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THURSDAY

August 4, 2011

HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

Volume 141  
Number 52

\$1.00

# NORTHVILLE RECORD

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## ON THE RECORD

### Psychotherapist speaks

Downtown Northville's Hearts of Inspiration welcomes Sheri Noga, psychotherapist and author of "Have The Guts To Do It Right", from 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 9.

She'll offer tips on raising well-adjusted and empathic children within a culture that encourages narcissism and indulgence.

The cost is \$5; refreshments will be served. To register, call (248) 773-7664.

Hearts of Inspiration is located at 133 W. Main Street #290, Northville (Northville Square Mall).

### E-waste collections

Do you have a collection of old electronic devices at home that you want to get rid of but don't want in the trash because of environmental concerns? Wayne County's Department of Public Services can help solve this problem. The county, in conjunction with Vintage Tech Recyclers Inc. and local communities, has scheduled several electronic waste (E-waste) collections, including Saturday, Aug. 6, at Northville DPW, 650 Doherty.

Residents can drop off their old electronic waste free of charge.

Items that will be accepted for recycling include computers, TVs, CRT monitors, LCD monitors, keyboards and mice, laptops, printers, fax machines, copiers, VCRs, DVD players, CD players, microwaves, stereos, speakers, computer parts, telephones, cell phones, game consoles, miscellaneous cables, mp3 players, etc. No other household appliances will be accepted.

The E-waste collections run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and are open to Wayne County residents and small businesses (10 or fewer employees). For more information, contact Wayne County's Resource Recovery Coordinator at 734-326-3936.

Other collections are scheduled at the following locations:

- Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011 at Henry Ford Centennial Library, 16301 Michigan Avenue, Dearborn;
- Saturday, Oct. 15, at Livonia DPW, 12973 Farmington Rd., Livonia; and
- Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011 at Wayne County Community College Western Campus, 9555 Haggerty Rd., Belleville.

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## ANNUAL EVENT THIS WEEKEND IN DOWNTOWN NORTHVILLE



JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jan Schmidt (left) purchases some hand-made soaps from Mary-elaine Chambers along Main Street during the 2010 Buy Michigan Now Festival. This year's event runs Friday through Sunday in downtown Northville.

## Buy Michigan Now fest puts focus on Great Lakes state

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

Buying Michigan products means putting Michigan people to work — and getting some great food and other products in the bargain. The Buy Michigan Now Festival, a weekend celebration of the state's annual Buy Michigan Week, puts the focus on that.

Lisa Diggs, founder of Buy Michigan Now, said, "As an individual I was looking for a way to revitalize our local economy." The Buy Michigan Now campaign was borne out of encouraging people to buy Michigan products and keep dollars here.

"That was to create more awareness," Diggs, a Livonia resident, said of Buy Michigan Week as declared by then-Gov. Jennifer Granholm. "The natural next step would be let's create a giant party. That's how the festival was borne. It's great. It's been growing each year."

This is the third year for the festival, and it will have about 20 percent businesses this time.

"Ours is a fest with a cause," Diggs said. "You're not only having a good time with your family, you're having an opportunity to support these entrepreneurs."

Almost all downtown Northville businesses are local, she said, a factor in the festival location. "Second of all, it's got a tremendous vibrant art community."

Northville's also close to Detroit, Ann Arbor and Lansing, making it a good location.

Attendance is hard to gauge precisely with-

### DETAILS

Event: Buy Michigan Now Festival

Dates: Aug. 5-7

Times: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday; noon-6 p.m. Sunday

Location: downtown Northville

Web: www.BuyMichiganNow.com

out ticket sales, but, "We anticipate that it'll be 15,000 to 20,000 people" over the three days.

A lot of seniors and people with kids enjoy Friday, Diggs said. "Saturday is the busiest day." Sunday's good too for families and event is family-oriented with lots of great entertainment.

There will be a fairy and gnome costume contest Sunday at 2 p.m. which will appeal to locals, she said, as children compete for prizes. Diggs appreciates the warm Northville welcome.

"It's been a really good fit. We've got a great partnership with the city and the DDA which sponsors it. The merchants seem to be really happy."

Merchants get a lot of people for sidewalk sales and the Buy Michigan Now Festival which occur at the same time.

Admission is free, along with most parking. Main and Center streets in downtown Northville will be closed to allow for shopping.

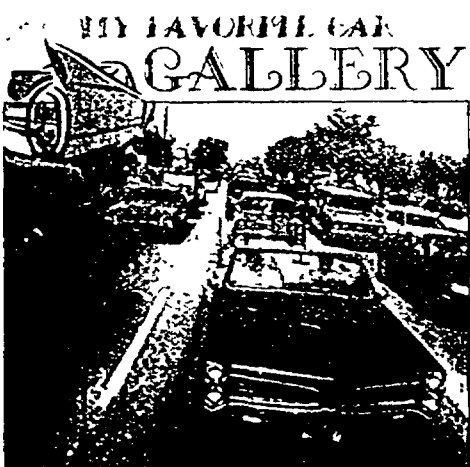
Please see **BUY MICHIGAN, A7**

## Send us a photo of your favorite car and win free gas!

The countdown has begun to this year's Woodward Dream Cruise - the world's largest one-day celebration of all things car and car-related. This is car country and we know that many of you have that special photo of your favorite car. Take this opportunity to share it with the hometownlife.com audience and you could win free gas.

Send us a photo of you and your favorite car (by the end of August) and you will be entered into a random drawing to win one of three \$25 gas cards. The photo can be of your current classic car or one that you drove as a teenager. Send the photo (jpg format only) along with your name, community where you live, and a one-line description of the car and why it is (or was) your favorite to photos@hometownlife.com.

Then "cruise" into the "My Favorite Car" gallery on hometownlife.com on Friday.



The countdown has begun to this year's Woodward Dream Cruise - the world's largest one-day celebration of all things car and car-related.

Share a photo of your special muscle car, street rod, custom car, collector vehicle or other car with readers. Then get ready for this year's Woodward Dream Cruise on Saturday, Aug. 20 and more than one million visitors and 40,000 cars cruising along Woodward Avenue.

## Costs up for student athletes, musicians

Northville forced to raise pay-to-participate fees

BY CAL STONE  
EDITOR

Playing sports in Northville's middle and high schools will cost more this fall, and choir singers will have to ante up, too.

The Northville Board of Education approved increases in the pay-to-participate fees for athletics as the district faces a \$5 million deficit for the 2011-12 school year. The fees jump from \$150 to \$200 at the middle school level and from \$300 to \$350 for high schoolers. The fees, as in the past, will only be charged once annually even if the student plays more than one sport.

Please see **FEEs, A9**

## Flood victims want changes, compensation

Allen Drive, Novi St. neighborhood hit hard in May by heavy rain

BY LONNIE HUHMAN  
CORRESPONDENT

Residents in the Novi Street and Allen Drive neighborhood do not want a repeat of this past spring when heavy rains caused their basements to be flooded with sanitary sewer backup, which destroyed many personal items and caused much financial damage.

A group of about eight homeowners went before the Northville City Council Monday to state they want

Please see **FLOODING, A15**

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## INDEX

APARTMENTS  
AUTOMOTIVE  
CAREER BUILDER

B7  
B10  
B8

PUZZLES  
OBITUARIES  
OPINION

B6  
A8  
A14

REAL ESTATE  
SPORTS  
BUSINESS

B7  
B1  
A11

# Maybury camp teaches kids all about farms, fun



Maybury Farm camp counselors Ally Weaver, left, and Natalie Price, 12, team up to return a rooster to the hen house on July 28. An errant photographer left the hen house gate open during a visit and four hens and the rooster made a break for it. All five had a short time to enjoy their freedom and were soon returned to their cage.

**DETAILS**  
The Maybury Farm Day Camp is offered 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays at the farm on Eight Mile west of Beck in Northville Township. It continues through Aug. 25, with families having the option of signing up children ages 7-14 for one day or more. Cost is \$35 per camper per day, \$95 for a three-day week. More information is available at (248) 374-0200 or via e-mail at [assistant@northvillecommunityfoundation.org](mailto:assistant@northvillecommunityfoundation.org). Students must be paid in full to register/participate.

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

Sydney Wasser, 6, of Novi was glad to be at Maybury Farm Day Camp. "Great," the Village Oaks Elementary second-grader said of her involvement, "because I get to see all the animals." Cows are Sydney's favorite. She began day camp Thursday, July 28, with counselor Ally Weaver, 18, a recent Northville High School graduate. Together, they fed the farm animals, each animal getting the right feed.

"They help us with all our chores," said Weaver, who'll attend the University of Notre Dame this fall. This is Weaver's first summer as a counselor, the second for the camp.

"You're outside, you get to play with all the animals," said Weaver, who's considering a business major in college. "It's way better than sitting behind a desk. It does show the kids what it's like to work on a farm."

The Northville Community Foundation operates the popular farm, said Shari Peters, president. "We were just two days (a week) last year," she said of camp. "We're going to make changes for next year. It's



Sydney Wasser, 6, tentatively reaches into Maybury Farm's hen house for an egg during a July 28 camp. Counselor Natalie Price, left, watches her progress. Maybury Farm has had a series of day camps for kids this summer and campers get to interact with the farm's animals during their stay.

been very popular." Students groom horses and help care for baby animals. "As soon as our babies are born, they socialize with people," Peters said. Campers can hike with llamas, along with enjoying crafts and scavenger hunts.

"Very often, the camp counselor will say 'What's your interest?'" Peters said. "It's not regimented at all. It's fun. We get an awful lot of return campers so it must be fun."


Camp attendance was down a bit July 28 due to heavy rainfall, but some hardy adults found their way to Maybury Farm. Ford Motor Co. staffers who volunteer two days per year under company auspices were glad to donate time and talents for farm chores.

"I want to do something for the community," said Jeff Grauer of Northville, who was with colleagues Brian Teegardin of Bloomfield and Kirk Leonard of Huntington Woods. The men, who work in advanced engineering in Dearborn, were with a number of other Ford volunteers.

Grauer wasn't a first-timer to the farm. "I've been out here myself and appreciate the farm." He's volunteered a couple of times for Habitat for Humanity through work as well.

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**CORRECTION**

In the captions for the photos on page A8 of the July 28 edition of the Northville Record, "Fancy Nancy Party", the names of the two girls should have been switched. Libby Morante was in the top photo; Courtney Cohen was in the bottom photo.

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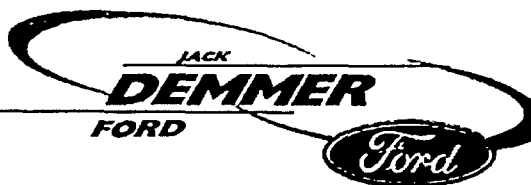
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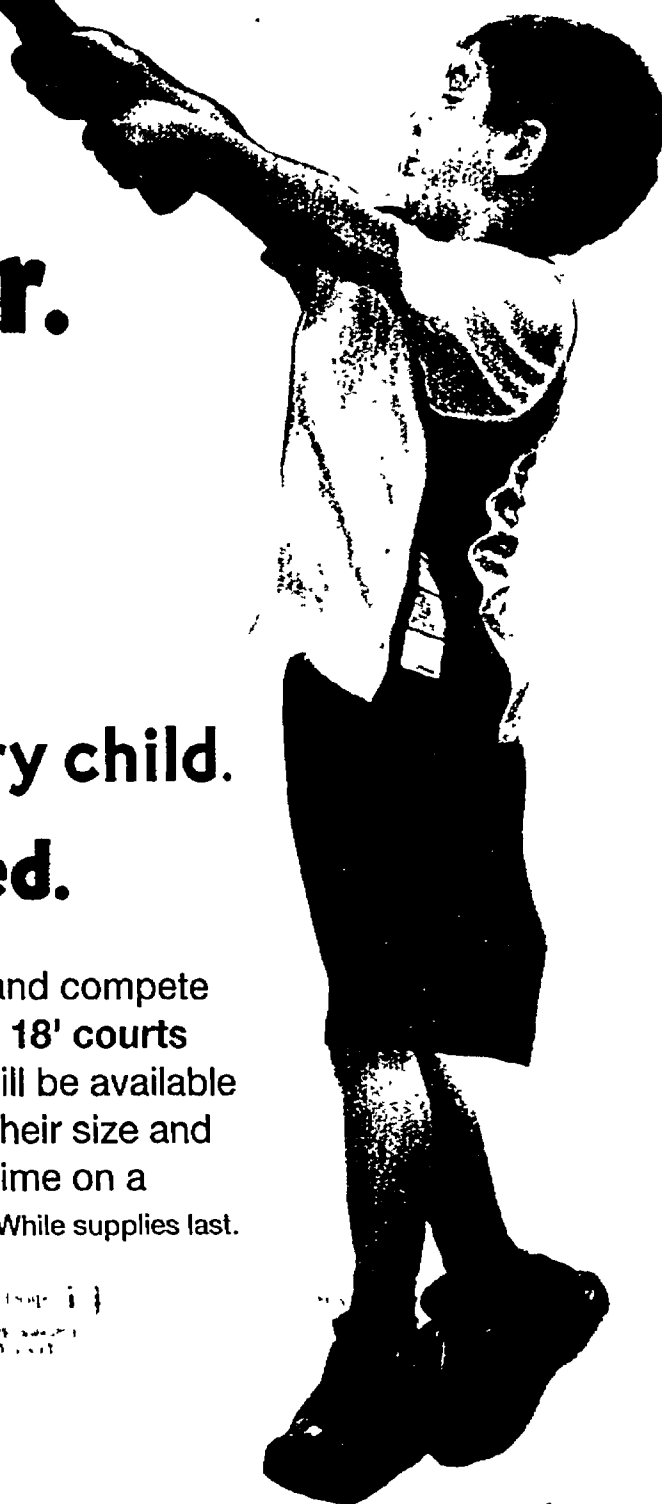
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# Re-enactment groups bring 1770s to Mill Race

BY LONNIE HUHMANN  
CORRESPONDENT

Walking into the encampment of the Ottawa Longrifles one couldn't help but feel as if a genuine group of early American pioneers had been brought to the future.

There was a time in America when breakfast was prepared with a brazier or reflector oven; when a trapper or hunter would use a couple of bear furs and hides as his bed and mattress; and candles and clothing were made by hand. These were all present.

After a look inside Jeff Troy's tent at the bear furs one had to wonder, is he from Port Huron or the 1770s?

The Longrifles, a re-enactment group from Michigan, spent their recent rendezvous or weekend of camping at Mill Race Village. They stayed in dress and carried on in general as if the year might be 1770 (so there was no air conditioning as the heat reached the low 90s). But for the Ottawa Longrifles it's just camping...in costume.

"This is a really neat and beautiful location, so we have been looking forward to this weekend," said Longriflesman Tim Cornick of Canton.

This was the first time for them there, and the idea to come to the historic village in Northville had come about as a way to give back to Mill Race for letting them have their annual Christmas party at the village's Cady Inn.

The weekend was sunny and warm, but the Longrifles are experienced. They set up their tents under some shady trees

next to the river and just went about their day. The group of men and women spent their time demonstrating things like scrimshaw, fire building and cooking techniques to the visitors who filtered in out of Mill Race throughout the weekend.

This is a serious matter for the Longrifles members, many of them have taken classes and have become experts in the activities that allowed the settlers of early America to survive and flourish. The rifle or muzzle loader was essential, so members like Cornick and Michael McElheran, of Livonia, have become trained as gunsmiths. Not only do they demonstrate this skill, but once in a while they use them and sell one they have created.

This is a family-oriented group and both Cornick and McElheran had their wives, Cherie and Kathy, with them. Each member shares the love of history, the outdoors and hands-on craft.

"We like doing this (reenacting) because it brings together a lot of our interests," Cherie Cornick said.

She pointed out her husband as he began getting to work on a rifle stock while she worked on making candles and Pinckney's Ann Beyer stirred a mix that would become sourdough cinnamon rolls.

"We want to capture the spirit of the 18th century, and by really emphasizing living in the time period we hope to do this," Cherie Cornick said.

They did, giving observers a real lesson in what life might have looked like in the wilds of pioneer America.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Thirteen-year-olds Jillian Stacer (left) and Haley Clifton, of Northville Girl Scout Troop 737, take to some old fashioned stilts as they help out at the Ottawa Longrifles encampment at Mill Race Village on July 16. The Scouts were helping demonstrate some of the games that kids would have played in Colonial-era America.



Matt Gladman weaves some powderhorn straps using an ankle loom during the July 16 encampment of the Ottawa Longrifles that took place at Northville's Mill Race Village.

Using authentic Colonial-era utensils and a small campfire oven, Ann Beyer makes a cherry and raspberry pie at Mill Race Village on July 16.



Jeff Troy plays the fiddle during a recent afternoon's encampment of the Ottawa Longrifles at Northville's Mill Race Village.



Canvas tents, leaning muskets and campfires greet visitors to the Ottawa Longrifles encampment.

# EDUCATION

Thursday, August 4, 2011 hometownlife.com

## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Cal Stone

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## Ex-Northville bus drivers begin process of getting jobs back

### More than 40 laid off

BY LONNIE HUHMAN  
CORRESPONDENT

With their layoffs made official, former Northville bus drivers will now begin the process to try and get their jobs back.

By a unanimous vote on Wednesday, the Northville Public Schools Board of Education approved the letting go of more than 40 staff members who drive buses and work as assistants, mechanics and dispatchers. The transportation coordinator, John Bojanowski, is also a part of this list. With the district deciding to contract

with a private transportation company, Durham, the vote had become inevitable. The layoffs are effective after Aug. 19.

"We do this with a heavy heart," school board President Joan Wadsworth said. "And we recognize they have done a terrific job."

However, she went on to say privatization is offering the district a way to save money. Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher backed up this statement by stating this is "truly just a financial decision."

Prior to the vote, school staff informed the board that Durham had already begun meeting with bus drivers and other staffers about being rehired back as employees for the Illinois-based company. Gallagher said Durham staff met with the laid-off staff

July 25-26 as the first steps in giving them preference in the hiring process.

According to district staff, current wages will be maintained for any district transportation employees hired by Durham with any new hires beginning employment at a competitive part-time wage scale. They also will provide an employee-only health insurance plan with a 100-percent company paid contribution for part-time employees working at least 20 hours per week.

Under the new agreement, bus transportation service reductions implemented for the district's middle and high school students in spring 2010 will continue for the 2011-12 school year, Gallagher said. Morning bus pickup and afternoon drop-

off for Northville High School students will take place at seven satellite bus stops.

Meads Mill and Hillside middle school students will have morning pickup at satellite bus stops, with afternoon drop-off at consolidated neighborhood bus stops—meaning fewer bus stops in the neighborhoods.

There were also five transportation retirements announced. These retirees may come back as Durham employees while also receiving their duly-earned retirement, according to district staff.

In southeastern Michigan, Durham currently provides transportation services for Birmingham Public Schools, Southfield Public Schools and the Royal Oak district.

### Field Day

Moraine Elementary first grader Tori Brown competes in a relay race on June 13 during the school's year-end field day activity.



JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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COURTESY OF J.G. HACHIGIAN

Northville artist Ellen Bennett completes a commissioned art work at the Drop-in Studio.

## Let your inner Picasso loose at Art House

Once a month, from March to October, the Northville Art House hosts a unique event that aims to encourage area residents 18 and older - beginners to professionals - to pursue their individual artistic goals and to explore and develop their individual talents. Anyone who is interested is encouraged to join in.

Participants bring their supplies and get together for a three-hour art session, working on projects of their own choosing. A floral still-life is set up, but artists are free to bring in reference photos to work from or to set up their own still life elements. Instruction is not provided, but more advanced artists are generous in sharing information and in answering questions.

Northville Township resident J.G. Hachigian, who hosts the sessions said, "The Drop-in Open Studio offers camaraderie and encouragement while you pursue your personal artistic goals, whether hobby or professional. This is

a fun open drawing and painting studio for those who work, or want to learn how to work, in any two-dimensional media - such as pencil, ink, pastels, acrylics or watercolors."

Hachigian suggests that beginners who want to try a session and have no supplies start simply, with a sketch pad, pencil, eraser and colored pencils. "However, there aren't any rules," she said. "At a local art exhibit, one of the exhibits was a beautiful drawing sketched on a brown paper bag."

Award-winning local artists Ellen Bennett, Jeff Cancelosi, Lucia Danes, Peggy Kerwan and Julie Woodward often participate in the sessions.

Bennett and Danes originally founded the Drop-in Open Studio and hosted it for several years. Hachigian, who describes herself as a "serious hobbyist" volunteered to host the sessions starting in 2011.

"Events such as this help make

Northville the special place it is," she said. "But I have selfish reasons as well. I don't always have time to take classes. The drop-in sessions are a wonderful place to focus and get a project done, and participating artists have given me tips and help that advance my skills and knowledge."

The Drop-in Open Studio Sessions are held the second Friday of the month. The remaining sessions for 2011 will be held from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Aug. 12, Sept. 9 and Oct. 14. Sessions will resume in March 2012. Cost is \$15; \$10 for Art House members. (Fees support the Art House. Membership is \$25/year.)

A small number of easels may be available. Artists are encouraged to bring a snack or sack lunch. For more information, call (248) 380-1422 or email artist@myfastmail.com. The Northville Art House is located at 215 W. Cady Street, across from the Northville Public Library.

# First Friday: Shop until you drop

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

This month's First Friday Experience tomorrow will be a big one with the Buy Michigan Now Festival, concert and sidewalk sales.

"That will all be happening on Friday night," said Catherine Woods, special events coordinator for the Downtown Development Authority.

August's theme is "Shop Local."

First Friday Experience (formerly known as the Art Walk) is sponsored by the Northville Central Business Association the first Friday of the month. It takes participants through downtown Northville's growing art district, and features art exhibits (highlighting featured artists each month), art demonstrations and related events. Downtown Northville's participating First Friday Art galleries and stores are open 6-9 p.m. with many of the businesses along the walk offering complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages.

Participating galleries are Dancing Eye Gallery, 101 N. Center; Northville Art House, 215 W. Cady; Northville Gallery, 123 E. Main; Starring The Gallery, 118

W. Main; Tiffany Art Glass, 121 E. Main (second floor); and State of Mind Art Gallery, 120 E. Main.

Woods said the name was changed from First Friday Art Walk. "A lot of other businesses participate too," she said.

Hearts of Inspiration sometimes has a palm reader, and some businesses feature music or sales.

"We get a lot of people that just like to mill around. You can just walk from one end of town to the other and have a nice evening of it," Woods said. The Next Chapter Bookstore & Bistro may have author signings, or restaurants may offer specials.

"We've gotten more and more stores interested in being open and being a part of the experience," Woods said.

The Friday evening concerts offered by the DDA run 7-9 p.m. with several additional sponsors.

"We help promote it, always look for ways to promote it and make it better," Woods said.

"We'd like people from everywhere to come and see what we're offering."

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

## BUY MICHIGAN

FROM PAGE A1

dining and live entertainment. The Main Stage is located in Town Square on Main Street and sponsored by Coffee Beanery, Hiller's Markets, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

The Buy Michigan Now Festival is also sponsored by Downtown Northville, the *Observer & Eccentric/Hometown Weeklies* Newspapers, and the Catalyst Company.

For more information, visit [www.buymichigannowfest.com](http://www.buymichigannowfest.com).

The Northville Historical Society will join in the Buy Michigan Now Festival by focusing on all the locally made and Michigan made products in the J. M. Meade General Store at Mill Race Village in Northville.

Made in Northville products include handmade birdhouses, some that look


like the Wash Oak School at the Village, as well as other styles. Other hand made items include slate type (coopered) small barrels, wooden spinning tops and wooden candlesticks, all made by Historical Society members.

The blacksmiths have created horse-shoes, coat hooks and other items at the working smithy in the Village. They demonstrate every Sunday afternoon from 1-4 p.m. during the summer and at special events.

The Weaver's Guild, housed at the Village, crafted bobbin lace bookmarks and wash cloths. Organizers also offer handmade dolls, Mill Race Village framed photos and greeting cards created locally, and two types of tea cozies.

For more information, call (248) 348-1845 or visit [www.millracenorthville.org](http://www.millracenorthville.org).

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# Sunday, August 14th at 5:00 pm\*\*

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## Getting crafty

Kyleigh Peterson, 11, works on duct-taping a keepsake box during a "Scraplastic" craft event at the Northville District Library on July 13. The event was one of many afternoon activities for kids the library is sponsoring as part of its summer reading program.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kids get busy at the Northville District Library on July 13 during its "Scraplastic" crafts event.



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### BAHL, KATHERINE M.

July 28, 2011, age 94. Beloved wife of the late Gordon Bahl for 53 years. Funeral was Aug. 2. Donations to Smile Train or St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Condolences: [www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)

### MORIANI, DORINA C.

July 23, 2011, age 87. Funeral was July 27 at Holy Family Church. Entombment at Glen Eden Cemetery. Donations to Angela Hospice. Condolences: [www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)

### BENEDICT, AGEATHA, R.

July 25, 2011, age 78. Funeral was July 29 at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Burial at Glen Eden Cemetery. Donations to American Lung Association. Condolences: [www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)



MOTLEY, RICHARD L.

### FOX, CARREN A.

Age 65, passed away July 27, 2011. She was born on March 17, 1946, in Melvindale, daughter of the late Harry and Bernice Layden. Carren was a loving and devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She enjoyed spending time with her family at their vacation property in Jordan Valley and her friend Barb's home in Alpena. She loved being outdoors and the occasional trip to the casino with friends and family. Her true love in life was her husband, children and grandchildren. She is survived by her husband William, her children: Sheila (Dale) Gransden, Wendy (John) Bradbury, and William Jr. (Debbie) Fox; eight grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and her siblings: William Sayyae, Dennis Sayyae, Mike Layden Chris Layden and Barb Suski. Visitation was held on Friday, July 29, from 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Funeral services were conducted on Saturday, July 30, at 11:00 a.m. at Dixboro United Methodist Church, 5221 Church Road, Ann Arbor with a luncheon following. Online Guestbook at: [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)

### KENNEDY, NORMA A.

July 30, 2011, age 83. A nine year resident of the Manor of Novi. Funeral was Aug. 2. Donations to Manor of Novi or MI Humane. Condolences: [www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)

### MORAND, MICHAEL ALFRED

7/28/2011, age 76. Preceded in death by his sister, Mary Davis Boettcher. He will be missed by his five nieces and nephews. Memorial service at a later date. Condolences: [www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)



SHUREB, PAULINE

Age 90 of Northville. Cherished Wife of the late Wilfred. Loving Mother of Ronald (Debbie), Richard (Maria), Kenneth (Janel) and John (Kathleen). Loving Nanna of Brian, Lisa, Kayline, Crystal, Ricky, Paula, Diane, Theresa, Laura, Justin and Sarah, Great-Nanna of Nathan, Logan, Darius, Payton and Mason. Dearest sister of Mary Attard. Also survived by many other loving family and friends. Memorial Gathering will be held at Fred Wood Funeral Home-Rice Chapel 36100 5 Mile Rd. Livonia (E. of Levan) Sunday 3-9pm with evening Rosary. Memorial Service at St. Colette Catholic Church Monday Institute 9:30am Mass 10am. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice. Please visit online guestbook: [fredwoodfuneralhome.com](http://fredwoodfuneralhome.com)

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The first seven "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$3 per line. You may place a photo of your loved one for an additional cost of \$25. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flag, religious symbols, etc.)

Deadlines: Tuesday at 4 p.m. / Thursday at 12 p.m.  
Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

### WEINBURGER, EVELYN LUCILLE (SIMMONS)

Was born October 12, 1916 on the Fruit Ridge Farm, Novi, Michigan. She died in Dallas, Texas on July 23, 2011, of natural causes. Evelyn was the third of seven children, and at the time of her death, the only surviving child of Arthur J. and Muriel (Kirk) Simmons. Her husband, Albert J. Weinburger, preceded her in death in 1982. She is survived by her children, Robert (Nancy) Weinburger of South Lyon, Michigan; Karen (Russell) Riley, of Boerne, Texas; Gary (Judy) Weinburger of Porter, Texas and Kathy Roth of Hockley, Texas. She and Alby also raised her two eldest grandchildren, Robert (Joan) Weinburger, II, of Eagle River, Alaska, and Lisa (David) Genecov, of Dallas, Texas. She was the proud grandmother of thirteen grandchildren, great-grandmother of twenty-nine, and great-great-grandmother of two, known to them by various names, including Mom, Mom Weinburger, Grandma in Texas, Mamoo and Bermonger. She is also survived by two sisters-in-law, Sarah Simmons of Mentor, Ohio and Rita Chenoweth of South Lyon, Michigan. Evelyn graduated from South Lyon High School, Class of 1933, along with her husband, Al. They married in 1935, and lived in South Lyon until 1959, when Al was transferred to Gulf States Tube Corporation in Rosenberg, Texas. Al and Ev were married 47 years, until his death. They made their home in Houston until 2009, when Evelyn moved to Presbyterian Village North, in Dallas, Texas. Church was a very important part of Evelyn's life as she was a faithful member of First Presbyterian Church of South Lyon, and a charter member of St. John's United Presbyterian Church in Houston. She served as an elder of the church, and on numerous committees, she attended Sunday School faithfully and was an officer of Presbyterian Women in Houston. Evelyn practiced daily Bible devotion. She never missed Sunday church services, even when on vacation. Evelyn loved to read the daily paper, and did the crossword puzzle and Sudoku daily. She enjoyed playing Hand and Foot, and Euchre, with her siblings and their spouses. She was an accomplished seamstress and also enjoyed other needlecrafts. Later in life, she enjoyed playing Chicken foot on Friday night with the "girls" of St. John's. She also loved a wide variety of music and enjoyed reading poetry. Evelyn especially loved traveling and camping in the trailer with Alby. She was a Roosevelt Democrat and was moved to help aid the poor, defenseless and down-trodden. She loved to cook Sunday dinners and often invited people to dinner on the spur of the moment. Conversation with friends and family was important, and she was always willing to strike up a conversation with anyone. She will be missed greatly by many other relatives and friends, as well as her family. A service will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in South Lyon, Michigan, August 6, at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to St. John's Presbyterian Church in Houston ([www.stjohnspresby.org](http://www.stjohnspresby.org)) or First Presbyterian Church in South Lyon, MI ([www.fpcsouthlyon.org](http://www.fpcsouthlyon.org)).

## The Garage proposal clears final city hurdle

BY LONNIE HURMAN  
CORRESPONDENT

Despite a close vote, the PUD for the design layout and plan of the new downtown Northville restaurant, The Garage, received final approval by the City Council on July 25.

By a 3-2 vote, with council members Jim Allen and Nancy Darga dissenting, the city gave The Garage the green light to proceed with a plan that will require them to purchase parking credits and implement other solutions to lessen its impact on the surrounding neighborhood.

The council also approved the recommendation to require the restaurant purchase 23 parking credits in the downtown. It was a 4-1 vote, with Allen dissenting again. The crux of the parking issue is that The Garage, set to be located in the old Gardenview location, is outside of the Central Business District.

For Allen, this was not one reason why he could not give his approval.

"It is not in the CBD, so I thought it was too low of a number," Allen said of the number of required parking credits to be purchased.

For it to meet the zoning parking requirements for CBD the location needs to have 38 parking spots on site, but it only has 15. Therefore the agreement has them purchasing an additional 23 spots to meet the ordinance used for CBD locations.

The overall Planned Unit Development approval has

been almost a year in the making. In the fall of 2010, NRG Holdings of Plymouth Township submitted an application for a PUD to renovate the existing building at 202 W. Main in order to establish a restaurant, bar and banquet room.

According to City Manager Patrick Sullivan, The Garage will have a gross floor area of 6,403 square feet. It will have a dining room and bar area that seats 124, a banquet room that seats 72 and outdoor seating for 48 people. The establishment would have a total seating capacity of 244.

The property had been zoned General Commercial District GCD. Now, with the approval, it is a PUD with specific details that make it stand apart from the normal zoning.

Allen voted no because he believes it doesn't fit the city's overall master plan.

"This location is a transition area from the downtown into the neighborhoods, so this type of project is just too intense for me," Allen said.

Those in the neighborhood, which includes homes on High and Wing streets, have expressed their worries about traffic, parking and noise. Garage co-owners Bill and Mark Evasic have assured the residents these worries are addressed in the plans.

Despite his no votes, Allen did say it should be a great restaurant considering the renovation design plans.

"It will be a nice project and should add to the downtown," Allen said.

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## FEES

FROM PAGE A1

"I'm pretty optimistic our participation numbers will not go down too much," athletic director Bryan Masi said. "The pay to participate fees are at the high end compared to most districts in the state, but it was important for our community to continue to provide the many opportunities offered to our students without cutting sports."

There will be an \$800 family maximum per school year, and that includes middle and high school athletes in the same family. Also, families that can demonstrate a financial need will have scholarship opportunities available.

"We are very grateful the athletic community works hard in fundraising efforts to pick up in the areas the school district can no longer afford," Masi said.

The board also implemented a middle school spectator admission fee of \$3 for adults and \$1 for students for home volleyball, girls and boys basketball and swimming competitions, as well as reductions in athletic equipment purchases.

Masi said there are approximately 900 athletes in the high school and another 600 in the two middle schools.

For musicians, the board has realigned high school courses, moving the combined Jazz Ensemble I and II course (30 students) into the eight-block rotating schedule in which students attend four classes each day. Prior, the jazz course was a fifth-hour, for-credit class that was after the traditional school day had ended and required additional staffing costs.

Additionally, the eight to 10 students who enroll in the elite BackBeat and TrebleMakers courses will now have to pay \$350 each as the two choirs become extracurricular clubs. This fee cannot be applied to the athletic pay-to-participate fee, and scholarship opportunities are also available.

"Of course, like so many teachers in Northville, I'm sad to think about any changes that would diminish the quality of our schools," said Mary Kay Pryce, who teaches choir. "The support of our community and the commitment to education here makes this an incredible place to work. I long for the days when our district could raise its own money

for the programs that our people want. Being under the state's control of so much funding takes away the power from our local citizens."

Pryce said that her focus for the past 33 years has been to offer the best possible vocal music program to her students. The Northville High School choir department is the largest in the state of Michigan, with more than 550 singers last semester in 11 different ensembles.

Pryce said the biggest change in her department will be teaching that same number of students this fall with fewer staff members.

"The bottom line is that it's a shame that we have to do this to our families," school board President Joan Wadsworth said. "I think parents knew that this was on the horizon. I don't think people will be shocked by it. The good news is that parents are, generally speaking, willing to pay a little extra for their kids to participate in these programs. And we do have program in place for families that can't afford to pay. ... The next couple of years are going to be maybe even tougher than we're looking at now."

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## BUDGET OFFSETS

The balanced budget adopted by the Northville Board of Education for the 2011-12 school year takes into account an anticipated \$100 per pupil in state "best practice" funding, as the district expects to meet at least four of the five identified "best practices." The budget also takes into account an offset by the state of an estimated \$127 per pupil in the district's state-mandated retirement contribution.

While these portions of the school funding cuts contained in Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder's original budget proposal last fall are being offset for the coming school year, the total budget impact on Northville Public Schools is a projected shortfall of more than \$5 million for the 2011-12 school year. The budget forecast for the 2012-13 school year appears to be even more bleak as the "best practices" funding and retirement cost offset are not slated to continue beyond 2011-12; the district's state-mandated retirement contribution is expected to spike to 27.37 percent (or \$175 per student); and state funding for half-day kindergarten will not continue in 2012-13. These cuts in school funding and projected cost increases bring the two-year anticipated budget shortfall for Northville Public Schools to more than \$12 million.

In addition to the actions described above, the Board of Education in recent months has approved numerous other budget reductions for the 2011-12 school year in order to achieve a balanced budget. These include reductions in teacher, building administrator, support personnel, paraprofessional and maintenance staff positions across the district; and most recently privatization of the district's K-12 and special education student transportation services.

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Northville, MI 48167  
Pastor Andy Whitten  
Phone 248-374-2268  
Sunday Morning Bible Study at 10:00 AM  
Sunday Service and Children's Church at 11:00  
Bible Study Thursday at 7:00 PM

## Novi

**ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI**  
46325 10 Mile Rd. • Novi, MI 48374  
Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.  
Reverend George Chamley, Pastor  
Parish Office: 347-7778

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

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

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

## South Lyon

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

**Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
22200 Pontiac Trail, South Lyon (South of 8 Mile Road)  
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 11:00 a.m.  
Refuel Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.  
Youth at 6:30 p.m.  
Rev. David Brown, Pastor  
248-437-2222 • www.fellowshippepc.org

**The Church of Christ**  
21860 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon, MI 48178  
248-437-3585 • www.southlyonccoc.org  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School,  
10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship  
Wednesday Midweek Ministries 7 p.m.  
Rob Calcott, Pastor

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

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) of SOUTH LYON**  
Sunday School 11:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Nursery Care Provided  
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248-437-2875 • 205 E. Lake (10 Mile)  
Rev. Dr. Annemarie Kudder, Pastor

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A church that shares the joyful love of Christ  
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734-453-0190  
www.stjohnsplymouth.org  
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7:45 AM - Eucharist - meditative (without music)  
9:00 AM - Eucharist with Contemporary Music  
11:00 AM - Eucharist with Traditional Music

## Novi

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41671 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 48375  
Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m.  
Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor  
248-349-2652  
www.umnovi.com  
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24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375  
Weekend Hours  
Saturday 4:30 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)  
Sunday 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.  
Fr. Timothy Hogan, Pastor  
Fr. Michael Zuehl, Associate  
Parish Office: 349-8847 • www.holyfamilynovi.org

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

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

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH LYON**  
60820 Marjorie Ann St., South Lyon 48178  
Phone: 248-437-2983  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Worship Service 11:00 a.m.  
Evening Service 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.  
Senior Pastor Rob Frendor / Assoc. Pastor Randy Wicks  
Website: www.fbcsouthlyon.org  
Email: fbcsouthlyon@comcast.net

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
640 S. Lafayette (248) 437-0760  
Sunday Worship: 8:15, 10:00 am & 7:00 pm  
9:40 a.m. Sunday School  
Nursery Provided  
Reverend Sandra Wilcoxon  
southlyonfirstumc.org

**BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH**  
Gathering in Jesus Name  
52909 10 Mile Rd • South Lyon, MI 48178  
Sunday 10:30 and 1:30  
Thursday 7:00 p.m.  
Mike Ragan, Pastor  
734-347-1983 pastor cell  
Old fashioned preaching

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN**  
Wisconsin Synod • Reynold Sweet Pkwy  
at Liberty St.  
Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.  
All Classes 9:00  
Pastor Scott Miller, (248) 437-1651

## Wixom

**CROSSPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
28930 Wixom Rd.  
Wixom, MI 48393  
9:30 a.m. - Morning Worship  
10:30 a.m. - Morning Worship  
Rev. Kenneth Warren • 586-531-2021  
www.cpcncw.com

# NEIGHBORS

Thursday, August 4, 2011

hometownlife.com

## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Cal Stone

Voice Mail: (248) 437-2011, Ext. 237

E-mail: cstone@gannett.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

### WEDDING

#### Sim & Urpsis

Audrey M. Sim and Albert G. Urpsis, Jr., both of Royal Oak, announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Mrs. Alexander J. Sim of Northville, is a 1986 graduate of Farmington High School and Albion College. She holds an MD degree and is in private medical practice.

Her fiancé, son of Albert G. Urpsis, Sr. and Allison Withey of Royal Oak, formerly Farmington Hills, is a 1986 Farmington High School graduate. He graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma and works for St. John Health System's Neurological Recovery Systems.

An October 2011 wedding



Albert Urpsis and Audrey Sim

is planned at Meadowbrook Country Club.

### WEDDING

#### Palinkas-Zurek

Sascha Marie Palinkas of Whitmore Lake and Nicholas Gavin Zurek of South Lyon were wed June 11, 2011 at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia. Sascha is the daughter of Susan Palinkas and the late Thomas Palinkas. Nicholas is the son of the late Lynn Ann Zurek and David and Linda S. Zurek. Attending the bride were Victoria Klix, Melissa Palinkas (the bride's

sister), and Shayna and Kyndra Palinkas (the bride's cousins). The flower girl was Kristina Carlson. Best man for the groom was Andrew Voltattorni. Groomsmen were Jonathan and Michael Zurek (brothers of the groom), and Jay Newcomb. The ring bearer was Cold Newcomb. After a reception at the Plymouth Cultural Center, the couple honeymooned in Tennessee, Florida and Ohio. The couple will reside in Novi.



Sascha Palinkas and Nicholas Zurek

### ENGAGEMENT

#### Waineo & Wishka

Shauna Brianna Waineo and Andrew Paul Wishka were engaged to be married with a July 2011 wedding in Muskegon planned.

She is the daughter of Bryan and Debra Waineo, of Northville. A graduate of Northville High School, she did her undergraduate studies at University of Michigan

and earned a master's degree from Wayne State University. She is a physician assistant for Cherry Street Medical in Grand Rapids.

He is the son of Paul and Jean Wishka of Muskegon. A graduate of Mona Shores High School, he did his undergraduate studies at University of Michigan and also earned a master's degree in urban planning from UM.



Andrew Wishka and Shauna Waineo



### Wish You Were Here

"Dear Silver Springs & Northville Public School Kids, This is Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts. It is considered one of the best colleges in the world. I went to Boston to walk in the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer 3-Day. I want to come back some day and visit you, when you're a student at Harvard!" — Mrs. E (Debbie Eichholtz)



PHOTO BY JULIE YOLLES

### Champions

Marlene Still of Northville and Judy Still of Grosse Pointe attended the Champion for the Kids Gala and Golf Tournament at the Townsend Hotel and Oakland Hills Country Club to benefit Yatooma's Foundation for the Kids. This year's event raised close to \$300,000 which will help fund expenses of children who have lost one or both parents.

### NORTHVILLE IN THE SERVICE

#### Max Moylan

Max Moylan, of Northville, has been promoted to the rank of specialist in the Michigan Army National Guard.

Moylan is a health care specialist in the Wyoming-

based Headquarters Troop, 1st Squadron, 126th Cavalry Regiment. He has been a member of the Michigan National Guard for one year.

Moylan attended basic training in 2010 at Fort Benning, Ga.

During his military career, Moylan has received numerous awards including the Army Service Ribbon and the National Defense Service Medal.

Moylan is the son of Pat Moylan of Northville.

## Novi/Northville

# MEDICAL SERVICE directory

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Dr. Timothy Kirk (right)

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### Optometry

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Northville Area  
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# STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, August 4, 2011

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Contact Editor Cal Stone

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## Little Dreams: Local business offers clothes, accessories for women, kids

Businesswoman featured in Buy Michigan fest

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

When Jessica Beamgard was growing up as the oldest of eight children, her mom taught her to sew. Now that she's mom to two young daughters, Mary-Jane, 5 1/2, and Madison June, 15 months, she can make clothes for them with ease.

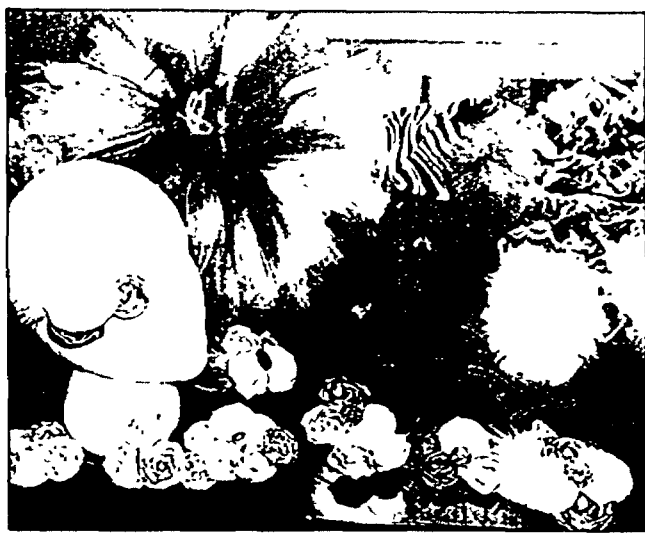
That became the driving force behind Northville Township resident Beamgard's business venture, Little Dreams, which started about six months ago. She'd gotten away from sewing but is back with a vengeance and glad to be busy.

"It's picked up quite a lot," Beamgard, 24, said of business. Most of her women's and children's clothing and accessories are custom orders. "I also have a bunch of stuff made for the festivals coming up," including the Buy Michigan Now Festival this weekend in Northville in which she'll participate.

Little Dreams was named by the older daughter of Jessica and husband Douglas, who grew up in Northville. She sews tutus, ruffled pettiskirts, ruffled leg warmers, bloomers, onesies and hair accessories.

"I try my hardest to keep my prices very reasonable," lower than boutiques, she said. "I always work with them and give them a package deal" for customers with several children in need of outfitting.

"We were all taught to



Jessica Beamgard crafted these hair fashion accessories as well.

cook, clean and sew," she said of growing up in North Lake, about 30 minutes south of Saginaw. She graduated from Millington High School following extensive home schooling. Her youngest siblings are close in age to the couple's daughters, their playmates.

She didn't want to overpay for clothes for her daughters. "To pay \$90 for a tutu is a bit much. It just went by word of mouth from there."

She's leaving her job as a medical transcriptionist and enrolling this fall at the University of Detroit Mercy to become a physician's assistant. She's just starting that, and will end in about four-five years with a master's degree.

"It's an unusual concept,"

Beamgard said of Little Dreams, found on Facebook at Little-DreamsMichigan. "I like to do a little bit of everything. I dabble in photography. My mom taught us to be very independent and self-reliant."

She and her family like going to Starbucks in downtown Northville where their orders are known, as is true at other businesses. "It's a bit of a change from the country," she said. "But I like Northville."

Additional information on Little Dreams is available at (248) 982-6115 or jessicabeamgard@yahoo.com. Beamgard takes PayPal and ships all over the U.S., including Florida and California. "I prefer to deal locally, to keep a local busi-



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jessica Beamgard and her daughters, Madison June (left) and Mary-Jane, sport some of the fashions she's handcrafted and plans on selling at this weekend's Buy Michigan Now Festival in Northville. Beamgard made the jumpers her girls are wearing and the tank top she's dressed in. Beamgard is selling girls rompers for \$35.

ness.

"My husband even helps me," she said of business. "I taught him how to make tutus. He's a great support system."

Headbands take about an hour to make, a leg warmer or tutu a half hour to 45 minutes. "A lot of it's trial and

error. I eventually figure it out."

She gets ideas from people she sees and from Mary-Jane. Beamgard carries a tub of hair accessories in her car, as people often want to buy a headpiece she's wearing.

She and the owner of Hearts of Inspiration in

Northville are planning a Christmas fashion show.

After earning her master's, Beamgard will work as a physician's assistant. Little Dreams may need staff by then, and she plans to continue it all through school.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

## The box, the team and the performance review

BY RICK RADNERS  
GUEST COLUMNIST

For about last five years, the comment "think outside the box" has been used more than any other catch phrase in the world of business. I have often wondered what box people were referring to.

When I look around my desk, the computer, phone, folders, and personal esthetics are all boxes of some sort. So when we are asked to "think outside the box", why are we barged with boxes and why the urgency to think outside of them? Along with that, how does the guided performance review help the "out of box" experience? Let's look at both of these ideas.

Creative minds have pioneered and developed solutions to some of the most important problems within business. They are often the catalyst to tomorrow's concerns as well. When given the opportunity, the "outside of the box" mind can turn a company on a dime and turn waste into profitability. With this concept comes but twice a year the performance review. Usually starting with objective setting and then a stern measurement of those objectives, the performance review is the key to most employee's compensation and advancement opportunities.

When these two concepts are laid side by side, they don't make too much sense to me. If thinking outside the box is often the catalyst of performance improvement for an organization; shouldn't every employee have the "out of box" requirement on his or her performance review? Should that requirement be mandated to every senior executive and front line associate in any organization? What stops this notion of improvement; the performance review itself.

In some organizations, the performance review is used as a tool of conformity rather than empowerment. It afflicts the ideas of numbers and targets on each employee in order to reward or discipline them. The performance review sets

its objectives and sends a clear message to every employee. The message is usually a 'get there or else' communication. It can literally crush any hope of thinking outside the box. Looking further, once a target is obtained by an employee, what's next? For instance, if backorders are suppose to be 5% or less of the daily shipments of a supplier and they are, shouldn't that employee receive the highest rating possible. Moreover, what if all the employees involved in backorders are reviewed against this same criteria? Shouldn't all the employees receive the highest rating? What is the out of box thinker to do?

The solution lies within the concept of the team. First off, if you look around your office you'll realize that, as individuals the box we work in is too big to think out of alone. We need the help of a team to build a ladder that will allow us to crawl out of the box and think of solutions that are plausible for the organization and have long lasting resolve. Organizations need to review their performance objectives and charge every individual to learn and react to the business climate, relying on the team concept. Moreover, teams need to have their own performance review with team objectives to think of solutions to today's business quandaries. Companies should consider removing the archaic targets of yesterday and motivate its departmental teams to think outside the box.

Companies who decide to adopt the team-driven objective will notice an immediate change in their operations. Letting the team think outside of the box will allow for stronger more driven results. The other phrase that pairs well with the team concept is "Rome wasn't built in a day". Those that use the team objective concept realize it wasn't built by one person with a single objective either.

Rick Radners Jr., EdD, worked for Ford Motor Company for 13 years and has taught quantitative methods at Walsh college for a over six years. He has degrees in marketing and sales, business management, an MBA, and a doctorate in education. He has research interest in educating people in statistics both on-line and in the classroom, and concepts around group testing in post secondary education institutions. Radners can be reached at rradners@mail.walshcollege.edu

"We don't see either change as very significant," explained James P. Hallan, MRA president and chief executive officer. "Our Index numbers have been roughly the same for the past three months."

Hallan pointed to the state's stubborn unemployment rate as a reason that sales haven't shown much improvement this year. June's 10.5 percent jobless rate was 0.2 points higher than May's and the highest since 10.7 in January.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Little change in Michigan retail sales

Slightly more Michigan retailers expect improved 3rd Quarter sales, following a small slip in sales performance during June, according to the latest Michigan Retail Index survey conducted by Michigan Retailers Association (MRA) and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

The future-outlook portion of the Index rose by three points while the current performance gauge dropped by nearly a point and a half during June.

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# 14 area gas stations offer FuelCall assistance

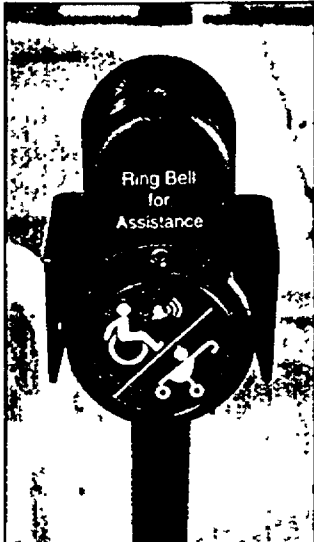
A full list of gas stations offering fuel assistance for the disabled can be found on the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America Pump Guide website at [www.pumpguide.com](http://www.pumpguide.com). Gas stations offering FuelCall assistance include:

- Garden City**
  - BP, 32889 Warren Road, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; call (734) 762-4900
- Westland**
  - Sunoco, 8405 N. Inkster Road, available 24 hours a day seven days a week; call (734) 525-6109
  - Marathon, 37401 Joy
  - Marathon, 37368 Ford, 6 a.m. to midnight seven days a week; call (734) 728-4265
  - Marathon, 32919 Cherry Hill, Westland
  - Marathon, 29424 Ann Arbor Trail
  - Sunoco, 31215 Warren Road, call (734) 522-0606

- Canton**
  - Cascado Oil Co., 42438 Warren Road, 5 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday and 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; call (734) 459-4437

- Redford**
  - Marathon, 14301 Telegraph, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Saturday; call (313) 538-1555

- Farmington**
  - Marathon, 32340 Grand River, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week; call (313) 731-1590



FuelCall's big blue button shows that the service is for the disabled and parents with small children.

- Southfield**
  - USA Speed Stop, 24960 Telegraph, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; call (248) 357-3221
  - Southfield Fuel Stop, 26450 Lasher, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday Friday; call (248) 356-7009
- Novi**
  - Sovels Service Station, 41425 W. 10 Mile, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday; call (248) 348-7337



Robert Guskovitch of Westland answers the call to pump gas for Michael Harris, executive director of the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans Association, at the BP station at Venoy and Warren Road in Garden City.

## Fill 'er up: FuelCall helps disabled get gas

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Getting gas has gotten a little bit easier for disabled motorists in western Wayne County with the addition of FuelCall buttons at a gas station at Warren Road and Venoy in Garden City. The BP station is the 10th such facility to install FuelCall buttons at two of its pumps. The FuelCall button allows disabled drivers to notify the attendant that they need refueling assistance.

"We've been active in getting the buttons installed in gas stations since 2008. Our goal is to see one at every gas station in the area," said Michael Harris, executive director of Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Harris calls the FuelCall button "a quality of life item" because it provides a "bit of independence" for the disabled. Instead of needing a passenger who can get out and pump gas, they need only pull into a station with FuelCall, pull up to a designated pump and push a

button, alerting the attendant that they need assistance.

A sign on a post above the pump lets drivers know the times and days the services is available, as well as a number to call for information. At the BP in Garden City, the button also is available to parents who don't want to leave children unattended in their vehicles.

Fueling assistance is required under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and there are ADA incentives of up to 50 percent to get gas stations to install the buttons. The setup costs about \$1,200, which is reduced by half.

"It helps pay for itself with the increase business it generates plus the goodwill it generates," Harris said. "A lot of times it's a matter of educating the gas station owner. There's a company, Inclusion Solutions out of Chicago, which is working with BP. We're hoping to get BP and Marathon to install FuelCall in all of their gas stations in the United States."

Harris also is hoping to get the

Kroger Fuel Centers and Meijer gas stations to install FuelCall.

"We're always working on something to try and introduce new people to the service," he said. "I'd like to see Meijer have it, but we haven't been successful. Meijer will provide the service, but you have to beep the horn or call them. With this, you push a button and a little jingle goes off and lets them know you need assistance."

The MPVA-sponsored pumpguide.com website provides an online directory of gas stations willing to provide assistance for the disabled. While there's at least 1,000 stations listed, for most, "there's no way to contact them unless you honk the horn or call them ahead of time," Harris said.

As for promoting the FuelCall locations, Harris said the best form of advertising is word of mouth.

"No matter where the service is, it's going to catch on," he said.

[smason@hometownlife.com](mailto:smason@hometownlife.com) | (313) 222-6751

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – PUBLIC HEARING

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) has scheduled a public hearing for Wednesday, August 17, 2011 at the Northville Township Municipal Office Building, located at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48168. The ZBA will consider a variance request for a resident at 15551 Portis (Chapter 77, Fences) Written comments regarding this request will be received by the ZBA at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48168. The meeting will begin at 7:30 P.M.

Paul Slatin  
Zoning Board of Appeals  
Publish, August 4, 2011

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### CITY OF NORTHVILLE NOTICE OF ENACTMENT ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 07-05-11Z

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Northville City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 07-05-11Z amending the Zoning Map of the City of Northville to rezone lots 48-002-01-0514-002, 48-002-01-0514-004, 48-002-01-0514-003, and 48-002-01-0515-001 from General Commercial District (GCD) to Planned Unit Development (PUD) for the property located at 202 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan.

The City Council adopted said Ordinance on July 25, 2011 with an effective date of August 12, 2011. The complete text of the ordinance map amendment is available for public review at the City of Northville Municipal Building, Office of the City Clerk or the Building Department, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-349-1300, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

JIM PENN, BUILDING OFFICIAL  
DIANNE MASSA, CITY CLERK

Publish, August 4, 2011

OE08749104 2x7.6

### City of Northville City Election Nomination Petition Information

Candidate Packets containing nominating petitions, signature requirements, affidavits, and other information pertaining to the November 8, 2011 City Election are available at the City Clerk's Office, City of Northville Municipal Building, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 248-349-1300, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, for the following offices

Mayor – Two year term (one position)  
Councilmember – Four year term – (two positions)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the sections in the Code of Ordinances and City Charter pertaining to the filing date of nomination petitions for the regular city election is superseded by Michigan Election Law MCL 168.644e as amended under PA 44 of 2010. The candidate nomination petition filing deadline is 4:00 p.m., on the 12th Tuesday prior to the odd-year November election.

The deadline for filing candidate nomination petitions for the November 8, 2011 City regular election is 4:00 p.m. August 16, 2011.

MCL 168.737a requires all write-in candidates who seek election to a city office to file a Declaration of Intent with the City Clerk no later than 4:00 p.m. on the second Friday immediately preceding the election

DIANNE MASSA, CITY CLERK

Publish, August 4, 2011

OE08749224

### CITY OF NORTHVILLE NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 07-05-11

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Northville City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 07-05-11 – an ordinance to amend Chapter 58 Planning Commission in the Code of Ordinances by repealing Article II, Sections 58-31 through 58-43, which previously established the Planning Commission and replacing it with an ordinance amendment to confirm the prior creation of the City of Northville Planning Commission as required by the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, Act 33 of 2008. The ordinance amendment includes setting forth the number and composition of members of the Planning Commission; setting forth the duties of the Planning Commission; setting forth the procedure for removal of a member of the Planning Commission; providing for compensation for services; and defining conflict of interest related to a member of the Planning Commission.

The ordinance was introduced for first reading on July 5, 2011 and was adopted by the City Council on July 25, 2011. The ordinance shall become effective on August 5, 2011. The complete text of the ordinance is available for public inspection at the Office of the City Clerk, 215 W. Main St., Northville, Michigan, 48167, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or on the City's website at [www.ci.northville.mi.us](http://www.ci.northville.mi.us).

JIM PENN, BUILDING OFFICIAL  
DIANNE MASSA, CITY CLERK

Publish, August 4, 2011

OE0874921 2x7.6

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

The Charter Township of Northville invites sealed proposals from firms interested in providing professional environmental services to support implementation of Northville Township's US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownsfield Cleanup grant. The township is seeking to select an environmental consultant to assist in developing its Work Plan and the Cooperative Agreement obligations of the US EPA Brownsfield Cleanup Grant awarded to Northville Township.

Proposals shall be submitted to the Charter Township of Northville's Clerks Office, located at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan, 48168 on or before 2:00 p.m., Monday, August 15, 2011. Please submit four (4) copies of the proposal. It is required that all submitting consultants will make themselves available for an interview, if desired by the committee, on Wednesday, August 17, 2011.

#### Background

The US EPA awarded Northville Township a \$200,000 grant. The grant will be used to accomplish eligible cleanup/remediation activities at the former Northville Psychiatric Hospital site. The township is issuing this Request for Proposals (RFP) for qualified consultants to conduct a portion of the work scope of the EPA grant.

#### Services Requested

The consultant shall perform the following tasks:  
Develop a Community Relations Plan  
Develop Contract Documents, Bid and Recommendation for Award  
Conduct Cleanup Contract Administration and Oversight  
Perform Grant Administration

#### Contact Information

Any questions regarding this solicitation should be directed to:

Donald P. Weaver, P.E.  
Director of Public Services  
Charter Township of Northville  
44405 Six Mile Road  
Northville, MI 48168

(248) 662-0495  
[dweaver@twp.northville.mi.us](mailto:dweaver@twp.northville.mi.us)

Publish, August 4, 2011

OE08749293 2x7.6

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AND THE WRITERS OF THE HANGOVER

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL  
SERVICES**

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Publish, August 4, 2011

LANSING UPDATE

# Keys to a recovery

BY PATRICK COLBECK  
GUEST COLUMNIST

Last summer I talked with you as a candidate for the State Senate about my hopes for our state. I pledged to you that my campaign platform was not merely campaign rhetoric but would in fact be my focus during my term of service. I would now like to update you on our progress to date on what I referred to as the 7 Keys for the 7th District.

Key #1 – Become the #1 Job Growth State in the Nation: I was one of the original co-sponsors of a bill in the Senate to eliminate the Michigan Business Tax (MBT) and supported legislation passed in the Senate that eliminates the MBT and its burdensome surcharge. Small businesses will no longer be taxed twice and corporations have a simple, flat tax rate of 6%.

In addition, I am co-chair with Representative Jim Townsend (D-Royal Oak) of the bipartisan, bicameral SE Michigan Caucus featuring joint economic development projects in the southeast Michigan region.

I also launched the T.I.M.E.D. (Time is Money Economic Development) Initiative to take a fresh, systematic approach towards accelerating economic development projects throughout our state.

On the horizon is Labor Freedom, another major initiative that will help to add Michigan to the ranks of the highest job growth states in the nation.

Key #2 – Effective Health Care Solutions: I am leading the effort in the Senate for Michigan to join with 14 other states in pursuing a Healthcare Compact. This compact would allow Michigan to opt out of the onerous provisions of the recent nationalized healthcare legislation that came out of Washington, D.C. I am also promoting high-quality,



Colbeck

lower-cost healthcare alternatives such as Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) that leave decisions about care between the doctor and patient, not a federal bureaucrat.

Key #3 – Cut Spending and Lower Taxes: We recently enacted a structurally balanced budget four months ahead of our constitutional deadline of Oct. 1. This budget features a real cut in expenses of over \$700 million, but we need to do more to get government spending under control.

I have been a consistent voice for saying no to new taxes including “no” votes on the senior pension tax, the freeze on the personal income tax reduction, and the new healthcare claims tax. I believe our state has a spending problem not a taxing problem.

Key #4 – Educational Excellence: We need to refocus our educational system on results. The purpose of education is to develop good citizens not to preserve the status quo. Making changes to long-standing institutions challenges the status quo but results in a stronger education system for our children.

Legislators have shaken up this status quo by passing legislation requiring removal of ineffective teachers and prohibiting a Last-In First-Out hiring policy.

In addition, I have sponsored amendments to get up to \$2,100 per pupil out of administration and into the classroom, launched a Grassroots Education Focus Group and sponsored legislation to require instruction on the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.

Key #5 – Respect Our Constitution: The first criteria I consider when voting on any bill is, “Is it Constitutional?” Our Michigan and U.S. Constitutions reflect the collective will of “We the People.” We need to ensure that we honor this will and our oaths of office.

Key #6 – Adopt Real Transparency: I am spearheading transparency legislation that will make it easier for all citizens to see

where every penny is being spent and reveal the true price of government. We will soon be able trace money to the core services that justify the existence of a government agency, support services (Human Resources, Information Technology, Accounting) that enable the delivery of these core services, and one-time work projects.

This information will arm legislators as well as our constituents with the data we need to manage our government services more like a business so that we maximize the value of every tax dollar that we spend.

Key #7 – Promote Honesty and Integrity: I have relentlessly pursued the truth on whatever topic is before the Legislature. This pursuit is not always popular. Some groups are extremely irritated when legislators ask simple questions like “How are we spending the money we do have?” or “How can we word this bill to apply equally to everyone?”

I represent all of my constituents, not a vocal few.

While you may not agree with every vote I make, I will do my best to ensure that my vote is an informed vote. I will always be honest about how I voted and why I voted the way I did.

Michigan is now starting to wake up its economic engine. This wakeup call has not been without difficulties, but I am confident that our efforts will result in a broad-based recovery not only in our economy but in our spirits as more of our citizens are able to get back to work. Please join us in tracking this recovery at our new website, [www.MorninginMichigan.com](http://www.MorninginMichigan.com).

State Senator Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton) represents the 7th District, which is located in Wayne county and includes Belleville city, Brownstown Twp, Canton Twp, Flat Rock city, Gibraltar city, Grosse Ile Twp, Huron Twp, Northville city (part), Northville Twp, Plymouth city, Plymouth Twp, Rockwood city, Sumpter Twp, Trenton city, Van Buren Twp and Woodhaven city. He can be reached at (517) 373-7350 or [SenPColbeck@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:SenPColbeck@senate.michigan.gov).

# Colbeck targeted in latest recall drive on lawmakers

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Add freshman Sen. Patrick Colbeck's name to the list of Michigan legislators being targeted in recall efforts.

A petition aimed at removing Colbeck, a Canton Township Republican, from office was filed Tuesday with Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett's office, and a county Elections Commission hearing, to determine whether the language is clear enough to go before voters, was scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 10. Colbeck's District 7 includes Plymouth and Plymouth Township as well as Canton.

The petition simply cites Colbeck's vote in favor of Public Act 4 of 2011 as the reason for the proposed recall. Public Act 4, approved by the Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder, also the target of a recall attempt, gives new powers to emergency financial managers to run communities and school districts the state deems to be in poor financial health.

“We all know it's an uphill battle, but (recall proponents) are very, very angry, and there's a determined group of citizens,” said Mary Kelley of Northville Township, who filed the petition.

Kelley, who described herself as a retired school administrator, wants to Recall Patrick Colbeck, which, she said, is loosely affiliated with the Snyder recall effort. Kelley said she herself has been gathering signatures on petitions aimed at recalling Snyder.

Colbeck could not immediately be reached Wednesday afternoon, but spokeswoman Jennifer Murray e-mailed a one-sentence response from the senator regarding the recall effort.

“It's part of the process, but my focus will remain on doing what I was elected to do, which is to represent the interests of all of the people in my district in Lansing,” Colbeck said.

If petition language is approved Aug. 10, Kelley's group would have 90 days, within a 120-day period, to collect enough signatures from voters in Colbeck's district to put a recall question on the ballot. “We will begin immediately upon approval of the clarity of the language,” and will aim for a February 2012 special election, Kelley said.

Kelley said the county clerk's office is determining exactly how many signatures would be needed to put a recall question to voters, and that the number has been estimated at around 26,500.

The recall committee, Kelley said, is nonpartisan, and members seem to come from a cross-section of professions.

“We have teachers, we have retirees, we have public servants. No particular political persuasion,” she said.

With state budget cuts forcing local school districts to cut class sizes, Kelley said, voters with children affected by such cuts will be more sympathetic toward a recall when schools resume in September.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear themselves at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if

an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law

attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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## OUR VIEWS

# Goodbye, Borders

## Huge loss can be filled by other stores

Losing Borders is a blow, not just to this area, where two stores are located, but to the reading public as a whole.

There are different reasons why Borders failed, ranging from questionable business decisions to the onslaught of the Internet, Kindles, Amazon.com and the way people get their information electronically these days. Lord knows, we in the newspaper business are acutely aware of what a dramatic change the electronic media have wrought on the once sacrosanct printed word.

We still are partial to bookstores like The Next Chapter in Northville. In fact, the demise of Borders may in way be good for them. But they have an atmosphere and appeal all their own that isn't the same as a big box book store like Borders. Borders will be missed in a way the most stores are not because books hold a special place in our lives. Almost no one ever throws out a book. We mourn too, for the thousands who will lose their jobs. This is a tough time to be out of work and we hope they move on to better things. But it is, sadly, time to turn another page.

a marvelous variety and offer so much everywhere you turn that you can literally spend hours roaming their shelves.

We have our libraries, of course, which do a marvelous job in their own right, but a bookstore offers you a change to buy as well as browse. Find something you like there and it can be yours forever.

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But it is, sadly, time to turn another page.

We are attempting to adapt to this changing world. Borders, unfortunately, was utterly unable to adjust. What will happen to its big store in the Novi Town Center is not certain at this time. With a Walmart coming just a few doors down, it likely won't remain vacant for long.

But whatever goes in there won't be the same. There is something special in a bookstore, even corporate Goliath like Barnes & Noble, the only remaining national book chain (including the Six Mile and Haggerty locale). They have

## COMMUNITY VOICE

What is this summer's must-see movie?



"I think the Harry Potter one. I haven't seen it yet. I did see 'Transformers' and that was very cool."

Sam Galizia  
Northville



"It'd be Harry Potter, definitely. We saw it a week ago. That was the big deal for us."

Carl Dombecki  
South Lyon



"The Harry Potter movie because of the suspense that's been leading up to the final movie."

Lana Klosterman  
Novi



"Harry Potter. It was the hype. Everybody's talking about it; you gotta see it."

Maria Ghazal  
Novi

## LETTERS

### Good job, Sen. Colbeck

In his first few months in office, our new state senator, Pat Colbeck, has worked hard for us and has performed well. During this short time, Pat has:

- fought any and all new taxes
- improved the climate for businesses to create jobs — by helping to replace the onerous Michigan Business Tax and by pushing to eliminate government impediments to economic development
- promoted health savings accounts — and pushed for Michigan to opt out of nationalized health care, leaving health decisions between the doctor and patient, not federal bureaucrats
- assisted in the timely creation of a balanced state budget — eliminating a huge projected deficit
- worked to refocus our education system on results
- promoted true transparency from our government
- labored to ensure that our Constitution is upheld in every government decision

After years of decline, our state is beginning to get back on the path to prosperity. Keep up the good work, Pat.

Tom Marchesano  
Plymouth

### The modern GOP

Who or what is most responsible for the disintegration of the Republican Party: Caulfield and "dirty tricks" in 1968? Arms and drug smuggling by G. Gordon Liddy and Oliver North in the '70s? Nixon and Watergate? Mitchell, Haldeman, Ehrlichman and Dean? The hypocrisy of Newt Gingrich and The Moral Majority? The Florida election theft by A. G. Katherine Harris in 2000? Cheney, Rowe and Libby and their manipulations? Non-existent WMD in Iraq or fictitious nuclear materials in Niger? McCain's choice of

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

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www.hometownlife.com

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

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

Pat in 2008? Fox News, Beck, Limbaugh and their ilk? The birth of the Tea Party in 2010? Trump, Bachman, McConnell, etc.?

Their desperation is infinite and has never been more apparent than the party's ongoing effort to thwart and embarrass President Obama.

"Win at any cost" is the battle cry of the modern GOP.

Why am I reminded of Dorian Gray?

Patrick Downey  
Novi

### Social Security a ponzi scheme

I had to chuckle listening to President Obama saying he couldn't guarantee Social Security benefits being paid if the debt ceiling isn't raised. Back in March, one of Obama's appointees to the Bowles-Simpson debt commission attacked Republicans for wanting to overhaul Social Security. Rep. Xavier Becerra (D-Calif.) refused to

go along with the overhaul deal because Social Security has "\$2.6 trillion in reserves dedicated to paying the retirement, disability and survivor benefits that American taxpayers have earned" and that \$2.6 trillion "doesn't add to our deficit."

Well, our grandfather-in-law, employing his patented scare tactics to get what he wants, has let the proverbial cat out of the bag. There obviously isn't \$2.6 trillion in a Social Security trust fund to draw on. He's saying that if he can't continue to borrow money he can't guarantee Social Security checks will go out starting Aug. 3. The ponzi scheme finally becomes official. Bernie Madoff would be proud.

Jack Belisle

### McCotter has no personality

Thank you to Kurt Kuban for his well written, unbiased op-ed piece on Thaddeus McCotter (McCotter and his ego step into the race for President). I met Mr. McCotter once at a meet and greet at my place of employment. It was a rather small gathering with less than 20 people present. Yet, Mr. McCotter seemed more interested in talking about himself and his accomplishments than soliciting input from his constituents. I sat directly next to him around a conference table for 30 minutes, yet he never once made eye contact with me or any of my co-workers.

After what was more like a presentation than a discussion concluded, I tried to engage him in a more personal conversation. I knew of a mutual friend we had and mentioned that to him. Again, no eye contact, no smile and the warmth of a cold fish. While I respect the man's accomplishments and desire to serve, there was absolutely no connection with him and anyone in the room. I rather spend my time with a greeter at Walmart, with whom I'm certain has more charisma than McCotter.

Nancy Bank  
Livonia

# Borders dead; long live The Next Chapter Bookstore & Bistro

BY TOM WATKINS  
GUEST COLUMNIST

Friday, July 22, was a dark day. Another bookstore, this time the so-called big-box, Borders Books, began its liquidation process leading to closure.

Yeah, I have my gadgets and can pull my knowledge electronically, but (call me old-fashioned) I love the feel of paper!



Tom Watkins

There was something sad, psychologically intriguing, near cannibalistic and guilt-inducing about being at the first night liquidation sale at Borders Books in Novi.

The Novi store has been a Friday "date night" location for years. I will miss browsing through books and magazines over a hot pot of tea or hot chocolate on a winter's night. The staff were enthusiastic and helpful and the

people-watching ... always interesting!

The experience was sad though, because thousands of Borders employees are losing their livelihoods as another adult intellectual watering hole disappears. Store fronts will be shuttered across the state and nation, doubtless making way for some new retail experience, but sadly, nothing as rewarding as knowledge.

Sad, too, that a Michigan-born company, a fountain of knowledge, is going the way of the dinosaur. Yet the job loss is more than some far-off unemployment statistic for me. I became fond of many of the employees and appreciated their directing me to a new book I may enjoy.

I find it psychologically intriguing that even in its coming demise, the store was packed. People waited in lines for up to an hour with a handful of books marked down 10-20 percent. Where were all these people before, I thought? I imag-

Check out The Next Chapter Bookstore & Bistro (www.thenextchapterbooks.com) 141 E. Main St., downtown Northville. Dan and Kathy Comaianni are wonderful people, and their cafe and bookstore is unique, uplifting and a great place to meet old friends or make new ones.

ined if 10-20 percent of the people who were there for the liquidation sale to save a few bucks had spread their purchases out and bought one or two books a month, perhaps Borders would not be going bankrupt.

Certainly cannibalistic in that hunting-like atmosphere as people jostled each other for position to snatch up a bargain or to assure no one took cuts in the long checkout line snaking around the store. There was tension in the air and a sense that "a sale/bargain rage" could ignite at the slightest provocation.

Likely, my Catholic-induced guilt was in full force as I reached for my trusty Blackberry to compare

Border's liquidation sale prices to what I could order new or used on Amazon.com.

Glancing around, guilt oozing from my pores, I recalled seeing books at Borders, that if I was willing to delay my gratification for a few days, I could buy through Amazon. Even with inflated postage charges, I might save a bundle.

Was I just as guilty of killing Borders?

With deep remorse, I looked around sheepishly to see if my non-verbal confession was noticed by the others, busy picking the bones off the Borders corpse. Sadly, and luckily, no one noticed.

Borders closing can be attributed to the Darwinian evolution of tech-

nological advancement, poor management decisions and capitalistic change. But regardless, the loss of a font of knowledge in a special place is a dark day indeed.

I can perhaps take a bit of solace in the good news for struggling community bookstores.

Check out The Next Chapter Bookstore & Bistro (www.thenextchapterbooks.com) 141 E. Main St., downtown Northville. Dan and Kathy Comaianni are wonderful people, and their cafe and bookstore is unique, uplifting and a great place to meet old friends or make new ones.

But I will have to live with the guilt of helping to kill something I loved.

Borders is dead — long live The Next Chapter Bookstore & Bistro.

Tom Watkins is a Northville resident, a former Michigan state superintendent of schools and business and educational consultant in the U.S. and China. He can be reached at tdwatkins88@gmail.com.



## Art Quilt Show

The Northville Art House is presenting "13 Ways to View a Blackbird and Other Thoughts in Thread," an art quilt show featuring two groups of work by artists from across the Midwest, Aug. 5-27. Inspired by the Wallace Stevens' poem with the same name, the exhibit is a vibrant and thought-provoking collection by the Fiber Artists Coalition, a group of professional artists from the upper midwestern United States. "Thoughts in Thread" includes equally dynamic and diverse work by the local guild, Paradigm Quilters. Opening reception at the Northville Art House, sponsored by Ameriprise Financial, is from 6-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 5 during Northville's First Friday Art Walk. The exhibit will continue through Aug. 27 during Art House Gallery hours, 1-5 p.m. Wednesdays-Saturdays. For additional information, call 248-344-0497 or visit [www.northvillearts.org](http://www.northvillearts.org). The Art House is located at 215 W. Cady Street and is a facility of the Northville Arts Commission. Admission to Art House exhibits is always free and open to the public.



## FLOODING

FROM PAGE A1

to see something done to prevent this from happening again and would like compensation for the extensive damage. Some of them have learned their claims with the city's insurer, the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority, have been denied.

Novi Street resident Deborah Peterson said they are requesting three things: that a study of the sanitary sewer system is conducted so changes would be made to prevent or minimize this from occurring the next time there are heavy rains, and that they would be given compensation for the property damage.

"There is no way to describe the trauma this event has caused," Peterson said during public comment at the council meeting.

She said the loss of senti-

mental items, unpleasantness of the situation, financial impact and the work involved to clear and clean up the damage is indescribable.

According to Peterson, there were eight inches of "brown, sewer water" in her basement that caused extensive damage. Peterson along with Allen Drive homeowner Russ Gregory believes the system is flawed and that is why this has happened to them.

Gregory said he spoke with the MMRMA and they had told him the city had said the system was working fine and that it was an "act of God" or weather which caused the flooding.

He went on to ask that if there was no problem with the system then why was it that just nine homes were impacted this way. There were some yards and streets that did see significant flooding after these rains.

"If it was working normally

and there was too much water in the system then you would think other areas would have been flooded," Gregory said.

The flooding began on May 25, and at that time Northville city officials were well aware of the impacted area. Northville City Public Works Director Jim Gallogly said the amount of rainfall just could not be fully handled.

He said the storm sewers were not plugged. It was a matter of the storm sewers reaching a capacity they were not designed for and so they could not take the amount of run-off.

Mayor Chris Johnson told the concerned group the city manager and DPW would put together a report of this event and its aftermath for city council to get a better handle of what to do. He added the city would keep them informed and updated on this process.

## SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS



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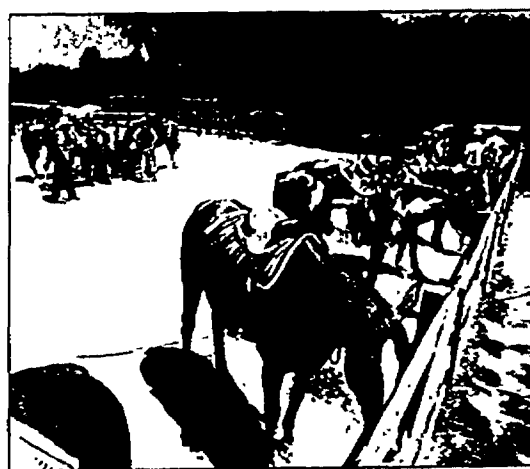
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A horse at the Maybury Riding Stable awaits its next rider on a hot July 6 afternoon.



## Horse-back riding at Maybury park



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Above, horses await more riders at the Maybury Riding Stable on July 6. At left, Maybury Riding Stable trail hand Megan Bernard tends to a horse after a group of riders finished on a hot July 6 afternoon. The riding stables are open from Tuesday-Friday, 12-5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 10-5 p.m. and is located at Maybury State Park's Beck Road entrance south of Eight Mile.

## NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### 'Rapunzel' live

The Marquis Theatre will present the live musical "Rapunzel", the classic story of the girl with the long hair who lived in an ivory tower.

Show times 10:30 a.m. weekdays and 2:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, Aug. 1-27. Tickets for all public performances are \$8.50; group rates and reserved seating for 20 or more are available. Please, no children under the age of 3.

The Marquis is located at 135 Main Street in downtown Northville. For more information, contact (248) 349-8110 or northvillemarquistheatre.com.

### Appreciation dinner

Dr. Kenneth Stopa, DC, CCSP, will hold a patient appreciation dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 9 at Genitti's Hole-In-The-Wall on E. Main in downtown Northville. To reserve your seat for the free meal and how to become a peak performer, call (248) 735-9800.

**Produce collecting**  
One-hundred-sixty families in Northville are being fed by Civic Concern. Garden Gatherers will be collecting excess garden produce, farmer's market or grocery store produce from 9 a.m.-noon every Saturday morning through Oct. 1 in the dirt parking lot on Cady Street behind First Presbyterian Church 200 E. Main Street, Northville.

Tax receipts are available. For more information, contact Phil Cavaretta at (734) 765-9622.

### Library FUN-draiser

The Friends of Northville District Library are sponsoring a wine tasting and silent auction from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 17 at Rocky's of Northville. Enjoy light hors d'oeuvres and sample wines (courtesy of Northville Market).

A limited number of tickets are on sale at the library's Circulation Desk or the Friends of the Library Gift Store for \$35 (\$40 at the door). Attire is black and white or "read" all over! All proceeds benefit the library; all are welcome - come and bring a friend.

## Turning 65?

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\*Based on the 2011 Medicare Overall Plan Star Ratings. See full results at [www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan](http://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan).

†Paid Spokesperson, Doris Biscoe, is a member of a HAP non-Medicare Plan.

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THE CHANGE-UP (R)  
11:45, 2:10, 4:40, 7:05, 9:35  
FR/SAT LS 11.55

RISE OF THE PLANET OF THE APES (PG-13)  
11:30, 2:00, 4:35, 6:55  
9:15 FR/SAT LS 11.35

COWBOYS & ALIENS (PG-13)  
11:15, 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30  
FR/SAT LS 12.00

CRAZY, STUPID, LOVE (PG-13)  
11:00, 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20  
FR/SAT LS 11.50

30 CAPTAIN AMERICA: THE FIRST AVENGER (PG-13)  
\$2.00 PREVIEW PER 30 TICKET 1.50, 9.50

CAPTAIN AMERICA: THE FIRST AVENGER (PG-13)  
11:10, 4:30, 7:10  
30 HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 2 (PG-13)

DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 2 (PG-13)  
\$2.00 PREVIEW PER 30 TICKET 3.30, 9.10 FR/SAT LS 11.50

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 2 (PG-13)  
12:30, 6:25, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45 FR/SAT LS 11.55

## NORTHVILLE POLICE BRIEFS

## Fishing without a license

**1** A 29-year-old Canton is cited for fishing without a proper State of Michigan fishing license after Northville City police found him and a friend fishing for carp at the Mill Pond at Ford Field.

On July 22, the reporting police officer was on patrol and spotted the two men fishing, so he stopped to check and see if they had the proper permits. Both men had fishing poles and tackle with them. They said they were throwing back what they had caught.

The other man, a 23-year-old Livonia man, did have the proper license. The Canton man did not have a current one, so he was cited for a misdemeanor citation.

## Driving while license suspended

**2** A Highland Park man is arrested for a suspended license after being stopped for speeding.

The police report stated the man was spotted turning southbound from Griswold Road onto eastbound Main Street at a higher rate of speed than what is posted. The officer said he was going 39 in a 25 mph. He was stopped near Johnson Avenue.

He produced an Identification card, but said he had no license because it was suspended.

A further check of the man came back that he had at least 10 previous suspensions and warrants out for his arrest from multiple jurisdictions.

He was arrested and later released into the custody of the Warren Police Department.

## MDOPS

**3** At least three vehicles were reported as being maliciously damaged on July 19 in Northville Township.

The first case occurred on Cameron Drive. A 52-year-old Northville woman reported to police that the rear window of her Volvo Station Wagon had been smashed out sometime during the night.

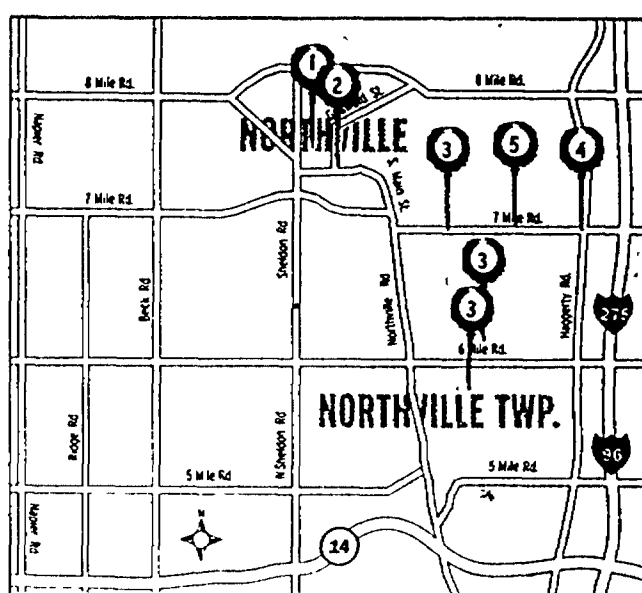
The next case happened at a home on Winchester Drive. A 17-year-old Northville teenager reported to police that his vehicle's window had been damaged. The police report stated the hole in the window appeared to be from a pellet gun.

The last case happened on the morning of the 19th at Cassel's Restaurant on Seven Mile Road. The vehicle owner of a Dodge Caravan reported damage to the van's rear end. The report stated it did not appear the damage was done by another vehicle, but rather by a circular object.

## OUID/Possession of marijuana

**4** A 19-year-old Canton man is arrested for smoking pot after he was stopped for driving without his headlights on at nearly midnight.

While on patrol near the area of Haggerty and Seven Mile roads the police spotted the man driving a Dodge



Charger without the headlights activated. The car was stopped near Wayne Avenue. Upon making contact the reporting officer stated smelling the strong scent of marijuana from the inside of the car.

The man, who was accompanied by his father, said he had smoked 15 minutes before being stopped and that he was "kinda buzzed." A further search of the car turned up a canister containing one gram of marijuana.

The man was arrested for Operating a Vehicle under the influence of a drug and possession.

## DJ hit by car dies

**5** Local radio disc jockey, Jevon Robert Hotchkiss of 106.7 FM, died Monday morning from multiple injuries sustained in an earlier morning accident in Northville Township last week.

Hotchkiss, 34-years-old of Livonia, was seriously injured last Thursday morning after he was hit by a passing car on Seven Mile Road, the Northville Township Department of Public Safety said.

It was just before 5:30 a.m. when Northville Township Public Safety responders arrived to 7 Mile Road at Fry Road for the traffic crash involving a single motor vehicle and pedestrian.

According to Public Safety Director John Werth, a black Pontiac Vibe was traveling west on 7 Mile, when Hotchkiss entered the west bound lanes in the path of the vehicle. Apparently, Hotchkiss struck the headlight windshield area of the Vibe.

It was being driven by a 61-year-old Livonia man; he suffered minor injuries in the crash. There were no other occupants in his vehicle. Alcohol appears not to have

been a factor with the driver, Werth stated.

Northville Township Fire personnel treated Hotchkiss at the scene; he was eventually transported by them to Botsford Hospital with serious injuries.

Werth said the preliminary investigation indicates alcohol may have been a factor with Hotchkiss.

Werth said Hotchkiss had been dropped off at a township residence and then left after an apparent argument.

Hotchkiss then walked down the road and attempted to make a telephone call for a ride home when he was struck after walking in the road.

It was a dark, rainy morning when the incident occurred, according to Werth. So the driver did not see him until it was too late.

Werth said the investigation is ongoing.

Compiled by correspondent Lonnie Huhman

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## NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

More: For a complete listing of local and regional events, see the Northville Calendar online at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com). Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to [csstone@gannett.com](mailto:csstone@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.

## LOCAL

## Friday Night Concerts

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Fridays through Aug. 26  
**Location:** Town Square, downtown Northville  
**Details:** Free concerts presented by Tom Holzer Ford and the Northville Downtown Development Authority. Aug. 5 - Buy Michigan Now Festival; Aug. 12 - The Crutches; Aug. 19 - Gia Warner; Aug. 26 - Justine Blazer.

## Barnes &amp; Noble Booksellers

**Location:** 17111 Haggerty Road, Northville  
**Girls Taking Over the World Author Tour**  
**Time/Date:** 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 7  
**Details:** Five authors -- Lara Zielin, Rhonda Stapleton, Christine Johnson, Sandra Mitchell, and Aimee Carter -- of young adult novels are taking a girl empowerment message on the road this summer with the Girls Taking Over the World book tour.

The authors will be visiting libraries and bookstores around the Great Lakes this summer to highlight their girl-centric novels and to talk to young women about celebrating their strength and making their own choices.

**Contact:** (248) 348-1274

## KIDZ KAMP

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Aug. 18-19  
**Location:** Mill Race Village, Northville  
**Details:** New Hope Center for Grief Support, a Christian-based bereavement outreach center, is offering its second annual two-day camp for grieving children. The camp will offer many fun activities for children of all faiths between the ages of 4 and 12 including music, crafts, artwork, a scavenger hunt and memorial activities. Lunch will be provided both days. Because of the generous support from the Hitachi Foundation, the camp is free, but space is limited.

**Contact:** For more information and to register, please contact New Hope at (248) 348-0115.

## Northville Art House

**Location:** 215 W. Cady St., Northville  
**Contact:** Northville Art House (248) 344-0497 or [www.northvilleart.org](http://www.northvilleart.org) for on-going art classes,

lectures, events, rentals, volunteering.

**Hours:** 1-5 p.m. Saturdays; 1-9 p.m. on first Fridays of each month

**Details:** Admission to Art House exhibits are always free and open to the public.

## "13 Ways to View a Blackbird and Other

Thoughts in Thread"

**Time/Date:** opening reception 5-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 5; exhibit continues through Aug. 27

**Details:** An art quilt show featuring two groups of work by artists from across the Midwest. Inspired by the Wallace Stevens' poem with the same name, the exhibit is a vibrant and thought-provoking collection by the Fiber Artists Coalition, a group of professional artists from the upper Midwestern United States. Exhibit is free and open to the public.

## Northville Chamber of Commerce

**Location:** 195 S. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167

**Contact:** (248) 349-7640 or [www.northville.org](http://www.northville.org)

The Northville Chamber presents the 6th Annual

## Farmers Market

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursdays

**Location:** northwest corner of Sheldon and Seven Mile roads

**Details:** The area is filled with Michigan-made, Michigan-grown products.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Tennis, anyone?

Donovan Mitchell lofts tennis balls toward his students during a July 14 lesson at Northville's Fish Hatchery Park.



Gina Canzano, 12, takes some backhand practice during a July 14 tennis lesson at Northville's Fish Hatchery Park. The lessons, taught by Donovan Mitchell, are arranged through Northville Parks and Recreation. Behind Gina is her brother Dario, 9, Kelsey Jordan, 12, and Max DeDonna, 13.

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Brittany and Ashley Jones paint a couple of large mugs during the art event sponsored by New Hope Center at downtown Plymouth's Creatopia Tuesday night. The sisters lost their father exactly a year ago.

## Pottery painting helps kids deal with grief

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Dallas Teddy has experienced a lot of loss in her short life.

Teddy, a 17-year-old from Livonia, has lost both of her grandmothers and three friends, the last less than a year ago.

Seeking help with her grief, Teddy, the daughter of Bruce and Tracy Teddy, turned to the New Hope Center for Grief Support in Northville. That's the group with which she took part in an evening of art at downtown Plymouth's Creatopia July 26. Nearly two dozen youngsters, all of them in the same boat as Teddy, spent a couple of hours creating art and painting pottery in memory of loved ones they've lost.

"I think it's calming, I like painting," said Dallas Teddy, who had to manage the paint brush with a cast on her left hand. "The group is helpful because I realize there are other people who have lost

someone. They know how I feel."

That sense of unity is a key component to the work done at New Hope Center, a grief support center designed to help people work through their grief over the loss of a loved one. Elaine Dzwonkowski, New Hope's KIDZ group coordinator, said art therapy is a good outlet for kids who've suffered a loss.

She especially likes it when the children pick a piece of art that would have had meaning to the loved one. She cited one young girl who chose a jewelry box with a rose on top of it because her mother's favorite flower was a rose. She said it's also good when a parent gets involved in the activity.

"Art therapy is a good thing," Dzwonkowski said. "Parents working with a child on something like this is very soothing. That's what we're looking for."

Karen Jones attended the Creatopia even with her daughters, Brittany and Ashley, in memory of their

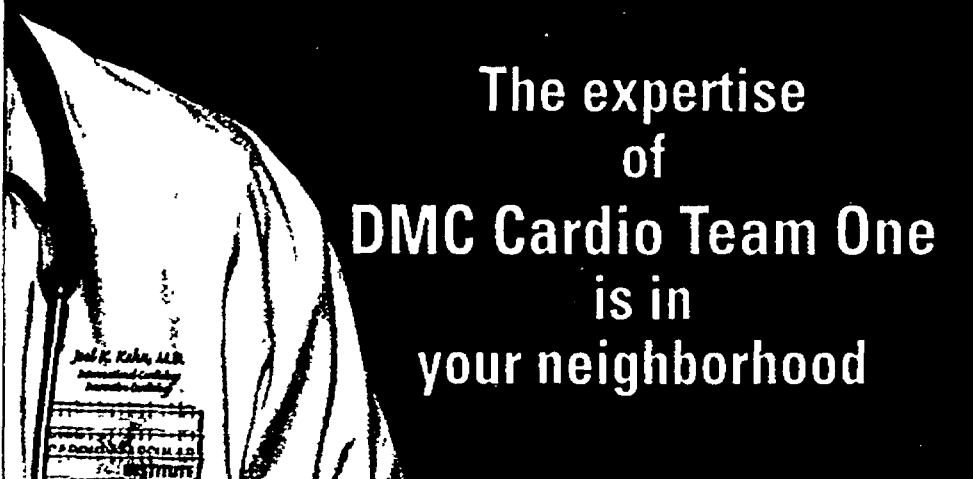
father, Jeff, who died exactly a year prior. After his untimely death, Karen Jones said she sought help at Ward Church in Northville, while her daughters attended group sessions at Church of the Nazarene. Both programs were sponsored by New Hope.

She said the art project not only brought some solace into their lives, but also gave the day something other than solemn meaning.

"I thought it would be nice to come on this day," Karen Jones said. "I didn't want it to be a sad day only."

Tracy Bruce said the art therapy, and the group therapy, has helped her daughter cope with all the loss by showing her how many other people have had loss, and how they're dealing with it.

"There are so many kids who don't know what to do" with their grief, Tracy Teddy said. "The group is nice because they teach the kids grief isn't something that comes naturally. It's been good for (Dallas)."



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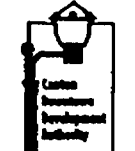
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# Ex-Wildcat joins Michigan's best volleyball players for showcase

Subject leads team to All-State Senior All-Star Volleyball Classic title

BY CHRIS JACKETT  
CORRESPONDENT

Recent Novi High graduate Laura Subject joined the best volleyball players from across the state Friday at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek to participate in the All-State Senior All-Star Volleyball Classic.

The 18-year-old former Wildcat helped power her "South" team to the showcase championship despite being the only Class A member of her group of 11 other recent graduates who had earned first-, second- or third-team All-State honors last fall.

"It was a lot of fun just getting to know the other girls and where they came from," Subject said. "It's just a cool thing to put on. I'm glad they had it. It was cool to see different perspectives on the game."

The event split up more than 40 of the top volleyball student-athletes from throughout the state into four squads. Subject said she knew teammate Katy Rooney (Livonia Ladywood middle hitter, second-team Class B), but had met the rest of her teammates for the first time that day.

Subject and Rooney were paired with Chelsea Lake (Lakewood middle hitter, first-team Class B), Anna Lynch (Lakewood outside hitter, second-team Class B), Megan Drobish (Durand libero, third-team Class B), Kaitlyn Hoffman (Marysville setter, third-team

Class B), Leigh Barea (Harper Creek setter, third-team Class B), Maureen Yurgens (Saginaw Valley Lutheran middle hitter, first-team Class C), Maria Almquist (Hancock middle hitter, second-team Class C), Amanda Obrycki (Allen Park Cabrini libero, third-team Class C), Hayley Kirby (Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart outside hitter, third-team Class D) and Heather Lantis (Hillsdale Academy setter/outside hitter, third-team Class D).

"I had a really great time. When we first got there, they had an audition to make sure they split the teams evenly. They put us on different courts by position and split (us up)," Subject said. "Before we actually played, we had a practice together. The only thing that was hard was communication. It seems like they split the teams pretty evenly."

Behind the coaching trio of Vicky Groat (Class D's Battle Creek St. Philip), Jodie Manore (Class A's Temperance Bedford) and James Mathes (Class C's Riverview Gabriel Richard), Subject's team won their semifinal game in two sets before powering through the final 23-25, 25-20, 15-8.

"I think I did pretty good," Subject said. "It was easy because the hitters know how to hit every kind of set."

Subject said there are more than 10 types of sets, so one of the toughest tasks was for everyone on her team to

remember a new set of numbers to signify each, as different high school teams number various sets differently.

A three-year varsity standout at Novi, Subject graduated in June with a 3.96 grade point average and will major in biology this fall at Clarion University (Clarion, Pa.). She plans to become a physical therapist, but will also be a member of the Golden Eagles' volleyball squad.

"It is very competitive at Clarion," Subject said. "I had camp last week and I think I'll fit in pretty well."

Subject racked up 949 assists, 320 digs, 69 aces and 69 kills as a senior at Novi, earning second-team All-State honors and an invite to the Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association-sponsored All-State Senior All-Star Volleyball Classic.

After earning third-team All-State honors behind 390 digs, 350 kills, 60 blocks and 41 aces as a senior, recent Novi graduate Erica Robb was also invited to the classic, but did not participate. She will play at Robert Morris University (Pittsburgh, Pa.) in the fall.

Subject said 2008 graduate Stephanie Cripps was the last Wildcat to participate in the event, when Subject was a freshman.

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former Novi News staff writer.



SUE SUBJECT

Novi alum Laura Subject prepares to serve the ball during a match between 2011 All-State graduates last Friday in Battle Creek.

## KLAA flexes its muscles come playoff time

BY JEFF THEISEN  
SPORTS WRITER

The Kensington Lakes Activities Association just finished its third year in existence.

It is mostly made up of the former KVC and WLAA leagues combining with a new school in South Lyon East, a pair of Walled Lake Schools and Grand Blanc entering the league when the Parker High School in Howell never came to fruition.

The league had a few kinks when it was formed and things have changed mostly for the good as a whole.

One thing that has remained a constant in the short span of the new league, the KLAA is a heavy-hitter on the state scene in many sports.

The following is the first of three installments, looking at how the KLAA has performed in the state playoffs/state finals scene by season, starting with spring sports.

### GIRLS SOCCER

One of the most dominant sports in all the KLAA is girls soccer. The Central Division is basically a who's who of state powerhouses with State Champ Novi, Northville, Salem and Livonia Stevenson packed into the same division.

Novi earned its back-to-back title and fifth in seven years. The 2010 title came against KLAA member Plymouth.

Northville coach Eric Brucker gave a breakdown of how the KLAA has fared in the state playoffs.

"I think that we are not the pre-

mier league for Division I girls soccer," he said. "In 2010, the KLAA had four of the final eight teams in the playoffs and both finalist. In 2011, the KLAA had two of the final eight teams and the D1 champion."

"Overall, I would put the talent in our Association against any conference in the nation. Our division/conference is great preparation for the state playoffs."

For South Lyon, things are brutal for the school that plays at D2 in some sports and is usually one of the smallest D1 schools in other sports.

"We play the best, hands down," said South Lyon coach Tracee Senter. "Soccer has always been strong in the old KVC and WLAA. It's just that much stronger with the merger. No question the KLAA is the premiere soccer conference in the state."

### BOYS TRACK AND FIELD

Both the boys and girls track teams have shown top-notch abilities at the Division I State Finals.

Lakeland coach David Browne breaks down some of the numbers on the boys side.

"The KLAA placed six teams in the 4x800 into the state finals. Five of those teams placed in the top eight," he said. "Five teams from the KLAA made it in the 1600 relay — two placed in the top eight. Waterford Kettering had the state champ in the long jump. Five made it in the shot put, two in the top eight. Seven made the finals in the 800 — one All-Stater from Northville."

But distance is what the KLAA really

shines in.

"In the 1,600, the KLAA placed 15 of the 31 finalists, including four of the top eight," said Browne. "Twelve of the 36 finalists in the 3,200 were from our league, including three of the top eight."

"Competing in our league on a weekly basis definitely helps prepare our kids for state competition," said Browne. "You can always count on a state quality competition in at least one event. That really helps to push our kids."

Milford track coach Brian Salyers brings up another point that effects all of the boys sports in the area.

"Since moving the school out of Redford to the Heart of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association, they made a resurrection as a state power in nearly every sport," said Salyers. "While the school pulls from over 70 zip codes, I am sure that the core numbers of their athlete teams reside in within the boundaries of the KLAA."

"So not only are the KLAA programs excelling in a multitude of sports, they are serving as a feeder program for the DCC athletic teams."

### GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD

The girls were also able to burn up the track, highlighted by a state title by the Novi 4x100 relay squad made up of Jasmine Ward, D'Mya Davis, Janee Hood and Mariah Smith. The Wildcats had the top KLAA finish in sixth place.

Grand Blanc's Gabrielle Anzalone also

Please see KLAA, B4

## Northville, Novi to square off in senior league softball rematch

Scrimmage could be glimpse into future of 55-and-over men's softball in area

BY SAM EGGLESTON  
CORRESPONDENT

With temperatures soaring above 90 degrees two weeks ago, it was hard to picture anyone wanting to go outside to mow their lawn let alone go out there and play a game of softball.

But, two teams from Novi and Northville did just that, meeting at Powers Park at 10 Mile and Taft, and slugged out a 12-8 game over seven innings that ended in Northville's favor. That game will have a rematch this Thursday at 10 a.m. at the same location and could be a precursor for things to come.

Surprisingly, the two teams that put on the cross-town showdown weren't young bucks who are built to frolic in the summertime heat, but rather squads made

up of 55-and-over men who likely brought along some Advil to chase down with water following the contest.

"Obviously, there were concerns with the heat and age mix, but once the teams took the field — well, let's just say start a game of baseball and boys will be boys," said Charlie Gabbeart, the athletic supervisor for Northville Parks and Rec and the manager of the Northville team. "Caution was taken for plenty of fluids and players catching whatever shade was available."

The game began after a request from the Novi Parks and Rec department was made by director Tori Heglin and Novi team manager Ron Megesi was made. Novi already had a 55-plus men's

Please see SOFTBALL, B3

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## Champs again

The Motor City Madness 10U Red softball team recently finished their season with a 5-0 championship performance in the Brighton Tournament. Players pictured include (front, from left) Anna Dixon, Jaime Gustitus, Hannah Biddlecome; (second) Maria Gustitus, Anna Biberstein, Elizabeth Kemp, Heidi Richman, Lauren Murphy, Sarah Fish; (back) and Julia Lalain.



## Division 2 champs

The Northville Broncos 10U Girls Travel Softball Team won its division (2) in the Western Wayne County League with a 10-3 record. Shown (kneeling, from left) are Jennifer Ostrowski, Maggie Petix, Ainsley Kirkland, Courtney Gozdo, Anna Timm, Hannah Laurin; (second row) Brooke Gibbons, Abby Tolstyka, Sarah Hige, Sydney Moss, Madison Kestin, Sydney Puda; and (third row) coaches Kevin Kirkland, Bill Tolstyka and Joe Hige. Missing from the photo is Olivia Gibratz.

# Play ball! Signup under way for Miracle League players

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Sign up now — and hear "Batter up!" next month. As the Bilkie Family Field, under construction on Theodore Street behind Central Middle School in Plymouth, nears completion, the Miracle League of Plymouth has opened registration for ballgames scheduled to begin there on Saturday, Aug. 27.

"We've had a lot of interest all summer. We have a long list of people we've just sent the information to," said Deb Madonna, the league's commissioner and co-chair of the committee that put together both the plan for bringing the field, designed for special-needs players, to Plymouth, and the fundraising that made it possible.

The field, on land leased to the league at no cost by the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, will be scaled down — each basepath will 35 feet, compared to 90 feet in full-sized fields — and surfaces will be rubberized for safer navigation by children who might be using wheelchairs or walkers. Plymouth's field will include shelters for the players, a grandstand for spectators, and restrooms.

There will be no grass or raised bases, which could present hazards for some players, and players' abilities will be the focus of the games in the non-competitive league. Players will have "buddies" who will help them with their games.

An opening day event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 20; Madonna said players will get their T-shirts and get to meet their buddies, and that a ceremonial first pitch will be thrown out. The official season kicks off the following week.

Registration began Friday and continues through Tuesday, Aug. 9, for the fall season. The fee is \$50 per player for residents and nonresidents alike. The league will have four age divisions: 5 to 8; 9 to 12; 13 to

## SECOND ANNUAL DALE A. RUMBERGER HOME RUN DERBY

Benefiting: The Miracle League of Plymouth

Date: Saturday, Aug. 6

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: Salem High School Baseball Field

Rain Date: 11 a.m. Aug. 7

Details: The Miracle Mashers are at it again, and with the success generated last year they are swinging for the fences. Raising just over \$5,000 for the Miracle League of Plymouth, the First Annual Dale A. Rumberger Home Run Derby raised more than just awareness about the up and coming baseball community for special needs children. With that in mind, the Miracle League of Plymouth has put much thought into this year's home run derby. The derby is looking to foster a competitive environment for local high school standouts, and a fun, family atmosphere for spectators. The competitive atmosphere will consist of 18 hitters from nine schools in the Kensington Lakes Athletic Association, including Jim Eloff of Novi and Matt Stojkov of Northville.

As for the family atmosphere of the event, there will be a silent auction including packages such as a movie package and Detroit Tigers package along with fun events that will take place on the field in between rounds of the derby. The derby will also feature tables promoting local businesses and a registration table for the Miracle League of Plymouth. With the focus on the community, the Miracle League of Plymouth is hoping for a wonderful, fun, exciting day at the ballpark to complement its opening day on Aug. 20.

17 and 18 and older.

The fall season begins Aug. 27 and runs through Saturday, Oct. 1, with no games scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 3, because of Labor Day weekend.

Madonna said league games will be scheduled for Saturdays, with the possibility that other game days could be added.

"Depends on the interest," she said. "We get the numbers and we'll add."

The field's rubberized surface is scheduled to be installed around Monday, July 18, Madonna said, and construction is set to be wrapped up in about four weeks. "We're in good shape on all of that," she said.

Meanwhile, fundraising is surpassing expectations, with the MLP just \$58,000 shy of its overall goal of \$1.1 million. The goal includes the \$500,000 for construction, the \$300,000 lease value of the property and another \$300,000 for an endowment to cover maintenance and future needs.

"I'm really happy with the fundraising," Madonna said.

"We're so much farther ahead than I thought."

The MLP got a boost in April with a \$40,000 challenge grant from the Detroit Tigers Foundation; the league will get the money if it can raise an equal amount. That shouldn't be a problem, as Lou LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth Township immediately pledged \$25,000 toward the effort and is expected to make its formal donation next week.

Registration for the Miracle League of Plymouth can be done at the city's recreation office at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, during counter hours, noon to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, through Tuesday, Aug. 9. Registration is also available on line; on-line registrants must have an e-mail address on file and a username and password. First-time users can set this up through the recreation department via e-mail: [recreation@ci.plymouthmi.us](mailto:recreation@ci.plymouthmi.us), or by calling (734) 455-6620.

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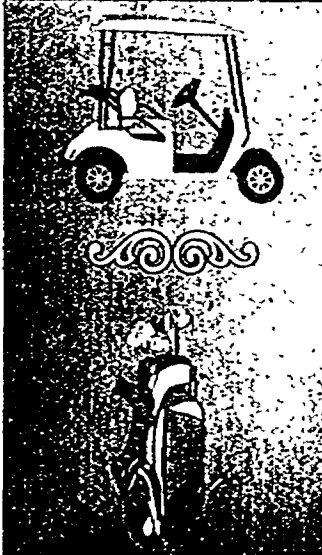
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## Palomino champs

The 2011 Novi Elite won the Palomino National Division championship on July 30 to capture their fourth straight league championship. Led by Head Coach Rob Reilly and Assistant Coaches Eric Carlson and Tim Rush, Novi beat No. 1 seed Dearborn Expos 6-4 in the semi-finals and No. 2 seed Livonia Stevenson 10-4 in the finals capping off a tremendous season. Pictured (front, from left) are Matt Brasil, Austin Wertheimer, Nick Aprilliano, Andy Carlson, Kiefer Hatley, and Nick Bageris; (back) Coach Eric Carlson, Zach Reilly, Tommy Heffernan, Andrew Valade, Mark Breagh, Jack Sinkovich, Andrew Breagh, Chris Valade, Chris Stepek and Coach Rob Reilly. Missing from the photo are Justin Rush, Patrick Carney and Coach Tim Rush.

## SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

softball team and they were looking for someone to play locally to help keep down the cost of traveling and because there was no local league for the team to join.

Gabbart liked the idea and put together a squad, called "Who's on 1st" and accepted the chance to play their Baseline neighbors.

Northville took an early 5-1 lead and increased their advantage to 9-1 in the top of the fourth. Novi, however, wasn't about to let the score

remain that way and scored five runs in the bottom of the fourth to cut the lead to 9-6. The score held until the sixth inning when Northville scored two more, followed by Novi scoring two of their own, before the game was called in the seventh inning as the temperatures continued to rise.

With that game behind them, the two teams have agreed to rematch this week. And it could prove to be the first of many games between Northville and Novi in the coming years if Gabbart, Heglin and Megesi have their way. They are attempting to start a 55-and-over men's softball league that would

include possible teams from South Lyon, Farmington Hills, Walled Lake, Plymouth/Canton, Ann Arbor, Wixom, Milford and, of course, Novi and Northville.

"(We are) hoping for at least one team from each, and possibly set up a travel rotation amongst the communities, depending on what resources they have available to host games," Gabbart said.

Ideally, there will be eight teams in total, though Gabbart said they could make it work with four teams.

The league isn't quite ready to be formed, however, and the other communities are currently being approached

about the idea. Logistics, said Gabbart, are still being worked out concerning team fees, field expense, utilization of umpires and more.

But, the future of the potential league could be bright.

"Considering senior leagues — both slow pitch and fast pitch softball, as well as fast pitch hardball — are very successful in Florida, we feel it is a matter of getting the word out to the more active seniors in our communities to enable us to enjoy the same success," Gabbart said.

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

## NORTHVILLE/NOVI SPORTS BRIEFS

### Northville sports passes

Don't miss your chance to purchase a 2011-2012 Northville High School Athletic Boosters Club Family Sport Pass. This convenient pass provides admittance to all Northville High School and Middle School (Meads Mill & Hillside) sports regular home games.

A one-time cost of \$125 covers your immediate family including your NHS student or students or \$50 for an individual pass.

All funds generated from the sales of these passes goes directly to support NHS sports. Purchasing a Family Sport Pass is a great way to support Northville High School sports at a time when budgets are being cut. For more information, contact Maureen Owen at (248) 348-0075.

### Motor City Madness Fastpitch Softball Tryouts

The Novi based Motor City Madness fastpitch softball program is holding tryouts on Saturday, Aug. 13 and Sunday, Aug. 14. Girls 7-18 years old (as of Dec. 31, 2011) are encouraged to attend.

Tryouts will be held at Novi Power Park fields #5 & #6 (in the back). Power Park is located off of 10 mile between Taft and Novi roads, behind the Civic Center.

Tryout times are: (10U) 9-11 a.m.; (12U) 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; (14U) 1-3 p.m.; (16U) 3-5 p.m.; (18U - Sunday Only) 5-7 p.m. Pitcher and Catcher specific tryouts run an additional 30 minutes. Team selections begin on Saturday and athletes may be asked to return Sunday for a second look.

For a copy of our registration form or additional details, visit [www.eteamz.com/MotorCity/](http://www.eteamz.com/MotorCity/).

### Novi High boys cross country tryouts

Tryouts for the Novi High School Boys Cross Country Team will begin at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 10. Mandatory registration must be completed and turned in to Coach Smith by Monday, Aug. 8. Please contact Coach Smith at (248) 763-1831 if you have any questions.

### Motor City Chiefs U10 baseball tryouts

The Motor City Chiefs Baseball Club will be entering its 10th season in 2012, providing a competitive baseball environment with a priority on individual skill development. Teams will be playing in the KVBSA as well as local tournaments. The coaching staff is qualified and experienced, having the ability to teach kids the game of baseball while making it fun. Home field is in Plymouth/Canton, but kids from all communities are welcome.

If you want this experience for your child please contact (734) 377-3123 or [motorcitybaseball@gmail.com](mailto:motorcitybaseball@gmail.com). Tryouts will be held at UAW Local 735 Field at 48055 Michigan Ave. Canton at 7 p.m. Monday Aug. 8 and 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 13. If unable to attend tryout dates, an evaluation can occur before Aug. 13.

### 3-on-3 basketball

The inaugural Wiley's Hoops for Hope 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament will be held Aug. 13 at Novi's ITC Community Sports Park (corner of Eight Mile and Napier) in memory of former Novi basketball player Wiley Moss and his passion for basketball.

Divisions are for boys 13 and above and men 18 and older (Open Division). All of the proceeds of the event will go to Novi Youth Assistance to support their efforts in Drug Education and Prevention. Visit [WileyMoss3on3.com](http://WileyMoss3on3.com) for additional details and/or to register; (248) 476-9698.

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## Tops in 'the Burgh'

The Motor City Madness 12U Red softball team recently won all eight games at the Battle of the Burgh July 8-10 in Pittsburgh, Pa. to capture the title in their division. The Madness, with several players from Novi, defeated the Silver Creek (Pa.) Starz in the championship game. Pictured in the front row (from left) are Alivia Cragg (Canton), Kaitlyn Wolschlager (Walled Lake), Emma Nowak (Plymouth). In the middle row (from left) are Sydney San Juan (Novi), Madyson Ampe (Canton), Emma Clark (Canton), Mckenzi McKnight (Novi), Nicole Ireland (Novi), Aziza Afzal (Canton), Shirley Hao (Novi) and coach Holly Ireland. In the back row (from left) are coach Adam Sam Juan and head coach Scott Ampe, of Canton.



MENDY BETTS

## Bronco League champs

The Mudhens from the Novi Youth Baseball League boys 11-12 age group won the Bronco League championship 9-3 against the Lansing Lugnuts on July 23 at the ITC Community Sports Park in Novi. Pictured (back, from left) are coach Mike Betts, Dane Flynn, Ben Hepp, Kevin Tice, Austin Morton, assistant coach Guido Broche, Nick Pagano, Matthew Wasserman, assistant coach Tim Alonzi. (front) Connor Betts, Travis Davis, Stephen Davis, Derrick Broche, Tommy Hines and Nick Alonzi.

## KLAA

FROM PAGE B1

captured a title in the 3,200 meters. Three others reached All-State status in the same event: Walled Lake Western's Lindsay Clark (4th), Western's Julia Valencia (7th) and Novi's Jackie Mullins (8th).

Other All-State performances came from Milford's Margaux Canup (4th, long jump), Canton's Lindsay Lipa (6th, long jump), Franklin's Pia Klein (8th, long jump), Lakeland's Stephanie Lock (7th, discus), Livonia Stevenson's Alex Kitz (8th, pole vault), Northville's Alexandra Moynes (6th, high jump) and Novi's Kerri McMahan (tie 8th, high jump). Waterford Mott's Allyson Goff (6th, 100 hurdles), WLW's Lindsay Clark (4th, 1,600), Mott's Shannon Osika (6th, 1,600), Hartland's Avery Evenson (7th, 1,600), Novi's Kelly McCloskey (4th, 300 hurdles), Mott's Osika (7th, 800), Novi's Ward, (3rd, 200).

In relays, Waterford Mott and Hartland placed fourth and fifth in the 4x800 and Novi finished seventh in the 4x400.

## GIRLS TENNIS

Of the 17 teams which scored points at the State Finals, the KLAA supplied four of them. Northville led the way tied for sixth-place, followed by Novi in 11th, Grand Blanc tied for 15th and Livonia Franklin tied for 17th.

Novi's No. 4 doubles team of Meng Meng Jie and Amy Zhou had the furthest run at state with a runner-up finish.

Northville's No. 2 doubles team of Ally Weaver and Jackie Kjohede made a run

to the final four at the State Finals, as did the No. 3 tandem of Christy Snyder and Elizabeth Sakorafis.

## SOFTBALL

Prior to this season, it was the Lakeland show as far as softball was concerned. An incredible string of district and regional titles came to an end this year.

But the baton was carried by six different district titles going out to KLAA teams: Canton, Hartland, Westland John Glenn, Waterford Kettering, Pinckney and Walled Lake Northern.

The furthest run came from Canton with a run to the quarterfinals before bowing out to eventual champ Mattawan.

In 2010, the Lakeland Eagles made a run to the State Finals and finished runner-up.

## BASEBALL

The KLAA pushed four teams through districts to regionals, with Hartland the lone team to also grab a regional title. The run came to an end in the quarterfinals.

The KLAA has put a team into the quarterfinals (final eight) in each of its first three years.

"Bare in mind that I was only here for a very limited time under the old KVC setup, however, I think the KLAA is doing well in regards to the rest of the state," said South Lyon coach Nick James. "Despite the adversity we have faced, I like that fact that we really don't need to wait long for a tough opponent on our schedule. With Northville, Novi and Stevenson in our division coupled with Milford, Lakeland and Hartland, I think we may one of the tougher baseball conferences around."

## BOYS GOLF

The KLAA placed a pair of teams in the top seven at the Division 1 State Finals. Pinckney led the charge with a third-place finish. Plymouth finished in a three-way tie for seventh place.

Pinckney's Otto Black finished tied for fourth overall, just two strokes back behind the champion.

In Division 2, South Lyon qualified for the State Finals and finished 12th.

In 2010, Plymouth, Northville and Hartland finished eighth, ninth and 10th, respectively.

In the inaugural season of 2009, Brighton placed third, Northville fifth and Hartland seventh.

Northville's Wes Gates also captured the individual title in 2009.

## BOYS LACROSSE

While it's not a complete league as far as everyone in the KLAA having teams, it doesn't mean there isn't top-notch competition.

Novi broke through this year with a win against powerhouse Catholic Central in the playoffs and made a run all the way to the final four.

## GIRLS LACROSSE

The KLAA was especially well represented at this year's playoff run. Brighton finishing atop the mountain with a State Title with an overtime win against Ann Arbor Pioneer.

Pioneer also needed overtime to get by South Lyon United in the quarterfinals.

The Bulldogs dispatched fellow KLAA Hartland in double overtime in the quarterfinals.

Brighton also finished state runner-up in 2010.

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## Alarm can be good investment, but shop around

The summer months are the perfect time for a vacation getaway. Unfortunately, they are also the perfect time for a home robbery. According to the FBI, July and August have the highest rates of burglaries. Better Business Bureau is advising homeowners, who are looking to secure their property this summer, to do their research when picking a home security system.

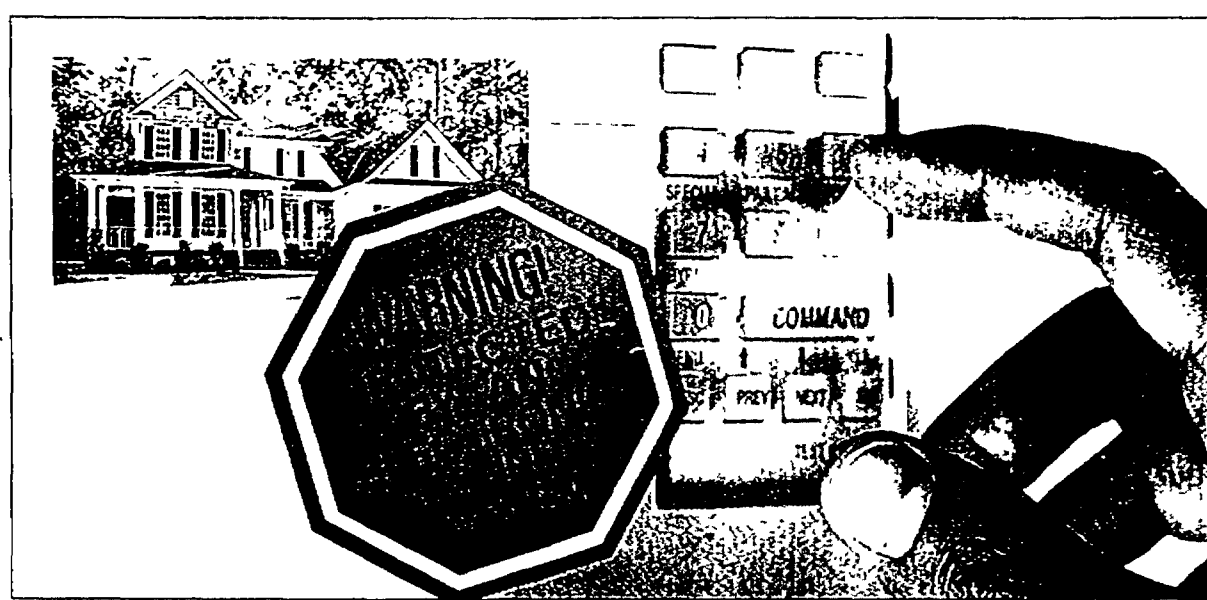
According to an Academic Study of Home and Business Security by Temple University, the Electronic Security Association says that homes without security systems are about 3 times more likely to be broken into than homes with security systems. (Actual statistic ranges from 2.2 times to 3.1 times, depending on the value of the home.) Losses due to burglary average \$400 less in residences with security systems than homes without alarm systems.

Although no system makes your home completely burglar-proof, a home security system can reduce your chances of being burglarized and give you some peace of mind. In 2010, BBB received nearly 25,000 inquiries from customers asking about burglar alarm systems.

"It's important to investigate the purchase of a home security system with the same care you would any major purchase," said Patrick Bennett, director of Community Relations of the Better Business Bureau Serving Eastern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula. "There are too many door-to-door salespeople selling home security systems out there that don't always have your best interest at heart."

BBB advises consumers to do the following when looking to invest in a home security system:

- Choose a professional installer. The best home security system will accommodate your lifestyle and specific valuables you want protected. Carefully consider your security requirements and budget. You may also get recommendation from the insurance company that covers your home. Deal only with reputable firms and check out the company with BBB first.
- Contact at least three companies before selecting an installer. Find out if they are properly licensed in your state



and if they screen employees before hiring. Make sure to check with the ESA website for a list of member companies throughout the United States who have agreed to abide by the National Code of Ethics.

• Ask about all charges up front. Prices for home security systems will vary, based on the level of protection and type of technology used, so be sure to compare apples-to-apples bids on similar systems. Do not forget to factor in the initial installation charge, as well as monthly monitoring charges. Also, talk to your insurance agent; some systems may qualify you for a discount on homeowner's premiums.

• Know the ins and outs of your contract. If your alarm system will be monitored, either by your installing company or by a third-party monitoring center, find out the length of the contract. Typically, monitoring contracts are between two to five years in length. What is your recourse if you are not satisfied with the services provided? Can you cancel the contract? What are your rights if your monitoring company is purchased or acquired by another alarm company? If the alarm sounds, does the company first notify you or the police? How soon? What happens if you can't be reached? Does the company have a

local security patrol car? Are there costs for false alarms — and if so, who pays? What's the early termination fee if you move? These are the types of questions you need to consider before you obligate yourself to a long-term contract.

• Insist that the installer "walk" you through your system until you fully understand how it works. This will prevent the most common problem: false alarms. False alarms are an indicator of the quality of the alarm installation and user education. Ask for a complete inspection of your property and an itemized written estimate. Review the sales contract closely to ensure you understand exactly what equipment and protection you will be provided.

• Beware of "Door Knockers." The BBB has received reports of "high pressure and fear selling practices" from door-to-door Home Alarm System salespeople. These salespeople were citing false police reports of recent burglaries that had not happened or are making claims that the resident's current alarm provider has gone out of business. Some home owners were misled into signing a contract for a new system, before canceling the contract on their existing system or they discovered that their current alarm provider was not out of business, resulting in their

having to pay for two different alarm systems at the same time.

Additional advice:

• You do not have to let door-to-door salespeople into your home.

• If you are not interested, say "good-bye" and shut the door.

• Individuals should provide credentials and identification.

• They should be able to display proof of a city-provided neighborhood solicitation permit.

• Ask if the company is local, regional, or national!

• Do not be misled by false police reports.

• Do not be pressured into signing a contract — if the deal is good today it will be good tomorrow. Beware of claims of "limited offers" and that the company is ready to immediately install the system. Reputable companies let you compare bids and engage in a comprehensive review of your security needs.

• Be sure to completely read and understand any contract before signing, and remember your FTC, "right to cancel" a contract within 72 hours since it is signed at your home.

• For more home tips you can trust, visit <http://hometownlife.com/bbb-news/>.

## Land use claims based on facts

Q: I will try to give you factual scenario of my problem. A and B owned adjoining waterfront lots which were originally part of A's grandmother. After subdividing, the members of the A family regularly used a short path across what became B's lot to visit each other and to get to a beach and boat mooring area. No one in the family ever asked for or received permission from any other family member to use the short path. When B acquired their lot later, it was the first transfer of any part of the original parcel out of A's family. Now, B is claiming that A has no right to use the short path across their land. A is saying that they have a prescriptive easement which requires continuous use for at least a number of years under claim of right adverse to B. Who

do you think will win?

A: Ordinarily, when a claimant offers proof of continuous use with the owner's knowledge,

a presumption arises that the use of the land in order to obtain a prescriptive easement was hostile and under a claim of right which are requirements to establish a prescriptive easement. However, some courts have held that that presumption does not arise if the putative dominant and servient estates were owned within the same family during the period when the prescriptive acts occurred. In such cases, the courts have held that the comings and goings of family members, across property owned within the family, are by accommodation or permission and do not have the requisite adversity to support an imposition of a prescriptive easement by one family member upon another. The chances are A's claim will fail because she cannot offer affirmative proof of hostility, but each case depends upon its particular facts.

Q: Do you have any information on the status of residential construction and the costs of residential construction in Hong Kong?

A: Hong Kong is a highly densely populated city and depending upon the location, construction costs, as well as purchase costs, can be as high as New York or Paris and, in some instances, higher. The closer you are to the water, the more expensive the property is. If you are on a mountain top or a drive leading up to the mountain, the homes and/or apartments can cost over a million dollars for a one or two bedroom unit of less than 1,000 square feet.

Robert M. Weisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condominium Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit [rweisner@weisner-associates.com](mailto:rweisner@weisner-associates.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

### HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of April 25-29, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds Office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

**Canton**

973 Ashbourne Dr	\$425,000
455 Chateau Rd	\$287,000
45741 W. 12th Ave	\$305,000
45741 W. 12th Ave	\$305,000
45741 W. 12th Ave	\$305,000
45741 W. 12th Ave	\$305,000
45741 W. 12th Ave	\$305,000
45741 W. 12th Ave	\$305,000
45741 W. 12th Ave	\$305,000
45741 W. 12th Ave	\$305,000

**Garden City**

4772 Ashbourne Dr	\$275,000
8256 Ashbourne Dr	\$275,000
6631 Ashbourne Dr	\$275,000
29046 B. 12th St	\$24,000
5014 Leona Ave	\$93,000
349 Pacific St	\$72,000
18723 B. 12th St	\$65,000
14609 B. 12th St	\$3,000
9018 Ashbourne Dr	\$22,000
165 S. 12th St	\$245,000
16222 Ashbourne Dr	\$95,000
38745 Five Mile Rd	\$12,000
9268 C. 12th St	\$12,000
36355 Hamlet Ln	\$145,000
9301 Hamlet Ln	\$103,000

**Northville**

4802 E. 12th St	\$1,000
135 Hampton Ct	\$215,000
10797 Johnson Creek Dr	\$124,000
44433 The Maple Ln	\$119,000
1097 Chestnut Dr	\$233,000
40623 Newport Dr	\$94,000
314 Ash Ave Dr	\$99,000
1104 B. 12th St	\$90,000

**Westland**

11359 Columbia	\$59,000
11655 Cayland	\$55,000
20532 Cayland	\$23,000
18243 Cayland	\$19,000
16682 Cayland	\$60,000
9242 Cayland	\$92,000
34025 Cayland	\$14,000
3745 Cayland	\$225,000
35020 Cayland	\$70,000
31333 Cayland	\$76,000
43017 Cayland	\$10,000
43017 Cayland	\$10,000
43017 Cayland	\$10,000
43017 Cayland	\$10,000
43017 Cayland	\$10,000

### HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of April 18-22, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds Office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

**Beverly Hills**

1601 Leona Ave	\$226,000
30251 Leona Ave	\$226,000
1624 Ashbourne Dr	\$78,000
1624 Ashbourne Dr	\$78,000
1624 Ashbourne Dr	\$78,000
1624 Ashbourne Dr	\$78,000
1624 Ashbourne Dr	\$78,000
1624 Ashbourne Dr	\$78,000
1624 Ashbourne Dr	\$78,000
1624 Ashbourne Dr	\$78,000

**Bloomfield Township**

3100 Maple Ct	\$695,000
27415 Ashbourne Dr	\$49,000
3020 Ashbourne Dr	\$423,000
3271 Chestnut Dr	\$590,000
4400 Chestnut Dr	\$420,000
4571 Chestnut Dr	\$325,000
630 Ashbourne Dr	\$470,000
3824 Maple Ct	\$325,000
3824 Maple Ct	\$485,000
4902 Maple Ct	\$222,000
5023 Ashbourne Dr	\$150,000
8126 Ashbourne Dr	\$755,000
3332 Ashbourne Dr	\$203,000
2647 C. 12th St	\$56,000
3943 Dunham Ct	\$240,000
5565 Ford Rd	\$323,000
526 Grand Ave	\$130,000
3765 Ashbourne Dr	\$93,000

**Farmington Hills**

26540 Farmington Rd	\$52,000
36219 Farmington Dr	\$235,000
27500 Farmington Dr	\$170,000
29361 Farmington Dr	\$170,000
22280 Farmington Dr	\$233,000
30495 Farmington Dr	\$233,000
28505 Farmington Dr	\$94,000
30793 Farmington Dr	\$67,000
38174 Farmington Dr	\$1,000
39359 Farmington Dr	\$275,000
37373 Farmington Dr	\$375,000
2734 Ashbourne Dr	\$155,000
401 Farmington Dr	\$98,000
2734 Ashbourne Dr	\$98,000
617 Farmington Dr	\$98,000
647 Farmington Dr	\$98,000

**South Lyon**

43002 12th St	\$125,000
27597 12th St	\$45,000
50273 12th St	\$50,000
50273 12th St	\$50,000
45171 Farmington Dr	\$84,000
22700 Farmington Dr	\$233,000
2501 Farmington Dr	\$275,000
5722 Farmington Dr	\$45,000
2575 Farmington Dr	\$50,000
5875 Farmington Dr	\$40,000
5875 Farmington Dr	\$40,000
23680 Farmington Dr	\$61,000
23782 Farmington Dr	\$61,000
11735 Farmington Dr	\$80,000
547 Farmington Dr	\$33,000
24503 Farmington Dr	\$60,000
5165 Farmington Dr	\$216,000
570 Farmington Dr	\$43,000

### REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

#### Real Estate Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty of Plymouth will hold a Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, at the office, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. Attendees will learn about the \$50,000 income guarantee and the free pre-licensing course. For more information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or [laello@kw.com](mailto:laello@kw.com).

#### Foreclosures

A program on "Buying Foreclosures" will be presented by Linda Orleans, sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, Aug. 11, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742. ([www.REIAofOakland.com](http://www.REIAofOakland.com))

#### Study results

Results from the J.D. Power and Associates 2011 Home Buyer/Seller StudySM, recognize RE/MAX for providing the highest overall consumer satisfaction for both home buyers and home sellers. In last year's study, two different companies ranked the highest in each category, but this year home buyers and sellers both rated RE/MAX the highest.

"It all comes down to professionalism and a commitment to a premier level of customer service," said RE/MAX Chairman and co-founder Dave Liniger. "Because RE/MAX agents average more experience and training than other agents, they are better prepared to deal with home buyers and sellers in any kind of market. And, consumer preferences

tell the story ... nobody sells more real estate than RE/MAX."

This is the fourth annual study of home buyer and seller satisfaction with the largest national real estate companies, conducted by J.D. Power and Associates. For the home buying experience, three factors were considered: agent/salesperson, office and a variety of additional services. Four factors were examined for the home-selling experience: agent/salesperson, marketing, office and a variety of additional services.

#### 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. Wednesdays. To reserve a spot, contact Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

#### Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Realty Group Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

#### Free Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail [Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com](mailto:Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com) or visit [FreeForeclosureTours.com](http://FreeForeclosureTours.com).



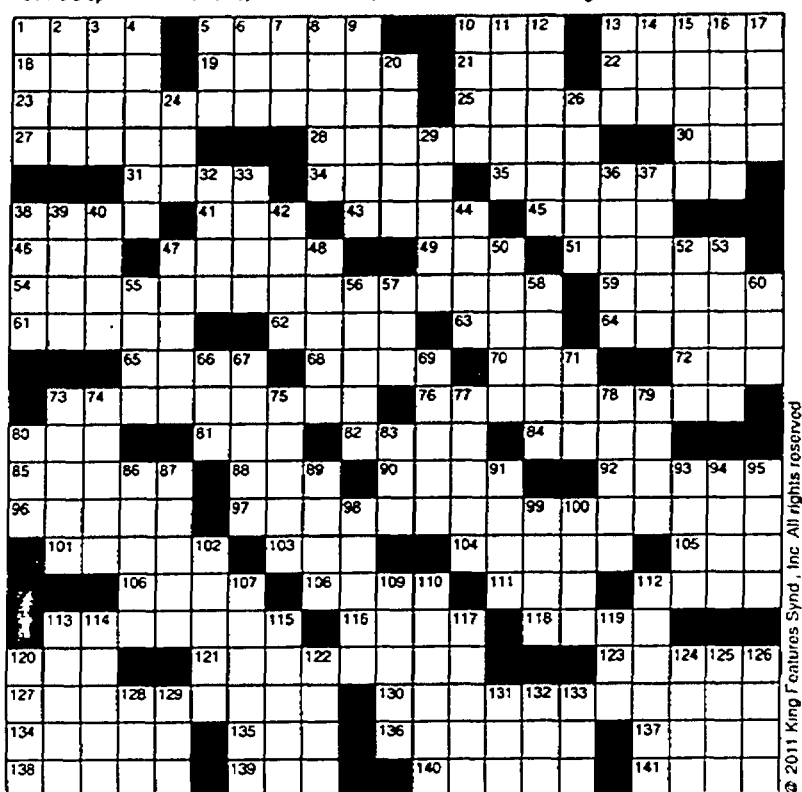
# Crossword Puzzle Whirled Tour

**ACROSS**

1 Hollywood clasher  
5 Out of line  
10 Palindromic  
13 Hailem  
18 Laid off  
19 Laid off  
21 Waggie  
22 Meyerbeer  
23 West Indian  
25 Medea  
27 Aquatic  
30 Appraise  
31 Vacation  
34 Citrus fruit  
35 Brand of  
38 Thames  
41 Son of Noah  
43 Touch down  
45 "Dinah"  
46 Opening  
47 "acid"  
49 One —  
51 Gambols  
54 Speechless  
59 Church  
61 Hold up

62 Pro bono  
63 Summer  
64 Gawk  
65 Israeli  
68 TV's —  
70 Brand of  
72 Unlabeled  
73 South  
75 Scandinavian  
80 Mur or  
81 By means  
82 Nobel  
84 — gm fuz  
85 Gam and  
88 Exec's  
90 Concept  
92 Pointless  
96 Adult insect  
97 Central  
101 Adds —  
103 Rock's —  
104 Oniment  
105 Ornamental  
106 Whip, for  
108 Family  
111 Hum bug?  
112 Perplexed  
113 Vincent  
116 Stagger  
118 Haul  
120 Impresario  
121 Self-  
123 Biblical  
127 Caribbean  
130 African  
134 Where  
135 Fr. holy  
136 Beethoven  
137 Ginger  
138 Swelling  
140 Bestow  
141 "Guarding"  
142 "Betsy"  
143 "Lil' Man"  
144 Birthstone  
145 Mrs. David  
147 "Blue"  
148 It's walked  
149 "Paulo"

150 Baffle  
151 Nero's  
152 Scarecrow  
153 Bolger/Haley  
154 Singer Della  
157 Moist  
158 Starts a  
160 Sail  
161 Gun the  
162 Out on —  
163 Stage  
164 Sushu  
165 Candidate  
166 Cornerstone  
167 Tag  
168 Literary  
169 Sibelius  
170 Dispel  
171 Head set?  
172 Sacred  
173 Paul of "The  
174 "Bed"  
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200 "Lil' Man"



## Answer to Last Week's Puzzle

SOL REP EL OTT LISBON  
UNO AMELIA PEAFEMINE  
MYWIFEWILLALLOSAURUS  
OXIEIN SATIN SKIS OST  
CAL GOAT NEER  
BUYANYTHINGMARKEDDOWN  
OLE DRAIN IRE DAIRY  
ANN RECESSED BARI LIL  
TAISTE ENS ELEE ITO  
SWAP COTS LOSS EEN  
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ELEMENTARY JOEYBISHOP  
ALKALILIE ANGERS IDI  
FIELDS LEW AISSAM VIC

# MARKETPLACE

HOMETOWNlife.com



Announcements & Notices

KENDALLWOOD SWIM AND TENNIS CLUB

Open House

Enjoy a day at the friendly and fun place to be in Farmington Hills!

Kendallwood Club is located at 29150 Farmington Rd Farmington Hills, MI 48335

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

MEDICAL MARUANA CARD FOR INFO CALL (517) 304-9405

Health, Nutrition, Weight Loss

MEDICAL MARUANA CARD FOR INFO CALL (517) 304-9405

Absolutely Free

HORSE MANURE

Some mixed w/pine shavings Start composting for spring! (248) 685-9135

MAGNAVOX 32 INCH TV

with remote works great 248-437-5534

Rummage Sale/ Flea Market

NEW FLEA MARKET - Open weekends at Dunlap Rd. Major's 1006 W. Schafer Rd. Hazel, MI 48862

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

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Rummage Sale/ Flea Market

TROY Multi-Family Garage Sale - Antiques, furniture, kitchen gadgets, you name it! Dates/Time: August 4, 5 & 6, 9-5 p.m. 5409 Folkstone Drive, Troy, MI 48065

WEST BLOOMFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

Thurs. Aug. 4, 6-8pm, \$3 cover charge this night only. Fri. Aug. 5, 9-4pm, regular price and 4-6pm, 1/2 off. Sat. Aug. 6, 9-2pm, bag sale, 1100 Walnut St. Rd. just W of Orchard Rd. 248-851-2330

Household Goods

DINING ROOM SET- 1950s Duncan Phyfe, 9 pc, solid mahogany incl china cabinet, buffet, table w/6 chairs. Table has a built in leaf plus 2 additional leaves, & padded cover w/leaves top \$1650. 248-625-0724, 248-356-0507

Household Goods

Queen Anne, China cabinet, table incl pads, 2 arm chairs & 6 side chairs, \$400. Nov. 248-348-2504

FOR SALE - 2 Refrigerators, gas stove, humidifier, dehumidifier, gas dryer, couch, chairs, lamps, dressers, chests, end/coffee tables matching Call 810-923-5558

FURNITURE- 2 antique china cabinets \$100/each. Antique chandelier \$100. Onette set w/2 chairs \$50. Four antique chairs, \$50. 734-658-2668

MISC ITEMS- Indoor patio furniture, 10 pc, white wicker, Exc. cond. \$500. 20" Samsung Microwave oven, \$50. 6 door/wall custom made green beige valance, with matching 36" window valance, \$50. 734-422-7122

MISC ITEMS- Queen sized Thomasville headboard & frame \$200. Cherry night stand w/drawer \$75. Small refrigerator \$25. Light weight travel wheel chair \$100. Adult potty chair \$15. Walker \$15. 248-476-0121 hv msc

SOFA BED- White, very good cond., clean, 3 removable cushions, comfortable. Sealy Posturpedic mattress - queen, 82" long 35" wide, \$350. 248-481-9281, 201-787-3003

Household Goods

SWAROVSKI CRYSTAL CHANDELIER. Originally \$6000, asking \$1500/best. (586) 354-4852

VICTORIAN CHEST-ANTIQUE W/ marble top. Antique lung size bed set, white, Italian provincial. Antique china cabinet, must go! 248-348-6599

Appliances

DRYER- Inglis by Whirlpool, 1 yr old electric dryer. White \$200/best offer. Willing to deliver. 734-358-3537

Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs

SOFTUB, 220 gallon hot tub, 4 person, Grey, Good cond. \$650. Call: 517-545-7314.

U-Picks

U-PICK BLUEBERRIES & RED RASPBERRIES \*IN THE MARKET\* Eating Peaches, Sweet Corn & Fresh Vegetables. SPICER ORCHARDS US-23, 3 Mi. N. of M-59 to Clyde, ext #70. E 1/4 M. 810-632-7592

Hay, Grain, Seed

HAY- 1st & 2nd cutting Also Round Bales - ROCKY RIDGE FARM, 517-484-3335

Wrapped round bales 4'x4' 1st cut. No rain \$30. Last yrs 1st/2nd \$22.50. 517-404-4447

Hospital/Medical Equipment

Deluxe heavy Duty Shower Chair, \$60. Deluxe Heavy Duty Drop arm commode, \$60. Wheelchair alarm system, \$25. (734) 722-6665

Lawn, Garden & Snow Equipment

FERRIS 48" ZTR 21 hp, double bagger, weed whp, blower, Haulmark trailer, all equip is 2007. Less than 200 hrs. \$6900. 248-912-8292

Free Removal- unwanted Riding lawn mowers! 1 pers running or not! 517-294-1519

## MODULAR HOME AUCTION THURSDAY

AUGUST 11th, 7:05 P.M.

2374 N Dundee Ct, Highland, MI 48357

This home is located in the Highland Greens Estate, 2377 N. Millford Road, Highland, MI

1977 Marlette double wide modular home, 3 bedrooms, great room (dining room, living room), 1 bath, laundry room with washer and dryer, kitchen

To settle the trust of Gladwin A. Pascuzzo

Terms: Cash or certified check day of auction

Claud McMillen Auction & Real Estate

201 S. Main

Bellevue, MI 49021

Phone 1 888 763-9838

Or 269 763-9838

www.memillenauctions.com

## Did you hear...?



My mom just got a new car and it's bigger than my dad's! She found it in the classifieds!

Buying or selling, Classifieds is the place to look.

Call Today: 1-800-579-7355

# GARAGE SALES

HOMETOWNlife.com

7100 Estate Sales

ESTATE/MOVING SALE.

Sat Aug 6 8:30-4 Centennial

Farms 10 Mile & Rushion,

12316 Karticket, South Lyon

Dining set china cabinets,

sofas, tables, antiques, gun

cabinet, kitchenware screen

tent, camping & hunting stuff,

treasure hunt! Christmas

decor much more!

Howell-Fantastic Moving Sale

1982 Coon Lake Rd

Aug 4th 5th, & 6th 9-5pm

Antiques, China, original

artwork, Maytag washer/dryer,

dorm fridge, furniture more!

Electronics, & much more!

For pics go to

www.6c-estatesales.com

PLYMOUTH- Tools, furniture,

crystal lawn furniture, & lots

misc. Aug 6th, noon-5pm

10496 Chestnut Ct. S. of Ann

Arbor Trl & E of Haggerty

Garage Sales

BERKLEY GARAGE SALE

Thursday, Friday, Saturday,

9am-5pm 1943 Bacon. Lots

of toyd appliances small

Garage Sales

CANTON- Multi family

Furniture, Snow babies & misc

41350 Woodbrook Dr, near

Michigan Ave & Liffey Aug 4-

6th 10-4pm No early sales

CANTON-Poplar Ridge Sub.

Garage Sale - Multi-Family

Southside of Palmer, btwn

Sheldon & Liffey. Fri-Sat, Aug

5th & 6th, 9-4pm. Furniture,

electronics, books, & toys

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

CANFIELD CENTER

Over 150 vendors!

Free Parking

7th annual garage sale

Sat, Aug 13th 9-4pm

1801 N Beech Drive

Btwn Ford Rd & Cherry Hill

FARMINGTON HILLS

Sub-Wide Garage Sale, Aug

4 6th, 9am-4pm Independence

Hills, 11 Mile & Drake

FARMINGTON HILLS- Clothing



# REAL ESTATE

HOMETOWNlife.com

**3000-3990**  
**Real Estate**  
**RENTALS**

**Milford** (326)



Reduced to \$229K!  
Enjoy wildlife galore in a park-like setting on 15 acres with pond, trees, flowers. This well maintained 4 bdrm 3 bath home is at 1060 Orban, Milford, MI. Near Huron Valley schools, parks, stores. Newer first floor master suite.  
MLS #21106050  
[milfordhouseforsale.com](http://milfordhouseforsale.com)  
248-766-6519

**Manufactured Homes** (3740)

**3 & 4 BR., 2 BATH**  
Leases starting at \$359. Pool, Exercise Room, Playground, S. Lyon Schools. Celebration Homes, 248-437-3443

**HOWELL** - New, used, reposs. Beautiful community w/ country club amenities. 3 br., 2 bath, 1280+sq ft. \$177-552-2300. WE FINANCE!

**HOWELL, BURKHART RIDGE**  
5 br., 3 bath, 2,000+sq ft. \$49,900 517-552-2300

**HOWELL-Burkhardt Ridge**  
3 br., 2 bath, well maintained home. Move in ready for only \$29,900 517-552-2300  
\*Some restrictions may apply

From our neighborhood to yours, we bring you the best classifieds in your area!

**1-800-579-SELL**

**It's all about results!**

**Manufactured Homes** (3740)

**South Lyon Woods**  
**Newly Renovated Homes**

• New Carpet  
• New Paint  
• New Appliances  
On Select Homes

Buy now to SAVE:  
• 1 month free  
• NO security deposit  
• NO application fee  
• FREE repair guide  
• \$80 Off for 11 months on Bayshore Homes

**CALL CINDY @**  
**248-381-0268 or**  
**248-437-0678**  
[www.bayshorehomesales.com](http://www.bayshorehomesales.com)  
\*call for details

**TO PLACE YOUR AD:**  
**1-800-579-7355**

**It's all about results!**

**Cemetery Lots** (3889)

Glen Eden Memorial Park (Livonia) Garden of Peace, 2 plots, both for \$2700 or \$1400/ea. Call 734-464-9228



**TO PLACE YOUR AD:**  
**1-800-579-7355**

## A penny earned, is a penny saved.



**"It's All About Results!"**

To Place Your Own Classified Ad, Call  
**1-800-579-SELL**  
[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)



# APARTMENTS

HOMETOWNlife.com

**1000+**  
**Real Estate**  
**RENTALS**

**Apartment/Unfurnished** (4000)

**AMAZING NEWER PROPERTY**  
located just 8 minutes S of Brighton has 2 BR from \$808-\$838 1/2 OFF AUGUST RENT 970-1025 sq ft. 24 HR fitness center, pool, volleyball playground, washer/dryer, 2 FULL baths. 734-449-4213

**Apartment/Unfurnished** (4000)

**BRIGHTON**  
940 E. Grand River SPACIOUS 2 br. Heat incl. No pets. Security deposit, \$200 with 3 mos. at 50% off with good credit.  
**810-227-2203**

**HIGHLAND**: Lg modern 2 bdrm Extra storage area & washer/dryer in bsmt, no pets \$650 incl heat 1 yr lease required 734-516-9227

**FIND IT ONLINE**  
[HOMETOWNLIFE.COM](http://HOMETOWNLIFE.COM)

**Apartment/Unfurnished** (4000)

**HOWELL**  
**QUAIL CREEK APTS.**  
1 & 2 br., \$485 to \$535/mo incl. carport. Quiet country setting, close to downtown. Balcony, central air \$200 sec dep w/ good credit.  
**(517) 548-3733**

**HOWELL, downtown** 1 br., 2nd floor, new carpet, \$550/mo + utilities + sec (517) 546-9646

Lots of room, your own yard, 3 & 4 br. Pool, Exercise Room, Playground. Leases starting at \$659 Celebration Homes 248-437-3443

**Apartment/Unfurnished** (4000)

**MILFORD VILLAGE** large 1 bedroom apt. No pets or smoking \$500/mo + security deposit. 248-255-8071

**MILFORD** - 1 and 2 br. units, most units incl. heat. Call (248) 798-5638.

**Local Jobs Online**  
**HOMETOWNlife.com**  
**JOBS AND CAREERS**

**Apartment/Unfurnished** (4000)

**South Lyon**  
Rare opportunity 2BR & 3BR Townhomes Move in specials, Private Entrances, Pet friendly Agent 248-767-4207

**South Lyon** 1 br., \$510/mo, incl heat, water & garbage bills \$500 sec dep Call Pat. (248) 437-3494

**South Lyon** 2 bdrm, all appls, all utilities paid \$650/mo 248-348-6738

**Apartment/Unfurnished** (4000)

**SOUTH LYON APARTMENTS**  
2 bedroom apartment \$550/month gas and water included 1 available immediately (313) 259-6677

**WALLED LAKE** 23d Townhomes Move into your New Home at Trolly Acts and Save with our 3-2-1 Special Call for details! 248-624-6606 EHO [www.cormorantco.com](http://www.cormorantco.com)

**WALLED LAKE AREA** - 1 Br apt., small room for office or hobby. Quiet apt. bldg, nice neighborhood. No pets \$485/mo includes heat/water 248-624-4310

**Condos/Townhouses** (4820)

**PLYMOUTH** - 2 bdrm, 950 sq ft., all appls, washer/dryer, C/A, balcony fireplace carport, private entrance. Rent incl utilities & condo fee. Mo to mo lease, pets okay. \$900/mo (313) 531-4363

**Duplexes** (4830)

**HAMBURG/PINCKNEY AREA**, 2 br. duplex, Lk. access. No dogs. \$570 734-662-8669.

**Homes For Rent** (4054)

**BRIGHTON**, 3 BR Ranch, new kitchen, bath, washer & dryer, clean \$750/mo 313-218-7744

**Homes For Rent** (4850)

**NORTHVILLE**  
Newer luxury 2 Br., 2 bath Lg 2-story brick ranch condo w/garage, cathedral ceilings, fireplace, clubhouse, fitness room, close to ways FREE TV \$1,199 734-446-5968

**NOVI** - 3 BR, living & family room on 2 acre lot 2 car, very private, no pets \$1,000 + utilities Call 248-798-9957

**SOUTH LYON area** 1 br, ideal for single. No pets/smoking \$450 + utilities 248-437-5012

**Rooms For Rent** (4144)

**MILFORD**, Lg furn. room on horse ranch facing Kensington Park, Kit & laundry Direct TV & internet incl. Non-smoker Ref & Sec dep (\$200) require incl all utilities 6 mo min \$450/mo (248) 787-1453

**NOVI - FAIRLANE MOTEL**  
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# Nursing Shortage Means Career Opportunity For Those Interested In Health Care

ARA) - Despite a slow economy, the health care industry continues to thrive. This is partially due to growing demand from the aging baby boomer population, who require additional health care services today and into the future. These same boomers are retiring, leaving many areas of the health care field open for new professionals looking to get involved in helping others.

Nurses, in particular, are in high demand. Many areas of the country are experiencing major nursing shortages. Those with a degree and certification are valuable to employers, and it's not uncommon for experienced nurses to have a number of opportunities to choose from.

Jobs in health care are increasing despite losses in other major industries. Over the last 12 months, health care has added 283,000 jobs, or an average of 24,000 jobs per month. As the largest health care occupation, registered nurses will likely fill many job openings in the future. With above average growth numbers projected through 2018 and a national median wage of \$62,450, there is a unique opportunity for registered nurses.

The majority of nurses work in a hospital - approximately 60 percent - but nurses are also needed in other places. Some alternative workplaces include offices of physicians, home health care services,



government agencies and educational services. Because complicated procedures, once only performed in hospitals, are now being performed in physicians' offices and in outpatient care centers, demand for qualified nurses with strong leadership skills at these locations is increasing.

Whether just starting down the nursing career path or looking to take on a leadership role and influence the delivery of care, education and training are highly valued by employers in this field. Higher education helps practitioners become more skilled and knowledgeable nurses, thus allowing them to step forward as leaders, while

helping improve health care delivery and patient outcomes.

How can you become a nurse? Getting the right education is key. Employers expect nurses to keep their skills current and be able to handle multiple tasks and an increasing number of patients. There are a variety of options for those considering a nursing degree. Typically nurses get a two-year associate degree or a four-year bachelor's degree that includes coursework and clinical training. For those that wish to expand their skillset and become leaders in this field, higher education programs prepare nurses for

the increased responsibilities and challenges facing today's health care practitioners.

Many nursing students today are considered non-traditional students. This means these working learners have full-time jobs, are parents, spouses or active members of the military. If you fit into this category, you can still pursue a nursing degree through a flexible online school like University of Phoenix, which has one of the largest nursing schools in the United States with more than 30 years of experience.

For nurses who have a two-year degree and want to advance to a four-year degree, the RN to BSN program (registered nurse to bachelor's of science in nursing) provides students the opportunity to advance their credentials, knowledge and skills on their own schedule, allowing time for family and other work obligations.

Nurses help those in need both emotionally and physically. Some nurses choose to specialize in a type of patient, such as children or the elderly, or they specialize in a certain area of treatment, such as in the emergency room or during surgery. No matter what your personal interest, the demand for nursing continues to grow and offers a once in a lifetime opportunity for those looking for job security, career growth and the ability to make a difference in other people's lives.

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# NEW VEHICLES, HIGH CONTENT FUEL FORD'S FORMULA

Advertising Feature

CARReport



By Dale Buss

Sales of Ford's newest U.S. models are mounting nicely. More Explorers already sold in the first half than all of last year. Focus sales were up 9 percent for the period despite second-quarter availability constraints. And Fiesta became Ford's third-best-selling nameplate during the first six months from basically nothing as it got its start a year earlier.

But even more important to Ford executives than the encouraging sales results is who are buying Explorer, Focus and Fiesta, and how much they're spending. U.S. purchasers are loading up these vehicles to a remarkable extent, and they are a younger cohort -- and more often from the West Coast -- than Ford has enjoyed in decades.

"It's full steam ahead," said Robert Parker, group marketing manager for Ford, who professed that he's not even concerned that a full supply of Japanese-brand small cars and fuel-efficient crossovers expected in the second half will slow the momentum being enjoyed by any of the Ford nameplates. "We'll hit our stride when everyone else is also hitting their stride. We've compared extremely favorably with the competition and with the technology we have that the

competition doesn't have. We'll break through to a new set of buyers and retain the buyers we already have."

Overall inventory of the new Focus, launched earlier this year, has been turning in just 11 days, compared with a typical healthy level of 30 to 45 days, Parker said. Throughput for the Titanium version, the highest level for Focus -- with leather seats, reverse camera and rain-sensing wipers -- has been just six days. "It's a better place to be than the alternative," he said.

The key has been how Focus has been drawing the younger buyers targeted by Ford, and how they've been driving away from dealerships with heavily contented cars. More than one in six Focus sales is to Millennial consumers, Ford said, more than for the Hyundai Elantra and equal to the fast-selling Chevrolet Cruze. And it is drawing more buyers ages 33 through 55 than before, while purchasers 56 years old and up are declining as a percentage.

"The design is getting attention," Parker explained, with Focus's hatchback rear end proving "a breakthrough for more Eurocentric buyers, people who were buying a European hatchback. Now we're on their radar. That includes more



The 2012 Explorer has become one of Ford's hottest sellers.

higher-income buyers and import owners. But overall more important, he said, is "the technology inherent in the vehicle," especially Sync. The "take rate" for Sync in Focus is 75 percent, driven in part by customers enthused about how they can bring their own music on iPods and other devices into the car and just plug it in.

Fiesta is no slouch either. In June, it enjoyed a rousing 18-percent share of subcompact-car consideration on Edmunds.com, near the level it has had since its debut in mid-2010. Meanwhile, Fiesta's share of segment sales rose to 12 percent in June (and had been as high as 16 percent in March) from just 3 percent at launch. In the fevered environment for sales of gas-sipping cars in the first half, Fiesta's days-to-turn fell sharply, to 38 days at the end of June from 66 days at the end of March.

One way that Ford aimed hard at Millennial consumers with Fiesta was to make it much easier and more reliable for them to order accessories to trick out their rides. That has included putting Ford-authorized accessory wheels and interior

Ford's 2012 Focus is catching on with younger buyers who are purchasing them loaded.



packages right on the dealership order form for the car. As a result, for instance, about 10 percent of Fiestas are ordered with an expensive "piano black-and-white" interior. And overall, more than 25 percent of Fiesta buyers throw in pricey accessory options.

As with Fiesta and Focus, higher contenting for the new Explorer version has become the norm, Peterson said, about 40 percent for the robustly appointed Limited series. Transaction prices are up about 10 percent over those for the model it replaced. The take rate for MyFord Touch in Explorer has reached 92 percent. More than 45 percent of all vehicle trade-ins for Explorer are conquests, with nearly 12 percent of the trades coming from luxury brands, Ford said. About 15 percent of purchasers of the new Explorer were getting rid of an older version of the SUV, up from 8 percent for the previous version.

Many consumers also are attracted by a 3mpg improvement in Explorer's fuel economy to a level that Ford said is segment-leading. "Every bit of fuel economy is a big deal right now," Peterson said.

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