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Novi News

HomeTown COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK



Your hometown newspaper serving Novi and the Lakes area for over 48 years

Thursday, November 25, 2004

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50¢

Volume 49 Number 26

Novi, Michigan

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Look inside for your
GREEN SHEET
Classifieds

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SPECIAL SECTION



The holiday shopping season kicks off tomorrow. Get ready with this section, packed with gift ideas for everyone on your Christmas list.

SPORTS



For Novi basketball coach Bill Kelp, it was a bittersweet ending to his second year at the helm of the girls program.

OBITUARIES

Randall W. Russell, 50

John W. Vincent, 85

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Ring 'em in!

Novi kicks off holiday season next Thursday on Main Street

By Kim Baker
SPECIAL WRITER

Novi's Main Street area will serve as a venue for a crowd 3,000 strong Dec. 2 when Novi Parks, Recreation & Forestry hosts its annual "Ringing in the Holidays" event.

"It's kicking off the holiday season in Novi," said Tracie Ringle, event and marketing coordinator.

The event will take place between 6 and 9 p.m. and will include an electric light parade, carolers, an arts and crafts show, photos with Santa, carriage rides, a magician, a puppet show, a Kris Kringle workshop and a children's North Pole area.

"The highlight of the event is the parade," Ringle said. "This year we're looking forward to having about 23 entries."

The parade's participants will march through Market Street and turn onto Main Street at 6:30 p.m.

Entries will include the Novi Lions, Novi's middle and high school marching bands and area

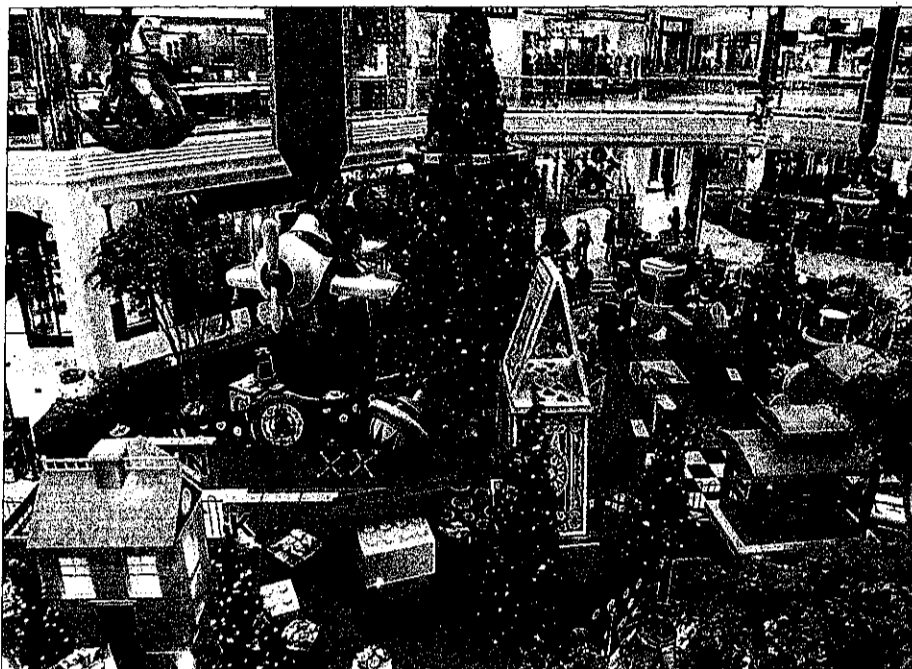


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Before and after "Ringing in the Holidays," visit Twelve Oaks Shopping Center's Christmas display, "Toys Thru Time," in the mall's center courtyard area. It took five months to design and three months to build the 68-foot by 28-foot display, the first new holiday scenery at the mall in four years. It was assembled on-site by Ann Arbor-based Nostalgic Whimsy. Below, Julie DeMay and her two daughters, Laurel, 4, and Bella, 2, visit with Santa Claus.

Girl Scouts, who will also host a bake sale in the Main Street building. Photos with Santa will immediately follow the parade.

The event will feature local charitable organizations as well. The Novi Goodfellows will have volunteers dress up as Campbell's soup cans and push electrically lit shopping carts through the parade.

"We ask for people to bring canned goods and non-perishable food items and put those into the carts when they see them come through the parade route," said Ringle. The Farmington Hills Salvation Army will also

be holding a toy drive at the event.

The North Pole area, which is outdoors, will be enhanced this year with ice carving demonstrations, heated tents and a trackless train. The train carries about 12 kids at a time and will go up and down Main Street.

The indoor fun will be enhanced by the arts and craft show's holiday gifts for sale, Oak Pointe Church's band and the giveaway of the City of Novi's annual holiday ornament.

Ringle said Novi Parks, Recreation & Forestry is grateful



to all the event's sponsors, including the title sponsor, Providence Hospital. "They are great to work with," she said. "Ringing in the Holidays" is free of charge and fun for all involved, Ringle said. "This is one of my favorite events to plan."

For more information, contact Novi Parks, Recreation & Forestry at (248) 347-0400.

Kim Baker is a University of Michigan-Dearborn intern at the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 109 or at kbaker@ht.homecomm.net.

She's 'a lady in every sense of the word'

Georgina Tucker celebrates 100 years today

By Kim Kovellev
STAFF WRITER

At the century mark, Georgina Tucker exercises regularly, says she's never had a sick day and, as those who know her well say, always dresses in style.

Tucker turns 100 today. She'll celebrate tomorrow at her Waltonwood senior community home in Novi, along with 40 family members.

"I don't have a secret," Tucker said last week, clad in a red-and-black outfit accented by pearl jewelry and a neatly-kept crown of white hair. "It just happened."

Born in Windsor, Tucker's father, William Thomas Shaw, was a Presbyterian minister. She had two sisters, May and Bertha, and mother Florence. The family traveled to several Canadian towns until Shaw died when Tucker was 8.

"I just remember going to church every Sunday and sitting

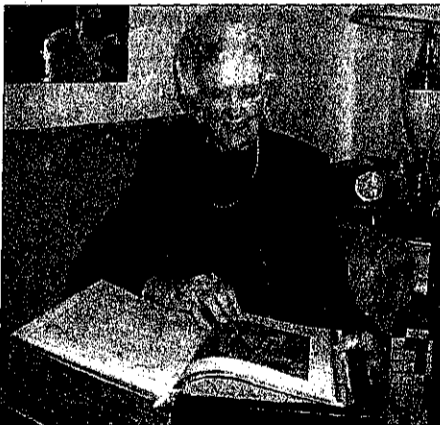


Photo by KIM KOVELLEV

Georgina Tucker flips through a family heirloom Bible circa the 1700s. Tucker, a Waltonwood resident, celebrates her 100th birthday today.

in the very first pew with my sisters," Tucker said. "My mother played the organ, so the three of us sat there and behaved."

One churchgoing story involved a scratchy straw hat and a carriage ride.

"We always had to wear a hat

to church. My hat blew off in the buggy. Nobody noticed it 'til we got to church and I didn't have a hat to wear," Tucker recalled, laughing. "They (still) let me go in. I was glad to get rid of that hat."

When Tucker was 14, the fam-

ily settled in Detroit. While attending services at Highland Park Presbyterian, she met Guy Tucker, an engineer from Tennessee.

"I was sitting ... up in the balcony; there was a group of us," she recalled. "He walked in church, and he was good looking, and I said to myself, 'I've got to meet that guy and hang onto him.'"

They started walking from church and were inseparable from their 1927 wedding until Guy's death in 1968.

"We just kind of went together," Tucker said.

After graduating from Northern High School in Detroit, Tucker earned a teaching degree. She subbed fourth and fifth grades at Wayne Elementary School when not tending to three daughters: Joyce Cates, Sue Weinert and Sally Ward.

Weinert, now married 51 years, recalled being her mother's pupil. "I got out of playing piano a lot easier in her class," she said of music sessions. Other times, things weren't so easy for Weinert — or "Sally," as classmates nicknamed her.

"The class would (say), 'Call

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Wait and see for homes

Homeowners camp for piece of former park

By Kim Kovellev
STAFF WRITER

Sleeping in their vehicles, they waited nearly three days. Some switched shifts with their spouses. Others had Realtors in their stead.

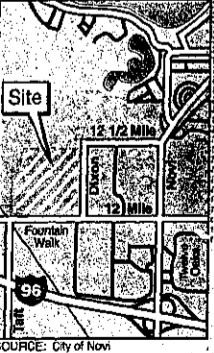
Drawn by buzz, the campers recently headed for Twelve Mile and Dixon roads for their chance to snag a future home on what was once 75 acres of parkland.

Novi's Liberty Park, being developed by Pulte Homes, opened sales on the first phase of its 304 single-family homes Sept. 25 and about 500 town homes Oct. 23.

"We grand opened at 8 a.m. (Saturday), Sept. 25," said Jody Proudfit, Pulte marketing manager.

continued on page 2

Liberty Park of Novi



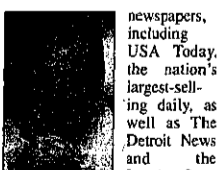
Gannett Co. buys Novi News parent company

Deal could be finalized by year's end

HomeTown Communications Network, the parent company of the Novi News, is being sold to the Gannett Co.

Terms of the deal, subject to review by antitrust regulators at the U.S. Justice Department, were not disclosed.

Gannett publishes 101 daily



P. Power

"Gannett is the world's largest newspaper company, with a demonstrated track record of capable professional management, great finan-

cial stability and high community involvement," said Phil Power, chairman of the board of HomeTown Communications.

"I wanted the newspapers, telephone directories and other publications that I spent so much of my career building to wind up in good hands after I left. I believe Gannett's hands are the best available."

In addition to the Novi News, HomeTown Communications Network publishes 62 weekly and twice-weekly newspapers in Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky,

with an overall circulation of more than 740,000. Weekly newspapers include the Novi News, Northville Record, South Lyon Herald and Milford Times.

The company also owns the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and publishes the Howell-based Livingston County Daily Press & Argus.

The HomeTown network also includes 24 community telephone directories with a total dis-

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100th birthday

continued from front

"It was out in the country," Tucker said, grinning. "I called her to satisfy the kids."
The family moved to Livonia in the 1940s to a well-tended home that May and her husband built on Schoolcraft Road. They tended to a large garden boasting snapdragons and petunias.
At that time, with 1-96 nowhere in sight, Schoolcraft was a simple dirt road.
"It was out in the country," Tucker said. "Our house was the only house in that block between Merriam and Middlebelt. (May) and her husband ... used to ride their horses."
After the expressway came in the 1960s and Schoolcraft was converted to a service drive, Tucker moved closer to Five Mile Road, and then to Plymouth before landing in Novi.
Tucker's hearing and hip aren't quite what they used to be. Weichert said, but she "will have her towels and her aprons." At 100, Tucker exercises six days a week at 10:45 a.m. under the leadership of events coordinator Chris Lee.
"She's my No. 1 exercise person," Lee said. "She's very social, very independent. She's always dressed impeccably with jewelry. She's a lady in every sense of the word. She's an inspiration."
Tucker said she's thought most of her accessories.
"I love jewelry," she said. "I've got about three drawers full. I have every kind - silver and gold and pearls."
In Tucker's apartment are illustrations by May and Joyce, a skill inherited by Tucker's mother, who painted flowers on mirrors.
Tucker collected teacups and saucers over time, but with recent moves, she's given many away to her children, seven grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.
She will readily jump to fetch her 13-year-old cat, Calie, and to greet visitors like caregiver Ronald Allen.
"The president sent me a birthday card," she told Allen.
Tomorrow, there'll also be a large sheet cake, piñata, entertainment and races - her favorite - to honor her centennial.
What will the future hold?
Tucker's pale blue eyes widened. Chuckling, she replied, "Take one day at a time, and be happy. I'm still here."

LIBERTY PARK INFO

Pulte Homes' Liberty Park is located west of Dixon Road, north of Twelve Mile Road in Novi, across the street from the Fountain Walk shopping center.
• For information on single family homes, call Kristian Renski at (248) 374-9890.
• For information on the townhomes at Liberty Park townhouses, call Nick Czar at (248) 348-2800.

Background: 'Liberty' from a lawsuit

Before ground broke for Liberty Park, the City of Novi spent years setting a major lawsuit with Sandstone Associates Limited Partnership.
The firm originally intended to build its Vistas of Novi development at Thirteen Mile and Novi roads. That meant redirecting Novi Road further east.
When the city allegedly didn't construct the road soon enough, Sandstone said the project couldn't be marketed in a timely manner and filed suit against the city.
In January 1999, an Oakland County Circuit Court ruled in

Homeowners play wait and see

continued from front

"The first 26 sites were spoken for ... by about one o'clock in the afternoon. We actually took a couple of extra agreements and put them into pending for phase two."
"We had over 300 people registered for the VIP list. Since grand opening, we've had about 50 people a week come through this site interested in buying."
All this, and the wooden beams haven't even gone up.
The land, once part of the 550-acre North Novi Park, was given by the city of Novi to Sandstone Associates Limited Partnership to remedy a seven-year, \$72 million lawsuit.
Pulte bought the land from Sandstone after the 2002 settlement.
Assistant City Manager Clay Pearson said home numbers dropped from earlier estimates.
"It's all substantially less number of units than was allowed under the original consent judgment," Pearson said. "I could have been much higher density. Renski said homeowners for the first phase might be moving in as soon as this May."

Twelve Mile, which you see is developed considerably with retail and office. It's wrapped around by the park around there."
Pulte's Kristen Renski, area sales manager in charge of single-family homes, and Nick Czar, sales counselor for the townhomes, are almost always at the site, open daily 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Czar, present for the grand opening activities, said potential neighbors got to know each other during the event.
"The camp-out was actually a pretty fun experience," he said. "We rented a big screen TV. We brought them food, tried to keep them occupied."
Five Porta-Johns, a large tent with tables, a security guard and three daily meals were on hand. The night before official sales, a contact review session was held.
For the single-family homes, perspectives came in trucks, vans, campers and even a tent.
"You just had to have a person there to hold your place," she said. "They were really true, true troopers. It was unbelievable."
Renski said homeowners for the first phase might be moving in as soon as this May.

"We just got the roads in," she said. "We will be pulling permits pretty shortly here and digging foundations. If we stay at the same pace, it'll probably be earlier than expected."
The single-families range in price from \$345,990-\$390,990, and townhomes will be in the mid-\$100,000s, according to the duo.
The site is also being sold on its "walking distance" to the Fountain Walk shopping center, across Twelve Mile to the south, and to the southeast.
"There are many traffic lights through that area, a couple of intersections where people could cross the road. I think there's a good likelihood that people will," Proudfoot said. "From the site, you cross Twelve Mile and you're in the parking lot at Galyns."
As of last week, more than 55 single family homes were sold.
"They seem to be coming from everywhere," Proudfoot said.
Kim Kovelie is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at kovelie@nnow.com.net.

Council approves legal funding through end of fiscal year

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

In a growing city like Novi, where major lawsuits with developers and other parties are commonplace, negotiating a contractual agreement with a law firm is no luxury - it's a necessity.
After three council meetings, and no doubt lengthy closed-door discussions, Novi City Council members finally came to an agreement Monday night on how much to pay Secrest, Wardle, Lynch, Hampton, Tracy and Mirely, the city's law firm of choice.
The council unanimously approved a budget amendment to

provide additional funds that will pay for legal services for the rest of the fiscal year. This amounted to \$162,500, with a corresponding amendment of the contract further reducing Secrest Wardle's fees.
The amended agreement, which Secrest Wardle partner Gerald Fisher devised, was actually the third proposal. Council accepted a fee structure of \$125/hour for partners, \$110 for senior associates and \$105 for associates at the firm.
Secrest Wardle provided a detailed list of which attorneys in the firm were in which category as well as their principal respon-

sibilities.
The council approved the \$162,500 in funding before discussing final approval of the contract.
Council members talked about an ordinance that would change requirements, obligations and fees for legal work financed by escrow funds - money set aside for legal expenses.
Fisher suggested that an operating procedure be established on legal work of this nature, which would not need to be part of the ordinance.
Mayor Lou Csordas suggested creating a job order number for each legal case, and assign fees to

that number.
Members unanimously approved the first reading of the ordinance, with certain amendments. The proposed ordinance will come before council again before its final adoption.
Mayor Pro Tem David Landry said he would like to have the city's administration review legal appeals before they come before city council.
Novi retains the firm of Secrest Wardle for all of its general legal services, except prosecuting traffic violations in District Court, labor and employment law services, and bond counsel.
Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@nnow.com.net.

Gannett purchases Novi News parent company

continued from front

tribution of nearly 1.5 million; shopping guides; and 18 other specialty and niche publications. The company has a digital operation, with Web sites and Web-based services including design and production, as well as commercial typesetting and printing from four plants.
HomeTown, based in Livonia, expects 2004 revenue of more than \$86 million. It employs about 780 people.

"HomeTown's publications are an excellent fit with Gannett's operations in these growth areas of Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky," said Gary Watson, president of Gannett's Newspaper Division. "We're very pleased that company founder Phillip Power and his wife, Kathleen, looked to Gannett when they decided to retire."
"The Powers made very smart decisions in the nearly 40 years they owned and operated HomeTown, and we plan to con-

tinue in that tradition."
Gannett also owns more than 600 non-daily publications in the United States as well as USA Weekend, a weekly newspaper magazine. Gannett subsidiary Newsquest is the United Kingdom's second-largest regional newspaper company. Newsquest publishes more than 300 titles, including 17 daily newspapers, and a network of prize-winning Web sites. Gannett also operates 21 televi-

sion stations in the United States and is an Internet leader with sites sponsored by its TV stations and newspapers including USATODAY.com, one of the most popular news sites on the Web.

HOMETOWN HISTORY

HomeTown Communications Network Inc. is owned by Phil Power and his wife, Kathy. The company was founded by Power in December 1965 as Observer Newspapers Inc., publishing six Observer weekly newspapers serving Western Wayne County communities.
In 1974, Observer Newspapers and Synercom Communications Corporation were merged, linking the Observer group with the Eccentric newspapers, based in Birmingham. The company's name was changed to Suburban Communications Corp. at that time.
Through the ensuing years, other newspapers were added, both by acquisition and through startups. The company was renamed HomeTown Communications Network, Inc. in July 1995.
The company owns one daily newspaper, 62 weekly and twice-weekly newspapers, two specialty newspapers, one shopping guide and 24 community telephone directories. Total aggregate circulation of the company's newspaper publications is more than 740,000. The company also engages in commercial typesetting and printing from its plants in Livonia, Howell and Camden.

Mich., and Cincinnati, Ohio. The company also operates a digital operation, with Web sites and Web-based services including design and production.
Power is chairman of HomeTown's Board of Directors. President and CEO is Richard D. Agnina. The company has a small corporate staff at its headquarters in Livonia. It operates through seven subsidiaries, each headed by a general manager.
HomeTown Communications Network is widely recognized as one of the nation's leading publishers of community newspapers and telephone directories. Over the years and taken together, its newspapers have won more state and national awards for excellence than any other company in the community newspaper industry.
In September 2000 HomeTown launched the first new daily newspaper in Michigan in 45 years; today, the six-day morning Livingston Daily Press & Argus is Michigan's fastest-growing daily newspaper.
Power's award-winning column appears weekly in the company's Michigan newspapers.

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Parade entries sought
The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department is seeking entries for the 3rd Annual "Ring in the Holidays-Electric Light Parade," set for Thursday, Dec. 2, at 6 p.m. in Novi's Main Street area. The department is seeking floats, vehicles and marching groups for the event, which attracted over 2,500 people last year. For more information call (248) 347-0400.

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COMMUNITY

Pam Fleming, staff writer (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 pfleming@ht.homecomm.net



Putting on the glitz

Dance Electric Performing Arts Studio's Performing Company with members from Novi, Northville, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Livonia and West Bloomfield, will be putting the holiday glitz on Woodward Avenue in Detroit Thursday during the America's Thanksgiving Parade. The D.E.P.A.C. performers (Alesha Bagdol, Alex Bourque, Allison Canner, Heather Fisher, Jenna Samuels, Marli Samuels, Lauren Tucker, Danielle Wesolowicz, Julie Wesolowicz, Lara Wilson), adorned in classic red-and-white Santa's assistant costumes, precede the ever-popular Santa's Toyshop float in America's Thanksgiving Parade.

Courtesy photo

Novi girl to perform with Rockettes

She shares role of Clara with Northville resident

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Eleven-year-old Emma Young of Novi will have the opportunity to perform with the world-famous Radio City Rockettes this week when she appears on stage at the Fox Theatre in Detroit.

The Novi Meadows Elementary School sixth-grader will share the role of Clara with Northville resident Amy Yakima in the dance troupe's rendition of "The Nutcracker: A Teddy Bear's Dream." Yakima also performed with the Rockettes last year in Detroit.

"We switch shows, so we're not performing in back-to-back shows," said Young, who will also play a little girl in other segments.

The 20th edition of the Radio City Christmas Spectacular, presented by Fifth Third Bank, returns to the Fox for its eighth season Nov. 26-Dec. 26, with 52 performances.

"It's a really great opportunity to work with so many people. We have a tutor at the Fox Theatre, so we don't get behind at school. We've been rehearsing for about two weeks," Young said.

Young auditioned for the performances in April in Chicago.

"I auditioned with a couple of my friends from the dance studio, so it was a lot of fun," said Young, who attends Gulliano's School of Dance in Madison Heights.

"This is my third year. I like jazz, ballet, tap, miracle dancing, which is like jazz and ballet combined, and hip-hop," she said. "I really like to act and dance."

Young is enjoying her time with the famous dancers.

"It's really fun. I'm met a lot of new people who are a lot of fun to

be around," she said.

Young, the daughter of Numan and Denise Young of Novi, also enjoys gymnastics and hanging out with her friends.

Children of all ages will be enchanted by the Fox Theatre performances, when teddy bear dancers, wooden soldiers come to life, snow-men shimmy, reindeer fly, elves rap, and the Radio City Rockettes perform their fancy footwork and eye-high kicks.

Famed dance numbers, including the classic "The Parade of the Wooden Soldiers" and "The Living Nativity," both of which have been performed in the Christmas Spectacular since 1933, are a few of the show's highlights.

In addition to the traditional scenes, the stage will come alive with new favorites, including "The Twelve Days of Christmas," a Rockette tap number, and "I'm There," a scene in which Santa and Denise Young of Novi, also enjoys gymnastics and hanging out with her friends.

Tickets (\$20.50-\$65.50, with limited Elite and Gold Circle seating available) may be purchased at all Ticketmaster locations, including Marshall Fields. Tickets may be charged by phone to Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover at (248) 433-1515.

For information, call the Olympia Entertainment event hotline at (313) 471-6611. A group (10 or more) discount is available by calling (313) 471-3099.

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Cable TV commission proposes new bylaws

Access committee dead; new one suggested

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

The City of Novi will be looking for residents interested in local access to cable television if a new Public Access Promotion Committee is approved by Novi, Farmington and Farmington Hills early next year.

The Southwest Oakland Cable Commission, which serves as a liaison between the three cities and Bright House Networks, the local cable provider, presented this option at a public meeting Nov. 17.

The commission presented a draft of new bylaws and will meet

to review a revised draft at its next meeting 6:30 p.m. Jan. 19 at Farmington City Hall. This meeting will not be broadcast, since Farmington doesn't have that capability.

The new multi-jurisdictional agreement that Novi, Farmington and Farmington Hills recently approved, eliminated the longtime Cable Access Committee. This was a volunteer organization that mentored those who want to produce their own show and promoted public access television in the area.

If the new bylaws are approved, the new Public Access Promotions Committee will replace the Cable Access Committee.

Caron Collins, SWOCC executive director, said that the draft of the new agreement has the exact same language about the selection of members to this new committee as the 1992 agreement did about the Cable Access Committee.

"That's what was in the draft, and there was no discussion con-

trary to that. No changes were brought forth (at the Nov. 17 meeting)," she said.

The new committee's function won't be quite the same, however. In 1992, the SWOCC Studios had no staff, no money and no studio. The new committee will focus more on promoting public access.

Mark Adler, a Novi resident and former member of the Cable Access Committee who watched the meeting, said Collins initially wanted to dictate who the chair of the new committee would be.

However, commissioners did not think this was appropriate since this would give SWOCC administration too much control over the committee. They suggested that a more equitable solution would be to have members of the new committee select the chair.

It was also brought up at the meeting that for years, SWOCC administration would allow an inspection of the minutes of each meeting at SWOCC Studios in Farmington eight business days after the meeting — by appointment only. Administration also agreed to release minutes of all SWOCC meetings 15 business days after each meeting, according to Adler.

SWOCC MEETING

Commissioners will discuss the proposed new bylaws that will affect residents in Novi, Farmington Hills and Farmington at the next public meeting of the Southwest Oakland Cable Commission at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 19 at Farmington City Hall, 23600 Liberty St., Farmington. For directions, call (248) 474-5500.

SWOCC management had their attorney review a draft in which administration would allow an inspection of the minutes of each meeting at SWOCC Studios in Farmington eight business days after the meeting — by appointment only. Administration also agreed to release minutes of all SWOCC meetings 15 business days after each meeting, according to Adler.

Novi resident Kathy Mutch, a former city council member, said, "It's important to preserve the opportunity for an independent forum for citizens' voices. Local cable access offers people a venue for the free expression of ideas."

As the number of satellite dishes goes up, subscribers to cable television go down. Public access was meant to fill the void — where non-mainstream ideas can be put forth over the airways.

"It's one of the only ways that you can express yourself out of the Internet," Adler said.

Jerry Ellis, chairman, SWOCC, suggested that members of the public attend the Jan. 19 meeting to express opinions about the proposed new bylaws.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@ht.homecomm.net.

Decorate and win

Contest winner to be picked Dec. 20

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Ladies and gentlemen, start your decorating.

Novi's Annual Holiday Decorating Contest is just around the corner. The contest will take place the weekend of Dec. 10-12.

From late Friday through Sunday, judges will dive through all of Novi's subdivisions to select the house that has the mark when it comes to showcasing their homes for the holidays.

Novi's president, Ron Boron, said this is the first time the contest has had the contest, which started with Novi businesses and then moved to local subdivisions.

There are no specific rules in the contest, but judges are looking for lots of lights and originality.

The council will announce the best decorated home Dec. 20 at the regularly scheduled city council meeting.

The homeowner who wins the top prize will be honored with a proclamation from the city of Novi and a gift certificate from a local business.

Second- and third-place winners will also receive a gift certificate, according to Boron.

Boron said the timing was a little better for this year's contest because of the dates for the Novi City Council meetings.

The Novi Homeowners Council, which was formed about 10 years ago, serves as a liaison between the various homeowners associations and the city of Novi.

The council represents more than 80 homeowners associations.

"We have meetings two or three times a year and invite city officials or other city employees to speak," Boron said.

The group does not endorse candidates, however, or ask them to vote at their meetings during an election year.

The Council's board is comprised of nine Novi residents who are presidents or past-presidents of their homeowner associations.

Homeowners who have questions about the contest, can contact Boron at (248) 766-6426 or by e-mail at novihoc@yahoo.com.

Creating heirlooms

Photographer's work on display at Civic Center

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Kathleen Neville left a corporate job several years ago to pursue her dream as a portrait photographer.

Now, the Novi resident has about a dozen of her photographs on display in the atrium of the Novi Civic Center. Her work, which includes color and black-and-white photos, can be viewed through Dec. 10.

Owner of a home-based business, Heirloom Portraits, Neville has a studio in her home and travels to clients, as well.

Neville grew up in Livonia and married her Churchill High School sweetheart, Paul, who works for DaimlerChrysler.

They've lived in Novi 10 years, and have two children, Brenden, 16, a student at Novi High School, and Claire, 8, a student at Deerfield Elementary School.

She earned a bachelor's degree in marketing and computer science from the University of Michigan-Dearborn and worked as a systems analyst for Comerica Bank until

ART AT THE ATRIUM

The Novi Civic Center Atrium is currently displaying the work of Kathleen Neville, a professional portrait photographer and Novi resident. Her work will be on display through Dec. 10.

Brenden turned 3, when she decided to be a stay-at-home mom.

"I had always been interested in photography. I was raised by two shutterbugs," she said of her late mother, Eleanor, and father, August. "I have shoeboxes of pictures of us kids."

Neville pursued her master's degree in business at Wayne State University and started taking a lot of pictures. About four years ago, her work started to blossom into a business.

"Pretty soon it passed being just a hobby. I decided this was what I wanted to do and have never looked back," she said.

She has ambitions for a storefront some day in Novi and continues to educate herself.

"Photography is such a changing world right now with the advent of digital," Neville said. "She wants her photos to be in their walls," she said.

For more information, visit www.heirloomportraits.us or call (248) 347-1030.

For artwork to be considered for a future display at the Civic Center, call Ron Valente at the Novi Parks and Recreation Department at (248) 347-0400.



Kathleen Neville, a Novi portrait photographer, by some of her heirloom photographs. Her work is currently on display at the Novi Civic Center through Dec. 10.

Photo by PAM OSWEGO

face on paper. When people come to me, they're looking for something timeless that will hang on their walls," she said.

For more information, visit www.heirloomportraits.us or call (248) 347-1030.

For artwork to be considered for a future display at the Civic Center, call Ron Valente at the Novi Parks and Recreation Department at (248) 347-0400.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@ht.homecomm.net.

NOVI TOWN CENTER 8

OPENING NOVEMBER 8th. Groundbreaking scheduled for Nov. 15th. 115,500 sq. ft. 200,000 sq. ft. 250,000 sq. ft. 300,000 sq. ft. 350,000 sq. ft. 400,000 sq. ft. 450,000 sq. ft. 500,000 sq. ft. 550,000 sq. ft. 600,000 sq. ft. 650,000 sq. ft. 700,000 sq. ft. 750,000 sq. ft. 800,000 sq. ft. 850,000 sq. ft. 900,000 sq. ft. 950,000 sq. ft. 1,000,000 sq. ft. 1,050,000 sq. ft. 1,100,000 sq. ft. 1,150,000 sq. ft. 1,200,000 sq. ft. 1,250,000 sq. ft. 1,300,000 sq. ft. 1,350,000 sq. ft. 1,400,000 sq. ft. 1,450,000 sq. ft. 1,500,000 sq. ft. 1,550,000 sq. ft. 1,600,000 sq. ft. 1,650,000 sq. ft. 1,700,000 sq. ft. 1,750,000 sq. ft. 1,800,000 sq. ft. 1,850,000 sq. ft. 1,900,000 sq. ft. 1,950,000 sq. ft. 2,000,000 sq. ft. 2,050,000 sq. ft. 2,100,000 sq. ft. 2,150,000 sq. ft. 2,200,000 sq. ft. 2,250,000 sq. ft. 2,300,000 sq. ft. 2,350,000 sq. ft. 2,400,000 sq. ft. 2,450,000 sq. ft. 2,500,000 sq. ft. 2,550,000 sq. ft. 2,600,000 sq. ft. 2,650,000 sq. ft. 2,700,000 sq. ft. 2,750,000 sq. ft. 2,800,000 sq. ft. 2,850,000 sq. ft. 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BUSINESS

Kim Kovelle, staff writer (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 kkovelle@ht.homecomm.net



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Brian Burke, sales manager of Farmington Hills' Tom Holzer Ford, takes a stroll along the dealership's proposed 18,000-square-foot expansion which should be completed by late spring 2005.

Tom Holzer Ford starts next phase of expansion

Renovations to showroom, customer area slated

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Tom Holzer Ford dealership in Farmington Hills on Novi's border is putting on a new face, with a multi-million-dollar expansion and renovation project in full swing.

Brian Burke, sales manager at the dealership at 39300 W. Ten Mile Rd. at Haggerty Road, said construction should be completed by late spring 2005.

"We're going from a very small showroom that could accommodate a maximum of three cars to a state-of-the-art showroom that will fit up to nine cars," Burke said.

The dealership has been at the current location since 1985 but

has been in the area for 30 years. The dealership used to be located at Nine Mile Road and Grand River Avenue in Detroit.

"We have a fairly small customer lounge now. After the renovations are completed, we'll have a much larger customer area," Burke said. "We plan to have some sort of coffee bar."

Tom Holzer, owner, has been planning the expansion for about a decade.

"Actually, this is the third phase of the expansion project," Holzer said. "We bought 4.5 acres from Ford about five years ago. About three years, we redid the back end of the dealership and expanded the service area and body shop."

We needed extra parking before we could continue the project. "It's exciting. I have a lot of longtime employees who have been hearing about the expansion for years. They're finally seeing some of the improvements being made. People from Farmington Hills, Novi and other communities are stopping to see the renovations,"

Holzer, who used to be a chef for Chuck Muer restaurants in Metro Detroit, took over the dealership from his father, Tom, in 1998. The two worked together for four years until the senior Holzer retired in 2000.

"I retired as an executive chef to come work with my dad at the dealership. I like this because it's more challenging. It's really six businesses — with service, body shop, parts, used and new cars and financing. We try to make it one-stop shopping for our customers," Holzer said sales have been steady. "We're holding our own compared with last year. But with all the new products coming out, I think things will turn around thickly," he said.

Top sellers include the new Ford F-150, the Escape and the Explorer. Ford has five new products for 2005: the Escape Hybrid, the world's first full hybrid sports-utility vehicle, the all-new 2005 Mustang, the 2005 Ford 500, a sedan, and the

new Freestyle, a crossover vehicle, both representing a new platform for Ford, and finally, a redesign of the Ford F-Super Duty pickup.

"We're really excited about the whole new lineup," Holzer said. The dealership is open from 8:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday and Tuesday; from 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday and is closed on Sunday.

Holzer said that recently the area of Ten Mile and Haggerty roads was identified as one of the best places in Metro Detroit to buy a vehicle.

The dealership will remain open throughout the construction, so don't be afraid to stop in. "Pardon our dust," Holzer said.

For more information about sales and financing at Tom Holzer Ford, call (248) 474-1234.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@ht.homecomm.net.

Fifth Third Bank opens in Wixom

Branch's grand opening slated Dec. 16

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Fifth Third Bank expands its presence further in southeast Michigan with the opening of another new branch in Wixom.

The new 5,000-square-foot facility opened its doors July 6 at 49895 Grand River Ave. on the south side of the road just west of Wixom Road.

The bank currently employs seven people and may add to staff in the future.

"I kind of hand-picked the staff for this location. They're very experienced and knowledgeable about banking," Gates said.

Fifth Third has been in expansion mode in the last year in southeast Michigan, according to Gates, with about 13 branches opening this year in the area.

"We're trying to fill in gaps in places where branches are needed. Wixom is a growing area, so it seemed like a good match," he said.

Gates said the new branch is ideally located since it's close to the Wixom Assembly Plant and many industrial parks along Grand River Avenue and Wixom Road.

"The new Catholic Central High School, which we helped finance, will also be going in right behind us," he said.

Services include normal banking products, such as checking and savings accounts, credit cards and money markets. And with a mortgage loan officer working in the office, Gates noted that this is a good time for people to consider buying a home or for present homeowners to think about refinancing their current mortgage with historically low interest rates.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@ht.homecomm.net.

In the spirit: Pamela's Salon staff asking for public's help

New robes, slippers needed for juvenile girls

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

The staff at Pamela's Salon in Novi is getting into the holiday spirit.

Aid, what better way to do that than to help those who are less fortunate?

Owner Pamela Manza has adopted a special community project this holiday season in which she is asking customers and others to purchase robes and slippers for the girls at Vista Maria.

The agency is Michigan's largest, nonprofit, child welfare agency for girls and their families and is located in Dearborn Heights.

Kelly Smut, public relations specialist at Vista Maria, noted that the salon's project is part of the agency's annual Wish List Program, which brings four to seven gifts to each girl during the holiday season.

"Right now they are 53/4 percent for a 30-year fixed rate," he said.

"We also offer investments, such as mutual funds and annuities," Gates said. "The idea at all of our new branches is to offer a full line of financial services under one roof."

"It's hard to keep track of how many branches we have, because it seems like a new one is going up every few weeks," he said.

"We're really going after the college market because we're finding that once college-age people open an account, they often keep this account for life."

Fifth Third bank branches stretch from Florida to Michigan.

"We just opened our 1,000th branch in Royal Oak in late August," Gates said.

The new manager said that business has been good at the new location.

"We've done quite well in comparison to other new branches we have opened in the past. We've been very well received by the community," Gates said.

A grand opening celebration will take place Dec. 16 at the bank.

There will be festivities throughout the day, including refreshments for customers. A ribbon cutting is scheduled for around 5 p.m.

Hours at the full-service branch are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, call the Wixom Banking Center at (248) 449-5347.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@ht.homecomm.net.

The salon has a "Giving Tree" that features ornaments with each girl's name, robe size and shoe size. People can take an ornament off the tree, purchase the robe and slippers, wrap them and return the gift to the salon.

"We already have the tree set up with the ornaments containing the girls' names," Manza said. "We want clients to have the robes and slippers wrapped and in the salon by 4 p.m. Dec. 11. We plan to deliver the gifts in person on Dec. 12 and will have a Christmas party at my house afterwards."

Pamela's Salon has been involved with the girls at Vista Maria for several months since the salon opened a year ago.

"I asked the staff at Vista Maria what we could do as a salon. They were shocked and grateful. The one thing that the girls want is to have their hair done," Manza said.

"Now, we have the Vista girls visit us once a month. We close the salon on a Friday afternoon and do the girls' hair, nails and anything other beauty service that they desire."

According to Sarah Platz, volunteer coordinator at Vista Maria, the girls absolutely love it.

"It really gives them a chance to feel beautiful and increase their self-esteem, which we, as an agency, are always striving to do," Platz said.

Girls at Vista Maria range in age from 11 to 17 and are there by court order for a variety of reasons. The agency has a mental health program, a substance abuse and conduct disorder program, a sexual abuse and trauma recovery program, two step-down units, a detention center and a shelter.

Currently, 168 girls live at Vista Maria. In the summer, the agency had a pron for the girls, and Manza and other staff from the salon drove to Dearborn Heights to do their makeup, nails and hair.

Manza came up with the idea for the robe and slippers for Christmas, which Vista Maria staff approved.

Redken is going to donate gifts also, which will include items such as shampoo, conditioner and hand lotion.

"Pamela's Salon is an Elite Redken Salon, which means I only carry Redken products," Manza

said. Manza believes that this particular age group is one segment of our society that people often neglect when it comes to giving.

"There are a lot of nice things that people do for others during the holidays, but people don't often think about juveniles," Manza said.

Hours at Pamela's Salon, located at 23965 Novi Rd., Ste. 160, on the west side of Novi Road just south of Ten Mile Road, are 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday; and 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, call Pamela's Salon at (248) 349-9925 or Platz at Vista Maria at (313) 271-3050, Ext. 275.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@ht.homecomm.net.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Staff of Pamela's Salon in Novi gather around the holiday tree they've adorned with wishes from Vista Maria teens. Pictured are Amy Keller, Sara Fukui, Audrey Blaszczyk, Ashleigh Turbett, Erin Gee, Carrie Welch and Pamela Manza.

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LIVINGSTON COUNTY DAILY PRESS ARGUS

On Feb. 3, 2005, the Livingston County Daily Press & Argus will be launching a new special section entitled, "Oh Baby!" and your baby could be the main attraction.

This new section will feature photos of all babies born in 2004, along with editorial and advertising for new parents.

Each participant will receive a space similar to this:

Christina Louise Smith
March 22, 2004
Saint Joseph Mercy Livingston
Mike and Mary Smith

Oh Baby!

To publish your 2004 arrival in Oh Baby!, send a photo and \$20 to:
HomeTown Newspapers
P.O. Box 2309
Howell, MI 48844
Attn: Leslie.

Please Print
Child's Name (First, Middle & Last) _____
Date of Birth _____ Hospital _____
Parents' Name (First & Last) _____
Address _____

My check for \$20 is enclosed.
Please bill my Visa MasterCard American Express or Discover card.

Credit card number _____ Exp. Date _____
Signature _____ (Required) Phone _____

All entries must be received by Jan. 12, 2005.
Include a SASE if you want your photo returned. PRESS ARGUS

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Novi News

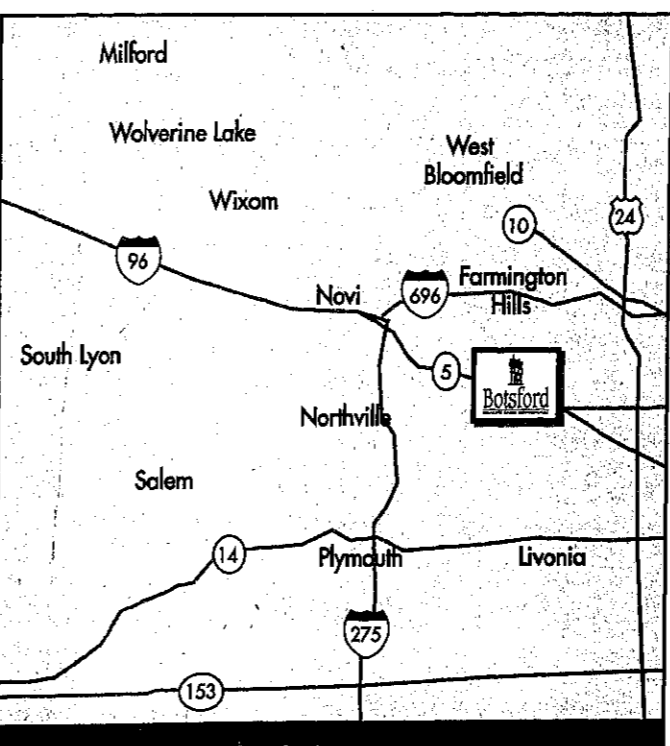
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If you live in the greater Novi area, the finest health care is right in your backyard... Botsford care. Botsford care is the health care provided to you and your family by the Physicians and staff at Botsford General Hospital. It's the latest advances in treatments and technology, combined with genuine compassion and personal care. In an emergency, it's right around the corner... but at the heart of Botsford care is a continuum of comprehensive health services committed to keeping you healthy so you won't need emergency care. That's why if you live in greater Novi, we invite you to get to know the Botsford family and the service we proudly call Botsford care for a board-certified physician near you, call Botsford's HealthMatch toll free at (877) 442-7900.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Twelve Oaks calls early birds

The day after Thanksgiving, Twelve Oaks Mall will reward early-rising shoppers with free food, giveaways and an acoustic "Turkey Strut" to herald the start of the Christmas shopping season.

Play it Again opens tomorrow

Speaking of the day after Thanksgiving, Play it Again Sports announced it'll open its doors Friday in the Pine Ridge shopping center at the northwest corner of Novi and Ten Mile roads.

Home gift bags valued at \$50 go to this group and contain gloves, candles, umbrellas, hand lotion, ornaments, free oil changes at Bob Sellers Pontiac and more.

Carrabba's hosts event

Local celebrities and county executives served up dishes at Carrabba's Italian Grill in Novi Nov. 16 to recognize National Prematurity Awareness Day.

'Plus' offers gifts for pets

Pet Supplies "Plus," which has a Novi locale, said it conducted a poll concluding that Americans will spend an average of \$100 each on holiday gifts for their pets this year.

GNC provides free flu info

Novi's GNC is offering free flu prevention information to the public. It's also offering discounts on

Local Doctor Releases Report Available Free To All Headache Sufferers

Livonia, MI - A newly released free report reveals what leading medical researchers have proven to be the cause of most headaches. To discover the truth about what your own doctor may not know about your headaches, call the toll-free 24-hour recorded message at 1-800-603-7678.

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PASTA & PINTA advertisement featuring Wild Mushroom Pasta, Grilled Chicken with Pecan Fettuccine, and Neopolitan Baked Lasagna.

JEWELRY FOR MEN advertisement by Gary S. Weinstein, Gemologist, featuring a variety of men's jewelry.

Why we go to Faith Community Presbyterian Church advertisement featuring a photo of a church service.

Dilute Your Debt! advertisement for Resource Lynx, a lending institution in North America.

Carrying a tradition of collaborating with educational facilities, funds come from the company's leading CAD/CAM software for the tooling industry.

Baja Fresh appeals to kids

Baja Fresh, which has a Novi locale, introduced its new Kids' Favorites menu. These complete meals, for kids ages 12 and under, include mini quesadillas, mini nachos, mini bean and cheese burritos and chicken taquitos.

Taubman prices public stock

Taubman Centers, owner of Twelve Oaks Mall, last week announced pricing of a \$100 million public offering of 4 million shares of stock at \$25 per share.

Urgent news for people who took VIOXX

Many VIOXX users suffered strokes, heart attacks, heart failure, chest pain, blood clots, serious bleeding and even death. If you or a loved one took VIOXX and had any of these problems, call us now toll free 1-800-785-8245 for a free consultation.

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FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4335 10 Mile Rd. Novi, MI 48374 Sunday 9:00 a.m. Sunday 9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

2426 Meadowbrook Rd. Novi, MI 48375 Morning 9:30 am, 11:30 am, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Meeting at Novi Civic Center 248-444-7755

WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4822 W. 10 Mile, Novi, MI 48374 Traditional Services 9:00 A.M. Contemporary Service 10:30 A.M.

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

21355 Meadowbrook Rd. Novi at 8 1/2 Mile Morning Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School & Nursery 10 a.m.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Between Grand River & Freedom 248-474-0580 615 Telegraph 11th Contemporary Sunday School 10:30

CROSSPOINTE MEADOWS CHURCH

Pastor Danny L. Langley Traditional Services 9:00 A.M. Contemporary Service 10:30 A.M.

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

21355 Meadowbrook Rd. Novi at 8 1/2 Mile Morning Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School & Nursery 10 a.m.

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248-349-7757 Pastor Dr. De. Neil Hunt Minister of Music: Patrick Kuzi

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FAITH

Ramez Khuri, staff writer (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net

CHURCH CALENDAR

Crosspointe Meadows Church of Novi presents an Alpha Course

"Exploring the Christian Faith," on Sundays at 6 p.m. There are over 28,690 Alpha courses running all over the world. Check out the Alpha Course Web site at www.alpha.com.

Faith Community Presbyterian Church invites you to worship at either the 9 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. service.

Sunday school is offered at both services for children pre-kindergarten-12th grade. Faith Community Presbyterian Church houses the Novi Emergency Food Bank, which accepts all canned goods and non-perishable items as donations.

Church of the Holy Cross is having a Treats and Treatures Christmas Sale Saturday, Dec. 4 from 9-10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Attic treasures, Christmas decorations, jewelry, cutlery and more will be featured. There is no admission fee.

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Catholic Youth Organization Division Champs

The Catholic Youth Organization's Holy Family fifth and sixth grade volleyball team were division champions this season with a record of 9-1. It was the team's second season in participation.

Meadowbrook Church is having a Treats and Treatures Christmas Sale Saturday, Dec. 4 from 9-10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Attic treasures, Christmas decorations, jewelry, cutlery and more will be featured. There is no admission fee.

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LIFESTYLES

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@ht.homecomm.net

OBITUARIES

John W. Vincent, 85

John W. Vincent, M.D., longtime Detroit and Northville resident passed away Nov. 22, 2004, at University of Michigan Hospital-Ann Arbor, from complications arising from surgery. He was 85.

Dr. Vincent had a long career as a thoracic surgeon at many area hospitals, including St. Czarod and Providence Hospitals in Detroit and Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn, where he was chief of staff from 1972-1974 and credentials chairman from 1983-1986. He is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Virginia, 12 children and their spouses, 41 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. In addition to his long career as a doctor, Dr. Vincent's greatest legacies were his strong faith and

the loving family he leaves behind. He lived his life through the Beatitudes, and his quiet generosity touched countless lives.

He was born Oct. 28, 1919, in Rapid City, S.D., and graduated from Creighton University Medical School in 1944. After serving in the Navy during WWII, he received advanced surgical training at both the University of Pennsylvania and St. Joseph's Hospital in Ann Arbor. He received additional training at Ingham Chest Hospital in thoracic surgery and Henry Ford Hospital in cardiovascular surgery. He moved to Detroit in 1958 and resided in Gosa Parish until 1988 when he and Virginia moved to Northville. He practiced medicine until 1989 at which time he retired "to take care of Mom, the grandchildren and the family dog."

Services were held at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, Northville, Nov. 24. Visitation was at the O'Brien Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River Ave., Novi. The family is requesting

donations to Right to Life/LifeSpan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., Ste. 127, Livonia, MI, 48152-3736, (248) 777-9090; www.rtlife-span.org. Online condolences can be made at www.obitviansullivanfuneralhome.com.

Randall W. Russell, 50

Randall W. Russell, age 50, passed away Nov. 18, 2004. He was born on Oct. 6, 1954, in Detroit to the late William and Marian (Kern) Russell. He was formerly of Redford, prior to moving to Novi 14 years ago. Randall is survived by his sister, Merle (Phillip) Yorsok of South Lyon, two nieces and one nephew.

A funeral service was held Nov. 22, at Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon Memorial contribution may be made to Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation, 51 Locust Ave., Ste. 201, New Canaan, CT, 06840.

Arrangements were made by Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon.

WEDDING

The Burches

Melissa Flowers Dunwell of Howell and John Michael Burch of South Lyon were married June 19, 2004, at Meadowbrook Congregational Church in Novi with the Rev. Doctor E. Neil Hart officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Richard D. and Patricia A. Dunwell of Brighton. Serving as matron of honor was Christine Sparling, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Nichole Biola, Eve Costlow and Kristi Malik.

The groom is the son of John R. and Jane R. Burch of Ann Arbor. Best man was Stephen Burch, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Peter Burch, Samuel Burch and Jeffrey Dunwell. Ringbearers were Travis Sparling and Andrew Billings.



A reception was held at the Marriott at Laurel Park Place in Livonia. The couple honeymooned in Playa del Carmen, Mexico, and will make their home in Pinckney.

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Read then Recycle this Newspaper

Dr. Salah and his staff wish everyone a happy holiday season!

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SAVVY SENIOR

Coping with arthritis

Dear Savvy Senior,
Arthritis can be a real pain in the neck and the knees, fingers, feet, back, hips, ankles. You get the idea. I have had severe osteoarthritis for about 15 years now, but I'm managing pretty well, and it hasn't taken over my life. It did, however, change it, but my life has been very productive since my joints started talking to me. Could you please do a column on how to live and cope with arthritis? It seems like most of us older folks have a little of it, but for those of us who have lots of arthritis pain, it's not all bad news.

Living and Aching

Dear Living,
You're right. For the more than 20 million Americans who suffer from osteoarthritis, there are some things that can help them manage. But, it's also important to remember that chronic arthritis pain varies greatly from person to person. So, while these tips might help some people manage a little better, it might not help others at all.

Pain management
Just as there are different types of arthritis, there are also different types of pain. Most sufferers of osteoarthritis find that a combination of medicine and mild exercise works best to help deal with the pain and stay mobile. However, you should work with your doctor to create your own pain management plan. What works for one person may not work for someone else.

Savvy tip: Many people are trying alternative therapies to help treat arthritis pain, such as dietary supplements, acupuncture, hydrotherapy or yoga. For more information call the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine at 1-888-644-6226 or visit www.nccam.nih.gov.

Respect your pain
It's important to listen to your body, slow down and be gentle with yourself. Here are a few extra things to keep in mind:

- Let your largest muscles do the work. Squat to pick up an object, or sit in a chair to bend.
- To open a heavy door, lean into it to use your body weight to help push it open.
- Balance rest and activity and don't over do it. Fatigue may increase the risk of accidents.
- Distribute the pressure. Carry heavy loads close to your body.
- For groceries, try using paper bags instead of plastic. In the kitchen, use both hands to lift a heavy pan. Carry a shoulder bag instead of a handbag.
- Diet and exercise. Extra body weight means extra strain on the joints. Diet and exercise can be a good strategy in lowering the load and relieving the joints. Talk to your doctor to determine the best fitness program for you.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 543, Norman, OK 73070, or visit www.savvysenior.org. Jim Miller is a regular contributor to the NBC Today Show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.



Fox Run residents have a seat and pose for a photo after their Turkey Trot stroll and carol singing activities last Friday afternoon.

Seniors stroll for a holiday cause

Fox Run 'Turkey Trot' draws dozens, raises hundreds

By Kim Kovelie
STAFF WRITER

Walking off the holiday pounds before the Thanksgiving feast — and raising money for a good cause — were activities of choice for 60 Fox Run senior citizens last Friday.

Undeterred by rain, the retirement community held their second annual "Turkey Trot."

Seniors toured the campus' residences, singing carols and old favorites on the way. In addition,

they raised about \$700 in funds for the Oakland County Food Bank.

Heading the activities in a brown feather boa was Andrea Peragine, Fox Run's wellness coordinator.

"Normally, this is held outdoors," she said. When skies were overcast all agreed: "Still gotta do it, move it indoors. They were excited and were asking about it all week."

Kicking off at 2:30 p.m., the seniors set out on three walks: long, medium and short.

With came in hand, Cathy Cossey seemed invigorated after taking the short route through the halls of Meadowbrook Square and Madison Creek.

"It's important to (my) body," Cossey said. "I exercise two or

three times a week. Use it or lose it."

The "long walkers" returned after 45 minutes, heaving "Jingle Bells." Husband-wife team Bernard and Florence Lucas, who have lived at Fox Run for 15 months, were among them.

"We're into the exercising," said Florence, 80. "It's fun, and you're with lots of people."

This week they'll head to Tennessee to celebrate Thanksgiving with family.

"You almost hate to leave because there's so much going on here," Bernard, 81, said. The couple often bicycles around Fox Run.

The stroll also was a chance to mingle and see neighbors' festive décor. Barb Birmingham, a "medium walker" who also does

aerobics, Tai Chi and line dancing, did just that.

"We enjoy seeing everybody's little shelf outside their door they have decorated," 74-year-old Birmingham said. "A lot of people have Thanksgiving things out."

On Birmingham's shelf sits a ceramic turkey made by her husband's mother. For Thanksgiving, she plans to cook up turkey, sweet potatoes and pumpkin pie with a candle — for her sister's birthday.

Like others, Birmingham chipped in a donation for the food bank and enjoyed the jaunt.

"You see people you don't see everyday," she said. "The ones who get sad do things are the ones that have the fun — they build the community spirit."

With a grin, she added, "We just made a lot of noise."

Kim Kovelie is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 or via e-mail at kkovelle@ht.homecomm.net.

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CALENDAR

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@h.homecomm.net

EVENTS

Antique Arms Show

DATE: Nov. 27-28
 TIME: Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
 LOCATION: Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Dr. (southwest corner of I-96 and Novi Road)
 DETAILS: Price is \$5, parking is \$5.
 CONTACT: (248) 676-2750

Ring in the Holidays

DATE: Friday, Dec. 2
 TIME: 6-9 p.m.
 LOCATION: Main Street, Novi
 DETAILS: Novi Parks, Recreation & Forestry's annual event will include an electric light parade, carolers, an arts and crafts show, photos with Santa, carriage rides, a magician, a puppet show, Kris Kringle workshop and a children's North Pole race.
 CONTACT: (248) 347-0400

Boost Camp Day

DATE: Friday, Dec. 3
 TIME: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

LOCATION: Providence Medical Building, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi

DETAILS: A day of enrichment and personal exploration designed to provide valuable tools, information and a new perspective on healthier living through wholesome that can be very beneficial to the participants.
 Open to the public. Cost is \$50; includes lunch and materials. Registration is required.
 CONTACT: (248) 465-5455

Novi Chorales Christmas Concert Series "The Very Best Time of Year"

DATE & TIMES: Dec. 3, First United Methodist Church, Farmington, at 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 4, St. James Catholic Church, Novi at 7:30 p.m.; and Dec. 5, Church of the Holy Family Catholic Church, Novi, at 4 p.m.
 DETAILS: Tickets available from any Chorale, at Meadowbrook Commons and at the door. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and children.
 CONTACT: www.novi-chorales.org

DATE: Dec. 3-5

TIME: Fri. noon-7 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
 LOCATION: Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Dr. (southwest corner of I-96 and Novi Road)
 DETAILS: Your one-stop shop for everything you need for your next woodworking project. Save hundreds on tools, equipment and supplies. Learn new tips at free demonstrations. Try before you buy. Price is \$8; free for children ages 12 and under. Parking is \$5.
 CONTACT: (313) 477-8524 or www.thewoodworkingnews.com

Toy & Hobby Expo

DATE: Dec. 3-5
 TIMES: Dec. 3, 5-9 p.m.; Dec. 4, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
 LOCATION: Novi Expo Center, located at I-96 at Novi Road.
 DETAILS: Featuring operating model railroad displays, vendors and collectors selling vintage toys, trains, dolls and hobby items from the 1950's to today's hottest collectibles. Admission is \$7; kids under 12 are free. Parking is \$5.
 CONTACT: (734) 455-2110

The Woodworking Shows

Community Living Centers 5th Annual Auction and Dinner

DATE: Dec. 4
 TIME: 6-10 p.m.
 LOCATION: Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Dr.
 DETAILS: A sit-down dinner with a five auction, silent auction and three raffles. CLC includes nine licensed group homes, an apartment-training site and two supported/independent living programs. The centers were founded in 1988 by Mary Wagner and her husband, Bob, for special needs adults. Cost for the dinner is \$45 in advance and \$50 at the door.
 CONTACT: communityclc@hotmail.com or call (248) 478-0870

Meet Michigan "Women" Authors

DATE: Thursday, Dec. 9
 TIME: 6-8 p.m.
 DETAILS: Meet Michigan women authors; signed books will be available.
 LOCATION: Mugs Coffee

House, 1733 Haggerty Road (in the Meijer shopping center), Commerce

CONTACT: (800) 343-3034

"Babes in Toyland"

DATE: Dec. 17-19
 LOCATION: Senior Community Center, 303 W. Main St., Northville
 DETAILS: Kids ages 7-18 are invited to join Northville's newest performing arts group, Northville Youth Theater, for its first production "Babes in Toyland". Rehearsals will vary by assigned part. This production is presented by Northville Parks and Recreation and Serendipity Productions.
 CONTACT: Northville Parks and Recreation at (248) 349-0203, ext. 1411

45175 Ten Mile Rd.

TIME: 7-8:30 a.m.
 DETAILS: Meeting of local professionals and business looking to increase word-of-mouth referral business. Various classifications open and eager to bring you qualified business leads.
 CONTACT: (734) 462-6460

CLASSES

Providence Center for the Healing Arts "Tuesdays at Assarian"

DATE: Every Tuesday night
 TIME: 7 p.m.
 LOCATION: Witch's Hat Depot, South Lyon.
 DETAILS: Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples provides information, support and social activities for mothers of multiple-birth children and their families.
 CONTACT: Emily Sack, president, at (248) 676-2913

BUSINESS

Business Referrals

DATE: every Wednesday
 LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, continued on page 15

CALENDAR

continued from page 14

sponsored by the Providence Center for the Healing Arts. Some activities may include a supplies fee (no more than \$10).

CONTACT: (248) 465-5483

SUPPORT GROUPS

Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples (MOMS)

DATE: second Thursday of each month
 TIME: 7 p.m.
 LOCATION: Witch's Hat Depot, South Lyon.
 DETAILS: Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples provides information, support and social activities for mothers of multiple-birth children and their families.
 CONTACT: Emily Sack, president, at (248) 676-2913

Women's Prayer Support

DATE: every Saturday
 TIME: 9:10-10:30 a.m.
 LOCATION: Harvest Fellowship Church, 49329 Pontiac Trail, Wixom (parking is behind the church).
 DETAILS: You are welcome to come for encouragement, help, hope and prayer as you face life's problems, issues and frustrations. Drop in for five minutes or longer.
 CONTACT: Nancy and Susan at (248) 926-8332 or by e-mail at harvestfellowship@comcast.net

Breast Cancer Support Group

DATE: second and fourth Tuesdays of the month
 LOCATION: Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, Commerce, Classroom C on the ground floor of the hospital.
 TIME: 10-11:30 a.m.
 DETAILS: There is no need to register.
 CONTACT: (248) 937-5017

Oakland County Health Division Expectant Parent Classes

DATE: ongoing series
 LOCATION: Oakland County Health Division, 1010 East West Maple Rd., Walled Lake.
 TIME: 7-9 p.m.
 DETAILS: Classes will be taught by public health nurses. Topics will include childbirth preparation, labor and delivery, care of the newborn baby, breastfeeding, bottle-feeding, information about keeping children safe and caring for them when they are ill. Cost is \$25.
 CONTACT: (248) 858-4003, or (888) 350-0900, ext. 84003

Adoption Playgroup

DATE: first and third Fridays of the month
 TIME: 10 a.m.
 LOCATION: Holy Family Catholic Church (on Meadowbrook Road between Ten Mile and Grand River Avenues).
 DETAILS: A nonproft, non-denominational group that brings adoptive families together. Twice-

a-month meetings provide families with the opportunity to share play and conversation.

CONTACT: For more information contact Michelle Pergau at (248) 887-4955 or Sandra Noonan at (248) 960-3257.

Novi Toastmasters

DATE: first and third Tuesdays of the month
 LOCATION: Novi Civic Center Activities Room.
 TIME: 7-8:45 p.m.
 DETAILS: Toastmasters will help you improve your communication skills, voice your opinion, polish your presentations and practice leadership.
 CONTACT: Call Colleen at (248) 685-9226

New Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) chapter

DATE: Wednesdays mornings
 LOCATION: Meadowbrook Commons Activities Room, 25075 Meadowbrook Road, Novi.
 TIME: 11 a.m. weight-in; 11:30 a.m. meeting
 DETAILS: \$20 per annual membership includes handbook; \$1 per meeting. New members welcome.

ONGOING

SWOCC Studio Tours

DATE: ongoing
 LOCATION: 33300 Nine Mile

MOVING WITH SCIENCE

Novi Parks & Recreation presents a three-day holiday mad science camp:

• **Day one - Wild Wizard Day of Spells & Potions** - Witness cauldrons of chemical reactions, command sizzling slime while discovering magnetism, cast a lightning bolt and create instant invisibility. Brew magical potions while learning about the wonders of sublimation. Dissolved owl pellets and construct a bird house. This event is Monday, Dec. 20, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. The price is \$35; it's for ages 6-10, and registration runs to Friday, Dec. 10.

All Things Tea Display

DATE: thru Dec. 31
 TIME: 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
 LOCATION: Providence Center for the Healing Arts - Nancy A. Fox Art Gallery, Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi.
 DETAILS: "Third Annual Mad Hatter Tea Party," a show of original artwork by patients, families and associates, as well as juried pieces by Novi High School students will be in the gallery until Dec. 31.
 CONTACT: (248) 465-5455.

HEALTH

Oakland County Health Division flu shots

DATE: ongoing until supplies are depleted.
 LOCATION: Pontiac Office, 1200 N. Telegraph Rd. (north of

Elizabeth Lake Rd.) in the Oakland County complex, building 36E.

HOURS: Monday, noon-8 p.m.; Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
 DETAILS: Flu shots are available only to high-risk priority groups. Cost is \$7. Medicare and Medicaid insurance can be billed to cover the cost. Bring photo identification; proof of Oakland residency is required.
 CONTACT: Flu vaccine hotline, (800) 434-3358.

Send your calendar items to Cal Stone, editor, Novi News, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167; fax to (248) 349-9832; or e-mail to cstone@h.homecomm.net.

• **Day two - Crazy Chemistry** - Explore what happens when chemicals interact and create a chemical reaction. Form your own crystals, create bath fizzers. Make and eat your own Tootsie Rolls. Create exothermic reactions and observe the creation of gas. Design a chromatography T-shirt that you can wear home. Check out chalk and the chemistry of plaster. This event is on Tuesday, Dec. 21, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. The price is \$35; it's for ages 6-10 and registration runs until Friday, Dec. 10.

• **Day three - Junior Engineers** - It's the ultimate Mad Science Clubhouse. Is a rollercoaster a structure? How is an ant an engineer? Make a geodesic dome. Learn how tension rocks. Become a young architect and build a structure with pasta. What do eggs and arches have to do with it? Construct your own SOMA cube and solve the puzzles. This event is on Wednesday, Dec. 22, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Novi Civic Center. The price is \$35; it's for ages 6-10, and registration runs to Friday, Dec. 10.
 Call (248) 347-0400 for more information.

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 Holiday Gift Baskets from the Heart
 Savory Soups & Stews (date changed to 12-4)
 Savvy Sauce Workshop: Hands-on
 Treasure from Under the Sea
- Equine**
 Horse Health I
- Family Living**
 Ooey, Gooey Science
- Kayaking**
 Kayak Rolling
- Real Estate**
 Real Estate Continuing Education
 Teacher Recognition
 Entrepreneur Classroom Management Skills
- Test Preparation**
 Test Taking Improvement
- New Class**
 3D Animation Basics SEMAR

For information on these classes call the Continuing Education Center at 734-462-4448 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu



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Thanksgiving Coloring Contest Winners



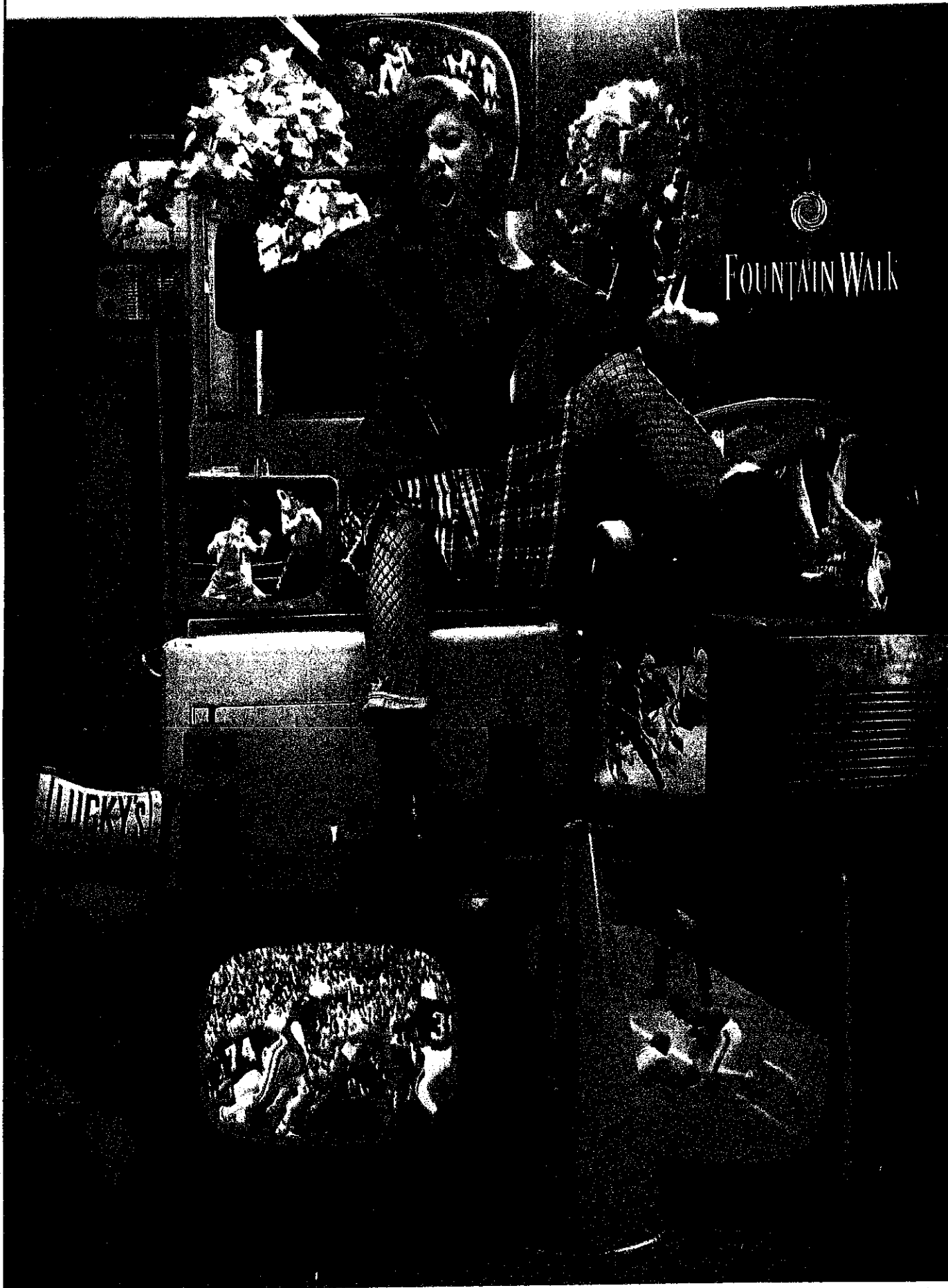
John Stefan
 Winner for 3-6 year olds

Kylie Blenda
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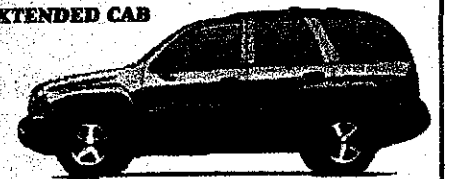
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Based on purchase price \$20,031**

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Based on purchase price \$15,738**

'05 BUICK LESABRE
36 Mo. GMAC Lease **\$321.10*** Mo.
Stock #50252
Based on purchase price \$22,248**

'05 PONTIAC MONTANA
36 Mo. GMAC Lease **\$326.08*** Mo.
Stock #50174
Based on purchase price \$22,293**

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Stock #5374. MSRP \$33,825
GMS Purchase Price \$29,274.55

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GMAC Lease **\$174 mo.***
Stock #5486. MSRP \$23,850
GMS Purchase Price \$21,572.50

'05 CHEVY MALIBU MAXX
GMAC Lease **\$196 mo.***
Stock #5313. MSRP \$22,285
GMS Purchase Price \$19,545.70

'05 CHEVY MONTE CARLO
GMAC Lease **\$169 mo.***
Stock #5320. MSRP \$23,485
GMS Purchase Price \$20,518.25

'05 CHEVY MALIBU
GMAC Lease **\$166 mo.***
Stock #5351. MSRP \$19,710
GMS Purchase Price \$17,590.23

'05 CHEVY 1/2 TON CREW CAB 4x4 Z-71
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Stock #5188. MSRP \$24,815
GMS Purchase Price \$22,242.94

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Paid to do what he loves

Novi's Bernie Fratto has spent his life knee-deep in sports. He played high school sports, then moved on to the farm-system for the Cincinnati Reds Major League Baseball organization and landed himself in Novi. Here, his son, Joey, played basketball and football before graduating and his daughter, freshman Jamie, has already seen playing time at the varsity level of basketball.



Sam Eggleston

Fratto isn't a shy fellow either. He'll come up to a familiar face at a game or in the mall and talk sports. He knows his games, too. He knows his history, and he knows what it takes to earn a place in history.

Now, instead of just having the talent to talk about sports, Fratto is going to be paid for it.

For the past several months Fratto has been a guest-host at Live 97.1 FM, WKRR in Detroit. Now he's officially part of the team as a co-host with the popular "Parker and the Man" sports talk show, which can be heard weeknights from 7-11 p.m.

"Typically, I'll be on when Rob Parker is on assignment with the Pistons, Lions, or the Detroit News," Fratto said. "Over the next few months I have quite a few Wednesdays and Fridays on the schedule, and I'm excited about it."

And he should be. Fratto fits in well as a radio personality — of course, he's had a little practice. With Novi high school's radio station, WOVI, Fratto hosted his own sports talk show once a week. The station, unfortunately, can hardly be picked up outside of the Novi city limits. Live 97.1 can be heard almost all the way to Saginaw on a clear night.

"It's a real privilege to be with 97.1 FM, working with topflight talent like Mark Wilson and Rob Parker," said Fratto.

Beyond talking on the radio, Fratto has a wide variety of other talents. He is a freelance writer and a public speaker. He also writes for the website www.novi.org with their Speaking of Sports column and Profile Novi features.

When it comes to sports, Fratto said there's plenty of inspiration to write and talk about in this area.

"I feel Detroit is the best sports town in America, and it's an honor to talk sports on the air with such passionate fans," he said.

And Fratto should know, considering he's such a passionate fan himself.

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or by e-mail at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.



Health
Here we are again — the holiday season. Work will slow down and food consumption will go up. We will eat many more calories than we burn, yielding a net gain in the waistline that carries over to our New Year's resolution to do something about the entire year's weight gain. Chris Klebba advises how to stay fit this holiday season. — Page 2B



Jewelry Marketplace
In the new showroom of Rottermond Jewelers, staff can offer many years of experience and expertise, the finest selections and a state-of-the-art repair facility. — Page 4B

SPORTS & MORE

NOVI NEWS hometownlife.com Thursday, November 25, 2004

Cagers' season closes out

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

For Novi basketball coach Bill Kelp, it was a bittersweet ending to his second year at the helm of the girls program.

Sweet because his girls outplayed Salem in nearly every category. Bitter because in the end the one category that mattered found them losing, 44-38. "I thought we played the better game," Kelp said.

Though calls were hard to find for any team and play was visibly rough on the court, Kelp refused to comment on the officiating.

"I'm not going to blame it on the officials," he said. "I'm not the kind of person who complains about the referees."

Instead, Kelp proved to be the kind of coach that lets a loss weigh on his own shoulders. The following day, he took the day off from work to try and ease the tensions.

And tension had definitely been in the air. Novi had advanced past the first round in the districts for the first time under Kelp. They were on the brink of going to the finals.

As the third quarter started, the Wildcats found themselves knotted up with the Salem Rocks, 19-19. Novi came out strong, sparking a five-point lead thanks to a three-point field goal by junior Rachele Folino.

Novi had to hold off a strong Rocks' offense that eventually tied the game at 28-28 with under a minute left in the third quarter. Folino, once again, pulled up and buried a long three to put the 'Cats heading into the final stanza, 31-28.

"When you get a lead on a team like Salem, you have to hold on to it," said Kelp. "You've got to give Salem credit. They won the game after all."

The win came in the fourth quarter for the Rocks. They tied the game early in the period before pushing out to a lead thanks to forced fouls from Novi.

The Wildcats, who ended with a 14-8 mark) were led by Folino, who poured in 18 points on the night to cap off her league-leading season.

Novi loses seniors Jessica Haggerty, Kelly Hebert and Julie Longo to graduation this spring.

"It will be hard to fill those roles," said Kelp, noting Haggerty and Longo have been members of the varsity squad for several years. "We're definitely going to miss them."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Mustangs Evonna Karchon, left, and Lindsey Blair, right, try to pressure Wildcat Jessica Gaslorek into a turnover.

The future, however, is bright. Kelp noted he believes he has about a half dozen players that can become quality point guards, including Stephanie Crawford and Jamie Fratto. Returning in the post will be Folino and Nicole

Stephen. "I'm very excited for next season," said Kelp. "I've been happy with how much work these girls are willing to put in." He said it helps to have had

such dedicated seniors this season to help set the tempo for years to come.

"They've left an impression on this team that will last for years," Kelp said. "There aren't many people out there who real-

ly understand the imprint they've left on the program. It's gigantic."

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

SPORTS SHORTS

Wolfpack recruiting

The 2005 Western Wayne Wolfpack of Northville AAU girls basketball team will be holding tryouts soon.

Tryouts for the 11s will be Dec. 12 from 3-4:30 p.m. at Northville High School and Dec. 15 from 4:30-6 p.m. at the Senior Community Center. The 12s will have tryouts Dec. 12 from 1:30-3 p.m. at Northville HS and Dec. 16 from 4:30-6 p.m. at the Senior Community Center. Tryouts for 13s will be Dec. 8 at 4:30-6 p.m. at the Senior Center and Dec. 12 from 1:30-3 p.m. at Northville HS. For 14, 15 and 16s, the tryouts will be Dec. 12 at noon-1:30 p.m. at Northville HS. Contact Jeanne Holmes at (248) 347-6425.

Motion looking for players

The Michigan Motion girls AAU basketball club will be holding open tryouts soon. On Dec. 11, tryouts will be held for the U10 through U13 teams from 9-11 a.m. at the Novi Middle School gym located at the corner of Wixom Road and 11 Mile. Also at Novi Middle school the same day will be tryouts for the U14 through U17 teams from noon-2 p.m. The U10-U13 teams will also have a second tryout Dec. 12 at 12:30-2:30 p.m. at Novi Meadows on Taft Road between Grand River and 10 Mile. The U14-U17 teams will tryout from 3-5 p.m. at the same location on the same day.

Please arrive early to check in and a parent or guardian must sign a player in. Have shoes on and ready to go by the times listed above. Age groups are determined for ages as of Dec. 31, 2004. There is a \$20 fee for the tryout. For more information, call Pat or Mike Tuck at (248) 486-1515 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m.



Submitted Photo

Front row (left to right): Katelyn Meck, Emily Hayes, Connor Sexton, Jake Petsch, Alex Willson, Nick Bageris, Doug McGinn; second row: Joe Close, Eric Marshick, Jack Hicks, James Ramsay, Brandon Kosinski, Ryan Miller, Max Urbaniak, Zach Wilson; back row: Coaches Mike Bageris, Dave Hayes, Kick McGinn, Dave Sexton and Tom Close.

Bobcats win big tourney

It takes a true team to cut through solid defenses and come away with a tournament championship. Each player has to play with the skater next to them and each has to always look to help the team play better.

The Novi Bobcats peewee hockey team represented Novi proudly as it competed in the Louisville Cup Hockey Tournament in Canton in late October. The Bobcats won the tournament championship by dominating all of their opponents by a grand total of 45-15 goal differential. It was a true

team effort for the Bobcats. The tournament field included strong teams from Farmington Hills, Canton and even all the way from Buffalo, New York. The tournament's most valuable player was awarded to Novi's impressive defenseman, Eric Marshick.

'Cats lose two but win in KVC

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

It may not have been the start to the season the Novi Wildcats hockey team was looking for, but it was definitely a learning experience.

The 'Cats, who pride themselves with a strong schedule, fell in both games of the Metro Showcase hockey tournament. They lost to Farmington United, 5-1, in the first game and lost 4-2 to a very strong Stevenson squad.

"The difference between the game Friday and this one was amazing," said Novi coach Dan Phelps. "We talked to the guys after losing to Farmington. Their execution, intensity and play were much better."

Novi wasn't all about losing last week though. They did start the Kensington Valley Conference on a right foot as they pummeled Lakeland, 8-4. "I was very happy with the way the guys opened the KVC," said Phelps. "I told them this tournament is a good way to look at the rest of the season. Our schedule doesn't

get any easier after this. We play some very tough teams in our conference and with our non-conference schedule."

Novi, which is now 1-2 on the year, doesn't plan on shying away from the challenge. Instead, Phelps and the boys are looking at turning up the intensity.

"November is such a learning experience for a hockey team," said Phelps. "You get five days to put together a team and then another four before you start scrimmaging. There's a lot to learn in that time. We're still learning. I expect we're going to get better. We have a lot of talent. We just have to get it all to work together."

Phelps said that though he and the Wildcats were definitely not happy on the outside, they were aware of the things they've done correctly.

"We saw some things we did right on film," he said. "We're going to use that as a base and build from there."

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

HEALTH

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@ht.homecomm.net

FIT FOR LIFE - "HOLIDAY HEALTH"

Here we are again - the holiday season. Work will slow down and food consumption will go up. We will eat many more calories than we burn, yielding a net gain in the waistline that carries over to our New Year's resolution to do something about the entire year's weight gain.

I have been helping people deal with this dilemma for the past 20 years and the same tips and suggestions keep showing up year after year. Many, I confess, were written by yours truly in past columns.

You know the lectures: Plan to eat less during the holidays. Don't go to a holiday dinner starving, eat a snack first. Skip dessert, bring a healthier snack choice, wear your tightest jeans to dinner, etc. etc. etc.

It is time for a whole new approach... one that our readers should embrace vigorously.

Are you ready?

But all you want at any holiday celebration!

That's right, go ahead and indulge at any special holiday gathering... guilt free.

Let's face it; to undo a long, deep seeded American holiday culture based around food just simply does not work. Most people experience further failure by going all holiday season feeling guilty about what they ate at a few celebration meals until they get so negative that it becomes

more attractive to just say, "The heck with it! I will eat all I want and start back in January."

As with anything sounding too good to be true, this is no exception. If you are eating an average of four normal meals per day, that gives you a total of about 120 meal time options in a 30-day holiday period. So what? It is what happens at the other 115 meal options that will count. The other 115 meals need to be regulated portion sizes and somewhat balanced. Do you see the point here?

It is not the five meals of indulgence that are packing on the holiday pounds! It is the other meals which grow across the board for the entire holiday season that attacks our waists.

lines. To complicate matters, our activity levels are also decreasing.

This year follow a couple of simple concepts to help you keep your weight gain to a minimum. Plan to cut guilt free at key holiday celebrations, but get right back on a reasonable food intake plan at your very next meal. Secondly, do anything and everything you can to stay active during the holiday season. Good luck and enjoy your holiday food!

Chris Klebba, owner and operator of the Water Wheel Health Club in Nashville, is a certified personal trainer, regular columnist and public speaker on health and fitness. For more information call (248) 449-7634 or log onto www.waterwheel.com



C. Klebba

BRIEFS

Smokers quit

The day before last Friday's 28th Annual Great American Smokout, Ann Arbor-based HealthMedia, Inc., announced the results of a smoking cessation study.

The company found that of the 119 study participants who completed the six-month portion of its "HealthMedia Break" program, 46, or 37 percent, reported quitting smoking. Since 28 of the original 147 didn't respond, the quit rate was actually 31.3 percent.

Of the 77 who completed 12-month follow-ups, 36, or 46.2 percent, reported quitting. Again, there were 147 participants originally; factoring the 70 who didn't respond, the quit rate was 24.5 percent.

The program is tailored online. Launched by the American Cancer Society in 1977, the smokout was launched in 1977 and encourages smokers to give up cigarettes for one day.

Exercise your mind; read and learn

We should all remember the words of Robert Louis Stevenson:

The world is so full of a number of things, I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings.

So make it a point to read. You'll never too old to learn; you've got to keep learning no matter what.

And remember, take care of your health before it's too late!

Ernie Harwell, "the voice of the Detroit Tigers" for more than four decades, retired after 55 years behind a major league microphone. Today, at age 86, Ernie's days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross of Michigan and Blue Care Network, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with "Miss Lulu," his wife of more than 60 years. His latest book, a collection of his baseball columns titled "Life After Baseball," is available at local bookstores or by calling 1-800-245-5082.

THE BEST REVIEWED FILM OF THE YEAR, DAHLING.

Peter Travers, *Rolling Stone*

"One of the year's best! It's James Bond, Indiana Jones and the X-Men all rolled into one kick-out-the-jams spectacle!"

Ebert & Roeper

"TWO THUMBS UP!"

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Ebert & Roeper

"TWO THUMBS UP!"



THE INCREDIBLES

APC AT LYONIA MALL AMC FORUM 30 AMC LAUREL PARK AMC LYONIA 20
 CANTON 6 EMAGINE NOW MJR SOUTHGATE 20 PHOENIX AT WEST RIVER
 SHOWCASE THEATRE SHOWCASE DEARBORN SHOWCASE WESTLAND STAR FAIRLANE
 STAR GRANBY AT 15 MI STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING STAR JOHN R AT 14 MI STAR ROCHESTER HILLS
 STAR SOUTHFIELD STAR TAYLOR UA COMMERCE STADIUM 14 UPTOWN PALLADIUM 12

"THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR."



"A GIGANTIC EPIC STORY"
 "A STUNNING ACHIEVEMENT!"
 "TERRIFIC! AN ENORMOUS SPECTACLE!"
 "A SOARING SPECTACLE!"

ALEXANDER
 FORTUNE FAVORS THE BOLD

"OVER-THE-TOP, UNDER-THE-SEA ACTION AND NON-STOP LAUGHS!"



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 "SPONGEBOB IS A BIG SCREEN ADVENTURE that will absorb kids and adults alike!"

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AMC FORUM 30 NOW SHOWING AMC LAUREL PARK
 AMC LYONIA 20 BIRMINGHAM PALLADIUM EMAGINE CANTON
 MJR SOUTHGATE 20 NOVI TOWN CTR. PHOENIX AT BEL AIR CTR.
 PHOENIX WEST RIVER SHORES THEATRE SHOWCASE DEARBORN
 SHOWCASE WESTLAND STAR FAIRLANE 21 STAR GRATIOT
 STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING STAR JOHN R STAR ROCHESTER
 STAR SOUTHFIELD STAR TAYLOR UA COMMERCE STADIUM 14 UPTOWN PALLADIUM 12

"DELIGHTFUL. HILARIOUS. THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS AGAIN LIVES ON!"

"CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS" IS A 4-STAR HOLIDAY COMEDY - AN INSTANT FAMILY CLASSIC!
 TIM ALLEN HAS NEVER BEEN FUNNIER!"

Gorman Woodfin, CBS (THE 700 CLUB)



CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS
 TIM ALLEN JAMIE LEE CURTIS

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EMAGINE NOW	MJR SOUTHGATE 20	PHOENIX AT WEST RIVER
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STAR ROCHESTER	STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR
UA COMMERCE STADIUM 14	UPTOWN PALLADIUM 12	

BRIDGET JONES

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"WHEN IT COMES TO COMEDY, RENEE ZELLWEGER LEAPS TO THE TOP. She is the best - truly hysterical!"

Jan Raposo, ABC-TV



BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY
 RENEE ZELLWEGER RENEE ZELLWEGER RENEE ZELLWEGER

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AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LYONIA 20	BIRMINGHAM PALLADIUM
EMAGINE NOW	MJR SOUTHGATE 20	PHOENIX AT WEST RIVER
STAR FAIRLANE 21	STAR GRATIOT	STAR JOHN R
STAR ROCHESTER	STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR
UA COMMERCE STADIUM 14	UPTOWN PALLADIUM 12	

NATIONAL TREASURE



NATIONAL TREASURE
 NICOLAS CAGE

NOW SHOWING AT THESE THEATRES

AMC LYONIA 20	AMC FORUM 30	AMC LAUREL PARK
EMAGINE NOW	MJR SOUTHGATE 20	PHOENIX AT WEST RIVER
STAR FAIRLANE 21	STAR GRATIOT	STAR JOHN R
STAR ROCHESTER	STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR
UA COMMERCE STADIUM 14	UPTOWN PALLADIUM 12	

EDUCATION

Ramez Khuri, school reporter (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net

SCHOOL BRIEFS

Novi High School represented in Thanksgiving Day Parade

Four Novi High seniors will represent their school by marching in the 2004 Thanksgiving Day Parade:

- Erin Dwyer
- Kevin Gee
- Nian Jiang
- Bhavana Shivakumar

Selection Criteria included seniors with no medical disability to prevent marching, who have a 3.00 Grade Point Average or higher, are available to be in town and are willing to march in the parade, have good attendance and who participate in CO-curricular activities and/or volunteer work.

Growing to Greatness

The Novi Community School District is inviting the community to join the 2004-05 Long Range Planning Committee to develop the next strategic plan for the district. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 9, from 6 - 9 p.m. It will be held in the Instructional Technology Center Forum, located at 25345 Taft Road, directly across from the Educational Services Building.

For more information, contact CO-chairs Nancy Davis at (248) 449-1202 or Dennis Haggerty at (248) 444-6541, or Novi Community School District Superintendent Emmett Lippe at (248) 449-1200.

WALLED LAKE UPDATE

Central presents "Les Miserables"

Walled Lake Central High School presents "Les Miserables" Student Edition the weekend of Dec. 2-5, in the Central High School auditorium, located at 1600 Oakley Park, Walled Lake.

The production stars seniors Jared Schneider in the role of Jean Val Jean, Dan Dignett as Marius, Doss Freed in the role of Fantine, Madeleine Bican as Epouvette, Phil Haecherlein as Javert, Melinda Landreth as Cosette, junior Nate Reynolds



Novi Woods goes to McDonald's
 Novi Woods Elementary School held its annual McDonald's Family Fun Night Nov. 17. Pictured with Ronald McDonald are Nilay Patel, Alex Williams, Nilesh Patel and Matthew Williams. This event is hosted by Claude and Teresa Murphy and their McDonald's store on 10 Mile Road just east of Haggerty Road.

MEAP support down, according to study

Most Michigan parents say the MEAP test isn't being used to help their children, according to a recently released study by the Great Lakes Center for Education Research and Practice.

The center reported the lack of enthusiasm and interest has much to do with parents' lack of knowledge about the purpose of the test, or having different priorities for their children's education. Five percent said they knew what the tests are designed for, and 1 percent saw standardized test scores as an important indicator of whether a child is getting a good education.

The study indicated that parents are more concerned about self-esteem, desire to learn, work ethic, and motivation when it comes to influencing their child's success.

Lansing-based EPIC-MRA conducted the study of 1,700 parents in October. Commissioned by the Great Lakes Center in conjunction with the Year Child Coalition, it looked at parental involvement in education in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Here are the other findings...

- Only 20 percent of the parents surveyed believe that their child's test results will actually be used to specifically help their child improve in school.
- Only one-third of parents believe that such tests provide a good measure of their own child's abilities.
- Two-thirds of parents do not discuss standardized tests at parent-teacher conferences. This raises the question of how valuable the tests are if parents and



Warm heads, warm hearts

By Barbara Cliff

A group of 15 students volunteered their time to sew fleece hats for cancer patients who have lost their hair due to chemotherapy treatments. A total of 115 hats were donated to the Providence Hospital Assarian Cancer Center this month.

The top sewer was sophomore Abeer Alana, who sewed 22 hats, followed by seniors Akhya Ratnala who sewed 19 and Emily Rice with 13.

The rest of the students who volunteered their time to sew included: Senior Becky Reichel, senior Patti Ramos, senior Marie Nagle, senior Laura Brunner, sophomore Catherine Benham, senior Carla Murabito, senior Jessica Perreault, senior Radhika Patel, senior Namira Ismail, junior Sarah Pylar, senior Maricam Qanruzzaman and senior JiJee Kim.

Warm Heads Warm Hearts was started last year by Novi High School alumna Jeannette Tiso and parent Laurie Bates. This is the second year that Novi High School students have sewed hats for patients at the Assarian Cancer Center.

Barbara Cliff is Novi High School's Volunteer Service Coordinator.

Anyone see a turkey?

Darlene Grabowski's first grade class at Orchard Hills Elementary School worked hard and put on a Thanksgiving Play this week. The play reenacts the first Thanksgiving with the Pilgrims adjusting to their new life in the New World and the Native Americans wondering about and finally helping these new strangers. Having just arrived at Plymouth Rock, the Pilgrims are anticipating their life in this "New World." The cast members representing the Pilgrims are from left to right, front row: Pranav Jain, Amarda Willoughby, Cecilia Hong, Katrina McCarthy, Aaron Howe, Matt Ross and Molly McDonald. From left to right, back row are: Joey Carr, Andrew Waldrop, Katalyn Spencer, Ashley Moore, Madison Whitaker, Saman Raza, Harika Pancharpula and Alison Jamrog.

Second annual SPARK Day makes learning fun

By Ramez Khuri

because of a power hiccup in the building.

The purpose of the event, according to Sue Snider, chair of SPARK Day, is to bring the community into the school and show kids how science is used in everyday life. It is also to help them realize the importance of science and that it can be fun as well.

"In our school this is a half-day event," Snider said. "Mrs. (Principal Mary) Goedert brought it to our school, and we bring presenters in from throughout the community to do 40-minute workshops and hands-on sessions with the children and show how science is used in their line of work or in their careers or hobbies."

Science was chosen to be the focus of SPARK Day because it is such a major contributor to many activities and jobs. Parents and other presenters from many professions all flocked to the school that morning, each with interesting presentations for the children.

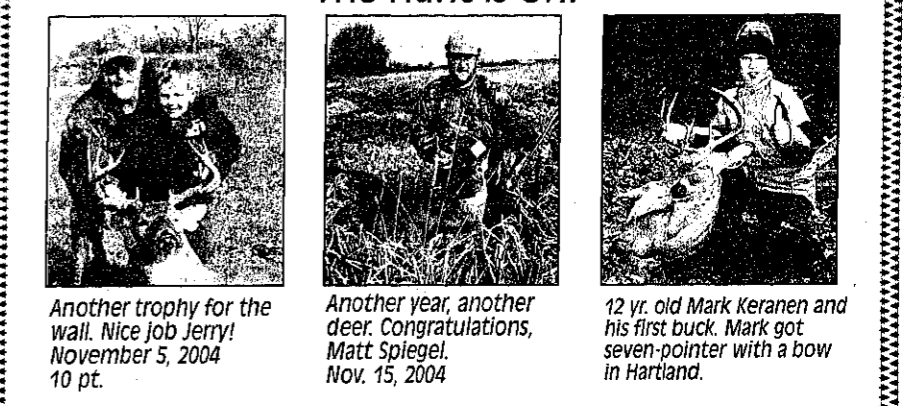
"We had a lot of positive feedback from last year's event," co-chair Kim Gardner said. "We did an evaluation and teachers, parents and presenters all thought it was highly successful, but a lot of it had to be done in the dark

Students had the opportunity to pick sessions from a specific grade appropriate list. Every effort was made to assign children to at least two sessions of their choice.

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net.

"Hunter's Trophy Case" Spotlight your "PRIZE" in this photo showcase

The Hunt Is On!



Another trophy for the wall. Nice job Jerry! November 5, 2004 10 pt.

Another year, another deer. Congratulations, Matt Spiegle, Nov. 15, 2004

12 yr. old Mark Keranen and his first buck. Mark got seven-pointer with a bow in Hartland.

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REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 4B

Novi News

Thursday, November 25, 2004

Due process for business overdue at tax court

The words are old, rarely heard in public and often buried in long and overly-wordy legal documents that interest only lawyers, historians or government officials. But the phrase "without due process of law" is one of

those ancient challenges to the basic freedoms of Americans that set liberty-loving peoples' blood to boiling and raise cries for fairness and honesty from their government.

While many of the nation's small-business owners may not be able to pinpoint the location of the phrase, which is tucked away in the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, they instinctively understand that their continued economic survival is dependent upon a properly-functioning system that recognizes and holds sacred the rights it implies.

That's why the NFIB Legal Foundation, upon learning that the U.S. Tax Court recently refused to disclose information in a case involving a small-business owner, has taken up this challenge before the U.S. Supreme Court. The tax court's refusal to allow access to special trial judges' reports, the Foundation asserts, is a clear violation of a taxpayer's right to due process.

The issues under review in the case of *Ballard v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue* are of considerable importance to all tax-paying Americans, especially small-business owners. Similar to many other tax cases, the underlying case started in the U.S. tax court where a chief judge appoints a special trial judge to conduct the trial. At the conclusion of the trial, the STJ submits a report to the chief judge who can then accept, reject or modify the report. However, due to a change of direction by the tax court in 1983, the STJ reports are no longer disclosed to the parties, nor are the reports included in the court record.

Currently, the tax court is the only forum in which a small-business owner or an individual (nearly 85 percent of small businesses file taxes as an individual) can contest an income tax without first paying the deficiency in full. Therefore, many small businesses choose to try their tax disputes in tax court. But denied the ability to review the STJ reports, a taxpayer's ability to appeal the court's decision is severely hampered because they have no way of knowing why the decision was made.

In its friend-of-the-court filing, the NFIB Legal Foundation points to that ancient language contained in the due process clause claiming that the case is founded upon two simple principles of democracy: fairness and transparency. These are true hallmarks of the judicial process.

It's bad enough that these entrepreneurs must face an increasingly complex federal tax code that bleeds them of time and money that they could be investing to make their businesses bigger and stronger. Requiring full-disclosure and transparency for all records is essential to ensuring that small-business owners have the ability to properly challenge decisions by the tax court or any other office of our nation's legal system.

The U.S. Tax Court is long overdue for a refresher course in due process.

Jack Faris is president of NFIB (the National Federation of Independent Business), the nation's largest small-business advocacy group. A non-profit, non-partisan organization founded in 1943, NFIB represents the consensus views of its 600,000 members in Washington, D.C., and all 50 state capitals.

Story idea?

Our readers have great ideas and we want to hear them. Send us your ideas.

Novi News
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Northville, MI 48167
Fax: (248) 349-9832

cstone@ht.homecomm.net

Advertorial



Photo by HAL GOULD

In the new showroom of Rottermond Jewelers, Ron Peterson, Dean Rottermond, Cindi Rottermond, Libby Dart and Mike Vrooman can offer many years of experience and expertise. The jeweler offers not only the finest selections but also a state-of-the-art repair facility.

Rottermond Jewelers offers new setting

Main Street shop provides big city selection, service

It has big city flair in a small town.

That is how Dean and Cindi Rottermond view their new 28,000-plus-square-foot store at 351 N. Main St. in downtown Milford.

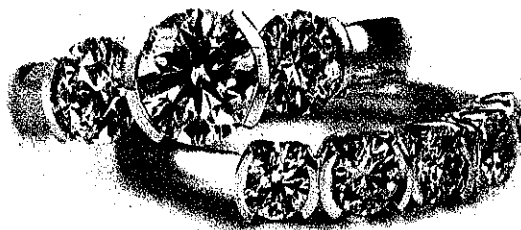
Light, sycamore wood, recessed and track lighting, curved showcases and glass everywhere lend a free flowing look to the new showroom. The couple hired "Launch by Design," a Toronto-based firm to design their new quarters in the site of the former Fifth Third Bank building.

"The larger display areas will allow us to show off more of our branded lines such as Hearts on Fire Diamonds. And certainly,

there is much more space for an enhanced Rottermond custom-designed jewelry area," explained Manager Libby Dart. Another addition to the showroom is large television screens that will continuously show what is in style in the jewelry world.

Gemologist Ron Peterson is especially delighted with the American Gemological Society (AGS) approved laboratory located at one end of the showroom. "We have a gemological library, reference materials, lab equipment, Gemological Institute of America (GIA) microscope, scales and unique "daylight" lighting for diamond grading and a set of certified color comparison diamonds," Peterson said.

The newest equipment to the lab is a Sarin brilliant eye which uses a laser to examine proportions, angles and the symmetry of diamonds, Peterson added. "We have software for our clients which can actually help



Rottermond Jewelers of Milford and Brighton are select dealers of Hearts on Fire and Dream diamonds.

them see the diamond piece we are producing for them," he continued.

"For our clients who want the most technical information, we can give them peace of mind, produce diamond reports and provide information for insurance purposes," Peterson added.

In addition to doubling their showroom space, the Rottermonds are turning the upstairs of their new building into an expanded jewelry repair area that will house a \$34,000 laser welder.

Award winning custom jewelry designer George Teufel calls the Rufon laser welder, "the highest technology jewelry tool in the field."

"The laser focuses a beam of light on a ring, for example, and welds gold back together using no solder. We used to use torches, but antique jewelry can't take

the heat. The laser holds new design possibilities never possible with conventional tools," Teufel explained.

The new laser will assist jewelers in repairs, designing and assembly. "We can actually set the voltage, width of pulse and the duration," he added. The Rufon is so powerful that its 80 jewels of power laser would probably shoot a mile and go through a block of steel," Teufel related.

"We will be able to work on stainless steel, fix watches and even items made of titanium. The Rufon will allow us to do repair work most jewelers couldn't touch," Teufel added. So far Teufel has taken five classes and several seminars from Rufon in Plymouth.

For the 18 Rottermond employees, moving into their new quarters has meant much

organizing, cleaning and reorganizing.

It took five days to move, but everyone pulled together as a team, explained Dart. "It has been very rewarding, and we are all very excited to be a part of this great venture."

Voted the best jewelry store for the past two years by Milford Times readers, the Rottermonds are ecstatic about their new "home."

"About four years ago, I began to envision a higher quality of service and bringing to Milford a new level of jewelry store," said Dean Rottermond. "This new store is something we have been dreaming of for a long time."

"All of this will mean a better selection of goods and services to better serve our valued clients," said Cindi and Dean Rottermond. "And that is what we are all about."



Photo by HAL GOULD

Rottermond Jewelers, which is a distributor of Hearts on Fire and Dream diamonds, offers the best in cut, color, clarity and carat weights.




The World's Most Perfectly Cut Diamond.

Visit Our Beautiful New Showroom.

We moved to 351 N. Main Street • Downtown Milford • 248.685.1150