

THE ENCLAVE COMING TO NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIP

THURSDAY 04.13.17 II HOMETOWNLIFE.COM II PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Merit finalists

Walled Lake Schools announced seven National Merit Scholarship 2017 finalists. They include:

» Adriana Coke, Walled Lake Central, daughter of Christine and David Coke.

» Mikayla Matteson, Walled Lake Central, daughter of Donna Bruckner and Stephen Matteson.

Walled Lake Central, son of Mina and Ar-vinder Sooch.

» Rithu Uppala-pati, Walled Lake

» Alex Sooch,

Central, daughter of Sirisha and Vaninath Uppalapati.

» Alexander Yakovenko, Walled Lake Central, son of Irina and Nikolay Yakovenko.

» Sydney Ed-wards, Walled Lake Northern, daughter of April and Randy Edwards.

» Jehan Bugli, Walled Lake Western, son of Binaifer and Neville Bugli.

High school students enter the Na-tional Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, a test which serves as an initial screen of more than 1.5 million entrants each year.

Chamber touts top businesses



Diversified Members Credit Union was honored for Customer Service Excellence, small business.

Winners announced at Toast of the Town

Novi officials believe there's no denying the momentum of the city's business climate. New businesses are opening on a regular basis and those who already call the city home are enjoying robust times.

A catalyst to that success is the Novi Chamber of Commerce, which honored some of Novi's top businesses at its annual Toast of the Town Gala. Awards were given out to small and large businesses Best Place to Work, Community Builder and Customer Service Excel-

lence.
"We are extremely fortunate here in Novi to have so many dynamic businesses that set a high standard and are invested in the success of the community as a whole," chamber board chairman Dr. Robert Burns said.

The 2017 Business Recognition Award winners were:

» Red Level Networks, Best Place to Work, small business » Fox Run, Best Place to

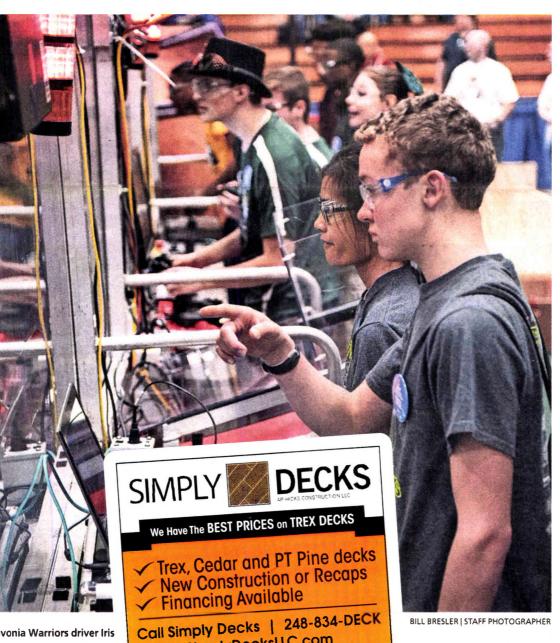
Work, large business » Miller Vein, Community Builder, small business

» Sam's Club, Community Builder, large business

» Diversified Members

See CHAMBER, Page A2

ROBOTS CONVERGE FOR EPIC, BUT FRIENDLY, BATTLES



Livonia Warriors driver Iris

Matt Jachman hometownlife.com

The sounds of machines scrambling across the field and sending plastic balls into hop-pers were punctuated last weekend by the shouts of enthusiastic fans and the announcer's playby-play of epic robot battles at

Churchill High School.
The annual Livonia-hosted FIRST Robotics district competition brought 41 high school teams, from as close as Plymouth and Northville townships and as far as Muskegon, to Churchill, where they pitted their robots against each other in Steamworks, this year's challenge for students in the nationwide robotics program.

FIRST, or For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, is a not-for-profit that encourages the study of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, the STEM subjects.

Students, parents and volunteers took over big portions of Churchill on Friday and Saturday, cheering - or running -Steamworks matches in the fieldhouse, packing the cafeteria at lunchtime and turning the auxiliary gymnasium, where team members repair, test and fine-tune their robots between matches, into a hive of activity.

"We lost this match, but we've been making steady progress," said David Ganss, a mentor for the Novi Detroit Catholic Central Shambots, upon returning to the "pits" from a Friday match. "We're on pins and needles this weekend.'

See ROBOTS, Page A2

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@ 2017 O & E Media Volume 61 Number 49



It's now easier to explore Novi online with the city's recent launch of an upgraded website.

Novi

The new cityofnovi.org boasts a streamlined look that offers improved navigation, a functional mobile design and easy access to the resources online users want most, city officials say.

The website serves as the central communication hub for the community, with 500,000 visits and 1.1 million page views annually. It's a place where users can go to report a pothole, register for a program, pay a



SimplyDecksLLC.com

A screen shot of the home page of Novi's upgraded website.

bill, look up an ordinance, watch a board or commission meeting, find a number or an email address for a specific department and much more.

.ded city website

"In our technology-driven society, it is important to have a website that is not only reflective of the community, but also provides streamlined access to vital information," Mayor Bob Gatt said in a press release.

"The cleaner, more modern design certainly catches your eye and provides a great user experience across a wide variety of devices."

The new website features colorful quick link icons and expandable "mega menus" designed to make it easier to

move from one area of the website to another. To better serve the community, the website also can be translated into a variety of languages.

Information is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year on the city website and is updated regularly. In case of emergency, the home page will feature an emergency banner linking visitors to important information.

To keep up to date on city happenings, sign up for the monthly e-newsletters or follow Novi on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.





Fox Run was honored as Best Place to Work, large business.



Red Level Networks was honored Best Place to Work, small business.

CHAMBER

Continued from Page A1

Credit Union, Customer

Service Excellence, small business

» LaFontaine Automotive Group, Customer Service Excellence, large business

Novi Mayor Bob Gatt served as the emcee for the gala and will honor the winners at the Novi City Council meeting Monday, May 8, with a

reception at 6:30 p.m.

"Our business partners truly do their best every day to not only provide quality services, but to partner with other

organizations like the city, chamber, our schools and each other to make Novi the truly incredible city we all

know and love," Gatt

To learn more about the Novi Chamber of Commerce, go to NoviChamber.com or call 248-349-3743.

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ROBOTS

Continued from Page A1

The standings can change rapidly, but the Shambots' steady progress paid off, as they stood atop the rankings at the close of the contest. After 12 matches, Catholic Central had a 10-2 record and a 1.66 match score, followed the Livonia Warriors (a combined Livonia Public Schools team) with a 9-3 record and a 1.58 match score, and five teams tied for third place, including the Heavy Duty Eagles from Thurston High School and the Hackbots from the Farmington Public Schools.

"It's the biggest, craziest sports event you've ever been to, but with none of the negativity,' said Joanna Garrett, the Warriors' lead robot programmer.

Joanna, a Churchill senior, was excited about the Warriors' trip to the state finals at Saginaw Valley State University



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The theme of this year's FIRST challenge is Steampunk and Livonia Warriors pit crew member Carolyn Mackenzie is dressed for the occasion. She's with pit crew members Sarah Tumavitch and Joey Golinske.

next weekend. The team qualified by winning the Chairman's Award, given to the team that judges decide best represents a model for others and best embodies the goals of FIRST, at an earlier com-

petition. She spent hours helping program Iron Kraken, the Warriors' robot. "There is no better feeling in the world" than to work diligently on programming "then see it come to life," Joanna

said. "It's amazing." Joanna and teammate Carolyn Mackenzie, also a Churchill senior, said they liked the sense of camaraderie at FIRST even among opponents. Everyone's friendly, they said, and borrowing tools from other teams is not uncommon.

Samatha Downs, a Farmington High School senior, said it's stressful being a "shooter," or remotely controlling the upper half of the robot, during play. Samantha has mechanical duties in the Hackbots' shop, too.

"I stuck my hand in the 2014 robot," as a ninth-grader, "got covered in grease and I was completely hooked," she

Steamworks is played between alliances of three teams each. The field has two "airships" and each alliance tries to score by having its robots deliver gears to its



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER A traffic jam on the playing field during a Steamworks match.

airship, which human players put in place to turn propellers, and send fuel (the plastic balls) into a "boiler." Each match is just over two minutes long and ends with the robots attempting to board the airship

by climbing a rope.
"The climber works very well," sophomore Natalie Corrigan of the Robostangs, the Northville High School team, said at Northville's pit station after a match.

Other parts of the Robostangs' robot, Theseus, weren't working quite as well, however, including the gear manipulator. "We just need to calibrate it better,' junior Alexander Steinig said after Theseus was sent to the practice floor.

The pits are where FIRST teams get to show off their work for others,

talk about their machines and tinker with them or recharge the batteries.

"Occasionally, something breaks," said Todd Peterson, a mentor for the Farmington Public Schools team. "It's like NASCAR in here."

"Usually, one problem leads to another and we have to fix that before each match," said Keaton Mulcahy, a Catholic Central sophomore.

Peterson, a manager at General Motors Corp., is in his fifth year as a Hackbots mentor. An electrical engineer by training, the work keeps his STEM side happy.

"These kids are phenomenal," he said.
"That's why I really do

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Maybury Farm honey bees get new digs

Joanne Maliszewski hometownlife.com

When the new generation of honey bees comes to Maybury Farm for the season, they will have new digs colorfully decorated by students of the Northville Art House.

Kids and a few adults dashed to the art house April 6 — as colder, wet weather threatened — to complete the task of decorating 22 new boxes that will become homes for 13,586 honey bees, provided by Maybury beekeeper Dave Zurek of Honey Bear Farms in Northville.

"We needed to update our hives," Maybury farm manager Cindy Kern said. "I asked the Art House if they were interested. So we connected kids to animals and agriculture. We want the kids to understand how they are a part of this.

And that's what Maybury Farm, operated by the Northville Community Foundation, is all about.

When the honey bees do their thing and create honey, it will be collected by Zurek and sold at the farm's general store. Plus, the farm will offer "A Season to Bee Tour" to guests to introduce them to life cycles and how honey bees contribute to the food system. An extra bonus this year will be the installation of a observation area on a hive. "It's like a window into the colony," Kern said.

Most of the kids who had paint brushes and vivid colors in hand are or have been students at the Northville Art House, said Erin Maten, programming and operations manager.

While some of the adults used stencils and free hand for their hive decorations, many of the kids first provided a colorful background. Mia Minniti, 12, painted bees and a seahorse. "Because I learned how to draw mermaids," she said

about her art. Kiera Luhrs, 11, was busy dabbling with her paint and said, "It is just

really nature." Gillian Maten summed up nature while explaining her art work: "I just

like how it's soothing when you paint. Meanwhile, Zurek is getting ready for the new hives and the new generation of honey bees and happy to explain how it

all works. Honey bees have, well, honey stomachs. They go to flowers, ingest the nectar and head home to the hive, where it is transferred to another bee that secures it in a hive cell. As the nectar is collected, honey bees fan and dry it, said Zurek, who has served as the beekeeper at Maybury Farm for almost 10 years.

When it is dry, the bees know to put a wax capping on the cell. The vounger honey bees make the honey comb.

And as all that work goes on, the queen honey bee is busy laying her



Shannon Luhrs painted a super for the Maybury Farm's beehives.





BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Mia Minniti turns her super to continue painting on a fresh



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Benjamin Zurek, 10, stencils designs on his hive box.

eggs, some 2,000 daily. It takes 21 days to become a bee. As the honey bee

population grows, Zurek will add another box, making the hive taller to give extra space.

Zurek will collect the honey on screens put in the hives. The raw honey is then sold. Raw honey means it has not been

heated, as Zurek describes, "to get rid of all the helpful ingredients."

As the season opens, the honey bees will be consistently busy and complete a cycle of life and purpose within 40 days.

imaliszews@hometownlife.com 248-396-6620



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Six-year-old Willow Sherburn's painting describes the future contents of the hive.



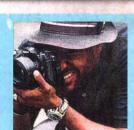


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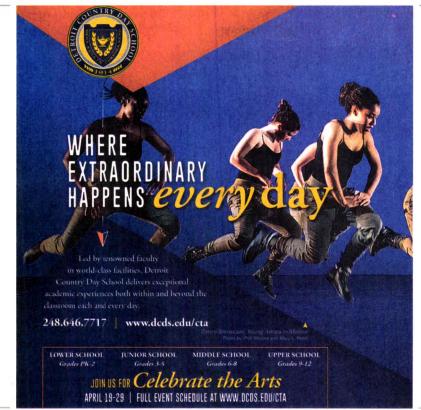
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The home features an area near the entrance that reaches to the second floor, with an overlook to the floor below. This area, near the bedrooms, is an option, usable for office space or casual seating.

The Enclave development makes way for family lifestyles



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The cafe area contains the kitchen, casual seating for meals and an area for seating that includes a fireplace.

Joanne Maliszewski hometownlife.com

If you're watching any of the HGTV home renovation shows, the term "open concept" should be familiar. And it is a strong concept that drives development of Pulte Homes' The Enclave, now under construction in Northville Town-

'We set up our homes with an open flow," said Jennifer Eckardt, sales consultant.

Pulte is developing The Enclave with four models on Seven Mile — property that had been designated by consent judgment to sport some 200 mobile homes. Pulte purchased the property with plans for 55 single-family homes, just east of the Highland shopping center.

'This is a home run for us," Northville Township Supervisor Bob Nix said, referring to the new development. "It's a different residential product."

The homes will take on an

urban feel with smaller, narrower lots 45 feet wide and 120 feet deep. Homes on the cul de sac and on corners, however, provide 111 feet in width in the back yard. The new subdivision is marketed as walkable close to downtown Northville – again a nod to urban design and living.

On the west side of the subdivision, Pulte will build a park complete with gazebo and scenic overlook. It will also feature walking trails. When Pulte has completed the subdivision, a homeowners association will take over responsibility for the park, as well as snow removal and care of the stone monument entrance to the neighborhood. Homeowner dues are expected to be \$750 annually.

The new homes range in size from 2,500 to 3,000 square feet. The final price paid depends on the model and options chosen. The newly built model,

See ENCLAVE, Page A8

Don't become a star in your own remodeling horror show

e've probably all shared that scary movie moment when, helpless in our theater seat with sweating palms, we watch while the heroine innocently reaches for the door

"Don't open that door!" we shout inside our heads (or aloud, depending on our inhi-

We already know the monster lurks behind. We try to warn. The door is opened.

I've been an architect specializing in residential projects for more than 20 years. I've seen a lot of scary "monsters" appear when I have

Realcomp's Tools of the

Realtors are invited to

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Tuesday, May 2, at the Ford

Community and Performing

Arts Center, 15801 Michigan

in real estate from Karen

Kage, Realcomp CEO, Jared

James, a real estate coach, and economist Elliot Eisen-

Get in on this year's lessons

Avenue, Dearborn.

berg, among others.

Realcomp's 2017 Annual Tools



Dawn Zuber **GUEST** COLUMNIST

worked on existing houses. Support beams that were undersized because the homeowner asked the contractor to make the house two feet wider. Sagging roofs that, over time, pushed walls to bow outward.

The initial fright of uncovering the unexpected secretly crouching in the walls, attic or foundation is often exceeded by the terror of realizing the

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

tions — some with continuing

education credits - speakers,

learn more and to register for

lunch, games and prizes. To

the event, go to http://www.

Flex building sold

Estate Solutions recently

Ronda Drive, Canton. The

Cave Properties, LLC

negotiated the sale of a 7,500-

seller, J&V McKinley Realty

LLC, sold the building to Bat-

Brokerage Services at Fried-

Robert Gagniuk, associate,

square-foot flex building, 7767

Tools-Expo.

realcomp.com/News-Events/

Friedman Integrated Real

added time and expense these add to a remodeling project. As an architect, one of my primary goals is to counsel homeowners on what they might find when starting a renovation project. The troubles lurking beneath and behind will still be there, but at least together we can make allowances and prepare strategies to triumph over these villainous contingencies.

What are some of the "boogeymen" that jump out of dark corners when working on older homes?

man, and Amit Hingorani,

Down payment

program

MLS websites-

associate, Brokerage Services

at Friedman, represented the

purchaser in this transaction.

Atlanta-based Down Pay-

tial home buyers to view down

MoveInMichigan.com. Across

See BRIEFS, Page A6

both markets, 72 percent of

homes may be eligible for

ment Resource allows poten-

payment program eligible

listings on two new public

MLSPINhomes.com and

See ZUBER, Page A8

BY THE NUMBERS



FEVERPITCHED, GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

February real estate statistics, provided by Realcomp of Farmington Hills:

Wayne County Total sales

February 2017: 1,313 February 2016: 1,332 Change: 1.4 percent

Median sales price February 2017: \$99,900

February 2016:\$91,000 Change: 9.8 percent

Average days on market February 2017: 47

February 2016: 55 Change: minus-14.5 percent On market listings — ending inventory

February 2017: 3,845 February 2016: 6,680

Change: minus-42.4 percent

Oakland County Total sales

February 2017: 1,101 February 2016: 1,218 Change: minus-9.6 percent

Median sales prices

February 2017: \$203,250 February 2016: \$185,950 Change: 9.3 percent

Average days on market February 2017: 47 February 2016: 55

Change: minus-14.5 percent On market listings — ending inventory

February 2017: 3,391 February 2016: 5,625 Change: minus-39.7 percent

Fastest selling communities

35 days and less with 10 or more sales, year-to-date:

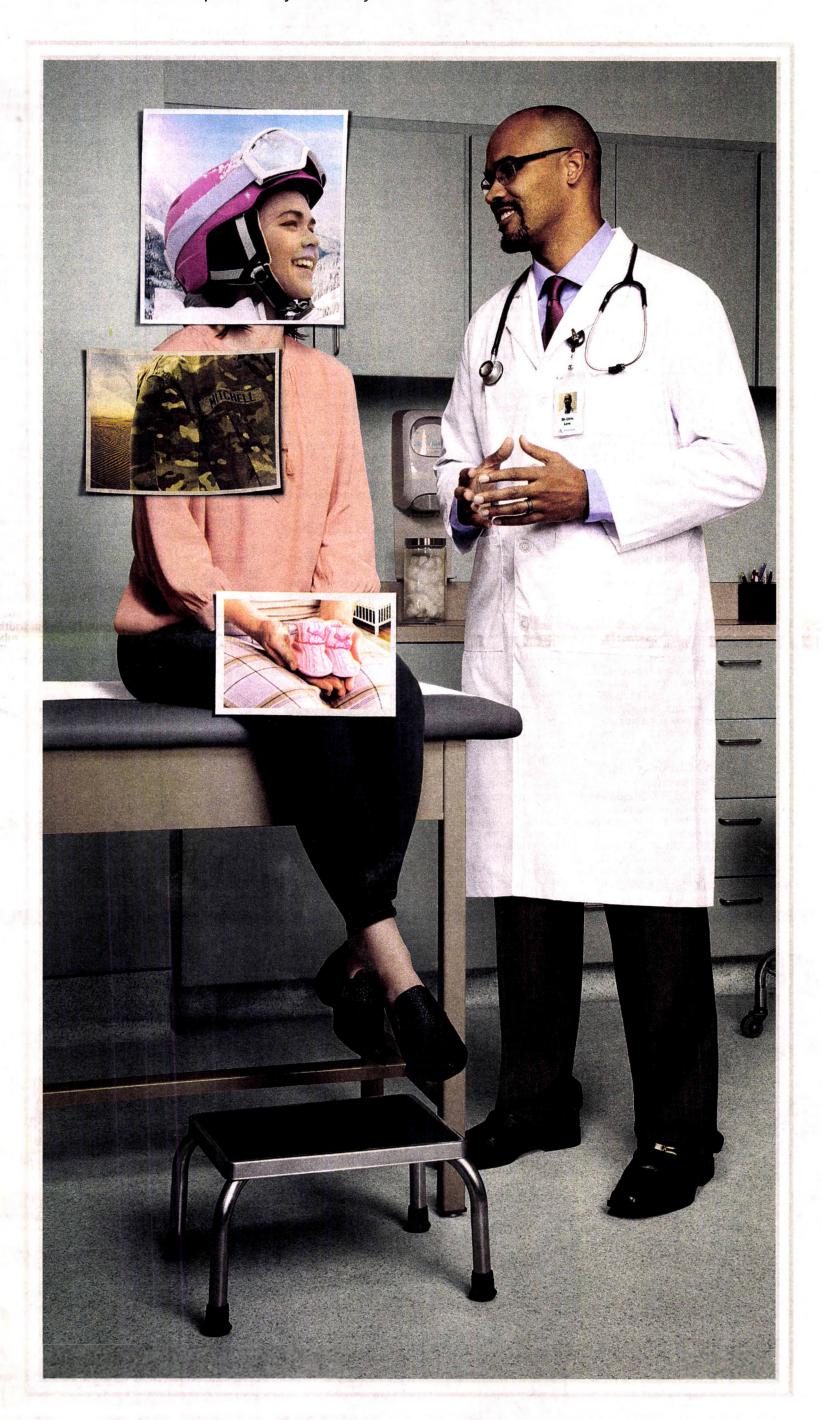
- 1: Holly: 18 days on market
- 2: Lathrup Village: 20 days
- 3: Clawson: 24 days
- 4: South Lyon: 25 days 5: Brighton: 26 days
- 7: Huron Township: 27 days
- 8: Berkley: 29 days 9: Farmington: 30 days
- 10: Novi: 31 days 11: Oak Park: 31 days
- 12: Pittsfield Township: 31
- 13: Plymouth: 31 days

- 14: Hazel Park: 32 days
- 15: Wixom: 32 days
- 16: Ferndale: 33 days 17: Flat Rock: 33 days
- 18: Oceola Township: 34 19: Sterling Heights: 35 days
- 20: Livonia: 35 days
- 21: Howell: 35 days 22: Northville: 35 days

The free event includes attend exhibitors, presenta-

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Roundabout tops list of dangerous intersections

Jay Grossman hometownlife.com

From her second-floor office inside the Hunters Square Building, attorney Marjorie Kolin saw firsthand how installing a roundabout at 14 Mile and Orchard Lake roads helped save lives.

"I've been looking out of a window right there for 19 years and there are far less accidents now than there were before they put in the roundabout," said Kolin, whose office is a block west of the intersection. "I've seen people killed."

So how did the same corner make it to the top of Michigan's most dangerous intersections?

The roundabout at 14 Mile and Orchard Lake leads the 2016 list of Michigan's top 20 most dangerous intersections, according to Michigan Auto Law, a Farmington Hills law firm that specializes in personal injury accidents. The rankings are based on crash data provided by the Michigan State Police.

Craig Bryson, spokesman for the Road Commission for Oakland County, said the numbers tell only a small part of the story.

"They're essentially



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The roundabout at 14 Mile Road and Orchard Lake Road, which borders Farmington Hills and West Bloomfield, has been listed as the top intersection for crashes in 2016.

giving you useless information," he said Monday. "All they're telling you is the number of crashes ... what they're not telling you is the ratio of crashes to the volume of traffic, which is much more important to us."

Bryson said the roundabout, located at the border of Farmington Hills and West Bloomfield, is actually one of the safer intersections in Michigan, considering the amount of traffic in the area.

"If you get a ton of cars at one intersection, then it goes to follow you're probably going to have more crashes at that corner," he said. 'But there were zero serious injury accidents at this intersection. they were all basically fender-benders.

There were 163 crashes last year at the 14 Mile/Orchard Lake roundabout, according to the rankings. But only 27 of those crashes resulted in injury accidents - and nearly all of them were relatively minor.

In comparison, the intersection of Ford Road and Lilley Road in Canton recorded 26 injury accidents out of 85 crashes.

In fairness, the list by Michigan Auto Law points out the low number of serious accidents reported at roundabouts:

'Roundabouts still

remain a safe alternative, as only 27 of the 163 total crashes at Orchard Lake and 14 Mile resulted in injuries — a very low rate compared to traditional traffic lights. This particular intersection has always had a large amount of daily traffic and with two traffic light intersections less than 500 feet away one at Northwestern Highway's terminus at Orchard Lake, the other at 14 Mile and Northwestern — congestion likely adds to the rise in

car crashes. Even if roundabouts are proven to be safer, Richard Ziemak of Farmington Hills still finds them frustrating.

"I think it's kind of complex," he said of the design. "I don't know what the other drivers are going to be doing as they approach - are they going to stop and wait or are they going to come through? So I think it's a bit confusing.

Kim Porth of Brighton prefers roundabouts in busy areas, mainly because they're designed to keep traffic moving at a reasonable speed.

"I think one of the things I've observed is people don't know how to drive in them," she said.

"What happens is, people get in the circle and they want to stop to let other people in ... and they're in no position to yield. If you don't know where you're going, stay in the circle until you figure it

Farmington Hills resident Julianna Gadja said too many drivers don't understand how a roundabout works.

"When they built the one in Brighton, there were people going in the wrong direction," she said. "I haven't see that here, but I think there should be a little more education.'

Bryson said there have been zero fatalities at any of the roundabouts in Oakland County since the first one was built in 1999. The one at 14 Mile and Orchard Lake was built in 2015.

"You can't say the same for signalized intersections," he said. "Plus, they carry a lot

more traffic." Oakland County is planning to build more roundabouts in the next several years, starting with one at 10 Mile Road and Napier Road.

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BRIEFS

Continued from Page A4

some type of home ownership program. The company also launched a new partnership with Homes for Heroes to ensure more community heroes are aware of the discounts and savings available to them.

Consumers searching on the public MLS websites can benefit by immediately seeing which homes are eligible for down payment help. Home searchers can click the Down Payment Resource icon to check their eligibility. Both the home and the home buyer must be eligible for the home ownership program.

Across southeast Michigan, 71 percent of Realcomp II Ltd. listings are eligible for a home ownership program. When consumers go to they create their own custom home search, selecting "down payment assistance" to view properties with program eligibility.

Down Payment Resource and Homes for Heroes are also working together so any "hero" home buyer will see additional savings and discounts they may be eligible for when buying a

Now, when consumers using Down Payment Resource identify themselves as a firefighter. active military or veteran, law enforcement, teacher or health care worker, they will see a Homes for Heroes link next to their home ownership program results. It will take them to the Homes for Heroes website so they can investigate rebates, savings and other discounts available to them when buying, selling or refinancing a home.

Northville Realtor honored

RE/MAX Dream Properties, 138 Main Center, ille was recently honored at the RE/MAX of Southeastern Michigan Awards Gala. The event was held at the Henry Ford Museum in

Dearborn and celebrated the accomplishments of RE/MAX's highest performers in southeast Michigan.

RE/MAX Dream Properties received the prestigious Showcase Award during the event. Showcase Awards are based on agent growth, average yearly commission per agent and average yearly production per agent. RE/MAX Dream Properties was recognized for achieving the highest net gain for an office size of 11-25 agents. The award was accepted by Lisa Hall, broker/owner, RE/ MAX Dream Properties.

"We are very proud to see RE/MAX Dream Properties recognized for superior performance," said Magnus Sublett, chief executive officer, RE/MAX of Southeastern Michigan. "The hard work and dedication of Lisa and her team have helped RE/ MAX maintain its position as the No. 1 re estate company in southeast Michigan.'

"I am honored to be recognized at the regional level for the accomplishments of RE/MAX Dream Properties," Hall said. "Our entire team is committed to providing superior service to our clients throughout the Northville area. We look forward to another productive real-estate sea-

Industrial building

Friedman Integrated Real Estate Solutions recently arranged the sale of a 78,065-squarefoot industrial building at

Haggerty Road. Farmington Hills. The seller, 23300 Haggerty Associates,

Hall sold the building to Humanetics Innovative Solutions, Inc.

Phil Konopitski, senior vice president, Brokerage Services at Friedman, represented purchaser in this transaction.

Brokers honored

Friedman Integrated

Real Estate Solutions announced the following individuals in the Brokerage Services division were recently awarded the 2016 CoStar Power Broker Awards, which honor the nation's top brokerage firms and individuals in commercial real estate: Glenn N. DesRosiers, senior vice president, Brokerage Services; Rob Gagniuk. associate, Brokerage Services; Todd Hawley, senior vice president, Brokerage Services; Alan Stern, vice president, Brokerage Services; and Rich Deptula, national director, Investment Advisory Services.

The awards are presented to the top 15 individuals in their field who closed the highest transaction volume in commercial property sales and leases in their re-

spective market during the previous year.

In the Detroit metropolitan market, Des-Rosiers, Gagniuk and Hawley were recognized as Top Office Leasing Brokers, Stern as a Top Retail Leasing Broker and Deptula was recognized as a Top Sales Broker. In addition, Friedman was honored as a Top Leasing Firm and a Top Sales Firm, ranking in the top 15 firms in the Detroit metropolitan market. CoStar is the largest independent information provider to commercial real estate professionals in the United States.

To submit real estate news, email Joanne Maliszewski at imaliszews@ hometownlife.com.



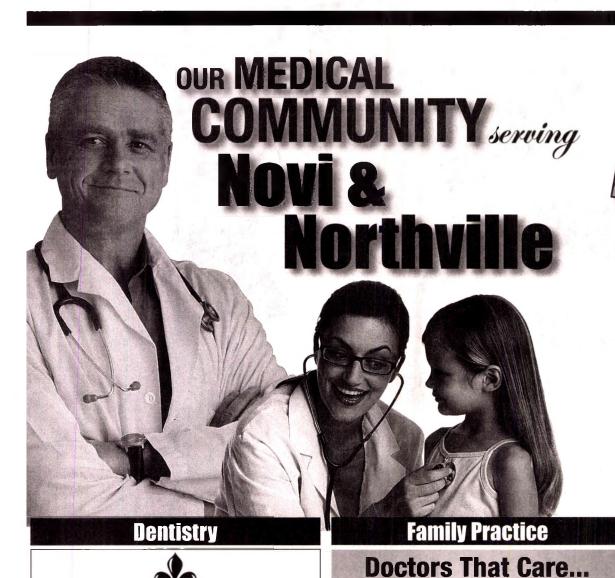


Commercial brokers recognized included (from left) Glenn DesRosiers, Robert Gagniuk, Todd Hawley, Alan Stern and

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ZUBER

Continued from Page A4

Inadequate insulation

Homes built before the 1980s were built when energy was cheap They are often underinsulated or possibly not insulated at all because of the price of heating fuel. We now know that it's better to keep our heated and conditioned air inside rather than letting it escape through our walls and roofs. Adding insulation is a good intention, but be aware this can change the way that water vapor moves through the walls, which can, in turn, cause mold and mildew to form. It's wise to consult an expert before adding barrier materials to assess how our friend and simultaneously potential foe moisture - will be han-

Wiring, undersized electrical panels

We own a lot more electrical devices now



A notched joist.

than people did in the early to mid-20th century—just think of the number of hair dryers, curling irons, shavers, electric toothbrushes and other devices you probably have in your bathroom. Most older homes that haven't been updated have 60-amp electrical panels with screwin fuses rather than circuit breakers.

A home today is better served by 150- to 200amp (or more) service and some insurance companies are refusing to insure homes with outdated electrical panels. Not many things are as frightening as an insurance agent saying "no" to issuing a policy on an over-sized risk! When you renovate your home, you should ask your electrician to calculate the estimated loads and size

ingly.
In addition, homes built before the 1940s are likely to have knob and tube wiring, which was not designed to handle the electrical loads we

the electric panel accord-

need for all our devices today. If that weren't scary enough on its own, cellulose and spray foam insulation cannot be installed where knob and tube wiring is present because the heat produced by this outdated method of wiring can cause the insulation to catch fire. It's important to plan to replace this obsolete electrical system as part of any renovation project.

Galvanized plumbing pipes

Many homes built before the 1960s have galvanized plumbing supply lines. Supply lines are the pipes that bring water from your water meter to your faucets. Galvanized pipes are steel pipes with a zinc coating on the inside. Over time, this zinc coating erodes, which causes the insides of the pipes to corrode, causing low water pressure by blocking the pipes. Corroded pipes can also leak at the joints. Galvanized pipes are another hiding monster you may be required to chase away with PVC

or copper replacements when you remodel a kitchen or bathroom.

Orangeburg sewer lines

Orangeburg pipe was made of layers of wood fiber and pitch and was used for piping sewage from houses to the main sewer line. During World War II, inexpensive Orangeburg pipe became popular because cast iron - the material sewer pipes were typically made from — was subject to a heavy tax. Over time, Orangeburg pipe tends to absorb moisture, deform under pressure and eventually disintegrate. If your home was built between the late 1940s and the mid-1960s, you may have Orangeburg pipe. Sorry, but again, just the architect as messenger here: it should be replaced.

Asbestos, lead paint

A lot has been written about these potential dangers. Although these adversaries may be as familiar to most as Frankenstein, Dracula and the Wolfman, it's still worth the expense to hire an expert to advise you about the best way to identify and remove or encapsulate these threats.

As you can see, there are a lot of beasts that can jump out and grab you (and your savings) when you remodel your home. I recommend setting aside a contingency fund of 10-25 percent of the cost of construction to cover these potential expenses. That way, when confronting these villains, you can look at them in the eye and shout: "You can't scare me. My architect warned me you might be hiding behind that door!'

Canton resident Dawn Zuber, AIA, who owns Studio Z Architecture in Plymouth, earned her bachelor of architecture degree at the University of Cincinnati. She also completed an independent study at the Architectural Association School of Architecture in London. She is a licensed architect in Michigan and Ohio. Zuber was the architect for the HGTV Urban Oasis ® Giveaway 2016 in Ann Arbor.

ENCLAVE

Continued from Page A4

the Everett, offers four or five bedrooms, two or three bathrooms, 2,823 square feet and starts at \$462,990. The largest design is the Woodward, with four to six bedrooms, two to four bathrooms and 2,950 square feet with a starting price tag of \$459,990.

The smaller designs are the Bridgeport with four bedrooms, 2½ baths and 2,561 square feet with a starting price of \$442,990. A bit larger is the Boardwalk, with four to six bedrooms, two to four bathrooms and 2,658 square feet for a starting price of \$449,990.

"You can't build in Northville for this price. This is a real draw," Eckardt said. "Pulte has not been here for a while."

The Enclave homes are designed to support today's family life with smaller bedrooms, yet options for flexible space, such as a loft area on the second floor. "It is like a second living room on the top floor. We are



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

moving away from building huge bedrooms,"

The master bedroom.

Eckardt said.

Bowing to the needs and likes of today's families, formal dining rooms and large formal living rooms are not a focus. In the Everett, space that can be used as dining and living rooms

living rooms are not a focus. In the Everett, space that can be used as dining and living rooms greet guests when the front door opens into a smaller foyer. "People see (formal areas) as wasted space. You use the formal dining rooms once a year. So it is really up to you what you want to do with the space."

Also gone in the new

design is the closed-off kitchen. Today, parents want an open kitchen to the living area to encourage families to gather in the space and for parents to see what the kids are doing while busy in the

kitchen, Eckardt said.
"Whether entertaining
or with the family, they
can all come together
now," she said.

No longer called a family room, that "come together" space is named a gathering room and is open to the dining area and the kitchen.

Pulte offers as standard granite counter tops, although the less porous quartz is an option. As a \$3,200 option, a five-burner gas stove top, oven and microwave can be designed as builtins. The 50/50 stainless steel sink is standard, but Pulte has available as an option a large sink made of a composite material that doesn't scratch, Eckardt said.

The kitchen also boasts an island facing the cafe, as well as 42inch cabinets with maple as the standard material.

Each of the four designs also will boast a planning center, which is a desk near the kitchen that can serve as a good spot for kids to do their homework or as a small office for empty-nesters.

And for those emptynesters, Pulte offers, as an option, a small bedroom and full bathroom on the main level. Otherwise, the main floor bathroom is a powder room.

In the Everett, the flex space, if chosen as an option, is essentially the entry point to the upper floor, with bedrooms off a gathering area. While the secondary bedrooms are smaller, ranging in

size from 10 by 12 feet to 11 by 12 feet, the master bedroom runs larger, 14 feet, 6 inches by 20 feet, 10 inches, accompanied by a master bath with double vanity and two walk-in closets. The master suite also provides room for a sitting area.

If a buyer does not want the upstairs flex space as a gathering area option, the space is used as a cathedral ceiling for the main floor front foyer

In the Everett, the secondary bedrooms share a Jack and Jill bath. "People really like these, because it gives easy access for the kids," Eckardt said. "The bedrooms are smaller, but they will fit what you need."

Each of the available models also includes an upstairs laundry, another popular contemporary design. "People like this because this is where their clothes are," Eckardt added.

While plenty of options in all the models are available, the one thing Pulte will not do is redesign the spaces, such as making the upstairs bed-

rooms larger. "We have a six-month build, so we don't do custom options," she said.

Excited with the new residential offerings, Nix said The Enclave will be a winner for Pulte and for the township, considering that the property was originally scheduled for mobile homes. "That was not compatible with the surrounding area, Nix said. "This is a fill-in parcel. If we can get more families in there, that's great. We know the (Northville) school board said they need more children.

A number of other residential areas are planned in Northville Township, including neighborhoods specifically for empty-nesters, a means to keep in the community those residents whose children have flown the nest.

"We're looking at the master plan to see how much acreage we have left for residential," Nix said.

jmaliszews@hometownlife.com 248-396-6620 Twitter: @jmaliszews

More Novi tax abatements

I understand that Mayor Gatt and the Novi council members have another tax abatement planned for another company this Monday. I'm wondering how much tax revenue will this company not be paying to the city of Novi? Tax abatements and other corporate welfare schemes decrease a company's tax responsibility. Consequently, the law-abiding taxpayer's taxes are increased to make up the difference.

Our taxes are to be used to fix the roads fund our police and fire department, support our library and maintain our water and park services. It is our responsibility as citizens to pay taxes for these services, so why aren't these companies that come here paying their fair share? Shouldn't they be required to be good corporate citizens? If a company can't make a profit without a tax abatement. then they need to fix their business plan!

I have used the Freedom of Information Act to try to find out how much tax money was not collected from these companies due to past abatement decisions. I'm told that securing this information will cost me \$243.77 because "this estimated fee is for the amount of time it will take to gather and produce the information."

So I need to pay a fee in order to get the city to comply with the FOIA? If these loss-of-tax-revenue abatements were documented in the city's annual budget, it would be

much easier to access. That is true government transparency.

The following companies have benefited from tax incentives for business attraction/retention purposes: Caparo (closed Novi operations in 2013); Detroit Heavy Truck Engineering; Ecco Tool Co.; Harman (formerly Harman Becker Automotive); Howa USA Holdings; Hyatt Place; Kongsberg Automotive; Macprofessionals; Mando America; Metalsa Structural Products; Novixus; Oxid Corp.; SAIC (formerly Patrick Energy Services); Ryder System; Stoneridge; Summit Health; Suburban Collection Showplace: MTU America; and Toyota Boshoku America.

I'm going to the Novi City Council meeting Monday to speak on this matter. I hope you can too.

> Colleen Crossey Novi

Support Lyon library millage

Our family has used the Lyon Township Public Library for three generations. It is an integral part of our community. We support the upcoming millage. Please remember to vote May 2.

Fred and Jo Monroy Lyon Township

Trump blames Obama

A poison gas attack allegedly perpetrated by pro-Assad government forces in Syria's civil war has prompted a predictably stupid response from President Trump. According to Trump, weakness and a refusal to act by President Obama in 2013 to the use of

poison gas by Assad resulted in this week's attack although hypocritically Trump's tweets reveal that he opposed any U.S. intervention at the time.

Obama's eventual response skillfully maneuvered Russia into agreeing to be responsible for the collection and sequestration of these weapons of mass destruction from Syria to prevent their future use by Assad. This obviously wasn't "Obama doing nothing" as Trump characterized it and the action succeeded since no such attacks had occurred in the four years since at least until Trump took office.

Trump has only been in office for eleven weeks and the world's bullies and tyrants are emboldened. Not only has Assad broken from a four year hiatus from using chemical weapons on civilians, Kim Jong Un of North Korea has stepped-up testing missiles that will someday be capable of delivering nuclear warheads to American shores and has ramped up the aggressive rhetoric. Looks as if the weak and feckless GOP characterization of Obama for all those years far more aptly fits Donald Trump since like Rodney Dangerfield, he is getting no respect, no respect at all.

An enraged Trump was asked whether the gas attack had crossed any lines and his response was "many many lines" especially in light of the many "babies" reported among the casualties. The president however had nothing to say about what he in-

tended to do about the atrocity. It appears that like healthcare, nobody knew how complicated Syria is.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In this as in many other cases, it will be difficult to for the U.S. to claim the moral high ground since just last week an American attack resulted in the death of 230 civilians, including many "babies" in Syria. Granted, poison gas wasn't used but incendiary bombs are no fun either. In addition another ill-fated American attack several weeks ago in Yemen not only cost the life of a Navy Seal but resulted in the deaths of 23 civilians including an eight year old girl who was a U.S. citizen. Where was the rage then in

either case, Mr. Trump? Since according to Trump, Obama was to blame for the Assad's poison gas attack 10 weeks after leaving office. I wonder if Trump will blame Obama for the "mess" he inherited in the form of great jobs reports for February and March. Certainly not but most economists will view this as an unprecedented trend of Obama jobs creation that has spanned nearly eighty consecutive months lumbering forward under its own momentum.

Understandably
Trump is enraged about
the tragic deaths of the
Syrian victims of this
abomination, especially
the "babies" but oddly
dismissive of the predictions from multiple respected sources including Harvard University
about the tens of thousands of Americans that
will die per year for lack

of health care, thousands

of whom will be babies, if the GOP repeal/replace plan he supports becomes law. No rage for American "babies" Mr. President? Trott? GOP? Buehler?

Mitch Smith Canton

Liberals are

annoying
Liberals are being
annoying now like a sink
faucet dripping late at
night. The ad nauseum
rants against congressmen, like Dave Trott,
have gotten old a long
time ago and it's yester-

day's news. You liberals who want to keep Obamacare got a temporary reprieve and now you're mocking Republicans for backing down. In your eyes, Trump and the GOP can do no right in anything they do or say. The liberals are just going to rail unceasingly against the right — give up all hope ye who long for bipartisanship. The Democrats only demand bipartisanship when they're in

power!
As for the town halls, we get it. You want to yell at reps like a pack of wild animals or out of control school brats. The GOP members shouldn't even subject themselves to this adult version of "Romper Room."

Let me tell you, it takes some real vile creatures to drive for hours through a snowstorm and then stand for an hour outside in the cold.

I've noticed that since the Observer papers have adopted a single Wayne County opinion page that we've been "treated" to seeing what the "heavy hitters" from neighboring towns think.

For example, big mouths like Gerald Maxey from Farmington Hills and James Huddleston from Canton. I think the readers of the Livonia Observer know how lucky they've been to have had me for over 15 years and now our neighboring towns know it as well.

Ever since the presidential election, the liberals have been carrying on like unreasoning mad dogs, railing against anything linked to Trump. These are people who cannot be cooperated with. They wish nothing but ill-will toward the right. This is nothing short of a full-blown, cultural war for the future of America.

The liberals promote a demonic dogma that approves of despicable things like abortion and sodomy. Liberals are scurrilous folk who I have no interest in associating with. I'd rather befriend Fang the firebreathing dragon on "The Munsters" old TV show!

Finally, liberals can get their panties in a bunch" over some fantasy tale about Russia, but you didn't hear a peep from them about Obama when four Americans were killed in Benghazi Libya in 2012 at our embassy. Then Obama had the utter gall and audacity to lie about the incident and publicly claim that it wasn't a terrorist attack, but a spontaneous protest that had erupted in response to an obscure Internet video.

Leo Weber Livonia

Human trafficking focus of symposium

hometownlife.com

Girls and boys who become victims of human trafficking are disturbingly

Girls, experts say, are typically ages 12-14; boys,

Even toddlers aren't offlimits and can become victims of relatives, babysitters or neighbors who engage in activities such as showing them naked on the Internet.

Those horrific details come from Carrie Wood, a pastor and founder of Pearls of Great Price Coalition, a group of Christian churches dedicated to fighting human trafficking in southeast Michigan and raising awareness of its devastating effects.

"This is underground criminal work," Wood said. "It is everywhere. It is in our own backyards."

Pearls of Great Price Coalition draws people from Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, Northville, Ann Arbor and Detroit, among other communities. The group is hosting a symposium from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, May 12, at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church, 555 S. Lilley, in Can-

The symposium is bringing together a human trafficking survivor, law enforcement, clergy and legal representatives, among numerous other speakers, amid hopes of raising awareness of human trafficking.

"In every sense of the word, human trafficking is the modern-day version of



Sponsored by Pearis of Great Price Coalition, a grassroots Christian alliance working logether to fight human trafficking.

Register & Ioam more at StopHT.eventbrite.com

slavery," Wood said. "It is a growing crime and heinous sin that violates the most fundamental rights of women, children and men - and it is not something that simply happens in the inner cities or somewhere else. Tragically, it takes place right here in many of our own communi-

It comes as Polaris, a global organization fighting human trafficking, just released a new report, "The Typology of Modern Slavery," detailing sex and labor trafficking into 25 distinct categories such as

the trafficker profile, recruitment tactics and victim profiles ranging from escort services to bar employees.

'One of the primary challenges to ending modern slavery has been the lack of data to understand the problem," Bradley Myles, Polaris CEO, said, adding the new report "offers a new map to understand how human trafficking manifests throughout the country.'

In Canton, organizers say the symposium is designed to give a real-world look at human trafficking in southeast

Michigan and provide tools for how to spot the problem and address it.

"We really do feel that increased awareness, coupled with public involvement and support from the faithbased community, can help make a difference," Wood said.

She said youngsters can easily become victims if they have low self-esteem, run away from home or live with someone who is willing to prey on them.

"It could be somebody you trust who comes into the house - a relative, a neighbor, a babysitter or whatever," said Wood, a retired pastor who still serves as visiting pastor at First United Methodist Church in Plymouth.

Early registration fee before April 17 is \$25 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Registration can be made through http://www.stopHT. eventbrite.com. The cost after April 17 is \$30.

For more information, contact Wood at stophtnow@yahoo.com.

Residents also are encourage to help support the event's Adopt-a-Cop human trafficking training scholarship program by making a contribution on the event's registration page. Contributions will go toward supporting comprehensive human trafficking training for police in southeast Michigan.

dclem@hometownlife.com Twitter: @CantonObserver 734-972-0919

MILL RACE MATTERS

Mill Race Historical Village is at 215 Griswold St., north of Main Street, near Ford Field. Grounds open daily dawn until dusk. Mill Race relies on rentals and memberships to maintain the Village. Consider becoming a member or making a donation today; go to www.millracenorthville.org for de-

Upcoming events

Victorian clothing sale: 1-7 p.m. April 20-21 and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 22. Tickets available at the gate.

Lecture series: Final Run...Storms of the Century: 7 p.m. April 26. New School Church at Mill Race Village. No fee. Donations accepted.

General info

Website:

www.millracenorthville.org Volunteers: The Northville Historical Society at Mill Race Village accepts volunteers in many different areas. We are in special need of Sunday store clerks and help with our fundraising teas. Students, we're happy to verify your volunteer hours with school or scouts. Please contact the office for more information.

Rentals: Call or email the office to rent the Cady Inn or Church for a wedding or party. Many dates are available. More information on our website

Donations: Archives donations accepted from 9 a.m. to noon each Tuesday.

Archives: The archives are open Monday and Tuesday. Questions about donations or research can be emailed to Carri.lee@millracenorthville.org or call the office during archives hours.

Office: The office is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. All other times by appointment only. Call 248-348-1845 or email office@millracenorthville.org.

Stop by Northville library during National Library Week

National Library Week, April 9-15, is a time to recognize the libraries and library workers who transform lives through free access to technology, information literacy, diverse collections and opportunities for community engagement.

This is a great week to stop by the Northville District Library, the library says. All ages can enjoy Library Scavenger Hunt, with a chance to win prizes, through April

In a world of rapid technological and cultural change, libraries and library workers are establishing themselves as trusted resources for both individuals and the community, according to a press release. Conducting an online search can

be a daunting task, even for an experienced researcher, with millions of hits for any question or topic. Librarians are trained experts who can guide library users through this information jungle to find what they

Libraries also provide a wide range of opportunities for people with diverse wants and interests, including materials in alternate formats such as large print or audiobooks, technology classes, English as a Second Language conversation groups, local history and genealogy collections and many other pro-

This year's theme for National Library Week is "Libraries Transform." Olympic soccer gold

medalist and World Cup champion Julie Foudy is lending support as National Library Week honorary chair. Foudy is helping shine a light on the value of all types of libraries — school, public, academic and special and the expertise of library workers.

National Library Week celebrations include the release of the American Library Association's 2017 "State of America's Libraries Report" this week. The annual report examines library trends of the past year and will include the highly anticipated "Top 10 List of the Most Challenged Books of 2016."

We try to offer a va riety of programs and collections to meet the wide range of needs of

the Northville community," said Julie Herrin, library director. "Libraries are more important than ever in this era of constantly changing technologies. They level the playing field for people of any age seeking information and access to technologies. We continue to add more downloadable items and encourage everyone to access our online re-

office, including Consumer Reports online, business resources like Value Line and Morningstar and so many more. 'Our two newest pro-

grams are Books & Brews, a book discussion group which meets every other month at The Wagon Wheel, and our new App Café, a casual gathering with our tech librarian on Saturday afternoons once a month,

for people to discover new apps and learn how they work."

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries across the country each April.

For more information, call the Northville District Library at 248-349-3020 or go to www. northvillelibrary.org.

NORTHVILLE LIBRARY LINES

The library will be closed April 16 for East-

Library Scavenger Hunt

Time/Date: Now through April 22

Details: How well do you know your Library? Celebrate National Library Week by trying vour hand at our Library Scavenger Hunt for all ages. Complete our challenge and enter your sheet for a chance to win a gift card! Scavenger Hunt sheets available at the library.

Drop-In Super Saturday Storytime

Time/Date: 11-11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 15 **Details:** Join us for stories, music and more all about birthdays! Best suited for children ages 2-4, but all ages welcome. Just drop in.

Designing **Landscapes with Native Plants**

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Monday, April 17

Details: Drew Lathin discusses differences in traditional and native plant landscapes, whether formal or informal. Also view photos for tips for your own design success. Register online or in person, or call 248-349-

Tween Event: Modge Podge Bottle Vases

Time/Date: 4:15-5:15 p.m. Tuesday, April 18 **Details:** Modge Podge

+ Imagination = A uniquely YOU bottle vase. For Tweens ages 9-12. Limit of 30. Register online.

Build an Investment Portfolio to Meet Your Financial Goals with Ken Bloom

Wednesday, April 19 **Details:** Having a proper mix of investto be able to retire comfortably. Financial ad-

Time/Date: 7 p.m.

ments is one of the keys visor and attorney Ken Bloom provides tips on how to build a diversified investment portfolio. Register.

Drop-In Morning Storytime

Time/Date: 10:15-10:45 a.m. each Thursday, April 13 through May 4

Details: Storytime fun for toddlers and preschoolers! All ages welcome to attend. Caregivers must accompany children age 3 and younger. No registration - just drop in!

Kidz Time for graders 1-3

Time/Date: 4:30-5:15 p.m. Thursday, April 20 Details: Join us for stories, games and crafts about the country of Italy. Register.

Drop-In Little Me Storytime for Little

Time/Date: 10:30-11:15 a.m. Friday, April 21 Details: Little ones, babies to 2 years old,

along with their parents

or caregivers enjoy music, simple stories and playtime. Fun for preschoolers too! Just drop

Teen DIY: Upcycled **Book Safe Craft**

Time/Date: Noon to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 22 **Details:** Teens in grades 6-12, celebrate Earth Day by hollowing out an old book into a disguised storage space. Supplies included. Bring in a book of your own, or use one provided by the library. Limit 30. Registration required.

The Future of **Energy: What on Earth Should We**

Time/Date: 2 p.m. Saturday, April 22

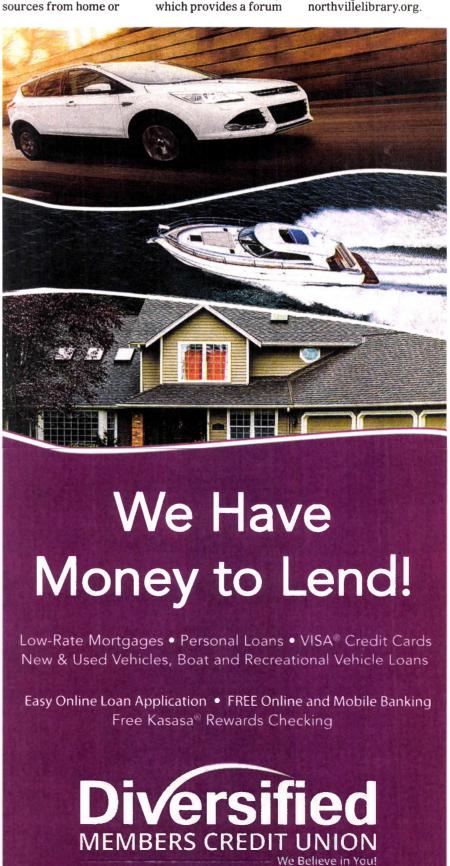
Details: Earth Day!

The perfect time to hear an informative, straightforward talk about the future of energy....oil, natural gas, solar, wind and more, with MSU Professor Don Morelli. Register.

UNPLUG and PLAY! Card & Board Games for Kids

Time/Date: Anytime **Details:** We offer a variety of fun card and board games for kids and families to enjoy when visiting the Library, like Candy Land, Chutes & Ladders, Checkers, Uno and many more! As for details at the Information

NCUA



www.dmcu.com 248.277.DMCU

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



SALWAN GEORGES | DETROIT FREE PRESS

Mike Vance of White Lake walks his daughter Olivia Vance during her "Star Wars" themed wedding at the 2016 Motor City Comic Con at Suburban Collection Showplace.

Send calendar items to Community Content Editor Joanne Maliszewski at jmaliszews@hometownlife.com.

Mothers' Club Farewell Open House

In celebration of its 82 years of service, Mothers' Club of Northville is hosting a Farewell Open House 4-7 p.m. Friday, April 21, at Genitti's Holein-the-Wall restaurant, 108 E. Main Street in downtown Northville.

All those from across the community are encouraged to attend, including current. Life and past Mothers' Club members, as well as students. teachers, staff and community members. There is no cost and no need to

RSVP. Just stop by and let Mothers' Club thank you for your support over these many years. Email Northvil-

leMC@gmail.com with any questions about the Mothers' Club Farewell Open House.

Tipping Point presents 'True West'

"True West" runs through April 23 and the curtain rises at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, with matinees at 3 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday

A special "half price" ticket performance will be held Thursday, March 30, sponsored by Monroe Bank and Trust.

The theater is located at 361. E. Cady St. in Northville. Tickets are

\$30 to \$40 for adults, \$28 to \$33 for students and senior citizens. Tickets are on sale now and selling fast! For tickets or more information, please call the box office at 248-347-0003.

College planning workshop

A free workshop by Michigan College Funding LLC of Novi on getting money for your child's college education will be hosted from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 20, at South Lyon High School. The speaker will be Robert Hoger, Certified College Planning Specialist. He will be discussing such topics as how to send your kids to the school of their dreams without going broke; how to increase your eligibility for aid; how to find scholarships and grants you've never even heard of. MCF is a college admissions and financial aid planning company. Admission is free but seating is limited by the size of the room, so please call 248-662-1300 to reserve your seats now.

Art & Soul Grand

Finale Art&Soul of Oakland County will be hosting its grand finale as a pop-up event 6-9 p.m. Saturday, April 29, at Galerie Camille, 4130 Cass Avenue. Detroit. A traveling monthly photo exhibit is part of Art&Soul of Oakland County's mission to activate a movement and a shift in thinking about foster care children. Art&Soul partners with award winning photographers to capture the soul of the hardest to place: older children looking for a forever family. Jext Telez, a Detroit based guitar effect pedal company, has donated 10 music pedals for 10 Detroit-based artists to customize for the April 29 event. Save the date and plan to see art, bid on a one of a kind music pedals, meet amazing artists, the featured children and enjoy live music from Greater Alexander. Go to www.artand souldreams.org or call 248-227-4643 for more

Hip Pain! Now What?

information.

If your joints feel stiff when you get out of bed, your hip hurts when you bend over just to pull up

your socks and going downstairs to make breakfast is a painful undertaking, you might be one of about 31 million Americans affected by osteoarthritis, as estimated by the Arthritis Foundation.

Learn more about causes, treatments and how to be up and running again 6-7 p.m. Thursday, April 13, in Conference Room A, Outpatient Building of Providence -Providence Park Hospital, Novi Campus with Martin Jenter, DO, Orthopedic Surgeon.

Long-term care planning

The Law Office of Erin E. Mortenson, PLLC will host three workshops on What You Need to Know About Medicaid and Long-Term Care Planning at the Northville Community Center on April 26, May 24, and June 28. Topics will include: what is long-term care planning?; Medicaid, what are the benefits, eligibility?; preserving assets; and avoiding probate.

NHS Senior All Night Party ticket prices

increase May 1 NHS Senior All Night Party ticket prices go up to \$100 on May 1. April 30 is the final day to order tickets for \$90 and the final day to order Words of Wisdom (\$5 each) for your senior. All orders can be placed at www.northvillesanp.com.

As the SANP approaches, organizers are looking for additional prize and food donations.Please email northville sanpcommunications@ comcast.net if you have any prizes you (or your business) are willing to donate or know of a restaurant that might be willing to donate food items.

Thanks to everyone who has donated one or more pair of new, unused boxer shorts to date! Boxer Bingo is one of the kids' favorite activities every year (they win a pair of boxers by filling a bingo card), and we need hundreds of pairs of boxer shorts to make it a success.

spring Rummage Sale 9

a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday,

Rummage Sale Faith Community Presbyterian Church in Novi will hold its annual

May 4, and 9 a.m. to noon Friday, May 5. The Friday sale will be Bag Day, when anything that fits into a paper grocery bag goes for one price. Proceeds from the sale will Marquis be used for the church's 40th Anniversary celebration in October, Faith Church was founded in 1997 by a small group of

people who believed Novi needed a Presbyterian church of its own. The church is located at 44400 W. 10 Mile Road, just w<mark>e</mark>st of Novi oad. For more

information, call 248-349-

International Women's Show Gold and silver Olym-

pic gymnast Laurie Hernandez and Keegan Allen from "Pretty Little Liars' will be appearing at the 22nd annual Michigan International Women's Show when it returns to the Suburban Collection Showplace May 4-7. In addition to Hernandez and Allen other features of the show include: Ann Arbor Firefighters Charities fashion show; Aussie in the Kitchen Chef Paul Penney; spring makeup trends and helpful cosmetic tips; painting party to encourage originality and creativity; "Pawject Runway-Fido Fashion Show" and Wigs 4 Kids will be accepting ponytails for Michigan children and teens experiencing hair loss as a result of illness or treatment; plus more than 400

exhibitors. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$10; ages 6-12 are \$5 and children 5 and under are admitted free with a paying adult. For more information and exhibitor coupons, go to InternationalWomenShow.com, Facebook.com/michiganinternationalwomensshow, Twitter.com/ iwsmichigan, Instagram.com/MIWShow or call 800-849-0248.

Downtown First Friday

Celebrate the First Friday of the month 5-9 p.m. Friday, May 5, with the retailers and restaurants of downtown Northville. Many stores stay open late and feature refreshments, new mer-

chandise, sales and visits from local artists. For more information, go to http://www.enjoy northville.com.

'Alice' at the

Journey through Wonderland with Alice as she follows the white rabbit and other curious friends as the Marquis Theatre presents "Alice in Won-derland." Come see this fun, interactive musical with lots of singing and dancing. Tickets for all performances are \$9. For more information, call the Marquis Theatre at 248-349-8110; go to www.northvillemarquis theatre.com; email marquistheatre@sbcglobal.net or go to Facebook page at facebook.com/ MarquisTheatre NorthvilleMi.

Show times and dates: 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, April 15, 22-23 and 29-30 and May 6-7.

Evenings in the garden

MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center is the setting for a new season of Evenings in the Garden classes. Speakers will be sharing their wisdom and experience 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursdays at Tollgate, 12 Mile and Meadowbrook roads, in Novi.

The cost of each class is \$20 and supports further adult education programming at MSU Tollgate. To find more information and to register, go to http://tollgate. msu.edu/events/evenings -in-the-garden. The classes are for novice and seasoned gardeners, homeowners, landscapers and outdoor enthusiasts. This educational series is an opportunity to get out of the house, meet others who are suffering from cabin fever and start planning for spring gardening

Motor City Comic Con 2017

Motor City Comic Con 2017 will take place 12:30-7 p.m. Friday, May 19, 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m Saturday, May 20, and 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 21, at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue in Novi. Complete information about the event, tickets, panels and VIP passes is available at http://www. motorcitycomiccon.com/.



CAIN

CHARLES April 20, 1932 -March 21, 2017. Expressions of sympathy can be made at obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

CHOPE



STEPHAN age 65, passed away April 8, 2017. He was born September 3, 1951 in Detroit, son of the late Albert and Bernice Chope. Steve retired on July 1, 2016 from General Motors following many years of employment at the Tech Center. He was known as an intelligent and creative man and for his love of tinkering on things. Steve enjoyed working on and riding motorcycles and woodworking. He will always be remembered as a loving and devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He is survived by his beloved wife, Judy; his loving children: Jennifer (Dan) Fish, Pamela Frese, Stephanie (John) Martyka, Samantha Chope, Crystal Ferguson, and Jason (Heather) See. He is also survived by nine grandchildren, and by many extended family and dear friends. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, April 12 from 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. with a funeral service being held on Thursday, April 13 at 2:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon.

www.phillipsfuneral.com

DeGALAN

THOMAS SR. April 15, 1922 March 30, 2017. Expressions of sympathy can be made at

obriensullivanfuneralhome.com HEFFERNAN

JAMES SR. Sept. 3, 1924 -March 20, 2017. Expressions of sympathy can be made at obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

SMITH



GERALD LOUIS 74, of Seymour passed away April 1, 2017. He was a retired Police Chief of South Lyon, Ml. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Lorraine Smith; and brother, Donald Smith, Gerald is survived by his loving wife, Virginia E. Smith; daughters, Lori (Brian) Wanke, Cari (Kevin) Pilon, his sister Judi (John) Beal and Aunt Marilyn Wood and several grandchildren, nieces and nephews, cousins. A memorial service will be held May 19th, 2017 at the South Lyon

Cemetery 12 p.m. www.phillipstuneral.com

A loving tribute

Local business wants your yard waste for a fee

Sharon Dargay

A Highland Township brick and concrete landscaping company is a few steps closer to adding a compost collection and transfer station to its existing business at 784 N. Milford Road.

Elizabeth Corwin,

township planning and development director, said a handful of "immediate neighbors" attended a public hearing before the planning commission last week on a special use permit for Kern Enterprize, Inc., owned by Shane Kern.

"There weren't any serious objections at the meeting. They're all neighbors of each other. He answered most of their concerns about odor and security," Corwin said

The business would collect yard waste on-site in bins and transfer the materials to another location for composting. Materials would include

sod, grass, leaves, lake weeds, soil, brush and stumps. Corwin said six 80-yard bins and one 150-yard bin are stationed on the property.

"He's been doing that for his own business. He's just expanding what he's doing," Corwin said. The company installs pool decks, patios, side-

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

620 General Motors Rd., Milford

Church office: (248) 684-0895

Worshin Services

Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Bible Study: at 9:45

FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD

VISITORS WELCOME! 133 Detroit St., Milford • 248-684-5695 Pastor Steve Swayze day School (all ages) 9:30 a.m. • Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

Wednesdays, 6:45-8:15 p.m. vana, 3 yrs old thru 5th grade (Sept.-March) and Youth Group for 6th grade and older

First Church of Christ.

Scientist

All are welcome at all services

05 E. Commerce St. Milford, M1 48381

Sunday Service: 10:30 am

Sunday School ages 3-20; 10:30 am Children's room: Wed & Sun service

Wednesday service: 7:30 pm 248-685-7266

MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Pastor Bryant Andersor

Main Street, Milford MI (248) 684-2805

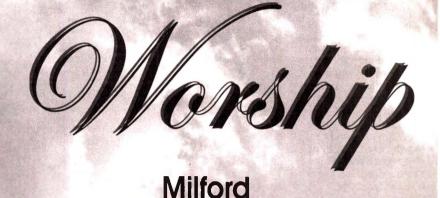
www.milfordpc.org Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m. ichool age 3 thru 5th grade @ 10 uth Group 10 am - Grades 6-12

ol, Pre-K & Kdg. - Mo. Sync

walks, steps and other brick and concrete landscaping. The special use permit would allow Kern to accept materials from the public for a fee. If the permit is approved, his A.C.G. Farms Yard Waste Facility at Kern Enterprize, Inc., will charge \$3 per leaf bag; \$5 per yard for fill dirt; \$15 per cubic

vard for tree stumps; and \$10 per cubic yard for brush, wood chips, weeds, grass, soil and leaves. Truck and trailer loads would cost \$15 to \$20. The business would accept hardwood measuring no larger than 24 inches in diameter. No garbage nor construction material will be accepted.

Your Invitation to



Brighton

HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC

rner of Winans Lake & Musch Rd 810-231-9199
Fr. John Rocus, Pastor
kend Liturgies Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. isit our Shroud of Turin Display and Book & Gift Shop

Highland

Church of the Holy Spirit 3700 Harvey Lake Rd, Highland

Saturday Mass 5PM, Sunday Mass 9 & 11AM 248-887-5364 | HolySpirltHighland.com The Holy Spirit is Here - Come Home All are Welcome!

Novi

BRIGHTMOOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH

40800 W. 13 Mile Road, Novi on the corner of M-5 & W 13, Sundays 9:00a & 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 AM "Children, Youth and Adult Ministries"

HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL

10700 W. Ten Mile Rd. 248-427-1175 An open, affirming & welcoming community

Thursday Healing Service 12 Noon Sunday Worship 8 am & 10 am www.holycrossnovi.org

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

turday: 4:30 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanish Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Fr. Robert A. LaCroix, Pastor

Fr. Didier Kutshienza, Associate

MEADOWBROOK

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 21355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 1/2 Mill 248-348-7757 • www.mbccc.org

First

Presbyterian (*)

www.fpcnorthville.org

United 777 West 8 Mile Roa (8 Mile and Taft Road

Worship Times: September - May 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.

Memorial Day - Labor Day 10:00 a.m. Rev. Marsha M. Woolley, Lead Pastor

www.furncnorthville.org

Northville, Michigan

200 E. MAIN ST. AT HUTTON Worship, 9:30 am. day School for all ages, 10:30 am. 248-349-0911

Church of Northville

Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister

Northville

NOVI UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH 11671 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 4837 Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m.

Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor 248-349-2652

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

ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.

That's Uniquely Different We meet in the Novi Civic Center at 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375

46325 10 Mile Rd. • Novi, MI 48374 Msgr John Kasza, Pastor Parish Office: 347-7778

Sunday's at 10:00 (248)767-8626

South Lyon

BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH

Gathering in Jesus Name 52909 10 Mile Rd . South Lyon, MI 48178 Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Mike Ragan, Pastor

Old fashioned preaching

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN

Griswold Rd. at 10 Mile lorship: 10 a.m.; Sunday School: 10 a.m.; Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m Maundy Thursday April 13: 7:00pm Good Friday April 14: 7:00pm ster Sunday April 16: 7:30am & 10:00er

Pastor Terry Nelson 437-8810 • 486-4335

CROSSROADS

COMMUNITY CHURCH 28900 Pontiac Trail • South Lyc 248-486-0400 WWW.ecrossroads.net od Friday Services 5:15 & 7:00pm

Easter Services 8:45, 10:00 & 11:30am

Renewed Hope Counseling Center 248-560-7507 rhopecc.net

Fellowship Evangelical

Presbyterian Church 22200 Pontiac Trail (S of 9 Mile) Sunday Worship @ 9:30 am Sunday School @ 11 am

Rev. David Brown, Pastor

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH LYON

Phone: 248-437-2983 ry School 9:45 a.m. • Worship Service 11:00 a.m. g Service 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m Assoc. Pastor: Randy Weaks Website: www.fbcsouthlyon.com

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 205 E. Lake (10 Mile) (248) 437-2875 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Kids/Youth Connection Sundays 6:30 p.m. Mid-Week Study Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Rev. Michael Horlocker, Pastor www.fpcsouthlyon.org

Milford United Methodist Church

248-684-2798

OAKPOINTE | milford

1250 South Hill Rd. (248) 685-3560 www.opcmilford.org Contemporary Worship Service: 8:30, 10:15, and 11:45.

SAINT GEORGE'S (an Episcopal Community) "God Loves You. No Exceptions!" Communion 8am & 10am, Sundays Nursery, Sunday School 10am stgeorgesmilford.org

801 E. Commerce Street, Milford 48381

first united methodist church south lyon mi 9:30am Sunday School for all ages Rev. Sondra Willobee, Lead Pastor southlyonfirstumc.org

640 S. Lafayette

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN Wisconsin Synod . Reynold Sweet Pkwy

at Liberty St.

Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.

All Classes 9:00 astor Scott Miller, (248) 437-1651

The Church of Christ 248-437-3585 • www.southlyoncoc.org

9:30 a.m. Sunday School.

esday Midweek Ministries 7 n m Matthew Oliver, Minister

Shepherd's Way A Ministry of Hope Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship 10:00AM Good Friday 7pm

St. Joseph Parish Regular Mass Schedule: Saturday 5:00 P.M.

unday 8:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M., 12:00 Noon Confessions: Saturday 3:30 P.M. Phone: 248-446-8700

Web Address: www.saintjosephsouthlyon.org 830 South Lafayette

SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH

Loving God and Loving People
22183 Pontiac Trail • 248-486-4400 (In Brookdale Shopping Center SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 A.M. www.solidrocksouthlyon.com

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.

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

10774 Nine Mile Road

Whitmore Lake

TIMOTHY ELCA LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR LADY OF VICTORY

CATHOLIC CHURCH

133 Orchard Dr., Northville

Sunday, 7:30, 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. Church 349-2621, School 349-3610

Religious Education 349-2559

Rev Denis Theroux Pastor

Our Saviour Apostolic Lutheran Church

e Rd. at Currie Rd. Northerville, M 248-374-2268

240-374-2208
Sunday Worship:
Sunday School at 9:45
10:30 am Fellowship/Coffee
11:00 am Worship Service
Vednesday Bible Study at 7 pm
Pactor And Minital

oursaviouralc.com

Livonia

Saturday 5:00 p.r

EEKEND LITURGIES

Livonia, MI 48180 **EASTER WEEK SERVICES** THURSDAY, PASSOVER/SEDER (Celebrating the Lord's Last Supper) 6PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES 10:30 AM & 7 PM **EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE 10AM**

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

Diabetic alert dog will help boy manage his health

Sharon Dargay hometownlife.com

Elijah Bubb's dog will help keep him healthy. He'll provide compan-

ionship and might even

save the youngster's life. Elijah, 6, is on a waiting list for a canine buddy who will detect changes in his blood sugar levels and signal when they're too high or too low.

The first-grader was diagnosed in November 2016 with type 1 diabetes and wears a pump that delivers insulin to help keep his blood sugar level in a healthy range.

"He checks his own blood sugar and he likes to do that. He has taken ownership of it and that's what we want him to do. We're trying to set him up to succeed and not see diabetes as disabling," said his mom, Erin Bubb, adding that the blood sugar results are entered into the pump. "The pump is like a small computer. It tells us how much (insulin) it thinks he should have.

It figures Elijah's insulin needs based on the carbohydrates he eats and takes his activity level into consideration. A glucose monitor tracks his sugar levels in five-minute intervals, but sometimes stops working

"Technology is great when it functions the way it is designed. Sometimes it stops giving data and we don't know where his sugar is at all. When the technology fails us, we get super nervous, Bubb said

Elijah doesn't realize his glucose is too high or low because he hasn't learned to recognize the

symptoms "If he's busy and playing with friends, he may not want to stop, even if he feels tired or sluggish, because he is a kid," she said. "But a dog is going to stop him, bark



An Alert Service Dog, trained to detect changes in blood sugar levels, looks after a youngster.

ALERT SERVICE DOGS

at him and say you need to check your sugar. The dog will warn and keep warning."

She said diabetic alert dogs are trained to detect changes in blood sugar level 15-20 minutes before a glucose meter responds. That gives the dog's owner time to test blood sugar and respond with appropriate treatment before levels become dangerous.

\$20,000 price tag

With help from the community, Erin and her husband Steve have raised \$4,000 through donations- enough to earn a spot on the "active waiting list" for a dog from Alert Service Dogs in Indiana. They

LIVONIA

ST. MARY MERCY

SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

held a bake sale and raffle in February and plan a 5K walk/run this month. They need a total of \$20,000 to buy a fullytrained service dog.

Sue Samson, Alert Service Dogs co-owner and trainer, said the company places approximately 10-15 dogs in homes nationwide every

"We look at each unique situation. We match the dog we think will be most successful with each person," Samson said. "People must truly be willing to take on the responsibility, maintenance and upkeep of a service dog. It's not like adding a pet that has an extra job. It's more like an employee who



The Bubb family, with help from the community, hopes to raise \$20,000 for a diabetic alert dog for their son Elijah. The family includes parents Steve and Erin, Jaxon (left), McKenzie and Elijah.

works for you."

Alert Service Dogs receive daily scent training, obedience work and exposure to public places. Instruction usu-

ally takes 12-18 months. 'We're starting to train Elijah's dog, but we're not sure yet which in the kennel will be his,' Samson said.

Motivated dogs

As Elijah works his way up the waiting list. Alert Service Dogs will hone in on a few canine candidates and eventually find his best match. Border collies, Labrador retrievers, German shepherds and other scent-motivated working or hunting dogs are used in diabetic alert work.

Samson said all of her

canines are trained to identify the scent of blood sugar changes that are common to all diabetics.

"It's not unique to the individual. It's unique to the drop or rise in sugar levels," Samson said. "Towards the very end, when we know which dog is Elijah's, we'll work with him exclusively on Elijah's scent. He'll be getting a bit more used to Elijah."

A trainer will accompany Elijah's dog to Milford when instruction is complete.

We train (the family) for three days and we stay in touch with them for the next three to six months to make sure everything is on track." Samson said.

Elijah is excited about meeting his new dog.

"He has already planned on rearranging his room — he even sketched it out — for his dog to sleep with him,' Bubb wrote on Face-

book. "So cute." The 5K walk/run is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 29, starting at Anytime Fitness, 141 S. Milford Road, Milford. Entry fee is \$10. Go to https://support elijahbubb.eventbrite.

com. Go to Elijah's Facebook page at https://www.facebook. com/SupportforElijah/. Learn more about Alert Service Dogs at alertservicedogs.com.

sdargay@hometownlife.com

The Center for Joint Replacement Rediscover Freedom

Are you living in pain? Now is the time to Rediscover your mobility.

The Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Hospital has a comprehensive team approach to your care.

Our expert staff will answer your questions, discuss joint pain, joint replacement procedures, and implant options. Learn about our pre-surgical classes, choosing a personal coach, specialized physical therapy and what to expect post-surgery.

Our clinical expertise and team approach means shorter hospital stays, better pain management and faster recovery.

Blue Distinction^e



For more information, visit

stmarymercy.org

To learn more, attend one of our **FREE** Educational Seminars 6 to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, April 19 Thursday, May 25 Wednesday, June 21 Classroom 10

To register for a seminar, call 734-655-2400.

NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE **AMENDMENT TO** ORDINANCE CHAPTER 133 PEDDLING AND SOLICITING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Charter Township of Northville Board of Trustees approved the adoption of amendments to Ordinance Chapter 133 (Peddling and Soliciting) at a Special Meeting on Thursday, April 6, 2017, at 6:30 P.M. at the Northville Township Hall located at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168.

The amendment includes changes to sections 133-1, 133-2, 133-3, 133-4, 133-6, 133-7, 133-8, 133-11, 133-12, and 133-14. The introduction of the amendment was approved at the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on March 16, 2017.

A copy of the full Ordinance and amendment can be viewed during normal business hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Office of the Township Clerk, Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168 or on the township's website: www.twp.northville.mi.us .

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Ordinance as passed by the Charter Township of Northville Board of Trustees at a Special Meeting held at Township Hall on the 6th day of April, 2017.

Sue A. Hillebrand, M.M.C.

Publish April 13, 2017

SYNOPSIS APRIL 6, 2017 - SPECIAL MEETING STUDY SESSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

DATE: Thursday, April 6, 2017

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

PLACE: 44405 Six Mile Road

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Nix called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. PRESENT: Robert R. Nix II, Supervisor Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk

Richard Allen, Trustee Mindy Herrmann, Trustee Fred Shadko, Trustee

EXCUSED: Marjorie F. Banner, Treasurer Symantha Heath, Trustee

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Water Rates - Presented & Discussed Amendments to Chapter §133 - Peddling and Soliciting - Approved

Brief Public Comments: None 4. ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

A draft of the minutes will be available March 18, 2017.

Respectfully submitted: Sue A. Hillebrand, M.M.C.

Published: April 13, 2017



JUNFU HAN I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Judge Kathleen McCann of Livonia's 16th District Court, here hugging a graduate of the recent sobriety court program, said she's personally witnessed the horrors of opioid abuse in her community. She sits on new FAN chapter advisory board.

Group forms to respond to narcotics issue

LeAnne Rogershometownlife.com

No community is exempt from what federal officials are calling an epidemic of opioid overdoes deaths. More people died

from drug overdoses in 2014 than in any year on record and the majority of drug overdose deaths — more than six out of 10

— involved an opioid, according to federal statistics.

cotics, a grassroots organization dedicated to eliminating the stigma associated with addiction and providing families struggling with the disease the support and resources they need, has a new Northwest Wayne County Chapter — the first chapter in Wayne County. The first meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 10, at the LifeChurch annex building, 6900 N. Haggerty,

Canton.

"Addiction is a family disease and it is devastating our community," said Lauren Rousseau, president of the Northwest Wayne County FAN chapter. "We are losing an unprecedented number of young people to this illness and families need resources, educa-

tion and support. Rousseau, a law professor at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School, is a longtime resident of Livonia and is personally acquainted with the destruction that heroin can cause. From 2010-12, she said she was legal guardian for a young man, also a Livonia resident, who struggled with heroin addiction and ultimately died at age 19.

at age 19.

"It is a disease with a lot of stigma. People in recovery have a goal, but we also have people trying to make a difference. People will call me," said Cathy Sims Weir, founder and president of the South Lyon area FAN chapter, who lost her 22-year-old son to a heroin overdose in 2014.

The FAN membership includes people and families affected by addiction, concerned citizens, law enforcement and leaders in health care, education, business and



Davis

religion. Founded in 2007, FAN originated in Macomb County and now has 12 chapters throughout Michigan, including a chapter in Oakland County that is divided into nine regions, each with its own monthly meeting.

Judge Kathleen
McCann of Livonia's 16th
District Court has personally witnessed the
horrors of opioid abuse in
her community, seeing it
escalate to epidemic
proportions. She sits on
new FAN chapter advisory board.

"As a sobriety court judge, I see the extraordinary pain and effort that our participants expend to finally be free of their dependency on opiates and heroin," she said in a statement. "Unfortunately, I have had to close too many files when parents bring me a death certificate because their child overdosed before

we could reach them."
The public and the schools are still not in tune with how pervasive this problem is and how young and vulnerable the population is that is being targeted, McCann said. "Families Against Narcotics will open another avenue of information, coordination and resources to communities that are very much in need." she added.

The keynote speaker at the first Northwest Wayne County FAN chapter meeting April 10 will be Judge Linda Davis of the 41B District Court in Clinton Township. President and founder of FAN, Davis also chairs Gov. Snyder's Prescription Drug and Opioid Abuse

Commission and is the driving force behind Hope Not Handcuffs, a program that enlists police departments and volunteers to help addicts seeking recovery find immediate treatment. She is a frequent speaker on the subject of addiction and the opioid epidemic.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently reported that more than 52,000 people died from drug overdose in 2015 and approximately 33,000 of those deaths were due to opioid pain pills and heroin. Michigan has been hard hit by the epidemic, losing 1,960 residents to drug overdose in 2015, a 13-percent increase over 2014 numbers

"There is an enormous

need for more addiction resources and support for families in Wayne County," said Brian Spitsbergen, director of community relations for Growth Works, an adolescent and adult addiction treatment organization in Canton. "I regularly work with young people struggling with this disease and I am encouraged by new efforts to support parents and other family members affected by addiction." vice president of the new FAN chapter.

Andy Hopson, a Livonia resident whose son Dakota died from a heroin overdose in May 2016, also sits on the board of directors of Northwest Wayne County FAN. He understands addiction better than most — in addition to losing his son to the disease, he's been in recovery from substance use disorder himself since 1991

self since 1991.

"A big problem in getting these families the help and support they need is the stigma surrounding addiction," Hopson said. "Families feel embarrassed and ashamed that their loved ones are struggling with this disease and they isolate and withdraw. What they really need to do is reach out for help."

Also serving on the new FAN chapter board is Westland Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik.

"Throughout my ca-

reer, I've learned that the majority of residents living in northwest Wayne County believe that heroin, cocaine and synthetic drug epidemics are inner-city problems and not a suburban issue," Jedrusik said.
"Eyes are not generally

"Eyes are not generally opened to such problems until it affects a personal friend or a family member. Unfortunately, this is a current epidemic that is affecting all of our communities, young people and families."

Kari Sims, treasurer of the South Lyon area FAN chapter and Weir's daughter, said that she joined to spread awareness, educate and promote/prevent substance abuse.

"I joined to speak up

and tell people that our community does have a problem and that it does no one any good to just shove it under the rug. I want to speak up so people don't go through what I did," she said. "I joined because my mom was passionate about helping others and making more people aware, so I joined to support her. But I also joined to support myself and my passion for helping others. It is, unfortunately, comforting knowing that I am not the only

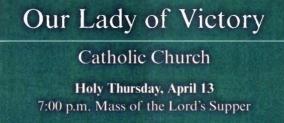
person who is going through this."

It's a way to connect with people who understand the addiction problem. Sime said

lem, Sims said. 'Also, I wanted to spread the message that there is no such thing as a stereotypical addict. People can't use the excuse to not educate their loved ones just by saying, 'not my kid or not my family' because it could be anyone," she said. "The drug epidemic is people need to stand up and fight and make a difference and I want to be a part of that fight. These people losing their lives to drugs and alcohol, they leave behind so much. To most, they aren't just a drug addict they are a sibling, child, friend. They are somebody whose life has been cut so short.'

The Northwest Wayne County FAN Chapter launch meeting April 10 is free and open to all who would like to attend. For more information, go to familiesagainstnarcotics.org/northwest-wayne or email nwwayne@familiesagainstnarcotics.org.

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



Good Friday, April 14 1:00 p.m. Liturgy

Holy Saturday, April 15

8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, April 16-7:30 a.m. Mass (church)

9:30 a.m. Mass (church and gym)

11:30 a.m. Mass (church and gym)

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Is it time to revive the Golden Rule?

urrent times seem marked by an increase in demoralizing distrust and "toxic news" at all levels in our community.

Editors of newspapers are telling me that 10 years ago, they did not receive the negative complaining letters to the editor as are commonplace now. It seems as if people do not know what to do with their feelings when confronted with news that disagrees with their personal viewpoint. Call-in talk radio programs regarding mental health are becoming a source of people asking advice as to whether or not they should cancel their traditional holiday dinners because there is so much family disagreement about politics and the general state of affairs in the world.

There are accounts of people "unfriending"



Facebook friends of 30 vears over a disagreement on the issues of immigration or building a wall, etc. Downright meanness is being expressed more and more on Twitter communications. There appears to be more large-scale protests in the streets throughout the country such that it is hard to find a broadcast of people celebrating joy. Yet we must, at the same time, respect people's right to protest and our own right to express feelings respectfully. It used to be common for co-workers, friends and family to discuss issues and agree to disagree and then to go to lunch together.

Worst power outage

Recently, the worst power outage ever in Michigan's history left hundreds of thousands without power. It was refreshing to see people of different persuasions joining up to give help to one another. It seemed that the "me-not me" mentality had taken a timeout or agreed to a truce. Can't there be less devastating events that can reunite people in the reduction of demoralization and marginalization? Have we forgotten, "the children are listening?" Are we teaching our youngsters that competition and winning are best carried out by "beating up" your opponent verbally, publicly and repeatedly?

Possible antidotes

In response to asking people for suggestions as to how to change the

tide of attitude and humanity, some have offered that we revive the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Others advocated that we protest against bullying. Some suggest that we find something to have a deep belly laugh about every day. Some say to listen to or watch something light or calming before going to sleep. Some have suggested that we set up and broadcast "National Awareness Week of Kindness.

Recently, I was able to speak with Peter Yarrow of the Peter, Paul and Mary singing group. He has promoted their song, "Don't Laugh at Me" throughout the world. Google the words to this song. It could be a good way of beginning an awareness of how accepting our differences can reduce so

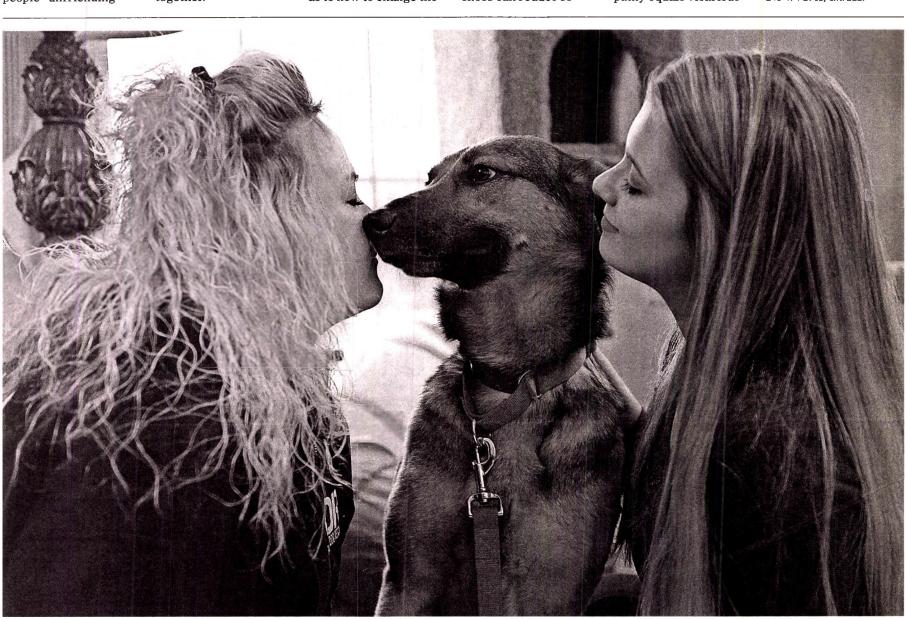
much pain and meanness of people toward people.

people.
Along similar lines, there is a Chinese proverb shared with me, long ago, by a person of peace: "If there is light in the soul, there will be beauty in the person. If there is beauty in the person, there will be harmony in the house. If there is harmony in the house, there will be order in the nation. If there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world.'

With all that is going on around us including "fake news," which leads some to not know what to believe about their world, it seems that the time is far overdue for resurrecting and promoting the true understanding and practice of empathy. One wiser than I defined empathy to me as, "Empathy equals vicarious

introspection." Contemplating, understanding and purposefully practicing this word "empathy" among ourselves might be a good place to begin. Similarly, as Martin Luther King Jr. said, "Dark cannot drive out dark, only light can. Life's most persisting and urgent question is what are you doing for others"

Len McCulloch is a diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association and is credentialed in Traumatic Stress, Mental Health, Brain Injury, Social Work and Addictions. He is a psychotherapist of 40 years and author of "Our Mental Health, a monthly column syndicated in Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. His 250-plus publications to date have been archived over the past 15 years at the Farmington Library McCulloch can be reached for a courtesy phone consultation at 248-474-2763, ext. 222.



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Heather Ineich (left) and her neighbor Cailin Gallagher give a kiss to Murphy.

Success: South Lyon Murphy comes in from the cold

LeAnne Rogers

Over a couple of months, South Lyon residents created a viral sensation of a young German shepherd living in the woods near Centennial Middle School and efforts to get the dog

out of the cold.

Now the dog, called
South Lyon Murphy, has
been rescued and could
soon be available for
adoption. Heather Ineich,
who is active with Feral
Kitty Trappers, and Cailin Gallagher led a group
effort to capture the dog
likely living in the woods

for a couple of months over the winter.

"She's really the community's dog — she's not my dog or Cailin's dog," Ineich said. "We didn't do this alone — it was the community. I made a point of keeping the community informed about what was going on."

Alerted by a Facebook posting about a dog being hit by a car while running across Nine Mile, Ineich said it seemed likely that the dog was heading back to the wooded area after visiting a nearby feeding

station for feral cats.
"People were seeing it.

Cailin asked if I could trap it. The first picture you could see all of her ribs," Ineich said. "There was some question about whether it was a coyote."

A video camera was hidden in woods, capturing images of the dog that resulted in videos posted to Facebook — the first video got more than 8,000 views. In the first video, the dog was too close to the camera and the images were too white to show any detail.

"The next night, I made sure to move the food farther away. You could clearly see it was a German shepherd," said Ineich, who was careful not to reveal the location of the camera and the

feeding spot.
With experience at animal rescues for many years, Ineich said it takes a lot of effort placing large amounts of food—there needs to be enough for the dog after other critters have some food—and making sure there was plenty of unfrozen water. A live trap was set during times Ineich, Gallagher and others

were present.

"(Murphy) was very stealthy. The trap was always set on safety. I didn't set it unless we

were there. I didn't want anyone scaring her off," said Ineich, who caught the same raccoon a couple times — she named it

Shamey.
Capturing a dog or a cat that has been living on its own like Murphy is a process, Ineich said, and something that can't be just jumped into.
There is also a process for capturing the dog and also for dealing with it

afterward, she said.
A veterinarian estimates Murphy is about 2 years old. Ineich set her birthday as Feb. 14 as the first day she was captured on video. Murphy

was rescued from the woods March 24. She stays mainly with Ineich, but also goes next door to

Gallagher's house.

It took about 15 bags of dog food left for Murphy over the weeks she was on camera in the woods. Russell Geraty, local Pet Supplies Plus store manager, donated food to help catch Mur-

phy.
Murphy had an injured back foot and then cut her front paw — both are being successfully treated. She seems to want to be around people and makes herself comfortable sitting in an arm chair nestling her head

on Ineich's leg.
Along with getting medical care, vaccinations and being spayed, Murphy is getting acclimated to being part of a family. There is a 14-day stray hold as her photo is posted on various websites about lost animals. So far, no one has come forward to claim Murphy as a missing pet, which means she could be available for adoption in the

"I predict 100 percent that we'll cry," Gallagher said.

For Ineich, it's a matter of finding a forever home for Murphy. "That means one less animal that needs to be rescued. I can sleep good knowing she is with people who will love her and take care of her," she said.

care of her," she said.

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Dr. Frank Kava from Oakland Physical Therapy leads a discussion on exercises for osteoarthritis and knee pain during the Spring Senior Expo.

DAN DEAN

Hundreds flock to annual Spring Senior Expo

David Veselenak hometownlife.com

The line for a coney dog and salad was literally out the door Monday morning at the annual Spring Senior Expo. Redford residents Walt and Dottie Young decided the wait was worth it for some local flavor from Leo's Coney Island, located at 17398 Haggerty in

After getting a quick bite to eat, it was off to hopefully see financial adviser Rick Bloom's

"I love his column, Dottie Young said. "He's not our adviser, but I read him all the time. I've chosen our adviser based on what Rick Bloom says. I think he's excellent.

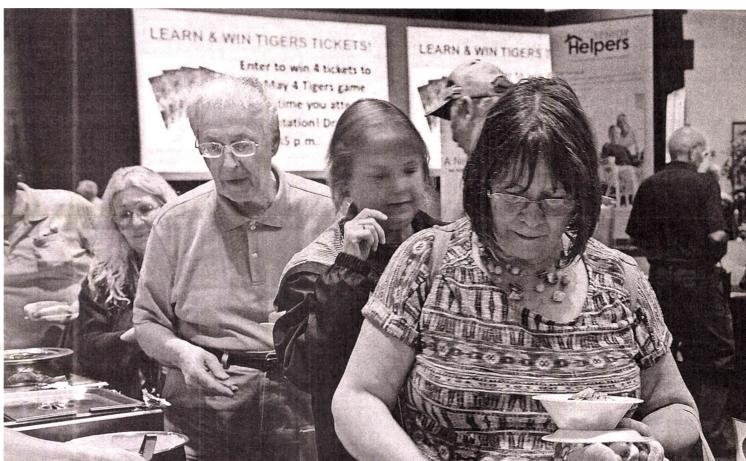
The Youngs were only two of the hundreds that came out Monday to the Observer & Eccentric's 14th annual Spring Senior Expo at Schoolcraft College. There was plenty to do, from gathering information on senior living facilities to getting more info on doctors and financial advice — and, of course, all the free stuff.

The info shared by vendors was some that Walt Young said could come in handy later, especially if a situation arises they hadn't thought of.

"You get some good, free information," he

One of those vendors was Connie Myler, a clinical specialist who oversees the Inspirit Salon at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, which caters to patients dealing with diseases such as cancer. It provides salon services, wigs, bras and other needs for patients to feel

at their best. Myler said she requested the salon have a booth at the event, her first time attending. She said the crowds had stopped by her table and picked up plenty of information and free lip balm.



Arlene Zsilka of Redford balances hot dogs and salads, courtesy of Leo's Coney Island, during the Spring Senior Expo.

DAN DEAN



Ken Frank of Farmington Hills take some time to relax with a copy of the Observer.

"I thought it would be a good resource for us, to connect with the public," she said. "I thought it was a good place for us to get exposure.'

Farmington Hills residents Marie and Frank Nido came to the annual expo looking for a change of residency. The couple said they're hoping to move to Fox Run in Novi and came to the expo to get a little more information.

"(We come) when we find notice of it," Marie Nido said..

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



DAN DEAN

Shannon Thomas (left) shares a laugh with Bob and Fran McGowan of Farmington Hills at the Spring Senior Expo.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF NORTHVILLE **BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

The City of Northville Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing to receive public input on the following topics in regards to the City of Northville Zoning Ordinance:

- 1. To consider two variance requests on premises zoned R-1B, First Density Residential District, at 217 W. Dunlap, Northville, Michigan, 48167, parcel number 48-002-01-0511-002. The applicant is seeking a variance to expand a non-conforming building (Section 22.01) that is currently located in the side yard setback, rear yard setback, and within 10 feet of the principal building on the subject site. The second variance request is to permit construction of a chimney within the front yard setback. The variance needed is 3.75 feet from the requirements in Section 15.01.
- To consider two variance requests on premises zoned R-1B, First Density Residential District, at 222 West Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, parcel number 48-002-01-0487-000. The applicant is seeking two variances from Section 15.01 to construct a two-story addition on the north side of the house. The first variance request is to permit construction of the addition one (1) foot into the required 8-foot side yard setback. The second variance is to permit the side yard setbacks to equal ten (10) feet instead of the required fifteen (15) feet. Therefore, a variance of five (5) feet is requested from Section 15.01

The public hearings will be held on Wednesday May 3, 2017, at 7:30 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-449-9902. The purpose of the public hearings is to receive public comment on the variance requests. The variance applications are available for review at the City of Northville Building Department during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, local prevailing time. Written comments pertaining to the proposed variance request will also be received at the above address.

DATED: April 13, 2017

DOMINIC SILVESTRI, CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2017-2018 BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council will hold a PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED CITY 2017-2018 BUDGET at the Regular Meeting of Council to be held on MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2017. Said hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter, at the Novi Civic Center Council Chamber, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan

Interested citizens may appear and present written and/or verbal comments on the proposed

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will also be a subject of this hearing.

A copy of the proposed 2017-18 budget is currently available at the Novi Civic Center, Office of the City Clerk for public inspection, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan and on the website www.citvofnovi.org.

> Cortney Hanson, CMC City Clerk

Published: April 13, 2017

Positive attitude helps with daily mission

s I returned from spring break, I had a decision to make - tell the truth or create a story that would make me look less old and, perhaps, less foolish.

You see, during spring break, I had an unfortunate dental tragedy. One of my front teeth broke, leaving me looking a bit like one of the "Dumb and Dumber" characters or, perhaps, one of the hapless characters in "The Hangover" movies.

It would be simple to create a story. My wife and I were able to visit San Diego during spring break. Since we were in San Diego, I could claim that I broke my tooth while taking surfboard-



SUPER

Steve

Matthews

ing lessons. Or perhaps I could claim that I was scuba diving and had to wrestle with a shark, barely escaping with my life, but breaking my tooth in the skirmish

Alas, that might make a good story, but it would not be true. I broke my front tooth doing something that I should not have been doing. I was trying to loosen the knot in a plastic bag full of fresh strawberries using my teeth. I pulled. My front tooth broke.

And now if I smile

broadly, I look pretty

I share this unfortunate dental incident not to garner sympathy, but share it to reinforce the value that we place in our school district on telling the truth.

Telling the truth is easy when the news is good. Telling the truth when the news is not so good is more difficult. But our commitment is to tell the truth, whether the news is good or not so good.

In our school district, we have a lot of good news to share. We have wonderful students who do wonderful things. We have high student test scores. We have outstanding athletic teams. Our school district has

bands, orchestras and choirs that perform at high levels and are consistently rated as superior. We have multiple opportunities for students to be involved in extra- and co-curricular activities.

Just as importantly in the Novi Community School District, we have exemplary staff. Teachers, administrators, secretaries, para-professionals, technical staff, maintenance staff, before- and after-school staff, preschool teachers, Community Education staff, bus drivers, food service staff and custodians all do a tremendous job in our dis-

In addition, we have a budget that is in great

shape. We have wonderful facilities that provide great learning environments for our students and which we share with the city through Novi Parks and Recreation.

But at times, there is also bad news to share. My commitment, and the commitment of our district staff, is to be open about our bad news. We will share that information as openly as we share our good news.

Why? Because our community needs to know the areas in which we struggle. We cannot make those issues disappear if we hide from them or if we try to spin the story into a positive. In addition, we will share how we are working to solve issues of concern and look for solutions together. It is the only way we can continue to improve as a school district.

I wish my front tooth did not break while we were vacationing in San Diego. But coming to work, smiling and being positive is the best way to deal with bad news.

The same holds true in our school district. Coming to work each day, smiling and being positive will help us solve issues of concern and help us to improve as a school district.

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

A physician's advice before leaving hospital

fter a stay in the hospital, discharged patients may experience anxiety over their transition home. Many have concerns regarding their overall health and wellbeing, which is understandable. However, what they don't know or expect is that anxiety can develop from not having a full grasp of what to do once home. Recently-discharged patients often have questions, but find it difficult to find answers. They experience uncertainty as they try to navigate from one medical office to the next, all while making important medical deci-

As a hospital administrator and family physician with 15 years'

Fabian Fregoli **GUEST** COLUMNIST

experience, I know firsthand that this is a reality for many. That is why I encourage my patients to ask questions before being discharged from the hospital by speaking with the attending physician, nurse or a pharmacist. Patients and their families are the best advocates and having questions answered is important to recovery. With that in mind, here are several questions I recommend you ask before leaving the hos-

» Do I fully understand my medical condition(s)? Is there anything I can do to avoid being re-admitted to the hospital?

» Once home, what symptoms should I be aware of and when should I call my doctor for advice?

» What medications should I take and how do they reconcile with medications I took prior to being hospitalized? Have there been any changes to my medications?

» Once home, when do I see a doctor again? What follow-up appointments with my doctor (s) do I need to schedule? What assistance is there to help with appointments and transportation?

» Do I need additional outpatient therapy, services or tests and, if

so, who do I call to schedule them?

» Are there any recommendations to modify my diet or lifestyle?

At St. Joseph Mercy Oakland, we go a few steps further by offering patients access to a transition-of-care specialist. This person is a registered nurse whose responsibility it is to help direct a patient to available resources and information they need to continue healing at home. This experienced care provider can help answer questions and may recommend additional resources, if appropriate.

In addition, St. Joe's, in partnership with the Bloomfield Township Fire Department, is

home to the nationally award-winning Remote Specialist Visiting Physicians program. This program was designed for admitted patients who are considered at-risk for readmission to the hospital. Together, we offer scheduled physician visits to qualified Bloomfield Township residents using remote, HIPAA-secure, audio/video technology. The program sends specially-trained paramedics to the homes of recently discharged patients to ensure they continue to progress once discharged from the hospital. The technology is available to allow face-to-face interactions between patients and a St. Joe's emergency physician.

visit allows for rapid evaluation and early treatment of patients, resulting in better outcomes and the avoidance of unnecessary hospital readmission.

The inconvenient truth is that sometimes a hospital stay is not the end of your illness or injury. Sometimes, it's the beginning. In such cases, recovery will largely occur at home. Having as much information as possible before leaving the hospital will empower you and your family and provide much needed confidence on your road to recovery.

Fabian Fregoli, M.D., is a family medicine physician and vice president of clinical quality and patient safety at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland.

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Regretful shoplifter turns herself in

A Walled Lake woman told police she stole Easter gifts for her children from a Novi discount store last week when she didn't have

money to pay for them. The shoplifting occurred the evening of April / at the rive Below in the West Oaks II Plaza, near Twelve Oaks mall. Items stolen included Sweetarts candy, plus toys and games.

The suspect, who later turned herself in and was given a citation for retail fraud and an April 17 court date, also told police she had dumped the items in a

wooded area off of Sleeth Road in Commerce Township, according to a Novi Police Department report.

Police had been called to Five Below after two employees saw a woman leave the store with a shopping cart full of merchandise, police said. One employee asked if sne nau paiu for the items and she replied that she hadn't, police

That employee followed the woman outside and watched her load the merchandise into a red Ford Windstar and drive out of the plaza, heading north on Novi Road.

police said. Police tracked the

woman to the home of the Windstar's owner, but she was not there Her father, she later told an officer, called and convinced her to go to the police, which she did later that evening.

The woman said she was jobless and had never been in legal trouble before, but knew sne did was wrong and that she was scared. She was released on bond after being given a misdemeanor citation.

Tools taken

A man walked out of the Sears store at Twelve Oaks mall April 5 with a 311-piece tool set priced

at about \$210. The theft was witnessed by a store security worker, who had been watching the man on closed-circuit television because he had been acting suspiciously, a police report said.

The thief got into a tan Mercury Milan that was sitting in the Sears pickup area. The security guard approached number, he told police, but as the Milan pulled away, he noticed there was no plate, nor a paper temporary plate.

The guard said he recognized the vehicle as having been at the store a few days earli-

Domestic assault

A Novi man was arrested on an assault charge outside his Wixom workplace April 3 after his girlfriend told police he had thrown a soft drink at her, then grabbed her by the neck, pushed her against a wall and struck her in the face.

A police report said the woman suffered abrasions on the face and neck and a blackened left eye.

The assault occurred

late April 2 at the house the two share, the report said. The woman told police they had been arguing about her son's father having attended the boy's birthday party earlier that day.

This in-home health

After escaping the man's grasp, the woman said, he struck her in the race, then took her phone when she tried to call for help. She left their house and went to her mother's home in another city.

The victim went to the police department the next day to report the incident.

The suspect, found by police at his workplace, denied there had been an argument or an assault, police said.

On the way to the police station, he complained of chest pains and shortness of breath and was treated at Providence Park Hospital, police said. He was later released back to police custody.

- By Matt Jachman

Marshmallows galore April 14 at annual drop

Get ready for the Oakland County Parks **Great Marshmallow** Drop at 10 a.m. Friday, County Park, 27725 Greenfield Road, in Southfield.

Some 15,000 marshmallows will be dropped from a helicopter for kids to grab and exchange for a prize.

Children at the free event will participate by age groups: ages 4 and younger and individuals with disabilities; ages 5-7, and ages 8-12. The helicopter will fly over three times, once for each age group. The event is not a competition, just a fun time. Only one marshmallow is needed for a prize

Children aren't the only ones who can enjoy this event. Oakland County Parks is accepting volunteers ages 16 and older to help with the **Great Marshmallow** Drop. Volunteers can serve as marshmallow marshals and chute controllers or assist in the prize tent and boundary areas. Email Volunteer@oakgov.com or call 248-975-9717.

For details on upcoming events and activities, go to Oakland CountyParks.com. Get social with Oakland County Parks and Recreation on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

FlexTech High School - Novi, a Tuition-Free Public School Academy located at 24245 Karim Blvd, Novi, MI 48375, announces its Open Enrollment period for the 2017-18 school year for grades 9-12. Applications are available at and may be submitted to FlexTech High School – Novi or by calling (248) 426-8530, during the Open Enrollment period April 24 - May 8, 2017: Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; April 29, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; May 4, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. If enrollment applications exceed the number of available spaces, a random selection drawing will be held at FlexTech High School - Novi on May 15, 2017 at 2 p.m.

Publish: April 13, 2017

CITY OF NORTHVILLE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 74 STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES ARTICLE III-SIDEWALKS IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES

At its regular meeting on May 1, 2017, the Northville City Council will consider first reading of an ordinance to amend Chapter 74 Streets, Sidewalks, and Other Public Places, Article III-Sidewalks in the Code of Ordinances. The proposed amendments pertain to restriction of sidewalk closures during construction.

Public comments will be received at the City Council meeting scheduled for May 1, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-349-1300. Written comments may also be submitted to the above address. Complete text of the proposed ordinance amendment is available for review at the City Clerk's Office during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, local prevailing time or on the City's website www.ci.northville.mi.us.

BRENT STRONG, BUILDING INSPECTOR Published: April 13, 2017

DIANNE MASSA, CMC, CITY CLERK

am an American We are One Nation

DJ HAS A SPIN ON BEING AN AMERICAN

Free classes are about honoring his heritage, giving to the community

SHAD POWERS USA TODAY NETWORK

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

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. - As sounds bounce off the walls in classroom 414 at Desert Hot Springs High School, the teacher eagerly hops from student to student to share his expertise.

The teacher is Rafael Lopez, more famously known as DJ Alf Alpha.

32-year-old first-generation American is making a living creating music and giving back to his community. When we met, he was wearing a hat with the words "Super Sonido."

"Super Sonido, it's English and Spanish, meaning super sound," he said. "I'm an American first, but I can't forget my roots. I didn't want to just be a guy at a club playing Justin Beiber's music. ... I need to have my own sound. And for me that's Latin rhythms like cumbia, with traditionally American music like hip-hop or Black Sabbath laid on top of it."

Alf Alpha has graduated from playing dance clubs to playing his own music on the biggest stages, at events like Coachella and South by Southwest. His father, Rafael Sr., and his mother, Maria Guadalupe Reveles, were born in Mexico. As young adults, they both left for California in search of a better life. They met at a facility where they were both learning to speak English. They got married and had four children (Alf Alpha is the youngest).

"Obviously I'm American first — but my blood is Mexican 100 percent," Alf Alpha said. "You should have pride in where you come from, and I do."

And that is evident during his DJ class. In conjunction with the school district, he offers an eight-week free DJ camp after school once a week. He converts a classroom into a beat lab.

Alf Alpha moves from station to station listening to what the seven students



IAY CALDERON/USA TODAY NETWORK

Rafael Lopez (aka DJ Alf Alpha) helps Gerardo Gonzalez during a DJ class at Desert Hot Springs High School in Desert Hot Springs, Calif., in February.

- five boys and two girls — are working on, offering advice.

He teaches the class at one local high school for six or eight weeks and then does it at a different school.

"I know people always say this, but I really do learn from them as much as they learn from me," he said. "They keep me fresh. It's pretty cool to be tapped in like that. And really ... they just become my friends.

NOMINATE AN AMERICAN

ONE NATION

RAFAEL LOPEZ

Stage name: DJ Aif Alpha Location: Palm Desert, California

Age: 32

Profession: DJ

Mission: Giving high schoolers in his community an after-school option by teaching DJ classes, with the goal of bringing more music and creative people into the world.

Q&A WITH RAFAEL LOPEZ

What does it mean to you to be an American?

I feel like as Americans, it's our job to make this world a better place. To work hard. My parents are immigrants, both from Mexico, and that's not lost on me. My belief is that we're all part of one human race, and I think a lot of people get it twisted. People think that one group should be highlighted over another. ... Black people, Mexican people, white people; we're all Americans. And that diversity of culture is why we are the best country in the world and will continue to

How does your heritage inform your

I'm trying to merge American culture like hip-hop and electronic music ... through my spin on being Mexican American. Basing it around Latin percussion like cumbia or chicha. ... I like taking that sound but throwing hip-hop beats on top of that.

Being from the Coachella Valley, how much of a life-changer was it for you to play the Coachella Music and Arts Festival in your backyard?

Coachella was a dream come true. Always was a goal, and I've been going to Coachella since it started, since I was 15. Saw Rage Against the Machine and these cool bands.

One of the ways you're giving back to the community is through a DJ class; how did that come about?

I wanted something more than just the usual DJ gigs at a club. I mean don't get me wrong, I like getting that money, but do I really want to be in a club ... every Friday night? So I tried to expand, working at art galleries, or doing things that are more a part of the culture here in the desert. And then a friend of mine that worked in the school district office proposed the DJ camp or class idea, and I said let's do it.

And how are the classes going?

I love showing them the history of DJing ... and then showing them what the possibilities are now with technology. Then seeing them have their own spin on it. Maybe they can make a career out of it like I have. Sometimes even after the class is over they reach out to me, with some stuff their working on.

Quarter's end good chance to update finances

Who are your American heroes? Share stories and nominees at onenation.usatoday.com or via

(no longer than 2 minutes, please) with the hashtags #IAmAnAmerican #WeAreOneNation.

email to onenation@usatoday.com or post a video submission to Twitter, Facebook or Instagram

t's hard to believe that the first quarter of 2017 has come and gone. By now, you most likely have forgotten about your new year's resolutions. One thing that many say at the is that we are going to do a better job of keeping our personal financial affairs in order. Even though you may done very little to do a better job, it's not too late. The end of a quarter offers a good opportunity to try to do a better job. The reason is, typically, at the end of the quarter, you are going to receive a statement from your investments, including your 401(k). Not everyone receives monthly statements, but just about everyone receives quarterly statements.

As I've stated for years, I believe there are two documents you need to prepare that will help you keep your financial affairs in order a family balance



The beauty of a personal family balance sheet is that it allows you to know where you are financially ...

sheet and a cash flow statement. Both of these are easy to prepare and you can do them on your

A family balance sheet is important, because it's a picture of where you are financially. It's hard to get to where you want to go financially unless you know where you're starting from. That's what a personal family balance sheet does. It's

nothing more than a listing of your assets and liabilities. Since you're going to receive, over the next week or so, your quarterly investment statements, including from your 401(K) plan, this is a great time to do that family balance sheet. Remember, it's easy to look at the value of your stocks, bonds and mutual funds because you are going to get statements for those. What is more difficult are assets you don't receive statements for, such as your home and any collectibles you have. In valuing those items, it's not what you think they're worth, but what you can sell them for. If you have a collection of old baseball cards and you paid \$10,000 for them, that does not mean they're worth \$10,000 today. The reason you're doing a personal family balance sheet is to know where you stand, so you have to

be honest with yourself. The other side of the

balance sheet is your liabilities. It is always important that you stay up to date with your outstanding debts, including the current interest rate that you

are paying. sonal family balance sheet is that it allows you to know where you are financially and you can use it as a tool in the future to see if you're making progress financially.

The other document that you should prepare is a cash flow statement. money has come in over the last three months and where it has gone. I always believe one of the keys to good financial planning is to know what it costs you to live a month i nis number is essential in any sort of retirement planning not only to determine if you can afford to retire, but also if you're in retirement to make sure that you're not overspending and that you can afford to stay re-

You should look at what

Whether you made a

new year's resolution to get your financial house in order or not is immaterial. What is material is that this is a great time of year to spend time with your finances. By spending a little time help well into the future. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomasset

management.com. If you would

like him to respond to questions, email Rick@bloomasset management.com.

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

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT PTSLU17-0003

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the representative for PAUL GROUGAN INVESTMENTS, LLC is requesting a Temporary Special Land Use Permit in accordance with 7.6.2 of the Novi Zoning Ordinance for temporary on site vehicle storage at parcel 50-22-24-251-010 and 50-22-24-251-002 north of Grand River Ave and west of Seeley Road from May 4, 2017 through April 1, 2018. The property is zoned I-1 (Light Industrial) and the use is contrary to 3.14.1.A of the Novi Zoning Ordinance.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner whose property is located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for a temporary special land use permit.

A public hearing will be held at 10:00AM on MAY 4, 2017 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road in the MAYORS CONFERENCE ROOM. All written comments should be directed

to Monica Dreslinski and must be received prior to May 3, 2017 at 3PM.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF NORTHVILLE

The City of Northville Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to receive public input on a Special Land Use requested by the property owner at 129 N. Wing St., Northville, Michigan, 48167. The applicant is seeking a Special Land Use Permit to renovate a four-unit house into a single-family dwelling on premises zoned GCD, General Commercial District, parcel number 48-002-01-0520-000. Section 11.03 of the City's Zoning Ordinance permits the Planning Commission to determine whether other uses not listed as a Principal or Special Land Use in this district, but similar to and no more obnoxious or detrimental to the surrounding area, are appropriate.

The public hearing will be held on Tuesday May 2, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-449-9902. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comment on the Special Land Use request. The application is available for review at the City of Northville Building Department during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, local prevailing time. Written comments pertaining to the request will also be received

Dianne Massa, City Clerk

Publish: April 13, 2017



Calle 11.

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SECTION B (NNNR)

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

BRAD EMONS, EDITOR
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734-451-1490

BOYS TRACK

Wildcats planning big leap forward

Novi returns plenty of talent from last season

Brad Emons

With the return of senior standout Scott Sawyer, the Novi boys track and field team is ready to take the next jump

is ready to take the next jump.
The school-record holder
and MHSAA Division 1 state
placer in the pole vault (fourth)
and high jump (fifth) will be
the Wildcats' catalyst again
this spring as they try to improve upon last year's thirdplace finish at the regional and
fifth-place showing at the
KLAA Kensington Conference
meet.

Sawyer, committed to Central Michigan University, was a regional champion in both events while setting school records with jumps of 14 feet, 4 inches (pole vault) and 6-7.25 (high jump).

"We're expecting him to pick up where he left off from last year," said Novi coach Marsha Reid, who is entering her 17th season. "He works really hard at his craft. He's done a lot of work outside just the track and field program. He's been one to research and take advantage of opportunities that have been given to him. He works a lot at his technique. He's constantly going over his steps and working on a strength program for his verti-

cal jump.

Åt last month's Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association indoor meet held at Albion College, Sawyer cleared 15 feet in the pole vault.

"He has been involved with the sport since he was middle school age," Reid said. "Before he came here, he was already involved in the pole vault. He takes it to the next step, seeking out the competition instead of being complacent with what the competition has been."

Novi, last year's Oakland County meet runner-up, will certainly miss 3,200-meter run state placer Joost Plaetinck (fifth, 9:13.51), who graduated

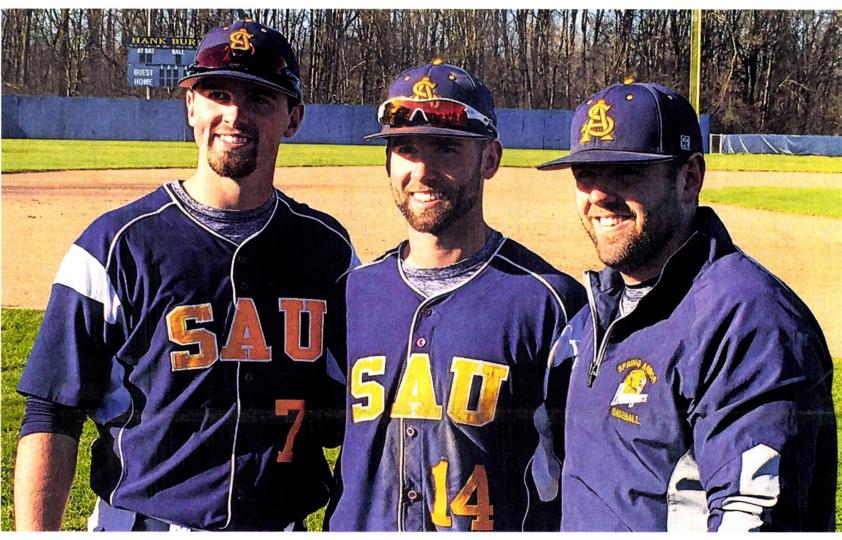
See BOYS, Page B3



JERRY REA

Novi senior Scott Sawyer is a standout in the high jump and pole yault.

COLLEGE BASEBALL



The Harris brothers all play baseball for Spring Arbor (from left): Gavin, Nick and Kyle.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Harris brothers form strong bond

Brad Emons hometownlife.com

Baseball is as American for the Harris family as hot dogs, apple pie and Chevrolet.

Nick Harris is a fourth-year senior shortstop, hitting a career-best .348 at Spring Arbor University, while brother Kyle is a red-shirt sophomore catcher for the Cougars batting .356. Meanwhile, the third Harris brother, freshman

Meanwhile, the third Harris brother, freshman Gavin Harris, has moved from the bullpen to the starting rotation in his inaugural season for the Cougars, who are off to a 13-18 start, including a 6-5 record in the Crossroads League.

The three are reunited for the first time since they played together at Novi Franklin Road Christian High School under their father Mike, who is entering his 10th season as the Warriors varsity

Mike's father Bob, now 79, is Mike's assistant at Franklin Road and has coached for more than 45 years, while also serving as a regional scout for more than 20 years with the Cincinnati Reds.

"They've all played three sports, but baseball has been their love," said Mike, who is Franklin Road's assistant athletic director and a K-12 physical education teacher.

Mentor is relative

Cousin Sam Palace, who hails from Clarkston, is in his second year as the Tigers bullpen catcher after a stint where he played in the Washington Nationals organization. The cousins remain in

close contact with each other.

"He's always been a mentor in the baseball

world for all three of us," Nick Harris said. "He makes it out to as many games as he can. He's always reaching out and giving us a many point-

ers as he can."

It all started outside the back door at their Waterford home, a regulation-sized field where Mike runs the Oakland Whitecaps travel baseball team during the summer months. Mike bought the property in 2006. The field is located 100 yards across a bridge and pond. Mike actually played on the same field as a youngster growing up

the same field as a youngster growing up.

"All three of us and my dad would go out to the backyard, mess around and take B.P., take ground balls and work pitching stuff with Gavin, receiving stuff for Kyle," Nick said. "But it was always fun when we went there. When we'd go down to the field, it was always about enjoying the game, whereas when we were playing high school ball and travel ball practices, it was, 'All right, time to

See BROTHERS, Page B2



JERRY REA

Northville junior Ana Barrott earned all-state honors last year in two individual distance events.

GIRLS TRACK

Northville reloads for 2017 season

Mustangs hoping to repeat recent success

Brad Emons hometownlife.com

Although a lot of its star power may be gone, Northville still could be in the conversation once the MHSAA Division 1 girls track and field state finals roll around June 3 at East

Kentwood.

The Mustangs are coming off back-to-back third-place team finishes in the Division 1 state finals, proceeded by a

A big chunk of last year's 50-point state meet total is

runner-up finish in 2014.

gone, starting with Chloe Abbott, who was the individual D1 champion in the 200-meter dash (24.03) and 400 (MHSAA all-class record 53.01). The Purdue University freshman was also part of Northville's first-place 1,600 relay (3:50.58) and fourth-place 800 relay

Also gone is Lexa Barrott (Indiana University), who was fifth in both the 1,600 and 3,200 runs a year ago with times of 4:58.27 and 10:47.97, respectively. She was also part of the Mustangs' fourth-place 3,200 relay (9:20.65).

relay (9:20.65). Other key graduation losses included state qualifier Lindsay Walters (10th, 400, 57.68), Hailey Harris, Emma Herrmann, Mary Catherine McLaughlin and Paige Zimmer.

"We lost some big pieces to graduation, but as with any year, you have to have both your returners and new kids step up," Northville fifth-year coach Tim Dalton said. "I'm very happy with where our program is right now. We have a great group of student-athletes who are focused and determined to reach their goals both on and off the track."

But all is not lost for the Mustangs, who will try to defend their KLAA Central Division (5-0), Kensington Confer-

See GIRLS, Page B2

PREP BASEBALL

Schmidt lifts Northville to 8-0 win over Churchill

LOCAL SPORTS

Brad Emons hometownlife.com

Ben Schmidt did it with his arm and Mike Lionas contributed with his bat Monday as host Northville opened KLAA Kensington Conference crossover play with an 8-0 baseball win over Livonia Churchill.

Schmidt worked the first six innings, allowing just two hits, to earn the victory. He struck out five and walked one before reliever Nick Broda closed with a scoreless seventh.

Lionas paced Northville's 10-hit attack, going 2-for-4 with an RBI.

Other offensive production for the Mustangs (2-0, 1-0 KLAA Central) came from Kevin Morrissey (2-for-2, RBI, two runs), Aram Shahrigian (two RBI), Nate Wixon (two runs), Jake Moody (RBI) and Christian Williams (RBI).

Churchill starter Jake

Osen, who suffered the loss, allowed eight runs on 10 hits in 4½ innings.

Northville led 1-0 after three innings before scoring four times in the bottom of the fourth and three more in the fifth.

The Mustangs overcame four errors, while Churchill played errorless ball with Brett Stern fielding all four of his chances. "Good start." said

Northville coach John Kostrzewa, whose team returned from a weeklong spring training trip to Dodgertown in Vero Beach, Fla. "Ben Schmidt did a great job on the mound for his first career varsity win. We had a good approach at the plate and were able to put together some good at bats beginning in the fourth. Ben pitched through some early fielding errors and gave us a great chance to finally break through

in the fourth. We had base runners early, but couldn't get the big hit."

Novi stops Glenn

Ryota Torri pitched four innings of scoreless relief Monday as host Novi (4-2-1, 1-0) held off Westland John Glenn in a KLAA Kensington Conference crossover.

Torri, who scattered four hits and two walks while fanning four, took over for starter Cam Czapski in the third inning. Nate Lys came on to get the final two outs and the save with a pair of strikeouts in the seventh.

Evan Yokie had a two-run double and Tyler VanKirk contributed two hits for the Wildcats, who built a 5-0 lead before Glenn rallied for two runs in the sixth and one in the seventh (off reliever Nathan Wicks).

Josh Muse collected two of Glenn's four hits, while Rockets starter 6

Trevor Smith suffered the loss.

Novi tourney

The Wildcats finished 1-1-1 in their weekend preseason tourney, opening with a 6-1 win Saturday over North Farmington as VanKirk went 2-for-3 with two RBI, while Brian Wendt added a key two-run single.

Nate Lys pitched three scoreless innings of middle relief in place of starter Alec Bageris, allowing just one hit and one walk while fanning four to pick up the win. Czapski and Torri both threw an inning to finish.

North Farmington starter Jared Fish, bound for Marshall University, took the loss. In 4½ innings, Fish allowed three earned runs on five hits and two walks while striking out five.

In Sunday's first game, Novi overcame a 6-0 deficit by scoring eight unanswered runs, but settled for an 8-8 tie after seven innings with Fowlerville because of a time limit.

Nate Lys went 2-for-3 with two RBI, while Yokie added a two-run double in the sixth to give Novi a two-run cushion.

Mitchell Lys pitched five innings in relief of VanKirk, the starter, allowing two runs runs on four hits. He struck out four before Czapski surrendered two runs in the top of the seventh.

In the second game, Hartland scored nine times in the top of the fifth inning en route to 12-2 run-rule win over the Wildcats.

Starter Johnny Bean, who took the loss, allowed three earned runs on two hits and four walks in 2½ innings. Brian Wendt pitched 1½ scoreless innings of relief before leaving with a strained calf.

Bageris was Novi's leading hitter, going 2-for-2.

Warriors downed

After a soggy week, Novi Franklin Road Christian (0-1) finally launched its 2017 season Friday, falling to host Beverly Hills Detroit Country Day, 7-4, at Centennial Field.

Winning pitcher Anden Armbruster went the first five innings, allowing two runs while striking out six and walking two.

John Barnwell paced the Yellowjackets offensively, going 2-for-4 with a run scored, while Anthony Toma went 1-for-4 with a run.

Evan Lorey went 2-for-4 with a two-run homer in a losing cause. Paul Alex also added one hit and scored a run for the Warriors.

bemons@hometownlife.com Twitter: @BradEmons1

BROTHERS

Continued from Page B1

get serious.' If you want to go anywhere, this is what you're going to do."

The Harris trio is serious about the game, for sure. Just ask their coach Ryan Marken, in his first season as the Cougars coach after taking over for Sam Riggleman.

Competitive fire

"They are all very similar and very unique in their own ways, for sure," Marken said. "The similarity with the three of them is that they're all ultra-competitive people. They all love to win. They all love to compete to do well. They contribute a ton to our team. We're super blessed and fortunate to have the Harris family in our

program."
Nick, who has started 158 games at short during his Spring Arbor career, is having his best offensive season statistically with a team-best 449 on-base and 472 slugging percentage. He has two homers and 18 RBIs.

"Nick is hands down he best shortstop I've ever coached or played with the last decade being around the college, Marken said. "Just in terms of defensive ability at shortstop, there's nobody I've seen that is better or I've played with or that I've coached. His best attribute by far is his defensive ability. And he can swing it a little bit. And he brings a leader ship and a presence to our team being a senior. being a guy who has started for four years. And so with all of that

comes some natural leadership ability from being on the stage for so many years."

The 5-foot-7, 205-pound Kyle sat out his freshman year with a sports hernia, but has rebounded nicely, batting .356 as the starter behind the plate.

"I think the one word I have is 'blessing," Kyle said. "It's a lot of fun. It's one thing to be on a team with your brothers that you have on your team, but let alone your actual brothers. Getting to play with them every day and practice with them every day is something I'm blessed to be a part of. It's hard to put into words how awesome it is."

The youngest

The 5-11, 195-pound Gavin is currently 1-1 with one save in 23 innings after coming off a 5-4 win over Indiana Wesleyan. He has developed four different pitches, including a four- and two-seam fastball, slider and change-up while transitioning from the bullpen early in the season.

son.
"For me coming in as the youngest, I kind of knew what to expect, having two older bro ers," Gavin said. "They told me a lot about what the program is doing and what I might expect and also what the coaches are expecting from me. So coming in it was pretty easy to adapt to. Coming in and just knowing they're always there for me. My teammates are my brothers, for sure, but having actual brothers there to care for you, push you along and make sure you're doing all right, not only in baseball, but in school and



Spring Arbor's Gavin Harris pitches to his brother Kyle.

stuff, is pretty awesome."

And when Gavin does take the mound, he feels a comfort level seeing those familiar faces in the infield.

"Being a pitcher, with my middle brother Kyle catching me, is pretty cool and, obviously, he's back there supporting me when he's catching me," Gavin said. "And having Nick, he plays shortstop right behind me and I can hear him talk to me and saying stuff to me when we were younger. It's encouraging to me and it's really special."

Pecking order

Although their personalities might be different, Marken knows exactly what to expect when he pencils the Harris brothers into his starting lineup.

"Nick is the oldest and, like the oldest, kind of looked upon by the other two to provide some leadership and guidance," Marken said. "Kyle, being the middle child, is what you expect with a middle child. He's somewhat quiet, just goes about his work and doesn't say much. And

then Gavin, the youngest of the three and he's probably the most competitive, wants to win the most of all of them. I grew up with a brother and I know how that is. I don't know if he's trying to be better than his brothers or whatever it might be, but he's the youngest and he wants to win as much as any of them, for sure."

Gavin opened the season in the bullpen, but Marken knew he was more suited for a starting role. One bad early outing mushroomed his earned-run average to 7.33, but he shows immense promise.

"His greatest attribute is his ability to compete on the mound," Marken said. "He's ultra-, ultra-competitive. When he gets the ball on the mound, you know from a coaching standpoint that he's going to give you a solid outing, whether or not he has his stuff or not just because how competitive he is and how driven he is to be really."

Gavin's battery mate is also there to lend a helping hand.

"It's a challenge trying to get him there mentally, but I definitely see he can be one of our best arms coming up here," Kyle said. "It's definitely a fun time to see him mature and face better hitters and get a little taste what it's like to play good baseball. It's fun."

Recruiting process

Coming out of Franklin Road, Nick had several offers, but at the urging of his mother Jill, he decided to take one last visit to Spring Arbor. He had heard good things about Riggleman, who was the Cougars head coach for 12 seasons.

"I had no intention, I went just to please my mom," Nick said. "I came to campus and ended up practicing with the guys, spent a whole day here walking around campus and hanging out with the guys. As soon as I got here, the players at the time made me feel like I was already a part of the team. I left campus immediately after practice and knew that I was going to Spring Arbor. I knew I wasn't even going to give it a second thought."

Kyle, an all-state player as well at Franklin Road, considered Cornerstone and Spring Arbor.

"Loved the (Cornerstone) facility, the guys were great, but you come here it was a whole different atmosphere," Kyle said. "Everyone was so welcoming, not only the coaches, but the players. You're the only player that they want to come. You already feel connected as soon as you get here, before you even get signed. The atmosphere that comes with the guys here is incredible. That was it right there for

Nick proved to be a capable recruiter himself.

needed a catcher on the team, so I reached out to him," he said. "I didn't push him or Gavin to feel like they should come to Spring Arbor. I feel they should just keep Spring Arbor in their back pocket and consider it an option for them. I just told them I love being there, but never forced it. I just wanted them to have the same opportunities I had and to be able to choose on my own and so did my parents.'

Future plans

The 5-9, 170-pound Nick will graduate from Spring Arbor in May with a degree in health and exercise science. He has a job lined up at Starting Line Health and Fitness in Rochester Hills, working as a strength and conditioning coach for high school and college athletes. But that's Plan B, because the smooth-fielding shortstop might want to continue playing for a local independent league team.

But for now, he plans to soak in the experience of playing with his two younger brothers during the final month of his college season.

"This is the first year since my senior year of high school that we've all been on the same team playing together," Nick said. "My senior year, when we were all in high school, we had big expectations to go pretty far. That didn't end up happening, but this year is kind of looking at it as our redemption year. It's my last year with those guvs playing on the same team and playing on the same team in an organization again. We're just trying to make it as much fun as we can and have as much fun together as we can."

All have different roommates. Nick lives in an apartment, while Kyle and Gavin live in the same campus residence hall, but on different floors. But the bond they've formed on the diamond has been priceless.

"It's been a blast,"
Kyle said. "Wouldn't
want it any other way."

bemons@hometownlife.com Twitter: @BradEmons1

GIRLS

Continued from Page B1

ence and regional titles. Junior Ana Barrott returns after scoring at the state meet with eighth-place finishes in the 1,600 (5:00.29) and 3,200 (10:53.09). She also ran a leg on the North-ville's fourth-place 3,200 relay team, along with senior Cayla Eckenroth, who placed 12th individually last year at the state finals in the 3,200 (11:03.22).

Sophomore Olivia Harp was a state qualifier in the 3,200 (25th, 11:17.09), while juniors Morgan Kloosterman and Yasmine Affes were part of the first-place 1,600 relay.

Meanwhile, 800 relay team members Savannah Manley, a sophomore, and Erin McCallum, a junior, also return.

"Each year and team is different and unique in their own way," Dalton said. "We are three weeks in and our team is coming together quite nicely. Our program continues to grow. We are at 115 girls on the roster this season. I rely heavily on our leadership group to make sure our program continues to head in the right direction."

Among the other senior returnees are Emily Anderson (sprints, long jump), Katie Chevoor (distance), Taylor Gattoni (distance), Lauren Lambert (sprints, high jump) and Emma Smith (distance)

Juniors expected to chip in include holdovers Emilie Chen (sprints), Megan Ciric (sprints), Haleigh Czarnecki (hurdles), Elise Daniel (pole vault), Barbara Davis (throws) and Rachel Zimmer (distance).

Northville's returning sophomore hopefuls include Daryn Lobingier (pole vault), Sara Ismail (throws), Melina Kannelopoulos (sprints), Emma Sheehan (high jump), Alex Takacs (hurdles) and Claire Wan (sprints, distance).

Among upperclassmen who are promising newcomers are senior Rachel Robitaille (sprints, pole vault), Emily Rudberg

(distance).
Sophomore Kayleigh
Line (distance) leads the
underclassmen, along

with freshmen Lindsay
Afsar (distance), Emily
Assemany (distance),
Abby Dunn (sprints, hurdles), Anatasia Franklin
(sprints), Bridgid Giannotta (hurdles), Lauren
Marshall (sprints), Olivia
Masse (sprints, middle
distance), Clare McNamara (sprints, long jump,
middle distance), Lily
Oles (sprints) and Jasmine Qonja (sprints).

Northyille properties

Northville opens its KLAA Central Division dual meet schedule at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, at home against visiting Novi.

"As for our goals, right now we are focused on our next meet," Dalton said. "We talk about the process and taking things one day and one step at a time, focusing on the little things. I'm confident that if we do that, we will be happy when May and June rolls around."

Nov

Cindy Kuhn takes over the Wildcats coaching reins after co-coaching the past 11 years with Marsha Reid, who is now in charge of the Novi boys

Novi's biggest loss to graduation off a team

that finished third in the Kensington Conference and fourth at the regional was thrower Marissa Dunn. But the Wildcats re-

turn two individual state qualifiers in senior Kate Prisby, who went 16-11 in the long jump at the regional and won the conference title, along with junior Hannah Hood-Blaxill, who regional champion in the high jump (5-2).

Other key returnees include senior Emma Hammelef, who threw 111-7 in the discus and went 9-6 in the pole vault; senior Kayla Savage (sprints), junior Ally Pringle (sprints, hurdles), Hannah McBride (throws), sophomore Katherine Ray (distance) and senior captain Heather Blair (distance).

"Emma will also continue with her diversity in the field events and is ready to have a breakout year in the pole vault," Kuhn said.

Freshman Sommer
Isley (hurdles) and Taylor
Stone (hurdles, sprints),
an all-state transfer from
St. Louis, Mo., are two
newcomers that should
contribute right away for

the Wildcats. Junior Reese Green

(distance) will add depth.

"The girls sprints and hurdles are showing a nice balance," Kuhn said.

"There is a lot of youth in the distance program."

Franklin Road

Fourth-year Novi
Franklin Road Christian
coach Andrew Schmid
returns his entire lineup
from a team that placed
eighth in the Michigan
Independent Athletic
Conference meet and 14th
at the Division 4 regional.

"This is the deepest track and field team that Franklin Road has ever had," Schmid said. "We could set school records in all of the relays."

Top returnees for the Warriors include senior Grace Alex (hurdles, middle distance), sophomore Shelby Buis (distance) and sophomore Nya Johnson (throws).

Franklin Road also has a host of promising new-comers, led by sophomore Joy Spears (distance), along with freshmen Ava Abramowicz (sprints), DeSharia Balford (throws, jumps), Noelle Bartlett (sprints) and Madeline Williams

(sprints).

Among the eighthgraders expected to contribute to the varsity this spring are Mia Alex (throws, middle distance), Ariela Boboc (field events) and Daniella Scagnetti (middle distance).

"We have solid sprinters in Bartlett, Williams, Balford and Abramowicz," Schmid said. "The middle distance team should be led by Buis, Grace Alex and Spears, with Mia Alex and Scagnetti in supporting roles. Shelby (Buis) should add to her five total regional medals by winning her second regional medal in the 3,200 this year as well

the 3,200 this year as well.

"Johnson worked over the summer to improve her throw with South Lyon East's coach Trevor VanAsselt and should be close to throwing state qualifier distance in the discus. She will also be one of the top throws in the MIAC. Balford, Boboc and Mia Alex are improving quickly in their throw and all could also win points in our conference meets."

bemons@hometownlife.com Twitter: @BradEmons1 **GIRLS SOCCER**

Northville still looking for season's first win

Bill Khan Livingston Daily

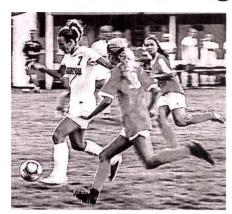
Nobody else could seem to get the insurance goal for Brighton, despite numerous glorious scoring chances by its most dangerous scorers.

Leave it to unlikely hero Sarah Caldwell to give the Bulldogs some breathing room in a 2-0 victory Monday over

state power Northville at Sloan Field. Caldwell didn't score a goal in her first varsity season as a junior last year and didn't play much in Brighton's biggest games. Yet her coaches and teammates think highly enough of her that she was named a captain this sea-

"She's not flashy, but she's a good player," Brighton coach Chris Stevanovic said.

In the second game of the season, Caldwell took a lob pass into the box from Alexis Shatrau and put a low shot past goalie Carlie Castiglione with 26:54 left in the game. Brighton had been nursing a 1-0 lead for 42 minutes, dominating play, but coming up empty in a bid to put the game out of reach.



RICHARD LIM | LIVINGSTON DAILY Brighton's Erica Shinsky (left) is chased by Northville's Jenna Lauderback.

A position change put Caldwell in a spot where she could be more of a scor-

ing threat.
"I'm a center-mid by training, so being on the outside was a little strange," Caldwell said. "But Chris put me there because he knew I would

make the backside run. The ball went

past the defender and past the keeper's

"It was my first varsity goal, so it was a very special moment. I played last year and this year. To get my first varsity goal at Sloan was special.'

Beating Northville is always special for the Bulldogs, who have done it three straight times over the past two seasons. Northville has won three state championships, the most recent coming three years ago. Brighton's legacy includes five state runner-up finishes.

"It was definitely our first real test," Stevanovic said. "Northville's always good, they're always organized, they always have good talent. The past three years, we've played them early in the year, so it's good to get good competition in the first main week of the season. They gave us a tough game.'

Castiglione kept the Mustangs in the game with several diving saves in the first half. The only shot to get past her in the opening 40 minutes came off the right foot of senior Emma Shinsky

'Carlie played well in goal and came up with some big saves," Northville

coach Eric Brucker said. "Midfield did a much better job of finding targets and distributing the ball. We need a more concentrated to take advantage of the scoring opportunities we get.

Abbie Bowland threaded a pass between the Northville defense to Shinsky just inside the box. Shinsky split two defenders and put a low shot into the left side of the net with 28:26 left in

the first half.
"I just remember thinking, like, 'Pass it in,' because that's something I have to remind myself," Shinsky said.
"When I think, 'Shoot it,' it doesn't go so well. I looked where the goalie was. I played it in with the right foot in the corner.

Goalkeeper Hannah Swanson got the shutout for Brighton (2-0).

The loss dropped Northville to 0-3. "We played a very good team tonight and saw glimpses of progress," Brucker said. "We played physical and generated some quality scoring chances, but did not take advantage of them.

Novi-Northille sports editor Brad Emons contributed to this report.

PREP SOFTBALL

Northville's Laurin shuts down Churchill; Novi wins two from John Glenn

Brad Emons hometownlife.com

Sophomore pitcher Hannah Laurin struck out 13 and allowed just three hits as the Mustangs rallied from a 1-0 fifth-inning deficit to beat visiting Livonia Churchill in a Kensington Conference softball crossover.

The Mustangs, who struck for four runs in the bottom of the fifth, were led offensively by junior Alexis Koehler (2-for-4) and Laurin (2-

Northville improved to 2-0 overall and 1-0 in

the KLAA Central Divi-

Novi sweeps Glenn On Monday, host Novi (3-1, 1-0 KLAA Central) took both ends of a Kensington Conference crossover doubleheader against visiting Westland John Glenn (0-2, 0-1 KLAA South) by scores of 16-1 and 16-2.

The Wildcats racked up 14 hits in the opener as Sophie Rallis led the way with three. Megan Mendendorp, Maria Gustitus and Bella Rallis each added two.

Winning pitcher Maria Gustitus improved to 2-0, allowing two hits and two walks while striking out eight over four in-

In the nightcap, Anna Mizerowski went 3-for-3 to pace a 12-hit Novi attack, while Gustitus, who led off the game with an inside-the-park homer, joined Ashley

Yarberry and Bella Rallis with two hits apiece. Senior pitcher Ally

Cummings collected the win, scattering three hits and three walks while striking out four.

bemons@hometownlife.com Twitter: @BradEmons1

BOYS

Continued from Page B1

along with state meet relay team members Josh Holcomb and Adam

Meanwhile, regional 400 champ and state qualifier Anthony D'Annibale (49.47) will be juggling two sports his senior season, opting also to play lacrosse.

Several other state qualifiers return for the Wildcats, led by senior sprinter Nathan Hankerson, who was regional champ in the 100; senior hurdler Hunter Joy; senior distance runners John Landy, Aric Landy and Scott MacPherson, and distance runners Blake Maday (sophomore) and Nathaniel Wood (junior).

Other key returnees include senior John Ste-Pitcher (sprints), sophomore Trey Mullins (distance), senior Corey Grassmyer (throws) and sophomore Nisarg Dharia (sprints).

Among the promising newcomers in the sprints are junior Reggie Jackson and sophomores Leon Chen and Vincent Ma.

Andrew Whyte (senior), Anthony James (freshman), Blair Mayes (freshman), Brendan Ireland (sophomore) and Aaron Baird (freshman) look to add points in the sprints and jumps. Freshman hurdlers Brian You and Alvin Li also show promise, while Caleb Wood (freshman) and Matthew Whyte (freshman) could contribute in the distance events.

'It will once again be about building a balance," Reid said. "Coach (Cindy) Kuhn and I are looking to continue to work on building the cohesive program that they have in the past as first year co-head coach-

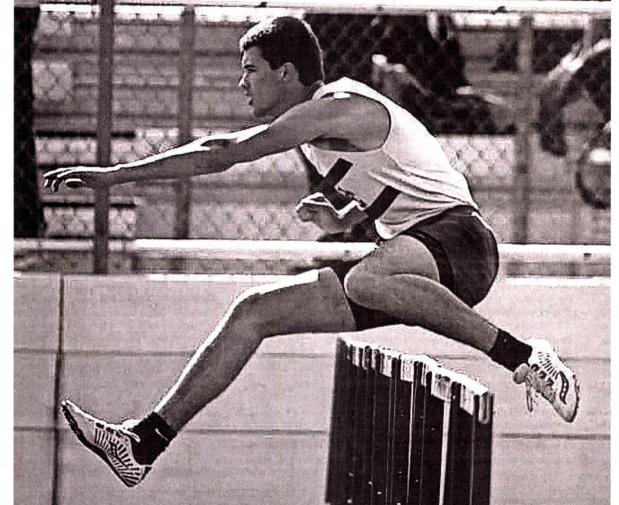
Northville

The Mustangs, under fifth-year coach Tim Dalton, were hard hit by graduation, losing Division 1 state placers John Hamilton in the high jump (third, 6-6) and Adam Ghabra in the 400 (fourth, 49.12)

Other state qualifiers lost included Thomas Smither (10th, 800, 1:55.61), regional champion Kenny Goolsby (15th, 1,600, 4:27.02); and Conor Naughton (16th, 3,200,

Top thrower Max De-Dona also graduated, while long jump state qualifier A.J. Abbott transferred to West

Bloomfield. Last year, Northville



Catholic Central's Andrew Levens is a key returnee in the hurdles events.

placed third in the Kensington Conference meet and fourth at the Milford regional.

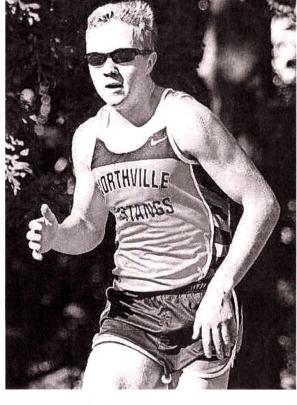
"We are still trying to find our identity as a team," Dalton said. 'Coming out of our first meet of the year at EMU, it was clear we have work to do. Our boys must make the choice of how good they want to be. I'm excited at the potential this team has, but again, we have some big holes that need to be filled. It will be interesting.'

The top returnee off last year's KLAA Central Division championship team (5-0) is senior Ben Cracraft, who took 17th overall in the 3,200 at last year's Division 1 state finals (9:27.67).

Other distance returnees include seniors Peter Bejin, Jacob Blackmore and Evan Ferrante, along with sophomore Nick Couyoumjian. Junior Robbie Kuphal adds depth in the middle distance and sprint races.

Other sprint returnees include senior Zach Stroud; juniors Guiliano Daniel, Andrew Hezemy, Trevor Kelterborn and Antonio Washington; and sophomores Nolan Knight and Zach Phillips.

Sophomores Daniel McLaughlin and Ben Shuart while add depth in the hurdles, while seniors



Northville senior Ben Cracraft is a returning distance standout.

Alec Hopkins and Caleb Sheehan hope to fill the void left by Hamilton in the high jump.

Senior Jacob Genaw joins junior holdovers Chase Cosey and Ja'Quan Crawford in the throwing

events. Among the promising newcomers are seniors

Alex Kim (sprints, long jump) and Gustaf Tjernberg (jumps); junior Colin Neal (sprints); and sophomore Demetri Zervos (sprints, jumps).

Freshman distance hopefuls include Grant Gattoni, Josh Hardy, AdrienJund, Andrew Lane and Brandon Liu.

FILE PHOTO Other freshmen in the

mix are Alex Beloiu, Brennan Van Riper and Enzo Rodriguez, sprints; Jacob Pichler, sprints, hurdles; Ben Steinig, sprints, middle distance; and Adrian Rendon, high

"The opportunity for kids to step up and take varsity sports is wide open," Dalton said. 'Hopefully, this competition will light a fire under some of our boys. We have a solid leadership group that is in place that will work to make sure we continue to have a program that does things the right way and offers a great environment for our student-athletes, both on and off the track.

Northville opens its dual meet season at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, at home against Novi.

'The KLAA Central will be very tough this year," Dalton said. "We must be ready to race and compete."

Catholic Central

Veteran coach Shamrocks coach Tony Magni. entering his 43rd season, hopes the Shamrocks can improve upon last year's third-place showing at the Catholic League A-B Division meet (3-2) and 13th-place showing at the Division 1 regional at Milford.

The most notable losses to graduation were distance runners Scott Smith and Avery Felty.

"We have great numbers — over 100 run-ners," Magni said. "Unfortunately, we are very young. We lost some great seniors through graduation and top juniors, who decided spring break was more important than joining the team their senior year. We hope to compete well in our league and qualify many from the regional to the state finals.

Senior hurdlers Andrew Levens and Haden Kasdorf will lead the way for the Shamrocks.

Other top senior returnees include Chris Bradbury (shot put, discus), Ryan Woebkenberg (shot put, discus), Isaiah Popp (long jump, sprints), Quinn Smolinski (400, relays), Mark Borek distance), Ty Buckie (distance) and Nick Gess-

Also expected to contribute are juniors Brendan Smith (long jump, sprints) and Matthew Young (shot put, discus), along with sophomore Andres Andres (sprints).

Franklin Road

There's no where to go but up for Warriors fourth-year coach Andrew Schmid, whose team finished 11th in last year's Michigan Independent Athletic Conference meet and 17th at the Division 4 regional.

Lost to graduation off that team were Joey Robison and Erick West-

Junior Darius Boboc (jumps, relays) and sophomore Joseph Jonkman (throws) are the Warriors' top returnees, while eighth-graders Elijah Bolleddu (middle distance), Derrick Balford (throws), Ethan Cooper (sprints) and Hunter Dubuc (distance) should all contribute right away.

Boboc is the school record holder in the high

"With his experience and talent, he could medal at regionals this year," Schmid said of Boboc. "Jonkman's throwing experience is bringing along Balford, who is showing great promise. Newcomers Dubuc and Bolleddu are improving in their endurance as they will be handling the mid to long runs and Cooper should be our best runner in the sprints. As a team, the team should be able to set school records in a number of the relays.

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Try these careers and travel the world

BY SARAH SIPEK CAREERBUILDER

antasizing about exotic locations while staring at your cubicle wall isn't very productive. But if you can't trade in your suit and tie for a backpack and hiking boots and say sayonara to the workforce, fortunately, there's a happy medium.

Many career paths allow you to work remotely-thanks in large part to technologywhile others require you to travel the globe to get the job

Translator

If you have a knack for languages and adapt well to new environments, a career as a translator could be your ticket to traveling the world, says Zachary Painter, a career adviser and hiring manager at ResumeGenius.com

You can choose to work through a travel agency where you'll lead tours for businesses and corporations, or seek out a more niche role with a boutique agency, says Painter. Either way you'll be working as a cultural liaison, leading groups through historic cities and sites.

"A friend of mine recently scored a gig translating Mandarin to English and German for a documentary about musicians being produced in

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Taiwan," Painter says. "The possibilities are endless."

Web developer

If you want to work remotely, tech companies are your best bet, says Kean Graham, CEO of MonetizeMore, an ad tech firm. Web developers in particular tend to do their best work from remote locations.

"Remote work has less interruptions," Graham says. "In a traditional office, there are too many meetings, noise and random interruptions that break a developer's concentration. In a remote atmosphere, many of these

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distractions can be avoided." Many companies have traditional offices but also use remote developers to supplement the workload. So grab your laptop and head to anywhere in the world with a

Wr-Fi connection.

Joining the military is a great way to see the world—both on-and-off duty. Jessica van Dop DeJesús, a Marine Corps reserve officer, has been in the military for almost 20 years. During that time, she has visited 45 countries.

"Being stationed in places

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Hyppolite, an event execution expert with Abstract Elements

breakdown.

ing remotely," says Chivonne traveled to four continents events.'

Digital marketing specialist

It helps to look for a job that isn't time-zone specific. Search engine optimization or SEO—fits that bill. Digital marketers require SEO knowledge, along with a familiarity with analytics programs and

such as Japan, South Korea

and Germany allowed me to

see plenty in those regions,"

worked as a civil servant at

says van Dop DeJesús. "I also

NATO in Brussels where I had

plenty of time over the week-

Corporate event planner

Event planners don't just plan

parties and weddings. Large-

scale corporate events-in-

cluding meetings and trade

shows—require corporate event planners to meet with

vendors across the country

and then travel to the event location to help oversee

everything from setup through

"A career in the corporate

great way for people to travel

and see the world while work-

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planning and executing

meeting planner world is a

end to see Europe."

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While the role requires broad skills, the payoff is great. "These types of jobs typically offer lengthy contracts with commensurate pay, enabling one to work from home-or from their hammock in the Philippines—with relative ease," Painter says. "It just takes good time management and focus."

Virtual assistant

Help organize a client's work and personal life without actually being in the room. As a virtual assistant, you do everything from cleaning a client's inbox to scheduling their appointments and purchasing holiday gifts for their friends. While it may seem impersonal, it grants you a great amount of flexibility in your

"Virtual assisting has given me the opportunity to travel both within the U.S. and now internationally," says Melissa Smith, founder of the virtual assistant staffing company The PVA. "I don't have to choose work over family or travel. Now I can do both."

Sarah Sipek is a writer for the Advice & Resources section on CareerBuilder.com. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and work-

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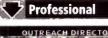
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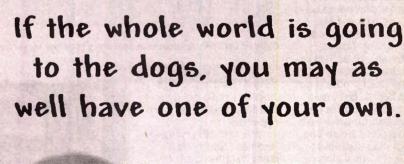
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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

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13 Skiing peak 14 Co. shuffling

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6 Sofia's "that" "E.T." boy

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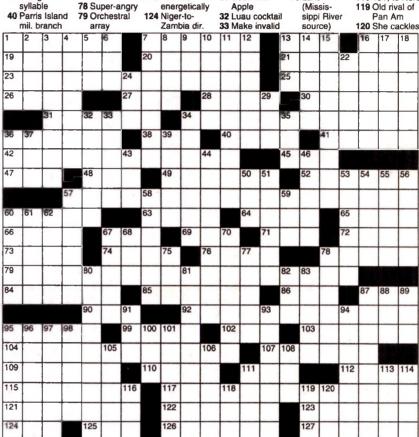
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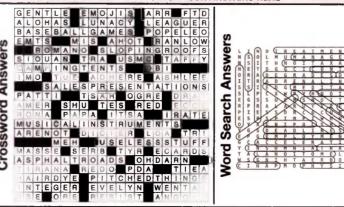
Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can flaure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using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

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8	3	9	5	Ļ	7	6	Þ	9

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Car Report

FORD'S F-150 RAPTOR TURNS HEADS EVERYWHERE, THEN TURNS IN GREAT PERFORMANCE OFF-ROAD



fun part of driving a Ford F-150 Raptor isn't actually driving this wildebeest of a vehicle - it's prompting reactions from so many people

who see it.

When I drove up to a friend's house in a bright blue version of the behemoth off-road pickup, he asked me, "Do you have masculinity problems?"

When I used Raptor to take a big rug to a Laundromat and dump it into a washing machine, I couldn't even get in the door before a buy told me he'd worked on designing the truck, peppered me with questions about whether I liked it, and then told me where locally to go for some great off-road workouts.

When I pulled up in front of the neighborhood dry cleaner's, the



owner came out just so he could feel the tires on the thing

And when I drove Raptor to church, another friend rushed up to me to ask me how I liked the truck. He was very curious – and he had jus been to a driving school conducted by Porsche!

So as far as I'm concerned, even though the 2017 Raptor hasn't been available for all that long, it's already a winner in my book. When you get that many unsolicited comments, questions - interrogations - about something you're driving, you know it's something special.

In fact, Car and Driver named Raptor one of its 10 best vehicles of the year, proclaiming it "the new American badass."

Besides its unmistakable street cred, three things really impress about Raptor.

First is its ... immenseness in just about every dimension. The bed size is standard, but that's really an afterthought considering that it leads with a honeycomb grille that is massive, extending below the bumper line, and sports huge off-road-spec BF Goodrich tires, on wheels that are suspended appropriately below the frame for maximum clearance in the brush or stream. Raptor weights 5,696.

And yet the second biggest attribute of Raptor is its quickness. It's powered by a 3.5-liter, twinturbo V-6 engine that yields 450 magnificent horsepower and 510 pound-feet of torque, True, Raptor delivers only 18 mpg on the highway, but the highway isn't its main

Prayer to the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, you who mokes me see everything and who showed me the way to reach off ideal. You who gove me the divine gift to torgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and you who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue want to thank you for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be segarated from you no matter how

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Combined with a weight savings of 404 pounds compared with the last Raptor SuperCab, thanks to Ford's extensive use of lighter-weight aluminum in its F-150 line, Raptor also is very quick off the line for such a huge machine.

In fact, Raptor barrels to 60 miles an hour in just five seconds and on through a quarter mile in under 14 seconds, finishing at 100 mph. Decelerating it's just as nimble: It requires 206 feet of roadway to stop from 70 mph, even with tires that are meant for off-road performance, not street braking.

The third thing that is reputedly outstanding about Raptor is its ability to take you capably, safely, even excitingly off-road. This is an attribute that I can't testify about directly because I never could find a good place to take the vehicle off road locally, despite the best advice of the chap I met at the laundry.

The best I could do is take Raptor on one of the famously muddy scenic roads of northeastern Oakland County on one recent rainy day and pretend - without too much imagination - that I was going off' road. Raptor absolutely swallowed up muddy gullies, washed-out portions of the road and gravel beds with equal aplomb, not even beginning to test its limits. No amount of muck or mud slowed Raptor in the least.

It needed a wash when I was done but not a rest.

Raptor is a great sweet spot in Ford's lineup, retailing for around \$50,000. As the SUV market has gotten much more competitive, pickup trucks are the last refuge of unchallenged profitability for Ford as well as its traditional Detroit Three counterparts, General Motors and Fiat Chrysler.





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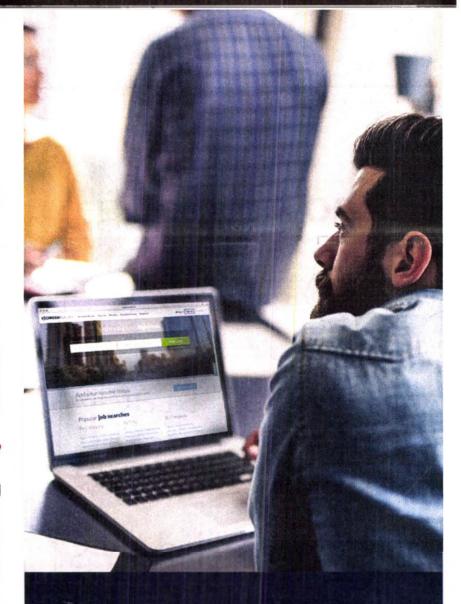
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*French doors into private first floor study *Finished basement with plenty of space for gaming, tv zone and

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*Kitchen with oak cabinets and ceramic flooring

*Spacious first floor suite with full bathroom

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Cute Colonial!

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*First floor laundry

\$195,000 MLS 217008168 248.684.1065



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Gorgeous Home in Desirable Forest Ridge! *Stone and brick home features four bedrooms and three and half

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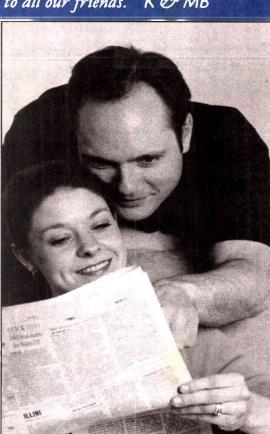
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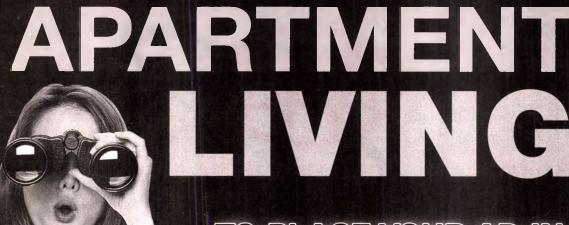
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