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Police sketch of suspect
wanted in the assault and
robberies of women in
Northville and Farmington
Hills.

Police need help finding attacker

By **Lonnie Huhman** and
Joanne Mallszewski
Staff Writers

Police have issued a sketch of the unidentified man who is believed to have brutally attacked a Farmington Hills woman and Northville woman in separate incidents Jan. 16.

Northville City Police Chief Gary Goss said at this point officials believe it is the same suspect and both departments are still seeking help with indentifying the man.

Northville Police are asking residents to contact them at (248) 349-1234 if anyone recognizes the man in the composite sketch.

The Northville woman suffered a fractured jaw and a severe head injury. She was admitted to the hospital and has since had her jaw wired shut and received stitches to her head where a large gash was left after being hit over the head with an unidentified club-like object.

She was attacked at her home on Lake Street by a man who also stole her purse. The incident happened around 11 a.m. According to Northville City Police, the 69-

Please see **ATTACKER, A9**

Gallagher discusses school boundary changes, security

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

Questions about the coming changes to re-work the attendance boundaries within the Northville Public Schools district and school security highlighted the first community coffee meeting hosted by Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher.

Gallagher has invited parents, guardians and community members for coffee and an informal opportunity to discuss important school district

issues during a series of Superintendent Community Coffees planned for the remainder of the school year.

The first was held Jan. 24 at Stone House Coffee and Tea, which is near Ridge Wood Elementary School. There were around 20 community members at the meeting, including Wendell Smith, who was there to learn more about the attendance boundary study.

Please see **MEETINGS, A4**



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northville Public Schools Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher talks about potential school boundary changes during at Jan. 24 meeting at Stone House Coffee and Tea in Northville Township.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Debra Kubitskey, the court administrator at 35th District Court in Plymouth, is retiring. The court serves Plymouth, Canton and Northville.

Motion to adjourn

Court exec reconvenes career in new jurisdiction

By **Matt Jachman**
Staff Writer

Through more than two decades working in places where many “customers” don’t want to be, Debra Kubitskey has maintained a calm demeanor and a businesslike approach to her job.

Now Kubitskey, a 35th District Court employee for nearly 20 years and the court administrator for eight, is taking that professionalism to Livingston County, where she is the new administrator in 53rd District Court.

Kubitskey, whose last day in the court located in Plymouth was Friday, recently spoke of her love for the area, and her job, while also saying it was time for her to move forward.

“After almost 20 years here, you develop friends,” Kubitskey said. “I love Plymouth. I love Northville. The downtowns are great, so I’ll miss that.

“You’ve seen everybody grow up,” she added. “A lot of people have had grandkids or had kids. It becomes a family almost.”

Back again

That would apply to Kubitskey herself, who started in 35th District Court as a college intern, returned as a volunteer probation officer and then

returned again as a regular probation officer in 1993 after more than three years as a probation officer in Oak Park. She also met her husband Tom Kubitskey, a retired Westland police sergeant, when he worked as a court security officer.

“He’s Mr. Mom,” she said of her husband. “He’s retired again.”

In the local court, which serves the cities of Plymouth and Northville plus Plymouth, Northville and Canton townships, Kubitskey, with the help of the District Court Authority, oversaw about 40 employees, a budget of a little more than \$4 million and a workload of about 35,000 cases a year. The court handles smaller civil cases, traffic offenses, misdemeanors and felony arraignments and preliminary hearings.

Falling revenue has led to some budget cuts in recent years, and Kubitskey’s own job has been part time for about four years.

“I love what I do. I work with a lot of great people,” she said. Kubitskey said she knew in college — she majored in public administration at Central Michigan University — that she wanted to work in the legal system. She earned a master’s degree,

Please see **JUDGE, A2**

Northville joins lawsuit to capture zoo taxes

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

In an effort to get some clarity over a muddled issue, the city of Northville joined with other Wayne County communities in a lawsuit over the Detroit Zoo millage.

By a 4-1 vote, city council approved a recommendation by Northville’s Downtown Development Authority to participate as one of the impacted communities in Wayne County to challenge the Detroit Zoological Authority’s attempt to collect the zoo millage from existing DDA

and TIF authorities.

A \$2,500 retainer fee was approved by council.

The lawsuit is over the August 2008 0.1 millage voters in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties approved for the Zoological Authority. Since then some communities, like Northville, Dear-

born and Grosse Pointe, have diverted a fraction of zoo tax revenues to spend on improving their downtowns.

According to the Northville DDA, it and 18 other DDAs within Wayne County for the last five

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Number 26



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Get ready for roadway headaches

Many local road construction projects on tap for 2013

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Northville saw its share of road work in 2012, and this year looks like it will be frustrating again for drivers throughout the community.

Most of the work will be county projects, but covering the future costs of local street improvements may become a millage issue in the coming year for voters in the City of Northville as well.

The big project for the next construction season will be the rehabilitation of Eight Mile Road between Taft and Napier roads. This is an Oakland County project, and is expected to cost \$4.6 million.

During the City of Northville's fiscal year 2013-14 goals, objectives and priorities meeting

on Jan. 14, Public Works director Jim Gallogly warned that a lot of different projects will pop up in the coming year and will give local drivers some headaches.

"There are a lot of county projects in the year ahead," said Jim Gallogly. "We will probably be getting a lot of comments, concerns and complaints about projects we really have little control over."

Wayne County is planning improvements to the 8 Mile Road and Center Street intersection along with improvements to 8 Mile Road from the railroad bridge near Novi Street east to Meadowbrook Road. In addition, Wayne County is planning improvements to the Seven Mile Road and Center Street intersection along with improvements to Seven Mile from

S. Rogers Street west to Edenderry.

Oakland County plans improvements to 8 Mile Road from Taft Road west to Napier. This project is expected to begin in June, and be completed in November. As part of this project, Northville city staff is working with the Road Commission for Oakland County, the City of Novi and Northville Township to arrange for the placement of sidewalk/pedestrian paths along this roadway, at least to the Beck Road intersection. This will lead to an eventual connection to Maybury State Park.

The Northville community saw a number of road projects last year. W. Main Street (Rogers to Center) and S. Rogers Street (Seven Mile to W. Main) were reconstructed utilizing federal funding (80 percent). Gallogly said the city was successful in obtaining federal funding in 2013 to mill and resurface S. Center Street from Cady Street to Seven Mile Road. Engineers are being select-

ed for this project with construction anticipated in late 2013. In keeping with the city's support of Michigan's Complete Streets initiative, bike lanes are being proposed adjacent to the existing sidewalk along this segment of roadway. The summer of 2013 will bring a number of needed county road projects to Northville, according to city officials.

The city's open contract with Spalding DeDecker Associates is being used to prepare an update to their two-year-old Pavement Management System Report. City officials said this update will provide the basis for a street improvement plan, which city council may choose to present to voters to request additional funding.

Gallogly said this spring he will be discussing with the council a possible millage issue to help fund local street improvements.

The current street millage is around 1.78 mills and was approved in 1997. It has no sunset or



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Drivers should be able to look forward to a smoother commute along Eight Mile Road as some of its worst sections will be reconstructed in 2013. Some of Eight Mile, like this spot near Griswold, has been patched and re-patched many times and features deep, tire-killing potholes.

NORTHVILLE RECORD

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

HOW TO REACH US

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JUDGE

Continued from page A1

also in public administration, from Eastern Michigan University in 2004.

"I knew at some point I wanted to grow into court administration," she said.

Bang-up job

Judge Ron Lowe, the court's senior judge, said Kubitskey has "done a bang-up job all the time" and has a professionalism that "demanded perfor-

mance" from employees, judges and everyone with whom she worked.

"I'm going to miss her professionalism when she was handling things," Lowe said. "I felt she was organized in knowing what was going on. We had things run better here."

Kubitskey was a probation officer when the former district court building was destroyed in a July 1997 fire; the current building opened three years later on the same site. The court had to rebuild the paper files

destroyed in the blaze, with the help of electronic records, and set up temporary quarters, but Kubitskey doesn't remember it as a chaotic time.

"There were answers quickly," she said. "The leadership was quick to resolve where we were going to be, what we were going to do."

In her new job, Kubitskey will manage a court with a jurisdiction made up of all of Livingston County. Her new court, like 35th District Court, has three judges and

"The thought is we may need to go back to the voters, or at least consider going back to the voters for an additional millage," he said.

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a similar caseload, but has two locations, one in Brighton and another in Howell.

"She's real excited about the opportunity, and I think it's going to be a great one for her," Lowe said.

Pam Avdolous, the court controller, has been named interim court administrator until a permanent replacement for Kubitskey is chosen, Lowe said.

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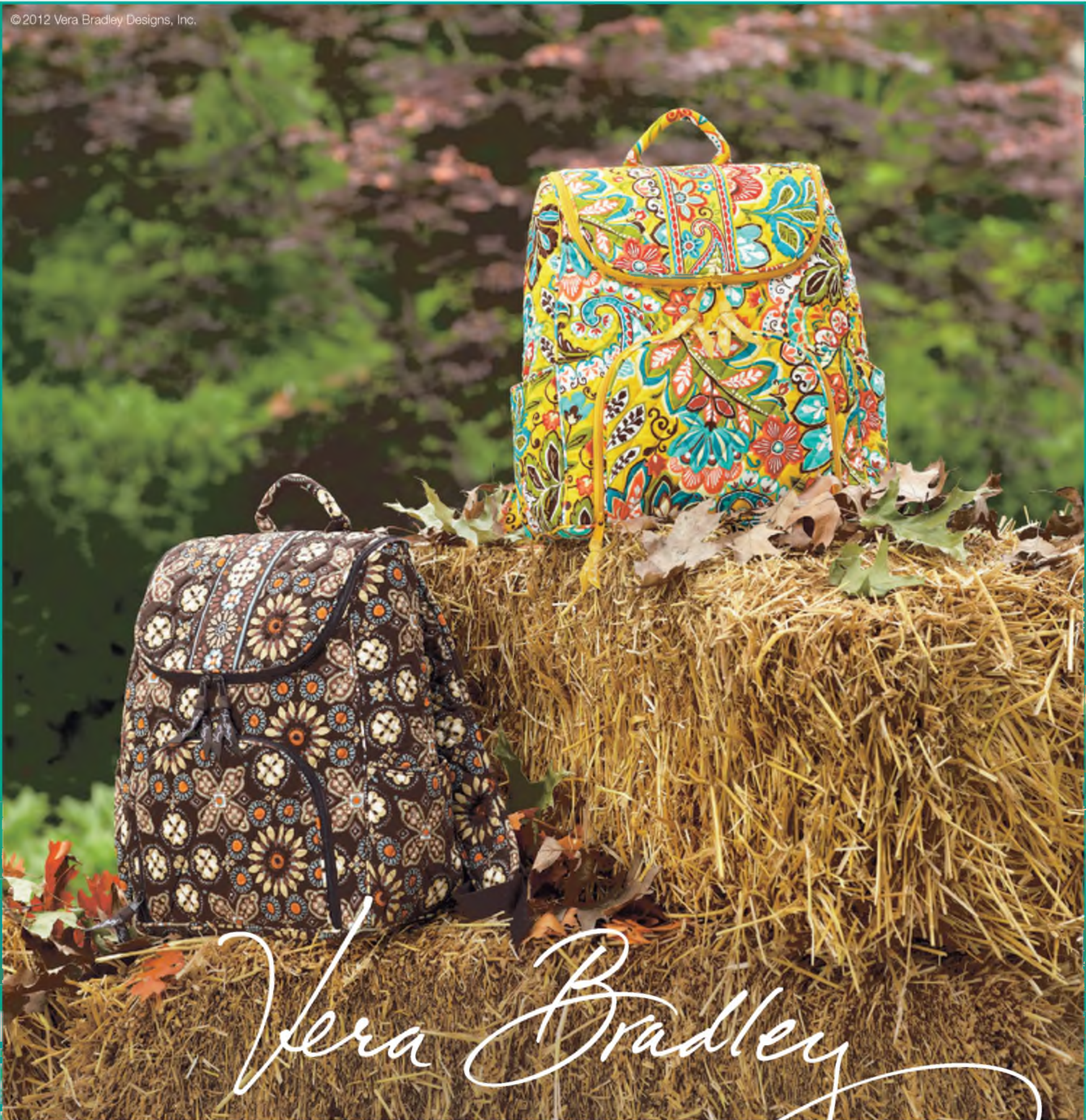
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Varsity dancers ready to show they are ‘Unbreakable’

The Northville High School Varsity Dance Company is presenting “Unbreakable” — its sixth annual performance — at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 10 in the high school auditorium. The show will feature various dance routines including hip hop, jazz, modern/contemporary, lyrical, tap and ballet — most of which have been choreographed by local and student choreographers.

The Dance Company was created six years ago to offer NHS students the opportunity to represent their school by expanding their dance experiences. This year’s dancers were selected from more than 50 dancers who auditioned last spring. They have continued to show their commitment by actively participating in all Dance Company events and by working tirelessly through hours of rehearsals.

In addition to their Dance Company rehearsals, the dancers continue their technique classes at various local studios



The Northville High School Varsity Dance Company

including Center Stage Dance Company, Performers’ Edge, Gayle’s Dance Phase, Planko Ballet Academy, Flex Point, Metropolitan DanCentre, and Piazza Dance Company. The dancers average more than 10 hours of technique training each week and many of them

also teach and serve as apprentices at their studios. A majority of the dancers, ranging in age from 13 to 17, have been dancing for at least 10 years.

The Dance Company emphasizes this “passion for dance” in a non-competitive environment.

Throughout the years, the dancers have represented their High School by participating in the Fall Pep Rally, the Homecoming Parade, and at various half-time performances. They are proud to be involved in the annual Lighted Holiday Parade in Downtown Northville

each year and to support local charities including Northville Civic Concern and Have a Heart for Hunger. As its reputation has grown, the Dance Company has been asked to organize dance workshops at Amerman’s Fifth Grade graduation party and for local block parties. And the Dance Company is proud to host the annual Happy Holidays Dance Party where elementary school children are invited to spend the afternoon learning dance routines while playing games, making crafts and having snacks.

According to Carly Siracusa Carlin, artistic director for the company, the dancers have bonded together to execute a vision and to gain a sense of ownership and pride in all that they accomplish. Each dancer is encouraged to achieve her individual best and to expand her talents and experiences.

“All of my dancers have exceeded my expectations and gone far beyond the limits

they thought they could. They were committed and dedicated since day one and I am so proud of all that they have accomplished,” Carlin said. “I raised the bar again, and they took it and made it higher. They are unbreakable.”

As the 2012/2013 season draws to a close, the Dance Company will celebrate a first of sorts. Elisabeth Moore and Paige Rafferty are the first dancers in the six-year history of the Dance Company to have joined as freshmen and to continue for four years through their senior year.

“The Dance Company would like to thank Elisabeth and Paige for their hard work, their unique ideas, and their contributions as captains on the leadership team,” Carlin said. Tickets for “Unbreakable” will be available for purchase the day of the show at the NHS Auditorium Box Office beginning at 2:15 p.m. Tickets are \$8 each.

NORTHVILLE SCHOOL BRIEFS

Choir show

Northville High School Choirs will present “Country Cabaret 2013” — a nightclub style of entertainment featuring individual acts at 7 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 23 in the NHS cafeteria.

Refreshments will be served. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. For more information including how to purchase tickets, call Carol at (248) 345-5536 or e-mail questions to Carol.grimmer@gmail.com.

Community coffees

Northville Public Schools Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher invites parents, guardians, and community members for coffee and an informal opportunity to discuss important school district issues during a series of Superintendent Community Coffees planned for the remainder of the school year.

The Community Coffees are scheduled for the following dates, times and locations:

- Wednesday, March 20 from 1:30-3 p.m. at Next Chapter Bookstore & Bistro, 141 East Main Street

- Monday, May 20, from 6-7:30 p.m. at Board of Education Office, Room 302, 501 West Main Street

Gallagher is hosting the community coffees to provide another avenue for school families and community members to ask questions, offer input, and learn more about the school district in a small group setting.

Gallagher also is eager to hear from school families and residents about those issues and concerns that are important to them. The coffees will have a very informal format. Those attending are welcome to come and go at any time during the specified time frame.

Look for additional Superintendent Community Coffees to be scheduled for the 2013-14 school year. Specific dates, times and locations will be sent via LISTSERV

beginning in the fall.

Crafters sought

The Novi Athletic Boosters Holiday Kickoff Art & Craft Show will be held at Novi High School on Saturday, Oct. 19. This is a juried Show. More than 250 booths are available. Booths are \$60. There will be ample space for all exhibitors. For more information, visit www.noviathleticboosters.com/craft-show. The application deadline is March 1.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher, at left, meets with parents on Jan. 24 at the first of several planned community coffee meetings. The next coffee meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. on March 20 at the Next Chapter Bookstore and Bistro in Northville.

MEETINGS

Continued from page A1

“I just want to understand the numbers and how this will look,” Smith said.

Gallagher, who was accompanied by school board Vice President Jim Mazurek and Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services Bob Behnke, stressed that the attendance boundary study is still in the early stages and no decisions or options have been looked at yet.

“There have been rumors ... but they are pure conjecture at this point,” she said of the current status of the attendance boundary process.

That aside, the process is moving along, she said.

The district, with help from consultants Plante Moran, has nearly completed its study. Although nothing has been officially released, a demographic study and facility review have been done, and will be further reviewed at an upcoming school board study session Feb. 5. A final decision could come in early April.

The school board has approved a set of guiding principles to be used as members look at the boundary options, which include keeping families together (meaning K-5 and sixth- through eighth-grade children

attend the same school), developing a plan that will last as long as possible and at least five years, balancing enrollment across schools within school capacity and minimizing the length of bus rides/transportation costs to the greatest extent possible, as well as minimizing the division of neighborhoods.

Smith wondered if his neighbors’ children would be going to Meads Mill while his child went to Hillside. School officials could not answer these specific questions just yet, but said the time will come to make tough decisions. Gallagher said they will do their best to manage the changes in a positive way.

“At the end of the day, there will be conflicting wants and needs,” Mazurek said. “We have to look at the overall district ... and take a balanced approach to do what’s in the best interests of the entire community.”

Security issues

Gallagher said officials are in the process of reviewing emergency response and security procedures. Several parents at the meeting expressed concerns about before and after school programs. It was reiterated that each school is being looked at and different scenarios are being analyzed by the district, with

help from the Northville police department, as well as Novi and district consultant Patriot Services.

Going forward, new security technology, like cameras, will be added with help from the technology bond, which was approved by voters this past November, Gallagher said.

Northville High School recently put out the word it is seeking parent volunteers to assist at the building with the primary focus of providing an increased adult presence to ensure students and guests are utilizing the main entrance when entering or leaving the building, as well as operating the front door security system.

And Thornton Creek Elementary, which had a recent security situation causing it to go into a general security alert due to a misdirected phone call, also addressed some security issues by conducting a lockdown drill — something the school will probably do again before the year is over. Principal Allison Epler said the drill went well and staff will continue to review their security efforts.

The next coffee meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. March 20 at the Next Chapter Bookstore and Bistro, located at 141 E. Main Street in Northville.

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Beards or clean shaven? Schoolcraft students asked for their preference

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

A national razor manufacturer conducted a little informal research last Thursday at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

“Kiss & Tell” was a chance for couples or friends to let Gillette know their preference — a kiss with someone with a beard or stubble or a clean-shaven face. While some couples participated, it didn’t stop some young men from getting a free shave and a free razor to try during the promotion.

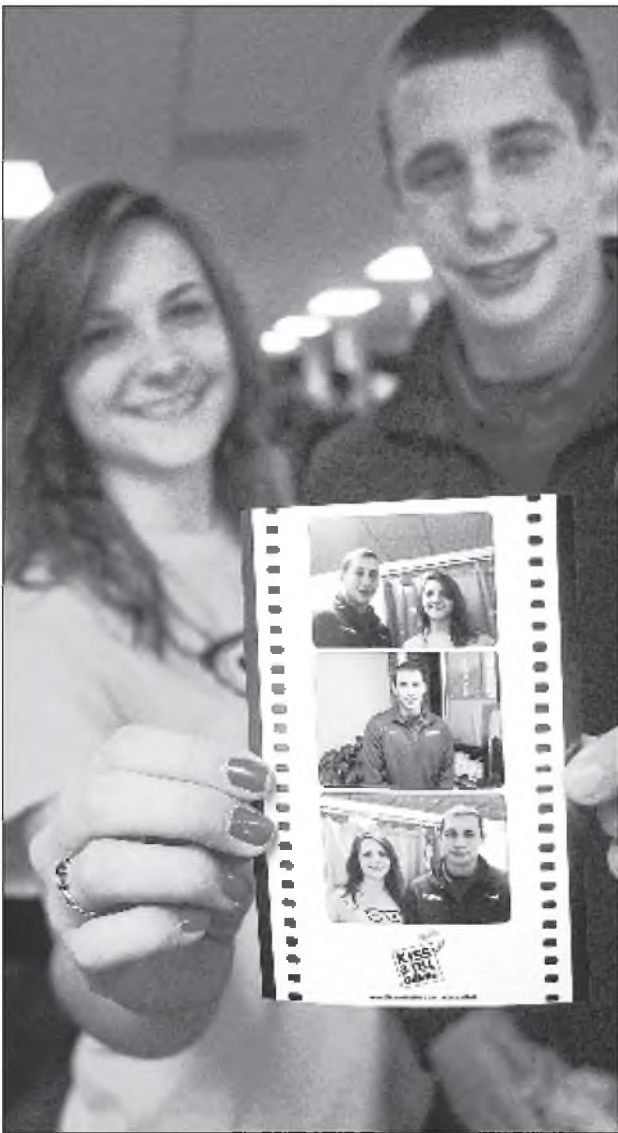
“It is part of a 15-city tour,” said Stephen Snart, senior account executive with Ketchum, a public relations firm handling the event for Gillette.

“We invited couples to come out and test whether his face is preferred with stubble or clean shaven.”

Snart said research has shown that “two out of three woman have avoided kissing a guy because he had facial hair.”

The idea was for couples to kiss beforehand in one booth, then shave the man’s beard. The couple would kiss again in a second booth and participate in a short survey on the preference. The men received free Gillette swag (a razor), while the women received a lip gloss balm.

Chelsea Nguyen of Westland and Mario Hernandez of Novi joined in the fun. Nguyen, who said she and Hernandez are friends, preferred the clean shaven over the stubble. “The clean shaven face is definitely a lot smoother,” Nguyen said.



Christa Mott, of Westland, and Nicholas Mencotti, of Northville with a before and after memento.

“I thought (the promotion) was a great idea, bringing it around college students,” Nguyen said.

Hernandez called the experience “weird” as all eyes were on him as he shaved, as lenses were aimed by several photographers taking his picture. “I had to make sure I didn’t mess up,” he said.

Hernandez showed up with stubble that morn-

ing, but said he normally keeps a clean shaven look for his job at Abercrombie & Fitch. “I use an electric (razor), but I like this because it is really smooth,” he said.

For Hernandez, he didn’t have a preference for himself with the stubble or clean shaven look. “I got a kiss both times,” he said.

Tim Daul of Livonia showed up to try a razor

and get a free razor. “It’s pretty good,” he said. “It didn’t catch or drag.”

Jake Mulka of Livonia didn’t bring his girlfriend, but got a clean shave. “It didn’t catch on my face,” he said. “I like it a lot. My beard is like sandpaper, so it’s nice.”

Mulka said his girlfriend prefers him without the beard. “She likes it neat, not the full beard,” he said.

Gillette will announce results from its “survey” Valentine’s Day.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

After the shave, Mario Hernandez, of Novi, gets a kiss from Chelsea Nguyen, of Westland. Mario liked the blade. He works at Abercrombie and is required to be clean-shaven when he works.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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Scouts make difference in community with Eagle projects

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

A lesson in leadership and what it means to give back, that's what four Northville teenagers learned this past year while earning the rank of Eagle Scout.

"It's about two things: becoming a better leader and giving back to the community," said James Castellano, 17, a Senior at Northville High School

and Scout with Troop 903, of what he learned during his project to become an Eagle Scout.

He and fellow troop members James Behe, 15, Paul Behe, 16, and Shunhe Wang, 15, earned this esteemed rank among By Scouts by completing a project that demonstrated those two important qualities.

Castellano's project took place at Mill Race Village. He fixed the

Hunter House pathway and steps that lead up to the building. It was at least three days of work that ranged from cleaning bricks, putting in a new base for the path to get all of the exact measurements correct.

Paul Behe also worked at Mill Race with a project that helped address flooding issues along the village's creek. He along with fellow scouts and friends built berms

in certain areas to prevent overflow. It was a lot of work involving dirt, wheel barrows and three groups of workers.

For him the experience has already carried over into other areas.

"I've stepped up a bit in school when it comes to group projects," he said. "I try to take more of leadership role."

His brother, James, painted and renovated an exit/entry way at Our Lady of Victory, a church they attend. He said another lesson he learned during this work was the importance of preparation. The time and effort paid off with earning Eagle at such a young age.

"I think it's a big accomplishment and I'm proud of it," he said. "Taking on a leadership role takes a lot of work and you have to control many things, but that's what felt good about earning it."

Wang's project was also very involved and tough. He along with his father's re-built a foot bridge at Maybury Park. With supplies and assistance from The Home Depot and friends, Wang worked over the course of three months to construct the bridge. It was built at home, taken apart and then put back together at the park.

"This really is one of the bigger accomplish-



Shunhe Wang, 15, of Troop 903 in Northville stands next to his community project he completed for his Eagle Scout. It's a reconstructed foot bridge at Maybury State Park.



Fellow scouts and friends helped Shunhe Wang with his Eagle Scout project at Maybury State Park.

ments I've achieved so far," he said.

Troop leader Paul Hubbard said each scout that does a project like this takes away many positives. He couldn't be more proud of what each one of the boys has done to earn their new rank.

"They grow and learn a

lot during this process," Hubbard said. "To not only learn about leadership, but to also do something that benefits the community makes these projects very important."

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

Local scouts earn Eagle rank for community projects

Boy Scouts of America Troop 755 of Northville added three more Eagle Scouts to a distinguished roster of young leaders back in October. Eagle Scouts numbered 196, 197 and 198 are Sam McCutcheon, Evan Porter and Adam Crittenden.



Sam McCutcheon, Evan Porter and Adam Crittenden of Troop 755 of Northville all earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

Sam McCutcheon

McCutcheon's Eagle project was 18 months in the making. Living a stone's throw away from Maybury State Park, he discussed a potential project with The Friends of Maybury Park. They asked him if he would build a notice board in the group campground. He drew up plans and presented his design which had to be approved by the Department of Natural Resources. Then followed fundraising, purchasing needed materials, and coordinating the build. Over three days, Sam worked with his team of friends and family to dig holes 42 inches deep, mix concrete, saw, join and screw the notice board together.

Sam is a junior at Northville High School and began scouting as a Cub Scout with Pack 903 at Winchester Elementary. He joined Troop 755 in 2007 and has been on high adventure trips to the Pacific Northwest and to the centennial jamboree at Fort A. P. Hill in Virginia, in addition to many, more local camping weekends.

"Scouting has given me some great opportunities to travel to some amazing places, meet people, make friends, and learn new skills. The Eagle project itself was a great lesson in leadership and a way to give back to my community. In total, my project took in excess of 150 hours to complete and I couldn't have done it without the help and support of my fellow scouts, friends and my family," McCutcheon said, noting Home Depot helped him with supplies.

Evan Porter

Porter, a senior at Northville High School, has been in scouting for 12 years, since becoming a Tiger scout with Pack 712 at Silver Springs Elementary,

then moving to Pack 721 at RidgeWood Elementary and finally joining Troop 755. He has participated in many of the special opportunities offered by his troop as well as serving as patrol leader and assistant senior patrol leader.

Evan's Eagle project entailed procuring backpacks and school supplies for students who attend the Boys and Girls Club in Southfield. He contacted Jackie Banks, the director at the facility, who worked with him to determine how best to meet the needs of the students. Then with the help of his fellow scouts, he conducted a neighborhood drive in Northville for donations. He organized a total of 110 hours canvassing, collecting and sorting the donated items. Additional contributions from family and friends allowed him to assemble a total of 51 backpacks filled with school supplies, as well as several cartons of additional supplies, including many ACT-approved calculators. A raffle conducted at the center on Aug. 16, 2012 provided Evan with the opportunity to directly interact with the kids who would benefit from his efforts, and to enjoy their gratitude firsthand.

"Scouting has provided me with the opportunity to improve my leadership skills, develop lasting friendships, and travel across the country in awe-inspiring adventures. I would like to thank former scoutmasters Mr. Laabs and Mr. Kowalczyk, Eagle advisor Mr. Phillips, my family and all my friends who volunteered with my Eagle project and encouraged and supported me throughout my Scouting career," he said.

Adam Crittenden

Adam, a junior at Northville High School, began scouting as a five-year-old Tiger Cub in Livonia. He joined Troop 755 in 2007. He has participated in several camping trips, including a scuba diving adventure in the Florida Keys, a 75-mile canoe trip in northern Minnesota and Canada, and scouting's Centennial Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia.

Adam coordinated the construction of a raised-bed vegetable garden in southwest Detroit. His service project was inspired by a conversation between him and Diane Powers, a co-founder of Bridgepointe, a local non-profit organization that bridges cultural barriers in metro Detroit through direct experiences and living relationships. The garden, which includes 11 separate planting boxes, was built in a community park adjacent to the Academy of the Americas, a Detroit Public School offering a bilingual curriculum in Spanish and English.

The project required several approvals, including from the City of Detroit. The garden was first planted in June from seedlings planted by middle school students of Carol Smuk. To purchase necessary materials, Adam solicited donations from friends, family, Bridgepointe and, prominently, The Home Depot. Over three weeks this past summer, he led a team of volunteers to remove sod, cut lumber, assemble boxes, move garden soil and plant seedlings.

"I have truly enjoyed my experiences in scouting, including the activities required to achieve the Eagle rank," he said. "The friends and memories I have made will stick with me the rest of my life."

Passages

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

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Boucher, Daryl Wayne
Age 54. Funeral Thursday, January 31, 7 PM. Visitation 2 hours prior. Lynch & Sons, Milford. LynchFuneralDirectors.com.

BRENAY, SUSAN J.
Age 57, died Jan. 27, 2013. Funeral Jan. 31, 11 a.m. Phillips Funeral Home. 248-437-1616. www.phillipsfuneral.com

BROOKS, ROBERT D.
Age 86, January 22, 2013. Funeral Mass was held Jan. 25, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon. Online guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com

ERWIN, BILLIE I.
Age 87, of Gold Canyon, AZ, formerly of South Lyon, passed away January 28, 2013. Loving wife of the late J.W. Erwin. Cherished mother of William (Linda) Erwin, James (Eileen) Erwin, Douglas (Kathi) Erwin, and Thomas (Adra) Erwin. Adored grandmother of 7 and great grandmother of 7. Private services were held.

Online condolences at
www.casterlinefuneralhome.com

FLUEGGE, JUNE E.
Age 79 of Highland. January 23, 2013. Services held January 25, 2013. Lynch & Sons, Milford. LynchFuneralDirectors.com

GIANNANGELI, RICHARD J.
81, passed away January 20, 2013. Survived by his son, Michael Giannangeli; brother, Peter L. Giannangeli; and sisters, Henrietta Marcetti and Theresa Korbein. Funeral Mass from St. Mary Catholic Church, 1955 E. Commerce, Milford on Thursday 11 AM. Fr. Ron Anderson to officiate. Burial Commerce Memorial Cemetery. For further information phone Lynch & Sons, Milford 248.684.6645 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

McGOWAN, JOHN (BUD)
Age 75, passed away suddenly on January 25, 2013. He is survived by his beloved wife, Mary Jo (Giles) McGowan; his loving children: John & Susan McGowan, Mary Jane Kline & the late Richard, Christine & Barry Witt; 6 grandchildren; his brother, Gerard & Amelia McGowan, his sister, Margaret McGowan and many nieces, nephews and loving friends. Visitation was held on Tuesday, Jan. 29 from 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. A funeral service was held on Wednesday, Jan. 30 at 11:00 a.m. at the funeral home.

Online guestbook at
www.phillipsfuneral.com

PLAS, MICHELE
Age 48, passed away January 26, 2013. She was born on July 17, 1964, in Riverview, to Jan and Loretta (Zvirzdin) Plas. Michele is survived by her parents Jan and Loretta Plas; sister Suzanne (John) Sundburg; grandfather Julius Zvirzdin; niece Kendall, nephew Kameron; aunts: Lorraine (Steve) Huth, Sharon (Ron) Cazabon; and many friends and cousins. She was preceded in death by her grandmother Frances Zvirzdin and grandparents John and Yvette Plas. Visitation was held on Jan. 29, Tuesday, from 4:00-8:00 p.m. with a Rosary prayed at 3:30 p.m. at Phillips Funeral Home, 122 West Lake Street, South Lyon. A funeral mass was held on Jan. 30, Wednesday, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 830 S. Lafayette, South Lyon. Memorial contributions may be made to Community Opportunity Center, 33150 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 104, Livonia, MI 48150. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

WESTERMEIER, DAVID
Age 58, passed away in the care of his family January 22, 2013. Preceded in death by his father Charles. Survived by his mother Celia Westemeier; brothers Michael Westemeier, Steven Westemeier, Warren Westemeier; sister Patti (Tom) Mott; nieces and nephews Jessica, Ross, Katie, Ryan and Ella. Memorial Service was held January 26th. Brian Saunders officiated. Memorials encouraged to: American Heart Assoc. For further information, phone Lynch & Sons, Milford 248.684.6645 or visit LynchFuneralDirectors.com

POTERACKI, CHARLES E.
(Of Howell, formerly of Detroit). January 25, 2013 age 87. Beloved husband of the late Helen. Loving father of Susan (Russ) Hoffman, Judy (Mike) Bandy, Dave (Julie) Poteracki and Fred Poteracki (Sharon O'Reilly). Cherished grandfather of 12, great-grandfather of 11 ½ and great-great grandfather of two. Dear brother of Ilene Dietz. Uncle of Jackie, Ellen, Lynn and the late Linda Dietz. Brother-in-law of Ardice Wilson. Visitation was held on Monday January 28, with funeral service on Tuesday January 29, from O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River, Novi, (248) 348-1800. Memorial donations may be made to the National Kidney Foundation. Online condolences: obrien-sullivanfuneralhome.com



STONE, ARLAN L.

Age 77, passed away January 20, 2013. He was born on September 9, 1935, in Detroit, son of the late Raymond & Lucy Stone. He was a proud veteran of the U.S. Navy. Arlan and his wife, Julie managed the Lake Street Apartments for 20+ years. He was affectionately known as the South Lyon Santa. Each day, Arlan could be found at Brown's Root Beer & Sandwich Shop or McDonald's visiting with his group of friends over coffee with his favorite cup of tea. He enjoyed woodworking and spending time with his friends and family. He will always be remembered as an intelligent, generous and caring man, who would do anything for anyone. He is survived by his beloved wife and best friend of 35 years, Julie, his loving children: Lee Ann (Gordon) McCleery, Carla (Bob) Moriarty, Joe (Lori) Stone, Debbie Wilhelm, Kim (Jill) Marzinske and Terry (Christine) Marzinske. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Donald, Julie, Amanda, Tyler, Jeff, Joe and Brianna, his great grandchildren: Kiera, Ava and Lila and his brother, Jerry Stone. He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister, Nancy and his son-in-law, Gerry Wilhelm. Interment will take place in the Spring at Great Lakes National Cemetery where military honors will be rendered.

Online guestbook at
www.phillipsfuneral.com

Tillotson, Richard A.
Age 81, January 21, 2013. Service held January 24, 2013. Lynch & Sons, Milford. www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

VAN SICKLE, AVIS IRENE

A long-time resident of South Lyon, died Saturday, Jan. 26, 2013, at Providence Park Hospital from medical complications. She was 92. She was born July 9, 1920, in Lyon Township, to Ralph and Doris Bidwell. She graduated from South Lyon High School in 1938, and married Emery Van Sickle on Aug. 6, 1938. They had four children: Emery (Skip), Carolyn, David and John. Following her husband's death in 1962, she worked as a receptionist in a doctor's office in Wayne, MI; followed by 20 years for the State of Michigan at York Woods Center in Ypsilanti, MI, before retiring in 1988. Her home always had an open door for her family to come and stay if needed or have a good meal. Her strength held the family together through many tragic and difficult times. She was a beautiful woman, who was a friend to all who knew her, and was always there for her "girls" whether it was to answer questions about cooking, raising their babies or how to get the best bargains at the local shopping malls. She is survived by son Skip and daughter Carolyn; 11 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren; brothers: Duane and Gary Bidwell and sisters: Ardith Kelly, Dorene VanOrsdale and Ann Polan. She was preceded in death by her husband Emery, sons: David and John, her parents Ralph and Doris Bidwell, sister Lucy Fox and brothers: Ralph, Lawrence, Donald and Calvin Bidwell. Visitation will be held on Jan. 30, Wednesday, from 4:00 - 9:00 p.m. A funeral service will be held on Jan. 31, Thursday, at 1:30 p.m. at Phillips Funeral Home, 122 West Lake Street, South Lyon, with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West, Westland, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to active Faith Community Services, 401 Washington Street, South Lyon, MI 48178.

Online guestbook
www.phillipsfuneral.com



WILLIAMS, MARY SUE

January 23, 2013, age 71. Beloved wife of John. Dear mother of Michael, Daniel (Elizabeth) and Timothy (Michelle). Grandmother of Ian and Lila. Sister of the late J. Michael Nalley. Visitation Sunday, 2 pm until 9 pm at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. Rosary Service 7 pm. Visitation will continue on Monday 10 am until time of the Funeral Mass at 10:30 am at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 47650 North Territorial (at Beck) Plymouth. In lieu of flowers, contributions are suggested to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh, Livonia, MI 48154. Share your memories at: www.schrader-howell.com



Learn to use new gadgets, technology at libraries

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist

The holiday season brought you a new piece of technology but you don't know how to use it? You don't need to pay top dollar to start learning how to use your new gadget — whether it may be a smart-phone, tablet, camera, eReader or computer.

There's no better resource than your local library to help you learn about new technology or even provide technology when you need it.

In Northville, free computer classes and free one on one tutoring sessions are avail-



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

able to residents who know how to use a mouse. There will be drop-in tutoring at the Northville Public Library on Saturday Feb. 9 and Feb. 23 from 10 a.m.

to noon. Community members may also pre-register for tutoring on Feb. 14 for 40-minute sessions. All computer training is made possible through teen volunteers.

The Northville Public

Library also has eBook help available. Users can pre-register for 40-minute training sessions that are held each Thursday night between 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Libraries are also a great resource to download free content for your devices. The Novi Public Library for instance offers free and legal downloads of popular music, eBooks and audio books. Users can download up to three free songs per week through the Novi Public Library, via Sony Music and IODA catalogs.

And just about every local library has many more tools

for residents who may be in a pinch. Basic, internet-enabled computer workstations, printers, scanners and fax machines are staples of libraries that can help you don't have a computer or your computer breaks.

The Plymouth Public Library for instance has computers available to those with a library card. They even have special sections for teens and adults plus dedicated computers for family research and job searches, plus e-mail kiosks and free wireless internet. The Canton Public Library has similar offers with wireless inter-

net, printing and more than 150 computers for kids, teens and adults.

So before you get frustrated with a potentially-difficult learning curve on your new computer or tablet, contact your local library to see what resources they have to help. It is a much more reasonable option than expensive in-home tutoring, online courses or self-help DVDs.

Northville resident Jon Gunnells is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnSh0w.

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Sunday School 11:00 a.m.
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Youth at 6:30 p.m.
Rev. David Brown, Pastor
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248-437-3585 • www.southlyoncoc.org
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10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship
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Wisconsin Synod • Reynold Sweet Pkwy.
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All Classes 9:00
Pastor Scott Miller, (248) 437-1651

For more information regarding this Directory, please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011, ext. 247 or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

Art show

The Northville Art House will present the 7th annual member exhibition showcasing a variety of mediums and subject matter in this all-media, non-juried members show. The show will open with an artist reception from 6-9 p.m., Friday, Feb. 1, and then continue through Feb. 23 during the Art House Gallery hours (1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday). For more information, call (248) 344-0497 or visit www.northvillearts.org. The Art House is a facility of the Northville Arts Commission. Admission to Art House exhibits are always free and open to the public.



Headed to stage

The Magenta Giraffe Theatre Company of Detroit will present the premiere of “Soul Mates”, a play by Northville native Kirsten Knisely (pictured). The show runs Feb. 1-23 at the Abreact Performance Space (1301 W. Lafayette, #113, Detroit, MI 48226). The play explores the concept of soul mates through a series of vignettes. “Writing ‘Soul Mates’ was a very unique and cathartic experience for me,” Knisely said of her debut. Soul Mates will run at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. There will be one matinee at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 17. Tickets are \$15-\$18, with pay-what-you-can tickets available to all performances. Tickets may be reserved by phone at (313) 408-7269 or at magentagiraffe.org.

ZOO TAX

Continued from page A1

years have continued to collect a portion of the zoo millage in accordance with Public Act 197, which states “Tax Increment Revenue means the amount of ad valorem property taxes and specific local taxes attributable to the application of the levy of all taxing jurisdictions ...”

These Wayne County communities have withheld more than \$756,000 of the zoo’s revenues to spend on their downtown projects. According to state law, DDAs are allowed to take increases in tax revenues from within their boundaries to help fund their budgets. The Detroit Institute of Arts millage is also coming under question. However, it’s unclear whether property taxes such as the one approved

by voters for the zoo qualifies under Act 197. That’s what needs to be clarified, City Manager Patrick Sullivan and Mayor Chris Johnson said. The main concern from city officials in favor of the lawsuit is the precedent this could set and the potential impact it could have on other revenue sources for the DDA. “While the direct financial impact of the zoo millage loss is estimated to be under \$3,000 per year, the precedence that the decision would set would have an ongoing and potentially significant impact,” DDA Director Lori Ward said. Ward added using the rationale of Wayne County and the Michigan attorney general staff, any millages passed since the DDA was established in 1978 could also be lost.

Councilwoman Nancy Darga was the dissenting vote. Although she “wholeheartedly” supports the DDA and understands the positive impact revenue generating districts have had on downtowns, especially Northville, she was hesitant to support the lawsuit. “Personally, when I voted for this issue (zoo and Detroit Institute

of Arts millages) I voted for money to go the zoo and I voted for my money to go the DIA,” she said. “Because those are, in my mind, important investments for me as a taxpayer to make for these cultural institutions, and I felt that was the intent of that dedicated millage and that was the intent of my voting in favor of it. So I am not comfortable in any way shape or form of joining in with this lawsuit.” Johnson said he did not agree and believes if it weren’t for the DDA and TIF districts, many downtowns would be as desolate as they were before the state enacted the law permitting DDAs and TIFs. So he views this funding as important for improvements to downtowns. He said a DDA benefits an area larger than itself. “It becomes a commercial center for an area greater than the area of four or five blocks of the DDA,” he said. This dispute began for the city of Northville last year in February and September, when it received letters from the Wayne County treasurer’s office directing it to relinquish the zoo millage or Wayne County would revoke the bond of Northville’s treasurer,

Sandi Wiktorowski. Ward said if this were to happen, Wayne County threatened to assume the treasurer’s responsibilities. In addition, the county threatened to withhold from the city of Northville the zoo millage from the county’s 2013 disbursements. The letter also stated that if Northville would not voluntarily relinquish this year’s capture, then Wayne County would go after all previous years’ capture as well. Currently, 11 of the 19 impacted communities in Wayne County have committed to participating in the lawsuit and others are still in discussions, Ward said. The law firm of Monaghan PC has been retained by the group to represent its interest in seeking declaratory judgment. Specifically, Ward said Monaghan will ask the court to confirm that under existing Michigan law, the Zoological Authority property taxes are subject to capture by existing TIF and DDA authorities in accordance with their specific authorizing statutes. “In the end, we are just asking the judge to make a decision,” Sullivan said.

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*excludes Digital 3D & Fallout events

SHOWTIMES 2/1 - 2/7

No passes

TITLES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

JOSH GROBAN LIVE:

ALL THAT ECHOES - MON 2/4 7:00 PM

LEWIS & CLARK: GREAT JOURNEY WEST

TUE. 2/5 4:15, 5:30, 6:45, 8:00

METROPOLITAN OPERA - MARIA STUARDA

ENCORE WED 2/6 6:30 PM

WARM BODIES (PG-13)

12:00, 2:20, 4:35, 7:05, 9:25

FRI/SAT LS 11:40

BULLET TO THE HEAD (R)

12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:40

FRI/SAT LS 11:50

3D HANSEL & GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS (R)

\$2.50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET

5:15, 9:20

D-BOX ADDS MOTION SEATING

MAGIC TO MOVIES- D-BOX LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE:

5:15, 9:20

HANSEL & GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS (R)

11:15, 1:15, 3:15, 7:15

FRI/SAT LS 11:25

D-BOX ADDS MOTION SEATING

MAGIC TO MOVIES- D-BOX LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE:

11:15, 1:15, 3:15, 7:15

FRI/SAT LS 12:15

SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R)

11:00, 1:35, 4:15, 6:55, 9:35

MAMA (PG-13)

12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

FRI/SAT LS 12:00

BROKEN CITY (R)

FRI-SUN, TH 11:10, 1:45, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10

FRI/SAT LS 11:30

MON-TUE 11:10, 1:45, 9:10

WED 11:10, 1:45

A HAUNTED HOUSE (R)

7:40, 9:55

FRI/SAT LS 11:55

PARENTAL GUIDANCE (PG)

11:50, 2:15, 4:40

AMISH TABLES

February Furniture Highlight

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NORTHVILLE BUSINESS BRIEFS

New board chair

Cass Community Social Services (CCSS) announced last week that Northville resident Steven P. Davis will be the chairman of its board of directors in 2013. Davis is the vice president of Middle Market Banking for Comerica.

Cass Community Social Services is a social services organization that works across the city of Detroit in areas of concentrated poverty providing food, health care, housing and job programs. Today, CCSS serves a million meals annually, operates a free medical clinic and a skill building program for 100 adults with developmental disabilities, houses 285 people nightly in ten residential and emergency programs, and employs 85 adults in its Green Industries program.

“Steve Davis has that rare combination of laser-like focus on business decisions and profound caring for the consumers and staff at Cass,” states CCSS Executive Director Rev. Faith Fowler. “He represents one of the best investments corporations can make to non-profit organizations.”

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The 2013 Board will continue to lead CCSS in fulfilling its mission of fighting poverty and creating opportunity while focusing on two areas that have shown great possibility and value.

Davis joined the CCSS Board in 2008 and has served on numerous committees. He has worked with Comerica for over 15 years servicing diverse financial needs of Middle Market Banking customers. Outside of serving as a board member of Cass Community Social Services, Davis is connected with Detroit organizations and is currently a member of the Detroit Athletic Club

and the Detroit Economic Club. Davis holds a business degree from Michigan State University, along with a MBA in finance.

To learn more about Cass Community Social Services, please visit www.cass-community.org.

Short sale seminar

Explore your short sale options with a professional resource panel at a seminar to be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 27, at the Livonia Public Library, 32777 Five Mile Road. Reserve a spot by Friday, Feb. 22 by calling Sheila Roma at (248) 760-6785 or Debbi McLaughlin at (248) 561-0077. Private appointments welcome.

Pancake day

IHOP restaurants will be celebrating National Pancake Day on Feb. 5. IHOP will offer each guest a free short stack of its famous buttermilk pancakes on National Pancake Day in an effort to raise awareness and funds for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals and other local charities. For every short stack of buttermilk pancakes served on National Pancake Day, IHOP guests are invited to make a voluntary donation to Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Donations made at IHOPs in the area will benefit the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals' program at Beaumont Children's Hospital.

Participating IHOP restaurants include the location at 14200 Middlebelt Road in Livonia.

Vendors sought

Rummage & Relics, which sells vintage, re-purposed and funky finds during First Friday weekends at Northville Square (by the Carousel), at 133 W. Main Street, Northville, is accepting new consignors. According to owners, Rummage & Relics currently has nine vendors featuring new, used and vintage items. During their first weekend of sales, more than 700 people came through the doors. Interested vendors should call (248) 773-5280. You can preview the items by inquiring at Lime-Light Emporium seven days a week.

The First Friday hours each month are 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/events/101668463339311.

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Unique offers a wide selection of affordable gifts for all occasions with a focus on Made in Michigan and Made in the USA items.

Hunting for a deal

Unique offers large selection of American-made products

Record: Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature?

Bob Wisdom: We offer a wide selection of affordable gifts for all occasions with a focus on Made in Michigan and Made in the USA items.

Select from our Custom Gift Baskets, or for those who would like the experience, we invite you to personalize your own gift basket for any occasion from our large selection of everyday household items.

We have a large selection of in-stock and custom order party supplies, greeting cards, wrappings, paper supplies and balloons. We also provide services such as gift wrapping, party favor assembly and party packages that we can help you personalize for any event.

Record: What makes our business unique?

Bob Wisdom: We provide a clean, organized, well-stocked store that is large enough to have a great selection, yet just the right size for customers to get personalized, friendly and prompt service. We feature items from local artists and crafters, providing an outlet for them to sell and promote their handcrafted items to the community. Wherever possible we purchase only USA and Michigan made items. Every item in the store has been personally checked for quality. We don't stop hunting for special items until we find the best possible price to offer to our customers. As local business owners, we love a good challenge.

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Address: 15374 Haggerty Road on Northville/Plymouth/Livonia border (northwest corner of Five Mile and Haggerty across from Hiller's)

Your name/title: Bob Wisdom, owner

Business opened when: Nov. 8, 2012

Your business specialty: Unique gifts for every occasion, party supplies, favors, balloons, custom gift baskets and gift wrapping services.

Hours of operation: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday

Phone/website: (734) 335-7991; uniquedealsandgifts.com; also on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google Plus

When a customer requests a specific item, we search the planet to find it for them (of course starting here in the USA).

Record: How did you decide to open your own small business?

Bob Wisdom: After a career with large retailers, I have learned a few things about buying merchandise and I know that prices just don't need to be as high as they are. There is actually a huge selection of items that are made here in the USA and in Michigan that are available for purchase at excellent prices that we can pass on to our customers. Most retailers just need to look harder for them. I am very passionate about keeping things local and affordable. Keeping our overhead costs down and passing forward every good purchase that we make will ultimately save our customers a lot of money without having to run around chasing sales all over town. My staff and I want to provide a smaller scale retail environment where customers can get the personal service they can't get at a larger retailer. We still offer a great selection

and of course, you will be able to find that perfect gift you won't find anywhere else.

Record: How did you decide on your location?

Bob Wisdom: This community is full of busy families that deserve a nice, local place to be able to stop in on their way to any event (even at the last minute) and know that we will be able to help them find that perfect gift. I wanted to give back to the community that I have lived and worked in my whole life and help my neighbors save money, too.

Record: Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business owner?

Bob Wisdom: I sure do. I have learned that you can't iron balloons. When we received our foil patterned balloons and went to display them they were creased from being in the package. We wanted to display them flat on the wall. We decided that if we put the balloons in between towels and iron them they will flatten out. Do not try this at home. And please excuse the creases in our balloons on display.



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Firm makes donation for Habitat for Humanity home

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

A donation of \$5,500 to Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County for a new home shows where the heart is for Brighton-based Executive Wealth Management LLC.

The firm's Northville office is run by Gregory Barber, an owner and financial adviser. The Northville Township resident talked recently about the firm's gift for the home on Middlebelt in Westland.

“It was a really nice family that took over

the home,” Barber said. Habitat homeowners put a considerable number of hours of “sweat equity” into work on their homes, and pay back costs once they're in the home, then put into building other homes.

“I think it's personal,” Barber said of such philanthropy. “It gives you a good feeling. We don't gain business out of it.”

The firm's donation began at a national event in California in which artwork was auctioned for charity. It fetched more than it was worth.

“We knew what we were doing and that's what we intended to do,” he said of the artwork price.

He was with Alice Dent, executive director for HHOWWC, when the keys to the Westland home were handed over last summer.

“We make a habit of giving back to the communities we operate in,” Barber said of Executive Wealth Management. He also personally supports children's charities, separately from the firm.

jbrown@hometownlife.com

New Northville child care center focuses on fun and learning

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

The new IXL Learning Center in Northville Township opened Monday, Jan. 28, with an emphasis on learning as well as child care.

“It’s a friendly environment,” said Jamie Miller of Brighton, director. “We’re very inviting.”

The new center can accommodate up to 116 children, she said. It’s at 43333 Seven Mile, Northville Township, by phone at (248) 349-2223 and on the web at www.IXLkids.com.

The name is a play on “I’m excelling,” and children at the center on opening day were. The center serves children age six weeks through school-age (12).

They handle snow days when school’s closed, and will have a summer camp for school-aged kids.

Owner Jennifer Bush Moss of Northville also operates IXL Learning Centers in Birmingham, Hamburg and Howell. The Northville Township property had been a restaurant.

Moss mulled it over, and wondered about the nearby train tracks. She decided her hometown was an ideal location, and the trains have been incorporated into learning artwork at the local center.

“I started seeing it in a different way,” she said. “I think they’ll really like it.”

Moss grew up in Northville Township, and has a brother who lives here with his family. Her aunt is a Northville chiropractor.

Moss earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Eastern Michigan University in 1995. Miller earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from

Central Michigan University in 2005.

The women renovated the former restaurant with contractors.

“It’s specifically designed for classroom spaces,” Miller said of the renovation, which began last summer.

“It’s a passion of ours,” she said of the state-licensed child care centers. They like to build relationships with families.

“It’s hard for parents to have to drop their kids off and go to work,” Miller said.

Preschool and pre-K children work on kindergarten readiness, including social skills as well as numbers, letters and letter sounds.

“I do think we’ve gotten a lot of good feedback,” Miller said of interested parents who saw signs about the center on Seven Mile’s south side, just east of Northville Road.

Moss is mom to Ethan, 14, and Sydney, 12, both students at Hillside Middle School. Miller’s 1-year-old daughter, Reese, came to the center on opening day wearing a special pink birthday shirt.

The women emphasize the center’s individual love and care, as well as cleanliness. Moss said there’s considerable demand for child care, and her Birmingham center has a waiting list. She had wondered about nannies in that community, but found much interest in her child care center.

The Northville Township center, information on which can be found on Facebook, also has an app for parents to see the child’s timeline of activities. Parents can send e-mail messages, and lesson plans are posted.

“It’s a new feature,” Miller said. “We’re excited to be able to use it.”

On opening day, teacher Jeannine Makowski of Northville Township was playing with the babies.

“Three minutes,” Makowski said of her commute. “It took me in this heavy (storm) weather seven minutes.”

The center in Northville Township has three certified teachers so far, Miller said.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

IXL Learning Center employee Jeannine Makowski plays with Madeline Rohlig, who is 6 months old.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE
NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS

PROJECT: SANITARY LIFT STATION IMPROVEMENTS

BIDS OPENING DATE: February 14, 2013, 10:00 AM, local time

OWNER: Charter Township of Northville, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168

LOCATION/NAME: Northville Township, Michigan

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Bids are solicited on a lump sum basis for all work specified. The project will consist of the replacement of two existing sanitary lift stations with new stations and appurtenances as shown on the plans. Construction is to include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Demolition of existing pumps, piping, generators, electrical equipment, and related items as shown in the plans at two (2) existing pump stations.
2. Furnishing and installing two (2) new concrete and masonry lift station buildings, complete with pumps, electrical and controls equipment, and all other equipment and appurtenances as indicated in the plans and specifications.
3. Furnishing and installing new natural gas emergency generators within both station buildings.
4. Furnishing, installing and commissioning a new SCADA system for the Township Water and Sewer facilities, as indicated in the plans and specifications.
5. Site work and landscaping as indicated in the plans.

LOCATION OF BID OPENING: Charter Township of Northville, Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
QUESTIONS: Any questions regarding the project shall be brought to the attention of **Mr. Aaron Uranga** at Stantec Consulting Michigan Inc., **in writing by email** at aaron.uranga@stantec.com or **by fax** at (734) 761-1200. Questions by telephone call are prohibited. **Questions will not be accepted or answered** if received less than seven (7) calendar days before the bids are due.
PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL: All bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope and shall contain, as a minimum, all of the following: Bidder's Qualification and Experience Statement (QES-1-4), Proposal (P1-2), Designation of Major Subcontractors and Suppliers (MS-1), Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension and other Responsibility Matters (DS-1), Legal Status of Bidder (LS-1), Bid Certification (BC-1).
BID SECURITY: Each Proposal shall be accompanied by a cashier's check, certified check, money order or bid bond, payable to the OWNER, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the Proposal, as a Bid Security. The Bid Security of the Bidders under consideration will be returned after approval of the Contract by the OWNER. All others will be returned after the Proposal opening.
CONTRACT SECURITY: The successful Bidder will be required to furnish a satisfactory Performance Bond and Labor and Material Bond, each in the amount of One Hundred Percent (100%) of the Contract.

PROPOSAL WITHDRAWAL: Withdrawal of any Proposal is prohibited for a period of 90 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.
OWNER'S RIGHTS: The OWNER reserves the right to accept any Proposal, to reject any or all Proposals, and to waive any irregularities in any Proposal, in the interest of the OWNER.
NON-DISCRIMINATION: Bidders shall not discriminate against any employees or firm due to origin, race, age or physical conditions. CONTRACTOR shall be an equal opportunity employer.

HOW TO OBTAIN:
Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of the ENGINEER, Stantec Consulting Michigan Inc., 3754 Ranchero Drive, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108-2771. Document request shall indicate whether request is by: Prospective Bidder, Prospective Subcontractor, Prospective Supplier, or other.

Documents may be examined at the following locations:
Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168

AVAILABLE AFTER: 2:00 PM, January 23, 2013
DOCUMENT FEES: Non-refundable Fee – \$20 for Electronic Copies (CD) OR \$150 for Hard Copies.
CONTACT NAME: Aaron Uranga, PE
CONTACT PHONE: (734) 761-1010
CONTACT EMAIL: aaron.uranga@stantec.com
COMMENTS:
MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING: on February 6, 2013 at 10:00 AM, local time at the Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168 followed by a tour of the existing facilities. The Pre-Bid Meeting is mandatory for all contractors planning to bid on the project.

Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk
Charter Township of Northville

Publish: January 24 and 31, 2013

ATB795550 4x6.5



ENTRY BLANK

Hey, Northville! It's Time to Pick Your PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

We Need Your Input On the Best Places To Shop... Best Places To Eat... Best Place For Great Service, This is NOT scientific! It's a fun, readers poll. Join in on the Balloting!

Drop Off or Mail In to: People's Choice Awards - Northville Record, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178

Only one entry per person per week, 18 years or older. Ballot Box stuffing will not be allowed. Only original newspaper ballots, NO COPIES ACCEPTED. Please fill out form completely. Partial Ballots may be disqualified.

FOOD OUTLETS

- Best specialty coffee house_____
- Best place for breakfast_____
- Best Sunday brunch_____
- Best fast food restaurant_____
- Best family restaurant_____
- Best place for soup_____
- Best salad bar_____
- Best place for burgers_____
- Best place for hot dogs/coneys_____
- Best place for subs_____
- Best place for ice cream_____
- Best place for chicken_____
- Best quality dining restaurant_____
- Best place for desserts_____
- Best Italian restaurant_____
- Best place for seafood_____
- Best oriental restaurant_____
- Best Tex-Mex restaurant_____
- Best place for pizza_____
- Best place for steak_____
- Best place for barbeque ribs_____
- Best wine selection (restaurant)_____
- Best beer selection (restaurant)_____
- Best place for romantic dinner_____
- Best after work meeting place_____
- Best sports bar_____
- Best Mediterranean food_____

BEST SERVICE PROVIDERS

- Best hair salon_____
- Best place to bank_____
- Best real estate company_____
- Best auto service_____
- Best oil change shop_____
- Best collision shop_____
- Best insurance (agency)_____
- Best veterinary service_____
- Best travel agency_____
- Best childcare service_____
- Best house painter_____
- Best landscaping company_____
- Best health/fitness company_____
- Best waitress/waiter (include restaurant)_____
- Best tanning salon_____
- Best accountant_____
- Best chiropractor_____
- Best doctor_____
- Best dentist_____
- Best eyecare_____
- Best dance studio_____
- Best fitness provider_____
- Best pet supply store_____
- Best art gallery store_____

BEST RETAIL STORES

- Best pharmacy_____
- Best bakery/baked goods_____
- Best floral shop_____
- Best grocery store_____
- Best party store_____
- Best jewelry store_____
- Best lumber yard_____
- Best beer selection (store)_____
- Best wine selection (store)_____
- Best children's wear_____
- Best men's wear_____
- Best women's wear_____
- Best resale/consignment shop_____
- Best sporting goods_____
- Best antique store_____
- Best hardware/home improvement store_____
- Best home décor_____
- Best yoga studio_____

All Entries Must Be Received By February 15th

OUR VIEWS

Public must help shape vision for prison property

When Northville Township officials decided to move forward with a deal to purchase the former Scott Correctional Facility from the state of Michigan, they knew there were many more challenges confronting them than just plunking down the \$1 asking price for the 53-acre property.

For starters, the property, located at Five Mile and Beck roads, still contains the old prison facilities, including multiple buildings and nasty-looking razor wire fencing. It's not exactly the most inviting gateway into the community. Officials are trying to come up with creative ways to demolish the buildings without breaking the bank.

The ultimate goal would be to sell the property to a developer, who would do the demolition. But that isn't likely considering demolition would cost millions, making the property far less attractive than vacant land.

And just like the property itself, the title for the land also contains many "warts" — in the words of Supervisor Bob Nix. First off, if the township doesn't use the land for a public use, such as a park or recreation center, the state can take it back for \$1. So, for example, if the township sells it to a developer to build a big box store or industrial complex, state officials could decide they don't like the idea and take the land back.

And it gets worse. As township attorneys were going over the title for the land, they found a clause dating back to when the City of Detroit sold it to the state in the 1960s, which gives Detroit the right of first refusal on any sale of the property. This means Detroit officials could buy the property from the township for fair market value if it isn't used for a public use. Considering Detroit's current fiscal crisis, it doesn't seem likely officials there would pursue such a course, but it is still possible.

Nix and township officials believe they can use their influence in Lansing to solve the issues with title, and they ultimately believe the state would like to see economic development at the site as much as they do.

The main goal in the near term is and should be to remove as much of the prison buildings as possible. Not only would the township be removing an eyesore, but by doing so, it could also ensure the site wouldn't be used as a prison in the future if the political winds happen to shift. The cost to do this would be reduced because of the scrap value of the buildings.

Once that is done, the township can really begin developing a plan for the site. Some officials have expressed a desire to see light industrial or R&D (research and development) at the site. On the other hand, residents living nearby have said they would like to see retail options there, especially a grocery store. With The Home Depot across the street, this might make sense. Also, township officials shouldn't completely rule out a public use at the site. Some residents like this option, which is the one sure way the township can avoid legal entanglements over the title. The property also abuts a popular township park.

Ultimately, we believe it is important to include the public in the planning for the site, which will forever be the gateway into Northville Township. Along with the 290 acres the township owns to the west of the property on the north side of Five Mile, this development could and likely will be the anchor of dramatic changes in the future. All ideas should be on the table, and the wishes of residents should be taken into account.

In the end, an open process will ensure residents get the kind of development they want for this vital location.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Who do you think will win the Super Bowl — San Francisco or Baltimore?



"Baltimore. Flacco is underrated, meaning he's not getting the attention he should be getting and Ray Lewis has played for 17 years and can still move well. Plus, I like John Harbaugh's coaching style."

Greg Marx
Northville



"The Ravens all the way. Because the raven is prettier than a 49er."

Ashley Mizzi
Northville merchant (MoD Fashion)



"Baltimore. They have a too good of a defense and this is Ray Lewis's year."

David Tuer
Northville Good Time Party Store



"Baltimore. I think that because they have been in this position before or at least close to it. They have far more experience playing in big games and will find a way to rattle Kaepernick and cause him to throw too many errant passes."

Jason Spiller
director, Northville Parks and Recreation

LETTERS

Stop stealing

By voting to support a lawsuit brought by other Wayne County communities, the Northville City Council brings to light the shadowy practice some Downtown Development Authorities, including our own, have of skimming money from millages that were approved by voters for other, very different, purposes. Our DDA is currently helping themselves to a cut from the millage that the citizenry voted for to keep the Detroit Zoo alive, and they will do the same once the money starts to flow for the Detroit Institute of Art millage that was passed in November.

When we were asked to support the zoo, and then the DIA, we were not asked to fund sidewalk planters, street pavers, or any of the other things the DDA does with this money. And now we are going to enter into a legal battle to defend this practice of misappropriating our money by using more of our property tax money for lawyers to argue the case. Seems like some sort of weird double jeopardy.

I grew up in a small upstate New York city. As the son of a downtown retailer, my downtown was my home and my playground. That downtown is pretty sad these days, with local department stores, jewelers, clothing stores, and even my parent's furniture store, either empty or torn down to make way for parking lots that stand empty because there is no reason to be downtown. I rejoice that we have a vital downtown in Northville, but it needs to be paid for in an honest way.

If the Northville DDA needs money to support their good works, let

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Submit letters via the following formats.

Web: www.hometownlife.com

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Northville Record, 101 N. Lafayette St., South Lyon, MI 48178

Fax: (248) 437-3386

E-mail: kkuban@hometownlife.com

Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published Thursday.

Online: All letters will be published online at www.hometownlife.com.

them ask the voters for it just as the zoo and the DIA have. Allowing this skimming of funds to continue is not only dishonest; it will make many voters cynical about voting to approve future worthwhile ballot requests, knowing that some of the money will be diverted for other purposes.

John D. Webster
Northville

Red Kettle success

The Salvation Army's Red Kettle campaign for 2012 met and surpassed its goal of \$215,000. More than \$253,356 was raised. The overall goal was \$305,000 and that total was \$336,844. Below is a list groups and individuals who rang the bell at Hiller's in downtown Northville, the Northville post office and Kroger on Haggerty Road. ... Thank you, too, to the monetary support.

First Presbyterian Church of Northville, First United Methodist Church of Northville, Our Lady of Victory Church, Meadowbrook Congregational Church, Northville High School Honor Society, Northville

High School Rotary Interact Club, Northville Fire Department, Northville City Employees, Northville Bronco softball, Northville Mother's Club Life Members, Boy Scout Troop 746, Dianne and Don McCulloch, Betty and Bob Hoffman, John Romanik, Rhonda York, Miki Ishikawa, Samantha Karagilis, Ron Bush, Charlie Cox, Carol Livermore, Tom Watkins, Dave Favro, Judy Beyersdorf, Melissa Corriveau, JoAnn Harris, Joan Oakland, Martha Nield, Susan Couzens and Joan Bahl, Mary Culik, Bob Sharar, Bill and Pat Longley, Lisa and Joanne Rennell, Dave Jerome, Jim and Joan Rucker, Deb Galloway and Barb VanderMass, Jerry Olsen, Ellen Kelly, Janice Seluk and Terry Hundley, Fran Firek and Jenda Mills, Jeff Mills, Sandy Woolfall and Lisa Glock, Mary Jane and John Brugeman, Travis Fortier, Kathy Zimmerman, Pat Stringer and Lynda Hojnacki, Carolyn Nieuwkoop, Susie Rempel, Kate, Mike and Alyssa Knoth, Bob and Cathy Anthony, Christine Beattie, Jane and Bob Spence, Cheryl and Ron Gavel, John and Jan Jameson, Judie Gorden, Angela Scott, Cassie Hull, Debbie Kempa, Chris Orlowe, Dick and Elaine Tomalty, Jan Cole and Carolyn Roth, Lauren, Charlie and Hudson Romeo, Beth Solensky, Mary Stapleton, Denise Taylor and Lisa Glock, John Pitcher, Ken Holland and Mike Babcock, Tamara Stiles, Linda Clark and Judy Kohl, Rebecca and Stephen Champagne, Liz Morelli, Laurie Wooderson, Lindsay Akers and Daisy Troop, Dave McKillop, Jeff Traudt, Ryan, Steven, Peyton, Aiden, Sara and Terry Ryan, Jake and Evan Lane.

Judy Kohl
kettle coordinator

OUR VIEWS

Join the challenge: Go Red for healthy hearts

Tomorrow, Feb. 1 marks the 10th anniversary of the American Heart Association Go Red For Women movement.

The AHA estimates since the campaign began more than 627,00 women's lives have been saved but more needs to be done.

While other diseases get a lot of attention, heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women. It affects more women than men and is more deadly than all forms of cancer combined. One in three women dies of cardiovascular disease each year.

What can you do?

First, if you or someone you know shows signs of a heart attack or a stroke, call 9-1-1 immediately. Do not wait. The sooner EMS arrives, the sooner treatment can begin.

Also, heart disease can be prevented by making the right choices. A healthy diet and regular exercise are key. And if you smoke — quit. Know your cholesterol levels, blood pressure and glucose levels.



These are the risk factors that individuals can control.

Age, gender, family history and race can't be controlled but they can be understood so those with a higher risk can take action and seek treatment.

The American Heart Association's Go Red for Women Movement is a call to action to educate and engage in the fight against heart disease.

How can you participate? Go to americanheart.org to learn more about fighting heart disease. Go to www.detroitgoredforwomen.org to read about local sponsors and local events which are part of this year's campaign.

The Go Red For Women movement has made great strides in saving lives. However, more is needed. Make it a priority over the next 28 days to:

•Wear red to show your support and raise awareness.

•Spread the message by telling five other women about the movement to stop heart disease.

•Donate to help fund research.

•Volunteer to help spread the message.

•Go to ShopGoRed.org to support education by purchasing apparel, accessories other heart-health products.

Join the mission to save lives. The time is now.

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Community Editor
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No students injured after icy conditions cause bus accident

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

Icy conditions were to blame for a Northville Public Schools bus that slid off the road and hit a tree Tuesday morning. At the time, the bus was carrying 18 Winchester Elementary School students. Nobody was injured in what police called a minor accident.

The accident occurred around 8:30 a.m., when the bus was on Franklin Road near Meads Mill Middle School.

Northville Public Safety Director John Werth said the bus driver, who

district officials characterized as “experienced,” wasn’t to blame in the incident. He said the steep incline of the road often leads to flooding and, when cold, icy conditions.

“The road was very icy. He wasn’t driving recklessly or anything,” Werth said. “In fact, we had another accident out there as well. There is a steep hill, and when we have weather like we had with all the snow and then rain, the road gets very messy. It often freezes up. We’re always on Wayne County to maintain that road because of the dangerous conditions.”

According to police reports, the bus hit an icy patch and began to slide sideways until it hit a tree and came to a stop. Police arrived on the scene shortly thereafter, and requested that the students get off the bus.

According to school district officials, the students then walked to the Meads Mill Middle School parking lot, where they loaded another district bus to complete the route to Winchester. Students arrived at school at approximately 9 a.m., and continued with their regular school day.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Into the fog

Vehicles disappear into a thick fog along Eight Mile Road near Griswold on Tuesday morning. A combination of rain and warm temperatures interacting with the snow left on the ground created limited visibility throughout most of the day.

NORTHVILLE POLICE BRIEFS

Firefighter involved in crash

A Northville City paid on-call firefighter was involved in a Novi accident on his way to an emergency call.

According to Novi Police, the incident took place at 8 p.m. on Jan. 2. The on-call firefighter was coming from his home in Farmington Hills and was westbound on 8 Mile Road with emergency lights and sirens activated on his Jaguar when a southbound vehicle failed to yield the right away and struck him. The firefighter’s car collided with the southbound vehicle on the driver’s side.

Novi Police said the accident occurred in northwest quadrant of Eight Mile Road/Haggerty Road intersection. Both vehicles had to be towed from the scene.

The at fault southbound driver was cited for failing to yield, according to police. No injuries were observed or reported.

Stealing bottles

Northville Township Police arrested a 42-year-old Livonia man who was allegedly trying to steal empty beer bottles from Brann’s restaurant on Six Mile near Haggerty.

The incident occurred around 2:30 p.m. on Jan. 17. A patrol officer was passing the restaurant when he noticed a Jeep Cherokee parked on the east side of the building, which piqued his interest because vehicles aren’t usually parked there as there are no parking spaces. As

the officer drew closer, he noticed the Livonia man outside of the vehicle acting in a suspicious manner. According to the police report, once the man saw the officer, he got into his vehicle and left the location, ultimately turning southbound on Haggerty. After the man changed lanes without using his signal, the officer pulled him over.

The man didn’t have a driver’s license, and told the officer that he was driving the car because his passenger, who owned the vehicle, didn’t feel well. As the officer was speaking with the man, he noticed several cases of empty beer bottles in the rear of the vehicle. The officer suspected he was stealing the bottles from Brann’s. However, the man said he was only at the restaurant to see his friend “Jeff” who does some cleaning at Brann’s.

When the officer did a background check on the man, he determined the man was driving on a suspended license and had four prior convictions on the charge. He was arrested. The license plate was confiscated and destroyed, and the Jeep was impounded.

The officer then spoke to the passenger, a 52-year-old Garden City man, who admitted the man had driven to Brann’s looking for bottles, but did not steal any. The passenger was released at the scene.

The Livonia man was given a Jan. 30 date to appear in 35th District Court.

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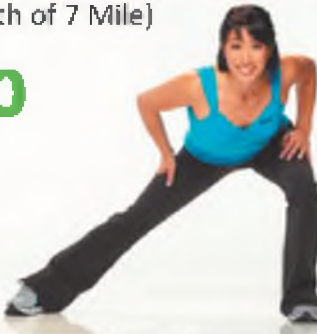
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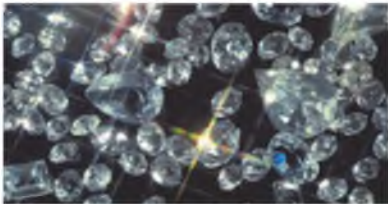
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Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road
Contact: (248) 349-8847 or visit holyfamilynovi.org
Mass Schedule
Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Friday; 7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; 4:30 p.m. Saturday
Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.
Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment
Priests: Rev. Bob LaCroix, pastor, and Rev. Michael Zuelch, associate pastor
CROSSPOINTE MEADOWS CHURCH
Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 669-9400, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit www.crosspointemeadows.org.
Sunday Worship: 11:15 a.m.
Bible study classes: 10 a.m. for all ages
Details: Nursery and older children programs available. Worship blends traditional and contemporary elements resulting in a multi-sensory worship experience.
Destiny Worship Center
Location: Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 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
Sunday Worship: 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. (\$5 at 9:30 for all ages) Ministry for Special Needs Adults contact judy@emmanuel-livonia.org
FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit www.faithcommunity-novi.org

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Book of Revelation Study
Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays
Details: Come and learn what John is writing about, what the symbolism means, and how this book still speaks to us today.
Faith Journeys
Date: Third Sundays
Details: Following worship and fellowship, someone will share how they have experienced God in their life and the difference that has made.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
Location: 217 N. Wing
Contact: (248) 348-1020
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays
Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NOVI-FAMILY INTEGRATED CHURCH
Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-3647 or firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org
Family Bible Hour: 9:45 a.m.
Family Worship: 11 a.m.
Bible Study: 6 p.m.
Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every month
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
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
FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
Location: 21260 Haggerty Road, north of 8 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 348-7600 or

Dog show



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Laurie Otis of Sydney, Ohio, leans in for a snuggle with her pomeranian at the Jan 18 Winter Dog Show at Novi's Suburban Collection Showplace. The three-day show featured dogs of all shapes and sizes and their owners from all over the midwest in a juried competition.

visit dfcnazarene.org
Sunday Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, Children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 10:30 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's program, Youth Worship Service
Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. Family Meal, \$5 per person, \$15 per family;
Currently on Wednesday nights: 6:30 p.m. Children's VBS/Caravan, Club 56,

Bible Study, Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth Group
Thursday Schedule: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group
Wednesdays: 5:30 p.m. Family Meal, \$5 per person, \$15 per family;
Currently on Wednesday nights: 6:30 p.m. Children's VBS/Caravan, Club 56, Bible Study, Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth Group
Thursday: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group
FIRST UNITED METH-ODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
Location: 777 West 8 Mile Road, Northville

Contact: (248) 349-1144 or visit www.fumcnorthville.org
Sunday Worship: Meditative - Held in the Chapel - 8 a.m. Contemporary - Held in the Sanctuary - 9:15 a.m. Traditional - Held in the Sanctuary - 11 a.m.
Sunday School: Nursery - 8 a.m. Nursery - 12th grade - 9:15 a.m. Nursery - 6th grade/Special Needs - 11 a.m.
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
Location: 41415 9 Mile Road, corner of Meadow-

brook Road, Novi
Contact: (248) 349-0565
Sundays: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study; 10 a.m. Worship
HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 427-1175 or holycrossnovi@gmail.com; visit holyCROSSnovi.org
Sunday Worship: 7:45 and 10 a.m. Sunday School and Nursery Care; 10 a.m. Worship Service Alzheimer's Support Group: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month.

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<p>Smoked Salmon Steaks \$11.99 lb. Save \$2.00 lb.</p>	<p>Smoked Whitefish Chunks \$12.49 lb.</p>	<p> Smoked Whitefish Sausage \$9.99 lb. Save \$1.00 lb.</p>	<p>Joe's Large Peel & Eat Shrimp \$8.99 lb. Save \$1.00 lb.</p>

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Mustangs keep grip on Central Division

Squad defeats Salem to stay in second place

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

After being upset by a struggling South Lyon East squad a week prior, the Northville Mustangs girls basketball team had to make a decision to either regain their composure or throw their hands up in the air and give up their hopes at the Central Division title.

The team, under the guidance of coach Todd Gudith, made it clear they chose the former last week when they took on and absolutely stonewalled a tough Salem Rocks team, 35-17.

Entering the contest, Northville and Salem were tied for second place in the Central Division standings with 3-2 records.

ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs girls basketball team will be back on the court when they host Novi tomorrow at 5:30 p.m. They will then visit South Lyon Tuesday at 7 p.m.

ago,” said Gudith. “Tonight we were able to get some better looks and knocked down some shots.”

Northville didn’t head into the game expecting to be able to have such a dominating defensive performance. The Rocks had previously won four of their last six games, including a 35-31 victory over a strong Brighton squad that boasts a 9-1 record.

Northville’s smaller size and speed made the difference, however, as they held the Rocks to just

Please see GIRLS, B2



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mustang Kendra Brenner pressures Salem High’s Kayla Kavulich during the teams’ Jan. 4 game.



Mustang Phil Kamm, a senior, controls his Salem opponent.

Back-to-back division champs

Mustangs grapplers capture Central Division title

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

At the beginning of the season, coach Bob Boshoven made it clear that his team’s first goal was to gain experience for the wrestlers who needed it. Their second was to win the Central Division title.

Check and check.

The team took a trip to Salem High School last week and came away with two big wins to move to 5-0 in the division and 15-8-1 overall.

The victory gave Northville their second KLAA Central Division title in as many years.

Boshoven said that his team “really displayed a great wrestling attitude this evening. Our wrestlers took the mat with toughness and aggression.”

The result? A 53-18 victory over Salem and a 71-12 win over the South Lyon East Cougars.

Against Salem, the Mustangs came out and made a statement from the start as Kevin Charara earned an upset over Salem’s 2011 regional qualifier Alex Arble. Charara came back to earn a 5-2 win, earning three points with a near-fall and another for a stalling point after trailing 1-2 heading into the third period of the match.

“This type of mental toughness

ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs wrestling team will be back on the mat when they participate in the KLAA Tournament Saturday.

is what wrestling is all about,” said Boshoven. “Kevin never panicked. He kept a level head and went out and won in the third period.”

The victory sparked a run for the Mustangs, who earned wins at 119 pounds and 125 pounds from Trevor Lerner and Shun-he Wang, respectively. Spencer Compo followed that with an 8-4 decision at 130 pounds.

The wins just kept rolling in as Northville picked up five more wins to take a 42-0 lead, cementing the victory with wins from Sean Wagner, Phil Kamm, Max Mudar, Alex Coe and Alec Clevenger. Salem scored with three-straight pins, but the Mustangs finished the day with a pin from Jon Wines at heavyweight and a technical fall at 103 pounds from Jim Behe.

Northville finished the night against South Lyon East, winning 12-of-14 matches, though the Cougars voided eight of weight class divisions due to not being able to field a full 14 wrestlers. Out of the six matches that were wrestled, Northville won four.



Northville senior Alec Clevenger attempts a reversal against Salem.

Mustangs icers split week

Squad falls to undefeated Dakota, beats Farmington

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

There are some defeats that you have to look at and find the silver lining.

For the Northville Mustangs boys hockey team, the silver lining in their 3-2 loss to the Dakota Cougars is the fact that not only did they put up the first point against their undefeated foes, but they forced the game into overtime before bowing out.

Northville gave the 15-0 Cougars a run for their money from the open drop of the puck, out skating their opponents and controlling the entire first period of play. The aggressive nature of Northville’s play paid off as Andrew Rosati gave the Mustangs a 1-0 lead, taking assistance from Buddy DeB-rabander and Alec Melucci and firing it into the back of the goal for the score.

The Mustangs tried to extend their lead with a power-play opportunity in

ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs boys hockey team will be back in the rink when they visit Grand Haven tomorrow at 7 p.m. They will then participate in a Public School Showcase Tournament next Wednesday and Friday.

the second period, but the talented Cougars showcased why they have yet to drop a game as they snagged a turnover and turned it into a breakaway and a goal for a 1-1 tie.

In the third period, the Mustangs used a strong defensive presence to feed the puck ahead on a pass from Tyler Gardiner to Ben Crabill with just about 1:30 remaining in the game. Crabill and Ryan Bloom skated in on a 2-on-1 advantage and Crabill drew the attention of the defender and the goalie before feeding Ryan Bloom

on the opposite post for a thundering one-timer goal that extended Northville’s lead to 2-1 with 1:22 left on the clock.

Dakota gained possession of the puck and pushed into the Northville zone with just under a minute left, pulling their goalie for the extra man and it turned out to be a solid strategy as the Cougars were able to capitalize on a rare loose puck in front of the Northville net and pulled even with less than 30 seconds left in the game.

In overtime, the Mustangs looked to be championing at the bit for a victory as they pushed their offensive pressure to the breaking point, but outstanding defensive play and goaltending by Dakota kept them out of the net. A turnover at the blue line turned into the play of the night as the Cougars swept it up, raced down the rink and fired the goal home for the score and the 3-1 overtime win.

Northville 2, Farmington 1

The week wasn’t lost for the Mustangs, who put in a goal in both the second and third periods against Farmington to secure a victory.

The game was full of penalties — 21 called by the officials — but that didn’t stop the Mustangs from scoring the first goal of the game. Crabill added a notch to his season totals on a play that he may not have intended to score on. As he skated down the ice, Crabill fired the puck forward on a pass intended to settle the Mustangs in front of the Farmington net, but an opponent’s skate interfered with the pass, deflecting it into the goal to give Northville a 1-0 lead.

The Northville icers added another goal midway through the final stanza, taking advantage of a 2-on-

Please see HOCKEY, B3

Northville cagers lose at the buzzer

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

The Northville Mustangs boys basketball team was on the wrong end of a buzzer-beating shot as they fell to the top team in the Central Division last week with a 57-55 decision in favor of the Salem Rocks.

The Mustangs’ performance was much more inspired than the first time the two teams squared off Jan. 4 when the Rocks put on an offensive showcase with a 51-26 rout of the Northville cagers.

“We improved 100 percent from the first time we played Salem and for 30 minutes, were in control of the game,” said coach Todd Sander. “Guys left everything they had on the floor; despite the outcome, it was one of our best games to date. Salem kept answering and making plays when they had to.”

The Mustangs led by four points with 1:40 left in the contest following a run by the Salem Rocks that essentially got the team back into the game. Northville,

Please see CAGERS, B2



Mustang Andrew Stevens runs into some resistance from two Wildcats including Nelson Cagle, right, during the teams' Jan. 11 meeting.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CAGERS
Continued from page B1
however, extended their lead to six off two free-throw shots.
Salem's defensive pressure turned the tide with about 90 seconds left as they created several turnovers, cutting the lead to three with just 45 seconds left in the game. The Rocks forced another

turnover, hitting a three-point field goal to tie the game, and then forced another turnover with the game knotted at 55-55.
The Salem squad played keep-away from the Mustangs for the final 30 seconds before putting the ball in the hands of Chris Dierker, who somehow managed to bank a long two-point shot from an odd angle to give his squad the 57-55 victory.
Northville held a 13-5 lead to begin the game and were still leading, 13-11, after the first period ended. Salem took the lead, 15-13, before Joe Hewlett tied it at 15 with a jump shot in the second period. The Mustangs fell behind again before surging ahead for a 21-19 lead and then holding the Salem Rocks off to keep the game tied, 26-26, heading into the half.

Salem scored the first eight of the second half for a 34-26 lead, but Dan Sims hit a three pointer to stymie the bleeding and Northville scored the next 13 to lead 39-34 at the end of the third quarter. The squad then scored the first six points of the fourth to have an 11-point lead with about six minutes left in the game.
Andrew Meacham led the Mustangs with 28 points and eight rebounds. He hit five three pointers on the night.
"Meacham was fantastic tonight — it was one of his best all around games of his career," said Sander. Stewart Henzi added 11 points an eight rebounds in the loss while Malik Bazzi chipped in six for Northville.
Sander said the game showcased his team's

inexperience, though he expects to see some remedy through the remainder of the season.
"Our young team showed some panic down the stretch, and that will improve with experience and maturity," he said. "We should not have been in the position to be tied with 30 seconds left, but we guarded the last play as well as we could. Dierker just made a big shot."

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GIRLS
Continued from page B1
five points in the first quarter and 10 total in the entire first half. Offensively, following the sharp-shooting of senior Kendra Brenner, the Mustangs put up 19 of their own first-half points.
"Kendra shot the ball really well," said Gudith of her 19-point performance. She went 6-of-11 from the floor and 4-of-7 from beyond the three-point arc. "Like all good shooters she needs to make a couple early to build that confidence and usually when she hits a couple it's going to be a good night."
The defense was the star of the game, however, allowing just seven points through the final two quarters to secure the victory.
"Our defense was outstanding," said Gudith. "It's not easy to hold a team under 20. Our guards (Gabby Mencotti, Megan Buckingham, Brittany Berehulka, Diana Myers and Brenner) all put a lot of pressure on them in the back court and made them work on the offensive side of the ball."
The Mustangs are now 9-3 overall and 4-2 in the Central Division. They are in sole possession of second place.
The Mustangs were aided offensively by sophomore Emily Maresch's five points while Berehulka and Mencotti scored four each, followed by Clare Townsend's two and Anna Giacomini's one point.

City of Northville
Proposed Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance

At its regular meeting on February 19, 2013, the Northville City Council will introduce for first reading proposed amendments to the City of Northville Zoning Ordinance. The proposed amendments would update several sections of the Zoning Ordinance, including Section 2.06 Permitted/Special Use Chart, Sections 13.03 and 14.03 Wireless Communication, Section 16.13 Cellular Telephone, Section 18.23 Wireless Communication, Section 19.04 Preliminary and Final Site Development Plans, Section 19.12 Process and Applicability, Section 22.01 Non-Conforming Sites, Section 25.01 BZA Creation and Membership, Section 25.04 Powers and Duties/Use Variances, Section 26.01 Definitions, and other miscellaneous changes including Table of Contents.

Public comments will be received at the City Council meeting scheduled for February 19, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building – Council Chambers, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-349-1300. Written comments may also be submitted to the above address. Complete text of the proposed ordinance amendment is available for review at the City Clerk's Office during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, local prevailing time.

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NORTHVILLE SPORTS ROUNDUP

Cheerleaders wrap up Central Division competitions

The Northville Mustangs competitive cheerleading team completed their KLAA Central Division schedule with a 2-3 record, adding a final win with a 3-0 victory over the South Lyon Lions last week. The team then followed the victory up by hosting the Northville Competitive Cheer Invitational last Saturday. The event boasted 27 middle school, freshman, junior varsity and varsity teams this year. Northville finished the day in eighth place.

Coach Mindy Gentz said she's proud of the way the team has pushed for a strong finish leading into the final weeks of the season. "The team has been through a tough two weeks, dealing with the flu, injuries and final exams," she said. "We are getting back on track and are gearing up for the final weeks of the season. This last week, we finally started to return to where we should be at this point of the season. Our rounds are starting to gel again. We will be spending the next week really focusing on details and getting the right athletes in the right positions on the mat."

Tankers earn win over Salem

The Northville Mustangs boys swimming and diving team earned a 111-74 victory over the Salem Rocks last week in a meet that resembled many of the wins the team has recorded this year. The squad, coached by Rich Bennetts, did earn a state cut, however, to bring their total up to three individuals with Austin Hunt, Andrew Westphal and Jimmy Xue having earned a trip to the finals at the end of the year. Northville will also send both of

its freestyle relay teams in the post-season tournament. Xue's state cut came in the 200 individual medley, as he earned a first-place finish with a 2:03.72 in the event. Other first-place finishes for the Mustangs included Westphal (50 freestyle, 22.67 seconds; 100 freestyle, 50.36), Anton Travis (diving, 182.69 points), Hunt (500 free, 5:01.02), Frank Zhang (100 butterfly, 58.37) and the 400 freestyle relay (Westphal, Sam Boyea, Xue and Hunt, 3:24.45).

— By Sam Eggleston

Gattoni siblings shine in Saline wrestling tourney



Twin Ridgewood Elementary School fifth graders, Grant and Nick Gattoni, took the medal platform with younger brother, Jack, a Ridgewood third grader, at their first Michigan Youth Wrestling Association competition on Jan. 27 at the Saline Youth Wrestling Tournament. Nick (from left) won first place in his division, while Grant earned second and Jack fought for third for the Northville Mustangs. The siblings were among 11 Mustangs who competed at Saline High School, and brought home a total of seven medals. Fellow Ridgewood fifth grader, Jacob Bisdorf also earned gold. In only his second season of novice competition, Bisdorf is undefeated with 15 victories, including four pins. Additional Mustang competitors included Thornton Creek fifth grader Aiden Hayek, along with two first graders, Enzo Mastroianni and Josh Hess. Five-year-old, Eian Szerlip rounded out the squad. The Mustangs will compete at the Plymouth-Canton Tournament on Feb. 3.

Wolfpack win Grass Lake tourney



The Northville Wolfpack 6th grade girls basketball team competed in the Grass Lake Girls Basketball Tournament Jan. 19-20 and came away with a perfect 7-0 record, playing teams from Morenci, Adrian, Grass Lake, Parma, Battle Creek, Jackson, and Kalamazoo. This is the team's second tournament in which they went undefeated, previously winning the Saline Maximum Potential Holiday Hoopfest Tournament in December with a 4-0 record. The girls plan on playing in many more tournaments and hope to continue their winning streak. The team is coached by Steve Grant and Assistant Coach Steve Thallman. The team consists of (back row from left) Coach Thallman, Ellie Thallman, Hannah Grant, Chloe Zulcosky, Nicole Martin, Hannah O'Sullivan, and Coach Grant. Front row from left are Connie Krizmanich, Karina Moore, Jenna Lauderback, Tara Beason, and Jane Berry.

WINTER SCHEDULES

- Novi**
- ICE HOCKEY**
2/1 6 p.m. @ Brighton (@ Kensington Valley Ice House)
2/5 TBD @ TBA (Public School Showcase @ Arctic Coliseum)
- BOYS BASKETBALL**
All games 7 p.m. unless noted
2/1 @ Northville
2/5 @ Plymouth Salem
- GIRLS BASKETBALL**
All games at 7 p.m. unless noted
2/1 5:30 p.m. @ Northville
2/5 Plymouth Salem
- WRESTLING**
2/4 10 a.m. @ KLAA Tournament (@ Hartland/EMU)
2/6 TBA @ Districts (@ Novi)
- BOYS SWIMMING**
All meets at 6 p.m. unless noted
1/31 6:30 p.m. @ South Lyon East
2/1-2 8 a.m. @ Oakland County Championships (@ Lake Orion)
- BOYS & GIRLS BOWLING**
All meets at 3:30 p.m. unless noted
2/1 @ Wayne Memorial (@ Town N Country Lanes)
2/2 10 a.m. @ Mercy Tournament (@ Drakeshire Lanes)
2/5 @ Plymouth (@ Vision Lanes)
2/6 @ Canton (@ Super Bowl)
- COMPETITIVE CHEER**
2/2 9 a.m. @ TBD Invitational
- BOYS & GIRLS SKIING**
All dual races 4 p.m. @ Alpine Valley unless noted
1/31 Walled Lake Central, Walled Lake Western
2/7 8:45 a.m. KLAA Division Meet
- Catholic Central**
- SWIMMING**
2/1-2/2 Oakland County Championship TBA
2/7 Brother Rice 7 p.m.
- BOWLING**
2/1 Notre Dame Prep 3:30 p.m.
2/2 Mercy Tournament 9 a.m.
2/4 DeLaSalle 3:30 p.m.
2/5 Brother Rice 3:30 p.m.
- BASKETBALL**
All games at 7:30 p.m. unless noted
2/1 Notre Dame Prep
2/5 @University of Detroit
- WRESTLING**
2/6 Team District
- HOCKEY**
All games at 7 p.m. unless noted
2/2 Livonia Stevenson 2:30 p.m.
2/6 Grosse Pointe North TBD
2/7-2/8 MIHL Showcase
- SKIING**
Events at 6 p.m. at Mt. Brighton unless noted
1/31 Okemos
2/7 League Championship 9 a.m.
- Northville**
- BOYS HOCKEY**
All games at 7 p.m. unless noted
2/1 @Grand Haven
2/6,2/8 Public School Showcase TBA
- BOYS BOWLING**
All events at 3:30 p.m. unless noted
2/1 @Canton
2/6 @John Glenn
- GIRLS BOWLING**
All events at 3:30 p.m. unless noted
2/1 @Canton
2/6 @John Glenn
- BOYS BASKETBALL**
All games at 7 p.m. unless noted
2/1 Novi
2/5 South Lyon
- GIRLS BASKETBALL**
All games at 7 p.m. unless noted
2/1 Novi 5:30 p.m.
2/5 @South Lyon
- BOYS SWIMMING**
All meets at 6:30 p.m. unless noted
1/31 Livonia Stevenson
2/7 @South Lyon East
- GYMNASTICS**
All meets at 6:30 p.m. unless noted
2/2 @Canton Invitational TBA
2/7 @Salem
- CHEERLEADING**
All events at 6 p.m. unless noted
2/2 @Association Invitational TBA
- WRESTLING**
Meets at 5:30 p.m. unless noted
2/2 @Association Tournament TBA
2/7, 2/9 @MHSAA Districts TBA

HOCKEY

Continued from page B1

1 break as Rosati's pass was one-timed by Jack Meacham for the 2-0 lead. The Farmington squad added their lone score of the night with 7:28 left in the game as they snagged a short-handed goal on a breakaway play following a blocked Northville shot. Strong defense over the final seven minutes kept Northville in the lead, and a face-off in the Northville zone with 1:25 left in the game forced goalie Jake Pawloski to showcase his skill as he stopped several shots peppered at his goal to help create clearing passes by the Mustangs' defense and secure the victory. Northville is currently 9-6-3 on the season.

Squad falls in heartbreaking double overtime game to OLSM

The Shamrocks, unfortunately, proved to be their own worst enemy in the loss. The team missed a shot late in the fourth quarter that would have won them the game, and then missed two free throws with 0.1 seconds left on the clock in the first overtime and missed a three-point field goal at the buzzer of the second overtime, which led to

the loss

But Dyer pointed out that his team had ample opportunity to win.

"Our problem is that we were 9-of-24 from the free-throw line, even though we shot 41-percent from the floor," he said.

The Shamrocks fell behind, 9-7, at the end of the first quarter and then kept pace through the second and third quarters, matching Orchard Lake St. Mary's 10-10 and 13-13, respectively. They outscored their CHSL

foes 12-10 in the fourth

Leading the way offensively for CC was Garrett Moores, who scored 14 points and hauled down six rebounds while Nick Moore added 14 points in the loss. Orchard Lake St. Mary's was led by Ted McCree, who scored 14 points while Matt Linehan added 10.

The Shamrocks could not overcome a hole they dug in the first quarter as they fell behind 13-2 and trailed throughout the remainder of the divisional contest.

"Obviously you're not going to win a lot of games when you only score two points in the first quarter," said Dyer. "We only made 4-of-10 free throws and we shot 1-of-12 from three-point range."

Despite those numbers, the Shamrocks trailed by just 10 heading into the locker room at halftime. But a Warriors' performance in the third quarter found them outscoring the Shamrocks, 10-5, in the third quarter to secure control of the game.

"The third quarter killed us because we only came out and scored five points," Dyer said. "We didn't play with any emotion and our energy level needs to be higher to compete on the road in this league."

Noah Lee led Catholic Central with eight points and six rebounds and Moores pulled down six boards in the loss. Andrew Toth scored 12 for Brother Rice and Patrick Sparks added 10.

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks are now 3-8 overall and Brother Rice climbed to 6-6 with the win.

Squad defeats Cincinnati Moeller; White team takes fifth at Observerland

Whenever the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks wrestling team heads south of the Michigan border, it's always going to be a good match-up.

Last week, the Shamrocks didn't disappoint as they headed to Ohio to take on Cincinnati Moeller in a showdown between two of the top-ranked teams in the country.

The Shamrocks, ranked No. 15, defeated the No. 20 Crusaders, 37-21. They won nine of the 14 weight classes to secure the victory.

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks wrestling team will be back on the mat when they participate in the team district tournament Wednesday.

"That's the best I think our guys have wrestled all year," said coach Mitch Hancock. "They wrestled extremely smart, hard and very aggressively."

Earning pins on the day were Myles Amine (126 pounds), Logan Marcicki (160) and Jay Peterson (220).

Also earning wins on the day for the Shamrocks were Trevor Zdeb-
ski (120), Ken Bade (132),
Malik Amine (138), Chris-
topher Naubert (145),
Drew Garcia (170) and
Nick Giese (182).

Currently leading the team this year in pins is Bob Coe, who has 17, while Bade and Myles Amine have 16 each, Evan Toth and Giese have 15 each and Garcia and Marcicki have 14 each.

The White team also wrestled last week, taking fifth in the annu-

al Observerland Tournament, which was held at Livonia Churchill this year. There were 16 teams in attendance at the event.

Winning the tournament was Westland John Glenn, while Livonia Franklin took second.

Leading the way for the Shamrocks were Eli Joseph (130 pounds) and Greg Johnson (125), who both placed third. Taking fourth was Chyle Johnson (112), while Cole Moscovice (119), Ryan O'Connor (135), Tim McCotter (140) and Jake Filban (145) took fifth and Collin Cartwright (103) finished in sixth.

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CC hockey gets huge victory over Brother Rice

Want a great definition of a big win? How about when your team becomes the first to defeat another in over a year.

That's the definition the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks hockey team carved out for itself last week when they became the first team to upend the Brother Rice Warriors in over a full calendar year when they topped them 3-1, at Oak Park Ice Arena.

The Shamrocks skated out to a 1-0 lead in the first period thanks to the play of Carson Gatt, who fired home an unassisted goal at the 8:33 mark to give his team the lead.

The Warriors waited through a scoreless second period before tying the game in the opening minutes of the third, knotting the game with just 1:04 off the clock on a shot by Conner Jean, who was assisted by Matt Rigglesman and Matthew Manning.

The Shamrocks used several miscues by the Warriors to their advantage to earn the win, scoring what would prove to be the game winner at 8:15 on a power-play goal by Charlie Green, who was assisted by Brady Jones and Carson Gatt for the 2-1 lead. Insurance was tacked on by Matt Sorisho, who scored five minutes later on an unassisted play to keep the game out of reach for the Brother Rice squad.

The game started off smooth with no penalties in the entire first period and the two squads only combined for three penalties each over the course of the next two stanzas for six minutes in the box for each squad.

Earning the win in net was Derek Moore, who faced just 14 shots and stopped 13. Jack Bowman took the loss as he was peppered with 37 shots and stopped 34.

There was plenty of offense for the Shamrocks to spread around as they skated away with a

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Building Industry Association leaders see upswing in activity

Based on preliminary data provided by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) for November, a total of 236 single-family home permits were issued in Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair and Wayne counties. Permit activity in November decreased by nearly 31 percent from October 2012 (341) but is 3 percent higher than November 2011 (229).

The November decline is consistent with 42 years of historical data in which October-to-November permit levels for single-family homes have fallen every year except two: 1971 and 1977.

“While the November decline is a little disappointing, it has clearly been a great recovery year for the region,” according to Michael Stoskopf, CEO of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan. “January through November 2012 marks the highest level for permit activity year-to-date since the first 11 months of 2006. While we still have a ways to go to return to 40-year average permit activity, the recovery we’ve seen since 2009 continues and is even beginning to accelerate.”

“That’s just single-family home permits,” he said in an interview. There are only two years in last 40 or so when permits did not go down.

“They go down for all the things you could think of. It’s really just seasonal.” Basically just weather and holidays account for the drop, Stoskopf said.

“The profile of activity this year, while not as large in magnitude as the good old days, looks a lot more like the good old days” of 2002-03, he said. In 2008-09, observers “could barely see a bump.”

“It absolutely is,” he said of good signs in the more general economy improving. “When a plant adds a third shift, the guys on the second shift say, ‘Hey, I’m a little more secure.’”

Many cars are produced here, Stoskopf said. “The volume of what’s being produced on those shifts is pretty exciting. It’s because people have that discretionary income. That typically tracks to housing sales as well.”

He’s been with the BIA almost five years.

“We’re looking for great things in 2013 as well. Hopefully a good year for the economy in general,” Stoskopf added.

November 2012 also marked the end of a streak where permits exceeded 300 each month from April through October 2012. Prior to 2012, the last time we experienced over 300 permits per month was May through November 2006. Year-to-date in 2012, permits have exceed 200 permits per month for nine consecutive months.

From a trailing 12-month



perspective, permit totals rose to 3,358, which is over 30 percent higher than it was in November 2011 (2,571) and is at its highest point since August 2007 (3,505).

The BIA/ASA New Housing Permit Forecast for December through May 2013 shows expected seasonal slowdowns and then steady growth in activity as Spring arrives. For the six-month forecast period, BIA leaders believe that overall activity will outpace the same period in 2012 by nearly 20 percent.

This report is based on an algorithm created by Stoskopf. It is issued monthly by the association including a

six-month forecast and a trailing 12-month perspective.

Headquartered in West Bloomfield, Building Industry Association of SE Michigan (BIA) and Apartment Association of Michigan (AAM) are trade associations representing 500 builders, remodelers, multi-family property owners, developers and suppliers to the single family and multi-family residential construction industry. BIA is affiliated with the Home Builders Association of Michigan in Lansing and the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C.

Staff writer Julie Brown contributed to this report.

No direct right to evict woman

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: We have a co-owner in our condominium that has threatened the Board of Directors and has violated almost every bylaw provision. We are seeking injunctive relief through our attorney, but I am wondering whether we have any basis to evict the co-owner or have her permanently removed in some other fashion.

A: Since it is not a



Robert Meisner

co-op or an apartment, you have no direct right to evict her. You may have a right to seek an injunction which imposes various

constraints on her conduct and if she violates any pronouncements of the Court, she could be held in contempt of Court and possibly jailed. I am aware of one case, however, out of Ontario, Canada, where the conduct was so egregious that the court literally demanded that the co-owner be removed from the premises, but that is a harsh remedy which a court in the United States is not likely to utilize, but as in any case, your lawyer may wish to think outside of the box and pursue a remedy removing the co-owner from the premises.

Q: I have a very expensive home in a luxury subdivision and I am planning to host a party where I will have an author read a book and possibly be interested in buying some real estate. Do you think it is a violation of any doing business restriction in our subdivision documents?

A: That is a difficult question and it depends on a number of factors including the specific language in your deed restriction. I would be particularly concerned if there will become a parking problem as a result of your “book reading” and, to the extent that you are also combining it with the possible sale of real estate, it might well be deemed a commercial enterprise and/or business out of you condominium unit which may well be in violation of the deed restrictions. You are best advised to consult with a community association attorney before you undertake this event.

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

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 1-5, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

41785 Echo Forest Dr	\$298,000
6682 Edgewood Rd	\$200,000
6930 Epping Dr	\$165,000
44529 Fair Oaks Dr	\$165,000
49560 Garfield Ln	\$370,000
46977 Glenhurst Dr	\$234,000
47722 Goff Ct	\$64,000
51104 Gold Ridge Ln	\$285,000
45881 Graystone Ln	\$101,000
44034 Harsdale Dr	\$153,000
47924 Jake Ln	\$390,000
1706 Lanhan Ct	\$262,000
8076 Lillian Ct	\$380,000
7920 N Lilley Rd	\$80,000
7171 Newgate Ct	\$275,000
3381 Niagara Ave	\$246,000
1762 Northbrook Ct	\$176,000
41848 Old Bridge Rd	\$97,000
48139 Park Lane Ct	\$353,000
389 Princess Dr	\$149,000

1476 Ranier Blvd	\$155,000
6223 Runnymede Dr	\$123,000
3044 S Canton Center Rd	\$63,000
45652 S Stonewood Rd	\$165,000
44441 Savery Dr	\$32,000
47485 Scenic Circle Dr N	\$203,000
47608 Scenic Circle Dr S	\$230,000
733 Scottsdale Ct	\$135,000
41474 Simcoe Dr	\$113,000

GARDEN CITY

33240 Barton St	\$66,000
6916 Belton St	\$45,000
32556 Bridge St	\$43,000
33060 Cherry Hill Rd	\$57,000
30843 Dawson St	\$90,000
1012 Helen St	\$39,000
28063 Sheridan St	\$45,000
31538 Windsor St	\$40,000

LIVONIA

38753 Allen St	\$135,000
14318 Auburndale St	\$161,000
14412 Bassett St	\$140,000
29030 Bretton St	\$47,000
31750 Cambridge St	\$255,000
18058 Curtis Ct	\$239,000
30976 Dalhay St	\$110,000
31835 Delaware St	\$90,000
17231 Dolores St	\$60,000
9368 Eastwind Dr	\$143,000
11696 Farmington Rd	\$90,000

17542 Francavilla Dr	\$240,000
9817 Horton St	\$183,000
28543 Lyndon St	\$119,000
14000 Melvin St	\$85,000
35998 Middleboro St	\$173,000
28995 Minton St	\$82,000
36512 Northfield Ave	\$91,000
34066 Orangelawn St	\$38,000
17540 Rougeway St	\$115,000
31139 Roycroft St	\$120,000
31314 Roycroft St	\$117,000
14445 Summerside St	\$137,000

NORTHVILLE

40476 Beechwood Ct	\$376,000
42440 Bradner Rd	\$331,000
44849 Broadmoor Cir S	\$308,000
18502 Clairmont Cir W	\$800,000
634 East St	\$135,000
17366 Hilltop View Dr	\$468,000
18782 Marble Head Dr	\$105,000
19355 Pierson Dr	\$290,000
46455 Pinehurst Cir	\$645,000
705 Randolph St	\$79,000
705 Randolph St	\$63,000
40774 Stoneleigh St	\$180,000
145 Walnut St	\$150,000

PLYMOUTH

352 Ann Arbor Trail Ct	\$104,000
11677 Brownell Ave	\$180,000
11677 Brownell Ave	\$180,000

9275 Corinne St	\$195,000
42191 Old Pond Cir	\$86,000
11699 Parkview Dr	\$144,000
49041 Pine Bluff Ct	\$470,000
103 Pinewood Cir	\$53,000

REDFORD

19423 Brady	\$34,000
19549 Brady	\$42,000
9311 Dixie	\$29,000
25433 Dover	\$55,000
9952 Farley	\$52,000
12750 Hemingway	\$30,000
17750 Indian	\$45,000
19499 Woodworth	\$28,000

WESTLAND

32434 Anita Dr	\$115,000
7610 August Ave	\$103,000
34011 Birchwood St	\$34,000
8105 Donna St	\$80,000
2030 E Williams Cir	\$99,000
36645 Hazelwood St Unit 20	\$64,000
34554 John Hawk St	\$52,000
37643 Jonquil Ct	\$193,000
615 N Karle St	\$60,000
30626 Palmer Rd	\$47,000
8616 Shari Dr	\$80,000
33621 Tawas Trl	\$97,000
333 Van Sull St	\$70,000
399 Westcott St	\$66,000
30955 Windsor St	\$99,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 17-21, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

19125 Devonshire St	\$280,000
16943 Elizabeth St	\$195,000
31060 Marlin Ct	\$129,000
31265 Stafford St	\$189,000
31805 Westlady Dr	\$199,000

BINGHAM FARMS

30975 Timberbrook Ln	\$240,000
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BIRMINGHAM

942 Arden Ln	\$328,000
1109 Derby Rd # 7	\$75,000
602 E Lincoln St	\$175,000
587 Greenwood St	\$485,000
1060 Kennesaw St	\$315,000
563 Lakeview Ave	\$540,000
2424 Manchester Rd	\$176,000
1193 S Eton St	\$170,000
1767 Sheffield Rd	\$200,000
1268 Southfield Rd	\$332,000
1560 Stanley Blvd	\$552,000
384 W Brown St	\$280,000
1422 Westboro	\$616,000
3826 Wabek Lake Dr E	\$419,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

560 Fox Hills Dr S	\$71,000
4894 Haddington Dr	\$390,000
3522 Maxwell Ct	\$644,000
3636 Middlebury Ln	\$177,000
4544 Ottawa Ln	\$190,000

135 Overhill Rd	\$368,000
5630 Roundhill Rd	\$352,000
1533 S Hill Blvd	\$118,000
2223 Somerset Rd	\$78,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

4539 Broughton Dr	\$420,000
1614 Ledbury Dr	\$176,000
4440 Parklane Ct	\$260,000
4583 Walden Dr	\$340,000
1280 Water Cliff Dr	\$750,000
393 Westbourne Ct	\$268,000

COMMERCE TOWNSHIP

2530 Bevin Ct	\$253,000
6142 Carey Rd	\$250,000
4946 Foothills Dr	\$236,000
5350 Inverrary Ln	\$425,000
2751 Ivy Hill Dr	\$230,000
3341 Newton Rd	\$279,000
2227 Palmetto	\$40,000
8603 Palomino Dr	\$115,000
3251 Ravinewood Dr	\$260,000

FARMINGTON

36700 Lansbury Ln	\$184,000
23580 Loomis Ct	\$79,000
24101 Tana Ct	\$150,000
32281 Valley View Cir	\$170,000

FARMINGTON HILLS

22245 Boulder Dr	\$308,000
37696 Burton Dr	\$200,000
37921 Carson St	\$80,000
24715 Glen Orchard Dr	\$200,000
25732 Hunt Club Blvd	\$184,000
25335 Interchange Ct	\$940,000
30503 Knighton Dr	\$265,000
25787 Livingston Cir	\$218,000
35822 Old Homestead Dr	\$240,000
29703 Pine Ridge Cir	\$97,000
38926 Plumbrook Dr	\$308,000

21935 Purdue Ave	\$93,000
22055 River Ridge Trl	\$148,000
28646 Rollcrest Rd	\$131,000
29731 Sierra Point Cir	\$150,000
31160 Sturbridge St	\$250,000
23050 Tulane Ave	\$10,000
24522 Wistaria Dr	\$107,000

FRANKLIN

30125 Helmandale Dr	\$350,000
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MILFORD

324 First St	\$145,000
460 E Summit St	\$160,000
315 W Commerce St	\$239,000

NOVI

22287 Antler Dr	\$370,000
31091 Augusta Cir	\$170,000
30162 Brightwood Dr	\$258,000
30166 Brightwood Dr	\$290,000
24355 Cavendish Ct	\$425,000
31121 Centennial Dr	\$95,000
43184 Emerson Way	\$251,000
24376 Fairway Hills Dr	\$175,000
42708 Faulkner Dr	\$242,000
44700 Ford Way Dr	\$273,000
45788 Irvine Dr	\$360,000
51135 Luke Ln	\$240,000
24423 Millstream	\$162,000
23926 Mondavi Dr	\$402,000
25820 Mulberry Ln	\$275,000
23623 N Rockledge	\$60,000
24714 Nepavine	\$600,000
1127 South Lake Dr Unit 112	\$47,000

23685 Stonehenge Blvd	\$68,000
24763 Thatcher Dr	\$401,000
41471 Thoreau Rdg	\$330,000
29424 Weston Dr	\$165,000
22501 Windermere Ct	\$850,000

43330 Windmill Ct	\$305,000
28236 Wolcott Dr	\$89,000
28242 Wolcott Dr	\$279,000
21928 Worcester Dr	\$290,000

SOUTH LYON

1112 Fountain View Cir	\$77,000
54772 Grenelefe Cir E	\$186,000
54909 Grenelefe Cir W	\$301,000
24762 Purlin Ct	\$87,000
24800 Purlin Ct	\$85,000
52366 Trailwood Dr	\$105,000
52366 Trailwood Dr	\$2,000
53643 Valleywood Dr	\$25,000
26720 York Ct	\$325,000

SOUTHFIELD

17521 Alta Vista Dr	\$160,000
30411 Balewood St	\$200,000
19545 Butternut Ln	\$162,000
17628 Dorset Ave	\$38,000
19017 Goldwin St	\$35,000
20128 N Larkmoor Dr	\$118,000
29369 Sharon Ln	\$140,000
30137 Sparkleberry Dr	\$245,000
29685 Westbrook Pkwy	\$48,000

WHITE LAKE

776 Akehurst Ln	\$270,000
8785 Arlington St	\$35,000
8785 Arlington St	\$35,000
4639 Coastal Pkwy	\$43,000
8949 El Dorado Dr	\$242,000
8104 Kenwick Dr	\$116,000
9059 Kettering Ave	\$125,000
9703 Mandon Rd	\$115,000
260 Rosario Ln	\$208,000
1000 Round Lake Rd	\$130,000
8859 Satellite Ct	\$135,000
531 Woodstone Ct	\$325,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Investors

Real Estate Investors Association will meet 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5, at Red Lobster, Eureka Road and Trenton, next to the 7-Eleven in Southgate. Speaker Edwin Kelley will discuss using an IRA for buy-

ing houses. Call Wayne Koehler, president, at (313) 819-0919 for information.

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ested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures and what it takes to get started. Many sellers are misinformed or not sure about how the procedures work. Organizers will also discuss the internal workings of short sales and the different steps involved. Bonnie David, broker/owner

of Quantum Real Estate is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon. Additional parking across the street in back. Please call the office at (248) 782-7130 or e-mail june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

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High school students take nursing careers for a test drive

(ARA)

Rachel Trevino always aspired to become a nurse. As a senior at a Chicago high school, she enrolled in the Navigate to Nursing (N2N) scholarship program, a dual enrollment program offered through Chamberlain College of Nursing. The program allowed Trevino to better understand the demands of college courses while contemplating her own future career. The hands-on experience helped her develop key skills she may need if she pursued a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree, such as the ability to complete assignments in a timely and organized way and a comfort level interacting with faculty and students in online discussion boards.

Chamberlain's N2N scholarship program provides up to \$8,500 in assistance for tuition to allow qualified high school seniors to begin earning college credit - online and on-site - toward a BSN while in high school. Trevino completed one course on campus and one course online through the program while completing her second semester of her senior year in high school. Eligible students must have a minimum high school cumulative grade point average of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale and submit a letter of recommendation and an official copy of their high school transcript, among other requirements.

High school seniors often perceive the challenges of successfully transitioning to college as barriers to their continued education. Many state lawmakers support dual enrollment programs as an effective tool for overcoming these obstacles and setting the stage for college success. The experience gives high school seniors an opportunity to utilize college resources, helping them understand and meet college-level expectations. With help from professional advisors and resources, the students are able to navigate education options and develop a reasonable plan for meeting their career objectives.

Dual enrollment programs also help to prepare students for careers in fields where demand is growing, such as nursing. With more than 50 percent of its workforce nearing retirement, the nursing industry is experiencing a shortage, according to a report in Nursing World magazine. This demand will become magnified when more than 30 million Americans become eligible to receive healthcare coverage under new legislation. Though this news is concerning for healthcare providers, it has ripened the employment market for incoming graduates.

While many industries are decreasing the size of their workforce, nursing is growing twice as fast as the general economy. A March 2012

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics report projects 1.2 million job openings for nurses by 2020. Similarly, a 2011 report from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing indicates the average job offer rate for BSN program graduates at the time of graduation is 56 percent, compared to 24.4 percent for all new college graduates.

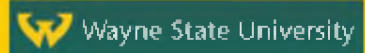
Today, Rachel Trevino is enrolled in the three-year BSN degree program at Chamberlain in Chicago. She has narrowed her focus in nursing to labor and delivery. "Chamberlain's Navigate to Nursing scholarship program helped me transition from high school to college level courses and assignments", Trevino says. "I always intended to pursue nursing as a career, but getting a head start in high school eased my nerves about attending college and gave me the confidence to be an active participant in a more advanced college environment."

Whether they are tailored to nursing or other growing industries, dual enrollment programs help students prepare for college success and a future supporting the nation's workforce. Taking a career for a test drive can help students turn the dream of entering a career field into a reality, expanding the horizons for those who may otherwise have ruled out education after high school.

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Car Report

Advertising Feature



By Dale Buss

Home-field advantage didn't work for the Atlanta Falcons or New England Patriots in trying to get to Super Bowl XLVII. But General Motors certainly has taken advantage of its hometown stage during the North American International Auto Show at Cobo Center.

Chevrolet and Cadillac dominated NAIAS to a great extent, with Cadillac winning North American Car of the Year honors for its new ATS, and debuting its new ELR plug-in hybrid. Chevy wowed everyone from international automotive journalists to show-goers from Detroit with its new 2014 Corvette Stingray.

Talk all you want about German engineering, Japanese reliability and Korean ambition in the high-end automotive market. When it comes to getting the blood of car enthusiasts pumping, there's nothing quite like the Chevrolet Corvette.

Car aficionados continue to create buzz around Chevy's introduction of the seventh-generation Corvette at NAIAS, the so-called C7. GM is deliberately invoking some of the 60 years of the car's history by calling its new version the Stingray. It harkens to a special version of the Corvette in 1963 that set the design standard for the super-muscle sports car for the last half century.

Corvette has been known as the life's aspiration of a plumber or a gym teacher — its typical buyer is a white male in his fifties. But automotive journalists hailed the new Stingray as a revelation: a car that simultaneously remains worthy of the Corvette's heritage but that also introduces a sort of panache — and the kind of technology — that should broaden its appeal with other demographics that wish to buy expensive cars.

"The car was greeted with fierce applause and shouts of approval" at an early reveal with journalists on January 13, reported USA Today, and a "rush to get near the car onstage."

The new Stingray will go on sale in the third quarter. It features a body that continues to be made from exotic composite materials but uses more lightweight carbon fiber, as many of the luxury segment's new entries by other brands also are doing, to trim weight.

Inside, some are enthusing about a reconfigurable instrument cluster behind the steering wheel that includes an eight-inch high-resolution screen with one of three different layouts. The modes can be configured to show details from G-force numbers to lap times.

Long Corvette's major shortcoming, the new interior also benefits from upgraded materials including Napa leather and aluminum. Seat designs are now

heavily bolstered.

Meanwhile, it's too early to determine whether the new Cadillac ELR truly will be a game-changer in the sluggish U.S. market for plug-in hybrids. But in unveiling the new model at NAIAS, at least GM was bidding to change the dynamics of the segment in a significant way.

ELR isn't expected to go on sale until early 2014 ("winter" is what GM is promising) and at a price tag (before U.S.-government tax credits for a "green" car purchase) of more than \$50,000. GM is relying on the same basic powertrain as in Chevrolet Volt, a combination of powerful batteries that can take the car 25 or 30 miles on a charge and a small gasoline engine that takes over once the batteries are out of juice and provides an effective range for the vehicle of about 300 miles.

Only around 1,000 or so Americans each month so far have ponied up for a car powered that way over the more than two years since Volt's introduction, despite gasoline prices of between \$3 and \$4 a gallon.

But ELR will try to tap into some of the same sort of early-adopter, premium-



Cadillac's ELR isn't expected to go on sale until early 2014 and at a price tag of more than \$50,000.

market appeal that expensive all-electric vehicles such as Tesla have brought.

And early reviews emanating from the Detroit show mainly have been positive for ELR. For instance, "It 'brings sexy sophistication and a dash of luxury' to the segment, a Wired blogger enthused.

Indeed, flush from their victory with the naming of its new ATS as the North American Car of the Year at the show, Cadillac marketers are counting on a year of buzz about ELR to further heighten American perceptions of the brand as it competes with German and Japanese brand leaders that also are growing stronger — and, now, must battle Ford's determination to make Lincoln relevant again.

"I think [ELR] signals Cadillac, the brand that innovated many of today's modern technologies, is back at the cutting edge," Robert Ferguson, Cadillac's global VP, said at the Detroit show. "The brand continues to represent progressive American engineering."

It'll be up to luxury buyers just how "progressive" they want to be.



Chevy wowed everyone from international automotive journalists to show-goers from Detroit with its new 2014 Corvette Stingray.

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