floor plans designed to provide the quality and comfort of a premier lifestyle.

"We are thrilled to add Northville Woods to our multi-family portfolio on behalf of a valued client," said Tracy Brown, director of Multi-Family Management. "We look forward to providing the residents with a great living environment by providing exceptional service. We will utilize our superior management experience and expertise, and highly qualified staff to achieve our lofty goals for this community and its residents."

Amenities include private entrances, carports, ceiling fans, central air, generous walk-in closets, private patios and vaulted ceilings. Washer/dryers, skylights and wood burning fireplaces are available in select homes. Residents can enjoy the 24-hour fitness center, swimming pool, laundry centers, complimentary bike rentals, playgrounds, courtyards and grilling areas.

### Ingersoll watches return to Novi

Erastus Ingersoll and his family moved from New York state in 1825 and became the first settlers in Novi at the intersection of 10 Mile and Haggerty roads (what is now the Jaguar dealership).

A creek named after the Ingersoll family still runs pass the site of the Ingersoll homestead. Erastus' grandsons, Robert and Charles Ingersoll, formed the Ingersoll Watch Co., manufacturing Americanmade watches. Through the teaching of Henry Ford, they learned about mass production and the Ingersoll brothers were able to manufacture an American-made watch that retailed for a \$1. It came to be known as the "Watch that made the dollar famous.'

The Ingersoll brothers set up their new business in New York, which was a more commercial base at the time, with production in Con necticut. In 1933, the Walt Disney Co. commissioned Ingersoll to produce the first Mickey Mouse watch. Initially producing pocket watches, Ingersoll later moved on to produce wristwatches, which were fast becoming the fashion.

Robert Ingersoll moved to London to open an Ingersoll watch store and manufacturing in the United Kingdom. Charles stayed in the watches in an upper level kiosk in Twelve Oaks Mall with the same principles of mechanical timepiece production at affordable luxury. The collection consists of fine automatic mechanical movement watches, quartz and a collection of Ingersoll Disney.

#### Ford Medical Center accredited

The sleep center at Henry Ford Medical Center-Columbus in Novi recently received program accreditation from the American Academy of Sleep Medicine.

The center is directed by Meeta Singh, M.D., and is located at 39450 W. 12 Mile Road.

To receive accreditation for a five-year period, a sleep center must meet or exceed all standards for professional health care as designated by the AASM. These standards address core areas such as personnel, facility and equipment, policies and procedures, data acquisition, patient care, and quality assurance.

Additionally, the sleep center's goals must be clearly stated and include plans for positively affecting the quality of medical care in the community it serves.

### AccessPoint unveils program

Novi-based Access-Point Educational HR announced the beginning of the All A's Award Program to recognize teachers and staff members for their dedication, professionalism and for making a difference in the education of the students in schools.

AccessPoint will recognize a Teacher of the Month every month of each school year (September through May). The All A's Award Program will culminate in June of each year where an AccessPoint Educational HR committee will coordinate with members of Charter school communities to choose a Teacher of the Year recipient.

"AccessPoint Educational HR appreciates and values committed teachers and staff mem-

bers who excel in their positions and are good

examples in their com-

munity," AccessPoint

CEO Greg Packer said.



Jim Demmer of the Demmer Automotive Group presents U.S. Army veteran Amy O'Neil with the keys to her 2005 Ford Escape.

# Army veteran grateful for vehicle donation

#### By Brad Kadrich Staff Writer

In November 2013, U.S. Army veteran Amy O'Neil was involved in an accident that totaled the car she was driving and left her without transportation.

Her inability to replace the vehicle made it tough to get to her job at the Veterans Administration hospital in Ann Arbor.

In a ceremony Nov. 11 at the Progressive Insurance office in Livonia, the Jack Demmer Automotive Group and Progressive Insurance joined forces to help her out, donating a refurbished 2005 Ford Escape to O'Neil, a Saline resident and a member of the Plymouth VFW.

"I really appreciate this," said O'Neil, who joined the U.S. Army in 1998 at the age of 20. "I've had trouble getting to work. ... This is the best thing anyone could ever give to me."

When O'Neil's origi-

nal enlistment was up in 2002, she decided she hadn't done enough and signed up for a stint in the Army Reserves. Her unit was activated in January 2003 and, by April, O'Neil was in Iraq. After her tour was up, O'Neil was discharged in November 2003.

When officials at Demmer and at Progressive were looking for a veteran to honor, Plymouth VFW officials recommended O'Neil. Demmer partnered with Progressive, the National Auto Body Council, Enterprise Rent-A-Car and several other organizations.

With parts donated from vendors, the staff at Jack Demmer Collision Centers repaired and refurbished the Escape for O'Neil, one of more than 100 veterans across the country who will receive a special vehicle on Veterans Day through Progressive's "Recycled Rides" project.

"Amy's new job made

her a perfect candidate," for the program, project coordinator Tommy Ryan of Progressive said. "We're hoping to make a difference in a lot of lives today."

Enterprise Rent-A-Car provided O'Neil with six months' worth of free auto insurance. Regional vice president Vincent LaBella pointed out that some 10 percent of Enterprise employees are veterans and reservists. That, LaBella said, makes the company's participation in the program special.

The Demmer family also has a military history. Patriarch Jack Demmer is a World War II veteran and Jim Demmer, who spoke at Tuesday's ceremony, has a son, C.J., who is in the U.S. Marines.

"We want to say 'thank you' to all those who put their lives on the line for our country," Demmer said. "We never take that for granted."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com



U.S., but unfortunately the Depression forced the company to close.

Ingersoll is returning to the home city of Novi, presenting Ingersoll

### Lotus scholar



Novi-based Lotus Bank announced the recipients of the Neil J. Patel **Memorial Mathematics** Scholarships, presented by Lotus Bank in memory of Neil Patel, the son of the bank's founding chairman, Jitendra Patel. Neil Patel died in September from injuries sustained in a car accident. Sonu S. Patel (right) was awarded the first-place scholarship of \$500 by Neal Searle, Lotus Bank president. She graduated from Carlson High School in Gibraltar in 2014 and is studving biology and pre-med at Wayne State University. Searle and Jitendra Patel awarded the scholarships Oct. 18. Neil Patel was a graduate of the University of **Michigan and North Farmington High School.** 

### **Fighting cancer**

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C&L Ward has raised \$1,790.86 for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer in several company fundraisers. In September and October, the employees, led by committee leader Beth Hemker, participated in several mini fundraisers such as penny wars, pay to wear days, pay for lunch, a football ticket raffle and more. Lastly, the company turned its Facebook page pink and used its monthly Likes for Dollars campaign for the month October where Facebook users could like the page with a dollar for every new like going to Making Strides. Shown (from left) are Hemker; Deborah Pavone, American Cancer Society; and Michelle Shook, C&L Ward.

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# **Certified Pre-Owned Lincoln MKS vehicles** are Luxury for Less at Varsity Lincoln

**By Greg Mullin** Staff Writer

Varsity Lincoln of Novi's Lincoln MKS-A-THON is on. The dealership offers no turkey, no stuffing, no pumpkin pie. Just great deals. More than 40 Lincoln MKS **Certified Pre-Owned** vehicles are on-site. ready to drive off the lot for as low as \$14,995.

Hurry over to Varsity Lincoln these next three days to catch the deals:

» Thursday, Nov. 20, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. » Friday, Nov. 21, 8:30

a.m. to 6 p.m. » Saturday, Nov. 22,

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Certified Pre-Owned

Lincoln MKS vehicles come with many benefits, including:

» A meticulous 200point inspection by factory-trained technicians

» 6-year/100,000-mile comprehensive warranty coverage

» Complimentary roadside assistance

Customers spoke for themselves when detailing their experiences with the team at Varsity Lincoln.

"I have the MKS and I love, love, love the technology in it," exclaimed Lincoln MKS owner Latanya Tarleton, who has been a customer at Varsity Lincoln for 16 years. "I get the best service here; I never have to worry about anything," she continued about her Varsity Lincoln experience.

"There are numerous benefits of purchasing a Lincoln MKS, including the outstanding warranty that comes with the vehicles," conveyed Jere Law, Varsity Lincoln's General Sales Manager and Pre-Owned Director. "The 100,000-mile free bumper to bumper warranty that comes along-



More than 40 Lincoln MKS Certified Pre-Owned vehicles are on-site at Varsity Lincoln.

side all Certified Pre-Owned purchases is better than a new car warranty! Additionally, any time the vehicle is in for a service visit, you can receive a loaner for no cost exclusively at Varsity Lincoln!"

Loaded with features, the Lincoln MKS will satisfy any customer. Law explained.

The Lincoln MKS provides a combination of sporty and luxury. Benefits include FWD or AWD, dual-zone climate control, Bluetooth, SYNC, an adaptive suspension, a panoramic roof, and heated and

cooled seats for comfort, just to name a few," Law detailed.

This model defines luxury that is incomparable in this price. With Lincoln, most premium luxury features come standard, as opposed to paying additional for similar features on other comparable brands. "The Lincoln MKS stands alone in its class of vehicles," Law emphasized.

Drivers will also enjoy peace of mind from knowing that the Lincoln MKS will hold its value.

'This model holds its value more than other models for many rea-

sons," Law said. "Any depreciation has already been taken on by the previous owner. Plus, the advanced styling and dependability are advantageous to the Lincoln MKS's value.

The MKS-A-Thon event showcases the Lincoln MKS, which get an EPA-estimated 27 MPG and features models with EcoBoost.

"The Lincoln MKS's gas mileage, dependability and warranty make for a solid modern vehicle and overall excellent experience," Law stated. "The warranty is the

key with all these cars;

with Certified Pre-Owned, you get the best from Varsity Lincoln," Law said. Certified Pre-Owned financing is available for as low as 0.9% APR.\*

Varsity Lincoln is the number one dealer in the nation, based on 2013 **Total New Retail Sales** and Service Customer Satisfaction, per a Lincoln sales report.

"Leasing or buying from the number one dealer in the country gives you the best selection, price and service," Law expressed. "Our dealership is ready for any situation that may

arise, whether it is special financing or a specific request. We can handle every unique situation."

"Our customers speak for themselves and how their experience is. When you read the reviews our customers write online. you can see how happy they are, before, during and after the sale," Law concluded.

\*0.9% APR for 36 months on select vehicles for qualified customers with Tier 0-1 approval through preferred finance source. Offer subject to change at any time. See Varsity Lincoln for details.



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- Northville
- Novi
- South Lyon
- Milford

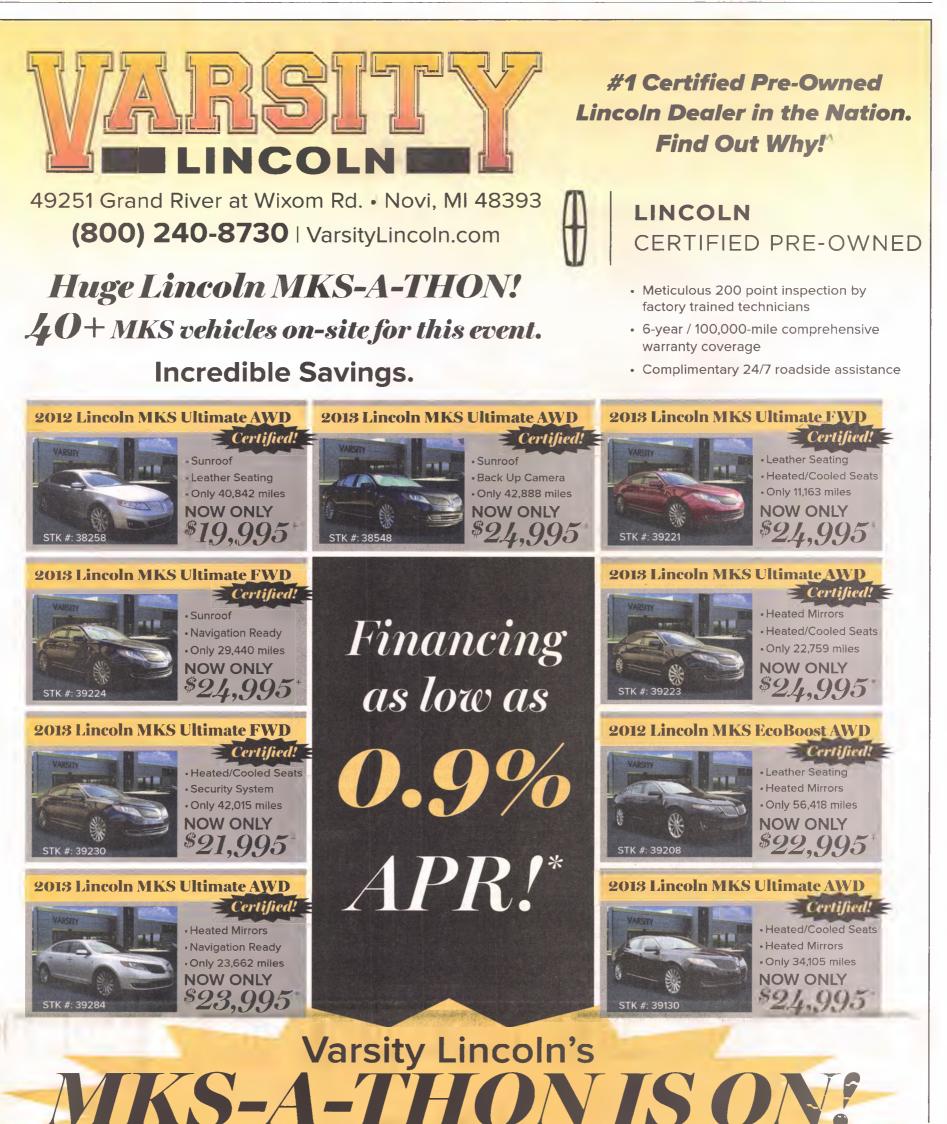
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^Based on 2013 Total Certified Pre-Owned Sales and Service Customer Satisfaction per Lincoln Sales Report. \*As low as 0.9% APR for up to 48 months on select vehicles for qualified customers with Tier 0-1 approval through preferred finance source. Offer subject to change at any time. See Varsity Lincoln for details. \*Price does not include tax, title, license and dealer fees due at point of purchase. Inventory and pricing subject to change. See Varsity Lincoln for details. Offers end 11/30/14.

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# **REAL ESTATE**

**JULIE BROWN, EDITOR** JCBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-842-8046 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Realtor survey: Obstacles real for young adults in buying home

Despite an improving job market and low interest rates, the share of first-time buyers fell to its lowest point in nearly three decades and is preventing a healthier housing market from reaching its full potential, according to an annual survey released Nov. 3 by the National Association of Realtors. The survey additionally found that an overwhelming majority of buyers search for homes online and then purchase their home through a real estate agent.

The 2014 National Association of Realtors Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers continues a long-running series of large national NAR surveys evaluating the demographics, preferences, motivations, plans and experiences of recent home buyers and sellers; the series dates back to 1981. Results are representative of owner-occupants and do not include investors or vacation homes.

The long-term average in this survey, dating back to 1981, shows that four out of 10 purchases are from first-time home buyers. In this year's survey, the share of first-time buyers dropped 5 percentage points from a year ago to 33 percent, representing the lowest share since 1987 (30 percent).

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, says there are many obstacles young adults are enduring on their path to homeownership. "Rising rents and repaying student loan debt makes saving for a down payment more difficult, especially for young adults who've experienced limited job prospects and flat wage growth since entering the workforce," he said. "Adding more bumps in the road, is that those finally in a position to buy have had to overcome low inventory levels in their price range, competition from investors, tight credit conditions and high mortgage insur-



**GETTY IMAGES | THINKSTOCK** Despite an improving job market and low interest rates, the share of first-time buyers fell to its lowest point in nearly three decades.

ance premiums."

Yun adds, "Stronger job growth should eventually support higher wages, but nearly half (47 percent) of first-time buyers in this year's survey (43 percent in 2013) said the mortgage application and approval process was much more or somewhat more difficult than expected. Less stringent credit standards and mortgage insurance premiums commensurate with current buyer risk profiles are needed to boost first-time buyer participation, especially with interest rates likely rising in upcoming years.

The household composition of buyers responding to the survey was mostly unchanged from a year ago. Sixty-five percent of buyers were married couples, 16 percent single women, 9 percent single men and 8 percent unmarried couples.

In 2009, 60 percent of buyers were married, 21 percent were single women, 10 percent single men and 8 percent unmarried couples. Thirteen percent of survey respondents were multi-generational households, including adult children, parents and/or grandparents.

The median age of firsttime buyers was 31, unchanged from the last two years, and the median income was \$68,300 (\$67,400 in 2013). The typical first-time buyer purchased a 1,570 square-foot home costing \$169,000, while the typical repeat buyer was 53 years old and earned \$95,000. Repeat buyers purchased a median 2,030-square foot home costing \$240,000.

#### **Financing the purchase**

Nearly nine out of 10 buyers (88 percent) financed their purchase. Younger buyers were more likely to finance (97 percent) compared to buyers aged 65 years and older (64 percent). The median down payment ranged from 6 percent for first-time buyers to 13 percent for repeat buyers. Among 23 percent of firsttime buyers who said saving for a down payment was difficult, more than half (57 percent) said student loans delayed saving, up from 54 percent a year ago.

Ninety-three percent of entry-level buyers chose a fixed-rate mortgage, with 35 percent financing their purchase with a low-down payment Federal Housing Administration-backed mortgage (39 percent in 2013), and 9 percent using the Veterans Affairs loan program with no

down payment requirements. "FHA premiums are too high in relation to default rates and have likely dissuaded some prospective first-time buyers from entering the market,' says Yun. "To put it in perspective, 56 percent of first-time buyers used a FHA loan in 2010. The current high mortgage insurance added to their monthly payment is likely causing some young adults to forgo taking out a loan.'

#### Characteristics of sellers

The typical seller over the past year was 54 years old (53 in 2013; 46 in 2009), was mar-ried (74 percent), had a household income of \$96,700, and was in their home for 10 years before selling a new high for tenure in home. Seventeen percent of sellers wanted to sell earlier but were stalled because their home had been worth less than their mortgage (13 percent in 2013).

Yun attributes the increase in seller's age and tenure in home to rebounding home prices. "Faster price appreciation this past year finally allowed more previously stuck homeowners with little or no equity the ability to sell after waiting the last few years," he said.

Sellers realized a median equity gain of \$30,100 (\$25,000 in 2013) – a 17 percent increase (13 percent last year) over the original purchase price. Sellers who owned a home for one year to five years typically reported higher gains than those who owned a home for six to 10 years, underlining the price swings since the recession.

The 2014 NAR Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers can be ordered by calling 800-874-6500, or online at www.real tor.org/prodser.nsf/Research. The study costs \$19.95 for NAR members and \$249.95 for nonmembers. Highlights of the report are available at no cost.

\$305,000

\$235,000

\$660,000

\$310,000

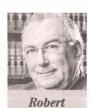
\$166.000

# Protect your rights in oil, gas drilling issues

Q: Our municipality seems to be doing nothing about the possibility of oil and gas drillers coming onto our properties or adjacent properties to drill oil and gas. I am wondering what our association can do to stop it.

A: If you live in a subdivi-

sion or condominium, you should get your association to retain counsel to deal with this matter, both legally and politically. You should band together with



Meisner

other associations to put pressure on the municipality as well as the gas and oil companies to insure you have adequate protections for your property. This is an ever-increasing problem that must be dealt with aggressively and forcefully by community associations that are potentially adversely affected.

**Q: The United States Con**stitution guarantees freedom of expression, freedom of religion and the right to bear arms. However, state legislatures, I am told, from Arizona to Massachusetts have been granting new and, in many cases, previously unheard of rights to marijuana and firearm retailers. This is, I am told, rapidly drawing planners and zoning practitioners into the debate over how these businesses best fit into their communities and whether their communities are legally obligated to accommodate these uses in the first place. What can we do about the situation?

A: It sounds like it is more a political than legal issue, but one has to be concerned about the fact that legislation might be passed that impacts adversely on the rights of community associations to protect their own interests. It may well be that a state statute preempts any particular Association Bylaw depending on the circumstances and you are best advised to get your board rts to protect association

#### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 7-11, 2014, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses,

4056 Augusta Ct 454 Fox Hills Dr N # A-6 300 Kendry 3750 Peabody Dr 5755 Raven Rd 4896 School Bell Ln

\$440,000 29915 Old Bedford St \$70,000 21625 River Ridge Trl \$140,000 29404 Shenandoah Dr \$525,000 \$356,000 26196 Valhalla Dr \$340,000 30873 W 11 Mile Rd

\$183,000 \$210,000 \$302,000 29484 Shenandoah Dr \$327,000 \$296,000 \$173,000

24836 Jamestowne Rd 24351 Knollwood St 43479 Mclean Ct 28738 Quarry Ct 23917 Ripple Crk 39460 W . stminster Cir

and sales prices.		2940 W Hickory Grove Rd	\$340,000 \$1,157,000	30873 W 11 Mile Rd 30074 W 12 Mile Rd Unit	\$173,000 \$48,000	39460 Westminster Cir SOUTH LYON	\$297,000	to activate its efforts to protect
BEVERLY HILLS		5516 Westwood Ln	\$238,000	115	\$10,000	26923 Bluegrass Ct	\$387,000	the interests of the association
16011 Amherst Ave	\$372,000	364 Woodedge Dr	\$280,000	28001 W 13 Mile Rd	\$316,000	1333 Cartwright Ln	\$425,000	and to ensure that their docu-
17810 Beverly Rd	\$225,000	42160 Woodward Ave	\$130,000	28400 W Nine Mile Rd	\$175,000	23090 Cheyenne Dr	\$424,000	ments are foolproof to the
31384 E Rutland St	\$244,000	Unit 54	\$150,000	21566 Waldron St	\$75,000	1242 Coach House Ln	\$370.000	extent possible from areas
16250 Locherbie Ave	\$220,000	3673 York Ct	\$475,000	30398 Wicklow Rd	\$225,000	1349 Drury Ln	\$360,000	which are adverse to the in-
21617 Meadow Ln	\$260,000	COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	\$ 17 5,000	FRANKLIN	\$223,000	1160 Fountain View Cir	\$143,000	terests of a majority of the
18414 Warwick St	\$8,000	9374 Boncrest St	\$97,000	30860 Hickory Ln	\$475,000	61110 Greenwood Dr	\$79,000	members.
BIRMINGHAM		9427 Boncrest St	\$535,000	HIGHLAND	• • • • • • • • • • • •	57200 Meadowcreek Cir	\$421,000	
990 Canterbury St	\$420,000	2442 Charms Rd	\$229,000	2585 Briar Cliff Dr	\$210,000	N	¢.2.,000	Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and
523 E Southlawn Blvd	\$232,000	4474 Darlene Dr	\$380,000	766 E Wardlow Rd	\$145,000	57132 Meadowcreek Cir	\$365,000	the author of "Condo Living 2: An
1920 Graefield Rd	\$126,000	3793 Gulfwood Dr	\$489,000	350 Mcpherson	\$88,000	S		Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling
1235 Lyonhurst St	\$754,000	3931 Lakes Edge Dr	\$489,000	3390 Ridge Rd	\$165,000	24522 Padstone Dr	\$79,000	and Operating a Condominium." It is
309 N Eton St # C	\$95,000	3591 Loch Bend Dr	\$700,000	LATHRUP VILLAGE		24563 Padstone Dr	\$73,000	available for \$24.95, plus \$5.55 for tax,
637 N Old Woodward	\$300,000	1291 Sleeth Rd	\$143,000	17385 Avilla Blvd	\$120,000	24476 Ravine Dr	\$533,000	
Ave		4630 Sundew St	\$221,000	18970 Eldorado Pl	\$170,000	952 Ridgefield Ct	\$270,000	shipping and handling. "Condo Living
1767 Norfolk St	\$860,000	1532 Trace Hollow Dr	\$300,000	28411 Eldorado Pl	\$175,000	61232 Saddlecreek Dr	\$379,000	2" is available in both print and
1546 Penistone St	\$215,000	FARMINGTON		18231 Santa Ann Ave	\$175,000	SOUTHFIELD		e-book editions. The e-book is
776 S Bates St	\$1,075,000	22627 Brookdale St	\$213,000	MILFORD		28279 Aberdeen St	\$46,000	available for download through
411 S Old Woodward Ave	\$177,000	22820 Floral St	\$138,000	2020 Burns Rd	\$185,000	28715 Fairfax St	\$80,000	iTunes, Amazon.com and
Unit 1013		21016 Larkspur St	\$138,000	1313 Yellowstone Valley	\$316,000	25498 Parsons Dr	\$173,000	barnesandnoble.com. He is also the
411 S Old Woodward Ave	\$406,000	32282 Leelane	\$170,000	Dr		29845 Rambling Rd	\$117,000	author of "Condominium Operation:
Unit 824		32340 Shiawassee Rd	\$179,000	NORTHVILLE		27465 Red Leaf Ln	\$118,000	Getting Started & Staying on the Right
998 Suffield Ave	\$665,000	FARMINGTON HILLS		38170 Connaught Dr	\$365,000	21499 Virginia St	\$172,000	Track," second edition. It is available
268 W Brown St	\$879,000	22293 Acadia Way	\$83,000	808 Revere Ct	\$134,000	21400 W Nine Mile Rd	\$13,000	for \$9.95, plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping
277 W Brown St	\$1,425,000	23332 Barfield St	\$144,000	43524 Scenic Ln	\$449,000	23697 Wendy Ln	\$145,000	and handling. Call 248-644-4433 or
2344 Windemere Rd	\$220,000	27460 Beacon Sq	\$213,000	NOVI		17699 Windflower Dr	\$97,000	visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This
BLOOMFIELD HILLS		28225 Bellcrest St	\$186,000	22573 Brookforest	\$241,000	WHITE LAKE		column shouldn't be construed as
1171 Kemper Ave	\$119,000	35273 Caryn St	\$191,000	50721 Calvert Isle Dr	\$715,000	915 Aglaia Dr	\$225,000	legal advice.
6875 Castle Ct	\$250,000	26320 Drake Rd	\$250,000	45928 Crestview Dr	\$292,000	8200 Filmore Ct	\$290,000	
125 Guilford Rd	\$592,000	29279 Earth Ln	\$110,000	29561 English Way	\$316,000	72 Lisa Cir	\$180,000	
2390 Hickory Glen Dr	\$410,000	30160 Fox Club Dr	\$380,000	50652 Glades Ct E	\$623,000	9376 Mandon Rd	\$145,000	
401 Lone Pine Ct	\$1,999,000	22147 Harsdale Dr	\$413,000	21901 Greentree Ln	\$305,000	1441 Midwood Dr	\$90,000	REAL ESTATE
2108 Park Ridge Dr	\$260,000	33547 Heirloom Cir	\$430,000	44454 Gwinnett Loop	\$232,000	1153 Pinecrest Dr	\$224,000	
1835 Stonycroft Ln	\$238,000	30324 Le Mans Dr	\$200,000	41600 Hamlet Ln	\$160,000	301 Tower Rd	\$132,000	BRIEFS
<b>BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP</b>	2	30793 Oak Valley Dr	\$330,000	25922 Island Lake Dr	\$550,000			

#### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 28 through Aug. 1, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

#### CANTON

42930 Barchester Rd 4042 Bruton Ave 7758 Charrington Dr 6532 Edgewood Rd 50906 Federal Blvd 1427 Hampshire Dr 49273 Ivybridge Way 2412 Lexington Cir S 2025 Lincoln Dr 1809 Manton Blvd 50472 Monroe St 2230 N Woods Ct 4490 Napier Rd 47604 Ormskirk Dr 47950 Pavillon Rd 43443 Proctor Rd 42731 Saltz Rd 3470 Shepherd Ct 41791 Singh Dr

1224 Terrell Ct 1541 Valentine Ct 6874 Willow Creek Dr **GARDEN CITY** 31449 Alvin St 29949 John Hauk St 32661 Marguette St 6714 Schaller St LIVONIA \$185.000 \$188,000 38188 Ann Arbor Trl \$245,000 18543 Bainbridge Ave \$265,000 27732 Bobrich St \$77,000 37073 Bristol St \$130,000 39097 Dover St \$135,000 10041 E Clements Cir \$260,000 37471 Eagle Dr \$255,000 30725 Fargo St \$220,000 11866 Farmington Rd \$340,000 8883 Knolson Ave \$227,000 36420 Ladywood St \$443,000 18147 Levan Rd \$135,000 8900 Louise St \$425,000 15033 Marsha St \$190,000 9166 Newburgh Rd \$180,000 35493 Oakdale St \$211,000 14665 Park St \$358,000 19356 Pollyanna Dr

\$175,000	30542 Puritan St
\$242,000	14130 S Livonia Cres
\$179,000	18259 Stamford St
	18435 Westmore St
\$83,000	NORTHVILLE
\$95,000	16342 Brookwood Ct
\$113,000	42337 Chatterton Ct
\$110,000	39481 Edgewater Dr
	39722 Muirfield Ln
\$50,000	49432 N Glacier
\$195,000	17599 Parkshore Dr
\$119,000	15874 Portis Rd
\$208,000	351 S Rogers St
\$171,000	19460 Scenic Harbour Dr
\$118,000	39650 Southwind Ln
\$295,000	45667 Tournament Dr
\$78,000	20568 Woodbend Dr
\$123,000	PLYMOUTH
\$245,000	9177 Baywood Dr
\$235,000	13477 Cambridge Ct
\$98,000	1150 Dewey St
\$45,000	40519 Micol Dr
\$177,000	10163 N Canton Center
\$177,000	Rd
\$200,000	47060 N Territorial Rd
\$174,000	1340 Ross St
\$245,000	1199 S Sheldon Rd
	FISS S SHERUOH NU

\$238,000	12026 Talltree Dr
\$155,000	48672 Timber Crest Ct
\$265,000	46645 W Ann Arbor Tri
\$175,000	1064 William St
	REDFORD
\$279,000	25301 Five Mile Rd
\$274,000	12960 Beech Daly Rd
\$309,000	26014 Grand River Ave
\$290,000	18287 Macarthur
\$400,000	16701 Norborne
\$980,000	9161 Rockland
\$338,000	26536 Vassar Ave
\$240,000	8911 Woodbine
\$261,000	14383 Wormer
\$295,000	WAYNE
\$115,000	35405 Glenwood Rd
\$465,000	WESTLAND
	1190 Abbey Ct
\$260,000	33118 Armada Ct
\$335,000	31214 Cooley Blvd
\$355,000	32337 Glen St
\$195,000	421 Lansdowne Dr
\$330,000	32224 Mackenzie Dr
	8203 Milburn St
\$999,000	6025 N Crown St
\$138,000	38224 N Rickham Ct
\$48,000	30801 Stephen Ct

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#### **Short sales**

\$324,000

\$385,000

\$350,000

\$635,000

\$8,000

\$94,000

\$13,000

\$81,000

\$60,000

\$90,000

\$50,000

\$70,000

\$75,000

\$135,000

\$150,000

\$25,000

\$110,000

\$160,000

\$135,000

\$90,000

\$61,000

\$135,000

\$131.000

\$30,000

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

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

Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

#### Seminar each

#### **Tuesday, Thursday**

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### **Car Report**

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# **Mercedes-Benz Rising With New Model Nomenclature, Return of Maybach Name**



By Dale Buss overhauling the

names used to identify its vehicles as it prepares for the launch of 30 models, including 11 all-new vehicles, by 2020.

As part of its re-badging, the automaker announced the resurrection of the resurrecting of the Maybach name on a model that was to be introduced at the Los Angeles Motor Show, the important industry event whose media preview was in mid-November.

The Maybach brand represented the company's ultra-high-end models before being retired in 2012. Now, as rumored earlier this year. Maybach is making a comeback,

-

this time as the Mercedes-Maybach sub-brand, which will serve as a home for Mercedes-Benz ultraluxury-high-end automobiles.

The uber-plush Mercedes-Maybach S600 was to be presented at China's Guangzhou auto show as well as in L.A. According to the company, the model will provide "extra spaciousness, special seats and lavishly designed, prestigious interiors offering extensive scope for individualization." And another hallowed brand name may be revived, with Pullman possibly adorning an ultra-long model.

Reviving model names is just one piece of the puzzle, as the automaker is also hoping to clear up confusion over the Mercedes-Benz naming system. Brand stewards started rethinking the marque's naming scheme after they had to add not only second but also third letters to their previous one-letter model designations (such as "CLA" where "C-Class" sufficed earlier). Such a matrix would get even



system of vehicle nomenclature even more understandable." The new naming system will be "simpler, more transparent and more logical" with the "aim of providing clear orientation for our customers."

"After more than 20 years of continuity involving some of the most recognized and successful product names in the world, we are now making our system of vehicle nomenclature even more understandable," Jens Thiemer, head of marketing communications for Mercedes-Benz passenger cars, said in a statement.

worse with all the new models,

or what Mercedes-Benz calls "an

Now they're aiming to make "our

increasingly complex situation."

So, going forward, Mercedes-Benz will have five core models: A, B, C, E and S; crossovers will have a "GL" in their name.

The letter that follows each of those initials will indicate the vehicle's size, similar to how the brand has differentiated its sedans through the years. Thus the compact GLA becomes GL A-Class; the GLK will be renamed GL C-Class. And so on.

There are a lot more wrinkles to this new nomenclature that Mercedes-Benz explained in its press release, including the fact that for engines other than gasolinepowered it will use lowercase letters to designate the powertrain, such as "c" for compressed natural gas, replacing "National Gas Drive" in Europe; "d" for diesel, replacing BlueTEC and CDI; "e" for electric models, "f" for fuel cell and "h" for hybrid.

New nomenclature drive systems\*



#### Here's how Mercedes-Benz is describing its new nomenclature.

Naming schemes have become a crucial part of luxury auto branding, with numbers, letters and alphanumeric combinations seeming to provide a sophisticated and even high-tech sheen to model names, in contrast to the names of mainstream vehicles that are usually words, including coined names.

Naming architectures that provide understated but complementary names to individual vehicles also underscore the importance of the overall brand and its characteristics instead of individual vehicles. This approach to naming is where luxury marques get the biggest payoff from their investments in brand marketing.

In this regard, BMW, with its easyladdered-number to-understand system beginning with the 1 Series and extending on up through the 5 Series and so on, has set the standard. Audi has done something similar with its A3, A4, A6 and so on designations for cars and Q3, Q5 and Q7 and so on for SUVs.

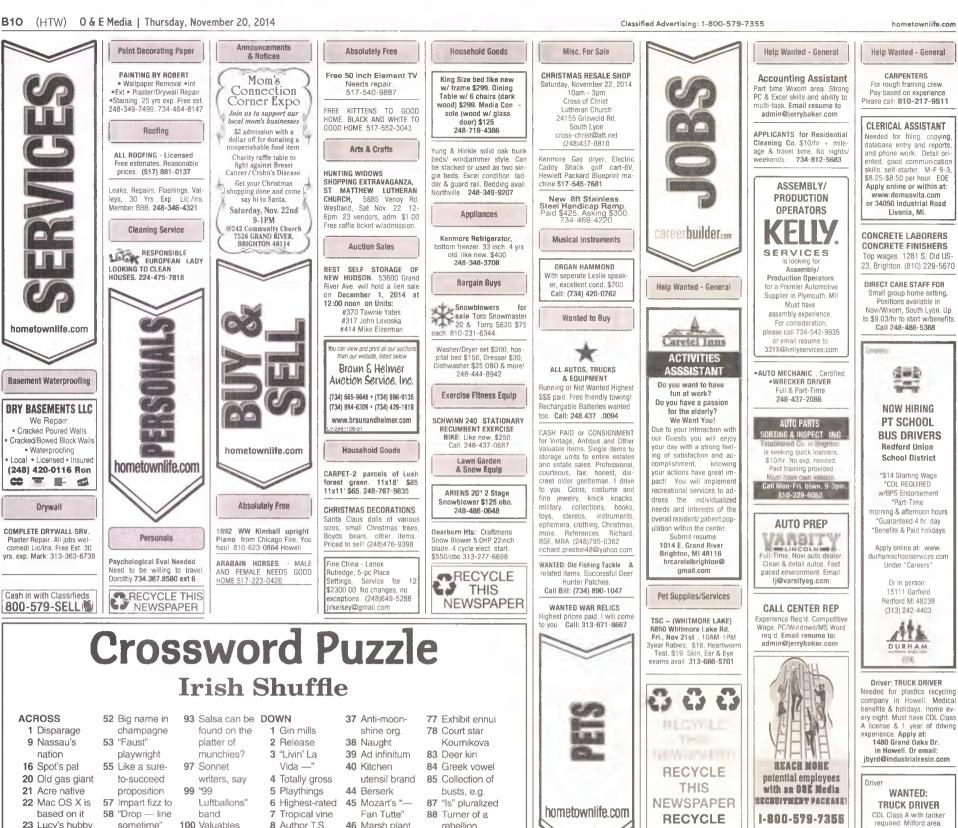
Infiniti and Cadillac are two other brands that covet naming schemes more akin to these German competitors. Cadillac, for example, is embarking on a new nomenclature with its decision to call its next major sedan the CT-6 and to designate all future cars with a "CT" prefix, while all future SUVs will be designated with "XT" plus a number.

Will Mercedes-Benz's new "logical" system provide extra magic to the brand in its intense global competition for the luxury auto consumer? Or amount to a murky new bowl of alphabet soup?

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[Images via Mercedes-Benz]





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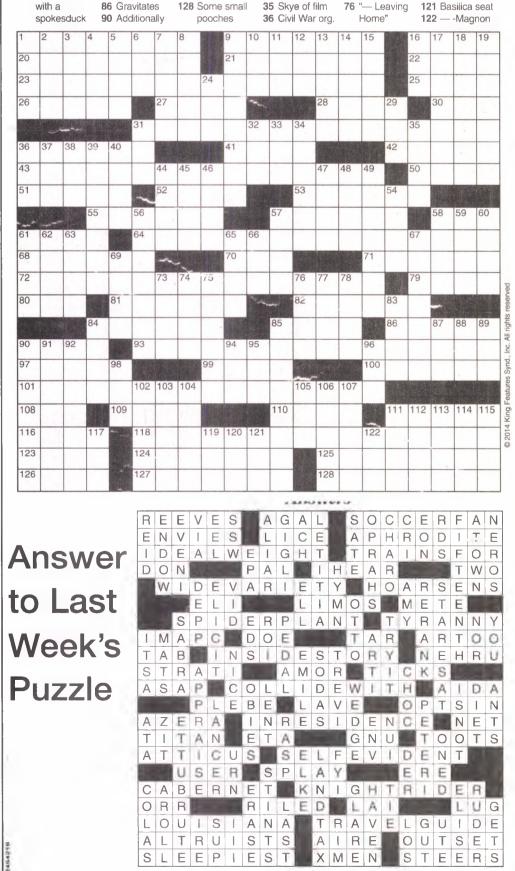
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# So why can't you find a job

#### **By Robert Half**

hometownlife.com

When you started your search for an information technology position, you were optimistic. People you knew seemed to have no problem landing great tech jobs, or they were telling you about other people who had just been hired. But now that you've sent out many resumes with little or no response, you're wondering why no one is snapping you up. What's going on?

First, take comfort in knowing that the demand for skilled IT talent hasn't waned, so there are still opportunities to be had. However, the emphasis here is on "skilled:" Companies that are hiring generally seek experienced professionals with specific skills.

If your experience or area of expertise doesn't quite align with what many employers are looking for right now, it doesn't mean you aren't a viable candidate for hire. You may just need to confirm that you're doing everything you can to give yourself an edge in a competitive marketplace. Here's some advice:

#### **Revive your resume**

You've sent out your resume a bunch of times. But is it a good resume?

Does it underscore the skills, talents and credentials that make you marketable and valuable to an employer? Does it clarify employment gaps and accentuate the positive things you've done while searching for a new role? Does it highlight specific achievements?

One thing employers want to see from job seekers today is an explanation of how they solved a critical problem, increased efficiency or otherwise saved the organization headaches, time or money. If you have a great

story, use your job application materials to tell it.

Another important question: Are you leveraging terminology from employers' job descriptions in your resume and cover letter?

For additional insight, look to the "2013 Robert Half Technology Salary Guide" for a glossary of common IT positions and their responsibilities.

Also include a professional summary at the top of your resume that succinctly highlights your most relevant qualifications and accomplishments. That way, hiring managers will have a snapshot view of what's most important to know about you as an IT professional.



You're a technology pro, so no doubt you already understand the importance of having up-to-date technical skills and certifications. However, are you sure you have the best credentials for the jobs you're applying for? If you don't, that may be holding you back from getting an interview or an invitation to a second one.

Just like technology itself, IT roles are always evolving. Use your professional network to find out what skills and designations your peers landing employment offers have earned. You may need some additional training to increase your value to a potential employer, and this may require making that investment in yourself. Most employers are looking for IT professionals who can hit the ground running; they prefer you to come to the job with the in-demand credentials in hand.

Many firms are specifically seeking technology professionals who understand the chal-

lenges today's businesses face in harnessing the power of big data, seizing mobile opportunities and embracing a "bring your own device" approach. If you have relevant experience in any of these areas, make it known.

#### Expand your network

Professional networking, conducted both online and in person, can help you connect to relevant job opportunities faster. However, if your network consists primarily of your peers who are also looking for employment -- or aren't employed at firms that are expanding their IT teams -- you need to broaden your scope of contacts.

Reconnect with old business contacts, mentors, teachers or family friends who have some business clout. Take advantage of networking events and other activities offered by local business organizations or professional associations. Be active in online networks such as Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter -- just be sure to keep all content fresh and professional. Once you've expanded your network, focus primarily on cultivating contacts who can introduce you to influential and well-connected people at the companies you'd like to work for most.

Lastly, don't fail to consider the opportunities and connections that an interim work arrangement might yield. A specialized recruiter can assist you in finding temporary IT positions. Often, these engagements lead to full-time roles for talented workers. Working as an interim technology professional also can help you earn income -and keep your skills sharp -- while you continue your search for fulltime employment.

With more than 100 locations worldwide, Robert Half Technology is a leading provider of technology professionals for initiatives ranging from web development and multiplatform systems integration to network security and technical support. Robert Half Technology offers online job search services at www.rht.com. twitter.com





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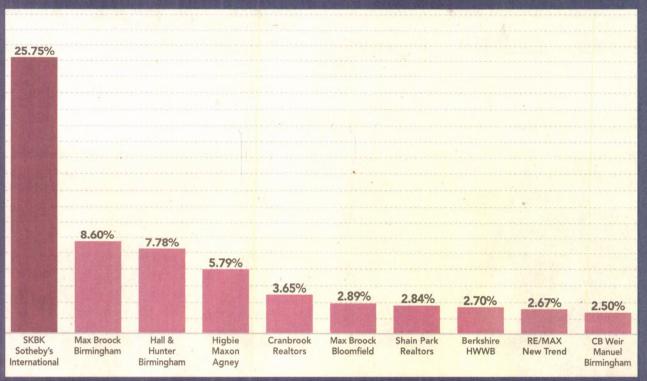
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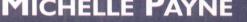


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Douglas H. Hardy, MD Chairman





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