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 LOCAL NEWS, A2

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**Food  
 distribution**

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, March 15, 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 qualify, but need to pre-register. 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. Call Plymouth Community United Way at (734) 453-6879, ext. 7.

**Novelists  
 workshop**

The Northville District Library (212 W. Cady Street) will host a free workshop for novelists, from 1-2 p.m. Saturday, March 31 in Meeting Room A.



Hatchigan

The workshop presenter is award-winning writer Jessica Hatchigan, author of "How to Be Your Own Publicist" and two children's books. Email workshop@myfastmail.com.

# Women suspected in rash of township break-ins

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
 Correspondent

The Northville Township police last week issued a crime alert to homeowners regarding a spate of break-ins from around the area.

According to Lt. Michael Wildt, there is good reason to believe that a series of residential break-ins in this area are being committed by two women, possibly

with a third person acting as the driver.

The most recent break-in Northville Township occurred on March 6. It is known the suspects are targeting jewelry within the residences. Wildt said they have tied together a string of cases based on the nature of the break-ins.

The suspects have not entered through the front door, but have rather gone to another point of

entry and forced their way into the homes.

Wildt said the department has been gathering information from its own reports and those from neighboring jurisdictions to develop the descriptions and alert.

According to police, there are three possible suspect vehicle descriptions:

- Older model, dark (maroon/burgundy) SUV or minivan.

- White, four-door, possibly a Toyota Camry.

- Silver, SUV/crossover type. The suspects are going to homes and condominiums and waiting or driving around in the area. It is reported that they target homes after seeing the homeowner leave the residence.

If confronted after knocking on the door of the home, the sus-

**Please see BREAK-INS, A10**



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northville City Firefighters Capt. John Bourne, right, and Bob Weiland are stationed at the Plymouth Station on Main Street in the city of Plymouth. The City of Northville runs the fire department for Plymouth.

## Plymouth Township assures it will continue with mutual aid pact

### Six firefighter positions eliminated

By **Lonnie Huhman**  
 Correspondent

The question of whether Plymouth Township could fulfill its part of the area's mutual aid agreement was recently raised by Northville Township and other western Wayne communities after it eliminated six firefighter positions.

Mutual aid is an agreement among communities with the purpose of acting as a partnership in case of an emergency. If one happens, a community could call upon a neighbor to help out in specific ways. Many times, aid is called upon in times of multiple vehicle acci-

dents or fires.

When layoffs happen, it raises the concerns of public safety officials because assistance could turn into indirectly subsidizing another department's day-to-day work.

However, Plymouth Township has assured its neighbors it would hold up its end of the agreement.

"We will continue to be a participant in this pact," Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said.

According to John Werth, Northville Township's public safety director, Plymouth Township is committed to

**Please see MUTUAL, A10**

## Sandbox Play Festival:

### Tipping Point hosting third annual Michigan playwriting competition

By **Cal Stone**  
 Staff Writer

For the third consecutive year, playwrights will have the opportunity to enter their work in the Sandbox Play Festival, a competition that is part of Arts & Acts: A Made in Michigan Festival, held June 22-24 in downtown Northville.

"We are excited to be part of this Northville summer art extravaganza," said James Kuhl, producing artistic director of the Tipping Point Theatre.

The Northville Art House presented an annual juried art show, Art in the Sun, for over 20 years before expanding the event in 2010 to Arts & Acts and including live music, a film festival, poetry readings and the play competition.

"The spirit behind the festival is to encourage and increase exposure for Michigan theatre artists," said Kuhl. "Tipping Point will also be searching for actors and directors who are looking for opportunities to get in the sand and work on creating new theatre. This is an excellent opportunity for actors, directors and playwrights looking to showcase their work."

Submissions of 10-minute plays are now being accepted and should include:

- A cover letter briefly explaining your connection to Michigan
- Full contact information
- One copy of your script(s)

Email a Word or PDF attachment to james@tippingpointtheatre.com, or mail to Tipping Point Theatre, Sandbox Play Festival, 361 E. Cady Street, Northville, MI 48167.

Only playwrights or plays with specific ties to Michigan are eligible.

Submissions must be emailed or postmarked no later than April 1. Submitted pages will not be returned.

"The exact number of plays that will be presented at the festival depends on available space, time, and production requirements after the selection of the top prizes," said Kuhl.

**Please see PLAYS, A10**



James Kuhl producing artistic director, Tipping Point Theatre



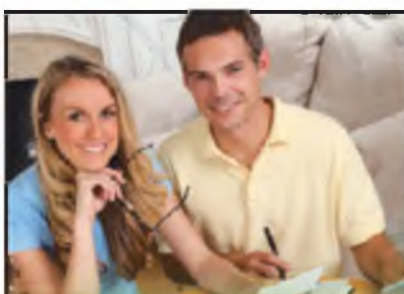
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# AAUW Northville-Novu launches 'Let's Read Math'

Imagine being rich one Sunday and poor the next because of not counting very well, or imagine being queen and having a bed that is way too short because the carpenter's apprentice measured the length of his own foot to build a six foot bed.

Twenty second- and third-graders and their parents are imagining and thinking creatively about math concepts in a four-Saturdays March series called Let's Read Math. The program combines familiar children's literature with fun math activities to build positive attitudes about math while helping children appreciate that math is alive all around them every day in everything that they do. Mom or dad is also an active participant to inspire follow up at home.

The book "How Big is a Foot?" by Rolf Myller was the inspiration for last Saturday's focus on standard measurement. Each workshop is staffed by a



Let's Read Math is sponsored and conducted by AAUW — NN as part of its commitment to support local community education. Members of Northville High School Honor Society are partnering as workshop assistants. Northville Community Library is the series site.

team of American Association of University Women Northville – Novi [AAUW] and Northville

High School Honor Society members. Long-time Amerman teacher Arlene Frayne was team leader last week.

There were plenty of giggles and smiles all around as honor students gave an impromptu dramatization of a royal household measuring

crisis. Finally the king decreed that the length of his foot would be the standard of measure throughout the kingdom...it just happened to be 12 inches. Legend has it that one of the King Henrys can be credited with this decree. The 90-minute workshop flew by. After prac-

ting the concept of estimating length, working in teams to measure all sorts of objects with a variety of measuring devices, each child headed out the door armed with a measuring tape and ruler. One can only imagine that some serious measuring is going on at home this week.

Let's Read Math is sponsored and conducted by AAUW – NN as part of its commitment to support local community education. Members of Northville High School Honor Society are partnering as workshop assistants. Northville Community Library is the series site.

AAUW anticipates that this is just the first of many times that Let's Read Math will be offered to Northville and Novi community families. Most of the pilot enrollees are Amerman students. Approached, last December, by AAUW member and former principal Jane Hecker, Amerman Principal Steve Anderson was receptive and responsive to sharing registration information with faculty and school families.

At the development stage, Let's Read Math founder Dr. Claire Passantino, Ed.D tried it out with her local Pennsylvania AAUW group as presenters in local schools. Now the program has been adapted from coast to coast for school classrooms, after-school centers, family nights, libraries and day camps. After learning that its sister Ann Arbor organization had launched Let's Read Math in AA schools last winter, AAUW – NN Initiatives Committee invited Passantino to make a January flight in from Pennsylvania to train 26 AAUW members and 10 honor society members.

Team members spent a lot of February hours shopping for supplies,

## DETAILS

AAUW Northville-Novu Inc. is an organization of college graduates whose local activities are designed to advance equity and improve the quality of life for women and girls through support of education, development of program and enrichment opportunity, community outreach and involvement. Let's Read Math is a nice addition to well established AAUW community outreach – Career Path Day for middle school girls, family graduation celebration for women awarded a GED after a lapse in their education, annual scholarships to Northville and Novi High School graduating senior girls, annual additions to AAUW Scholarship Endowments established at both Schoolcraft and Oakland Community College.

AAUW – NN is able to give back to the community because the community supports its annual Northville Home Tour scheduled in 2012 for 10 a.m-4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29. For more about AAUW, see aauwnn.org.

packing the right props for each workshop and deciding what role each team member would play. Now it is fun time for everyone. The series winds up with a little geometry exploration where everyone builds polygons, pyramids and prisms. Then it will be evaluation time and back to the drawing board to decide when, where, what next for Let's Read Math.

Submitted by AAUW Northville – Novi member Corinne Vincent, who can be reached at vincorinn@yahoo.com.

## NORTHVILLE RECORD

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# Nix joins Roosen in supervisor race

## Currently chairman of Planning Commission

Robert Nix, a long-time resident of Northville Township, announced his candidacy for township supervisor in the 2012 election. Chris Roosen, a township trustee, has also entered the race. Mark Abbo, the current supervisor, has stated that he will not seek re-election (see related story).

He and his wife, Sue, a teacher, moved to the Northville area in 1977 and became township residents in 1986, currently residing in the Edenderry Hills Subdivision.

Robert is currently the chairman of the township Planning Commission, joining in 2001. He has served on special committees for the township, including the Green Ribbon Committee to prepare a master plan for the 7 Mile property. He is a senior member of the law firm of Kerr, Russell and Weber, PLC and specializes in commercial real estate and finance. He has held leadership positions in both state and national real estate organizations as listed in his curriculum vitae posted on the firm's website [http://www.krwlaw.com].

"I joined the Planning Commission to provide the township with real estate expertise at a time when the township was confronted with numerous complex commercial development projects," said Nix. "I found the planning process both interesting and rewarding. I believe that over the 11-year period I was able to make a meaningful contribution to the township."

Nix said the township has grown, matured and become a wonderful place within which to live, blending the best attributes of rural and developed communities.

"I have decided to run for supervisor to insure that financial matters, public services, real estate development and recreational services are addressed in a manner which maintains these attributes," he said.

He said significant opportunities

and challenges for development in the township include the commercial and recreational development of the 7 Mile property, the prison property, the former ROC Church property on Beck Road and the 5 Mile development corridor serving Northville and Plymouth Townships. Planning, zoning and development matters are critically important to Township residents, and are both complicated and controversial.

"The new township supervisor needs the skills to encourage and control development, allocate township resources and develop effective strategies to provide a sustainable future for Northville Township," said Nix. "My legal background, real estate expertise, negotiating and problem solving skills, is best used for the benefit of the township in the leadership role of supervisor."

Nix is involved in many professional and community activities. He teaches a real estate development course at Wayne State University Law School, presents seminars and workshops for both local and national organizations, and has served on the Schoolcraft Development Authority for over 12 years. He has been an active member of First United Methodist Church of Northville since 1977, served in many leadership capacities, and is currently the chair of the Finance Committee. His volunteer activities over the years have included coaching both boys and girls baseball teams, and holding positions with homeowners associations.

"My goals are to lead the township in the next phase of development, maintain a transparent government and have township board decisions made on the basis of what is in the best interests of the township and not any particular person, group or special interest," he said.

During the next several months Nix said he will be walking the neighborhoods, meeting with residents, homeowners associations, seniors and other groups and businesses to solicit their views, needs, concerns, programs and goals to improve township government.



Robert Nix

# Northville Township Supervisor Abbo won't seek re-election

After 20 years of community service, Mark Abbo has decided not to seek re-election as Northville Township supervisor.

"I am proud of our record over the past two decades and I am certain that we have built a strong foundation for Northville's future," said Abbo. "Now It's time to pass the torch"

Over the past 20 years the accomplishments of the Abbo administration have included:

- \* Eliminate government institutions and bring properties back online. Prior to 1972, 2,946 acres of land in Northville Township was used by various governmental agencies for institutional uses. This equated to 28 percent of the land in the township. Once the Scott Correctional facility is finally sold by the state, the township will have transformed all of these locations to productive resources for the township.

- \* Attracting high-tech businesses to Northville Township. Techno SemiChem, a leader in chemical and electronic materials in the semiconductor industry, joined IAV Automotive, Trelleborg, and Meidan Corporation in making Northville's industrial corridor a premier location to establish business.

- \* Providing citizens the ability to enjoy Northville's natural beauty. Under Abbo's leadership, Northville Township teamed with developers, and county officials to create the Coldwater Nature Preserve and the Sheldon Road pathway. Additionally, Abbo led the charge to purchase the former state hospital property and form a citizen's advisory group to develop the master plan for the property.

- \* Defeating the attempt to annex 414 acres of land. When faced with

potential annexation of part of the township, a dispute that pitted neighbor against neighbor, the conflict brought the community together fighting for a common cause. As a result, the attempt to annex the property was defeated, and residents took control of the township's future.

- \* Kept taxes low and provided quality services. Throughout the past 12 years, as supervisor, the township has taken the necessary steps to weather this economic storm. With Abbo's direction, the township was able to reduce expenditures without reducing the quality of services provided residents.

- \* Created a smaller more efficient government by working with Northville's neighbors. Long before Governor Snyder proposed government consolidation and shared services, Northville Township was ahead of the curve. Whether it is the park and recreation agreements with the City of Northville, joint dispatch for public safety, or the new partnership with Plymouth Township, Wayne County and the State of Michigan to create a high tech industrial corridor along 5 Mile Road from Ridge to Napier, Abbo's administration has been a model for communities to follow in tough economic times.

"Successful planning requires a clear understanding of where you are now, where you want to be, and having a strong team to help you accomplish your goals," Abbo continued. "We had a vision to make Northville a great place to live, work, and play. I am very proud to say we were very successful in accomplishing goals."

Abbo will make an announcement at the township's March meeting this Thursday that he does not intend to seek a fifth term. He will instead focus on spending more time with his wife, Patty, and his three daughters who live in Phoenix and Los Angeles.



Mark Abbo

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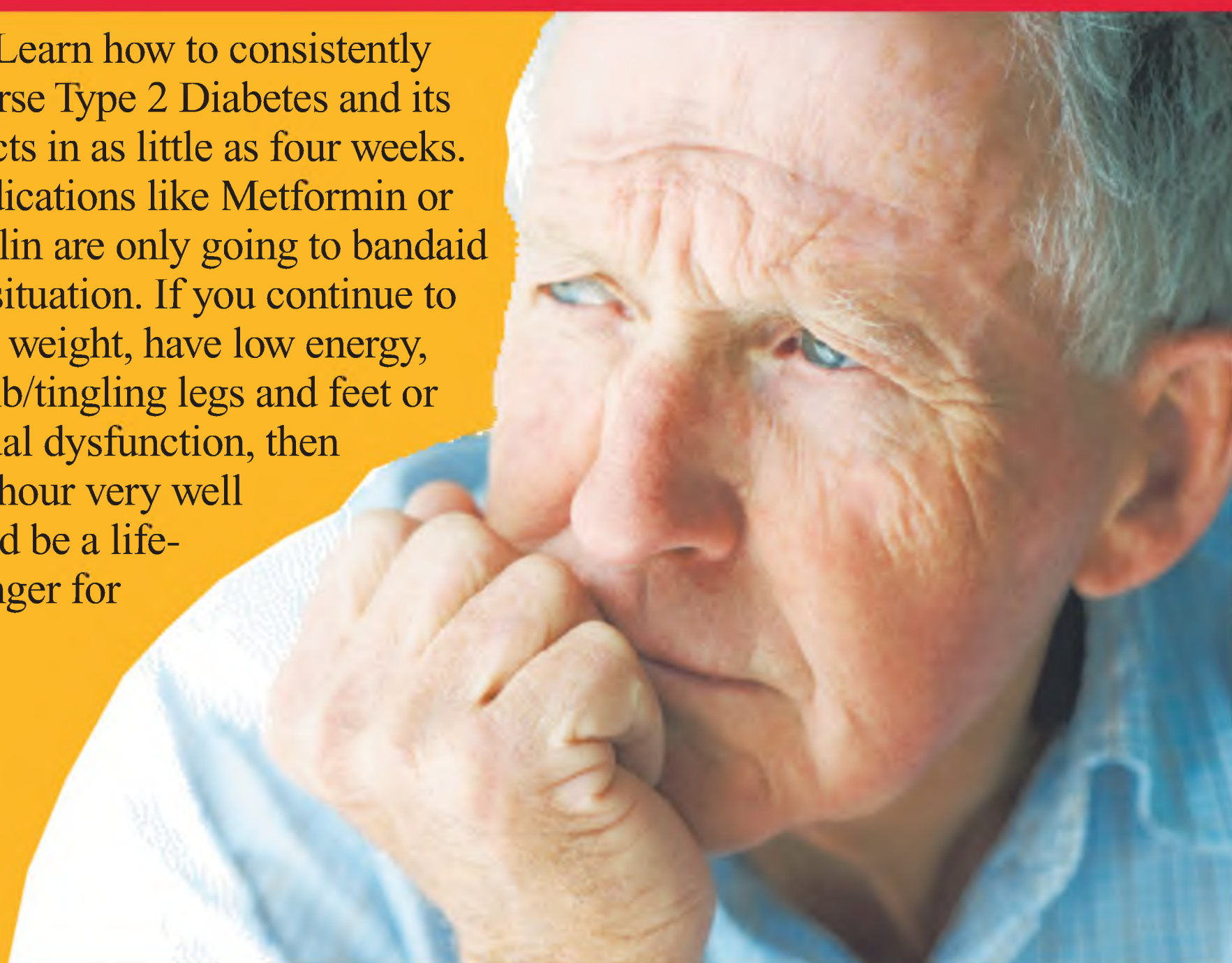
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- Member Of the Institute of Functional Medicine.

### NORTHVILLE POLICE BRIEFS

#### Larceny from Auto

**1** On March 4, a Northville woman had her credit cards and other wallet contents stolen from her husband's vehicle while it was parked in their driveway at their home in the 17400 block of Victor Drive.

The 40-year-old Northville man reported the theft to police after going to his vehicle the next morning and finding it in disarray with the center console left open. The police found no signs of a forced entry. In addition to the wallet, the thief stole a pair of sunglasses, which are priced at \$400.

There are no leads in this case.

#### MDOP

**2** On March 2, a 33-year-old Troy man's car was damaged while parked at the Northville Christian Assembly Church, which is located at 41335 Six Mile Road.

The man parked his Toyota Prius there in order to car pool, but when he came back to it he found it had been scratched or keyed in multiple areas. The doors, hood, trunk as well as the windshield were all damaged.

#### Possession of Marijuana and Paraphernalia

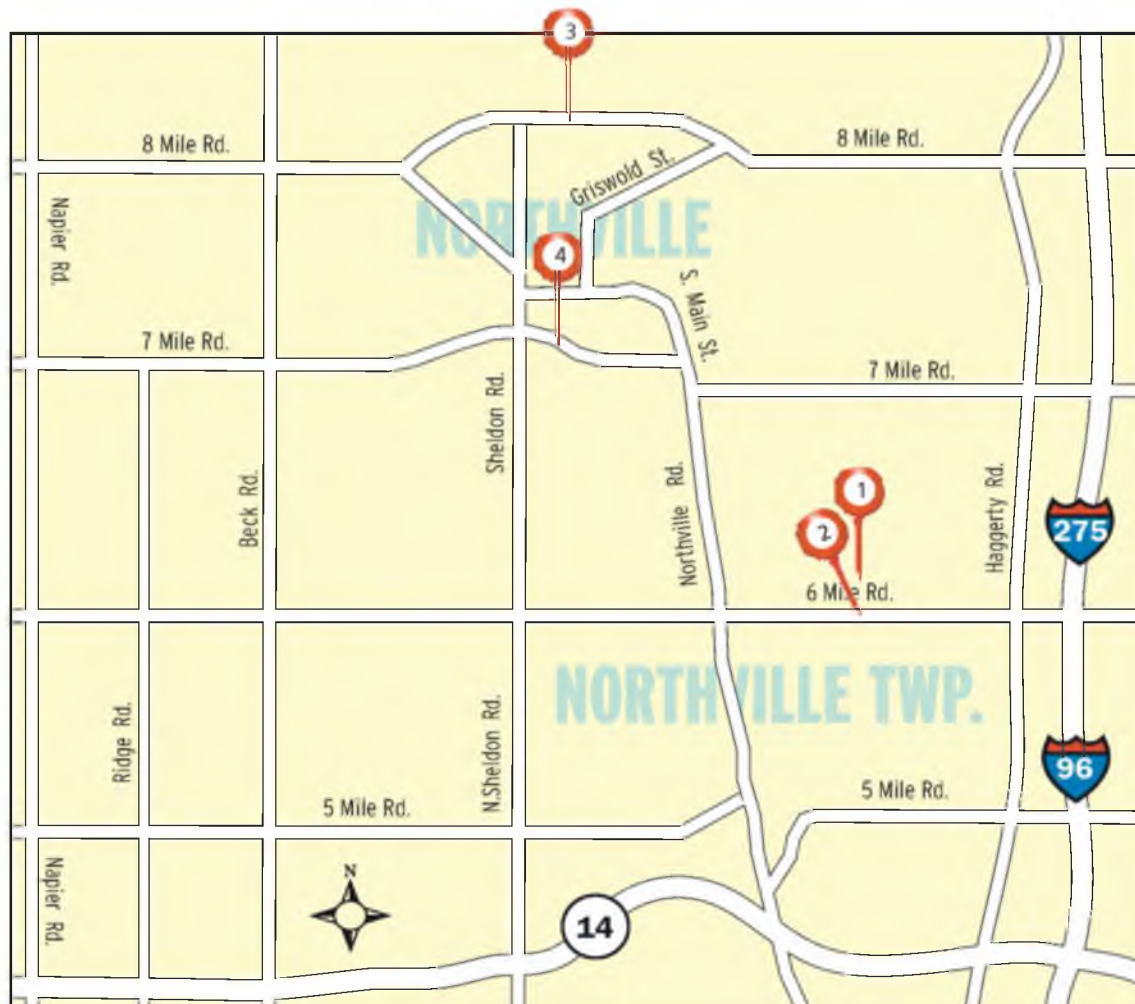
**3** After making an illegal left-hand turn, a 32-year-old Canton man was stopped and later arrested for having in his possession marijuana and paraphernalia.

Northville city police stopped the man at Horton Avenue and 8 Mile Road after he made the illegal left. A left-hand turn cannot be made off of Eight Mile in that particular area during Monday-Friday between the hours of 3-7 p.m. The man said he was taking his friend back to Northville Downs and did not know this or see the sign.

The police officer reported smelling burnt marijuana inside the car and after a check of it he found a baggie and still warm "one-hitter" pipe. He was later released on a \$300 bond.

#### Underage Drinking and Marijuana Possession

**4** A 17-year-old Novi youth was charged with an illegal blood-alcohol content and possession after police pulled him over for not stopping at



the stop sign at 7 Mile Road and Edward Hines Drive.

On March 2, police stopped the youth at Fairbrook and S. Wing streets. Upon making contact with the driver it was reported the smell of intoxicants were detected inside the vehicle. The breathalyzer test registered a .08 percent BAC.

According to the report, the Novi teen appeared nervous after being asked if there were any drugs in the car.

After consenting to a search, the police found a baggie of suspected marijuana inside a duffel bag.

Compiled by correspondent Lonnie Huhman

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<b>2012 DODGE JOURNEY SXT</b> STK# D12J080 <b>SALE PRICE \$19,455</b> <b>BUY FOR \$225*</b> <b>LEASE \$137*</b> 24 Mos. /Mo. FOR FOR	<b>2012 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT 4X4</b> STK# J12L099 <b>SALE PRICE \$17,558</b> <b>BUY FOR \$198*</b> <b>LEASE \$193*</b> 24 Mos. /Mo. FOR FOR

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## 100th day celebration



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Silver Springs students Claire Zahra, left, and Julie Greenlaw were a couple of first graders who went to some lengths to celebrate the school's 100th day of classes on Feb. 9. Zahra made a hat with 100 beads on it and Greenlaw created a poster with rainbow of 100 Skittles.



Silver Springs Elementary School students Ashley Ford, left, and Analisea Ludwig estimate which container in front of them might have one hundred items during the school's Feb. 9 celebration of its 100th day of school.

## Enroll now for kindergarten

Northville Public Schools is now accepting kindergarten enrollment for fall 2012. If you have a child who will be five years of age on or before December 1, 2012, please contact your local elementary school for kindergarten enrollment information.

Please note that attendance boundary information is located on the school district website at [www.northville.k12.mi.us/district/boundary-maps.asp](http://www.northville.k12.mi.us/district/boundary-maps.asp). If you have further questions, please contact the Northville Public Schools Office of Instruction at (248) 344-8442 or visit our website at [www.northville.k12.mi.us](http://www.northville.k12.mi.us). A parent meeting for incoming 2012-13 kindergartners will take place at each school. (See schedule below).

Starting this fall, Northville Public Schools will offer a full-day kindergarten program at all elementary schools, as well as continue to offer a half-day program at selected schools. Teachers across the district designed a full-day model that meets the needs of kindergarten students in the full-day setting. The full-day program is not a doubling of the curriculum, but allows teachers the extra time to developmentally reinforce and deepen understanding of the curriculum for early learners.

The half-day option will be available in schools where a minimum enrollment number is met.

Information for both programs, along with mock class schedules reflecting a typical week for each program, will be shared at parent orientation.

School	Parent Date	Round-Up
Amerman	7 p.m. May 1	May 4
Moraine	6:30 p.m. May 7	May 11
Silver Springs	6 p.m. April 25	May 3
Thornton Creek	6 p.m. May 7	May 10
Ridge Wood	6 p.m. May 3	May 10
Winchester	6 p.m. May 1	May 2

Kindergarten enrollment forms may be picked up during parent orientation night or directly at each building.

All parents are asked to register their child between now and May 18. During the registration process, parents will be asked to commit to either the half-day or the full-day program. If a half-

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Amerman	(248) 344-8405
Moraine	(248) 344-8473
Ridge Wood	(248) 349-7602
Silver Springs	(248) 344-8410
Thornton Creek	(248) 344-8475
Winchester	(248) 344-8415

day program is not offered at the school their child should attend, parents will have two choices; stay at their home school and enroll in the full-day program or request consideration to open enroll at another school in the district which met the minimum threshold to offer a half-time option.

A decision regarding which elementary schools have sufficient interest to offer a half-day program will be finalized and communicated to parents in late-May or early-June.

### Early Childhood Education and Extended Day Programs – Kids' Club

The Northville Public Schools Early Childhood Education and Extended Day Programs offers a program called Kids' Club. This program allows parents the option to have their child participate in a before and after school childcare program. Kids' Club is offered as an option from as early as 7 a.m. to the start of school and from school dismissal until as late as 6 p.m.

Program Request Forms are available on the district website at [www.northville.k12.mi.us/earlychildhood](http://www.northville.k12.mi.us/earlychildhood) beginning March 9. The enrollment period is March 9-22. Please contact the Early Childhood Education office at (248) 344-8465 if you have any questions. Specific offerings are dependent on enrollment; space is limited.

A Curriculum Night for Early Childhood Education is scheduled for Thursday, March 8 at the Northville Senior Community Center. Please call the Early Childhood Education office at (248) 344-8465 to register.

## SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE UPDATE

### Motorcycle safety classes offered

The steady increase in fatalities in recent years represents a concern to all drivers utilizing the nation's roads and highways. In response, the Continuing Education and Professional Development department of Schoolcraft College is continuing to offer its popular motorcycle safety classes through the Detroit Metro Motorcycle Safety Consortium.

The motorcycle safety program offers a variety of courses including: the Basic Rider Course, for those with minimal knowledge/experience who are looking to get their motorcycle endorsement; the Three-Wheel Basic Rider Course for the novice three-wheeler fan; the Returning Rider Basic Rider Course for the experienced but unlicensed rider who wants to get an endorsement; and the Advanced Rider Course for licensed, experienced riders wanting to enhance their basic skills and improve crash avoidance.

Upon successful completion of the Basic Rider, Three-Wheel Basic, or Returning Rider course, the Secretary of State will waive the riding skills test required for a cycle endorsement. However, a short written test required for license endorsement will be given at the Secretary of State at the time of endorsement application.

Courses are offered at Schoolcraft College's main campus in Livonia, at the Radcliff Center in Garden City, and at Milford High School. The fee for each of these courses is only \$25, which is made possible through a grant administered by the Michigan Department of State.

Registration is under-

Schoolcraft College is a public two-year college, offering classes at the main campus in Livonia, Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile Roads; at the Radcliff Center in Garden City; and online at [www.schoolcraft.edu](http://www.schoolcraft.edu).

way for the 2012 season and courses run now through September. For more information on the Motorcycle Safety Program visit [www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd/motorcycle/](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd/motorcycle/) or call (734) 462-4448.

### Register now for Kids on Campus summer program

From the beginning, Schoolcraft College's vibrant Kids on Campus program has been current and trendy, delighting kids with unique camp offerings in the arts, acting, cultural immersion, computers, writing, math, science, career-oriented learning opportunities, and traditional academic skills workshops. Celebrating its 33rd year in 2012, the Kids on Campus program guarantees campers a great summer experience with more new and exciting offerings for children entering the first through twelfth grades in the fall.

Some of this year's new Kids on Campus offerings include Design Troop Engineering for third and fourth graders who will spend the week-long camp designing and building creative projects by playing, drawing and sharing their ideas and experiencing engineering at work in everyday life; Machine Manufacturing—Leading Edge Technology for sophomores, juniors and seniors who will spend

the week in Schoolcraft College's state-of-the-art manufacturing lab using Computer Aided Design (CAD) manufacturing software and real Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machines, to create, design, build and finish products; Sports Science—Move & Learn for high school age students who will take the principles learned in the classroom into the work-out room and discover how physical activity incorporates physics, chemistry, biology and exercise physiology.

Many other popular camps will continue to be offered in the areas of robotics, aviation and aerospace, adventures in medicine, crime detection, gaming design, culinary arts, song writing, art and acting, biz kids, cultural immersion, study skills, academic basics in writing, math, and science. For those preparing for college, special sessions on navigating the daunting process of college applications will be offered.

Registration for this year's Kids on Campus is currently underway. Registration information and a complete schedule of the more than 60 different and exciting week-long sessions, which will be held July 9-Aug. 3, can be found at [www.schoolcraft.edu/KOC](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/KOC).

Campers and their parents can also attend a free open house from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 13 to learn more about the upcoming summer camps, meet instructors, ask questions, visit the campus, see class demonstrations and register on-site. The Kids on Campus Open House will be held in the VisTaTech Center, located on the main campus of Schoolcraft College in Livonia, Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile Roads.

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# Are you an Optimist?

## Service club seeking new members

The Optimist Club of Northville/Novi invites you to attend its New Optimists Wanted meeting at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 21 at the The Bees Knees, 149 E. Main Street in Northville. Enjoy beverages and snacks while you hear about the history and activities of the Club and meet its members.

The Optimist Club is part of Optimist International, an association of more than 2,900 Optimist Clubs around the world dedicated to "Bringing Out the Best in Kids." Adult volunteers join Optimist Clubs to conduct

positive service projects in their communities aimed at providing a helping hand to youth. With their upbeat attitude, Optimist Club members help empower young people to be the best that they can be.

Locally, the Optimist Club is best known for its annual Charity Christmas Tree Sale at the American Legion Hall in Northville. Each year, the club sponsors a college scholarship for a promising high school graduate selected by the faculty of Northville High School and grants Community Service Awards to

students who have demonstrated a commitment to volunteerism.

For many years, the Optimists have supported the third grade Reading Challenge at Silver Springs School, which encourages students to "earn" money to buy books for disadvantaged kids by reading 100 books themselves. The Club has also donated to the Explorers (young firefighters group), New Hope Center for Grief Support children's programs, Civic Concern, and Cooke and Old Village School. In one recent event, the Club partnered with Civic Concern and

Hillers Market to provide hearty cereals and free milk to ensure that local students started their day with a good breakfast.

The club meets just twice per month for one hour on the first and third Wednesdays of every month. As an alternative to full membership, individuals can show their support of the Club by becoming Friends of Optimists. A Friend of Optimists may be someone who does not have time to commit to a regular meeting schedule, but may wish to help out on individual events.

For both Members and Friends, the Optimist Club of Northville/Novi puts the emphasis on fun while providing help to local kids.

### DETAILS

The purpose of an Optimist Club is to:

- develop Optimism as a philosophy of life;
- promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs;
- inspire respect for the law;
- promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people; and
- aid and encourage the development of youth, in the belief that the giving of one's self in service to others will advance the well-being of humankind, community life and the world.

For more information, please call the club's current President Jennifer MacKay at (248) 790-2705.

# Bug hunters hit gold

## Abundance of aquatic insects evidence Johnson Creek is high quality stream

By Kurt Kuban  
Staff Writer

As Matt Halliday wades knee-deep into the cold waters of Johnson Creek, he drags a net along the streambed. He then walks over to Sally Petrella sitting on the bank, and deposits the contents of the net into a small plastic tray filled with water. She examines the twigs, mud and decaying plants taken from the net. After a couple moments, things in the tray begin to move, and before long, everything in the tray seems to come alive.

That's when Petrella's face lights up, as she sees what she was hoping to find — several stoneflies. While some people might recoil at the sight of such a bug, Petrella and Halliday are really excited because stoneflies are one of the most sensitive aquatic insects, meaning they can't tolerate pollution. Their

### UPCOMING FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE WORKSHOPS

Aquatic insects like stoneflies are just one indicator of a watershed's water quality. The existence of frogs and toads, or lack thereof, are also evidence of a watershed's health. Friends of the Rouge will be holding several upcoming workshops to teach people how to recognize different amphibian species in the area. The data they produce will help Friends of the Rouge and state environmental officials determine how healthy area wetlands are. The upcoming workshops will take place:

- Saturday, March 17 from 10 a.m.-noon at Bloomfield Township Hall, 4200 Telegraph, Bloomfield Township 48303

For more info, visit FOTR on Facebook or [www.therouge.org](http://www.therouge.org).

existence in Johnson Creek proves the small stream, which is part of the Rouge River watershed, is quite healthy.

In fact, stoneflies aren't the only aquatic organisms Petrella, Halliday and fellow Friends of the Rouge (FOTR) member Susan Thompson found during their recent "bug hunting" excursion on Johnson Creek at a site in Salem Township. They also found five different varieties of caddisflies, mayflies, riffle beetles, and many others. In addition they caught several fish species, including the rainbow dace, and some fingernail clams, both species that don't tolerate pollution very well.

Johnson Creek is just one of many sites FOTR volunteers sample twice a year looking for the existence of aquatic insects, which are some of the best indicators of a stream's health. In addition to a Fall Bug Hunt, the group has been doing its annual Stonefly Search each January since 2002. This year, more

than 70 volunteers checked 32 sites around the watershed, which covers much of southeast Michigan and is one of the most populated watersheds in the state. Searchers were happy to find stonefly larvae at 14 of the sites, making this an average year (report available at [www.therouge.org](http://www.therouge.org)).

As it turns out, most of the stoneflies were found in Johnson Creek, the Rouge's only coldwater tributary that flows through Salem Township, Plymouth and Northville. The rest were found in the Lower Branch of the Rouge, including two tributaries (Fellows and Fowler Creeks).

Petrella, FOTR's volunteer monitoring program manager, said the data provided by the group is turned over to state environmental officials and other agencies, which can use it for planning purposes. The goal is to try protect areas where there are healthy populations of aquatic organisms — something the Rouge River watershed isn't known for. The Rouge,



PHOTOS BY KURT KUBAN

Matt Halliday and Sally Petrella, both of Friends of the Rouge, look for aquatic organisms taken from Johnson Creek in Sailem Township.



A volunteer holds a caddisfly, which builds a casing which it lives within during its larval stage in the water. The bug is hiding inside.

which was once one of the most polluted rivers in the country, has been making a comeback since the federal government teamed up with communities in the watershed to start reversing years of degradation. Water quality has improved dramatically in some areas of the watershed.

In places like Salem Township, however, the Rouge hasn't changed much at all. It is still a high quality stream. On this day, Hal-

iday, Petrella and Thompson are sampling a site near Five Mile and Currie Roads, which has been the best sampling site in the entire watershed.

"This is the best sampling site we've had for years," Petrella said. "Johnson Creek is the healthiest part of the watershed. It's a coldwater stream. It's spring-fed so it remains cold throughout the year. There also isn't a lot of development out here that you have



Friends of the Rouge volunteers also found several fish species in the waters of Johnson Creek in Sailem Township, including this rainbow dace, a species that doesn't tolerate pollution very well.

in most of the watershed, so pollution isn't a major problem."

Sue Thompson has been involved with the bug hunts for years. She said she always gets a thrill when she finds stoneflies and other organisms that live in the stream — small life that most people don't even think about. Yet, they are integral aspects in the web of life.

"It's interesting to see what is living in our streams. If we could do this every day I would be thrilled. The diversity of life is amazing," she said.

Likewise, Petrella said she gets so encouraged every time they find a stonefly, almost like hitting a jackpot.

"We love it. If we could see this many bugs in all areas of the Rouge watershed, it would be very exciting," Petrella said. "Every single stonefly is extremely good to find. One of our volunteers likes to call them little nuggets of gold. I couldn't agree more."

For more information about Friends of the Rouge and volunteer opportunities, visit [www.therouge.org](http://www.therouge.org) or on Facebook.

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FRI/SAT LS 11:40

☉ 3D JOHN CARTER (PG-13)  
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☉ JOHN CARTER (PG-13) 4:00  
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PROJECT X (R) 12:30, 2:50, 5:05,  
7:35, 9:50 FRI/SAT LS 11:55

☉ 3D DR. SEUSS' THE LORAX (PG)  
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11:35, 2:00, 6:40

☉ DR. SEUSS' THE LORAX (PG)  
4:15, 9:00 FRI/SAT LS 11:20

ACT OF VALOR (R)  
11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 7:05, 9:35  
FRI/SAT LS 12:00

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Shown is the first place team, the Royal Readers: Nick Bartschat, Sahil Tolia, Carolyn Wu, Michael Zhang, Valeria Zhang and Larry Zhao, seventh graders from Meads Mill Middle School (Tolia is in sixth grade).

## Royal Readers win sixth annual Battle of the Books

Northville High School's cafeteria was loud and boisterous on March 7, as 29 teams of Northville middle school students competed in Northville District Library's sixth annual Battle of the Books. Parents, friends and siblings cheered on their favorite team as they competed in the fun reading competition. Almost 150 students huddled together in teams to cooperate and answer questions about the books they read as a team.

Students from Hillside Middle School, Meads Mill, Our Lady of Victory and St. Paul's Lutheran competed to win prizes in both the reading competition and the costume competition.

The Royal Readers, a team of Meads Mill seventh-graders, won the reading competition with a score of 276 points out of a

possible 280 points. Team members included Nick Bartschat, Sahil Tolia, Carolyn Wu, Michael Zhang, Valeria Zhang and Larry Zhao. The team was managed by Anita Bartschat.

Second place was awarded to Just Read It, a team of seventh-graders from Our Lady of Victory. Third place went to the Page Turners, eighth-graders from Meads Mill. Fourth place went to the Book-a-roos, eighth graders from Our Lady of Victory.

Although the teams all did a wonderful job dressing in costume, the winners were: First place to EGG, eighth-graders from Hillside; second place to Men in Books, seventh-graders from Meads Mill; third place to the Book Battlers, seventh-graders from Meads Mill.

"This is our sixth year to host Battle of the Books, with support from North-

ville middle schools," said Suzanne Schimanski-Gross, Teen Services librarian. "We love this program, as it is a wonderful way to get middle schoolers to read for fun, and then to compete for prizes. This year there were some extremely creative costumes and team names, which is also part of the fun."

Books are selected by librarians at the Northville District Library, who choose well-reviewed teen novels in a variety of genres, including historical fiction, humor, science fiction, fantasy and adventure stories. Battle titles are kept secret and announced at the start of the competition in mid-December.

Complete scores and photos can be found at the library's website on the teen page at [www.northvillelibrary.org](http://www.northvillelibrary.org)

## NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Community Events

#### Easter Eggstravaganza

**Location:** First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty Road (north of 8 Mile, east of Haggerty)

**Time/Date:** 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 7

**Details:** Over 12,000 eggs to hunt (ages 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-11); "Eggciting" show by professional entertainer Ben Spitzer; pictures with the Easter Bunny; games to play and lots of prizes; hot dogs, chips, cookies and drinks for everyone. Bring your family, friends and neighbors (rain or shine) for some "eggstra" special fun. Don't forget your Easter basket.

#### MARQUIS THEATER

**Location:** 135 E. Main, Northville

**Contact:** (248) 349-8110

#### "Alice in Wonderland"

**Time/Dates:** 2:30 p.m. March 17-18, 24-25 and 30-31; April 14-15, 21-22 and 28-29; and May 5-6

**Details:** Don't miss this energetic, live musical in the fun-filled world of Wonderland and its memorable cast of characters - The White Rabbit, The Cheshire Cat, The Queen of Hearts and

### GET LISTED!

**Submit:** Send calendar submissions via e-mail to [cstone@gannett.com](mailto: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](http://www.hometownlife.com).

many more. Tickets are \$8.50 each; 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

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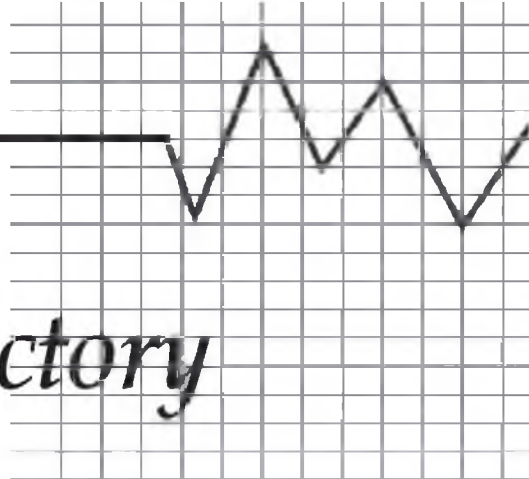
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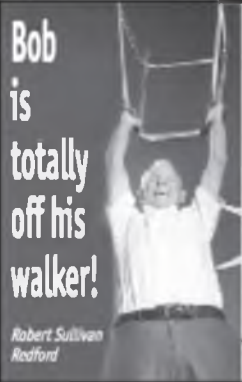
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Dr. Jared Most (left) &  
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## MUTUAL

Continued from page A1

the mutual agreement that has it sharing four people and an engine in case of a fire emergency, and if medical help is needed it would send two people and an ambulance.

Northville Township Fire Chief Richard Marinucci, the current president of the Western Wayne Mutual Aid association, said the aid partnership with Plymouth Township has been relatively balanced with calls for aid about equal. However, he said the staffing shortages in some communities do raise concern. He said it's a partnership and the goal is to not have it be one-sided.

According to City of Northville Fire Chief Jim Allen, who is now in charge of the city of Plymouth's fire services, Northville might be called upon a bit more to help with fire emergencies, but he doesn't expect any significant imbalance.

Werth said initially the surrounding communities were notified after the layoffs that Plymouth Township may be unable to provide mutual aid.

On March 5, Canton, Livonia and Northville Township met to discuss what this could mean. What came next was another meeting of the communities' fire chiefs, but this time with Plymouth Township in attendance. It was at this meeting that Plymouth Township stated the commitment.

According to Reaume, what led to the layoffs was the fact that they lost almost \$1 million of a \$4 million fire services budget when the city of Plymouth pulled out of a joint fire authority. He said they are now working five-person shifts at each station and should be able to respond with aid due to decreased workloads.

"The fact is, if we have a fire (emergency) we need to be able to count on our mutual aid partners to send an engine with four people on it," Werth said. "And at this point, it looks like we can."

On March 6, Plymouth Township did call on Northville Township and Canton for help with two different situations. Werth said Northville Township responded to a scene at Beck and North Territorial roads to help with a three-car accident.

## BREAK-INS

Continued from page A1

pect women say they are looking for a lost dog or cleaning job. It has been reported the women have some type of accent.

Police want the community to be on the lookout for the women and suspect vehicles. Wildt said do not hesitate to call 9-1-1 if any suspicious activity is observed.

The department wants homeowners to make sure the alarm system is activated before leaving their residences.

## Library craft



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Justin Masters, 9, works on weaving a bracelet during a Feb. 22. 'tween' craft event at the Northville District Library.

# Passages

Obituaries, Memories &amp; Remembrances

View Online  
[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • [htwobits@hometownlife.com](mailto:htwobits@hometownlife.com)

Deadline: Tuesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

### BOONENBERG, STUART MICHAEL

58, of Milford, died 3/2/2012. Memorials to Relay for Life-Team DCI Walkers for Wellness [www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com)



### DEJOHN, SHEILA CATHERINE

74 of Bend, passed away peacefully while surrounded by family on February 7, 2012. A memorial service will be held on March 17th at 2pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Bend, OR. Those who wish to make memorial contributions in lieu of flowers may contribute in her name to The Weston A. Price Foundation, The High Desert Museum or a nature conservatory of their choosing. Please visit the on line registry for the family at [www.niswonger-reynolds.com](http://www.niswonger-reynolds.com)

### ELIZABETH PERRY

Age 80, died March 9, 2012. Visitation was on March 12 at Phillips Funeral Home. Funeral March 13 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon. [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)



### EMIG, RALPH

91, of South Lyon, passed away peacefully on March 7, 2012. Ralph is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Dorothy, and his five children: Tom (Diane) Emig, Nancy (Phil) LaDuke, Mary (Don) Nelson, Joyce (Mike) Aredy, and Paul (Angie) Emig. He was also the proud grandpa of 13 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Ralph taught math and engineering at Lawrence Tech University for 10 years before going on to become a respected automotive engineer at GM for more than 30 years. He was an avid tennis player, and he loved spending his summer days at their cottage in Stoney Point, Ontario. He was always the happiest when surrounded by his family. He will be lovingly remembered by all who knew him for his gentle spirit, his humble disposition, his endless patience, and his huge heart. Visitation for Mr. Emig was held on March 11 at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. A funeral mass was held on March 12, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon. Online guestbook [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)

### EWALD, GUTHREY "GUS"

Age 27, passed away 3/5/2012. Visitation was held Saturday, 3/10 at Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon. [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)



### KARLE, IRENE T.

Age 95, passed away peacefully on March 2, 2012 at King's Daughters Home in Midland. Irene was the fourth of eight children, born in Detroit on June 7, 1916, to Roman and Clara (Renauer) Stuve. Irene graduated from Detroit's MacKenzie High School in 1934. She worked as a nanny, a soda jerk at Cunningham's Drug Store, and a secretary for General Filters. On November 23, 1939, Irene married Gene E. Karle. She often said, "The best decision I ever made in my life was to marry Gene." They honeymooned in New York City riding the subways. Together, they raised three children, first living on Detroit's northwest side and later, in Irene's dream house which they built on Upper Pettibone Lake in Highland Township. Irene enjoyed traveling with her husband around the country. After Gene passed away, Irene continued to travel, visiting places including China, Europe and the Middle East. In Milford, Irene helped form a widows' group, participated in the Milford seniors' organization, and was a very active, long-standing volunteer at St. Mary's Church—even becoming a "substitute grandmother" for a Laotian family. In 1994 Irene moved to Riverside Place in Midland. She planted peonies at her new home, and enjoyed her many friends, shopping at the farmers' market, and walking along the river. Irene was a member of the Quilters Club and St. Bridgid Church. When Irene moved to King's Daughters Home in 2008, she was surrounded by a loving, caring staff who nurtured her with kindness and compassion. New Year's 2012 was one of Irene's last celebrations. When her daughter asked Irene to share advice with those gathered, Irene looked around at her family and said, "Stay together!". Irene Karle is survived by her daughters Clarissa (Paul) Heil of Midland, Elaine Karle (Jerry Schuur) of East Lansing, daughter-in-law Linda Karle of Highland, and five grandchildren: Holly Karle, Bart (Lynn) Heil, Alex Karle, Hanns (Sara) Heil, Max Heil, and sister Geraldine Cooney of Florida, brother Dick (Terri) Stuve of Livonia, and sister-in-law Rita Stuve of Wayne. She was predeceased by her husband, Gene, son Karl, and six siblings. A memorial mass will be held at St. Mary's Our Lady of the Snows Parish (1955 Commerce Street, Milford, MI) at 11:00 a.m. on March 20, 2012. The family will greet visitors starting at 10:30 a.m. Online condolences can be given at [SmithMiner.com](http://SmithMiner.com). There will be no services or viewing in Midland. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Midland Quilt Makers (1508 Sayre Street, Midland, MI 48640); St. Mary, Our Lady of the Snows Parish (1955 East Commerce, Milford, MI 48381); King's Daughters Home (2410 Rood Street, Midland, MI 48640).

### HARRIS, KATHLEEN

November 29, 1919- March 6, 2012. Online condolences: [obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)

### LAMB, ROBERT A.

31, of Milford, died March 11, 2012. Funeral Services at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, Thursday, March 15 at 12 Noon. [www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com)

### MAYO, JACK LEE

Age 80, of Lyon Township, passed March 5, 2012. A private family service was held. Arrangements by PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Online guestbook [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)



### PUZZUOLI, THOMAS

Of South Lyon, passed away on Thursday, March 8, 2012 at Providence Park Hospital. Mr. Puzzuoli was born in Benwood, West Virginia on July 9, 1926 to Benedetto and Concetta (Panetta) Puzzuoli. His family later moved to Detroit where he spent his youth and attended the Detroit Public Schools. He proudly served in the United States Army during World War II in the Philippines and rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant. At the end of the war he returned to Detroit where he met and married Barbara Jean Robinson at the First Methodist Church of Highland Park. Mr. Puzzuoli was a commercial artist and freelance designer, enjoyed painting and was an avid golfer. He lost his wife in 1982 and is survived by his children, Thomas Brent (Franziska), Kent (Benita), Lori (Jim) Karlow and David (Theresa). He also enjoyed his grandchildren and great grandchildren as well as nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his sisters, Lydia, Gilda and Rosemarie. He was pre-deceased by siblings, James, Jerry, John and Yolanda. A Memorial Gathering will be held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth on Saturday, March 17, 2012 from 2pm until time of service at 3pm. In lieu of flowers contributions are suggested to the American Cancer Society. Share your special thoughts and memories at: [www.schrader-howell.com](http://www.schrader-howell.com)

### RIDNER, MARY LEE

Age 76, of Wixom, passed away March 5, 2012. A private family service was held. Arrangements by PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Online guestbook [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)

### RUBRITIUS, HERMAN

95, of Milford and Commerce, March 10, 2012. Services were held March 13, 2012. More info at [www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com)

### SROKA, JAMES EDWARD

72, 3/11/2012. Visitation at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 3/15, 3-9PM. Funeral 3/16, 10AM. Burial Great Lakes National Cemetery.

### TRETREAU, WARNER S.

February 22, 1918- March 7, 2012. Online condolences: [obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)

## Rep. Heise's district hours

State Rep. Kurt Heise (R-Plymouth) is sponsoring coffee hours to give residents a convenient opportunity to meet with him locally. Heise will talk with residents from 7:30-9 a.m. on Friday, March 16 at Panera Bread, 400 S. Main Street, Plymouth. No appointment is necessary.

Also, on Monday, March 12 in Northville, Wayne and Plymouth at the following times and locations:

- 10-11 a.m., Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady Street
- 1-2 p.m., Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Road
- 3-4 p.m., Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street

Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office. Residents are invited to call toll free 1-855-REPKURT or e-mail [kurtheise@house.mi.gov](mailto:kurtheise@house.mi.gov) to schedule an appointment.

## Bunny Brunch

The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps will be hosting a Bunny Brunch on Saturday, March 31. This event will help provide additional awareness to the community about our ministry programs such as: Men's and Women's Ministry, Summer Day Camp, Tiny Tots Pre-School, Youth Programming, Emergency Disaster Services, and Tae Kwon Do. The Great Lakes Rabbit Sanctuary will also be on hand with their residents.

As parents learn about our programs, youth will be able to participate in crafts and various activities at each booth. Youth will receive an Easter basket they can fill with some treats and their completed crafts.

There will also be a photographer available to take a family picture that can be taken home as an additional memory of the Easter holiday.

Families wishing to attend our Bunny Brunch open house on March 31 are asked to call (734) 453-5464 and reserve a spot no later than March 26.

If you would like to assist with our Bunny Brunch, The Salvation Army Plymouth is accepting monetary donations for the crafts and food; as well as donations of Easter baskets and candy.

Volunteers will also be needed to assist with set-up, cooking, serving food, craft stations, and clean-up. If you would like volunteer for the bunny brunch please contact Sandy Kollinger, Volunteer & Special Events coordinator, at (734) 453-5464 ext. 24.

## PLAYS

Continued from page A1

First place will earn \$100 and second place will receive \$50. There will also be an audience favorite winner and honorable mentions.

"The top plays will be awarded on June 24 at Sunday's performance of the Sandbox Play Festival," said Kuhl.

There are several stipulations for the plays: They must be original, have a

## Sen. Colbeck adding office hours in Canton

As part of an effort to reach residents from across the 7th Senate District, State Sen. Patrick Colbeck's (R-Canton) regular in-district office hours will be rotating locations to include a Canton meeting beginning in March. In-District Manager Jennifer Trussell will be available to assist residents with any problems related to their interactions with state government.

The new office hours will be held one evening a month at the Canton District Library, 1200 S. Canton Center Road (Purple Room). Currently office hours are scheduled for 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 12.

In addition to meeting with residents, Trussell will also be accepting donations for the new Freedom Center at Metro Airport. This facility, opened in November 2011, provides a place for active and retired military personal and their families to gather in a quiet, private area while traveling through the airport.

For more information on what items are needed, or to schedule an appointment during the in-district office hours, please call Trussell at (734) 672-6415.

## "Write On" contest

The search is on for inspired authors with a keen eye with the Short on Words poetry and short story contest being held in conjunction with Northville's 2012 Arts & Acts Festival. Preservation Dental is the sponsor of the first edition of this literary competition.

There are three featured photographs (the hut, the man and the little girl), and poems and short stories must speak to one of the photos.

Entries should be no longer than 1,500 words and must be postmarked no later than May 4.

The cash award for first place is \$150; second place is \$100; third place is \$50. There will be additional prize recognition awarded at the discretion of the judges.

The prestigious panel of judges includes: published author Michelle Fecht (Member, Northville City Council) and the nationally-recognized principal Ellen Demray from Grandview Elementary School (Livonia).

Criteria and complete information packets are available at the office of Preservation Dental at 371 E. Main St. (corner of Griswold and Main in historic downtown Northville), on line at [preservationdental.com](http://preservationdental.com), and at the Northville Art House.

running time of less than 15 minutes, a cast limit of four, and there can be no adaptations, collaborations or musicals.

"Plays that have received staged readings or workshops are eligible," said Kuhl, "and playwrights may submit multiple plays."

Selected playwrights will be notified by May 1.

If you're interested in sponsoring this year's Sandbox Play Festival, contact Kuhl at [james@tippingpointtheatre.com](mailto:james@tippingpointtheatre.com).

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY**  
**Location:** 24505 Meadowbrook Road  
**Contact:** (248) 349-8847 or [holycrossnovi@gmail.com](mailto:holycrossnovi@gmail.com); visit [holyCROSSnovi.org](http://holyCROSSnovi.org)  
**Mass Schedule**  
**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.  
**Holy 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  
**Lenten events**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursdays  
**Details:** "Catholicism" dvd discussion  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Fridays  
**Details:** stations of the cross

**CHRISTIAN BIBLE TALKS**  
**Location:** Plymouth VFW Hall,

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

1426 S Mill Street (north of Ann Arbor & Lilley Rds)  
**Time/Dates:** 4 p.m. Sundays, March 18 and 25

**Details:** These one-hour meetings will emphasize the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. No collections will be taken. Ministers are Matthew Jensen & Jason Mdnally  
**Contact:** (515) 851-2939

**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](http://www.crosspointemeadows.org).  
**Sunday Worship:** 11:15 a.m.  
**Bible study classes:** 10 a.m. for all ages  
**Details:** Nursery and older children programs available. Worship blends traditional and contemporary elements resulting in a multi-sensory worship experience.  
**Destiny Worship Center**  
**Location:** Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 Six Mile Road, Northville  
**Contact:** [DestinyW3C@gmail.com](mailto:DestinyW3C@gmail.com) or visit [www.DW3C.org](http://www.DW3C.org).

**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Location:** 34567 7 Mile Road, Livonia  
**Contact:** (248) 442-8822

**FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**Location:** 44400 W. 10 Mile Road  
**Contact:** (248) 349-2345 or visit

[www.faithcommunity-novi.org](http://www.faithcommunity-novi.org)  
**Sunday Worship:** 10 a.m.  
**Book of Revelation Study**  
**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays  
**Details:** Come and learn what John is writing about, what the symbolism means, and how this book still speaks to us today.  
**Faith Journeys**  
**Date:** third Sundays  
**Details:** Following worship and fellowship, someone will share how they have experienced God in their life and the difference that has made.

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

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NOVI-FAMILY INTEGRATED CHURCH**  
**Location:** 45301 W. 11 Mile Road  
**Contact:** (248) 349-3647 or [firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org](http://firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org)  
**Family Bible Hour:** 9:45 a.m.  
**Family Worship:** 11 a.m.  
**Bible Study:** 6 p.m.  
**Family Movie Night:** 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every month

**FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
**Location:** 21260 Haggerty Road, north of 8 Mile Road  
**Contact:** (248) 348-7600 or visit [dfcnazarene.org](http://dfcnazarene.org)  
**Sunday Schedule:** 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's program, Youth Worship Service

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 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
 Jun-Aug - Sunday Service: 9:30 a.m.  
 Monday Evening 7:00 p.m.  
 The Rev. Richard E. Pape, Pastor

**FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD**  
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 Pastor Steve Swartz  
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 Middle School/High School Group Services 6:00-7:30 pm  
 Young Adults, Sunday 8:00 pm  
 Website: [mfirstbaptist.org](http://mfirstbaptist.org)

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

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

**NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 41571 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 48375  
 Sunday Worship 8:45 a.m.  
 Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor  
 248-349-2852  
[www.umcnovi.com](http://www.umcnovi.com)  
 "Loving God, loving each other and living our core values"

**HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
 24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375  
 Saturday: 4:30 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)  
 Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.  
 Fr. Bob LaCroix, Pastor  
 Fr. Michael Zuelch, Associate  
 Parish Office: 349-8847 • [www.holyfamilynovi.org](http://www.holyfamilynovi.org)

Highland

**HIGHLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
 2350 Harvey Lake Rd. (248) 887-4556  
 Contemporary Service  
 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. Sundays  
 Men's Bible Study & Breakfast:  
 2nd & 4th Saturdays at 8:15 a.m.  
 Students: K-12 Grade Tues. 6:30-8 p.m.  
 Pastor Nick Ruffer

**NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
 120 Bishop St., Highland  
 off Milford Rd., 2-7/8 miles N of M-59  
 • Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
 • Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.  
 • Bible Study Wed. 7:00 p.m.  
 Pastor: Danny Mikutin  
 889-7253 or 887-4566

**HIGHLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 680 W. Livingston Rd. • Highland, MI 48357  
 248.887.1311 • [www.myhumc.com](http://www.myhumc.com)  
 Sunday Worship 8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.  
 Kids Church 8:45 & 10:30 a.m.  
 Youth Night - Wed. 6:45 - 8:00 p.m.  
 Plus Young Adults, Recovery, Divorce 4 Kids, Grief & more

**OAKPOINTE |milford**  
 1250 South Hill Rd  
 (248) 685-3560 [www.opcmilford.org](http://www.opcmilford.org)  
 Contemporary Worship Services: Sunday 10:30 am  
 Adventureland Children's Program: Sunday 10:30 am  
 Middle School/High School Youth Groups  
 Sunday Evening 8pm - 8pm  
 Life Groups: Various Times & Locations

**WEST HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 11166 S. Hickory Ridge Rd., Milford, MI 48380  
 248-887-1218  
 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.  
 Bible Ministries 11:00 a.m.  
 Wednesday All Ages: 7:00 p.m.

**MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
 238 N. Main Street, Milford MI (248) 684-2805  
 Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
 Sunday School age 3 thru 5th grade @ 10:00 a.m.  
 Youth Group 10 am - Grades 6-12  
 A heritage of area worship since 1836

**Milford United Methodist Church**  
 1200 Atlantic St., Milford, MI 48361  
 Sunday Worship at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
 Groups for Children, Youth and Adults  
 248-684-2798  
 or [churchoffice@milfordumc.net](mailto:churchoffice@milfordumc.net)

**Mill Creek Community Church**  
 1270 W. Commerce Road - Milford  
 Sun. 10:00 AM Weds. 7:00 PM  
 248-714-5817  
 Email: [MillCreek4Sq@aol.com](mailto:MillCreek4Sq@aol.com)  
*A Foursquare Gospel Church*

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

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

South Lyon

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

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

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

**FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 10774 Nine Mile Road  
 Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582  
 Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.  
 Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 8:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) OF SOUTH LYON**  
 Sunday School 11:30 a.m.  
 Worship 10:00 a.m.  
 Nursery Care Provided  
 Check us out on the web: [www.fpcsouthlyon.org](http://www.fpcsouthlyon.org)  
 248-437-2875 • 205 E. Lake (10 Mile) •  
 Rev. Dr. Annemarie Kidder, Pastor

**Shepherd's Way Lutheran Church, ELCA**  
 304 N. Lafayette Street  
 South Lyon MI 48178  
 Sunday Worship 9:10 AM  
 Education Hour 10:30 AM  
 Rev. Bart Muller, Pastor  
 248-486-4404  
[www.shepherdswaysouthlyon.org](http://www.shepherdswaysouthlyon.org)

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH LYON**  
 60820 Margorie Ann St., South Lyon 48178  
 Phone: 248-487-2985  
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Worship Service 11:00 a.m.  
 Evening Services 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening 7:50 p.m.  
 Senior Pastor: Rob Freshour / Assoc. Pastor: Randy Weak  
 Website: [www.fbcsouthlyon.com](http://www.fbcsouthlyon.com)  
 Email: [fbcsouthlyon@baptobanet.net](mailto:fbcsouthlyon@baptobanet.net)

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 640 S. Lafayette (248) 437-0760  
 Sunday Worship: 8:15, 11:00 am & 6:00 pm  
 8:40 a.m. Sunday School  
 Nursery Provided  
 Reverend Sandra Willobee  
[southlyonfirstumc.org](http://southlyonfirstumc.org)

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

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

Livonia

**FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
 Services held at:  
 Saint Andrews Episcopal Church  
 16360 Hubbard Road - Livonia  
 South of Six Mile Road  
 Adult Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.;  
 Worship 10:30 a.m.  
 Children Sunday School 10:30 a.m.  
 Dr. James N. McGuire • Nursery Provided

Plymouth

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
 A church that shares the joyful love of Christ  
 574 S. Sheldon Rd. • Plymouth, MI 48170  
 734-453-0190  
[www.stjohnsplymouth.org](http://www.stjohnsplymouth.org)  
 Services on Sunday mornings at:  
 7:45 AM - Eucharist - meditative (without music)  
 9:00 AM - Eucharist with Contemporary Music  
 11:00 AM - Eucharist with Traditional Music

Northville

**NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN**  
 Experience Life Each Week  
 Sunday Worship - 9:00 am & 10:15 am  
 Sunday School and Children's Programs  
[www.ncalife.org](http://www.ncalife.org)  
 41355 Six Mile Road  
 248\*348\*9030

**WARD CHURCH**  
 4000 Six Mile Road  
 Northville, MI 48168  
 248-374-7400  
[www.wardchurch.org](http://www.wardchurch.org)  
 Traditional Worship at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m.  
 Contemporary Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m.  
 Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.  
 The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. or 5:00 AM

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE**  
 200 E. Main St. at Hutton  
 (248) 349-0911  
 Worship & Church School - 9:30 & 11am  
 Rev. Stu Ritter, Senior Pastor  
[www.fpcnorthville.org](http://www.fpcnorthville.org)

**Destiny Worship Center**  
[www.dw3c.org](http://www.dw3c.org)  
 Saturdays @ 6pm  
 Meeting at Ridge  
 Wood Elementary.  
 49775 Six Mile Road

New Hudson

**NEW HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 56730 Grand River Avenue • New Hudson MI 48165  
 (248) 437-8212 • Gerald S. Hunter, Pastor  
 Sunday School & Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
 Worship 10:30 a.m.  
[www.newhudsonumc.org](http://www.newhudsonumc.org)

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE**  
 (248) 348-1144  
 777 West 8 Mile Road • (8 Mile and Tuff Road)  
 Worship: Thurs. September - May 8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.  
 Memorial Day - Labor Day 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.  
 Rev. Dr. Steven J. Back, Senior Pastor  
[www.fumnorthville.org](http://www.fumnorthville.org)

**OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
 133 Orchard Dr., Northville  
 WEEKEND LITURGIES Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
 Sunday, 7:30, 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.  
 Church 349-2821, School 349-3610  
 Religious Education 349-2559  
 Rev. Denis Theroux, Pastor

**Our Savior Apostle Lutheran Church**  
 54899 8 Mile Rd. at Currie Rd.  
 Northville, MI 48167  
 Pastor Andy Whitten  
 Phone 248-374-2268  
 Sunday Morning Bible Study at 10:00 AM  
 Sunday Service and Children's Church at 11:00  
 Bible Study Thursday at 7:00 PM

Wixom

**CROSSPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
 28930 Wixom Rd.  
 Wixom, MI 48393  
 8:30 a.m. - Sunday School  
 10:30 a.m. - Morning Worship  
 Rev. Kenneth Warren • 586-531-2021  
[www.cpccnow.com](http://www.cpccnow.com)

## OUR VIEWS

# Annex? Heise bill would prevent repeat of 2008 battle

Annexation. That's a fighting word around Northville Township.

It wasn't that long ago — August 2008, to be exact — that Northville Township almost lost 414 acres on the southwest corner of Seven Mile Road and Haggerty roads to the City of Livonia in an annexation attempt by developer REIS.

Most of the wounds caused by that ugly period have healed, but there are many townships (including Northville) in our state that could be in that same predicament tomorrow.

Why? Because annexation laws are archaic and in need of reform.

Annexation is the process by which land is transferred from one local jurisdiction, a township, to another, a city — with or without the township's consent. Residents in charter townships, like Northville, can initiate an annexation that is approved at an election involving the residents in the area affected and the residents of the city.

In the annexation proposal that took place here in 2008, developer REIS (a partnership between Real Estate Interests Group and Schostak Brothers and Company) was not pleased with a township-approved plan for a multi-million-dollar mixed-use development on the former psychiatric hospital property in the township. They sued the township for \$100 million, then moved people onto the property under the guise of them providing security, had them register as voters and then filed a petition with Wayne County to have the property annexed to Livonia.

"We were at war," said Chip Snider, township manager, at the time. Fortunately, the residents of Livonia voted against the annexation, and Northville Township eventually bought most of the land from the developer.

Our local leaders in Lansing then, state Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-Northville, and state Sen. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, pushed for legislation to end this practice. While Corriveau's bill passed overwhelmingly in the House, it never made it to a vote in the Senate, thanks to Sen. Majority Leader Mike Bishop. And Patterson's efforts may have led to the end of his political career.

Fast forward three years to January 2011 and Corriveau's successor, Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, reintroduced the same legislation (HB 4007) which, among other criteria, basically exempts townships with populations over 20,000 from annexation attempts.

So it's been languishing in the House for over a year until last week when the bill finally had its first hearing in the House Local, Governmental and Regional Affairs Committee. It was a 90-minute affair with a packed room and testimonials from both sides — opposition like the Michigan Homebuilders Association, the Association of Realtors and the Michigan Municipal League, and supporters like Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy and Northville Township Trustee Marjorie Banner.

We applaud Heise for being diligent in getting it to the forefront. Northville Township may have won its battle a few years ago, but Meridian Township is in a similar fight right now, as are other communities.

And what's good for the goose is good for the gander as the current bill also prevents detachment, which is the mirror image of annexation — it prevents a township from acquiring city land. That portion of the bill, which realistically will probably never be utilized, was proposed by State Rep. Mark Meadows.

There will be several more weeks of negotiations before HB 4007 heads back to committee and, hopefully, out to the House floor for a vote.

We encourage all the parties involved to work out compromise language that all can agree on, whether that involves density options or restricting the bill to certain counties. If that doesn't happen, then Heise is right on target when he says, "we'll just push ahead with the bill the way it is." Regardless, don't expect the House to vote on this until May or June, and then it will have to go through the Senate and on to the governor.

The good news here is that Northville Township settled its dispute with the developer and they're now partners. But Heise's bill will prevent a hostile takeover attempt from happening again. True, there are many positives with annexation and many times where it works fine. But, of Michigan's 1,400 townships, this bill will only impact the 35 that are urbanized with high populations, offering those residents the type of protection they deserve.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### March is Reading Month - What is your favorite book?

We asked staff at Northville District Library.



"Jane Eyre' (by Charlotte Bronte). It's my favorite of all time. It's a wonderful classic."

**Dorie Freeburg**  
Head of Youth Services



"David Copperfield' (by Charles Dickens). I just finished reading it for our book club. Great characters and so well written."

**Anne Mannisto**  
Assistant director



"Ubik' (By Phillip K. Dick). I like when the whole plot line has you lost, then it's clear, and then you're lost again on the last page."

**Luke Resetar**  
Shelving page



"Steve Jobs biography (by Walter Isaacson). I'm a fan of Apple computers."

**Joshua Sampies**  
Computer page

## LETTERS

### Clarifying contraception issue

Wisely choose your representatives. That means taking a little time to think logically and reasonably about the issues. It means do not swallow political spin hook, line and sinker. Don't believe everything you hear in the mainstream media which has moved away from relatively fair and balanced journalism.

Many people are hollering that Republicans want to take away women's rights. Some are absurdly saying that Republicans feel that contraception should be banned. Not true! The issue is: Should our government require all employers to offer free contraception, including the morning-after pill, which is an abortifacient? Since some employers are morally opposed to abortion, some even morally opposed to contraception, they cannot provide these services as a matter of conscience. No one is suggesting that women should not be able to obtain these services. Of course, they are able and will be able to get contraception services.

Republicans simply want the religious freedom guaranteed in our constitution to be honored. Forcing employers to pay for

### 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.

someone else to do something that the employers believe is morally wrong is taking away their religious freedom. This is a religious freedom issue which the current administration is spinning to try to make it look like an endangerment of women's rights. This is simply

politically motivated. They want to get the women all riled up against the Republicans so we can all suffer through four more years. If anyone has a low opinion of women, it must be liberals if they think that all women are silly enough to fall for their rhetoric.

Even if you are not religious, you should pay attention to the attempts of this administration to take away our religious liberties. It is a typical move on the part of every regime that wants to consolidate power. And it is one of the first moves in a program of destroying more and more freedom.

**Holly Glannola**  
Northville

### Healthy alternatives needed

I agree a grocer would be a good idea for the Northville Plaza, but to take it a step further, healthy alternatives would be welcome in this community. This could include Whole Foods or Plum Market and a restaurant such as Chipotle Mexican Grill. The closest location currently is West Bloomfield. Thanks for your article!

**John Salem**  
Northville

## GUEST COLUMN

# County Treasurer's Office: Staff 'here to serve'

By **Raymond J. Wojtowicz**  
Guest Columnist

It is with tremendous regret that I read and hear repeatedly comments that all Wayne County officials are corrupt. As indictments have been filed against some former county employees there is a growing perception that all who work for Wayne County are corrupt.



Ask the Treasurer  
**Raymond Wojtowicz**

As Wayne County Treasurer, I am appalled. As with other offices throughout Wayne County, my office is filled with hard working, dedicated, public servants. We are struggling to service the many distressed taxpayers in danger of losing homes to foreclosure.

With fewer resources due to budget cuts and unprecedented demand for services as a result of the challenging economy, I am proud of the effective and efficient services my staff provides.

Together with the staff, I have dedicated my life to public service. We all share a belief that we are here to do all we can ethically, morally and professionally for those we serve.

Regardless of the political turmoil that swirls around the county, this office continues to serve

the local governments, the county and the citizens to the best of our abilities.

In the past several years we have continued to innovate in the discharge of our duties. From assisting tens of thousands of taxpayers in avoiding foreclosure to moving to extremely productive online auctions to financing billions of dollars to fund essential government services, the staff continues exemplary service on behalf of the citizens we serve.

Following is a brief summary of some recent accomplishments and innovations over the last several years:

- In 2011, successfully borrowed \$0.25 billion to fund essential government services throughout the county and for communities.

- Initiated an online auction of tax foreclosed properties which last year generated \$32 million in sales.

- Now including "reverter" clauses in deeds to fight blight and the neglect of properties by auction purchasers addressing concerns about inappropriate speculators.

- Coordinated with Register of Deeds Bernard J. Youngblood to electronically record deeds saving time and resources.

- Working to institute electronic certification of deeds to speed the process for our citizens.

- Coordinating efforts with the 43 communities of the county to move to electronic filing of tax rolls to more efficiently track tax-

es and provide easy access to the voluminous information essential to administration.

- Last year, provided \$15 million to Wayne County to balance the budget and provide needed financial stability.

- In 2011, assisted over 14,000 taxpayers in avoiding foreclosure, helping stabilize neighborhoods by preventing the blight that accompanies the abandonment of properties.

- Updating cashier stations to increase efficiency and accuracy by installing cash recyclers, credit card acceptance, and check scanners.

- Mindful of the distress taxpayers feel, dedicated to treating all customers with honesty, dignity, and respect.

The public needs and deserves to know that there are those in public service who are here to serve. On behalf of the staff at the treasurer's office, I feel a need to address the misconception that all public servants in Wayne County are dirty based on the perception of the actions of a few. I am proud to work with the dedicated staff in this office.

It continues to be my pleasure to serve the good people of Wayne County.

**Raymond J. Wojtowicz** is the treasurer of Wayne County. For more information on the treasurer's office and services, go to www.treasurer.waynecounty.com.

# NORTHVILLE RECORD

A GANNETT COMPANY

**Cal Stone,**  
Community Editor  
**Susan Rosiek,**  
Executive Editor

**Grace Perry,**  
Director of  
Advertising

# Local Interlochen music students take to Max M. Fisher stage

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

When Chris Tabaczynski, 17, of Northville Township transferred from Novi-Detroit Catholic Central High School to Interlochen Arts Academy, he knew he was leaving behind a sports powerhouse.

Interlochen, marking its 50th anniversary this year, has sports but is world renowned for arts education.

"I love it," said Tabaczynski, son of Toby and Christina. "It's probably the best opportunity any young musician has."

He'd attended the summer musical camp at Interlochen and was inspired by



**Darren Atiyeh of Novi Interlochen Arts Academy 12th-grader**

jazz faculty member Bill Sears.

Marking the 50th anniversary is a national concert tour featuring the Interlochen Arts Academy Orchestra, Band and



**Chris Tabaczynski of Northville Interlochen Arts Academy 11th-grader**

Choir. In addition to dates in New York, Chicago and Washington, D.C., a Detroit performance takes place at the Max M. Fisher Music Center on Thursday, March 22, at 7 p.m. The

event is free to the public and seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Darren Atiyeh of Novi, a 12th-grader at Interlochen, will also perform, and both young men look forward to being on the Max M. Fisher stage. This is his first year at the academy and, as an oboist, he is pursuing music studies and academics.

"I think it's a really cool chance for the people I know back home," Atiyeh said of the March 22 concert. "They can get to hear us."

Atiyeh is the son of JR and Diane, and has two older siblings, Chelsea and Brad. "It's excellent," Atiyeh said of Interlochen, which he started in 12th grade. "The opportunity it presents to pursue oboe as a career" is great, said Atiyeh, who did his freshman, sophomore and partial junior year at Novi High before moving on to Walled Lake Western High for the balance of his junior year.

Tabaczynski is an 11th-grader also pursuing music studies and academics. He is a tenor saxophonist and has two older brothers, Steven and Andrew.

"It is a completely different life," Tabaczynski said of life at Interlochen as compared to CC.

## DETAILS

The program on the Orchestra Hall stage will feature some bold selections including "Asphalt Cocktail" by composer John Mackey, an orchestral ode to Detroit techno titled "Warehouse Medicine," and the a capella choral work "Past Life Melodies" by Sarah Hopkins. There will be other works featuring highly regarded alumni. For more information, call (313) 576-5111 or visit [www.detroitssymphony.com](http://www.detroitssymphony.com).

[jbrown@hometownlife.com](mailto:jbrown@hometownlife.com)

## 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 DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING

**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](http://downtownnorthville.com)

##### PLANNING COMMISSION

**Date:** First and third Tuesday of month

**Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** City Hall

##### HOUSING COMMISSION

**Date:** Second Wednesday

### 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](mailto: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](http://www.hometownlife.com) to view a complete listing.

of every month

**Time:** 3 p.m.

**Location:** Allen Terrace, 401 High St.

##### HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

**Date:** Third Wednesday of month

**Time:** 7 p.m.

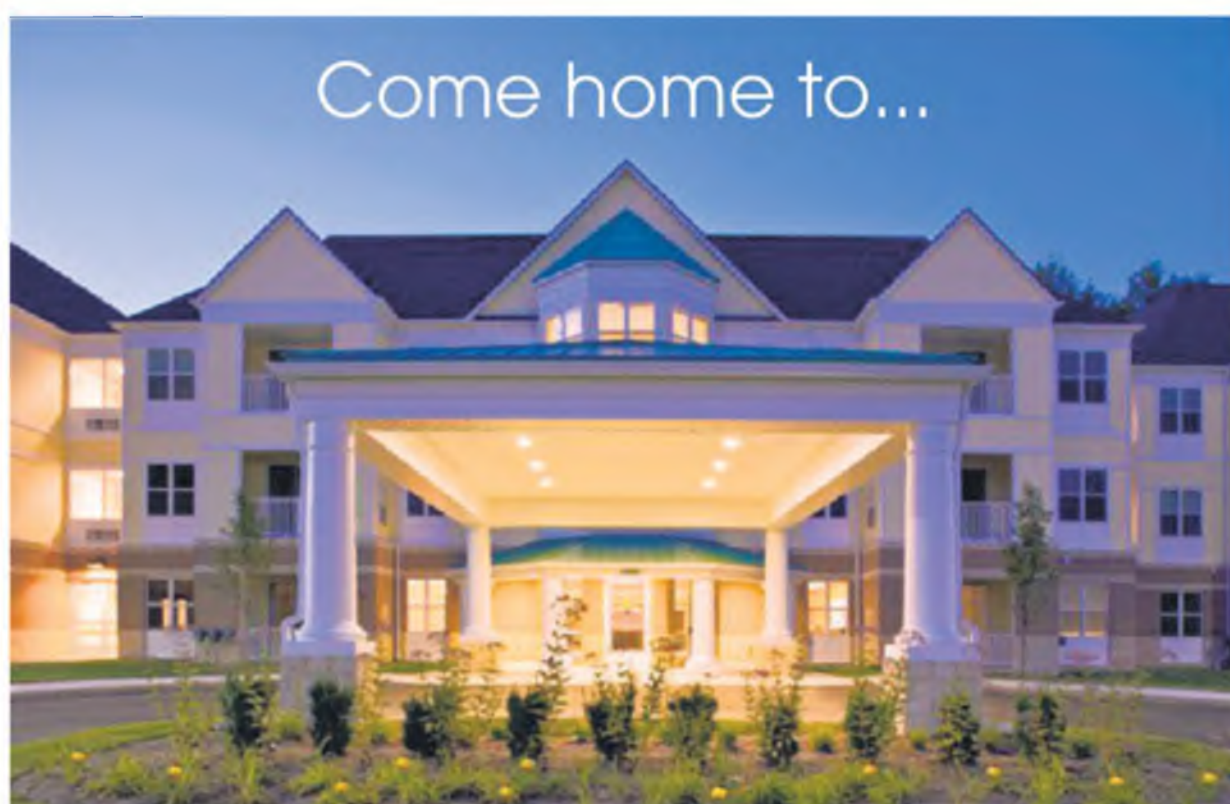
**Location:** City Hall

##### ARTS COMMISSION

**Date:** Second Wednesday of every month

**Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Art House, 215 W. Cady St.



Come home to...

Marycrest Heights is a newly constructed senior community, with a commitment to quality construction, safety, and maintaining a faith-based community atmosphere. With Marycrest skilled nursing and rehabilitation services in your backyard, heated underground parking, and a range of community events and activities, Marycrest Heights provides independence, safety, and convenience.

~No Entrance Fee~

#### Community Amenities:

- Chapel
- Beauty Salon/ Barber Shop
- Resident Activities
- Media Room Lounge
- Fitness Center
- Heated Underground Parking
- Community Garden
- Walking Paths
- Emergency Call System

## A Vacation Resort You Never Have to Leave!

Marycrest  
HEIGHTS

St. Patrick's Day Party

Thursday, March 15  
3-4:30 pm

Join our residents for a "wee bit o' fun" as we celebrate with traditional dishes, spirits & entertainment.

Take this opportunity to meet our residents and tour our community.

(734) 838-6240

Marycrest Heights  
15495 Middlebelt  
Livonia, MI



[MarycrestHeights.org](http://MarycrestHeights.org)

Come and join us for our  
**ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION**  
9am - Midnight  
Take a spin on the **BIG WHEEL** for some fun winnings!!!

- Party Favors
- Green Beer
- Shot Specials
- Gift Baskets
- Free Rooms
- Gas Card

**DINNER SPECIALS**  
Shepherd's Pie  
Corned Beef & Cabbage  
Guinness Onion Cheddar Soup  
Mile High Ryeben  
Green Veivet Cake

Offering Special Room Rates!

**Holiday Inn & Suites**  
Farmington Hills/Novi  
Come out and enjoy the fun!  
37529 Grand River Ave.  
Farmington Hills, MI 48335  
248-477-7800  
[www.holidayinn.com/farmingtonhill](http://www.holidayinn.com/farmingtonhill)

Pre Broadway Tour of the New Musical  
**Bernhardt on Broadway**  
"An intimate evening with Madame Sarah"  
-UPSTAGE Theatre Journal

"Bravo for a remarkable performance!"  
-Speaking of Art, WAAM, Ann Arbor, MI  
"Mesmerizing for the entire show!"  
-Lakeshore Arts, Saugatuck, MI

**First Presbyterian Church**  
523 Hendrie Royal Oak  
Wednesday, March 21 1:30 PM  
Thursday, March 22 2 PM  
Friday, March 23 7:30 PM  
Thursday, March 29 2 PM  
Friday, March 30 7:30 PM

**Hagopian World of Rugs**  
850 South Old Woodward B'ham  
Saturday, March 24 7:30 PM

**Scarab Club**  
217 Farnsworth Street Detroit  
Saturday, March 31 7:30 PM  
Sunday, April 1 2 PM

Tickets...\$25  
[www.BrownPaperTickets.com](http://www.BrownPaperTickets.com) or at the door.  
For group sales call 734.864.3244  
[www.BernhardtOnBroadway.com](http://www.BernhardtOnBroadway.com)

## Playing pickleball



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kathy Hayes, left, watches as her pickleball partner Rebecca Arnold reaches for a shot on Feb. 29 at the Northville Community Senior Center. The relatively-low impact game is offered at the center on West Main St. on Monday and Tuesday beginning at 1 p.m. and Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 9:30 a.m.

## NORTHVILLE NEWSMAKERS

### Kelsey Siemen

Attorney Kelsey R. Siemen, of Kelly & Kelly, P.C., received a certificate of completion in the areas of probate and estate planning issued by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education and the Probate and Estate Planning Section of the State Bar of Michigan. As part of the certificate program, Siemen participated in over 70 hours of seminar work within two years. She practices in the areas of estate planning, decedent's estates, guardianships and conservatorships and litigation for the Northville-based law firm.

# Hometown reporter pens book on Maltese in Detroit

Diane Gale Andreassi, a Livonia resident and reporter for the *South Lyon Herald* (a sister publication of the *Novi News* and *Northville Record*), recently published *Maltese in Detroit*, a book documenting the emigration of residents from Malta, a small island country off the coast of Italy, to the Motor City.

Detroit has one of the largest Maltese populations outside the small nation, which is south of Sicily in the Mediterranean.

Published by Arcadia Publishing in the Images of America series, the book is filled with pictures of early immigrants and introduces readers to later settlers and finally current residents. Pictures of Most Holy Trinity in Detroit and the Maltese clubs in Dearborn and Detroit offer a flavor of life among the Maltese today.

Between 35,000 and 70,000 people of Maltese heritage live in the United States and the Detroit area has the largest concentration. In fact, it is one of the largest Maltese populations in the world outside the small European nation.

"The response to the book has been overwhelming," said Andreassi, who was born in Detroit of parents who left their homeland to settle in a large Maltese-populated Corktown neighborhood of Detroit.

The book illustrates the importance of the Roman Catholic Church in Mal-

ta and among the Maltese immigrants in their new land. It introduces readers to the Maltese priests who were among the notable people who welcomed and helped acclimate the others as they arrived.

"It was wonderful to meet so many Maltese people and to learn about the pride they have in their heritage," Andreassi said.

It took a year to assemble Maltese in Detroit, but it was a labor of love for Andreassi, who graduated from the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a double major in economics and English.

She started her career in journalism at the *Dearborn Heights Leader* and the *Observer & Eccentric* Newspapers as a reporter and a lifestyles editor before taking a leave to raise a family. She has worked on countless freelance stories for a number of publications, including Gale Research, working on encyclopedia entries, one of which was about Malta and its people.

She has been reporter for the Herald for more than a year.

Andreassi was active in Livonia's St. Colette religious education program for more than 10 years and worked as a substitute teacher and volunteer in the Livonia Public Schools. Andreassi is an avid reader of books and newsprint of all kinds.

The books are available at large and small bookstores and for a discount rate by calling (734) 432-5974.

Readers can contact Andreassi at dan-dreassi@hometownlife.com.



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Old Village art teacher Mary Ann Neault stands with student Michael Baron and his puppet dog creation on Feb. 13. Neault asked students to create puppets out of cardboard boxes with the only stipulation that they "talk". Most made their puppet creations' mouths move. Neault wasn't impressed with Baron's puppet - as its mouth didn't move and therefore it couldn't talk until Baron showed her by blowing on the tube placed in its back - that it "talked" that way - in a low rumbling manner.

# Old Village Art



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Old Village School student Nate Ruffing tries out art teacher Mary Ann Neault's Kandinsky-spiral creator in the school's art room on Feb. 13. Neault and other instructors at the school taught students about a wide variety of historical artists, their methods and then gave them the freedom to create similar works of art. The (Wasily) Kandinsky-inspired spirals were created by placing paper on a turntable turned sideways and then holding pens up to the spinning surface. This allowed even students with limited motor skills the ability to create art.



Old Village students created these African-inspired masks during their recent efforts.

# Crazy hair



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Thornton Creek Elementary student Lindsey Gurecki, a fifth grader, sports an interesting 'do on Feb. 23 during the school's "Crazy Hair Day" event. Crazy Hair day was part of Thornton's Spirit Week fun which culminated in its annual "Gator Gala" on Feb. 24 - a fun, school fundraiser night.

Thornton Creek Elementary School students Anna Barley, left, and Emily Eckenroth show differing but enthusiastic responses to the school's "Crazy Hair Day" on Feb. 23. Eckenroth's effort, known to the whole school for years now, takes her and her parents more than four hours, a lots of hair gel, to produce.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Alex VanNocker, 11, throws a football in a skill game during Thornton Creek's annual "Gator Gala" on Feb. 24. The event is a fundraiser for the school's activities and assemblies through the year.

# Gator gala



Eliza Ajro, 7, left, and Delaney Bry, 8 take a look at some of the prizes available at the Feb. 24 Gator Gala event at Thornton Creek Elementary.



Gator Gala attendees take a look at some of the items for silent auction during Thornton Creek's fundraiser night on Feb. 24.





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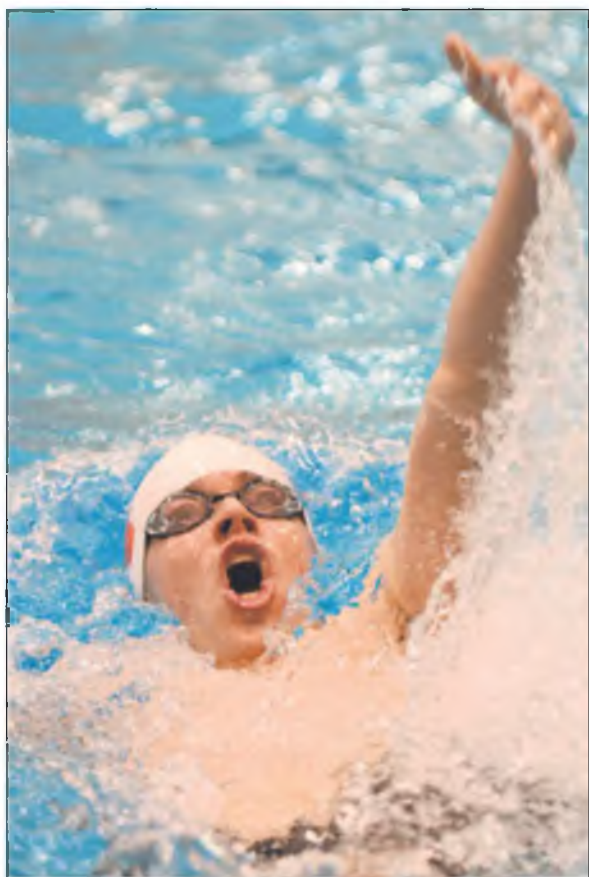
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PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Mustang Nick Hayes swims in the prelims of the March 9 Div. 1 MHSAA swim finals at EMU.

## Shamrocks, Mustangs swim at state finals

Catholic Central finishes in sixth place

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

State finals are never easy to compete in. The pressure is on, the competition is well beyond the definition of fierce and the expectations are overflowing.

The Northville Mustangs and the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks boys swimming and diving teams squared off with over three dozen other schools in the Division I state finals last weekend. The event, held at Eastern Michigan University, found Saline winning the state finals with little trouble, finishing with 326.5 points while Rockford was second with 233 and Brother Rice third with 176. Detroit Catholic Central finished sixth overall with 111 points while Northville finished with 24 points.

"We didn't swim as well as I had hoped, but the guys had a good season overall and we look forward to improving for next year," said Northville coach Rich Bennetts. "All three of our relays swam their best times of the season, so that was a positive and we were able to get a couple of individuals swim come back on Saturday. Not really what we wanted, but the boys

gave their best. It was a really fast meet and hung in there OK".

The only two events in which Northville and Detroit Catholic Central both earned finals finishes were relays — the 200 and 400 freestyle.

In the 200 relay, the Shamrocks took ninth in 1:27.73 with a team of Dan Szuba, Tim Szuba, Grayson Arnold and Colin Brinkman. Northville finished 12th, finishing in 1:28.51 with a team of Sam Boyea, Andrew Westphal, Dawson Laabs and Spencer Miller. The 400 free relay found the Catholic Central tankers finishing ninth in 3:12.5 with a team of Brinkman, Tim Szuba, Jack Walsh and Dan Szuba. The Mustangs weren't far behind, taking 13th in 3:15.92 with Westphal, Boyea, Chris Kim and Miller racing for the team.

The Shamrocks had a strong showing in the 200-yard medley relay as well, capturing third place with a time of 1:37.03. The team consisted of Walsh, Ryan Newman, Dan Szuba and Tim Szuba.

In the 200 freestyle, the Shamrocks earned nine points from the ninth-place finish of Brinkman, who swam

Please see SWIM, B2



Northville's Spencer Miller dives in the pool at the start of Heat 4 of 6 of the 50 yard freestyle as he swims in the prelims of the March 9 Div. 1 MHSAA swim finals at EMU.

## Mustangs boys hoops season ends

Squad falls to Salem in district tournament

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

The Northville Mustangs boys basketball team had to wonder what was going on when just 12 seconds into the game one of their best players was sitting on the bench with two fouls.

Brett MacDonald, at 7:48 left in the first quarter, found himself being called to the bench by coach Todd Sander. It was an omen, and a foreboding one at that. When everything was said and done, the Mustangs walked off the court, ending the season for the team and the high school career of nine seniors, with a 62-58 loss to the Salem Rocks.

"We will miss all of our seniors," said Sander. "They led us in a fantastic season and really led the rejuvenation of our program. We accomplished a ton — beating ranked teams (Walled Lake Central, John Glenn and Salem), broke our streak against Novi and played in meaningful big

games. I am so proud of this team."

MacDonald didn't get back on the floor until the second half, but the Mustangs found several players who stepped up in an attempt to fill his large shoes. Jake Hansen, Alec Lasley and Andrew Wright all contributed in the first half off the bench to keep the Mustangs in the game as they trailed by just five points heading into the second half.

"I was really proud and pleased to see Jake, Alec and Wright step up in a big game," Sander said.

But it was Andrew Meacham who looked as though he was a player possessed with a determination not to lose. He set his career marks with 16 points in the first half and 30 points overall.

"Meacham was on fire," said Sander. "Our guys did a nice job feeding him the ball."

Meacham his four three-point field goals on the night, drained six

Please see HOOPS, B2



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Mustang Andrew Wright, left, fights Salem's Chris Dierker for a rebound during the team's March 7 game.



Mustang Andrew Meacham, left, rips a rebound down in from of Salem Rock Cam Werner.

## Mustangs gymnasts compete in individual state finals

Taylor Dempsey finishes in top 25 in Division I

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

The Northville Mustangs gymnastics team didn't have the luxury of qualifying for the state finals as a team, but they were fortunate enough to send four very talented girls to the finals as individuals.

The trip to Grand Rapids was definitely worthwhile as the Northville squad turned in several impressive performances — most notably that from junior Taylor Dempsey. Dempsey was the top finisher for the Mustangs on the bars, the beam and the floor and scored a 33.95 all-around to finish as the 24th-best gymnast in Division I this year.

The beam was the most successful event for the Mustangs as Dempsey scored an 8.575 from the judges for 19th place, followed by Morgan Price's 8.1 and Erin Warwood's 7.55, which were good



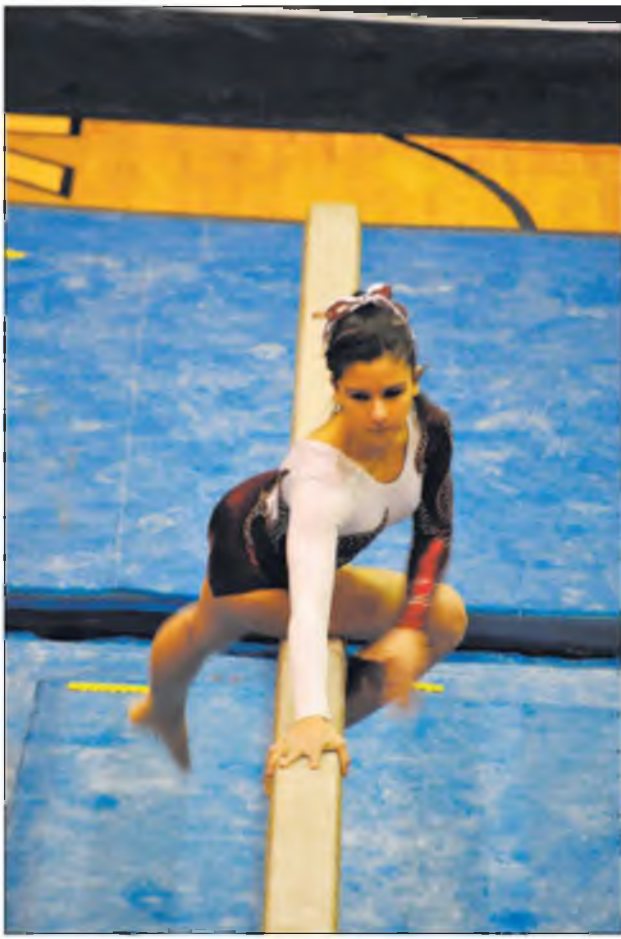
CHRIS WARWOOD

Mustangs Morgan Price, Victoria Clay, Taylor Dempsey and Erin Warwood competed individually at the state gymnastics meet on March 10.

for 24th and 28th, respectively. On the bars, Dempsey had a strong showing, scoring an 8.3

from the judges to tie for 22nd

Please see GYMNASTS, B2



PHOTOS BY CHRIS WARWOOD

Northville junior Erin Warwood competes on beam.

## GYMNASTS

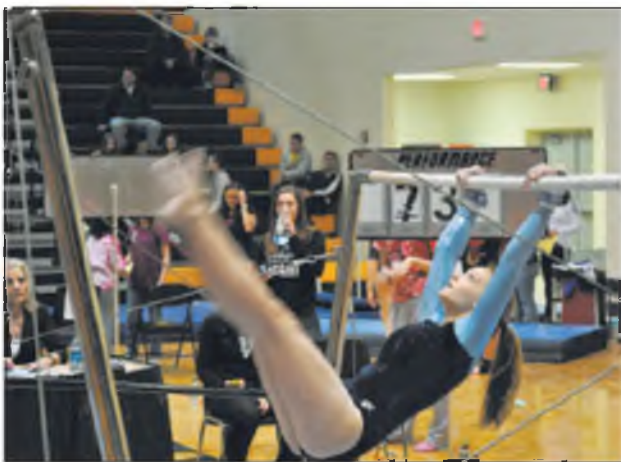
Continued from page B1

overall. Warwood also competed in the event, taking 28th with a 7.95 from the judges while the 31st place was awarded to Price for her 7.5 score.

Dempsey finished in the top-25 in the state in

the floor exercise, scoring an 8.55 to tie for 25th. Not far behind was Warwood, who scored an 8.475 from the judging table for 28th place, followed by senior Victoria Clay's 8.35 for 29th.

In the vault, the Mustangs found Price and Clay tying for 24th overall with scores of 8.6.



Northville sophomore Morgan Price performs her bar routine.

## SWIM

Continued from page B1

the race in 1:42.79. Brinkman also finished ninth in the state in the grueling 500 freestyle swim, taking home a final time of

4:41.26.

Walsh finished fifth in the 200 individual medley to help his team out, swimming it in 1:54.06 to earn his squad 14 points.

Northville's Miller had some tough competition in the 50 freestyle, but

that didn't stop him from taking 16th overall in the race as he turned in a time of 22.37 seconds.

The 100 butterfly found Dan Szuba scoring 11 points for the Shamrocks as he swam a 52.65-second race to earn eighth

place in the event.

Filippo Miavaldi made the best of his senior year for the Mustangs, finishing as the 12th-best 100 backstroke swimmer in the state as he finished with a time of 54.72 seconds.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mustang Andrew Westphal swim the butterfly in the prelims of the March 9 Div. 1 MHSAA swim finals at EMU.

## HOOPS

Continued from page B1

two-point shots and was an infallible 6-for-6 from the free-throw line.

MacDonald's second half performance was also impressive, putting in nine points and giving his team a one-point advantage with two minutes left in the game. Salem, however, snagged an offensive rebound and put it back in to reclaim the lead and, eventually, the win.

"I think that had we gotten a stop to have the lead and the ball, we may have won," Sander noted. "Salem kept making big play after big play."

Andrew Poterala and Jeff Hewlett also stepped up in the game. The former finished with three points and six rebounds and the latter added six points.

Salem was led by Tyler Stewart, who had 24 points. The Rocks went on to the district final game where they lost to Detroit Catholic Central, 68-53.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mustang Jeffrey Hewlett, right, draws the contact and the foul from Salem Rock Nate Sass during the teams' March 7 playoff game.

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The Northville Prep hockey team finished second in the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association state championships on Sunday. The Broncos, coached by Gerry McGlynn, lost 6-5 in double overtime to Howell.

## Northville Prep Hockey finishes second in state

The Michigan Amateur Hockey Association Tier 2 championship game Sunday between Northville Prep and Howell Prep did not go the Broncos' way but it was the most thrilling contest of the season.

The Broncos (26-11-1) lost a heartbreaker 6-5 at Jackson's Optimist Arena when the Highlanders scored with 7:24 left in double overtime.

"It's disappointing we lost but the boys played a fantastic game," said Northville Head Coach Gerry McGlynn, who also guided the Broncos to the league title game last week. "We had our chances but we had a couple of bad bounces and a couple of bad calls that didn't go way."

Northville blew out to a 4-0 lead. Tim Eis started the scoring in the first period with assists to Ryan Bloom and Kellan Flayer. Just a few minutes later, Nick Stegmeyer upped it to 2-0 when he tipped in Drake Eaton's shot from the blue line. Eis then fed Bloom in front of the net to make it 3-0 at the start of the second period. The margin stretched to four when Taylor Turner passed to Henry Chang who sent Christopher Tripi on a breakaway.

Howell started its comeback 90 seconds later with its first goal of the game. The Highlanders than rattled off four straight goals to take a

5-4 lead. The last score with 5:02 remaining in the third period was controversial as it appeared that the puck hit the cross-bar and did not go into the net. After much discussion, the officials ruled it was a goal.

Northville goalie Jeremy Onofrio then was injured with 3:24 left and was replaced by Nick Zalewski. The game was delayed nearly 25 minutes as Onofrio was taken off the ice on a stretcher. Onofrio was playing phenomenal to that point, including stopping a penalty shot in the second period. Zalewski came in and also was outstanding, stopping several great scoring chances.

Nick Stegmeyer sent the game into overtime on his power-play goal with 81 seconds to play when he swatted in a 10-foot shot. Troy Youmans and Bloom each picked an assist. The Broncos had several scoring opportunities in the first overtime but came away unsuccessful.

The game marked the first time Northville Prep had advanced to the state championship. The Broncos won three of its four games on the weekend to play for the title.

### Northville 6, Hartland (Gold) 5

The Broncos advanced to the championship con-

test early Sunday when Stegmeyer tipped in Eis' shot with 37 seconds left in overtime, giving Northville a 6-5 win in the semifinals over Hartland (Gold). Youmans also picked up an assist.

Northville had a 2-1 lead after the first period on goals by Eaton and Bloom. Cameron Layne and Kyle Wright each assisted on Eaton's score off a slap shot. Bloom picked up back-to-back goals in the second period to put the Broncos ahead 4-2. Eis and Chang assisted on the first goal and Youmans and Nick Strom assisted on the second. The Eagles tallied three straight goals to go in front 5-4. Eis and Bloom then set up Flayer with the equalizer with 7:33 left. Zalewski earned the win in goal.

### Northville 6, Salem 4

Needing a win to move on to the state semifinals, Northville held on for a 6-4 victory Saturday against Salem. Stegmeyer gave the Broncos a 1-0 lead in the first period with assists to Tripi and Dominic DiComo. Bloom then added two more goals in the opening period to go ahead 3-0. In the second period, Tyler Marcotte and Chang then set up Flayer, and Bloom notched his third of game to put Northville ahead 5-1. Salem was able to pull within 5-4 but Eis tallied

into an empty net with 14 seconds left. Onofrio was the winning goalie.

### Northville 9, Southgate 0

Six different players scored as Northville beat Southgate 9-0 Saturday morning in a preliminary game. Bloom and Stegmeyer tallied in the first period. Flayer, Bloom, DiComo and Alex Ridenner each netted goals in the second period. Flayer, Bloom and Marcotte finished the scoring in the third. Zalewski registered the shutout as he made 22 saves and was assisted by defenseman Sean O'Malley, KC Chaudoin, Troy Youmans, Drake Eaton, Taylor Turner, Henry Chang and Nick Strom.

### Howell 4, Northville 0

The Broncos gave up only one shutout all season and that was 4-0 setback to Howell Prep Friday in the opening game of the state championship tournament. The Highlanders scored once in the second period and three times in the third for the win. Howell outshot Northville 36-16.

— Submitted by Bob Tripi

## Northville girls cagers bow out of regional

Team falls to Hartland after remarkable season

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

It's hard to convince anyone that they shouldn't be upset after losing a game that ends their season, but if one thing is for certain the Northville Mustangs girls basketball team should be holding their head up high.

The team, coached by Todd Gudith, traveled to the regional tournament with a district championship under the belt last week and found themselves on the wrong end of a 41-37 loss against Hartland. Despite the sting of that loss, the Mustangs had an incredible season. Most pundits would never have even guessed Northville capable of winning their district.

"Our girls competed every night and showed that we can hang with anyone around," said Gudith. "A lot of people counted us out, I'm sure, throughout the season, but our girls responded and rose to the occasion."

Northville finished the season with a 15-8 record.

Against Hartland, the loss was a difficult one to absorb. The Mustangs led throughout the first half, taking an 8-7 lead in the first quarter before extending that to 21-16 by the time they headed into the locker room. The Mustangs used a fast-break offense, pressuring Hartland's full-court defense, to score a majority of their points in the first half, following senior Alex Moynes' nine points in the second quarter to take the convincing lead into the half.

But the Eagles didn't collect 20 wins this season without being able to adjust — and adjust they did. Hartland forced turnovers in Northville's first two possessions of the second half to cut the lead to just one point before taking a four-point lead heading into the final quarter of play.

The Mustangs, however, wouldn't go away quietly, regaining the lead, 34-32, with two minutes left in the game. But the Eagles just couldn't be put away.

"It's a tough way to end the season because we led for a good portion of the game but didn't finish them off," Gudith said. "Hartland was incredible rebounding the ball. We did a good job stopping or forcing a tough initial shot but struggled to get rebounds and gave them too many extra chances. They out toughed us and got a lot of their points that way."

The Eagles hit their only three-point shot of the night to take the lead, 35-34, and extended their lead on a lay-up, followed by two free-throws.

With time expiring and desperation starting to set in, the Mustangs cut the lead to 39-37 off a three pointer by Kendra Brenner. The Mustangs tried for a steal, was forced to foul with under 15 seconds left, and watched as the Eagles snagged a rebound off the missed foul shot and put it in for a four-point lead as time expired.

The Mustangs were led by Moynes, who had 15 points on the night, while senior Mallory Weber had eight. Brenner added seven in the losing effort.

**NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL  
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

DATE: March 2, 2012

PROJECT: Project No. 12-NPS-NIS-01, Network Infrastructure Systems

OWNER: Northville Public Schools  
Business Office – Third Floor  
501 W. Main Street  
Northville, MI 48167-1576

DESIGNER: Wright & Hunter, Inc.  
818 W. 11 Mile Road  
Royal Oak, Michigan 48067  
Phone: 248 594-5850  
Fax: 248 594-5851

BID DUE DATE: Until 1:00 PM EDT on March 30, 2012 the Owner will receive sealed Bids for the work as set forth in the Bid specifications and proposal forms ("RFB documents") at:

Sealed Bid Enclosed for Network Infrastructure Systems

Northville Public Schools  
Attn: Michael Zopf  
Business Office – Third Floor  
501 W. Main Street  
Northville, MI 48167-1576

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time. Bids received after the above date and time will **not** be accepted. Bids that do not include a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship between the Owner and the bidder as defined in Michigan Public Act No. 232 of 2004 will not be accepted.

RFB documents will be available on March 7, 2012 and can be obtained by registering at the following website: <http://www.vlbp.com/launch/wrightandhunter/home.php>.

Bidding details may be obtained electronically at: <http://www.vlbp.com/launch/wrightandhunter/home.php>.

A bidders' meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2012 at 1:00 PM EDT at:

Hillside Middle School  
All visitors must sign-in at the Main Office  
775 North Center  
Northville, Michigan 48167

All bidders are strongly encouraged to attend. All bidders are responsible for inspection of the site conditions.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check, money order or bid bond made payable to Northville Public Schools in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the base bid as a Bid guarantee.

Withdrawal of any bid is prohibited for a period of ninety (90) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part, to reject a bid not accompanied by the required bid guarantee, or by other data required by the RFB documents and Michigan law or to reject a bid which is in any way non compliant with the bid requirements. Submitted bids may be adjusted in unit prices included by the bidder to ensure all bids submitted are compared on the same basis with respect to required materials.

The Owner reserves the right to accept alternates in any order or combination and to determine the low bidder on the basis of the sum of the base bid and the alternates accepted.

Publish: March 15, 2012

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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.

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



Eight Northville athletes took it all out on the mat Sunday at the Michigan Youth Wrestling Association Eastern Regional Championship at Tecumseh High School. Four will advance to the MYWAY State Championship in the Kellogg Center at Battle Creek on March 24-25.

## Four youth wrestlers advance to state championship

Eight Northville athletes took it all out on the mat Sunday at the Michigan Youth Wrestling Association Eastern Regional Championship at Tecumseh High School. Four will advance to the MYWAY State Championship in the Kellogg Center at Battle Creek on March 24-25.

Thornton Creek first-grader Mason Stewart went undefeated for the third time this season, earning his third gold medal for the Northville Youth Wrestling Club. Silver Springs first-grader Boden Dietrich only gave up one regional match, taking second place. Another Silver Springs first-grader, Mason Jennings, rounds out the club's

fierce, first grade competitors with a bronze medal, taking fourth.

Andrew Hayek, who is in third grade at Thornton Creek, also received a fourth place ticket to the state finals.

"When Boden won second, the coach from Downriver (the boy's dad) said to his son, 'That's OK; he is one tough kid,'" said Janet Dietrich, the mother of two youth wrestlers. "I couldn't believe it. It is usually me who is saying that to my kids. To hear it about your own son is really cool."

The Northville Youth Wrestling Club has become extraordinarily competitive in the 2011-2012 season. Under the direction of head coach Kevin Eich-

holtz and his assistants — NHS Class of 2010's Steve Widzinski and Class of 2007's Joe Eichholtz — the team boasts over 50 members, with 19 who have attended MYWAY tournaments throughout the season.

"Our program is still young and our kids are working hard," Kevin said. "Wrestling is a tough sport, you have to love it. Everyone who puts on a singlet and steps foot on a mat to face an opponent deserves respect."

Four additional Northville youth grapplers were competitive at the regional championship. Silver Springs fifth-graders Parker Dietrich and Grant Hood both won a match and lost two close matches. Thornton Creek fourth-grader Aidan Hayak was also very competitive in a huge bracket of athletes. Silver Springs first-grader Nathan Jones faced tough matches as well.

Several team members will compete in a novice-only tournament for beginning wrestlers this Saturday at Henry Ford High School. That, and the State meet next week, will end the season for the Northville Youth Takedown Club. Their season and practice will begin again on November. New member are welcome. For more information, e-mail [nvyouthwrestling@mail.com](mailto:nvyouthwrestling@mail.com).

## NOVI SPORTS BRIEFS

### It takes a community to rebuild the stadium

Join the campaign to raise \$1 million for artificial turf and other significant improvements to the Northville Community Eight Mile Stadium. To date, \$721,000 has been raised, but another \$279,000 is needed by May 1. Please donate today at [www.NHSTurfClub.org](http://www.NHSTurfClub.org)

Following initial donations totaling \$600,000, TURF CLUB was formed to raise the additional \$400,000 needed to complete the artificial turf project. TURF CLUB is a consortium of community partners including Northville Parks & Recreation, NHS Boosters, the Board of Education, Northville Soccer Association, Northville Youth Football, Northville Lacrosse, the Northville Educational Foundation, Northville Public Schools, and Northville Football Parents.

Installing turf at the stadium will enable hundred of additional hours of usage for Northville High School and community programs.

For more information, visit [www.NHSTurfClub.org](http://www.NHSTurfClub.org).

### Howard featured at fundraiser

University of Michigan football icon Desmond Howard will be the featured speaker at U of M Club of Greater Northville's scholarship fundraiser dinner on Thursday, April 12. Howard, 1991 Heisman Trophy winner, ESPN College Game Day analyst and co-author of the book, 'I Wore 21: The Legend of Desmond Howard', will share some of his amazing stories and will also be available to sign copies of his book. The evening includes dinner, a cash bar and a

silent auction.

Net proceeds from the program will be used to award merit scholarships to high school seniors from western Wayne and Oakland counties who will be attending the University of Michigan.

Tickets are \$40 each for members of the U-M Alumni Association, and \$50 each for non-members. For ticket information, please go to: <http://northville.umclubs.com> and click on Upcoming Events, or call 1-800-847-4764.

### Baseball camp

Registration has officially begun for the upcoming Fifth Annual Northville high school Spring Training Baseball Camp. The camp will be held from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, March 17 and Sunday, March 18 in the NHS gymnasium. It is open to all kids ages 7-14. The registration form can also be accessed at [www.northvillemustang-baseball.com](http://www.northvillemustang-baseball.com).

### Northville youth football registration

The Northville Youth Football Association will hold new player and cheerleader registration through March 18. If your son or daughter would be interested in playing football or cheering, please visit the NYF website at [www.northvilleyouthfootball.com](http://www.northvilleyouthfootball.com) for more information and to register. All Colts and Stallions teams have openings except the JV Stallions. If demand exceeds capacity on any team, an age-based lottery will be held.

New for 2012 will be flag football for 6- and 7-year-olds.

Go to [www.northvilleyouthfootball.com](http://www.northvilleyouthfootball.com) for more information.

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CHECK DIRECTORIES FOR SHOWTIMES/SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT - NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT TICKETS ACCEPTED

## Perfect!



This year's Northville High JV boys basketball team finished the season with a perfect 20-0 record against some of the toughest competition in the area — after having a freshmen season that included just one loss all year. They had to play Plymouth Salem three times, twice at their place, and a tough John Glenn team that only had two losses (also an away game). Their final win came against Walled Lake Central by only 2 points to complete the perfect season. Shown (from left, back) are Malik Bazzi, Anish Patel, Jimmy Fiscus, Robbie Parks, Andrew Stevens, Sean Conway, David Moorman; (front) Dan Sims, Jomi Ogunfiditimi, Landon Wood, Eric Fox and Joey Hewlett. Coaches are Bret Turner, Brandon Langston.

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## NORTHVILLE BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Community Financial asks residents to give a Thumbs Up For Charity

When a job is well done, a common sign of approval is a thumbs up. Now, Community Financial Credit Union is offering the community a chance to give a collective thumbs up and \$25,000 to its favorite charities.

From March 5 through March 30, Community Financial will be accepting nominations from individuals sharing which charitable organization deserve a "Thumbs Up" and a donation in recognition of the good work it does in the community.

Nominations can be made at [www.cfcu.org/ThumbsUpForCharity](http://www.cfcu.org/ThumbsUpForCharity)

The nominations will result in five finalists being chosen and put to a vote on the website for a chance to win the \$10,000 grand prize. The charities that finish in second and third place will receive \$5,000 each and the fourth and fifth place finishers will each receive \$2,500.

"The nonprofit groups in our communities do an amazing job and we are proud to support them throughout the year," said Bill Lawton, Community Financial president/CEO. "However, we wanted to provide the residents of our communities a chance to tell us which groups they think deserve recognition, and "Thumbs Up for Charity" gives them that opportunity."

To stay connected with Community Financial and keep up-to-date on the latest financial news and information

as well as Community Financial's community involvement, please "like" us on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/CommunityFinancial](http://www.Facebook.com/CommunityFinancial) or follow us on Twitter at

[www.twitter.com/CFCreditUnion](http://www.twitter.com/CFCreditUnion).

For complete contest rules, visit [www.cfcu.org](http://www.cfcu.org).

### Fiscal fitness program

The Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC) announced the schedule for financial tools workshops in metro Detroit in 2012 through June.

Five Keys to Achieving Fiscal Fitness, a workshop to help the non-financial manager business owner achieve fiscal fitness, is a statewide training program designed to strengthen financial literacy and improve the ability to access capital businesses need to grow. It will be held Thursday, March 15 and cost \$25; Fifth Third Bank clients attend at no cost.

Features include:

- \* Identifying problems using your balance sheet and income statement
  - \* Providing ways to increase your company's cash flow
  - \* Using breakeven analysis to improve decision-making
  - \* Planning the working capital to support your growth
  - \* How to keep your banker on your side
- Networking and continental breakfast start at 8 a.m. and the seminar is from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Register by calling (734) 487-0355 for more information.

## Tasty biz



CAL STONE | EDITOR

The Taste of Northville Business Showcase featured over 60 exhibitors at Northville High School this past Saturday. Over 500 folks attended the annual event, now in its 16th year, which is hosted by the Northville Chamber of Commerce.

## OAKLAND COUNTY BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance are invited to attend seminars in February offered by the Oakland County Business Center. Business Basics workshops are now offered in the evenings on alternating months.

Unless otherwise noted, all programs take place at the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, west of Telegraph, Waterford. For pre-registration and location specifics, visit online at [oakgov.com/peds/calendar](http://oakgov.com/peds/calendar), or call (248) 858-0783.

### QuickBooks Essentials

This introduction to small business financial management provides an overview of accurate recordkeeping, report interpretation and utilization, and management of the variety of tools provided in this system. Presented by Kildal Services, LLC. Session I includes basic accounting terminology, new company file set-up, customizing forms and letters and working with bank accounts. Session II includes invoicing customers, receiving payments and making deposits, entering vendor bills/paying vendor bills and using credit card accounts.

Thursday, March 29.  
Session I 9-11:30 a.m.  
Session II 12:30-3 p.m.

Session One: \$40/person, Session Two: \$40/person, Both Sessions: \$75/person. Laptop highly recommended.

### CEED Microloan Orientation

Many small business owners face obstacles when trying to obtain a business loan. The recognition of the serious need for working capital for existing businesses, start-up or expansion, equipment purchases and job creation is not the priority it once was. If you have a need for alternative financing consider the MicroLoan Program. Discover the requirements and process necessary to apply and obtain a microloan. Program presented by the Center for Empowerment & Economic Development

### FUTURE WORKSHOPS

(a.m.) Morning Class 9 a.m.-12/12:30 p.m.

(p.m.) Evening Class 6-9/9:30 p.m.

April 10: Facebook for Business (Beginner) (p.m.)

April 11: Fundamentals of Starting a Business (p.m.)

April 13: Oakland County Venture Forward Series

April 17: Facebook for Business (Intermediate) (p.m.)

April 18: Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan (p.m.)

April 24: Legal & Financial Basics for Small Business

April 24: Facebook for Business (Advanced) (p.m.)

May 3: Pre Business Research (a.m.)

May 9: CEED Microloan Orientation

May 10: Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan (a.m.)

May 23: Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) Certification Orientation

May 31: Team SBA Financing Roundtable

June 5: FastTrac NewVenture Series

June 6: Fundamentals of Marketing Your Business (PM)

June 7: Small Business Loan Workshop

June 7: Business Research: Feasibility to Expansion (PM)

June 13: CEED Microloan Orientation

June 13: LinkedIn for Business (Beginner) (PM)

June 14: Fundamentals of Starting a Business (PM)

June 20: LinkedIn for Business (Intermediate) (PM)

June 21: Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan (AM)

June 27: LinkedIn for Business (Advanced) (PM)

June 28: QuickBooks Essentials Part 1 and Part 2

opment (C.E.E.D.)

Wednesday, April 4, 9-11 a.m.

This workshop is free but pre-registration is required.

### Business Research: Feasibility to Expansion

Are you thinking of starting your own business and want to research your business idea? Are you a business owner who wants to benchmark your profit margin and other measures against similar size businesses in your industry? Do you want to know about market trends and opportunities to grow your sales? Are you looking for new customers or to diversify your market base? Business Research will show you ways to find your ideal customers, find your competitors, perform competitive analysis and more! Presented by Oakland County's Business Center, Market Research Division and an Oakland County Public Library business reference librarian.

Wednesday, April 4, 6-9 p.m.

This workshop is free but pre-registration is required.

### Fundamentals of Marketing Your Business

Marketing is an essential of business

success. All products/services must be sold to well-targeted audiences with a wide-ranging marketing mix. Staff/SCORE counselors can guide you through successful techniques and marketing principles helping you to promote your products and services to the most promising customers-your target audience. Presented by The Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC).

Wednesday, April 4, 6-9 p.m.

The fee is \$40 per person. No refunds.

### Small Business Loan Workshop

Getting a small business loan can be a challenging process. Learn the "5 C's of Credit," how to develop a winning loan proposal and what you need to know to position your business to be "bankable" before you meet with a lender. Presented by The Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and the Oakland County Business Center.

Thursday, April 5, 9 a.m.-noon.

The fee is \$20 per person (make checks payable to SCORE). Includes: Handouts and SBA Source Book. No refunds.



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# Home Expo pros see rebound in economy

By Julie Brown  
 O&E Staff Writer

Jason Benward of Canton is remodeling manager for Horton Plumbing & Remodeling of Plymouth, and among some 135 vendors at the 11th annual Canton Home Expo March 3-4. He and other business people were seeing plenty of potential customers those days at the Summit on the Park in Canton.

"The 'age in place,' we call it," said Benward, who cites taller toilets and step-in shower replacements for older people who wish to stay in their homes.

"And they're maintenance-free, which is nice," he said of the upgrades. "There's no grout or caulk."

Benward said sales are up, "especially in Canton. Canton right now is booming, which is great. We love serving Canton." His business dates back to 1985.



The Canton Home Expo draws a big crowd each year of those eager to learn about home improvement options.

The annual expo, which draws some 5,000-6,000 over a Saturday and Sunday, is sponsored by Canton Township, the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

Lee Brees, general manager of Colonial Heating & Cooling in Plymouth, was also pleased with expo traffic for his first visit to the event.

"It's been very nice," said Livonia resident Brees, whose business started 13 years ago. "Traffic has been good."

He noted a lot of people still can't move from their homes easily, so they fix them up. Rebates and tax credits brought him past business.

"We are seeing a different kind of business coming up," said Brees, who agreed some people buy-

ing bank-owned homes need work done on those.

### Projects in mind

Jennifer and Allen Williams of Canton were first-time visitors to the Home Expo. The homeowners had just arrived.

"We have some ideas," said Allen Williams, who with his wife has two dogs and a cat. They've been in their home six years.

"We haven't done any major work, just general upkeep," he said. They may replace floors in the kitchen/dining areas, as well as updating the bath and the kitchen counters.

"Just checking it out right now," he said. "It's literally five minutes down the road."

Nearby was Shawn Brown of N.A. Mans-



Canton Township staffers answer questions on building and inspections during the recent Home Expo.

Building Center of Canton and Trénton, family-owned since 1900. They

do the Canton show most years, the Downriver resident said.

"Things are picking up," Brown said. "People are anxious for spring, I think. They seem to be fixing up what they have."

When asked about the recession ending, Brown said, "I hope so, definitely hope so."

Jason Breneman of Troy was representing Everdry Waterproofing of Sterling Heights at the Summit.

"People aren't buying new houses, they're fixing them up," Breneman said.

Those who buy fixer-uppers need work done as well, said Breneman, whose employer's been in business since 1977. He said the recession is "possibly" over.

### 'Coming back'

Todd Kroll of Birmingham owns Kroll Construc-

tion of Garden City, in business 51 years. "It's been excellent, it's been good," he said of business. "It's coming back. A lot of interest early in the year."

His customers are looking at bath remodeling, roofing, siding, "a little bit of everything. They're looking to fix up their homes."

Kroll credits a "phenomenal referral program" of word of mouth, supplemented with other promotional efforts, in the business' longevity.

"Our past customers keep us going," he said. "That's how my dad built the business."

John Weyer, Canton building official, was a busy man at the two-day expo. It started as a one-day event and grew, said Weyer, a Canton resident.

Some 135 vendors come, mostly from southeast Michigan. "We've even had them come from as far as Ohio," Weyer said.

Some vendors have attended yearly since the start. Customers have projects in mind and can get answers.

"They can come out and within a couple hours go through the show," he said. Free admission's also a draw, and vendors pay less than at other shows.

The Home Depot sponsors workshops for kids. The Detroit Carpenters Council was outside raffle off benches.

Weyer said the expo helps businesses, residents and township officials interested in code enforcement.

"So it's just a win-win. It's just very positive," he said. "We're happy to see the new housing starts," he added, noting many others wish to stay put and upgrade homes.

## HOMES SOLD-REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS/WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 28 to Dec. 2, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

1515 Aberdeen St	\$140,000
39474 Cherry Hill Rd	\$120,000
50221 Cherry Hill Rd	\$87,000
41569 Conner Creek Dr	\$201,000
624 Constitution St	\$158,000
1939 Echo Woods Dr	\$253,000
7198 Fox Woods Dr	\$232,000
50036 Grant St	\$220,000
2240 Hogan Way	\$169,000
42135 Hystone St	\$110,000
46510 Killarney Cir	\$175,000
45639 Morningside Dr	\$272,000

228 Patriot St	\$187,000
1952 Pebble Creek Dr	\$133,000
47575 Pembroke Dr	\$80,000
44555 Penny Ct	\$155,000
2458 River Woods Dr N	\$235,000
263 S Village Way	\$75,000
42237 Saratoga Cir	\$137,000
6165 Stonetree Dr	\$134,000
454 Sylvan Dr	\$405,000
6844 Woodmere Dr	\$220,000

GARDEN CITY

31704 Bridge St	\$90,000
32601 Windsor St	\$83,000

LIVONIA

33086 Allen St	\$110,000
9646 Arcola St	\$75,000
14637 Arden St	\$32,000
36218 Barkley St	\$123,000
16653 Fairway St	\$125,000
17960 Floral St	\$34,000
16472 Golfview St	\$230,000
9014 Hartel St	\$40,000

9331 Hix Rd	\$21,000
9794 Houghton St	\$58,000
29168 Jacquelyn Dr	\$70,000
33182 Martin St	\$145,000
15579 Oak Dr	\$160,000
15672 Oporto St	\$132,000
9434 Patton St	\$75,000
37877 Pickford Dr	\$195,000
18518 Queensbury Dr	\$297,000
14929 Richfield St	\$120,000
37319 Seabrook Dr	\$305,000
19487 Whitby Dr	\$183,000

NORTHVILLE

16865 Carriage Way	\$112,000
417 Dubuar St	\$398,000
16587 Dundalk Ln	\$275,000
50635 Hawthorne Ct	\$345,000
41309 Lagoon Ct	\$99,000
17212 Lake View Cir	\$310,000
45529 Pebble Beach Ct	\$450,000
39830 Rockcrest Cir	\$104,000

PLYMOUTH

551 Adams St	\$207,000
761 Ann St	\$60,000
9956 Fellows Creek Dr	\$520,000
12488 Howland Park Dr	\$438,000
46850 N Territorial Rd	\$562,000
40514 Newport Dr	\$50,000
14319 Northville Rd	\$135,000
968 Penniman Ave	\$635,000
375 Roe St	\$220,000
1199 S Sheldon Rd	\$40,000
1348 Sheridan St	\$235,000
50495 Waterstone Ct	\$349,000
15054 Willowbrook Ln	\$214,000

REDFORD

12822 Brady	\$58,000
14063 Breakfast Dr	\$129,000
9935 Hemingway	\$52,000
19149 Kinloch	\$44,000
26501 Lyndon	\$55,000
13520 Marion	\$43,000
14111 Mercedes	\$59,000
10029 Royal Grand	\$40,000

12841 Tecumseh	\$45,000
14371 Wormer	\$60,000

WESTLAND

2047 Ackley Ave	\$12,000
31757 Arenac Ct	\$20,000
1637 Ashby St	\$50,000
37577 Barkridge Cir	\$35,000
32714 Benson Dr	\$82,000
32725 Birchwood St	\$36,000
30603 Burlington St	\$64,000
35920 Fernwood St	\$91,000
1554 Flynn St	\$19,000
29129 Joy Rd	\$10,000
815 Judith St	\$115,000
35191 Melton St	\$55,000
8305 Opal Dr	\$30,000
35535 Pheasant Ln	\$73,000
38048 Sherwood St	\$22,000
35123 Stacy St	\$25,000
27700 Trailbrooke Cir	\$34,000

## HOMES SOLD-REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS/OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 21-25, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BIRMINGHAM

212 Puritan Ave	\$550,000
411 S Old Woodward Ave Unit	

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

4895 Franklin Rd	\$225,000
6702 Cathedral Dr	\$156,000
5507 Farmers Ln	\$265,000
1847 Golf Ridge Dr	\$390,000
2388 Klingensmith Rd	\$320,000
5495 Shadow Ln	\$22,000

COMMERCE TOWNSHIP

4700 Botany Gln	\$30,000
5618 Deerwood	\$241,000
3260 Melmoor St	\$73,000

FARMINGTON

33615 Hillcrest Dr	\$55,000
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FARMINGTON HILLS

37814 Blossom Ln	\$185,000
34645 Brittany Dr	\$248,000
33449 Colfax Dr	\$77,000
27654 E Echo Vly	\$40,000
34743 Huntington Ct	\$775,000
23040 Montclair St	\$57,000
28400 Rollcrest Rd	\$90,000
29760 Sierra Point Cir	\$125,000
29860 W 12 Mile Rd	\$31,000

FRANKLIN

30500 Rosemond Dr	\$148,000
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NOVI

45565 Bristol Cir	\$288,000
21403 Chase Dr	\$429,000
41691 Magnolia Ct	\$90,000
23310 Meadowbrook Rd	\$119,000
302 South Lake Dr	\$150,000

SOUTH LYON

23665 Country Club Dr	\$110,000
54901 Grenelefe Cir W	\$304,000
54907 Grenelefe Cir W	\$50,000

52528 Trailwood Dr	\$125,000
52528 Trailwood Dr	\$2,000

SOUTHFIELD

27100 Harvard Rd	\$63,000
28402 Idensbrook Ct	\$190,000
18455 Kesh St	\$48,000
17176 Melrose St	\$50,000
30058 Sparkleberry Dr	\$255,000

WHITE LAKE

8835 Cove Ct	\$175,000
9105 Steephollow Dr	\$185,000

### Real Estate Career Seminar

A free Real Estate Career Seminar will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 15, 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.

### 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 mort-

gages. 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 FreeForeclosureTour.com.

### New face

RE/MAX Classic welcomes aboard veteran Realtor Shangrila Seawright to the Can-



Shangrila Seawright

ton office. Seawright (Shay) joins the group of professional associates as an associate Realtor of the multi-office southeast Michigan real estate brokerage. Seawright specializes in residential and commercial sales and brings with her a strong background in bank-owned and investment properties.

"Shangrila is a wealth of knowledge in residential investment properties in

Western Wayne and Oakland counties," said broker/owner Carol Boji. "Her high level of energy and enthusiasm is a welcome addition to our office and our firm. We are very happy to have her join us."

### 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.

### Finance Seminar

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 one-hour 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.



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**Homes For Rent** FENTON/ HARTLAND - 7189 Parkwood 3 BR, 3.5 bath, 2 car, \$1,350. Call:810-333-2666

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**ESTATE AUCTION Sat., Mar. 17, 7pm** Cultural Center 525 Farmer Plymouth MI Furniture; Glassware Collectibles & Antiques Household Items

**Crossword Puzzle Who Needs It?** ACROSS 1 Pay hike? 7 Chore 11 Syptic pencil stuff 15 Predicament 19 Model Kim 20 Press 21 It's a long story 22 "Inter —" 23 Start of a remark 26 Fluff the flour 27 Mr. Hammar-skjold 28 Composer Satie 29 Majors or Marvin 30 Layers 32 Had kittens? 33 Postern and portucillis 36 Main squeeze 37 — culpa 39 Heavenly hunter 40 "I bet!" 41 Part 2 of remark 46 Faux — 49 Fireworks reaction 50 — Boulevard (1950 film) 51 They may be rolled

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**Appliances** GAS/PROPANE STOVE White, about 2 yrs. old. \$175. 248-444-8942

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Tues. at 3 pm for Thursday

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All advertising published in this Newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department: Observer & Eccentric/Hometown Weekly Newspapers, 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170, 866-887-2737. We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper & only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ads the first time it appears & reporting any errors immediately. The newspaper will not issue credit for errors in ads after the FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, only the first insertion will be credited. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination". This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 724983 3-31-72). Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter & spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage & support an affirmative advertising & marketing program in which there are no barriers.

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# Unconventional places to expand your network

**Rachel Zupke,**  
CareerBuilder.com writer

Update résumé. Write cover letter. Post résumé online. Apply for jobs. Wait to hear from potential employers. Repeat.

Such was the process back in the days when job seeking was a simple process -- simpler than it is now, anyway. Unfortunately, in today's ultra competitive job market, job seekers can't afford to be ordinary. As a result, they are turning to untraditional methods of job searching. Betsy Richards, director of career resources at Kaplan University, an online university, says it's important for job seekers to realize that they shouldn't be using one method or the other but rather, they should use the two strategies together.

"In today's market, you need to reach out to people who could give you access to new networks and employment communities outside of your field and your normal work group," Richards says. "Even effective job seekers may have exhausted their network and have to expand it. It could mean the difference between a successful and unsuccessful job search."

Many job candidates are finding their job searches are taking longer than expected, Richards says. In fact, 70 percent of job searches last four weeks or longer, according to a recent study by CareerBuilder.com. For these people, traditional strategies won't cut it.

"You have to use every strategy that is at your disposal. Each person has to find tactics that are a fit for them," Richards says.

Some job seekers, however, are afraid to step out of their comfort zones to do something different to attract an employer's attention. They're afraid cold-calling a company or standing on the street wearing their résumé as a billboard will be too bold and turn employers away.

"You can never be too bold. If you are not bold, you won't get the contact and you won't be taken seriously," Richards says. "Some people walk a fine line between being bold and being obnoxious. For most people, the real issue is that they are shy or uncomfortable. However, some might misconstrue a low-key approach as laziness."

For job seekers who have struck out with the traditional routes to find employment, it's time to take the job search to the streets and use creative ways to get noticed. Here are five nonprofessional places and events to consider as career opportunities, according to Richards:

1. **Sporting events.** Schmoozing with fellow alumni in a relaxed atmosphere can be a great career move. "At a [Miami] Dolphins football game just last week, a fellow I was sitting next to struck up a conversation with me and introduced himself. This led to a discussion about what each of us did for a living and he let me know that he was looking for a new job. Little did he know that I advised professionals on their career advancement and could help him plot his strategy," Richards says.
2. **Social networking sites.** Each day, millions of people make connections through Facebook, MySpace, BrightFuse and LinkedIn. Consider sending out a note to your "friends" and "connections" about your job search. "Job seekers should reach out to their own network to be sure friends and colleagues know what you are looking for [in a job]," Richards says. "You have to research the people in the network and the

companies and organizations they are affiliated with. Then, you have to actively ask your contacts to introduce you to the others and follow through."

3. **Local farmers markets.** These community hubs are great places to trade information and chat it up. "You never know who is picking out peaches next to you! The same is true at the grocery store," Richards says. "These are relaxed environments where job seekers can strike up a conversation with another shopper by talking about their favorite types of apples or kicking around ideas for recipes and preparation. All of this can lead up to an introduction and sharing your career status and experience."

4. **Conferences not related to your expertise.** For service professionals, attending industry events and seminars that attract experts outside of your traditional industry or peer group is a good way to regenerate your network. "There are a lot of career changers out there. One approach for those seeking to move into a new industry is to attend a conference focused on that professional arena," Richards suggests. "To start building this new network, you may attend conferences about topics outside of your field. Building a new network of

contacts and meeting professionals with different networks is important."

5. **Nail salon, hairdresser, local restaurant or the gym.** The places we frequent can be an oversight when it comes to the job search. The opportunities to strike up conversations with people you are already familiar with could be a breeding ground for job opportunities. "The person providing services to you at a salon comes in contact with lots of people who share their personal information," Richards says. "Lots of clients will express frustrations and be very open. While you are in the chair, the situation may even inspire a conversation with the person next to you."

Here are four ways Richards says you can pitch yourself to prospective network contacts when in nonprofessional situations:

1. **Prepare an "elevator speech"** of three to four sentences that introduces your most marketable skills. Keep it succinct at no more than 20 seconds.
2. **When networking, introduce yourself** and ask the people what they do for work. After they tell you, you have the opportunity to let them know that you are searching for a job. Explain what type of position fits your particular background. You should ask if they have heard of anything that could be a match for your skills.
3. **Always carry business cards** no matter what the circumstance. Keep them in your wallet, handbag or cardholder at all times.
4. **Make sure your résumé and/or bio and cover letter are prepared** so you can quickly send out the information if a contact is made.

Rachel Zupke is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.



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For small Livonia general contractor. Responsibilities & Requirements include: Sound character, mature & personable; good work ethic; proficient communicator; extensive computer skills; various duties related to position; possible work at jobsites. Experience: Min 3 years building construction related experience preferred. Salary commensurate with construction abilities and experience. Email resume to: jgriffin@summitcompany.net

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Send Resume & References To: **Howell Care Center 3003 W. Grand River Howell, MI 48843**

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**LIFE ENRICHMENT COORDINATOR**  
Senior Community in Wayne County looking for experienced individual to implement creative programs. Email resume: [lmklloran@gmail.com](mailto:lmklloran@gmail.com) or fax to: 248-735-1010

**Help Wanted-Medical**  
**MA/FRONT DESK - FULL TIME**  
w/benefits. exp needed busy internal medicine practice. M-F: 8:30-5pm Ann Arbor, Fax resume to: 734-973-4810

**Help Wanted-Medical**  
**RN/LPN, Exp'd.**  
An established health care Co. in Western Wayne County is looking for an RN/LPN capable of overseeing seniors in an assisted living environment. Must have exceptional leadership & clinical skills.  
Fax resume: (248) 735-1010

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**RESIDENTIAL ASSISTANTS NEEDED**  
Willowbrook Rehabilitation provides all disciplines of outpatient rehabilitation and off-site residential care to adults recovering from Traumatic Brain Injuries. We are currently seeking dynamic individuals to work at one of our beautiful residential facilities in providing assistance to our clients in the development and promotion of life skills. CENAs, Direct Care Workers, COTAs, Rec Therapists or Psych majors preferred. Full or part-time, afternoon or midnight shifts with rotating weekends available.  
Call: 810-227-0119, ext. 206 or ext. 212 for an interview.

**Help Wanted-Medical**  
**MediLodge of Millard Hiring Full Time SOCIAL WORKER**  
At least 2 years exp. working in skilled nursing facility. Be organized, multi-task oriented, good communication skills. Able to work in a fast paced environment. Email resumes to: [kmnoday@medilodge.com](mailto:kmnoday@medilodge.com)

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**PEDIATRIC CRITICAL CARE PHYSICIAN**  
Wanted to provide medical care to patients at Royal Oak MI hospital. Send resume to Michael Woolsey, Human Resources, Beaumont Health System, 3601 W. 13 Mile Rd, Royal Oak, MI 48073  
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**CNA NEEDED** - Hartland assisted living needs experienced CNA. All shifts available. \$8.75-\$12.00/hr. Call for interview: 810-632-7760 or fax resume to: 810-632-6890  
**FRONT DESK, Part-Time.**  
Exp'd. only apply. Farmington Hills. No weekends. Fax resume: 248-855-0190

**Help Wanted-Food/Beverage**  
**BARTENDERS & SERVERS**  
Needed for New Tag's Sports Bar. Apply in person: 1535 Old US-23, Hartland bwn Noon-3pm Mon-Fri. 810-632-5080

**Help Wanted-Food/Beverage**  
**CARETEL INNS LOCATED IN BRIGHTON IS LOOKING FOR CONTINGENT COOKS**  
for all shifts. This person must have a minimum of 1 year exp. cooking in a commercial setting. Must enjoy working w/elderly people and have great customer service skills. Previous exp. in a Long Term Care Environment is strongly preferred. Apply in person at: 1014 E. Grand River, Brighton, MI 48116 or send resume to [hrcaretelbrighton@gmail.com](mailto:hrcaretelbrighton@gmail.com)

**Help Wanted-Food/Beverage**  
**LINE COOKS**  
(Free Golf) Apply within Coyote Golf Club 26700 Milford Rd. New Hudson, (248) 486-1474

**Help Wanted-Food/Beverage**  
**ZUKEY LAKE TAVERN**  
in Pinckney is now hiring COOKS. ask for Chef Mike. Call: 810-231-1441

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**ACCOUNTANT/CONTROLLER**  
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Please send resumes to Box 1888 c/o The Livingston County Daily Press & Argus, 323 E. Grand River Howell, MI 48843

**Help Wanted-Professional**  
**Childcare Services-Licensed**  
In-Home Childcare, FT Competitive rates. CPR & First Aid. Novi. 248-756-5184 [lisa@goldenclique.com](mailto:lisa@goldenclique.com)

**Help Wanted-Professional**  
**Elderly Care & Assistance**  
LOVING HOME For mentally challenged adults has openings for residents. Private rooms. (517) 223-3655.

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