

**THURSDAY**  
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2009

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# NORTHVILLE RECORD

online at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)



Special section inside today's newspaper

## ON THE RECORD

### Mulhern signs

As The Page Turns Bookstore & Gallery will host a book signing with Daniel G. Mulhern, first gentleman of the State of Michigan, from 4-6 p.m. on Saturday. Mulhern's book is titled *Everyday Leadership: Getting Results in Business, Politics, and Life*. Mulhern is a graduate of University of



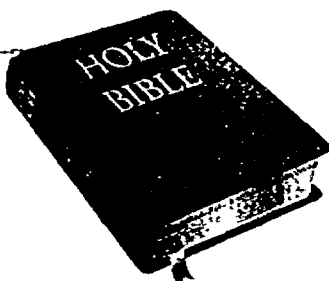
Mulhern

Detroit Jesuit High School, Yale, where he received a B.A. in religious studies with magna cum laude distinction; and Harvard, with a J.D. degree with a cum laude distinction.

The bookstore is located at 149 N. Center Street, Suite 102, in downtown Northville. Call (248) 912-0085 for more information.

### Bible seminar

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church is hosting a seminar, *The Holy Bible*, at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, exploring questions like: Why are these books the word of God? How do we know that we



have the right books? What about other books? Were the books copied accurately?

There is no cost for the seminar; light refreshments will be available.

The church is located at 41415 W. Nine Mile Road (corner of Meadowbrook) in Novi. For more information, call (248) 349-0565.

### M.O.M.S. resale

M.O.M.S., a not-for-profit organization and support group for mothers, is hosting a Baby, Kid and Me Resale at First United Methodist Church, Eight Mile and Taft roads in Northville. Times are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday; admission is \$1. Enjoy the huge selection of designer children's clothing, sized newborn to young adult. All profits go back to the community.

To donate gently used items, please contact Jill at (248) 474-1376.

## DDA giving \$40,000 to businesses

### Improvements include technical, commercial

BY PAM FLEMING  
STAFF WRITER

Springtime is made for sprucing up. And the Northville Downtown Development Authority recently received approval from the City Council to award more than \$40,000 in technical and commercial grants

to downtown businesses. The awards are part of the third cycle this year in the Business Assistance Program. Members of the program's advisory group met March 9 to review the grant applications and determine which applications should receive funding and the extent of the funding.

#### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Technical assistance grants at \$500 each were awarded to Alan Verstraete of Wine Sync, Jim and Prudy Vannier of Northville Gallery, Maria Vasseliou and Laura McQueen of Simply Wine, Beverlee Lindeen of Northville Candle, Gifts & Yarn and

Nicole Jackson of As the Page Turns Bookstore.

The awards will reimburse the merchants for such expenses as business plan improvement; promotional and event planning; Web site design; e-commerce setup and consultation with marketing firms.

#### COMMERCIAL IMPROVEMENTS

Commercial improvement grants will go to:

■ Dalia Elassaad, 133 W. Main St., Suite 220, \$636 for a pastry shop, Sweet 220, scheduled to open soon. Money is for signs and a small awning over the entrance on Wing Street.

■ Orin Mazzoni Jr. for 101 E. Main St., \$2,200, and 108/110 N. Center St., \$3,300. Money is for transoms on all second-floor windows to match framing of double-hung windows, tuck pointing, removal and replacement of defective bricks, and recover faded awning over door leading to upper-level offices on North Center Street.

■ Marc and Annie Trudeau, 103 E. Main St., \$3,200, and 175 E. Main St., \$3,200. Money will be used to remove all deteriorated and scaled portions of tile on the upper portion of the building that houses Northville

Please see BIZ BUCKS, A6

## Carpets Etcetera will floor its customers

### Business plans to open next week

BY PAM FLEMING  
STAFF WRITER

No matter what the home or office situation, Brian and Nicole Iannacone can cover it - when it comes to flooring, that is.

The couple will open a new business, Carpets Etcetera, next week at 8922 Seven Mile Road in the Heslip Corner shopping center on the southeast corner of Seven Mile and Napier in Northville Township.

Brian, 32, a native of Danbury, Conn., who now lives with Nicole in Canton, started in the business at age 19 as a carpet installer.

He moved into tile, wood and other floor coverings later. The new company also does truck-mounted carpet cleaning, including flooded and smoke-damaged materials and upholstery.

For more information, call (248) 416-4200 or go to [www.carpetsetcetera.com](http://www.carpetsetcetera.com).

The business handles commercial and residential clients and wants to work with area builders, contractors, designers and interior decorators.

Debbie Reynolds, an employee at the new company, said Carpets Etcetera carries several niche products as a full-service flooring business. Anyone can visit the 3,000-square-foot showroom to see the latest in flooring.

"We will let samples go out for 48 hours," Reynolds said.

#### ECO-FRIENDLY CARPET

The business also carries a new "green" carpet product, SmartStrand, from Mohawk Industries and DuPont, made from corn.

"It's 100 percent recyclable and



JOHN HEIDER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

With a good selection of carpeting and wood flooring, Brian Iannacone and Debbie Reynolds will soon have the Carpets Etcetera store up and running at the southeast corner of Seven Mile and Napier Road.

is impervious to stain," said Cy Saverino, a SmartStrand representative.

"Pet urine doesn't soak into it either," said Craig Fowler, another SmartStrand wholesaler. The product comes in 62 colors and features six different styles. There are also eight multi-color or fleck-color designs.

The store has a full line of wool carpet, which cleans well and lasts long. "It's the number-one wearing

fiber," Reynolds said.

Area rugs can also be designed by the staff, as well as leather flooring, marble, ceramic, natural stone, porcelain, hardwood, exotics, barn wood.

"As the industry grows, hardwood is taking up more of the flooring market," Reynolds said. "It represents about 30 percent of the flooring market. Hardwood is timeless."

"We have flooring for everyone's needs and budgets," Brian said.

"We also do hardwood floor sanding and refinishing with a dustless system."

All flooring installations have a lifetime guarantee.

A grand opening is planned at the store later in the spring.

"We're the only flooring retailer in Northville," Brian said.

"If you can dream it up, we can do it," Reynolds said.

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## Energy efficiency key for Northville schools

### Saved nearly quarter million dollars in a year

BY NATHAN MENOJAN  
CORRESPONDENT

The Northville school district is becoming more energy efficient. In just a year's time their cost avoidance savings is nearly \$250,000.

Last year, the district signed a five-year contract with Energy Education

Please see ENERGY, A9

#### SUCCESS STORIES

Highlighting ways the school district's new energy efficiency program has been successful, Dave Bolitho, assistant school superintendent for Northville, listed several

- Controlling building temperatures during unoccupied times
- Improving consumer behavior within each building
- Bringing in representatives from

Detroit Edison for energy updates

- Switching from incandescent to fluorescent interior lighting and installing occupancy sensors
- Future cost reduction on exterior lighting improvements in school parking lots
- Looking at ways each employee consumes natural gas and electricity
- Buying natural gas and electricity on the open market

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# Governor appoints Northville attorney circuit judge

## Eric Cholack joins Wayne County Circuit Court bench



Cholack

Jennifer Granholm. Cholack was appointed to the seat vacated by Judge Diane Hathaway, who was

Eric Cholack, a Northville resident and former attorney with the law firm of Roumell, Lange & Cholack, P.L.C. was recently appointed to serve as judge of the Wayne County Circuit Court by Michigan Governor

elected to the Michigan Supreme Court in the November 2008 election. He will be formally sworn in at an investiture ceremony on Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. The ceremony will be held on the 8th floor of the Atheneum Suite Hotel's International Banquet and Conference Center in Detroit, Michigan.

"To be appointed to the Wayne County Circuit Court is a true honor. The work of the court is a tremendous responsibility and a

wonderful opportunity to make a positive impact on people's lives and on our community," Cholack said.

Cholack graduated from The University of Michigan with High Distinction (Phi Beta Kappa, Beta Gamma Sigma, Angell Scholar), earning a bachelor's degree in business administration. He was accepted at Harvard Law School and earned his juris doctor, cum laude, in 1990.

After law school, Cholack

returned to Michigan and Wayne County, where he served as an assistant prosecuting attorney for nearly six years with the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office.

There he prosecuted over 50 jury trials and hundreds of bench trials while working for one of his mentors, Prosecutor John O'Hair (retired).

In 1997, Cholack entered private practice, becoming a founding partner of the Lange & Cholack law firm.

His practice focused on labor and employment matters and mediation of employment and circuit court disputes. During this

time Cholack served as a mediator for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in over 100 cases. He has also been an adjunct law professor at Wayne State University, University of Detroit-Mercy and Cooley Law Schools.

"I am ecstatic at the opportunity to serve as a Wayne County Circuit judge. I will continue to immerse myself in the work of the court and work hard to justify others' faith in me," said Cholack.

Cholack, who lives in Northville with his wife and two children, intends to run for election in 2010. His term expires on Jan. 1, 2011.

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## Ward Church plans National Day of Prayer activity

### Public invited to pray on May 7

Northville Township's Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church will present a National Day of Prayer again this year on Thursday, May 7.

The public is invited to attend the event at Ward, located west of Haggerty Road and north of Six Mile Road directly behind the shopping center.

The church reaches out to many communities, including Northville, Livonia, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Novi, Plymouth and Canton.

The Ward Church sanctuary will be set up exclusively for focused prayer. The church will have seven prayer centers,

providing opportunity for prayer for our nation in the following areas: Business, Church, Education, Family, Government, Media and the Military. Each prayer center will have a tri-fold display board along with written materials to aid in focused prayer. The sanctuary will be open for prayer that day from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Two church services focused on prayer for the nation will take place in Hess Chapel at noon and 7 p.m.

The theme for the 2009 National Day of Prayer is "Prayer... America's Hope."

#### HISTORY

In 1952, the National Day of Prayer was established as an annual event by a joint resolution of the U.S. Congress and was signed into law by President Harry S. Truman.

In 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed a law that permanently set aside the first Thursday of May as National Day of Prayer.

Each year, the reigning president signs a proclamation encouraging all Americans to pray on this day.

Last year, all 50 state governors signed similar proclamations.

This day is set aside for a time of prayer specifically for the well-being of Americans and for those in leadership on all levels of national, church and education arenas.

Members of the Ward Church staff and congregation welcome residents of Northville and neighboring communities to come pray for the nation and its people. For more information, go to the National Day of Prayer Web site, [www.ndptf.org](http://www.ndptf.org).

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# Novite or Novian: Ernie Harwell goes to bat for fitness

BY WENSOY VON BUSKIRK  
D&E STAFF WRITER

Never at a loss for words, Ernie Harwell doesn't know what to call himself as a Novi resident.

"I'm a Novite or Novian. Or maybe Novissimo," Harwell said. "I talked to the Chamber of Commerce and they don't know what to call us. Novinskis?"

At age 91, 'the voice of the Detroit Tigers' has become a spokesperson for healthy living.

As baseball season gets under way, Harwell is working with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan to promote walking as an easy path to fitness.

Harwell, who called Detroit Tigers games from "the corner of Michigan and Trumbull" 1960-2002, remains active in retirement.

He jumps rope 300 times a day, and starts each morning with a 15-minute routine of stretching, lunges and deep squats. Then, he works out in the gym at his retirement home in Novi.

"I think the only day I missed they were fixing something in the gym and it was closed," Harwell said during a recent interview at DP+Co. in Farmington Hills.

Harwell also walks. "All you need is a pair of shoes. You can do it anywhere," he said, recalling the days he and former Tigers manager Sparky Anderson would walk in cities across the country as they toured with the great American pastime.

"We would walk in the hotel parking lots,



Ernie Harwell will participate in National Walk @ Lunch Day on April 29.

around and around and around for 30 minutes," he said. "We tried to walk downtown in places like New York but everyone recognized Sparky and needed autographs. That would disrupt our true purpose of walking."

These days Harwell is the celebrity, loved by generations of metro Detroiters who associate

his voice with the sounds of summer.

On April 29, Harwell will greet fans as he participates in National Walk @ Lunch Day at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan headquarters in Detroit.

And he remains involved with baseball. During the Tigers home opener April 10,

'It's (opening day) like Easter because a lot of people come just once a year, like church. It's like Fourth of July because you have all the fireworks and excitement. And it's like Christmas because you open your new present. Fans see what players they're going to get in their package for the year, and of course everyone starts equal.'

ERNIE HARWELL

Harwell hosted his annual breakfast at the Detroit Athletic Club to raise money for the Ernie Harwell Foundation, which began as an effort to save Tiger Stadium.

Harwell also took the field at Comerica Park to lead a tribute to former Tigers third baseman George Kell, who died last month.

Opening day remains a 'big thrill,' he said. "It's always a great occasion, always has been in Detroit," said Harwell, likening it to three holidays in one.

"It's like Easter because a lot of people come just once a year, like church. It's like Fourth of July because you have all the fireworks and excitement. And it's like Christmas because you open your new present. Fans see what players they're going to get in their package for the year, and of course everyone starts equal."

So, how does Harwell think the Tigers will fare this season?

"Hope springs eternal," he said.

April 24, 25, 26 & May 1, 2, 3, 8, 9  
(Fri & Sat: 8pm; Sun: 2pm)

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# NEIGHBORS

## Gym teacher Pedersen attacks paralysis with tenacity

Northville man's incredible saga detailed on his Web site, symbolofstrength

BY LARRY RUEHLEN  
ECCENTRIC STAFF WRITER

He'd done the same thing so many times. Climb up a tree, swing a leg over and do a pull-up. On Oct. 25, 2008, Kirk Pedersen, a physical education teacher from Northville who lives fitness, made the 20-foot climb and began easing into his hunting tree stand when a chain snapped, sending him crashing to the ground. He woke up alone, badly

injured and unable to do much but yell. He waited more than six hours for a search party to arrive.

"The first thing he said was, 'How's my brother?'" Brett Pedersen said. "I had an allergic reaction the day before and he wanted to know if I was OK."

Brett, a gym teacher at Hillside Middle School, was fine, but Kirk — a man able to run marathons, ride a bike

100 miles and climb mountains — was barely alive.

He underwent surgery the next day to fuse his fourth and fifth cervical vertebrae. His spine wasn't completely severed, but his prognosis was bad. He was on a ventilator and unable to move from the shoulders down.

"They didn't think he would live," Brett said.

It was completely unacceptable to Kirk.

He was the guy who motivated students at Walled Lake Central to get off the couch and start moving. Enrollment in his gym class quadrupled and he was named Michigan Physical Education Teacher of

the Year. He once swam from Alcatraz to San Francisco for goodness sake.

Not going to live? Paralyzed?

According to the people closest to him, Kirk is the type of guy who must have thought, "I'll show them."

Just another challenge. Nothing more, nothing less. Put in the work and you win. After all, that's how the game of life is supposed to work.

So it began. Hour after hour in rehab. First in Ann Arbor, then at Frazier Rehab Hospital, in Louisville, Ky. Doctors advised against it, but he jettisoned the ventilator cold turkey Thanksgiving day.



Brett Pedersen watches as his brother Kirk undergoes BioNess electrical stimulation which sends electrical impulses to open and close his hands.

He now works out constantly, doing arm curls with a small dumbbell and riding a special recumbent bike-like machine that will hopefully restore strength to his legs.

"It is heartbreaking in one sense, but inspirational in another," Walled Lake Central Principal Dave Barry said. "He never has a negative thing to say. It's a tragic event, but it was also an opportunity for our school to come together as a community."

Hundreds of well wishers turned out for a fund-raiser at the school that was all about fun and fitness.

Teams of four hit the gym to

do many of the activities Kirk taught in class. There was also a silent auction with donated items from all over the community.

The event, called the Pedersen Fitness Challenge, raised \$35,810 to buy Kirk a van he can drive once he's done with rehab.

"He expects to come back to work in the fall," Barry said. "And if that's what he says he's going to do, that's what he'll do."

To donate, go to his Web site: [www.symbolofstrength.com](http://www.symbolofstrength.com).

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NORTHVILLE NAMES IN THE NEWS

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm recently appointed to the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board Northville resident John Sullivan, owner and attorney in private practice, for a term expiring Nov. 30.

The Michigan Parole and Commutation Board, recently

reorganized by Executive Order 2009-5, is charged with conducting and administering effective implementation of the corrections policy and reviewing and considering parole and commutation requests.

These appointments are not subject to disapproval by the Michigan Senate.

NORTHVILLE ENGAGEMENT

Moehle & Esper

Weston and Jeannine Moehle of Northville announce the engagement of their daughter Heather Moehle to Matthew Esper, son of David and Diane Esper of Northville.

Heather is a 2003 graduate of Northville High School, a 2007 graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of science, and a 2008

master's in public health. She is employed by the William Davidson Institute.

Matthew is a 2002 Detroit Catholic Central High School graduate, and a 2006 graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of mechanical engineering. He is employed by Black and Veatch.

The couple plan an Aug. 22 wedding.

YAEKLE-SCAVNICKY

Elizabeth Arcangela Francesca Scavnicky and Neil Jason Yaekle were married Sept. 20, 2008 at St. George Romanian Orthodox Cathedral in Southfield.

The bride, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Gary E. Scavnicky of Troy, is a Dale Carnegie instructor and president of FabuLiz, Inc. She was a presidential scholar at Wayne State University where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and spent a summer abroad at the University of Montpellier in Montpellier, France. She graduated summa cum laude. She later studied international economics at Hong Kong Baptist University and earned an MBA from the University of Michigan.

The groom, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dirk Yaekle of Northville, is director of fulfillment services at ePrize, LLC, an interactive marketing promotions





where in Pleasant Ridge, where the couple met in 2005. He received his undergraduate and masters in business administration degree from the University of Michigan.

Following the ceremony, the couple celebrated with friends and family at their reception at St. John's Inn in Plymouth.

The newlyweds are expecting their first child in Aug. 2009

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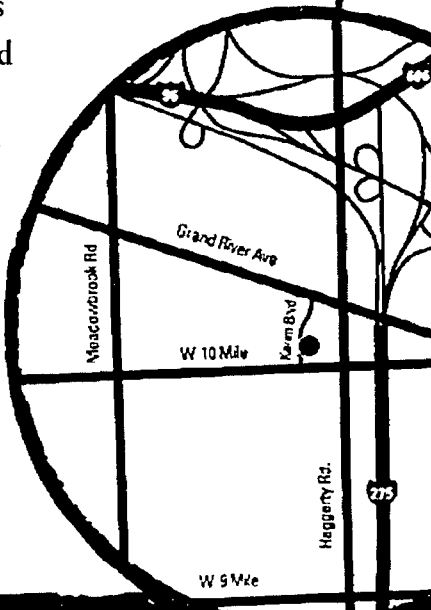
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If you are bothered by this condition, don't be shy about discussing bad breath with your dentist. Professional care is always the best course to pursue when unusual symptoms occur. We're here to offer our patient's comprehensive, gentle, family dentistry, including dietary advice, routine maintenance care, restorative work, and cosmetic approaches to enhance any smile. All our staff members are exceptional in their care of every patient who comes through our doors at 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Ste. 201, Plymouth. Please call us at 734-453-9413 for an appointment. We are located one block east of Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

PS. Another effective way to fight halitosis is to scrape the tongue daily, from back to front!

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# Northville DDA budget under review

BY PAM FLEMING  
STAFF WRITER

The old saying is you have to spend money to make money. And that's a philosophy members of the Northville Downtown Development Authority can back up with statistics.

The DDA budget is currently under review with city council, with the authority's budget being discussed at length at the city's second budget review session last night.

The authority is looking at a 47-percent reduction in revenue in its \$2-million budget, and DDA board members were invited to the meeting to discuss specifics.

At the monthly DDA board meeting Tuesday morning, Lori Ward, executive director, showed a graph from the city of Northville's proposed 2009-2010 budget that shows the authority has increased assessed property values for the DDA since 2000.

The graph illustrates that as the captured value of the DDA has increased, so have the assessed values, but at a much greater rate - almost 200 percent since 2000.

Ward said this shows that the city's reinvestment into the downtown has brought higher assessed property values for the DDA.

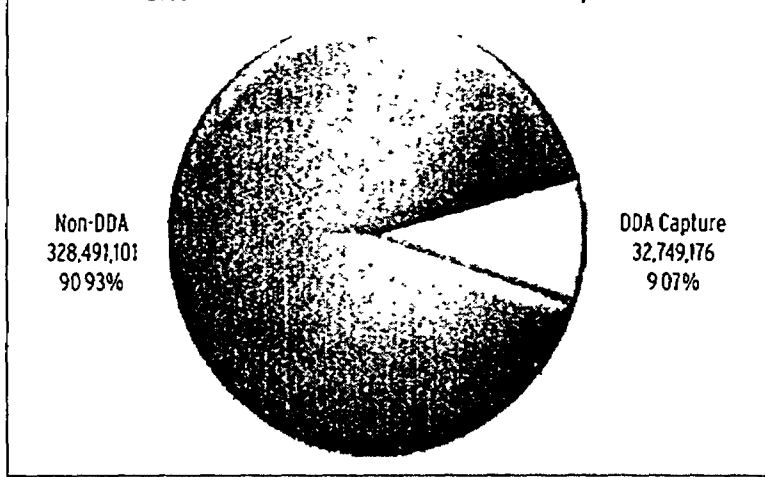
For example, in 2009, the DDA captured value amounted to \$32,749,176, while the assessed value totaled \$67,056,340.

Presently, the DDA captures 9.07 percent of the city's taxable value.

## COST-CONTROL INITIATIVES

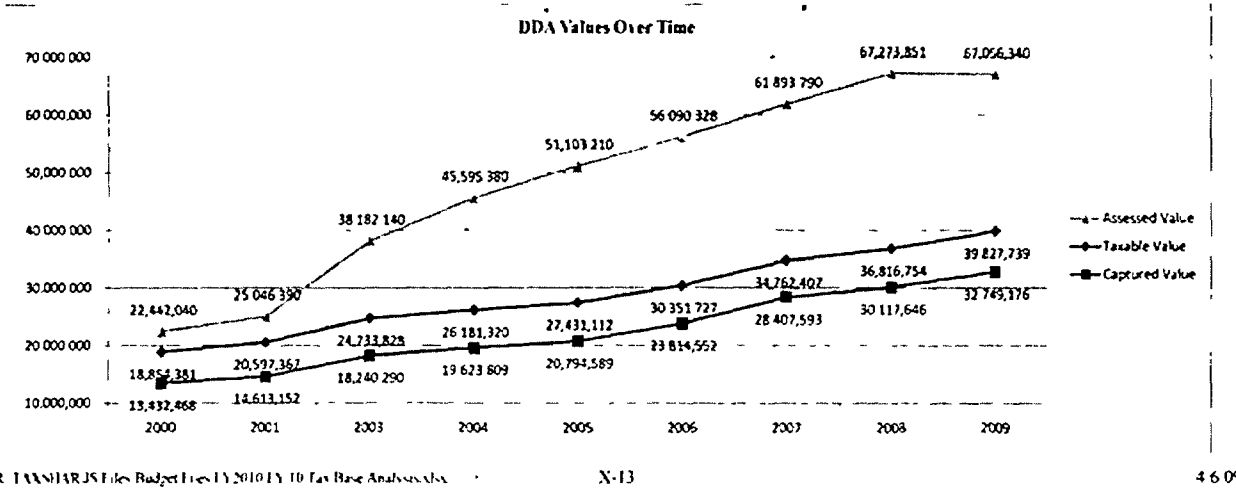
### CITY OF NORTHVILLE FISCAL YEAR 2010 ANNUAL BUDGET AND FIVE-YEAR PLAN (2009-2013) SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT CYCLE

Breakdown of Taxable Value Non-DDA to DDA Capture



At present the DDA Districts I & II capture 9.07% or 32,749,176 of the City's Taxable Value. Currently Taxable Value is not captured in DDA District III. District III does however pay the DAA Operating Millage and monies captured in the other districts are spent through out the DDA including District III. The Base Value for DDA Districts I & II is 4,389,667.

The chart below illustrates that as the captured value of the DDA has increased so have the assessed values, but at a much greater rate (almost 200% since 2000). From this it can be taken that the City's reinvestment into the Downtown has resulted into increased Assessed Values for the DDA



R:\TAXSTAR\JS Files\Budget Files\13 2010\13 10 Tax Base Analysis.xls X-13

4 6 09

With the city budget due to be approved on May 18, and the city facing a \$639,000 deficit for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, every department is being scrutinized.

Nickie Bateson, assistant city manager and finance director, said at the Tuesday DDA board meeting that \$20,000 of the

city's fund balance will be used to offset the budget deficit. Mayor Chris Johnson reminded the board that recommendations from a recent

organizational review by a consulting firm would have netted \$500,000 worth of savings. "That's nice, but not nearly enough considering that an extra \$639,000 is needed," Johnson said.

"We're reviewing this (the organizational review) with a great amount of detail." Bateson said since the city's budget works on a five-year plan, the city is looking at about a \$200,000 deficit for the year that begins July 1.

She added that out of \$670 million, only \$5,000 is for capital expenditures in next year's budget, with most of the city's cost coming from employees.

"City council has some tough decisions to make," Bateson said. The report also suggested some major labor negotiations that the city may not be willing to take on as a cost-saving measure.

One cost-saving theory is just to reduce every department by 20 percent. "But that really

doesn't work in the long run," Johnson said.

## MAKE A BUDGET SOUND

Greg Presley, DDA chair, asked Johnson how the DDA board could help the city in its financial crunch.

"By making sure the budget is sound and realistic," Johnson replied. "The DDA should know that there are no additional dollars beyond what's in the budget."

The board is also considering establishing a performance review committee for Ward that will consist of Johnson, Presley, DDA board member David Larson and City Councilmember Michele Fecht.

DDA Board Member Carolann Ayers suggested reviewing the budget every quarter if necessary.

"Next year's not going to be any better, so it's not going to help to put off expenditures," she said.

Johnson said citizens need to realize that some city services will be affected by the budget crunch.

"We're going to try to make sure the most important departments get handled first," Johnson said. "But, basically, every department will be affected."

City staff presented at least 80 cost-saving ideas to administration, and DDA board members are invited to present any ideas they have to the city as well.

## TAX INCREMENT FINANCING

Ward said tax increment financing was designed to collect extra tax dollars, reinvest them into the downtown and spur private sector investment.

She believes this process has worked in downtown Northville and will continue to do so.

"Public investment leads to private investment," Ayers said. "This has been shown numerous times."

The goal is "to improve the economic climate and the downtown," Ward said.

"Most importantly, she thinks she will be able to show city council that the selections the DDA has made as far as projects and expenditures are the most important ones when it comes to the budget."

Ward added that the landscaping firm JJR is very encouraged that the DDA can stay within its budget in the upcoming sidewalk and streetscape project planned for the downtown.

pfleming@gannett.com | (248) 349-1700, Ext. 260

# OBITUARIES

## CHARLES "CHUCK" BANNON

Age 44, of Northville, passed away April 18, 2009. A Funeral Mass was held last Wednesday at Our Lady of Victory. Contributions to [www.active.com/donate/Trek2009/ebannon402](http://www.active.com/donate/Trek2009/ebannon402). Arrangements entrusted to Casterline Funeral Home, Inc.

## LISA MARIE BOCHENEK

Age 35, died April 17, 2009. A Funeral Mass was held April 22 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon. Arrangements by PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME. Online guestbook [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)

## DELBERT FRANK DUNCAN

Passed away on Friday, April 17, 2009 from cancer. He was born December 1, 1942 in South Lyon, MI. After serving 26 years in the Army, he continued civil service work until he retired at 62 years old. He is survived by his wife Elena (Texas) and four children Kenny (Texas), Randy (Washington), Deborah and Patricia (Kansas), two sisters Donna (Robert Lewis - South Lyon), Dorothy (South Lyon), and two grandchildren, two nieces, one nephew, and numerous relatives and friends. Services and burial are being held in Killeen, TX where he resided. Memorial contributions may be made to the Cancer Society in his name.

## ERVIN E. FREIMARK

Age 74 of Holly and Atlanta, MI, formerly of Highland, MI died Thursday, April 2, 2009. Before retiring, he worked for Volkswagen of America, Inc. He was a former member of Faith Lutheran Church in Highland. He had been a member of the Society of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America both in Floral City Chorus in Monroe, MI and in the Mill Valley Chorus in Milford. He leaves behind his beloved wife Lois; sons Bruce (Nancy), Glenn (Tobi), Jerry, Scott (Donna), Dennis (Dawn), daughter Rhonda (Mike) Zietlow; grandchildren and great grandchildren, Michael, Curtis, Matt, Rachel, Joel, Rhonda, Justin, Jerrilyn, Jeremy, Katelyn, Jessica, Leigh, Paula, Benjamin, Tyler, Skyleigh, Tristan, Bryan, C.J., Karen, Baby Bob, Jackson, Joshua and Caden; sisters and brothers, Rosalie (Henry) Dile, John (Carol), Judith (Hal) Jonas, and Kenneth. Preceding him in death were his parents, grandchildren Joslyn and Evan Freimark and sister-in-law Sandi Freimark. Funeral services were held at 11:00 A.M. Monday, April 6, 2009 at the Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church, Grand Blanc, MI. Burial was at Michigan Memorial Cemetery, Flat Rock, MI. Memorial donations may be made to Genesis Hospice or the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation. Condolences may be given at [www.dryterfuneralhomeholly.com](http://www.dryterfuneralhomeholly.com)



## KAREN CHARLEEN (DZAGULONES) GERARD

Age 40, and a resident of Milford passed away on April 11, 2009, after a long battle with juvenile diabetes. Karen was an inspiration to many and will be dearly missed by her parents, Katie and Dave Stephenson of Milford, her sister, Laura Bandy; nephew, Derek; nieces, Jessica and Chelsea; aunts, Jeanette, Patsy and many cousins and great, faithful, friends. She was preceded in death by her father, Tom Dzagulones, grandparents, Charleen and Alfred Rullo, Anna and Alex Dzagulones and her aunt Sally A. Funeral Service was held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty, Milford, on Saturday, April 18, at 11 a.m. Mark Jones officiated. Memorials may be made in her name to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit [www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com)

## BETTY JANE LOEHR

Age 59, of Howell. Passed away Monday, April 13, 2009. Born September 14, 1949 in Chicago, IL, she was the daughter of Richard and LaVerne (Hawke) Huyser. Betty had been employed as a postal carrier and later for Brighton Honda. In addition to her family, her joys included cooking, baking and antiques. Beloved wife of Wayne Loehr whom she married on September 23, 1967. Loving mother of Wendy (Mike Maddelein) Loehr of Northville, Beverly Loehr of Howell and Drew Loehr also of Howell. Also survived by her grandson, Kaegan Maddelein, mother, LaVerne Huyser of Monmouth, IL, siblings, Alan (Jane) Huyser of Wauwatosa, WI, Barbara Huyser of Monmouth, IL and Scott (Rita) Huyser of Aurora, IL, many nieces and nephews. Funeral service was Saturday, 11:00 a.m. at MacDonald's Funeral Home - Howell (517-546-2800). Memorial contributions are suggested to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Association of Michigan. Please visit the family's online guestbook at [www.macdonaldsfuneralhome.com](http://www.macdonaldsfuneralhome.com)

## MATTHEW E. MCELHANEY

Daughter, Maureen Izzo, in Commerce Township. South Plainfield, NJ - Matthew E. McElhane, 90, died on Friday, April 17, 2009 at the West Hickory Haven Nursing Home in Milford, MI. Born in New Brunswick, NJ., he resided in East Millstone, NJ., before moving to So. Plainfield, NJ in 1951 and most recently to Michigan with his daughter, Maureen Izzo. Matthew was employed as a Gear Cutter for Mack Truck formerly of Plainfield, & Syncro Machine Co of Perth Amboy. Most recently he was employed as a Gear Cutter for Mann-Rowland Co. of Middlesex for 12 years retiring in 1984. He had served in the United States Army during WW II, serving under General Patton. Matthew is a member of the VFW & American Legion both of So. Plainfield. He was an avid photographer, motorcyclist & swimmer. Predeceased by his wife, Margaret (Schwarz) who died in 2007 and his son, Matthew, who died in 1988. He is survived by his two daughters, Patricia Smith of Lorton, Va & Maureen Izzo & her husband, Pat. of Commerce Township, MI. His son, Michael and his wife, Barbara, of Indiana, PA, and seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2009 beginning 10:00am in the McCriscin-Gustafson Home for Funerals, 2425 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Interment will follow in Hillside Cemetery, Scotch Plains, NJ. Relatives & friends may attend the visitation hours on Friday, April 24, 2009 from 5-9 pm and on Saturday from 9:30 AM until the service time.

## PATRICIA A. MCMURRAY

Age 80, of Livonia. Passed peacefully April 12, 2009. Funeral was held last Thursday at Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. Contributions appreciated to the Children's Leukemia Foundation or the Standardbred Retirement Foundation.

## JOSEPHINE GRACE (DIBDEN) MERRELL

Passed away peacefully at Towsley Village, Chelsea Retirement Center on April 15, 2009 at the age of 86. She was born at Utica, MI on May 2, 1922 to Rev. Joseph Dibden and Ada Mary (Betts) Dibden. She is survived by her children: Dan (Kanah, UT), Barbara Neil (Denver, CO), Mary Dewey (Lancaster, PA), Kirby (Troy, MI), and Frank (East Point, MI). Josephine also leaves behind 7 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Her husband, Roger, her son, Paul, and her brother Arthur preceded her in death. Josie graduated from Pigeon High School and Adrian College. She earned her MA at U of M and an assoc. degree in Music from Schoolcraft College. Josie taught piano lessons, and was an organist and/or choir director at all the churches her husband served as a United Methodist pastor: Washington Davis, Marysville, Newburg, Milan Marble Memorial, and South Lyon. She also served in this capacity at Milford UMC, Highland UMC, and Commerce Township UMC. Mrs. Merrell taught elementary school, remedial reading and served as high school secretary for many years. She was a member of the American Guild of Organists, secretary of the Detroit Conference Fellowship of Methodist Musicians, President of the Milford Musicale, and the West Oakland Music Teachers Association. Josie and her husband of 63 years volunteered their musical talents in many venues. In the last decade of their lives, Josie and Roger took up competitive weight lifting, earning recognition in tournaments around the country. In lieu of flowers, donations may be given to CRC Heritage Foundation.

## RITA I. WAYNE

Age 91, of Northville. Passed away April 18, 2009. A Funeral Mass was held last Wednesday at Our Lady of Victory. Contributions appreciated to St. John Hospice. Arrangements entrusted to Casterline Funeral Home, Inc.

## OBITUARY POLICY

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The first seven "balled" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$3 per line. You may place a photo of your loved one for an additional cost of \$25. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flag, religious symbols, etc.)  
Deadlines: Tuesdays at 10:30am for Thursdays  
Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One





# Social networking for boomers and beyond

**Dear Savvy Senior**  
At age 57, I don't consider myself to be a senior but I do have a question regarding social networking Web sites for older adults. Which ones do you recommend for people in my age bracket? I'm divorced and interested in meeting like-minded people for fun and friendship near my own age. What can you tell me?  
Mature Site Seeker

**Dear Mature,**  
Over the past few years online social networking has become wildly popular, especially among the younger generation—but it's not just for kids. While the youth-oriented social networking sites MySpace and Facebook get most of the attention, a growing number of online communities have sprung up aimed at Web-savvy baby boomers and beyond. Here's what you should know.

## SOCIAL NETWORKING

Before I go any further, an "online social network" is a Web site where like-minded people can go to chat, blog, offer advice, swap information, and share experiences, photos and videos. Some members even meet in person after developing online relationships.

## SAVVY SENIOR

How does it work? Once you choose a site, you'll need to register and create a profile about yourself that includes basic information, such as the city where you live, your hobbies and other interests, a picture of yourself or something that represents you, as well as a network nickname by which members can refer to you. Almost all social networking sites are free.

Once you get set up, you can search for people with similar interests, location or hobbies. And you can get in touch with other members by posting a message on a

person's profile, or by joining a discussion group.

## BOOMER NETWORKS

While there are lots of great networking sites on the Internet, finding the right ones that match your age, interests and lifestyle can be challenging. Today there are a dozen or so sites that are specifically geared for the 40-and-older crowd. Some of the best include:

- **Eons.com:** The biggest of the bunch, Eons has around 800,000 registered users and 4,500 discussion groups covering almost every imaginable topic. Eons also offers a wide variety of fun brain games and a popular longevity calculator where you enter details about your health and lifestyle habits and the calculator will estimate how long you'll live.

- **TeaBeeDee (www.tbdb.com):** It stands for "To Be Determined" and offers members a fun place to share experiences and knowledge. Discussion topics range from food and friendship to health, sex, spiritu-

ality, marriage, music, movies, politics and more.

- **Boomy.com:** This is a rapidly growing site created for Baby Boomers and Generation Jones (people born between 1942 and 1965) that offers social networking, online shopping, news and content from authors and other experts that focus on health, finance, politics, lifestyle and entertainment.

- **ReZoom.com:** For music lovers this is a good networking site because it provides an online radio that lets you listen to the music you grew up with. It also offers lots of articles on music and entertainment as well as health, money, travel, activities and going green.

- **Boomster.com:** This site has a more professional angle for boomers embarking on a second career. Members write about starting a new business, changing career plans in an economic downturn and career coaching.

## NICHE NETWORKS

If the boomer sites don't meet your needs, another option is niche networking sites that bring people together that share the same interests. For example; for pet lovers there's Dogster.com and Catster.com; book lovers can network at GoodReads.com; for gardeners there's MyFolia.com; for movie lovers there's Flicker.com; and that's just a few of the hundreds that are out there.

**Savvy Tips:** To find the right social networking site for you, try two or three you think you might like and visit frequently for a month. If you're not connecting with anyone, remove your profile and move on. Also, be cautious about giving out your personal information (last name, phone number, home address, etc.) unless you're absolutely sure the person you're networking with is legit.

Send your senior questions to [www.savvysenior.org](mailto:www.savvysenior.org). Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

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1211 W. Livingston Rd., Highland 248-887-1402  
9:45 a.m.: Sunday School for all ages  
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KIDS' Worship 10:15 a.m.  
Bible Study for all ages 9:15 a.m.  
Tuesday 7 p.m. Children - 8th Grade (5 groups)  
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248-887-1218  
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Bible Ministries 11:00 a.m.  
Wednesday All Ages: 7:00 p.m.

**MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
238 N. Main Street, Milford MI (248) 684-2805  
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Fr. John Harris, Pastor  
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56730 Grand River  
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Worship 10:30 a.m.  
248-437-6212  
[newhudsonmi.org](http://newhudsonmi.org) • [www.newhudsonmi.org](http://www.newhudsonmi.org)

**NEW HOPE - A Unitarian Universalist Congregation**  
57655 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165  
Phone 248-474-9108  
Sunday Celebration of Life Service 10:30 a.m.  
Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister  
Website: <http://www.newhopeuu.org>

## Northville

**NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN**  
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Sunday Worship - 9:00 am & 10:15 am  
Sunday School and Children's Programs  
[www.ncalcife.org](http://www.ncalcife.org)  
41355 Sox Millie Road  
248-348-9030

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE**  
349-1144  
8 Miles & Taft Roads  
Sunday Worship Services:  
8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.  
Rev. Dr. Steve Buck • Rev. Lisa Cook  
[www.fumnorthville.org](http://www.fumnorthville.org)

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE**  
200 E. Main St. at Hudson • (248) 349-0911  
Worship & Church School - 9:30 & 11 a.m.  
Children Available at All Services  
Youth League Prog. - Wed. 4:15 to 5:30 M.S./S. M.  
Singles Place Ministry - Thurs. 7:30 p.m.  
Rev. W. Kent Cook, Senior Pastor  
Rev. James P. Russell, Associate Pastor

**WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
40000 Sox Millie Rd., Northville  
248-374-7400  
Sunday Worship:  
Traditional: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., & 11 a.m.  
Contemporary 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.  
Nursery & Sunday School during the 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. services  
Service Broadcast Sunday 11 a.m.  
WPTV-AM 560 The WMLQ Word Station

**OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
133 Orchard Dr., Northville  
WEEKEND LITURGIES - Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 7:30, 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m.  
Church 349-2621, School 349-3610  
Religious Education 349-2559  
Rev. Dennis Theroux, Pastor

## Novi

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
9 Mile & Meadowbrook  
Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod  
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 8:45 a.m.  
Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Thomas E. Schroeder, Pastor • 349-0565

**ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI**  
46325 10 Mile Rd. • Novi, MI 48374  
Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 9, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.  
Reverend George Charnley, Pastor  
Parish Office: 347-7778

**FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
44400 W. 13 Mile, Novi, 248-349-2345  
1/2 mile west of Novi Rd.  
[www.faithcommunity-novi.org](http://www.faithcommunity-novi.org)  
WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10 AM  
"Children, Youth and Adult Ministries"

**MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
21355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 1/2 Mile  
248-348-7757 • [www.mbcoc.org](http://www.mbcoc.org)  
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.  
Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY**  
24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375  
Weekend Hours  
Saturday: 5 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)  
Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.  
Fr. Timothy Hogan, Pastor  
Rev. Henry Sands, Associate Pastor  
Parish Office: 348-8847 • [www.holyfamilynovi.org](http://www.holyfamilynovi.org)

**HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL**  
10 Mile between Meadowbrook & Haggerty, Novi • Phone 427-1175  
Sundays 7:45 a.m. and 10 a.m.  
Holy Eucharist • Sunday School & Nursery 10 a.m.  
Rev. Dr. Ray Babin, Interim Rector  
[www.churchoftheholycross.com](http://www.churchoftheholycross.com)

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

**CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN**  
(Missouri Synod) Pastor Terry Nelson  
437-8810 • 486-4335 • Griswold Rd. at 10 Mile  
Worship 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
Adult Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

**Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
22200 Pontiac Trail, South Lyon (at 1 Mile Road)  
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 11:00 a.m.  
Sr. High Sunday at 6:30 p.m.  
Mid. High Wednesday at 7 p.m.  
Rev. David Brown, Pastor  
248-437-2222 • [www.fellowshippepc.org](http://www.fellowshippepc.org)

**The Church of Christ**  
21860 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon, MI 48178  
248-437-3585 • [www.southlyoncc.org](http://www.southlyoncc.org)  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School,  
10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship  
Wednesday Midweek Ministries 7 p.m.  
Rob Callicott, Pastor

**FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH**  
10774 Nine Mile Road  
Rev. M. Leo Taylor • 449-2582  
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) OF SOUTH LYON**  
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248-437-2875 • 205 E. Lake (10 Mile) •  
Rev. Dr. Annemarie Kidder, Pastor

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN**  
Wisconsin Synod • Reynold Sweet Pkwy.  
at Liberty St.  
Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.  
All Classes 9:00  
Pastor Scott Miller, (248) 437-2289

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Senny Lee at 586-977-7651 or e-mail: [sslee@dnp.com](mailto:sslee@dnp.com)

## Westland

**STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
36375 Joy Rd., Westland  
Sunday Services  
Matins 9:00am, Divine Liturgy 10:00am  
Rev. Fr. Theodor Perutu  
Parish Office: 734-525-6789  
[www.stscos.org](http://www.stscos.org)  
Hellenic Cultural Center Banquet Hall  
734-525-3550

## White Lake

**WHITE LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
4805 Highland Rd. between Boggs Ln & Grand Rd.  
(248) 887-4654 • Deborah V. Kerr, Pastor  
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.  
Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
Children Church School 10:00 a.m.  
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## Whitmore Lake

**Living Water**  
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Worship Celebration Sunday 10:15 a.m.  
Whitmore Lake High School  
7430 Whitmore Lake Rd. • Whitmore Lake, MI 48139  
Dan Flynn, Minister  
734-426-4006 • [www.livingwatermi.org](http://www.livingwatermi.org)

## South Lyon

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH LYON**  
60820 Marjorie Ann St., South Lyon 48178  
Phone: 248-437-2983  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Service 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.  
Senior Pastor: Rob Freshour / Assoc. Pastor: Randy Weis  
Website: [www.fbcsothlyon.com](http://www.fbcsothlyon.com)  
Email: [fbcsothlyon@baptist.net](mailto:fbcsothlyon@baptist.net)

**CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
28900 Pontiac Trail (Access from Erwin & Orchard)  
Saturday Service 5 p.m.  
Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
Contemporary Worship - Relevant,  
Bible Based Messages  
(248) 486-0400 • [www.ecrossroads.net](http://www.ecrossroads.net)

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640 S. Lafayette (248) 437-0760  
Sunday Worship: 8:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
Nursery Provided  
Reverend Sondra Wilfong  
[www.fumnorthville.org](http://www.fumnorthville.org)

**FAMILY LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH A/G**  
62345 W. 8 Mile Road 437-1472 • [www.familylifec.net](http://www.familylifec.net)  
Sr. Pastor Joseph R. Tabbi  
Sunday Christian Education 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.  
Wednesday Christian Education and Family Nite 7:00 p.m.

**SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH**  
22183 Pontiac Trail (between Azusa and Gay)  
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Pontiac Trail and 9 Mile (near's Shopping Center)  
(Nursery & Children's Programs)  
Office 248-486-4400  
[www.solidrocksothlyon.org](http://www.solidrocksothlyon.org)

**CROSSPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Services held at: Kent Lake Elementary  
30181 Kent Lake Rd - S. Lyon  
Sunday Service Times  
9:30 a.m. - Meet & Greet  
10:30 a.m. - Morning Service  
Rev. Kenneth Warren-586-531-2021



# PUBLIC SAFETY

## NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIP POLICE REPORT

### Drunken driving arrest

**1** Police arrested a 41-year-old Tawas City man for operating while intoxicated at 3:12 a.m. April 2 at Six Mile and Winchester roads.

An officer noticed the man's pickup truck swerving and crossing the fog line on the road several times. The driver also stopped at the light at Six Mile and Winchester when it was a flashing yellow light.

The vehicle's left turn signal was on when it came to a stop. Next, the man activated his right turn signal, then continued west on Six Mile Road without turning.

The man said he was coming from a friend's house, was not sure where he was and later said he tried to turn off Six Mile Road because he saw the police car behind him.

He admitted to consuming about four beers and said that he was "buzzed" at the time of the traffic stop.

The man's blood alcohol level was more than twice the legal limit allowed in Michigan for drivers.

### Operating under the influence

**2** An officer arrested a 31-year-old Plymouth man for operating under the influence of alcohol at 3:03 a.m. April 2 at Seven Mile and Beck roads.

While running stationary radar, the officer tracked a vehicle southbound on Beck Road traveling 46-51 mph in a 35 mph zone.

While following the vehicle, police also noticed that the driver swerved onto the shoulder three times.

The man admitted to drinking a few Bud Light

beers earlier in the evening.

Police also learned that his license had been suspended in another state.

This driver's blood alcohol level was more than twice the legal limit allowed in Michigan to safely operate a motor vehicle.

### Operating while intoxicated

**3** A 53-year-old Northville man was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 2:39 a.m. April 3 at Seven Mile Road and Windridge Drive.

Police stopped the driver because he had pulled his vehicle over onto the shoulder of the road without signaling, got out of his car briefly, then returned to the car.

When an officer spoke to the driver, he said that he pulled to the side of the road because he had to urinate.

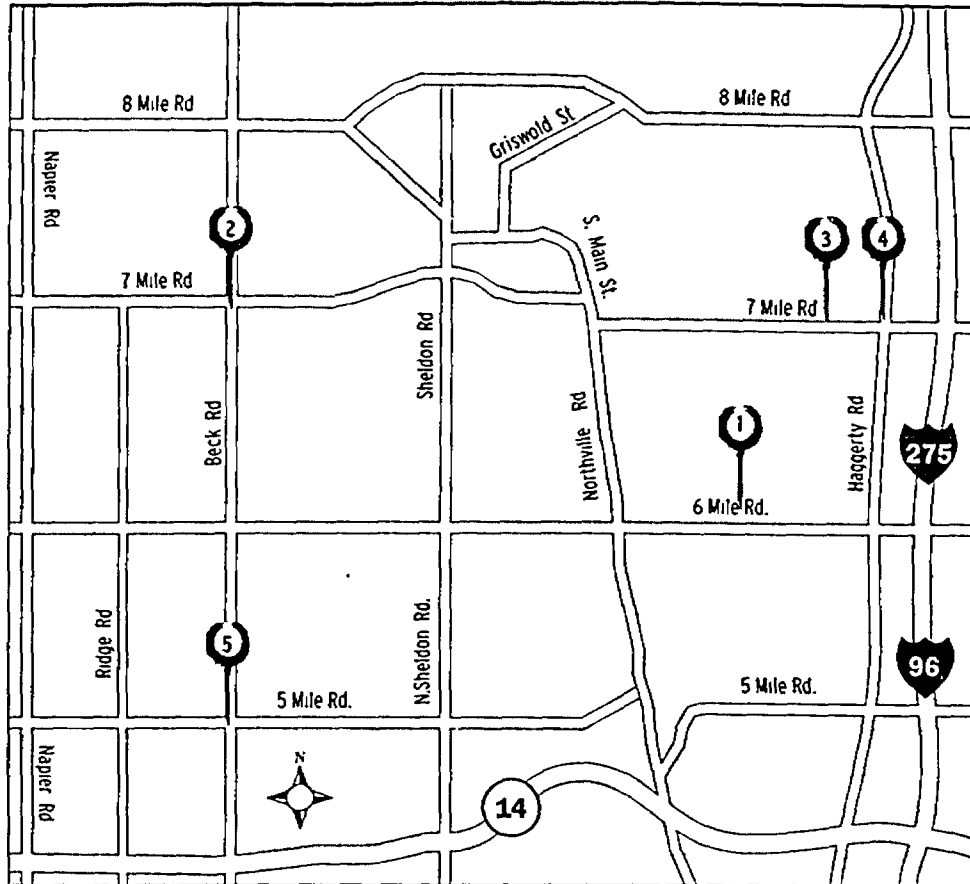
He and his passenger had been to Poole's Tavern in Northville and were on their way to the Red Robin Restaurant.

The driver's speech was slurred, he smelled of alcohol and had difficulty gathering his paperwork. He stated that he had consumed three-four Guinness beers and said that he felt "damn good" during the field sobriety test.

The man's blood alcohol level was approximately twice the legal limit allowed under the law.

### Over the legal limit

**4** A 42-year-old West Bloomfield man was arrested for drunken driving at 2:42 a.m. April 5 at Seven



### Mile and Haggerty roads.

While passing a vehicle, a patrol officer noticed that it appeared to have crossed over the fog line.

The man said that he had just come from the Wagon Wheel bar in Northville and that he had consumed three bottles of beer. The driver had difficulty getting his driver's license out of his wallet.

The man's eyes were bloodshot, and he was not able to keep his head still during the field sobriety test, as instructed.

This driver's blood alcohol was more than twice the legal limit allowed in Michigan for drivers.

### Intoxicated driving

**5** Police arrested a 20-year-old Northville woman for operating under the influence of alcohol at 7:11 a.m. April 5 at Beck and Five Mile roads.

While operating stationary radar on Beck Road at West Main Street, an officer was approached by a driver who said that while traveling south on Beck Road between West Main Street and Seven Mile Road that she drove behind a vehicle weaving all over the road.

The woman was able to give a description of the vehicle and a license plate number to police.

The officer caught up to the vehicle and observed it crossing the hashed line twice and

swerving in the left lane. The car also had an ornament dangling from the rear view mirror.

Police noticed that the woman's eyes were bloodshot and watery. She said she was coming from a friend's apartment and was heading to McDonald's for some breakfast before heading home.

The woman first said she had nothing to drink. She later said she had one beer, then two, then two mixed drinks and a beer.

Her blood alcohol level was over .08 percent, which is deemed to be operating while intoxicated in Michigan.

Compiled by Pam Fleming / pfleming@gannett.com

## Tea Party tax protester arrested

Over 400 people attended a Tea Party protest on the sidewalks near 8 Mile and Haggerty roads on April 15. Northville Township police arrested one woman who decided to do her protesting in the middle of Haggerty, lifting a sign that read "We Want Our Country Back."

She was handcuffed and put in the back of a squad car.

"The individual that was arrested we were told was not from the Tea Party group," said John Werth, director of Public Safety for Northville Township. "When placed into custody, everybody started cheering."

Werth said law enforcement did receive information that there would be other groups trying to infiltrate the Tea Party group, but his was the only incident in this area. "As protest go, it went well and peaceful," said Werth.

Hundreds of thousands of citizens took part in organized, grassroots protests in more than 800 cities nationwide, voicing their opposition to out of control spending at all levels of government.

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**ENERGY**  
FROM PAGE A1

Inc. in Dallas, Texas. With 1,300 clients nationwide, the firm helps provide effective training to implement behavioral and organizational change substantially reducing energy consumption without purchasing new equipment.

And just one year into the contract, results are proving significant and the district is embracing the program with open arms.

Dave Bolitho, assistant school superintendent for Northville, says getting the district's administrators, teachers and staff to fully realize the significance of the program was a bit slow at first, but rapidly progressed.



Bolitho

"Overcoming behavior habits, managing decade-old heating and cooling systems, and incorporating a complicated software package to coordinate daily and monthly energy comparisons takes time," he said.

Historically, the average savings for Energy Education clients nationally exceeds 20 percent per year. The program is funded solely and rapidly by the savings it generates, allowing clients to redirect saved energy dollars to other priorities.

**GETTING STARTED**

Bolitho explained the background of the district's energy program. "Two years ago, Administrative Services had an energy conservation goal to develop awareness so that people would change energy behavior patterns. We soon realized that we weren't sophisticated enough, and the desire to save money by doing this ourselves wasn't working."

They contacted other school districts including Walled Lake, Novi, Farmington, Livonia, and Ypsilanti, asking if they were satisfied with Energy Education Inc. services.

"There wasn't a negative comment about the company from any of the schools. We then recommended to our district that they consider a contract with them, and brought in a representative from Energy Education Inc. We shared how successful the other school districts were with the program, and that the company guaranteed a certain threshold of savings for each year of the five-year contract," he said.

The district also needed a software package that would level the playing field for differences in temperatures when recording daily and month-to-month energy comparisons. After much research, one was purchased that met their needs.

**ENTER RICK WELCH**

The contract also required that an Energy manager be hired from within the district. Rick Welch, a paraprofessional at Northville

High, was hired for the part-time job, taking on four additional hours to his existing seven-hour day. Part of his managerial duties includes being in a building, before and after school, to check all the energy variables of the building.

"Rick makes sure that we drop back to 55 degrees once school is dismissed."

"He walks through at unoccupied times, making sure we're in setback and notes all the hot and cool spots. All of that data is entered into the computer, and if there are any problems, we can get right to the source and fix it," Bolitho said.

"He also checks to see how many computer monitors are left on and communicates back with each school principal on those types of issues. With 1,200 computers in the district, energy savings are astronomical when putting monitors in sleep mode."

Over 100 personally-owned small refrigerators were counted throughout the district. Those appliances are very inefficient, so the district decided to purchase a number of energy star refrigerators, placing them strategically in each building, and asking that employee-owned refrigerators be removed.

Lighting is another area the district is working on. "We have an experiment, right after spring break for the high school. We'll take an entire wing, hall and classroom, putting in a tube that uses less electricity, and removing one tube from every classroom. Not only will we save on that one tube, but also on \$1,200 worth of light tubes. And there is no visible difference in the lighting reduction," Bolitho said.

Though some of the district's buildings are newer and have more efficient systems in place, the board office was built in 1936. Bolitho noted that the heat there is either on or off with no control. There are 11 buildings in the district.

The district has put together an Energy Management System (EMS) for most all of the schools and main office, consisting of one electrician, two HVAC technicians, an energy manager, Director of Operations, and a custodial supervisor.

"Winchester Elementary was having a series of problems with heating and cooling," Bolitho said. "We needed to get that problem fixed and spent a lot of time there to investigate and gather information, and stabilize the system. We've made the teaching and learning environment much better for those in the building."

Having their EMS team in place, Bolitho believes that with the district's introspection of how energy is used and what can be done to conserve it, energy costs will improve even more.

"If we follow the plan, we're looking at \$3.5 million in energy cost reduction and savings at the end of our five-year contract," he said.

Nathan Menoian is a free-lance writer living in Milford.



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## OUR VIEWS

### School district saves taxpayers some big bucks

It took a little time to break some old habits, but Northville Public Schools has saved about a quarter-million dollars through implementation of a half-dozen or so energy-saving methods.

That's a lot of money, especially in this economy, and we applaud the district for taking the initiative and exploring opportunities to save taxpayer money.

**The company gets paid with money the district saves (the rest of the savings can be used elsewhere in the school system). And the company guarantees a level of savings every year for five years. It's money well-spent because a couple of years ago, the district tried to do it on its own, but soon realized that wasn't going to happen.**

A Texas firm, Energy Education, was contracted a year ago to help the district figure out ways to save energy and money, and it's proven to be a brilliant move on the district's part.

The company gets paid with money the district saves (the rest of the sav-

ings can be used elsewhere in the school system). And the company guarantees a level of savings every year for five years. It's money well-spent because a couple of years ago, the district tried to do it on its own, but soon realized that wasn't going to happen.

The district delegated one of its employees as a watchdog to make sure that temperatures are brought down and computers not in use are shut off, and an Energy Management System team was created to study energy usage and possible methods of conserving it.

With a target savings of \$3.5 million by 2014, Northville Public Schools has done something that every business (and homeowner) should consider, even if it is on a much smaller scale. A buck's a buck and, nowadays, it's worth every penny.

### Join the discussion

Do you favor a graduated income tax for Michigan residents?

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NORTHVILLE RECORD

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## LETTERS

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Northville Record, 104 W. Main St., Suite 101, Northville, MI 48167. Fax: (248) 349-9832

E-mail: cstone@gannett.com

Deadline: Letters must be received by noon on Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

to hang? Great. But bathing suits indoors and foam contests? Why did they have to go there? And the fact that adults are not able to enter just tells you they are up to no good.

Help us get the message out — this is unacceptable, I will not sit back and do nothing. I decided long ago that I would not complain anymore unless I actively did something to try to change it. I am ready. Anyone else want to join me? Contact me at northvilleclasses@yahoo.com.

Susan McKenna  
Northville

### School daze

Those calling for more school instructional days are uninformed about the reality of the situation in public schools. I have bargained four school contracts as an MEA member.

1. The required instructional time (face time with students) has increased several times since the mid-'90s from less than 1,000 to the current 1,098 hours of instruction.

2. Teachers received no additional compensation for these increases.

3. For every hour of instruction, there is roughly one hour of preparation and grading time, meaning that teachers in Michigan now work nearly 2,200 hours per year, the equivalent of working a 40-hour workweek for a full 52 weeks per year.

4. The current law allows the substitution of up to 38 hours of professional development for instructional time. Many district have used this option to require teachers to attend district organized PD.

5. Districts moved to lowering the instructional days about four years ago when the legislature prevented classes from beginning until after Labor Day. The length of the student and teacher day was extended to still reach the 1098 hours of instruction and make up for the lower number of days.

Scott Craig  
Northville

### Police staff options

Over the course of the last few weeks I've read with great interest of the looming budget shortfalls in the City of Northville and the impact it may have on public safety. I would like to share some my thoughts.

It was suggested in one article that the Department cease from hiring full-time officers and strictly go with part-timers. It may sound feasible and perhaps cost-effective in the short term, but the City would suffer in the long run from such a concept. If only part-timers were to be employed, the PD would eventually end up employing retired officers who merely want a supple-

mental paycheck, recruits fresh out of the academy with little or no experience or "throwaways" from other departments. The PD would constantly be in a state of flux as they attempt to adhere to field training concepts of teaching Northville procedures. I am sure there would be a few full time police officers, but the citizens who live in and visit Northville would surely recognize an officer who doesn't have pride in their department. Part-time employees bring part-time attitudes.

Currently the department is well-trained, full-time and fully functioning. They maintain current levels of training in firearms, less-lethal and are equipped to respond to any emergency with pride in their department and dedication to duty. Most recently, the department acquired tactical vests and rifles as they try to remain current in response to armed threats to schools and businesses. The community should also take pride in the fact that the Northville City Police were the first, and I believe only, member of the Western Wayne Consortium to have a female officer become a member of the Special Operations Team, commonly known as SWAT. The department has a proud tradition from the first recorded Village Marshal in 1880, J.W. Davis, to its current staff.

Despite the previous statements, the fact remains that budget problems still exist. I have not heard the idea of moving officers to 12-hour rotating shifts (much like Canton and both the Plymouth police departments currently use) from the current eight-hour schedule. On a daily basis it would reduce the number of officers from six to four with a minimum staffing level of two per shift for the road. Plymouth City currently staffs three officers per shift, with the approximate same size department. I understand CBA's exist. But if the parties agree, then a test period could be performed which wouldn't risk the contract.

Another concept of shared services with surrounding Northville Township PD, especially on nights, could be considered. Additionally, the concept of a merger among the Plymouth and Northville police departments could be explored. Have any buyouts of older officers been considered? If a staff reduction can occur through attrition, it is typically much more desirable, and the City has the choice to add officers much sooner at a lower cost. Lastly, in reading the latest article, I saw no plan as to what will happen to the records department. Records must be maintained for judicial process, liability and host of other reasons. I am sure officers will be required to take on that responsibility as well, taking time away from patrol activities and investigations.

It should be noted that I live in Northville Township, not the City. Due to the fact that it is the center of the community, my family frequents the City for parades, banking and shopping. Irrespective of my street address, I would hate to see a reduction in the proactive policing I see within its limits, such as radar all over town and the foot and bike patrols I see every summer. I understand public safety is most commonly the biggest piece of the budget pie, but I just hate to see the ancillary cost to the public as its importance is devalued and the police are forced to shoulder the brunt of the budget shortfalls.

J. Grabowski  
Northville

### Sex ed soundoff

The abstinence-only theme seems to be taking over the Northville Public Schools sex education program. And students have been offered "chastity" contracts to sign. That's going too far.

The last school board hearing on this subject is next Wednesday, April 29.

Abstinence-only is supposed to be a separate group of classes, as opposed to the separate abstinence-based classes.

Abstinence-based classes already include abstinence-only presentations, but deal more with socially-transmitted diseases, contraception, problems of unintended pregnancy, etc. Parents are given the option of having their child take these classes.

Now, the school board is considering adding more abstinence-only presentations to the abstinence-based classes, in spite of the government survey showing such programs don't work.

Since 1982, our government has spent more than \$1.3 billion promoting sexual abstinence outside marriage as the answer to unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases among young people. It was a mainstay of President George Bush's social/religious agenda.

However, a six-year study commissioned by the U.S. Congress, released in 2007, found that those who took part in these programs were just as likely to have sex as those who did not.

What is needed in Northville Public Schools is more emphasis on the severe penalties of unwanted pregnancies and unprotected sex. These include diseases, sterility, school dropouts, broken families, child support by teenage boys, etc.

As the government study shows, some teens are going to have sex, whether we like it or not.

Let's help protect them from the consequences as best we can, and not waste their time with useless abstinence only classes and contracts to sign.

The Northville school board will hold the last of its hearings on this subject on Wednesday, April 29, 7-9 p.m., in the Northville High School Forum. Detailed information is on the Northville Public Schools Web site.

Bob Moreillon  
Northville

### Against teen club

I was furious after reading about Primal, the club for teens in South Lyon. If there is a contact for someone already wanting to get that place closed, please let me know who it is. And if not, if anyone wants to contact me, I would love to picket the place or pressure them to close. This is totally unacceptable, and most parents do not even know that this type of facility (filth) is available for kids under age. The community has to step up to stamp out trash like this as soon as it surfaces before places like this multiply.

Now that I know it is there, when asking several young teens if they heard about it, they all had the same negative comments about it. However, there are those lost teens who want to fit in and this is where they might find themselves; now that is a crime. It is another way for money-hungry businesses to prey on youngsters and yet another example of the many ways that sick individuals temp unsuspecting minds with inappropriate behavior that seems to be acceptable. Dancing? Yes. Place for teens

## COMMENTARY

# Michigan's staggering problems require revolutionary change

We have arrived at a time in Michigan when the unthinkable has become inevitable.

Hundreds of thousands of good, high paying middle class jobs are gone and not coming back. Families, with the bread winner laid off, are fleeing our state like the days of "The Grapes of Wrath." We are shedding young college grads, the very people that we need to help us imagine and build a new future, like rats deserting a sinking ship.

Change is often avoided, until it cannot be avoided any longer. Yet, change is coming whether we want it to come or not. In fact, it is here. The only question that remains is if we, as individuals, organizations, governments, schools, and businesses, as well as our "leaders" at various institutions, are going to step up and embrace and lead change?

Let's face it, what we once had is now gone. We need to face up to this new reality. Once we stop denying and pretending we can accept the new reality and start building anew. As Pogo, the legendary American comic strip (www.pogopossum.com), would say: "Yep, son, we have met the enemy and he is us."



Tom Watkins

**THERE MAY BE 50 WAYS TO LEAVE A LOVER — BUT ONLY THREE WAYS TO BALANCE A BUDGET!**

The first step in problem solving is problem identification.

Let's start with the state of Michigan's budget. We have a \$1.6 billion dollar hole in the budget scheduled to go into effect on Oct. 1, the new fiscal year, which is growing by roughly \$100 million short of estimates each month so far this year. The problem mounts, and no action is being taken to address it.

There are only three legitimate ways (and legitimate does not include gimmicks, borrowing money or pretending) to address a budget deficit: 1) increase revenues/taxes; 2) cut the expenditures (eliminate programs, cut salaries and benefits); and 3) a combination of 1 and 2.

Michigan has a severe budget problem that will require tough, painful action to address. Let's also stop pretending that there are not a number

of sensible solutions to address the issues at hand.

### SOLUTIONS AT HAND

Countless organizations such as Michigan Futures (www.michiganfuture.org), the Detroit Renaissance (www.detroitrenaissance.com), The Mackinac Center for Public Policy (www.mackinac.org), Citizens Research Council of Michigan (www.crcmich.org), The Center for Michigan (www.thecenterformichigan.net) and individuals such as myself (see the New Education (R)evolution, www.nacol.org, www.michigan.gov/documents/michigan-schoolfunding\_110803\_7.pdf) have laid out ways in which the state could bring about real reform and address the long-term structural budget crisis that has been ignored for the better part of eight years.

The size, scope, wages and benefits of our government at the state, county, municipal and school district level have been based on the largesse of the domestic auto industry that is imploding before our very eyes. Like the auto industry, government at every level is going to have to shrink,

restructure and learn to live within the taxpayers' means, not the special interests' desires.

We are in a period of unstoppable, unpredictable and constant, revolutionary change. We must come to grips with the fact that in the disruptive, transformational world economy we are living in, our traditional approaches to problem solving have failed. We need our leaders to help us seek the floor for this change and start to rebuild anew.

Joshua Cooper Ramo captures it well in his book, "The Age of the Unthinkable: Why the New World Disorder Constantly Surprises Us And What We Can Do About It." He says: "As much as we might wish it, our world is not becoming more stable or easier to comprehend. We are entering, in short, a revolutionary age. And we are doing so with ideas, leaders, and institutions that are better suited for a world now several centuries behind us. On the one hand, this revolution is creating unprecedented disruption and dislocation. But it is also creating new fortunes, new power, fresh hope, and a new global order. Revolutions, after all, don't produce only losers. They

also produce a whole new cast of historical champions."

Some cities, states and nations are going to win in this new revolution. Revolutions are only won by leaders that are willing to imagine and grasp the impossible. I, for one, want to work to assure Michigan and America are on the winning side of this revolution.

The Michigan culture of high pay for minimal education and low skills is dead, and a new economic order will have to rise from its ruins. We can't continue thinking we can demand an "American wage" as we expect to pay the "Chinese price." Education and talent are going to drive our economy and prosperity.

Building a new Michigan will require creative, bold, imaginative, visionary leadership. Without it, the unthinkable will continue to rain down upon us.

Tom Watkins is a former state superintendent of schools, state mental health director and Wayne County Charter Commission member. He now is a business and educational consultant in the U.S. and China. He can be reached at: tdwalkins@aol.com.



# Financial management during unemployment

**A**ny period of unemployment will affect your personal finances. Your unemployment benefit from the State of Michigan will replace only a fraction of your usual income, and any salary continuation or severance payment you receive may need to carry you for many months of job searching. This is a scary situation, but you can gain some measure of control over what happens to you if you take stock of your situation, develop and adhere to a budget, work with your creditors and review your financial status regularly.

Begin compiling your current expenditures by month for at least six months. If you use money management software such as Quicken or MS-Money, you can generate reports that categorize your spending over the last six months or more. If you don't have access to this software, try the online tool Mint.com, or simply create a list from your checking or debit and credit card statements by payee. If you have no idea how to manage your money, take advantage of free information on [practicalmoneyskills.com](http://practicalmoneyskills.com) or [handsonbanking.org](http://handsonbanking.org).

Figure out which of your monthly expenditures are "needs" and which are "wants." Your rent or mortgage, utilities, insurance and food expenditures are "needs," at least at first glance. You'll want to do a second pass on these to see where you can cut these costs. Your expenditures on clothing, entertainment and other non-essentials are "wants" and can be targeted immediately for cut-

## YOUR NEXT JOB

backs. If you spend a lot of cash each month and have no idea where it goes, track your daily spending in a small notebook for a period of about two weeks and identify where you can cut back.

Now examine your "needs." Be brutal here. At first glance, the groceries that you buy each week seem to be "needs," but within that grocery cart you may be including non-essential snacks and treats that are costly and aren't giving you any health benefits. The \$2 you spend every morning stopping for coffee at your favorite coffee shop is a "want," because you can make the same cup of coffee at home for about 25 cents per cup or share the office coffee for free or for a nominal donation. Do some cost comparisons on the insurance you carry to see if you can qualify for lower cost coverage, but before making a change, call your current agent to discuss what you found and see if they can match the offers. Examine your phone bills and see if you are paying for more service than you use. Little changes can make for significant savings.

Take some easy steps to cut back on spending. Stop carrying cash and debit cards. Have your salary continuation or unemployment check direct deposited. Put your credit cards under control and stop carrying them. Use coupons and shop specials. Make a list before doing any shopping and stick to it. Make your own coffee and pack your own lunch instead of eating out. Plan meals that can become creative leftovers of lunches - roast chicken with root vegetables at one meal can become chicken soup for a second meal.

Make a list of creditors. These should include your leases or mortgages and home equity loans, auto loans or leases, credit card balances, and any other loans or bills with a balance. Prioritize these, review the payment terms, make sure you are paying within the penalty fee period. I recently discovered that one of my credit cards begins applying a finance charge at 21 days, even though the bill states that payment is due in 30 days. Little changes can add up!

If you can maintain your payments on the current schedule, be sure to do so. If this becomes impossible, contact your creditors in a letter and tell them that you have lost your job and would like to arrange a temporary change in repayment terms.

Mention that you do have some income and savings during this time, but that after examining your budget, it is necessary for you to ask each of your creditors to accept reduced payments for a time (estimate this if possible.)

Then get specific: Say "In place of my regular monthly payment of \$\_\_\_\_\_ due on \_\_\_\_\_ each month, I am requesting that you accept a payment of \$\_\_\_\_\_ paid on the \_\_\_\_\_ of the month. I assure you that I will add no further debt until my financial situation improves. I will begin making my normal payments as soon as possible, and will notify you when there is a change in my situation or in 60 days. Your understanding during this difficult time is most appreciated."

If you are unable to make special arrangements with creditors or are already facing problems with repayment or just feel overwhelmed, GreenPath Debt Solutions is a nonprofit organization which offers one free consultation with a counselor

and fees based on your ability to pay for ongoing services to help you with debt management. The United Way now offers a telephone hotline - 211 - with referrals to agencies of all types depending on your needs. As a last ditch effort you can try contacting your State Representative or State Senator to see if they can help you with your problem.

Protect your retirement accounts. Even though they've lost value over the past year, you will never be able to make up the money in those accounts if you remove it now. You'll also pay taxes and penalties on the withdrawals or loans against those accounts that you are unable to repay within 30 days.

Find part-time work, but be aware that any earnings you make will impact your unemployment income.

Sell unused items, barter your services for services you need - e.g. babysit for a neighbor who can make household repairs for you. Be creative and look for ways to involve your family in making choices that stretch your dollars. Don't focus on the sacrifices you are making, but focus on coming together to help each other during a difficult time.

I want to thank Lois Gibbons, Financial Education Manager for Extra Credit Union for these and additional tips.

Martha D. Adamson is a consulting professional with a diverse background in Human Resource Management and Career Development. She is a Certified Career Development Facilitator, a Certified Career & Job Search Coach, and a Certified Professional Resume Writer. She is the co-author of Job Search Navigator, a workbook-style guide to assessing yourself and managing your job search ([www.jobsearchnavigator.com](http://www.jobsearchnavigator.com)) which was first published in 1999 by Prentice-Hall and revised and republished by Success Press in 2005. From 1993 to 1996, she authored a monthly column "Your Job Search" in the Saratoga Springs, NY newspaper - The Saratogian.

# Competently unemployed

**A**t a time, in Michigan, when downsizing is such a prevalent piece of the work environment, it is interesting to note that, from recruiting standpoint, the downsized employee has no advantage over the employee who was fired or quit. It is disturbing to know that all three are viewed in the same light, in that, they are all unemployed.

This speaks to a level of unfairness that is based solely on perception and at the same time wrongs the competent person who has been told that the kind of work they perform is no longer being done by this organization. Jobs that are downsized, outsourced and eliminated are an organization's attempt to cut costs and survive in a highly competitive global industry. It is an understandable strategy given the unique set of circumstances that changed the landscape.

## TAKIN' CARE OF BUSINESS

So, when an otherwise competent individual, is escorted down the pink slip runway, it is incumbent on both the individual and the organization to make it clear that the reason for the separation has little to do with the person's competencies and everything to do with the organization's survival.

In 2006, the state of Michigan experienced an unusually high number of buyouts, separations and job cuts that created a strain on the support systems needed to assist these individuals in finding new career opportunities. One of the patterns that emerged from this process was the perception among employing organizations that a downsized, unemployed applicant is no different than the applicant who quit their job or the one who was fired.

Competencies aside, it is generally understood as a matter of cosmic law that the hardest time to find employment is when you're unemployed.

While a number of cautions have been put in place to minimize the risk organizations take when bringing on new employees, underneath the bell curve of employee conduct lies a substantial number of people who are competent, hardworking and downsized. Perhaps traditional screening systems don't make allowances for the competently unemployed, but lump all unemployed behavior under one category dubiously labeled 'currently out of work'.

As thousands of the previously employed scramble to minimize the time in between jobs, there are a number of Michigan companies in other industries that are enjoying a growth pattern and find themselves the recipients of hundreds of resumes for very few openings. They can afford to be selective and it is in their best interest to be selective.

While there is no law that says to give greater consideration to an unemployed, competently downsized person over someone else, there is also no reason why they should be thrown in the pile with the other unemployed job seeking applicants.

Persistence, loyalty, dedication and strong work ethics have to be given some credit in the grand financial ledger of life.

A person who was not seeking to be unemployed should not be unduly punished because they are. For example, an HR manager mentioned that one of the things she does when interviewing people who have been downsized is to ask them, "When was the last time you interviewed for a job?" Her interviewing process has revealed a high percentage of applicants who last interviewed for a job 20 or so years ago when they first hired into a company.

Twenty or so years in between interviews is a long time and a lot has changed. She structures her ques-

tions a little different to take into account the fact that the interviewee is engaged in a job seeking process based on their experiences from a bygone era. Is she trying to accommodate for a difference? Yes. Is it fair? Who knows? Does it reflect the kind of job applicant she, and others, will be seeing in greater abundance? No doubt.

Does this new category of the 'competently unemployed' have implications for hiring practices in and among Michigan companies? Absolutely! As well it should.

Lee E. Meadows, Ph.D., is a professor of management at Walsh College working at the Novi Campus. He teaches Leadership and Management in the M.B.A. and doctoral programs and provides a number of consulting services for the surrounding community. He is the author of the leadership fable, 'Take the Lull By the Horns: Closing the Leadership Gap.' He can be contacted at [leemeadows@walshcollege.edu](mailto:leemeadows@walshcollege.edu). Visit his Web site at [www.leemeadows.biz](http://www.leemeadows.biz).



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248.338.6390

**NORTHVILLE / NOVI AREA CHURCH EVENTS**

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**LOCATION** 41415 Nine Mile Road, corner of Meadowbrook Road, Novi  
**CONTACT** (248) 349-0565  
**Sunday Schedule**  
**TIME** 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study, 10 a.m. Worship  
**The Holy Bible**  
**TIME/DATE** 6:30 p.m., Saturday, April 25  
**DETAILS** Explore and answer questions about the Old and New Testaments. No cost. Light refreshments will be available.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE**  
**LOCATION** 200 E. Main St.  
**CONTACT** (248) 349-0911 or visit first-presville.org  
**Sunday Worship**  
**TIME** 9:30, 11 a.m.  
**Walking in the Park**  
**TIME/DATE** 10:11 a.m. every Saturday  
**LOCATION** Meet at the Visitor's Center of Heritage Park (Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile roads)  
**DETAILS** Group meets for lunch after wards

**CONTACT** Sue (734) 459-0016  
**Single Place Ministries**  
**TIME/DATE** 7:30 p.m. social time, 7:45 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, every Thursday  
**DETAILS** Informative and entertaining programs of interest to singles. \$5 per person. Check Web site for details single-place.org

**OAK POINTE CHURCH**  
**LOCATION** 50200 W. 10 Mile Road  
**CONTACT** (248) 912-0043 or visit oakpointe.org  
**Worship Services**  
**TIME** 5:15 p.m. Saturday, 9:15 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday  
**ReNew Life Ministries**  
**TIME/DATE** 7:15-9 p.m. every Monday  
**DETAILS** Ongoing Life Groups that support and facilitate personal growth, healing, learning and change from a Christian perspective  
**CONTACT** For more information or to register call (248) 912-0043 or visit oakpointe.org

**Charmed Influence**  
**TIME/DATE** 9:30 a.m. every Wednesday  
**DETAILS** Studying the book "Surviving a Spiritual Mismatch in Marriage"  
**CONTACT** Joy Ruby at joy@oakpointe.org or call the church

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST OF NORTHVILLE**  
**A Stephen Ministry church**  
**LOCATION** 777 W. Eight Mile Road  
**CONTACT** (248) 349-1144 or furnorthville.org  
**Sunday Worship**  
**TIME** 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m.  
**Coffee hour at 10:15 a.m.**  
**Healing Service**  
**TIME/DATE** 4 p.m. first Monday of every month  
**Radical Joy**  
**TIME/DATE** 6-8 p.m. first and third Thursday of every month  
**DETAILS** All women seeking to strengthen their faith and connect with other women are invited to attend, irrespective of church affiliation  
**Logos Youth Club**  
**TIME/DATE** 5:15-8:15 p.m. every Wednesday, through May  
**DETAILS** For children in grades 4-12. Every week, this four-part program includes Bible study, dinner, choir/worship and activities

**NOVI UNITED METHODIST**  
**LOCATION** 41671 W. 10 Mile Road  
**CONTACT** (248) 349-2652 or visit umcnovi.com  
**Sunday Worship**  
**TIME** 9:45 a.m.  
**Healing Service and Holy Communion**  
**TIME/DATE** 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month  
**Peace Vigil**  
**TIME/DATE** Noon, first Sunday of every month  
**LOCATION** In front of the church  
**DETAILS** Members of the congregation and the community will stand united in prayer for peace  
**Advent Service**  
**TIME/DATE** 9:45 a.m. Sunday  
**Spring Into Summer**  
**TIME/DATE** 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, June 13  
**DETAILS** Annual Juried Art/Craft Show. Go to [www.umcnovi.com](http://www.umcnovi.com) to view some last year's vendor booths. All hand made crafts including but not limited to painting, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, needlework, lawn art, doll clothing, photography, glass, stained glass, wood carving and scrolling, sear items, stone work, candles, wine lamps, children's books, face painting, frames, mud mats and UMW bake sale  
**CONTACT** For an application to this juried

show, e-mail your request to Pam Davis  
**Church Yard Sale - Open to The Public**  
**TIME/DATE** 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday, May 1-Saturday, May 2  
**DETAILS** Saturday Noon - \$2 Bag Sale. Furniture, appliances, clothing, toys and TONS more!

**WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**LOCATION** 40000 Six Mile Road  
**CONTACT** (248) 374-7400 or (248) 374-5978  
**Sunday Worship**  
**TIME** 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:0 a.m.  
**Traditionat** 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Nursery and Sunday School during the 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services  
**Service Broadcast**  
**DETAILS** 11 a.m. every Sunday on WROD-AM 560, The WMOZ Word Station.  
**Single Point Ministries - 45 and older**  
**TIME/DATE** 11 a.m. Sunday for fellowship and Bible study  
**Single Focus Ministries - 35-50 years**  
**TIME/DATE** 9:30 a.m. Sunday to deepen your personal relationship with Christ  
**Single Purpose Connections - 20-30 years**  
**TIME/DATE** 11 a.m. Sunday in the Chapel for singing, Bible study, and fellowship  
**DETAILS** For single adults. Active ministry offering various Bible study classes, volleyball, bicycling group, tennis group, support groups, support group for widowed over age 50, fellowship, friendships and more. Contact the number below for more information.  
**CONTACT** (248) 374-5920

**Bible Studies and Prayer Nights**  
**Learner's Bible Study**  
**TIME/DATE** 7 p.m. Mondays Room A101  
**Men's Bible Study**  
**TIME/DATE** 6:30 a.m. Wednesday Single Adult Ministries office  
**Single's Bible Study**  
**TIME/DATE** 7 p.m. second and fourth Mondays, Room C309  
**Relationship 101 Class**  
**TIME/DATE** 7 p.m., May 8, June 12  
**LOCATION** Knox Hall  
**DETAILS** Biblical guidelines on building relationships along with light refreshments and lively conversations  
**CONTACT** For more information, contact the Single Adult Ministries office at (248) 374-5920  
**Singles Book Club Discussion Group**  
**TIME/DATE** 12:30 p.m., June 7  
**DETAILS** Discussions from a single adult, Christian perspective. Currently reading "At Home in Mitford" by Jan Karon.  
**Lighthouse Café**  
**TIME/DATE** 7 p.m., May 22, June 26  
**DETAILS** Also known as game night. This is a great way to end your work week. Guest musicians provide background

music, snacks provided, free child care. Tickets \$5 at the door. **CONTACT** For more information contact Ward Church (248) 374-5920

**Euchre Game Night**  
**TIME/DATE** 7 p.m., May 9,  
**CONTACT** For more information contact Ward Church (248) 374-5920

**Ballroom Dance Lessons**  
**TIME/DATE** 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., May 9, May 23  
**LOCATION** Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile Road  
**DETAILS** Wear comfortable, non-stick shoes. Minimal admission fee  
**CONTACT** For questions, contact Monica at mgmc77@yahoo.com or the Single Adult Ministries office at (248) 374-5920

**Softball League Sign-up**  
**TIME/DATE** 6:15-7:30 p.m., Thursday evenings, May 7-August 6  
**DETAILS** For single guys and gals, all skill levels welcome. \$30 due at sign up  
**CONTACT** Sign up at Ward Church, 40000 Six Mile Road, Northville (248) 374-5920

**Memorial Day Picnics**  
**TIME/DATE** 11 a.m., May 25  
**LOCATION** Hines Park Northville, East Pavilion  
**TIME/DATE** noon-5 p.m., May 25  
**LOCATION** Cass Benton Park off Northville Road, between 6 and 7 Mile roads  
**DETAILS** Hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks provided. Cost, \$5 at the picnic and your favorite dish to share. Children and grandchildren are welcomed. \$3 for ages 12 and under

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY**  
**LOCATION** 24505 Meadowbrook Road  
**CONTACT** (248) 349-8847 or visit holyfamilynovi.org  
**Mass Schedule**  
**TIME/DAY** 7:30, 9, 10:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Sunday, 9 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 7 p.m. Tuesday, 5 p.m. (English), 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Saturday  
**Holy Days** 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.  
**Reconciliation**, beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment  
**Adoptive Parent Networking Meeting**  
**TIME/DATE** 10:11 a.m. last Wednesday of each month  
**DETAILS** Free, informational meeting open to all adoptive families in Oakland County. Child care is available. Registration is required

**DETROIT FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
**LOCATION** 21260 Haggerty Road, north of Eight Mile Road  
**CONTACT** (248) 348-7600 or visit dcnazarene.org  
**Sunday Schedule** 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday

**ST. JAMES CATHOLIC**  
**LOCATION** 46325 10 Mile Road, Novi  
**CONTACT** (248) 347-7778  
**Mass Schedule**  
**TIME/DAY** 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday, 9 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, 7 p.m. Wednesday, 5 p.m. Saturday  
**Mothers Group**  
**TIME/DATE** 9:30-11 a.m. first and third Wednesday every month, through May 20  
**DETAILS** Providing fellowship, support and opportunities to grow faith. Childcare available. Suggested donation \$20. Don't have to be a parishioner to join.  
**CONTACT** Becky at (248) 305-5924 or Jeanne at (248) 380-6361

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE**  
**LOCATION** 217 N. Wing  
**CONTACT** (248) 348-1020  
**Sunday Worship** 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.  
**Sunday School** 9:30 a.m.  
**Ladies Bible Study** 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., Tuesdays  
**Men's Bible Study** 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month

**FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN**  
**LOCATION** 44400 W. 10 Mile Road  
**CONTACT** (248) 349-2345 or visit faithcommunity-novi.org  
**Sunday Worship** 10 a.m.  
**Internet Safety class**  
**TIME/DATE** 7 p.m., April 30.  
**DETAILS** Led by Officer Gruenwald of the Novi Police Dept.  
**Parables Bible Class**  
**TIME/DATE** 7 PM., Tuesdays April 28 - June 9

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**LOCATION** 201 Elm St., Northville  
**CONTACT** (248) 349-3140  
**Sunday Worship** 8:30 a.m. Blended, 11 a.m. Contemporary, 11:30 a.m. Traditional

**Rolling Stone**  
**"A GRIPPING THRILLER"**  
 Peter Travers  
**Ben Mankiewicz, AT THE MOVIES**  
**"SEE IT."**  
 The story is intriguing, with plenty of twists.  
**Claudia Puig, USA TODAY**  
**"INTELLIGENT AND ENGROSSING."**  
 Several high-caliber performances give the film its vibrancy.  
**Roger Ebert, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES**  
**"A SMART, INGENIOUS THRILLER."**

**James Van Der Beek, BOSTON HERALD**  
**"STATE OF PLAY" IS A FUN RIDE.**  
**Lash Rozan, PEOPLE**  
**"A SIZZLING THRILLER"**

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# Live Like Andi Run, Walk and Fun Run set for May 2

## Olympian Taormina to participate at Catholic Central

Michigan resident and Olympic athlete Sheila Taormina will participate in the second annual Live Like Andi Run, Walk and Fun Run event May 2 at Detroit Catholic Central High School, 27225 Wixom Road, just south of Grand River Avenue in Novi.

The gold medal Olympic athlete became the first woman to ever qualify and compete in three different sports in three Olympic Games. Taormina will give a pep talk at the beginning of the event, which includes a Fashion Walk; Heroes' 10 mile; 5K run; 5K walk; 10K run; and 1 mile Fun Run for kids. She will also provide words of encouragement throughout the day.

The event is in honor of Andrea (Andi) O'Connell, who died in July 2007 at the age of 40, ending a 21-year battle with Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma

(ACC), a rare cancer typically originating in the salivary glands and often spreading to the brain and lungs.

Entry fees vary from \$15 for the Fashion Walk and Fun Run, to \$30 for the 5K and 10K events.

During the event Andi's husband Mike, and their three children, Tyler, 15, Gabrielle 12 and Olivia, 9, will walk and run and help sell cheetah color wristbands that say "Live Like Andi" to be worn with the same pride and courageous spirit that thousands wear Lance

### LEARN MORE

For more information about the event, to download registration forms, make a donation or to sign up to be a fund raiser visit [www.livelikeandi.org](http://www.livelikeandi.org).

### Armstrong wristbands.

The Fashion Walk is a special addition to the event as a memorial honoring Andi's love of style and high fashion. Ladies are encouraged to not only don their jazzed up running shoes and boas but to dress their best including cheetah print clothes and hair adorned by pink bows for the .5K Fashion Walk.

Registration for the 10

mile Heroes Run begins at 7 a.m., with the event at 8 a.m. Registration for the other events is at 8 a.m., beginning at 9 a.m. The 10 mile Heroes Run gives participants a chance to recognize their personal hero. People are encouraged to prepare a board with their hero's picture and a short write up on why they are their hero.

In support of her friend, Andi's college roommate, Lt. Col. Wendy Mabry, Smith's husband Col. Phillip Smith will run with fellow troops in Baghdad, Iraq on the day of the Live Like Andi event. The run in Iraq will start simultaneously with the Heroes' Run in Novi at 8 a.m.

The fund-raising event is sponsored by the Live Like

Andi Foundation, Inc., a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization formed to raise money for research to discover a cure for ACC and to support families of individuals with ACC.

Last year, the event raised more than \$100,000 to aid in research and scholarships with 1,000 people participating either through running or volunteering. Proceeds were used to set up scholarships in Andrea's memory at Catholic Central Novi, South Lyon High, Novi High School and for her alma mater, Richmond High School in Richmond, Ind.

About 600 new cases of ACC occur in the United States each year. Because the cancer is rare, there is no funding for



Andrea (Andi) O'Connell with her husband, Mike.

ACC research from the government, National Cancer Institute or American Cancer Society. All funding to the Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma Research Foundation comes from private donations such as those individuals who are supporting the Live Like Andi event.

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**FIGHTING (PG-13)** 12 15 2:35 4:55 7:20, 9:40 FRI/SAT LS 12:00

**17 AGAIN (PG-13)** 11:20, 2:00 4:30 7:00, 9:30 FRI/SAT LS 11:50

**STATE OF PLAY (PG-13)** 11:10 1:50 4:35 7:15 9:55

**CRANK: HIGH VOLTAGE (R)** 1:40 3:45 5:45 7:45 9:45

**HANNAH MONTANA: THE MOVIE (G)** 11:15, 1:45 4:15 6:45 9:15 FRI/SAT LS 11:45

**OBSERVE AND REPORT (R)** FRI/SAT LS 11:45

**FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13)** FRI-TUE 11:50 2:15 4:40 7:05 9:35 FRI/SAT LS 11:55

**WED-TH 11:50 2:15 4:40**

**30 MONSTERS VS. ALIENS (PG)** 12:40, 2:50 5:00 7:10 9:20 FRI/SAT LS 11:30

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<p><b>Accounting</b> (0118)</p> <p><b>FARMINGTON HILLS</b> 35719 Congress W. Drake, btm 11 Mile and Grand River, April 24-25 9am-2pm Basement, Books, Small Appl, Household Items</p> <p><b>SOUTH LYON Garage Sale</b> - 4/24 Fri &amp; 4/25 Sat 9-3pm 10446 Mendota, S off 10 Mile E of Rushon, Lakeside Estates North Toys, clothes, records, comics, tools furniture etc.</p> <p><b>TROY SUB GARAGE SALE</b> Fri/Sat April 24 &amp; 25, 9am to 4pm Lake Charnwood Sub just East of South Blvd Adams South Side</p> <p><b>Landscaping</b> (1210)</p> <p><b>Prestige Landscaping LLC</b> Mowing starting at \$16 cut Landscaping Pavets Sod &amp; Shrubs Mulch &amp; Stone Spring Clean-up 248.880.0833</p> <p><b>Lawn Care/Maintenance Service</b> (1230)</p> <p><b>LAWN MOWING, SPRING &amp; FALL CLEANUPS</b> Quality work for good price. Call for free quotes. Evan (734) 329-4773</p>	<p><b>Bloomfield</b> (3855)</p> <p>4 bdrm, 3.5 bath, 1 acre corner lot. \$429,000. \$10,000 cash given to buyer at closing for updates. 248-225-8822</p> <p><b>Farmington</b> (3144)</p> <p>4 bdrm plus den, 2.5 bath, full bsmt. \$279,000. \$10,000 cash given to buyer at closing for updates. 248-225-8822</p> <p><b>Hotel Park/Madison Hgts</b> (3295)</p> <p>For Sale Handyman Special! 4 bdrm, 2 bath duplex \$56,000 or best offer 734 765-1053</p> <p><b>Condos</b> (3721)</p> <p><b>KINGS MILL COOPERATIVE OPEN HOUSE</b> April 26th 1-4pm From \$50,000-105,000 Cash purchases only Two and three bedroom townhouses and one bedroom ranches all with 1.1 basements 18120 Jamestown Circle Northville, MI 48168 (248) 348-5570 <a href="http://kingsmillcooperative.com">kingsmillcooperative.com</a></p>	<p><b>Mobile Homes</b> (3750)</p> <p><b>WESTLAND</b> - New carpeting throughout, freshly painted 3 bdrm, 2 bath, C/A, fridge, washer/dryer, dishwasher, disposal, gas furnace/stove, storage shed, large deck-partially covered 2 car parking At Westland Meadows Avail now \$9,000 (734) 604-8354</p> <p><b>Real Estate Wanted</b> (3470)</p> <p><b>WALK AWAY TODAY!</b> Sell your house As is for a fair price on the date of your choice. To hear our FREE 24 hr rec msg call 800-761-7535 <a href="http://www.SellingYourHouseSolutions.com">www.SellingYourHouseSolutions.com</a></p> <p><b>Apartment/Unfurnished</b> (4000)</p> <p><b>ROYAL OAK</b> Near Downtown Nice 1 &amp; 2 bdrm apts nice rental home also available Contact Barb 248-435-4904</p> <p><b>WALLED LAKE - FREE RENT!!!</b> From \$535/month Incl heat &amp; water 248-421-3292</p> <p><b>WESTLAND</b> 1 bdrm w/appliances \$475/mo 248-692-0262</p> <p><b>WESTLAND</b> 2 bdrm 1.5 bath close to schools \$600/month 248 892-0262</p>	<p><b>Apartment/Unfurnished</b> (4000)</p> <p><b>WESTLAND CAPRI APRIL FOOLISH PRICES</b> 1 bdrm starting at \$495 2 bdrms starting at \$600 Limited Time Offer 734-261-5410</p> <p><b>Condos/Townhouses</b> (4020)</p> <p><b>BIRMINGHAM - DOWNTOWN</b> 2 bdrm townhouse, 1.5 bath, hardwood floors, a/c, bsmt, washer/dryer No pets non-smoking \$1100/mo 248-901-0425</p> <p><b>SOUTHFIELD</b> 2 bdrm high rise, appl incl, newly remodeled near hospital and college Students OK! 248-424-4545</p> <p><b>Homes For Rent</b> (4050)</p> <p><b>LYONIA</b> 2 bdrm, appliances fireplace garage large yard, no pets, \$850 mo + sec Call 734 425-7355</p> <p><b>LYONIA/FARMINGTON HILLS</b> 2-3 bdrm houses. 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Contact: <a href="mailto:athea248@yahoo.com">athea248@yahoo.com</a></p> <p><b>Remnant Sale/ Flea Market</b> (7840)</p> <p><b>FARMINGTON HILLS</b> Ansoch Lutheran Church NE corner 13 &amp; Farmington Fr., 9am-7pm, Sat., 10am-12Noon Clothes \$1 each</p> <p><b>7100 Estate Sales</b> (7100)</p> <p><b>DETROIT</b> 13930 Rutherford Grand Mount Sub area, btwn Grand River &amp; Schoolcraft April 23-26 9am-5pm. Living/dining room furniture (traditional style), appliances, lots of furniture &amp; more!</p> <p><b>LYONIA</b> 17310 Loveland, 6 Mile &amp; Farmington Thu-Sat, Apr 23-25 10am-5pm. Antiques jewelry, tools, tons more!</p> <p><b>Earn Extra Income From Home</b> No Risk! Call Today for Details 1-800-691-8590</p>	<p><b>Business Opportunities</b> (5740)</p> <p>Looking for Working Partner in a Small Transportation Co \$30-\$50,000 investment. Contact: <a href="mailto:athea248@yahoo.com">athea248@yahoo.com</a></p> <p><b>7100 Estate Sales</b> (7100)</p> <p><b>TRENTON ESTATE SALE</b> Antiques, Hendon desk, Hummel dishes, fine jewelry, clothes &amp; much, much more. 1941 Westfield, N of West Rd, South of King Apr 24-25 Fri-Sat, 10am-4pm</p> <p><b>Troy Estate Sale</b> April 23-25, Thurs 9-4pm, Fri/Sat 10-4pm 115 Cherry St. off Livernois, btm 15 &amp; 16 Mile Rds photos/info <a href="http://www.alvaniques.com">www.alvaniques.com</a> 586-344-2048</p> <p><b>Garage Sales</b> (7110)</p> <p><b>BLOOMFIELD HILLS</b> Rummage Sale - Bloomfield Hills Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cranbrook Rd. (Woodward/Cranbrook) Wed., 4/22, 5-8pm (early admission 4pm for \$3) Thurs., 4/23, 10-4pm 1/2 price sale 4-7pm bag sale No Strutters!</p> <p><b>CANTON</b> Spring Clean Out! 45276 Thorrh B Pd Glenarry Sub off Canton Center, between Cherry Hill and Palmer Sat &amp; Sun, April 25 &amp; 26 9am-4pm Furniture Home Decor, Household, Holiday Swimming pools! Lots of Misc. Priced to go!</p> <p><b>FERDALE</b> Annual Garage Sale - Ferdales Free Methodist Church, 1990 Woodward Heights Saturday April 25, 9am-5pm. Clothes, office furniture, home decor music equipment, bake sale bar-b-q you name it!</p>	<p><b>Garage Sales</b> (7110)</p> <p><b>GARDEN CITY - HUGE GARAGE MOVING SALE</b> - 30145 Beechwood, Ford Middlebelt area April 23, 24, 25 (Thurs, Fri &amp; Sat) 9am-5pm Lots of Appliances &amp; Furniture, TV's Longaberger Video Game Systems &amp; Games Electric fence Heeleys Toys Clothes &amp; more!</p> <p><b>LYONIA</b> Come 'C' what we got! We got a lot! 29739 Robert, off Middlebelt btwn Joy &amp; Plymouth Rd Fri &amp; Sat, 5:30am-4pm Sun 9:30am-2pm</p> <p><b>LYONIA</b> Multi-Family Rummage Sale - Thursday, April 23, thru Saturday, April 24, 10am-3pm at Tai Chi Center 38121 Ann Arbor Rd Household items books jewelry and more!</p> <p><b>NORTHVILLE</b> At 8 &amp; Novi 4/23 thru 4/26 Large Sale! Electronics housewares tech, toys, clothes tools &amp; more 605 Horton</p> <p><b>ROCHESTER</b> Stony Pointe North Subdivision Garage Sale - April 23-25 2009 (Sub located off of Leica between Romeo and Tierken) Great BUYS!!!</p> <p><b>Dogs</b> (7840)</p> <p><b>IRISH SETTER</b> AKC Registered Show &amp; Hunting Lines 17 weeks old with Microchip &amp; Vaccinations 4 Females \$750 517-552-1000</p> <p><b>TOY POODLE PUPPIES</b> Beautiful, intelligent puppies Home raised with lots of love First shots wormed Ready for their new home \$400 734-751 7828</p> <p><b>GRAND PRIX GT 2002</b> 4 Dr. air A/c, cd, cruise CD anti-lock brakes, full service history 1 owner ps, am-fm stereo, sunroof beautifully kept Will listen to serious offers! \$4500 248-924-7433</p> <p><b>SUNFIRE 2004</b> 2 Dr. air A/c, cd, cruise CD anti-lock brakes, full service history 1 owner ps, am-fm stereo, sunroof Black and sporty Will listen to serious offers! \$5000 248-924-7433</p>
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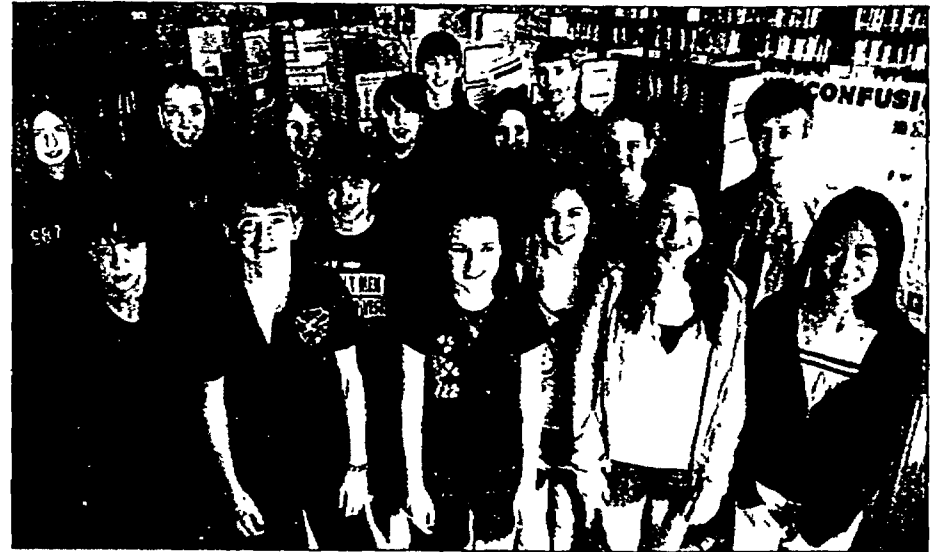


# EDUCATION



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Led by soccer player Dominic Scicluna, a bunch of Thornton Creek Elementary School students head out on a recess-time "Walking Wednesdays" stroll. The school has held special activities and welcomed athletes on Wednesdays to get the students interested in physical fitness.



JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Hillside winners

An assembly of the first-place winners of the recent Hillside Middle School Science Fair.

### NORTHVILLE SCHOOL BRIEFS

Please be sure to visit us on the Web at hometownlife.com for many more school briefs

#### Science Olympiad

Over 500 high school and middle school/junior high teams competed at the Science Olympiad Regional competitions during February and March. Ninety-six advancing regional teams will be competing in the 27th Michigan State Finals on Saturday, May 2, 2009, on the Michigan State University campus. Hillside Middle School is returning for its seventh year of nine, and Meads Mill Middle School is returning after a short absence.

Forty-six competitive events will be held in various locations on the MSU campus. Some events are Robo-Cross, Crave the Wave, Science Crime Busters and Forensics (SCI type events), and a variety of events in between. Team shirts, medals and trophies are all a part of the discovery hoopla. State Champions and runners-up teams will go on to the National Science Olympiad Tournament at Augusta State University, Augusta, Ga. on May 15-16.

#### High school clean-up

Northville High School's annual spring clean-up will be from 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, April 26. The weeding and mulching work will be in two shifts, which are from 1-3 p.m. and 3-5 p.m. Bring labeled garden tools (wheelbarrows, pitch forks, rakes and shovels)

and work gloves. Parents and students are welcome. This is an excellent opportunity for students to obtain volunteer hours for their youth groups and college applications. Contact Judy Culin (jcc96@peoplepc.com) with questions.

#### Winchester Elementary

- The annual Fun Run will be from 2:15-3:30 p.m. on Friday, May 8. In the event of rain, the event will be held at the same time on Friday, May 15. This year's event will be a fund-raiser to raise money for the continuation of Winchester's playground improvements.

- Spring Clean-Up Day is from 1-3 p.m. on Sunday, May 3 (rain date is May 17). Bring a few gardening tools with your name on them.

- Since many box tops are set to expire over the summer and won't be valid for a fall contest, we plan to collect and mail all the box tops turned in to the front lobby collection bin before the school year ends. If you have a collection at home, please turn in your remaining box tops to the front lobby by Friday, May. If you haven't signed up on the Box Tops website yet, now is the perfect time. Each person who registers with Winchester before May 31 gets the school entered for a chance to win 10,000 bonus box tops points. Register at: [www.boxtopsteducation.com/](http://www.boxtopsteducation.com/) bus before May 31. Also, consider doing your online shopping (for books, party supplies, etc.) through the box tops portal while you're there.

### NORTHVILLE STUDENTS ON CAMPUS

#### Saginaw Valley State University

- The Deans' List for the Fall 2008 semester has been announced. To earn a place on the Deans' List, an undergraduate student must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours of accepted classes and maintain a grade point average between 3.4 and 3.99 on a 4.0 scale. Included from Northville is Amy E. Kellepourey.

- 389 undergraduate students have been recognized for their outstanding academic achievements by placing them on the President's List for the 2008 fall semester. To achieve this prestigious honor, undergraduate students must maintain a perfect 4.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale while enrolled in at least 12 credit hours of classes. From Northville is Charles D. Thomas.

#### Virginia Tech University

The university's fall commencement ceremony was held December 19, 2008, in Cassell Coliseum. Approximately 2,500 bachelor's degree, master's degree, and Ph.D. candidates along with their families and friends attended the on-campus ceremony presided by Virginia Tech President Charles W. Steger. Included from Northville is Kavion Roshangar.

Roshangar received a Bachelor of Science degree in biological sciences from the College of Science.

#### Grand Valley State University

More than 800 students earned degrees from Grand Valley State University in December. From Northville are Anna G. Griebel with a bachelor of business administration, Kimberly A. Kirk, bachelor of science in nursing; Drew M. Montgomery with a bachelor of business administration; Peter M. Vacketta with a bachelor of business administration.

#### Madonna University

Madonna University student Melanie Keiffer, of Northville, will join more than 60 graduate students from 15 Michigan colleges and universities for Michigan Graduate Education Day, Thursday, April 23, at the South and West Wings of the Capitol Building in Lansing. The students in Madonna's adult primary nurse practitioner master's degree program will display their graduate work and discuss with legislators top issues in state health care.

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**NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

**Guernsey open house to benefit pantries**

Guernsey Farms Dairy will open its doors to the public from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 25, for a tour of its dairy products production plant. The tour is free, and guests are asked to bring a non-perishable food item or make a monetary donation to the Novi Food Pantries. The business is located on the east side of Novi Road, between Nine and Eight Mile roads. Bring the whole family for a tour of this 28,000 square foot milk, ice cream and other dairy products production facility. Each month 1.2 million pounds of milk (140,000 gallons) and 10,000 gallons of ice cream are produced. For more information please call Guernsey at (248) 349-1466 or visit [www.guernsey-farmsdairy.com](http://www.guernsey-farmsdairy.com).

**Seedling give-away**

The Beautification Commissions of the township and the city of Northville will sponsor the annual Arbor Day Seedling Give-away & Shred-It event from 9 a.m.-noon on Saturday, April 25 at the township hall, 44405 Six Mile Road (southwest corner of Six Mile & Sheldon Roads). Arbor Day Seedlings are available at no charge to city, township and Northville School District residents; bring proof of residency. You must attend in person to pick up your seedlings. Requests by phone or mail cannot be accommodated, nor large requests from groups or schools. Bring your paper documents for on-site shredding; up to six small grocery type bags, per household.

**Tipping Point presents William Shakespeare**

Northville's Tipping Point Theatre will close its season with a zany, irreverent send-up of Shakespeare, "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)," by Adam Long, Daniel Singer and Jess Winfield. Directed by Tony Caselli, "The Complete Works ..." opens April 25 and runs through May 31. Performances at the theatre at 361 E. Cady St. are scheduled at 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays; at



**Earth Hour**

Students at Silver Springs Elementary School in Cheryl Sepich and Shannon Heron's second grade classes made posters to promote Earth Hour (8:30-9:30 p.m. on March 28) and posted them throughout the school to urge our community to conserve energy. It is a worldwide initiative being promoted by the World Wildlife Fund. The classes learned of this initiative in Time For Kids Magazine as part of their Social Studies curriculum. Pictured with Sepich is student Maria Prihoanca.

3 p.m. Saturdays (with the exception of April 25); and at 2 p.m. Sundays. Ticket prices range from \$18-\$28. Preview performances, which include a post-show discussion with the director and cast, are at 8 p.m. on April 23 and 24. "The Complete Works ..." is a coproduction between Tipping Point and Williamston Theatres. Tickets are available by calling the box office at (248) 347-0003. Box office hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday - Friday; noon to 5 p.m. Saturday; and 90 minutes prior to all performances. For more information, go to [www.tippingpointtheatre.org](http://www.tippingpointtheatre.org).

**Sweet Dreamzzz fund-raiser**

Farmington-based Sweet Dreamzzz, Inc., a non-profit organization that provides sleep education and bedtime essentials to at-risk children, will host its 6th annual A Night to R.E.M.ember fund-raiser on Friday, April 24 at Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville. The event will begin at 6 p.m. with a V.I.P. reception and cocktail hour followed by an elegant sit-down dinner specially crafted by Meadowbrook's creative chef. The main attraction of the night features comedienne Kelly Nieto, a former Miss Michigan and Almost Miss America, entertaining the guests with her humor, costume changes and fiddle.

Throughout the night, guests will have a chance to bid on silent auction items and DJ LoKey will provide music. The evening's major sponsors include Bosco's Pizza Co., Design Systems, Inc., and Holiday Automotive Group. Tickets for the event are \$100 per person for the VIP Reception (an hour earlier auction preview with hors d'oeuvres), or \$75 per person for the sit-down dinner, drinks and entertainment. To register, please contact Sweet Dreamzzz at (248) 478-3242 or email at [sweetdreamzzzdet@ameritech.net](mailto:sweetdreamzzzdet@ameritech.net). For more information visit [www.sweetdreamzzzdetroit.org](http://www.sweetdreamzzzdetroit.org). A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, donations made to Sweet Dreamzzz are tax-deductible under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Service.

**Cox cleans up**

Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox is hosting her fifth annual Park Clean-Up Day on Saturday, May 9. The clean-up will take place at the Bennett Arboretum and Northville Recreation area from 9 a.m.-noon. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Parking is located across the street at Cass Benton. Commission Cox will provide the first 50 volunteers with a pair of tickets to a Detroit Tigers' game. Contact Jordyn Salmon at (313) 224-0946 to sign up.



**The Pajama Game**

Three Northville residents have key roles in the Spotlight Players' presentation of "The Pajama Game." Pictured (l to r) are Susan Behrens, musical director; Nicole Wawok (portraying Poopsie); and Dr. Scott Behrens, director. They don't make 'em like this anymore, a musical romantic comedy classic about a labor dispute at a pajama factory that pits a union leader against a manager, both of whom get way more than they're bargaining for. Come see why this show was a hit movie in 1957 and a hit Broadway revival in 2006. "The Pajama Game is your classic love story," said Scott. "Boy meets girl, they fall in love, there's a crisis that gets between them, everything works out and they live happily ever after. What makes it different is that in the middle of all of this there is a whole lot of laughter and great music." Show dates are April 24-26; May 1-3; and May 8-9. Times are 8 p.m. with matinees on April 26 and May 3 at 2 p.m. The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton. For ticket information, call the box office at 734-394-5300.

**Saints & Angels**

The Northville Arthouse exhibit Saints & Angels: Colonial Arts of Latin America, a retrospective featuring 50 paintings and sculptures culled from a private Michigan collection opens Friday, May 1 and will be on view through May 24 in the main gallery at 215 W. Cady Street, Northville. The Art House will host an opening reception from 6-9 p.m. on May 1. The exhibition will feature works by anonymous artists and artisans, with the major focus on 18th century religious paintings from Latin America and 19th century Mexican Folk Retablos--small paintings of images on sheets of tin. The older pieces show Virgins, Saints, Angels and Christ figures with absorbed expressions. Far from being somber, many of the images are in elegant laces, satins and

velvets; some with plumes or armor. The origins for the 18th century paintings were art academies established by new world priests to train native Indian artist. The works were generally inspired by European religious etchings. The local artists adapted the original images and the art evolved into a unique Latin American style to include native flora and fauna in the background, gold gilt decoration, and brilliant use of reds and blues. For additional information, contact the Northville Art House at (248) 344-0497

**Patterson's office hours**

State Senator Bruce Patterson's (R-Canton) district representative, Sue Trussell, will be conducting office hours from 1-3 p.m. on Friday, April 24 at the Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center Road.

**Investment training**

Northville District Library will host a free, one-hour training session on Morningstar Investment Research Center from 4-5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 29. Patrons can participate in the training session at the library, or from home or office. Internet access and a tele-

phone is required. Morningstar Investment Research Center is a comprehensive online investing database available 24/7 via the library's website. Morningstar provides independent opinion and data on more than 30,000 stocks and mutual funds, as well as portfolio building tools. Library patrons can now download 10 years of financial statements and five years of daily price histories for more than 10,500 stocks. The new exporting capabilities of Morningstar will be the focus of the training session. Call the library to register at (248) 349-3020 or send an email to: [librarytraining@morningstar.com](mailto:librarytraining@morningstar.com) to participate in the session from home.

**Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Dinner**

The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund will host their Fourth Annual Auction Dinner at 6 p.m. on May 2 at Laurel Manor Banquet & Conference Center, 39000 Schoolcraft Road in Livonia. Keynote speaker will be Marcus Luttrell, Navy SEAL and author of New York Times best-selling book "Lone Survivor." Seating is limited so make reservations early by contacting Ann Cornelius at (248) 346-5976 or [ann4fwfs@aol.com](mailto:ann4fwfs@aol.com).

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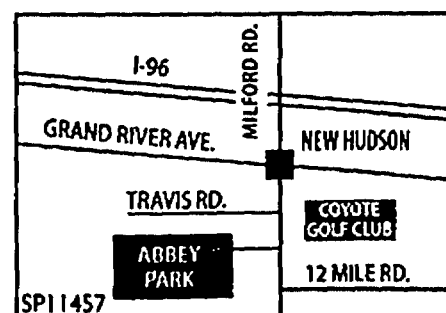
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THURSDAY  
April 23  
2009

SECTION B  
(NR)

Ed Wright, editor (313) 222-2047  
ewright@hometownlife.com

# LOCAL SPORTS

online at hometownlife.com



Auto care  
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Strictly Business, B4

## Locals fare well in Boston

Eleven local residents participated in the Super Bowl of long-distance running events — the Boston Marathon — Monday morning.

In the race that draws elite runners from around the globe, Kevin Florey was the first Northville runner to cross the finish line in a time of 3:13.00, which was good enough for 3,005th place in the men's field.

The top local woman runner was Sandra McGuire, who finished 1,894th with a time of 3:35.45.

Also locals competing in the men's race were Victor Barkoski (4140th place in 3:19.43), Dennis Bagley (5,536th in 3:27.26), Charles Stamboulion (5,822nd in 3:28.46), Michael Adamczyk (5,832nd in 3:28.52), Richard Straub (5,835th in 3:28.53), Steve Broda (6,131st in 3:30.17), Will Neafsey (6,651st in 3:33.21), Kevin Kidd (7,886th in 3:41.06) and James Austin, who placed 9,703rd with a time of 3:55.37.

The only other local woman besides McGuire to compete was Abby Pendleton, who placed 6,055th in 4:05.18.

The 26.2-mile race was won by Deriba Merga of Ethiopia in 2:08.42.

Kenya's Salina Kosgei won the women's race in 2:32.16.

To compete in the Boston Marathon, runners had to eclipse a stringent qualifying time for their respective age groups. This year's event drew close to 14,000 participants.



Former Northville High School pitching standout Mark Sorensen was drafted by the Detroit Tigers in the 32nd round of the 2008 Major League Baseball draft. He is currently working on increasing his arm strength at extended spring training in Lakeland, Fla.

## 'Mark' of Excellence

### Ex-Mustang ace Sorensen living pro baseball dream

BY ED WRIGHT  
RECORD STAFF WRITER

Armed with hand-held radar guns — devices that register how hard a pitcher can throw a baseball and determine whether he has a future in the game — a sea of professional baseball scouts filled the seats behind the Joker Marchant Stadium backstop in Lakeland, Fla., on the afternoon of March 5, 2007.

"There were at least 20 scouts back there," said Mark Sorensen, whose goal that day was two-fold: help pitch his Michigan State University baseball team to a victory against Pittsburgh and light

up the green numbers that would pop up on the radar guns' screens a split second after each one of his pitches popped his catcher's mitt.

Performing under the kind of pressure that turns rocks into diamonds, Sorensen sparkled. He threw three hitless innings while displaying a level of speed that you'd more likely see on the autobahn than I-275.

"That day kind of put me on the map with the scouts," Sorensen said. "They all had their guns out and I had good velocity. I was hitting 92, 93 (mph)."

A few weeks later, Sorensen was shut down for the season with a serious shoulder injury that required surgery, but the setback didn't prevent the Detroit Tigers from selecting him in the 32nd round of the 2008 Major League Baseball draft.

Following a successful stint late last summer for the Tigers' Rookie League team in Oneonta, N.Y., Sorensen participated in his first official spring training the past two months back where he was discovered in 2007 — at Tiger Town in Lakeland.

"It's taken a lot of hard work and perseverance," Sorensen said when asked how he's been able to rise to a level of

Please see SORENSON, B2

## GAME WRAPS

### Mustang golfers defend E.L. title

Raindrops kept falling on their heads, but that didn't keep the Northville boys golf team from repeating as titlists at the East Lansing Invitational Monday afternoon.

Playing in British Open-type conditions on the challenging Walnut Hills Country Club layout, the Mustangs registered a score of 309 to outdistance the host Trojans by eight shots. East Grand Rapids placed third with 323.

Northville's Wes Gates earned tournament medalist honors for the second straight year after firing a 2-over 74. Gates' teammates Trevor Grigg and Eric Goebel carded 77 each to tie for fifth. Steve Brown (81) and Alex Bernstein (83) also scored for the defending champions.

The event was the first for the Mustangs this spring.

### Coaches: Please report results

Local high school athletic coaches are encouraged to report the results of their team's contests to Record Sports Editor Ed Wright, who can be reached at (734) 578-2767 or ewright@hometownlife.com.

The deadline for each week's paper is Tuesday at 6 p.m.

### MU maintains lead

Madonna University maintained its two-game lead in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference baseball race by sweeping all four games during its weekend series against Concordia University.

On Sunday, the Crusaders improved to 33-6 overall and 12-4 in the WHAC by downing the visiting Cardinals at Ilitch Ballpark, 3-1 and 5-1.

Jeff Mann (3-0) pitched the first five innings to pick up the win for MU in the opener. He allowed one earned run on seven hits and a walk. Brian Diroff came on to get the final four outs to earn his first save of the year.

Offensively, Mike Gansser collected two hits, while Ryan Morrow, Scott Boyer and Matt Kay (Canton) each drove in a run.

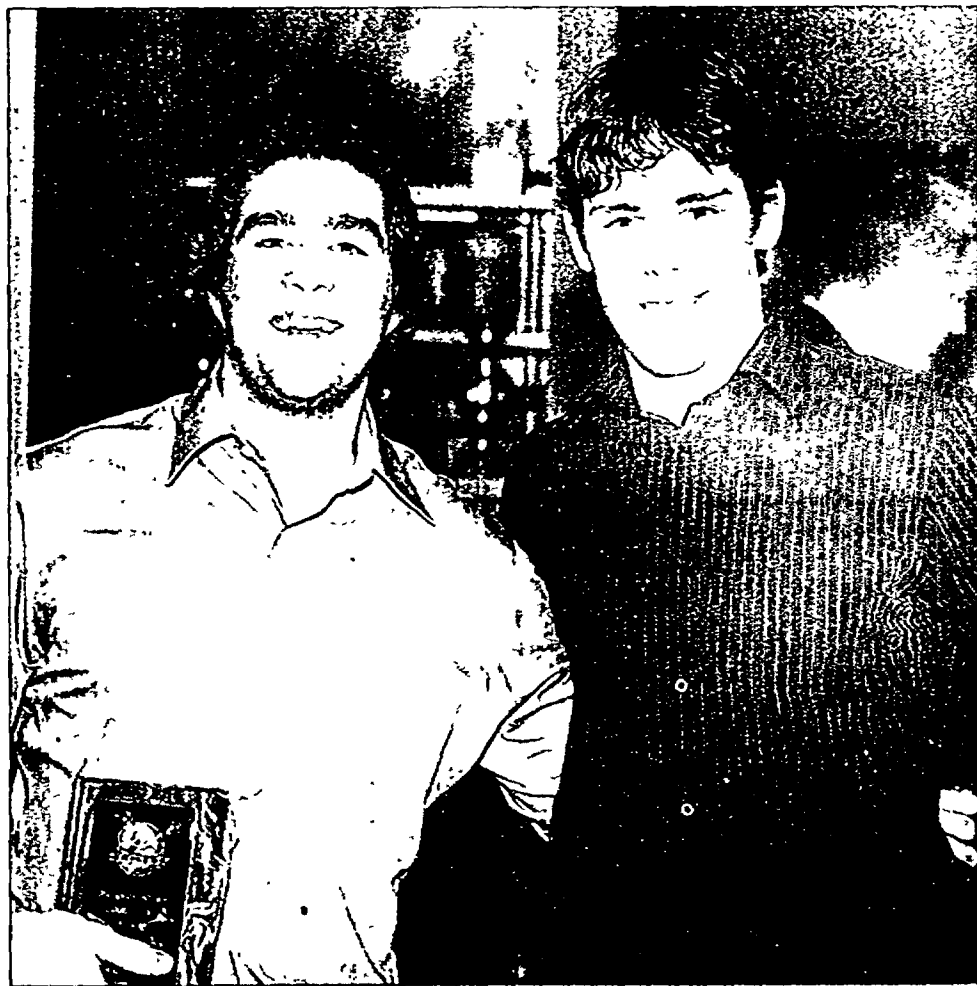
Tony Pounders (Livonia Stevenson) knocked in the lone run for the Cardinals.

In the nightcap, Drew Fry knocked in three runs, while Morrow, Shawn Little (Canton) and Kevin Zerbo (Farmington Hills Harrison) each added two hits to offset the 3-for-3 performance of Concordia's Zach Johnston.

Watch pitcher Tom Hansen (7-1) scattered six hits and allowed just one earned run, a solo homer to Johnston, in going all seven innings. Hansen struck out two and did not allow a walk.

The loss drops Concordia to 18-25 and 4-10.

On Saturday, MU swept at twinbill against the host Cardinals, 11-0 and 11-3.



Pictured are Plymouth Whalers award winners Chris Terry (left) and Tyler Seguin at Monday night's team banquet.

## Whalers lauded at banquet

The Plymouth Whalers capped the 2008-09 season Monday night with an awards banquet held at C.J.'s Brewing Company at Compuware Sports Arena.

The following awards were presented:

Regular-season Most Valuable Player, Leading Scorer, Academic Player and Humanitarian of the Year — Captain Chris Terry, who led the Whalers with 39 goals and 55 assists and was plus-25 during the regular season. Terry is third overall in franchise career scoring with 114 goals and 175 assists in 253 games.

Selected by the Carolina Hurricanes in the fifth round (132nd overall) in the 2007 National Hockey League Entry Draft, Terry may be signed by the Hurricanes by this summer's NHL Entry Draft. Terry has been a leader in the Whalers' community relations efforts over the past three seasons and is Plymouth's nominee for the Ontario Hockey League's Dan Snyder Award as Humanitarian of the Year.

Rookie of the Year — Center Tyler Seguin, who

scored 21 goals with 46 assists and was plus-14 in 61 games.

Defenseman of the Year — Michal Jordan, who scored 12 goals with 30 assists and was a team-leading plus-28 in 58 games. Jordan, a fourth-round pick (105th overall) of the Hurricanes in the 2008 NHL Entry Draft — has played for the Czech Republic in the 2008 and 2009 World Junior Championships.

Most Improved Player of the Year — Goaltender Matt Hackett, who won the lead goaltender position with the Whalers in November and posted a career-best 3.04 goals against average, .913 save percentage, two shutouts and a 34-13-3-0 record in 55 games. Hackett continued his fine work through the playoffs, posting a 3.01 goals against average and .930 save percentage in 11 playoff appearances.

Hackett is rated by the NHL's Central Scouting Bureau as the top prospect among all North American goaltenders for this summer's NHL Entry Draft.

Please see WHALERS, B2



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# Myth about sauna doesn't hold water

BY CHRIS KLEBBA

Question: I have a friend who is a trainer and claims if I use an infrared sauna I could burn up to 600 calories in 30 minutes. I want to lose body fat for the summer. Is this possible?

I know how tempting these shortcuts appear to all of us but this is not possible unless you weighed roughly 3,000 pounds — because that's approximately what someone of this weight would burn sitting anywhere. The claim that saunas can burn up to 600 calories stems from one study published in 1981 in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA).

The following is a typical (and misinformed) write-up on the Internet for the benefits of infrared saunas and calories burned:

This benefit was recognized in the prestigious Journal of the American Medical Association as long ago as August 1981: "Many of us who run do so to place a demand on our cardiovascular system, not to build big leg muscles. Regular use of a sauna imparts a similar stress on the cardiovascular system, and its regular use may be as effective, a means of cardiovascular conditioning and burning of

calories, as regular exercise."

Obviously someone was not thinking clearly when writing the above, and after searching through JAMA's web site, we found one study published in 1982 by Searle AJ titled "Effects of Sauna." Unfortunately there is no abstract available for this study, and research on calorie burn using an infrared sauna is scarce. The premise behind infrared saunas burning up to 600 calories in 30 minutes is that infrared light emitted from the sauna penetrates the skin and heats up the internal organs, leading to an increase in calories burned. It has never been researched whether this would lead to an excessive amount of calories burned and weight loss.

With that said, the effects of saunas on weight loss are due to a loss of water from sweating, not actual fat loss. Bottom line, forget it for fat loss.

This column was written by fitness expert Chris Klebba. Chris owns and operates Planet Fitness in Northville and Waterford, and is a regular columnist and public speaker. For fitness questions, e-mail planet.fitness@sbcglobal.net and for more information call 248-449-7634 or go to www.planetfitness.com

# SORENSEN

FROM PAGE B1

baseball 99.9 percent of kids can only imagine reaching. "When I was recruited to play in college, I wasn't a top prospect. But I worked hard and improved a lot at Michigan State. Then I got hurt and had to battle back from that.

"The key is to stay focused, stick with it."

Pitching is in Sorensen's DNA. His dad, Larry, enjoyed a successful 10-year career in the majors and later worked as the color commentator for the Tigers in the mid-'90s. It was during his dad's broadcasting career that the younger Sorensen took advantage of an opportunity to learn from the best.

"Obviously, my dad is the one who taught me the most about pitching," Sorensen said. "But when he was with the Tigers, I was probably 13 or 14 years old and I'd get to go down in the bullpen and throw with guys like Todd Jones and Brian Moehler. Just being around guys like that, you can't help but pick things up."

Sorensen thrived at Northville High School, capping a brilliant two-year varsity baseball career by going 9-1 with a 1.20 earned-run average his senior season.

He also served as captain of the football and basketball teams during his final year at NHS.

"I always knew my future was in baseball, but I loved high school basketball," he said. "I loved the environment with the student cheering sections and everything."

Sorensen experienced mod-

est success at MSU his first two years, going a combined 4-4 with an ERA in the mid-fives.

"Going into my junior year, everything was coming together," he said. "My body was maturing, my arm was stronger than ever and I was throwing harder than ever. And then I hurt my shoulder."

Sorensen's No. 1 source of encouragement and support is his mom, Tricia.

"Ever since I started playing as a kid, she has been the ultimate baseball mom," he said. "I'd bet she has sat through more baseball games than any mom in history. She even drove out to New York when I made my debut last year in the New York-Penn League."

"I honestly can't thank her enough for everything she's done for me."

As of Monday, Sorensen was still in Lakeland, working on building up the arm strength that two short years ago gave him the ability to hurl a baseball 93 mph.

He's not far off. On Tuesday, against a team made up of Houston Astros who are also in extended spring training, Sorensen yielded just three hits and one run in three innings.

"I'm throwing about 88 now," he said. "They're going to watch me down here the next couple of weeks, then assign me to one of the minor-league teams."

While he's not quite sure where he's headed yet, Sorensen is certain of one thing.

"I am really getting tired of radar guns," he said, chuckling.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108

# First-class basketball facility back in business

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After collecting dust for close to two years, a 47,000-square-foot basketball mecca has found new life in Canton.

And local hoops enthusiasts can thank life-long round-ball aficionado Jeff Miller for resurrecting the warehouse-turned-basketball haven he's named Center Court.

Formerly known as Basketball Planet, the massive hoops-based building, which is located at 7171 Haggerty Rd. just north of Warren Rd., was originally renovated into a state-of-the-art basketball facility in the fall of 2006.

Equipped with four large courts — three college-sized, the other NBA-sized — and two smaller training courts, the setting was the closest thing to basketball heaven for anyone passionate about James Naismith's favorite game.

However, its doors were locked just six months after it opened and the building remained vacant until Miller breathed new life into it earlier this year.

"First of all, I wanted to give kids a place where they could go to be mentored and play sports," said Miller, who re-opened the business on Feb. 1.

"I want to give kids a place that will keep them off the streets and give them something to do besides playing video games all day. I thought the original owners' vision was good, but I think poor management led to their demise."

Miller's basketball resume is impressive. The 47-year-old former high school star at Detroit Cass Tech played in college at the University of Detroit before playing professionally in Europe.

On a recent Sunday afternoon when the rhythmic beat of bouncing basketballs echoed through Center Court and fans filled the theater-quality seating, watching the non-stop action of an AAU tournament unfold, Miller's adrenaline was pumping.

"It's exciting to see the place full like that," said the West Bloomfield resident. "It gets me to thinking that we need another court. I love when this place is full because you can tell everybody appreciates what we've done, bringing this place back."

Marcus Oden loves Center Court, too. The Canton resident is the president of the Plymouth-Canton Wolfpack, a flourishing travel-basketball program that has recently grown from one to five teams.

"One of the main reasons we've been able to expand is this place," Oden said, while standing in the Center Court lobby on Thursday. "Before this place opened, it was hard to get facilities for practices and games. Center Court has given a lot of kids an opportunity to play basketball in a first-rate facility."

"A lot of the kids come up here and play — not just when we have practices, but to play pick-up games or to just shoot around. It's a top-notch facility."

Center Court is far from one-dimensional, Miller proudly reveals.

"We have a work-out area that the adults can use when they drop their kids off," said Miller. "We have a lounge where you can watch games on TV and we set up a concession stand for weekend tournaments."

"In the future, I'd like to add locker rooms with showers and more cardiovascular-type machines like treadmills and ellipticals. And, God willing, when he tells us it's time, I'd like to expand the facility."

Miller said Center Court will eventually offer adult leagues.

He offers economical membership plans for students and adults.

"I'd like to eventually compete with Lifetime (Fitness)," he said. "Give them a run for their money."

For more information on programs offered at Center Court, visit its Web site at [www.centercourtsportz.net](http://www.centercourtsportz.net) or call (734) 404-6301.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE  
NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS  
ANNUAL ARBOR DAY SEEDLING GIVEAWAY**

The Beautification Commissions for the City of Northville and the Township of Northville will jointly host the annual "ARBOR DAY Seedling Giveaway" which will be held on

**Saturday, April 25, 2009**  
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (or until seedlings are gone) at  
Northville Township Hall  
44405 Six Mile Road  
(NW Corner of Six Mile and Sheldon Roads)  
Back patio on the south of building off of Sheldon Road

Residents of the City and Township of Northville and the Northville Public School District are eligible for the free seedlings. You must attend in person to pick up your seedlings, requests by phone or mail cannot be accommodated, nor large requests from groups.

Marie Barr, Chairperson  
BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

April 19, 2009

# WHALERS

FROM PAGE B1

Unsung Hero of the Year — Center Matt Caria, who came to the Whalers in December in a trade with Sault Ste. Marie and scored 34 goals with 58 assists and was plus-14 in 67 games. Currently a free-agent, Caria is playing for a professional contract next season.

Labatt Blue Collar Player of the Year — Veteran center Joe Gaynor, who enjoyed career highs with 12 goals and 18 assists. Gaynor is one of the best defensive forwards in the OHL and could return to the Whalers next season as an overage player.

Most Valuable Player in the Playoffs — Hackett.

Whaler Booster Club Awards — Barb Mohrlock Award as Fan Favorite — Chris Terry; Player of the Month of April — Matt Caria; Academic Player of the Month — Tyler J. Brown; Grinder of the Year — Joe Gaynor.

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# Novi's Bellamy leads strong All-Area basketball squad

BY JEFF THEISEN  
SPORTS WRITER

Novi head coach Cory Heitsch could pencil in guard Chris Bellamy for somewhere around 20 points a game. But that was far from it. Listed at 6-2, Bellamy also led the team in rebounding with 6.5, assists at 3.8 and steals at three a game, landing him the Player of the Year honors.

"Chris truly had an unbelievable season for us," said Heitsch. "He led us in scoring and rebounding from the lead guard spot. The efficiency and consistency he displayed throughout the year was outstanding."

Bellamy scored 20 or more points in 20 of 23 games with a high game of 37 points during a 71-56 win against Walled Lake Northern. Bellamy poured in 19 points in the fourth after the Wildcats trailed 51-47 early in the final quarter.

"It was a blast just to watch Chris just completely take over a game because it wouldn't just be on the offensive end of the floor," said Heitsch. "All the sudden he is deflecting everything, grabbing every board and just drilling shot after shot."

"It was a very comforting feeling for his teammates and for us coaches."

Heitsch explains Bellamy's ability to fill the stat sheet in so many categories and come up big when the games were on the line.

"Of all of Chris' strengths and there are many, nothing was more evident to me over the last two years than his basketball IQ. He truly understands the game," said Heitsch. "That is why you would see a majority of his playmaking happen in crucial points of the game. It wasn't coincidence, it was him understanding time and situation."

Bellamy signed with Spring Arbor University in early February to continue his basketball career.

"We will miss Chris sorely," said Heitsch.

## ALL-AREA FIRST TEAM

Several players on the All-Area First Team made strong arguments for being the Player of the Year.

Earning First-Team honors are Lakeland's Michael Fugate, South Lyon's Jordan Short, Milford's Nate Kesto and Catholic Central's Tim Dezelski and Brett Smith.

## TIM DEZELSKI - CC SENIOR

He's known as the Diesel and possesses an inside-outside game on offense and a shot-blocking presence on defense.

The 6-6 senior was one of the biggest reasons the Shamrocks made a run to the final eight in the state, both figuratively and literally.

He swatted aside 182 blocks and led the team with 684 total points.

The three-year varsity player helped turn around a three-win team his sophomore year into a xxx and Elite 8 finalist.

Dezelski is undecided on a college but plans on continue his playing career at the next level.

## BRETT SMITH - CC SENIOR

Smith was the perfect compliment to Dezelski. He could take the ball inside and nail the outside shot if left open.

He racked up 648 points throughout the year and was voted All-League for the second straight season.

He is also undecided but plans on continuing his career at the collegiate level.

## MICHAEL FUGATE - LAKELAND SENIOR

Fugate was last year's All-Area Player of the Year and followed his junior season with a top-notch senior performance. He averaged 18 points, six rebounds and five assists and led the team to an 18-4 record.

Fugate became Lakeland's all-time leading scorer while being an all-star off the court with a 3.96 GPA.

He will attend Saginaw Valley State University on a full scholarship.

"Michael is everything you want in a student-athlete," Lakeland head coach Robert Brugger said. "He was the face of our program the last three years, and he will sorely be missed."

## JORDAN SHORT - SOUTH LYON JUNIOR

On a team that was constantly changing lineups throughout the game, Short was a steady presence at both ends of the floor for the KLAAs Kensington Conference champion Lions.

Short set a set school record for assists in a season with 164, including four games of 10 or more assists. He also set the single-game steals record with 10 against Salem, averaged 7.9 points, 7.5 assists, 5.5 rebounds, and 4.0 steals a game. Short was also the team's leading rebounder from the point guard position.

"The thing that sometimes gets lost with Jordan statewide is he is willing to do whatever it takes to help the team win," said South Lyon head coach Doug Host. "Sometimes that means he needs to mix it up with the big guys and grab a ton of rebounds, other times its distributing the ball and then there's times that he's needed to score. He's successful in all of those roles."

"He's truly a team-first guy and a top-notch competitor."

## NATE KESTO - MILFORD SENIOR

Milford may not have put up the wins as the teams with other First-Team players, but it wasn't by lack of effort by Kesto.

He averaged a double-double with 15.5 points and 10.5 rebounds a game, while shooting almost 45 percent from the field and 72 percent from the free-throw line (115-for-160).

"We may not have won 17 or 18 games, but we wouldn't have won 11 games without him," said Milford head coach Chip Lutz. "Typically, he was the defensive focal point for other teams to try and contain. He consistently drew the other team's best defender, as well as constant double teams

when he tried to drive to the basket."

Kesto set the top two all-time single game Milford records with 21 rebounds in a game against Pinckney and 20 boards against Hartland.

On the season, he pulled down 216 rebounds for second-best at Milford as well as putting up consistent points all year.

"In our eight division games against Hartland, Brighton, Howell and Pinckney, Nate averaged 17 points and 14 rebounds per game," said Lutz.

## ALL-AREA SECOND TEAM

Several players on the All-Area Second Team would be first-team material any other year. It just proves the competition throughout the surrounding areas is very strong.

## STEVE HARDING - CC SENIOR

Harding was another three-year player at CC that helped turn the program from a basement dweller to an elite program.

He scored 563 points on the year and will attend Hillsdale next year.

## BLAKE HEIMAN - LAKELAND SENIOR

Heiman played the perfect compliment to Fugate. Teams had to pick who they wanted to try and stop, because it was rarely both. Heiman averaged 13 points and five boards for the 18-4 Eagles.

Heiman was voted First-Team All-KLAA the last two years.

## JUSTIN HARTMAN - SOUTH LYON SENIOR

Hartman was the second-leading scorer for the Lions with 8.4 a contest, tied for second in rebounding with 5.0 and led in charges taken and field goal percentage (49 percent). He also shot free throws at a 72 percent clip.

## BRANDON BRYANT - NOVI SENIOR

Bryant used speed and athleticism to average nine points, four rebounds and two steals a game. In an offense mostly dictated by Bellamy, Bryant often did the dirty work needed to get his points while provided steady defense that would also lead to easy baskets.

## ART DREIMANIS - MILFORD SENIOR

Dreimanis was second for the Mavericks in scoring with 13 a game while hitting 45 percent of his shots. He led the team in assists with three a game and was second in rebounding with 76 and in three-pointers made with 30.

His season-high 27 points came against Lakeland and connected on five threes and 24 points against Livonia Franklin.

## ERIC WEDESKY - SOUTH LYON SENIOR

Wedesky was the big man in

the middle with the soft shot for the Lions. He led the team in scoring with 8.6 a game, tied for second in rebounding at 5.0 per game and led in blocked shots.


## BRYCE GROSHEK - NORTHVILLE SOPHOMORE

Northville didn't have a ton to celebrate this year, but Groshek proves the future can be bright for the Mustangs.

He averaged 12 points, 3.8 rebounds and 2.3 assists per contest.

## HONORABLE MENTION

Receiving All-Area Honorable Mention are Novi's Samer Ozeir, Jeremy Mims and Nick Brockman; South Lyon's AJ Thweatt, Mike Fenner and Chance Bennett; South Lyon East's Colin Wedesky and Blake Jones; Northville's Tim Hasse and Scott Wagner; Milford's Chris Cunningham and Matt Acitelli.



**TEE TIME** Your local golf guide

## Marking and lifting a ball

By Jeanne Myers

Marking a golf ball seems to be a simple thing, but most of us haven't spent much time reading the rules dealing with marking. For example, most golfers believe that they have to mark the ball on a cart path before they lift it to take relief, but that is not the case. Rule 20-1 says you only need to mark a ball before lifting it *if you are going to have to put it back (replace it)*. That would be the case on the putting green, or if someone asks you to lift your ball because it interferes with his or her shot. But when you are taking relief from a cart path, you are not going to have to replace the ball on the path - you are going to drop it somewhere else. Therefore, you do not have to mark it. You can, but it is not necessary. This is also true if you are taking relief from any other immovable obstruction, or abnormal ground conditions such as casual water, ground under repair, or a hole made by a burrowing animal.

A ball may be lifted by the player, his or her partner or another person authorized by the player (such as the player's caddie). Just as a side note here, it may be replaced by the player, his or her partner or the person who lifted it. So you can see that if a caddie lifts the ball, the player may replace it. But if the player lifts the ball, the caddie may not replace it. If a fellow competitor lifts your ball without your authority during a stroke play, there is still no penalty and the ball gets replaced. However, in

match play, if your opponent lifts your ball without your authority, he gets a one-stroke penalty.

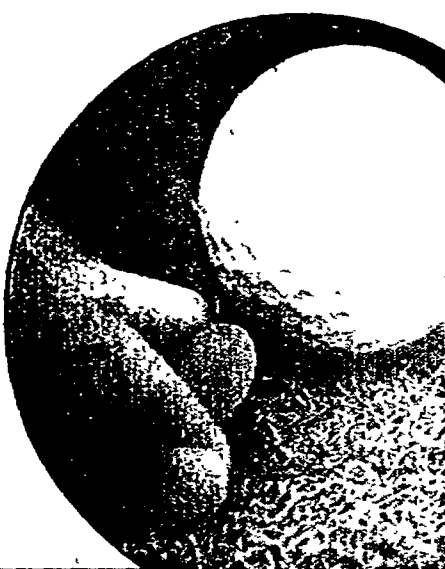
When marking a ball on the green, the marker may be placed behind, to the side of or in front of the ball as long as nothing is done (i.e. pressing down a tuft of grass) to influence the movement of the ball when played. There are lots of ways to mark a ball, many of them not recommended, but they are permissible. You may place the toe of a club at the side of or behind a ball. You may use a tee or a handy loose impediment (make sure it won't blow away). You may not just point out a blemish near your ball and use that as a mark - you must *physically* mark the position of the ball.

Is there a "correct" way to move a ball-marker to the side because it interferes with someone else's putt?

You may measure from the side of the ball or from the ball-marker, as long as you reverse the exact same process to get the ball back on the spot from which it was lifted.

What happens if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved in this marking/lifting process?

There is no penalty provided the movement of the ball or marker is directly attributable to the specific act of marking/lifting. That means if you nudge the ball forward as you are marking, you do not have a problem. But, if you are walking up to mark your



Jeanne Myers is currently an Assistant Tournament Director for the Golf Association of Michigan and also served as the Chairman of the USGA Women's Committee and is a Past President of the GAIM.

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# Northville Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR NORTHVILLE BUSINESS Q&A WITH DAVIS AUTO CARE



Jim Davis of Northville's Davis Auto Care.

## Auto care business to celebrate 30th anniversary this year

Tell us about your business, including types of services and/or products you feature.

Complete automotive service and repair for cars, light trucks, vans and SUV's. All work performed by experienced ASE Master Technicians. All work is guaranteed. Our quick oil-change, Jim's Oil Depot, is decorated in a Victorian train station motif, with model trains running overhead. It offers quick service for oil changes, tire rotations, wipers, headlamps and other minor services while you wait. We opened our Ultimate Image Auto Spa in response to customers who were looking for vehicle detailing services of the same caliber that they had come to expect from our repair facility. The Spa offers interior cleaning and exterior services.

How did you first decide to open your business?

I managed a full-service gasoline station and automotive repair shop for 10 years, and needed more challenge.

Why did you choose Northville?

The gasoline station at Eight Mile and Taft was available, and my wife and I were contemplating moving into Northville at the time. My wife had worked in Northville for many years, and we loved the atmosphere and especially the people here.

What makes your business unique?

Our customer service. Aside from the technical expertise of our mechanical staff, our service personnel are the best in the business. Customers

### DETAILS

**Business Name:** Davis Auto Care, Inc. (also Jim's Oil Depot and Ultimate Image Auto Spa)  
**Address:** 807 Doheny Dr., Northville, MI 48167

**Your Name/Title:** Jim Davis, president

**Your Hometown:** South Lyon  
**Business Opened When:** December 1979

**Number of Employees:** 12

**Hours of Operation:**  
Davis - 7 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday and Thursday, 7-6 Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; Jim's - 8-7:30 Monday and Thursday; 8-6 Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 8-5 Saturday, Spa - 8-6 Monday-Friday

**Your Business Specialty:** Complete automotive maintenance and repairs

**Phone:** Davis - (248) 349-5115; Jim's - 349-7884, Spa - 349-3509

**Website:** davisautocare.com

(from the two-bay gas station to the large facility we have now). Automotive technology is continually changing. The systems on today's vehicles are much more complex, and heavily dependant on computer technology. Our technicians are constantly attending advanced classes and seminars, many put on by the auto manufacturers, to stay current with the latest information.

How has the recent economy affected your business?

Many of our customers are keeping their cars longer, which has caused a need for more repairs, whereas we used to focus more on preventative maintenance because the cars were newer. Value is more important than ever, and due to our volume, we've continued to press our suppliers for better pricing to pass along to our customers.

Any advice for business owners?

Be passionate about what you are doing. Hire staff members who share your values, your desire for excellence and your joy of helping others.

What's in store for the future of your business?

We'll be celebrating our 30th Anniversary later this year, and plan on maintaining the trust and confidence of area residents. We're going to be preparing for the new alternative vehicles that are coming, so when our customers bring in their hybrids, electric or fuel cell cars, we'll be right here ready and waiting to take care of them as we always have.

usually talk with April and Dave, both of whom grew up in Northville. These customers tell me over and over how much they appreciate the friendly, thorough manner in which their service work is explained. We always offer options when available, and are clear about what work is necessary now vs. other items that can wait until later. Our company motto, "Integrity is the Difference", is something we live by.

How has it changed since you opened?

We've certainly grown

### NORTHVILLE NEWSMAKERS

Terzo & Bologna, Inc. announced that Raymond V. Bologna has been granted the "Fellow" designation by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Headquartered in London, England. The RICS organization has 110,000 members operating in 116 countries. It is an independent professional body that regulates property professionals and surveyors in the United Kingdom and other sovereign nations. The "Fellow" designation by RICS is awarded only to professionals who meet the rigorous standards of professional education and practice in these fields.

"With the globalization of the financial markets, it is imperative that real estate professionals in the United States understand and embrace the standards that are applied internationally," Bologna said.

"I am honored to receive the designation by RICS as an affirmation of my efforts to continuously provide clients with a high standard of real estate consulting service", Bologna, who resides in Northville,

is president of Terzo & Bologna, Inc., a Midwest commercial real estate consulting and valuation firm with offices in Detroit and Indianapolis. The firm represents clients locally, nationally, and internationally.

Ferras Zeni, MD, orthopedic surgery, has joined the staff of St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

Zeni specializes in orthopedic surgery procedures including joint replacement, arthroscopy, fracture care, total ankle replacement, treatment of clubfoot utilizing

the Ponseti method, sports related foot and ankle injuries, and adult and pediatric deformity correction.

He received his undergraduate degree from Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind., and medical degree from Indiana University. Zeni completed an Orthopedic

Surgery residency at Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit. He completed a fellowship in Foot & Ankle Surgery at the University of Washington Harborview Medical Center, Seattle, Wash., and a fellowship in Adult and Pediatric Deformity Correction at Sinai Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland.

He is a member of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. Zeni's office, Mendelson Orthopedics, PC, is located at 14555 Levan Rd., Suite 215, Livonia, (734) 542-0200.

Scott Hulverson of AAA Michigan's sales office in

Northville is a recipient of the President's Elite Award for insurance. Only three percent of agents in the market meet the AAA standards required to achieve the President's Elite level of service and performance.



Zeni



Hulverson

### NORTHVILLE BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### St. Mary Mercy makes top 100

For the third year in a row, St. Mary Mercy Hospital has been named one of the nation's 100 Top Hospitals by Thomson Reuters, a provider of information and solutions to improve the cost and quality of healthcare. The award recognizes hospitals that have achieved excellence in clinical outcomes, patient safety, patient satisfaction, financial performance, and operational efficiency. The winning hospitals were announced in the March 30 edition of Modern Healthcare magazine.

"This award demonstrates that our physicians, nurses and management focus on providing consistent, high quality care to maintain patient safety, operational efficiency and national standards. We are honored to receive this 100 Top Hospital designation for the third straight year," said David Spivey, president and CEO, St. Mary Mercy Hospital. St. Mary Mercy is a 304-bed hospital providing acute-care medical and health services and is a member of Saint Joseph Health System.

The winners were identified through an in-depth analysis, the Thomson Reuters 100 Top Hospitals<sup>SM</sup>: National Benchmarks study. The study evaluated 3,000 short-term, acute care, non-federal hospitals in nine areas: mortality, medical complications, patient safety, average length of stay, expenses, profitability, cash-to-debt ratio, patient satisfaction, and adherence to clinical standards of care.

St. Joseph Mercy Saline Hospital, also of Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, was awarded the 100 Top Hospital designation for the third year in a row in the small community hospital category. More information on this study and other 100 Top Hospitals research is available at [www.100tophospitals.com](http://www.100tophospitals.com).

#### Business workshops offered

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance are invited to attend seminars in offered by the Oakland County Business Center. Business Basics workshops are now offered in the evenings on alternating months at the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, west of Telegraph, Waterford. For location specifics and pre-registration, call (248) 858-0783.

**Women's Business Certification** (opportunities (WBE)) -- Increase profits through opportunities available through the Michigan

Women's Business Council certification. Learn about the benefits and process to take advantage through the national network. The class is held from 9-11 a.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, May 6. The fee is \$25, which includes all materials. No refunds.

**Pre-Business Research** -- Are you thinking of starting your own business and want to research your business idea? Are you a business owner who wants to understand which research sources to use for your business plan and where to find the information you need? The class is held from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 7. Presented by The Entrepreneur's Source, Oakland County's Business Center, Market Research Department, and Research Librarian. This workshop is free, but pre-registration is required.

**Microsoft Entrepreneur Series: Customer Retention** -- Learn how to build a customer retention base and "keep your customer, your customer". Did you know it costs four to 10 times as much to capture a new customer as it does to provide good service to an existing one? Small business owners are always thinking about growth, building customers and the best way to build repeat business. Come and learn how to accomplish these goals. Sponsored by Microsoft, Comcast, the Oakland County Business Center, Southfield Area Chamber of Commerce, City of Southfield and West Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce. The workshop is held from 8:30-11 a.m. on Monday, May 11, from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. This workshop is free of charge, but pre-registration is strongly advised.

**Team SBA Financing Roundtable** -- Before you apply for a business loan, attend a Team SBA Financing Roundtable. The roundtables are a free loan orientation conducted by a business banker, a business consultant from the SBAs network of Small Business Development Centers, and an SBA representative. During the roundtable, we'll debunk the myths and demystify the process of small business financing. You'll learn how the lending process works and what is expected of you and you'll understand how SBA can assist with our SBA Guaranteed Loan Program. This session is best suited to those who have good credit, a solid business idea, and some money to invest in their business. Because SBA does not provide loan guarantees to real estate investment firms, including purchasing and rehabbing houses for sale, this type of financing is not discussed at the roundtables. The class is held from 9 a.m.-noon on Wednesday, May 13. This workshop is free of charge, but pre-registration is strongly advised.

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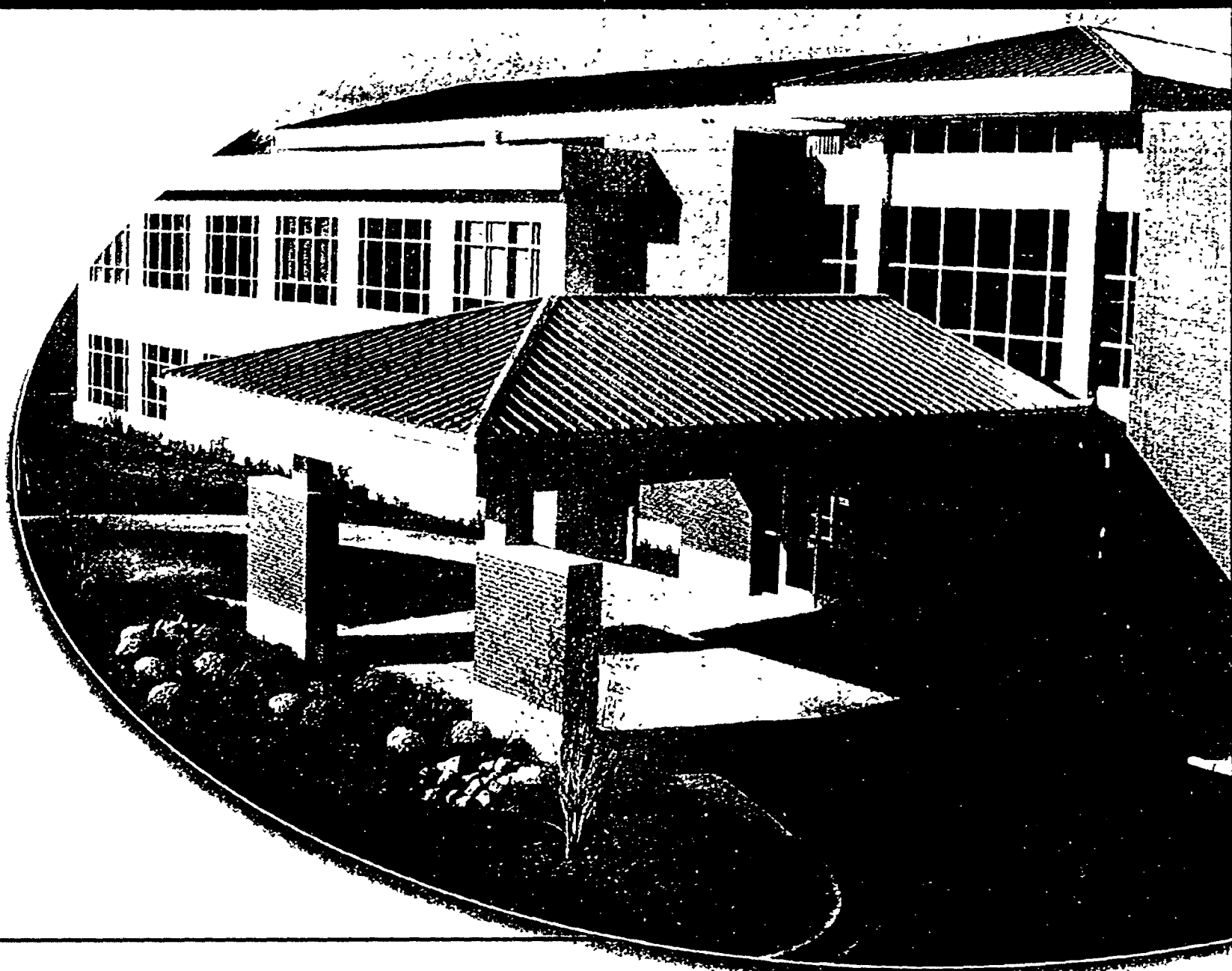
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# BOTSFORD

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## ***Community Open House***

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***Hear from Cancer Experts.***

**Saturday, April 25, 2009 • 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

***Botsford Cancer Center physicians will be offering presentations throughout the day to the public. The times and subjects of each presentation are:***

**10:30 AM** – Craig Gordon, D.O., F.A.C.O.I., Clinical Oncology Associates, will present **New Ideas in Breast Care.**

**11:30 AM** – Ted Tenenbaum, Cancer Center Administrator and the Radiation Oncology physicians, will present an overview of the **Radiation Oncology Services.**

**12:30 PM** – Richard Zekman, D.O., The Oakland Medical Group will present **Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.**

**1:30 PM** – Michael Berkovic, D.O., F.A.C.O.I., The Oakland Medical Group, will be providing an update on **Lung Cancer.**

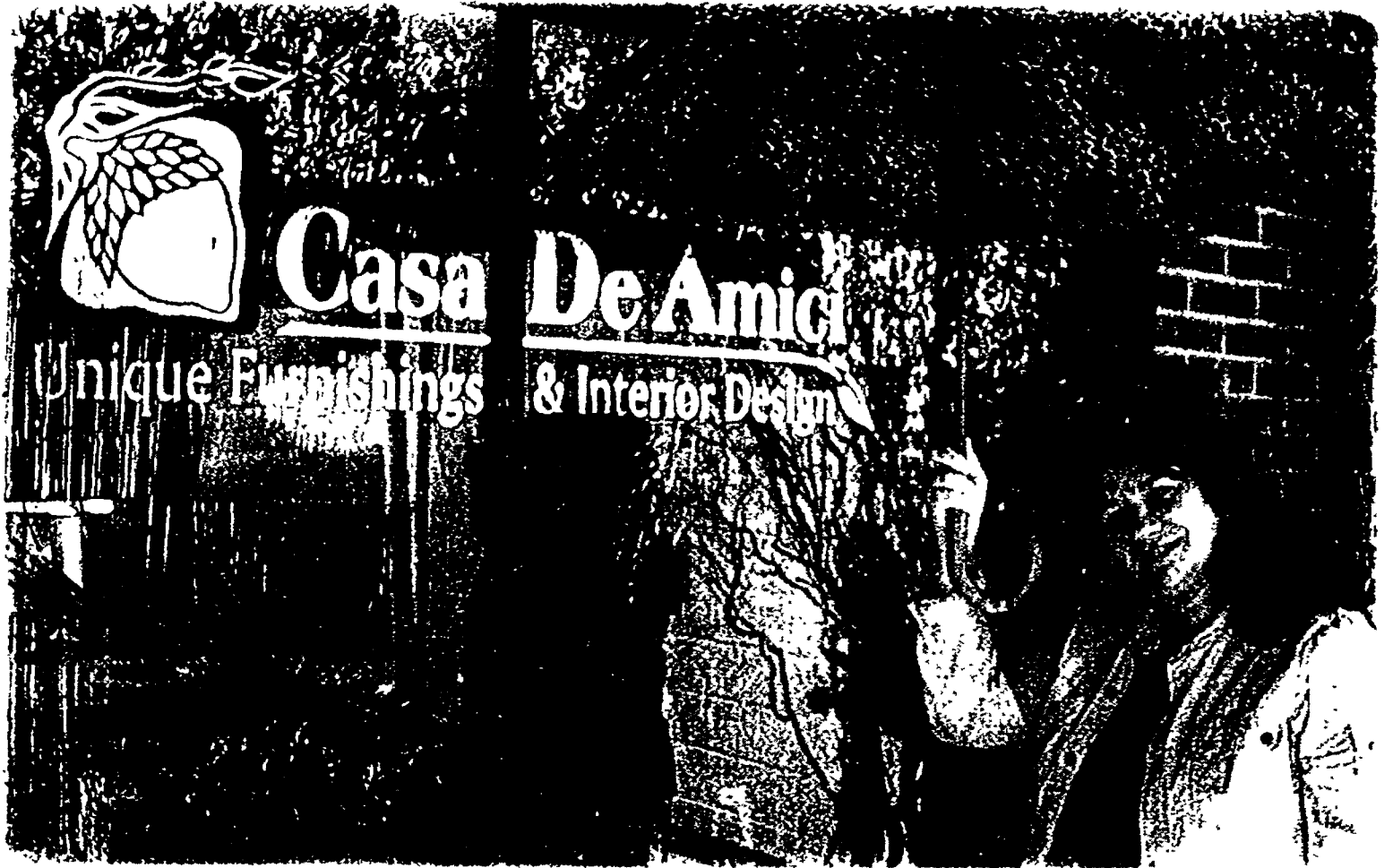
*Each presentation will allow time for questions from the audience.*

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**For additional information, call 248.442.7986.**

# Regional Marketplace

## Local News That Fits Your Life

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Get to know people, places & things to do in your community & more.



PHOTOS BY MIKE HOGAN

## Casa De Amici 'The House of Friends'

BY MIKE HOGAN  
SPECIAL WRITER

Every room tells a story. The rooms in Casa De Amici, the "House of Friends," speak volumes.

Anyone that enters this small interior design studio in downtown South Lyon immediately slows down. In just the first room, so many pieces demand attention, whether it's a pleasing postcard, an intriguing sculpture or an engaging armchair. But of anything you'll find in Casa De Amici, the most inviting is owner and interior designer, Mary Kabisa.

"I want them to feel welcomed," Kabisa says of her customers. "I want them to feel better walking in than not."

In Casa De Amici, you'll find many unique furnishings to switch up your setting. The walls are covered with paintings, mirrors, drapes and frames. The shelves hold candles of many sizes, colors and scents. There are vases, pots, books and countless other gifts inside the shop, tucked away in the courtyard of the Chamber Building on north Lafayette Street in South Lyon.

### More than a store

Kabisa doesn't just run this shop. She also provides distinctive interior design consultations.

"People are very intimidated by designers, and I'm determined to change that aspect," Kabisa said. "I

want everyone to just feel comfortable."

Comfortable is exactly how Dr. Ruby Sooch describes her home after a redesign from Mary Kabisa.

"She's flexible; she hasn't been pushy," Sooch said. "I like to do things on my own timetable. Now, my rooms are full of things that I love surrounding me."

Local resident Suzanne Cleere came to Kabisa because she was looking for a fresh perspective.

"I knew that she did some consulting, and that was really what I was interested in," Cleere said. "I had no sense of how to put it all together."

After some conversations with Cleere, Kabisa began to adjust her rooms so they would be more pleasing.

"She took my lead as far as what my tastes are," Cleere said. "She got a feel for who we were. She asks questions and she doesn't forget it, and she'll take me as far as my budget allows."

### Part of the community

Janice Eldon, of Jan's Skin Spa in downtown South Lyon, met Kabisa when she opened Casa De Amici.

"During all of the work she has done for me and just being neighbors has been a pleasure," Eldon said. "She is able to look beyond the humdrum and create a sense of comfort without being boring."

Kabisa's creativity is not limited to interior design. Last year, Dr. Sooch asked Kabisa to create a piece of art for Providence Hospital. Kabisa's work, the "Tree of Life," is a point of inspiration and pride for Dr. Sooch and others who pass it.

### Design for everyone

A self-taught talent, Kabisa believes interior design shouldn't be confined to the rich, and that

it shouldn't be costly to redesign a space. She uses her 15 years of experience to show her customers a new way to look at what they already have, even if it's simply moving objects into different rooms.

"I try to put things together in a way they haven't seen before," Kabisa said. "It's my crazy eye."

"She gives you the idea that you can move things around," Cleere said. "You don't have to throw them away. You have memories attached to them."

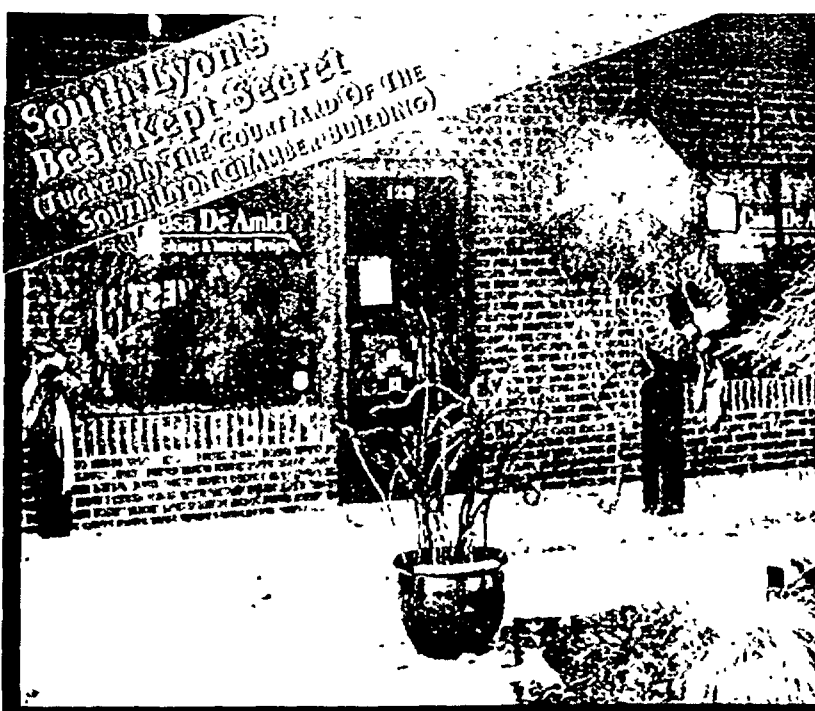
A good business gives you everything you need. A great business gives you that, plus something you never expected. This is what makes Casa De Amici more than just a great business. You might enter as a customer, but you'll probably leave as a friend.

"I wasn't ever planning on using a designer," Sooch said of her time with Kabisa. "When I walked into Mary's store, I didn't think we would still have this relationship. She's a valuable resource. I know the job's going to get done in the right way."

To view Mark Kabisa's "Tree of Life" artwork displayed at Novi's Providence Hospital, visit [www.metroalive.com](http://www.metroalive.com).

Visit Casa De Amici at 129 N. Lafayette St. in downtown South Lyon or online at [www.casadeamici.com](http://www.casadeamici.com).

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South Lyon, MI 48178  
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[mary@casadeamici.com](mailto:mary@casadeamici.com)  
[www.casadeamici.com](http://www.casadeamici.com)



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Website: [www.CasaDeAmici.com](http://www.CasaDeAmici.com) and [www.metroalive.com/casadeamici](http://www.metroalive.com/casadeamici)

Email: [mary@casadeamici.com](mailto:mary@casadeamici.com)





# APARTMENTS

HOMETOWNlife.com

## Crossword Puzzle

**ACROSS**

1 Beat into shape  
6 Rent  
11 Light touch  
14 Baseball's Magic  
17 Ed of "Warmed with Children"  
19 Novelist Leonard  
21 Actress Hagen  
22 Nav rank  
23 Start of remark by 93 Across  
27 Actor Chaney  
28 Margaritas  
29 Numeral abor  
30 Deck of destiny  
31 "Com rag" (69 song)  
33 Holy  
37 Tranquil  
38 Part 2 of  
41 Like Kojak  
42 Chiliwack's country  
43 See 35  
44 Down Slippery  
45 Orthodox image  
49 Pakistan language

**DOWN**

50 -- Carta  
51 Shoe type  
52 Pinacot  
53 Hum bug?  
54 M'deuser's rulers  
56 Tack  
57 Energy source  
58 Plant disease  
60 Deli buy  
62 Pie m  
63 Part 3 of remark  
68 Alaskan city  
70 "Unouch-able" Ness  
71 "Sen'oid" character  
73 -- vera  
74 Cheerleader's maneuver  
76 Hands (out)  
78 Gnome's kin  
80 Troop grp  
81 Buster Browns dog  
82 Florida city  
84 Maughan's "The Razors"  
85 Disney dog  
87 -- standstil  
88 Jeremy of "Brideshead"  
89 Combat msson  
91 G ve off

**83 Command to Fido**  
**84 Formerly, formerly**  
**86 It makes eye high**  
**88 Adjective**  
**89 Juan's wrap**  
**90 "Sat" -- luft!**  
**92 Accident**  
**94 S'on**  
**95 Dread-locked**  
**96 High-tech missives**  
**97 Singer Freda**  
**98 Horse's relative**  
**99 Forest father**  
**102 February forecast**  
**103 Knight time**  
**104 Perfume bottle**  
**105 Penodic table abbr**  
**106 MTV vewer**  
**108 -- trip**  
**109 -- Kipper**  
**110 Overy segment**  
**111 Cable channel**  
**112 Ending for "aubon"**  
**113 Legendary Giant**  
**114 -- Na Na**

10 Before, to Byron  
11 S'ousa- phone's cousin  
12 Tucked in  
13 Soft tone  
14 Induce the rter  
15 Chef's shield?  
16 Lanya or Lehmann  
18 Actress Dav'donch  
20 Ra son d'  
24 Ob. for instance  
25 Cuous -- Gras  
31 Son of Isaac  
32 Inc. in England  
33 Unexpected obstacles  
34 Related  
35 Wh. de  
43 Across, famed puppeteer  
36 Env abbr  
37 L ke some pretzels  
38 Martin or Lelo  
39 Grasped  
40 Steel beam  
41 Endure  
42 Tiny tige  
44 Yale of  
46 Began to like  
47 Reddence  
48 Verne captain  
50 Baseball essential  
51 Express  
54 Humorist Bombeck  
55 Curly power?  
56 78 St'ore fck  
57 Pro fee  
59 Draft device  
60 Make argyles  
61 -- Onh  
62 Dem  
62 Lupino and Carlor  
64 Hagar the Horrible's  
65 First name in tennis  
66 Actress Wilson  
67 -- France  
68 Nove st Below  
69 "Casa-blanca" character  
72 -- lrp  
74 High! segment  
75 English statesman  
76 Vinle  
77 In addition  
79 Charge  
82 Spoken

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16  
17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122

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## Answer to Last Week's Puzzle

FORGE LEASE TIAPI SAI  
ONEILL ELMORE UTIA CPOI  
ITISISSOIMPLETOBESMART  
LON L AS EORDA TARTOT  
ELIS SACRED SIERENE  
JUST THINK OF BIALO  
CANADA BAIROEEL ICON  
URDU MAGNA FLAT ODEE  
BEE E M I R S FAIRY ATOM  
DRY R O T Y N I S H INTRO  
SOMETHINGS STUPI DITO  
SITKIA ELIOT ELAINE  
ALO E SPLIT METES ELFF  
USO TIGE LOCALIA EDGE  
LADY A T A I RONS SORITIE  
EMIT SAMLEVENSON  
REPAIR ASHLEY AIRAIT  
ALMAIS SIST YMA VIAT  
SAYITHENSAIYTHOEPPISITIE  
LIN AGO G OIBER ETIHANE  
ALE POW MOORE TIALON

## Flight Manuals

**Coodos/Townhouses (462)**  
NORTHVILLE - Downtown end unit, 2000 sq ft, 3 bdrm, 3 1/2 bath, vaulted ceilings, full finished bsmt, all appliances, large private deck, 2 car attached garage. This is a must see! \$2000/mo. See pics at www.bekammanagement.com (248) 425-4853  
NORTHVILLE - Lovely! 2 br, 1 1/2 bath, new appliances, fenced yard and hot tub/water & pool \$1000 248-349-4139  
Pinckney 2 br 1.5 bath, bsmt laundry hook up 20 mins to Ann Arbor \$800 734-426-7769  
PINCKNEY Attached condo, 2 br, 2 1/2 bath, w/ walkout, 2 car garage. Immediate occupancy \$1000/mo. Lease/option 517-404-0660  
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WALLED LAKE 2 br w/bsmt, garage, C/A, washer/dryer Clean! \$700 248-910-1077  
**Duplexes (438)**  
BRIGHTON 11345 Ford Rd 2 br, washer/dryer, small pets ok \$675/mo 810-623-2034  
BRIGHTON New oak kitchen 920 sq ft 2 br, washer/dryer, AC pet ok, w/ garage \$750 W carport \$725 Near xxways & shops 810-599-3452  
FOWLERVILLE Ranches & 2 story 2 br washer/dryer hook up, \$600/mo, \$750/mo Sec. Deposit \$600. Bad credit okay 248-302-8629  
HAMBURG/PINCKNEY AREA, Lake access 2 & 3 br \$430 & \$650 No dogs 734-662-8669  
HARTLAND - 2 br ranch units, air garage no pets Start \$650/mo, 1/2 rent for 90 days w/ 1st mo lease 734-997-0960  
PINCKNEY On 2 acres, 2 br, washer/dryer, Pets OK, \$650/mo 517-404-8456  
SOUTH LYON - 2 br, Walk to town Appliances, laundry \$625+ security 810-220-2360 TandRProperties.com  
SOUTH LYON 980 sq ft 2 Br, appliances bsmt no pets! \$675 248-437-0600

**Flats (444)**  
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WHITMORE LAKE Avard May 1st, Sandy beach lakefront, 2 Br w/guest house 15 Min N of Ann Arbor \$1500/mo 517-404-4619  
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BRIGHTON Sm. lakefront cottage Sportsman's Paradise! \$550/mo 810-994-7806  
COMMERCE TWP. 2 br, 2 1/2 baths, 2200sq ft, A.C. family room, bsmt., garage, lg yard, Walled Lk schools \$1100/mo \$1700 security 248-624-9470  
HOWELL, Thompson Lake. 2 br., 1 bath, with walkout \$1,000/mo (248) 421-3344  
WHITMORE LAKE Gorgeous lakefront 1 br apt, deck, dock, parking \$675 734-449-4797  
**Vacation Rentals (411)**  
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# MARKETPLACE


HOMETOWNlife.com

<b>Antiques Collectibles</b> (7820) <b>MICHIGAN MODERNISM EXPO 2009!</b> Southfield Civic Center Evergreen at Civic Center (1-696 at Evergreen exit South) <b>APRIL 25 &amp; 26</b> Sat 10-6 • Sun 12-5 <b>ART DECO, ART NOUVEAU, ARTS &amp; CRAFTS, SO.S. 60.S. and MUCH, MUCH MORE!</b> www.MichiganModernism.com \$1.00 OFF with ad O&E <b>Auction Sales</b> (7060) You can view and print all our auctions for our website listed below <b>Braun &amp; Helmer Auction Service, Inc.</b> (734) 865-8646 • (734) 996-9135 (734) 994-6389 • (734) 429-1919 www.braunandhelmer.com <b>Rummage Sale/ Flea Market</b> (7060) <b>BIRMINGHAM First United Methodist Church</b> 1589 W. Maple Rd., B'ham. Southfield & Cranbrook. Wed., Apr. 29, 6-9 pm. Price + 30%. 32 departments & snack bar. Thurs. Apr. 30, 10-3 pm. Regular price & snack bar Fri. May 1, 9am-11am. \$7.00 per 13 gallon bag or 1/2 price - Call 248-646-1200 <b>BRIGHTON CHILSON HILLS CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE</b> Sat. 4/25, 8am-3pm Corner of Chilson & Brighton Rds <b>FARMINGTON HILLS Antioch Lutheran Church, NE corner 13 &amp; Farmington Tr. 9am-7pm. Sat., 10am-12noon. Clothes \$1 each</b> <b>NOVI</b> Annual church yard & bake sale May 1 & 2, 8am-3:30 pm Novi United Methodist Church, 10 Mi Rd at Meadowbrook <b>7100 Estate Sales</b> (7100) <b>BLOOMFIELD TWP. ESTATE SALE</b> April 24th & 25th, 9-4 456 S. Cranbrook Cross W of Cranbrook, S off Maple Note: street parking on N Cranbrook Cross, N of Whiteleg St only - may be blocked if parked in posted area. Symphony musicians home filled with huge collection of unique accessories - musical instruments, Russian, Egyptian, African and Oriental tons of jewelry, artwork, frames, books & tools. Ladies clothes, fur coats, silver & pewter. Complete house of furniture - 4 sofas, glass top dining room set & much more <b>SALES BY HERITAGE 9's @ 8am</b>	<b>7100 Estate Sales</b> (7100) <b>LIVONIA</b> 17310 Loveland, 6 Mile & Farmington Thu-Sat. Apr 23-25 10am-5pm. Antiques, jewelry tools, tons more! <b>Garage Sales</b> (7110) <b>HARTLAND TWP. 5699</b> Mabley Hill Rd 48430, Lake Tyrone Vg variety of items! Fri. 9-5 & Sat. 9-4 <b>LIVONIA 36560 Marier, N/5</b> Mile, btwn Levan & Newburgh. Apr 25-26, Sat. & Sun only! 10-5pm Ladies clothes, old albums, baby items, etc <b>LIVONIA Come "C" what we get!</b> We got a lot! 29739 Robert, off Middlebelt, btwn Joy & Plymouth Rd Fri & Sat, 9:30am-4pm, Sun., 9:30am-2pm. <b>LIVONIA Estate Sale!</b> 29370 Jacqueline Thurns, Fr., 8-5pm. Tools, furniture, household misc. www.ournestale.com. <b>LIVONIA Multi-Family Rummage Sale - 15+ HOMES!</b> Apr 30-May 2, Thu-Sat, 9am-4pm. Furniture, toys, tools, etc. E of Farmington, btwn 5 & 6 Mile <b>LIVONIA WOODCREEK FARMS SUB - 15+ HOMES!</b> Apr 30-May 2, Thu-Sat, 9am-4pm. Furniture, toys, tools, etc. E of Farmington, btwn 5 & 6 Mile <b>LYON TWP - 21226 Laser</b> Lane, off 8 Mile, 1/4 Mile West of Pontiac Trail. April 24, 10am-3pm at Tai Cha Center, 38121 Ann Arbor Rd. Household items books jewelry and more! <b>MILFORD 542 S Pleasant Valley Rd, 5 mi N of Commerce</b> Apr 23-25, 9-5pm. Home decor, ladies plus size clothing & much more! <b>MILFORD Mom to Mom Sale.</b> Christ Lutheran-GM Rd. April 25th, 9am-1pm <b>NORTHVILLE 4 &amp; N/5</b> 423 thru 426 Large Sale! Electronics, housewares, tech, toys, clothes, tools & more 605 Horton. <b>REDFORD Antique tools &amp; furniture, 3 &amp; 4 wheelers, hunting fishing, carpet tools, Harley Davidson parts, 4x4 Blazer &amp; plenty of truck parts</b> 26723 Student, 1 bl. N of 5 Mi, 3 bks E of Inkster. Apr 23-26, 9-5pm. 248-722-8839 <b>ROCHESTER HILLS, A subdivision garage sale you won't want to miss!</b> Whispering Willows Sub, Thurs 4/30 Fri 5/1, Sat, 5/2, 8am-5pm W off Livernoss, S off Hamlin. <b>SALEM 4/25, Sat. Only! 9am-4pm, Downtown Salem.</b> 9571 6 Mile, 3 Miles E from Pontiac Trail. Girls & women's clothes, furniture, rotolider, lawn mower, cat parts, picnic table, dog house, household items and more. <b>SOUTH LYON 1035 Cor Ln., Trotters Pointe Sub Fr., Sat. &amp; Sun. 8-4pm.</b> Lots of misc. items plus a large variety of NEW Hot Wheels & Disney cars at great prices! <b>SOUTH LYON 59402 Pacers Path - S of 11 Mile, E of Marquette.</b> Apr 23-26, 9-5pm. All kinds of household, linens, kitchen stuff, clothing, small appliances, glassware, new baby dish sets, purses, vintage teacups & other collectibles, dolls, princess house & Polish pottery, x-mas, Showtimes set & forget it w/ extras, & many new items to re-grt. This sale is huge & priced to sell!	<b>Garage Sales</b> (7110) <b>SOUTH LYON Garage Sale - 4/24 Fr &amp; 4/25 Sat., 9-3pm.</b> 10446 Mendota, S off 10 Mile, E of Rushton, Lakeside Estates North. Toys, clothes, records, comics, tools, furniture, etc <b>SOUTH LYON Moving Sale!</b> Furniture, dishes, baby stuff, sewing machines, more! Apr. 25-26, 9-5pm 368 Lennox-b'wn McMunn & Warren. <b>SOUTH LYON Multi-Family Sale!</b> 1035 Arabian Ct. Pontiac Trail & 11 Mile. Apr. 25-24, 9-3pm. Baby, kids clothes/toys, housewares, books, furniture, & more! <b>SOUTH LYON-City-wide Yard Sales</b> May 1, 2nd and 3rd. Rain or Shine Sponsored by the City of South Lyon 100's of homes!! 1000's of bargains!! <b>SOUTH LYON, April 24, 25,</b> 8am to 4pm. 487 Lyon Blvd. A little bit of everything <b>STOCKBRIDGE SPRING FLEA MARKET &amp; GARAGE SALE.</b> American Legion Auxiliary, 830 S. Clinton St. Sat. April 25 9am-3pm. Bake sale, raffle, collectibles and crafts, concession stand 734-498-3622 <b>TROY - Garage sale not to be missed!</b> Vintage dresser w/ mirror, custom-made bed-ding chairs, nightstands, kitchenware & many wonderful household items. Fri April 24th, 8-4pm, Sat April 25th, 10-2pm. 4408 Cahul Dr. N of Waddles, W of Crooks <b>TROY SUB GARAGE SALE</b> Fri/Sat, April 24 & 25, 9am to 4pm. Lake Charnwood Sub, just East of South Blvd/Adams, South Side. <b>WESTLAND HUGE SALE 1168</b> Woodbourne, off Merriman btwn Avondale & Parkwood Apr 23-25 9am-7 Furniture household bedding, dishes, clothing tools lots of stuff <b>Having Sales</b> (7130) <b>HARTLAND, JOHN DEERE</b> tractor & accessories, tools, heavy duty power Rascal, furniture, slate pool table, children's clothes, craft supplies & more. Fr., Sat., 10am to 5pm. 11990 Maxfield Blvd. <b>LIVONIA - 50 years accumulation.</b> Tons of misc. clothes & household goods! 18874 Loveland, S of 7 Mile, E. of Farmington. April 22-24, 9 am. <b>PLYMOUTH - Thurs Only, Apr 23</b> 13174 Graefield, btwn Naspier/Ridge, S of North Territorial. Furniture, pictures, household, too much to list! <b>Baby &amp; Children Items</b> (7134) <b>SWING SET</b> Free Rainbow Swing Set You must haul away Please call 248 344-0286 <b>Household Goods</b> (7160) <b>Antique piano \$200</b> Tanning bed, \$900 Dressers & desks call for info (810) 227-4797 <b>GIRLS TWIN BEDROOM SET</b> 4 pieces, \$400 517-545-0422	<b>Household Goods</b> (7160) <b>MISCELLANEOUS:</b> Refrigerator \$100; Retro Electric Stove \$45 Fryer \$100; Gas Stove \$100; Washer \$85, 12,000 BTU Air Conditioner 248-465-0262 <b>Appliances</b> (7184) <b>REFRIGERATOR</b> Kitchen-Aid Side by side, counter depth \$400 248-207-5344 <b>Farm Equipment</b> (7380) <b>MANURE SPREADER 25</b> Bushel, Horse Jumps, Heated Water Buckets, Water Trough & misc. 810-444-8720 <b>Lawn, Garden Material</b> (7480) <b>COMPOST, TOPSOIL</b> Delivery & yard waste disposal 248-437-7354 Tutthill Farms.com <b>Tree Sales</b> (7435) <b>BLUE SPRUCE TREES 4-5'</b> 5' Tall, Delivered & Planted \$90 each 810-644-2072 <b>PINE &amp; SPRUCE TREES</b> 2'-10" Balled & Burlapped or in Fiber Pots. \$10-\$12/Lt. Call 517-851-4673, Stockbridge <b>The Sloan Farm Welcomes Spring with these incredible Savings!</b> Flowering Crab Apples 1'-2" cal Only \$30. River Birch 6-8' 4" dbh stem \$75 Eastern Hemlock 3-4 \$60. Native Red Maple 2' cal. \$30. Please call for current hours at 517-546-3094. <b>Miscellaneous For Sale</b> (7500) <b>Designer Wedding Dresses</b> Beautiful, new, must see! Make offer - 248-818-4280 <b>INTERNATIONAL Tractor 240</b> series w/finch mower deck, \$2500 1995 28H, Shasta travel trailer, \$2000 Kirecoco water softener, \$1200 517-548-3378 <b>Wanted to Buy</b> (7540) <b>ABSOLUTE 1 BUYER!!</b> We are not a scrap yard Top \$ Paid for coins, gold, diamonds, guns, musical instruments Uptown Exchange, 810-227-8190 <b>ABSOLUTELY ALL SCRAP METAL WANTED</b> Steel, stainless, copper brass tool steel, carbide, aluminum Highest dollar paid! 248-437-0094 www.beaversco.com <b>OLD FISHING TACKLE-Lures</b> Animal & fish mounts. Comic Books. 517-525-1601 <b>Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)</b>	<b>Wanted to Buy</b> (7540) <b>SCRAP METAL</b> Highest Prices Paid Copper \$ 90-\$140 per lb Brass \$ 50c-\$ 70 per lb Alum 0 15c-0 35c per lb Stainless 0 20c-0 30c per lb (248) 960-1200 <b>WE NOW BUY GOLD, SILVER &amp; JEWELRY</b> Mann Metals Corp. 1011 Decker Rd., Walled Lk. <b>* BUYING ANY MUSICAL *</b> instruments/egup & ANY vintage items (517)525-1601 <b>WANTED: WAR RELICS</b> Highest prices paid I will come to you 517-545-4913, 313-671-8667 <b>Dogs</b> (7640) <b>ADORABLE PUPPIES</b> Pure Bred & Designer Toy Breeds, some Teacups Many non-shedding Shots, wormed, vet checked \$300 & up www.puppy-place.net 517-434-1028 517-404-3045 <b>AKC GERMAN SHEPHERD</b> 6 weeks old Vet Check. Parents on site \$600 (810) 516-8792 <b>AKC Reg. German Rottner</b> Shots vet checked, ready 4/25! \$600 517-546-4044 <b>IRISH SETTER</b> AKC Registered Show & Hunting Lines 17 weeks old with Microchip & Vaccinations 4 Females \$750 517-552-1000 <b>LAB PUPPIES, AKC 1 Male &amp; 1 Female, yellow Vet checked \$500 810-632-7308</b> <b>Long haired red Dachshund's, 3 males 1 red. No shots. Call after 4:30. \$100 Text: 517-518-1403</b> <b>MULTIPOO Puppies, shots, wormed Female, \$475 (517) 546-3916</b> <b>YORKIEPOO puppies, no shed, \$350 Rat Terrier puppies \$200 8 weeks, 517-897-7005</b> <b>Horses &amp; Equipment</b> (7860) <b>DRESSAGE LESSONS, BOARDING, SPECIAL KID'S PROGRAM - 248-437-3903</b>	<b>Pet Services</b> (7900) <b>EKO LAN KENNEL/DAYCARE</b> GRAND OPENING MAY 1ST (810) 610-3217 <b>Pet Supplies</b> (7918) <b>DOG KENNEL FENCING 90'</b> 6 high, 10 sections, 2w gates \$350 SOLD!!! <b>Lost - Pets</b> (7930) <b>FOUND CAT - White male</b> found near 9 Mile & Clarkshore Dr near Catis Golf course Call (248) 437-0730 <b>LOST CAT</b> White in front, two gray toes on each foot, on back tan white spots. Lost at Avondale & Florence Westland 1m Lost Without Her Reward! 734-595-4712
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<b>Antiques Collectibles</b> (7820) <b>GREAT LAKES DEPRESSION GLASS CLUB / SHOW &amp; SALE</b> April 25 & 26 Sat 10-5 Sun 11-4 United Food Workers 876 Horace Brown Dr., Madison Hts. Info 586-294-8290 <b>Antiques Collectibles</b> (7820) <b>There is something for everyone in our Classifieds!</b> <b>MAGAZINES</b> Smithsonian, Martha Stewart, Midwest Living Golf & misc others 248-348-1243	<b>START EARNING NOW</b> - Market patented anti-aging technology & products Stable 25 year old company Secure your future. Call Herb 734-285-6792 <b>EMPLOYMENT</b> <b>INTELLIGENCE NAVY RESERVE</b> Serve part-time Elite training Great pay & benefits Sign-on bonus up to \$20K \$ for education Call 1-800-922-1703, M-F 9-3 <b>TRAVEL, TRAVEL!! \$500</b> Sign-on and \$500 performance bonuses Seeking sharp guys/gals, Bluejean environment, music lovers welcome! Diane #877-PAID-FUN Need a job? Start today! <b>FINANCIAL SERVICES</b> <b>"BEST HOME LOANS!"</b> Land Contract and Mortgage Payoffs, Home-Improvements, Debt-Consolidation, Property Taxes Foreclosures Houses/ Doublewides/Mobiles Good/Bad/Ugly Credit! 1-800-246-8100 Anytime! United Mortgage Services www.umsmortgage.com <b>DR. DANIELS AND SON</b> Real Estate Loans Cash for land contracts \$10,000 to \$500,000 - Fast funding, free consultation. 800-837-6166. 248-335-6166 alan@drdanielsandson.com <b>PLACE YOUR STATE-WIDE AD HERE!</b> \$299 buys a 25-word ad offering over 3 million readers. Contact this newspaper for details <b>SCHROEDER LOG HOME SUPPLY, Inc.</b> Quality Log Home Products Construction or Maintenance Shipping from MN, MT, IN, TN Free catalog available. 1-800-359-6614. www.loghelp.com
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TYME AUTO 734-455-5566</p>	<p><b>Autos Wanted</b> (6190)</p> <p><b>\$5 CASH 4 CARS \$5</b> We buy running cars, trucks, boats &amp; equipment Call 517-375-0375</p> <p><b>ALL AUTOS, TRUCKS &amp; EQUIPMENT, running or not wanted - Highest \$\$\$ paid Free friendly towing! (248)437-0094</b></p> <p><b>hometownlife.com</b></p> <p><b>FINAL JOURNEY</b> - We buy running &amp; junk cars, etc. We pay \$50-\$5000 cash on spot. Get more cash than dealer trade in or donation 313-320-1829 313-384-7765</p>	<p><b>Trucks for Sale</b> (6220)</p> <p><b>'01 GMC 2500 HD CREW CAB SLE 4X4</b> Like new, priced to move <b>\$10,995</b> <b>Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</b></p> <p><b>'05 FORD F-250 XLT SCAB 4x4</b> One owner, only 25,000 miles <b>\$18,995</b> <b>Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</b></p> <p><b>'07 FORD F-150 "KING RANCH" SUPER CREW</b> 4x4, navigation <b>\$29,995</b> <b>Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</b></p> <p><b>'09 FORD E350 XLT CLUB WAGON</b> 12 pass., navigation <b>\$21,995</b> <b>Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</b></p> <p><b>CHEVY 1997 Ext cab 1500 2-71 4x4 \$2950/best. 1994 Ranger 2WD \$1650. CASH 4 CARS. 517-375-0375</b></p> <p><b>Mini-Vans</b> (6248)</p> <p><b>CHRYSLER</b> Town Country Touring model 2005 Sun roof, stow &amp; go seats 72K miles \$8995 313-701-1081</p> <p><b>HANDICAP VANS - USED. BOUGHT &amp; SOLD.</b> Mini &amp; full size I come to you. 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# Infiniti FX50 Prowls Like A Cat -- But It's A Car

Advertising Feature

## CAReport



By Dale Buss

It may be unfair to judge Infiniti's FX50 by today's automotive standards, which are high on practicality and value if not outright sobriety. But the vehicle that has been called a "bionic cheetah" for its athletic, organic, rounded design is in Infiniti showrooms today, and so it is today that we must make our evaluation - not 2003, when the brand's brassy, bulbous, top-of-the-line crossover first appeared.

And from today's vantage point, while you've got to like the fact that the FX line is still an amazing head-turner, it's increasingly difficult to argue against its lack of practicality, which includes relatively poor gas mileage, an unforgivingly hard ride, difficult visibility, and frustratingly little cargo space.

First, let's give FX50 - the modern version of the FX35 and FX45 that debuted in 2003 - all the props it deserves. This vehicle was meant to make a splash back then as the ultimate in stylishness because of its outrageous design, which resembles one of those mythical creatures that is an amalgam of several different species.

Its gaping front grill, for example, is reminiscent of some kind of shark. FX50's highly rounded overall form indeed recalls the haunches of some sort of big cat about to lunge onto the roadway. Its huge, 21-inch tires - out of all proportion to the

otherwise low profile of the vehicle - remind me of the way Roadrunner used to gear up to escape Wil E. Coyote. And the extremely downswept rear end is like the tailfeathers of some extremely fast bird.

Put that all together, and add frills such as front-fender vents, and you've got a vehicle that still screams, "Look at me!" Bathe it in a color such as the Mojave Copper hue of the FX50 that I recently drove, and it's a vehicle that you simply can't ignore.

The other overriding positive about FX50 is that it's amazingly souped-up. In its previous incarnation, as the FX45, the vehicle rode a 4.5-liter, 320-horsepower V-8 engine, which was ridiculous enough power for a vehicle that isn't all that big. But pure car people complained that the FX45 didn't have enough of a power boost over the FX35, which was equipped with a powerful V6.

So FX50 now boasts a 390-horsepower, 5.0-liter V8 engine, meaning that the vehicle can blow past nearly all obstacles when that is your desire. Straight-line acceleration, for example, is zero to 60 mph in all of just 5.6 seconds.

Infiniti also keeps improving interior amenities. FX50 offers diamond-quilted leather seats, chrome and brushed-metal accents on the instrument panel, adjustable thigh and back bolsters, and



The Infiniti FX50 cuts a ferocious figure wherever it goes.



FX50's nifty radar-assisted cruise control is manipulated from the steering wheel.

even an advanced air purifier and allergen-neutralizing filter system.

FX50 also puts electronics to great use in the driving experience per se. There's a lane-departure warning system that comes in handy for drowsy or inattentive drivers.

And the radar-assisted cruise control is a great boon to safe driving, keeping you a pre-selected distance away from the vehicle ahead of you in the lane and automatically braking to enforce the gap. It can throw the FX50 into an unsettling, jerky deceleration when another driver, say, suddenly cuts in front of you, but that was a price I was willing to pay for the maintenance of a safe cushion of separation that an aggressive driver like me too often risks.

Having said all of that, however, a thorough picture of the FX50 includes plenty of flaws. The seven-speed transmission, for example, is a bit choppy for a vehicle that retails for around \$65,000. The mileage - 14 EPA-rated in the city, and 20 mpg on the highway - is parsimonious for a vehicle this sleek, especially considering that this fuel economy comes only with expensive

premium gasoline.

And for all the sense of safety that a driver acquires with the radar-assisted cruise control, much of that feeling is frustrated by extremely poor visibility out the front, rear and sides of the FX50. The hood looms way too large out the windshield. The C-pillar areas are extremely thick and create huge blind spots. And the rear window isn't big enough.

Also, while FX50's driver and passengers can be assured of snug comfort once they're in their seats, the vehicle is extremely difficult to get into and out of. The front doors have a wide transom to the seats, which creates a significant obstacle even for people of average height. And the rear doors are clumsily carved out of the vehicle's overall design, meaning the threshold is too small.

The good thing is that all of this stuff is apparent when you take FX50 for a test drive. You're buying one to make a statement, after all, so you must live with the baggage.

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NOW	48mo... <b>\$237</b>	
<b>\$13,400*</b>	60mo... <b>\$213</b>	

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### 2009 PONTIAC VIBE

Stock #90152

29 MPG

PURCHASE	LEASES	72 MONTH
Was \$19,480	36mo... <b>\$235</b>	<b>PURCHASE</b> <b>\$247*</b> PER MO.
NOW	48mo... <b>\$221</b>	
<b>\$14,566*</b>	60mo... <b>\$201</b>	

\$0 Down Payment

### 2009 PONTIAC G6

Stk. #90116

33 MPG

PURCHASE	LEASES	72 MONTH
Was \$21,555	36mo... <b>\$232</b>	<b>PURCHASE</b> <b>\$238*</b> PER MO.
NOW	48mo... <b>\$230</b>	
<b>\$14,160*</b>	60mo... <b>\$223</b>	

\$0 Down Payment

### 2009 PONTIAC G8

Stock #90177

24 MPG

PURCHASE	LEASES	72 MONTH
Was \$28,875	36mo... <b>\$374</b>	<b>PURCHASE</b> <b>\$383*</b> PER MO.
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<b>\$18,380*</b>	60mo... <b>\$291</b>	

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### 2009 BUICK ENCLAVE CXL FWD

Stk. #93059

PURCHASE	LEASES	72 MONTH
Was \$44,835	36mo... <b>\$533</b>	<b>PURCHASE</b> <b>\$586*</b> PER MO.
NOW	48mo... <b>\$510</b>	
<b>\$33,359*</b>	60mo... <b>\$472</b>	

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### 2009 GMC ENVOY SLE

Stk. #95036

PURCHASE	LEASES	72 MONTH
Was \$31,650	36mo... <b>\$459</b>	<b>PURCHASE</b> <b>\$368*</b> PER MO.
NOW	48mo... <b>\$393</b>	
<b>\$22,250*</b>	60mo... <b>\$347</b>	

\$0 Down Payment

### 2009 GMC ACADIA SLE

Stock #95100

PURCHASE	LEASES	72 MONTH
Was \$32,700	36mo... <b>\$432</b>	<b>PURCHASE</b> <b>\$429*</b> PER MO.
NOW	48mo... <b>\$413</b>	
<b>\$23,000*</b>	60mo... <b>\$372</b>	

\$0 Down Payment

### 2009 GMC SAVANA

Stock #95095

PURCHASE	60 MONTH	72 MONTH
Was \$25,640	<b>PURCHASE</b>	<b>PURCHASE</b>
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Stock #95073

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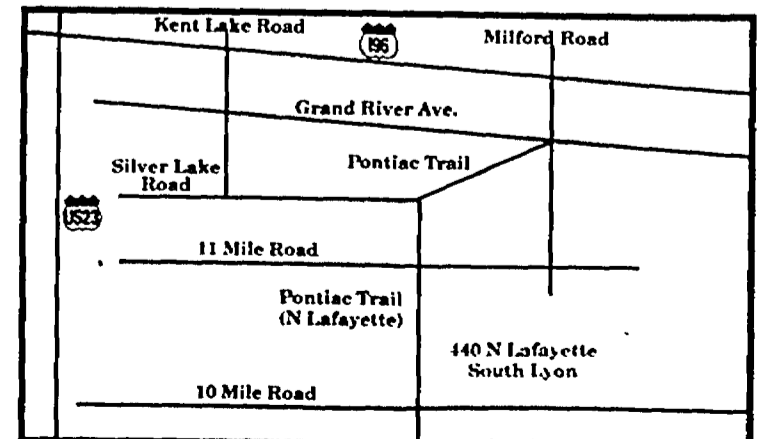
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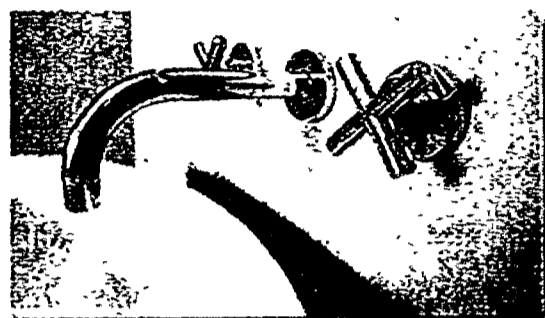
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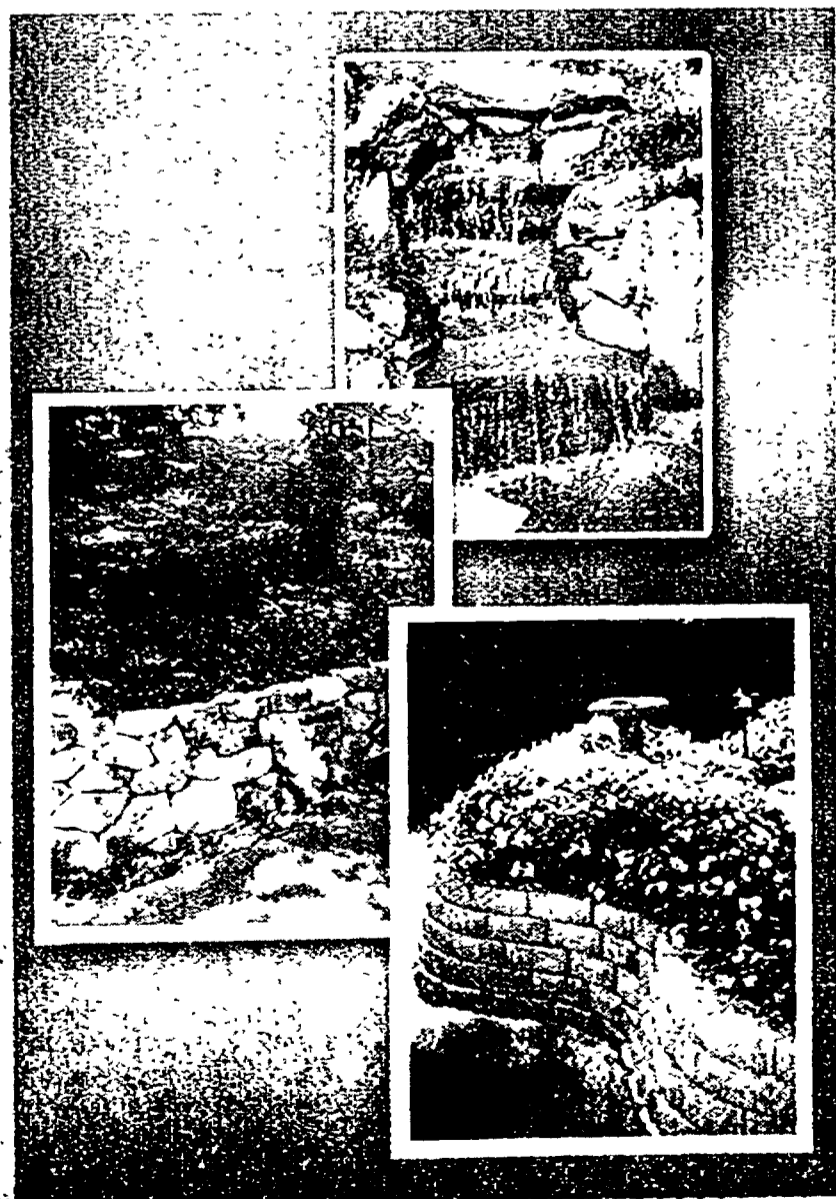
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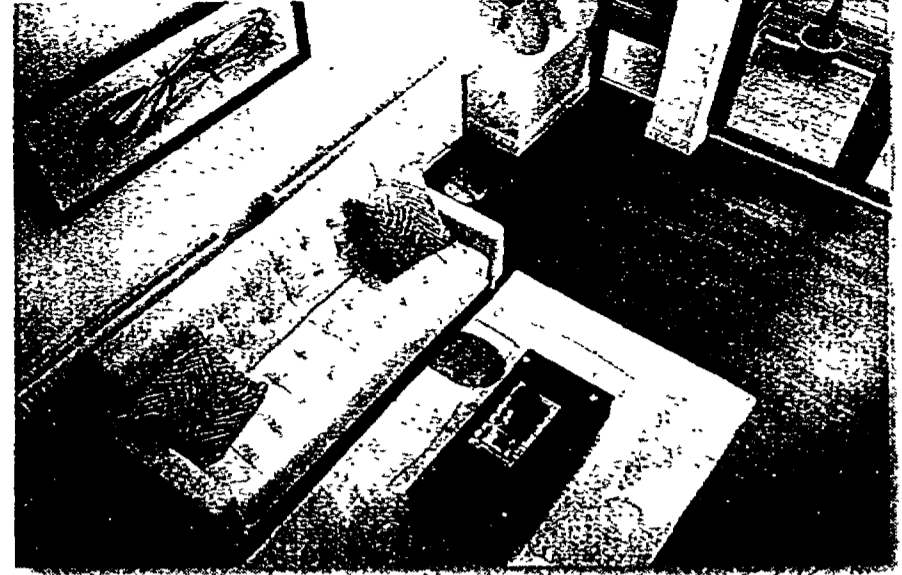
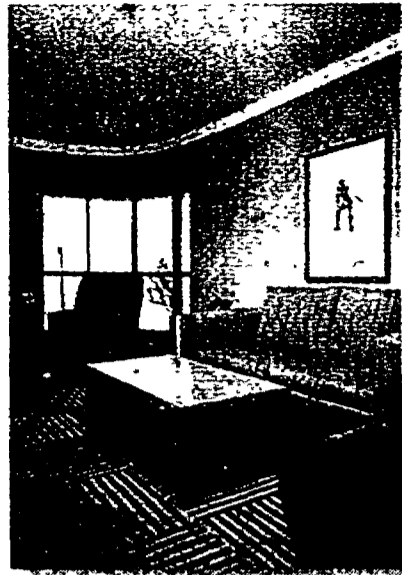
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# Refine your home with quality flooring

BY ALISON BERGSIEKER  
ADVERTORIAL COORDINATOR

With more Michigan residents looking to stay homebound this year rather than moving out of state, now is a perfect time to update your floors.

Homeowners have several options to choose from including carpet, hardwood, laminate, ceramic tile or resilient flooring.

## Carpet

Comfortable and colorful, carpet warms any room in style with a rainbow of color choices.

Carpet styles are uniquely selected to complement a homeowner's personal tastes, ranging from classic and sophisticated looks to casual, Berber and active carpets that better support pets, toys and recreation.

Find carpet priced from 49 cents per square foot at Modern Floors & Interiors Carpet One in Walled Lake, 1145 N. Pontiac Trail.

## Hardwood

Floors do more than reflect your style and taste — they set the stage for everything else in your home. Deciding on which wood floor is right for you can be a daunting task.

Different woods require varying degrees of maintenance and will give you a range of comfort and noise absorption.

When choosing a hardwood floor for your home, you'll want to consider a few factors:

- **Species** — Some trees have bold grain patterns, such as oak, and are associated with an informal or a country look. Others, such as maple and birch, have a subtle, more refined grain and tend to be found in a more

traditional setting.

- **Shade variation** — Darker tones give a more formal look or traditional feel, while lighter tones complete the more casual room.

- **Gloss level** — Refers to the finish and visual sheen of the product, ranging from smooth, soft satin to a crisp, high gloss.

## Laminate

Laminates have become a popular trend and can be installed over most existing floors.

Laminate floors are exceptionally durable, easy to clean and maintain, have superior stain resistance and can be installed on all grade levels including below grade. They resemble real wood or stone floors and cost around one-third less than actual wood floors. To explore the benefits of laminate, visit Perfect Floors Inc. of South Lyon online at

[www.perfectfloorsinc.com](http://www.perfectfloorsinc.com).

## Ceramic Tile

Tile is made from materials with unique characteristics. Natural stone, such as granite or limestone, is naturally formed with no two pieces exactly alike. This gives floors a distinctive elegance. Ceramic tiles are popular in either glazed or unglazed styles, chosen for durability and beauty. Colorful glass, mosaic and metal tiles offer fresh, creative expression in borders and flooring design.

## Resilient/Vinyl

Depending on grade, resilient flooring can fit any style and budget. Relatively inexpensive yet durable and easy to maintain, resilient flooring is available in an amazing selection of colors and patterns to complement virtually any décor.

Resilient flooring is offered with three different types of wear surfaces: No-wax, urethane and enhanced urethane. Easy to clean and maintain, resilient flooring is right at home in high traffic areas such as kitchens, baths, playrooms, mudrooms and entranceways.

## Area Rugs

Area rugs serve a wide variety of purposes in home décor.

They can be used to help define separate spaces within a larger room or add a touch of warmth and color to a hardwood or tile floor. They can also serve as a link between rooms.

Area rugs come in all shapes, colors, textures and sizes. Be it wild or subtle, extravagant or simple, these rugs are an easy way to express your decorative flair.

There are some size guidelines to consider when choosing an area rug for your home.

- Room size rugs should leave a border of 18-24 inches on all sides.
- Dining room rugs should measure at least 4 feet longer and wider than the dining room table, so chairs will not fall off the rug when pushed back from the table.
- Hallway rugs should be approximately 2-4 inches narrower and 18-24 inches shorter than the hallway.
- Other area rugs vary in size according to need.


Designers recommend trying different patterns that use some common colors in the same room for a coordinated look that is also fresh; or consider oval and round shapes as a way to inject new life in a room rather than a traditional rectangular or square rug.





Many of the flooring tips above are courtesy of Independence Carpet One Floor & Home of Westland. Visit [www.carpetonewestland.com](http://www.carpetonewestland.com) or call 734-729-6200.





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# Fine Design

## Improve your yard with hardscaping

Landscaping not only makes your home more beautiful — it can also make it more valuable. In fact, a Michigan State University study found that, depending on where the house is located, high-quality landscaping adds between five and 11 percent to its price.

However, good landscaping is about more than just plants. Paths, benches, walls, water features — they're all part of hardscaping and can make or break the look of your yard and garden landscape.

In the competitive housing market, every feature of a home is crucial in attracting potential buyers. The home's exterior makes the first impression, and hardscapes, as important elements of landscaping, play a critical role gaining a return on value. Along with helping a property stand out in buyers' minds, a carefully thought-out landscape using hardscapes allows homeowners to express their creativity and personality through the variety of options available.

### Create your own path

A well-made concrete walkway or gar-

den path not only stands up to years of hard use, it enhances the natural landscape and complements a home's exterior features.

Traditional walkway materials such as brick and stone can be pricey and often difficult to install. As an easy and inexpensive alternative, you can build a new concrete path using manufactured molds, such as the Quikrete WalkMaker building forms. The result is a beautiful pathway that mirrors the texture and appearance of brick or natural stone with all the durability and economy of poured concrete.

### Project how-to

Here is a simple, step-by-step process for making your own beautiful pathway. This is a weekend project one person can easily complete for a minimal cost. Typically, the cost to install a 10-foot-long concrete path is about \$50 to \$60 for materials.

**Materials**  
—concrete mix or crack-resistant concrete mix





# SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENT

## Spring cleaning that saves money

Spring cleaning season meets a recession — what better time to take care of some often-overlooked household cleaning tasks that can save you big bucks in the long run? Some of the costliest repairs are ones that could easily be prevented with simple maintenance steps.

Take your home's heating and air conditioning system. When was the last time you had your cooling coils cleaned? If you're not even sure what part of the system the coils are, where they're located or if they've ever been cleaned at all, spring is a good time to take care of this important maintenance item. Doing so can help extend the life of your system and ensure it's functioning at peak efficiency.

"The cooling coils take the heat and humidity out of the air," says Aaron Marshbanks, a member of the National Air Duct Cleaners Association (NADCA), and a heating and cooling industry professional with 15 years experience. "The coils are essentially the connection point between your air conditioning system and the air in your home."

Cooling coils, which resemble a car radiator, are typically located on top of or inside the air handling unit in the mechanical room. Over time, household dust and air contaminants including fabric particles, skin cells, animal dander and other debris collect on the coils. While your furnace filter will reduce debris — assuming you keep the filters clean — it's impossible to completely eliminate it, and what gets through will end up on the coils.

"When that happens, two problems arise over time," Marshbanks says. "First, the build-up restricts the flow of air through the unit and decreases its ability to effectively remove heat from the air. Second, it makes the equipment work harder and longer to get air into your house. So the air handler

runs and runs, and the unit consumes more energy and produces less comfort."

If the unit has to run 25 percent longer to produce the desired results, you'll actually be shortening its usable life by 25 percent, he points out. And the cost of repairing or replacing a faulty heating and cooling unit far exceeds the cost of having the coils cleaned.

While coils may not need to be cleaned annually, they should be inspected every year. It's best to leave the inspection and any necessary cleaning to a trained

professional, Marshbanks advises. The configuration of some units may make it difficult to examine and clean the coils without removing them from the unit. Plus, improper cleaning can actually damage the coils.

"And you shouldn't assume your coils are being cleaned or even inspected regularly just because you have a service contract with an heating and cooling company," he adds. Many companies do not include that service as part of their regular maintenance routine.

NADCA offers a certified professional locator on its Web page to help consumers find qualified technicians in their area. NADCA members must pass a rigorous certification exam and complete regular training in order to earn and maintain the association's certification. When evaluating a company to inspect and clean your coils, be sure to ask how long the company has been in business, the average experience level of its service people, and what their regular service includes.

To learn more about NADCA certified professionals or to find one in your area, visit [www.NADCA.com](http://www.NADCA.com).

— Courtesy of ARAcotent



NADCA offers a certified professional locator on its Web site, [www.nadca.com](http://www.nadca.com), to help consumers find qualified technicians in their area.

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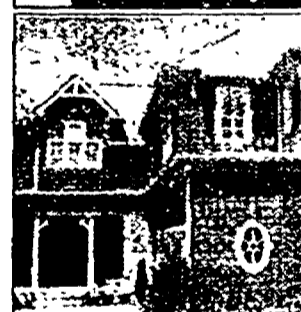
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# Update your bathroom

Does your bathroom resemble the bathroom of your childhood? Does it have the same unappealing colors, cold tile floors and dated decor as the day you bought the house?

If your bathroom is stuck in the '60s, '70s and even '80s, then it's time to upgrade. But don't worry; you can transform it into a modern day showplace on a budget. Here are some tips to get you started:

## Apply a fresh coat of paint

Nothing cleans up damaged and dingy walls better than a new color. Because the bathroom is a high-humidity area that is also enclosed, look for paints that are mildew-resistant but don't contain harsh chemicals. Be a little artistic with your painting as well. Find textured paints to create barely-there patterns on the walls, or use two different paint tints to create shading or bold contrasting wall colors.

## Update your hardware

Bathroom faucets and accessories have evolved over the decades, and style is the new design. Today's products are able to match tastes ranging from exquisite vintage to ultra modern so you can transform your out-dated style into something

perfect for a guest bath, master bath or children's fun bathroom. Visit [Faucet.com](http://Faucet.com) to find the right style for you.

## Change your lighting

A single light fixture or a worn-out overhead lamp just doesn't give a bathroom the illumination or style you need. A properly-lit bathroom provides com-

fort, charm, fashion and function. You may need lights above the sink or wall sconces to illuminate any dark shadows. Find all the latest lighting styles at [LightingShowplace.com](http://LightingShowplace.com).

## Bring comfort into the shower

A new massaging showerhead is vital to making your shower inviting. Accompany the new fixture with a beautiful curtain and curved shower rod to match the rest of the room's decor. Look for

curtains that do not contain vinyl or PVC materials, because a 2008 study found vinyl curtains contain many toxic chemicals that can be released into the air when opened and hung. But don't block out all that new light you just installed. Use a shower curtain that allows light into the tub area.

## Warm up the floor

Don't forget the cringe you feel every time you step onto your cold bathroom floor. If the tile is in good shape, or you don't have the finances to install radiant heat throughout the bathroom, try a decorative rug instead to keep your feet warm. You can forget about the old shag carpets with rubber backing. The styles, shapes and colors available are endless, in materials ranging from cotton to wool. Find a theme carpet for your children's bathroom, or a beautiful bouquet of flowers to spice up your guest bathroom. To find your style, visit [RugShowplace.com](http://RugShowplace.com).

"You will be better able to enjoy your bathroom once you get it brought into the 21st century," says Daniel Auer from [Faucet.com](http://Faucet.com), a leading online retailer of decorative plumbing products. "And you can find the necessary items for your remodel quickly by shopping online while saving money at the same time."

— Courtesy of [ARAccontent](http://ARAccontent)



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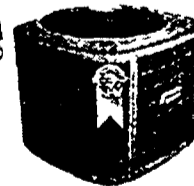
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# Five kitchen fix-ups for \$500 or less

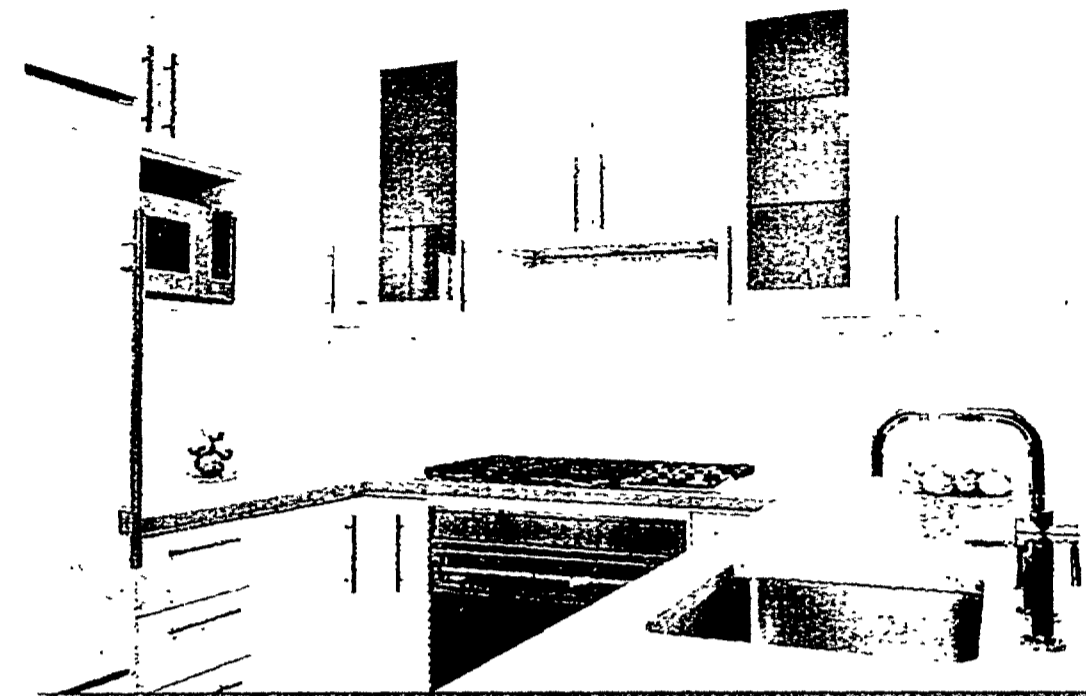
After years of telling yourself you can live with the outdated hardware, the ugly orange laminate countertops and the daffodil-yellow wall paint, you've finally admitted to yourself that your love affair with your kitchen decor is over.

But leaving is simply out of the question and you don't have the budget for a complete makeover. What can you do?

Fortunately it is possible to rekindle your love for your kitchen, improve your home's value and accomplish it all on a modest budget. Here are some common kitchen complaints and hints for how you can resolve them — and learn to love your kitchen again — for less than \$500 per fix.

## Cabinets

Replacing outdated cabinets or even just refacing them can cost thousands of dollars. A more budget-friendly, simple solution is to repaint them and swap outdated hardware for a newer, more contemporary style. Even if you have 20 cabinet door handles to replace and you opt for pricey \$5 knobs and pulls, you can still dramatically upgrade your cabinets'



appeal for around \$100.

Painting is another, easier option that helps change the style and appeal of your cabinets. Virtually any kind of cabinet can be painted. Just go online or consult an expert at your local home improvement store to be sure you're using the

right kind of paint for your cabinet's material.

## Walls

When it comes to budget redesign, paint and wallpaper can be your best

friend. Pick a fresh, neutral color to paint the walls. Then spice things up with an easy-to-hang wallpaper mural that evokes your fantasy kitchen. You may never have the breezy, open kitchen in a villa in Tuscany that you dream of, but you can adorn a wall of your kitchen with a wallpaper mural that looks like an open window onto the Tuscan countryside. You'll find plenty of kitchen-appropriate wallpaper murals for under \$100 at [www.DecorPlace.com](http://www.DecorPlace.com).

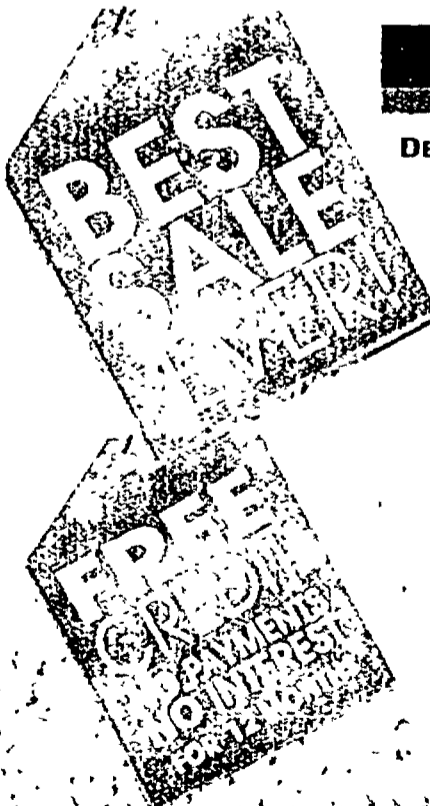
## Countertops

Replacing laminate countertops with another material can be costly. Few homeowners have the resources to install granite themselves. While replacing laminate with ceramic tile may be more practical for some savvy do-it-yourselfers, an easier option for many people is to simply paint over the laminate they already have.

Even if your laminate is scratched, gouged or faded, it's possible to paint it. Use a good quality spackle to fill in cracks, chips, scratches or gouges. Be sure

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the entire surface is clean and dry, and then apply a coat of bonding primer to help ensure the paint adheres to the laminate. Next apply two or three coats of paint in your chosen color. Finally, seal the counters with polyurethane. You can get creative by stenciling designs on the surface or faux painting to make the laminate look like granite.

### Appliances

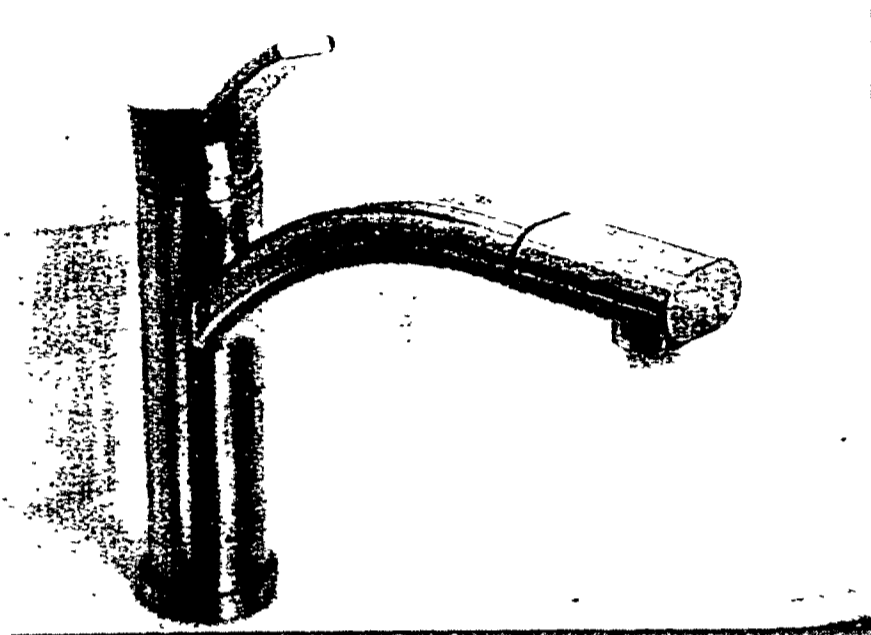
If your appliances look shabby but still work well, refinishing them can be a more cost-effective alternative to replacing them. A stainless steel refrigerator can cost thousands of dollars, but you can actually put a fresh coat of stainless steel paint on your

old, scratched stainless steel, or even your black or white enamel refrigerator for far less. Or, if your enamel appliances better match your kitchen décor, consider repainting them in a designer color using products specially made to bond with the appliance's metal or enamel finish.

— Courtesy of ARAccontent

### Fixtures

Replacing outdated faucets and sinks is one of the easiest, most cost-effective ways to update the look of your kitchen. You can find styles and designs to match every personality and taste for less than \$500. For timeless style and lasting durability, stainless steel sinks are a great choice and many models are available for a few hundred dollars or even less. Visit your local home improvement store to get some ideas for what style will suit your taste and needs. These stores are also great resources for advice on installing your new faucets or sinks — or go online to find tips in DIY installation.



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# Customize your furniture from one room the next

BY ALISON BERGSIEKER  
ADVERTORIAL COORDINATOR

Furniture trends may not change as often as the latest runway fashions, but keeping your space up-to-date can give your home a fresh feeling with a few new additions.

With a little help from Value City Furniture, you can spruce up your home décor with ease. After 60 years in the

furniture business, Value City Furniture boasts some of the hottest fashion trends from around the world as well as lifetime warranties, with products built to last at affordable prices.

## American Signature premium line

While trends come and go, most people have a sense of what they do and don't

like when it comes to home décor.

Value City Furniture's premium line, American Signature, consists of furniture for any room, including bedroom, dining and living space.

"Our designers go all over the world to design shows for inspiration," said Steve Riddell, Value City Furniture Novi store manager. "All of the furniture in this collection coordinates with each other, so you can incorporate a theme within your living, dining and bedrooms."

The line's unique SofaMate program is popular among customers who are looking to spruce up their living room décor by making just a few purchases.

The line's array of accent chairs, ottomans and pillows are designed to mix and match with a variety of sofas, allowing the customer to create their own look and have it available in just four days.

"A big trend nowadays is to maximize seating space without overcrowding the room," Riddell said. "You can buy a few new pillows and ottomans and completely change a room's look at an affordable price. With the economy the way it is, people are looking to save some money, and this is a pretty inexpensive way to do that. Plus we include premium, high-end warranties that make your purchases

worthwhile."

## Start your design

To customize any room in your home, follow these simple steps to personalize your space. To make the process easier, check out Value City's room and upholstery planner at [www.vcf.com](http://www.vcf.com), where you can follow these steps interactively:

- Select a room — Does your room have a modern or traditional look; wood, tile or carpeted floors? Have these answers ready when beginning to look for new furniture.
- Select a paint color — The color of your walls can change the way your room and furniture look.
- Select a sofa — Sofas range in make and model similar to automobiles. If your room is smaller, you may be more suited for a loveseat rather than a sectional.
- Select your pillows, accent chairs and ottomans — Fun patterns can jazz up any solid-colored sofa. Likewise, solid fabrics add flair to a patterned sofa.

Visit [www.vcf.com](http://www.vcf.com) to learn more about Value City Furniture and its offerings or to find a store new you.



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# SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENT

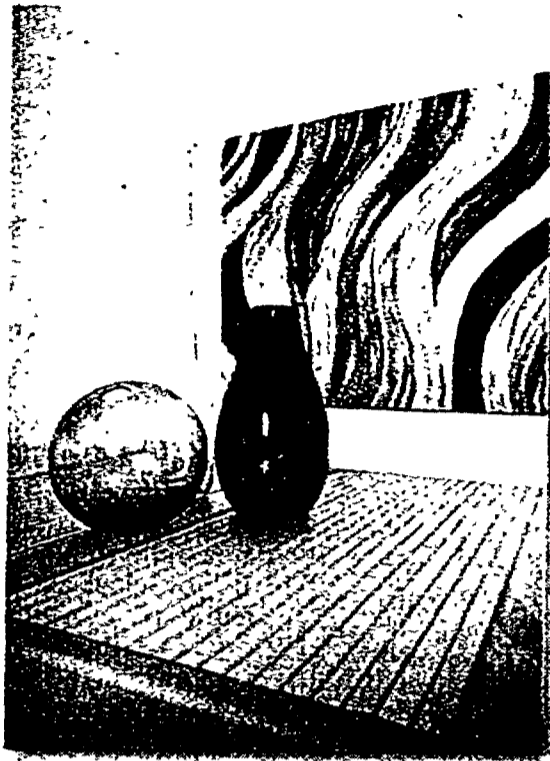
## Easy, affordable updates for a cozy spring haven

When the economy takes a downturn, people tend to stay in. For home environments stuck in the doldrums, easy and affordable updates can create a cozy spring haven.

"We're expecting people to stay closer to home this year, so we're seeing a lot of decor inspired by travel to faraway places," says Nancy Bohnett, Academic Director of Interior Design for The Art Institute of Las Vegas. "Imagine the exotic places you'd like to visit and be inspired by the native styles. Animal prints, bamboo and the relaxing vibe of wine country are all top trends this spring."

### Vivid natural hues

Taking your cue from nature doesn't necessarily mean using only neutral or subdued tones. Get inspired by the proud peacock and add bright, rich jewel tones. Dress up a basic wall with a piece of art in shimmering blues and greens and highlight a special piece of furniture or high ceilings with a tall vase filled with teal, royal blue and celadon fronds.



Add flair to a basic wall by accenting it with vases or a piece of art in blue and green hues.

### Exotic influence

Asian-inspired bamboo accent pieces are beautiful and practical, offering storage for everything from books to the remote control. The bamboo console, end table and coffee table from Seventh Avenue (SeventhAvenue.com) create a tropical oasis in your living space for an affordable price.

Add an exotic sense of romance to your bedroom with touches of zebra print, giraffe and cheetah. Enhance the feeling of a getaway space with an indoor fountain to relax with the soothing sounds of flowing water.

### A taste of wine country

Invite friends and family for a relaxing evening in. Create a cozy nook with a small table to hold bottles of wine and glasses. Warm up the walls with an ochre paint, add soft uplighting with a torchiere or two, and freshen up your existing furniture with a stretch pique slipcover in burgundy or chocolate.

### Energy efficient

Eco-chic is in, especially when going green is easy. Thermal window treatments are available in many styles and colors and add a layer of insulation to your windows and patio doors, helping to save on heating bills in the winter and cooling costs in the summer.

### Saving time and money

It's still possible to update your home during tough economic times. Look for deals online and through catalogs. Companies like Seventh Avenue offer credit plans with low monthly payments. They also save you time by compiling unique homescapes to inspire you in redecorating your space. For more information and inspiration visit SeventhAvenue.com.

— Courtesy of ARAcotent



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# Greener Living

Simple steps toward a more natural home

Whether it's out of concern for the environment or for a desire to live a more natural lifestyle, more people are making green decisions for their homes. In Gallup's annual Environmental Poll (2008), 28 percent of Americans said they've made major changes to their lives to protect the environment, while 55 percent said they have made minor changes. The most common changes involve recycling, conserving fuel, using less electricity and making homes more energy efficient.

Another step people are taking is to buy eco-friendly or more natural products for their homes. A recent Yahoo green living survey found that 57 percent of respondents have made green purchases within

the last six months.

There are simple and affordable steps you can take around the house that will help improve the environment of your home as well as the earth.

## Step One: Understanding natural

A growing number of companies have come out with "green" or "natural" products. But because these terms do not have regulated definitions or standards, it's important to know what label claims mean when making buying decisions.

For example, when The Clorox Company introduced its line of Green

Works natural cleaners, it listed all ingredients on the label and defined what it means by natural: ingredients that are plant-based, biodegradable and not tested on animals.

Check a company's Web site and look for product reviews for more information about the products you want to buy to see if they live up to their claims.

## Step Two: Take simple steps

You don't have to give your home a top-to-bottom instant makeover. Take small steps to make your home more energy efficient and natural. Each one you take makes the next one easier.

Here are some simple steps to get you started:

**No running on empty.** Load the dishwasher after every meal, but only turn it on when it's totally full. Running several smaller loads instead of a full load wastes both water and energy.

**Foil spills.** Line the oven, broiler and burners with aluminum foil for easier (and less harsh) clean up.

**Green cleaning.** Use natural cleaning products made from plant-based ingredients. Josh Dorfman is a green lifestyle expert and author of "The Lazy Environmentalist." He places several Green Works natural cleaners on his "50 Best Green Products" list. "I like the Green Works Natural Bathroom Cleaner and Natural All Purpose Cleaner," he says, "because they're natural cleaners that are also effective in getting the job done."

**Think reuse!** Recycling is great, but it still consumes a lot of energy. Before you toss, ask yourself: "Is there anything else I can use this for?" (Storing toys, sorting change, craft projects, etc.)

**Buy recycled.** For paper product must-haves, purchase recycled, unbleached paper towels or napkins.

Kitchen trash bags made from recycled materials are becoming more widely available as well.

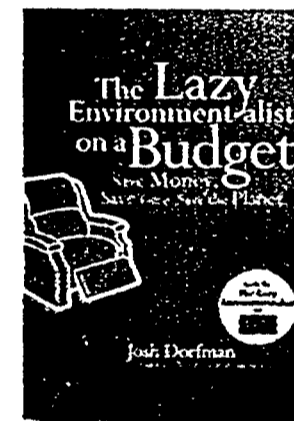
**Car smarts.** Save water by cutting the number of times you wash the car each month, and make sure to turn off the faucet between rinses. And think twice before hopping in the car for a ride to the store. Try shopping once every one or two weeks instead of making multiple trips for just a few items. Limiting the number of trips helps save gas and money.

## Step Three: Get the family involved

It's easier to make changes in the household routines if everyone is on board. Talk about why you want to make these changes. Get feedback from the kids on what steps you can take together to make your home healthier



Courtesy of Getty Images



and greener. Everyone can pitch in: have the kids help with online research and decisions about new products. Even the littlest ones can help sort the recycling.

Making your home a little greener will not just make you feel better about your home, it will make your home a better place to live.

For more tips on greener living, visit [greenworkscleaners.com](http://greenworkscleaners.com).

### In the know

Here are some definitions of terms associated with green and natural claims.

#### Renewable Resources

A natural resource qualifies as a renewable resource if it is replenished by natural processes at a rate that's equal to the rate of consumption by humans.

#### Biodegradable

A biodegradable material is something that has the ability to safely and relatively quickly break down into the raw materials of nature and disappear into the environment.

#### Sustainable

A sustainable product is something made from renewable resources, which means they can grow back quickly and can be harvested with minimal harm to the environment.

#### Petrochemicals

Petrochemicals are chemical products made from raw materials of petroleum.

— Definitions courtesy of the makers of Green Works Natural Cleaners.

#### Small changes

There are many easy things you can do to make your home a cleaner, greener place to live.

**Living Room:** One of the easiest ways to save energy is to turn off the television when you leave the room.

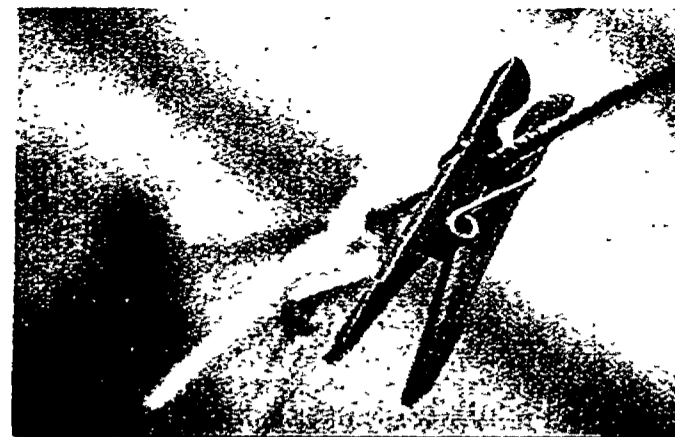
**Kitchen:** Use kitchen cloths, napkins or hand towels made from bamboo or organic fibers. They are made from renewable resources.

**Bedroom:** Use rechargeable batteries for toys and electronics. If you use disposable batteries, be sure to recycle them properly.

**Bathroom:** Save water by placing a bucket in the shower or tub while waiting for water to get warm. Use it for watering plants or rinsing dishes.

**Yard:** Clothes dryers are one of the least energy efficient household appliances. On a sunny day, line-dry your laundry.

— Courtesy of Family Features



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# Spring's top home décor trends draw inspiration from nature

It is time to pay tribute to the joy and jubilation of nature as the welcoming signs of spring arrive. The familiar will appear refreshingly new as we take in its splendor. This spring, the hottest trends in home decor reflect this breathtaking beauty as Mother Nature awakes from her slumber.

"Spring is such an exciting time of year," says Susan Atchison, manager of trend development for Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores. "Nature inspires decorating trends that are simple, yet grand. What you might see on a stroll through your local park has become the backdrop for interior designers and do-it-yourself home decorators across the country."

Here are the top home decor trends for spring 2009:

## 1. Emulate outdoor serenity.

"Lush leaves and exquisite florals convey outdoor serenity," says Atchison. She notes that creating a peaceful element within your home might be as simple as adding a flower or greenery arrangement. "It's amazing what plant life can do to liven a room. A vase of flowers in the bathroom can make your morning routine more cheery, or a green centerpiece on the kitchen table might make dinner a mini-retreat from the long day at work."

Whether fresh or silk, use leaves and flowers to bring a touch of classic nature into your home. Bright colors have pick-me-up appeal, while earthy tones convey calmness. Match complementary options with the current color scheme of your home, or combine to celebrate the harmony of the season.

## 2. Make practical pretty.

The things you use on a regular basis in your home are often the things that don't have a lot of flair. But this spring, practical items are getting a stylistic boost with new designs and

fresh ideas that make them stand out.

Take a flowerpot for example. You don't have to spend a lot of money to get a unique, beautiful pot. "Flowerpots made of fabric are undoubtedly one of the freshest ideas for spring," says Atchison. She suggests creating your own by using durable yet breathable Sun N Shade outdoor fabrics to create fun yet functional pots. From bright, eye-catching colors, to earthy, subtle tones, choose fabrics that mimic your favorite theme, whether you plan to use these planters indoors or out. Plus, at the end of the season, you can fold for easy storage and use next year.

## 3. Refresh what you already have.

With the tight economy, many people have limited budgets for updating their home decor. Taking note from springtime renewal, an affordable, smart idea is to update what you already have in your home.

Atchison suggests using polymer clay to add spring-inspired designs to different glass items you have around your house. For example, take a set of wine glasses and use different shades of green clay to create leaves on the outside of the glass. Bake the glass with the new clay design for 30 minutes at 230 F and you'll have an entirely new glass set to toast the spring sunset. Consider updating other items in your home such as old vases, candy dishes and hand and lotion dispensers. According to Atchison, pretty much anything made of plain glass is a potential subject.

"As you walk through the woods or sit on a park bench in the city, note the sights and sounds of springtime," says Atchison. "This will inspire fresh home decor that is sure to make your home beautiful and leave a lasting impression on guests."

For more ideas on spring home decorating trends, visit [www.joann.com](http://www.joann.com).

— Courtesy of ARACONTENT



These fabric flowerpots made from materials found at Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores are a perfect example of nature-inspired décor that can be used inside or outside of the home.

## CRAFT PROJECT IDEA

Courtesy of Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores

### Fabric Flowerpots

#### Supplies and tools:

- 54-inch Sun N Shade fabrics, 1/3 yard each of 2 coordinating prints
- Basic sewing supplies
- Sewing machine
- Iron

#### Directions:

1. Cut a 10-by-18-inch rectangle from each fabric.

2. For each rectangle, sew short ends (right sides) together, forming a tube with 1/4-inch seam allowance. Leave a 2-inch opening in the middle of the lining seam. Press seam open.

3. For both lining and exterior, press tube flat with seam in the middle and sew one end together with a 1/4-inch seam allowance to form bottom.

4. Form gussets by matching bottom seam to fold on one side and flatten forming a point. Draw a mark at the fold on each side, 2 inches from the point end, and draw a line between the marks forming a triangle. Sew along the mark and trim off the excess triangle. Repeat on other side.

5. With right sides together, drop lining into fabric flowerpot, pin the

top edge and sew all around.

6. Turn inside out through lining side seam, push lining into flowerpot and press as needed. Turn top of flowerpot down to form cuff.

7. Fill fabric flowerpot with potting soil and plant

# Save with tax credits for energy efficient home improvements

BY AILSON BERGSIEKER  
ADVERTORIAL COORDINATOR

With new tax credits from the government for purchasing high efficiency furnaces, air conditioners and geo thermal heat pumps, windows and doors, insulation, roofs (metal and asphalt), solar panels and water heaters, biomass stoves and more, now is the time to invest in home improvements.

Making your home more efficient can help reduce high energy bills, improve comfort and help to protect the environment. Improving energy efficiency is also an important first step for homeowners interested in green remodeling.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 allows a 30 percent of the cost, up to \$1,500 tax credit for many home improvement purchases that fit specific requirements.

To qualify for the tax credit, home improvements must be placed from service by Jan. 1, 2009 through Dec. 31, 2010.

Look for products that have earned the ENERGY STAR, meeting strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy.

Here's a run down of improvements that qualify for the credit — and increase the overall efficiency of your home.

## Windows and doors

Exterior windows and skylights, storm windows, exterior doors and storm doors qualify for a 30 percent of the cost up to \$1,500 tax credit.

## Roofing

Metal and asphalt roofs that are expected to last five years or have a two-year warranty qualify for a 30 percent of the cost up to \$1,500 tax credit.

## Insulation

Insulation whose primary purpose must be to insulate (insulated siding does not qualify) and must be expected to last five years or have a two-year warranty qualifies for a 30 percent of the cost up to \$1,500 tax credit.

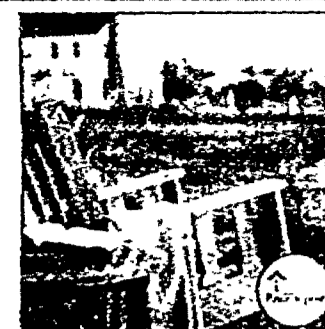
## Biomass stove

A stove that burns biomass fuel to heat a home or heat water with a thermal efficiency rating of at least 75 percent as measured using a lower heating value qualifies for a 30 percent of the cost up to \$1,500 tax credit.

## Solar energy systems

At least half of the energy generated by the "qualifying property" must come from the sun. Homeowners may only

continued on page 18



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**SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENT**

claim spending on the solar water heating system property, not the entire water heating system of the household. The credit is not available for expenses for swimming pools or hot tubs, and the system must be certified by the Solar Rating and Certification Corporation (SRCC).

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"The tax credit is for high efficiency equipment that has to qualify," said Paul Fallert of Fallert Heating & Cooling in South Lyon. "The furnaces that qualify are 95 percent efficiency furnaces with variable speeds and multi stages."

Fallert Heating & Cooling also sells and installs geo thermal pumps that currently have a tax rebate of 30 percent of the cost.

"The biggest benefit to geo thermal is that it's the least expensive way to heat and cool your house and one of the most efficient," Fallert said. "The pump uses ground water to heat and cool your home."



Visit [www.fallertheatingcooling.com](http://www.fallertheatingcooling.com) for more information about heating and cooling products that qualify for tax credits or call 248-437-4385.

(ECC) and supplements. At least one-fifth of the energy savings must come from building envelope improvements. This credit also applies to contractors of manufactured homes conforming to Federal Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards.

**Tax credits for home builders**

Home builders are eligible for a \$2,000 tax credit for a new energy efficient home that achieves 50 percent energy savings for heating and cooling over the 2004 International Energy Conservation Code

To learn more about products that qualify for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and ENERGY STAR, visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).

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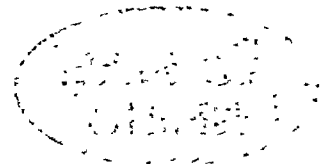
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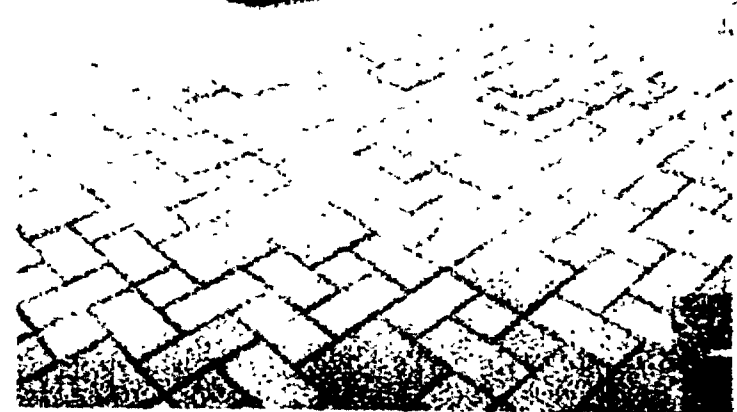


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