



Tinsel & Treasures

The 34th Annual Handcrafters Tinsel & Treasures Holiday Market will take place this weekend at the Northville Community Senior Center, 303 W. Main Street. Hours of the show are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

The show was recently ranked 79th in *Sunshine Artist Magazine's* Top Traditional & Contemporary Craft Shows in the country.

Admission is \$3 (children 12 and under get in free). Food from Edwards Café & Cater will be available. For more information, visit www.HcShows.com for more info.

Lightning event

The public is invited to be a part of the largest ever Lightning basketball event on Dec. 14, at Northville High School. Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. followed immediately by the event.

Lightning, also called Elimination or Knockout, is a fast-paced basketball shooting game meant to be played with several participants.

For a demonstration, visit youtu.be.com/watch?v=KCt8xZgslik.

Event organizers are hoping to draw more than 700 participants in order to break the current world record and earn a place in history.

The event is sponsored by Team Lisa and all proceeds will go to the Lisa Christensen Memorial Fund for the benefit of her children.

For additional information, please contact Alan, Northville Parks & Recreation at 248-349-0203.

Stores, restaurants planned for Seven Mile and Haggerty

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

By this time next year the corner of Haggerty and Seven Mile roads will have been completely transformed from a wooded lot to new retail locations, restaurants and a modern medical facility that will bring with them new business names and national recognition.

Schostak Brothers and Company Real Estate Operations COO Warren Strietzel said the community can expect to see phase one of the unique Park Place development complete sometime in 2014. After years of challenges, the property has been cleared and development is in full swing.

In 2010, Northville Township residents approved a bond sale to acquire 232.5 acres of the former psychiatric hospital property, which is adjacent to the development and will some day be a public park.

The remaining 82 acres, located at the corner of Seven Mile and Haggerty, were retained by the developer, Schostak Brothers and Company.

"Things are moving along really well. There are a few leases signed and others being drafted," said Strietzel, who is also a Northville resident. "With the University of Michigan building progressing so well and quickly, and with much of the

See **PLANS**, Page A7



Work continues at the site of the Northville Township Park Place development and the University of Michigan medical facility at the corner of Seven Mile and Haggerty. The complex should be open by summer 2014. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Daod Daod and Andrea Matloff pose for a quick photo with Santa Claus during the Dec. 7 Northville Civic Concern holiday distribution party. The pair of volunteers were there to drop off some cookies for those in attendance. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

The holiday season is in full swing in the Northville community and there's still more to come for those wanting to get in the mood.

This past weekend Mill Race Village held its annual "Christmas in the Village" event with participants bringing a tradi-

tional feel to the story of the holiday. Admission was free for those who walked the grounds of Mill Race to see the sights and sounds of yesteryear.

"We embrace our history and heritage. This event is a great way to kick-off the season with some holiday spirit and cheer," said organizer Leanie Bayly.

Mill Race docents and volunteers were spread throughout the village to tell

their different stories. Northville students were also on hand to play classic holiday songs inside the church and Wash Oak School.

Northville resident and Mill Race volunteer Bob Sochacki played St. Nicholas. For him the event offers another way to look at the holidays.

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Rotary's Goodfellows newspaper drive takes place Saturday

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

It's that time of year again. Northville Rotarians will hit the streets this Saturday for their annual Goodfellows newspaper drive that will benefit Northville Civic Concern.

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Rotary members will be located at four main intersections (Main and Center, Dunlap and Center, Main and Griswold, and Main and Hutton). For a donation, they will be handing out their annual Goodfellows newspaper.

According to Northville Ro-

tary Secretary Alan Somershoe, who is helping spearhead the newspaper fundraiser, the paper includes tidbits about Northville Rotary and its impact in the community over the course of the last year.

"The paper talks about some of the events the club has been

involved in during the last year, what service projects we've done," Somershoe said. "It explains what Rotary is, and lists our members. It also describes Rotary's international goal to eliminate polio around the

See **ROTARIANS**, Page A2



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ROTARIANS

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globe.”

Northville Rotary currently has more than 30 members, and is always looking for new blood.

As in the past, all of

the proceeds from the newspaper drive will be donated to Northville Civic Concern for the organization’s efforts to make sure all local children have a Christmas to remember. Civic Concern provides food, toys and other essentials to local families in need. Christmas is one of their

busiest times of the year.

“Last year we gave a check to Civic Concern for \$7,000, and we’re hoping to be able to raise that much again this year,” said Somershoe.

During this year’s sale, Rotary members will get a little help from Northville High School Inter-Act students, who

will be distributing the newspaper at Hiller’s, Good Time Party Store, and at the Northville Post Office. In addition, city and township firefighters will be assisting at some of the busier intersections. City firefighters will be stationed at Center Street and Eight Mile, while township firefight-

ers will be at Kroger on Haggerty.

Somershoe said most people give a dollar or two, though some people have given more.

“It’s always wonderful when someone drives by and drops \$50, or even \$100, which has happened a couple times,” he said.

“This is such a great

cause. The people of this community have always been so supportive and so generous. We really look forward to it. All of our members, except two who will be out of town, will be out there selling the newspapers.”

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CHRISTMAS

Continued from Page A1

“This gives people another side to Christmas that is not so commercialized,” he said.

“But it’s also a great way for families to spend a day getting in the holiday spirit.”

Upcoming holiday fun

For those who may have missed the Holiday Lighted Parade or Christmas in the Village, there are other happenings in the coming weeks.



Northville District Library Director Julie Herrin (from left), Judy McIntosh and Joan Hennessy take a look at the tree they and the rest of the library staff decorated. The tree, along with others decorated by other Northville groups, are on display at the Northville Community Center. The tree was conceived and planned by library employee Wendy Mutch and featured pages from discarded library books as its ornaments. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Santa Claus is coming to Town Square in downtown Northville on the following days from Noon to 4 p.m. on Dec. 13-14 and 20-21.

He will also visit Maybury Farm from noon to 3p.m. on Dec. 14-15. The Farm is located at 50165 Eight Mile Road, between Beck and Napier (do not enter at the State Park). Parking is complimentary.

On Dec. 13 (9 a.m. to 8 p.m.), Dec. 14 (9 a.m. to 5p.m.) and Dec. 15 (11 a.m. to 4 p.m.) the Tinsel and Treasures Holiday Market will be at the Community Center on Main Street. This is a great chance to find unique gifts for everyone on your list. More than 75 hand-selected, juried artists and fine craft-people from the Midwest will showcase their one-of-a-kind pieces of work.

The year will come to

a close in Northville at the New Year’s Eve party on Tuesday, Dec. 31 with the annual Northville Nite Family New Year’s Eve Party. It will be from 4-7 p.m. at the Recreation Center at Hillside Middle School.

This is a great way for a family to spend New Year’s Eve celebrating with friends and the rest of the community with a themed party called “Through the Decades.” Attendees can enjoy activities like crafts, huge inflatable games, entertainment and much more. The Northville Rotary Club will be selling hot dogs, pizza, and beverages.

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Ellen Grimes (left) and Tamara Stiles accept a contribution while volunteering at the Salvation Army kettle at the Northville Hiller’s on Dec. 3. The duo have been volunteering for about five years now, ringing hand bells and accepting kind donations at Hiller’s. The Salvation Army also has its kettles set up in front of the Northville Post Office and the Northville Township plaza at the northwest corner of Six and Haggerty. To volunteer for the Salvation Army, call 734-453-5464, ext. 24.

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Northville Vision Clinic plus Adelson Eye & Laser Center equals a 20/20 Solution

Northville Vision Clinic is excited to announce we have moved to 42000 6 Mile Road into a brand new, state of the art facility with Adelson Eye & Laser Center. According to Dr. Martin Levin who started Northville Vision Clinic, “We are a full service family eye clinic that stresses individualized personal care. We have been providing the Northville area professional care for over 40 years.” Our clinic offers examinations for adults and children and is a leader in the fitting of all types of contact lenses. Many types of ocular disease including infections and dry eye syndrome are treated at Northville Vision Clinic. All of our staff are trained opticians who have a combined total of over 100 years in the optical industry. We are constantly looking for the most current and fashionable eyewear to assure the patients have the best selection in the area. The full service on premise lab can guarantee the fastest service possible for eyewear. Priding ourselves on using the latest equipment including the Zeiss I Terminal for precision frame and lens measurements, allows the opticians to produce the most exact glasses possible. The I Terminal will also take four pictures of the patient trying on eyewear, so they can view themselves with the new frames. This eliminates the



guesswork in selecting your eyewear. The optical department consists of 1000’s of frames in all price ranges, including Tiffany and Co., Prada, Tom Ford, Dolce & Gabbana, Maui Jim, Oakley and Willy X. Our knowledgeable and experienced technicians will guide you in the selection of frames based on your style preference, budget, and functionality. Constantly updating equipment has allowed Northville Vision Clinic to continue being a leader in the field and recognized as one of the most comprehensive clinics in the area. By the addition of Adelson Eye and Laser Center, an incredible state of the art facility has been created. Our clinic can now offer services extending from examinations, contact lenses, treatment of diseases, cataract surgery and Lasik. Our staff and Dr. Levin extend a personal invitation to you and your family into our new home.

Adelson Eye & Laser Center is pleased to introduce our new and expanded location located at 42000 Six Mile Road in Northville as well. After almost 10 years of service at our Main Street location in downtown Northville, we have an all new full service center. This center offers the same comprehensive



eye care, including the management of glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, macular degeneration, dry eye syndrome, cataracts, corneal diseases, conjunctivitis, retinal and vitreous abnormalities, and most other eye related difficulties.

Adelson Eye & Laser Center is additionally very excited to announce our new partnership with LASIKPlus.

LASIKPlus currently has more than 50 centers throughout the United States and the LASIKPlus surgeon network has completed more than 1 million laser vision correction procedures. We are ecstatic that LASIKPlus has picked us to bring their services to our hometown of metropolitan Detroit. As ophthalmologists who are fellowship trained in advanced cataract and LASIK surgery and who have already performed thousands of procedures, we feel that the resources that LASIKPlus offers are invaluable. Most importantly, we now have our own laser center located onsite at the new Northville location. This allows us to offer all of the most advanced laser vision correction procedures, including all laser LASIK surgery, within the confines of our own surgical suite. Along with the assistance of LASIKPlus, we have brought all of the “latest and greatest” technology for laser vision correction right into our office

Adelson Eye & Laser Center will also continue to provide cataract surgery, including the use of premium lenses which allow correction for nearsightedness, farsightedness, astigmatism, and presbyopia. We have performed thousands of these procedures and continue to evolve with the recent advances in cataract surgery. Additionally, we will also continue to provide blepharoplasty procedures (eyelid surgery) for droopy eyelids and age related changes. In fact, the cosmetic component of our practice continues to expand as we now perform many cosmetic modalities including laser resurfacing procedures around the eyes and throughout the face.

With Northville Vision Clinic, we have attempted to create a comprehensive eye care experience at our new location where we are able to offer quality care and services for everything from eyeglasses and contact lenses to eye health-related issues to laser vision correction, cataract surgery, and multiple cosmetic modalities.



Martin J.
Levin,
OD



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Santa pays special visit to special kids

The Livonia and Redford Township Lions Clubs co-sponsored a Christmas party Friday for 242 students with special needs at Cooke School in Northville.

"It was just awesome to see our kids so happy and excited," Dean Mallory Carmack said. "They just got a kick out of it."

The students' favorite parts were visiting with Santa and eating lunch, Carmack said. Each of the students, who ranged in age from 3 to 26, received a gift from Santa, picked out especially for him or her.

Other activities included face painting, caroling and musical entertainment.

This was the first year for the party at Cooke School. Previously, the Lions Clubs held a Christmas party for students of Old Village School at St. Edith Church in Livonia. And Cooke School had its own Christmas program, Carmack said.

But the two schools merged two years ago, so it was decided to start a new tradition and have one large Christmas celebration.

Collins said they served 580 meals to the students, staff, parents and siblings. "It was twice as large as last year's," he said.

The party was co-sponsored by the Daniel C. Lord Council of Knights of Columbus, Alhambra and the Mitsubishi Corp.

"Together we teamed up and threw a great party," Collins said.

Collins said the goal of the party, a Lions tradition for several decades now, is give the students a special day. And that goal was achieved once again.

"Anybody that was there witnessed the fact the kids had a great day," he said.

—By Karen Smith



Joshua Sexton of Livonia is all smiles as "L-Moe T. Clown" Mark Rodemeyer of Livonia does face and arm painting. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN



Livonia Lions Club supporter Neal Haldane along with Lions Club President Matt Collins hand out presents after the students visit with Santa Claus.



Anthony Calleja from the Knights of Columbus out of St. Michael Catholic Church in Livonia cleans up after lunch at Cooke School in Northville. TOM BEAUDOIN

Library kicks off middle school 'Battle of Books'

The Northville District Library is kicking off its eighth annual Battle of the Books, a fun reading competition for middle school students who live or go to school in Northville. Books and team registration sheets are available at the library or in school media centers now. Teams must be registered by Jan. 30.

Battle of the Books is a reading competition designed to encourage middle school students to read a variety of genres, and then participate in the competition as a team to answer questions about the books. Books are carefully selected by teen and youth librarians from Northville District Library, who choose

well-reviewed young adult novels ranging from humor and adventure stories to historical fiction and science fiction.

"This is such a great opportunity for middle school students to read books they might not necessarily choose on their own, and then work with their fellow team members to practice together and prepare for competition," said Suzanne Schimanski-Gross, teen librarian.

Students compete on teams of 2-6 members, and must be represented by an adult team manager, who assists the team in practicing for competition and ensures the team reads all seven books among team members.

This year's titles are: *The Raft* by S.A. Bodeen; *The Girl Who Threw Butterflies* by Mick Cochrane; *Code Orange* by Caroline B. Cooney; *The False Prince: Book 1 of the Ascendance Trilogy* by Jennifer A. Nielsen; *Okay for Now* by Gary Schmidt; *The Alchemist: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel* by Michael Scott; and *Three Times Lucky* by Sheila Turnage.

Battle of the Books competition is scheduled for Wednesday, March 26, at 6:30 p.m. at Northville High School. For complete details and a list of this year's Battle titles, visit www.northvillelibrary.org/Teen/BattleoftheBooks, or call the Library at 248-349-3020.

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Realtor hoping Park Place will spur more Seven Mile development

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

Across the street and just down the road a bit from the Park Place development there is even more opportunity for development along Seven Mile Road. One Realtor is looking to continue to remake the vacant land along this major community corridor.

According to local real estate broker Jonathan Brateman, with such a great project as Park Place now underway at the southwest corner of Haggerty and Seven Mile there's an even wider opportunity to bring more life to the area.

"Success brings success, and I think this tremendous development (Park Place and University of Michigan medical facility) can only stimulate more growth," Brateman said.

He represents a property between Fry Road and Smock Street that is vacant, but ready for development. With 528 feet along Seven Mile and totaling nearly 4 acres, it has a lot of potential for an office or retail location that could fit the changing palate of the area, he said. Park Place has sparked a new interest along Seven Mile.



Real estate developer Jonathan Brateman thinks he's got a winner in this parcel of property along Seven Mile Road near Fry Road. His optimism stems from the University of Michigan medical complex and Park Place development at Seven Mile and Haggerty. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"This location has a lot of advantages being so close to a major freeway, in a community that has a great base of services and demographic," he said.

He has had three or four different ideas and calls of interest, and he expects more to come.

PLANS

Continued from Page A1

infrastructure in, we expect this development to be a significant and important one in the near future."

Schostak's plan for phase one includes a road, utilities and infrastructure improvements for approximately 30 acres of the overall 82 acre project. The anchor of phase one is the new 100,000 square foot University of Michigan medical office building, which will have clinical and diagnostic space. That building has been under construction for about a year.

In addition to this, there will be around 65,000 square feet of spaces built to home businesses that Strietzel said have "proven concepts" and know how to succeed.

"We are being very choosy with our tenants because this development is very important to us," he said.

"They will come with name recognition and some will be new to the

community."

He would not specify who the prospective tenants are, but said people should expect to see half the space devoted to restaurants and the other half to retail/commercial businesses. They will look to have them work in conjunction with the future township park next door through offering a variety of options.

However, it's not just the new businesses that make this location unique, according to Strietzel.

It's also the overall look of the property. He said the ponds, trails and eventual widening of Seven Mile make the development different in a positive way.

"We are trying to bring a new standard to the community," he said. "It will be a beautiful development that should have a positive impact."

There will be another phase of development on the property in the coming years.

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Live under the sea



"The Little Mermaid" is playing live onstage at the Marquis Theatre in downtown Northville through January. Upcoming performances are scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays (Dec. 14, 21, and 28, Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25), 2:30 p.m. on Sundays (Dec. 12, 22, and 29, Jan. 5, 12, 19, and 26), and 2:30 weekdays (Dec. 26-27). Tickets for all performances are \$9. No children under the age of 3 at the family-friendly production. For more information call the Marquis Theatre at 248-349-8110 or visit www.northvillemarquistheatre.com. CHRISTINA ZAYTI

'Giddy Up' for a good cause



Northville residents Lory (left) and Marty Testasecca and Camp Casey Executive Director and founder Molly Reeser attended the 6th Annual Giddy Up Gala at Knollwood Country Club on Nov. 1. The benefit helped raise funds for the nonprofit horseback riding and outreach programs for children with cancer and their families. For more information, visit www.camp-casey.org. JULIE YOLLES

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Child abuser gets up to 20 years after plea deal

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

The Northville Township man who police say tortured the 23-month-old nephew of his girlfriend while the boy was in his care will be spending more than a decade in prison.

Dylan James Dunlap, 20, took a plea deal with prosecutors rather than face a jury after being charged with numerous crimes, including first degree child abuse, torture and assault with intent to do great bodily harm – all felonies.

Judge David Groner sentenced Dunlap to 10 years and six months on the child abuse charge, three years on the assault



Dunlap

charge and 10 years and six months on the torture charge. He will spend between 10 years and six months and 20 years in state prison. Dunlap is currently being held in Jackson state prison for evaluation, and will probably be moved to another Michigan Department of Corrections facility at some point. He was sen-

tenced in late November.

According to Northville Township Police, Dunlap, who was 19 at the time of the crime, was babysitting the boy at his township apartment during the evening of May 5-6 while the boy's mother (his girlfriend's sister) was working. She also lived in the same apartment complex.

According to reports, Dunlap lost his temper with the boy and beat him, causing numerous injuries that required medical attention. Police say Dunlap also used a lighter to burn the child's skin in several places, and even bit him on the leg.

POLICE BRIEFS

Bar room brawls

There were two separate fights at Brick's Bar and Restaurant in downtown Northville on Nov. 28.

The first involved a 22-year-old Kalamazoo man getting hit in the face by an unknown person. There are no suspects, but the victim described being confronted by a group of men inside the bar.

The second involved two men who both went away with bloody faces. This incident also had sketchy details due to the level of intoxication and crowded situation in the bar. However, one was a 20-year-old Northville man who had been drinking at the establishment with help from a fake ID.

Underage drinking

The Northville City Police cited a 20-year-old man for underage alcohol consumption after spotting him running down the street late at night.

On Dec. 1, the police were at Amerman Elementary School on patrol when the Northville man along with a friend were seen running down the street with one having dirt on his pants. The police made contact with them and it was ascertained that they were both highly intoxicated.

Hit and run reward

The Northville Township Police Department is still seeking help from the public about a hit and run incident that took place around 5:50 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 22.

According to police, a 52-year-old Detroit man was struck by a vehicle while working in the area of Six Mile Road east of Sheldon. The victim was assisting a fellow employee back a vehicle and trailer out of a driveway when a vehicle traveling eastbound on Six Mile hit him. The vehicle failed to stop after hitting the man, and then fled the scene. He sustained non-life threatening injuries.

The vehicle is described as a white or silver sedan similar to a Chrysler 200 or Volkswagen Passat.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$2,500 for information that leads to a conviction. Call them at 1-800-SPEAK UP.

Xmas light vandal

A 61-year-old Northville Township man re-

ported to police that somebody vandalized the Christmas lights outside of his home on the 47800 block of Manorwood Drive.

According to the report, the man said his lights were strung on some bushes out in front of his home and were in perfect working order when he left to go on vacation over the Thanksgiving holiday. When he returned, the lights weren't working. Upon investigation, he realized the light strand had been cut in three different places.

He estimated the crime took place sometime between Nov. 28 and Dec. 1.

There are no suspects at this time.

Brick through windshield

A Northville man had a brick thrown at his vehicle's windshield by an unknown person.

The incident occurred on either Dec. 3 or Dec. 4 while his car was parked on Randolph Street. The passenger side mirror was also ripped off.

The windshield was not completely shattered. It did not appear as if the suspect was trying to gain entry, but rather inflicting damage may have been the motive.

City residents believe Wing/Main intersection confusing, dangerous

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Northville resident Howard Payne has a lot of concerns with the intersection at Wing and Main streets. He's not alone.

Payne and at least 150 other residents are asking city officials to do something about the intersection, before it becomes a bigger problem.

"I've become concerned more and more," Payne told the City Council at its Dec. 2 meeting during public comment.

Payne went to the meeting to give the council his thoughts and share the petition he took around to garner support for a solution. He said the blind spot looking east and the quick traffic coming down Main going west is a difficult passage for some pedestrians and drivers.

A resident of St. Lawrence Estates, Payne believes a solution like putting in a four-way stop similar to the one at Cady and Wing streets would improve the situation.

"I hope you give this due consideration," he said of the petition and solution. "I think a four-way stop would ease traffic."

Mayor Chris Johnson said this location has been looked at before by the city, but it was recommended to postpone any changes until the full impact of The Garage restaurant was known.

With a year of business under its belt, it's become obvious the restaurant has brought more traffic, foot and vehicle, into downtown. Johnson said his per-



Some Northville residents are concerned with the traffic flow at the corner of West Main and Wing streets. Often, eastbound and westbound traffic on Main Street at the intersection will stop, even though there's no stop sign for their direction of traffic. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you agree with some city residents who believe the intersection of Wing and Main streets is dangerous? Email your opinions to Editor Kurt Kuban at kkuban@hometownlife.com.

sonal observations of the situation at Wing and Main have led him to believe that many

view it as a four-way stop. He said he's witnessed a car come to a stop on Main at Wing while others know it isn't and try to go around the stopped vehicle.

He sees this as a problem, especially because of the large number of pedestrians in the downtown.

"We will have the (police) chief look into this particular issue," Johnson said.

lhuhman@hometownlife.com

Trotting down Woodward



For the 21st year in a row, the Harmony Acres Arabian Parade Horses walked in America's Thanksgiving Day Parade in Detroit. Riders included Nancy Harm of Salem Township, who is breeder and trainer of the horses, Emily Matteson of Milford, and Elizabeth Richards of Salem. Banner carriers included Sara Yokus of Northville and Gwyn Wells of Clarkston. Lynne Yokos of Northville served as one of the group's official photographers.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

City of Northville Purchase of a Slide-in Salt Spreader

Sealed bids will be received in the City of Northville Council Chambers, City Hall, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167 until 2:00 p.m. local time on **January 10, 2014** for the **Purchase of a Slide-in-Salt Spreader**.

Specifications for this equipment along with contract documents can be obtained by contacting the Northville Department of Public Works at (248) 449-9930.

The City of Northville reserves the right to waive any irregularity or informality in bids, to reject any and/or all bids, in whole or in part, or to award any contract to other than the low bidder, should it be deemed in the City's best interest to do so.

James P. Gallogly

Director of Public Works

Dianne Massa

City Clerk

Publish: December 12, 2013

LO-0000170907 3x3

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com

LO-0000167497

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Northville Township Board of Trustees will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, December 19, 2013 in the Community Room at the Northville Township Municipal Offices, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan, to consider an Application for Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate from Aisin World Corporation of America and Aisin Technical Center of America, Inc., under Act 198 of the Public Acts of 1974, as amended. The subject property is located at 15300 Centennial Drive. The meeting begins at 7:30 P.M.

Any owner, resident, taxpayer or legislative body of any taxing unit, which levies ad valorem property taxes on the property in which this facility is located, may appear at said hearing and give testimony.

Sue Hillebrand
Clerk, Charter Township of Northville
PUBLISH: December 12, 2013

LO-0000170916 2x2

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Northville Township Board of Trustees will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, December 19, 2013 in the Community Room at Northville Township Municipal Offices, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan, to consider establishing an Industrial Development District pursuant to Act No. 198 of Public Acts of 1974, as amended, in order to permit local industries to obtain exemption from certain real and personal property tax, for a period of years. The meeting will begin at 7:30 P.M.

Any owner, resident, taxpayer or legislative body of any taxing unit, which levies ad valorem property taxes on the property in which this facility is located, may appear at said hearing and give testimony.

The location of said premises to be considered as an Industrial Development District are described as:

Parcel ID#8277-064-99-002-701
16A1A1A2 PT OF SE 1/4 SEC 16 T1S R8E DESC AS BEG S 84D 41M 52S W 2261.74 FT AND N 01D 39M 44S W 868.30 FT FROM SE COR SEC 16 TH N 01D 39M 44S W 248.21 FT TH ALONG A CURVE TO THE RT RAD 135 FT CHORD N 09D 13M 52S E 51.02 FT TH ALONG A CURVE TO THE LT RAD 75 FT CHORD N 09D 13M 52E 28.35 FT TH N 88D 20M 16S E 625.57 FT TH S 06D 48M 08S E 327.47 FT TH S 88D 20M 16 S W 669.90 FT TO POB 4.89 AC

Parcel ID#8277-064-99-0002-702
16A1A1A3 PT OF SE 1/4 SEC 16 T1S R8E DESC AS BEG S 84D 41M 52S W 1521.86 FT AND N 06D 48M 08S W 60 FT FROM SE COR SEC 16 TH S 84D 41M 52S W 739.88 FT TH N 01D 39M 44S W 808.30 FT TH N 88D 20M 16E 669.90 FT TH S 06D 48M 08S E 764.40 FT TO POB 12.70 AC

Sue Hillebrand
Clerk, Charter Township of Northville

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LO-0000166746

Roosen to help determine if Highland Park needs emergency manager

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

Gov. Rick Snyder has appointed Chris Roosen, a former Northville Township Trustee, to be part of the financial review team that will determine where the financial emergency stands in Highland Park.

The announcement came on Dec. 2 as part of the overall plan to have Lincoln Park, Royal Oak Township, and Highland Park go under financial review, which could potentially lead to the appointment of an emergency manager.

For Roosen, the appointment is a chance to help right the ship in a financially distressed metro Detroit community.

"I am excited to get involved with helping a financially distressed community," he said.

He was appointed as House Speaker Jase Bolger's representative on the review team and was recommended to the speaker by State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-20th District, based on his experience with local government finances and operations.

"The experience we had in navigating Northville Township through the turbulent economic times since 2008, and my experience consulting with similar communities on behalf of SEMCOG (Southeast Michigan Council of Governments)," Roosen said of what he can bring to the table in Highland Park.

Under the revised Emergency Manager Law, Public Act 436 of



Roosen

"I am excited to get involved with helping a financially distressed community,"

CHRIS ROOSEN
Northville

2012, the team will be considering a review of the city's finances that was performed by the Department of Treasury in September and October.

"We will advise the governor as to whether a financial emergency exists in the city, which could lead to appointment of an emergency manager, among other possible outcomes," he said.

Roosen said their team will have specific steps to follow under the revised Emergency Manager Law. They will begin by reviewing the preliminary report that has already been prepared by the Michigan

Department of Treasury and the city's response to that report.

Highland Park was previously under emergency management dating back to the Gov. Jennifer Granholm administration, and emerged from emergency management in 2009 with a five-year deficit elimination plan.

"Unfortunately, the city has suffered a decline in property values since that time, is having difficulty funding its pension plans, and there have been some unique challenges in its water department," Roosen said of some reasons for Highland Park's struggles.

He noted it has had its own fresh water supply from Lake St. Clair that dates back to the time of Henry Ford and was home to Ford's first assembly line at the Highland Park Plant.

However, very recently, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department filed suit against Highland Park in an effort to recover several million dollars that it is owed.

According to the preliminary review, Highland Park has had a deficit in one or more funds since at least 2008 and breached its deficit elimination plan.

"Like many other communities and individuals, Highland Park is struggling," Roosen said.

The team will have 60 days to report to the governor.

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Gorecki-Hartshorne



The family of Andrea Gorecki announce her engagement to Mike Hartshorne of Huntersville, N.C. Andrea is the daughter of Steve (of Warren) and Julie Gorecki (of Northville). She is a 2003 graduate of Northville High School, and earned her bachelor and masters degrees from Grand Valley State University. She is currently employed as a kindergarten teacher at Pine Lake Preparatory in Mooresville, N.C. Mike is the son of Melissa Lassar of Averill Park, New York. and Mike Hartshorne of Albany, New York. He is a 1997 graduate of Columbia High School. He earned bachelor degrees from SUNY Cortland and Sage College of Albany, and a masters degree from Gardner-Webb University. He is currently employed as an assistant principal at Lincoln Charter School. An April 2014 wedding is planned in Cornelius, N.C.

Topping it off



Hillside Middle School students Kelly Deng (left) and Arianna Ramp team up to dish out some ice cream at the school's Dec. 6 holiday carnival. The evening event featured everything from a bake sale, crafts bazaar, temporary tattoos, and mechanical bull riding in the gymnasium.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dressing up for the DIA



At a time when Detroit and the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) needs the most community support and dollars to save our cultural institution, 800 donors rallied together to help net \$1 million at the recent DIA Night of Illusion Gala. What was no illusion is that the \$1 million was 30 percent over the DIA's goal. Northville residents Julie and George Lenyo (at left) joined their friends Jamie and Aaron Simpson of Rochester Hills at the black-tie Gala.

JULIE YOLLES

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LO-0000169008

Historical society membership helps preserve town’s history

On the cusp of its 50th anniversary, the Northville Historical Society has launched a membership drive to recruit supporters interested in committing to the preservation of Northville's storied history.

Membership in the society is available for as little as \$20 a year. A newly restructured membership brochure, which outlines membership categories and donor levels, is available throughout the community at Northville City Hall, Northville Township Hall, the Northville District Library, the Northville Chamber of Commerce, the Northville Community Center and the Parks and Recreation office at Hillside. Brochures also are available at the Cady Inn at Mill Race Historical Village.

In addition, those interested in supporting the society's efforts can join online by going to the NHS website at www.millracenorthville.org.

A not-for-profit organization funded by memberships, donations, and revenue from building rental, the



Michele Fecht

Northville Historical Society is the sole steward of Mill Race Historical Village and the society's archives, a repository of photographs, letters, journals, maps and other materials pertinent to the Northville community.

The society was established in 1964 by a small group of preservationists whose initial aim was to save the community's library on South Wing Street. By 1972, the group succeeded in moving the library and a small Greek Revival house to acreage on Griswold donated to the City of Northville by Ford Motor Company.

The move of the two structures marked the beginning of Mill Race Historical Village. In the four decades since its inception, the village has grown to also include an inn, interurban waiting room, general store, blacksmith shop, schoolhouse, Gothic Carpenter-style house, workers' cottage and gazebo.



Madeline Schroder works with volunteer Jerry Lautzenhieser to make a tambourine out of a wooden stick and some bottle caps at the Dec. 7 Children's Holiday Workshop at Mill Race Village put on by the Northville Historical Society, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2014. The society is kicking off a membership drive. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Mill Race Historical Village is free and open to the public seven days a week dawn to dusk. Its buildings are open for tours from 1-4 p.m. Sundays from mid-June to mid-October and during special events such as the Fourth of July, Victorian Festival and the Christmas season.

In addition to the buildings, the Mill Race

Historical Village also houses the society's archives, a collection of thousands of archival documents dating back to the settlement of the community in the 1820s with some documents predating that period. The preservation of these materials is part of the society's mission.

The Northville Historical Society welcomes all those interest-

ed in supporting its efforts to preserve the community's history. Its goal is to increase its membership to 500 by 50. To mark its 50th anniversary, the society also is seeking a one-time contribution of \$50. The 50 for 50 donation will help the Northville Historical Society continue its preservation efforts for future generations.



The Northville Historical Society's new membership brochure outlines membership categories and donor levels in anticipation of the group's 50th anniversary in 2014.

Those seeking further information, can contact the Northville Historical Society at 248-348-1845 or go to the society's website.

Michele Fecht is a member of the Northville Historical Society, longtime City of Northville resident and former city council member.

Fiscal Accountability for Public Sector Leaders takes center stage at Walsh

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Walsh College's conference on Fiscal Accountability for Public Sector Leaders on Dec. 5 gave attendees a look into what makes a municipality successful financially and what doesn't.

In the past decade, financial hardship has hit many municipalities around the state, and some have even had to straighten things out with the help of an emergency manager.

The worst-case scenario for public officials has been to have their local government and services go bankrupt. The best-case has been to ride out the economic recession and, in some cases, make things better. Put in place by the voters and using tax dollars, these leaders are held accountable to get it done or changes will come.

This was one of the main points of the half-day session at Walsh's Novi campus. Faculty and government finance experts discussed their experiences and insights under state law, as emergency managers, under municipal bankruptcy, debt financing, as well as those red-flag issues often ignored in municipal budgets.

The goal was to provide attendees — appointed and elected officials, and employees of public entities including state and local governments, school districts, authorities and commissions — resources available to municipalities and critical strategies to help them maintain fiscal strength.

Success story



Lou Schimmel, who has been the emergency manager in Ecorse and Pontiac, talked about fiscal accountability at a public sector conference at Walsh College's Novi campus on Dec. 5.

The city of Novi is a shining example with its multi-year fiscal planning. Novi City Manager Clay Pearson gave basis for what he and other public officials have done to maintain and improve services during challenging times.

"There are many policymakers and staff such as Novi that made adjustments to cut costs during the Great Recession, that reduced employee headcount and employee benefits," said Pearson, who helped welcome the attendees to the conference.

"Novi also made adjustments to how we delivered services and focused on getting the most long-term benefit from public dollars entrusted to us," he added.

In Novi, a lot of well thought out techniques have been used to maintain accountability, but it's also owed to what Pearson calls the "hard work and focus every day from our great talented staff" that helps make a public organization successful.

Troubled areas

Schimmel said many times labor and legacy costs are the biggest challenges in getting a public budget shaped up. By not addressing the problems immediately, some public officials "kick the can down the road," leading to bigger issues.

"Cleaning up your own mess first," is where it starts, Schimmel said. Each situation for him has been different, but there were common problems and solutions, which include making sacrifices.

He said the plan they used in Pontiac was a good one. Consolidating services, privatizing others with Michigan-based contractors, selling property, introducing new economic devel-

opment, and financial restructuring were some of the tools he employed.

In places like Detroit, emergencies were declared and managers sent in to fix dire financial situations. Conference speaker Louis Schimmel, who managed financial emergencies in Ecorse, Hamtramck and Pontiac, said much of the blame goes to self-serving politicians who turn a part-time public role into a full-time job with the perks that can come with that.

"What they are doing is serving themselves instead of the community," he said of his experiences over the last decade.

lhuhman@hometownlife.com
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Wayne County hosts annual Holiday Fest, Nankin Mill lighting

Wayne County Parks and the Friends of Nankin Mills is inviting families to the annual Family Holiday Fest and Mill Lighting Saturday, Dec. 14.

From 3:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m., there will be several holiday crafts, games and prizes for children in the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center. Immediately following, there will be a short outdoor ceremony with the mill lighting and sing-a-long, ending at 6 p.m.

Children also will have the opportunity to visit Santa and enjoy refreshments after the mill lighting.

"This is a wonderful event that brings smiles and spreads holiday cheer" said Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano. "I encourage everyone to experience the Holiday Fest and Mill Lighting and all of our great family-oriented events offered by Wayne County Parks."

There is no charge for the mill lighting and Santa visit. However, to

participate in crafts and games, the cost is \$6 per child and \$2 per adult, for Wayne County residents and \$7 per child and \$3 per adult for non-residents. Limited space is available, so preregistration is required.

Families also can celebrate the magic of the season during the 20th anniversary of Lightfest 7-10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 6-10 p.m. Friday through Sunday through Dec. 31. Lightfest is closed Christmas Day. Visitors enter Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriam Road in Westland and exit onto Warren Avenue near Telegraph Road in Dearborn Heights. There is a \$5 fee per vehicle.

The Nankin Mills Interpretive Center is located at 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. For more information on this or any other Wayne County Parks event, go to www.parks.waynecounty.com or call 734-261-1990.

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MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

RELIGION CALENDAR

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. Preregister.

Church of the Holy Family

Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road
Contact: 248-349-8847 or visit hollyfamilynovi.org
Mass Schedule
Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Friday; 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday; 4:30 p.m. Saturday; 6:30 p.m. Saturday (Spanish)
Holy days: 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment
Priests: the Rev. Bob LaCroix, pastor, and the Rev. Beto Espinoza, associate pastor
AA: 8 p.m. Wednesdays

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

worship experience.

Destiny Worship Center

Location: Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 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: 7 p.m. Wednesdays
Women's Coffee Break Bible Study Advent Study: 10-11:30 a.m. Mondays; "Advent Reflections, Making All Things New"

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 Church of the Nazarene

Location: 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile
Contact: 248-348-7600 or visit dfcnazarene.org
Sunday Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Classic worship service, Adult

Bible Fellowship classes and Children's Sunday School; 11 a.m. Contemporary worship service with Kids Church, Teen Worship Service and Adult Bible Fellowship classes. Caf  is open from 9:15-11 a.m. Refreshments at 10:30 a.m.; 6 p.m. Evening Traditional Service
Tuesday: 9:25 a.m. Women's Bible Study (Women of the Word) studying Luke
Thursday schedule: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group and Bible Study
Friday: 9:30 a.m.; Sweet Fridays on the second and fourth Fridays -- A Ministry for Moms of All Ages

First Presbyterian Church of Northville

Location: 200 E. Main
Contact: 248-349-0911 or visit www.fpcnorthville.org
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Location: 205 E. Lake Street (corner of Wells and 10 Mile), South Lyon
Contact: 248-437-2875

First United Methodist Church of Northville

Location: 777 W. Eight Mile, Northville
Contact: 248-349-1144 or www.fumcnorthville.org
Summer Sunday Worship (Memorial Day-Labor Day): 8:30 and 10 a.m.
Summer Sunday School (Memorial Day-Labor Day): 8:30 a.m. - Nursery; 10 a.m. - Nursery - sixth grade
Sunday Worship (September-May): 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m.
Sunday School (September-May): 8 a.m. Nursery; 9:15 a.m. Nursery 12th grade; 11 a.m. Nursery sixth grade

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Location: 41415 Nine Mile, corner of Meadowbrook Road, Novi
Contact: 248-349-0565

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

Holy Cross Episcopal Church

Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile
Contact: 248-427-1175 or holycrossnovi@gmail.com; visit holyCROSSnovi.org
Sunday Worship: 7:45 and 10 a.m.
Sunday School and Nursery Care: 10 a.m. Worship service
Alzheimer's Support Group: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month.
Blue Christmas Service: 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 for all those who have suffered any kind of loss and find this holiday season difficult.

Hope Lutheran Church

Location: 39200 W. 12 Mile (east of Haggerty), Farmington Hills

Lakes Baptist Church

Location: 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake
Livonia Church of Christ
Location: 15431 Merriman, Livonia
Contact: 734-427-8743 or visit www.livoniachurch.net
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Bible School: Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.

Legacy Church (formerly First Baptist Church and Orchard Hills Baptist Church)

Location: 23455 Novi Road, Novi
Contact: Pastor Jon Hix 248-349-5665 or visit www.legacychurch.us
Sunday School/Small Groups for all ages: 9:45 a.m.
Worship Services: 11 a.m.
Bible Study/Prayer: 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. Sundays
Christmas Eve Candlelight & Story Service: 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 24
Details: The Meadowbrook Handchime Choir will be making its debut. Rev. Ritter's sermon title is "Fear Not". The service will end with "Silent Night" and candles. The 9 p.m. Christmas Eve service of candlelight, music and word will include guest violin and harp along with sopranos Stephanie Rose Kanak and Maren Ritter. The sermon title is "Godisnowhere". Nursery care is available at both services.

Northville Christian Assembly

Location: 41355 Six Mile
Contact: 248-348-9030; ncalife.org
Sundays: 9-10 a.m. Sunday School for adults / youth / children; 9 a.m. Contemporary service in multipurpose gymnasium; 10:15 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: Events, programs and activities for all ages throughout the year -- children's programs, Sunday school, adult Jewish classes, youth clubs, holiday services and programs, community social events.
Contact: Rabbi Avrohhom & Leah Susskind at 248-790-6075 or rabbini@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 Rd., Novi,
Contact: 248-912-0043
Web: www.oakpointe.org/lifegroups
Worship Services: 5:15 p.m. Saturday; 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. Sunday
ReNew Life Group Ministries: 7-9 p.m. Monday (groups meet weekly)
Women's Life Groups Ministries: 7 p.m. Tuesday; 9:30 a.m. Wednesday
Men's Life Groups Ministries: 6 a.m. Friday; at the church and various locations

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
Contact: 248-374-2268
Children (5-10) & Adult Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Bible Study: Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Orchard Grove Community Church

Location: 850 Ladd Road, Walled Lake
Contact: 248-926-6584; www.orchardgrove.org

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

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

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

Our Savior 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.thepentecostalsof-novi.org

Plymouth St. John's Episcopal Church

Location: 574 S. Sheldon in Plymouth
Contact: 734-453-0190, Ext. 16, or visit www.stjohnsplymouth.org

Praise Baptist Church

Location: 45000 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth
Contact: 734-748-3898

St. James Catholic Church

Location: 46325 10 Mile, Novi
Contact: 248-347-7778
Pastor: Monsignor John Kasza
Mass Schedule: 8, 9:30 and

GET LISTED!

Submit: Send calendar submissions via email to cstone@gannett.com; by fax to 248-685-2892; or by mail to Religion Calendar/Novi-Northville, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

11:30 a.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Tuesday; 7 p.m. Wednesday; 5 p.m. Saturday

St. John Lutheran Church

Location: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills
Contact: 248-474-0584 or visit stjohn-lutheran.com
Saturday Worship: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Worship: 9, 11:15 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Location: 201 Elm St., Northville
Contact: 248-349-3140

Unity of Farmington Hills

Location: 32500 W. 13 Mile, Farmington
Contact: 248-737-9191; AdministrativeDirector@unityfh.com

Unitarian Universalist Church of Farmington

Location: 25301 Halsted Road, Farmington Hills
Contact: www.uufarmington.org
Youth Interfaith Journey: 9:30 and 11 a.m. Sundays
Details: This religious education program is open to the public and currently enrolling new students. Classes are grouped into grades K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 with age-specific education materials for all.
Contact: Jennifer Teed at 248-478-7272 or dre@uufarmington.org
Lifelong Learning Forum: 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays
Details: Six weeks exploring different topics like religion, philosophy, science, health, social and political issues. No advance registration necessary; a \$5 donation is suggested. Drop in and pick the class that interests you most at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Farmington.
Contact: 248-478-7272 or uufarmington.org/uucf/re-lifespan
Multi-Generational Services: 6:45 p.m. Fridays
Details: Family members of all ages can gather for drumming, chanting, and meditation followed by a brief participatory worship service which could include stories, songs and sharing. A religious education activity will follow, such as an art project, music, dance, game or theater. The evening will close with a light snack and a short time to socialize, ending at 8:30 p.m.

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Location: 40000 Six Mile
Contact: 248-374-7400 or 248-374-5978
Sunday Worship: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Traditional; 9:30 and 11 a.m. Contemporary. Nursery and Sunday School during the 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services.
Service Broadcast: 11 a.m. every Sunday on WRDT-AM 560, The WNUZ Word Station.
Single Point Ministries (45 and older): 11 a.m. Sunday for fellowship and Bible study.
Single Point Ministries (35-50 years old): 9:30 a.m. Sunday to deepen your personal relationship with Christ.
Single Purpose Connections (20-30 years old): 11 a.m. Sunday in the Chapel for singing, Bible study, and fellowship.
Details: For single adults. Active ministry offering various Bible study classes, volleyball, bicycling group, tennis group, support groups, support group for widowed over age 50, fellowship, friendships and more.
Contact: 248-374-5920
Learner's Bible Study: 7 p.m. Mondays Room A101
Men's Bible Study: 6:30 a.m. Wednesday Single Adult Ministries office
Single's Bible Study: 7 p.m. second and fourth Mondays, Room C309

Passages

Obituaries. Memories & Remembrances

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

View Online www.hometownlife.com

BLACKMAN, CLARA JEAN
Age 92, died December 9, 2013. A private family service will be held. www.phillipsfuneral.com



CELESKEY, FLORENCE ADELINE
age 91, resident of Highland, devoted parishioner of Church of the Holy Spirit, member of the Women's Club, a Third Order Carmelite and a healing minister from Dun Scotus, passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 7th, 2013. She leaves her five children, Diane (James) Lyons-Byrnes, Judy (Roger) Avie, Gregory (Cheryl) Celeskey, Mary (Francis) Tseng, Rose (William) Stano; fourteen grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and many extended family and dear friends. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Thomas and siblings, Leonard, Dorothy and Andy. Visitation will be held on Friday, December 13, 2013 at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty, Milford from 2-8 p.m. with a Rosary at 7 p.m. Mass of the Resurrection will be held at Church of the Holy Spirit, 3700 Harvey Lake Rd, Highland, Saturday, December 14th, 10 a.m. Rev. Fr. Wayne Ureel to officiate. Rural Highland Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her name to Priest of the Sacred Heart, P.O. Box 900 Franklin, WI 53132 For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com



DARNELL, JEAN ALBERTA HOYT
Age 96, passed away peacefully in her sleep Monday, December 2, 2013. Born December 29, 1916 in Springfield, OH to George Emmett and Edna Theresa (Scherzinger) Hoyt, Jean was the oldest of four children. On September 10, 1941, she married Donald Edward Darnell in Bellefontaine, OH. Together they raised five children, Launa Kathryn (Alan) Wakenhut, John Hoyt (Shirley) Darnell, Linda Ann (Clifford) Smith, James Edward (Joan) Darnell and Laura Jean (David) Fox, in Northville where they resided for many years and Jean was an active member of Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church. Jean was preceded in death by her beloved Don, her parents and siblings and her firstborn son. She is survived by her five children; ten grandchildren, Jeanne Wakenhut, Amy Wakenhut (Bob) Jones, Matthew (Angela) Smith, Andrew Smith, Sara Darnell (John) Sharpe, Gregory (Susan) Smith, Kathryn Darnell, Margaret Smith, Benjamin Smith and Justin Darnell; eight great grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. Jean resided for many years with her youngest daughter, Laura, in Willis where she was an active member of St. Joseph Catholic Church. The family asks donations, in lieu of flowers, be made in her memory to the parish there. The funeral mass was held December 6, 2013 at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Burial followed in Rural Hill Cemetery, Northville, MI. Please sign her guest book at www.starkfuneral.com.

DAUL, ELAINE
a long time resident of Walled Lake, Brighton and Milford, died on December 3, 2013 after complications from a stroke she suffered days earlier. She was 83 years old. She was preceded in death by daughters, Barbara Daul and Mary Kay Schultheis; a son, Robert Daul; and grandson, Andrew. She is survived by sons, Patrick (Sheila), Michael (Sharon Partin), John (Debbie), Tim (Holly) and Andrew; daughter, Lori (Steve) Radzville; grandchildren, Sarah Daul, Lindsey (Edward) Kelly, Audrey, Johnny, Dina, Timmy, Amanda, Matthew, Devyn and Jessica Daul and Robbie and Ellie Radzville; great-grandchildren, Jayda and Cameron and many dear friends. Funeral Services were held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, Milford, on Saturday, December 7, 2013. Memorials may be made in her name to St. Jude Children's Hospital. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit: www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

LYNCH & SONS Funeral Directors

PERRIN, PAUL
February 28, 1928 - November 17, 2013. www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

QUINN, FRANK
September 29, 1931 - November 30, 2013. www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

WOOD, NANCY JEAN (nee STEVENS)

Age 65, of Highland, passed away on December 7, 2013. Survived by her beloved husband, David; sons, Jeff (Carrie), Adam (Jessica), Bryan (Mary Beth); grandchildren, Courtney, Caylie, Matt, Elena, Julia, Dylan, Jake and Grace. Also survived by her mother, Mildred Stevens; brothers, Randy (Cheryl) Stevens, Ron (Laurie) Stevens; many nieces and nephews, colleagues within Huron Valley Schools and dear friends in Milford and Highland and through General Motors. A Funeral Service will be held at First United Methodist Church of Brighton, 400 E. Grand River Ave., Brighton, Friday at 11 a.m. Pastor Sherry Parker officiating. Burial West Highland Cemetery. Friends may visit at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty, Milford, Thursday 3-9 p.m. Memorials to: Angela Hospice, ALS of Michigan, www.alsomichigan.org or Huron Valley Educational Foundation, www.hvef.net. For further information please contact Lynch & Sons 248-684-6645, www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

LYNCH & SONS Funeral Directors

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Take precautions before breaking out snow shovel

The recent record cold weather and snow across much of the U.S. means it's time to take out the snow shovel. It brings to mind for me a couple articles I've read over the years that provided some important tips on how to shovel snow safely to avoid injuries. The tips from these articles can be applied to many similar activities.

One of the articles appeared in the December 2009 issue of *To*



Dr. Kenneth Stopia, Jr.
GUEST COLUMNIST

Your Health magazine and the other on the *NorthJersey.com* local news website on Jan. 6, 2010. The *To Your Health* article points out that the average shovel full of snow weighs about 5 to 10 pounds, and the combination of bending, lifting, and twisting, along with the exposure

to freezing weather conditions, can be stressful on the spine. The two articles gave a list of helpful hints for proper snow shoveling to avoid spinal problems. These hints can not only be applied to snow shoveling, but also to many other similar activities. These include the following:
» **Do a warm-up first.** A tight, stiff body is asking for injury.
» **Layer your clothing.** Layered clothing

will keep your muscles warm and flexible.
» **Wear the right shoes.** Choose shoes with plenty of cushioning in the soles to absorb the impact of walking on hard, frozen ground.
» **Use the right size shovel.** Your shovel should be about chest high on you, allowing you to keep your back straight when lifting.
» **Drink lots of water.** Drinking water frequently throughout the day helps to keep mus-

cles and body hydrated.
» **Use proper posture.** When you do shovel, bend your knees and keep your back straight while lifting with your legs. Push the snow straight ahead; don't try to throw it.
» **Take your time.** Working too hard, too fast is an easy way to strain muscles. Take frequent breaks.
» **See your chiropractor.** Gentle spinal manipulation will help keep your back flexible and minimize the

chance for injury. If you do overdo it, your chiropractor can help you feel better and prevent more injury. If you follow these tips, shoveling snow this winter will be far less stressful on your back and your body. Happy shoveling.

Dr. Kenneth S. Stopa, Jr.
B.Sc., D.C., DACBSP, owns Main Street Family Chiropractic Center, P.C., 109 W. Main Street in Northville. For more information, call 248-735-9800 or visit www.drstopa.com.

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Sunday Services: 8:30 am & 11am
Bible Study & Sunday School @ 9:45 am
Rev. Martin Dressler

Novi

BRIGHTMOOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH
40800 W. 13 Mile Road, Novi
on the corner of M-56 & W13
Sundays 9:15a & 11:15a
www.brightmoorcc.org
something for the entire family

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH
24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375
Saturday: 4:30 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)
Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.
Fr. Bob LaCroix, Pastor
Fr. Beto Espinoza, Associate
Parish Office: 349-8847 • www.holyfamilynovi.org

Walled Lake

CROSSPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH
1850 S. Commerce Rd.
Walled Lake, MI 48390
Sunday Services: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Wednesday Evening: 7 p.m. All Ages
Rev. Kenneth Warren - 586-531-2021
www.cpcnow.com

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Awarza beginning Sept. 11, 3 yrs old thru 6th grade
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Website: milfordbaptist.org

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Healing Service Wednesday 11:45 am
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holycrossnovi@gmail.com
Lo-0000165174

Whitmore Lake

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH
10774 Nine Mile Road
Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Pastor Bryant Anderson
238 N. Main Street, Milford MI (248) 684-2805
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Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School ages 3 thru 5th grade @ 10 a.m.
Youth Group 10 am - Grades 6-12
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MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
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Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister
Lo-0000165195

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

Highland

HIGHLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
680 W. Livingston Rd. • Highland, MI 48357
248.887.1311 • www.myhumc.com
Sunday Worship: 9:30 & 11 a.m.
Kids Church: 9:30 & 11 a.m.
MS & HS Youth: 11 a.m.
MS Youth Night Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m.
Grief Share Monday 6:30 p.m.

Milford United Methodist Church
1200 Atlantic St., Milford, MI 48381
Sunday Worship: 8:30 am and 10:30 am, 6 pm
Children's Church: 10:30 am
Groups for Children, Youth and Adults
248-684-2798
Lo-0000165198.milfordumc.net

ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI
46325 10 Mile Rd. • Novi, MI 48374
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.
Msgr. John Kasza, Pastor
Parish Office: 347-7778

NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m.
Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor
248-349-2652
www.umnovi.com
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South Lyon

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
205 E. Lake (10 Mile) 248.437.2875
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
Children's Church for Grades K thru 5th
Nursery Care Provided
Mid-Week Study Thursday 7:00 p.m.
Rev. Michael Horlocker, Pastor
www.fpcsouthlyon.org
Lo-0000165163

BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH
Gathering in Jesus Name
52909 10 Mile Rd • South Lyon, MI 48178
Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Mike Ragan, Pastor
734-347-1983 pastor cell
Old fashioned preaching KJV

New Hudson

NEW HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
56730 Grand River Avenue • New Hudson MI 48165
(248) 437-6212 • Gerald S. Hunter, Pastor
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Worship-10:30 a.m.
www.newhudsonumc.org

WEST HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
1116 S. Hickory Ridge Rd., Milford, 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

The Church of Christ
21860 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon, MI 48178
248-437-3585 • www.southlyoncoc.org
9:30 a.m. Sunday School,
10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship
Wednesday Midweek Ministries 7 p.m.
Troy Singleton, Minister
Lo-0000165125

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN
(Missouri Synod)
Pastor Terry Nelson
437-8810 • 486-4335
Grissold Rd. at 10 Mile
Worship: 10 a.m.; Sunday School: 10 a.m.;
Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m

NEW HOPE - A Unitarian Universalist Congregation
57855 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165
Phone 248-474-9108
Sunday Celebration of Life Service 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister
Website: <http://www.newhopeuu.org>

Freedom Life Church
Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Freedom Cor 3:7
1208 E. Commerce, Milford
Worship: Sun 11am, Wed 7pm
We are here through Christ Jesus to provide Freedom to those who are hurting, diseased, addicted
Lo-0000165247 and depressed.

Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church
22200 Pontiac Trail (S of 9 Mile)
Sunday Worship @ 9:30 am
Sunday School @ 11 am
Wednesday mid-week programs
Rev. David Brown, Pastor
248-437-2222 • www.fellowshippepc.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH LYON
60820 Marjorie Ann St., South Lyon 48178
Phone: 248-437-2983
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Rob Freshour / Assoc. Pastor: Randy Weeks
Website: www.fbcsouthlyon.com
• Email: fbcsouthlyon@sbcglobal.net
Lo-0000165161

Northville

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

First United Methodist Church
(248) 349-1144
777 West 8 Mile Road
(8 Mile and Taft Road)
Northville, Michigan
Worship Times: September - May 8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Memorial Day - Labor Day 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.
Rev. Marsha M. Wooley, Lead Pastor
www.fumcnorthville.org

first united methodist church south lyon, mi
640 S. Lafayette
(248) 437-0760
Worship: 8:15 am, 11 am & 6:30 pm
Sunday School: 9:40 am
Rev. Sondra Willobee, Lead Pastor
southlyonfirstumc.org

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
Wisconsin Synod • Reynold Sweet Pkwy.
at Liberty St.
Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.
All Classes 9:00
Pastor Scott Miller, (248) 437-1651

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Shepherd's Way Lutheran Church, ELCA
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South Lyon MI 48178
Sunday Worship 9:30 AM
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Rev. Bart Muller, Pastor
248-486-4404
www.shepherdswaysouthlyon.org

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH
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248-486-0400
www.ecrossroads.net
Sunday Services:
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Sunday 7:30, 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.
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Religious Education 349-2559
Rev. Denis Theroux, Pastor

Our Savior Apostolic Lutheran Church
54999 8 Mile Rd. at Currie Rd., Northville, MI 48167
248-374-2268
Sunday Worship:
10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Fellowship/Coffee
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Wednesday Bible Study (Colossians) at 7 pm
Lo-0000165207 Pastor Andy Wallsten

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Reed Heckmann, Pastor/Teacher
www.solidrocksouthlyon.com
Lo-0000165210

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South of Six Mile Road
Adult Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15 am; Worship 10:30 am
Childrens Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Dr. James N. McGuire • Nursery Provided
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For more information regarding this Directory, please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011, ext. 247 or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

OUR VIEWS

‘America United’

Community should get behind patriotic mural fundraiser

Let’s face it, like it or not, we live in a time of hyper partisanship. The level of distrust and corresponding vitriol between so-called liberals and conservatives has gotten a little frightening at times in recent years.

Like a sickness, it impacts all levels of public discourse, and it stretches from Washington, D.C., to Lansing and right back to our own neighborhoods. We see it on television, hear it on the radio, read it on the blogs and even the pages of this newspaper (just read some of our letters). The name-calling and mistrust seems to ratchet up with each passing week. It’s to the point that one wonders if we’re all on the same team any more.

Well, there was a time not so long ago when our nation came together the way it always seems to do in periods of great turmoil. After the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, a fit of patriotism filled Americans of all stripes, overwhelming all of our differences and bonding us to a common purpose.

Many were inspired by that fit of patriotism, including Northville’s Inge Zayti, the late founder and owner of the Marquis Theatre, one of downtown Northville’s most recognizable landmarks. Not long after the terrorist attacks, Zayti commissioned the giant American flag painting on the backside of her building in the hopes that people would be inspired by the simple, yet powerful message of unity. The 30-foot by 45-foot mural includes the words “America United September 11, 2001.” The mural has been an inspiring reminder for many locals and visitors alike who come downtown to shop, dine or take in a show at the theater.

Unfortunately, like the unity itself, the mural has begun to crack and fade in the years since Sept. 11.

However, there is a community effort under way that, if successful, will renew both the mural and Zayti’s patriotic spirit. Northville Rotary has teamed up with Preservation Dental and Zayti’s family to raise the \$19,000 it will cost to refurbish the mural. They have launched a unique raffle fundraiser, in which they are selling 500 raffle tickets for \$100 apiece.

If they are able to sell all 500 tickets, not only will they be able to hire the original artist to fix the mural, but also the winner of the raffle will take home \$10,000, with second place getting \$5,000 and third place \$2,500. That is some serious money.

This is truly a grassroots community effort, and we urge local residents and business owners to support it, especially if they can afford at ticket. The odds of winning a significant prize are pretty good.

Tickets can be purchased at Monroe Bank & Trust (corner of Hutton and Main), Preservation Dental and the Northville Chamber of Commerce office, as well as from Northville Rotary members.

If all goes well, the raffle drawing will take place Jan. 25 at the Marquis Theatre. That night will also include a special showing of the classic film, *Yankee Doodle Dandy*. All those who purchase a ticket will get free admission to the movie presentation, and have their names listed in a full-page ad in the *Northville Record*.

Unfortunately Zayti, who was born in Germany, passed away a couple months ago. Leave it to an immigrant to remind us all what it means to be an American. Family members say one of her last wishes was to have the mural restored. If you’ve seen the mural – and most Northville area residents have – you know she was right. It is worth restoring. It is an unforgettable piece of public art that leaves a lasting impression.

At a time when our divisions seem so pronounced, the mural stands for unity. That is worth celebrating – and supporting. And, you might just win \$10,000.



Northville Rotary has teamed up with Preservation Dental and the Marquis Theatre to try and raise the \$19,000 it will cost to refurbish the American flag mural that adorns the back of the Marquis. From left are Christina Zayti, Karen Howe, Bill Demray, Denise Jenkins, Tim Story, Sue Campbell, Alan Somershoe, Traci Sincock and Vaughan Molnar posing in front of the mural recently. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

COMMUNITY VOICE

What’s your favorite Christmas tradition?

This question was asked at Mill Race Village during its annual Christmas celebration.



“Christmas Eve. The whole family gets together, and we have four generations, so it’s a lot of fun.”

Grace Colter
Northville



“Christmas in the Village (Mill Race Village).”

Leanie Bayly
Northville



“Getting together with family. It’s not every day you see everyone, so it’s good this time of year.”

Donna Laby
Northville



“The carols and Christmas tree.”

Bob Sochacki
Northville

A special Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving at Buckministers brought people who were alone or down on their luck, to enjoy dinner, and watch the Lions win. Thank you to everyone who, when hearing about the dinner, wanted to be part of this celebration with donations and showing up to help.

A very special thanks to Genittii’s for roasting the turkeys and having the kitchen available. For dessert, Num Num, new to Main Street, provided delicious cupcakes for dessert.

Kim Gunther, Wes and Sally Henrikson, Gail and Bud Preston
Northville

‘Many bad apples’

It was with great satisfaction that I read of Jeff Brandt’s successful transformation from a disheartened, disillusioned man searching for answers to successfully becoming a mentor to a troubled young man (“Special bond,” Dec. 5). It is my hope that Mr. Brandt was able to get his wife’s unethical, immoral therapist drummed out of the entrepreneurial wonderland called mental health therapy.

Mr. Brandt is just one of thousands of men and women across the country who have been harmed, denigrated, defamed and in some cases destroyed by members of the “helping profession” – be they social workers, psychologists or psychiatrists, while the state and national organizations, knowing they have many bad apples in these professions, have sat back and done nothing.

Perhaps some of this can be changed by some bills that have been introduced or will be introduced in Michigan’s Senate. I believe Sen. Rick Jones from Michigan’s 24th District is partially responsible for bringing up SB 576, SB 577 and SB 578. SB 577 is the first bill that appears to address some issues with the licensing board regarding how complaints are handled. SB 576 and SB 578 are designed to protect fragile, vulnerable patient/clients from medical and mental health malpractice.

I would hope that Sen. Patrick Colbeck, and Rep. Kurt Heise, will pay attention to these bills and try to legally correct the wrongs that are done to fragile, vulnerable individuals.

Joann E. Dayton
Northville

A win for Wayne County

What a nice surprise to read in the Nov. 21 issue of *The Northville Record* that Mark Abbo has been named Wayne County CFO. The high ethical standards and sound decision-making skills he exhibited as the former Northville Township supervisor (and long-term township elected official) will serve Wayne County citizens well.

Joanne Bandoni
Northville Township

Stylists show compassion

I wanted to share an amazing story of outstanding compassion, kindness and customer service my daughter and I experienced at Thomas James Salon in Northville. My daughter, Kate, was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s lymphoma in March of 2012 when she was 17. By mid-April, her cancer treatment was in full swing and she experienced the loss of her beautiful, long “mermaid” hair. While we knew the chemo was doing its job, the hair loss was a cruel indicator to all of this horrible disease she was fighting. We are blessed that she is now in remission and we pray for continued good health.

In August, Kate decided to get hair extensions at a nearby salon as her own hair slowly grew back. By October, the extensions were not holding well and we visited Thomas James on a recommendation from a friend/stylist who works at the salon. What began as an appointment where Kate thought the extensions would be repaired and “fixed up” ended with the removal of the extensions because they were causing extensive damage to her new, baby soft hair. The removal took hours of tedious work by Tom and Caitlyn.

Tom and Caitlyn were amazing as they quietly honored Kate’s emotional pain and helped her deal with her disappointment. Tom and Caitlin worked so gently both physically and emotionally with Kate. After several hours, the extensions were out but Tom and Caitlyn were not done yet. They shampooed, trimmed and style Kate’s hair.

Tom gave Kate ideas on how to style her short hair and even offered to make clip-in extensions with the extensions that had been removed. As the appointment was ending, I approached the receptionist to pay. I was overwhelmed as she told me there would be no charge. They both gave their time, talent and kindness for free. Tom and Caitlin each know the magnitude of cancer firsthand as they support members of their immediate families. What an incredible gift.

These two individuals are truly outstanding people. They are not simply stylists; they are compassionate people who develop a relationship with their clients that go far beyond a hairstyle. While Kate’s cancer journey has had its ups and downs, we often reflect on the “silver linings” throughout the journey and our visit to Thomas James salon that day certainly makes our list.

While we only had the pleasure of meeting a few of the staff members we are confident that Tom and Caitlyn exemplify the outstanding customer service one could expect from their entire team.

Kristin Rendi
Northville

Fed bankruptcy law takes precedence

Detroit’s bankruptcy is probably going to affect its pensioners in a negative way and that is a very bad and unfair thing. To understand why this coming to pass you need to understand a couple of things.

The first concept is called pre-eminence. It is a legal concept that says when two laws contradict each other; the law from the superior governing body is given precedence. Even though the Michigan Constitution has wording that would seem to protect pensions the federal bankruptcy code takes precedence.

That brings us to the second concept. In an article (www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/retirement/interviews/warren.html), former law professor Elizabeth Warren explained the U.S. Congress rewrote the federal bankruptcy code in 1978 and that change put pension holders at the back of the creditor line in a U.S. bankruptcy. Apparently this was opposite what most other countries in the world do. It would seem that banks and big business had Congress in their pockets, so to speak.

Recently we have seen Congress throw our Fourth Amendment rights under the bus with the NSA spying, disregard our

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 Street, South Lyon, MI 48178

10th Amendment rights with “Obama-care,” attempt to further impede our Second Amendment rights and execute outright tyranny against the tea party by turning loose the IRS on 503(c) applications from groups thought to be right of center, politically.

Now that the Congress approval rating has never been lower, we might wake up and throw them out of office. Or at least the majority that refuse to comply with our Constitution.

Bob Cushman
Northville

‘Trickle up’

So, how’s sharing the wealth working out for you? Since 2008, median income has dropped to 1989 levels and six million Americans have stopped looking for work.

The Federal Reserve chipped in with “quantitative easing,” also known as printing money. It’s fueled a stock market run enriching the 10 percent who own 80 percent of the stocks. The rich are getting richer. Poverty is at levels not seen since the 1960s.

Interest rates are kept near zero so government pays very little to service its enormous debt while banks pay very little on our savings accounts. We’re subsidizing government.

We’re in a “trickle up” economy. Higher business and income taxes and regulatory costs reflected in the prices we pay are enriching the ruling class. Six counties around Washington, D.C., have become the country’s wealthiest, sporting \$93,000 to \$117,000 median incomes and 5.5 percent unemployment.

When the president spoke of sharing the wealth we thought we’d be on the receiving end. We also believed we could keep our health insurance and it would be \$2,500 cheaper. Fool me once, shame on you, fool me twice ...

Jack Belisle
South Lyon

Needless deaths

The United States has become the land of the fearful where violence and killing are rampant. Laws based on racial and ethnic biases have allowed a cowboy mentality of the “Wild West” to flourish. Citizens have died in many locales throughout our country: a neighborhood in Florida, a movie theater in Colorado, a mall in Arizona, an elementary school in Connecticut, a college in Virginia, several city streets in major cities. One of the latest tragedies happened on a porch in a large city in Michigan.

Various types of guns are poorly regulated plus are easily accessible. Mental health issues and problems are neglected. People act rashly without thinking.

When will citizens get involved to pressure representatives and other leaders to make changes to help save needless deaths? When will reason and sanity prevail?

Hannah Provence Donigan
Commerce

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Grammy recognition

The Grammy Foundation has named the NHS music program as a national semi-finalist in the 2014 Grammy Signature Schools (www.grammy-intheschools.com) competition.

Created in 1998, this prestigious program recognizes top U.S. public high schools that make outstanding commitments to music education during an academic year. Finalists will be announced in March 2014, and will receive custom awards and music program grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$15,000. More than 20,000 public high schools were eligible to enter. Seven of the 123 semi-finalist schools are in Michigan.

On another high note, Michigan's largest high school vocal music program takes the spotlight for a series of holiday concerts. Northville High School's 10 award-winning choirs join the school's three equally accomplished symphonic bands later this month to present an eclectic gift of festive seasonal music.

The Chorale's candlelight procession into the darkened auditorium is part of each night's concert as is "A Christmas Festival" by Leroy Anderson, performed by Symphonic Band 11/12. The first two night concerts will, as always, kick off with "Christmas Spectacular," presented by Symphonic Band 9 and Symphonic Band 10.

A bonus choir caps off each night's musical celebration. Current choir students share the stage with the FATS (Friends, Family, Alumni, Teachers and Students) Choir for a carol medley and Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus." This well-loved tradition began in the mid-1980s, and always fills the stage with harmonies, friendships,

memories and holiday spirit.

Performances are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings (Dec. 17-19) in the NHS auditorium. All shows begin at 7 p.m. Concert Choir, Chorale, Chamber Choir, TrebleMakers, BackBeat and Freshman Select sing all three nights. Other choirs add their own special touches on specific nights. Nightly choir lists are on the choir program's new website at northville-highschoolchoirs.weebly.com.

Music Boosters' raffle ticket sales conclude on Thursday night. Music program families are asked to sell two \$50 tickets to supplement the program's funding in many strategic ways. Tickets for cash and prizes will be drawn during Thursday's afterglow (with light snacks and desserts) in the school cafeteria. All who attend the final concert are welcomed to attend. Donations to Northville Civic Concern will be collected. The annual choir alumni party will be at the Pryce home following the afterglow.

Concert tickets are \$7 and available at the door prior to each concert, and through choir director Mary Kay Pryce at prycema@northvilleschools.org.

chools.org.

Emergency food distribution

The next distribution of emergency food by Plymouth Community United Way is scheduled Thursday, Dec. 19. The Emergency Food Assistance Program provides low-income Plymouth and Northville residents with canned, non-perishable and perishable items.

All recipients must pre-register at Plymouth Community United Way, 960 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 2, Plymouth.

This is a supplemental food program that may be used in addition to other assistance programs. Bridge Card holders automatically qualify, but need to pre-register. Recipients not currently on governmental assistance (food stamps, ADC and general) must provide documentation including proof of income and residency before receiving food on distribution days.

Distributions continue the third Thursday of each month from 9:30-11 a.m. at St. Kenneth Catholic Church in Plymouth.

For information and to register, call (734) 453-6879, ext. 7, or send email to randi.williams@pcuw.org.

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Longest Night Service
Thursday, Dec. 19th, 7PM

*Feeling hope even when
you aren't feeling festive*

The Christmas season is often marked by expressions of joy and excitement. But for many, the holidays are a time of sadness and struggle. It can be difficult to have holiday merriment all around us while our hearts aren't feeling festive.

If the holidays will be a challenging time for you or someone you know this year, the Longest Night Service is meant for you. Laypersons who have experienced sorrow but who have found hope in the midst of their difficulties will share their stories and our pastors will be available for prayer. After all, the hope of the world - the Christ child - was born amongst the most difficult of circumstances! A reception will follow the service.

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Fans celebrate B-25D war bird’s 70th birthday

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Jim Rucker made a promise to Gavin Olson Sunday. The co-pilot of the Yankee Air Museum’s B-25D bomber, the *Yankee Warrior*, Rucker promised the 7-year-old Canton resident that the plane will still be around for many years to come.

“My job is to make sure it’s still here when you’re ready to fly it,” said the Northville resident. “I’m flying it now so you can fly it later.”

Gavin and his family were among several hundred people who packed Bay 8 of Hangar 1 at Willow Run Airport Sunday afternoon to celebrate the 70th birthday of the *Yankee Warrior*. The Mitchell bomber rolled of the assembly line in Kansas City, Kansas, on Dec. 8, 1943. The youngster came

dressed for the occasion, wearing a blue flight suit and helmet and aviator sunglasses. He even had the aviator lean when standing around.

“His great-grandfather, Col. Jack Sims, flew with the Doolittle Raiders,” said his mother Sara Olson. “The helmet belonged to his great-grandfather. He is his absolute hero. He was a co-pilot of B-25 B14 on the raid.”

It was B-25 bombers that Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle used in a carrier-launched raid on Japan on April 18, 1942. The *Yankee Warrior* wasn’t one of them. It saw service during World War II in Italy, flying eight missions from the island of Corsica until being sent back to the States in May 1944.

The Olson family came to the party to see the bomber. They had been at the hangar in

October when the volunteers showed off the portion of the Willow Run Bomber Plant it hopes to buy to turn into a permanent home for the museum.

“Gavin came dressed in costume and ended up in their newsletter,” said Olson. “He wants to grow up to be a pilot and fly a B-25. He wrote about it in school.”

Rucker has been flying for more than 40 years, but has only been a pilot of the B-25 for two years. He described the plane as loud and very responsive in the air. On the ground, it’s “grass-roots flying.”

“In the air, it’s wonderful, on the ground, it’s a challenge,” he said.

The air museum acquired the bomber in 1987 and restored it to its military war bird status. Volunteers have been able to document the

plane’s travels from Kansas City to Europe to Canada and final Willow Run Airport, and the crew of six help maintain it and keep it in flying condition.

“What makes this plane special is that it’s a B-25D with a combat history,” said Rucker. “When we say it’s a war bird, it truly is a war bird. There are only 24 still flying in the world today.”

Air museum officials and volunteers were recognized at the event as well as veterans, an original Rosie the Riveter from the Willow Run Bomber Plant and two original B-25 pilots – Earl Hart of Westland, 94, and Art Love, 97, of Ida.

Hart was 21 years old when he enlisted in the military. He and two buddies decided to sign up before being drafted so they wouldn’t end up in the infantry. Hart and one friend enlisted in the Air Force, while his other buddy signed up for the Navy.



Sara Olson of Canton brought her son Gavin to the birthday party. He came dressed as a pilot in honor of his great-grandfather, Col. Jack Sims, who flew a B-25 in the Doolittle raid over Japan. PHOTO BY TOM BEAUDOIN

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‘Good and bad’

Listening to Jerry Lester, the *Yankee Warrior*’s public relations officer talk about the bomber brought back memories, “both good and bad,” for Hart.

“We got shot up bad a couple of times, but some were milk runs,” said Hart who flew a total of 55 missions in the Pacific Theater. “We had two bad missions; one was to hit on a Japanese airfield on the tip of Bougainville. I don’t know who dreamed up that mission, but we were supposed to come in low over the water and strafe and bomb the airfield.”

He recalled one crew member saying they must have hit something big on the ground because of the explosion he saw. Hart didn’t tell him that it was one of their planes.

“When we came across the runway, the Japanese opened up with everything they had; we lost 45 percent of our aircraft on that mission,” he said. “I came off that airfield and I was alone. I came home by myself.”

Love came to the hangar Sunday “just to see the plane.” He was drafted into the service in 1941 and signed up for the Air Force after the war broke out. He flew 17 missions off Okinawa and remembers a mission in which, at the last minute the target was shifted 100 miles.

He recalls being ordered to load the bomb bay with the beer a supply ship had brought for the men and fly around until it was cold. He did, but the result wasn’t what the men had anticipated.

“You couldn’t drink it, it tasted horrendous,” he said.

In a brief ceremony, Lester explained the history of the plane and how fortunate the museum is to have it. Volun-

teers like Rucker fly all over the country as a way to raise money for the museum. In its hangar for the winter, the war bird will be back in the skies during the 2014 flying season and along with the museums B-17 bomber will be available to the public for rides. The cost is \$450 for the B-25 and \$475 for the B-17.

Olson is hoping to book a ride on the B-25 plane next year.

“I got to fly in one a year ago at a Doolittle reunion in Columbia, S.C.,” she said. “I hope to get my husband Kirk and Gavin up in it next year.”

The museum is located at 47884 D St., Belleville, and is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. For more information about the Yankee Air Museum the website at www.yankeeairmuseum.org or its Facebook page, www.facebook.com/yankeeairmuseum, or call 734-483-4030.

COME WONDER AROUND.

Sunday Music Bar

Enjoy coffee, cocktails and snacks in the rejuvenated Kresge Court with a performance by pianist Mike Karloff.

Kresge Court, 1-4 p.m.

Family Sunday

Puppet artist Victoria Rose Most demonstrates how she created the puppets from the animated film *Coraline*.

Student Lunchroom, 12-4pm.

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Northville's Coleman earns top runner honor

All-Area girls cross country team

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

When it came to making the selection for All-Area Player of the Year for the girls cross country team, Rachel Coleman made our job rather easy.

Coleman truly kicked down a mental barrier that prevented her from being Player of the Year in her junior season. A year ago, she had difficulty in big races, and it showed in her places and her times.

This year, however, Coleman was simply the best. From the start of the season to the very last race in which she led her team to Northville's first-ever cross country state championship, Coleman was hands down the best runner in the area.

ner in the area.

"She finished in the top spot at every dual meet this season," said her coach Nancy Smith. "Rachel continued to excel and develop into the top runner in the state. Rachel showed determination in each and every race, always reaching for be better than the last time. She was a true leader and showed how hard work pays off in the end."

Coleman ran a season-best time of 18:00 this season and earned multiple distinctions. She was a member of the All-State team and finished 10th individually at the state finals, earned All-Conference, All-Wayne County and All-Region honors and is the school record holder for the fastest time ever for a girl harrier at Northville.

What's more is Coleman was a four-time state qualifier during her career and her time on the cross country

course is far from over. She has collegiate offers from the University of Michigan, Michigan State and Wisconsin.

First Team

**Taleen Shahrighian
Northville**

It's almost hard to imagine just how darn good Shahrighian would have been if it weren't for injuries that have hampered her throughout her running career. Even with injuries, Shahrighian ran a season-best time of 17:59 — the fastest of anyone on the All-Area team — and earned herself All-State, All-Conference, All-Wayne County and All-Region honors and qualified for the state finals three times this year. She finished 14th in the state finals as part of



Player of the Year and Mustang senior Rachel Coleman was one of many talented runners that led Northville High School girls cross country to a state title this year.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

See ALL-AREA, Page B2

A new-look Mustangs to take the court

With loss of top scorers, girls team will reinvent itself

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

In his sixth season as head coach of the Northville Mustangs girls basketball program, Todd Gudith has already run the gamut of the types of teams he has fielded.

He's had rebuilding seasons, very talented seasons, high scoring seasons and defensive-focused seasons. This year, he has a reinventing season on his hands.

"With the loss of our top two scorers and best outside shooting threats from last season (Kendra Brenner and Brittany Berehulka), we have to reinvent ourselves a bit," Gudith said. "We'll have more of a post presence as junior center Emily Maresh came on strong mid-season last year."

That doesn't mean Northville will abandon all of their old styles. They'll still use the speed of all-conference standout guard Gabby Mencotti to keep defenses on the move, and Heather Randall will be looked to as one of the team's top scoring threats.

The Mustangs will also be looking at Anna Giacomini to be a prime example of a consistent player and the value of that style of play — something the varsity team's four freshmen will be looking up to from the very start of the season.

"With seven new faces to the varsity team, getting everyone up to speed has been a challenge, along with establishing team chemistry between the returning and new players," Gudith said.

But chemistry is important for a team that last year went 16-6, tying the



Northville guard Gabby Mencotti was an all-conference standout last year and is one of the team's top returners. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

school mark for the second-most wins in a single season. They bowed out of the postseason in the district title game.

"We need to be able to communicate

ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs girls basketball team will be on the court tomorrow when they visit Walled Lake Central at 7 p.m. before visiting Franklin on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

See MUSTANGS, Page B2

Shamrock wrestlers look for another state title

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

Is there any doubt the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks wrestling team is underlining a state championship run for the team and as many possible individuals this season?

The team, which has been ranked 11th in the nation and is the defending state champion, returns a slew of talented grapplers, including four All-Americans, three of which have state titles under their belt.

"This is an experienced, senior-laden group that has been through the trenches and knows how to win big matches when it counts," said Catholic Central head coach Mitch Hancock, who is in his seventh year leading the powerhouse program.

Some of those seniors who are keeping the squad laden with talent are Drew Garcia, Logan Marcicki, Malik Amine and Nick Bennett.

Garcia, who wrestles at 171 pounds, has two state and is a junior national All-American. He is committed to wrestle for Cornell after he

See GRAPPLERS, Page B2

ON TAP

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks wrestling team will be on the mat when they compete in the Tim Horn Invitational at 9 a.m. Saturday. They will then compete next Friday and Saturday in the Oakland County championships.

Northville swimming and diving team looks to division, conference titles

Squad has plenty of competition in Central Division

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

The Northville Mustangs boys swimming and diving team typically sets the same goals each year — go for the Central Division title and the Kensington Conference crown before focusing on bringing home the best state finals finish their talent allows for.

This year is no different, despite the fact that the Central Division is potentially the most competitive in the KLASA this season. Livonia Stevenson, Novi and South Lyon Consolidated will all be looking at

similar objectives in 2013.

"Stevenson is the school yard bully right now, and they had their way with us last year and they are really good again this year," said Northville coach Rich Bennetts, who is in his 15th season with a record of 121-19-1 over that span. "We will have to be at our very best in order to give them a fight."

Leading the team this year will be captains Andrew Westphal, Josh Liu, Ryan Moore and Nick DuFresne. They have plenty of swimmers to lead, too, with the roster number 45 tankers.

"We have 45 kids, so we have a lot to look at," Bennetts said. "Turning them into swimmers is easy. Turning them into swimmers that can help us win will decide if we are going to be any good or not."



Northville's Andrew Westphal is the team's top returning swimmer. Last year he finished eighth in the state in the 50 freestyle and 11th in the state in the 100 free. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Last year, the Mustangs finished 9-2 overall and were runner-ups in the division and conference. They finished 23rd in the state finals.

The top performing tanker returning this year is Westphal, who was eighth in the

state in the 50 freestyle and 11th in the state in the 100 free.

This year's team includes (in alphabetical order): David Alameddine, Nikolai Arton, Tash Bajaj, Shane Boran, Jack Breuch, Daniel Brown, Ben Cracraft, Ancheng Da, Taran

Deshpande, John Duan, Nick DeFresne, Christian Field, Chris Geng, Mike Grimes, Roman Grossi, David Handy, Matthew Hezemy, Nate Holloway, Taiyo Ichikawa, Mark Kaminski, Sho Kikumori, Joe Krakowiak, Matt Lee, Connor Lepish, Josh Liu, Jack Maibach, John Monterosso, Matt Monterosso, Ryan Moore, Alan Ruan, Thomas Rys, Mike Scarrantino, Matthew Schafer, Fred Schulz, Nirek Sharma, Ryan Smelt, Troy Stacer, Danny Teng, Anton Travis, Dominick Tripoli, Brendon Tseng, Andrew Westphal, James Xue, Jarvis Yan, Kevin Yang, Christian Yap, Frank Zhang and Larry Zhao.

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

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GRAPPLERS

Continued from Page B1

graduates.

Marcicki, at 189 pounds, is a returning state champion and All-American. He will wrestle at Indiana next season.

Amine, at 145 pounds, is a state champion and All-American. He committed to wrestle for the University of Michigan.

Bennett, at 152 pounds, may not be a state champion, but he

looks to rectify that this year. He is an All-American selection and will wrestle at Nebraska.

The team, said Hancock, will need to solidify its senior leadership and stay healthy despite having an extremely grueling schedule that finds the team wrestling many of the top-25 ranked teams in the country this season.

Captains on this year's team are Garcia, Marcicki, Amine, Evan Toth and Jimmy Russell.

The Shamrocks won't just be in the hunt for a

state title this year, but also continuing to build the program for upcoming seasons.

"(We need to work on) developing systems to help our younger wrestlers develop and for our older guys to continue to score bonus points for the team," Hancock said, pointing out that both are keys focuses for the start of this season.

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

MUSTANGS

Continued from Page B1

better, especially on the defensive side of the ball," Gudith said. "Our bench has little to no varsity experience, so we will need to find which players can come into a game at a crucial point and hold their own."

There will be a lot of trial and error in order to get the formula right, but the Mustangs aren't shy about working hard in order to keep up with

their opponents this season.

"Our biggest strength is that we have a bunch of players that are willing to work and have the talent to make us competitive," Gudith said. "We just need to continue getting better each day."

Northville will also be looking to players like Sunny Demirjian to step into their own this year. The senior was on the squad last year and is expected to fight for more playing time this season.

Newcomers this year

are juniors Katie Kalass and Christina Minna, sophomore Lindsey Rathsborg and freshmen Jessica Moorman, Bryce Quick, Emily Martin and Brook Adams.

Of course, newcomers or not, the team will be subjected to trial by fire as they take on a very talented Central Division lineup this season. "Our division is just stacked this year," Gudith said.

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

ALL-AREA

Continued from Page B1

the Division I championship team.

"Taleen is the hardest-working athlete I have ever had the chance to coach," Smith said. "She always wants to excel and get better, no matter what it takes. Taleen is a coach's dream. She is incredibly disciplined, dedicated and always striving to the next level."

Sharigian will likely run for U-M next year.

Rachel Barrett Milford

It's hard to believe Barrett missed the entire summer and month of September to a stress fracture that kept her from training and competing. Why? Because Barrett came into this season and didn't miss a beat, running to a 15th-place finish in the state championship race to lead her squad to a ninth-place standing.

"As a coach, you don't get many runners like Rachel," Brian Salyers said. "She is focused, determined and a natural leader. Our team rallied behind her return and this helped us produce our best state finals finish since 2006. We are going to miss Rachel's presence next fall, but the girls have learned plenty from her, and that is the continuity of a program."

Barrett's best time this year came when she won the regional with an 18:10. She was All-Conference, All-Oakland County, All-Regional and All-State this season.

Lexa Barrott Northville

The Mustangs were state champions this year thanks to their depth, skill and determination. Next year, the Mustangs will not be rebuilding, but simply reloading. And leading the charge? None other than Barrott, who is a returning All-State runner who finished 13th in the Division I championship race. This year, she ran a personal-best time of 18:11 and was awarded All-Conference, All-Wayne County and All-Region honors.

"She improved so much as a runner this year and was always competing with passion," Smith said. "She was so driven and dedicated this year. We saw a whole new level to her. She has not yet seen her true potential. Next year, I see her as a top-five finisher (in the state)."

Cayla Eckenroth Northville

And speaking of the future of Northville's girls cross country program, Eckenroth will be back for the 2014 campaign and is a returning All-State runner. She finished 22nd in the state championship race as the top freshman in Michigan. Her season best time was 18:18 and she

earned All-Conference, All-Wayne County and All-Region honors.

"Cayla had an incredible season as a freshman," Smith said. "Her drive to get better each race was shown every time she stepped on the course. She is the best freshman to ever come into the (Northville girls cross country) program."

Erin Zimmer Northville

If Zimmer's name is familiar, that's because she's a four-time state finals qualifier, an All-Conference and All-Wayne County runner and one of the best harriers the area has to offer.

In her senior season, Zimmer came out and turned in her best performances, even running a personal-best time of 18:44.

"Erin is dedicated and hard working and day in and day out is always striving to get better," Smith said. "Erin was a great team leader, always encouraging the younger athletes to never give up."

Next season, Zimmer has a few options for where she will run, and is looking at potentially running for Grand Valley State University and U-M, among others.

Nicole Mosteller Northville

There are a lot of Northville runners on the All-Area team this year, but there's good reason for that. Runners like Nicole Mosteller, to start.

Mosteller embodies the pride and determination of Northville Mustangs cross country, and comes to each and every practice and meet with the goal of being better than the day before.

"I could always count on Nicole when we needed her the most," Smith said. "She had the drive to always give her all on the course. She was determined to be her best, day in and day out."

Mosteller's season best time was 19:10, and she was the fifth runner on the Division I championship team who secured the title for her squad. She was also an All-Conference and All-Wayne County runner and qualified for the state finals three times in her career.

Mallory Barrett Milford

It looks like the future is pretty bright for the Milford Mavericks' program too, and one of the harriers expected to step up and lead is Barrett. This season, the freshman runner continued to improve week in and week out, learning to overcome her apprehension and striving to be the best she could be by the end of the year. She finished 37th in the state finals with a personal-best time of 18:49—the third fastest time of any freshman at the state finals.

"Having Mallory on the team has been a tremendous boost," Salyers said. "She has a dynamic and inspiring personality that gelled well with her team and her ever-im-

proving contributions helped our bottom line. I look forward to working with her and her teammates over the next three years."

Barrett was All-Conference, All-Oakland County and All-Regional this year.

Second Team

Emma Herrmann Northville

Herrmann's best time this season was a 19:05, and she earned All-Conference, All-Wayne County and All-Region honors. She is a two-time state qualifier and is expected to be one of the top runners for the Mustangs in 2014.

Alison Robinson Northville

Robinson has been a key part of the construction of Northville's program over the past several seasons, always striving to be better and better each time she goes out. Her leadership on and off the course made her a big part of Northville's successes. Her season-best time was a 19:27 this year.

Hannah Lonergan Novi

Lonergan was the top runner at Novi this season, earning herself a trip to the state finals where she finished in 39th individually. She was also an All-Conference and All-Region runner. Her season best time in 2013 was an 18:51.

Madison Paquette Milford

A season-best time of 19:43 and helping her team to a ninth-place

finish in the state finals weren't all that Paquette managed to do to wow folks this year. In addition to All-Conference, All-Oakland County honors, she also earned All-State Academic honors by having one of the top grade-point averages in the top half of the state finals finishers.

Lina Erlingis Milford

Leadership is an intangible that is impossible to coach into an athlete, which is why it's important for runners like Erlingis to step up and lead when called upon. This year, she did just that, all while earning All-Conference honors and a season-best time of 19:56 at the state finals.

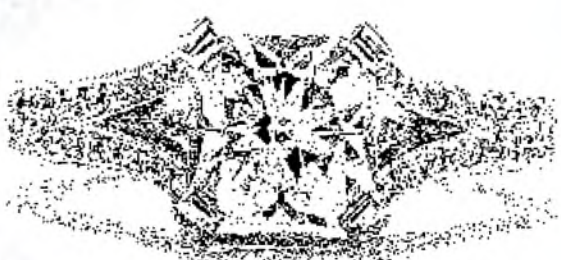
Marisa Sailus Lakeland

A strong runner with the ability to improve each week, Sailus is the kind of harrier a program can be built around. Look for her and her teammates to challenge for some of the top spots in the upcoming seasons.

Lea Fields South Lyon East

Fields may not have had the fastest time out of the second-teamers on the All-Area team, having run a best of 20:46 this year, but she stepped up when she had to and earned herself a trip to the state finals meet as an individual. There, Fields ran a 22:09 in the Division II state championship race.

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Kettle caps career with third team title

All-Area boys cross country team

By Jeff Theisen
Sports Writer

Milford senior runner Brian Kettle turned in another stellar performance at state as the Mavs did just enough to earn their third consecutive state championship.

Kettle finished second overall in Division 1 (15:31.7). In the last three years, he finished second, first and second as the Mavericks collected team titles each time.

Kettle was named 2013 Mr. Cross Country as well. The award is annually presented to the top senior in the state by the Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association.

Along the way, Kettle ran to his third consecutive regional title and second straight Oakland County title.

“Brian has been a cornerstone of our program for the past three years,” coach Brian Salyers said. “You don’t contend for state titles and national rankings without a front-runner like Brian.”

“He likes to race and he likes to run fast,” he added. “Those are qualities that have served him well throughout his career. Brian has amassed an incredible resumé and created his own legacy within the Milford cross country program.”

First team

Dan Sims
Northville

The senior capped off a stellar career with a 10th-place overall finish in the Division 1 race, leading the Mustangs to a fifth-place finish as a team. Sims was a three-time state qualifier and finished all-state all three years. His top time of 15:52 came at the state finals. Sims finished



Milford senior Brian Kettle, 2013 Mr. Cross Country, is the All-Area Runner of the Year.

third at regionals, won the Mustang Invite and was the Kensington Conference champion. He is also a three-time academic all-state honoree.

“Dan is the best pure runner I have ever coached,” coach Chris Cronin said. “To describe it more accurately, he glides. His running form can be really deceptive because he doesn’t look like he’s moving that fast, but then you realize that no one can stay with him — it’s devastating.”

“That being said, what makes Sims roll is his competitive fire. You might beat Dan in a race, but you will never out-compete him. One of the best leaders I’ve ever worked with.”

Nick Noles
Northville

The junior was the second all-state runner for the Mustangs this year in 21st (15:58.8). It was his second all-state run. Noles was champion at the Wayne County meet and runner-up at the Mustang Invite and at the Kensington Conference race. He had a top time of 15:57 and is academic all-state.

“When Dan Sims was out in September, Nick stepped into our No. 1

spot and really solidified our attack,” Cronin said. “He lives to run against the best and on the biggest stages. That’s where great runners live.”

“One memorable highlight from the season was his win at Wayne County. He took control of the race at the 4K mark and no one could stay with him.”

Conor Naughton
Northville

The sophomore was yet another top runner for the Mustangs. He had a best time of 16:01 with a fourth-place finish at the Wayne County championship, fourth at the Kensington Conference championship and was 67th at the state finals.

“Conor emerged as one of the state’s top sophomores in 2013,” Cronin said. “Consistency became his trademark as he earned medalist honors at every big invitation we attended. His 16:01 was the third fastest time this season and he now ranks 11th all-time at Cass Benton (home course).”

Kevin Black
Milford

The senior saved his best season for last. He was eighth at Oakland County, fifth at the Lakes

ALL-AREA BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

RUNNER OF THE YEAR
Brian Kettle, Milford

FIRST TEAM

Dan Sims, Northville
Nick Noles, Northville
Conor Naughton, Northville
Kevin Black, Milford
Jeffrey Field, Milford
Andrew Thomas, South Lyon
Brian Barnes, Novi

SECOND TEAM

Sean McCullough, Northville
Jason Ferrante, Northville
Joost Plaetinck, Novi
Sahisnu Malapati, Novi
Sean Noone, Milford
Kyle Garbovits, Lakeland
Jackson Grzymkowski, Lakeland

HONORABLE MENTION

South Lyon: Jordan Okdie (jr), Dan McMillen (sr), Bryce VanAsselt (jr)
South Lyon East: Adam Caruso, (so), Charles Marchand (so), Paul Domanico (sr)
Northville: Ben Cracraft (fr), Nick Dufresne (sr), Sam Kreme (jr), and Jacob Kamm (jr)
Novi: Nate Hall (sr), Cameron Misko (jr), Andy Mizerowski (jr), John Landy (fr), Michael Dickmann (sr), Collin Thomas (jr), Palguna Thalla (sr)
Milford: Clinton Caddell (sr)

Conference meet and fourth at regionals (15:36). Black finished the season 61st at the state finals (16:26.6).

“I was very impressed by Kevin’s poise and toughness this season,” Salyers said. “He really developed into an outstanding runner and helped our team achieve great things throughout the season.”

Jeffrey Field
Milford

The senior had his best run of the year at the state finals, finishing 49th (16:24) and second overall for the champion Mavericks. Field was 20th at Oakland County and 21st at the conference meet.

“Jeffrey is a great kid that responds to coaching,” Salyers said. “His performance at the state finals shows his toughness and perseverance. He doesn’t get the headlines, but he is the type of kid that is essential to winning championships.”

Andrew Thomas
South Lyon

The senior had one main goal in his last go-around — make the state finals. Thomas accomplished his goal with a 10th-place finish at regionals (16:00). It was the fastest South Lyon time ever at Huron Meadows. Thomas was eighth at the conference meet and 13th at Oakland County. He finished the year in 93rd place at the Division 1 finals.

“Andrew had a phenomenal year this season, running as the Lions’ No. 1 all season and winning most dual meets,” coach Scott Smith said. “He has a great enthusiasm for competition that motivated his teammates to do their best.”

Brian Barnes
Novi

The senior had a best of 16:04 and was the No. 1 runner all season right up until the finals. Barnes had a medical issue and needed an IV, but still managed to finish 73rd in 16:31.5.

Second team

Sean McCullough
Northville

The junior is a two-time state qualifier and capped the season 46th at the Division 1 finals (16:22.8). McCullough was fifth at the Wayne County invite and sixth at the conference meet. He had a top time of 16:05 and is academic all-state.

Jason Ferrante
Northville

The junior is also a two-time state finalist. He was ninth at the conference meet and runner-up at the Wayne County invite. Ferrante finished the year 175th at the state finals. He had a top time of 16:09.

Joost Plaetinck
Novi

The sophomore won the Lakeland 9-10 invite and had a best of 16:08. Plaetinck finished 48th at the state finals (16:23.1).

Sahisnu Malapati
Novi

The junior posted a top time of 16:27.

Sean Noone
Milford

The junior was the lone non-senior in the top five for the Mavericks at the finals. Noone finished 22nd at Oakland County, 13th at the conference meet and 16th at regionals (16:14). He finished the year 54th at the state finals and was the third runner in for the Mavs (16:25.2).

Kyle Garbovits
Lakeland

The sophomore was third team all-conference and finished eighth at regionals (16:39.4). He finished the season with a trip to states, where he finished 102nd.

Jackson Grzymkowski
Lakeland

The sophomore medaled at the Oakland County invite and finished ninth at regionals to punch a ticket to states. He finished 60th (16:26.2) at the Division 1 state finals.

Catholic Central did not turn in All-Area nominations.

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Bowling programs hope to earn a trip to finals

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

The Northville Mustangs bowling teams have high hopes this year, and they are banking on the experience learned from last year's rebuilding season to carry them through 2013. The girls and boys teams, both coached by Jerry Harris, started their seasons off with a tournament last week. The girls team finished in sixth place while the

boys struggled, though turned in several strong games. For the girls, the Mustangs had a 925 team came, which was the fourth-highest in the tournament. They were led by Ashley Schiffer, who rolled a 232 high game with a 605 series and a 201 average. Other strong games were turned in by Sami Sugiyama (198), Rachel Kemp (189), Megan Hicks (159) and first-year bowler Deanna Handley (147).

ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs bowling team will be back to the lanes when they compete at Canton at 3:30 p.m. Monday. "It was" very impressive as the team learned how to adjust on lane conditions and fine tune their skills," Harris said. At one point in the tourney, the team was in fourth place of the field of 20 girls teams. The boys team was led by Simon Long, who bowled a high series of 554 for the Mustangs with a high game of 194.

Collin Fowler had a 529 series, but had a team-high game of 207. Other high games came from Jarod Hilborn (197 and 186), Christian Mayer (184), Adam Gleichman and Liam Munro (170 each) and Angelo Vitali (154). Last year, the Mustangs finished the season with a 5-10 record for the boys and a 3-11 for the

girls. This season, several underclassmen return from those teams. "Our biggest challenge this year is to develop the underclassmen to fill gaps lost by the depletion of seniors from last year," Harris said. The team's goal, he said, is to finish in the top two of the division and the top two in the conference and make a run for a chance to qualify for the state finals. "The team needs to work on drills to develop

discipline in the basics of bowling," Harris said. The team has plenty going for them — including a strong base for the future. "We have a lot of returning underclassmen to make us strong for the future," Harris said. "We are developing a good work ethic towards our skill development."

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

Shamrocks hoops team brings back experience

Squad looks to turn in better results than last season

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

Bill Dyer doesn't make excuses when it comes to losses and losing records. Instead, he just accepts the reality and plans to make adjustments for the future. In the 2012-2013 season, the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks compiled a 5-16 record and lost in the district tournament opener. This year, which is Dyer's 24th at the helm, will be different. "We will be better," he said. "Our seniors have the opportunity to have a good senior season. Our young kids are going to learn a lot from them as the year progresses. We will compete hard every night and we have guys that will come off the bench and give us a lot of ener-

ON TAP

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks basketball team will play at Divine Child next Saturday at 7:30 p.m. gy." The Shamrocks return more experience to the team than they had last year. They have more height and team chemistry. They have a talented bench that includes plenty of young faces — two sophomores and a freshman. The team also brings plenty of true athletes to the floor this year — but that's also a downside to start the season. "We're not like most other basketball programs in the state," Dyer said. "We never get to practice with a full squad before our first game. The football team has played in the state final four out of the last five years. We have guys that need time off but we have two games early next week." But Dyer expects his team will come out ready to play and start working toward the goal of winning the always-competitive Catholic High School League and make a run into the state post-season tournament. Returning starters this year are Ryan McGillivray, a senior forward, and Noah Lee, a senior guard. The team also has Charlie Ryan — a 6-foot-6-inch senior center — on the squad this year as well as talented sophomore forward Lance Tebay. As the season progresses and team chemistry continues to improve, look for the Shamrocks to bring a varied attack to their offense and a solid defense. One thing is for certain, Dyer and the Shamrocks are determined to improve on last season, and they are dedicated enough to make it happen.

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

Two more wins for Northville hockey

Squad blanks both rival Novi and Plymouth

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

Two games and two big wins for the Northville Mustangs hockey team means the squad has its season rolling in the right direction. The squad skated to two shutout victories against Novi, 3-0, and Plymouth, 1-0, last week, using strong defense and goaltending to keep the pucks from finding their way into the net. "I'm happy with our goaltending," coach Clint Robert said. "I was happy with the team defense and gritty style the boys played in both games." Earning the win in net against Novi was Chance Boutin, while goalie Jeremy Onofrio earned the victory against the Plymouth squad. Scoring against the Novi Wildcats were Buster White, Connor Brown and Jack Meacham. Meacham scored the lone goal against the Plymouth Wildcats too. Robert is in his sixth season as the head coach for the Mustangs, leading the team from 2006-2009 and from 2011 until this season. The team, he said, is looking to win the KLA




Northville junior Alec Morgan (left) tried to poke the puck away from Novi senior Chris Kennedy during the Mustangs' 3-0 victory over rival Novi on Dec. 4 at Novi Ice Arena. CHRIS JACKETT


ON TAP

The Northville Mustangs hockey team is slated to be back on the ice when they host Grand Haven tomorrow at 8 p.m. before hosting Stevenson at 6:30 p.m. Monday. this season. "We can accomplish that by having everyone playing for the team rather than themselves," he said. The team's other goal? Win a state championship. The team will be using its depth this year to make a run at those goals, and they have to learn to overcome their slow starts and replace it with their work ethic, the coach says. Northville is led this season by captain Alex Shuart and assistant captains Alec Morgan, Brown, Kyle Abraham and Onofrio. Robert said it doesn't matter what their foes' records are each week. He said they always know who the next tough team is going to be. "The big game on the schedule is the next one up," he said.

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Wolfpack dominate at Slam Fest



The Northville Wolfpack sixth- and seventh-grade girls basketball team won the FAAST Basketball Slam Fest at Milan on Nov. 9. The girls compiled a perfect 3-0 record, playing teams from Michigan Capital Area Basketball Club, Basketball Association of Mid Michigan Livingston Legacy and TEAM from Rochester Hills. It was the third tournament this season in which the team went undefeated, previously winning the Jibby Jab Jumpshot Tournament in Swartz Creek and Slam Jam in Portland. The Wolfpack will compete Dec. 14 at the Holiday Blast in Saline. Team members include coach Steve Grant, assistant coach Steve Thallman, Tara Beason, Jane Berry, Hannah Grant, Alyssa Knoth, Jenna Lauderback, Nicole Martin, Hannah O'Sullivan, Ellie Thallman, Morgan Thompson, Julia Straky and Chloe Zulcosky.

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IN THE HIGHLAND LAKES SHOPPING CENTER

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Area malls help boost holiday fitness

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Mall walking is a great way to keep holiday calories at bay and keep seasonal stresses to a minimum at the same time.

"We have a very enthusiastic group here," Dan Jones, general manager of Twelve Oaks in Novi, said. "A big part of mall walking is the social aspect."

Twelve Oaks opens to mall walkers two hours before regular opening. Jones is more of a visit the gym before work guy, but also appreciates fitness opportunities at work.

"I certainly get a few laps in," he said. "It's great just to go and take a few laps and stretch my legs a bit."

Twelve Oaks opens 8 a.m. Monday-Saturday for walkers, 9 a.m. Sunday, with walkers asked to use only the lower level before 9 a.m. First-timers should register at the Customer Service Desk in the Center Court after 10 a.m.

At Westland Shopping Center, Garden City Hospital is the official partner for Westland Walkers. Westland's doors open 7 a.m. by Olga's (Arcade 2), Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. Sunday. Mall walkers at Westland are using the mall entrance south of Arcade 2 (Olga's) during construction.

Laurel Park Place in Livonia also offers mall walking, beginning 8 a.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m. Sunday.

Jack Morrison of Plymouth Township has been a mall walker for about 20 years at Laurel Park Place. "For the camaraderie and the very small exercise I get," the retired brick salesman said.



A trio of walkers hits the upper level of Novi's Twelve Oaks Mall on Dec. 9. The three -- Tom Grabowski, Dave Axelrad and Dave Butler -- were among a few dozen walkers at the mall by 8 a.m. on that sub-zero morning. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Morrison also likes the people he's met walking. "Everybody is lovely. It's the people we've lost," he said of those who've passed away. "We've met so many lovely people and now they're gone."

Friend Mel Karfis of Livonia, a retired ironworker, has also walked at Laurel Park some 20 years. "For the exercise and the camaraderie," Karfis said of mall walking. He has both family and friends who walk at Laurel Park.

"I've learned a lot of things. Our group is very well-informed," Karfis said. "It's like one big family in a way."

Walker Jim White of Livonia, who's exercised about 15 years at Laurel Park, said of Morrison, "He's the patriarch of this mall."

White, a retired banker, said, "I've got to keep my health up" of walking, which he does with wife Mary Ann and his friends. "It's like we're having our own town meeting here," White said. "You don't dare miss." Absences of regulars are quickly noted.

Over at Westland Shopping Center that same Thursday morning, friends Linda Young and Carmen Vella were walking. The Livonia residents are regulars at the Westland mall.

"I stopped smoking

four years ago, gained some weight and wanted to lose it," said Young, a retired Walgreens supervisor. "And good for the heart. That's what the doctor says."

The women walk outdoors in warmer weather, aiming for three miles daily. Vella is a home-maker.

Young's been walking there since her retirement four years ago. "I was very active at work," she said. She wanted to keep that up.

"Nice mall, clean, safe," Young said of Westland. "I enjoy it. It gives you a good chance to look at the specials."

At Westland, Charles Monroe of Garden City was also doing fitness walking that morning. The Ford Motor Co. retiree has done mall walking eight-nine years, beginning at Wonderland in Livonia.

"To stay healthy, stay active," said Monroe, who walks at Westland three-five days weekly. "Sometimes you have things to do."

Monroe agreed the other walkers are friendly. "Oh, yeah, I'm a people person," he said. "They're nice."

Florence Marini of Novi was walking the upper level of Twelve Oaks on a recent Monday morning.

"I've been walking

here just three years," she said. "My husband's been walking here eight years. He likes the longer route (on the lower level) and I began basically to keep him company."

Some mall walkers track their distance, but she doesn't.

"I worked for 40 years; I don't want any regimen," the retired Kroger cashier explained. She likes her fellow Twelve Oaks walkers: "Everybody's friendly."

The security staff is also friendly and helpful. "I feel comfortable, secure," Marini said. "It's all controlled, the weather and everything. It's free, although I do patronize it. For my husband, it's like going to work. He needs that 'get up in the morning.'"

They socialize at the Novi mall near I-96 on weekends. Marini has her mom, 92, at home who needs help.

"Starbucks is our bar," she said with a smile.

Downstairs at Twelve Oaks was Janet Trusty of Wixom, who's walked there three-four years. She works in the office of a family-owned business.

"We do the exercise class in front of Macy's," Trusty said of that Monday-Wednesday morning class. "Then we're out of here."

Liz Smith of Commerce Township, a retired warehouse staffer, walks and takes the class for "exercise. And it's nice and warm in here in the wintertime."

The women sometimes walk outdoors at Twelve Oaks in warm weather. "A lot of nice people," Smith added.

Walker Janice Cavins of Wixom is Trusty's twin sister, and retired in May from the city of Wixom. She was in California five months with her daughter, and just started Twelve Oaks exercise.

"I miss from being retired people," said Cavins. "Just super people." She hopes to come to Twelve Oaks more often for exercise, encouraging her twin.

jbrown@hometownlife.com

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Customer appreciation

Guernsey Farms Dairy, located at 21300 Novi Road, is hosting a customer appreciation day from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. Attendees will be able to sample Guernsey's pies, egg nog, whipped cream and ice cream. The store will also offer special discounts on its products.

Applebee's gift cards

Applebee's Northville, located at 17101 Haggerty, is holding a special holiday promotion through Jan. 1. When guests purchase \$50 in gift cards they will receive an additional \$10 bonus card. This Applebee's bonus gift card can be used on all menu items through Feb. 28, 2014.

For more information, visit www.applebees.com.

Warming Hearts & Homes

Community Financial Credit Union has once again kicked off its special Warming Hearts & Homes charitable program for the 2013 holiday season. Throughout December, Community Financial is donating up to \$30,000 to local nonprofit organizations instrumental in providing heat, food and clothing for families in their communities.

"We will donate up to \$10,000 each week to charitable organizations. The best part about this campaign is that you just have to use your computer or smartphone, and we do all the donating," said Sarah Cousineau, marketing manager at Community Financial.

There are three ways to contribute to the program. Participants can visit the credit union's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CommunityFinancial. For every new Like on the timeline, Community Financial will donate \$25 to the active charity of the week. Participants can also use

#CFCUwarms in a tweet to Community Financial. Every tweet using that hashtag will ensure \$25 more to each charity. Lastly, Community Financial is donating another \$25 for each text they receive. Participants can text CFCUwarms to 70 000.

"The charity receiving donations will change from week to week," Cousineau said. "It's important to stay active the entire month of December to ensure each charity gets to the \$10,000 limit."

From Dec. 8-14, Community Financial will contribute to local food pantries. For Week 3, ending on Dec. 21, Community Financial will donate to The Salvation Army's "Coats for Kids" program.

Community Financial has branch locations at 400 E. Main St. in Northville, 500 S. Harvey St. in Plymouth, and 23890 Novi Road in Novi.

Top work place

The *Detroit Free Press* has named Cole Taylor Mortgage, a division of Cole Taylor Bank, a top 10 position in the 2013 Top Workplaces ranking.

Out of the 218 total companies who surveyed for this year's ranking, Cole Taylor Mortgage took home seventh in the Midsize category. This is the first year that the company participated in the survey.

In keeping with the firm's upbeat culture, multicolored balloons and hundreds of posters were placed throughout the company's Ann Arbor headquarters to officially inform team members of the good news. Cole Taylor Mortgage offices in Milford, Chicago, Ill., and Wilmington, Ohio – as well as retail mortgage branch team members and area sales managers across the country – also celebrated the achievement locally.

The Top Workplaces survey was conducted in July by Workplace Dynamics, LLC, of Exton, Pa.

CHAMBER CHAT

Gift checks

The Northville Chamber of Commerce is offering gift checks for those hard to please people on your gift list this holiday season. They are being offered in denominations of \$5,

\$10, and \$25 that can be used at more than 60 area businesses.

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Car Report

Advertising Feature



By Dale Buss

Highlander was one of the sales leaders for Toyota in November, with a 22-percent gain over a year earlier, moving more than 11,500 units in the month across the U.S. market. The mid-sized SUV also is on pace in percentage-increase terms with Toyota's other strong-selling utility vehicles for the year, with Highlander sales rising nearly 6 percent over the first 11 months of 2012.

That's not surprising, given that the vehicle has long been Toyota's staple entry in the crucial mid-size SUV segment and outsells siblings 4Runner by about two-to-one and Venza by about four-to-one. Highlander's status is one reason Toyota offers it alone among its SUV nameplates in a hybrid format.

Starting at prices around \$40,000 and offering 28mpg in both the city and on the highway, the Highlander Hybrid stakes a claim to be perhaps the best of the growing number of hybrid SUVs to be offered across the industry. In fact, U.S. News & World Report rated it as its best hybrid SUV for families for 2013 "because it has the best combination of quality, size and family-friendly features in its class."

The best thing about driving the Highlander Hybrid is that you have to think hard about whether you're driving a hybrid. Sure, it's so quiet in stationary mode that you have to make sure the vehicle in fact is operating. And the vehicle's pickup off the line leaves much to be desired, like a lot of hybrids.

But for day-in, day-out use, Highlander Hybrid provides a great combination of advantages. It's flawless in highway-cruise mode and provides plenty of juice for acceleration, just what you want in a vehicle that also has a great capacity to carry humans and cargo. There just isn't the sluggishness in response that characterizes some hybrids.

Interior room is ample for the most part, even allowing for the extra room that hybrid batteries sometimes take up. On a long jaunt for the Thanksgiving holiday, Highlander Hybrid provided plenty of room not only for two adults in the front but also for two more adults sprawled out in the second row and a big haul of cargo that ranged from luggage to bags of gifts.

Like the regular Highlander, the hybrid version offers a second-row innovation: The bench slides fore and aft to alter the ratio of legroom to cargo capacity and even reclines, a la a minivan, for greater comfort. Its unique 40/20/40 split design has a removable center section that stows neatly in a special compartment beneath the center console, making access easier to the way-back bench.

One definite problem with the vehicle, however, is that with the third seat row



upright, there's only room in that row for a couple of kids. And in that mode, cargo room behind it is very limited.

Another thing I appreciated in driving the Highlander Hybrid was that the controls and gauges didn't make it obvious at all that I was driving a hybrid. Far removed from the enthusiasm displayed by early hybrid models (including some Toyotas) that featured complicated gauges that showed the flow of electric energy in the car, the Highlander Hybrid plays it pretty straight. You've still got to fill the gas tank before the fuel gauge goes to "E."

And like the regular Highlander, Highlander Hybrid comes equipped standard with a six-speaker stereo with a USB port and Bluetooth, and options such as a helpful backup camera and Toyota's Entune infotainment system.

The vehicle comes in base and Limited trims. Power comes from a V6 engine and two electric motors paired to a continuously variable transmission. On-demand all-wheel drive is standard in all models.

All Highlander models were updated for the 2011 model year, with some tweaks since then.

Of course the biggest question with Highland Hybrid, as with most hybrids, is whether the price premium you pay is really worth it compared with a conventional version of the same vehicle or a comparable nameplate.

I didn't do all the math, but that question with Highlander is very apropos because the premium is about \$10,000 over a regular Highlander, putting it near the top for any mainstream vehicle of the spread between a hybrid and a regular version. And yet with only an 8mpg advantage over the regular Highlander in city driving, the hybrid version takes a long time to complete the payback.

In the meantime, Highlander Hybrid owners will have to be satisfied with making just a slight contribution to the ecosphere – and with the fact that the vehicle they're driving is pretty much the performance equal of the regular Highlander.

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248-349-0720
For more details-
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Mature, compassionate individual with reliable transportation to serve as a part time caregiver for our Senior citizens. Call: (734) 776-9098

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CLEANING PERSON
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Or fax: (248) 735-5698
Apply promptly. EOE

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Brighton Caretel Inns of Brighton, a skilled nursing facility has a FT. Personal Banker for our Harland Branch. Starting wage is \$12/hr., plus benefits. Prior bank or credit union experience beneficial however, not req'd. **APPLY IN PERSON AT ANY BRANCH LOCATION**
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First National Bank
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Howell, MI. 48843

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Office furniture installation business in Wilcox is looking to fill full-time Warehouse positions. We are looking for RESPONSIBLE, DEPENDABLE PRESENTABLE individuals. You must be able to work weekends and evenings, have reliable transportation and a valid driver's license. Organizational skills are a plus. This is a physically demanding position which requires heavy lifting. To be considered for this position, apply in person: Synergy Installation Solutions 29988 Anthony Dr. Wilcox, MI 48393

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Local non-profit is currently seeking a **Part-Time Operations Assistant**. Responsibilities include general accounting and office duties. The ideal candidate *must be* an energetic, able to multi-task, team player with excellent excel and communication skills that takes pride in their work. **Brighton/Howell area.**
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nancybyrd61@yahoo.com

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Pediatric office in Livonia
Exp req. approx 30 hrs/wk
734-591-0220

Crossword Puzzle V 8

ACROSS
1 Beseech
4 Wooding implement
7 White rat, e.g.
13 Puccini's "— Butterfly"
19 Cream-filled pastries
21 Kill, as pain
22 Beloved
23 V
25 Holiday Inn alternative
26 Ages of the Miracle Mels
27 Be shown on TV
28 "A Simple Plan" director Sam
30 Vagrant
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36 As a result
39 Singer Drona
40 Bargain of the screen
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54 "By the Time — Phoenix"
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58 One of the Jackson 5
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66 Baseball Hall of Famer Carlton
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96 Any "Staying Alive" singer
100 Flat contract
101 Intense
102 "That's What Love" (1991 Amy Grant hit)
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JOBS

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By Beth Braccio Hering
Special to CareerBuilder

With hiring picking up, is it reasonable for a job seeker to believe that she can resume her career where she left off before becoming unemployed? While most experts agree that it may be possible, they also concur that such a rebound is difficult and takes a great deal of commitment. For those willing to put in the effort, here are five strategies for getting back on the career path.

1. Be certain of your career goals

Before trying to get back on track, be sure you're heading in the direction you really want to go. Having a clear sense of what you want will make it easier to target your efforts towards specific positions and companies.

"I would recommend clients reflect if they want to re-enter the same career field or if this is a time to transfer into a new career," says Mike Blount, a career coach at Messiah College Internship Center in Grantham, Penn. Adds Wil Lemire, director of career services at Western New England College in Springfield, Mass., "This may be a good time to do some career assessment to confirm that you are on the right path. Your college career office may be helpful here."

2. Evaluate your strengths and weaknesses

What skills and qualities do you bring to the table? Being able to clearly convey your best assets will make you a stronger applicant. But to be an even better candidate, you also need to cast a critical eye and look for things employers might perceive as negatives and fix them.

Linda Matias, president of CareerStrides.com and author of "201 Knockout Answers to Tough Interview Questions: The Ultimate Guide to Handling the New Competency-Based Inter-

Pick up where you left off:



view Style," suggests that job seekers write down all the reasons they shouldn't be hired and then formulate a plan on how to address each issue. "Too often, job seekers only pay mind to the reasons they should be hired. When that happens, they are not taking responsibility for their own career. No candidate is a perfect 10, but each job seeker should do whatever it takes to get as close to the number 10 as possible."

3. Stay active and informed

"Be prepared to explain how you've been filling the days since your last job," says Cynthia Favre, director of career services at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minn. "Employers know that it has been a rough job market, but they still expect that you have something to say about what you've been doing. For maybe

six months you can say you took time to reassess, regroup and refocus, but after that they'll wonder."

"Stagnation is a résumé shredder," Blount adds. "Show what you have done for your career."

Ways to keep sharp and prove dedication to your field may include:

- Enrolling in continuing education and skill-building classes.
- Taking on temporary projects or consulting work.
- Keeping up with trade publications and pertinent websites.
- Volunteering in your area of expertise.
- Participating in professional associations and conferences.

4. Network

"When people get to know you, or get reacquainted with you, they are more likely to think to refer opportunities

to you," Favre states. "Use LinkedIn to join groups in your career field or to connect with past colleagues to find out where people are. It's important, too, to continue networking the old-fashioned way. Join professional associations and volunteer to be on committees,

plan events or work the registration table at conferences."

Lemire adds that career fairs provide great networking opportunities as well as a chance to hone your "elevator pitch." "Research the attending companies and participate actively by engaging the recruiters in conversations about the nuances of their company and typical job requirements."

5. Be confident

Finally, don't neglect the fact that unemployment can take a heavy toll on one's self image. You need to come to terms with that period of your life before trying to sell yourself to others.

"Where candidates go wrong is self-confidence. They get defensive, apologetic or uptight when an interviewer asks the perfectly reasonable question, 'Why have you been outside of your field for over a year?'" Matias says. "Surprisingly, many job seekers don't prepare a response to this question ahead of time. It is as though they are hoping the interviewer won't broach the topic. Candidates should prepare a brief response, and then practice saying the response until the answer rolls off the tongue."

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



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Christmas Trees

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COUPON MUST BE PRESENT
EXPIRES 12.13.13

874 ANN ARBOR ROAD WEST
PLYMOUTH, MI 48170
734-459-7410



MON., THURS., FRI., 10:00-8:00
TUES., WED., SAT., 10:00-6:00
SUN. 12-5:00