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Upcoming Northville Rotary activities

Northville Rotary is initiating the installation of Little Libraries, small book depositories where community members can exchange books. The Rotarians would like to establish six locations though out the Northville community and seeking suggestions as to where the locations might be. Rotarians are encouraging other organizations to volunteer and assist in this effort as well.

Northville Rotary conducts the a annual Goodfellows paper sale, and this year the event will be Dec. 13. City and township fire departments and Rotary members staff the event, but others are invited and sought to participate in the rewarding event. Volunteers will help in many features of the event, including sale of papers and event facilitation, and need to be over the age of 18 years.

For more information on either activity, contact John Kelly at john@kelly kellylaw.com or 248-348-0496.

Transfer or not?

School board seeks more input before taking a position on property transfer

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

Many Woodside Village families feel more connected to the Northville community than Plymouth-Canton, where they are part of the school district, and that's why they want to leave and join Northville Public Schools.

Those opposed to their request fear an influx of more students could lead to more redistricting and classroom sizes growing even bigger, thus negatively impacting the learning environment.

Families in Woodside Village have filed a Property Transfer Request petition with the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency (Wayne RESA) that could ultimately move their neighborhood, currently part of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, into the Northville Public Schools attendance area.

The two sides were presented at the Northville Board of Education meeting Nov. 11. During the public comment period on the Property Transfer Petition being sought by the Woodside Village neighborhood, a number of parents went before the school board to state why this should, or shouldn't, be granted.

The Northville school board does not have the authority to approve or deny such a request. However, Wayne RESA has

See TRANSFER, Page A4

Woodside Village wants to switch school districts



Women's group advancing Northville's charitable needs



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER an will be hosting a sold-out

Northville Main Street League members Lauren Poole Romeo, left, and Jen Mullan will be hosting a sold-out fundraising affair on Nov. 20 at Northville's Village Workshop called Amazing Grapes where attendees will bring a bottle of wine to donate for auction.

Amazing Grapes event sold out

By Jill HalpinCorrespondent

Lauren Poole Romeo and her friends are more than just passionate about Northville – they're also passionate about giving back to their hometown.

In fact, it is the motivating force that drove Poole Romeo and friend Jennifer Mullan to start the Main Street League, an ever-growing group of local women dedicated to helping advance the charitable needs within their community.

Established in 2012, the Main Street League began as a group of friends looking to bring more purpose to their social outings – and has blossomed into an expanding giving circle, with group members gathering together to combine resources, time, talent and money in an effort to benefit the community.

"We started out talking about ways that we could make a positive impact on the community within our peer group; things we could do together to help others have fun doing it," said Poole Romeo, a mother of two.

"Our first event was a wine fundraiser – an idea we bor-

See CHARITABLE, Page A2

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Community service

Eagles hosting
Thanksgiving Day dinner

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

The Northville Eagles Club will be putting on dinner Thanksgiving Day for those looking for a hearty, delicious meal that's free and a place to celebrate the holiday.

A local community event previously handled by the former Buckminister's Pub is now being taken up by the local Fraternal Order of Eagles as another way to give back to the com-

munity.

"We thought this dinner
needed to continue, and it will,"
said Northville Eagles President
George Borysko. "It's important
to give those who might be in
need or just don't have a place
to go an opportunity to have a
good Thanksgiving dinner."

Last year, Buckminister's hosted nearly 60 people for the dinner.

The Eagles have been receiving help from members through food and money donations as

See DINNER, Page A2



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Northville Eagles Club will host the annual Thanksgiving Day meal at its South Center Street facility on Nov. 27. The club is offering a free meal to any and all who want to attend. There will be lots of activities for kids, too. Shown (from left) are George Borysko, president; David Yelonek, trustee; Lynn Law, secretary; and Matt 'Wheels' Wells, trustee.





right here right for you www.cfcu.org

DINNER

Continued from Page A1

well as from other local businesses and groups. On the day of cooking the dinner, Genitti's next door will provide extra kitchen space and preparation help.

The dinner will feature all of the fixings. They already have eight turkeys donated. Eagles trustee Matt 'Wheels' Wells, who helped out last year, said they needed a little more than that for last year's dinner, but they are hopeful others in the community can support the cause.

Helping out in the community is a big part of the Eagles' tradition. The Northville chapter was founded in 1946, and since then it has worked at community

service wherever it could, from "adopting families" at Christmas to helping out the homeless. Currently, they are also helping a local Girl Scout with a bottle and can drive as well as collecting coats for the needy.

"We like to see it as people helping people," said Borysko.

To donate to the dinner, call Lynn Law, Eagles secretary, at 248-202-8999 or Borysko at 248-982-5678.

The dinner will start at noon at the Eagles club, which is located at 113 S. Center Street. It's open to anyone and it's free. The Detroit Lions football game will also be shown at the club during and after dinner.

Ihuhman@hometownlife.com cell: 517-294-4215 Twitter: @lhuhman

CHARITABLE

Continued from Page A1

rowed from some friends that hosted something similar in their home every year – benefitting Northville Civic Concern. We had no idea it would be so popular; we ended up with about 160 people," she added.

That event, Amazing Grapes – so overwhelmingly popular that it is already sold out for this year (Nov. 20) – raised over \$12,000 with \$5,000 of that matched by Meijer Inc. in the form of gift cards for food and baby items.

It was the beginning of a spirit of giving that has taken on a life of its own, Poole Romeo said.

"After our first event, I started getting calls from people asking, 'What are you going to do next? I want to help.' We knew we were on to something," Poole Romeo said.

Encouraged by some mentors in the community to continue their efforts, the group initiated more fundraising events,

WANT TO BE PART OF MSL?

Membership in Main Street League ranges in levels from \$100 to \$500. You can also participate in the group by taking part in MSL fundraisers. For more information about joining MSL or participating in fundraisers, go to www.main streetleague.com.

such as diaper and backpack drives, kickball tournaments and more.

They have even been inspired to create a junior version of their group to help get local children involved in giving back to their community. The MSL Juniors are currently assembling over 50 bags to donate to Project Night Night, which donates over 25,000 packages each vear, free of charge, to homeless children who need childhood essentials to feel secure, cozy, ready to learn, and significant. Each package contains a new security

blanket, an age-appropriate children's book, and a stuffed animal all nestled inside their own bag.

A 'great community'

Northville is a very generous community, said Mullan, a mother of three.

"We live in a great community. People want to get involved here, they want to help out. I think many people were looking for ways to have a positive impact on the community and participating in these fundraisers lets them do that," Mullan added.

The group also raises awareness about needs within the community, said Lisa Meinzinger-Abraham, a mother of two.

"Even though it looks like a wealthy area, there is still need in the community. It can happen to anyone, anywhere.
Things happen in life; people who never expect they are going to need assistance may have health issues or something else come up. You just never know," she said

Poole Romeo agrees. "Northville is a great community – I grew up here and my family has always been involved in the community. I love it – but I think sometimes people don't recognize the hidden needs," she said.

Despite the hefty price tag for many homes in the area, there is still a definite need for assistance, she said.

Poole Romeo said is hopeful that the 2014 Amazing Grapes event will raise even more funds.

The \$40 ticket for the event includes food and beverages donated by local venues, and attendees are asked to donate a bottle of wine worth \$15 or more. The donated bottles are assembled into wine lots, which are then raffled off to participants.

Through word-of-mouth and social media marketing efforts by Meinzinger-Abraham, attendance for this year's event has swelled to 250.

"It is just another example of this great spirit of giving in Northville," she said.

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African Dreams



Leopards, lions, elephants, hippos, wildebeests, cape buffalo, zebras and giraffes greeted Dave and Kathi Jerome within the first two hours of their safari on the Serengeti Plain in Tanzania, Africa. And that was just the beginning. In March 2014, the Northville couple fulfilled one of Dave's bucket list items when they embarked on a photo safari arranged through African Dreams. The Jeromes will present a travelogue of their African journey at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21, to the Northville Woman's Club at the First Presbyterian Church of Northville. Anyone interested in attending the program or obtaining further information about the club should contact club president Lorraine Andaray at 248-349-9463.



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Funds keep Old Glory flying proudly

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

The cold and wind didn't stop the Northville community from celebrating the rededication of its Old Glory American flag on the wall of the Marquis Theater.

A group of supporters to refurbish the mural painting, originally created in 2001 after 9/11. collected in the rear parking lot on Veterans Day. It was a moment for them to see a community-wide effort to raise funds come to a completion and a time to recognize why the 30-foot by 45-foot mural flag matters - especially on Nov.

"We owe a big debt of gratitude to all the men and women who wore a uniform," said Mayor Chris Johnson in recog-

The mural's story began with the late Inge Zayti, owner of Northville's Marquis Theatre, first commissioning artist Jeff Von Buskirk to paint the building's fivestory flag mural in 2002, to commemorate 9/11.

After two final checks were presented by Northville Rotary's Tim Story and on behalf of Shep Goldberg, the group officially recognized the mural's repainting. In memory of Zayti a year after her death, her family and the community pulled together to have the flag repaired and repainted.

Zayti's daughter Christine was on hand to



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

William Demray, lower right, leads the rededication of the U.S. Flag mural on Northville's Marquis Theatre on Nov. 11.

represent her mother and said she would been overjoyed to see the ceremony and painting redone.

"It meant so much to my mom," she said.

And it means a lot to the Northville community. The effort raised \$17,820. For the last several years, it became apparent the flag needed care. The fundraising included a raffle, an auction at the Northville

Sports Den, a Fourth of July party and individuals giving money.

"Northville's Old Glory is still here because of the Northville community," said ceremony emcee and Northville resident Dr. Bill Demray, who was one of the community leaders supporting the project.

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ART HOUSE HAPPENINGS

The Northville Art House is located at 215 W. Cady Street in historic downtown Northville and provides art enrichment and education to the community through classes, art shows and public art. The Art House Gallery and Store are open to the public 1-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays. During the months of November and December, the Northville Art House will also be open from 6-9 p.m. on First Friday, Dec. 5. Call 248-344-0497 or visit www.NorthvilleArtHouse.org for information. The Art House will be closed Thanksgiving

Upcoming Events Beyond Borders: Mosaic Exhibit and

Auction: Through Dec. 6, The Northville Art House presents 141 mosaic artworks from artists representing 13

countries that are available for bid in an online auction benefitting Doctors Without Borders through the website http://www.Bidding-ForGood.com/DWB-MSF.

The Art of Light": A **Northville Camera Club** Exhibit: Local photographic talent can be seen in the lower level of the Art House during November and December. The Northville Camera Club will present their largest exhibit of the year, themed "The Art of Light" through Dec. 6.

Holiday Basket Raffle: Each year during the months of November and December, the Art House features about 15 beautifully decorated and filled holiday baskets brimming with goodies from Northville area businesses. Each basket is worth almost \$300, yet tickets are only \$1. Win-

ners will be selected at 8 p.m. Dec. 5, and you need not be present to win. You can purchase tickets during open Art House hours and during special events.

Store

Visit the Art House Store during this holiday season to find unique and affordable quality art and contemporary fine crafts by local artists ranging from jewelry to decorative art for the home. The featured artist is Mary Kernahan from Westland who is a fine jewelry artist. The store is open during Art House hours.

Art Classes & Workshops

Stop by the Art House for a list of art classes and workshops for children and adults, in every medium, and during the day and eve-



LIBRARY LINES

The Northville Library will be closed for Thanksgiving, Thursday,

Drop-In Little Me Storytime

Time/Date: 10:30-11:15 a.m. Friday, Nov. 21 Details: Little ones,

babies to 2 years, along

with parents or caregivers, can enjoy music, simple stories and play-

Bottle Cap Necklace Craft For Tweens

Time/Date: 4:15-5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 25

Details: Tweens ages 9-12, design your own

one-of-a-kind bottle cap necklace. Call to register.

Twelfth Night Singers

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2

Details: Enjoy traditional seasonal music. Registration required.



The holiday fun kicks off this weekend in Downtown Northville!

Join us November 21-23 for these festive events:

November 21 (6:30 pm) Holiday Lighted Parade & Tree Lighting Ceremony in Town Square

November 22 (7:30 pm) FREE Showing of the Holiday Movie, "Elf" at the Marquis Theatre

November 22 (10 am-4 pm) & November 23 (11 am-3 pm) Holiday Greens Market in Town Square

> For a complete list of Downtown Northville holiday events, shopping, and dining visit www.downtownnorthville.com











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TRANSFER

Continued from Page A1

asked that each of the respective boards of education take a position on the **Property Transfer Request** before it is considered by the Wayne RESA Board of Education on Nov. 19.

We feel very connected to the Northville community," said Woodside homeowner/parent Jackie Cook.

According to Cook, there are around 39 kids in their neighborhood currently going to school, but she added not all will choose to transfer to Northville. She said there would probably be 16 students that would go to elementary school next year if the request is grant-

She, along with others in that neighborhood, said they use Northville Parks and Recreation, attend church in Northville, have friends that go to Northville schools and, in general, are more oriented to Northville.

Woodside Village is a 115-home neighborhood in Northville Township located on the west side of Haggerty Road north of Five Mile Road. The neighborhood borders the Northville Public Schools' attendance boundary on its southeast corner and is adjacent to the current attendance boundaries for Winchester Elementary, Meads Mill Middle, and Northville High schools.

Another Woodside mother, Kerri Winkler, said one of the main reasons she wants to see the transfer happen is because her child is diabetic and she would be closer to Northville schools in case of an emergency.

Opposing transfer

Speaking during the public comment part of the meeting were five Northville parents who emphasized that the neighborhood may be made up of great people and families, but they expressed concerns about:

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Northville school board was expected to vote on its position at its Nov. 18 meeting at Northville High School, where there was an opportunity for additional public comment prior to the board's vote. The Wayne RESA Board was consider the Property Transfer Request at its Nov. 19 meeting. Once Wayne RESA issues its decision, any of the parties affected (those requesting the property transfer, or either of the two school districts involved) has the option to appeal the decision to the Michigan Department of Education's superintendent of public instruction. www.northvillerecord.com

» class sizes already being an issue in some

for the latest on this issue.

» the possibility of other similar requests;

» the potential need for building expansion or additions to address more students; and

» maintaining the current excellence of Northville schools.

"I think we need to consider the kids already here," said Northville resident Ken Hopkins of the potential impact the additional students could have on classroom size and teachers' abilities to instruct classrooms with an above-average number of students.

Northville parent Becky Barnhart also worries about more students. Those in opposition point to the recent redistricting project by Northville to adjust overcrowding at certain schools.

'We don't need extra students," Barnhart said

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Robotics to Russia

Northville students to compete in World Robotics Olympiad

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

A group of Northville students will have the honor to represent the United States in the upcoming World Robotics Olympiad in Russia this month as they travel to compete against teams from 50 other countries.

"I'm really excited," said Hillside Middle School student Jason Brown, 11, of the opportunity to be part of the first American team to compete in the event, which was established in 2002.

There are eight students from Northville, ranging from high school to middle school, who will be making the trip to

A major goal of the WRO competition is to provide students with a fun way to learn more about science, technology, engineering and math - the STEM subjects. Northville schools have been working on making STEM a bigger part of its curriculum over the past several years.

The Northville teams qualified at the state and national levels in order to make the trip. The WRO will be held Nov. 21-23 at the Olympic Village in Sochi, Russia. Nine teams have qualified to represent the U.S.

"This is big for them to be part of the first team from America," Katherine Bis, whose son Adam is on the team with Jason.

Their team is called Mindstorms Madness and Jason's father Andy is a coach. They've created a robot out of Legos to complete a challenge of assembling a simulation rocket while also rescuing Lego people. For their team, the process of creating and programming the robot might be the most enjoyable part.

Hillside's Robocruisers E



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Adam Bis, 12, checks on the status of his Hillside Lego Robotics team machine on Nov. 10 in the basement of fellow team member Jason Brown.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Hillside Middle School Lego Robotics team -- (I to r) Adam Bis, Jason Brown, Brian Ding, Eric Liu, and Justin Chang.-- gathers on Nov. 10 to check out the machine they programmed. The group will soon be heading off to Russia to participate in the World Robotics Olympiad in Sochi, Russia.

The other team from Hillside is the Robocrusiers E, who also qualified from the elementary level. The coach is Wei Ding and the teams members

are Brian Ding and Justin Chang (both 12 from Hillside MS) and Eric Liu (12, of Canton). They got first place in the WRO 2014 USA Open Category in Elementary as well as the Judge Award.

Their project has a mission/ goal statement to explore the Saturn moon of Titan for the possibility of living on Titan by designing an automated exploration system, which includes a hovercraft (capable of maneuvering across different terrains like sand dunes and methane

lakes), a communication system, a data processing system, and a logistical support system.

Northville High will be represented by juniors Christopher Geng and James Xue, who will be competing with the Robocruisers S team. They took first place in this year's Open Senior category competition, which has the theme of "Robots and Space." Student teams design and create robots that can assist humankind in solving tasks in space.

To learn more or to donate http://2014wro.causevox.com/. To see video of the Titan project, visit www.youtube.com

/watch?v=FM7y7Fqq8Ps.



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Detroit Catholic Central teachers Ben Herman (left) and Christopher Gismondi talk about

CC has won all but two of the Michigan Quiz Bowl championships since the year 2000.

CC Academic Teams compete at championship level

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

coaching their school's Academic Team.

The Academic Teams at Detroit Catholic Central High School in Novi are high-achieving. This current competition season is young, but both of its teams are ranked

Catholic Central's 'A' team is ranked No. 4 in the nation (as high as it's ever been) and the 'B' team is ranked No. 43, still in the top 50 in the nation. The Catholic Central Academic Team prides itself on being a fierce competitor in the state and is consistently recognized as one of the most competitive programs in the nation.

"We're very proud of them. They are a dedicated group," said co-coach and CC teacher Ben Herman, who coordinates the

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Catholic Central student Jack Watts is captain of the

team with teachers and fellow coaches Chris Gismondi and Anthony

school's Academic Team.

Cornish. The 'A' team's level of excellence was tested recently in a tournament at Ohio State University and it came through again in facing a Michigan State University team

twice, beating it both times.

'This was really exciting, but we are humble and know there's a lot of work in front of us," Her-

The Academic Team is a competitive program that is open to all grade levels. Competition is based on a team's mastery of specific academic categories, including literature, fine arts, science, geography, history, current events and mathematics. Nearly 40 CC students are participating this year.

The CC Academic Team competes at the varsity, junior varsity and freshman levels. All three teams compete throughout the state and travel out of state to nationally recognized tournaments.

In 2013, the team won its third straight Class A

Quiz Bowl Title. Since 1988, it has won nearly 20 of these.

Even with all of the day-to-day academic work and studying, the students involved in it love it and that's what drives them.

CC senior Jack Watts, a team captain, said he was attracted to the team after being in quiz bowl in middle school. Now four years later, he's leading the team and enjoying every minute of learning more to help in the next competition.

"It's harder and more engaging," he said of the Academic Team compared to the middle school level. "But that's what I like about it and that's what drew me in."

The team has a tourney coming up in Chicago and members are putting in extra time to prepare.

With a database of old questions and new ones, the teams are ready for

lhuhman@hometownlife.com more head-to-head com-517-294-4215 petitions and, hopefully, Twitter @lhuhman

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Area musician shines in U.S. Army Field Band

By Brad Kadrich Staff Writer

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Blossom saw an opportunity to pursue his life's dream 10 years ago – and he

Ten years later, he couldn't be happier with his decision.

Blossom, a 1997 graduate of Canton High School who joined the Army in 2004, is a saxophonist with the U.S. Army Field Band, a position that gives him the career he's wanted since even before he joined the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band back in high school.

"I fell in love with music and (that feeling) really picked up in high school being in the marching band," said Blossom, a Canton native now stationed at Fort Meade, Md. "(Marching band) was just awesome.

It was a really great experience for me and I really picked up the bug. I couldn't really see myself doing anything else, to be honest.'

Blossom, son of David and Rebecca Blossom of Canton, was drum major when he was in the P-CEP Marching Band. He graduated in 1997, two years before the band won the national championship. Blossom's sister Monica was in that championship contingent.

"That's something she always has on me," Blossom said with a laugh.

Music lover

Blossom has always been a musician. In addition to the sax, he's also played the clarinet and the bass clarinet. He was in the band at the University of Michigan, where he was busy obtaining his master's degree. He played bassoon, as did his future wife Anne (they



Canton native Christopher Blossom plays the saxophone now, but he can also play the bassoon and the clarinet.

were married in 2008).

While he was finishing up at U-M, Blossom discovered the U.S. Army was auditioning players for the U.S. Army Field Band. He was "looking for a way to have a job." had a lot of student debt and the service "was just a good fit for me."

While they're eminently proud of him,

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Blossom's decision surprised his parents.

"I was taken back a bit," David Blossom said. "I asked him, 'Are you sure you know what you're getting into?' He was willing to do that to get where he wanted to go. He's always been consumed with music. He's taken it to the next level."

Lots of travel

The U.S. Army Field Band is the touring musical representative for the Army, traveling thousands of miles each year presenting a variety of music throughout the nation and abroad. Since being formed in March 1946, the field band has appeared in all 50 states and more than 30 countries on four continents.

Blossom said the band travels more than 100 days a year and he estimates it plays some 120-140 concerts a year. As an outreach program, the band plays formal public concerts, school assemblies, educational outreach programs, festivals and radio and television appearances.

All the travel can get tiresome, he said, but technology is making it easier. Programs like Facetime and Skype make it easier to stay in

touch with Anne and their 18-month-old son Desmond.

Great place

"You kind of find the balance," Blossom said. "It's hard to be away from home for so long, but that bridge has kind of been built with technology. Stuff like that makes it easier to be on the road than it used to

He's done a lot in his musical career, including time spent at Interlochen ("It's a really intense music camp and I just loved it," he said). He can see himself staying in the band - and the Army for a long time.

"I really love being in the field band," Blossom said. "It's the right fit for me. It's such a great place to be. I get to play with world-class musicians every day. It's such a good job. You just can't really beat it."

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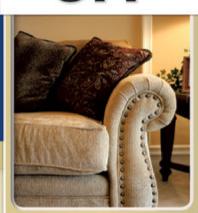
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Tree farm helps families make yuletide memories

By Robin D'Angelo Correspondent

Whether it is generations gathering each week for Sunday dinner or taking to the fields each season to plant, nurture, prune and harvest 118 acres of Christmas trees, the Brians of Broadview Christmas Tree Farm are all about

Marty Brian, her sister Cathy and brother Bill are the owners/operators of the farm, which has been in the family since its purchase by English immigrant Alfred Bornett in 1940.

fred Barrett in 1849.

"Alfred started with sheep and his son David continued that. David's first son Adrian added potatoes to our farm... even when Bill and Cathy and I were children, we had potatoes," Marty Brian said

Brian said.
"My grandpa Earl
Barrett continued with
the sheep and the potatoes. His daughter was
our mother, Betty, who
married Ott Brian. Mom
and dad added strawberries to the potatoes
and, in 1972, we added
the Christmas trees."

Preparation

Overseeing a Christmas tree farm is an extensive operation – one that begins well before the air turns crisp and continues long after the holiday decorations have been shelved for another year.

There is the planting season, spraying season, weeding season and pruning season – the



The Brian family is excited that this year the farm has indoor bathrooms for visitors.

latter being one of the most time-consuming, as each tree must be shaped and guided to ensure that is the best specimen possible come November. The tractors, wagons and machinery must be prepared and fixed, if needed, and the family hires extra workers – mainly local teens – in anticipation of the crowds.

"We like to have the kids come out and prune as a prerequisite, because that is a tough job," Marty said.

"Once they can do that, they are asked to come back and join us at Christmastime. So in addition to all of the members of our family working, we have about 15 more kids that help us out."

Broadview opens its doors the weekend before Thanksgiving for what Marty calls the "setup weekend," but the official rush begins right after the holiday and runs all the way up to the week of Christmas. The

farm features Canaan fir,

Douglas fir and Fraser fir, with Canaan being

the most popular.

"We do sell a lot of
Canaan, because its size
varies, it has soft needles
and retains them well,"
Marty said. "I don't mean
to downplay the spruce,
but those needles are just
a little pickier."

Making memories

Amidst all the bustle of opening the farm to the public, Marty said the most rewarding aspect is observing the camaraderie of customers young and old who gather to make memories at Broadview.

"All of this is a part of their story, part of their Christmas," she said.

"The wagon ride out to the field and watching them choose their tree. Some know right away what they and others we hear, 'Oh ...you want that one?' Every tree has its own character and belongs to someone. We have families that have been coming to us for years and years and now have their own children and grandchildren. Everyone's traditions are different and they help to make ours, that's for sure. It's just a happy time."

Broadview is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily starting Nov. 22 and features wagon rides, U-cut and pre-cut trees, wreaths, roping, free boughs, a small gift shop, professional family photos and scheduled children's crafts.

Tree-seekers are invited to come in and get warm in the farm's kitchen with hot chocolate and cider, doughnuts and coffee or stay for a hot dog lunch – and the most avid of those are invited to bring their own refreshments and tailgate at the tree farm to make a day of it.

Santa Claus visits the farm from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. each weekend and the petting farm (miniature goats, hens and roosters) is open for all to enjoy each weekend as well. Pets are welcome, but must be on a leash.

Judy Brian, wife of Bill, describes the tree farming life as "magical and a lot of hard work."

"Meeting the people is the best part," she said.

"Last year, it seemed like it was very important for people to tell us how many years they've been coming. We've been trying to come up with a way to track all the generations of customers," she said.

Giving back is another important part of the holiday season for the

Brian family and its employees: each year, the Brians host lunch at the farm for the Highland White Lake Business Association, of which they have been members for the past 30 years.

"We know everyone and we thought it would be fun to have them out during the week for a hot dog lunch, which is what we serve here on the weekends," she said.

The family also donates a number of trees to local military families and all tips collected during the season are pooled in a jar to donate to the needy.

Returning to Broadview this year are handmade commemorative ornaments, as well as a compliments/complaints table for customers to share their feedback.

"The thing I am the most excited about this year is ... we have indoor bathrooms!" Judy said.

"We've always had port-a-potties in the past and I have to say, that's the first place I'm going to show off to people. They're really classy."

Family matters

Marty Brian said new customers are often surprised to learn about the length of time the family has owned and farmed the land, as well as the number of family members that have stuck it out together over the years. As of now, seven families live on the farm.

"Not that we see each other every single day and we're not on each other's doorsteps every single day, but at the same time at one given call we would all be together," she said.

"Most every Sunday I put a dinner together and some can make it and some can't. The farm helps out financially with food for our dinners and everybody brings something. I just put it out on the counter and everybody helps themselves. They might only be here for an hour or two and then they go on about the rest of their evening. Everyone sits around together. It's just kind of fun and not fancy."

She added that the latest generation of Brians recently pushed to make the farm a prime site for weddings during the summer and fall months – an endeavor that Marty says has worked out just fine.

"There are eight generations of family that have worked on this same land. This new generation, who are now starting families of their own, are adding tons of help and knowledge to our farm," she said.

"For this upcoming season, we pray that people will come out and continue their years of tradition, or start a new one."

The Broadview Christmas Tree Farm is located at 4380 N. Hickory Ridge Road in Highland Township. For more information on upcoming events, hours and tree pricing, go to www.broadviewtree-farm.com or call 248-887-8733.

Yankee Air Museum finally gets its piece of history

By Sue Mason

Staff Writer

There was formality in the signing of the documents, but once done, Ray Hunter, chairman of the Yankee Air Museum, was like a kid on Christmas Day. Holding the purchase agreement in the air, he said to the invited guests at the historic signing, "Let's go see what we bought."

Held in Hangar 1 at Willow Run Airport, the ceremony was the culmination of a dream hatched three years ago by Dennis Norton, a founder of the museum and president of the Michigan Aeronautics Foundation, and the start of phase two of Save the Bomber Plant — fundraising to transform it into the National Museum of Aviation and Technology at Historic Willow Run.

"Just in case you're wondering, the bomber plant is ours," Hunter said. "This is a new milestone for the Yankee Air Museum. The only thing left standing is the home of the new museum. I want to thank RACER, the Wayne County Airport Authority, Ypsilanti and Van Buren Township in helping us preserve our past and build our future."

Norton persisted in convincing Trustee Elliott Laws that RACER Trust should sell the museum a 175,000-square-foot portion of the former Willow Run Bomber Plant. Laws eventually agreed and the museum launched an \$8 million fundraising campaign that reached its goal with a last-minute



SUE MASON

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seum officials raised the

The signing came just

Ray Hunter, chair of the Yankee Air Museum Board of Directors (left), and Elliott Laws of RACER Trust sign the purchase agreements for the Willow Run Bomber Plant.

push over the top by the state of Michigan.

"It's a dream come true for me and for everyone in the room," Norton said. "It's been a fantastic volunteer effort and it has been a very difficult, tear your hair project."

State assistance

Among those who watched the ceremony was state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, who worked with his colleagues in the state Legislature to include a \$1.5 million line item in the state budget to support acquisition of the bomber plant. With three-quarters of the money raised by volunteers, it made it easy to "rook the senators into going for it," Colbeck said.

"This is an awesome day," said Colbeck, who presented an oversized check numbered 8685, representing the number of B-24 Liberator bomb-

ers that were built at the plant during World War II. "I've always been excited about what's

happening here."
Colbeck, along with
state Sen. John Pappageorge and state Rep. Earl
Poleski, helped get the
funding through both
houses.

"We made it clear this would benefit everybody in the state and fit in with the push for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education," Colbeck said. "This was the right thing to do. I'm keen on seeing the kids excited in a few years. It made it easy that it was a professional organization and we were doing it for the right reason."

An aeronautical engineer, Colbeck got another ride in the B-17 bomber as part of the inauguration of a new runway at Willow Run Airport. The Yankee Lady was the first plane to take off on

work can begin on enclosing what was the end of the assembly line for the bomber and transforming it into a museum.

Still Yankee

According to Kevin Walsh, the museum's executive director, the Yankee name will continue until the new museum opens. And the planes bearing Yankee names will retain those name.

"When it started in 1981, the Yankee Air Museum name fit the museum, it was reflective of what the museum was about and what it did," Walsh said. "The museum has outgrown its name. It is no longer reflective of what this historical and education institution really is.

"The museum has become so much more and the name no longer reflects what we're doing. We made sure the new name embodied what we're doing and that it refers to the bomber plant. The Yankee

Air Museum as it currently exists will continue for years until we move into the new building."

For phase two, the focus will be on fundraising and raising national awareness of the new museum. Story lines have been developed, focusing on Willow Run and the Arsenal of Democracy, aviation heritage and science and technology.

Plans are to move into the building in summer 2017. For now, the new name will be used for fundraising to create the museum's facilities and exhibits through the Save the Bomber Plant campaign.

Another \$5 million is needed and the story lines will be used as avenues of fundraising, according to Norton

cording to Norton.
"Save the Bomber
Plant phase two kicks off
today," Norton said. "The
next \$5 million starts
today."

smason@hometownlife.com 734-674-2332 Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

City of Novi Public Hearing Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Council Chambers Novi Civic Center 45175 Ten Mile Road to consider:

<u>CASE NO. PZ14-0045</u> 43979 DURSON STREET

The applicant is requesting variances from the CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 to allow construction of a new one story living area addition with a reduced side yard setback of 1 ft. (10 ft. required). The property is located south of 11 Mile Rd and east of Old Taft Rd

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 requires that a structure within an R-4 zoning district have a minimum side setback of 10 ft.

CASE NO. PZ14-0054 41200 BRIDGE STREET
The applicant is requesting an extension of the variance granted in ZBA case PZ12-035 and PZ13-0051 for one 24 square foot oversized real estate sign located at 41200 Bridge St. The property is located east of Meadowbrook Rd and south of Interstate 96, north of 11 Mile Rd. CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCE, Section 28-6 (4) states: "Sale, rental or lease sign which identifies the sale, rental, or lease of the non-residential property...be...not less than

ten (10) feet nor more than 16 square feet in area.

<u>CASE NO. PZ14-0055 45995 GALWAY DRIVE</u>

The applicant is requesting variances from the CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 to allow construction of a new addition reduced aggregate side yard setback of 34.5 ft. (40 ft. required). The property is located south of 9 Mile Rd and west of Taft Rd.

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 requires that a structure within an

one-half the distance between the principal building and adjacent street and not higher than

R-1 zoning district have a minimum aggregate side setback of 40 ft.

CASE NO. PZ14-0056 WEST OAKS I 43741 WEST OAKS DRIVE

The applicant is requesting variances from the CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Sections 2400 to allow construction of an 9,942 sq. ft. additional on the north and west sides of the existing center with a reduced north front yard setback of 95 ft. and a reduced west side yard setback of 67.73 ft., and Section 2507 to allow loading zone located on the side of the

property. The property is located west side Novi Rd, South of 12 Mile Rd. CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES; Section 2400 requires minimum front and side yards setback of 100'. Section 2507, within the RC District, requires the loading zone be located in the rear yard or interior side yards.

CASE NO. PZ14-0057 1296 EAST LAKE DRIVE
The applicant is requesting variances from the CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES,
Section 2400 to allow construction of a new single family home with attached deck on an
existing lakefront lot with a reduced south side yard setback of 4.92ft, a reduced north side
yard setback of 3.0 ft., a reduced aggregate side setback of 7.92 ft. and maximum lot coverage
of 33%. The property is located east of Novi Rd and south of 14 Mile Rd.

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2400 requires that a structure within an R-4 zoning district have a minimum side yard setback of 10 ft., a minimum aggregate side setback of 25 ft. and maximum 25% lot coverage.

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18.273 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 97-18 AS AMENDED, THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE AT ARTICLE 4, R-1 THROUGH R-4 ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS, SECTION 402, PRINCIPAL USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO SPECIAL CONDITIONS IN ORDER TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL HEIGHT FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing. The proposed text amendment is available for examination and review at the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Any written comments must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, December 10, 2014.

Novi Planning Commission Michael Lynch, Secretary

Publish November 20, 2014

O-0000221645 3x3

Publish: 11/20/2014

Novi wins snow plow competition

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

With winter's snow just beginning to fall, Novi residents can rest assured their streets are in good hands.

Snow plowers Matt Turco and Marc Tolsdorf were recently presented with the Metro Branch Snow Plow Roadeo Championship Trophy by the American Public Works Association's Michigan Chapter for winning a competition for snow plowing personnel.

"They take pride in what they do, so this is another great honor for our department," said Rob Hayes, Novi's director of public services, who oversees snow plowing on Novi city streets.

The competition involved an obstacle course designed to simulate actual snow plowing operations where drivers are timed and scored for accuracy, safety and speed. It also requires each team member to compete the snowplow course independently; the scores



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi DPW workers Matt Turco (left) and Marc Tolsdorf were part of the team that won the Snowplow Roadeo held September at The Palace of Auburn Hills. The team had to precisely maneuver snowplows through an obstacle course.

were combined for a team total. There's also an inspection and written

Turco and Tolsdorf, who are part of the DPS crews that snow plow 530 lane-miles within the city of Novi, competed for the first time in the event last year. Through practice and experience gained over a tough winter, they scored high in

all facets of the competi-

"We were really glad to win, but we were surprised a little bit. Everyone in the competition is good at what they do," Turco said.

The event took place in September in the parking lot of The Palace of Auburn Hills. The course had its tough parts, with a serpentine

or winding roadway with cones serving as parked cars. Both competitors said the neighborhoods in Novi with parked cars are great practice ground for this part of the competition.

"We are always good with the parked vehicles part of the test," both men said.

They will probably get a lot more practice in the coming months.

Last year, the Novi crews were tested with one of the worst winters in recent history hitting the state with cold temperatures and record snow fall. The Novi crews are prepared for this year and look to their hard-earned skills from past nights and holidays plowing snow.

Matt Wiktorowski, DPS field operations senior manager, said they are ready for the

"We've been gearing up over the last couple of months for whatever comes," he said.

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Several agencies across the state, including Wayne County, the city of Dearborn and Missaukee County, have lodged complaints with the state attorney general over possible price gouging by salt companies.

Salt prices jump for Wayne County; AG investigating

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Salt prices for Wayne County and other communities are seeing increases this year, something some officials are questioning

The Michigan Department of Transportation estimates average costs for agencies across the state maintaining roads shot up 46 percent from last year, going to an average of \$65.81 per ton. That's up from the average of \$44.99 per ton last year.

Cindy Dingell, the deputy chief operating officer at Wayne County, said the county is paying much more for salt through the Mi-DEAL consortium, which contains more than 1,000 governmental organizations across the state

The pre-fill amount was \$74.42 a ton from one salt contractor, North American Salt Co., and the seasonal fill price is from the same company is lower at \$58.95 a ton, something that took the county off-guard, she said. The county is also receiving some seasonal salt from Detroit Salt Co. at \$47.01 a ton, the same business Livonia uses through its consortium with several communities in the Detroit area.

"I would say the seasonal one we kind of expected that to jump," she said. "We were shocked at the early (fill price)."

The cost per ton with the seasonal rate from North American Salt last year was \$45.46 and Detroit Salt's price per ton last year was \$35.21 a ton.

Several agencies across the state, including Wayne County, the city of Dearborn and Missaukee County, have lodged complaints with the state attorney general over possible price gouging, spokeswoman Joy Yearout said. The complaints from Wayne County came from state Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, Yearout said.

"We have received several inquiries about salt prices from cities and we are reviewing the matter," she said. "We are looking into it right now." Wayne County filled up its domes with roughly 33,000 tons of salt earlier this year, Dingell said. Wayne County maintains all roads in the county's townships, as well as several mile and main roads, which include Inkster, Middlebelt, Merriman, Farmington, Haggerty, Seven Mile, Six Mile and others.

Consortium selects contract

While some of the salt Wayne County purchased through the consortium is from the Detroit Salt Co., the county has no control over the contracts that come through the consortium because of the way the contract through MiDEAL works, Dingell said.

"We don't select who gets awarded the contracts," she said. "We would love to get it (from Detroit Salt Co.)."

About 12,500 tons came from the Detroit Salt Co. for the county this year, compared to 87,000 from North American Salt, Dingell

said.

Because of the vast difference in prices this year, Dingell said the county leadership could recommend the next leadership team look at another option to purchase salt through for 2015.

"This is definitely something that has everybody's attention," she said.

MDOT and its contract agencies used more than 653,000 tons of salt across the state last year. Because of the unpredictable nature of the weather in the state, it's not easy to determine how much salt is needed for the upcoming winter, state officials say.

"It's impossible to predict how much salt we'll need to use for our highways this winter, but the higher prices make it more likely that salt will eat up a larger portion of our budget," state Transportation Director Kirk Steudle said in a press release. "If we use the same amount as last year, the total bill for salt could top \$40 million."

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Road Commission prepared for winter

The Road Commission for Oakland County is reviewing winter plowing and salting procedures with its truck drivers, preparing its trucks for winter and getting snow plows ready for winter weather.

This year, for the third year in a row, RCOC is hiring part-time, temporary snowplow/salt-truck drivers to augment its shrinking full-time staff. The agency plans to hire 40 temporary drivers.

"Our full-time staff numbers have been reduced so much in recent years that we simply didn't have enough full-time drivers to provide the level of service that the public deserves," RCOC Chairman Greg Jamian said. "Augmenting the full-time staff with temporary, part-time drivers is a cost-effective way to maintain that level of service."

Jamian noted the agency has also brought back an additional four retired plow drivers on a part-time basis. RCOC has reduced its staff about 35 percent overall since 2007 and nearly 40 percent within the Highway Maintenance Department as a result of the decline in state-collected road funding over the last decade.

While the part-time workers should alleviate some of the strain, RCOC continues to struggle with aging equipment.

RCOC FACT SHEET

Below are some facts and figures related to winter road maintenance in Oakland County.

» Salt trucks and snowplows typically travel more slowly than other traffic. RCOC urges drivers to use caution around the orange trucks and allow them enough room to safely do their jobs: "Don't crowd the plow."

» RCOC uses an average of 64,000 tons of salt per winter.

» RCOC salt trucks are kept at six garages located throughout the county. Salt is kept in salt storage facilities at each of those garages. Those facilities, currently nearly full, hold a total of about 37,500 tons of salt

» RCOC does not anticipate any problems getting salt this year, based on assurances from its salt vendor.

» In all, RCOC has jurisdiction over 2,700plus miles of county roads (including subdivision and gravel roads).

» RCOC also maintains 230 miles of mostly multi-lane state highways on behalf of the Michigan Department of Transportation. This includes I-75, I-696, I-96, M-59, Telegraph Road and Woodward Avenue, among others. These 230 miles of mainly freeway roads are the equivalent of 2,000-plus miles of one-lane pavement. » RCOC divides all the miles of paved primary roadway it maintains (including county roads and state highways) into 106 salt "routes." A single "salt run" for a truck typically uses about six tons of salt. » RCOC expects to spend approximately \$12 million on winter road maintenance this year alone, including approximately \$4.4 million to maintain the state high-

ways for MDOT.

» RCOC expects to spend more than \$3 million this winter on salt alone (cost per ton: \$49.90).

» RCOC standards call for approximately 400 pounds of salt to be applied to each two-lane mile of pavement.

» Most RCOC salt trucks are equipped with computerized salting mechanisms that automatically adjust the amount of salt spread based on the vehicle's speed. The salt spreaders also include "prewetting" devises that spray salt brine on the salt as it is being spread, so that it begins working more quickly. These technologies also allow RCOC to conserve salt.

» At temperatures below 20°F, salt begins to lose its effectiveness. At 10°F, it does virtually nothing.

» Salt is still the most cost-effective option for removing ice and maintaining the safest roads possible.

» RCOC keeps salt trucks ready to go 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

» RCOC crews maintain state and county roads in Oakland County based on a priority system. "Critical priority" roads are those with more than 10,000 vehicles per day per lane. "Priority 1" roads are those with 2,500 to 10,000 vehicles per day per lane, while priority 2 and 3 roads have less traffic.

» RCOC typically does not use sand on paved roads because it does not melt ice and can clog storm drains. Sand is used on gravel roads where typically there are no storm drains, and where salt is less effective.

» A snowstorm that shuts down Michigan's economy for one day has a \$251 million impact on the state's economy (Source: the nonprofit Salt Institute, Alexandria, Va.).

» A single RCOC snowplow/salt truck costs approximately \$220,000.

» RCOC has approximately 135 snowplows/salt trucks, though all trucks are never used at the same time (some are "spares," used when others break down). RCOC also employs 19 "road graders" that are used plow heavy snow.

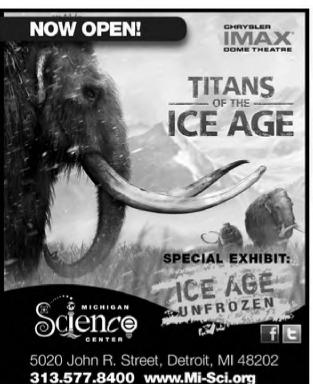
» Fully loaded, RCOC snowplows get about four miles per gallon of fuel. Empty, they get about six miles per gallon.

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The Charter Township of Northville Administrative Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 27 & Friday, November 28,2014 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. The offices will reopen at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, December 1, 2014.

POLICE & FIRE EMERGENCY SERVICES WILL REMAIN AVAILABLE

Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk

Publish: November 20, 2014

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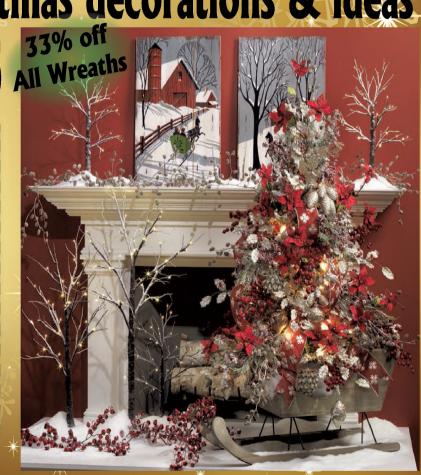


Over 10,000 Sq. Ft. of Christmas decorations & ideas

74-Marietta Pine incandescent lights Was \$225.00 Now

\$20 Tree Trim with purchase of any Staylit **Christmas Tree**

Expires 12-9-14





Come in and see us and get a free Ornament

your choice from preselected selection **Expires 12-9-14** Limit one per customer Coupon must be present

10% Off Department 56 Village accessories

Coupon must be present **Expires 12-9-14**

Set of Lights. **Buy any 3 sets of Christmas**

lights, get the 4th set for free. Coupon must be present

Expires 12-9-14

NOVI

Novi Choralaires holiday concerts

The Novi Choralaires holiday performances include 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at the Novi Senior Center Auditorium (25075 Meadowbrook Road); 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, at the Farming ton United Methodist Church (33112 Grand River Ave.); and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the Church of the Holy Family (24505 Meadow brook). Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors and children under age 12 and \$10 for groups of 10 or more.

Visit www.novichoralaires.org for more information.

Gorman's partners with Arc

It is estimated that nearly 4.6 million Americans have an intellectual or developmental disability. Gorman's Home Furnishings & Interior Design, through its Lifeline of Hope Campaign, will once again raise money to help make a difference in the lives of these local individuals and their families.

Customers can participate in this communitygiving program by visiting any of Gorman's four southeast Michigan showrooms in Novi, Troy, Southfield or Lakeside (Shelby Township), Nov. 26 through Jan. 19, and make a minimum donation of \$50 to The Arc of Oakland County. As a thank you, donors will receive \$200 off the price of any recliner from Gorman's 10 best brands, or \$400 off select, worldfamous Stressless® recliners.

The Arc of Oakland County Inc. is Michigan's largest community-based organization of and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It works through education, research and advocacy to

improve the quality of life for the people it

For more information about The Arc of Oakland County, please visit http://thearcoakland.org/

Light Up the Night in Novi

The annual Light Up the Night event will take place on the Novi Civic Center Campus on 6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5. Mayor Bob Gatt and a special visitor from the North Pole will light the holiday tree at 6:15 p.m.

Engaging activities will be held indoors and out and includes a craft show, kids' crafts, marshmallow roasting, hockey skills competition, petting farm, ice sculptures, and more. Live performances from various dancing groups featuring Mexico Lindo Ballet Folklorico, Polynesian Dancers of Michigan and other various dances will take place on the indoor stage. Attendees will enjoy free food samples from several local restaurants. A festive hay wagon will shuttle people to and from the Novi Public Library to enjoy two magic shows featuring Baffling Bill at 7 and 8 p.m. The ever-popular Dan Dan the Choo Choo Man will offer miniature train rides 6:30-9 p.m.

"The annual Light Up the Night event is an opportunity for community members to gather together and share in the festive seasonal spirit," said Jeff Muck, director, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department.

Light Up the Night is presented in partnership with Bright House Networks, ITC and many other Novi businesses.

For more information about Light Up the Night in Novi, visit www.cityofnovi.org or call the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at 248)-347-0400.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Give blood, platelets

The American Red Cross asks eligible donors to give something that means something this holiday season – a lifesaving blood donation.

Blood donations often decline this time of year when donors get busy with holiday festivities and travel. Severe winter weather and seasonal illnesses, like the flu, can also have a serious impact on blood donations, but the need for blood remains steady. On average, the Red Cross must collect 15,000 blood products every day for patients agrees the country.

tients across the country.
Prime Care of Novi
(39555 W. 10 Mile Road)
will be taking donations
from 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Dec. 14.
Eligible donors with all types are needed, especially those with O negative, A negative and B negative. To learn more about donating blood and to schedule an appointment, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit red-crossblood.org or call 800-733-2767.

ITC towers light up

ITC's Michigan operating entities ITCTransmission and Michigan Electric Transmission Company, LLC, which own and operate the high-voltage electricity grid in most of Michigan's Lower Peninsula, lit up nine of its 150-foot tall transmission towers with colorful holiday decorations.

The Novi tower is located at I-96 and Meadowbrook Road.

The transmission towers are decorated with approximately one-quarter mile of rope lights (16,000 bulbs). The displays include 10- by 15-foot Happy Holidays signs and brightly lit stars at the tower tops. The festive lights will shine every evening

from through Jan. 2.

"Our tower decorations have become a popular holiday tradition

tions have become a popular holiday tradition in Michigan," said Gregory Ioanidis, president of ITC Michigan. "We're happy to join the communities we serve all across the Lower Peninsula in celebrating this festive time of the year."

Avery Sign Company of Ferndale designed and maintains the decorations for ITC. Utility Lines Construction Services places them on the towers.

ITC also will feature lighted holiday signs on its headquarters building along M-5 in Novi.

Hunger-Free Holidays bazaar at Showplace

The Diamond Center at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi will usher in the holidays 6-10 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, with the inaugural Hunger-Free Holidays Bazaar benefiting Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan.

Patrons will enjoy a strolling dinner while shopping the market-place of items — abundant hostess and holiday gifts, furniture made from reclaimed materials and unique apparel and accessories, crafted by Michigan artisans.

Guests will enjoy Epoch Hospitality's Detroit BBQ and Fajita stations – offering braised brisket with crispy onions, pulled buffalo chicken sliders, fresh tortillas with chicken, sautéed peppers and onions with all the fixings. A cash bar will also be available.

Every dollar raised provides three meals, helping to ensure a hunger-free holidays season for southeast Michigan families. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. To purchase tickets, visit gcfb.org/holiday.

Novi Farmers Market continues through winter

The 2014 Novi Farmers Market was so successful — with hundreds of people enjoying fresh vegetables, flowers and other items throughout the summer and fall — that the market will continue through the winter with gourmet foods and artisan items indoors at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile Road.

The winter market will take place twice monthly from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the following Saturdays: Nov. 22; Dec. 6 and 20; Jan. 10 and 24; Feb. 14 and 21; March 7 and 21; and April 4 and 18.

The market will showcase an expanded selection of Michigan food products, as well as selected artisans with items to complement the home. Patrons will find foods, décor and gifts for holiday entertaining.

To stay in the know about the Novi Farmers Market, including recipes, vendor features and more, like it on Facebook. For more information, contact manager RoseAna Twitchell at 248-347-0400 or rtwitchell@cityofnovi.org.

Plan with Novi Older Adult Services

City of Novi Older Adult Services is planning a variety of fall events, providing fun opportunities for attendees to stay active and socialize with friends. Each below event includes a meal and entertainment.

» Thursday, Dec. 11— "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" holiday luncheon, noon to 2 p.m., Meadowbrook Activity Center

The events are \$7 for Novi residents and \$8.50 for non-residents. There is no cost for Veterans at the Home of the Free, Because of the Brave Brunch. Pre-registration is required and is available now at the Older Adult Services office (45175 10 Mile Road) and the Meadowbrook Activity Center (25075 Meadowbrook Road)

owbrook Road).

To learn about the above programs or additional older adult social and educational programs, call 248-347-0414 or visit

Coffee with the Superintendent

www.cityofnovi.org.

Join Novi Schools Superintendent Steve Matthews for Coffee with the Superintendent at the Novi Public Library in the Board Room 202 on: Dec. 15 (6:30 p.m.); Dec. 17 (10:15 a.m.); Jan. 12 (6:30 p.m.); Jan. 14 (10:15 a.m.); Feb. 9 (6:30 p.m.); Feb. 11 (10:15 a.m.); March 9 (6:30 p.m.); March 11 (10:15 a.m.); April 13 (6:30 p.m.); April 15 (10:15 a.m.); May 11 (6:30 p.m.); and May 13 (10:15 a.m.)

Art classes for older adults

City of Novi Older
Adult Services invites
those ages 50 and above
to socialize, relieve
stress and lift moods by
taking part in the upcoming Color Your World
art class series. The
classes are led by volunteer Novi High School art
students who want to
share their love for art.
No previous experience
is necessary.

Pre-registration is required and can be completed online at www.cityofnovi.org, at the Novi Civic Center (45175 10 Mile) or Meadowbrook Activity Center (25075 Meadowbrook Road).

Classes are held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday at the Meadowbrook Activity Center. There is no cost to register, but a \$3 supply fee will be due to the instructors at each class. The schedule includes:

» Saturday, Dec. 13: oil

See BRIEFS, Page A11





Why wait for the holidays to get together with family and friends?

At Waltonwood you'll have friends nearby all year round!

Independent Living • Assisted Living • Memory Care

As your family gathers this holiday season, you may notice changes in your aging loved ones. If you're concerned about their ability to live alone, or if they could benefit from increased social opportunities, we encourage you to take advantage of this time and visit a Waltonwood near you.



Personal and group tours are available throughout the Thanksgiving weekend, Friday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Move in by December 31, 2014, and lock your rental rate through 2015.

Schedule a personal tour at a Waltonwood community near you today.

Waltonwood at Carriage Park (734) 386-0811

2000 N Canton Center Rd. Canton Waltonwood at Cherry Hill (734) 335-1554

42600 Cherry Hill Canton Waltonwood at Royal Oak (248) 397-5308

3450 West Thirteen Mile Road Royal Oak Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks (248) 468-4903

27495 Huron Circle Novi





BRIEFS

Continued from Page A10

pastels; learn colorblending techniques.

For more information, call 248-347-0414.

Clothing recycling program

For Walled Lake residents, recycling unwanted clothing is now as easy as a walk to the curb with the free curbside collection program offered by Simple Recy-

The program is simple and convenient since pickup occurs on the same day as recycling service, collection bags are provided and replacement bags are left each time full bags are set out for curbside pick-

While the focus is on recycling clothing, Simple Recycling will also accept shoes, accessories, toys, books and small home goods in working condition such as kitchen ware and

tools. Residents who live in communities not serviced by the Simple Recycling program are encouraged to donate unwanted clothing to their favorite charity or thrift shop. A list of local organizations, including those that offer pickup, is available on the RRRA-SOC website.

Students display work at Novi Civic Center

The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department will host an art exhibit featuring the students of Fran Seikaly in the Novi Civic Center Atrium Gallery through Tuesday, Dec. 2. The gallery is located at 45175

Siekaly has taught in the community for more than 40 years with focus on drawing, pastels, color pencil and oil painting. More than 30 artists will showcase their pieces,

ranging from oil and pastel to color pencil and graphite.

Some artwork is available for purchase. If interested or for more information, please contact the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at 248-347-0400.

To learn more about art initiatives in Novi, including outdoor displays, classes and theater, visit www.cityofnovi.org.

NORTHVILLE

Children's Christmas Workshop

The Northville Historical Society's 36th annual Children's Christmas Workshop will take place Saturday, Dec. 6, in the New School Church at Mill Race Village.

Children in grades first through sixth are invited to participate in the opportunity to make seven old-fashioned, hand-made gifts for the special people on their Christmas list. The intent of the workshop is to surprise family members with the gifts that the children have worked on and made themselves.

There will be a morning session from 10 a.m. to noon and an afternoon session 1-3 p.m., accommodating 150 children total. Enrollment is \$20 per child, payable by cash or check made out to the Northville Historical Society.

For more information, contact the Stockhausens at 248-349-2833.

Holiday Lighted Parade

Entries are now being accepted by the Northville Chamber of Commerce for the annual Northville Holiday Lighted Parade which will take place Friday, Nov. 21. The 2014 parade theme is "All I Want for Christmas is ..." and entries are invited to follow the theme in order to compete in three award categories. Bands, floats, dancers and entertainers are welcome to perform in the evening parade that kicks off the holiday season in downtown Northville.

There is now charge to participate in the parade, but an application form is required. Applications are available on the Chamber website at www.northville.org or by calling 248-349-7640.

The parade, sponsored by Tom Holzer Ford, begins at 6:30 p.m. and travels through the streets of downtown Northville. Following the parade, a community sing-a-long and tree lighting ceremony will be held. Local churches will provide free refreshments before and after the parade in Town Square.

Blues @ The Elks

Plymouth-Ann Arbor Elks Lodge No. 325 in Plymouth will present Blues @ The Elks the second Tuesday of each month in partnership with the Detroit Blues Society and Jazz @ The Elks the last Tuesday of each month. The Lodge is located at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, in Plymouth Township. The events run 7-10 p.m.

For more information call 734-453-1780 or visit www.plymouthelks 1780.com.

Heise invites residents to **November coffee** hours

State Rep. Kurt Heise is hosting coffee hours to give residents a convenient opportunity to meet with him locally and discuss state or local issues 7:30-9 a.m. Friday, Nov. 21, at Panera Bread, 400 S. Main Street, Plymouth. No appointment

is necessary. Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office. Residents are invited to call 855-REP-KURT or email kurtheise @house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.



Flu Season is here



Let us help you and your family stay healthy.

Flu season is as predictable as the falling leaves and dropping temperatures. St. Mary Mercy Medical Group is ready to help you make it through as healthy as possible.

Don't wait.

Start by getting your flu shot. And if you feel sick, St. Mary Mercy Medical Group not only offers quick treatment of seasonal flu, we also treat sore throats, ear infections, fractures and complex medical conditions. Sick today, seen today and on the road to good health.

Livonia 734-655-8200 • Farmington Hills 734-655-8220 • Livonia Campus 734-655-1618



Welcome Dr. Irby-Johnson

The St. Mary Mercy Medical Group would like to extend a warm welcome to NiJuanna Irby-Johnson, MD. She joins our medical group of over 25 primary care and specialty physicians as an internal medicine physician. She has more than 10 years of experience in adult primary care, preventative care and management of chronic disease.

Dr. Irby-Johnson received her medical degree from Wayne State University School of Medicine and is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

stmarymercy.org/smmmg

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Choose from Salted

Made from cream

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treated with antibiotics or

TASTE THE DIFFERENCE!

Choose from Apple, Cherry,

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and Unsalted.



1 lb Sticks

SAVE 40%

Tree of Life Organic Broths Choose from Beef, Vegetable, Chicken, and Low-Sodium Chicken broths. 32 oz ₩ Fat-free FOR \$8 * No MSG # 100% Natural * No preservatives

Vegetarian Feast **100% VEGAN** One Tofurky® Roast (made with organic non-gmo soybeans), Savory Gravy, Wild Rice, Whole Wheat Bread Crumb Stuffing. Tofurky® Jurky Wishstix, &



Chicker

Vegan Fudge Brownie



Organic Ice Cream

BETTER

Choose from Blackber rv, Chocolate Chocolate Chip, Cookies & Cream, Mint Chocolate Chip. Peaches & Cream. Strawberry, and Vanilla Bean 48 oz Carton





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Oyster Bay Chardonnay, Merlot, and Sauvignon Blanc Imported from

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BETTER

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Southgate*† Shelby Township Sterling Heights[†]

Plymouth[†]

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Area veteran thanks Schoolcraft College for his education

By Julie Brown Staff Writer

Lawrence Smith of Canton had his opportunity Veterans Day, Nov. 11, to say "thank you" as the expanded Veterans Resource Center was dedicated at Schoolcraft College

Smith is a 22-year U.S. Army veteran and Detroit police officer. He graduated from Schoolcraft with honors in 2012 with an associate's degree and is finishing his bachelor's degree in public safety administration with honors at Eastern Michigan University.

"Pam Paxton-Keehner, my counselor, was a great tool in getting me started," said Smith, 51, who'll graduate from EMU in December. "I was scared to go back to school. It was a great learning experience."

Smith urged other

veterans to seek out Schoolcraft staffers' expertise and assistance. "They will help you through this process," he

Schoolcraft President Conway Jeffress told the audience that space was a challenge in constructing the facility in the McDowell Center on the Livonia campus. Jeffress noted the Star Trek reference of "space, the final frontier," adding, "This is an expandable space.'

Jeffress noted not all veterans are aware of their benefits and that paperwork can be a challenge. "This is to help veterans get all that paperwork done," he said. Schoolcraft has some 220 veterans en-

Jim Fausone, a college board member and attorney, also spoke at the ceremony. His wife, Carol Ann, is the first

woman to become a brigadier general in the Michigan National Guard and was also present.

"This is a rarity," Jim Fausone said. "I get to give the speech," he said, adding his wife would tell him later how he did.

Fausone noted the U.S. has some 22 million living veterans, including some 2.4 million who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. He urged the audience to thank veterans for freedom to attend school, to assemble and to worship without fear.

Fausone also referenced the recent general election in the U.S. "We do it without violence," he said of voting. "We do it by casting our ballots."

Fausone urged veterans to use the discipline and skills acquired in the service to reach civilian goals. "We know you're not asking for charity," he said of benefits



Schoolcraft graduate Lawrence Smith of Canton visits with Pam Paxton-Keehner, who coordinates the Veterans Resource Center at Schoolcraft. Smith urged other military veterans to return to school as he did. He's finishing his bachelor's degree at Eastern Michigan

Fausone also lauded the family members of servicemen and women. As the ceremony ended, the doorway area upstairs in the McDowell Center had a ceremonial ribbon cutting, followed by informal tours. The center features several computers in the study

area, as well as resources for veterans and an area to socialize and

jcbrown@hometownlife.com



LIEBERMAN PHOTOGRAPHY, INC

Shown (from left) are event co-chairs Nathan Leader and Amy Goodman; IDF soldier Capt. Ilai; event honorees Teri and Mark Goodman; FIDF IMPACT! Scholarship graduate Moshe; Lt. T.; and event co-chairs Regan and Jeff Goodman.

Annual dinner raises \$1M to support Israeli soldiers

Friends of the Israel Defense Forces Michigan Chapter's annual Gala Dinner Nov. 4 raised more than \$1 million for well-being programs for the brave men and women of the IDF. More than 850 FIDF supporters from across the state gathered at Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Walled Lake to honor Enid and Gary Goodman and Teri and Mark Goodman.

Mark and Gary have traveled to Israel with

FIDF missions and have seen first-hand how Israeli soldiers work tirelessly to protect the Jewish homeland and its people. They take great pride in being Jewish and supporting the local Jewish community, as well as the state of Israel.

"Our recognition tonight is not a sign that our work is done," Mark Goodman said. "On the contrary, it motivates us to keep reaching new heights on behalf of Israel's soldiers."

Speakers included combat soldier in reserve Moshe, wounded Paratrooper Capt. Ilai and 1st Lt. T., who lost his twin brother, 2nd Lt. Hadar Z'L, during Operation Protective Edge

Moshe served in the IDF's Egoz Reconnaissance Unit, which specializes in anti-guerrilla warfare and is credited with preventing more terrorist acts than any other IDF unit. He was trained as a sniper and ultimately lost some of his hearing because of his role. Even though Moshe was designated a disabled veteran, he continued to serve as a combat soldier. He commanded a team which took part in high-risk missions in Gaza, the West Bank and Lebanon. Through FIDF's IM-PACT! Scholarship Program, he received a college scholarship and volunteered at Tlalim, where he tutored severely disabled children. In July, he was deployed to Gaza and fought in Shuja'iyya, where his unit lost three soldiers.

Ilai was shot in the leg while in battle with Hamas during Operation Protective Edge. His unit, along with Special Forces and other IDF units, were awaiting orders to destroy every Hamas tunnel excavated under Israeli borders. During his four days in the hospital, Ilai received thousands of visitors; some he knew, and many he didn't. This month, he will be returning as captain of the Reconnaissance Force of the Paratroopers brigade to command over 130 motivated young men.

One of the most memorable moments of the night was hearing the story of fallen IDF soldier 2nd Lt. Hadar Z'L, from his twin brother, 1st Lt. T. The audience was profoundly touched by T.'s bravery in facing the loss of his brother.

CANTON CINEMA

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\$5.50 BARGAIN TWILIGHT DAILY 4:00-6:0 TITLES & TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY

1:00, 11:15, 12:00, 12:15, 1:45, 2:00

3:00, 3:15, 4:30, 4:45, 6:20, 6:45, 7:15 7:30, 9:15, 9:30, 10:00, 10:15

D-BOX LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE

11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00 **Coumb and Dumber to** (PG-13)

1:50, 2:20, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55 FRI/SAT LS 12:00 BIG HERO 6 (PG) 11:10, 1:35, 4:10, 6:35, 9:00 INTERSTELLAR (PG-13)

MON 11:05, 2:35, 9:35

PART 1 (PG-13)



- Never miss another moment because you simply couldn't hear.
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RELIGION CALENDAR

Send calendar information to cstone@hometownlife.com by noon Monday to be included in Thursday's publication. The calendar is also available online at www.hometownlife.com

Brightmoor Christian Church

Location: M-5 and 13 Mile,

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. Pre-register.

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 Espino-

za, 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 crosspointemeadows.org.

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

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

Destiny Worship Center

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

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

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia.

Web: www.emmanuel-livonia.org

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

a.m. and 11 a.m.

Youth group: 7 p.m. Wednesdays

Women's Coffee Break Bible Study: 10-11:30 a.m. Mondays; Christiainity and World Religions: Wrestling with Questions People Ask by Adam Hamilton

The Andy Griffith Bible Study: 11 a.m. Sundays; adult **Bible study**

Special Needs Ministry: Contact Judy Cook, 248-442-

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

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

of Northville

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

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

First Church of the Nazarene

Location: 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile.

Contact: 248-348-7600 or visit dfcnazarene.org.

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

Thursday: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group and Bible

Tuesday: 9:25 a.m. Women of the Word Bible Study -- the

Books of Ruth and Esther Wednesday: 5:30 p.m. family dinner; 6:30 p.m. Caravan Scouting program for ages 4 through fourth grade; Club 56 for fifth and sixth graders; Surge Youth Group, Bible Study with Pastor

Troy Ogle; and Little Critters for

preschool age. **Christmas Around the World** Concert: Sunday, Nov. 30. There will be an outdoor live nativity from 4:30-6 p.m., followed by a concert with carols featuring the Novi Singers. There will be a cookie and hot cocoa reception immediately following the concert. This is open to the public and it is free.

First Presbyterian **Church of Northville**

Location: 200 F. 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.

Sunday Worship (September-May): 9:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School (September-May): 9:15 a.m. Nursery 12th

grade; 11 a.m. Nursery-sixth

Good Shepherd **Lutheran Church**

grade.

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.

Holy Cross Episcopal Church

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

Sunday Worship: 7:45 and 10

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

Hope Lutheran Church

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

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,

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

Sunday School/Small Groups for all ages: 9:45 a.m. Worship Services: 11 a.m.

Bible Study/Prayer: Wednes-

Meadowbrook Congregational Church

day 7 p.m.

Nine Mile.

Location: 21355 Meadowbrook Road between Eight Mile and

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

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. **Church School and Nursery** Care: provided during worship. Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m.

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.

Brain games



Seniors take part in the Nov. 12 Brain Games session at the Northville Community Center.



Brenda Roberts works on a Soduku game during a Nov. 12 Brain Games gathering at the Northville Community Center. The morning of activities, hosted by the Wayne State Institute of Gerontology, gave seniors information on how they could keep their brains sharp via puzzles, name games and proper nutrition.

Passages

flow to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 · fax 313-496-4968 · www.mideathnotices.com

Deadlines: Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. for Thursday papers Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

ALLEN, HAZEL

Of Northville. June 27, 1926 -November 13, 2014. Services entrusted to L.J. Griffin Funeral Northrop-Sassaman

CORNISH,

CHARLES Ŕ. Age 78 of Durand, passed away at his residence on Sunday, November 16, 2014. Cremation has taken place and there will be no services at this time. Charles was orn June 30, 1936 in Wayne County, the son of Charles Howard and Anna Marie (Lundin) Cornish. He married Barbara Travis in Detroit on September 1956 and together raised 3 children. Prior to his retirement in 1989, Mr. Cornish was a Fireman on the Detroit Fire Department, while assigned to the Fireboat he received the Medal of Valor from the department. Charles is survived by his wife of 58 years, Barbara; three children: Judith Tisher of South Lyon, Steven (Jeanine) Cornish of Durand, Beverly (Frank) Laway of Cheboygan; eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by both parents and his two sisters: Katherine Secord and Elaine King. Memorial contributions given in Mr. Cornish's name are suggested to the Detroit Fireman's Fund. Online condolences may be sent to his



GOLDBERG, SHEPARD C.

Beloved husband of Carly Goldberg and Haley

Described brother of Goldberg. Devoted brother of Marsha (David Hoof) Goldberg. Also survived by many other loving family members and friends. SERVICES WERE HELD AT THE DORFMAN FARMINGTON CHAPEL. HILLS, (248) 406-6000, or visit www.thedorfmanchapel.com.



HOLMAN, **HENRY FRANCIS** Of Milford, passed away in the

care of his family on November 15, 2014 at the age of 67. Henry was preceded in death by Nancy, his beloved wife, his parents and his brother Tom Holman. In addition to his sons, John (Chris) Douglas Holman, (Alice) Holman, George Holman, and Matthew Holman, Henry is survived by his grandchildren Jessica, Dakota, Jon, Tracie, and Rebecca; brothers Edward (Twyla) Holman, Russell Holman. Michael (Diane) Jack (friend Leslie) Holman, and Holman, Frederick (Jennifer) Holman; sister-in-law Patricia Holman, as well as many nieces, nephews and extended family. Funeral Service will be held from Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty St., Milford on Wednesday, November 19 at 11 a.m. with gathering to begin one hour prior. Burial and Navy Honors will follow at Milford Memorial Cemetery. Friends may visit Tuesday 2 - 9 p.m. Memorial encouraged to: Wounded Warriors Project or American Cancer Society. For information, further 248.684.6645 or visit

LynchFuneralDirectors.com LYNCH & SONS **Funeral Directors**





KONZ, VIRGINIA LOUISE South Lyon, MI Age 87, passed away on Monday, November 10, 2014 at Arbor Hospice. She was born October 13, 1927 in Toledo, Ohio the daughter of George and Vida (Aufderheide) Mentzer. She was preceded in death by her parents and sisters Kathryn Bruner and Laura Ramsdell and brother-in-law Floyd Ramsdell. She is survived by her brother Robert, children Jeffrey (Lois), Kristine Konz, Gordon (Kasey) and Thomas (Jamie); eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren. The family will receive friends at Phillips Funeral Home 122 W. Lake St. (10 Mile), South Lyon, MI on Saturday November 22, from 9:30-11:30 am. Funeral service will be 1:30 pm Saturday November 22 at Toledo Memorial Park, 6382 Monroe Street, Sylvania, Memorial contributions may be made to Active Faith Community Services, South Lyon, MI or Arbor Hospice, Ann

PATTERSON HELENA S.

Arbor, MI

December 7, 1921- November 12, 2014. L.J. Griffin Funeral Home-Northup Sassaman Chapel

SAJA, EDWARD

92, of Northville, passed away November 15, 2014. Beloved husband of Emily. Devoted father of Sharon (Jean Captain) Manns, Connie Lane, Ron (John Herrera) Saja, and Allan (Ron Harris) Saja. Dear brother of Gene (Beverly) Saja, Helen Kolod, and Florence (Roy) Kimball. Cherished grandfather of Mark Manns, Jennifer Bradwin, and Jeff Lane; greatgrandfather of James Bradwin. Edward was interred at St. Hedwig Cemetery of Dearborn Heights. heeney-sundquist.com HEENEY-SUNDQUIST

SCHARF, WILLIAM Age 66, passed away on November 17, 2014. www.phillipsfuneral.com

SIMON, RAYMOND A. September 22, 1943 -November 16, 2014 L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, Northrop-Sassaman Chapel

email: oeobits@hometownlife.com



View Online

www.hometownlife.com

STEINBACH, SANDRA "SANDEE" LEE

Of Milford, passed away in the care of her family on November 12, 2014 at the age of 65. In addition to Dan, her beloved husband of 47 years, Sandee is survived by her daughter, Kim (Steve) Freiberg and son, Dan (Kim) Steinbach; grandchildren Timothy, Allison, Cassandra and Kaitlyn: brothers Robert (Judy) Fulkerson and Harry (Karen) Fulkerson; and nieces Brenda, Erica and Cheryl. Services will be held privately. Memorial donations encouraged to the American Cancer Society. For further information, phone Lynch & Sons, Milford at 248-684-6645

LynchFuneralDirectors.com LYNCH & SONS **Funeral Directors**

WALTON, DONALD EDWARD Age 88 of Milford, formerly of

Ferndale, passed away on Sunday, November 16th, 2014. He was preceded in death by his wife, Anita Walton in 2012 and is survived by his children, Gary (Suzie) Walton, Lori (Joe) Neighbors, Bruce Walton; grandchildren. Danielle (Brian) Bobbitt. Nickole (Ryan) Anderson, Gary Jr. (Michelle), Tighe, Kyle (Brittaney), Blair, Kelsey (Tony) Rubin; eight great-grandchildren, extended family and dear friends. Visitation will be held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty St., Milford on Wednesday, November 19th from 4-8 p.m. A Funeral Mass from St. Mary's Catholic Church, 1955 E. Commerce Rd, Thursday, November 20, 2014 at 11 a.m. with gathering beginning at 10:30 a.m. Msgr. John Budde to officiate. Burial Milford Memorial Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made in his name to the Milford Senior Center. For further information phone 248-684-6645 or visit

LynchFuneralDirectors.com LYNCH & SONS **Funeral Directors**

WEIMAR, SHIRLEY H January 22, 1918 - November 14, 2014. L. J. Griffin Funeral Home. Northrop-Sassaman Chapel

Honor the Memory and Celebrate the Life of passed loved ones by placing a Special Holiday Tribute. The Observer and Eccentric/Hometown Weekly Newspapers will be publishing a Special Tribute during the holidays. Here is the perfect opportunity to share your thoughts of loved ones who hold a special place in your hearts.



Japanese businesses pledge more than \$3M to DIA

The Japan Business Society of Detroit announced that its members have pledged more than \$3 million for the Detroit Institute of Arts' Grand Bargain and Japanese Gallery at the museum.

Hikaru Sugi, JBSD president, and Takashi Omitsu, JBSD executive adviser, led the fundraising efforts to add to the \$1 million pledge made in August by Toyota Motor North America, JBSD's largest member.

Twenty-one companies committed to making a contribution, resulting in \$2,167,000 in pledges and gifts. The majority of the money, 75 percent, will be

used for the DIA's commitment to the Grand Bargain, while the other 25 percent will go toward reinstalling the museum's Japanese collection in a new gallery.

The contributing 21

companies include: DEN-SO International America, Inc.; AISIN group; Toyoda Gosei North America Corp.; Toyota Tsusho America Inc.; Hino Motors USA group; JTEKT North America Corp.; Toyota Boshoku America, Inc.; Akebono Brake Corp.; Yazaki North America, Inc.; American Mitsuba Corp.; Mitsubishi Electric Automotive America, Inc.;

N.S. International, Ltd.; Panasonic Automotive Systems Co. of America; Tram Inc.; Hirotec America, Inc.; Hitachi Metals America, Ltd.; Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A), Inc.; Sumitomo Corp. of America; Isuzu Manufacturing Services of America, Inc.; Hitachi Automotive Systems Americas, Inc.; and Havashi Telempu North America Corp.

Additional commitments from 13 individuals and 14 other companies totaled more than \$100,000, which will be donated to the DIA through the JBSD Foundation, a philanthropic arm of JBSD, to be used

for the Japanese gallery. "Judge Rhodes" very

well reasoned and historic opinion accepting the city of Detroit's Plan of Adjustment and authorizing Detroit to exit from the bankruptcy process fully embraced the Grand Bargain initiative as a key element of his ruling," said Eugene A. Gargaro Jr., chairman of the Board of Directors of the DIA. "All donors to the **Grand Bargain success** story, including the Japan Business Society of Detroit, should applaud Judge Rhodes decision and recognize that through their generous financial support, Detroit

will rise again, pensioners will have a reliable funding source and the future of the Detroit Institute of Arts will be secure for generations to come."

The JBSD, which started in 1973 and celebrated its 40th anniversary last year, has been focusing on contributing to the local community. Also, the JBSD Foundation, established in 1991 under U.S. code 501(c)3 as a philanthropic arm of the JBSD, has been supporting a scholarship program for overseas study for American students and activities of nonprofit organizations

located in more than 40 cities in Michigan through annual donations

"The DIA is a significant cultural icon in metro Detroit and in the state of Michigan and we are pleased to be able to support their activities," Sugi said. "We look forward to working with the DIA on the Japan Gallery, so we can continue strengthening the friendship and understanding between the U.S. and Japan."

JBSD Foundation plans continuous support to the DIA by soliciting donations from corporate and individual members for Japan Gallery.

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Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

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s Church: 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. MS & HS Youth: 11:00 a.m.

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Milford United

Methodist Church 1200 Atlantic St. Milford, MI 48381 Sunday Worship: 8:30 am, 10:30 am, 6:00 pm Children's Church: 10:30 am Groups for Children, Youth and Adults

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(248) 685-3560 www.opcmilford.org The Rock (Middle School) Wednesdays 6:30-8 pm, Sundays 9:15 am

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—Churchof 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

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FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

44400 W. 10 Mile., Novi, 248-349-2345 1/2 mile west of Novi Rd. www.faithcommunity-novi.org NORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10 AM "Children, Youth and Adult Ministries"

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Rev. Michael Horlocker, Pasto www.fpcsouthlyon.org

The Church of Christ

9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship Wednesday Midweek Ministries 7 p.m Troy Singleton, Minister

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first united 640 S. Lafayette methodisi church south lyon, mi (248) 437-0760 Worship: 8:15 am, 10:45 am, 11 am & 6:30 pm Sunday School: 9:40 am

Rev. Sondra Willobee, Lead Pasto. southlyonfirstumc.org

Lutheran Church, ÉLCA 59255 10 Mile Rd. South Lyon MI 48178 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM Education Hour 10:15 AM Rev. Bart Muller, Pastor

Shepherd's Way

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Childrens Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

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The first floor lounge area of Novi's Hotel Baronette.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Baronette completes \$1.5M hotel renovation

The Baronette Renaissance Hotel in Novi has completed a \$1.5 million renovation of its location that includes an upgrade in technology, business center banquet facility and outdoor patio, which can now comfortably accommodate 250 people. The 155-room, three-star hotel and banquet facility is located on the southeast corner of 12 Mile and Novi roads near Twelve Oaks Mall.

"This is a renovation and construction we've been looking forward to for a while," said Sora Chan, director of sales. "With these upgrades, we get the opportunity to offer our clients and customers the very best experience possible, whether they be overnight guests, business guests or party guests. All can enjoy the enhancements we've made

The long-planned construction included a complete renovation of



JOHN HEIDER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sora Chan, director of sales, steps out of the newly-designed work space on the first floor. The hotel has recently completed a redesign, including many new works of art and graphics on the walls.

business meeting spaces, consisting of five breakout rooms that can comfortably accommodate small- to mid-sized meetings. Each contains upgraded technology:

» 80-inch or 70-inch LED displays

» Built-in conference line with mics and speakers installed into walls

» HDMI and VGA/ Audio connections » Hardwired and wire-

less internet connections In addition, the renovation redesigned the Baronette's Grand Oak Ballroom, the 300-capacity on-site banquet facility popular with weddings and corporate parties. The hotel is currently scheduling parties for the holidays and already has several on the books, including 5-Hour Energy, which annually schedules its holiday parties with the hotel.

"Living Essentials, 5-Hour Energy has chosen The Baronette Renaissance Hotel several times over the past five years because it is a great environment, has great accommodations, great food and a great staff for our holiday event," said Elizabeth Carter, controller for Living Essentials, 5-Hour Energy. "We look forward to each year that we have our event

Survey finds health system challenges and opportunities

An aging workforce and a lack of experienced job applicants are two significant employment challenges area health systems face in the coming years, according to a regional survey of six leading health systems commissioned by Oakland Coun-

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson announced the release of the survey the Skills Needs Assessment Project – to more than 400 health care and life science professionals, educators, physicians and government officials attending IN-NO-VENTION 2014 – a Medical Main Street Conference Oct. 22 at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

We are focusing on the health system needs

because they are the fastest growing and the largest of our employment sectors in Oakland County," Patterson said. "This professional review of the health systems' future needs will be an indispensable aid to the health community as it adjusts to an aging workforce.'

The Skills Needs Assessment Project, a year-long survey of health systems in southeast Michigan, presents important information about job prospects in the health care industry for employers, educators and students. SNAP began in 2009 with a study of skills and knowledge required for jobs in the Emerging Sectors, which identifies the top growth sectors in the region such as medical, communica-

tions, information technology and advanced materials. A second study was completed in 2013 on advanced manufacturing. The complete report is available online at www.AdvantageOakland.com.

"It's important to not simply talk about the need but to roll up your sleeves and do the difficult work," Deputy County Executive Matthew Gibb said. "Oakland County doesn't just talk about it. We develop the tools to fix it."

The 32-page report provided an in-depth look at employment within area health systems and identified challenges and potential solutions. It also identified skills and education job seekers need to qualify for a host of health care opportunities.



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OPINION

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

OUR VIEW

Family caregivers are our unsung heroes

It is appropriate that National Family Caregivers Month shares November with the traditional Thanksgiving holiday. While being thankful for all that we have, this month is a special time to recognize, praise and give thanks to the 42 million Americans — 2.1 million in Michigan — who help care for aging parents, spouses and other loved ones so they can remain at home rather than in often-costly institutions.

Consider that in Michigan family caregivers provide 1.4 billion hours of unpaid care each year. That care, which amounts to about \$16 billion annually, includes caring for loved ones in their homes. The so-called sandwich generation — men and women who are still raising their children or financially supporting grown children, while caring for aged parents – is living a time-consuming, stressful and financially straining reality.

The important role family caregivers provide

cannot be dismissed or taken lightly. Indeed, in American society, these caregivers are our unsung heroes.

Often faced with no other choice, a woman (typically) - if not caring for a loved one around the clock - will spend an average 20 hours per week providing assistance, usually to at least one or more aging parents, in their home.

And many caregivers provide this assistance while maintaining careers or, in many cases, giving up careers, to ensure quality care, further put-ting a hefty strain on families' financial health.

According to AARP, care-giving as the norm in family dynamics will only continue, particularly as America's largest population, the Baby Boomers — those in the post World War II generation head into deep old age.

Yet, the Baby Boomer generation is also the one hardest hit by job loss and salary reduction in the country's — especially Michigan's — latest economic recession. Many in this generation are still putting their children through college, while their parents have reached the point in their lives at which they need help and more intensive care.

AARP Michigan, which recognizes the changing dynamics of families, caregivers and sick or elderly parents, conducted a survey this summer of voters 50 and older. The results are not that surprising.

The survey showed that four of every five Michiganders want to live independently in their own homes as they age. Results also showed that it is family members who step up to provide assistance to maintain a loved one's independence. Assistance includes bathing, dressing, meal preparation, managing finances, transportation and grocery shopping.

While the survey also showed that 80 percent of those polled either have been caregivers in the past, are currently or expect to take on the role in the future, 73 percent also wanted political candidates to address care-giving issues.

Understanding the difficulties faced by family caregivers, AARP Michigan wants a common sense solution. It is called the Caregiver, Advise, - also known as CARE Kecora, Enable Act be addressed in the state Legislature's new session beginning in January. The bill offers three important provisions:

» That the name of the family caregiver is recorded when a loved one is admitted into a hospi-

» That the family caregiver is notified if the loved one is to be discharged to another facility or

» That the facility must provide an explanation and in-person instruction of the medical tasks the family caregiver must perform at home

AARP Michigan also wants nurses to be given more authority to heal and to ensure that community resources are available, including home care and adult day care. Equally important is the need for caregivers to receive training, help at home and workplace protections, AARP Michigan said.

The CARE bill is a step in the right direction that state lawmakers must embrace in the new legislative season. Providing care is not an easy task and caregivers must be supported with resources and easier access to provide the needed tasks required today.

No one really wants to recognize that their lifetimes are growing short. But elderly family members and even those headed in that direction must provide direction and information to potential caregivers about what they want for their lives,

including designating a patient advocate While training for caregivers is essential, it is equally important that caregivers are armed with the legal permission to provide care and to make decisions, including financial. Otherwise, medical personnel who stand outside the family circle will make those decisions, often not what the patient or caregiver wants, but want is expedient and cost-effective for the medical industry.

Make no mistake, the stress and strain for family caregivers will continue, particularly as the large Baby Boomer generation grows older. Caregivers are our unsung heroes for what they do, not only in a practical sense, but for the love and genuine effort they make to maintain the dignity and quality of the lives of their aging family members.

While acknowledging the Thanksgiving holiday next week, let's remember there is a special group among us who have — whether by necessity or desire — extended their strengths, their days and their own physical, emotional and financial health to ensure that our aging population is valued, cared for and provided quality living.



Kurt Kuban, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor

Grace Perry, Director of Advertisina

COMMUNITY VOICE

Thanksgiving is Nov. 27 -- What are you thankful for?

This question was asked at the Northville Community Center.



Pauline LaMonde Northville

"For my family, children and grandchildren."

Laurel McKeon

Northville



"I have a great family." **Mary Balogh**



"I'm thankful for my wonderful family and these great card games here in Northville, and my health."

Ginger Thomas

LETTERS

We did it!

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all who helped in the restoration of the flag mural on the Marquis Theatre building.

The project started as many others do – a simple seed of an idea. Dr. William Demray noticed the flag was in need of repair. He put out a call to action and the community of Northville (and beyond) responded. We live in an electronic age, but the power of a grassroots campaign is still relevant.

The idea of restoring a treasure so powerful that stands for freedom and is so beloved is awesome in so many ways. I agreed to tackle the project, but I couldn't have accomplished it all without Traci Sincock and Northville Rotarians, the Von Buskirk family and the North-ville Record. I could count on them for help and support day after day, week after week, month after month.

What I didn't count on was the life lesson this project would teach me. So much of what occurred has changed me forever. The extreme generosity of my family, friends and neighbors, local businesses, service organizations, seniors citizens, baby boomers, gen X-ers, children, and others in between was inspiring. The personal notes that accompanied donations often

brought a tear to my eye.

We raised all that was needed to fund the actual mural restoration – \$17,800. A new, improved masonry base coat should extend the life of the painting. Christina Zayti and the Marquis Theatre did the necessary building repair to do the same. And we have a little over \$100 to kick-start an endowment to support ongoing maintenance, which the artist, Jeff Von Buskirk, has agreed to manage as time goes on.

I could write a Hallmark made-for-TV movie about all I've experienced in the past year. The finale would be a scene with more than 150 people of all ages standing in a parking lot on Veteran's Day – some in winter coats, others in shirtsleeves and veteran's caps. There's a light rain falling and the wind is whip-ping umbrellas inside out. The mayor welcomes the crowd. The state representative is recognized as simply a member of the crowd, no political grandstanding. The local dentist in a shirt and tie gives a thought-provoking speech, referencing the history of Veteran's Day. A local 20-something sings the "Star Spangled Banner" – perfectly, with crackling voices joining in. The scouts in town are called to attention to salute a 20' x 30' mural of Old Glory on the wall of a historic building in one of America's greatest small towns all in attendance joining in with

hats in their hand and hands on their hearts. A Norman Rockwell ending to a yearlong tale of Americana. Once again, thanks to all - whether it was a gold dollar coin deposited in a cardboard collection box at the Cider Mill; the purchase of a \$100 raffle ticket; a \$5 donation at the front desk of Preservation Dental; a \$10 donation to purchase a T-shirt; or a check in memory of a veteran or honoring a loved one - it all adds up to the fact we did it!

Denise Jenkins Northville

Education 'reform' a disaster

Let me see if I've got this

Milwaukee has had vouchers for 23 years and the United States Department of Education ranks them among the very worst urban schools in the coun-

What passes for "reform" in this country is an unmitigated disaster. For too long, we have listened to corporatists, who wish to profit through privatization of American schools and a few wealthy and well-intentioned citizens who are unschooled in child development and how children learn (Bill Gates and Eli Broad)

Al Churchill Livonia

GUEST COLUMN

Afghanistan offers reasons for optimism

ecently I had the honor of speaking to the United States Institute of Peace as that institution celebrated its 30th anniversary. I was a cosponsor of former Sen. Sparky Matsunaga's legislation establishing the USIP, which Congress passed in 1984. Last April, I saw firsthand one example of the value of the institute's work, when the institute's staff in Kabul, Afghanistan, hosted briefings for me with civil society leaders, women, young people and human rights activists.

At USIP, I focused my remarks on the pursuit of peace in Afghanistan and the wisdom that has aided us in that pursuit.

I am hopeful about Afghanistan's future, because of the progress we have helped bring about over the last several years. And I am hopeful because of the recent peaceful and democratic transition of power, a first in Afghanistan's long history. That transition offers increased reason for optimism that we have an essential ingredient for success in place there, perhaps the essential ingredient - a unity government of Afghans whose own goals are in harmony with our goal of a free, peaceful and unified Afghanistan.

Afghanistan faces immense challenges from Taliban terror to corruption to poverty to ethnic and political tension. But the progress the country has made is also immense.

Too many people forget what Afghanistan was like before coalition intervention in 2001. Even in major cities, access to food, clean water and employment was limited. Women were barred from attending school, working outside the home or even leaving their houses unless accompanied by a male relative.

Today, by contrast, there is vibrancy in Afghan society. In



just one decade, life expectancy in Afghanistan has increased by 22 years and child mortality has decreased by 62 percent. Under the Taliban, there were just 900,000 students in school, all boys. Now, student enrollment is more than 8 million, including about 3 million girls. In 2001, Afghanistan had 20,000 teachers, all male; today, there are 200,000 teachers, including 60,000 wom-

The Afghan security forces have exceeded our military commanders' expectations, successfully responding to Taliban attacks and safeguarding two rounds of elections. I have always believed that our principal mission in Afghanistan is to help establish Afghan forces so they can protect their people and their hopes for a free nation. That is the Taliban's worst night-

Afghans now have hope for better governance as well, as President Ghani and Chief Executive Officer Abdullah, who competed in a hotly contested election, have resolved their differences over the election and formed a unity government. That gives the Afghan people reason to hope that the nation's new leaders are more interested in building Afghanistan's future than in pursuing partisan or sectarian or corrupt agendas.

While public opinion polls show that the Afghan people think we have accomplished much and are glad we came, polls in the United States show that Americans believe our involvement in Afghanistan has failed.

I believe that the American public's failure to understand what we have accomplished in Afghanistan is due, in large part, to the constant, almost totally negative portrayal of events in Afghanistan in the American

The press understandably reports on negative events. A Taliban truck bomb in Kabul does make a more dramatic story than a million girls going to school. But it would be tragic if this negative focus deprived the American people, our men and women in uniform and their families of the sense of accomplishment they deserve to feel about our effort in Afghanistan.

While Afghanistan's gains have been impressive, they remain reversible. Afghans continue to fear that the United States will abandon them, as they believe we did after the Soviets left in the early 1990s. The Afghans have assumed responsibility for their own security and for their own political affairs, but they continue to depend on international funding, training and institution-building, in particular, for sustaining the Afghan army and police.

If the public continues to believe that Afghanistan is a lost cause, it may become a selffulfilling prophecy. Simply put, if we don't understand what we and our coalition partners have gained in Afghanistan, we risk losing it. Much remains to be done, but I believe if the Afghan people remain united and if we remain constant in our support of them, Afghanistan will take its place among the achievements of which our nation can be proud.

Carl Levin is the senior U.S. senator from Michigan and chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Three area men face charges in betting ring case

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Three men charged with participating in a multi-county illegal sports betting ring have been ordered bound over for trial.

George Abick, 64, of Garden City, Sean Barnes, 42, of Novi and John Cramblet, 45, of Detroit, all waived their preliminary examinations Nov. 13 before 18th District Judge Sandra Cicirelli. All three men had entered not guilty pleas at arraignment.

However, Cramblet waived his hearing conditionally. His defense attorney, David Lankford, said he had talked with the officers in charge of the investigation and was told they wouldn't recommend incarceration for Cramblet as the case is resolved.

"The prosecutor is not in a position to make that decision — it would have to move up the chain," Lankford said. "If no incarceration doesn't come to pass, then the matter would be remanded back for the preliminary examination."

The preliminary examination is the hearing at which the prosecution, in this case the Michigan Attorney General, presents its probable cause case that the crimes were committed and the defendants likely committed those crimes.

"I don't have the authority to make that (no jail time) recommendation," Assistant Attorney General Richmond Riggs said. "If it is the recommendation of the officers in charge, I need to speak to my superiors. If it isn't possible, we'll return for

POLICE BRIEFS

NOVI

Vehicle theft

Novi Police have issued a "Be on the Lookout" for a stolen gray 2013 Ford Escape.

The reported theft happened the night of Oct. 11-12 at a residence on Bancroft Drive. The owner told Novi Police she left the garage door open for her son to get in that night as he was coming home from out of town. The vehicle was unlocked and did contain the key fob.

There was nothing inside of value.

Drunken crash

A female driver was arrested for drunken driving after a witness told Novi Police she crashed into a building.

The incident occurred Oct. 11 outside the Little Caesars on 10 Mile Road. According to the police report, a witness phoned police and reported the crash. The driver said her brakes weren't working, but police suspected she was drunk.

After having trouble with the field sobriety tests, the woman registered a 0.14 percent on a preliminary breathalyzer test. This was reportedly her second drunken driving arrest.

NORTHVILLE

Marijuana possession

A Livonia man was arrested for marijuana possession after being stopped by Northville City Police for running a

red light.

The arrest occurred
Nov. 12 at the intersection of Center Street and
Seven Mile Road. The
19-year-old driver ran a
flashing red light just
before 2 a.m. He told
police he was distracted
while looking at his GPS.
Police reported smelling
marijuana in the car.

He admitted to having some and police did find a baggie of it in the center console.

- By Lonnie Huhman

the preliminary exam."
Getting that kind of decision usually takes about 30 days, Riggs said, so he expected to be able to have that by the scheduled circuit court arraignment date Dec. 11. All three defendants,

All three men are charged with operating a continuing criminal en-

free on bond, are sched-

uled for Dec. 11 arraign-

terprise — two counts for Abick — along with failing to file income taxes. Abick and Barnes are charged with four counts each of gambling/taking bets, with Cramblet facing three counts of the same crime.

According to the complaint, the defendants were involved in a sports betting ring operated by Westland residents John and Ellen Zunich. Ac-

cording to police, the three men were instrumental in producing and distributing the football cards used in the betting ring.

The three defendants are accused of working for John Zunich, 71, who pleaded guilty to one count of conducting criminal enterprises (also known as racketeering), a 20-year felony, and no contest to one

count of failure to file/ false taxes, a five-year felony. He is currently serving an 18-month to 20-year sentence in state prison with his earliest release date in July 2016.

The investigation found that John Zunich took bets and printed professional and college football betting cards at ArtCraft Printing, a business he owned in Detroit. The cards were reported-

ly distributed in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

His wife pleaded no contest to one count of failure to file/false taxes, a five-year felony. Ellen Zunich handled all the bookkeeping for the legitimate business and the illegal gambling operation. She was sentenced to probation, which is scheduled to end in January 2016.





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ADDITIONAL

SENIOR DISCOUNT

Afghan translator builds new life in Michigan

LOCAL NEWS

By Laura Colvin Staff Writer

When he stepped off the plane in the United States this past April with just a backpack, small rolling suitcase and no money, Mohammed Elham – everyone calls

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him Elham – wasn't sure he was really in the U.S.

"I was like, 'Am I dreaming right now?" he said. "It was the coolest time in my life. I felt like I had a heavy weight lifted from my shoul-

Indeed. Here in the

no pressure

consultation

States - here in Milford, where he lives with Scott Hippakka and his family – Elham feels safe from the constant threats on his life in his native Afghanistan.

After just a few short months in the U.S., Elham is working at Palate in downtown Milford. He already has a car and he's hoping to fulfill a dream of becoming a nurse so, one day, he can go home to Afghanistan and help the many poor families who are living without even basic medical care.

For Elham, it's the American dream.

Army translator

It all began in 2007, when a friend in Afghanistan suggested Elham, with his knowledge of the English language, apply for a translator's job with the U.S. Army.

At first he wasn't sure - he had no experience being around military forces – but decided to give it a try.

After he was hired, he found the job was a challenge for many reasons. As a linguist, his task wasn't just translating word-for-word between the Americans and the Afghans. It was important, he explained, to make sure both parties understood the intent behind the words and to make sure the Americans understood the cultural nuances of the Afghan people.

Along the way, Elham met Hippakka, a U.S. Army lieutenant colonel who was a task force commander with teams dispersed though northern and western portions of Afghanistan.

Elham began going along on various missions with the U.S. forces translating and lending a hand as the U.S. teams he was working with helped to deliver medical



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mohammed Elham tosses a pizza at Palate in Milford where he works. The Afghan worked as a translator for the U.S.

assistance to remote villages, develop schools, water sources, community infrastructure and also worked to support the Afghan Border Po-

Threats made

After his first year on the job, Elham became a senior linguist and over the next seven years, while he was translating for the U.S. forces, his face became recognizable - he'd been shown on local television channels and things began to get especially dangerous for him.

On numerous occasions, he was told by intelligence officers that threats had been made against his life - common for Afghan translators.

He was my senior linguist and he was the senior linguist for a lot of different people," Hippakka said. "Because of that, he was out and about. Early on in the war in Iraq, a lot of the translators would wear masks so their face couldn't be seen. In Afghanistan, most linguists didn't wear a face mask."

As the threats increased, Elham knew it wasn't safe for him to stay any longer in Afghanistan. His life, as well as that of his family and his fiance, was in imminent danger and because of his work for the U.S. military, he was eligible to come to the United States. He had, in fact, submitted his application more than a year

So he sold his family's car, packed two small bags and took a huge step toward freedom and safety.

A new life

Elham arrived April 1 in the United States. He knew he had a home waiting in Milford.

"In January 2013, before I left Afghanistan, I told Elham when you come to the U.S., just let me know what I can do,' Hippakka said. "If you need a place to live, you can come live with me. The choice was his."

Another Afghan lin-

guist who'd also worked with Hippakka's team arrived in Michigan several months earlier, while another is currently working toward the same

For Elham - who is currently working to bring his fiance to Michigan, as well - it's a dream come true.

He has his struggles, certainly, like finding his way through all kinds of red tape in order to get federal assistance with schooling. Hippakka, he said, has been a huge and consistent help in teaching him about things like credit cards - there are none in Afghanistan interest, credit ratings and paying bills online, as well as car insurance none of that in Afghanistan, either - and rules of the road.

"The people are so, so friendly. I love to work with them," he said.

At his new home in Milford, where he's staying until he can afford his own place, Elham lives with Hippakka and his family: wife Susan and children Abby, 14, and Alex, 11.

"I told my mom, 'Don't worry, I have a second family, they are well taking care of me," he said. "My mom asks, 'What are you doing, what are you eating, how are your living conditions?' I tell her, Scott's family, they are so awesome to me. They are so good to me."

Elham's favorite thing about living in America is his security. And the people. And the nation

When you come from a country such as Afghanistan, you would understand how blessed you are here in the U.S.,' he said.

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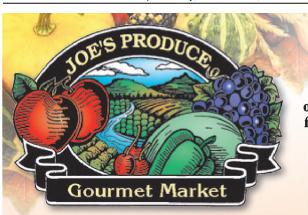
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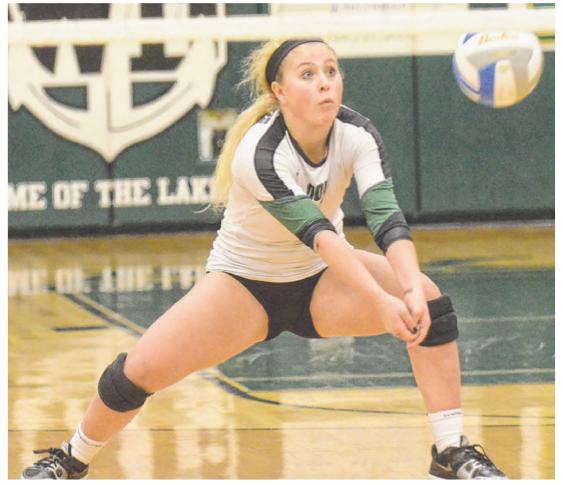
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PREP VOLLEYBALL



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi senior libero Jordan Massab makes one of her 23 digs in the Class A regional championship win over

Novi clips Eagles for regional crown

By Brad Emons Staff Writer

Close encounters of the third kind?

It didn't happen this time as the Novi volleyball team won the rubber match Nov. 13 against White Lake Lakeland, 25-16, 23-25, 25-17, 25-15, for its first Class A regional title since 2007 while stamping its ticket to the MHSAA quarter-finals

The Wildcats, who improved to 51-5-5, were scheduled Tuesday to face Lapeer in the state quarterfinals, with the winner earning a trip to the state semifinals beginning at 5:30 p.m. Friday at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena against the Mason-Grand Haven quarterfinal winner.

Novi and Lakeland had split their two meetings this

season, with the Eagles taking a best-of-three pool play match Nov. 1 in the Birmingham Seaholm tournament.

But after Lakeland had evened the rematch at one set apiece, Novi roared back, jumping out to leads of 15-5 and 19-9 during the final two sets to win emphatically.

"I think the last time we played Lakeland, I think we learned a lot about our character," said Novi senior libero Jordan Massab, who finished with 23 digs. "I think we underestimated them the last time we played and I think they are a very, very skilled team. We just walked in and thought we were going to

"This game we fought our hardest and we knew what we wanted to accomplish today. I think our serve-receive and serving were awesome tonight. And our offense did amazing, just moving around the ball and stuff like that." Novi's offense was pretty

Novi's offense was pretty potent, to say the least, as the lacobelli twins, Victoria and and Paulina, finished with 21 and 12 kills, respectively.

The Wildcats got another boost from sophomore Ally Cummings, who finished with 11 kills, and from senior Olivia Bradford, who added seven while hitting at a .545 clip.

Erin O'Leary, the freshman setter, was outstanding once again, with 12 digs to go along with her 52 assists.

"We started out the match serve-receiving very well," Novi coach Jen Cottrill said. "We have pretty good setter

See VOLLEYBALL, Page B2

GIRLS SWIMMING

Northville's Westphal keeps eyes on prize

By Brad Emons Staff Writer

Northville's Laura Westphal was an unknown entering last year's swim state finals.

But despite being only a ninth-grader, Westphal made quite a splash to become the MHSAA Division 1 champion in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 4:57.84.

The sophomore now finds herself a target as she tries to defend her title this weekend at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium.

The Kensington Conference champion has clocked 5:02.93 as a season best and is currently seeded third in Division 1. Only juniors Ellyse Conn of Farmington Hills Mercy (4:56.77) and Morgan Bullock of Zeeland (4:58.77) have posted better times this season.

"I've been training pretty hard this year, definitely harder than last year, and I hope it pays off," Westphal said. "I haven't been swimming as fast as I have last year, but I am getting faster and I hope to do well at the state meet."

Northville coach Brian

Northville coach Brian McNeff believes Westphal, who is now in full taper mode, is right on schedule entering Friday's prelims.

"I think the swimmers saw that a freshman won it last year, so they kind of geared up to try and beat her," McNeff said. "There have been some times that have been pretty good, but we'll see who is entered. She won't enter as the top seed, but knowing her,



Westphal

she's got the attitude where she sees what she's got to do and she's going to win it."

Westphal is also expected to also do well in the 200 individ-

ual medley, where she took 10th in 2013 with a clocking a 2:07.14. She ranks sixth this season with 2:08.71. She comes from a swim-

ming family. Her older brother Andrew, now a freshman at the University of Michigan, was a Division 1 placer for the Northville boys team as a senior last March when he took fourth in the 100 freestyle (46.23).

Westphal got her first taste

Westphal got her first taste of competitive swimming at age 6 with the Northville Swim Club Penguins before joining the Novi Sturgeons as an 8-year-old, where she continues to train in the off-season.

"I knew about her, but I didn't know she was going to be that good," McNeff said. "I didn't think anyone knew how good she was going to be going into last year. She's obviously one of the top swimmers, but she dropped a ton of time last year and now this year she's close to the times where she going into the state meet, so she's going to have a great state meet."

In August, Westphal competed in the National Club

See WESTPHAL, Page B2



WILL HAYE

Northville sophomore Laura Westphal will try to defend her Division 1 state title in the 500 freestyle.

BOYS HOCKEY PREVIEW

Area squads harbor high hopes for new season

CC, Novi, Northville all expect to contend

By Brad Emons

When the puck drops tonight on the boys hockey season, it's a safe bet that three area teams will have a plenty to say throughout 2014-15 campaign and once the MHSAA pre-regionals start the week of Feb. 23.

Novi Detroit Catholic Central, which made a coaching change just prior to the season, returns 12 players off last year's Division 1 state championship team including first team all-state players Ryan Burnett (16 goals, 22 assists) and Mitchell Ossowski (13 goals, 20 assists).

Goaltender Spencer Wright also returns for interim coach Danny Veri, along with senior defensemen Owen Kipke and Andrew Lane.



BRAD EMONS

Catholic Central's hockey captains this season include (from left) Mitchell Ossowski, Andrew Lane, Ryan, Owen Kipke and Ryan Burnett.

"We've got the skill to be successful, but we have to have the heart and the work ethic to be successful," said Veri, who takes over a CC team that went 23-7 last season

Meanwhile, Novi (18-7-1) hopes to make a run in the

Division 2 state tourney and in the KLAA's tough Central Division under second-year coach Mark Vellucci.

The Wildcats will be led by senior captain Nik Tewilliager, a third-year player, along with

See HOCKEY, Page B2

Catholic Central hockey makes unexpected coaching change

By Brad Emons Staff Writer

Just a week prior to its 2014-15 boys hockey opener, Novi Detroit Catholic Central and coach Doug Itami have parted ways.

Itami, who served 12 seasons as an assistant under Gordie St. John and Todd Johnson before being elevated to the head coaching position in 2013-14, guided the Shamrocks to a 23-7 record and the MHSAA Division 1 state championship in his only season as varsity coach.

Catholic Central athletic director Aaron Babicz also announced that Danny Veri, who has been involved coaching CC's White and Blue JV teams the past four years, will take over this season with an interim tag as varsity coach.

"Obviously, I'm not a big fan of discussing personnel changes. I don't think anybody is," Babicz said. "It's nothing serious, more than just a difference in coaching philosophies and I just felt this was the best way to rectify the situation.

"The timing obviously seems to have thrown off the whole situation. I don't think there's ever a time to do something like, but with tryouts only starting on Nov.

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VOLLEYBALL

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(O'Leary) that moves the ball around and it's pretty unpredictable, so right away we were able to get some easy points with some kills. It always helps your confidence and some momentum. Game two we didn't pass as well, so we weren't as efficient, but I think that was the key. We passed better and served pretty tough."

Lakeland, the KLAA North Division champ at 10-0, got 12 kills, 17 assist-to-kills and 27 digs from senior Amanda Leonard, while senior Gabrielle Alvira added 12 kills. Senior Calleigh Coffin also chipped in 28 digs and two

Meanwhile, sophomore setter Kaitlyn Hawke was out of the lineup and sitting on the bench after suffering a fractured sternum in a car accident the day before the regional final while driving to school with her grandmother.

"Unfortunately, our game

plan had to change," Lakeland coach Jen Dukic said. "I started with one setter and that didn't work out, so I switched setters. And that seemed to help them."

The makeshift lineup certainly had an effect.

"It was just not the setting part, but the defense had to be a certain way," Dukic said. "Serve-receive was going to be a certain way and then I had to switch that. I had to tweak things on both ends.'

Despite a slight hiccup during a closely contested second set, Novi's defense was stellar as the 5-foot-9 Iacobelli twins finished with 29 and 24 digs, respectively.

"I think they were a little more relentless on defense, but I don't think we brought it as much this time," Dukic said. "They really had a passion to beat them the first time. I'm not sure that was the case this time, unfortunately. Sometimes that happens when you have seniors and it's their last game and they kind of worry about things rather than playing the game."

Novi, meanwhile, was ready

for its third encounter with the Eagles.

'We didn't play well; it was two-out-of-three and we made 30 errors," Cottrill said of the Seaholm tournament setback. "At that point, everybody is going to beat you when you make 30 errors. I think that we really good because I think they would really have to respect them and really work hard and play our game to beat

And the Wildcats definitely raised their level of play after advancing with a three-set regional semifinal victory Nov 11 against Fenton.

'I honestly didn't think we played that well on Tuesday,' Cottrill said. "I thought we were pretty sloppy. I knew we obviously we'd have to play better. And I thought they came ready to work, ready to battle.'

Although the Eagles lose nine seniors to graduation, Dukic said the future appears

"I'm excited for next year," she said.

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WESTPHAL

Continued from Page B1

Swimming Association Summer Swimming Championships in Indianapolis, posting personal bests in the 400meter freestyle (4:32.96), 200 IM (2:31.62) and 400 IM (5:06.72).

And just a month earlier, she set four personal bests in the USA Swimming Central Zone Sectional meet at Miami (Ohio) University.

Swimming has become a year-round passion for Westphal, but away from the pool she spends her free time doing community service work for the Girl Scouts. She also

enjoys reading, with English and science as her favorite subjects in school.

"I just always loved swimming," said Westphal, who turns 16 in March. "I played basketball when I was younger, but with time management I just always loved swimming better and chose that.'

Westphal, who will also compete in the 200 medley and 400 freestyle relays for the Mustangs in this weekend's state finals, brings a consistent work ethic to the pool that rubs off on her team-

"She doesn't take a set off," McNeff said. "She's there every day and just has a great stroke. That's really what it comes down to, it's effortless

for her. The best thing about her - and I've talked to other coaches about it - is her attitude. She's unflappable, she knows what she has to do and does it. You never know by her attitude how actually fast she was. She's a great kid and works her butt off every day. When you combine those two, then you really have a great swimmer.

Westphal, who said she is undecided whether she'll swim in college, doesn't know where she gets her motiva-

"I just enjoy working hard at the sport that I love," she said. "And I know it makes me a better swimmer.

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HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

senior assistant captains Brad Hofelich, Brendan Wexler and defenseman Jimmy Hole, a third-year assistant captain.

The biggest question mark for Novi is goaltending, as junior Josh Richardson and sophomores Manny Legace and Ryuta King are battling for the job.

'Once we get our defense and goaltending situated, we'll be a solid varsity team," Vellucci said. "We have great senior leadership and a lot of

Optimism is also running high at Northville (19-6-1), which will make a bid in Division 1 and in the KLAA Central Division.

Seventh-year coach Clint Robert has a veteran squad, led by senior captains Alec Morgan (16 goals, 24 assists) and Jack Meacham (14 goals, 24 assists), along with senior goaltender Chance Boutin (9-2-1, 1.53 goals-against aver-

age).
"We as a team, we'll be committed to strong team defense," Robert said. "We believe that everything starts defensively and would rather win games 1-0 as opposed to



Leading the way for Novi's hockey team this season are (from left) Brendan Wexler, Brad Hofelich, James Hole and Nik Tewilliager.

Catholic Central, a member of the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League's North Division, opens its season at 6 p.m. Thursday against host Port Huron Northern at McMorran Arena before taking on Division 1 state runner-up Brighton in a rematch of last year's final, beginning at 5 p.m. Saturday at the Kensington Valley Ice

House. Northville and Novi will open Friday and Saturday in the 13th annual Metro High School Invitational at the Novi Ice Arena. The two-day showcase features five teams from the KLAA and five from the Oakland Activities Association.

At 6 p.m. Friday on the Blue Rink, Novi faces North Farmington-Harrison, while Northville takes on Clarkston at 8:15 p.m.

Saturday's games will all be played at the Blue Rink, with Northville taking on defending Division 3 state champion Farmington at 5:30 p.m., followed by Novi and Laké Orion at 7:45 p.m.

One-day tickets, which feature four games, are \$7 (adults) and \$5 (ages 5-18 and seniors). Two-day passes, on sale at Novi Ice Arena, 42400 Nick Lidstrom Drive, are \$12 (adults) and \$9 (youths and seniors).

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CHANGE

Continued from Page B1

3 ... obviously happening before the first game, like I said, it was the best way to handle the situation."

Itami said Friday that he planned to attend CC's preseason scrimmage Saturday at Compuware Arena against Dearborn Divine Child. The Shamrocks open their season Thursday against Port Huron Northern at McMorran Are-

"I'm not saying anything about my departure, only that I have nothing to be ashamed of," Itami said. "I'll be at the rink. It's not like I'll be hiding out or you'll never see me again because you know that everyone will cringe if I walk in the rink ... no. All the parents and I all still get along. All the boys and I get along.'

After the coaching change was made, Itami said he talked with some of CC's current players, but not with the coaching staff - which includes St. John, who won seven state titles when he was varsity coach at CC, along with Rick Buttery and goaltending coach Tom Nugent.

'I'll still be a supporter of the group," said Itami, who previously coached in the Honeybaked program before coming to CC in 2000. "I may

be the one that coaches them in the fall during the fall season. I don't have a bad taste in my mouth about Catholic Central, so I'll never say anything bad about the school or about Aaron Babicz or about the program. I have the utmost admiration. I was blessed to be there, for sure. I'm heartbroken not to be there. But you can only control what you can control and they made a decision. And that's OK. I can't do anything about it. I'm old enough now to know that you can't control things that you can't control. I'll still be a fan of the boys. I did it for the boys."

Babicz, Itami and Veri declined to go into specifics on what led to the coaching change, but there is speculation that there may have been a disagreement among the coaching staff or about the division in which CC should play during the 2014-15 state tournament.

The MHSAA has not yet announced its division assignments (based on school enrollment), but there are rumors that Catholic Central could possibly be on the bubble and could move down to Division 2 from Division 1, joining last year's state runner-up Brighton, which won Division 1 titles in 2012 and 2013, and Birmingham Broth-

er Rice. Fellow Catholic League members University of Detroit-Jesuit and Orchard Lake St. Mary's have all opted to play in Division 1 instead of staying in Division 2 despite their lower enrollments. The MHSAA, however, allows schools during a two-year window to play up in a higher division. The 46-year-old Veri,

meanwhile, ran his first varsity practice Friday at Compuware as CC's head coach. Like Itami, Veri coached in

the Honeybaked hockey program before moving over to

Veri said he has no aspirations to take over CC's varsity team on a permanent basis.

"It's just finishing this year," said Veri, who owns Livonia Builders, a construction and land development company based in Canton. "They're going to conduct a search for a head coach next year. I really enjoy the JV program and that's what I'm going to stay doing. I like to help the boys get to varsity."

Meanwhile, Babicz said he harbors no ill feelings toward Itami.

"It's obviously nothing personal, none whatsoever," Babicz said. "More than not or more than anything – it's just difference in philosophy. I have nothing but positive things to say about him."

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GIRLS HOCKEY PREVIEW



SHELLY BUSH PHOTOGRAPHY

New Northville girls hockey coach J.D. Damrath (middle) will rely on seniors Grace Healy (left) and Marisha Hackett this season.

Northville girls squad seeking improvement

New coach Damrath takes over Mustangs' program

By Brad Emons

It's a new season and new outlook for the Northville girls hockey team.

J.D. Damrath, who coached the Michigan High School Selects, is taking the reins from longtime coach Bill Holden as the Mustangs try to ascend the ladder of the Michigan Metro High School Girls Hockey League.

The Mustangs launched their 2014-15 season Monday night against defending Division 1 state champion Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett, coming out on the short end of a 6-1 count.

Kara Francis scored four goals and added one assist for the Knights, who led 2-1 after one period before breaking it open with three unanswered goals in the second.

Senior forward Grace Healey scored the Mustangs' lone goal in the first period off assists from senior forwards Marisha Hackett and Megan

Despite the setback, Damrath was encouraged by his team's performance.

"I think we're going to sur-prise some people," he said. "I think the work ethic is really strong and the enthusiasm is high. It's my first year with the team, so I don't have much of a history with them. But the kids could have quit last night after two periods, being down 5-1. They came out and played them basically even in the third. Just a lot of enthusiasm."

In addition to Healey and Hackett, the Mustangs return 14 other players off last year's squad, including seniors Emily Comben (forward), Isobel Bush (goalie), Hailey Gross (defense) and Haley Ramsden (defense).

Junior returnees include Adrienne McCarthy (defense), Annette Taylor (goalie), Clare Ramsden (forward), Neha Gandra (forward), Megan Bartley (forward) and Kamryn Holtz (forward).

Sophomores Anna Pilarz (defense), Amanda Olson (defense), Haley Anderson (defense), Nadia Ismail (forward) and Abby Koet (goalie) also return.

Kerr, a first-year senior player, and Kendall Murray, a sophomore defenseman, are among two promising newcomers for Damrath.

Rounding squad is Angela Lee, freshman defenseman; Olivia Lesh, freshman forward; Lauren Masse, freshman forward; Stacie Shaw, freshman forward; Gabby Goree, senior defenseman; and Sierra Watkins, sophomore forward.

The Mustangs, who play their home games at Livonia's Edgar Arena, were scheduled to face Bloomfield Hills, a Division 2 member of the Michigan Metro, Wednesday.

Going forward, Damrath would like his team to shore up play behind its own blue line.

"I would say defensive zone responsibilities is probably a big area," the new coach said.

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BOYS HOCKEY CAPSULE OUTLOOK



Northville players (from left) Jack Meacham, Kyle Abraham, P.J. Scnepp, Nick Strom and Alec Morgan receive instruction during a recent practice.

Head coach: Mark Vellucci, second season. **League affiliation:** KLAA Kensington Conference (Central Division).

ence (Central Division).

Last year's overall record: 18-7-1.

Notable losses to graduation: Austin Petty,
Chris Kennedy, Mike O'Reilly, Josh Ward.

Leading returnees: Nik Tewilliager, Sr. F

(captain); Brad Hofelich, Sr. F (assistant captain); Brendan Wexler, Sr. F (assistant captain); Ryan Baxter, Sr. F; Bryan Fegert, Sr. F; Jake Cyr, Jr. F; Jimy Hole, Sr. Def (assistant captain); Alec Wells, Sr. F; Pat Woltylo, Sr. Def; Drake Shepard, Sr. Def; Brennan Martin, Sr.

Promising newcomers: Alex Cai, Jr. F; Andy Mizerowski, Jr. F; Brandon Kour, Soph. F; Brandon Kour, Soph. F; Cam Czapski, Soph. F; Dave Denova, Soph. F; Ryan Wexler, Soph. F; Ryan Turner, Sr. Def; Eric Czekaj, Sr. Def; Ryan Rabinowitz, Jr. Def; Ryan Fonda, Soph. Def; Josh Richardson, Jr. G; Manny Leanes Sept. G: Pauts View, Soph. Legace, Soph. G; Ryuta King, Soph. G.

Vellucci's 2014-15 outlook: "We have no

clear-cut No. 1 goalie. All three will be competing every practice and every game. We have high expectations for this year's varsity team. We're going to score a lot of goals. Once we get our defense and goaltending situated, we'll be a solid varsity team. We have great senior leadership and a lot of depth overall. With 24 players on the roster, there will be a lot of competition to get in the lineup and stay in the lineup the whole year. Our goal is to win the Division 2 state championship. The coaches and players believe that if we work hard and play the right way, we'll have a very successful year The four core values are TEAM (Together Everyone Accomplishes More), hard work, sportsmanship (class) and results.

NORTHVILLE

Head coach: Clint Robert, seventh season. **League affiliation:** KLAA Kensington (Central

Last year's overall record: 19-6-2. Notable losses to graduation: Alex Shuart. Leading returnees: Alec Morgan (captain), Sr. (captain) Section (captain) S. F. (16 goals, 24 assists); Jack Meacham (captain) S. F. (14 goals, 24 assists); Chance Boutin, Sr. G (9-2-1, 1.53 goals against, 933 save); P.J. Schnepp, Sr. Def; Klec Abraham, Sr. F; Nick Strom, Sr. Def; Alec Melucci, Sr. Def; Brett Ridener, Sr. F; Kyle Dann, Jr. F; Grant

LaLonde, Sr. F; Sam Bradley, Jr. F. Promising newcomers: Matt Jankowski, Sr. Def; Sean O'Malley, Sr. Def; Cameron Layne, Sr. F; Petar Elieff, Sr. F; Kevin O'Connell, Sr. F; Riley Brass, Jr. F; Kevin Onofrio, Jr. G; Brendan Hicks, Jr. F; Anthony Solak, Jr. F; Zac Osaer, Jr. Def.; Nick Williams, Fr. Def.; Jack Sargent, Fr. Def. Robert's 2014-15 outlook: "This season we

refer we have a locker room full of 'hockey players' rather than guys who just play hockey. We as a team will be committed to strong team defense. We believe that everything starts defensively and would rather win games 1-0 as opposed to 7-6. We like our team speed and hope to use that to our advantage as well. Our team goals start with winning the KLAA. If we can do that, we should be playing at a high enough level to take a series run at a state championship

CATHOLIC CENTRAL Head coach: Danny Veri, first season

League affiliation: Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League (North Division). Last year's overall record: 23-7. Titles won last year: Division 1 regional and

Notable losses to graduation: Carter Cerretani (first team all-state), Lucas Turner (honor-able mention all-state), James Considine, Domenic Mancinelli, Austin Featherstone, Michael Ronayne,

Leading returnees: Mitchell Ossowski (captain), Sr. F (first team all-state, 13 goals, 20 assists); Ryan Burnett (captain), Sr. F (first team all-state, 16 goals, 22 assists); Owen Kipke (captain), Sr. Def. (8 goals, 9 assists); Andrew Lane (captain), Sr. Def.; Spencer Wright, Sr. G; Alec Calvaruso, Jr. G; Nick Macari, Jr. F; Kyle Mulka, Jr. F; Alex Kreutzer, Jr. Def.; Brian Kearns, Jr. F; Dillon Jones, Sr. F; Paul Hildebrandt

Promising newcomers: Evan Rochowiak, Sr. F; Joseph Mancinelli, Jr. F; Luc Krasicky, Jr. Def.; J.P.

Veri's 2014-15 outlook: "I think we're very good up front. I think we're solid in the back end and I think we're solid in the goaltending. I think we're a very good team. We have to work. Our talent won't mean a whole lot if we don't outwork our opponents. We've got the skill to be successful, but we have to have the heart and the work ethic to be successful.

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Novi reaches regional title game

Wildcats oust stubborn Fenton in three sets

By Brad Emons

There were a few anxious moments, but it was another safe passage for the Novi volleyball team.

The second-ranked Wild-cats, who improved to 50-5-1, moved into their first Class A regional final since 2010 with a 25-20, 25-12, 25-22 triumph Nov. 11 over pesky Fenton in a semifinal match-up at West Bloomfield.

Fenton (38-15-4) made the Wildcats work for the victory, particularly in the first and third sets.

And when 5-foot-9 senior outside hitter Carly Granger got hot, it appeared the Tigers were on their way to forcing a fourth set as they built an 18-13 advantage.

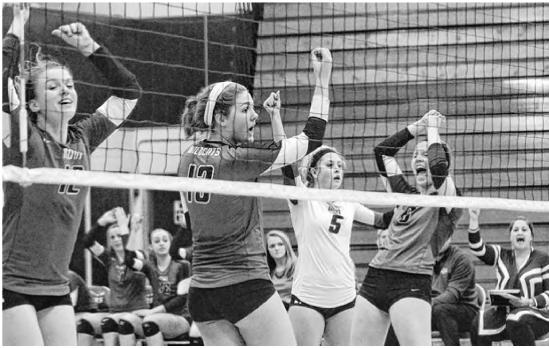
But Novi regrouped with a 12-4 run to close out the set and the match, getting a key kill from junior Victoria Iacobelli to make it 21-21, followed by an ace by the 5-foot-9 junior outside hitter to put the Wildcats ahead to stay 24-22.

Fenton then made a hitting error to end the match.

"We were a little frazzled that we weren't scoring points," said Iacobelli, who finished with 15 kills and 12 digs on the night. "And we just took care of our side and got the momentum. We just took it one point at a time to come back.

"We just kind of came out expecting to win because we beat them so badly in the second set. We put cruise control on and didn't work our hardest in the beginning of the set."

Although Fenton trailed 6-0 and 9-2 in the first set, the Tigers pulled even at 20-20 before Novi closed it with five unanswered points, including a key dig that resulted in a kill by senior libero Jordan Massab, who finished



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

The Wildcats celebrate after Victoria lacobelli (far right) tallied a point during the Class A regional semifinal victory over Fenton.

with a team-high 25 digs.

Paulina Iacobelli, Victoria's identical twin, added 12 kills and 15 digs, while sophomore Ally Cummings chipped in seven kills.

Freshman setter Erin O'Leary also stood out by racking up 37 assist-to-kills to go with three aces and four kills.

Granger collected nine of her match-best 16 kills in the final set, but she got little support from elsewhere on the attack as middle hitter Jessica Eastman was next best with five.

"She's an outstanding player," Novi coach Jen Cottrill said of Granger. "In our scouting report – we hadn't seen them – but the coaches and the teams that had seen them said just key on her. We moved our block in to try and slow her down a little bit because she was getting some kills cross court because she read it and hit the ball down the line. We were very glad when she moved to the back row"

Meanwhile, it was all Wildcats during the middle set as they jumped out to a 14-4 advantage and were never threatened.

But it may have lulled Novi into a false sense of security. "I think we got a little

cruise control going after the second set," Cottrill said.
"Anytime you're going to end somebody's season, they're just not going to go away.
They're make you earn it and they're going to give you everything they've got. I think it's good for us to play from behind and be in that situation. And to be able to come back and win gives us some confidence moving forward."

Once again, Novi used a well-balanced attack to earn

its 50th victory of the season.
"Obviously our setter Erin
(O'Leary) does an outstanding
job delivering the ball, but the
emergence of Ally (Cummings) – pretty much the past
month – has been the key to
our success because we're

able to spread our offense up from pin-to-pin," Cottrill said. "Before they could just camp out on them (Iacobelli twins) on the outside. And also our libero, (Jordan) Massab, is key on serve-receive and protecting the ball on first contact."

Fenton coach Jerry Eisinger came away impressed with the Wildcats.

"They (Novi) play great defense and they don't make a lot of mistakes," he said. "Even though we got on a run, it was still tough because they don't make a lot of mistakes. We're missing one of our starting middles right now (Jessica Warford), so we're missing quite a bit of firepower.

"But I thought the girls did a tremendous job of staying with it. We easily could have folded up and gave them that third game without a fight, but extremely proud of the way we played and went out."

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Warriors waylaid by Our Lady in regional

By Brad Emons Staff Writer

Novi Franklin Road Christian gave it a shot, but proved to be no match Nov. 11 against last year's Class D volleyball state runner-up Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes.

The Catholic League C-D Division champs got 13 kills from Lindsey Wightman en route to a convincing 25-13, 25-13, 25-10 victory against the Warriors in the regional at Plymouth Christian Academy.

"They had a really good hitter (Wightman) that we haven't been used to and that kind of hitting of the teams we've faced before," said Franklin Road first-year coach Michelle Angel, whose team bowed out with an 11-16-1 overall record. "So it was kind of something that we needed to adjust to, but we just didn't. We didn't adjust very well. She was really good."

Sophomore libero Danielle Fusco had eight digs, while setter Carmel Tapawan added eight assist-to-kills. Sophomore Reagan Mumford was the Warriors' top hitter with just three kills.

The Warriors simply could not get in sync against the Lakers, who improved to 25-21-5 and moved into the regional final, where they defeated host PCA in five sets to reach the quarterfinals against Marine City Cardinal Mooney.

"Communication is everything and when you don't talk, you don't move and when you don't move, you don't play well," Angel said. "It was just a trickle effect."

The future, however, looks good for the Warriors, who captured their first district title since 2000. They graduate only two seniors in Tapawan and Laura Warren.

"It looks really good," Angel said. "We have returning sophomores, a couple of juniors returning. They'll all be working in the off-season to prepare for it. We're going to be working on our hitting some more, get some more powerful hits, because we just don't have the power that we want."

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Unbeaten spikers



KATE WOODRICH

The Northville Meads Mill eighth-grade volleyball team finished its second undefeated season this year, going 10-0 in league matches while winning a pair of tournaments. Team members include (front row, from left): Maggie Petix, Natalie Turner, Emma Bell, Faelan O'Brien and Elena Lenyo, (second row, from left) Andrea Nam, Makayla Olds, Hannah Grant, Ally Backus, Natalie Barnhart and Jordin Rickard and (third row, from left) coach Angie Phillips, Izzy Guleff, Olivia Thompson, Maddie Kwiecinski, Nicole Martin, Maria Murillo and coach Kate Counts. Also on the team is coach Laura Melvin

NXC harriers sixth



NANCY SMIT

The NXC Running Club, made up of Northville High girls cross country runners, placed sixth out of 30 teams Sunday in the NIKE Midwest Regional meet held in Terre Haute, Ind. Northville's Lexa Barrott (ninth, 17:55) and Cayla Eckenroth (12th, 17:59) both broke the 18-minute barrier for 5,000 meters to earn second team all-regional honors. Other finishers for NXC included Emma Herrman (19:12), Hailey Harris (19:17), Emma Smith (19:42), Rachel Zimmer (20:11) and Taylor Gattoni (21:53). Barrott plans to compete over Thanksgiving weekend in the Foot Locker Midwest meet in Racine,

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP FOOTBALL
(MHSAA Division 2 semifinal)
Southfield vs. Warren DeLaSalle
at Novi High School, 1 p.m.
PREP HOCKEY
Thursday, Nov. 20
Detroit CC vs. Pt. Huron Northern
at McMorran Place, 6 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 21
(Metro Inv. at Novi Ice Arena)
Novi vs. Farm. Unified, 6 p.m.
Northville vs. Clarkston, 8:15 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 22
Detroit CC vs. Brighton
at Kensington Valley I.H, 5 p.m.
(Metro Inv. at Novi Ice Arena)
Northville vs. Farmington, 5:30 p.m.
Novi vs. Lake Orion, 7:45 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 26
Northville vs. Novi
at Novi Ice Arena, 6:30 p.m.
Detroit CC vs. Birm. Brother Rice
at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 29
Novi vs. Utica Eisenhower

at Novi Ice Arena, 3 p.m.
PREP VOLLEYBALL
(Class A semifinals
at Battle Creek)
Friday, Nov. 21
Novi-Fenton quarterfinal winner
vs. Mason-Grand Haven winner
at Kellogg Arena, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 22
Class A championship final
at Kellogg Arena, 2 p.m.
GIRLS SWIMMING
Friday, Nov. 21
MHSAA Division 1 prelims

GIRLS SWIMMING
Friday, Nov. 21
MHSAA Division 1 prelims
at EMU's Jones Natatorium, noon.
Saturday, Nov. 22
MHSAA Division 1 finals
at EMU's Jones Natatorium, noon.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Krick named all-MAC

Eastern Michigan University senior Molli Krick (Novi), who helped the Eagles (11-7-1) to their second straight Mid-American Conference West Division title, recently earned all-MAC first



Krick

in her career.

Krick was a primary instigator of the EMU attack by starting scoring opportunities for her team-

team accolades for the first time

mates in the midfield for all 19 games.

In her final match at EMU, Krick scored on a free kick to start a comeback in which the Eagles struck for a pair of goals during the final nine minutes of regulation to force overtime against Western Michigan before falling, 3-2, in the MAC tournament quarter-finals.

Earlier this season, Krick tallied a goal and assist in a 4-2 non-conference win over the University of Illinois-Chicago.

Krick, an exercise science major, appeared in 76 games for EMU, making 59 starts in the midfield. She finished with five career assists, while totaling nearly 6,000 minutes during her four-year career.

Novi ski swap

The Novi High School ski swap will be from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23, at the high school (atrium), 24062 Taft Road, Novi.

The swap is free, with new and used equipment items available to buy or sell such as skis, snowboards, poles, helmets, jackets, snow pants, etc.

For more information, email Novi assistant ski coach Garett Farley at gfarley@fishstix.net.

Kobakof proves to be 'the man' in middle

Novi midfielder is area's Player of the Year

> By Brad Emons Staff Writer

When it comes to being an efficient player in the midfield, Novi's Ryan Kobakof has few peers in high school boys soccer in Michigan.

The senior, who recently signed to play at the the Uni-



Kobakof

versity of Michigan, enjoyed a stellar senior season as he led the Wildcats to a 13-4-3 record.

The area boys soccer Player of the Year finished with 11 goals and eight

assists en route to Dream Team honors from the Michigan Interscholastic High School Soccer Coaches Association.

Kobakof also picked up the most votes in the MIHSSCA Division 1 all-state balloting after earning all-Kensington Lakes, all-district and all-regional honors.

"Ryan's a fierce competitor, plays all areas of the game well," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said.

'He defends very well, he passes very well and he finishes around the goal, so he really is a complete player."

First team **Grant Tyburski** Northville

The senior defender made Division 1 all-state honorable mention as well as all-KLAA and all-region as the Mustangs reached the regional finals.

"High power in the back, plays with complete control and that's why our goals against was so down," Northville coach Henry Klimes. "He solidified our back and (we) couldn't ask for a better defender all year."

Noah Kleedtke **Catholic Central**

The senior midfielder, who scored 11 goals, earned Division 1 all-state second team and all-Catholic League hon-

"He's a very dynamic play-er," CC coach Gene Pulice said. "He's got great tactical sense to him. He reads the game well. He was our captain and an outstanding leader.'

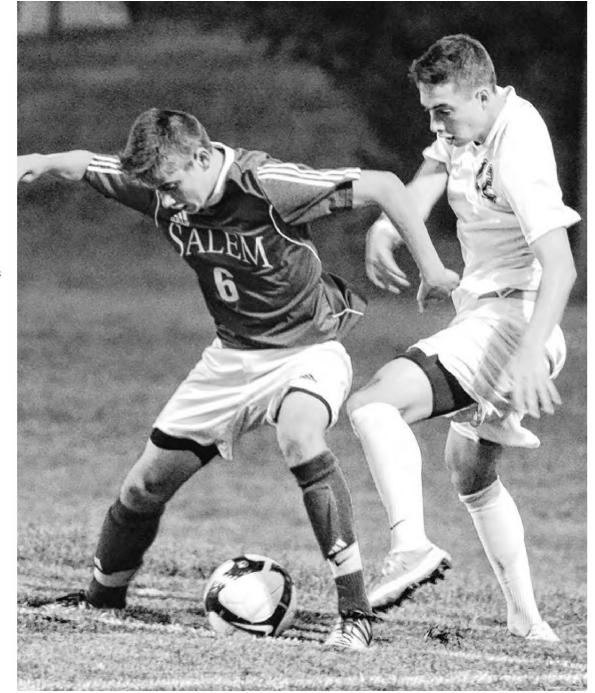
Tony Asimadu

The junior forward, who and four goals and 13 assists made Division 1 all-state honorable mention as well as allregion and all-KLAA.

'Tony was our leader as far as putting pressure on the other teams' goal," O'Leary said. "He did it with speed and did it with dribbling ability. He actually has a great combination of quickness and keeps the ball close to his feet. He does a great job beating defenders one-versus-one.

Johnny Rodriguez Northville

The junior forward, who had seven goals and seven assists, made Division 1 allstate honorable mention as well as all-region.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi's Ryan Kobakof (right) was named the area's boys soccer Player of the Year.

Gabriel Martinez, South Lyon

Kyle Capstick, Lakeland

Jorge Martinez, Lakeland

Brendan Stephan, Milford

HONORABLE MENTION

Catholic Central: Justin Murray

Northville: Nick Toupin (sr.); Alec

(jr.); Brendan Paul (sr.); Austin

Melucci (sr.); Jake Reitzloff (jr.)

Dallas (sr.)

Harris (jr.)

champion.

line.'

Novi: Amissi Kajinake (sr.); Sean

Franklin Road Christian: Gavin

Owen Jarl (jr.); Hristijan Georgiev-

Milford: Dante D'Alisio (soph.);

Roland Gibson (sr.); Kiah Finley

(soph.); Tyler Green (soph.); Tyler

Catholic League A-B Division

of recognition because he's a

still had seven goals and five

scored the tying goal against

Novi (district tourney) and he's

really a versatile player, but he

did the best for us on the back

assists," Pulice said. "He

defender, but as a defender he

"Chad didn't get a whole lot

Lakeland: Chase Rospond

South Lyon: Erik Habkirk (sr.);

ski (sr.); Jerod Allen (jr.)

ALL-AREA BOYS SOCCER

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Grant Tyburski, Northville

Garret Weaver, Northville

Roddy Green, Lakeland

David Bonhard, Milford

Alec Morgan, Northville

Dan Baldwin, Northville

Alex Kopko, South Lyon

SECOND TEAM

Jake Geary, Novi

Noah Kleedtke, Catholic Central

Johnny Rodriguez, Northville

Chad Quick, Catholic Central

Micah Charlick, Franklin Road

Peter Kirouac, Catholic Central

Tanner Spires, Franklin Road

Champ Kozlowski, Catholic Cen-

"Johnny is a tremendous

scored a couple of great goals in big-time games," Klimes said. "He's definitely a go-to

The Division 1 all-state hon-

orable mention choice, a senior

defender, also earned academ-

ic all-state honors for the

guy with a huge future next

year.

Chad Quick

Catholic Central

athlete, game-breaker and

Paul Wiedmaier, Catholic Central

Ryan Kobakof, Novi

Tony Asimadu, Novi

Kent Maidens, Novi

FIRST TEAM

Micah Charlick

Franklin Road The junior midfielder, who racked up 22 goals and 22 assists, was the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division MVP along with earning all-region and Division 4 all-state honorable mention

taking goal kicks to direct kicks to corner kicks, as well as control the middle of the field with his dribbling skills to set up our forwards," Novi Franklin Road Christian coach Paul Coombs said.

Garret Weaver Northville

The junior defender earned -district and all-KLAA hon-

"Garret was our center back along with Grant (Tyburski), a solid young defender who never missed a beat," Klimes said. "Great distribution, won all the head balls. Scored only one goal, but solid and will be a leader next year." **Kent Maidens**

The senior center midfielder finished with four goals and six assists en route to all-

"He doesn't have a lot of stats because a lot of times his role was to win balls defensively and then send them up to the

honors.

'Micah did everything from

ors for the district champions, who finished 14-6-3.

Novi

KLAA honors.

offensive mids or forwards," O'Leary said. "He was a key to our team as a connection from our defense to our offense.' **Paul Wiedmaier**

Catholic Central The senior forward earned all-region honors while scoring

"He's a forward through and through who is very dynamic," Pulice said. "He's a pacing forward, very creative. He's got a forward's mentality of 'take 'em on.'"

Roddy Green Lakeland

The junior had a monster year with 19 goals and two assists to lead Lakeland to a third-place finish in the KLAA North Division.

"Roddy is a dynamic player and a nose for the goal," coach Robert Kroezen said.

David Bonhard Milford

The junior forward notched 14 goals with six assists. He earned all-district and allconference honors.

Second team **Peter Kirouac Catholic Central**

The junior goalkeeper earned all-Catholic League, all-district and all-region honors.

Alec Morgan Northville

The senior captain scored six goals and added seven assists from the midfield while earning all-district and all-KLAA honors.

Jake Geary Novi

The senior defender finished with two assists while earning all-KLAA honors. **Tanner Spires**

Franklin Road

The junior was an all-MIAC Red first team selection and all-district pick who racked up a team-high 26 goals to go along with 10 assists.

Dan Baldwin Northville

The senior forward made all-KLAA while scoring nine goals and adding four assists. Champ Kozlowski Catholic Central

The senior defender earned all-Catholic League honors as the Shamrocks won their first A-B Division title since 1992. Alex Kopko

South Lyon

The senior defender was called the "rock" on defense by coach Brian Elliot. **Gabriel Martinez**

South Lyon

The senior midfielder took he free kicks while adding three goals and two assists. **Kyle Capstick**

Lakeland

The senior added offensive punch with seven goals and eight assists.

Jorge Martinez Lakeland

The senior provided six goals and seven assists. **Brendan Stephan**

Milford The junior forward was second on the team with 13

goals and added seven assists to earn all-district and allconference honors.

Note: South Lyon East did not submit

Undefeated season



The Northville High freshman boys soccer team recently finished an undefeated season under coach Tom Allardyce. Team members include Harrison Foster, Paul Boran, Zachary Komejan, Vasili Zestos, Nick Broda, Robbie Kuphal, Sam Stevens, Jad Jarouche, Brian Walker, June Kim, Maxwell Vereb-Hatley, Kyle Moilenen, Jeremy Puckett, Jacob Tremonti, Adam Dion, Tyler Schneider, Collin Neal and Nick Maiz.

U-11 Lightning strikes



Northville Soccer Association Lightning, a girls under-11 team, finished their season with an 8-0 division record while outscoring their opponents 40-11. The Lightning also captured the Dearborn Soccer Fest Tournament, Oct. 17-19, outscoring their opponents 11-3. Team members include (bottom row, from left): Emma Pawelski, Anna Merucci, Julia Greenlaw and Sophie James, (middle row, from left) Sophia Hoglund, Julia Huang, Samantha Rivera, Marissa Malleck and Ella Hoglund, (back row, from left) Delaney Hopkins, Maggie Swyt, Mia Gress and Miranda Provencher and (top row, from left) Robert Greenlaw, coach Megan Pawelski and assistant coach David Gress.

BUSINESS

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Oakland County in search of 'Elite 40'

If you know a young entrepreneur, community leader, teacher or any person who has made significant contributions to their chosen field and the quality of life in the region and you want them recognized for their good work, here is your chance.

Nominations are being accepted for the Oakland County Executive's Elite 40 under 40 Class of 2015. Oakland County Executive L. **Brooks Patterson started** the program in 2012 to honor young professionals and thought leaders who excel in their field and have demonstrated dvnamic leadership.

To submit a candidate, go to www.Advantage-Oakland.com/Elite40. Nominees must live or work in Oakland County to be eligible. Entries close at 5 p.m. Nov. 21

A panel of judges will review all completed applications and reduce the number to the top 40 entrants. Of that group, three candidates who scored the highest will be placed before the public for an online vote to determine the winner.

Friedman adds Northville apartment community

Friedman Integrated Real Estate Solutions was recently awarded leasing and management responsibilities for Northville Woods, a 274apartment community in Northville.

Located at 18800 Innsbrook Drive, two miles west of I-275 on the south side of Seven Mile Road between Haggerty and Northville roads, the apartment community features spacious one-, two- and three-bedroom floor plans designed to provide the quality and comfort of a premier

'We are thrilled to add Northville Woods to our multi-family portfolio on behalf of ued client," said Tracy Brown, director of Multi-Family Management. "We look forward to providing the residents with a great living environment by providing exceptional service. We will utilize our superior

management experience and expertise, and highly qualified staff to achieve our lofty goals for this community and its residents."

Amenities include private entrances, carports, ceiling fans, central air, generous walk-in closets, private patios and vaulted ceilings. Washer/dryers, skylights and wood burning fireplaces are available in select homes. Residents can enjoy the 24-hour fitness center, swimming pool, laundry centers, complimentary bike rentals, playgrounds, courtyards and grilling

Ingersoll watches return to Novi

Erastus Ingersoll and his family moved from New York state in 1825 and became the first settlers in Novi at the intersection of 10 Mile and Haggerty roads (what is now the Jaguar dealership).

A creek named after the Ingersoll family still runs pass the site of the Ingersoll homestead. Erastus' grandsons, Robert and Charles Ingersoll, formed the Ingersoll Watch Co., manufacturing Americanmade watches. Through the teaching of Henry Ford, they learned about mass production and the Ingersoll brothers were able to manufacture an American-made watch that retailed for a \$1. It came to be known as the "Watch that made the dollar famous.'

The Ingersoll brothers set up their new business in New York, which was a more commercial base at the time, with production in Connecticut. In 1933, the Walt Disney Co. commissioned Ingersoll to produce the first Mickey Mouse watch. Initially producing pocket watches, Ingersoll later moved on to produce wristwatches, which were fast becoming the fashion.

Robert Ingersoll moved to London to open an Ingersoll watch store and manufacturing in the United Kingdom. Charles staved in the U.S., but unfortunately the Depression forced the company to close.

Ingersoll is returning to the home city of Novi, presenting Ingersoll

watches in an upper level kiosk in Twelve Oaks Mall with the same principles of mechanical timepiece production at affordable luxury. The collection consists of fine automatic mechanical movement watches, quartz and a collection of Ingersoll Disney.

Ford Medical Center accredited

The sleep center at Henry Ford Medical Center-Columbus in Novi recently received program accreditation from the American Academy of Sleep Medicine.

The center is directed by Meeta Singh, M.D., and is located at 39450 W. 12 Mile Road.

To receive accreditation for a five-year period, a sleep center must meet or exceed all standards for professional health care as designated by the AASM. These standards address core areas such as personnel, facility and equipment, policies and procedures, data acquisition, patient care, and quality assurance.

Additionally, the sleep center's goals must be clearly stated and include plans for positively affecting the quality of medical care in the community it serves.

AccessPoint unveils program

Novi-based Access-Point Educational HR announced the beginning of the All A's Award Program to recognize teachers and staff members for their dedication, professionalism and for making a difference in the education of the students in schools.

AccessPoint will recognize a Teacher of the Month every month of each school year (September through May). The All A's Award Program will culminate in June of each year where an AccessPoint Educational HR committee will coordinate with members of Charter school communities to choose a Teacher of the Year recipient.

"AccessPoint Educational HR appreciates and values committed teachers and staff members who excel in their positions and are good examples in their community," AccessPoint CEO Greg Packer said.



Jim Demmer of the Demmer Automotive Group presents U.S. Army veteran Amy O'Neil with the keys to her 2005 Ford Escape.

Army veteran grateful for vehicle donation

By Brad Kadrich Staff Writer

In November 2013, U.S. Army veteran Amy O'Neil was involved in an accident that totaled the car she was driving and left her without transportation.

Her inability to replace the vehicle made it tough to get to her job at the Veterans Administration hospital in Ann Arbor.

In a ceremony Nov. 11 at the Progressive Insurance office in Livonia, the Jack Demmer Automotive Group and Progressive Insurance joined forces to help her out, donating a refurbished 2005 Ford Escape to O'Neil, a Saline resident and a member of the Plymouth VFW.

'I really appreciate this," said O'Neil, who joined the U.S. Army in 1998 at the age of 20. "I've had trouble getting to work. ... This is the best thing anyone could ever give to me."

When O'Neil's origi-

nal enlistment was up in 2002, she decided she hadn't done enough and signed up for a stint in the Army Reserves. Her unit was activated in January 2003 and, by April, O'Neil was in Iraq. After her tour was up, O'Neil was discharged in November 2003

When officials at Demmer and at Progressive were looking for a veteran to honor, Plymouth VFW officials recommended O'Neil. Demmer partnered with Progressive, the National Auto Body Council, Enterprise Rent-A-Car and several other organizations.

With parts donated from vendors, the staff at Jack Demmer Collision Centers repaired and refurbished the Escape for O'Neil, one of more than 100 veterans across the country who will receive a special vehicle on Veterans Day through Progressive's "Recycled Rides" pro-

"Amy's new job made

her a perfect candidate," for the program, project coordinator Tommy Ryan of Progressive said. "We're hoping to make a difference in a lot of lives today."

Enterprise Rent-A-Car provided O'Neil with six months' worth of free auto insurance. Regional vice president Vincent LaBella pointed out that some 10 percent of Enterprise employees are veterans and reservists. That, LaBella said, makes the company's participation in the program special.

The Demmer family also has a military history. Patriarch Jack Demmer is a World War II veteran and Jim Demmer, who spoke at Tuesday's ceremony, has a son, C.J., who is in the U.S. Marines.

'We want to say 'thank you' to all those who put their lives on the line for our country," Demmer said. "We never take that for granted."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Lotus scholar



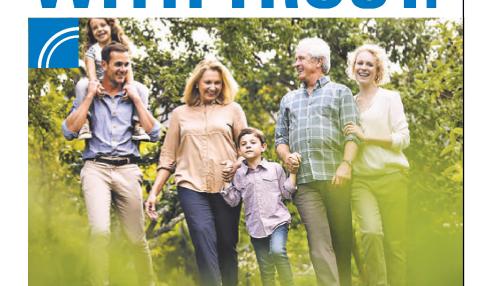
Novi-based Lotus Bank announced the recipients of the Neil J. Patel **Memorial Mathematics** Scholarships, presented by Lotus Bank in memory of Neil Patel, the son of the bank's founding chairman, Jitendra Patel. Neil Patel died in September from injuries sustained in a car accident. Sonu S. Patel (right) was awarded the first-place scholarship of \$500 by Neal Searle, Lotus Bank president. She graduated from Carlson High School in Gibraltar in 2014 and is studying biology and pre-med at Wayne State University. Searle and Jitendra Patel awarded the scholarships Oct. 18. Neil Patel was a graduate of the University of Michigan and North Farmington High School.

Fighting cancer



C&L Ward has raised \$1,790.86 for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer in several company fundraisers. In September and October, the employees, led by committee leader Beth Hemker, participated in several mini fundraisers such as penny wars, pay to wear days, pay for lunch, a football ticket raffle and more. Lastly, the company turned its Facebook page pink and used its monthly Likes for Dollars campaign for the month October where Facebook users could like the page with a dollar for every new like going to Making Strides. Shown (from left) are Hemker; Deborah Pavone, American Cancer Society; and Michelle Shook, C&L Ward.

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Certified Pre-Owned Lincoln MKS vehicles are Luxury for Less at Varsity Lincoln

By Greg Mullin Staff Writer

Varsity Lincoln of Novi's Lincoln MKS-A-THON is on. The dealership offers no turkey, no stuffing, no pumpkin pie. Just great deals. More than 40 Lincoln MKS Certified Pre-Owned vehicles are on-site, ready to drive off the lot for as low as \$14,995.

Hurry over to Varsity Lincoln these next three days to catch the deals:

» Thursday, Nov. 20,8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.» Friday, Nov. 21, 8:30

a.m. to 6 p.m.

» Saturday, Nov. 22,

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
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» Complimentary roadside assistance

Customers spoke for themselves when detailing their experiences with the team at Varsity Lincoln.

"I have the MKS and I love, love, love the technology in it," exclaimed Lincoln MKS owner Latanya Tarleton, who has been a customer at Varsity Lincoln for 16 years. "I get the best service here; I never have to worry about anything," she continued about her Varsity Lincoln experience.

"There are numerous benefits of purchasing a Lincoln MKS, including the outstanding warranty that comes with the vehicles," conveyed Jere Law, Varsity Lincoln's General Sales Manager and Pre-Owned Director. "The 100,000-mile free bumper to bumper warranty that comes along-



More than 40 Lincoln MKS Certified Pre-Owned vehicles are on-site at Varsity Lincoln.

side all Certified Pre-Owned purchases is better than a new car warranty! Additionally, any time the vehicle is in for a service visit, you can receive a loaner for no cost exclusively at Varsity Lincoln!"

Loaded with features, the Lincoln MKS will satisfy any customer, Law explained.

"The Lincoln MKS provides a combination of sporty and luxury. Benefits include FWD or AWD, dual-zone climate control, Bluetooth, SYNC, an adaptive suspension, a panoramic roof, and heated and

cooled seats for comfort, just to name a few," Law

This model defines luxury that is incomparable in this price. With Lincoln, most premium luxury features come standard, as opposed to paying additional for similar features on other comparable brands. "The Lincoln MKS stands alone in its class of vehicles," Law emphasized.

Drivers will also enjoy peace of mind from knowing that the Lincoln

MKS will hold its value.
"This model holds its value more than other

sons," Law said. "Any depreciation has already been taken on by the previous owner. Plus, the advanced styling and dependability are advantageous to the Lincoln MKS's value."

The MKS-A-Thon event showcases the Lincoln MKS, which get an EPA-estimated 27 MPG and features models with EcoBoost.

"The Lincoln MKS's gas mileage, dependability and warranty make for a solid modern vehicle and overall excellent experience," Law stated.

"The warranty is the key with all these cars:

with Certified Pre-Owned, you get the best from Varsity Lincoln," Law said. Certified Pre-Owned financing is available for as low as 0.9%

Varsity Lincoln is the number one dealer in the nation, based on 2013 Total New Retail Sales and Service Customer Satisfaction, per a Lincoln sales report.

"Leasing or buying from the number one dealer in the country gives you the best selection, price and service," Law expressed. "Our dealership is ready for any situation that may

Observer & Eccentric

arise, whether it is special financing or a specific request. We can handle every unique situation."

"Our customers speak for themselves and how their experience is. When you read the reviews our customers write online, you can see how happy they are, before, during and after the sale," Law concluded.

*0.9% APR for 36 months on select vehicles for qualified customers with Tier 0-1 approval through preferred finance source. Offer subject to change at any time. See Varsity Lincoln for details.



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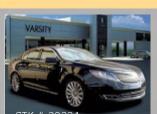
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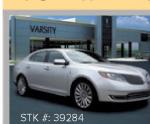
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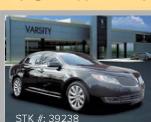


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Event

Thursday 11/20/14 8:30am-9pm • Friday 11/21/14 8:30am-6pm Saturday 11/22/14 8:30am-5pm

REAL ESTATE

JULIE BROWN, EDITOR JCBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-842-8046

FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Realtor survey: Obstacles real for young adults in buying home

Despite an improving job market and low interest rates, the share of first-time buyers fell to its lowest point in nearly three decades and is preventing a healthier housing market from reaching its full potential, according to an annual survey released Nov. 3 by the National Association of Realtors. The survey additionally found that an overwhelming majority of buyers search for homes online and then purchase their home through a real estate agent.

The 2014 National Association of Realtors Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers continues a long-running series of large national NAR surveys evaluating the demographics, preferences, motivations, plans and experiences of recent home buyers and sellers; the series dates back to 1981. Results are representative of owner-occupants and do not include investors or vacation homes.

The long-term average in this survey, dating back to 1981, shows that four out of 10 purchases are from first-time home buyers. In this year's survey, the share of first-time buyers dropped 5 percentage points from a year ago to 33 percent, representing the lowest share since 1987 (30 percent).

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, says there are many obstacles young adults are enduring on their path to homeownership. "Rising rents and repaying student loan debt makes saving for a down payment more difficult, especially for young adults who've experienced limited job prospects and flat wage growth since entering the workforce," he said. "Adding more bumps in the road, is that those finally in a position to buy have had to overcome low inventory levels in their price range, competition from investors, tight credit conditions and high mortgage insur-



GETTY IMAGES | THINKSTOCK

Despite an improving job market and low interest rates, the share of first-time buyers fell to its lowest point in nearly three decades.

ance premiums."

Yun adds, "Stronger job growth should eventually support higher wages, but nearly half (47 percent) of first-time buyers in this year's survey (43 percent in 2013) said the mortgage application and approval process was much more or somewhat more difficult than expected. Less stringent credit standards and mortgage insurance premiums commensurate with current buyer risk profiles are needed to boost first-time buyer participation, especially with interest rates likely ris-

ing in upcoming years."
The household composition of buyers responding to the survey was mostly unchanged from a year ago. Sixty-five percent of buyers were married couples, 16 percent single women, 9 percent single men and 8 percent unmarried cou-

In 2009, 60 percent of buyers were married, 21 percent were single women, 10 percent single men and 8 percent unmarried couples. Thirteen percent of survey respondents were multi-generational households, including adult children, parents and/or grandparents.

The median age of firsttime buyers was 31, un-

4056 Augusta Ct

454 Fox Hills Dr N # A-6

changed from the last two years, and the median income was \$68,300 (\$67,400 in 2013). The typical first-time buyer purchased a 1,570 square-foot home costing \$169,000, while the typical repeat buyer was 53 years old and earned \$95,000. Repeat buyers purchased a median 2,030-square foot home costing \$240,000.

Financing the purchase

Nearly nine out of 10 buyers (88 percent) financed their purchase. Younger buyers were more likely to finance (97 percent) compared to buyers aged 65 years and older (64 percent). The median down payment ranged from 6 percent for first-time buyers to 13 percent for repeat buyers. Among 23 percent of firsttime buyers who said saving for a down payment was difficult, more than half (57 percent) said student loans delayed saving, up from 54 percent a year ago.

Ninety-three percent of entry-level buyers chose a fixed-rate mortgage, with 35 percent financing their purchase with a low-down payment Federal Housing Administration-backed mortgage (39 percent in 2013), and 9 percent using the Veterans Affairs loan program with no

down payment requirements. "FHA premiums are too high in relation to default rates and have likely dissuaded some prospective first-time buyers from entering the market,' says Yun. "To put it in perspective, 56 percent of first-time buyers used a FHA loan in 2010. The current high mortgage insurance added to their monthly payment is likely causing some young adults to forgo taking out a loan.'

Characteristics of sellers

The typical seller over the past year was 54 years old (53 in 2013; 46 in 2009), was married (74 percent), had a household income of \$96,700, and was in their home for 10 years before selling a new high for tenure in home. Seventeen percent of sellers wanted to sell earlier but were stalled because their home had been worth less than their mortgage (13 percent in 2013).

Yun attributes the increase in seller's age and tenure in home to rebounding home prices. "Faster price appreciation this past year finally allowed more previously stuck homeowners with little or no equity the ability to sell after waiting the last few years," he

Sellers realized a median equity gain of \$30,100 (\$25,000 in 2013) - a 17 percent increase (13 percent last year) over the original purchase price. Sellers who owned a home for one vear to five years typically reported higher gains than those who owned a home for six to 10 years, underlining the price swings since the reces-

The 2014 NAR Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers can be ordered by calling 800-874-6500, or online at www.real tor.org/prodser.nsf/Research. The study costs \$19.95 for NAR members and \$249.95 for nonmembers. Highlights of the report are available at no

\$305,000

\$235,000

\$660,000

\$310,000

\$166,000

24836 Jamestowne Rd

24351 Knollwood St

43479 Mclean Ct

28738 Quarry Ct

23917 Ripple Crk

\$183,000

\$210,000

Protect your rights in oil, gas drilling issues

Q: Our municipality seems to be doing nothing about the possibility of oil and gas drillers coming onto our properties or adjacent properties to drill oil and gas. I am wondering what our association can do to stop it.

A: If you live in a subdivi-

sion or condominium, you should get your association to retain counsel to deal with this matter, both legally and politi-

cally. You

should band



together with other associations to put pressure on the municipality as well as the gas and oil companies to insure you have adequate protections for your property. This is an ever-increasing problem that must be dealt with aggressively and forcefully by community associations that are potentially adversely affected.

Q: The United States Constitution guarantees freedom of expression, freedom of religion and the right to bear arms. However, state legislatures, I am told, from Arizona to Massachusetts have been granting new and, in many cases, previously unheard of rights to marijuana and firearm retailers. This is, I am told, rapidly drawing planners and zoning practitioners into the debate over how these businesses best fit into their communities and whether their communities are legally obligated to accommodate these uses in the first place. What can we do about the situation?

A: It sounds like it is more a political than legal issue, but one has to be concerned about the fact that legislation might be passed that impacts adversely on the rights of community associations to protect their own interests. It may well be that a state statute preempts any particular Association Bylaw depending on the circumstances and you are best advised to get your board to activate its efforts to protect the interests of the association and to ensure that their documents are foolproof to the extent possible from areas which are adverse to the interests of a majority of the members.

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.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

\$70,000

29915 Old Bedford St

21625 River Ridge Trl

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 7-11, 2014, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices. **BEVERLY HILLS**

| BEVEKLY HILLS | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 16011 Amherst Ave | \$372,000 |
| 17810 Beverly Rd | \$225,000 |
| 31384 E Rutland St | \$244,000 |
| 16250 Locherbie Ave | \$220,000 |
| 21617 Meadow Ln | \$260,000 |
| 18414 Warwick St | \$8, 000 |
| BIRMINGHAM | |
| 990 Canterbury St | \$420,000 |
| 523 E Southlawn Blvd | \$232,000 |
| 1920 Graefield Rd | \$126,000 |
| 1235 Lyonhurst St | \$754,000 |
| 309 N Eton St # C | \$9 5,000 |
| 637 N Old Woodward | \$300,000 |
| Ave | |
| 1767 Norfolk St | \$860,000 |
| 1546 Penistone St | \$215,000 |
| 776 S Bates St | \$1,075,000 |
| 411 S Old Woodward Ave | \$177,000 |
| Unit 1013 | |
| 411 S Old Woodward Ave | \$406,000 |
| Unit 824 | |
| 998 Suffield Ave | \$665,000 |
| 268 W Brown St | \$879,000 |
| 277 W Brown St | \$1,425,000 |
| 2344 Windemere Rd | \$220,000 |
| BLOOMFIELD HILLS | |
| 1171 Kemper Ave | \$119,000 |
| 6875 Castle Ct | \$250,000 |
| 125 Guilford Rd | \$592,000 |
| 2390 Hickory Glen Dr | \$410,000 |
| 401 Lone Pine Ct | \$1,999,000 |
| 2108 Park Ridge Dr | \$260,000 |

| 13 TT OX THIIS DI NEIL TO | 470,000 |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 300 Kendry | \$140,000 |
| 3750 Peabody Dr | \$525,000 |
| 5755 Raven Rd | \$356,000 |
| 4896 School Bell Ln | \$340,000 |
| 2940 W Hickory Grove Rd | \$1,157,000 |
| 5516 Westwood Ln | \$238,000 |
| 364 Woodedge Dr | \$280,000 |
| 42160 Woodward Ave | \$130,000 |
| Unit 54 | |
| 3673 York Ct | \$475,000 |
| COMMERCE TOWNSHIP | |
| 9374 Boncrest St | \$97,000 |
| 9427 Boncrest St | \$535,000 |
| 2442 Charms Rd | \$229,000 |
| 4474 Darlene Dr | \$380,000 |
| 3793 Gulfwood Dr | \$489,000 |
| 3931 Lakes Edge Dr | \$489,000 |
| 3591 Loch Bend Dr | \$700,000 |
| 1291 Sleeth Rd | \$143,000 |
| 4630 Sundew St | \$221,000 |
| 1532 Trace Hollow Dr | \$300,000 |
| FARMINGTON | |
| 22627 Brookdale St | \$213,000 |
| 22820 Floral St | \$138,000 |
| 21016 Larkspur St | \$138,000 |
| 32282 Leelane | \$170,000 |
| 32340 Shiawassee Rd | \$179,000 |
| FARMINGTON HILLS | |
| 22293 Acadia Way | \$83,000 |
| 23332 Barfield St | \$144,000 |
| 27460 Beacon Sq | \$213,000 |
| 28225 Bellcrest St | \$186,000 |
| | |

35273 Caryn St

26320 Drake Rd

29279 Earth Ln

\$238,000

30160 Fox Club Dr

22147 Harsdale Dr

33547 Heirloom Cir

30324 Le Mans Dr

30793 Oak Valley Dr

| 2 1023 Mivel Mage III | \$210,000 |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| 29404 Shenandoah Dr | \$302,000 |
| 29484 Shenandoah Dr | \$327,000 |
| 26196 Valhalla Dr | \$296,000 |
| 30873 W 11 Mile Rd | \$173,000 |
| 30074 W 12 Mile Rd Unit | \$48,000 |
| 115 | |
| 28001 W 13 Mile Rd | \$316,000 |
| 28400 W Nine Mile Rd | \$175,000 |
| 21566 Waldron St | \$75,000 |
| 30398 Wicklow Rd | \$225,000 |
| FRANKLIN | |
| 30860 Hickory Ln | \$475,000 |
| HIGHLAND | |
| 2585 Briar Cliff Dr | \$210,000 |
| 766 E Wardlow Rd | \$145,000 |
| 350 Mcpherson | \$88,000 |
| 3390 Ridge Rd | \$165,000 |
| LATHRUP VILLAGE | |
| 17385 Avilla Blvd | \$120,000 |
| 18970 Eldorado Pl | \$170,000 |
| 28411 Eldorado Pl | \$175,000 |
| 18231 Santa Ann Ave | \$175,000 |
| MILFORD | |
| 2020 Burns Rd | \$185,000 |
| 1313 Yellowstone Valley | \$316,000 |
| Dr | |
| NORTHVILLE | |
| 38170 Connaught Dr | \$365,000 |
| 808 Revere Ct | \$134,000 |
| 43524 Scenic Ln | \$449,000 |
| NOVI | |
| 22573 Brookforest | \$241,000 |
| 50721 Calvert Isle Dr | \$715,000 |
| 45928 Crestview Dr | \$292,000 |
| 29561 English Way | \$316,000 |
| 50652 Glades Ct E | \$623,000 |
| 21901 Greentree Ln | \$305,000 |
| 44454 Gwinnett Loop | \$232,000 |
| 41600 Hamlet Ln | \$160,000 |
| 25922 Island Lake Dr | \$550,000 |
| | |

| \$29 0, 000 | 23917 Rippie Crk | שטט,סטו ב |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| \$173,000 | 39460 Westminster Cir | \$297,000 |
| \$48,000 | SOUTH LYON | |
| | 26923 Bluegrass Ct | \$387,000 |
| \$316,000 | 1333 Cartwright Ln | \$425,000 |
| \$175,000 | 23090 Cheyenne Dr | \$424,000 |
| \$75,000 | 1242 Coach House Ln | \$370,000 |
| \$225,000 | 1349 Drury Ln | \$360,000 |
| | 1160 Fountain View Cir | \$143,000 |
| \$475,000 | 61110 Greenwood Dr | \$79,000 |
| | 57200 Meadowcreek Cir | \$421,000 |
| \$210,000 | N | |
| \$145,000 | 57132 Meadowcreek Cir | \$365,000 |
| \$88,000 | S | |
| \$165,000 | 24522 Padstone Dr | \$79,000 |
| | 24563 Padstone Dr | \$73,000 |
| \$120,000 | 24476 Ravine Dr | \$533,000 |
| \$170,000 | 952 Ridgefield Ct | \$270,000 |
| \$175,000 | 61232 Saddlecreek Dr | \$379,000 |
| \$175,000 | SOUTHFIELD | |
| | 28279 Aberdeen St | \$46,000 |
| \$185,000 | 28715 Fairfax St | \$80,000 |
| \$316,000 | 25498 Parsons Dr | \$173,000 |
| | 29845 Rambling Rd | \$117,000 |
| | 27465 Red Leaf Ln | \$118,000 |
| \$365,000 | 21499 Virginia St | \$172,000 |
| \$134,000 | 21400 W Nine Mile Rd | \$13,000 |
| \$449,000 | 23697 Wendy Ln | \$145,000 |
| | 17699 Windflower Dr | \$97,000 |
| \$241,000 | WHITE LAKE | |
| \$715,000 | 915 Aglaia Dr | \$225,000 |
| \$292,000 | 8200 Filmore Ct | \$290,000 |
| \$316,000 | 72 Lisa Cir | \$180,000 |
| \$623,000 | 9376 Mandon Rd | \$145,000 |
| \$305,000 | 1441 Midwood Dr | \$90,000 |
| \$232,000 | 1153 Pinecrest Dr | \$224,000 |
| \$160,000 | 301 Tower Rd | \$132,000 |
| \$550,000 | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

\$191,000

\$250,000

\$110,000

\$380,000

\$413,000

\$430,000

\$200,000

\$330,000

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 28 through Aug. 1, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

1835 Stonycroft Ln

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

| CANTON | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| 42930 Barchester Rd | \$185,000 |
| 4042 Bruton Ave | \$188,000 |
| 7758 Charrington Dr | \$245,000 |
| 6532 Edgewood Rd | \$265,000 |
| 50906 Federal Blvd | \$77,000 |
| 1427 Hampshire Dr | \$130,000 |
| 49273 Ivybridge Way | \$135,000 |
| 2412 Lexington Cir S | \$260,000 |
| 2025 Lincoln Dr | \$255,000 |
| 1809 Manton Blvd | \$220,000 |
| 50472 Monroe St | \$340,000 |
| 2230 N Woods Ct | \$227,000 |
| 4490 Napier Rd | \$443,000 |
| 47604 Ormskirk Dr | \$135,000 |
| 47950 Pavillon Rd | \$425,000 |
| 43443 Proctor Rd | \$190,000 |
| 42731 Saltz Rd | \$180,000 |
| 3470 Shepherd Ct | \$211,000 |
| 41791 Singh Dr | \$358,000 |

| 1224 Terrell Ct | \$175,00 |
|----------------------|----------|
| 1541 Valentine Ct | \$242,00 |
| 6874 Willow Creek Dr | \$179,00 |
| GARDEN CITY | |
| 31449 Alvin St | \$83,00 |
| 29949 John Hauk St | \$95,00 |
| 32661 Marquette St | \$113,00 |
| 6714 Schaller St | \$110,00 |
| LIVONIA | |
| 38188 Ann Arbor Trl | \$50,00 |
| 18543 Bainbridge Ave | \$195,00 |
| 27732 Bobrich St | \$119,00 |
| 37073 Bristol St | \$208,00 |
| 39097 Dover St | \$171,00 |
| 10041 E Clements Cir | \$118,00 |
| 37471 Eagle Dr | \$295,00 |
| 30725 Fargo St | \$78,00 |
| 11866 Farmington Rd | \$123,00 |
| 8883 Knolson Ave | \$245,00 |
| 36420 Ladywood St | \$235,00 |
| 18147 Levan Rd | \$98,00 |
| 8900 Louise St | \$45,00 |
| 15033 Marsha St | \$177,00 |
| 9166 Newburgh Rd | \$177,00 |
| 35493 Oakdale St | \$200,00 |
| | |

14665 Park St

19356 Pollvanna Dr

| \$175,000 | 30542 Puritan St | \$238 |
|------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| \$242,000 | 14130 S Livonia Cres | \$15! |
| \$179,000 | 18259 Stamford St | \$26! |
| | 18435 Westmore St | \$17! |
| \$83,000 | NORTHVILLE | |
| \$9 5,000 | 16342 Brookwood Ct | \$279 |
| \$113,000 | 42337 Chatterton Ct | \$274 |
| \$110,000 | 39481 Edgewater Dr | \$309 |
| | 39722 Muirfield Ln | \$290 |
| \$50,000 | 49432 N Glacier | \$400 |
| \$195,000 | 17599 Parkshore Dr | \$980 |
| \$119,000 | 15874 Portis Rd | \$338 |
| \$208,000 | 351 S Rogers St | \$240 |
| \$171,000 | 19460 Scenic Harbour Dr | \$26 |
| \$118,000 | 39650 Southwind Ln | \$29! |
| \$295,000 | 45667 Tournament Dr | \$11! |
| \$78, 000 | 205 68 W oodbend Dr | \$46! |
| \$123,000 | PLYMOUTH | |
| \$245,000 | 9177 Baywood Dr | \$260 |
| \$235,000 | 13477 Cambridge Ct | \$33! |
| \$98, 000 | 1150 Dewey St | \$35! |
| \$45,000 | 40519 Micol Dr | \$19! |
| \$177,000 | 10163 N Canton Center | \$330 |
| \$177,000 | Rd | |
| \$200,000 | 47060 N Territorial Rd | \$999 |
| \$174,000 | 1340 Ross St | \$138 |
| \$245,000 | 1199 S Sheldon Rd | \$48 |
| | | |

| \$550,000 | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|
| | | |
| | | |
| S-WAYI | NE COUNTY | |
| \$238,000 | 12026 Talltree Dr | \$324,000 |
| \$155,000 | 48672 Timber Crest Ct | \$385,000 |
| \$265,000 | 46645 W Ann Arbor Trl | \$350,000 |
| \$175,000 | 1064 William St | \$635,000 |
| | REDFORD | |
| \$279,000 | 25301 Five Mile Rd | \$8,000 |
| \$274,000 | 12960 Beech Daly Rd | \$94,000 |
| \$309,000 | 26014 Grand River Ave | \$13,000 |
| \$290,000 | 18287 Macarthur | \$81,000 |
| \$400,000 | 16701 Norborne | \$60,000 |
| \$980,000 | 9161 Rockland | \$90,000 |
| \$338,000 | 26536 Vassar Ave | \$50,000 |
| \$240,000 | 8911 Woodbine | \$70,000 |
| \$261,000 | 14383 Wormer | \$75,000 |
| \$295,000 | WAYNE | |
| \$115,000 | 35405 Glenwood Rd | \$135,000 |
| \$465,000 | WESTLAND | |
| | 1190 Abbey Ct | \$150,000 |
| \$260,000 | 33118 Armada Ct | \$25,000 |
| \$335,000 | 31214 Cooley Blvd | \$110,000 |
| \$355,000 | 32337 Glen St | \$30,000 |
| \$195,000 | 421 Lansdowne Dr | \$160,000 |
| \$330,000 | 32224 Mackenzie Dr | \$135,000 |
| | 8203 Milburn St | \$90,000 |
| \$999,000 | 6025 N Crown St | \$61,000 |
| \$138,000 | 38224 N Rickham Ct | \$135,000 |
| \$48,000 | 30801 Stephen Ct | \$131,000 |

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.

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 loca-

RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

Car Report

Mercedes-Benz Rising With New Model Nomenclature, Return of Maybach Name



name? Ouite a lot, actually, when it comes to premium-luxury brands. car Mercedes-Benz is extending a new trend in the industry by By Dale Buss overhauling the names used to

identify its vehicles as it prepares for

the launch of 30 models, including 11 all-new vehicles, by 2020. As part of its re-badging,

the automaker announced the resurrection of the resurrecting of the Maybach name on a model that was to be introduced at the Los Angeles Motor Show, the important industry event whose media preview was in mid-November.

The Maybach brand represented the company's ultra-high-end models before being retired in 2012. Now, as rumored earlier this year, Maybach is making a comeback, sub-brand, which will serve as a home for Mercedes-Benz ultraluxury-high-end automobiles.

uber-plush Mercedes-Maybach S600 was to be presented at China's Guangzhou auto show as well as in L.A. According to the company, the model will provide "extra spaciousness, special seats and lavishly designed, prestigious interiors offering extensive scope for individualization." And another hallowed brand name may be revived, with Pullman possibly adorning an ultra-long model.

Reviving model names is just one piece of the puzzle, as the automaker is also hoping to clear up confusion over the Mercedes-Benz naming system. Brand stewards started rethinking the marque's naming scheme after they had to add not only second but also third letters to their previous one-letter model designations (such as "CLA" where "C-Class" sufficed earlier). Such a matrix would get even or what Mercedes-Benz calls "an increasingly complex situation.'

Now they're aiming to make "our system of vehicle nomenclature even more understandable." The new naming system will be "simpler, more transparent and more logical" with the "aim of providing clear orientation for our customers."

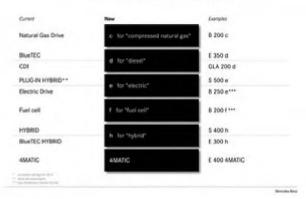
"After more than 20 years of continuity involving some of the most recognized and successful product names in the world, we are now making our system of vehicle nomenclature even more understandable," Jens Thiemer, head of marketing communications for Mercedes-Benz passenger cars, said in a statement.

So, going forward, Mercedes-Benz will have five core models: A, B, C, E and S; crossovers will have a "GL" in their name.

The letter that follows each of those initials will indicate the vehicle's size, similar to how the brand has differentiated its sedans through the years. Thus the compact GLA becomes GL A-Class; the GLK will be renamed GL C-Class. And so on.

There are a lot more wrinkles to this new nomenclature that Mercedes-Benz explained in its press release, including the fact that for engines other than gasolinepowered it will use lowercase letters to designate the powertrain, such as "c" for compressed natural gas, replacing "National Gas Drive" in Europe; "d" for diesel, replacing BlueTEC and CDI; "e" for electric models, "f" for fuel cell and "h" for hybrid.

New nomenclature drive systems*



Here's how Mercedes-Benz is describing its new nomenclature.

Naming schemes have become a crucial part of luxury auto branding, with numbers, letters and alphanumeric combinations seeming to provide a sophisticated and even high-tech sheen to model names, in contrast to the names of mainstream vehicles that are usually words, including coined

Naming architectures that provide understated but complementary names to individual vehicles also underscore the importance of the overall brand and its characteristics instead of individual vehicles. This approach to naming is where luxury marques get the biggest payoff from their investments in brand marketing.

In this regard, BMW, with its easyto-understand laddered-number system beginning with the 1 Series and extending on up through the 5 Series and so on, has set the standard. Audi has done something

similar with its A3, A4, A6 and so on designations for cars and Q3, Q5 and Q7 and so on for SUVs.

Infiniti and Cadillac are two other brands that covet naming schemes more akin to these German competitors. Cadillac, for example, is embarking on a new nomenclature with its decision to call its next major sedan the CT-6 and to designate all future cars with a "CT" prefix, while all future SUVs will be designated with "XT" plus a number.

Will Mercedes-Benz's "logical" system provide extra magic to the brand in its intense global competition for the luxury auto consumer? Or amount to a murky new bowl of alphabet soup?

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[Images via Mercedes-Benz]



Mercedes-Benz plans to renew the "Maybach" name for an ultra-high-end vehicle.



Are vou looking to sell vo used vehicle and would like to reach over **140,000** po ential buyers and have it nationwide website to eve widen the opportunity of selling it?

ccentric/Hometown Newspapers is the place o advertise it!

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Extra \$5 add a photo 4 line minimum (\$2.00 f each additional line)

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wanted-1970's-1990's paying cash for Vmax SRX GPX Exciter SS440 SRV

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Vans

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Sports Utility

'08 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER SUPERCHARGED like new. \$31,995

Brighton Ford 800-836-7697 '14 INFINITI QX80

AWD Moonroof, navigation, rear ent., only 9,000 miles. \$65,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697

Mercury '10 Mountaineer Premier 8 cyl, Lthr, 69,500 mi Silver, Loaded Premier, mroof

Sports & Imported

'12 BMW X3 AWD Navigation, moonroof, only 23,000 miles. \$28,995

Brighton Ford 800-836-7697

Cadillac

'14 CADILLAC CTS 3.6 PERFORMANCE AWD Moonroof navigation only 7,000 miles.

\$41,995

800-836-7697 Chevrolet

'05 CHEVY EQUINOX nroof, leather, great \$9,995

Brightón Ford 800-836-7697

'13 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500 HD CREW CAB LTZ 4X4 Duramax diesel, only 12,000 miles. \$47,995

Brighton Ford 800-836-7697

'13 CHEVY VOLT SEDAN Full pwr. one owner. 27,000 miles. **\$20,995 Brighton Ford** 800-836-7697

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When you started your search for an information technology position, you were optimistic. People you knew seemed to have no problem landing great tech jobs, or they were telling you about other people who had just been hired. But now that you've sent out many resumes with little or no response, you're wondering why no one is snapping you up. What's going on?

First, take comfort in knowing that the demand for skilled IT talent hasn't waned, so there are still opportunities to be had. However, the emphasis here is on "skilled:" Companies that are hiring generally seek experienced professionals with specific skills.

If your experience or area of expertise doesn't quite align with what many employers are looking for right now, it doesn't mean you aren't a viable candidate for hire. You may just need to confirm that you're doing everything you can to give yourself an edge in a competitive marketplace. Here's some advice:

Revive your resume

You've sent out your resume a bunch of times. But is it a good resume?

Does it underscore the skills, talents and credentials that make you marketable and valuable to an employer? Does it clarify employment gaps and accentuate the positive things you've done while searching for a new role? Does it highlight specific achievements?

One thing employers want to see from job seekers today is an explanation of how they solved a critical problem, increased efficiency or otherwise saved the organization headaches, time or money. If you have a great

story, use your job application materials to tell it.

Another important question: Are you leveraging terminology from employers' job descriptions in your resume and cover letter?

For additional insight, look to the "2013 Robert Half Technology Salary Guide" for a glossary of common IT positions and their responsibilities.

Also include a professional summary at the top of your resume that succinctly highlights your most relevant qualifications and accomplishments. That way, hiring managers will have a snapshot view of what's most important to know about you as an IT professional.

Critique your credentials

You're a technology pro, so no doubt you already understand the importance of having up-to-date technical skills and certifications. However, are you sure you have the best credentials for the jobs you're applying for? If you don't, that may be holding you back from getting an interview or an invitation to a second one.

Just like technology itself, IT roles are always evolving. Use your professional network to find out what skills and designations your peers landing employment offers have earned. You may need some additional training to increase your value to a potential employer, and this may require making that investment in yourself. Most employers are looking for IT professionals who can hit the ground running; they prefer you to come to the job with the in-demand credentials in hand.

Many firms are specifically seeking technology professionals who understand the challenges today's businesses face in harnessing the power of big data, seizing mobile opportunities and embracing a "bring your own device" approach. If you have relevant experience in any of these areas, make it known.

Expand your network

Professional networking, conducted both online and in person, can help you connect to relevant job opportunities faster. However, if your network consists primarily of your peers who are also looking for employment -- or aren't employed at firms that are expanding their IT teams -- you need to broaden your scope of contacts.

Reconnect with old business contacts, mentors, teachers or family friends who have some business clout. Take advantage of networking events and other activities offered by local business organizations or professional associations. Be active in online networks such as Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter -- just be sure to keep all content fresh and professional. Once you've expanded your network, focus primarily on cultivating contacts who can introduce you to influential and well-connected people at the companies you'd like to work for most.

Lastly, don't fail to consider the opportunities and connections that an interim work arrangement might yield. A specialized recruiter can assist you in finding temporary IT positions. Often, these engagements lead to full-time roles for talented workers. Working as an interim technology professional also can help you earn income -and keep your skills sharp -- while you continue your search for fulltime employment.

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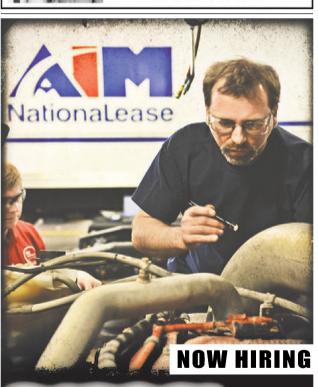
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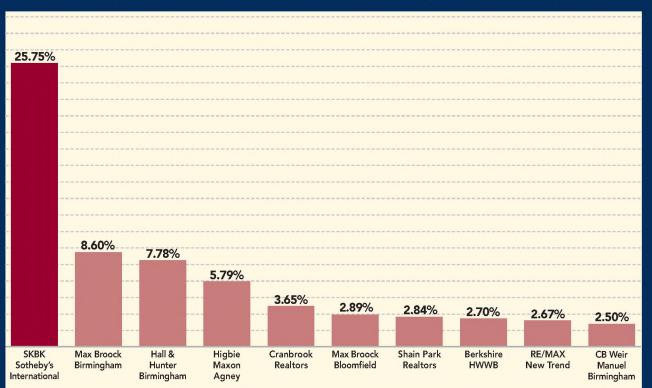
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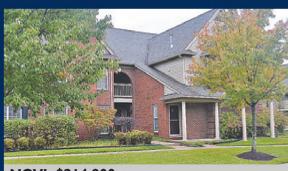
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