2 pages of local listings including meetings, events and groups - Etc., A10-11

Competitive cheer turns in two strong showings - B1

ON THE RECORD College night

HURSDAY

January 28,

2010

Hometown Weeklies

Volume 140 Number 25

75 CENTS

Admissions officers from five universities (University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Grand Valley State University, Albion College and Schoolcraft College) will be in attendance at College Info Night at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 2 at Northville High School to discuss the application process, financial aid and admission criteria.

Classic movie pre-party

"The Thomas Crown Affair" ticket holders can enjoy a pre-party from 5:30-7 p.m. hosted by ticket sponsor, Starring "The Gallery," 118 W. Main Street this Saturday. The gallery's owner will also be giving away prizes during a pre-movie drawing at the Marquis Theatre. Guests should make sure to write their name on the back of their ticket so it can be collected for the drawing. For more information on the 2010 Movies at the Marquis Series, including show time and ticket price, visit www.downtownnorthville.com.

Blood drive

A blood drive will be held from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 31, at Our Lady of Victory Church, 770 Thayer, Northville. To schedule an appointment, contact Christine Abbey at (248) 701-5221 or chrisabbey1@comcast.net.

Next All Pro Dads event

The next date for St. Paul Lutheran Church School's All Pro Dad event in Northville has been

Walkthrough concepts reviewed

online at hometownlife.com

Still no decision yet on design

BY PAN FLENING STAFF WRITER

The discussion may have been lively, but there's still no decision yet on a design for the proposed downtown Northville walkthrough on East Main Street.

On Jan. 19, Gary Cooper of Cooper Design in Ann Arbor, presented the four design concepts his firm has come up with, one of which will be selected for the project.

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No firm cost estimates have been outlined, but the project should cost less than \$800,000.

The four design options include: * a one-story tunnel with the second floor lease space remaining,

* a full two-story option where the second floor would be removed, * a partial two-story design with

offices at just the front and rear and * an open alley.

In all four designs, front and rear facades would remain and be redone. Several council members did not like the completely open alley concept due to maintenance issues, such as snow removal.

The Northville Downtown Development Authority's volunteer Design Committee has already met with Cooper three times.

"We really have four good concepts here," said Lori Ward, executive director of the DDA, at the council meeting. But, there's been no clearcut direction on which way to go.

Members of the Historic District Commission met on Jan. 20 to look at the four different concepts. A meeting was supposed to take place with Comerica Bank officials, who are donating the space for the walkthrough to the city, but the meeting had to be postponed.

Mayor Chris Johnson said

Please see CONCEPTS, A3

Scout spearheads food drive for Cooke School Items still left over from last month's efforts

BY PAN FLEMING STAFF WRITER

One would think with being in a wheelchair with muscular dystrophy that 17year-old Alec Raymond had enough to think about just dealing with his own life.

But the Novi resident and member of Northville Boy Scout Troop 755 recently conducted a large food drive to help the families of Cooke School students.

He used the project as his community service requirement on his path to becoming an Eagle Scout.

Community members donated so much food in Raymond's drive that food is still being given out to families in need.

Ulla Gmelin, social worker at Cooke School, said so much food is left over that it may help families for several weeks to come. Last spring, Bob Raymond, Alec's dad, called the school to ask if we had a service project for his son, Alec, who wanted to become an Eagle Scout," Gmelin said. "He was brainstorming. I told him we always do holiday baskets in December, which are decorated boxes filled with food that go home to our families that are in need. Our families are all over Western Wayne County, not just Northville." Teachers let Gmelin know who they think are good candidates to receive food boxes, and they are sent



changed from Jan. 22 to 8:30 a.m. Jan. 29.

The guest speaker will be Greg Seaman, a nationally accomplished and sponsored Xterra triathion racer (a blend of traditional triathlons and extreme mountain biking). Seaman's wife is also a champion Xterra racer. He will talk about balancing the rigors of his sport with the demands of being a husband and father.

Mystery solved In last week's issue of the Record,

In last week's issue of the Record, the identity of the couple who won third-place in the Blue Spruce "Solve the Mystery" downtown shopping promotion last month was not known. Bob Buckhave, contest organizer, reports that the couple's names are Ed Peterson and Sally Johnson of Northville.

PHOTO COURTESY COOKE SCHOOL

Alec Raymond of Novi, an Eagle Scout candidate from Northville Troop 755, shakes hands with Cooke School Principal Mary Meldrum last month when he came to drop off food he and his fellow scouts had collected for the school's families. His dad, Bob, and his special dog, Caymen, came along.

Please see SCOUT, A2

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Zoning members quash Islamic Center's plans

Say 32-space lot, setbacks too dense for parcel

BY PAN FLEMING STAFF WRITER

Bent Boving, who lives next door to the Meadowbrook Islamic Center on Eight Mile Road, said the center's board members' requests to build a parking lot and expand the house that serves as the center were like Cinderella's sisters trying to squeeze into the glass slipper.

"This is not a religious issue; it's an intensity of use issue." state works, nearby resident

"Even a 5-year-old would scream 'foul' (about the requests)," Boving said.

After listening to a barrage of protests from residents who packed township hall, ZBA members voted to deny the center's two requests for variances at their Jan. 20 meeting.

One request was to decrease the house's setbacks from neighbors on the side yards. The other request was to construct a 32-space park-

Please see CENTER, A13 .



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Northville resident to appear on 'Jeopardy!' show next week

STAFF WRITER

"Jeopardy!" watchers sit in their living rooms and wonder, "What would it be like to actually be on the show and provide those answers in the form of a question?

AZ

(NR)

Northville resident and University of Michigan senior Surya Sabhapathy was able to experience the show first-hand as a contestant on the popular game show.

She will appear on the NBC show, aired locally on WDIV-TV Channel 4 as part of the two-week College Championship from Feb. 1-12.

Although contestants are not allowed to reveal the outcome of the show or any game materials, Sabhapathy could tell us when her quarter-final match is, which is Feb. 4.

This is the first time the 2006 Northville High School graduate has been on the show.

SENIOR WITH DOUBLE MAJORS

Sabhapathy has double majors at U of M - one in brain behavior cognitive science and the other in evolutionary anthropology. "It's a mouthful, I know," she said. She'll be attending medical school at the

University of Michigan next year, but doesn't have a specialty in mind just yet.

Everyone tells me if you have one in mind, you'll change your mind anyway," Sabhapathy said.

HOW SHE GOT ON THE SHOW

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acceptance of the advertiser's order.

Sabhapathy explained that the show has an online test that was offered for potential contestants to take last August. "So, I took that, passed

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'Yeah, I was a little nervous at first. But, once you get up there and start playing honestly the whole thing goes by so fast you don't even notice."

SHETA SABRADATIY

Plans to attend medical school

the test, and I moved on to attend an audition in Chicago in October," she said.

The show's staff started calling people

in December about appearing on the show. Sabhapathy got a call and flew to Los Angeles earlier this month for the taping. "It was a lot of fun," she said. "Everyone I com-

peted against was great, and the producers really made us feel welcome."

She wasn't there long, but she did get to tour a little bit of Los Angeles. And, the accommodations were nice.

They put us up in a hotel, paid for our flights and everything," Sabhapathy said. "We were spoiled."

Was she nervous being on national television? 'Yeah, I was a little nervous at first," she said. "But, once you get up there and start playing honestly the whole thing goes by so fast you don't even notice."

So, what's host Alex Trebec like?

"He's quite a character," Sabhapathy said. "He seems just like he is on TV. He cracks a lot of jokes during commercial breaks."

In her spare time, Sabhapathy does research and cognitive neuroscience. "I also like reading, doing crossword puzzles,

and I'm a huge coffee fanatic," she said.

FROM PAGE AT

ends.

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our Cooke families, and when we receive a call from a family in crisis or in need, we'll pull from that," Gmelin said. "We have a lot of food left. Some of our staff donated some food, too."

Twenty families were fed over the recent holidays, according to Gmelin.

"This is the first time I am aware of that we have had an Eagle Scout do a project

stuff for Alec," Gmelin said. Gmelin said the staff at Cooke School

was just thrilled with the outcome of Raymond's Eagle Scout project.

"We can't thank him enough," she said. "Usually, Northville Civic Concern has helped us in the past. But, because their shelves are so low, this was the perfect time. We'll probably do more food baskets

Raymond explained that in his son's project, Hiller's Markets donated bags, which were hung on residents' doors with a note about the food drive from Alec. The following week, Scouts picked up the food.

"I thought we had a great response from our community," said Bob Raymond.

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Northville resident and University of Michigan senior Surya Sabhapathy will compete in the "Jeopardy!" College Championship to be aired Feb. 1-12 on NBC. Her guarter-final match will take place on Feb. 4.

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PHOTO COURTESY "JEOPARDY" PRODUCTIONS, INC.

here," Gmelin said. for Easter. Raymond even brought his work dog, Raymond is a junior and is enrolled in a Caymen, a golden Labrador retriever, with special program at Brighton High School, where his mom, Nancy, lives. "He's too him to the school when he and his parents delivered the food. high-functioning academically to attend Cooke School," Gmelin said. He's even allowed to bring Caymen to "Caymen can push the button to open handicapped doors and can do all kinds of 75

home with the students. This year, Raymond's project amounted to one full pickup truck and a van full of nonperishable food items that he and his fellow Scouts collected over three week-



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Jeffrey H. Miller, MD

CONCEPTS FROM PAGE A1

the Historic District Commissioners also did not think option four was the best one, but there was also no consensus from this body as to which of the other three designs they liked best.

CONNECTING BALCONY

Ward mentioned that there's been talk about joining the upper floors of other building on the block with a common balcony. She also said that it would be easier to lease these buildings if second-floor usage in them was increased.

Council member Nancy Darga thinks a public rest room is needed near the Town Square but agreed that one in the walkthrough might not be the best place to construct one.

City leaders need to ask Comerica Bank officials if they would be willing to lease the second-floor space if that concept is chosen.

"We don't know if the bank would be willing to lease the space or have the city lease it," said Mayor Chris Johnson. "There is the fact, however, that access to the second floor would have to be gained through the current bank's space, and that represents some security issues for the bank."

ALL VIABLE CONCEPTS

Cooper said all four of his firm's concepts are viable, but that the open-alley idea would require the demolition of a good portion of the building. He was afraid Historic District Commissioners would not be in favor of this plan for that reason, which turned out to be right.

He said the balcony around the exterior of the buildings could be done with any of the four concepts.

four concepts. Ward said she would return to council after the meeting with Comerica Bank officials takes place to give members their thoughts as well as those of the Historic District Commissioners.

Darga said the open-alley concept would destroy a historic building and wouldn't serve the city well.

serve the city well. "It would be like a missing tooth in a smile," Darga said.

In her opinion, the city needs to pick the design that offers the best economic value and one that would generate revenue to help pay for itself.

revenue to help pay for itself. Cooper said light wells or skylights will increase maintenance costs, but that they obviously provide the benefit of natural light.

Council member Jim Allen said it's really up to Comerica Bank whether the second floor is saved and made viable.

"I want to know what's best for our community," Darga said. "I'm sure that we will come up with the right choice."

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Make-A-Wish benefit

Mid American Pompon, Mid American Fitness and Mid American Studio recently joined forces to hosts events and activities to benefit the Wake-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan. Mid American Pompon recently held two Winter Workshops for pompon girls in grades 6th through high school. More than 200 individuals and teams participated. Each person's \$5 participation fee went to Make-A-Wish. In addition, Mid American Fitness made a cash donation; Mid American Studio students organized a change drive, and the Mid American Pompon All Star Team held a fund-raiser where parents sent team members good luck wishes in the form of Hershey Kiss bundles the night before their Detroit's America's Thanksgiving Day Parade. A total of \$1,525 was donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. "It has been a pleasure working with the Make-A-Wish Foundation and heartwarming to know that we could make a difference in a child's life," said Karen Blazaitis, owner and director of Fitness of Mid American Studio. "We believe in the importance of giving back to our community and we encourage our clients and students to help those who are going through a challenge."



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Hometown Weeklies [Thursday, January 28, 2010

EDUCATION



MLK Writing and Poster Contest Winners

From the left (back) Dr. Marilyn Price, president, Northville Public Schools Board of Education; Lamar Coleman, Cooke School winner; Chris Wigent, superintendent, Wayne County RESA (speaker); John Colleran, Northville High School winner; Brandon Robinson, Meads Mill winner; Dr. Leonard R. Rezmierski, Northville superintendent; Damien Wright, Old Village School winner; and Eric Barritt, president, Northville Educational Foundation; (back) Samantha Cantie, Silver Springs winner; Amy Walsh, Hillside winner; Addison Lentz, Winchester winner; Alex Braeseker, Thornton Creek winner; Madison Bates, Moraine winner; Annabelle Lawrence, Amerman winner; and Colin Latta, **Ridge Wood winner.**

Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Student writings, posters on display at library

Student winners and honorable mention recipients in the Northville Public Schools Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Writing and Poster Contest were recognized at the "Unity in the Community" celebration, which took place on Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, Jan. 18 at Genitti's Little Theatre in downtown Northville.

The writings and posters are currently on display through the end of February at the Northville District Library in the area behind the Information Desk on the main floor.

All of the winning and honorable mention students received certificates and medals. The 11 winning students also had the honor of sharing their writings and posters with the more than 125 school and community members attending U.S. Savings Bond generously

provided by the Northville **Educational Foundation.** In addition, the winning and honorable mention elementary

writings, as well as the winning middle school, high school and center program writings,

posters and projects were printed in the Jan. 14 issue of the Northville Record.

"Everyone in attendance at the "Unity in the Community" celebration was moved by the thoughtful and inspiring selection of letters, poems and artwork our students created in honor of this true American visionary," said Northville Superintendent Dr. Leonard R. Rezmierski. "This is an outstanding and growing event for our school district, our students and our community celebrating the principles taught by Dr. King that still have so much meaning for us today."

"Our thanks to the. Northville Record and the Northville District Library for helping us to share this inspiring student work with the entire community."

The theme of the third the "Unity in the Community" Formula district wide Martin King's message of peace and Tree State quote, "The time is always right to do what is right." The goal of the contest is to encourage students to honor the contributions of the late civil rights leader with a focus on how the principles taught by King are

still relevant today. Students participating in

the contest could write an essay, letter or poem or create a poster or project connecting to the ideals and actions of King. Entries were judged on relevance to the theme. Winning and honorable mention student writings were selected from each of the district's six elementary schools' fourth and fifth grade entries, as well as from Hillside Middle School, Meads Mill Middle School and Northville High School. Winning and honorable mention posters and projects also were selected from entries by students in the school district's special education center programs at Cooke and Old Village schools.

The "Unity in the Community" event also fea-tured songs celebrating Dr.

speech by Wayne County **Regional Educational Service** Agency Superintendent Chris Wigent about the importance of educating the nation's young people in realizing King's vision.

Futuristic Cities teach tomorrow's leaders

مية مدسقون

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI

You won't find Necropolis on a map, but the futuristic ideas found in this and other make believe places spawned by an area competition taught students to apply math, science and engineering skills in real life situations.

"Not everyone has the same idea," explained Derek Blunden, a Northville Christian School student who attended the Michigan Regional Future City Competition Monday at Rock Financial in Novi.

Learning about teamwork was key while students worked for months to develop prototypes of their cities.

"It helped me grow and widened my appreciation for math and science," explains Luke Kohlmever, a student at St. Valentine School in Redford. He was among a team of student presenters who spent the morning Monday talking to judges about the school's model city.

The winner of this year's competition is Birney Middle School in Southfield. Second to fifth place winners, in order, were St. John Lutheran, Rochester; St. Joseph School, Lake Orion; St. Valentine School and Power Middle School in Farmington.

The competition included 24 living spaces designed by more than 700 seventh and eighth grade students from Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw counties.

Long before the Haiti earthquake disaster, the Michigan Regional Future City Competition asked students to create affordable living spaces

for people who have lost their homes due to disasters or financial emergencies.

Collectively the students spent thousands of hours planning, designing and applying their math and science skills hoping for the "Best City of the Future" title.

Birney students created "SCQUBE: Spherical Contained Quality Underwater **Building Establishment*** designed for the year 3008. This is the fifth year that the school has taken part in the competition.

Sponsored and organized by The Engineering Society of Detroit (ESD), the program challenged students to ensure that the living space they created was made of sustainable materials, have a low-carbon emissions footprint and achieve the 'Green Ideals' of energy efficient buildings.

St. Valentine student Madelyn Omietanski, said she developed a love for math and science while using formulas for the school's make believe city, Necropolis, which is based in the year 2230 on the coast of Tasmania. It runs on fusion energy and the housing has green roofing and solar panels.

"It taught us how math and science are used in the real world," Omietanski said. "The more I learned, I realized how fun math and science can be. It inspired me and made me think.

Novi Middle School student, Nithin Adapa, said that while working on his school's prototype city he realized he didn't want to become a city designer, "because it's way too much work." He's leaning toward becoming a doctor or another type of engineer.

A5

(NR)

Working two hours a day for two months on the Universal Mall, Northville Christian students designed apartment complexes inside mountains.

Some of the other entries included, "Ecotropolis," a city located in Australia that uses plasma gasification to remove waste.

Each team, which worked under the guidance of an engineer and a teacher, was asked to display residential, commercial and industrial areas, power plants, transportation systems, community services and communication systems.

They had to consider environmental controls and traffic density, as well as calculate tax needs and develop operating budgets using SimCity software. Their city models had to include recycled materials.

Students developed their problem-solving skills and teamwork strategies, as well as research and presentation skills while increasing their awareness of community related issues.

Birney Middle School students will go on to represent Michigan in the national competition in Washington, D.C. Feb. 14-20 during National Engineers Week.

"Future City is a unique competition in that it allows students to apply concepts to solve real-life problems," said Ron Smith, ESD's Director of Education.

The competition is funded in part by the DTE Energy Foundation and the Ford Motor Company Fund.





MLK Writing and Poster Contest Honorees From the left (back) Dr. Marityn Price; Chris Wigent; Michael Baron, Old Village School honorable mention; Dr.

Rezmierski; Alyssa Duncan, Cooke School honorable mention; and Eric Barritt; (front) Jillian Ickes, Silver Springs honorable mention; Farzad Baghale, Moraine honorable mention; Sohan Yaday, Ridge Wood honorable mention; Grace Chi, Thornton Creek honorable mention; Claire Wenrick, Winchester honorable mention; and Lauren Masse, Amerman honorable mention. Not pictured are Matthew Williams, Hillside honorable mention; Peter Guan, Meads Mill honorable mention; and Haley Goldberg, Northville High School honorable mention.

NORTHVILLE SCHOOL BRIEFS

High school dance

Northville High School is holding a snappy-casual winter dance on Saturday, Feb. 6 from 7-10 p.m.

Tickets will be on sale from Tuesday, Feb. 2 through Friday, Feb. 5. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased during all lunches on these days.

Market Scrip program

Hillside Middle School is now participating in Hiller's Market Scrip Card program. Activate and load money on your new Scrip Card at any Hiller's Market using cash, credit and debit cards, or checks in amounts from \$5 up to \$1,000. You can do this at Customer Service or right at the checkout lane before the cashier begins to scan your purchase. Then use your Scrip Card to pay for groceries (like a gift card). When your balance runs out, just reload the same Scrip Card with more money. Hillside automatically earns five percent every time money is put on a Scrip Card. If you are interested in receiving a Hiller's Scrip Card, e-mail Janice Gutowski at jgutowski7@comcast.net. Please include your name, home address and how many cards you need.

Yearbook photos wanted

The Northville High School yearbook wants your photos! Send us anything involving our students, whether it's group, team, or individual activities, concerts, performances, or sports - especially candid and action photos. Send your high resolution digital files (JPG) to henderro@northville.k12.mius Include a brief description of the activity and names and grades of the students pictured, along with the photographer's first and last name.

Community Financial scholarships

Community Financial, in collaboration with the Community Foundation of Plymouth (CFP) and the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation (AAACF), will be awarding 11 \$1,000 scholarships in April.

Applications can only be made online by going to http://scholarships.egrant.org, creating an account and logging in. Read the guidelines for our Community Financial Margaret Dunning and George Lawton Scholarships." If you qualify, complete just one application; you will be considered for both scholarships. Deadline is March 5.

Januery 30, 20110 o Noon - 4400 pin

BIMANTER BOR CED-INCOOM Hosted by Molinville Porks & Recercition © Cenilis

Chili & Salsa Cook-off

Northville Senior Center Chili and salsa participants include: Edwards Cafe & Catering, George's Senate Hotz Catering, independence Village of Plymouth, Lake Street Tavern, Northville Sports Den, Poole's Tavern, Rocky's of Northville and Rusty Bucket

> Hot Entertainment Noon - 2:30pm Live Salsa music by Saoco

Chili Cook-off Firehouse Challenge! City of Northville Fire Department

VS. Northville Township Fire Department



In case of extreme weather conditions, call the Northville Chamber of Commerce events hotline or check the website for up-to-date event information.

(NR) Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, January 28, 2010

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PUBLIC SAFETY



NORTHVILLE POLICE REPORT

Armed robbery attempt An unidentified suspect attempted to commit an armed robbery at the Cap n' Cork Party Store at 40644 Five Mile Road a 9:53 p.m. on Jan. 14.

The suspect entered the party store brandishing a handgun. The suspect ordered the employee to lie on the floor face down. The employee then activated the security alarm causing the suspect to fire his weapon. The suspect then fled the store without obtaining any money or merchandise.

Northville Township Police responded immediately to the scene. With the assistance of neighboring jurisdictions, including a K-9 unit, the area was thoroughly searched without police locating the suspect.

The suspect is described as a white male, 5 foot 10 inches tall, medium build, wearing a leather jacket, a grey hood and blue jeans. The suspect had some sort of a ski-type mask covering his face. The weapon is described as a silver revolver.

The employee was not injured during the incident. The investigation is ongoing. Operating intoxicated

2^{A 25-year-old Detroit} woman was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 2:13 a.m. Jan. 7 at Seven Mile and Haggerty roads.

The driver was pulled over because she had a defective light on her license plate. The officer could smell alcohol on the woman's breath, and she said that she had just come from the Wagon Wheel bar in Northville.

Stolen car report

3A 27-year-old resident of W. Northville Place reported that his car was stolen between 5 p.m. Jan. 6 and 5 p.m. Jan. 7.

The man told police that the vehicle had been stolen from the parking lot next to his apartment and that he had his car keys in his possession the entire time and only his family has another key to the vehicle.

Drunk driving arrest

4 A 25-year-old Novi man was arrested for operating while intoricated at 6:24 a.m. Jan. 10 at Crystal Lake Drive and Old Bridge Court.

Police followed the vehicle, which came to a stop in a parking space on Sandy Court, but no one got out of the vehicle.

When an officer approached the vehicle to see who was inside, he could see a man lying down. Police could smell alcohol on the man's breath as soon as he opened the vehicle's door. The man admitted that he had had too much to drink and had pulled over so he could "sleep it off."

Disturbing the peace

5A 64-year-old resident of Parkgrove Court told police that his neighbor was playing music too loud between 4:20 and 5:35 a.m. on Jan. 16. The neighbor in question was also reported to have issued verbal threats and made intimidating remarks to neighbors at 4:30 p.m. on Jan. 16.

The neighbor also was said to have started a couple of chain saws, leaving them idling in his driveway. Alcohol use appears to have been a factor in the incidents.

The incidents have been referred to the city attorney for possible disturbing the peace and threats/intimidation warrants

Compiled by staff writer Pam Fleming



Two Home Health Care

workers have been charged

with multiple felonies stem-

ming from a series of thefts

from a Northville Township

The wife hired the Whitmore

Lake based company to assist

in the care of her 64-year-old

husband who has Alzheimer's.

The thefts occurred over a two-

three month period. Someone

Northville Township Manager Chip Snider thinks it's time for some changes at the closed Robert Scott **Correctional Facility.**

"I think we can take the concertina wire down, so it doesn't look like we're in Guantánamo Bay," Snider said, noting that the state should try to make the 35-acre facility across 5 Mile from a Home Depot less ominous visually.

Snider and other township officials have been eagerly awaiting word on the future of the former women's prison since it closed in May, but that wait may be ending.

The Michigan Department of Corrections is expected to declare the property surplus by Feb. 1, one of the key first steps before the state can begin marketing the prison. State officials say Scott's location at a busy intersection a short distance from M-14 in the affluent Northville area makes it prime property for reuse. But they also acknowledge that closed prisons elsewhere in Michigan face challenges to redevelopment because they are typica in rural areas, and they were of which are awaiting release. built specifically for holding Maximum Correctional prisoners. The state Department of Facility near Bay City did not Management and Budget curbecome a destination for exrently lists only four prisons as Guantánamo Bay prisoners surplus -- including the closed as proposed last year, Russ Western Wayne Correctional Marlan, a spokesman for the Facility a short distance east of Department of Corrections, Scott in Plymouth Township. said corrections officials hope But the state has closed at least to eventually place other prisoners, possibly from out of 19 prison facilities since 2002. The state Department of state, at the site. Management and Budget announced Thursday that the state opted to lease its its real estate division would Mangum Farm prison camp to Marquette County for \$1 per post a request for proposals year. That solved a problem for from potential developers for Western Wayne on its Web site both the county, which had an within the next few weeks. The overcrowded jail, and the state, which had an empty prison other surplus locations are in facility. Kalamazoo, Manistique and Marguette.



Home health care workers

charged in Northville thefts

Adams

Police Department. Northville **Township Police detectives** uncovered that the two employees had been pawning jewelry that matched the description of the items that had been stolen from the home. Detectives continued the investigation that resulted in the arrest of the two employees.

The suspects are Anthony John Eibler, 20, and Matthew Douglas Adams, 18; both of Wixom.

Both face one count of embezzlement from a vulnerable adult (a five-year felony); one count of larceny in a building (a four-year felony); and two counts of receiving and concealing stolen property (a five-year felony).

They were arraigned in the 35th District Court before Judge Michael Gerou. Not guilty pleas were entered on their behalf and bond was set at \$100,000

A preliminary examination is set for Feb. 1.

Township wants state to act on closed prison Scott facility marketing process could begin Feb. 1

developers will consider the Western Wayne site attractive, despite its construction on an old landfill. He said the site, which closed as a prison in 2004, had drawn interest from several parties before the economy soured. Like Snider, he would like to see some physical changes at Western Wayne

> prison there." Some sites, however, lack the location advantages that the two closed Wayne County prisons enjoy.

because "it still looks like a

In Jackson County, the Southern Michigan **Correctional Facility closed** in 2007, but the facility has limited redevelopment prospects in part because it is near two other operating prisons. The closed facility is used for administrative offices, according to James Shotwell Jr., chairman of the Jackson County Board of Commissioners.

And it has proven enticing as an authentic locale for moviemakers. In 2008 and 2009, the site was used in three film projects -- "Street Boss," "Betty Anne Waters" and "Stone." all

Although Standish

Corrections Detention Center, houses some of Marquette County's overflow prisoners.

Marquette County Sheriff Michael Lovelace called the lease a gift.

Marlan said the arrangement fits the department's goals.

"We try to be good partners in the community, and this is an opportunity to help them - and they help us by utilizing the property," he said.

Often, the easiest thing to do with prison facilities is to use them as such, Marlan said.

That's the case with the Muskegon Correctional Facility, which had been slated to close this month as part of the state's effort to cut costs. Instead, a deal was struck with Pennsylvania to house 1,000 of that state's prisoners. The move also should save most of the 264 jobs that would have been lost.

Although cutting costs is a factor in Michigan's prison closures, it is not the only issue. The need for prison space also has dropped for several reasons, including a drop in the crime rate, efforts to reduce recidivism and some prisoner releases because of budgetary issues



from the home and contacted the Northville Township

stole jewelry and cash from the residents' home and pawned the jewelry at a gold exchange store located in Howell. The homeowner became suspicious when she noticed some of their jewelry items missing

family.

G. VICTOR CARLESS

Age 90, January 18, 2010. Funeral was January 22 at Orchard United Methodist Church, Farmington Hills. Donations may be made to Fox Run Benevolent Fund. Online condolences www.obriensull/vanfuneralhome.com

DR. RICHARD ALLEN CHASE

Age 68, of South Lyon, passed away on January 25, 2010 at his home, surrounded by family. He was born on August 18, 1941, in Dearborn, to the late John and Jenelle (Lewis) Chase. Dr Chase was a Chiropractor in the Plymouth community for 30 years. He is survived by his beloved wife Alice (Comport) Chase; children: Rick (Katie) Chase and Candi (Joe) Chodacki: grandchildren: Rebecca, Abigait, John. Lane, and Tristan; and his sister Charlene Nippa. A memorial gathering will be held on Jan. 30, Saturday from 11 a m. to 1 p m. A memorial service will follow at 1 p m. at Phillips Funeral Home, 122 W. Lake St (Ten Mile), South Lyon. Online guestbook

www.phillipsfuneral.com

ROSEMARY BANNON FINN

Age 74, Jan. 20, 2010. Funeral was Jan. 23 at St. Colette Church. Livonia Donations can be made to Food For The Poor (Haiti Relief), 6401 Lyons Rd., Coconut Creek, FL 33073. Online condolences at www.obriensullrvanfuneralhome.com

PAUL SCOTT FISHER

Age 57, of South Lyon, passed away Jan. 20, 2010. Memorial Service was held Sat., Jan. 23, 2010 at Salem Walker Church. Contributions to Dawn Farm. Arrangements entrusted: Casterline Funeral Home, Inc.

CAROL KALINOVIK

Age 67, January 22, 2010. Funeral was Jan 27 at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi Donations may be made to Karmanos Cancer Institute Online condolences www.obriensull.vanfuneralhome.com

DR. MELISSA M

Irene Charlotte. Sister of Richard

of Caleb, Jacob, Hannah, Lauren, Lea, Blaine and Christian. Melissa

was a professor of Public Relations

at Eastern Michigan University. In

addition, Melissa taught undergrad-

uate and graduate level Public

Relations and Professional Writing

courses, and was the advisor to the

Eleanor Wright Chapter of the Public

Relations Student Society of

Christian and follower of the Catholic

faith. She was a pro-life advocate, a

spiritual advisor to many, and instru-

mental in forming multiple Cenacle

groups within Grosse Pointe. A

memorial latin mass was performed

on Saturday, January 23, 2010, at

Assumption Grotto Church in

Detroit. Contributions may be made

to Helpers of God's Precious Infant

of Michigan Inc., 18530 Mack Ave., #521, Grosse Pointe, MI 48236

America.

Melissa was a devout

, Todd and Nathan. Dearest Aunt

SANDRA K. WOLFORD

Age 55, Jan. 23, 2010. In state at St. Matthew Lutheran, Walled Lake, Sat. 10.00am until funeral liturgy 11:00am. Donations in her memory can be made to St. Matthew Lutheran or charity of choice. Condolences www.obnensullivanfuneralhome.com



OBITUARY POLICY e-mail your obit to: HTWObits@hometownlife.com

Or fax to: 313-496-4968 Atta: HTWObits

For more information call: Char Wilson 586 526 7088 Lis Keisen 586 977.7588 The first seven "billed" lines of an obtuary 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 (stample American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

Deadline: Tuesday at 10 am for Thu Obstuaries received after these deadline will be placed in the next available issue



Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume

Pull it over, mister!

The facility, which is now

known as the Marquette

County Community

In the Upper Peninsula,

Picture this: you're driving down the road and an emergencv vehicle is coming your way. Maybe it is going to a robbery in progress, a medical incident, or a fire. It really doesn't matter where the vehicle is responding to, all that matters is that the emergency vehicle is responding to someone's emergency. Do you really know what to do in this situation? All of us at some time in our life have experienced this. Let me give you some tips on what to do when emergency vehicles are approaching you with their lights and sirens activated.

• Slow down, merge to the right and come to a stop when an emergency vehicle is

approaching. • Avoid stopping quickly, as this can cause an accident.

If you are in a left turn lane, stay where you are at and let the emergency vehicle go around

you • If you are in the middle of an intersection when emergency vehicles are approaching, move through the intersection and pull off to the right.

THE SAFETY ZONE

 Always allow the emergency vehicle to completely pass you before continuing.

· There is no need to completely pull-off the roadway, just pull-over far enough to allow emergency vehicles to pass.

• Never attempt to out-run an emergency vehicle in order for you to get to where you are going faster.

There have been countless times that I can remember responding to "somebody's" emergency and people just don't move over. Sometimes this is because their radio is too loud and can not hear us and other

Total inmate population has declined by about 6,000 during the last three years to about 45,100 now, Marlan said.

Robin Boyle, a professor of urban planning at Wayne State University, said using old prisons for inmates makes the most sense.

What would I put into a prison?" Boyle said of the closed facilities. "I think the obvious use is more corrections."

That is not what Northville Township officials want to see happen at Scott. Snider said the township "has been an institutional dumping ground over the last 50 years for the State of Michigan."

Northville Township Trustee Christopher Roosen said township officials want Scott sold for development instead.

times I truly believe certain people think that "somebody's" emergency isn't nearly as important as what they're doing. Everyone needs to be in the mindset that; that "somebody" might be your grandparent, mother, father, son, daughter, home or business. How would you feel if the Fire or Police Department was responding to your loved one or residence and they were delayed because people would not move over? Finally, when an emergency vehicle has its lights and sirens activated, they are requesting you to move over. Your compliance is greatly appreciated not only by the emergency responders, but also the people who called 911 and expect quick and prompt service.

Jason Raschke is a firefighter with Northville Township. He can be contacted at jraschke@twp.northville.mi.us.

'Lady with All the Answers' starts tonight at Tipping Point

Story revolves around famous advice columnist

It's a late night in 1975, and the stylish, sassy and straightforward Ann Landers is sitting in her posh 14-room Lake Shore Drive apartment in Chicago answering the usual quirky letters that make up her popular advice column.

What's different from every other day or column, though, is that Landers is also facing heartbreak of her own. And, in sharing her struggles, Landers also shares a bit about the no-nonsense woman whose daily dialogue helped shape the social landscape of the last half-century.

"The Lady With All The Answers," a witty and entertaining look inside the life and letters of the world-famous newspaper columnist, makes its Michigan premiere at the Tipping Point Theatre tonight.

The show is making its Michigan premiere at the Tipping Point Theatre, said Lynn Wilde Concannon, the new director of marketing and development at the theatre.

The one-woman show with an allfemale artistic design team opens with preview performances at 8 p.m. today and tomorrow and runs through Feb. 28 at the theatre at 361 E. Cady St. Opening night is this Saturday at 8 p.m. The curtain rises at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, with matinees at 3 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets, from \$25 to \$27, are available by calling the box office at (248) 347-0003.

"The Lady With All The Answers," by David Rambo, with the cooperation of Margo Howard, stars Julia Glander as Ann Landers.

Glander directed the Tipping Point Theatre's season-opening "A Sleeping Country" and appeared in the the-atre's performance of "The Dinner Party" last season. She's most recently worked at the Meadowbrook Theatre in "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" and has played leading roles Off-Broadway and in numerous regional theaters across the country.

SPECIAL EVENT SLATED ON FEB. 7

On Feb. 7; the theatre will have a special "Celebration of Women in the Arts" hosted by founding member Diane Adams and featuring the all-woman cast and crew. The event will include a light lunch at 12:30 p.m. with strolling hors d'oeuvres, wine, five piano music and a 2 p.m. performance of "The Lady with All the Answers." After the performance, theatre-goers can enjoy dessert, coffee and have a chance to meet Director Quintessa Gallinat and Actress Jutia Glander. Tickets for this special event are \$40 or \$15 for SeasonPASS Holders. For more information call the theatre at (248) 347-0003 or send an e-mail to tix@tippingpointtheatre.com.



PHOTO COURTESY TIPPING POINT THEATRE

Julia Glander, star of the one-woman show opening tonight at the Tipping Point Theatre in downtown Northville.



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NORTHVILLE / NOVI CHURCH EVENTS

online at hometownlife.com

ville.org

Time: 5 p.m.

SATURDAY WORSHIP

SUNDAY WORSHIP

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

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, Thursday Friday; 7 p.m. Tuesday; 5 p.m. (English), 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Saturday Koly Days: 9 a m., 5:30 and 7:30 p m Reconciliation beginning 9 a m.

Saturdays or by appointment **Crosspointe Meadows Church**

Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road Contact (248) 669-9400, 9 a m -3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit www. crosspointemeadows org Sunday Worship 11.15 a.m. Bible study classes 10 a m, for all ages

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

Detroit First Church of the

Nazarene

Location, 21260 Haggerty Road, north of Eight Mile Road Contact. (248) 348-7600 or visit dfcnazarene org Sunday Schedule, 9.15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship, 10.15 a m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's program, Youth Worship Service

Tuesday Schedule: Tuesday 9:30-1115 a.m. Women of the Word Bible Study with childcare available for through age 5; 6:45 p.m. Ladies Evening Bible Study; 7 p.m. Men's **Evening Bible Study** Wednesday Schedule: 5:30 p.m. Family Meal, \$4 per person, \$12 per family; 7 p.m. Children's Caravan.





On Christmas Eve, Soteros Boloven's (left) brother Steve, dressed as Santa Claus, presented him with a Michigan Lottery Millionaire Raffle ticket. Steve didn't even buy the gift until Christmas Eve, and Soteros was a little disturbed that his brother waited until the last minute to shop. But when the ticket turned out to be a \$100,000 winner in Wednesday's Nillionaire Raffle drawing, the brothers were all smiles. Just to emphasize the point that the winning ticket was a gift from Santa, Steve donned his red suit and hat and long white beard and accompanied his brother and other family members to claim the prize at the Lottery's headquarters in Lansing. Boloven, of Northville, said he thought he'd lost the ticket when after picking up Christmas wrappings and gifts, he realized it was missing. Thinking he'd thrown it away, he retrieved the trash just before it was picked up. As he prepared to go through it, his wife indicated she'd found the ticket, tucked in a book. He checked the Lottery's Web site following Wednesday's drawing and learned his ticket was a winner. Boloven, who is a fan of Instant tickets and the Nega Millions game, as well as the Raffle series, plans to use the winnings to pay bills. He said he will also share the money with his family. The winning ticket was purchased at Joy Tobacco Inc. in Dearborn Heights.

Club 56, Bible Study, Quilting, Adult **Classes, Youth Blast** Thursday Schedule: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group; 7 p.m. Tae Kwon Do

Women of the Word Time/Date: 9:25-11.15 a.m. Details: The W.O.W. Tuesday Ladies Bible Study welcomes you to their

study of the Book of Exodus. There is a \$15 registration fee, which includes interdenominational study materials. Childcare will be available in the morning for children through age 5. **Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross**

Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 427-1175 or churchoftheholycross com Sunday Worship: 7.45 a m., 10 a m. Sunday School and Nursery Care: 10 a.m. Worship Service **ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP** Time/Date: 10 a m. second Saturday of month

Faith Community Presbyterian Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit faithcommunity-novi.org Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. First Baptist Church of Northville Location: 217 N. Wing

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

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

First Baptist Church of Novi-Family Integrated Church Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-3647 or firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org Family Bible Hour: 9.45 a.m. Family Worship: 11 a.m. Bible Study: 6 p.m. Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every month. First Presbyterian Church of Northville Location[,] 200 E. Main St. Contact (248) 349-0911 or visit firstpresoville 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-

Details: Informative and entertaining programs of interest to singles; \$5 per person. Check Web site for details singleplace.org. First United Methodist of

Northville A Stephen Ministry church Location: 777 W. Eight Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-1144 or fumc-

northville.org SUNDAY WORSHIP

Time: 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m. Details: Rev. Dr. Steve Buck 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. Crafters and Vendors are needed

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 am. Worship Livonia Church of Christ Location: 15431 Merriman Road, Livonia Contact: For further information, please contact NSO Douglas K. Wells at (313) 964-6595.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9-10 a.m.: Sunday School for Adults / Youth / Children 9 a.m.: Contemporary service in multi-purpose gymnasium 10.15 a.m. Contemporary service in worship center; children's super church on the second level (208/210) **TUESDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE** STUDY 8.45:10:30 a.m. (café)

WEDNESDAY FAMILY NIGHT

7 p.m.: Adult elective classes; jr. and sr. high student ministries; children's programs (M-Pact Girls Club & Royal Rangers Boys Club) Nursery and Preschool Program on Sundays and Wednesdays Home of Northville Christian School (day care; preschool through eighth grade) - contact (248) 348-9031

Novi - Northville Center for Jewish Life

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

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

Novi United Methodist

Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-2652 or visit umcnovicom 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 **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) 9i2-0043 or visit oakpointe.org. CHARMED INFLUENCE

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. every Wednesday Details: Studying the book "Surviving Time: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

Our Shepherd Presbyterian Church Location: 1200 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth Contact: Pastor Bill Burke at (734)

Contact: (248) 349-2621 or olynorth-

927-0891 Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m. Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. with fellowship and food after service.

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. monthly, first

and third Wednesday through May 19,2010

Location: St. James Parish Hall A Details: We provide mothers with fellowship, support and opportunities to grow their faith in order to nurture their children with confidence and Christian values. Through activities such as article discussion, crafts, and speakers, moms are given the opportunity to connect with other moms in support and friendship. Free childcare is available but children are also welcome to join their mothers during meetings. Contact: Becky McKee (248) 305-

5924 or Kris Endreszl (248) 946-4080

St. John's Episcopal Church Location: 574 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth St. John Lutheran

Location: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills Contact: (248) 474-0584 or visit stjohn-lutherar.com SATURDAY WORSHIP Time: 5:30 p.m. SUNDAY WORSHIP Time: 9, 11:15 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL

Time: 10:15 a m. 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

Unitarian Universalist Church of Farmington

Location: 25301 Halstead Road, Farmington Hills Contact: www.uufarmington.org YOUTH INTERFAITH JOURNEY Time/Date: 9:30 and 11 a.m. Sundays Details: This religious education program is open to the public and currently enrolling new students. The UUCF Interfaith Journey curriculum encompasses the Unitarian Universalism philosophy of individual worth and the power of community with a study of the World Religions that are practiced around the globe. This program compliments the mission of UUCF Religious Education of teaching youth inclusion, compassion and peace and provides the environment to live and learn in a culturally diverse community. Classes are grouped into grades X-5, 6-8 and 9-12 with age specific education materials for all. Contact: Jennifer Teed at 248/478-7272 or dre@uufarmington.org Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church





Hetwork OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS



January 29th to February 6th www.ferndalebluesfestival.org

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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.

THINKING ABOUT ... NEW FURNACE? LENNOX FREE ESTIMATES (734) **525-1930** Our 35th Yearl UNITED TEMPERATURE 8919 MIDDLEBELT • LIVONIA www.unitedtemperatureservices.com

Meadowbrook Congregational Location: 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight and Nine Mile roads Contact: Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, Senior Minister (248) 348-7757, visit mbccc. org or e-mail to office@mbccc.org. Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. Sermon: Having a Plan Church School. 10-11 a.m. Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m. **MERRY WIDOWS LUNCHEON** Time/Date: 11.30 a m. fourth Thursday of each month **PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP** Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sundays Northville Christian Assembly Location: 41355 Six Mile Road Contact: (248) 348-9030

a Spiritual Mismatch in Marriage". Contact: Joy Ruby at joy@oakpointe. org or call the church.

Orchard Hills Baptist Church Location: 23455 Novi Road Contact: Pastor Jon Hix (248) 349-5665

PRESCHOOL/KIDS CHOIR Time/Date. 7-815 p.m. every Wednesday Details: For ages three to six; ongoing event; no need to pre-register; all are welcome.

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

Location: 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth Contact (734) 453-0326, ext. 221 Our Lady of Victory Catholic

Church

Location: 770 Thayer, Northville

Location: 40000 Six Mile Road Contact (248) 374-7400 or (248) 374-5978



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Strictly Business

And the second statement of th 12 A. P. M. IT'S YOUR NORTHVILLE BUSINESS Q&A

Bee's Knees offers creative experience

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

online at hometownlife.com

We offer a creative, relaxed, artful experience for everyone. Whether you are creatively challenged or an accomplished artist, we have the tools and space for you to create your own masterpiece in pottery, glass fusing, mosaics, silver clay jewelry or tie dying. Even if you are a novice we teach you how step by step in a stress-free atmosphere.

Parties are popular and it doesn't matter what event you are celebrating or what age you are. We have many teambuilding and staff appreciation experiences and even dates for couples or sometimes double dates. However, I must confess, the most fun for me is Ladies Night. Customers bring whatever they want to eat and/or drink and we create from 6:30-9 p.m on Friday. The atmosphere is always light and festive and everyone, at all different skill levels, is learning techniques.

How did you first decide to open your business?

I had reached a time in my life, finding my children grown and leaving our home. I only had to think about me, my life, and what I wanted to do with it. I evaluated all the knowledge and experience I had garnered. When they were all listed side by side, I realized I wanted a creative outlet, but I also loved crunching numbers. L enjoyed teaching others and the company of all different ages. So, a contemporary ceramic studio seemed like a logical fit.

Why did you choose Northville?

Northville was a perfect location with an abundance or walk-by traffic, and I thought it was great to have a creative experience available to the youth of our community.



Kyrsten Persells works on a project at The Bee's Knees in downtown Northville.

DETAILS

Business Name: The Bee's Knees Address: 149 E. Main Street Your Name/Title: Lori Dow/ Owner Your Hometown: Northville **Business Opened When: 1998** Number of Employees: Nine Hours of Operation: 11 a.m. 6 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday; 11-9 Thursday-Friday; 10-6 Saturday; noon-5 Sunday

Your Business Specialty: a creative, art studio experience Phone: (248) 347-6718 Website: www. The BeesKneesPottery com

perform miracles.

How has the recent economy affected your business?

We do see a downturn when people get scared of the unknown outcomes related to events that shape our economy. But then, fortunately for us, soon we see an upturn. I see people turning toward family and spending quality time together. That's what The Bee's Knees is all about. People of all ages are visiting us, spending quality time creating memories and masterpieces.

Any advice for business owners? The best advice I could give other business owners would be to choose your staff wisely and treat them with the utmost respect. They are the people that have your back and create the atmosphere of your business. Give them the tools and knowledge to do their job. I am most fortunate with my staff. We have our own little Bee's Knees family unit. They are the backbone of our studio.

た海るの、宅の NORTHVILLE BUSINESS BRIEFS

Liquor license transfer approved

Northville City Council members approved the transfer of a Class C liquor license in escrow for Le George, a new upscale Middle Eastern restaurant coming to downtown Northville at their Jan. 19 meeting. The license will be transferred from a Pizza Hut of America location on Ford Road in Canton to the restaurant at 124 E. Main Street in Northville. Members of the city's Liquor License Review Committee recommended that council approve the license transfer at their meeting just prior to the council meeting. Restaurant owners George and Rita Farah of Bloomfield Township have been in the restaurant business for 22 years and formerly owned Anita's Kitchen, a Middle Eastern restaurant at Fifteen Mile and Livernois in Troy. The restaurant will be able to seat 71 people, including five at the bar and 16 in an outdoor dining area. The Farahs expect to open their new restaurant in March or April.

Oakland offers business workshops

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

Fundamentals of Marketing Your Business - Marketing is an essential of business success. All products/services must be sold to well-targeted audiences with a wideranging marketing mix. Our staff/SCORE counselors can guide you through successful techniques and marketing principles helping you to promote your products and services to the most promising customers-your target audience. Presented by The Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC). Thursday, Jan. 28 from 9 a.m. to noon. For location specifics and pre-registration, visit oakgov.com/peds/calendar, or call (248) 858-0783. The fee is \$40 (make check payable to E.M.U.), which includes all materials. No refunds.

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FUTURE WORKSHOPS

(AM) Morning Class 9 a.m. to 12/12:30 p.m. (PM) Evening Class 6 p.m. to 9/9:30 p.m. February 2010

- 9 Pre-Business Research (PM)
- 16 Start A Business (PM)
- 17 Team SBA Financing Roundtable
- 23 Write A Business Plan (PM)
- 24 WBE Certification Orientation 25 - Small Business Loan Workshop
- The Web site address for Oakland County

Planning & Economic Development Services Workshops is www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar.

TDA Insurance launches campaign

TDA Insurance, an independent insurance agency located in Novi, announced the launch of their new website and digital marketing campaign.

TDA Insurance has partnered with Astonish Results, LP, a digital marketing and training company for the insurance industry, to create a new online marketing campaign. The Astonish Results marketing strategy has been implemented by TDA Insurance to help the agency find and keep new customers. Featuring a "Virtual Insurance Office" and "Virtual Insurance Agent," TDA Insurance is confident that its new system will better meet the needs of its clients.

TDAnow.com was created to make the online experience of insurance shopping easier. The site is divided into clear categories, making it simple for an insurance shopper to visit TDAnow.com, find the type of insurance they are looking for, and gain a better understanding of their policy options. If shoppers have questions about the type of insurance they may need, TDAnow. com has a "Service Center" section for providing answers. TDA Insurance' new site even offers a "Free Online Rate Quote" form that the insurance seeker can fill out in just a few moments of their time.

TDA Insurance provides customers in the Novi, Northville, and other surrounding areas in Michigan with various lines of both personal and business insurance coverage. It is TDA Insurance's hope that the new TDAnow.com will provide its clients with an entertaining, educational and enjoyable insurance shopping experience.



What makes your business unique?

The Studio offers an 'experience". It's an experience like no other. It's crossgenerational; all ages coming together and enjoying themselves in a wonderfully fun and harmonious moment, creating a unique memory.

How has it changed since you opened?

Since The Bee's Knees opened, new media have been added. We first started with paint your own pottery and then added: hand building with clay, mosaics, glass fusing, silver clay, tie dying. We also started a Gallery for local artists that work in these media. We take custom orders if anyone wants a unique gift or an award; we can

design it for them or make it to their specifications.

Do you have a funny tidbit or story about your experience as a small business owner to share with our readers?

Yes, and I guess it's OK to speak about it openly because it's happened many times now. A young person walks into the studio with a brown paper bag. As they walk, you can hear many pieces clanking together. They have that badpuppy look when they beg you to help put the pieces back together. Of course, they want you to accomplish this before the weekend is over and their parents get back from their trip! Sometimes a small business owner is called on to

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

We have added so many new artful experiences. We will be training and sharing our knowledge with all our faithful customers and hopefully bring in new customers to discover the best kept secret in Northville.

School Open House

Yes To God Like Mary

Sunday, January 31, 2010 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

132 Orchard Street (just south of West Main St.) Northville, Michigan 48167 248-349-3610



Laptops for troops

Michigan computer services company Vision Computer Solutions and Clarity Quest Marketing, an Ann Arborbased marketing agency, have teamed with Jim "Doc" Payne to donate 30 notebook computers to troops serving overseas. Payne acquired the used laptops which were in working order except for faulty hard drives. Vision Computer Solutions and Clarity Quest purchased and donated new hard drives. Payne will refurbish the laptops which will be sent to units in Afghanistan and Iraq, with the bulk going to Marines being deployed . in Afghanistan. "Troops serving overseas have plenty of wireless bandwidth, but very few public computers which they can access," said Payne who has refurbished over 600 laptops for military personnel to date. Pictured, Casey Frushour, Clarity Quest Marketing (left) and Peter Marsack, Vision Computer (right) donate hard drives to Dr. Jim Payne (center)

Listings: Etc. includes Meetings: Senior Events; Library Lines; Parks and Rec; Volunteering: Support Groups; Clubs and Groups; and Health Events. Please visit our Web site (hometownlife. com) to view the complete listing

Submit: Send item submissions via e-mail to cstone@gannetl.com; by fax to (248) 685-2892; or by mail to Northville Record, 101 N. Lafayette St., South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Tuesday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

MEETINGS

Northville Public Schools BOARD OF EDUCATION Date: Second and fourth Tuesday of the month

Time: 7:30 p.m. Location: Old Village School

City of Northville

Date: First and third Monday of the month Time. 7:30 p.m. Location. City Hall, 215 W Main St. **DOWNTOWN Development AUTHORITY** MEETING Date: Third Tuesday of each month Time.8 a.m. Location, City Hall Meeting Room A, on lower Jevel, 215 W. Main St. Contact: downtownnorthville com PLANNING COMMISSION Date: First and third Tuesday of month Time: 7.30 p.m. Location: City Hall HOUSING COMMISSION Date: Second Wednesday of every month Time, 3 p.m. Location: Allen Terrace, 401 High St. HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION Date: Third Wednesday of month Time:7 p.m. Location: City Hall **ARTS COMMISSION** Date: Second Wednesday of every month Time: 7.30 p.m. Location: Art House, 215 W. Cady St. **BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION** Date First Monday of every month Time 8 a.m.

Details. Individuals and organizations invited to attend Location: Northville City Hall, Meeting Room B Northville Township

PLANNING COMMISSION Date. Last Tuesday of month Time. 7:30 p.m. Location: Township Hali, 44405 West Six Mile **BOARD OF TRUSTEES** Date: Third Thursday of month Time. 7.30 p.m. Location. Township Hall ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS Date. Third Wednesday of month Time. 7.30 p.m. Location: Township Hall **BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION** Date: Third Monday of month Time. 7.30 p.m. Location: Township Hall



New dentist in town

Collin Marsh, pictured here with Dr. Mark Hunter, is excited to be the first patient at the new office of Dr. Hunter. His office is now open in the heart of downtown Northville and is accepting new patients. Call (248) 449-1677 to schedule a complimentary new patient examination.

TIME/DAYS: 10 a.m.-noon Monday, Wednesday, Friday Location: Recreation Center at Hillside Details: All levels of play welcome; bring your friends; \$1. Contact: Northville Parks and Recreation (248) 449-9947 ADULT 50+ FUN CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TIME/DAYS: 1-3 p.m. every Tuesday Location: Recreation Center at Hillside Details: Games scored to 15 points with creative team rotation; \$1 per session; all skill levels welcome. Contact: Northville Parks and Recreation (248) 449-9947 **CO-ED ADULT 50+ OPEN BASKETBALL** TIME/DAY: 10 a.m.-noon each Thursday Location: Senior Community Center Details: All levels of play welcome; bring your friends; \$1. Contact: Northville Parks and Recreation (248) 449-9947 **HEALTH WALKING** Date: Monday-Friday -Time: 8-10 a.m. Location: Senior Community Center, 303 W. Main St. **PILATES CLASS** Time/Date: 6 p.m. each Tuesday BUNCO Time/Date: 12:30 p.m. second Thursday of each month Details: Call Senior Community Center 24 hours in advance to register; \$1 per person.

Contact: For registration and information on camps, classes and activities call (248) 349-0203 or visit northvilleparksandrec.org PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION DATE/Time: 7 p.m. second Wednesday, every other month beginning in Jan. Location: Northville Township Hall, 44405 W. Six Mile Road **OPEN FAMILY BASKETBALL** Time/Date: 4-6p.m. every Sunday Sept-April Location: Senior Community Center, 303 W Main St Details: \$2 Per person **OPEN 40+ BASKETBALL** Time/Date: 7-9:30 p.m. every Wednesday Location: Senior Community Center, 303 W Main St Details: \$3 Per person **OPEN ADULT VOLLEYBALL** Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. every Thursday 9 a.m. noon every Saturday Sept. April Location: Recreation Center at Hillside

Details: \$9 Per person, includes birds. Competitive style Badminton, all skill levels welcome, 8 Courts OPEN PICKLEBALL

Time/Date: noon every Monday, 6-8 p.m. every Saturday Location: Recreation Center at Hillside Details: Caring and compassionate individuals needed to register for Heartland Hospice Volunteer Training. We serve individuals and their families during their end of life journey in the Tri-County area. Office support is needed. Contact: Mary, (800) 770-9859

Meals-On-Wheels

Date: Ongoing Time: 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Details: Permanent and substitute drivers needed. Contact: Elieen at Allen Terrace (248) 231-9950, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday or Judy LaManna (248) 348-1761

Northville Arts Commission seeks Commissioners

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. second Wednesday of each month

Location: 215 West Cady Street Details: Seeking volunteer Commissioners to help grow the Northville Art House. The mission of the Art House is to enhance the community by providing culture and arts in a central and appropriate location. Candidates need only to have a passion for expanding the arts in Northvillel Committees are formed to assist in the development and facilitation of Art House educational programs, events and exhibitions. Contact: (248) 344-0497, e-mail info@northvil learts.org or visit northvillearts.org.

Susan B. Galli Angel Fund

Details: Hidden Springs Veterinary Clinic has created a fund to assist families in need with medical expenses for their pets. The fund is in memory of a longtime client, Sue Galīt. All donations are welcome so we can help as many pets as possible. Please make checks payable to Hidden Spring Vet Clinic SGA Fund. Mail to: 48525 W. Eight Mile Road, Northville, MI 48167. Contact: (248) 349-2598

Visiting Nurse Association Hospice Program

Details: In as little as two to four hours a week, volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family members or provide office support. A free, 18-hour/three-day training program is provided. Contact: (800) 882-5720 Ext. 8361 or (248) 967-8361 or visit http://vna.org.

YWCA of Western Wayne County

Details: The YWCA is kooking for volunteers to assist with office help, after-school programs, building projects, communications and marketing in various locations throughout western Wayne County. Contact: Tabatha Manuel (313) 561-4110 Ext. 20

or tmanuel@ywca-wwc.org

SUPPORT GROUPS

Angela Hospice Groups

Location: Angela Hospice Care Center, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia Contact: Joan Lee (734) 953-6012 GENERAL GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS

Food Addicts Anonymous Information Session

Details: Twelve-step program for individuals suffering from food obsession, over eating, under eating, and bulimia; weekly meetings held in Canton, Ann Arbor and other metro Detroit areas; no dues, fees or weigh-ins; everyone welcome including those who think they have food problems or are concerned about someone who may.

Contact: (734) 913-9614 or foodaddicts org

New Hope Center for Grief Support

Details: The groups meet on a regular basis in various locations. All services for offered at no cost.

Contact: (248) 348-0115 or go to http://newhopecenter.net

SUICIDE LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. on first and third Thursdays

Location: First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile Road, Northville

Details: Ongoing support group for those who have lost a loved one to suicide. No registration is necessary for this-monthly dropin support group. For further information about this group or about the many other free, age and loss specific groups offered for children, teens, and adults, please call. CIRCLES OF HOPE

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. second and fourth Tuesday of month

Location: First Church of the Nazarene 21260 Haggerty Road, Northville

Details: Ongoing support group for widows and widowers; group divides into three sections depending on stage of grief; meets same time as children's' support group

NEW HOPE FOR KIDZ AND TEENS SUPPORT GROUP

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. second and fourth Tuesday of month

Details: Meets at the same time and location as adult group; for children ages 3-18 who have lost a loved one; kids divided into different age groups.

STARTING AGAIN

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. second and fourth Thursday of each month

Location: Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Road

Details: Ongoing support group for widows and widowers who are facing the empty nest, either still working or recently retired.

WAYFARERS

Time/Date: 2-3 p.m. second Wednesday of each month

Location: Ward Presbyterian Church, Room Al07 Details: For semi-retired or retired widows and widowers.

THE LUNCH BUNCH

Time/Date: Noon third Wednesday of each month

Details: This is a monthly lunch group for widows and widowers; locations vary, call Ed Drost at (734) 261-8045 for more information. PARENTS OF HOPE

Details: Small groups for parents who have lost a child are offered at some of our From Grief to New Hope workshops. Monthly support groups are also offered at the following times and locations:

YOUTH ASSISTANCE Date. Second Tuesday of every month Time. 8 a.m. Location: Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road Contact: Sue Campbell (248) 344-1618

SENIOR EVENTS

Senior Community Center

Location: 303 W Main St. Contact. (248) 349-4140 THURSDAY 8 a.m.: Walking Club 9 a.m. TOPS; Massage by appt. 10.30 a.m.: Yoga 11 a.m.: Cribbage Noon. Walking Club 12.30 p.m.: Pinochle FRIDAY 8 a.m.: Walking Club 11 a.m.: Poker 11 30 a.m.: Walking Club Noon Walking Club 1 p.m.: Movie MONDAY 8 a.m.: Walking Club 9:30 a.m.: Mah Jongo 10 a.m.: Beginning Line Dance, Oxycise 11 a.m.: Adv. Line Dance Noon. Walking Club 12.30 p.m.: Pinochle/Euchre 7.15 p.m.: Tai Chi TUESDAY 8 a.m.: Walking Club 10:30 a.m.: Yoga 11:30 a.m.: Walking Club Noon Walking Club 12:30 p.m. Pinochle WEDNESDAY 8 a.m.: Walking Club 9 a.m.: Foot Reflexology by appt. 10 a.m.: Oxycise 11 a.m.: Strength Training 11.30 a.m.: Walking Club Noon: Bridge: Walking Club 1 p.m.: Cribbage 7 p.m.: Bridge CO-ED ADULT 50+ OPEN VOLLEYBALL FRIDAY FLICKS Time: 1 p.m. every Friday Details: Cost is \$1.

LIBRARY LINES

Northville District Library

Location: 212 W. Cady St., near Northville City Hall

Time/Day: 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday-Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday. Contact (248) 349-3020 or northvillelibrary.org for information regarding programs and library materials.

Internet Basics Class

Time/Date 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Monday, eb. 1 Details This free, hands-on class teaches how to view websites, find information on the Internet. Must be able to use a mouse. Call 248-349-3020 to register. Internet Searching Shortcuts Class Time/Date 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Monday, Feb. 8 Details This free hands-on class teaches how to find information guickly on the Internet.

Call 248-349-3020 to register. Effective Resumes

Lifective Resume

Time/Date[•] 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11 Details[•] How to make your resume the one that stands out! Presented by Career Development Professional Martha Adamson. Call 248-349-3020 to register.

Drop In Morning Storytime

Time/Date: 10:15 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 28 & Feb. 4 Details Storytime fun for toddiers and preschoolers! All ages welcome! Caregivers must accompany children age 3 and younger. No registration...just drop in. This series runs for 6 weeks each Thursday at 10: 15 am from January 28 - March 4.

PARKS AND REC

Northville Parks and Recreation

Location: 775 N. Center St. (back entrance of Hillside Middle School)

Details: \$3 Per person Monday \$4 Per person Saturday **OPEN TABLE TENNIS** Time/Date: Noon-4 p.m. every Saturday Location: Recreation Center at Hillside Details: \$5 Per person, 8 tables available, All skill levels welcome **OPEN CO-ED 50+ VOLLEYBALL** Time/Date: 10 a.m.-noon every Mon, Wed, Fri Location: Recreation Center at Hillside Details: \$1 Per person, all skill levels welcome. Bring your friends **OPEN 50+ PICKLEBALL** Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. every Monday Location: Senior Community Center, 303 W Main St Details: \$2 Per person, Paddles and balls available Contact: (248) 449-9947 for more info on all above open activities.

VOLUNTEERING

ARBOR HOSPICE

Details: Seeking compassionate, caring individuals to join our Volunteer Team in support of patients and families by holding a hand, sharing a story, or creating a special moment. Take the first step in this life-affirming experience by contacting our Volunteer Coordinator. Contact: (248) 348-4980 or mgrysko@ arborhospice.org.

Friends of the Northville District Library

Details: There are openings for our Board of Directors. The Friends are volunteers who promote reading, support programs in the library and financially support projects not covered by the library's budget. Board members attend a monthly meeting and serve on a committee. If interested, send a letter to Paul Snyder, president of the Friends, c/o Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady St., Northville, 48167.

Heartland Hospice Volunteers Needed

Time: Day and evening training classes Location: 28588 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 475, Southfield Time/Date: 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. second and fourth Tuesday of month Details: Open to all losses. LOSS OF SPOUSE/SIGNIFICANT OTHER SUPPORT GROUP

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. or 6:30-8 p.m. first Tuesday of month

SUICIDE LOSS SUPPORT SERVICES

Details: Individual and family services offered free for those who have lost a loved one through suicide; call Sherri Katz at (734) 464-7810 for more information.

HEATSTRINGS-PARENTS WHO HAVE LOST CHILD

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. first Thursday of month Details: Call Ann-Patrice Foley to register, (734) 464-7810.

GRIEF SUPPORT QUILTER'S GROUP

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. first and third Wednesday of month

Details: Make a quitt in memory of a loved one. No experience necessary. Register by calling (734) 953-6012.

WOMEN'S GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP Details: Sessions held in spring and fall. Call Joan Lee at (734) 953-6012 for dates and times.

Anxiety Disorder Support Group

TIME/DAY: 7:30 p.m. every Thursday Location: Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia

Details: Aim for Recovery offers support and recovery for those suffering with anxiety disorders and their families. Meetings consist of planned behavioral lessons and discussions. Educational material will be available. Donations for the program and materials are accepted. Contact: Robert Diedrich at robtddrich@msn. COTI

Crohn's and Colitis Support Group

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Date: First and third Wednesday of each month Time: 7-9 p.m.

Location: Providence Park Hospital and Medical Center

Details: Enter facility through southeast entrance. Meeting in Conference Room A, immediately to the left.

Contact: Al Biggs (313) 805-7605 or Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of a.m.erica (888) 737-2322.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY PARENTS OF HOPE

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. first and third Tuesday of each month

Location: Cornerstone Presbyterian Church, 9455 Hilton Road, Brighton

OAKLAND COUNTY PARENTS OF HOPE

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. second and fourth Tuesday of each month

Location: Orchard Lake Community Church, 5171 Commerce Road, Orchard Lake

FROM GRIEF TO NEW HOPE

Time/Date: 7-8:45 p.m. Mondays beginning Feb. 8

Location: Ward Presbyterian Church, Six Mile and Haggerty roads, Northville Details: This free workshop is open to the community and will be presented by Cathy Clough, Director of New Hope Center for Grief Support. Each session will begin with a presentation about one aspect of grief followed by small group participation led by trained facilitators. Attendees will be placed in groups with others who have had similar losses. Contact: Barb at (248) 374-5943

Psychotherapy and Counseling Services, Northville Counseling Center

ANXIETY/AGORAPHOBIA/PANIC ATTACK SUPPORT GROUP

Time/Date: Second Wednesday of each month Details: Call (734) 420-8175 for more information.

CO-DEPENDENCY CLASS

Time/Date: 6 p.m. every Tuesday Details: The focus of each session will be helpful for those who came from a dysfunctional, codependent or alcoholic parent situation. Various topics presented each week with time for sharing, guidance and supportive tools. Cost is \$12 per session.

Schoolcraft College Women's Resource Center

Location: Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Nile roads Contact: For more information, and to register, call (734) 462-4443, e-mail wrc@schoolcraft.edu or visit schoolcraft edu/wrc.

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DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. second and fourth Tuesday of month

Location: Women's Resource Center, Room 225 McDowell Center

Details: Open to anyone contemplating, in the process of, or having difficulty adjusting to divorce; first meeting each month is group discussion; second meeting features a guest speaker; no fee or registration required.

Space for Changing Families

A nonsectarian community service of the National Council of Jewish Women/Greater **Detroit Section Divorce Support Group** Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. every Tuesday Location. Hooper Evaluations Building, 26400 Lahser Road, Suite 306, Southfield. Details: Help for men and women dealing with the many conflicted feelings regarding divorce and separation. Led by a trained facilitator, Andy Mather. Fee is \$5 per session. Pre-registration required. Call (248) 355-3300, Ext. 0

Widowed Friends Support Group

Details: Widowed Friends of the Archdiocese of Detroit is a peer support group. Contact: For more information, call Marilyn at (586) 739-9406

Widowed Men

Meet for Breakfast

Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursdays Location: Steve's Family Restaurant, 15800 Middlebelt Road, Livonia (V4 mile north of Five Mile Road)

Details: This is an informal peer group where men have an opportunity to meet with other widowed men who are ready to help you cope or become involved in the other activities planned by Widowed Friends of AOD. Contact, Dick (313) 534-0399.

Young Adults

المستحرب المراجع

Time/Date: 7 p.m. every Thursday Details: Susan McKenna, a life coach, author and motivational speaker, is hosting a support group exclusively for young adults (high school through 20's). The major issues that this age group deals with are issues with parents; anoety and or depression; lack of motivation or low self esteem; relationship problems. A group support system which will offer discussion, information and offer ways to encourage problem solving tools will motivate those wishing to be happy and successful. Sessions are \$12 Contact: Register by calling 734-420-8175.

CLUBS AND GROUPS

AAUW, Northville/Novi Branch

Contact: For information e-mail Harriet Sawyer, membership Vice President at sawyerh@wowway com or call (734) 420-3270.

Beautiful Singles Hiking

TIME/DAY. 9:30 a.m. first and third Sunday of the month Location: Maybury State Park

Blood drive

Maryann Chara gives blood during Red Cross drive at Northville's Meads Mill Middle School on Jan. 6. R.N. Karen Sterns helps out. The drive was coordinated with the help of Meads Mill parents and other volunteers.

bers are welcome to attend. Contact: Please RSVP at 248-465-1995 or at SCraig27@comcast.net if you will be attending. Showing of "1.0.U.S.A." movie Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 9 Location: Northville Sports Den, 133 W. Main Street

Details: Screening and open discussion of film; open to the public. Pizza and salad buffet; donations welcome; cash bar.

Northville Genealogical Society **RESEARCH HELP**

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. every Monday and by appointment Location: Northville District Library, Local **History Room** Details: Individual help on genealogy is offered by society members. Contact: Tille Van Sickle (734) 595-7806 or http://rootsweb.com/~mings MONTHLY MEETING Time/Date: t15 p.m. computer genealogy class, 2:30 p.m. general meeting, second Sunday of month.

Location: Northville District Library, Carlos Meeting Room, 212 W. Cady St. **TEA PARTIES-DIANA KRESEL** Time/Date: 1:30 n.m. Feb. 5 Location: First Presbyterian Church LINCOLN ASSASSINATION-JERRY MAXWELL It also includes tips on nail care during treatment. Further, a makeup gift bag will be donated to all participants. Sessions are limited to 12 people and are open to any woman undergoing cancer treatment in the area. Pre-registration is required. Look Good_Feel Better is offered through a partnership of the American Cancer Society, the Cosmetic, Toiletry, and Fragrance Association and the National Cosmetology

Association. Contact: For more information or to register, please call Jeri Davis, MLSW, at (248) 473-4813. TAI CHI CLASS

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m., every Wednesday Location: Botsford Hospital-Community Room of the Zieger Administration and Education Building

Details: Looking for a way to improve health and relieve stress? Don't miss Botsford Hospital's offered with Dr. Alex Green, a Botsford pathologist. The class meets from in the. The first class you attend is free and each additional session is \$5.

Contact: For questions about this program, please contact Dr. Green at ajgreen@botsford. org or call (248) 471-8729. LYMPHEDEMA CLINIC

Time/Date: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday,

Wednesday and Thursday

Details: A comprehensive lymphedema clinic in conjunction with Botsford Hospital's compre-

Location: Northville Counseling Center Contact: (248) 348-1100 or (734) 420-8175 to register.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital

Location: 36475 Five Mile Road, Livonia Contact: (734) 655-4800 or stmarymercy.org **ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** Time/Date: 3-4:30 p.m. first Thursday of each month

Location. Classroom 1

Details: No fee or registration required. For more information call Audra Frye, Alzheimer's

Association (248) 426-7055.

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. second Tuesday of each month

Location: Classroom 10

Details: The group offers a place for patients and survivors to gather and share experiences, learn coping techniques and find support and " strength. For more information, contact (734) 655-1162

FREE SEMINARS-MICHIGAN BARIATRIC INSTITUTE

Details: MBI offers three laparoscopic surgical weight loss options. Learn about Gastric Bypass, Adjustable Gastric Banding and Sleeve Gastrectomy at a free monthly seminar in the St. Mary Mercy hospital Auditorium. To register call (734) 655-2693, (877) Why-Weight or visit

Peace of Mind and Body through Hatha Yoga Time/Date: 5.15-6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Feb. 9 through March 16 Location: Classrooms 1 and 2 Details: Hatha Yoga increases flexibility, energy level and strength at your own pace in a noncompetitive setting. Class participates need to be able to move between a standing position to a hands and knees position with ease. The purpose of yoga is integration, purification and discipline of the mind, body and heart, which will lead all to liberation from the circle of pain,

distress and anxiety. There is a fee of \$55 for the six-week session. Contact: (734) 655-1162 or register online at stmarymercy org and click on "classes and

CPR/AED and First Aid Classes

events".

Time: 6-9 p.m. last Tuesday of month Location: City of Northville Fire Department, 215 W. Main St.

Details: These a merican Heart Association and Life Support Training Center (LSTI) classes offer two year certification. Cost is \$40 per course. For more information and to register, call the fire department at (248) 449-9920

Baby and Me Infant CPR

Time/Date: 9:30-it:30 a.m. Friday, every other month

Location: City of Northville Fire Department, 215 W. Main St.

Details: This family friendly session is for new parents and their babies. It will provide parents and grandparents knowledgeable support and simple hands on instruction with their baby in case of life-threatening emergencies. Cost is \$20 for parents and baby and includes a manual and emergency wallet cards. Group rates also available.

Contact: Life support Training Institute at (248) 304-6055 for registration, guestions and directions.

First Aid/CPR Classes

Time/Date: 6-10 p.m. monthly Location: Northville Township Fire Department, 45745 Six Mile Road Details: a.m.erican Red Cross First Aid/CPR classes taught by trained firefighters. Call for further information and dates; \$20 fee for Township residents. Contact: Northville Township Fire Department (248) 348-5807

St. John Providence Hospital, Providence Center for the Healing Arts

Location: Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand **River Avenue**, Novi Contact: (248) 465-5455 Wanted: One-time Art Workshop Instructors Details: We are looking for people who have an art or craft that they would like to share in our series of one-time workshops. **COLORED PENCIL WORKSHOP**

Time/Date. 1-3 p.m.; second Tuesday of every month

Details: Beginners welcome.

CERAMICS CLASS

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Details: Explore the Art of playing with clay. Express yourself in this three-dimensional art



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ETC.

Details Join singles of all ages for hiking and other activities.

Contact http://groups yahoo com/groups/ BSHiking/ or Bill at (586) 909-6938

Camera Club

Date. Second Tuesday of every month Contact: Tom James of Northville Camera at northvillecamera@sbcglobaLnet or Northville Arts Commission (248) 449-9950

Gardeners Of Northville and Novi

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. second Monday of month, Sept.-May Location: Northville Art House at 215 W. Cady Street, Northville Details Visitors welcome. Contact, Marcia (248) 349-2352 or visit gardenersnorthville-novi.org

Great Books Discussion Group

Time/Date: 7:30-9:30 p.m. first and third Thursday of every month Location: Livonia Crvic Center Library, Five Mile and Farmington Road Details: Discuss novels, plays, poetry and nonfiction. Reading Poetry by Mark Strand. Goody Night. Contact (248) 349-3121

Northville Book Club

Time/Date: 7 p.m. one Friday per month Location. Solid Grounds Coffee House, 133 W. Main St., Suite 222 Details: Reading "The Autobiography of My Mother" by Jamaica Kincaid. Contact: northvillebookclub@gmail.com

Northville Democrats Club

Contact: www.northvilledems.com Officers and Board of Trustees meeting Time/Date: morning of Sunday, Feb. 7 or evening of Feb. 14 (exact date and time to be announced)

Location: home of Bob and Harriet Sawyer, 39679 Dun Rovin Dr., Northville Township. Details: Although this meeting is primarily for the Club's officers and trustees, all Club mem-

Time/Date: £30 p.m. Feb. 19 Location: First Presbyterian Church STAGING YOUR GARDEN-EVERYTHING GROWS

Time/Date: 130 p.m. March 5 Location: First Presbyterian Church **ANNUAL MEETING and LUNCHEON** Time/Date: 12:30 p.m. March 19

Northville Newcomers Heart to Heart Sports Nite!!

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6 **Location: Northville Sports Den** Details: Cheer on the Pistons and the Red Wings Contact: Kelly Hall (248) 344-4366 Baubles-Bangles-Beads....And Lunch Time/Date: 1115 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17 Location: Bee's Knees and Genitti's Details: Create a glass bracelet by a fusion method at Bee's Knees then have lunch at Genitti's Contact: Colleen Nametz (248) 596-1940 **Pewabic Pottery and Lunch Tour**

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. April 21 Contact: Colleen Nametz (248) 596-1940

HEALTH EVENTS

Botsford

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S LOOK GOOD ... FEEL BETTER PROGRAM

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-noon, second Monday of each month

Location: Botsford Cancer Center located at 27900 Grand River Ave. in Farmington Hills Details: Are you experiencing skin, facial and nail changes during your cancer treatment? Botsford Hospital's Cancer Center is offering an American Cancer Society program called Look Good... Feel Better that provides information and cosmetic advice to women battling cancer. This program is a free, supportive, informative and enjoyable first step toward renewed self-esteem, self-confidence and emotional recovery for female cancer patients undergoing radiation or chemotherapy. The session includes hands-on instruction on makeup, skin care and suggestions for using wigs, turbans and scarves.

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nensive lymphedema management program. The clinic helps patients with lymphedema or venous insufficiency gain control of their lives through education, exercise, self-massage techniques and compression garments. Contact: (248) 471-8120.

FREE Health Awareness Seminar

Time/Date. 6:30 p.m., Tuesday nights Location: Health for Life Chiropractic, Highland Lakes Plaza, 430597 mile Rd., Northville Details: Meet Dr. Ryan Cooper and see how Chiropractic can help reach varied health care goals.

CONTACT: (248) 449-1630 or RyanCCooper@ gmail.com or www.hflchiro.net Please RSVP

Flu Shots

Time: 8 a.m. 3:30 p.m. Location: Wayne, 33030 Van Born Road, at Venoy, (734) 727-7100. Walk-in days are Mondays and Thursdays. Appointments only on Tuesdays, Wednesday, and Fridays Location: Taylor, 26650 Eureka Road, east of Inkster Road, (734) 955-3900. Walk-in days are Mondays and Thursdays. Appointment only days are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Location: Dearborn, 6450 Maple, west of Schaefer Road, south of Warren Road, (313) 216-2201. Appointment only on Thursdays. Details: The Wayne County Department of Pubic Health offers flu shots for residents at its clinics below. Cost of flu vaccine is \$15. Pneumonia vaccine is offered for \$35. Medicare (Part B) and Medicaid are accepted. Contact: (734) 727-7000

Strength Training Classes

Location: American Legion Hall, 100 Dunlap, corner of Center Street Date: Mondays and Fridays Details: Diane DiVita offers Strength Training classes (light weights with a little yoga stretching) for adults. Contact: For more information, call Diane at (248) 344-0928 or visit trianglesix@sbcglobal. net.

Psychotherapy and Counseling Services

hospital Web site.

HELEN PALMER IMAGE RECOVER CENTER Details: Offering a spa-like atmosphere with image-enhancement services to help cancer patients heal from the inside out and regain their self-confidence in a supportive and caring environment. Services include: Free consultation and assessment, skin care, hand and nail care, massage therapy, reflexology, hair replacements, haircuts and styling of hair and wigs, prosthetics and bras, lymphedema compression products and educational resources. Services offered to patients from any hospital and the general public. Contact: (734) 655-8810

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. second Wednesday of each month Location: Auditorium Details: All are welcome. Ladies Night Out - Heart to Heart Time/Date: 5:30 p.m. Feb. 24 Location: hospital auditorium Details: Bone density screening, blood pressure screening and massage offered from 5:30-7 p.m. and lecture from 7-8:30. Speaker is St. Mary Mercy Hospital Cardiologist, Roy Misirliyan, MD. Dr. Misirliyan will discuss heart health issues specific to women and include symptoms, diagnosis, treatment and prevention. Registration for this event is required. There is no charge, but a \$5 goodwill donation is requested to benefit Marian Women's Center Programs. Contact: The Marian Women's Center at (734) 655-1182 to register, or register online at stmanymercy.org and click on "classes and events". Parenting with Love and Logic Time/Date: 7-9:30 p.m. Feb. 10 Location: Classrooms 1 and 2 Details: For parents with elementary age children. A common sense approach, teaching parents skills that cuftivate confidence and good decision-making in children by offering them choices, empathy, and respect while adults avoid anger, threats, warnings, or lectures. Love and Logic is easy to learn and can be put to use right away; it changes fives, and raises responsible children. Registration is required; \$10 fee per person. Contact: (734) 655-1162.

form. \$10 lab fee. Call to verify class times. KNITTIN' YARNS

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. every Wednesday Details: Join others and create hats and shawls for those in need.

MEDITATION

Time/Date: Meditation for individuals or groups by appointment.

Details: Learn proper breathing techniques that can be used at home or on the job to help reduce stress; class held in reflection space; Cancer Center.

THERAPEUTIC YOGA

Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. Monday-Yoga for Kids with Parents; 12:30-1:30 p.m. Monday-Yoga for Backs; 6-7 p.m. Tuesday-Mixed Level; 11 a.m.-noon Wednesday-Meditative Yoga; 12:15t15 p.m. Wednesday, Mixed Levet 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday-Prenatal Yoga; 6:45-7.45 p.m. Thursday-Yoga for Backs; 12:30-1:30 p.m. Friday-Beginner/Intermediate; 9:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday-Mixed Levet 10:45-11:45 a.m. Saturday-Yoga for Backs.

Details: \$10/walk-in, \$80/10-class card, \$45/5class card. Lunch and Learn Yoga 7-week session is \$60. Registration required. Classes also held at Providence Hospital, Southfield, Call for details. MASSAGE THERAPY

Time/Date: By appointment

Details: Therapeutic massage is effective for stress and tension; chronic fatigue; pain and headaches. Everyone is welcome. Patients undergoing treatment should bring physician's referrat; \$50/50-minutes.

CREATE WITH JANIS

Time/Date: 10 a.m. noon each Monday Details: Express yourself artistically in our peaceful and inspirational creative arts studio. Janis provides guidance in a variety of techniques and projects. \$5 suggested per session. EXPLORE ART AND COLOR WITH DARCY Time/Date: 1-3 p.m., the fourth Tuesday of every month 1

Details: Join volunteer artist Darcel as she guides you in transforming an ordinary block of wood into a multi-dimensional work of art. Cost is \$5 per session. KNOW BEFORE YOU GO Contact: Call (248) 465-4488 for a recording of the latest in class changes.





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

OUR VIEWS A great recipe for a satisfying Saturday

1

Northville has a well-earned reputation for presenting fabulous festivals and events year-round. Here's a small sampling -- Taste of Northville Business Showcase; State of Community Luncheon; Farmers' Market; Annual Flower Sale; Grub Crawl; Victorian

Festival; and Hometown Holidays. Know what they all have in common? They're presented by the Northville Chamber of Commerce, staffed by a small group of individuals who work tirelessly to make this community a great place to live, work and visit.

Currently, they're working on this year's first big event, the Chill-E Cookoff. Formerly known as the Fire & Ice Festival, it takes place this Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. at the Northville Senior Community Center, 303 W. Main.

As the title indicates, this is the place to taste great chili (and salsa) as firefighters from the Northville's township and city departments bring on the heat and vie for the Firehouse Chili Challenge trophy while local restaurants see who has the best recipe to win the Top Chili prize. Participating eateries include Edwards Cafe & Caterers, Independence Village of Plymouth, Poole's Tavern, George's Senate Coney Island, Lake Street Tavern, Rocky's of Northville, Scottie's Kitchen, Hotz Catering, Northville Sports Den and the Rusty Buckey.

And you can taste as many as you like (or can handle) for a nominal charge (\$1 per sample cup; \$2 for a large cup). Of course, there will be beverages to cool you off.

The chamber doesn't expect you to enjoy these spicy offerings and not want to move around. That's why they've enlisted the band Saoco to get you dancing to salsa music from noon-2:30 p.m. Children's crafts and an ice carving demonstrations round out the activities.

While the chamber staff puts together events like the Chill-E Cookoff, they can't do it without the support of their membership. Saturday's festival is made possible by sponsors Medical Network One/Michigan Institute for Health Enhancement, Varsity Lincoln-Mercury, the Northville Record, Everdry Waterproofing and First Choice Chiropractic.

Now if you want to turn this into an all-dayer -- and we highly encourage you to do so -- start off at Genitti's Hole-in-the-Wall (108 E. Main) for the Blizzard Breakfast (scrambled eggs, Genitti's own Italian sausage, ham, home-style potatoes, pancakes, muffins, a selection of Danish, bagels and fresh fruit) from 8:30-11 a.m. The cost is \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door for ages 11 and up; \$5 and \$10 for ages 4-10. Proceeds from this annual Northville Parks and Recreation event will go toward the purchase of outdoor movie equipment to be used by the communities of Northville, Northville Township, Novi, South Lyon and Wixom. So there's your recipe for a satisfying Saturday in downtown Northville. Walk that great food off and visit downtown Northville's merchants, too.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What is your favorite thing to do in downtown Northville on a winter's day?



I enjoy coffee and a pastry at Solid Grounds and pastry at Sweet 220. **Brad Birdsall**

Islamic center vote correct

On Jan. 20, the Northville Township

proposed variances for the Meadowbrook

ect was a church, synagogue or mosque,

the petitioners did not present a realistic,

workable site solution or convincing argu-ment as to why they met the criteria for a

entrance did not provide proper sight lines

Their proposed angled parking lot

to oncoming traffic, due to its proposed

misalignment with Eight Mile Road. This

would have been a very dangerous situa-

tion. The radius of the cul-de-sac did not

not clear if it met the township require-

ments to allow for firefighting equipment to safely turn around. Had the cul-de-sac

been larger, it would have further reduced

The plan was vague on the required load-

the proposed number of parking spaces.

ing area, trash area, reserve septic field, storm water detention and availability of

a fire hydrant, to name a few. The appli-

cant could not clearly state the proposed

number of occupants of the building, or if

they met the township parking ordinance,

appear to be dimensioned. Therefore, it was

variance.

Islamic Center. Whether the proposed proj-

ZBA took correct action by voting down the

Northville



I just love to wander around and shop. I poke in and out of shops.

> **Holly Kaye Farmington Hills**

LETTERS

Take a walk down to

Rebecca's for lunch.

Matt Gaidica

Northville

system. The intended use of the basement and any handicapped accessibility issues were not fully addressed.

Contrary to what was stated, if this was a vacant lot, the owners would have extreme difficulty constructing a religious structure on it, due to the required setbacks and the existing narrow width of the lot.

The petitioner made an interesting final statement. When he alluded to the fact that they reduced the number of parking spaces from 40-plus to 32 as they where "instruct-ed" by the ZBA from the previous meeting. Had this plan been voted through and it was later determined the parking was insufficient, I assume the petitioner would have simply fallen back on the defense that they were doing what they were instructed to do by the ZBA, and the parking problem would not exist had they been approved for more parking as they originally requested. So it could have become a Catch-22 situation for the township.

This was not a religious issue, as some made it out to be, but simply a safety issue. There were just too many unanswered traffic, setback requirements, adequate parking and neighbors' concerns that affected the decision to not allow a change in the use of the property from a home to a place



Sip a nice glass of wine at Simply Wine and walk along the streets in the evening when the snow is falling. **Kelly Wessner** Northville

I am not a native Northvillian, so there are some things I don't necessarily know about the inner workings of our community, but perhaps somebody could fill me in.

Are the idiots who are unnecessarily proposing to make Mary Alexander Court a two-way street the same idiots who decided to unnecessarily permit left turns from northbound Center Street onto Main Street?

If they are the same idiots, would somebody please tell them they have already proved their point. We all realize they are idiots, so they can give up trying to prove it. John D. Webster Northville

Is Kennedy's cause dead?

The late Sen. Edward (Ted) Kennedy served in the U.S. Senate for 47 years being second only to Michigan's Sen. John Dingel. Kennedy said many times that universal health care was the "cause of his life." It's very sad that the year following

Kennedy's death, any type of concrete health care reform is dead in the water. In addition, his successor, Scott Brown, is a Republican to the right of Sen. John McCain who defends water-boarding as a interrogation technique. At least he did speak respectfully of Kennedy in his acceptance speech. Linda A. Koch Milford



The following are excerpts from readers participating in our online forum for discussing issues, In Your Voices, on the Web at hometownlife.com.

Northville Township ZBA members deny Islamic Center's request for two variances

And here comes the law suit.

SteveEmsley

Come on Steve, even the land owners know that putting a parking lot in your front lawn is not right no matter WHAT religion you belong to. But ... we are a litigical society ...

cheateau



c) GANNETT

Cal Stone | Susan Rosiek Grace Perry Community **Executive Editor** Director of Advertising Editor | / Publisher

in order to determine the proper parking requirements. It was not clear how they would realistically convert a house into a commercial assembly use with a much greater floor load requirement, mechanical and ventilation needs or fire suppression

of assembly and worship

Steve Lomske Northville

Who's making these decisions?

Let's Save Michigan – an idea whose time has come

he day started with Brunch with Bach at the Detroit Institute of the Arts. nurtured by an eye-opening exhibit of the Work Projects Administration (WPA). It featured 100 prints from the Depression-era WPA federal art project, which employed thousands of artists during the Great Depression. It ended with Let's Save Michigan.

Let's Save Michigan is a grassroots campaign



advocate and get informed about public policy that will help cities attract a talented workforce vital for an innovative, knowledge

economy. It is supported by the Michigan Municipal League. The goal is to not only have a skilled and talented workforce, but also have an army of people willing to take action to improve their communities.

Jacob Bronowski, the noted intellectual, mathematician and biologist at Cambridge University, perhaps captured the essence of Let's Save Michigan best when he remarked, "The world can only be grasped by action, not by contemplation."

Let's Save Michigan is attempting to take action and engage Michiganians to take ownership of our state's future. The Let's Save Michigan movement is using social media outlets such as Facebook (www.

COMMENTARY

facebook.com/letssavemichigan) and the Internet (www. letssavemichigan.com) to help spread its message.

A 20-something, Sean Mann, is the engine behind Let's Save Michigan. "Our goal is to raise awareness about the importance. of quality urban communities that are safe, have vibrant arts and cultural activities, walkable neighborhoods, decent jobs and a strong education system. The desire is to push these vital, sustainable, quality-of-life issues into the debate leading up to the crucial 2010 statewide elections," Mann said.

As I wandered through the DIA's WPA Depression-era art, soaking in how the artist captured the human misery and triumph during this period of our history, I thought how sad it is that art funding is another casualty of Michigan's economic meltdown. I wished we had the art funding to put artists to work capturing how the global, disruptive and transformational economy is changing Michigan.

INSPIRATION FOR REVITALIZATION

Then I saw a poster about how the Let's Save Michigan campaign is teaming up with the Detroit Institute of Arts to launch a poster contest where artists, illustrators and graphic designers can submit original posters to inspire Michiganders to revive our state. The winner

will be awarded \$1,000, the runner-up will receive \$250 and other prizes will go to remaining finalists. Details on the poster competition, which runs Dec. 15 through Feb. 15, are at www. letssavemichigan.com. It has posters in the fashion of Works Progress Administration artwork of the Great Depression to highlight turnaround efforts and rally Michigan residents to revive the state, which has being leading the parade of economic decline the past decade.

The DIA is a beacon of inspiration and hope. Let's Save Michigan strongly believes with the right policies and leaders in place, Michigan can create the vibrant communities that will attract 21st century innovative/knowledge workers critically needed to help rebuild our state.

They believe our cities -Detroit, Grand Rapids, Pontiac, Saginaw, Flint and other struggling urban centers -- can be the epicenter of Michigan's rebirth.

Let's make Michigan the place it can be - and the place it needs to be for us all to thrive.

Michigan can emerge from the current economic downturn stronger, more livable and more likely to withstand future economic crises, but only if we persuade our elected officials to put the right policies in place.

COME TOGETHER

To save Michigan, we must come together and fight for smart reinvestment in our cities. Struggling cities shouldn't be abandoned to sprawl and blight.

Let's Save Michigan believes our

cities should be transformed into centers for culture and innovation to become the magnets for a talented workforce and tomorrow's job creators.

Michigan helped lay the groundwork for the American middle class. Yet, as we also know, our world has changed in substantial ways and doing what we have always done will not get us where we need to go. What we once had is now gone. Constant and unpredictable change is our new reality. We must seize the opportunity to redefine and rebuild our great state. Clinging to our past successes will not enable us to obtain and maintain future greatness.

The arts have away of refreshing the soul and nurturing the spirit. Refresh yours at the DIA. Check it out on the Web, www.dia.org, and in person.

Be reminded of the strength of the American people by viewing the prints from the Depressionera WPA federal art project. Then check out and take action to help revitalize Michigan by joining with Let's Save Michigan.

No one is coming to our state's rescue, it is collectively up to all of us to pull together and rebuild our spirits and state.

First you must believe - and then act.

Let's Save Michigan.

Tom Watkins of Northville is a business and educational consultant. He served the citizens of the state as superintendent of public instruction (2001-05) and mental health director (1986-90) and an elected member of the Wayne County Charter Commission (1980-82). Write to him at towatkins@aol.com.

First-ever designer Passover tables event at Temple Beth El

In advance of the Jewish holiday of Passover. metro-Detroiters will have the opportunity to mingle and admire more than 20 exotic Passover "tablescapes" innovated by the area's most creative interior designers, home décor business owners and area activists.

The community is invited to take a firsthand look at more than 20 creatively inspired and Passover-themed tables on Thursday, Feb. 4, from 6-8:30 p.m., at Temple Beth El in Bloomfield Hills. The event will benefit Temple Beth El's Religious School programming. Tickets are \$75 per person, or \$125 per patron, and \$200 per patron couple.

Guests will enjoy cocktails and small plates catered by Excellence Too Catering while viewing the unique tablescapes before the Passover holi-day commences in late March. Would-be hosts can glean innovative table-setting strategies from more than 30 renowned table designers from Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Franklin and

DETAILS

Established in 1850, Temple Beth El is the first Jewish congregation founded in Michigan and is the religious home to 1,200 families. For tickets or information call (248) 865-0617 and press 1. Temple Beth El is located at 7400 Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills.

West Bloomfield.

Each table will be dramatically different from the next table, as designers will incorporate special and personal themes into their masterpiece "tables." Each table will also incorporate the traditional symbols of Passover, such as the Seder plate.

According to Elyse Foltyn, who co-chairs the event along with Fair Radom, "This event is not. necessarily just about using your most beautiful

linens and finest china. It's about incorporating those beautiful pieces into a tablescape that reflects your own special sentiment or makes a bold statement. It will provide guests a venue to gather table-setting ideas to apply to their own dining room tables-and not necessarily just for Passover.'

A special twist to this first-ever holidayinspired event is that many of the tables feature the combined talents of teams-mother/daughters, aunts/nieces, multi-generational friends, sister-in-laws and even children-each of whom has found an added way to extend their family feeling or tradition into their design and holiday.

Table designers include Jolie Schiller Altman, ArtLoft owner and designer, Rachael A-Woods, Karen Borenstein, Meredith Colburn, Carrie Doelle, Lillian Erdeljan, Amy Farbman, Nadine Farbman, Adrienne Fink, Gerych Graziella designer Jon Gerych, Kim Goodman, Laura Gorosh, Jill Gurwin, Habatat Galleries, Rose

Handleman, Roz Jacobson, Helen Katz, Colorworks owner and designer Barbi Krass, Lee's Specialty designers Gloria Colton and owner Solange Messelian, Nicole London, Phyllis Loewenstein, Leslie Ann Pilling, Nanci Rands, Brenda Rosenberg, Marlo Scott, Melissa Shulman, Lila Silverman, Linda Sircus, the Sisterhood of Temple Beth El, Julie Taubman, Nicolo Wagner, Amy Weinstein and Gwen Weiner.

Co-chairs of this inspirational event are Elyse Foltyn of Birmingham and Fair Radom of Bloon field Hills. Radom has a long history of designing tables for Cranbrook's Holiday Tables. Members of the Host Committee include Karen and Jon Borenstein, Jody and Daniel Boorstein, Lillian and Alex Erdeljan, Kimberly and Gary Goodman, Laura and David Gorosh, Rose and David Handleman, Rozlyn and Scott Jacobson, Heidi and Jay Kreindler, Nicole and Steven London, Liz and "JJ" Modell, Louise and Edward Sable and Julie and Ron Yolles.

UENIEK FROM PAGE A1

ing lot in front of the house, which is located on the south side of Eight Mile Road east of Silver Springs Drive.

The Islamic Center's board wanted to build the parking lot to accommodate Muslims coming to the home to pray. On Friday afternoons, a required time of prayer for Muslims, about 70 people come to the center.

A place of worship is a per-mitted zoning in the single-family residential neighborhood. The center's board members' attorney, LeRoy Asher of Miller Canfield, argued that this gave the members the right to construct the parking lot and lessen the setbacks.

"This is a principal permitted use within your zoning ordinances," Asher said.

REQUIREMENTS NOT MET

But ZBA member Marjorie Banner moved to deny the two variances, which was seconded by member Mike Weaver, because she said the needs were "self-created" and that the center's board could not prove that the requests were the "minimum variances requested," another ordinance requirement.

The board then voted unanimously (5-0) to deny the two requests.

The board is now made up of seven members. Brian Doran asked himself to be recused from the discussion and vote since he has connections to Miller Canfield, counsel to the center. The other member, Bob McMahon, was absent from the meeting.

Banner said she believed the enter could show that the site

care center at Eight Mile Road and Silver Springs Drive. Several residents from Country Place Condominiums across the street in Novi expressed concerns about possible traffic accidents with a new driveway for the center proposed to be positioned directly across from E. Glen Haven Circle.

LETTERS FROM RESIDENTS

Although they weren't read at the meeting, Paul Slavin, ZBA chair, said that in addition to two meetings with standingroom-only audiences of mostly those protesting the center's plans that the board and township staff had received 19 letters opposing the requests.

Steve McGuirk, who lives just south of the center, was concerned about the center's septic tank overflowing with increased use of the house, noting that a drainage problem already exists in the area.

He added that he has nothing against Muslims using the home as a place of worship and prayer.

"This is not a religious issue: it's an intensity of use issue," McGuirk said.

Resident Ann Schmidt told the ZBA members that a denial of the requests would not violate the Religious Land Use Act. 'Recent rulings are uphold-

ing residents wishes," she said, including the 6th Court' of Appeals. She said residents have protested the expansion of religious buildings in Jackson, Plymouth and Meridian Township in recent years.

"It (a denial) does not constitute a substantial burden (on the property owner)," she said. Steve Lomske, a resident and

architect, said Wayne County would require that the driveway made throughout his career would be at a 90-degree angle to Eight Mile Road, not at the angle presented by the center's plan. There is also the need for an acceleration lane and fire safety concerns," Lomske said. "You're opening up Pandora's box with this plan. It's a nice plan, but a fantasy plan." "We're definitely disappointed in the decision tonight," said Medhat Said, vice president of the Islamic Center board. "However, we believe that there is a better plan for us. We do respect our neighbors, and we respect their rights. I was hop-ing there would have been a better outcome for us, but what can we do?"

Plymouth lawyer files for state House seat

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

With state Rep. Marc Corriveau's decision to seek the 7th Senate seat this fall rather than seek re-election to his 20th District House seat, Kurt Heise sees a void in state government.

And Heise, a Plymouth Township Republican, thinks he's the man to fill it.

Heise, whose only other try for political office was a run at the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education a couple of years ago, is the only candidate to file so far, according to the Wayne County Elections Office. Candidates have until 4 p.m. May 11 to file. Candidates seeking to file with no party affiliation must do so by July 15.

"Michigan is in a state of crisis," Heise said. "Decisions being made in Lansing are harming families. We're going to be electing a new team. I think I have the experience to be an effective member of that team and help turn Michigan around."

Heise believes that experience comes from a variety of career choices he's made in both the legal and municipal fields,"He is cuffenfly an attorney with the Plymouth firm Hemming, Bennett, Polaczyk, Cronin, Smith & Witoff, PC. Before that, he was director of the Wayne County Department of Environment. He also spent six years as executive assistant to the mayor of Dearborn Heights.

Heise believes contacts he's will help him should he be



Kurt Heise lost his job as head of the Wayne County Department of Environment, then surfaced at a Plymouth law firm.

know what the needs are in the district. I've got a track record in local government and in Lansing to make a difference."

Heise said he helped write the 2005 Watershed Alliance Act and co-chaired the Michigan Groundwater Conservation Advisory Council.

"I've had a great deal of interaction with the players in Lansing," Heise said. "I think that makes me uniquely qualified, as well."

Heise said he sees three major issues facing the state:

 Jobs. "We have to create new ones, and retain the ones we have." "We have to hold the is a 20(j) district and Wayne-Westland is losing six schools. "People move to western Wayne County for a good educa-

does Plymouth-Canton have its

own funding issues, Northville

tion," Heise said. "The big problem with the way schools are funded is an overdependence on " the sales tax. We need to make education funding a priority. We have to take a look at the state's tax structure. Everyone agrees reform is needed."

He said he'd be willing to look at a system that allows school districts, with a vote of the people, to levy a limited millage for school operations. Districts which pool their resources might find it an easier sell. Heis "If school districts can show voters they're getting value for the money, they'd be in favor of it," he said. "I think the voters should decide, not the people in Lansing." Heise offered opinions on

other issues:

• The state budget. He said there are always areas that can be cut or consolidated, pointing at legacy costs, the number of employees and the Department of Corrections as problem areas. He's in favor of the state doing a two-year budget, which he thinks would allow the state to make necessary changes.

"Michigan has to come to grips with the fact it's a smaller state than we were 10 years ago," he said. "During that time we didn't make the reforms everyone is talking about but no one wants to tackle. It's going to be up to a new crop of legislators and a new governor. It's not going to be easy, and it's not going to be fun."

• Going global. Heise supports Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano's "aerotropolis" concept and thinks the state needs to look overseas for help.

We need to have the guts to talk to other countries in Asia," he said. "Gov. Granholm hasn't done anything to attract businesses from Asia."

 Court reform. Heise thinks the state needs to "look at consolidating" the court system. District courts, he said, are based on populations from a decade ago, While he District Court in Plymouth still warrants three judges, he believes needs change.

These are the sort of structural reforms people have been putting off for too long," Heise said. "There are places where it might be appropriate for the state to intervene."

Heise said he'll tell voters he thinks his level of experience im the right guy the job. "We need someone who will do a competent job representing our district," he said. "There are a lot of tough decisions to be made over the next couple of years."

presented a "practical difficulty" for the property owner as well as a "unique situation," two requirements listed to approve a variance.

But, in the end, she and the other ZBA members believed that the changes requested represented an overuse of the property.

"When you're talking about bussing them in from Costco (parking lot), this is going to create an impact on Friday afternoons," Banner said.

Asher said the center's board members had suggested shuttling Muslims to the center or even having two prayer services on Friday afternoon to lessen the number of vehicles at the site.

But, residents expressed many concerns, such as possible expansion of the center, major traffic issues on an extremely high-traveled roadway, and safety issues with children crossing the street near Silver Springs Elementary School and a day

OFFICERS RETAIN POSITIONS

In other ZBA business, the same officers were elected to serve in 2010: Slavin as chair, Doren as vice chair and McMahon as secretary.

pfleming@gannett.com [(248) 437-2011, ext. 260

elected.

"Because of working in municipal government, I've established ties with people in all six communities" represented in the district, Heise said. "I know the issues, and I

 Taxes. line."

 Education. As a father of one middle school student and one elementary school student. Heise said education is near and dear to his heart. He pointed out that not only





NEIGHBORS

ENGAGEMENT

Parker & Kenny

Craig and Linda Parker of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Dr. Megan Parker DVM, to Dr. Howard Kenny DVM, son of Dr. James Kenny DVM and Noreen Kenny of Clonakilty, Ireland.

Both the bride-to-be and groom-elect live in Clonakilty. She is a graduate of Michigan State University. He is a graduate of the University of Dublin. Her grandparents are Frank and Mickey Elias

of Novi. A summer 2011 wedding is planned.

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WED 12:00, 2:10 30 AVATAR (PG-13) 52 50 PREMIUN PER 50 TICKET 11:25 2:50, 6:15, 9:30

SQUEAKQUEL (PG) FRI/SUN/MON 12:00, 2:10, 4:40, 6:55 - 9:00

ICEPT ADULT EVENING

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11

Dr. Howard Kenny and Dr. Megan Parker

ENGAGEMENT

Corbin & Helmick

Major Adam R. Corbin and Miss Amanda L. Helmick, together with their families, are pleased to announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of the late Donald Helmick or Cumberland, Maryland and Edward Button of Hagerstown, Maryland and the late Deborah Button. Amanda graduated for West Virginia University with a bachelor's degree in advertising and marketing. She works as an orthopedic and urology medical sales specialist in Charleston, WV.

The prospective groom is the son of Robert and Jeannelle Corbin of Farmington Hills. Adam graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering. He is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and is currently serving as a C-130 pilot in the West Virginia Air National Guard.

A July 2010 wedding is planned.



Amanda L. Helmick and Major Adam R. Corbin

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

More: For a complete listing of local and regional events, see the Northville Calendar online at www.hometownlife.com. Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstone@gannett. com; by fax to (248) 685-2892; or by mail to Northville Record, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178, Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

Travel Extravaganza

Time/Date: 5-8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29 and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30

Location: Laurel Park Place Mall, Livonia

Details: Find travel values, exclusive offers, rock-bottom pricing and travel experts to meet and talk with. Enter to win a three- or four-day cruise aboard Royal Caribbean International. Some of the participating vendors will be Royal Caribbean International, Apple Vacations, Carrival Cruise Lines, Delta Vacations, Universal Orlando, Cayman Islands Department of Tourism and much more. Contact: Brookside Travel at (248) 344-4747

Gordon Michaels Scene Study/Film Acting Class

Time/Date: 6:30-9:30 p.m. Feb. 9-March 30 Location: Genitti's Theater 108 E. Main Street, Northville Details: The Gordon Michaels scene study / film acting program is beneficial for those who have some experience or are new to the film business. Enrollment limited to 25 students; minimum age 17. Cost is \$395. Contact: Moviebizmich@gmail.com or call: (248) 262-6805

Carol Rebandt, Farmers Insurance agent in Northville, has completed the Career Agents Course at the University of Farmers.

The University of Farmers training facility, located in Agoura Hills, Calif., was officially dedicated Nov. 3, 2006. Farmers CEO Robert Woudstra noted that the University is national in scope, and offers training to Farmers' 15,000 agents and their staff, 500 district managers and 10,000 claims staff year round.

"Carol completed the five-day Career Agents Course, which is clearly defined and targeted to enhance the professional skills of Farmers' agents," explained Annette Thompson, senior vice president of Farmers. "The course gives an agent the ability to learn how to successfully understand the needs of Farmers' customers and help them choose the right insurance to meet their needs," Thompson added. "Using professional facilitators and a curriculum that maximizes training effectiveness, this course is

NEWSMAKERS

a roadmap to success for every agent."

Corriveau named Legislator of the Year

State Representative Marc Corriveau (D-Northville) will be honored by the Michigan Association of Drug Court Professionals (MADCP) next week as the recipient of the group's "Legislator of the Year" award for his efforts to improve the state's drunk driving and sobriety courts.

The MADCP award ceremony will take place at noon on Tuesday, Feb. 2, at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center. 55 S. Harrison Ave. in East Lansing.

"I am deeply honored to be recognized by the Michigan Association of Drug Court Professionals," said Corriveau, a member of the House Judiciary Committee. "As a practicing attorney for more than six years before joining the House, it's rewarding to be acknowledged by an organization and its members who work tirelessly on advancing our legal system. I am committed to building on their mission to improve Michigan's drug courts and help those struggling with substance abuse have the chance to rebuild their lives."

Corriveau will receive the award on Tuesday, Feb. 2, in East Lansing during the MADCP's 11th annual conference. The MADCP is a nonprofit organization that provides leadership and guidance to its members, which include judges, probation officers, prosecutors, defense attorneys, social workers and others who provide drug courtrelated counseling and treatment.

The MADCP named Corriveau as the recipient of its 'Legislator of the Year' award due to his work on legislation that would create a three-year pilot project within the state's existing DWI/Sobriety Courts. Under the plan, which passed the House and now awaits Senate action, individuals with two or more drunk driving convictions would be eligible for the program that would help the courts' ability to monitor their behavior and prevent repeat drunk driving offenses.

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Auto show created a buzz; dealerships ready to compete

Customers are ready — now it's up to individual dealerships and manufacturers.

That seems to be the message area auto dealers are taking from the North American International Auto Show that ended last Sunday.

"We've already had customers come in after visiting the auto show," said Douglas North of North Brothers Ford in Westland. They say they're ready to buy, he said, and they're looking for the best deal.

Kit Tennyson of Tennyson Chevrolet in Livonia said: "We've got a lot of great cars, and they all look good. The auto show always generates customers."

Customers are a lot more "excited" about cars compared with last year, said Scott LaRiche of Lou LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth. The auto show was the best in recent history, he said, and it created a real buzz. People are far more receptive to buying a new vehicle now that the economy has improved, he said, and there's an attractive array of new models.

"But it's still a very competitive market," said Bob Griffin of Bill Brown Ford in Livonia. "The auto show created some excitement," he said, but it's the cars and dealerships that draw customers into the showroom, "with quality and service."

This year's show put a spotlight on technology, Griffin said. Some vehicles can parallel park themselves, he noted, "and the technology is getting better and better."

The show demonstrated that manufacturers are more quality conscious than ever before, . said Paul Zimmerman, of George Matick Chevrolet in Redford. "Our quality is second to none," he insisted, and that will make Chevrolets — particularly the new Volt — very competitive.

"This was the best show I've seen in 15 years," said Rick Hodges of Victory Toyota in Canton. "It's obvious that people are more excited. There's a good selection of vehicles and people are ready. I think people want to start feeling good again."

This year's show put great



Birmingham resident Duncan Currie looks at the wheels of a Ford Focus at the North American International Auto Show on Thursday afternoon.

'We've already had customers come in after visiting the auto show.'

of North Brothers Ford in Westland

emphasis on alternative-fuel vehicles, said John Rogin of Livonia's Rogin Buick, "and that's probably

the wave of the future." But customers are still motivated by their needs, Rogin insisted. Somebody with six people in the family is still interested in a bigger vehicle, rather than a compact. "Fortunately gasoline is still reasonable," Rogin said, so people are still buying vans or SUVs. "If you have a hot vehicle, people will come to your showroom," particularly if your dealership has a reputation for service.

The auto show — and the buzz it generated — is part of an encouraging trend, said Richard Kujala of Don Massey Cadillac in Plymouth. Sales have been ticking upward for the last 60 days, he said: "The optimism is growing, and I think this will be a very good year."

- Pat Murphy, staff writer



Marilyn Winsamd gets out of a Smart Car as her husband, Amos, looks on.



NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Suicide awareness event

Students from the Northville High School Class of 2011 will sponsor a Spaghetti Dinner Fund-raiser for SAVE (Suicide Awareness Voices of Education) from 5-7:30 p.m. on Feb. 4 at the school cafeteria. The event is open to the public and was inspired by the parents of an NHS student who was recently a victim of suicide. SAVE is a national organization that provides counseling to students who are depressed and possibly suicidal. Tickets at \$10 are available through tomorrow during hunch times (10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) at the cafeteria. Tickets will also be available at the door. The meal will include spaghetti, French bread, salad and bottled water. The event may include a bake sale. For more information, call Cheri Sclater, teacher and junior class advisor, at (248) 344-8420, ext. 334.

Fireman's Ball

The Seventh Annual Fireman's Ball charity fundraiser will be held from 6 p.m.-midnight on Saturday, Feb. 6 at the Sheraton of Novi, 21111 Haggerty Road.

Sponsored by the Northville Township Firefighters, the cost is \$150 per couple; \$80 for singles. The evening includes food, drinks, dancing, a live auction and raffles, with proceeds benefitting the Northville Township Fire Fighters Charity Fund.

Contact Jesse Marcotte (imarcotte3961@gmail.com) or Adam Burton (adam.burton@yahoo.com; call (248) 348-5807; or visit www.iaff3961.org.

Be counted!

Answering 10 simple questions on Census Day, April 1 can create a better future for you, your family and your township.

In March, more than 130 million addresses in the United States will receive a U.S. Census 2010 questionnaire form either by mail or from a census worker. One of the shortest census forms created since the census was first conducted in 1790, this year's form should take only 10 minutes to complete. The form will ask for name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship and whether the householder is an owner or renter. People with more than one residence should be counted only at the residence where they spend the largest part of the year.

By filling out your census form accurately and returning it by the deadline, you and the members of your household will be counted in the national census, which is used to determine representation in the U.S. House of Representatives, allocate seats in the state Legislature, and influence how the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to states and communities. Census data is also used to:

• guide planning for new hospitals,

roads, job training centers, schools and more;

 determine the need for additional social services, block grants and other grant programs essential to many communities;

 provide information to ascertain the need for local initiatives, such as afterschool programs or community action projects; and,

• help businesses identify where to locate factories, shopping centers, banks and offices, which often can lead to new jobs.

The U.S. Constitution requires a national census be conducted once every 10 years. In accordance with law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's questionnaire responses with anyone.

For more information about Census 2010, contact Sue Hillebrand, Clerk at 248-662-0491, email: shillebrand@twp. northville.mi.us. Visit the Census website for employment or other information at www.michigan.gov/census2010.



"Fonts"

"FONTS! A Type of Musical," a one-act show written by local authors about the adventures of several computer typefaces that find meaning in their lives, will be the New Year fundraiser for Spotlight Players, the resident adult theater group at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. "FONTS!" is a family friendly show and will be performed as a "black box" production in the Biltmore Studio at the Village Theater. Show dates are 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Jan. 22-23 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 24. **Pictured is Charlette Nance** of Northville, portraying Old English and Ressurection fonts. Tickets are \$10 and available by phone at the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460; online at www.canton-mi.org/ villagetheater; in person at The Summit on the Park; or at the door



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Hometown Weekbes | Thursday, January 28, 2010



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Hometown Weekhes | Thursday, January 28, 2010

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Northville boys cagers split pair of games – B3





The Northville High School varsity competitive cheerleading squad performs in a quad meet on Jan. 20 at Livonia Stevenson.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Competitive cheer turns in two strong showings

Squad gearing up for Northville Invitational

and the second second

BY SAM EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

It was a good week to be on the Northville Mustangs competitive cheer team.

The squad, coached by Mindy Gentz, turned in two big wins over Novi and Stevenson early in the week and finished ninth in a field of 19 of the state's best teams in the Brighton Invitational last Saturday.

Last Wednesday, the Mustangs earned two wins over divisional opponents, upending Novi and Stevenson to improve to 2-1 in the Central Division.

In the first round, the Mustangs scored a 211 from the judges, while notching a 215.056 in the second round and a 288.6 in the third for an impressive team total of 714.656.

The strong performance put the Mustangs in control of their own destiny at this point. One more victory in the Division will secure the Central Division crown for the team. Their next divisional dual meet takes place at home Feb. 3 against South



The Northville varsity competitive cheerleading squad performs in a quad meet on Jan. 20 at Livonia Stevenson.



Invitational, Northville took ninth out of a field of 15 teams. Their round one score was a 202.4 and round three was a 272.6. In round two, the squad was awarded a 197.088 after suffering an eight-point deduction from the judges. The team finished with a team total of 672.088.

"It was a low-scoring day for all teams in attendance," said Gentz. "The scores posted did not truly reflect the quality of

ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs competitive cheer team is stated to compete at home this Saturday in the Northville Invitational. It is one of two times the team will compete on their home court this season. Freshman competition begins at 8 a.m. and varsity begins at noon.

the performances, across the board. Some days, you just run into low-scoring panels of officials."

While Gentz admits there is room for improvement, she did say that her team did a "good job" and will continue to keep their on improving.

"In a subjective sport like competitive cheer, we tell our team to focus more on making improvements each week and less on the final scores," she said.

The Mustangs are currently focusing on improving in time for the Northville Invitational, scheduled for this Saturday. The Mustangs are expected to host close to 50 teams.

"The girls are always excited to perform for their home crowd and always do a great job at this meet," said Gentz.

Sam Eggleston is a free-lance writer and former staff sports writer for

Despite injuries, success doesn't stop for N'ville

::

Wrestling team third at county championships

BY SAM EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

The Northville Mustangs wrestling team may have a roster full of banged-up grapplers, but it isn't stopping them from winning.

The squad, coached by Robert Boshoven, beat the Novi Wildcats, 39-24, and the Stevenson Spartans, 41-21, and took third at the first-ever Wayne County Championships.

In the Wayne County tournament, the Mustangs were only healthy enough to send in eight top-tier wrestlers instead of filling all 14 slots. Despite the odds being stacked against them, the Mustangs took third place overall and earned two individual championships. Senior captains Nick Mudar and Bobby Lahiff earned undefeated days for individual trophies.

The big highlight of the week, however, was toppling cross-town rival Novi and division rival Livonia Stevenson in head-to-head competition. Northville's line-up was chock full of young wrestlers, but it didn't matter as they helped their team rally back from being two points down against Novi halfway through the match to earning a solid victory, 39-24.

Freshman Sam Taconnelli was a standout, earning a major decision in the 119pound weight class to ignite Northville's come-from-behind victory over their Baseline Road rivals.

The Mustangs also earned a very convincing win over the Livonia Stevenson Spartans in Central Division play, 41-21.

Double winners over Novi and Stevenson opponents on the day were Ian Stirton, George McClymont, Kevin Lerner, Josh Wright, Jon Nelson, Mudar and Lahiff.

Northville's B team also com-

In the Brighton's Best

The varsity competitive cheerleading squad performs.

the Northville Record and Novi News.

Northville earns eighth straight win over rival Wildcats

BY SAM EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

It's starting to be old hat for the Northville Mustangs.

Beating Novi might start losing its luster for the Mustangs boys swimming and diving team, which collected its eighth-straight win over their cross-town rivals last week, 121-65.

"This is eight in a row over Novi, so it feels real good," said Northville coach Rich Bennetts. "I always tell the guys that we have much bigger meets than Novi on our schedule— Stevenson, Pioneer, Saline, the conference meet and the state meet—but this is the rivalry meet."

Despite the action being lopsided this year, Bennetts said that the intensity was still there for both sides.

*There is no love lost between these two schools, and I think that it is great for the kids to be a part of," he said. *Obviously, we have been fortunate

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: ON TAP

The Mustangs swimming and diving team is scheduled to compete again a week from today when they host South Lyon East at 6:30 p.m.

to come out on the winning end of this thing for awhile now, so it makes it that much better for us. The way I look at it is, if there is a family with swimmers looking to move into Novi or Northville, I want to make that decision easy for them."

Northville earned first place finishes in eight of the 12 events. Leading off was the Northville relay team of John Lubisco, BoFeng Zhang, Will Greenlee and John Blickle in the 200 medley relay. They won with a time of 1:43.19.

Northville's Alex Miller took first in the 200 freestyle, finishing in 1:51.84, while Tim Shea took third in 1:53.46. In the 200 individual medley, Nate Lunn took second in 2:04.65, followed by Zhang in third in 2:05.06.

Northville's Lubisco captured first in the 50 free, finishing in 23.06 seconds, while Greenlee finished in second in 23.67 seconds. The domination continued into the diving event, where Kevin Bain took first with 235 points, followed by Will Price with 230 points.

In the 100 butterfly, the Mustangs swept the top three spots with Lunn taking first in 54.38 seconds, Ben Schoenek taking second in 55.3 and Blickle in third with a 59.93. Lubisco captured first in the 100 free to help Northville to victory, finishing in 50.55 seconds, while Greenlee took second in 50.55.

Northville's Chris Lafayette led the way in the 500 free, finishing in 5:01.92, while A.J. Aquinto took second with a 5:02.79. In the 200 free relay, the team of Lubisco, Lunn, Greenlee and Ryan Winkler took first in 1:33.22 and the Northville team of Alex Miller, Spencer Miller, Todd Truran and Kyle McCormick took second in 1:34.91.

In the 100 backstroke, Zhang and Schoenek went second and third, with times of 59.16 and 59.84, respectively, while Anthony Adamowicz took second in the 100 breaststroke in 1:07.11.

"We had some very good performances from some of our younger guys tonight who got fired up for the Novi meet and came out and swam well," said Bennetts. "Patrick Dunn, Nick Hayes, Spencer Miller, Dennis Kim and Akbar Ariswala and Ian Grusnis gave great effort out there tonight. We will enjoy this one."

Northville is now 7-1 overall, 5-0 in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association and 3-0 in the Central Division.

Sam Eggleston is a free-lance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News.

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peted last week in the Dexter Duals and finished 2-3 on the day, defeating Stockbridge and Michigan Center.

Leading the team was juior Kyle Gutowski, who wrestled at 103 pounds and finished the day with a spotless 5-0 record. Senior Justin Umin, a 189-pound wrestler, and sophomore 171-pounder Trevor Maresh, each went 4-1 over the five dual meets.

Also earning winning records with 3-2 marks were sophomore Travis Compo, a 135 pounder, and freshman Alex Coe, at 145.

Sam Eggleston is a free-lance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News

ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs wrestling team is slated to be back in action Salurday when the go to Dakota High School for a weekend tournament at 9 a.m. The team will then compete in the Kensington Lakes Athletic Association guad meet next week.



Taylor Dempsey a head above the rest

Freshman gymnast's height makes for challenges, advantages

BY SAM EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

Taylor Dempsey is tall. Well, in the world of gymnastics, at least.

The 5-foot-9-inch freshman—average gymnasts are around 5-1 to 5-4 in height doesn't mind standing out, however, despite the fact that it presents a slew of challenges for her.

"When a gymnast is tall, they need to execute techniques that will accommodate for their height," said Northville gymnastics coach Erin McWatt. "Rotation tends to be a little slower for certain skills, but then again it's beautiful to watch tall gymnasts who have clean lines—every movement appears to have full extension."

Dempsey didn't know she was going to be this tall when she started out in gymnastics. She began as a toddler and has found herself enjoying it each and every step of the way. Currently a level eight gymnast who also competes at the Farmington Gymnastics Center, Dempsey has high hopes for herself and her team this year. "All in all, I want to become a better gymnast and get all of my level nine skills by the end of my level eight season," she said. "I would like to contribute to Northville's team score and become a better competitor. Also, I want to place high at states this year."

Dempsey's key event is currently the uneven bars, which she admits is her favorite. McWatt said that her skills in the event are key for Northville this year.

"Taylor is an excellent bar worker, which we are in need of," she said. "She'll likely compete as an all-arounder for us."

Depsey doesn't mind the challenge of being asked to step up and earn points for her team. She thrives off the idea of pushing herself to be the best she can be.

"I do because it makes me want to really push myself harder to perform, and playing with older, very skilled gymnasts makes this experience very exciting," Dempsey said. "Northville has many very skilled, senior-level gymnasts and I'm most excited about learning from them and hopefully performing to their expectations. Being a freshman on a team of experienced varsity gymnasts is very thrilling and inspiring for me."

Dempsey is no stranger to competition. This year, she earned a place on the high school volleyball team after ayear of the sport in middle school. She enjoyed it, playing middle hitter and middle blocker for the Mustangs. Gymnastics, however, is her focus.

With the majority of the season ahead of her, and the goal of continually improving, it's a wonder what Dempsey and her height will be able to accomplish. A few challenges await, but the potential for plenty of reward, too.

• "Taylor's height can sometimes make skills more difficult for her in terms of quick rotation—long legs equals increased surface area," said Mcwatt. "But, her height also gives her a beautiful advantage as well."

And in a sport where so many of the points from the judges are subjective, that's not a bad thing.

Sam Eggleston is a free-lance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northville High freshman Taylor Dempsey performs a floor exercise leap at a Farmington Hills practice facility. Dempsey is helping to lead the Mustangs in their meets.



First place

The Northville High School JV pom pon team not only took first place in their category at the Michigan POM Association 2010 Championships, but also had high score of the day. The competition took place in Alma on Jan. 23.

NORTHVILLE SPORTS BRIEFS

Mustangs gymnastics team continues tradition

Squad enjoys pre-meet meals, cheesy potatoes and time together

BY SAN EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

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Erin McWatt made a comment prior to the start of the Northville Mustangs gymnastics season that she clarified almost immediately.

"We joke that gymnasts might be the only sports team that actually gains weight during season because we have several team dinners prior to big meets during the season, and our food table at all-day tournaments is stocked to the brim," she joked. When the guestion was

When the question was presented back to her regarding how well the girls eat, McWatt made one thing very clear. "I don't want to make it sound like the girls are little piggies," she said. "We just eat well during the season, but healthy." A glance at McWatt's team will tell you that there isn't a weight problem among them. Northville boasts a. crew of muscular gymnasts who are able to turn their bodies in ways that most athletes would fear to tread. In order to make such things happen, those gymnasts

require lots of energy. They help make this happen with a traditional team dinner before meets. The biggest meets, like the state finals, sometimes require more than one.

than one. Their favorite way to fuel the fire? Cheesy polatoes. It's not the Velveeta goodness or the crispy polato skins that makes them such a big draw. It's their ability to bring about good perfor-

mances. "Always cheesy potatoes because they're our good luck food," McWatt said about the menu at pre-game dinners, which have been a team tradition that hasn't been missed since McWatt took the team reins in 2003. "Our families prepare wonderful meals for team dinners. Parents also bring food to the tournaments for the girls to munch on for the duration-small sandwiches, fruits, veggies, goodies, etc." Team dinners are signed up for by parents in the beginning of the season and are rotated at the different households throughout the season.

bohydrates and proteins; it's also about team unity.

"It's also nice to get together in a fun, relaxed environment where the girs can just chill our and get mentally focused for the following day," McWatt said. "They 2000 is a love to hand out with each other outside of school and practice anyway, so it just adds to our team bonding and unity."

. That's why there is always one final team dinner of the season—after the state tournament.

It is there that the girls are able to reflect on their time spent with one another.

Northville's Smith stands out at Albion

Northville graduate Lannis Smith is showcasing her desire to be the best at her game at Albion College. The sophomore seized first place in her novice flat category for the Albion College equestrian team when they competed in a Jan. 9 at the University of Michigan. Lannis, a team captain, also finished second the following day at the University of Michigan. The equestrian team finished third on the first day of the show and fourth on the second.

Hoop camp at Ward

The Detroit Piston's Youth Basketball Clinic returns to Ward Church in Northville on Saturday, Feb. 6.

Coach Steve Moreland will conduct this event for boys and girls grades kindergarten through seventh. Players will be divided by age groups. Each participant will receive free an authentic Piston's T-shirt and one ticket to a Piston's game. Discounted tickets for family or friends will be available for \$15 (regular \$40). Plus each family member attending a game will be invited to join Coach Steve at the Palace of Auburn Hills down at courtside for the pre-game warm-ups. Parents be sure to bring your cameras to the game.

This event begins a 10 a.m. with the warm-up time followed by Coach Steve conducting the clinic from 10:30 a.m.-noon. The cost is \$15 per participant; cash only at the door.

To confirm your spot call the Piston's hotline after 4 p.m. at (248) 377-8653. Leave your child's name, grade and phone number. Ward Presbyterian Church is located at

40000 Six Mile Road, west of Haggerty Road, in Northville; (248) 374-5906.

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The point of team dinners is more than just getting car-

Seniors get to officially say good-bye and hugs are handed out and tears are shed.

A gymnast can't take the beam with them when they leave Northville, or the bars or the vault. They can't take the stands, or the scorecards. But they get to take their memories—both from competition and team dinners and a darn good recipe for cheesy potatoes.

Sam Eggleston is a free-lance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News.



LOCAL SPORTS

NORTHVILLE HIGH SPORTS WRAPUP

Northville hockey tumbles again

The only help the Northville Mustangs boys hockey team is going to get earning wins this year is if they decide to help themselves.

So far, that hasn't happened. The once-top-ranked Mustangs fell again last week, this time taking a 4-1 drubbing from the Churchill Chargers.

Northville's defense committed six penalties in the game, two of which killed their own team's power play.

"I'm not going to sugarcoat that or try to put a warm and fuzzy spin on it," said coach Jeff Hatley. "That is not good enough and not acceptable."

The only bright spots in the contest for the Mustangs was the play of Sean Bretz in goal and the third line of Clay Neal, Stephen Champagne and Max McHugh, which scored in the first period and had no penalties.

Northville's lone score came at 15:41 in the first period when Champagne took a pass from Neal and fired it home past the Churchill goaltender. The 1-0 lead only last a few seconds until the Chargers tied it up on an Northville turnover before adding one in the second period and two more in the third to seal the game.

Figure skating does well in second competition

The Northville Mustangs figure skating teams did very well at their recent competition, with the A team taking third overall, the B team taking sixth and the C team taking ninth in their respective divisions.

The A team for Northville collected a second-place finish in the spins event and a thirdplace finish in the jumps portion of the competition. They also collected a ninth in the moves segment.

The B team took fifth in moves, seventh in spins and eighth in jumps in their division, while the C team took eighth in both spins and jumps and ninth in moves.

Gymnasts beat Chiefs, takes second in invite

The Northville Mustangs had a successful week, beating the Canton Chiefs in a dual meet and taking the runner-up position at the Salem Invitational last weekend.

The squad, coached by Erin

McWatt, started the week off with strong competition from Canton, earning a closely contested victory, 144.7-142.4.

Allie Kemp had a career high all-around score on the day, earning a 39.7, with a 9.55 coming from the floor and the beam and an impressive 9.6 on the vault. Cassidy Winter also turned in some top-notch scores, earning an 8.95 on the vault and a 9.25 on the beam, while MaKenna Pohl and Amy O'Brien had strong showings with their floor routines, earning a 9.6 and 9.1, respectively.

In the Salem Invitational, the Mustangs earned second place behind a very tough Troy Athens-Avondale squad. Northville collected a team total of 140.925.

The team took seconds in vault, bars, beam and floor in team all-arounds per event.

Winter continued her outstanding performances, scoring a 9.1 on the vault, while Kemp turned in an 8.925 on the bars and a 9.15 on the floor. The Mustangs also got help from Pohl, who turned in a 9.35 on the floor and a 9.3 on the beam, while O'Brien scored a 9.0 with her floor routine.

Girls bowling team wins, boys lose against Wayne

Taking on one of the tougher teams in the conference, the Northville Mustangs bowling teams turned in mixed results.

The girls collected a hardfought victory after falling behind in the Baker games. However, a strong rally in the individual play proved to be too much for Wayne, and Northville escaped with the win and stayed undefeated with a 6-0 record.

Shelby Curlew led Northville with a 204 game while Jessie Sammut was attributed to two solid individual games in which the win came down to the final frame.

The boys team wasn't so lucky, losing to Wayne, which shot season-high scores in the match. Ian Lovdahl led Northville with a 198.

In junior varsity play, the girls won their match, paced by Haley Ferrario with a 150. The boys also won, defeating the first-place Zebras with their last bowler, Jon Johnson. Johnson sealed the victory with three strikes in the 10th frame, adding to his 198. Michael Truong added a 193 in the win.

- Sam Eggleston



Northville's Curtis Bourne shoots over Salem defenders.

Northville boys rebound after early-week defeat

Squad topples Salem, falls to South Lyon East

BY SAM EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

The Northville Mustangs boys basketball team is still trying to find out exactly what it is they are capable of doing. On one hand, the squad

has the ability to come from behind and earn a victory over Salem, 38-28, in a defensive struggle. On the other, they can't seem to get their offensive going in the right direction and lose, considerably, to South Lyon East, 43-25.

Against Salem, the Mustangs found themselves trailing almost immediately and down, 10-2, midway through the first quarter of play. The team was forced to clamp down on defense, and managed to hold the Rocks to just 18 points over the last 28 minutes of the game.

"I thought the story of the game was our defense and patience of offense," said coach Todd Sander. "When we defend, we feel we can play with most anybody.

Northville was led by Andrew Baldwin, who scored 16 points and had six rebounds. Six of his points came from a 6-for-8 performance from the free-throw line. Makis Eatmon added eight rebounds in the effort, and Bryce Groshek and, Ryan Owen and Al Myers added six points each. Senior

ON TAP

The Northville boys basketball team is scheduled to play Stevenson tomorrow at home with a 7 p.m. tip-off before visiting South Lyon Tuesday at 7 p.m. 🔒

Tim Hasse, a consistent contributor for the Mustangs, was out with illness.

Northville also got a strong performance from Levi Perry, who came off the bench for Northville.

"I thought Levi came in and gave us a nice lift," said Sander. "He's tough, can guard in the post and got a few big rebounds."

Northville's defensive pressure is proving key. The team, which is now 5-5 on the season and 2-3 in the division, has held their opponents to under 40 points in each game they have won.

Northville couldn't keep South Lyon East under that magic number earlier in the week, however, and fell, 43-25.

The Mustangs trailed 21-12 at the half and 30-21 going into the fourth quarter.

The win was East's second of the season and first in the Central division.

Sam Eggleston is a free-lance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News.

Recycle this newspaper

Here's one resolution you can keep: maximize your savings.

JANUARY 21, 2010 - REGULAR MEETING **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

SYNOPSIS

DATE:	Thursday, January 21, 2010
TIME:	7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
PLACE:	44405 Six Mile Road

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Abbo called the meeting to order at

- 7:30 p m. ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mark Abbo, Sue Hillebrand, Richard Henningsen, Marjorie Banner, Marv Gans, Mindy Herrmann, Christopher Roosen, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
- Agendas: A. Approve Consent and Regular Agendas add 1. item 5a.1 -approved
- Appointments, æ Presentations. Resolutions 2. Announcements:
 - A. Appoint Doug Wesley to Board of Review approved
 - B. Appoint Michael R. Williamson to Board of Review approved
 - Appoint Walter Pytalak to Board of Review approved
 - Re-appoint Martha Snow to Planning Commission D. approved
 - Re-appoint Robert Nix to Planning Commission -Е. approved
 - Donation Northville Baseball/Softball Association -F. approved
 - G. Resolution 2009-13 Wayne County Revised Resolution approved
- **Public Hearings: None** 3.
- **Brief Public Comments: None** 4.
- 5. New Business:
 - Public Safety retain soliciting Bond approved A.I DPS - Sewer Vactor - approved
 - B. S.E.M.C.O.G. annual dues approved
 - C. Public Safety 2010 patrol vehicle purchase approved

 - D. Public Safety Motorcycle purchase approved E. Public Safety Detective Bureau lease approved F. Collection of Summer School Tax Schoolcraft College approved
 - G. Collection of Summer School Tax Northville Public School - approved
 - H. Collection of Summer Tax Plymouth Canton School District - approved
 - I. Collection of Regional Service Agency of Wayne County (RESA) - approved
 - **Unfinished Business:** None
- Ordinances: None
- Bills Payable: A. Bills payable in the amount of 8 \$2,140,502.05 - approved
- Board Communication & Reports: Reports were given by Mark Abbo, Sue Hillebrand, Richard Henningsen, 9. Marjorie Banner, Marv Gans, Mindy Herrmann, Christopher Roosen, Chip Snider
- 10. Any other business or public comment for the Board of Trustees: Set P.H. - tax abatement - 02/18/10 Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Steering C o m m i t t e e Concept Project - approved 11. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

The unapproved draft of the Board of Trustees minutes will be available after February 3, 2010. Added 5.A1 - Public Safety - Peddling and Soliciting retain bond

Respectfully submitted: Sue A. Hillebrand, MMC

Publish. January 28, 2010



Make the most of your savings during our Big Savings Sale.

Enroll in the Charter One Circle Gold banking package, a premier offering from the bank for saving. Let our comprehensive banking package help you get the most from your savings with preferred interest rates on CDs and Money Market accounts and reduced rates on home equity loans and mortgages. You'll have access to our best in class rewards programs, as well as our dedicated 24/7 Circle Gold banking phone support specialists. Giving you more for your money. That's just something one good citizen does for another.

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LOCAL SPORTS



The Northville Mustangs dance team will be competing again Jan. 10 when they participate in the NDA Motor City Championship tournament. The team is then scheduled to showcase their talent at two home basketball games, Jan. 15 and 26, before competing again Feb. 6 in the Sprit and Shine competition. The remainder of their schedule includes a basketball performance Feb. 9 and the Showcase Tournament Feb. 12.

Northville dancers learning as they go

BY SAM EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

Dance coach Tracy Kielb had no doubt in her mind when she sat down at Northville High School earlier this year that the Mustangs were in need of a dance team.

There wasn't any doubt in the minds of the 40 girls who auditioned for the team, either, or the 20 who made it.

"Northville houses a huge dance talent," said Kielb. When you have a school this size, there is going to be a greater number of students with things in common. Most of your large-class schools all have separate dance teams which allow dancers to support and represent their school with something most have studied since they were three. This gives the girls from various dance schools the opportunity to come and be a part of something within their school, which allows them to perform while keeping them in an area, being dance, which they all love to do."

That love turned into quite the labor this year. Starting a new team, the dance squad discovered, is not an easy task. There is the daunting challenge of learning the techniques and procedures of a high school competitive sport, not to mention the job of just getting other students aware of the team's existence. "We need to let the school know that there is a team because this is our first year," Kielb noted. "We need to be involved in many school functions so the girls can represent their school and let others who may be interested know the team is available."

To that end, the squad has scheduled three dance showcases during the halftime of home basketball games. The Mustangs will perform January 15 and 26 and February 9.

In addition to getting their fellow Northville students aware of the team, the Mustangs are also trying to grow into a single unit instead of 20 individuals. They are scheduled to attend several large competitions to see other teams in action.

"We want to grow and develop as a team," said Kielb. "We will represent Northville in a very positive and successful manner."

And everything the Mustangs do this season will have an impact on seasons to come. This year there are just four seniors, who are also the team captains. Danielle Crossley, Steffi Curran, Meredith Njus and Lauren Roumayah may not go down in the history books, but their leadership this season is building a team for countless dancers to compete with.

Since the majority of the

team is underclassmen, Kielb knows it's important to simultaneously work at building this year's squad into a competitive group while creating the building blocks for a future program.

Juniors this season are Kaliana Basoukeas, Amy Southers, Kelsey Gaidica, Michelle West and Amy Yakima. Sophomores are Castille Asmann, Caroline Lafayette and Connie Vlahakis. The largest contingent of dancers is the freshman class, which includes Tristen Asmann, Danielle Evasic, Lauren Gron, Katie Howe, Alex Key, Lauren Layne, Jamie Risher and Emily Zion.

The biggest challenge the team has faced thus far this season is learning how to compete at the high school level. All of them are members of various dance schools and all of them have competed in the past, but none of this year's Mustangs have been on a high school team. The judging and the expectations are completely different for a team as compared to an individual.

Scoring at the high school level is based on four different categories all totaling to a potential 100 points. The categories that are judged on are technique, overall effect, choreography and group execution.

"These categories may have

sub-components, such as synchronization, difficulty and transitions, for example," Kielb explained.

Northville's routines this year include a contemporary routine titled "Incantation," which Kielb said the girls have scored very well with. The second routine is in the hip-hop genre.

"The girls can really have fun in this type of routine, but it is still very important that they are together and look as one," said the coach.

The third routine is a jazz piece entitled "Halo," which Kielb said is a new routine that the girls will be showcasing when the season picks back up in mid January.

So far this season, the Mustangs have made quite an impact. Not only have they scored well in their opening competitions, but they also showed off their talent at the Oakland Dance Festival, which also had several universities in attendance.

Northville was selected to perform in the evening showcase.

"They did an amazing job," ... said Kielb. "They were praised for their technique and overall impression and performance quality. I was very proud of them."

Sam Eggleston is a free-lance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News.

Alvin Storrs still at the top of his game

BY SAM EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

Alvin Storrs just wants to play basketball.

It started when he was just a little boy, shooting hoops with his friends. He fell in love with the game, and carried that love into middle school and high school. He just wanted to play basketball, even when he was an All-Star point guard his senior year and his team went 20-1 to earn the best record in school history.

He carried that love for the game when he earned a nomination for the McDonald's All-American team. He carried it when he earned All-State, All-Metro, All-Area and All-Conference honors. He carried it on each shot that earned him an 18.3 points per game, 6 rebound and 4 assists average his senior year at Northville.

"That was a great year," said Storrs. "I had a lot of fun that season. I never cared about the points I scored. I have always just cared about winning. I want the team to win."

Alvin Storrs just wants to play basketball.

He carried that mentality to Grand Valley State University, where he redshirted his freshman season and worked hard to earn a spot on the floor. Last year, during his true freshman year, he stepped into 27 games and started 14. He averaged 7.9 points and 2.3 rebounds per game and tied for a team leading 38 steals on the year.

There were some adjustments to be made. Storrs wasn't the biggest athlete on the floor. Standing at 6-feet-2-inches and weighing in at 170 pounds, he's still not the largest guy on the hardwood. But he's stronger.

"The biggest adjustment was the strength," he admitted. "When I left high school, I was able to post up and play inside. When I came here, at open gym, it seemed like ever gap was always closed, and that everyone was always stronger."

Storrs hit the weight room. In the off-season, his team lifted four times a week. During season, they lift twice a week.

He got stronger, to the point that he could play with anyone on the floor. Lanes were no longer closed. He moved inside, pulled up and shot. He yanked down boards. Storrs was a collegiate athlete.

This year isn't much different. Already he's played in all 10 of the Lakers' games. He's started in four of them. In that time, he's made an impact. He has 60 points from the floor, six threepoint field goals and 22 more points from the free-throw line. He's pulled down 28 rebounds this year, and leads the team with 16 steals.



GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

Alvin Storrs, a former Northville standout in basketball, moves the ball down the court in a game earlier this season. Storrs is currently leading his team in steals and is third on the team in points. He is a sophomore for the Lakers.

tory. "We need to improve defensively. That's what I am focused on. That's what we need."

The Lakers are 7-3 on the season so far, earning three wins straight after an early win-loss seesaw.

Storrs came off the bench in the last game, scoring a game-high 17 points to help the Lakers to victory over Lake Erie College.

Storrs isn't happy with how the team started his sophomore year, but he knows there is still plenty of time for improvement. There are 17 more games until the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament.

Storrs has more than just basketball on his mind, though. He's pushing to get his gradepoint average as high as he can and hopes to take the LSAT exam and find himself admitted to law school eventually.

Lots of hard work, no doubt, but Storrs is no stranger to the concept.

"I think with the pressure of school and basketball right now that I can handle the work load of law school," said Storrs, who is currently majoring in political science. "That's what I'm interested in doing."

If the going gets tough, Storrs knows where he can turn for support. His family.

Storrs' parents, Alvin and Regina, have been there every step of the way. From the time he was first discovering his love for the game of basketball until now, when it is in full bloom. Despite their always-busy schedules, Storrs' parents are still visible in the stands at nearly every game that has h in-state so far this year. Even his Grandmother Aime, who lives in Detroit, still makes the trek when she can. "They know me better than anyone," said Storrs of his family. "After a particularly hard game or practice, there's nothing better than being able to just sit down and talk to them.

Girls cagers fall to Salem, blast South Lyon East

BY SAM EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

The Northville Mustangs may not win every game this season, but when these girls catch fire during a game, they make it count.

The squad, coached by Todd Gudith, suffered a tough loss to division-leading Salem last week, 39-29, but crushed South Lyon East, 73-30, in an earlier contest.

Against South Lyon East, the Mustangs jumped out to a 16-9 lead by the end of the first quarter and didn't look back.

Despite an attempt to pressure Northville with fresh bodies constantly being subbed into the contest, the South Lyon East Cougars could only watch as Northville continually broke the double teams and earned quick scores. Northville collected a team-record 28 assists on the

ON TAP

The Mustangs are slated to hit the hardwood again tomorrow when they visit Livonia Stevenson at 7 p.m. before hosting South Lyon Tuesday at 7 p.m.

night, and earned a seasonhigh point total in the victory, eclipsing the 71 scored in an earlier-season contest against John Glenn.

"Every one of our girls played well," said Gudith. "We knew they play an unconventional style of basketball and we worked on that this week at practice."

Gudith noted that his team played very unselfish, allowing points to be spread around to multiple players. He also added that it wasn't just the offensive showing that the team was proud of.

"Although scoring that much

is nice, we're just as happy we didn't forget about the defensive side of the ball," he said. "It was a well-rounded game for us."

Leading Northville was junior Katie Giacomini with 19 points and seven assists, while junior Megan Gertley added 14 points and eight rebounds. Junior Sarah Tuohy added 13 points in the victory, while senior guard Tori Wright put in nine points and added nine assists.

Against Salem, the final outcome wasn't as sweet despite some great defensive play by the Mustangs. In the end, the squad fell, 39-29, against the Central Division leaders.

Northville held the Rocks to just 13 points in the first half, while scoring 14 of their own in a tightly contested match-up.

Salem's size, however, proved too much to overcome in the second half, and Northville found themselves giving up a number of offensive rebounds that gave the Rocks too many second chances and the eventual victory after scoring 10 in the third quarter and 16 in the fourth. Northville scored just two in the third and 13 in the fourth quarter of play.

"We did a great job defensively in the first half," said Gudith. "Our girls have done a good job this year of putting our game plan to use. We just haven't executed it for a complete four quarters yet."

Leading Northville was Gertley, who had six points, while junior Beth Roach and senior Julia Ramey added five each.

Northville is now 4-6 overall and 1-4 in the Central Division.

Sam Eggleston is a free-lance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News.

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"Alvin is one of our best players and in the middle of an outstanding college career," said Grand Valley State University coach Ric Wesley. "He's as good a kid as we've had in our program. We are extremely happy with his progress and happy to have him. Everyone in Northville should be very proud of him, and we look forward to seeing what he'll accomplish in the years to come."

Storrs is happy with his team at Grand Valley State University, which he said was very much like family now. He said the program is a good fit for his style of play, and he is happy he chose to be a Laker.

"Offensively we are equal opportunity, and I like that," said Storrs about scoring. He reiterated, however, that it isn't the points under his personal stats that matter to him, but rather that his team earns a vicHis love for the game hasn't faded, despite the tough losses and the ups and downs he's been through from high school until now.

"I still enjoy it," he said. "I still have fun going out and playing basketball with my close friends. Even if I'm not happy with how I played, or with the outcome of the game, I still have fun playing."

There's a reason for that. Storrs isn't out there for personal glory. He's not out there because he wants an NBA contract. He's out there because he wants to be out there. He's out there because he loves it.

He's out there because Alvin Storrs just wants to play basketball.

Sam Eggleston is a free-lance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News

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REAL ESTATE

Red Cross offers winter home safety tips

The American Red Cross wants everyone to be prepared and safe when Ole Man Winter comes knocking on the door.

"Heating the home is expensive and one of the leading causes of home fires," said Scott Conner, Red Cross senior vice president for Preparedness and Health and Safety Services. "We have steps people can follow to cut their risk of starting a fire in their home, and to cut down on their heating bills."

USE ALTERNATIVE HEATERS SAFELY

First, never use your stove or oven to heat your home.

Never leave alternative heaters unattended - turn off space heaters or extinguish the fireplace before going to bed or leaving home.

Keep all flammable materials and potential fuel sources - including but not limited to newspapers, matches, bedding, clothing, carpets and rugs - at least three feet away from heat sources such as space heaters, fireplaces and stoves.

Place your space heater on a hard, level, nonflammable surface. Do not put space heaters on rugs or carpets, near bedding or drapes, and keep children and pets away. Look for a space heater model that shuts off automatically if the heater falls over.

Keep the fire in your fireplace by using a glass or metal screen large enough to catch sparks and rolling logs. Never leave fireplaces unattended. Be sure to have wood and coal stoves, fireplaces, chimneys and furnaces professionally inspected once a year.

BE PREPARED

Install smoke alarms on every floor of your home. Check them once a month by pressing the test button, and replace batteries as necessary.

Make sure both your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are working properly, and practice your home fire escape plan so every member of your family, including young children and elderly, can get out quickly and safely. Your escape plan should include at least two routes out for every room in the home, and a meeting place outside your home.

REDUCE YOUR HEATING BILLS

Some experts are predicting that most of the country will see temperatures below normal this winter. The Red Cross offers these suggestions on how to get your home ready for the cold weather. Simple solutions -

•Turn down the thermostat and put on a sweater. You'll be surprised at the savings on your heating bill.

 Close off any rooms you aren't using and close heat vents or turn off radiators in those rooms.

•Make sure heat vents aren't blocked by furniture. ·If you can, buy heavy curtains to help keep cold air out of your home, even in the kitchen. Open

them during the day to let the sun help warm your house, and close them at night. Use "fabric snakes,"



or old rugs in front of windows and doors to help eliminate drafts.

If you have a wood burning fireplace, use it to cut down on your heating bill. Make sure you close the damper when not in use or heat will escape through it. If you can seal off the fireplace when not in use, do so.

•Turn off vent fans in the kitchen and bathroom as soon as the job is done.

•Set your ceiling fans to blow air down.

Insulate

Drafts mean cold air is leaking into your home. Use either insulating tape or caulking strips to surround your windows and door moldings. You can also cover windows with plastic sheeting. If you have storm windows or storm doors, get them up to keep the cold out.

Cold air can even seep into the house through outlets, so insulate your light switch and outlet plates with foam pads.

Additional insulation tips:...

·Cover your hot water heater with insulating material. You'll use less energy to heat the water. Prevent frozen pipes - when the weather is very cold outside, open cabinet doors to let warm air cir-

culate around water pipes. Let the cold water drip from the faucet served by exposed pipes. Running water through the pipe - even at a trickle - helps prevent pipes from freezing because the temperature of the water running through it is above freezing. Keep the thermostat set to a consistent temperature.

 If your home sits above ground and some of your pipes are exposed, wrap them to save on energy and prevent freezing.

•Turn off any outside faucets, drain your hose, and cover the faucets. Use caulking or weather stripping around all pipes where they enter the house - yet another way to eliminate drafts.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies nearly half of the nation's blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitar-ian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a charitable organization - not a government agency - and depends on vol-unteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit www.redcross.org or join our blog at http:// blog.redcross.org.

HOMES SOLD - OAKLAND

These are the area residential realestate closings recorded the week of October 12-16, 2009, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office

Bloomfield Township 5411 Lane Lake Rd \$284,000 522 Newburne Pointe \$129,000 \$165,000 3255 Pebble Ln 2673 Plum Brook Dr \$215,000

1357 Marina Pointe Blvd \$340,000 3743 Rolling Hills Rd \$235,000 Novi 23547 Highmeadow Dr \$275,000 25731 Mulberry Ln \$265,000

323 Torrent Ct 979 Wexford Way 712 Whitney Dr 1852 Willowood Rd 146 Wimpole Dr

\$172,000 \$130,000 \$186,000 \$128,000 \$160,000

301 W Big Beaver Rd \$325,000 Waterford 3465 Alisa En \$105,000 3039 Dixie Hwy \$151,000 4574 Elizabeth Lake Rd \$128,000

Talk to pros on **New York** market

Q: I know that the economic slowdown has affected New York City, but I am interested in buying a condominium unit in the upper east side area of New York and am wondering what you would suggest that I do.

A: As you may know, initially most of the high-rise living units were co-ops in New York but that has changed



dramatically. Indeed. many co-ops have been converted to condominiums, and I note that there is new construction of condominiums in the upper

east side, near

Robert Meisner

the East River and not far from the bridge that goes to Queens and LaGuardia Airport. The prices have slipped somewhat and there are possibilities for negotiations. Another area that is hot in terms of development is the Soho area depending upon where you want to live in New York City. You are best advised to consult with two or three different Realtors initially to find one who best suits your interests. It is also important that you retain an attorney as you well have to have one at your closing should you purchase real estate. An attorney may also be able to give you some insight into the operation of the condominium association and/or the developer, so, you are best advised to retain a condominium-wise attorney, not just a real estate attorney.

Q: We are thinking about moving to suburban New York City and are wondering what you can tell us about areas in Connecticut.

A: Obviously Connecticut has been a suburban playground for New York workers for many years. A number of lovely cities intersect the Merritt Parkway and Route 15 to cities like

Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Auburn Hills	
899 Chase Way Blvd	\$150,000
3937 Forester Blvd	\$92,000
Beverty Hills	
32660 Beilvine Tri	\$175,000
15621 Buckingham Ave	\$230,000
20040 Old Coach Rd	\$170,000
Bingham Farms	
31990 Bingham Rd	\$240,000
Birmingham	
2120 Avon Ln	\$285,000
2400 Devon Ln	\$345,000
1968 E Welton Rd	\$173,000
950 Shirley Rd	\$600,000
1843 Stanley Blvd	\$485,000
575 Vinewood Ave	\$320 000

276 S Williamsbury Rd \$199,000 Clarkston 6680 Deer Ridge Dr \$185,000 3835 Klais Dr \$250,000 5083 Maybee Rd \$135,000 5256 Ridge Tri N \$290,000 **Commerce** Township 2188 Briar Ct \$253,000 8216 Dickert St \$114,000 4256 Driftwood Dr \$215,000 5004 Greenview Dr \$215,000 Davisburg 686t Tamcyn Dr \$225,000 Farmington 23509 Stonehouse Ct \$250,000 Farmington Hills 36911 Kenmore Dr \$295,000 31134 Sturbridge St \$210,000 Lake Orion 2327 Hammerslea Rd \$103,000

45334 Roundview Dr	\$245,000
23267 Willowbrook	\$165,000
Oakland Township	
4246 Bold Mdws	\$249,000
5360 Old Mill Rd	\$555,000
Oxford	
1181 Fox Ct	\$169,000
1792 High Pointe Dr	\$159,000
206 Oxford Lake Dr	\$153,000
2911 Seymour Lake Rd U	inut 6\$20,000
Rochester	
519 E University Dr	\$53,000
1388 Pebble Ridge Dr	\$450,000
Rochester Hills	
655 Fieldstone Dr	\$145,000
3332 Fulham Dr	\$225,000
1790 Jason Cir	\$218,000
2362 Lassiter Dr	\$182,000
3140 Longview Ave	\$97,000
1665 Northumberland D	r \$186 000

TTO HAMPORE DI	3100,000
South Lyon	
1147 Fountain View Cir	\$80,000
26301 Great Plains Dr	\$45,000
26335 Great Plains Dr	\$45,000
24179 Martindale Rd	\$215 000
Southfield	
19442 Dorset St	\$70,000
28219 E Larkmoor Dr	\$115,000
15970 Harden Cir	\$87,000
29235 Rock Creek Dr	\$39,000
25465 Saint James	\$93,000
Troy	
3449 Balfour Dr	\$490,000
3750 Beach Rd	\$190,000
3923 Boulder Dr	\$226,000
3793 Gatwick Dr	\$307,000
2104 Lancer Dr	\$340,000
2728 Lowington Dr	\$60,000
2680 Roundtree Dr	\$45 000
3406 Upton Dr	\$170,000

1382 Fieldcrest Dr	\$65,000
4358 Heatherstone Dr	\$159,000
3557 Lakewood Dr	\$355,000
4710 Meigs Ave	\$45,000
1429 Parkcrest Dr	\$26,000
4836 Rossiter Ave	\$56,000
121 S Avery Rd	\$64,000
194 S Avery Rd	\$87,000
West Bloomfield	• • • • • •
3221 Bloomfield Shore Dr	\$345.000
1536 Cardinal Ridge Ct	\$180,000
7214 Hidden Creek Ct	\$490,000
White Lake	•
8815 Cove Ct	\$160,000
9100 Mandon St	\$16,000
9499 Portage Tri	\$80,000
9493 Sheiby Dr	\$160,000
Wolverine Lake	
1650 Killarney Ct	\$77.000
lose functive y et	311,000

Stanford, Norwalk and West Port, all of which are near Long Island Sound and are within a one hour to one and one-half hours of driving to Manhattan. These communities are also serviced by rail commuter services and while the prices are steep, relatively speaking, they have evened out and, in some instances, bargains are obtainable. Again, you are best advised to consult with a knowledgeable real estate expert.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Gettino Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

These are the area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of Oct: 5-8, 2009, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Castos 43587 Abbey Cir \$246,000 4444 Hunters Cir E \$70 000 1945 Knollwood Dr _ \$92,000 7005 Poppleton Rd\$250 000 47625 Torrington Dr N\$319,000 Garden City 28651 Barton St \$66,000 \$86,000 \$50,000 32990 Barton St 28438 Block St 33511 Bock St \$66,000

HOMES SOLD - WAYNE

\$53,000

\$115,000

\$100,000

\$113,000

31960 Bridge St

32665 Dover St

H640 Bredin Ct

37317 Bennett St \$177,000

18586 Comstock St\$200,000

15316 Fairfield St \$85,000

19239 Laurel Dr \$230,000

29571 Lori St \$129,000 15468 Mayfield St \$85 000

7089 Helen St

Livonia

14040 Merriman Rd \$80,000 35558 Orangelawn St\$118,000 16142 Penn Dr \$200,000 16012 Riverside St \$175,000 18216 Whitby St \$100,000 Northville 383 First St \$103,000 46353 Pinehurst Dr\$430,000 17803 Wildflower Dr\$640 000 Plymouth 41139 Greystone Blvd\$256 000

120 Hartsough St	\$133,000
500 Provincetown	
Redford	
11432 Columbia	\$60,000
9949 Farley	\$75,000
16850 Inkster Rd	\$60,000
16030 Meadowbro	ok Rđ
\$100,000	
10039 Mercedes	\$89,000
9655 Nathaline	\$21 000
18515 Olympia	\$59,000

9127 San Jose \$67,000 9376 Tecumseh \$\$5,000 Westland 1938 Ackley Ave \$24,000 6781 Emily Ct S112,000 8307 N Henry Ruff RdS73,000 38655 Palmer Rd S150,000 34731 Sansburn St \$94,000 34202 Sheridan St \$78,000

Investors

Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne County will meet Tuesday, Feb. 2, at the Holiday Inn, 17201 Northline Road, Southgate (exit 37 from I-75). Matt Bezanson, of Sherlock Homes Inspection Ltd., will speak on home inspections.

There will be a free Investor Educational Forum at 6 p.m. or dinner in the dining room with other members and investors. Registration is 7 p.m., member presentation 7:15 p.m., meeting 7:30 p.m. For information, visit relawaynecounty.org.

Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty will host a free 59-minute Career Seminar 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 9. Questions regarding startup cost, commission and success potential will be answered. The office is at 36642 Five . Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 266-9000 to reserve a seat.

Plymouth Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty will host a Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth.

Candidates would benefit from previous experience or successes in: service industries, account management, retail sales, small business operations, marketing or event planning. Candidates should have: good people/communication skills, some computer knowledge, a strong work ethic, and an optimistic "can do" attitude.

Seminar includes: cost vs. income potential, available training, company profit share, commission structures. Call (734) 459-4700 to reserve a free seat.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Rental Property

A Beginners' Workshop for Rental Property Investors will be held three consecutive Saturdays, Feb. 20, 27 and March 6, four hours per day in Royal Oak. This event will provide a basic foundation that gives the beginning investor with the knowledge and confidence to make their initial investment and enhance their financial success.

Price: \$99 for three days. Presented by the Real Estate Investors of Oakland. To register, contact: www.REIAofOakland.com; (800) 747-6742.

Real Estate Sales and Appraising

Learn about a career in residential real estate. Attend a free one-hour seminar, or shadow a top

agent to get an inside feel of the business. Seminars are at noon or 6 p.m. Mondays. To reserve a spot, contact Steve Leibhan, Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

BIA

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present its economic forecast luncheon and meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 3, from noon to 2 p.m. at the Best Western Sterling Inn, 34911 Van Dyke Avenue in Sterling Heights.

Featured guest speaker is David Crowe, chief economist of the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C. He will address the economic issues facing the home building industry during 2010. In conjunction with this event,

industry awards will be given to BIA's 2009 President Darshan S. Grewal of Singh Development LLC and the other award honorees. Registration fees are \$40 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members with advance reservations made by Jan. 22; \$60 for members after Jan. 22, and \$75 for guests. Registration fees include entry to BIA's Builders & Remodelers Trade Show at the same location from 10:00 a.m. to noon. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mortgages. Please RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

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HEARING WELL, THEN LISTENING



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Some men care about communication so much that they take extra steps by to make certain that, despite hearing loss, they Culp hear effectively in the workplace. For them, hearing is a first step;

listening, its follow-through. They're in their 20s through 50s.

The first, Carlos Gomez of Brooklyn, N.Y., has made music his career for 15 years. A freelance DJ in nightlife culture nationwide and an electronic music producer, he creates music in his studio. The second, Fadi ElTal, a support engineer at Apple Computers Inc., in Cupertino, Calif., works as a liaison between the engineering team and the contact centers. Denver's Stephen Franklin is a lead engineer at United Launch Alliance L.L.C., which launches satellites. His eight-member independent team assesses product risk and launch preparedness. Here are some of the problems they encountered

at work: - headaches. Considerable loss of hearing in his

"music" ear caused straining and uncertainty in face-to-face and telephone conversations. (Gomez) -- failed understanding. Lower voices in meetings never quite registered. (EITal) -- embarrassment. Normal or quiet voices nearby in meetings were not perceptible unless the person sat immediately in front of him. Ambient noise in large meetings required him to stare at a person ... not always possible in a large room. (Franklin)

'CLEAR COMMUNICATIONS'

"The onus is on everyone to make sure that clear communications happen in the office," observes Sharon Campbell, president of the Pueblo Chapter of Hearing Loss Association of America. Gomez says that people in his group warn each other if the monitor is too loud, distorting the noise on the floor. ElTal encountered diminished productivity when callers were put on speaker in meetings. When he had questions, he went to meeting notes, if available, then e-mail or a phone call. Franklin mentions that e-mails often go out to confirm what's discussed, but "you have to take responsibility for information that's made available. Life becomes very insulating if you don't and you eventually will fall behind everyone.

"It's really difficult in the technical world," he adds, "where we're often asked at the end of a meeting if we concur with something. If you haven't heard well

and say you concur with it, you're putting the company at risk. There are no do-overs in our business."

CO-WORKERS

However, there is an additional experience some people in their situation encounter. Campbell indicates that co-workers can be more than mean, "deliberately saying something to the hard of hearing employee and then, when called on it, claim that the hard of hearing employee 'misunderstood." Failed communication becomes the "fault" of the employee, who is often fired. Harassment, she comments, often begins when the person first wears a hearing aid.

Franklin, who's never encountered this problem, feels that it's cultural, reflecting an unstable environment where people fear for their jobs. Only Gomez, the DJ, has experienced something close to it "gentle ribbing among friends." He concedes that when it happens repeatedly for six years or longer, it begins to have an impact.

Each of these men uses a hearing aid. ElTal loves his Lyric in-canal hearing aid (InSound Medical, Inc.) because of its clarity, use of the ear to enhance sounds and invisibility. Gomez enjoys his Songbird (Songbird Hearing Inc.), because it's occupationally-specific, designed for musicians early in their careers and in their hearing loss. Franklin likes his Siemens Pure 700 (Siemens Hearing Instruments Inc.) because of its culp@workwise.net. Copyright 2010 Passage Media.)



Support engineer Fadi EiTal had difficulty hearing when he used a speaker phone but now uses a hearing aid that makes nication much easier. He works at Apple Computers Inc., in Cupertino, Calif.

functionality, size, convenience and design. He can attach devices for different situations that enable him to accommodate the typical hearing needs of others around him.

All three take responsibility for hearing well and for listening. We should all take note.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp welcomes your questions at



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