

# NORTHVILLE RECORD

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## Recycle trees

For Northville residents who live north of Eight Mile, Oakland County Parks will recycle Christmas trees for county residents. Eleven county parks will serve as drop-off locations for real trees 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day through Jan. 13.

The closest county parks to accept the trees are Lyon Oaks in Lyon Township, White Lake Oaks Golf Course in White Lake, Independence Oaks in Clarkston, Glen Oaks Golf Course in Farmington Hills and Springfield Oaks in Davisburg.

Extended tree drop-offs continue until Feb. 3 at Independence Oaks and Orion Oaks parks.

The service is free, but all decorations, plastic, tinsel and wire must be removed. The program is self-service; assistance in removing trees from vehicles is unavailable.

Processed trees for compost and wood chips will be available to the public free of charge in 2014.

For more information, visit [destinationoakland.com](http://destinationoakland.com).

## Township water rates on the rise

By Kurt Kuban  
Staff Writer

Like many communities around suburban Detroit, Northville Township residents will see their water bills rise in 2014.

The cost increase, which township officials say will be about \$10 per month for the average water user, is due to fixed costs being passed on from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, which provides water to the township.

According to Tom Casari, the township's public works director, Detroit has raised the fixed rate it charges the township over the course of the last 3-4 years. The fixed cost is what Detroit charges its customers, whether they use a drop of water or not. Casari said the fixed cost is about \$2.5 million a year.

The township has not passed that increase on to residents, but instead it has been absorbed by the water and sewer fund. Casari said this is no longer a

viable option, as the department has had to continually dip into the water and sewer fund balance to cover costs since 2006-2007.

"We've been trying over the years to absorb that charge from Detroit, but the rate we were charging residents wasn't covering nearly enough of our cost," Casari said.

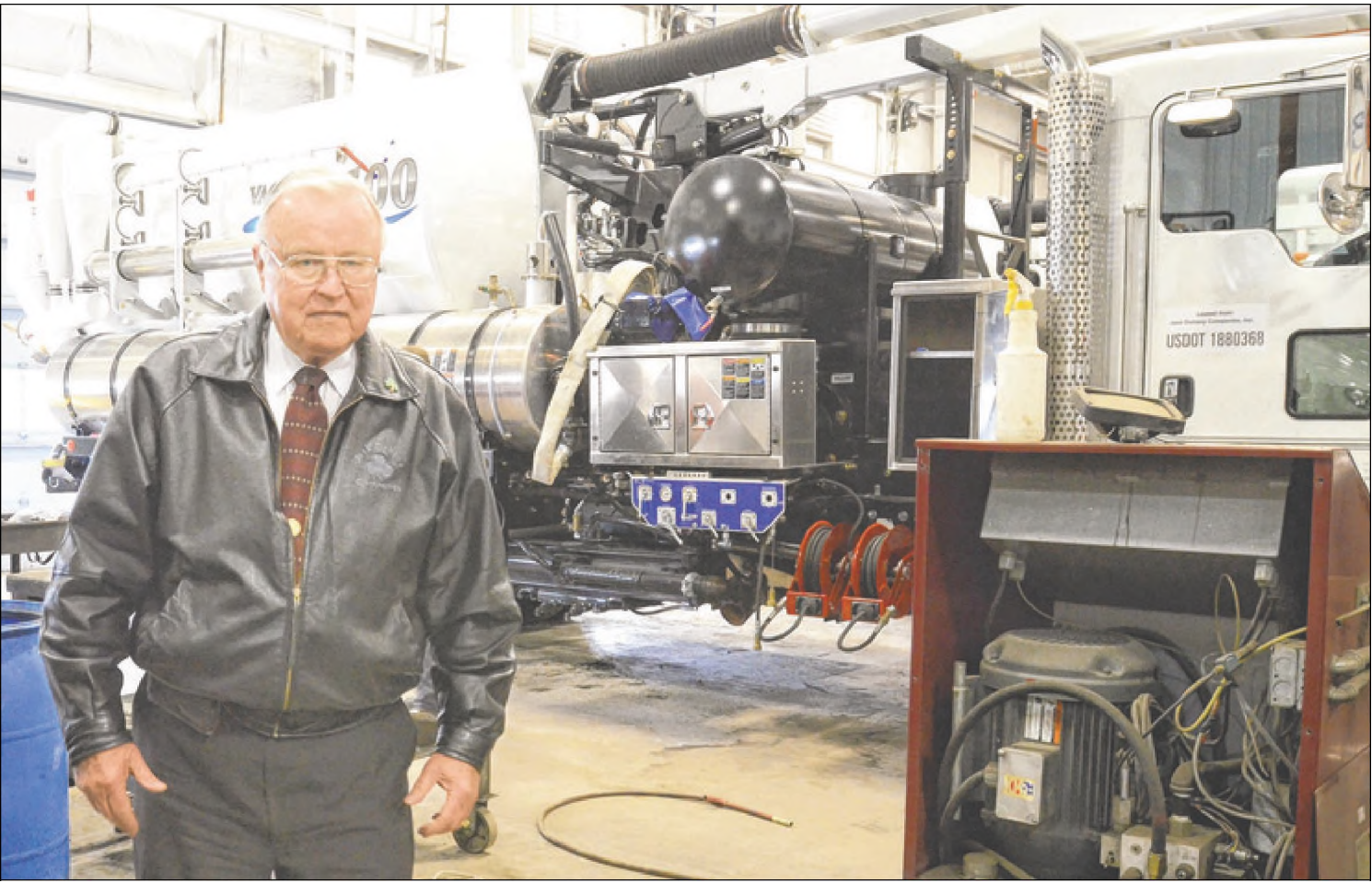
While some residents may not be happy with the fixed cost coming from Detroit, Casari said he feels it is "fair" because

Detroit has a large infrastructure it must maintain.

"We own our own distribution system here in the township. If we didn't sell a gallon of water we still have a cost of doing business. Detroit is in the same position, but on a much larger scale," he said.

To ease the sticker shock a little, the township will be phasing in the total fixed cost over a three year period. At least that's

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Jack Doheny, president and founder of the Northville-based Jack Doheny Companies, walks past one of his company's signature trucks: a Vactor 2100 model. The truck, which run about \$500,000, is used to clean up oil and hazardous material spills, and is also used by most municipalities to clear jammed sewers. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## ON DEMAND

When sewers back up or emergencies arise, Doheny is there

By Kurt Kuban  
Staff Writer

Call it good timing. Jack Doheny broke into the sewer cleaning business at a time when it was just starting to take off. When he began selling his products, including vacuum trucks and other equipment in the early 1970s, there were very few standards on how to maintain sewers.

"Back then so many sewers were running right into local creeks and rivers," said Doheny, 83.

That's when the federal government

started cracking down. The Clean Water Act was passed in 1972, which forced municipalities to clean out their sewers and stop polluting local waterways. It so happened that was right around the time when Doheny began selling sewer cleaning equipment.

"That's when I came into the business. It was really a perfect time," Doheny said. "The federal government found they didn't have any guidelines or regulations for cleaning out sewers. Once those were in place, there was a tremendous explosion in demand for the sewer cleaning products and equipment. In

many ways, I was very lucky to come in when I did."

Today, Jack Doheny Companies, the company he founded in 1973 from his home, is the world's largest distributor of Vactor trucks, and other sewer cleaning and municipal air handling equipment. The company's footprint is especially large in Michigan, where they sell 95 percent of all the sewer cleaning equipment.

The company, which has doubled in growth in the last four-five years, has

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## Heise informs city what to expect from Lansing

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-20th District, talked about FOIA requests, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and the future of Downtown Development Authorities – all issues that could have major consequences for the city – during a recent visit to a Northville City Council meeting.

Heise made the stop on Dec. 16 and talked about a number of issues that have some sort of Northville connection. These

would begin to be discussed when state legislature returns in mid-January.

"We left a few things on the table," Heise said of the legislature going into the holiday season.

### DDA elimination?

One is the talk of introducing a bill pertaining to Downtown Development Authority and Tax Increment Financing



Heise

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## Tough sledding



Philip Matler, 7, makes contact with a snow ramp – instead of going up it – during a Dec. 26 sledding trip to the Amerman Elementary hill. Matler was OK and made many more runs down the hill, which had benefitted from three inches of snow the night before. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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# Scouts conduct search-and-rescue drill in vacant Plymouth building

**By Matt Jachman**  
Staff Writer

Boy Scouts from a Northville-based troop put orienteering, physical and teamwork skills to the test in Plymouth last week with a mock search-and-rescue operation and related exercises, guided by public safety professionals.

More than a dozen scouts, from Troop 777 at First United Methodist Church of Northville, gathered at the vacant Mutual of Detroit office building on Plymouth Road for the drill, which was part of the scouts' work toward a new merit badge the Boy Scouts of America introduced last year. The scouts were helped by, and got feedback from, professionals from the Plymouth Police Department, the Northville Fire Department, Huron Valley Ambulance and a western Wayne County search-and-rescue team.

"We just wanted to give them exposure to this profession (rescue operations) and how it works, so they'd have an appreciation for something they may be interested in doing," said



Boy Scout Kevin Duffy untangles himself as he goes through the "collapsed building" search-and-rescue exercise. TOM BEAUDOIN

David Tischler, the Troop 777 scoutmaster. "Some of them did say they'd be interested in doing something like this in the future, on a volunteer basis."

The scouts ranged in age from 11 to 16; Tischler said it was the first group of scouts from his troop to work toward the search-and-rescue merit badge.

"They loved it," Tischler said of the exercise. "Probably their favorite merit badge so far this year."

**Emergency scenario**

The field exercise had three components: the search of a building — the scenario was that the building had partially collapsed — for a dummy "victim," the team "sweep" of a parking lot for a set of lost keys, and an up-close look at some of the equipment used by rescue professionals, such as a telescoping camera that can "see" in hard-to-access spots and a lift that can temporarily secure structures in the event of a real building collapse.

During the search, windows were masked to limit daylight, boxes were used to simulate confined spaces and a "debris field" and other obstacles the scouts had to overcome were used. The scouts were divided into three teams to go through the exercise; moving in the dark building challenged their sense of direction, Tischler said.

"It was dark and they were making a lot of turns, left turns and right turns," he said.

The exercise was organized by Lt. Jamie Grabowski, a Plymouth Police Department detective and an on-call Northville firefighter who responds out of the Plymouth station. Grabowski, whose son A.J. was one of the participating scouts, is the troop's counselor for the search-and-rescue merit badge.

Grabowski got permission to use the office building from the development company that owns it, and also got other public safety professionals to help out on Saturday.

"It was pretty impressive they came out and helped these boys to earn their merit badge," Tischler said.

Grabowski said the crowd benefited from refreshments donated by the Plymouth Tim Horton's, sandwiches from the Plymouth Township Firehouse Subs location, and that Headfirst Printing in Plymouth Township is donating a T-shirt for each scout to commemorate the exercise.

Boy Scout Troop 777's website is [www.troop777northville.org](http://www.troop777northville.org).



Northville Firefighter Adam Smith watches scouts as they move through debris in a mock collapsed building during the drill. TOM BEAUDOIN



Boy Scout Adam Helner wears a hardhat and uses a flashlight as he safely goes through the "collapsed building" during Saturday's exercise. TOM BEAUDOIN

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WATER

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the plan now. The good news for residents is the consumption rate will remain the same as it was in 2013, meaning the cost per

volume won't change. Township officials felt that would have been more of a burden on residents than just charging a flat rate. "We're trying to do this in a way that is fair to our residents," said Supervisor Bob Nix. The township has also

begun preliminary discussions with Canton Township and Plymouth Township about forming some kind of partnership to purchase water from Detroit in bulk, which could then reduce the consumption rate residents have to pay. The three communities al-

ready are partners in the Western Townships Utilities Authority (WTUA), which provides sanitary services and wastewater treatment for their townships rather than use the Detroit Water and Sewer Department. "If we as an authority could purchase water in

bulk for our three communities, our volume would get us a lower rate overall, which we could pass on to our residents," said Casari, who noted the talks are just preliminary at this point. "We're looking at all kinds of avenues on how we can reduce the rate we're

getting. This is one way, an easy way, and it would cost us almost nothing to do it." Casari said the new rate will go into effect during the first billing cycle of 2014.   
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HEISE

Continued from Page A1

Authorities. Heise said there isn't anything specific on this, but something could be coming. "There is a real movement in Lansing right now to either eliminate DDAs or TIFAs, or curtail their bonding authority or the type of projects they can do," Heise said. He said there may be some of these entities around the state that have gone beyond legislative intent, but he feels most, like Northville, have played a big part in helping revitalize downtowns.

This comes in the wake of Northville joining a suit of Wayne County communities to fend off Wayne County attempts to stop them from holding back millage money that voters approved for the Detroit Zoo and Detroit Institute of Arts.

These communities believe that under state law the Zoological Authority property taxes are subject to capture by existing TIFA and DDA authorities in accordance with their specific authorizing statutes. In other words, they are no different than any other taxing authority.

According to city officials, under the existing state law, Northville's treasurer is obliged to capture all increases in tax revenues from within the DDA/TIF boundary. All taxing jurisdictions are treated the same and the tax is captured unless it is specifically exempted by state law.

There is a bill in the legislature that would expressly prohibit the capture of the DIA and Detroit Zoo millages by communities like Northville.

In 2012, Northville officials received letters from the Wayne County treasurer directing it to relinquish the zoo millage or the county would revoke the bond of the City of Northville's treasurer, and then the county would assume the treasurer's responsibilities. Northville feels that by using rationale of the county is that any millage passed since the DDA was established in 1978 could also be lost.

More local water control

With the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, Heise said he will help support a push to make the system relationship "fairer" to suburban communities. In Northville, water is purchased from Detroit as is the case in most Metro Detroit communities and the sanitary sewer system empties into a major

Wayne County transmission line, which takes sanitary waste to the Detroit Wastewater Treatment Plant.

He said he will continue to plug away at this issue.

"There's a lot of big players involved," Heise said of the DWSD. "You've got Kevyn Orr (Detroit's state-appointed emergency manager), you've got Gov. Snyder, you've got the counties who are now involved and of course, you will have Mayor (Mike) Dugan getting involved in January."

He added, "What I'm just trying to do right now is help come up with a system that is fair for everybody that maintains local control, and that maintains your contractual relationship with DWSD. And it either does that in the form of an authority that we have a say in or some type of new entity where the local governments have a greater say over the oversight and management of the system."

FOIA paperwork

Mayor Chris Johnson asked about a bill on Michigan's Freedom of Information Act, which was introduced as a modernization measure but could make more work for those involved. Johnson thinks the changes are moving a lot more responsibility back onto local governments, which has a lot less staffing to deal with the proposals.

It would require municipalities to details costs, including labor, if they intend to charge a citizen for access, and government agencies could not charge more than 10 cents a page for making copies and could not charge at all if the citizen just wants to look at the records or uses their own equipment to make copies on-site.

"I really think it's a problem that isn't a problem and doesn't need solving," Johnson said of the FOIA bill.

Heise said there is a "strong libertarian streak" in Lansing that is pushing this change, which is for almost hyper-transparency. He knows the difficulties of FOIAs, but said there are some bad actors in the state that have helped cause this bill to come about.

"I will continue to look at the (FOIA) bill. I'm very aware of some of the local concerns. I'm all for transparency, but we don't have a lot of the staff that we used to," Heise said of working to strike a balance.

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A line of Doheny's vactor trucks lined up outside their Northville facility.

DOHENY

Continued from Page A1

facilities around the country and recently expanded into Canada, where it largely serves the oil companies and their oilfields. Things are so good, the company is currently undergoing a major \$5 million expansion to its corporate headquarters on the outskirts of downtown Northville, where it has 140 employees

They sell a broad range of products, but their bread and butter are Vactor trucks, including the state-of-the-art Vactor 2100, which can hold up 12-yards of debris and 1,500 gallons of water. Nearly all of the municipalities in Southeast Michigan have purchased one of these vehicles from Doheny. With their vacuum and jet spray abilities, they are used primarily to clean out sewers. But they can also be used for other purposes, particularly to clean up hazardous material spills in waterways, at airports and along railways.

In fact, you will find Doheny's equipment at most major HAZMAT situations, including after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 when they were used to clean asbestos out of the air in New York City. When the Enbridge oil spill occurred in the Kalamazoo River back in 2010, Doheny had 40 trucks on site sucking the oil out of the river.

Their equipment is used in less hazardous situations as well. For example, Doheny says Disney World uses them to suck the change out of their fountains so the coins don't clog up their drains. Also, in Wyoming, they are used to pick up the corn that falls from the trains along the tracks so deer aren't drawn into harm's way. Farmers also use them to clean out their silos.

"There are literally a thousand applications



The Doheny corporate headquarters on the outskirts of downtown Northville is currently undergoing a major \$5 million expansion.

JACK DOHENY COMPANIES

- » **Founder/President:** Jack Doheny of Northville
- » **Address:** 777 Doheny Drive, Northville
- » **Founded:** 1973
- » **Business specialty:** World's largest sewer cleaning and maintenance equipment dealer organization, with some \$100 million in annual sales; operates multiple businesses
- » **Website:** www.doheny-supplies.com

for our products that have nothing to do with sewers," he said.

Good salesman

Doheny's rise in the business started shortly after he got out of the Air Force. He went to work for his uncle's company selling a snake-like product used by dairy farmers to clean out the traps on their milk basins.

"I was selling them all over North America," Doheny recalls.

After parting ways with his uncle, Doheny moved to Northville in the late 1960s and by the early 1970s was solely focused on selling sewer cleaning products.

Kay Doheny, Jack's daughter and executive vice president of the company, said his success was due to many factors, and timing certainly helped. But she said he was also a great salesman, who stood by his products.

"He's like the foundation we all live by," she said. "Everyone in our business measures

themselves against him. I think he has been successful, and in turn the company, because we do what we say. He's always done what he promised.

"Our phones ring 24 hours a day. Our contractors demand it. If you have a problem on Christmas Eve, we'll be there to help. That's the nature of this business," she said.

The company does about \$250 million in annual sales, which is a far cry from where Doheny started.

"My first year of sales was about \$44,000," he said.

What has really been driving the company's growth in recent years is the rental business. Disasters can strike at any time, and most contractors or municipalities don't have the money to purchase the expensive equipment for a one-time job.

"We have a fleet of 400-500 vehicles and they are rented in essentially every state in the union," Jack Doheny said. "Cities and different municipalities usually have their own machines, but in cases of emergency they need immediate help and they come to us."

Demand never stops

A lot of municipalities will also rent Doheny's Vactor trucks during the summer months to help with the regular maintenance of their sewer system. Not only are they forced to not pol-

lute their waterways, but there is also the threat of lawsuits from residents who have sewer backups in their basements.

"When I broke into this business the only time they cleaned out a sewer was when it was blocked up. That has really changed over the years. Cities do a much better job now, because they have to," he said.

On a positive note, Doheny said the regular maintenance to the sewer and storm drains has led to much cleaner rivers and creeks. He said the Rouge River, in particular, has really come back to life since the early 1970s, and he feels like his products have played a big part in that revival.

"It's not fair for one generation to spoil it for all other generations," he said.

Looking back on the last 40 years, Doheny says he was very fortunate to choose the business he did. He is amazed how the company and industry have grown and evolved. And after all these years, he still looks forward to going to work every day.

"I love it because every day is a new day, with a new challenge. You never know what's in store," he said. "This was the greatest business to get into. It's a necessity, there is demand, and it is government mandated. It's an exciting business."

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Cold air returns suck in dirty air, and over time it builds up until you have the same type of debris that you would find in your vacuum bag. Visit our website at www.americanpowervac.com for an actual photo of the debris that is pulled from a typical home.

Cold air returns are also the reason new homeowners are experiencing dust. While your drywall was being sanded, your cold air returns sucked all of the dust through the system and it settled on the bottom of the duct lines where a little at a time gets blown back into your home. To prove it, take a walk down into your basement, look up at the

ceiling for thin sheets of tin nailed between your floor joists. These are your cold air return lines. Give them a good pounding. You'll see puffs of dust seeping out of the edges. That my friends, is the reason you have uncontrollable dust problems!

This debris cannot be removed without a professional. Which brings me to my next point: choosing an airtight cleaning company. Most companies use portable units, which are like a shop vac that you would vacuum your car with, obviously absolutely useless. Then there are companies who claim they have a truck-mounted system. In reality, they have a low powered portable system attached inside a van, again, absolutely useless. Visit our website for photos of our equipment

vs. portable or truck mounted equipment at www.americanpowervac.com.



April and Keith Meadows help keep indoor air clean with their local business, American Power Vac.

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## Northville school board sets goals for 2014

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

It's a little later than usual, but Northville Public Schools have set goals for the 2013-2014 school year that should have an impact for years to come.

District officials say the main goal is "redefining" their "vision for flexible, learner-centered school communities that advance learning and leadership within every learner while fostering the skills and dispositions necessary for success."

Northville Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher intro-

duced the goals to the Board of Education on Dec. 10. The school board approved the six overall goals and detailed plans.

"We look forward to having a broad base in developing that vision for every learner in Northville. From our students at Cooke School, across our early childhood program into elementary, middle school and high school," Gallagher said of the first goal.

The next one is the development of a three to five year project plan aligned to the NPS vision, inclusive of the following considerations: setting the

context for change, strategic planning, implementation and advancement as a learning organization.

Gallagher said parents, students, staff and other community members will be asked to help with the plan.

Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services Bob Behnke introduced the third goal, which is to use data to drive instruction and program development to advance student learning. He said key strategies in doing this will include school improvement goals, instilling a culture of learning/leadership through

things like the "Leader in Me" program, improved curriculum design with a look toward customization of learning, review of instructional delivery and staff evaluations.

On the financial end of things, Assistant Superintendent for Finance/Operations Mike Zopf said the priority is developing a "general fund operating budget that supports a balanced cost structure for 2013-14 and 2014-15 or better, while maintaining a general fund balance that meets the district's target of 11 percent of current operating costs.

He said to do that the dis-

trict will need to do things like negotiate updated contracted service agreements and reduce energy costs. The district will also look to upgrade and improve district buildings and infrastructure.

And finally, but not least, the school district will work to enhance its communication and customer service throughout all levels. Leveraging student voices and others in the school improvement process will play a big part in this goal.

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## New instrumental group targets younger students

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

A new club in Northville presents a great opportunity for elementary and middle school age students to have fun while performing in a string instrumental group.

Playing instruments like the violin, viola and cello can have a lifetime impact that's positive with friendships and learning, according to club organizers.

The Northville Strings Students had its premier performance on Dec. 8 during the Mill Race Village Christmas celebration. The idea to establish this group came from two mothers, Melissa Hirn and Lynda Fulgenzi, who thought these students could use a homegrown opportunity to participate with this type of music. Both women play different musical instruments and have years of personal experience.

"Getting together as a group of friends and working as a team is always a great way to have fun, so the kids have really been drawn to that," said Hirn, whose two daughters are participating in the group that now has 10 kids between the two different groupings (beginners and advanced).

They started rehearsing this past fall for the Mill Race performance, which went well considering it was the first time for some of the kids. The women say surrounding communities offer instrumental opportunities for this age group, both in and out of school, but Northville hasn't. Although there is a great mu-



Sisters Anna (left) and Sara Hirn practice their instruments as part of the new club, the Northville Strings Students.

sic program in Northville schools, the string instruments are underrepresented, they say.

Northville Strings wants to change this and the best way to do that is show people what they can do.

The group will have more performances in the upcoming year with a big one coming up this summer during the Historical Society's anniversary celebration.


"It's a challenge learning to play and perform, but it's been

rewarding and I've made some new friends," said Hirn's daughter Anna, a seventh-grader at Hillside Middle School.

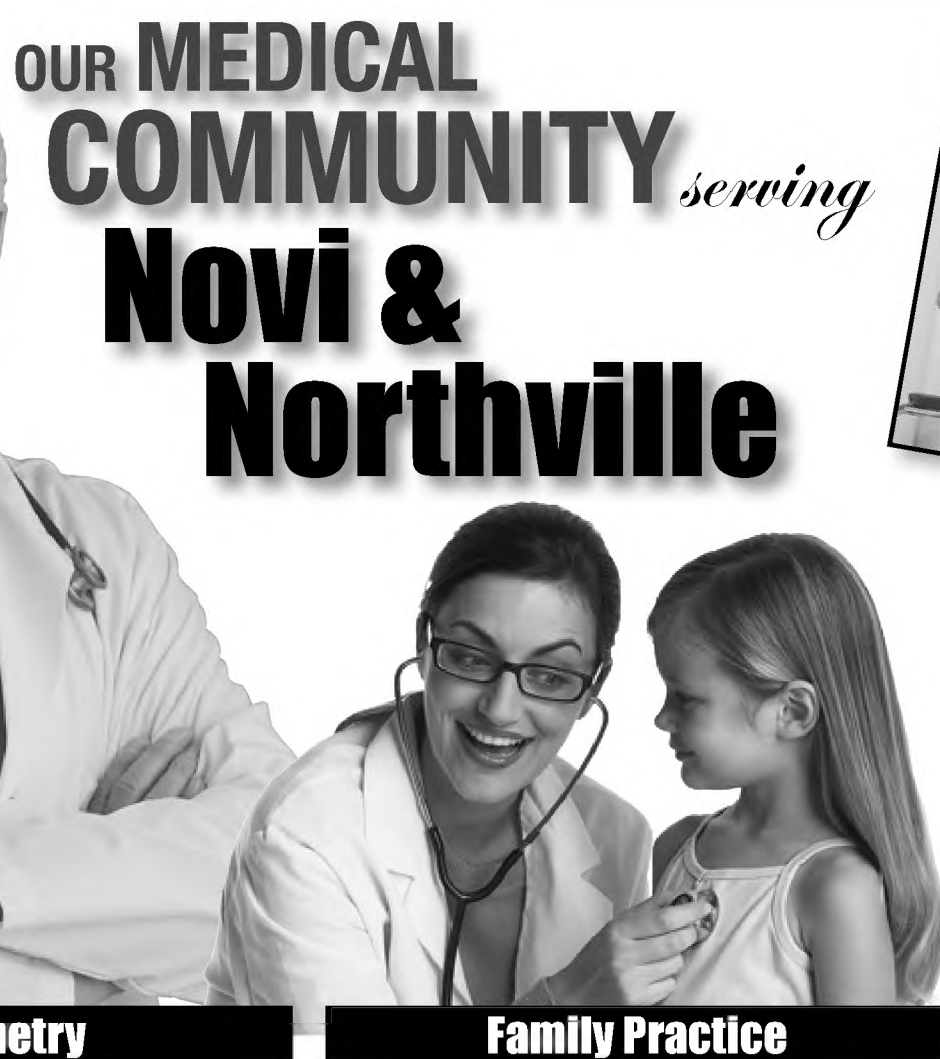
To learn more about joining the group or volunteer some help, check out its Facebook

page or email them at Music.Lynda@yahoo.com. They meet on Mondays and Thursdays.

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# Commuters prepare for I-96 shutdown

**Detours ahead: ‘Traffic artery’ reconstruction looms**

**By David Veselenak**  
Staff Writer

Plymouth Township resident Brian Doughty is no stranger to having a major freeway shut down and hinder his daily commute.

Doughty works in Southfield at a law office, and routinely takes I-96 to the Southfield Freeway to get to work. He had to do some creative commuting in 2011 when the Southfield Freeway was shut down for repairs through Detroit and Southfield, and he expects he'll do the same next year when I-96 is closed.

“It’s obviously disappointing,” he said. “You just find creative alternative routes. I can try to take I-275 to I-696. The traffic on there is the reason I take I-96.”

For Doughty and thousands of others who use the freeway on a regular basis, an alternate route to work will be the norm for most of 2014 as the Michigan Department of Transportation shuts down and reconstructs seven miles of the freeway from Telegraph in Redford to Newburgh in Livonia.

During that time, through traffic will be directed to several other freeways as a detour, which includes routes such as I-94, I-696, I-275, the Lodge Freeway and the Southfield Freeway. MDOT has also expanded the exit ramp to Six Mile from southbound I-275, adding an extra lane to accommodate the additional traffic expected to get off there.

While there has been some speculation as to when the freeway will shutdown, MDOT spokeswoman Diane Cross said no date has pegged as the start date and the state continues to finalize the contract with the low-bidding company. It will not take place until after the North American International Auto Show wraps up in Detroit.

“We truly do not have a closure date,” she said.

**More surface road traffic**

More traffic is expected on roads like Six Mile and Schoolcraft, which will be down to one lane at several stretches throughout the project.

Livonia resident Liam Neary drives the freeway several times a week to volunteer at the Redford Theatre in Detroit, as well as visit family in Redford.

He said he plans on using Six Mile frequently, but is open to using other roads as needed.

“I will have to use Six Mile east as my plan when the freeway closes in January,” he said. “I guess anywhere east that we have to travel will be by Five Mile or Six Mile roads.”

Westland resident Donna Seremak said it will be stressful during the closure, traveling alternate routes to her office at I-96 and Inkster.

“I will surely be losing my mind, ripping out my hair and definitely learning some new bad words,” she said. “We will all be going through a lot more gas during this time.”

**Majority wanted freeway shut**

MDOT took a survey asking commuters and area residents their thoughts on how best to handle the reconstruction. More than 1,700 people responded, with 56 percent saying they favored shutting the freeway down for a year to complete the work, rather than leaving part of it open and having the work last two to three years.

Not only are commuters preparing for the shutdown, but so are businesses located along



The ride home is about to get tougher for many commuters. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

the corridor. The Henry Ford Medical Center Livonia, located at I-96

and Middlebelt, has begun crafting a map for their patients and staff

members who need to get to the site.

With patients coming from all over the area, the map will be available to anyone coming to the center during the shutdown.

“We’re going to be sending out a map to that particular facility. That map also will be made available at the medical center in hard copy format,” said David Olejarz, a spokesman for the Henry Ford Medical Center. “If somebody were to call up and make an appointment, we’d be able to fax it to them or email it to them in a PDF.”

He said the medical center is encouraging patients to plan extra time to get to Livonia during the construction.

Doughty said he is already looking at alternate routes to get to work in Southfield next year.

While the shutdown is frustrating, he knows that once the road re-opens, it will be a smoother drive for everyone using it.

“I understand they’ve clearly got a job to do. It’s hard to take out a major traffic artery for an entire year,” he said. “They only did it because it was fairly necessary.”

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## Wayne County launches webApp for redesigned Compass

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and leadership in the departments of Public Services and Technology officially launched the new webApp for the redesigned Compass.

Downloading the webApp at [www.wayne-county.com](http://www.wayne-county.com), users can access Compass right

from their smart phones and tablets. County officials point out the new Compass and its webApp make driving smarter and safer in some of the following ways:

- » Pinpoints your exact location on the Compass map with the GPS function;
- » Shows the nearest

police station, towing service, gas station, auto repair business, hospital with addresses and phone numbers from your location;

- » Offers pop-up window — 888-ROAD CREW — to report road hazards like potholes and fallen trees;
- » Shows up-to-the-

minute road construction and accidents so drivers can avoid delays; and

- » Tracks storm systems using the weather radar, and more.

The all new Compass also works seamlessly with the 888 ROAD CREW (1-888-762-3273).

Drivers who see a pothole, downed tree

limb or other road hazard can pull over and report it in real time from their smart device using the ROAD CREW portal.

The information goes directly into the Wayne County Roads Division’s Cityworks dispatch system.

“We are very excited

about the webApp and the redesigned Compass,” Ficano said. “It’s a much better experience with improvements everywhere.”

Wayne County Compass earned a prestigious Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NA-Co) this year.

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Saturday, January 4, 2014 > > > 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Student Services offices

in the McDowell Center will be open Saturday, January 4, to help students make final preparations for the winter semester. This will include:

▶ Registration Center

▶ Student Financial Services (Financial Aid and Student Accounts)

▶ Academic Advising Services

▶ Counseling Services

▶ Testing Center

▶ Admissions and Welcome Center

Class start dates for Winter 2014

▶ 15-week, 1<sup>st</sup> 12-week, and 1<sup>st</sup> 7-week classes: Monday, January 6

▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> 12-week classes: Monday, January 27

▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> 7-week classes: Monday, March 10

▶ Last day to register for Open Entry/Open Exit Class: Thursday, February 27

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Guest of Honor: Caravaggio's *Saint Francis of Assisi in Ecstasy*, through January 12.

*Balance of Power: A Throne for an African Prince*, through March 16.

*Foto Europa: 1840 to Present*, through April 27.

General museum admission is free for residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

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# Crawfords give Novi a one-two punch at county, state levels

**By Cal Stone**  
Staff Writer

If you haven't noticed, Novi has been steadily building a reputation as a political powerhouse with locals using the city council as a springboard to higher offices in Lansing and Oakland County.

From former Speaker of the House Craig De-Roche to state Sen. (and former Rep.) Nancy Cassis to current state Rep. Hugh Crawford and his wife, Oakland County Commissioner Kathy Crawford, this city of 57,000 is making sure its voice is heard.

The Crawfords' situation is unique. The two Republicans will attempt to swap seats in the November 2014 general election: She'll try to go from commissioner of the county's 9th District to her husband's position as 38th District representative in Lansing and vice versa.

Hugh held Kathy's county seat prior to being elected state representative in 2008.

"It does seem a little odd," said Kathy, who is in the third year of her term. "It doesn't happen very often."

She decided to officially run for state rep several months ago when Hugh, who will be term-limited after serving three terms, told her: "You'd be so good at this."

His two-year term and her four-year term, which give the couple a combined salary of just over \$100,000, will be up at the end of 2014.

Although Hugh has not made an official announcement, he confirmed last week that he will be running for county commission again.

"A lot of people asked me to come back and run," he said, "and use my experience as a com-



State Rep. Hugh Crawford and Oakland County Commissioner Kathy Crawford hope to swap seats in the Nov. 4 election.

missioner and six years in Lansing. I'd like to run for Senate, but you've got this Kowall guy. I may be stupid, but I'm not dumb."

Hugh was referring to Mike Kowall, who is seeking re-election as the 15th District state senator, a four-year seat he won when Cassis was term-limited in 2010. If Kowall wins in November, he would then be term-limited from seeking that position again in 2018.

### Novi natives

Hugh and Kathy, both in their early 70s, were born and raised in Novi. They were both baptized at Novi Methodist Church and were married there 49 years ago. They have three grown children, Doug, Amy and Kelly, and two grandchildren, Alexis and Devin.

Kathy worked in Oakland County as a professional in the field of aging for more than 30 years and retired from the city of Novi in 2004 to launch her own business, Kathy Crawford Communications. She served on the Novi City Council for three years before being elected

county commissioner.

Hugh is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and a retired technician of Xerox Corp., where he worked for 20 years. He served eight years on the Oakland County Commission and was on the Novi City Council 15 years prior to that.

They both have extensive resumes of community involvement and service and neither has heard of anyone willing to challenge them in an August primary at this point.

"I would think they wouldn't, but they're both open seats," Kathy said. "Pretty much the people with the experience and name recognition aren't considering it. I talked to a number of people ahead of time and let them know I was going to do it."

With Novi containing more than half the population of the 38th District, "whoever would run would have to come from here," Hugh said.

That's even truer for the county commission seat. When Hugh held that, it included Wixom. It has since been redistricted and now is just Novi, Novi Township and the small portion of the

### CONSTITUENCIES

**Michigan House of Representatives 38th District:** Novi, city of Northville (Oakland County portion), Walled Lake, South Lyon and Lyon Township  
**Oakland County Commission 9th District:** Novi, Novi Township, city of Northville (Oakland County portion)

city of Northville that lies within Oakland County.

### Accomplishments

Although Hugh said there are still transportation issues to deal with this year, he cited many changes to education as just one of the accomplishments during his tenure at the Capitol. He'll have chaired the Regulatory Reform Committee for four years by the end of this year, too.

"We repealed and changed a lot of regulations that were not conducive to good business. As a matter of fact, they hurt business," he said. "I just had one passed a little while ago that increased discharge for sodium and potassium. It doesn't sound sexy and exciting, but businesses throughout my district in South Lyon couldn't do businesses because they were getting fined and had to adhere to unrealistic levels."

Hugh also serves on the committees for education, tourism and health policy.

As a commissioner, Kathy doesn't do a lot of policy and law work like Hugh. She has been serving as vice chair of the General Government Committee and is on the committee for finance and the retiree compensation board.

"I didn't know much about it," she said of the latter, "but it's been an incredible experience. You are responsible for all this money retirees have put in their pensions. It's an awesome responsibility that I take very serious."

Kathy also serves on the Community Development Advisory Board, which directs CDGB funds for the local area.

"A lot of things I'm doing are directly related to Novi," she said.

She's been instrumental in connecting the county's Senior Advisory Committee with other organizations and individuals, like Rachel Zagaroli who runs Novi's

senior center.

"I love to see the coordination between city and county," Kathy said. "A lot of times, what I do is look for ways there can be a trickle-down effect."

### Differences, similarities

Hugh said he'll feel no awkwardness in going back to being a county commissioner after being a state rep and said there are several who are in that capacity currently. Kowall's wife Eileen may try to do it as well, moving from her seat as the 44th District state representative to county commissioner of the 6th District.

"There are a lot of similarities," Hugh said, "but it's just the magnitude of state issues compared to the county's. At the county, you don't get into ordinances and resolutions and statutes. You're more of an overseer of departments and you approve budgets. In the state, you can have major impact on bills that get passed."

The number of people one works with is a major difference, Hugh said, noting that he deals with 109 other state representatives and 38 senators compared to 21 county commissioners.

The biggest difference? "The responsibility," he said. "There is a lot that we did in the state – and a lot more we need to do."

He did say that both as state rep and city councilman, he felt more of a connection and impact on individuals than at the county, where he functioned more as a liaison between services and issues his community faced.

"But they each do an awful lot," he said. "I do the job seriously. Most do; some don't."

He said his wife probably spends more time working as a commissioner than her colleagues or he did when he held that seat. But to be fair, Kathy said, many have full-time jobs and can't commit the same amount of time she can.

"I don't do anything half way," she said. "On the county level, I see so much possibility."

### Next step

The extent that either of the Crawfords campaigns depends on whether or not anyone decides to challenge

them.

Hugh said he wanted to wait until after the local elections a few months ago and the beginning of the new year to start cranking up the machine.

Kathy already has a state campaign fund and manager and began laying the groundwork 18 months ago. She's attended a few conferences on how to run a campaign and met with some organizations that have shared their concerns and wants.

"Kathy will have a bit of advantage with the people I know in Lansing – the department heads, lobbyists," Hugh said. "She's had the opportunity to attend events with me. I didn't quite have that. When DeRoche was the previous state rep, he was busy being speaker of the house. And a lot of people already know Kathy. Almost everybody knows she's running. People know me, but they love Kathy. Thank God I never had to run against her or I'd have lost in two seconds!"

She said she didn't think either one of them ever talked about wanting to be a politician. They were just always involved in local things and people kept saying, "You ought to run for ..."

"I was always happy doing whatever I was doing," Kathy said, "and I could see things were directly impacting people."

But the Crawfords feel that Novi and the surrounding area have not been given the attention and respect they deserve.

"I think we've both always felt this southwest corner of the county is the redheaded stepchild," Hugh said. "They don't realize it exists."

Kathy says she tried to make the county recognize it by presenting proclamations to students or formally recognizing the Novi Public Library when it received a state award or when *Family Circle* magazine named Novi as one of the top places in the country.

"That kind of PR helps," she said. "And now with the state fair, they can't ignore us any more. We really are a major part of the economic engine of the county."

*cstone@gannett.com*  
248-437-2911, ext. 237

## NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS PETER BASSO ASSOCIATES, INC Northville High School PBA Project No. 2013.0343.00 Chiller Replacement Issued for Bids December 18, 2013

SECTION- 00010 - ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

<b>Project:</b>	Northville Public Schools - Northville High School Chiller Replacement
<b>Owner:</b>	Northville Public Schools
<b>Scope of Proposals:</b>	Sealed proposals from Prime Mechanical Contractors for the construction of all Trades Construction Work are requested.
<b>Due Date and Place:</b>	A Walk-through will take place at 9:00 AM., on January 3, 2014 at Northville High School. All contractor or subcontractor representatives shall meet at the Front Reception Desk. The purpose of the walk-through is to clarify the procedures, scope of work, and to identify any omissions or inconsistencies in Bidding Documents which may impede preparation and submission of representative competitive bids. Meet at the Boiler Room.  Attendance by Representatives(s) of bidders of record is mandatory.  Any contractor who missed previous walk-through must contact Bob Roop by 10:00 AM, on January 6, 2014 to arrange a time to visit project site on January 7, 2013. Contact Bob Roop at the following phone number (248) 879-5666 or email rroop@phanet.com.  All contractors have until 3:00 P.M on January 7, 2013 to submit a Request For Information (RFI). All RFI's shall be directed to Bob Roop.

All modifications, corrections, or clarifications prior to receipt of the proposal will be made by an Addendum issued by the Owner to all bidders of record.

Sealed proposals shall be received until 10:00 AM on January 10, 2014 at:

ATIN Michael Zopf, Administration Building  
Northville Public Schools  
501 West Main Street  
Northville, MI 48167

At which time all bids will be opened and read out loud.

Post Bid interviews will be conducted beginning at 11:00 AM, on January 10, 2014. Contractors shall make provisions for attendance as a condition of submission of their Bid.

All proposals submitted shall remain firm for a period of 45 days after the date specified for receipt of proposals.

**Bid Documents:** Copies of the proposed Contract Documents may be obtained from: Northville Public Schools, under the Business Office, Bid Information Tab: <http://northville.k12.mi.us>

PlanWell via <http://www.e-arc.com/> (formerly dunnblue), Phone: (248) 288-5600

Bid4Michigan via <http://bid4michigan.com>

**Rejection:** Proposals not received by the time and date specified in this notice, will be returned to the Bidder unopened. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive irregularities and/or informalities and to make award in any manner deemed for the best interest of the School District.

**Assurance:** Assurance of Compliance with Federal and Michigan State Fair Employment Practices Acts: The Bidder and any of his subcontractors will agree not to discriminate against any employee of applicant for employment, to be employed in the performance of the contract, with respect to his hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of employment, or any matter directly or indirectly related to employment, because of race, color, religion, national origin, age or sex.

END OF SECTION 00010

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

00010-1

## SYNOPSIS DECEMBER 19, 2013 - REGULAR MEETING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

<b>DATE:</b>	Thursday, December 19, 2013
<b>TIME:</b>	7:30 p.m.
<b>PLACE:</b>	44405 Six Mile Road
<b>CALL TO ORDER:</b>	Supervisor Nix called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Robert R. Nix II, Supervisor Marv Gans, Trustee Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk Symantha Heath, Trustee Marjorie F. Banner, Treasurer Mindy Herrmann, Trustee Fred Shadko, Trustee

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

- Agendas:**
  - Approve the Regular Agenda and the Consent Agenda items: - **Approved**
  - Minutes – Board of Trustees Regular Meeting of November 21, 2013
  - 2013 Final Budget Amendment
  - Financial Institutions for 2014
  - 2014 Holiday Schedule
  - 2014 BOT Meeting Dates
  - M.E.R.S. Amendments
- Appointments, Presentations, Resolutions & Announcements:**
  - Employee Years of Service Recognition - Receive & File
  - Michael Savant – Reappointment to Board of Review - Approved
  - Michael Williamson – Reappointment to Board of Review - Approved
  - Douglas Wesley – Reappointment to Board of Review - Approved
  - Paul Ghraib – Reappointment to Board of Review - Approved
  - Joyce Whelan – Reappointment to Board of Review - Approved
  - Joe LoPiccolo – Reappointment to Board of Review - Approved
  - Walter Pytlak – Reappointment to Board of Review - Approved
  - Brad Barton – Reappointment to Board of Review - Approved
  - Ken Romine – Reappointment to Northville Youth Assistance - Approved
  - Election Commission Appointments - Approved
- Public Hearing:** Public Hearings Opened & Closed
  - Industrial Development District #9 - Approved
  - Tax Abatement – Aisin World Corporation of America - Approved
  - Tax Abatement – Aisin Technical Center of America, Inc. - Approved
- Brief Public Comments: None**
- New Business:**
  - 2014 Water & Sewer Rates - Approved
  - Sanitary Sewer Lift Station Improvements – Payment #6 - Approved
  - Consultant Retainer Fee Policy - Tabled
- Unfinished Business: None**
- Ordinances: None**
- Check Registry:** In the amount of \$5,101,945.88 - Approved
- Board Communication & Reports from the following:** Robert R. Nix, II, Sue Hillebrand, Marjorie Banner, Marv Gans, Symantha Heath, Mindy Herrmann, Fred Shadko, Chip Snider and John Werth.
- Any other business for the Board of Trustees:**
  - CLOSED SESSION:** Motion to enter into Closed Session as permitted under the Michigan Open Meetings Act (PA 267) of 1976 or MCL 15.268, Section 8, (c), for strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement if either party requests a closed hearing – Approved.

Closed Session began at 8:45 p.m. and ended at 9:50 p.m.

- Decision from Closed Session** – Motion to approve the COAM/POAM Tentative Union Agreement - Approved

- ADJOURN:** With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:52 p.m. A complete copy of the draft minutes will be available December 31, 2013.

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



# Strong women stick up for strong dogs

Keep track of 2014  
with calendar  
benefiting bully  
breed rescue

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

John Goci has been a life-long animal lover. Even as a youngster in Kosovo, he once rescued a dog from a river after bullies threw it into the cold water.

“Sometimes you can’t change the world, but you can help make a difference,” explained Goci, a Westland resident, school board member and owner of US 12 Bar and Grill in Wayne.

He applied that same philosophy to a fundraiser he’s leading for the Detroit Bully Corps, (DBC) an animal welfare organization that rescues and rehabilitates bully breed dogs, often from the streets of Detroit. Bully breeds include such dogs as the American pit bull terrier, American Staffordshire terrier, boxer, rottweiler, bulldog and mastiff.

“The Bully Corps mission resonates with my own personal mission,” said Goci, who decided to create and sell a 2014 calendar for the nonprofit. “I’d like to raise \$10,000 for them and once the calendar is printed, it will have a life of its own. We’re going to build it and let the people decide.”

Each page in the calendar, which is titled “Strong Women, Strong Dogs,” shows a model with one or more bully breed dogs. Photojournalist Perry Rech of Ann Arbor came up with the theme and shot the photos at Ponyride, a warehouse-turned-business space in Detroit’s Corktown neighborhood. The cover shot, featuring

several DBC dogs and a model, will be photographed this week at the Yankee Air Museum at Willow Run Airport, giving a nod to the iconic Rosie the Riveter. Instead of holding a rivet gun in her hands, the model will carry a pit bull puppy. Rech of Palanimages.com, whose work has appeared in *National Geographic* and other publications, is donating his time to the project.

**Benefiting bully breeds**

Rech said the project took root after a model asked Goci if he’d be willing to sponsor a bikini competition. Goci considered creating a calendar along with a contest, but wanted to benefit a local nonprofit. He chose DBC, which held a fundraiser at his bar the previous year.

“They get a bad rap, the bully breed,” Goci said. “But there are bad people out there not taking care of their responsibilities as pet owners. We wanted to help these people (DBC) who are on a mission and help the stray dog problem.”

Goci contacted Rech, who suggested dropping the bikini idea in favor of confident-looking women — reminiscent of classic pin up art — and bully breed dogs.

Goci held a competition for prospective calendar models every Thursday night for 12 weeks, including on Thanksgiving Day. A judging panel with representatives from DBC, chose one winner each week. Sponsors kicked in weekly \$100 cash prizes, as well as a vacation trip to Hawaii for the grand prize winner, who will be featured on the cover.

Although recent snow and ice storms delayed some photography sessions, Goci and Rech say

the calendar will be in print early next month. Goci has taken some orders online at [us12barandgrill.com](http://us12barandgrill.com) and will have hard copies available at his establishment.

“The calendar is shaping up to be something classy and unique ... I think this is going to be a one-of-a-kind,” Goci said.

**About DBC**

The calendar also will include information about bully breeds and the DBC’s work in metro Detroit.

“The foundation of our mission is education, whether it’s education about breed-specific legislation, spay and neuter, proper nutrition, dog handling, obedience or the dog-fighting culture,” said Michelle Spranger, a DBC board member and a Southfield resident.

Bill and Missi Bellottie, who founded DBC in 2011, ran a dog rescue in Texas before moving to Michigan to be closer to family. They lived in Oak Park and leased a kennel in Ann Arbor for the rescued dogs, which are socialized and trained in obedience before being offered for adoption. The couple and the organization’s 41 rescued dogs recently moved to a home in Lapeer that has living quarters for the Bellotties and the dogs. The pack includes pit bull puppies that DBC rescued after volunteers saw a posting on Craigslist for the dogs, that were just 18 hours old.

Spranger began volunteering with DBC last year when the organization took on two starving pit bull terriers from a home in Sterling Heights. One of the dogs died, but the other, named Shiner, survived and now lives with the Bellotties.

“He has his Canine Good Citizenship. We’ve taken him to tons of



All proceeds from the “Strong Women, Strong Dogs” calendar will benefit Detroit Bully Corps.



Images in the “Strong Women, Strong Dogs” calendar give a nod to classic pin up art of the 1940s and 50s.

events to show that with proper handling and care (pit bulls) can be a great dog,” she said. “He’s a great ambassador for Detroit Bully Corps.”

For more information about DBC visit [DBCdog-s.org](http://DBCdog-s.org).



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## Start 2014 with a personal balance sheet

**H**appy New Year! I thank all readers for the opportunity to answer your questions and help you make better decisions with your money. It's a privilege and honor.

As we enter 2014 I have no doubt that – just like last year – this year will bring uncertainties, twists and turns and ups and downs. In other words, 2014 should be another interesting year.

A new year gives consumers an opportunity to review personal finances and try to do better than the previous year.

There are a few relatively simple steps that people can take to better their situation from a personal financial standpoint. The best way is to make a personal family balance sheet, which is nothing more than a listing of all assets and liabilities. This is important because it allows you to compare where you were a year ago so and determine if you are moving in the right direction.

As a general rule, I recommend a personal family balance sheet be done twice a year.

When outlining a personal family balance sheet pay attention to liabilities. Know the interest rates you pay and whether they are tax deductible.

### Don't overvalue assets

In listing assets, it is important to value them fairly. For example, your home should be valued not by what you



**Rick Bloom**  
MONEY MATTERS

think it is worth but rather, what other homes in the area are selling for.

In addition, for items such as collectibles, the value is what you can sell them for, not what you hope they are worth. In other words, when it comes to assets do not overvalue them because the only person you are fooling is yourself.

This time of year it's also important to get a handle on what it costs you to live a month. Once again, this is a number that you should calculate at least twice a year and compare it to past years. It allows you to determine your personal increased cost of living.

The government may report what inflation is for the country, but that has nothing to do with you and me. If we calculate our cost-of-living and compare it to previous years, then we know what our own individual inflation rate is and that is a relevant number.

I wish you and yours a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

Good luck.

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like him to respond to your questions, email [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).



Dr. Mohammed Arsiwala is president and medical director of Michigan Urgent Care.

## Alternative to emergency room

### Northville doctor leading urgent care in Michigan

**By Lonnie Huhman**  
Staff Writer

Dr. Mohammed Arsiwala of Northville believes the most important thing a doctor can do for a patient is listen and be compassionate.

These beliefs have helped him become the community doctor for many in the metro Detroit area.

"You have to listen carefully and provide compassion during what typically is a challenging moment," Arsiwala said while sitting in his office at Urgent Care of Novi.

This caring touch has helped him succeed in his role as president and medical director of Michigan Urgent Care, which was founded in 1999. He's invested a lot of time and care in heading up 10 Urgent Care centers in Livingston, Oakland, Wayne, Washtenaw and Monroe counties. This success has led to his appointment as the current president of the Wayne County Medical Society and Urgent Care Association of Michigan.

He moved to the U.S. from India in 1993 and now lives in Northville, raising two sons, Akbar

and Mohsin. Akbar attends the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis and Mohsin is in high school.

Arsiwala practices at Urgent Care locations across the area, including centers in Novi, Livonia, Grosse Pointe Woods, Ann Arbor and Canton. The latest opening was in Waterford. After a residency at Wayne State Detroit Medical Center, as well as time at the Urgent Care at St. John Providence Hospital, he took over the state Urgent Care leadership in 2008.

These urgent care medical centers can treat things like cuts, burns, broken bones, sprains, sore throats and respiratory illnesses, as well as chest pains and urinary tract infections. The urgent care staffs are made up of board-certified physicians and physician assistants.

He said the care is provided with a 30-minute guarantee to all ages, all medical illnesses and all accidents/injuries/sports/physicals.

They're not primary care centers, but they are what their name means – urgent care clinics.

"Urgent care is a bridge between a doctor's office and an emergency room," he said. "People can get quality care at a lower price at

lower co-pays than at an emergency room."

About 35 percent of his patients are pediatric and the rest adults.

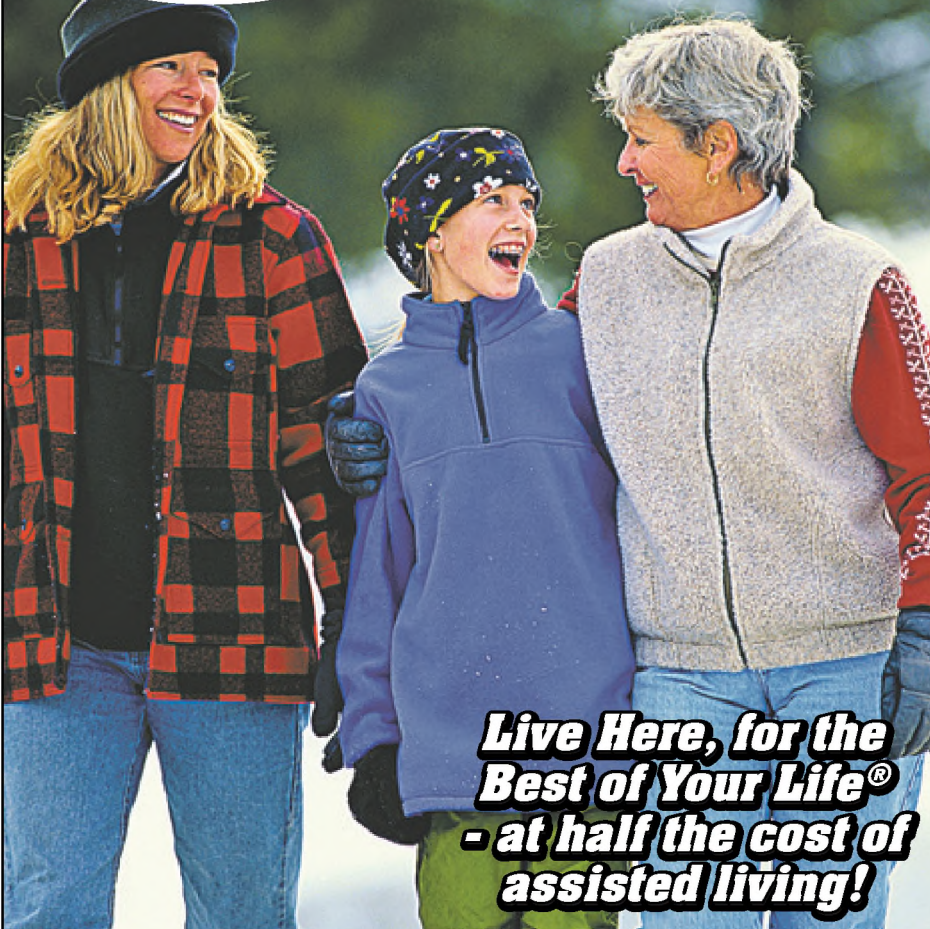

"Because of health insurance expansion and the need to lower costs, urgent care centers will be an important bridge between patient and primary care providers. Urgent care centers provide comprehensive medical services when primary care providers are not available and emergency room use is not appropriate," he said.

He said they haven't seen the influx of people sign up for affordable health care that was expected, at least not yet. But he expects urgent cares to play a big part in accommodating new patients.

His team will be looking to expand into new locations Downriver and into Macomb and Oakland counties. For him, opening up new centers is a just natural progression for an important option that serves people looking for good health care.

"At the end of the day it's about the healing process and it starts when that person walks through our doors," he said.

[lhuhman@hometownlife.com](mailto:lhuhman@hometownlife.com)  
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### 'Dance Moms Miami' choreographers to visit



Performers Edge Dance Company in downtown Northville will be hosting a master dance class and a meet and greet with Angel Armas and Victor Smalley, the choreographers from Dance Moms Miami, from 9 a.m. to noon, Sunday, Jan. 12. The dance studio is located at 133 W. Main in Northville Square. The class costs \$75, and space is limited. To reserve a spot, call 248-349-1111.



## Holiday crafts at the library



Hainalka Kiss works with her daughter Isabella, 5, on a holiday crafts project on Dec. 18 at the Northville District Library. Kids could work on a variety of projects, including a penguin door hanger. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

### COMMUNITY BRIEFS



“Reality Wavers” by Jan Brown

#### Art House exhibit

The Northville Art House, located at 215 W. Cady Street, will present a new exhibit, “Altered Perceptions” the work of Jan Brown, during the month of January.

A life-long artist, Jan Brown began her journey into abstract expressionism three years ago. According to exhibit organizers, her paintings force viewers to alter their perceptions on how a painting can move them, how pre-conceived ideas can change, and how color, line and shapes can cause reactions that sometimes force people out of their comfort zones.

The show opens First Friday, Jan. 3, and continues through Feb. 1 during regular gallery hours, Wednesday through Saturday, 1-5 p.m. There is an opening reception from 6-9 p.m. on Jan. 3.

For more information, call 248-344-0497 or find the Northville Art House on Facebook. The Art House is a facility of the City of Northville.

#### Blood drives

The American Red Cross is holding several local blood drives in the coming weeks. Here's the schedule:

- » Jan. 2 from 1-6:45 p.m. at the Novi Public Library, 45255 W. 10 Mile
  - » Jan. 15 from 2:30-8:15 p.m. at Meads Middle School, 16700 Franklin Road
  - » Jan. 25 from 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. at Amerman Elementary School, 847 North Central
  - » Jan. 26 from 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. at Our Lady of Victory Church, 133 Orchard Drive
  - » Jan. 27 from 2:30-8:15 p.m. at RidgeWood Elementary School, 49774 Six Mile Road
- Donors can set up an appointment by contacting Diane at 313-549-7052 or Diane.Risko@red-cross.org.
- Donating blood is particularly important during winter months. Every two seconds, there is someone in the U.S. who needs blood.

#### Emergency food available

The next distribution of emergency food by

Plymouth Community United Way is scheduled Thursday, Jan. 16. 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 a.m. to 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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Brightmoor Christian Church

**Location:** M-5 and 13 Mile, Novi  
**Contact:** 248-227-4420 or [www.brightmoorchurch.org](http://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 [holyfamilynovi.org](http://holyfamilynovi.org)

Mass Schedule

**Time/Day:** 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Friday; 7 p.m. Monday-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](http://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 result-

ing 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](http://www.DW3C.org).

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

**Location:** 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia  
**Web:** [www.emmanuel-livonia.org](http://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"

**Christmas Eve:** worship, candle lighting and Holy Communion at 5 (family worship), 7 and 11 p.m.

Faith Community Presbyterian Church

**Location:** 44400 W. 10 Mile  
**Contact:** 248-349-2345 or visit [www.faithcommunity-novi.org](http://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](http://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. Café 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](http://www.fpcnorthville.org)  
**Sunday Worship:** 10 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church

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

First Presbyterian Church

**Location:** 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington  
**Tri County Celiac Support Group General Meeting**  
**Details:** The next TCCSG general meeting will be held on Jan. 6; doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting begins 7. Steven Fisher, clinical psychologist, will speak on "This is harder than I thought: Coping with the psychological aspects of eliminating gluten."

First United Methodist Church of Northville

**Location:** 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington  
**Tri County Celiac Support Group General Meeting**  
**Details:** The next TCCSG general meeting will be held on Jan. 6; doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting begins 7. Steven Fisher, clinical psychologist, will speak on "This is harder than I thought: Coping with the psychological aspects of eliminating gluten."

The renovation of the entrance includes removing the existing canopy and rebuilding to extend over the entire patient drop-off area. The new canopy will include additional lighting, heating and identification signs to ensure patient and visitor safety. The design of the North Canopy will provide a contemporary update to the North Entrance and match the look of the new Emergency Entrance at the South Wing.

This phase of the project also includes new landscaping at the North Entrance - at both the Five Mile and Levan Road entrances- as well as creating additional visitor parking spaces, which could start as soon as Spring 2014.

Room renovations

In addition to getting a new look on the outside, the North Wing's patient rooms are also being completely renovated, working from the top

**Location:** 777 W. Eight Mile, Northville  
**Contact:** 248-349-1144 or [www.fumcnorthville.org](http://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](mailto:holycrossnovi@gmail.com); visit [holyCROSSnovi.org](http://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.

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](http://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](http://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

GET LISTED!

**Submit:** Send calendar submissions via email to [cstone@gannett.com](mailto: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.

**Nine Mile**  
**Contact:** the Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, senior minister, 248-348-7757, visit [mbccc.org](http://mbccc.org) or e-mail to [office@mbccc.org](mailto: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

Northville Christian Assembly

**Location:** 41355 Six Mile  
**Contact:** 248-348-9030; [ncalife.org](http://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 Avrohom & Leah Susskind at 248-790-6075 or [rabbi@novijewishcenter.com](http://rabbi@novijewishcenter.com); [www.novijewishcenter.com](http://www.novijewishcenter.com)

Novi United Methodist Church

**Location:** 41671 W. 10 Mile  
**Contact:** 248-349-2652 or visit [umcnovi.com](http://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.

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



BAKER, CRAIG WILSON

Passed away on December 21, 2013. Born on January 30th, 1945, Craig was a lifetime resident of Milford. Following graduation from Milford High School in 1963, Craig attended Ferris State University. He was drafted into the United States Army, where he served in Germany, and was selected to play football, as well as, box. Following his time in the Army, he played semi-professional football in California. Craig then embarked on a career with General Motors that would last 30 years, where he worked as a floor supervisor. During this time he also raised his daughter Brooke, as a single father. He generously gave his time to activities in which she was involved, such as, Girl Scouts, Milford Band Parents, and being an awesome father in general. When his career with General Motors came to a close, he retired to police the corner of Detroit Street and Union full time. These duties included, volunteer parking cop during Milford Memories, snow removal, and last but not least, squirrel patrol. When not monitoring the goings-on at 209 Detroit Street, Craig gave his time to the Oak Grove Cemetery Committee and the Milford Historical Society. He enjoyed golfing, fishing in Spider Lake, a comfortable LA-Z-Boy, and the History Channel. Craig is survived by his sister, Barbara Baker Blanden (husband David), his beloved dog Willie, and his daughter Brooke Baker Monteith (husband Chad), and two grandchildren, Matthew and Madelyn. A memorial service will be held at Coratti's of Milford, Tuesday, December 24th, 2013 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers please send donations to the Milford Historical Society. Share memories at [www.temrowskifamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.temrowskifamilyfuneralhome.com)

**GOW, ALFRED "BUD" J., JR.**  
83, born on June 12, 1930 in Novi, Michigan, passed on December 27, 2013 in Milford, Michigan. Loving husband of the late Barbara Gow. Beloved father of Michael (Diane) Gow, Craig (Christy) Gow, and Scott (Kim) Gow. Cherished grandfather of eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Dear brother of Thelma Marr and Joan Robb. Family will receive friends on Monday, December 30, 2013, at the Highland Chapel of the Elton Black & Son Funeral Home, 3295 East Highland Road, Highland, Michigan 48356, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Memorials appreciated to the Alzheimer's Association. Please visit [www.eltonblackandsonhighland.com](http://www.eltonblackandsonhighland.com).

Elton Black & Son Funeral Home



**HAMILL, TREVA P.**  
Age 84 of Hartland, passed away on Friday, December 27, 2013. She is survived by her loving husband Robert of 65 years; her children Tom (Mary), Rick (Chris) Robin, Jane (Jeff) Harnack, her grandchildren Travis and Lauren and her great-grandson Nickodaemos. Treva worked for many years as a baker for Huron Valley School District. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the Michigan Eye Bank. Please visit [eltonblackandsonhighland.com](http://eltonblackandsonhighland.com)

LEMERY, MARGARET J.

Passed away in the care of her family December 27, 2013 at the age of 88. Margaret was preceded in death by her grandsons Jimmy Hoots and Andy McDonough and her brother Sydney A. (Irene) Wells. In addition to Leo L. Lemery, Sr., her beloved husband of 67 years, Margaret was survived by her children, Ann (James) Clarke, Julia (James) Earnshaw, and Leo L. (Kathy McDonough-Lemery) Lemery, Jr.; grandchildren, Debbie, Dee Dee, Stormy, Ben, Molly, and Michael; great-grandchildren Adam, Dan, Gordon, Jack, Tom, Anthony, Krystin, Mikey, Astrid, Joshua, Aubrie, Ronan, and Keegan. A Memorial Service was held at Hickory Ridge Community Church, 1360 N. Hickory Ridge Trails, Milford on December 31, 2103. The Rev. Rich La Belle officiated. Memorial contributions encouraged to Salvation Army. For further information, phone Lynch & Sons, Milford at 248.684.6645 or visit [www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com).

LIDDELL, THOMAS J.

Age 85, of Northville, passed away December 19, 2013. Online condolences at [www.casterlinefuneralhome.com](http://www.casterlinefuneralhome.com)

McCARROLL, CAROLE F.

Age 72, of Northville, passed away December 25, 2013. Online condolences at [www.casterlinefuneralhome.com](http://www.casterlinefuneralhome.com)

MICHALEK, MARY A. "MICKEY"

Age 93, passed away December 20, 2013. She was born on May 22, 1920, in Detroit, the youngest of eight children to Polish immigrants, Michael and Agnes Michalek. She had a servant's heart and always lived to love those around her. She was a kind, gentle example of a beautiful person. Visitation was held Sunday, December 22 at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. A funeral Mass was celebrated on Monday, December 23 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon. Online guestbook at [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)



MOULE, CARLENE HEGLE

Age 72 and a resident of Milford, died at her home on December 21, 2013. She was preceded in death by her mother, Donelda "Dee" Hegle on December 11, 2013, and a brother, Phil (Ellen Hegle-Jacobson) Hegle. She is survived by her daughters, Theresa (Scott) Bisque and Tamara (Steve) Rollins; her son, James Moule; grandchildren, Kristen Bisque, Stephen and Michelle Rollins, Samantha and Adam Moule; her father, Carl Hegle; sisters, Sandy (Fred) Suttle and Kimberly Pence; brother, Greg (Sandi) Hegle and many nieces, nephews, and dear friends. Carlene enjoyed working for United Airlines for over thirty-eight years. A Celebration of Carlene and Donelda's lives will be held at the Milford American Legion Hall, 510 W. Commerce St., Milford, on Saturday, January 18, 2014 at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Scleroderma Fund, 300 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923. For further information please contact Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, Milford, 248-684-6645 or visit [LynchFuneralDirectors.com](http://LynchFuneralDirectors.com)



RITTNER, GLEN KEITH

63, formally of Toledo and Dayton, Ohio, passed away on December 20, 2013 at his home, surrounded by his girls, after over a decade of courage battling renal cancer. He was born in Dayton, OH on December 30, 1949, the son of Stuart and Pearl Rittner. Glen attended Meadowdale High School, Bowling Green University (Undergraduate), and University of Toledo (Graduate), where he met his wife of 40 years, Carolyn. Glen spent his working career traveling the world as a global account sales manager in the automotive industry. He was a passionate golfer, trivia enthusiast, sports fanatic, but most importantly, adoring husband, father, brother, and friend. He was preceded in death by his father and mother Stuart and Pearl (Losikoff) Rittner; brother and sister-in-law Kenneth and Marilyn (Kahn) Rittner; and mother-in-law and father-in-law Edward and Dorothy (Downey) Mohler. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn (Mohler) Rittner; daughters Sarah and Rebecca Rittner (and Sunny, too); sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law Martin and Terri Mohler, Dr. Bobby and Joan Austin, Claire Mohler, Elizabeth Mohler, Edward and Pamela Mohler, Christopher and Margaret Buck, Steven and Melissa Mohler, and Willow Rittner; cousins Alan and Beverly Rittner, Stewart, Robbin, and Kelly Heir, David and Becky Rittner, and Akash and Jessica Sharma; twenty-two nieces and nephews, and nine great-nieces and nephews. A memorial service will be held Friday, January 3, 2014 at 11 a.m. at Bay Pointe Golf Club at 4001 Haggerty Rd., West Bloomfield, MI. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Karmanos Janet Lynn Ripper Fund, Angela Hospice, and Gilda's Club Chicago. A special thanks to Griswold Home Care and Angela Hospice for their tenderness and care. Online sympathy messages at [www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com).



WANGEMAN, DAVID M.

Age 50, of Northville, passed away December 29, 2013. [www.casterlinefuneralhome.com](http://www.casterlinefuneralhome.com)

**Let others know...**  
When you have lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages", a directory located in every edition of your Hometown newspaper.  
Call: 800-579-7355  
Fax: 313-496-4968  
Email: [htwobits@hometownlife.com](mailto:htwobits@hometownlife.com)  
OBSERVER & EXETER MEDIA



Identity theft

A Northville woman had her identity stolen and used by an unknown person, who charged up nearly \$400 in fees to Dish Network under her name.

The woman went to Northville City Police on Dec. 22 to report the theft of personal information after she was contacted by a collection agency. She was told by the Federal Trade Commission she would need to file a police report to help remedy the situation. Unsure of how the suspect got her information, the woman told

POLICE BRIEFS

police the suspect had a \$379 past due amount in an account under her name.

Stolen instruments

A Plymouth man had his guitar and harmonica stolen from his vehicle while it was parked at the Treetop Apartments on Novi Road.

The Northville City Police investigated the incident on Dec. 18. The vehicle was unlocked and the instruments were inside their cases.

Marijuana possession

A Brighton man was cited for marijuana

possession after police found him and three others parked at the First Baptist Church in downtown Northville.

The police were called to the location on a report of the men sitting inside a Jeep and talking loudly while parked in the lot. Upon making contact with the individuals, the police officers reported smelling marijuana inside the vehicle.

They later found a jar of marijuana and joint inside the center console. The 22-year-old driver was detained while the other three were released at the scene.

LIBRARY LINES

The Northville District Library is located at 212 W. Cady Street. For more information call 248-349-3020 or visit northvillelibrary.org.

The library will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 31 and Wednesday, Jan. 1 for the New Year holiday.

Upcoming events include:

» Affordable Care Act Workshops

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 6 and 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 13

**Details:** This free workshop is a detailed, visual program about how the ACA works. Get assistance about how to sign up for health care. Call to register 248-349-3020.

» Investor Education: Setting & Achieving Your Goals

**Time/Date:** 7 pm Wednesday, Jan. 8

**Details:** Examine your financial goals and how to achieve them. This is Part 1 of the Michigan Investor Education Program: A Control Freak's Checklist. Part 2 is Feb. 5. Call to register.

Win a prize for best holiday photograph

Upload your favorite holiday photo for a chance to win a \$25 gift card to a department store.

Upload a photo of your house in lights, a visit with Santa, your child opening a present or anything else related to the holidays. Ask Facebook friends to vote for your entry and see who comes out on top.

The contest ends Jan. 3 and the photo with the most votes wins the gift card.

Enter the contest and vote for your favorite photos at <http://woobox.com/uma8ba>

Your Invitation to

Worship

Brighton

**HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
[www.hseroc.net](http://www.hseroc.net)  
at the corner of Winans Lake & Musch Rd.  
810-231-9199  
*Fr. John Rocus, Pastor*  
Weekend Liturgies Saturday 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.  
Please visit our Stroud of Turin Display and Book & Gift Shop

Milford

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Preschool, Pre-K & Kdg. - Mo. Synod  
620 General Motors Rd., Milford  
Church office: (248) 684-0895  
  
Sunday Services: 8:30 am & 11am  
Bible Study & Sunday School @ 9:45 am  
*Rev. Martin Dressler*  
L.O. 0000165126

Novi

**BRIGHTMOOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
40800 W. 13 Mile Road, Novi  
on the corner of M-5 & W 13  
Sundays 9:15a & 11:15a  
[www.brightmoorc.org](http://www.brightmoorc.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](http://www.holyfamilynovi.org)  
L.O. 0000165131

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](http://www.cpcnow.com)  
L.O. 0000165140

**FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD**  
VISITORS WELCOME!  
133 Detroit St., Milford • 248-684-5695  
*Pastor Steve Swayze*  
Sunday School (all ages) 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.  
Young Adults Dinner/Bible Study, Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesdays, 6:45-8:15 p.m.  
Awana beginning Sept. 11, 3 yrs old thru 6th grade  
and Youth Group for 7th grade and older  
Website: [milfordbaptist.org](http://milfordbaptist.org)  
L.O. 0000165162

**FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
44400 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-349-2345  
1/2 mile west of Novi Rd.  
[www.faithcommunity-novi.org](http://www.faithcommunity-novi.org)  
**WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10 AM**  
"Children, Youth and Adult Ministries"  
L.O. 0000165143

**HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL**  
40700 W. Ten Mile Rd. • 248-427-1175  
Sunday Worship 7:45 am & 10 am  
Healing Service Wednesday 11:45 am  
*Rev. Ann Webber, Rector*  
[holycrossnovi@gmail.com](mailto:holycrossnovi@gmail.com)  
L.O. 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  
[www.milfordpc.org](http://www.milfordpc.org)  
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School ages 3 thru 5th grade @ 10 a.m.  
Youth Group 10 am - Grades 6-12  
A heritage of area worship since 1836  
L.O. 0000165167

**MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
21355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 1/2 Mile  
248-348-7757 • [www.mbcc.org](http://www.mbcc.org)  
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.  
*Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister*  
L.O. 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](http://www.oakpointe.org)  
L.O. 0000165193

Highland

**HIGHLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
680 W. Livingston Rd. • Highland, MI 48357  
248.887.1311 • [www.myhumc.com](http://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.  
L.O. 0000165171

**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**  
[L.O.-0000165198.milfordumc.net](http://L.O.-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.  
*Msrgr John Kasza, Pastor*  
Parish Office: 347-7778  
L.O. 0000165209

**NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
41671 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 48375  
Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m.  
*Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor*  
248-348-2652  
[www.umn-novi.com](http://www.umn-novi.com)  
"Loving God, loving each other and living our core values"  
L.O. 0000165201

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](http://www.fpcsouthlyon.org)  
L.O. 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  
L.O. 0000165161

New Hudson

**NEW HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
56730 Grand River Avenue • New Hudson, MI 48165  
(248) 437-6212 • *Gerard S. Hunter, Pastor*  
Sunday School & Bible Class -9:30 a.m.  
Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
[www.newhudsonumc.org](http://www.newhudsonumc.org)  
L.O. 0000165199

**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  
L.O. 0000165219

**The Church of Christ**  
21860 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon, MI 48178  
248-437-3585 • [www.southlyoncoc.org](http://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*  
L.O. 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  
L.O. 0000165135

**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>  
L.O. 0000165161

**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 Women, Men and Life Groups Various Schedules*  
L.O. 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.fellowshipecp.org](http://www.fellowshipecp.org)  
L.O. 0000165148

**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](http://www.fbcsouthlyon.com)  
• Email: [fbcsouthlyon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fbcsouthlyon@sbcglobal.net)  
L.O. 0000165161

Northville

**First Presbyterian Church of Northville**  
[www.fpcnorthville.org](http://www.fpcnorthville.org)  
200 E. MAIN ST. AT HUTTON  
Worship & Church School 10:00 am  
**248-349-0911**  
L.O. 0000165163

**First United Methodist Church Northville**  
(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](http://www.fumcnorthville.org)  
L.O. 0000165167

**NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN**  
Experience Life Each Week  
Sunday Worship - 9:00 am & 10:15 am  
Sunday School and Children's Programs  
[www.ncalife.org](http://www.ncalife.org)  
41355 Six Mile Road  
248•348•9030  
L.O. 0000165200

**WARD CHURCH**  
40000 Six Mile Road  
Northville, MI 48168  
248-374-7400  
Sunday Worship Services  
8 a.m. | 9:30 a.m. | 11 a.m.  
4 different music styles from classic to modern  
[www.wardchurch.org](http://www.wardchurch.org)  
L.O. 0000165237

**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](http://southlyonfirstumc.org)  
L.O. 0000165168

**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  
L.O. 0000165165

**Shepherd's Way Lutheran Church, ELCA**  
59255 10 Mile Rd.  
South Lyon MI 48178  
Sunday Worship 9:30 AM  
Education Hour 8:30 AM  
Rev. Bart Muller, Pastor  
248-486-4404  
[www.shepherdswaysouthlyon.org](http://www.shepherdswaysouthlyon.org)  
L.O. 0000165240

**CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
28900 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon  
**248-486-0400**  
[www.ecrossroads.net](http://www.ecrossroads.net)  
Sunday Services:  
8:45, 10 & 11:30 am  
L.O. 0000165244

**OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
133 Orchard Dr., Northville  
WEEKEND LITURGIES Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 7:30, 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.  
Church 349-2621, School 349-3610  
Religious Education 349-2559  
*Rev. Denis Theroux, Pastor*  
L.O. 0000165205

**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  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship/Coffee  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Wednesday Bible Study (Colossians) at 7 pm  
L.O. 0000165207 *Pastor Andy Whitten*

**SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH**  
*Loving God and Loving People*  
22183 Pontiac Trail • 248-486-4400  
(In Brookdale Shopping Center, behind Powerhouse Gym)  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:00 A.M.**  
Reed Heckmann, Pastor/Teacher  
[www.solidrocksouthlyon.com](http://www.solidrocksouthlyon.com)  
L.O. 0000165210

**FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Services held at:  
Saint Andrews Episcopal Church  
16360 Hubbard Road - Livonia  
South of Six Mile Road  
Adult Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Childrens Sunday School 10:30 a.m.  
*Dr. James N. McGuire • Nursery Provided*  
L.O. 0000165160

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



OUR VIEWS

Don't let issues fester in 2014

Our state leaders made progress in 2013, but more often than not the biggest issues were kicked down the road.

The best news out of Lansing was the expansion of Medicaid to 470,000 low-income Michiganders through the federal Affordable Care Act. Also important was the long-debated adoption of Common Core standards for education. It took a few years to bring Michigan in line with 45 other states, but at least it finally happened. Gov. Rick Snyder should be lauded for expanding the Great Start Readiness Program with \$65 million in additional funding, allowing 16,000 more 4-year-olds to start school before kindergarten. The expansion is a bold commitment to early education, but more should be done. Double the size of the program again in 2014 and Michigan would be well on its way to leading the nation in funding preschool. Doing so would help Snyder reach the goal of having students reading proficiently at the end of third grade and pay future dividends in the effort to make Michigan competitive in the global marketplace.

There are several issues that demand attention in 2014. The cost of no-fault insurance is still too high, pending legislation threatens the vitality of our downtowns and roads all around Michigan are in deplorable condition.

No-fault debate

Far too many motorists are playing a dangerous game with Michigan's no-fault auto insurance these days. The vast majority of them don't want to risk driving without insurance; they simply can't afford to keep it. As a result, the practice of signing up for a policy but paying the premiums only long enough to get license plates is growing. In the end, the costs related to uninsured motorists go up, as well as costs for paying customers. Opposing forces have been arguing about no fault and the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association for years. In the end, little gets done and rates invariably go up yet again. Lawmakers must find common ground and do something constructive to bring down rates before the cost of auto insurance makes owning a car a luxury affordable for only the wealthy. Complete disclosure related to how MCCA sets rates would be a good start.

DDAs threatened

The state Legislature is beginning to take a serious look at eliminating or dramatically curtailing Downtown Development Authorities and Tax Increment Financing Authorities. The issue surfaced during the recent battle over whether DDAs could capture taxes earmarked for the Detroit Zoo and Detroit Institute of Arts. There is a belief among some lawmakers that these entities, which can capture taxes from other taxing authorities to improve downtowns and other districts, have gone beyond their "legislative intent." There is little doubt how important DDA groups have been to creating and maintaining many of our most vibrant downtowns. It would be a serious mistake to pass legislation that threatens the vitality of downtowns and state lawmakers had better consider all sides of the issue before doing so.

Road improvement

No one has been able to gain consensus on a plan to fix our failing road system, but the problem isn't going away. The money has to come from somewhere and prevailing wisdom is that Michigan residents would gladly pay a bit more if the money meant our roads would cease crumbling. One step that could be done right away is lowering the weights allowed for the trucking industry. It makes no sense that the federal government has a weight limit of 80,000 pounds on interstates, while Michigan allows more than double that, 169,000 pounds. Supporters of the trucking industry say Michigan calls for more axles, effectively dispersing the weight over a greater area. We'd like to see concrete proof that higher allowable weights don't do more damage to roads. Barring that, even the trucking industry concedes that allowing double the weight drives up the cost of building roads because a higher standard is used. Also clear is the fact that the higher construction standards aren't working as our roads remain, on the whole, in deplorable condition. Drive in any other state in the Midwest and it doesn't take long to see how poor Michigan's roads really are.

The bottom line is that our Legislature must find a way to reduce insurance costs, preserve our downtowns and improve roads — even if the choices that must be made aren't popular.

Making tough decisions is what politicians are elected and paid well to do. Let's hope they earn their keep in 2014.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Mark Schauer, likely Democratic gubernatorial candidate, has proposed raising Michigan's minimum wage from \$7.40 to \$9.25 over three years. Your thoughts?

This question was asked in downtown Northville and at the Novi Public Library.



"I think it's a good idea. Everything else has gone up, so why not the minimum wage?"

Neal Hartshorne  
Northville



"I'm totally for it. The living wage is above the minimum, so maybe it should be brought up a bit."

Nicolas Lopez  
Northville



"I think inflation and living wage correlates and they've gone up, so it should as well."

Daniel Schaumann  
Northville



"I remember when it was \$3.35. I've read a lot about inflation going up, so shouldn't wages?"

Tom Fahey  
Novi

LETTERS

Basketball support appreciated

We would like to thank the members of the community who supported the Northville High School girls and boys basketball teams on Saturday, Dec. 14th by attending our Third Annual Pancake Breakfast. The event was attended by over 400 people. The money raised will be used to support the basketball programs in various capacities such as equipment, video editing, banquet expenses, etc.

We especially want to thank the following families and merchants for their generous contributions to make this event a success:

- » Costco
- » Jean Gertley, Mustang Maniacs
- » Alan Kruck of Le Monde Landscapes
- » Meijer (Northville location on Haggerty and Eight Mile), Tom O'Callahan, event advertising and tickets, Roberts family/US Food Service, NHS Athletic Boosters for selling family sports passes, and NHS custodians.

The NHS boys and girls basketball program coaching staff and families donated their time and supplies to make the day an overwhelming success.

The Northville Mustangs basketball teams are off to a great start this season. Please continue to support the players by attending their games. The schedules are available on the high school website and also [www.northvillebasketball.com](http://www.northvillebasketball.com).

Thank you for your support and go Mustangs!

Sue Baldwin and Cheryl Giacomini  
Northville

Go meat free

With New Year's resolutions just around the corner, consider the popular trend toward a healthy, eco-friendly, compassionate meat-free diet.

According to Harris Interactive, 47 percent of American consumers are reducing their consumption of animal products. USDA projects this year's per capita chicken and beef consumption to drop by 8 percent and 17 percent, respectively, from their 2006

peaks. Similar dramatic drops are projected for pigs and turkeys. Milk consumption has fallen by a whopping 40 percent since 1970.

A number of celebrities are going vegan. They include Bill Clinton, Al Gore, Oprah Winfrey, Ellen DeGeneres, Jay Z and Beyonce. Microsoft founder Bill Gates, PayPal founder Peter Thiel, and Twitter founders Biz Stone and Evan Williams are funding plant-based replacements for meat and eggs.

Fast-food chains like Subway and Chipotle are responding to the growing demand by rolling out vegan options. Taco Bell has found that 43 percent of conversations about meat were negative. The Baltimore, Los Angeles, and San Diego school districts, serving more than a million meals a day, have adopted Meatless Mondays.

How about dropping animals from the menu for this New Year's resolution? Entering "Meatout Mondays" in a search engine brings tons of useful recipes and transition tips.

Burton Burlow  
Birmingham

GUEST COLUMN

Lansing: Don't short-change higher education funding

There's no doubt about one thing: Michigan needs a better educated work force, more now than ever.

Yet one of the abiding mysteries of the past dozen years is the strange reluctance of our state's leaders to invest in our future by investing in our citizens' brainpower at colleges and universities.

"Reluctance," in fact, isn't the right term. Thinly veiled hostility is more like it. That's a puzzle, because on the surface it looks like short-changing higher education is cutting off our nose to spite our face. After all, Michigan employers say they've got jobs for 70,000 people, if only they could find applicants with the proper skills.

Statistics compiled by the House Fiscal Agency showed that unemployment for high school grads without a college degree is 10.6 percent, compared to 4.1 percent for those with a bachelor's degree.

Indeed, last week, the House Fiscal Agency — a nonpartisan body — issued a report concluding that students at Michigan universities could blame state politicians for something like 60 percent of the college tuition increases over the past 13 years.

That's because, as the report shows, the lawmakers have cut appropriations by a total of \$325 million since 2000. That's a 40-percent reduction when adjusted for inflation!

That's almost the biggest decline in support for higher ed in the nation. Indeed, according to a state Higher Education Executive Officers report, Michigan is out-ranked only by Rhode Island and New Mexico in cutting higher education budgets.

State support

When I first joined the University of Michigan's Board of Regents in 1987, state support represented around 75 percent of total revenue; tuition and fees accounted for around a quarter. Today, it's



Phil Power

GUEST COLUMNIST

exactly the reverse.

Talking with Lansing insiders about Michigan universities reveals a wide range of views, some very critical of higher ed, some supportive. One well-connected insider put it in a nutshell: "Today's Lansing environment is terrible for universities."

Some think the schools have brought that on themselves. "They consider themselves unaccountable," another said. "They're asked for metrics, for tuition restraint, for greater link between courses offered and the needs of the Michigan work force. They say don't bother, they're autonomous — and that's that."

The state Constitution says public universities, especially the Big Three — University of Michigan, Michigan State University and Wayne State University — are independent of the Legislature or governor in setting policy.

That doesn't sit well with elected lawmakers who figure they're the ones who should be at the top of the food chain.

Nor does it help soften legislative attitudes when universities appear to be wasting public resources on turf competition among universities; cited repeatedly were Central Michigan and Western Michigan universities, both with dueling billboards in the Lansing area.

Couch-burning and other disorderly conduct in East Lansing after Michigan State beat Ohio State this month doesn't help, either.

Political problem

Universities also suffer from a structural political problem: Relatively few families in a given legislative district have students at

college at any one time, whereas many families have kids in that district's elementary and secondary schools. "They started to cut the universities," one source told me, "and there was no political backlash. If there's no pain in cutting, why not keep doing it?"

Despite the record of solid support for higher education during the years Republican John Engler was governor, the "let's cut 'em" attitude seems pretty much evenly distributed between Republicans and Democrats. Gov. Jennifer Granholm, who started her term in office with a "listening tour" around the state, reported most people told her to cut higher education and she did, by around 18 percent over eight years. Her successor, Gov. Rick Snyder, cut higher education funding by 15 percent in his first year in office.

That's a puzzle. Granholm holds degrees from the University of California-Berkeley and Harvard Law School, while Snyder has three degrees from the University of Michigan. Of all people, they both should know the value of a great education.

However, while I got an earful of grumbling in Lansing, I also got the impression that legislative attitudes are much better than they were a couple of years ago.

There's no doubt in my mind that one of Michigan's few world-competitive advantages today are our universities, especially U-M and MSU. Given today's realities, it would make enormous sense for our state's economic future to have the universities, the governor and the Legislature sit down and reason together.

Former newspaper publisher and University of Michigan Regent Phil Power is founder and chairman of the Center for Michigan, a nonprofit, bipartisan centrist think-and-do tank. The opinions expressed here are Power's own and do not represent the official views of the Center. He welcomes comments at [ppower@thecenterformichigan.net](mailto:ppower@thecenterformichigan.net).



# Just a groomed trail away

Huron Meadows caters to cross country skiers close to home

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

The high point of the winter season at Huron Meadows Metropark and for the collaborative effort to bring cross country skiing to south-east Michigan is the Frosty Freestyle/Krazy Klassic on Jan. 10-12.

There are various places to cross country ski in the metro Detroit area, but Huron Meadows has become a unique destination for local cross country skiers through its capability to have a snow-covered trail even when real snow is lacking, while also being a setting that is pure, well ... Michigan.

For the experienced and first-timer, it's a go to, if not the go to destination. Because of this, different parties, including REI of Northville, have come together to make the park and race event the best they can be.

"Huron Meadows Metropark is unique in that it really goes out of its way to cater to cross country skiers, from families, to recreational skiers, to racers," said race director Mike Muha. "Because of that, skiers travel from Lansing, Toledo, and Clarkston travel past other, closer ski trails so they can take advantage of Huron Meadows' excellent trail grooming."

They also come from places like Northville, Milford and Livonia.

"It's a great place because they really work to make it that way and they listen really to what

## FROSTY FREESTYLE/ KRAZY KLASSIC

» **When:** Jan. 10-12  
» **Where:** Huron Meadows Metropark, 8765 Hammel Road, Brighton  
» **What:** Cross country skiing competition with all proceeds supporting the cross country skiing at Huron Meadows.  
» **More info:** Visit [nordicskiracer.com/frosty](http://nordicskiracer.com/frosty)

the skiers want," said Milford resident and ski fan Dan Yankus.

Northville resident Ken Roth is another fan and on a weekly basis tries to get out to the park for some skate skiing, which is a style of cross country. For him, what makes it stand out is the partnership that has made the skiing program top notch.

"Before this program began you had to drive three hours to get decent Nordic skiing," Roth said. "Now, thanks to the hard work of a handful of people, and the commitment of the Metroparks excellent skiing is available to millions of people in southeast Michigan. Ski racers, families, recreational skiers, all have access to the same facility, and the snow conditions are immaculately maintained."

Park Supervisor Adam Haberkorn is the brain behind the man-made snow process at the park, which extends and expands the season. Before a skier had to wait for snow, but now it's just a matter of temperatures. However, last year the park did have skiers using its trails even with 50 degree-plus temperatures and no snow.

The process is a lot like what takes place at a



The trails at Huron Meadows are well groomed.



Northville resident Ken Roth is an avid cross country skier and a big fan of the program at Huron Meadows.

most downhill ski slopes, which makes their own snow. The difference at Huron Meadows is the snow is made into one big pile and then spread over a one-mile trail with a material spreader. A base of at least six inches of snow is typical.

The upcoming race has turned into the fundraiser to help with the park's ski program.

According to Muha, all proceeds from the race go to the park to support cross country skiing. In the past four

years, the races have raised more than \$12,000 for the park with up to 220 skiers participating. The races are part of the Michigan Cup Series of races, but the shorter distances are designed for new ski racers.

For more information on the race event, go to [nordicskiracer.com/](http://nordicskiracer.com/) and for the park and its different activities, go to [metroparks.com](http://metroparks.com).

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# Pay-to-play fees are becoming necessary evil for school districts

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

In this day and age, one thing is for certain: School districts are not flush with funds and budgets are as tight as ever.

What that often means is extracurricular activities are the first to be brought up when budget talks come down to what will have funding cut in order to keep expenses down. The end result, typically, is a pay-to-participate program that requires student-athletes to pay a fee in order to play athletics in the district. This covers the costs of running the programs and varies from school to school – and there are plenty of districts participating in such funding programs.

According to the Michigan High School Athletic Association, the 2012-13 school year found more than 50 percent of districts requiring pay-to-play fees.

In a press release issued last month, the MHSAA indicated a recent survey of its member institutions discovered that 249 of the 450 districts that responded to the questions – or 55.3 percent – charged participation fees. In total, there are 758 schools participating in MHSAA sports.

This is the ninth time a survey has been sent out since the 2003-04 school year. That first survey had 24 percent of participating schools charging fees.

“Unfortunately, pay to participate has become a necessary evil,” Northville athletics director Bryan Masi said. “In a school district, budget cuts will always come from extracurricular before academics. I believe extracurricular athletics is extremely important in the total development of students’ growth. I believe as the economic climate improves, we need to look at ways to reduce these fees.”

Currently, Northville charges \$350 per student-athlete at the high school level and \$200 at the middle school level. This cost isn’t per sport, but rather for the entire year, allowing a student-athlete to participate in as many sports as they like for that flat fee.

There are some sports, Masi said, that are self-funded, like lacrosse and bowling.

“They are not charged the pay-to-participate fee since they have their own fees to cover all the cost for the sport,” Masi said.

That flat-fee style isn’t as popular as a per-sport fee that most schools have



Lacrosse is one of only two sports (bowling is the other) at Northville High School where students aren’t charged pay-to-play fees. Otherwise, the district charges \$350 per year at the high school level and \$200 at the middle school level for each student to participate in sports.

turned to, according to the MHSAA. The median fee charged per sport is \$65.

The pay-to-participate fee hasn’t deterred athletes from participating at Northville. There are more than 1,100 student-athletes participating at the high school level for the Mustangs and an additional 780 in the middle school level.

Not all schools have a fee program in place. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central,

for example, doesn’t have a pay-to-participate program for any of its 14 varsity sports. Part of it has to do with the fact that many of Catholic Central’s programs are able to pay their own fees thanks to funds collected during home games and part of it has to do with the school’s budget covering nearly the full cost of each sport.

Northville covers approximately 75 percent of all athletic costs through the funds taken during home games and

the participation fees.

According to the MHSAA, approximately 71 percent of Class A schools have a pay-to-participate fee, while 61 percent of Class B schools have such fees. The survey found that approximately 49 percent of Class C schools and just 37 percent of Class D schools have the participation fee.

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

## Boys and girls track teams adopt local family to help at Christmas

Squads’ community involvement important, even in the off-season

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

The members of the Northville girls and boys track teams probably woke up Christmas morning and opened up some presents from their family and friends (and maybe Santa, too).

But this Christmas, the Mustangs had the pleasure of knowing that a family that may not have had a good Christmas was able to open presents and share the joy of the holiday thanks to both programs.

The Mustangs this year adopted a family in need and, in tandem with the Meijer store at Eight Mile and Haggerty roads, was able to raise just under \$1,000 for the family.

“Watching these kids achieve so much success in their athletics and academics is very fulfilling as a coach, but to see their compassion and enthusiasm for serving a family in need



The Northville girls and boys track team members gather outside Meijer after helping raise nearly \$1,000 for Christmas for a family in need.

makes me proud as a person,” track coach Brandon Langston said. “What they accomplished is tremendous, not just providing a Christmas for a family, but giving them hope. The student-athletes and parents in this community are amazing; they absolutely exemplified the holiday spirit, and showed how

the gift of giving is the best gift of all.”

Langston said the adopt-a-family program could potentially turn into an annual event for the track and field program.

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

## Mustangs dominate Churchill to start 4-0

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

A four-game win streak is nothing to turn your nose up at in high school basketball – especially when those four wins happen to be the first four games of the season.

The Northville girls basketball team headed into the holiday season with a 4-0 record thanks to its most recent win, which came Dec. 19 in the form of a 53-16 drubbing of Livonia Churchill.

Both teams came into the game with a 3-0 record and it looked to be a true contest right out of the gate as the Chargers, who have just one senior on the roster this year, were able to handle the Mustangs’ defensive pressure early.

But the Mustangs kept working at it, eventually finding chinks in the armor and taking advantage of them.

“They weren’t always solve it and (we were) able to generate a number of good scoring opportunities,” coach Todd Gudith said.

Unfortunately, the Mustangs did struggle shooting, taking a 10-4 lead into the second quarter. The Chargers cut that lead to 10-7, but the Mustangs finally got their offense rolling and opened up a 17-point lead by the end of the first half.

Northville came out in the second half and shut down the Chargers, holding them scoreless in the first seven minutes while pouring in another 15 points, including nine points from a trio of 3-point shots by senior Heather Randall. She led all scorers with 19 points, hitting five 3-pointers

See **MUSTANGS**, Page B2

### ON TAP

Northville will play at 7 p.m. Tuesday on the road against Salem.

## Mustangs roll over East Kentwood, 8-0

Hockey team records shutout to end 2013 on a high note

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

Someone must have forgot to tell the Northville hockey team that you don’t have to absolutely obliterate your opponent in order to get a win.

The squad, coached by Clint Robert, put on an absolute clinic when it took on East Kentwood. The end result wasn’t pretty as Northville recorded an 8-0 victory in the non-conference game.

The game started off innocently enough, as Alec Melucci scored on a power play with 9:37 left in the first period to give his team a 1-0 lead. Alex Stuart assisted on the goal, which would prove to be the game-winner.

The second period, however, was an

### ON TAP

Northville will play at Livonia Churchill at 6 p.m. Friday.

absolute beat down. Northville crushed any hopes East Kentwood may have had of a comeback.

Buster White scored his first goal with 16:06 left on the clock on a power play, assisted by Chance Boutin, to put Northville up 2-0.

Less than three minutes later, Connor Brown scored, assisted by Kellen Flayer and Alex Ridener, before White added his second goal of the game at 11:34, assisted by Jack Meacham, for a 4-0 lead.

Northville wasn’t finished yet, scoring a minute later as P.J. Schnepf found the back of the net off a pass from Grant LaLonde for a 5-0 advantage. The period was capped when Alec Morgan

scored to put Northville up 6-0, getting assists from Boutin and Melucci.

The third period wasn’t nearly as brutal, though the punishment did continue. Kyle Abraham scored at 15:28 with assists from Morgan and White and, four minutes later, Henry Chang scored off a pass from Nick Strom to make it 8-0.

Despite the lopsided score, both teams were only whistled twice for four minutes of penalties.

Boutin took the win in goal, facing 17 shots and stopping them all. East Kentwood’s goalies split time between the posts. Sarah White played 12 minutes, facing seven shots and stopping four, while Dawn Salo played 27 minutes and faced 18 shots, stopping 13 in the losing effort.

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



# Coaching legend Thomann dies at age 71

Mentor spent more than 40 years at Salem

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Fred Thomann, whose high school basketball coaching legacy far outstretched the gentle giant's 6-foot-8 frame, died Friday morning at the age of 71.

Well into his 42nd year as a basketball coach at Salem High School (his Rocks girls squad is off to a 4-1 start), Thomann complained of severe back pain the past several days, according to close friends. He died sometime Friday morning of cardiac arrest at Oakwood Hospital while undergoing a heart-related procedure.

Arrangements for Thomann are being handled by Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth. The times and dates were pending as of Friday night.

Thomann is survived by a sister and a niece.

Salem freshman girls basketball coach Bill Mair knew Thomann as well as anybody after serving as a Salem assistant coach since 1999.

"Fred was very demanding of his players; he drove them hard, but I think that's one of the reasons he was so successful," said Mair, whose daughter Monica played for Thomann in the late 1990s. "He expected a lot from them and they didn't want to disappoint him."

It was Mair who delivered the sobering news to the current players' parents Friday



Longtime Salem basketball coach Fred Thomann died Friday morning at the age of 71. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

morning.

"I'll tell you what, it was very hard making those calls; he was loved by a lot of people," Mair said. "I talked to him just before Christmas and he said his back was killing him, but other than that his spirits were good. This is so sudden. It's so sad."

Mair said Thomann hinted

at retirement occasionally, but his passion for hoops always won out.

"Back when (Alaya Mitchell) played at Salem, Fred told me that as soon as she graduated, he was probably going to step down," Mair said. "But then another group of players would come in and he'd say, 'As soon as such-and-such gradu-

ates, I'm done.'"

"Just recently, he told me there were three members of the same family coming up to Salem and he was going to coach until they went through."

Thomann won more than 700 games in his storied coaching career. He guided Willow Run's boys team to a Class B

state championship in 1968 prior to taking over at Salem in '72.

Thomann's death shocked and saddened the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park basketball community.

"What made Fred such a great coach was his knowledge of the game and his incredible work ethic," Canton varsity girls basketball coach Brian Samulski said. "He put a lot of time in the gym making his teams better."

"Fred had an impact on many people in many ways," Salem senior guard and co-captain Kayla Kavulich said. "He taught us to not only be better players, but to be better people."

"He taught us how to work hard, to never give up and to put the team first."

Kavulich added that the 2013-14 Salem squad "will continue on and work hard knowing he will be with us in spirit guiding us throughout the season."

Thomann was a pioneer of sorts in developing the area's girls AAU program. In the mid-1980s, he joined forces with then-Canton coach Bob Blohm to establish the Western Wayne Wolfpack, a developmental program that still flourishes today.

There will be a tribute to Thomann at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, before Salem's home game against Livonia Stevenson. All coaches, players and parents are invited to be part of the tribute.

ewright@hometownlife.com

## Swim team splits season-opening meets

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

The Northville swimming and diving team made it clear it has intention to compete for the KLAA title this year with a win over Churchill.

But it was also given a glimpse of what it needs to do in order to become a state contender as it took a tough loss against Brother Rice.

Against Churchill, the Mustangs earned a 105-81 victory as they picked up seven first-place finishes.

In the 200 medley relay, James Xue, Chris Geng, Frank Zhang and Yash Bajaj took first in 1:47.17, while Andrew Westphal took first place in both the 200 freestyle (1:47.41) and the 500 free (4:56.91).

Also taking first-place finishes were Geng in the 200 individual medley (2:11.57), Zhang in the 100 butterfly (59.41 seconds) and Xue in both the 50 free (23.82) and the 100 free (51.46).

"I am looking forward to the holiday break so that we can get some really hard training in and see where we are at," Northville coach

### ON TAP

Northville will swim Saturday at the Salem Invitational.

Rich Bennetts said after the loss to Brother Rice. "We have a long way to go in order to get to where we want to be. I think as long as we believe in the process of getting better each and every week, we will become a good team at the end of the season."

Against Brother Rice – the top-ranked team in the state – the Mustangs fell, 125-60. Northville had just two first-place finishes, though it did pick up six second-place spots.

Westphal earned a win in the 100 free in 48.23 seconds, while Anton Davis won diving with 179.4 points.

Westphal's victories have been paying dividends so far this year.

He currently has individual state cuts in the 50, 100, 200 and 500 freestyle races.

Taking second-place finishes against the Warriors were Westphal in the 50 free (22.11 seconds), Christian Field in diving (162.25) and Geng in the 100 breaststroke (1:02.68).

The Mustangs also took second in the 200 medley relay with the team of Josh Liu, Geng, Zhang and Bajaj (1:45.79), the 200 free relay with the team of Westphal, Liu, Zhang and Xue (1:33.89) and the 400 free relay with the team of Xue, Mark Kaminski, Troy Stacer and Westphal (3:25.57).

"Right now, it is always tough to get beat as badly as Brother Rice beat us, but you have to know your weaknesses before you can correct them and swimming a team as good as Brother Rice definitely shows you where your weak spots are," Bennetts said.

"Based on those results, you can see our weak spots are pretty much from event number one and on. We will continue to work hard and we will have another meet against top teams in the state in early January so we will be able to see if we worked hard enough over the break."

Northville is now 1-1 on the season.

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

## Gymnasts make progress despite loss to Livonia Red

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

As a coach, all you can truly ask of your team is to strive to be better week in and week out. For Erin McWatt and her Northville gymnastics team, that effort is apparent.

The squad may not have earned a win Dec. 17 when it took on Livonia Red, but it took several steps forward in the hunt for its first victory as it fell by less than seven points, 134.775-128.705.

"We had a nearly nine-point improvement since last week's dual," McWatt said. "We are making great progress with the addition of our four new freshmen who, until this evening, have not competed so far this season."

Despite having four new faces for the meet against Livonia Red, the Mustangs were without two starters due to prior sports commitments and a family event.



Captain Alyssa Breen was awarded an 8.25 for her floor routine against Livonia Red.

### ON TAP

Northville will at Milford at 4:30 p.m. Jan 11.

"So we're still not performing to potential," McWatt said.

The Mustangs did have several standout performances in the loss. On the vault, freshman Anoushka Ravindran scored an 8.5, while freshman Claire Cotter picked up an 8.0 on the

bars.

On the floor, captain Alyssa Breen was awarded an 8.25 for her routine, while freshman Emilie Statezny had the highest score of the night with an 8.55 on the beam.

The Mustangs are now 0-3 on the season.

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

## Catholic Central triumphs in low-scoring affair, 35-22

Defense was key against Divine Child as Shamrocks sputter

By Sam Eggleston  
Correspondent

The Detroit Catholic Central basketball team may not have brought its fans to their feet with a blazing offensive showcase when it took on Divine Child, but it definitely impressed those in the stands who were hoping to see some stout defense.

The Shamrocks, coached by Bill Dyer, outscored Divine Child, 35-22, as they used a strong second half to earn the win.

"We came out without having played in 12 days because of finals," Dyer said. "We were rusty, to

### On tap

Detroit Catholic Central will host Detroit Loyola at 7:30 p.m. Friday. It will then visit Pontiac Notre Dame Prep at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

say the least. We made a zone offense adjustment at halftime and played much better."

The first quarter was nearly scoreless as Divine Child put up two points to take a 2-1 lead over Catholic Central. The teams did have a spurt of offense in the second quarter as Divine Child scored nine and the Shamrocks added six for an 11-7 halftime score.

The Shamrocks came out and poured in 14 points in the third quarter, while holding Divine Child to just one point to make it 21-12 game. In the fourth quarter, the Shamrocks scored 14

more points while holding Divine Child to 11.

"The best part was our effort level was really high the whole game," Dyer said. "I was really proud of our effort in such a strange game and our team chemistry is high. Ryan McGillivray and Noah Lee are great captains. I believe we will continue to improve with more games and more practices."

Charlie Ryan led all scorers with nine points, while Lee and McGillivray had six each.

Scott Combs led Divine Child with seven points.

The Shamrocks are now 2-1, while Divine Child fell to 2-3.

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

### MUSTANGS

Continued from Page B1

on the night. Freshman Jessica Moorman scored nine points.

"We played a team that came in with a lot of confidence, but we were able to shut them down," Gudith said. "Now that we are through this first stretch of the season, we have our holiday tourna-

ment to try to win, which is the next phase before we start division play."

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

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**How to find a great job when you've already got one**

**By Susan Ricker**  
CareerBuilder Writer

You know you're lucky that you have a great job already, but you still can't resist looking elsewhere. Maybe you'd like a better paycheck, perhaps your current role isn't enough of a challenge for you or possibly you're just interested in doing something new.

No matter your reason, it's essential that you plan carefully if you are interested in leaving a secure job. By exploring your reasons for making a switch, making informed decisions and organizing a confidential job search, you can make the transition from one great job to another.

**Explore why you may want to switch**

People consider leaving their jobs all the time, but it's different to actively start the process. First things first: Explore why you want to switch jobs. "Plan," says Mary Elizabeth Bradford, résumé writer and career director. "Do your soul searching, write down your driving motivators -- the things you must have ... to feel the move was justified, such as a minimum salary figure, staying in a geographical area or getting out of an industry. Create a clear target and a plan to get there. Match up your skills and strengths

[that are] transferable into your job of choice."

If this initial research period inspires you, take the next steps in transitioning your career. Quantify your career accomplishments and make a list of your business contacts and those who would vouch for you.

**Take the job out for a test drive**

If you're looking for different responsibilities or are interested in changing industries, take a trial period before committing. "Instead of giving your two-week notice and hoping it pans out, focus on trying out the new

career," says Ramon Santillan, chief interview consultant and founder of Persuasive Interview in Houston. "You can do this by volunteering, talking to people who have been in the field you want to be a part of or joining professional organizations. Aside from helping you decide if this is the path you want to take, meeting these people will help you get your foot in the door, since they will probably know about any openings at their current companies."

"Volunteering or doing small projects in the new field will also build your case with potential employers that you are serious about this career move and can be used as experience when trying to get a job. Someone who is willing to take the time to learn a new field will be seen as being serious enough about a career move. This can be particularly useful when explaining to the hiring manager why you want to change careers."

**Treat past and future employers with consideration**

If you've found a career you're interested in pursuing and score an interview, remember to be diplomatic. "The interview portion should focus on why you got interested in the field, the steps you took to learn about the field, the people you met and the types of questions you asked them, the volunteer or work on the side you have done, and how your previous experience at your last job will make you successful at this new one," Santillan says. "Also make sure to ask questions during the interview about how the hiring manager got into the field and what the biggest challenges they face are."

By this step, you should have already made up your mind if you want to pursue that new career or job, but it never hurts to confirm."

When meeting with both your past employer and your potential future employer, be respectful of both times in your career. When explaining why you want to make this switch, Bradford offers this answer: "Although I have enjoyed much challenge and success in my current role, my passion lies in [blank] and I decided that I would focus my sights on transitioning."

As the economy continues to improve and more jobs become available, switching careers will become more common. However, it's essential to think through your steps and remain respectful of employers in order to ensure a successful next step in your career.

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



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