

SPORTS, B1

PLYMOUTH ICE FESTIVAL

SPECIAL SECTION





ORTHVILLE RECORD THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2012 • hometownlife.com PRICE: \$1 ٠

Art House exhibit call for entries

The Annual Member Exhibition was developed to showcase the art made by members of the Northville Art House. This year's event, the sixth annual, runs Feb. 3-18. Entry forms in this call for entries must be received by Jan. 13 and are available at the Art House, 215 W. Cady Street or online. Call (248) 344-0497 for more information.

Hair cuts fight cancer

The Northville Ladies Auxilliary with Jack's Barber shop will be doing their 7th Annual Hair Cut Day for Cancer aid and Research from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 22 at VFW Post 4012 (438 S. Main, Northville). The public is welcome; the donation for a hair cut is \$12.

This fundraiser started seven years ago with barber Dave Rouse who did 55 haircuts the first year. It has now escalated to six barbers and two beauticians who donate their day to this cause.

"We have raised over \$12,000 dollars in that time and hope to have another great year," said Betty Burkacki, event chair. "We will have lunch available for those who have to wait. We have four raffle baskets with items from dinner gift certificates from all over the area and golf, oil changes etc. When this fundraiser was started, Dave Rouse stated, 'Everyone knows someone who has had cancer and has been affected by it.' We ask that everyone stop by and get a haircut or buy tickets on the raffle baskets to help support this worth cause." Call Burkacki at (734) 891-3921.

Salon owners, Northville-Novi schools help woman diagnosed with cancer



Tammy Townsend of Belleville (right) hugs Nadine Girvan, owner of the Thomas James Salon in Northville, after receiving a donation from a fundraiser she put on in October.

Cancer survivor's fundraiser helps students 'pay it forward'

A Belleville woman will get by with a little help

Townsend of Bellevillethe proceeds of a fundraisAt first she and her staff donated money to organi-

Movies at Marquis DDA cues up series Jan. 21

By Lonnie Huhman Correspondent

Last year was a challenging one for the Movies at the Marquis program, so for 2012 the classic movie series is being scaled

down a bit to fit the

number of sponsors

In its fourth year,

the program will be

again hosted by the

Northville Downtown

Development Author-

ity. In the coming

and attendees.

Ward

months, six movies will be played at the downtown theater instead of the 10 showings in previous years. The series will run from Jan. 21 to Feb. 25.

The DDA's board of directors has given its approval of the \$4,800 contract with the Marquis for the sixweek schedule. An additional \$1,000 has been set aside for movie royalties. The city council was expected to give its approval as well at its Tuesday evening meeting.

According to DDA director Lori

from friends she's never even met-thanks to the efforts of a Northville business owner and the kindness of students in the Northville and Novi school districts

Nadine and Thomas Girvan, owners of the Thomas James Salon in Northville, presented a check for more than \$1,000 to Tammy er the Girvans put on in October for Breast Cancer Awareness month.

"It's such a blessing," said Townsend, who was diagnosed with cancer in July. "I wasn't expecting this."

Nadine Girvan, who is herself a breast cancer survivor, said she's put on fundraisers since she was diagnosed about six years ago.

zations like the American Cancer Society, but eventually decided to give the donations to an individual, instead. In October, she put on the donation drive in the Northville and Novi school districts, offering to dye students' hair pink or put pink beaded extensions in

Please see CANCER, A7

Ward, the difficulty this year was finding enough ticket sponsors to help fill 10 showings. She said last year bad winter weather also kept down the number of attendees. The majority of those watching the movies are senior citizens.

Ward said the intention of the program was to drive business into the retailers selling the tickets. Things

Next Chapter to host 5 authors Saturday

By Juiie Brown Staff Writer

Five area authors are slated to visit the Next Chapter Bookstore & Bistro this Saturday.

"I've done this in the past," said Linda Caine, buyer for the independent bookstore in downtown Northville. Such events have been done in conjunction with the Buy Michigan Now and other festivals. She felt mid-January was also a good time to invite authors.

"It's a nice opportunity for people to talk to authors," Caine said. "It's just interesting to have access and chat with authors." That's especially true for aspiring authors, she said, with

those who've published books happy to share their experiences and expertise

The authors won't do readings, as their books don't really lend themselves to that, Caine said. They'll talk informally about their work and how they use social media to promote it.

"There is something for everyone," Caine said.

All the authors live nearby, Caine said, with Sullivan in Northville.

"A lot of people do know her and have bought her book," she said.

For information, call the Next Chapter Bookstore & Bistro, (248) 465-0010.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

SCHEDULE

• 10-11:30 a.m. Bob Dorigo-Jones, who wrote "Remove Child Before Folding: The 101 Stupidest, Silliest and Wackiest Warning Labels Ever."

• 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Stephen Martin, author of "Let's Go See: All 50!" Travelers can keep track in a journal of memories of each state.

• 1-2:30 p.m. Dana Lehman, who wrote "I Can Do It, Adventures at Walnut Grove: A Lesson About Teasing" and "I Double Dare You!" These are Mom's Choice Awardwinning books for children ages 2-6.

• 2:30-4 p.m. Nan Willard Cappo, who wrote "unaccounted for." This author's previous book, "Cheating Lessons," was nominated for an Edgar Award and was American Library Association Popular Paperback for Young Adults.

• 4-5:30 p.m. Marilyn Sullivan, author of "A Patch of Comfort: A Guide for Helping Someone in Grief."



Please see MOVIES, A10

Young Northville actress helps tell autoworkers' story

By Julie Brown Staff Writer

Emilia Daguanno, 8, of Northville Township will be featured in an original play, "Plant Diaries." She's a third-grade student at

Amerman Elementary.

A2

Emilia will play the part of Cindy, a student on a

dent on a field trip at Detroit Automo-

tive. The story tells the ups and down of plant life in the auto industry in Michigan. Emilia has appeared in several films including the 2011 Gold Award Winner "Bullies on Vacation" directed by Devon Gummersall, and has been featured in several public service announcements, fashion shows and stage productions.

"She auditioned for it," said mom Amy, who's married to Darren, of the "Plant Diaries" role. The family includes older sister Elyssa, 10, also at Amerman in fifth grade.

"She loves it. She wants to be an actress," Amy Daguanno said of the role which includes their younger daughter in three scenes.

"There aren't very many small parts," Amy Daguanno said. "It's told from the perspective of the chaplain of the plant." Cindy's character is a student on the field trip to the plant.

"He does an excellent, excellent job of balancing the play practices with people's

THE NORTHVILLE RECORD

Published Each Thursday

By The Northville Record

101 Lafayette

South Lyon, Michigan 48178

Periodical

At South Lyon, Michigan

\$48.00 for one year. Out of State: \$59.50 for one year. For delivery call 866-887-2737.

The Northville Record is published by Federated Publications, Inc. a wholly owned subsidiary of Gannett Co. Inc.

Postmaster, send address changes to: The Northville Record,

41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170. POLICY STATEMENT. All advertising published in The Northville Record is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card,

copies of which are available from the advertising department,

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Publication Number USPS 396880

In-County: \$37.50 for one year. Out of County (in Michigan):

Mail Subscription Rates:

advertiser's order.

DETAILS

The play opens Jan. 13-15 at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center located at 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. All performances will began at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center box office, (313) 943-2354, or online at www. TenTwenty-Two.com.

school and work schedules. He's worked with kids before," she said of director/writer/producer Des Lamont. "The balance has been wonderful, nice."

"I think this is such an important part of Michigan's history. The automotive industry is so integral to Michigan," added Amy Daguanno. Emilia's pleased with her role. "I think it's nice to be on stage," the young actress said. "I like the feeling, being up there."

She doesn't have stage fright when the show opens, but does have some earlier: "Mostly I have all the butterflies before," but is ready when the show opens.

Her friends at Amerman are excited about Emilia's acting. "The feeling of it is just so nice," she said.

This is the second play Lamont has written and directed. The first, "Head of the House," got good feedback which encouraged members of the UAW to pursue Lamont with the idea of writing a play that displayed the essence of workers. Cast members include Detroit's R&B artist Mink White, Sharon Bell of Local 598 Flint Assembly, Shirley Davenport of Local 163 Detroit Diesel, King of DJ's Ray O'Shay, and gospel legend Ebernita "Twinkie" Clark.

Lamont said there are eight young people ages 8-15 in "Plant Diaries."

"They're wonderful," he said. "If I could do the whole play with kids, I probably would. It's really my passion to work with youth."

Lamont has a background teaching, including Western High School and Burton International Middle School. He's been theater director for the Detroit Music Hall.

He's enjoying the cast members' talent, including Emilia's. "She's a bright star," Lamont said. "She's going to steal the show." The play tells of issues of autoworkers represented by the UAW, from a chaplain doing a tour for the youth group. Region 1A of the UAW supports the production, Lamont said.

"We wanted to display who we are as a city in this production."

He's pleased with the progress of rehearsals: "Each day is getting better and better," for the show, which has a few original songs but isn't a musical.

His company, Ten Twenty-Two Productions, hires only metro Detroiters, a practice that will continue.

"This is what my company is all about is taking care of the people who live in this area," Lamont said.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community Events

MARQUIS THEATER

Location: 135 East Main, Northville **Contact:** (248) 349-8110 or visit www. northvillemarquistheatre.com.

"Beauty & The Beast"

Times/Dates: 2:30 p.m. through Jan. 29 Details: An energetic, live musical for the whole family -- the story of a young girl who meets a friendly Beast and their ensuing friendship. Tickets are \$8.50; group rates and reserved seating for 20 or more; no children under age 3.

MILL RACE HISTORICAL VILLAGE

Location: 215 Griswold Ave., north of Main Street near Ford Field

Hours: Office open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday; Archives open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday-Friday; Village buildings open 1-4 p.m. Sundays, mid-June to mid-Oct. **Contact:** (248) 348-1845

Weekly Events

(*Grounds closed to public)

Thursday: 9 a.m. Archives open; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. TARTS Stitching Group; 6 p.m. Girl Scouts #737

Friday: 9 a.m. Archives open Saturday: 6 p.m. private party in the

Cady Inn

Monday: 6:30 p.m. Northville Democrats **Tuesday:** 9 a.m. Stone Gang; 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts #473

Wednesday: 9:30-11 a.m. and 1-2:30 p.m. "Fairies & Trolls in Northville?" Children's Class; 6:45 p.m. Mindfulness Meditation Group

GET LISTED!

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

More: For a complete listing of local and regional events, see the Northville Calendar online at www. hometownlife.com.

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Location: 215 W. Cady St., Northville

Contact: Northville Art House (248) 344-0497 or www.northvillearts.org for on-going art classes, lectures, events, rentals, volunteering.





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By Nathan Mueiier Staff Writer

Kellen Smetana knew his life would be changed after returning from a seven-month bicycle journey across Asia and Europe from Hong Kong, China, to Lisbon, Portugal.

But not for the reasons he initially thought.

Sure it was going to be "amazing" to see various parts of the world, try new foods, help the World Bicycle Relief organization and overcome the physical challenges of riding a bicycle 10,250 miles. But it was the people he met that truly made his trip unforgettable.

"The biggest thing for me was the incredible welcoming nature of humanity around the world," he said. "A lot of the places I thought we would be the most out of place or were questionable areas, those were the places where I found people to be the most welcoming.

"They wanted to teach us about their cultures and get to know us as much as we wanted to know them."

Smetana, 26, lives in Novi and graduated from Northville High School in 2003. He was making his plans to go to business school next year when the idea for the cross-continent trip came to him.

His goal was to find a way to give back to the World Bicycle Relief, which builds bikes for poverty-stricken communities across the world with transportation needs, while also challenging himself mentally and physically.

A documentary called "Long Way Around," about two men who made a similar journey on motorcycles, gave Smetana his inspiration, and he was able to find five other people to join him for parts of the trip, includ-



Kellen Smetana and his brother Cory, both Northville High School graduates, pause for a photo in front of Hagia Sophia in istanbul, Turkey, during Kellen's ride from Hong Kong to Lisbon, Portugal.

FUN FACTS

Total Days: 203 Distance: 16,497 km Rest Days: 53 Avg Day: 110 km Longest Day: 224 km (Kazakhstan-R2) **Highest Eievation:** 3,793 m (12,444 ft) Qinghai, China Lowest Eievation: - 68 m (-223 ft) Turpan Basin, China Dog Chases: 53 Fiat tires: 32 Favorite City: Aix-en-Provence, France Favorite Meai: Fish hot pot. Guiyang, China High Fives: 75 Beers Tasted: 73 **Bugs Swaiiowed** (known): 14 **UofM Apparei Spot**ted: 2

Northville High School graduate). Kellen, however, was the only one to complete the entire trip.

"I always thought I was going to be sick of it when I was done, but at the end I found I was really enjoying riding every day," he said.

Smetana said there were only a few times that he questioned what he was doing, first when in the mountains in China where he was "the coldest I've ever been," and traveling through the desert in Kazakhstan.

"When I look back on it, those are some of my most vivid memories, when times were the toughest," he said. "You start to learn how much you can accomplish when you put your mind to something."

Smetana returned home from the trip about a month ago, and ended up raising about \$9,000 to help build 64 bicycles for the World Bicycle Relief.

"I think one of the biggest things it will do for me is it will help me to think big," he said. "What I mean by that is even in my own mind when I thought this up I thought it would be a ton of fun and a life-changing experience but also knew it was crazy... it really puts everything into perspective and having that constant perspective back on life here does change me."

People can read his updated journal and see photos from his trip at www.revolutionsforrelief.org.

nmueller@gannett.com



Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, January 12, 2012

Novi resident and Northville High School graduate Kellen Smetana celebrates reaching the Atlantic Ocean in Lisbon, Portugal, with his friend Bill Conry during his 16,000 kilometer bike trek from Hong Kong to help raise awareness and funds for the World Bicycle Relief.



Novi resident Kellen Smetana recently returned from a seven month bicycling trip across Europe and Asia to raise money for the World Bicycle Relief. He is pictured here riding through mountains in Qinghai Province, China.



ing brother Cory (2009



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The Love List: Be careful what you wish for

Tipping Point Theatre opens the third show in its 2011-12 birthday season with a fantastic, farcical comedy that will have you believing you should be careful what you wish for. "The Love List" runs from Jan. 19 through Feb. 19. Please Note: Adult content and language.

What would happen if you came up with a list of the 10 ideal attributes you desire in a mate and then someone fitting that exact description suddenly shows up at your door?

Leon (Wayne David Parker) takes his long time single buddy Bill (Dave Davies) out to dinner for his 50th birthday. As a humorous present, Leon gets Bill an appointment with a gypsy who can guarantee she'll find him the perfect soul mate, but first he must make a list of the most important things he is looking for in a partner.

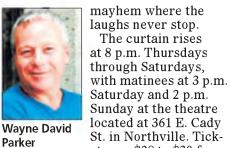
The next day, Justine (Tina Gloss-



Finnell) appears at Bill's apartment and acts like she's been with him for years.

Gloss-Finnell

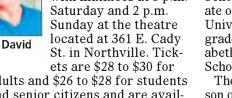
Since she is a perfect match for him, Bill thinks Leon is behind the whole thing, but Leon is also in the dark about this "perfect woman". When Bill and Leon change some of the qualities on the list, Justine's personality changes and the buddies now think they may have created a female Frankenstein! This situation throws the two friends into



adults and \$26 to \$28 for students and senior citizens and are available now by calling the box office at (248) 347-0003.

This production is supported in part by an award from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Tipping Point Theatre's season continues with "Fiction" by Steven Dietz from March 15 to April 15 and "The Cemetery Club" by Ivan Menchell from May 10-June 17.





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ENGAGEMENT

Delaney & Steele

Kyle Patrice Delaney, of Wichita, and Sherman Alan Steele, of Dallas, are engaged to be married July 7 in Wichita, Kan. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Madison, Wisc. She is a 2001 graduate of Northville High School and a 2006 graduate of Eastern Michigan University. She is a third grade teacher at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic

School in Wichita. The groom-elect is the son of Keith and Linda Steele, of Ulysses, Kan. He is a 2003 graduate of Ulysses High School and



Kyle Delaney and Sherman Steele

a 2008 graduate of Kansas State University. He works for Schmidt and Stacy Consulting Engineers in Dallas.

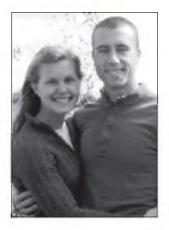
ENGAGEMENT

Hilger & Munch

Michelle Ann (Shelly) Hilger, of Northville, and Michael Steven Munch, of Canton, are engaged to be married.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Cindy and Chuck, of Northville. She graduated from Northville High School and University of Michigan with a degree in biology and recently completed the Accelerated Nursing Program to earn her RN.

The groom-elect is the son of Steven and the late Katherine Munch, of Canton. He graduated from Canton High School and earned his degree in education from Eastern



Michelle Hilger and Michael Munch

Michigan University. He is currently teaching fifth grade in Taylor, Mich. A July 21 wedding is planned.

NEWSMAKERS

Local attorneys recognized

Sixty-eight Butzel Long attorneys have been recognized as Top Lawyers in Metro Detroit 2012 by DBusiness magazine. They include the following local residents:

Northville – Susan L. Johnson, Nicholas J. Stasevich and John C. Valenti; Novi – Amy L. Glenn and Cynthia J. Haffey; Wixom - Debra A. Geroux. DBusiness polled more than 21,000 private attorneys in the fivecounty region. The lawyers were asked to nominate up to three attorneys among 51 specialized practice areas. Special weight was given to lawyers chosen by attornevs working in firms other than their own as well as past honorees.





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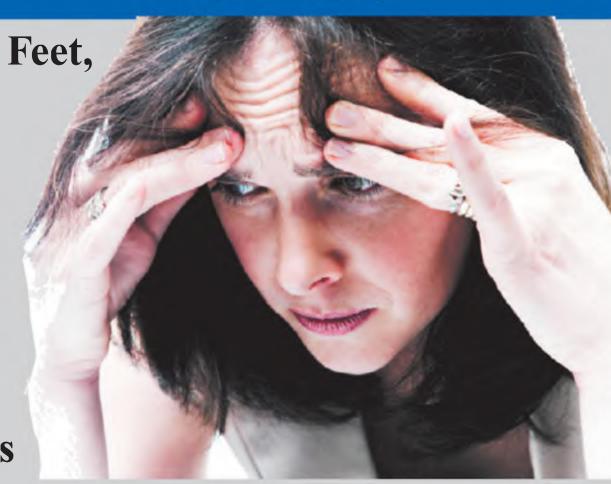


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THYROID CONDITION?

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Dr. Tom Sladic DC is Holding A FREE SEMINAR Thursday, Jan. 19th at 6:15 pm.

Location: Wixom Public Library 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom, MI 48393 Dr. Sladic's protocols are based on the ground breaking work of Dr. Datis Kharrazian, author of the book "Why Do I Still Have Thyroid Symptoms

when my lab Tests are normal"

Topics to be discussed:

- Why you still feel horrible even though you're on Thyroid medication.
- Find out why your lab tests may not be normal.
- 6 patterns of Thyroid problems and only one requires medication.
- Why Hashimotos is not a problem with your Thyroid.
- Why you have not had complete testing.
- Natural solutions for Thyroid problems.

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I've lost 35lbs, my medicine has been cut in half, I have energy and I feel Great! This all occured in just 3 months working with Dr Sladic. – Ellen S. Lake Orion Mi.

"I thought I had to learn to live with Hashimotos. I now feel better than I have in years. All of my symptoms are gone. This seminar and your program changed my life." -S. Finn, Novi

View More Testimonials at DrSladic.com

Fireman's Ball

The 9th Annual Northville Township Charity Fireman's Ball will be held from 6 p.m.-midnight Saturday, Feb. 11 at the Italian American Club of Livonia.

For ticket sales or donation information, please contact Tommy Hughes at (734) 219-3961 or firemansball3961@gmail.com.

All proceeds benefit the Northville Township Professional Fire Fighters Charity Fund.

Food program changes

As of Jan. 1, 2012, income guidelines have been adjusted to allow more individuals and families to be served by TEFAP. The Emergency Food Assistance Program provides low-income Plymouth and Northville residents with canned and non-perishable items.

The next distribution is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 19, at St. Kenneth Catholic Church (14951 North Haggerty Road).

All recipients must be pre-registered. This is a supplemental food program so it may be used in addition to other assistance programs. Bridge Card holders automatically quality, but need to preregister. Recipients not currently on governmental assistance (food stamps, ADC and general) need to provide documentation including proof of income and residency before receiving food on distribution days.

Distributions continue the third Thursday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at St. Kenneth Catholic Church.

For information and to register, call Plymouth Community United Way at (734) 453-6879, ext. 7.

St. Mary blood drive results

St. Mary Mercy Hospital and the American Red

Farmers for a day



PHILIP ALLMEN

Hannah Skinner of Northville feeds Eva, a calf, as Isabella Erazo of Royal Oak watches. The students in Kensington Metropark's Farmer for a Day program on Dec. 28 use milk they had just gathered after milking a cow in the barn.

Cross partnered in a blood drive campaign in 2011. A total of 390 pints of blood was collected over five blood drives, which has assisted 1,170 patients at 43 area hospitals. "Our hospital employees and our hospital guests have been most generous in supporting our blood drives," said Janet Searight, senior HR consultant and Blood Drive Committee chair, St. Mary Mercy Hospital. "We thank not only our employees but the community for their support as well," she added.

Beautification Commission

The Northville Township Beautification Commission is an all-volunteer organization that works to enhance the appearance of the community. The commission is always looking for residents who may be interested in joining, or who would simply like to help out on any of these projects. For more information contact Commission Chair Marie Barr c/o Northville Twp. Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville Twp., MI 48168.

News, now!

Breaking stories and news updates are always posted online at hometownlife.com. Check out the latest happenings in Northville and Novi throughout the day.

Get into the online discussions by clicking on Story Chat on each story, editorial, or letter to the editor. Check out the awesome photo galleries posted by our staff photographers.

Stop by the Hometown Weeklies' Facebook page and become a "friend" to receive news updates right on your wall. It's your news, on your time, in the format of your choice.

Flu shots

The Wayne County Department of Public Health emphasizes that "it's not too late to be vaccinated" to protect you and your family from the flu. Cost for adults and children six months and older is \$5 now through spring 2012 (regular price is \$15). Medicaid and Medicare Part B accepted.

The flu season typically peaks in January or February, and can last as late as May, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Wayne County flu shot clinic locations and hours include: Wayne Health Center, 33030 Van Born Road, (734) 727-7100, walkins 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays, by appointment 11 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Wednesdays and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Fridays; Taylor Health Center, 26650 Eureka Road; (734) 955-3900, (same hours as Wavne Health Center); and Redford Area Health Office. 17421 Telegraph Road, (313) 537-1708, by appointment only 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Wednesdays. For more information, call the Wayne County Department of Public Health at (734) 727-7000. Public Health clinics

will close for the holiday break from Dec. 23-Jan. 2 and Jan. 16 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Reel Michigan Film Festival call for entries deadline April 23

After a successful premiere of Reel Michigan 2011, the Northville Art House and charity partner Northville Civic Concern will present the second annual "Reel Michigan" Film Festival, June 23, 2012.

Reel Michigan is now accepting Michigan-made or Michigan-themed short films (25 minutes or less, including credits) as a part of the city's popular Arts & Acts event held June 22-24. Arts and Acts is a vibrant, annual celebration of the arts in Southeast Michigan featuring art, music, film, plays and more!

Reel Michigan welcomes all genres, from student films to the experimental.

Industry speakers and possible workshops will also be part of Reel Michigan 2012 as well as an after party where attendees can mingle with local filmmakers, meet the crew from Northville Civic Concern and watch as awards are given out for the best films in several categories.

Films will include any project filmed with any type of camera and includes digitally made films. All entries must be submitted on a DVD only. Reel Michigan will only accept entries from filmmakers who filmed their entry in Michigan or whose film is Michigan themed. Selected films for Reel Michigan screening will be notified via email no later than May 21, 2012. For the entry form and

more information, email Lisa at ReelMichigan@ gmail.com.

Hospice volunteers needed

Compassionate Care Hospice seeks caring, compassionate volunteers with big hearts to serve as friendly visitors for its patients. Their service area includes the counties of Oakland, Monroe, Wayne, Washtenaw and Livingston. Volunteers set their own schedules and typically donate one to two hours of their time per week.

Volunteers receive training and on-going coaching, and social opportunities are available as well.

Contact Justine Galat, volunteer coordinator, to apply for an interview at igalat@cchnet.net or (888) 983-9050.

Toddle Time Tuesdays

Bring your toddlers and preschoolers to their own special drop-in play time at the Northville Community Senior Center gym, 303 W. Main Street from 10 a.m.noon on Tuesdays through April 24 (except April 10).

Toddle Time is a wonderful opportunity for toddlers to learn socialization skills through unstructured play. Tots can run, jump, play ball, laugh and giggle with other tots in a big, safe gym atmosphere.

Children must be accompanied by an adult for the entire time.

Some toys are available, however, we recommend that parents bring a ride or push toy.

Please bring exact change (\$3 per child) and pay attendant. No fee for adults.

For more information, contact Pat Brown, Recreation superintendent, Northville Parks & Recreation at (248) 449-9949 or pbrown@ci.northville. mi.us.





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State's university boards to be reduced?

By Christopher Behnan Gannett News Service

A proposal to re-evaluate the need for Michigan's public universities to have separate governing boards is being viewed as a threat to autonomy by university officials, and a step toward improving students' access to higher education by some lawmakers.

House Bill 5000 would create a 13member University System Restructuring Commission that would issue annual reports about the efficiency of the governance of Michigan's 13 taxpayer-funded universities.

State Rep. Bill Rogers (R-Genoa Township), a co-sponsor of the bill. said the proposed commission doesn't have a specified direction but that its initial focus may be to determine whether multiple university boards are necessarv.

He said the prospect of reducing the number of university boards wouldn't reduce autonomy the boards currently enjoy, nor infringe on competition among universities to draw students.

"I don't know that there's any hardcore direction. It's more the conversation," Rogers said of the proposal.

"We've got to work on kind of making things more efficient," he added.

The University of Michigan, Michigan State University and Wayne State University have their boards elected in statewide elections as required in the state constitution.

The other state universities, including Oakland University and Eastern Michigan University, have boards appointed by the governor.

Reducing the number of university boards would be arguably the opposite of a new law that completely uncaps the allowed number of K-12 charter schools in Michigan by 2015.

In pushing for that measure, lawmakers said having unlimited charter schools would increase competition among public schools and give students more options.

Rogers said another House bill would expand competition among universities by allowing community colleges to offer bachelor's degrees - specifically in the fields of cement technology, maritime technology, energy production technology and culinary arts.

Under that bill, community colleges could grant bachelor's degrees in nursing, but only if approved by the Michigan Board of Nursing. That proposal, House Bill 4496, was passed in the House and has sat in committee since late June.

Rogers said most Michigan voters have never met, let alone read about candidates for the U-M, MSU or Wayne State boards. He said most voters have no connection to the people representing their taxpayer-supported universities.

"We need to get it to where people will maybe take the time and know," he said

Michigan has a unique governance system for public higher education as the only state without some sort of statewide coordinating board or governing board, experts said.

The legislation, against the backdrop of tensions over this year's 15 percent cut to state aid, has set off a conversation about governance of the state's 13 taxpayer-funded universities and whether it should be more centralized.

At their best, university system boards allow states to think in a coordinated manner about how to produce an educated work force. At their worst, such systems and boards become expensive bureaucracies producing red tape for campuses, experts said.

Individual Michigan universities quickly opposed the commission bill this year.

"It's pure unadulterated politics," said Martin Taylor, a Democratic member of the University of Michigan's Board of Regents.

The goal of the bill is to take a step toward making university education more affordable in Michigan, said Rep. Bob Genetski, R-Saugatuck, primary sponsor of the bill and chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education.

"Tuition at our state universities is putting a big strain on Michigan families. This commission would explore more efficient, less expensive ways to offer college education," Genetski said in a statement.

The commission proposal, introduced in September, also would charge the commission with analyzing universities' operations and oversight and reviewing higher education governance in other states.

The bill calls for 11 of 13 commissioners to have voting rights. Of those 11 members, four would be state residents not officially associated with a state university, appointed by the governor.

The two nonvoting members of the commission would be the state superintendent of schools and director of the Department of Technology, Management and Budget.

cbehnan@gannett.com | (517) 548-7108

CANCER

Continued from page A1

their hair for a donation. She has made it an informal competition between the schools; the last year, the Novi students earned more in donations. This year, Northville did.

She said the monthlong fundraiser was so popular, she didn't even know how many students took part.

"I lost track," she said with a laugh, "but it was a lot." A bit of serendipitous

luck connected the Girvans with Townsend, whom they had never met. Jan Fitzgerald, a regular client at the salon, overheard Nadine talking about the fundraiser. The wife of former Gerald Fitzgerald, the former chief executive officer of Oakwood Healthcare, Inc (OHI), Fitzgerald called Nancy Gray, administrator

of Women's Health Programs for Oakwood, and asked if she knew of a patient that could benefit from the donations. At the time of her diagnosis, Townsend was between jobs and uninsured. She had her initial mammogram and biopsy at the Oakwood Breast Care Center-Wayne through the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP), which provides free or low-cost screenings to women. Townsend is scheduled for surgery at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital at the end of the month. "I think there God was

at work in that room," said Fitzgerald, who is also a cancer survivor.

"I think this is so generous," she added of the Girvans' donation "They didn't have to do this." Thomas, recalling

the chaotic days after Nadine was diagnosed, said he was glad to be able to do something like this.

"I remember just being overwhelmed and we had a lot of friends helping us," he said. "This is our chance to give back."

Townsend, who lost her 6-year-old son Tyler to cancer six years ago, said she appreciates the help and hopes to help others, in return. She said she has since come to terms with her diagnosis and counts each day as a blessing.

"I'm not scared anymore," she said. "I'm ready to go. I'm going to beat this. God is making me stronger."

She said she is planning to make jewelry and donate half of the proceeds to help fight the disease, as well.

"It just makes me want to give back," said Townsend. "I want to give back to everyone."

For more information about the BCCCP program, visit www.michigancancer.org/bcccp.

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 personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperi-enced 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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11:15, 1:50, 4:20, 6:55, 9:30 FRI/SAT LS 12:00 3D BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (G) \$2.50 PREMIUM PER 30 TICKET 1:55, 4:15, 6:45, 9:10 FRI/SAT LS 11:20 CBEAUTY ANB THE BEAST (G) 11:40 AM COHTRABAHD (R) 11:30, 2:00, 4:35, 7:00, 9:35 FRI/SAT LS 12:00 THE DEVIL INSIDE (R) 12:00, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:25 FRI/SAT LS 11:30 WE BOUGHT A ZOO (PG) 11:05, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45 SHERLOCK HOLMES: A GAME OF

SHADOWS (PG-13) 11:00, 1:40, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 RI/SAT LS 11:25 ALVIH AND THE CHIPMUNKS: CHIPWRECKED (G) 12:10, 2:25, 4:40, 6:50, 9:00

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EDUCATION

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SADD Movie Night

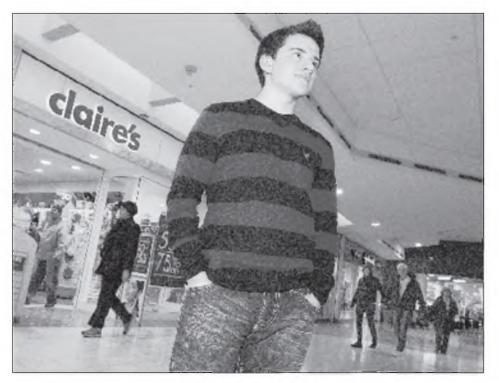


Area children got an early taste of some holiday fun at Northville High School on Dec. 16 when Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) hosted its Holiday Movie Night. About 50 children attend this year's event. "We were so happy to be hosting another movie night this year," said Donny Yamin, SADD Co-president. "The Halloween movie night was such a success it was great to see the children again in December. I think everyone enjoyed the crafts and treats and of course the movie, Polar Express. The children had loads of fun. It is wonderful for all our SADD volunteers to know that so many kids enjoyed themselves and that the parents had fun too." SADD will hold another free movie event for children in the spring, in the cafeteria of Northville High School. They hope to have an even bigger turn out. Children of all ages are welcome to come. Time and date will be announced.

Demetri Tsilimingras, (left,) enjoyed playing Jenja and doing crafts with Northville High School SADD volunteer Charlie Busse and Nico Tsilimingras (right). The 5-year-old twin boys are kindergarten students at Amerman Elementary School.







Andrew Carlone's gift wrapping raised money for charity.

Student, volunteers wrap gifts, raise \$21,000 to help clinic

By Ken Abramczyk Observer Staff Writer

Andrew Carlone and his mother, Tami Carlone, have no idea how many presents they wrapped this holiday season as volunteers at Laurel Park Place mall in Livonia.

But they know that it helped raise money for a great cause.

On Jan. 3, Andrew presented a \$12,500 check to the Hope Medical Clinic, part of \$21,200 raised by the Carlones and other volunteers who wrapped gifts at Laurel Park Place every day between Black Friday and Christmas Day. The volunteers received donations from shoppers for wrapping gifts for the shoppers. The Hope Medical Clinic provides medicine and other prescriptions for families in Wayne County. The clinic needed to find a new location after the Frank Furniture store explosion next door to their office one year ago. The clinic is currently in Wayne, but is expected to open an office on Palmer in Westland in the spring, according to Mary Dekker, clinic coordinator for the Wayne satellite clinic. The clinic has been operating for 30 years and is based in Washtenaw Countv.

"I went to a Bible study at church and one of the ideas was to wrap," Andrew said. The U.S. State Department provided \$1,000 for the gift-wrapping supplies, Tami said.

Andrew specifically requested that the money assist those who need insulin for diabetics and inhalers for those with respiratory ailments.

"I think it's fantastic," Dekker said. "It's a big boost for us, especially with a new location for us. We have more patients who need help. It will help those who don't have health insurance."

Approximately 1,000 patients have visited the Wayne satellite, Dekker said.

A gratifying experience

Tami and Andrew said the community service gave them gratification for helping others in need.

Tami said 420 people volunteered from the church and local schools, including Livonia Franklin, Churchill, Mercy, Ladywood and Garden City high schools. Northville High School

National Honor Society worked a total

of 437 hours – about 25 percent of the

Ward EPC Church in Northville was the source of 100 service hours, and 40

hours came from other area churches. "It took us away from our traditional Christmas stuff," Tami said. "We didn't

overdecorate, overshop or overeat. It

put our focus on an organization that

Andrew was pleased with the fundraising effort. "It feels good to raise

all that money," he said. "We got a lot

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really needed it."

more than I expected."

total hours, while Novi High School gave 367 hours of their time.



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Serving the community

Andrew Carlone, a junior at Northville High School, serves as a youth administrator with the U.S. State Department. "Part of the agreement of being a youth ambassador is to do some service in your community," his mother said.

Andrew said he and his mother spoke with church members at Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville and they came up with the gift-wrapping idea.

Santa visits



The Order of the Alhambra service organization brought Santa Claus to the kids of Northville Old Village and Cooke Schools on Dec. 16. Here student Christy Jensen, 9, enjoys a moment with the Jolly Old Fellow during the Friday morning meeting. Alhambra's members took photos of the kids with Santa and then made sure that each student and their family received a copy of the moment.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NORTHVILLE ON CAMPUS

Michigan State University

Northville High School graduate Nicholas Putman has been named to the Dean's List for the university's Honors College of Engineering. Putman is a junior studying mechanical engineering and a technician employed by The National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratories in East Lansing. He was also named as a engineering student representative for the Michigan State University Academic Integrity Hearing Board.

Walley

VanDam, Winkelman headline fishing show

The big one just got bigger with the announcement that two of the angling world's biggest stars are featured speakers at the annual Ultimate Fishing Show—Detroit, Jan. 12-15 at Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue in Novi.

The "catch of the year" includes Kevin VanDam, four-time Bassmaster Classic champion from Kalamazoo, and Babe Winkelman, whose popular TV show "Good Fishing" is one of the nation's longest-running programs. Last June, Van-Dam, whose tournament earnings since turning pro in 1992 have surpassed \$5 million, won an unprecedented seventh "Angler of the Year Award." KVD, as his fans call him, will make an exclusive appearance on Friday, Jan. 13 at Michigan's biggest fishing show in North America's largest freshwater angling market.

Legendary angler, Babe Winkelman will appear on Saturday, January 14, to share tips and tales about his extensive fishing experiences in Canada. Show producers are expecting record crowds both days. There is no extra charge for the seminars, and both stars will be available for free autographs.

More than 100 other free fishing seminars by top experts are scheduled during the four-day show. New speakers include Dan Armitage (ice fishing, kayak fishing, kids fishing) and Howell's Kim Stricker, who brings his multi-media "Hook 'N Look" TV series to the show. Back by popular demand is "Walleye Woman" Marianne Huskey, along with more than 20 other angling experts.

America's biggest angling supermarket

More than 400,000 licensed anglers live in southeastern Michigan,

DETAILS

Event: Ultimate Fishing Show-Detroit Dates: Jan. 12-15 Location: Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue in Novi

Admission: Free on Thursday for patrons who bring six cans/boxes or four pounds of nonperishable food items to donate to the annual Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger food drive; \$10 for adults and \$4 for children 6 to 14. There is no charge for children 5 and under. Hours: 2-9:30 p.m. Thursday; noon-9:30 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday

Thursday, 2 to 9:30; Friday, Noon to 9:30; Saturday, 10 to 9; Sunday, 10 to 5. Web: www.Ultimate-FishingShow.com Contact: 800-328-6550

al rebate programs, special discounts and other buying incentives. Factory experts will be on hand to answer technical questions and to help anglers compare prices and features.

Four acres of fishing stuff

The Ultimate Fishing Show – Detroit offers four acres of boats, tackle, gear, and specialized fishing equipment, a veritable supermarket for buyers looking for new product selection and value. Frank's Great Outdoors, Lakeside Fishing Shop, KD Outdoors and other key Michigan retailers are among the 150 tackle exhibitors.

The dealers include traveling vendors from other markets, like StrikeMasters from Minnesota, along with Frabill, Otter. Vexilar and other manufacturers of icefishing tackle and accessories.

The nonstop seminars, which are free with admission, cover the latest tips and techniques for catching bass, walleye, salmon, steelhead, muskie, pike and panfish. Joining Kevin VanDam for bass seminars are several experts from the National Bass Anglers Association. Other top speakers include Mark Martin, Mark Romanack, Lance Valentine and Marianne Huskey on walleye; Mike Pittiglio and Don Miller on muskie; Chip Cartwright on salmon; and Bob Brunner on pike.

Among the many specialty seminars are presentations on ice fishing by experts Mark Martin, Dan Armitage and Joe Raymer.

Lake Ultimate, the nation's largest indoor lake with 110,000 gallons of water, holds big rainbow trout that speakers will try to catch using flyfishing, vertical jigging, boat control and precision casting from fully rigged boats. No other venue in North America offers an indoor lake this large for such real-time seminars.

Fee-based weekend Super Clinics for walleye and Great Lakes trolling are limited to 100 students each who can register right at the show.

based Bass Super Clinic. A shore lunch fish fry occurs daily.

The show attracts anglers of all ages and levels of experience. The Trout Pond will have live rainbows for kids to catch, and they can try their skills on the Virtual Fishing Simulator. A free Casting Kids Contest occurs on the weekend.

The first 500 attendees on Thursday and Friday receive a \$6.95 commemorative Dardevle fishing spoon, compliments of Eppinger Manufacturing in Dearborn. The first

250 patrons on Saturday and Sunday receive a free tackle pack, compliments of K&E Stopper Lure Company. Westland Camping Center will give away a pair of Ocean kayaks to lucky show patrons who sign up at the booth.

Anglers can sign up for the Kevin VanDam Cast Off during the last two hours of each day the show is open. Entrants pay \$10 each to see who can "put it in the cup." The winner gets a \$50 prize and all entrants go into a drawing for one lucky person to fish with KVD during a tournament this summer near Kevin's Kalamazoo home. All proceeds go to the March of Dimes.

Call 866-501-DOCS to find a physician

The Ultimate Fishing Show—Detroit at Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue in Novi on Jan. 12-15. Registrants receive a free "goody bag" worth Lake Ultimate, the at least twice the typical \$25 instructional fee. ultimate in fishing New this year is a feeseminars

The doctor is in and offers

expert care close to home

an hour's drive or less from the venue. Besides "schooling up" at Novi for instruction, they come for the show season's best value on fishing boats and angling gear and to book angling adventures from the many professional guides, charterboat captains, lodges and outfitters.

Wilson Marine, Wonderland Marine-West, Anderson Boat Sales, Angler's Marine, Freeway Sport Center in Fenton, and Grand Pointe Marine in Lansing are among the biggest downstate dealers bringing more than 200 new fiberglass and aluminum fishing boats to the show. Other major dealers include Bee's Sports in St. Johns and Chapman's Boat Sales in Lapeer. Cabela's in Dundee and Hideaway Yachts are new dealers who will also remove the wraps from boat/motor/trailer packages designed for catching bass, walleye, steelhead, salmon, panfish and other popular Michigan species.

The fleet of new boats includes pontoons, offshore trolling craft, canoes and kayaks-more than 40 brands in all.

The huge show always occurs early in the new year when major boat and motor manufacturers announce their annu-

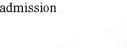
Many are one-of-akind makers of lures, tackle components and accessories. Anglers can choose from the plethora of brand names as well as customized, specialized gear that includes cutting-edge electronics, fishing-boat accessories, and the newest offerings in downriggers, rods, reels, nets, lines and other gear.

Because of its sheer size, the show attracts representatives from major manufacturers such as Stren, Berkley, Fenwick, Lowrance, Okuma, Shimano, Offshore Tackle and Bert's Custom Tackle.

Many guides, outfitters, lodges, charter fishing captains and other destination vendors have reserved space. "Outfitters Expo" is a show within the show that offers fishing and family vacations throughout Michigan, the Great Lakes, and Canada and beyond. Patrons can compare costs and services by speaking direct-

Angling instruction, free with admission







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POLICE CALLS

Breaking and Entering

1 A breaking and entering was reported to Northville Township police after a resident found a couple of items missing from his car.

The incident occurred on Nov. 20 at his residence on Scenic Harbour Drive, but the 49-year-old man was unable to report it sooner due to family illness. He told police his car was parked inside his garage and was unlocked. He is missing a Garmin GPS and Canon camera.

He told police he had been grilling inside his garage earlier that day, but had closed the door afterward. He found the items missing the following day. Police found no signs of forced entry.

Trespass

2 They said they did not know, but that didn't stop the police from citing three men for trespassing on the Seven Mile Road property

On Dec. 29, Northville Township

police were patrolling inside the property along Wayne Avenue, which is near the closed down hospital's recreational building. The police discovered the men walking with flashlights and dust masks; they said they were not aware of the trespassing rule. They admitted to being on the property for over an hour.

Larceny

3 An 84-year-old Northville man went to police to report his catalytic converter had been stolen from his car while it was parked at the Meijer store on Haggerty Road.

The man said the incident happened on Dec. 20 while his Olds Cutlass was parked at the lot while he was inside the store. There were no other incidents like this reported. The man said Meijer security said it would contact the police if any evidence was found on the security cameras.

Compiled by correspondent Lonnie Huhman





1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • htwobits@hometownlife.com Deadiine: Tuesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday



BEAN, JENNIFER NICOLE

Age 30, died on January 7, 2012. She is survived by her daughters, Audree and Ivory and their father. Will Vargo; her father, Martin Bean, and her step-mother, Deborah; her brother, Adam Bean; her sister, Jacqueline Bean; grandmother, June Bean; step-brothers, Mark Kibler II, Ryan and Johnathan Smith; step-sister, Jessica Kibler and many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and dear friends. She was preceded in death by her mother, Karen Bean, and a sister, Jessica. Jennifer has worked as a special needs bus driver with the Livingston Educational Service Agency for the last twelve years. A Funeral Service will be held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 Liberty St., Milford, on Friday, January 13, at 10:30AM with Deacon Mike Somervell officiating. Burial will follow at Highland Cemetery. Friends may visit Thursday 2-9PM. For further

information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit HALLABRIN, HAROLD

Jan. 1, 2012, Age 85. Beloved husband of Gloria & the late Lorrain Hallabrin. Funeral was Jan. 4 at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home.

HOERIG, MARILYN L.

(nee: Meo) 73, of South Lyon (formerly of Elyria) Dec. 29, 2011. Arrangements by The Laubenthal-Mercado Funeral Home, Ohio.

JOHNSON, MARY ELEANOR

Age 69 of Milford, MI, passed away January 2, 2012. For information please contact Lynch & Sons in Milford 248-684-6645 or www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com



KANE, GEORGE



MAHON, RITA ANN

Age 67, of Highland Michigan passed away January 7, 2012 with her loving family present at the University of Michigan hospital in Ann Arbor. The daughter of the late Bernard and Marie Walsh; Rita was born on June 14th in Bad Axe, Michigan. She graduated from Elkton-Pigeon-Bayport High School in 1962 and became a registered nurse in 1965 after completing schooling from Mercy Central School of Nursing in Grand Rapids. Her nursing profession took her from Bay City and to Detroit (Mount Carmel Hospital), on to the Director of Nursing at Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital in Pontiac Hospital. She finished her career with Hospice of Michigan, where she served as hospice home nurse and later the Director of Employee Relations. She never stopped having a true passion for nursing and loved the opportunity to help family and friends as their patient advocates. She had a tremendous singing voice, which she shared on many occasions. Rita was a great storyteller and enjoyed surrounding herself with people she loved. In the company of her family, Rita especially loved spending time at her cottage in Caseville, Michigan, near her family farm. She touched many lives and was loved by all who knew her. Survived by her sons, Sean (Renee) Mahon of Royal Oak, Timothy (Lynn) Mahon of Macomb and their daughter, Bridget (Ted) Seitz of East Lansing; grandchil dren, Donovan, Lorelei, Ava and Emerson Mahon and Mitchell, Natalie and Cameron Seitz: sister Mary (Robert) Rich; brother, Richard (Shirley) Walsh; sistersin-law, Marie (wife of the late Allen) Walsh, Beverly (wife of the late Joseph) Walsh, Rosalie (wife of the late George) Walsh; many nieces, nephews and dear friends whom she dearly loved. In addition to her husband, Rita was preceded in death by her brothers Allen, Joseph, George and Donald Walsh. Friends may visit at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty, Milford, Tuesday 6-9PM and Wednesday 2-9PM. Vigil Service Wednesday 7PM will resume on Visitation Thursday, January 12th from Church of the Holy Spirit, 3700 N. Harvey Lake Rd., Highland, MI one hour prior to the Liturgy at 10AM. Fr. Don Worthy officiating. Committal Services will take place at St. Felix Cemetery, Pinnebog, MI on Friday 3 PM. In lieu of flowers, Memorials encouraged to Hospice of Michigan or Church of The Holy Spirit (for family's in need). For more information please phone Lynch & Sons Funeral Home at 248-684-6645 visit or www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com.

MUNIR, STEVEN GREGORY December 22, 2011. Age 2, son of Jason and Stephanie. Funeral was held December 28, 2011 at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home.



QUALMAN, AMY JUNE

Age 97, passed away December 2011. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 62 years, Jack Walter, sisters Grace (Frank) McIndoe, Birdie (Eugene) Pigg and brother Bill (Deany) Clausen. Amy is survived by her loving children, Jay (Brook) Qualman and AI (Connie) Qualman; grandchildren, Jay III, Erik, Matt, Holly, Heather; great grandchildren, Jack, Katherine, Will, Charlie, Scarlett, Sofia; brother, Alfred (Jean) Qualman. A Memorial Service was held on Monday, January 9th, 2012 at Milford Presbyterian Church. Memorial contributions are encouraged to Milford Historical Society or Michigan Humane Society. For further information please phone Lynch & Sons. Milford, 248-684-6645.

NORTHVILLE ETC.

Meetings

NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION Date: Second and fourth Tuesday of the month **Time:** 7:30 p.m. **Location:** Old Village

School CITY OF NORTHVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Date: First and third Monday of the month **Time:** 7:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall, 215 W. Main St.

DOWNTOWN DEVELOP-MENT AUTHORITY MEET-ING

Date: Third Tuesday of each month **Time:** 8 a.m.

Location: City Hall Meeting Room A, on lower level, 215 W. Main St.

Contact: downtownnorthville.com

PLANNING COMMISSION Date: First and third Tuesday of month Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall HOUSING COMMISSION

Date: Second Wednesday of every month **Time:** 3 p.m.

m. BEA

ABOUT ETC. The Lists: Etc. includes

Meetings; Senior Events; Library Lines; Parks and Rec; Volunteering; Support Groups; Clubs and Groups; Class Reunions; Golf Outings; and Health Events.

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Date: Third Thursday of month Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Township Hall

ZONING BOARD OF AP-PEALS

Date: Third Wednesday of month

Time: 7:30 p.m. Location: Township Hall BEAUTIFICATION COM-MISSION

www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

BENTHAM, GEORGE

Age 67, January 1, 2012. Dear dad of Scott (Angie), grandpa of Mikey and Robbie, former spouse and friend of Marlene, Brother of Betty McCarver and the late Mary Monaghan. Memorial contributions to Angela Hospice would be greatly appreciated. Generations Funeral & Cremation Services.

CREECH, RAYMOND

Age 75, of New Hudson, passed away, Jan. 5, 2012. A funeral service was held on Sunday, Jan. 8th at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Online Guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com



FOLEY, LENA COLLEEN

Age 75 of Northville. Beloved wife of John "Jack" of 52 years. Dear mother of John, Cheryl (Jeff) Michaud, Marcia Foley. Loving grandmother of Jack and Natalie. Colleen's greatest joy was being with her family and friends. Services were held Monday. Please share your memories at www.Fredwoodfuneralhome.com

GIEBEL, JEAN MCCOMBIE

Age 91, passed away January 5, 2012. She was born on March 6, 1920, to the late John & Catherine (McPherson) Blackwood in Glasgow, Scotland. Jean is survived by her 7 children: Rosalind Tyler, Marylin Shuster, Douglas Giebel, Catherine Giebel, Rhoda Giebel, Larry Giebel, and Janet Hoover; siblings: Catherine Bossory, Georgina Mortrude; 14 grandchildren and 11 greatgrandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Richard Giebel. Visitation was held Jan. 6, Friday, from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. A funeral service was held on Jan. Saturday, at 4:00 p.m. at Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon. Reverend Dave Brown of the Fellowship Evangel Presbyterian Church officiated. Evangelical Online guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com

Passed on into God's hands January 7, 2012. He was preceded in death by his wife Vivian, parents Peter and Saima Sikanen, brother Warren Kane and sister Marceille Lehto. He is survived by his children Ruth Armstrong, Paul (Maureen) Kane, Nina Greene, Mark (Harumi) Kane, and Beth (Zia) Mir; 15 grandkids; 3 great-grand kids. George lived a full life and touched many people. He taught at Redford High School for 34 years as an industrial arts teacher. He also taught at Lawrence Tech for over 36 years. He enjoyed teaching Sunday School at Elim Baptist. He was an automotive designer for Ford, Chrysler, GM, and AMC during the summers. A multi-talented man who tried to get the best out of everyone. He held city wide draft-ing contests for Detroit Schools. President of Southfield Woods Dad's Club baseball leagues. A WWII Veteran MP with the 9th Armored Division in Germany. Active at Highland Park Baptist Church, TOPS, the Finnish Center, and South Lyon Senior Center. He lived in Detroit and South Lyon. A world traveler who enjoyed meeting people and chatting, he was always wanting to see a different part of the world. Funeral . Thursday 11 a.m., January 12th (in state 10 a.m.) at Highland Park Baptist Church, 28600 Lasher Rd., Southfield, MI (S. of 12 Mile Rd.). Memorial contributions may be made to Mark Kane, ISMNZ of North America, 21000 N. 75th Ave., Glendale, AZ 85308. Arrangements entrusted to Thayer-

Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

www.thayer-rock.com

KELNER, LILLIAN M.

Age 94, of Northville, passed away Jan. 6, 2012. A Mass was held Jan. 11 at Our Lady of Victory. www.casterlinefuneralhome.com

KINSMAN, HELEN

Age 86, Dec. 30, 2011. Online condolences at: obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

LAABS, NANCY

of Novi, died Dec. 24, 2011. Funeral was Dec. 29 at Our Lady of Victory. obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

LAKOWICZ, JOSEPH A.

Age 84, of South Lyon, passed Jan. 4, 2012. Beloved husband, father, brother, & grandfather. www.casterlinefuneralhome.com

MCPHERSON, JOAN E.

Age 65, of South Lyon, passed away January 7, 2012, surrounded by family and friends. She was born on June 22, 1946, in Detroit, daughter of the late Henry and Mary McPherson. She was pre-ceded in death by her brother Patrick. Joan is survived by her son, Mark Ring; her siblings: John McPherson, Mary Hunter, Chuck McPherson and Michael McPherson. She is also survived by two grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by her best friend and sister in Christ, Rose Kronsperger. Private family services have been held. In lieu of flowers, family and friends are asked to make donations to The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society St. Jude Children's and/or Hospital. Online Guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com



JAMES N. "JIM"

Age 76 of New Hudson, formerly of Maybee, MI, passed away on January 7, 2012. Preceded in death by his beloved wife, Pauline. Survived by his loving children Michael (Kim Henderson) Thomson of Livonia, MI, Robiń (Dan) Caterina of Milford, MI Chris (Leigh) Thomson of Charleston, SC; grandchildren, Evan, Justin, Abby, Seth and Jacob; brother, David (Jean) Thomson. Also survived by his former spouse, Edna Thomson, many extended family members and dear friends, including his friends at Abbey Park. A Funeral Service will be held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty, Milford, on Thursday, January 12 at 11AM with Fr. Ron Anderson officiating Memorials made to the American Legion - Post 216 are appreciated For further information please call 248-684-6645 or visit

www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

TOWNSEND, MARY MAXINE

Funeral was Jan. 9 at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Condolences: obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

ULKER, KEITH

Dec. 23, 2011, age 40. Memorial was Dec. 29 at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home. Donations: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital



Location: Allen Terrace, 401 High St.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COM-MISSION

Date: Third Wednesday of month

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: City Hall ARTS COMMISSION

Date: Second Wednesday of every month **Time:** 7:30 p.m.

Location: Art House, 215 W. Cady St.

BEAUTIFICATION COM-MISSION

Date: First Monday of every month

Time: 8 a.m.

Details: Individuals and organizations invited to attend.

Location: Northville City Hall, Meeting Room B

NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIP

PLANNING COMMISSION

Date: Last Tuesday of month

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Township Hall, 44405 West Six Mile

MOVIES

Continued from page A1

have not gone as well as hoped for and she said this may be the last year for the program. Tickets will be \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door.

This year's ticket sponsors are Planet Fitness, Poole's Tavern, Preservation Dental, Johnson Rosati/Simply Wine, Northville Physical Rehab and Keller Williams Real Estate. To be a sponsor, a downtown merchant must put forth a \$400 fee. The DDA expects \$4,500 in sponsorship revenues. One big sponsor is Tom Date: Third Monday of month Time: 7:30 p.m. Location: Township Hall

YOUTH ASSISTANCE

Date: Second Tuesday of every month

Time: 8 a.m.

Location: Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road

Contact: Sue Campbell (248) 344-1618

Senior Events

SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTER

Location: 303 W. Main St. Contact: (248) 349-4140 Thursday 9 a.m.: TOPS; Massage by appt. 10:30 a.m.: Yoga 11 a.m.: Cribbage Noon: Walking Club 12:30 p.m.: Pinochle Friday

11 a.m.: Poker 11:30 a.m..: Walking Club Noon: Walking Club 1 p.m.: Movie

Holzer Ford, which as part of its \$2,100 series presenter sponsorship will be displaying one of its new cars in front of the theater during the showings.

It costs \$800 per movie to rent the Marquis, which accommodates seating for 450 people. Ward said on average more than 200 people attended each showing last year.

The schedule of movies begins with *True Grit* at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 21. *The Pink Panther*, *Goldfinger*, *Anatomy of a Murder*, *It's A Mad*, *Mad*, *Mad*, *Mad World* and *Bye*, *Bye Birdie* round out the list.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAM-ILY

Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road

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

Mass Scheduie

Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Friday; 7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday.

Hoiy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment **Priests:** Father Bob LaCroix, pastor and Father Michael Zuelch, associate pastor

CROSSPOINTE MEADOWS CHURCH

Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road Contact: (248) 669-9400, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit www.crosspointemeadows.org. Sunday Worship: 11:15 a.m.

Bibie study ciasses: 10 a.m. for

GET LISTED!

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

all ages

Details: Nursery and older children programs available. Worship blends traditional and contemporary elements resulting in a multisensory worship experience.

Destiny Worship Center

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

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

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Location: 34567 Seven Mile Road, Livonia Contact: (248) 442-8822 or www. newhopecenter.

FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

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

Sunday Schooi: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bibie Study: 9:30 a.m.

and 7 p.m. Tuesdays **Men's Bibie Study:** 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NOVI-FAMILY INTEGRATED CHURCH

Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-3647 or firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org Famiiy Bibie Hour: 9:45 a.m. Famiiy Worship: 11 a.m. Bibie Study: 6 p.m. Famiiy Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every month

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, January 12, 2012

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Location: 21260 Haggerty Road, north of Eight Mile Road **Contact:** (248) 348-7600 or visit

dfcnazarene.org **Sunday Scheduie:** 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's program, Youth Worship Service

Wednesday Scheduie: 5:30 p.m. Family Meal, \$4 per person, \$12 per family; 7 p.m. Children's Caravan, Club 56, Bible Study, Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth Blast **Thursday Scheduie:** 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

Location: 200 E. Main St. Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit

firstpresnville.org Sunday Worship

Time: 9:30, 11 a.m.

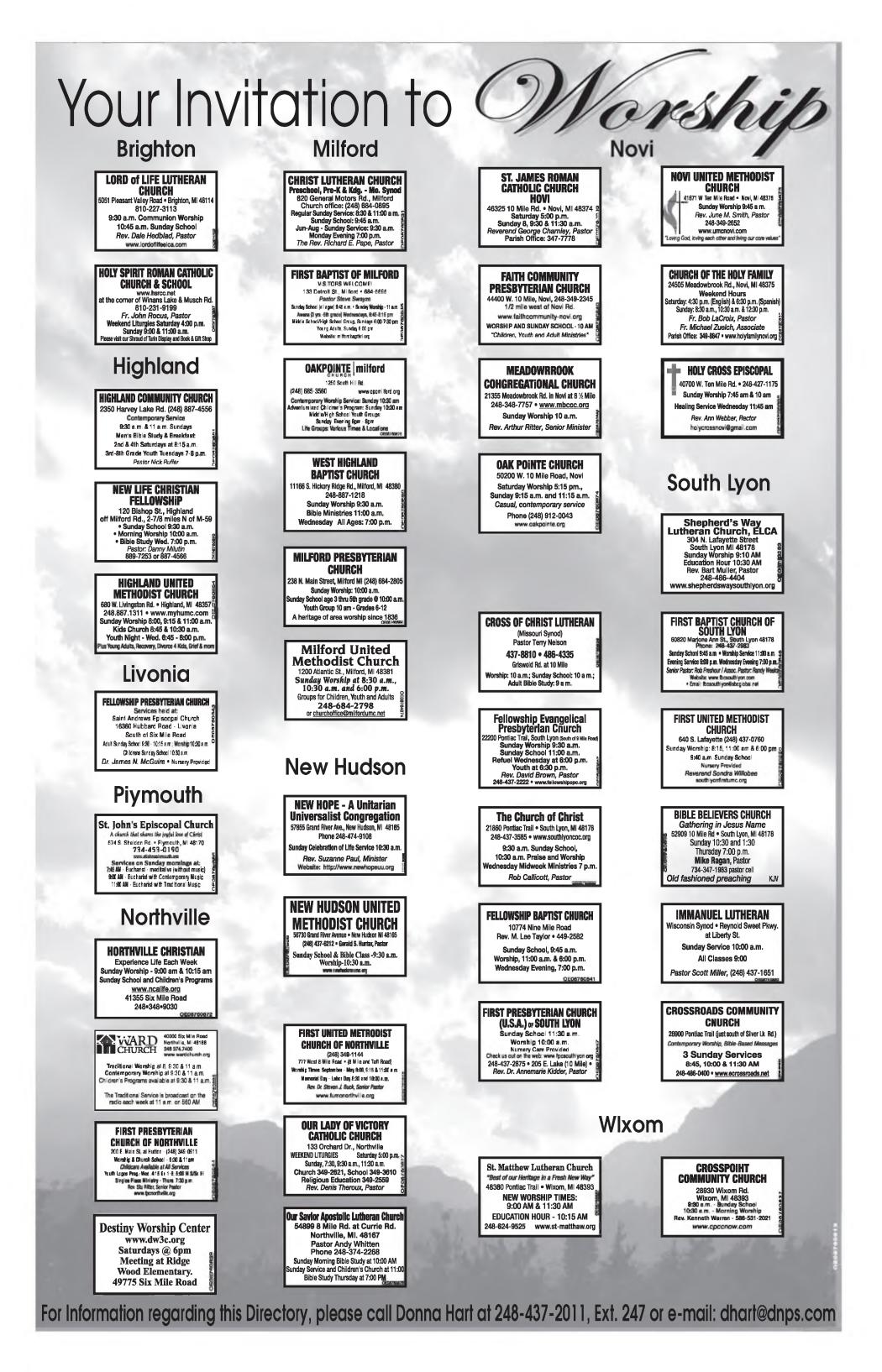
Singie Piace

Time/Date: 7 p.m. every Thursday **Details:** Single Place is a social organization for singles 40 and up hosted by the First Presbyterian Church of Northville. Thursday meetings feature speakers, games, or entertainment followed with an ice cream social.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Location: 205 East Lake Street (corner of Wells and 10 Mile Road), South Lyon

Contact: (248) 437-2875



PAGE A12 . (NR) THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2012 HOMETOWN WEEKLIES HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

OPINION

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

OUR VIEWS

MLK Day Honor the man with a day of service

In a commentary published last January on the 25th observance of Martin Luther King Day, Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Leonard Pitts Jr. observed that it is one holiday that has left us with the question of how w e should observe the day.

According to Pitts, unlike Christmas — where we open presents or the Fourth of July where we have a barbecue and watch the fireworks — MLK Day "lacks a defining tradition." That's not to say people haven't found ways to celebrate it. Most of our communities will have an observance, interfaith breakfast, a walk or a ceremony that honors Dr. King.

But 25 years after Congress declared the third Monday in January as Martin Luther King Day and 18 years after it designated it as a day of service, there is no "one or two things we do that emblematize this day."

Pitts cited Lerone Bennett Jr., the venerable historian, author of *Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America*, who says King "lives on the top tier of American heroes with Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln. But the King holiday gets 'bogged down' in soundbites of I Have A Dream, and gives no sense of the greatness or majesty of the man and the fundamental changes he demanded."

Pitts wrote: "For Bennett, King's last crusade, which he died trying to fulfill, is symbolic of his broader vision: The Poor People's Campaign was designed to move the struggle for equality beyond race to the common ground of class."

Pitts and Bennett are right in that most of us think of Dr. King in terms of I Have A Dream. For many of us, he is the face and the voice of the civil rights movement. We forget that his fight went beyond racial equality to include labor rights, economic exploitation, fair housing and better schools.

According to the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, "In many ways the true power of his legacy remains untapped. Children across the country celebrate his life with a day off from school each year, but too many don't understand the reasons why.

"Americans respect his achievements in ending segregation, but for many his teachings end at I Have A Dream. And across the globe, men and women of all ages know his name as a past benefactor of mankind, but not necessarily as a source of relevance to their current lives." We would like to think we are better off than we were in the 1960s, that racial equality exists in this country. But while we have made progress, it has not been enough. Segregation still exists. It may not be in the form that Dr. King spoke against, but it is still here. We see diversity in our schools and our neighborhoods, but we need only look to Detroit to a segregation of opportunity. Those who can have left the city, leaving those who can't behind. According to Pitts, the "common denominator" in all that Dr. King fought for was "simply a demand that America do better by its most vulnerable: the poor, the racial minorities, the unhoused, the uneducated, the left out, left behind and forgotten, the ones the Bible calls 'the least of these." Dr. King said: "Every man must decide whether he will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness. This is the judgment. Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?" We as Americans need to do more Monday than remember and honor the man, we need to observe it as a national day of service, "a day on, not a day off." It needs to be more than a day off from school and a good day to take in the auto show. Dr. King didn't take a day off in his campaign for racial and social justice. If we want to honor him, we need to get involved and help provide solutions to our most pressing national problems. By working together, we can make a difference and we need to make difference. We owe it to ourselves and to each other lest we become that person Dr. King spoke of, when he said: "When an individual is no longer a true participant, when he no longer feels a sense of responsibility to his society, the content of democracy is emptied."

COMMUNITY VOICE



"Equality and peace is important to me and it's important to have diversity in the community. It's a good way to bring a diverse community together in one place." Katera Price Novi freshman



"It's more than just a day, it's a way of life. It's more about walking the walk, not just talking the talk."

> Korey Nuckolls Novi teacher



"I would rather be in school. It's a great opportunity for learning, and I think of it as a day on and not a day off." David Ascher

Novi principal



"Celebrating people's lives like Dr. King gives others the potential for them to advocate what they believe in."

Nicoie Cotton Novi social worker

LETTERS

Education apples and oranges

I am continually amazed at how right-wingers like Mr. Atcheson think by repeatedly perpetuating myths about the compensation of educators vs. the private sector, that all of a sudden these ridiculous and uninformed arguments will hold water. Comparisons of public education and the private sector are silly and useless. Public schools have never been, and never will be, corporations. By design they are not run like corporations since their mission and purpose is to educate children, and not simply to make a profit and pay bloated compensation to CEO's. Charter schools, on the other hand, are there to make a profit and have several advantages over public schools in terms of how their funds must be used. Charter schools don't have to take all comers. The severely handicapped or mentally challenged, and the tremendous costs associated with providing them with services, are left solely to the public schools. Charter schools don't pay any less for supplies, but there are no standards for what they must provide, so they might save a little here and there by having students provide their own "stuff" and then pass the savings on to profits. Charter schools also have no standards for paying employees or providing benefits because they have to negotiate with no one -- and when paying as little as possible in salary and benefits, it leaves more for the almighty bottom-line profits. Unions will not prevent a poor teacher from being dismissed if the district follows the procedures required and provides the documentation necessary to replace someone that is consistently underperforming. It may take some time, as it should, but basically it is a lack of will to follow a process by the administration that is the cause of that person continuing to teach. In the private sector, however, if someone doesn't like the way you comb your hair, your job could be in jeopardy. Early in my sales career I was a district sales manager for a major consumer products company and was in Chicago having dinner with two zone managers and the VP of sales. In conversation, some of the other district managers were discussed, and when one of them from Kansas City was mentioned, the VP of sales said to his zone manager, "You know, I never liked that guy; get rid of him." The following week he was gone. When I expressed a little surprise to my zone manager, he said that there were "problems" and that his sales people weren't well trained, etc. Two months before, one of his sales people was named sales rep of the year at our national sales meeting. I have a feeling a union would have been helpful

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. Letters should be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats. **Web:** www.hometownlife.com **Mail:** Letters to the Editor, Northville Record, 101 N. Lafayette St., South Lyon, MI 48178 **Fax:** (248) 437-3386 **E-mail:** cstone@hometownlife. com

Biog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com. **Deadline:** Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Online: Due to space limitations, not all letters submitted can be published in our print edition. However, all letters will be published online each week at www. hometownlife.com.

to this guy and an injustice may have been prevented. Having spent 40 years in private industry. I have seen several examples of people progressing, not on merit or performance, but by smooching the right behind or the boss picking his "own team." Today, most people in private industry can expect to change jobs several times in their working years. Teaching isn't a job; it is a profession, and if you leave, there are very limited choices, if any, for you to go and continue teaching where you left off. I have three friends who worked here in the Detroit area for the auto companies. My wife retired a couple of years ago from elementary education as a reading specialist, and she and our three friends have essentially the same education -- master's, and in the case of my wife, beyond a master's. (She didn't bother to get a PhD because it would have paid a whopping additional \$200 per year.) My three friends that retired from the auto industry have six-figure pensions. Know any teachers with a pension over \$100,000? It would have been great if my wife could have been paid more for her accomplishments. She didn't work in the "public spectrum" as you suggest, but quietly, one-on-one with her students to make sure they were prepared for the challenges of the next grade. In my sales jobs, I had the opportunity to make tens of thousands in additional bonuses and fancy trips when I met assigned objectives. Maybe teachers should get a couple grand or more for each student that is at or above grade level when they leave their class? Then they would be compensated more like I was in the "private sector." The real problem, Mr. Atcheson, is that you want to get something for nothing in your perpetuating these myths -- an educated work force, while at the same

time paying teacher-bashing salaries and benefits. On the other hand, it sounds like you could really use a good union where you work in your "private sector" job!

> Steve Lawrence Northville

Successful teacher depends on students

As a retired high school teacher, I would like to point out that you cannot compare the "business" of educating a child to corporate America. The difference is that the schools have no control over their raw materials. The schools must educate every student entering the school.

For example, in the manufacturing industry, you can order in a high quality of steel and therefore produce a high-quality product. You have control over this. The most skilled tradesman cannot produce a high-quality product if he is not given highquality steel. Not all students entering the school have had the same background. Some children have never even had

What comes to mind when you think of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day?



Cal Stone, *Community Editor* **Susan Rosiek,** *Executive Editor* **Grace Perry,** Director of Advertising anyone read them a story, while others have had loving parents to motivate them to learn and supply them with a stimulating learning environment during those formative years.

If you give the most skilled teacher a class of 32 students that are unmotivated to learn or to even bring their own supplies to class, you are setting that teacher up for failure. Should the teacher's salary be based on the performance of students that are not interested in learning and have never been taught the value of education? If you give that same skilled teacher a class of 32 highly-motivated students, you will see a totally different outcome.

So, if performance is the bottom line, are we talking the performance of the teacher or the performance of the students?

The teacher's teaching ability and the student's outcome can often be mutually exclusive. The teacher's performance, in most cases, will be determined by the type of students in the classroom. I would like to challenge anyone to substitute teach for a month and then express their opinion.

Carol Maynard Northville

Paying it forward

Thank you to two great young gals. On Tuesday, Jan. 3, my daughter was in a car accident on Eight Mile Road. Thank you for caring enough to stop and stay with my daughter until the police got to the scene of the accident. On behalf of my family, many thanks for being so kind and thoughtful. Your act of kindness will always be remembered and will be paid forward in the future. Thank you so much.

> Mary and John Fellx Northville

Focus remains jobs moving into 2012

By Kurt Heise Guest Columnist

y first year serving you in Lansing has been a busy one, filled with historic reforms and new ideas. With your help, I look forward to continuing this important work in the new year.

Job creation continues to be my top priority. I will continue to support spending, tax, and regulatory reforms that make Michigan competitive for job creation, and that foster an environment for growth.



Kurt Heise I introduced the very

first bill of 2011 to eliminate the Michigan Business Tax (MBT) surcharge. That surcharge, and the jobkilling MBT itself, were eliminated in a reform package that also erased a \$1.5 billion deficit, and cut taxes over \$700 million over the next three years.

As vice chair of the House Judiciary Committee, I also led the effort to eliminate unnecessary judgeships across the state, making government smaller and more efficient. I'm sponsoring additional money-saving judicial reforms in 2012.

Responsible spending and reforms by the governor and Legislature helped us balance the budget and even achieve a surplus last year. The state now has money to pay down long-term debts; I'm also advocating that we reinvest some of this surplus into public education for our kids.

Unemployment has been dropping from its all-time highs, and many of our job creation reforms are just now taking effect. This past summer, Newsweek named Michigan the No. 1 state for job growth. This past fall, Bloomberg said we were No. 2 in their economic evaluation of the states. And, perhaps most importantly, Fitch Ratings upgraded our state's bond rating outlook to "positive," saving the state millions of dollars on our financing projects.

As the federal government, Detroit, and Wayne County have seen their credit ratings go down, Michigan's is

Unemployment has been dropping from its all-time highs, and many of our job creation reforms are just now taking effect. This past summer, Newsweek named Michigan the No. 1 state for job growth. This past fall, Bloomberg said we were No. 2 in their economic evaluation of the states.

going up, as Lansing makes the tough decisions to live within our means. This is what you hired us to do.

My door is always open. I've personally held over 100 coffees, library hours, one-on-one meetings, and advisory board meetings in 2011, and visited over 4,000 homes with my 'what's on your mind' flier. My citizen advisory boards cover education, senior issues, small business, and local government, and are open to the public — nobody is turned away, nobody is hand-picked, dissent is welcomed, and discussions are always lively!

I'm also working with Northville and Plymouth leaders to develop jobs along the Five Mile corridor, putting the Robert Scott Prison up for sale, pushing for Detroit Water & Sewer reforms, supporting Canton's I-275 improvements, supporting common-sense environmental laws, and voting to make education funding a priority — even where I've had to disagree with my own party.

In 2012, I believe Michigan will continue its way back to the top. While our economy is recovering and growing stronger, there is no such thing as "good enough" for me. I will continue to work hard every day to bring new opportunities and jobs to our communities.

Kurt Heise is the state representative for the 20th House District, whose district includes Plymouth, Northville and part of Canton. He can be reached through his website at www.repkurtheise.com, by phone at (855) REP-KURT, or via e-mail at kurtheise@house. mi.gov.



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Automakers ready to show public they are back

Paul Olexa of ZF Automotive Group in Northville Township checks out his engineering firm's 9-speed transmission Monday at the NAiAS. ZF's transmission will be used by Chrysler in 2013 and produces fuel economy savings of about 30 percent, according to published reports.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NAIAS opens Saturday, runs through Jan. 22

By Nathan Mueller

Staff Writer

The buzz is back at the North American International Auto Show.

And when the doors open to the public on Saturday, patrons will be overwhelmed by sleek new cars, interactive displays and auto companies poised to meet the needs of their consumers.

Bill Perkins, Bloomfield Township resident and chair of the 2012 NAIAS, said there is so much to see and do that even people who are not car enthusiasts will want to head to the Cobo Center.

"People will truly enjoy it because there are a lot of new things going on," he said. "It's a must attend show."

The show opens Saturday, Jan. 14, and runs until Sunday, Jan. 22. Show hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day except Jan. 22 when it closes at 7 p.m. Lauren Halpin, a Plymouth resident who was working as a model for Lincoln on Tuesday, said she liked the intimate access of press week, but plans to come back during the public show with her brother.

"My dream car has to be the Audi A8," she said.

While the cars are the obvious draw, there are plenty of other activities to engage the public. Many automakers have simulators people can use, fun giveaways and even a test track featuring electric-drive and hybrid vehicles in the Michigan Hall that people can drive (get there early or expect to wait).

Tickets for the show are \$12 for adults, and \$6 for seniors and children 7-12. Children under 6 are free. Tickets can be ordered at the show or online at www.naias.com.

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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The displays at this year's North American international Auto Show are more complex and brightly designed than ever before.

Automakers preening at auto show as industry rebounds

Reporter Nathan Mueller joins the media scrum interviewing

Hyundai designer S.H. Park after the Elantra won 2012 Car of

the Year at the North American international Auto Show.



Harman audio component employees Jeff Puggi (left) and

Phil Eyler check out an interactive display at the North American international Auto Show in Detroit on Monday.

Harman has a research center off Cabot Drive in Novi.

By Nathan Mueller Staff Writer

The mood and atmosphere at the North American International Auto Show is noticeably different this year, as automakers feel as if the weight of the recession that nearly crippled them has lifted.

Now with the Big Three leading the charge, domestic and international car companies are pounding their chests as they release new cars and appear ready to compete once again.

"There is optimism," said Cyril Benitoh, a Bloomfield Hills resident and program manager for the new Dodge Dart. "Not only are we producing great cars, but they are being validated in the

marketplace. "Optimism is absolutely here. It took a couple years to grow, but everyone has some momentum."

General Motors, Ford

and Chrysler are all yielding profit for the first time since 2004 and gained shares in the marketplace for the first time since 1988 and experts predict auto companies

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

will add 60,000 jobs in the United States over the next year and 190,000 jobs by 2015.

Bryan Johnson, a Canton resident and manager of marketing and communications for the Northville-based SF Group, said all it takes for him to know the car companies are coming back is to take a look at the elaborate displays and see how much money they are spending on them.

"Everything is positive now," he said. "You see a lot of positive momentum and there are a lot of new products coming out and people are excited to see them."

It's not all about the Big Three either, as a pair of foreign automakers took home the North American Car and Truck of the Year awards. The Hyundai Elantra was car of the year and the Land Rover Range Rover Evoque was the top truck.

Nearly every company had something to debut this year, and it wasn't just a smoke and mirrors act. Hampden Tener, a Bloomfield Hills resident and U.S. product director for Cadillac, said day to day the confidence is a reality.

"We are working on

building and growing and that adds a level of excitement," he said. "We are back to doing our best, both for Cadillac and General Motors."

Phil Eyler, who lives in Northville and works for Farmington Hills-based Harman, called last year a "comeback year."

"This year there is a lot more confidence," he said. "You can just see it."

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Snyder talks about state, auto industry comeback



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Governor Rick Snyder and Ford Executive Chairman Bill Ford Jr. walk the floor of the Auto Show.

By Nathan Mueller

Staff Writer

Sometimes the simplest change can make all the difference.

And for Gov. Rick Snyder, moving his press conference on Tuesday to the main show floor at the North American International Auto Show instead of being in the basement at the Cobo Center (where it was last year) gave him the perfect metaphor.

"In many respects people thought (the state of Michigan) was in the basement in the past," he said. "But we are no longer there, we are making a strong comeback in the state and it's about reinventing Michigan." Snyder took his usual tour of the exhibits when he arrived at Cobo before meeting with more than 200 engineering students from various universities in the state for a talent discussion.

"You can be the catalyst, you can be on the ground floor of the comeback of Michigan," he said to the students.

Snyder, along with Dr. Won Suk Cho, president of Hyundai America Technical Center, also used the press conference to announce a deal to expand Hyundai's Superior Township technical center.

The company will be investing \$15 million to construct the facility and add 50 full-time jobs over the next five years. The state will fund construction of a new power substation that will improve the power output to the building.

Snyder said he wants to continue partnerships like this, and focus on the people who make the automotive industry go.

"In many respects the people that engineered, designed or even manufactured the products were Michiganders," he said. "And that is something all of us should take great pride in because that is something we can show the rest of the world. When people look at the best products in the world, where they are designed, where they are engineered, where they



BILL BRESLER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Governor Rick Snyder is the center of attention walking the floor of the show.

are built, it's right here in Michigan and we are going to continue that legacy."

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"It was an extraordinary experience... the level of skill, but also

the power of the archetypes and the narratives were startling. And of course it was exquisitely beautiful." - Cate Blanchett, Academy Award-winning Actress



"It's absolutely beautiful, it was so inspiring, I think I

may have found some new ideas for the next Avatar. It was a very unique performance. "

- Oscar-Winner Robert Stromberg, Production Designer for Avatar and Alice in Wonderland

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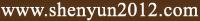
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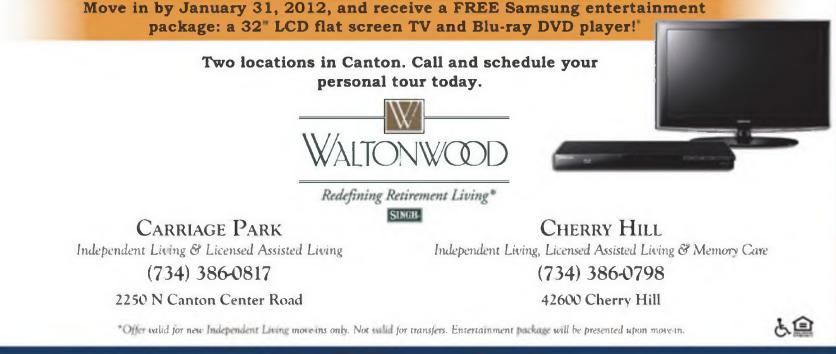


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Huge pile of garbage to be recycled.

\$4.5 million retrofit to boost recycling, economy

By Stacy Jenkins Staff Writer

When you toss that empty water bottle into the recycle bin, you're not only sparing landfill space and helping the environment, you're also boosting the economy.

And, a recent \$4.5 million private investment upgrade to the Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County facility in Southfield is making it even easier to recycle.

That's a good thing, said Michael Csapo, general manager of RRRASOC, which now has the largest capacity of any recycling facility in the state of Michigan.

RRRASOC is a consortium formed by the cities of Farmington, Farmington Hills, Novi, South Lyon, Southfield, Walled Lake and Wixom. It's been in operation since 1994. The authority partners with a private company called ReCommunity to run the facility and to sell the commodities (the plastics, glass, paper and metal) nationwide and even worldwide. It was built as a dual stream recycling facility, which was the trend at the time, said Csapo. It was easier than the multisort trend before that. "There was a lot of effort residents had to make, to make sure things were sorted correctly," he said. "The trend now is single stream. If you can put everything into a single spot, you cut down on the time it takes to prepare it, pick it up and dump it." The upgrade allows for single stream recycling, meaning residents and businesses no longer have to separate their paper, glass, plastic and metals. The new state-ofthe-art equipment at the facility can do the separating and sorting. "Studies show that when you switch to single stream recycling, you increase the total volume by 20 to 60 percent," he said.



rate the different kinds of plastics and metals. An optic scanning device focuses on water bottles.

Vacuums are used to grab out the plastic shopping bags before the load enters the machine that does more separating by size and weight.

Csapo said they're expecting to recycle between 70,000 and 100,000 tons of material, compared to last year's 14,000 tons.

The new system even has cameras that can record the flow of the materials as they move through the process. Csapo said they'll be able to produce an educational program, from the videos, to show to students at area schools.

"Hopefully, a year from now, we'll be talking about virtual tours," he said.

Some changes Residents will notice a

Economic impact

That's not only good for the environment, it's good for the economy, he said.

"It's good for the environment because it cuts down on pollution, saves energy and saves natural resources, but it also creates jobs," he said. "If we bury (recyclable materials) they're gone, but if we recycle them, there are all of these jobs added down that chain."

Materials that are sorted and bundled at the RRRASOC facility are then sold as commodities to secondary materials processors, which get the materials ready for their

Michael Csapo, General manager of RRRASOC.



Shredded office paper is dumped at the facility.



Bails of plastic recycle to be shipped.

customers — manufacturers that use the materials to make usable products.

Plastic water bottles, for example, are often turned back into plastic water bottles. Other plastics are processed and molded for other uses. Paper is processed and reused as well.

"Fifty-five percent of the paper goes from here, directly to a paper mill," said Csapo. Many of the commodities are exported to other countries, such as China. Revenue from the sale of the commodities is then put back into the facility and also goes toward keeping recycling

Tony Buckner, a dump truck driver, makes sure the load of commercial cardboard emptied.

rates down for the contracting municipalities. "We want to think

of these as resources — we can pay to bury them or we can get paid for them," said Csapo. "There's value added all the way down the material stream."

Csapo said the economic message is often overshadowed by the environmental message, but both are important.

"The choices people make in their kitchens and curbside really do have a global impact," he said.

State of the art

The equipment, which is installed and ready for final calibration, is capable of separating cardboard, for example, from a load of materials. The remainder flows along a conveyor, where sorters are on hand to sepafew changes.

First, those plastic grocery bags will no longer be accepted. Csapo said there's not a market for them and it takes too long to collect enough. They also get caught and tangled in the machines. He suggests people use reusable cloth shopping bags instead.

Ceramics and No. 3 plastics (PVC) will no longer be accepted.

Newly accepted recyclables include widemouthed plastic tubs, like margarine tubs and yogurt cups; and also agricultural containers the plastic containers for plants and flowers.

Some of the RRRA-SOC communities, including Southfield, Farmington, Farmington Hills and Wixom, are considering switching from curbside bins to 96-gallon carts on wheels. Each city will need to amend their contract with their waste hauler, noted Csapo.

He said the larger carts make recycling even easier for residents.

South Lyon City Manager Dave Murphy, who sits on the RRRASOC board, advises residents to check the RRRASOC website for hazardous waste pick-up dates and times.

Residents wanting to dispose of electronics, like televisions and computers, may also schedule special pick-up dates.

A public education campaign about the single stream recycling program will be an important piece in ramping up recycling in the RRRA-SOC communities. For more information, visit www.rrrasoc.org.

Staff writer **Diane Gale Andreassi** contributed to this story.



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SPORTS

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Mustangs second at Salem Invitational

Swim team does well in oddly scored meet

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

The Salem Invitational is an interesting meet not only for the talent that tends to swim in it, but also because of the way the competition is scored.

The meet format allows each team to have four swimmers in each event and every heat is scored so that a team's fourth-best swimmer is paired against everyone else's fourth-best — meaning every heat carries equal importance for scoring.

Northville did well in the meet, finishing second with 241 points while Ann Arbor Pioneer earned first with 298. Zeeland was third, followed by Stevenson, Salem and Canton, respectively.

"Overall we are pretty happy with the effort that the kids gave," said Northville coach Rich Bennetts. "We are still making a lot of mental mistakes and we will have to clean those up quickly.

"This meet is a good format for us, because we do have some decent depth on our team. Pioneer is very strong, and we had a nice battle with Zeeland all afternoon for second place."

Northville medal winners included the 200 medley relay team of Sergio Reyes, Yash Bajaj, Frank Zhang and Adam Curry, which took second place (1:53.19).

In the 200 free, Reyes took first in his heat (1:58.85) while Dennis Kim was second in his heat (1:56.51) and Chris Kim was second in his (1:51.72). In the 200 individual medley, Nick Hayes took second (2:11.36) while Mike Miller took second in the 50 freestyle (24.56 seconds), Sam Boyea took first (23.07) and Spencer Miller tied for first in his heat (23.20). In the 100 butterfly, Frank Zhang took first in his heat (1:00.61), while Akbar Ariswala took second (59.67), as did Scott Wang (58.42). Filippo Miavaldi (52.93) and Chris Kim (51.39) each took first in their respective heats in the 100 free while Spencer Miller took second (51.35) and Danny Teng took first in the 500 free (5:12.71) and Austin Hunt was second (5:05.15).In the 200 free relay, the team of Aaron Zalewski, Spencer Koblinski, Josh Dufresne and Matt Smelt took second (1:40.91), as did the teams of Chris Kim, Mike Miller, Curry and Hunt (1:34.88) and Andrew Westphal, Boyea, Dawson Laabs and Spencer Miller (1:32.58).In the 100 backstroke, it was Nick Hayes taking first (1:01.27), while Teng took a second (1:02.42) in his heat. The 100 breaststroke found Josh Liu taking a second (1:08.28) while the team of Zalewski, Mike Miller, Teng and Reyes took first (3:40.52), as did the team of Curry, Laabs, Wang and Miavaldi (3:34.23).



Catholic Central's Matt Godin is the All-Area Football Player of the Year. He will be taking his talents to the University of Michigan.

Area is packed full of gridiron talent Detroit Catholic Central's Godin wins top honors

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

The 2011 high school football season in our coverage area was packed full of outstanding teams, including two that suffered just a single loss during the regular season and one that finished second in the state just short of the Division I title. From the dazzling offensive it was an easy team to select, because every team in the conference had standout players. On the other, it was difficult deciding who earned First-Team honors and who would be named to the Second-Team a good problem for area sports writers to have. A lot of these names will also seem very familiar to the avid reader because many were 2010 Allan imposing figure on the football field, both as an offensive and as a defensive lineman. His presence on the gridiron meant teams were forced to pay special attention to him, or suffer the consequences.

"(Matt) has been absolutely great this season on both sides of the ball," said Catholic Central coach Tom Mach. "He has played unselfishly and worked hard to be productive. He is big, fast, strong and is playing with reckless abandon. He is our best lineman." Despite being the target for double teams and offenses doing everything they could to avoid him, Godin picked up 55 tackles and had a staggering nine sacks this season.

Godin will continue his football career at the University of Michigan as a defensive lineman for the Wolverines.

First-Team Offense Jeff Gertley

If there were any other player that had truly been in the running for Player of the Year honors, it was Gertley. This

ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs boys swimming and diving team will be back in action at 6:30 p.m. today when they host Novi before hosting the Northville Quad meet at noon on Saturday. The team will then host Walled Lake Western at 6:30 p.m. next Thursday. players who seemed capable of putting points on the board no matter who their opponent was to the defensive players that were tasked with stopping the best offenses in the state, the 2011 Hometown All-Area Football Team is chock full of outstanding talent. On one hand, Area selections as well.

But one player stood out above all other when it came to his impact on the game, earning himself Player of the Year honors along the way. Standing at 6-feet-5-inches and weighing in at 270 pounds, Detroit Catholic Central senior Matt Godin is senior quarterback was the kind of player that did it all and won games while doing it. "Leff is a tremendous ath-

"Jeff is a tremendous athlete that ran our offense exceptionally well for the past two years," said Northville coach

Please see FOOTBALL, B2

Northville falls to undefeated Salem



Mustang Jeffrey Gertley, left, competes for a rebound against a Salem High player on Jan. 6.

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

It wasn't the return to the hardwood senior point guard Jeff Gertley had been dreaming of, but he and his team were thrilled to have him back in uniform nonetheless.

Unfortunately for Gertley, his return came against undefeated Salem, which kept its record unblemished with a 68-51 win over Northville.

"Salem is one of the best high school teams I have seen," said Northville coach Todd Sander. "They have a lot of weapons, and I was proud of how we hung around for a long time."

The Rocks jumped ahead, 20-12, in the first quarter, using their size inside to take the advantage. Northville was determined, however, and came on strong in the second quarter as Gertley hit a 10-foot jumper for his first points of the season and the defense buckled down to get them back into the game with a 29-20 score heading into the locker room.

"It was nice to see Gert back out on the floor as he helps us in every phase of the game," said Sander.

Northville came into the second half looking to take advantage of their new momentum, but the Rocks proved to be just too much as they pulled down offensive boards and gave themselves second chances throughout the stanza to take a 50-36 lead heading into the fourth quarter, where they closed out the night with an 18-point showing while Northville



Mustang Brett MacDonald seems to have nowhere to go on Jan. 6 as he's surrounded by a couple of Salem Rocks during the teams' game in Northville.

ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs boys basketball team is slated to be back on the hardwood when they visit Novi tomorrow and host South Lyon on Tuesday. Both games are scheduled for 7 p.m.

scored 15 of their own.

"We fought tough and continue to get better," said Sander. "Now we need to get all of the pieces together for a complete 32 minutes."

Nick Raad lead the Mustangs in scoring, putting down 14 points while Andrew Meacham had nine and Brett MacDonald and Gertley had eight apiece.

FOOTBALL

Continued from page B1

Matt Ladach. "Jeff runs the ball well, and he throws it well, too. Maybe more importantly, Jeff protects the football."

Gertley had just two interceptions this year (and just two last year) while compiling 2,694 including 1,861 through the air on 123 completions. He totaled 18 passing touchdowns, while picking up 15 more touchdowns with his feet as he ran the ball for over 900 yards this season.

Anthony Darkangelo

A two-year starter for the Shamrocks (and a two-year member of this All-Area team), Darkangelo has made quite the impression on his teammates and coach Tom Mach - but, more importantly, he's made quite the impression on opponents, too.

"He is an excellent downhill running back that can break a big run as well as get the tough yardage," said Mach. "He is (also) an excellent linebacker with a nose for the ball."

This season, Darkangelo, who always shares the backfield with other talented Shamrocks runners, had five touchdowns and over 100 attempts that netted him more than 500 yards. Defensively, he also picked up 56 tackles, had a quarterback sack and recovered a fumble.

Alex Larson

What's impressive about Larson, beyond the fact that he's one of the best athletes in the area, hands down, is that his position on the Milford roster is listed as quarterback. Sure, he does plenty of throwing, completing over half his passes for 14 touchdowns and 1,260

ALL AREA FOOTBALL **Player of the Year**

Matt Godin, Lineman, Detroit Catholic **Central Senior**

FIrst-Team Offense

Jeff Gertley, Quarterback, Northville Senior

Anthony Darkangelo, Running Back, Detroit Catholic Central Junior Alex Larson, Running Back, Milford Junior Matt Lindman, Running Back, South Lyon East Senior

Jeff Hewlett, Running Back, Northville Senior

Matt Doneth, Tight End, Detroit Catholic Central Senior

Derek Cingel, Wide Receiver, Novi Senior Brandon Wallace, Wide Receiver, Milford Senior

Mark Becker, Offensive Line, Detroit Catholic Central Senior

Matt Trumbore, Offensive Line, Northville Senior

Doyle Williams, Offensive Line, Milford Senior

Ryan Talaga, Offensive Line, South Lyon Senior

Second-Team Offense

Derek Ince, Ouarterback, Novi Senior Anthony Waite, Running Back, Lakeland Junior Wyatt Shallman, Running Back, Detroit Catholic Central Junior Joel Shekell, Wide Receiver, South Lyon Senior Logan Regnier, Wide Receiver, Novi Senior Andrew Poterala, Wide Receiver, Northville Senior Michael Jocz, Wide Receiver, Novi Senior Robert Ault, Offensive Line, Detroit Catholic Central Senior Evan Schriner, Offensive Line, Northville Junior Jay Fischer, Offensive Line, Milford Senior Alex Magee, Offensive Line, South Lyon Senior Seth Malarik, Offensive Line, South Lyon East Senior **First-Team Defense** Garrett Wiska, Defensive Line, Detroit Catholic Central Senior Jake Bates, Defensive Line, Northville

passing yards, but he landed himself on the All-Area team as a running back because of his ability to tear apart opponents with his field awareness, speed and agility.

"(He's a) dual threat," said Milford coach Pat

Senior

- Mike Evans, Defensive Line, South Lyon Senior
- Brett MacDonald, Linebacker, Northville Senior

Alex King, Linebacker, Novi Senior

Chris Orr, Linebacker, Milford Senior Mike Schultz, Linebacker, Detroit Catholic

Central Senior

Justin Tolinski, Linebacker, South Lyon Senior

Dave Racey, Defensive Back, Detroit Catholic Central Senior

Brandon Love, Defensive Back, Northville Senior

Zach Kaske, Defensive Back, South Lyon East Senior

Second-Team Defense

Ben Smith, Defensive Line, Northville Senior Andrew Plave, Defensive Line. South Lyon East Senior

Dan Mixer, Defensive Line, Detroit Catholic Central Senior

Zach Masserant, Linebacker, Novi Senior Trevor Maresh, Linebacker, Northville Senior

Aaron Hess, Linebacker, Detroit Catholic **Central Senior**

Josh Orlando, Linebacker, Lakeland Senior Matt Kuszynski, Linebacker, South Lyon East Senior

Gerald Perreault, Defensive Back, Detroit **Catholic Central Senior**

Ryan Nelson, Defensive Back, South Lyon Senior

Charles Sanders, Defensive Back, Lakeland Junior

First-Team Special Teams

Alex Kozlowski, Kicker, Detroit Catholic **Central Senior** Brian Birckelbaw, Punter, South Lyon Senior Jon Newman, Specialist, South Lyon Senior **Honorable Mention** Milford: Jacob Morton South Lyon: Derek Talaga South Lyon East: Steven DeWitt and Cameron Thomas Northville: Andrew Wright, Brandon Patrone and Jon Wines Detroit Catholic Central: Kyle Cooper

Matt Lindman It's always important to have one of those running backs on your team that can do just about anything, no matter what the situation calls for. Lindman is that player.

At 5-feet-7-inches, you don't expect him to play like he's the biggest guy

on the field, but he sure does. He rushed for 662 yards this season on 153 attempts, finding the end zone three times. In addition, he snagged 52 catches for 396 yards and added three more scores through those means.

"Matt is a third-year varsity starter," noted South Lyon East coach Mike Lindman. "He is the all-time leading rusher at South Lyon East, and also has the most pass receptions all-time at South Lyon East. Matt has been a big part of our offense and will be hard to replace."

Especially when you look at the overall breakdown - on average, Lindman picked up 205 yards per game through various means as he rolled 5.16 yards per touch of the football.

Jeff Hewlett

It's hard to point out the tangible evidence of why Hewlett is a first-team selection, but if you ever had the chance to see him play you would understand why he belongs with the elites.

"Simply put, Jeff Hewlett is a football player," said Ladach. "His numbers won't shock you, but his ability the play the game does. Jeff is a team player that puts the success of Northville High School in front of his own success. I'd take 11 Jeff Hewletts any day."

And with that many of them, it's quite likely Ladach and the Mustangs would add a state championship to the trophy case. Matt Doneth

It's funny when you think about a Detroit Catholic Central tight end being named to the All-Area team - well, funny when you remember that the Shamrocks used to never throw the football. This year, they decided to toss the ol' pigskin around a time or two, and Doneth did his fair share of catching it as he

snagged over 200 yards in receiving for four touchdowns.

What makes Doneth an invaluable member of this year's All-Area team, however, is his ability to not only be the big target for the quarterback, but to lay a vicious block for the runners, too.

"He's an excellent blocker," said Mach. "He runs great routes and catches the ball, too. He excels as a leader and is a great example of hard work and enthusiasm." Derek Cingel

What quarterback

wouldn't want to throw to Cingel? Standing at 6feet-3-inches, he's typically a towering target against most high school defensive backs, and he's not afraid to go after the ball

"(He's) a game changer," said Novi coach Todd Pennycuff. "(He) forced double coverage (and has) unbelievable athletic ability and catching ability."

Cingel, who was also a defensive starter. snagged 586 yards and eight touchdowns for the Wildcats this season.

Brandon Wallace

Wallace is another of those athletes who just ends up doing everything, whenever he's asked, and without complaint. This season, not only did he pick up an impressive 1,273 yards rushing, but was a complete double threat as he snagged a whopping 37 receptions.

"(He's an) explosive threat," said Fox.

And he's a threat on defense, too, picking up 85 tackles this year for the Mavericks. Quite frankly, there are very few spots on the All-Area team that Wallace didn't qualify for.

Mark Becker

It's hard to imaging 245pounds of offensive lineman moving as fast as

Please see FOOTBALL, B4





Fox. Larson picked up just under 1,000 yards this season as a runner as he put together 979 yards with his feet — not too shabby for a guy who is supposed to be throwing

the football, hey?

NORTHVILLE SPORTS ROUNDUP

Hockey team has strong run

Three games and three wins? You're never going to hear a team complain about that kind of performance.

The Northville Mustangs boys hockey team turned in some great play last week, upending Stevenson in overtime, 3-2, and pounding out two big wins over Birmingham Unified, 6-4, and Milford, 3-2.

Against Stevenson, Northville fell behind in the first period on a goal by the Spartans' Mario Tomei at the 7:35 mark. The game drew close from that point on with Northville tacking on their own goal in the second period to tie the contest, 1-1, when Ben Crabill found the back of the net on a shorthanded goal with assistance from AJ Bradley and Kenneth Kosinski.

In the third period, the two teams scrapped it out. Stevenson knocked in their second goal of the night at 7:55 off the stick of Thomas Ross before Northville, again, tied it with a goal by Bradley, assisted by Jack Meacham.

It was the Bradley/ Meacham combination that ended the game in overtime as Bradley fired home the game-winning, shorthanded shot with 1:31 off the clock for the victory.

Jimmy McGlynn earned the victory in goal for the Mustangs.

Against Birmingham Unified, it was a game of changing momentum that played out before the fans.



DRAUGALIS PHOTOGRAPHY

Jake Pawloski earned

Against Milford, the

traditional from start to

finish. Northville scored

the opening goal in the

first period off the stick

of none other than Cra-

bill for the 1-0 lead. The

way through the second

found the back of the net,

Brown and Sopha for the

Milford did score in the

period when Clay Neal

taking assistance from

second to make it a 2-1

game, but couldn't mus-

ter another goal. McGlynn earned the

victory between the

2-0 lead.

posts.

Mustangs then add-

ed a second goal mid-

game was much more

the win in goal.

Edward Clifton, a Northville High School senior, makes his way around the indoor track recently. Clifton recently gualified for the indoor state track and field finals.

Northville jumped out to a 2-0 lead off goals by Austin Ratts and Crabill before the Kings kicked their game into high gear, tying the contest in the first period with two goals of their own before scoring two more goals in the second period for a 4-2 lead heading into the third stanza. It was there that the mustangs really showed their third-period conditioning and ability, scoring goals from Matt Sopha, Bradley, Crabill and Cole Brown to earn the 6-4 victory.

Earning assists on the day for the Mustangs were Danny O'Malley, Bradley, Joseph Asciutto, Brown, Meacham and Brown.

Clifton qualifies for indoor state finals

Edward Clifton, an All-State track runner from Northville High School, recently qualified for the state indoor track and field finals thanks to an outstanding performance in the 800-meter race.

Clifton, who needed to run at least a 2:05 to qualify for the highly-competitive state finals, turned in a 2:04.38 last Thursday. The most impressive part is that it was the first indoor meet of the season, held at the University of Michigan, and Clifton is already guaranteed a place in the finals.

Northville gets two gold medals at Rochester Adams

The Northville Mustangs wrestling team earned two gold medals in the Rochester Adams Invitational last week and the squad, as a whole, came away with third place.

Earning tournament championships in their respective weight classes were Trevor Maresh (171 pounds) and Sean Wagner (130 pounds).

Anthony DeGiorgio (112) finished second while Travis Compo (135), Alec Clevenger (140) and Zach Graham (heavyweight) took third.

Taking fourth in the tournament were Nick Mencotti (160 pounds) and David Borthwick (189) while Alex Coe (152) and Ijji Raza (119) were fifth-place finishers.

- By Sam Eggleston

Northville cheer starts KLAA schedule with win

Defeats South Lyon in division opener

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

Ask any coach how they want to start off the division portion of their schedule and they'll tell you outright that they the first KLAA Central Division match of the season.

"It is always great to start off the season with a win," said Northville coach Mindy Gentz. "The team put together three

ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs will be back in competition Wednesday when they host a quad meet at 6 p.m. The team will then compete in the Rochester Invitational Jan. 21. ue to provide consistent leadership for our young team while our underclassmen continue to rise to the challenge of competing at the varsity level," said Gentz.

The Mustangs are hunting for their thirdstraight Central Division title this season. They

Northville squanders great defensive effort

Girls cagers fall to Salem despite stout defense

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

When a team is able to hold their opponents to just six points in the first half of a basketball game, it seems like a sure thing that they are going to walk away with a victory.

Unfortunately for the Northville Mustangs girls basketball team, they discovered what happens when an outstanding defensive effort is squandered, as they fell to the Salem Rocks last week, 29-26, in Central Division play.

The Mustangs held the Rocks to just six points in the entire first half as the two teams headed into the locker rooms with Northville leading, 9-6.

"Holding them to six at the half was great, but we left a lot of points on the floor and kept them in the game instead of being up by dou-ble digits," said Northville coach Todd Gudith. "Feels like we gave one away — not the way we envisioned starting up division play." That slow start made for a tight finish down the stretch of the second half as the Rocks came back to take the lead by the end of the third quarter, 17-16.

The Mustangs were up, 13-9, with 3:30 to go in the third quarter when the Rocks began their run. Northville found themselves behind for the first time in the game on a foul shot by Salem the found the bottom of the net to make it 14-13 with a minute left in the third stanza. The Rocks were helped by the fact that Northville was in foul trouble throughout the entire fourth quarter, allowing Salem to draw a bonus shot with each infraction.

ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs girls basketball team will hit the court tomorrow when they host Novi at 7 p.m. before visiting South Lyon next Tuesday with a 7 p.m. tip off.

Northville fought their way back into the game, going up, 20-19, off free throws by Heather Randall with 4:30 left in the game. On their next possession, however, the Rocks nailed a threepoint field goal to pull ahead again.

The game continued to be back-and-forth as Aly Bates hit a jumper from the corner to knot the game at 22-22 before the Rocks went ahead again, 25-22. Alex Moynes cut the lead to just one point with two free throws with just over two minutes left in the game, and the Mustangs took the lead again off a steal and lay-up by Meredith Williams, 26-25 with 1:30 remaining.

Salem returned the favor, however, snagging a steal of their own and going back ahead with a minute left, 27-26, and didn't look back as they tacked on two more points and watched as a last-second shot by Northville fell short.

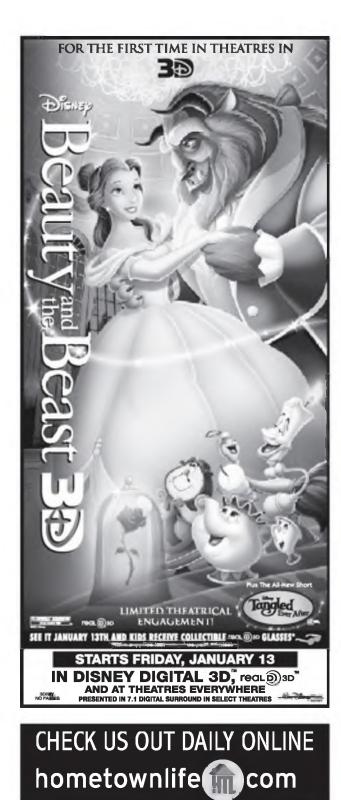
"We need to regroup and get better at finishing on offense," said Gudith. "There were just too many lay-ups and decent open looks missed. The opportunities are there, we're not cashing in on them though." Northville was led by Moynes, who had 13 points, while Brittany Berehulka scored five. The Mustangs are now 4-3 overall and 0-1 in Central Division play.

want a win.

For the Northville Mustangs competitive cheerleading team, that's exactly how it started last week as the squad defeated South Lyon in solid rounds tonight."

And that was reflected in their scoring against the Lions, especially in the final round. With the Lions leading through much of the meet, the Mustangs put together an outstanding performance in round three to earn a 674-672 victory over their division foes. "Our seniors continare currently 1-0 in division play.

The junior varsity team did not have as much success, however, falling to the Lions, 438-396.



RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF NORTHVILLE AND THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE **NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE** IN THE MICHIGAN PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 28, 2012

To the qualified Electors of the City and Township of Northville, County of Wayne, Michigan, notice is hereby given that Monday, January 30, 2012 is the last day to register to vote or change your address for the Presidential Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2012.

The Republican Party Presidential Primary candidates on the ballot: Vote for one

Michele Bachmann Herman Cain Newt Gingrich Jon Huntsman Gary Johnson Fred Karger Ron Paul Rick Perry Buddy Roemer Mitt Romney Rich Santorum

The Democratic Party Presidential Primary candidate on the ballot: Vote for one Barack Obama

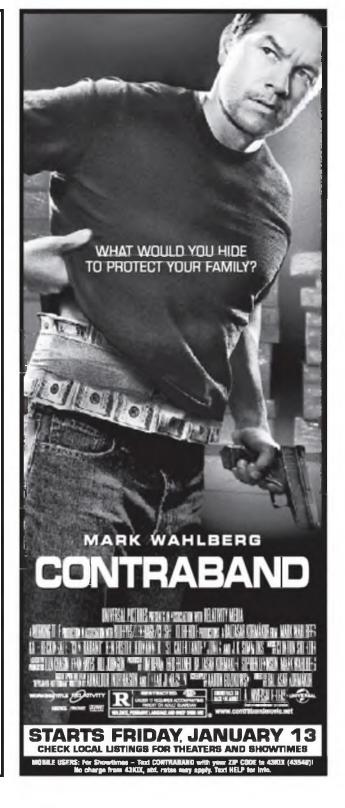
You may register to vote at any Secretary of State Branch Office or county Clerk's office during their normal business hours or during the business hours at the City of Northville Clerk's Office, located at 215 W. Main, phone: 248-349-1300 and the Northville Township Clerk's Office, located at 44405 Six Mile, phone: 248-348-5800. Electors may also register to vote by mail by completing a Michigan Mail-In Voter Registration Application, (forms are available at the local Clerk's office or the Secretary of State's website www.michigan.gov/sos).

Please note that a person who registers to vote by mail is required to vote in person unless they have previously voted in Michigan (MCL168.509t.), are at least 60 years of age, disabled as defined by law, or temporarily living overseas.

> Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk Charter Township of Northville

Dianne Massa, City Clerk City of Northville

Publish: January 12, 2012



Mustangs bow to Canton Chiefs

Ference turns in high score on bars

By Sam Eggieston Correspondent

B4

(NR)

The Northville Mustangs gymnastics team found themselves up against one of the state's best teams last week when they took on the 2011 state runner-up Canton Chiefs. The end result was a loss for the Mustangs, 144.45-129.05.

The day wasn't without its highlights for the Mustangs, however. Daisy Ference was magnificent on the bars, scoring a 9.7 the highest score of the meet in any event by any gymnast. In addition, Tay-

ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs gymnastics team has a busy schedule this week as they compete at 6:30 p.m. today at Plymouth before visiting Livonia Stevenson at 6:30 p.m. Monday and again on the road against Salem at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

lor Dempsey turned in an 8.525 on the beam while captain Victoria Clay collected an 8.45 from the judges with her floor routine. Morgan Price earned an 8.35 on the vault.

Northville youth wrestlers traveled to Dearborn Heights Sunday to take on competitors from all over Eastern Michigan. Michigan Youth Wrestling's MYWAY Tournament featured several hundred competitors ranging in age from kindergarten to eighth grade. Twelve grapplers from Northville took the mat and eight brought home hardware.

Silver Springs Elementary students shined as fifth graders Parker Dietrich and Grant Hood took first and third place medals. First grader Boden Dietrich also won third. Another first grader, Mason Jennings, landed an impressive foursecond pin. Fifth-grader Alex Jones looked great on the mat as well.

Another band of brothers from Winchester

were victorious as second-grader Jake Merritt and fifth-grader Micheal Merrit both earned silver medals at their first tournament. Thornton Creek Elementary School's Andrew Hayak took home gold, while his brother, Aidan, a fourth grader, won second.

Dozen Northville grapplers compete in Dearborn

Hillside Middle School eighth grader Brendan Boyd wrestled undefeated for the day, winning first place. Boyd's fellow eighth grader Trevor

Morgan also took the mat. In addition, Jacob Bisdorf, a fourth-grade student at Ridgewood Elementary School, represented the Mustang Youth Takedown Club. "We're building a

dynasty," said youth coach Steve Widzinski.

"A competitive youth club is instrumental in any successful high

get stats, but a great way

Mustang wrestlers competed at the Dearborn Heights MY-WAY Youth Tournament recently. First place was earned by Brendan Boyd, Parker Dietrich and Andrew Hayak. Second place went to Aldan Hayak, Jake Merritt and Micheal Merritt. Third place went to Boden Dietrich and Grant Hood.

school wrestling program," according to head coach Kevin Eichholtz.

The young grapplers will travel to Brighton on Sunday, to compete in

the Western region. The Mustang Youth Takedown Club works out at Northville High School. For more information, contact nhsyouthwrestling@ mail.com.

FOOTBALL

Continued from page B2

Becker is able to move - just ask the defenders who ended up being the target of his blocks during traps and pulls.

"(He's an) excellent blocker," said Mach. "Mark is very consistent each game and continued to improve each week. He has great movement and is very athletic for a big man.

Matt Trumbore

Northville's offense wasn't accused of being anything other than phenomenal this year, collecting 400 points this season while picking up a total of 4,157 yards of production — Trumbore had a lot to do with that kind of success.

"Matt was our only returning starter on the offensive line, and he played like a returning starter," said Ladach. "He was very consistent at right tackle, and he was consistently good. In addition, he was a great leader for an inexperienced offensive line."

Doyie Wiiiiams A repeat offender on

"(We had) two 1,000vard rushers in the same backfield," Fox noted.

That's all he had to say, because Williams' actions all season have spoke much louder than words.

Ryan Taiaga

You'll have to excuse us while we sit back and daydream about the offensive line we've assembled this season --and Talaga is the icing that goes on that proverbial cake. This crushing lineman was a force to be reckoned with from the start of the season right up to the end, and he never took a play off - mostly because he started both ways for the Lions.

"(Ryan won the) Whatever It Takes team award," noted coach Mark Thomas. "(At) 6feet-2, (he) has disrupted many offensive plays."

Not to mention, he's disrupted a few defensive plays as well, powering forward like a machine to make the holes necessary for his team to succeed and make the playoffs this year.

First-Team Defense Garrett Wiska

Typically, you don't see

was as dominant as it was all season. He picked up 46 tackles and had 1.5 sacks this season.

"He is very tenacious and gives 100 percent on every down," said Mach.

And that's exactly the type of player that gets and deserves - post-season awards.

Jake Bates

Northville's defensive line was one of the best the school has produced in some time, and the standout player on that line was none other than Bates.

"Jake was the most productive player on our defensive line, which was arguably the strength of our defense," said Ladach. "I didn't see a lineman this season that could slow down Jake's pass rush without holding him, and they didn't even do that really well."

Bates had just 15 solo tackles this year, but assisted on an additional 31 more. The most impressive stat on his sheet, however, was his seven sacks.

Mike Evans

When it came to players that found themselves having an impact on the

to get recognition. He helped his squad to the playoffs this season and, in turn, was voted in as not only an All-KLAA player by the coaches, but as an All-Area Defensive First-Team selection by the area sportswriters. Brett MacDonaid

It's always nice to see a three-year starter truly come into his own, and this year it was Mac-Donald's turn to do just that. After having been a big part of Northville's defense since his sophomore season, MacDonald stepped into the role of leading the Northville defense this year.

"Brett has been one of our best defenders in each of the past three seasons," said Ladach. "He leads by example, and he's always around the football. We are really going to miss him next year."

MacDonald had 35 solo tackles and 52 assists his year, while picking up one sack and an interception. In addition to his defensive play, he had four touchdowns as a member of the offense this year. Aiex King

collected a sack during his senior campaign.

"He is an excellent hitter and covers the entire field, sideline to sideline," said Mach.

Justin Toiinski

When a linebacker stands out in the KLAA, it typically means he's one heck of an impact player — and Tolinski is no exception to that rule.

The senior linebacker led his squad in tackles, earning himself several team awards as well as an ALL-KLAA not and honorable mention on both the Detroit Free Press and Detroit News all-area squads.

One has to wonder how Tolinski is going to fit it all on his athletic resume, but knowing the type of player he is we're confident he'll find a way to make it work.

Dave Racey

With very few exceptions, most teams find that they cannot run the football against Detroit Catholic Central. The most talented of those teams will still try, of course, but most of them revert to trying to beat the Shamrocks with their passing games — and

"He reads his keys and supports on the run faster than any safety I've ever coached," said Lindman.

Kaske retires from the Cougars as the team's alltime interception leader with seven and is second on the all-time list for tackles.

First-Team Special Teams

Aiex Koziowski

Let's just be clear about one thing - Kozlowski is far more than a kicker — he's pretty much a three-way player, having picked up a ton of time his senior year as a defensive back, a running back and, of course, the best kicker in the area.

Kozlowski had lots of practice, too, kicking off 48 times for an average of 54 yards per kick. He nailed 37 extra points this year, too. And while he wasn't selected as the punter for this year's All-Area team, he definitely qualified, averaging 43 yards per punt this season.

Brian Birckeibaw

When you ask Birckelbaw to step up and help his team in any way that he can, he truly responds — and that's the type of character the All-Area team is built on each and every season. Birckelbaw was not only a defensive back and a wide receiver for the Lions during his senior season, but he was one heck of a punter, too, earning himself numerous post-season honors along the way. His average was a whopping 36.4 yards per punt, which definitely was key in the field-position strategies of South Lyon this year.

the All-Area First-Team offense, Williams is the epitome of everything a coach wants in an offensive lineman — he's big (over 250 pounds), he's fast (not quite like a speeding bullet, but definitely a locomotive) and he's not afraid to put himself in the way of the defense's best players to make room for his runners.

defensive linemen with stats that rank anywhere near impressive — but that's because they're doing the job of taking all the blocks and letting the linebackers clean up the play. But Wiska is a bit different.

As a starting defensive tackle for the Shamrocks, Wiska was a big part of the reason the defense

game, Evans ranks right up there with the best of them. No, he wasn't picking up 15 tackles a game or leading the KLAA in sacks - but he was disrupting the offensive flow of the game for his opponents on each and every down. Evans was double teamed most of his senior season, making for a tough way to

As predicted when he made the First-Team Defense list on last year's All-Area team, King proved to be a destructive force on the Wildcats' defense this year ---and after starting three years at linebacker for Novi, it's really no surprise.

"(He's the) leader of the defense," said Pennycuff. "(Alex) made all of our adjustments and led the team in tackles. Played with a lot of passion and very, very physical."

King picked up a whopping 88 tackles from his linebacker position three less than last year, but considering offenses did everything they could to avoid him, we're willing to forgive him. Chris Orr

There's likely no doubt that Milford's coaching staff all asked Santa for the same thing this year - another linebacker with the talent that Orr possesses.

The Mavericks depended heavily on Orr's abilities, and not just on defense - although it's definitely hard to miss the glaring 102 tackles he picked up this season. Orr is a two-way threat, having snagged 31 catches as a tight end this year in addition to his duties of laying out some of the biggest hits in the KLAA this year.

Mike Schuitz It's really hard to get attention as a stand-out linebacker at Detroit Catholic Central. The reason is due to the fact that the linebacker corps for the Shamrocks is almost always — year in and year out — one of the best in the state.

But that didn't deter Schultz, who proved to be one of the best to play the position this year as he picked up 72 tackles and

that's where Racey truly shined this year.

"Dave is a very good athlete who is capable of making the great plays," said Mach. "He has been great on both sides of the ball, offensively and defensively. He also returns punts with the kicking game."

Racey picked up three interceptions this year, made 30 tackles and also had 17 catches for 280 yards and three touchdowns as a wide receiver. **Brandon Love**

Last year, Love made an appearance on this team as an All-Area running back. This year, he decided to make a name for himself on the defensive side of the ball as well. After having been one of Northville's top defensive backs over the past three seasons, opponents learned to just not throw in his direction. That, of course, didn't stop him from still being a ball hawk, snagging two interceptions and pulling down 14 solo tackles without barely having the ball even come at him.

"Brandon has consistently been our best cornerback," said Ladach.

In addition, Love picked up 631 yards on offense and ventured into the end zone 14 times.

Zach Kaske

Are defensive backs supposed to have 77 tackles on the season? If they are as aggressive as Kaske — who was basically a linebacker who could keep up with any receiver and liked to get interceptions - then, yes, they are.

Kaske had himself a standout year despite his team missing the playoffs as he picked up 77 tackles, one sack and three interceptions and tossed in a fumble recovery for good measure.

Jon Newman

How is it that one of South Lyon's best players landed himself on the All-Area First-Team as a special teams player? Because he's not afraid to give his all, no matter if he's on offense, defense or during the kicking and punting game.

Newman is the type of player that can do it all

— he's a huge target as a tight end and a scary presence at outside linebacker. But what makes Newman stand out so much is the fact that even on special teams he never let his motor quit running and continued to give his best effort no matter what.

And when his team needed him on special teams? There he was rushing down the field on the kick off; then he was making blocks on kick and punt returns; and then he was long snapping when the Lions punted and snapped the ball for extra points and field goals.

"He never came off the field," said Thomas.

And it's going to be awhile before he does come off an athletic field - Newman will be a collegiate athlete when he goes to the next level to play baseball following his 2012 graduation.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE MICHIGAN PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 28, 2012

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Please note that a person who registers to vote by mail is required to vote in person unless they have previously voted in Michigan (MCL168.509t.), are at least 60 years of age, disabled as defined by law, or temporarily living overseas.

> Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk Charter Township of Northville

Publish: January 12, 2012

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE WATER and SEWER DEPARTMENT

-2012-

SUBJECT: 2012 Meter Reading, Billing and Payment Schedule for all Residential. Multiple and Commercial Accounts

| <u>Meter Reading &</u> <u>Calculate Bills</u> | Bills Mailed | Payment Due | SWD Billing Period |
|--|---------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| January 17 - 24 | February 17 | March 12 | March - April |
| March 19 - 26 | April 13 | May 7 | May - June |
| May 14 - 21 | June 8 | July 9 | July - August |
| July 16 - 23 | August 10 | September 10 | September - October |
| September 17 - 24 | October 12 | November 8 | November - December |
| November 12 - 19 | December 14 | January 7 (2013) | January - February (2013) |
| Publish: January 12, 2012 | | | OE08763580 3×3.5 |

CAL STONE, EDITOR

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B5.(NR) THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2012 HOMETOWN WEEKLIES HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

TAKIN' CARE OF BUSINESS

Tax changes for small businesses to note

By Dan Hoops Guest Columnist

s we move into an election year, there are a few changes in the tax law (both at the state and federal levels) that you may be interested in tracking. For the most part, our state legislators have done their jobs and given us some stability; unfortunately, our federal legislators have not. But for small businesses in Michigan, this may be a pretty good year with some of the tax changes.

So, the good news for 2012. Governor Snyder and the Michigan legislature finally repealed the Michigan Business Tax ("MBT"). The MBT was a short-lived tax that replaced the Single Business Tax ("SBT"). The MBT and SBT were controversial taxes



Dan Hoops

because they were (a) difficult to comply with, (b) taxed the income of small businesses and business owners twice, and (c) were just bad tax policy. Essentially, the MBT and SBT went outside the state tax policy axiom, which is to "tailor legislation to the federal laws."

In Michigan, we have an estate tax and individual income tax that are called "pick-up" taxes, which means that if something is taxed at the federal level, Michigan will "pick-up" a little off the top. This works well in the individual and estate tax planning world because you are, essentially, playing by the same rules at the state and federal levels. Until recently, the business taxes were another story. Our state legislative and executive branches couldn't make up their minds as to how to tax business. . . this adversely affected long-term

business decisions, drove many businesses to other states and clearly hurt our state's economy.

On Jan. 1, 2012, the Michigan Corporate Income Tax (MCIT) took effect. For many small businesses in Michigan, this is a wonderful relief. The MCIT effectively taxes "C-corporations" with \$350,000 or more gross receipts only. This means that small businesses that operate as sole proprietors, partnerships, LLC's or S-corporations are not taxed by the State of Michigan. Essentially, this is how the federal tax system is designed and many consider this the equitable and fair way to tax business. It The IRS released its 2012 inflationaffected items for the year. The Earned Income Tax Credit for 2012 will be \$5,891, the maximum deduction for medical savings accounts for out-of-pocket expenses will be \$4,200 (self-only) and \$7,650 (family coverage), the estate tax credit amount for 2012 is \$5,120,000, transportation benefits (transit passes, parking) will be \$240, and deductible mileage rates are \$.55 (business mileage), \$.23 (medical or moving mileage), and \$.14 (per mile for charitable organizations).

Now, for the rest of the federal tax story. Politics. We have one more year to see what is going to happen with the estate tax and whether or not our Congress will allow it to slip from a tax on estates in excess of \$5 million to estates of \$1,000,000 in 2013. As far as some of the remaining "Bush Tax Cuts", those two may or may not be around by 1/1/2013. They kicked the can on these issues last year, after waiting until the eleventh hour, will they do it again at the end of the year?

The payroll tax (FICA) relief from 2011 was extended... until February 29, 2012. I don't know what to say, but "please remember to vote in the November elections". What a mess for payroll services and departments across the country. For now, employees will only have 5.65% of their paychecks withheld for the FICA and this may or may not go up to 7.65% in two months.

Finally, with this being an election year, most economic policies from both major parties will use tax policy changes to provide incentives in business and personal behaviors. Just which policies are the "best" is anyone's guess; higher taxes on the wealthiest Americans? Tax cuts for the middle class? Renewable credits for business? No one can say for certainty what works best, until many years after the fact. However, providing a long-term plan that people and business can rely on is something that works.

As we all get geared up to file our returns for the past year, there are plenty of us that do need to think about the upcoming year. Unfortunately, the uncertainty in Washington is unlike the uncertainty in life; we can at least control our own personal destinies, right? It will be an interesting 2012 to say the least, let's hope that our elected officials in Congress can take a lesson from Lansing and give us a ray of hope for cer-

Credit union gives gifts to nonprofit groups

By Nathan Mueller Staff Writer

BUSINESS

Christmas came early for three Novi non-profit organizations thanks to donations from Community Financial Credit Union. As part of its Season of

Giving program, the credit union donated \$50,000 to non-profit organizations in the areas it serves — Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Novi, Gaylord, Hillman and Lewiston.

The Novi organizations that received money were the Novi Educational Foundation (\$2,500), Love INC (\$2,500) and the Novi Emergency Food Bank (\$750).

"As a credit union we are committed to the communities we serve," said Sarah Cousineau, marketing manager for Community Financial. "We look at it as the stronger our communities are and the more we can help them, the better it makes us as well."

This is the second time this year the credit union has donated money to nonprofits as it ran a similar program called Summer of Sharing. Novi Youth Assistance received a grant of \$1,060 at the time. Cousineau said the holiday-themed donations were because Community Financial still wanted to celebrate the successes of

the last two years. Geoff Wood, chair of the Novi Educational Foundation, said the donation was "pretty significant" as the organization gives away nearly \$50,000 worth of grants and scholarships each year.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Community Financial Novi branch manager Liz Houston, left, presents the Novi Education Foundation's Jessica Anderson and Geoff Wood with a check for \$2,500 on Dec. 20.



Community Financial Novi branch manager Liz Houston presents Novi Emergency Food Bank's Jim Ernst with a check for \$1,000 on Dec. 20.

"Having this \$2,500 to help us continue to do what we are doing is phenomenal," he said.

Wood said the NEF, which helps fill some of the gaps that have been occurring as a result of cuts at the state level, is looking to grow to the point of actually funding programs versus just giving grants.

"We want to make this organization something similar to what all the universities have where they have major fundraising elements to build upon their educational opportunities," he said.

He said it's important not just for the school district, but the community as a whole.

"A strong school district means a lot to businesses and homeowners," Wood said.

> nmueller@gannett.com (248) 437-2011 ext. 255

is smart tax policy.

Small business should also rejoice with the Small Business Health Care Tax Credit, included as part of Congress' Affordable Care Act. This is a credit for small business owners. To qualify for this relief, a business must have 25 or fewer full-time employees whose average income is \$50,000 or less, and the business must pay at least half of its employee health insurance premiums. For qualifying business owners, the credit is a "sliding scale" that tops out at 35% in 2012, meaning the credit will benefit "smaller" small business moreso than it would for "larger" small business. tainty in our taxes. But, this is only my perspective.

Daniel S. Hoops is an associate professor at Walsh Business College teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in the Business Law and Taxation Department. Professor Hoops holds a master of laws degree in estate planning from the University of Miami School of Law, a juris doctor from the Michigan State University Detroit College of Law and a bachelor of musical arts from the University of Michigan. Hoops, a 1987 graduate of Novi High School, can be reached at Walsh College at (248) 823-1334 or dhoops@walshcollege.edu.

NORTHVILLE BUSINESS BRIEFS

Shazaaam! giving away \$1M in pro bono services

Novi-based public relations, marketing and social media firm Shazaaam! Public Relations is asking the public to assist in helping the agency gift \$1 million in pro bono services to worthy charities. The firm, founded by entrepreneur Adrienne Lenhoff, is celebrating its 10-year anniversary in business by gifting 10 worthy charities each a \$100,000 in pro bono services.

Shazaaam! posted the nominated organizations on its website www.shazaaam.com and the public and the nominated organizations' supporters have been invited to vote on their top 10 organizations. Voting will take place through Jan. 23. The 10 organizations with the most votes will each be the recipient of \$100,000 in pro bono marketing, public relations and social media services. In the event that a winning organization is unable or cannot accept Shazaaam!'s gift or does not respond to the agency's outreach, Shazaaam! will then begin to reach out to the next runner up in the voting. Winning organizations will begin being contacted on Tuesday, Jan. 24.

During Shazaaam!'s 10 Year Anniversary Million Dollar Challenge nomination period, over 140 worthy 501(c)3 organizations were nominated. The nomination period ran from Nov. 28-Dec. 28, 2011.

Since forming in 2001, Shazaaam! has awarded more than \$3 million in pro bono services to help deserving organizations elevate their messages, mobilize thousands of supporters and raise millions of dollars.

"Since opening up the nomination process, we've been exposed to over a hundred worthy organizations each with a great story to tell," said Shazaaam! founder and president, Adrienne Lenhoff. "We have the skills and the talent to help them amplify their messages and create greater awareness. Since forming Shazaaam!, I have felt that it's important to be thankful for our clients and business growth and to also give back to those around us."

Community Financial offering a dozen scholarships

Community Financial Credit Union, in collaboration with the Community Foundation of Plymouth (CFP) will be awarding 12 \$1,000 scholarships in April. The deadline to apply is March 2.

Applications can only be made online. Students can complete an application by going to http://scholarships.egrant.org, creating an account and logging in. Please follow the instructions carefully and read the guidelines for our "Community Financial Margaret Dunning, George Lawton and Phil Curtiss Scholarships." If you qualify, complete just one application; you will be considered for any of these scholarships.

Please note that one of the eligibility requirements is that the scholarship applicant must have had an account at Community Financial for at least six months.

An application, transcripts and one letter of recommendation must be submitted online. Students should also mail four copies of this information to Community Financial, attention: Scholarship Program, 500 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170, to be received by March 2. SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

ST. MARY MERCY

LIVONIA

The Center for Joint Replacement

Re-Discover Freedom

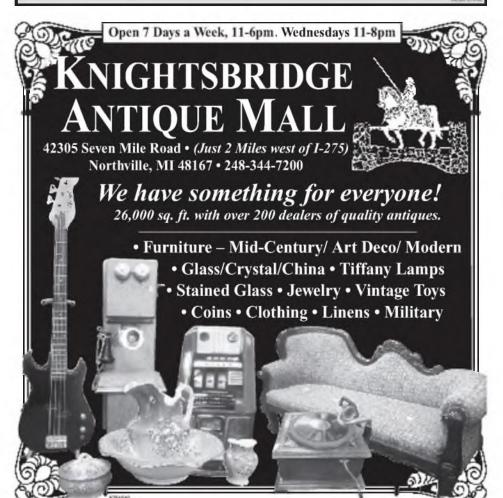
Learn more al our FREE Educational Seminar 6 to 8 p.m. St. Mary Mercy Livonia

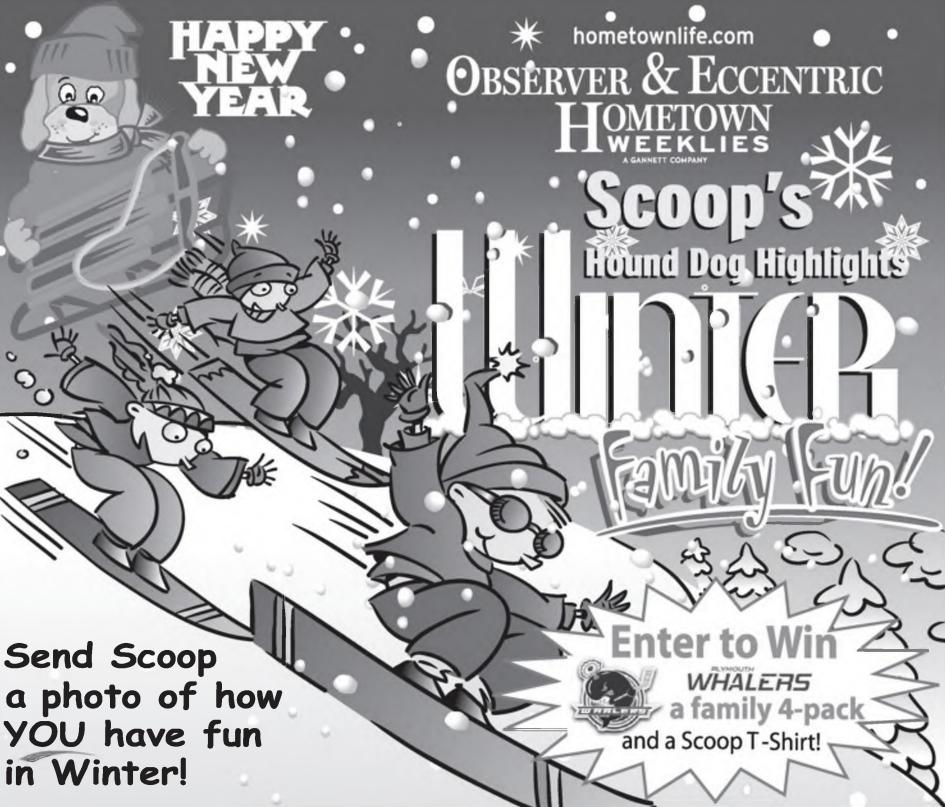
Thursday, Jan. 26, Classroom 10 Wednesday, Feb. 22, Classroom 10

To register call 734.655.2345 slmarymercy.org

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

The Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Hospital has a comprehensive feam approach which results in shorter hospital stays, better pain management and faster recovery.





CONTEST:

Send a photo and tell us of how you have fun in the winter. The winner(s) will receive a family 4- pack to a Plymouth Whalers game and a Scoop T- Shirt. Good Luck!

Mail to:

Scoop the Newshound 41304 Concept Drive

When it's cold outside sometimes the only thing a kid can do is have BIG TIME FUN. Here are some fun things to do with your friends and family outside or indoors. In either case, get ready to have loads of fun and laughter.

OUTSIDE FUN:

INDOOR FUN:

Get a group together and have your own winter game competition. You can design your own obstacle course using small snow mounds for hurdle jumping, a track for short distance sprinting, and snow balls for shot-put throwing.

Create years of fun memories with the whole family. Build a headless snowman and take funny photographs of you and your family using your head as a substitute for the snowman's head.

Service a colorful ice sculpture using food colored frozen water made in plastic or Styrofoam cups. A little water poured between the ice blocks will help everything stick together lik

Create a night of giving. Take one evening and go through your closet

COOKING WITH SCOOP

Here is a fun tasty treat to try at home with mom and dad. Ingredients

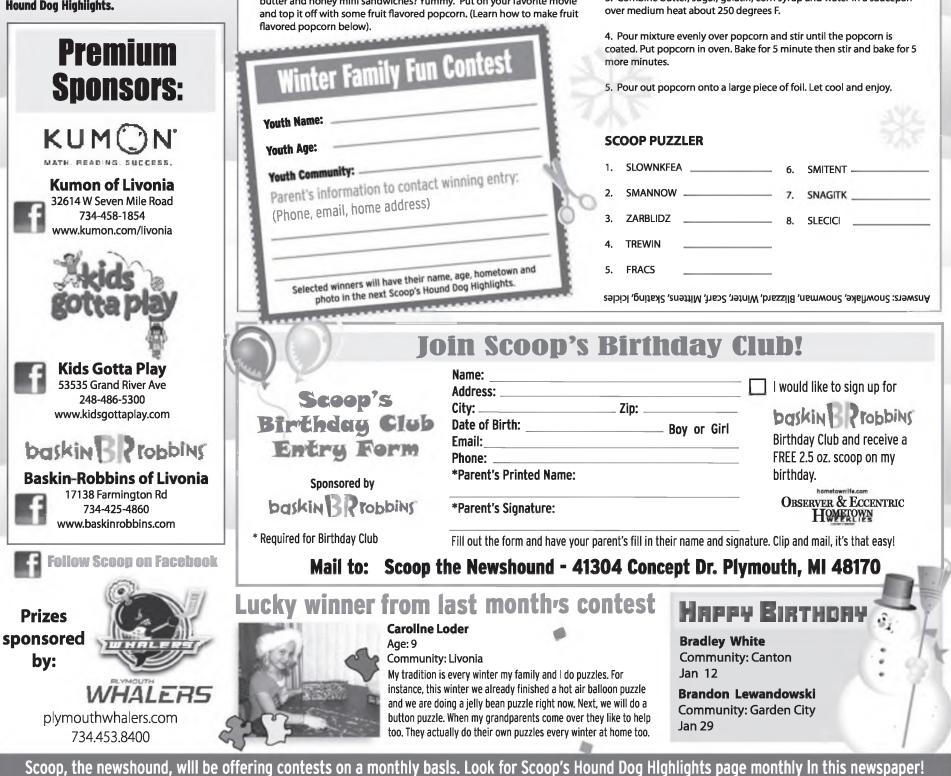
- 10 cups popped popcorn
- 1 cup butter
- 3/4 cup sugar

1 (3 ounce) package fruit flavored gelatin mix

Plymouth, MI 48170

Deadline for submissions: 1/26/12

All entries need to be received at the **Observer & Eccentric Newspapers by ciose** of the business day on Jan. 26th. Winners to be announced in the February Scoop's Hound Dog Highiights.



and pull out clothing that you no longer want and give it to charity. Especially look for clothing that is good for the cold winter months.

> Have a Home Movie Buffet. Invite some friends over and let your creative mind go to work. Ask mom and dad to help create fun treats for everyone to sample. How about strawberry hot chocolate or peanut butter and honey mini sandwiches? Yummy. Put on your favorite movie

I tablespoon corn sy

3 tablespoons water

1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees F. Grease a 1/4 sheet pan. Generously butter a heavy 2 quart saucepan.

2. Distribute popcorn evenly in the baking pans and put in the oven to keep warm.

3. Combine butter, sugar, gelatin, corn syrup and water in a saucepan

REAL ESTATE B7 7 THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2012 HOMETOWN WEEKLIES HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

JULIE BROWN, EDITOR JCBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM (313) 222-6755 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Livonia woman to serve on 2012 CREW board

Commercial Real Estate Women Detroit, an organization influencing the success of the commercial real estate industry by advancing the achievements of women and celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2011 announces the following CREW Detroit members will serve on the 2012 CREW Detroit Board of Directors:

•President: Jan Purcell; director of Sales and Marketing, eTitle Commercial, Troy

Purcell is a resident of Bloomfield Hills.

•President-Elect: Jumana Judeh, MAI, CCIM; president and CEO, Judeh & Associates, Dearborn. Judeh is a resident of Dearborn Heights.

Immediate Past President: Marilyn Nix; senior vice president, Compass Commercial LLC/ITRA Global, Troy. Nix is a resident of Bloomfield Hills.



Mary LeFevre

44698 Tillotson Dr

387 Torrington Dr W

 Treasurer: Donna Hanson, CPA; partner, Plante & Moran, PLLC, Auburn Hills. Hanson is a resident of Lake Orion. Secretary/ Communications Director; Nicole Heyart; vice president, Luna Tech Designs. LLC, Plymouth. Heyart is a resident of Sterling Heights.

 Membership Director: Alicia E. Buisst; independent real estate consultant. Buisst is a resident of Brighton.

 Programs Director: Mary LeFevre; manager of Business Development, Turner Construction Co., Detroit. LeFevre is a resident of Livonia.

•Outreach Director: Beth Bailey, manager of Due Diligence Group, PM Environmental Inc., Berkley. Bailey is a resident of Berkley.

•Golf Director: Sheila Suppes; director of Business Development & Marketing, Sachse Construction, Birmingham. Suppes is a resident of Commerce.

 IMPACT Real Estate Awards Director: Andrea Burg, senior project manager, LEED BD+C,

Jones Lang LaSalle Project and Development Services, Detroit. Burg is a resident of Bloomfield Township.

CREW Detroit (www.crewdetroit.org), founded in 1986, is a dedicated to influencing the success of the commercial real estate industry by advancing the achievements of women through networking and member-to-member driven business opportunities. It is a founding chapter of CREW Network, a professional organization of more than 8,000 women and men in commercial real estate women in the U.S. and Canada that serves as a key resource to CREW chapter members and the commercial real estate industry. **CREW** Network members hail from all disciplines of commercial real estate. Learn more at www.crewnetwork.org.

\$70,000 \$58,000

\$44,000

\$69,000

\$53,000

\$32,000

\$62,000

\$85,000 \$23,000 \$23,000 \$23,000 \$51,000

\$26,000

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\$23,000

\$72,000

\$64,000

\$68,000 \$135,000 \$30,000

\$116,000

\$80,000

\$30,000

Ser all mile

Use caution in yule decor

Q: Our homeowners love to get in the spirit of the holidays and our association sponsors a decorating contest, hosts a party in the Community Center and uses association funds to adorn common elements. Unfortunately, however, the association party and common area decorations support Christmas. There are residents who support other religions and are complaining that the association isn't doing enough to support their religious beliefs and backgrounds. What do you think?

A: This is a difficult question which may sometimes lead to an issue of religious discrimination. Under federal fair housing laws, it is unlawful to discriminate against



provision of services or facilities" because of

religion and

the law is broadly interpreted. You may wish to have all of the major religions represented in your decorations or make it as nonsectarian as possible. Perhaps a general holiday party policy and decorations which do not provide any implications as to a religious representation would be appropriate, but

| HOME | S SOLD/RE | AL ESTA | TE TRANSACTIONS- | WAYNE |
|------------------|---------------|----------|----------------------------------|---------|
| residential real | 49730 Taft Ln | \$51,000 | 37968 N Laurel Park Dr \$150,000 | REDFORD |

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 26-30, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

2289 Amsterdam Ave \$167,000 47626 Ashford Dr S \$340,000 \$86,000 40455 Blythefield Ln 4337 Bridgeview Ln \$95,000 48662 Central Park Dr \$402,000 46866 Creeks Bnd \$150,000 \$233,000 1737 Crestview Dr \$401,000 1450 Delancy Cir 1239 E Crystal Cir \$188,000 4243 Forest Bridge Dr \$210,000 375,000 393 Lenox Dr 2394 Lexington Cir N \$190,000 46990 Mornington Rd \$297,000 \$109,000 169 N Willard Rd \$65,000 1350 N Willard Rd 49103 Northampton Ct 1260 Old Colony Ln \$292,000 \$190,000 41992 Saratoga Cir 115,000 2609 Stanton St \$320,000 49500 Taft Ln \$35,000 \$308,000 49529 Taft Ln

48356 Wadebridge Dr 39747 Wales St GARDEN CITY 28988 Bridge St 33149 Brown St 31504 Dover St 28568 Elmwood St 29896 Elmwood St 28952 Florence St 33740 Pardo St LIVONIA 36080 Ann Arbor Trl 11427 Brookfield St 29814 Buckingham St 11864 Camden St 34803 Fairfax Dr 18948 Floral St 19010 Floral St 19446 Hardy St 18301 Heatherlea Dr 29907 Lyndon St 39324 Lyndon St \$130,000 27854 Meadowbrooke Ave \$177,000 9108 Melvin St 9729 Middlebelt Rd 9917 Middlebelt Rd 31744 Middleboro St

34448 Middleboro St

\$51,000 \$170,000 33919 Oakdale 32856 Perth St 340,000 \$330,000 19380 Rensello \$130,000 17574 Rexwoo 14586 Ronnie 37751 Southar 36316 St Andro \$65,000 \$21,000 \$80,000 38757 Summe \$10,000 31350 Wentwo NORTHVILLE \$86,000 \$35,000 50630 Hawtho \$54,000 19687 Ironwoo 42240 Ladywo \$18,000 47647 Pine Cre 16035 Pine Val \$80,000 48741 Stoneric \$90,000 \$72,000 \$265,000 41773 Waterfa 19135 Windrid \$27,000 20145 Woodhi \$20,000 PLYMOUTH \$80,000 45800 Beacon \$329,000 11365 Bellwoo \$128,000 48499 E Norma 163 Hamilton 48275 Hilltop 48565 Hilltop \$76,000 \$25,000 1076 Ross St \$22,000 1311 S Harvey \$128,000 \$175,000 1298 Sheridan 800 York St

| | J120,000 . | | REDFORD |
|----------|------------|----|--|
| e St | \$147,000 | | 14057 Brady |
| t | \$110,000 | | 12033 Columbia |
| or St | \$74,000 | | 9543 Dixie |
| od St | \$145,000 | | 11942 Eileen |
| Ln | \$139,000 | , | 17416 Fox |
| mpton St | | | 17602 Indian |
| rews Dr | \$30,000 | | 9168 Nathaline |
| rs St | \$71,000 | | 16741 Negaunee |
| orth St | \$150,000 | | 14384 San Jose |
| | | | 25054 Schoolcraft |
| orne Ct | \$330,000 | ÷. | 9008 Virgil |
| od Ct | \$60,000 | | 26906 W Chicago |
| ood Dr | \$226,000 | | 17603 Wakenden |
| eek Ct | \$400,000 | | 19328 Wakenden |
| lley Dr | \$525,000 | | 15512 Woodworth |
| dge Dr | \$485,000 | | WESTLAND |
| all Rd | \$336,000 | | 32823 Anita Dr |
| dge Dr | \$235,000 | | 36636 Avondale St |
| ill Dr | \$270,000 | | 2041 Buchanan Ct |
| | | | 39343 Dillingham St |
| Hill Cir | \$345,000 | | 32248 Fairchild St |
| od Dr | \$260,000 | | 34318 Frances St |
| andy Ct | \$323,000 | | 35070 Lewis St |
| Ave | \$164,000 | | 382 Marigold Cir |
| Dr E | \$420,000 | | 8024 Ravine Dr |
| Dr W | \$371,000 | | 37135 Riviera Dr |
| | \$195,000 | | 1295 S John Hix St |
| St | \$182,000 | | 219 Van Sull St |
| n St | \$294,000 | | 8320 Vista Ln |
| | \$65,000 | | 1. |

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

1585 Ashover Dr 29743 Monterey Cir 150,000

any person in "the

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 19-23, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS \$179,000 30460 Embassy St 19655 Warwick St \$350,000 BIRMINGHAM \$73.000 1602 Cole St \$360,000 563 Hanna St 958 Pleasant St \$363,000 798 Tottenham Rd \$315,000 1245 Washington Blvd \$930,000 Bloomfield Hills 1765 Alexander Dr \$350,900 \$244.000 5170 Wing Lake Rd \$650,000 10 Cranbrook Ln 1705 Huntingwood Ln # B \$68,000 745 Upper Scotsborough Way \$245,000 **BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP**

\$173,000 \$610,000 3536 Bradway Blvd \$225,000 182 Dourdan 172 E Hickory Grove Rd \$235,000 4791 Inkster Rd 425,000 \$305,000 3150 Kernway Dr 4144 Meadow Way \$375,000 969 N Reading Rd \$195,000 1327 S Carillon Ct \$897,000 6750 White Pine Dr \$215,000 \$150,000 5108 Woodlands Ln COMMERCE TOWNSHIP \$204,000 6043 Venice Dr 4853 Waldon Woods Dr \$223,000 FARMINGTON 32718 Grand River Ave Unit B \$30.000 24048 Merrilyn Ct FARMINGTON HILLS \$165,000 28296 Bayberry Rd \$110,000 24382 Broadview St \$140,000 28032 E Greenmeadow Cir \$152,000 37596 Emerald Forest Dr \$259,000 27849 Gettysburg St -\$210,000 22195 Gill Rd \$145,000 29969 Green Acres \$173.000 27129 Hampstead Blvd \$375,000

24644 Springbrook Dr \$145,000 27671 W Echo Vly \$50,000 23961 Watercrest Ct \$174,000 \$180,000 28420 Wildwood Trl FRANKLIN 30780 N Greenbriar Rd \$385,000 Lathrup Village 18469 Dolores Ave \$130,000 MILFORD 119 Second St \$115,000 \$190,000 220 Crystal St 615 E Summit St \$89,000 \$555,000 1434 Hunters Lake Dr 1470 Hunters Lake Dr \$607,000 527 Olivia Dr \$250,000 846 Ridgeside Dr \$114,000 NOVI 50641 Amesburg Dr \$480,000 50648 Amesburg Dr \$520,000 50707 Amesburg Dr \$458,000 50707 Amesburg Dr \$550,000 26517 Anchorage Ct \$485,000 49944 Blackberry Trl \$209,000 24566 Borderhill \$140,000 43077 Brookstone Dr \$223,000 50884 Chesapeake Dr \$718.000

22745 Cranbrooke Dr \$82,000 50861 Drakes Bay Dr \$635,000 43099 Emerson Way \$231,000 24587 Enchanted Dr \$180,000 22357 Hazelton Ct \$405,000 27965 Hopkins Dr \$105,000 24312 Knollwood St \$135,000 23310 Meadowbrook Rd \$31,000 \$158,000 30850 Palmer Dr 25884 Shoreline Dr \$435,000 SOUTH LYON 1098 Colt Dr \$193,000 26660 Daria Cir W \$288,000 25400 Meadow Ct \$30,000 \$240,000 \$35,000 21975 N Lyon Trl 21575 Pontiac Trl \$26,000 204 Princeton Dr SOUTHFIELD 21326 Greenview Rd \$55,000 30550 Red Maple Ln \$71,000 25422 Saint James \$65,000 30200 Southfield Rd # A208 \$28,000 WHITE LAKE 10944 Hillway St \$198,000 8170 Rene Dr \$99,000 974 Round Lake Rd \$77,000 \$430,000 9130 Twin Lakes Dr

Career Seminar

A Real Estate Career Seminar will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, at Keller Williams Realty,

40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. For more information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

Tax appeais

Learn how to prepare for receiving your 2012 "This Is Not a Tax Bill" in March and "How to Appeal Your Property Taxes "by Mark Avery. Sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, Jan. 12, 5:30 PM/9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. www.REIAofOAKLAND.com; (800) 747-6742

Finance Seminar

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. Learn how to finance your purchase and rehab projects in and around Detroit. Hear from an expert in the lending business, Trent Dalrymple, who has more than 25 years of experience. Real estate and investment professionals are welcome.

Seating is limited so call (248) 547-3006, or sign up at www. metro-mi.com. These free onehour seminars will be 6-7 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of the month at Metro Mortgage Investments, 26711 Woodward Ave., Suite 301, Huntington Woods.

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.

Designation

Bart Patterson of RE/MAX Classic in Canton has earned the Certified Investor Agent Specialist[™] (CIAS) Designation, having completed extensive training to provide solutions and expertise to real estate investors.

"For decades, investing in real estate has proven to be a consis-

1000

tent and stable way for individuals to build wealth," Patterson said. "Real estate investment supports a number of industries, including construction, retail and professional services, and is a strong way to energize and increase investment in our local economy."

Over the past 12 months, investment and second-home properties comprised more than \$300 billion in sales, representing approximately 27 percent of all residential real estate transactions. In addition, in market conditions affected by mortgage industry challenges, 48 percent of investors made all-cash purchases.

"As markets face the challenges of distressed properties and a difficult economy, real estate investors have the opportunity to find productive deals while helping communities stabilize," Patterson said. "Investors provide muchneeded liquidity to the market, decrease vacancy rates, improve neighborhoods, and present solutions for homeowners who need to sell." As a professional with the

CIAS Designation training, Patterson will help area residents

build wealth through real estate investment, and homeowners facing foreclosure find potential buyers for their properties.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation.

Learn about reverse mortgages. 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 or visit Free-ForeclosureTour.com.

On Facebook

RE/MAX has launched a new Facebook page for customers and the public to get direct answers for their real estate questions from RE/ MAX experts. The new site is a chance for the public to ASKREMAX and get clear, expert answers in real time. Visit www.facebook.com/ ASKREMAX.

vou are best to consult with your attorney for a legal opinion.

Q: Our association is concerned about using volunteers because of the risks that may be involved. Do you have any suggestions?

A: When in doubt, check with your insurance agent. Ask the volunteers if they have their own insurance. Ask the volunteers to sign a hold harmless agreement drafted by your attorney. Be sure you are getting good volunteers, if, in fact, you choose to use them. Make sure the volunteers have the skills to do the job. Make sure that their work is reviewed through proper oversight and, have a board resolution, either authorizing the volunteers to do the work or clarify what type of work cannot be done by volunteers. Everything else being considered, it is probably a good idea not to utilize volunteers unless you are adequately protected.

Robert M. Meisner 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 Condo 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 bmeisner@meisner-associates. com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.



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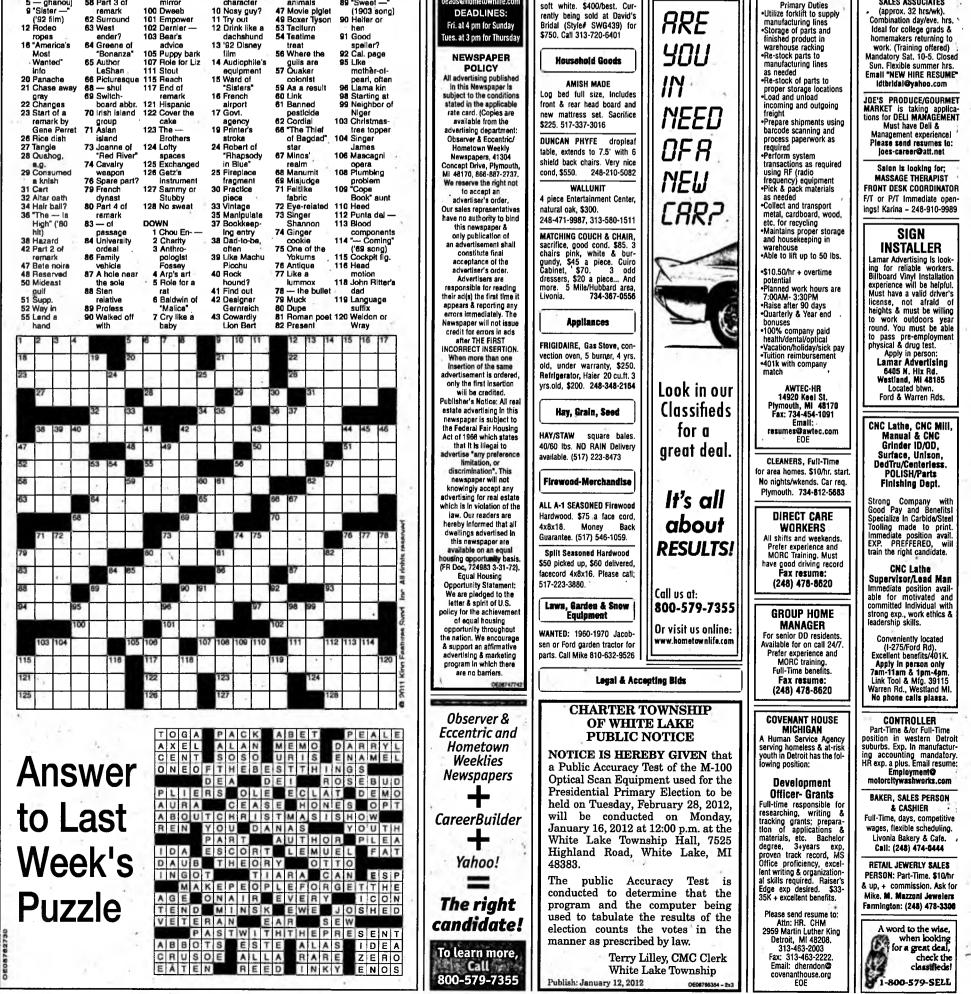
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Tips For Looking Good On Paper And In Person

When Lynn Hazan, president of recruitment firm Lynn Hazan & Associates, found a candidate who had excellent experience on paper, she wanted to learn more about him. As it turned out, he was difficult to work with in person: He missed a scheduled talk with her, sounded annoyed with the staff on the phone and was unresponsive with follow-up materials. Ultimately he was not a good fit for the client.

This situation isn't uncommon. With all of the advice available about résumé and cover letter do's and don'ts, almost anyone can look like the perfect candidate. But just because a job candidate looks good on paper doesn't mean he will be a good fit for the company.

"While education, past work experience, qualifications and skill set will always be a major influence in hiring, there are many other factors that are used to determine if the candidate

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will be a good fit for the organization," says Samantha Lambert of Blue Fountain Media, a media design company in New York.

"I can immediately tell if a candidate spent time researching us and personalizing his job application as well as if he pumped out his resumé to any job that looked somewhat appealing. You can tell a lot from email correspondence with a candidate, but nothing is as substantial as meeting him in person to gauge his compatibility with the company culture."

Eszter Szikora, marketing communications manager at an information technology recruiting firm in Sunnyvale, Calif., remembers when his company was seeking to hire a senior recruiter.

"The candidate had excellent references and a pitch-perfect résumé with plenty of experience -- all the qualifications we required. On paper, she



was the dream candidate to fill this job. However, when our team started to interview her in person, we quickly realized that she did not fit into our energetic, fun, multicultural environment," Szikora says.

"We ended up hiring someone who was not the picture-perfect candidate on paper. She did not have that much industry experience but she had the drive and the personality to succeed. Sometimes it is better to hire someone who really wants the job and has the right attitude than someone who has all the skills you need but simply does not fit the environment."

Ideally, the perfect candidate looks good on paper and in person. To achieve that goal, here are some tips from Lambert and Lynne Sarikas, executive director of the MBA Career Center at Northeastern University in Boston. **On paper:**

1. Make sure your name and contact information are up top and clear so the hiring manager can contact you, Lambert says.

2. Always include a customized cover letter. "Don't expect the hiring manager to review your résumé and think about how your experience relates to what they need," Sarikas says. "Demonstrate the value you add by preparing a customized cover letter that clearly identifies how you can address their business needs. It is about them, not you. Use key words from the job description. Make them want to talk to you."

3. Don't be afraid to write something catchy in the subject line that will make you stand out among the competition and intrigue your reader, Lambert says.

4. Take the paper to the next level. "Use your networking skills to build a network within your target companies. Then, when a position becomes available, ask your contact to share your résumé and cover letter with the hiring manager. Increase your chances of being seen by leveraging your network," Sarikas says.

5. Remember: "The goal of your résumé and cover letter is not to get you the job, but to get you an interview. Make the hiring manager want to talk to vou." Sarikas savs.

In person:

6. Lambert suggests that you arrive early to explore the office, use the bathroom and get a glimpse of what the average day at the company looks like.

7. "Bring a notepad so you have the questions you want to ask as well as an opportunity to take notes," Sarikas says. "Bring extra copies of your résumé just in case it is needed. Be prepared with a list of references just in case you are asked."

8. "Do your research on the company and especially on the person that will be interviewing you," Lambert says.

9. "Dress professionally and conservatively; your best suit, polished shoes, impeccable grooming, etc. Make the best possible first impression," Sarikas says.

10. "Prepare at least five talking points as to why you would be the best fit for the position," Lambert says.

11. "Be yourself. Let them see the person behind the résumé. Your personal brand should be consistent across your cover letter, résumé and interview. Answer questions honestly and thoughtfully. Give them strong examples. Show how you can add value to the company and help solve their business problems," Sarikas says.

. 12. "Do not ask about compensation and incentives unless an offer has been extended," Lambert says.

13. Focus on what you can do for the company, not what they can do for you, Sarikas says.

14. Always thank the interviewer for his time and demonstrate your sincere interest. Be sure to follow up within 24 hours with a handwritten thank-you note. Customize the note by referring to something you learned or discussed and again confirm your interest, Sarikas recommends.

Rachel Zupek Farrell researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues for CareerBuilder.



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