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The winner will be selected at random Sept. 5.

#### **Rep. Heise** holding coffee hours

State Rep. Kurt Heise is sponsoring coffee hours to give residents a convenient opportunity to



meet with him locally. Heise will talk with

# **School district looking for input** about Silver Springs opening

Goal is to have someone in place before start of school

#### **By Lonnie Huhman** Staff Writer

Even with a low turnout, the message from the first of two input sessions for Silver Springs' parents was that they want the new principal to keep moving the school in a positive direction.

The first public meeting was held Monday afternoon, with three people showing up to offer Northville Public Schools Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher their ideas on what traits the next leader of the elementary school should have.

"We need someone who puts the kids as the focal point," parent Martin Testasecca said.

Testasecca, whose son is a third-grader at Silver Springs, said he has spoken with many parents and heard many opinions regarding former Prin-



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dayo Akinyemi greets Northville Schools Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher at Silver Springs Elementary on Aug. 13. Gallagher was at the school that day to answer questions and concerns that parents had over the exit of former principal Scott Snyder. Akinyemi has a son entering Silver Springs' kindergarten.

cipal Scott Snyder's resignation Aug. 6. He said what they wanted "was someone like Scott" who got down to the kids' level and had an open-door policy with staff and parents. According to David Rodgers, Northville's

human resources director, as of Aug. 13 there were 80 resumes/applications submitted for the opening. He said this

"Whenever there is a change, you want to know why. I just wanted to make my concerns known and make sure there is a plan going forward." **DAYO AKINYEMI** 

gives the district a good pool to pick from considering the time line.

Teachers and staff have also been given the opportunity to give input. Gallagher said what they have heard so far is that Silver Springs' staff wants to see the new person respectful of what's in place already, engaged and has a vision to move

Piease see SCHOOLS, A2



Northville baseball community rallying around one of its own

Silver Springs parent

resi-Heise dents from

7:30-9 a.m. Friday, Aug. 17, at Panera Bread, located at 20140 Haggerty Road, just south of Eight Mile, in Northville. No appointment is

necessary.

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 (855) REPKURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

Attorney General Bill Schuette announced the charges against McCotter's staff members at a press conference Thursday morning.

### **AG: McCotter not** charged, but was 'asleep at the switch'

By Ken Abramczyk Staff Writer

Former U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter was admonished Aug. 9 by state Attorney General Bill Schuette for McCotter's lack of control over his staff, but Schuette added that his office did not have evidence of his involvement in the alleged signature fraud.

"McCotter was asleep at the switch," Schuette said. "He did not mind the store. There was no guidance or supervision whatsoever."

Three members of McCotter's staff were arraigned Friday in two separate district courts in connection with alleged fraud surrounding nominating petitions filed in May required to declare McCotter's candidacy to run for re-election.

On Thursday, Schuette announced the following charges:

• Don Yowchuang, 33, deputy district director, of Farmington Hills faces 17 charges filed in Livo-

#### Piease see MCCOTTER, A12

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

The Northville youth baseball community and friends are coming together to help longtime resident Kelly Bell by playing a benefit baseball game that is being billed as the "Then and Now Game."

According to Jeff Harp, an organizer, the event will feature former



Northville High School, Northville Travel and Northville Little League players from the 1980s vs. a group of

Kelly Bell

current coaches, board members and contributors to Northville baseball and Northville youth sports.

Harp said about six months ago, Bell, 44, also a former NHS baseball player and graduate, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. The idea came about after he got back in touch with many high school friends to talk about his diagnosis.

According to Harp, Bell told him "some of the best times of his life were back when we played Northville Little League baseball together."

"After hearing that, and that he has come upon some hard times with his medical bills,

#### **'THEN AND NOW** GAME'

When: Noon Saturday, Aug. 18

Where: Hillside Middle School, 775 N. Center (near **Eight Mile Road**) What: Baseball game and home run derby featuring many former and current Northville baseball players to benefit Northville resident Kelly Bell, who is suffering from pancreatic cancer.

a few of us have decided to put together a cancer benefit baseball game to support Kelly and his family," Harp said.

One of the cool aspects of the benefit is it will have Bell's friends renewing their childhood baseball dreams again by playing a game of hardball. Harp said many current youth coaches will be out there playing.

The benefit game will take at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 18, with a home run derby starting prior to the game at noon. It will be played at the Hillside Middle School field off of Eight Mile Road.

> lhuhman@hometownlife.com (248) 437-2011



# What do you Geek?

#### Northville District Library takes part in national campaign

**By Lonnie Huhman** Staff Writer

A2

(NR)

What do you Geek? That's the question this summer at the Northville District Library, which is taking part in the 'Geek the Library' public awareness campaign, which aims to highlight what people are passionate about and how libraries can support them.

This is all in an effort to heighten awareness about the critical funding issues libraries face.

Public relations librarian Karen Fehl said the campaign features educational material that introduces 'geek' as a verb, and encourages community members to talk about what they 'geek' — whether it is cooking, traveling, art, or superheroes. This is sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation.

"The campaign illustrates that everyone is passionate about something - everyone geeks something — and the library supports them all," Fehl said.

Since the start in June, Geek posters featuring staff members, Library Board of Trustee members, Friends of the Library members and

community members and what they geek have been featured throughout the library and on its web site.

Events have been planned around the campaign with one recent one being the visit by Katherine Yung and Joe Grimm, the authors of Coney Detroit. Jeannine Davidson, the library's adult services coordinator, said they had a great time with the book as well as learning about and eating Coney dogs.

"Our 'Geek' campaign is designed to start conversations about the vital role libraries and librarians play in today's challenging environment," said Library Director Julie Herrin. "We hope it will spark important community discussions about how public libraries can remain strong." For more information, visit the library's website at www.northvillelibrary.org or call (248) 349-3020. Library hours are Monday-Thursday 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Friday

and Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The library will reopen on Sundays beginning Sept. 9.

lhuhman@hometownlife.com (248) 437-2011



# **Heating & Cooling**



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Katherine Yung, co-author of the book "Coney Detroit" chows down on her subject during an Aug. 9 visit to the Northville District Library. While there, Yung talked why she and Joe Grimm wrote about the iconic Detroit meal-in-a-bun. Attendees were also treated to a real coney or two during the presentation.



Katherine Yung, right, addresses a capacity crowd on Aug. 9 at the Northville **District Library** about her book "Coney Detroit". it was just one of the events the library has scheduled around its "Geek the Library" campaign.

#### SCHOOLS

Continued from page A1

the school forward. Parent Dayo Akinyemi, whose son is going into kindergarten, said he was nervous about Snyder leaving, but hopeful this could be an opportunity to move in a positive direction. He went to the input session to basically get an update and see how the process will proceed. He said he and his family moved to

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Northville because of the schools, specifically Silver Springs, and they were feeling a little bit in the dark after Snyder's decision.

Snyder's decision came in the wake of the Board of Education's vote in April to not automatically extend his contract next year.

The deadline for applications is Aug. 16. Next week, selected applicants will attend an initial onsite interview with the Central Office Leadership Team and building principal representatives. Gallagher said finalists will participate in a full panel interview with representatives from Silver

interview with Rodgers and Gallagher will follow the Silver Springs panel interviews.

District officials hope to be able to bring forward a candidate for board consideration Aug. 28.

Staff and community members can submit input via email to Gallag-Ma@northville.k12.mi.us

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"Whenever there is a change, you want to know why," Akinyemi said. "I just wanted to make my concerns known and make sure there is a plan going forward."

Springs (teachers, parents), an elementary principal representative and district administrator representative. The final

or RodgerDa@northville. k12.mi.us.

> lhuhman@hometownlife.com (248) 437-2011





PHOTOS JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

#### **Gorgeous gardens**

Trudy Radiwon (left) and Vicky Howard (center) tour the Sheldon Road garden of the Blasius family during the July 11 Country Garden Club's 19th Annual Northville Garden Walk. The walk, lasting all day, featured six gardens in Northville Township and the club's proceeds were to go to "promote local and national organizations that promote environmental causes."



Chris Flaviani mans the tea and cookie table at the Cady inn at Mill Race Village during the July 11 Country Garden Club Garden Walk. Visitors who started out on their six-stop tour at Mill Race were invited in to the Inn for some ice tea and cookies by the club's volunteers.

### Patterson improving after car accident

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson underwent a second surgery to repair orthopedic injuries Monday afternoon, part of the original treatment plan formulated by doctors following serious injuries he sustained in a car crash Aug. 10.

Patterson's doctors said the surgery went very well.

In a report released Monday, Auburn Hills police said neither Patterson, nor his driver -- retired Michigan State Police Trooper James Cram, 60, of Owosso -were wearing seat belts at the time of the crash.



**Oakland County Execu**tive L. Brooks Patterson is recovering from injuries he sustained in a car accident Aug. 10.

Police said it appears that the driver of a Volkswagen Passat, a 31-year-

old Royal Oak resident, failed to yield the right of way, causing the crash. He wasn't wearing a seat belt either. Both he and his passenger were hospitalized; police have not released their names.

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, August 16, 2012

The police report will be forwarded to the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office to determine whether tickets will be issued.

Patterson, 73, remains at McLaren-Oakland Hospital in Pontiac, listed in stable condition with no date set for discharge. Gerald Poisson, chief

deputy executive, said doctors expect a full recovery, but Patterson will have some extensive physical therapy he'll have to go through.

Patterson, who suffered wrist, hip and leg injuries, underwent surgery after the accident, which happened about 4 p.m. Friday at Opdyke and Walton in Auburn Hills.

His re-election campaign -- for an unprecedented sixth term -- may be abbreviated.

"We're running on his 20 years as county executive," Poisson said. "He's not going to be walking in any parades, but the proof is in his performance."

--Gannett News Service

#### **Exhibit/auction to benefit Doctors Without Borders**



The Northville Art House, located at 215 W. Cady Street, will present its second "Beyond Borders: Mosaic Exhibit and Auction" benefitting Doctors Without Borders. An opening reception will be held 6-9 p.m., Friday, Sept. 7, and the exhibit will then run Wednesdays-Saturdays from 1-5 p.m. through Sept. 22. The auction collection features 133 mosaic works from artists representing 14 countries, and is an example of the diverse creativity in this againburgeoning art form. The work may be viewed at the Art House and is available for bid in a September auction at an online auction website, www.BiddingForGood.com/DWB-MSF. Pictured is "Moony Mums" by Flair Robinson. The first event, held in April 2011, raised more than \$20,000 for the benefit. Event Organizer Lin Schorr of Lin Schorr Mixed Media Mosaics is again curating the event with assistance from the Northville Art House. For more information, contact Schorr at Lin@ LinSchorr.com.

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#### **Two Robo wins**

The NCA Lights robotics team of Northville won the Junior Game division and the All 2 JESUS team of Northville won the Hexapod Robo Sumo division at the 13th annual Robofest World Championship held at Lawrence Technological University on May 19. This year 1,630 students on 502 teams from nine states and four other countries participated in the annual Robofest competition founded in 2000 by CJ Chung, professor of computer science at Lawrence Tech. In this year's competition game, a rescue robot had to circumnavigate a rectangular platform, grab silver balls on top of towers and then deliver the rescued balls to the "hospital," a black box on one end of the platform. During the mission, the robot had to measure the distance between tower buildings and report it in millimeters. In hexapod sumo, the teams had to program and build Bioloid Premium robots to follow a line, knock over a water bottle, climb onto an octagon-shaped ring, and knock the other robot off the table. Pictured (I to r) are Lawrence Tech Professor CJ Chung, NCA Lights Coach Fred Brauchler, Bryan Brauchler, Ben Lenze, Alex Perry, Nick Nunu, Lawrence Tech College of Arts and Sciences Dean Hsiao-Ping Moore, and Lawrence Tech Mathematics and Computer Science Department Chair David Bindschadler.



Shown (I to r) are Molly Pelic, brother Max Pelic, and Dean Hsiao-Ping Moore of the college of Arts and Sciences at Lawrence

# Five candidates file for school board election

#### **By Lonnie Huhman** Staff Writer

Five candidates have filed to run for the three openings on the Northville Public School Board of Education in the Nov. 6 election.

Current Board President Dottie Garrity. whose term is up this year, did not file for reelection.

However, recent appointees Mathew Wilk and Cynthia Jankowski

both are looking to continue their board tenure. Both were selected by the board this past year to fill in for the departed Anita Bartschat and Joan Wadsworth, whose term was up this year. Board members serve a fouryear term.

The filing deadline was Tuesday afternoon. In addition to Wilk and Jankowski, others to file with clerk's officer were Michael Barrett, Adam Phelps and Roland Hwang. Hwang and Barrett had previously vied for the appointments given to Wilk and Jankowski.

The stated primary functions of the board is to lead the district by establishing a balanced budget, setting policy, hiring personnel and giving leadership to the overarching mission/ vision for the schools.

lhuhman@hometownlife.com (248) 437-2011

#### NORTHVILLE SCHOOL BRIEFS

#### **Corral Club** membership

The Northville Educational Foundation (NEF) is encouraging Corral Club members to renew their membership this year. This is an especially exciting year for football with many improvements, including new artificial turf, a new scoreboard, new fencing and more the newly dedicated Tom Holzer Ford Field.

These significant improvements were achieved through the dedication and donations from community members and TURF CLUB. The NEF is proud to be part of TURF CLUB and is extending an extra boost of support with this year's Corral Club Sports & Music Package. A total of \$100 from each package sold will be donated to TURF CLUB. Corral Club members will be able to view the game from the field for the

inaugural game Friday, Aug. 24.

The deadline for NEF to receive order forms and checks is Friday, Aug. 17. Checks must be payable to Northville Educational Foundation. For more information, visit www. northvilleedfoundation. org.

#### Community **Financial wraps** up student-run credit unions

The 33 local, studentrun credit unions, supported by Community Financial Credit Union, recently finished another successful school year of banking, helping students not only learn to save, but also valuable skills for the future.

#### Early Childhood programs

Early Childhood Education and Extended Day Programs are now regis-

tering for fall for parent/ child classes for 2- and 3year-olds; half-day prekindergarten classes for 3- and 4-year-olds; and half-day pre-kindergarten and school-day prekindergarten plus classes for 4- and 5-year-olds.

Call (248) 344-8465 for more information or visit the Early Childhood office at 49775 Six Mile Road.

#### **Garden Club** scholars

The Northville Garden Club has awarded \$1,000 scholarships to Northville High School students Maria Benjamin and Cayla Rhodes. Maria will be attending the University of Michigan as part of their Residential School and hopes to pursue a career in writing and directing. Cayla will be attending Northwestern University and hopes to pursue a career in medicine.





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#### **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

#### Auditions

The Marquis Theatre, located at 135 E. Main Street in downtown Northville, is holding auditions for its upcoming show, Halloween Hocus Pocus, at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 19. The auditions are open for children 8-15 years old. For more information, call the theatre at (248) 349-8110.

#### Jazz at Elks Lodge

The Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 in Plymouth features live jazz on the last Tuesday of every month from 7-10 p.m. On Aug. 28, clarinetist Dave Bennett will be performing with Doug Cobb on drums, Kurt Krahnke on bass and Cliff Monear on keyboard. Step back in time as they play the tunes of Benny Goodman, Pete Fountain, Artie Shaw and other clarinet greats. Visit www.davebennett. com to hear some great clips of their music. There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres.

For more information, please call (734) 453-1780 or e-mail plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com. The Lodge is located at 41700 Ann Arbor Road.

#### **Grief support**

Ward Presbyterian Church is sponsoring an eight week grief workshop, From Grief to New Hope beginning on Sept. 10. This free workshop is open to anyone who is grieving after the death of a loved one and will be presented by Cathy Clough, founder/executive director of New Hope Center for Grief Support. Each session will begin with a presentation about one aspect of grief followed by small group participation led by trained facilitators. Attendees will be placed in groups with others who have had similar losses.

The workshop will meet for eight consecutive Monday nights from 7-8:45 p.m. at Ward Church located on 6 Mile and Haggerty Roads in Northville. For registration information call New Hope at (248)348-0115. For information about From Grief to New Hope workshops offered in other cities throughout southeastern Michigan or other age and loss specific grief support groups offered by New Hope Center for Grief Support call New

Grief Support call New Hope or visit our website www.newhopecenter.net.

#### **Food for Concern**

Northville Civic Concern is in need of canned and boxed non-perishable food, especially fruit, cereal and meat products.

Their shelves are close to empty. Donations of non-expired groceries can be dropped off at the Civic Concern Office at 43261 W. Seven Mile in the Highland Lakes Shopping Plaza on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 10 a.m.-1 p.m. During other times, donations may be left at Cassel's Restaurant or at Worldwide Alterations also in the Highland Lakes Shopping Plaza. In addition, donations are accepted at the UPS Store in downtown Northville.

They accept gas gift cards and monetary donations as well. You can call (248) 344-1033 for further information.

In addition, the Northville Farmers' Market is now receiving food donations to benefit the families who depend on Civic Concern for nutrition assistance.

Donations from home gardens or items purchased at the Farmers' Market (or canned goods) will be accepted at the white block building (northwest corner of Sheldon and 7 Mile roads) every Thursday, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Oct. 1. Garden Gatherers is helping to alleviate hunger by collecting fresh produce for Northville Civic Concern in the dirt parking lot behind First Presbyterian Church (200 E. Main Street, Northville) from 9 a.m. to noon every Saturday through Oct. 1.

Bring tomatoes and other produce from your garden or purchased produce from a farmers market or grocery store. You can also donate money, which is tax deductible. Make checks out to Civic Concern and bring it on Saturdays.

#### Food handout at church

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 distribution takes place the third Thursday at St. Kenneth Catholic Church (14951 North Haggerty Road). All recipients must be

pre-registered.

This is a supplemental food program so it may be used in addition to other assistance programs. Bridge Card holders automatically quality, but need to 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 9:30-11:30 a.m. at St. Kenneth Catholic Church. Call Plymouth Community United Way at (734) 453-6879, ext. 7.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

#### **Giving blood**

Hannah Sims snaps a photo of Eric Henzi on Aug. 10 as he donates during a Red Cross blood drive at Northville High School. The Red Cross, Iow on blood — as they are most summers — will return to Northville High once the students are back from their summer vacations. For those who would like to help out sooner, there are several local blood drives planned for the area, including from 7 a.m.-12:45 p.m. on Aug. 26 at First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile Road, Northville; and 1-6:45 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30, at VFW Post 4012, 438 S. Main Street, Northville. All donors will be entered into a monthly drawing for a \$500 gasoline card. Donors can contact Diane Risko at (313) 549-7052 or Diane.Risko@redcross.org to set up an appointment.

#### 'The Jungle Book' at the Marquis the Marquis The historic Marquis Theatre in downtown Northville, located at East Main, is currentl running a live produc



Theatre in downtown Northville, located at 135 East Main, is currently running a live production of The Jungle Book. Shows are running now through Sept. 23. For a complete list of times and dates, visit the theatre's website at northvillemarquistheatre. com. The show, featuring local actors, is based on the Kipling classic tale about jungle animals and a boy named Mowgli. Tickets are \$8.50 each, and can be ordered by phone at (248) 349-8110 or at the box office. There are special group rates and reserved seating for groups of 20 or more. Please no children under the age of 3.

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#### **ANSTISS, DARVIN**

Age 85, passed away Aug. 11, 2012. A private service will be held at Crossroads Community Church. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com



DAVID, MARY ANN

Age 89, of Brighton, previously of Garden City, passed away peacefully August 8, 2012. She was born May 3, 1923 in Cincinnati, Ohio daughter of Harold and Anna (Mistler) Murray. She was raised in Northville and graduated from NHS in 1941. Mary Ann was united in marriage to David Sam David on December 31, 1945; they spent 32 loving years together until his death in 1977. During World War II she worked at the Willow Run Bomber Plant. She also taught dance lessons at Arthur Murray Dance Studio in Detroit. Mary Ann was a secretary for Kroger for over 25 years. She was a dedicated mother and a wonderful homemaker. She loved to bake homemade bread and can her own jelly and jams. Mary Ann also enjoyed cooking, painting with acrylics, and travelling. After she retired she travelled all over the world. Mary Ann is survived by her children Davie (Barbara) David of California, Don (Wanda) David of Georgia, Ann Cox of Brighton, Gwenn (Randy Hodges) David of Colorado, and Suzanne (Robert) Kaatz of Texas; her sister Margaret Titus of Arizona; nine grandchildren; and two great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; her hus-band; her brothers, Robert Murray and James Murray; and her grandson Jad Cox. Visitation will be held Friday from 5-8pm. A funeral service will be held Saturday at 1pm with visitation beginning at Noon at Casterline Funeral Home, 122 West Dunlap, Northville. Mary Ann will be laid to rest at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. In lieu of flowers, donations suggested to the Jad Cox Memorial Scholarship Fund, established by Mary Ann in loving memory of her beloved grandson, c/o Garden City Schools, attn: Business Office, 1333 Radcliff, Garden City, MI 48135.



#### GREEN, HOWARD

Age 81, of Winter Haven, FL, formerly of Plymouth, MI, passed away on July 30th. He is survived by Lois, his loving wife of 37 years; children Susan Leclercq (Glenn), Cindy Abar (Bob), Jeff, Kari Dorris (Mike) and Dan (Jen); seven grandchildren & four great-grandchildren. Howard was the owner of the former Pease Paint & Wallpaper, Green's Creative Home Center & The Yankee Carpenter. A memorial was held on August 5th at Lake Gibson Church of the Nazarene in Lakeland, FL.

#### HAGAMAN, L. WAYNE

Age 85, passed away Aug. 11, 2012. Memorial service Aug. 16, 11a.m. at Oakland Church of Christ, Southfield. Online guestbook at: www.phillipsfuneral.com



#### HENSON, LINDA JANE

Age 54, passed away August 4, 2012. Loving mother of Charles (Lisa) Graski. Sister of Brenda (Todd) Richardson, Jim Kerster, Victor (Jo) Kerster. Beloved aunt of: Chelsea, Christine, Hannah, Kevin, and Rebecca Kerster. Dear friend of Janice Bossio, Linda Keesler, and Julie Richards. Linda was born December 5, 1957, to William and Irene Kerster. She grew up in Berkley and Highland, Michigan. She graduated from Milford High School in 1976. She was a graduate of Detroit College of Business and was a former employee of Old Kent Bank, KSI, and Waste Management. Her passions included reading, writing, cooking, growing beautiful sunflowers, fishing, and enjoying her peaceful home in Oscoda, MI. Linda's compassion, charity, and humor brightened the lives of all who knew her. We miss you and love you. We will meet again. Family and friends are invited to attend a memorial service at Cornerstone Church in Highland, MI on Satrurday, August 18th at 10:30 a.m. Donations in her memory may be sent to 513 Commercial St., Commerce Twp., MI 48382. Memories of Linda may be shared at:



#### LACHAPELL, KARIN MARIE (MAKI)

Marquette, Michigan. Karin Marie (Maki) LaChapell, age 42, of Marquette, was tragically killed by a hit-and-run driver in Marquette while walking downtown to enjoy the Fourth of July fireworks with her husband, Bryan, who was severly injured as well. Born June 29, 1970 in Trenton, MI. Karin was raised in Highland and graduated Milford High School in 1988. She attended Oakland Community College and graduated from Northern Michigan University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology. Her boundless enthusiasm and positive spirit served her well in her sales career with such companies as Kodak and most recently Coca-Cola. Karin had a way of lifting up and brightening the lives of everyone she met. Through her generosity, at least four organ recipients have now been given the Gift of Life. She active and particularly was enjoyed snowboarding, fishing with her hubby, and her lifetime passion: riding, training, and car-ing for horses. She found true joy in marriage on February 5, 2011 to Bryan LaChapell, who deeply adored her, his "wifey." Karin is survived by her husband, Bryan; her parents, Tom and Beth Maki Negaunee; her sister, Amy of (Carl) Keranen of Lake Linden and their children: Thomas, Erin, Jeff, Meg, Colleen, and Cara; her brother, Andy (Lisa-Anne) Maki of Hartland and their children: Lisa Lynn, Nikolaus, and Hanna; her brother, Matt Maki of the Ukraine; in-laws, JoEllen and Donald LaChapell of Ishpeming; sisters-in-law Jennifer LaChapell and Nicole (Nicholas) LaChapell-Hittle; brothers-in-law Andrew, Jesse, Tyler, and Jordan LaChapell; her two dear friends, Sarah Stevens and Jesse Collins; and her horse of 22 years, Taliesyn. A celebration of Karin's life was held Monday, July 9, 2012 in Negaunee, Michigan. Swanson-Lundquist Funeral Home of Marquette assisted the family. Condolences may be expressed online at:

www.swansonlundquist funeralhome.com

#### PERRY, RUTH SPORE July 26, 1927-August 7, 2012

# Northville teen charged with sexually assaulting 11-year-old boy

#### By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

A Northville teenager was arrested and arraigned on a charge of sexually assaulting an 11year-old boy.

According to the City of Northville Police Department, 18-year-old Joseph Miklos allegedly engaged in unwanted sexual contact with the 11-year-old on July 25. According to reports, Miklos had invited the boy over to play video games at his home on McDonald Drive and while they were in the basement Miklos asked the 11-year-old if he could perform a sexual act on him, which the boy refused. Miklos' mother was upstairs at the time.

It was then reported that Miklos allegedly grabbed the 11-yearold around the back of the head and pushed him onto his stomach and held him down on the couch. He then pulled down the boy's pants and underwear, and allegedly engaged in the unwanted contact.

The case was brought to the police department's attention after the 11year-old's father noticed he was acting like something was bothering him and was having sleep disturbances. The boy told his father what occurred and it was reported. A further interview with the boy was conducted at the Care House in Pontiac. Northville police then issued a warrant for Miklos' arrest. He turned himself in and was arraigned on the warrant on Aug. 8. A pre-trial is scheduled for Aug. 20 at the 35th District Court in front of Judge Jim Plakas.

According to Northville city police Chief Gary Goss, the suspect is reported to "hang around" with several youths in the same age group as the victim and that live in the area. He said if parents suspect their child may have been in contact with the suspect, they should speak with them about it.

lhuhman@hometownlife.com (248) 437-2011



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Construction barrels, barriers and holes of varying sizes will greet commuters along Haggerty between Six and Seven Mile until, as its road surface gets a much-needed renovation. Traffic at the moment is being squeezed down to one lane in each direction.

# Haggerty, Schoolcraft entrances to remain open during roadwork

Lane closures and delays can be expected this week through October while Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile is resurfaced. Students, employees and visitors are encouraged to allow extra time when driving to Schoolcraft College's campus on Hagceed in two phases. In the first phase, the two outside lanes will be closed, leaving the three interior lanes available for traffic. In the second phase, the interior lanes will be closed for repair and the outside lanes will be open. If any of five Schoolcraft entrances class for the fall semester. In addition, work is expected to be suspended after 3 p.m. Friday, Aug. 31, through Labor Day weekend until Sept. 4

The college is using its website, e-mail and social media to keep the college community informed about the project. The project is being managed by the Wayne County Roads Division with funding from the county, the Michigan Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Transportation.



#### DeGROAT, DANIELLE ALLYSE

21 years old, of New Hudson, MI, died Sunday August 5, in Green Oak Twp of injuries suffered in an auto accident. Danielle was born October 8, 1990 in Detroit, MI to Shelley and David DeGroat. She grew up in New Hudson with two older brothers, Derek and Jon. Danielle graduated from South Lyon High School in 2008 and from Central Michigan University in May 2012. She worked at Campbell-Ewald in Warren, MI as an Account Coordinator. Danielle resided in New Hudson, MI. Her passions were: dogs, watching baseball, exercising, eating healthy, going to New York City, eating clothes, shoes, purses, and spending time with friends and family. Danielle received her Bachelor of Art degree from CMU where she majored in Integrative Public Relations, Minored in Journalism and graduated Summa Cum Laude with a 3.94 GPA. She was also a member of Delta Zeta sorority at CMU where she was the PR representative. Danielle also graduated Summa Cum Laude from South Lyon HS with a GPA of 3.98. Danielle had a beautiful smile, infectious positive attitude, and a loving spirit. She will be forever missed by all who knew and loved her. Danielle is survived by her parents Shelley and David; grandmother, Irene; big brothers, Derek (Jessica) and Jon; niece, Izabella; nephews, Aiden and Brennan; as well as aunts, uncles, and cousins. A service was held Saturday, August 11, 2012 at Casterline Funeral Home. Inc. of South Lyon. Rev. Gerald S. Hunter from New Hudson United Methodist Church officiated the service. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to Michigan Humane Society, 30300 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 220, Bingham Farms, MI 48025.

www.bureshfuneralhomes.com

#### **KERN, MICHELLE**

Age 48, passed away August 12, 2012, following her battle with cancer. She was born on December 4, 1963, in Ypsilanti, Michigan, daughter of Clifford Williams and Patricia (Chapman) Williams. Michelle was a very caring, personable and compassionate person. She enjoyed traveling and was always present at her children's functions. She will always be remembered for her strength and courage. Most of all, Michelle was a devoted, loving and supportive wife, mother, grandmother, sister and daughter. She was active in the community and worked as an accountant for many years. She touched many lives and will be dearly missed. She is survived by her beloved husband of 24 years, Thomas; her loving children: Holly (Justin) Carrier, Michael and Allison; her grandchildren: Justin, Jackson and Jacob. She is also survived by her father Clifford Williams, her mother Patricia Williams, her sister Marilyn (Joseph) Kramer, her brother Andy Williams and her nieces, nephews, cousins and loving friends. She was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents, Ruth & Robert Chapman and her paternal grandparents, Goldie & Boyd Williams. Visitation will be held on Thursday, August 16th, from 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, August 17th, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 830 S. Lafayette, South Lyon. Memorial contributions may be made to www.livelikeandi.org to help find a cure for cancer. Online guestbook at www.phillipsfuneral.com.

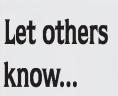
May you find comfort in Family and Friends Online condolences: obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

#### RENAUD-BLAKE, THOMASINE

Age 83, died Aug. 7, 2012. Visitation Aug. 10 at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME. Funeral Aug. 11, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon.

#### TOMAKOWSKI, JOSEPH

Age 85, passed away August 1st, 2012. Beloved husband of Susan Marie. Devoted father of seven children and eleven grandchildren. Funeral held August 4th, 2012.



When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages"... a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

hometownlife.com OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN HWEEKLIES

Call 1-800-579-7355 gerty.

Haggerty Road will remain open throughout the project. There are five Schoolcraft entrances off of Haggerty; drivers can proceed to another entrance if they find one blocked. The work will proneed repair, work will be done on one entrance at a time so that four entrances will remain available.

Work is scheduled for Monday through Saturday. The college has requested that work be suspended Aug. 29 and 30, the first two days of

#### NORTHVILLE POLICE BRIEFS

#### Larcenies

Three larcenies were reported to the Northville Township Police with one case possibly going back a couple of years.

The first case was reported on July 15 and involved an expensive set of silver forks taken from a home in the 18900 block of Edenderry Drive. The victim, a 70-year-old woman, said she hasn't seen the forks for three years and recently went to look at them and saw they were missing.

The second case occurred in the 17800 block of Parkshore Drive. A homeowner there said an extension cord on her boat was stolen. It was docked at her residence.

The third happened at a Pulte Homes site in the 49000 block of Rainbow Lane. Copper wiring was taken from the basement of that home.

#### **Retail theft**

A 20-year-old Canton woman was arrested for trying to steal two bottles of tequila. On Aug. 4 Northville Township Police responded to the Meijer store on Haggerty Road on the report of a larceny. The woman attempted to push past a store employee, but later confessed to taking the bottles. The items were returned.

#### Marijuana possession

A vehicle accident led to the arrest of a Northville woman for marijuana possession.

On Aug. 5 Northville city police responded to a car accident on Reed Street. The police arrived at the scene to find the 20-year-old had struck a parked vehicle on Reed near Canterbury Road. Both vehicles had extensive damage.

During questioning the police noticed a container inside the woman's purse and asked what it was. The woman said it was marijuana and during a search the police also found a pipe.

#### Destruction of property

Over a three-day period a string of property destruction incidents occurred in the City of Northville.

The first occurred on Aug. 3 at Sizzling Sticks on Mary Alexander Court. It was reported the owner of the restaurant had witnessed two young men tear down the WiFi wire that runs under the deck behind the building. There were two young girls with the suspects, who were questioned by police and cooperating. However, the girls said they did not know the suspects, who have yet to be identified.

The next incident happened on Aug. 4 in the 900 block of Mill Pond Court. A Northville homeowner found a yard ornament belonging to his neighbor was damaged and left in his yard.

The final incident occurred at Amerman Elementary School on Aug. 6. A window on the southwest side of the building was discovered shattered. It appeared as if a "punch" type of tool or instrument was used.

— Compiled by staff writer Lonnie Huhman

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

#### NORTHVILLE / NOVI CHURCH CALENDAR

#### CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road Contact: (248) 349-8847 or visit holyfamilynovi.org

#### Mass Scheduie

Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Friday; 7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; 4:30 p.m. Saturday

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

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

#### CROSSPOINTE MEADOWS CHURCH Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of

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

#### **Bibie study ciasses:** 10 a.m. for all ages **Detaiis:** 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 6 Mile Road, Northville

**Contact:** DestinyW3C@ Gmail.com or visit 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 Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

#### Book of Reveiation 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 NORTH-VILLE

Location: 217 N. Wing Contact: (248) 348-1020 Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. Sunday Schooi: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bibie Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays Men's Bibie Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month

#### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NOVI-FAMILY INTEGRATED CHURCH

Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-3647

or firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org Family Bible Hour: 9:45

a.m. Famiiy Worship: 11 a.m.

. .

Bibie Study: 6 p.m. Famiiy Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every month

#### FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

**Location:** 21260 Haggerty Road, north of 8 Mile Road

Contact: (248) 348-7600 or visit dfcnazarene.org Sunday Scheduie: 9:30 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, Children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship: 10:30 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's program, Youth Worship Service

Wednesday Scheduie: Starting Sept. 5 at 5:30 p.m. Family Meal, \$5 per person, \$15 per family;

**Currentiy on Wednesday nights:** 6:30 p.m. Children's VBS/Caravan, Club 56, Bible Study, Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth Group

**Thursday Scheduie:** 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group

#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH-VILLE

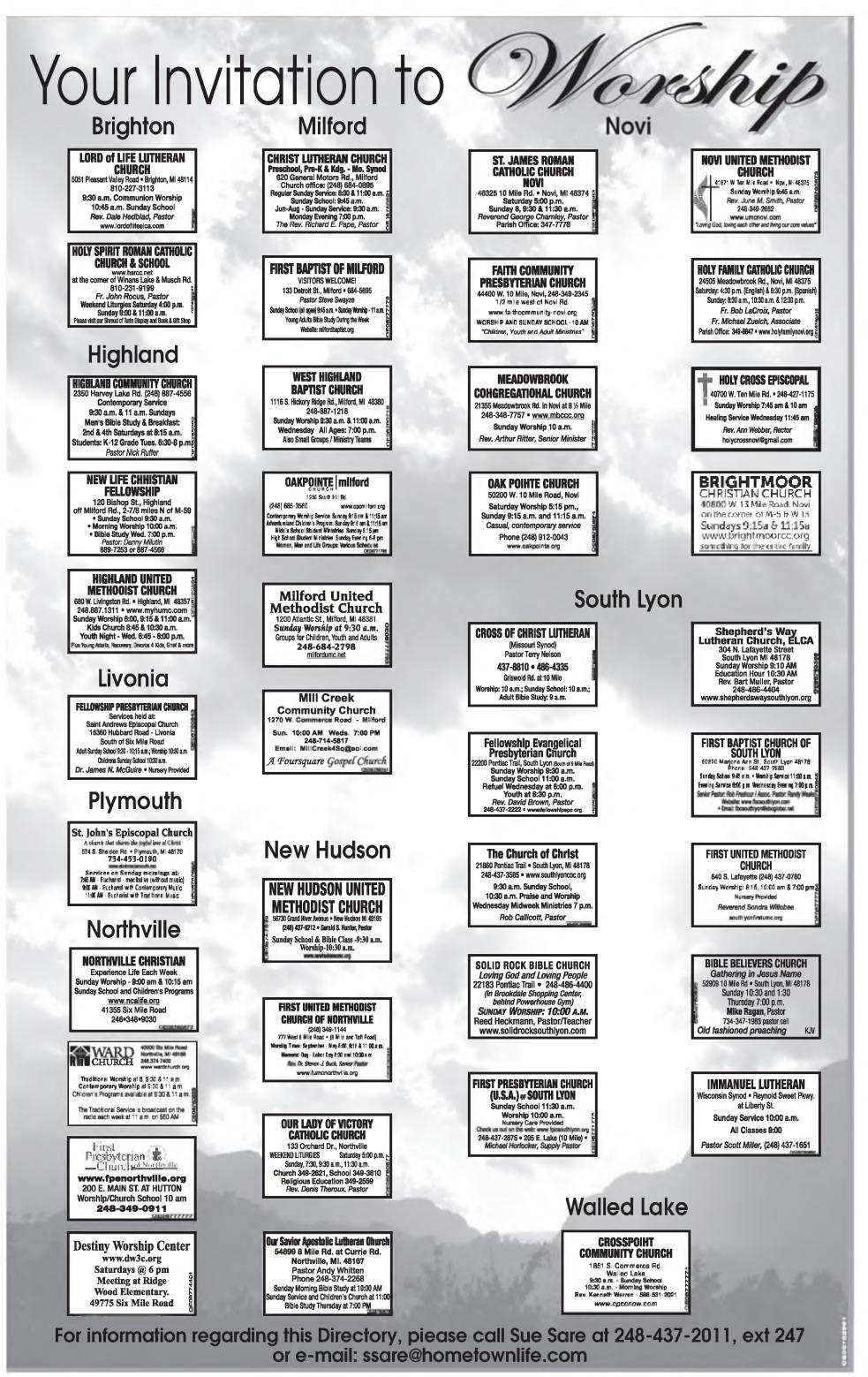
**Location:** 200 E. Main Street

**Contact:** (248) 349-0911 or visit www. fpcnorthville.org

#### Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

**Contact:** (248) 437-2875



PAGE A8. (NR) THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2012 HOMETOWN WEEKLIES HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# **OPINION**

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

#### **OUR VIEWS**

# Fraudulent signatures McCotter owes voters an apology, explanation

State Attorney General Bill Schuette announced charges last week against four members of former U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter's staff in connection with fraudulent signatures on McCotter's nominating petitions.



McCotter, who served five terms in Congress before resigning last month, was not charged.

McCotter issued a brief statement via e-mail through a spokesman thanking the attorney general for his work on the investigation, but has not made himself available for

interviews.

**McCotter** 

McCotter owes his former constituents an explanation of why, in Schuette's words, he wasn't "minding the store" and why he left them with a \$650,000 bill for a special primary election to fill his unexpired term ending in December.

Regardless of whether McCotter was involved in copying and pasting old signatures to get his name on the ballot, the buck stopped with him. He needs to step up, accept responsibility and apologize

By resigning from office Julyfor failing the voters of the 11th District who entrusted him in a posi- tion of leader- ship.6, McCotter put his own needs and personal goals ahead of his constituents'. They will be unrepresented in Washington, D.C., until Nov. 6 when a successor will be elected to take over for less than twofor failing the voters of the 11th District who entrusted him in a posi- tion of leader- ship.For some time, we have been hearing c omplaints from constitu uents about how staffers have not fol- lowed through with the most basic requests like helping
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#### **COMMUNITY VOICE**

#### If you could have one food for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

We asked this question outside the library and community center.



'Tacos because you get a little bit of everything and I love Mexican food. Corned beef would be a close second."

**Dick O'Hare** Northville



"Probably spinach. It's really good for you and has tons of nutrients." Andrea Gasiorowski South Lyon

"Spirulina powder. It's a

super food with a bunch of vitamins and minerals that you can mix into juice or a smoothie." Jeanette Gasiorowski South Lvon



"Mashed potatoes. I could eat potatoes everyday. It's probably because I'm Irish." **Emma Boyian** Northville

#### **LETTERS**

#### Look at whole picture

Isn't it convenient, Mr. Belisle ("Whatever happened to journalism", Aug. 9 letters), to talk about the record of President Bush in the beginning and the middle of his presidency, and ignore how things ended up? It isn't ridicule to point out that Bush took over a \$5 trillion deficit that was being paid down with a 1/2 trillion dollar budget surplus from President Clinton, and when Bush left office the deficit had doubled to 10 trillion dollars. President Clinton raised taxes and 22 million jobs were created.

These Bush tax breaks for the "job creators" resulted in job losses of 700,000 jobs per month at the end of his presidency, and President Obama has already created more private sector jobs in 3 1/2 years than Bush did in eight years. Amazingly, President Obama has done it with zero cooperation from the Republicans in Congress, and even though we are still basically under the Bush tax plan, instead of one that works for the middle class and all Americans. Republicans don't have a problem spending money, they have a problem paying for it. When they are in office, they spend like drunken sailors, and when out of office scream bloody murder about deficits. Ronald Reagan took a deficit of just under \$1 trillion that took 200 years and 40 presidents to create, and tripled it. Bush took a \$5 trillion deficit that was being paid down and doubled it. Remember when President Cheney, oops, I mean Vice President Cheney said "deficits don't matter?" It is far more important to look at how things ended up, so let's give President Obama eight years and a Congress that wants to solve problems and look for solutions that benefit everyone, and not just the comfortable, and then see how we end up

#### 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. Lafavette St., South Lyon, MI 48178 Fax: (248) 437-3386 E-mail: kkuban@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.

#### Kudos to Cassis

Nancy Cassis is a class act. She has faithfully served the military needs to deploy, transport soldiers, engage in training missions, fuel is required. In fact, according to the Department of Defense, they used more than five billion gallons of petroleum in 2010 for military operations. Far too many of those energy resources are imported from the Middle East region, a region that does not place our best interest at heart and can at any time disrupt or block the process of importing fuel. Depending on such an unstable region to provide energy that fuels the American economy, and also our military, weakens our national security position.

We can enlist in a number of possible solutions to lift our dependence on foreign oil. For starters, we should explore the use of all domestic sources - from wind and water, to solar power and natural gas, to offshore oil and shale oil. Furthermore, instead of doing business with unstable Middle Eastern countries, America should expand on its imports from our trusted friends. Through projects like the Keystone XL pipeline, we could increase the amount of oil that we import from Canada, our current largest source of imported oil. If we don't realize the benefits of this pipeline, Canada will find someone else who wants to buy their oil. That will most likely be China. Approval of Keystone XL pipeline would be a simple and common sense solution that would improve our national security by lessening our dependence on foreign oil and strengthening our energy trading relationship with Canada. The added value to veterans is the thousands of jobs that this project would bring. As a commander in the American Legion, I believe this makes the decision to approve the Keystone XL pipeline all the more critical to make it as expediently as possible.

McCotter's not showing up at candidate forums or holding town hall meetings in the district.

Such indifference and pompousness is inexcusable from a public servant and his office.

By resigning from office July 6, McCotter put his own needs and personal goals ahead of his constituents'. They will be unrepresented in Washington, D.C., until Nov. 6 when a successor will be elected to take over for less than two months. By that time, Congress will have decided and voted on budgets, tax breaks and most major issues for the year.

Constituents understand when politicians resign before the end of their term for personal or family health reasons. But all McCotter said at the time of his resignation was that the investigation into the fraudulent signatures had severed the "necessary harmony" between the needs of his constituency and of his family, requiring him to leave.

McCotter's refusal to finish out his term was a selfish act.

Taxpayers are burdened with the cost for the special primary election in September, in which five Republicans and one Democrat are running, and will have to pay for the salary of the winner of the November general election for McCotter's unexpired term.

It's a sad and sorry end to McCotter's political career, which included a brief run last year for the Republican nomination for U.S. president.

McCotter is an intelligent individual, whom voters and Republican leaders faithfully stood by over the years.

Too bad he didn't afford them the same courtesy in return.



Kurt Kuban, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor

Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

#### **Steve Lawrence** Northville

#### Take down political signs

To all the local politicians who won last week, congratulations. To those who didn't, we all still appreciate your desire to serve our community.

To all, please, please take down all your signs. I know those signs are part of campaigning, but there are so many of them on so many corners that it looks very bad and can be a safety issue with blocking line of sight and/or taking people's attention away from what they're supposed to be doing — driving.

Thank you all in advance, I know you'll all do the responsible thing and remove these signs at your earliest opportunity.

> **Dave Duffieid** Northville

citizens of Novi for the past 20+ years. Because of her tenacity, Providence Park Hospital is in Novi. Because of her diligence, the Beck Road and Wixom Road interchanges were built.

Although it appears that she won't be going to Washington to represent us, Nancy gave it her all, against all odds, and made a great showing. If her name was on the ballot, it wouldn't have even been a contest. Thank you, Nancy, for all you've done for the great City of Novi. We love you.

> **Bob Gatt** City of Novi mayor

#### **Approve** Keystone pipeiine

As a retired veteran who served in the U.S. Army in both Germany and Vietnam, I want the sense of security knowing that our country is protected in every way possible. Our men and women in uniform here and around the world also deserve knowing that they are being protected and that the policymakers in Washington are doing everything possible to ensure national security. One issue, or threat, that may go unnoticed is America's energy security and our dependence on foreign oil.

On July 11, I visited Washington, D.C., on behalf of the Michigan Energy Forum, part of "America's Energy Forum," a nonpartisan nationwide coalition of citizens working together on two goals — energy security and energy policy. I, along with American veterans from 26 other states flew to Washington, D.C. to express the significance of energy policy as it relates to energy security and national security. First off, when the American

Jim Pardo commander

Post 32 Livonia

#### Government in action

I had the privilege of watching my county taxes in action on Monday, Aug. 7. I could hardly contain my excitement as I witnessed two trucks and four workers placing road patch on Haggerty Road between Six Mile and Seven Mile roads.

This is the same stretch of road that was torn up starting Monday, Aug. 13. The budget deficit that I keep hearing about must be an "urban legend" if Wayne County can waste the time and money to do this work. This is just another example of our government in action.

> **Bob** Tallieu Livonia

(NRNN)

A9

# Sample fine food, wine, desserts, to aid student scholarships

If you enjoy fine food, wine and desserts save this date — Sunday, Sept. 23.

The 21st annual Schoolcraft College Culinary Extravaganza is planned from 2-5 p.m. in the VisTaTech Center on Haggerty Road, just south of Seven Mile Road. Restaurants, pastry shops and area beverage vendors will offer up some of the finest culinary delicacies and products found in any one place.

The event raises money for scholarships and plays a vital role in providing needed support for students pursuing an education at Schoolcraft.

Kristina Mayer, an officer of the Schoolcraft College Foundation Board of Governors, is chairing the event for the third consecutive year.

Mayer says the generosity of event sponsors is vital to the foundation's fund raising efforts. Mayer, vice president and branch manager of Bank of Ann Arbor's Plymouth Township office, heads a group of more than 20 community and college members working on this year's event. Many more volunteers — including many Schoolcraft students — are helping behind the scenes to deliver the best possible experience for culinary patrons.

Sponsor packages range from \$300 to \$5,000 and are still welcome. All sponsor packages include company name and logo in the event program, on the Schoolcraft electronic sign, in a special Thank You advertisement in the *Observer* & *Eccentric* Newspapers and complimentary event tickets. Platinum (\$5,000), diamond (\$2,500) and gold (\$1,000) sponsorships also



Culinary students at Schoolcraft College help prepare entrees for patrons attending Culinary Extravaganza. The award-winning culinary program attracts students of all ages from throughout the state.



Mike Jacobson, sous chef, was staffing the sampling table for Mitchell's Fish Market at last year's culinary extravaganza. Mitchell's of Livonia will return to Culinary 2012.

include admission to a preevent VIP private reception one hour before the public event.

Individual tickets to the event are \$50 per person (\$20 of which is a charitable contribution).

The event highlights the culinary talents of metro area restaurants, pastry shops and beverage vendors. Guests can sample a variety of fine food, wine, beverages and desserts in one afternoon.

This year's event will feature more than 50 food/beverage stations, a silent auction, raffle prizes and seminars on wine-tasting and healthy foods (presented by master chef Jeff Gabriel).

Food and beverage vendors include 5ive Res-

#### **DETAILS**:

What: The 21st annual Schoolcraft College Culinary Extravaganza When: 2-5 p.m. Sunday,

Sept. 23. Where: Schoolcraft College's VisTaTech Center on Haggerty Road, just south of Seven Mile Road. Cost: Individual tickets to the event are \$50 per person (\$20 of which is a charitable contribution). Contact: (734) 462-4518 or visit www.schoolcraft. edu/foundation.

taurant — The Inn at St. John's, Plymouth; Black Star Farms, Suttons Bay; Black Tulip Grille, Wixom; Cadillac Coffee Company, Madison Heights; Coffee Express Company, Plymouth; Dream Cakes, Commerce Township; McCormick/360 Vodka, Michigan Grape & Wine Industry Council, Mitchell's Fish Market, Livonia; Old World



Wine vendors throughout the state will offer samples at this year's event. in addition, vinter Lee Hershey will share his knowledge of wine at a special tasting seminar scheduled that day.

Olive Press, Plymouth; Something Chocolate, Birmingham; Steve & Rocky's, Novi; The Sardine Room, Plymouth; Vintner's Cellar Canton Winery, The Elite Catering Company, Livonia; Wisteria Bakehaus, West Bloomfield

Vine2Wine Custom Winery of Northville and Zumba Mexican Grille, Royal Oak.

Raffle prizes include: \$1,000 cash (grand prize); \$500 cash (second prize) and \$250 cash (third and fourth prize). Dinner for two at the American Harvest Restaurant rounds out the fifth, sixth and seventh raffle prizes. Tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10. Winners need not be present to win.

In addition to food, eventgoers can bid on a variety of silent auction items including entertainment and sport packages. All proceeds from the event benefit the Schoolcraft College Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization providing scholarships for students, including those in the college's renowned culinary arts program.

To purchase tickets and/ or learn more about sponsorships or donate a silent auction item call (734) 462-4518 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation.

20

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# BUSINESS

#### KURT KUBAN, EDITOR

kkuban@hometownlife.com\_ (248) 437-2011, EXT. 245 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Chinese company expected to invest \$450 million in A123

A123 Systems, a developer and manufacturer of advanced Nanophosphate® lithium iron phosphate batteries and systems with a plant at Seven Mile and Haggerty in Livonia, announced Wednesday it has signed a non-binding memorandum of understanding with Wanxiang Group Corp. establishing the framework for a strategic investment through which Wanxiang would invest up to \$450 million in A123.

Wanxiang is China's largest automotive components manufacturer and one of China's largest non-governmentowned companies. Wanxiang's proposed investment in A123 is intended to create the capital structure necessary for the company to continue growing its core businesses, and alignment with Wanxiang is also expected to substantially strengthen A123's access to the growing vehicle electrification and gridscale energy storage markets in China.

"Today's announce-

ment is the first step toward solidifying a strategic agreement that we believe would remove the uncertainty regarding A123's financial situation," said David Vieau, CEO of A123, in a prepared statement released Wednesday.

"A substantial capital investment from Wanxiang would not only provide financial stability to A123 as we continue to grow, but it would also align us with a large, successful global brand in the automotive and clean tech industries. Wanxiang has a successful track record of operating in the U.S. with significant employment and commitment to good corporate citizenship, and we expect that a strategic agreement with Wanxiang would help enhance our competitive position in the global marketplace, especially in China."

Total revenue for the second quarter of 2012 was \$17 million, a decrease of 53 percent from \$36.4 million in the second quarter of 2011.



FILE PHOTO

more than 3,000 U.S.-

"A123 offers industry-

storage, as well as strong

manufacturing and sys-

tems engineering capa-

bilities in Michigan and

this creates important

svnergies with Wanx-

iang, which has been

involved in this field for

12 years and has strong

R&D and manufactur-

ing capabilities in Chi-

tinue to expand on our

strategy of investing in

the automotive and clean

na, especially as we con-

Massachusetts. We think

leading technology for

vehicle electrification

and grid-scale energy

based employees.

A123 opened its Livonia plant located at Seven Mile and Haggerty in September 2010.

Net loss was \$82.9 million compared to a net loss of \$55.4 million in the second quarter of 2011.

Wanxiang Group Corp. and its related companies have more than \$13 billion in revenue and more than 45,000 employees across its global businesses in equipment and automotive parts manufacturing, clean energy, financial services, agricultural products, natural resources and real estate, among others. Through its subsidiaries, including Wanxiang America Corp., it has

"This MOU is the first step toward a longerterm agreement through which we plan to build on the foundation A123 has established in the U.S. and help expand the company's capabilities both domestically and internationally, which we believe would create long-term value to the customers, investors and other stakeholders of both companies."

tech industries in the

U.S.," said Weiding Lu,

CEO of Wanxiang Group.

Under the proposed terms of the strategic agreement outlined in the MOU, Wanxiang would provide A123 with up to \$75 million in initial debt financing under a Senior Secured Bridge Facility, with an initial credit extension of \$25 million and \$50 million to be funded after the satisfaction of certain closing conditions, and, subsequently, upon satisfaction of certain closing conditions, purchase \$200 million aggregate principal amount of A123's Senior Secured Convertible Notes.

The agreement would also include the potential for Wanxiang to invest up to an additional \$175 million if it exercises the warrants that would be issued in connection with the Bridge Facility and the Convertible Notes for cash.

The Livonia plant opened in September 2010, roughly one year after A123 was awarded a \$249 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to help the company execute its strategy to ramp up U.S. manufacturing capabilities to meet increasing demand for its technologies.

In addition to the DOE grant, the company received \$125 million in state incentives from Michigan as part of its 21st Century Jobs Fund and a 50-percent reduction in taxes to the city of Livonia for 12 years.

A123 has three Michigan facilities, including a plant in Romulus and an office in Ann Arbor.

## **Rocky's of Northville completes remodel**

Rocky's Restaurant in Northville has remained one of the locals' favorite dining spots, with a long list of awards and kudos for their 19 years of providing incomparable food and service. They boast of having been voted Northville's #1 Best Restaurant by the readers of The Northville Record for three years in a row. Rocky's was also listed in Nation's Restaurant News as "One of

STATE

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Detroit's Hot Spots". So why would a restaurant that has enjoyed a long history of success decide to undergo a remodel and menu change?

To better ensure that they can continue as a local favorite for other many more years to come, according to management.

"It gets tougher and tougher each day to compete with the national

Care & Love are the greatest things we provide

chains that have larger budgets than I ever will," Chef Chuck "Rocky" Rachwitz said. "We wanted to keep our dining room decor and menu as is in that the public has been very supportive and we want to keep them happy. The lounge however, has been underutilized for some time now. We felt it was time to give it a facelift and take another look at our menu offerings in

an effort to appeal to a younger crowd who enjoys a bit more casual dining,"

Some of the changes include fresh paint, new logo and signage, modern interior lighting, interesting artwork; Amish-made tables, autographed sports memorabilia and numerous large screen TV's that will feature all-sports-all-thetime

Chefs Rocky and his team of chefs, some dating back 18 years, spent several weeks developing new offerings that would appeal to the younger, more casual

**By Jon GunneHs** 

Guest Columnist

his summer, another

round of sleeker and

Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

faster devices and

technologies are hitting

are the Droid 4G LTE,

the Nokia

Lumia

and the

Verizon

Jetpack.

Windows will be

releasing

a number

of other

Soon,

900

the market. Among them



Rocky's Restaurant in Northville has completed a major renovation and menu change.

diner.

"I was careful to keep the traditional Rocky's favorites on the menu, many of which I brought with me from my days

Sleeker, faster new gadgets

offer enhanced productivity

as executive chef for the Chuck Muer Corporation, including Frutti di Mare and Red or White Clam Sauce Linguini," he said.



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#### exciting products such as the Windows 8 Phone.

I had the opportunity to test the Droid 4G LTE courtesy of Verizon and witness the new Droid 4.0 Ice Cream Sandwich operating system and beats audio.

The phone had impressive multimedia functions with an 8.0 Megapixel camera and even more impressive speed. The unit comes with a 1.2 GHZ processor – that's faster than the laptop I bought after college – and I'm not that old.

I was also able to use the phone in conjunction with another new Verizon technology – the Verizon Jetpack. The Jet Pack is device that allows users to become their own mobile hotspot at speeds about ten times faster than 3G network connectivity.

#### Jetpack

The Jetpack is great tool for those vacationing or on the go with a need for a fast, reliable internet connection. And at \$19.99 it comes at a very

economical price. If you're not a Verizon customer and are still looking for a great phone, the Nokia Lumia 900 is receiving great reviews. The phone was one of the first to deliver 4G capabilities and now retails for as low as \$19 with a two-year agreement.

The best part of the Lumia 900 is its unique Windows interface – much different than the Blackberry, Apple and Android set ups on most phones. The Lumia 900 also comes in bright blue – unlike most of the black, white and gray models you see on the market.

Like the Droid Incredible 4G LTE, the Lumia 900 has a 8.0 megapixel camera – but it also has a 1.3 megapixel chat cam. AT&T's latest project, the Windows 8 Phone will share the same operating system as the Lumia and will also be fully integrated with Microsoft's newest version of MS Office.

The new Microsoft Office is another item on a long list of Windows products that are receiving a lot of press this summer. The new office suite isn't a musthave for every PC user, but it does have some cool features that even technology novices will love.

#### **New for Microsoft** First the system will be

touch-screen compatible – a first for Microsoft. It will also embrace cloud computing which will help Microsoft compete with other tech giants like Google, who have been steadily creeping into their space.

One of my favorite features within the new Microsoft Office suite, is the ability to embed videos or other multimedia from the web, into a word document.

Microsoft has set up the suite as such so that users explore the cloud-based technology. Consumers who buy the home version of the new office suite (dubbed office '13) will receive 20 GB of cloud storage space.

Additionally, Microsoft will allow a subscriptionbased approach to Office '13 for those looking to utilize the cloud service. Office '13, which has been out since July 16, is also available on tablets.

One device discussed in this space you still can't get your hands on though. Is the Windows 8 Phone. It has no official release date, but could be on shelves as soon as October or as late as Christmas.

You can find the Droid Incredible 4G LTE and Verizon Jet Pack at your nearest Verizon store or online.

Jon Gunnells is a social media planner at a Detroitbased advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan. gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnShOw.

#### Aild for new customers August 18-20, 2012 only. ting fee and 6 or 12-month option price registratio inst. Other restrictions may apply. Expires \$70/13

### Center Street zoning change moves forward after compromises

#### By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

With the Northville City Council approving the first reading, the City of Northville is moving forward on implementing the N. Center Street Central Business District Overlay for the zoning ordinance that will now allow new developments in that area to have first floor residential uses such as single-family, multi-family, assisted living, or housing for the elderly.

The overlay would also allow building height to be at three stories or 31-42 feet, which was compromised with having rear and side yard setbacks to be at 25-40 feet depending on the height. Previously, the plan was to have height at two stories.

The drafted Central Business District Overlay Zone is for a portion of N. Center Street, from Randolph Street north to Walnut Street, and it maintains the current underlying zoning yet overlays additional regulations.

Including the previous specifics it will still allow permitted uses within the CBD overlay zone, establish a minimum 10 foot setback along the front with a maximum front setback of 15 feet as well as new standards for access management, shared driveways, parking, and landscaping.

At their June 26 meeting, the Planning Commission approved the overlay language by a 4-3 split vote. City Manager Patrick Sullivan said, however, some of the commissioners expressed concerns regarding the allowed building height as well as concerns pertaining to possible overflow of on-street parking into residential areas.

Taking this into account, he believes the recommendation to introduce the overlay should move forward because both sides of the debate, property owner and residential concerns, have been considered. "I think the compromise on the height was a good one," Sullivan said. "We do respect the residential properties in the rear with the graduated setback, but allow more density if you have setback from those adjoining residential uses."

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, August 16, 2012

Councilwoman Nancy Darga, also a homeowner in the overlay neighborhood, had expressed mixed feelings about it previously. But now she said it looks like it accommodates all existing land owners.

"It doesn't really preclude them from developing their property," Darga said. "If anything it actually gives them a little bit more opportunity because there's a lot more flexibility in first floor usage, height, floors and shared drives and parking."

(NR) A11

Sullivan agreed with her and said it might also encourage property owners, because of the setbacks and shared parking, to get two or three parcels together to do a planned unit development, like Center Street Square. This was PUD plan that never came to fruition.

The second reading and possible adoption is scheduled for Aug. 20.

> lhuhman@hometowniife.com (248) 437-2011

#### MEETINGS

#### Northville Public Schools BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date: Second and fourth Tuesday of the month Time: 7:30 p.m. Location: Old Village School

#### City of Northville

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

Location: City Hall, 215 W. Main St.

#### DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING

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

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

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

#### **Date:** Second Wednesday of

every month **Time:** 6 p.m. **Location:** Allen Terrace, 401 High

HOUSING COMMISSION

#### St. HISTORIC DISTRICT COM-MISSION

**Date:** Third Wednesday of month **Time:** 7 p.m. **Location:** City Hall

#### **ARTS COMMISSION**

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

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

#### BEAUTIFICATION COMMIS-SION

Date: First Monday of every month Time: 8 a.m. Details: Individuals and organizations invited to attend. Location: Northville City Hall,

Meeting Room B

#### Northville Township PLANNING COMMISSION

Date: Last Tuesday of month Time: 7:30 p.m. Location: Township Hall, 44405 West Six Mile BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### NORTHVILLE ETC.

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

ZONING BOARD OF AP-PEALS

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

Location: Township Hall BEAUTIFICATION COMMIS-SION

**Date:** First Tuesday of month **Time:** 1 p.m.

#### Location: Township Hall

YOUTH ASSISTANCE

**Date:** Second Tuesday of every month **Time:** 8 a.m.

Location: Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road Contact: Sue Campbell (248) 344-1618

#### Golf Outings

4TH ANNUAL NORTHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL BOOSTERS GOLF OUTING/SILENT AUC-TION

Time/Date: noon Saturday, Aug. 25

**Location:** Links of Novi, 50395 W. 10 Mile, Novi

**DETAILS:** All monies raised will go directly to the Northville Boosters Club and be reinvested

into athletic programs and sports teams as needed. Tickets are \$125 per person, which includes a round of golf with cart, lunch, dinner, open bar and access to the silent auction. Student cost is \$100 per person, which includes a round of golf with cart, lunch and dinner. There is also a dinner-only option, which is \$50 per person and includes dinner, open bar and access to the silent auction. Hit a hole-in-one and you could win a 24-month lease on a 2012 Lincoln MK7. There will also be a longest drive contest and a closest to the pin contest for both women and men golfers. Contact: Carrie Slominski at

cslomo2022@yahoo.com.

#### Mill Race Historical Village

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

**Details:** Office open 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Monday-Friday. Archives open Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Village buildings open free to the public 1-4 p.m., Sundays, mid-June to mid-Oct.

#### **CONTACT:** (248) 348-1845 **WEEKLY EVENTS**

(\*Grounds closed to pubiic)

**Thursday:** 9 a.m. Archives Open; 9 a.m.-2 p.m. New Hope Kidz Kamp; 4 p.m. Rehearsal; 7 p.m. Historical Society Board Meeting in Cady

Friday: 9 a.m. Archives Open; 9 a.m.-2 p.m. New Hope Kidz Kamp; 4-6:30 p.m.

**Sunday:** 1-4 p.m. Village buildings open to public; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. King's 8th

**Monday:** 6:30 p.m. Northville Democrats

**Tuesday:** 9 a.m. Stone Gang **Wednesday:** 1 p.m. AAUW Bridge Group; 6:45 p.m. Mindfulness Meditation Group

#### Senior Events

#### Senior Community

Center Location: 303 W. Main St.

Contact: (248) 349-4140

#### THURSDAY

**9 a.m.:** TOPS; Massage by appt. **10:**30 a.m.: Yoga **11 a.m.:** Cribbage

Noon: Walking Club 12:30 p.m.: Pinochle

FRIDAY

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







Nov	NUNITY serving i & prthvilie	Automatu
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Noaring         Description         Description	Hand and WristMichagan Hand & Wrist, P.C.State Barbon Bar	Doctors if you would like to be includod in this directory, contact Amy Norton at 517-375-1113 or anarton@hometowniife.com

# 3 staffers arraigned in election fraud case

#### By Ken Abramczyk Staff Writer

Three members of former Congressman Thaddeus McCotter's staff were arraigned Aug. 10 in connection with alleged fraud surrounding nominating petitions filed in May on McCotter's behalf.

Don Yowchuang, 33, deputy district director in McCotter's office, of Farmington Hills and Paul Seewald, 47, district director, of Livonia stood mute in 16th District Court in Livonia. Magistrate Dennis Epler entered not-guilty pleas on their behalf. They were released on \$50,000 personal bond each, meaning they will have to pay that amount if they do not show up for scheduled court appearances.

Yowchuang was required to give up his

passport as a condition of the bond, and both were told to contact the court if they leave the state. Yowchuang and Seewald are scheduled for a preexam Sept. 18 and a preliminary exam Sept. 20 in 16th District Court.

Mary Melissa Turnbull, 58, of Howell turned herself in to officials Friday morning and was arraigned in Troy's 52-4 District Court. Turnbull was given a \$5,000 personal bond. Her pre-exam was set for Aug. 16.

Yowchuang faces 17 charges, including 10 counts of election law forgery, a five-year felony; one count of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a five-year felony; and six counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.



Yowchuang Turnbull

Seewald faces 10 charges: one count of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a five-year felony; and nine counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.

Turnbull, a district representative in McCotter's office, faces two charges: one count of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a five-year felony; and, one count of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.



Seewald O'Brady

Lorianne O'Brady, 52, of Livonia is expected to be arraigned on charges early this week in Livonia's 16th District, according to Attorney General Bill Schuette's office, who brought the charges against the suspects. O'Brady, a former scheduler employed by McCotter at the time of the alleged crimes, faces five counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.

At Friday's court hearing, both Seewald and Yowchuang sat at the rear of the courtroom before

their arraignment. Then as they were arraigned by Epler, they responded yes when asked if they understood the charges and their rights.

Defense attorney Timothy Dinan, who represented both Seewald and Yowchuang, requested a court waiver of the usual 14-day period between the arraignment and preliminary examination to review evidence.

William Rollstin, first assistant attorney with Schuette's office, said the attorney general's office had no problem with the waiver. Rollstin appeared in court with Special Agent John Buck, who assisted in the investigation.

Neither Buck nor Rollstin would comment further on the case, referring all questions to the attorney general's communications office.

Rollstin requested that Yowchuang turn in his passport to the court because he believed that Yowchuang had traveled overseas recently. Yowchuang agreed to do so.

Both Seewald and Yowchuang left the court without talking to reporters.

Dinan said after the arraignment that his clients had no prior criminal history and provided details early in the attorney general's investigation. "My clients are presumed innocent; they deserve that," Dinan said. "They cooperated fully with the investigation."

Dinan said Schuette's press conference Thursday "went beyond what was necessary" in outlining the accusations against his clients.

kabramcz@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2591

#### **MCCOTTER**

Continued from page A1

nia's 16th District Court: 10 counts of election law forgery, a five-year felony; one count of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a five-year felony; and six counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.

• Paul Seewald, 47, district director. of Livo-

nia faces 10 charges filed in Livonia's 16th District Court: one count of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a five-year felony; and nine counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.

 Mary Melissa Turnbull, 58, district representative, of Howell faces two charges filed in Troy's 52-4 District Court: one count of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a five-year felony; and one count of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.

• Lorianne O'Brady, 52, former scheduler employed by McCotter at the time of the alleged crimes, of Livonia faces five charges filed in Livonia's 16th District Court: five counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail. She is expected to be arraigned next week.

#### No evidence **McCotter involved**

McCotter was not charged. Schuette said his office "did not have specific, direct evidence" of his involvement.



Schuette alleges that these four members of McCotter's Michigan staff were involved in a deliberate fraud involving a pattern of copying and altering petitions in order to qualify the five-term congressman for the 2012 primary ballot. Schuette revealed examples of petitions that were allegedly manufactured electronically by transposing signatures collected in previous election years on to 2012 nominating petitions. In several cases, the fraudulent petitions were also copied and submitted to the Secretary of State as originals. Schuette indicated that everything on the petition forms appears to be exactly the same except for the dates, which appear altered. Schuette's investigation also revealed evidence that duplicate petitions were knowingly submitted to pad signature numbers and that multiple petitions were falsely certified by defendants who did not actually circulate them.

The charges came about

ple and reviewing thousands of records, including 136 nominating petitions filed with the Secretary of State.

#### **Constituents 'got** stiffed'

Schuette called it a "cut-and-paste job that would make an elementary school art teacher cringe."

"This was not simply keystone cops run amok ... it was a blatant attempt to commit fraud," Schuette said.

Schuette said the "McCotter crew" acted above the law like the law "didn't apply to them."

"They were sadly mistaken," he said. Schuette added that McCotter has "resigned in disgrace." People in the 11th District McCotter represented "got stiffed," Schuette said. "He is responsible for the conduct and misconduct of his employees. In this case, Thad was asleep at the switch."

McCotter could not be reached for comment as there was no answer

tigation, which I requested, and their subsequent report," McCotter said. "For my family and I, this closure commences our embrace of the enduring blessings of private life.'

The alleged election fraud investigation began an ignominious exit for the five-term congressman. The nominating signatures were turned into the Secretary of State Bureau of Elections office, and the petitions were checked.

**Bureau** employees determined that the filing contained numerous duplicate and triplicate copies of petitions and that the filing was padded to obscure the fact that the petitions did not contain the necessary 1,000 signatures.

The Secretary of State's office contacted McCotter on May 25, saying there were not enough valid signatures to qualify him for the ballot. McCotter announced May 29 that he was conducting a write-in candidacy, but then dropped his candidacy June 2. He later

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#### **CITY OF NORTHVILLE** PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

Notice is hereby given that the Public Accuracy Test for the September 5, 2012 Special Primary Election is scheduled for August 23, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167, (248) 349-1300. The public accuracy test is conducted to demonstrate that the

computer program used to record and count the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of law.

DIANNE MASSA, CMC, CITY CLERK

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Publish: August 16, 2012

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as the result of an investigation by the Attorney General's Public Integrity Unit. The investigation lasted 10 weeks; it included interviewing 75 witnesses, procuring sworn statements from nine peo-

et the S

at his home. He issued a statement via email through spokesman Randall Thompson.

"I thank the Attorney General and his office for their earnest, thorough work on this invesresigned from office.

BEGINI

Read the attorney general's investigative report here: http://www.michigan.gov/ documents/ag/08.09.12 AG Investigators\_Report\_and\_ Chart 394714 7.pdf

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#### **CITY OF NORTHVILLE** NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Northville Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing pertaining to a request for a variance for the property located at 254 Wing Court, Northville, Michigan, 48167. The applicant, David VanderLugt, is requesting a variance to Section 18.04 Accessory Buildings and Section 26.02 Accessory Use in the City of Northville Zoning Ordinance. The applicant requests a variance to allow a structure on a lot without a Principal Building (Section 26.02), and a side setback of two (2) feet.

The variance request will be considered by the Board of Zoning Appeals at a public hearing on September 5, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building – Lower Level Meeting Room, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-449-9902. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comment on the variance request. The variance application is available for review at the City of Northville Building Department during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, local prevailing time. Written comments pertaining to the proposed variance request will also be received at the above address

Dianne Massa, City Clerk

OE08784370 3x3

Publish: August 16, 2012



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WEEKLIES

# Bentivolio faces another election next month

#### By Ken Abramczyk Staff Writer

Kerry Bentivolio's campaign for U.S. Congress took a huge step Aug. 7 with his win over writein challenger and former state senator Nancy Cassis.

Now, the campaign faces another election in less than a month with a special primary on Sept. 5. Bentivolio, Cassis and three other Republican candidates (Ken Crider, Steve King and Carolyn Cavanagh) will face off with the winner advancing to the general election Nov. 6. The winner of that election will fill the unexpired term of Thaddeus McCotter through the end of the year.

That election is taking place in the current 11th District. Last week, Bentivolio won in the newly redistricted 11th District to advance as the Republican nominee in the general election on Nov. 6.

Bentivolio, a 60-year-old war veteran of Iraq and

Vietnam, former teacher and a reindeer farmer in Milford, smiled broadly last Tuesday night, greeted by cheers of "Kerry, Kerry, Kerry" at his election party in the primary election at the Novi Sheraton.

"This victory is your victory," he told supporters at the election party, some of the 10,000 volunteers who knocked on doors. "You know freedom stands for prosperity. Some politicians try to convince us to give up freedom," he said. "They want government to run our businesses, to get between us and our doctors. They want to take our money and spend less

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, August 16, 2012

on ourselves. It is a Congressman's No. 1 job to protect our freedom, not to take it away."

Bentivolio said he wanted to reduce taxes through tax reform and repeal the Affordable Health Care Act.

kabramcz@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2591

# Vote paves way for free DIA admission

#### By Karen Smith Staff Writer

Northville residents now have free admission to the Detroit Institute of Arts with proof of residency.

And, if they hurry, they'll get to see one of only 35 Johannes Vermeer paintings in the world. The 17th century Dutch artist's masterpiece *Woman Holding a Balance* is on display through Sept. 2, on loan from the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. It is the first time since the 1940s the DIA has had a Vermeer on exhibit.

Voters in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties Tuesday approved a 0.2-mill tax for the next 10 years to fund the museum. The tax will cost the owner of a \$150,000 home about \$15 annually.

The proposal was approved by 68 percent of voters in Wayne, 64 percent in Oakland and 51 percent in Macomb, according to unofficial vote tallies. Northville residents overwhelmingly voted in favor of the measure. In the township, 4,063 voted yes, opposed to only 2,188 no votes. In the city, the percentage of yes voters was even higher, with 507 in favor and 173 opposed.

Annmarie Erickson, executive vice president and chief operating officer of the DIA, said last week's election was great for the museum.

"We got the message out to the residents and they heard it and they supported it," she said. "I think we would all like to thank them for making this investment in the museum and reassure them they will see value."

She said the museum will continue to be an important part of voters' communities through its popular Inside Out program, which brings copies of DIA artwork out into the suburbs, as well as other programs. She said the DIA will be asking communities what the DIA can do for them.

She encouraged tricounty residents to visit the museum for free, a benefit many have already taken advantage



This rare masterpiece by 17th century Dutch painter Johannes Vermeer, Woman Holding a Balance, is on display at the DiA until Sept. 2.

of since the election last week. The tax will generate

approximately \$23 million per year — \$10 million in Oakland, \$8 million in Wayne and \$5 million in Macomb. The DIA's operating budget is \$25 million. The tax was needed to cover the shortfall for museum operating expenses caused by the loss of funding from the state and city of Detroit, Erickson said. The museum has been relying on the private sector for operations, a model that was not sustainable, Erickson said.

Each county will have an art authority to oversee how the money is spent. The art authority members will be appointed by the commissioners and executives in each county, which will also have contracts with the DIA.

The DIA will continue to be governed by its board of directors under an operating agreement with the city of Detroit.

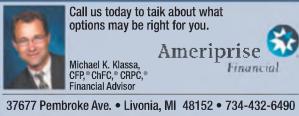
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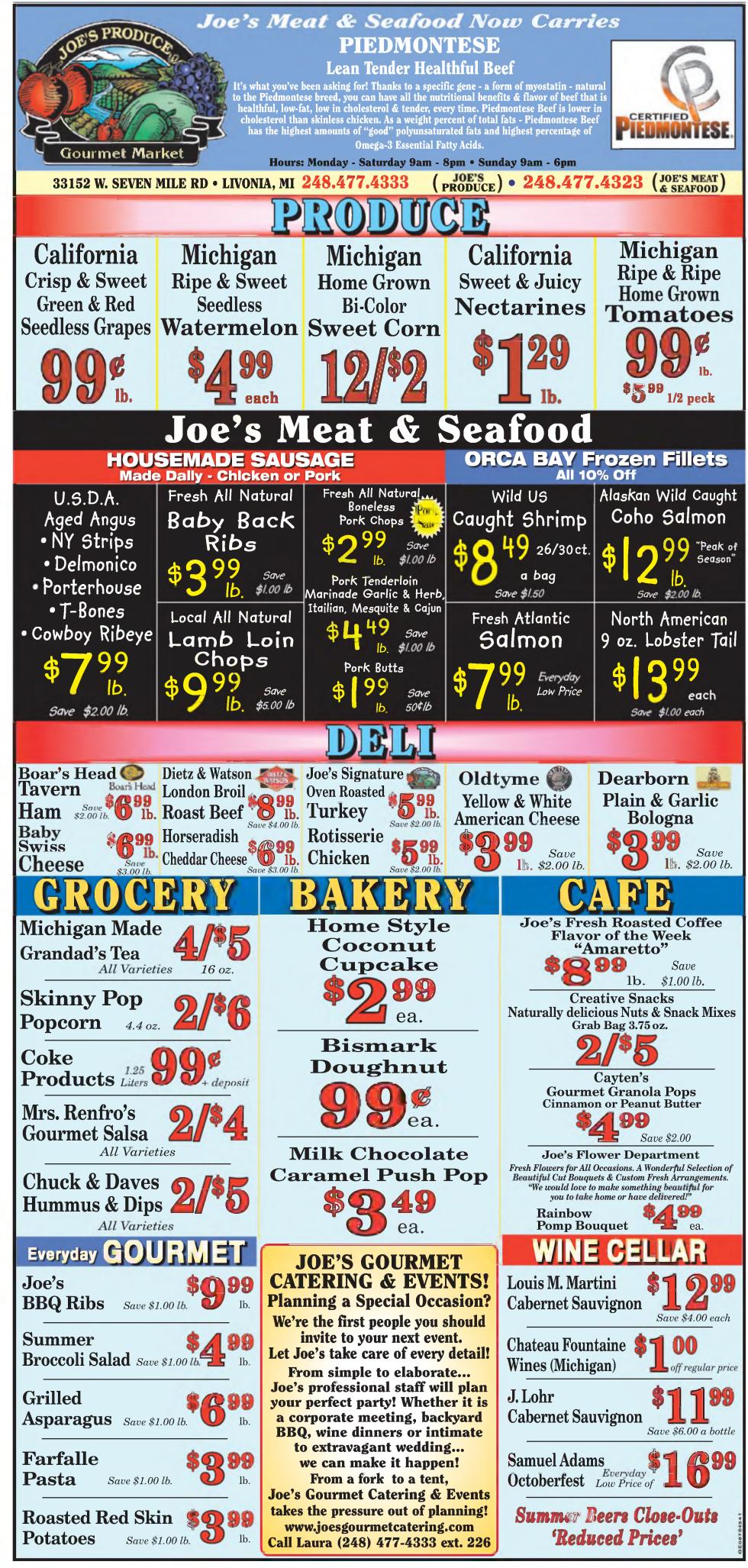
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#### **INSIDE:** BRONCOS TAKE TITLE, B4

SECTION B. (NRNN) THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2012 HOMETOWN WEEKLIES HOMETOWNLIFE.COM SPORTS

CAL STONE, EDITOR cstone@hometownlife.com (248) 437-2011, EXT. 237 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Soccer alumni to play in memory of former coach

By Chris Jackett Correspondent

Every once in a while, a coach can have a lifelong impact on their players and, when that coach is gone, those players want to have an impact on others around them.

Novi soccer players from the past 25 years are returning to Meadows Stadium at noon Saturday for an alumni game in memory of former boys and girls soccer coach Larry Christoff, who passed away July 28, 2009, at age 66 after a lengthy battle with prostate cancer.

"We actually got together with him briefly before he passed away," said Nichole Stocks, a 1995 grad who went by Nickie Borashko back in the day. "He had a really hard last year, so he had a great time."

Stocks, along with 1996 alum Erin Vogel and 1995 alum Bob Hart, have coordinated the coed alumni soccer game to benefit the Michigan Institute of Urology,

Please see ALUMNI, B2



A group of former Wildcat captains pose with former Novi coach Larry Christoff in 2009 a few days before Christoff lost a battle with prostate cancer. Several of the players are raising funds for the Michigan institute of Urology in memory of their former coach via a coed alumni soccer game Aug. 18.





A trio of former Wildcat captains pose with former Novi coach Larry Christoff in 2009 a few days before his death. Several of Christoff's former players are raising funds for the Michigan institute of Urology in memory of their former coach via a coed alumni soccer game Aug. 18.

A quartet of former Wildcats pose with former Novi coach Larry Christoff (left) during an annual breakfast gathering several years ago.

# MHSAA ruling allows waivers to age limit

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

When high school football practice started across the state last week, an Upper Peninsula player named Eric Dompierre was able to take the field with his teammates despite being 19 years old.

Dompierre, who has Down syndrome and turned 19 in January, was the first player to receive a waiver from the Michigan High School Athletic Association, which announced they had approved his application to waive the maximum age rule.

Prior to this summer when the ability to petition for a waiver for students with certain disabilities to continue to play past the age limit, no students were allowed to play MHSAA-sanctioned sports if they turned 19 years old before Sept. 1.

Dompierre - who is 5feet-2-inches, 140 pounds and plays receiver for the Ishpeming Hematites - and his father, Dean, led a campaign this past spring and into the summer to allow for exceptions to the rule. After a vote from MHSAA member schools, the ability to request a waiver was approved.

The waiver won't have an impact on every school, nor will everyone who applies be approved - but the Dompierre family said it was a giant step in the right direction.

"Jill and I are extremely proud of how Eric was willing to advocate for himself and for others in his shoes," Dean Dompierre wrote in an e-mail to the Detroit Free Press. "We're also very thankful to those people across Michigan and the nation who stepped forward to sign our petition, write letters, and/or spread the word in support of these young people. We appreciate the willingness of school personnel across Michigan to include them in high school athletics alongside their classmates for a full four years.

"We're especially happy for those other students who were able to secure their own waiver for next year. We wish them luck throughout their sports seasons."

Northville doesn't have any players who will be petitioning this year, but the school chose to vote in favor of the rule change.

"As a district, we voted yes," said Northville athletics director Bryan Masi. "I agree there had to be a middle ground and I believe the MHSAA took the correct approach."

Masi said that people do need to understand that the age limit was in place for good reason. Players tend to be larger, faster and stronger in their late teens and the age limit protects the younger athletes. In addition, it prevents studentathletes from being started late in school just to give them an edge on the athletics field in their later years.

The ruling, said Masi, likely won't change the face of MHSAA sports.

"I do not think it will have too much impact on MHSAA athletics," he said. "Schools still need to submit a request and the request will be evaluated by the MHSAA."

For more information about MHSAA rules, please visit the organization's website at www. mhsaa.com.



#### **ALUMNI**

Continued from page B1

gathering former players from 1987 to 2010.

Christoff touched the lives of many former Wildcats before current coach Brian O'Leary took over both programs. Christoff coached the boys program from 1993-95 and the girls program from 1992-2001. He also previously coached at Schoolcraft College in the 1970s and Livonia Stevenson after a playing career at Michigan State University in the 1960s and then in Greece, as well.

His two sons, Lenny and Chris, had wrestled and played football for Novi before graduating in 1998. Upon retiring, Christoff moved to Tennessee, but moved back to Novi to be closer to family as his health deteriorated

"He was a very unique coach when it came to his coaching technique, but his players adored him," Stocks said. "O'Leary has been a good help. Novi's had a great program and it just gets better and better every year. I'm interested to see how some of the older players interact with the younger girls."

About 28 players signed up for the Aug. 18 battle between Team Green and Team White. Captained by Hart and



The fall 1994 Novi boys soccer team poses with coach Larry Christoff (standing, far right).

1998 grad Dave Stevens, the game will feature a pretty even gender split with 15 men and 13 women, including five men from the 1980s and eight players from the 2010 Division I state championship girls team.

"Some of them are playing college, so they're unable to participate, but the 2010 girls sound like they want to keep this going," Stocks said. "Its really fun to talk to the younger girls. I tried to make it as equal as I could based

on my knowledge of the players."

The game also features a heavy concentration of players from 1995-96 and 2003, when Stocks' sister, Andrea Borashko Stalter, graduated. A few grads from 2000 and 2006-07 may also be joining the lineup late.

Stocks said the idea came together when several of the 1990s players visited Christoff three days before he died for the aforementioned surprise barbecue. Stocks said he went into a coma the following day before passing away two days later.

"Christoff, we told him we would have another game. College was all about college, not as much about having friends on the team," Stocks said. "We were talking about it and finally got it together. It started out as a Facebook thing."

When Stocks last played at Meadows Stadium, the middle school was next to it, rather than the three elementary schools, bus yard and administration building that currently surrounds the site at 45825 11 Mile Road, sharing a parking lot with Parkview Elementary.

With funds being

ing, Stocks said the boosters will open concessions for snacks and admission to the event is free, although cash or check donations payable to the Michigan Institute of Urology will be gladly accepted. Donations in Christoff's memory can also be made at www. miurunfortheribbon.org. The group's goal is to raise \$500-\$1,000. Several other alumni who cannot play due to health, pregnancy or collegiate restrictions – are expected to attend what could end up as a homecoming-like gathering for several former Novi soccer players. Even

COURTESY OF NICKIE STOCKS

helm as a game official. Although T-shirts for the game have been ordered. Stocks said other alumni interested in playing could fill a few more roster spots by contacting her at nborashko@hotmail.com or (231) 709-0121. All players will have to sign a liability waiver at the field and encouraged to arrive at 11 a.m.

"If there's a few people still interested, bring a white or green T-shirt,' Stocks said.

For more information, contact Stocks or visit www.facebook.com/ groups/176557825720061 or www.bit.ly/novialum-

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

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#### **Tourney champs**

The 12U Northville Bronco girls fastpitch softball team won the NSA Vengeance Kickoff Tournament in Armada last weekend. The Broncos went 6-0 in the tournament to win the 12U division. The first day was pool play and the Broncos stormed through with three convincing victories to secure a top seed in their pool entering the elimination round in day two. During the second day, the Broncos won the first game decisively, and then battled to the finish in a hard fought semi-final game against a very solid St. Clair team. In the championship game, the outsized Broncos saw their opponent, the Shelby Impact, grab a three run lead in the top of the first inning. The unfazed Broncos responded with two runs in the bottom of the inning and sent a message to their opponent that this would be a battle. The game saw several lead changes before the Broncos secured the lead for the last time in the bottom of the fifth inning, winning a wild affair by the score of 9-8. All 12 lady Broncos played and contributed significantly, and several outstanding efforts came from unstoppable shortstop Kiera Borthwick, third baseman and power hitter Makenzie Kamm, relentless pitcher Kayla Shaw who pitched the majority of the innings of the entire tournament, and hammering Sammie Noles who pounded many hits into the outfield contributing several runs during the tournament. The Broncos continue the undefeated league play this week with a double header at home at Millennium Field on Tuesday against the South Farmington Wildcards.

#### SPORTS SHORTS

#### Northville pom clinic

Northville High School pom pon program is proudly sponsoring a Pom Clinic for 2-8 grade girls. Participants will learn pom skills and an age-appropriate routine that will be performed at halftime for the Friday night varsity football game on Sept. 7. The Clinic runs Sept. 4-

7 from 7–8:30 at the high school. Please register by Aug. 22. Cost is \$70. **Contact Christine** 

Green with questions at (248) 347-3713 or christinecg2012@gmail.com.

#### **Northville Parks** and Rec Lacrosse camps

Come play the fastest game on two feet. Whether you are a beginner or experienced travel team player, here is a great opportunity to learn from the best. Dwayne Hicks, Michigan State former Head Coach and his experienced staff will lead the boys camp and Stacey Tardich, Northville High School head coach, will lead the girls camp. Join our great coaches as they teach, help, and encourage players to have fun while learning and improving their skills. Camp is held at Northville Community Park, Aug 20-22, 9 a.m.-noon. The camp is for boys and girls 5-8 grades.

Visit www.northvilleparksandrec.org for registration information.

#### **NHS Family Sports Pass** available

The 2012-2013 Northville High School Athletic Boosters Club Family Sport Pass is now available to order. This convenient pass provides admittance to all Northville High School and Middle School sports regular home games.

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

All funds generated from the sales of these passes goes directly to support NHS sports. Purchasing a Family Sport Pass is a great way to support Northville High School sports at a time when budgets are being cut.

**Contact Membership** Director Maureen Owen at (248) 348-0075 for more information.

#### Soccer Challenge

Hines Park Ford has teamed up with the Total Sports Complex in Wixom

and the South Lyon Soccer Club for the Escape Soccer Skills Challenge. The South Lvon Soccer Club event will be Aug. 28 from 5-8 p.m.

Boys and girls, ages 8-13, will compete in a series of challenges designed to encourage teamwork, improve their soccer skills and most importantly, have fun.

Additional information on the Ford Escape Soccer Skills Challenge as well as the related sweepstakes contest to enter for a change to win a twoyear lease of a 2013 Ford Escape can be found at www.fordescapesoccerskillschallenge.com/findevent.

Participants will receive points based on their performance of the six different soccer kills (Toe Taps, Foundations, Juggling (right and left foot), Dribbling (right and left foot). The topscorers, a boy and girl from each age group, will be awarded a trophy at the end of the event. All participants will receive a souvenir scorecard for their efforts as well as a two month iSoccer Plus membership. Local winners will be invited to participate in a Regional Finals event in late September or October to compete again for a trophy and other prizes.

# **Detroit Catholic Central already** getting attention

#### **By Sam Eggleston** Correspondent

Getting attention from collegiate level programs is nothing new for the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks football team. It is just about every year that the varsity team, under the guidance of

Those two may have been the only Shamrocks ranked on the list, but they won't be the only players receiving offers this year. One player that is getting talked about in the Division I ranks is defensive end Dylan Roney, who has been getting plenty of attention from Michigan State and was recently discussed as a potential prospect for the Wisconsin Badgers. The Shamrocks are expected to be pre-season favorites when the polls are released. They were favored to win the Division I state championship but bowed out to Detroit Cass Tech, 49-13.



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ssful candidates will possess:



Tom Mach, sends at least one player to the Division I ranks.

This year will be no different. Defensive end and running back Wyatt Shallman already made it clear he'll be headed to the University of Michigan in 2013 and offensive guard Derek Edwards will be player at Central Michigan University.

Both players were named by Rival.com as players to watch this year. Out of the top 30 players ranked in the state, Shallman, who stands 6foot-3 and weights 245 pounds, was ranked fifth in Michigan while Edwards, who is 6-5 and 270 pounds, was ranked No. 28 overall.



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

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



Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

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

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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

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

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#### **Novi Black wins Palomino AL Championship**

Novi Black, representing NYBL, won the Palomino American League Championship with a 6-5 win over the Livonia Braves. The team reeled off eight straight victories to finish the season.

Pictured (from left, back row): Asst. coach Ron Breaugh, Matt Brasil, Mark Breaugh, Mike Beaton, asst. coach Dave Beaton, Andrew Breaugh, Austin Dixon, Brandon Rademacher, Manager Tim Rush. Front row: Kiefer Haffey, Kyle Lash, Austin Wertheimer and Eric Lash. Not pictured, Luis Carrasco.



#### **Broncos kick up title**

The U12 Northville Bronco sweep "Battle by the Bays" Traverse City Baseball Tournament. The Broncos dominated the four team tournament with a 4 and 0 record defeating West Michigan Clubhouse, Kingsley and beating Petoskey twice for the Championship Trophy.

Front row (from left): Nick Fegert, John Lobbia, Scott Granzotto, John Jeannotte; Back row: Coach Fred Stinebiser, Matt Stinebiser, Cooper Smith, Coach Mike Granzotto, Stephen Ernst, Mattie G and Jack Sargent.



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#### B6 THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2012 HOMETOWN WEEKLIES HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# **REAL ESTATE**





Making a prudent decision about buying a house comes down to an honest assessment of what you can afford.

# Buying a home: Prepare by getting your finances in order

For those considering buying a home, the current real estate market presents some unique opportunities. One of the side effects of the economic roller-coaster ride of the past few years is that home prices have gone down and more homes have gone on the market. For buyers, that means more choices and better deals. However, those same tumultuous years also can also teach buyers a lesson: Make smart buying decisions and be wise with your finances.

Impulsive buying is never a good idea when it comes to a purchase as significant as a home, but it was something of a trend at the height of the mid-2000s. Now, with banks lending far more cautiously, you need to be absolutely certain that your finances are in order — and healthy — to be able to get the best deal on

your purchase.

There are a number of steps you can take to get ready to buy a home, and you might need to work on them simultaneously. Consider that you'll need to start saving, if you haven't already, but you'll also need to review your credit score and do what you can" to either maintain it or work toward healthier credit. Both of these tasks will help make the home-buying process better for you.

Your credit is an important factor in determining the terms under which you can ge a mortgage. Broadly speaking, the better your credit is, the more positively you'll be viewed by lenders --- and that can lead to better interest rates. And because you'll be paying off your home for vears to come, it's important to get the best rate possible.

Start by checking your credit report. You're entitled to one free check of your report, from TransUnion and other credit reporting agencies every year. As much as you need to check your report to find out what shape your credit is in, it's also essential to review it for inaccuracies or fraudulent activity, both of which can have a negative impact on your score.

If your credit health needs some work, start taking action immediately. Paying bills on time, reducing your overall debt and minum new creat inquiries can all help to build your credit - but be patient, as it can take time for your positive actions to take effect. Nevertheless, the sooner you make the effort, the sooner you'll see results. Making a prudent decision about buying a house comes

down to an honest assessment of what you can afford. Keep in mind that you might be approved for a loan that's larger than what is practical for you to afford. While it may be tempting to buy a pricier house, the stress of struggling to make payments could diminish your enjoyment of your new home and even put you at financial risk. One rule of thumb is that most borrowers can afford a home loan that runs about 2½ times their annual salary.

Buying a home is a complex process, but one that is mately very rewarding when done right. By organizing your finances well in advance, you'll help set yourself up for success. For more information about credit and buying a home, visit www.transunion.com.

#### Environmental contamination may play a role

JULIE BROWN, EDITOR

**By Robert Meisner Guest Columnist** 

Q: I am wondering in a condemnation matter whether evidence of environmental contamination and remediation costs is admissible to reduce the condemnation award?

A: There was a recent decision out of Illinois which found that evidence of environmental contamination is no different than evidence of a leaky basement, a cracked foundation or a dilapidated roof. The court reasoned that if the damage and costs of repair would influence a purchaser in determining how much to pay for the land, then such evidence is relevant to fair market val-

ue and admissible in a condemnation proceeding. It should be noted that only 12 states have addressed this issue and a slim majori-



**Robert Meisner** ty has allowed

consideration of contamination and mediation costs in determining fair market value. You are best advised to consult with your real estate lawyer.

Q: I have always thought that when you are enforcing a deed restriction, the court wiil balance the equities, so to speak, in terms of the enforceability of the restriction. What do you think about that?

A: While each case is unique to its own facts, in a recent appellate decision out of Rhode Island, the court reasoned that a land owner that deliberately violates restrictive covenants must remove the offending structures without the benefit of the balancing of equities. The court indicated that, ordinarily, if enforcement of a restriction disproportionately harms the defendant with little benefit to the plaintiff, a court may balance the equities, but the benefit of that doctrine is generally reserved for an innocent party that proceeds without knowledge that he or she is encroaching upon another's property rights. If the parhowever, are not inno and they construct a home that ... they knew violated at least some of the restrictions in that particular case, they will be ordered to tear down the premises.

- Courtesy ARA

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

#### **REAL ESTATE** BRIEFS

#### **Real Estate career** seminar

Learn about the \$50 Income Guarantee 6:30-7:30 p.m. today at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, in Plymouth. For more information contact Mike Workman at (734) 459-4700 or mworkman@ kw.com.

#### **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.

#### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of April 30-May 2012 at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices. CANTON 248 Charterhouse Dr..... \$115,000 49761 Courtyard Ln......\$165,000 685 Foothill Dr.....\$\$85,000 50177 Grant St.....\$241,000 47231 Hanford Rd .... \$232,000 8234 Holly Dr .....\$110,000 43248 Pepperwood St..... \$184,000 44275 Postmill Ct.....\$130,000 \$160,000 265 Shana St .. 45825 Spinning Wheel Dr ......\$200,000

41500 Stafford Ct	\$140.000
1244 W Crystal Cir	
GARDEN CITY	
32507 Bridge St	\$81,000
31027 Florence St	\$69,000
LIVONIA	
16111 Golfview St	\$224,000
9910 Henry Ruff Rd	\$129,000
14542 Huff St	
11807 Hunters Park Ct	\$238,000
29645 Jacquelyn Dr	\$135,000

35646 Joy Rd	\$88,000
37563 Kingsbury St	\$140,000
18186 Lathers St	\$52,000
15605 Mayfield St	\$77,000
11431 Merriman Rd	\$88,000
11208 Middlebelt Rd	\$26,000
31624 Pembroke St	\$76.000
29100 Terrence St	\$155,000
29100 Terrence St 32825 W Chicago St	\$133,000
NORTHVILLE	
16744 Bradner Rd	\$224,000
16726 Country Knoll Dr	\$220,000
16185 Pine Valley Dr	\$75,000
17745 Rolling Woods Cir	\$421,000
PLYMOUTH	
11827 Amherst Ct	\$220,000
1682 Cassady Place Dr	\$139,000
49903 Cooke Ave	\$461,000
1530 Nantucket Rd	\$150,000
1542 Nantucket Rd	\$165,000
9183 Redbud Ave	\$178,000
1199 S Sheldon Rd	\$27,000
13508 Westbrook Rd	\$515,000
REDFORD	
12920 Brady	\$70,000
13542 Brady	
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	14162 Breakfast Dr	\$153,000
	14162 Breakfast Dr 14204 Breakfast Dr	\$151,000
	14266 Breakfast Dr	\$142,000
	20492 Centralia	\$20,000
	26720 Joy Rd	<b>\$</b> 15,000
	26720 Jov Rd	\$7,000
	19328 Kinloch 19319 Lexington	\$15,000
	19319 Lexington	\$53,000
	18216 Macarthur	\$40,000
	14207 Marshall Dr	\$129,000
	25501 Saint Martins Ave	\$20,000
1.4	18711 Woodworth	<b>\$</b> 13,000
	WESTLAND	6
	37269 Amhurst Dr	\$80.000
	32727 Avondale St	\$77.000
	31816 Bay Ct	\$9,000
	31816 Bay Ct 8149 Beatrice	<b>\$</b> 95.000
	31132 Beechnut St	\$67.000
	35805 Canyon Dr	\$71,000
	32018 Chebovgan Ct	\$4,000
	32018 Cheboygan Ct 111 Daniel Ave	\$72.000
	35469 Farragut St	\$4.000
	34665 Hazelwood St	
	32222 Oscoda Ct	\$4.000
	32222 Oscoda Ct 8208 Parkside Dr	\$177.000
	33725 Tawas Trl	
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#### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the weeks of April 16-20, 2012 at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
32461 Beaconsfield St 20301 Elwood St	\$310,000
20301 Elwood St	\$148,000
18175 Kinross Ave	\$303,000
31975 W Bell Vine Trl	\$430,000
32757 White Oaks Trl	\$450,000
BINGHAM FARMS	
30375 Oakview Way	\$232,000
BIRMINGHAM	
909 Bird Ave	<b>\$</b> 470.000
928 Chapin Ave	\$500.000
672 Chester St	<b>\$</b> 400,000
2655 E Maple Rd	<b>\$28,000</b>
932 Forest Ave	\$380,000
932 Forest Ave 1311 Henrietta St	\$489,000
852 Henrietta St # 854	\$535,000
1893 Maryland Blvd	\$176,000
323 N Eton St	
1818 Yorkshire Rd	
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
2932 Squirrel Rd	\$245.000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
1938 Cragin Dr	\$300.000
674 E Fox Hills Dr	\$39,000

1730 S nowshoe Cir.       \$130,         5770 Snowshoe Cir.       \$269,         5156 Woodlands Ln       \$2250,         FARMINGTON HILLS       \$2236 Averhill St.         22236 Averhill St.       \$141,         31625 Belmont St.       \$141,         37167 Berkleigh Ct.       \$285,         29373 Birchcrest Way.       \$296,         34727 Bunker Hill Dr.       \$145,         27636 E Echo Vly       \$41,         30342 Essex Dr.       \$160,         21884 Flanders St.       \$130,         35767 Fredericksburg Rd.       \$200,         30831 Hunters Dr #23       \$67,         36172 Old Homestead Dr.       \$165,         25361 Stratton Hill Ct.       \$355,         24089 Susan Dr.       \$205,         27716 Westcott Crescent Cir.       \$92,         FRANKLIN       \$3656 Woodside Dr.       \$334,         MILFORD       \$186,         2886 Lorien Dr.       \$186,         2886 Lorien Dr.       \$186,         653 Sweetbriar	\$138,000	1758 S Hill Blvd
FARMINGTON HILLS         22236 Averhill St	\$390,000	5770 Snowshoe Cir
FARMINGTON HILLS         22236 Averhill St	\$269,000	6080 Snowshoe Cir
FARMINGTON HILLS         22236 Averhill St	\$250.000	5156 Woodlands Ln
31625 Belmont St.       \$141,         37167 Berkleigh Ct.       \$285,         29373 Birchcrest Way.       \$296,         34727 Bunker Hill Dr.       \$145,         27636 E Echo Vly       \$145,         27636 E Echo Vly       \$41,         30342 Essex Dr.       \$160,         21884 Flanders St.       \$130,         35767 Fredericksburg Rd.       \$200,         30831 Hunters Dr #23       \$67,         36172 Old Homestead Dr.       \$165,         25931 Power Rd.       \$235,         35361 Stratton Hill Ct.       \$355,         24089 Susan Dr.       \$205,         27716 Westcott Crescent Cir       \$92,         FRANKLIN       \$2875 Romany Way.       \$450,         30656 Woodside Dr.       \$334,         MILFORD       \$186,       \$53 Sweetbriar		FARMINGTON HILLS
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22649 Foxmoor Dr	\$255,000
51148 Hallfield St	
51159 Hallfield St	\$45,000
27023 Ladbroke St	\$45,000
27039 Victoria Rd	\$45,000
28188 Wolcott Dr	\$104,000
SOUTH LYON	
26400 Daria Cir	\$305.000
53792 Edgewood Dr	\$49.000
58731 Peters Barn Dr	\$335,000
336 Princeton Dr	\$150,000
24845 Ravine Dr	\$2,000
24845 Ravine Dr	
52860 Willowbrook Dr	
SOUTHFIELD	
17620 Gateway Cir	\$39,000
29480 Marshall St.	\$65,000
30123 Rock Creek Dr	\$115,000
28117 Selkirk St	\$35,000
29041 Tiffany Dr W	\$45,000
5000 Town Ctr	
18824 Webster Ave	\$105,000
18405 Westhampton Ave	\$23,000
17320 Westhampton Rd	\$123,000
20815 Winchester St	\$73,000
WHITE LAKE	
231 Horizon Rd	\$98.000
658 Red Bank Dr	\$285,000





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# 12 tips for making small talk

A study at the Stanford University School of Business tracked a group of MBAs 10 years after they graduated. The result? Grade point averages had no bearing on their success -- but their ability to converse with others did.

Being able to connect with others through small talk can lead to big things, according to Debra Fine, author of 'The Fine Art of Small Talk.' A former engineer, Fine recalls being so uncomfortable at networking events that she would hide in the restroom. Now a professional speaker, Fine says the ability to connect with people through small talk is an acquired skill.

Fine and her fellow authorities on schmoozing offer the following tips for starting -- and ending -conversations:

1. As you prepare for a function, come up with three things to talk about as well as four generic questions that will get others talking. If you've met the host before, try to remember things about her, such as her passion for a sport or a charity you're both involved in.

2. Be the first to say "hello." If you're not sure the other person will remember you, offer your name to ease the pressure. For example, "Charles Bartlett? Lynn Schmidt... good to see you again." Smile first and always shake hands when you meet someone.

3. Take your time during introductions. Make an extra effort to remember names and use them frequently.

4. Get the other person talking by leading with a common ground statement regarding the event or location and then asking a related open-ended question. For example, "Attendance looks higher than last year, how long have you been coming to these conventions?" You can also ask them about their trip in or how they know the host.

5. Stay focused on your conversational partner by actively listening and giving feedback. Maintain eye contact. Never glance around the room while they are talking to you.

6. Listen more than you talk.

7. Have something interesting to contribute. Keeping abreast of current events and culture will provide you with great conversation builders, leading with "What do you think of...?" Have you heard...?" What is your take



on...?" Stay away from negative or controversial topics, and refrain from longwinded stories or giving a lot of detail in casual conversation.

8. If there are people you especially want to meet, one of the best ways to approach them is to be introduced by someone they respect. Ask a mutual friend to do the honors.

9. If someone hands you a business card, accept it as a gift. Hold it in both hands and take a moment to read what is written on it. When you're done, put it away in a shirt pocket, purse or wallet to show it is valued.

10. Watch your body language. People who look ill at ease make others uncomfortable. Act confident and comfortable, even when you're not.

11. Before entering into a conversation that's already in progress, observe and listen. You don't want to squash the dynamics with an unsuited or ill-timed remark.

12. Have a few exit lines ready, so that you can both

gracefully move on. For example, "I need to check in with a client over there," "I skipped lunch today, so I need to visit the buffet," or you can offer to refresh their drink.

When should you exit a conversation? According to Susan RoAne, author and speaker known as the "Mingling Maven," your objective in all encounters should be to make a good impression and leave people wanting more. To do that, she advises: "Be bright. Be brief. Be gone."



