Blazer on stage

Country music fans should get ready to hit downtown Northville on Friday evening for a live performance by Nashville recording artist and Canton Township native Justine Blazer. She will perform at 7 p.m. in Town Square as part of the North-



Summer Friday Night Concert Series.

Blazer

Blazer, the Ram Trucks Battle of the Bands national winner, graduated from Canton High School and now resides in Nashville. She travels the country singing with her band lead guitarist Jake Tolle of Idaho, drummer Ryan Burdette of Kentucky and bass player Brandon Roberts of Fraser.

A strong vocalist and prolific songwriter who plays acoustic guitar, electric guitar and harmonica, Blazer will sing tunes from her new release Gasoline, which she describes as a "country/pop rock crossover with more of an edge to it."

The Northville Summer Friday Night Concert Series sponsored by Tom Holzer Ford and the Northville DDA brings some of the finest local musicians to downtown Northville's outdoor stage each Friday night. The schedule features everything from jazz to blues to rock 'n' roll. For more information, call 248-349-0203.

RTHVILLE

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2013 • hometownlife.com

District trying to figure out Lansing's 'shell game'

By Lonnie Huhman

The budget for the 2013-14 school year has Northville Public Schools in a healthier position, but school officials still

have some issues with how Lan-

sing is depicting and distributing public school financing. There is a bit of a shell game being played by the state," said board President Ken Roth at the Northville Board of Education's

June 25 meeting.

Roth said it was a bit disingenuous of Gov. Rick Snyder and state legislators to say there is more K-12 funding. He said yes, there is some (in Northville's case \$5 per student), but a lot of it is going right back out to cover the increasing retirement costs as part of the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System. Northville's costs have risen for retirement health/pension over the last

several years.

According to the state's 2014 budget, there is \$449.7 million more in funding for K-12 education. Snyder said funding for K-12 education is up about 3 percent this year.

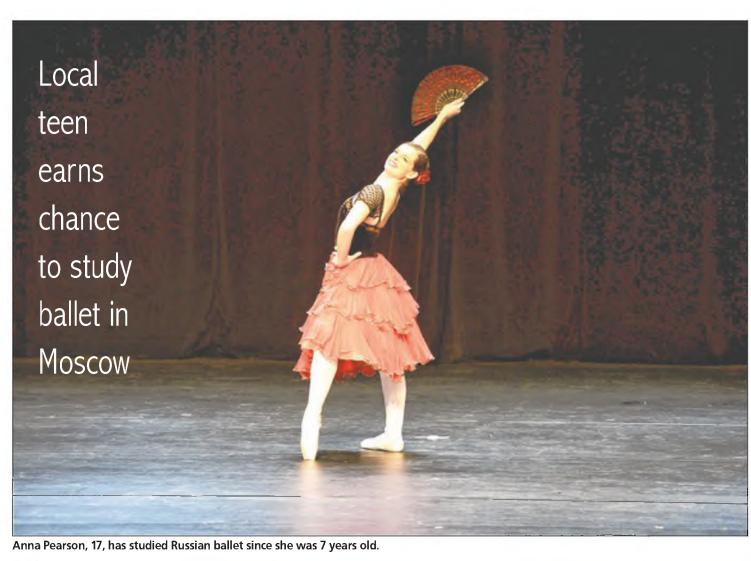
Another area of concern is the state's funding policy as directed by Proposal A. Some on the school board feel as if Northville is giving much more than it receives back, and revenue collected should be just for K-12.

Yet, the state has redirected some Proposal A funding to

community colleges. 'Northville has been a donor district, meaning for all the dollars we give to the state we get significantly less in return to our district," board Vice Presi-dent James Mazurek said.

He thanked local legislators for their work in getting some money back to Northville, but he

See FUNDING, Page A2



LEARNING FROM THE RUSSIAN **MASTERS**

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

An opportunity of a lifetime has been presented to Northville teen Anna Pearson, 17, to study ballet at a world-renowned ballet academy in Russia, and she couldn't be more excited.

"I feel incredibly honored to have been awarded with such an amazing opportunity," Pearson said. The New York-based Russian American Foundation (RAF)

announced that Pearson has been selected for the prestigious NSLI FOR YOUTH Program, which is funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, to spend six weeks of the summer studying Russian language, culture and ballet at the world-renowned Bolshoi Ballet Academy in Moscow.

"I've studied Russian ballet since I was 7 years old and now I have the chance to dance at the Bolshoi Ballet Academy in Moscow, Russia, one of the most prestigious ballet schools in

See BALLET, Page A2

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Dylan Dunlap and his attorney, Robert Mullen, listen to testimony in 35th District Court on June 28.

Dunlap bound over on charges

By Kurt Kuban

Dylan Dunlap, the Northville Township man accused of torturing a 23-month-old boy, has been bound over to the Wayne County Circuit Court on the all of the charges, including torture and

abuse. The final witness took to the stand on Monday, and final arguments were also presented by

Northville Township Lt. Michael Wildt was questioned as to the process in which he conducted his interviews with Dunlap. Wildt was asked whether or not the proper procedure was followed as far as the reading of Dunlap's rights were concerned. Wildt said he believed that Dunlap voluntarily and willingly waived his rights.

Defense Attorney Robert Mullen also wanted the charge of first-degree child abuse to be lowered to second-degree and the charge of torture lessened, saying evidence does not support the seriousness of those

charges. The prosecutor closed her case by saying the facts are strong enough to warrant a bindover to the Circuit Court. Judge James Plakas agreed and said the physical evidence was more than enough to bind the case

over to the next level.
"That's torture, that's child abuse first-degree," Plakas said after the final arguments and while reviewing some of the evidence. "Without question, the prosecutor has met her burden on all four of these counts.'

Prosecutors say Dunlap lost his temper while babysitting the boy May 5-6 at his Northville Township apartment and beat the boy, causing numerous serious injuries. They also say Dunlap used a lighter to burn the child in several places, and even

bit him on the leg. The 19-year-old Dunlap, wear-

See CHARGES, Page A2



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BALLET

Continued from Page A1

the world," she said. "I am also excited to live in Russia for six weeks and learn the language and the culture. I have a passion for travel and I can't wait to absorb everything this experience will offer."

Launched as part of a U.S. government initiative in 2006, NSLI-Y seeks to increase Americans' capacity to engage with native speakers of critical languages by providing formal and informal language learning, and an intensive cultural immersion experi-

The goals of the NSLI-Y program include sparking a lifelong interest in foreign languages and cultures, and developing a corps of young Americans with the skills necessary to advance international dialogue in the private, academic or government sectors.

The opportunity came about after Pearson auditioned for the Bolshoi Ballet Academy's Summer Intensive in New York City.

'I was accepted through my video audition to attend the threeweek ballet training program in New York City," Pearson said. "Afterward, all of those accepted to the summer intensive could apply to the NSLI-Y's program in Moscow.

To apply she wrote two essavs. submitted teacher recommenda-

FUNDING

Continued from Page A1

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Northville teen Anna Pearson, 17, is headed to Russia to study ballet at a world-renowned ballet academy in Moscow.

school year, the district

student in "performance

incentive" funding. This

"This is positive news

past year, per student

funding was at \$8,019.

for the 2013-14 school

year," she said. "At the

same time, we remain

concerned about funds

being redirected from

mindful of the ongoing

health and pension lega-

cy costs that are project-

The Northville school

board approved the 2013-

This balanced budget has revenues and costs at

The local debt millage

14 budget by a 6-0 vote.

\$68,752,371 apiece.

rate will remain at 4.3

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at 6 for homestead and

nonhomestead, while

state operating millage is

trary to the intent of

Proposal A, and are

increases in retiree

the School Aid Fund con-

qualifies for \$40 per

tions and conducted a phone interview.

She was born and raised in Northville by her parents, Lisa and Craig Pearson; she also has a 14year-old sister, Melissa. She attended Northville High School until about a year ago when her father, an engineer with Ford, took a temporary international assignment in Brazil. Currently, she lives in Salvador, Brazil, and attends the Pan American School of Bahia. They will be moving back to Northville next summer.

But for now, a new opportunity awaits.

"I was ecstatic after I got the email announcing that I had won the scholarship," she said. "Now

Superintendent Mary

Kay Gallagher said rath-

er than facing a shortfall

of up to \$500,000 or more,

NPS will see a small gain

of \$5 per student, or

ORTHVILLE

RECORD

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tionally, for the 2013-14

I'm about to head off to Russia this summer and it is a dream come true.'

By going to Moscow, she hopes she can learn from the masters and improve her ballet technique.

"I want to learn how to approach my training from a different perspective and find new inspiration by going to the birthplace of some of the most famous professional ballet dancers," she said.

Aside from ballet, she also wants to become a more global citizen by experiencing a new culture and learning a new language.

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ating mill on nonhome-

stead properties. Also,

the 1-mill sinking fund

A mill equals \$1 per

estate. The district's total

taxable value for 2013-13

was \$2,436,220,941. Last

year, its general fund

budget was \$66,177,940

while the operating cost

School board Trustee

per pupil was at \$9,052.

Scott Craig said they

expect class sizes to be

tion of some new hires

will go into next year.
"As we plan for the

2013-14 school year, we

to maintain or improve

while also moving for-

of technology and con-

tinuing to challenge all

students to reach their

potential," Gallagher

are cognizant of the need

class size where possible

ward with the integration

down a bit with the addi-

this past school year that

will remain in place.

\$1,000 of the taxable

valuation of local real

CHARGES

Continued from Page A1

ing a yellow Wayne County Jail outfit, listened last week as three Northville Township police officers gave testimony about their various interviews with Dunlap over the course of several days, beginning May 6. Those ultimately led to his arrest and subsequent charges of torture, assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, and firstdegree child abuse. He is also charged with assault or assault and battery, which is a misdemeanor. He is facing two life sentences if found guilty.

Sgt. Samantha Bowlin, and detectives Mike Burrough and Jon Huerta all gave testimony in court about their numerous interviews with Dunlap after the child was taken from his care and transported to Providence Hospital. Huerta's testimony was most damning, as he explained how Dunlap changed his story several times before ultimately admitting in a signed statement that he was responsible for the boy's injuries.

Huerta said when first questioned about the incident, Dunlap said his new dog was playing rough with the boy and caused the injuries.

"After I told him the injuries weren't consistent of that of a dog, he became tearful and upset. He indicated that was not the truth." Huerta testified. "He then said (the boy) fell down the steps of the apartment."

According to Huerta, he then told Dunlap that story was unlikely as well. That's when Dunlap allegedly changed his story again, ultimately saying he hit the boy because he kept walking through the apartment's sliding glass door and out towards the parking lot, which "was making him very upset.

Huerta also testified that Dunlap told investigators that he had "anger management and anxiety issues" and that he had been seeing a therapist to deal with those issues.

During a subsequent interview, Huerta said Dunlap was asked about the hurns on the boy's

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body. He said Dunlap admitted using a lighter

to cause the burns. "He said he put the flame to the skin (of the

boy)," Huerta said. Police secured a search warrant for Dunlap's apartment, and

recovered two lighters. Mullen objected, saying Dunlap's signed statement, in which he admitted causing the boy's injuries, should not be admissible in court because Huerta never verbally told Dunlap that if he signed the statement he was waiving his rights to have an attorney present.

"My client was not told he was giving up his rights by making a statement," Mullen argued.

However, Huerta said Dunlap was read his Miranda rights, and went over the rights point by point before signing the statement. Judge James Plakas agreed with the prosecution that Dunlap voluntarily gave up his rights and cooperated, and he accepted Dunlap's statements into the record.

"His injuries were spread out over his whole body — from head to toe," said Victoria Busch, the boy's mother. "He looked like he had been crying for hours. He was shaking. He didn't want me to put him down. He was really upset.'

The boy was transported to Providence Hospital and then to the University of Michigan Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, where he was treated for his injuries. According to police reports and photos exhibited in court, the boy sustained bruising to his head, face, back and torso. He had multiple burns on his body, including on the left side of his chest, left hand and wrist, and on his lip. He also had what was described in court as a human bite mark on one of his legs.

Dunlap is being held in Wayne County Jail. Plakas ordered him held on a \$1 million bond. He is bound over to the Wayne Circuit Court for final determination with an arraignment July 8.

Staff writer Lonnie Huhman contributed to this story.

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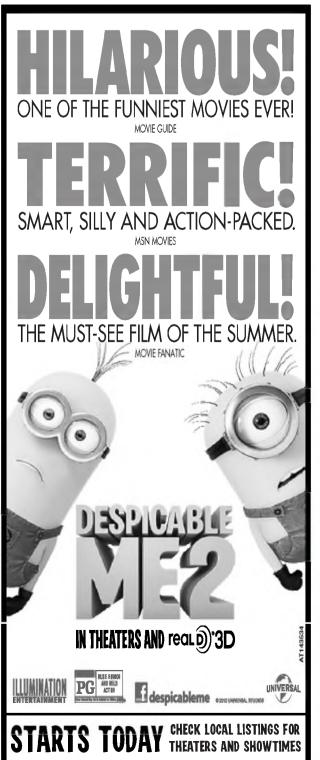


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Hip meals on wheels

Award-winning food trucks headed for downtown

By Lonnie Huhman

Award-winning food trucks are coming to downtown Northville this month.

The Northville Central **Business Association** (NCBA) plans to have seven food trucks park on Main Street to kick off this summer's sidewalk sale event in an effort to tap into the new interest in food truck rallies.

The City Council granted the request from the NCBA to hold a food truck rally from 5-9 p.m. July 18.

According to NCBA spokesperson Dan Ferrara, this event is being sponsored by the NCBA and executed by his company, Rutiger Consulting. The food truck group is Metro Detroit Street Eats.

'The Northville Central Business Association is excited to bring a new idea to Downtown Northville. We wanted to find a way to kick off the sidewalk sale weekend and make it a fun weeknight for Northville residents and the shoppers that come in from other towns," he said.

Northville City Manager Patrick Sullivan said the food trucks from the Metro Detroit Food Truck Association will park on both sides of Main just east of Center Street. He said these trucks are self contained and will not need electrical access. They will also keep a distance from the dining platforms at Table 5 and Le George, so as not to interfere with

customers dining out-

Live music will be played in Town Square for the duration of the event to draw patrons down to Town Square after visiting the trucks.

"The idea was suggested by a member of the NCBA, and we moved forward with the help of Lori Ward and Pat Sullivan because we think it's something that's great for Northville's image and great for the retailers and restaurants in town," Ferrara said. He added, "The res-

taurants have been really supportive because they understand that the foodies that follow these food trucks will get a chance to see that Northville has over 18 restaurants that they might want to check out in the future."

This is not a roach coach caravan. There will be a variety of foods that range from gourmet to down-home cooking.

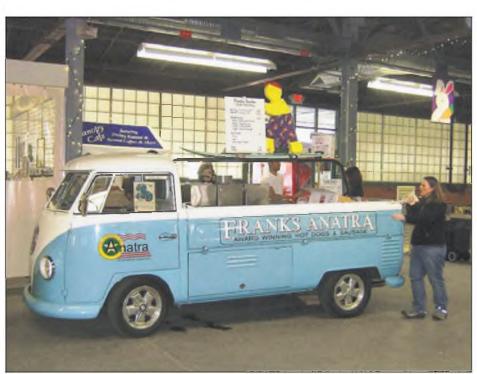
One truck that will be serving up delicious food that evening will be the Green Zebra, which features "New Ámerican Street Food." This truck has featured items before like the Bacon Tomato Jam Grill Cheese and Brown Sugar Ham Pretzel.

Another is Jacques' Tacos, which is a gourmet food truck that serves fresh, delicious Mexican cuisine.

Their menu was created by Michelin-rated Chef Wes Holton, and is entirely homemade with fresh, healthy ingredients. Their authentic



Downtown Northville will have a Food Truck Rally on July 18, an event brought to the community by the Northville Central Business Association and Metro Detroit Street Eats.



Metro Detroit Street Eats are coming to downtown Northville to feature some delicious gourmet food.

Mexican flavors earned Jacques' the distinction of winning both "Best Food Truck" in Metrotimes Best of Detroit and Real Detroit Magazine in

For the NCBA, this is a way to enhance the already popular sidewalk sale event. This food truck group has held rallies in Ferndale and Royal Oak.

"A lot of people in

nearby cities don't realize the changes that have taken place in Northville in the last few years.

In addition to some of our phenomenal longtime retailers and restaurants, we have so many new stores, restaurants and other businesses that make Northville a really exciting downtown.

This event gives us an opportunity to get new people into town, both from outside of Northville, and maybe even some who live in the city but haven't made it downtown in a while. It'll be great to show off those businesses and get some positive word-ofmouth publicity for our downtown."

The sidewalk sale event is July 19-21, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. that Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. that Sunday.

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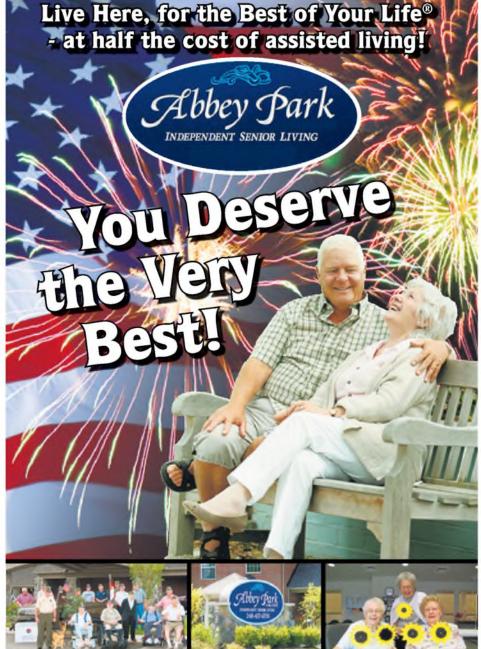
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NHS students perform well on state tests

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

When it comes to college readiness, Northville High School students again perform above the state averages.

This year's junior class performed well on this year's Michigan Merit Exam (MME) and ACT tests in all subject areas compared to state averages. The results were released this past week by the Michigan Department of Education

In March 2013, a total of 590 NHS students took the MME and ACT, up from 530 last year. Despite a slight decline in MME scores for the district from last year to this year, the percentage of Northville students scoring at the "proficient" and "advanced" levels remains strong.

"Northville High School provides an academically rigorous program with meaningful interventions for those students not performing at a level of proficiency," said NHS Principal Rob Watson. "Proficiency in a content area is

determined through a variety of student assessments over an extended period of time."

The district improvement plan has a focus to make more significant improvements in student assessment results.

Watson said "the MME is one tool used by our educators to help map out each student's progress. The social studies scores, along with math and science, have resulted in the need to place more emphasis on these subject areas as we look to next year's school improvement plan with the goal of better preparing students."

NHS MME scores have fluctuated over the past four years in the subject areas of reading, writing, and science.

The greatest four-year growth has occurred in math, with 60 percent of Northville students tested in March 2013 scoring at "proficient" or "advanced" levels, compared to 54 percent in 2010.

Social studies is a current area of focus for the district, as a result of the declining levels of proficiency from four years ago, the district said.

NHS juniors who took the ACT during the spring 2013 MME test period recorded an average composite score of 24.1, with 44.7 percent meeting the "college-ready" benchmark, which is a target set by Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder.

In comparison, the statewide average ACT composite score for the March test was 19.7, with 18.1 percent of Michigan students college-ready.

Novi Public Schools juniors' average composite ACT score is at 23 while Plymouth-Canton students averaged a 22.

"The consistently strong performance of our students on the MME and ACT is a testimony to the strong partnership between our students, teachers and parents, that focuses on success for all students," Watson said.

The district and individual school improvement processes are focused on advancing student success and district's leaders and educators are guided by the district and building improvement plans and annual reports, which can be viewed on the district web-

site at http://www.north-ville.k12.mi.us/annualreports.

'As we do each year, administrators and educators from across the school district create school improvement plans using student performance data - along with other assessments of student learning — to improve our curriculum and instructional practices, enhance student intervention and support programs, and establish school improvement goals," said NPS Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher. "These goals continue to include a focus on each of the core content areas as expectations have increased based on college and career readiness

standards."
According to NPS, this is the seventh year that high school juniors in Michigan have taken the MME. The MME includes the ACT, a national standardized college entrance exam that many colleges across the country require students to take as part of the application process.

In addition, the MME also includes a free WorkKeys job

skills assessment that evaluates students' education and job opportunities, as well as core subject area assessments that measure student knowledge in math, science, social studies, and persuasive writing not covered in the ACT and WorkKeys tests.

The combined MME assessment measures student learning under the Michigan high school standards, benchmarks and core content expectations contained in the Michigan high school graduation requirements.

It evaluates student performance and its scores are used to determine if high schools achieve Adequate Yearly Progress as required under the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

To learn more, visit www.northville.k12.mi.us and click on the "MI School Data" link for more detailed information or to view MME results for other area school districts.

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Gary Luo, Anil Palepu, Raj Raina and Apurva Shrivistava -- fielded three teams in the American Regions Mathematics League (ARML) Competition. This is the 24th year Michigan has participated in the competition. The national competition was held June 1; the Michigan team competed at the University of Iowa. The Michigan A1 Reals placed 15th nationally out of a field of 78 teams in the A division. They were second at the Iowa site in the A division. The Michigan A2 Naturals placed 59th nationally out of a field of 78 teams in the A division. In 2011 they were #1 in the country in the B division, and qualified to move up to A. The Michigan B1 Primes, placed 15th nationally out of a field of 61 teams in the B division. They were fifth at the Iowa site in the B division.

District 'moves forward' with new contracts

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

Northville Public Schools has reached new two-year agreements with its K-12 paraprofessionals and para educators.

Like the other recent contract agreements the district has reached, under this new contract there is a partial restoration of previous concessions made in the prior contracts. These include a 1.5 percent off-schedule wage restoration, which will be applied in 2013-14 and 2014-15, for the para pros and a 1 percent increase for the coming year for para educators, however that increase will be frozen again at this new level in 2014-15.

Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher said the district was not in a place to return to the previous wages, but she added, "We are in a position, given the budget ... to restore a portion of the wage reduction that was taken."

She said the negotiations were professionally handled by both sides. District officials were expecting a shortfall in the budget for the coming year, but some health care changes and added revenue to the general fund balance has allowed the district to get to a fiscally healthier place.

Under the new contract, like the others, health insurance subscribers will be subject to the hard cap established by the state.

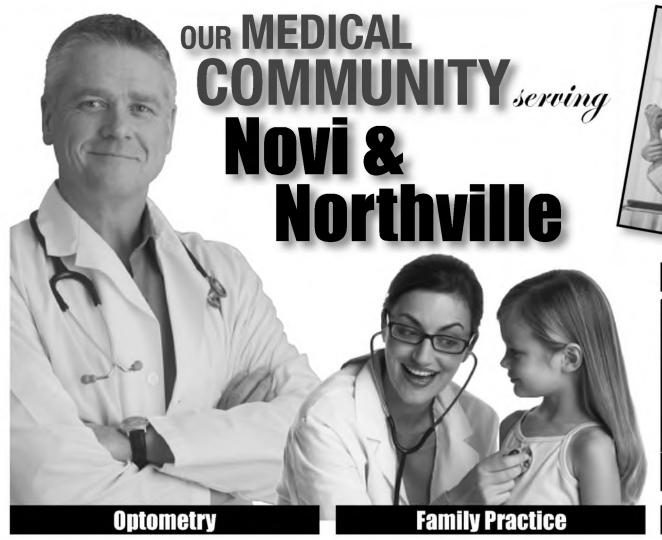
The Northville Board of Education approved the contracts by 6-0 votes. The American Federation of Teachers (AFT) is the union that represents the para pros and educators. They also ratified the contract.

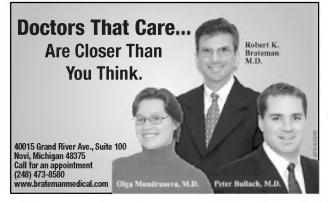
The Paraprofessional and School-Related Personnel (PSRP) division of the AFT, AFL-CIO, represents more than 350,000 school support staff in K-12 districts, colleges and universities.

School Board President Ken Roth said this new contract represents a better reality for the district, but he added there are still challenges ahead.

"These continue to be challenging times, but this is a move forward," he said.

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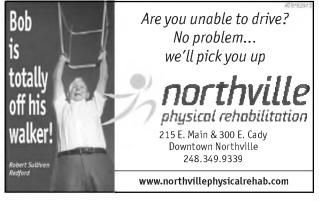
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Festival attendees got to try their hand at furniture making in the Church Square courtyard.

ENJOYING ALL THINGS ARTISTIC

By Lonnie Huhman

Staff Writer

The Arts and Acts Festival overcame very bad weather on the first day to rally for a busy weekend of crowds looking to enjoy art, theater and music.

On Friday, June 28, a heavy rain and wind storm swept through downtown Northville leaving many scrambling for cover. However, the weather got much better as the weekend went on.

"Overall, we had a very successful Arts and Acts Festival," said Art House Director Joan Potter Thomas, who coordinated the effort. "The weather did play a significant factor on the number of artists who stayed for the event, as we had six artists who either suffered so much damage during the storm that they lost their inventory and/or their actual tents, and had to leave."

She said, "These departures left 'gaps' that were disappointing, but completely understandable."

They also had four booth spaces remain empty due to last-minute family emergencies, which also contributed to a smaller Art in the Sun this year. "However, the artists that were able to stay rallied, and Saturday and Sunday were perfect days for the art fair. Those days were successful and enjoyed by everyone," Potter Thomas added.

One of the highlights of the weekend was the Children's Activity tent.

"It was packed all weekend," according to Potter Thomas.

Two-hundred and forty-eight children participated in the Fairy Door Scavenger Hunt (of those, 236 finished and won a prize) and over 300 children painted the doors in the "Art Opens Doors" mural painting event

These doors will be on display as outdoor sculpture on the Art House lawn later this month.

In addition, the Reel Michigan Film and Sandbox Play festivals both received rave reviews from audience members, and the Short on Words Literary Festival reception was wonderfully attended and enjoyed as well.

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



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On E. Main Street, artist Debra Adamcik drew caricatures of people who were willing to sit for a bit.

Steve Taylor and Renee Paquette kicked off the live music at Town Square on Saturday afternoon, followed by Saint Cecilia and The Flutter & Wow.





From Main north to Dunlap, Center Street was lined with artists booths.

grapher Mustafa Wahid, of Shelby Township, displayed his work in only his second show on the arts festival circuit. ALL PHOTOS BY CAL STONE



Helping people get a handle on grief

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Karen Laing was widowed at age 47 with a daughter, then 13, and a son, then 17. Friends at her church knew she was devastated by the sudden change in her life, so they recommended the Northville-based New Hope Center for Grief Support, and she attended a workshop at Ward Church.

Laing, a Novi resident, was so impressed with the program and the good it did for her that she later became a volunteer facilitator with New Hone

Then, this past December, she succeeded co-founder Cathy Clough as its executive director. New Hope has helped more than 12,000 people deal with grief since its founding in January

"Cathy had left things in really excellent shape," said Laing, noting the two women worked together during a three month transition.

She said New Hope has solid partnerships with churches, businesses and several funeral homes that host programs, as well as excellent programs and services for grief support.

"Prior to a significant loss, most people are uncomfortable," she said of death. The loss of a loved one hits hard, and people are often expected to get back to work quickly.

"I could go to New Hope and sit with the other women in my support group," Laing said. "If you're not healing, you're simply bottling it up inside."

All services at the Christian-based New Hope are offered free of charge, at sites in Oakland, Wayne, Macomb and Livingston counties.

"I lost my own husband, and that deepened the journey even further," Laing said of her own loss.

Laing, after her husband's death, took a job in corporate human resources in California and moved her family. They were there about a year and a half.

"We missed our friends," she said. "We missed our family here."

She opted to return and contacted Clough about volunteering. The response was that Clough's job was open.

Laing earned a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Maryland and a master's in human resources from



Karen Laing began as the executive director for New Hope Center for Grief Support last December. Here she is at the center's memory garden that features memorial stones placed there by children noting the loss of a parent. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rutgers University in New Jersey.

"It was really learning the nonprofit sector," she said of her new job. She also needed to learn more about grief and loss

"People who are grieving will call us," and listening matters so much. Laing also needed to learn to speak before groups about New Hope, including her own experiences with grief.

"For every person it's unique," she said of loss. The support groups give sacred space to talk about feelings, as well as such practical issues as paying bills, being a single parent and returning to work.

"It helps people find hope, healing and new beginnings," said Laing, noting those in grief meet with others with similar losses.

She started as a teacher and then wanted to

DETAILS

New Hope Center for Grief Support can be reached at 248-348-0115. It is located at 315 Griswold near Mill Race Historic Village in Northville, and its website is www.newhopecenter.net.

work with adults. She loved training and other aspects of HR, but not bureaucracy and especially handling layoffs.

"I wanted to help people heal," she said. She'd encountered death in the workplace with two industrial accidents, and found those families as well as the co-workers needed to mourn.

New Hope has a children's program based at Northville's First Church of the Nazarene, for preschoolers through high schoolers. Those young people who've had losses meet in one of three groups with others close in age.

New Hope Center for Grief Support is Christian-based, but its services are open to those of all faith traditions. "Our neighbor is every person in this world."

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Thousands cited during seat belt crackdown

During a statewide effort to get motorists to buckle up, law enforcement agencies in 26 counties issued 8,701 seat belt and child seat violation tickets, nearly 600 more citations than during last year's enforcement effort.

Preliminary reports from police agencies indicate 13,453 vehicles were stopped during the May 20-June 2 Click It or Ticket campaign. The enforcement is part of a national effort to save lives and reduce injuries by increasing seat belt use.

Following the state's record-high rate of 97.9 percent in 2009, seat belt use declined to 93.6 percent in 2012. Every 1 percent increase in belt use means 10 fewer traffic deaths and 130 fewer injuries. In 2012, 225 people who died in Michigan traffic crashes were

not buckled up.

"Motorists were warned about the enforcement through advertising on the Internet, television and radio stations and through the media. Those that didn't heed the advice to 'click it' received a ticket," stated Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning Director Michael L. Prince. "The bottom line is seat belts save lives and motorists need to

buckle up every trip, every time."

In addition to seat belt violations, 15 drunken drivers were arrested during the enforcement period and 29 drug arrests were made. More than 1,000 tickets for uninsured motorists and 415 for suspended licenses were written. In Eaton County, a seat belt stop resulted in the discovery of methamphetamine in the vehicle and

the seizure of more than \$30,000 in other drugs. Twelve people died in traffic crashes over the Memorial Day period. Of those, three were not wearing a seat belt, two were motorcyclists, two were riding off-road vehicles along the roadway, one was riding a moped and one was a pedestrian. During the 2012 Memorial Day period 10 people were killed in traffic crashes.



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www.Waltonwood.com



Volunteers wall

Novi Providence Park Hospital volunteers Amy Grieger (left) Barbara Walsh and Ed Good take a look at the facility's recognition board on June 19. The plaque, noting volunteers' efforts and time dedicated, is located on the first floor of the hospital near its main entrance. Some volunteers, like Good, have logged more than 10,000 hours of service to the hospital, JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



LOCAL NEWS

NOVI / NORTHVILLE CHURCH CALENDAR

Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile

Contact: 248-349-3647 or

Family Worship: 11 a.m.

Bible Study: 6 p.m.

north of Eight Mile

first bapt is tchurch of novi.org

Family Bible Hour: 9:45 a.m.

Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.;

fourth Sunday of every month

FIRST CHURCH OF

THE NAZARENE

Location: 21260 Haggerty,

Contact: 248-348-7600 or visit

Sunday Schedule: 9:30 a.m.

Band, Children's Sunday School

Worship service with Praise

and Adult Bible Fellowship;

worship service, Children's

10:30 a.m. Fellowship and re-

freshments; 11 a.m. Traditional

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; 6:30 p.m. Children's

VBS/Caravan, Club 56, Bible

Thursdays: 6 a.m. Men of

PRESBYTERIAN

Purpose Prayer Group

CHURCH OF

NORTHVILLE

Location: 200 E. Main

www.fpcnorthville.org

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

PRESBYTERIAN

Location: 205 E. Lake Street

(corner of Wells and 10 Mile),

Contact: 248-437-2875

FIRST UNITED

METHODIST

CHURCH OF

NORTHVILLE

Location: 777 W. Eight Mile,

Contact: 248-349-1144 or

Summer Sunday Worship

Summer Sunday School

8:30 a.m. - Nursery; 10 a.m.

May): 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m.

Nursery 12th grade; 11 a.m.

GOOD SHEPHERD

Location: 41415 Nine Mile,

Sundays: 8:45 a.m. Sunday

Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile

Contact: 248-427-1175 or ho-

lycrossnovi@gmail.com; visit

Sunday Worship: 7:45 and 10

Sunday School and Nursery

Care: 10 a.m. Worship service

10 a.m. second Saturday of

2-5:30 p.m. Sunday, July 14;

featuring Mike Lamb, singer-

Alzheimer's Support Group:

Family Concert on the Lawn:

songwriter, and Exit 145, a classic

rock band. Beverages provided;

bring your own picnic and lawn

chairs. Freewill offering to

benefit AGAPE Novi.

School and Bible Study; 10 a.m.

Contact: 248-349-0565

HOLY CROSS

EPISCOPAL

holyCROSSnovi.org

CHURCH

corner of Meadowbrook Road,

Nursery - sixth grade

Nursery sixth grade

LUTHERAN

CHURCH

Worship

month.

(Memorial Day-Labor Day):

(Memorial Day-Labor Day):

Sunday Worship (September-

Sunday School (September-

May): 8 a.m. Nursery; 9:15 a.m.

www.fumcnorthville.org

Contact: 248-349-0911 or visit

Youth Group

FIRST

FIRST

CHURCH

South Lyon

Northville

8:30 and 10 a.m.

Study, Quilting, Adult Classes,

BRIGHTMOOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Location: M-5 and 13 Mile, Novi Contact: 248-227-4420 or www.brightmoorchurch.org

Celebrate Recovery

Time/Dates: 7 p.m. Mondays Details: Worship, teaching or testimony, and open-share recovery groups. Organizers offer the principles and tools to bring healing for the hurts, deliverance from life-controlling habits, and freedom from the hang-ups that keep us from developing strong and healthy relations with God and others. Enter at Door D on the south side of the building. No cost; free child care is available for children birth through fifth grade. Please pre-register.

CHURCH OF THE

Location: 24505 Meadowbrook

Contact: 248-349-8847 or visit

Mass Schedule

Holy days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30

a.m. Saturdays or by appoint-

Priests: Rev. Bob LaCroix, pas-

HOLY FAMILY

Road

holyfamilynovi.org

Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Friday; 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday; 4:30 p.m. Saturday; 6:30 p.m. Saturday (Spanish)

Reconciliation: Beginning 9

tor, and the Rev. Michael Zuelch. associate pastor

CROSSPOINTE MEADOWS CHURCH

Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile

Contact: 248-669-9400. 9 a.m.to 3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit www.crosspointemeadows.org.

Sunday worship: 11:15 a.m. Bible study classes: 10 a.m. for

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

DESTINY WORSHIP CENTER

Location: Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 Six Mile, Northville

Contact: DestinyW3C@Gmail.com or visit www.DW3C.org

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia

Web: www.emmanuel-livonia.org

Contact: 248-442-8822 Sunday worship: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Adult special needs worship: 9:30 a.m.

Youth group: Tuesdays at

Children's Summer Sunday Church: 9:30 a.m. Sundays; for children entering kindergarten through third grade

Women's Coffee Break Bible Study: 9:30-11 a.m. July 8; "What are we really doing with

Vacation Bible School: "Everywhere Fun Fair;" 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Aug. 5-9; for children entering preschool through sixth grade

Youth group: 7:45-9 p.m.

Rummage Sale: July 18-20

FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile **Contact:** 248-349-2345 or visit www.faithcommunity-novi.org

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m Women's Bible Study: 9:15-10:30 a.m. Saturdays

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

Location: 217 N. Wing Contact: 248-348-1020 Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays

Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NOVI -FAMILY INTERGRATED

CHURCH

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Location: 39200 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

LAKES BAPTIST CHURCH

Location: 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake LIVONIA CHURCH

OF CHRIST Location: 15431 Merriman Contact: 734-427-8743 or visit

www.livoniachurch.net Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. Bible School: Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL **CHURCH**

Location: 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight Mile and Nine Mile

Contact: the Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, senior minister, 248-348-7757, visit mbccc.org or e-mail to office@mbccc.org

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. Church School: 10-11 a.m. Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m.

Merry Widows Luncheon: 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of each month

Pilgrim Fellowship: 6 p.m.

Vacation Bible School -"Kingdom Rocks": 5:30-8 p.m. July 21-25; dinner is served; suggested donation for VBS -

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

Location: 41355 Six Mile Contact: 248-348-9030

Sundays: 9-10 a.m. Sunday School for Adults / Youth / Children; 9 a.m. Contemporary service in multi-purpose gymnasium: 1015 a.m.: Contemporary service in worship center; children's super church on the

second level (208/210) Wednesday Family Night: 7 p.m.; Adult elective classes; junior and senior high ministries; children's programs, Nursery and Preschool Program on Sundays and Wednesdays Home of Northville Christian School (day care; preschool through eighth grade); call 248-348-9031.

NOVI-NORTHVILLE CENTER FOR JEWISH LIFE

Details: A Jewish center with events, programs and activities for all ages throughout the year - children's programs, Sunday school, adult Jewish classes, youth clubs, holiday services programs, social events.

Contact: Rabbi Avrohhom & Leah Susskind at 248-790-6075 or rabbi@noviiewishcenter.com: www.novijewishcenter.com

NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile Contact: 248-349-2652 or visit umcnovi.com

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pages/Novi-United-Methodist-Church/59782031433

Sunday Worship: 9:45 a.m. **Healing Service and Holy** Communion: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month

Peace Vigil: noon, first Sunday of every month in front of the church. Members of the congregation and the community will stand united in prayer for peace.

OAK POINTE CHURCH

Location: 50200 W. 10 Mile, Novi

Contact: 248-912-0043 or visit oakpointe.org

Worship Services: 5:15 p.m. Saturday: 9:15 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday

ReNew Life Group Ministries:

Details: Overseen by TrueNorth Christian Counseling, offering a variety of support and relational groups: Divorce Care; Grief Share; Life Disrupted (Doing Well At Being Sick); Restarting; Setting Boundaries with Teen & Adult Children; Single and Single Again; Men's Integrity; Cross Current; Her Story-Partner Care; Growing Seasons (for children); two new groups are Caretakers and Knitted Together (Adoption/Foster Care) Work-Contact: 248-912-0043;

7:15-9 p.m. every Monday

www.oakpointe.org/lifegroups/ renew/index.html.

Women's Life Groups Ministries: 7 p.m. every Tuesday 9:30 a.m. every Wednesday

Men's Life Groups Ministries: 6 a.m. every Friday morning at various locations For both Women's and Men's Life Groups Ministries, please contact the church office.

ORCHARD GROVE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Location: 850 Ladd Road, Building C, Walled Lake Web: www.orchardgrove.org

Contact: Amanda Rehm at 248-926-6584 or amanda.rehm@orchardgrove.org

OUR SAVIOUR APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH

Location: 54899 Eight Mile, Northville

ORCHARD GROVE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Location: 850 Ladd Road, Walled Lake Contact: 248-926-6584;

www.orchardgrove.org

ORCHARD HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

Location: 23455 Novi Road Contact: pastor Jon Hix, 248-349-5665

Preschool/Kids Choir: 7-8:15 p.m. every Wednesday Details: For ages 3-6; ongoing

event; no need to pre-register. **OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL**

Location: 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth Contact: 734-453-0326, Ext. 221

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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.

OUR SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH Location: 1200 S. Sheldon Road,

Plymouth

Contact: Pastor Bill Burke at 734-927-0891

Wednesday Bible Study: 7

Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. with fellowship and food after

OUR SAVIOUR APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH

Location: 54899 Eight Mile, Northville

PENTECOSTALS OF NOVI

Location: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile

Contact: 248-697-8158 or visit www.thepentecostalsofnovi.org

Passages Marrories & Remembrances

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ANDREWS.

VINCENT March 21, 1924 - June 17, 2013 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

BLAISDELL, **JOAN** Age 57, passed away June 28, 2013. She was born on July 28. 1955 in Pontiac, daughter of the late Vernon & Virginia Blaisdell. For the last 9 years, Joanie resided at The Trelawney Home in New Hudson. Joanie is survived by her loving siblings: Mary (Claude) Brock, Claire Boulton, Kathryn Rose, her sister-in-law, Mary Jane Blaisdell, Mark (Debbie) Blaisdell, and Lisa (Mike) Hawley. She is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends and caregivers at The Trelawney Home. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother Paul in 2011. Visitation was held on Monday at PHILLIPS FUNER-AL HOME, South Lyon. A fu-

Joseph Catholic Church. Online guestbook at: www.phillipsfuneral.com

neral Mass was celebrated at St.



BOYLE. **BERNARD**

February 5, 1936 - June 13, 2013 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

KRUSE, CLARENĆE Sept. 18, 1928 - June 13, 2013 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

COMFORT

NORMAN LEE

Age 89, passed away

June 12, 2013 in Sarasota, FL. He was born on October 26, 1923, in Detroit, to the late Julius and Lydia (Herman) Comfort. He graduated from East Detroit High School Class of 1941 and also attended Detroit Business College. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII. Norm moved to South Lyon in 1952. He was first employed by the State Savings Bank of South Lyon as Vice President and Head Cashier. Later he started his own accounting and tax service called Comfort Business Service. He kept books for over 15 local businesses, served on Board of Directors for State Savings Bank for 15 years. He left State Savings bank in 1967, to start Comfort Meat Market, a wholesale and retail custom meat packing business. He sold that business in the early 70's, and obtained a real estate license and eventually became head real estate broker for Howell Town and Country Real Estate South Lyon branch. During this time, he started Select Homes, a custom residential home building business and built over 20 homes in the South Lyon area. He retired to Florida in the early 1980's and enjoyed a long retirement. Norm is survived by his loving wife Geraldine Comfort; daughter Audrey Comfort, and son Alan M Comfort. He was preceded in death by his pa-

and his brother Harold Comfort. A memorial service will be held on July 13, Saturday, at 1:00 p.m. at Phillips Funeral Home, 122 West Lake Street, South Lyon.

rents: Julius and Lydia Comfort,

Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

EDWARDS,

2013 at home. He was born on Park, to the late Arthur and Josephine (DeRosia) Edwards. He graduated from Plymouth High School in 1964, and was on the Derek and Ryan Edwards, sister Doreen Dwyer and 2 grandchildren. He was preceded in death brothers. A private family service will be held at a later date.



SEYMOUR, **PHILIP**

VICTORIA

DELANO obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

JAMES F.

Age 68, passed away June 27, February 6, 1945, in Highland class reunion committee. James is survived by his loving wife Kathleen Edwards, his sons: by his parents, 5 sisters and 3

Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

Phillips FUNERAL HOME AND CRIMATION SERVICES

HOUSE,

MELVIN F. Age 94, longtime resident of Northville, passed away June 25, 2013. Beloved husband of the late Margaret. Cherished father of Melinda (Tim) Cain. Adored grandfather of Sean and Seth. Private family services were held. Memorial contributions to American Cancer Society would

be appreciated. Share online condolences at casterlinefuneralhome.com

FUNERAL HOME, INC.

Dec. 17, 1947 - June 5, 2013 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

SLOWINSKI, June 15, 1916 - June 16, 2013 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

VALENTI,

Nov. 9, 1936 - June 23, 2013

The Northville District Library is at 212 W. Cady St. in downtown Northville. For more information, visit http://northville.lib.mi.us or call 248-349-

The library will be closed July 4 for Independence Day.

» Drop-In Summer Storytimes

10:30-11 a.m. Friday, July 5 Details: Fun for all ages. Just drop in. Due to space limitations, library activities cannot accommodate special groups.

» Joint Teen & Adult Book Discussion

7 p.m. Monday, July 8 Details: Enjoy snacks and win prizes while discussing Neil Gaiman's story of Charlie Nancy, whose normal, mundane life is suddenly turned upside down.

» Drop-In Face Painting Fun 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday,

LIBRARY LINES

Details: Have a fun design painted on your face and receive an exciting surprise in the library's meeting room. Just drop

» Cool Trick's & Funny Stuff **Magic Show**

in! For all ages.

2-2:45 p.m. Wednesday, July 10 Details: Enjoy zany magic while learning the importance of reading with Chris Linn. All ages welcome. Free ticket available 10 minutes prior to program.

» Making the Most of Your

7 p.m. Wednesday, July 10 Details: Bring your tablet and learn about great educational, reading and travel apps. Limit 30 people. Call 248-349-3020 to register.

» Teen Summer Reading **Program**

Continues through Summer Details: Register for the Beneath the Surface Teen Summer Reading program and earn prizes, attend fun programs and enter our grand prize drawing. Open to all Middle and High School students, including those entering grade 6 in the fall, and spring 2013 high school gradu-

» Youth Summer Reading **Program**

Continues through Summer Details: Dig into Reading at the Library this summer! Northville kids — babies through those entering 5th grade in the fall visit the library this summer for free activities, story times, reading incentive games, weekly prizes, and more. Parents: help your kids keep reading skills sharp over the summer. Register in person to receive your Summer Reading packet through the summer.

» Adult Summer Reading Program

Continues through Aug. 31

Bikers wanted



Trails Edge MiSCA, formed in August 2012, is currently recruiting new members for its scholastic-age mountain bike club. The club is targeting kids going into middle school through high school graduation for group rides and team events. To be a part of the club you need to live between Novi-Brighton and Plymouth-Highland and not have a MiSCA team at your school. Adult volunteers take members on weekly mountain bike trails such as the YMCA loop, Novi Tree Farm, Maybury and Island Lake, to name a few. Rides times and days are currently flexible based on the availability of members and volunteers. As the club grows, the times will become more standard. Contact trailsedgemisca@gmail.com to be sent more information about the club and available discounts for members at Trails Edge Cyclery Shops in Milford and Plymouth. You can also visit the Facebook page at Trails Edge MiSCA.

Your Invitation to

Brighton

LORD of LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

www.hsrcc.net at the corner of Winans Lake & Musch Rd. 810-231-9199 Fr. John Rocus, Pastor Weekend Liturgies Saturday 4:00 p.m. our Shroud of Turin Display and Book & Gift St

Walled Lake

CROSSPOINT

COMMUNITY CHURCH 1851 S. Commerce Rd. Walled Lake

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School 10:30 a.m. - Morning Worship Rev. Kenneth Warren - 586-531-2021 www.cpccnow.com

Whitmore Lake

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

Livonia

FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road - Livonia South of Six Mile Road unday School 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.n

Childrens Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Dr. James N. McGuire . Nursery Provided

New Hudson

NEW HUDSON UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH 730 Grand River Avenue • New Hudson MI 481 (248) 437-6212 • Gerald S. Hunter, Pastor

Sunday School & Bible Class -9:30 a m Worship-10:30 a.m www.newhudonsumc.or

NEW HOPE - A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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

Sunday Celebration of Life Service 10:30 a.m. Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister Website: http://www.newhopeuu.org

Milford

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH Preschool, Pre-K & Kdg. - Mo. Synod

620 General Motors Rd., Milford Church office: (248) 684-0895 Sunday Service: 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. School & Adult Bible Study: 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.r Rev. Peter Larson

FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD

133 Detroit St., Milford • 684-5695 Pastor Steve Swayze iday School (all ages) 9:45 a.m. ◆ Sunday Worship - 11 iu Young Adults Dinner/Bible Study, Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. rana, Wednesdaye, 6:45-8:15 p.m., 3 yrs old the 6th grade Website millordbaptistorg

WEST HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

1116 S. Hickory Ridge Rd., Miitord, MI 48380 248-887-1218 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Wednesday All Ages: 7:00 p.m. Also Small Groups / Ministry Teams

OAKPOINTE | milford

1250 South Hill Rd. 248) 685-3560 ntemporary Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am 8:11:15 am ntureland Children's Program: Sunday 9:15 am 8:11:15 am Middle School Suudent Ministries: Sunday 9:15 am Middle School Suudent Ministries: Sunday 9:15 am 18gh School Student Ministries: Sunday Evening-8-8 pm Women, Men and Ufe Groups: Various Scheduler

Milford United Methodist Church

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ren's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM

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Memorial Day - Labor Day 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Rev. Dr. Steven J. Buck, Senior Pastor

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OUR VIEWS

Self-evident truth

Sacrifices have helped shape our nation

As with many holidays born out of patriotic impulses, the true meaning of Independence Day can be easily lost amid the parades and the barbecues, among the sparklers and the games.

The men and women in our armed forces knew then this country would be founded on the basis of freedom, that it was a concept and an ideology worth fighting — and dying — for. And they know it – and deeply believe that – now.

It's easy to forget, because the brave sacrifices of our military men and women today come in faraway lands like Afghanistan and Iraq, that the very first sacrifices on the road to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness came right here on home

Some 25,000 Americans perished, and another 25,000 were injured, as the colonies fought — and died — for the right to determine their own destiny as a country, one of the truths leaders of the Second Continental Congress decided were self-

Though it holds no legal authority, the Declaration of Independence, as Thomas Jefferson wrote in a letter years after penning it, was "intended to be an expression of the American mind, and to give to that expression the proper tone and spirit called for by the occasion.'

It took a lot of courage, first writing and then signing that document. Clearly, the colonies had worked to resolve their differences with the British. The list of disputes in the document is exten-

But given the alternative, the document declares, the signers had the gumption – the will – to go to war. That's pretty tough talk, but it is also thoughtful and well-reasoned.

All people have unalienable rights, Jefferson reasoned as he wrote. Those rights come from a higher order and can't be abolished by any person -not a king of England, an ego-maniacal tyrant in Iraq or a common thug hiding in a cave. Nor can any group of men — whether the British Parliament or al-Qaeda — disband those rights.

Thus, Jefferson and the rest of the Founding Fathers laid the foundation for what has stood for 237 years and counting — as the bedrock principle of our nation. Fifty-six men, representing colonies from north and south, signed it, each of them risking death as revolutionaries.

Independence is inbred in us, part of our genetic makeup. That's why we bolt upright at attempts to abridge our civil liberties and growl over things like foreclosures and the price of gas that threaten our happiness.

Our independence must be nurtured aggressively, if it is to continue. That doesn't mean agreeing with everything that comes out of Washington; it does mean passing along the memories and the

ressage of the Declaration of Independence. The framers of that document and the leaders of the revolution - Hancock and Franklin, Washington and Jefferson - are household names. But let's not forget the 50,000 dead and wounded - nor the scores of military men and women who've been killed or wounded since - whose names we've never known and never will.

It was their deeds and their sacrifices that became synonymous with freedom. As you line the streets for local parades, celebrate with fireworks and grill burgers and hot dogs for the holiday picnic, remember them and honor their accomplishment.

The truth of their sacrifice, and the magnitude of its meaning, should be self-evident.



The rockets' red glare ... gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.

A GANNETT COMPANY

Kurt Kuban, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor

Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

COMMUNITY VOICE

Do you agree with the state law that allows local governments to ban the discharge of fireworks from midnight to 8 a.m. on identified holidays?

We asked this question in downtown Northville.



It depends. I think we should be able to do it on the Fourth of July and the few days before.

Joe Nodge Northville



That would be lovely if it could be enforced, and that can be a problem. But I would love to say

Eleanor Vonboncel

Northville



I'm for that. People should be able to have their fun before midnight. **Richard Poole**



Definitely. I like fireworks, but they are noisy so they should be done at certain times.

Rick Merrick

Northville

LETTERS

Thanking supporters

The Friends of Thayer's Corner Nature Area would like to thank the following supporters who contributed time, money and/or materials toward the renovation of the historic house at the site:

- » Northville Lumber
- » Ray Shovers, builder
- » Master Mechanical Contrac-
- » Bob Shaw, electric
- » Morr Home Improvement
- » Marbelite Corp. » Malcolm Dedes Cement
- » Pete Smith Painting
- » Ken Brock Associates
- » Don DiComo, architect
- » J&G Heating
- » National Block » Hank Fritz
- » Friends of Northville Parks

and Rec **Marv Gans**

Project coordinator

Don't blame all Muslims The First Amendment right to free speech is a wonderful concept but it is a sad day when it is used without logic or justice to attack others. The recent letter "Islam is the root of terror" is one such example. Assigning blame to all Muslims for the

Boston bombings is malicious. Our worst act of domestic terror, the bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building (168 dead), was carried out by a Catholic, Army veteran and gun rights supporter. Must we be "vigilant and skeptical of those around us" who are Catholic, veterans or gun rights advo-

cates? That is silly. In Michigan, our worst act of school violence (38 elementary school children and 6 adults dead) was carried out by a farmer and former school board member. It is nonsensical to view farmers and school board members as "our worst ene-

As a person who has lived and worked abroad with Hindus and Sikhs, Buddhists and Muslims, I just find some of the biases among a few of my fellow Americans so wrong headed. We need a little more of Abraham Lincoln's vision, "With malice toward none, with charity for all..." Let's live and work together with grace.

James Pearson

Invest in public education

This is a watershed moment in Michigan history. Maintaining a strong public education framework is an absolutely critical part of successfully dealing with the issues we are facing in this

We have witnessed the unrestricted opening of charter schools and cyber schools. John Austin, president of the state Board of Education, has called for a significant increase in oversight, accountability and transparency of recently formed cyber and charter schools. There is abundant precedent where the attorney general in the states of Colorado, Pennsylvania and Ohio had to close many schools organized on a for-profit basis.

K-12 Inc., a cyber school provider, is now widely advertising in Michigan and there is a lack of legislation to regulate this for-profit industry. Ron Packard, CEO of K-12 Inc., received compensation of more than \$5 million last year.

Special interest lobbyists have targeted the School Aid Fund, which is a dedicated budget. As a former member of the Appropriations Committee for six years (2000-06), the School Aid Fund was not raided to fi-

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

Email: kkuban@hometown-

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.

nance other projects.

The people of Michigan have always supported the fact that public education is the cornerstone and foundation of our democracy. Current legislators have opened the floodgates to private, for-profit corporations to take over our public system of

Recently, on statewide television, L. Brooks Patterson stated that "Our legislators should play within the 20-yard lines (of a 100-yard football field)." Our local legislators have exhibited voting records which reflect the extreme left and the extreme

The spirit of moderation, delicate compromise and consensus-building has been absent in our current state Legislature. This is a disgrace. At some point, surface differences have to be set aside and we have to work together for the common good. The profit motive, in public education, is inherently flawed.

If we are to have a growing, expanding and prosperous economy then we must invest in public education in order to have well-educated citizens. The underlying concept of a public education system is that we all benefit from an educated citizenry.

John C. Stewart Plymouth

Technology hinders students

There is an abounding assumption that putting the latest technological gadget in the hands of students leads to better education.

I find that new technology, such as iPads, "texting" and Smart Boards in teaching is not only unhelpful but actually detrimental to helping a child's intellectual and character formation. The justification for these devices in the classroom is that they capture the student's atten-

tion. Nonetheless, has the child actually learned anything for his future well-being in life? What happens when Facebook-style writing's popularity goes away? Does the student still know how to write? More importantly, will the student love and want to write? What happens when this student, as a member of the work force, is given a task without instant-feedback choices from which to choose? Will he be able to reason to solve the problem at hand?

Will he be able to react correctly to the more trying problems of relationships, matters of right and wrong, and raising a family? What happens when the high school graduate encounters a scene of reality, like a sunset on Lake Michigan? Will he have the academic experience with art and great literature and the wonders of science which allow

ment of the earth in space? More importantly, will he have the attention span even to pause and look?

him to see the beauty and amaze-

In addition to the vast cost that these new technologies contribute to education's \$10,000 per student each year, I find them harmful to the student. What today's educators assume is that the child is someone who doesn't want to learn; hence, we have to use technology to "engage" him. What if all that is needed is to get the child's reality out of the screen and into the world of knowledge, where learning is an engaging conversation, reading great books of our heritage, writing by hand and conversing both with other children and a teacher who loves her students, their well-being and her subjects?

If we're using technology to tantalize a student into wanting to learn instead of passing on to him a passion for that which he is actually studying, I think we've lost all hope in the child, and, therefore, in education. In fact, it may be a wonder if this generation of would-be rational, social beings will even know how to speak with one another, let alone have truly learned any-

Jordan Adams

Highland Celebrate engineering

Every year we receive the annual report about Michigan's crumbling infrastructure. What is just as unfortunate is how Michigan's civil and consulting engineers are letting their own history crumble before their

At best, the Grade is "F" for failing to educate our fellow citizens about the great civil engineering projects, both past and present, that are making

Michigan great. It seems that the profession in Michigan has lost its ability to recall and celebrate great works of the past and to recognize the historical significance of cur-

rent-day works. When reviewing the acrossthe-board efforts of Michigan's engineering profession in promoting National Engineers Week in 2013, very little was done to promote our state's proud civil engineering history. We are losing the attention that our profession is making to the architects, who do a fine job of promoting their historical buildings. When will we wake up and toot our own horn?

Perhaps we might interest young people in pursuing civil engineering and consulting engineering careers.

One good start in trying to change our grade from an "F" to a "C" would be to educate the public about the upcoming Soo Locks Engineer's Day program that will be held June 28 in Sault Saint Marie.

The Soo Locks will be open to the public for touring and an opportunity to see how the locks work. The day is to recognize and celebrate the engineers who designed and built the locks and all of the union construction workers who have helped update and maintain it over the years.

And I'd be remiss if I did not mention that Alfred Noble, one of the world's greatest civil engineers, who was born in Livonia, was appointed in 1873 as U.S. assistant engineer at Sault Saint Marie, working on the Soo Locks.

> Joe Neussendorfer American Society of Civil Engineers member Livonia

Charity casino event

Northville Rotary will be putting on the Northville Downs' Charity Casino event July 4-6. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. each day. Games will include black jack, roulette, Texas Hold'em,

and poker tournaments. All tournament proceeds will benefit the Rotary Foundation to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty throughout the world.

The Northville Rotary Club supports the Rotary Foundation through program participation and financial contributions. The Foundation's worldwide and local programs include: PolioPlus, Educational Programs, Humanitarian Grants Program, the Historic Northville Well, Civic Concern (local food bank), the International Rotary Youth Exchange Program and annual scholarships to Northville High School students.

Northville Downs is located at 301 South Center Street just south of downtown Northville, Michigan. For more information, visit www.northvilledowns.com/charity-casi-

Concours D' Elegance

The second annual Northville Concours d'Elegance Preview Party & Rare Car Exhibit will be held July 27 from 3-9 p.m in downtown Northville. During the event, car enthusiasts can enjoy a rare vintage car exhibition featuring approximately 30 prewar automobiles. Vehicles such as a 1937 Cord, a 1932 Ford V-8 Roadster, a 1923 Kissel Brougham Sedan and a 1932 Pierce Arrow Sport Phaeton will be on exhibit. The musical stylings of the Tom Allport Band can be heard throughout the

streets from 6-9 p.m.

For more information or to become an exhibitor at Northville's Concours d'Elegance Preview Event and Rare Car Exhibit, contact either Lynn Stringer at 248-349-2432 or Christa Williams of the Northville Downtown **Development Authority** at 248-349-0345.

Sundays at Mill Race

Each Sunday afternoon from 1-4 p.m. through mid-October the buildings at Mill Race Village are open for public viewing. Costumed docents are on hand to inform visitors about the buildings, their contents, and about Northville's past. Many weekends, a working blacksmith demonstrates the craft, weavers and rug-hookers ply their trades, and an occasional strolling musician may be found.

Admission to Mill Race Village is free. For more information, call 248-348-1845.

Children's concert

Northville Parks and Rec hosts free Tunes on Tuesday concerts at Town Square in Downtown Northville. Genitti's Hole-in-the-Wall Theatre in Downtown Northville will host the free concerts should there be rain. The free concert series runs on Tuesdays through August from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Performances are held "rain or shine.'

» The Music Lady, Beverly Meyer will perform July 9. The Music Lady provides a widevariety of music and sing-a-longs geared towards children.

» Rick Kelley will perform July 16. Kelley cleverly blends live music with humor and the perfect amount of audience participation.

Garden walk

The 20th annual Northville Garden Walk sponsored by Country Garden Club of Northville will take place from

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Rotary teams up to plant trees



Members of the Northville City Beautification Commission and the Northville Rotary Club watch as workers install new trees around the Rotary Well area last week. The two groups partnered on the costs of the installation. HOWARD MEYER

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, July 10. The event will feature five private gardens.

Also included at Mill Race Village will be a Garden Mart with several vendors, live music featuring Patrick Whitehead, complimentary homemade cookies and refreshments will be served inside the Cady

Tickets are \$10 and are available at Gardenviews, 117 E. Main, and Begonia Brothers, 314 N. Center St. On the day of Garden Walk, the tickets will also be available at Mill Race Village. For more information, visit www.cgcnv.org or call 248-348-3263.

Road Runner Classic

The Northville Road Runners annual 8K Run/ Walk and family 1 Mile Run/Walk will be held July 27 at Maybury State Park to benefit the Friends of Maybury.

The Road Runner Classic is a fun and challenging race and has a long tradition of meandering the woods of Maybury to meet and exceed participants' expecta-

The one-mile event

starts at 5 p.m. The cost is \$5 and the event takes place on the paved trail. The 8K event starts at 5:30 p.m., Thecost is \$25 and the event is on dirt

and paved trails. The 8K participants will receive a tech T-shirt and all children in the one-mile event will receive a finisher's medal. Awards

are in five-year incre-

Family fun includes a story hour, face painting and hands-on activities during the race. Postrace activities include pizza, live music, libations, homemade baked goods, an awards ceremony and much more.

Application forms can be downloaded at www.northvilleroadrunners.org or participants can register at www.acti-

Registration is available on race day beginning at 3 p.m., and the cost will be \$35 for the 8K and \$8 for the onemile events. Maybury State Park is located in Northville. Use the Eight Mile entrance that is one mile west of Beck Road. A recreational park passport is required at gate and day passes are avail-

For more information, contact Peg Campbell at 248-417-5710 or peggyacambell@gmail.com.



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Things I Ponder: What Would a Chair Look Like If Your Knees Bent The Other Way



Twenty years of celebrating beauty

By Kurt Kuban Staff Writer

It was 20 years ago when the members of the Country Garden Club decided to host their very first garden walk in Northville. Kathryn Novak's garden was featured that first year. She wasn't a member at the time, but she was hooked by the event.

Novak joined the group, which has about 40 members mostly from Northville (though there are some from Novi and Livonia), and is now coordinating the event for the club. And this year is a big one, she said.

'This is our most exciting event of the year, and because this is our 20th year, we really wanted to put together something special to mark the anniversary," Novak said. "We think people will really love what we've got planned."

The 20th Annual Northville Garden Walk takes place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 10. It will feature six gardens, all in the Northville community, including both large and small gardens. The most impressive gardens on the tour are those owned by Mike and Anne Renucci on Seven Mile Road and Tim and Maggie Otto, who live on Autumn Ridge. The two gardens are side by side, and include an array of features.

"They are very impressive," Novak said. People will just fall in love with them.'

In addition to the gardens themselves, members of the Country Garden Club will be headquartered at the historic Mill Race Village where there will be live music from noon to 4 p.m. provided by several graduates of the University of Michigan music program, and nearly a dozen vendors set up selling





Those attending the garden walk will find plenty of surprises in the Otto

The Otto garden also includes a wild touch and water features.



The well-maintained grounds of Tim and Maggie Otto's beautiful home off of Seven Mile is the highlight of this year's garden walk.

products and plants specifically aimed at the gardening crowd.

And if that's not enough, club members will be set up in the Cady Inn, where they will be providing refreshments.

"All of our members bake cookies for the event, and we'll be serving iced tea and lemonade." Novak said.

Like in years past, the Cady Inn will also be decorated according to

the event's theme, which this year is "Four Sea-

"We decorate it really nice, all in flowers. People really look forward to what we do. It's always a bit of a surprise," Novak

The Country Garden Club — one of three garden clubs based in the Northville community is part of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, which

promotes agricultural and horticultural interest through membership in divisions and branches throughout the U.S.

"We take money that we make from the garden walk and we use it for local and state projects, including organizations that set aside green space," she said. "All the money we earn is donat-

Another way the group spends the money from the garden walk is to fund an annual scholarship for a Northville High School student, who pursues a degree in horticulture or related field.

The group meets monthly, and brings in speakers who give advice on different aspects of gardening or that are of interest to gardeners. They are also very active in the community. In addition to putting together floral arrange-

20TH ANNUAL NORTHVILLE GARDEN WALK

- » When: 9 a.m. to 4
- p.m., Wednesday, July 10 » Who: The event is put
- on by the Country Garden Club of Northville
- » Where: Features six gardens around Northville. Live music and vendors will be set up at
- Mill Race Village. » Tickets: Cost \$10 and can be purchased in advance at Begonia Brothers or Gardenviews. They can also be

purchased the day of the

lage. » More info: Visit www.cgcnv.org or call 248-348-3263.

event at Mill Race Vil-

ments each week for hospice patients, members also care for gardens at the library, Post Office and at the Hunter House in Mill Race Vil-

However, Novak said the garden walk is the event everyone looks forward to each year. She said it's a lot of work to plan, but club members always take great satisfaction in it.

"It's just a lot of fun. We're real proud of our garden walk. We like to think it's one of the best around. It attracts people from a lot of different communities because people enjoy coming to Northville. We have some beautiful gardens, but it also gives people a chance to see our downtown and enjoy lunch at one of our great restaurants," Novak said. "It's just a great way to spend a day, especially if you love gardening like we

For more information, visit www.cgcnv.org or call 248-348-3263.

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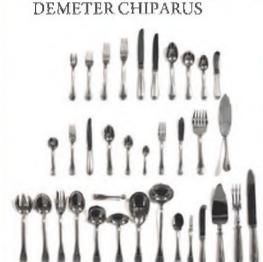


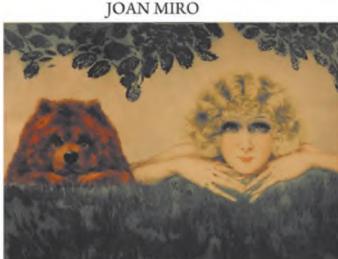


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SPORTS

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Northville High's Wall of Honor displays all the banners from the school's state finalist teams. ALL PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY BRYAN MASI NORTHVILLE ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

Northville building rounded athletes

From high school athletics to academics to community service,

Mustangs excel

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

Bring up the subject of what Northville High School excels at the most and you'll likely get different answers, depending on the company in which the question is posed. From some, you'll likely hear

From some, you'll likely hear about how outstanding the athletic teams are, while others will cite the amazing academic accomplishments obtained by the students there. Still, others will discuss how dedicated the Mustangs are to serving their community and lending a hand and participating at the various events hosted in and around Northville.

Arguments can be made for each, and in the end, it's clear Northville is producing well-rounded athletes.

Take, for example, the past five years of athletic achievements by the various teams at Northville High School. There have been 53 teams that have earned KLAA Central Division titles, 29 with Kensington Conference championships and six have been all-out KLAA champs.

If that weren't impressive enough, nine Northville teams have won the MHSAA district title in the past five years and 14 have earned regional titles and 42 have ended their seasons in the top 10 in the state.



One of Northville High School's trophy cases with district and regional tournament trophies.

Northville has also produced some outstanding individual athletes over the years.

"We have a rich history of student-athletes that have gone on to the college level and achieved at a very high level," said Bryan Masi, Northville's athletics director.

Take for example, Steve Juday, who played quarterback for the Michigan State University Spartans and helped the team to a share of the 1965 national championship and took sixth in the Heisman Trophy voting. And then there is Dan Brown, who was a member of the University of Michigan's 1965 Final Four basketball team.

More modern athletes who have rose to the occasion include Bran-

don Langston, a coach at Northville High School who played football for Grand Valley State University and won national championships in 2002, 2003 and 2005. Or Ava Ohlgren, who is a six-time All-American swimmer at Auburn University, a NCAA national champion and a gold medalist at the Pan-Amer-

And the list just keeps growing.
Kesley Fiscus has a national championship with the women's soccer team at Grand Valley State University. Alex Wood and Latif Alashe both helped lead the University of Michigan men's soccer team to the 2010 national championship game

See MUSTANGS, Page B2

'Stang staff chock full of alumni

Former Northville athletes training next generation of NHS athletes

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

It's not uncommon for a high school to be revisited by alumni who are quick to reminisce about the good ol' days when they were shooting hoops, scoring goals and earning pins for their respective sports teams.

At Northville High School, there are

At Northville High School, there are 15 alumni who are far too busy coaching the Mustangs to take the time to talk about their own accomplishment.

The Mustangs have five head coaches and 10 assistant coaches who have themselves walked the halls in the Northville school district and received their diploma as a proud graduate of Northville High School.

As life went on, they found themselves coming full circle and returning to the school that gave them so many memories on and off the athletic fields.

"It is nice to see former Mustang athletes come back and give back to their school," Northville athletic director Bryan Masi said. "Many have gained experience as a college athlete or coach in another district and come back to coach at Northville High.

"The nice thing about coaches returning to NHS is that they understand the expectations to have a successful athletic program. They understand the importance athletics has on student success."

Alumni who have come back to be head coaches include Linda Jones (1970 graduate), Bob Boshoven (1980), Todd Sander (1999), Brandon Langston (2001) and Tim Dalton (2004).

Jones is the Northville girls tennis coach, while Boshoven helms the wrestling program and Sander leads the boys basketball team. Langston and Dalton are the head coaches for the boys and girls track teams, respective-

"I retired from 34 years as a manager at Ford Customer Service and wanted to 'give back' to the community," said Jones, who became the head varsity coach this season. "Coaching seemed the best way to fulfill that objective and it also fulfilled my earlier life dream of being a teacher.

"When the girls tennis team moved from the fall to the spring in 2008, the JV coaching position opened up. I applied and I was accepted. The rest is history."

See ALUMNI, Page B2



Northville High graduate Linda Jones (class of 1970) and current varsity girls tennis coach is one of many Mustangs who've returned to help out guiding sports teams.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SPORTS SHORTS

Sign up for Novi summer athletic camps

Novi Athletics announces the opening of the Novi Wildcat sports camps and clinics registration. Choose from 10 different sports and activities and take your game to the next level. Camps include:

Field Hockey 101: 9-11:30 a.m., July 16-19; for girls going into grades six-10. **Summer Swim:** noon to 2 p.m., July

8-12; for boys and girls entering grades

four-eight.

Advanced Competitive Swimming: noon to 2 p.m. July 15-19; for boys and girls entering grades seven-12.

Girls Summer Cheer Clinic: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 8-10; for girls ages 5-12.

Novi Wildcat Youth Football Camp:

9-11 a.m. July 22-25; for students entering grades three-eight.

Novi Wildcat High School Football: 3-6 p.m.July 22-25; for students entering grades nine-12.

Novi Wildcat Volleyball: 9 a.m. to

noon July 8-10; for students entering grades five-10.

Boys Lacrosse: 9-11 a.m. July 8-11; for boys entering grades four-six. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 8-11; for boys entering grades seven-eight.

All sessions take place in athletics facilities on the Novi High School campus. Sign up at www.novi.k12.mi.us.

Hoop camp

The Northville High School Boys Basketball Camp will be held 9 a.m. to noon July 8-11 at NHS for boys entering grades four-nine in fall 2013. Campers of all skill levels are welcome. For more information, email BoysBB@northvillebasketball.com.

Men needed for softball league

Teams or free agents are needed to fill the all-new Northville Wednesday Men's ASA "E" softball league. Contact Charlie at 248-449-9947 or email cgabbeart@ci.northville.mi.us for more information.



MUSTANGS

Continued from Page B1

while Malory Weber played for Penn State University in the 2012 national championship game as a freshman.

Ali Arastu picked up All-American honors three times at the University of Michigan for the Wolverines' men's track team and competed in the 2012 Olympic Trials.

Athletes have even gone on to showcase their abilities outside of the realm of "traditional" sports. Julie Foucher, who was a standout gymnast for the Mustangs, has gone on to take second place in the world in the Reebok CrossFit World Games.

Northville High School has also made a point of standing out academically, too, and folks have taken note. The school has had 150 total athletes over the past five years who have been named to the All-State Academic Team

The school's educators can also boast the grade point average of all of the more than 875 student athletes combined is an impressive 3.25.

And it's not just individually the Mustangs are excelling in the classroom. There have been 16 different Northville teams that have been named All-State All-Academic squads over the last five years, including boys and girls soccer, girls and boys cross country, volleyball, wrestling, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls swimming and diving, softball, boys and girls tennis, boys and girls golf and the competitive cheerleading team.

The Mustangs are also heavily involved in community activity, including events for specific causes like Coaches De Cure (fundraising for Duchene muscular dystrophy research) or the annual Northville "Armed Forces Day" during which the baseball team not only honors veterans and current members of the armed services, but collecting food and money for active soldiers overseas

ALUMNI

Continued from Page B1

Northville also has a slew of ded-

competed for the Mustangs. Joe Rohr-

hoff (football), Steve Minier (football

and wrestling), Darrell Adkins (foot-

ball), Pete Wright (girls basketball),

Lindsay Blair (girls junior varsity

soccer), James Hannah (boys and

girls soccer), Jack Dalton (track and

field), Brad Farris (boys swimming)

and Michele Pheiffer (cheerleading)

all roam the sidelines for Northville,

helping educate and coach the current

Kara Purtell (junior varsity pom pon),

icated assistant coaches who once



Northville's girls' basketball team helped prepare Christmas decorations for homeless families.

Additionally, the Northville girls' soccer team has an annual alumni game to help raise money for St.
Jude's Children's Hospital and the American Breast Cancer Association, while the wrestling team has a memorial tournament in honor of Todd Schoenheide during which money raised is put toward a scholarship.

Northville teams also participate in programs that assist the needy, like those through Northville Civic Concern, and the girls and boys bowling teams even created their own event called "Lock-in for Civic Concern" with an all-night bowl-athon at Novi Bowl to raise funds for Civic Concern.

"We believe it sends a great message when our student-athletes get involved in the community," said Masi. "It is important our student-athletes understand they are leaders and must set an example for others to follow."

From athletics to academics to caring about their community, it's crystal clear that Northville student-athletes are putting their best foot forward not only in sports, but in school and beyond.

Sam Eggleston is a freelance writer covering sports for the Northville Record.

alumni come back to the school to

help out, but it's wonderful to see former student-athletes who he both

return to their roots.

taught and coached through the years

Langston, Tim Dalton, Lindsey Blair, James Hannah, Joe Rohroff, Steve

"It gives me great pride that they have come back to coach at NHS. As

Minier and Darrell Adkins," Masi

their former coach or teacher, they

they had a great experience being

give back to their community.

understand my expectations coming

in. By returning as a coach it tells me

part of NHS athletics and they want to

"I have coached or taught Brandon

Priceless souvenirs

Catching a ball at an MLB game fulfills lifelong dream for area fans

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

LOCAL SPORTS

The baseball that rocketed off Detroit Tigers outfielder Andy Dirks' bat and into the stands beyond the right field fence at Comerica Park the afternoon of May 17, 2012, weighed just five ounces.

But the spinning sphere was jampacked with a lifetime full of memories for Livonia's Reed family.

The ball ricocheted off the hands of a fan sitting in front of the Reeds — father Casey and sons Michael, Ben and William — and into the palms of Casey Reed, whose sure-handed grab transformed a fabulous day at the ballpark with his sons into an unforgettable one.

"That morning my wife (Sara) laid out Tigers gear for the boys to wear to school, but they had no idea they were going to a baseball game," Casey Reed said. "I surprised them by picking them up at their schools around lunch time. We bought some tickets right before the game started and sat in right field.

"We were having a great time watching the Tigers on a sun-shiny day, but catching that ball made it an amazing experience. Every 10 seconds, one of us would say, 'It's my turn to look at it.' We couldn't get enough of it."

Rare prize

You can purchase an official MLB baseball at a Comerica Park gift shop for around \$15, but there is no price tag that can be placed on a ball that finds its way into the stands after crashing off a professional player's bat.

Rawlings, which provides MLB with all of its baseballs, estimates anywhere from 100 to 120 balls are used during a typical game. When you consider there are close to 25,000 fans at an average game, the odds of nabbing a ball are longer than a Miguel Cabrera moon-

The rarity factor is why fans like Livonia's Randy Knight remember every detail of their foul ball catching experience.

"I'm a lifelong Tigers fan who had been to countless games over the years, but I had never caught a foul ball until the game I attended against the Minnesota Twins on Aug. 15, 2011," the 51year-old Knight said. "I still remember every single detail about it."

In the fifth inning, as Knight recalled, Minnesota's Joe Mauer fouled off a 1-0 pitch directly up the steps behind the Tigers' dugout.

"A young lady had just started her descent down the steps with a tray of nachos and pop," Knight said. "The ball was still on the rise and I saw it coming, but I didn't see the young lady until my hand was in front of her face.

"She screamed, the ball hit my hand and deflected behind her. I don't think I have ever moved faster in the last 20 years to get to that ball. My hand took a bruise, but it was well worth it."

Going way back

Northville resident David Jerome's over-the-rail catch of a foul ball at a Washington Senators game July 19, 1970, caught the eye of a couple of royal onlookers.

"It turned out that Prince Charles and Princess Anne were at the game," Jerome said. "I leaned over the railing and caught a foul ball with my bare

The next day, my wife read in the paper that the prince and princess thought the game was pretty boring, but they mentioned two things that caught their eye: a mammoth home run hit by Frank Howard and when a fan reached over a railing to catch a foul ball. That was me."

Westland resident Bud Somerville has turned catching foul balls and home runs into a science. Somerville estimates he has caught or chased down "hundreds" of balls at MLB games — the first coming when he was a 12-year-old attending a Tigers game in 1966.

"Every summer, just about every day, my friends and I would jump on the bus in Wayne and take it down Michigan Avenue to Tiger Stadium," Somerville said. "We knew where to stand during batting practice and dur-



Westland's Bud Somerville holds just a few of the hundreds of balls he's caught or chased down at Major League Baseball games.

ing the games to get the balls. After the game, we'd take the balls outside the stadium and sell them so we'd have bus fare to get back home."

Valuable ... then not

While attending a game at Tiger Stadium late in the 1987 season, Garden City resident Ron Pummill thought he had reeled in a home run ball that held special meaning — not just for him, but for a longtime Tigers hero.

"My friends and I were sitting in the lower deck in right field when Lou Whitaker hit a home run that landed about eight to 10 seats away from us," Pummill said. "We were all like, 'awww man.' Two batters later, Kirk Gibson steps up and hits one right to me."

The following off-season, Gibson signed a free-agent contract to play for the Dodgers, adding significance (at least for a while) to the ball Pummill caught.

"I thought, 'I own the last home run ball Kirk Gibson was ever going to hit in Tiger Stadium," Pummill said, chuckling. "I thought that ball was going to be worth quite a bit of money. But then Gibby re-signed with the Tigers in 1993 and he hit about 10 to 12 more home runs in Detroit, so my ball suddenly wasn't worth much anymore."

Glove story

All foul ball stories don't have a happy ending, as Livonia's Jackson family discovered the hard way.

To help celebrate his daughter Sarah's birthday, Jeff Jackson took her and his mom to a game in 2006.

"Sarah was determined to catch a foul ball that day," Jackson said with a smile. "The problem was we were sitting pretty high up in the handicapped section. I told her not too many balls came up that far. Plus, I told her I had been to a lot of games and had never come close to catching a foul ball."

That didn't deter Sarah, who insisted on staying until the final out in her quest to take home a priceless souvenir.

"The Tigers were getting beat like 7-1 or 8-1 and it was the bottom of the ninth," Jackson said. "All of a sudden, Pudge Rodriguez hit a hard line drive that was curving right toward me.

"The funny part was, I had brought my glove, but I had set it down on the floor below our seats before the inning started. Here comes this ball right at me — waist high — that I would have caught easily with my glove, but it hit my palms, bounced a few rows up and a little kid got it. I don't think Sarah talked to me the entire ride home. She kept saying, 'Why didn't you have your glove on?'"

Jackson said the incident still generates chuckles between him and his daughter.

"I'm thinking about getting one of those fancy glass containers you put valuable baseballs in and giving it to her — empty, of course," he said. "I'll tell her, 'Here's the ball I didn't catch for you that day."

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SLU's Glenn earns Player of Year nod

Senior midfielder tallies 75 goals to go with 40 assists for 115 total points

> By Jeff Theisen Staff Writer

South Lyon United star midfielder Alyssa Glenn was dominant in many phases of the game and earns the 2013 All-Area Player of the Year honor.

The senior poured in 75 goals, assisted on 40 more, won 96 draw controls, caused 32 turnovers and scooped up 26 ground balls.

Glenn earned All-KLAA First Team, Team MVP and All-State First Team honors for her efforts.

"All those stats are eclipsed by her ability to lead," coach Glen Glenn said. "She has incredible field sense and can make sure all her teammates are in the right place at the right time. She also taught the younger players how to lead as well. She has been playing for eight years and continually works to improve her game."

FIRST TEAM

Dominique Zigo, Huron Valley

The junior from Lakeland provided much of the offensive force for the team. Her eight goals in a game against Grand Blanc stands as a state record. She earned All-State Honorable Mention honors and was team MVP.

'Great kid and a great player," coach Tara Johnson said.

Sam Nelson, South Lyon United

The junior attacker provided a great secondary punch with Glenn by tallying 41 goals with eight assists. Nelson earned All-KLAA First Team, team attack MVP and All-State Honorable Mention honors.

"Sam's game improved significantly," Glenn said. "Her stick skills and shot placement improved as she calmed down and picked up her confidence. She will be a major contributor to next year's squad."

Meghan Burke, South Lyon United

The junior midfielder was a statfiller for the United squad. She notched 14 goals, three assists, 23 draw controls, caused 12 turnovers and had 19 ground balls. Honors earned include All-KLAA First Team the team 3D award (dedication, desire, determination) and All-State Honorable Mention.

'Meghan has really developed into a great all-around lacrosse player," Glenn said. "She works extremely hard at her skills and field awareness, as well as her personal fitness. When the team runs, Meghan always sets the pace. She has also stepped up her leadership



South Lyon United's Alyssa Glenn is the 2013 All-Area Player of the Year. PHOTOS BY HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



South Lyon United's Sam Nelson landed a spot on the All-Area First Team.

skills and looks to be a great leader next season."

Hannah Burczyk, South Lyon United

The sophomore midfielder switched positions from attacker and finished with four goals, two assists, 25 draw

controls and three turnovers. She earned All-KLAA First Team, the team Heart and Hustle award and All-State Honorable Mention honors.

'Although the offensive statistics dropped, her defensive play improved dramatically," Glenn said. "When dou-ble-teaming with the other midfielders and low defense, we were able to force a great deal of turnovers. She worked hard on her stick work and field IQ, and is now a fantastic full-field lacrosse player."

Kali Maisano, Northville

The senior goalie earned All-State Honorable Mention honors and was team MVP. While she stood tall in net, Maisano also was third on the team with 33 ground balls, third in turnovers with 23 and led the team with 13 interceptions.

"Stats show an athletic goalie who is not afraid to come out of the crease and break up the play," coach Stacey Tardich said. "Motivated, works hard, gives 110 percent and will be playing at Tiffin University in Ohio. Kali not only put us in the position to win every game this season, but won many games for

Erin Vogel, Northville

The senior attacker scored a teamhigh 47 goals and led in total points as well with 53.

ALL-AREA GIRLS LACROSSE

PLAYER OF THE YEAR Alyssa Glenn, South Lyon United

FIRST TEAM

Dominique Zigo, Huron Valley Sam Nelson, South Lyon United Meghan Burke, South Lyon United Hannah Burczyk, South Lyon United Kali Maisano, Northville Erica MacDonald, Northville Erin Vogel, Northville Logan VanRiper, Northville Alanna Clark, Novi Gina Salemi, Novi

HONORABLE MENTION

Northville: Claire Beaudoin (jr) South Lyon: Morgan Radners (sr), Erica Meissner (Sr), Payton Taliaferro (jr)

"Works hard, great attitude," Tar-dich said. "Played injured and had an exceptional season.'

Erica MacDonald, Northville

The senior captain was second on the team scoring list with 31 goals and 46 total points. MacDonald led in draw controls with 37 and caused 15 turnovers. She will play on Grand Valley State's club team next year.

'Our best all-around player, who can see the field and see the next three passes before they happen. Best decision-maker on the field," Tardich said.

Logan VanRiper, Northville

The senior defender was the most improved player this year, according to Tardich. She led the team with 30 caused turnovers, had 20 draw controls and led with 36 ground balls.

"(She) was a great defender for us this year," Tardich said.

Alanna Clark, Novi

The sophomore center averaged 89 percent on faceoffs for Novi. Clark was also the No. 2 scorer for the Wildcats.

'Is an unbelievable athlete and overall player," coach Caitlin Warda said. "From her offensive skills to her defense, she is always a player I can count on. I can guarantee she is one of the best players in the league.'

Gina Salemi, Novi

The freshman made quite a splash on the varsity scene with 48 goals to lead the team.

'Gina is a freshman and has been playing for quite some time," Warda said. "She has great effort and is constantly working her hardest, which makes her a wonderful student and player. Her skills are well beyond her age and her intelligence of the game is growing rapidly.'

Runner up



The U13 Northville Broncos fell to the Lapeer Outlaws in the championship game June 22-23. The tournament featured the top 32 U13 AA teams in the state, and the Broncos finished the weekend 4-1. Pictured (left to right, front) are Joe Wozniak, Scottie Granzotto, John Jeannotte, Matt G, Nick Fegert; (back) Coach Fred Stinebiser, Matt Stinebiser, Cooper Smith, Coach Mike Granzotto, Stephen Ernst, Jack Sargent, Coach Mike Wozniak, Jay Hesse, John Lobbia and Coach John Lobbia.

Request for Proposals City of Northville

HUTTON STREET SANITARY SEWER RELOCATION PROJECT

Sealed proposals will be received in the City of Northville, City Hall, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167 until 2:00 p.m. local time on July 17, 2013 for professional services on the "Hutton Street Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project".

A professional consultant is being sought to perform an investigation and engineering analysis on an existing sanitary sewer line as it goes under the Randolph Street Drain. Consultant will be expected to design improvements, assist the City in bidding recommended improvements, and oversee the construction of the proposed modified sewer. A Request for Proposals document may be obtained by calling the Northville Department

of Public Works at (248) 449-9930. The City of Northville reserves the right to waive any irregularity or informality, to reject any and/or all proposals, in whole or in part, or to award a contract to other than the lowest priced firm, should it be deemed in its best interest to do so.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil rights Act of 1964,78 Stat.252, 42 U.S.C. 2000dto 200d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Sub Title A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, the City of Northville notifies all interested companies that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to the invitation, and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of gender, disability, race, color or national origin in consideration of an award.

James P. Gallogly

Director, Department of Public Works

Dianne Massa City Clerk

Publish: July 4, 2013

Conference champs



The Northville 7/8 Orange Stampede lacrosse won an overtime thriller against Ann Arbor, 7-6. on June 8 in Milford to win the SE Conference Championship. The team includes (back row, from left) Connor Wright, Gannon Henke, Joey Molloy, Andrew Quinn, Grant Goldsmith, Coach Tony Salamone, John Marco Melucci, Jacob Murphy, Elijah Gash, Andrew Robinson, Marcello Gonzalez, Danny Scorzo, Spencer Gonda, Joe Rosati and Coach Nick Thurber. Front row (from left) are Anthony Salamone, Zach Tardish, Brenji Eckerle, Chase Pokryfky, Jack Burke, Ty Kilar and Abe Khoury. Nate Holloway is not pictured.

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT

TOWNHOMES OF BIENEMAN FARM HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

c/o Joel D. Schlitz Hudson, Wisconsin 54016,

Plaintiff,

SMALL CLAIMS

PUBLICATION SUMMONS

ST. CROIX COUNTY

AND NOTICE

 $\mathbf{Case\ No.\ 13\ SC\ 640}$

RONDA R. RAU, A/K/A RHONDA R. DANIELSON, 19458 Silver Spring Drive, Apt. 203 Northville, MI 48167,

Defendant.

TO THE PERSON NAMED ABOVE AS DEFENDANT:

You are being sued by the plaintiff named above. A copy of the Summons and Complaint has been sent to you at your mailing address as stated in the caption above.

The lawsuit will be heard in the following Small Claims Court: St. Croix County Government Center, 1101 Carmichael Road, Hudson, WI 54016; phone #715-386-4630; on **July 23, 2013** at 1:30 p.m.

If you do not attend the hearing, the court may enter a judgment against you in favor of the plaintiff suing you. A judgment may be enforced as provied by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

You may have the option to Answer without appearing in court on the court date by filing a written Answer with the clerk of court before the court date. You must send a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff named above at their address. You may contact the clerk of court at the telephone number above to determine if there are other methods to answer a Small Claims complaint in that county.

Dated this _____ day of June, 2013.

Publish: July 4, 2013

MUDGE, PORTER, LUNDEEN & SEGUIN, S.C.

Joel D. Schlitz Attorneys for Plaintiff 110 Second Street, Post Office Box 469 Hudson, Wisconsin 54016 715/386-3200 or 800/756-0032 Wisconsin Attorney ID# 1050236

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

TAPS OPEN ON HISTORY

Northville native's microbrewery taking shape in Brighton

By Jim Totten

Gannett News Service

The project is a year behind schedule and "massively over budget," but Matt Becker isn't turning off the taps on his microbrewery for downtown Brighton.

The 41-year-old Northville native and current Green Oak Township resident remains determined to complete a massive renovation and expansion of one of Brighton's oldest buildings, an 1873, three-story brick building on Main Street next to the railroad tracks. It's known as "the pink hotel" because it once was covered in pink siding.

Becker is hoping to open Brewery Becker in October and introduce residents to some historic beers.

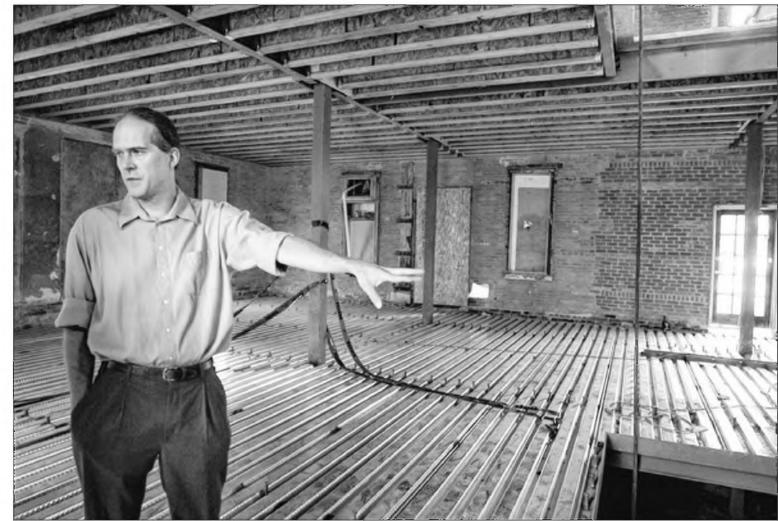
He wants to create a casual place where people hang out, like at a coffee shop. Except with a different beverage.

"People can come and read the newspaper, type on their laptop computers and their tablets, and it wouldn't be that uncommon for someone to sit down and be there for three hours and drink two beers," he

Customers can sit outside in the beer garden or play darts or enjoy games inside. The place will have two floors and a mezzanine, and there will be a cast-iron staircase leading upstairs.

The brewery will have 14 beers on tap, including historic beers such as a Viking-era beer made with bog myrtle and juniper, which is then smoked. He said this Scandinavian farmhouse ale dates back to

To re-create the building's historic atmosphere, he plans to put in the original chimneys



Northville native Matt Becker explains the layout of the brewery under construction in Brighton's old "pink hotel" building. GILLIS BENEDICT | GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

and place the old hotel signs back up on the roof. He's also trying to find the original brick

to finish off the addition. "It's been a real challenge," Becker said. "It's taken a lot longer and we're way over

He said the building was in much worse shape than realized when it was purchased in May 2011. Once workers began tearing down the drywall, he realized the true condition of the building.

'It should have been knocked down," he said. Although 10 people were

still living in the place, he said, everything was a total loss. He said the walls, foundation,

footings, roof, floors, windows, electrical and plumbing had to be replaced.

He declined to say how much has been spent on the project.

"We've definitely saved the building," he said. "When we're done with her, she'll be good for another 150 years."

"If somebody like us hadn't come along and done this to this building, it was just a matter of time before this place would have been condemned and torn down."

Despite the challenges, Becker is looking forward to opening a place where he can share his passion for home brewing, something he's been

Northville's Jeff

vers, founder and

Styers

Styers is currently the

Styers will serve a

four-year term that ex-

As the automotive

rebound, spurred in part

efficiency, the need for

industry continues to

by mandates on fuel

IAV supports

students

doing for 20 years.

"I went to Germany as a kid, decided I liked good beer," he said. "I came back here, there wasn't any good beer, so I made my own.'

Becker grew up in Northville and graduated from Catholic Čentral in 1990. He moved out to Green Oak in

He is married to Christina, and the couple has one daughter, Abigail. His parents, John and Eileen, of Northville, are involved in the project as well.

Becker, who has worked as a controls engineer, admitted he's a little nervous certain parts of opening a brewery. Although he hasn't worked

professionally in the brewery business, he has brewed beer at other places and has a lot of experience.

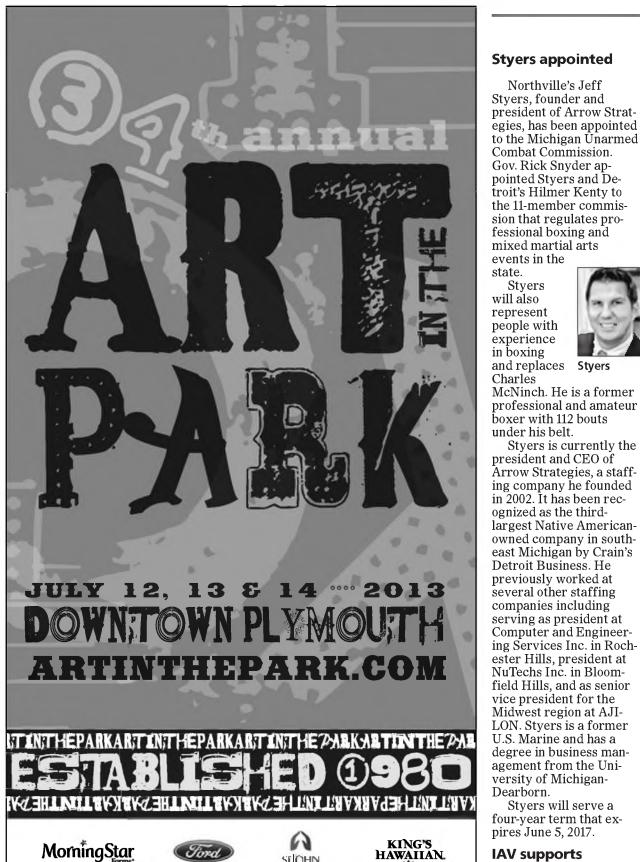
"I'm more nervous about working with customers," he said. "The beer and the build-

ing is the easy part."

Becker said he will be at the brewery every day to ensure

everything is running right.
"I'll probably have a cot in
the basement," he said, half
joking. "Every other brewer that I know that owns their brewery has to sleep in the basement more often than they would like to ... It's the joy of owning your own business.'

(517) 548-7088 | jtotten@gannett.com



St OHN

Renewal 🛒

Schoolcraft College

xfinity.

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA

BUSINESS BRIEFS

talented, motivated engineers continues to rise. The Northville-based IAV Automotive Engipresident of Arrow Stratneering Inc. is investing egies, has been appointed in student programs that help to cultivate the next to the Michigan Unarmed generation of ambitious and dedicated engineers, pointed Styers and Deand promote the importroit's Hilmer Kenty to tance of science, technolthe 11-member commisogy engineering and sion that regulates promath (STEM) education. One key initiative IAV supports is the Wayne State University College of Engineering's EcoCAR

2 project. EcoCAR 2 is a threeyear program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and General Motors that provides engineering students the opportunity to gain realworld experience in developing energy-efficient vehicles in a competitive setting. Of the 15 teams competing, WSU is the only university from Michigan participating. In addition to increasing fuel economy and reducing emissions, students also must maintain the performance and safety of the vehicle, a 2013

Chevy Malibu. 'Supporting initiatives like WSU's EcoCAR not only help us seek out potential future employees, but also allows us to offer our knowledge and insight to students in a meaningful way," said Joe Lemiuex, director of Transmission, Hybrid and Electrification at IAV. "Encouraging STEM education is crucial in today's world. By fostering the interest and curiosity for STEM in students, we can begin to develop future engineers that are truly passionate about what they do and ambitious to develop tomorrow's latest engineering advancements."

IAV also provides year-round technical support. The 48-member WSU team has seen significant improvement

from the first year competition to this year, jumping four spots to eighth place. The team is continuing to look ahead to next year's competition and how they can further optimize and improve the vehicle, with the support of companies like IAV.

IAV also supports the University of Michigan's Formula SAE team and contributes to the University of Michigan Engihelping to send students

IAV Group is an engineering and technical consultancy servicing the global automotive industry with more than 5,000 employees worldwide. Its North American headquarters is located in Northville.

'Summer of Sharing'

Community Financial Credit Union is asking people: "What GOOD could you do with \$1,000?" That question kicks off another "Summer of Sharing," during which Community Financial will donate \$1,000 a day for 60 days to nonprofit groups in the met-

ing nonprofit, visit www.SummerOfSharing.org to answer that question and nominate a community group or organization.

We are inviting the community to tell us

mer, www.SummerOf-Sharing.org will announce the groups retheir outstanding community service.

For more information, visit www.cfcu.org or call 877-937-2328.

neering Department, to study in Berlin.

> ro area. To nominate a deserv-

which organizations are doing great work and deserve additional financial support," said Bill Lawton, Community Financial president/CEO. Throughout the sum-

ceiving \$1,000 in honor of

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

Finance a challenge in commercial real estate

With vacancy rates modestly falling and rents moderately rising in commercial real estate sectors, market fundamentals have improved, but financing remains a challenge for small business, according to the National Association of Realtors quarterly commercial real estate forecast.

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, said the market is showing an uneven recovery. "The wheels appear to be greased for the big players, but not so much for small business," he said. "Overall, the commercial sectors are firming nicely, with multifamily continuing to show the best performance.

National vacancy rates over the coming year are expected to decline 0.1 percentage point in the office market, 0.5 point in industrial, and 0.3 point for retail; however, the average multifamily vacancy rate is forecast to rise 0.2 percentage point, with that sector still showing the tightest availability and biggest rent in-

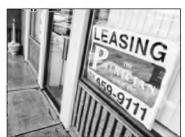
A companion report, the Commercial Real Estate 2013 Lending Survey, shows widely varying availability of lending capital depending on property size, with a significant disadvantage for buyers of smaller properties.

Commercial sales volume of major properties valued at \$2.5 million and above increased 24 percent in 2012 to \$294 billion. The uptrend continued during the first quarter of 2013, with a \$72.8 billion volume that is 35 percent above the first quarter of 2012. Sixteen markets in the first quarter experienced triple digit gains.

Commercial mortgagebacked securities regained market share in 2012, accounting for 22 percent of lending for major commercial properties. A comparable source was government agencies, followed by national banks, insurance companies and regional banks.

Realtor commercial members report 85 percent of their clients' transactions for purchases under \$2 million - generally small businesses. These transactions are financed largely by private investors, along with local and regional banks, marking a bifurcation in capital availability based on property value.

Despite the improvement for major commercial properties, 52 percent of Realtors report they had a commercial transaction fail in the past year due to a lack of financing," Yun said. "In addition, 42 percent of respondents



Realtors are pleased with an uptick in commercial property activity, but remain concerned about related finances. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

said clients failed to complete a refinancing. Credit for small business remains unnecessarily tight."

Commercial members report that new and proposed U.S. legislative and regulatory initiatives, and regulatory uncertainty for financial institutions, account for the lack of capital in commercial lending for smaller proper-

NAR's latest Commercial Real Estate Outlook offers overall projections for four major commercial sectors and analyzes quarterly data in the office, industrial, retail and multifamily markets. Historic data for metro areas were provided by REIS, Inc., a source of commercial real estate performance informa-

Office markets

Vacancy rates in the office sector should decline from a projected 15.7 percent in the second quarter to 15.6 percent in the second quarter of

The markets with the lowest office vacancy rates presently (in the second quarter) are Washington, D.C., with a vacancy rate of 9.4 percent; New York City, at 9.9 percent; Little Rock, Ark., 12.0 percent; and Birmingham, Ala.,

Office rents are likely to increase 2.6 percent this year and 2.8 percent in 2014. Net absorption of office space in the U.S., which includes the leasing of new space coming on the market as well as space in existing properties, will probably total 31.7 million square feet this year and 42.0 million in 2014.

Industrial markets

Industrial vacancy rates are expected to slide from 9.4 percent in the second quarter of this year to 8.9 percent in the second quarter of 2014.

The areas with the lowest industrial vacancy rates currently are Orange County, Calif., with a vacancy rate of 3.9 percent; Los Angeles, 4.1 percent; Miami, 5.8 percent; and Seattle at 6.3 percent.

Annual industrial rents are seen to rise 2.4 percent this

year and 2.6 percent in 2014. Net absorption of industrial space nationally is forecast to total 107.1 million square feet in 2013 and 100.3 million next

Retail markets

Retail vacancy rates are estimated to ease from 10.5 percent in the second quarter of this year to 10.2 percent in the second quarter of 2014.

Presently, markets with the lowest retail vacancy rates include San Francisco, 3.6 percent; Fairfield County, Conn., at 4.1 percent; and Long Island, N.Y., and Orange County, Calif., each at 5.3 percent.

Average retail rents are projected to rise 1.4 percent in 2013 and 2.2 percent next year. Net absorption of retail space is anticipated to be 12.5 million square feet in 2013 and 17.4 million next year.

Multifamily markets

The apartment rental market - multifamily housing should see vacancy rates edge up from 3.9 percent in the second quarter to 4.1 percent in the second quarter of 2014; vacancy rates at less than 5 percent are described as a landlord's market, with demand justifying higher

Areas with the lowest multifamily vacancy rates currently are New Haven, Conn., at 2.0 percent; New York City, 2.2 percent; and Minneapolis and San Diego, each at 2.3 percent.

Average apartment rents are likely to increase 4.6 percent this year and another 4.6 percent in 2014. Multifamily net absorption is expected to total 276,300 units in 2013 and 243,800 next year.

The Commercial Real Estate Outlook is published by the NAR Research Division. NAR's Commercial Division, formed in 1990, provides targeted products and services to meet the needs of the commercial market and constituency within NAR

The NAR commercial community includes commercial members; commercial real estate boards: commercial committees, subcommittees and forums; and the NAR commercial affiliate organizations - CCIM Institute, Institute of Real Estate Management, Realtors Land Institute, Society of Industrial and Office Realtors, and Counselors of Real Estate.

Approximately 78,000 NAR and institute affiliate members specialize in commercial brokerage and related services, and an additional 232.000 members offer commercial real estate services as a secondary business.

'Car condo' novel concept

Q: I have read in the paper that there is going to be what they refer to as a car condominium which will be a series of garages. Do you have any thoughts on the feasibility of it?

A: It appears to be an imaginative idea taking advantage of the fact that almost anything can be condominiumized. Of course, the success of that condominium will be how well the condominium documents are drafted to relate to the particular issues that may come up when people are stowing cars in close proximity and in connection with the other amenities which may be part of the development. Hopefully, the drafter of the condominium documents will be careful in assessing the inter-relationships between the occupants of the car storage units and the rest of the condominium. Anyone purchasing a condominium in that type of scenario is well advised to have an experienced condominium lawyer look at the scope and breadth of the condominium docu-

Q: We have just taken over control of our condominium association from the developer and have discovered a number of construction defects. We just found out that the management company that the developer hired for our project is the same management company the developer hired on a number of his other projects, and that the attorney that the managing agent recommended to us was also the attorney in these other projects that the management company was



Robert Meisner

managing for the developer. This attorney tells us we shouldn't pursue the developer for these defects. What do you think?

A: One cannot be sure, but it would appear that the management company is the "pet" management company of the developer, and the attorney that the management company hires is someone that the developer feels will not pursue him for defects and deficiencies and will, presumably, gloss over the issue. You may wish to consider hiring a new management company; and you are well-advised to obtain an independent opinion from an attorney not affiliated with the management company or even indirectly affiliated with the developer.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and

Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling,

the author of Condo Living 2: An

and Operating a Condominium. It is available for \$24.95 plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. Condo Living 2 is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and barnesandnoble.com. He is also the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

legal advice.

Investors

Investors ask: Can I get a mortgage with the new mortgage rules? How many? Costs? What government programs are available? Monthly meeting of the Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland Thursday, July 11, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, John R just north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members; \$20 nonmembers. Call 800-747-6742 (www.REIAofOakland.com)

email: reianews@aol.com.

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. 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 email june.quantum@gmail.com.

column shouldn't be construed as

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. Email Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour-

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road,

RSVP with Larry Brady at 800-260-5484, Ext. 33.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. each first Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate. Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. Any questions or concerns, call Wayde Koehler at 313-277-4168.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Feb. 18-22, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

| • | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| BEVERLY HILLS | |
| 18890 Hillcrest St | \$315,000 |
| 16039 Lauderdale Ave | \$300,000 |
| BIRMINGHAM | |
| 1395 Cole St | \$152,000 |
| 211 E Lincoln St | \$349,000 |
| 1070 Lincoln Ct | \$225,000 |
| 1662 Maryland Blvd | \$327,000 |
| 515 Oakland Ave | \$279,000 |
| 1853 Shipman Blvd | \$605,000 |
| 784 Southfield Rd | \$420,000 |
| 570 Townsend St | \$799,000 |
| 1335 Webster St | \$520,000 |
| BLOOMFIELD HILLS | |
| 180 Alice Ave | \$119,000 |
| 2258 Hunt Club Dr | \$312,000 |
| 1175 Kensington Rd | \$404,000 |

| 45 Pine Gate Dr |
|------------------------|
| 6244 Ramshead Ct |
| 4240 Wabeek Lake Dr S |
| 551 Whitehall Rd |
| BLOOMFIELD |
| TOWNSHIP |
| 5550 Forman Dr |
| 6190 Franklin Rd |
| 3664 Pheasant Run |
| 203 S Williamsbury Rd |
| 927 Sandhurst Rd |
| 676 Upper Scotsborough |
| Way |
| 789 Upper Scotsborough |
| Way |
| 1887 Wingate Rd |
| COMMERCE TOWNSHIP |
| 3155 Belle Terre |
| 4984 Birkdale Dr |
| 730 Remington Ct |
| |

830 Sleeth Rd

6099 Strawberry Cir **FARMINGTON**

2386 Klingensmith Rd

| LAL L3 | IAIL INAINS |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| \$52,000 | 32807 Annewood St |
| \$1,657,000 | 30314 Lamar St |
| \$284,000 | 23219 Prospect Ave |
| \$230,000 | FARMINGTON HILLS |
| \$478,000 | 31114 Applewood Ln |
| | 32285 Baintree Rd |
| | 34705 Berkshire Ct |
| \$230,000 | 34701 Bunker Hill Dr |
| \$185,000 | 30212 Fink Ave |
| \$345,000 | 32836 Hearthstone Rd |
| \$195,000 | 21702 Jacksonville St |
| \$561,000 | 28556 Quail Hollow Rd |
| \$225,000 | 33913 Rhonswood St |
| | 21103 Robinson St |
| \$250,000 | 35209 W 13 Mile Rd |
| | 30650 W Nine Mile Rd |
| \$245,000 | 33828 Yorkridge St |
| | FRANKLIN |
| \$40,000 | 32837 Brookwood Ln |
| \$333,000 | 32635 Franklin Rd |
| \$315,000 | LATHRUP VILLAGE |
| \$85,000 | 18838 Hampshire St |
| \$415,000 | MILFORD |
| | 2932 Deer Ridge Dr |
| | |
| | |
| REVI E | CTATE TRAN |

| IC A CTIC | NIC MAA |
|-------------|-----------------|
| | |
| \$400,000 | 24647 Nepavir |
| | 40843 Lenox P |
| \$165,000 | 27973 Hopkins |
| | 27664 Harring |
| \$243,000 | 44619 Ellery Li |
| \$1,100,000 | 44617 Ellery Li |
| | 44604 Ellery Li |
| \$300,000 | 22879 Cranbro |
| \$27,000 | 28239 Carlton |
| \$111,000 | 50700 Calvert |
| \$144,000 | 39940 Burton |
| \$74,000 | 30122 Brightw |
| \$42,000 | 41484 Belden |
| \$40,000 | NOVI |
| \$165,000 | 20915 Normar |
| \$100,000 | 21610 N Cente |
| \$214,000 | 20794 Maybur |
| \$710,000 | 37559 Dungar |
| \$198,000 | 906 Coldspring |
| \$330,000 | NORTHVILLE |
| | 430 Walnut Ro |
| \$150,000 | 633 Union St |
| \$159,000 | 801 N Main St |
| \$130,000 | 745 N Main St |
| | |

| 743 IN IVIAILI SC | . P |
|-----------------------|-----|
| 801 N Main St | \$ |
| 633 Union St | \$ |
| 430 Walnut Rdg | \$ |
| NORTHVILLE | |
| 906 Coldspring Dr | \$ |
| 37559 Dungarran Ct | \$ |
| 20794 Maybury | \$ |
| 21610 N Center St | \$ |
| 20915 Normandy Ct | \$ |
| NOVI | |
| 41484 Belden Cir | \$ |
| 30122 Brightwood Dr | \$ |
| 39940 Burton Ct | \$ |
| 50700 Calvert Isle Dr | \$ |
| 28239 Carlton Way Dr | \$ |
| 22879 Cranbrooke Dr | |
| 44604 Ellery Ln | \$ |
| 44617 Ellery Ln | \$ |
| 44619 Ellery Ln | \$ |
| 27664 Harrington Way | \$ |
| 27973 Hopkins Dr | \$ |
| 40843 Lenox Park Dr | \$ |
| 24647 Nepavine Dr | \$ |
| | |

| COOM | IT | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| \$160,000 | 24659 Nepavine Dr | \$547,000 |
| \$160,000 | 24731 Nepavine Dr | \$664,000 |
| \$420,000 | 26123 Sunbury Ct | \$200,000 |
| \$244,000 | 24470 Willow Ln | \$124,000 |
| | SOUTH LYON | |
| \$475,000 | 59765 Mallory Ln | \$352,000 |
| \$210,000 | 24767 Purlin Ct | \$81,000 |
| \$150,000 | 26414 Shumans Way | \$350,000 |
| \$325,000 | 53753 Springwood Dr | \$235,000 |
| \$563,000 | SOUTHFIELD | |
| | 29741 Fairfax St | \$24,000 |
| \$105,000 | 29741 Fairfax St | \$24,000 |
| \$281,000 | 29602 Farmbrook Villa Ct | \$50,000 |
| \$238,000 | 16260 Mayfair Dr | \$50,000 |
| \$556,000 | 29634 Pleasant Trl | \$69,000 |
| \$159,000 | 25114 Prairie Dr | \$120,000 |
| \$70,000 | 28751 Ranchwood Dr | \$8 5,000 |
| \$175,000 | 15 999 W 11 Mil e Rd # 20 | \$13,000 |
| \$174,000 | 29970 Wildbrook Dr | \$205,000 |
| \$170,000 | WHITE LAKE | |
| \$262,000 | 9067 Rhyan Rd | \$133,000 |
| \$140,000 | 9682 Shelby Dr | \$182,000 |
| \$292,000 | 8754 Townsend Dr | \$241,000 |
| \$616,000 | | |
| | | |

HOMES SOLD/R RANSACI

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 11-15, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses,

| and sales prices. | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| CANTON | |
| 8303 Alton St | \$130,00 |
| 47296 Fairlawn Ct | \$215,00 |
| 48761 Fifth Ave | \$250,00 |
| 45791 Hanford Rd | \$230,00 |
| 45173 Horseshoe Cir | \$120,00 |
| 43440 Lipka Ct | \$55,00 |
| 41410 Metaline Dr | \$125,00 |
| 50041 Monroe St | \$173,00 |
| 43970 N Umberland Cir | \$160,00 |
| 8492 New Haven Way | \$295,00 |
| 8643 New Haven Way | \$325,00 |
| 1774 Oakview Dr | \$138,00 |
| | |

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|---|--|---|--|-----------------------|
| | 298 Pri 47585 2103 S 45658 3705 S 3733 S 651 Stc 42190 1561 W 5794 W GARD 32117 32539 511 He 31544 LIVON 10027 35850 35850 36307 16362 | nceto Brook S Ston hephe hephe onehe Tonqu V Lake V Lake V Loge Henn Henn Henn Li Dover Li Dover Henn Henn Hamm | n St Woods chill Ln ewood rrd Ln nge Dn ish Ct view L wood ry St epin St epin St ewood ng St St ner Ln | d Rd r .n Rd |
| | | | | |

| REAL | FCT |
|-----------|------|
| LAL | LJI |
| \$170,000 | 1733 |
| \$290,000 | 2923 |
| \$77,000 | 1651 |
| \$180,000 | 3770 |
| \$178,000 | 2970 |
| \$188,000 | 1716 |
| \$148,000 | 8987 |
| \$143,000 | 1930 |
| \$235,000 | 1479 |
| \$156,000 | 3910 |
| | 1840 |
| \$52,000 | 1900 |
| \$68,000 | 3653 |
| \$53,000 | 9024 |
| \$80,000 | 3021 |
| | 1767 |
| \$70,000 | NOF |
| \$180,000 | 1582 |
| \$169,000 | 1672 |
| \$199,000 | 575 |
| | |

| SIAIL INANS |
|------------------------------------|
| 17335 Lathers St |
| 29232 Lyndon St |
| 16511 Middlebelt Rd |
| 37708 N Laurel Park Dr |
| 29709 Nottingham Cir |
| 17169 Oporto Ave |
| 8987 Pere Ave |
| 19304 Rensellor St |
| 14791 Riverside St |
| 39107 Ross St |
| 18405 University Park Dr |
| 19008 Van Rd |
| 36534 Vargo St 9024 Virginia St |
| 30211 W Chicago St |
| 17673 Wayne Rd |
| NORTHVILLE |
| 15828 Crystal Downs E |
| 16725 Forest Dr |
| 575 Gardner St |
| |
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| ACTIO | NS-V |
|------------------|-------------|
| \$147,000 | 39744 Gle |
| \$110,000 | 16885 Loc |
| \$40,000 | 39477 Vill |
| \$160,000 | 46556 W I |
| \$84,000 | 46913 Wo |
| \$207,000 | PLYMOU' |
| \$127,000 | 997 Carol |
| \$23,000 | 1165 Fairg |
| \$160,000 | 13343 Hav |
| \$106,000 | 279 Irvin S |
| \$41,000 | 432 N Eve |
| \$330,000 | 40364 Nev |
| \$191,000 | REDFORE |
| \$114,000 | 14175 Bre |
| \$55,000 | 14201 Bre |
| \$208,000 | 9584 Cros |
| | 15215 Gar |
| \$50,000 | 17646 Gay |
| \$431,000 | 16215 Lex |
| \$78, 000 | 9211 Luce |
| | |

| VVATIVE | COOM | T |
|----------------|-----------|----|
| Glenview Ct | \$240,000 | 17 |
| ochmoor Cir E | \$298,000 | 25 |
| Village Run Dr | \$260,000 | 93 |
| N Main St | \$410,000 | 95 |
| Noodbend Ct | \$365,000 | W |
| DUTH | | 74 |
| rol Ave | \$215,000 | 80 |
| airground St | \$173,000 | 91 |
| Haverhill Dr | \$362,000 | 32 |
| in St | \$222,000 | 34 |
| vergreen St | \$215,000 | 36 |
| Newport Dr | \$75,000 | 21 |
| RD | | 30 |
| Breakfast Dr | \$153,000 | 50 |
| Breakfast Dr | \$140,000 | 83 |
| rosley | \$75,000 | 38 |
| Garfield | \$16,000 | 38 |
| Gaylord | \$71,000 | 27 |
| _exington | \$34,000 | |
| ucerne | \$79,000 | |

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|-------------------|-----------|
| 17362 Olympia | \$63,000 |
| 25937 Student | \$73,000 |
| 9359 Winston | \$65,000 |
| 9568 Wormer | \$27,000 |
| WESTLAND | |
| 7411 Cochise St | \$61,000 |
| 8019 Coventry St | \$28,000 |
| 916 Forest St | \$93,000 |
| 32144 Glen St | \$37,000 |
| 34630 Glen St | \$60,000 |
| 36642 Hiveley St | \$61,000 |
| 2192 Martin St | \$80,000 |
| 30233 Matthew St | \$27,000 |
| 503 N Hanlon St | \$111,000 |
| 8338 Randy Dr | \$101,000 |
| 38206 S Jean Ct | \$77,000 |
| 38608 Sycamore Pl | \$75,000 |
| 27578 Van Born Rd | \$34,000 |
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