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SPORTS, B2




**Maple syrup
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Maybury Farm will host its Family Maple Syrup Tours each Saturday and Sunday throughout March. Tours begin at 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. at the farm, located at 50165 Eight Mile Road.

The tours will allow guests to experience first-hand how maple syrup is made. The adventure begins with a hay ride to the Sugarbush at Maybury Farm. Families will have the opportunity to tap the trees, watch as the sap fills the buckets, bring sap back to the evaporator and learn all of the steps in making maple syrup. This year the tours will have maple syrup and other maple syrup products for purchase at the general store located in the Welcome Center. Dress warmly and boots are a must.

Admission, which includes hay ride, demonstration and farm visit, is \$6 per person (age 2 and under are free).

For more information, contact the Northville Community Foundation at (248) 374-0200 or visit www.northvillecommunity-foundation.com/farm-maplesyrup.html.



**NCAA
basketball
contest**

We are giving away tickets to the men's NCAA basketball tournament at The Palace of Auburn Hills. The tournament is at the Palace on Thursday, March 21 and Saturday, March 23 and we have tickets for both days. To enter, visit our web site, Hometownlife.com and click on the Don't Miss module on the right-hand side. This is a Facebook contest so you can share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get an extra five chances to win if they also enter the contest. The drawing is Monday, March 18 and you can enter once every day. Good luck!

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PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A pair of explosive ordinance disposal team members walk through the woods on the former Northville Psychiatric Hospital property on their way to working on safely dis-arming a bomb.

“We just want the board to carefully consider all of the options, including the ones we have presented. In the end, we want to see something that is done right for all Northville families and will be long lasting.”

KALEN POULUS
Ridge Wood parent

Parents resistant to boundary changes

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

The Northville Public Schools Board of Education has a lot to think about after two community forums on potential attendance boundary changes. There were a lot of ideas and opinions batted around by the nearly 100 parents in attendance last week at Meads Mill Middle School. Another forum was held Monday at Hillside Middle School.

“We need to have a plan that lasts and has the least amount of affect on families,” said Stacy Herring, parent of a Moraine Elementary student.

Fellow Moraine parent Julie Silberg seconded that and said, “We recognize there is some overcrowding, but we need to remember the impact this will have on our children.”

This was the sentiment expressed by many of the parents in attendance at the first forum. Some brought their own ideas on how the issues could be fixed, including parent Kim Komorous,

Please see **RESISTANT, A5**

Exercise in preparedness

Hospital property serves as test ground for emergency response

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

The main goal for the 13 Southeast Michigan First Responder Specialty Teams that were conducting a training event in Northville Township on Tuesday was to learn from their mistakes and weaknesses now rather than later in the event of a real catastrophe. Regional SWAT, HAZMAT and bomb squads got together in Northville Township to trained together at the closed Psychiatric Hospital property in a multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary training event. The all day training event included some 300 responders.

Brian Kahn, emergency preparedness coordinator for the City of Livonia, called the exercise a chance for all of the different teams to get on the same page.

“For us the goal is to gain the knowledge that can be used to prepare for and help resolve an emergency incident in an efficient and quick manner,” he said.

The purpose of the exercise was to evaluate the ability to respond to a major terrorist event involving multiple active shooters, improvised explosive devices (IEDs) or bombs and hazardous material situations involving chemical weapons. Recent situations in this region that involved major emergency responses were the Dundee tornado and a building explosion in Wayne a couple years ago.

The training exercise involved a variety of simulations from situations with an officer missing and shots

Please see **EMERGENCY, A3**



Northville Township firefighter Brian Siriani gets some information from a firefighter locator system during the March 12 southeastern Michigan law enforcement training day at the former Northville Psychiatric Hospital grounds.

Guilty: Local leaders react to Kwame Kilpatrick verdicts

By **Kurt Kuban**
Staff Writer

The guilty verdicts against former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and his co-conspirator Bobby Ferguson have ignited an emotional response across the region, with many people breathing a sigh of relief that an ugly chapter has finally come — hopefully — to a close.

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What is your reaction to the guilty verdicts against former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick? Do you think the city can turn it around now that this chapter is over? Email your opinions to Editor Kurt Kuban at kkuban@hometownlife.com.

such a large shadow over the region and even the state, reaction has been swift since Monday morning's verdicts. Kilpatrick was convicted on 24 of 30 counts, including five counts of extortion, racketeering, bribery and several mail, wire and tax fraud charges. Ferguson was

found guilty on nine of 11 counts, including racketeering and several counts of extortion.

Like many suburban leaders, Northville Township Supervisor Chip Snider expressed satisfaction that the lengthy legal case against Kilpatrick has come to a close.

“It certainly taxed our justice system. It boggles my mind to think

Please see **KILPATRICK, A3**



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Special ed student accused of molesting boy competent for trial

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

Joseph Miklos, 19, of Northville, has been determined to be competent



and could stand trial for the charge of criminal sexual conduct second degree. The case against him, which alleges he forced unwanted sexual contact on an 11-year-old Northville boy, has been bound over to Oakland County Circuit Court for a potential trial with a date yet to be determined. There is an opportunity for a plea agreement to be reached after he is re-arraigned at the county court. On March 5, Miklos

went before 35th District Judge James Plakas for an examination hearing pertaining to competency and criminal responsibility.

Defense attorney Raymond Cassar said his client desired to waive his rights for any further preliminary examination hearings and understands the next step is to go to circuit court. Oakland County Assistant Prosecutor Heather Brown was representing the people at the hearing.

A preliminary examination is a probable cause hearing.

Cassar said in the competency report it was indicated that Miklos, a special education student in Northville Public Schools, is mentally challenged, but is competent to stand trial. He said this in clarifying that Miklos does understand his

rights. The alleged incident took place July 25 last year.

According to the Northville City Police, Miklos had invited the 11-year-old boy over to his home to play video games and while they were in the basement Miklos allegedly asked the boy if he could perform a sexual act, which the boy refused. Miklos's mother was upstairs at the time.

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

The case was brought to the police department's attention after the boy's father noticed he was acting

like something was bothering him and was having sleep disturbances. The boy told his father what occurred and it was reported. A further interview with the boy was conducted at the Care House in Pontiac.

The original bond conditions ordered Miklos to not have any contact with the 11-year-old victim and wear a tracking tether. He was then told that he was to not have contact with anyone under the age of 18 without a parent present and could only speak with his girlfriend by telephone and only after parental permission.

These conditions have not been violated. Cassar said Miklos is a home-bound student with Northville Public Schools.

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

LIBRARY LINES

The Northville District Library, which is located at 212 W. Cady Street, has a number of upcoming programs. For more information about these events or about the library, call (248) 349-3020 or visit <http://northville.lib.mi.us>. Upcoming events include:

• MARCH IS READING MONTH

March 1-31
Details: Kids, preschool ages through sixth grade, get hooked on books during March is Reading Month. Pick up your Reading Log at the Library, when your log is full, earn a paperback book prize.

• DROP-IN SPRING CRAFTS FOR KIDS

4-5 p.m. Tuesday, Mar. 19
Details: Make a fun clothespin butterfly magnet. All ages. Just drop in!

• SPRING TOT STORYTIME

April 3 – May 8
Details: For 2 and 3-year-olds with a caregiver. Please register beginning Wednesday, March 13 for Northville residents, or March 14 for non-residents. Sessions: Mondays from 10:15-10:45 a.m.; Wednesdays from 10:15-10:45 a.m. or 11:30 a.m.–noon.

• KIDZ TIME

4:30-5:15 p.m. Thursday, March 21

Details: For 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders featuring stories, games, crafts. Call to register.

• LITTLE ME STORYTIME

10:30-11:15 a.m. Friday, March 15
Details: Little ones, 10 months to 2 years old, with caregiver, enjoy music, simple stories and playtime. Just drop in.

• YEAR ROUND LANDSCAPES

7 p.m. Tuesday, March 19
Details: Landscape designer Janet Macunovich talks about arranging plantings, incorporating non-plant features and introduces a line-up of trees, shrubs and perennials for all seasons. Program to be held at the Northville Community Center. Call to register.

• BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 20
Details: Come cheer for your favorite middle school team as they compete for prizes at Northville High School cafeteria.

• KIDZ TIME

4:30-5:15 p.m. Thursday, March 21
Details: For 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders featuring stories, games, crafts. Call to register.

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Local women form ‘giving circle’ to aid charitable causes

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

What started out as a simple phone call by a local woman to Northville Civic Concern has evolved into a new organization called Main Street League, an organization of women dedicated to helping local charities.

According to Northville's Lauren Romeo it was during that call to Northville Civic Concern that she learned the local charity that provides food and other essentials to area families facing hard times was in dire need of diapers.

"Their shelves were bare of diapers, which is a big deal because these families can't use their Bridge Cards to purchase them — only food," said Romeo. "After getting off the phone, I felt I could get more people involved to help out."

That's when Romeo called her good friend, Jen Mullan. Together they hatched the idea to create a more formal group made up of like-minded women in the area.



A group of philanthropic women meet in the basement of Northville's Next Chapter bookstore on March 4 to talk about organizing their charity — Main Street League. From left are Kristy Howard (with daughter Brooke), Jen Mullan, and Lauren Romeo with her son Hudson.

"We both said there was more that we could do," Romeo said. "We started coming up with ideas, and calling our closest friends. It has just been morphing from there. We're getting calls every day. It keeps growing and growing. I can't even believe how many people want to help out."

Other founding members include Lisa Meizinger-Abraham, Karen Martin, and Danette Turco. There are about 20 members already on board, and the number continues to grow almost daily.

The group will hold its first fundraiser next week in conjunction with the MOMS Clubs of both Northville and

South Lyon. It is a diaper drive for Civic Concern and South Lyon's Active Faith. The event will take place from 7:30-10:30 p.m., Thursday, March 21 at Lake Street Tavern in downtown South Lyon. The establishment is owned by Romeo's mother, Mary Poole. Everyone who attends is asked to bring some diapers for

the two organizations. Lake Street Tavern will provide appetizers.

Romeo said the event will offer women a chance to get out, have a little fun, and contribute to a great cause. She said 75 people have already confirmed for the event, and she is hoping for many more. All are welcome.

DIAPER DRIVE

- **What:** The Main Street League, along with the MOMS Clubs of Northville and South Lyon, hosting diaper drive to benefit Northville Civic Concern and Active Faith South Lyon
- **When:** 7:30-10:30 p.m., Thursday, March 21
- **Where:** Lake Street Tavern, 127 E. Lake Street, South Lyon

Other fundraising events are planned in the near future, according to Romeo, including a kick ball fundraiser in June. The group's first big membership meeting will take place in April, she said.

"We're just getting off the ground. It's really exciting. We're really hoping to make a positive impact on our community," Romeo said.

For more information, and to learn how you can help or become a member of the Main Street League, contact Romeo at (312) 933-6451.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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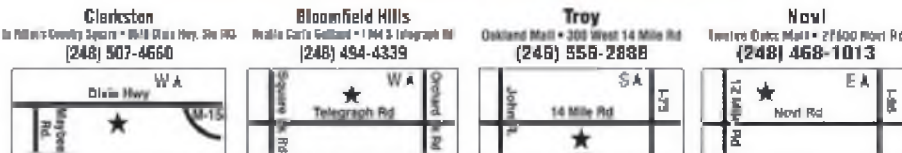


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NORTHVILLE SCHOOL BRIEFS

Beauty and the Beast

Reserved main level seating tickets are now on sale for the Northville High School Drama Club's spring musical Disney's Beauty and the Beast. Show dates and times for this Disney classic are Thursday, April 18 at 7 p.m.; Friday, April 19 at 7 p.m.; and Saturday, April 20 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for children, students and seniors age 55 and over.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.showtix.com — search for "Beauty and the Beast Northville", then buy your tickets using a credit card and print them out at home.

General admission stadium seating tickets will be available at the Northville High School Box Office one hour prior to each performance. Reserved seating tickets will only be available online and will not be sold at the door. Credit cards will not be accepted at the box office.

For more information on the Northville High School Drama Club and our 2012-2013 season, visit www.nhstheatre.com.

Strings 'n' Things

Does your child play a string instrument? Strings 'n' Things, Northville's string chamber ensemble, has openings for violinists, violists, and cellists for students grades 6-12.

Strings 'n' Things performs at various locations including Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Royal Oak Farmers Market, Northville High School, and more than 15 different senior homes in the Northville, Livonia, Plymouth, and Novi area. The group will host an open house rehearsal on Thursday, March 21 from 7-9 p.m. in the Chamber Room at Northville High School for a night of fun and music. There will be signs posted upon entrance into the main doors of the building to direct you to the chamber room.

For more information, send an e-mail to Northvillestringclub@gmail.com.

Senior party fundraiser

On Friday, March 22, Brann's Sizzling Steaks & Sports Grille located at 39715 Six Mile Road in Northville Township will donate 15 percent of a diner's total bill of diners to Northville High's Senior All Night Party. Diners must have a flyer supporting the cause. For more information about the planning for the party, and how you can help, visit www.nhssanp.com.

Community coffees

Northville Public Schools Superinten-

dent 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.

Kindergarten signup

Northville Public Schools is now accepting kindergarten enrollment for fall 2013. If you have a child who will be 5 on or before Nov. 1, 2013, contact your local elementary school for enrollment information. If you are not sure what school your child will be attending, contact the district's Office of Instruction at (248) 344-8442 or visit www.northville.k12.mi.us.

The district will attempt to again offer a half-day kindergarten program. During the registration process, parents interested in the half-day program will be asked to complete the commitment form located on the district website at www.northville.k12.mi.us/node/584. Decisions about specific buildings and if there is enough interest for a half-day program will be finalized and communicated to parents in late May or early June.

A parent meeting for incoming 2013-14 kindergartners will take place at each school; following are the dates for each Kindergarten Parent Orientation and Round Up:

- Amerman, May 7 (parent orientation); May 10 (Round Up)
- Moraine, May 14; May 17
- Silver Springs, April 24; May 2
- Thornton Creek, May 6; May 9
- Ridge Wood, May 15; May 16
- Winchester, May 6; May 9

Enrollment forms can also be picked up directly at each building. All parents are asked to register their child in early registration By April 30.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

State Senator Patrick Colbeck addresses Northville High's GOP Club last month in the school's forum room. Colbeck gave his impressions of the recent right to work legislation that he helped steer through Lansing in December.

Future of the GOP
NHS Republic Club members get feet wet with real political experience

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

The Northville High School Republican Club had a recent visit from Sen. Patrick Colbeck and discussed the Right to Work legislation passed in Michigan. Colbeck is just one of the real life politicians to visit the small, but growing club.

The club is still small with 31 kids signed up in a school of over 2,200, but it's a dedicated one and it is looking to attract more members.

"A lot of the school is made up of liberal-minded people, so we don't want to get outspoken too much," club president and senior Andrew Carlone said. "We want to try and make a dent in the world."

The club formed this year and is sponsored by Andrew's mother Tami Carlone. This past year the club worked on the Mill Romney presidential campaign, and its planning on doing more of these activities.

"The club is aiming to educate its fellow students on what the party stands for. There's a lot of misinformation about Republicans, so we hope that we can provide a more accurate picture."

Prior to Colbeck, the club hosted Ronna Romney, which Andrew said was a great experience for them because she is a Northville resident and the niece of Mitt Romney.

During Colbeck's visit he gave some background about himself and then went into a discussion about the legislation pertaining to non-union worker rights. He told the students the legislation is about giving workers a choice on whether they want to be in a union or not.

"This is about making us more competitive in bringing jobs to Michigan," he told them. "There is a value for unions, but workers should have the right to choose whether or not they want pay its dues."

Questions from the stu-

dents ranged from how this will impact health-care and benefits to what it means in the long range. Colbeck told them it will not impact health benefits and it should help unemployment go down.

"We want to gather to talk about the serious issues of our day," said Andrew about the various discussions they've had and will have in the coming months. "Our club started out slow, but I think some of these speakers present a chance for other students to come out and see what's going on."

Rep. Kurt Heise spoke to the club on March 1 and either U.S. Representative Kerry Ben-tivolio or Michigan Republican Party Youth Vice-Chair Sarah Ledford is scheduled to speak on March 15. The meeting will be 2:30-3:30 p.m. in the high school forum.

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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northville Schools Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher (right) and members of the board of education meet with concerned parents at Meads Mill Middle School on March 5 to discuss potential school boundary changes.

RESISTANT

Continued from page A1

who said she modified one of the options (WM1) the school board is considering.

For her, the best idea may be having Silver Springs Elementary become a feeder school just for Hillside Middle School, and not Meads Mill.

She said this could put the number of students at Hillside up over 1,000, but considering it used to be the high school there could be room. She also said this option could keep all neighborhoods from being split, except for Northville Hills, which already is. Northville Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher and school board members said 1,000 students may be too big for a middle school, but this idea will be reviewed.

The crux of the issue is that Meads Mill Middle School and Ridge Wood Elementary have reached their capacities, and the numbers at both schools look similar for next year as well. Gallagher stressed to parents there

is a need for a balancing so there would be no negative impact at the programmatic level in those two schools.

"The need for attendance boundary changes is the result of growth in student enrollment over time primarily in the western region of the district," Gallagher said of the reasoning to take on this process. "While this growth is positive for the school district and the entire Northville community, it also has resulted in some imbalance in enrollment across schools and has stretched capacity at some of our school buildings."

To do this, the district is looking at seven options. Generally, they involve moving students from Ridge Wood (up to 75 in some cases) over to other elementary schools, including Moraine and Winchester, and having more students (up to at least 150) go over to Hillside to lessen the number at Meads Mill.

One neighborhood that could be impacted by this is the Stonewater subdivision, which has most of its children going to Ridge Wood and is located between Six and Sev-

en Mile roads, as well as Beck and Ridge roads.

Many Stonewater parents were present at the first forum, and have also put out some ideas of their own, such as having some of the preschoolers at Ridge Wood move to another school to free up room and making school of choice an option to all families for those who may desire to go to another NPS elementary.

This group believes more development and growth will come in Northville, but it could come in the schools where some of their kids may be switched to.

"We just want the board to carefully consider all of the options, including the ones we have presented," Ridge Wood parent Kalen Poulus said. "In the end, we want to see something that is done right for all Northville families and will be long lasting."

The board is expected to make a final decision April 9. To learn more about the different plans, go to the district's website at <http://www.northville.k12.mi.us>.

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NORTHVILLE POLICE BRIEFS

Laptop stolen

While parked outside Hillside Middle School, a Northville woman's laptop computer went missing and was reported as stolen.

On March 11, Northville City Police were told about the larceny from at the school, located at Eight Mile Road and Center Street. The woman thought she had locked the doors. The case remains open for police to gain further information.

Security video was expected to be reviewed.

Drunken driving

A 51-year-old Farmington man was arrested for drunken driving after being stopped for speeding.

The traffic stopped happened on March 10 after Northville City Police spotted the man speeding in the 45 mph zone near Eight Mile and Beck. He was clocked going at least 10 mph over, according to reports. Police reported detecting the odor of intoxicants on the man as he slurred his speech.

After swaying and having difficulty counting during the sobriety tests, he was given a Breathalyzer test that registered a .177 percent blood-alcohol content.

Gym bag stolen

A 58-year-old Detroit man called Northville Township Police on Feb. 28 to report someone had entered his car while it was parked at Barnes & Noble bookstore on Hagerty, and stole a gym bag containing New Balance shoes, gym clothes and a Polar heart rate monitor, valued at \$100. The man told police the shoes were worth \$80.

The man said he left the vehicle unlocked while he was inside the book store.

Chief warns gun owners to know the rules about carrying weapons

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Two recent incidents in the City of Northville has Police Chief Gary Goss wondering if some concealed pistol license owners don't fully understand their responsibilities as a holder of a deadly weapon.

"It's become apparent that some CPL holders don't know all of the rules and regulations," said Goss. "Owning a firearm is a really big responsibility, which can't be taken lightly."

The incidents that caught his eye included one at Northville Downs and the other outside of a local apartment complex. Both involved a man carrying a handgun in the wrong situation.

In February at the Downs race track, police responded to a report of a man carrying a concealed pistol. It was reported the gun was spotted by another person inside the race track and then the police were called. The man, a legal CPL holder, told police it was a mistake and that he didn't

know he couldn't take it inside the building.

According to Goss, unless a person is certified as exempt he or she can't carry a handgun into an entertainment facility that the individual knows or should know has a seating capacity of 2,500 or more, which the Downs has.

"It was a mistake, but this person should have already known this regulation as a CPL holder," he said.

The other incident happened on Feb. 24 and involved a domestic dispute between two men over a woman. An altercation ensued in an apartment parking lot and the Northville man involved in it was discovered to have had a pistol in his waistband. In addition, he had a blood-alcohol content level of at least .08, which is in violation of a CPL.

Goss said in this case the man was not a CPL holder, but rather his application to gain one was pending at the time. The man was forced to forfeit over the gun and was charged with being under the

influence while in possession of a firearm.

"The bottom line here is, guns and booze don't mix," he said.

He believes knowing the specifics behind the CPL law and related gun laws should become more of a priority, especially since the number of CPL and handgun owners has increased in the past several months. He expects to see more situations that involve handgun owners not knowing their responsibilities.

"A handgun owner must know a number of things, like where it can be carried, how to safely secure it at home and when to use it or not," said Goss. "There can be a lot of liability associated with owning a firearm, so it's good to know the rules and regulations that govern them."

One major resource for the facts is the Michigan State Police and their website at <http://www.michigan.gov/msp>.

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THE CALL (R)

11:30, 2:05, 4:40, 7:20, 9:40

FRI/SAT LS 11:50

THE INCREDIBLE BURT WONDERSTONE (PG-13)

11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:25

FRI/SAT LS 11:45

3D OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL (PG)

12:30, 3:30, 6:25, 9:10

FRI/SAT LS 11:55

DEAD MAN DOWN (R)

11:20, 1:55, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

FRI/SAT LS 12:00

21 AND OVER (R)

FRI/SUN/MON/TUE 2:50, 5:05, 9:50

FRI/SAT LS 11:55 SAT 5:05, 9:50

WED 2:50 TH 2:50, 9:50

JACK THE GIANT SLAYER (PG-13)

11:00, 1:35, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20

FRI/SAT LS 11:45

SAFE HAVEN (PG-13)

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Robostangs win Chairman's Award

Northville High School's FIRST Robotics Team 548, the Robostangs, took part in their first competition of the season over the weekend at Waterford Mott High School, and earned the Chairman's Award bestowed on the team who represents a model for other teams. The Robostangs were honored with this prestigious award for their year round service projects. Receiving this award also ensures the team a birth at the state level of competition later this spring.



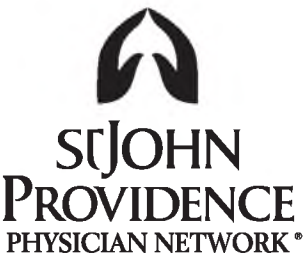
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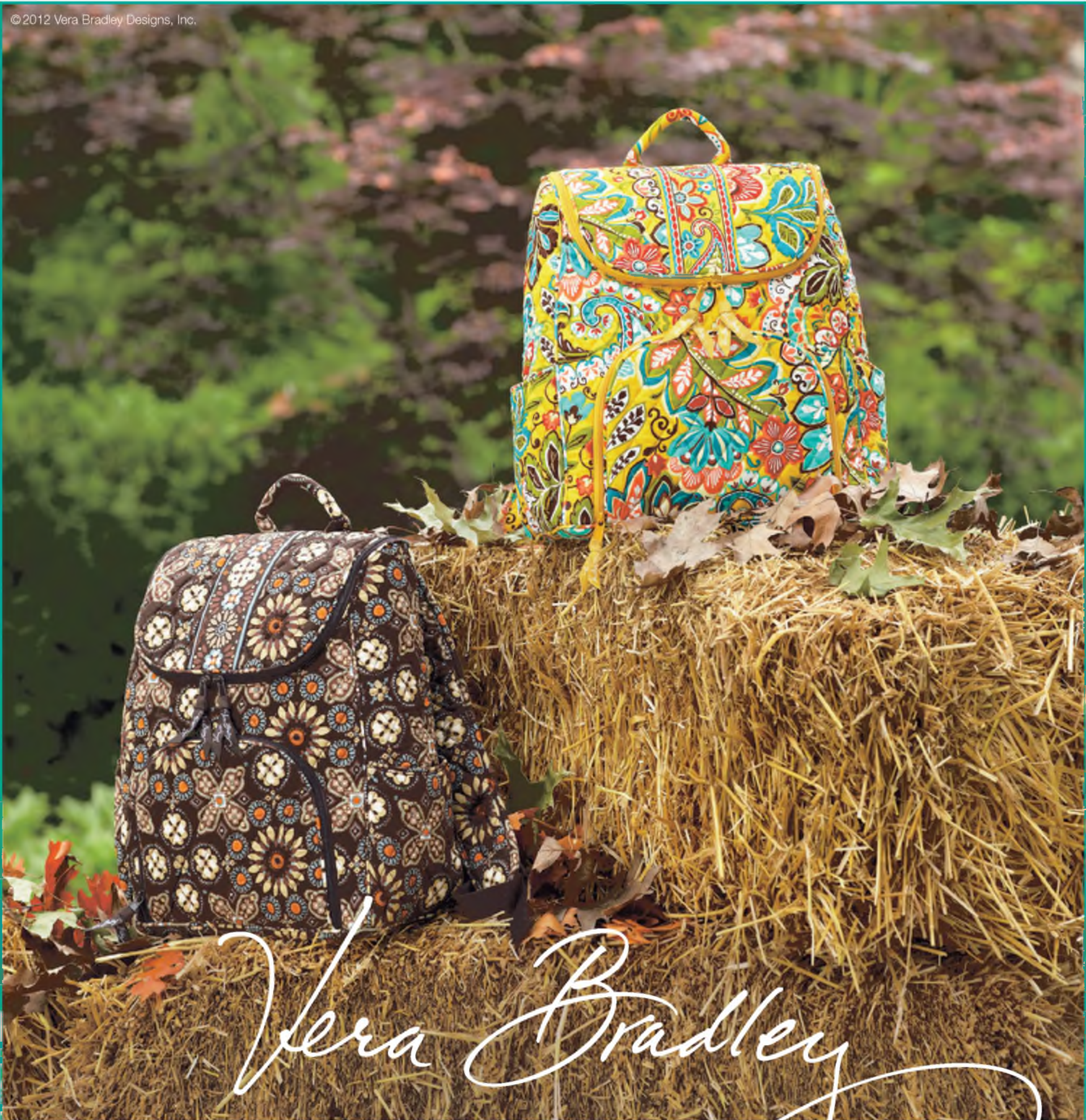
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PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northville High School students prepare for Friday's Rotary interact Prom Fashion Show. From left are Morgan Lindsay, Michael LaFramboise, Juliana Lim, Erin Dunn, Charlie May, J.J. Molinari, Jeremy Gumkowski, Elizabeth Boshoven, Bradley Merlo and Cassidy Evach. The show, featuring fashions for this year's prom in May, will be a fundraiser for Northville Civic Concern.

Annual Prom Fashion Show to benefit Civic Concern

On Friday, March 15, Northville High School Rotary Interact is hosting our annual Prom Fashion Show. With prom right around the corner, there will be 68 models showing off some of the top tuxedo and dress styles. All of the proceeds collected on the night of the show will be donated to Northville Civic Concern. The show starts at 7 p.m. in the Northville High School auditorium, and admission is \$5. The public is welcome.



Michael LaFramboise and Morgan Lindsay have some fun preparing for the prom fashion show.

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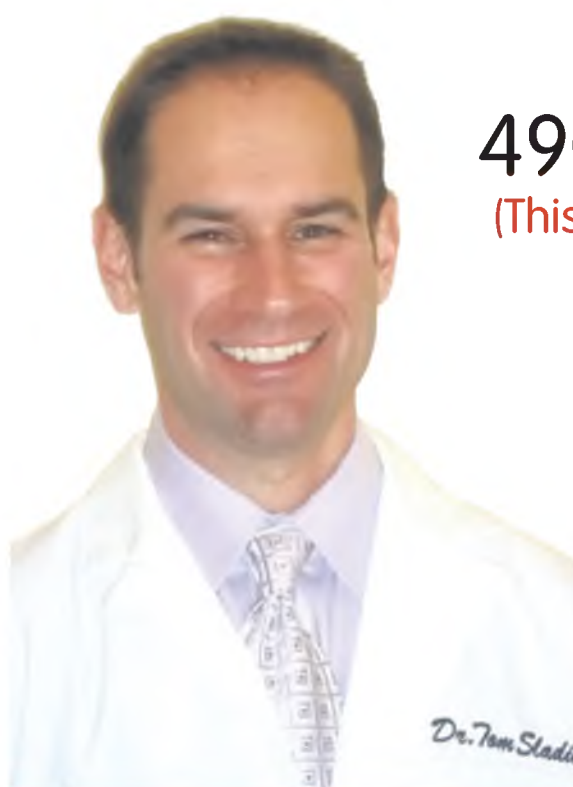
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Story time

Library program aims to introduce wonders of reading to youngsters

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Vicki Mazur of Northville is a firm believer in reading to her children, Sarah, 2, and Matt, 4.

"Every day," said Mazur, who brought Sarah to a Thursday, March 7, storytime at the Northville District Library. "They have a great storytime program for young kids."

Sarah's even starting to learn her way around the computer. "Dr. Seuss especially," her mom said of favorites. "And Curious George. Clifford."

Nearby was Daiane de Oliveira of Northville, nanny for Cecilia Rasmusen, 3.

"She loves the storytime," de Oliveira said. "She loves listening to the storytime. We come every week. And when I don't come, her mom will come and take her."

Nanny de Oliveira is from Brazil, and was joined at the storytime by Stephanie Naberhaus of Northville Township, with her daughter, Lana, 2 1/2. Lana has older siblings 4 and 7 in school.

"We read every night, at least two books every night," Naberhaus said. "That's always been part of our bedtime routine." Lana's also partial to Dr. Seuss, who's getting a lot of attention in March Is Reading Month.

The morning of March 7, children's librarian Laura Curtsinger got things going with a song, *Hello, Everybody*. She described different clothing for different times of year.

The adults also knew the song, *Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes*, and most children were all ears for books on a clothing theme.


Dorie Freebury, head of youth services at the Northville library, said scores of studies reveal the benefits of early reading to children. She has plenty of links to studies and resources that show how early childhood literacy positively impacts success in school. She loves to quote Dr. Seuss: "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

The Northville library offers an annual Summer Reading Program, along with storytimes for babies and children up through third grade. March Is Reading Month is marked, along with Library Card Signup Month in September. The Friends of the Library sponsor the Read to Me program, providing parents of newborns with a gift bag including a board book, reading incentive materials and library services information.

Of course, librarians are available to recommend books and other materials to patrons of all ages.

"I was a voracious reader as a child. To this day I still cherish Arnold Lobel's *Frog and Toad* stories. Reading as a child most definitely benefited my academics; excelling in vocabulary, reading comprehension, written and verbal communication skills, and by nourishing my imagination and cultivating creativity. An early appreciation for books has made me a reader for life. I'm never without a book," said Freebury.

jcrown@hometownlife.com



William Sung, 5, checks out some materials at the Northville District Library on March 6. March is Reading Month, and the library has plenty going on to celebrate.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Marathon man

Northville resident completes quest to run marathons in all 50 states



Northville resident Peter McCullough, a cardiologist for St. John Providence Health System in Novi, recently completed a marathon in Hawaii. The race was the conclusion to his eight-year quest to run a marathon in all 50 states. He is now a member of the 50 States Marathon Club.

By Pamela A. Zinkosky
Correspondent

Completing a single marathon is no small feat. So, it's a pretty big deal that one Northville resident recently completed his 50th marathon.

Peter McCullough, MD, a cardiologist for St. John Providence Health System in Novi, completed marathon number 50 last June in Kona, Hawaii — the end of a eight-year quest that involved running one marathon in each state. On Feb. 22 in Fort Worth, Texas, the 50 States Marathon Club presented him with an award for his accomplishment.

"An interesting factoid is that there are more people who have summited Mount Everest than have run marathons in all 50 states," said McCullough, who is the 18th of 20 Michigan residents to complete marathons in all 50 states.

Since 1983, 774 50 States members have claimed to run their 50 marathons — some are yet to be certified by the Houston-based organization. The group has more than 3,000 members around the country who've either completed or are working toward completing marathons in each state. There

are 81 Michigan members.

McCullough, 50, said he started running as an adult and ran the Detroit Marathon in 2004. While there, he saw some 50 States members with T-shirts listing the states where they'd completed marathons.

"I thought after I recovered that this might be something I would like to try," he said.

He explained that running 26.2 miles is a big enough event that people who do it multiple times want to have a different experience each time, which is easily accomplished by running in different parts of the country.

"I came to the mental realization that I really didn't want to run the same marathon twice," McCullough said.

It took 12 years of running just about every day — even during Michigan winters — for McCullough to reach his goal.

"The hardest step is the first step out the door," said McCullough, who said he typically runs in the mornings because it makes him feel invigorated for the rest of the day.

McCullough ran six to 15 marathons per year, which means the biggest break he took between running events was two months.

"It's actually easier to do the

marathons with some type of frequency," McCullough said.

"It's easier just to stay fit at a certain level and not let all that training down between runs."

A typical week for McCullough throughout his marathon-running stint involved running five to six miles almost every day with one long run that could be anywhere from 10 to 20 miles. Marathon runners usually don't run the whole 26.2 miles during their training, he explained.

"Under race conditions, your body can stretch up to that 26.2 miles," he said.

McCullough isn't the fastest runner — his fastest marathon time was about 3 hours and 40 minutes — but he always finished his races and ran the entire time, he said.

"I've always likened running to taking a test in school, where it takes preparation," McCullough explained. "The race makes the commitment whole. No one wants to show up unprepared. A DNF or 'did not finish' is the worst thing to see in race results."

The road for McCullough has not always been easy. He's sustained a torn meniscus in his knee, plantar fasciitis and other injuries, but he's always gone

back to running after healing up.

In addition to enjoying the travel and variety of running courses, McCullough said he's enjoyed the camaraderie racing has provided. "I like to see other racers. There's a lot of interesting people out there."

For example, he's met Dean Karnazes, who ran 50 marathons in 50 days; Larry Macon, who holds the Guinness World Record for running 157 marathons in one year; and many others who run despite obstacles like limb amputation.

"It was quite a journey," McCullough said.

While McCullough plans to continue running, he said his Kona, Hawaii run, which completed his 50-state goal, was his last marathon. The cardiologist has seen research that marathons, which force the body to pump blood at a high rate for several hours, can cause injuries to the heart.

"The heart at rest pumps three to five liters per minute," McCullough said. "While running, it pumps 25 to 30 liters per minute."

Running a marathon forces the heart to work too hard for too long, he said, and it can cause scar tissue that may later

lead to a heart attack.

For now, McCullough said he'll enjoy running shorter races with his wife Maha, who's completed five marathons; his 16-year-old son Sean, an accomplished half-marathoner; and his 17-year-old daughter Haley, who ran the 5K race along with Maha in Kona.

McCullough's 50 state award will be displayed proudly in the family's Northville home, he said.

"We have a wall of honor in our house with 300 to 500 medals on it. The rule for the wall is everything counts."

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

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

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

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Olga Hladunowicz, M.D.

Peter Hallbach, M.D.

Spring Fling Craft Show
The Spring Fling Craft Show, hosted by Hand-crafter's Unlimited, will take place from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. on March 22 and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on March 23 at the Northville Community Senior Center, 303 W. Main Street.
The show will feature more than 75 hand-select-

ed, juried artists and fine crafts people from the Midwest showcasing their one-of-a-kind pieces of work — everything from glass design, gourmet foods, jewelry, original fashions, home décor, authors and much more.
Admission is \$3 for adults; children 12 and under are free. For more information, contact

Handcrafter's Unlimited at (734) 459-0050 or visit www.hcshows.com/index.php/northville-market/spring-fling.
Northville Woman's Club
The Northville Woman's Club will meet at 12:30 p.m., March 15 at First Presbyterian Church, 200

E. Main, in Northville. It will be the group's annual meeting and a potluck luncheon will take place. Please bring a photo of your mother and your own table setting. The event will also be a guest day.
For more information, contact Virginia Martin at (248) 921-6892.

Emergency food
The next distribution of emergency food by Plymouth Community United Way is scheduled for Thursday, March 21.
The Emergency Food Assistance Program provides low-income Plymouth and Northville residents with canned and non-perishable items. All recipients must be pre-registered. This is a supplemental food program that may be used in addition to other assistance programs. Bridge Card holders automatically qualify, but need to pre-register. Recipients not currently on governmental assistance (food stamps, ADC and general) must provide documentation including proof of income and residency before receiving food on distribution days.
Distributions continue the third Thursday of each month from 9:30-11 a.m. at St. Kenneth Catholic Church in Plymouth.
For information and to register, call Samantha Bray at (734) 453-6879, ext. 6, or send an e-mail to samantha.bray@pcuw.org.

Folk music
The BaseLine Folk Society is hosting a St. Patrick's Day event at 7 p.m., Saturday, March 16 at the JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth. The featured performer will be Hammer Harmony, featuring hammer dulcimer, the glockenspiel, penny whistle and other assorted instruments. BaseLine host John Dele-Monache will also perform solo.
Tickets are \$5 at the door. For more information, visit the group's Facebook page, or you

can send an e-mail to President Scott Ludwig at BFSpresident@aol.com.
Mayflower descendant
Northville's Kerry Cushman Kelly has gained membership in the Society of Mayflower Descendants, a group formed by the lineage descendants of the pilgrims that came to the New World aboard the Mayflower.
Kelly completed the necessary documentation linking her heritage to Mayflower passenger John Howland, who arrived near Plymouth, Mass. in November 1620. Howland was one of the adult male passengers that signed the Mayflower Compact on Nov. 11, 1620.
If anyone has information and/or documentation about someone that may be directly descended from a passenger on the Mayflower voyage of 1620 that landed at Plymouth, that person may be eligible to join the Society. For more information, contact Bonnie Vokits at bjvokits@hotmail.com, or visit www.michmayflower.org or www.TheMayflowerSociety.com.

Democrats to meet
The West Oakland Democratic Club will meet at 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 19 at Novi United Methodist Church, 41671 West Ten Mile in Novi. Snacks and socializing will begin at 6 p.m.
Guest speaker Rita Chapman, a fracking specialist from the Sierra Club of Michigan, will speak on why “fracking” (hydraulic fracturing of rock to release natural gas) is dangerous. The Democratic Club will also elect new officers. The meeting is free and open to the public. Snacks are free, and there will be pizza for sale.

First Stop fundraiser
The Zonta Club of Farmington/Novi Area will host its 19th annual fundraiser for First Step, Steppin' Out in Style, from 6:30-9:30 p.m., Sunday, March 24 at Carson's Laurel Park Place (formerly Parisian) in Livonia. The event will include after-hours, discounted shopping, a strolling supper, fashion and entertainment to benefit First Step, Western and Downriver Wayne County Project on Domestic and Sexual Violence.
Tickets can be pre-ordered for \$20 by calling (248) 496-9841 or visiting www.zontafarmington-novi.org. Tickets will be sold for \$25 at the door. Sponsorships are available.
For more information, visit www.zontafarmington-novi.org.
NHS alumni cruise
A group of Northville High School alumni are organizing an eight-night “exotic Caribbean cruise” open to all NHS alumni from April 5-13. All alumni, along with friends and family, are welcome. The ship, Carnival Freedom, will depart from the Port of Ft. Lauderdale and head to a number of Caribbean stops, including San Juan, Puerto Rico and St. Maarten.
For more information, contact Elaine at (480) 788-4574.

Send in photos
Take a copy of your *Northville Record* along on your vacation and we'll publish a photo of you and your travel companions in the paper with the headline: Wish You Were Here. Just be sure to include the newspaper in your photo. Send your photo in a jpg format to Editor Kurt Kuban at kkuban@hometownlife.com.
Identify everyone in the photo (first and last names) and tell us where they live. Tell us when the photo was taken and where. Tell us what was special about your trip, if you wish. Include a daytime phone number so we can contact you if necessary. Then look for your photo in the newspaper and on our Facebook site.

Passages

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

ALEKSANDER, THERESA
Age 79, passed away, March 7, 2013. She was born on June 6, 1933 in Detroit, daughter of the late Vincent and Sophie Ribikowski. She is survived by her loving children: Diane (James) Urbanik, Gary Aleksander and Marie (Michael) Wylie. She is also survived by three grandchildren: Justin, Shelby and Carl and her siblings: Stella, Genevieve, Virginia, MaryAnn and Joseph. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Frank. Visitation was held on Sunday, March 10 at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. A Liturgy of the Word funeral service was held on Monday at 10:30 a.m. at the funeral home.
Online guestbook at www.phillipsfuneral.com



CELETTE, EDITH E.
August 11, 1933 to March 2, 2013, at her home after a lengthy illness. Survived by a brother, Edwin Celette, two nieces and their families, and many special friends. Eadie was a long-time area resident and prominent businesswoman. She held dual masters degrees in social work and psychology and was Ph.D. prepared. After many years in the Southfield School District she left the education field and entered the real estate field. She was most passionate about real estate, eventually owning Prudential Country Homes. A Memorial celebrating Eadie's life will be held on March 23rd at 12:00pm at her home. For information, please contact Elton Black & Son Funeral Home, (248) 889-1500







ALLEN, ROBERT HAROLD
Bob Allen, 76, passed away on Thursday, March 7, 2013 at Memorial HealthCare. He was born March 29, 1936 to Viola (Ayliffe) and Harold Kenneth Allen. Bob owned H.K. Allen Paper Co. in Owosso and went to work on his last day. He was active in the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous for more than 35 years, sharing his experience, strength and hope with many. He was an avid hunter and fisherman and enjoyed tournament fishing with his friend Bob Guenthardt aboard "The Renegade." Bob was a member of St. Johns United Church of Christ and served on the church council. He loved to work out at the Shiawassee Area YMCA and was a member of the Y Board and chairman of the Camp Committee for more than 20 years. Bob was on dialysis for five years using it as an opportunity to inform and encourage others to try home dialysis. Survivors include his wife of 21 years, Paula K. Alexander; daughter Leisa (Ray) Tobey and their three sons Matthew, Seth and Jacob; daughter Tracy Mahaney of Ft. Lauderdale and her daughter Jessica and fiancé Matt; son Robert Koss Allen of Milford, his wife Lisa Kelley and their children Koss and Ayliffe; brother in law Les Bour and "heart children" Willie Church and Heidi Church Mahler of northern Michigan. His sister Theresa (Tess) Bour and his parents preceded him in death. He leaves a debt of gratitude to his business partner Dan Butcher and his office manager and dialysis assistant Natalie Mesh. A celebration of Bob's life will be held on Saturday, March 16 at noon at St. John's United Church of Christ, 429 N. Washington St. in Owosso with Rev. Peg Faulmann and Rev. Jim Dyke officiating. There will be a dinner following where friends can share memories. Instead of flowers, please remember Bob with donations to the Shiawassee Area YMCA.

D'ALESSANDRO, EUGENE
July 19, 1931-February 23, 2013
obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

DINSER, MARGARET
Nov. 15, 1926-Feb. 19, 2013
obriensullivanfuneralhome.com



HECKEMEYER, PHYLLIS JEAN
Of Northville died on Tuesday, March 5, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan of complications of metastatic breast cancer. She survived a previous battle with breast cancer in 1995-6. Phyllis was born on April 7, 1948 in Pigeon, Michigan to Hannah Jane Yackle and the late Orville Oswald Yackle. Phyllis was a graduate of Michigan State University with a B.A. degree in accounting. She also earned a Master's in Business Administration in 1982 from the University of Michigan. She received her certificate in public accounting in 1973 in the State of Michigan. She practiced as a certified public accountant in Northville and Livonia. Phyllis married her husband, Anthony J. Heckemeyer of Northville, who survives her, on June 17, 1972. Phyllis and Anthony have three daughters, Katrina (Tim) Smith, Amity (Nathan) Binkert and Sarah (Leonard) Bixby. Together the daughters blessed their with nine grandchildren; Jackson, Hugh-ston, and Hannah Smith; Alexander, Bennett, and Liliana Binkert; and Halle, George, and Phillip Bixby, who gave Phyllis great entertainment and joy. She is also survived by her sister Patricia (Robert) Kraay; her brother Douglas (Dianne) Yackle; many loving nieces, nephews, and friends. Phyllis and her husband, Anthony, have made Northville their home since 1976. Phyllis was very active in the Northville community. She held several offices with the Northville Lions Club. She was a life member of the Northville Mothers Club and a member of the Women's Club of Northville. Phyllis was an avid music lover who was also an accomplished pianist and organist. She sang with the Schoolcraft Community Singers. Phyllis was a strong woman of faith and an active member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia where in keeping with to her musical spirit, she played bells in the church's bell quartet. She was also part of a local knitting group and knit many beautiful creations to be enjoyed for years to come. A funeral service was held Saturday, March 9, 2013 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Livonia. She was laid to rest at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. Per her request, memorials should be made to Foundation Fighting Blindness, www.blindness.org in her name. Her generosity to the fight against blindness will continue as an enduring legacy. Even in death she continues to support the fight through her donation to the Michigan Eye Bank. She will be sorely missed. Arrangements entrusted to Casterline Funeral Home.



MILLER, MARIE
Aug. 27, 1929-Feb. 28, 2013
obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

O'CONNELL, FRANCIS
Feb. 9, 1929-Feb. 26, 2013
obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

SCHANZ, MARGARET
August 21, 1923-Feb. 22, 2013
obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

SCROGGINS, FREDERICK E.
Age 65, 3/5/13. Service March 23 1p.m. First Baptist Church of South Lyon. phillipsfuneral.com


TWYDELL, KENNITH
Age 72, died March 8, 2013. A memorial gathering Thursday, March 14, 11am-1pm military honors 1:00pm at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon.

VANDERHAEGHEN, CECILE D.
Age 74, of Novi, passed away March 7, 2013. Condolences at www.casterlinefuneralhome.com


BELANGER, ANNE MARIE
May 21, 1977-February 21, 2013
obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

ERICKSON, AGATHA
A former long time resident of Milford, died on March 11, 2013, at the age of 92. She was preceded in death by her husband, Elmer D. Erickson in 1990, and a daughter, Helen Marie Erickson. She is survived by daughters, Virginia (Gerald) Mantela, Kathleen (Barry) Smothers, Janice (Norbert) Balber; sons, John Erickson and Bruce (Mac) Erickson; seventeen grandchildren; seven great grandchildren and a sister, Lucille (the late Francis) Bryneart. A Funeral Mass will be held at St. Mary Catholic Church, 1955 E. Commerce Road, Milford, on Friday, March 15, at 11AM. Burial will follow at Milford Memorial Cemetery. Friends may visit at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty St., Milford, on Thursday, March 14, 4-8PM with a Rosary at 7PM. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com


KLECAN, ROBERT B.
Age 81, passed away March 5, 2013. Memorial service was held March 9, at 2 p.m. PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME. Online guestbook phillipsfuneral.com.



MILLARD, FRED JR.
March 6, 2013; age 88 of Northville. Beloved husband of Shirley for 59 years. Loving father of Steven (Suzette), Shelley (Steven) Misenheimer, Scott (Lisa), and the late Stanley (Irene), and infant daughter. Proud grandpa of Christina, Michelle, Chaz, Heather, Bobby, Amber, Tommy, Jessica, Jeffrey, Sarah, and Rachel; and great-grandpa of Athena, Lucy, and Mason. Dear brother of Margaret "Peg" Patterson, and the late Susan Forester. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Fred proudly served his country as a member of the 1st Infantry Division, the "Big Red One". He landed with the first wave on Omaha Beach on D-day. He received many recognitions, including two Purple Hearts and the French Legion of Honor Medal. Funeral was held Monday at Vermeulen Funeral Home, Plymouth. Memorial contributions may be made to Beaumont Hospice.
To share memories, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com



ZISCHERK, TERRY H.
Age 60, passed away March 7, 2013. He was born on February 18, 1953 in Detroit, son of the late Howard & Shirley Zischerk. Terry was an avid outdoorsman. He could often be found snowmobiling, boating or spending time with family and friends at the family cabin in Leroy, Michigan. He will always be remembered as a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend. He is survived by his beloved wife of 40 years, Corinne, his loving children: Scott & Diane Zischerk, Pamela & David McRoberts, his adoring grandchildren: Andrew, Emma, Tyler, Evan, Dylan and Owen. He is also survived by his brother, Gary (Anita) and his sisters: Merry (Cougar) Goddard and Shari (Mike) Dickey. He is also survived by his father-in-law, Frank Gomiak, his brother-in-law, Gary Gomiak, and his sister-in-law Sharon (Eddie) Smith. Visitation was held on Monday, March 11. A Liturgy of the Word funeral service was held on Tuesday, March 12 at 10:00am at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Online guestbook at www.phillipsfuneral.com





JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Olivia Shermain, 11, left, and Emma Manross, 10, learn about building towers with triangle shaped strengths.



Hair-raising fun at Winchester science night
Peter Morris, 10, gets a hair-raising fun time as he checks out a static electricity-creating Van De Graff device during a Winchester Elementary School Family Science Night on March 7. Cranbrook Science was on hand and brought lots of fun things for kids and parents to check out.

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. (SS at 9:30 for all ages) Ministry for Special Needs Adults contact judy@emmanuel-livonia.org

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 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**GET LISTED!**

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

NAZARENE

Location: 21260 Haggerty Road, north of 8 Mile Road

Contact: (248) 348-7600 or 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 METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

Location: 777 West 8 Mile Road, Northville

Contact: (248) 349-1144 or 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 Meadowbrook Road, Novi

Contact: (248) 349-0565

Sundays: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study; 10 a.m. Worship

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Location: 770 Thayer, Northville

Contact: (248) 349-2621 or olvnorthville.org

Saturday Worship: 5 p.m.

Sunday Worship: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

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OUR VIEWS

Campaign finance Proposals offer accountability

“Transparency in government” has become a catch phrase used by almost everyone elected to office these days. Too bad it isn’t used more during political campaigns by those seeking elected office and by those working on ballot issues.

It’s too bad, because voters cast ballots and often don’t know who is supporting those candidates and issues, and by how much.

“Why does it matter? We should have a right to know who supports the candidates, and what positions they have that are supported by the contributors,” said Rich Robinson, executive director of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network, a nonpartisan, nonprofit group. Robinson spoke recently before members of the League of Women Voters in Livonia, specifically examining last year’s Michigan Supreme Court race.

So how bad is it? Some overt political advertising is not considered such, because it addresses issues and does not necessarily try to get a candidate elected, according to Robinson. Nevertheless, the practice can have a big impact — at an enormous cost.

In fact, the MCFN, which has been tracking campaign expenditures, estimates that about \$50 million in advertising went unreported as required in the Department of State’s campaign finance reporting system. That money did not spontaneously seep from some well to ground level, only to be siphoned off to fuel someone’s campaign. On the contrary, it came from people — or corporations and special interest groups — who could very well have a vested interest in that campaign. That means, in some cases, it was likely more of an investment than a donation — an investment with an expected favorable return in the form of a critical vote.

What is a voter to do?

Follow the money. Unfortunately, that is easy to say but pretty tough to do. Some campaigners file financial reports after state deadlines, making it tough to know where their support is coming from.

“The (campaign committee) treasurer is critical to the election process,” said Oakland County Commissioner Kathy Crawford, R- Novi. She said the treasurer is responsible “not only to meet reporting requirements, but also to inform candidates of all donations so that they may decide to accept or not.”

The situation is not all doom and gloom. Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson, a Republican who had her roots in northern Oakland County as a state representative, has chosen this “Sunshine Week” to cast light on the campaign finance reporting process with a series of proposals.

Sunshine Week promotes the state’s Freedom of Information Act and openness in government, and Johnson has called the week “a great disinfectant.” Those who have ever hung laundry outdoors understand the reference.

At first glance, Johnson’s proposals are promising, and they merit quick attention as the election cycle is already beginning with fundraising efforts in some communities, such as in Royal Oak where the Chamber of Commerce is hosting an event for the incumbent mayor.

Her proposals call for expansion of electronic reporting, tracking of campaign committee finances in non-election years, “real time” reporting of donations of \$1,000 or more and additional finance reporting for ballot question committees.

State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, said that Wayne County already requires reporting by local candidates, but “that information is often difficult to access.” Heise said he likes some of what Johnson has proposed.

Dave Staudt, a Novi city councilman who says he is treasurer for several campaign committees, points out that Oakland County has had online reporting for years. A Republican, he adds that he supports Johnson’s measures.

Indeed, Johnson has carried forward to the state level things she had implemented as Oakland County clerk.

With that, Johnson zeroes in on the key to the whole issue: Voters must demand transparency not for its own sake, but for the accountability it provides.

“Elections are one of the most important parts of our American society,” said Novi Mayor Bob Gatt. “People have the right to know who is donating money to the candidates running for office and that information should be out in the public view for everyone to see.”

COMMUNITY VOICE

Do you plan on celebrating St. Patrick’s Day?

We asked this question at various locations around downtown Northville.



“Being Irish, I will a little.”

Mary Starring

Northville



“I really don’t celebrate St. Patrick’s Day. I guess, not since I became a responsible adult.”

Bob Buckhave

Northville



“The Irish in me will recognize it, but celebrate it, probably not.”

Alan Crouse

Northville Township



“Yeah, for sure. I will be in downtown Detroit celebrating.”

Ashley Morin

Northville

LETTERS

Teachers aren’t the enemies?

I’m writing in response to the editorial “MEAP follies” printed in Feb. 28 edition of the *Record*.

I’m an elementary teacher in the Plymouth-Canton district. I’ve always loved everything about my job, until recent years. If I could just close my classroom door and keep doing what we do, things would be back to “normal.” But, we all know that’s not possible.

I think I can say (without much argument from my fellow teachers) that we’re tired. We’re tired of being trashed in the media, we’re tired of Snyder constantly putting us down, we’re tired of pay freezes/reductions and health cuts. When did we become the enemy? Thank you for writing “MEAP follies” and shedding some positive light on the teacher’s side of the story. We are just trying to do what we love — educate the children in our classroom to the best of our abilities given

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. Letters should be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats.

Web: www.hometownlife.com

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

Fax: (248) 437-3386

E-mail: kkuban@hometownlife.com

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

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

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

the tools and resources that we have. We should all be working together to educate the children of Michigan, not

compete for students to come to our district / school. Why not embrace charter schools and public schools for what they each offer? We’d be united and much stronger for it.

I wanted to express my gratitude.

Thank you again for your support and keep it coming.

Amy Lyczak

Novi

Help Poole’s expand

I hope that the City of Northville allows Poole’s Tavern to expand, by leasing or selling them the city-owned land. Poole’s Tavern is bringing business into the downtown area. I have never seen anyone just sitting on that “pleasant little corner” or using it in any way.

I hope that the city uses good judgement and allows this very viable business to expand and in doing so, bring more business into our downtown area, which is much needed. We already have plenty of parks to sit in.

Carol Maynard

Northville

GUEST COLUMN

Join the effort to keep government open, accountable, transparent

By Jane Briggs-Bunting

Guest Columnist

Welcome to Sunshine Week, and no, I am not talking about the fickle weather in the state. I am talking about the public’s right and responsibility to keep an eye on what our government at the local, state and federal level are up to — from our legislators to our bureaucrats, school boards, state universities, teachers, mayors, managers, department heads, council members, cops and others.



Jane Briggs-Bunting

Sunshine Week, a national initiative to encourage discussion on the importance of open government and freedom of information, is celebrated annually in mid-March to coincide with James Madison’s March 16 birthday.

Sunshine Week is also the official launch of the Michigan Coalition for Open Government (MiCOG). Michigan was one of just two states nationally (the other is Alaska) without an open government group.

Purpose

MiCOG’s purpose is three-fold:

- to promote and protect transparency and accountability in state and local governments;

- to recommend significant freedom of information, open meetings and public access legal cases to the National Freedom of Information Coalition (NFOIC) for financial support,

- and to create educational programs and information.

And MiCOG invites you to join its efforts.

Why? Citizens and journalists are having greater difficulty obtaining public documents from government agencies. They are deterred by long delays in responses and high fees. Most individuals and smaller news organizations do not have the resources to mount legal challenges in FOIA and OMA cases.

But MiCOG can help with that. MiCOG makes citizens and news media in our state eligible to access some of the \$2M the Knight Foundation gave to NFOIC to fund worthwhile open access litigation. If the plaintiff prevails and recovers attorney fees and court costs (as required under Michigan’s FOI and OMA), that money goes back to the national group for future lawsuits around the nation. The NFOIC relies on state open government groups to recommend cases that could tap into the Knight funds. The national committee decides whether to back a case financially. One key role of MiCOG’s board is to make certain that only cases with good sets of facts go to court to make good law.

Support needed

This type of support is necessary now more than ever. A 2010 survey by the NFOIC and the Knight Foundation concluded that the economic crisis plus declining revenues for print and broadcast media resulted in a sharp decline in FOI requests and litigation nationwide. In the past five years, the number of open government lawsuits filed by the news media in 23 states fell “dramatically.” Another eight states also reported declines. Near-

ly 80 percent of state FOI coalitions reported drops. Ominously, 85 percent said they expected FOI litigation to drop in the next three years.

Neither Michigan nor Alaska participated since both lacked open government groups, a deficiency MiCOG corrects.

Effective use of the FOIA is critical to keep tabs on public officials around the state.

The situation is critical for Michigan where ethics and anti-corruption laws barely exist. In 2012 Michigan earned a failing grade, ranking 44th of 50 states (<http://www.stateintegrity.org/michigan>) in a State Integrity Investigation (<http://www.stateintegrity.org/>) jointly done by the Center for Public Integrity, Global Integrity and Public Radio International. Michigan had a dismal showing for key transparency checkpoints: public access to information (D), ethics enforcement agencies (F); judicial, executive and legislative accountability (all F) and political financing/lobbying disclosure (both F).

Local governments from schools and universities to municipalities and police are usually just as nonresponsive, as well.

If you want to help, please visit the MiCOG website at <http://www.miopengov.org> and join the effort to keep the governments of the people, by the people and for the people transparent and accountable to all of us.

Jane Briggs-Bunting is president of the Michigan Coalition for Open Government (MiCOG). She is an author and media attorney and former director of the Michigan State University School of Journalism.

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OPINION

Kwame saga cast a negative shadow over entire region

Who didn't have a reaction to the breaking news Monday morning that former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick had finally been found guilty?

The fact that a jury had found Kilpatrick guilty of two dozen crimes, including racketeering, extortion, conspiracy and bribery, sending the once promising politician to prison for perhaps two decades, made national news, but it virtually captivated our region.



Kurt Kuban

And there's good reason. The Kilpatrick saga has been an albatross around this region's neck since the text message scandal broke seemingly forever ago. As if Detroit's image wasn't bad enough without Kilpatrick's shenanigans reinforcing every negative stereotype about the city.

The Detroit media was all over the story, to the point of overkill, and it lit up the social media landscape. Opinions were all over the board, but the general sentiment was that it was a good day for Detroit, the region and the state as a whole. Perhaps Detroit Mayor Dave Bing summed up what most around the state were thinking when he said it was time to "finally put this negative chapter in Detroit's history behind us."

There is no doubt that Kilpatrick's conviction and incarceration had to happen for Detroit to move on from its latest sad chapter. The sheer brevity of the corruption going on under Kilpatrick was jaw dropping.

The whole Kilpatrick saga has not only cast a negative shadow over the city of Detroit, but also the region, especially here in Wayne County. Northville is immune to a lot of what goes on in Detroit, but, like it or not, we have many, many ties to the city well beyond being located in the same county. For example, we still get water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, one of the departments caught up in the corruption case. We share a county government, and all that entails. And we are lumped together by people who

There is no doubt that Kilpatrick's conviction and incarceration had to happen for Detroit to move on from its latest sad chapter. The sheer brevity of the corruption going on under Kilpatrick was jaw dropping.

live outside of our region. The fact is, there are just so many reasons we need Detroit to be successful.

And Detroit still has plenty of issues to confront, including financial insolvency and the imminent appointment of an emergency manager by the governor. Yet, despite all that (and much more), there are some positive things happening in the city, especially downtown where there is a minor renaissance going on despite what is happening in City Hall.

So, yes, there is relief that a sad chapter has come to an end. But, instead of simply putting the chapter behind us, it's important to never forget about it. As U.S. Attorney Barbara McQuade, who took the lead on prosecuting the Kilpatrick regime and ultimately got convictions of two dozen people tied to the former mayor, reminded people on Monday, corruption isn't inherent to Detroit. "It was not the power of City Hall that corrupted Kwame Kilpatrick. Kwame Kilpatrick corrupted City Hall," she said. "This case should stand for the notion that you should seek public office to make a difference, not to make money."

Whether we like it or not, we are tied at the hip with Detroit. There is nothing we can do about it, except help the city rebound any way we can, and hope the next generation of Detroit politicians does not corrupt City Hall the way Kilpatrick did.

Kurt Kuban is editor of the Northville Record. He welcomes your feedback at kkuban@hometownlife.com.

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Thornton Creek evacuated after smoke spotted

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Smoke and fumes from a faulty restroom fan caused Thornton Creek Elementary School to have after-school program students evacuate from the building last Thursday afternoon.

According to Mike Zopf, Northville Public School's assistant superintendent for Finance/Operations, electrical wires in an exhaust fan motor burned and created the smoke and fumes. It was located in a girls restroom across from Principal Alison Epler's office.

This happened following the regular dismissal. However, there were 60 students from Kids' Club, Early Childhood and other after-school activities who were inside when it occurred.

"Students were safely escorted out of the building as the Novi Fire Department personnel inspected the area," said Zopf. "And fire officials recommended that students remain outside for

approximately 45 minutes to allow the air-handlers and fans to dissipate the fumes."

The district requested that buses be sent to Thornton Creek to assist in comfortably sheltering students.

According to Jeff Johnson, Novi's director of Emergency Medical Services and Fire Operations, the Novi Fire and Police departments responded to a 911 call received by the Novi Communication Center just after 4 p.m. Fire and police arrived to find the school was evacuated.

"Upon entering the building the fire crews detected an odor and light smoke near the front entrance. The fire crew found an overheated exhaust fan," Johnson said. "School maintenance and fire crews disconnected the electricity and removed the burned motor and insulation. Exhaust fans in the building were used to evacuate the smoke."

Zopf said parents were then notified to pick up students early from the after-school programs. An 'all-clear' was given by the incident commander from Novi at 6 p.m. Aside from the exhaust fan and motor, no facility damage was incurred due to this incident.

Fire officials later gave clearance for the adults to retrieve items left in the building. School staff was on hand until 6 p.m. to assist with this process.

School was able to be held on Friday.

"The district is responding to this event by changing all similar exhaust motors at Thornton Creek during the upcoming Easter break," said Zopf. "Exhaust fans at other buildings will also be evaluated for needed replacement, as well."

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"The coordination between all services involved — police, fire, EMS and the school staff -- was fantastic," said Tim Sargent, who lives across from the school's soccer fields and took this picture. "Dealing with the elements, and the challenge of where to put that many youngsters while the investigation went on was handled wonderfully."

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1) Real Estate One in South Lyon is well-recognized as an historic landmark in the community. 2) Gayle Henderson, left, and Lisa Prochazka, right, are SOLD on Real Estate One's strong presence in Michigan as the state's #1 broker and its family ownership. - Photo by Sally Rummel

marketplace

REAL ESTATE ONE IN SOUTH LYON LEADS NEW MARKET TRENDS

Now it's more important than ever to have a qualified agent, whether you're buying or selling

By Sally Rummel, Contributing Writer

If you've been waiting to jump into the real estate market until the time was "just right," your time has come. Buyers are back, home values are up and interest rates are still at low, low rates.

That's the good news from Lisa Prochazka and Gayle Henderson, both Realtors for Real Estate One's South Lyon office—which also covers Milford, New Hudson, Wixom, Novi, Northville, Brighton and surrounding areas. "We're a local agency with numerous satellite offices, giving us the edge in market analysis and a local presence in these communities," said Lisa and Gayle.

They are pleased to be a part of the local success of Real Estate One—the #1 broker in Michigan and a Michigan-based, family-owned company. "We are so fortunate to be a part of this financially strong and stable company, which had another record year in 2012," they added. "Real Estate One has emerged from the recession stronger and more capable than ever before."

Homeowners who may be interested in selling in the next three to five years may want to take a good, close look at giving the market a try in 2013. They'll find that their home values have gone up in some areas as much as 10 to 20 percent in the last year. "There are lots of buyers out there right now, and the future of low interest rates past 2013 will be a little more uncertain," said Gayle.

They both add that people are feeling more confident in their employment and the economy in general. "There is also pent-up interest now that the real estate

market has stabilized," added Lisa.

However, sellers still need to price their homes at a fair market value and offer them in pristine condition, to get the best money for the transaction. "Today's buyers are looking for homes in move-in condition with low maintenance features," said Gayle. "Most buyers are ready and willing to pay for that."

Because of buyer demand and smaller inventories this year, it's more important than ever that homeowners on both sides of the real estate transaction select a knowledgeable, experienced agent. "In a changing market like we're experiencing today, this is more important than ever," said Gayle. Together, she and Lisa have more than 25 years of experience to bring to the closing table. They also handle their own transactions, from start to finish.

For people interested in buying a home in 2013, they will need to be both patient and aggressive in their search for just the right property. Patience will come into play as competition for homes is greater now than in any recent year. They'll have to move quickly with a strong offer when they find the perfect or near-perfect home. They may even have to overbid, with strong pre-approval from a reputable lender.

"It's a completely different market than it was a few years ago," said Gayle.

"That's why it pays to have an experienced agent at your side."

Today's buyers may also learn that "cash is king" when it comes to making an offer that will win over multiple offers on a desired property. They will also need a willingness to make up the difference between the contract price and the appraisal. "Appraisals haven't been as challenging lately as in past years," said Lisa. "However, buyers should be prepared to bring additional funds to the closing, should there be an appraisal issue."

Real Estate One in South Lyon is easy to find. "Formerly a Catholic church, this historic building at 346 N. Lafayette is a landmark in town," said Gayle. "Real Estate One has been located here for over a decade."

Whether you want to buy or sell, call Gayle or Lisa at Real Estate One, 248-437-3800.

3

Local community property sales and values include:

LYON TWP

2012 home sales totaled 261 properties, up 37% from 2011. Median home value was \$235,795, up 2.6% from 2011

MILFORD TWP / VILLAGE

2012 sales totaled 206 homes, up 4.6% from 2011. Median value was \$212,000 up 47% from 2011

NOVI / NOVI TWP

2012 sales totaled 781 homes, up 5.8% from 2011. Median value was \$200,000, up 21% from 2011

SOUTH LYON

2012 sales totaled 184 homes, down 8% from 2011. Median value was \$127,950, up 20% from 2011

WIXOM

2012 sales totaled 131 homes, down 4.4% from 2011. Median value was \$160,000, up 24% from 2011

OAKLAND COUNTY

2012 sales included 18,654 total properties, up 4.9% from 2011. Median value was \$140,000, up 24% from 2011

3)Western Oakland County is generally above—average in the number of home sales and median home sale prices between 2012 and 2011, according to data gathered by Real Estate One.

"We're a local agency with numerous satellite offices, giving us the edge in market analysis and knowledge about all these unique markets."

Lisa Prochazka and Gayle Henderson, Real Estate One in South Lyon

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CC cagers bow out to Plymouth

Shamrocks fall to Wildcats' slow-paced attack

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

The Plymouth Wildcats didn't bring anything fancy to the hardwood last Wednesday when they took on the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks basketball team in District tournament action. In fact, they relied on a very fundamentally-sound approach to the game.

The results of Plymouth's slow-paced offense didn't favor the Shamrocks at all, and Catholic Central's season came to a close with a 59-36 loss at Northville High School. The victory was just Plymouth's second playoff win since the school opened.

Neither the Shamrocks nor the Wildcats looked to be the dominant force throughout the game, but late in the third the Plymouth squad made a run and led, 31-24, heading into the final stanza. It was then that the game began to unravel for Catholic Central as senior Garret Moores went up for an defensive board and could only watch as the ball bounced away from his hand and back into the Plymouth hoop to give the Wildcats a nine-point advantage.

From that point on, the game just slipped further away from the Shamrocks as the Wildcats more the doubled up their point total in comparison to Catholic Centrals, 28-12, in the fourth quarter.

The Shamrocks led midway through the second quarter, but a quick spurt of points from Plymouth left them trailing, 18-13, at the half.

Plymouth's Josh Priebe led all scorers with 17 points while Catholic Central's Austin Beyer and Noah Lee each scored seven and Moores chipped in six in the losing effort.

Catholic Central ended their season with a 5-16 record.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Shamrock Austin Beyer aims for the basket during CC's March 6 game against Plymouth High.

Northville girls compete in individual state finals



Chris Warwood
Northville senior Erin Warwood competes on beam at the state meet.

Gymnastics team peaks at the right time

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

The Northville Mustangs gymnastics team has a lot to be proud of this year, and a solid base for building the coming years of the program.

The squad, coached by Erin McWatt, took a trip to the state finals to cheer on three individuals as they competed against the state's absolute best high school gymnasts.

Taylor Dempsey, Lauren Rodriguez and Erin Warwood all fared well in the finals. "They peaked at the right time and all turned in excellent performances on the events they competed," said McWatt.

Dempsey competed in the All-Around while Rodriguez was in the vault and Warwood competed on the beam.

On the vault, Rodriguez finished in 16th overall with a solid 9.025 performance in the event, while Dempsey captured 28th with an 8.6. Dempsey took 20th on the beam with an 8.675 while Warwood earned an 8.425 from the judges to finish tied for 27th place in the state.

On the bars, Dempsey finished with 8.775 points to finish tied for 20th place and took 27th with an 8.8 with her floor routine. In the All-Around, Dempsey finished the day with 34.85 points to finish in 23rd place.

McWatt said her senior captains, Dempsey and Warwood, did a great job of leading a very young gymnastics team through growing pains this year. The results of their leadership were undeniable, she said.

"Taylor and Erin had a tough job of leading a team this year that was made up mostly freshmen, several with some cheer experience but very little gymnastics exposure," she said. "We don't have any gymnasts on the team currently who will be seniors next year, so Erin's and Taylor's leadership was particularly important in preparing future upperclassmen."

Northville saw an improvement in their team total score in the amount of nearly 12 full points from the pre-season to the post-season. McWatt noted that it "is quite an accomplishment. We will continue to improve and build our team."

The Mustangs will graduate six seniors this year.

Mustang boys compete at swim finals

Squad strong in the preliminaries, stalls at finals

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

The Northville Mustangs boys swimming and diving team headed into the second day of the state swimming and diving finals looking as though they were poised to make a run against the best teams in Michigan.

And then they faltered.

The squad, coached by Rich Bennetts, just couldn't seem to reach their potential this season, and it showed again last week as they took 21st place in Division I with 26 points.

"We actually swam pretty well on Friday, but the disappointment on Saturday will overshadow anything

good that we did on Friday," said Bennetts. "It is unfortunate because with the way we swam Friday, it showed that the taper definitely worked — the boys swam their fastest at the state meet, which is what we want. For whatever reason, we were unable to continue it on Saturday."

"It was the same story at the conference meet. What that tells me is that there is nothing wrong with the practices or what we are doing in the pool in order to get the boys ready to swim fast. They did swim really well on Friday at both the state meet and the conference meet."

The Mustangs will be looking to address several issues next season, said Bennetts.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Mustang Andrew Westphal shares a high-five with Livonia Stevenson's Jackson O'Dowd, whom he bested in the 50 meter freestyle in a Jan. 31 meet.

First and foremost is the idea of being a team in a highly-individualized sport.

"The mental preparation and swimming for 'we' instead of 'me' is what needs to be worked on with the team for next season," he said. "Those are the two areas that need to be addressed: One, being focused so that we can swim faster in finals than we

Please see SWIMMING, B3

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McMahan darts past area's lady cagers

By Chrls Jackett
Correspondent

Leading Novi's girls basketball team to an 18-3 record, the fewest losses in program history and best among the All-Area schools, junior point guard Kerri McMahan's speed and instincts made her a threat even more damaging by her ability to find her teammates on the court. She averaged 10.2 points, 4.1 assists, 3.4 rebounds and 1.9 steals per game in her third-consecutive dominant season as a Wildcat starter, earning the Player of the Year honor in the process.

"Still the best player in the area," Novi coach Bill Kelp said. "Points were down a little, but assists were up. Missed four games because of ankle. True point guard who makes everyone better."

McMahan also earned KLAA All-Conference honors as she led the Wildcats to a 10-0 Central Division finish.

First team
Kendra Brenner
(Northville Sr. F)

A constant scoring option for the Mustangs, Northville senior forward Kendra Brenner averaged 13.3 points and 5.5 rebounds to finish fifth in scoring among the school's career leaders as a four-year letter winner. She shot 39.6 percent from the field this season, including 36.7 percent from beyond the three-point arch, which helped her earn KLAA All-Conference honors.

"Kendra is one of the best shooters we've had in our program," Northville coach Todd Gudith said. "Very consistent

ALL-AREA GIRLS BASKETBALL

Player of the Year
Kerri McMahan (Novi, Jr. PG)

First team
Kendra Brenner (Northville Sr. F)
Gabi Bird (South Lyon East So. F)
Jessica Mehr (South Lyon Jr. G)
Amanda Geiger (Novi Sr. G)
Dominique Zigo (Lakeland Jr. G)

Second team
Amanda Lock (Lakeland So. F)
Gabby Mencotti (Northville Jr. PG)
Jade Antolec (Novi Sr. F)
Elise Gustafson (Milford

So. C)
Taylor Pavlika (Novi Jr. G)

Honorable mention
Lakeland: Lena Tiedeman (So. G), Taylor Spierling (Sr. F), Rachel Lock (Sr. G), Kelly Merkle (Sr. G)

Milford: Paige Smith (Sr. G), Maddy Kurtz (Jr. G) Lindsay Smith (Sr.)

Northville: Brittany Berehulka (Sr. G), Heather Randall (Jr. F)

South Lyon: Breanna Bias (Jr. PG), Emily Heinrich (So. G), Sarah Stockford (So. F), Carrie Stevens (Sr. F)

South Lyon East: Solana Gillis (Sr.), Sydney Jones (Jr.)

and has long range capabilities. Can hit from anywhere. She stepped up as a senior to be a key part of our offense and lead us back to the district final. Career high of 26 points in a game is tied for second most in a game. Her defense improved, especially her rebounding, which was important as we were not as big as we've been in previous seasons."

Gabi Bird (South Lyon East So. F)

Averaging 14.2 points and 8.2 rebounds per game, South Lyon East sophomore forward has had a quick impact on the Cougars' girls basketball program. Bird also averaged 1.8 assists and 2.5 steals per game while shooting 37 percent from three-point land.

"Gabi has truly stepped up her game since last year," South Lyon East coach Rob Leadley said. "Her size and her ability to be effective in the post and on the perimeter make her a tough match-up for opponents. Her

versatility and team-first attitude have contributed greatly to our program's success over the past two seasons."

Jessica Mehr (South Lyon Jr. G)

As the Lions' Team Offensive MVP for the second-straight year, South Lyon junior guard Jessica Mehr averaged 14.4 points, 6.4 rebounds, 1.7 assists and 2.0 steals per game this season, which was first or second on the team in each category. Although a junior, she's already among the South Lyon record books with 39 three-pointers this season on 34 percent shooting, which was five hits shy of tying Tara Sutton's 1991 record of 44 three pointers made in a single season. Mehr also shot 79.2 percent from the free throw line, which is second among the Lions' single-season records, currently held by Julie Howell, who shot 80.4 percent in 1985.

"I also hope this free throw percentage will



JOHN HEIDER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi's junior point guard, Kerri McMahan, earned Player of the Year honors and led the Wildcats to an 18-3 record.

place her in the top 10 for the state," South Lyon coach Erica Hoffman said. "Jessica has been our go-to player all year and has developed into a well-rounded player who can finish inside or hit from deep. She is a difficult match-up for any opponent with her exceptional athleticism and strength. I look forward to watching her continue to develop as a team leader as a senior."

Amanda Geiger (Novi Sr. G)

One of the Wildcats' most consistent threats, Novi senior guard Amanda Geiger left her mark in her debut with the program by averaging 8.7 points, 2.0 assists, 2.2 rebounds and 1.6 steals. Geiger shot 52 percent inside the arch and 35 percent from beyond the arch, nailing 32 on the season en route to KLAA All-Conference honors.

"Led team in field goal percentage as a guard," Novi coach Bill Kelp said. "Above average in every aspect of the

game. One of the best all-around players I ever coached. Strength is the area that put her into the elite level. (She has a) 3.98 GPA (and her) basketball IQ off the chart."

Dominique Zigo (Lakeland Jr. G)

Leading the Eagles with an average of 12.0 points per game, White Lake Lakeland junior guard Dominique Zigo was a force throughout the season. She shot 43 percent from inside the arch and 21 percent outside it, but managed to set the school's single-game record for three pointers with six against Wayne Memorial. Zigo was a force during Districts, with 14 fourth quarter points in a semi-final for 24 total. She also shot 72.3 percent from the free throw line and picked up 2.4 rebounds per game.

"Gritty competitor who can do so many things offensively," Lakeland coach Mike Head said. "Has the capability to get to the basket anytime she wants, yet she is also one of the better shooters in the area."

Second team
Amanda Lock (Lakeland So. F)

An impact player for White Lake Lakeland, sophomore forward Amanda Lock shows a lot of promise for the future of the Eagles' program. She averaged 10.9 points and 12.6 rebounds per game on top of 1.7 assists, 2.7 steals, nearly one block per game and a 41.6 field-goal shooting percentage. She led the Eagles in rebounding, assists and steals, tying the school's single-game rebound record with 20 against North Farmington and falling 10 rebounds shy of the school's single-season

rebound record.

Gabby Mencotti (Northville Jr. PG)

Behind an average of 7.2 points, 5.2 rebounds, 3.2 assists, 2.7 steals and 1.2 blocks, Northville junior point guard Gabby Mencotti was one of the most balanced and consistent student-athletes in the league. She earned KLAA All-Conference honors in the process, causing trouble for opponents at all areas.

Jade Antolec (Novi Sr. F)

After suffered two torn ACLs in the past two years, Novi senior forward Jade Antolec returned to average 8 points, 6.2 rebounds and 2 steals per game, earning KLAA All-Conference honors in the process. Despite the knee troubles, she led the Wildcats in rebounding and caused havoc in the paint for opponents.

Elise Gustafson (Milford So. C)

Despite a tough season for her team, Milford sophomore center Elise Gustafson managed to average 10 points and 10 rebounds per game, including nine double-doubles on the season. A KLAA All-Conference honorable mention, the Mavericks have high hopes for Gustafson.

Taylor Pavlika (Novi Jr. G)

Although not the focus of opponents' defense, Novi junior guard Taylor Pavlika was often the glue in the Wildcats' lineup, setting up opportunities for her teammates. She averaged 7 points, 2.4 assists, 3.8 rebounds and 2.1 steals per game this season, hitting 26 three-pointers at a 35-percent rate. She led the team in steals and was a leader, earning All-Conference honorable mention.

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Runner-up



Madness Red 10U finished as runner-up in the Battle in the Bubble at Genesee Field House in Grand Blanc, Mich. on March 4. Playing in their first games since the fall, Madness lost a well-played, back-and-forth final to the Ohio Wizards Elite by a 3-2 score. The game featured great pitching, very few mistakes, timely hitting, and was a great start to the 2013 season.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Correction
In last week's sports section, the Northville Record incorrectly identified the goalie in the playoff game against Detroit Catholic Central. The starting goalie for the Northville Mustangs was Jake Pawloski.

Prep hockey tryouts
The Northville High School boys prep hockey team will be holding tryouts for the spring 2013 team at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26 and Thursday, March 28 at Suburban Ice Arena.
Each tryout will cost \$15. Prospective players must be current ninth and 10th grade Northville High School students or eighth graders planning on attending Northville High School in the fall.
Suburban Ice is located at 23996 Free-way Park Drive in Farmington Hills.

Girls softball registration
Northville Parks and Recreation Softball (NBSA) registration has started with an all-new format. Northville Softball Association has teamed up with the Livonia Softball Association to create an exciting new experience for softball players - one league with two divisions offering inter-league play (beginning at age 10.)
In addition, there are exciting changes that will be made for all age groups: new uniforms, improved fields, umpires for all age groups, machine pitch beginning at age 6, girls pitch beginning at age 10, and championship games.
Register now at www.nbsaonline.org.

Mustangs to host baseball camp
The Northville baseball program will be hosting its Sixth Annual Spring Training Baseball Camp March 16-17 in the Northville High School gym.
The camps will focus on hitting on Saturday, March 16 from 9 a.m. until noon and will focus on pitching and defense the following day in the same time slot.
Camps are open for boys and girls ages 7 to 14 and costs \$45 per session of registered by March 13 and \$50 per session if registered after March 13 and at the door. Cost includes a camp T-shirt.
Visit www.northvillemustangbaseball.com for more information and to print the camp brochure.

Coach needed
The Northville High School Athletic Department is in need of a Assistant Track & Field coach to coach shot put, discus and pole vault for this spring, 2013. Interested candidates please contact Bryan Masi, athletic director, at masibr@northville.k12.mi.us or (248) 344-8414.

SWIMMING

Continued from page B1

did in prelims; and two, making sure that we care enough about one another so that we do not want to let each other down. I will spend a lot of time trying to get this fixed, and the boys will get back to work in the off-season so that this never happens again.”

Northville has the talent to win, said Bennetts, who has several division and conference championships and top 10 finishes as the state finals as a head coach for the Mustangs. The problem isn't individual talent, however. “We have great individual kids here at Northville, both in the pool and in the classroom. We need to have a good team if we want to win,” he said. “Finding out the difference and correcting it will be the challenge.”

At the state finals, the Mustangs' top finish came from Andrew Westphal, who took eighth place in the 50 freestyle with a time of 21.86 to earn All-State status. He also captured 12th in the 100 free with a time of 47.47 seconds. In the 50 free, he swam a 21.66 in the preliminaries and a 47.67 in the 100 free.

Northville also captured a 12th place in the 200 freestyle relay with the team of Westphal, Sam Boyea, Scott Wang and Austin Hunt as they finished in 1:29.65 (1:28.83 preliminaries).

In the 100 breaststroke, Alan Ruan swam to 17th in 1:01.15 while Josh Liu was 33rd in 1:03.02 and Yash Bajaj was 37th in 1:03.67.

Hunt had a strong day, taking 26th in the 200 free in 1:47.59 and 27th in the grueling 500 free in 4:51.87. James Xue finished in 28th in the 200 individual medley, followed by Wang in 29th in 2:02.97 and Nick Hayes in 33rd with a 2:06.54.

Northville did have two disappointing results in the relays they were expected to turn in a strong performance in. In the 200 medley relay, the team of Hayes, Ruan, Wang and Boyea were disqualified in the preliminaries due to a false start. The 400 free relay team of Westphal, Boyea, Xue and Hunt took ninth in the preliminaries in 3:14.68, but was disqualified in the finals due to a false start.

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It's not often that the Windsor Spitfires do a favor for their arch-rivals, the Plymouth Whalers.

But that's what happened on Thursday when the Spitfires defeated the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds, 7-4.

The Hounds' loss to Windsor mathematically eliminated the Soo from winning the OHL West Division and gave the Whalers their 12th division championship in the team's 23-year history (and first since 2006-07).

The Whalers didn't back into the West Division title. Using an effective combination of balance on all ends of the ice, Plymouth (38-17-5-4) has gone 24-6-0-1 since Dec. 27.

Although the Whalers lead the OHL with 269 goals scored, defense led to the division title. In all but one of Plymouth's victories did the opponent muster more than three goals.

Rookie goaltender Alex Nedeljkovic (2.11 GAA, .928 save percentage, 17-2-1-1 won-loss record) has been red hot over the second half of the season and was recently named OHL Rookie and Goaltender of the Month for February.

In addition, Nedeljkovic is the current Vaughn Canadian Hockey League Goaltender of the Week.

Offensively, Plymouth features eight players with at least 20-goals scored (Matt Mistele, 32; Garrett Meurs, 27; Ryan Hartman, Tom Wilson, Stefan Noesen and Vince Trocheck, all with 23 each; Cody Payne, 22; Rickard Rakell, 21).

Meanwhile, the Whalers have qualified for the OHL playoffs for 22 straight seasons, which is a current league record. Plymouth will start the 2013 playoffs at Compu-ware Arena on Fri. Mar. 23 or Sat. Mar. 24 against an opponent to be determined.

Playoff tickets can be purchased in 12-game packages for \$120 for Executive Reserved or \$168 for Center Ice Seating. Tickets for individual playoff game will be available once an opponent and dates have been confirmed.

For more information, please call the Compu-ware Arena box office at (734) 453-8400 or check online at www.plymouth-whalers.com.

SKATE WITH THE WHALERS: After Sunday's 2 p.m. game against Saginaw, fans will have to chance to "Skate with the Whalers."

Parents must sign a waiver for their kids and receive a wristband for each of their skaters from the Fan Assistance Center, located behind section 120. Skates are available for rent.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF NORTHVILLE

The City of Northville Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing to receive public input on a variance requested by the property owner at 520 Horton, Northville, Michigan, 48167. The applicant requests a variance to Section 18.22 Temporary Structures in order to install a membrane storage structure (fabric hoop house) on the premises zoned R-1B, First Density Residential District, parcel number 48-001-02-0047-000. The membrane storage structure is proposed to be located in the rear yard.

The public hearing will be held on Wednesday April 3, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-449-9902. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comment on the variance request. The variance application is available for review at the City of Northville Building Department during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, local prevailing time. Written comments pertaining to the proposed variance request will also be received at the above address.

Dianne Massa, City Clerk

Publish: March 14, 2013

CITY OF NORTHVILLE – NORTHVILLE HOUSING COMMISSION
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
ALLEN TERRACE
FLAT ROOF REPLACEMENT

The City of Northville, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, requests sealed requests for proposals to replace the flat roof system above the entrance of City of Northville Housing Commission - Allen Terrace Apartment Building, located at 401 High Street. All interested bidders should see the application to submit a proposal. Proposal details may be received by contacting: Sherry Necelis, Housing Director, 401 High Street, Northville, MI 48167 (248) 349-8030.

An original proposal and two (2) copies must be submitted by Tuesday, March 26, at 2:00 p.m. at which time they will be opened and read to: Dianne Massa, City Clerk, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167. Proposals must be sealed in an envelope marked "PROPOSAL - Allen Terrace – Flat Roof Replacement". Faxed and emailed proposals will not be considered. The City of Northville reserves the right to accept and/or reject any or all proposals and to waive any irregularities in the proposals that are in the best interest of the City of Northville.

Northville City Hall Chamber is handicap accessible. Arrangements to reasonably accommodate special needs including handicap accessibility or interpreter are requested to contact the housing director at the above number at least 72 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

This is a Federally Funded project. This project mandates bidders must carry commercial general liability coverage of \$2 million.

The Contractor and Subcontractors on this project must comply with HUD contract provisions 24CFR part 85.36(i), the Davis Bacon Act, Nondiscrimination, Equal Employment Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Section 3 requirements, Anti-Kickback Act, Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act and Department of Labor Standards and Regulations as set forth in the Contract Bid Documents. This municipality is an equal opportunity employer; businesses owned by women or minorities are strongly encouraged to bid.

**SHERRY NECELIS, HOUSING DIRECTOR
DIANNE MASSA, CITY CLERK**

An electronic version of this Request for Bid can be obtained from the City's web site. <http://www.ci.northville.mi.us/Services/PurchasingAndRFPs/ProposalsBids.htm>.

Publish: March 14, 2013

CC bows in state title tilt

Bulldogs prove to be best Division I team in front of packed arena

By **Sam Eggleston**
Correspondent

If you wanted to move around Compuware Arena last Saturday evening, you were out of luck. Approximately 4,000 fans packed into the arena and it didn't take long for the drone of buzz-like chatter to fill the air as fans began to talk about the upcoming match-up between defending state champion Brighton and favored Detroit Catholic Central.

When all was said and done, it was the Bulldogs of Brighton who skated away with the 2-1 victory and the Division I title for back-to-back state championships. The last team to do so was Catholic Central when they won the championship in 2009 and 2010.

The state finals victory was Brighton's third. Trailing by one point with time quickly expiring, the Catholic Central skaters did make a strong bid for overtime. Michael Babcock almost made it happen, too, with 6.8 seconds left in the game as he wound up right in

front of the goal and fired a hard shot that looked like it would get past Brighton's goalie, James Milletics.

Milletics, somehow, got his leg in front of the shot, preserving the game and the state championship. It was just one of 37 saves he made on the night.

"We've been working for this day since summer," Milletics said to the Detroit Free Press. "At the end, he (Babcock) got a shot off and I just sprawled my leg out hoping I could get it. It worked pretty well."

Catholic Central coach Todd Johnson was impressed with the play from Brighton, who led 2-0 at on point. He credited the play of Milletics as a deciding factor.

"James had a great game, and they blocked a ton of shots," Johnson said. "They had a pretty darn good formula for success. We didn't like being in the position of being down, 2-0, which felt like an eternity. We made it 2-1 ... and we felt the next one would happen. We took an untime-



CC senior Michael Babcock pressures Brighton's goalie.

ly penalty, and two of those last seven minutes we had to kill. In the final eight seconds, we hoped to win the face-off and get something to the net and pray."

Catholic Central's lone goal came in the third period when junior Carson Gatt scored on a power play at 9:58 to make it a 2-1 game. He was assisted by Babcock and Nick Daigneau.

Brighton was the first team to score in the contest, finding the back of the net at the 15:07 mark as the puck slid past Catholic Central goalie Derek Moore off a shot by senior Michael Yuhasz, assisted by Daniel Bosio and Lucas Morgan. The game-winning goal came at 8:03 in the second period when Morgan scored off an assist from Yuhaz.

Sam Eggleston is a freelance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News.



Shamrock goalie Derek Moore stops a breakaway by Brighton.

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CC junior Brady Jones battles a Brighton defender for the puck.

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NORTHVILLE BUSINESS BRIEFS

LeDuff at Barnes & Noble

Pulitzer Prize winner and Fox 2 reporter Charlie LeDuff will be signing copies of “Detroit: An American Autopsy” at 2 p.m. on Saturday at Barnes & Noble, 17111 Haggerty in Northville. Given this week’s verdict in the Kwame Kilpatrick trial, store management is anticipating a large turnout. LeDuff is a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, writer, and media personality who left The Detroit News in October 2010 after two years and joined Detroit Fox 2 to do on-air journalism.

New downtown businesses

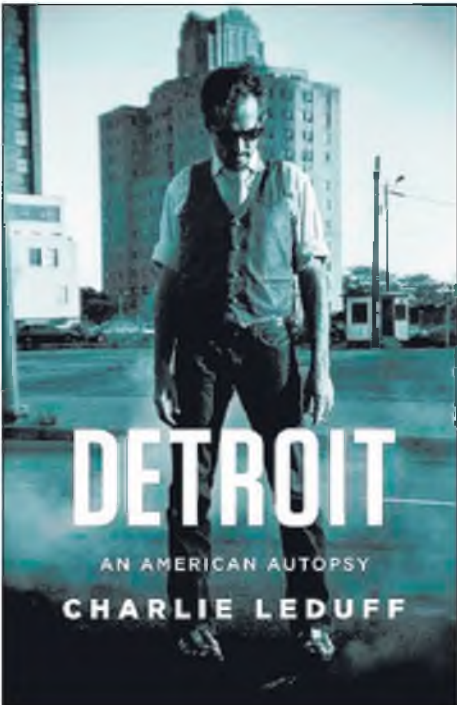
Downtown Northville is set to welcome two more new businesses — Haven and Stefana Boutique. Haven, a home goods shop, was expected to open in late-February and will be located at 111 N. Center Street. Stefana Boutique has a planned opening of May 1. The women’s clothing and accessories shop will open its doors at 122 W. Main Street. The shops join other new recently-opened businesses such as the Garage Grill & Fuel Bar (202 W. Main Street), and Northville Pharmacy (116 W. Main Street).

“Downtown Northville is pleased to welcome these new businesses to our already strong base of locally-owned businesses. Our diverse mix of shops, dining establishments and service-oriented businesses have played a huge role in establishing Northville as a premier Michigan downtown location for those looking to open their business,” said Lori Ward, Northville’s Downtown Development director. “Our mix of businesses has also become a draw for residents and visitors who enjoy the convenience of downtown living and to those who want to support local businesses,” added Ward.

For more information on downtown Northville’s shopping, dining, and business opportunities, visit www.downtownnorthville.com or contact the Northville Downtown Development Authority at (248) 349-0345.

Short sale seminar

The MacNRoTeam at Keller Williams is hosting another short sale seminar from 6:30-8:30 p.m., March 27 at the Livonia Public Library, 32777 5 Mile Road, Livonia. The seminar, “Is a Short Sale for Me?”, will include a panel of experts who will provide advice and



Charlie LeDuff will be signing copies of “Detroit: An American Autopsy” at 2 p.m. Saturday at Barnes & Noble in Northville.

SEND IT

Get your news listed on the Northville Record’s business page. Send us your business news, promotions, events or milestones. Just email Editor Kurt Kuban at kkuban@hometownlife.com. Our local business page runs each Thursday. For more information, email Kuban or call him at (248) 437-2011, ext. 245.

take questions about short sales. To register for the seminar or for more information, call Sheila Roma at (248) 760-6785 or Debbi McLaughlin at (248) 561-0077.

Yoga classes

Diane Siegel-Divita will be offering new yoga classes at the historic American Legion Hall, 100 W. Dunlap Street in Northville, and is now taking registration for the March/April sessions, which include strength training; yoga (all levels); yoga (continuing); and Yin Yoga. Private sessions are also available. For more information, including session times and prices, contact Siegel-Divita at (248) 344-0928, or trianglesix@sbcglobal.net.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lisa Abraham works with chef Mark Kassa on preparing a meal in a Northville Township home. Abraham’s Grace Street Concierge Service can prep meals for clients who are too busy to cook. Kassa is also a chef at Ann Arbor’s Grange.

Creative assistant

Local company can help with everything from marketing to running errands

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

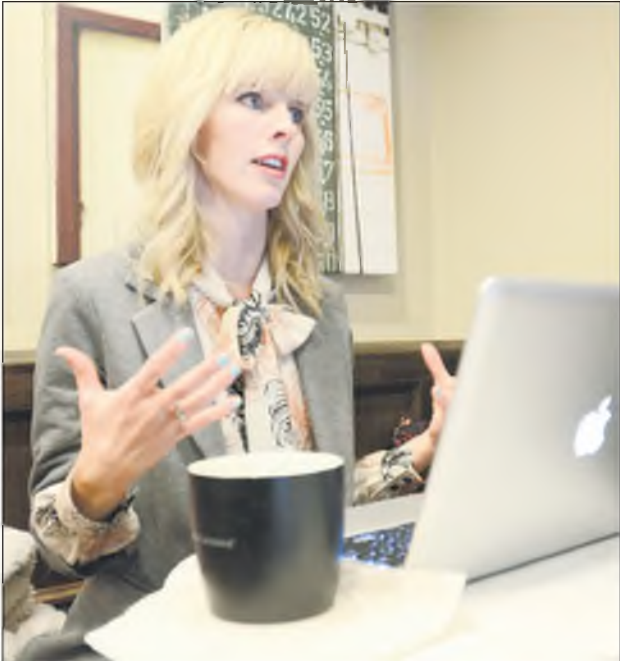
Northville’s Lisa Meinzinger-Abraham likes to think of herself as a bit of a Jack of all trades. Or Jane of all trades, if you will. The mother of two has a broad range of experience, everything from graphic design and marketing, to fashion and even art.

About a year ago, she started her own company, Main Street Concierge, to utilize her various talents. The full-service concierge and personal assistant firm provides a number of services to local clients. She said her ideal clients are local business people, who might need help with the social media landscape, interior and graphic design, or even running errands and planning events.

“But it could also be for stay at home and especially working moms who don’t have time for certain things,” she said. “It’s really unlimited.”

In fact, Meinzinger-Abraham, 38, got the idea for her company in part because of her dealings with other parents at Our Lady of Victory in Northville, where her two children attend school and she is a regular volunteer. After talking to many parents, she realized many didn’t have time for certain errands and planning, whether it be professionally or for the home.

That’s where Grace Street comes in. Before starting the company, Meinzinger-Abraham helped her husband, Phil Abraham, start his own business, Cloud-Face LLC. She created the brand for him, including a logo and graphic



Northville resident Lisa Abraham discusses her new personal service called Grace Street Concierge.

GRACE STREET CONCIERGE

Owner: Lisa Meinzinger-Abraham, of Northville
Address: PO Box 5290, Northville, MI 48167
Phone/email: (248) 840-1780; gracestreetconcierge@gmail.com
Website: gracestreetconcierge.com

design for his website. She said she can do that for others, as well, especially start-up companies that don’t have much of a start-up budget. She says her expertise with the social media landscape can pay dividends because it is inexpensive and can be far reaching. As a volunteer, she has been in charge of social media for the Northville Art House for several years. “I was doing all these things anyway, so I decided why not do this for myself and try to make a little money,” said the Wayne State grad, who grew up in Royal Oak. “I’m wired into that creative crowd. I wanted to do something

that would help people and keep my creative juices flowing.” Meinzinger-Abraham is available seven days a week, and can be hired on an hourly or even monthly basis. Her mother, Val LaMotte, does event planning for the firm and helps with interior design ideas. Ultimately, Meinzinger-Abraham’s goal is to add a few more full-time clients. But she is always available for special event planning. “We can definitely help with event planning, especially with spring coming up. We can plan for communions or graduation parties. We can plan the whole thing for our clients,” she said.

Northville businesses partner up for open house

It just makes sense. That’s what two long-time local business owners thought when they recently decided to join forces, and have planned a shared open house from 6-9 p.m., on Monday, March 18. Their buildings sit directly across the road from one another on North Center Street in downtown Northville. Angela Avigne, owner of New Body Therapeutics, and Tom Girvin of Thomas James Hair Salon have informally referred their respective clients to one another for years, but next week, the two companies will come together for the open house. New Body’s ther-

apists will have massage chairs set up at the hair salon across the street, while Thomas James’ stylists will give tips on blow drying and prepping hair for special occasions. Customers can then walk across the street where New Body Therapeutics will be demonstrating some of their unique services like face lift facials, Reflexology, energy work and offering healthy green smoothies to enjoy. The two small business owners share a similar business philosophy they learned long ago. “My father always said, ‘Treat people the way you want to be treated’. Angela and I think the

same way with respect to our customers, so it has always been a no-brainer referring clients her way,” Girvin says. Avigne says small businesses like theirs are doing well even in tough times because of one key factor — relationships. “We have been very fortunate to develop relationships and build trust with so many of our customers over the years. I think having little staff turnover, truly personal service and familiar faces is comforting to people these days,” she said. For more information, visit www.newbodytherapy.com or thomasjames-salon.squarespace.com.



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Science Photo Contest

Mail your photo entry to Scoop The Newshound, 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170 or email to cbjordan@hometownlife.com

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Ryan Sumner	Milford	March 3
Laela Lawrence	Novi	March 21
Grace Lejzorowicz	Walled Lake	March 27
Ryan Finley	Livonia	March 28



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TASTE TEST EXPERIMENT

Did you know that your nose can affect your taste? Smell plays a big part of taste. Close your eyes. Hold your nose while tasting a slice of a potato and an apple. Can you tell them apart? Your nose and mouth are connected through the same airway and therefore you taste and smell foods at the same time. When you can't smell the food that you are tasting it becomes harder to differentiate between foods. That's why food tastes differently when you have a stuffy nose.




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ANSWER: STEVE



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ANSWER: AUTUMNAL EQUINOX



WHAT IMPORTANT COMPONENT DOES FIRE NEED TO BURN?

ANSWER: OXYGEN

Courtesy of Metro Creative

I love my pet

Photo Contest

WINNERS!

Winners from February 2013 Photo Contest





Kristina Kahn, 11 years old of Milford with foster dog Coco.



Briana Karalis, 11 years old, of Livonia with dog, Maggie.



Sarah Walrath, 12 years old of South Lyon, with bunny Buggzy.



Cory Ruten, 13 years old, of Westland with cat Bell.

Deadline for submissions:

Mail all entry forms to: Scoop the Newshound, 41304 Concept Drive Plymouth, MI 48170
All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Media by close of the business day on **March 20** or email your form to: cbjordan@hometownlife.com Winners to be announced in a future Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested 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.

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Keep fire safety in mind at nightclubs, stadiums

The National Fire Protection Association recently marked the 10th anniversary of The Station nightclub fire that occurred in Rhode Island with a plea to the public to be cautious and keep safety in mind when visiting nightclubs or similar venues. The Station fire occurred on Feb. 20, 2003, and killed 100 people.

NFPA recently updated and expanded its resource page on assembly and nightclub fires in light of a January fire at the Kiss nightclub in Santa Maria, Brazil, that killed 238 people. The Kiss nightclub fire is ranked third on NFPA's list of the deadliest nightclub fires in the world; The Station is ranked 10th.

"When selecting or settling into an entertainment venue like a nightclub, sports arena or restaurant for an evening of enjoyment, how to get out if there in an emergency is probably not one of the first things on your mind, but it should be," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of Communications. "Fire drills are or should be common practice for businesses and schools, along with family home escape plans, so it's only natural for this level of awareness to be carried over to other places, even if you only plan on being there for a short time."

For those visiting events in nightclubs or other places of assembly, there are basic tips to keep in mind when entering a potentially unsafe gathering place.

Before you enter:

- Take a good look.
- Have a communication plan
- Plan a meeting place

When you enter:

- Locate exits immediately
- Check for clear exit paths
- Look for smoke alarms and fire sprinklers

- Do you feel safe?

During an emergency:

- React immediately
- Get out, stay out!

Full descriptions of these steps, along with videos, reports and further analysis, can be found at NFPA's website.

NFPA is a worldwide leader in fire, electrical, building, and life safety. The mission of the international nonprofit organization founded in 1896 is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education. NFPA develops more than 300 codes and standards to minimize the possibility and effects of fire and other hazards. All NFPA codes and standards can be viewed at no cost at www.nfpa.org/freeaccess.



Pet dropping plan needs legal check

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: I have suggested to the board a more practical way of dealing with pet droppings



Robert Meisner

at our condominium. It entails having a professional come in to pick up the droppings. What do you think?

A:

While that process may be controversial, particularly, because certain people do not have dogs and believe that it is the responsibility of the pet owner to clean up, I am aware of commentators who have suggested that approach, and, it may not be totally unreasonable given the fact that it could be part of the maintenance responsibilities of the association, particularly if there are a number of dog owners who do not mind paying, perhaps by way of an additional assessment for that service. Where it gets more "hairy" is if the cost of cleaning up is distributed among all co-owners although, presumably, the garbage pickup is paid by all co-owners through the association even though some co-owners have more garbage than others and/or some co-owners may not have any garage when they are out of town, perhaps during the winter. It is not an idea, therefore that should be totally rejected, but I would check with legal counsel for the association before implementing that plan.

Q: I have leaking in my basement. I called the management company and the representative came out and looked at it and I paid a plumber to give me an estimate to correct the problem which included standing water in the sewage pipes for approximately five years. I have problems with my pipes and I think it is the association's responsibility. Do I have recourse with the management company, association, builder, township inspector who signed off on the work or the State of Michigan?

A: You need a good lawyer to give you your answer, but generally speaking, if it is the association's responsibility, you will need to put pressure on the association, as well as the managing agent, to take care of your problem. The State of Michigan and the township building inspector are not in a position to help you any more than your legislators or congress persons. All too often, people look for help from "free sources" when their best recourse is hiring a competent attorney.

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 Nov. 12-16, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	223 Scarlett Dr	\$260,000	NORTHVILLE	19351 Delaware Ave	\$75,000
1753 Brookdale Dr	7130 Sylvania Ln	\$324,000	44927 Broadmoor Cir S	18851 Lennane	\$27,000
6802 Devonshire Dr	1713 Thistle Dr	\$178,000	16970 Carriage Way	18346 Lexington	\$55,000
7451 Embassy Dr	GARDEN CITY		16340 Mulberry Way	19137 Lexington	\$47,000
45061 Horseshoe Cir	29525 Barton St	\$25,000	41816 Rayburn Dr	14219 Marshall Dr	\$140,000
299 Princeton St	29434 Rosslyn Ave	\$60,000	39656 Rockcrest Ln	14251 Mason Dr	\$145,000
45612 S Stonewood Rd	LIVONIA		49626 S Glacier	12261 Nathaline	\$58,000
42078 Saratoga Cir	36720 Seven Mile Rd	\$520,000	46425 W Main St	WESTLAND	
42162 Saratoga Cir	15621 Auburndale St	\$139,000	PLYMOUTH	35976 Central City Pkwy	\$29,000
	9322 Eastwind Dr	\$147,000	561 Kellogg St	1115 Easley Dr	\$27,000
	11739 Hunters Park Ct	\$49,000	799 N Holbrook St	30737 Joy Rd	\$68,000
	29510 Lori St	\$105,000	40544 Newport Dr	31132 Merritt Dr	\$110,000
	29232 Lyndon St	\$66,000	520 Pacific St	486 N John Hix St	\$45,000
	9918 Mayfield St	\$129,000	REDFORD	34729 Somerset St	\$35,000
	9035 Merriman Rd	\$30,000	8990 Arnold	29090 Van Born Rd	\$20,000
	38801 Plymouth Rd	\$175,000	14254 Breakfast Dr		

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the weeks of Oct. 29 to Nov. 2, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	1920 Hillwood Dr	\$733,000	30606 Squires Trl	\$41,000	44229 Winthrop Dr	\$255,000
15975 Amherst Ave	875 Ivy Ln	\$243,000	32005 W 12 Mile Rd Unit 105	\$32,000	SOUTH LYON	
17319 Beechwood Ave	1015 Joanne Ct	\$175,000	25357 Wykeshire Rd	\$180,000	741 Challenging Trl	\$139,000
31426 Waltham Dr	3147 Middlebury Ln	\$195,000	FRANKLIN		23691 Copperwood Dr W	\$68,000
18663 Warwick St	3917 Mount Vernon Dr	\$290,000	32800 Brandingham Rd	\$290,000	23862 Copperwood Dr W	\$50,000
BIRMINGHAM	5572 N Adams Way	\$224,000	MILFORD		455 Eagle Way	\$175,000
687 Davis Ave	1339 N Carillon Ct	\$873,000	1027 Bird Song Ln	\$193,000	61009 Evergreen Ct	\$180,000
1743 Derby Rd	3036 Patch Dr	\$258,000	3162 E Maple Rd	\$139,000	58996 Peters Barn Dr	\$75,000
2291 Dorchester Rd	20 Scenic Oaks Dr N	\$515,000	761 Milford Glen Ct	\$236,000	59038 Peters Barn Dr	\$80,000
1905 E Lincoln St	42550 Woodward Ave	\$40,000	455 Napa Valley Dr	\$25,000	156 Princeton Dr	\$26,000
661 Fairfax St	1760 Woodward Ave #42	\$110,000	763 Promontory Dr	\$150,000	448 Princeton Dr	\$195,000
463 Henley St	BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP		2615 Shagbark	\$338,000	51999 Red Cedar Ct	\$68,000
1050 Lake Park Dr	3335 Burning Bush Rd	\$585,000	NOVI		53970 Springwood Dr	\$25,000
1651 Latham St	COMMERCE TOWNSHIP		45230 Bartlett Dr	\$84,000	53686 Valleywood Dr	\$212,000
397 N Old Woodward Ave	3255 Lochmore Ct	\$192,000	45236 Bartlett Dr	\$84,000	26721 York Ct	\$310,000
\$315,000	5866 Majestic Oaks Dr	\$420,000	45237 Bartlett Dr	\$87,000	SOUTHFIELD	
1045 N Old Woodward Ave	2195 Palmetto	\$40,000	45285 Bartlett Dr	\$84,000	16336 Addison St	\$32,000
\$150,000	5072 Parkgate Dr	\$309,000	41805 Borchart Dr	\$153,000	27430 Arlington Dr	\$130,000
662 Purdy St # 103	FARMINGTON		41960 Borchart Dr	\$297,000	29285 Brooks Ln	\$225,000
1186 S Eton St	23899 Colchester Dr	\$103,000	303 Duana St	\$122,000	29254 E Chanticleer Dr	\$130,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	30624 Sunderland Dr	\$290,000	44561 Gwinnett Loop	\$159,000	21771 Hidden Rivers Dr N	\$16,000
4387 Barchester Dr	35654 Tall Pine Rd	\$253,000	44565 Gwinnett Loop	\$157,000	19015 Hilton Dr	\$50,000
1948 Bloomfield Dr	Farmington Hills		28022 Hopkins Dr	\$160,000	29629 N Rutherland St	\$160,000
4720 Cimarron Dr	29941 Fox Club Dr	\$225,000	25534 Portico Ln	\$120,000	30513 Shoreham St	\$121,000
2618 Covington Pl	35101 Glangary Cir	\$196,000	48140 Rushwood	\$299,000	27140 Spring Arbor Dr	\$57,000
	22159 Inkster Rd	\$95,000	22170 Shadybrook Dr	\$235,000	21147 W Nine Mile Rd	\$58,000
	21305 Juniper Ct	\$116,000	44855 Stockton Dr	\$86,000	WHITE LAKE	
	23516 Middlebelt Rd	\$140,000	44873 Stockton Dr	\$360,000	927 Aglaia Dr	\$161,000
	34134 Old Timber Ct	\$235,000	27003 Victoria Rd	\$260,000	697 Akehurst Ln	\$286,000
	35136 Pennington Dr	\$190,000	27135 Victoria Rd	\$45,000	605 Sunnybeach Dr	\$471,000
	30348 Shiawassee Rd	\$80,000	23373 Winnsborough	\$355,000	452 Woodsedge Ln	\$325,000
	32423 Sprucewood St	\$99,000				

HOMES

apartments.com.
HomeFinder

Honies

PINCKNEY
4BR 1 Bath ranch w/ finished walk out bsmt, w/dock. Rural 10 acres 2 car garage. 2351 Beardsley 810-423-1184

Duplexes & Townhouses

WESTLAND: HOLLIDAY PARK CO-OP
2 story townhouse, 3 bedroom, 1 and 1.5 bath, hardwood floors. Close to amenities. Membership required: \$41,000 + \$288 monthly.
Call: 734-425-3090 ext. 309

Manufactured Homes

HOWELL - Burkhardt Ridge
3 br., 2 bath, well maintained home. Move in ready for only \$29,900. 517-552-2300 NMLS#275116, #340904 517-552-2300. WE FINANCE! OPEN 7 DAYS PER WEEK

HOWELL - New, used, repo's.
Beautiful community w/country club amenities. NMLS#275116, #340904 517-552-2300. WE FINANCE! OPEN 7 DAYS PER WEEK

MONTHLY PAYMENT \$617*

FULLY REFURBISHED 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1350 S.F. HOME ALL NEW APPLIANCES INCL. WASHER/ DRYER CENTRAL AIR. MEDALLION HOMES AT NORTHVILLE CROSSING. 248-446-6600

CONTACT US AT: 800-579-7355
www.hometownlife.com
oeads@hometownlife.com
DEADLINES:
Fri. at 4 pm for Sunday
Tues. at 3 pm for Thursday

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

Manufactured Homes

NORTHVILLE \$1090 per month*

for a BRAND NEW 4 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2138 S.F. home with all appliances including washer/dryer, plus central air w& shed.

*Monthly payment of \$1090 based on sales price of \$89,450, plus sales tax, title fees, & estimated closing costs & includes discounted site rent of \$299 per month for 36 months. Annual site rent increases apply. Market site rent in year 4. Assumes a 10% down payment, a loan term of 240 months, 8.00 interest per annum (APR of 8.42%). Payment does not include insurance escrow so payment may be greater. Subject to credit approval & background screening. Not valid with any other offer. Offer expires 3/31/13. Equal housing lender. NMLS #308444

Medallion Homes 248-446-6600

Northern Property

HOUGHTON LAKE AREA
Log home, 79.6 acres, 1500 sq. ft., 3 BR with loft and bsmt. Secluded & private. Boiler system, propane & wood stove. Great views of wildlife. \$259,900. 231-328-2112.

Business Opportunities

BAR/PARTY STORE -
Great potential! Detroit - Building - Warren & Evergreen - former night club \$82,500 Real Estate Pro 734-451-0322

LIQUOR/PARTY STORE -
Ypsilanti - ongoing business - near Eastern Mich Univ. incl. business, liquor, lic., inventory, & equipment \$215,000. 734-451-0322 Real Estate Pro

RENTALS

apartments.com.
HomeFinder

Apartment For Rent

FARMINGTON AREA
Adult community, quiet country setting, heat/water incl. \$540/mo. (734) 564-8402

HOWELL QUAIL CREEK APTS.
1 & 2 br., \$485 to \$535/mo incl. carpet. Quiet country setting, close to downtown. Balcony, central air, \$200 sec. dep. w/good credit. (517) 548-3733

WALLED LAKE
2 bdrm Townhomes. Move into your New Home at Tivoli Apts and Save with our 3-2-1 Special. Call for details! 248-624-6606 EHO www.comerantco.com

Condos & Townhouses

SOUTH LYON CONDO :
1 bdrm with bath, 1/2 bath in finished bsmt. Heat, water, air, handicapped ramp, all appliances. 55+. 805-859-9794

Duplexes

HARTLAND ~ 2 br. ranch units, air, garage, no pets. Starting at \$675/mo., NICE AREA! 734-497-0960.

WESTLAND/NORWAYNE -
3 bdrms, \$600/mo plus 1 mo sec. Very clean, blinds, nice kit., no pets. References req'd. 734-729-6526

Honies For Rent

BRIGHTON, 5342 Saunders
1700 sq ft home, 3 BR, 2 bath, \$1,299/mo. (810)333-2666.

COMMERCE - 3 BR Ranch
Walled lake Schools. Upr. yrd. \$750/mo. Security dep. \$1150 248-624-9470

New Hudson - Rent/buy option
Fully furnished, includes lawn maintenance. Call for details. \$1,550/mo. 248-756-3939.

FREE RENT UNTIL MAY 1
\$399* MOVES YOU IN! BRAND NEW 3 & 4 bedroom/2 bath Homes. Homes starting at \$1,199/month. South Lyon School. Large clubhouse, swimming pool, large playground. Homes equipped with shed, all appliances, C/A plus full size WD. Apply online today at www.hartlandville.com. Or call us today at (888) 448-2061. Office hours: M-F 9a-5p Sat 10a-2p. Offer expires 02/28/2013 EHO *some restrictions apply

Mobile Home Rentals

MILFORD/WIXOM LEASE OR OWN HOMES STARTING AS LOW AS \$550
Site Rent Included 3 bedroom, 2 baths, all appliances, pets ok. Lake & Beach Access. **Little Valley 248-685-7770** www.littlevalley.com *Conditions Apply

Rooms For Rent

MILFORD: Lg furn. room, on horse ranch facing Kensington Park. Kit., laundry, Direct TV & internet incl. Non-drinker. Ref. & Sec. dep. (\$200) require incl. all utilities. 6 mo. min. \$450/mo. 248-787-1453

NOVI - FAIRLANE MOTEL
Clean rooms, HBO, fridge, microwave, in room coffee makers. Free local calls & wireless internet. Weekly rates. (248)347-9999

Office Retail Space

Downtown Howell (C.B.D.) Retail or professional suites, \$500/ \$750, gross lease, these are prime sites ready for quality tenants. Aaren, 517-546-9060.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES FOR RENT, NO LEASE REQUIRED
Individual offices in a shared suite, furnished, phone system, fax, copy machine, internet, conference room & kitchen. Located in Brighton in 2 year old suite. 4 offices avail. \$500/ea. per mo. +sec., min 3/mo rental req 248-444-2953

Commercial - Industrial

SOUTH LYON
Available April 1st. 5,000 sq. ft., \$1,800/mo. 248-756-3539

Health Nutrition & Weight Loss

MEDICAL MARIJUANA CARD, FOR INFO CALL (517) 304-9405

Commercial - Industrial

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Roofing

ALL ROOFING - Licensed - Free estimates, Reasonable prices. (517)881-0137

•Looks •Roof Repairs •Flashings •Valleys •Hail •Wind Damage •Ins Claims
Member BBB. 30 yrs. exp. Lic./Ins. Call: (248) 346-4321

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hometownlife.com

Health Nutrition & Weight Loss

MEDICAL MARIJUANA CARD, FOR INFO CALL (517) 304-9405

BUY & SELL

hometownlife.com

Auction Sales

Auction March 24, 2013
Previewing 9am, Bidding at 11am at Morse Moving & Storage 27651 Hildebrandt Rd, Suite 100 Romulus, MI 48174 734-484-1717
Abandoned/unpaid household for Fisher, Marking, Ahmad, Bagley, Griffin, Hyde, Latimer, Lucas, Martin, Modders, Morton, Rindro, Ward, Williams, Harbert, Autry, Overbeck, Stout

Braun & Helmer Auction Service, Inc.
(734) 685-9646 • (734) 906-8135 (734) 994-6309 • (734) 428-1918
www.braunandhelmer.com

ESTATE AUCTION Sat., March 16th, 7pm
Cultural Center 525 Farmer Plymouth, MI Collectibles & Antiques Furniture & Accessories Electric Guitar Star Wars Items: Toys, Snow Globes, Lead Vac Cash/MC/VISA Bank Debit Cards No Checks Doors Open 6pm Joe Carli, Professional Auctioneer Service 734-451-7444 jcauctions@comcast.net

Estates Sales

Another Bernard Davis Estate Sale: 313-837-1993
19466 Merriman Rd., Livonia 48152. March 14-16, 8:45am-4pm go to estateales.net for more info. SEE YOU THERE!!!

ESTATE SALE FRIDAY & SATURDAY MARCH 15TH & 16TH. 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. 971 COLDSRING DRIVE NORTHVILLE, MI (N of Eight Mi Rd, W of Taft) Big, beautiful home w/ lovely never furnishing & decorative items. Check website for photos and details. www.stefekstd.com 313-881-1800

JAKE'S ESTATE SALES
810-533-2516 kent@jakesestatesales.com

Garage/Moving Sales

Estate Antique Auction
Fri. March 15, 5:00pm 11580 Ozga, Romulus, MI Decoys, 50 Long Guns, Military, Nautical, Clocks, Furniture, Waterford Glass, China, Rare Instruments, Primitives, Jewelry & More. Doug Dalton Auctioneer.com preview 4pm-8pm-800-801-6452 DougDalton@comcast.net

NORTHVILLE MOVING SALE:
19500 Beck Rd. 48167 Paintings, \$20 & up. Love seat: \$100, 2 bookcases: \$150 each. Oak kitchen table & 4 chairs. By appointment: (248) 735-1516

Household Goods

CHINA CABINET
Comes in 2 sections, like new. \$500. 248-991-9562

CORNER DESK
Office unit, cherry finish. Excellent condition. \$500. 248-513-4466

DESIGNER Casual, Business & Evening
Size 4-10. Shoes 8-9. Costume jewelry. 734-416-9078

MOVING: Dining Set, \$50. 8' pool table, \$50. Motorized hospital style bed, \$100. Heavy movable fireplace w/mirror, \$100. Glassware & dolls. 313-272-0576

Appliances

STOVE: Whirlpool, almond bique color gas stove, 1 yr. old. Great condition. Must pick up. \$350. 313-623-7713

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Exercise Fitness Equip

Bow Flex - Get In Shape!
Ultimate fit workout equipment. Comes complete with optional 450# resistance rods, hard-cover & CD manual. Like new condition! \$3,500 new, sell for \$800. (734) 262-4403 kkbubinski99@hotmail.com

Farm Equipment

FORD TRACTOR, 8N
Back blade, brush hog, new clutch, starter motor & battery. Newer tires, always starts fast but engine starting to smoke. \$1,500 or will trade for V-10 Ford motor exchange work. SOLD SOLD SOLD

Massey-Ferguson 150, 1967
Gas motor, new tires on rear. \$2,200. 517-404-9098

Firewood-Merchandise

All Dry Seasoned Firewood \$65 facecord, 4x8x16, delivered. Call 248-431-2844

Misc. For Sale

TRADE CENTER
Shop at over 200 booths! 8 Mile east of Van Dyke in the Bel-Air Mall 866-323-3357 New Vendors Always Welcome! Present this ad to receive \$5 in TC bucks to spend AT 2321327

Magnifier for the Visually Impaired:
Anything may be placed under it to make large/ small. Very compact. Plug in 110 outlet. Home/office. \$150. 313-277-6698

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Misc. For Sale

Sofa, black & grey, like new, \$300; Coffee table (marble look) black & grey \$100; Matching bar with bar stools \$150; Brown, barrel chair (new) \$200; Beige barrel chair \$100. (248) 349-0206

Wanted to Buy

ABSOLUTE 1 BUYER!!
We do FFL gun transfers. TOP \$\$\$ PAID for coins, gold, diamonds, guns, musical instruments. 810-227-8190 UPTOWN EXCHANGE

★ ABSOLUTELY ALL SCRAP METAL WANTED
Steel • Stainless Copper Brass • Tool Steel Carbide • Aluminum HIGHEST DOLLAR PAID! 248-437-0094 www.beaversco.com

ESTATE SALES - Cash or consignment for old items to fine antiques. Collections, sets, odd items, any size or quantity to full estates. Fair, honest, courteous, discrete older gentleman. I drive to you! Richard. (248) 795-0362 richard.preston48@yahoo.com

SCRAP METAL
Highest Prices Paid Copper \$2.00-\$2.60 per lb. Brass \$1.00-\$1.50 per lb. Alum. 0.30¢-0.60¢ per lb. Stainless 0.30¢-0.55¢ per lb. (248) 960-1200 Mann Metals Corp. 1011 Decker Rd., Walled Lk.

WANTED: Old Fishing Tackle & related items. Successful Deer Hunter Patches. Call Bill: (734) 890-1047

Wanted to Buy

WANTED: Old Fishing Tackle & related items. Successful Deer Hunter Patches. Call Bill: (734) 890-1047

WANTED WAR RELICS
Highest prices paid. I will come to you 313-671-8667

PETS

hometownlife.com

Cats

CATS (2) Very loving, fixed, 1.5 yrs. Must stay together. No young children. 248-738-4901, 248-214-9898

Dogs

Chocolate Lab Puppies
with silver factor available to go home March 16, 2013 at 6 weeks of age. Phenomenal bloodlines: Beautiful and intelligent. \$900 Full AKC registration with guarantee. First shots, wormed and dew claws done. Deposit reserves your puppy - going fast. (517) 812-5953 chocolateoverslabs@comcast.net

Dogs

English Bulldog pups
1 girl & 1 boy, 11 weeks, pure-bred, shot \$700. 248-642-8938; m



Help Wanted - General

ADULT FOSTER CARE WORKERS NEEDED
Alzheimer's, Dementia & strokes. Adult foster care for up to 6 women. 5 afternoons/40 hrs 1 wk. 4 afternoons, 32 hrs the next. 4-12pm. Possible FT, CPR & First Aid helpful. Dependable. Some lifting. Ask for Margie, 248-240-3274 or 248-486-9322. New Hudson

APPOINTMENT SETTERS -HVAC COMPANY-
Looking for individuals who are outgoing, have good communication skills, able to talk to customers to generate leads in our Home Depot Stores. Flexible hrs, PT and FT positions avail.
Hourly wage & outstanding incentive program!
Please send resumes to: amy@acopyheating.com or fax at 734-464-0852

ASSISTANT MANAGER
for counter at Striking Lanes in Hartland. Will train. Apply in person. 1535 Old US23.

DRIVER:
\$11/hr. to start plus overtime. Local Fertilizer Co. has positions available. Responsibilities include: company truck & applying fertilizer. Mechanically inclined helpful. For interview: 248-437-3758

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

AUTO SALES
Gordon Chevrolet is looking for an exp'd. **Auto Salesperson** for our Used Car Dept. sales team. Health insurance, 401K, competitive pay plan & a great working environment. This is a great opportunity for the right person. We will respect your privacy.
Call Al Denomme for a confidential interview.
(734) 458-5242

BAKERY HELP NEEDED
A snack food plant in Brighton is looking for an experienced baker. The candidate must be able to follow formulas, work at a fast pace, lift heavy items and stand for extended periods of time. Excellent pay and benefits for the right candidate.
PLEASE FAX OR EMAIL RESUME TO:
248-486-9135
john.weller@gkfoods.com

CAR WASH hiring for Northville & Canton. Exc. starting pay up to \$14/hr. Apply at: 470 E. Main St. Northville. 248-319-0047

CASHIER/CUSTOMER SERVICE REP
Sat, Sun & Mon, 9-6pm. Apply in person with resume to: Island Lake Shooting Range, 13600 E. Grand River Ave. Brighton, 48116.

CLEANERS, Full-Time
For area homes. \$10/hr. start. No nights/weekends. Car req. Plymouth. 734-812-5683

CLERICAL ENTRY LEVEL
Livonia firm seeks ambitious, self-starters for entry level clerical positions. Full time. Benefits.
Fax resume to:
734-591-3029

ENTRY LEVEL SALES
Paid Training \$525/wkly + commission
Email resume to:
VinnieElul@trugreenmail.com
EOE/M/F/D/V/A

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

CNC LATHE MACHINE OPERATOR
Experienced operator with programming abilities. Mazak Quick Turn 18N & 10 with Mazatrol T32B & T Plus. Non production close tolerance challenging work, long-term program, own product.
Air-conditioned clean shop and great benefits including:
• Blue Cross/Blue Shield,
• Dental • 401K
• 5 sick days & 12 nd holidays
Top pay for right person
Please send resume to:
Normac, Inc.
720 Baseline Rd.
Northville, MI 48167
Fax: 248-319-3301

HERE WE GROW AGAIN! IN-HOME CAREGIVERS
We are currently seeking compassionate, mature, caring individuals to provide in-home care to the elderly. (Companionship, personal care, meal preparation, light housekeeping, etc.) Afternoons, midnights, evenings, and on-call positions with premium competitive wages.
810-229-0200 or apply online at www.comfortkeepers.com



CUSTOMER SERVICE:
Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call Mon-Fri 9-5: 734-728-4572 or email: phoneworkinfo@aol.com

Dealership Service Advisor
Hines Park Ford is seeking ambitious and motivated individuals to join our Service team! We are in need of an individual to fill a **Service Advisor** position. Individuals must have prior Dealership Service Advisor experience, technical automotive knowledge, organizational skills, and a strong work ethic. We offer a great work environment, medical, dental, and life insurance, as well as paid vacations and a 401K plan!
Submit resume:
jobs@hinespark.com or fax to: 248-446-2016

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

DELIVERY DRIVER
Full-Time \$13.50/hr + incentive pay & w/overtime. Medical Insurance. Paid Vacation. Must be physically fit. Must have Class A w/Hazmat. Based out of Brighton. Email: jeckson@bluewin.com or fax: 269-415-0430

DENTAL ASSISTANT WITH EXPERIENCE
Outstanding Opportunity to join a progressive Novi dental office. We are looking for a personable, enthusiastic, hardworking individual to become a member of our top-notch team. We are a cosmetic & restorative dental practice that is growing and needs a vibrant personality to join us. Must be open to travel for continuing education seminars. We offer medical, dental, holidays & vacations. Hrs. Mon. & Thurs. 8-6pm. Tues. & Wed. 8-7pm. Top salary paid for personality & experience. **If interested please fax resume: 248-427-9007**

DIRECT CARE STAFF, FT
Novi area. Benefits. \$8.50 & up. Exp. req'd. Afternoons & Midnights. 248-636-2461

DIRECT CARE WORKER
All positions available. Paid training. Flex hours. Call Brenda 810-923-0200 or email resume to: Scndblessing@aol.com

DIRECT CARE WORKER NEEDED
For Hartland Senior Care Home. All shifts avail. \$9.00-\$13.00/hr. For interview: Call: 810-241-7750 or fax resume: 810-632-6890

Driver
GARBAGE ROUTE DRIVER
CDL A-B w/airbrake endorsement. \$114 per day, with 1/2 mile over 40 hrs. Benefits avail. at 90 days. Very stable industry, physically demanding job.
Email resume:
duncanresumes@hotmail.com or fax to: 248.437.8604

DRIVER NEEDED Full time for Fowlerville location. Must have proof of clean driving record and pass DOT driving physical. EMT preferred, also needed as "an on call basis". Please fax resume to Jay at: 517-223-8538

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

DRIVER
Part-time Driver with good driving record for Meals on Wheels in Livingston County. Weekdays morning. Ideal for retirees. Send resume to P.O. Box 663, Highland MI 48357 or email to: employment246@gmail.com EOE.

DRIVERS NEEDED! TRAINCO TRUCK DRIVING SCHOOLS
Day/eve/weekend classes, job placement, CDL testing on site **WCC Campus - Ann Arbor:**
734-374-3994
Lansing: 517-887-1600
Taylor: 734-374-5000
www.traincoinc.com

DRIVERS
North Star Ranch is looking for Gravel Train, Quad Axle and Walking Floor Drivers. Paid by the hour. Multi-Lift. Axle experience a must. Also looking for regional and OTR Drivers. Get paid off the Odometer!! Assigned equipment, great miles, benefits, inspection bonus and home time.
Call Kim for details:
517-545-2999 EXT. 140

EDM OPERATOR
Needed (Old Fashioned Machine) Full-Time. Resume: shopjobsps@gmail.com Or apply in person: 4978 Technical Dr. Milford, MI 48361

Established landscape company seeking Construction Foreman, 4 yrs min. experience, positive attitude and leadership qualities, brick paving and retaining wall exp, chauffeurs license. Also seeking **Crew Members**. Horizon Landscape, 810-632-9292.

GENERAL LABOR
Full-time. Benefits avail. Start immediately. Must be dependable. Start at \$9/hr. Resume: shopjobsps@gmail.com Or apply in person: 4978 Technical Dr. Milford, MI 48361

HAIR STYLIST: Lic & exp'd in roller set/dry. 1 day per wk. W. Bloomfield area assisted center. 800-762-7391

HOUSECLEANING PERSON
Monday-Friday. Pay based on exp. Oakland County area. Call Donna 248-624-5918

HVAC INSTALLER
New construction. Residential & Commercial exp. for duct. 248-335-4555

Impressive Marble & Granite
Immediate openings. Several positions: fabricators, laborers, and installers. 810-227-0434

INSTALLERS SIDING, GUTTERS & WINDOWS

Large contracting company looking for Hard Working Dependable Individuals, experience preferred. Must have a valid driver's license in good standing & dependable transportation. Must pass pre-employment drug screen.
Apply at:
47220 Cartier Drive
Livonia, MI 48150
No Phone Calls.

NEW CAREER? Quality-
inspectors/automotive, paid on the job training \$9.25/hr. Call between 9am-3pm, Mon-Fri. 810-229-6053

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Quiz: Is your cover letter like a bad handshake?

Susan Ricker,
CareerBuilder Writer

A cover letter serves a specific purpose in the hiring process. While potential employers can turn to your résumé to see your work experience, a cover letter is an introduction to who you are and why the prospective employer should invite you in for an interview.

Handshakes are another form of introduction, so think of your cover letter as a handshake. While you may think you're offering a warm handshake, your cover letter could actually be strong-arming you out of a job. Take this quiz to find out what type of handshake your cover letter is most associated with and the impression it's giving to potential employers:

1. Your cover letter's opening sentence is:

A. "I want to tell you why you should hire me for this open position at your company."

B. "I'm interested in the open position at your company and would like to submit my job qualifications."

C. "I was surprised to hear of the open position at your company and was hoping you could look at my résumé if or when you get a chance."

2. If you're currently employed, do you mention your job in your cover letter?

A. Yes, I explain that my current job should pay better, and I'm interested in receiving a better title or promotion.

B. Yes, I relate my current job to the open position and explain why I'm ready to assume

more responsibilities.

C. No, I don't want the hiring company to think I'm not ready to leave my current job.

3. Your experience matches about 90 percent of the job requirements. Do you address the requirement you don't meet in your cover letter?

A. Sort of. I tell them how experienced and smart I am and how impressed my past boss was with how quickly I picked things up.

B. No. I address the requirements I do meet and include my relevant experience; I can mention the other requirement if I get asked about it in a later interview.

C. Yes. I point out that I don't know how to do it and say I hope I get the chance to learn it.

4. Where in your cover letter do you write about the company of interest?

A. Briefly in the middle; most of the room was used for boasting about my qualifications and why I'm the best choice.

B. After the introduction paragraph about my interest and experience, I write a short paragraph about why I admire the company and the values I share with it.

C. Most of the cover letter is about them. I only included a few sentences about why I'd be lucky to work there.

5. How do you end your



cover letter?

A. Thank you for your time, and I know you'll make the right choice.

B. Thank you for your time, and I look forward to hearing from you.

C. Thank you for your time, and it'd be so incredible to hear from you.

RESULTS

Mostly A's: Death-grip handshake

Being assertive and confident are great qualities, but you're coming on too strong. If your cover letter were a handshake, you'd break a few bones with that death grip. Keep your cover letter balanced with the qualities that would make you a great pick for the job as well as why you're interested in working there. You want to build a

relationship with the potential employer, not muscle them into a decision.

Mostly B's: Confident and approachable handshake

You may be getting a call for an interview soon, because your cover letter made a great first impression, just like a confident and approachable handshake. You clearly understand what it takes to write a great cover letter: expressing a genuine interest in the position and the company and relating your past experience to the new role. By presenting yourself as a strong candidate, you set the stage for a more in-depth conversation about if the job is a good fit for both parties.

Mostly C's: Dead-fish handshake

You'll need to muster up more courage in your cover letter, because your writing is the equivalent of a cold, limp handshake. It's wonderful that you're impressed by the business and you're trying to be polite, but that won't help the hiring manager understand who you are and why you're a good fit. A cover letter is an introduction, but it's also a tool to help the company make an informed hiring decision. Focus on the key points that company should know about you — why should they hire you over everybody else?

Susan Ricker is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job blog, The Work Buzz. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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Car Report

Advertising Feature

C-Max is achieving Ford’s goal: Taking big bite out of hybrids



By Dale Buss

Ford’s new C-Max hybrids are achieving the corporate aim of eating into the dominance of Toyota Prius in the segment, so Ford is doubling down with an extension of the popular TV-advertising campaign that launched the vehicle.

Ford’s share of the U.S. hybrid market grew by nearly 9 percentage points between December 2011 and December 2012, mostly from the October launch of C-Max, the company said, while Toyota’s share of hybrids dropped by 8 percentage points even though last year was the first complete year on the market for the company’s expanded line of Prius models.

Additionally, initial sales data show that C-Max is stealing hybrid sales away from other brands at an impressive clip: Its conquest rate is about 64 percent, with Prius and the Honda CR-V ranking as the top nameplates abandoned by customers in favor of C-Max.

“We clearly sought to go head-to-head with Prius” in introducing C-Max, Ford’s first nameplate reserved only for electrified vehicles, C.J. O’Donnell, marketing and strategy manager for Ford Electrified Vehicles, told me. “C-Max is, all around, just a better car.”

To that end, of course, Ford’s first ads for C-Max last fall made direct comparisons in fuel economy, passenger roominess and other areas with Prius V, the slightly larger version of Prius that Toyota introduced last year.

Soon, C-Max advertising — retaining the “La Linea” character introduced in

its first spot — will pivot to some playful poetry readings designed to highlight C-Max features. C-Max pops up in the new ABC reality cooking show The Taste and will be a key part of challenges on the March 8 episode. The car also will be visible this season in the course of Ford’s regular sponsorship of American Idol on Fox.

“Unlike typical launches, we’re going to continue to invest in 2013 in C-Max to extend the launch,” O’Donnell said. “Spending in media and creative and on grass-roots efforts will remain strong for nine to 12 months since the introduction rather than the typical three to six months.”

O’Donnell said that Ford is encouraged by the fact that the C-Max Hybrid and the C-Max Energi plug-in hybrid, launched at the same time, have been helping the company exceed its usual market share in important electrified-vehicle markets such as California.

At the same time, about one-third of C-Max sales are occurring in the Midwest, typically among the worst markets for hybrids — but, of course, the historical

strength of the Ford franchise.

“Leading with this technology is a great entree to markets where we’re striving to improve share, on the East and West coasts, but it’s great to be able to use it to retain our strength in the Midwest also,” O’Donnell said.

O’Donnell said that one of the most gratifying aspects of the sales patterns for C-Max so far is that the car has been able to steal significant numbers of customers who owned CR-V, Honda’s compact SUV. “It’s packaged with enough versatility to compete with that segment,” he noted.

In fact, within the Ford brand, many C-Max buyers migrate down in size from previous versions of Escape and Escape Hybrid — even though there’s a significantly refreshed new Escape SUV available now — as well as move from the Ford Focus compact sedan.

While Toyota has focused its electrified-vehicle efforts on conventional hybrids, and General Motors has emphasized its Chevrolet Volt plug-in hybrid, after a long and unspectacular record of offering conventional-hybrid versions of some of its most popular conventional models Ford has begun determinedly fielding a wide variety of new electrified vehicles. At



Battery packs for C-Max come together at Ford’s plant in Rawsonville.



Ford’s C-Max is taking a bite out of Prius sales in the hybrid market.

this point they include not only the two C-Max models but also the Focus Electric.

“As a company, we’re now second [in electrified vehicles] and pecking at Toyota because of the range of our products,” O’Donnell said. “We don’t have a single entry that we’re trying to put all our weight behind. We provide choices to customers in what electrified product best suits their driving styles and personal needs.”

Still, about 70 percent of electrified vehicles sold by Ford this year will be conventional hybrids, he said; about 25 percent will be C-Max or Focus Energi plug-in hybrids; and the remaining 5 percent will be Focus Electric.

Ford accelerated its plans for C-Max as it reported that its U.S. February sales grew nine percent with 195,822 vehicles sold. That marked Ford’s best February sales in six years — with cars up six percent, utilities up 21 percent and trucks up four percent.



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