

**BENTIVOLIO HEADS TO D.C.** 

LOCAL NEWS, A4

# ORTHVILLE RECORD

PRICE: \$1 • THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2013 • hometownlife.com

### **'Michigan** Roots<sup>9</sup>

The Northville Genealogical Society will put on a presentation,



Rzepczynski

gan Roots: Genealogy Research in the Great Lakes State,"

at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13, at the Northville District Library. Kris Rzepczynski, a senior archivist at the Archives of Michigan, will be the presenter.

A roundtable discussion about "Websites You Haven't Thought Of," presented by Grace Wilfong, will take place at 1:15 p.m. followed by a brief membership meeting and refreshments.

This presentation is open to the public and free of charge. For more information, contact Tillie Van Sickle at (734) 595-7806.

### Get flu shots

Within the past weeks, two influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported in Michigan. These deaths are a somber reminder of the danger flu poses to children. The Michigan Department of Community Health recommends that everyone six months of age and older get a seasonal flu vaccine each

Vaccination should be occurring now and continue throughout the entire flu season and there is an ample supply of flu vaccine available. Citizens can call their physician, local health department, or use the Health Map Vaccine Finder at http://flushot. healthmap.org to find nearby influenza vaccination clinics. For more information about the flu, visit www.michigan. gov/flu.

# Township water rates rising in the new year

By Lonnle Huhman Staff Writer

Northville Township will be raising its water and sewer rates Jan. 11 in an effort to maintain enough revenue so it can properly operate its Water and Sewer Department. Officials are estimating water rates for residents may increase 5 percent each year over the next several years.

Last year, the township increased its consumption fees for water and sewer by 5 percent as well.

The Northville Township Board of Trustees approved a number of staff recommendations at its last meeting to address the overall water and sewer system. The recommendations ranged from an amendment to the contract with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, system improvement payments and increasing rates after looking at the department's financial fore-

According to Northville Township Department of Public Services officials, in 2013 residential water rates will go from \$4.94 per 1,000 gallons to \$5.19 per 1,000 gallons, while sewer rates will increase from \$4.59 per 1,000 gallons to \$4.82 per 1,000 gallons.

"None of us up here want to raise rates on anything," Northville Township Supervisor Robert Nix said at the meeting Dec.

"But we also have a fiduciary duty, I think, to do the right thing and make sure we maintain the township in the best financial position so that we don't make a

misstep that has a really negative impact on our bond rating," he added.

Northville Township DPS Director Tom Casari said the financial forecast is done each year. This year they did an analysis on the water and sewer revenues and expenditures based on the 2012 performance and notifications of water supply and sewage disposal rates. Township officials also considered future expenditures for labor, materi-

Please see RATES RISING, A2

# Wintertime wipeout!



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cousins Izzie Harris, 5, (top) and Gwen Wise, 12, enjoy a fun moment after a plunge down the hill at Northville's Amerman Elementary School on Dec. 27. Locals had near-perfect sledding conditions that day after a storm dropped about six inches of snow in the area.

# Poole's Tavern eyes city-owned property for expansion

By Lonnle Huhman Staff Writer

The City of Northville is continuing talks on the potential sale of some municipallyowned property - located at the corner of Hutton and Main streets to Poole's Tavern, which is hoping to expand its outdoor dining area to include a covering from

The restaurant's own-

ership said there have been times in the past that a sudden summer rain storm pushed outdoor diners inside where it was already busy, causing challenges. That's just one reason they want to renovate their location on east Main Street.

Another is it could improve the east entry way into downtown

Please see POOLE'S, A2

# The other side of the bench

Local attorney excited about future as circuit court judge

By Kurt Kuban

Staff Writer

You might say Christmas came early for Martha Snow.

The Northville Township resident and longtime attorney received some surprising and welcome news early last month when she was informed Gov. Rick Snyder had appointed her to the Third Circuit Court in Wayne County.

Snow, a 16-year resident of the township, replaced Judge Gershwin Drain, who resigned from the bench. Snow was sworn in by the governor Dec. 4 in Lansing, and then started on the bench the next day.

"It's been a whirlwind," she said. The appointment wasn't a complete surprise for Snow, who actually applied in 2011 for a vacancy in the same court



Northville Township's Martha Snow was appointed to serve as judge in Wayne County's Third Circuit Court last month.

when Mary Beth Kelly was elected to the Michigan Supreme Court. While she didn't get that appointment, Snow had heard she was "on the short list" after Drain resigned.

Please see JUDGE, A2



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### **RATES RISING**

Continued from page A1

al and capital improve-

The rates and connection fees to the water and sewer lines are the primary source of income for the township division. Casari said rates for communities connected with DWSD are factored according to distance, elevation and usage.

The township's forecast report made some assumptions that influenced its recommendations. One being the annual bond debt incurred of more than \$3.5 million for sewage treatment expansion that started in 2003. The township also assumes a future annual increase of wholesale sewage disposal costs of 9 percent for the years 2013-18, and then 6 percent thereafter.

Other assumptions are the increases for the annual water purchase costs, which also increase by 5 percent in 2013, and that future water and sewer connection fees will be

maintained at their current level through 2016, but will increase 5 percent thereafter. The township also expects the number of residential taps for the next year to be at 75.

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Until 2018, the township also wants the Capital Improvement Fund to be at \$300,000 per year.

The DWSD contract amendment reflects a decrease in the township's maximum use of gallons per day and a decrease in the amount of water used during peak hours.

Some things the township has done to address water loss and usage have been nighttime lawn watering and a new water tower. Casari said these, along with the changes made in the amendment, could help slow rate increases or make decreases possible in the future.

According to Casari. DWSD needs to increase its water and sewage revenue by 4 percent, so its connected communities are being affected.

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### **JUDGE**

Continued from page A1

Snow brings a wealth of legal experience to the Third Circuit bench. For more than two decades she has been a civil trial lawyer, and had been a longtime partner in the Canton-based law firm Xuereb Snow PC with her husband Joe Xuereb. She relinquished her share in the firm before being appointed to the bench. Her career dates back to 1991, when she was admitted to the state bar after getting her law degree from Wayne State University Law School.

Snow also served on the Northville Township Planning Commission, the Schoolcraft College Board of Governors and the Community Alliance Credit Union Board of Directors — all positions she resigned when she learned she was getting the appointment. Her community service involves being a member of the Canton Rotary Club, Canton-Plymouth Giving Hope Woman's Giving Circle and St. Kenneth Catholic Church. She is a 2005 graduate of Leadership Canton.

In addition, she was recently appointed by the Michigan Supreme Court to serve on the Attorney Grievance Commission.

"Martha Snow is an experienced attorney with decades of service and involvement in her community. I am confident she will be an outstanding addition to the bench in Wayne County," Snyder said.

Snow is also confident she will do the job well. In fact, becoming a judge is something she has aspired to for many

years. In 2008, for example, she ran unsuccessfully for the 35th District Court bench, losing in the primary election. So in many ways, this is a dream come true for her.

"I'm just so thrilled," said Snow, 50.

Snow has been placed in the court's Family Division, meaning much of her case load will include divorce hearings, custody battles, property issues and determining parenting time for divorced couples. She calls this a good fit for her because much of her former practice was representing plaintiffs and defendants primarily in family law matters in Wayne County Circuit Court.

"I would say 75-80 percent of my practice has been family law," Snow said. "The challenge for me now is just kind of learning how to be on the

other side of the bench. I'm used to being an advocate. Now, I have to listen to both sides, and not be an advocate."

Snow said her goal as judge is to get people through the legal system "as smoothly as pos-

sible." "I want to get it right. I'll do my homework. I'm here because I want to help people," she said.

Snow's appointment runs through 2014, when she will have to seek election to serve the remainder of Drain's term, which expires Jan. 1, 2017. Snow said there is little doubt she will run in 2014. In fact, she sees herself on the bench for many years to come.

"I'm all in," she said. "They're going to have to kick me out when I'm 72."

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### POOLE'S

Continued from page A1

making it even more attractive. Poole's co-owner John Casey went before the city's Land Committee, formed by the city to look into this potential sale, on Dec. 20 to present his ideas for the property if he is able to obtain it from the

"The benefit to the city is that we bring a lot of vitality to the city," Casey said of Poole's, noting the location has some of the best outdoor dining in the area. It also features the Bak Bar, which has more of a lounge atmosphere.

Casey showed the group three possible plans. One involves buying the city's entire corner, while a second plan would have Poole's purchasing about half of it. The third idea was more of a look into the future, in which the Poole's purchases the whole property and then ultimately expands its building to offer an additional floor and patio/ balcony space.

The plan for the entire corner would have Poole's redoing their façade in brick, adding kitchen

"The benefit to the city is that we bring a lot of vitality to the city."

**JOHN CASEY** 

co-owner Poole's Tavern

space and building a glass-roofed yet open atrium to cover the outdoor area.

The city's Poole's Land Committee, made up of Mayor Chris Johnson, Council member Ryan McKindles, and Downtown Development Authority members Carolann Ayers and Shawn Riley, have been charged with reviewing and offering recommendations on the following

- To sell or lease the property, or not sell.
- If a sale or lease is recommended, what type of use and construction should be required as condition of the transaction?
- And finally, should the city convey all or a portion of the land, and at what price?

Casey said it's their main desire to buy the entire corner. The area of property being considered is 5,243 square feet, which is under

an acre. Just over 60 feet of it is on Main Street and another 43 feet is on Hutton. It's considered a city park with a seating area.

According to City Manager Patrick Sullivan, the sale's price for the entire corner is more than \$100,000 while half of it is just under \$50,000.

Currently, Poole's outdoor area covers 26 feet of city property and can seat more than 70 people.

The Land Committee said it liked a lot of the design ideas of the third and more long-term concept. Johnson said putting in a brick façade should be a requirement of any potential deal. He also said additional floors would be a positive development, but would need to be American with Disabilities Act

However, he added there are still a lot of questions that need to be answered, including whether or not the economic benefit of selling or leasing the property outweighs the leisure use of the property?

The committee will meet again at the end of January for more discussion.

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#### **ORTHVILLE** RECORD

Published Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Media 866.887.2737 www.hometownlife.com **Publication Number USPS 396880** Periodical Postage Paid at Northville, MI 48167

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# Vets teach trick of caring for pets during winter months

LOCAL NEWS

By Diane Gale Andreassi Staff Writer

If only our pets could talk and tell us if they're hungry, thirsty or too cold, especially during these winter months.

Area veterinarians have become their voices by sharing advice about how to care for animals when the temperatures plummet and the winds are bitter.

"Make sure your pets have a warm, insulated pet house or shelter," explained Jennifer Groehn at Highland Veterinary Hospital. "It is important for the house to be elevated off the ground so that moisture will not accumulate inside and possibly freeze."

Those shelters should have a door on the outside, like a flap made of material similar to canvas, to keep those harsh winter winds from harming your pets inside the shelter.

"If the wind chill or other weather conditions become severe, bring your pets inside," Groehn added.

Vaccinations need to be kept up to date, especially this time of year,

too, she said. "The increased stress of cold weather lowers their resistance to disease," said Groehn, who reminds pet owners to give their pets heart worm preventative year round to ensure all immature heart worms are killed when they reach the stage of susceptibility to the medication. A parasite routine test should be done every six months. These parasites drain your pet's blood, protein and energy, depleting them of nutrients and calories, according to the Highland-based veteri-



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dr. Jennifer Groehn at Highland Veterinary Hospital, pictured here holding Misty, said pet owners need to make sure their furry companions have warm, dry shelters if they stay outside. Holiday plants like poinsettias, fireplaces and even your car can be dangerous to pets, if you aren't careful, she said.

Keep in mind that cold temperatures and indoor heating can also cause dry skin and lead to dandruff. Brush your pet's coat regularly.

#### Dress up

Sometimes pet clothes seem silly, but experts say go ahead and put that sweater on if your pet will acquiesce. It will help a little, but you can't depend on it entirely for warmth. Pets lose most of their body heat from their paw pads, ears and respiratory tracts. The best way to guard your animals

ing a close eve on them to make sure they're comfortable.

Frostbite is as dangerous to animals as it is to their owners, and the fur coat Fido has doesn't offer as much protection as you may think. Wind and cold exposure should be the two biggest concerns for all pet owners. Frostbite causes damage to the skin and tissues due to exposure to extreme cold. Always remember to remove snow and ice from your pet's paws and coat as soon as you notice them, said Groehn. Frostbitten skin may turn reddish,

be scaly or sloughing. If you suspect frostbite, take your pet to a warm place immediately. Thaw out your pet's frostbitten areas slowly by applying warm, moist towels that are changed frequently. Continue this cycle of warm towel compresses until the areas become flushed, and contact your veterinarian as soon as possible.

#### Keep routines "Remember, being

gone for extended periods of time or having guests over for the holidays can upset your pets' routine and promote anxiety-based issues," said Heather Ferguson, a veterinarian and partner at Lyon Veterinary Clinic on Pontiac Trail in South Lyon. "If you have concerns about

this, contact your veterinarian."

Ferguson also pointed out that holiday food and plants can be toxic to your pets. The biggest concerns come from poinsettia, holly, mistletoe and lilies. Ferguson recommends refraining from giving your pet too much of your food, which can significantly increase the risk for intestinal upset or other problems. Dogs and cats don't understand, 'If I do this I will pay later,' Ferguson said. "They only know, 'But, I want,' or 'I like."

Keeping warm requires pets to get extra calories from food, especially if they are normally outside pets. For dogs, you should be able to feel a layer of fat, yet still be able to

feel their ribs and backbones, said Ferguson. When the temperatures drop, consult your veterinarian for advice on increasing your pet's diet.

Make sure your pets are well hydrated during the winter, too, Groehn said. If your pet is kept outdoors, be sure to check the water frequently since it may freeze. Porcelain bowls are best for outdoor pets; this will prevent their tongues from sticking to the bowl.

#### **Outside dangers**

Remember to keep your pet away from snow removal salt and antifreeze. De-icing salts can be toxic. Keep these products stored

Please see PETS, A4





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# **PETS**

Continued from page A3

in tight containers away from pets. Rock salt is not only detrimental to your pet's health if it is ingested, it can also irritate their paw pads. Always clean your pet's paws after a trip outside.

Antifreeze is also dangerous to your pets and it has an appealing smell and sweet taste. Even the slightest amount of ingested antifreeze can be fatal. Clean up any antifreeze spills and dispose of it so it is out of reach for your pets.

As the weather turns cooler, cats seek a comfy warm spot and may curl up near your car engine or underneath the hood. If you have a cat that frequently goes outside, be attentive to their whereabouts and give your horn a quick honk before starting your engine, Groehn said.

The festive decorations and tasty sweets that accompany the holiday season can also be a danger to your pet.

"All of us appreciate a beautifully decorated Christmas or Hanukkah tree, sometimes our furry friends appreciate them a little too much," Groehn said. "To keep your tree beautiful and your pets out of trouble, anchor the top of your tree to a wall using a strong cord or rope. This is especially useful for those of us that have a tree-scaling cat or a large canine companion."

Remember, too, if you light a fire in the fireplace or plug in a space heater to keep your home toasty, your pets will be attracted to the heat, too. Make sure tails and paws don't come in contact with flames. heating coils or hot surfaces. Pets can either



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Dr. Heather Ferguson at **Lyon Veterinary Clinic** checks the pad on Gunny's front paw during a recent check up. Pets, like humans, are susceptible to cold and windy weather.

burn themselves or knock a heat source over and put the entire household in danger.

Also, Ferguson recommends being aware of carbon monoxide leakage for you and your pets. Carbon monoxide is odorless and invisible, but it can cause headaches, fatigue and trouble breathing. Pets generally spend more time in the home than owners, so they are more vulnerable to carbon monoxide poisoning than the rest of the family.

Cold weather can be especially harmful to elderly and arthritic pets, leaving their joints stiff and tender, making them more awkward than usual. Pay attention when they are climbing stairs or jumping onto furniture and consider changing their environment to make it easier for them to get around. Make sure they have a thick, soft bed in a warm room for chilly nights. Also, watch stiff and arthritic pets if you walk them outside; a bad slip on the ice could be very painful and cause a significant injury.

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# D.C.-bound

# Bentivolio's congressional term starts Jan. 3

By Alleen Wingblad Staff Writer

Life has changed in the past couple of months for Kerry Bentivolio.

Just a bit.

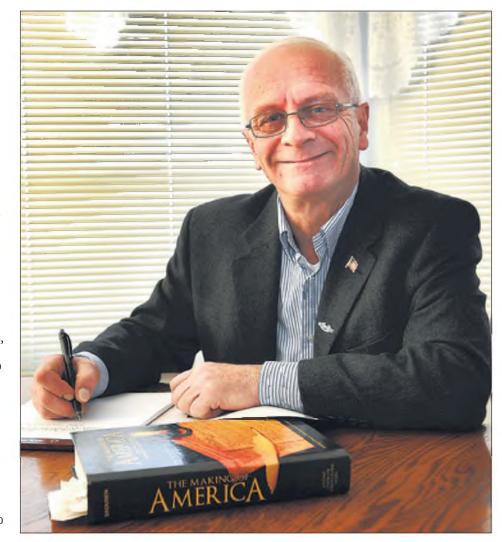
The Tea Party favorite, former school teacher and builder known for raising reindeer, honeybees and chickens at his Milford Township home is seemingly giddy as he talks about face time with Speaker of the House John Boehner and Congressmen Fred Upton and Eric Cantor — fellow Republicans he has met with in recent weeks as he prepares for his own two-year term in the U.S. House of Representatives, beginning Jan. 3.

"It's surreal," Bentivolio said — the same word he used earlier this year as he was thrust into frontrunner status for the 11th District, when former Rep. Thad McCotter resigned amid a petition scandal.

A self-described "regular guy," Bentivolio is still getting accustomed to Washington, D.C., of having Capitol Police who he's never met address him by name, of setting up an office in the Cannon Building and a second home in an apartment complex blocks away.

He's dined with Steve Forbes. He's had briefings on budgets and ethics, House rules and floor protocol. And he's thrilled to be named to the Small **Business Committee and** the Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

"The common analogy is 'drinking water from a water hose," he said



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kerry Bentivolio sits at his kitchen table, taking notes as he prepares to start his Congressional career on Jan. 3. He plans to "hit the ground running" once his term starts.

of the whirlwind weeks. "They keep it coming at you, they just keep piling it on."

#### Two standing rules

Yet as different as his world has become of late, Bentivolio said his focus is intact.

"I have two standing rules: To be in the district as often as possible based on the congressional calendar, and to give my constituents a real congressman. They deserve that," he said.

For his first "rule," he has leased an office at 770 Welch Road in Commerce Township, near M-5 and Maple Road. The space is set to open in early February. He's also establishing a mobile office to take to various cities and townships in his district.

"We'll park it in Canton for a week or two, move it to Livonia, Troy, Auburn Hills, Birmingham, White Lake, Highland. I'm reaching out to folks about issues and concerns — and it will be bipartisan. If I can help and they are in my district, I'll listen," he said.

Visits to his office in D.C. are welcome, too.

"I've instructed my staff that they can interrupt what I'm doing if someone stops in to say 'hi," he said.

Bentivolio plans to "hit

the ground running" when Congress reconvenes after the December break. One of his priorities, he said, is "getting to the bottom of Benghazi-gate" — referring to the Sept. 11 terrorist attack in Benghazi, Libya, which killed U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans. There are lingering questions regarding its misrepresentation by U.S. officials for weeks afterward, as well as mistakes the Obama administration may have made in handling the deadly assault, he said.

"I'm not letting this go away. I'm going to bring this to the carpet — I want to know what went on, why they were left in the lurch. And then I'm going to tell the public and let the public deal with it. If someone dropped the ball, we are going to find out," Bentivolio said.

### Open dialogue

Bentivolio also wants to "show people the light" when it comes to the barrage of new taxes that will soon come into effect with the Affordable Health Care Act, commonly called Obamacare.

"There are 23 new additional taxes, and people aren't talking about it. I want people to know what's happening," he

And as a member of the Small Business Committee, Bentivolio has already set the wheels in motion by putting together a plan to invite business owners and business leaders to have open dialogue about iob creation and challenges they face. He hopes to have input from each city and township in his district.

As a politician who campaigned against big government as well as excessive federal spending and borrowing, Bentivolio said his work at the national level will continue to reflect those views, as well as his staunch support for the First Amendment.

"I'll question everything and always give people the straight scoop — and I'm willing to work with anyone," he said. "But I am just one voice, just one voice out of 435 (House members),"

And he's determined not to lose his enthusiasm or commitment to his district.

"I'm having the time of my life. This is so exciting," Bentivolio said. "But this is all about service and getting the job done. That's what this is all about."

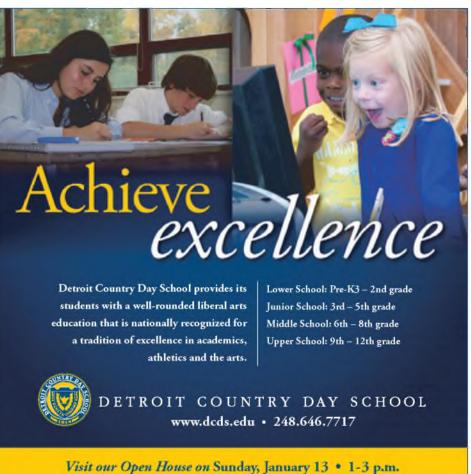
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# Teachers trying to figure out what to make of right-to-work

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

The Northville Education Association isn't happy about the new right-to-work legislation and is concerned about its potential impact in the near future. But NEA president Nick Nugent does say even with this change, the union remains confident about its future.

"We're (NEA) disappointed with the legislature and governor," Nugent said. "There are a lot of misconceptions about this issue.'

He said the coming year will be a time for the NEA and Michigan **Education Association to** figure out what's next.

'We're concerned, but we don't think it's going to affect us too much," Nugent said of the legislation

In the past month, Gov. Rick Snyder signed two bills pertaining to Rightto-Work. One bill, which was approved by a 58-51 vote in the Republican-

#### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you think Gov. Rick Snyder made the right decision to sign right-towork legislation? Please e-mail your opinions to Editor Kurt Kuban at kkuban@hometownlife. com or post a comment on our website at www. hometownlife.com.

led House of Representatives, will ban workplace rules that make union membership a condition of employment for government workers. A second bill covers private-sector workers, and this passed by a vote of 58-52

After the signing Snyder said it was time to move forward on the topic of workplace fairness and equality.

It is set to take effect in March. Michigan is the 24th state to enact such legislation. Workers will have a choice say proponents and pay-

**BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT** 

ment of union dues becomes voluntary. But opponents counter by saying the union negotiates on a worker's behalf and those not paying union dues will still benefit from it.

"It's freedom to freeload," Nugent summed it up. "A person selecting not to participate with the union will receive all of the benefits the union works so hard to bargain

The NEA is probably Northville's largest union with 430 members. It has had some challenges lately, including teacher layoffs in the past year as well as seeing custodians and transportation contracted out to private companies. Its collective bargaining agreement with Northville Public Schools is set to expire in August 2013.

Nugent said he's confident that going forward the NEA will retain most of its members, at least 98 percent. He added there have been misun-

Bulbuk

Chaz and Johanna

**Bulbuk (Novi High** School 2004 and 2003

graduates, respec-

tively) announce the birth of their daughter, Brooke Bulbuk,

born at 8:02 a.m. Dec.

She joins big brother Charlie, 15 months. Grandparents are

Brad and Pam Dase, of

Northville, and Mike and Karen Bulbuk, of

Novi. Great-grandpar-

ents are Donna Saun-

ders, of Wixom; Vikki

Melton, of Hartland;

John Bulbuk, of Athol,

Mass.; Kenneth Lloyd of Plymouth; and Ann

Loveland and Ralph Pedersen of Bloom-

field Hills.

9, 2012.

derstandings in the past about the union, such as being required to join, but that wasn't the case.

Bringing more aware-

ness to the NEA and its role will be important. Meanwhile for the NEA, Nugent said, "Now we have to take time to

figure out where to go from here."

> lhuhman@hometownlife.com (248) 437-2011, ext. 255

# I CAN MAKE ANYONE **LOSE WEIGHT!**

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If you are like most people, you have probably lost weight

in the past only to gain it back and then some. The old yo-yo dieting syndrome. There is a reason for that and I'll show you what it is. There is no gimmick or quick fix that will ever make you lose weight permanently. This is the REAL THING!

I know there is a good chance you are dealing with Type II Diabetes, High Blood Pressure, High Cholesterol, Hypothyroidism, joint pain and possibly a number of other health conditions. Come spend one hour with me and I'll show you how you may be able to completely rid yourself of Type II Diabetes, and possibly throw away your blood pressure and cholesterol drugs forever. Whether you want to lose that last 10 pounds or you NEED to lose 100 lbs. or more, I can show you how to do it.

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- "I have more energy and feel great"
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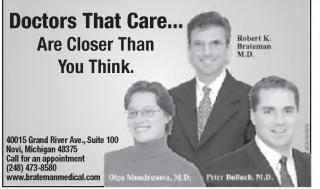
P.S.: This will be my biggest weight loss seminar of the year and will book up fast. Don't be left out. Call now to reserve your spot. www.LivoniaSpineAndHealth.com

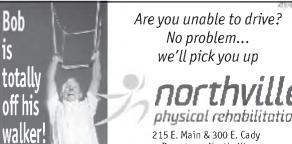
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# Police chief: Pistol sales on rise as new laws go into effect

NORTHVILLE/NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

The Northville City Police have done more pistol sales records in the last several weeks than the previous six months.

People may be buying more handguns believing new legal restrictions may be on the way, Police Chief Gary Goss said of the possible reasoning for this development.

In the meantime, some gun law changes have come and many involved are playing catchup.

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, January 3, 2013

"We've done more in the last two weeks than the previous six months," Goss said.

He wouldn't speak to any specific numbers, but he said the increase has been very noticeable.

A Pistol Sales Record is an exception for a person licensed in Michigan to carry a concealed pistol. Goss said a CPL holder must obtain a PSR any time that person purchases or otherwise acquires a pistol. This is just for CPL individuals.

Although a bill expand-

ing the places a person with CPL can carry a concealed weapon was struck down, there were some recent significant gun law changes.

On Dec. 18, Public Act 377, which was approved in the state Legislature and signed by Gov. Rick Snyder, changed the law to allow permits to purchase handguns to be valid for 30 days instead of 10 and also eliminates state background checks for gun sales at federally licensed retailers.

Now, if a person is buying a handgun from a

federally licensed gun dealer, the purchaser will not have to go to the local police department to obtain a permit to buy a gun. They can instead fill out an application with the federally licensed dealer and then later have the PSR checked by the local police.

Previously, a purchaser had to go to the police to get a purchase permit for each pistol. Licensed dealers include places like Gander Mountain and Cabela's.

Other adjustments include sheriffs now overseeing all permit approvals. The state's county gun boards, in place since 1927, will be eliminated.

Despite the changes, Goss said local police departments will still have authority to check for any criminal record at both the state and national level. In addition, if the gun is bought from a private citizen, then he or she must go to the police first because that person is likely not a licensed dealer.

The changes are meant to streamline the pro-

Goss said the changes basically mean decisions must be made quicker and some of the checks are switched around. The changes came in a lameduck session of the state Legislature and they went into effect immediately.

"I'm not sure if everyone was prepared for this, so there will be some time before every party involved are caught up," Goss said.

Ihuhman@hometownlife.com (248) 437-2011, ext. 255

#### **Hotel larcenies**

Novi again saw a series of car break-ins in the past month, including several at area hotels.

One break-in happened in a parking lot at the Doubletree Hotel, located at 42100 Crescent Boulevard, Sometime on Dec. 17-18, an unknown suspect smashed the rear driver's side window of a vehicle and stole the factory GPS navigation and stereo system. The wires were

Another incident took place at the Sheraton on Haggerty Road. This time it was the rear passenger window that was smashed, but with the same results. And an even more expensive

theft happened at the Crown Plaza. This incident, also in a similar time period as the others, had computers and brief cases stolen from a vehicle.

Novi Police are stepping up patrols of hotel parking lots.

#### Drunken driving

Jager bombs led to a female driver being arrested for a second drunken driving offense by Novi Police.

On Dec. 16, police stopped the woman at Grand River Avenue and Lannys Road. According to the police report, the officer smelled intoxicants on the woman. She said she had been drinking at a friends home and had five Jagermeister and Red Bull shots, popularly known as Jager bombs.

After having trouble with the field sobriety tests, the woman submitted to a preliminary Breathalyzer test. She was arrested after it registered a .168 percent blood-alcohol content.

#### New car egged

A Northville Township man called township police on Dec. 18 to report somebody had thrown eggs at his brand new 2013 Buick LaCrosse. According to police reports, the car was parked overnight in the street on the 46000 block of Greenridge Drive. When the

man went to drive it, he noticed egg yolk on the driver's side door, as well as broken egg shells on the street nearby. One of the eggs chipped off the paint, exposing bare metal.

There are no suspects at this time.

#### Marijuana possession

A female driver was arrested for marijuana possession after Novi Police stopped her for having a tail light out.

On Dec. 17, police stopped the woman at Eight Mile and Garfield roads. Once contact was made, police reported smelling marijuana inside the vehicle. When asked where it was at the woman handed a bag with marijuana in it over to the police. It tested positive, police stated.

She admitted it was hers and police also

found drug paraphernalia inside the car, which she was cited for as well.

#### Car crash

A 25-year-old Livonia man rolled his car, but was not injured during the snowstorm on the night of Dec. 26.

According to Northville City Police, the man was driving northbound on Sheldon Road before Seven Mile Road/Edward Hines Drive when he lost control on the snowy hill as he was slowing. The vehicle struck the lowered end of the guard rail on the right side of the road and this caused it to roll on its side.

The police report said alcohol and drugs were not a factor.

#### Purse taken

A 64-year-old Northville woman shopping at Hiller's Market on Haggerty in Northville Township lost her purse

after inadvertently leaving it in the store's restroom. According to reports, the woman used the restroom around 7 p.m. on Dec. 21, and left the purse hanging on the hook of one of the stalls. She left the bathroom and went out to her car, when she realized she had left it. She returned to the bathroom a couple minutes later, but the purse was gone.

According to a store manager, who retrieved security video, three people entered the stall between the time the woman left and came back. However, because each of the people were wearing large coats, it was impossible to determine which one may have taken the purse.

A police officer advised the woman to cancel her checks that were in the purse, as well as all of her credit cards.

# **Passages**

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



BEMISH, LAWRENCE MERRILL "LARRY"

Age 78, passed away peacefully in his home in Northville, Michigan with his wife Catherine Eugenie (Green) "Jean" Bemish by his side on December 27, 2012. He was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan on March 22, 1934 to Leslie and Ann (Sonderman) Bemish. He's survived by his wife Eugenie, son Andrew Law-"Andy" Bemish of Northville, daughter Katherine Clare "KC" Bemish of Ann Arbor and grandson Ngun "Charlie" Thang of Northville. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Gail (Bemish) Green. He met the love of his life, Eugenie through her brother Bill. While big in personality, Larry was small in stature (he topped out at 5'3") and the first question he asked his future wife on the phone was "how tall are you?" Thankfully, her response suited him perfectly (she's 5' 3" as well) and they were married on June 22, 1957 in Northville. As a youth Larry divided his time between Northville and Ann Arbor and as such never officially graduated high school. Undaunted by this minor flaw in his education, Larry went on to earn a BA in Special Education from Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan and an MA and PhD in Special Education from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He taught special education in the Livonia Public Schools until 1970 when he landed his "dream job" as professor of special education at Eastern Michigan University where he taught for 30 years until his retirement in 2000. Larry led a long and happy life and it was often said of him "he's the nicest man I've ever met." His kindness, caring and understanding were enhanced by his ever-present sense of hurnor. He believed that laughter healed all pain and made any situation bearable. And it just seems right to honor him by passing on his favorite joke; "What did the zero say to the eight? Nice belt." Visitation will be held Friday, January 4, 2013 from 4-8pm with a scripture service at 7pm at Casterline Funeral Home, 122 West Dunlap, Northville. A funeral mass will be held Saturday, January 5, 2013 at 10am at Our

www.AskForAngela.com. Share online condolences at www.casterlinefuneralhome.com

MI 48154-5010.

Lady of Victory Catholic Church, 133 Orchard, Northville.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia,

Catholic

# BURT, DOROTHEA M.

Age 91, passed away Dec. 24, 2012. A Funeral Mass will be held at a later date. Arrangements by Phillips Funeral Home.



GATTERI, JOSEPH Age 82, a lifelong resi-

dent of Northville, passed December 25, 2012. He was born on 21, 1930 in Farmington; son of Joseph and Dominica (Turina) Gatteri. Joseph was united in marriage to Margaret I. Marshall on April 29, 1950; they spent 62 loving years together He proudly served his country with the Army during the Korean War. Joseph's life revolved around horse racing. He was a Harness Horse Owner, Trainer & Driver at all of the area racetracks; including, Northville Downs, DRC, and Hazel Park. He was a life member of the Michigan Harness Horseman, as well as a life member of American Legion Post 147. He enjoyed baseball and coached his daughter's softball team, Gatteri's Trotters. He was a loving and caring husband and a devoted father. Joseph is survived by his wife, Margaret; his children, Gayle Gatteri, Jodie (Tim) Dempsey, Sandra (the late Todd) Plave, Joseph Gatteri III, and Jim (Shir-ley) Gatteri; his sister Jennie Bertera; and his grandchildren, David (Christina), Pete, Amy, TJ, Chad, Jimmy, Adam, Sara, Tyler, Ashley, Brittney (Alvin), and Holly; and 8 great grandchil-dren. He was also loved by many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, 3 brothers, and 3 sisters. A funeral service was held last Saturday at Casterline Funeral Home of Northville. Rev. Gerald Hunter with the New Hudson United Methodist Church officiated the service. Memorial contributions

Share online condolences at www.casterlinefuneralhome.com

Michigan 48844.

would be appreciated to Horses'

Haven, PO Box 166, Howell,

### JARRELL, NELLIE

Age 90, passed away 12-21-12. Visitation 12-27 from 5pm-9pm at Phillips Funeral Home. Funeral 12-28 at 10am at Rose of Sharon Baptist Church. On-line guestbook: phillipsfuneral.com

### JONES, BONNIE

Age 84, passed away 12-21-2012. Private family service was held. Arrangements by: PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME SOUTH LYON

#### KELLEY, DAVID H.

View Online

www.hometownlife.com

Age 85, passed away 12-20-2012. Funeral Dec. 27, 10am St. Joseph Catholic Church. Arrangements by Phillips Funeral Home, S. Lyon. On-Line guestbook: phillipsfuneral.com

### WEBER, TERESE A.

Age 58, Northville, passed away 12/23/2012. Beloved sister and cherished aunt. Online conde ces: casterlinefuneralhome.com



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**Left Untreated, Glaucoma Can Lead To Vision Loss** 

Dr. Bifano emphasizes importance of comprehensive eye exams during National Glaucoma Awareness Month

Glaucoma can strike without pain or other symptoms and is a leading cause of blindness in the United States. According to Dr. Bifano, early detection and treatment is critical to maintain healthy vision and protect the eyes from the effects of potentially blinding diseases, such as glaucoma.

latest survey, less than 20 percent of all Americans know that glaucoma primarily causes deterioration to The survey also indicated 50 percent of Americans incorrectly believe glaucoma is preventable. While

Awareness and understanding surrounding glaucoma is relatively low. According to data from the

the disease is not preventable, it is treatable, and regular, comprehensive eye exams play a critical role in successful outcomes for patients. Dr. Bifano recommends those who suffer from glaucoma have a dilated eye examination annually. More frequent exams may be needed if you notice additional changes in your

'Those individuals who do not visit their eye doctor on a regular basis are putting their vision and quality of life at risk," said Chris Bifano, 0.D. "Vision lost to glaucoma cannot be restored, so early detection and treatment are important.

Americans also are not aware of the factors that put them most at risk for developing glaucoma. Only 16 percent of those surveyed indicated knowing that race or ethnicity may increase their risk. According to the Glaucoma Research Foundation, African Americans ages 45 to 65 are 14 to 17 times more likely to go blind from glaucoma than Caucasians. Other risk factors include people who have a family history of glaucoma, are over age 60, or have had severe eye trauma.

Bifano Eye Care • 315 N. Lafayette South Lyon • Phone 248-446-1146

# **SOCIAL SECURITY**

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

ings. 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.

have vast experience before local

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi

Michigan judges.

ence at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred Attorneys J.B. Bieske and cases before a court date is Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years even set. combined experience represent-Those denied can appeal on ing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hear-

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

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi

can often make a winning differ-

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com

Α7

#### NORTHVILLE / NOVI CHURCH CALENDAR

#### **CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

Location: 24505 Meadow-

brook 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: Rev. Bob LaCroix, pastor, and Rev. Michael Zuelch, associate pastor

Mass Time/Date: 5 p.m. Dec. 31

Time/Date: 10 a.m. Jan. 1

**CROSSPOINTE MEAD-OWS CHURCH** Location: 29000 Meadow-

brook 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 Bibie study ciasses: 10

a.m. for all ages **Details:** Nursery and older

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

**Destiny Worship Center Location:** Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 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

Contact: (248) 349-2345 or

visit www.faithcommunitynovi.org

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. **Book of Revelation** Study

**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays

**Details:** Come and learn what John is writing about, what the symbolism means, and how this book still speaks to us today.

**Faith Journeys** 

**Date:** Third Sundays

**Details:** Following worship and fellowship, someone will share how they have experienced God in their life and the difference that has made.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF 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** 

**GRATED CHURCH** Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road

**OF NOVI-FAMILY INTE-**

Contact: (248) 349-3647 or firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org Family Bibie Hour: 9:45

Family Worship: 11 a.m. Bibie Study: 6 p.m. Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every month

**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

# Your Invitation to

# **Brighton**

#### **LORD of LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

5051 Pleasant Valley Road • Brighton, MI 48114 810-227-3113 9:30 a.m. Communion Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Rev. Dale Hedblad, Pastor www.lordoflifeelca.com

# HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

www.hsrcc.net at the corner of Winans Lake & Musch Rd. 810-231-9199 Fr. John Rocus, Pastor Weekend Liturgles Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

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# **Walled Lake**

#### **CROSSPOINT**

COMMUNITY CHURCH

1851 S. Commerce Rd. Walled Lake 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School 10:30 a.m. - Morning Worship Rev. Kenneth Warren - 586-531-2021 www.cpccnow.com

# Whitmore Lake

### **FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH**

10774 Nine Mile Road Rev M Lee Taylor • 449-2582

Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

# Livonia

### FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road - Livonia South of Six Mile Road day School 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m Childrens Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Dr. James N. McGuire . Nursery Provided

# **Plymouth**

St. John's Episcopal Church 574 S. Sheldon Rd. • Plymouth, MI 48170 734-453-0190

Services on Sunday mornings at: 7:45 AM - Eucharist - meditative (without music) 9:00 AM - Eucharist with Contemporary Music 11:00 AM - Eucharist with Traditional Music

#### Friends of Unity 774 North Sheldon Road

Plymouth, MI www.friendsofunity.org unday Service and Youth Programs 10 a.m. Plorence Ernzen, Licensed Unity Teacher 734.454.0015

# Milford

#### **CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Preschool, Pre-K & Kdg. - Mo. Synod 620 General Motors Rd., Milford Church office: (248) 684-0895 Sunday Service: 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. unday School & Adult Bible Study: 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.r

#### FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD

Rev. Peter Larson

133 Detroit St., Milford • 684-5695 Pastor Steve Swayze day School (all ages) 9:45 a.m. . Sunday Worship - 11 a.r Young Adults Bible Study During the Weel Wednesdays, 6:45-8:15 p.m., 3 yrs old thu 6th grad Website millordhaptistorga

### **WEST HIGHLAND**

**BAPTIST CHURCH** 1116 S. Hickory Ridge Rd., Miltord, MI 48380 248-887-1218

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Wednesday All Ages: 7:00 p.m. Also Small Groups / Ministry Teams

#### OAKPOINTE | milford

1250 South Hill Rd. www.opcmilford.org Contemporary Worship Sirvice: Sunday 9:15 am & 11:15 am dventureland Children's Program: Sunday 9:15 am & 11:15 am Middle School Student Ministires Sunday 9:15 am High School Student Ministires Sunday 9:15 am Women, Men and Ulfe Groups: Various Scheduler

### Milford United

**Methodist Church** 1200 Atlantic St., Milford, MI 48381 Sunday Worship at 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m

Groups for Children, Youth and Adults 248-684-2798

### MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN

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

# **New Hudson**

# **NEW HUDSON UNITED**

**METHODIST CHURCH** 

730 Grand River Avenue • New Hudson MI 4816 (248) 437-6212 • Gerald S. Hunter, Pastor nday School & Bible Class -9:30 a.m Worship-10:30 a m

#### **NEW HOPE - A Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

57855 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165 Phone 248-474-9108

Sunday Celebration of Life Service 10:30 a.m. Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister

Website: http://www.newhopeuu.org

### **Northville**

#### **NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN** Experience Life Each Week

Sunday Worship - 9:00 am & 10:15 am Sunday School and Children's Program www.ncalife.org 248 • 348 • 9030



First

raditional Worship at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. ontemporary Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m. Iren's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.

The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM

Presbyterian (\*) Church of Northville www.fpcnorthville.org 200 E. MAIN ST. AT HUTTON Worship & Church School 10:00 am 248-349-0911

#### FIRST UNITED METHODIST **CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE** (248) 349-1144

777 West 8 Mile Road • (8 Mile and Taft Road)

forship Times: September - May 8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 a.n Memorial Day - Labor Day 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Rev. Dr. Steven J. Buck, Senior Pastor www.fumcnorthville.org

#### **OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH**

133 Orchard Dr., Northville EKEND LITURGIES Saturday 5:00 p.n Sunday, 7:30, 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. Church 349-2621, School 349-3610 Religious Education 349-2559 Rev. Denis Theroux, Pastor

Our Savior Apostolic Lutheran Church 54899 8 Mile Rd. at Currie Rd. Northville, Ml. 48167 Pastor Andy Whitter

Phone 248-374-2268 Sunday School (ages 5-12) at 10 AM Adult Sunday Bible Study at 10 AM Sunday Service at 11 AM Bible Study, Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

# Novi

#### ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI 46325 10 Mile Rd. . Novi, MI 48374 Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. Msgr John Kasza, Pastor Parish Office: 347-7778

#### **FAITH COMMUNITY** PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

44400 W. 10 Mile., Novi, 248-349-2345 1/2 mile west of Novi Rd.

www.faithcommunity-novi.org WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10 AM "Children, Youth and Adult Ministries"

#### **MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

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

#### **OAK POINTE CHURCH**

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

#### Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Fr. Bob LaCroix, Pastor Fr. Michael Zuelch, Associate

Parish Office: 349-8847 • www.holyfamilynov.o

**HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH** 

24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375

Saturday: 4:30 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanish

**NOVI UNITED METHODIST** 

CHURCH

1671 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi. MI 4837

Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m.

Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor

248-349-2652

**HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL** 40700 W. Ten Mile Rd. • 248-427-1175 Sunday Worship 7:45 am & 10 am

Healing Service Wednesday 11:45 am Rev. Ann Webber, Rector holycrossnovi@gmail.com

### BRIGHTMOOR

CHRISTIAN CHURCH 40800 W. 13 Mile Road, Novi on the comer of M-5 & W 13 Sundays 9:15a & 11:15a www.brightmoorcc.org something for the entire family

Shepherd's Way

Lutheran Church, ÉLCA

304 N. Lafayette Street South Lyon MI 48178 Sunday Worship 9:10 AM

Education Hour 10:30 AM Rev. Bart Muller, Pastor

248-486-4404

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF

**SOUTH LYON** 

Phone: 248-437-2983 unday School 9:45 a.m. - Worship Service 11:00 a.m. ming Service 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m nior Pastor: Rob Freshour / Assoc. Pastor: Randy Wesk

Website: www.fbcsouthlyon.com
• Email: fbcsouthlyon@sbcglobal.net

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

640 S. Lafayette (248) 437-0760

Sunday Worship: 8:15 am, 11:00 am & 6:30 pm

unday School: 9:30 am Children, 9:40 am Teens & Adult

Nursery Provided

Reverend Sondra Willobes

southlyonfirstumc.org

**BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH** 

# South Lyon

### **CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN**

(Missouri Synod) Pastor Terry Nelson

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# Taking the plunge



PHOTOS BY HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Oakland County Sheriff's Office diving instructor J.P. Reynolds helps float Eric Hix, playing the part of the victim, while Dave Bach (left) works trains in giving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation as part of a recent training session at Milford High School.

# Training is important for OCSO dive team

By Aileen Wingblad
Staff Writer

akland County is known for its hundreds of lakes and the recreational opportunities they offer, but pleasure can quickly turn to peril — or worse — because of an accident, foolish mistake or poor decision.

It's a reality that Frank Schippani knows well.

For the past 30-plus years, Schippani has been ready 24-7 to help on waterways in Oakland County and the rest of the metro-Detroit area as part of the dive team for the Oakland County Sheriff's Office.

Every month for each of those 30 years, Schippani has spent one day with other crew members training in lakes and, occasionally, indoor swimming pools so they are prepared and ready for those emergency calls.

Once a year, the training is bumped up several notches to include an underwater obstacle course — which each diver must negotiate blind-folded — as well as a required 20-lap swim and 15-minutes of treading water.

To remain on the team, success is a must.

"This isn't for everybody, some do drop out after a year or two," said Schippani, a retired OCSO deputy and former sergeant who has been the dive team's instructor for the past several years. The dives can take an emotional toll, he explained, estimating that the crew deals with more than a dozen drownings in an average year.

age year.

And then, of course, is the time commitment to keep skills up-to-date and getting accustomed to new equipment made available from advances in technology. This currently includes a remote operated vehicle fitted with sonar and cameras, rapid-response, rigid inflatable boats for swift water rescue, and a hovercraft for rescue on thin ice. Also, divers have \$4,000-plus in personally-assigned gear that they are responsible to maintain and always have with them.

Last week, for the first time ever, the dive team took its special annual training indoors to Milford High School. The underwater obstacle course was set up in the far end of one of the pools in some 13 feet of water, and a robotic camera provided video feed to two OCSO marine deputies, on hand to monitor the training.

As explained by OCSO Sgt. Matt Snyder — dive team commander and team member since 2001 — the obstacle course calls for divers wearing their gear and black covers on their goggles, submerging themselves in the water and purposely get entangled in a net, then removing their equipment and making their way through a cylinder cut from a 50-gallon tank.

Winter training other months brings the team out to frozen lakes in the county, he said, allowing for experience in some of the most challenging conditions.

"You want to simulate the situation, create the anxiety for them to deal with, and that's how you build confidence," Snyder said.



Marine Deputy Pat Miles with the Oakland County Sheriff's Office watches a monitor showing underwater views during dive team training.



Deputy Dave Luke puts the remote operating vehicle into the pool during training.

### More recovery than rescue

Though the team is trained in rescue and recovery, the work is typically more recovery than rescue, according to Doug Stewart, a 14-year dive team veteran and the team's newest instruc-

tor. The dive team is on a scene within 5-10 minutes of being notified, he said, yet all-too-often people don't realize right away that someone in their party may be in danger of drowning or has gone missing below the water's sur-

face. By the time they seek emergency assistance, precious minutes have

During Stewart's tenure, just two victims have been pulled from the

water alive. One died soon afterwards. Still, the dive team heads to every call with the idea that the victim will be rescued, he said. But even when recovery is the end result, there's a sense of satisfaction among the crew of knowing they helped the victim's loved ones find closure, he said.

"The goal is to rescue that person. What we all strive for is to save them. If they can't be saved, at least we are bringing the body to the family. And we always get the hugs, the thank yous — because they know we did everything we could possibly do. And that is rewarding to us," he explained

### 'A good team'

Water rescue and recovery calls for a variety of diving techniques, such as line or spiralling search patterns, depending on the water's depth. Other times, searching divers pair up on either side of a tow bar behind a boat.

Working in unfamiliar territory, and often a murky, cold environment, demands that the crew keeps up with training — and that they can rely on fellow team members.

"Under water, there are no ranks—deputy, sergeant, lieutenant. We're all on the same level and all have to count on each other," Stewart said.

Of course, being a dive team member isn't without risks. Stewart said a ruptured ear drum is the most common consequence for divers, yet he recalls a couple years ago when he and another team member were searching for a missing scuba diver in 120 feet of water, stayed down longer than they should have and then surfaced too quickly. They both ended up in Beaumont Hospital overnight with "the bends" — decompression sickness that has the potential to cause paralysis or death.

Still, dive rescue and recovery is a duty he relishes. "We do get a sense of accomplishment, even when (there is a drowning) and we recover the body," he said. "That's so important to (the victim's family), and we're able to do that for them."

Early next year, a 12th diver is expected to be added to the county's crew, bringing it to full capacity. Snyder explained that OCSO staffers who express interest in being part of the team have to wait for an opening, then are interviewed and subjected to dive and swim testing, physical examination and more before being accepted. On average, a team member stays with the program 10-15 years.

Schippani, eyeing retirement from the team, holds every member of the crew in high regard. "It's a good team," he said. "The guys are dedicated, good divers. They do a really good job."

Snyder agreed. "We have a good core of people," he said. "They are a great bunch of guys."

awingblad@hometownlife.com | (248) 685-1507, ext. 261

# Help tally seasonal birds Saturday at Kensington

By Philip Aiimen Staff Writer

Looking for a different way to spend some of your Saturday while enjoying the winter weather?

Head over to Kensington Metropark's nature center and help out with its annual New Year's bird count, where volunteers will spread out to the far reaches of the metropark in Milford to see what birds are hanging out in the area.

"We do several bird counts a year," said Mike Broughton, an interpreter at the nature center. "We get an idea of what birds are around. Some birds migrate. Some are here year-round."

Depending on the species, some birds can be found in metro Detroit throughout the year, like chickadees, blue jays and cardinals. Others venture south as the temperatures drop. Yet others, like the snowy owl or junco, make southern Michigan their home during the winter.

"This is their wintering ground," Broughton said. Snowy owls haven't been seen in recent years during the winter bird counts at Kensington, but their have been some reports in the area, he added.

The bird count is a free, family-friendly event, although Broughton said it's probably not suitable for young children, because groups will be walking around the park along trails and through the snow.

There will be experienced birders with the groups who can help volunteers identify the different bird species.

"If you're new to birding, this is a really good way to go, because there's someone who knows what



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kate Mann of Livonia uses some sunflower seeds to get a songbird to land in her hand during a recent visit to Kensington Metropark. The park's nature center will hold its annual New Year's bird count this Saturday.

they're doing," Broughton said.

Since the counts take place outside, people should dress for the weather, and binoculars will definite help in the endeavor.

The variety of bird species found is an indicator to the health of the local habitat. Park staff hope to find a wide variety of winter birds in this weekend's count.

"It's fun. For some people it's kind of like a contest," Broughton said.

The bird count starts at 8 a.m. at the park's nature center. Broughton said some volunteers spend the entire day searching

for birds while others limit their time to an hour or

"It lasts as long as people want to come," Broughton said. "We'll divide into different groups to go to all areas of the park."

While the program is free, there is a vehicle entry fee for the park. The daily rate is \$5, and annual passes are available.

Organizers ask volunteers contact the nature center so they know how many participants to expect. Call (810) 227-

> pallmen@hometownlife.com (248) 437-2011. Ext. 226

#### **NOVI COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

### **Local Events**

**BLOOD DRIVES** Time/Date: 7:30 a.m. to 7:15 p.m. Jan. 7

**Location:** Providence Park Hospital, 47601 Grand River Avenue, Novi

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 7:45 p.m. Jan. 13

Location: St. James Church, 46325 Ten Mile,

Time/Date: 2:30-8:15 p.m. Jan. 14

Location: Meads Mill Middle School, 16700 Franklin Road, Northville

**Details:** The Red Cross Nationally needs 17,000 blood donations each day for patients in need. This holiday season, the Red Cross encourages people to give someone hope by donating blood. It's a gift that doesn't cost a thing but can offer patients another holiday season with

family and friends. Blood

donations typically drop during the winter months. Every day, patients count on generous volunteer blood donors to give the gift of life. All who come will be entered into a monthly raffle for a \$500 Visa Gift card

Contact: Please go to www.redcrossblood.org and enter your zip code to find the drives below or call Diane Risko at (3130 549-7052 to set up an appointment.

#### **STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS & LUN-**CHEON

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 17 Location: Baronette Renaissance

Details: The City of Novi, in partnership with the Novi Chamber of Commerce, invites you to join Mayor Bob Gatt and City Council members for the State of the City Address and Luncheon. Cost is \$30

Reservations be made by sending a check made payable to: City of Novi, attention Sue Fodor, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375; or online at http://www.novichamber.com/. Seating is limited to the first 230 attendees. Contact: (248) 349-3743

#### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT** - BREAKFAST AND **HEALTH DISCUSSION**

Time/Date: 8:30-9:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 17

Location: Novi Senior Center, 25075 Meadowbrook Road

**Details:** Join for breakfast and January's discussion, "Busting the Myths of Hearing Loss", presented by David Wizgird of Hear Clear. Cost is \$3 for residents; \$4 for non-residents; pre-registration is required.

Contact: (248) 347-0414 or visit cityofnovi.org for more information.



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# Unique clothing drive

# Air museum seeks uniforms from Iraq, Afghan veterans

**By Sue Mason** Staff Writer

You might think Scott Gerych is a greedy man. With a collection 300-400 vintage military uniforms, the Grass Lake resident wants more. He's looking for uniforms and personal effects from veterans of recent U.S. military actions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

But he doesn't want the military clothing for himself. He's looking to add to the collection at the Yankee Air Museum where he has been working with his father, Merv Wygant of Plymouth,



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Flight helmets sit on a shelf in the collections room.

since February to organize and catalog donations.

"There's a huge need to have them in the collection," said Gerych. "This isn't just an air museum, it's about global warfare from the time of aviation."

The museum lost its entire collection of arti-

facts in a fire in 2004 and has been slowly rebuilding. Up until a few months ago, donations had been stored in boxes in the collections room of the museum located in a hangar at the east end of Willow Run Airport.

#### More room

By moving the museum library to a nearby schoolhouse, the department has been able to expand and "almost all of the boxes" have been opened. The uniforms now hang on racks by the year they were received, starting with 2004.

"Hopefully, we'll be able to sort them further to identify even more," Gerych said. "The collection goes from World War I to current, but we want more World War I stuff to go with the Spad, which is almost done, and we need jungle fatigues from Vietnam. We have a lot of uniforms and some enemy uniforms, but we'd like the personal stuff, anything that will give the story that goes with the uniform."

The Spad is a French SPAD XII World War I fighter that a group of volunteers have been building from scratch using the original blueprints. The plane will look as it did as part of 103d Aero Squadron in 1918,

complete with the Hat in the Ring emblem.

Gerych sounds like a walking encyclopedia when talking about the uniforms. His interest in collecting began when he was 9 years old. His grandfather, a World War II veteran, took him to gun shows and would "buy me stuff to keep me quiet."

A veteran himself, Gerych was studying for his master's degree in history and was required to do community service during one semester. His father-in-law wanted to volunteer at the museum and one thing led to another.

Gerych wanted to work on airplanes, but that was in flux, so he went into collections. It's been "very interesting" and he's learned a lot, he said. Now the two men are working on making the museum's catalog system better.

"When we find something in the collection, we search to see if a number exists for it, sometimes we find it was brought in and not cataloged," said Wygant who was working on a pair of Vietnam jungle boots. "They're not in the system, so I have to track them back."

#### Painted jacket

In addition to uniforms, the collection includes such things as a hard-to-get painted bomber jacket belonging to J.D. Asmussen who was credited with seven kills as a member of the crew of the Yankee Queen.

Please see UNIFORMS, A11



The museum is getting new mannequins that will better fit the uniforms of soldiers and aviators who were much smaller than today's soldiers.

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PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Merv Wygant (above) of Plymouth is working on identifying a pair of combat boots that were donated to the Yankee Air Museum. Flight helmets (top) sit on a shelf in the collec-

### **UNIFORMS**

Continued from page A10

The collection also includes World War I aviator uniform Henry Rex Waddell, who was a personal secretary for the Ford family, Marie Mountain Clark who was a Women's Air Force Service Pilot during World War II, and her husband, John Alden Clark, a B-17

Waddell's uniform is in a display case near where the World War I fighter is being built.

The museum also has several North Vietnam-

ese Army and Viet Cong uniforms. And in boxes in the collections room are items such as Nazi banners. While some people don't think the flags should be shown, it was the flag and flew in Germany in the 1930s through 1945, Gerych

"One thing my fatherin-law says is that if it wasn't for Germany and Japan, we wouldn't have had a bomber plant in Detroit," said Gerych.
"They started the war

and we responded." While Gerych would like younger veterans of recent wars to consider making donations, he can understand them wanting to pass it down to their kids. He recommends that they take care of their items. The collections room has the distinct aroma of moth balls and some of the wool uniforms are moth eaten.

People can call and make an appointment to drop off items, and museum volunteers will go out and pick up donations.

"We're not just looking for uniforms, we really need the average soldier stuff — uniforms and personal effects," Gerych

> smason@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6751

# Personal info helps tell story

Knowing more about the clothing and artifacts donated is important to the Yankee Air Museum which is participating in the Veterans Oral History Project.

The information provides a story of the uniform beyond what can be determined by looking at the patches which can tell the last name of the person who wore it, what unit the person was in, where he or she served and in what branch of the military.

A case in point: the uniform and artifacts of a World War I aviator Henry Rex Waddell which is on display in the museum near where volunteers are building a French SPAD.

A native of Port Lambton, Ontario, Waddell was enrolled in the University of Michigan School of Engineering when he left in 1915 to join the Canadian Regiment and become a Royal Flying Corps pilot and flight instructor in England. He also piloted a Handley Page bomber and patrolled the North Sea before being reassigned to France just before the Armistice began on Nov. 11, 1918.

After being discharged from the service, he worked for a nickel mining company in Ontar-



The donation from Henry Rex Waddell included his World War I uniform, leather and wool aviator caps and goggles.

io before taking a job at Henry Ford's Dearborn Publishing. He was transferred by Henry Ford to his office in 1924 and the next year was introduced by Ford to his future wife, Etha Peabody. The couple was married in 1926.

Waddell went on to serve as the personal secretary of the Fords and later joined Ford Archives where he worked until he retired in 1979.

The museum also has uniforms and personal artifacts donated by Marie Mountain Clark, who was a Women's Air Force Service pilot during World War II, and her husband, John Alden

Clark, who served in the 8th Air Force 100th Bomb Group and flew 32 missions over Germany.

While those are some of the "stars" of the collection, the museum also is looking for donations from others.

Veterans and their families who would like to make donations can bring items can contact Pete Stowe who is at the museum Tuesday through Thursday. Call (734) 483-4030, Ext. 255, to schedule an appointment.

The Yankee Air Museum is at 47884 D St., west of Beck Road, in Van Buren Township. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.



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# Battered in lame-duck session, state Dems have big 2013 agenda

By Matt Jachman Staff Writer

Democrats in the Michigan Legislature will have their work cut out for them in 2013.

Between issues they say need to be addressed to improve the state's economy and the wellbeing of local communities, and the desire to push back on some of the measures the Republican-controlled Legislature hurried through a lame-duck session last month, they have a long to-do list for the coming year.

Many goals several area Democrats have set for themselves highlight philosophical differences that often separate the parties — on taxes and spending, on the economy, on the way public schools should be run. That will likely mean a tough road for Democrats: In the state House of Representatives, they will be outnumbered 59-51 despite picking up a net five seats in the November election, while in the Senate, Republicans hold a commanding 26-12 majority.

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, January 3, 2013

Still. Democrats say they're ready to fight.

"The last two years under Republican leadership have been the years of corporate present-giving," said Rep. Vicki Barnett of Farmington Hills, who is beginning a third term in the 37th District. "We really should've been focused on hardworking men and women and working families."

"We can't continue to prioritize big business and CEOs over the people themselves," said Representative-elect David Knezek, whose 11th District includes Garden City and portions of Livonia and Westland. "We're at a very critical time right now where we need to start prioritizing the right way."

**Dollars and cents** Barnett and Knezek were referring to the \$1.8 billion cut in business taxes that came with the 2011-12 state budget and the elimination of the Michigan Business Tax, and to the cuts in aid to



have been significant

over the past decade.

local communities, which

On taxes, Knezek, Barnett and other Democrats believe the new pension tax, designed to make up revenue lost when the MBT was axed, should be abolished.

With a small budget surplus now, the state can afford to do away with the pension tax, Knezek said: "When we're running a surplus, there's no need to be further burdening" retirees.

The phase-out of the personal property tax, passed during the lameduck session and signed Dec. 20 by Gov. Rick Snyder, is also of concern to Democrats. The PPT is a tax on business and manufacturing equipment; the new law provides a means for replacement revenue of 80 percent

for most communities, and 100 percent when the money goes toward public safety. The phase-out will not take effect without voter approval in 2014 of the creation of a statewide authority to administer the replacement funds.

Democrats say the PPT replacement should be 100 percent no matter what.

"That other 20 percent is key, especially when you're talking about millions and millions of dollars," said Robert Kosowski, a House member-elect from Westland whose 16th District includes the city of Wayne, which has a large manufacturing base and relies heavily on the tax.

"We've got to replace it at 100 percent," said Rep. Ellen Cogen Lipton of Huntington Woods, whose 27th District includes Ferndale and Pleasant Ridge. "I think that's a tweak that has to be made."

Knezek also wants state revenue sharing to local communities, which has been drastically scaled

back, to be increased. Revenue-sharing cuts, he said, have put a squeeze on local budgets, to the point where public safety funding has been hampered.

"I think we take the handcuffs off our cities, go back to a dedicated formula" for statutory revenue sharing, he said.

#### **Building the** economy

Democrats counter the Republican emphasis on reducing the tax burden for businesses to create jobs by saying that good schools, good services and safe communities factor in the equation when businesses consider expansion and relocation, and that people need disposable income to increase demand for the goods and services businesses provide.

"Tax breaks will not create jobs. People with money buying stuff creates jobs," Barnett said. Businesses also need tax stability and predictability, she said.

"Michigan's corporate tax rate is one of the lowest in the country," Knezek said. "Why is it that we haven't seen this massive influx of businesses and jobs?"

Michigan's corporate tax climate ranks seventh among the 50 states in the latest index from the Tax Foundation, a nonpartisan think tank based in Washington, D.C. The ranking improved dramatically with the tax changes enacted in 2011, the foundation says.

Democrats want to focus on education and improving communities and the business climate, steps they say will retain and attract companies and young professionals.

Lipton, for example, wants a program of incentives for housing energy-efficiency retrofits: better windows and doors, insulation, efficient appliances. A smallscale program in Oak Park that involved foreclosed houses, she said, was extremely successful; energy efficiency became a major selling point and the houses were snatched up.

"This generation of 20somethings, a new generation of buyers, places a higher value on energy efficiency and sustainability," she said.

Barnett said she will continue her push to have Michigan recognize benefit corporations, a corporate structure in which a company's mission includes a commitment to a public good as well as to making a profit. She introduced such legislation during her first term and reintroduced it in her second, with a similar bill in the Senate, but movement has stalled.

Without formal recognition, she said, such companies in Michigan could face legal liabilities. Several other states, including Illinois, have jumped on the benefit corporation bandwagon.

"Young entrepreneurs

are looking for this type of corporate structure," she said, and consumers are also looking to support projects that benefit society when they make purchases.

#### K-12 schools

Lipton, who is beginning her third term, suggests more money needs to be spent on elementary and secondary education.

"We are at the lowest per-pupil fund since Proposal A," she said, referring to the 1994 measure that changed school funding, "if you adjust for inflation." She added that school aid "falls woefully short."

Lipton would start with restoring the more than \$300 million taken from the school aid fund to help balance the 2011-12 budget. She contends the money was improperly shifted through a "constitutional loophole" that she would like to tighten.

Lipton said good schools are key to the state's economic comeback and that if other lawmakers truly believe that, too, "we've got to push back on these massive cuts." More broadly, Lipton favors what she calls a "longitudinal study" of the costs of education, and a prioritization of what public schools should be doing.

"My gut reaction is that \$6,900 per pupil is too low," she said, referring to the state's minimum per-pupil funding, "but maybe it's too much. I don't know.'

Lipton, Knezek and other local Democrats also want to restore limits on charter schools. Charters that get a share of state funding but can cherry-pick students and don't have to meet the same standards as public schools, they say, are siphoning dollars from traditional public schools to companies with a prof-

it motive. "I believe it's one of the most fundamental things to a democracy, to have public education available to all children," said Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, whose 6th District also includes Garden City, Livonia and

Redford Township. They view cyberschools - computer-based learning programs without the overhead costs of brickand-mortar schools similarly.

"It's an unproven educational alternative." Anderson said.

"We have no concept of what the success rate is going to be," said Knezek, who did allow, however, that a few students may learn better outside of a traditional classroom and should have a cyberschool option.

### **Education reform**

Local Democrats are also against broadening the powers of the state's Educational Achievement Authority, a district created to manage poorly performing schools. The issue was discussed

Please see DEMS, A16

#### NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MILFORD **TOWNSHIP BOARD** 2013 MEETING DATES

The Township Board of the Charter Township of Milford will meet on the third Wednesday of each month at the Milford Civic

Center, 1100 Atlantic, Milford, at 7:30 p.m. as follows:

January 16 April 17

February 20 May 15 March 20

June 19

August 21 September 18 December 18

PLANNING COMMISSION 2013 MEETING DATES The Charter Township of Milford Planning Commission will meet on the last Thursday of each month at the Milford Civic

which will be held on a Tuesday: January 31 April 25 October 31 August 29 February 28 May 30 December 3 September 26

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

2013 MEETING DATES

The Charter Township of Milford Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on the second Wednesday of each month at the Milford Civic Center, 1100 Atlantic, Milford, at 7:30 p.m. as follows (unless there is a lack of agenda)

Center, 1100 Atlantic, Milford, at 7:30 p.m. as follows with the exception of the combined November/December meetings

April 10 January 9 July 10 October 9 August 14 November 13 February 13 May 8 December 11 March 13 June 12 September 11

#### PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION 2013 MEETING DATES

The Charter Township of Milford Parks & Recreation Commission will meet on the third Monday of each month at the Milford Civic Center in the Police Department Conference Room, 1100 Atlantic, Milford, at 7:00 p.m. as follows with the

exception January and February which will be held on the second Monday. There is no December meeting. April 15 July 15 February 11 May 20 August 19 November 18 March 18 June 17 September 16

Any Special Meetings of the Township Board, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and the Parks & Recreation Commission will be posted per the Open Meetings Act within 18 hours prior to said meeting.

Township Clerk

Publish: January 3, 2013

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# GOP expects to address regulatory reform, higher ed and corrections

LOCAL NEWS

By Ken Abramczyk Staff Writer

Michigan Republican lawmakers believe their work isn't finished yet.

Last week's legislative sessions were tumultuous as lawmakers passed controversial right-towork laws and took aim at personal property taxes. Lawmakers also passed legislation to create a regional transit authority, a replacement emergency manager bill and prohibit young drivers from talking on cell phones while driving.

"It was a very historic, contentious and profound week in Michigan history," said state Rep. Kurt Heise of Plymouth.

House and Senate Republicans expect in 2013 to continue to work with Gov. Rick Snyder to tackle issues and policies they believe are hindering business and job creation.

House Republicans lost five seats in the Nov. 6 general election, down to 59 lawmakers, but they still carry a majority. The GOP has a 26-12 majority in the state Sen-

The Observer contacted several area lawmakers from Oakland and Wayne counties to discuss what they believe will be on the agenda in

John Walsh

John Walsh of Livonia, who serves as House speaker pro tem, chaired the House Judiciary Committee and was vice chair of House Tax Policy Committee, believes discussions will continue about the repeal of personal property taxes, regulatory reform and the state's 2014 budget, including how to increase spending for higher education and create incentives for universities that graduate students who meet academic requirements in a timely manner, as well as begin initial talks about cutting correctional costs.

"We will open up an early agenda to address the regulatory environment; then in February the budget process begins for next year," he said.

Walsh wants to examine efficiencies and how to reduce overhead costs at universities. Walsh wonders why administrators have increased while the number of teaching faculty has remained unchanged. 'I'd like to take a look at setting aside more dollars in the classroom and whether we can assist in that area," he said.

Walsh wants to look at sentencing guidelines and how to better train inmates to avoid recidivism. He believes criminals should serve their sentences, but added: "We have not been providing the right training at the right time for them to get a job."

Walsh used a generic example of a prisoner who receives a 10year sentence, then gets it cut to seven for good behavior, but then he or she receives training two years into the sentence. "That will not help him five years later, because things change in five years," Walsh said.

#### **Kurt Heise**

Heise hopes to continue as a vice chair of the House Judiciary Committee. Lawmakers will not



committee assignments until the first week of January. "For me,

know about

their new

the next two years will be refocusing on the economy and jobs," he said. Heise expects discussion of the repeal of personal property taxes to contin-

ue. "Everyone agrees that

we have to fine-tune it,"

Local governments were guaranteed reimbursement of 80 percent — not 100 percent, which is what they wanted but the personal proper-

'We've seen a lot of stories of judges behaving badly, especially in Wayne County.' Kurt Heise

ty tax will not be killed unless voters approve a ballot initiative related to the replacement revenue in 2014.

Heise said the current plan is a 10-year plan through 2022. "What we approved last week is a much more realistic plan than what we had two weeks ago," he said Dec. 17. "It will depend on the statewide election expected in 2014. If voters reject it, it stops."

Businesses with assets of less than \$40,000, such as print shops, salons or barber shops, will see relief, Heise said. "If I am a small business paying personal property tax under \$40,000, I don't have to pay on equipment," he said. "That's a big tax cut for a small business."

Heise expects the House Judiciary Committee will deal with court reform in terms of efficiencies currently pursued by local governments and school districts in merged services

and collaborative efforts to cut expenses.

"We've seen a lot of stories of judges behaving badly, especially in Wayne County," Heise said in reference to poor attendance and ethical decisions. He would like to see the court system examined for combined services: "We need to see where people's time and talents are being spent."

Money for indigent defense and medical marijuana issues also are expected to be tackled, Heise said. Policy for corrections will be driven by the governor, but lawmakers will earmark funding for it, he said.

"Privatization doesn't always work, but we have to give it a chance in some cases," Heise said. "We have to look at who is in prison, too. Some need hospice care, are old and don't belong in a prison, and we need to look at putting those people into some other facilities."

#### **Hugh Crawford**

State Rep. Hugh Crawford of Novi expects that educational reform will be on the agenda early in 2013, along with regulatory reform.

The Educational Achievement Authority will be discussed. "It addresses the lowest 5 percent of the schools in the state," he said. "Fifteen schools in Detroit are EAA, and there will be a statewide cap of 50

schools. "I think it will help kids. I visited a couple in Detroit and I was impressed with the kids and with the teachers compared with what I

With the personal property tax

had heard last year."



Crawford

bursement of local governments "is obviously a big issue," Crawford said. "We

repeal, reim-

have to make sure that they are not harmed. They can add money locally."

Regulatory reform will be front and center on Crawford's plate if he continues to be on that House committee. The Office of Regulatory Reform has issued reports to that committee that may result in hundreds of bills introduced to address what officials believe are overregulated areas.

Getting rid of the personal property tax, approving right-to-work and getting rid of the Michigan Business Tax in 2011 are accomplishments for Snyder and state lawmakers, Crawford said.

Please see GOP, A16

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**OUR VIEWS** 

# Regional success

# Caring about Detroit is a matter of self-interest

Detroit is important to Michigan and the southeastern metropolitan region.

As a symbol of horribly declining urban decay, it sends a negative image to the rest of the country — and the world, for that matter.

The opportunity lost because of high unemployment and scandalous school dropout rates is almost too much to calculate. While a nation still grieves for the killing of 26 people in Connecticut, it mostly ignores that a similar number of murders takes place every month in Detroit. Mostly, as a state, we accept that carnage as unchangeable — just keep it away from us.

But the innocent lives put in harm's way in Detroit are no less precious than the undeserving victims in Connecticut. Every generation that is ignored — every tax dollar that is wasted or stolen — is merely another investment in the continued decay of a once great city.

It's not just a morally correct obligation to care about Detroit, it is also in our self-interest. A thriving Detroit would benefit the region, just as its decline has hindered the area's vitality.

There are positive steps, including visionary and courageous investments by private enterprises. These are encouraging, but their value is limited until the city can shake itself from its financial blunders, corruption and incompetence. Unfortunately, too many city leaders have been unwilling or unable to muster the political courage and allies to overcome decades of entrenched cronyism.

A ray of hope emerged during the otherwise chaotic and controversial lame-duck session of the Michigan Legislature. Several bills, signed into law recently by Gov. Rick Snyder, can help with some of the maladies afflicting Detroit.

The long-sought regional transportation authority — a stinging reminder of the toxic relationship between the city and its neighbors — has finally been created.

Federal authorities have begrudgingly indicated that \$25 million is available to help support private funds for a much-needed bus rapid-transit system. But it insisted first on a regional authority, the creation of which has evaded several warring government

A sign of the politics that plagued the authority was evident when legislative Democrats, who are big supporters of mass transit, largely voted against it because they were angry at the Republican power play that passed right-to-work legislation. Their attitude may be understandable, but they were only risking the welfare of their constituents.

On another front, the city can't keep its lights on. It's another horrible symbol of a city that doesn't work. Before lawmakers left town, they approved a public lighting authority that was proposed by Detroit Mayor Dave Bing. The legislation provides a financing vehicle to back revenue bonds that will raise the estimated \$250 million to upgrade lighting.

Snyder also signed a bill allowing the Ilitch family to use funds from the Detroit Development Authority to help build a \$650 million downtown arena and entertainment district. This would include a new home for the Detroit Red Wings and add to the signs of life

appearing in downtown Detroit. The city government, however, must come to grips with a dysfunctional budget. Either they will do it themselves, or Gov. Snyder will appoint an emergency manager for the city under new legislation passed during the lame-duck session. Hopefully the city will get its act together in time to prevent the latter from happening. But the reality is an emergency manager is probably a better option than declaring bankruptcy, which is where the city is headed now.

For Detroit's in bad shape, so solutions will be painful. But not as painful as continuing on with the failures of the past.

Cal Stone, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor

Advertising

#### **COMMUNITY VOICE**

# What's one thing you'd like to accomplish in 2013?

(Posed to Northville Township and Novi leaders)



"I would like to get the issue of the Scott Prison resolved so that the prison physically disappears at no cost to the township. Also I would like to have a plan in place for the entrance to the township at Beck Road and Five Mile Road that would be appropriate for the Five Mile corridor."

Marv Gans Northville Township trustee



"My goal for the city is to complete the northwest ring road at Novi and Grand River to relieve some of the congestion at the intersection and make it as safe as possible."

**Terry Margolis** Novi City Council member



"In 2013, I would like to see the City of Novi complete the first segment of the ITC Corridor Trail between 8 Mile Road and Grand River."

**David Staudt** Novi mayor pro-tem



"For 2013, I would like to see completion and opening of the Pavilion Shore Park at Old Novi Road and 13 Mile Road along with progress towards a unique new park property, the David Barr Sculpture Park on Napier Road."

> **Clay Pearson** Novi city manager

"I will complete the learning curve for my new Township Treasurer's position in record time, and attend the requisite professional seminars to be the best l can be for our residents. In addition, with the help of our Clerk and new Finance Director, I want the Township to maintain

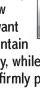
its economic stability, while keeping our eye on the future and our feet firmly planted in our history."

**Marjorie Banner** Northville Township treasurer

"Awareness of our power to choose is at the heart of successfully setting goals and achieving them. A goal looks very different when you recognize the rewards are inherent in the process. Combining the capacity of the front line staff with our Board of Trustees

will allow the leadership team to look beyond immediate circumstances and imagine new possibilities. My goal is to align board members with staff and enjoy both the possibility and potential that is created.'

**Chip Snider** Northville Township manager



### Tax rollback time

**LETTERS** 

The election is over, so let's talk taxes. Ending the so-called Bush tax cuts has been debated for years. These cuts have put our nation deep into debt and proved that cutting taxes for the rich does not create jobs.

What is needed is a tax rollback, rolling tax levels back to the level they were the last time our country was operating in the black. That would be the Clinton years, which ended with a budget surplus. Republicans know this is what is needed (that, no doubt, is why they passed the Bush cuts with an automatic expiration), but they want someone else to take the blame like Jennifer Granholm did here in Michigan.

While in office, Gov. Granholm put through a tax rollback, and the Republicans extended it when they took full control of the state in 2010. However, they also raised taxes on seniors and started taxing pensions while cutting school funding. Rolling back taxes would allow for needed investment in our infrastructure and paying down some debt for the two wars started under Bush. This will result in job creation and more revenue to help further paying down the national

debt. The Republicans seek to postpone, as they have so far, an economic comeback at our expense so they may regain the White House.

Their way has been tried and it has failed. The voters said no. It is time to move forward with a tax rollback.

**Chuck Tindall** 

# **Book sale raised**

The four-day Friends of the Northville District Library Fall Used Book Sale brought in \$1,513. These funds will be used to support library programs and projects.

needed funds

I would like to thank the community for supporting this twiceannual event. I would also like to thank the volunteers who helped to make this event possible. Few people understand and appreciate the number of volunteers it takes to run a sale like this. It takes planners, supervisors, transporters, cashiers, floaters and packagers. The following volunteers staffed the sale or played some role: Gail Ahrendt, Linda Bolam, Anne Bourgue, Elaine Brennan, Ron Breuhan, Marilyn Breuhan, Grace Colter, Marcie Colling, Joyce Conklin, Joann Dalziel, Judy DeFrancesco, Mike DeFrancesco, Marv Fink, Roz Fink, Ellison Franklin, Regan Gonyou, Janice Johns, Ellen Johnston, Claire Kreher, Aleta Lee, Joyce Liddle, Christine Litka, Cherie Lovett, Ed Meade, Jeannine Meade, Erin McDermott, Regina Mingela, Jerry Mittman, Terry Mittman, Claudia Moore, Chuck Murdock, Andrea Murdock, Doris Oltersdorf, Carol Oldenburg, Joe Oldenburg, Paul Snyder, Sue Sendelbach, Linda Schwelnus, Denise Stacer, Jeanne Storm, Joe Thomas, Laura Tillman, Linda Van Dusen, Martha Walters, Sandy Walts and Lynne Witt

The following Boy Scouts repackaged the leftover books at the spring sale, fall sale or both: Tommy Agnello, Timothy Chalom, Peter Dulzo, Andrew Esser, Luke Giannota, Ben Harper, A.J. Kemp, Kevin Morris, Alex Moss and Connor O'Meara.

Civic Concern, under the direction of Marlene Kunz, picked up the leftover items and distributed them to groups or institutions who could utilize them.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the support of Kroger, Hiller's Markets and Busch's Markets, whose contributions make the bag sales possible this and every sale.

**James Morche** Friends of the Northville District Library Used Book Sale volunteer coordinator

#### What happened to democracy?

Gov. Snyder for two years has claimed he would not seek right to work legislation but now after the unions helped fight Matty Maroun's anti-bridge ballot proposals,

he has stabbed unions in the back. Working with the Republicancontrolled legislature in an undemocratic manner with no public input or committee hearings they rammed through the legislation. However, they showed that this was all done for political benefit by passing the bill as an appropriation so it cannot be challenged by a

voter referendum. No one should be surprised by any of this as Gov. Snyder was part of the political power grab here in Oakland County. Rep. Hugh Crawford and state Sen. Mike Kowall both sided with the governor on this. I guess it was payback time for the aforementioned power grab. Let us also not forget House Speaker Jase Bolger who was caught in a case of election fraud. Apparently all levels of our state government are currently controlled by those who do not believe in democracy and would commit any deceit for political gain.

**Cynthia Churches** Novi

### Shoot or call 9-1-1?

The Connecticut shooting tragedy has spurred renewed calls for gun

Violent behavior is not surprising with the degradation of morals, ethics and parenting. Political correctness has replaced God and morality in schools. Fewer than 20 percent of Americans regularly attend church. Parents are allowing television, video games and movies laced with violence to baby-sit their kids.

The ACLU has done its part by "protecting" the rights of disturbed individuals from being admitted for treatment in the absence of a crime. They need to harm someone

We don't need gun control. We need expanded concealed carry. If a mentally disturbed gunman entered your child's school, would you prefer a trained staff capable of quickly putting the shooter down or prefer them to call 9-1-1?

> Jack Belisle South Lyon

**Grace Perry,** Director of

# Take precautions before engaging in outdoor winter activities

By Kenneth Stopa

Guest Column

hen snow, ice and frigid weather blast into town, watch out.
Taking precautions and being safe around ice and snow will allow for a much easier (not warmer) winter season.



Kenneth Stopa

Slipping on sidewalks, climbing awkwardly over snow banks, wearing the wrong kinds of clothing or shoes, and even shoveling snow the wrong way can lead to spasms, sprains and strains. Simply walking outside in the freezing weather without layers of warm clothing can intensible meantly and sprace.

sify joint problems and cause a great deal of pain. As muscles and blood vessels contract to conserve the body's heat, the blood supply to extremities is reduced. This lowers the functional capacity of many muscles, particularly among the physically unfit. Preparation for an outdoor winter activity, including conditioning the areas of the body that are most vulnerable, can help avoid injury and costly health care bills.

#### **Shoveling Snow**

Shoveling snow can wreak havoc on the musculoskeletal system. The Michigan Association of Chiropractors offers these tips for shoveling snow:

• If possible, shovel snow later in the day. Many back injuries occur in the morning, since the tissue around the spine is not warmed up or loose after a night of rest. If you must shovel snow in the morning, be careful. Listen to weather forecasts so you can rise early and have time to warm up to shovel before work.

- Layer clothing to keep your muscles warm and flexible.
- Do some warm-up stretching before you grab that shovel. Shoveling can strain "deconditioned" muscles between your shoulders, in your upper neck, lower back, buttocks and legs.
- When you do shovel, push the snow straight ahead. Don't try to throw it. Walk it to the snow bank.
- Avoid sudden twisting and turning motions.
- Bend your knees to lift when shoveling. Let the muscles of your legs and arms do the work, not your back.
- Take frequent rest breaks to take the strain off your muscles. A fatigued body is more prone to injury.
- When shoveling snow, be heart

smart. Stop if you feel chest pain, get really tired, or have shortness of breath.

#### **Winter Sports**

Winter sports like skating, skiing and sledding can cause painful muscle spasms, strains or tears even in the fittest body. Before you start any winter sport, you must warm up. Skipping your warm-up may lead to injuries. The Michigan Association of Chiropractors suggest that you start with some light aerobic activity such as jogging, biking or fast walking for about 7-10 minutes before jumping into your winter sport of choice. Follow these tips:

- For skiing, do 10-15 squats. Stand with your legs shoulder width apart, knees aligned over your feet. Slowly lower your buttocks as you bend your knees over your feet. Your knees should not go past the length of your feet. Stand up straight and repeat.
- For skating, do several lunges. Take a moderately advanced step forward with one foot. Let your back knee come down to the floor while keeping your shoulders in a vertical line over your hips. Repeat the process with your oth-

er foot.

• For sledding/tobogganing, do knee-to-chest stretches to fight compression injuries caused by repetitive bouncing over the snow. Either sitting or lying on your back, pull your knees to your chest and hold for up to 30 seconds.

• Don't forget cool-down stretching for all of these sports. At the bottom of the sledding hill, for instance, before trudging back up, do some more kneeto-chest stretches, or repetitive squatting movements to restore flexibility.

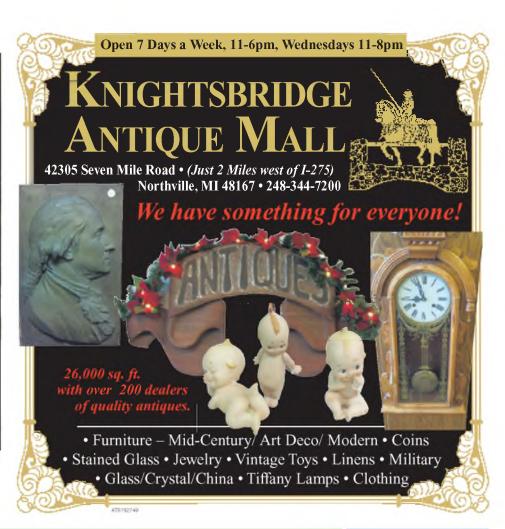
After any of these activities, if you are sore, apply an ice pack to the affected area for 20 minutes, then take it off for an hour and repeat 3-5 times each day over the next couple of days. If you continue to feel muscle soreness, a massage may help, however if you feel pain or strain after your winter activity and it has not gone away after icing for a couple of days, you may want to set up an appointment with your local doctor of chiropractic for an evaluation.

**Dr. Kenneth Stopa** owns Main Street Family Chiropractic Center, P.C. in Northville. He can be contacted at (248) 735-9800.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tuscan Cafe employee Andy Cipolla gets busy shoveling snow last week in front of the Center Street eatery in downtown Northville.





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### **DEMS**

Continued from page A12

recently in the Legislature, but no measure was passed; opponents say the proposal threatens local control of schools.

"Our school districts have done a great job, our superintendents, our teachers, and it's time for our teachers to take back control of what they're teaching their kids," Kosowski said.

Barnett said the EAA is run outside the state's **Board of Education** and school superintendent and gives too much power to the executive branch. "I think it's a real problem, and it should alarm everybody in the state," she said.

Knezek mentioned three steps in public edu-

Some of the gun owners say put more guns in the hands of people and we're going to be safe. I just don't buy that argument.' Glenn Anderson

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, January 3, 2013

cation he'd like to see taken: broadening opportunities for early childhood education, providing incentives for teachers to obtain advanced degrees and moving toward yearround school.

The latter, he said, would require renegotiating contracts and installing air-conditioning in some buildings, but would decrease students' backsliding during the summer months and

lawmakers need to look

transportation budgets.

"There are three things

that most of the gener-

al population of my dis-

trict care about: the gas

tax, toll roads and pot-

holes," he said. "That's

the dilemma. We have

to figure out how to get

make infrastructure a

priority."

comp costs.

more resources here and

Funding teacher retire-

ments will be another top-

ic and work will contin-

ue on the EAA issue. On

tax policy, Pappageorge

believes most of the "big

stuff" was taken care of

with the personal prop-

erty taxes and workers

at infrastructure and

make Michigan schools more competitive.

"You look at other countries that are outperforming us in education: 220 school days a year," he said. "Michigan has 180."

Barnett said she is working on a proposal that would make college much more affordable, something she said would be attractive to companies and their employees.

#### Laundry list

Other priorities for area Democratic legislators include:

• Mental health system: Barnett wants to improve insurance coverage for mental health problems in the state's health care system. Anderson wants to explore the idea of having special courts for criminal defendants with mental health issues that would steer them to treatment rather than incarceration if appropriate.

· Law and order: Lipton said she'll push for reforms in the way the state manages criminal legal defense for the indigent. The current system, she said, varies from county to county and is sometimes inadequate. She wants a uniform svstem that adheres to the American Bar Association's principles for indigent defense.

Anderson wants restrictions on where weapons can be carried, either concealed or openly; he applauded Snyder's veto of a lame-duck measure that would have allowed people with permits to bring concealed guns into schools and churches.

"Some of the gun owners say put more guns in the hands of people and we're going to be safe,"

said Anderson, a gun owner. "I just don't buy that argument."

 Pushback: Anderson. reacting to the flurry of controversial bills Republicans passed this month, said he is planning to propose an amendment to the state constitution that would limit legislators' power during lameduck sessions. An emergency would have to be declared — by the governor and at least twothirds of each chamber in the Legislature — before a significant issue could be voted on in a lame-

duck session, he said. "When you see a highly active lame-duck session, you scratch the surface and you find that there are many pieces of bad legislation that get through," he said.

Anderson also wants to see a repeal of the so-

called right-to-work law, the most highly charged piece of legislation to come out of the lameduck session. The law, which takes effect in April, will allow workers in workplaces where there are unions to not ioin the union and not pay union dues or a union fee, even if they benefit from collective bargaining undertaken by the

Anderson, a former automobile plant worker, said the law will be divisive in union workplaces and won't have the jobcreating effect its Repub-

lican backers say it will. "It's going to work in a very negative way and contrary to what we've been trying to do to create jobs," he said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405

### GOP

Continued from page A13

"These are things that we're doing to help Michigan get going again," he

#### John Pappageorge

State Sen. John Pappageorge of Troy believes much of the legislative discussion depends on Gov. Snyder's State of the State address Jan. 16. "The big thing will be the budget process," Pappageorge said. "There's never enough money for what you want to do."

Pappageorge believes

Patrick Colbeck

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck of Canton believes the state needs to promote reforms it has completed over the past two years.

"I'd like to follow up the reforms and bring jobs," he said. He'd like to make sure returning military veterans

land jobs.

Colbeck,



Colbeck

who served on the Senate Education Committee, also wants to see educational policies promote local control. "We're going to bring people who complete these reports before the Educational Policy Committee, ask them how they are using the information in these reports and see if they are necessary," he said. "We want to let the teachers do what they are trained to do, and that is teach."

Colbeck wants to make sure government is more customer relations-oriented to businesses looking to move into Michigan. "We want to let them know where the properties are and where the skilled labor is," he said.

Colbeck believes that companies can find out that information quickly on the Internet and he wants the state to market itself and let companies know to locate in Michigan with a favorable tax climate. "Time is money in economic development," he said.

"Can we respond quickly to market conditions, get the jobs here and get the tax revenue?" Colbeck asked. "The emphasis is on speed in economic development."

#### Mike Kowall

Mike Kowall, state senator from White Lake, said his main focus will be getting people back to work through the port authority legislation, which will help bring in

more business.

Port authority bills have worked well in other states, Kowall said, using them to bond out for projects including everything from grain elevators to short rails. Ohio built a headquarters for Goodyear tires using this mechanism.

Kowall wants to see the Brownfield Development Act returned. In Oakland County alone, it could bring 1,865

jobs. Kowall said Snyder appointed new employees in the Department of Licens-



Kowall

ing and Regulatory Affairs. "They are going through every rule, every regulation, to determine whether they are worth keeping or getting rid of," he said. 'This is a major effort."

Kowall wants to see stricter penalties against people caught transporting Asian carp. He wants to hit the transporters with not only jail time, but hit them in their pocketbooks by confiscating their fish tanks. "Those are very expensive," he said. "It is along the same line as drug forfeiture laws.

"The economic impact of the Asian carp on our lakes is in the hundreds of billions. We need to at least have a discussion on it. I won't say it will pass, but we need to have the discussion."

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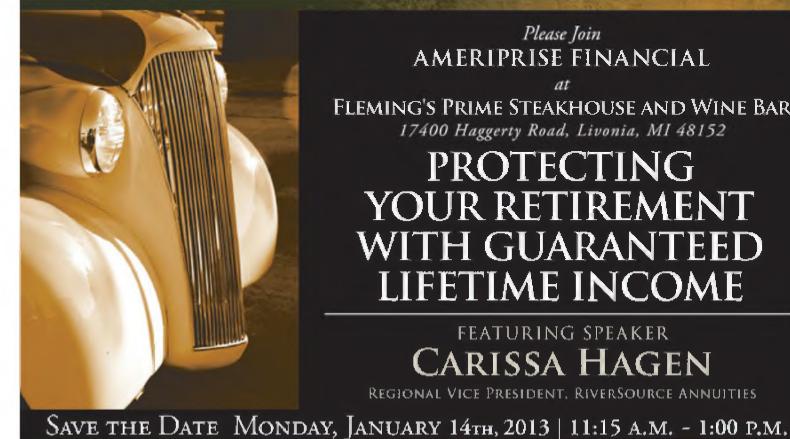
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# Meeting a legend

Randall Paul and Hope Drogmiller pose with Detroit Tigers legend Denny McLain (right) Dec. 22 at the Double Tree Hotel in Novi during a charity auction benefitting St. Jude Children's Hospital. Paul, of Great Lakes Auctions, and Robert Van Sickle of the New Hudson Auction Company hosted the event. Novi resident Drogmiller, 13, volunteered during the event. McLain signed books and enjoyed the evening with others supporting the cause. During the event, people could bid on gift cards, signed sports items and more. There was also a dinner.

# Hiding in plain sight



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The Northville Art House, located at 215 W. Cady Street in Northville, will present a new exhibit, "Patricia Candor: Hiding in Plain Sight", from Jan. 9-26 with an opening reception and artist meet and green from 6-9 p.m. Jan. 11. Candor is a long-time adjunct professor at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit and at Lawrence Technological University. The exhibit pieces will present the personal and creative evolution of the artist from 1978 through the present. Admission is free. Hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. For more information, call (248) 344-0497 or visit www.northvillearts.







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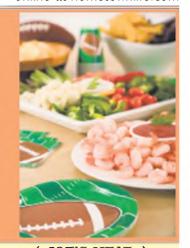






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# Shamrocks win fourth straight **Oakland County wrestling title**

By Sam Eggleston

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks didn't participate in the Oakland County wrestling championships in 2008 because they were already committed to another tournament. That's a good thing for the teams who participated in the annual event, because the Shamrocks would have likely made this year their fifthstraight title.

As it happens, the Shamrocks collected their fourthstraight Oakland County crown with a dominating win in Lake Orion last week. The Detroit Catholic Central grapplers picked up 347 points to earn the title over the more than 40 oth-

#### **ON TAP**

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks wrestling team will be back on the mat when they host the CC Invitational Saturday at 9 a.m.

er schools that participated. Oxford was second with 278

Leading the way was junior Evan Toth in the 125pound division. He defeated West Bloomfield's Ross Bahro in the finals in a dominating 12-4 performance to help his squad earn the title. Toth, who won his third Oakland County title this year, was one of 12 medalists for the Shamrocks in the 14 weight classes and one of four Catholic Central

title winners. Joining him in the championship ranks were Trevor Zdebski (119 pounds), Drew Garcia (171) and Bob Coe (285).

Coe defeated Zach Wood of Oxford for his title while Garcia had a close match with Rochester's Dean Vettese and Zdebski earned a win over Rochester grappler Justin Kim.

The Shamrocks also had four runner-ups in the contest in Myles Amine, Nick Giese, Malik Amine and Parker O'Brien. Jav Peterson earned fourth place for the Shamrocks while seniors Mike Babicz and Chris Naubert were fifth and Eli Joseph took seventh in his debut with the school's top wrestling team, the Blue Squad.

# Wildcats finish middle of the pack at county

By Chrls Jackett

Correspondent

The Oakland County Championships tend to showcase the best in the county for any given sport, and it wasn't much different for wrestling last week.

Nine of Novi's grapplers went to the 53rd county meet Dec. 21-22 in Southfield and Lake Orion. Five advanced to the second day within their weight class, with one placing in the top eight. The performance led to a 24th place team finish of 48 schools behind 59 points. Detroit Catholic Central won with

347 points, including championships in four weight classes.

Senior Dan DeNova led the Wildcats in the 103-pound weight class, starting the first day off with a pin while wrapping up four matches without a loss. However, his first opponent in the final leg of the tournament, Mike Volyanyuk of Farmington Hills Harrison, got the best of DeNova, but DeNova rebounded with a 12-2 win over Kyle Gray of Avondale. Walled Lake Central's Kaleb Marion hand-

Please see WRESTLING, B3

# Determination pays off for 2 seniors

Jelso, Rogers use never-say-die attitude to make basketball team

By Sam Eggleston

It's a strange world we live in these days where people have become accustomed to near-instant gratification and not having to be as persistent as years past. Want to rent a movie? Simply stream it. Want to talk to your friends? Use your cell phone. Need information for that report? Isn't that what Wikipedia is for?

In the face of such instantaneous results, it's not surprising to hear of a potential athlete who doesn't make the cut for a team to simply walk away and never try to play the sport again, choosing to turn to their Xbox 360 to play instead.

What is surprising is when athletes refuse to give up. They make the team one year only to not be on the roster the following year. Do they give up? Do they simply walk away? Not if they are Andrew Jelso and Austin Rogers.

The two senior Northville basketball players were not members of the basketball team last year, though both of them came to tryouts this year with experience in what it takes to make the team.

Rogers was a member of both the freshman and junior varsity basketball teams, but when it came to making the cut last year on coach Todd Sander's senior-heavy roster, he wasn't one of the finalists to make the roster. He kept playing on his own, working on his short-



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northville Mustangs Austin Rogers (left) and Andrew Jelso, both seniors, have made the team after a lot of hard work.

comings and shoring up his game, so when he walked onto the court this year he was determined to be part of the roster.

"Last year, Rogers was trying to make a team that had seven returning players, many that played his same position," said Sander.

Rogers, who also played football for Northville, didn't come out for the team to satisfy his parents, or his teachers or the expectations of anyone else. He came out for the team and earned his roster spot

Please see 2 SENIORS, B2

# Nakashima overpowers, outruns area's best wrestlers

By Chrls Jackett Correspondent

With size and speed that was tough to match junior forward Don Nakashima was a marked man for defenders when Novi came to town. Despite often being the focus of double and triple teams from the defense Nakashima still managed to rack up 16 goals and five assists while capturing first-team Division I All-State honors to go along with his All-Region, All-District and All-Conference honors.

"Don has a great combination of size, speed and skill that allow him to put continual pressure on the defense in a variety of ways," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said.

Beyond being a beast on the soccer field, Nakashima is dominant in the classroom, as the All-Area Player of the Year has a 3.96 grade point average.

#### First team **Troy Dolemetsch** (NorthvIlle Sr. CD)

An All-State honorable mention himself. senior center defender Troy Dolemetsch kept opponents off the Mustangs' doorstep throughout the season. Northville coach Henry Klimes said he was named the team's most valuable player after also earning All-District and All-Conference honors.

**Nick Oakley** (Novl Jr. DCM) From the defensive

center midfield position, junior Nick Oakley had six goals and two assists this fall, including a few huge game-winners in the playoffs. An All-State honorable mention, Oakley also earned All-Region, All-District and All-Conference honors to go with a 3.92 GPA.

"Nick is a solid player that possesses the ball well, defends well and can throw in some offense from his defensive mid position," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "He had a great state tournament, scoring three game-winning goals and picking up a gamewinning assist."

#### **Andy Netter** (Novl Sr. GK)

As one of the few returning starters for Novi's squad, senior netminder Andy Netter had 13 shutouts in 20 games of action. Allowing 14 goals over the course of the season, he had an 0.70 goals against average, earning All-District and All-Conference honors to go with a 3.59 GPA. He was also Academic All-State.

"Andy was the stable force behind our team, he was a captain that provided great leadership both on and off the field and, as a goalie, he had the ability to make the gamechanging saves," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said.

#### Joey Van Houten (Northville Jr. M)

As his Northville's leader in assists, the Mus-

Please see SOCCER, B2

# Shamrocks split week on the hardwood

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

You win some and you lose some — it's the reality of sports.

The Detroit Catholic Central basketball team won and lost last week, defeating the Ypsilanti Lincoln Railsplitters, 60-41, before losing to Detroit Cody, 56-50.

From the start of the contest against Cody, the Shamrocks found themselves in a very evenly-

matched game. After the first quarter, the two teams were tied up, 10-10, and Cody had just a three-point lead at the half as they controlled the contest, 27-24.

Unfortunately for the Shamrocks, the close game was less about how evenly talented the two teams were and more about how much trouble they had finding the basket.

"We didn't shoot the ball as well as we have this year, and we had a really poor start to the second half," said Bill Dyer, Catholic Central's coach. "We need to be more aggressive to compete in a game versus a team like Cody. They separated from us early in the third and we had to fight hard to keep the game within striking distance."

That big difference was in the form of a 17-9 run in the third stanza in favor of Cody, who held a 44-33 lead heading into the final quarter.

Please see CC HOOPS, B3







# **2 SENIORS**

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, January 3, 2013

Continued from page B1

because of his drive to be a part of the game. "I tried out this year because I love the game," he said. "Through hard work and perseverance, you can overcome a lot and do special things on, and off, the court."

Jelso's journey to the varsity team was a bit different. Tryouts his freshmen and sophomore years never turned into a chance at being a member of one of the Northville basketball teams. He was cut both years after tryouts and knew full well that the seniorladen team of 2011-12 wasn't going to have room for him.

Instead of being deterred and turning away from his dream of playing basketball, he worked on every facet of his game when he wasn't playing golf for Northville and prepped himself in every way possible.

"Jelso was a regular during all of the preseason conditioning, which was very intense, and he kept coming back," said Sander. "That showed us that he really wanted this."

When his name was included on the final roster following tryouts, Jelso knew that his determination played an important role in his success.

"Hard work pays off," said the senior. "I tried out this season to show everyone that you should never give up on anything."

Sander said having Jelso and Rogers on the team has been nothing but positive. They come to each and every practice ready to give their best effort, which is an intangible that can't be coached.

"It is obvious that both of them love the game of basketball," said the fifth-year varsity head coach. "Their attitudes have been spectacular so far with terrific work ethic.

"Their game minutes have been limited, but they are always among the first ones to congratulate their teammates coming off the floor. Much of their work and contributions so far occur during the two hours of practice every day. As a coach, you admire these types of players that want to improve themselves, but also push their teammates to the max every day."

Rogers and Jelso prove each and every day that they put on a Northville basketball jersey — both for a game and for practice that if you focus on achieving a goal, it's likely never out of reach. The key, as they have shown, is the perseverance and refusal to simply walk away.

"We talk a lot about roles on our team," said Sander. "Whether it is a business or a team, everyone's role is equally important to the success of the organization from the top down and the bottom up. It is also essential to stay ready, as one never knows how a season evolves and what happens during the year. Opportunities may come when guys least expect it and you want to be ready to take advantage of them."

# **SOCCER**

Continued from page B1

tangs' offense often passed through junior midfielder Joey Van Houten en route to successful finishes, helping him earn All-District and All-Conference honors.

#### Matt Klura (Novl Jr. D)

A set piece specialist for the Wildcats, Novi junior defender Matt Kiura was instrumental on most throwins, corner kicks and free kicks for the Wildcats this season, earning him one goal and six assists. His efforts earned him All-District and All-Conference honors to go with a 3.64 GPA

"Matt was a very steady defender that is strong on the ball and wins almost all of his physical challenges on the field," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "His ability to take long throw-ins was a huge part of our offense and it is the reason he picked up six assists."

# **Conrad Bush (Northville**

The defensive efforts of Northville junior Conrad Bush earned him the coaches award from Mustang coach Henry Klimes, which accompanies his All-District and All-Conference honors.

#### **Ben Holbrook** (NorthvIlle Sr. M)

As the Mustangs' scoring leader. Northville senior midfielder Ben Holbrook found himself on the end of several exchanges with is fellow All-Area teammates, helping him also earn All-District and All-Conference honors.

#### Scott Michael (South Lyon Jr. GK)

When faced with seven penalty kicks this season, Lions teammates were confident in South Lyon junior netminder Scott Michael. who stopped five such occasions. An All-KLAA honoree, he was named the top goalkeeper in his Division II district tournament.

"Our team gave up seven penalty kicks this season. Scott saved five of them," South Lyon coach Brian

# Player of the year

Don Nakashima (Novi Jr. F) First team

Troy Dolemetsch (Northville Sr. CD) Nick Oakley (Novi Jr. DCM) Andy Netter (Novi Sr. GK) Joey Van Houten (Northville Jr. M) Matt Kiura (Novi Jr. D) Conrad Bush (Northville Jr. D) Ben Holbrook (Northville Sr. M) Scott Michael (South Lyon Jr. GK) Mitchell Stark (South Lyon Jr. CM) Taylor Janssen (Lakeland Sr. M) David Roskens (South Lyon East Sr. M)

#### Second team

Robert Costanza (S Lyon East Sr. M) Travis Hamers (S Lyon East Sr. GK/D) Jake Kuznicki (South Lyon East Sr.

Derek Blunden (South Lyon East Jr.

John Victor (Lakeland Sr. D) Roddy Green (Lakeland Fr. F) Nick Kemmenu (Lakeland Jr. F) Grant Scovel (South Lyon Sr. D) Alex Stowe (South Lyon Jr. F) Matt Allain (South Lyon Jr. D) Chandler Lach (South Lyon Sr. OM)

#### **Honorable mention** Lakeland: Michael Maher (Jr. D), Mario

Koje (Jr. D), Joe Slenzak (Sr. M/F) South Lyon: Tudor Raducea (Jr. CM), Andy Slaven (Sr. F), Alec Velthoven (Sr. D)

South Lyon East: Hristijan Georyierski (So. F/M)

**Note:** Coaches from Detroit Catholic Central and Milford did not respond to several requests for nominees during the past month.

Elliott said. "In addition, he is a great leader."

#### Mitchell Stark (South Lyon Jr. CM)

As the third-ranked student-athlete in his Division II district, South Lyon junior center midfielder Mitchell Stark earned All-KLAA honors while orchestrating much of the Lions' play this

"Mitchell controls the pace of play and is a nightmare for defenders to mark," South Lyon coach Brian Elliott said.

#### **Taylor Janssen** (Lakeland Sr. M)

White Lake Lakeland's Eagle of the Year, senior midfielder Taylor Janssen was his team's top midfielder, racking up All-District

and All-Conference honors to go along with All-State All-Academic and All-Conference All-Academic honors for his classroom work

"Tremendous work ethic and a great captain/leader for a team in a rebuilding year, having lost 10 starters from the previous team," Lakeland coach Mark Janssen said. "He was instrumental in helping to develop a large group of junior newcomers to varsity.'

#### **David Roskens** (South Lyon East Sr. M)

If South Lyon East's soccer team was playing, senior center midfielder David Roskens was probably on the field and in the middle of play. The Cougar captain and most valuable player had four goals and five assists to earn All-District and All-Conference honors.

"His outstanding physical conditioning allowed him to play from the beginning whistle, to the final one with no let up on his play," East coach John Delplace said. "He always placed his team above his own stats."

#### **Second team Robert Costanza**

(South Lyon East Sr. M)

Like his fellow senior center midfielder. South Lvon East's Robert Costanza was a complete-game threat, racking up seven goals and eight assists in the process. A captain, he was also All-District and an All-Conference honorable mention.

#### **Travis Hamers (South Lyon** East Sr. GK/D)

Splitting time between defense and goalkeeper, South Lyon East senior Travis Hamers had three goals and three shutouts, earning him All-District and All-Conference honorable mention honors.

#### Jake Kuznicki (South Lyon East Sr. GK/D)

Also splitting time in goal, South Lyon East senior Jake Kuznicki also had three shutouts, pulling in one goal and one assist while spending time on defense while matching up with many of the area's top forwards.

#### Derek Blunden (South Lyon East Jr. M/D)

Behind six goals and three assists, South Lyon East junior midfielder/defender Derek Blunden earned All-State honorable mention and All-District honors.

#### **John Victor** (Lakeland Sr. D)

Silent, but effective, Lakeland senior sweeper John Victor led by example both on and off the field after the Eagles graduated their entire defensive line last season. In the process, he earned All-District and All-Conference honors on the field, as well as All-Conference academic honors in the classroom.

#### **Roddy Green** (Lakeland Fr. F)

As a freshman forward, Lakeland's Roddy Green notched five goals in his debut campaign, earning All-District and All-Conference honors in the process.

#### NIck Kemmenu (Lakeland Jr. F)

With eight goals, Lakeland junior forward Nick Kemmenu led his team in scoring, earning All-District and All-Conference honors in the process. He also earned All-Conference academic

#### **Grant Scovel** (South Lyon Sr. D)

honors.

An All-District and All-KLAA honorable mention, South Lyon senior Grant Scovel was a defensive focal point for the Lions, slowing down some of the area's talented offenses in a tough KLAA Central Division.

# **Alex Stowe (South Lyon**

As the Lions' scoring leader, South Lyon junior forward Alex Stowe earned All-District honors.

# **Matt Allain (South Lyon**

The defensive efforts of South Lyon junior Matt Allain earned him All-District honors.

#### **Chandler Lach** (South Lyon Sr. OM)

A captain for the Lions, South Lyon offensive midfielder Chandler Lach earned All-District honors.





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# **WRESTLING**

Continued from page B1

ed DeNova another loss before DeNova won the seventh-place match 12-2 over Walled Lake Northern's Justin Miles.

The four other Wildcats who advanced to the final leg were all immediately knocked out of the running for a medal despite solid attempts.

Sophomore Evan Davis (125 pounds) got a quick pin over Shamar Borden of Ferndale, but followed up with a loss by decision in his second match. After a 13-0 victory over South Lyon's Jake Race, Davis dropped his fourth match by a 6-2 decision. His tournament run ended with another 6-2 loss Saturday.

Senior Ben Landry (160) lost his first match to Andrew Scott of Holly, but finished the first night with two successive victories by pinfall. However, in the second day, he lost a close 8-7 decision to Ken Daniels of Southfield, knocking him out of contention.

#### **ON TAP**

With the Dec. 29 Plymouth Salem Invitational canceled, Novi's wrestlers (4-2) are off until the Manning Vieau Invitational 9:30 a.m. Jan. 5 at Brighton.

In the 171-pound weight class, junior John Hood started with a pin 28 seconds into his first match, but lost his second match to Farmington's Ryan Southerland. Hood then pinned his third opponent to advance to the finals on Saturday, where he dominated the first two periods of his first match before being pinned in the final seconds to be knocked out of his weight classes' bracket.

Senior Zach Roush (215) was the only other Wildcat to advance to the finals bracket. He started with a first-period pin in his first match, but dropped his second match to Adam Meyers of Holly in a tight decision. Roush went on to win his third match of the evening and advance to

the finals, where he lost to Livonia Clarenceville's Ryan Groves and did not

Four other Wildcats were knocked out on the first day of competition.

Junior Matt George (112) overcame an early loss to rack up consecutive wins against his next two opponents. However, George lost a tough decision in his final match to go 2-2 for the night.

At 130 pounds, sophomore Griffin Burr dropped his first match of the evening, but followed with a pair of victories. However, he, too, ended the evening with a loss by decision.

Junior Ben Wright (145) also lost his opening match in a close contest with Jake Hazelton of Rochester Hills Stoney Creek, but followed with a 12-4 victory over Dannv Collins of Ferndale. Wright finished the night with a close 3-2 loss to Joe Benjamin of North Farmington.

Heavyweight Dorian Haney lost both of his initial matches on Friday, and did not advance.



Northville junior Spencer Compo works to turn his opponent at Pinckney.

# N'ville grapplers suffer two losses

Team falls to Churchill, Franklin and compete in Pinckney tourney

#### By Sam Eggleston

Correspondent

It was a tough week to be a member of the Northville Mustangs wrestling team as they hosted two extremely talented teams and suffered two losses last

The team, which is suffering through a bout of illness and injuries right now, took a 57-19 loss to the Wayne County championship team from Livonia Franklin and a 43-29 loss against Livonia Churchill.

"Even in the losses we saw some nice performances," noted assistant coach Adam Coe. He noted one such performance came from senior captain Sean Wagner, who won both of his matches by fall in the 140-pound weight class, as well as junior Spencer Compo, who had two victories via a major decision and a pin in the 130-pound division.

Wagner had a 13-5 record on the season, including 12 pins.

"Our two captains continue to set a great example on and off the mat," said

Alex Coe, the other team captain, is currently leading the team with a 16-3

Northville concluded their week with a showing at the Pinckney-hosted Seasons Beatings Wrestling Tournament

and finished the day with a 2-2-1 record. "As we have all season, our grapplers got the taste of the good and the bad," said Coe.

#### ON TAP

Northville's wrestling team will be back on the mat when they grapple in the Rochester Adams Highlander Invitational

Leading the way were seniors Jon Wines and Alex Clevenger, who both finished the tournament with unblemished records. Clevenger went 5-0 in the 160pound division while Wines went 4-0 at heavyweight and didn't give up a single offensive point all day.

Wines likely would have been 5-0 on the day, but he let the team's No. 2 heavyweight, Alex Carson, get in some valuable time on the mat and win by

"This really shows the type of person and teammate Jon is," said head coach Robert Boshoven. "He was the most vocal teammate during Carson's match, and he really cheered him on and encouraged him."

Northville's underclassmen continued to show improvement and the Mustangs coaching staff was impressed with sophomore Christopher Koumariotis, who stepped up into the varsity lineup and recorded two victories for the Mustangs.

'Chris really puts his heart and soul into each match, and I was really glad to see that kind of effort pay off," said Coe.

Sophomores Jim Behe and Shunhe Wang both earned three wins last week at 103 and 125 pounds, respectively.



#### NOTICE **Charter Township of Milford**

A Synopsis of Minutes of the Charter Township of Milford Board of Trustees regular meeting held on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 is available at the office of the Township Clerk or on the website at www.milfordtownship.com.

HOLLY BRANDT, CMC Township Clerk

Publish: January 3, 2013

# CC HOOPS

Continued from page B1

The Shamrocks wouldn't go away quietly, however, and came back strong in the fourth to make it a game. They outscored their foes, 17-12, in the fourth, but it wasn't enough to overcome the deficit they had dug for themselves.

"When we had chances to get the game really close or take the lead we missed free throws," said Dyer. "We missed four-outof-five free throws when it was tight in the third quarter and that's hard to overcome."

The Shamrocks went 10for-16 at the free throw line throughout the night while Cody made just half of their 26 shots.

Leading the way for Cody was 6-foot-2-inch senior Amani Kyalangalilwa, who scored 15, while

#### **ON TAP**

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks basketball team will be back in action when they play tomorrow at Detroit Loyola at 7:30 p.m. and Tuesday when they host Brother Rice at 7 p.m.

senior Jaylin Jackson added 13. Freshman Kelvon Fuller, who stands 6-7. scored 11. Detroit Catholic Central followed Nick Malzone, who had 16 in the game, while Mitch Katkic added 10 and Noah Lee had seven.

Unfortunately for the Shamrocks, who suffered their first loss of the season against Cody, the worst part of the game wasn't the score. The squad was without Katkic, the team's leading scorer, throughout much of the third quarter and all of the fourth as he went down with an injury and could

potentially be out with a broken ankle.

Despite the loss, Dyer said the game did have some positives for the team.

"I really liked the fact that we kept fighting, but we just couldn't get the game to a one basket game and we ran out of time," he said.

Against the Ypsilanti Lincoln Railsplitters, the Shamrocks jumped out to a 14-7 lead in the first quarter and looked to control the game from the start, though the Ypsilanti Lincoln squad was determined to not go down without a fight. They outscored Catholic Central, 12-8, in the second stanza to keep the game close heading into the locker room.

"It was a close game at the half," said Dyer. "We had a nice run to start the second half and we kept Ypsilanti Lincoln a least four baskets down most of the second half."



#### NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MILFORD INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 211

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Milford held on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 the Board voted to introduce the following ordinance

An ordinance to amend Article IV, Kensington Metropark, of Chapter 20, Parks and Recreation, of the Code of Ordinances for the Charter Township of Milford, by repealing Section 20-155, Use of Hike and Bike Trail, in order to allow the township to more appropriately compliment the helmet guidelines of the Huron Clinton Metropolitan

A copy of the ordinance amendment in its entirety is available at the Township Offices during normal business hours of Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or by email at clerk@milfordtownship.com.

Holly Brandt, CMC Township Clerk

Publish: January 3, 2013

# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LYON OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS** 

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING VARIANCES FROM ZONING ORDINANCE REQUIREMENTS

Pursuant to Michigan Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended (the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act), notice is hereby given that the Lyon Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 22, 2013, for the purposes of considering proposed variances from Zoning Ordinance requirements. The public hearing will be held at the Lyon Township Hall, 58000 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165.

The public hearing has been scheduled to consider the following case:

Saman Sammoe, Applicant, 58805 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165 (Copper Creek Vineyard)

Applicant proposes to construct an addition to an existing convenience store requiring the following variances:

Section 36.02, Schedule of Regulations, minimum front setback in the B-2 district is 75 ft., proposed setback is 73.5 ft., variance required: 1.5 ft.

Section 36.02, Schedule of Regulations, minimum side setback in the B-2 district is 20 ft., proposed setback at northeast corner is 11.5 ft., variance required: 8.5 ft. Section 36.02, Schedule of Regulations, minimum side setback in the B-2 district is

20 ft., proposed setback at southeast corner is 14.5 ft., variance required: 5.5 ft. Plans for the development may be viewed at the Township Hall. Interested parties are welcome to attend and present their comments. Written comments concerning the proposal may be submitted prior to the meeting to the Township Clerk at the address

Michele Cash Township Clerk

noted above.

William Erwin

Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman

Publish: January 3, 2013

#### **DECEMBER 20, 2012 - REGULAR MEETING** CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE **BOARD OF TRUSTEES** Thursday, December 20, 2012

**SYNOPSIS** 

DATE: TIME: 7:30 p.m. PLACE: 44405 Six Mile Road

CALL TO ORDER:

Supervisor Nix called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Robert R. Nix II, Supervisor Sue A. Hillebrand, Člerk Marjorie F. Banner, Treasurer

Mary Gans, Trustee Symantha Heath, Trustee Mindy Herrmann, Trustee Fred Shadko, Trustee

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Agendas:

PRESENT:

A. Approve the Consent and Regular Agendas and add item #5.H. SEMCOGG Dues to the agenda - approved

Appointments, Presentations, Resolutions & Announcements: Employee Recognition for Years of Service

Marjorie Banner to HDC Liaison - approved Sue Hillebrand to Alternate to Conference of Western Wayne - approved Marv Gans to EDC Liaison - approved

E. F. Symantha Heath to ZBA and NYA Liaison - approved

Mindy Herrmann to Seniors & P & R Liaison - approved

Fred Shadko to Planning Commission Liaison & HDC member - approved

Richard E. Allen – reappoint to Planning Commission - approved
Kent Anderson – appoint to Planning Commission - approved
Brian Doren – reappoint to ZBA - approved
Paul Slatin – reappoint to ZBA - approved
Richard Henningsen – Appoint to Seniors - approved
Sandra I arrow reappoint to Northville Youth Assistance approved H. I.

J. K.

Sandra Larson - reappoint to Northville Youth Assistance - approved Don DiComo - reappoint to Building Board of Appeals - approved

Sharon Demmer - appoint to Building Board of Appeals - approved

Laurie Marrs – reappoint to Building Authority - approved
Michael Nolta – appoint to Ethics Board - approved
Jennifer Frey to EDC/BRA as Township Representative - approved Q. R. Tom Casari to Building Authority - approved

Public Hearing: None 4. Brief Public Comments: Bill Bullard was introduced as the new governmental

consultant with Robert Law's firm. 5. New Business:

DWSD Contract Amendment #2 - approved

Beck Road Booster Station, Payment #2 - approved Beck Road Water System Improvements, Payment #3 - approved

Water & Sewer Forecast - approved

2013 Meeting Dates of the Board of Trustees - approved Approval of Financial Institutions - approved Year-end Budget Amendments – approved

SEMCOGG dues - approved

Unfinished Business: None

Ordinances: None Bills Payable: A. Bills payable in the amount of \$2,376,214.03 - approved

9. Board Communication & Reports from the following: A. Robert R. Nix, II, Sue Hillebrand, Marjorie Banner, Marv Gans, Symantha Heath, Mindy Herrmann, Fred Shadko, Chip Snider.

10. Any other business or public comment for the Board of Trustees: None 11. ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

This is a synopsis of the meeting. A draft of the unapproved minutes will be available after

Respectfully submitted: Sue A. Hillebrand, M.M.C.

January 4, 2013.

Publish: January 3, 2012

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<b>2012 FORD ESCAPE XLT</b> Black, auto, 4x4 Stk. #H4849
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Hours: Mon & Thurs 9-8; Tue, Wed & Fri 9-6; Sat 10-3





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

# Orders fly in for local online appliance repair company

By Darrell Ciem Staff Writer

An 81-year-old woman was distraught after the baking element quit working on the General Electric oven range that came with a house she bought 50 years ago.

Without a replacement part, she faced a pricey decision to replace not only her beloved avocado green stove but, to avoid clashing kitchen colors, the matching refrigerator and dishwasher.

After ordering a \$20.88 part from Canton-based RepairClinic.com, this happy Connecticut customer can use her retro range and bake until her heart's content. She even said so in an email she sent to this growing company, on Michigan Avenue west of Beck.

"I'm good for another 50 years," she wrote.
"On second thought, that might be a reach. I'm 81 years old. Still, the part is supposed to extend the range's life — not mine."

That's a favorite testimonial of Jody Lamb, public relations manager for RepairClinic.com, a multimillion-dollar company that stocks more than a million parts mostly new, some aftermarket — for major home appliances, vacuum cleaners and outdoor power equipment such as lawn mowers and weed trimmers. Just weeks ago, the business launched its product line for heating, ventilation and air conditioning.

#### Adding video

RepairClinic.com touts annual sales of \$30 million to \$50 million and ships



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Yolanda Taylor pulls parts from stock to fill customer's orders.

thousands of parts every day by Fed Ex throughout the United States and, since August, to Canada. It has reached three million customers.

What's more, the company has complemented its parts by producing 850 do-it-yourself videos that have accumulated 10 million hits on its YouTube

channel and its own website, www.RepairClinic.

Not bad for former appliance repairman Chris Hall, the company president who started the business in a rental building in 1999 with CEO Larry Beach. It became so successful they opened their current 86,000-

square-foot facility in 2004, Hall said, "and 2012 has been the best year in the history of our company."

RepairClinic.com employs 130 full- and part-time workers, though it expects to add several jobs next year. The vast majority of its customers order their parts online, though some walk in to the front desk and others contact a telephone call center that's open 6:30 a.m. to midnight, seven days a week, with English- and Spanish-speaking employees.

The company has established a strong following among the online doit-yourself community, which relies on videos to repair 150 brands ranging from carpet cleaners to washing machines. RepairClinic.com also has started making trouble-shooting videos to help customers.

#### **Picture perfect**

Moreover, the company has a photo lab where pictures are taken — and posted online — for the parts it stocks. It also has a partnership to provide parts to 2,000 Home Depot stores.

Though RepairClinic. com had a slower-thannormal year in 2010, Hall said business has otherwise flourished amid a tough economy as more people delay expensive purchases and buy muchcheaper replacement parts.

"We're growing because of the economy," Hall said, adding later, "Refrigerators are the biggest thing. They have a lot more parts than other appliances."



Chris Hall, president of RepairClinic.com, stands next to a pallet of 150 pressure washer pumps. Chris says that because they need to stock 150 pumps, the pressure washers probably have a high failure rate.

Lamb has noticed one consumer trend.

"There has been a definite recent spike in comments from customers making a point to identify themselves as women, 65plus years old or unhandy by nature," she said.

Customers pay a flat \$5 shipping fee, though they can pay more for rush orders. RepairClinic.com sells more parts to the most populated states, but orders have shipped to every state, Puerto Rico and Ontario, Canada.

"California is our biggest market just because of the population," Hall, a Saline resident, said.

Inside the RepairClinic.com building, Hall and Lamb gave a tour of an efficient, high-tech facility that allows employees to use software, wireless gadgets, cardboard boxes, biodegradable packing materials, an automated conveyor system and stock-picker lift trucks to locate specific items,

get them packaged and shipped to customers.

#### **Protect the rep**

Company worker Dean Kovacs of Romulus drives a lift truck, which essentially operates itself using an under-concrete wire that communicates with a truck sensor to guide the vehicle to the appropriate shelf. The truck then lifts Kovacs up — sometimes way up — so he can retrieve the part.

"It's like second nature after a while," he said.

In another area, video production manager Roger Ryan of Livonia and video specialist Adam Earl of Brighton demonstrated the do-it-yourself videos they make using information they get from repair gurus. They strive to create videos to help even the most fix-it-challenged viewer.

Pausing in one area, meanwhile, Hall points to a large box filled with 150 pressure washer pumps the company has received for its stock.

"If we order 150 of these," he said, "it means that part is failing."

RepairClinic.com has built a reputation on customer service, including a return policy that stretches a full year. That's how confident Hall and others are that they are providing the parts and the videos people need to succeed.

"We're empowering people to fix something they used to hire out," Hall said. "We're not saving the world. We're just helping people fix something like a washing machine."

> dclem@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2238

# Rocky's of Northville celebrates 20 years

Rocky's of Northville will be the toast of the town in January, as the popular eatery celebrates 20 years in business.

Rocky's has remained a favorite dining spot with local residents for many years, and they have a long list of awards for their 20-plus years of service, including being voted Northville's #1 Best by the readers of The Northville Record several vears in a row, and Chef Chuck "Rocky" Rachwitz has rarely not taken first place in any chili cook-off he has entered. Rocky's of Northville was even listed in Nation's Restaurant News as "One of Detroit's Hot Spots.'

"It's been a long haul but I would do it all over again given the chance," said Rachwitz. "Few people know that I started as a dishwasher at Dubb's Country Kitchen when I was just 13. Within a year I was the broiler cook and stayed at Dubb's for eight years. It was the best job I ever had. I went on to work for the Holiday Inn, Bloomfield Charley's, The Sundog, the Ponchatrain Hotel and later as regional chef for the Chuck Muer Restaurant Corporation."

Back in 1976, Rachwitz was a line cook in the very same building that now houses Rocky's of Northville. Back then it was called Northville Charley's.

"I would never had dreamed of one day owning the place," Rachwitz



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chefs Steve Allen (left) and Chuck (Rocky) Rachwitz have plenty to celebrate with their successful restaurant ventures in Northville and Novi. Rachwitz runs Rocky's of Northville, which is celebrating 20 years in business, and both have a hand in Steve & Rocky's in Novi, which is celebrating 15 years of operation in January.

# STEVE & ROCKY'S ALSO CELEBRATING MILESTONE

Steve & Rocky's, located at 43150 Grand River Ave. in Novi, is owned by the same group that operates Rocky's of Northville and is also celebrating a milestone in January. The Novi restaurant will be celebrating 15 years in business. Guests who visit for lunch or dinner anytime between Jan. 7-Jan. 31 will be offered a complementary glass of champagne for every main course ordered.

"The idea is for our guests

said. "Back in 1992 when I opened the doors to Rocky's of Northville, we were one of just a handful of restaurants in the area. Today there are literally dozens of more places to eat. I have been blessed with a loyal guest

to raise a glass of bubbly and toast to us and them. Fifteen years is a long time and had it not been for our many loyal guests we would not be here today," stated Chef Steve Allen. In addition to free champagne, Steve & Rocky will be offering guests a chance to enjoy more than a dozen house favorites all at prices from the original 1998 menu. For more information, call (248) 374-0688 or visit

base that just keeps coming back."

www.steveandrockys.com.

While Rachwitz credited his success to the restaurant's longevity and kindness from critics, he also noted a number of loyal and exemplary employees, including a number of them who have been with him since day one.

"Loyal employees who are dedicated to excellence and loyal guests who bring their friends, that's the key to our 20 years of business," Rachwitz said.

Rocky's of Northville is at 41122 W. Seven Mile in Northville. For more information, visit www. rockysnorthville.com.







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only the first insertion

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# **Crossword Puzzle Confection Collection**

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# Do I really need to include a cover letter? New thoughts on an old standard

Beth Braccio Hering, Special to CareerBuilder

Including a cover letter with your résumé is commonly considered a "golden rule" of job searching. But in this age of online applications and recruiters who need to scan material quickly, is this practice considered outdated?

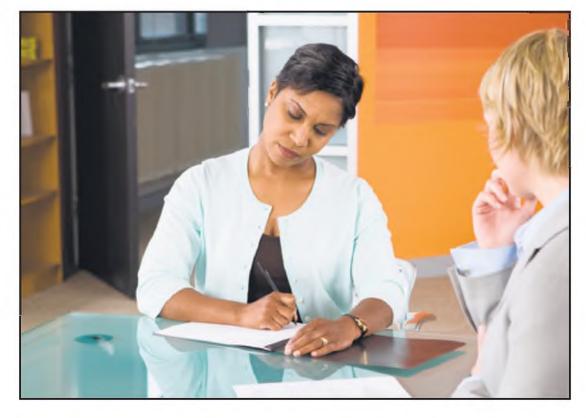
Consider the following: For his book "Unbeatable Résumés: America's Top Recruiter Reveals What REALLY Gets You Hired," author Tony Beshara asked hiring authorities from a variety of disciplines the question "How important is a cover letter when you are receiving résumes?" Of the more than 3,000 respondents, 86 percent said "not very important."

So if only 14 percent of the people seeing your resume consider a cover letter important, is it worth doing?

#### To send or not to send

"Unless the employer specifically requests a cover letter, I would recommend that candidates do not include one," says Jen Rallis, author of "Ugly Resumes Get Jobs." "Many recruiters only spend a few minutes scanning a resume and disregard cover letters all together." Instead, she favors a well-written summary of qualifications specific to the position being applied to listed at the top of the résumé.

Many experts, however, make the case that a concise, targeted cover letter has value.



"In a cover letter, you can precisely match your qualifications to job requirements and/or to the company to a degree that is difficult on a résumé," says Pennell Locey, senior consultant for Keystone Associates, a career management consulting firm headquartered in Boston. "Choose no more than five key points where you feel your qualifications directly make you a standout, and highlight the specifics of those in your letter. Bullet points rather than a narrative can make it easy for an employer to read."

"From a recruiting standpoint, I would likely look at a cover letter after reading someone's résumé," says Tracy Cashman, partner and general manager of the information

technology division of Winter, Wyman — one of the largest staffing firms in the Northeast. "I am more interested in examining a person's work experience and skills than reading the sometimes 'fluffy' nature of a cover letter." Still, she notes that a cover letter can be helpful, especially when it explains something that can't really be covered in the résumé itself, such as a gap in employment history or a position outside the person's obvious career track. Cashman's colleague Beverly Morgan — a partner in Winter, Wyman's human resources division — adds that a cover letter should mention anyone you know within the organization to build a more personal connection.

### Making the decision

Obviously, if a job ad asks for a cover letter, one should be included because failure to do so looks like you aren't following directions. Likewise, the decision is already made when an online application only allows space for a résumé. For other cases, it is difficult to tell what role a cover letter may or may not play in the hiring process.

While a cover letter is typically placed before a resume, Beshara's survey respondents frequently said that if they read a cover letter at all, they did so after examining the résumé. Thus, applicants may want to reconsider how they approach their material, realizing that their résumé must be the attention-grabber.

When an applicant does include a cover letter, Beshara stresses that it must be concise. "I can't tell you the number of résumés I receive with a full-page cover letter that will rarely, if ever, get read ...You have to make an impact quickly, with specifics that say 'You need to interview me."

**B7** 

Other tips Beshara has for job seekers who choose to send cover letters include:

Having a phone conversation with the hiring authority beforehand and then referencing that call in the letter.

Using bullet points to list accomplishments that apply to the specific job opening.

Quantifying achievements using numbers, statistics and percentages.

· Focusing on what you can do for the company, not on your own needs.

Lastly, Beshara and others urge candidates to ditch any generic cover letters. "As a rule of thumb: If your cover letter could be true for any job/company you apply for, then it isn't targeted enough," Locey says. So if you've decided sending a cover letter is worth your time, do it right and let the reader know you wrote it just for him.

Beth Braccio Hering researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues for CareerBuilder. Follow @ Careerbuilder on Twitter.

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# Car Report

Advertising Feature

# Auto brands shed light on their 2013 Detroit Auto Show plans



By Dale Buss

The paint is just dry on the 2012 sales year and already auto brands are gearing up for a 2013 that they hope will be even more prosperous. U.S. auto sales defied the economic headwinds this year, and

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 03, 2013

prognostications so far are that they'll lead the way again next year in bringing whatever further measure of recovery comes to America.

That's why the buzz around the North American International Auto Show, known colloquially as the Detroit auto show, already is stronger than it has been in a few years — at least since before the Great Recession and the GM and Chrysler financial bailouts.

Nearly 50 products are slated to be unveiled at the NAIAS beginning with a media preview on January 14 and 15, with most of them being global "reveals." The Chinese will be back after bowing out for a few years. A number of luxury marques are returning to the show after absences; they include Jaquar, Land Rover, Ferrari and Maserati.

Here's a look at what a few brands already have signalled to expect at the Detroit Auto show:

Cadillac will be breaking out into its own display area in Detroit under the roof of the recently renovated and expanded Cobo Hall. Traditionally, GM has grouped its highest-end brand along with its other brands in a single seamless space. But at this show, GM is creating a separate space for Caddy that will be close to Ferrari, Porsche and Volvo.

"It's mainly just an effort to place Cadillac within the context of our luxury competitors," a GM spokesman told the Detroit News. "That's better for people attending the show, too — making it easier to compare and shop cars in the same segment or category."

Ford reportedly is planning to use NAIAS in part to answer the pickup-promoting attention that General Motors has been able to generate this month with the unveiling of its new Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra. The Ford F-150 pickup remains America's best-selling vehicle, and so expect the company not to take lightly any threat to the franchise. Chrysler unveiled a new Ram earlier this year as well.

Industry buzz has it that Ford will provide a teaser at the Detroit show to its new F-150 that isn't due in production until the 2015 model year. Because even GM has described the design of its new trucks as "evolutionary, not revolutionary," the thinking apparently is that Ford will be able to steal some attention with a peak at its own new sheetmetal.

Honda is expected to debut a new con-

cept car at Detroit that will become a production version of a small SUV within three years, reports say. Auto pundits beleive it will be spun off the new Honda Jazz platform that is due in the next two years as a highvolume vehicle for both the U.S. and European markets.

Lincoln is doing a respectable job of attempting to reposition the brand after neglecting it for a few years, with new TV ads starring Abraham Lincoln and a retro new name for the brand, Lincoln Motor Company. But what Lincoln really needs is to let the American public at least get a sniff of some of the other new products it plans to bring out in addition to the 2013 MKZ that it teased at last year's Detroit show.

So this time around, Lincoln is reported

Auto Misc



Ford reportedly will try to use the Detroit auto show to keep its F-150 king of the mountain.

to be unveiling a small SUV based on the Ford Escape. The MKC crossover would be a luxury version of the vehicle.

Mini, the BMW-owned tiny-car brand that keeps topping charts in things like customer satisfaction in the U.S. market, plans to host the world premier of the John Cooper Works Paceman. Their new three-door model will be the latest offering from the sub-brand and, as Mini puts it, "brings a high-octane race feeling to the streets of the urban jungle."

Toyota will debut a concept car it's calling Furia, an "exciting sedan concept," according to a press statement from the brand. A teaser video of the car shows details such as a rear lip spoiler, LED lights and what appears to be carbon-fiber trim, as Edmunds.com's InsideLine sees it. The concept could provide hints about what Toyota fans can expect in the new 2014 Toyota Corolla as it will compete with the redesigned Honda Civic, and other subcompacts.

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