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Find a special section detailing all the expo events inside today's paper.

Council gets first look at 'stable, balanced' budget

Residents will pay more for water, garbage services

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

The Northville City Council got its first look at the proposed city budget presented by the city administration. The budget for the upcoming fiscal year is balanced thanks in part to increases in the taxable value of the city and state equalized (assessed) value (SEV).

After some input sessions, City Council is expected to approve the budget next month. The total budget is near \$15 million.

According to Sandi Wiktorow-

ski, the city of Northville's finance director and treasurer, the increased property values will provide for an additional \$120,000 in tax revenue in the general fund.

"The taxable value of the city increased 2.62 percent and the state equalized (assessed) value increased 9.82 percent," she told council on April 7 while presenting the fiscal year 2014-15 budget and five-year plan.

The 2014 taxable value, confirmed by the March Board of Review, is \$315,702,167. The General Fund operating millage will remain the same as the prior year at 13.5864 mills.

Health care costs remain an

See BUDGET, Page A18

FEEL THE MUSIC



Cooke School staff member Kristina Taylor and student Ikenna Uzosike play a drum together during the school's spring musical on April 15. The musical, attended by family and friends, involved most of the kids at the school and had a common theme of respect within the educational process. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Collectively stronger

Leaders say partnerships keep 'state of community' in good shape

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

The Northville community is in pretty good shape, but it can be better and will be, if the important partnerships the township, city, state and school district have with its stakeholders continue to grow.

That was the message from community leaders at the Northville Chamber of Commerce's annual State of the Community luncheon April 16 at Meadowbrook Country Club.

This year's lineup of guest speakers included Mayor Chris Johnson, Northville Township Supervisor Robert Nix, state Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, and Northville Public Schools Superintendent Mary K. Gallagher. Each discussed important developments from last year and what lies on the horizon.

Maintaining high levels of service while handling financial challenges was a common theme among all four speakers, with each emphasizing the need for the community to work together to make Northville better in the future.

To that end, they said there are challenges ahead and much planning to be done.

"I thought it was a very comprehensive talk and presentation," attendee Robert Law said. "A lot of important things are happening around Northville and I think we're lucky to have leaders like these."

According to chamber Director Jody Humphries, there was a record turnout this year. She wasn't exactly sure why, but it was good thing.

City of Northville

Johnson, mayor for the last 26 years, led off the lunch with a look back, specifically the different state legislators and mandates the city has had to work with over the years. He said much has changed over the last two decades and there has to be a renewed focus on solutions to problems that have grown.

One of those challenges, he said, was the condition of area roads and the difficulty of finding funds for maintenance. Because of this, Johnson said the



Rising to applause, Northville Township Supervisor Bob Nix gets ready to begin his State of the Community address on April 16. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Attendees of the State of the Community address listen in to Northville Mayor Chris Johnson.

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Searching for normalcy and acceptance

Autistic children deal with many challenges

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Every autistic child shares some traits, but each is a unique individual. Northville resident Dominic Jankowski, 10, provides the perfect example.

Since he was diagnosed with autism, Dominic's family has been trying to bring awareness to who he truly is. Autism can cause a variety of different perceptions from those who don't know much about it and many will focus on the challenges, which is characterized by impaired social interaction, verbal and non-verbal communication, and repetitive behavior.

Awareness has become even more important with autism on the rise. The number of autism cases has increased 30 percent in two years. In the U.S. one in 68 children are classified as having an autism spec-

trum disorder (ASD), up from one in 88 just two years ago.

A normal life

Dominic has a severe case of autism, which was diagnosed when he was two years old. And even though each year since has been challenging for him and his family, they have each approached it with positivity and love.

"My best gift to Dominic was probably giving him his siblings. They have helped normalize his life and have helped mom and dad tremendously," said his mother Nicole, who has four children of her own plus two step children with her husband, Mike.

April is Autism Awareness month, and for Nicole and her family this is a time to remember how normal yet special Dominic really is.

Bringing some normalcy to his life has been her goal for a long time. She writes about it weekly in her blog: www.momof4is-tired.com.



Dominic Jankowski, who is autistic, uses a pad of paper to answer a question posed by his mother, Nicole. Despite his challenges, the 10-year-old Northville boy has plenty of unique talents.

"Autism really is a wide spectrum. Each individual has their own needs and challenges, but also their own, specific talents," she said.

Some autistic children don't like sounds, Dominic does.

He loves books and is reading at a third or fourth grade level. And he likes visiting the DIA, Henry Ford Village and Cedar Point, where he went on every roller coaster.

But he has his daily challenges, which some will be lifelong ones. He isn't potty trained, doesn't like to be in a crowded room too long and communicates generally through writing on

a pad of paper or typing into his iPad, which was supplied by his school.

And just this past year he began identifying his brothers and sisters by their names. Communication has been his big challenge.

Raising awareness

It was difficult for Nicole in his first year or so because she didn't know why he wasn't progressing like other children, especially with his talking. She found some relief after his diagnosis because then she knew what they were dealing with, and with that awareness they began learning and growing together.

Giving him a normal life starts with his family. However, Nicole said it's also helped by the community, especially his school, Power Upper Elementary of Farmington Public Schools. Dominic is in the ASD program.

She said the school has played a big part in his development, starting with the iPad, which has been a huge communicative facilitator for him.

"I could never survive without the work they do for Dominic every day," said Nicole.

Her husband Mike, who married Nicole a year ago, said each day with Dominic has helped

him learn more about autism and how it is specific to each person.

"It's been truly amazing getting to know him as an individual," he said. "It's given me a whole new perspective."

Nicole said Dominic's life is touched by many people. From his bus driver, neighbors to his doctor and dentist, they all see just a little boy.

This awareness and perspective gives him a normal life because as Nicole says, "Because in spite of his disability, he is still, just a 10-year-old boy."

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‘Impactful in countless areas’

Meads Mill principal retiring after nearly 40 years with district

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

A lot of experience and wisdom will be leaving Northville Public Schools when Dr. Sue Meyer says goodbye later this school year.

Meyer sent out a letter to the Meads Mill community on April 16 announcing she would retire effective July 1 after 40 years of working in education, 36 in Northville.

“It has been an honor to serve and educate the Meads Mill students and families most of my career. There are so many people I shall miss,” she said. “Most of all, I will miss the daily interactions with the wonderful students and staff at Meads Mill.”

She began her career in Northville in 1978, serving as a special education teacher at Silver Springs Elementary

School, followed by Meads Mill Middle School and Northville High School. After that she served as an assistant principal at the former Cooke Middle School as well as at Meads Mill Middle School, and then continued her administrative career as principal of Meads Mill Middle School since 1997.

“Dr. Meyer’s leadership at Meads Mill, as well as at the district level, has been impactful in countless areas, most recently with our work in implementing the International Baccalaureate Middle Years program,” said NPS Superintendent Mary K. Gallagher.

Gallagher said the process for finding a replacement is now underway. The district has posted the position for middle school principal. In the next month there will be scheduled times with the Meads Mill staff, students and parents to gather input and feedback regarding desired skills and strengths sought for the leader of

Meads Mill Middle School. A pool of candidates will be picked and a final selection should come in June.

“We consider the process of selecting a building leader to be critically important, and value the input of staff, parents, and students,” Gallagher said.

For Meyer, the remainder of the year will be an opportunity to say her goodbyes and make a few more memories.

“Mine has been a very rewarding career with the Northville Public School District,” she said to the school community. “I have learned a great deal and feel privileged to have been a part of ‘The Tradition of Excellence.’”

Gallagher said for those who have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact her or Dave Rodgers, assistant superintendent of Human Resources, at 248-344-3537.

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Meads Mill Middle School Principal Sue Meyer prepares to sing the national anthem on April 17 at at staff vs. students basketball game. Meyer will retire at the end of the this year after nearly 40 years as an educator in Northville. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Mill Race Historical Village is located at 215 Griswold Ave., north of Main Street near Ford Field in downtown Northville.

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CONTACT: 248-348-1845

WEEKLY EVENTS: (*Grounds closed to public)

Thursday: Archives temporarily closed; 9 a.m. TARTS in Cady

Friday: Archives temporarily closed; 6 p.m. rehearsal

Saturday: 9:15-10:15 a.m. rehearsal; 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. wedding*;

3:30 - 5:30 p.m. wedding*

Sunday: Noon to 4 p.m. private party in Church; noon-4 p.m. Kings 8th in Cady; 1-4 p.m. Rouge River work day; 6:30 p.m. Crew 8 in Cady

Monday: 10 a.m. Heirloom Rug Hookers in Cady; 7 p.m. Victorian Readers in Cady

Tuesday: 9 a.m. Stone Gang

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District moving forward with tech upgrades

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

The Northville Public School district has taken a leap forward. With the support of the technology bond funding, Northville Public Schools have now replaced more than 3,000 computers with over 3,440 desktops and laptops, increased computers in all 27 computer labs in all nine schools and replaced the district's entire network infrastructure.

That's just a few of the accomplishments NPS has seen over the last year and a half since the bond was passed by voters late in 2012.

The NPS Board of Education was given an update on the projects at their last meeting, and the conclusion is things are moving along really well.

Passing with 58 percent of the vote, the \$20.87 million bond is in place to replace aging technology and provide proven, interactive classroom technology to meet the needs of all students at all levels and abilities. The technology projects are a key piece of the puzzle in the district's vision for 21st Century learning, according to NPS Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher.

NPS school board president Jim Mazurek said the district's technology capabilities have been moved forward immensely and they couldn't be happier with how things have gone. Under budget, on schedule and with high capability, Mazurek thanked the team of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Dave Rodgers, Director of Technology and Instructional Integration Andrew Piazza and consultant Wright and Hunter for their work in making these developments happen.

"You've played a big role," he told them.

Besides adding teachers to the district, school board treasurer Matthew Wilk said "this is probably the best spent money."

Classroom impact

There has already been an impact on instruction and the

classrooms.

Overall, the computer labs have been re-worked to better fit class sizes and have in turn increased availability. At the secondary level this has allowed more electives to be offered with classes like CAD, programming, Web design, and accounting being expanded. In the elementary schools, the labs have been relocated to other locations to enable more focused instruction. Additionally, Promethean boards have been installed in every instructional classroom.

With these advancements the district is now looking to translate these even more into a further improved learning environment for all students.

Part of this visioning process is getting community involvement, specifically staff input, on how the classrooms can move into the future.

Just less than \$12 million has been spent or committed on projects. There is more work to come, especially this summer.

Among other improvements, the district's security systems will be upgraded in all 11 buildings with the placement of high resolution, low-light security cameras being installed along with controlled building access systems with additional card readers and updated two-way audio/video intercoms at schools entries.

Alarm upgrades including door contacts to monitor door position to avoid propped doors, unauthorized exit or entry are also on tap. In addition, Audio and Video Systems in all nine schools will be upgraded.

In the coming years, the district will be adding things like new equipment, such as digital video and photo cameras, science probes, calculators and plotters.

Students and parents can expect more advancements to come, said the school board and administration.

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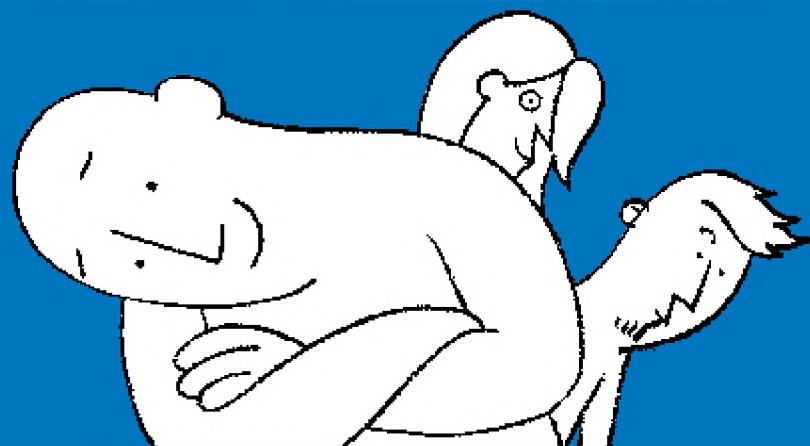
Meads Mill 'Youngbloods' take on teachers



Meads Mill Middle School students cheer their team as it takes on the faculty in a fun, fundraiser basketball game on April 17. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Meads Mill Middle School students (their team name "The Youngbloods") take on their teachers on April 17 during a fundraiser basketball game.



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POLICE BRIEFS

Business break-ins

Several Northville Township businesses were broken into during the late night hours of April 12-13. The businesses included two Subways (one on Seven Mile and the other on Haggerty), the Dominos at 40420 Five Mile, and Steve's Family Dining on Five Mile.

In all cases, the thief or thieves entered the stores by smashing the front glass doors. The most stolen was about \$200. In

According to police reports, a business adjacent to Steve's Family Dining had a surveillance camera active during the crime and was able to capture a lone suspect entering the diner. The video was given to the township's detective bureau.

Jewelry stolen

A Northville Township couple reported to police that someone stole three wedding/engagement rings from their home in the 1800 block of Cascade Drive sometime during the first week of April. The wife told police she often left her rings in a jewelry box because her job causes her to wash her hands a lot.

The couple told police they have had a painting crew in the home for several weeks, and suspect it could be one of the painters. However, they told police they have known the main contractor for several years and don't believe he had anything to do with the theft. He promised the couple he would talk to all the guys who worked in the home.

The couple told police the rings were worth more than \$13,000.

Marijuana possession

A Northville man was arrested for marijuana possession after Northville City Police spotted

or better yet, smelled him smoking while driving.

The police reported on the evening of April 20 while on patrol the man was observed driving south on Main Street and smoking what looked like a cigarette. The police were behind him and had their windows down, and could smell burning marijuana. He was stopped at Gardner Street after throwing the "cigarette" out the window.

The 27-year-old man admitted to smoking marijuana after police asked him about it and reported smelling it inside the car. A bag of marijuana, along with some pills, were found under the driver's seat.

False alarm

Northville Township police were contacted on April 9 by an employee of the U.S. District Attorney's Office in Detroit who found a suspicious package next to his vehicle he had left parked at Meijer. Officers arrived at Meijer to find the rectangular box wrapped with tinfoil. The man who reported the package told officers he regularly leaves his vehicle parked at Meijer and carools to work. He was concerned that the package could be dangerous.

The Northville Township officers contacted the Michigan State Police, which sent out a bomb squad. They performed x-rays on the package, and found nothing suspicious. So they opened it, and found partially eaten crab legs.

Urinating in public

A Northville Township family had quite a surprise as they sat down to eat dinner on the evening of April 8. As they were eating around 5:30 p.m. at their Lehigh Lane home, they witnessed a man walk into their back yard and begin urinating on the grass in full view.

The father went out

and got a license plate number from the vehicle the man had parked in front of the home and then pulled away in. He contacted police, and officers tracked down the 41-year-old man, who lives less than a mile away in an apartment on Silver Springs.

The man, who was still wearing the same clothing described by the family, denied urinating. He was charged for urinating in public. After a background check, police found he had a warrant out of Detroit and had a suspended driver's license.

Skateboarding in the road

A Northville man was given a citation for skateboarding down Center Street.

The Northville City police spotted the man on the afternoon of April 5 while parked on patrol at Amerman Elementary School. He was followed down southbound Center as he was going down the center of the lane. Police reported the 26-year-old man was told previously not to be in the roadway.

Multiple drunk driver offender

A 31-year-old Novi man was arrested for drunken driving after police observed him driving in the dark with no headlights on.

The police reportedly spotted the driver just before 2 a.m. on April 5 going north on Center Street. He was stopped after pulling into a private driveway on Center. Police asked him where he was and he replied by saying he was at home in Novi on Beacon Road.

After having trouble with the field sobriety test, he was given a preliminary breathalyzer test. It registered a .16 percent.

According to the police report, the man had three previous drunken driving charges.

Township to discuss ballot language at special meeting

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

First the good news. Northville Township officials were happy to receive a clean budget audit Thursday. Plante Moran, which the township hired to conduct the audit, presented its findings for the financial year ending Dec. 31, 2013 at the regular board meeting.

The firm's Martin Olejnik commended the township's finance department for "taking care of the books."

"We didn't find any issues to be alarmed about," he told the board. "The general fund remains in good position. You've done a good job cutting costs."

It wasn't all good news, however. Olejnik pointed out the inescap-

able conclusion that the township has been spending more than it is taking in for both public safety and shared services – which covers parks and recreation, senior services and Youth Assistance programs – for several years.

That is why township officials will seek an additional 1.55 mills from residents on the August primary ballot.

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.

The board of trustees will hold a special meeting at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 29 to discuss the exact language that will appear on the ballot. Township officials must decide on the language so it can be approved by the state. They have until mid-May to get the state approval.

Olejnik pointed out why the township finds itself in the predicament it is in. Taxable value in the township, like in other municipalities, plunged following the economic downturn of 2008.

"It will take to 2020 to get back to where you were in 2008," he told the board. "And that doesn't take into account for inflation."

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Seminars guide seniors with Obamacare, retirement

Platinum Planning, LLC, hosts a series of educational seminars throughout the area designed to teach seniors how passage of the Affordable Care Act – dubbed Obamacare – will affect their retirement years.

President Barack Obama signed the act into law in March 2010. Platinum Planning officials said the law will impact senior citizens and said “it’s imperative you learn and understand the changes.”

The presenter of this informative seminar is a Michigan-licensed, independent insurance agent who represents numerous insurance companies. Those planning to attend should arrive 15 minutes early and spouses are urged to attend.

Reservations are requested and attendance is free, but seating is limited.

The seminars are intended to provide information on, among other topics, the effects of the act on long-term care; explanation of the Independent Payment Advisory board; how to shelter your retirement from potential taxes; how to protect retirement assets from the markets’ ups and downs; and how to reduce and/or eliminate taxation on Social Security.

The seminars take place:

- » 10 a.m. Thursday, May 8 – Livonia Civic Library, 32777 Five Mile
- » 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 13 – Northville Library, 212 W. Cady
- » 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Thursday, May 15 – Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main

To RSVP or for more information, call 800-0723-4704.

LIBRARY LINES

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

Upcoming events include:

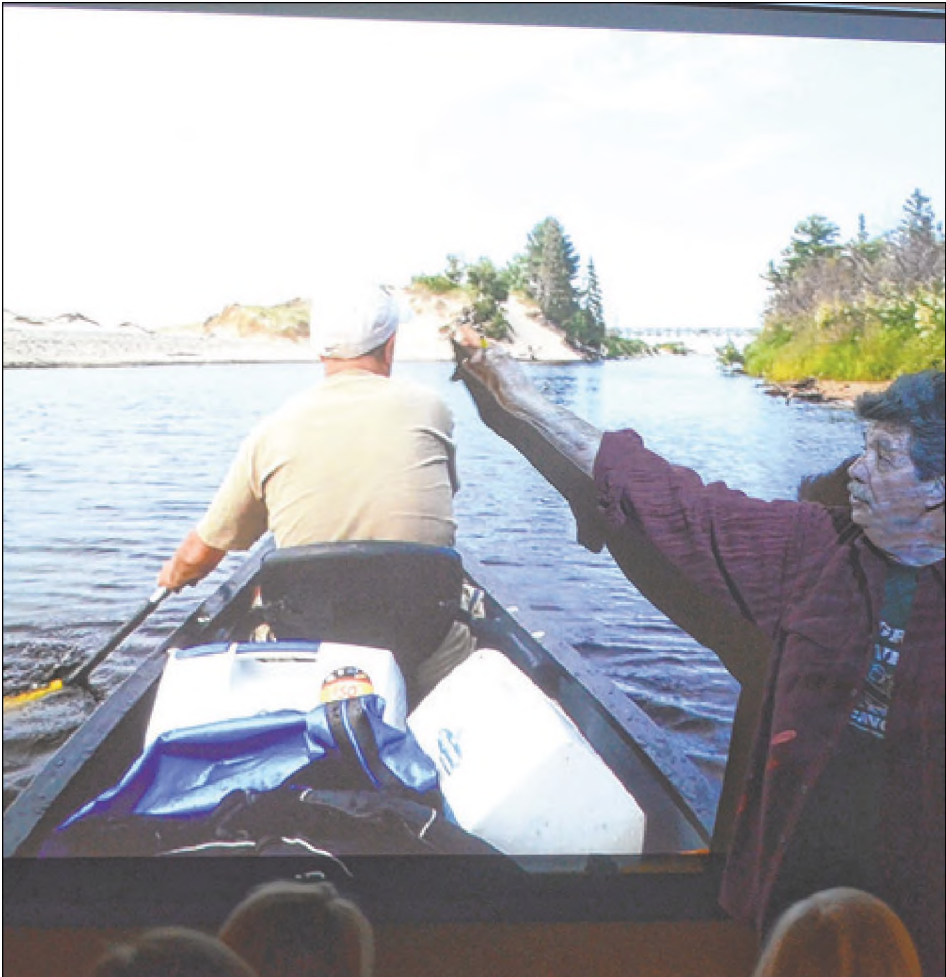
Spring Break Movies & Munchies for Kids
Time/Date: Noon, Friday, April 25
Details: Bring your lunch to the library and enjoy the movie “Wreck It Ralph” (Disney, 2012, PG, 101 minutes). Snacks and beverages provided. All ages welcome (ages 4 and younger must attend with caregiver). Just drop in.

Let’s Go Green
Time/Date: 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 30
Details: The more we know about our environment, the more we can help. Learn about alternative energy, fracking, rain barrels and more from Gerald Hasspacher of The Southeast Michigan Group of the Sierra Club. Call 248-349-3020 to register.

Tween Event: Maraca Characters
Time/Date: 4:15-5 p.m., Wednesday, April 30
Details: Just for tweens ages 9-12. Make music with fun maraca characters you design. Limit 30 attendees.

Drop In Morning Storytime
Time/Date: 10:15-11:45 am Thursdays through May 8
Details: Storytime fun for toddlers and pre-schoolers. All ages welcome. Caregivers must accompany children age 3 and younger. Just drop in.

River guide



Author and adventurer Doc Fletcher, of Northville, points to a portion of the Two Hearted River that he floated down in 2012 during an April 15 presentation on canoeing Michigan rivers at the Northville Community Center. Fletcher, who has authored a number of books on Michigan and Wisconsin rivers, was noting how much of the lower Two Hearted located in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula had been affected after 2012’s Duck Lake fire. Fletcher also talked about his journeys down Michigan’s Pere Marquette, Chippewa, and Fox Rivers.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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More Great Events:

Outstanding Jazz Vocalist
Wednesday, April 2
1:30 p.m.
Sheila Landis is a seven time winner of Detroit Music Award’s “Outstanding Jazz Vocalist”. Sheila will perform her unique style of jazz, Latin and blues. Join us for great music and refreshments.

RSVP by March 31.

Grand Piano Dedication
Thursday, April 10
1:00 p.m.
The Village Joy Singers, IVP’s own Resident Choir, under the direction of Charlotte Worthen will dedicate our 100 year old grand piano. Join us as we celebrate this exquisite addition to our community.

Mingle with Marilyn
Friday, April 25
1:30 p.m.
Entertainment provided by Marilyn Monroe and Debra Jimmerson, a phenomenal mother/daughter duo. Don’t miss this great performance. Refreshments provided.

RSVP by April 23.

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RSVP

Don't miss out on the fun!

Bloomfield Hills physician joins 11th congressional race

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Dr. Anil Kumar, a native of India who came to the United States 30 years ago from England, has seen life change — particularly for his patients — in three decades practicing medicine here.

And he doesn't necessarily think it's changed for the better.

Kumar, 63, a urologist and women's rights advocate, believes he can help effect a positive change, which is why the Bloomfield Hills Democrat has filed to run for the U.S. congressional seat in the 11th District, currently held by Republican Kerry Bentivolio.

"I'm at the stage of my life where I could retire and play golf, but my golf game sucks," Kumar said. "(Instead) I can give back to society. I know health care inside-out. Congress is where I can use my knowledge and experience. If I can make one change, that will be worth it."

Kumar came to the

U.S. in 1984, accepting a chance to do research and residency in urology at Wayne State University. In 30 years practicing medicine, he said he's seen changes — not necessarily good ones — for both patients and other medical students.

Heart-breaking choices

Where patients used to ask to avoid generic drugs, he said, now some of his Medicare patients can't even afford those.

"Medicare patients are telling me, 'I can have food or I can have medicine,'" Kumar said. "It's heart-breaking."

And medical students, he said, are now choosing their specialties based on what pays better. When he was deciding the course of his medical career, Kumar said, it was based on something less tangible than money.

"I grew up thinking I could cure cancer ... I didn't think about what specialty pays me the most money," he said. "That change is disturbing."



Kumar

Kumar thinks he can affect change best from a seat in Congress. Though he harbors no illusions about the campaign — "It's going to be an uphill battle," he said — he believes his long-standing practice has given him an edge.

He said he had conversations with mentors who "advised me this race would be a good one (to get into)." His pa-

tients, he pointed out, come from all over the 11th District.

"Democrats have a better chance this time," Kumar said. "The middle class is realizing Democratic values are far closer to their own than Republicans'. This district is predominantly middle class. I've served this community with my heart and soul for 30 years and I have the

THE KUMAR FILE

Who: Dr. Anil Kumar
What: Running for U.S. Congress in the 11th District
Family: Wife of 27 years, Marjorie; sons Andrew and Nathan
Professional: Vice chief of urology, St. Joseph Hospital-Pontiac; vice chief of surgery, Crittenton Medical Center
Education: Bachelor of medicine, bachelor of surgery, University of Bombay, March 1976; master of surgery, University of Bombay, 1980; American Board of Urology, February 1997.

"No civilized country should have citizens without health care ... no law is perfect," Kumar said. "There are changes to be made. I have the knowledge of health care from a patient's perspective and from a doctor's perspective and I've seen how insurance companies work. From a health care perspective, I would be one of the best candidates."

Kumar and his wife Marjorie, also a physician, have been married for 27 years and raised their two sons, Andrew and Nathan, in Oakland County.

"I'm running for Congress because we need leaders with fresh ideas to get our state and our economy back on track," Kumar said. "People are frustrated because Washington isn't working. Now more than ever, we need to create good-paying jobs, make education affordable, protect Social Security and Medicare and assure health care is accessible to everyone."

pulse of what's going on."

As a Democrat and a health care professional, Kumar calls the Affordable Care Act — dubbed Obamacare — "one of the best things to ever happen to Americans who didn't have insurance."

Nothing perfect

However, he knows it isn't perfect.

Ficano kicks off re-election bid amid crowded field

Former Detroit Police Chief Warren Evans has filed paperwork

By Marlon A. Walker
Gannett Michigan

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano officially kicked off his hunt for a fourth term Monday afternoon, saying the focus will be on education, enterprise and investment opportunities that will attract and keep people.

"You shouldn't have to get on a plane to visit your kids and grandkids," Ficano told more than 100 people packed



Former Detroit Police Chief Warren Evans, shown here in a May 2010 file photo, will run for Wayne County Executive. WILLIAM ARCHIE | GANNETT MICHIGAN

into the front hall at the IBEW Local 58 at 1358 Abbott in Detroit.

Ficano's announcement had to share the spotlight with news that former Detroit Police



Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano announces his platform for re-election during a press conference held at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union No. 58 offices in Detroit on Monday. KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL | GANNETT MICHIGAN

Chief Warren Evans filed paperwork to run against him. Evans, who

also served as Wayne County Sheriff, is one of a few big names to join the race for the county's top spot.

By close of business Monday, Evans, Ficano, Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara, Westland Mayor William Wild and State Rep. Phil Cavanagh had submitted paperwork with Wayne County elections officials. Sigmunt John Szczepkowski Jr. of Detroit also has filed to run. Szczepkowski also ran unsuccessfully for mayor last year.

News of the packed field could mean an easier battle for Ficano, who is running under the

cloud of scandals, including his office being under federal investigation, a \$200,000 severance payment to former chief development officer Turkia Awada Mullin, the failed Wayne County Jail construction off Gratiot and St. Antoine and a grand jury probe that netted convictions of four former Ficano appointees and a vendor.

"Honestly, I think Ficano — if he was running on his own — would be in trouble. But the more people who get in, the lower number (of votes) he has to get to win," said political consultant Stephanie

McLean with Lansing firm GMT Strategies. "How many of these folks are going to raise some money and be serious?"

As sheriff, Evans battled with Ficano over the jail's population.

Evans was fired from his job as Detroit Police chief in July 2010 for what then-Mayor Dave Bing said was poor judgment in hawking a reality TV show and for being in a relationship with a subordinate.

Contact Marlon A. Walker: 313-223-4531 or mwalker@freepress.com. Follow him on Twitter: @marlonawalker.



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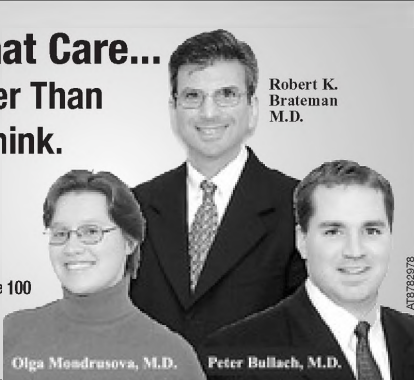
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Dr. Amy Crissman (back),
Dr. Jared Most (left),
Dr. Timothy Kirk (right)

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John Hopkins Dean's List

Emily Rencsok of Northville was named to the Johns Hopkins University Dean's List for academic excellence for the fall 2013 semester. To be selected for this honor, a student must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale in a program of at least 14 credits with at least 12 graded credits. Emily is the daughter of Brian and Janet Rencsok and attended Northville High School. She is majoring in biomedical engineering, and will graduate in May 2016.

MSU graduates

The following Northville students earned their degrees from Michigan State University following the completion of the fall 2013 semester. Anthony Edward Adamowicz 111 (B.A. - with honor), Rebecca Leigh Champagne (B.A. - with honor), Daniela Mirella Drury (B.A.), Kassandra Nicole Fitr-

ON CAMPUS

zyk (B.A.), Kaitlyn Sullivan Lynch (B.A.), Daniel Patrick McIntyre (B.S.), and Courtney Sauter (B.A.).

MSU Dean's List

The following students were named to the Michigan State University Dean's List for the 2013 fall semester. Abdul-Fatai Adesegun Alashe, Nathan Peter Albanelli, Cameron Arthur Armstrong, Raven Alexa Batshon, Danielle Evelyn Borthwick, Samuel Connor Boyea, Margaret Brennan, Patrick James Brodesser, Nicco Frank Buffone, Nicholas Werner Cech, Christopher James Cheaney, Davis Raymond Clenney, Suzanne Rena Clough, Steven Michael Collareno, Daniel Howard Cooke, Vanessa Velasco Cousino, Shelby Marie Curlew, Christopher William Davis, Lucas James Deline, Nicholas Scott Denhof, Maura Kope Donovan, Keire Brenton Estelle, Sarah Julianne Gauer, Maxwell Thomas Grezlik, Shaun Robert Hetu, Emily Anna Horbatch, Jayhua Jackie Hsia, Barbara Dodd Johnston, Madeline Burke Kipke, Laura Dorothy Konsitzke, Casey Lee Krist, Phalguni Shridhar Kulkarni, Morgan Antoinette Lalonde, Christopher James Leja, Christopher William Long, Joshua Dominic Lucksom, Matthew Alexander Lupo, Joseph Patrick McKeegan, Derek Ryan Montgomery, Shelby Anne Mroz, Sarah Beth Nork, Erin Odonnell, Nicholas Hover Palazeti, Morgan Elizabeth Parsons, Palmer Miles Pawlusiak, William Anthony Peltier, Maria Nora Pluszczynski, MaKenna Lynn Pohl, Colin Shawn Riley, Kelly Marie Rinnas, John Lucas Sci-cluna, Alexandra Julia Sheremeta, Maudie Hannah Smith, Brittany Kathryn Stecker, Daniel Joseph Stern, Alicia Marie Vignoe, Joanne Marie

Weber, Autumn Alexis Weidenhamer Anderson, Sarah Jane; Armaly, Jonathon James; Asher, Elizabeth Lauren; Asmann, Tristen Paige; Atherton, Ryan James; Bartha, Regan Brissette; Baughman, Nathan Julius; Bell, Jaclyn Nicole; Bernardi, Sara Josephine; Blackhurst, Sarah Rachel; Brown, Rachel Susan; Butler, Emily Anne; Champagne, Stephen Vincent; Chopra, Karishma Arun; Deacon, Rachel Louise; Dicom, Lauren Michelle; Dorigo Jones, Robert John; Doyle, Shelby Rae; Ferguson, Michael Stephen; Fitzpatrick, Leigh Alden; Flanagan, Ryan Rocco; Friess, Derek William; George, Jenin; Glover, Elaine Grace; Gujral, Ishani; Hanpeter, Robert Edward; Hayes, Nicholas William; Heid, Rex A.; Hillman, Bridget Allyson; Holland, Michael John; Huber, Thomas Joseph; Johnson, Jake Timothy; Johnson, Trent Thomas; Kallil, Emily Katherine; Kim, Joseph; Kosinski, Kenneth David; LaCivita, Angelo Tullio; Larouere, Christine Marie; LaRouere, Thomas John; Latta, Alec David; Lister, Emily Christine; Marsalese, Charlotte Koester; Maslak, Jennifer Mary; Mazorowicz, Edward Michael; McBride, Colleen Grace; Migoski, Charli Jane; Miller, Samantha Amanda; Miller, William Edward; Minassian, Rachel Marie; Mitchell, William Anthony; Morrow, Charlotte Anne; Mouaikel, Zachary George; Multani, Naveen Singh; Myers, Diane Joan; Norcia, Michael Anthony; Ostrowski, Mitchell Neil; Pabbati, Bhavana; Papoulis, Spiridon Evangelos; Patel, Nikesh Rajesh; Patrone, Brandon Thomas; Pitcher, Julianne Marie; Pitynski, Paige Eleanor; Pomeroy, Evan Thomas; Porreca, Nicholas Michael; Ratts, Austin Bradley; Reitzloff, Kel-



Alex Peters (right) and Josh Wesley, members of the Plymouth Whalers, were the guest speakers at the Northville Township Police Department's D.A.R.E. graduation ceremony last week at Northville High School. Carrie Czelada (center), the township's D.A.R.E. and school resource officer, organized the event.

Whalers congratulate 131 D.A.R.E. graduates and their families

The student graduates of the Northville Township Police Department's D.A.R.E. program received some special encouragement last week when Alex Peters and Josh Wesley members of the Plymouth Whalers, talked to them about making good decisions in life. The two professional hockey players were the guest speakers at the annual D.A.R.E. gradua-

tion ceremony held April 15 at Northville High School. D.A.R.E. stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. According to Carrie Czelada, the township's D.A.R.E. and school resource officer, there were a total of 145 students from Ridge Wood and Winchester elementary schools who completed the drug-prevention program this semester. She said 131

graduates and their families attended the ceremony. "The graduation ceremony was a great success. The auditorium was filled with close to 500 people, so it was a big turnout," Czelada said. To graduate, students had to complete the 10-week program and write an essay.

sey Jean; Ritchie, Kate-lynn Ruth; Roach, Elizabeth Ellen; Sauter, Paige Margaret; Scorzo, Ashley Amanda; Shashlo, Kelly Elizabeth; Shuart, Molly Lynn; Singh, Amanpreet; Slatin, Andrew Keith; Smith, Connor McLaine; Sources, Marisa Katherine; Starr, Lauren Ann; Steslicki, Michelle Nicole; Stewart, Margaret Norene; Summers, Daniel James; Ta, Aaron Chihao; Takacs, Danielle Aryabala; Ta-

kacs, Stephanie Anne; Toloff, Andrew George; Wang, Richard; Wellmer, Zachary William; Winter, Jacob Daniel; Wixted, Claire Michael; Wozniak, Alyssa Rose; Wozniak, Kristen M.; Wozniak, Lauren Elizabeth; Wright, Dakota Morgan; Wylie, Joseph Carl; Yi, Kevin Xie; and Zinkosky, Rachel Marie.

Mitchell Yoder was named to the Spring Arbor University Fall 2013 Academic Honors List. The Academic Honors List recognizes full-time students who have received a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for the semester. Yoder of Northville is a junior majoring in accounting. He is the son of Thomas and Carole Yoder.

Spring Arbor honors

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In person at the Spring Expo Tuesday, April 29 at Schoolcraft College. Come dressed in your best or goofiest Christmas attire. Photos will be taken between 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

History of 'kit' homes

As part of the Northville Historical Society 2014 Lecture Series, there will be a discussion about 'kit' homes at 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 30 in the Church at Mill Race Historical Village in Northville.

Local homeowners Andrew and Wendy Mutch will discuss the history of kit and catalog houses and the role that Michigan played in the industry. Included in the presentation will be the story of a Sears kit home on Taft Road, which was constructed in 1926. Sears shipped 30,000 pieces (including 750 pounds of nails and 27 gallons of paint and varnish) by rail to Novi. A 75-page book showed the owner how to assemble those pieces, step by step, into a house that still stands today on Taft Road.

Hear tips on how to identify kit homes, the challenges of caring for one, and take a photographic tour of various models found in Northville and southeast Michigan.

The event is free of charge, although donations to help off-set the costs will be accepted at the door.

Garlic mustard pull

The Friends of Maybury State Park and the Friends of the Rouge will be partnering from 9 a.m.-noon on Saturday, May 3 to continue efforts to control the spread of invasive garlic mustard in Maybury. Garlic mustard crowds out native wildflowers.

Volunteers are requested to meet at the park maintenance shed behind the park office at the Beck Road entrance at 9 a.m. This is a rain or shine event. A state Recreation Passport is required for entry. The first 35 volunteers will receive a free t-shirt.

Water will also be provided.

For more information, contact George at 248-347-0899 or gmccarthy@comcast.net, or visit the group's website at www.friendsofmaybury.org.

Veterans fundraiser

The Marines of Marine Corps League Northwest Detachment 162 will be firing up their grills beginning at 5 p.m., Saturday, April 26 at VFW Post 4012 at 438 N. Main Street in Northville. The group will be selling steak dinners for \$12 for a 10-12 ounce size steak with all the fixings, or \$6 for a hamburger dinner.

The MCL Detachment uses the money raised to give to veterans in need at the VA hospitals around Michigan, the two veterans homes in the state, veterans in need, and last year gave more than \$1,400 to the local Toys for Tots program.

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Come grill with the Marines and support veterans and the families.

For more information, visit www.semperfi162.org or call Commandant Mark Sutton at 248-390-5481.

Local artist exhibit

Northville artist Barbara Eko Murphy will exhibit a collection of her drawings and paintings done in charcoal, inks, and watercolors from April 28-May 30 at Co Reutter the Salon (Menagerie Gallery), located at 116 N. Lafayette in downtown South Lyon.

Murphy is an award-winning artist, who has been featured in more than 190 juried shows since 2001. She is a member of Lawrence Street Gallery in Ferndale. She currently has a piece in The Detroit Historical Museum, as part of The Detroit Society of Women Painters and Sculptors. And she is in the



The work of Northville artist Barbara Eko Murphy will be on display at Co Reutter the Salon (Menagerie Gallery) in South Lyon.

Everywoman Show at U of M -Ann Arbor-Rackham.

Co Reutter the Salon (Menagerie Gallery) is open M-F 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call the gallery at 248-446-0411.

Thayer's Corner work day

The annual spring clean-up at the Thayer's Corner Nature Area, located on Napier Road just north of Six Mile in Northville Township, will take place from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Saturday, April 26.

"We need some people to help us clean up after that hard winter that we've had and get us ready for regular operations this spring," said event organizer and Northville Township Trustee Marv Ganns. Lunch will be served to all volunteers.

For more information, contact Ganns at 734-751-1567.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross will be hosting two upcoming local blood drives. The first will take place from 7 a.m.-12:45 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 777 West Eight Mile. The second will take place from 1:30-7:45 p.m., Tues-

day, April 29 at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile in Northville Township.

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

Prescription drug drop-off

The Drug Enforcement Administration and Northville Township Police have scheduled the 8th National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 26 at the Northville Township Police Department located at 41600 Six Mile Road.

This is an opportunity for people who have accumulated unwanted, unused prescription drugs to safely dispose of those medications to law enforcement.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high. According to the 2009 National Survey on

Drug Use and Health, more Americans currently abuse prescription drugs than the number of those using cocaine, hallucinogens, and heroin combined.

Art House show

The work of Tom Thewes, Detroit cultural icon and acknowledged airbrush master, is showcased in the newest exhibit at the Northville Art House, 215 W. Cady Street. "Detritus" runs through Saturday, April 26 during regular Art House hours, 1-5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday.

Thewes is a partner of SUUMO Street Art Reproductions as well as the executive director at Contra Projects, a select group of respected, established artists who have gained global recognition by using the street as their canvas. He is

See BRIEFS, Page A14

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‘Wind, water, fire and earth’

Northville creative arts student vying for samurai fashion award

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Outfits created by local fashion designers, inspired by works in the Detroit Institute of Arts’ exhibition “Samurai: Beyond the Sword,” will be on view as part of a fashion design contest hosted by the DIA and De-



Bonnie Pearce

troit Garment Group Guild (DG3).

Northville Township’s Bonnie Pearce, a junior at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, is among those vying.

“I’m really excited about it,” said Pearce, daughter of Steve and Janis Pearce. “It’s a huge opportunity for me, whether I win or not.”

The competition is based at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, 6777 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. The public is invited to view the 10 outfits, then vote on their favorite. A fashion show will be held at the DIA on May 17 at noon, where the winner, chosen by public votes, will be announced. People can vote online at <http://www.detroitgarmentgroup.org/>.

The voting continues through April 27. Pearce, 29, said her work is based on the mythological goddess of war figure, the cherry blossom as a symbol of war in Japan.

She incorporates the elements of wind, water, fire and earth in her work.

Pearce focuses on



Bonnie Pearce said of the DIA competition, “I’m really excited about it. It’s a huge opportunity for me whether I win or not.”



Bonnie Pearce’s entry is among 10 in the competition on display at Henry Ford West Bloomfield.

wearable art for the competition, with armor-like pieces of metal as well as fabric.

“I started sewing my own clothes when I was in middle school,” she said. “My mother taught me how to sew.”

Pearce began at Northville High School and graduated from Plymouth-Canton’s Starkweather Center in 2002. She later studied fashion at Columbia College in Chicago, but wanted to move to sculpture, metalwork and jewelry.

She’ll use copper, for instance, in a skirt that is wearable.

“Less common,” Pearce said of such work among CCS stu-

dents. “I don’t know anyone else who makes wearable sculpture.”

Goldsmithing or blacksmithing are more common at CCS, she said.

“I think people are impressed by it,” she said, noting she gets asked for advice. CCS has provided funds for materials and professional photo shoots.

Her mom is also an artist, including an illustrator.

“I didn’t really discover that art was what I wanted to do until much later,” said Pearce, who wasn’t positive even while studying fashion in Chicago. “It’s been a continuous evolution over 10 years.”

After graduation, she’d like to merge into the art scene, showing her work. She’s an instructor at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, and loves that.

“It doesn’t even feel like a job,” said Pearce, who plans to continue teaching art after CCS graduation.

She’d also sell her work. Pearce’s current busy life also includes working for and learning under a goldsmith in Birmingham who has many years of experience.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Miracle League could use volunteers for spring season

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

The Miracle League of Plymouth, the baseball league that provides opportunities to play America’s pastime to special-needs players, is approaching its 2014 spring season, and can always use some help from volunteers.

Games begin Saturday, May 3 and the league is looking for volunteers to serve as buddies to the players and umpires for the games.

Anyone interested in volunteering is being asked to register by downloading a 2014 Volunteer Release Form at www.miracleleagueplymouth.org/images/2014%20Volunteer%20Release%20Form.pdf, then scan and return the form to debra@miracleleagueplymouth.org. The forms can also be mailed to Miracle League of Plymouth, 525 Farmer St., Plymouth, MI 48170.

Groups can also sign up to volunteer but will need one person as the contact person; that person needs to contact MLP Commissioner Deb Madonna at debra@miracleleagueplymouth.org.

Once volunteers have registered, they can go to Volunteer Spot (<http://vols.pt/sA8tYs>), enter an email address and choose their spots. Volunteer-Spot will send an automated confirmation and reminders.



The Miracle League of Plymouth is looking for volunteers to serve as “buddies” to its players, as well as umpires. Games start May 3.

Madonna pointed out VolunteerSpot does not share email addresses; however, volunteers who prefer not to use an email address can contact Madonna individually, and she will sign you up manually.

“We want you all to know that whether you can volunteer for one game or every game every week, your help is needed and appreciated,” Madonna said. “It is reassuring to our players and parents to see a familiar face in the dugout. Players love their buddies. You can’t imagine how important you are to the MLP players and families.”

There are some guidelines for volunteers:

» On game day, individuals can wear a white T-shirt (short- or long-sleeved), and groups can wear their company shirts.

» Voluneers must be at

least 10 years old. A parent or legal guardian must fill out all forms for those 10- to 18-years-old.

» Registered volunteers should arrive 15 minutes before game time; those who have to register should be there 30 minutes prior.

» More information on being a Buddy can be found at <http://www.miracleleagueplymouth.org/index.php?q=buddies>.

The spring season lasts seven games, with no games being played Memorial Day weekend. The fall season, also seven games, starts Aug. 16. There are no games Labor Day weekend.

Bilkie Field, where MLP games are played, is located at 357 Theodore in downtown Plymouth. For more information, email info@miracleleagueplymouth.org or visit the league’s website at www.miracleleagueplymouth.org.

Enter to win Detroit Lions football summer camp scholarship

Nine boys and girls ages 4-14 will win a scholarship to the 2014 Detroit Lions Summer Youth Camps.

The Detroit Lions, in cooperation with *Observer & Eccentric Media*, will award two scholarships to the following camps:

June 7-8, Beverly Hills Detroit Country Day, 9 a.m. to noon (QBW Academy for ages 8-14).

June 12-13, Brighton Scranton Middle School, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Fundamentals Camp for ages ages 6-14).

July 19, 26, Aug. 2, Southfield Inglenook Park, 10-11 a.m. (Lil’ Lions Academy for ages 4-8).

July 21-23, South Lyon Volunteer Park, 6:15-7:15 p.m. (Lil’ Lions Academy for ages 4-8).

One scholarship will be offered for the **June 30 through July 3 Plymouth Central Middle School Camp** from 8:30 a.m. to noon (Fundamentals Camp for youth ages 6-14).

The camps offer age-appropriate high-energy football instruction and technique training by



The camps offer age-appropriate high-energy football instruction and technique training by high school and college football coaches.

high school and college football coaches and interactive drills, chalk talks and skill competitions.

More than 30 camps are scheduled from June through August. For a complete list of summer camps and academies, visit DetroitLions.com/youthfootball.

To enter the O&E Media’s Scoop’s Hound Dog Highlights Football

Camp Contest, tell us in 50 words or less why you want to attend the camp.

Have your parents email a photo of you (jpeg format only and as large as possible), along with your name, age, phone number and community where you live, to cbjordan@hometownlife.com. Subject line is “Football Contest.”

Deadline to enter is April 30.

1

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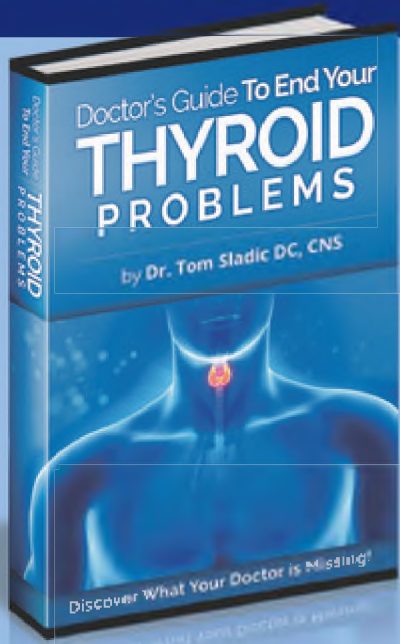
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(This is not a library sponsored event. DO NOT CALL THE LIBRARY)

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Presented by: Dr. Tom Sladic DC, CNS, Certified Nutrition Specialist, Member of the Institute for Functional Medicine, Member of the American College of Nutrition, Author of the Book “ Doctors’s Guide to End Your Thyroid Problems”

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– *Ellen S., Lake Orion*

“My life was in turmoil before I met you. I was extremely depressed, gaining weight, no energy I felt horrible. My grandmother heard about the seminar and I went. The rest is history. I was amazed at how good I felt for the first time in years. Thank-you for taking the time to discover my problem. I am forever changed.”
– *Lindsey H., Northville*

“I’ve tried everything including natural approaches with no success. I attended your seminar a few months ago and this is now the best I’ve felt in 10 years. I now have a better control of my health and it feels great.”
– *Kathy B., Milford*

I could no longer do the many activities I once enjoyed. I knew something was wrong. People told me that this happens as you age and it’s normal. So I tried to pretend everything was ok. My husband and I attended your seminar and I felt hopeful. The improvement I experienced was dramatic in just a few weeks. All of the symptoms I’ve struggled with began to fade away. I am back on my feet again.”
– *Sane F., Novi*

View More Testimonials at DrSladic.com

Gatsby Gala fights against diabetes



The MGM Detroit Grand hosted the Gatsby Gala (aka the Commitment for a Cure) on March 29. The fundraiser benefits the American Diabetes Association (ADA). This year's ADA's Gatsby Gala was chaired by Bob Binson of Binson's Home Health Care Centers. Since 1992, the ADA's Detroit Gala has raised over \$4.2 million. Dressed in their 1920s black-tie ensembles, the more than 300 guests danced the night away to the Ben Sharkey Quartet and the Rhoades Band. Northville residents Beth Duey (left) and Jennifer Beitzel attended the gala on behalf of Barefoot Productions in Plymouth. Duey and Beitzel are two of the "Five Women Wearing the Same Dress," which will be performed April 25 through May 4 in Plymouth. Call the box office at 734-560-1493 or visit www.justgobarefoot.com. JULIE YOLLES

Local couple celebrates 50th anniversary

Northville's Christine (Ryska) and Gary Weisenstein celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April 25.

The couple was married April 25, 1964 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in River Rouge, Mich. They moved to Northville from Riverview 17 years ago.

They have two children: Jill (Mike) Pevovar of Northville, and Stephen (Teri) Weisenstein of Oakland Township. They have five grandchildren: Jack, Luke, Abbey, Alex, and Brooke. Gary is a retired automotive supplier. Christine is a retired high school special education teacher. Both have been retired 12 years.

The couple has plenty of interests. They stay fit by working out at Planet Fitness every morning.

They enjoy their grandchildren, and attending their football games, lacrosse games, dance recitals, gymnastics events, and baseball games.

They spend as much time as possible at their beachfront condo in Treasure Island, Fla. They also have traveled the globe, including to the Galapagos Islands, several European countries, Alaska, and the Caribbean – just to name a few.

Last spring break, they took their children and grandchildren to Hawaii for a very memorable family vacation.

The couple is going to celebrate the milestone with a special dinner at Rocky's of Northville with family and friends.



Christine and Gary Weisenstein



The couple took their children and grandchildren to Hawaii in April, 2013. Pictured are Christine Weisenstein (from left), Abigail Weisenstein, Gary Weisenstein, Luke Pevovar, Mike Pevovar, Jill Pevovar, Jack Pevovar, Teri Weisenstein, Alex Weisenstein, Steve Weisenstein, and Brooke Weisenstein.

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Bookstock is back at Laurel Park Place April 27

Bookstock, Metro Detroit's biggest used book and media sale, returns April 27 through May 4 to Livonia's Laurel Park Place mall.

All proceeds benefit literacy and education projects in metropolitan Detroit.

Bookstock's Pre-Sale will kick-off at 8:15 a.m. Sunday, April 27, with a performance by the Larry Callahan and Selected of God Choir, made famous by the Chrysler Superbowl XLV commercial. There is a \$20 admission charge for the Pre-Sale only, which runs through 11 a.m. and offers shoppers and collectors first crack at

Bookstock's more than 100,000 donated used books, DVDs, CDs, books on tape, magazines and records for sale at bargain basement prices.

The sale will continue through Sunday, May 4, running 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays, and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

This year, Bookstock will feature five days of special sales:

Monday Madness – Monday, April 28: One lucky buyer will receive a \$500 gift card and 750 shoppers will receive giveaways.

Teacher Appreciation Day – Tuesday, April 29: Bookstock will give 50

percent off to all teachers with a valid ID from 3 - 9 p.m.

Bookbuster Special Days – Wednesday, April 30 and Thursday, May 1: Buy three books and get the fourth book free (the least expensive item), from 3 - 9 p.m. Spend \$25 or more and be entered in a special drawing for a football signed by Detroit Lions Quarterback Matthew Stafford.

Half-Price Finale, Sunday, May 4: All remaining books and media will be sold for half price.

Marking 12 years of supporting the need to read, Bookstock has gen-

erated close to \$1 million for literacy and education projects throughout Oakland County and Detroit.

Bookstock is brought to the community by the Jewish Community Relations Council, and a consortium of communal nonprofit organizations that support education and literacy projects throughout metro Detroit.

For more information, call the Bookstock hotline 248-645-7840, ext. 365 or visit bookstock.info. Laurel Park Place is on Six Mile Road east of I-275.

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Gardening needn't be a pain in the back

With spring comes the desire for many of us to venture out into our great backyards to try our hand at landscape improvement. Changes may range from planting a few annuals in flower boxes to redesigning your entire yard. Whatever your plan, you should know that more cases of back pain are caused by gardening than running or even outdoor sports.

As with any physical



Kenneth S. Stopa, Jr.
GUEST COLUMN

activity, it is always best to let your legs and arms do the work – instead of your back. This will help reduce your chances of causing back pain and injury, strengthen your arms and legs, and make your gardening easier. Before you start your gardening project, take

time to warm up and give your spine the opportunity to be prepared for a workout. In addition to your regular exercise regimen, these tips will help you avoid back pain when tackling your garden project: » Warm up with a brisk walk or light running to loosen your muscles and increase your musculoskeletal system's flexibility. » Know your strengths and limitations,

and don't ever exert. » When weeding, get down on your hands and knees rather than bending and twisting at the waist. Don't stand and bend over repeatedly. » Keep your back straight when you stand up from sitting or crouched position. » Lift dirt and debris by letting your arms, legs and thighs carry the load. Keep your back straight and bend your knees. Handle only manageable loads at a time.

» Use long-handled tools to keep from stooping while raking, hoeing or digging. Repetitive motion on one side can bring on low-back and shoulder spasms. » Don't work too long in one position, especially one that is awkward or unusual. This can cause muscle imbalance. » Carry objects close to your body, so as not to risk straining your neck and lower back. » Don't over expose yourself in long periods

in the sun without protection of the head and body. » Take frequent breaks, and drink water to keep you hydrated. As always, your best bet to avoid back pain is to exercise regularly, and to maintain good posture throughout the year.

Dr. Kenneth S. Stopa, Jr., owns Main Street Family Chiropractic Center, P.C. in downtown Northville. He welcomes your feedback at 248-735-9800. For more information, visit www.drtsopa.com.

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10:30 a.m. Fellowship/Coffee
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Wednesday Bible Study (Colossians) at 7 pm
LO-0000165207.Pastor.Andy.Williams

Novi

First Presbyterian Church of Northville
www.fpcnorthville.org
200 E. MAIN ST. AT HUTTON
Worship: 9:30 am.
Sunday School for all ages, 10:30 am.
248-349-0911

WARD CHURCH
40000 Six Mile Road
Northville, MI 48168
248-374-7400
Sunday Worship Services
8 a.m. | 9:30 a.m. | 11 a.m.
4 different music styles from classic to modern
www.wardchurch.org

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

Novi

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN
Experience Life Each Week
Sunday Worship - 9:00 am & 10:15 am
Sunday School and Children's Programs
www.ncalife.org
41355 Six Mile Road
248-348-9030

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
Wisconsin Synod • Reynold Sweet Pkwy.
at Liberty St.

Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.
All Classes 9:00
Pastor Scott Miller, (248) 437-1651

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH
28900 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon
248-486-0400
www.ecrossroads.net
Sunday Services:
8:45, 10 & 11:30 am

Novi

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

Our Savior Apostolic Lutheran Church
54999 8 Mile Rd. at Currie Rd., Northville, MI 48167
248-374-2268
Sunday Worship:
10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship/Coffee
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
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SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH
Loving God and Loving People
22183 Pontiac Trail • 248-486-4400
(In Brookdale Shopping Center,
behind Powerhouse Gym)
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:00 A.M.
Reed Heckmann, Pastor/Teacher
www.solidrocksouthlyon.com

Novi

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

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Brightmoor Christian Church

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

Web: www.brightmoorchurch.org

Celebrate Recovery

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

Church of the Holy Family

Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road

Contact: 248-349-8847 or visit holyfamilynovi.org

Mass Schedule

Time/Day: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday through Friday; 7 p.m. Monday and 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 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

Womens Coffee Break Bible Study: 10-11:30 a.m. Mondays; "God Revealed" by Fred Sievert

Faith Community Presbyterian Church

Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile

Contact: 248-349-2345 or visit www.faithcommunity-novi.org

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

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

Classic Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Classic worship service, Adult Bible Fellowship classes and Children's Sunday School; 11 a.m. Contemporary worship service with Kids Church, Teen Worship Service and Adult Bible Fellowship classes. Caf  is open from 9:15-11 a.m. Refreshments at 10:30 a.m.; 6 p.m. Evening Traditional Service

Tuesday: 9:25 a.m. Women's Bible Study (Women of the Word) studying 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 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 hollycrossnovi@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.

Hope Lutheran Church

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

Lakes Baptist Church

Location: 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake

Livonia Church of Christ

Location: 15431 Merriman, Livonia

Contact: 734-427-8743 or visit www.livoniachurch.net

Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.

Bible School: Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.

Legacy Church

(formerly First Baptist Church and Orchard Hills Baptist Church)

Location: 23455 Novi Road, Novi

Contact: pastor Jon Hix, 248-349-5665 or visit www.legacychurch.us

Sunday School/Small Groups for all ages: 9:45 a.m.

Worship Services: 11 a.m.

Bible Study/Prayer: Wednesday 7 p.m.

Meadowbrook Congregational Church

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

Contact: the Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, senior minister, 248-348-7757, visit mbccc.org or 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 sanctuary; 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 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 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; 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 olv-northville.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

Location: 574 S. Sheldon in Plymouth

Contact: 734-453-0190, Ext. 16, or visit www.stjohnsplymouth.org

Praise Baptist Church

Location: 45000 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth

Contact: 734-748-3898

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Location: 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills

Phone: 248-553-3380

Free Movie Night: 7 p.m.

Friday, April 25 – The feature film based in "Unconditional" – a film month on a true story of Joe Bradford and his wife who reach out to the underprivileged children and start a choir. The non-profit organization, Elijah's Heart, is established as a result in 2005 to help children in need. A ham dinner will be served for a free will donation. Please call the church office if you wish to include the meal with the movie.

St. James Catholic Church

Location: 46325 10 Mile, Novi

Contact: 248-347-7778

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 stjoh-lutheran.com

Saturday Worship: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship: 9, 11:15 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, Far-

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.

mington Hills

Contact: www.uufarmington.org

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

Details: This religious education program is open to the public and currently enrolling new students. Classes are grouped into grades K-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/re-lifespan

Multigenerational Services: 6:45 p.m. Fridays

Details: Family members of all ages can gather for drumming, chanting, and meditation followed by a brief participatory worship service which could include stories, songs and sharing. A religious education activity will follow, such as an art project, music, dance, game or theater. The evening will close with a light snack and a short time to socialize, ending at 8:30 p.m.

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville (behind the shopping center at the corner of Six Mile and Haggerty)

Web: www.wardchurch.org

Contact: 248-374-7400

Sunday Worship: 8 a.m. Liturgical in the Chapel; 9:30 a.m. Contemporary in the Sanctuary; 11 a.m. Traditional in the Sanctuary; 11a.m. Post-Contemporary in Knox Hall

Sunday Groups and Classes: Nursery, Children's and Middle School programs available on Sunday mornings. High School Sunday night at 6:30 p.m. Sunday Morning Adult Life Classes also available.

FX: A Family Experience: An interactive family production where participants ignite conversations in the home on important topics to help kids and their parents follow God together. First Sunday of the month at 9:30 a.m. In Knox Hall, September-May.

Service Broadcasts: Live at http://live.wardchurch.org at 9:30 and 11 a.m. Sundays for live interactive video web-streaming. Also, the Traditional Service is broadcast every week on WRDT-AM 560 at 11 a.m.

Passages
Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

How to reach us:
1-800-379-7335 • fax 313-496-4968 • htwwobits@hometownlife.com

Deadlines: Friday, 4:15 p.m. for Sunday paper
Wednesday, 9:45 a.m. for Thursday paper

ELWELL, JR. CHARLES W. "BILL"
69, of Livonia, formerly of Northville, 04/18/2014. Full obit and online condolences at www.casterlinefuneralhome.com.



LEE, JEROME "JERRY"
Age 79, of Highland, passed away April 16, 2014. Beloved husband of Judy for 23 years. Loving father of Ron (Deb), Jeff and Sherri, and step-father of Tim (Harmony) and Jeff (Abby). Proud grandfather of Rochelle, Chantalle, Deke, and Holly (Bryan). Treasured great-grandfather of Isabelle, Alex and Bryson. Devoted brother of Frank (Penny). Dear uncle of Rick and Dan. Jerome had a special love for boating and his classic car. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date. Share a memory at www.eltonblackands onhighland.com

Elton Black & Son Funeral Home



WELLS, MARJORIE M.
Age 90, of South Lyon, died April 18, 2014. She is the devoted mother of Martin (Joann) and Marlene (Gerald) Morgan; loving grandmother of seven grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. Sadly, Marjorie was preceded in death by her husband Luther, daughter, Beth Ann Konz, and three brothers. Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 22nd, at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (btw. 9-10 Mile Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Private Interment North Farmington Cemetery. Memorial tributes suggested to Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile Rd., Livonia, MI 48154. heeney-sundquist.com



BRIEFS

Continued from Page A9

also CEO of the world-renowned ©POP Gallery, which forever changed the vibe of Midtown's Woodward corridor, and helped launched careers of some of the world's most influential and important visual artists of the last 20 years.

For more information, call the Northville Art House at 248-344-0497. Admission is free.

Ramsey program

Rock concert puts music in hands of disabled children

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Three bands will come together Saturday night with the purpose of raising money for the Rock 4 Awareness Foundation.

Black Rose, the Randy Barrett Band and Bad Dog USA will perform at Albert's on the Alley in Garden City to raise money for the Rock 4 Awareness Music Foundation. Founded by Garden City firefighter Tom Wincel, the organization's goal is to supply musical instruments to places like the Burger School for Students with Autism.

"We're hoping to get enough for 25 to 75 guitars," said Bill Bouvier, lead guitarist and singer for Bad Dog. "We get guitars from Fender, they have something wrong with them. We fix them and get them to the kids."

Bouvier of South Lyon is the founder of Bad Dogs. Fellow band member Bill Tremblay of Newport, a retired Detroit police officer, is the man with the magic hands, repairing the guitars and returning them to playability.

"The guitars can cost from \$75 to \$100 and don't have anything majorly wrong with them," Bouvier said. "A guitar might have a broken neck. It's something Bill can fix."

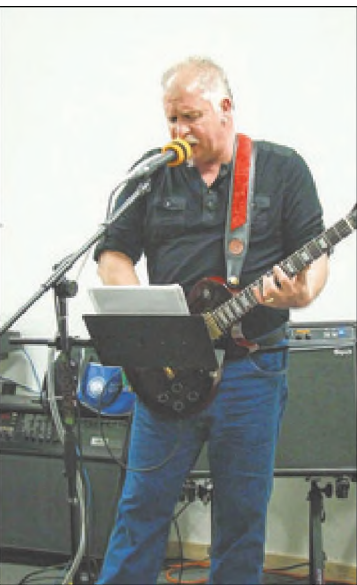
Three bands

The event starts at 6 p.m. with the bands taking to the stage at 7 p.m. Black Rose will play first, followed by the Randy Barrett Band at 8:30 and Bad Dog at 10 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each and available at the door. They also include entry into a guitar raffle.

"Black Rose is a little heavy, the Barrett Band is classic rock, but it's going to be mostly classic rock throughout the night," Bouvier said.

The raffle will include two Fender guitars, and two trips to Las Vegas with hotel and \$500 to spend in the casinos. There also will be dinner certificates and limo rides raffled off, and a Detroit Red Wings jersey from the Winter Classic and car care package from Gordon Chevrolet will be part of a Chinese auction.

Other businesses also have helped with the event. Plato's



Bill Bouvier is founder of Bad Dog USA, which will part of a three-band concert Saturday, April 26.



Bob Tromblay not only plays the guitar but is talented at repairing them.

"I've played in a lot of bars and this one is a nice big club."

Rock 4 Awareness has a mission of offering children and adults with special needs and other developmental disabilities the chance to participate one on one with a music teacher. And the instruments Bouvier is looking for go beyond guitars. He's making the rounds of garage sales, looking for drum sets and keyboards. He's also accepting instrument donations.

"We've been working hard on this and we want it to be a big success," he said. "We want to help any kid with a disability any way we can."

For more information, call Bouvier at 313-478-4895 or Tremblay at 734-658-6183 or email them at baddogusa@charter.net. They also can be found at www.reverbnation.com/baddogusa.

People interested in making a donation can send checks, payable to Rock 4 Awareness, to Bill Bouvier, 600 E. Lake St., South Lyon, MI 481878.

smason@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

Mad scramble



Nearly 2,000 people showed up for the annual Eggstravaganza April 19 at Maybury State Park. It was a mad scramble for the 5,000 plastic eggs filled with a surprise inside. The event was co-sponsored by the Friends of Maybury and Northville Parks and Recreation. In addition to the egg hunt, families enjoyed crafts, seed planting and face painting. Special guests were Smokey the Bear and, of course, the Easter Bunny.

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OUR VIEWS

New tests for state's teachers only a beginning

Raising standards required for becoming a teacher is a laudable goal, but making it tougher to enter the field won't by itself improve educational outcomes in Michigan. Our problems are bigger than that.

The House of Representatives' Education Subcommittee recently approved \$3.6 million to revamp the state's teacher certification tests. The appropriation would allow the Department of Education to accelerate efforts to toughen the exams, something state Superintendent Mike Flanagan has said is a priority.

We agree, and we encourage both chambers of the Legislature to send it on to Gov. Rick Snyder for his signature. It's been more than a decade since Michigan updated these exams, which by most accounts are laughably easy.

As Bridge Magazine's Ron French reported in his "Building a Better Teacher" series last fall, when the Education Department beefed up the test all aspiring teachers must take before they are allowed to student teach, the pass rate plummeted from 82 percent on previous exams to 26 percent. Flanagan at the time hailed the test results as proof that the state was serious about letting only the most qualified teachers into Michigan classrooms.

The infusion of cash means that the department will be able to roll out the new tests in two years rather than the estimated 11 years it would have otherwise taken, and that faster timetable is worth the investment.

But let's keep it real. Tougher certification tests won't by themselves lead to a higher level of performance in Michigan classrooms, nor will they address the underlying systemic — and political — issues that stunt professional growth in public education.

There's plenty of blame to go around when it comes to poor educational outcomes in Michigan, but too much of that blame is misplaced at the feet of teachers.

As a state and a nation, we can press for higher admissions standards into teaching programs, and those programs can do a better job of aligning themselves with the demands of today's classrooms.

It's not at all clear, however, that so-called "smarter teachers" will fix what ails public schools, certainly not without significant efforts to improve the conditions and resources available to educators.

We've seen little evidence that our teachers lack skills or expertise. What they lack, rather, is time, guidance and support necessary to be fully effective and grow in their careers.

Poorly compensated relative to other professions, teaching in the United States has long struggled to be seen as the profession that it is. Policymakers, many of them in Lansing, seem to prefer a high-turnover teaching force that is minimally trained.

The overemphasis on standardized tests, punitive evaluation policies and bureaucratic regulations combined with larger class sizes and undersourced classrooms combine to create a high rate of turnover among teachers. About 40 percent of all teachers leave within the first five years of starting their jobs — more than any other profession.

There's nothing wrong with demanding higher standards from aspiring teachers, but policymakers should take into account that high achievers have standards as well, among them the opportunity to work in an environment in which they feel valued and adequately compensated.

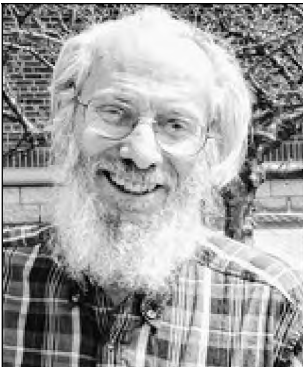
Until we decide that teaching is a serious profession that demands substantial public investment, we will not produce the skilled teachers that are needed to address the needs of our children.

But let's keep it real. Tougher certification tests won't by themselves lead to a higher level of performance in Michigan classrooms, nor will they address the underlying systemic — and political — issues that stunt professional growth in public education.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What do you look forward to most with the arrival of spring?

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



"I look forward to traveling."

Ed Ben-Edison
Northville



"Eating outside at Poole's and just enjoying the weather."

Stephanie Brown
Northville



"Going down to Ford Field here in downtown and walking around in the sun."

Bryn Smetana
Northville



"Visiting Kensington Park and for my pool to open at my apartment complex, so I can go for that first swim."

Gayle Mazurkiewicz
Novi

LETTERS

Kids deserve support

I just want to let you know on behalf of the NHS Stage Parents how much we have appreciated the coverage the *Northville Record* has provided for our Drama Club members this school year.

From the cast to the crew, this group of talented kids works very hard to put on a spectacular performance for the Northville community. The coverage and publicity the *Record* provides is crucial in getting the word out to the broader public that a high quality theater experience is as close as the local high school. These kids need and deserve to be seen on stage and your willingness to include their story in your publication helps make that possible.

Thank you, again, for your continued support of the NHS Drama Club.

Johanna Kissel
NHS Stage Parents

Lipstick on pig

Education funding has increased since Sen. Pat Colbeck and Gov. Rick Snyder took office. The problem, if you are a school district, is that the increased spending has been mainly to make adjustments in legacy costs, while actual per-pupil funding has declined. When Gov. Snyder took office the per pupil funding was \$7,316 and in 2013-14 the funding is \$7,076.

This week House Democrats proposed a cap on the state's furniture purchases from Gov. Snyder's cousin, and also proposed an increase in the education budget by \$22 million; the same amount Gov. Snyder's cousin's furniture contract was increased when it was doubled.

Don't you just love the conditions of the roads in Michigan? After shameful neglect, Colbeck and Snyder are frantically proposing election year fixes, which should be welcome to us all; except that 84 road repair projects were submitted by legislators, and only two went to districts represented by Democrats. Is it only Republicans that deserve to drive on safe roads?

Looking at the Colbeck and Snyder agenda and record, you can try and put lipstick on a pig, but it is still pretty ugly. How about Michigan Republicans making women buy special rape insurance so a legal medical procedure will be a covered part of their health insurance?

Steve Lawrence
Northville Township

Choice needed in education

Since adopted by President Carter in 1980 the U.S. Department of Education is one more bureaucracy with little useful purpose but money distribution. In a presumably free nation we are now overwhelmed by micromanaging bureaucracies. Eventually each one functioning as overstuffed fiefdoms of central planning.

Every bit of public education is driven by the local culture, a common language and associated peer groups. The results either demanded or not by interest of local taxpayers. Common Core appears as the brainchild of elite's attempt to correct the total mess of their urban social engineering of the 1960s and 1970s laying the decay on urban public schools.

Advancements in our education industry relies upon all sorts of circular groping toward college degrees neither cost effective nor beneficial. American one-room school houses were once pretty effective as families focused on needed and useful vocations as a thorough necessity. Happy endings may not include growing indebtedness or seductive politicians moving families ever onward toward dependency.

Vouchers, which are still being held back by politics, are the answer to bring wider options and improving educational results by implementing choice. Competition corrects problems associated with unchanging manipulations and introduces cost control.

Parents most desperately need choices of optional competitive and vocational educational programs. Freedom from the lock step of national bureaucracies using equally funded options will push ever higher expectations. Competition in voucher options may require failures to upgrade or disappear. Children in the critical K-12 years should never be left without such options and easy access to them.

Jim Nowka
Northville

Kudos to Corrigan

I just want to let the surrounding area know what an outstanding company Corrigan Oil/Propane has been supplying my propane needs for the last three years. They are always giving me the best price and their customer service is second to none.

I have lived in this area for over 20 years and dealt with two other suppliers who only cared about making more money. Corrigan truly cares about customers.

Maureen Richards
Northville

Stop privatization

I am a life-long resident of Plymouth. I've recently become aware of an alarming situation in our schools that has every possibility of doing a considerable amount of damage to the way our children's schools will be maintained; potentially impacting their entire learning environment along with health concerns that may arise as a result.

I am talking about privatization of the custodian/maintenance departments of our schools.

I have firsthand experience with the ramifications of what happens when an outside company takes over the cleaning of a district's schools as opposed to the loving care provided by in-house staff. The comparison is frightening. My background: I was employed by the Northville Public Schools as an in-house custodian for more than nine years, then left my position to be a stay-at-home mom. Years later I was hired by a company representing the Northville Schools to be a custodial leader.

From what I witnessed, the schools were not being properly cared for. There was no personal sense of "ownership" of the buildings, the goal of making them a safe and healthy environment in which our children can learn and thrive was not "on the list." This was a cold business venture staffed by strangers, only interested in a way to save money and cut corners. However, the quality of cleanliness, building care and health standards is what was actually being cut.

Fundamental supplies, such as toilet paper, paper towels, hand soap, trash bags and appropriate disinfectant were continually of short supply — or completely missing. When "privatized," your child's schools will be cared for from the list of a la carte "Care Level" choices.

Ask yourself what happens to the locker rooms when they are not cleaned with hospital-grade disinfectants? One answer might be found by going online to look for "Schools with MRSA issues."

Shortchanging our children's school cleanliness and learning environment to save a couple dollars is not acceptable.

T.L. Cavanaugh
Plymouth

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 St., South Lyon, MI 48178

Resume funding

Research shows that cancer screenings save lives. Detecting cancer early increases the chances of successful treatment, improves survival rates and cuts overall medical costs in Michigan.

Last year, Michigan legislators eliminated state funding for Michigan's Cancer Prevention Program. Now, less than 10 percent of women, age 40 to 49, eligible for the Michigan Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program will receive life-saving cancer screenings in 2014. This means more women will be diagnosed with breast cancer at later stages when it is more costly to treat and less likely to survive.

Unfortunately, a significant number of Michiganders will remain un- or under-insured. For these women, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program may be the only option enabling them access screening and early detection programs. I urge all members of the Michigan legislature to remember these women, and make fully funding this program a priority.

Nasrine Altairi
Dearborn

Honor Michigan war dogs

Michigan War Dog Memorial Inc. is located at Milford and 11 Mile roads in Lyon Township. The restoration of the abandoned memorial started in 2010. Through our research, we found the site was established in 1936 as a pet cemetery. At that time, it was called Happy Hunting Grounds Pet Cemetery. In 1946, after the local residents were informed of the many lives war dogs saved during World War II, a monument was erected to honor them for their heroic service to our country. In 1947, the first war dog was interred.

We started restoring this two-acre site, clearing heavy brush, dead trees. As the word spread of our mission, many VSOs (veteran service organizations), K-9 supporters and local residents came together as an all-volunteer force to restore this hallowed ground back to its former grandeur.

In 2013, we formed a nonprofit organization and renamed the site "Michigan War Dog Memorial." We also received clearance from the township to resume interment for all K-9s that serve and protect us. This includes police K-9s, Homeland Security K-9s, Border Patrol K-9s, etc. It also includes service K-9s for the disabled, therapy dogs and companion dogs for veterans with PTSD.

Our mission for 2014 is to erect four more monuments, one for the K-9s that served in the Korea War, one for the K-9s that served and were left behind in the Vietnam War, one for the K-9s that served in Iraq and one for the K-9s that served in Afghanistan.

With the help from private donations and corporate sponsors stepping up, we will be able to complete this mission. If you can, please make a donation. To donate, go to www.mwdm.org.

Phil Weitlauf
Michigan War Dog Memorial Inc.
president

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Bouchard: Heroin has infiltrated all our towns

Drug use and overdoses are on the rise

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard is holding out hope that state legislators soon pass a Good Samaritan package of bills to allow his deputies, first responders and perhaps even parents to carry a specific antidote prescription drug — Narcam — to save lives from heroin overdose. “It’s an ideal drug for first responders on the scene,” said Dr. Alan Janssen, tactical and emergency physician with the county sheriff’s office.

Bouchard urged passage of the Good Samaritan legislation before a packed room of parents in the Oakland County Board of Commissioners chamber April 16. Parents, many from Waterford and South Lyon, held placards — “Hope for heroin addicts,” “I am here because I am scared for my community” and “We support a drug-free community.”

The Heroin Town Hall, hosted by Bouchard, drew parents who are worried about their children or have children who are or suspected of being heroin addicts. He urged attacking the problem on multiple fronts, including education, community groups, community officials, treatment and law enforcement.

Bouchard acknowledged, based on parents’ comments, that many community officials in Oakland County communities don’t want to admit there is a problem with heroin use.

“Some communities don’t like to talk about it because it is a drug prob-

CLUES TO IDENTIFY HEROIN USE

In response to parents’ concerns about their children and the use of heroin, Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard detailed some telltale signs of drug use. The clues include:

» A dramatic change in behavior and attire. If a child was once meticulous about their dress and appearance, for example, but no longer is, this could be a sign of drug use or emotional issues.

» A dramatic change in a child’s group of friends.

» Parents should also look for pieces of burned tin foil, burned spoons and burn marks on clothing and personal belongings. Smoking heroin with a straw is the most common way to use heroin today, according to an undercover sheriff’s deputy.

Other ways to use heroin include snorting and shooting the liquid form into veins, the deputy said.

Today, heroin is also cut to a smaller degree with Dormin, a sleep aid, that is available at all pharmacies, he added. Heroin creates a sense of euphoria, a detachment to pain and slows down the body’s central nervous system. It also slows down the heart rate, lowers blood pressure, causes constipation and decreases the body’s naturally instinctive desire to breathe, said Dr. Alan Janssen, who works with the Oakland County Sheriff’s Department.

“Overdose is not an uncommon thing at all,” Janssen added.

Heroin is typically not the first step in an addiction process. It begins with prescription pills that kids take from the medicine cabinet. While prescription pills on the street may cost \$50 to \$80 each, a “bundle” of heroin will cost \$10. “They use heroin to replace the pill,” Bouchard said.

Heroin’s relative affordability is illustrated in the costs per ounce. At one time, an ounce of heroin cost \$3,200; today, it runs about \$1,400, the undercover deputy told parents Wednesday night.



Sheriff’s deputies, drug enforcement officers and parents talked about the use of heroin.
JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

scribed burned pieces of tin foil and straws — used for smoking heroin — the mother’s reaction appeared to confirm her worst fears. “That is shocking. I am shocked,” she said, as she held her head down.

“We see cycles. Heroin is on the forefront. We’ve seen this spike up dramatically,” Bouchard said.

Year-to-date over 2013, sheriff’s deputies have witnessed a 300-percent increase in heroin cases. Michigan deaths from heroin overdoses have risen sharply since 1999-2002, when 271 deaths were reported, to 728 between 2010-12, an unidentified undercover sheriff’s deputy told parents.

“The increase I’ve seen in heroin is incredible,” the deputy said.

Affordable and available

The rise in heroin use is due in part to its affordability, availability and relative purity. Some 15-20 years ago, heroin was 3- to 10-percent pure and padded with other drugs for an additional kick. Today’s heroin — primarily from Afghanistan — is 80- to 90-percent pure and, unlike in

lem. They think it gives a black eye (to the community),” he said. “It’s not a negative on property values.”

Viewing heroin and its users as only an inner-city issue is just a stereotype. “We are seeing it everywhere. I am telling you right now, it is happening everywhere,” Bouchard said.

No boundaries

Heroin addiction has no boundaries for race, gender or economic status. All Oakland County communities are included, including the wealthier suburbs. In just the past week, four overdoses were reported in West Bloomfield and a total of eight in all of Oakland County, Bouchard said.

“It’s not an inner-city

drug like you think,” an undercover sheriff’s deputy said. “If you don’t know about it, you better. It’s at your door. Get into your kids’ business.”

The greatest use of heroin is among those ages 17-25, but deputies and other law enforcement officers have seen it in the county’s middle schools, as well.

“My son is a heroin addict,” a father from the audience said. “He is still alive.”

The father cautioned others that one trick used by heroin addicts is their penchant for looking for receipts in garbage cans that they take back to stores for money to purchase the drug.

Another mom asked Bouchard about the telltale signs of heroin use. When Bouchard de-

the past, is not being cut as heavily.

“Now you see why we are having these overdoses,” Bouchard said. “The first-timer has no tolerance to that level.”

That’s why, Bouchard and Janssen said, the need for the Good Samaritan legislation (SB 721) to allow the administration of Narcam by first responders, is paramount. Janssen called Narcam an “ideal antidote” that is used in an intra-nasal form for rapid absorption and will within minutes get the overdosed patient breathing again.

“Even if we are wrong (with a misdiagnosed overdose), it is safe,” Janssen said.

The sheriff’s department, Bouchard said, has been working on a process to be followed in the legal use of Narcam by first responders to ensure safety and to avoid liability because it is one prescription drug being used to counteract the effects of heroin.

“We want to be armed with the tools,” Bouchard said.

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BUDGET

Continued from Page A1

issue. In addition, the loss of revenue from the small business exemption for personal property will also be addressed in the upcoming budget. “If I had to sum up this budget up in two areas I would say that it is a stable, balanced budget,” City Manager Patrick Sullivan said. We have some consistent, but slow, revenue growth that continues and we are maintaining our cost

controls.” He said long term the challenges are legacy and infrastructure costs. As of June 30, 2013, the total liability for retiree health care was approximately \$23.3 million. Although not required, \$5.6 million has been set aside by the city in a trust account towards that liability. The budget includes approximately \$819,000 in funding for physical infrastructure improvements.

Utility cost increases
The average household utility bill for Northville city residents will increase approximately \$11.90 bi-monthly, according to the proposed budget. This is a combined increase of 6.8 percent for refuse, water and sewer. It is proposed that the city will increase the water rate from \$5.60 to \$5.83 per unit, or by 4.1 percent effective July 1. Last year the combined increase for City of Detroit water supply costs was 22.7 percent,

which was the result of Northville exceeding its contracted maximum peak flow in 2012. However in 2013, Northville reduced its peak flows through improvements to its water controls and adoption and enforcement of outdoor water use restrictions. Therefore, Wiktorowski said Detroit’s water rate is reduced for fiscal year 2015 by 13.9 percent. Last year’s cost increase of 22.7 percent was not fully passed onto the users of the system. Per unit water rate was only increased 7.1 percent.

Northville’s consultant estimates that Wayne County will increase the combined rate by 4 percent for sewage disposal effective July 1. However, Wiktorowski said Northville is proposing a 13.1 increase to the users of the system, from \$4.75 to \$5.37 per unit. “This rate increase is necessary to cover the Wayne County sewage disposal costs, capital improvements and increased operational costs,” she said in the proposed budget glance. For residential refuse there is a proposed in-

crease of 1.54 percent to \$32.30 bi-monthly, or \$2.94 annually. The city’s stated goal for this program is to have the current rates cover the entire cost of the residential program. Therefore, the current rate is proposed to increase. There will be open study session meeting at 7 p.m. on April 28. The public hearing and requested budget adoption is scheduled for May 19.

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STRONGER

Continued from Page A1

city might have to ask residents for more help if they desire better roads. The city is still dealing with financial challenges due to the economic crisis of 2007-08, which led to lower property values and in turn less revenue. This forced the city to, among other moves, cut staff and negotiate certain concessions from its employees. “This is not quite a financial emergency, but it’s such a difficult thing to do that eventually local units of government will have to turn back to our local taxpayers and ask them for more money because the state keeps taking away money,” he said. Six years ago, the city’s property tax values saw an 18-percent decrease, but values have grown a bit over the last two. During that time, the city has worked to maintain Northville’s services, downtown events and new development. The Comerica Community Connection (walkway) is open, the city is emphasizing a walkable non-motorized plan and future development is being guided by updating the master plan. Despite the challenges, Johnson said Northville will continue to be a great place “to

live, work and play.” **Northville Township** According to Nix, Northville Township is in the midst of a transformation with a lot of positive things happening, but it is also dealing with ongoing financial challenges. With the demolition of the old state prison building at Five Mile and Beck roads, as well as the demolition of the power house and maintenance building at the former State Regional Psychiatric Hospital site, Northville Township is poised to see new development brought to vacant properties. At Seven Mile and Haggerty roads, the medical facility being built by the University of Michigan is on schedule for a July opening. More is yet to come at the location with retail and restaurants. Down the road at Five Mile and Beck, the technology park is also getting new life with companies expanding or moving in. Meanwhile, Nix said the township is still struggling with the same problem as the city with lower revenue due to fallen property tax values. Things have been a bit better the last two years, but he said things won’t return to former levels until 2020. Because of this, the township will be asking voters later this summer for an increase of 1.55 mills to help cover the



Northville Mayor Chris Johnson begins his address at the Meadowbrook Country Club. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

costs for public safety and shared services, which include recreation, senior services and youth assistance with the city. “I think everyone in this room and who I’ve talked to are willing to invest in their community and to maintain the level of services they have,” Nix said of the upcoming vote on the millage. He said these two crucial areas have seen the biggest hits because of lower property values. But he added these

services have improved, with public safety getting an upgrade by becoming capable of performing advanced life support. Police and fire response times consistently stay within four minutes, he said. The shared services represent among other things parks and recreation, which has a multitude of activities in partnership with the city and school district.

Lansing From Heise’s perspective, things are looking better in Northville and overall. But again, he reiterated the need for more funding, specifically for the school district. Heise said since 2011, when he and Gov. Rick Snyder debuted in Lansing, the unemployment rate has gone from 13 percent to 7 percent statewide; in Northville

the rate stands currently at 2 percent. Another accomplishment since then is the state adding 250,000 private-sector jobs. Heise said the challenges ahead deal with the ongoing bankruptcy in Detroit and funding for roads, schools and DDAs (downtown development authorities). Even with the positive developments, Heise said there is more room for improvement. “There’s a heck of a lot more work to be done, but we’re certainly making progress,” he said. “And it happens with great partners. Partners with local governments and schools, and also all of you, the business and civic leaders of our community. It’s a team effort.”

Northville Public Schools As a big piece in the fabric of the community, Gallagher said the school district plays an important role in what makes Northville a great place to live. As NPS officials look back on all the successes, sacrifice and hard work, Gallagher said the future looks bright. “The collaborative spirit that exists among our city, township, businesses, community groups and Northville Public Schools makes our community a beacon for families and businesses alike,” Gallagher said. The variety of honors and accomplishments at NPS is proven testament to its ongoing student and staff achievements, Gallagher said. From a record number of National Merit semifinalists to outstanding athletic performances, the students have striven to be their best. The financial condition of NPS has also improved the last three years and is getting better, as Gallagher cited the risk ratings for the district have gotten better each year. She said the shared sacrifices of employees and school officials have helped, but it still remains an issue. Looking forward, she said the district is looking at a world where the learning and jobs environment is continually changing. Developing a vision for the future of education in Northville is now under way, with the ultimate goal being to develop an environment that empowers more flexibility and student leadership. “We are all stronger and better because of our collective focus on Northville,” she said in closing.

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Northville hands Novi pair of shutout losses

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

Following a trio of doubleheaders last week, Novi's baseball team is not where it had hoped to be at this point in the season.

If a four-inning partial game is not completed and holds as is, the Wildcats will be 1-8 (0-2 KLA Central) on the season.

"We're not off to a very good start," Novi coach Rick Green said. "I'm kind of disappointed in some of the starts from our guys who we were expecting to have a good year."

"On the mound, we've been better than I thought we would be, actually. They've kept us in some games that could have gotten wild."

With the defense com-

ON TAP

Northville is next in action at 4 p.m. Monday at home against Livonia Franklin, followed by games at 4 p.m. Wednesday at South Lyon East, and 4 p.m. Thursday at Brighton.

mitting multiple errors in most games and the offense having a tough time at the plate, Green is hoping things click now that the colder weather and spring break rust is behind them.

"I'm waiting for the bats to catch on fire and the hitting to get contagious," Green said. "We have enough talent on our ball team to get some wins. We have had some bad breaks."



Northville's Chris Komorous slides back safely as Novi first baseman Alex Bergeris reaches for a wild throw. Komorous advanced to third base. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Last week's struggles began with a pair of shutout losses April 17 against rival Northville. The Mustangs claimed 3-0 and 4-0 victories in two very similar games.

"We got guys on base, we just weren't knocking in runs," Green said. "Our pitching did pretty good again, but the defense and base running (didn't). We left too many runners in scoring position."

Of Northville's seven combined runs, six were unearned stemming from an error or a play not directly resulting from a batted ball.

Seniors Tyler Whitehead (four hits, one strikeout, two walks in 5½ innings) and Blair

Myers (two hits, two strikeouts, one walk in 1½ innings) worked for Novi in the first game, allowing zero earned runs.

In the second game, senior Mark Czapski (one walk) and sophomore Scott Beaton (one run in one inning) kept things quiet, but not as quiet as Northville's pitchers did.

Junior Michael Mitchell was Novi's only batter with two hits in either game, getting them both in the second. Meanwhile, junior Brendan Wexler got on base three times in the first game, from one hit, one walk and being hit by a pitch.

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former staff writer for the Novi News.



Conor Naughton, Jason Ferrante and Ben Cracraft sweep the 3,200 run, finishing first, second and third, respectively. BRANDON LANGSTON

Mustangs turn in great times against S.L. East

Boys track team has several personal-best performances

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

It would have been easy for the Northville boys track and field team to simply write off its rescheduled meet against South Lyon East as a match-up that would fall victim to the start of spring break festivities.

Instead, Northville turned out a nearly-complete contingent of competitors and they turned in some of their best performances this season to earn a Central Division victory, 83-54, over the Cougars.

The victory puts the Mustangs at 3-1 on the season and they are undefeated in division and conference play.

The Mustangs also celebrated their seniors and, in turn, many of those seniors celebrated excellent times and finishes.

In the 1,600 relay, senior Dan Sims joined Jason Ferrante, Sean McCullough and Nick Noles for a first-place finish that found them just shy of setting the school record.

Alex Kearns took second in the pole vault, while Bobby Dunne and Colin McDonough turned in some of their best throws of the season.

"It was great to have some of our seniors shine their brightest on senior night," coach Brandon Langston said. "The most satisfying thing about the night wasn't the victory, but seeing all the kids smiling and enjoying their effort that earned the win."

Some of those efforts were personal bests. Joni Shaska ran his best time in the 110 hurdles, racing to second in 17:04.

ON TAP

Northville will run April 29 against Novi. It will also run May 1 at South Lyon. Both meets start at 4 p.m.

Also setting a personal best was Nick Milewski, who ran a 11.3 in the 100 for third place.

In the high jump, John Hamilton cleared his personal-best height with a leap of six feet.

The 4800 relay team of Adam Ghabra, Anthony Sourges, Matt Jankowski and Milewski ran a 1:35.07, earning their first win in a dual meet this season.

Northville also had some impressive finishes overall. Sims, Noles and McCullough swept the 1,600 with first, second and third place, respectively, while Naughton, Ferrante and Ben Cracraft did the same in the 3,200. Also sweeping were Sourges, Ghabra and Milewski in the 200 dash.

Noles also proved he was speedy over shorter distances, racing to second in the 400 in 53.8 seconds.

In the field, Leo Keyes took second in the long jump, while Felix Lee took third with leaps of 18-11 and 18-5, respectively.

Northville returns from spring break to run against Novi next week.

"Novi is very talented and I have runners on my team that have never lost to their Novi doppelgangers and some runners who have never beaten their Novi counterparts," Langston said. "In this meet, earning pride and respect has a tendency to take center stage."

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

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page B1

and Katie O'Malley and freshmen Mackenzie Kamm and Megan Swart with two hits. Sophomore Brianna Nayh had a hit and walked three times.

The game wasn't as much of a one-sided affair as it sounds. The two teams traded leads five times before Northville went on a tear in the sixth inning, scoring six runs to secure the victory.

"Make no mistake, this Novi team is much improved over previous years and very, very well-coached," Ritz said. "We knew this would be a challenge and it was. I like how our team responded."

Earning the win on the mound was Zwarka, who threw a complete game as she gave up just three runs and struck out six.

The nightcap found the Mustangs simply dominating from start to finish, winning 14-0 in a mercy-rule game that lasted five innings.

Northville picked up 13 hits in the win, led by Megan Swart, who went 3-for-3, scored two runs and had four RBIs. Nayh went 3-for-4, including a triple, and scored two runs and had two RBIs. Chapekis went 2-for-3, including a double, and scored four runs.

The game also show-

cased the debut of freshman Emma Canado, who was called up from junior varsity to fill an empty slot on the roster. She made the best of her first varsity appearance, going 2-for-3, knocking a triple and driving home five RBIs.

Kristen Jones earned the win, pitching five innings while allowing five hits and no runs.

Canton 7, Northville 3

The Mustangs found themselves on the wrong end against one of the state's better programs April 14.

"Overall, I am proud of our effort," Ritz said. "We competed against a very strong team. Our players got a better idea of what it takes to beat these teams. There were plays we didn't make that resulted in runs for Canton, but it's part of the learning process as we grow and mature. We are clearly improving from game to game."

Zwarka took the loss, giving up five earned runs.

Chapekis accounted for three of the Mustangs' eight hits, while Nayh contributed two hits, including a double. Senior Micaela Petrucci, Schiffer and Kamm each had one hit.

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

SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

beat them."

Novi turned up the offensive pressure early in the second half, but junior Northville goalkeeper Emily Maresh (10 saves) had her sights set on her sixth shutout of

the season and Peper, senior Karen Lovelace and juniors Sarah Castellano and Morgan Gozдор were there to help.

The Mustangs got some insurance with 12 minutes remaining, as freshmen Sydney Schembri took a pass out of the middle and charged down the right side, finding Cheslik at

the back post with a cross that Cheslik one-timed out of the air and into the net from 12 yards out.

"This was a great team win," Northville coach Eric Brucker said. "We were able to control much of the game and put pressure on Novi all over the field. Our defense played very orga-

nized and patient. Our midfield went after every 50/50 ball and controlled the entire tempo of the game. Our forwards worked hard all game and took advantage of our scoring chances."

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former staff writer covering Novi High School sports for the Novi News.

LACROSSE

Continued from Page B1

"Keith Pravato, Alex Cabrera, Travis Sparling and Tommy McMaster all are college-bound players that we recognized as players that we need to stop and avoid. We put ourselves in good positions tonight to execute our offensive system and to stop their talented midfield. Anytime your defense only gives up six goals, it tells us that we did something right."

Earning the win in

goal was Alex Justice, who stopped 11 shots.

Northville also played Walled Lake Western last week and simply controlled the entire game in a 19-7 win.

The Mustangs jumped out to a 4-1 lead in the first quarter, but allowed the Warriors to creep back into the contest thanks to seven minutes in penalties in the second quarter. The Mustangs held on, despite that poor execution, and led, 6-5, heading into the half.

"We took a 6-5 lead into the half, but myself and the whole team felt

like we were down 10 goals," Durham said. "We let the refs get the best of us in that half and I told the boys let's settle down and play our game."

Northville came out in the third and scored eight unanswered goals and ran away with the win.

"Even though we started out slow, we regained our confidence and got a nice win to head into spring break," Durham said. "The main thing right now is that we continue to play team-oriented lacrosse and run our systems as we have implemented them in

practice."

Melucci had four goals and four assists in the game, while John Cooke added four goals and three assists and Fuller picked up four goals and one assist. Alex Fuller had three goal and one assist and Conner Sweeney added three goals and one assist.

Northville is now 4-3 overall and 1-0 in the Central Division.

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

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CC's Garcia leads All-Area wrestling team

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

When discussing the talent of wrestling in the area, one school comes to the front: Detroit Catholic Central.

The Shamrocks have won three straight team state championships and added five individual state champions this year.

Drew Garcia is a senior who finished his prep career with his third state championship, collecting a title at 171 pounds. His chance to make it four titles was foiled his freshman year when he fell in overtime at the state meet in a 152-pound match.

He also collected three Oakland County championships during his career.

Garcia ended this season with a 45-1 record, giving him the best record ever (192-12) at Detroit Catholic Central.

The All-Area Player of the Year has signed his national letter of intent to continue wrestling at Cornell University.

First team

Nolan Klapac (103) Lakeland freshman

Klapac earned his spot by recording an impressive 41-14 record this season.

Parker O'Brien (112) Catholic Central senior

He picked up 28 victories this season and qualified for the individual state meet. There, he fell to the eventual state champion.

Trevor Zdebski (119) Catholic Central junior

He placed third in the state in both his freshman and sophomore seasons before winning a state title in 2014. He fashioned a 31-2 record along the way.

Sunhe Wang (125) Northville junior

He qualified for the state meet and ended his season with a 34-17 record.

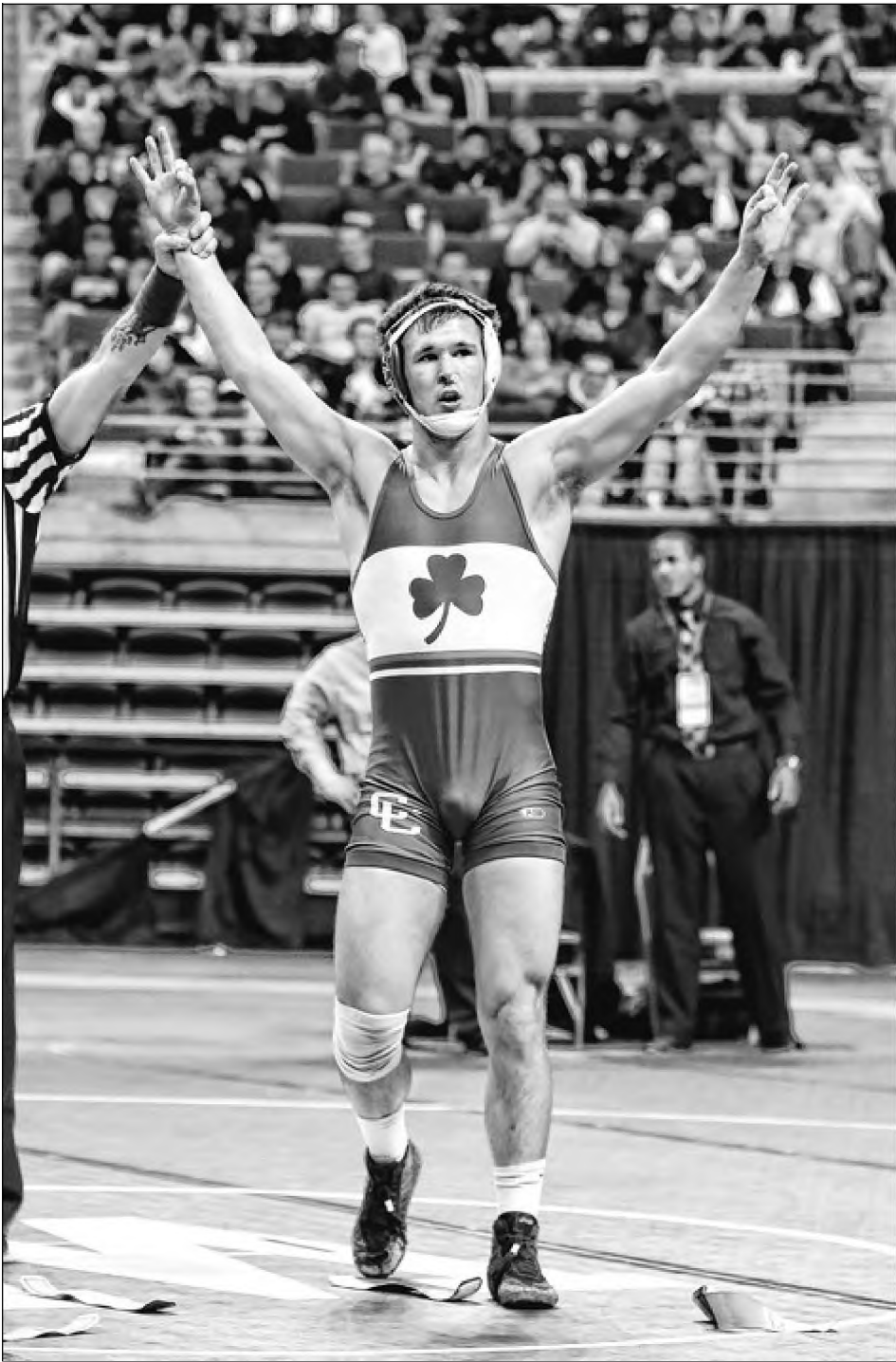
Evan Toth (130) Catholic Central senior

He posted a 29-18 record against some of the best competition in Michigan and beyond. He also earned a berth to the state meet.

Greg Johnson (135) Catholic Central senior

He ended with a 37-16 record this year and finished seventh in his weight class at the individual state meet.

Myles Amine (140) Catholic Central junior



Catholic Central's Drew Garcia finished his prep career with a third individual state championship.

He earned two pins at the individual state meet this year en route to his first state title. He finished with a 46-6 record this year.

Malik Amine (145) Catholic Central senior

He is the fourth wrestler from his family who will head to U-M. His father Mike and uncle Sam both earned All-America status there and his cousin Jordan is in his first year there after a stellar career at Brighton. He had a 38-3 record to go with his state title this year.

Nick Bennett (152) Catholic Central senior

He won two state titles in Texas before coming back and winning one as a Shamrock this season. He had a flawless 47-0 record and simply dominated the state meet.

Ty Morland (160)

Catholic Central freshman

He earned a Division 1 individual district title before bowing out in the regional tournament.

Nick Giese (189) Catholic Central junior

He finished third in the state this season for the second time in his career. He had an impressive 30-10 record before losing to the eventual runner-up in his weight class.

Jimmy Russell (215) Catholic Central senior

He lost to the state champion before finishing in third place at the state meet. He picked up three pins in the tournament to end the year with a 52-10 record.

Jake Sokoll (285) Lakeland junior

He earned a 43-11 record on his way winning both the district and

regional titles. He finished eighth in the state.

Second team

Conrad Landis (103) Northville freshman

Quick, scrappy and determined, the Mustangs can expect to see him rise to be a contender.

Aaron Hoorn (112) South Lyon East junior

He finished with a 37-16 record with 27 pins and qualified for the regional.

Trevor Lerner (119) Northville senior

He recorded 19 victories this season, doubling his career wins, as he picked up 30 take-downs.



Northville's Sunhe Wang. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ALL-AREA WRESTLING TEAM

PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Drew Garcia, Catholic Central

FIRST TEAM

Nolan Klapac, Lakeland
Parker O'Brien, Catholic Central
Trevor Zdebski, Catholic Central
Sunhe Wang, Northville
Evan Toth, Catholic Central
Greg Johnson, Catholic Central
Myles Amine, Catholic Central
Malik Amine, Catholic Central
Nick Bennett, Catholic Central
Ty Morland, Catholic Central
Nick Giese, Catholic Central
Jimmy Russell, Catholic Central
Jake Sokoll, Lakeland

SECOND TEAM

Conrad Landis, Northville
Aaron Hoorn, South Lyon East
Trevor Lerner, Northville
Tim Nelson, Milford
Trevor Bageris, Milford
Jared Davidson, South Lyon
David Joyner, Milford
Kyle Benkarski, Novi
Ben Wright, Novi
Will Jacobs, Lakeland
Andy Bovay, Lakeland
Tyler Lovelace, Milford
Blake Peterson, Milford
Brandon Krol, Milford

Tim Nelson (125) Milford junior

He grappled his way to a 25-16 record and a trip to the regionals.

Trevor Bageris (130) Milford junior

He placed in both the KLAA and the Oakland County tournaments this year on his way to a 31-18 record.

Jared Davidson (135) South Lyon senior

He finished with an impressive 25-14 record to close out his prep career.

David Joyner (140) Milford junior

He qualified for the state meet and placed in the KLAA championships this year, finishing with a 19-12 record.

Kyle Benkarski (145) Novi junior

He wrestled in both the 140- and 145-pound classes and picked up a record of 30-11. An injury to his ribs prevented him from continuing in the regional.

Ben Wright (152) Novi senior

The team captain

ended his season in the blood round at districts. He had a 32-12 record.

Will Jacobs (160) Lakeland junior

He had a fourth-place finish at the Oakland County tourney and finished the season with more than 30 wins.

Andy Bovay (171) Lakeland junior

He earned a place in the regional and picked up more than two dozen victories this season.

Tyler Lovelace (189) Milford junior

He qualified for the regional and earned himself a 22-8 record.

Blake Peterson (215) Milford sophomore

Had a 37-11 record and advanced to the regional, as well as placing in the KLAA tournament.

Brandon Krol (285) Milford sophomore

He wrestled his way to a regional championship and 31-8 record.

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

Youth wrestling club qualifies eight for states

The Mustang Youth Takedown Club is turning heads in the wrestling community.

Mason Stewart, a third-grader at Thornton Creek Elementary, attracted attention nationwide as he placed fifth at the recent National United Wrestling Youth Association's annual competition, with pins against opponents from Indiana and Ohio. Following a narrow two-point loss, he returned with a 10-0 win against a wrestler from Illinois. Mason's narrow loss was all that kept him from wrestling for first place.

Two weeks earlier at the Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek, Stewart was joined by seven Mustangs wrestlers at the Michigan Youth Wrestling Association's State Championship. Ridgewood Elementary School's state qualifying Mustangs included fourth-graders Jack Gattoni and Jonah Koilpillai, who placed third at the state meet, and first-grader, Nathan Walkowiak who has shown great promise. Gattoni moved up from novice to open in only his second year of wrestling.

Accompanying them on the mat was Moraine Elementary School kindergarten Eian Gallagher-Szerlip, who placed

eighth at the state qualifying match, having only lost a couple of matches all season. Moraine second-grader Jake Matigian also qualified. Hillside Middle School seventh-grader Parker Dietrich, who is the team captain, led the charge of state qualifying wrestlers and is a founding member of the Mustangs team. Ryan Mahy, a third-grader from Plymouth's Isbister Elementary, also qualified for the MYWAY state championship.

"All of the young Mustangs showed continued growth at the state meet. Everyone wrestled well and the club has a lot to build on in the off-season," Northville Youth Wrestling Team head coach Nick Szerlip said.

Since the program reorganized in 2010, it has continued to grow and the athletes show more promise every year. In 2011, one wrestler qualified for the state meet. In 2012, two grapplers went to Battle Creek. In 2013, three advanced to the Kellogg Arena. This year, Northville was represented by eight competitors from the Southeast MYWAY Region, which is arguably the best area in Michigan for competitive youth wrestling.

"From top to bottom, I

think we have something truly special on our hands in regard to the youth program," said Steve Widzinski, a former Northville High School wrestler and reporter for *Michigan Grappler* magazine. "The kids are a joy to work with and you could not ask for a better group of coaches and parents. All have contributed to the foundation of unity, virtue and work ethic that our program rests on. Every year has been another step in the right direction and I only expect those steps to grow in the future. It's an exciting time for everyone associated with Northville wrestling."

The Mustang Takedown Club begins practicing in November to prepare for its final matches at the end of March. The team is coached by five volunteer dads, all of whom wrestled competitively and were decorated at the college level in Michigan, Ohio and New York. Directed by Jeff Dietrich and Kevin Eichholtz, the program registered more than 50 kids this season and half of them finished the season as tournament competitors. For more information about the program, email nvyouthwrestling@mail.com or call 248-374-0592.

NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Miscellaneous Electrical Projects in Multiple Buildings

PETER BASSO ASSOCIATES, INC.
PBA Project No. 2014.0106.00
Issued for Bids
April 15, 2014

SECTION: 00010-ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Project: Northville Public Schools
Miscellaneous Electrical Projects in Multiple Buildings
Owner: Northville Public Schools
Scope of Proposals: Sealed proposals from Prime Mechanical Contractors for the construction of all Trades Construction Work are requested.
Due Date and Place: A Walk-through will take place at 3:30 P.M., on April 22, 2014 at Amerman Elementary School. All contractors or subcontractor representatives shall meet at the Front Reception Desk. The purpose of the walk-through is to clarify the procedures, scope of work, and to identify any omissions or inconsistencies in Bidding Documents which may impede preparation and submission of representative competitive bids. Attendance by Representatives(s) of bidders of record is mandatory. Any contractor who missed previous walk-through must contact Greg Ziegler by 4:00 P.M., on April 23, 2014 to arrange a time to visit project site. Contact Greg Ziegler at the following phone number (248) 879-5666 or email gziegler@pbanet.com. All contractors have until 4:00 P.M. on April 28, 2014 to submit a Request For Information (RFI). All RFIs shall be directed to Jon Darnell at (248) 879-5666 or email jdarnell@pbanet.com. All modifications, corrections, or clarifications prior to receipt of the proposal will be made by an Addendum issued by the Owner to all bidders of record. Sealed proposals shall be received until 10:00 A.M. on May 6, 2014 at: ATTN: Michael Zopf, Administration Building Northville Public Schools 501 West Main Street Northville, MI 48167

At which time all bids will be opened and read out loud. All proposals submitted shall remain firm for a period of 45 days after the date specified for receipt of proposals.

Bid Documents: Copies of the proposed Contract Documents may be obtained from: Northville Public Schools, under the Business Office, Bid Information Tab: <http://northville.k12.mi.us> PlanWell via <http://www.e-arc.com/> (formerly dunnblue), Phone: (248) 288-5600 Buy4Michigan via <http://buy4michigan.com>
Rejection: Proposals not received by the time and date specified in this notice, will be returned to the Contractor unopened. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive irregularities and/or informalities and to make award in any manner deemed for the best interest of the School District.

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

Girls track team runs away from S.L. East

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

It's funny how spring break can impact a sports team.

The Northville girls track and field team had to have its meet against South Lyon East rescheduled due to inclement weather and the new date fell April 18 – the day that spring break started.

The end result was the Mustangs were a little short-handed as athletes headed out on their vacations. The other side of that coin found the Mustangs trying out athletes in events they normally don't run.

In the end, it all worked out for Northville, as it earned a victory to stay undefeated in dual meets this year with a 3-0 record.

"We had a lot of kids step up and fill the holes left by those who were not at the meet," Northville girls track assistant coach Jack Dalton said.

ON TAP

Northville will run again April 29 when it visits Novi. It will then run May 1 at South Lyon. Both meets are at 4 p.m.

One of those who stepped up was Gracie Goble, who ran in the 1,600 relay for the first time in her career. The end result was a 60-second split that surprised the coaching staff as the team bolted to first place.

Another standout performance came from Hailey Harris, who ran the 1,600 run event in 5:34, tying her personal best.

Chloe Abbott was just 0.06 seconds off of her goal of setting the school record in the 100-meter dash. She ran a 12.26-second race; the record stands at 12.2 seconds.

The Mustangs were slated to celebrate senior day when they raced



Gracie Goble runs her first-ever 400-meter race during a meet and then helped her team win the 1,600 relay against South Lyon East. BRANDON LANGSTON

against South Lyon East, but since the meet was moved and several athletes were absent, the team made the decision to postpone the celebration.

"We decided as a team to postpone senior night until Wednesday, April 30, after practice," Dalton said.

Northville will race again April 29 when it visits Novi.

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

NHS boys golf team hopes for KLAA title

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

When it comes to season goals, not much has changed in the four years that Jeff Balagna has been the head coach of the Northville boys golf team.

There's definitely something to be said for consistent goal setting, especially when you come to the golf course with a consistent team each year.

"Just like every year, our goals start small and end big," Balagna said. "We want to win our division and conference – that would include beating the likes of Novi and Plymouth. We want to be the first-ever KLAA Association champions."

But that isn't the end-all for the goals in 2014. The Mustangs also have their eye on a chance to play in the state finals.

"This year the state finals are at Forest Akers East on the campus of Michigan State University," Balagna said. "That course is a bit shorter, so once you get there every team has a chance to win it all. We just want that chance."

Show improvements

Northville will be looking to improve on last year's finish. The team went 7-3 overall with a second-place finish in both the Central Division and the Kensington Conference. The Mustangs were unexpectedly bumped out of the playoffs with an off-day at the district tournament.

"Golf is an interesting sport because one bad day can end the season, regardless of how well you played all year long," Balagna said.

This year's squad will be led by senior captains Andrew Sarokin, Andrew Stevens and Brad Minniear.

If Sarokin's name sounds familiar, that's because he's been the team's best golfer since his sophomore season and will be looking to be the top linkster again in 2014. Last season, he was honorable mention all-state and is expected to compete for a top-five finish in the state this year.

Minniear and Stevens played in all of Northville's 18-hole tournaments last year and are expected to be impact players this season, as is junior Jacob Pierce, who split time on varsity and junior varsity last season and could challenge for the top spots each match.



Northville will be relying on the play of senior Andrew Sarokin, who last season was all-state honorable mention. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ON TAP

Northville will be back on the links Monday when it visits Birmingham Seaholm.

Another player expected to contribute on the varsity lineup include is Matt Robinet, who has been with the program since his freshman season and has finally broken onto the varsity roster. Joining him will be senior Troy Youmans and junior Jon Stott, who are both expected to contribute after marked improvement over the summer.

"Like every year, our biggest strength is our depth," Balagna said. "I have the luxury of putting kids in the lineup and they will go out there and play hard. Any of my top 10 players can go out on any given day and put up a low score."

Northville's biggest challenge this year is getting practice time and playing in matches. The odd weather has kept the team off the course and members just recently started going outside to practice.

"Because of this, we are lacking practice time and playing experience," Balagna said. "I know we are not the only team that had to deal with this issue, so all schools are in the same boat."

Northville's roster this year includes: Seniors: Blake Kiefer, Brad Minniear, Matt Robinet, Austin Ruppert, Andrew Sarokin, Andrew Stevens and Troy Youmans; Juniors: Kyle Abraham, Akhil Alluri, Jacob Pierce and Jon Stott; Sophomores: Case Collareno, Jack Hines, Christian Peters and Anthony Solack; and Freshmen: Michael Gunder, Drew Kearis, Dom Marsalese, Daniel McKee and Aaron Youmans.

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

Rec league champs



The Rockers were crowned the 2014 Northville Recreation League winter basketball champions (grades 5-7) after completing a perfect 7-0 season. The team includes (front, from left) Nolan Scott and Alex Karam, (middle, from left) Alex VanNocker, Michael Williams, Josh Porter, Raymon Sahi, Ryan Silberg and Johnny Lindow and (back, from left) coach Tom VanNocker, Grant Newirth, Pahul Kahlon, Parker Dietrich, coach Ray Jankowski and Joe Jankowski.

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Equal Housing Opportunity

Coming to life

Historic Village Workshop seeking members for summer opening

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Each day the idea of the Village Workshop is becoming more of a reality as renovation work is underway transforming the old Belanger building on East Cady Street in downtown Northville into a modern place for creativity and invention.

"We are starting to see the real potential in this building," said Workshop co-founder Brian Donovan.

Each floor of the historical building is getting a big face lift.

The third floor was gutted and is being re-worked to be a place a local business or firm could call home. Among the many changes, a new roof is being put on and

an elevator installed. In addition, there will be a cafe, new restrooms, and the covered windows are being opened up and brick repaired.

However, no matter the changes, maintaining the historical feel of the building built in 1875 is an important part of the plan.

The amount of time, money and effort put into this multi-million dollar project should pay off when the doors are finally open later this summer.

Donovan along with partners Northville residents/business men Dennis Engerer and Chris McDonald see a lot of potential in the building and its eventual services for the community.

They see it as a place that will have everything you could ever think of to make anything you could ever think of. With tools, equipment, trained staff, and useful software on hand, ideas will come to life.

"The Village Work-

shop will be a community space dedicated to creativity, learning, entrepreneurship and prototype services," said Engerer, who is the long-time owner of Northville Physical Rehabilitation.

Membership drive

In anticipation of the opening they have kicked off their membership drive.

They are asking inventors, artists, builders, makers, small businesses, soon-to-be small businesses, not-so-small businesses, students, engineers, designers, crafters, hobbyists, retirees or whoever to check the workshop out and see what it can offer them.

One innovation the Workshop will be offering is 3D printing in ABS Plastics, which enables parts to be strong, accurate and functional. They say this is perfect for prototypes and short run production of finished parts.

"We use only the best



Work continues on renovating the former Belanger building in Northville into the Village Workshop. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

3D printing machines. The Stratasys Fortus 250MC 3D Printer is the most advanced FDM printer available so your parts will look and perform beautifully," said Donovan.

"There is no end to what we see being created and produced here," said McDonald.

The workshop is a membership based community workspace. Members will have access to the latest and greatest equipment, tools, software and skilled staff. Group discounts are available for clubs, schools, organizations, sports teams, special events, team build-

ing retreats, etc.

To learn more go to www.thevillageworkshop.com or call 855-777-3836. It's located at 455 E. Cady Street.

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

Beware of subprime mortgage offers

I couldn't believe it when I read that some banks are once again starting to market subprime mortgages.

Subprime mortgages - one of the causes of the financial crisis - were offered to people who did not have good credit or could not come up with the 20 percent payment to get a conventional mortgage.

Many people who got subprime mortgages ended up defaulting causing them to lose their homes.

Not everyone should get a mortgage. Just because banks and other financial institutions are pushing mortgages doesn't mean you should get one or that you can afford one. All mortgage companies or banks care about is whether you qualify for a mortgage, not if you have the means of repaying it.

I know the general rule is that renting is not a good option and that people should consider buying as soon as they can. I believe that logic is wrong. In many situations, renting is a financially better alternative.

Many people think that if they're renting they are throwing away their money. That is not the case. When you do the math and factor in the costs of maintaining a house, it is not necessarily a great investment..

Don't buy a home from an investment standpoint. A home purchase is about one's



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

quality of life. However, if a home doesn't increase the quality of your life, don't buy it.

One thing consumers should have learned from the financial crisis is if you purchase a home it is important to make sure that you own your home and that it doesn't own you. Too many people took advantage of these gimmicky mortgages only to find that they could not afford their home. And it ruined their credit.

Don't fall for that same mistake. Prior to purchasing a home, consider all the costs associated with ownership. In addition to principal and interest payments, factor in the cost of repairs, maintenance, insurance and utilities. These costs tend to be much higher than if you rented.

I believe you must be able to put 20 percent down on a home in order to afford it. There are some rare cases when 10 percent is acceptable, however, those cases are rare.

Keep in mind that just because the mortgage company says you qualify for a mortgage doesn't mean you can actually afford it. Remember, in addition to paying your mortgage you also have to consid-

er such things as retirement. Don't sacrifice your retirement to purchase a home. Anyone who thinks that a home is a great investment that can eventually be sold and used for retirement is mistaken.

Unfortunately, some of the same predatory lending practices that existed before the financial crisis are creeping back into the market. The number of those refinancing is down. Mortgage companies are looking for new ways to market their products.

Consumers must be careful. Remember, it's not the mortgage company that determines whether you can actually afford a mortgage, you do. You must determine what your other costs are, such as saving for retirement and a child's college education.

Don't let anyone talk you into a mortgage, take your time and don't be afraid to seek independent advice.

Having a home is part of the American dream. However, having a home that uses all your resources and does not increase your quality of life is an American nightmare.

Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like him to respond to your questions, please email rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

ITC Holdings Corp. to spend \$4.5 billion in five-year plan

Novi-based ITC Holdings Corp. announced its new five-year capital investment plan of approximately \$4.5 billion for the period 2014-18, as a part of a comprehensive strategic update. The new five-year plan reflects expected investments of approximately \$2.2 billion in ITC's base operating companies, approximately \$1.2 billion in regional infrastructure projects and approximately \$1.1 billion in additional development projects.

Successful execution of this capital investment plan is projected to increase ITC's consolidated year-end rate base plus construction work in progress by

approximately 70 percent over the plan period, from approximately \$4.5 billion at the end of 2013 to approximately \$7.6 billion at the end of 2018. This increase in projected rate base, plus construction work in progress, is expected to result in compound annual growth in operating earnings per share in the range of 11-13 percent over the forecast period. The company also expects to grow its dividend annually in the range of 10-15 percent over the same time frame.

The company also announced its board of directors has authorized up to \$250 million in share repurchases through Dec. 31, 2015, as

part of its broader capital allocation plan.

"ITC's new five-year capital investment plan is premised on achieving and maintaining operational excellence at all of our existing operating companies, as well as continuing our leadership role in the development and advancement of critical new regional infrastructure," said Joseph L. Welch, chairman, president and CEO of ITC. "These investments in our business are a core component of our balanced capital allocation strategy and reflect our commitment to reinvesting in the business to drive long-term value for both our customers and shareholders."

CHAMBER CHAT

Chamber golf outing

The Northville Chamber of Commerce will host their annual Golf Classic Outing from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday, June 4 at Northville Hills Golf Club. The event is being sponsored by Center Street Wealth Strategies.

"The outing is rotated between Chamber member golf courses, with the Northville Hills Golf Club course selected for 2014," said Traci Sincok, Chamber associate director.

The event format is a four person scramble with a variety of contest holes, including hole-in-one challenges.

"The outing is very popular with Chamber members, for networking, fun and making new business connections," said Sincok.

Businesses can participate in the outing in a variety of ways, including golf, or sponsor holes and contests.

Registration information is available on the Chamber's website at www.northville.org. For more information, con-

tact Sincok at 248-349-7640 or tracisincok@northville.org.

Networking opportunity

The Chamber will hold an After Business Hours Networking event from 5:30-7:30 p.m., April 30 at Northville Sports Den, hosted by Kona Running Company. Appetizers will be provided and there will be a cash bar available. Please RSVP to the Chamber by calling 248-349-7640 or sending an e-mail to tracisincok@northville.org.



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*Source: Monthly unique visitors, comScore Multi-Platform Report, March 2013



Realtors are pleased with solid sales in 2014. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

ECONOMIST: HOME SALES STEADY FOR 2014

Existing-home sales are expected to retain the healthy gains seen this year, while prices will stay on an uptrend in 2014, according to a forecast presentation at a residential forum during the 2013 Realtors Conference & Expo.

Lawrence Yun, chief economist of the National Association of Realtors, said existing-home sales have shown a 20 percent cumulative increase over the past two years, while prices have gained 18 percent, but incomes have risen only 2 to 4 percent in the same timeframe.

"We've come off of record high housing affordability conditions in the past year, and are now at a five-year low, but conditions are still the fifth best in the past 40 years," Yun said. "While the median-income family in many areas will still be well positioned to buy a home in 2014, income is barely budging given growth in consumer prices."

Yun said the other headwinds moving forward include limited inventory conditions in many areas and mortgage lending standards that are still unnecessarily stringent. "Although home sales have recovered over the past two years, mortgage purchase applications have been flat for the past four years, even with rising sales," he said.

With higher mortgage interest rates, he expects refinancings to collapse in 2014 to the lowest level in at least 15 years, and hopes purchase applications will begin to rise. "This is an incentive for banks to increase mortgage origination, especially considering the low default rates in recent years. But even with cheap mortgages for the past four years, all-cash buyers stayed high, accounting for over 30 percent of sales," Yun noted.

Beyond bank motivation, Yun said Washington policies for mortgage lending have been too restrictive. He cited rising fees for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, higher Federal Housing Administration premiums, as well as Dodd-Frank banking regulations, which have been strangling community banks. In addition, Yun said banks are holding onto funds for potential Department of Justice lawsuits, rather than making

"Housing starts are the only way to alleviate inventory shortages. Housing starts need to rise 50 percent to meet underlying demand."

LAWRENCE YUN
chief economist of the
National Association of Realtors

them available to mortgage borrowers.

He said job creation, and hopefully a relaxation in stringent lending standards, will offset higher mortgage interest rates. Existing-home sales this year are forecast to rise 10 percent to nearly 5.13 million, but should hold fairly even at about 5.12 million in 2014.

Limited supplies were the biggest factor in price performance in the past year, with inventory bouncing around 13-year lows, and seriously delinquent mortgages have been trending steadily down. The national median existing-home price for all of 2013 was up just over 11 percent, to about \$197,000; then increase nearly 6 percent this year.

Yun expects the inventory shortages to be felt again this spring. "Housing starts are the only way to alleviate inventory shortages," he said. "Housing starts need to rise 50 percent to meet underlying demand."

Housing starts are forecast to hit 917,000 this year and reach 1.13 million in 2014, which is still well below the underlying demand of about 1.5 million. New-home sales were forecasted to total 429,000 in 2013, and grow to 508,000 this year.

Inflationary pressure may begin to build during the course of 2014, with consumer prices projected to rise 2.7 percent, but Yun said inflation could reach 4 to 6 percent in 2015. Mortgage interest rates are expected to trend upward and reach 5.4 by the end of next year.

Yun projected growth in Gross Domestic Product to be 1.7 percent in 2013 and 2.5 percent in 2014. "If not for the housing recovery, we could be on the

verge of a recession," Yun noted. "The rent component of inflation is rising, so the only way to tame price growth is new home inventory."

Since the economic downturn, 8.8 million jobs were lost, but only seven million have been regained. "We need another six to eight million jobs to get back to normal," Yun said. The states with the fastest job growth are North Dakota, Utah, Idaho, Texas, Colorado, Minnesota, Georgia, Washington, Arizona and New Jersey. The unemployment rate is projected to decline to about 6.7 percent around the end of 2014.

Based on the forecast, the top 10 markets to watch for a housing turnaround in 2014 are Salt Lake City; Naples, Fla.; Tampa, Fla.; Atlanta; Boise, Idaho; Houston; Charlotte, N.C.; Denver; Seattle; and Tucson, Ariz.

Also speaking was John Krainer, senior economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, who said near-term economic momentum is weakening, but improvement in growth is expected going forward. "Inflation has been subdued, and is expected to remain below the Fed's 2 percent target over the next few years," he said. "Despite improvement in the labor market, the unemployment rate remains elevated but will be falling slowly."

Krainer notes improved household net worth, aided by rising home values, is supporting consumption spending, but home sales and inventories are not growing as expected. "New-home sales are significantly underperforming, and have been bouncing around World War II lows," he said.

"There is a big disconnect between rising home prices and inventory slowing down," Krainer said. Normally, higher levels of new construction would be expected in a rising sales environment.

Krainer notes there is a relationship between the share of underwater mortgages and the number of homes for sale. "In markets where we saw a high percentage of underwater home owners, we also saw lower inventory levels."

Cuba: Interesting land, some old ways remain

Q: We are thinking about visiting Cuba through a cultural exchange; can we buy real estate there?

A: As best I can tell from talking to Cubans on my visit, you must be a resident or have close relatives such as a wife or parents or have business with the government to own real estate. Surprisingly many of the apartments in Havana are owned by their inhabitants and over the last two years, the government has allowed them to sell them. Nor do they pay any taxes at this time but the government is looking into implementing it for the first time. The housing in downtown Havana is extremely overcrowded, but in the Miramar region, where Castro purportedly lives, there are upscale private homes formerly owned by upper crust families before the revolution in 1959, but don't count on investing there for the foreseeable future.

Q: I have heard about cultural exchanges between the United States and Cuba where you are able, as U.S. citizens, to learn more about the country and its neighborhoods. Do you have any experience or knowledge about that?

A: Yes, I recently went on an educational-cultural exchange which is allowed by the U.S. government under certain circumstances. Because of the shortage of raw materials and almost everything else, because of the embargo, etc., Cuba must be creative and innovative in not only fixing its old U.S. cars, but building and refurbishing homes and apartments. I visited a neighborhood where a famous artist not only artistically decorated his own house, but much of the neighborhood in graphic and colorful designs, similar to what we have seen by an artist in Detroit attempting to cover up blight. Many of the homes that were formerly owned by rich Cubans before the revolution are now embassies and government offices which are well maintained on beautiful boulevards; yet much of the exterior of many of the homes and buildings remains unpainted. It was an interesting visit.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, 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.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. each Thursday at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 6-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Red Lobster is next to 7-11, near Trenton Road.

Any questions or concerns, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayne Koehler at 313-819-0919.

Seminar each Tuesday, Thursday

A free seminar on government-insured reverse mortgages is offered by Colonial Mortgage Corp. at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday and at 2 p.m. each Thursday at various locations. RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96.

Email Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.



Robert Meisner

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 2-6, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

16244 Buckingham Ave \$273,000
31220 Churchill Dr \$273,000

BIRMINGHAM

1584 Ashford Ln \$519,000
2822 Dorchester Rd \$170,000
1061 Forest Ave \$375,000
1313 Latham St \$395,000
185 Northlawn Blvd \$938,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

5363 Brookdale Rd \$650,000
726 E Fox Hills Dr \$93,000
2489 Hickory Glen Dr \$345,000
1750 Woodward Ave \$142,000

#27 BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

523 Newburne Pointe \$400,000
5481 Provincial Dr \$395,000
1844 Rockledge Ln \$60,000

1114 S Timberview Trl \$194,000
1930 W Square Lake Rd \$245,000
5167 Woodlands Ln \$292,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP
6075 Birchcrest Ln \$60,000
3895 Ranya Dr \$258,000
5338 S River Dr \$180,000
954 Sherbrooke St \$250,000

FARMINGTON

32231 Valley View Cir \$188,000

FARMINGTON HILLS

28649 Balmoral Way \$165,000
25838 Branchester Rd \$219,000
25260 Carrollton Dr \$274,000
38633 Darbyshire \$123,000
37874 Glengrove Dr \$315,000
21503 Hancock St \$128,000
30657 Ramblewood Club Dr \$168,000

32153 Red Clover Ct \$195,000
28309 Ridgebrook Rd \$194,000
27673 S Bridle Hills Dr \$195,000
30733 Shiawassee Rd # \$33,000

46 \$190,000
32463 Sprucewood St \$130,000
33500 Stocker St

28418 W Eight Mile Rd \$27,000
Unit A3
22151 W Brandon St \$125,000
27682 Westcott \$150,000
Crescent Cir
21623 Whittington St \$117,000
30126 Woodbrook Ct \$185,000

FRANKLIN

27310 Wellington Rd \$625,000

LATHRUP VILLAGE

17381 Wiltshire Blvd \$123,000

NORTHVILLE

44121 Galway Dr \$267,000
37847 W Greenwood Dr \$275,000
NOVI
45549 Bristol Cir \$406,000
23780 E Le Bost \$124,000
45498 Emerald Forest Dr \$339,000

25986 Glenmoor \$425,000
41700 Kirkwood Dr \$175,000
25827 Strath Haven Dr \$230,000
41457 Twain Pl \$375,000

SOUTH LYON

57298 Hidden Timbers Dr \$419,000
1014 Paddock Dr \$198,000

1137 Paddock Dr \$267,000
24681 Padstone Dr \$80,000
789 Pepper Dr \$190,000
61850 W Eight Mile Rd \$40,000
24630 Wedgewood Dr \$380,000

SOUTHFIELD

21539 Avon Ln \$43,000
30275 Balewood St \$103,000
28232 Bell Rd \$140,000
18179 Cornell Rd \$114,000
25583 Farmbrook Rd \$155,000
21763 Hidden Rivers Dr \$41,000

N
19623 Middlesex Ave \$172,000
20446 Midway Ave \$40,000
21235 Midway Ave \$29,000
20130 N Greenway St \$70,000
28426 Pierce St \$72,000
29821 Rambling Rd \$115,000
19310 Red Maple Ct \$165,000
25487 Saint James \$100,000
5000 Town Ctr # 3202 \$105,000
21300 Wallace Dr \$63,000

WHITE LAKE

955 Mallock St \$145,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 23, 2013, to Jan. 3, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

45836 Bartlett Dr \$225,000
854 Bristol Ct \$295,000
4004 Cornerstone Dr \$122,000

44974 Danbury Rd \$280,000
51210 Federal Blvd \$85,000
8367 Orhan St \$135,000
3683 Parklawn Dr \$156,000
47777 Red Run Dr \$330,000
1714 Steeplechase Rd \$84,000

GARDEN CITY

33440 Donnelly St \$65,000
28536 Leona St \$75,000

LIVONIA

28142 Elmira St \$100,000

36027 Hees St \$132,000
14417 Knolson St \$160,000
8863 Louise St \$135,000
35823 Parkdale St \$146,000
15424 Sunset St \$148,000
19401 Victor Pkwy \$10,200

NORTHVILLE

39528 Village Run Dr \$281,000

PLYMOUTH

46805 Bettyhill \$296,000
14860 Farmbrook Dr \$187,000

REDFORD
17678 Gaylord \$60,000
25520 Graham Rd \$57,000
15512 Macarthur \$50,000
14124 Seminole \$28,000

WESTLAND

38259 S Jean Ct \$100,000
38036 Sherwood St \$32,000

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JOBS

careerbuilder.com
A GANNETT COMPANY**By Debra Auerbach**
CareerBuilder writer

Job seekers often start their search by identifying the type of job they want before looking for companies that offer relevant positions. But what if you have your eye on a specific company you want to work for, and you're willing to do whatever it takes to become a part of that organization?

Perhaps you've always considered the company to be interesting and innovative and you admire the company's culture. Or maybe the company tops a best places to work list, making it a desirable place to start or grow a career. Sometimes it might be driven by knowing people who work at the company and wanting to work alongside familiar faces.

Whatever the reason, pursuing a particular company versus a specific job comes with its challenges. But if you're committed to working somewhere, there are ways to up your chances of getting hired there.

"If you're dead-set on working at a specific company, then 95 percent of your job-search time and effort should be dedicated to wooing that company and demonstrating to them that you're not only the best candidate for the job, but that you're destined to work there and nowhere else," says Joseph Terach, CEO of Resume Deli.

Here's how:**Make sure you know why you want to work there**

You may have convinced yourself that you're destined to work at a specific company, but make sure you can back up your reasoning. "What may seem like a great company isn't always what it appears," says David R. Sanford, executive vice president, client relations at recruitment firm WinterWyman. "You need to do your due diligence to make sure you are pursuing the best environment. Talk to people

Get a job at the company you really want...

that you know to see if they have any connections inside.

Reach out to those connections and talk to a few people about the culture, work environment, work-life balance, etc."

Sanford also suggests using online resources such as Facebook or GlassDoor, which can tell you a lot about the company and its culture. "All of this will help you decide if this is a company that is worth your time pursuing," he says.

Do your homework

If you know without a doubt

this is the company for you, fill your brain with as much knowledge about the company as possible. "Read as much news as you can about your target company," Terach says. "Figure out their business strategy, who their partners are, who's in their supply chain and so on. These are the people and things you should get to know. Why? For one, being able to speak intelligently about the company's operations is impressive at an interview or job fair; for another, you might learn something about the company that will help you

better understand what they truly need in a new hire."

Tap your network of contacts

One of the best ways to get your foot in the door at a company you admire is to seek out people in your professional network with a connection to the organization. "Find people you know well who might either already work there or who [know someone who works there] to have an informational meeting about what you want to do," says Jayne Mattson, senior vice president of client services at

outplacement and career coaching company Keystone Associates. "If you are referred by someone who knows you extremely well, your chances increase to have a face-to-face meeting where you will be able to leave a better impression than email or phone."

Build a relationship with HR

While the human resources department is sometimes hard to reach, do what you can to connect with someone on the team directly. If you've already communicated with someone in your network who has an "in" at the company, use that person to introduce you to the right HR contact. "It does not hurt to show interest in working for the company with HR," Mattson says. "And if you can develop a relationship with them, ask them if you can buy them a cup of coffee because you would love to work for their company."

Mattson suggests explaining to the HR person that before you apply for specific jobs, you want to make sure you understand where you would be the best fit. She will appreciate that you're being proactive and not wasting the company's time by applying to jobs that don't suit you.

Make your interest known before a job opens up

Part of the reason why it's good to establish a relationship with HR and other influencers within the company is to let them know of your interest before a position becomes available. "You will increase your chances of being hired by your targeted company by meeting the right people before any positions are advertised," Mattson says. "Ideally you want visibility within the company ahead of jobs being advertised to eliminate your competition and for someone to think of you before they become published."

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

LO2414436

**Help Wanted - General**

ACTION ASPHALT
Is Now Hiring Experienced:
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Whitmore Lake, MI 48189
734-449-8565

ADULT FOSTER CARE WORKERS NEEDED FOR
New Hudson Manor or Grace Rae Manor, New Hudson/South Lyon. Adult foster care for up to 6 women. Afternoons (4-12) Shannon: 248-240-3202 Margie: 248-240-3274

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Make your own Schedule! Work from Home PT or FT. Schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart, call Mon-Fri. 9-5: 734-728-4572 or email: phone4workinfo@aol.com

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Experience required.
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USA2GO
USA 2 GO Quick Stores are looking for mature, reliable individuals to join our team of associates. USA 2 GO Quick Stores operate specialty fuel convenience markets throughout the metro Detroit area. Openings for all shifts, full and part-time. Positions in Novi, Howell, Commerce Twp., and New Hudson. Please submit applications to careers.USA2GO@gmail.com Applications available online at: www.USA2GOquickstore.com
USA 2 GO is an equal opportunity employer.

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Help Wanted - General**AUTO PRE-OWNED SALES CONSULTANT**

Carroll's Car Sales
Large Metro-Detroit Dealership is seeking an individual for a full-time Pre-Owned Sales Consultant.

We are seeking an energetic, enthusiastic individual with a great work ethic to join our Used Car team! We are in need of someone who is efficient and accurate and can handle a fast-paced work environment.

We offer a brand new state of the art facility, medical, dental, and life insurance, as well as paid vacations and a 401k plan.

Anyone who has prior Auto Sales experience and is self-motivated is encouraged to submit their resume to: rsabatini@hinespark.com

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Part Time
Emeritus Senior Living Mon, Tues, Thurs. 8am-1pm Applicants should have an appropriate CDL license. Experience preferred.
Emeritus @ Brighton (810) 229-9190

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NORTHVILLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Northville Education Foundation (NEF) is an independent 501(c) (3) non-profit corporation which exists to further educational excellence in the Northville Public Schools. NEF has established an excellent track record over the years, in supporting programs and projects in the district. The NEF is seeking a full-time Executive Director, who will work with the board to provide overall strategic, fund development and operational responsibility for the organization. The successful candidate must be a self-starter, preferably well-connected in the Northville community and be comfortable in both an advocacy and fundraising role. College degree (bachelors/masters preferred). Proficiency with a variety of computer programs, including Microsoft Office, Word and various fundraising databases.

To apply for this position, register with NPPN online (www.nppn.co/candidates/) and upload your resume and a cover letter addressed to Northville Educational Foundation.

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800-579-7355

Help Wanted - General**Casting Application Engineers**

ESI North America, Inc. has openings for Casting Application Engineers at its facility in Farmington Hills, Michigan.

Job Duties:
1. Perform consulting projects and conduct training using ESI casting software ProCAST, Visual environment and QuikCAST, including but not limited to:
a. Engineering application projects, where existing Employer technologies are applied to customer applications;
b. Field Services and Training projects, where existing Employer casting products require paid technical support or training, and
c. Innovative or Special Projects, where new modeling applications of the ESI casting softwares, ProCAST, Visual environment and QuikCAST need to be developed for specific and often more challenging applications.

2. Provide the first-line technical or hot line support to ESI casting customers for ProCAST, Visual environment and QuikCAST software products.
3. Prepare formal presentation of technical papers and other technical publications within the guidelines set by the Employer.
4. Prepare ProCAST, Visual environment and QuikCAST software technical specifications, quality assurance (QA) documents and other technical documentation using the Employer's specified format and media.

Requirements:
Master's Degree in Engineering Technology or Mechanical Engineering or foreign equivalent education and experience in the following:
1. Computer modeling for casting applications with focus on finite element analysis.
2. CAE/CAD modeling experience with Pro E and Solid Works.
3. Working with ProCAST casting modeling software.

Applicants should send resumes to:
ESI North America, Inc.,
32605 West 12 Mile Road,
Suite 350
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
ATTN: Jeanie Cotton
EOE M/F/Disability/Vet

Childcare Asst. Director
Full time, Mon-Fri. Apply in person: 801 Chestnut, Brighton or call: 810-229-5437

CHILD CARE CENTER
Needs positive, dedicated, full-time INFANT/TODDLER TEACHERS
Milford area. Email resume **amandafisher@yahoo.com**
or call: 248-685-8123

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Help Wanted - General

Drivers: Carter Express: CDL-A: New Pay. Solos up to 38 cpm to start. Teams up to 47 cpm to start. Home Daily/Weekly. No Slip Seat. No Touch. Newer Equip. Dedicated \$195 per day Romulus to Anderson, IN (855) 219-4838

Drivers: O/O or Company. Dedicated. Home daily run. Livonia, MI to Chicago, IL. CDL-A. 6mos OTR. MTS.
800-305-7223

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Seeking candidate looking for a career opportunity. Weekly Salary + Commission + Full Benefits. Email resume: carolfedak@trugreenmail.com 201-681-2205 or apply at: www.trugreenjobs.com EOE/M/F/V/D/AA

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Must have CDL-A & be willing to do labor & equip. operating.
Call: (248) 249-3886

FRONT DESK
Best Western Hartland is now accepting applications for Front Desk. Must have previous hotel exp. 11pm-7am shift. Apply btwn 10am & 2pm. at: 10087 M-59, Hartland.

JANITORIAL Floater Position
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Landscape Company

MACHINISTS 2nd Shift
Trusted Tool in Fenton is now accepting resumes to fill a long term position on the 2nd shift for skilled machinists, exp'd with manual mills, manual lathes, Proto Trak mills, CNC mills, CNC lathes and programming with Mastercam. References required.
Email resume to: hiring4mfg@gmail.com

RECEPTIONIST
Farmington Hills based real estate development firm seeks a Receptionist for a part-time entry level position. Must be an energetic self-starting individual with excellent phone skills for multiple-line phone system. We are looking for dependability and good organizational skills. Applicant must be proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel and Microsoft Outlook. Email your resume to: **jdemetriou@grandsakwa.com**

Help Wanted - General**MATERIAL HANDLING**

Manufacturer of Plumbing Products has an immediate position opening in the material handling department. This position requires a highly motivated individual who can work independently. Computer skills and hi-low experience a plus.

Excellent benefit package including 401(k) and more.

Interested candidates please send resume to:

30075 Research Drive
New Hudson, MI 48165
Attn: Human Resources

Or fax resume to
(248) 446-2196

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MON-FRI.
CORPORATE CLEANING GROUP
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Join the company that once again achieved the Top Work Place award for the 3rd year in a row. This year we were: #3 ranked among the large companies in the Metro Area. Below helps explain some of the reasons.

- In-house personalized training.
- Flexible work hours w/unlimited earning potential.
- Agent-friendly commission plans.
- Benefits Program, including retirement.
- Your own in-house marketing assistant.
- Achieve a quality of life tailored to meet your professional goals.

Contact: Kathy Solan
248-348-6430
kathysolan@realestateone.com

RESIDENT ASSISTANTS
Needed for Elderly Care in Brighton. No exp. necessary. Full-time & Part-time. All shifts. Dependable and responsible a MUST!

Apply at: Ashley Court
7400 Chellis Rd., Brighton

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Help Wanted - General**ROOFERS**

Commercial / Industrial

- Production Labor
- Media/Dental Insurance
- 401K Plan

Must have reliable transportation. Must be at least 18 yrs of age. Pre-employment drug testing. Apply in person at:
6330 Commerce Dr
Westland MI 48185

ROUTE DRIVERS

No experience required. Email resume: carolfedak@trugreenmail.com

Call: 201-681-2205 or apply at: www.trugreenjobs.com EOE/M/F/V/D/AA

Service Technicians

Heating & Cooling
AAA SERVICE NETWORK
Accepting Applications
Call 810-734-4861

Help Wanted - Medical**MEDICAL ASSISTANT**

Full-time for busy internal medicine office. Great pay, benefits & hours. No holidays or weekends. Experience necessary
Call Lisa (313) 561-4540

Help Wanted - General**GARDENING HELP**

Part-Time
Weeding, Planting & Clean Up.
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- TREE TRIMMING
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Must have valid and insurable driver's license. Benefits available.
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RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

FIREFIGHTER
Paid-on-Call Part Time

The Novi Fire Department is seeking highly motivated recruits for the position of Paid-on-Call Firefighter. This is a part-time, paid position with the Department, which offers many challenges and rewards. Minimum requirements are a High School Diploma, must live within one mile of city limits or move within six months, have no criminal record and a good driving record.

Fire/EMS training provided. There will be an informational meeting at 7 p.m. on May 14, 2014, at Fire Station #4, located at 49375 W. Ten Mile Road.

For more information visit

cityofnovi.org

or call the Human Resources Department

at **248-347-0452.**

LO-2420667-01

Open Houses
Sunday, April 27



Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel
248-731-5303 | cbwm.com
For a complete list of open houses
visit www.cbwm.com/openhouses



OPEN 1-4 | 932 Hemlock Drive, Addison Twp.
Impeccably appointed turn-key master down
home on golf course in Oxford schools. \$484,900
Dean Accivatti (248) 817-4595



OPEN 1-4 | 30247 Embassy, Beverly Hills
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bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Large lot. \$291,900
Jack Bertoia (248) 213-7823



OPEN 1-4 | 2010 Hazel, Birmingham
Be amazed and fall in love with this fabulous
Eton Street Condo. Quality upgrades. \$499,000
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OPEN 1-4 | 1212 Edgewood, Birmingham -
Newly remodeled walk to town beauty! Open
floor plan and granite kitchen. \$364,900
Janet Burger (248) 817-4557



OPEN 1-4 | 725 Half Moon Rd., Bloomfield
Handsome Georgian Colonial, Over 3200 sq.
ft, 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths. \$725,000
Rosalee Hill (248) 365-7138



OPEN 12-3 | 3590 Bradway Blvd., Bloomfield
Cape Cod style home with newer kitchen, family
room with fireplace and wet bar. \$539,900
Hosted by Shannon Schafer (248) 282-4114



OPEN 2-4 | 101 W. Glass Rd., Brandon Twp.
Beautiful lakefront setting on private spring fed
Bald Eagle Lake. All sports lake. \$184,900
Marge Kelly (248) 639-4465



OPEN 1-4 | 17418 Duval, Clinton Twp.
Outstanding ranch condo, 2 baths, ceramic
floors, open floor plan. \$179,900
Hosted by Nancy Shelby (313) 214-2317



OPEN 1-3 | 7935 Schrepfer Rd., Cohoctah Twp
This home is exquisite and on 10 acres!
Soaring ceilings. Elegant decor. \$439,900
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OPEN 1-4 | 7115 Norborne Ave., Dearborn Hts
Beautiful and spacious four bedroom home
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Laura Monley (248) 513-8510



OPEN 1-4 | 27340 Crestwood Dr., Franklin
Classic 2844 square feet center entrance
Colonial well situated on 1.24 acre lot. \$449,000
Jack Bertoia (248) 639-4988



OPEN 1-4 | 41210 Windmill, Harrison Twp
Venice Shores custom built split level. Deep
canal just minutes from lake St. Clair. \$529,000
Carol Paton (586) 554-2385



OPEN 1-4 | 39363 Canterbury, Harrison Twp
Great room ranch, model-like new. Wildlife
area in back of home. \$258,000
Mark Dziedzic (586) 554-2307



OPEN 1-3 | 1681 Maddy Ln., Keego Harbor
Live the life of your dreams on Sylvan Lake!
Nestled in the middle of a canal. \$237800
Megan Clark (248) 365-7150



OPEN 1-4 | 15655 Tranquil Dr., Macomb Twp.
Everything is done in this 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath
split ranch home. Spacious great room. \$254,900
Robert Taylor (586) 200-1463



OPEN 2-4 | 1615 Balsam Way, Milford
All the amenities you are looking for in this
beautiful Colonial. Circular Drive. \$650,000
Karen Thomas (248) 639-4916



OPEN 1-4 | 4542 Ascot Court, Oakland Twp.
Don't miss this beautifully landscaped
spacious home w/upgrades galore. \$489,000
Tricia Wilson (248) 817-4594



OPEN 1-4 | 3878 Sunset Boulevard, Orchard Lake
One of the most prestigious lakes in the
county! Bring your boat and toys! \$529,900
Kori Adams (248) 639-4914



OPEN 1-4 | 3199 Woodview Cir., Orion Twp.
Incredible views on the best location within the
cul-de-sac! Premium upgrades. \$467,803
Hosted by Dianne Giozinazzo (248) 513-8586



OPEN 1-4 | 3589 Park Meadow Dr., Orion Twp.
Tranquil views in the best neighborhood in Lake
Orion. 2,915 sq. ft. romantic masterpiece. \$425,000
Leslie Doran (248) 365-7135



OPEN 1-4 | 446 Indian Trail, Orion Twp.
Beautiful 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home in the
desirable Lakes of Indianwood Sub. \$415,000
Amy Chermiside (248) 213-7826



OPEN 1-4 | 361 Spezia Dr., Oxford
Incredible lake front opportunity. Massive 1.96
acre parcel, fenced in the rear. \$339,000
Hosted by Nan Denis (248) 639-7954



OPEN 1-4 | 13508 Westbrook, Plymouth
Stunning! Entertain at your own resort! In-
ground Gunite pool & dual decking. \$575,000
Chris Patrick (734) 389-7698



OPEN 12-4 | 9297 Mayflower, Plymouth
Beautiful Colonial in Mayflower sub. Large
fenced corner lot. Many upgrades. \$229,900
Rich Childs (734) 796-2071



OPEN 1-4 | 3575 Wyndam Lane, Rochester
Beautiful Colonial in popular Country Creek!
Hardwood from foyer thru kitchen. \$382,000
Nancy Ritter (248) 365-7114



OPEN 1-3 | 2047 Cattail Cir., Rochester Hills
Luxury updated and designer touches make
this beautiful house a home. \$339,900
Hosted by Jeff Smith (248) 639-4940



OPEN 1:30-4:30 | 5497 Trillium Lane, Scio Twp.
Welcome to Trillium Crossing! Stunning new
construction condo. Custom finishes. \$279,500
Glenda Gerbstadt (734) 389-7759



OPEN 1:30-4:30 | 5489 Trillium Lane, Scio Twp.
Welcome to Trillium Crossing! Builder to
complete interior finish of this condo. \$269,500
Glenda Gerbstadt (734) 389-7759



OPEN 12-4 | 8132 E. Pearson, Shelby Twp.
This builder's custom ranch is both sprawling
and immaculate. Up to 6 bedrooms. \$365,000
Scott Jesnig (586) 782-3598



OPEN 1-4 | 19913 Edmunton, St. Clair Shores
Beautiful home with hard wood floors, glass
block windows. Gas fireplace. \$147,500
James Hedrick (586) 229-1248



OPEN 1-4 | 24816 Culver St., St. Clair Shores
Beautiful brick ranch in desirable area featuring
open floor plan. Neutral tones. \$114,900
Misty Weisenberger (586) 782-7945



OPEN 1-4 | 12755 Daily Dr., Sterling Hts.
A spacious family room, natural field stone
fireplace, cathedral ceiling. Large deck. \$219,918
Hosted by Christine Obarto (586) 522-4450



OPEN 1-4 | 1715 Carpenter Drive, Troy
Beautifully maintained home in the desirable
Oak River East subdivision. \$619,900
Amy Chermiside (248) 213-7826



OPEN 1-4 | 2525 Woodbourne Dr., Waterford
Looks like a model. Fabulous 3 bedroom 2.5
bath, 1,522 square foot ranch! \$214,900
Julie Papagni (248) 841-4438



OPEN 1-4 | 7958 Flagstaff, West Bloomfield
Just Listed! Union Lake lakefront-gorgeous
home, beautifully updated. 3600 sq. ft. \$800,000
Karen Thomas (248) 639-4916



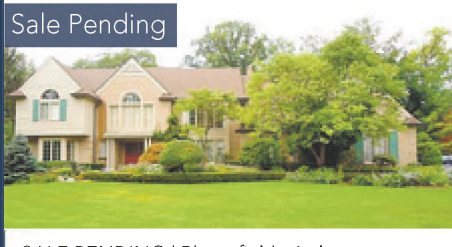
OPEN 2-5 | 7791 Biscayne, White Lake
Year-round vacation living! Entertain in style. Private
all sports Brendel Lake. Gourmet kitchen. \$400,000
Susan Wojtaszek (248) 534-4687



OPEN 1-3 | 7863 Hampton Court, Ypsilanti
This very spacious 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath home
is located in desirable Greene Farm. \$204,950
Jan Carey (734) 389-7737



Sale Pending
SALE PENDING | Birmingham - Exquisitely
designed with a gracious warmth & elegance.
craftsmanship and quality! \$1,900,000
Barbara Draplin (248) 639-4956



Sale Pending
SALE PENDING | Bloomfield - A showcase
inside and outside! Ideally located with
stunning views of the ravine. \$998,000
Barbara Spencer (248) 817-4679



Sale Pending
SALE PENDING | West Bloomfield - Gorgeous
home and birds watcher's favorite, amazing view
of the beautiful, private Green Lake \$550,000
Sufian Hannon (248) 817-4680

JOBS

careerbuilder.com

Help Wanted - General

SENIOR ANALYTICAL ENGINEERS - Weld Modeling

American Axle & Manufacturing, Inc. is seeking Senior Analytical Engineers - Weld Modeling at its facility in Detroit, Michigan.

Job Duties:

1. Perform structural and thermal stress and fatigue finite element analysis of AAM drivetrain system components, and use the analysis results to provide guidance to improve structural design validation for current programs and future products.
2. Perform bearing axle brackets laser welding structural stress analysis and fatigue life prediction, use the analytical model to provide brackets design guidelines.
3. Perform driveline system NVH thermal sensitivity through driveline system dynamics and bearing dynamics to improve the NVH robustness of AAM drivetrain products such as PTV and RDM.
4. Perform sealing performance analysis of AAM drivetrain products with various gasket designs and seal strategies.
5. Perform structural topology optimization of axle housing designs to improve the stiffness and NVH targets while reducing the total mass, improving the overall fuel economy of AAM products.
6. Communicate simulation results with product engineers and present analysis conclusion to AAM customers.
7. Assist Application Engineers and Testing Engineers to diagnose testing failure modes and identify root causes of structural durability problems

Requirements:
Masters degree in Mechanical Engineering or foreign equivalent education and experience in the following:

1. Finite element analysis
2. Nonlinear stress and fatigue analysis using Fe-Safe/Verity software;
3. Welding stress and fatigue analysis using Fe-Safe/Verity software;
4. Gaskets and sealing performance analysis of powertrain system under complex loading and thermal conditions;
5. Topology optimization analysis of powertrain components using Abaqus and TOSCA software;
6. Bore distortion analysis of powertrain system;
7. Frequency and mode analysis of drivetrain system using Nastran.

Applicants should send Resumes to American Axle & Manufacturing One Dauch Drive, Detroit, MI 48211, ATTN: Ann Dunlop.

SUPERVISOR

Ashley Court of Brighton Come in to apply:
125 W. Ellsworth Rd.
Brighton MI 48116
Or email: jlablonski@ashleycourtofbrighton.com

Help Wanted - Office Clerical

BOOKKEEPER

Part time position needed at FAO Jewelers in Brighton. Experienced in Quick Books 2013. Call John 810-229-5335

LEGAL SECRETARY

Northville. Permanent, Part-Time. Some secretarial/clerical & computer experience required. Legal experience not needed. 20-25 hrs/wk. \$10/start. Email resume: shawn@stemplen.com

Office Manager/Church Secretary PT

Mon-Thurs, 9am-1pm. Resumes by May 3 to:

Milford United Methodist Church
1200 Atlantic St.
Milford, MI 48361
churchoffice@milfordumc.net

CASH IN with

O&E Media's CLASSIFIEDS
800-579-SELL

Help Wanted - Dental

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Come join our friendly, caring staff at our state-of-the-art Commerce Two practice! Competitive wage and retirement plan avail. Full time w/minimum 3 yrs exp req'd. Digital exp preferred. Email resume to: dreamdentalgrou@gmail.com

FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST

Wanted part time for general dental practice in Hartland. Seeking a friendly, professional, and organized person with computer, billing, and insurance skills and knowledge. Previous dental experience required. Please email resume to: kyle.bouhana@gmail.com

Help Wanted - Medical

CAREGIVERS: CNA required. FT & PT work afternoons & midnights required at Northville Senior Living in Northville. Must enjoy working with seniors. Email resume: lan@northvilleseniorliving.com

CAREGIVERS -for Adult Foster care home. Must be compassionate. Part-time, all shifts. Call 517-861-0176

DIRECT CARE STAFF

No experience needed, paid training available! All shifts available. Working with developmentally disabled adults in their homes. Must have a valid drivers license, w/clean record, high school diploma or GED. Starting \$8.75/hour Monday-Friday Call between 9am-5pm Livingston County area Kristie at: 517-518-8284

RESIDENTIAL ASSISTANTS NEEDED

Willowbrook Rehabilitation provides all disciplines of outpatient rehabilitation and off-site residential care to adults recovering from Traumatic Brain Injuries. We are currently seeking dynamic individuals to work at one of our beautiful residential facilities in providing assistance to our clients in the development and promotion of life skills. CENAs, Direct Care Workers, COTAs, Rec Therapists or Psych majors preferred. Full/part-time, afternoon or midnight shifts with rotating weekends available. For an interview, call 810-227-0119 ext.212 or 206 Email: info@willowbrookrehab.com

Help Wanted - Medical

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

WellBridge of Brighton We are currently looking for a Director of Education to join our Post-Acute Team. This person must be a Registered Nurse with preferred experience in the Post-Acute Setting. We are looking for someone who is proactive and has a passion for teaching. This person must display a positive attitude and willingness to help other departments. Hours must be flexible to all shifts and able to complete an on-call rotation. Please apply within or send a resume to: hpherry@wellbridgegroup.com

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

25-30 hrs/wk. Exc. Salary and Health Benefits. RECEPTIONIST Experience Preferred Full-Time, Exc. Salary and Health Benefits For West Bloomfield Allergy Office. Cover Letter, Resume & References to: miallergy@comcast.net

MEDICAL ASSISTANT CERTIFIED

Full-Time For Gastro office in Farmington Hills. Fax resume: 248-471-8904

OPTICAL/DISPENSER

Full Time or Part-Time. Experience preferred for busy South Lyon practice. visionplus3@yahoo.com

Food - Beverage

COOKS, BARTENDERS & WAIT STAFF - Exp. a Must!

Apply: Starting Gate, 135 N. Center St., Northville.

Food Service Workers & Cooks in Novi. Competitive wages, benefits. EOE. Resume: athison@iamtouchpoint.com

Restaurant Manager, Deli Carry-Out Counter Person & Wait Staff

Exp'd. only. Steve's Deli Bloomfield Hills Ask for Bob: 248-932-0800 stevedeli@comcast.net

Food - Beverage

SERVERS, BARTENDERS, DISHWASHER, BUSSERS & HOST/RECEPTIONISTS Full or Part-Time. Exp'd. only. Hourly wage plus gratuity. Email resume to: kfrantz@walnutcreekcc.net www.walnutcreekcc.net

Help Wanted - Sales

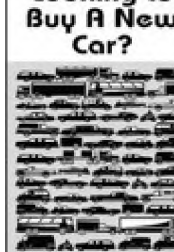
SALES PERSON

FAO Jewelers, with fine jewelry stores in Hartland and Brighton is looking for either part time or full time sales people with jewelry experience. Must be highly motivated and energetic. Stop by in person to either store with resume for immediate interview. No phone calls, please.

Elderly Care & Assistance

PROFESSIONAL CARE for your family member. 5 yrs exp with ref's. 517-294-8030

Looking to Buy A New Car?



Need to sell the old one first?

Place an ad with Observer & Eccentric Media, and let the Classifieds Sell it For You!

800-579-7355

Observer & Eccentric Media

CONTACT US AT: 800-579-7355

www.hometownlife.com eads@hometownlife.com

DEADLINES:

Fri. at 4 pm for Sunday Tues. at 3 pm for Thursday

NEWSPAPER POLICY

All advertising published in this Newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department: Observer & Eccentric Media

615 W. Lafayette Blvd., Detroit, MI 48226 866-867-2737.

We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order.

Our sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper & only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order.

Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears & reporting any errors immediately. The Newspaper will not issue credit for errors in ads after the FIRST

INCORRECT INSERTION. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, only the first insertion will be credited.

Publishers Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference

limitation, or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 724983 3-31-72).

Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter & spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage & support an affirmative advertising & marketing program in which there are no barriers.

DISCLAIMER: All classified ads are subject to the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from our Advertising Dept. All ads are subject to approval before publication. Observer & Eccentric Media reserves the right to edit, refuse, reject, classify or cancel any ad at any time. Errors must be reported in the first day of publication. Observer & Eccentric Media shall not be liable for any loss or expense that results from an error in or omission of an advertisement. No refunds for early cancellation of order.

Need some extra space?

Placing a classified ad is an easy and affordable way to clean out your clutter by presenting your unwanted items to hundreds of potential buyers. What are you waiting for? Contact us today and start turning the stuff you don't want into something you do want: **CASH!**

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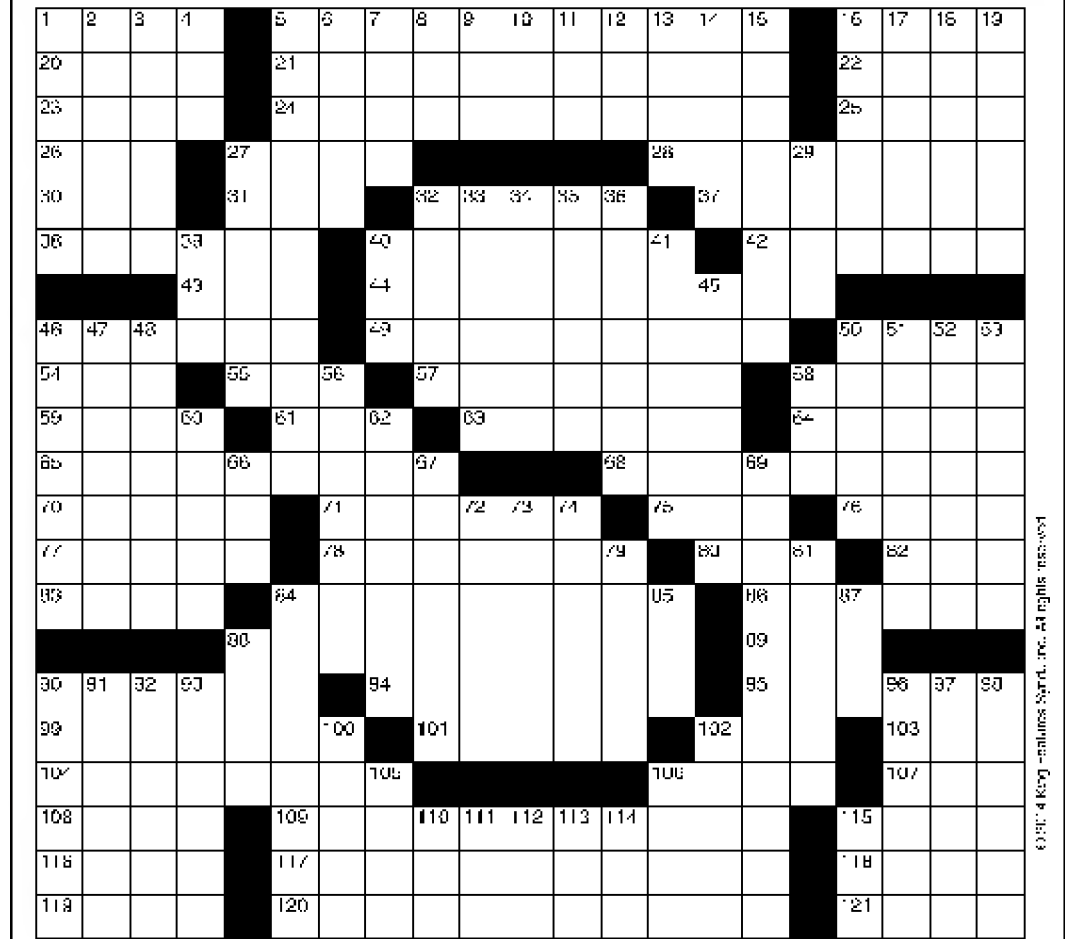
800-579-7355 hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric Media
hometownlife.com
A GANNETT COMPANY

Crossword Puzzle

Nineteenth Hole

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| ACROSS
1 Hunch over
5 Reading the same forward and backward
18 Ski resort in Utah
20 Sea color
21 Cousin of techno music
22 Hair housing
23 Singer Val Lee
24 Arrive at a peak
25 — d'état
26 ch
27 Encore
28 Prestige
30 Giant Mel
31 Poet's marital pal
32 Danish
37 Prince Harry or William, serotomist
38 Phone part
40 Decurred part
42 Show up at
43 — friendly
44 Not too far fetcher
46 Side through a doorway, say
49 Boundary
50 Comic c/c | 54 Gen — (boomer's child)
55 List-inishing abbr
57 rvalidated
58 Texas city
59 "That's —" ("Not so")
61 Dal's outpour
63 Robert's "Paging Bull"
64 Pertaining to kidneys
65 Symbol of Canada
68 "Extreme —" (TLC reality show)
70 Enter, as data
71 Three-sharp musical key
75 Hollywood's Vanda as
76 Swenson of the season
77 "I — drink"
78 Head toward
80 "Car Ta C" station
82 New Year in Vietnam
83 Bronte's Jane
84 Sweet by and-by
86 Book's donkey pal | 88 Puppet with strings
89 Transfer (cell materia)
90 Actor Lon
94 Convent
95 Short sleep
99 Completed
101 Will 115-
Across, classic studied
102 Jamaican booze
103 Sinky
104 Lkc cardlot c nners
106 Destiny
107 PC's "brain"
108 — pronounce you ...
109 Positioned evenly
115 Soc 101
Across
116 '99
Lubballons' singer
117 Seedless citrus fruit
118 15th-century Peruvian
119 State colored
120 Extreme peril
121 Gusto | DOWN
1 Composer
2 Consider the same
3 Nakedness
4 Week unit
5 Of a don'tistry branch
6 1999-2004 CDs
7 Use material
8 Odd trucking watchdog
9 Ultimate
10 — & the "Women" (Richard Gere film)
11 South Korea's —
Tae Woo
12 Bill in a lip jar
13 Tiny parasite
14 "Ruddy or not, here —"
15 Feature of "Rose" but not "rose"
16 Stress
17 Canadian dollar coin
18 B-gilled bird
19 Amax
27 George Burns' Allen | 29 D sharp, e.g.
32 Adult female
33 Fostered
34 Emuloy
35 All gain lookalike
36 — energy
39 — wee
40 Wailer's 20%
41 In the future
45 Desert Arab
46 Analyze
47 "NYPD Blue" actress Kim
48 Grasping thing
50 Kate
51 Mel by accident
52 Way o storm off
53 Crest rival
56 Callee additive
58 Master
60 Slip past
62 Fair forest monkey
66 JFK slat
67 Deke or juke
69 Sheet-sling office gizmo
72 French sa n: — d'Ar
73 Cause to feel umbrage
74 Putrefied
79 Go for again | 81 Title differently
84 Spooking
85 King, in Spanish
87 China's Sun — san
88 Faucet brand
90 Showing concern
91 Sorry sort?
92 "Pest" of kiddie lit
93 Sort of
96 Christians' — Creed
97 Camel's kn
98 Word form made with the big letter depicted in this puzzle's diagram (this letter is entirely absent from the solution)
100 Iraq coin
102 Crazying lane
105 Vena
106 — snail
110 Third bk. of the Bible
111 Dot in la mer — d'Ar
112 Zeus, e.g.
113 Gen. eucers' up
114 Adult male
115 Show |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|



Answer to Last Week's Puzzle

T	A	B	O	O		A	T	E		J	A	W		C	O	R	D	I	A	L			
A	D	A	M	S		M	A	R	I	A	N	A		O	C	E	A	N	I	A			
M	O	R	A	L	E	B	O	N	D	I	N	G		S	H	E	D	D	E	R			
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T	R	A	G	E	D	Y			S	H	Y			I	R	S		S	E	N	S	E	

TO PLACE YOUR AD

1-800-579-7355

HELP WANTED - PROFESSIONAL

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
(Base/Active Sound Management) #17652BR - Bloomfield Hills, MI Bose Corporation now hiring a position that utilizes an engineering & account executive background in Noise, Vibration and Harshness and/or Powertrain technologies; identifies new business opportunities; self-managing & highly motivated; travel 10 to 20%. Applicants should have 10+ yrs in the automotive industry, 5+ yrs of business development; BS in engineering /technical. For more details, please visit www.bose.com/careers EOE (MICH)

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#17022BR, Boston, MA Bose is seeking a CAD Applications Engineer with strong skills in Siemens NX use and administration. Join our Framingham, MA team and contribute to the creation and maintenance of a long-term strategic vision for mechanical engineering development environments. For details visit www.bose.com/careers (MICH)

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Dedicated run for Class A CDL drivers living in Michigan. Hirschbach 888-474-0729 www.drive4mich.com (MICH)

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HOMES

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Homes

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Rentals starting at \$729 3 bed, 2 bath, all appliances plus washer and dryer.



4377 Old Plank Road, Milford
248-820-5835
www.childslake.com
*WAC, community owned homes, see community for details. Offer expires 4-30-14

HOWELL - Burkhardt Ridge 3 br., 2 bath, well maintained home. Move in ready for only ***\$29,900. (517) 552-2300** NMLS#275116, #340904 *Some restrictions may apply!

Open Houses

CANTON: Open Sun. 1-4pm
Very Unique property. 3 season 47722 Ten Pointe Dr
Sunroom. \$469,900

Real Estate One
248-437-3800

SOUTH LYON
Open Sat. 1-4pm
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Real Estate One
248-437-3800

Ypsilanti: 749 Mildred St.
Open Sun. 1-4pm
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Real Estate One
248-437-3800

Manufactured Homes

HOWELL - New, Used, Repo's.
Homes starting at \$29,900
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Lakefront Property

LAKE ERIE LIVING!
Kingsville, Ontario - Sandy walkable beach, lg deck, 1400 sq. ft. heat/air, lake lot - 60X200, garage lot is 100X40. 35 mi from Ambassador Bridge. Contact Realtor John Peterson at 519.999.1607. owner 734.525.6449

RENTALS

apartments.com
HomeFinder

Apartment For Rent

HOWELL
QUAIL CREEK APTS. 1 & 2 br. \$495 to \$540/mo. incl. carport. Quiet country setting, close to downtown. Balcony, central air. \$200 sec. dep. w/good credit. (517) 548-3733

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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA

Homes For Rent

BRAND NEW HOMES STARTING AT \$799!*

Rentals starting at \$729 3 bed, 2 bath, all appliances plus washer and dryer.



4377 Old Plank Road, Milford
248-820-5835
www.childslake.com
*WAC, community owned homes, see community for details. Offer expires 4-30-14

Rooms For Rent

NORTHVILLE or PLYMOUTH DOWNTOWN 1st week with full deposit. Newly furnished sleeping rooms. Freshly decorated. \$90/wkly. Security deposit. **734-355-6453** **248-305-9944**

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

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We Repair:
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• Cracked/Bowed Block Walls
• Waterproofing
• Local • Licensed • Insured
(248) 420-0116 Ron

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MASSIVE SELECTION OF Lighting - Hardware, Mailboxes - Bathroom related incl. vanity, sinks, faucets, etc. Kitchen related incl. sinks, lighting, fixtures, Box Delivery Truck **Tuesday April 22nd @ 10:00 am** **3780 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor MI** **Preview 8:30 am** **Terms: Cash and Check with I.D.** **10% Buyers Premium** **Complete details w/ pics @** **BraunandHelmer.com**

DAVID HELMER 734.368.1733 **BRAUN & HELMER AUCTION SERVICE**

ESTATE AUCTION
Saturday, April 26th - 7pm
Plymouth Community Ctr. 525 Farmer, Plymouth MI
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Rummage Sales & Flea Markets

NOVI: Annual Church Yard & Bake Sale. April 25th & 26th, 8am-3pm. Novi United Methodist Church, 10 Mile Rd. at Meadowbrook.

Garage/Moving Sales

CANTON: Big Moving Sale!
39500 Warren Rd., Lot #392
April 25-27, 10-6pm.

FARMINGTON
MOM 2 MOM SALE
Friday, April 25/26, 9 p.m. \$1 Admission. 33112 Grand River Avenue, Farmington - (Inside First United Methodist Church)

Garage/Moving Sales

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FARMINGTON
The United Methodist Women of the First United Methodist Church of Farmington will have their Spring Rummage Sale at the Church, 33112 Grand River at Warner, on Thurs., May 15th, from 9a-8p, & Fri., May 16th, from 9a-2p. There will also be a bag sale on Friday.

FLAT ROCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Antiques/Flea Market Sun., May 4th, 7am-4pm. Free parking & admission. No pets allowed.
Flat Rock Speedway, 14041 S. Telegraph Rd. (734) 782-5220
www.flatrockhistory.org

LIVONIA
5th Annual GARAGE SALE Benefits 3 DAY Breast Cancer walks. Multi-family (12+) Singer sewing machine in original table/chair, baby, collectibles, electronics, holidays, household, TVs, much more. 9am Thurs-Sat., April 24-26; 10am Sun., April 27 32960 6 Mile, E of Farmington Rd.

MILFORD: Barn Sale at the Lazy J Ranch, 1/4 mile S. of M-59. April 23-25, Wed-Fri, 8am-6pm. White interior doors (23), ceiling fans (4), double & single sink tops, bathroom cabinets, antique tools mounted for display & plenty of misc. household items.

MILFORD MOVING SALE
Furniture, kid's bed, antiques, clothes, snow blower, HD TV, exercise bike, books & more! 9am-4pm, Fri. & Sat., April 25 & 26. 1370 Valley Crest Ct. Just S. of town, off Milford Rd.

MILFORD: Occasional Sale Lots of Shabby Gals items and furniture. Hundreds of vintage pieces and collectibles. Thurs-Sat., Apr 24-26, 9am-5pm. 330 Mont Eagle St., just off E. Huron and Atlantic.

MOVING SALE - Patio furniture, Lane chairs, like new cream w/ red print sofa, red chair, tiffany lamps oak dining table, floor mirror, foyer curio, elliptical, Stickley Entertainment, leather sofa, black corner computer desk. Call evenings after 6pm or weekends 734-455-0257

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I'm Downsizing! All furniture 4 poster Queen bedroom set, dresser, entertainment center, TVs, Living room, dining room table and china cabinet, dishes and collectibles. 42522 Castle Court, Canton, 48188. May 3-4, 9a-5p. CASH ONLY!

NORTHVILLE: Mega Estate Sale, bargains galore!
Furniture, glassware, \$5 box lots, home decor, antiques, & much more! 43334 7 Mile Rd. Suite 500. Thurs-Sat, 9am-5pm. 248-349-0117, www.thebarnantiques.com

NOVI-Rummage Sale:
Faith Community Presbyterian Church, 44400 10 Mile Rd. Thurs., May 1st, 9-6pm., Fri. May 2, 9-noon. Fri. 9-6pm.

SOUTH LYON - 2 Families
4/30, 8am-6pm, 5/1, 9am-6pm., 5/2, 9am-1pm. Stop by for great buys. Home decor, small furniture, seasonal items, kitchen items, bath accessories, clothes (XL) plus much more. 938 West Hills Dr.

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May 1st - 4th
Rain or Shine
Sponsored by the City of South Lyon
100's of homes!!
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Good stuff, household, tools, misc., **9840 Marshall Rd.,** between 9 Mile & Silver Lake

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Car Report

Spring Comes In Flood of New Models Revealed at NY Show



By Dale Buss

Here's a brand-by-brand look at much of what's happening automotive-wise in Gotham this week:

Acura: The Honda-owned luxury brand unveiled the all-new 2015 TLX performance-luxury sedan, designed to deliver a unique and compelling blend of sports-sedan athleticism and premium luxury refinement, the way the brand put it. The company said its performance-tuned sports sedan represents "the start of a new era for Acura."

Audi: The new A3 sedan, which just went on sale in the US, was named World Car of the Year by a

group of international auto journalists, the Detroit News said. Audi is touting its "uncompromised" chops as a luxury car despite the model's starting \$29,900 price point. "This really represents what Audi does extremely well," Audi of America CEO Scott Keogh told reporters in New York. Sales of A3 sedan, he said, are "off to a great start" in the United States.

BMW: Audi's German rival managed to cop honors for its electric i3 as World Green Car of the Year from the same group of journalists and the World Car of the Year Design award over the Mazda3 and Mercedes-Benz C-Class. BMW will be selling the i3 in the US in coming weeks.

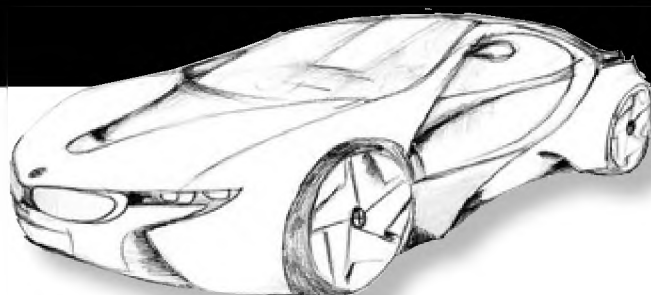
The company's Mini brand, meanwhile, unveiled a new Mini Cooper model that flashed fan-suggested design features and incorporated a test-driving

competition to promote the new hardtop. More than 800 Mini owners out of 200,000 registered owners submitted ideas in the brand's nod to crowdsourcing.

Ford: The company unveiled a limited-edition of its new 50th-anniversary Mustang. The Mustang 50 Year Limited Edition is modeled on the GT fastback and will be limited to just 1,964 units – in honor of the year the car was introduced – and will come with nearly every available option. "We wanted to provide our most dedicated fans with the emotion of the original Mustang in a 21st-century car," said Ford executive chairman Bill Ford Jr. in a statement ahead of the reveal in New York.

Hyundai: The Korean brand made a big statement in 2010 when it launched the new Hyundai Sonata, whose dramatic styling, moderate price and medium size caught the attention of Americans and made competitors sit up and take notice for the first time. Now in New York, Hyundai is introducing a redesigned 2015 version of its Sonata that is full of new safety features and other refinements. And it's coming just in time, as Hyundai's US sales have stumbled lately.

Jeep: The new compact SUV Renegade, built on a Fiat-designed platform, made its debut and is expected to go on sale in Europe later this year and in the US early next



Jeep is fielding a new Renegade compact SUV based on a Fiat design.

year. The new vehicle is supposed to be just fine off road while coming in a smaller and more fuel-efficient package than previous Jeeps.

Toyota: The leading Japanese auto company attempted to step past its own recent bad news about recalls in New York by touting a new, 2015 version of the Toyota Camry that will be "the best Camry we've ever built," Toyota Division General Manager Bill Fay said at the unveiling of the car, according to *Automotive News*.

To extend the car's 12-year reign as America's best-selling car, Toyota realizes it must do a better job of delivering on such superlatives than it did with the last big redesign, in 2011. So the new Camry is nearly two inches longer and a half-inch wider, with returned power steering, better body rigidity and a fresh new design. "This is a mega change to Camry,

and the most extensive mid-cycle change in our company's history, in only its third year," Bob Carter, Toyota's US senior vice president of automotive operations, told a gathering of securities analysts in New York.

The company also is attempting to recreate an entire brand: Scion, its "youth" marque that has fallen on declining sales and brand irrelevance the last several years. At New York, *Automotive News* said, executives pledged to replace three of Scion's five US nameplates over a two-year period starting in 2015.

"Some events of the last decade forced Toyota to make tradeoffs, and Scion's [product-introduction] cadence was affected by that," Doug Murtha, Scion vice president, told the publication. The first of the tree models will be unveiled in November, he said.



Ford will only make "1,964" units of the 50 Year Limited Edition of the new Mustang.

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Automatic, All
Power, FWD
\$5,995

2011
Chevy
Cruze
38,000 Miles,
Great on Gas, Like
New Condition
\$13,900

2006
Chevy
Equinox LT
MP3, Cloth
Interior, CD
\$7,499

2005
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PW, PL, Moon
Roof, 6 Disc CD
\$7,995

2000
Ford
Ranger XLT
Extended Cab,
V6, CD, Clean
\$2,899

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XL SLE
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1999
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Featuring: SYNC with My Ford, Satellite Radio, Remote Start.

3 at this price,
49 available.

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24 month lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee and lease renewal.

NEW 2014 Ford Flex SEL

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37 available.

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24 month lease

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NEW 2014 Ford Fusion SE Luxury

Buy for **\$20,097+**
MSRP \$27,110



Featuring: Leather, Luxury Package, Sync with My Ford

10 at this price,
539 available.

\$227* with \$439 due at signing

24 month lease

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Buy for **\$29,135+**
MSRP \$37,015



Featuring: Leather, SYNC with My Ford Touch, Premium Audio, Keyless Entry, Reverse Sensing.

3 at this price,
105 available.

\$321* with \$629 due at signing

24 month lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee and lease renewal.

NEW 2014 Ford Escape SE

Buy for **\$20,478+**
MSRP \$26,445



Featuring: SYNC with My Ford, Power Windows, Locks, Cruise Control.

35 at this price,
389 available.

\$226* with \$483 due at signing

24 month lease

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NEW 2014 Ford Edge SEL

Buy for **\$26,770+**
MSRP \$34,815



Featuring: Leather, Sync with My Ford Touch, Rear View Camera, Heated Power Seats.

17 at this price,
114 available.

\$298* with \$589 due at signing

24 month lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee and lease renewal.

NEW 2014 Ford Focus SE

Buy for **\$16,156+**
MSRP \$23,540



Featuring: Leather Heated Seats, Appearance Package, Sync and Sound Package.

15 at this price,
236 available.

\$203* with \$412 due at signing

24 month lease

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NEW 2014 Ford F150 STX SPORT

Buy for **\$27,302+**
MSRP \$38,480



Featuring: Power Windows, Locks, 20" Alum Wheels, Sync.

3 at this price,
182 available.

\$303* with \$421 due at signing

24 month lease

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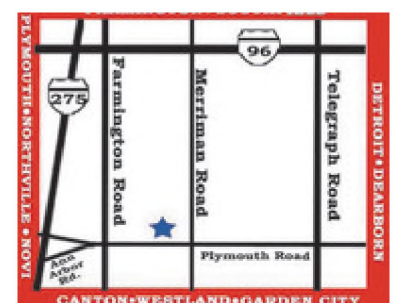
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