#### **RIDGE WOOD STUDENTS LEAD EFFORT TO CUT LUNCHROOM GARBAGE, A4**

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014 • hometownlife.com

#### **Big day**

Saturday will be huge for Northville schools.

First, high school vocalists will be "Puttin'on the Ritz" at the annual Northville High School Cabaret. The curtain goes up at 6 p.m.

goes up at 6 p.m. Immediately following the Cabaret, the creative spotlight shifts to the A Night for Northville fundraiser. From 8 p.m. to midnight, the district's arts program will be the focus of the benefit. Hosts Susan and Chuck Gaidica and the Northville Educational Foundation (NEF) invite the community to Northville Square (133 West Main Street in Northville) for a free-flowing evening of music, dancing, hors d'oeuvres, refreshments and much more.

Tickets cost \$100, of which \$70 is tax deductible. Specific needs of each school will be displayed on "Giving Trees" at the event. Attendees are encouraged to make tax deductible donations to fund a wide variety of supplies.

Purchase tickets online at www.NorthvilleEdFoundation.org. Tickets can also be purchased at the NEF business.

# Township asking more for public safety, shared services

#### By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

The reserves are no longer an option it's now time to ask voters to pay a bit more if they want to see some crucial services maintained at their current levels.

That's what Northville Township officials are proposing to ask voters this August.

Northville Township residents will be confronted with the question to raise their taxes when they see a ballot question or maybe two that will ask them to approve increases to the Public Safety and Shared Services millage rates, which are currently at 5.0 and 0.4574 mills respectively.

"Everybody sitting around this table is very dedicated to being fiscally responsible and none of us, when we ran for election, ever wanted to have an increase," said Northville Township Supervisor Robert Nix of a potential millage increase. "But the reality is the reality."

On Feb. 20, the Northville Township Board of Trustees approved a proposal to levy an increase for seven years of up to 1.250 mills to support and fund the operations for public safety, and .03000 mills to support/ fund the operations for parks, recreation, senior and youth assistance within the township.

PROTE

WORKERS

UR VIEWS, A14

A resident's tax bill could increase up to \$1.55 per \$1,000 of taxable value of property. A home worth \$400,000 would see an increase of \$310 per year.

The 2013 overall millage rate for Northville Township is 7.1074. The proposal, if passed, would take it to 8.6 mills.

In comparison, Canton Township has a current overall millage rate of 10.4 and Plymouth Township is at 4 mills.

According to township Finance Director Marina Neuimaier, the main reason why an increase is needed is because of the decline in property tax revenue, which has led to the township using reserves in order to shore up the funding needed. She said in 2010 "the Town-

She said in 2010 "the Township Board reviewed the budget forecast to determine the necessary funding to continue providing public safety services, parks and recreation, senior and youth programs. The board then agreed to use monies in reserve and adjust the millage amounts without asking voters for a tax increase."

However, this can't last. "Because of declining proper-

See MILLAGE, Page A2



### Northville's Zahra seeking another term on top court

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

State Supreme Court Justice Brian Zahra is running for reelection and he hopes to continue his service as "a rule of law" judge at the state's highest level.

To get a good start to the election, Zahra, a

election, Zahra, a Northville Township resident, announced his candidacy on Thursday for the November



Northville Civic Concern volunteer Frank Eisenhower gathers up some household paper products on Feb. 24 at the charity foodbank on Seven Mile Road. Civic Concern recently put out a call for donation for things like paper towel, toilet paper and personal care items. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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## Civic Concern reaching out for help

When shelves are empty, many go hungry

#### **By Julie Brown** Staff Writer

Marlene Kunz, director of Northville Civic Concern, chatted with visitor Carolyn Simon on a recent Monday morning at the office on Seven Mile, in the Highland Lakes Shopping Plaza.

"Sometimes the shelves are empty," said Northville resident Simon, adding that's often true at times other than Christmas. Simon, a chef and food vendor with a cracker company, is surprised at times by the need in greater Northville for food to distribute.

"I'm busy with my life," said Simon, who'd seen a *Northville Record* item on the food pantry and related services of Civic Concern, founded in 1983 by concerned volunteers. "Obviously, we need it right here."

#### Food in demand

Northville Civic Concern has put out the call for food and paper product donations for its biweekly distributions. Especially needed are: boxed macaroni, canned fruit, sides (instant potatoes, rice, pasta dishes), breakfast cereals, canned meat such as tuna, chicken and stews, and canned pasta such as Spaghetti-Os.

Civic Concern also needs non-food items such as toilet paper, paper towels and toiletries. Donations are welcome 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 43261 W. Seven Mile in the Highland Lakes Shopping Plaza.

At other times, donations may be left at Cassel's Restaurant or Worldwide Alternations in the Highland Lakes Shopping Plaza. In downtown Northville, The

See HELP, Page A2

Since he was

appointed by Gov. Zahra Rick Snyder in 2011, Zahra said his goals were to bring an attitude of hard work and intellectual understanding to his role.

"I want to serve the people of Michigan," he said of his candidacy. "I feel grateful to be on the court and love my job, so I hope to continue it for a full term of eight years."

Three years ago he filled in for Maura Corrigan, who was in turn appointed to head the Michigan Department of Human Services. He was officially elected in 2012 to finish out the term.

Zahra said during his short time on the court it has been transformed from being a bit contentious to more collegial while also maintaining the utmost professionalism.

"I think I've helped usher in a new era on the court that's based on what a court should be," he said.

And he wants to be known as a judge that "interprets the law as it is written, not interpreted based on their personal beliefs."

His educational background includes an undergraduate degree from Wayne State University and a law degree from the University of Detroit Law School, which he graduated with honors from. He was also a member of the Law Review during law school and has also served as Articles Editor of the State Bar of Michigan's Corporation and Finance Business Law Journal.

After getting his education, he served as law clerk to Judge

See ZAHRA, Page A2



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#### MILLAGE

#### Continued from Page A1

ty tax revenues, the township's Public Safety Fund is expected to deplete these reserves by 2015 and Shared Services by 2018," she said of the use of the reserves.

Starting in 2008 taxable value began going

down and from 2007-2013 it went down 13.8 percent in the township. This has impacted the public safety fund immensely resulting in \$1.5 million reduction in property tax revenue for it, and an overall loss to the township of \$2.1 million to fund this year's

Meanwhile, costs and

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#### cited numbers like the price of gas increasing by nearly 50 percent

Trustee Fred Shadko

nity have gone up.

over the last five years to police car prices going up nearly 30 percent. Public Safety Director John Werth said another development over this

time has been an increase in township population and in turn emer-

#### ZAHRA

#### Continued from Page A1

Lawrence P. Zatkoff of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan for two years before joining the law firm of Dickinson, Wright, Moon, Van Dusen and Freeman.

Prior to his recent appointment, Zahra served 12 years on the Michigan Court of Appeals and four years on the Wayne County Cir-

#### HELP

#### Continued from Page A1

UPS Store and The Great Harvest Bread Company accept donations, as does Northville City Hall. **Civic Concern serves** those with Northville mailing addresses, which could take in some Farmington area residents.

Kunz, a Northville Township resident, has been director for 29 vears.

"We took in a homeless man who's 82 years old," Kunz said. "He was living in the woods. The community took in this man who was living in the woods. He would have been dead.'

Dave Hursey, a Northville Township resident and member of the First Presbyterian Church of Northville, said, "We just felt this guy shouldn't freeze to death." The man is a veteran, but his military records can't be found, nor can his birth certificate.

gency runs for public safety.

The public safety fund, which has about \$11.3 million in annual costs at this point, has had to use over \$2 million in reserves in order to fill the budget shortfall. Police and fire are the biggest employee groups in the township and make up 70 percent of the workforce.

cuit Court. Although Snyder's appointment of Zahra kept the balance of the court in the Republican's favor, Zahra said it's not about politics inside the courtroom, but rather the rule of law.

"The people of Michigan benefit if the court maintains a strong collective reasoning behind all of its decisions," he said

There are three seats open during the election next fall, so it could be a hotly contested election.

Hursey added, noting the rent with the others reimbursing.

'I've known him for 25 years," Hursey said of the man, who used to go to Florida for winters. "Super nice guy. Never smoked nor drank, never did drugs.'

#### 'Work through the community'

"I work through the community. That's the trust I have. It's not what you have, it's what's inside you," Kunz said of her role at Civic Concern.

The biweekly food distribution draws maybe 150 families, which varies, and Kunz noted some families are larger than others.

Civic Concern just provided a hot meal to homeless people staying at the First United Meth-

Shared Services will have used at least a \$1 million to fill the shortfall

Township officials haven't been oblivious to this and have worked each year to address the loss in revenue. Mainly by cutting its workforce with 12 percent of fulltime positions being cut in the last six years. "Further cuts are not

Zahra said other offices might get more attention, but the court is just as important as any other in the government.

Justices are nominated by political parties, but are elected on a nonpartisan ballot. A candidate for the Supreme Court must be a qualified elector, licensed to practice law in Michigan, and at the time of election must be less than 70 years of age.

'The duty of the court is to administer the law and to ensure both sides

odist Church of Northville, who came in on a bus to stay seven days. A number of churches, Rotarians and other volunteers have assisted, said Kunz, "all serving in God's name.'

Musician Tyrone Hamilton, who plays the keyboard and sings, came from Greenfield Village to entertain.

"At one time he was homeless. He is absolutely phenomenal," Kunz said.

Civic Concern is also a site for Michigan Works!, the state agency with the task of helping the unemployed. April, 33, a mom of three, was working there on the recent Monday.

"I went back to school and I got my GED" in two and a half months, she said, as a proud Kunz looked on. "Marlene has so much love. It just comes from God," added April, who went from fifth-grade level to 12th in that short time. Her parents had taken her from school.

possible without critically impacting services including the potential need to eliminate some important services entirely," said township officials.

The next step will be to formulate the actual ballot language.

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

of litigation are treated equally," Zahra said of his philosophy. "Social order is maintained because of the public's faith and confidence in the judicial process."

He plans on taking this message around the state as he begins campaigning during the coming months.

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

April's grateful for Bridge card help, and a Meijer gas card, with gas cards a great need now at Civic Concern. Her children look forward to items from Civic Concern.

"It's family. We're family," Kunz said. "We always need food, but people need positive reinforcement. We all have had tragedy in our life."

For information on donating or on receiving food or other items, call 248-344-1033.

#### Garden will help

Kunz and her volunteers are also excited about the new Giving Garden, which will provide fresh, organic food for Civic Concern clients. That effort's been granted, at no cost, a 25-by-25foot plot at Thayers Corner, on Napier north of Six Mile. It needs volunteers as well and can be reached via email at GivingGardenNorthville@yahoo.com.

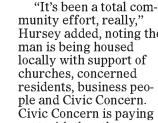


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# Township to combine resources with county to repair potholes

#### By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

The pothole situation around Northville Township has become a public safety concern.

Not only can they cause vehicle damage, but much more and it could turn deadly as drivers try to evade a hole while drifting into the other lane. Additionally, they are putting a lot of wear and tear on public safety vehicles and raising concerns.

Increased swerving and evading of potholes has raised the concerns of Northville Township officials, so they want to try to get them fixed in a timely manner.

"We know that when drivers view a pothole they swerve to avoid impact and if that strategy takes them out of their lane of travel, a crash is likely to occur," said Northville Township Manager Chip Snider.

It's because of this scary potential that the township will work to combine efforts with Wayne County in repairing potholes.

#### AVOID THE POTHOLES

According to Northville Township officials, some of the worst potholes in the township are located at northbound Beck Road near Blue Heron Court, eastbound Six Mile Road near Bradner Road, westbound Six Mile near Winchester Road, southbound Hines at Northville Rd and westbound Seven Mile Road between Clement and Beck.

"Combining our resources with Wayne County will result in an increase in the county's operational efficiency," added Snider.

While Northville Township has no budget allocation for road repairs, Snider said the Township Board of Trustees has communicated to front-line staff, that "our assistance could provide a direct impact to the lives of Northville residents."

He said the greatest benefits to the public for

each dollar spent on traffic operations come from the coordination of public services in concert with public safety.

"Township officials have long recognized the importance of police and fire services collaborating with those responsible for safe highways," Snider said. "The fire service is dependent on safe highways while transporting our residents to emergency facilities."

Northville Township will be sharing its resources with Wayne County to minimize the potential for crashes by assisting with pothole repair.

"Through the police department assisting with the location of road hazards, that information is forwarded to public services for attention," Snider said of the plan.

According to Northville Township's Public Safety Department, some of the worst potholes in the township are located at northbound Beck Road near Blue Heron Court, eastbound Six Mile Road near



This pothole greets drivers on Seven Mile Rd. as they head out of town.

Bradner Road, westbound Six Mile near Winchester Road, southbound Hines at Northville Road and westbound Seven Mile Road between Clement and Beck.

There are many more and hopefully they are fixed before an accident. In the meantime drivers should be aware and cautious.

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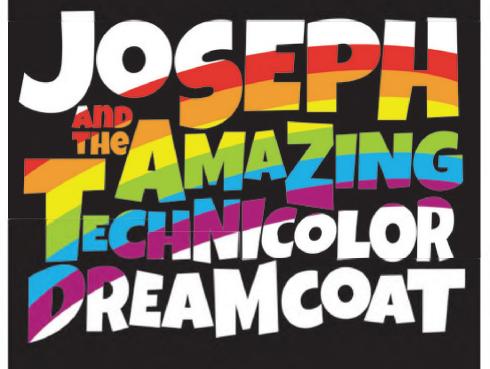
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#### LOCAL NEWS

## A lot less waste

#### Ridge Wood students lead effort to cut lunchroom garbage

#### **By Lonnie Huhman** Staff Writer

One of the goals for the Ridge Wood Elementary School Waste-Free Lunch Day was to cut in half the amount of garbage bags used at the school

Fourth-grader Brian Cho hatched the idea, and his fellow students jumped on board.

'Î thought it was a good idea and one we could achieve," he said. "I know we can do this more often.'

The Waste-Free Lunch Day was held Feb. 20 and students were asked to bring lunches that included as many items as possible that



**Ridge Wood Elementary School students pour out milk** cartons before recycling them on Feb. 20.

can be eaten, reused, recycled, or composted, and as few items as possible that must be thrown away.

This is just another project in the school's

goal to become a Green School through the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency (Wayne RESA) program. The school is now close to "Emerald'



With a recycling bin in his hands, Ridge Wood Elementary teacher Sean Kiebler barks out instructions to a noisy cafeteria on Feb. 20 during its attempt to lessen the waste produced at lunch time.

status for the various projects it has undertaken in the last year or so. Among other things, the school has a compost bin outside and recycle's classroom paper and plastic water bottles.

"We really want to increase the student body's awareness of what it really means to recycle and reuse in the lunch room," said third-grade teacher Sean Kiebler of the Waste Free Day. "This is a big task for us, but it's one we would like to do at least once a month.'

The lunch room was

lined with different bins for recycling and manned by students.

Kiebler said 35 percent of their trash is from milk cartons. On this day students washed out the cartons with water and then recycled them. Each recycle bin held a different item.

It looked like Cho's idea was a good one because the bag total was cut in half.

A group of teachers have helped organize the Green School push, but they will all say it's the students that are making it happen this year.

"These projects only work if the students take ownership of them, and that's what they are do-ing," Kiebler said. Third-grader Mya

Hudson helped man the 'paper boat" bin. These boats were used instead of the typical lunch trays. For her this day just made sense.

"I was excited to do this," she said. "Trash is ruining our earth, so we need to do more.'

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#### SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE UPDATES

#### Learn more about Wayne State

Wayne State University, one of the Schoolcraft to U partner universities, will host an open house at Schoolcraft 4:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 18, to share information and raise awareness about the programs that WSU will be offering at Schoolcraft beginning with the fall 2014 semester.

More information about the Schoolcraft to U program, including bachelor and master degree programs being offered through Schoolcraft College, can be found at www.schoolcraft.edu/SCtoU.

#### Government Marketing Strategies Seminar

The Schoolcraft College PTAC (Procurement Technical Assistance Center) will present Government Marketing Strategies Seminar from 9 a.m.-noon, Wednesday, March 12, at Schoolcraft's VisTa-Tech Center, 18600 Haggerty Road.

The course is designed for businesses interested in learning how best to market to the government customer. You should have a basic understanding of government contracting with federal, state, or local government agencies. The course will help you identify your customer and understand your customer's customer to assist in the development of an effective marketing campaign.

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» Determine marketing strategies.

Admission is \$45 per person. Pre-registration is required. For a copy of the flier and to access registration instructions, visit http:// bit.ly/1eMGwT3.

#### Motorcycle safety registration

The Continuing Education and Professional Development department of Schoolcraft College will offer motorcycle safety classes via the Detroit Regional Safety Consortium. The motorcycle safety program offers a variety of courses from the Basic Rider Course, which is for someone who has minimal experience and is looking to get the motorcycle endorsement to the Experienced Rider Course, which is for licensed cyclists and is specifically designed for large touring motorcycles and sport bikes. Each course is \$25, made possible through a grant administered by the Michigan Department of State. Classes are offered from

March through September. Upon successful completion of a state-approved Motorcycle Safety Foundation course, the Secretary of State will waive the riding skills test required for a cycle endorsement. However, a short written test required for license endorsement will be given at the Secretary of State at the time of endorsement application. In addition to the short written test, given at the Secretary of State, a more extensive test will be given as part of the Motorcycle course.

For more information on the Motorcycle Safety Program, call 734-462-4448 or visit http:// www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd/motorcycle.

#### **Taste of the NFL**

Once again, executive chef and Schoolcraft College charcuterie instructor Brian Polcyn represented Detroit at the NFL's annual party with a purpose, The Taste of the NFL, which precedes the Super Bowl. This is the 23rd year Polcyn has participated in the \$700-perplate dinner for 3,0000 guests that raised \$1.2 million for hunger relief efforts. This year, he was partnered with Jason Hanson, the Lions' recently retired kicker, representing Detroit, one of the 28 NFL cities which sent a chef and retired player team to the event. Visit www.tasteofthenfl.com to learn more about the event.

#### American Harvest restaurant voted tops

For the fifth year in a row the American Harvest Restaurant, Schoolcraft College's student-operated restaurant, was named an Open Table Diner's Choice Restaurant and named No. 1 restaurant in Michigan for lunch as voted by patrons of www.opentable.com. The American Harvest Restaurant serves lunch Tuesday through Thursday, dinner buffets Thursday and Friday and a breakfast buffet Wednesday through Friday during the fall and winter semesters. Reservations are highly recommended and can be made through www.opentable.com or by calling 734-462-4488.

For more information about the American Harvest, including the menus for upcoming internationalthemed buffet dinners, or the college's other restaurant dining options, Main Street Café and Henry's Food Court, visit the Dining page at www.schoolcraft.edu.

#### Schoolcraft to U

The University of Toledo and Wayne State University, the Schoolcraft to U partner universities, will each host an open house at Schoolcraft College to share information and raise awareness about the programs that each school will be offering at Schoolcraft College beginning with the fall 2014 semester.

On March 12, representatives from UT will present information on the new education options that will be offered on Schoolcraft's main campus in Livonia including bachelor of science degree programs in nursing, criminal justice, health information administration and professional studies.

On March 18, staff from WSU will have presentations throughout the evening and be available to answer questions on the programs they will be offering at Schoolcraft including bachelor and master degree programs in business administration and bachelor of science degree programs in computer science, computer technology, electric transportation technology, electrical/electronic engineering technology, and mechanical engineering technology.

More information about the Schoolcraft to U program including bachelor and master degree programs being offered through Schoolcraft College can be found at www.schoolcraft.edu/SCtoU.

Schoolcraft College is a predominantly two-year college offering classes at the main campus in Livonia, the Radcliff Center in Garden City, the Public Safety Training Complex in Livonia and online at www.schoolcraft.edu.

#### **SCHOOL BRIEFS**

#### **Early kindergarten registration**

Northville Public Schools is now accepting early registration for kindergarten enrollment for the fall of 2014.

If you have a child who will be 5 years of age on or before Oct. 1, contact your local elementary school for kindergarten enrollment information. School phone numbers are as follows:

Amerman – 248-465-2100; Moraine – 248-465-2150; Ridge Wood – 248-465-2200; Silver Springs – 248-465-2300; Thornton Creek – 248-465-2350; Winchester – 248-465-2400. Each of the schools will have kindergarten round-ups this spring.

Enrollment forms may be picked up directly at each building. All parents are asked to register their child in early registration before April 25. A district map can be found at www.northvilleschools.org/node/251.

#### Kids' Club program

The Northville Public Schools Early Childhood Education and Extended Day Programs offers a program called Kids' Club at each of the elementary schools. This tuition-based program allows parents the option to have their child participate in a before and after school childcare program. Kids' Club is offered as an option from as early as 7 a.m. to the start of school and from school dismissal until as late as 6 p.m.

Program Request Forms are available at http://earlychildhood.northvilleschools.org/.

#### Student fashion show to benefit Civic Concern

Northville High School's Interact Club, a student organization of Rotary, will hold a Prom Fashion Show 7 p.m. Friday, March 7 to benefit Northville Civic Concern. The fashion show will be held at Northville High School, on Six Mile west of Sheldon.

There will be about 30 NHS couples, mostly seniors, modeling prom attire that evening. Sponsors are David's Bridal of Novi, Carson's and Men's Wearhouse in Livonia, providing fashions for the show.

The fashion show will be in the high school auditorium. Admission is \$5 with tickets being sold at the door. Doors will open 6:30 p.m. that evening.

Raffle tickets to support the cause will also be sold that evening for \$3 each.

Northville Civic Concern is an all-volunteer organization founded in 1983 by a group of concerned people to benefit needy people in the community. Civic Concern's primary purpose is to provide food, with food distribution twice a month. Northville Civic Concern is on Facebook.



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#### LOCAL NEWS

## Ficano touts accomplishments, others less laudatory

#### **By Brad Kadrich** Staff Writer

Wavne County Executive Robert Ficano has not officially announced his intention to seek reelection this year.

Unofficially, he sounded a lot like someone doing just that Tuesday night.

Ficano, who has vet to enter the fray of the 2014 campaign, extolled the virtue of the county's accomplishments in his 12th State of the County speech at the Automotive Hall of Fame in Dearborn

Calling the state of the county "improving," Ficano said the county's "future looks bright."

'Like the auto industry, Wayne County has had challenges, but we are roaring back," Ficano said. "We're creating new jobs and investment and leading the way to future growth.

In an upbeat speech that touted what Ficano believes are the county's biggest successes and passed lightly over more significant challenges like the fate of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and the troubled jail project, the county executive drew the loudest cheers when he opened by congratulating Olympic champi-

Acne



Wayne County Executive **Robert Ficano delivered his** State of the County address.

ons Charlie White and Mervl Davis on their gold medal in ice dancing at the Sochi Olympics.

White and Davis, along with silver medalists Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir, train at the Arctic Edge in Canton.

Ficano also drew loud applause when he recognized the men and women "in uniform who serve our community" and talked about the First **Responders** Memorial the county had built in Hines Park last year.

Then he got down to business, talking about, among other things:

» Challenges created by the 2008 recession. Ficano said property tax revenue has declined by "nearly 30 percent,"



Audience members crowded into an auditorium at the Automotive Hall of Fame applaud Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano during Tuesday's State of the County address.

resulting in the loss of some \$106 million in revenue. Since 2008, he said, the county has lost \$353 million in property tax revenue.

However, he said, property values are "on the rebound in Wayne County," with median sales prices rising 45 percent last year. Despite that climb, he said, the revenue stream will "remain flat" because of caps put in place by Proposal A and the Headlee Amendment.

» Cost reduction and streamlining of operations. Among the cuts he touted were a 10-percent reduction in salaries, including his own; a reduction in the work force by more than 1,300 positions; and reducing the number of his own at-will employees by 40 percent.

That part didn't necessarily sit well with some employees, who think Ficano is cutting from the bottom.

"He's taking from us at the bottom to pay for all his mistakes at the top," said Wendy Lukianoff of Canton, a union leader who works in the Department of Public Services Environmental Group. "Our structure at the top is broken. We've got managers managing nobody. (Ficano) needs to start at the top.'

» The renovation of Cobo Center and the Aerotropolis, the business enterprise zone now known as Vantage PORT. » The troubled jail

project. Ficano said as soon as he was told the project was going to go over budget, "the first thing I did was stop the construction." He said he worked with the team to drive the costs back down to initial projections. Now, the county is working toward moving the justice facility to an existing location on Mound Road, what he called "a win-win-win" because it will bring some 9,000 temporary jobs and 5,500 permanent jobs, along with some \$380 million of economic impact to the area.

But while Ficano trumpeted it as a solution, other commissioners laid the blame for the problem at Ficano's feet. Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox, R-Livonia, said Ficano was trying to blame the commission, at least in part. "I don't think mis-

management of a project is necessarily adversarial," Cox said. "The mismanagement of the jail is all (Ficano's) fault.

Ficano also breezed over the fate of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, saying only that "a regional authority solution that brings all the interested parties together and works for everyone makes the most sense."



Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox talks with the media following Tuesday's state of the county speech.

Ficano also listed some positives, including

» Completion of an \$8 million construction project that improved safety at Belleville and Ecorse roads.

» A new command center at the Central Maintenance Yard in Romulus, one of the first of its kind in the country, that allows the county "to take road hazard calls 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

» Investment and jobs. According to Ficano, 38 percent of all investment in Michigan since 2009 happened in Wayne County, as well as 43 percent of all new jobs.

» More than \$1.3 billion in new investments in Wayne County since 2008, including a \$550 million investment by Ford at its Flat Rock assembly plant and a \$71 million project to build the Gateway Marketplace on 36 acres near the old State Fairgrounds.

Among his plans, Ficano said he would "continue to fight to guarantee collective bargaining rights for working men and women and to raise the minimum wage." He said he'd also sign an executive order expanding the county's non-

discrimination policies to include protection for sexual orientation and gender identity.

While all of that "sounds good," Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price, R-Canton, said the county's focus should be on the challenges at hand.

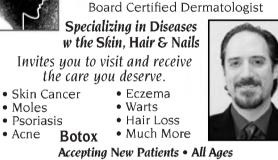
In order to be on par with Macomb and Oakland (counties), we have a lot of work to do," Price said. "It starts with the deficit elimination plan. We need to remove ourselves from politically charged issues like raising the minimum wage and focus on the job at hand.'

Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara, D-Wayne, who has announced he'll seek the county executive seat in the 2014 election, said he was encouraged to hear Ficano "finally admitting he's going to have to ruffle some feathers to finally fix the problems" the county faces.

"I know the government is broken and I also know it can be fixed, McNamara said. "This is not a six-month fix. We need leadership.

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## Tea Party Express throws support behind Bentivolio

**By Laura Colvin** Staff Writer

This is a battle worth fighting. Those were the words of Milford Republican Congressman Kerry

Bentivolio, who was back in town last week to accept an endorsement from the Tea Party Express, a Sacramentobased political action committee.

"(Bentivolio) under-



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stands that big government is the problem; they're not the solution." Tea Party Express Chairman Amy Kremer said during an enthusiastic endorsement speech. "He has stood on the front lines in Washington fighting for all of us, not only people in his district, but people across the country.

The Tea Party Express endorsed Bentivolio when he first ran for office in 2012, and was fervent about standing behind the U.S. representative again, Kramer said during last week's gathering at Bentivolio's campaign headquarters near the Kroger market in Milford.

Bentivolio, a former Fowlerville Community Schools teacher who won his first election in 2012 after the resignation of U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, will square off against Birmingham attorney Dave Trott in the Aug. 5 Republican primary.

In terms of fundraising, Bentivolio has been significantly trailing Trott, but the Tea Party Express endorsement could potentially help the incumbent.

The group's political action committee gave him \$5,000 in the last race, but its endorsement could possibly be of greater help as a tool for the campaign to raise money nationwide.

"I don't care how much money is put into a race," Kremer said. "We win races with boots on the ground, passion and fire in the belly. That's how we won it the first time and ... that's how he's going to win it again.'

The Tea Party Express maintains that it

represents the views of "millions of tea party supporters across the country," saying it is the "most aggressive and influential national tea party group in the politi-cal arena."

#### **Bentivolio** addresses supporters

Bentivolio touched on a wide range of subjects as he addressed supporters during the Tea Party Express endorsement announcement last week, including education, the national debt, the shrinking middle class, the need for an overhaul of the tax code and his drive to eliminate the Affordable Care Act.

"A war is raging for the soul of America,' Bentivolio said. "It is not a war of steel and cartridge. It is a conflict of ideas, fought not in trenches, jungles or in deserts. Instead, it is played out in town halls, round tables, tea party and liberty groups all across the nation. Instead of cannonades there are editorials. Instead of bombs there are speeches. Instead of rifle volleys there is education on the blessings of liberty ordained by God and guaranteed by the United States Constitution.'

Bentivoili also took the opportunity to describe what he called a "constitutional crisis," and to blast the press.

"Your right to keep and bear arms, to due process, to the most sacred right of religious freedom, freedom of speech, the press, peaceful assembly and the redress of grievances are under attack by the very same government that is supposed to pro-



Milford Republican U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio, left, addresses supporters at his campaign headquarters.

tect your rights," Bentivolio said during his remarks to supporters. "And speaking of the press, servitude cannot be complete if the press is free. The press is a cheap Democratic instrument of freedom. Sadly, many in the press, like many in Congress have neglected their duty to ensure a free people. This must change. This is a battle worth fighting.

#### **Supporter voices**

Mike and Sandi Bockelman of Highland attended the event to support Bentivolio, and said they plan to make financial contributions to the campaign.

"I'm impressed with the work he's done, and I really appreciate how open he's been with his voting record," said Mike Bockelman.

Meshawn and Matt Maddock of Milford also came out.

"We've supported Kerry for a long time," said Meshawn Maddock. "He has so much integrity. He's a great guy. I was worried he was going to go to Washington and get

chewed up and spit out, but I think he's holding his own.'

Chuck and Ann Pickett of Livonia also attended the event, and said they've supported Bentivolio since before the first election.

'He's not out to impress those in higher places, he's concerned about representing the people he works for, which is the rest of us," said Ann Pickett. "All of us are concerned about the direction the country is going in; we want to rein it in and take it back to what it should be.'

Two Democrats hope to challenge the eventual Republican nominee in the 11th District: Dr. Anil Kumar, a surgeon, and former U.S. State Department employee Bobby McKenzie. The district represents a range of communities in western Wayne and Oakland counties, as well as a swath in southeast Oakland.

Gannett Michigan contributed to this report.

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

Adelson Eye & Laser Center is pleased to introduce our new and expanded location located at 42000 Six Mile Road in Northville as well. After almost 10 years of service at our Main Street location in downtown Northville, we have an all new has completed more than 1 million laser vision correction procedures. We are ecstatic that LASIKPlus has picked us to bring their services to our hometown of metropolitan Detroit. As ophthalmologists who are fellowship trained in advanced cataract and LASIK surgery and who have already performed thousands of procedures, we feel that the resources that LASIKPlus offers are invaluable. Most importantly, we now have our own laser center located onsite at the new Northville location. This allows us to offer all of the most advanced laser vision correction procedures, including all laser LASIK surgery, within the confines of our own surgical suite. Along with the assistance of LASIKPlus, we have brought all of the "latest and greatest" technology for laser vision correction right into our office

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

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

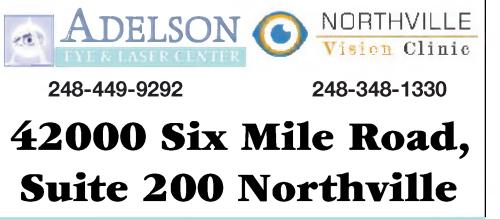


Martin J. Levin, OD

LO-0000182771



Todd A.Howard B.Adelson,Adelson,D.O.D.O.,FAOCO



## Learning a new path

Northville author rose to national business prominence, but needed God in his life

#### By Julie Brown Staff Writer

Fred Sievert and his wife, Susan, live in Stamford, Conn., outside New York City. They also maintain a townhome in Northville Township, which they've had since 2001.

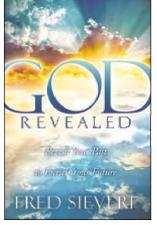
"So we come back quite often," said Sievert, 66, retired president of the New York Life Insurance Company. "It still sort of feels like Michigan's home."

They're graduates of Livonia Franklin High, who left Michigan in 1991 for his career. Fred Sievert, after retiring from his corporate career, headed to Yale Divinity School for a master of arts in religion degree. He hasn't been ordained but is the new author of God Revealed: Revisit Your Past To Enrich Your Future.

"It's been a lot of fun and I'm really glad it's having an impact on people's lives," said Sievert, who with Susan will soon be dividing his time between Northville and Cape Cod, Mass.

He'll be at The Next Chapter Bookstore & Bistro on Main Street in downtown Northville 1-2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 8, for a book signing. Sievert said he's had some 175,000 hits on his website, plus many Facebook likes and reaction to tweets.

"I think they may show up at the book signing" in Northville, he said. He did a *Fox* & *Friends* television seg-



ment, along with about eight other TV interviews.

God Revealed (Morgan James Publishing) is being used for Bible studies and book clubs, including locally. "My whole thing was to impact people's lives, not so much to sell books," Sievert said.

His subtitle, which he chose, is intended to



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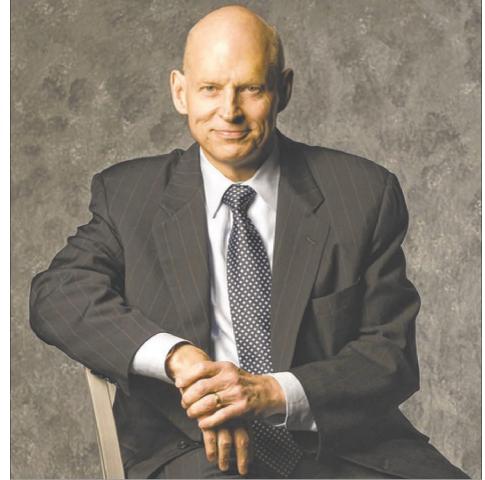
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SOLUTIONS



Author Fred Sievert, who has a home in Northville Township, wrote "God Revealed: Revisit Your Past To Enrich Your Future."

have readers think about his stories, their own lives and "to see if they could uncover encounters with God."

In the book, Sievert, a former Fortune 100 "workaholic" president, challenges his readers to watch for messages from God in their daily lives. He recommends drawing on experiences to strengthen faith while enhancing work and home life.

During his work years, he prayed often in the workplace, not for things like sales goals but rather for guidance on doing the right thing, acting with integrity.

He and Susan have five children, the oldest three adopted early in life as orphans. The couple then had the miracle of two younger birth children, after being told that couldn't happen.

They have a couple grandkids, and the children range from 39 to 26 years. Sievert's book grew out of a dinner with daughter Dena and her husband, Doug, with the couple's daughter urging her dad to share his experiences with the family and larger world through publishing.

In Michigan, Sievert had been with Maccabees Mutual in Southfield, leaving in 1991 to work his way up with New York Life Insurance Company. He became president there in 2002.

Upon retirement, he chose Yale, at first concerned about its liberal reputation but emerging with no regrets. Yale was intellectually and spiritually stimulating. "It was quite liberal but I actually appreciated that," he said. "It was the first time I went to school for the right reason."

He remains on five nonprofit boards, as well as two for-profit boards and teaching. Sievert said his book is "almost a ministry." His website is www.godrevealed.com.

Sievert is a regular for Detroit Tigers and Lions games, especially the Lions.

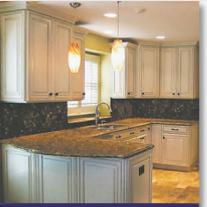
"It takes a lot of patience," he said of being a longtime Lions fan and season ticket holder. Sievert has a plaque at home which reads "Detroit Lions – Rebuilding Since 1957."

jcbrown@hometownlife.com



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#### Homeless get into fight

A 57-year-old Detroit man was arrested for punching a woman at Northville's First United Methodist Church.

The incident took place the evening of Feb. 24 during the shelter week at the church for metro Detroit homeless people. Both people involved are reportedly homeless and know each other. The man told the woman to stop talking on a cell phone, but she told police that before she

#### could hang up he hit her in the face.

**POLICE BRIEFS** 

The man was arrested and it was later found out he was wanted on a parole violation.

#### Tinted windows lead to drunken driving

A 41-year-old Brighton man was arrested for drunken driving after police spotted him driving a vehicle with tinted windows.

On Feb. 22, the dark tinted windows caught a Northville City Police

#### **Sweet perfection**

rate of speed led to the man being stopped at Novi Road and Allen Drive. Upon making contact the reporting officer stated there was a smell of intoxicants on the driver and in the vehicle. The preliminary Breathalyzer test registered a .185 percent blood-alcohol level. However, he later

officer's eye, but the high

refused the test at the station. This required the police to get a warrant to obtain a sample of blood, after which he was arrested and booked.



Grace Martin, 10, works on decorating a Twinkie with jelly beans, frosting and sour candies during a Feb. 19 Tween event at the Northville District Library. The gathering, officially a decorating contest using Twinkies and Swiss Cake rolls, seemed at times more an excuse to enjoy some tasty, sugary treats. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

#### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

'Genealogy for Beginners

quired. Call 248-349-3020 Northville, will have the to hold your place. The opportunity to meet with Cox and discuss matters of concern within the community.

## ways to celebrate the

### Academy Awards®Show and Win!

Go to hometownlife.com and select The Oscar, Contest icon located in the DON'T MISS section of the website or go to

facebook.com/oehometown and click The Oscar Contest icon.

**PRIZE:** Correctly identify the 7 Oscar TM categories and you could win 12

2nd Place winner will win 4 movie passes

#### **Correctly Identify the** fop 7 Categories

#### **Best Picture**

**Best Actor in Leading Role Best Actress in a Leading Role Best Animated Feature Film** Best Actor in a Supporting Role Best Actress in a Supporting Role **Best Director** 

All entries must be received by Saturday, March 1st, 2014 11:59 p.m.

#### **Tie Breaker Categories**

Music (original score) **Documentary Feature** 

One entry per person/per household

#### DOUBLE PLAY:

Enter by 2/14/14 and select DOOBLE PLAY, you will be entered for a chance to win a pass to admit 2 for a special showing of the Best Picture of 2013 nominated films at Emagine Novi only. First winner will be selected by 2/14/14 to see movies playing week 1 (2/14/14 – 2/20/14), and the second winner will be selected by 2/19/14 for a change to see movies playing (2/21/14) – 2/27/14). See "BEST OF 2013" for movie titles and dates below. (Value: \$60.)

#### TRIPLE PLAY:

Enter by 2/26/14 and select TRIPLE PLAY, and you Academy Awards<sup>®</sup>viewing at Star Lanes Restaurant and Sports Bar at Emagine Royal Oak. Watch the Academy Awards<sup>®</sup>while you dine. Prize includes a light supper, champagne toast and dessert. (Value: \$60)

The BEST of 2013 **Emagine Novi ONLY** 

The Northville Genealogical Society will present "Geneaology for Beginners" from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, March 8 at the Northville District Library located at 212 W. Cady Street in Northville.

Learn the basics of researching your ancestors and creating a familv tree. You will be taught how to chart a tree, understand vital records, and discover the wealth of information contained in census records, with an introduction to software.

Experience hands-on research online with help from genealogy experts. A limited number of computers will be available for your use or you may bring your own laptop (must bring your library card). If you plan on working with another person on your computer you will be counted as one person when you sign up.

Space is limited and reservations are re-

The Northville Dis-

trict Library is located at

212 W. Cady Street. For

more information call

248-349-3020 or visit

northvillelibrary.org.

include:

Storytime

March 6

Upcoming events

**Drop-In Morning** 

**Time/Date:** 10:15 – 11

a.m., Thursdays Feb. 27 -

for toddlers and pre-

schoolers. All ages wel-

come. Caregivers must

accompany children age

3 and younger and must

remain in library if chil-

dren 4 and older attend

independently. No regis-

Jason Hudy Magic

tration, just drop in.

**Details:** Storytime fun

class is free of charge and open to the public. Bring your own lunch.

#### **Blood drive**

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive from 1-6:45 p.m., Friday, March 7 at First Presbyterian Church, located at 200 East Main Street in Northville.

All donors will be entered into a raffle for a two-year lease on a 2014 Ford Fusion (cash option \$5,000). Donors will also be entered into a weekly raffle for a \$125 gas card.

Donors can contact Diane at 313-549-7052 or Diane.Risko@redcross.org to set up an appointment.

#### Cox office hours

Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox, R-Livonia, will host office hours from noon to 1:30 p.m., Monday, March 3 at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 5 Mile Road.

Constituents of District 9, which includes

For more information, contact Cox at (313) 224-0946.

#### **Northville Dems** film/discussion

The Northville Democratic Club will show the film Inequality for All by Robert Reich at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, at the Northville Sports Den, 133 W. Main St. in downtown Northville. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. The film will be followed by a group discussion that will cover such topics as "What's happening to the American Dream?" "Why are 30 percent of our children living in poverty?" "Does wealth really trickle down?" and "Can democracy survive if inequality widens?"

The event, which is free and open to the public, will include pizza and salad. Donations will be accepted. For more information, contact Scott Craig at 248-259-3534 or scraig27@comcast.net.

#### (Films nominated for an Academy Award® for best picture)

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#### Week 1 Feb. 14 - 20

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Week 2 Feb. 21 - 27

10:30 a.m. American Hustle 11:00 a.m. Wolf of Wall Street 1:30 p.m. Gravity 2D 3:45 p.m. Captain Phillips 6:30 p.m. Dallas Buyers Club 8:30 p.m. Philomena 9:00 p.m. Her

2:30 p.m. Nebraska 5:00 p.m. 12 Years a Slave



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#### Come watch the Academy Awards<sup>®</sup> while you dine in style!

#### Includes light supper, champagne toast, & dessert.

When: Sunday, March 2nd at 7 p.m.

Where: Star Lanes at Emagine Royal Oak, 200 N. Main St. Royal Oak, MI

How: Reservations are required.

Make your reservations by calling 248.414.1000 x 238 or email banquets@star-lanes.com

#### LIBRARY LINES

#### Show

Time/Date: 4:15 p.m., Tuesday, March 4

Details: The more you read the more you know, the more you know the farther you go. Celebrate March is Reading Month with Jason Hudy's hilarious action packed magic. All attending children will receive a complimentary balloon animal after the show. All ages. 100 free tickets available at the Information Desk five minutes prior to program.

#### March is Reading Month

Time/Date: March 1-31 Details: Kids, preschool age through those in sixth grade, get

hooked on books during March is Reading Month. Beginning March 1, pick up your "Hooked on Books" reading log at the Information Desk. When you complete the log, you win a paperback book.

#### An Evening of Irish Step Dancing

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 11

Details: This delightful, uplifting performance by members of the O'Hare School of Irish Dance showcases the quick, intricate footwork by performers in traditional, ornate Irish costumes. Ages kindergarten to college age will perform. Please call to register 248-349-3020.



(group pricing is available for parties of 6 or more!)

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**RELIGION CALENDAR** 

#### Brightmoor Christian Church

Location: M-5 and 13 Mile, Novi Contact: 248-668-7014 or CelebrateRecovery@brightmoorcc.org Web: www.brightmoorchur-

ch.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

Mass Schedule Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday: 9 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.crosspointe meadows.org.

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

**Details:** Nursery and older children programs available. Worship blends traditional and contemporary elements resulting in a multisensory worship experience.

#### Destiny Worship Center

Location: Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 Six Mile, Northville Contact: DestinyW3C@ Gmail.com or visit www.DW3C.org.

#### Emmanuel Lutheran Church

**Location:** 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia

Web: www.emmanuel-livonia.org

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

a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult special needs worship: 9:30 a.m.

Youth group: 7 p.m. Wednesdays

Women's Coffee Break Bible Study Advent Study: 10-11:30 a.m. Mondays; Christianity's Family Tree, Adam Hamilton

Adult Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.; "Bad Religion: How We Became A Nation Of Heretics" by Douthat

Men's Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb 1; Commandments For Today

Portraits of Christ: Congregational Lenten Study begins March 9, for five weeks at eight different times and locations. Child care available Sunday morning and Wednesday evening. Call 248-442-8822 for specific times and locations.

#### Faith Community Presbyterian Church



1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • htwobits@hometownlife.com Deadline: Tuesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

#### ANDREWS, ELDON "ANDY" Age 92, of Novi, passed away 2/21/2014. Full obit and online condolences at www.casterlinefu neralhome.com.



#### BAGWELL, BAILEY A.

Age 16, passed away February 18, 2014. She was born on December 31, 1997, in Ypsilanti, daughter of Derrick and Ruth (Asher) Bagwell. Bailey was a sophomore at South Lyon High School, played flute in the South Lyon High School band and was a proud member and secretary of the Venture Crew. She was a tom boy at heart and loved being outdoors. She was currently enrolled in her third year of Chinese and enjoyed Japanese anime and manga. Bailey was sweet and kind and always had a smile on her face. She was a true animal lover and could be counted on to help anyone in need. She will always be remembered as a loving daughter, sister, granddaughter, niece, cousin and friend. She is survived by her loving parents: Derrick and Ruth Bagwell; her brothers: Jonas and Tyler and her sister Samantha, Bailey is also survived by her grandparents Lee and Donna Uhling; her aunt Michelle Bickelhaupt and cousin Jessica Bickelhaupt. She will be greatly missed by many friends and classmates. Visitation was held on Saturday, February 22, from 1:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 23, from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. with a funeral service at 3:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake South Lyon. Online St., guestbook at



#### KLOCKE, CHARLES E. "SKIP"

Age 72 of Cohoctah, passed away Sunday, February 16, 2014 at his home. A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Satur-day, March 1, 2014 at the Conway Township Hall, 8015 N. Fowlerville Rd., Fowlerville, MI 48836. Pastor Kelley Runion will be officiating with a luncheon to follow the service. Skip was born December 5, 1941 to Charles and Rose (Straubel) Klocke. He married Nora Marie Roedding in Plymouth on June 3, 1977. Skip served his country faithfully in the United States Army during the Vietnam War, being honorably discharged. Mr. Klocke was a Truck Driver for 30 years, retiring from Metro Trucking out of Wixom, MI in 2005 and was a member of teamster's union local 614. Skip loved the outdoors, hunting, gardening and farming in his bib overalls. He enjoyed being out on his tractor and frequenting farm auctions. Mr. Klocke is survived by his wife of 36 years, Nora; son, Brent (Lisa) Fulton of Byron; two grandchildren: Jade (Dustin) Hemenway and Jacob Fulton and fiance Mollie DeLano; brother, Gary (Marilynn) Klocke of Byron; sister, Linda (John) Cobb of Waterford and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Pamela Klocke. Memorial contributions given in Skip's name are suggested to Cohoctah Township to go toward the Cohoctah Park or the Byron FFA. Online condolences may be sent to the family by going to www.watkinsfuneralhomes.com



#### PIETRYGA, LEONARD A.

Age 79 and a longtime resident of Highland, passed away in his home in the care of his family on February 23, 2014. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Beverly in 2010 and is survived by sons, Michael and Matthew; daughter, Mary Ogle; grandchildren, Eric, Sarah, and Emily Pietryga, Zackary, Cameron and Mackenzie Ogle, and Mason Pietryga; brothers, Leo, Norbert, Clarence, Thomas: sisters, Patricia, Jane, Annette, Alice, Lorraine, many nieces, nephews, extended family and dear friends. A Funeral Liturgy will be held at Church of the Holy Spirit, 3700 Harvey Lake Rd, Highland on Thursday, February 27, 2014 at 10 a.m. with gathering beginning at 9 a.m. Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Contact: 248-349-2345 or visit www.faithcommunity-novi.org Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

**Women's Bible Study:** 9:15-10:30 a.m. Saturdays; What's So Amazing About Grace? through March 22

#### First Baptist Church of Northville

Location: 217 N. Wing Contact: 248-348-1020 Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month

#### First Church of the Nazarene

**Location:** 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile **Contact:** 248-348-7600 or visit dfcnazarene.org

Sunday Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Classic worship service, Adult Bible Fellowship classes and Children's Sunday School; 11 a.m. Contemporary worship service with Kids Church, Teen Worship Service and Adult Bible Fellowship classes. 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 1 Peter Thursday schedule: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group and Bible Study Friday: 9:30 a.m.; Sweet Fridays on the second and fourth Fridays – A Ministry for Moms of All Ages

#### First Presbyterian Church of Northville

Location: 200 E. Main Contact: 248-349-0911 or visit www.fpcnorthville.org Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. (for all ages)

#### 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

#### First United Methodist Church of Northville

Location: 777 W. Eight Mile, Northville Contact: 248-349-1144 or **Location:** 15431 Merriman, Livonia

Contact: 734-427-8743 or visit www.livoniachurch.net Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. Bible School: Sunday 10 a.m.;

Wednesday 7 p.m.

#### Legacy Church

(formerly First Baptist Church and Orchard Hills Baptist Church) Location: 23455 Novi Road,

Novi **Contact:** pastor Jon Hix, 248-

349-5665 or visit www.legacychurch.us Sunday School/Small Groups for all ages: 9:45 a.m. Worship Services: 11 a.m. Bible Study/Prayer: Wednesday 7 p.m.

#### Meadowbrook Congregational Church

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

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

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. Church School: 10-11 a.m. Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m. Merry Widows Luncheon: 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of

each month **Pilgrim Fellowship:** 6 p.m. Sundays

#### Orchard Grove Community Church

Location: 850 Ladd Road, Building C, Walled Lake Web: www.orchardgrove.org Contact: Amanda Rehm at 248-926-6584 or amanda.rehm@orchardgrove.org.

#### Northville Christian Assembly

Location: 41355 Six Mile Contact: 248-348-9030; ncalife.org

**Sundays:** 9-10 a.m. Sunday School for adults / youth / children; 9 a.m. Contemporary service in multipurpose gymnasium; 1015 a.m.: Contemporary service in worship center; children's super church on the second level (208/210)

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

#### Novi-Northville Center for

Jewish Life

Details: Events, programs and

#### **GET LISTED!**

Submit: Send calendar submissions via email to cstone@hometownlife.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.

www.orchardgrove.org

#### Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

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

#### Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church

Location: 770 Thayer, Northville Contact: 248-349-2621 or olvnorthville.org

**Saturday Worship:** 5 p.m. **Sunday Worship:** 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

#### Our Shepherd Presbyterian Church

Location: 1200 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth

**Contact:** pastor Bill Burke at 734-927-0891

Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.

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

#### Our Savior Apostolic Lutheran Church

**Location:** 54899 Eight Mile, Northville

#### Pentecostals of Novi

Location: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Contact: 248-697-8158 or visit www.thepentecostalsofnovi.org

#### Plymouth St. John's Episcopal Church

Contact: 734-453-0190, Ext. 16,

or visit www.stjohnsplymouth-

Location: 45000 N. Territorial

**Praise Baptist** 

Contact: 734-748-3898

Location: 574 S. Sheldon in

Plymouth

Church

Road, Plymouth

.org

www.phillipsfuneral.com

CUSSON, ANDREW G. Age 87, of Northville, passed away 2/18/2014. Full obit and online condolences at www.casterlinefuneralhome.com

**DOMBROWSKI, ANNE** Nov. 27, 1921 - Feb. 16, 2014 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

**DUFFY, EDWARD M.** longtime resident of Milford, age 104, passed away on January 30, 2014 in California. Services will be planned for spring.

GOFTON, ROSS H. Age 86, of Highland Twp., passed away February 23, 2014. Beloved husband of Joan for 64 years. Loving father of Mark (Fran) Gofton and Susan (Charlie) Aberasturi. Proud grandfather of Stacy, Aaron (Lauren), Sarah and Daniel. Treasured great-grandfather Selena, Talon, Eli, Andy and Luke. Ross retired from Ford Motor Company after 33 years. Funeral Service will be held Thursday, February 27, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. (In state 10:00 a.m.) at the Highland United Methodist Church, 680 W. Livingston Rd., Highland. Burial at Highland Cemetery. Share a memory at www.eltonblackands onhighland.com

HUBER, GRACE

Age 56, died Feb. 21, 2014. Gathering Feb. 28, 4-8 Colonial Acres Clubhouse, 25015 Potomac, S. Lyon. Funeral Mar. 1, 10am Our Lady of Victory Northville. **phillipsfuneral.com** 

**JENKINS, PHILLIP** April 18, 1943 - Feb. 12, 2014 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

JOHNSON, ELEANOR Age 73, died Feb. 20, 2014. Visitation Feb. 28, 4-9 p.m.; Funeral March 1, 11 a.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon.

#### MacALLISTER, CAROL M.,

Age 73 of Milford, February 18, 2014. Contact Lynch & Sons for further info: 248-684-6645.

MacDERMAID, DENNIS

**DENNIS** April 3, 1954 - Feb. 19, 2014. obriensullivanfuneralhome.com



The Rev. Fr. Wayne Ureel to officiate. Burial St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Bay City. For further information phone Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, Milford at 248-684-6645.

**RYAN, ROBERT** July 19, 1925 - Feb. 16, 2014 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

#### SOERRIES, RAYMOND J.

A 50 year resident of New Hudson, Michigan, passed away peacefully in his sleep on January 21, 2014 at the age of 82. He was one of 13 children of Frank and Marie Soerries of Hartman, Arkansas. He is survived by his wife Rhoda of 58 years; seven children, Kenneth (Pamela) of Milford, MI, Keith (Kathy Jo) of Mesick, MI, Frank, of Howell, MI, Janell (Roy) of Delta Junction, Arkansas, Jeffrey of Howell MI, Margaret (Jamison) of Highland, MI, and Raymond (Katie) of Fowlerville, MI; 17 grandchildren; and seven great grandchildren. Ray was an avid collector of antique Farmall tractors and enjoyed gardening.

#### WEED, SANDRA

Jan. 15, 1949 - Feb. 3, 2014 obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

In Memoriam



#### MIDDLETON MABEL IRENE

April 12, 1926 - March 1, 2011 at the age of 85 To my loving wife Mabel. We were married May 5, 1945. Not a day goes by that I do not think of you. I Love and Miss you. Your husband, Carl Middleton

In loving memory of my Mommie. Been three years since she went to heaven. I think of her everyday. Mom even though you rest quiet far away, my love is with you both night and day. I Love you Mommie.

Your Baby Girl, Sharon Joy Middleton (Swift)

To our wonderful mother and adored grandmother. She loved spending time with her family. It's hard to believe you have been gone three years. You are remembered, loved and missed by all of us everyday.

Your son, Jack Middleton, May and family www.fumcnorthville.org Summer Sunday Worship (Memorial Day-Labor Day): 8:30 and 10 a.m.

Summer Sunday School (Memorial Day-Labor Day): 8:30 a.m. - Nursery; 10 a.m. -Nursery-sixth grade Sunday Worship (September-

May): 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School (September-May): 8 a.m. Nursery; 9:15 a.m. Nursery 12th grade; 11 a.m. Nursery-sixth grade

#### Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Location: 41415 Nine Mile, corner of Meadowbrook Road, Novi

**Contact:** 248-349-0565 **Sundays:** 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible study; 10 a.m. worship

#### Holy Cross Episcopal Church

Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Contact: 248-427-1175 or holycrossnovi@gmail.com; visit holyCROSSnovi.org

Sunday Worship: 7:45 and 10 a.m.

Sunday School and Nursery Care: 10 a.m. worship service Alzheimer's Support Group: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper: 5-7 p.m. March 4 Suggested donation is \$6 per person/ \$20 for a family of four. All profits will go to support Episcopal Relief & Development.

Ash Wednesday Services: Imposition of Ashes with Holy Communion at noon and 7 p.m. March 5 Unable to make a service? "Drop In" imposition of ashes from 1-6:30 p.m. All are welcome.

#### Hope Lutheran Church

Location: 39200 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

#### Lakes Baptist Church

d Location: 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake

> Livonia Church of Christ

 activities for all ages throughout the year – children's programs,
 Sunday school, adult Jewish classes, youth clubs, holiday services and programs, community social events.
 Contact: Rabbi Avrohhom and Leab Susskind at 248-790-6075

Leah Susskind at 248-790-6075 or rabbi@novijewishcenter.com; www.novijewishcenter.com

#### Novi United Methodist Church

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

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

Sunday Worship: 9:45 a.m.

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

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

#### **Oak Pointe Church**

Location: 50200 W. 10 Mile, Novi

Contact: 248-912-0043

Web: www.oakpointe. org/lifegroups

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

ReNew Life Group Ministries: 7-9 p.m. Monday (groups meet weekly)

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

**Men's Life Groups Ministries:** 6 a.m. Friday; at the church and various locations

#### Our Saviour Apostolic

#### Lutheran Church

**Location:** 54899 Eight Mile, Northville

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

#### Orchard Grove Community Church

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

#### Church

Location: 46325 10 Mile, Novi Contact: 248-347-7778

St. James Catholic

Pastor: Monsignor John Kasza

Mass Schedule: 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Tuesday; 7 p.m. Wednesday; 5 p.m. Saturday

#### St. John Lutheran Church

Location: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills Contact: 248-474-0584 or visit stjohn-lutheran.com

Saturday Worship: 5:30 p.m. Sunday Worship: 9, 11:15 a.m. Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

#### St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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

#### Unity of Farmington Hills

**Location:** 32500 W. 13 Mile, Farmington

**Contact:** 248-737-9191; AdministrativeDirector@unityfh.com

#### Unitarian Universalist Church of Farmington

**Location:** 25301 Halsted, Farmington Hills

**Contact:** www.uufarming-ton.org

Youth Interfaith Journey: 9:30 and 11 a.m. Sundays

**Details:** This religious education program is open to the public and currently enrolling new students. Classes are grouped into grades K-five, six-eight and nine-12 with age-specific education materials for all.

**Contact:** Jennifer Teed at 248-478-7272 or dre@uufarmington.org

#### **Lifelong Learning Forum:** 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays

**Details:** Six weeks exploring different topics like religion, philosophy, science, health, social and political issues. No advance registration necessary; a \$5 donation is suggested. Drop in and pick the class that interests you most at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Farmington.

**Contact:** 248-478-7272 or uufarmington.org/uucf/relifespan

### Movie buffs: Celebrate Oscar<sup>™</sup>, enter for chance to win prizes

The Observer & Eccentric Media, in cooperation with Emagine Theatres, is offering movie buffs a great way to celebrate and win in our Academy Awards<sup>TM</sup>/ Oscar<sup>TM</sup> Contest.

Correctly identify the top seven Oscar<sup>™</sup> categories and you could win a 12-month pass for two to Emagine Theatres, a \$1,000-plus value. Second-place winner will receive four movie passes. Deadline to enter is 11:59 p.m. Saturday, March 1.

Go to hometownlife-.com and select the Oscar<sup>TM</sup> Contest icon located in the DON'T MISS section of the website or go to fb.com/oehometown and click the Oscar<sup>TM</sup> Contest icon.

The seven contest categories are:

**» Best Picture:** American Hustle, Nebraska, Captain Phillips, Philomena, Dallas Buyers Club, 12 Years a Slave, Gravity and The Wolf of Wall Street.

» Best Actor In a Leading Role: Christian Bale in American Hustle, Chiwetel Ejiofor in 12 Years a Slave, Bruce Dern in Nebraska, Matthew McConaughey in Dallas Buyers Club and Leonardo DiCaprio in The Wolf of Wall Street.

» Best Actress In a Leading Role: Amy Adams in American Hustle, Judi Dench in Philomena, Cate Blanchett in Blue Jasmine, Meryl Streep in August: Osage County and Sandra Bullock in Gravity.

» Best Actor In a Supporting Role: Barkhad Abdi in Captain Phillips, Jonah Hill in The Wolf of Wall Street, Bradley Cooper in American Hustle, Jared Leto in Dallas Buyers Club and Michael Fassbender in 12 Years a Slave. » Best Actress In a Supporting Role: Sally Hawkins in Blue Jasmine, Julia Roberts in August: Osage County, Jennifer Lawrence in American Hustle, Lupita Nyong'o in 12 Years a Slave and June Squibb in Nebraska.

**» Best Animated Feature Film:** The Croods, Frozen, Despicable Me 2, The Wind Rises and Ernest & Celestine.

**» Best Director:** David O. Russell for *American Hustle*, Alfonso Cuarón for *Gravity*, Alexander Payne for *Nebraska*, Steve McQueen for 12 Years a Slave and Martin Scorsese for The Wolf of Wall Street.

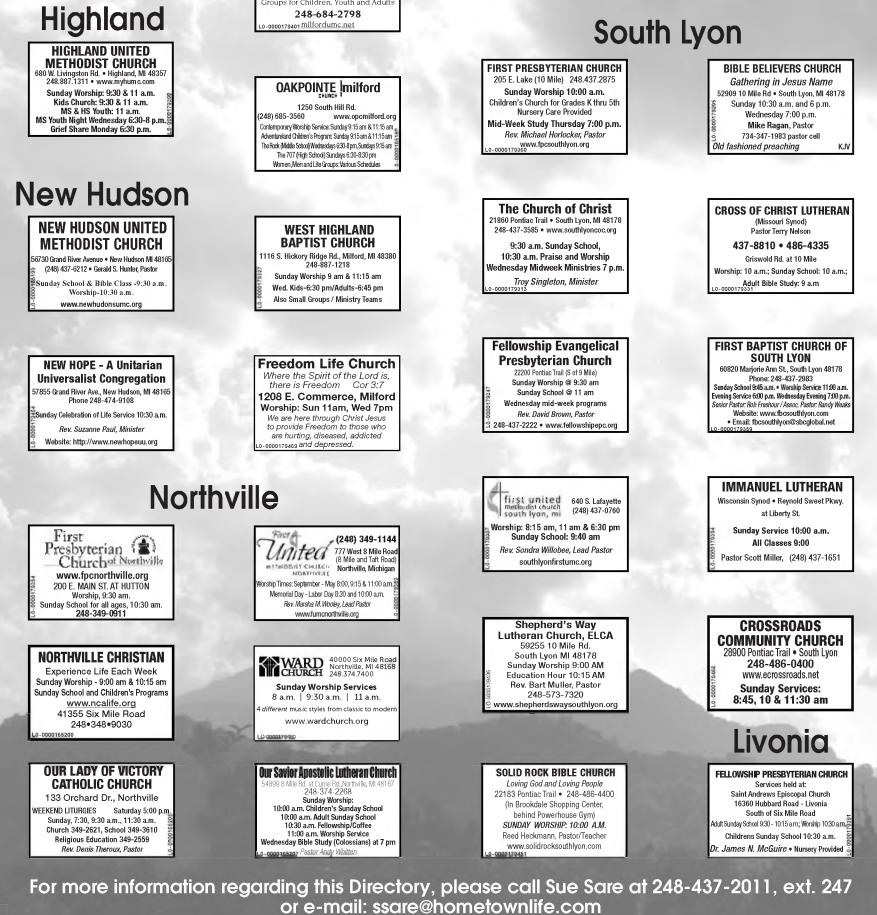
» First tiebreaker category is for Best Documentary Feature: The Act of Killing, Cutie and the Boxer, Dirty Wars, The Square and 20 Feet from Stardom. **» Second tiebreaker** 

category is for Best Original Score: The Book Thief, Gravity, Her, Philomena and Saving Mr. Banks.



## Your Invitation to

#### **Brighton** Milford Novi HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL BRIGHTMOOR CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH reschool, Pre-K & Kdg. - Mo. Synd 620 General Motors Rd., Milford CHRISTIAN CHURCH 24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375 www.hsrcc.net at the corner of Winans Lake & Musch Rd. 40800 W. 13 Mile Road. Novi aturday: 4:30 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanish Church office: (248) 684-0895 810-231-9199 on the corner of M-5 & W 13. Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Fr. John Rocus, Pastor Sunday Services: 8:30 am & 11am Sundays 9:15a & 11:15a Fr Boh LaCroix Pastor Weekend Liturgies Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Bible Study & Sunday School @ 9:45 am www.brightmoorcc.org Fr. Beto Espinoza, Associate Rev. Martin Dressler omething for the entire famil se visit our Shroud of Turin Display and Book & Gift Sh rish Office: 349-8847 • www.holyfamilynov FAITH COMMUNITY HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL Walled Lake FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 40700 W. Ten Mile Rd. • 248-427-1175 VISITORS WELCOME! 133 Detroit St., Milford • 248-684-5695 Pastor Steve Swayze 44400 W. 10 Mile., Novi, 248-349-2345 1/2 mile west of Novi Rd. Sunday Worship 7:45 am & 10 am CROSSPOINT Healing Service Wednesday 11:45 am unday School (all ages) 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Worship - 11 a.m www.faithcommunity-novi.org **COMMUNITY CHURCH** 'oung Adults Dinner/Bible Study, Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m Rev. Ann Webber, Rector WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10 AM 1850 S. Commerce Rd. Walled Lake, MI 48390 Wednesdays, 6:45-8:15 p.m. Awana, 3 yrs old thru 6th grade and Youth Group for 7th grade and older holycrossnovi@gmail.com "Children, Youth and Adult Ministries" Sunday Services: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. Website: milfordbaptist.org Wednesday Evening: 7 p.m. All Ages Rev. Kenneth Warren - 586-531-2021 www.cpccnow.com **OAK POINTE CHURCH MEADOWBROOK** 50200 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH **MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN** Saturday Worship 5:15 p.m., CHURCH 21355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 ½ Mile Sunday 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Pastor Bryant Anderson 238 N. Main Street, Milford MI (248) 684-2805 248-348-7757 • www.mbcc.org Whitmore Lake Casual, contemporary service Sunday Worship 10 a.m. Phone (248) 912-0043 www.milfordpc.o www.iniirordipc.org Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m School age 3 thru 5th grade ( buth Group 10 am - Grades 6-teritage of erec worship Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister www.oakpointe.org FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH A heritage of area worship since 1836 10774 Nine Mile Road Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582 ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH **NOVI UNITED METHODIST** Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. CHURCH NOVI Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. 41671 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 4837 46325 10 Mile Rd. • Novi, MI 48374 **Milford United** Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m. Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m. Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. Methodist Church Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor 1200 Atlantic St., Milford, MI 48381 248-349-2652 Msgr John Kasza, Pastor Sunday Worship: 8:30 am and 10:30 am, 6 pm www.um cnovi.com ving God, loving each other and living our core value Parish Office: 347-7778 Children's Church: 10:30 am Groups for Children, Youth and Adults



A14 (NR) THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## **OPINION**

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

#### **OUR VIEWS**

## **Drive smart to** handle potholes and protect work crews

You know the roads are getting pretty bad when a top news story last Friday was about the 20-plus vehicles that blew out tires and damaged rims hitting a pothole on I-96 at Merriman Road in Livonia.

Our wish for warmer weather has brought on a nightmare we don't normally deal with in February-potholes. We've gone from slipping and sliding on snow-covered streets and freeways to bouncing and dodging the cavernous pits that have opened up on paved and dirt roads. They've turned commutes into bone-jarring, teeth-rattling rides and, in some cases, costly repair bills.

Čonsidering the winter we are having, it should come as no surprise that our roads resemble the surface of the moon. The sudden manifestation has come early this year and predictions are it will only get worse.

Potholes happen when snow and ice melt as part of the seasonal freeze-thaw cycle. Cracks let water get below the pavement, which freezes and forces the pavement to rise. As temperatures rise above freezing, a hole develops below the surface and the pavement breaks, forming a pothole.

There's no escaping potholes. Certainly, they can be cleaned out and filled in with a hot or cold patch but, as the name indicates, it's only a patch. Those repairs don't last and are also affected by the freeze-thaw cycle.

The best way of dealing with potholes is to avoid them, but sometimes that's not possible. The only option is to try to minimize the possibility for damage when you strike one.

Michigan motorists in key urban areas pay between \$305 and \$536 annually in unnecessary vehicle repairs due to poor roads, according to a January 2014 report by TRIP, a national transporta-tion research group. According to TRIP, bad roads cost Michigan drivers \$2.3 billion per year in unnecessary vehicle repairs. If you also factor in additional costs related to congestion and safety, that figure rises to \$7.7 billion per year. The Weather Channel has some tips about deal-

ing with potholes:

» Don't try to "fly" over a pothole by going fast. Most are big enough to do damage even if you're traveling at highway speeds. In fact, the faster your speed, the greater damage the pothole can do.

» Don't tailgate. You have a better chance of dodging the pothole the driver in front of you hit by not riding on his or her bumper.

» Don't brake when hitting a pothole. It's one of the worst things you can do. You want to have the most possible suspension travel over the front wheels when you hit the pothole. That means letting off the brakes the moment before you hit and allowing the car to absorb the blow.

» Be wary of puddles. It may look like water to

#### **COMMUNITY VOICE**

#### Gov. Rick Snyder is touting Michigan as the comeback state. Do you agree? Why or why not?

This question was asked at different locations around downtown Northville and at the senior center in Novi.



"I think it is, but slowly. There are some good signs with the budget and jobs picking up."

Walt Christopher Northville Township



"I think so. I'm in the hospitality industry and it appears some people are spending more money than a few years back."

Angela Leonardo Northville



"There seems to be a bit of a bounce back for some, but I don't think we will get anywhere near where we were in our prime. But things are looking better, sort of." Patrick Sweeney

Northville



"I don't think so, but I'm a skeptic. I would say this, I don't think it has regressed any more under him."

**Bonnie Moore** Novi

#### LETTERS

#### Public safety a top priority

In a recent news article, it was reported that Northville Township is considering placing a millage request on an upcoming ballot to maintain necessary funding for public safety. It is not unreasonable for township officials to ask for six mills to fund the township's public safety responsibilities providing the funds are being spent wisely. We all want to feel safe and secure in our community and we rely on the dedicated men and women in public safety to provide that, even with the potential for great personal risk. In today's world, even a routine traffic stop can become a deadly encounter.

Our public safety officials are people whose responsibilities don't end when they punch their time card at the end of their shift. There are forms to compete, reports to write, court appearances to make and a variety of other activities that the public doesn't see. Perhaps most importantly, these men and women don't stop being a police officer or firefighter when their shift ends; they are public safety professionals 24 hours a day.

Because of all they do for the tizens they protect, it is incumbent upon us to do all we can to provide them with a good wage and benefit package along with the proper staffing, training and equipment to help them be safe and successful in their profession.

I suggest writing to the Detroit News and the Detroit Free Press, or to the respective political parties. We simply do not want to hear the same recycled diatribe over and over in an area of the newspaper which should be used for local issues.

Too many people in the communities that these newspapers are doing wonderful things for their fellow men/women, and there are enough local issues which cannot be addressed because of the chronic, negative dribble coming from both sides of the political spectrum..

Think about it.

John Callahan Northville

#### Caring for the 'little man'

The hope of raising the federal minimum wages is at a standstill. The Obama administration and the Democratic party want to raise it to \$10.10 per hour and fast food companies, large retail corporations, and the Republican party want to keep it at \$7.35 per hour.

The Republicans tell us that if it is raised, unemployment will increase because employers will discharge many of their employees. Apparently they assume that because of the low wages employers are retaining many more employees than they actually need. For instance, instead of an employee at a fast-food company doing the work of two employees, he/she could be doing the work of three employees. At that rate, spread over the establishment, a substantial number could be discharged and unemployment would increase. While the Republican party has never offered a plan for reducing unemployment and blocked all efforts of the administration to do so, at least it is trying to keep from making it worse. In fact, consistent with its philosophy, that low wages are good for the country, I am surprised it has not offered the lowering of the federal minimum wage as a cure for unemployment. Then employers might increase their hiring irrespective of whether they needed more employees or not. It would show the Republicans really cared for the little man.

#### WHAT DO YOU **THINK?**

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

Web: www.hometownlife.com Mail: Letters to the Editor, Northville Record, 101 N. Lafayette Street, South Lyon, MI 48178

#### Schauer supported 'Obamacare'

In the Feb. 20 Record, one of the writers said that because Governor Snyder raised several taxes, he'd contribute to Mark Schauer's campaign. I'd like to remind this writer that while in the U.S. House, Schauer voted for 'Obamacare,' which I believe to be the largest and most oppressive tax increase in the history of our nation. If the writer can't support Snyder because of a tax increase, he most certainly should refuse to support Schauer, whose vote for Obamacare's taxes made Snyder's actions look like a pittance. John Colling

you, but under that murkiness can be a massive pothole, sometimes large enough to do severe damage to the car.

So how serious are this year's potholes?

Last week, Jordan Avgousti @JGoose23 tweeted: "Gonna make an app called dodge the potholes. Difficulty levels will be easy, medium, hard, expert and Michigan."

And the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association is again holding its Pothole Pocketbook Contest at justfixtheroads.com/contest. Winners will be announced each week during March and the prizes are up to \$500 toward vehicle repair costs.

The contest is open to all Michigan-licensed drivers, age 18 or older, who have endured vehicle repairs caused by bad roads since January 2014. To enter, drivers must submit a photo or scan of their itemized repair bill at justfixtheroads.com/ contest, along with the contact information of their mechanic or body shop to verify the repair. Drivers must also submit photos of their vehicle's damage and (if possible) the specific pothole(s) they hit.

MITA is a leading advocate for increased infrastructure funding in Michigan to save lives and money. According to Lance Binoniemi, MITA vice president of government affairs, the state's extreme weather may be breaking up roads and bridges, but so is a continued decline in adequate funding.

"This contest will help to make things easier for a few lucky motorists, but the only real way to reduce the high cost of bad roads for everyone is for the Legislature to invest in our roads and bridges now to save lives and money," he said.

And while you're watching out for potholes, also keep an eye open for work crews who are out there doing the patching. Give them plenty of leeway and slow down. Certainly it might be an aggravation with the traffic congestion they create, but taking a little extra time to get someplace is a whole lot better than a pain in the pocketbook because of flat tires, bent rims and even damage to the suspension.

You can report potholes on state roads to the Michigan Department of Transportation by calling 888-296-4546. However, MDOT only repairs potholes on state trunk lines - freeways with M, I, or U.S. designations like I-94, M-14, U.S.-10. For potholes on routes other than state trunk lines, contact your county or local unit of government.



Kurt Kuban, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor

Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

Lawrence Matta Northville Township

#### Stop with the partisan letters

I have been a resident of Northville for 20 years, and a reader of Hometown newspapers and the Northville Record for several additional years. I am not a Democrat, nor am I a Republican, and believe that the best candidate who poses common sense/realistic solutions to this country's many and growing number of problems, should be the candidate who should be voted in.

Frankly, after observing the point/counterpoint über liberal and über conservative letters to the editor in the issue received on Feb. 13, I felt that if must express my opinion that these letters should be limited to a few months before each election cycle or during times of national interest. My family views this large section of the newspaper as an annoyance, a waste of newspaper space and frankly, simply attempts by frequent contributors who are on the far fringes of the political spectrum to garner votes or sway opinion for their far flung ideology. This can only be attempted through bashing the other side and attempting to "educate" the readership that the other party is the sole cause for every issue this great country currently faces. We are smarter than that Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Nowka, and although you may be wonderful individuals, your politico-bashing makes you and others look extremely foolish.

I am certain that next week's Letters to the Editor will be replete with fringe contributors stating that I am asking for censorship, and will discuss First Amendment speech issues. Recall that the First Amendment reads: "The Government shall make no laws ..." If these contributors cannot control their need to spew their fringe views, Irene Piccone Northville

#### Legitimate questions

I have been following the discussion between James Koster ("Still waiting") and Steve Lawrence ("Ways to eliminate the deficit"). It seems that Mr. Koster has a question that he would like answered by two elected officials and Mr. Lawrence feels that the elected officials don't owe him an answer. Actually, he is offended that a taxpayer would even have the nerve to ask a question and he proceeds to answer the question himself.

As a taxpayer, I feel that career politicians like Debbie Stabenow and Carl Levin should be experienced enough and perfectly capable of answering Mr. Koster's question. I, for one, would like to hear their answer. The question being, "give me five ways that you would reduce federal spending, how would you implement them, and a timetable." Maybe Debbie Stabenow and Carl Levin could step up to the plate now and answer the question for themselves.

**Carol Maynard** Northville

Northville Township

#### **Tenets of Tea Party**

I am responding to a letter (reference Jan 27 in the Plymouth-Canton Letters to the Editor) that Mr. James Huddleston wrote attempting to defame state Sen. Patrick Colbeck. He attempted to infer that the increased state revenue of \$1.2 billion was gained at the expense of the poor and the middle class. Nothing could be more untrue.

The increased revenue was due to more jobs which allowed Michigan to enjoy private sector job growth that placed our state fourth highest in the nation for private sector growth. During that time span, Michigan added over 124,000 jobs. The simple truth is that more jobs mean more taxable income and more local spending.

This all has a positive and geometric effect on our state economy. It is my sincere belief that Sen. Colbeck and Gov. Rick Snyder have pursued policies and legislation that have enabled the significant growth and financial security of our great state.

I only ask that you respect all of us by not making baseless defaming charges. Let me go one step further. Would you support the majority of the following tenets? I believe most Americans would agree with the majority of the following items. For the record, I believe in all 10.

Eliminate excessive taxes; eliminate the national debt; eliminate deficit spending; protect free markets; abide by the U.S. Constitution; promote civic responsibility; reduce the overall size of government; believe in the people; avoid the pitfalls of politics; and maintain local independence.

Which of the above precepts do you disagree with? If you agree with most of them you are in fact a believer in the Tea Party.

> **Bob Cushman** Northville

## A night just for the guys

Men to gather at Methodist church for winter fellowship

> By Julie Brown Staff Writer

Guys looking to escape the winter blahs have an option close to home.

The First United Methodist Church of Northville will offer a "Guys Night Out" 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 6, at the church, 777 W. Eight Mile.

"We just thought it was a good way to get a multi-generational swath," said Sue Craik of Novi, director of Christian ministries. "It's kind of just a whole fun thing," she added of the



Anthony T. DeBenedet, a physician who grew up in the First United Methodist Church of Northville, will speak there the evening of Thursday, March 6, at a "Guys Night Out."

community outreach. The speaker will be Dr. Anthony T. DeBenedet, M.D., of Ann Arbor, co-author of *The Art of Roughhousing: Good Old-Fashioned Horse-* play and Why Every Kid Needs It.

"The key part of that is it builds a connection between parents and children," DeBenedet said of parents and children playing. He's a 1995 graduate of Northville High School who grew up in the Methodist church in Northville.

DeBenedet is married and the father of three daughters ages 7, 5, and 3.

He speaks on health, play and parenting. He earned his bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering from Duke University in North Carolina.

His medical degree is from the University of Virginia, and DeBenedet did his residency at the University of Michigan. He also earned a master's degree in health and health care research from U-M.

He's doing a fellowship in gastroenterology at U-M now, and will finish in June. At the church March 6, DeBenedet will also discuss "playful behaviors," including humor, to encourage playfulness in adults.

Parents are often interested to know that playtime boosts children's intelligence. "It also helps with

their social intelligence," he said. "It helps with their creativity." As a health care pro,

DeBenedet knows hugs and high fives release the oxytocin hormone, the basis for empathy in the brain. He and co-author Lawrence J. Cohen offer tips for families to encourage play and movement. They're concerned about cuts in gym class time and especially recess.

"Test-hungry" educators have cut down on recess, DeBenedet said. "Recess, kids get a social laboratory to develop and learn."

That evening, the Methodist church will collect new and gently used footballs and basketballs for the Methodist Children's Home of Michigan in Redford. Money is also welcome for that home.

"We thought that would be kind of a fun way to support that mission," Craik said of the balls collected for the home. You don't have to bring a football or basketball that evening, and only a free will offering will be taken for dinner.

The evening March 6 will include dinner and fellowship. Contact Sue Craik at craik1@aol.com or call her at 248-349-1144, Ext. 20, to register. Others in the church office can also handle registration.

DeBenedet is no stranger to Northville, and has family nearby in South Lyon and Livonia.

"I'm there frequently," said DeBenedet, 37. "I always love coming back. It has a pretty good sense of community," which helps people, he added of Northville.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com



## Spring Celebration! **RTS & CRAFT SHOW** Saturday, March 1, 2014 9:00am-4:00pm

\$2.00 Admission (under 12 free)

Large Juried Show of Handcrafted Items Only Lunch • Bake Sale • Facepainting Hourly Door Prize Drawings Strollers Welcome

LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND

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#### LOCAL NEWS

## Obama touts Canton for regional manufacturing hub

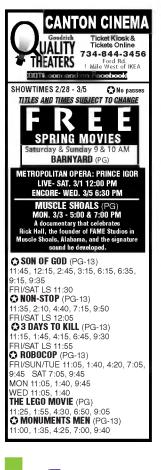
#### **By Darrell Clem** Staff Writer

**President Barack** Obama singled out Canton Tuesday afternoon as one of four manufacturing and research hubs he said can lead to goodpaying jobs and "put America at the forefront of 21st century manufacturing."

Obama formally introduced Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy, among those who traveled to Washington, D.C., to attend an unveiling of Obama's vision to forge manufacturing ties between the public and private sectors.

Obama touted four manufacturing hubs -Canton, Chicago, Raleigh, N.C., and Youngstown, Ohio – as critical to giving the United States a competitive edge against countries such as Germany. He said the latest initiatives can strengthen this country's middle class.

Project leaders have said Canton was chosen





**Canton Township** Supervisor Phil LaJoy went to the White House as President Obama made a formal announcement about the Canton-based manufacturing institute.

for a \$148-million manufacturing research institute for lightweight metals that involves a consortium of more than 50 companies, universities and nonprofits across the nation. It will be led by the University of Michigan, Ohio-based manufacturing technology nonprofit EWI and Ohio State University.

Obama said the initiatives he announced Tuesday can help rebuild the nation's middle class and return America to a stronger manufacturing base, much like decades past when "the work was hard but the jobs were good.'

Already, he said 625,000 jobs have been created over the last four years, leading to what he called "the first sustained manufacturing growth in over 20 years."

#### 'Manufacturing revolution'

Obama said the new hubs "have the potential to change the way we build things in America" and can "lead to a manufacturing revolution."

Local officials have said Canton seems a logical place for a \$148million manufacturing research institute due to its proximity to Detroit Metro Airport, the I-275



University of Michigan student Jeong-Seop Yoon tests the tensile strength of a piece of aluminum alloy in the S.M. Wu Manufacturing Research Center, U-M President Mary Sue Coleman said in a statement the initiative could help the region build "on its core strengths to become the nation's technology hub for lightweight materials and manufacturing." UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

corridor and the University of Michigan. A precise location hasn't been named.

"It's a tremendous opportunity," LaJoy said. "We're just down the road from the University of Michigan. We're close to the hub of manufacturing for the nation, really, with Detroit. This is great for Canton. It's great for the whole area.

Canton was thrust into the national spotlight over the weekend - much to the surprise of township leaders – after the White House and U-M announced the community was chosen for a hightech institute expected to bring 10,000 jobs to the Midwest.

Canton's choice for the American Lightweight Materials Manufacturing Innovation Institute comes after a Canton marketing plan, unveiled last fall by OHM Advisors, cited Canton as suitable to become a research and development hub for manufacturing and other purposes. The study even hinted at U-M support facilities

Local officials aren't sure how much tax revenue the facility might

mean for Canton, still a growing community with more than 90,100 people.

#### 'Extremely excited'

"We're still waiting to get more information," LaJoy said. "We're extremely excited and we were a little surprised about this opportunity. It's about getting people working.'

Project leaders have indicated the institute could open in spring.

"It's a great opportunity for Canton and it proves that Canton is a friendly workplace and environment," township board Trustee John Anthony said. "We have the personnel to handle these types of operations. Canton is looking forward to getting this project off the ground. It's an opportunity for Canton that is well-deserved. We are very pleased."

The federal government is set to invest \$70 million over five years with an additional \$78 million coming from consortium partners.

'This is a tremendous opportunity for Michigan and the region," U.S. Rep. Sander Levin, D-Mich., said in a statement, adding later, "Michigan is an obvious

choice to host the lightweight metals hub. It builds on our state's core manufacturing strengths and Michigan's skilled workforce.<sup>2</sup>

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano called the initiative "a game-changing development for Wayne County and all of southeast Michigan," saying it can create the materials and blueprint "for the cars, trucks, airplanes and ships of tomorrow.'

Canton Trustee Pat Williams said local officials began learning of Canton's selection over the weekend.

"I believe it's a good thing because it's a private/public initiative," Williams said. "Any positive investment in our community is welcomed."

#### Thousands of jobs

The institute is expected to create 10,000 jobs over five years. Its main office will be in Canton with support in Columbus, Ohio.

U-M announced the institute is designed to establish an ecosystem to support the production of advanced lightweight metals. It will enable research and development projects, as well as education and training programs to prepare the workforce. U-M has said the project is expected to have both national and regional impact.

"Through this initiative, our region will build on its core strengths to become the nation's technology hub for lightweight materials and manufacturing," U-M President Mary Sue Coleman said in a statement. "Companies from around the country will come here not only because of our technological capabilities, but also because we have the workforce they need in their efforts to revitalize and transform domestic manufacturing."

U-M said the institute is intended to move cutting-edge lightweight metals out of the research lab and into future cars, trucks, airplanes and ships - both for the commercial and military sectors.

On its website, U-M said the institute's efforts will encompass the entire transportation supply chain, nurturing innovations from conception through design, development and production. It will contract more than \$100 million in research and development projects with partner organizations, the university said.

The institute also is expected to educate the next generation of manufacturing operators and engineers by establishing science, technology and engineering curricula for programs in grade school to graduate school.

Most of the 10,000 jobs are expected in the metal stamping, metalworking, machining and casting industries that are dominant in the Midwest. The aim is to add 100 more metal-related engineering professionals each year and 1,000 more skilled trade workers. Within three years, U-M said, the project should offer advanced training to an additional 1,000 current employees per year.

LaJoy and other local leaders said they are eager to learn more about the institute and its impact on Canton. The latest initiative comes as Canton already has embarked on a marketing plan to try to lure new companies.

Gannett Michigan contributed to this story.

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#### **INSIDE:** BUSINESS, B4 • REAL ESTATE, B5 • CLASSIFIED, B6-8

**SPORTS** 

CAL STONE, EDITOR CSTONE@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-437-2011 EXT. 237

#### SECTION B (NR) THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Girls claim medals at indoor track state meet

Six Northville athletes earn all-state honors

#### By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

If there is any indication of just how tough the Northville track and field program is going to be this year, it's probably how well individual athletes performed at the Michigan Indoor Track Series State Championships held last weekend at Central Michigan University.

The meet, which is always a great indicator of how athletes are going to perform in the high school track and field season, was held Feb. 22. Northville had six athletes earn all-state status, which

means they finished in the top eight in their respective event. The top finishers from

Northville were senior Morgan Robertson – who took second in the girls 60-meter hurdles in a time of 8.86 seconds – and the team of senior Erin Zimmer, senior Nicole Mosteller, sophomore Emma Herrmann and sophomore Lexa Barrott, which finished second in the in the 3,200meter relay. Barrott also earned all-state status in the 1,600-meter run, in which she finished fifth in 5:08.21.

Northville's Conor Naughton, a sophomore, took fifth in the boys 3,200-meter race in a time of 9:43.44.

Also competing at the MITS championships but not earning all-state honors were junior Jason Ferrante (1,600-meter run), junior Sean McCullough (3,200-meter run) and sophomore Chloe Abbott (400-meter dash).

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



Four girls from the successful Northville High running program took the silver medal at the Indoor Track Series State Championships held this past weekend at Central Michigan University. Representing the NXC Running Club, seniors Erin Zimmer and Nicole Mosteller, along with sophomores Lexa Barrott and Emma Herrmann, raced to a second-place finish in the 3,200-meter relay, with a time of 9:54, in a field of 11 teams.

## MUSTANGS BUCKLE DOWN FOR VICTORY

#### By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

The Northville boys basketball team is looking to go into the postseason with momentum on its side.

The Mustangs, coached by Todd Sander, picked up a win over Walled Lake Western, 53-48, and will look to defeat Howell tonight at home so they are at a full sprint when they enter the district at Canton High School next week.

Against Western, the Mustangs found themselves trailing, 21-12, after the first quarter.

"Trailing 21-12 after one was not where we wanted to be and I give our guys credit for really buckling down on defense," Sander said.

Perhaps it was the disappointment of being knocked out of contention for the KLAA title with a loss to John Glenn just a couple of days before, but one thing was



## Third time's a charm

Catholic Central captures another wrestling state crown

> **By Tom Lang** Gannett Michigan

Everyone in Michigan wrestling knew Novi Detroit Catholic Central came Saturday to Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena as the twotime defending team state champ in Division 1.

But the Shamrocks were hearing nothing of that not until defeating Davison for a second straight year, 34-19, to earn its third consecutive title.

All season long, CC coach Mitch Hancock would not allow anyone in the program to use the word "threepeat," even for motivation.

"We told our fans, our parents, our seniors, our whole team we will not use the word 'three-peat,'" Han-cock said. "I wouldn't allow them to use it all year because I believe that you've got to go out and attack, got to go out and take the state title. You can't defend one. And our guys did that today, they attacked.' Drew Garcia, a two-time individual state champ, attacked Davison's Jordan Cooks, also a two-time champ, in overtime to get a take-down and the win, 3-1, at 189 pounds, which secured the title. "A lot of people have been waiting for that match," Garcia said, adding that he bumped up a weight class from 171. "And it came down to the state championship in both our senior years. It was definitely an intense match and we're friends, so I knew it was going to be close. There's no hard feelings there. We just went at it and battled. I came out with the victory. "I knew the longer the match went, the better I would be," Garcia said about the take-down. "I thought in my mind all the time, 'Just one good takedown would do it.' So I took the single and he was fighting really hard, but there was no way I was going to let go and I finished off to a

certain – the Mustangs weren't playing the game they had worked on throughout most of the season.

But a quick talk from Sander and some adjustments between the first and second quarters made a huge difference. The Mustangs came out and put on a completely different defensive showcase,

See MUSTANGS, Page B2

#### **ON TAP**

Northville will host Howell at 7 p.m. today. The Mustangs will then play at 5 p.m. Monday against Novi in the district tourney at Canton High School.

## Northville ends regular season on high note

Girls cagers top Walled Lake Northern, Pinckney

#### By Sam Eggleston

The Northville girls basketball team may not have had a chance to play for the KLAA title after failing to make the conference tournament, but

that doesn't matter any longer. The team ended its regular season last week with a pair of wins, keeping its momentum strong as its headed into the district tournament Wednesday (after the sports section went to print). The team's victories came over Walled Lake Northern, 54-16, and Pinckney, 53-40.

"We got what we wanted our of this game," Northville coach Todd Gudith said of the victory over Pinckney. "The effort and energy were good. We're prepping for districts and needed to see us work out some kinks offensively and defensively."

Northville will have its hands full in tournament play this week. The five teams in the district have a combined record of 75-25.

"I don't think you'll find another district with that many wins," Gudith said. "Both division champs and the runners up are in it. Our district is usually tough, but normally there is one team that has a

#### ON TAP

Northville was scheduled to play Wednesday in the district tourney. The district final is at 7 p.m. Friday at home. Look for results in next week's edition.

slight edge over everyone else. Not this year. You can make a case of any team to win it." Despite the fact that the

Pirates came out extremely

See NORTHVILLE, Page B2

#### See WRESTLING, Page B2



#### MUSTANGS

Continued from Page B1

holding the Warriors to just six points in the second quarter while scoring eight of their own to cut Western's lead to 27-20 at half.

Western scored 15 and held Northville to 14 in the third quarter, making it 42-34 heading into the final quarter.

Northville used a cool hand to put down points and yank down rebounds to outpace the Warriors, 19-6.

"For us to be down eight going into the fourth and come back and win displays a lot of guts, poise and determination down the stretch," Sander said. "These close, tough games are great preparation for tournament play."

One of the biggest differences in the game was the play of David Morrissey, who scored all of his eight points in the second half to keep Northville's momentum flowing in the right direction.

"I was so happy to see David light it up in the second half," Sander said. "He was the key in our comeback.

Morrissey's play was sparked by Western's



Northville's Nathan Kellum in action against Canton. JOHN HEIDER| STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

need to focus so much attention on Northville's top scorer, Andrew Meacham. Despite the added defensive pressure, Meacham wasn't slowed down at all, putting up vet another doubledouble as he scored 23 points and pulled down 12 boards.

"Meach had a big

fourth quarter both on offense and while protecting the rim on de-

fense," Sander said. Another key player was Andrew Stevens, who scored seven points, including two clutch free throws in the fourth quarter that kept Northville's advantage alive. "This was maybe the

hardest game I have seen Andrew play," Sander said. "He was terrific.'

Northville is 13-6 overall with one regularseason game left.

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

#### NORTHVILLE

Continued from Page B1

aggressive and challenged the Mustangs right out of the gate, the girls were able to make solid adjustments and overcome the obstacles. Pinckney had the game tied, 8-8, midway through the first quarter, but Northville adjusted and clamped down on defense. The move forced several turnovers and Northville took advantage of them, going on a 12-3 run in the final three minutes of the opening quarter to take a 20-11 lead.

Northville continued

**GET YOUR** 

to repel the Pirates in the second quarter, holding Pinckney to just one basket to build a 21-point lead at halftime.

The Mustangs led by 24 after three quarters and held off Pinckney in the fourth quarter.

The Mustangs were led by Gabby Mencotti, who scored 19 points. Heather Randall added 17.

The Mustangs finished the season with a 15-5 record, 5-5 in the Central Division.

#### Northville 54, W.L. Northern 16

The Mustangs didn't have much trouble Feb. 18 against the Knights despite a slow start.

Northville took a six-point lead, 13-7, after the first quarter, but went on a tear through the rest of the game as it had a 41-9 edge over the final three.

"We were kind of sloppy in the first half passing the ball," Gudith said. "Our girls did a great job executing in the second half. They took what we said at halftime and played an all-around better game."

Northville had nine players score. Leading the team was Heather Randall, who scored 12 points, while Jessica Moorman added nine, Bryce Quick put up eight and Brook Adams and Gabby Mencotti

each scored seven.

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

#### WRESTLING

Continued from Page B1

double and dragged my feet.<sup>2</sup>

There seemed a sense of relief for Garcia before the awards ceremony, as well.

"Čoach Hancock wouldn't let us say 'three-peat' the entire year," he said. "It felt good to finally say it."

The Shamrocks also won the title in 2010 and were runners-up to Oxford in 2011.

"It's tremendous to watch these guys accomplish their goals, watch these guys continue to work forward and believe in themselves," Hancock said. "We train these guys hard and I'm not fair to them. I schedule five top 15 teams in the country. Every one of our guys

had a rough year. So I'm proud of our guys."

CC won three of the first four matches, beginning at heavyweight, to take a 13-3 lead before Davison ran off four straight for a 19-13 edge. CC then won the last six matches, including a pin at 160 by Nick Bennett.

"Bennett went out and did a real nice job, then Garcia went out and did a phenomenal job," Hancock said. "I just think Roy Hall

is a class act," Hancock added about the Davison head coach and program. "That Davison program is a heck of a program, so I look forward to many more battles.3

Davison, which was the No. 1 seed, won five consecutive state championships in 2002-06 and is tied with Division 4 Hudson for longest such streak.



CC's two-time individual state champ Drew Garcia celebrates after defeating Davison's Jordan Cooks in overtime. DENNIS BARNES

#### **CITY OF NORTHVILLE** NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

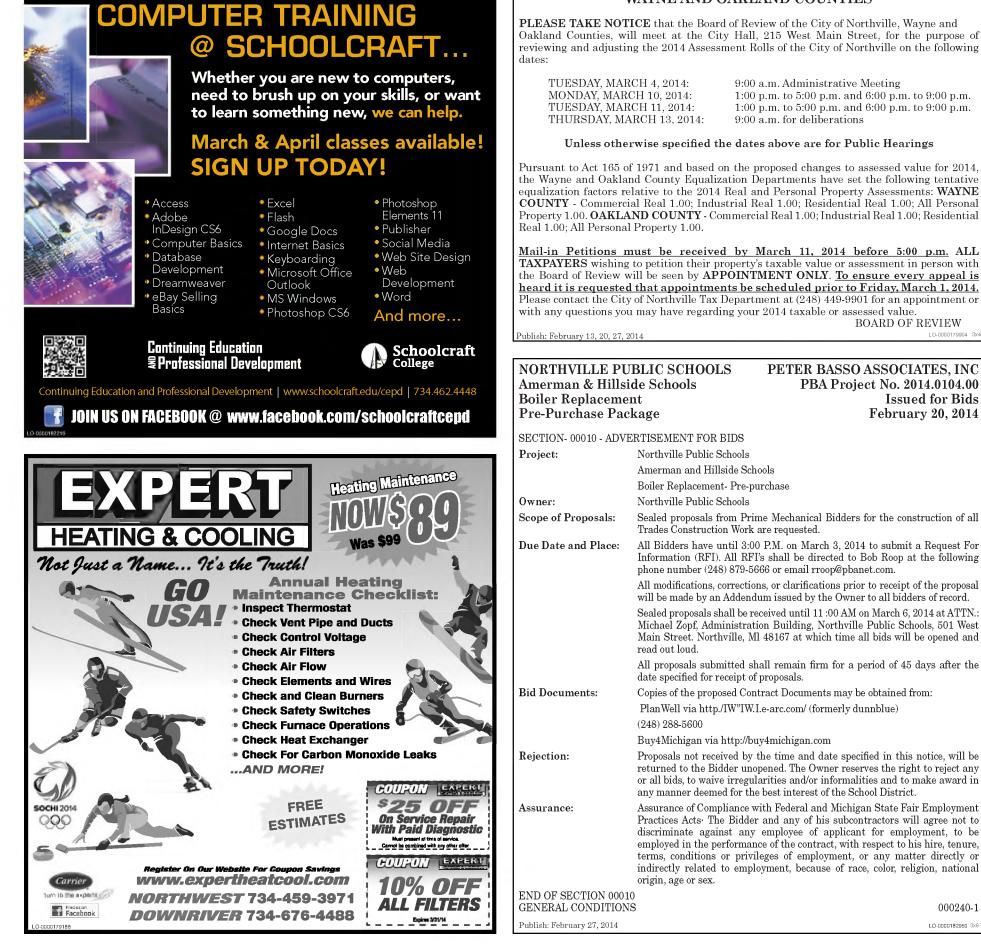
The Northville City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 3, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building – Council Chambers, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, (248) 349-1300 as part of the regular City of Northville Council Meeting. The purpose of this public hearing is to solicit public comment on the proposed City of Northville Non-Motorized Plan. The proposed plan is implementation-oriented and recommends both short and long-term improvements throughout the City.

A copy of the proposed plan is available for review on the Parks and Recreation website at www. northvilleparksandrec.org. Hard copies are also available for review at the City of Northville Parks and Recreation Department (700 W. Baseline Rd. Northville, Michigan, 48167) or the City Clerk's Office (215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167), Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Written comments concerning the proposed amendments will also be accepted by the Parks and Recreation Department at the above address.

Jason D. Spiller, Parks and Recreation Director Publish: February 27, 2014

Dianne Massa, City Clerk LO-0000183165 3x2.5

#### **CITY OF NORTHVILLE 2014 BOARD OF REVIEW** WAYNE AND OAKLAND COUNTIES



## **Catholic Central bowling team headed to state tourney**

#### **By Sam Eggleston** Correspondent

Tough lane conditions didn't seem to matter much to the Detroit Catholic Central bowling team at the MHSAA regional tournament last weekend.

The end result was one for the history books as the Shamrocks bowled over their competition on the way to the program's first regional title.

"(We had some) tough lane conditions," said Catholic Central coach

Al Bridges, who noted "middle of the road" sport oil patterns on the lanes.

The top three teams advanced to the state finals.

**Catholic Central** bowled 180, 229, 186, 212, 177 and 210 in the Baker games and then went on to put up totals of 949, 837 and 1,012 in the regular games. Its final score of 3,992 put it ahead of second-place Howell (3,950) and Westland John Glenn (3,924). Last year's state

champion, Salem, fin-ished fifth.

Catholic Central is ranked No. 6 in Division 1 with an 8-1-1 regularseason record.

The Shamrocks will bring with them some of the top bowlers in their regional. Chris Wilson rolled 212, 190 and 237 for a team-high 639 on the day.

Joe Alvor had a rough opening round, bowing 179, and followed that up with 180 in the second round before finding his groove with a team-high

#### **ON TAP**

Detroit Catholic Central will compete in the state finals at Sunnybrooke Lanes in Sterling Heights this weekend.

245 in the third round for a total of 604.

Joey Krzywonos bowled 204, 191 and 222 for a total of 617 help his team to the regional title.

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



The Detroit Catholic Central bowling team poses with its regional championship trophy last week. The team is ranked No. 6 in Division 1.

## **Mixed results for Northville swim team**

Mustangs win Central Division, can't top Stevenson in KLAA

> **By Sam Eggleston** Correspondent

The Northville boys swim team went from elated one week, to feeling the agony of losing by just a few points the very next week.

The team, coached by Rich Bennetts, earned the Central Division title two weekends ago with some impressive swims that unseated Stevenson as champion.

The next week, however, Stevenson got the best of a talented KLAA as it used its top-heavy talent to earn the conference championship, finishing with 885.5 points just 4.5 points ahead of Northville's second-place finish.

"It was a great meet," Bennetts said. "Steven-son came up with the big swims when they needed them and we did not. It ended up being a simple



Northville's John Duan swims the 200 individual medlev at the KLAA championship meet. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

math problem that we couldn't find an answer for.

"Give all the credit to Stevenson. They performed better than we did when it mattered most."

Bennetts said that while the loss stings, his team should still be proud of what it accomplished this season.

"This hurts, but we were given about a zero percent chance of winning this thing when the season started," he said. "Three weeks ago, this team beat us by 50 points in a dual meet. We threw everything we had at them and in the end, it wasn't enough. They are ranked No. 3 in the state for a reason. They were just too good."

Top-five finishes for the Mustangs came from: the 200-yard medley relay team of Josh Liu, Alan Ruan, Frank

**ON TAP** 

Northville will swim at home in the Last Chance Meet at 6:30 p.m. today. State finals qualifiers will then swim March 7-8 at Saginaw Valley State University.

Zhang and Yash Bajaj (fourth place, 1:42.54); 200 freestyle, Mark Kaminski (fourth, 1:48.48); 200 individual medley, James Xue (fourth, 2:01.55) and Liu (fifth, 2:03.71); 50 free, Andrew Westphal (second, 21.85 seconds); 100 butterfly, Xue (fifth, 54.47); 100 freestyle, Westphal (second, 47.14); 500 free, Nick DuFresne (third, 4:54.18) and Fred Schulz (fifth, 5:01.67); 200 free relay team of Xue, Ruan, Kaminski and Westphal (third, 1:29.55); 100 breaststroke, Liu (third, 1:01.05), Bajaj (fourth, 1:01.32) and Chris Geng (fifth, 1:01.89); and the 400 free relay team of Xue, Kaminski, Liu and Westphal (second,

#### 3:16.52).

#### **KLAA Central**

Depth played determining factor in the outcome of Saturday's **KLAA** Central Division meet

Although Livonia Stevenson captured 10 events, it was Northville that walked out of Novi's pool with a team title as the Mustangs scored a meet-best 655.55 points.

Stevenson, the Central Division dual meet champion (4-0) which defeated Northville 112-75 on Feb. 6, settled for second with 608, followed by the host Wildcats (349.5), Salem (306) and South Lyon Unified (274)

'Unfortunately, Northville's team is more conducive for winning the divisional and conferences championships.<sup>3</sup> Stevenson coach Jeff

Shoemaker said. "We won 10 of 11 swimming events and still lost the meet. We simply do not have enough swimmers."

Northville's lone firstplace finish came from Andrew Westphal in the 50 freestyle (21.91 seconds).

"I am proud of what they were able to accomplish today, but the big one is next week and we definitely got Livonia Stevenson's attention today so there is no doubt they will be ready for us next week," Bennetts said. "They are a quality program with a great coach.'

Brad Emons contributed to this report.

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

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in the regional tourna-

her career-best (8.175) to lead the Mustangs.

On tap Northville will compete

ment Saturday at Ply-

## Mustangs turning in season-best scores

Northville gymnasts prepare for postseason

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

last weekend," McWatt said of her squad that scored a season-high

On the bars, it was Claire Cotter who scored Rachel Eastridge

reer-best.

In order to build a program that can compete with the best teams in the state, the first and foremost thing that has to happen is to build a solid foundation out of athletes who truly believe in working hard to be the best they can be.

The Northville gymnastics team, coached by Erin McWatt, isn't going to win a state championship this year. That's just the facts. But in the next few years? Only time will tell, of course. But this year's team has definitely put forth the effort to turn Northville back into a competitive gymnastics team.

"I am super-psyched about the girls' performances at conferences

131.65 points at the KLAA. "We've been waiting all year to put everything together at the right time and we're doing just that at this point in the season peaking.

Northville's 131.65 points topped the previous season-best allaround score by three points. The team also earned its highest team scores of the season in all four events.

Northville finished eighth, overall, in the KLAA championship standings.

Leading the way for the team on the vault were Alyssa Breen and Maddie DeGroff. Both gymnasts scored 8.55, which is DeGroff's catinued her strong season with a career-best 8.6 on the beam to earn her team's top score.

On the floor, Northville was led by Alyssa Long and Brooke Stecker, who each scored 8.55 for their career-best in the event.

What's even more impressive about Northville's KLAA championship performance is several athletes were battling injuries as well as several dealing with a bout with the flu.

"I am very happy with the results and hope to see similar ones at the regionals," McWatt said. "There is always room for improvement and we've got just one more week of practice and one

mouth High School.

single meet to make those necessary adjustments."

Northville has made several additions in terms of higher-level skill sets to several of the girls' routines.

"With nothing to lose at regionals and everything to gain, it's time to go for it," McWatt said. "We're not in the position to qualify as a team to states this year, so regionals is where we're just going to go for it there's no holding back."

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



LIAM NEESON DELIVE EESON THE HIJACKING WAS JUST THE BEGINNING UNIVERSAL PICTURES AND STUDIOCANAL PRESENT & SILVER PICTURES PRODUCTION In Association with Anton Capital Entertainment S.C.A. And Lovefilm & Jaume Collet-Seira fi MOORE SCOOT NGNAIBY MICHELLE DOCKERY NATE PARKEI HN OTTMAN "REGURAS STEVE RICHARDS RON HALPERN I STARTS FRIDAY FEBRUARY CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES

#### Prep hockey team advances to GLPHA championship game

You could say it was no place for a nervous person Saturday as the Northville prep hockey team took on Plymouth in Brighton. It took determination and effort to overcome a first-period 3-1 deficit, tie it up in the second and then move to overtime before the team celebrated near the Plymouth goal with a 4-3 OT win.

This team of two freshmen, nine sophomores and seven juniors is always in the shadow of the varsity team with its impressive win-loss record. That being said, the prep team – under the leadership of head coach Don Middaugh and assistants Kyle Seargant and Ryan Cordes – has built its own remarkable record of 20-6-1.

They have considerable talent on offense and defense and gelled early in the season with speed, passing ability and two solid goalies. Sophomore Kevin Ono-

frio and junior Kyle Dowling post a combined save percentage of .920 and a 1.60 goals-against average.

Going into the semifinal Great Lakes Prep Hockey Association game Saturday, the Mustangs were 4-1 in the playoffs up against local rival Plymouth (5-0). Plymouth scored first, but was answered shortly after with a Northville goal from Anthony Solack, assisted by Kevin Callahan. Any adrenaline manufactured with that goal was quick to pass as Plymouth scored two goals in very short order to end the first period.

However, the Mustangs came out and owned the second period. The second Northville goal was set up by Solack with a pass back to Mike Knoth, who fired a slap shot past a screen set by Scott Crawford to the short side of the net.

Minutes later, Karl Finkbeiner cycled low



The Northville prep team includes Adam Balok, Noah Sobas, Matthew Jankowski, Zac Osear, Joe Rosati, Mike Knoth, Scott Crawford, Riley Brass, Kevin O'Connell, Anthony Solack, Ian Welsch, Brendan Hicks, Sean O'Malley, Kevin Callahan, Karl Finkbeiner, Cameron Layne, Kyle Dowling and Kevin Onofrio.

and fought for a rebound in front to tie it up at 3-3. The remainder of the third period was back and forth action ending in a stalemate. After a two-minute break it went to four-on-four hockey, with both teams trading possession and shots on goal.

Dowling came up big early in the sudden death with a big save on an odd-man rush that could have ended it right there. But just minutes later, Northville put on a

strong push, finding Ian Welch breaking up the left side in what looked like a very benign play in to the offensive zone. With just enough time and space, Welch fired a wrist shot to the short side, where Kevin O'Connell was screening the Plymouth goalie, and the puck ended in the back of the net.

Northville will play Trenton at the Dearborn DISC arena at 3:30 p.m. Saturday for the league championship.

**B4 (NR)** 

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Two outdoor shows heading to area

BUSINESS

The seventh annual Cottage & Lakefront Living Show returns to the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi from Feb. 27 through March 2, and runs in conjunction with Outdoorama. Patrons to either event receive free crossover admission.

'Our preseason event is for anyone who owns or dreams of owning a cottage or lakefront home," said Mike Wilbraham, show producer of Show-Span, Inc. "We offer vacationers and homeowners the opportunity to explore new ideas and plan for this summer's family experiences and memories.

The Log and Timber Frame Showcase will include how a cabin is put together, floor plans, profiles, roof options, log species, cedar siding, full logs, post and beam and do-it-yourself or contractor built home packages. Builders and contractors will be available for scheduled private consultations through the show's website.

Cottage Living Stage experts will explain how to set up cottage ownership within a family for sharing and handing down; describe sciencebased practical application smart gardening designed to be sensitive to the environment, lower the environmental impact and reduce time and money spent on lawns, soil and plants; and explore other ways to enjoy a cottage more.

Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership will provide informal advice and educational materials from Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan Lake & Stream Association and other agencies, organizations, contractors and landscape professionals on shoreline construction projects and natural shoreline landscaping that benefit lake ecosystems and protect Michigan's inland lakes.

#### Family fun tops Outdoorama

For more than 40 years, Michigan's sportsmen and sportswomen have helped make Outdoorama the state's most

#### **TWO SHOWS IN ONE**

Events: Cottage & Lakefront Living Show and Outdoora-

Location: Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River (between Novi and Beck roads) Novi Dates: Feb. 27 through March 2 Hours: 3-9:30 p.m. Thursday; noon to 9:30 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission: \$10; \$4 for children ages 6-14; and free for children 5 and under. Discount coupons for \$2 off Thursday or Friday box office adult admission are available at

show's website and participating Wendy's restaurants. Free crossover admission from the Cottage & Lakefront Living Show to Outdoorama. Parking: free on-site

Web: www.NoviCottageShow.com Phone: 800-328-6550

popular outdoors event. With over four acres of boats, hunting and fishing equipment, outfitters, conservation organizations and other features this year's show promises

to keep the tradition alive when it comes to Novi. Michigan is home to more than 1 million hunters and anglers, many of whom reside within an hour's drive or so of Novi.

They will fill the aisles at Outdoorama looking for hot deals on boats and sporting gear, for conservation education that includes nearly 100 free seminars, and for family entertainment and fun. Show patrons can expect to find great deals on fishing and hunting boats, pontoons, kayaks and pleasure boats, marine accessories, docks, lifts, hunting and fishing gear, and camping supplies.

The first 500 attendees Thursday and Friday receive a free, collectible Dardevle spoon from Eppinger Manufacturing Co. in Dearborn. The first 750 attendees Saturday and Sunday will receive a a K&E Bass Stopper lure from Stopper Lures in Hastings.

#### **Most Promising** Scientist

Northville resident Ronald Grover Jr., the staff researcher at Propulsion Systems Research Lab at GM Global Research & Development, was recently presented with the Most Promising Scientist industry award at the 2014 Black Engineer of the Year Awards STEM Conference in Washington, DC

The BEYA STEM conference is a multicultural event that unites students, college administrators, recruiters, engineering and IT professionals, scientists and high-level decision-makers from the corporate, government and military communities, in an effort to broaden diversity in this country's technical and scientific work forces.

#### **Guernsey** at **The Henry Ford**

The Henry Ford has decided to strengthen its Local Roots program by increasing the number of Northville's Guernsey Farms Dairy products it will be using. The food team has decided to make a strong commitment to Guernsey and will be including the company's products in nearly all of its recipes that require milk, buttermilk, cream and butter.

The Local Roots program is designed to showcase local food vendors throughout the state of Michigan inside The Henry Ford's restaurants and on its catering menus. The Henry Ford and Guernsey have worked together in the past and because of the great relationship they have built have decided to increase the number of Guernsey products used.

The Guernsey products will be featured throughout The Henry Ford's properties, including Greenfield Village, Henry Ford Museum and as part of their menu for events. Some of the Guernsey products that will be used include butter, cream, buttermilk and various milk products.

#### Van Dam's boutique event

Van Dam's Boutique,

#### **BUSINESS BRIEFS**





Northville's Ronald Grover Jr. receives the Most Promising Scientist award from presenter Michael Harpster.

Friday, Feb. 28. The event will feature margaritas, tropical food, giveaways and more. There will also be a drawing for a onehour massage and manipedi.

449-4282.

#### **Book signing**

Belleville author Jen AcCombs will visit the

her book *My Father's* Secret. The novel features a character named Alex that moves from her

mysterious "order" that " will stop at nothing to get to her." For more information, visit www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore/book.php?w=978-1-62854-206-6.

**KURT KUBAN, EDITOR** 

KKUBAN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-437-2011, EXT. 245 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

located at 111 E. Main Street in Northville, will be hosting a tropicalthemed event 5-9 p.m.

For more information, call Van Dam's at 248Next Chapter Book Store & Bistro from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday. March 8, to sign copies of grandparents' quiet suburban home to go off to college in Los Angeles and then is followed by a

Copies of the book will be available for sale.

#### **Rise and Shine** networking

The Northville Cham-

ber of Commerce will March ,6 at 9Round have its next Rise and Kickboxing & Fitness, Shine Networking event 15404 Haggerty. Join chamber members for 8-9 a.m. Thursday,

#### SYNOPSIS February 20, 2014 - REGULAR MEETING **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE**

		BOARD OF TRU	USTEES	
DATE:	ጥከ			
TIME:	Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:30 p.m.			
PLACE:		405 Six Mile Road		
		: Supervisor Nix called the meeting to	and on at 7.20	
Present:	O U D D L L	Robert R. Nix II, Supervisor	Mary Gans, Trustee	
Present:				
		Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk	Symantha Heath, Trustee	
A1		Marjorie F. Banner, Treasurer	Fred Shadko, Trustee	
Absent:	OFATT	Mindy Herrmann, Trustee		
		EGIANCE:		
1.		s: Approved	· Comment Amerila Store m	
	А.	Approve the Regular Agenda and th		
		1. Minutes – Board of Trustees Reg		
			mission Meeting of January 23, 2014	
	<b>.</b>	3. Northville Youth Assistance Prog		
2.		ments, Presentations, Resolution	s & Announcements:	
	A.	Jeri Moak – Resolution 2014-015	IDOA	
	B.	Presentation by Jack Smith from M	IFOA	
3.	Public H			
	A.		ant Budget Public Hearing – Opened	
4.		blic Comments: Three members o	of the audience had comments or	
	question			
5.	New Bus		1	
	A.	Montcaret Preliminary Plat - Appro		
	B.	Rezoning Recommendation from Pla	anning Commission - Approved	
	C.	CDBG Budget - Approved		
	D.	The Senior Alliance (TSA) Commun	ity Match - Approved	
	<b>E</b> .	Alliance of Rouge Communities Ass		
	F.	Sanitary Sewer Lift Station Improv		
	G.	Annual Wayne County Permits - Ap		
	H.	Vehicle Purchase for W & S - Appro	ved	
	I.	Equipment Purchase for W & S - Ap		
	J.	HVAC System for Township Hall - A		
	K.	Interlocal Agreement – (MABAS) - A	Approved	
1	L.	Detective Car Lease - Approved		
	M.	Replace Police Car Computers - App		
	N.	Act 198 Agreement Template - Appr		
	0.	Act 198 Agreements for Aisin - App	coved	
	<b>P</b> .	Replace Plotter - Approved		
1	Q.	HP Server - Approved		
	R.	Millage - Approved		
6.		ed Business: None		
7.		ices: None		
8.		legistry: Approved	,	
	A.	In the amount of \$1,899,167.11 - Ap		
9.		ommunication & Reports from th		
E LOI	$\mathbf{A}$ .		larjorie Banner, Marv Gans, Symantha Heath,	
	iko, Chip S		N	
10.		er business for the Board of Trust		
11.		RN: Meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.n		
A draft of	the compl	ete minutes will be available March 4	, 2014.	
Respectf	ully subn	nitted:		
-	illebrand			
Publish: Feb	oruary 27, 20	)14	LO-0000183063 3x7.5	

## CHAMBER CHAT

morning networking and light refreshments. The event is free. To RSVP, contact Traci Sincock at tracisincock@northville.org or 248-349-7640, ext. 22.

#### **Taste of Northville**

The chamber will host the Taste of Northville **Business Showcase from** noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 8, at Northville High School, 45700 Six Mile. As one of the most popular community events, the Business Showcase has an estimated attendance of nearly 1,000 residents and business owners. Businesses display their best services, products

and events for the consumers.

Businesses are encouraged to decorate their booth, provide giveaway items, raffle prizes and have games or contests. The chamber encourages the use of the event theme in decorations, contests and displays. Businesses have until Feb. 28 to secure a spot at the event. For more information, contact Traci Sincock at tracisincock@northville.org or 248-349-7640, ext. 22.

#### **State of Community**

The chamber will present the 2014 State of the Community Lun-

cheon beginning at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 16, at Meadowbrook Country Club, 40941 W. Eight Mile, in Northville.

Cost to attend the annual event is \$40 per person.

Several community leaders are scheduled to make presentations, including state Rep. Kurt Heise, Northville Public Schools Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher, city of Northville Mayor Christopher Johnson and Northville Township Supervisor Robert Nix.

To attend, RSVP by April 9 by contacting Traci Sincock at tracisincock@northville.org or 248-349-7640, ext. 22.

#### **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE** 2014 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW DATES

The Northville Township 2014 Board of Review will conduct hearings on the following dates for appeals from citizens, regarding the 2014 assessment, at the Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road. All appeals are by appointment. Beginning Friday, February 21, 2014 you may call (248) 348-5810 to schedule an appointment. Letters of appeal must be received by 4:00 p.m., March 14, 2014. Postmarks are not accepted.

Tuesday	March 04, 2014	1:00 pm - Organizational Meeting				
Appointme	Appointment Dates for Hearing:					
Saturday	March 08, 2014	9:00 am to 12 Noon				
Monday	March 10, 2014	$9{:}00~\mathrm{am}$ to $12$ Noon and $1{:}00~\mathrm{pm}$ to $4{:}00~\mathrm{pm}$				
Tuesday	March 11, 2014	$1{:}00~\mathrm{pm}$ to $4{:}00~\mathrm{pm}$ and $6{:}00~\mathrm{pm}$ to $9{:}00~\mathrm{pm}$				
Thursday	March 13, 2014	$9{:}00~\mathrm{am}$ to $12$ Noon and $5{:}00~\mathrm{pm}$ to $8{:}00~\mathrm{pm}$				
Friday	March 14, 2014	$9{:}00~\mathrm{am}$ to $12$ Noon and $1{:}00~\mathrm{pm}$ to $4{:}00~\mathrm{pm}$				
All persons protesting their assessment must complete a petition (form L-4035) which can be obtained at Northville Township Hall or on the Township website <u>twp.northville.mi.us</u> click on Board of Review or at <u>www.michigan.gov/treasury</u> .						

Sue A. Hillebrand, M.M.C. Clerk

Publish: 1/30/14, 2/13/14, 2/27/14

LO-0000176499 3x4 5

#### **B5 (NR )** THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

**REAL ESTATE** 



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

# **COMMERCIAL INVESTORS 'CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC'**

Commercial real estate investments are expected to produce generally solid returns in 2014, according to the authors of Expectations & Market Realities in Real Estate 2014—The Future Unfolds, an annual forecast report released by **Real Estate Research Corporation** (RERC), Deloitte, and the National Association of Realtors.

The three organizations have drawn on their respective capabilities to examine the economy, capital markets, and commercial real estate property markets; thoroughly assess and analyze existing research; and offer an objective outlook for commercial real estate for 2014 and beyond. Findings indicate that although uncertainties remain, the economy is expected to continue to grow slowly and improve modestly in 2014. Capital is flush, and commercial real estate investment has expanded to the secondary and tertiary markets. In addition, the report carefully analyzes and offers a research-based assessment

of the office, industrial, apartment, retail, and hotel property sectors. The report also provides an outlook for the three mostly likely economic and investment scenarios for 2014 and beyond.

We have seen steady if slow progress since the commercial real estate market collapsed in second quarter 2008, and as the future unfolds, we expect that the positive returns for commercial real estate will continue," stated Kenneth Riggs Jr., president and CEO of RERC. "The value increase from the trough is now about 30 percent, just slightly less than the value lost during the past six years. Although returns are likely to be positive in 2014, we forecast them to be a little lower than in 2013, but still a very reasonable approximate average of 8.75 percent."

"The stabilization that we have seen in the commercial real estate markets during the past year has added greatly to the 'cautiously optimistic' outlook we have for the year ahead," said Matthew

Kimmel, principal and U.S. real estate sector leader for Deloitte Transactions and Business Analytics LLP. "Overall, we see the potential for moderate and continued growth in the volume of commercial property transactions and in property prices.'

The commercial real estate recovery is expected to continue throughout 2014, based on slightly stronger economic growth, noted Lawrence Yun, Ph.D., NAR chief economist. "We anticipate the economy to grow at an annual rate of approximately 2.6 percent, with about 2.2 million jobs to be added in 2014. More jobs mean increased demand for office, retail, apartment, and other commercial real estate sectors," noted Yun.

**Expectations & Market Realities in** Real Estate 2014—The Future Unfolds can be obtained electronically at www.rerc.com.

www.realtor.org/prodser.nsf/Research and www.deloitte.com.

\$75,000

#### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real 4230 Orchard Way estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 7-11, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

\$263,000

**BEVERLY HILLS** 32101 Arlinaton Dr

4931 Rands Rd 338 S Cranbrook Rd 1570 S Hill Blvd 911 Tartan Trl 6285 Thurber Rd 923 Waddington St 482 Westwood Dr 128 Hamilton Rd

\$355,000 29215 Greening St 33677 Heirloom Cir \$359,000 28537 Herndonwood Dr \$245,000 28328 N Skve Dr \$113,000 28331 Quail Hollow Rd \$190,000 \$420,000 21797 Sheffield Dr 23310 Springbrook Dr \$1,015,000 29127 Summerwood Ct \$491,000 \$435.000 30390 Tanglewood Dr

39754 Village Wood Cir \$99,000 \$155,000 \$70,000 30662 Vine Ct \$263,000 \$222,000 29394 Weston Dr \$157,000 24329 Willowbrook \$300,000 \$78,000 SOUTH LYON \$315,000 440 Second St \$120,000 \$130,000 1077 Chestnut Ln \$278,000 23757 Copperwood Dr W \$196,000 \$397,000 \$345,000 1094 Fountain View Cir \$118,000

#### JULIE BROWN, EDITOR JCBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 313-222-6755 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Slip and fall case facts vary

O: We listed our home with a real estate company and allowed it to have an open house. We left the house key with the broker who asked us not to be present at the open house. A potential buver who came to the open house, slipped in our driveway. When we left, the sun was shining and the driveway was completely clear of snow. The buver is threatening to sue us and our broker. Do you think they have a

case?

A: While each case depends upon its facts, in a similar case that was decided by the

Michigan

Court of Appeals, the suit



Robert Meisner

against the owners was dismissed because they were not in possession of the property at the time of the accident, but the listing broker was held liable because he was in control of the property at the time and was responsible for the buyer's protection. The court in that case noted that the sellers had taken reasonable measures to clear the snow from the driveway and sidewalk, and then turned over possession and control of the premises to the broker. You should check with your attorney as each case has to be considered on its individual facts.

Q: Can you tell me what my real estate agent's obligations to me are?

A: There are six general common law fiduciary duties that a real estate agent owes to his or her client. They are:

Obedience - following your lawful instructions.

Loyalty - agent must act only in your best interests.

Disclosure - agent must tell you all relevant facts about the property or sale.

Confidentiality - agent must keep your confidences.

Accountability – agent must be accountable for your possessions, such as keys, money,

important papers. Reasonable care and skill

JZ IVI Annigton Di	\$20 <b>0</b> ,000	120 Hummon Nu	J-JJ,000	JUJJU Tangiewood Di	4J7J,000		¥110,000
32031 Auburn Dr	\$280,000	COMMERCE TOWNSHIP		28409 Westerleigh Rd	\$170,000	54 <b>89</b> 4 Grenelefe Cir W	\$305,000
17400 Beverly Rd	<b>\$258,</b> 000	3212 Belle Terre	\$240,000	21514 Wheeler St	\$119,000	841 Hidden Creek Dr	\$242,000
17161 Birwood Ave	\$260,000	3228 Belle Terre	\$75,000	FRANKLIN		23781 Maple Ct	\$357,000
19710 W 13 Mile Rd # 202	\$21 <b>8,</b> 000	8674 Buffalo Dr	<b>\$129,000</b>	26741 Crestwood Dr	\$500,000	23846 Maple Ct	\$414,000
31650 Westlady Dr	\$323,000	8216 Dickert St	\$130,000	MILFORD		22996 N Fremont Dr	\$406,000
BIRMINGHAM		8085 Eldora Blvd	\$530,000	1347 Horseshoe Cir	\$223,000	1178 Paddock Dr	\$269,000
939 Chester St	\$346,000	4020 Forest Edge Dr	<b>\$259,</b> 000	737 Panorama Dr	\$105,000	59026 Peters Barn Dr	\$380,000
1935 Cole St	\$155,000	2170 Goldfinch	<b>\$358,</b> 000	1910 S Milford Rd	\$127,000	23736 Point O Woods Ct	\$575,000
1336 Haynes St	\$252,000	1965 Golfcrest Dr	\$250,000	NORTHVILLE		23598 Winterberry Ct	\$396,000
1211 Holland St	\$142,000	2450 Greenlawn Ave	\$204,000	47265 Battleford Ln	<b>\$428,</b> 000	59324 Woodfarm	\$25 <b>8</b> ,000
331 Larchlea Dr	<b>\$67</b> 0,000	2832 Orenda St	\$170,000	20930 Currie Rd	\$300,000	172 Woodland Dr	\$116,000
1115 N Old Woodward	\$223,000	2375 Solace Dr	\$55,000	741 Grace St	<b>\$59</b> 0,000	SOUTHFIELD	
Ave Unit		9533 Trace Hollow Ct	\$25,000	22279 Lujon Dr	\$75,000	20280 Alhambra St	\$111,000
1710 Pierce St	<b>\$739,</b> 000	2377 Trillium Hills Dr	\$55,000	948 New Haven Ct	\$170,000	20905 Andover Rd	\$125,000
809 Ruffner Ave	<b>\$</b> 54 <b>9,</b> 000	FARMINGTON		964 New Haven Ct	\$152,000	27715 Arlington Dr	\$171,000
412 S Glenhurst Dr	\$430,000	32100 Grand River Ave	\$37,000	48759 Veneto Dr	<b>\$18</b> 5,000	19205 Eldridge Ln	\$165,000
1383 W Lincoln St	\$1,713,000	Unit 1		NOVI		28715 Fairfax St	\$40,000
586 W Merrill St	\$130,000	22810 Lilac St	<b>\$68,</b> 000	27501 Albert St	\$280,000	22965 Kenwyck Dr	\$115,000
586 W Merrill St	\$247,000	FARMINGTON HILLS		51207 Brompton	\$252,000	23700 Lee Baker Dr	\$92,000
1346 Washington Blvd	<b>\$9</b> 00,000	37854 Amber Dr	\$291,000	41878 Cantebury Dr	<b>\$148,</b> 000	24290 Lois Ln	\$62,000
1050 Wimbleton Dr	\$257,000	23220 Ashley St	<b>\$128,</b> 000	47692 Cheltenham Dr	\$615,000	18728 Nadol Dr	<b>\$98,</b> 000
2863 Yorkshire Rd	\$550,000	23898 Barfield St	<b>\$128,</b> 000	27634 Cromwell Rd	<b>\$295,</b> 000	23470 Riverview Dr	\$219,000
4007 Overlea Ct	\$324,000	37656 Blossom Ln	\$280,000	22511 Dartmoor Dr	\$475,000	20165 Rodeo Ct	\$29,000
1921 Pine Ridge Ln	\$360,000	32970 Briarcrest Knls	\$175,000	50121 Drakes Bay Dr	\$722,000	25417 Saint James	\$100,000
5642 S Adams Way	\$185,000	29605 Briarton St	\$197,000	24973 Fairway Hills Dr	\$245,000	27305 Shagbark Dr	<b>\$78,</b> 000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS		35886 Castlemeadow Dr	\$355,000	22853 Gilbar St	\$60,000	20906 Stahelin Rd	<b>\$78,</b> 000
4035 Fairlane Dr	\$102,000	31796 Coronet Dr	\$180,000	23611 Hickory Grove Ln	\$235,000	25106 Woodvale Dr N	<b>\$68,</b> 000
1771 Maplewood Ave	\$120,000	29040 E Marklawn St	\$194,000	39970 Jason Ct	\$246,000	WHITE LAKE	
5588 N Adams Way	\$200,000	38652 Evonshire	\$105,000	40217 Ladene Ln	<b>\$218,</b> 000	58 Danforth St	\$35,000
1094 Park Place Ct	\$500,000	35870 Fredericksburg Rd	\$269,000	42900 Ledgeview Dr	<b>\$285,</b> 000	8941 Glasgow Dr	\$190,000
1272 Water Cliff Dr	\$1,300,000	38216 French Pond	\$300,000	49899 Leyland Cir	\$705,000	2 <b>87</b> 0 Lynn Dr	\$184,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP		20823 Gill Rd	\$325,000	51200 Luke Ln	\$286,000	9443 Mandon Rd	\$189,000
441 Fox Hills Dr N	\$83,000	31024 Glenmuer St	\$195,000	51279 Mayfair Ter	\$305,000	8750 River Run Dr	\$367,000
45 Judy Ln	\$400,000	29519 Gramercy Ct	\$165,000	24759 Portsmouth Ave	\$310,000	283 Rosario Ln	\$225,000
3020 Middlebury Ln	\$325,000	29675 Grand River Ave	\$110,000	30758 Tanglewood Dr	\$260,000	8270 Woods Edge	\$40,000

#### -----HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 28 to Nov. 1, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

\$210,000

\$97,000

\$258,000

\$200,000

\$77,000

\$74,000

\$74,000

\$74,000

\$195,000

\$210,000

\$82.000

\$148,000

\$445,000

\$365,000

\$218,000

\$150,000

\$239,000

\$250,000

\$270,000

\$260,000

**\$68,**000

\$142,000

#### CANTON

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2635 Stanton St 43338 Stonington Ct 43568 W Arbor Way Dr 41600 Warren Rd 463 Waterview Ct **GARDEN CITY** 5631 Belton St 29639 Hennepin St 29714 Rosslyn Ave LIVONIA 28715 Bayberry Ct W 28726 Bayberry Ct W 36507 Bennett St 11726 Camden St 12484 Cardwell St 14951 Cavour St 31733 Delaware St 15752 Edgewood St 15375 Ellen Dr 14023 Fairway St 38750 Grandon St 12026 Haller St 19054 Harrison Ave 16943 Harrison St 14778 Hubbard St 36830 Joy Rd 18328 Lathers St 17557 Laurel Dr 15667 Liverpool St 32430 Lyndon St 9723 Middlebelt Rd

14638 Richfield St \$371,000 \$215,000 29660 Richland St \$71,000 29840 Saint Martins St \$122,000 20209 Southampton Dr \$471,000 34195 Trillium Ct 34222 Trillium Ct \$65.000 18306 University Park Dr \$100,000 18308 University Park Dr **\$78,**000 9269 Virginia St NORTHVILLE \$140,000 42065 Baintree Cir \$135,000 18489 Clairmont Cir W \$188,000 19714 Dearborn Ct \$72,000 16859 Dover Dr \$66,000 46470 Pinehurst Cir \$100,000 225 S Center St \$136,000 19947 Schoolhouse Ct \$189,000 39404 Springwater Dr 41941 Sutters Ln \$107,000 \$139,000 43115 Whisper Ct \$180,000 18315 Woodbury Ct \$107,000 **PLYMOUTH** \$164,000 41443 Crestwood Dr \$165,000 829 Forest Ave \$126,000 1400 Hartsough St \$99,000 39866 Joy Rd \$179,000 777 Karmada St \$370,000 48640 N Territorial Rd \$187,000 8921 Northampton Dr \$205,000 49970 Plymouth Way \$40,000 882 Sutherland St

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	WAYNE
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\$615,000	3996 Gloria St
\$125,000	5240 Williams St
\$152,000	WESTLAND
\$650,000	37149 Amhurst Dr
\$385,000	33114 Armada Ct
\$116,000	8307 August Ave
\$176,000	30654 Bradford St
\$308,000	36650 Fairchild St
\$348,000	7719 Gary Ave
<b>\$89</b> 5,000	7769 Manor Cir
	1360 Mar Ann Dr
\$174,000	1825 N Linville St
\$525,000	5818 N Walton St
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\$156,000	35541 Pheasant Ln
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\$400,000	7333 Sycamore Ln
\$160,000	
\$190,000	

agent must act competently.

These are in addition to any other specific duties spelled out in the agreement you sign with your agent.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of " Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buving. Selling and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95, plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. " Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and barnesandnoble.com. He is also the author of " Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. It is available for \$9.95, plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping and handling. Call 248-644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

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## Car Report Advertising Feature Chevrolet Gets Into Groove with New Products, Sharpened Branding



Chevrolet has embarked on a huge stream of new-product introductions in 2014 that only began with the new heavy-duty Silverado and that will include new versions of

**By Dale Buss** the Suburban and Tahoe SUVs as well as the new Corvette Stingray and a re-entry into the mid-size truck segment with a fresh version of the Chevy Colorado.

So it's good news that Chevrolet also is in a brand-building groove as well right now, and that its huge marketing presence in the Sochi Olympics was a perfect fit with the goals that General Motors has lain out for 2014 for its biggest brand.

"There is a nice cadence of media properties this year, and we're still in the midst of a stream of major product launches," Chevy Chief Marketing Officer Tim Mahoney told me. "The Olympics work was developed as a cohesive unit of communication to seed 'Find New Roads' and tell our story through our new vehicles."

Thus, in its high-buzz TV ads that have laced NBC's Olympics telecasts for the last couple of weeks, Chevrolet has gotten entire new forms of mileage out of the "Find New Roads" tagline that it initiated a year ago. There was the first anthem ad for the games, including a depiction of a gay wedding, that underscored the "new" aspect of Chevy's positioning, for instance.

Many GM employees, dealers and retirees, as well as others among the vast American populace who haven't embraced the notion of intra-LGBT marriage, objected to the ad and lit up social media and other communication outlets with their complaints.

But Mahoney insisted that Chevrolet has received "overwhelmingly positive" feedback to its big first ad of the Olympic games, which had a safety and technology message about the Chevy lineup but which



The 2015 Colorado will mark Chevy's re-entry into the mid-size truck market.

has become a lightning rod because of the gay-wedding snippet and the commercial's description of "the new love."

"The idea behind it is that we're a new Chevrolet and a new world and we're a brand that is about inclusion and not division," Mahoney said. "It's welcoming all people to the Chevrolet brand from an authentic perspective, in that spot. All the family units in that spot were real families ... not hired actors."

Another popular ad has underscored the truly global nature of the Chevrolet brand, with drivers and passengers in a Chevy Cruze experiencing typical tussles over what music to play. Nearly two-thirds of Chevy sales nowadays are outside the United States compared with only about one-third 10 years ago, and Cruze is the most global of Chevy's vehicle lineup, available in local versions in 119 countries.

"The interesting thing that holds it all together is the human truth that, wherever you're at, if you're a passenger in the back seat, there's always back-andforth about who gets to decide what's on the radio," Mahoney said. The universal sentiment is summed up by the final line of the ad, "Proof that we're not so different after all."

Toward the end of the Sochi run, Chevy also began showing what Mahoney likes to call a "smart-funny ad" for the all-new 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe, a cute spotin which a baby-sitter -- after getting a ride home from the mom in the upgraded new SUV -jacks up her price for the evening.

Mahoney also expressed satisfaction with how Chevy's two Super Bowl spots performed earlier in the month. One, "Romance," was another "smart-funny" spot ad, based on the story of a stud bull who was being hauled to his promised land by a heavy-duty Chevy Silverado. The other was a paean to cancer survivors that gave Chevy and its related "Purple Roads" initiative a big boost in online interest.

Mahoney was CMO of Volkswagen of America a couple of years ago when the brand began upping its game in Super Bowl ads and using its own approach to "smart-funny" commercials.

He said defining advertising success related to the Big Game "is complicated." Yet Mahoney noted that, this year, Chevy "had the biggest increase in pre- versus



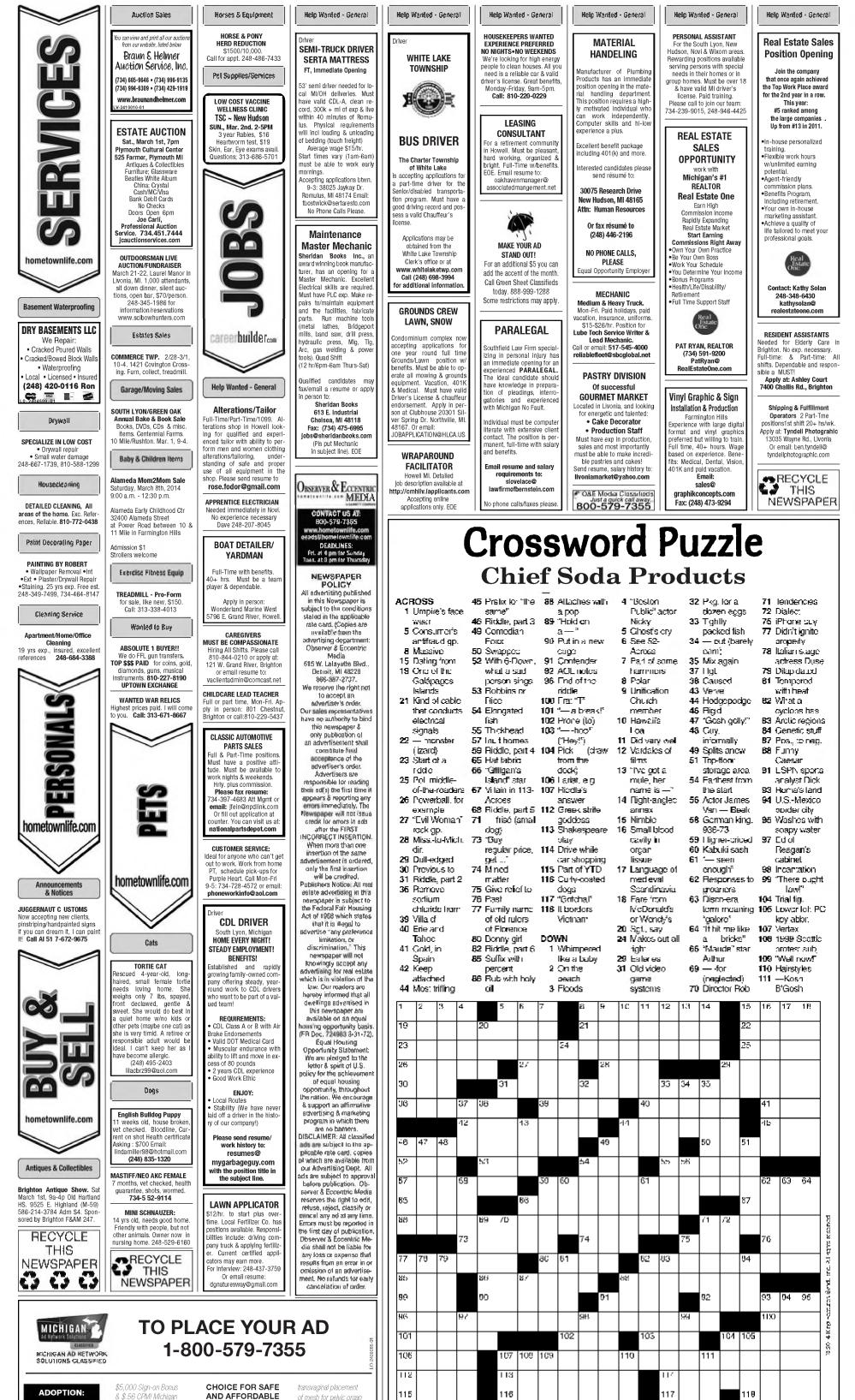
post-Super Bowl fans engaged across the major social platforms. To me, that's a good barometer."

Mahoney said, in fact, that the brand is so much hitting on all cylinders that it doesn't have the marketing bandwidth to heavily promote everything that's going well. One example: The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety just gave the Chevy Spark the best safety rating of all the mini-cars it tested. But Chevy plans only on a small-gauge marketing effort to tout the car these days mostly via social media.



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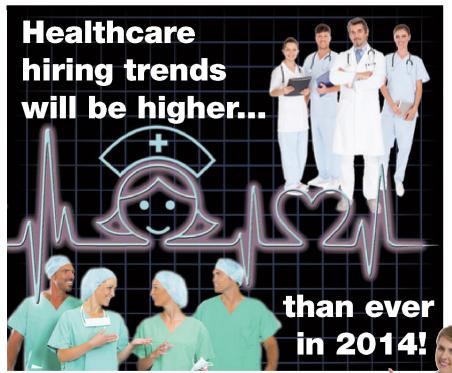
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By Angela Rose **Contributing Writer** 

Human rights activist Malcom X once said, "The future belongs to those who prepare for it today." Now that 2013 has ended, healthcare professionals from doctors and nurses, to administrators and executives-are taking time to consider the challenges and rewards the New Year will bring. Thanks to the individual mandate of the Affordable Care Act, one thing is certain: demand for services will be higher than ever-a factor that's likely to have a significant impact on hiring at hospitals, clinics, and private practices nationwide. We'll consider this trend, and a few others, as we share our outlook for healthcare hiring in 2014. .

#### Recruiting and hiring primary care providers will continue to be a priority.

In HEALTHeCAREERS Network's Q3 2013 jobs snapshot, we mentioned that categories including family medicine, emergency medicine, and internal medicine

included family medicine nurse practitioner, general nurse practitioner, general physician assistant, and general medical/surgical registered nurse.

Primary care doctors are already in short supply-by 25,000 according to the Association of American Medical Colleges-and training new ones takes time.

Analysts expect that healthcare employers will increase their usage of nurse practitioners (NPs) and physician assistants (PAs) as more patients seek preventative care services in 2014. Some even predict that more states will consider licensing NPs and PAs to practice on their own as the demand for service grows.

#### Some will rely on temporary workers to manage patient loads.

By some estimates, freelancers, contractors, and consultants will outnumber full-time workers in the U.S. within the next six years. These individuals are be-

coming an

increas

ingly common feature in the healthcare landscape. In fact, a 2012 survey of healthcare employers by Staff Care found that 74 percent had employed temporary help during the previous 12 months. Forbes has reported that 10 percent of all staffing requests to managed service providers in 2012 were for temporary PAs and NPs as healthcare organizations struggled to meet already-rising demand.

#### Some will designate larger portions of their budgets for recruitment programs.

Some healthcare employers will increase their efforts to connect with passive job seekers, a strategy that will allow them to reach a staggering number of ad-

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ditional candidates. According to a 2011 survey, 80 percent of employed professionals are open to discussing the possibility of a job. This includes a surprising 44 percent who aren't even looking for new opportunities. Forging stronger relationships with medical professional associations and schools is another way employers can enhance their recruitment efforts this year.

JOBS

Retiring Baby Boomers will contribute to staffing challenges.

Experts predict workplace demographics in healthcare and other industries will shift in coming years as older employees decide to end their careers.

According to a study by ADP Retirement Research Institute, 20.3 percent of the current healthcare workforce is likely to retire in the next five years. The Bureau of Labor Statistics calculated this industry's employment at 17,384,300 last October. Based on ADP's study results, this means, 3,476,860 healthcare positions are in need of eventual replacement. The fine people at HEALTHeCAREERS Network hope you'll consider them as your one-stop recruiting and hiring resource. Whether you choose to post a position, search the resume database, or both, they can help.

About the Author: Angela Rose researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues for HEALTHeCAREERS.com.

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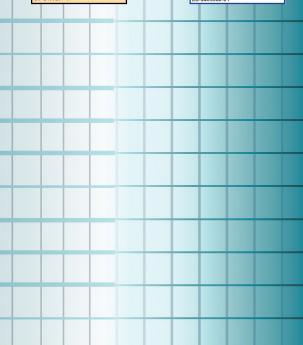
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