



NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY Novi News

Look inside for your
GREEN SHEET
Classifieds
Greensheetclassifieds.com

Your hometown newspaper celebrating its 50th year serving Novi and the Lakes area

Thursday, December 8, 2005

www.novinews.com

50¢

Volume 50 Number 27

Novi, Michigan

INSIDE



Santa and the seniors

Santa elicits a smile from Isabelle McKay during last Thursday's Novi Rotary club Christmas party at Novi Middle School. Students and staff and Rotary members helped to entertain, feed and make feel welcome dozens of local seniors and community members.

— Page 22A

Healthy finances

At the Nov. 38 city council meeting, representatives of the consulting firm Plante & Moran gave an audit presentation of the city's last fiscal year that ended June 30.

— Page 6A

SPORTS



'Cats on prowl for KVC crown

Novi volleyball coach Julie Fisetto has big plans for her team this year. Seniors Jenna Kuhn (shown) and Megan Miller are just two of the key role players from last year's team who are back in action.

— 1B

INDEX

Business	12A
Calendar	24A
Classifieds	1D
Community	6A
Education	13A
Faith	16A
Health	18A
Opinion	20A
People	15A
Public Safety	4A
Regional Marketplace	6B
Seniors	22A
Sports	1B

CONTACT US

Novi News
104 W. Main
Northville, MI 48167

- Classifieds: (888) 999-1288
- Newsroom: (248) 349-1700
- Fax: (248) 349-9832
- Home Delivery: (888) 840-4809



Michigan vs Georgia

Ford's Wixom Assembly plant could still close

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Oakland County Commissioner Hugh Crawford (R-Novi) doesn't like Michigan's chances when it comes to business retention. That's because Michigan hardly tops the list if it has to compete with other states on tax incentives.

So, the question is, if Georgia officials are trying to convince Ford Motor Company to keep a plant in that state open, will they have more leverage?

Hopes were raised after an article appeared in the Dec. 2 Wall Street Journal stating that Ford's Wixom Assembly plant would remain open and other plants, including one in the Atlanta area, would close.

Then, early this week, speculation rose when media reports last weekend stated Georgia was negotiating a "secret deal" with Ford in court to keep the Atlanta-

Wixom Assembly at a glance

- Opened in 1957
- 1,600 employees
- Lines: Lincoln LS, Lincoln Town Car, Ford GT

Source: Wixom Assembly Plant

area plant open by offering business incentives and infrastructure improvements.

"It's certainly still a very tenu-

ous situation, and one everyone's watching very carefully," said Oakland County Commissioner Jeff Potter (R-South Lyon).

Potter works at the Wixom plant.

"We're taking everything with a grain of salt and keeping our fingers crossed."

The article in last week's Wall Street Journal stated that the Atlanta Assembly plant would not assemble the Lincoln line and that four different auto lines were supposedly coming to the Wixom plant.

continued on 3A

1,000 new jobs?

City will help Southfield manufacturer overcome obstacles

By Tracy Mishler
STAFF WRITER

David Landry hopes the city of Novi will soon be home to 1,000 new employees.

And if Southfield-based Comau Pico Inc. decides on moving their new headquarters to the former Novi Expo Center facility, Landry's wish will be granted.

"It would be excellent for the city," Landry said, "and we are willing to work with them on every level within the bounds of our ordinances."

On Oct. 17, Comau Pico CEO John Newman indicated in a letter that his company has an interest in expanding further in Novi.

Newman said Comau Pico, which designs vehicle manufacturing systems for the automotive, construction, recreational and aerospace industries, has narrowed their selection to Novi and Plymouth.

He said in a statement that both locations have unique opportunities, but Novi has several obstacles standing in the way of making a quick decision.

continued on 3A



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

Ring in the Holidays

Some of Santa's elves entertain a post-parade crowd Thursday night inside Novi's Main Street development. Prior to the parade, the annual Spirit of Giving Award was presented to the Michigan 50's Festival Board of Directors. See more photos from the event on page 4A.

State approves grant for Meadowbrook Park

City of Novi responds at 11th hour

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Members of Friends of Novi Parks and others who worked on the project were overwhelmed when a state trust fund board awarded a grant to the city Tuesday that will form a new park in Novi.

"We are elated," said Rick Helwig, city manager. "It's a true community accomplishment."

Once approved by the state legislature, the city of Novi will receive \$846,338 from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund.

That funding and a 25 percent local match of \$52,662 will be used to create Meadowbrook

What's it for?

Novi will receive \$846,338 from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. That, and a 25-percent local match of \$52,662, will be used to create Meadowbrook Park on about 51 acres east and west of Meadowbrook Road between Nine Mile and 10 Mile roads.

Park on about 51 acres east and west of Meadowbrook Road between Nine Mile and 10 Mile roads.

The series of recent events began when Toni Nagy, city council member, convinced developer William Roskelly of

continued on 3A

Samonas savor victory

Novi family celebrates with a live nativity scene, caroling

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

It was 9 a.m. last Thursday and the Samona household was hopping with glee.

The house was packed with close relatives who just witnessed a live-nativity scene in their front yard — an event that Joseph Samona called a celebration of victory.

As he sat at the kitchen table with his father, Frank, eating a hearty bowl of soup, the 16-year-old described the morning.

"We had 95.5 FM come over here, and they actually did the live nativity scene," Samona said. "We had a lot of people come by, who we didn't even

know. My middle school principal even came by. It was an exciting day for all of us."

It was a beautiful scene, complete with singing, Samona said.

"The police rolled by and said they did not receive any complaints," said Samona.

"It was just a great day, and it was taken very seriously. I made sure before they came that it would not be a mockery."

To further celebrate, a group of people organized a Christmas carol sing-a-long last Sunday evening on the Samonas front lawn.

The Samonas were celebrating a letter they received from the homeowners association that previously ordered the family to remove a nativity scene

display on their front lawn. It was a letter of retraction and an apology.

The Novi family says the nativity display is something they've been putting up for the last three years, without hearing any complaints.

The American Family Association of Michigan condemned the Tollgate Woods subdivision for ordering the Novi homeowners to remove the figures of the Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the Three Wise Men from their lawn.

The organization even offered to provide the Samonas free legal representation and to pay up to \$100 a week in fines the neighborhood association was threatening to levy against the family until the Christmas nativity scene was removed.

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@gannet.com.

Vietnam vet tells his story to the History Channel

Novi resident awarded Silver Star from U.S. Air Force

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

It's been over 30 years, but the memories will be embedded in Robert Blough's mind forever.

Blough, a Novi resident since 1982, received a Silver Star award from the United States Air Force for his heroic actions on May 15, 1975. And for good rea-

son. It was because of him and his crew that 71 Marines, who were pinned down by enemy fire near the end of the Vietnam War, were able to walk away from Cambodia.

Although he's modest about the incident, Blough is happy that others haven't forgotten that day. After all, it was his first real combat mission.

"I received an e-mail out of the blue from this production company in California, and they were expressing interest in doing a documentary on the operation," Blough said. "I responded, and

they did a whole round of interviews with people they could contact from that day."

Blough, who was a helicopter pilot during the war, was interviewed by the History Channel at the Westin Hotel near Detroit Metro Airport. The documentary, titled

YOUR NOVI Neighbors

"Heroes Under Fire: Deadly Reckoning," first aired last Friday. It will be airing again at 4 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 17.

He told about how his operation was late in the day. The United



As a helicopter pilot, Robert Blough helped rescue 71 Marines in the Vietnam War.

continued on 2A



Find what you're looking for in the
Green Sheet Classifieds Call 1-888-999-1288

Novi resident awarded Silver Star from U.S. Air Force

Robert Blough Age: 55 Occupation: engineer supervisor for Daimler Chrysler Family: wife, Ruth Hobbies and/or interests: woodworking, hunting and reading. Advice: "If someone who's graduating high school and is unsure of what they want to do, I would definitely recommend the Air Force or any of the military."



In the service, 1975. Blough was now dealing with three obstacles: the enemy, darkness and the fact that he was told there were only about 20 Khmer Rouge reservists on the island...

continued from front page States had already recovered a U.S. ship that had been seized by Khmer Rouge Cambodian gun boats. But the crew was still being held by enemy forces. "President Ford decided we were going to get the crew and the ship back," Blough said. "We pulled in some Marines from Okinawa, and we met them in Bangkok. They got on our helicopters, and we took off."

Darkness falls Blough was a lieutenant with a crew of six in his helicopter. As darkness approached, he said his biggest concern was crashing the helicopter. "That was before night vision goggles and all this neat stuff you see on television now," Blough said. "We flew around in the dark and basically couldn't see anything. The beach was real narrow...

Blough had been on rescue alert two days prior. The night before, he slept in his helicopter, which he called "The Jolly Green Giant," in case any of the Navy pilots were shot down while keeping track of the ship. In the morning, Blough was told to get some sleep. But when he returned later, there weren't any helicopters left.

Blough's best friend at the time was shot down that day when the tail of his helicopter was blown off. He spent the day surrounded by a dozen Marines on the beach, and the Khmer Rouge just wound up using them as bait to lure other helicopters. "We lost several helicopters trying to get those guys out before we were finally successful," Blough said. "There wasn't much of a plan, and any plan we initially had was thrown out the window because we ran into 10 times the number of enemies and weapons we expected."

City of Novi responds at 11th hour

continued from front page Binsley & Smith in Livonia, to lower the price of about 15 acres east of Meadowbrook. Roskelly had agreed to donate to the city as part of the land acquisition grant application. Next, Nagy was able to convince city administration and her fellow council members to take \$52,662 from the proceeds of the sale of the parcel at the northeast corner of Novi Road and Grand River Avenue and apply that amount to the 25 percent local match for the grant application.

Novi Public Library

She noted that in her discussion with Mayor David Landry as to funding, they discussed using some of the monies from the sale of the property at Grand River Avenue and Novi Road for the 25 percent local match. On Saturday, Nagy placed the item on the agenda. With Mayor Landry and council's support, the vote was unanimous to fund the match for the grant. "I am grateful for the generosity of Mr. Roskelly for reducing the asking price for his land and Mr. Claudio Rossi for donation of his property. I very much appreciate the cooperation of Mayor Landry and my fellow council members," Nagy said.

City will help Southfield manufacturer overcome obstacles

continued from front page "Novi is currently the higher priced option for leasing of the two sites," he said. "But I believe if the support package laid out by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation was supported by the city of Novi and tax abatements were provided over a 12-year period, as well as a ring road and industrial spur, we could make a good case for selecting the Novi location." Landry said there have been issues with the ring road in the past. "There definitely would have to be some site modifications," Landry said, "and the state has indicated a willingness to consider giving money toward the road construction. Everything still needs to be discussed."

Ford's Wixom Assembly plant could still close

continued from front page "The mood in here is one of hopeful anticipation and muted enthusiasm mixed with skepticism," Potter said. "I guess we'll wait and see if Ford confirms anything." "As we've said, we will share a plan in January," said Anne Marie Gathers, spokesperson for Ford Motor Company. "Until then we have nothing to announce. Such reports are based on speculation and not official Ford information."

Wanted: tax break

According to Landry, one of Newman's biggest concerns was receiving tax abatements. "We have to evaluate what the city's policies currently are and consider what other cities are doing," Landry said. Novi City Manager Richard Helwig said the city has presented a letter of interest to the Michigan Department of Transportation for a grant to construct and related improvements. "We will recommend to the Mayor and members of City Council the approval of a 12-year tax abatement," Helwig said in a letter. "This action will be based on your extraordinary investment which includes top magnitude in Novi's tax abatement criteria."

Home Equity Loan

5.99% APR 15-year term No points No closing costs

Charter One

Not your typical bank. To find out more, visit your nearest branch, go to charterone.com or call 1-877-TOP-RATE.

Great rates ... Easy terms. Certificates of Deposit 13-MONTH CD 4.60% ANNUAL PERCENTAGE YIELD 4-MONTH CD 4.20% ANNUAL PERCENTAGE YIELD

Color her thrilled this holiday. Rainbow Rainbow sapphires & diamonds set in 14k gold by P&L. ORIN JEWELERS

The Flavor Of Europe... The Taste Of Taorello's! SALES DATES: Sunday, DECEMBER 4th thru Saturday, DECEMBER 10th, 2005. STORE HOURS: Monday - Saturday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

WHAT A CHILD LEARNS ABOUT VIOLENCE A CHILD LEARNS FOR LIFE. Today carefully, we can show you how. Call 877-ACI-WISE for a free brochure or visit www.kidsandviolence.org.

The city must take several steps now that the grant has been awarded, such as obtaining final approval from the state legislature and appraisals on the land.

Home Equity Loan 5.99% APR 15-year term No points No closing costs Charter One Not your typical bank. No, the rate is not a typo. To find out more, visit your nearest branch, go to charterone.com or call 1-877-TOP-RATE.

Varsity Lincoln Mercury. New Years Eve Special!!! Fri & Sat Only 12/30 & 12/31 Free lube oil & filter with the purchase of any 2 maintenance services. Visit our website: www.varsitylinmerc.com

Ring in the Holidays



Santa checks in with a youngster after Thursday night's Ringing in the Holidays celebration on Novi's Main Street.



Providence Hospital of Novi staff members walk with decorated wheelchairs.



Frank Orlando practically disappears into a cloud of steam as he sells hot dogs from a sidewalk stand in the chilly air of Thursday night to raise funds for Toys for Tots.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Pam Fleming, staff writer (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 pfleming@gannett.com

Man charged with child abuse

■ Case involves 8-week-old boy

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

A 24-year-old Novi man was charged with third-degree child abuse Nov. 30 after his live-in girlfriend noticed bruises on her 8-week-old son.

William Hollis, 24, was arrested two days after his girlfriend drove to the Walled Lake Police Department on Nov. 28 with the boy to report the abuse.

He was arraigned Nov. 30 at 52-1 District Court in Novi in front of Judge Andre Richardson. Bond was set at \$10,000. Third-degree child abuse is a misdemeanor punishable by two years in jail.

The abuse is reported to have occurred in the couple's home in the 3000 block of Rousseau in the HomeTown Novi mobile home park on 13 Mile Road east of Novi Road.

The child had been up during

the night. Hollis offered to get up and care for the child, according to Novi Police Chief David Molloy.

The mother woke up and saw the boyfriend sitting with the child in the living room about 6 a.m. When she went to attend to the child about 9 a.m., she noticed bruises on his body.

"He said he accidentally pinched the child too hard in the middle of the night," Molloy said. The woman drove to the Walled Lake Police Department because it was the closest police department to the mobile home park. Walled Lake emergency medical personnel attended to the child while he was there, according to Molloy.

The child was then transported to Huron Valley Hospital in Commerce Township.

At that time, the child had a bruise on his right hand, his left

ankle, lacerations and bruises on his right shoulder and upper arm, bruises on his left shoulder and redness above his left eye, according to police.

Molloy said the Hollis and the girl had lived together for about six months.

The boyfriend was arrested after Novi detectives presented the case to the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office. Hollis was due back in court yesterday for a pre-exam conference. A preliminary exam is set for Dec. 15 in 52-1 District Court.

"Basically, their relationship has been very volatile. There was some physical abuse between the mother and the boyfriend, which she had not reported," Molloy said.

Molloy said detectives contacted Child Protective Services about the abused boy, and a joint investigation is ongoing.

"This is not an incident that happens every day, but when we do receive these types of complaints, we actively investigate," Molloy said.

VARSITY LINCOLN MERCURY COLLISION CENTER
2 exits west of 12 Oaks Mall at Grand River and Wixom Road
1-248-449-6901

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD WINNER
"BEST COLLISION SHOP" 2005
It's your choice so choose the best!
Tell your insurance company
"I'm going to Varsity Lincoln Mercury's Collision Center"

- We Repair All Makes & Models
- Direct Repair For All Major Insurance Companies
- Guaranteed On Time Repairs
- 90 Days Same As Cash On Your Collision Deductible*

Varsity Collision Center Special* Save this in case of an accident for **FREE TOWING**
Courtesy of Varsity Lincoln Mercury Collision Center 248-896-8888

Varsity Collision Center Special* IN CASE OF ACCIDENT - CLIP THIS COUPON & SAVE **FREE Collision Loaner**
Courtesy of Varsity Lincoln Mercury Collision Center 248-449-6901

Heslop's
China & Gifts

Save Up To 20% Off*
most everything in the store
during our **Holiday Sale!**

Thursday, December 8th
thru Sunday, December 18th
Novi Town Center
Phone Orders (248) 349-8090

Tabletop • Collectibles • Gifts • Home Decor

FITZ AND FLOYD
Santa's 1st Serving Bowl

ATTENTION ALL WINTER WARRIORS:
Thesier Equipment Company SELLER & SERVICES the most recognized name in SNOWBLOWERS!!
www.tor.com

STARTING AS LOW AS **\$359**

Mention this Ad and receive **FREE** 1 gallon fuel can, initial start-up & assembly with every Snowblower

Act NOW and receive.. NO Payments / Deferred Interest for 12 months! **HURRY!** Offer Ends Dec 31*

29342 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon, Michigan • 48178
Phone: 248-437-2838 Fax: 248-437-2140
Toll Free: 1-800-870-9791
www.greentractors.com

*some exclusions apply, please ask salesperson for details. Novi Town Center 26020 Ingersoll Novi, MI 48375 (248)349-3090

Meadowbrook Congregational Church

Advent Celebration
Chancel Choir Concert
8 p.m. December 14

The Chancel Choir, along with a string quartet, will perform a free concert of traditional and religious holiday music including selections from Handel's *Messiah*.

Christmas Eve Services
6 p.m. Nativity Pageant & Candlelighting
9 p.m. Service of Lessons, Carol & Candles

Christmas Day Service
10 a.m. Worship and Fellowship Hour

21555 Meadowbrook Road between 8 and 9 Mile roads in Novi 248-348-7757 www.mbcc.org

South Lyon Lumber
Be sure to capture *True Value* your child's visit with Santa on video this **Saturday, Dec. 10! 1-3 p.m.** for only **\$1.49** at South Lyon Lumber

South Lyon Lumber • 415 East Lake St. 248-437-1751

Scappare
A FULL SERVICE SALON

No Ho Ho Gifts from Head to Toe

All Cosmetics Always Available

Diane's Doll House
16 Year TOYS, DOLLS & CELEBRATION! 25% OFF STOREWIDE (Excludes Certain Merchandise)

Santa's Favorite Shopping Stop

102 N. Lafayette (Corner of 10 Mile & Pontiac) South Lyon, MI 48178 248-486-0455

HAPPY HOLIDAY HINTS

South Lyon Lumber
Thursday, Dec. 1, join South Lyon Lumber for their "2nd Annual Ladies Night," from 6 to 9 p.m. Enjoy a great night filled with demonstrations on faux painting, chainsaw carvings, appetizers, music and a chair massage from one of the three masseuse on hand. Get your holiday shopping done early. South Lyon Lumber is located at 415 East Lake Street.

Scappare
We are a full service salon designed with you in mind. For the ultimate pampering experience you have to experience Scappare, "Where Beauty Lives."

Diane's Doll House
is celebrating their 16th anniversary! Join in the celebration with storewide specials going on now, and throughout the Holidays.

Digicomm Electronics, Inc.
Same Location for 16 Years Digicomm Electronics, Inc. DISH Network Satellite Systems Free equipment & installation Visit our showroom See our HD & Digital systems

Perfect Floors
We offer a large selection of carpeting in our showroom, which includes a Mohawk Color Center. We also offer a variety of ceramic, hardwood, laminate and vinyl floor-covering products. Most orders are installed within seven days, which means there is still time to replace your flooring before the holidays arrive. Stop by and visit our showroom today.

Theiser Equipment Company
Theiser Equipment Company has been providing outdoor power equipment to our community since 1965, and is best known as our local "John Deere" dealer. Check them out at www.greentractors.com or call 1-800-870-9791

South Lyon Cycle
We have high-quality bikes for the entire family at great values. Indoor trainers and a large selection of bike accessories are in stock for the bicyclist on your gift list.

Selective Heating
Selective Heating has 28 years experience servicing & installing furnaces, boilers, air conditioners & radiant heating. They are a Bryant dealer but service and install all makes & models.

THE BEST THING SINCE WHEEL TV

AMERICA'S TOP 60 ONLY **\$19.99** MONTH (3 YEARS)

FREE 25 MOVIE CHANNELS
FREE DVR EQUIPMENT UPGRADE
FREE STANDARD PROFESSIONAL INSTALLATION

dish NETWORKS
Better TV for all.

★ 16 Years Same Location ★
DigiComm Electronic, Inc.
22882 Pontiac Trail South Lyon, MI 48178 248-486-4343

Perfect Floors
Still Time to have new flooring installed before the holidays! All floor covering now on sale.

South Lyon Showroom 21946 Pontiac Trail south of Nine Mile Rd. Mon, Wed, Fri 9-8 Tues & Thurs 9-6, Sat 9-5 248-437-2838

Rochester Hills Showroom 1015 John R corner of John R & Avon. Mon, Wed, Fri 9-8 Tues & Thurs 9-6, Sat 9-5 248-650-5199

NO PAYMENTS NO INTEREST until Jan 2007

TORO ATTENTION ALL TORO WINTER WARRIORS:
Theiser Equipment Company SELLER & SERVICES the most recognized name in SNOWBLOWERS!!
www.tor.com

STARTING AS LOW AS **\$359**

Mention this Ad and receive **FREE** 1 gallon fuel can, initial start-up & assembly with every Snowblower

Act NOW and receive.. NO Payments / Deferred Interest for 12 months! **HURRY!** Offer Ends Dec 31*

29342 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon, Michigan • 48178
Phone: 248-437-2838 Fax: 248-437-2140
Toll Free: 1-800-870-9791
www.greentractors.com

SOUTH LYON CYCLE
209 S. Lafayette (Pontiac Trail) 2 blocks south of Ten Mile Downtown South Lyon (248) 437-0500

TREK GIANT HARD **townie**
Large Selection of High-Quality Bikes for the Entire Family at Great Values

Kids	From \$99.99
BMX	\$199.99
Cruiser	\$199.99
Mountain	\$219.99
Comfort	\$279.99
Hybrid	\$279.99
Road	\$559.99
Adult Tri-Wheeler	\$349.99

Gift Certificates & Layaway Available also Great Accessory Gift Ideas

Seasons can be harsh. Especially when it comes to your heating system. This year, make sure they're prepared for what's ahead by calling your local Bryant dealer.

Selective Heating for a check up. With Bryant by your side, you can rest assured both you and your units will survive the upcoming weather.

MAKE SURE BRYANT VISITS YOUR FURNACE BEFORE WINTER DOES.

Selective Heating
29301 Garrison Rd. Wixom, MI 48393 248-486-4640 **bryant**
servicing all makes & models

COMMUNITY

Pam Fleming, staff writer. (248) 349-1700, ext. 105. pfleming@gannett.com

Auditors paint positive picture of Novi's financial outlook

■ Departments work to keep city costs down

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Heffernan and Scott Janssen like what they see when it comes to Novi's financial outlook.

At the Nov. 30 city council meeting, the two representatives of the consulting firm Plante & Moran gave an audit presentation of the city's last fiscal year.

The report paints a picture of the city's financial performance for the fiscal year that ended June 30. It represents the work of the city's finance department's staff.

Plante & Moran's audit looked at the city's system of financial checks and balances and reviewed the report to see that it is fairly stated as far as accounting data.

"In other words, we're not looking at how well you're doing but how good your accounting procedures are," Heffernan said.

Janssen outlined the fiscal year's financial highlights and trends over last five years.

Taxes provide the most

He explained that the general fund is the most important fund in the city and the one that staff spends the most time budgeting.

The city's most important revenue sources are property taxes, which represent two-thirds of the city's revenue.

Building and plan permits have also increased the city's revenue over the last five years.

"These revenue increases are why Novi has been able to maintain a low millage rate compared with other communities in Oakland County."

"The city of Novi is at the low end of the millage scale," Janssen said. "The city is able to keep its millage rate low because of the high tax per capita."

Heffernan said: "The building of new, nicer homes adds to this."

The city's second most important revenue source is state shared revenue, which has been decreasing in the last five years. "There's been a decrease of about three quarters of a million dollars or 17 percent," Heffernan said.

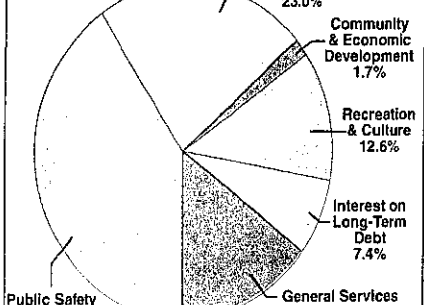
He said his sources say the state plans an increase, or decreases, in the next round of funding. "They're proposing to leave it flat, which is good news," Heffernan said.

Public safety costs the most

As far as the city's general fund expenditures, or how resources were spent, public safety uses more than half of the budget.

City of Novi General Fund

Classification of Governmental Activities
Year Ended June 30, 2005



"Police and fire represent about 58 percent of the general fund for an annual basis," Janssen said. The building and planning departments had the next largest expenditure.

At the end of the last fiscal year, the city's fund balance totaled \$7.2 million in fund balance. However, this does not include \$150,000, which is reserved for specific purposes.

Janssen added that more than a half million in capital expenditures that were scheduled for 2005

are not being done until next year. "It's the undesignated fund balance you want to look at," Janssen said.

The Plante & Moran representatives mentioned also that the city did a good job during the last fiscal year of setting water and sewer rates in relation to expenditures.

"The city is making an effort to set the rates at an appropriate level," Janssen said.

The financial experts said as far

as the federal government is concerned, the city needs to answer the question, "Are today's taxpayers paying for today's services?" Heffernan said.

"The city has really been struggling with the cost of providing services," he added. Another drain on the budget is the cost of retiree health care.

The experts said one reason the city has been able to maintain a healthy financial outlook is because department heads have their departments coming in under budget.

"Novi is in an enviable position right now," Heffernan said. "It's a good picture."

"The city came in \$3 million under budget. Performing services for less money is the key," Heffernan said.

Mayor David Landry and City Manager Rick Helwig complimented the finance department staff for putting the city's financial house in order.

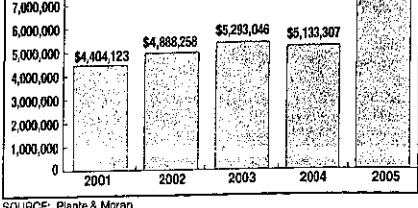
Helwig noted that Standard & Poor's recently reaffirmed Novi's outstanding "AA-" bond rating and stable outlook.

"All the department heads are living within their means," Landry said.

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@gannett.com.

City of Novi General Fund

Fund Balance—Years Ended June 30, 2001 through 2005



SOURCE: Plante & Moran

THE NOVI NEWS
Published Each Thursday
By The Novi News
104 W. Main Street
Northville, Michigan 48167
Periodical
At Northville, Michigan

Subscription Rates:
Inside Counties \$28 one year home delivery. Outside Counties (in Michigan) are \$40 per year, prepaid. Out of state, \$50 per year.

The Novi News is published by Federated Publications, Inc. a wholly owned subsidiary of Gannett Co. Inc. Postmaster: send address changes to: The Novi News, Post Office Box 476, Howell, MI 48844. POLICY STATEMENT: All advertising published in The Novi News is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department, The Novi News, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167. (248-349-1700). The Novi News reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. The Novi News ad-takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order.

Publication Number USPS 996290

Medicare and Blue Cross go back a long way.

Blue Cross began working with Medicare when it was first introduced in the 1960s. Today, that relationship continues with Medicare plans like Medicare Plus Blue and BCN Advantage.

These plans—both backed by the security of the familiar Cross and Shield—provide all your current Medicare benefits and more:

- Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage*
- Preventive tests and annual physicals
- Office visits and hospitalization
- Virtually no paperwork
- Worldwide emergency and urgent care
- Low monthly premiums

With Medicare Plus Blue, you go to any doctor you choose**—across the state and across the nation—and there's no need for referrals. With BCN Advantage, you get your choice of doctors from the BCN Advantage network, plus dental and vision coverage currently not provided under Medicare. Either way, you get more health care, more security, and more peace of mind.

If you have questions about Medicare Plus Blue or BCN Advantage, we'll be happy to help you. We'll even send you a free, no-obligation information packet. Why not call our friendly helpline today?

CALL TODAY!
1-800-485-4415
TTY 1-800-481-8704
7 a.m.-7 p.m., Monday-Friday



The benefits provided are subject to plan terms and conditions.
*Prescription drug coverage benefits subject to limitations.
**Medical providers must be Medicare-approved and willing to give you care and accept the terms of your plan's payment.
Medicare Plus Blue is a private-fee-for-service plan with a Medicare contract and is available to all Medicare beneficiaries who are Michigan residents who have both Part A and Part B of Medicare. Premiums vary by county. Medicare Plus Blue is issued by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, a nonprofit corporation and independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.
Blue Care Network is a wholly owned subsidiary of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. A Medicare-approved HMO, BCN Advantage is available to all Medicare beneficiaries who have both Part A and Part B of Medicare. You must use BCN Advantage providers for routine care. Available in these counties: Calhoun, Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kent, Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Muskegon, Oakland, Ottawa, Saginaw, Shiawassee, Washtenaw, Wayne. Premiums vary by county. Blue Care Network of Michigan is a nonprofit corporation and independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Debra's Piano Studio
Piano Lessons for all ages
• Bachelor of Music Degree - MSU
• Member of Michigan Music Teachers Association
248.344.9114
Located in Novi

SOUTH LYON THEATER
Newly Renowned Theater
Starts Fri Dec 9th
Zathura
Rated PG 100 Min
7pm Shows \$4.00
Matinees \$3.00
Tuesdays \$2.00
7^{pm} everyday except Saturdays
Sat & Sun 12 & 4 Matinee
Saturday, Dec 10th
movie at 8:15 after
Blacklight Puppetshow
Wednesday
FREE sm Popcorn
with paid admission
Thursday
FREE Ice Cream
with paid admission
Monday is
Senior Citizen Night
\$3 admission
126 E. Lake St.
437-4545

Holiday skating exhibition hits the ice this Saturday

■ Eighth annual event to feature festive, fun music

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Holiday music and figure skating have always gone hand in hand.

And because of that fact, the Skating Club of Novi is expecting a big crowd this Saturday, as it will host its eighth annual Holiday Skating Exhibition.

"It's a fun event for our skaters," said Darlene Newman, club treasurer. "They get to pick some fun music to skate to and not be under a lot of stress or pressure from the competitive end. It's to celebrate the holiday season."

As always, the Skating Club of Novi will take \$2 donations at the door. Money raised in the past was given to such charities as the Sarah Fisher Center.

This year, however, the club, along with the Novi Ice Arena, will be donating all funds raised from the event to the Novi Goodfellow.

At least 41 skaters, ranging between 6 and 15 years of age, were signed up by press time.

"We have a variety of skaters and a variety of skating levels," Newman said. "The kids like to have fun because it's fun for them. They'll go out and do a minute-and-a-half program to a song of their choice, and they'll get pretty creative because there are no guidelines they have to follow."

The Skating Club of Novi was established in 1998 with 25 members. It's a non-profit corporation and a volunteer organization. It's also been a member of the United States Figure Skating Association since 1999, and now currently has 197 members.

The club's mission is to promote the sport of figure skating, for both males and females. It has

recreational and competitive programs. Skaters compete in regional, sectional and national competitions.

Besides the holiday exhibition, every spring the club hosts an ice show, and throughout the year hosts a basic skills competition. In October and November, the club started its first full competition, called "Falling Leaves." The 2006 Ice Show, titled "Route 66," will be Friday and Saturday, April 7-8.

"We try to get as many people in to see the Holiday Skating Exhibition as possible because the kids love to have an audience to perform to," Newman said.

Details

The eighth annual Holiday Skating Exhibition, presented by the Skating Club of Novi (pictured to the right), will take place from noon-2 p.m. Saturday at the Novi Ice Arena.

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@gannett.com.



HOLIDAY STORE HOURS: SHOP TODAY 9:00 AM TO 10:00 PM

HOLIDAY GOING ON NOW! GIFT SALE

EXCEPTIONAL SAVINGS, SPECIAL GIFTS

34.99 Velour robes from Parisian Intimates in assorted colors. Orig. 68.00-80.00. IN WOMEN'S APPAREL.

59.99 Cashmere sweaters in solid colors from Parisian Signature. Orig. 89.00-120.00. Also available in novelty cashmere sweaters. Orig. 120.00. sale 69.99. IN LADIES' SWEATWEAR AND PEKETS. NOVELTY SWEATERS AT SELECTED STORES.

50% OFF Ladies' coats in a great selection of styles and colors. Orig. 150.00-650.00. sale 75.00-325.00. IN COATS.

10.98 Sleepwear separates from Parisian. Orig. 20.00. IN WOMEN'S APPAREL.

79.99 Cashmere sweaters from Cezani. Orig. 150.00. IN MEN'S.

399.99 Cashmere sport coats in a great selection of styles and colors. Orig. 650.00. IN MEN'S.

50% OFF ENTIRE STOCK of men's outerwear from Claiborne, Fredrick & Moore, Cozzani and Excelsior. Orig. 50.00-450.00. sale 25.00-225.00. IN MEN'S.

11.99 Entire stock of boxed jewelry from Parisian Signature. Orig. 24.00. IN ACCESSORIES.

39.99 your choice 1/8 Ct. t.w. "X" bracelet or earrings. Orig. 80.00-100.00. IN ACCESSORIES.

50% OFF Beauty Luxuries indulge in color with our exclusive color kits that are wrapped and ready to go in a faux croc leather case. Orig. 15.00-40.00. sale 7.50-20.00. IN COSMETICS.

50% OFF Ladies' boots and shoes from Naturalizer, Nine West, Baretraps, Yellow Box, Bandolino and more. Orig. 49.00-149.00. sale 24.50-74.50. IN WOMEN'S SHOES.

PLUS SAVE MORE WITH YOUR COUPONS

TAKE AN EXTRA 15% OFF
any single REGULAR-PRICED, sale or clearance item
valid Thursday, December 8 thru Monday, December 12
15% off Shoes, Ladies' Suits and Dresses and Jean & Denim Furniture.

TAKE AN EXTRA 15% OFF
any single REGULAR-PRICED, sale or clearance item
valid Thursday, December 8 thru Monday, December 12
15% off Shoes, Ladies' Suits and Dresses and Jean & Denim Furniture.

FINE JEWELRY
TAKE AN EXTRA 20% OFF*
ANY SALE OR CLEARANCE PURCHASE ON ENTIRE STOCK OF FINE JEWELRY ALREADY REDUCED 40-50%
valid Thursday, December 8 thru Monday, December 12

YOU'RE SOMEBODY SPECIAL

PARISIAN

save an extra 10% when you open a Parisian account - no exclusions

WALD ON YOUR FIRST PARISIAN PURCHASE. SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL AND ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS. SEE AN ASSOCIATE FOR DETAILS.

TO ORDER ANYTIME, CALL 1-800-424-8188. MONDAY THRU SATURDAY: 10:00 AM TO 10:00 PM EST. AND SUNDAY: 11:00 AM TO 7:00 PM EST. American Express not accepted with phone orders. STORE HOURS: The Village of Rochester Hills (248) 276-3705 and Laurel Park Plaza (248) 953-7500 open Thurs. 9-10, Fri. and Sat. 9-10. Sun. 10-8. CHARGE IT! Parisian Credit Card, MasterCard, Visa, the American Express Card or DiscoverCard. LOCATED AT THE VILLAGE OF ROCHESTER HILLS, CORNER OF NORTH ADAMS ROAD AND WALTON STREET; AND LAUREL PARK PLAZA IN LIVONIA, CORNER OF NEWBURGH ROAD AND SIX MILE ROAD. Percentages of multiple prices or coupon prices, as shown. Actual savings may exceed stated percentages. *However, the 10% price-cut offering program subject to store hours. Excludes all sale items. Member's discount subject to store hours. See an associate for details.

The biggest threat to depression is your awareness of it.

UN TREATED DEPRESSION

www.walsh.org • 1-888-511-5AVE

New Novi Youth Council elects officers, picks projects

Students name subcommittees

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

David Denyer made history last Wednesday in Novi.

The local high school student was elected that day as the first chairman of the new Novi Youth Council, just formed this year.

The council's three new officers are a diverse group, representing three different schools.

Denyer is a senior at Catholic Central High School; Scott Czekaj, vice chairman, is a junior at Novi High School; and Wendy Ying, secretary, is a junior at Detroit Country Day School.

The group had to vote three times, as the first two votes produced ties.

Next, the members concentrated on prioritizing goals set during last month's first meeting.

Denyer believes jobs are a major concern of young people and was interested in the job-shadowing program with Novi businesses discussed at the first meeting.

The council also wants to partner with businesses to increase the group's funding. The Novi City Council appropriated \$500 to the youth group from city funds as its

initial budget.

Students expressed a lot of interest in having a fund-raiser to support the Novi Public Library's capital campaign to expand the library.

However, with the Charles and Myrtle Walker \$1 million match ending Dec. 31, the group decided that there isn't enough time to organize a charity event that would benefit the library this year.

The group unanimously supported a Novi Youth Day, which would probably take place next spring.

One idea is to have an event at Community Sports Park. Chris Joloin also suggested having five local entertainment venues provide a one-day pass to Novi youths.

Other ideas that the students had were getting involved in some way with Novi Youth Assistance, an organization that assists local young people, and organizing an event that would combine information-gathering and a social activity with local students.

Four subcommittees were formed at the end of the meeting so that youth council members can break up into groups and start

focusing on upcoming events.

These include a fund-raising/charity group; a combined school event group; a Novi Youth Day group; and a public relations group that would work with local businesses for involvement and support.

Members of the four subcommittees will meet on their own and report back to the full council at the next meeting.

Sheryl Walsh, director of community relations, who serves as a liaison for the youth council, mentioned that there will be a regional youth conference in Canton in March.

She hopes at least two Novi Youth Council members will be able to attend the conference.

A representative from the city of Farmington Hills and a member of their youth council have volunteered to attend the next Novi Youth Council meeting in December to report on the neighboring council's latest activities.

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@gannett.com.



Photo by PAM FLEMING

David Denyer, center, was elected chairman of the new Novi Youth Council Nov. 30. Other officers include Scott Czekaj, right, vice chairman and Wendy Ying, secretary.

THINKING ABOUT
A NEW FURNACE
LENOX
FREE ESTIMATES
(734) 525-1930
Our 31st Year!
UNITED TEMPERATURE
8919 MIDDLEBELT • LIVONIA

New Year's Eve Party & Packages
Room, Dinner & Party or Dinner & Party only
Deluxe room for two • Buffet & champagne toast
Dance to DJ's live music or live music by a USA
A la carte menu available • Call for more details

Weber's
HOTEL & RESTAURANT
3350 Jackson Road • Ann Arbor, MI
(734) 769-2500 • webersinn.com

GRAND OPENING NOVEMBER 28, 2005
50% Off on Selected Jewelry
Drawing for \$1,000 in Store Shopping Spree
Ebel - Rado - Gucci - Tissot - ESQ - Movado
Watch Collection



RADO

Gucci
Tissot
ESQ
Movado

AGIUSON
Watches & Fine Jewelry
Boutique
Dearborn
Watch Sales & Service
Official Dealer



Gucci
Tissot
ESQ
Movado



EBEL

Entry form must be completed and placed in drawing box no later than December 24, 2005, at 1:00pm. Public drawing at Agiuson Watches & Fine Jewelry Boutique will take place December 28, 2005 at 1:00pm. Must be 18 years or older. Employees and family not eligible. No purchase necessary. One entry per person. Need not be present to win.

22174 Michigan Avenue, Dearborn, MI 48124 Phone: 313-561-1259
Parking in Rear: Located Next to Buddy's Pizza and the Little Cafe, Across the street from Starbucks

**NOTHING CAN REMAIN!
LIVONIA AND BIRMINGHAM STORES
MUST BE LIQUIDATED NOW!**

RUSTICS

MASSIVE 2-STORE GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SALE!

EVERYTHING MUST GO!

NOTHING HELD BACK!

**LEATHER FURNITURE, CHAIRS
BAR STOOLS, DINETTES,
PATIO FURNITURE, AND
MUCH MORE!**

TOP QUALITY INDOOR AND OUTDOOR FURNISHINGS FROM:

Woodard Furniture • Whalen Furniture • HUGO BOSS • UFFNER • JCPENNEY


SALE IN 4 LOCATIONS

Birmingham • 248.644.1919 • 690 Old South Woodward Ave.
Livonia • 734.522.9200 • 29500 West 6 Mile Road
Shelby Township • 586.566.1829 • 14215 Hall Road
Novi/Wixom • 248.348.0090 • 48700 Grand River Ave.

SALE HOURS: MON: 10-6, TUES: 10-6, CLOSED WED, THURS: 10-6, FRI: 10-6, SAT: 10-6, SUN: 12-5

Livonia Permit #2005 15204 • Birmingham Permit #05-12081

INDULGE • RELAX • ENJOY



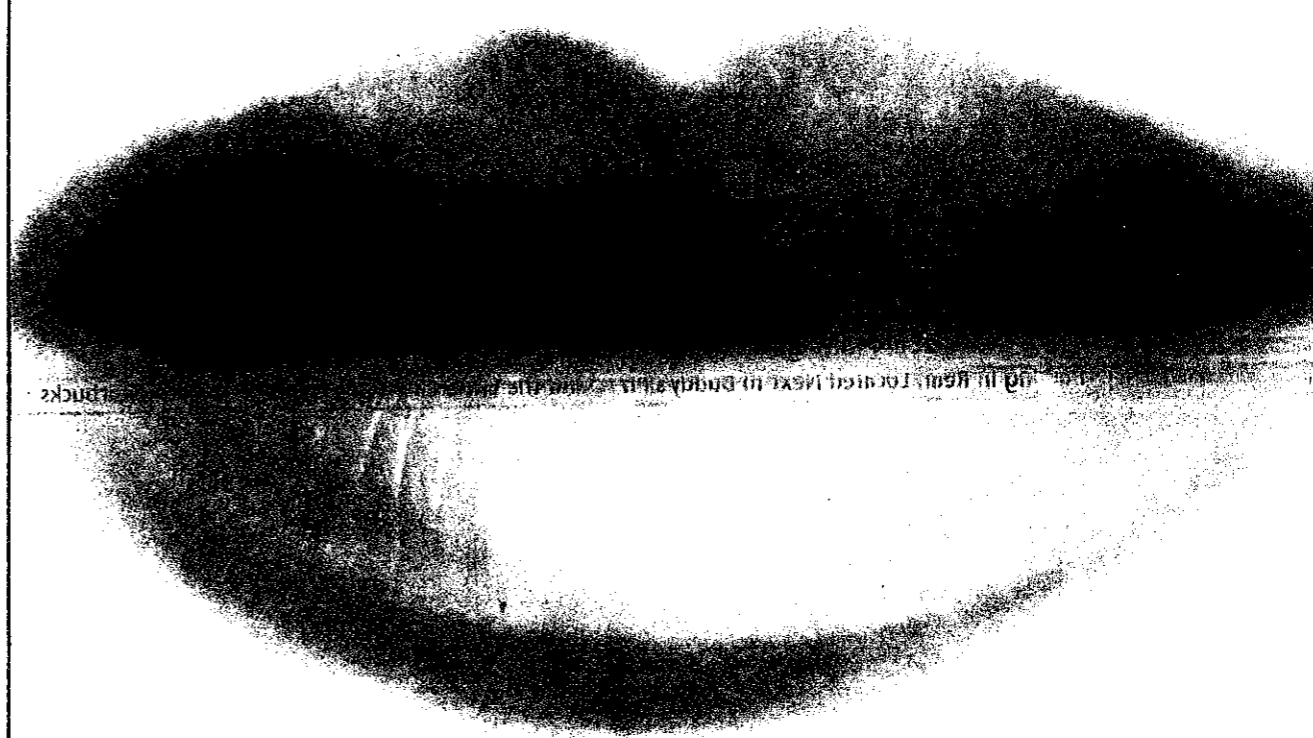
This resort is reserved for superheroes.

Only the bravest kids in the world are guests at Give Kids The World Village. It's a place where children with life-threatening illnesses can enjoy a week of fun and attractions. The Village has swimming, endless ice cream, as well as trips to local Orlando theme parks and visits from life-sized superheroes. Families stay in fantasyland villas and everything is free. Learn how you can help these courageous kids.

www.gktw.org Call 800-995-KIDS and Give Kids The World.

Ad Council

PEOPLE ARE TALKING...



tricho
salon & spa

NOW OPEN
TWELVE OAKS MALL
248-305-9111

BRIARWOOD MALL FAIRLANE MALL
734-214-3200 313-271-2000

PHOTO © 2005 LISA SPINDLER

Power outages force action

Superintendent putting together plans for each school building

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

It has only been five months since Peter Dion took over as Novi School's superintendent, and he believes two power outages within the district are two too many.

That's why Dion is busy putting together a plan for each of the schools in the district that will prepare the different buildings to better handle the situation if and when it happens again.

"We've had a power outage at Village Oaks this year already, and we had one in the district last week. So, I'm not going to sit and wait for the next one," Dion said. "I want to be proactive about it."

The principals of all eight schools in the district have until Tuesday, Dec. 20 to submit a plan to Dion. That gives them time to meet with their staffs and with Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance Jim Koster to finalize it.

"Each plan would have to be tailored to each building because Novi Woods is different than Novi Meadows, which is different than Parkview and Village Oaks," Dion said. "I also want to implement a communication model."

During the most recent power outage, the phones and computers at Novi High School were disabled, not allowing for any communication with the other buildings, other than cell phones.

Dion wants a plan that will somehow allow for communication, should that happen again.

It will have to address communication within the buildings, outside of the buildings, the materials they need and where they would take the kids," Dion said. "Also, what about water and heat? Each building will address those things individually."

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@gannett.com.



Little school on the prairie
Novi Woods third graders went back in time over 100 years last week when they visited Wing Lake school and log cabin as part of their pioneer unit. The students attended class in a one room school house, tried out tools used during the time period, made candles and learned about life in 1891 - all while dressed for the time period. Pictured here are Kaitlyn Berg, Lexa Giragosian, teacher Nancy Baln, Hannah Latham and Ryan Brown.

Warm heads, warm hearts
A group of 20 Novi High School students volunteered their time to sew fleece hats for cancer patients who have lost their hair due to chemotherapy treatments. A total of 234 hats were donated to the Providence Hospital Assarian Cancer Center on November 22.

Warm Heads, Warm Hearts was started in 2004 by student Jeannette Tiso and parent Laurie Bates. Pictured are the top sewers (left to right, back row): Aimee Cooper, Angela Recchia, Lisa Hebda, Katie Flanagan; (middle row) Summer Griesinger, Abeer Afana, and Michelle Dwyer; and (front row) Volunteer Coordinator Barb Cliff.



ON CAMPUS

Novi resident Karen Janik is among the performers with Valparaiso University's music ensembles this year. She plays principal alto saxophone in the Chamber Concert Band. Karen is a senior music education major and the daughter of Christopher and Nancy Janik.

Holiday Dresses with all the Trimmings!

We have a great selection of holiday attire, jewelry and gifts at significant savings.

\$5.00 OFF Any Purchase
Expires 12/31/05
*Cannot be combined with other offers.

smart chicks
consignment

"Consignment shopping the way it should be"

43039 Grand River (1 Block East of Novi Road)
(248) 317-1600 • www.smartchicks.net
Hours: Monday 10-7 • Tues-Fri 10-6 • Sat. 10-5 • Sun 12-4

Taste of Bangkok Cuisine
Thai • Chinese • American
Fast • Fresh • Delicious

- 7-10 minute lunch
- Over 160 seats available
- Daily Lunch Special for \$5.50
- Pad Thai special every Tuesday for \$5.50
- House soup served daily with lunch

BANQUETS AVAILABLE

50% OFF Lunch or Dinner Entree
*Valid on all lunch & dinner orders of equal or greater value. Not valid on take-out orders.

25% OFF Carry Out Any Time
*Some restrictions apply.

43317 Grand River Ave.
Novi, MI 48375 • Ph. 248.360.6808
www.tob-cuisine.com

Have You Heard About the NEW IRISH SHOP IN FERNDALE??

GREAT GIFT IDEAS
Jewelry, Clothing, Rugs, Crystal, China, Pottery, Artwork, and Food Items.

Come See what Everyone is Talking About...

The Twisted Shamrock
276 W. 9 Mile Rd. Ferndale
(next to Buffalo Wild Wings)
(248) 544-4170

kmart SALE
Sat. & Sun. December 10 & 11

50% off* Gifts for her

- Basic Editions® women's and plus size chenille sweaters
- All women's knit turtlenecks
- Basic Editions women's long-sleeved system tees
- Select women's slip-on casual shoes
- Joe Boxer® women's and plus size polar fleece robes Reg. 28.99
- Joe Boxer® women's lounge pants
- Women's 3-piece boxed gift sets
- Sold in the Fashion Accessories Dept.
- Sterling silver jewelry

50% off* Gifts for him

- Hunting apparel. Excludes thermal wear.
- Joe Boxer men's flannel pants
- All men's packaged thermal tops and bottoms. Excludes thermal wear sold in the Sporting Goods Dept.
- Knightsbridge® packaged flannel pajamas
- Phillips noise cancelling headphones
- Hydro H2060 H2060F
- Aluminum sports bottle, 16-oz plastic mug or Northwest Territory® plastic vacuum bottles

50% off* Gifts for kids

- Trim A Home® table and wall decor
- Select discontinued furniture
- Martha Stewart Everyday® Holiday Ribbon Mountain 15.49, stay all tree
- 1200-piece jigs, tree top
- Martha Stewart Everyday Holiday 3-ct. glass ornaments
- Holographic holiday window sculptures

buy one, get one 50% off**

Costume jewelry

*Buy one item at reg. price and get the second one of equal or lesser value, at 50% off the reg. price.

50% off*

- Lysol, 18-oz. aerosol disinfectant
- Select discontinued patio & garden merchandise
- American Fare® cotton balls or 100-ct. ibuprofen

Shrek 2 party goods

- NCR glossy photo paper
- Select Maybelline cosmetics
- Select Max Factor, L'Oréal or Revlon cosmetics

Special Buy 30% off*	\$1 Selected DVDs	\$159.95 Fujifilm E900 digital camera	10% off Motorola cordless phones	50% off GE 24-hour appliance timer 53917
40% off	Harvest Halloweaves Juvenile floor rugs Promotional remnants	9.99 Poker rug with BONUS playing cards and poker chips	49.99 Gloria Vanderbilt pink, blue or raspberry 3-pc. luggage set	25% off All Stanley tools
40% off	Notttingham Fair animation	40% off Outdoor lighted stick trees	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE* United States Postal Service bubble mailers *Purchasing second item requires one each of identical item.	1.99 Pental 2-pack gel or roller pens
50% off	Kotex 18-ct. tampons, 40-64-ct. liners, 14-24-ct. pads or 24-28-ct. Poise liners	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE Crest toothpaste, 8.2 oz. or Crest SpinBrush *Buy one regular priced item and get the second one of equal or lesser value FREE.	25% off All Disney camping	3.99 Pental tetra 4-pack gel roller pens
				buy one, get one 50% off** Essential Home™ white ceiling light accessories *Buy one regular priced item and get the second one of equal or lesser value at 50% off the reg. price.

LOOK FOR EXTRA SPECIAL VALUE SIGNS THROUGHOUT THE STORE FOR ADDITIONAL OFFERS.
*LIMIT ONE EXCEPT ON THE REGULAR PRICE OF THE SECOND ITEM. **LIMIT ONE PER CUSTOMER PER DAY.

PEOPLE

Carl Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com

ENGAGEMENTS



Clark-Hadley

Thomas and Claudia Clark and Dr. Thomas and Carol Hadley, all of Novi, announce the engagement of their daughter, Brianne to Adam Prisciandaro, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Prisciandaro.

The bride-elect is a 1997 graduate of Novi High School. She received a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics from Albion College and masters in the art of teaching degree from Marygrove College in 2004. She is currently a seventh and eighth grade math teacher at White Lake Middle School.

The groom-elect is a 1997 graduate of Sealhorn High School. He is currently attending school towards his business administration degree.

A February 2006 wedding is planned.



Rains-Prisciandaro

Mr. and Mrs. James Rains of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Brianne to Adam Prisciandaro, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Prisciandaro.

The bride-elect is a 1997 graduate of Novi High School. She received a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics from Albion College and masters in the art of teaching degree from Marygrove College in 2004. She is currently a seventh and eighth grade math teacher at White Lake Middle School.

The groom-elect is a 1997 graduate of Sealhorn High School. He is currently attending school towards his business administration degree.

A February 2006 wedding is planned.

OBITUARY

ALICE NORA MULLINGER
Alice Nora Mullinger, age 89, of East Tawas, formerly of Kenya, South Africa and Novi, died on Friday, Nov. 11, 2005. Nora has resided in East Tawas for the last 10 years. She was an active member of the Grace Lutheran Church in East Tawas and a member of the Ladies Literary Club in Tawas. She also enjoyed farming and was involved in the Novi Seniors Theatrical Programs. Nora is survived by her son, Tony (Lynn) Pursey of Novi, three grandchildren: Hester, Caroline and Jeffrey; five great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. Per her wishes, cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be held at the Grace Lutheran Church in East Tawas at a later date. Interment of her cremated remains will be in the Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Novi. Arrangements are by Buresh and Kofs Funeral Home in Tawas City.

NAMES IN NEWS

Macprofessionals announced the promotion of Dean Norton to director of technology. In this role, Norton supervises a technical staff of 16 certified engineers, integrators, and developers. Norton has been designing and supporting computer and technology solutions for use in business, education, graphic design, video/film, and scientific research for nearly 20 years. His work has taken him around the U.S. to design and consult on advanced server deployments, digital media studios, storage area networks. He has devised and installed a wide variety of custom solutions for clients.

Norton was previously the service manager of Macprofessionals. Prior to joining the company, Norton served as service manager for the Mac Group in Farmington Hills. He is a resident of Howell.

IN THE SERVICE

Marine Corps Pvt. Derek T. Sammut, son of Tom L. and Thomas J. Sammut of Novi, Mich., recently completed 12 weeks of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, Calif. designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

Sammut and fellow recruits began their training at 5 a. m., by running three miles and performing calisthenics. In addition to the physical conditioning program, Sammut spent numerous hours in classroom and field assignments which included learning first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat and assorted weapons training. They performed close order drill and operated as a small infantry unit during field training.

Sammut and other recruits also received instruction on the Marine Corps' core values—honor, courage and commitment, and what the core values mean in guiding personal and professional conduct.

Sammut and fellow recruits ended the training phase with The Crucible, a 54-hour, team evolution culminating in an emotional ceremony in which recruits are presented the Marine Corps Emblem, and addressed as "Marines" for the first time in their careers.

Army Pvt. Derek H. Jolly has graduated from the Infantryman One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. The training consists of Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training.

During the nine weeks of basic combat training, the soldier received training in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history, core values and traditions. Additional training included development of basic combat skills and battlefield operations and tactics, and experiencing use of various weapons and weapons defenses available to the infantry crewman.

He is the son of Joe Jolly of Yorick Park, Wixom and Lou Ann Hanerick of Flanders St., Chelsea, Mich.

The private is a 2005 graduate of Chelsea High School.

OBITUARY POLICY

The first seven lines of an obituary are published free of charge. After that, there is a fee of \$3 a line. Pictures may be published for \$25.

*Deadline for obituaries is Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. for publication in Thursday's newspaper.

For more information, call 888-999-1288 or contact your funeral home. *Daily deadlines are subject to change.

REMEMBER, ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES

A Public Service of the USDA Forest Service and Your State Forester

NOTICE TO BIDDERS NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT NOVI, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi Community School District will receive sealed bids for the following items:

Carpet for the Educational Services Building, Novi Community School District, 25345 Telford Road, Novi, Michigan 48374-2423 until 2:00 p.m. local time, December 20, 2005. Specifications may be picked up at the Educational Services Building during normal business hours.

(12-18-05 NN 256187)

CITY OF NOVI SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE DECEMBER 12, 2005

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council for the City of Novi will hold a special meeting on MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2005 AT 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, for the purpose of interviewing candidates for appointments to City Boards and Commissions.

MARYANNE COFFIN-LIUS
NOVI CITY CLERK

(11-24-12-18-05 NN 254188)

Visit us on the Web: www.novinews.com.

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 05-072

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Margaret Kenny is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow the sale of firewood at 40995 West Thirteen Mile Road from the date of the meeting until March 31, 2006.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 200 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, December 16, 2005 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Department and must be received prior to December 16, 2005.

GAIL U. BACKLUS
TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY
(248) 347-0415

(12-08-05 NN 257337)

HOLIDAY EVENT FOR CHILDREN 7 AND UNDER

Lunch & Skate with Santa
Wednesday, December 21st
10 am - 12 noon

Each child will receive a candy cane from Santa!

Admission includes skate rental, hot dog, beverage and snack. Prof. toys & clothes are welcome.

Special Event Standard Admission...\$5 each. Group Rate for 15 or More...\$5.50

Skate for the Health of It!

To make your reservations, please call (248) 476-2201

BONAVENTURE
FAMILY SKATING CENTER

24005 Highland - Farmington Hills www.bonaventureskating.com

PERFECT TREE SALE

ALL LIFE-LIKE TREES 33-60% OFF

Trees as low as \$199
*prints from \$199
*Prices and stock at large vary.

\$5.00 OFF Fresh Cut Tree 6' or Larger!
Limit one • Expires 12/11/05

PLYMOUTH LAKESHORE
Christmas in the Cool

734-453-5500

9900 Ann Arbor Rd./Plymouth Rd.
7 Miles West of I-275
1.1-2 Miles South of I-24
Corner of Goshen Rd.

HOLIDAY HOURS
Nov-Fri 9-8 • Sat 9-6 • Sun 10-6
Closed Dec 12-14-15

Just one more way we're closer to our customers.

Stop by today for a free American Express® Gift Card worth up to \$200.*

At Huntington, we pride ourselves on great customer service with a personal touch. And now, we have a brand-new banking office for your convenience at 27250 Wixom Road.

Stop by our new location and open a qualifying product or service and you'll receive a \$50 American Express Gift Card. Plus, we'll add another \$25 for each additional qualifying product or service you open (up to \$200).

We also invite you to stop by any of our banking offices today to see firsthand how we're committed to meeting your financial needs. To find out more, call 248-305-8307.

WIXOM RD

Huntington
A bank invested in people.

*Offer valid through December 31, 2005, and only at this banking office. Value of American Express Gift Cards are limited to \$200 per person, and incentives for deposit products are reportable on IRS Form 1099. Offer not valid in combination with any other offer. Member FDIC. © and Huntington are federally registered service marks of Huntington Bancshares Incorporated. ©2005 Huntington Bancshares Incorporated.

FAITH

Ramez Khuri, staff writer (248) 349-1700, ext. 110, rkhuri@gannett.com

CHURCH CALENDAR

Meadowbrook Congregational Church invites everyone to attend a Sunday worship service at 10 a.m. The Church Choir, along with a string quartet, will present a free holiday concert on Wednesday, Dec. 14 at 8 p.m. In addition to traditional and religious Christmas songs, choruses and solos from "The Messiah" will be performed. The public is invited to attend this free concert.

The church is located at 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight Mile and Nine Mile roads. Call (248) 348-7757.

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross offers a worship service every Wednesday from 12:10-12:50 p.m. Come and share your lunch with God at a worship service that includes scripture and Holy Communion. The church invites all to worship Sundays at 7:45 and 10 a.m. Nursery care is available at 10 a.m. worship service. (The nurse-

ry is coordinated by a registered pediatric nurse.)

Adult Bible Study is Sundays at 9 a.m. Worship Center for children ages 3-7, and Sunday School is at 10 a.m.

Worship Service of Compliment is held at 8:30 p.m. Rice 13 (ages 11-14) and J2A (ages 14 and up) groups meet at 5 p.m. for their program and dinner. Youth Worship Service is held at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Sunday of every month; all are welcome.

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross is located at 40700 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi. Call (248) 427-1175 or visit www.churchofholycross.com.

Faith Community Presbyterian Church invites you to worship at either the 9 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. services. Adult Sunday school is offered at 9 a.m. Sunday school and nursery care is available at both services.

Dr. Henderson will be teaching an Amos and Hosea class on

Tuesday's at 10 a.m. and Wednesday's at 7 p.m. Cost for the book and class is \$19. Everyone is welcome.

Women's Bible Study, led by Jana Martin, is the first Wednesday and Thursday of each month, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

The church is located at 44400 W. 10 Mile Road in Novi. Call (248) 349-2345, or visit www.faithcommunity-novi.org.

St. James Catholic Church is located at 46325 10 Mile Road, Novi. Call (248) 347-7778.

First United Methodist Church of Northville will be hosting a community-wide healing service, called Prayers for Healing of Body, Mind, Relationship and Spirit on the first Monday of each month. This service of hope is open to the Northville/Novi community and persons of all faiths who desire to ask God for healing in their life, or that of someone

they hold dear. Church worship hour schedules are as follows: 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m. on Sundays. On Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, 2006, the church will only hold one service at 10 a.m. The church is located at 777 W. Eight Mile Road (at Taft Road), Northville. Phone (248) 439-1144, or visit www.funmcnorthville.org.

The Novi United Methodist Church is located at 41671 W. 10 Mile Road. Sunday worship is at 9:45 a.m. with Rev. Jacqueline E. Holdsworth.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA: The Church Choir will present "A New Birth - A New Beginning" by John Purdy on Sunday, Dec. 18, during morning worship services. Make plans for this annual musical event telling the birth of Christ through familiar choruses, new arrangements and narration. Call (248) 349-2652 or visit www.nunumc.org for more information.

St. John Lutheran Church is located at 23225 Gill Road in Farmington Hills. Saturday service begins at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday traditional services are at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday contemporary service begins at 9:50 a.m. and Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m. Nursery is provided. Call (248) 474-0544 or visit www.stjohn-lutheran.com for more information.

The church is located at 29200 Meadowbrook Road, just south of 13 Mile Road. For more information, call (248) 427-2700. Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. or www.crosspointemeadows.org.

The Holy Family Church is located at 24505 Meadowbrook Road, between Grand River and 10 Mile Road. Call (248) 349-8847 or visit www.holyfamily-novi.org.

Oak Pointe Church service times will be at 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. every Sunday. Visit www.oakpointe.org or call (248) 349-2345, or visit www.funmcnorthville.org.

Church of the Holy Cross is located at 40700 W. 10 Mile Road (between Meadowbrook and Haggerty roads). Visit www.churchofholycross.com for more information.

St. John Lutheran Church is located at 23225 Gill Road in Farmington Hills. Saturday service begins at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday traditional services are at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday contemporary service begins at 9:50 a.m. and Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m. Nursery is provided. Call (248) 474-0544 or visit www.stjohn-lutheran.com for more information.

children 12 and under.

The church is located at 29200 Meadowbrook Road, just south of 13 Mile Road. For more information, call (248) 427-2700. Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. or www.crosspointemeadows.org.

The church's next big event will be its Christmas Eve service beginning at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24 at the Emagine Theater. Call (248) 515-5750, or visit www.c3ministries.org for more information.

The church holds a communion every Sunday, and one of the core activities that is done is called "a rule of life."

"They're basic spiritual practices that have been around in the Christian world for hundreds of thousands of years," Paul said. "There is a desire to worship and a belief that authentic worship is appealing to folks that don't know a thing about the church. We're very missional and at the same time very biblical."

The Christ Covenant Church is not really new to Novi. It

Emagine mass being held at a movie theater

Faith group moves from Wixom to Novi movie theater

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

The Emagine Theater is not just for movies anymore. Novi's premier movie theater, located in the Fountain Walk shopping center, is now also home to a faith group called the Christ Covenant Church.

According to Pastor Nathan Paul, it's difficult to classify his church because it's very untraditional.

"I had to classify it, I'd say it's more of an emergence church," Paul said. "We have a real desire to look at modern as well as ancient studies."

The church holds a communion every Sunday, and one of the core activities that is done is called "a rule of life."

"They're basic spiritual practices that have been around in the Christian world for hundreds of thousands of years," Paul said. "There is a desire to worship and a belief that authentic worship is appealing to folks that don't know a thing about the church. We're very missional and at the same time very biblical."

The Christ Covenant Church is not really new to Novi. It

actually started in the city's DoubleTree Hotel three years ago and did preview services. It then moved to Sara Banks Middle School in Wixom for a year-and-a-half before moving back to Novi. It's been at the Emagine for about a year.

"Sara Banks was a great school, but location wise, it wasn't ideal, and with all the road construction, it was time to make a move," Paul said.

The church was planted by Faith Covenant Church in Farmington Hills and Kensington Community Church in Troy. It has now grown to 12 churches in the Detroit area.

While looking for a new home, the church determined that the Novi Emagine Theater was an ideal spot because it's so close to the expressway and is usually not open for business on Sunday mornings.

The church then got permission to use the theater for worship and outreach programs in their local communities regularly.

"The community group I'm in works at the Walled Lake Food Pantry," Paul said. "Each community group has to find a local mission and local ways to connect to the community. There's a land person that's the community pastor."

Paul described the Christ Covenant Church as "a great place to connect and grow."

Though the group is still young, it has been busy actively planting multiple churches in Germany. Paul explained that it's a multi-national church that has drawn people from many different countries.

"Because of the automobile industry here, we have people from all around the world, many of which are here temporarily," Paul said. "It's also a challenge and a joy because of all the different cultures. How do you bridge cultural gaps and understanding? That question just adds depth to the church."

It's not like other churches

A unique aspect of the church is that there are three areas where people can connect to it. There is a worship gathering on Sunday mornings, small life groups, and mid-size groups called community groups.

Community groups are made up of 30 to 50 people and operate like house churches. All ages are welcome. They gather for worship in homes once a month and also perform outreach programs in their local communities regularly.

"The community group I'm in works at the Walled Lake Food Pantry," Paul said. "Each community group has to find a local mission and local ways to connect to the community. There's a land person that's the community pastor."

Paul described the Christ Covenant Church as "a great place to connect and grow."

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@gannett.com.



Courtesy photo

The Christ Covenant Church has five community groups based on geographic location. Pictured is a gathering called "Encounter." On the third Sunday of each month, partners of ministry get together for dinner, communion, song and prayer. Pictured are Jennifer Andersson, community group southeast lay pastor; Tim Andersson, musician; William Browning, musician; and Sue Davis, partner of ministry.

"Because of the automobile industry here, we have people from all around the world, many of which are here temporarily. It's also a challenge and a joy because of all the different cultures. How do you bridge cultural gaps and understanding? That question just adds depth to the church."

Nathan Paul
Christ Covenant Church pastor

Has 2005 been a blur?

Let Town & Country Eyecare offer you a clear focus for the New Year!

- Comprehensive Eyecare
- Unique Eyewear
- Specialty Contact Lenses

Don't forget about using your Flex spending for needed glasses, contacts or LASIK surgery!

TOWN & COUNTRY EYECARE

Located on the corner of Novi Rd. & 9 Mile
248-347-7800

Happy Holidays from Town & Country Eyecare!

Make Your Classified Ad STAND OUT with Photos!

The cost for the photo will be \$10.00 for the first day and \$5.00 per day for each additional day, plus the cost of the ad copy based on the number of lines used.

Reproducible 3.5- or 4-6 photos or photos emailed to us will be used. Call for e-mail address. Photos will not be returned. Private party merchandise, auto and real estate ads. Prepayment required. No refunds.

Call 1-888-999-1288 to place your ad today!

Green Sheet CLASSIFIEDS

Excludes Business/Commercial Ads
Deadline for Thursday's publication is Monday at 12 noon
Deadline for Sunday's publication is Thursday at 12 noon

Joe's Produce

Chateau du Pavillon 2003 Bordeaux \$10.99 750 ml

Bolla Chianti Very Good Wine at a Great Price! \$6.99 750 ml

Michigan's Finest

Joe's Finest Selections!

Dole California Broccoli 99¢ A Bunch	California Aunt Mid's Mini Carrots 99¢ 1 lb. Bag	Dole California Celery 99¢ Stalk
California Navel Oranges \$3.99 8 lb. Bag	Spanish Seedless Clementines \$5.99 8 lb. Bag	Texas Rio Star Red Grapefruit \$3.49 8 lb. Bag
Korbel Extra Dry Brut \$9.99 750 ml	Alpine Lace Swiss Cheese \$3.99 1 lb. Low Sodium	Korbel Brut Rose \$9.99 750 ml
Land O'Lakes Half Gallon Ice Cream 2/\$6.00	Lighthouse Chunky Bleu Cheese Dressing & Dip \$2.99 12 oz. Jar	Gift Package of Assorted Cookies \$2.99 1 lb. Package

Byrds Choice Meats!
Order Your Holiday Favorites!

- Choice Standing Rib Roast
- Racks of Lamb
- Fresh Bell & Evans Turkeys
- Seafood & Deli Trays
- Crown Pork Roast
- Dearborn Spiral Glazed Hams
- Homemade Smoked Kielbasa
- See Ya Soon!

Fruit Baskets - A Great Gift Idea!
A variety of sizes \$19.99 & up. Filled with fresh fruit, candy, cookies, jam, sausage, mustard, crackers and cheese. Add a bottle of wine! Order today for the Holiday! Prices Good Through DEC. 11, 2005

33152 W. Seven Mile • Livonia, MI 48152
www.joesproduce.com (248) 477-4333

MY HOMETOWN NOVI

Awards: The Novi Historical Commission will award \$100, \$50 & \$25 to the top three photographers as judged by a committee of professional photographers based on photographs entered in this contest. A total of \$175 will be awarded. A "People's Choice" Award will be selected by popular vote of those attending an exhibit of entries to be scheduled in late 2006. Winning photographs will be published in the Novi News.

Exhibits: The 2005 My Hometown Novi Photo Competition winning photographs will be exhibited at a reception to be held at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi at a date following the close of the competition. Additional entries may be selected for exhibit or for publication as outlined in the release form. Photographs randomly selected from among entries received may be published in the Novi News during the course of the competition to promote the competition and to encourage additional entries.

Work(s) Eligible: Photographs submitted should be an image that represents the photographer's interpretation of the competition theme of "My Hometown Novi".

- Each photographer may submit up to five photographs.
- Each photograph will be judged as an individual entry.
- Altered photos (any alteration that distorts the original image) are not eligible for prizes. There is no residency requirement for entrants.
- All entries whether submitted by amateurs or professionals will be judged as a single group.

Specifications: Entries must be 8" x 10" photographic prints, window matted using white matte board. Using the format shown on the entry form, provide name and contact information on the back of each photo entered. Labeled photographs must be submitted with a completed entry form and entry fee by the November 3, 2006 deadline. Keep a copy of your entry for your records; photos will NOT be returned.

Judging: Preliminary judging will be of the prints as originally submitted.

Entry Form: Complete the entry form. Form may be photocopied, but submitted entry forms require an original signature.

Contest fees: Each photo entry is \$5. Photographers can enter up to five photographs. Checks or money orders should be made payable to "City of Novi 2005 Photo Competition" and be submitted with the completed entry form and matted photograph(s). All contest fees are non-refundable.

Contest deadline: November 3, 2006 is the last day that photos and entry fees will be accepted for the competition. (All entries must be received at the Novi News office by 5:00 p.m. or postmarked by that date.)

For more information contact Cal Stone at 248 349 1700 or Kathy Mutch at 248 224-4211.

Entry forms and rules can be found online at www.novi.news.com, at the Novi News office (104 W. Main, downtown Northville) or at the Novi Civic Center (45175 W. 10 Mile Road) Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department.

Samsone®

Save 40% off Silhouette® luggage

A. Carry-On Spinner Upright Regular Price \$335.00 SALE \$199.99	B. 28" Spinner Upright Regular Price \$420.00 SALE \$249.99	C. 24" Spinner Upright Regular Price \$385.00 SALE \$229.99
--	---	---

Free \$50 mall gift card with any \$150 purchase

POINT-A-LUGGAGE

With any purchase of \$150 or more at Point A Luggage, receive a free \$50 mall gift card for Twelve Oaks Mall.

Twelve Oaks Mall 248.347.7710

Offer valid through December 31, 2005

CARL'S GOLFLAND

Bloomfield Hills • Plymouth at SkyForum
www.carlsgolfland.com

Just a sample of great gifts for the golfers on your list.

TaylorMade r7 Quad or Callaway Big Bertha 454 Titanium Drivers Values to \$399.99 Callaway 454 price after \$50.00 mail-in rebate. New Year Choice \$249.99	Nike Tour Air Carry Stand Bag or Ogio EGO Deluxe Cart Bag Values to \$149.99 New Year Choice \$99.99	FootJoy Men's DryJoy Golf Shoes The #1 Shoe in Golf 2 Year Waterproof Warranty MENS: Chocoma, 858478, 55601 Og: \$119.99 \$79.99
Ladies Shoe Sale! FootJoy Europa, eComfort and Nike Wetland Assorted Styles and Colors. MENS: Chocoma FootJoy 457011, 88311, 59202, 99236 NIKE 450745111 Values to \$69.99 \$49.99	NFL Authentic Super Bowl XL Apparel From the Greg Norman Collection Assorted Styles of Men's & Women's Shirts Starting at \$39.99	Forrester Windshirts Men's 3 styles, 8 colors, sizes 8-20 Ladies 1/2 zip, 5 colors, sizes 8-14 Windproof and waterproof Values to \$82.00 \$29.99

CAN'T DECIDE?
CARL'S GIFT CARDS ARE THE PERFECT GIFT FOR GOLFERS!

CARL'S HAS THE LARGEST SELECTION OF GOLF APPAREL ANYWHERE!

FREE GIFT WRAPPING!

FREE WITH ANY PURCHASE OVER \$750
One night's stay and golf for 2 at Oakland during the 2016 golf season. Some restrictions apply. Not available on PING products.

19765 Telegraph Road • Bloomfield Hills • 248-335-8095
44135 Five Mile Road • Plymouth • 734-351-9274

www.carlsgolfland.com

HOLIDAY HOURS
MONDAY-SATURDAY 9 AM-9 PM
SUNDAY 10 AM-6 PM

NOBODY BEATS CARL'S

HEALTH

Cal Stone, editor (248) 348-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com

Merging body, mind makes a better you

By Maureen Johnston
RECORD STAFF WRITER

Elizabeth Bonev tells people to leave it in the car. Bonev's thoughts of the kids' The executive's latest proposal. Seniors' lingering back stiffness.

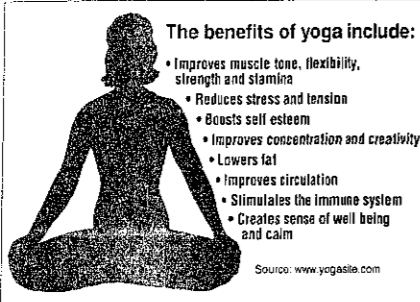
It all can disappear by entering the world of yoga, said Bonev, owner of Michigan Yoga Center in Northville. The connections are not severed, she said, simply suspended.

Increased enrollment in classes at studios, health clubs and through municipal recreation departments proves the deepening, meditative, stretching regimen is growing in popularity.

The allure transcends lines of age, gender, ethnicity and fitness levels, local yoga programers said.

"There's definitely a movement across the industry," said Chris Klebba, co-owner of Water Wheel Health Club in Northville. "We encourage our clients to integrate mind-body workouts into their workout program."

"One of the most neglected



The benefits of yoga include:

- Improves muscle tone, flexibility, strength and stamina
- Reduces stress and tension
- Boosts self-esteem
- Improves concentration and creativity
- Lowers fat
- Improves circulation
- Stimulates the immune system
- Creates sense of well-being and calm

Source: www.yogastudio.com

loosely clothed participants stretching on mats with quiet, new-age music in the background.

"There's a huge interest in all mind-body classes, yoga, Pilates, flexibility or balance training," Reid said. "Mindful movement — it can be very meditative."

"To use a cliché, that's what attracts a lot of people is establishing 'inner peace.'"

Multiple benefits

Programmers said common benefits include: better flexibility, reduced stress, improved circulation and personal calm.

Reid said 10 yoga students would give 10 different reasons why they enrolled.

"It can give participants what they need, whatever that aspect is," she said. "The exercise, to socialize, relax after being on 1-696 for an hour and a half."

"It's a unique thing why they all go there."

Bonev, a 10-year yoga practitioner, said she adopted the practice to increase flexibility beyond her running routine. She said her clients seek the spiritual aspect, physical benefits and a combination of both at the South Main Street studio she opened in April.

Some attend classes daily; others weekly.

"People who participate regularly consider it a way of life," Bonev said. "It gets very hard to focus on stress when they try to

hold a pose.

"Even if they've had the worst day, they'll at least walk out of yoga with a smile on their face."

Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 348-1700, ext. 113, or via e-mail at mjohnston@gannett.com.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Yoga Michigan owner and instructor Elizabeth Bonev opened her Main St. studio in Northville in April.

Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 348-1700, ext. 113, or via e-mail at mjohnston@gannett.com.

FIT FOR LIFE — A HEALTHY CHRISTMAS LIST FOR KIDS

Attention! All Santa's helpers! Allow me, the lead fitness elf, to help you with your gift buying for your children this year.

I have an idea of what the list looks like now... new video and computer games, the latest new CD, new pair of designer jeans, mini music players, digital camera, new laptop computer, mini DVD player, etc.

Sound familiar?

I understand, fellow helpers, I have three kids. In fact, it is one of them who inspired me to write this article (with Santa's help, of course).

I come to you on a special mission from Santa himself to ask you to consider including some items that, while certainly include fun, involve getting your young ones moving.

In case you have been stuck making toys in the North Pole for the past year and didn't realize it, we are dead, smack in the middle of a serious epidemic that could prove fatal for every youngster writing a Christmas list around the world.

The epidemic is lack of activity for our children.

Over the past 25 years, obesity rates have tripled in adolescents and doubled in children. Overweight adolescents have a 70 percent chance of becoming overweight or obese adults, this increases to 80 percent if one or more parents is overweight or obese.

The list of health threats to overweight or obese children is rapidly growing from type 2 diabetes (previously considered an adult disease) to heart disease. The most immediate consequence of being overweight as perceived by children themselves is social discrimination: this is associated with poor self-esteem and depression.

Vice Admiral Richard H. Cammon, United States Surgeon General, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, announced the theme for 2005 as "The Year of the Healthy Child."

Energy Times in a recent issue states, "Unless society acts soon, we'll be referring to this group of American kids as Generation F for fat."

What will our proud American population look like in the next decade? The facts speak for themselves. Are we doing enough to fight back?

Studies show adolescent caloric intake only increased slightly (+1 percent), but physical activity dropped significantly (-13 percent) between 1980 and 2000.

Today's 3-17 year olds average about five hours of screen time, (computer, TV, games, etc.). The Center for Disease Control and Prevention found that 22.6 percent of children ages 9 to 13 do not participate in any free time physical activity. Daily, consistent, fun activities are a great way to keep your children active.

So here are some items at any budget to include under the tree or in those children's stockings.

Pedometer Game - \$10-\$25. In over 20 years as a fitness elf, (usually the "elf" title came with the kids), I have seldom seen such dramatic changes from such a simple and inexpensive tool. This tool simply hooks on to your belt or pants and counts the number of steps you walk or run each day.

DDR Games - \$50 - \$65. Yes it is a game for all the latest game systems but this game makes you move along with a screen, tracking

and there are some really cool ones out there. The game that goes along with it is simply to beat the number of steps your parents set for you.

The list goes on and on from here, skates, snowboards, cross country skis, snowshoes, etc., anything that encourages your child to move; their future may depend on it.

This column was written by Chris Klebba, the Owner and Operator of the Water Wheel Health Club in Northville. Chris is also a Certified Fitness Trainer and public speaker. For more information, call 248-449-7634 or check the web at www.wheel.com.

CITY OF NOVI VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON CITY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Notice is given that the Novi City Council will be meeting to interview applicants for appointment to the Board of Review, Election Commission, Housing & Community Development Advisory Committee, Historical Commission, Public Access Promotion Committee, Woodlands Review Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.

If you are a qualified voter in the City of Novi and interested in volunteering to serve on a City Board or Commission, applications and booklets containing information about the various Boards and Commissions are available in the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375. Also, you may contact the City Clerk's office by calling (248) 347-0456 to receive an application by mail or fax, or log onto the City Web Site at www.novimi.us to print out an application.

The deadline for filing an application is Wednesday, December 7, 2005, at 4:00 pm to allow time for scheduling interview appointments. City will be interviewing applicants on Monday, December 12, 2005, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers; interviews are scheduled for 10 minutes each and all City Council meetings are televised.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(11-24, 12-1/8-05 NN 254189)

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 14, 2005 at 7:30 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375. The subject of the hearing is a proposed rezoning of a portion of the City of Novi, Michigan. The subject property is located in Section 15, on the West Side of Novi Road, between Wendy's and House of Blinds, in the T.C. Town Center District Zoning. The subject property is 0.461 acres and the applicant is proposing to construct a speculative retail building on the subject parcel.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, December 14, 2005.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION WAYNE WROBEL, SECRETARY
(12-8-05 NN 257688)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ENACTMENT - ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.658

THE CITY OF NOVI ORDINANCES: Part I. That Ordinance No. 97-18, known as the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Novi is hereby amended as indicated on ZONING MAP NO. 18.658 attached hereto and made a part of this Ordinance.

Part II. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS REPEALED. Any Ordinance or parts of any Ordinance in conflict with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Part III. WHEN EFFECTIVE. The provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety and is hereby ordered to take effect fifteen (15) days after final enactment. The effective date of this Ordinance is December 13, 2005.

MADE AND PASSED by the City Council of the City of Novi, Michigan this 28th day of November, 2005. Copies of the Ordinance Amendment may be purchased or inspected at the Office of the City Clerk, Novi, Michigan, weekdays between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, local time.

FROM: P-A RESIDENTIAL ACREAGE TO: OS-1 OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT

ORDINANCE NO. 18.658 ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 658 CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL NOVEMBER 28, 2005

DAVID B. LANDRY, MAYOR
MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(12-08-05 NN 257324)

Kaisano's ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Wishing You A Happy Holiday And A Wonderful New Year!

Now taking reservations for Holiday parties and New Year's Eve Open Christmas Eve until 9pm

Private room available for showers, rehearsals, business meetings, anniversaries, baptisms, funeral luncheons

Off premise catering/delivery available

P.S. Don't forget to order your homemade Italian sausage!

26139 Novi Rd.
(Just north of Grand River)
248-348-1647

Why Do Banks Always Have The Nicest Buildings In Town...And Mortgage Companies Flood US With Expensive Radio And TV Ads?

These institutions are in business to generate profits by charging increasingly higher fees. Your credit union, however, is an organization that returns profits to its members.

*Membership not necessary for mortgage application.

HOMETOWN COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION
Multi-branch services with 60+ loaned offices

NOVI
22245 Haggerty Road
248-348-8500 x 312

LIVONIA
9373 Middlebelt
248-348-1800
By December 12, 2005

O'BRIEN SULLIVAN FUNERAL HOME

Annual Holiday Memorial Program

December 13, 2005 at 7:30 pm
Novi Civic Center
41575 W. Ten Mile, Novi

Refreshments Provided

Please RSVP to the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home
248-348-1800
By December 12, 2005

Christmas Coloring Contest

Novi News Coloring Contest

- Open to all readers up to age 10
- Family members of Gannett not eligible
- All entries must be received by Saturday December 17th
- All entries must be completed by entrant
- All participants will receive a Pizza Marvelous discount.
- Judging will be broken down into age groups: 3 - 6 & 7 - 10
- Winners in each category will receive a pizza & ribs combo courtesy of Pizza Marvelous & have their drawing printed in the December 22nd edition of the Novi News

Coloring Contest - Entry Form

Name _____
Address _____
Phone # _____
Age _____
Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Please send or bring entry blank and colored picture to:

PIZZA MARVELOUS

SUBS • SALADS • CHICKEN • RIBS

43340 W. 10 Mile Rd., Novi
Inside the Food & Wine Bazaar
248-348-1000

Stay Warm & Secure Your Money is!

Select Money Market 3.77%
Annual Percentage Yield.

Our Select Money Market Account offers you:

- A great rate and up to \$350,000 federal & private insurance on your funds.
- Access by check, phone or the Internet.
- Friendly, professional service at an office near you.

Have peace of mind, your savings are federally insured to \$100,000 by the National Credit Union Administration and privately insured up to an additional \$250,000 by Excess Share Insurance Corporation (ESI). ESI is a subsidiary of American Share Insurance.

Call or Stop in Today & Experience Banking Made Easier.

COMMUNITY FINANCIAL
Thinking forward. Banking right.

(734) 453-1200 (877) 937-2328 toll free www.cfcu.org

PLYMOUTH 500 S. Harvey
CANTON 6355 N. Canton Center
NORTHVILLE 400 E. Main
NOVI 43350 Arena Dr.

NCUA ESI

Thursday, December 8, 2005 NOVEMBER NEWS 16A

CITY OF NOVI VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON CITY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Notice is given that the Novi City Council will be meeting to interview applicants for appointment to the Board of Review, Election Commission, Housing & Community Development Advisory Committee, Historical Commission, Public Access Promotion Committee, Woodlands Review Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.

If you are a qualified voter in the City of Novi and interested in volunteering to serve on a City Board or Commission, applications and booklets containing information about the various Boards and Commissions are available in the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375. Also, you may contact the City Clerk's office by calling (248) 347-0456 to receive an application by mail or fax, or log onto the City Web Site at www.novimi.us to print out an application.

The deadline for filing an application is Wednesday, December 7, 2005, at 4:00 pm to allow time for scheduling interview appointments. City will be interviewing applicants on Monday, December 12, 2005, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers; interviews are scheduled for 10 minutes each and all City Council meetings are televised.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(11-24, 12-1/8-05 NN 254189)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ENACTMENT - ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.658

THE CITY OF NOVI ORDINANCES: Part I. That Ordinance No. 97-18, known as the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Novi is hereby amended as indicated on ZONING MAP NO. 18.658 attached hereto and made a part of this Ordinance.

Part II. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS REPEALED. Any Ordinance or parts of any Ordinance in conflict with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Part III. WHEN EFFECTIVE. The provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety and is hereby ordered to take effect fifteen (15) days after final enactment. The effective date of this Ordinance is December 13, 2005.

MADE AND PASSED by the City Council of the City of Novi, Michigan this 28th day of November, 2005. Copies of the Ordinance Amendment may be purchased or inspected at the Office of the City Clerk, Novi, Michigan, weekdays between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, local time.

FROM: P-A RESIDENTIAL ACREAGE TO: OS-1 OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT

ORDINANCE NO. 18.658 ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 658 CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL NOVEMBER 28, 2005

DAVID B. LANDRY, MAYOR
MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(12-08-05 NN 257324)

SENIORS

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com

Together for the holidays

Novi Rotary hosts annual senior party

By Tracy Mishler
STAFF WRITER

Trudy Harradine loves to party, especially during the holidays.

The 92-year-old Meadowbrook Commons resident said it's good for seniors to have a little excitement in their old age.

"It keeps us young," Harradine said, "and it's good for all the seniors to come together in the community for one big holiday event."

About 198 seniors, from Meadowbrook Commons, Manor of Novi and White Hall Manor, joined together last Thursday at Novi Middle School for the Novi Rotary Club's 32nd annual Senior Holiday Party.

"The whole idea is to bring the youth and seniors together for the holidays," said Novi Rotary President Randy D'Amore. "This is a time where we can all sit down and really talk with the seniors of our community. They're all a treasure to talk to."

The event included the holiday sounds of the seventh and eighth grade girls and boys choirs and eighth grade concert band.

"This year really is bigger and better than ever," D'Amore said. "We had more seniors than ever, and I think the students felt it out better than ever before."

Good eats

After an hours worth of Christmas music, seniors were invited to enjoy a holiday meal in the school cafeteria with help from the middle school's student council.

"For some of the seniors, this is their Christmas," said Fanie Tatis, eighth grade student council treasurer. "We all have fun serving food and drinks and helping the seniors. It's nice to be able to give back to the community."

Principal Milan O'Brien said each year more students want to get involved with the party. "We have well over 400 students contributing," O'Brien said, "and each year that number grows. We even had some kids want to go around and sing to the seniors while they ate."

O'Brien said he has taken part in the annual party for the past 30 years. "Over the years, I've noticed a true connection between the two generations," he said. "Some of the students don't have grandparents, and they really get as much out of this party as the seniors do."

Coming together

Novi Rotarian and holiday party chair Ginger Barrons said the event costs about \$4,000. "This is one of our most valuable events," Barrons said. "The party is very expensive, and we really have to thank Providence Park Hospital for sharing in the costs and being one of our premier sponsors for several years."

Lou Martin, said taking part in the senior holiday party is a way for the hospital to reach out to society outside the hospital walls. "It feels like we just did this party 15 minutes ago last year," said the director of public relations for St. John Health Services Park Hospital. "Each year has been tough for Rotary to put this party together, and we're happy to lend a hand."

Martin said the hospital has been sponsoring events in the Novi community since it opened in 1992. Other sponsors for the event include O'Brien Sullivan Funeral Home, LaSalle Bank, Community EMS, Red Carpet Keim Reliable Real Estate and Dr. Stephen Mians, DDS.

"You can't get much better than this," said Senora Major. "They really take care of us at this party." The 83-year-old New Hudson resident has attended the holiday



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi Middle School eighth grade student Haley Prasad brings a turkey meal to visitor Marie Manson during the Novi Rotary-sponsored Christmas party.

party four times, and she said each year is better than the next. "The entire day is beautiful," she said. "Everyone involved—the students, sponsors and club mem-

bers—really know how to start the holidays off right."

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com

SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

Friday 12/9

8:45 a.m. Paters Bread
9 a.m. Stretch and Strength
10 a.m. Body Recall cancelled
noon Lunch
12:45 p.m. Dupl. Bridge
1 p.m. Body Recall Holiday Party
2-2:30 p.m. Message
Bickettes Top

Monday 12/12

9 a.m. Stretch and Strength
10 a.m. Body Recall
11:30 a.m. Goodie Lady
12:30 p.m. Lunch
1:30 p.m. "Kare's School of Dance"
2:30 p.m. Message
6:30 p.m. Pen Pal Letters Due

Tuesday 12/13

9 a.m. Paters Bread
10 a.m. Line Dance
11 a.m. "Holiday Blues" Sharon T.

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Computer Lab open noon
12:30-3 p.m. Focus Hope and TAP Distribution
12:45 p.m. Bings held in activities room
1-3 p.m. "Ask the Lawyer" - Eric Gluck by appointment
2-2:30 p.m. Massage

Wednesday 12/14

9 a.m. Stretch and Strength
10 a.m. Body Recall
10:30 a.m. Quilting
11 a.m. Blood Pressure
11 a.m. Taking Off Pumps Sensibly class
noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Clipping
1:30 p.m. Holiday Sing-Along with George and Caroline
2-2:30 p.m. Massage

Thursday 12/15

9 a.m. Line Dance
11 a.m.-1 p.m. Computer Lab open
noon Lunch
12:15 p.m. Holiday Celebration (adv. ticket req.)
1-2 p.m. Contract Bridge
2-2:30 p.m. Massage

* Activities will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Phone (248) 347-0414.

Winter Savings

\$10.00 OFF Grooming valid 12/1/2005 through 12/31/2005. Coupon must be presented at time of service. Prior services excluded. Limit one coupon per customer.

\$10.00 OFF Boarding valid 12/1/2005 through 12/31/2005. Coupon must be presented at time of service. Prior services excluded. Limit one coupon per customer.

\$5.00 OFF Day Care valid 12/1/2005 through 12/31/2005. Coupon must be presented at time of service. Prior services excluded. Limit one coupon per customer.

Dog Centers of America
Red • Bath • Play

46926 Magellan • Wixom, MI 48393 • Tel 248.960.0800 • Fax 248.960.3491 • info@dogcenters.com
*** www.dogcenters.com ***

The Best Gift Idea For Anybody On Your List!

One Year Subscription **\$26**

Renew your subscription & get a 2nd for **\$18** for a Friend!

Milford Times
Northville Record
Novi News
South Lyon Herald
888-840-4809

Seniors deck the halls

Rotarians spread holiday cheer to both young and old



Students entertained seniors with Christmas carols in the school cafeteria for lunch.



Rotarian Ernie Aruffo gently directs Dorothy Celeste to a luncheon table.

Holiday tunes for holiday lunch



Novi Middle School choir members laugh and clap as they sing along to Christmas carols during the party.

Photos by
JOHN HEIDER

BETTER CD RATES

4.60% APY*
14-Month Term

\$5,000 minimum deposit
Renews automatically

Visit your local Citizens Banker or call (800) 444-6989 to take advantage of this great rate.

CITIZENS BANK

A portion of the proceeds from this page will be donated to Novi Goodfellows!


Happy Holidays From


These Area Businesses

Volare Ristorante
49115 Pontiac Trail
Wixom
248-960-7771

Hershey TopSAS Comfort Shoes
47750 Grand River
Between Home Depot and Kroger
248-347-7131

Dinsey's Flowers and Greenery
24501 Grand River
Novi
248-349-1330

Telcom Credit Union
44575 W. Twelve Mile Rd.
Novi
248.735.9500

Gone To The Dogs Daycare, Grooming & Training
22497 Heslip Drive
248.347.9081

Maid Brigade
29445 Beck Road
Wixom
248.499.4493

Allstate Insurance Company
10557 Pontiac Trail
Novi
248-349-7733

Averill Accounting
43440 W. 10 Mile Rd.
Novi
248-348-3348

Briarpointe Veterinary Clinic
47330 Ten Mile Road
Novi
248-449-7447

Meadowbrook Art Center
11800 10 Mile Rd.
Novi
248-377-6330

Red Carpet Kelm Reliable Real Estate
Happy Holidays To All!
248-476-0540

Read It Again Books
39733 Grand River
Novi
248-474-6066

Novi Family Dental Center
34045 10 Mile Rd.
Novi
248-348-5100

Diamond Castle
39955 Grand River
Novi
248-442-2440

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY



Hoop it up
The Novi Wildcats basketball team is looking forward to their upcoming season. The KVC is going to be tough, but so is Novi.
— Page 3B



Scores!
Check out how the Novi Wildcats and the Catholic Central Shamrocks did last week in hockey action. Scores and highlights are printed in each week's scoreboard.
— Page 2B



Regional Marketplace

With the opening of Michigan Rehabilitation Specialists in South Lyon, owners Matt and Michelle Brostrom are eager to make pain relief and healing more accessible to the community.
— Page 6B

SPORTS

Thursday, December 8, 2005

www.novinews.com

B1 Novi News

Quick Hits

He delivers

There wasn't a point during the football season we didn't think Pat Sijan could do the job. He's a talented and capable kicker who comes through much more often than not.

Now, he's coming through not only for football fans, but hungry customers, too.

Sijan is a cook and delivery driver for Pizza Marvelous in Novi. There, customers can order top-quality pizza, chicken wings and ribs that are just to die for. Delivery is available and Sijan may end up being the smiling face on the other side of the door when the bell chimes.

Give them a call at (248) 348-1000 and don't forget to tip him well, especially if you're a fan of Novi football's success!

Speaking of Marvelous

Who would have guessed the owner of Pizza Marvelous is none other than Andy Nofar.

Nofar and his brother were players at Walled Lake Western High School when sports writer Sam Eggleston covered them in 2001. That was quite the year with the Warriors advancing to the state semifinals before falling to Catholic Central.

Nofar has done well for himself, serving up some of the best pizza in Novi while keeping some Novi students — and Walled Lake Western students as well — busy with employment.

Dops

People say we give athletes too much credit at times. Last week, we did.

In last week's edition of the Novi News, it was stated senior wrestler John Favorite finished second in his weight class in the state finals. He actually made the state finals, but fell in the first round.

Darn it!

There's nothing like getting named a starter and ending up not being able to start.

Senior Sean White sprained his ankle Saturday, which will keep him out this week and maybe a part of next week.

Add to his loss the fact starters Todd Janer and A.W. Stanek will be out of town for Friday's game and the basketball team will be looking for a lot of inexperienced guys to step up and score.

Under the coaching of Pat Schluter, we don't doubt they'll find the motivation to do it.

Dare they say it?

In year's past, certain newspapers (ahem — the *Millford Times*) in the same company as the Novi News have picked the Novi Wildcats to finish near the bottom of their conference in volleyball.

Each year that happens, the Wildcats not only compete well in their conference, they do well in the district too.

Though the particular sports writer who used to make those picks is no longer with the *Times*, we still kind of wish someone would go ahead and make that prediction.

Not only does it make working with Julie Fisetto, Novi's volleyball coach, much more fun, it also keeps the Wildcats on the right side of the wins and loss column.

Call us superstitious, but don't fix it if it's not broke, right?

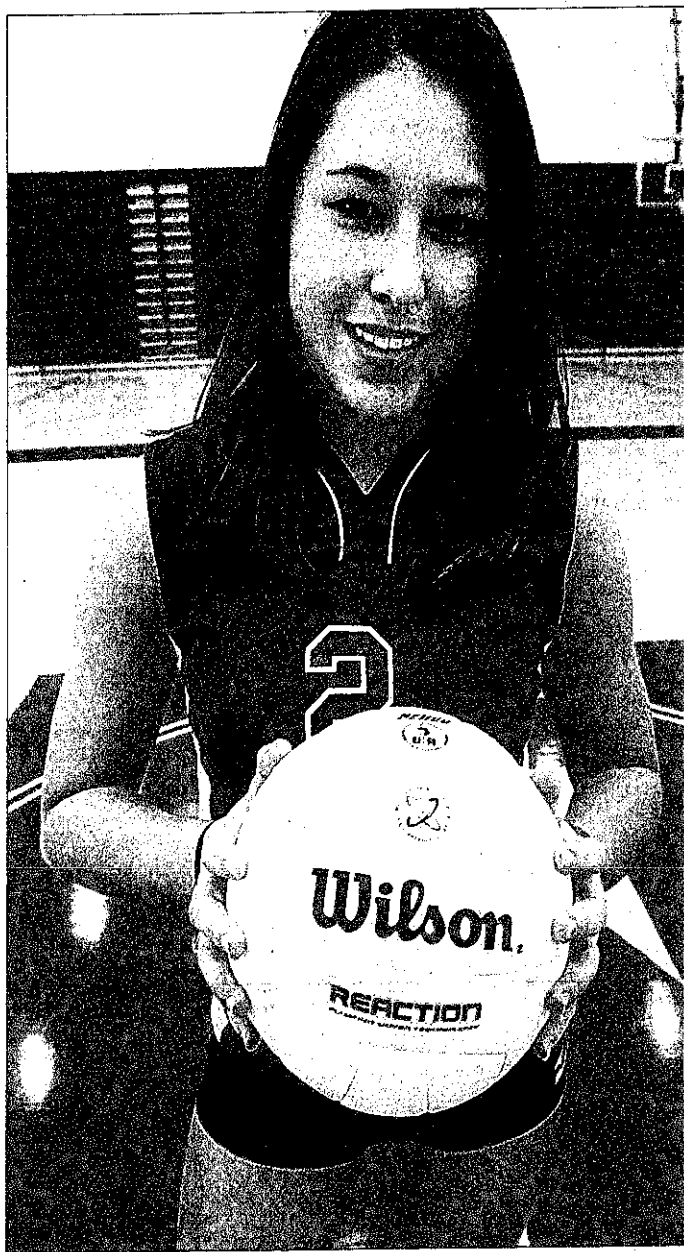


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi's Jenna Kuhn will be a key part of the Wildcats' volleyball success this year.

No more surprises

Wildcats expected to be one of KVC's top teams

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Novi volleyball coach Julie Fisetto has big plans for her team this year.

Why? Well, her squad boasts big talent, tall players and they're defending Kensington Valley Conference champions.

It's a recipe she hopes helps her team repeat this year. "I sure wouldn't mind taking it outright," she joked. "I don't want to share. There's really nothing wrong with sharing, but it would be nice to have it all to ourselves."

There are a few returning players this year that would like to have an outright title too. Seniors Jenna Kuhn and Megan Miller are just two of the key role players from last year's team who are back. Joining them is a team of extremely talented athletes.

Jessica Barndi, Shannon Cody, Stephanie Cripps, Amanda Diacono, Natalia Frask, Meghan Goldsmith, Paige Janer, Kaelyn McAboy, Hayley Miller, Lauren Purdy, Sarah Rybicki, Katelyn Tuck and Brittany Stefanson are all eager to take to the hardwood and help Novi reach its goals.

"They've all grown," Fisetto said of her players. "We're definitely taller this year, which will help."

"More importantly, we're going to be deep, which we haven't been the past two years. We have three, four or five girls playing the same position."

Fisetto said it's comforting to know she can look down her bench and feel confident in any one of the players she might substitute. She's going to need the depth this year. One of the team goals is the KVC title again. It just so happens the KVC is as difficult as ever.

"The conference is pretty strong," Fisetto said. "It's been growing for the past couple of years and it's going to be tough this year." Millford, once again, is expected to be one of the top teams in the league while Pienkeny and Brighton have both improved. Lakeland is expected to also have a very competitive program.

Fisetto said she doesn't expect the road to the Kensington Valley Conference championship is going to be an easy one.

The key? "We're not going to look past anyone," she said. "We have to go into each game thinking we have to earn the win. No one is just going to hand us anything."

It's a lesson the Wildcats have learned over the past couple of years when the critics have picked them to finish near the bottom of the conference and they've instead finished near the top.

This year could be another big one for the Wildcats, who had quite the selection to pick from during tryouts.

"I think this is going to be a great season," Fisetto said. "It's going to be exciting to watch, that's for sure."

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@gannett.com.

Winning not the only measure of success

The Detroit Lions professional football team made no quarrels about why they fired Steve Mariucci last week.

Quite simply, he wasn't winning enough games for them to keep him around as head coach.

But winning isn't everything, right? At the professional level, it is. It's the standard above all else. Personal goals aren't counted. Great moments are quickly left behind.

Thankfully, that isn't the case at Northville and Novi high schools.

Classroom outside of school

Sports, said Northville athletic director Bryan Masi, are an extension of the classroom. It's in sports at the high school level where kids learn the intangibles like hard work, determination and group effort.

"We're not going to fire a coach because they aren't winning," Masi said. "We want to make sure they're teaching the kids how to achieve. We expect them to teach the proper skills and to be knowledgeable of the game. If you teach those things, then winning takes care of itself."

Novi athletic director Curt Ellis

agreed and said there's really no reason to put any additional pressure on the coaches — they do enough of that themselves.

"There's no one who puts more pressure to win on our coaches than they do," he said. "These are very driven individuals who want to see the athletes they coach succeed."

Every coach with the exception of football has a pass to the state finals automatically. It's during the football season where much of the pressure to succeed is dumped on the shoulders of the coaching staff.

At Novi there have been two coaches in the history of the school: John Osborne and current coach Tab Kellepourey. At Northville, there have been several more, with the most recent being first-year coach Ryan Hockman.

Kellepourey put together a 7-3 record this year while Hockman tallied a 2-7 mark.

"Winning is just one of the measuring sticks that is used to determine success or failure," Ellis said. "There are a great many others, such as the academic success of our student-athletes, the growth and development both physically and socially, the character they build

and the ability to work as a functioning member of a team."

Patience

Neither school has made a point of firing its coaches for losing streaks.

Hockman's predecessor at Northville, Clint Alexander, compiled a 4-14 mark his first two years before going 7-3 last season.

Osborne put together several big winning seasons, but had his lumps at Novi, too. From 1990-95 he compiled a 27-27 mark with no playoff berths and from 1977-79 he led the Wildcats to a 10-17 record. Before and after each skid, Novi was playoff bound.

"Are our coaches teaching skill and life-long discipline," Masi said. "Are they knowledgeable of the game and are they teaching that game correctly? All of that is considered in deciding how successful our coaches are."

The administration at the high schools understand this better than many parents, who are often more upset about losses than the players are.

After the regional title game between Novi and Livonia Stevenson's soccer teams this fall, a fan stood to his feet and shouted the Novi coach needed to learn how to coach — a comment coming after 40-straight victories for the Wildcats and a loss to the top-ranked team in the state.

"I just about dropped the trophy,"

Ellis said. "I couldn't believe what I was hearing."

"That same coach has been recognized by MHSAA staff who has observed him as one of the finer coaches they have seen because of his calm demeanor and his ability to positively interact with the kids during a contest."

Unfortunately, that's typical at high school games. Parents and fans question every play and decision, some more vocally than others.

Steve Mariucci no doubt heard the boos and the calls from the stands. He made \$5-million this year to do it.

Kellepourey and Hockman? Well, let's just say with all of their off-season work and in-season sleepless nights, the few cents they make a day doesn't deserve the cat calls.

Northville and Novi high schools have made the right decision by putting the kids before the records. At this level, there's more to the game than making the state finals.

"We want to see our students succeed," Masi said. "That doesn't always mean they're going to get wins."

"We're very fortunate to have such dedicated coaches. They work all year round and they do it for the sake of the kids. That's what's most important to us."

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@gannett.com.

By the numbers

17

Days left until Christmas is finally here!

9

Number of days left until Novi and Northville hockey teams face off.

5 p.m.

Time of the hockey game, scheduled to be played at Compuware Ice Arena.

6-8

Height, in feet and inches, of Novi sophomore Caleb Dean.

6-7

Height, in feet and inches, of Northville sophomore Mike Rogers.

6-7

Height, in feet and inches, of Catholic Central senior Chris Harding.

12

Days off for Northville and Novi schools for Christmas break, from Dec. 22 until Jan. 3.

Pom pon girls capture second

The Novi Wildcats pom pon team started their season off on the right foot with a second-place showing at the Mid American Dance Team Championships held at Eastern Michigan University.

The team, coached by Lauren Madaja and Jeni Hubenschmidt, competed against over 50 teams and 1,000 participants. The judges took note of appearance, formations, transitions, unity, precision, execution, technique, choreography, music, showmanship and entertainment value.

The Wildcats value must have been plenty high as they took second overall.



The Novi Wildcats pom pon team took second at the 2005 Mid American Dance Team Championships to start their season off on the right foot.

Hockey splits week

The Novi Wildcats ended their week with a win after taking a loss just a few days before.

Against the Howell Highlanders, the Wildcats faced a tough goalie and Jeff "J" Tom (Cavalla), widely considered one of the top hockey players in the Kensington Valley Conference, matched Novi's best goal.

Brad Chis took the loss in the goal.

In their home opener just days later the Wildcats followed the lead of Steve Rousseau, one of Novi's top returning players, as he scored two goals for a 4-3 victory over

Grapplers start strong

The Novi Wildcats wrestling team went 4-1 in their opening week in the KVC. The team's first win was in the Adrian Dual Meet Tournament.

The Eagles scored their final tally three minutes into the final stanza but Rousseau clinched it with a score of his own with just three minutes remaining in the game.

Kevin Michalczuk earned the win against the Hawks.

Novi is now 2-3 overall and 1-2 in the KVC.

SPORTS SHORTS

Motion tryouts

The Michigan Motion girls basketball club will be holding open tryouts Saturday and Sunday.

The tryouts will be at Novi Middle School, located on 11 Mile Road, and requires players to be present 20 minutes before their tryouts are scheduled and to be fully dressed to play basketball.

A parent or guardian must sign players in.

On Saturday, the U10 and U11 teams will tryout from 9-11 a.m. while the U12 and U13 teams tryout from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Ages 14-17 will go from 2-4 p.m. The following day, U10 and U11 go from 12:30-2 p.m., U12 and U13 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. and ages 14-17 go from 3:30-5 p.m.

The fee to try out is \$20 per player.

For more information, call Pat or Mike Tuck at (248) 486-1515 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. or e-mail them at m.m.ligamotion@aim.com.

Enrollment underway for Christmas Clinics

Suburban Hockey Schools will hold various two-day Christmas Clinics for ages 6-14 at Novi Ice Arena (Dec. 22-23 and 29-30), the City of Rochester Ice Arena (Dec. 22-23 and 27-28), Farmington Hills (Dec. 22-23 and 27-28) and Macomb (Dec. 22-23 and 27-28).

Mike Fowers (skating ages 6-8) will focus on balance and agility, edge control and stopping, crossovers and acceleration, as well as forward and backward stride. Mike Puck Skills (ages 6-8) will emphasize stickhandling, passing and shooting technique. Squirt/Peewee Focus Skating (ages 9-12) will focus on powerful stride, explosive starts, edge control, as well as backward skating and pivoting. Squirt/Peewee Puck Skills (ages 9-12) will empha-

Registration for Winter Learn to Skate

Novi Ice Arena will run a seven-week fall/winter session of its Learn to Skate Program through Dec. 17. Classes are offered Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, and skate rental is available. In addition, Learn to Skate students get a punch card for free admission to open skating at Novi Ice Arena throughout the program they are enrolled in.

The following classes will be offered:

- Beginning Lots
- Snowplow Sam 1-3
- Basic 1-5
- Skater's Edge Accelerated Bridge Program - NEW!
- Adult

Classes will run once per week for 30 minutes with optional 30-minute practice sessions. Open registration for Learn to Skate begins Oct. 17. The Learn to Skate Program is very popular so call the Novi Ice Arena at (248) 347-1010 or visit www.novicearena.com today to inquire about the proper class for your skater.

Travel baseball and softball

The Kensington Valley Baseball Softball Association will hold a travel softball meeting Monday, at 7 p.m. in the media center of Seranton Middle School located at 8415 Malby Road (west of Rickett and south of Lee) in Brighton. This is the first meeting for the 2006 season and is for any

Coach wanted

Northville High School is in need of an assistant gymnastics coach that has experience in spotting. Please contact Bryan Masl, Athletic Director at (248) 344-8414.

STAND UP & CHEER FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON'S FEEL-GREAT MOVIE!

★★★★★ **COMPELLING, REAL AND FRESH!**

★★★★★ **ENORMOUSLY ENTERTAINING!**

★★★★★ **A USA TODAY BEST MOVIE!**

★★★★★ **BEWITCHES COMPLETELY!**

PRIDE & PREJUDICE

From the producers of BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY and LOVE ACTUALLY

EVERY 14 SECONDS, AIDS TAKES A CHILD INTO AN ORPHAN.



STARTS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

Admission: \$12.99

Shamrocks crush Farmington Unified

The Catholic Central Shamrocks are starting their season off with a vengeance, letting all the pundits know their eyes are on a state title again this year.

Catholic Central skated out in front of a sold-out crowd at Farmington Unified's home ice and proceeded to crush their

"TWO THUMBS UP"

MAGNIFICENT! This is an extraordinary and thrilling film.

"THRILLING!" The most tremendously exciting blockbuster of the year.

"SPELLBINDING!" A fantastic and magical adventure for the whole family.

"SPECTACULAR!"

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA

THE LION THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

STARTS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

Admission: \$12.99

Are you an organ & tissue donor?

Ask your family today, and let them know your decision, too. That way you'll know they know, and there will be no questions later.

Share your life. Share your decision.

Ad Council

Time to step up

Wildcats have to transform from role players to team leaders

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Quite frankly, Novi basketball coach Pat Schluter isn't about to give up anything.

The veteran coach has led his team to three-straight Kensington Valley Conference titles. This year, the critics say he can't do it. They say it's all Brighton's to lose.

"They're picked to win it hands down," Schluter said. "After that, it's really a toss up."

"I told the guys that we're not putting in this time to be second. I don't care what everyone else thinks. We've won it three years in a row and we're going to try to make it four."

The Wildcats have plenty of athletic talent to try and pull it off with. Captains Steve Hart, Todd Janer and A.W. Stanek are all standout athletes on other sports teams while captain Sean White is one of the top basketball players at Novi.

Joining them will be juniors Adam Chandler, Trevor Borsak and Wiley Moss, who are expected to contribute as well as senior

2005-06 Novi Wildcats Boys Basketball Team

Trevor Borsak
John Brown
Adam Chandler
Caleb Dean
Steve Hart
Tyler Hoover
Todd Janer
Mike Longo
Wiley Moss
Daniel Pilgian
Matt Simpson
A.W. Stanek
Corlan White
Sean White
Eric Zhao

*Indicated team captain

Eric Zhao.

The height on the team comes from two sophomore centers in Caleb Dean and Tyler Hoover.

Dean, a 6-foot-8-inch tower, has been rumored to be getting interest from Division I colleges. Hoover, a 6-foot-7-inch All-Area football selection, should see plenty of action as well.

Other players on the team who are expected to have key roles in Novi's success are seniors Matt Simpson and Sherrick White along with juniors Dan Pilgian, Corlan White, John Brown and Mike Longo.

"We already have good team chemistry," said Schluter. "Right now we're learning, figuring each other out and getting better."

Novi's 16-person roster is one of the largest carried in the program's history and by far the largest since Schluter took over the program.

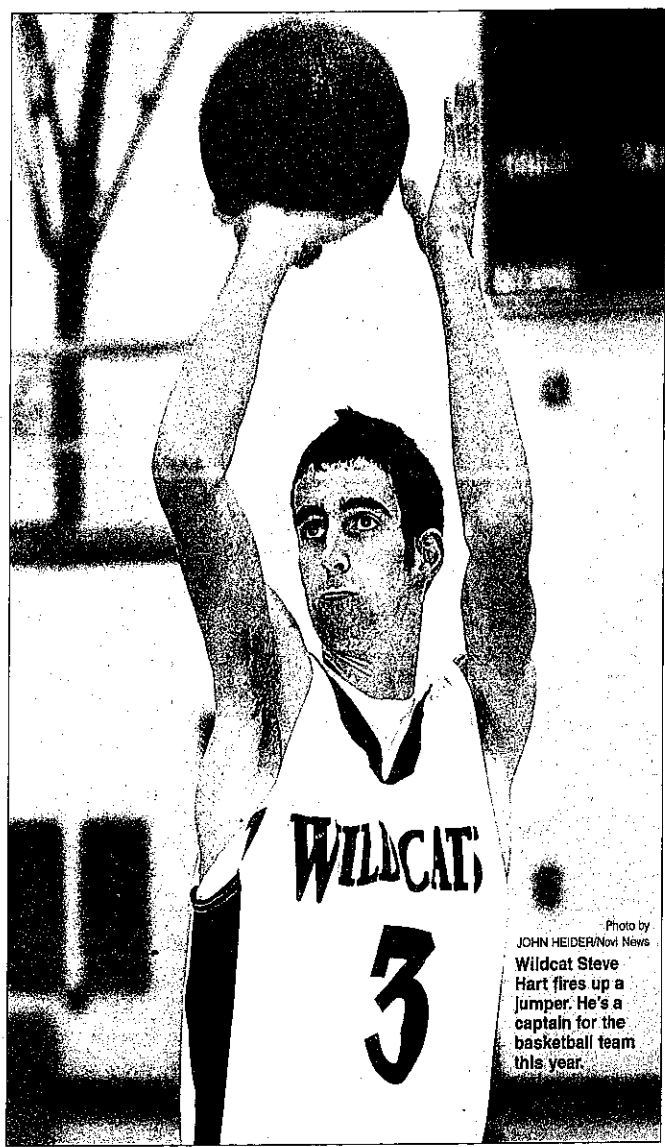
"I guess I'm just getting too nice," Schluter joked. "We have a lot of good players on the team. Six of them are returning guys and last year they were role players and did a very good job. This year they have to become leaders and take more initiative. I think they will."

Novi will once again go in the hunt for their yearly goal of winning the Kensington Valley Conference and then the district playoff tournament.

Of course, it's not going to be an easy task. The KVC is as loaded as ever with several of the less-fortunate programs from last year having built experience and talent. The non-league schedule isn't easy either.

"It's going to be a tough road," Schluter said. "Right now we're just going to have to focus on always getting better. We're getting right now but there's still a lot of work that has to be done."

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@gannett.com.



Wildcat Steve Hart fires up a jumper. He's a captain for the basketball team this year.

"We have a lot of good players on the team. Six of them are returning guys and last year they were role players and did a very good job. This year they have to become leaders and take more initiative. I think they will."

Pat Schluter
Novi Basketball Coach

NOVI HIGH SCHOOL WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

Sport	Home	Away	Time	
Basketball	Varsity	Fordson High School	7 p.m.	
	Varsity	John Glenn High School	7 p.m.	
	Varsity	Walled Lake Central	7 p.m.	
	Varsity	Pinckney High School	7 p.m.	
	Varsity	Northville High School	7 p.m.	
	Varsity	Howell High School	7 p.m.	
	Varsity	Lakeland High School	7 p.m.	
	Varsity	Brighton High School	7 p.m.	
	Varsity	South Lyon High School	7 p.m.	
	Varsity	Hartland High School	7:30 p.m.	
	Varsity	Midford High School	7 p.m.	
	Varsity	Pinckney High School	7 p.m.	
JV	JV	Fordson High School	5:30 p.m.	
	JV	John Glenn High School	5:30 p.m.	
	JV	Walled Lake Central	5:30 p.m.	
	JV	Pinckney High School	5:30 p.m.	
	JV	Northville High School	5:30 p.m.	
	JV	Howell High School	5:30 p.m.	
	JV	Lakeland High School	5:30 p.m.	
	JV	Brighton High School	4 p.m.	
	JV	South Lyon High School	5:30 p.m.	
	JV	Hartland High School	6 p.m.	
	JV	Midford High School	5:30 p.m.	
	JV	Pinckney High School	5:30 p.m.	
Freshmen	Freshmen	Fordson High School	5:30 p.m.	
	Freshmen	John Glenn High School	5:30 p.m.	
	Freshmen	W.L. Central High School	5:30 p.m.	
	Freshmen	Pinckney High School	5:30 p.m.	
	Freshmen	Northville High School	5:30 p.m.	
	Freshmen	Howell High School	5:30 p.m.	
	Freshmen	Lakeland High School	5:30 p.m.	
	Freshmen	Brighton High School	4 p.m.	
	Freshmen	South Lyon High School	5:30 p.m.	
	Freshmen	Hartland High School	4:30 p.m.	
	Freshmen	Midford High School	4 p.m.	
	Freshmen	Pinckney High School	4 p.m.	
Figure Skating	Figure Skating	District #3 Team	11 a.m.	
	Figure Skating	District #3 Team	4 p.m.	
	Figure Skating	District #3 Team	1 p.m.	
	Figure Skating	Individual District	8 a.m.	
	Figure Skating	State Championship	8 a.m.	
	Gymnastics	Gymnastics	John Glenn High School	7 p.m.
		Gymnastics	Canton High School	7 p.m.
		Gymnastics	Brighton High School	7 p.m.
		Gymnastics	Farmington High School	TBA
		Gymnastics	Salem High School	7 p.m.
		Gymnastics	Salem High School	TBA
		Gymnastics	Churchill High School	7 p.m.
Gymnastics		Canton High School	TBA	
Gymnastics		Hartland High School	7 p.m.	
Gymnastics		Plymouth High School	7 p.m.	
Gymnastics		W.L. Central	7 p.m.	
Cheerleading		Cheerleading	CCCAM Varsity	10 a.m.
	Cheerleading	Howell High School	7 p.m.	
	Hockey	Hockey	South Lyon High School	6 p.m.
		Hockey	Northville HS	1 p.m.
Hockey		Calumet High School	7:30 p.m.	
Hockey		Hancock High School	2 p.m.	
Hockey		Midford High School	6 p.m.	
Hockey		Pinckney High School	6 p.m.	
Hockey		Howell High School	6 p.m.	
Hockey		Hartland High School	6 p.m.	
Hockey		East Grand Rapids	7 p.m.	
Hockey		Brighton High School	6 p.m.	
Hockey		South Lyon High School	6:30 p.m.	
Hockey		Michigan Showcase	12 p.m.	
Hockey	Michigan Showcase	10:20 a.m.		
Hockey	Hartland High School	6 p.m.		
Hockey	Churchill High School	1 p.m.		
Hockey	Howell High School	7:20 p.m.		
Hockey	Midford High School	6:15 p.m.		
Hockey	University of Detroit	6 p.m.		
Bowling	Bowling	Howell	8 a.m.	
	Bowling	Pre-KVC Tourney	2 p.m.	
	Bowling	Northville High School	3 p.m.	
	Bowling	Brighton High School	6:30 p.m.	
	Bowling	Midford High School	12 p.m.	
	Bowling	Midford High School	2:30 p.m.	
	Bowling	Novi High School	5 p.m.	
	Bowling	Oakland Co.	TBA	
	Bowling	South Lyon High School	8 p.m.	
	Bowling	Howell High School	8 a.m.	
	Bowling	Brighton High School	12 p.m.	
	Swimming and Diving	Swimming and Diving	EMU Invite	1 p.m.
Swimming and Diving		Walled Lake Central	7 p.m.	
Swimming and Diving		Pinckney High School	6 p.m.	
Swimming and Diving		Laker Invite	9 a.m.	
Swimming and Diving		W.L. Northern	7 p.m.	
Swimming and Diving		W.L. Western	6 p.m.	
Swimming and Diving		Lakeland	6 p.m.	
Swimming and Diving		Saline	6:30 p.m.	
Swimming and Diving		Brighton	6 p.m.	
Swimming and Diving		Northville	7 p.m.	
Swimming and Diving		South Lyon	6 p.m.	
Swimming and Diving		Oakland Co.	12 p.m.	
Swimming and Diving	Oakland Co.	12 p.m.		
Swimming and Diving	Hartland	6 p.m.		
Swimming and Diving	MISCA	TBA		
Swimming and Diving	MISCA	TBA		
Swimming and Diving	Midford High School	6 p.m.		
Swimming and Diving	KVC Championships	12 p.m.		
Swimming and Diving	KVC Championships	9 a.m.		
Swimming and Diving	AA Huron River Rat	12 p.m.		
Swimming and Diving	AA Huron River Rat	12 p.m.		

Cheerleaders hope to build on tradition

By Courtney Ratkowiak
SPORTS WRITER

For the Wildcats competitive cheer team, there is both a curse and a blessing. They finished third at the regional tournament last season, one place short of advancing to the state championships. They have not defeated KVC and New regional rival Hartland in three years. This year, however, they hope to build on their tradition of strong scores in round three of competitions and excel in their region to earn a spot in the state championships.

The winter season, unlike the fall schedule, has an MHSAA-sponsored competitive schedule. Cheerleading meets consist of three competitive rounds. The first round is more traditional, concentrating on formation changes and jumps. In the second round, athletes must be able to execute a set number of skills in unison, and in the third round, teams are judged on the difficulty, variety, and execution of stunts.

"Their stunting is very strong," varsity coach Emily Parker said. "We have to work on increasing the level of difficulty in our gymnastics skills that we put in our round two, and we have to make sure our jumps are higher. I would say that when we look at the amount of time we spend in practice, we're spending a lot of time on our jumps, a lot of time on gymnastics."

The Novi team will have dual

meets on Wednesdays and invitational on Saturdays. Novi's score in February's KVC championship meet, combined with scores from the league dual meets, will determine final KVC placement.

Michigan teams are divided into five regions, with the top two schools in each region advancing to the state championships on March 11, 2006. After moving to a different region this season, Novi's regional opponents will now include KVC rivals Hartland and Brighton, who respectively placed third and eighth at last year's state meet.

"They're definitely tough competitors, but the girls are working really hard toward this goal of going to the

state championships," Parker said. "This team is experienced. Last year, my team was very young, but this year, most of my team is back ... I have two seniors this year, but I have the same sophomores and the same freshmen that were competing with my team last year who are now juniors and sophomores. They have more experience on the floor than they did last year."

The team is led by senior captains Georgia Katopodis and Quinn Priests.

"Both of them have cheered for me for many years, and ... because they've cheered with me for so long, they know what I expect and they've also learned so much about cheerleading," Parker said. "They've

actually learned about the strategy of the sport."

Other returning varsity athletes are juniors Stefanie Beaver, Andrea Blome, Courtney Carroll, Emily Jie, Jessica Jodoin and Victoria Roney, and sophomores Emily Kostrzewa, Jennifer Lau, and Rachael Zbrancnik. First-year varsity cheerleaders include juniors Kristie Cnoluch, Brandi Fordham-Johns, Ashley Karinen, Jennifer Lozon and Kim Sankovic, and freshmen Jillian Harold and Laura Tollis.

Parker said that her team's experience and their desire to qualify for the state champi-

onship meet will help them succeed in the coming competitive season.

"They're very goal-oriented and focused," Parker said. "They push each other just as hard as I push them ... they're an efficient team. They use their time very well, so we'll get a lot done in a given practice."

"I'm excited. I'm fired up. They're a fun team to coach."

Courtney Ratkowiak is a sports intern for the Novi News. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

Bowling teams gear up for season

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

It's all about experience in the world of high school bowling.

The Novi boys this year have plenty. The girls don't.

But coach John Osborne is plenty enthusiastic about both.

"I'm expecting the boys to do well," said Osborne. "The girls have a lot of work to do, but I think they can compete, too."

The boys team will be anchored by Dan DePalma, a senior who already has a 300 game under his belt. Joining him will be returning starters Derek Smith, Alex Hamilton and Nick McMaster. Evan Danilisen, who moved up from junior varsity to varsity last year, will be expected to play a big role as well.

Also expected to have an impact for the boys team is Mike Fleischer, who bowled as a sophomore but not last season. Juniors Troy Wysson and Kyle Jones will also look to qualify as starters this year.

"We have a veteran team with a lot of experience," said Osborne. "We won the regional in the state tournament last year and lost a close match in the first round of

the finals.

"My expectations are that we'll continue right along and continue to improve. Hopefully we'll be a threat to win the KVC championship as well."

Osborne said experience will be the team's biggest asset, though his team didn't hit the lanes as often as he would have liked in the off-season.

But, talent will hopefully shine through.

"We have some really good skills in there," Osborne said. "They've been there before and they can do it again."

Girls have long road

The Novi Wildcats girls bowling team has plenty of work to do, but Osborne said he's confident they'll be able to overcome the hurdles.

"We have four girls coming back from last year, including from the JV team," he said. "We're basically starting back from scratch here."

Returning for the Wildcats are Alex Driener, Christine Skouberdis, Anna Newgutsch and Laura Stiner.

Newcomers on the squad are Leslie Brown, Asako Akamatsu, Danielle Antuna,

"My expectations are that we'll continue right along and continue to improve. Hopefully we'll be a threat to win the KVC championship as well."

John Osborne
Novi Boys and Girls Bowling Coach

Jennifer White, Kendra Hay, Melissa Lyons, Danielle Capello and Laura Schoepfle.

"We're looking to have improvement throughout the year and we'll see where it takes us," Osborne said. "We're looking for fighting in the bottle. The prospects are there, we just have to get them going."

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@gannett.com.

Check back next week for more season previews and Catholic Central's winter sports schedule.

DECEMBER 10TH

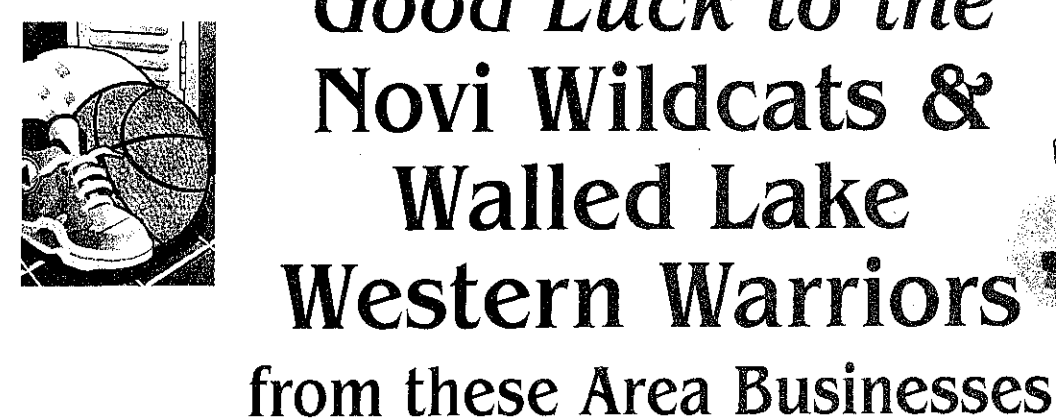
FOR TICKETS CALL 734-453-8400 ticketmaster

PLYMOUTH WHALERS VS OWEN SOUND ATTACK

SATURDAY DECEMBER 10TH 7:30PM TEDDY BEAR TOSS

COMPUWARE SPORTS ARENA
14900 BECK ROAD PLYMOUTH TWP, MI 48170
www.plymouthwhalers.com

Good Luck to the Novi Wildcats & Walled Lake Western Warriors from these Area Businesses



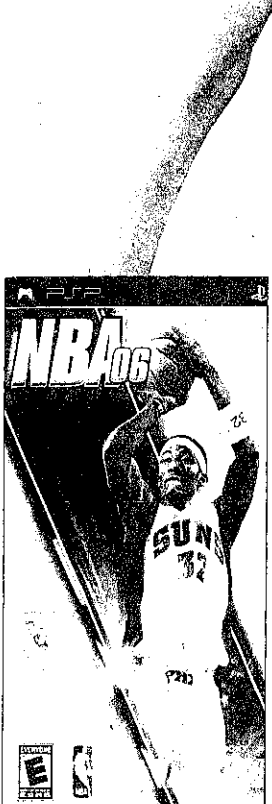
- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| 12 OAKS MALL
www.shopwefeevents.com
27500 Novi Rd.
Novi
(248)348-9400 | BRASSCRAFT MFG. COMPANY
39600 Orchard Hill Place
Novi
(248)305-6000 | LINKS OF NOVI
50395 Ten Mile Rd.
Novi
(248)380-9595 | NOVI FAMILY DENTAL CENTER
43410 West Ten Mile Rd.
Novi
(248)348-3100 |
| ACE CUTTING EQUIPMENT
25806 Novi Rd.
Novi
(248)449-4944 | ECCO TOOL CO.
42525 W. 11 Mile
Novi
(248)349-0840 | MARIA'S ITALIAN BAKERY, DELI & CATERING
41706 W. Ten Mile Rd.
Novi
(248)348-0545 | NOVI MOTIVE
Your Complete Auto Repair, Goodyear Dealer & Car Rental
21530 Novi Rd.
Novi
(248)349-0290 |
| AVERRILL ACCOUNTING & TAX SERVICE
43440 W. Ten Mile Rd.
Novi
(248)348-3348 | GARRY J. BORIN, PC
24520 Meadowbrook
Novi
(248)478-8260 | MARTY FELDMAN CHEVROLET
42355 Grand River
Novi
(248)348-7000 | O'BRIEN/SULLIVAN FUNERAL HOME
41555 Grand River
Novi
(248)348-1800 |
| BOB SELLERS PONTIAC - GMC
www.bobsellers.com
38000 Grand River Farmington Hills
(248)478-8000 | GATSBY'S
45701 Grand River
Novi
(248)348-6999 | MAYNES INSURANCE SERVICES LTD.
2450 Old Novi Rd.
Novi
(248)668-5800 | SUBURBAN CHRYSLER JEEP
24315 Haggerty
Novi
(248)476-7900 |
| BORDER CANTINA
21420 Novi Rd.
Novi
(248)347-7827 | ITALIAN EPICURE
42050 Grand River
Novi
(248)349-7770 | NOVI EXPO CENTER
43700 Expo Center Dr.
Novi
(248)348-5600 | VARSITY LINCOLN-MERCURY
49251 Grand River
Novi
(248)305-5300 |
| | LARSON JEWELRY DESIGN
43155 Main Ste 304
Novi
(248) 347-4653 | | |



PSP REIGNS AS HANDHELD



Sony's platform perfect gift for your gamer's Christmas



Gameboy? Yeah, right. What about an iPod? No thanks.

Playstation Portable? Thought you'd never ask.

When it comes to technology, I've come to find there's great and there's not-so-great. Nintendo and Apple had good runs through the years, but times are changing and suddenly there's a new stud in town with Sony's Playstation Portable — more commonly referred to as the PSP.

People have seen me toting this baby through town on more than one occasion and have stopped to ask me what it's capable of doing. The question should be: What can't it do?

Internet? Check. Videos? Sure. Pictures? No problem! Music? Yappers. Games? It's a Playstation, isn't it? Podcasting? Yes, and so much more!

The only thing I can't do with the PSP is dial my wife and ask her what's for dinner, but that's probably in the works knowing the folks over at Sony.

I absolutely love this thing. I've been asked if I'm going to pick up the incredibly scarce and over-priced Xbox 360 this year. I don't need to answer because I just look back down at my PSP and keep playing.

I've played video games from sports ("NBA '06" and "Gretzky '06") to role-playing ("Kingdom of Paradise") to fighting ("Marvel Nemesis: Rise of the Imperfects") to tactical simulation ("The Lord of the Rings: Tactics") to first-person shooters ("Codex Arms"). So far, they're all pretty darn cool. There are plenty of other games I haven't had a chance to play yet, like logic games, football, racing and even a "Star Wars" title.

The PSP is new enough that there aren't a ton of games out for it yet, but the list is quickly growing. Movies? There are plenty out already and more scheduled each week.

The beauty of the PSP is it uses these aiffy little discs



Sam Eggleston

called UMDs that store a ton of memory on something the size of a silver dollar. They're easy to store, pretty well protected from natural scratching and they allow for great graphics, awesome sounds and full-length movies (I've watched the bomb "Deep Water" and a cool anime "Applesauce" so far).

For saving games, the PSP boasts a memory slot that takes digital-camera-sized cards available everywhere the handheld is sold. Most recently I saw a four-gigabyte hard drive that straps to it for keeping full-length movies and a ton of MP3s. It can hook directly to your PC for transferring files and downloads.

But why is the PSP such a great deal at \$250, not including games or accessories? Because it's everything we've always wanted from our handheld games.

It boasts a back-lit screen, a full controller including an analog joystick and it even has a built-in wireless modem for accessing the Internet and for PSP-to-PSP game play.

When going head-to-head, it's always a worry if the games will lag. Recently, over Thanksgiving, I visited my brother Azrael, and we played against one another. The game play was smooth and fun without the worry of the length of a cord between us. His wife Akasha, kept asking how our "girlfriends" were doing since we hardly put the PSP down after swapping a couple of games.

What makes the PSP so attractive this time of year is the fact that it's available and it's awesome. What kid who loves gaming wouldn't want one of these.

Sure, little Timmy wants the new Xbox for Christmas. They're sold out and currently selling for nearly \$1,000 on online auctions — not including games or accessories or even shipping at times.

Go to the local department store, ask the clerk for the PSP and pick up some accessories for well under \$50 and you'll see little Timmy's face light up once he realizes the pure potential of the new system he's holding in his hand.

If you like Gameboys and all of the oldies but goodies or you've been thinking about picking up a new video iPod, consider the PSP. It's fun, it's cool, it's versatile and it just fits so darn well in your hands!

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@gannett.com.



Marvel Nemesis: Rise of the Imperfects

NBA '06
GENRE: Sports - Basketball

It's rare a hand-held version of a game is actually better than it's big brother, but "NBA '06" manages to be just that.

In the Playstation 2 version, showing is awkward, stepping out of bounds is a given and game play isn't the smoothest. The developer took care of all those problems in the PSP version, making for a smooth, seamless basketball game.

Though the best part about any sports game is being able to lead your team to a championship, "NBA" manages to add even more fun to the package.

This version of the some-times overdone genre allows players to hit the court for a game of HORSE, paint and even juggle-ball, not to mention a three-point shootout and a skills challenge.

To add to the mini-games, there are five other game modes such as practice to improve your team's skills, exhibition, season, playoffs and wireless options. When you go wireless, there's options for head-to-head matches which add to the fun of being able to beat a real person instead of just a computer.

The downside to this version of the game is the lack of the pretty cool "The Life" game mode on the PS2. Of course that version takes up a ton of memory and probably adds to the not-so-fun gameplay while trying to get through a regular basketball game.

The PSP does away with that though. It's smooth, it's fun and it's by far the superior sports game on the handheld at this time.

If you want to lead the Pistons to another NBA title, then this is the game to do it with.

Gretzky NHL '06
GENRE: Sports - Hockey

Welcome to the world of the NHL. It's full of big names, big shots and even bigger hits.

In "Gretzky NHL '06" gamers get the opportunity to take control of their favorite team's destiny by playing through an entire season.

The newest installment that features the Great One's name plastered across it has plenty to be proud of. There are plenty of little aspects that make it a pretty cool hockey game, such as a 3-on-3 mode where gamers can take just three skaters per team to take advantage of open ice with no clock or rules.

There is also a Gretzky challenge where players can earn points by matching the achievements of Wayne Gretzky's career. Another cool addition is "team chemistry" where gamers

can earn player and team attribute bonuses by sharing the puck, playing tough on defense or adding points to the board.

When it comes to hand-held sports games, there's always a doubt to just how challenging it's going to be. Most games are pretty easy to master in a few minutes and the winning just gets boring from there.

With "Gretzky" there's nothing to worry about. The opponent artificial intelligence is good enough to get goals even against the best defense in the league and stupid mistakes will lead to a loss if your foe takes advantage of the power play.

Though it's not the greatest hockey game ever made, it's right up there with the best of those that have hit the hand-held market over the years. It's definitely worth owning if you're a sports or hockey fanatic, but it can be frustrating for those who are just mildly interested in the genre.

The Con
GENRE: Fighting

It's almost not fair to call "The Con" a fighting game. It's really — well — more of a con game than anything else.

In this game, it's not about pummeling your opponent to a bloody pulp. It's about making bets, winning the ones you need to pay losing the ones that will make you the most money.

The best way to describe this game is by calling it a mixed-breed, or a mutt, of games. Half fighter and half adventure.

You start off by learning the ins and outs of the fighting style and then you really get into the game. Street fights take

on a whole new meaning when you're immersed in the underworld. You take three friends and take to the streets, entering in tournaments and matching up with some of the toughest fighters out there.

You don't just go in and fight in this game either. You have to plan strategy, like deciding to win or lose. It's in-depth, the story is solid and the game play rules.

This game is really seeing the stage for what the PSP is going to offer. And it's not just because it's probably the best title out right now.

"The Con" allows you to customize your fighter and even his moves. Take that and add to the fact that the game is unique for it's genre and this game's a must-get for those tired of the mind-less button masher out there.

The best feature is multiplayer mode for "The Con" because it allows you to "game share" — basically what that means is you can play head-to-head with your friends without them needing to own the game themselves.

Champ or champ? This game ranks high on the Christmas list thanks to its uniqueness and solid style of play.

Kingdom of Paradise
GENRE: Role-Playing

It's a beautiful day when a hand-held brings a role-playing game that isn't all text and isn't all turn-based.

"Kingdom of Paradise" does everything a role-playing game should. It has great cinematic sequences, smooth controls and a compelling story.

You play a young outcast warrior named Shinbu who must avenge his clan's destruction and help save the

peaceful world of Oaka. While the story unfolds, you're able to learn martial arts styles by combining more than 150 skills to make your own unique fighting style.

Along the way, Shinbu will learn magic powers to help him restore the balance of world power that basically become the key ingredi-

ent to winning any battle. Though it's not as pretty as the martial arts you can unleash, the magic, called "Chi Arts" are much more powerful and useful throughout the game.

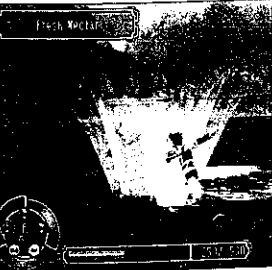
The key to winning depends on how much the arts are used to build their potent attacks.

The upside to the game includes it's sounds, smooth graphics and easy-to-master controls.

The downside? Well, when the worst part is your character's magic is too strong at times it's really not much of a downside, is it?

"Kingdom" is a unique adventure game that keeps the gamer going through it's entirety. Just when the story seems to start to bog down, it picks right up with some strong action and strong plot twists.

This game is a must-have for the role-playing fan on your Christmas list. It's a great title, especially since there aren't near enough RPGs out for the PSP yet. It's the baseline for the others to follow, the future for such games is bright.



REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 6B

Novi News

Thursday, December 8, 2005

ADVERTISEMENT

Prepare Your Home This Winter Against Rising Gas Costs

WIXOM, Mich., December 8, 2005 — The soaring costs of heating oil and gasoline will hit homeowners' pockets hard this winter, with heating bills expected to rise more than 30 percent during the cold months. Early preparation can save consumers' time, money and unnecessary frustrations of dealing with leaky windows, a burst pipe or ice dams.

"The winter months can be very damaging to your home if you don't plan ahead," says Allstate Agent Louis Kirby. "By following some simple guidelines and taking some precautions, your home has a better chance of surviving the winter intact without breaking your bank account."

Strong winter winds, combined with heavy snow and ice, can impact a home's energy efficiency, thus driving homeowners to turn up their thermostat to compensate for heat loss. Allstate Insurance Company, the U.S. Department of Energy and the Alliance to Save Energy offer the following tips for winterizing your home and eliminating unnecessary heating costs:

- Invest in a programmable thermostat, which can be set to automatically lower temperatures at night or when the family is away.
- Plug leaks around windows and doors with caulking and weatherstripping. Tape clear plastic sheeting to the inside of your window frames if drafts, water condensation or frost are present.
- Install storm windows over single-pane windows or replace them with double-pane windows with low-emissivity (low-e) coatings. Low-e coating on the glass reflects heat back into the room. During the winter months, reducing heat loss by 25 to 50 percent.
- Check the insulation in your attic, ceilings, exterior and basement walls, floors, and crawlspaces to see if it meets the levels recommended for your geographical area.
- Make sure furnaces and heaters are operating properly. Clean or replace filters on furnaces once a month or as needed. A heat pump can trim the amount of electricity used for heating by as much as 30 to 40 percent.
- Prevent ice dams by keeping gutters and downspouts clear of leaves, natural debris, snow and icicles.
- Keep the draperies and shades on your south-facing windows open during the day to allow the sunlight to enter your home and closed at night to reduce the chill you may feel from cold windows.
- Close fireplace dampers when not in use. Check chimneys to make sure birds haven't nested or there aren't other problems.
- Close off unused rooms to reduce heating of unused areas.
- Make sure air ducts are insulated and sealed.
- Clean warm-air registers, baseboard heaters and radiators as needed; make sure they're not blocked by furniture, carpeting, or drapes.
- Bleed trapped air from hot-water radiators once or twice a season. Place heat-resistant radiator reflectors between exterior walls and the radiators.
- Turn off kitchen, bath and other exhaust fans within 30 minutes after you are done cooking or bathing.
- Insulate your hot water heater and hot water pipes. Wrap pipes nearest exterior walls and in crawl spaces with pipe insulation or with heating tape.
- Detach all gardening hoses and shut off water supply to outside faucets.
- Tag the location of your main water valve and make sure you can easily turn it on and off.
- If you plan to travel or be away from home for an extended period of time, ask a friend or neighbor to check your pipes and the temperature in your home.

For more information on this and other safety topics, contact Allstate Agent Louis Kirby at 248-669-0755.

"I'VE HEARD SOME COMPANIES AREN'T SELLING HOMEOWNERS' INSURANCE ANYMORE."

I STILL OFFER HOMEOWNERS' INSURANCE. AND IF YOU INSURE BOTH YOUR HOME AND CAR WITH ALLSTATE, YOU COULD QUALIFY FOR DISCOUNTS.

Louis Kirby
49357 Pontiac Trail
Wixom
248.669.0755
Allstate.

Allstate.
You're in good hands.

Discount and insurance offered only with select companies and subject to underwriting and qualifications. Discount amount may vary. Allstate Insurance Company, Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company and Allstate Indemnity Company, Northbrook, IL © 2005 Allstate Insurance Company.

ADVERTISEMENT



Photos by HAL GOULD

Matt Brostrom works on the neck of a patient at Michigan Rehabilitation Specialists.

New facility promotes healing and healthy lifestyle

Michigan Rehabilitation Specialists recently expanded into South Lyon

By Kate Phillips
SPECIAL WRITER

With the opening of Michigan Rehabilitation Specialists in South Lyon, owners Matt and Michelle Brostrom are eager to make pain relief and healing more accessible to the community. After managing the Michigan Rehabilitation Specialists facility in Hamburg for four years, Matt was excited to serve the community with a new location. "I like to see someone who is in pain for a long time start to feel good again and return to the things that they want to do," said Matt Brostrom, who is a licensed physical therapist. "To see that is so rewarding. I get excited about what I do."

Matt or wife Michelle Brostrom work personally with clients from the start to finish of every session. Michelle is a doctorate level physical therapist with post graduate studies in neck and back pain. "It is essential to get to know each person in order to provide good care," Brostrom said. "We are constantly evaluating what's going on with each person. We have to keep changing what we are doing as we help them improve."

The couple is now starting a free exercise and wellness class

DETAILS

Michigan Rehabilitation Specialists is located at 25700 Pontiac Trail in the Gateway Commons shopping center in South Lyon. Stop by to tour the facility.

Hours are normally 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, but early morning and late evening appointments are also available.

For more information call (248) 446-2801.

at the South Lyon Center for Active Adults. Brostrom hopes to help seniors keep moving as a way to cope with illnesses and injuries.

"I make a special connection with seniors as I help them work through their health issues," Brostrom said.

Developing an exercise plan is a part of the physical therapy for seniors and clients of all ages. Michelle and Matt help individuals start exercising at the clinic then put together a plan so they can continue throughout the year.

State-of-the-art Cybex workout equipment makes it easy for beginners to get used to exercising. Michigan Rehabilitation Specialists is a premier Cybex physical therapy facility with 14 weight bearing machines and four cardio machines. Matt and Michelle help clients learn to use the equipment, which can be intimidating to some.

Once therapy has ended all clients can continue to work-out on the Cybex equipment free of charge.

"We're trying to make it easi-

Pictured (left to right) are physical therapists Rodney Goble, MPT; Amy Goble, PTA; Michelle Brostrom, DPT; and Matt Brostrom, MPT.

er for people to exercise," Brostrom said. "It's such a crucial part of healing and preventative measures."

Normally clients receive a prescription for physical therapy from a physician after a surgery, illness or injury, then the therapy is paid for by Medicare or private medical insurance.

The therapy consists of several parts, including hands-on work such as soft tissue massage, joint mobilization, stretching and muscle energy techniques. Then therapists begin to introduce exercise. But often the

most important part of the therapy is the education. Brostrom said that he talks with clients about the injury or surgery, helps them learn strategies for recovery and teaches them ways to stay healthy.

"I don't want people to have to come back here over and over," Brostrom said. "So I leave them with their own tool box so they know what to do to help themselves."

Brostrom works with several affiliated sports trainers to provide sports specific therapy and education for athletes. Rodney

Goble, the co-owner of the South Lyon facility, also owns facilities in Pinckney, Hamburg, Hartland and Fowlerville. Specialized equipment, swimming pools and athletic consultants are available in cooperation with the other locations. Brostrom will bring a coach or trainer to work with athletes off-site at a baseball diamond or hockey rink.

"It's more than just recovering your health, it's getting back into the game and developing a healthy technique," Brostrom said.

Michigan Rehabilitation Specialists
PHYSICAL THERAPY

Orthopedics and Sports

25700 Pontiac Trail
in Gateway Commons
South Lyon
248-446-2801

Other convenient MRS locations:
Hamburg / Pinckney 7785 M-36
(810) 231-6904
Hartland 10860 Highland Road
(810) 632-1000
Fowlerville 202 E Van Riper, Suite 200
(517) 223-2100